

Bookham Bulletin



LOCAL NEWS FROM BOOKHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Please visit bookhamcommunityassociation.org for the very latest information

Summer 2026

bookhamopengardens.co.uk Bookham Open Gardens

Bookham OPEN GARDENS

Around 15 varied gardens for all to enjoy!
In aid of the upkeep of the Old Barn Hall

Sponsored by

Sunday 14th June 10am–5pm
Old Barn Hall, Church Road KT23 3PQ
for tickets, garden maps and refreshments

TICKETS:
£8 in advance from 22nd May at:

- www.bookhamopengardens.co.uk
- Vineries Garden Centre, Lower Rd, Effingham
- Brackenburys, 17a High Street, Bookham
- Bookham Mini Mart, 111 Little Bookham Street
- Old Barn Hall office: Mon, Wed, Fri 9.30am – 12pm

£9 on the day at the gardens or the Old Barn Hall
Contactless payment available at the Old Barn Hall, otherwise please try to bring exact change

£5 Wheelchair users (carers free), Free for under 16s
Assistance dogs only

Bookham Community Association Charity no. 1148881

Bookham Open Gardens

Do come and join in this annual event where often well over 700 people enjoy going around the village. Meeting friends and neighbours along the way. This year we have around 15 varied and attractive private gardens, including many new

The big Parade will start in the High Street at 11.40am with the theme 'My Favourite Story!' interpreted in amazing and colourful ways by the children taking part and led by Jason's Austin 7 and our Jazz Band.

There will be an exciting line-up of music, displays and attractions in the field behind the Old Barn Hall from 12noon.

BOOKHAM VILLAGE DAY

SAT 20th JUNE!

My Favourite Story!

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!

- 📍 Where – Old Barn Hall KT23 3PQ
- 🕒 Time – 12 – 4pm
- ★ Parade – 11.40 from High Street
- 🎵 Music • Bar • Food • Stalls

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The Vineries

STORYLAND

Entrance 1p

VILLAGE DAY
WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP!!!

WE ARE VERY SHORT OF HELPERS AND STEWARDS ON THE DAY.
COULD YOU SPARE US SOME TIME.

contact keithslark@tiscali.co.uk
See page 3

See centre pages for programme and details

The Great Garden Game-a-thon

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entry
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ALL YEAR ROUND



Sat 23 – Sun 31 May

Let the good times grow

Join us this May Half Term for fun, laughter and friendly competition. Let the games begin!

Book online and save



BOOKHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Bringing people together

Bookhams Bulletin

93rd Year

Issue 357

Bookham Community Association - Incorporated in England & Wales Company number 8000494
Registered Charity number 1148881. Registered Office: The Old Barn Hall 55 Church Road, Great Bookham, Surrey KT23 3PQ

From the Chairman

We are looking forward to Village Day on the 21st June. The Parade will be led by Jason's Austin 7 and our very own Traditional Jazz group 'The Old Barn Strollers' who will also be playing during the afternoon. They will be joined on the field by our three live bands as well as displays from schools and clubs.



There will be trophies for the winners and runners-up in the Parade at 12 noon.

On the field there are 50+ stalls and sideshows including rides and games for all ages. Hot food and our real ale bar will be on the field with lunches and teas throughout the afternoon in the main hall.

This is a community event but is run by the Bookham Community Association to raise money to improve the Old Barn Hall. Although our wish is for admission to be free to all, we are having to apply a nominal 1p this year due to the application of Street Trading Licence requirements on all free public events. Children and participants in the parade go free.

The day can only happen with the help of our volunteers running all the stalls, bar and refreshments but to manage the event we do need more help please!

7.15am to 10.30am	Setting-up the field
10.15am to 12.15pm	Stewards to close the High Street and man barriers
11am to 12.30	Stewarding parade from High Street to Field
12noon to 4pm	Stewarding the Field as required under Health & Safety
4 pm to 5.30pm	Putting it all away again!

If you are able to help us this year for all or any of these periods please let me know - and pass this request on to any others who could help.

chairman@bookhamcommunityassociation.org01372 457375 0797 900 3921

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Regular events at the Old Barn Hall		
Bookham Country Market - Friday mornings		
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Monthly		
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BF&D Garden Society - Fourth Monday		
Bookham u3a - First Tuesday		
Bookham Stamp Club - Fourth Tuesday		
Cancer Chat Café - Second 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		

Next Edition of the Bookhams Bulletin

Deadline for Spring issue

1 July 2026

Email articles or queries to the Editor
bookhamsbulletin@gmail.com

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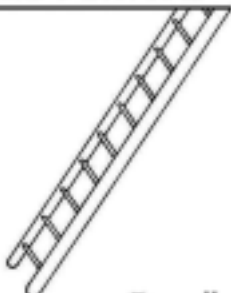
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Bookham Open Gardens



Sunday 14th June, 10am – 5pm

Do come and join in this annual event where typically around 700 people enjoy going round the village, meeting friends and neighbours along the way. This year we are featuring around 14 varied and attractive private gardens to share with you, including 4 which have never opened before. We also welcome for the first time the gardens at Fetcham Village Infants School where the children are involved in making the raised beds, sowing the seeds, nurturing the plants and eventually eating the produce.

Our garden owners will give you a warm welcome and provide you with the opportunity to pick up ideas for your own garden, answer your questions or you can simply enjoy the beautiful surroundings. The gardens come in all shapes and sizes, from the formal to more laid-back planting, some with wildlife-friendly planting and habitats, and some with quirky features. You'll see fruit and vegetable plots in some of the gardens too. Plenty of inspiration for all!



Find out more about individual gardens in the programme which will be available at our ticket outlets or can be downloaded from 22nd May from our website at www.bookhamopengardens.co.uk.

Open Gardens Day raises money for the upkeep of our historic Old Barn Hall, and since we started we have raised over £80,000 for vital maintenance. We will be serving our normal delicious home-baked cakes, rolls and drinks throughout the day at the Hall. The Village Day Booksale will also be there offering a selection of books in new or nearly new condition, including recent titles; also jigsaws.

Plants should be available to buy at some gardens.

Tickets on sale from 22nd May: £8 in advance from

- Online at www.bookhamopengardens.co.uk or scan the QR code on one of our fliers or posters.
- The Vineries Garden Centre, Lower Rd, Effingham (event sponsors)

bookhamopengardens.co.uk Bookham Open Gardens

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£5 Wheelchair users (carers free), Free for under 16s
Assistance dogs only

Bookham Community Association Charity no. 114881

- Brackenburys, 17a High Street
- Bookham Mini Mart, 111 Little Bookham Street
- Old Barn Hall office, Church Rd, KT23 3PQ. Tel: 01372 456307 (open Mon, Wed, Fri 9:30 - noon)

On the day you can buy tickets (£9) at the Old Barn Hall or from the gardens themselves.

Children under 16 are free, as are carers of wheelchair users (who pay a reduced rate of £5). Symbols in the programme will indicate which gardens are accessible or partially accessible to wheelchairs and rollators/ frames.

Regret no dogs, other than assistance dogs.

Contactless payment will again be available at the Old Barn Hall. If you're paying in cash, we'd appreciate if you can find the exact change, particularly at the individual gardens.

The charge includes admission to all gardens and a programme with map and garden details. If you are on Facebook, please 'Like' our 'Bookham Open Gardens' page and share it with your friends. You will find pictures from previous years to inspire you.

We would also love to hear from anyone who could spare an hour or two to help on the day with providing a cake, or serving refreshments, selling tickets or stewarding at the gardens. Without our kind garden openers and our band of willing volunteers, the day would never happen!

For more information visit www.bookhamopengardens.co.uk, look for 'Bookham Open Gardens' on Facebook, or contact Tina Hutton on 01372 457598, email tina.hutton@btinternet.com or Diane Poole on opengardensinfo@gmail.com

Diane Poole

Bookham, Fetcham and District Garden Society

Our Annual Summer Show is coming up on Saturday 11th July, and the display will be magnificent! It is open to the public from 2 till 4pm, at the beautiful Tithe Barn in Little Bookham, KT23 4EN. As for the last 150 years, participation in the show is open to all.

For show schedules and entry details contact Angela Stevens or Michelle Howes, see below. Even if you don't enter, this is always a wonderful community event to attend, at a beautiful venue, with lots to see, delicious tea and cakes to enjoy in the garden, plants for sale, and a raffle with lovely prizes. We will have musical entertainment from The Downsmen.

Delving back into the archives, we find reference to the first show being held by "The Cottager and Amateur Garden Society of Great Bookham, Little Bookham, Fetcham and Effingham", in 1877. There is mention of a gourd weighing 46lb with a 48in girth. Here we are all these years later continuing this show tradition albeit with a slightly simplified name.

150 Years ago, the Bookhams, Effingham and Fetcham, were quiet rural villages, with most of the men working the land. Many of the women worked in service in the "big houses" such as Polesden Lacey, which arose due to the proximity to London 16 miles away as notable socialites could have an accessible

country residence. Villagers usually leased land from the large landowners.

The Garden Society Show would have developed as an enjoyable, and important community social activity. As is seen by the range of entry categories, for all ages and interests, including a baby show, baking, growing of vegetables and flowers, eggs, preserves, a goat show and running races.

Over the years, the Show venues and classes have changed, and entry numbers decreased due to dry years and war years, and increased again with the Dig for Victory Campaign, and as allotments became more popular, and more recently during the Covid lockdowns.

Our thanks go to Gail Diprose and Michelle Howes, who have enriched our appreciation of the society through their historical research.

If you would like to take part in our exciting show, or interesting range of activities, and



attend out talks and outings, please contact Angela Stevens on 01372 456713 or email craigjstevens@btinternet.com or Michelle Howes michelle.r.howes@gmail.com

Friends of Juniper Hall

The Friends of Juniper Hall exist to support the Field Study Centre at Juniper Hall in Mickleham by raising funds to purchase extra equipment to enhance the experience that young people have when they visit the centre.

We meet several times a year to listen to a speaker, usually on a subject related to the natural world. All our morning meetings are followed by lunch which is included in the charge of £10 for members (£15 for non members) that contributes to the fund.

At our first meeting of the year on 12th March



we were entertained by Nigel Bond of River Mole River Watch who spoke about the history of the river, its current state and the work of his organisation.

The River Mole runs for approx 80km from its source near Gatwick to the Thames at Molesey opposite Hampton Court. The river and its tributaries has an average "moderate" to "poor" ecological status and is subjected to significant discharges from 9 large sewage treatment works, road run off, misconnected domestic waste etc which create significant pollution..

River Watch carries out activities to monitor the state of the river, collaborate with residents, landowners and those involved with managing the river and importantly to campaign for action to be taken to improve river quality.

The objective is to return the River Mole to its natural beauty and health and the biodiversity



which once included trout, water voles and otters. You can find out more via the Website www.rivermoleriverwatch.org.uk

On Saturday 18th July the centre will be hosting another Festival of Nature with lots of family orientated events and hopefully better weather than 2025.

To become a Friend and/or find out more about our activities you can visit our website friendsofjuniperhall.org or contact us via email on friendsofjuniperhall@gmail.com

Friends of Bookham Commons (FOBC)

On completion of the Grasslands work, the volunteers moved their focus to coppicing in Central Wood which is on the right as you walk up Highpoint Path, the main ride towards Mark Oak car park. Coppicing is an ancient, traditional woodland craft which prolongs the life of a hazel as it encourages reinvigoration and regrowth.

This sustainable practice enabled many parts of the tree to be used for products such as stakes and binders for hedge laying, hurdle making for animal enclosures, wattle and daub

for buildings, charcoal for cooking and smelting, and beanpoles.

The mature trees are cut down to the base which encourages re-growth, and this can be repeated on a 5-20 year cycle. It does, however, leave the stools vulnerable to foraging deer. You will see the whole area is now surrounded with dead hedge as protection from the deer. The dead hedge serves a dual purpose, as not only does it deter the deer, but also provides an ideal habitat for nesting birds and often becomes a new home



for insects and small mammals.

For further information on the birds and animals that live on the common visit www.bookhamcommons.org.uk

Bookham Country Market



VILLAGE DAY IS ON THE WAY !

The Market will have a stall on the Field at Village Day on Saturday 20th June.

Are you a local resident who doesn't know about the Market that's been going since 1976, every Friday, in the Old Barn Hall from 10am until noon. We are constantly surprised when new customers arrive who may have lived in Bookham for 20 years, but did not know we existed. Are you one of these? Come and visit us on Village Day and find out more about us.

Arriving at the Market you will be assured of a friendly and welcoming atmosphere. Since reopening after COVID over 1,950 customers have visited. Isn't it time you joined them?

In spring, garden plants are very popular, all expertly propagated by local gardeners, many

are unusual that you will not find in garden centres. There are qualified garden designers available to advise on which will suit your soil type, and conditions. Edible garden produce is also available in season, but no insecticides!

What is available to buy on Friday morning?

Our award-winning artisan cheeses come direct from the dairy, with organic cow, sheep and goat varieties. At the British & Irish Cheese Awards on 21st March 2025 Brighton Blue won GOLD, Seven Sisters and Herb & Garlic won SILVER and St. Giles won BRONZE.

The farm fresh, free-range eggs are ever popular, and our home-made baked goods counter offers a wide selection and variety including cakes, fruit teabreads, blondies, brownies, sausage rolls, and frequently very popular ready meals.

A local resident bakes fantastic award-winning breads, fresh each Friday, definitely not to be found in supermarkets. There are jams,

marmalades, chutney, local honey and gin distilled from honey. Twenty plus skilled crafters produce beautiful products from a wide variety of materials. Finding that special, and unique present or card, is simple.

Having done your shopping, relax in the coffee shop, maybe with friends, and enjoy a Fairtrade coffee or Teapigs tea with some home-made cake or scones, all at extremely reasonable prices.

The market is a not-for-profit organisation, run solely by volunteers, providing income for the BCA to help maintain the Old Barn Hall, and a source of high quality, locally produced products.

See more:
www.bookhammarket.wixsite.com/mrkt

Contact us: bookhammarket@gmail.com
07836 646456

Bookham Bowls Club

It has been a busy, and happy, winter at the club. While the green has slumbered peacefully, recovering from the hundreds of feet that walked its surface last summer, members have been indoors in the clubhouse having more fun!

There have been coffee mornings, quizzes, a darts league, games afternoons, and members have even subjected themselves to watching England's rugby team on the big screen, much needed drinks in hand. There's been wine-tasting, too!

But, the clocks have gone forward, and there is blossom on the trees, and the dart boards, packs of cards, and board games have been

put away for another year, as the club focusses on its main purpose – BOWLS!

Working parties have cleaned the clubhouse, brought the benches out of storage, and tended the flower beds and hedges. The green has been awoken, and pampered, the fixture secretary has arranged dozens of matches, and we are ready to go.

By publication, the club will have had its traditional opening drive, and will be well into the 2026 fixture list. There are external leagues, internal leagues, friendly competitions, and plenty of opportunity to meet up with others for a friendly, impromptu, game.

The club always welcomes newcomers, of any

standard, from those yet to pick up a bowl (the club wants LOTS of them) to England internationals (there's not a lot of them). Although the formal 'Come and Try' events have passed, a massive greeting awaits anybody who would like to come and check out the club. There are qualified coaches waiting to help you find your way on the green, and members of all ages who would be delighted to introduce you to the club, and your new friends.

Start by contacting the club secretary. You can find all the details you need about the club on the website bookhambowls.co.uk, and in the club listings in this magazine.

Bookham Trefoil Guild

Fun and Friendship - new members welcome

Guiding for all Adults with or without previous involvement in the Guide or Scout movements

We meet once a month, generally at 7.30pm on the third Thursday of the month at Bookham Guide Headquarters, Keswick Road KT23 4BH, Bookham, corner of Keswick Road and Durlleston Park Drive.

In January we had a talk from Caroline Arthur Bridal on dress upcycling,

And in February celebrated Thinking Day - when we remember we are part of a world wide organisation - with a sensory Journey

March was our AGM and an evening of fun challenges

April - "Wild about Britain" came to visit us with British animals

Coming up -

21st May 7.30pm - kitchen magic,

Friday 5th June - coffee morning in aid of Dyscover charity

18th June 7.30pm teddy bears picnic

Friday 3rd July - pub lunch

16th July daytime visit to Huxleys garden centre Horsham

Please get in touch to find out more

Anne Coleman 01372 452309
anne.coleman6@btinternet.com

www.trefoilguild.co.uk



RSPB - Dorking & District Group

Internation Dawn Chorus Day – 3rd May



Many forms of wildlife watching involve a degree of discomfort – Arctic cold, tropical humidity, windswept headlands or small boats in choppy seas. At this season, however, we can enjoy one of the world's best wildlife experiences while still in bed, without even the effort of opening our eyelids.

Even in cities, but certainly in our area rich in

mature gardens with shrubs and trees, the dawn chorus reaches its peak in May. Open a window, lie back and enjoy the outpouring of music from many different species as the curtains slowly brighten with the increasing light.

As the breeding season hots up, male birdsong reaches its peak because the territory for food-gathering must be protected. For many species, strong musical performance also offers the opportunity for liaisons with willing females.

Almost all birds sing as the day gets light. This proclaims "I've survived the night and this is still my patch." It also makes good use of the time between waking and having enough light and warmth for insects to take wing and the serious business of food gathering for a hungry brood to start.

It really is worth getting up in the dark (around 4 am) at least once in May to enjoy the full benefit of the experience outdoors. Wear a fleece, take a plastic bag and a cushion to sit on, settle quietly and wait.

RSPB DORKING & DISTRICT ARE HOLDING A DAWN CHORUS WALK ON SUNDAY 3rd MAY AT BOOKHAM COMMONS. Meet at 5:00am at Bookham Commons Tunnel Car Park, Commonside, Great Bookham KT23 3ES what3words///barn.lift.buddy Leader: Glenn Tel: 07483 848837 Car Park run by NT, walk is free to RSPB members or £5 to non members, no toilets. For more information:

Facebook: RSPB Dorking and District

Website:

<https://group.rspb.org.uk/dorkinganddistrict/>

Instagram: @rspb_dorking

Groveside Badminton Club

OPEN EVENING TUESDAY 9th June 2026
7.30pm to 9.30pm

The Club is holding an Open Evening when players can just turn up and sample, for free, the delights of playing this fast-moving and tactical game, with a view to joining our club. We would prefer players of a reasonable standard who are familiar with the rules of the game. Don't worry if you are a bit rusty, as we have dedicated members who will help you re-acquire those long-lost skills.

We are a long-established local badminton club and we play at St Teresa's School,

Effingham which is located between Effingham Golf Club and Ranmore, reached from Critten Lane or Beech Avenue (sat nav RH5 6ST).

We play on Tuesday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30 throughout the year and have 4 excellent courts in their Sports Hall. We are a friendly mixed club with a range of playing abilities, and we play mainly doubles matches, although there is often scope for a game of singles. We play with feather shuttles. Subscriptions are very reasonable and there is a pay-as-you-play option.

We hold various social events throughout the

year and we also hold a fund-raising event when we play fun variations on the game to raise money for a local charity. We also hold club tournaments when the more competitive amongst us can vie for top spot! But running through the ethos of the Club is that we don't take ourselves too seriously.

So, we look forward to meeting you on 9th June: it would be best if you made contact with us before coming, as the venue is a little tricky to find. If not, just come along.

See us on Facebook or contact Mike on 07503 050603 or Suzanne on 07759 741250

South Bookham SPACE

At South Bookham SPACE we are proud to offer a wide range of clubs and activities. One such class is French, run by Nathalie from NB Tuition. Every week she hosts friendly classes for all abilities. Learn through a mixture of discovery, conversation, listening and practice. Whether you are looking to spruce up your conversational French, or are getting ready for a holiday in Les Alpes, French native Nathalie can support you in taking those first steps into a new language. She is also able to teach those brushing up on their French to support their child through GCSE and A Levels.

Nathalie offers three different classes:

- Rusty Returners and Beginners - Thursdays 12:00
- Intermediate - Thursdays 10:45am and Fridays 9:30am
- Advanced – Thursdays 9:30am

So why not come and join us, or as Nathalie would say “Venez nous rejoindre!”

Contact Nathalie to find out more on her website (<http://nbtuition.weebly.com>), email (nathalie.boudaud@btinternet.com) or by telephone (01372 377352).

At SPACE you can join other classes to learn, and improve your physical and mental wellbeing such as Chess, Baby massage, TRE, Yoga, Pilates, Bootcamps, Pole exercise, Tennis, Tap, Musical theatre and Ballroom dance classes.

If you would like to find out more about the activities hosted at SPACE please see our website www.southbookhamspace.org.uk. If you would like to hire a venue for your next party, event or meeting please email us hire.southbookhamspace@gmail.com. We look forward to you joining us.

Natasha Matthews



Learn or Improve your French Skills with...

NB TUITION

Local, Friendly French Classes

Schedule

- BEGINNERS/RUSTY RETURNERS
12:00pm Thursday
- INTERMEDIATE
10:45am Thursday or 9:30am Friday
- ADVANCED
9:30am Thursday

All classes are held at South Bookham Space, Durning Road, Bookham, KT23 4PB

For further information, please contact Nathalie and gift yourself or a loved one the incredible skill of conversing in a new language.

 www.nbtuition.weebly.com

 Nathalie.boudaud@btinternet.com

01372 377 352



Mole Valley Silver Band

Silver sounds bring joy to young and old

The Mole Valley Silver Band is sprinting into 2026 with energy, ambition and a diary that's filling fast. If last year is anything to go by, it's going to be another great year of music-making across the community and beyond. With smart new outdoor livery (see pic), exciting new music and a real buzz within the band, we can't wait to strike up.

We're really spreading our wings. The first big concert of the year was in Dorking's St Martin's Church in April. We've been invited back to the Saddleworth & Oldham Whit Friday Band Contests in Lancashire in May, and to July's Bandamonium Festival in Hatherleigh, Devon, where last year we were among 23 bands holding five concerts in 10 locations.

Closer to home, we're also due to be the first band to play on the new Dorking Bandstand in Meadowbank. Its design is based on the South Street original, which closed in 1962 after 40 years. The opening date, originally 31 May, has



been delayed by building work, so for the latest news see www.molevalleysilverband.co.uk.

We love playing for young audiences. Many children see and hear brass instruments live for the very first time at our concerts — and for many musicians, that experience inspired them to learn music.

So if your children or grandchildren are eager to give music a try, or if you once played and would like to pick it up again, our training band

is the place to start. We welcome players of all ages in a friendly, supportive environment — no pressure, just enjoyment and progress.

Our main band and training band rehearse every Monday evening at The Ashcombe School in Dorking. Our website (above) tells you more about the band, its history and its training-band offshoot. You're more than welcome to join us. More info from our secretary, Sarah Kent, on 01372 456176, or email secretary@molevalleysilverband.co.uk.

Bookham Litter Picking Group

The March Litter Pick was moved to the 22nd March and this meant that we could be part of The Great British Spring Clean.

Many thanks to Diane and Steve who transported all the equipment, (and me) to Lower Shott and back. The weather was fine and there was a fair turnout but only 8 bags of

litter and some metal pieces were collected - much less than our usual monthly collection. The great British Spring Clean had obviously been effective!

If you would like to join the Litter Picking Group do meet us at Lower Shott car park at 11.00am on the first Sunday of the month, unless that

falls on a bank holiday weekend when we meet on the second Sunday. Equipment is provided. For further information do contact me at litterpicking@bookhamresidents.org

Margaret Lawson

Mole Valley Indoor Bowling Club

50 years of indoor bowling at the Leatherhead Leisure Centre

The club recently celebrated its 50-year anniversary followed by the completion of challenging and entertaining finals for the 2025/2026 indoor season.

These finals mark the end of the winter indoor season at the club (MVIBC) yet many players will continue with their bowling indoors through the summer months at no additional cost.

Outdoor bowling in the early part of the season can be significantly difficult particularly after a very wet winter. At MVIBC we notice that more members continue bowling through the summer months.

For anyone who has never tried bowling there is an ideal opportunity in September when MVIBC holds Open Days for visitors to try their hand at

indoor green bowling and see the club facilities.

On our Open Days our friendly members and coaches will be on hand to give you an informal chance to select a bowl from our club stock, and get some basic guidance allowing you to experience bowling on our full length green.

It's an ideal way to meet new people, sharing friendly competition and building friendships through a common activity. Whether you choose to play casually or take it more seriously, indoor bowling provides a welcoming environment to stay active, connected and engaged come rain or shine in the very comfortable facility at MVIBC.

Our ladies and men have had a very active and challenging season within county and national competitions, in addition to the club championship matches and friendly games



with other clubs in the Surrey area.

If this interests you, please look at our website on www.mvibc.co.uk or email secretary@mvibc.com Better still come along on our Open Days – any Saturday in September 2026 10am to 1pm

M Mackie

Lodge of Grand Design – Great Bookham

The Lodge of Grand Design is a long-established local group that meets at Old Barn Hall in Great Bookham. Founded in 1945 by local men who had served in the Home Guard, the Lodge continues a tradition of friendship, community involvement, and charitable support.

Our members come from a wide range of backgrounds and ages, we meet four times each year for organised gatherings followed by a sociable dinner. We also hold informal

evenings during the year where members get together to learn, practise traditions, and enjoy each other's company.

In addition to our regular meetings, the Lodge organises social events such as Summer, and Christmas Suppers, all of which are open to family members, friends, and guests. These occasions are relaxed, friendly, and very much about enjoying good company.

Freemasonry is about personal development, mutual support, and giving back to the

community. The Lodge of Grand Design supports local and national charities each year and aims to provide a welcoming environment where members can contribute positively to society.

If you are curious to learn more about what Freemasonry involves or would like to know more about the Lodge of Grand Design, we would be pleased to hear from you.

Telephone: - 020 8686 8388

Email: - Officemanager@surreymason.org.uk

Eastwick Schools

Active, confident, ready

How Eastwick Schools promotes health, teamwork and opportunity for every child

By Tom Dell, Principal of Eastwick Schools

"Healthy body, healthy mind." It might be a cliché, but at Eastwick Schools, we see every day just how true this is!

Our school vision is to make sure that young people are truly 'Ready for Everything'. Part of that is about academic learning, but it's also about promoting health, encouraging teamwork and building confidence.

Regular activity, including competitive sport and games, is a big part of how we do that. The physical benefits are clear, but the impact goes much further. Movement improves concentration and supports positive behaviour at our schools.

Here are three ways we promote an active life at Eastwick:

1/ Equal access to football for boys and girls

Girls have never been more enthusiastic about football, inspired, in part, by the great success of the Lionesses. It's crucial we make the most of this enthusiasm. Active Surrey recently awarded us a trophy in recognition of our commitment to providing equal access to football for girls.

2/ Increasing competitive sports and games opportunities

We believe sport is for everyone. We work hard to make sure all young people can join in and some 165 youngsters participated in inter-school competitions over the last year.

To celebrate this achievement, the School Games Mark scheme has awarded us Platinum status. The government-backed award is bestowed upon schools that demonstrate a fantastic commitment to health, fitness and competitive games.

3/ 60 minutes of activity a day

We want every child to have at least an hour's worth of activity a day. We encourage at least an hour of daily movement through energetic Active Blasts ("Jump Start Jonny, Danny Go"), whole-school skipping challenges and the flexible "Eastwick Mile" on our school track.

Pupils also benefit from twice-weekly PE lessons led by a dedicated specialist PE teacher alongside additional support from experienced sports coaches. During the summer term, every child can learn to swim in our on-site pool.

Much of this is made possible by our excellent grounds, including large sports fields, woodland areas, a pond and our own swimming pool.

If you would like to visit our school grounds or hear more about how we ensure young people are 'Ready for Everything', please contact: nici.edge@eastwick.thpt.org.uk

Mole Valley WI

The 2026 programme of speakers has already covered Life in the Royal Navy Reserve Cadet Force, professional catering, and amusing songs and poems on women's life in suburbia.

The many sub-groups continue to meet to pursue interests in games, sports and crafts. Recent craft sessions have created crystal lanterns and sea glass pictures, both pictured here.

A third "gardening" group has opened.



Check our website (<https://molevalleywi.chessck.co.uk/>) for details.



Bookham Choral Society



It has been a very enjoyable and varied year. In the summer we sang the wonderful Fauré Requiem alongside shorter works by Ravel and several contemporary composers. The new season began in the autumn with a concert for

St Nicolas Church with works by Haydn, Britten and Monteverdi. Benjamin Britten's St Nicolas is a vivid account of the life of the 4th century saint after whom our parish church is named. We always look forward to our Christmas concert and it was a joy to sing to a sold-out church.

We took part in the Leith Hill Music Festival. We had a competition against other local choirs and later joined with them for a major concert of Baroque works by Vivaldi, Handel and Isabella Leonarda. Our conductor was the dynamic Neil Ferris.

Our summer concert on Sunday July 5th at 4pm in St Nicolas will have a distinctly Latin American flavour. The main work will be the

popular Misa a Buenos Aires by Martin Palmieri. We'd love to see you there!



Bookham Butterflies WI

Bookham Butterflies WI has raised in excess of £1,000 over recent months for its current charity of the year, the Cheryl King Trust.

At the Butterflies' annual quiz night (pictured), twelve teams of up to eight players tackled seven rounds of questions, on subjects as varied as 2025 news, music, 100 years of Winnie the Pooh and fashion.

All the teams were named after musical instruments, such as the 'Crash, Bank, Wallopers' (Percussion), the Didgeridoos, and the Flutists - the names were very much in keeping with the Cheryl King Trust's role,



providing opportunities for children to learn about and advance in music regardless of their background.

A huge thank you to our members and local businesses, Layton's Greengrocers, Brackenbury's Hardware, Carolina's Cafe, The Vineries Garden Centre, and William Dyer Deli who donated raffle prizes or helped in other ways. An amazing £940 was raised on the night.

We raised a further £205 for the Cheryl King Trust through an Easter raffle, held at our March monthly meeting. Members had the chance to win one of two baskets of Easter themed goodies (pictured).

Staying with the Easter theme, our craft group – one of our many special interest groups – knitted cute Easter bunnies and chicks at a recent gathering! We also run four book groups, walking groups, coffee and chat groups, an Exploring Gardens group, Super Clubs, a Cinema Group, Theatre Group and Mahjong Club.



Our monthly meetings continue to be very well attended, with an array of interesting speakers. Recently, we have had talks about topics including British Sign Language and the neuroscience of anxiety – looking at how hypnotherapy and other practices can help our mental fitness.

If you would like to join our waiting list and maybe attend a monthly meeting as a guest to find out more about our friendly group, visit our website at www.bookhambutterflieswi.com and send us a message!

Bookham OPEN GARDENS

15 varied
gardens for all
to enjoy!

In aid of the upkeep
of the Old Barn Hall.

Our thanks to
main sponsor:



Sunday 14th June 2026 10am-5pm

Old Barn Hall, Church Road KT23 3PQ

For tickets, garden maps and refreshments

**Tickets: £8 in advance
from 22nd May or £9 on
the day.**

Wheelchair users £5 (carers free)

No dogs except assistance dogs

**Online ticket purchases:
www.bookhamopengardens.co.uk**

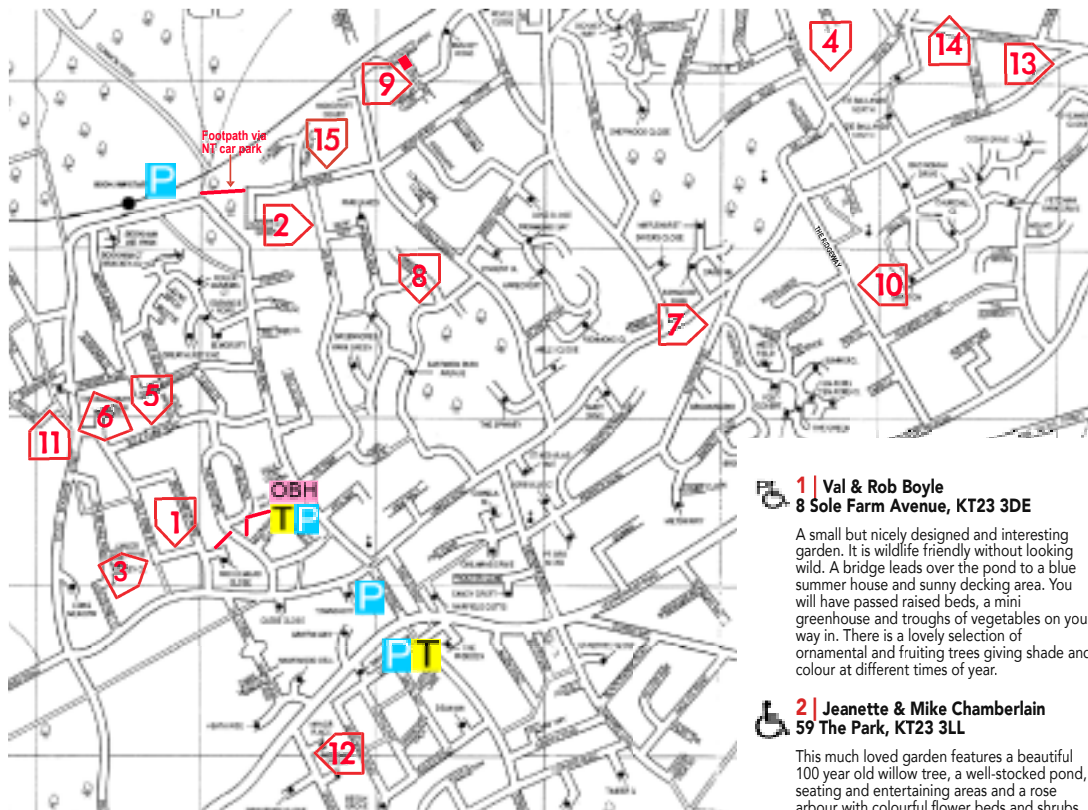


Ticket outlets:

- Vineries Garden Centre, Lower Road, Effingham
- Brackenburys, 17A High Street Gt. Bookham
- Old Barn Hall office: Mon, Wed, Fri 9.30 am—12.00 pm
- Mini Mart, 111 Little Bookham Street

Contactless payment at the Old Barn Hall, otherwise please try to bring exact change.

Also supported by: DB Designs, Patrick Gardner & Co Estate Agents, Rohallion Security and Surex Surfacing Ltd.



The public visit gardens at their own risk. Care should be taken near water, steps and uneven surfaces, especially in damp conditions. Children must be supervised at all times.

No dogs except assistance dogs.

beautiful selection of trees, shrubs, climbers and perennials. Children's trail of wildlife habitats and (static!) creatures.
Plants for sale.

4 | Fetcham Village Infant School School Lane, Fetcham, KT22 9JU

NEW Children are at the heart of creating this new school garden, from making raised beds, planting vegetables in the polytunnel and picking produce to try later for lunch. They have planted a hedge to attract wildlife and are learning how to care for the environment and work together safely. Forest School provides many creative opportunities, including making dens and listening to stories round the fire pit.

1 | Val & Rob Boyle 8 Sole Farm Avenue, KT23 3DE

A small but nicely designed and interesting garden. It is wildlife friendly without looking wild. A bridge leads over the pond to a blue summer house and sunny decking area. You will have passed raised beds, a mini greenhouse and troughs of vegetables on your way in. There is a lovely selection of ornamental and fruiting trees giving shade and colour at different times of year.

5 | Chris & Kevin Forder 20 Sole Farm Road, KT23 3DJ

NEW A large, constantly developing garden with unusual shrubs and trees. Paths lead you round the borders and a pond for wild creatures lies in the middle of the lawn. A summer house looks diagonally across the lawn with a work area behind it.

2 | Jeanette & Mike Chamberlain 59 The Park, KT23 3LL

This much loved garden features a beautiful 100 year old willow tree, a well-stocked pond, seating and entertaining areas and a rose arbour with colourful flower beds and shrubs. It also has greenhouses, fruit trees, a vegetable plot and a Japanese garden. **Parking is not permitted on The Park so please use Park Way opposite.**

6 | Jan & Trevor Godding 26 Sole Farm Road, KT23 6DJ

NEW The garden is a former orchard and Jan and Trevor have collected many unusual trees and shrubs including Ginkgo, Catalpa, Cornus "Pagoda", and Betula (Himalayan). In the centre of the lawn lies a large vegetable patch and greenhouse.

7 | Cally Harris: 6 Keswick Road, KT22 9HH

Restored and redesigned in the early 2020's, while maintaining some original features, this garden uses gabions to divide a sloping terrain into different levels with a choice of seating areas in sun and shade. There are many different shrubs, trees and flowering plants, and a well-stocked conservatory houses tender plants, with a secluded seating area beside a small pond.

3 | Laura Christie & Tommy Duncan 49 Sole Farm Avenue, KT23 3DG

Design inspiration for an unusually-shaped plot. A wildlife-welcoming treasure, including stylish pond and snazzy bug-house. Lushly planted for colour, scent and variety. A

8 | Barbara & Max Hicks 75 Eastwick Park Avenue, KT23 3NH

A delightful and well-designed family garden with many interesting features. A curving path invites you into the garden to find an intriguing "tree house platform" in the apple tree, a paved seating area with a raised bed, and a wide range of plants chosen with a skilled use of colour. **Plants and crafts for sale.**

12 | Carol & Nick Teunon Ridge House, 11 Groveside, KT23 4LD

Cottage plants, perennials, shrubs, climbers and roses feature in this garden, with grasses and ferns giving year-round interest. In the back, which is home to a large cedar and greenhouse, are colourful pots on a raised patio. A nearby white bed provides contrast and a sense of tranquility.

9 | Doug Hope Chadiz, Hill Road, KT22 9SZ

A garden packed with trees, shrubs and perennials, where no space is wasted. The front garden features many roses, and baskets and containers are planted for seasonal colour. A large fish pond is a focal point alongside a grove of tree ferns and tropical plants.

13 | Steve & Janice Urry 1 Lower Road, Fetcham KT22 9EL

An extensive, mature garden packed with trees, shrubs and flower beds as well as a large fish pond with waterfall, rose pergola and raised vegetable plots. There are interesting and unexpected areas to explore and younger visitors will enjoy the play area. **Parking in drive or Lower Road.**

10 | Meryl & Nigel Knight 20 The Ridgeway, Fetcham KT22 9AZ

NEW Wildlife is encouraged in this large and relaxed garden. In the front are shrubs and a mini orchard, while the back garden has several mature trees. Pyramidal and bee orchids grow in the grass, and there are raised beds with a variety of herbs and vegetables as well as a greenhouse, small water features, and colourful pots on the patio.

14 | Angela & Kevin Ward 118 Cobham Road, Fetcham KT22 9JS

NEW Enjoy a voyage of discovery in this enchanting garden, with its many varied planting areas full of colour and variety. Featuring gravelled seating areas, container-grown acers, water feature, archways, climbing roses and a productive kitchen garden. Lovingly developed over many years it is a delight to visit.

11 | Hilary Nicholls 7 Fox Lane, KT23 3AT

The small garden was designed in the Arts & Crafts style. The formal yew hedges, nearly grown to their full height, separate the "rooms" which include a patio, a wild meadow area, and pond. The sunny aspect allows a mix of interesting shrubs and perennials to grow happily.

15 | Jenny & Tod Wilson Hawthorns, Meadowside, KT23 3LG

This traditional garden is always a work in progress. Unusual trees and shrubs make it special. With many natural features, it attracts regular visits by foxes, roe deer, grass snakes, goldfinches and woodpeckers. Also butterfly and bee-friendly. **Parking around the corner in Elmfield.**

We are always looking for new gardens to open so if you feel you have a garden in the village that might be of interest for future years or if you have any other queries, please contact:

- Tina Hutton on tel: 01372 457598. Email: tina.hutton@btinternet.com
- Diane Poole: opengardensinfo@gmail.com

Bookham Open Gardens branding and design: Susie Jackson. Programme: Les Huetz

Bookham Community Association. Registered Charity no.1148881



HIRE THE OLD BARN HALL

We have three rooms available for hire

The main hall takes up to 220 people.

The Harrison room takes up to 100

The Waterfield Room up to 30

For availability and prices email:
bcaoldbarnhall@btinternet.com

or telephone Roger on 01372 456307

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

In the High Street

11.15 The Fancy Dress Parade of local children's groups assembles

The Barn Hall Strollers Jazz Band starts playing

11.40 The Parade moves off down Church Road to the Old Barn Hall Field

Taking part in the Parade

Jason Wright and his vintage Austin 7

The Barn Hall Strollers

Bus Stop Pre-school

Great Bookham Pre-school

Peter Pan Playschool

Polesden Lacey Infant Academy Nursery

Eastwick Infant School

Great Bookham School

Polesden Lacey Infant Academy

Programme

11:30 Barn Hall Strollers jazz band play in High Street

11:40 Parade leaves High Street led by the Barn Hall Strollers

12:00 Parade assembles in Arena for Prizegiving

12:10 Barn Hall Strollers

12:30 Eastwick School

12:40 Great Bookham School

12:50 Polesden Lacey School

13:00 Action Theatre Club

13:15 There's A Fire with Natalie Goodacre – live music

14:00 Stagecoach Performing Arts

14:15 Ermine Tails – live music

15:00 Any Road - live music

16:00 Event closes



BOOKHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Bringing people together

Village Day is run by Bookham Community Association with the help of our affiliated organisations and members of the public. Money raised is used to maintain and improve the Old Barn Hall and publish the Bookhams Bulletin
Charity no. 1148881



What can you do on Village Day?

- Fun in the **Toddlers Play Area** from *Pacey Wingent Dickson*
- **Punch & Judy** fun for children ...and parents!
- Be the **Last Man Standing** from *Elios & DiCarlos Hairdressing*
- Sliding for all on the **Helter Skelter** from *Patrick Gardner*
- Ride the **Bucking Bronco** from *Bookham Kitchens*
- Win on the **Tin Can Alley** – prizes by *Curchods*
- **Look for bargains on the White Elephant stall**

First Aid cover provided by Elite Medical Services

Food & Drink

On the field

- Sip, smile & relax at the **Cash Bar** with cask ales and much more
- Tuck into tasty **sizzling street food from:**
The Pizza Oven & Rupert St Catering
- **Silent Pool Gin Stall** * **Mantio's Ice Creams**
- **Candyfloss, popcorn and soft drinks** run by *Churches Together*

In the main Hall

- **Lovely Lunches & teas** provided by *Bookham & Effingham Guides*
- **Delicious Cakes and teas** provided by *Bookham Butterflies WI*
- **Quilting display & raffle** **Lovely baskets of flowers to buy**

In the Harrison Room

- Browse for your favourite authors or subjects on our **Bookstall**
- Visit the displays from *Bookham Stamp Club* and *Plastic Free Bookham*

In the Arena

- See programme for displays by *Schools and Clubs* and live music



Our thanks to Rotary, Bookham & Horsley for stewarding our activities and to all our stewards and volunteers for making the day happen.



Admission 1p

The Meeting Place

The Meeting Place is a small local charity. Our aim is to offer a wide variety of activities that reduce isolation and build up our community.

Our Anna Chaplaincy team organises a series of Living Well in Older Age talks throughout the year. They are held on Wednesday mornings at Bookham Library in Townshott Close from 10.30am to 12noon. On 20 May the topic is Downsizing and Decluttering and on 15 July we will cover ways to access support with sight and hearing. All are welcome, there is a suggested donation of £2, with tea and coffee provided. Our Holiday at Home for older people is on Wednesday 19 August this year – keep the date free and look out for more information nearer the time.

Language Hub classes (for those whose first language isn't English), and Lip Reading classes will run for the summer term and then take a break.

The Coffee Shop offers a warm welcome and is open on Saturday mornings throughout the year, from 10am-12noon in Bookham Baptist Church Hall. Hearing Champions (for help with NHS hearing aids) is held at the Coffee Shop on some Saturday mornings, please check our website (below) for dates. The Community Fridge makes food that would otherwise be wasted available to anyone who can use it at Bookham Baptist Church on Saturday, Tuesday and Friday mornings.

Look out for our stall at Village Day and please drop by to say hello and find out more about joining any of our activities or helping as a volunteer.

Alternatively, please visit 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.

Bookham u3a



Bookham and District u3a has a full ongoing programme of monthly meetings and talks held at 2.30 in the Old Barn Hall, Church Rd on the first Tuesday of the month.

HOLIDAY AT HOME 2026

A Special Event for Older People

Come and visit Italy for the day!

When? Wednesday 19th August 2026

Where? Eastwick Road Church

Time? from 9.45am – 3pm

Your visit to Italy will include

- 👇 Time to simply relax, chat and have some fun!
- 👇 An operatic performance & the opportunity to sing along to Italian themed songs.
- 👇 Refreshments throughout the day, including lunch provided by Ben from The Hidden Kitchen.

- 👇 Free choice sessions including:
 - 'Grand Prix'
 - Curling like Olympians
 - Reminiscing
 - Puzzles
 - Craft
 - A visit to Italy

Booking is essential. Donations welcome.

For further information & a booking form, please contact:

Liz Tapp (the Anna Chaplain) Tel: 07518735729

email: ac@themeetingplace.org.uk

Regular social events for members such as quiz nights continue. Special afternoon tea musical entertainment and more theatre trips are planned for this year.

We welcome visitors to our monthly meetings, a talk followed by tea and biscuits and a chance to meet and chat with other members and you can decide whether to join us.

Come and visit our stand on Bookham Village Day on June 20th and take part in our popular light-hearted game.

Find out more about our thriving range of Interest Groups, online events and future talk titles either by visiting our website:

bookhamu3a.org.uk or coming to a meeting.

Viv Bignell



Leatherhead Hockey Club

Leatherhead Hockey Club is a small, friendly and fun hockey club based at Therfield School in Leatherhead, welcoming players from the surrounding areas. Offering a blend of competitive and happy hockey, we have 2 ladies and 2 mens teams playing in the South East Region Oaks Divisions, a mixed team and a colts section for children aged 7 to 13.

It's hard to believe the 2025/26 winter season is already over and we can reflect on another great season for the club. We welcomed a number of new players in both the senior and colts sections and have enjoyed lots of great hockey and social events.



Leading the way on pitch were the Ladies 1s who won Division 3 and remained undefeated all season – quite a feat! The Ladies 2s had a challenging season in Division 4 their first as a 'development team' combining youth and experience; but look forward to building on these foundations. The Mens 1s and 2s both consolidated their places in Divisions 2 and 4 respectively finishing 3rd and 6th in their tables.

Socially we have enjoyed bingo and quiz nights at the clubhouse shared with Leatherhead Cricket Club alongside other gatherings. Our annual end of season party and awards evening celebrated the achievements of the club over the year.

Our colts section welcomed many new players and it was positive to see the children having fun and expanding their skills. We celebrated the last session by congratulating award winners and eating chocolate!

We now look forward to the summer season which provides opportunities to continue



playing in the warmer weather. All 4 teams are entering summer leagues with midweek evening fixtures, and we will also be holding our monthly club evenings at Therfield where all are welcome to attend and play a fun, friendly game or two. Colts takes a break for the summer but will resume in September.

We welcome new members all year, whether returning to hockey after a break, new to the area or picking up a stick for the first time. Visit leatherheadhockeyclub.co.uk for details or email info@leatherheadhockeyclub.co.uk

Mole Valley Runners

The 'Moles' had another great Christmas season in 2025 – again featuring our regular Christmas lights run in London followed by Pizza in the West End – and our annual Christmas run in Fetcham. We also enjoyed a festive Christmas party at Leatherhead Cricket Club.

Moles Valley Runners is essentially a social running club although some of our runners



produce great performances at park runs and in organised 10k, half, full and ultra marathons.

Many of our members start running with the 'couch to 5k' exercise programme and then join our 'Plodders' group which allows them to step up to 6k or 7k whilst enjoying the wonderful countryside in Bookham, Effingham and Norbury Park. Some of our runs take in stunning bluebell woods and wild garlic whilst keeping a lookout for llamas, deer and wild birds.

We currently offer club runs on Monday and Thursday mornings (9am) and Tuesday and Wednesday evenings (6.30pm). We have a walking group on Wednesday mornings (9am) and switch the location each month. It is usually a brisk 2-hour walk followed by coffee. On the last Friday of each month we hold a



pub run. Our members meet at a different pub each month for a social run followed by a drink and occasionally some food.

Please get in touch if you are interested in joining us. We are a friendly club and support runners of all abilities. To book a trial run, please email molevalleyrunnersclub@gmail.com or check out our website: www.molevalleyrunners.org for more information.

Eastwick Road Church



The Knitting Group who meet at the Church weekly 10am – 12.00 have continued with their projects. Recently this included knitting long socks for soldiers in Ukraine, and knitted items for babies. They also support the Anna Chaplaincy with their Holiday at Home event in August and Village Day for the Meeting Place stall in June.

Celeste our new Community Worker started in

March and will be offering a drop-in coffee at the church for playschool mums followed at 10am with a Rhyme Time on Fridays. A walking group of various lengths depending on the group starts from the church on Wednesdays from 10am ending with coffee and cake.

Contact celeste.r@eastwickroadchurch.co.uk for more details.

The Arts Society Bookham



The Society is in a difficult situation. The present committee's term ends at the AGM in the Autumn and many are unable to continue. This means that if new members do not come forward our Arts Society will not be able to continue.

Linda Tickner, Chairman, encourages members to contact her or other committee members to find out what is involved to ensure continuation of our excellent society. 'The Committee plan to keep the Society running until the end of our financial year in July 2027 to enable any volunteers who come forward to have a six-month handover period.'

Russian and Ukrainian art over the past 200



years was the subject of Gabriel Chanan's lecture in March. A movement of artists called The Wanderers challenged the traditional art of the two countries in the 19th Century. In April Charles Harris discussed the effect of the western migration of settlers beyond the Mississippi on the Art and History of American art in the 19th century; the 'Cowboy Attitudes'.

The June lecture is the 'Golden Age' of Danish landscape art in the 19th century by James Vaux. The final talk before our summer break is by Laurie Wickwire, The History of Natural Pearls from both their extraction from the seabed and how they became the prize gem of the world.

In April we visited Rochester Cathedral and Restoration House whilst in June we will use our knowledge from the April lecture when we will be at Blenheim Palace.

New members interested in joining the Society were cordially welcomed by committee and members at a Coffee Morning at The Old Barn Hall in March. This event will be repeated on the 11th August at 10am.

Work continues at Guildford Cathedral where



Angela Stevens and the Heritage Volunteering Group use their skills with sewing and needlework. Anyone interested in working with the group should contact Angela either at a lecture evening or via the website. There is a possibility that our skills might be needed at West Horsley Place in the future.

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. Tea and coffee are served from about 7pm before the talks. Meanwhile, anyone interested in joining the Society should make contact via the website <http://theartsocietybookham.org.uk/>

John Cook

Armada Probus Club

About the Club

The Armada Probus Club is a welcoming community for men and women who are retired or semi-retired. Our members gather on the first Wednesday of each month at Effingham Golf Club to enjoy a sociable lunch in the lovely wood-panelled dining room, followed by an engaging talk from a guest speaker. We are pleased to have a comprehensive programme of speakers scheduled well into 2027, ensuring that each meeting offers something interesting and new.

Activities and Outings

In addition to our monthly meetings, we organise theatre trips and outings to places of interest, reflecting our commitment to providing an interesting and active club experience.



In January our members attended a Mozart Concert at the Yehudi Menuhin School where Andreas Frolich, Professor of Piano at the school together with a number of the students entertained us with a number of wonderful Mozart pieces. In February a number of us enjoyed a theatre trip to Woking to watch 'Dear England', a story about Gareth Southgate's tenure as the England football team manager until 2024, performed by the National Theatre.

Planned future trips this year include visits to the Battle of Britain Bunker at Hillingdon, The Weald & Downlands Living Museum and a boat trip out to a wind farm near Brighton. The Club also has an enthusiastic walking group, which meets monthly. These walks are typically concluded with a convivial lunch at a local pub.

Membership

We are always keen to welcome new members into the Armada Probus Club. If you are interested in joining us or would like to learn more about our activities and membership, please visit our website at <https://armada-probus.club> or contact our Secretary at alanbrowne1066@gmail.com



Bookham Baptist Children's Centre

This year Bookham Baptist Children's Centre is excited to be celebrating 10 Years of Supporting Families! Bookham Baptist Children's Centre is an independent Children's Centre supporting families from Bookham, Fetcham, Effingham and surrounding areas through groups, seasonal activities, family support work and courses to support family life. At Easter we held a Family Fun afternoon with toys, crafts, face painting, stop-motion workshop, puppet show which was enjoyed by all.

We are delighted to be partnering with Mary Frances Trust (well-being charity), to extend the SEND Families Coffee and Play sessions to



twice a month. You are welcome to join us if you are a parent or carer of a child (of any age) with a neurodiverse condition, additional needs or disabilities, to find a welcoming, non-judgemental space to find friendship and support.

We also continue our partnership with Homestart to offer a peri-natal wellbeing group to support new parents in the early months of their parenting journey, by looking after our own wellbeing as well as building a loving bond with baby.

Come and find us on our stall at Village Day or look out for the Children's Centre Bear mascot to find out more!

For the past 10 years, Bookham Baptist Children's Centre has been a welcoming place where local children can play, learn, and grow, and where parents and carers find friendship and support. As we celebrate this milestone, we are hoping to raise £10,000 to help sustain and develop the centre for the years ahead. If you would like to make a donation please do so via the details on our website or get in touch with us. If you would like to do a fundraising event on our behalf, such as a sponsored walk, run or cycle or hold a coffee morning or cake sale to raise money for us we would love to hear from you. Your donation



will help us continue providing a safe, nurturing space for families in our community. Every gift, large or small, will help shape the next chapter of support for local children and families.

Website: <https://bookhambaptist.org/bbcc>

Email: familyservices@bookhambaptist.org

Phone: 01372 811 313

Peter Pan Playschool



We've had a busy spring at Peter Pan, including a lovely Easter service at Eastwick Road Church. We also made Easter cards which some of us took to the post box to send home

– it's a really fun way to support the children's understanding that written marks carry meaning, plus it's very exciting when the cards are delivered home! We like to go out and about when we can, including walks into the village to Tesco, Layton's and the post office too.

We enjoyed exploring the Lunar New Year and had noodles to eat and we made a Chinese dragon out of junk modelling and used it for a fun dragon dance.

We've been notified that we'll be one of the Tesco blue penny charities over the next few months, so please do support us if you can! We're a charity run playschool supporting many local families and the extra funds from these activities really make a huge difference to the children.

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 you can send us an email at



louise@peterpanplayschool.co.uk or call us on 07908 018924 and Louise and the staff team will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Bookham Youth & Community Centre

Planning approved

David Cox OBE – Chair of Bookham Youth & Community Association (BYCA)

Planning for a new Youth & Community Centre & outdoor Multi Use Games Area (MUGA), on the old Youth Centre site, was approved on the 6th February 2026.

Various conditions were attached to the permission and the Surrey County Council, Land & Property Team, have been working through those that are required before construction can begin which is expected to be in late Spring.

Prior to this, the team also addressed some matters raised by neighbours at the consultation event. These included:

- Tree management of woodland on eastern boundary.

- Pot holes repaired between the old Keswick Care Home and new centre site.
- Street light reconnected to new power source. It was disconnected when the Care Home was closed & power cut off.

BYCA had worked closely with SCC in the preparation of the Planning Application but has also been busy getting ready to manage the new centre under a lease from SCC.

- Lease: Heads of Terms have been agreed.
- Website: <https://www.bookhamyouth.org.uk/> or Google "Bookham Youth" – for information, volunteering, contact details and to register for email updates.
- Grant application approved: BYCA has to provide the equipment for the centre and has been successful in receiving a grant from "Your Fund Surrey Small Community

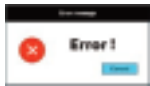
Projects". Thanks to Cllr Clare Curran for her support. SCC Land & Property will also assist with second hand kit available from property rationalisations.

- Volunteer recruitment: a number of great new volunteers have joined us since our last report. Once operational, we will need more helpers willing to give a small amount of time.
- Centre Facilities: details and layout on website. MUGA (floodlighting) – sand dressed artificial grass with markings for football, basketball and two pickle ball courts.

We are working with Bookham Colts to make the MUGA the long term training home for their U9 football teams.

For the latest information catch up on our website.

Bookham Seniors Computer Club



Have you recently upgraded to Windows 11, bought a new laptop, tablet or smartphone, know how to switch it on but

then everything is a mystery? Then the Bookham Seniors Computer Club is the club for you!

The Club provides a broad range of friendly and relaxed courses which are aimed at novices and those seeking to enhance their knowledge about using their PC, laptop, tablet or smartphone.

The Club started its summer term with an Open Day on Friday 17 April at our traditional venue, Little Bookham Village Hall (LBVH), where the programme for the summer term was discussed. The programme is on our website bookhamseniorscomputerclub.co.uk. The Club welcomes new members so why not come along to discuss what we do and how the club can help you.

Meetings are held on Friday mornings between 10.00 and 12.00 during term time at the LBVH. Annual membership for the year 2025/26 costs £35 which includes attending any or all of the sessions with tea, coffee and biscuits provided during a mid-morning break.

The Club also runs informal clinics where you can get help with any problem or question that you have about PCs, laptops, tablets or smartphones. These sessions are free to members and are normally held at the LBVH 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, including details of the terms' programmes, via email and its website.

If you are interested in finding out more about the BSCC then phone Sue on 01372 454 461 or Brian on 01372 450 604 or visit our website bookhamseniorscomputerclub.co.uk.

**BRINGING TOGETHER
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10am-3pm**

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CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

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01372 450709 EMAIL: ECOTEAM@STNICOLASBOOKHAM.ORG.UK

FaB Repair Café

Over the past 28 months, our dedicated volunteers at the Repair Café have fixed more than 1,400 items for our local community, preventing over 3,300kg of waste from ending up in landfill.

Our talented team can repair a wide variety of items, including:

- Bikes
- Computers and IT equipment
- Clothing and textiles



- Electrical appliances
- Mechanical devices, such as clocks
- Jewellery
- Wooden objects
- Garden tools (including sharpening)

The FaB Repair Café, serving Fetcham, Bookham, and surrounding areas, was founded by members of Bookham and Horsley Rotary Club, St. Mary's Church, Fetcham, and passionate local volunteers. We focus on



promoting sustainability and caring for the environment by repairing belongings and reducing landfill waste. As part of a network that includes over 20 Repair Cafés in Surrey, 400+ in the UK, and more than 4,000 worldwide, our reach is extensive.

If you haven't visited us yet, our sessions take place on the first Saturday of every month at St. Mary's Church Hall in Fetcham (off The Ridgeway). You'll find the full list of dates on our website. Feel free to bring one broken item for assessment and repair - our specialist volunteers welcome you to watch and learn during the process, which could help you with future repairs. Alternatively, join us for coffee and cake and discover what we do!

We're always looking for new volunteers. Interested? Email us or come along to our next session to meet the team. For questions about our services, please contact fabrepaircafe@gmail.com.

Stay connected with us:

- Facebook: Fetcham and Bookham Repair Cafe
- Instagram: [fabrepaircafe](https://www.instagram.com/fabrepaircafe)
- Website: www.fetchamandbookhamrepaircafe.com

Our services are free, though donations are gratefully received to help cover costs.

Martin Cannon

Great Bookham Belles WI

2026 has started with more educational and interesting monthly meetings at our large WI which meets at the beautiful venue of Manor House School. In January Jason Sandy spoke to us about his fascinating hobby of mudlarking. We all enjoyed hearing about, and seeing, some of his finds from the banks of the River Thames (photo). Members were so enthused that a group of us are going on a mudlarking trip to London in May organised by Jason.

In February we marked International Women's Day (slightly early!) by inviting local women in business to our meeting. Members enjoyed browsing the stalls and then listening to Roni B who told us her story of setting up her business selling Filipino sauces, condiments and preserves (photo). For our March meeting we welcomed back Lindsey Dixon-Barrell who this time spoke to us about mindfulness.

Our charity for this year is East Surrey Domestic Abuse Services, and we have kickstarted our fundraising by holding two raffles (one with prizes donated by the stall holders at our women in business event) and a collection of toiletry items.



In addition to our monthly meetings, we also have many active subgroups including a weekly walking group, book groups, gardening and cycling groups, craft groups, a local history group and an out and about group. Trips have included a very interesting tour of Guildford Cathedral and Brookwood Military Cemetery. As the weather improves,



we hope to organise more tours to local places of interest.

We are currently full with a waiting list but if you would like to put your name on the list or come as a visitor to one of our monthly meetings (usually the 3rd Monday of the month), please email: contactbelleswi@gmail.com for information.

The Rampant Roosters

The Rampant Roosters have spent the winter in hibernation waiting for the lighter and warmer evenings to arrive. We have been concentrating on our weekly practice sessions where we are learning some new dances to add to our repertoire. But the winter hasn't stopped our enthusiasm to entertain the public, nor dampened our eccentricity.

Since September, we were invited to dance out at three local care homes, much to the amusement and confusion of the residents, and taught some Girl Guides to dance the Morris

We took part in Dorking's inaugural wintertime celebration, organised by the Dorking Business Improvement District team. A procession through the town centre involved handmade lanterns, alongside entertainment from the Rampant Roosters, choir singing, samba drumming and stilt walking. In preparation there were workshops with

instructions how to make lanterns, so of course the Roosters made their own. We danced outside Dorking Halls then led the procession, ending in St. Mary's Church, where the lanterns remained on show for a week.

I did earlier mention that it helps if you're eccentric to be a Morris Dancer, and of course, some are more eccentric than others. Our Squire had seen adverts for a new British film called *Mother's Pride*, and were so intrigued that it featured Morris Dancing, we all decided to go and see it at Dorking Halls. So on one rather wet and dark evening we arrived dressed in full kit, and danced outside the Halls. This came as quite a surprise to the arriving audience coming to see the film, and the audience coming to see Henning Wehn in the main hall.

On May Day we welcomed the spring by dancing at the top of Box Hill at 4.30 in the morning. Then on St. George's Day we



performed our Mummer's Play, then took a trip to Rochester to take part in their Sweep's Festival. Did I mention we are all just a bit eccentric?

Effingham Methodist Church launches Coffee and Chat

Community is at the heart of a small village like Effingham, and community is at our heart at Effingham Methodist.

So we're launching a new monthly gathering to create space for community, conversation, togetherness and hospitality.

Our new Coffee and Chat gathering will run on the first Saturday of the month, and all are

welcome to drop in at any time to connect with one another, meet new and familiar faces and be community together.

Future Dates: 6th June, 4th July, 1st August, 5th September, 3rd October.

Rev Dan Balsdon
Methodist Minister



Plastic Free Bookham

PLASTIC FREE BOOKHAM Have you heard about Simpler Recycling? It's a government initiative to streamline recycling services across different areas. What it means for Bookham is that since 31st March we've been able to put the following clean and empty items in our green recycling bins: cartons (eg juice); empty aerosol cans; non-black plastic plant pots; squeeze tubes both metal and plastic (eg tomato puree and toothpaste). This is in addition to dry paper and cardboard; metal tins, cans, jar lids and foil (collected into at least a tennis ball-sized amount); plastic bottles (leave the lids on), pots, tubs and trays; and glass bottles and jars. If you're not sure whether an item can be

recycled, check on the 'What to do with an item' page on the Surrey Environment Partnership website www.surreyep.org.uk or download the Surrey Recycles app,

In March some of us took part in the Big Plastic Count, along with over 48,000 other households. At the time of writing we were expecting the national results to be published in mid-April. In a separate campaign, Surfers Against Sewage published their 2025 Brand Audit report the following week. Volunteers recorded the brands of thousands of pieces of litter collected on over 2,500 litter picks in 2025. The report highlights the top 12

worst brand offenders, along with practical proposals on how to reduce the problem. You can read the report at brandaudit.sas.org.uk.

At the end of March we were represented at the South East Climate Alliance (SECA) annual gathering, which took place this year in Guildford. SECA is a coalition of groups and organisations across Kent, Hampshire, Surrey and Sussex that have an interest in the environment. The two main themes of the day were how to work with councils in the light of next year's major restructure, and climate resilience and adaptation. Both topics generated many interesting discussions. You can find out more about SECA at seclimatealliance.uk.

For more information about Plastic Free Bookham please visit our website plasticfreebookham.org.uk or contact us on pfbookham@gmail.com.

Bookham Stamp Club



www.bookhamstampclub.com

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

Our programme includes visiting speakers, members' displays and auctions. 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. Please contact either Malcolm Cole: programme@bookhamstampclub.com 01372 457392. Or Barry Feltham: secretary@bookhamstampclub.com 01372 450288



Become a member

If you are new to stamp collecting or want to renew your hobby, come along to one of our meetings, you will be warmly welcomed by up to 40 plus members that attend each meeting, but if you wish to find out more details before attending contact our Membership Secretary Fred Mitchell on 01372 374614, or look at our website www.bookhamstampclub.com

Our recent meetings

In January the club had its one-sheet competition for members where we had a variety of entries from the Monaco Aerial Rally in 1914 to postal history covers from GB,

Canada and Germany. The winner was Graham Stockdale with his cover written by the hand of KGV to Lady Maud Carnegie in February 1925 (picture).

February brought us Peter Cockburn (picture) who gave us a wonderful and informative afternoon with his amazing display of postal history, stamps, censor marks, revenues and picture postcards of North Borneo.

In March, member Geoff Richardson gave a display on Bosnia showing us the early Bosnia stamps with their many different perforations, shades and errors on stamps.

Our upcoming meetings.

Tuesday 26th May – AGM & Auction.

Tuesday 23rd June – Visit from Camberley & District Philatelic Society.

Tuesday 28th July – An Update on Peace – Grace Davies FRPSL.

Tuesday 25th August – Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika – Joint Issues 1935-1977 – Graham Mytton.

Tuesday 22nd September – Members' Thematic Displays for the Roy Gilbert Cup.

We welcome newcomers to the hobby as well as experienced collectors.

Barry Feltham

Hon. Secretary

Girlguiding, Leatherhead Division

More than 150 Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and volunteer leaders from across the Leatherhead Division gathered at Manor House School in Bookham to mark the 100th anniversary of Thinking Day.

On 22nd February every year, Girl Guides and Girl Scouts around the world celebrate being part of one big global group, with a variety of activities. The day is also the birthday of Robert Baden-Powell and Olave Baden-Powell, who helped start the Scouting and Guiding movement.

At Manor House School, girls and leaders from units in Ashted, Leatherhead, Fetcham, Bookham and Effingham spent a fun-filled few hours enjoying mass singing and dancing sessions.

They learned to sing Katy Perry's hit song "Roar" – guided by Dave from Rock Choir. The dancing activity was led by Susy Puckett, the theatre school manager at Leatherhead Theatre. Susy guided Rainbows, Brownies and



Guides through a lively routine to the song "We're all in this together" from High School Musical.

Leatherhead Division was also delighted to welcome along the CEO of Girlguiding Felicity Oswald to join in the fun at Manor House School, along with Beverly Heywood-Jones, the Surrey East county commissioner. There were cupcakes for everyone attending, decorated with the Girlguiding Trefoil and very kindly provided by Lola's Cupcakes.



Two Girlguiding volunteers were presented with long service awards as part of the Thinking Day celebrations, with Beth Fowler receiving her 5 year award and Jen Broh being given her 10 year award.

Email

div.comm@girlguidingleatherhead.org.uk or visit www.girlguiding.org.uk and follow the registration link for more information about registering your child for one of the local Girlguiding units, or finding more about becoming an adult volunteer.

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GROUPS AFFILIATED TO THE BCA

Changes and applications for affiliation to veronica@hurren.org
tel:451790

BRA

Bookham Residents Association (BRA) 0300 030 9890 email via
website: <https://www.bookhamresidents.co.uk/contact-the-bra/>

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Bookham Seniors Computer Club, Brian Baker 450604
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Fetcham & District U3A chairman@fetchamu3a.org.uk

Leatherhead U3A David Wall dandswall@btinternet.com 374773

Surrey Adult Education Service Mid Surrey Area Leatherhead KT22 7SY

Surrey Quilters Guild Jan Godding 453801-
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EDUCATION: THE EARLY YEARS

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Friends of Great Bookham School friends@gbs.sfet.org.uk

Eastwick Schools Parent Teacher Association
info@eastwick.thpt.org.uk 453672/453277

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Polesden Lacey Playschool 453162 plnursery@leoacademytrust.co.uk

St Lawrence Primary School 452870 info@stlawrence-primary.org

VARIED

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The Meeting Place 07425133431 themeetingplace.org.uk

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Bookham Light Operatic Society Jackie St Johanser 01483 767124
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Bookham Scottish Country Dance Club Dianne Delaney 01306
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Mole Valley Silver Band Mrs Sarah Kent 456176 skent150@tecres.net

The Rampant Rooster Morris Dancers Rob Collyer 07753 800769
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Bookham Country Market Anthea Sokell 452052
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Bookham Flower Club Gillian Brand 454712
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Bookham Machine Knitting Club Deborah Tuddenham
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Bookham Stamp Club Barry Feltham, Lynwood 450288 -
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Bookham Wine Club Sandra Holland
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Effingham Gentlemen's Club info@egclub.org www.egclub.org 07990
797922

Fetcham Bridge Club Patricia Robertson 07938537714
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Hardy Plant Society, Southern Counties Group Angela Baker 454875
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Mole Valley Quilters, Sandy Clark 579321
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SPORT

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Bookham Rifle and Pistol Club John Buckley
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Bookham Tennis Club Jim Adams 07808 771648
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Effingham & Leatherhead Rugby Club Chris King
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Effingham Table Tennis Tim Hobbs 452197 tim-hobbs@hotmail.com

Effingham Golf Club Juniors proshop@effinghamgolfclub.com

Bookham Rifle Club John Buckley john.buckley@ntlworld.com

Groveside Badminton Club Ed Carr 819171 – ed.carr@talk21.com

Leatherhead Hockey Club info@leatherheadhockeyclub.co.uk

Mole Valley Indoor Bowling Club Mike Mackie mjmackie31@aol.com
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Bookham Bees WI Heather Broadhurst
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Great Bookham Belles WI Alison Roberts 07821 725939

Little Bookham WI Emma Fisher 07787821951
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Mole Valley WI Ann Lillywhite ann@seary.org 450320

YOUTH

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3rd Bookham Scout Group Karen Wheeler
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Guides - bookhamandeffinghamguiding@gmail.com

CHURCHES

Bookham Baptist Church Rev Rachel Watson
familyservices@bookhambaptist.org

Eastwick Road Church (formerly Bookham United Reformed Church)
Miss S Ferguson 453704 secretary@bookhamurc.org.uk

Churches Together in Fetcham & Bookham Marian Cutler
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Effingham Methodist Church Rev Dan Balsdon 379575
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Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church and Church of the Holy Spirit Fr
Charles Howell 458263 effingham@abdiocese.org.uk

St Lawrence Effingham with All Saints Little Bookham Rector Rev Phil
Barlow revphilbarlow@gmail.com, parish administrator Craig Chitty
451697 stlawrence1939@btinternet.com

St Nicolas Church Rev Alan Jenkins 452405
alan.jenkins@stnicolasbookham.org.uk PCC Secretary Nick Garrett,
pcc.secretary@stnicolasbookham.org.uk

LIBRARY

Bookham Library Townshott Close 0300 200 1001
libraries@surreycc.gov.uk

HALLS FOR HIRE

Little Bookham Village Hall Meg Frost frostm@compuserve.com

Old Barn Hall, Church Road, Roger Musgrove 456307
office@bookhamcommunityassociation.org

Bookham Scouting Centre Peter Duke peterduke_1@hotmail.com

Bowler Room, All Saints Church, Manor House Lane 456752
j.peers@tiscali.co.uk

South Bookham SPACE hire.southbookhamspace@gmail.com

St Alphege Hall, Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Effingham KT24 5JP.
effingham@abdiocese.org.uk

Bookham Bees WI



Spring has arrived, and the Bookham Bees W.I. are as busy as ever.

Our year started with an exercise class led by Alison Kirk from Paracise. After a little hesitancy, it wasn't long before the majority of members were up moving around to wonderful music. A great start to our meetings in 2026.

In February we had a quieter but informative and very interesting evening, when our speaker, Susan Purcell, talked about "The

History of the Dictionary".

Our March meeting saw a record turnout, as we welcomed Topsy, a West End Cabaret and Drag Queen Artist. Topsy spoke of an interesting early life, career path and interspersed this with a fantastic repertoire of songs which included opera and songs from musicals. Many of the Bees were up dancing and it was a really lovely evening.

The sub-groups go from strength to strength, with our latest group, "Current Affairs" holding some very lively discussions. With over 25 other groups, there is something for everyone.

We are always planning for the coming months. We had our birthday party in April, a cream tea in May, and Village Day in June to look forward to.

Our monthly meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at the Old Barn Hall at 7.15pm for 7.30pm

For more information, please contact our membership secretary Heather Broadhurst, infobookhambees@surreyfedwi.org.uk

Jenny Bissell

President Bookham Bees WI

Bookham Flower Club

Bookham Flower Club had a departure from the usual format of the meeting in January. Two of our members, Jayne Ellis and Anne Webb, organised a practical meeting at which members were provided with a wooden tray, jam jars, a variety of items including wool, cones, small pebbles and marbles, flowers and foliage with which to create a design in groups of three or four. The title was 'More than Jam'. The afternoon was finished with quizzes, a raffle, tea and biscuits. Alongside this, a Bring and Buy stall raised money for the Chairman's nominated charity.

Cerys Nicolls, a florist from Sussex, made a return visit to our club in February with a presentation entitled 'Floral Occasions'. She is a naturally talented presenter and showed us five examples of her work for special occasions such as Mother's Day and weddings. The



competition was entitled 'Take five' and the entries showed what can be achieved with just five flowers.

Another year for the club came to an end with the AGM in March. This was preceded by an excellent lunch at which friendships are strengthened and new acquaintanceships

made. Trophies were presented to Diane King (Novice Class), Liz Rosser (Intermediate Class), Chrissie Cemm (Advanced Class) and Pat Crawford (Senior Advanced Class) as winners of the most points in the monthly club competitions for the year.

The winner of the trophy for the greatest number of points overall was Liz Rosser. Margaret Wilkins was presented with a badge marking fifty years of membership. Retiring Chairman Pat Crawford



was presented with a bouquet of flowers. The club now looks forward to a full programme of meetings and events for the next year. bookhamflowerclub@gmail.com

Polesden Lacey Infant Academy



Located in the heart of our vibrant community, Polesden Lacey Infant Academy is a small, happy, inspiring school where young minds truly thrive. As we head into the summer months, we are delighted to celebrate the magical learning happening right on your doorstep and reflect on what makes our school family so special.

At Polesden Lacey, we believe in nurturing a "Growth Mindset" and encouraging the power

of curiosity - that magical spark that turns a simple observation into a lifelong discovery. This spring, our pupils have been incredibly active in the local community and environment. In a fantastic display of eco-citizenship, our children took to the River Mole to test the water for E. coli levels, actively monitoring the health of our local waterways while collecting litter along the riverbanks. After reading Lottie's Letters, our Rabbit Class even wrote a collective letter to the world with suggestions on how to look after the planet.

While we aim high academically, we also offer a diverse range of clubs to ignite new passions. This term's offerings include active options like Cricket with a LEO Sports Coach, Football Skills, Multi-Sports and for our Year 2 children, 6 weeks of swimming lessons. For children interested in nature, creativity, or relaxation,

we have Gardening/Wildlife club, Lego Club, Polesden Lacey Performers, a Wellbeing/Mindfulness group and Rock Steady Music providing sessions for aspiring musicians across all year groups.

We love welcoming new faces to our grounds and this year we have been running Forest School Stay and Play sessions for pre-schoolers and their carers - a wonderful afternoon of outdoor exploration. Why not come and join us for the sessions on 15th June & 6th July from 1:30pm - 2:45pm? Booking via our website.

We will be at Village Day on 20th June! Please come and say hello, or join us for our Summer Fair on Sunday 5th July (11am - 3pm).

Find out more: www.polesdenlaceyinfant.co.uk or contact the school office.



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Great Bookham School

At Great Bookham Primary School, we are immensely proud of the wide range of opportunities we provide for our children in both sports and the arts. Recent months have been filled with achievements that highlight



the talent, enthusiasm and determination of our pupils, and it is a pleasure to share these successes with our wider community.

Our athletics team excelled in the regional Surrey Games indoor athletics competition, earning a place at the finals held at Guildford Spectrum. Competing against 11 other regional winners was a fantastic experience. We also had the privilege of organising and leading a tennis tournament between local schools and those in the South Farnham Trust and were delighted to finish in first place.

Beyond these highlights, we continue to encourage all children to explore new sports. Participation in the local Panathlon event, a judo tournament and a new age curling event gave many pupils the chance to try something different. These are just a few examples from the vast array of sports we offer.

Our commitment to the arts is equally strong. A highlight of the year was our children singing in the Young Voices Choir at The O2, joining

over 8,000 voices in a truly unforgettable performance. Year 5 pupils also shone at the Surrey Primary Singing Festival at Dorking Halls. Looking ahead, we are excited to stage our junior summer performance at Leatherhead Theatre. Meanwhile, every child in the school contributed to the Rotary Art competition with the theme Happiness in Nature.

These successes reflect the spirit of the school, where children are encouraged to discover their passions, challenge themselves, and celebrate their achievements together.

Looking to the future, we are excited to announce that we will be organising school tours for our Reception and Year 3 intake for September 2027. Information regarding these tours will be published on our school website. We are so proud to welcome prospective parents to our school and look forward to greeting many more in the months ahead.

Jenna Allen
Headteacher

The Howard of Effingham School

Celebrating a Term of Achievement and Community Spirit

This term has given us so much to celebrate across the whole school community, both inside and beyond the classroom.

Our scientists have enjoyed an exceptionally successful term. Students achieved 1 Gold, 2 Silver and 8 Bronze awards in the prestigious Chemistry Olympiad. In addition, three of our Year 11 students — Annabel, Gideon and Bea — proudly earned Silver awards in the Junior Chemistry Challenge.

Our Year 12 physicists showcased their talent and commitment in the British Physics Olympiad. Meanwhile, the Science Fair and our Wellbeing Festival provided valuable opportunities for students to gain a deeper understanding of the wide range of organisations and support available to them.

Our sports teams have continued to shine with remarkable performance. The U16 Girls' Netball Team reached the semi-finals of the national cup. We celebrated the remarkable success of our Year 9A Netball Team, who have been crowned Surrey County State Schools Champions. After winning all their matches in

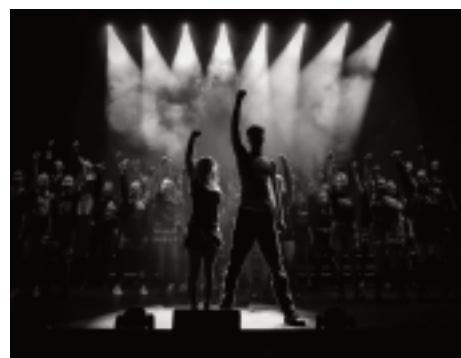


the qualifying tournament, in the finals they remained unbeaten across all six games.

Our Year 7 Girls' Football Team also enjoyed a tremendous triumph, securing their place in the Final of the Football Surrey Cup following a superb semi-final win. Reaching the final is a fantastic milestone for such a young squad.

The performing arts have lit up the term, with our school production of *We Will Rock You* drawing enthusiastic audiences throughout its run at the Leatherhead Theatre. Year 7 students also enjoyed an exciting theatre trip to see *Hercules* at the London Palladium.

Reading has been at the heart of school life this term. As part of the National Year of Reading and World Book Day, we hosted



activities including an engaging author video for Years 7 and 8, a lively book fair, competitions, free World Book Day books and plenty of energetic book discussions.

Our Sixth Form students led an inspiring and joyful Raising and Giving (RAG) Week. The school was filled with imaginative costumes, fun activities and a wonderful sense of community spirit while raising money for charity.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to the Friends of the Howard for hosting a hugely successful Quiz Night, raising an impressive £1,500 towards resources for the school.

James Baker, Principal

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