



Dear Readers

The Village News team would like to thank you all for your unwavering support over the past year especially during the disruption caused by the Covid pandemic.

We look forward to bringing you all the latest news from West End and beyond in 2022.

We wish everyone a Very Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE AT THE WAR MEMORIAL



On a grey November day, the Act of remembrance was held at the War Memorial on 14th November, conducted by Revd Darren McCallig followed by a Service in Christ Church. Above left: Revd Darren McCallig with Will Stevens, Deputy Church Warden carrying the Processional Cross. Above right: L-R: Rt Hon Dominic Raab MP, Justice Minister and Deputy PM, Deputy Mayor of Elmbridge, Cllr. Simon Waugh, Cty. Cllr. Tim Oliver (also Leader of Surrey County Council), and Cllr. Richard Williams, Esher Residents Association.

It was a moving occasion. The Trumpeter, Will O'Brien, played The Last Post.

Revd McCallig's Sermon gave a brief summary of the life of **Woodbine Willie** who handed cigarettes along with the bible to soldiers in WWI. Opinions were divided over the role of chaplains in World War 1, but despite that, some became well-known, including Woodbine Willie, who won the Military Cross (MC) for his bravery.

Below: The Surbiton and Esher Air Cadets leading the Standard Bearers.

Below: The Esher District Brownies, Rainbows and Guides gathered with local residents to lay their wreaths.





Set in the beautiful village hall and surrounding woodland in West End village, Esher, West End Playgroup is a non profit, family feel pre-school. We provide Ofsted outstanding care around the uniqueness of your child, aged 2 to 5 years.

- Highly qualified, caring staff who tune into the needs of your child
- Lots of outdoor opportunities - including forest school and nature walks
- Excellent staff to child ratios of 1:6 ratio for over 3's

Call or email Helen to arrange a viewing: 07395 901584 | westendplaygroup@gmail.com



WEST END PLAYGROUP

Hello Everyone,

We at West End Playgroup hope you are safe, well and keeping warm. The weather has turned really cold recently, so at playgroup we have been doing our best to keep warm with lots of singing, dancing and exercises. This half term we continued our theme of 'All About Me' focusing on 'Family Customs and Celebrations'. We started the first week



back with Guy Fawkes Night and the children made a fantastic display board depicting some amazing fireworks in an autumnal scene. They learned all about keeping safe around bonfires and the importance of staying clear of fireworks.

The following week was Diwali. Shilpa told the Diwali story every morning at circle time to a group of awe-struck children. We made Rangoli patterns and Diva lamps which were decorated with beautiful shiny sprinkles. This topic was closely followed by Remembrance Day, the children made giant poppies and thought about all those people who gave so much so that we could live in a free country today. Now

all the staff and children are busy with rehearsals for our eagerly anticipated nativity play which Jo will be narrating in rhyme.



The children have been cast in their roles and have been practicing all the songs, including Silent Night, Away in a Manger and Little Donkey. Parents and grandparents will watch the show and we have every confidence that the children will all sing at the tops of their voices, say their lines correctly and walk around the stage just as we have practiced. Well, that's the plan anyway!

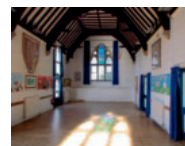
Following the performance, the children will hear the sound of bells jingling and we will all be amazed as we discover that, while the show was taking place, Father Christmas dropped down the chimney and left a sack of presents for everyone. Parents and grandparents will then enjoy a glass of mulled wine with a mince pie, while mingling and enjoying the festive atmosphere. We are so glad to be holding this event again this year, as playgroup just doesn't seem the same without it. I know that many of you reading this will have had experience your child performing in the West End Playgroup nativity in years past, and that you will treasure the memory of it always, as I do. Finally, we want to take this opportunity to say a huge 'thank you' for all the amazing harvest festival donations and for all the amazing gifts of toys that we have received recently from the villagers of West End. It really is wonderful to know how much support there is in the village for the playgroup.



All the staff, parents and children join me in wishing you a
VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

Helen Yates

West End Village Hall



Ideal for children's parties, meetings, functions and family occasions.

Adult parties strictly for Village Residents only by special arrangement.

TO BOOK

Visit: wevh.org or wevh.uk

Mail: hirehall@wevh.uk



WEST END VILLAGE HALL

Firstly, a huge thank you to all the Villagers who attended the AGM. It was wonderful to see so many of you, and know that you care about the future of the Hall.

On behalf of the residents of West End and everyone who uses the Hall, I would like to express my sincere thanks to Robin Crane, Lyda Archer, Veronica Muir and Di Gibson. They have stepped down as Trustees after many years of dedication and hard work that has enabled the smooth running of the Hall for the benefit of everyone in West End and beyond. They have done an incredible job. It has been a challenging time for all, but thanks to West End Playgroup remaining open, a Government grant, and the hard work of the Trustees, the Hall has remained financially afloat.

I have a lot to live up to as the new Chair and we have a lot of new faces taking on the various Trustee roles. Please bear with us as we find our feet working together as a new team and we will try to do this quickly to minimise any disruption for users.

We would love to hear any ideas or feedback any of you may have about the Hall so please email me if you would like to get in touch:

Joflip17@gmail.com

Jo Flippance, Chair

DEFIBRILLATOR

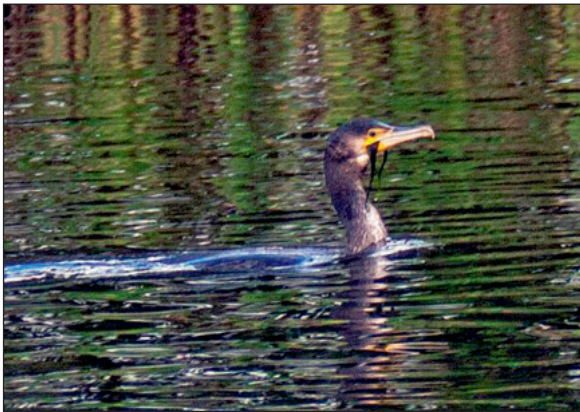
OUTSIDE VILLAGE HALL

No training required - anyone can use it
Dial 999 and give the location
You'll be given a key code to open the box
Follow written instructions on the portable unit
Verbal instructions are provided once turned on.

NEWS FROM WEST END POND



This beautiful pair of carved wooden ducks were placed by the pond for everyone to admire, only to be removed overnight!
Does anyone know of their whereabouts?



The arrival of a Cormorant created some interest. It remained for several days soaking up the atmosphere of the village pond wildlife and its surroundings!

NEW BINS!

Very smart new Greenspace 'fox proof' bins have been provided on the green—a welcome sight to many of us! Please remember dog poo is dangerous to young children who regularly use the green and woodlands, so please remove it and dispose of any waste responsibly in the bins provided before leaving the village.

Our village has for many years been regarded as the 'Jewel in the Crown' of Esher let's keep it that way!

Angela Stockbridge



YOUNG TALENT



Lily Austin, aged 10, attends Cranmere School. She enjoys making videos on her mobile 'phone and recently produced a video to promote The Santa Fun Run for the Hospice featuring her granny's dog, Ralph (left) as the main character! She not only produced the video, but Lily did the voiceover too: "Hi, I'm Ralph Austin. I'm here to encourage everyone to join us in raising funds for the Princess Alice Hospice. Let's get in the Christmas spirit and join us for the annual Santa Fun Run. You can purchase your Santa and Elf outfits at the hospice, all donations will help us to carry on caring for those who need us in the community. Thank you"

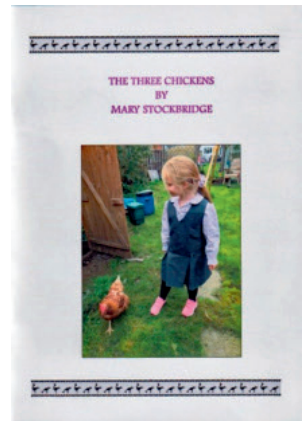
Lily went to River Mole pre-school in West End Lane.

Alice Austin

Mary Stockbridge, aged 5, loves creating short stories. She is very precise about the content, and presentation when helping with the printing! Her latest and third story is called 'The Three Chickens'.

Mary's other short stories include: 'Olo the Cat who Lost Her Way' and 'The Mystery of the Creaky Door'! Mary attended West End Playgroup prior to going to school.

Angela Stockbridge



We are sure there are many talented children in our vicinity and we would love to hear more stories of your successes!

SIX SWANS-A-SWIMMING



Mark Bisson was sitting in his Study overlooking the pond when he saw six swans-a-swimming! Two seem to be regular visitors but six is unusual. Let's hope two of them nest here next year!

Photos: Mark Bisson

COCKTAIL NIGHT

A huge thank you to Ruth Loveridge and Katie Fernandes for organising the film night in the Village Club showing Tom Cruise in 'Cocktail' whilst barman Tom Cafferaga was kept busy mixing the 'heady' and colourful cocktails! The evening was well attended. Flower garlands and popcorn were provided and a great time was had by all!





ESHER GREEN BAPTIST CHURCH

Hi there fellow West Enders,

Ryan here, from Winterdown Road (and Pastor of Esher Green Baptist Church), with an update on some things that you may be interested in over the Christmas period.

Christmas is a time when we remember that . . . 'God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life' **John 3:16**.

In fact, on the subject of giving, it was fantastic to receive over 400 shoeboxes for disadvantaged children, as part of Operation Christmas Child. It was so very moving to see these lovingly packed with toys and much more. They are all now on their way to children round the world to show they are not forgotten. So, thank you for all those that have contributed in bringing light to these little ones at Christmas.

We would love to welcome you and meet you this Christmas season, so why not come along to one of our services at Esher Green Baptist Church. Also don't forget to check out what is on at St Georges West End and Christ Church.

Esher Green Baptist Church Services (6 Park Road, Esher, KT10 8NP)

Sunday 19 December

6.30pm - Candlelit Carol Service followed by mince pies & mulled wine.

Friday 24 December

11.30pm - Candlelit Midnight Service (including Communion)

Saturday 25 December

10.30am - Christmas Day Family Celebration. Christmas has arrived!

Come along in your Christmas jumpers or onesies with a chance to win our competition!

Our services are also available on our YouTube channel [youtube.com/c/esherchurch](https://www.youtube.com/c/esherchurch)

In addition, as we kick off the New Year . . . why not join us for:

Alpha Course – On Saturday 8th January 6pm we are hosting an 'Introduction to Alpha' evening. We will hear from a couple of people who have recently completed Alpha, watch a short film explaining it, in an informal setting over drinks and canapés. Alpha will run on ten consecutive Tuesday evenings starting on 18th January at 7.30pm using a hybrid mix of Zoom and in-person sessions.

Film Club (second Tuesday evening of the month – 7.30pm)

Come along and sit back in front of our massive cinema screen while enjoying free drinks (including wine), popcorn, nibbles and great company. A great opportunity to make new friends and see great films. Email films@esherchurch.org to check out what's showing.

Kids Film Club (second Saturday afternoon of the month – 2pm)

Family fun with our free kids film club – popcorn, drinks and great family films. Email films@esherchurch.org to check out what's showing.

Taste & See Course - We are running 'Taste & See' a new course with a unique blend of fact and faith helping bring freedom to lives ruled by food, dieting and emotional eating. The 10 week course will help you rediscover your natural signals of hunger and fullness, find a new freedom to eat and enjoy food, reduce emotional eating and consider how God can help. More info at [esherchurch.org/taste](https://www.esherchurch.org/taste)

For more information and on our many other activities and initiatives please visit our website www.esherchurch.org

Warmest regards to you all,
Ryan

(Pastor – Esher Green Baptist Church)



INDY'S CHRISTMAS DOG BLOG

Time seems to have scampered by since I last repawted to you, it's nearly the mud season in West End.

Now, You might remember that my Nana was staying with us whilst her house was renovated. Well, she has finally moved out. I keep looking in her bedroom though, as I quite miss her; she had some good treats stashed away.

I've had Barclay, Sparkles and Hamilton over for play dates (not altogether as that would be a dog's breakfast) and we've been looking after a black cocker spaniel, called Buddy, for 7 weeks before he flew to New Zealand to be reunited with his family who emigrated. I think he was a very brave boy flying all that way by himself. Anyway you'll be relieved to know that he arrived all safe and sound and although he'll never be my furever friend I think I do actually quite miss him. Guess which one is me in the photo? To think someone called me a Giant Spaniel!

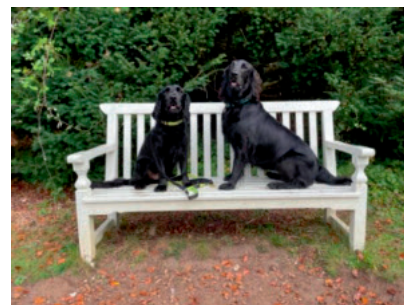
Halloween was tail waggingly fun as Buddy and I dressed up (me as a spider, Buddy as a pumpkin) and took my girls trick or treating. Many generous people in West End put pumpkins and some amazing decorations outside their houses and filled baskets with sweets. No dog treats though. Pawhaps next year, please? There were lots of us dogs joining in.

So it's nearly Christmas, my favourite time of year. The delicious aromas get my nose twitching, the sparkling decorations mesmerise me and the festivities really excite my girls which rubs off on me. Oh, the thought of Santa Paws delivering presents. There's nothing like it. My family always hang my stocking up by the fire and although I'm quite tempted, I know I mustn't eat the mince pie and carrots left on the hearth. Certainly mustn't touch the port! On Christmas morning, I help the girls open their presents by ripping off the paper. Don't you just love that rustling sound and the feel of the paper on your tongue? No? Oh. Just me then.....

Speaking of chewing paper, remember that whilst you're busy celebrating, us four legged creatures might be sampling forbidden treats or encountering hidden dangers so don't forget to keep turkey bones, grapes and chocolate away from us, don't leave delicious smelling food where we can steel it and watch us rocking around that Christmas tree!

Have a wonderful festive season and remember if you see me, do say hello, I'm the flat coated retriever with a brand new pretty turquoise collar.

Indy 



THE CERCLE FRANCAIS d'ESHER

Are you interested in French language, life and culture? Both logos stay the same.

If so, come to the West Village Hall in Esher to listen to carefully selected speakers talking in French on a variety of topics. We will be in the hall on December 8th 2021, March 16th, April 20th, May 18th and June 15th 2022.

However, since the pandemic began, we have also offered some presentations on Zoom, they will be in December 8th 2021, January 19th, 2022 and February 16th 2022.

Talks take place monthly from October to June. They start at 8pm and last for an hour. They are usually attended by 50 to 60 members of the Cercle. Visitors are welcome, we ask a contribution of £5 per visit.

Relaxed and friendly atmosphere * Free tea, coffee and biscuits from 7.15 pm.

The fee is £35 per person for the season or £50 per couple. £5 per visitor.

Please visit our website: www.cerclefrancais-esher.uk

Or contact:

Brigitte Tiller 01932 860 842

brigitte@ptiller.com





SURREY ARTISTS' CHRISTMAS FAIR 20th and 21st November

Held at Rose Cottage Stables, West End Lane, the Surrey Artists Christmas Fair was once again a great success. In the usual Christmas spirit our very talented local artists put on a fabulous display of their work. They included: decorated vases, ceramics, woodturning, paintings, cushions, metal work, Christmas wreaths, jewellery and much more!



Photos: Keira Graham
Rosalind Moysen

SPOOKY SIGHTINGS IN WEST END ON HALLOWEEN

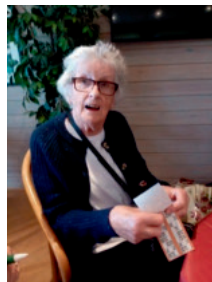
Below: Would you dare to step foot into this garden?
Skull and bones found in Hawkshill Way!



BETTY'S BUTTONS & BOW STARTS WITH BINGO!

After an eighteen month break for obvious reasons, it was great to see the club being used on a Monday afternoon by this very enthusiastic and talkative group. Rumour has it that when they get going, the House of Commons resembles a library in comparison!

They celebrated the restart with a gorgeous Bingo Fish and Chips Lunch, courtesy of Waitrose and followed it with a pretty serious Bingo session. No falling asleep here!



One of the first Full Houses went to Valerie Glassey who looked a bit surprised at her success.
Report and photos: Eric Strange

Betty reports that some members are going to Weymouth on Monday 29th November for their Turkey and Tinsel Christmas break. Betty would like to thank Eric Strange for all his help setting up tables during the meetings, it was much appreciated. The Club will now remain closed until Spring when it is hoped that members will join the group once again. Want to join in or find out more?

Contact Betty Bowpitt on 07538 706426



Left:

Chequers Pond
in
Autumnal mode

Photo:
Peter Bedford

IMPORTANT PLEASE READ.....

Call 999 for Emergencies only.

Call 0800 555111 for Crimestoppers.

Call 101 - Surrey Police for General Enquiries and non-urgent matters.

This number will also transfer you to Esher Police Station, which is open from

09.00-17.00 hours Monday to Friday.

Sgt 1898 Pat Bauer covers Esher

PCSO 16888 Kat Mey covers Esher

PC 3435 Ian Hallam is the local Esher Officer

Officers can be contacted by dialling 101 or email:

the Elmbridge Policing Team at elmbridge@surrey.pnn.police.uk

Contact for Neighbourhood Watch is now:

<http://elmbridgenhw.ourwatch.org.uk/>

IN THE KNOW—SURREY & SUSSEX

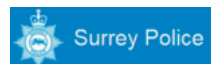
◆ **KEEP ALL WINDOWS SECURELY LOCKED AT ALL TIMES AND ONCE AGAIN PLEASE REMOVE ALL VALUABLES CARS WHEN PARKED. CAR THEFTS CONTINUE IN THE AREA!!**

◆ **BEWARE OF ON-LINE SHOPPING FRAUD NEVER REPLY OR GIVE BANK DETAILS**

Please report suspicious incidents via 101, or in an emergency 999.

You can also contact Surrey Police online:

<https://www.surrey.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/>
Or Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/SurreyPolice>
& Twitter



ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WEST END

Gradually we have begun to resume "Normal Services". When we re-opened in July, we were obliged to seat people suitably spaced apart – with a maximum of about 15-20 people in the church at one time which meant booking people in and allocating seats. Thank goodness things have improved. We continue to be cautious and so ask everyone to wear a mask, which in a small church is advisable, especially now that we are all able to be singing hymns again! But we are so pleased to be able to now welcome whoever turns up on a Sunday morning. Christmas services will be minimal this year (see below for the service schedule) as the church would need to be cleaned between each service, so for this year we will only be holding the Christmas Morning Eucharist at 9am.

There will be a Crib Service at Christ Church – so do go there with your children and families – and we hope to resume ours next year. Unfortunately for the same reasons the Village Carol Concert has been postponed – but again, we very much hope that by this time next year our busy Christmas schedule will be re-instated. The good news however is that from January 2022 we will be holding our 9am services EVERY Sunday – and we look forward to you coming along to join us. Many of us have been following the service with coffee in the Sports and Social Club afterwards – you may have seen us take over the tables!



Talking of Christmas – we have produced a lovely Christmas Card which you may have seen. Two versions of the same card – one with a caption and one plain. They are sold in packs of 10 (same card) for £5. Profits will go towards St George's renovations. Contact Andrea or Bridget – or available from the Parish Office (details at the bottom of the page).

The roof was repaired last year – but renovations that are in the pipeline are: exterior painting (which will need the old paint removing first), a leak from the "bell" tower, checking the electrics and possible rewiring, and the floor needs checking out and then replaced with hopefully a "wood" laminate finish. We will be seriously fund raising for all this work – but in the meantime we are so very grateful to have had an amazing bequest from Richard Gale who, as many of you will know, lived in the village opposite the pond. These bequests are so vital to the upkeep of our local landmarks, so when we receive one we are always touched by people's thoughtful generosity.



Coffee Morning at St. George's

Christ Church and the PCC have recently launched a "Friends...." And you will see more about this in our Christmas Card pamphlet that will be being delivered to your home.

We have already started the "coffee mornings" and they will be held between 10.30-11.30 on the 2nd Wednesday of the month., alternating between Christ Church and St George's.

We held our first "Friends" coffee mornings at St George's

West End on Wednesday 13th October and Wednesday 10th November. We were offering coffee tea and cakes to anyone who wanted to join us, and on each occasion we were delighted to have about 12-13 people in total – all of whom enjoyed the freshly brewed coffee and home baked cakes.

It was a delight to welcome a mix of congregations from both CC and West End – and actually manage to have a good conversation, something we don't often have the chance to do after the services at the back of the church!

We even had a passer-by pop in for a take away coffee.

Everyone is welcome, so do drop in – keep your eyes open for the banner on the fence reminding you of the dates.

Although it was our 13th annual Pet Service on Sunday 17th October (we missed last year due to Covid) – it was a first for Darren. Until now they have all been held at St George's in West End, but this year it was temporarily re-located to Christ Church. For the safety of owners as well as pets (again due to Covid restrictions) -we decided that as Christ Church is much bigger, we could space people and animals at a sensible distance and also use separate doors to enter and exit. Fortunately there is ample parking and the green opposite was well placed for a pre-service "comfort break" for the doggies!

Darren made some lovely changes to the service this year and we were supported with some very appropriate music and hymns chosen and played by Stuart.

There were around 30 people in the congregation – but the key participants were 8 dogs, 2 cats and a rabbit, a few photographs of pets that were unable to attend....and a pet soft-toy snake! One cat was safely housed in it's "carrier" – and the other was snuggled around it's owner's neck for the duration of the service! The service was joyful – and all the animals were extremely well behaved – and we are pleased to report that there were no "accidents". Darren spent time moving around the church and blessing each one individually. All the animals are always offered suitably chosen "treats" as they leave – in the hope that they will remember the experience and want to come again next year. Meanwhile all the "owners" were given a special laminated prayer card to take home and use as a prompt to remind us of how grateful we all are for the joy of having a pet.

Many people still watch the weekly Eucharist online. It is a lovely service – with parishioners contributing to readings and intercessions together with some carefully chosen music pieces from Stuart Whatton, our Director of Music. If you haven't already done so – do log on to the website

<https://www.esherparish.org.uk/> and follow the links to watch and hear a service. In fact, you can also listen to the Music on the Green (MOTG) concerts, which are always a delight. There is lots going on..... Keep well and keep safe.

Andrea Lindow and Bridget Williams

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE AND FENCE NOTICES FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION

Website details: <https://www.esherparish.org.uk>

Parish Secretary: Melanie Williams Tel: 01372 462282 Email: office@esherparish.org.uk





THE ACT OF REMEMBRANCE AT ESHER WAR MEMORIAL



Above centre: Music Director, Stuart Whatton, with the Choir and far left, trumpeter, Will O'Brien. Below left: The Standard Bearers, Esher District Brownies, Rainbows, Guides and the Surbiton and Esher Air Cadets line the church pathway. Top right: Peter Bedford and fellow representatives of the Air Cadets. West End organisations laying wreaths for the West End were the Sports & Social Club Chairman, Roger Newman (above left), Caroline Thyer for the Winterdown WI, Don Elms for Ember Manor Lodge and Margaret Dane for Village News.

Photos: Angela Stockbridge

COVID-19 NEW VARIANT (OMICRON) UPDATE

A new COVID variant spreading through southern African countries is causing a great deal of concern worldwide. Cases have been identified in South Africa, Holland, Botswana, Belgium, Hong Kong, Israel and the UK. The Government has acted quickly adding 10 countries to the red list, banning flights to and from South Africa and surrounding countries. Arrivals in UK will be required to quarantine for 10 days. Face masks will once again be compulsory both in shops and on public transport. The variant - called B.1.1.529 - has a "very unusual constellation" of mutations, which is very alarming because they could help it evade the body's immune response and make it more transmissible.

Europe is experiencing a serious increase in Covid infections. Austria, Holland and Germany and many other countries have recently confirmed cases leading to further lockdowns and travel bans. Thousands of demonstrators protesting against restrictions both in the UK and Europe and are being influenced by misinformation circulating on the internet. Many refuse to be vaccinated. Controversial Vaccine Passports have been introduced in Scotland for large events and other countries are also considering introducing these. In the UK the (third dose) or Covid booster and Flu vaccinations are being rolled out at speed and people are being urged to come forward for vaccination.

At the time of going to print, confirmed Covid cases in UK have reached over 9.97m and in excess of 144k deaths have been recorded. Over 46k people have received the second dose and 16k have had the booster. **In the meantime stay safe and heed the Government's latest advice: In the interests of everyone's health and well being please get vaccinated as soon as you can!**

Angela Stockbridge

WEST END BRIDGE CLUB

We are a small club which meets every Tuesday afternoon in the Village Hall.

We play friendly bridge and new members are very welcome. We are not too competitive and members enjoy a pleasant afternoon with like-minded people.

Anyone interested requiring more information should contact Sandra Elms on 01372 466433

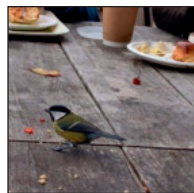


WINTERDOWN WI

We are pleased to report that the monthly meetings continue to go ahead. We have been lucky to have speakers to inform and entertain us over the past few months and they said how pleased they were to be able to visit the WIs in person again.

Michelle came to talk about the charity "Look good, feeling better" this is a charitable organisation to help people recover from cancer and other life changing treatments by providing help and advice on such things as hair, skin and nail care. Russell George gave a very interesting and illustrated account of the walk he undertook from John O'Groats to Land's End. This was a project he commenced after being made redundant. His journey took him 52 days and he raised a lot of money for a cancer charity.

Several members went to the Riverhouse Barn to see an Exhibition called "Catching the light" where local artists had displayed their work in various mediums and it was interesting to see people's interpretation of the theme. Other members met at Wisley for a walk and to see the autumn tints.



A stop at the café provided a chance to have a welcome cup of tea and they were joined by an unexpected visitor ,,,, This Great Tit was obviously used to sharing people's lunch!

In early September when the weather was still warm several members went to the Blue Diamond garden centre and restaurant/café for lunch. It was a very relaxed time, the staff were friendly and helpful, and we all enjoyed the food and ambiance.

There was a chance to meet up for a walk at Painshill and a few people did this. One member had not been before and thoroughly enjoyed the scenery.



Sue Dane enjoying her first visit to Painshill

Photos by Ann Tennant and Micki Scales.

Our annual meeting was held in November. It was the usual mix of WI business and the more formal business of the Annual Meeting when the Committee and President are elected for the next year. The secretary reported on the activities and achievements of the past year and the President paid tribute to everyone who had helped Winterdown WI to run so smoothly. As a bit of light relief the members had been asked to bring something which they had grown in their garden that year. The result was a table full of colour which was remarkable for November.



The table full of colour—remarkable for November!

The evening ended with refreshments and a delicious cake made by Ann Tennant to celebrate five birthdays of people born under the sign of Scorpio.



Please come and visit us. We are a very friendly group and we still meet on the first Thursday of the month at 8pm in the Village Hall.
Caroline Thyer

DECORATIVE POSTBOX 'TOPPERS'



These intricately crocheted postbox 'toppers' were spotted in Byfleet and Hersham respectively. The Fireman was raising money for the repair of Byfleet Fire Station and the Beehive was opposite St Peter's Church in Hersham. How talented the ladies are to make such works of art! The Beehive represented #RandomActsofCrochet/Kindness and #SpreadALittleHappiness

Angela Stockbridge

B & B IN THE VILLAGE



Bed & Breakfast available. All rooms are double bedrooms, made up of king size, and super king beds. The superking can be divided into 2 single beds. All rooms have en-suites and also tea and coffee making facilities, mini fridge with water/ juices provided. Virgin cable TV and WIFI.

A maximum of two adults and 3 children per room.

A warm welcome awaits you. For further information call Edwina Halanen (West End Lane)

on 07721 091184.

'THE POUND' FLOWER MEADOW (Corner of Hawkshill Way/West End Lane)

Following the clearance of the ground on The Pound, I am delighted to say I have had some cash donations which has enabled me to employ Muddy Buddies to clear and clean more of the area giving us much more space to scatter our seeds to encourage a meadow. Cherry Shed have also offered free advice and help. If you have already scattered seeds I am sure they will not be disturbed too much. In the meantime, hold fire until after the clean up. I will put a post on Facebook's West End Community page,, Please contact me, if you wish to donate seeds for me to scatter.

Thank you to Nicolas and Lincoln for all your help.

email: aliceandbryan@yahoo.co.uk



Two local lads, Nicolas and Lincoln, keenly helping Alice to clear The Pound.



Alice Austin

PHOTOGRAPHIC CORNER



MATERNITY & BREASTFEEDING WEAR

**WELCOME TO
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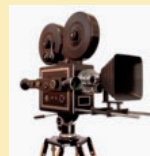
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Above left:
A Jackdaw overseeing his territory

Left:
Beautiful autumnal colours in Great Ridings Wood, East Horsley.

Photos: Don Tyzack



FILMING IN WEST END

You may have noticed a film crew parked along West End Lane during November. Apparently they were filming an ITV drama called 'A Spy Amongst Friends' - I am sure we will hear more about it in due course.

Angela Stockbridge

THE VILLAGE CLUB



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WEST END MOTOR CLUB

In the last issue of Village News, we reported before leaving for our annual Pocklington Rally. This is in memory of Charles Pocklington and in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, but not held in 2020 due to the latest plagues, (leaving aside wokeness and the ECB).

A large contingent of seven classic cars and eleven intrepid members braved the 9am sunshine to depart Clarendon Avenue for Wiltshire, fortified by coffee and buns from Eileen and other members of the distaff brigade.



After a splendid drive following Roger Brown's detailed road book, taking in a coffee stop at Blackbushe airport, involving hot chocolate and aircraft recognition tests, followed by lunch at a pre-arranged hostelry The Roebuck in Marlborough, we arrived at the Atwell-Wilson motor museum in Calne. This interrupted their

AGM which was judged more boring than our convoy. Much of interest was inspected and, if in the area, it is a recommended visit. Much tea and cake consumed before again taking to the back roads so the, by now fractured, convoy could reconvene at The Lamb Inn Hindon in good time for dinner.

This ancient coaching establishment is now under the cloak of Messrs Youngs, of brewery fame and, with certain reservations, made an excellent base for the weekend's jollies. Our whole programme this year was put together by Bob Thompson with help from Roger Brown and Jon Ager, to whom our sincere thanks.

Friday's sunshine brought a visit to the Haynes Motor Museum and Go-Kart track at Sparkford. All but the frailest took part in a practice session followed by a full blown race. This was rightly won by Bob with plenty of coming together in the chicane and not a few minor bruised ribs. Lunch was taken in the Museum café and the huge and eclectic collection well viewed. At this point it was discovered that the front tyres of a



Ready to Race

certain member's car had succumbed to poor tracking rather than fierce driving, and were dangerously bald. Said chariot was left in the tender care of the Museum to be collected by the get-u-home service, its driver seeking the company of a two-seater with only one occupant. Such are the excitements of old car

forays. Our excellent evening curry was taken in Shaftesbury after beer in the Mitre and inspections of 'Hovis' Hill.

Rising for a full English saw Saturday morning begin a full day of exploration of the area returning via the Wylde valley. We visited another airfield, the Compton Abbas with café, which involved an exhilarating

unofficial ascent of the historic Zig Zag Hillclimb. A search for fuel and excessive traffic around Wilton led to unplanned visits to the outskirts of Salisbury. Efficient map reading allowed us still to be on time at Steeple

Langford for a pre-arranged pub lunch at The Rainbow on the Lake, such lake being hidden by trees.

Shortage of staff meant that refreshments were somewhat delayed, the interim being used to guess which bit of grass the automated lawn-mower would choose next, whilst bets were taken on whose table leg would eventually trap the beast!

The afternoon saw a trip up the beautiful Wylde valley, collecting tins being shaken at anything that moved or seemed likely to contribute to the cause. At a substantial dinner that evening the results were announced, Ken & Geoff in the Morgan taking the 'Over The Top' trophy, before liquid refreshment coupled with the fresh air indicated an early ascent of the little hill to Bedfordshire!

A fine Sunday morning saw our explorers return home safely by various routes, some road works occasioning vast detours. Later the abandoned vehicle at Sparkford was quickly returned to its keeper to be fettled and provided with brand new boots.

The evening of 18th November in the upper club room of the Village Club gave all participants and partners a slide and movie show of the event, together with presentation of the Awards. The sum of £400 was handed to Eileen for transmission to Macmillan.

I would like to give the West End Motor Club a big big thank you for raising money again for Macmillan Cancer Support. At present the total sum donated over the years is an amazing over £25,000 - a wonderful way to remember Charles. Thank you all so much. Eileen



Above: 'Coffee cars'

Our Tuesday morning coffee meetings at the Village Club Café continue throughout the Winter and the photo shows some of the cars at a recent meeting. All are welcome to introduce themselves and chat about things mechanical and topical.

Report David Rolfe
Photos: Eric Strange and
Roger Brown



Compton Abbas Airfield



Bob's Austin 7 Coupe 'paddling'

LOCAL GIRLS' SUCCESS

After a long summer working in WESSC bar personnel Alice Jenkins and Amelia Histon-Alvey have now begun student life at Edinburgh University. Both begun their intrepid journey to Edinburgh starting their career at the village nursery, West End Playgroup.



Above left: Alice and Amelia at West End Playgroup in c.2005 and right, in Halls at Edinburgh!
Article and photos: Richard Jenkins

EMBER MANOR LODGE

It is three hours to the deadline for copy for this edition of the Village News, the Editor in on my case. It is at times like this that I develop the utmost admiration for professional journalists – even if they sometimes make me spit feathers! To have to produce copy day in, day out, is a skill I am sure I don't possess and would have the utmost difficulty in developing – the flip side is that most journalists wouldn't be successful fruit and vegetable growers.

So here we are, two and half hours to the deadline – how did that happen; and I volunteered to do this because I wanted you all to know that Ember Manor Lodge is still alive and kicking. I wish I could report that we were back to situation normal but that is not the case, we are still feeling the effects of the Covid lockdown and the continuing threat, particularly to the vulnerable; not all our members are happy to join in physical meetings yet.

Armistice Sunday did see four members of the Lodge at the War Memorial on Esher Green, all of an age to remember the last World War but too young to have been involved in any fighting. We had been lucky enough to dodge the doodlebugs. One of those members attended was on his way to hospital for a top-up of intravenous antibiotics; he had been a career merchant seaman and certainly epitomise those who, before him, had given their lives that we might be free. After a gap of 18 months, March 2020 until October 2021, we held our first post pandemic Lodge meeting. It was a joy to see our friends in the flesh, as it were, rather than on Zoom, which had been our lifeline over all those months. The meeting didn't run smoothly as we had hoped. Due to an unforeseen mishap, we were not able to use the Village Hall but were extremely grateful that we were able to decamp to the meeting room in the Sports and Social Club – our thanks to all those who assisted us in that endeavour.

This first meeting was quickly followed by another in November as a prelude to making one of our newer members a Master Mason. This, all being well, will happen on Monday 29th November. There were no unforeseen mishaps this time but on our visit to the Club after our meeting we was entertained by the musicians and singers, a delight we had also missed over those 18 barren months.

Ember Manor members have been able, in our own small way, to maintain our fund raising for charitable purposes. The Masonic Charitable Foundation, the over-all Masonic Charity in England and Wales which, contrary to popular belief, supports the deserving from all sectors of our community and not only Freemasons, has dispensed some £4.7 million to individuals and communities struggling through the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, including some £340 thousands in Surrey.

Still ten minutes to the editorial deadline, I must start my next report rather earlier – if I am foolish enough, or indeed allowed, to volunteer again. I hope by then the World will have returned to some form of normality which will leave me journalists very little to write about – but don't despair we will find something to say.

Derek Richardson - Past Master, Ember Manor Lodge 4740



AFC WESTEND

Hi everyone, a quick resume from the village football section and hope that this finds you are all well and surviving the stresses and strains of our current climate.

After the recent blip we had with our home Westend pitch being flooded, we have since then seen a remarkable spell of dry weather and this has allowed us to get back playing our games on the common once again, the lads and management team are really ecstatic about this and long may it continue as there is nothing worse for the club to have to play our home fixtures at another ground and certainly not the best scenario for any of our teams to have to put up with.

So, as I have said, this is just a very quick update to let you know how our Saturday side and Sunday sides are doing in their respective leagues.

AFC WESTEND SATURDAY

Our Saturday side didn't get off to the best start in the Guildford & Woking Alliance League and are currently sitting in 9th position, the good news is that they won their second game last Saturday when they beat Chertsey Old Salesians by 3 – 2, however, despite their unpredictable start to the campaign, team manager Joe Gillott thinks the team can improve their overall position after drafting in some new players to strengthen the squad and they are hoping to pick up another 3 points this Saturday 27th when they are at home to Surrey Dynamos FC with a 2pm kick off.

AFC WESTEND SUNDAY

The Sunday team under the managership of George Nixey have had a really good start to their season despite losing a couple of early games, they have now picked themselves up and have convincingly won their last 3 games, 2 of these wins have seen them progress to the 3rd round of the Surrey County Cup after beating a side on Sunday 21st November who play their football 2 leagues above them, they were drawing 1 – 1 at the end of normal time and then won a thrilling penalty shootout which saw them run out eventual winners by 4 – 2 on the day, they are currently lying in a comfortable 5th place in Division 5 of the Leatherhead & District Sunday League. The Sunday team are away this weekend 27th November to Alfilético Madrid.

AFC WESTEND JAGUARS

Our other Sunday side, known as AFC Westend Jaguars are under the guidance of Raff Federico and are in Division 8 of the Leatherhead & District Sunday League, they are currently in 4th place in their respective league with games in hand on the league leaders and again have had a really impressive start to their season, so far in the league, they have won 2, drawn 1 and lost 1, last Sunday they played in a 2nd round Surrey County Cup match and despite getting a creditable 2 – 2 draw against a very good side they eventually lost the game 4 -2 on penalties. The Jags are playing at home this Sunday 27th November with an 11am kick off.

So there we are, a very quick update on your local football club news, let's hope that all our teams at AFC WESTEND can now push on further and bring some much needed success in the second half of the season to our wonderful village.

Finally, on behalf of all the Management Team and players may we wish you all a very Happy Christmas and all best wishes for the New Year 2022, Eric, Keith, George, Jake, Joe, Raff and Alex, Cheers everyone.

Keith Harris

CLUB CAFÉ

Club Cafe has been testing a Friday Evening themed supper menu and by all accounts, it has been a raving success. Tappas was top of my list, but Greek and Mexican themes went down a bomb! Linda's menus have proved to be a great hit and Friday evenings, complete with Richard's putting for cash has really had the club buzzing!

Don't forget that until Christmas Club Cafe has later opening times and it is just the place to enjoy a festive season lunch. Linda, George, Tom, Lukasz and the team are looking forward to serving you. Booking for lunches recommended.

Eric Strange



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VILLAGE NEWS WEST END
Please make a diary note of the copy dates for the next two editions
SPRING 2022: Friday 18th March by 1.00pm
SUMMER 2022: Friday 22nd July by 1pm

Please contact Angela Stockbridge
Email:
angelastockbridge1115@gmail.com
07817 498531 or 01372 460703

The Village News is supported by local organisations including: West End Village Club, West End Motor Club, the West End Village Show Committee, Garsons, Winterdown WI, the late Richard Gale, West End Village Hall Committee, the former West End Residents' Association, Advertisers and personal donations. Please note the newsletter can also be found on Garsons website www.garsons.com Community Page, www.AFCWestend.com website and the West End Facebook Group.

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PUMPKIN FUN ON HALLOWEEN!

Above: The pumpkin heads of the Six Wives of Henry VIII at Hampton Court!
Right: An Owl and Witches Cauldron - sculpted Pumpkin designs by the Stockbridge family.
Angela Stockbridge

