

Bookham Bulletin



LOCAL NEWS FROM BOOKHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Please visit bookhamcommunityassociation.org for the very latest information

Autumn 2023

Bookham 'On Safari' for Village Day 2023

The High Street was alive with wild animals - even a safari vehicle to view them from - for the Parade on Village Day in June. Our local Preschools and Schools surpassed themselves with costumes and accessories to make a really colourful and joyful procession down to the Old Barn Hall field where Mole Valley Silver Band was playing to welcome them into the arena.

Everyone enjoyed terrific displays from Eastwick, Great Bookham, Polesden Lacey Schools and Action Theatre Club before non-stop music from There's a Fire and Primary Covers through till 4pm. There was a great range of food and drink, both in the hall and on the field and many stalls, sideshows and children's entertainments. There were many activities for children with the Churches Together Last Man Standing, Elios&DiCarlo's Bucking Bronco, Curchod's Coconut Shy, Rawlings Opticians' Punch & Judy & Magic Show, Bungee Trampolines and the Tea Cup Ride.

As always, the day depended on 50 different organisations who were involved in the stalls

and displays plus the refreshments by Bookham Guiders and Bookham Butterflies WI. We are very grateful for all the work put in by their members and all our stewards and helpers, as well as everyone who came along to support us. Many thanks to our main sponsor The Vineries Garden Centre.

"We were so lucky with the weather with so many people coming along as well as those working hard to make it happen" said chairman Keith Slark. "There were lots of happy smiling faces. With the bar having a record year and most refreshment areas selling out and the stalls doing good business we will have made a substantial amount of money to help with the running of the Old Barn Hall for the village."

Ian Swinney judged the Parade and Gold awards went to the Rainbow Preschool and Great Bookham School with Silver to Bus Stop Preschool and Eastwick Infant School and Bronze to Peter Pan Playschool, Polesden Lacey Playschool and Polesden Lacey School.

The Best dressed stall on the field was won by Great Bookham Belles WI with Patrick Gardner



runners-up with a Special Mention for Bookham Bees WI. In the halls Mole Valley Quilters took the trophy this year closely followed by Bookham Flower Club.

Village Day is organised by the Bookham Community Association as a free to enter community event for all ages but it also raises vital funds to maintain and improve the Old Barn Hall complex for the village. This year, thanks to everyone's generosity, we raised a record £14,000. There were other events during Village Week with Bookham Afternoon Bridge Club and Mole Valley Silver Band's concert on Monday, the Quiz on Tuesday and Open Gardens on the following Sunday bringing the total to over £20,000. Thank you all!

The full financial breakdown, this report and more photographs can be seen on our website bookhamcommunityassociation.org

Next year's Village Day will be on Saturday 15th June 2024. If you would like to help please contact Keith on keithslark@tiscali.co.uk or 457375.

More photos on pages 16/17



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See page 21



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Bookhams Bulletin

90th Year

Issue 346

Bookham Community Association - Incorporated in England & Wales Company number 8000494
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Next Edition of the Bookhams Bulletin

Deadline for Winter issue:

1 October 2023

Email articles or queries

to the Editor

bookhamsbulletin@gmail.com

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2024

June

15 Bookham Village Day

Regular events at the Old Barn Hall

Bookham Country Market - Friday mornings

Old Barn Hall Jazz Club - most Sundays

Monthly

Bookham Flower Club - First Monday

BF&D Garden Society - Fourth Monday

Bookham Stamp Club - Fourth Tuesday

Cancer Chat Café - Second Wednesday

Eastwick WI - Third Wednesday

The Arts Society - Fourth Tuesday

Bookham Bees - First Wednesday

Elsewhere

Bookham Litter Pickers - First Sunday

Bookham Seniors Computer Club - Friday

Bookham Scottish Country Dance - Friday

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South Bookham SPACE



We count ourselves incredibly lucky at South Bookham SPACE to be able to offer a wide range of clubs and activities, all designed to help to improve the mental and physical wellbeing of our wonderful community. Whether you are looking to improve your fitness, meditate and calm your mind, or want to meet like-minded people, there is something for everyone. We also have a range of clubs for babies and children, where parents and carers can meet and socialise. Details of our activities are on our website or visit our Facebook page.

We are also proud to have helped many families to celebrate birthdays and special occasions. South Bookham SPACE has three areas you can hire for this purpose. Our main hall is suitable for larger parties. With chairs and tables for up to 60 people and a well-equipped kitchen, there is plenty of space to have fun. There is also room for a bouncy castle or play area, and a license to play music so you can dance.

Outer SPACE is an incredible area to hold

sports parties. There are markings for a range of sports, including 5-a-side football, netball and basketball. Plus, goals and nets that can be provided.

Social SPACE is a smaller venue with its own kitchen facilities, and tables and chairs for 10 people. With a stair lift and hearing loop, it is accessible for all. It also has a clear view of Outer SPACE from its balcony area.

To view any of these venues, please contact us or see the virtual tour on our website or social media sites. We also welcome new regular hirers who can add to our range of clubs and activities. Please see our websites Hiring page for further details of the facilities we offer and our prices. Have a look at the Calendar pages for availability, then contact us to secure your place.

To find out more about the activities hosted at SPACE please see our website www.southbookhamspace.org.uk. To hire a venue for your next party, event or meeting please email us hire.southbookhamspace@gmail.com.

Natasha Matthews



The Meeting Place



Some of our activities take a break over the summer but the good news is the Coffee Shop does not. We will be open every Saturday morning at Bookham Baptist Church 10am-12noon. We have wonderful cakes made by The Grange and a range of coffee and tea. Do feel free to drop in and we will welcome you. Some of our volunteers do need to take a holiday from time to time and we would really welcome more volunteers who would be willing to join our team to serve on our rota. Just come and introduce yourself and talk to us or contact us on our website.

Our Community Fridge will also be open every week on Saturday as well as Tuesday and Friday in Bookham Baptist Church and also at St Mary's Fetcham on Mondays. Opening times are on our website. We had a stall at Village Day which was much appreciated.

On Wednesdays 9 and 23 August we look forward to welcoming guests to two "Holidays at Home" days organised by our Anna Chaplaincy team. To find out more or to register for these events please ring 07518 735729 email ac@themeetingplace.org.uk or check on our website.

Both our Language Hub and Lipreading take a break over the summer. The Language Hub is a wonderful opportunity for those for whom English is not their first language to improve their speaking and writing skills. There are classes for beginners and improvers on Tuesdays taught by fully trained volunteers. For the lipreading we have a professional teacher and there is a small charge for these classes which again will be back in September.

For more information about The Meeting Place and all our activities please go to our website <http://themeetingplace.org.uk>, email us at info@themeetingplace.org.uk or ring the TMP

mobile 07425 133431 to leave a message. You can follow and like us on Facebook too.





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Bookham Library



It was such a pleasure to meet so many local residents at our stall at Bookham Village Day. Thank you for coming and saying hello. Did you collect one of our surveys?

We would love to hear what you would like to see and do at the library. Forms are available at the library or scan the QR code shown.

If you are not a library member, why not pop in and find out what's happening? We have all the bestsellers and popular new titles and if they are on loan, easy to reserve from another library.

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access to E Books, E Magazines, E audio books for free. All easy to download onto your device. Any problems come in and ask for help. And as we are members of the London Consortium of Libraries there are over seven million books available to our customers.

Bookham Library has a friendly Reading group, a wonderful volunteer who offers digital support, computers and printing, jigsaws, and comfortable chairs. All available without charge.

For little ones we offer Pebble Rhymetimes every Tuesday at 10 am and Saturday at 10.30 am. Come along and sing some old and new tunes. We run special children's events during the holidays.

This summer children have been enjoying The Summer Reading Challenge, a national scheme delivered by The Reading Agency in partnership with national libraries. The goal is to keep children reading during the holidays. This year's theme is 'Ready, Set, Read!' It was developed in collaboration with the Youth Sports Trust and it's all about games and sports. The Challenge continues until 23 September so there is plenty of time to take part.

Details of our events and activities are posted on Facebook and Twitter @BookhamLibrary so please follow us to keep up to date with our news.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Mole Valley Silver Band

Leads the celebrations



This spring, for the first time in years, Bookham and the rest of the nation had plenty to look forward to. Not only a new king, and our first coronation since 1953, but the first fully Covid-free summer since 2019.

No music, no celebration, and Mole Valley Silver Band (MVSb) was eager to make Bookham's and other local festivities swing. The season began with April's tub-thumping coronation concert at Fetcham Village Hall, with music from all four home nations and Royal Fireworks from Handel.



Polesden Lacey Infant School



At Polesden Lacey Infant School, we have six values: being fair, resilient, respectful, caring, courageous and curious. In this edition of the Bookhams Bulletin, I would like to focus on curiosity and what it means to the children. To help me do this I asked the children, in an assembly, some of the ways that they were curious and they did not disappoint with their answers!

All of their suggestions were about knowing

more and understanding more and being amazed at what they were finding out. In this age where so many of us will 'Google it' to find an answer, the children had many more creative ways to feed their curiosity. They suggested, 'watching what others are doing', 'asking questions', 'having conversations', 'exploring', 'looking, smelling, touching, tasting and listening', 'thinking' and 'finding challenges to stretch our brains'.

Working in a school, particularly an Infant school like Polesden Lacey Infant School, where the children have so many opportunities, both in the classroom and in our wonderful outdoor spaces to explore and observe, we see many moments of awe and wonder. Within the space of one week children marveled at; watching an open fire burn and seeing what happens when different substances are entered into the flames; finding an empty bird's egg and working out what type of bird laid the egg; spotting a slow worm and discovering more about it and making charcoal pencils from sticks found in the woods.

Year 2 children also fed their curiosity about the explorers who had visited places on our planet and on the moon, which led them to ask questions about our solar system and the universe. Year 1 have been learning about



the Amazon Rainforest and the threats to it. It led them to be curious about the impact on all the animals that live there and what they could do to help reverse the destruction. It is such a privilege to nurture our children's curiosity and as Albert Einstein said, 'the important thing is not to stop questioning; curiosity has its own reason for existing'.

Enjoy being curious!

Great Bookham School



Great Bookham School had an exciting end of summer term full of fun, learning and celebrations!

As soon as we found out that the theme for Bookham Village Day was 'safari' the children set to work to think creatively about how we could embody this theme. Led by the children, we decided to create our very own safari jeep which would tour Bookham High Street whilst creatures from the savanna roamed and waved their safari inspired leaves. The children were thrilled when it was announced that their

efforts secured 1st place in the parade and they have chosen to display their trophy at the front entrance of our school.

At Great Bookham School we are proud to offer our pupils a rich and vibrant curriculum which gives every child the opportunity to experience high quality learning opportunities. Sport continues to be something that our children love to take part in both competitively and for fun. District Sports, held at KGV Playing Fields, was a fabulous event where our children were able to showcase their sporting talent and model excellent sportsmanship. There was a palpable feeling of team spirit from all of the schools that took part, and we were so proud to come 2nd in the small schools category.

The children in Key Stage Two have been preparing for their end of year school production. They have been diligently learning lines, making props, and perfecting their dancing and singing. They were very excited to be performing Hoodwinked at Leatherhead Theatre which, for some, was their first experience of a professional theatre space. We think that they are incredible to have the confidence and ability to perform in such an impressive space and in front of such a large

audience.

With the start of the academic year very nearly here we warmly welcome and encourage families to come and tour our wonderful school. We are incredibly proud of our setting and cater for children aged 3 – 11 years old. Please contact the school office via info.gbs@sft.org.uk to book a personal tour with myself.

Jenna Allen

01372 456774



Bookham Bees WI



Bookham Bees celebrated its 5th anniversary in April. A brilliant speaker, Sam Robinson, told us about his small but growing business, Raw Honey Gin Distillery.

It was fascinating to hear how Raw Honey was initially set up and even better, Sam brought gin samples along. No better way to celebrate a birthday, along with prosecco and cake!

The May meeting saw us welcoming speakers from Sight for Surrey. It was a thought provoking and interesting evening looking into the lives of people visually impaired. May saw a social gathering of all the local WIs in the new space provided in St Nicolas Church for

community gatherings. This was organised by the Bees and we listened to an enlightening talk from Jo Sherring and Olha from Epsom & Ewell Refugee Network. The talk was followed by tea and an amazing array of homemade cakes.

Bookham Bees has many active groups. The Theatre Group has visited various productions, including 'Lost in Music' at Dorking Halls and a Christmas trip is planned to see 'SIX' in Brighton. The Supper Group has gone from strength to strength, providing the opportunity of sampling delicious food in various restaurants and pubs while getting to know other Bees better. Walkers continue to tread the paths around Surrey on short or longer walks. Something for everyone.

Over recent months the Sewing Group has been busy preparing for Village Day. Our stall looked stunning and encouraged lots of visitors to 'have a go' at the various games on offer. An addition to the Bees' Stall was the opportunity to win a Blue Heart for your verge to encourage wildlife, the profits from which have been donated to this year's Bees' charity, Community First Responders.

The Bees Gardening Group is very active with

many visits to public and private gardens. Three Bookham Bees opened their gardens for Open Gardens and were delighted to welcome many visitors. Three active Book Clubs read and analyse a large range of books. Other groups include Bridge, Knit & Crochet, Family History and a Lunch Group is to follow in the Autumn.

Bookham Bees WI warmly welcomes new members. We meet the first Wednesday of every month in The Old Barn Hall, Bookham at 7.30 for 7.45pm. Please pop along or for more information contact:

dianagreenman@gmail.com



Bookham Bees WI 6th Birthday Celebration



Bookham Bees WI Supper Group At The Hidden Kitchen, Bookham

Howard of Effingham School

HowardFest



The Howard of Effingham's annual summer music festival, HowardFest, took to the stage – a very impressive one, kindly supplied by P.G. Events and Stage, which has been used at a number of prominent music festivals – on Saturday 24 June. Over 100 students from across all year groups as well as some

returning alumni performed music for an enthusiastic audience that was also able to enjoy the glorious weather and a fantastic selection of food and drink, all sourced from local suppliers by the school's PSA, the Friends of The Howard.

Across the event's 8 hours, music of many genres was featured – from delightful classical music by Handel and Mozart; to pop and rock by the likes of Bruno Mars, Billie Eilish and Guns 'n' Roses; jazz tracks by Herbie Hancock and Quincy Jones; the summery sound of a steel pan band; as well as a number of songs and compositions by the students themselves.

A huge amount of musical performances organised and rehearsed by the students themselves was featured alongside the school's extra-curricular ensembles: The Howard Orchestra, whose programme

included a Clementi piano concerto with three extremely talented student pianists performing a movement each of the solo part; the Pop and Chamber Choirs; the Jazz Band; and the Training Band – a group made up of students who only began learning their instruments in group lessons at the start of the school year! The evening saw a series of sets from some of the school's most accomplished bands, including the wonderful Howard Jazz Band, Disorganised and the Majority, culminating in a performance from the school's own teacher band!

If you would like to sample the wide range of entertainment on offer at the school for yourself, then put a date in your diary for next year's event which will take place on Saturday 22 June 2024!

Sam Lockyer, Head of Music

The Friends of St Nicolas Church

The Friends are a charity set up in 1983 by local councillor Ken Matts to help fund preservation and maintenance work at the Church. It is independent of the church and exists so that any member of our community can help make sure that this beautiful grade I listed building will be here for future generations to enjoy.

St Nicolas receives no central funding to maintain the fabric of the building. By becoming a Friend, you can participate in preserving the long-term future of the church for the outlay of just £30 a year (or more if you

feel so inclined!). We also run occasional social events to which Friends are invited.

At the turn of the millennium, the Friends were a major player in enabling essential works to the Tower, which was in danger of collapse. Since then, we have contributed to new churchyard pathways, protection for the stained glass, a new heating system and organ repairs amongst many other items.

If you value the presence of St Nicolas in Bookham and would like to know more about



how you can support the Friends, please contact the Secretary by email to friends@stnicolasbookham.org.uk.

Great Bookham Belles WI



It's been a varied and interesting term for the 120 members of Great Bookham Belles WI. Our April meeting had probably our most entertaining speaker ever in the form of Lindsey Barrell and her two friends, also known as the Burlesque Bombshells. Her hilarious talk about bringing burlesque to the WI caused much laughter and merriment.

At our May meeting all our members got

involved in filling and decorating Jolly Jars in readiness for our village day stall. 350 jars, and lots of chatting later, we were ready to defend our stall winning ways. Our "On Safari" themed stall, and especially our President Amanda dressing up in an inflatable elephant costume, was a great talking point and resulted in us winning the cup for the best stall yet again and raising £350 for the BCA.

In June our monthly meeting was held at Fetcham Park House, a beautiful historic venue which many of our members were unaware of or had never visited. Thanks to Sandra and Malcolm Young for hosting a lovely evening and to Vivien White, a local historian, for a fascinating talk on the history of the house and the surrounding area. Donations were given to Dame Deborah James' Bowel Babe Fund with

£400 donated on the evening for this very worthy cause. Deborah spoke at our WI a few years ago and we have followed her story closely ever since.

At the time of writing we are looking forward to our annual July Summer Social meeting at Manor House School. With such a large membership it's great to have the opportunity to chat amongst friends old and new. Our choir Decibelles will be performing and leading us in a sing-a-long and we will hold another raffle in aid of Leatherhead Start, our charity for this year.

We are currently full with a waiting list but welcome visitors to our monthly meetings (usually the 3rd Monday of the month), please email contactbelleswi@gmail.com for information.

Calling Southey Hall Old Boys!



I am contacting you on behalf of Stephen Midgley, the coordinator for the small group of Southey Hall Preparatory School Old Boys

who are still around. Stephen lives in Edinburgh, so I am setting up a reunion in London on Wednesday 30 August.

Eastwick Manor had been the seat of the Howards, one of the premier families of England, but many local people will remember it as Southey Hall Boys Preparatory School. It had become a school in 1924 and remained such until 1954.

The small group of us only met for the first time in 2021, and again last year. We shared a small number of photographs and a large

number of memories, but the group is ever diminishing, and since this year's reunion may well be the last - we are all now at least 80 - we wondered whether any other Old Boys might like to join us.

The reunion is at The Monkey Puzzle, 30 Southwick St, Paddington, London W2 1JQ on Wednesday, 30 August at 12.30. Even if you cannot make the reunion please contact me to share memories you have of those school days.

Nigel Suffield-Jones 0118-976-7769 or Email: nigelsj2@gmail.com

Bookham and Fetcham Gardeners' Association

Although the primary purpose of allotment sites is to produce food, we plot holders do our best to support wildlife and ensure a balanced eco-system that will reduce pests and diseases and increase productivity.

Attracting pollinators is vitally important. Research has shown that honeybees account for up to 34% of flower pollination. Other vital insects that pollinate our food plants include moths, butterflies, flies, wasps and various other types of bees.

Some interesting statistics, showing the dependence on pollinators of a selection of crops, show runner beans depend about 85%, cucumbers 65% and apples, pears, plums 65-

85%. Not all wildlife is welcome on the allotments and without control there will be no end product. For example, allium moth, leek moth and the moths attacking fruit trees. Use organic control (e.g., Pheromone) on fruit where net protection is unrealistic.

Leek moth/allium miner are best controlled by very fine veggie netting, sold in the allotment hut. It needs to be put over the plants at the correct time of year i.e, March/April and September/November, the periods of peak adult activity.

Finally, a word about the gardener's No 1 enemy - slugs. There are lots of ways to tackle this wildlife pest but it is worthwhile

remembering that for every slug above ground research shows there are another four below ground!

Come along any Sunday morning between 10am and midday when the shop is open. We are on the Allotments and the entrance is at the bottom of Keswick Road near the junction with Eastwick Road. Membership is open to all gardeners – not just plot holders. For just £5 annual subscription you'll probably find most basic garden supplies and with prices so low you are bound to recover your membership fee in no time.

Brian Smith, Eastwick Allotments committee member

Bookham Seniors Computer Club



The Bookham Seniors Computer Club took part in Bookham Village Day in June at the Old Barn Hall where the theme was 'On Safari'. If you have not tried our 'On Safari' quiz it is still on our website bookhamseniorscomputerclub.co.uk where you will also find the answers along with some of our other highly entertaining and fun quizzes from our monthly Zoom meetings.

The club will start its autumn term with its AGM on Friday 8 September 2023 at 10:00 in the Little Bookham Village Hall where we will discuss the programme for the autumn term.

Following a break for tea or coffee and biscuits there will be a Scam Safety Talk by a guest speaker from Surrey County Council. The club welcomes new members so why not come along to hear what we do and discuss how the club can help you.

Details of the autumn term's programme will be posted on our website bookhamseniorscomputerclub.co.uk after the AGM.

The club meets during school term time on Friday mornings between 10.00 and 12.00 either at Little Bookham Village Hall or, on the first Friday of the month, via Zoom. Annual membership currently costs £25 and there is no additional charge for attending any of sessions which includes tea, coffee and biscuits during a mid-morning break in the hall.

The club runs informal sessions where you can

get help with any problem or questions that you have about PCs, laptops, tablets or smartphones. These sessions are free to members and are held at Little Bookham Village Hall on the first Wednesday afternoon of each month (except August) from 14.30 to 16.30.

The committee also provides help to its members by email, telephone and occasionally by remote connection with answers to questions, advice and solutions to computer related problems. It keeps its members up-to-date via email and its website.

The club welcomes new members. Find out more by phoning Sue on 01372 454461 or Brian on 01372 450604 or visit our website bookhamseniorscomputerclub.co.uk.

come along and meet us at the AGM on Friday 8 September 2023 at 10:00 in Little Bookham Village Hall.

Effingham and Leatherhead Rugby Club (ELRFC): Looking ahead to a new season



The club is delighted to announce the appointment of Tony Robinson as the new Director of Rugby. Tony has a wealth of rugby experience, and takes over from Andy Stuttard, who has stepped down after four years of dedicated service. We would like to thank Andy for his contributions and wish him all the best for the future.

The senior section is currently recruiting new players, with pre-season training beginning in July (1st XV on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7.30pm). Whether you are looking for a competitive challenge, a social outlet, or a way to keep fit, ELRFC has something for you. If you are interested, please contact Tony Robinson at tonyrobinson@m2m2.co.uk.

The junior section is also looking for new players to join their successful teams. Last

season they competed well in the Surrey Waterfall Cup and showed great teamwork and spirit. They cater for boys from U12 to U18 and offer a great environment to play rugby and improve skills. The new season starts in September, and you can register your interest by emailing justin@tomorrowadvertising.com.

The minis section start training again on Sunday 3rd September, and new players are most welcome to come down and give rugby a try. The minis section is for children U6 to U11 and we introduce the game through fun activities and games. Find out more by emailing minischairman@eaglesrugby.club.

We'll be holding our annual ELRFC Community Day on Sunday 10th September. Bring family and friends along and enjoy a day of rugby activities, games, food, and entertainment. You can also meet the coaches and players to find out more about the club and its vision.

Plus, the Rugby World Cup starts on 8th September. We will be showing all of the big games in our clubhouse, with special social rugby membership available so everyone can enjoy the spectacle as a Rugby Community! There's never been a better time to get involved in rugby, so why not get in touch via



the email addresses below, visit our website or pop down to see us.

www.eaglesrugby.club

U6-U11: minischairman@eaglesrugby.club

U12-U18: justin@tomorrowadvertising.com

Senior: tonyrobinson@m2m2.co.uk.

Bookham Butterflies WI



Eleanor Cullingham, Wendy Taylerson and Jenny Epps with Bookham Butterflies WI's new banner

Bookham Butterflies' stunning new banner was unveiled at Village Day, where the Butterflies were running the tea and cake stall inside the Old Barn Hall.

The banner design was a collaboration of ideas, with the main focus on butterflies. Eleanor Cullingham, Wendy Taylerson and Jenny Epps (pictured with the banner) created dozens of butterflies, using fabric from their own "stash" and employing various techniques. These designs were applied onto the backing fabric (sourced from our local quilting shop). A lot of time was then taken making the finishing touches and hand

quilting around each butterfly.

We were delighted with the result of the ladies' hard work, as well as with our efforts on the refreshments stall. We raised more than £1,100 for the BCA, including more than £300 from our raffle. Other members of Bookham Butterflies WI have recently used their crafting skills to make knitted hats for newborn babies in Ukraine.

With the arrival of better weather, many Butterflies have been enjoying visits to gardens, both local and further afield. Towards the end of June, Butterflies and guests enjoyed a day out at Mottisfont, a National Trust property near Romsey in Hampshire (pictured). The hot weather meant the roses were past their best, but this did not detract from a wide variety of planting and other gorgeous flowers in the walled gardens.

More locally, our Exploring Gardens group have visited RHS Wisley, Moleshill House in Cobham and Ashcombe in Westhumble, since the winter break. At the end of all our visits, we enjoy tea and cake with the owners, who raise money for their chosen charities by opening



Bookham Butterflies WI on their trip to Mottisfont.

their gardens.

On another local trip, a small group of Butterflies visited the Chimney Fire Coffee company operating from Denbies Vineyard. We learnt about how the company has grown from its roots in Effingham and tasted several different types of coffee.

Recent fascinating speakers at our monthly meetings include author Gill Thompson, Emma and Viki from Surrey Wildlife Trust and Jay Woogara, a retired barrister and lecturer at Surrey University who talked about the 'Indian Diaspora'.

For more information about our WI, visit our website www.bookhambutterflieswi.com

Bookham Bowling Club – 90th Anniversary

So much has happened since starting this 90th Anniversary year.

Our Come & Try weekend had over 40 visitors wanting to learn more about bowls and now 30 of them have gone on for further coaching and match instruction. Welcome to the club.

The club's Charity Day – themed on Scouting & the 1930's supporting the local scout groups and those going to the Korean Jamboree this year as representatives - raised over £1,600. This included a donation by the local Korean company KOKORO and the scouts doing a car washing weekend at our club. Tremendous effort all round. Good luck to those going.

Bowls Surrey put together a "super" team of players from several clubs to bowl against us in a one off event in this special year of ours. The photos don't do justice to how well we played but were beaten by the better team. A great afternoon finished off with a tea.

Again we represented ourselves at Bookham's Village Day helping to raise money for the BCA. Lots of youngsters had a go at bowling and



ringing our bell alongside their parents and other adults who were interested for when they retire! The theme this year was On Safari so everyone that had a go went away with a wild animal sticker. Terrific day for all concerned that helped out and spoke to old friends and bowlers who visited the stall.

Our green has been well maintained as usual and many compliments have been received from visiting clubs. Several of our teams are progressing through external matches nicely and the internal ones are slowly reaching a climax for a September finish.

If you're interested please visit our website: www.Bookhambowls.co.uk to see more about



us. We are off the Dorking Road on the way up to Polesden Lacy at the start of the Chrystie Recreation ground.

The Club's Charity Day "Scout Group"

The Surrey Bowls contingent and our club playing members.

Horsley Choral Society

On 23rd September (4.30pm) Horsley Choral Society will be performing Verdi's Requiem at The Grange Opera's Theatre in the Woods, in the grounds of West Horsley Place. This is to be a joint concert with Oxshott Choral Society, Epworth Choir and Godalming Choral Society in celebration of Godalming CS's 150th Anniversary. The mass choir will be performing with professional soloists and orchestra, Anita Watson (Soprano), Kate Symonds-Joy (Mezzo-Soprano), Ben Thapa (Tenor) and Alex Ashworth (Baritone-Bass) and The Hennessey Brown Collective. The evening promises to be quite special with wonderful music in a beautiful venue.

Tickets are on sale now at: www.thelittleboxoffice.com/gcs

Horsley Choral Society Autumn Season starts 4th September at East Horsley Village Hall 8 - 10pm. New members of all voice parts are always welcome. Come along any Monday evening for some free taster rehearsals.

Contact secretary@horsleychoralsociety.com or visit www.horsleychoralsociety.com for further information.

Surrey U3A Network – Study Days at Menuhin Hall

Surrey Network has been organising study days at The Menuhin Hall in Stoke d'Abernon since it opened in 2005. The network runs eight study days each year and it recently became Registered Charity 1203248. The study days are open to all U3A members, and visitors are welcome as a step to potentially joining local U3As.

Recent study days were on the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Vikings. The Autumn programme consists of Steven Devine presenting "An Utterly Incomplete History of Keyboards & Keyboard Music" on Friday 15th September, Professor Philip Harris presenting a layman's guide to "Quarks, the Universe, and Everything" on Friday 20th October, and Colin Wiggins, formerly at the National Gallery, talking on "Rembrandt - From Fame to Poverty & Final Acclaim" on Friday 17th November.

Full details of all these events can be found on our website at [u3a: Surrey U3A Network: Events \(u3asites.org.uk\)](http://u3a: Surrey U3A Network: Events (u3asites.org.uk)). Our 2024 programme will be available in the Autumn.

Ian Funnell

Bookham Open Gardens 2023 was another great success!



The day dawned incredibly hot but still our visitors came out in their droves, maybe lingering for longer than usual in the shady areas of individual gardens. We couldn't have done it without you, so thanks so much for coming! We sold around 570 tickets and raised around £5,400, which all goes towards the upkeep of the Old Barn Hall and is most welcome.

This year we had an incredible nine new and varied private gardens which had not opened previously, with another two repeat openers. All our gardens were full of colour and charm, some with quirky and interesting features too. The inclusion of wild areas has come to the fore in several gardens and there were some very attractive ponds to admire.

The Grange once again opened their Victorian walled garden and also their wonderful new

wildlife pond area with wildflowers and fruit trees, as well as some of their crafts on display. Little Bookham Allotments, with its community atmosphere, is in a rural setting and both edibles and beautiful flowers feature, also a wildflower meadow.

At Polesden Lacey Infant School the children were very keen to show visitors their outdoor learning areas, wildlife habitats and wildflower meadow. By contrast, there was the more formal planting and attractive landscaping at Manor House School which returned after some years.

Some visitor comments:

We loved seeing your havens! This is always a highlight on our calendar for us and we were blessed with another year of perfect weather for it! Thanks so much to everyone involved.

Lots of interest from the very modern to the more traditional - we enjoyed them all, as well as a welcome lunch stop at the Old Barn Hall. Thank you.

Beautiful gardens. Don't they all look stunning.

They all look amazing, with so many mini nature reserves.

They were all wonderful, thank you for opening up your gardens and inviting us in to see the fruits of your labours.

A wonderful day! Thank you everyone.

At the Hall our team provided hot and cold drinks, rolls and their usual tempting selection of cakes, and there were a couple of Country Market stalls selling crafts. Outside there was the ever popular plant stall and visitors were also able to buy plants at some of the gardens.

There is a fuller selection of photos of the event on our Facebook page 'Bookham Open Gardens' which we invite you to 'Like'. We'll also be putting them up on our website www.bookhamopengardens.co.uk. Do let us know via our website or Facebook page if you might be interested in opening your garden in 2024 - we are always on the lookout for new gardens. You can also mail opengardensinfo@gmail.com.

Many thanks to our wonderful garden openers who didn't wilt and kept going to the end. It's worth it when you get lovely comments from visitors! Also we couldn't have managed without our army of volunteers who stewarded, helped with catering and ticket sales, ran the plant sale and Country Market stalls, sorted out signage etc etc and all those little but necessary tasks to get an event up and running and to pack up at the end. We also need to thank our sponsor, The Vineries Garden Centre, and our supporters, Patrick Gardner & Co Estate Agents, Rohallion Security, db Designs Southern Ltd. Thanks too to Brackenburys and Bookham Quick Stop who joined us this year as ticket sellers.

Write up by Diane Poole, photos by Steve Poole





Photos by Roger Bull John Dunn & others

Stagecoach Leatherhead and Bookham

This is a story that comes full circle. In 1990, Felicity, a little 2 year old from Surrey decided she wanted to dance and took up lessons locally. She immediately took to the classes and quickly progressed in all areas. At 13 she was offered a scholarship to train at the prestigious Italia Conti Academy of Performing Arts in Barbican, central London. It was a long way from her home in Bookham but it was an opportunity not to be missed so ballet, tap and jazz shoes were packed and off to London she went. School consisted of lessons in the mornings and performing arts training in the afternoon until GCSEs were completed at 16 and then 3 years of intensive full time training in acting, singing and all aspects of dance followed.

From here Felicity worked all over the world performing in theatre and TV but eventually Bookham called her home and, having subsequently completed a degree and a PGCE, moved into performing arts education. It was here that she met future husband, Nathan, a

musician and musical director. Felicity's career was to change again. An opportunity to move into film production ensured she worked on some of the biggest films of the time (Star Wars VII, Solo: A Star Wars Story, No Time To Die, [Bond], Nutcracker: The Four Realms and more besides) but when the first of her two boys came along she made the choice to stay home and spend time with her children.

Fast forward several years and there was a little more free time and a yearning to get back to where it all started - local performing arts. Felicity is now the proud Principal of Stagecoach Leatherhead and Bookham bringing a wealth of experience and knowledge to our local community's young performers. Some want to be performers themselves, some just like developing confidence and making friends, whatever you end up being, ballet dancer or barrister, actor or accountant, Stagecoach equips our youngsters with what they like to call - Creative Confidence For Life.



Bookham Baptist Church



It has been a busy few months here at Bookham Baptist Church. Despite the relative quietness as Rainbow Pre-School enjoyed their summer holidays, there was no lack of little voices around the building as the BBC

Children's Centre laid on plenty of activities for 0 – 11. The Family Movie afternoon went down so well that we are considering offering these more regularly to local families – watch this space for further details!

As a church we are thrilled to have welcomed a number of new members in recent months and have also enjoyed a number of baptisms, always memorable and deeply encouraging times for the whole church family and beyond.

The Community Fridge continues to attract many on Tuesdays and Fridays from 11.15am when the waft of bread emanates around the corridors. The Fridge is dedicated to reducing land waste by distributing food which is just past its sell by date but still good enough to eat. Last winter we introduced the Warm Space Café alongside this (now the Community Space Café since the fairer weather arrived). This allows all from the local community to come into the building from as



early as 10am to enjoy coffee and conversation before visiting the Fridge. It's been hugely popular with a healthy buzz of conversation to be heard every week.

After a brief summer break our Golden Years group return this autumn, meeting here at BBC on the 1st and third Wednesday each month; and over at Eastwick Road Church on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday. This is a popular gathering for the over 60s in the community who enjoy all sorts of activities and social events. They look forward to a virtual trip to Romania, a musical afternoon and a harvest themed activity session this term. All newcomers welcome, simply contact reception on 811313 for more details.

We are looking forward to welcoming many more from the community and beyond into our building in the months ahead. You can stay connected with going on here by visiting our web site www.bookhambaptist.org.uk

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Click 'Bookings' on our website www.bookhamcommunityassociation.org

Polesden Lacey Playschool



Outdoor play has a fundamental role in a child's early development. Freedom to move in a therapeutic, stimulating outdoor environment makes for healthier, happier children. It teaches essential life skills, boosts confidence and improves behaviour and we are so fortunate for all the outdoor facilities we have to offer.

Made all the more fortunate with a wonderful donation of new outdoor play equipment this year worth over £800! Thanks to one of our wonderful parents and the team at MyBaba.com we were gifted a brand new slide that the infants children can also enjoy, along

with an entire fleet of Little Tykes Cosy Coupes and an amazing kitchen garden playset.

The table area with child's size bench is perfect for sorting seeds and potting plants. The kitchen area of the set has shelves for storage and the bowl can be used for soil, water, or sand. The planter has a large plastic soil tray and an opening mini greenhouse attachment that is the perfect height for the children to tend and watch their seeds grow and transform from seedlings to full grown plants.

Before the end of term, we also enjoyed our annual educational visit to Bocketts Farm and had a wonderful time learning about the farm during a tractor trailer ride, feeding the larger animals and getting close to the smaller animals with a handling session for the bunnies and guinea pigs. There was plenty of time for free play too and a chance for parents to get to know each other away from the playschool gates.

As always we were sad to say goodbye to our



Swan children, who will be moving on to their chosen infant schools this autumn. Good luck to our Swans 2023! We hope you enjoy your next adventure at 'big' school, as we look forward to welcoming our new Cygnets.

For further information about the playschool, please get in touch (hello@polesdenlaceyplayschool.co.uk) or visit our website.

Ellie Pragnell

Chair, Polesden Lacey Playschool Committee

Old Barn Hall Jazz Club

Members of the Old Barn Jazz Club invite you to join them one coming Sunday when they meet at the Hall, 55 Church Road. Concert



meetings are held every Sunday from 1 to 4 pm. We are highly rated nationwide as a well-known venue for New Orleans traditional jazz, played by leading bands, many of international repute.

We draw regular support from both local and other people from the home counties and elsewhere, Great Bookham being a good catchment area for our generation of music lovers that has followed this particular style of music from the 60s up to the present day and

hopefully for newer generations as well.

Our local helpers include Margaret, Alan and Barry, under the direction of Graham. They are assisted by other willing supporters who create a happy atmosphere into which newcomers are always welcome. There is no membership fee to join the club. So why not pop in any Sunday, when the music (and dancing) starts at 1 pm (entrance fee £13).

For further information, please contact Graham Dunn, Tel. 01372 451170, obhjazz@gmail.com

Eastwick WI



Recent speakers at Eastwick WI have covered a wide variety of topics. In particular we welcomed Paul Henry, known as "The Kilt Man" who brought a large selection of different tartan fabrics to illustrate his talk. He explained how tartan patterns had developed and the meanings behind them. The cloth was first wound round the body for warmth but

this proved very bulky so pleating was introduced to reduce the bulk and the kilt was born.

In May we celebrated the coronation, dressing in red, white and blue and drinking a toast to the King. A quiz based on people called Charles was followed by a talk by the new Surrey WI co-chairman on the international women's organisation of which the WI is part.

Flowers were the theme in June. Cherrill Sands told us about women writers and their gardens, ranging from Jane Austen and Agatha Christie to J K Rowling. She gave us a new view of the novels, showing how important flowers, gardens and landscapes are in their books. Members brought blooms from their own gardens to decorate the hall.



Eastwick is a friendly, busy WI with coffee mornings and lunches, visits to places of interest – the Saville Gardens were recently enjoyed – book, gardening, craft, mah-jong and photography groups. We welcome visitors, see our website for details : eastwickwi.chessck.co.uk

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Mole Valley Indoor Bowling Club



A magnificent achievement earlier in the season by our team going a step further than last year by going on to win the Over 60 Inter County Finals, held at Nottingham. (photo showing team in Surrey colours)

In addition, a new member did brilliantly in the under 18 county finals, which is another first for the club

During the last winter season MVIBC achieved very good results across the board in ladies, men's and mixed county and friendly matches, and we will be in preparation for the upcoming 23/24 season with a full range of internal competitions and friendly interclub, county and national competitions.

So why not come along and - take up the challenge

MVIBC looks forward to welcoming new members to the club

Maybe you have never bowled before, or you might be an experienced player – all equally welcome, whatever age or social group.

The open mornings are held with help from our County level qualified coaching members, and other seasoned players. Just turn up with some soft sole trainers

If Saturday morning sessions are inconvenient – contact us for an alternative.

Many members from Bookham and the Mole Valley area have continued enjoying their indoor bowling throughout the summer months with weekly roll-ups, and friendly home and away matches with other clubs such as Sutton, King George Field, Grattons (Crawley) and Worthing.

MVIBC is one of the best value indoor clubs in the county for its membership fees.

The club is located at the Leatherhead Leisure Centre with ample easy parking. Check out our new website at www.mvibc.co.uk or email



mail4mvibc@gmail.com

Park in the rear car park of the Leatherhead Leisure Centre – the Bowling Club entrance is nearby and will be clearly marked.

We look forward to welcoming new visitors to MVIBC where we hope to show how challenging and rewarding indoor bowling can be, particularly at MVIBC.

Come along.....get active.... have fun.... PLAY BOWLS

M Mackie

Peter Pan Playschool



Peter Pan Playschool will be celebrating it's 31st birthday this year, and we're going from strength to strength. The world of Early Years education is evolving and the government offering free places is having a significant impact on the sustainability of non-profit early years settings like us. We are working incredibly hard to remain financially sustainable, whilst keeping our fees as low as possible to ensure our setting is accessible to the whole community.

On a typical day, we have up to 26 2-4 year olds, sharing a love of play and exploring, supported

by a hugely talented and devoted team of 5 or 6 staff – we have a team of 10 working across the week. We are proud of our reputation in promoting inclusion, and our staff team work hard to support all children to make progress from their unique starting points.

We feel it's really important the children grow up part of the Bookham community – we enjoy outings to the village shops, the local schools and we love joining the Village Day parade. This year, we asked the knitting group at Eastwick Road Church, the home of Peter Pan Playschool, to support us by knitting some soft wild animals to join the parade – and it was a huge success. The children loved the knitted animals, and we raised around £50 to donate to the church group's wool supplies, and we won third prize in the parade too, so a success all round!

For parents looking ahead to register at playschool, particularly in light of the sad news about Rainbow preschool closing at the end of

July 2024, we are now provisionally full until September 2025. Please get in touch as early as possible to secure your place in our unique and special playschool environment.

To find out more about us please take a look at our Facebook page www.facebook.com/PeterPanPlayschool and our website www.peterpanplayschool.co.uk Alternatively send us an email at peterpanplayschool@gmail.com or call us on 07908 018924 and Louise and the staff team will be happy to answer your questions.



Check out our website on

www.bookhamcommunityassociation.org

Keep up to date with what is going on around the village.

Make sure you keep your organisation's details up to date and let us know if you have an event coming up.

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The Plastic Free Bookham Project



We continue to make steady progress on our objective of signing up 20 Community Allies, with 17 organisations based in or covering Bookham having now signed our Plastic Free Pledge. If you run a local group and would like to get involved, contact us at pfcbookham@gmail.com. You can see what's involved on the For Organisations page of our website (address below). We need to focus now on signing up small-medium local businesses as champions of the process of reducing avoidable single-use plastic. If you can help us

achieve that objective, please get in touch.

Did you know that you can recycle a wide range of soft plastic in our local supermarkets? It can be from any brand, although not all packaging from all brands will be completely recyclable. Some examples of what you can recycle are: bread product wrappers; plastic fruit and vegetable nets; pouches; sauce sachets; crisp packets; biscuit wrappers; sweet wrappers etc. An extensive list of what can and can't be recycled is available on the Co-op's website www.coop.co.uk/environment/soft-plastics. Look for the blue recycling bin which is usually situated next to the doors part-way up the

shop. Tesco's also has a soft plastics blue recycling bin located to the right of the entrance.

To keep up-to-date with project progress, please like and follow PlasticFreeBookham on Facebook. There's lots of useful information about reducing single-use plastic on our website www.plasticfreebookham.org.uk. We also share items of environmental interest on the TransitionBookham Facebook page and Twitter account @ttbookham. More environmental information is available at transitionbookham.org.uk.

Bookham Flower Club



Clare Bryant kindly stepped in at the last moment, as our April demonstrator had COVID, and produced some "Slightly Different" designs with her beautiful flowers, which gave us a different perspective and new ideas

Graham King presented "How Bizarre" in May, using some of his amazing, self-created, sculptural container holders, which are works of art on their own, to complement his beautiful flowers. The arranging of the flowers was accompanied by descriptions of how these holders were made of wood, wire, wool, ribbons, fabric and beads.

In June, Katherine Kear, a national demonstrator and NAFAS Chairman, talked about her love of poetry with her demonstration 'Little Green Orchard' taken from a poem by Walter de la Mare. She took us on a walk down her garden in flowers, each arrangement held in place with different mechanics from a pin holder to twigs tightly packed into a bowl. She told us about the history of some of these and some gardening superstitions, giving us an amusing and informative afternoon along with the joy of her immaculately placed flowers.

The Show, 'Let's Celebrate', also celebrated the talents of the competitors who filled the Old Barn Hall with innovative, creative and beautiful works of floral art which were enjoyed by many visitors. The centre of the hall was filled with large exuberant exhibits in the Inter-Society class entitled 'Let's Celebrate' won by Banstead Club. Jan Clarke won the award for Best in Show with her amazing Seascape in the class entitled 'Inspired by the Sea' (pictured). Thanks go to our Show Committee chaired by Sue Marshall, and to all who supported the event with raffle prize donations, setting up the hall, providing the delicious cream teas, exhibiting and coming to join us in our love of flowers.



Bookham Flower Club's Diamond Anniversary year has had a wonderful start with outstanding demonstrations over the first three months and their very successful Floral Art Show, 'Let's Celebrate'.



Mole Valley WI



We have had an extremely busy time! We learnt about Richmond Park, Britain's Forgotten Army otherwise known as the

Lumberjills and at our resolution meeting in May two ambassadors from the local charity Dyscover talked to us about the difficulties of living with Aphasia.

Fetcham Village Hall celebrated 90 years so we helped by doing the teas and also had a table showing all our activities. The Murder Mystery evening in June was a great success. The raffle raised money for Cherry Trees in East Horsley.

Several members did a London Walk with a Blue Badge Guide from Westminster Abbey to

St James's Park looking at historic Palaces and Chapels. Our allotment diggers are very busy and the ramblers identified five different wild orchids on a recent walk on the Denbies Hillside. In July we had garden visits an outing to Romney Marsh planned.

More information about Mole Valley can be found on our website molevalleywi@chessck.co.uk so why not join us on the second Tuesday of the month to find out more.

June Webb

Eastwick Road Church



Eastwick Road's Tuesday Knitting Group helped the Peter Pan Playschool along on their safari down Bookham High Street on Village Day. Well done to the Playschool staff for their efforts and to the children for winning that bronze trophy! We enjoyed knitting the

animals.

In my view, the value of making and connecting with others for one's own wellbeing cannot be overstated. We meet 10am-12pm on Tuesdays at Eastwick Road Church in a comfortable and bright foyer, with tea and coffee provided. It is a friendly, supportive atmosphere where we are able to express our feelings and concerns, also receive help needed with tricky stitches.

We usually have 5 minutes to ponder on some kind of positive thought for the day.

In the last term we have also made button-up socks for wounded Ukrainian soldiers in Lviv hospital, prem hats, bunting for the King's Coronation and have had a few trips out

together. Of course there are times in between when we simply bring our own projects along. In the Autumn we are planning to make a wall hanging together from fabrics and yarns.

Our walking groups are going well. Whilst originally aimed towards over 55s, the shorter morning amble has proved suitable for childminders with buggies to meet up and chat over a coffee, whilst the afternoon is a longer 'hike' for those with energy to get a few miles in around Norbury Park. Both groups have spaces so please do consider whether you might like to join in. My contact details are below.

Lesley Ormiston Church Community Worker: lesley.o@eastwickroadchurch.co.uk

RSPB Dorking & District

Red Kite

Many of us have noticed large birds cruising the skies above that we don't recall seeing in the past. Conspicuous and slow-flying, the bird twists its forked tail and long narrow wings continually as it makes the most of the air currents. The flexibility and tail shape distinguish the red kite from the buzzard, which has blunt wings and tail, the buzzard looking much squarer and somehow more solid in the sky. Both kites and buzzards are making a comeback in South East England after centuries of absence.

Kites were common until the 17th century and then declined until only a few remained in a couple of remote valleys in Wales. During the last century, conservation efforts in Wales

succeeded so well that in 1989 red kites were reintroduced to several areas including the Chilterns. These bred from 1991 and have prospered and spread across the region. They are long-lived birds – one recently died of injuries in Oxfordshire, having been ringed 29 years earlier as part of the reintroduction study.

Red kites are known as scavengers, especially of carrion. In the Middle Ages they were the equivalent of street cleaners in London and other big cities. Nowadays, road kill forms a major part of their diet. However, they are also excellent predators. When hunting live prey, they strike from a high soaring position, making a rapid feet first plunge to take the prey by surprise. They catch and eat small mammals and sometimes birds by this



method.

If you want to learn more about birds and wildlife locally, get in touch with Dorking and District RSPB local group via its website <https://ww2.rspb.org.uk/groups/dorkinganddistrict/> or by Facebook (RSPB Dorking).

The Grange



The Grange is holding a birthday event to celebrate 85 years of being located in Bookham and everyone is invited! Full of history, creativity and fun for all the family, Saturday 16th September 11am-4pm will be memorable.

Entry is free, bring a picnic and seating and watch the day unfold in our wonderful grounds. Steeped in local history, step back in time by joining tours of our site, culminating in our Heritage Room where we have many artefacts on display, including those connected to royalty.

We will be hosting a variety of events and entertainment throughout the day, in the form of music, vintage bikes, a raffle, bottle tombola, games, a Grange merchandise stall, and more. Refreshments will be on sale, including pizzas, ice cream, and the famous Grange Teas.

The Grange Outdoor Learning and Community Centre Project (OLCC)

We received an amazing 1,183 comments and 5,383 likes for our Your Fund Surrey proposal, thank you to everyone that took the time to comment. We have now submitted our full application and have to wait until November to see if we are successful in our bid.

In May a team of 18 People We Support and staff completed a 5k inflatable colour run at Kempton Park to raise funds for the OLCC. They loved climbing over the giant inflatables while

being covered in foam and multiple colours; everyone looked very different from when they started. They raised an amazing £5,015.

We have launched our new Pave the Way campaign to help raise funds for our project. It is an opportunity for the community, organisations and businesses to leave their name/legacy at The Grange and become part of our 'friends' courtyard'. Simply purchase a paver, and engrave it with a message, family names or company logo; the courtyard will be laid at the end of the whole project. Learn more from our website: www.grangecentre.org.uk/pave-the-way/

Date for your diary: Saturday 2nd December 7.30 pm Grange Christmas Carol Concert – Yehudi Menuhin

Visit our website: grangecentre.org.uk, for all our news or find us on social media.

The Arts Society Bookham



The year's programme of lectures continued in May with a comprehensive account of the life and work of Ivor Novello.

Fully illustrated by John Snelson at the piano and in good voice

with interesting accompanying photos, he led us through the variety of talents of Novello as composer, playwright, actor and celebrity that went far beyond the popular image.

In June in contrast but perhaps with a link to Novello's life was Simon Whitehouse's history of the development of luxury hotels. From the beginnings in 1837 when butler and housekeeper James and Sarah Brown founded Brown's then a lodging house to the expensive establishments like The Ritz. Before the summer break in July, the history of 'The Owners and Makers of Rocco Silver' was explored by Ralph Hoyle.

Following a coffee morning in August our September meeting will show the history of royal coronations from Saxon times. October brings a lecture by Stuart Harvey of the great Renaissance painter and architect Raphael and the artistic depth and historical wealth that he brought to Rome.

In May members enjoyed a 5-day visit to Devon organised by Judy Money. The itinerary included a tour of the Royal Naval College in



Dartmouth, Exeter Cathedral and Agatha Christie's house. The Naval College was the highlight. We return to the Mediterranean in October with a tour 'The History Western Sicily and Palermo' visiting the many ancient monuments in the area.

Whilst continuing their work at Guildford Cathedral, Angela Stevens, ably assisted by Beryl Havers and Gill Funnell, the Heritage Volunteering group have also turned their skilled attention to more literary matters. Although suspended for a while because of



filming, cleaning and documenting the vast number of books in the library at West Horsley Place recommenced once this had finished.

New members are warmly welcomed to the Society at lectures at 7.30 on the fourth Tuesday in the month at The Old Barn Hall. <http://theartsocietybookham.org.uk/>. Meanwhile, anyone interested in joining the Society should contact Linda Tickner via the website and she will be pleased to send information by email or in the post.

John Cook

Bookham Stamp Club



Bookham Stamp Club, founded in 1993, meets every 4th Tuesday of the month (except for December) at the Old Barn Hall, Church Road, Great Bookham and our very popular Trading Tables start opening at 1.30pm, with displays commencing at 2.15pm.

Our programme includes visits from an impressive list of visiting speakers, members' displays and also Auctions held twice a year. We also have a packet exchange through which members can buy and sell stamps.

Sell your stamp collection

We are interested in purchasing unwanted

collections, but at the moment there is a temporary suspension of this "service" until a replacement is found, as our former Trading Secretary has retired. Nevertheless, please contact Secretary Barry Feltham for the latest by email:

secretary@bookhamstampclub.com

Become a member

If you are new to stamp collecting or want to renew your hobby come to one of our meetings, you will be warmly welcomed by up to 50 plus members that attend each meeting. But if you wish to find out before attending contact our Membership Secretary Fred Mitchell on 01372 374614, or look at our website www.bookhamstampclub.com

Our recent meetings

In April, we enjoyed a visit from Redhill Philatelic Society – Robert Hurst, Edward Walker and Rodney Pomfret displayed a varied mix of topics showing stamps and postcards.

May brought us our AGM. The club awarded

the Norman Frost Salver for 2022 to Mick Willis and for 2023 to Malcolm Cole. The club also made the Membership Secretary Fred Mitchell an honorary member (pictured).

In June, Richard Hewitt gave a remarkable display covering aviation in Scotland starting with the 1910 Lanark Air Show, followed by material from 1934 of Airlines which have flown in Scotland and also certain flights from and to Scotland.

Our upcoming meetings

Tuesday 22 August – John Bushell – Aviation, including Zeppelins

Tuesday 26 September – Members Displays for the Roy Gilbert Cup

Tuesday 24 October – Auction

We welcome experienced stamp collectors and newcomers.

Barry Feltham
Hon. Secretary

www.bookhamstampclub.com

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Joe Teed
SENIOR NEGOTIATOR




Holly Knight
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