



# Bookham Bulletin

LOCAL NEWS FROM BOOKHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Please visit [bookhamcommunityassociation.org](http://bookhamcommunityassociation.org) for the very latest information

Summer 2023

## Bookham Village Day



Sponsor - The Vineries Garden Centre

'On Safari'

Saturday 17 June 2023

Old Barn Hall 12 to 4pm

Fancy dress Parade from High Street 11.40am

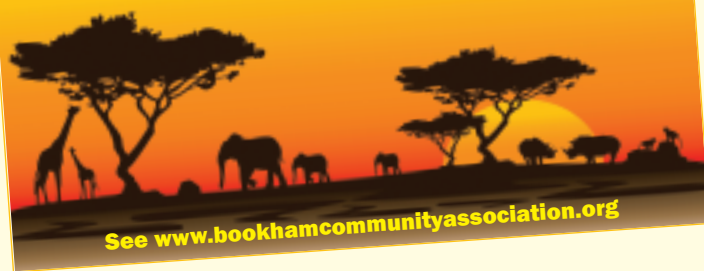
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See [www.bookhamcommunityassociation.org](http://www.bookhamcommunityassociation.org)

The big Parade will start in the High Street at 11.40am with the theme 'ON SAFARI' interpreted in amazing and colourful ways by the children taking part.

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

For full programme and details see centre pages.

bookhamopengardens.co.uk Bookham Open Gardens

# Bookham OPEN GARDENS

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£7 in advance from 1st June at:

- [www.bookhamopengardens.co.uk](http://www.bookhamopengardens.co.uk)
- Vineries Garden Centre, Lower Rd, Effingham
- Brackenburys, 17a High Street, Bookham
- Bookham Quick Stop, 3 New Parade, Leatherhead Rd
- Old Barn Hall office: Mon, Wed, Fri 9.30am - 12pm
- and on 17th June, Village Day on the field

£8 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 11 varied and attractive private gardens, including many new ones.

## Also During Village Week

**Monday 19th June- Summer Concert** by Mole Valley Silver Band. 8pm at Old Barn Hall. Tickets £10 from OBH office or Sarah on 01372 456176

**Tuesday 20th June – Village Week Quiz** for BCA Affiliated Organisations. 7pm at the Old Barn Hall. Contact [keithslark@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:keithslark@tiscali.co.uk) for info



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BOOKHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Bringing people together

# Bookhams Bulletin

90th Year

Issue 345

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 'Safari' coming to Village Day with lots of excitement and anticipation for what the schools and pre-schools will be doing in the fancy dress parade. Plenty of dangerous animals and colour we hope so be careful as they come by!

There will be winners and runners-up trophies for the various groups taking part presented in the arena soon after 12 noon. On the field there will be nearly 60 stalls and sideshows including rides and games for all ages. Hot food and the bar on the field with delicious lunches, teas and cakes in the main hall as well as displays in both halls.



Free entry for all and we look forward to seeing you there.

We are very appreciative of all the many volunteers who are running the refreshments, stalls and sideshows BUT WE DO NEED MORE!

It can only happen if we get help with the stewarding and setting up and the like.

### If YOU can help for a few hours on the day we need:

- 7.15am to 10.30am Setting-up – bringing out and distributing tables, erecting gazebos, stakes and ropes for arena and queues
- 10.15am to 12.15pm Road stewarding for closing roads and manning barriers
- 11am to 12.30pm Stewarding Parade and road closures
- 12noon to 4pm Stewarding on the field for safety reasons
- 4pm to 5.30pm Putting it all away again – some new arms needed by that time!

If you feel you could help us (or know anyone who could) please let me know on:

keithslark@tiscali.co.uk 01372 457375 0797 900 3921

Many thanks  
Keith

## What's Happening

May  
27 Rotary 'Songs from the Shows' 9

June  
3-18 Surrey Artists Open Studios 26  
17 Bookham Village Day Centrefold  
19 MVS Summer Concert 7  
20 Village Week Quiz Cover  
25 Bookham Open Gardens 15

July  
1 Bookham Flower Club Show 28  
15 Bookham Choral Society Concert 14

September  
9 Bookham Food Festival 21



### Regular events at the Old Barn Hall

Bookham Country Market - Friday mornings  
Old Barn Hall Jazz Club – most Sundays

### Monthly

Bookham Flower Club - First Monday  
BF&D Garden Society – Fourth Monday  
Bookham Stamp Club – Fourth Tuesday  
Cancer Chat Café – Second Wednesday  
Eastwick WI – Third Wednesday  
The Arts Society – Fourth Tuesday  
Bookham Bees – First Wednesday

### Elsewhere

Bookham Litter Pickers – First Sunday  
Bookham Seniors Computer Club – Friday  
Bookham Scottish Country Dance – Friday

## The White Elephant Stall is back again!!

Thanks to Heidi George the stall is collecting good saleable donations

And will be selling on Village Day.

Please contact via  
[bookhamelephantstall@gmail.com](mailto:bookhamelephantstall@gmail.com)

## Next Edition of the Bookhams Bulletin

Deadline for Autumn issue:

1 July 2023

Email articles or queries  
to the Editor

[bookhamsbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:bookhamsbulletin@gmail.com)

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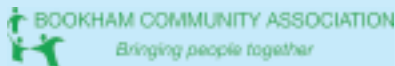
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# South Bookham SPACE

At South Bookham SPACE we are very pleased to offer a wide range of activities and clubs for our fantastic community. You can also hire our facilities (indoor and outdoor) for parties. There are activities for all ages, abilities and interests and we know that about 500 people attend SPACE every week to improve their wellbeing, both physically and mentally. To find out more visit our website or Facebook page. To take a short virtual tour of SPACE, please see our YouTube channel.

One of the things we are proud of, is that we can offer this to our hirers at an affordable price. With the cost of living ever increasing, we have embarked on a new, ambitious, and exciting project to install Solar Panels. Not only will this help us keep costs down, but should help us avoid future increases in hire charges

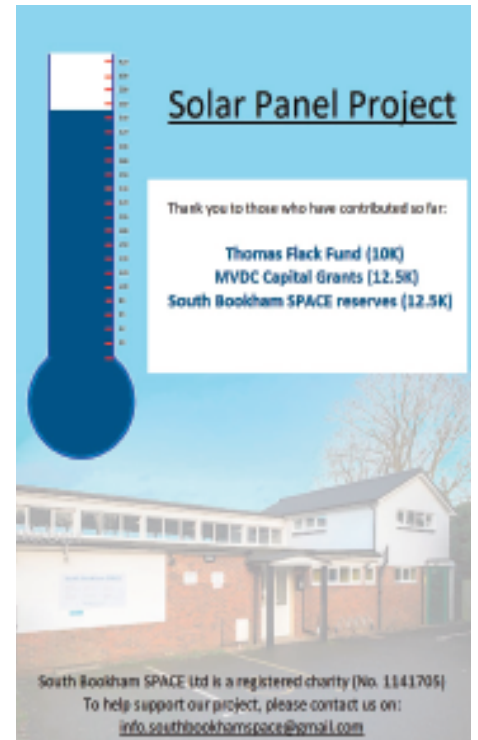
We require £42K to fund the project and are delighted to say we have already raised £22.5K. We would like to pass on our huge thanks to the Thomas Flack Fund (£10K) and

MVDC Capital Grants (£12.5K) who have all contributed so much towards our target. We will be contributing a further £12.5K from our own reserves, leaving a further £7K to find. If you know of any individuals, businesses or organisations who can help us to reach our goal, please pass on our information and encourage them to get in touch.

We would also like to thank our committee of volunteers who keep SPACE running. It is with sadness that we are saying goodbye to Trevor, our incredible Chair, who has always gone above and beyond to ensure SPACE is the community centre that keeps giving back to Bookham and its surrounding area.

To hire our facilities (whether for one off parties or to teach a class), help contribute to our project, or find out more about the role of Chair, please contact: [info.southbookhamspace@gmail.com](mailto:info.southbookhamspace@gmail.com). You can also visit our website at [www.southbookhamspace.org.uk](http://www.southbookhamspace.org.uk), or find us on Facebook and YouTube.

**Natasha Matthews – Marketing Officer**



## The Meeting Place



The Coffee Shop continues to be busy but we always welcome new people who come along whether on their own or to meet with friends. We opened on

Easter Saturday when our customers received a card and a small chocolate treat. Hot cross buns and citrus cake were also served.

We will not be open on Coronation Day (6 May) but at St Nicolas Church there is a live screening of the service with refreshments to which all are welcome. We have a Hearing Champion who comes along to the Coffee Shop once a month to help anyone who has National Health hearing aids. She will be there on 13th May at the slightly later time of 10.30am with supplies and assistance, no appointment is needed.

The Anna Chaplaincy team ran the third of their Living Well in Older Age series led by a speaker from Mole Valley Life. They will again be running "Holiday at Home" days on Wednesdays 9th and 23rd August. To register for these sessions, ring or email the Anna Chaplain (email [ac@themeetingplace.org.uk](mailto:ac@themeetingplace.org.uk), telephone 07518 735729).

Our Community Fridge team continues to collect food from supermarkets and shops to prevent it going to landfill. This food is available to anyone who can use it and can help a family's food budget stretch a bit further as prices rise. The weekly session times are on our website.

The Language Hub had a break over Easter and reopened for the summer term on Tuesday 18th April. Face to face classes for

Beginners are held at Mole Valley Skills Hub in Leatherhead and Intermediate level classes are held on Zoom. The Language Hub is run by a group of qualified teachers and assistants. They are looking for one or two more to join this friendly team.

Our Lipreading Classes taught on Zoom by a qualified teacher have restarted after the Easter break. The class is currently quite small and would welcome others who maybe suffer from hearing loss or just want to learn to lipread to help others.

For more information about The Meeting Place go to our website <http://themeetingplace.org.uk>, email us at [info@themeetingplace.org.uk](mailto:info@themeetingplace.org.uk) or ring the TMP mobile 07425 133431 to leave a message. You can follow and like us on Facebook too.

## Mole Valley Silver Band

### Striking all the right notes



After a couple of years of uncertainty, the Mole Valley Silver Band (MVSb) has never been in better shape. Already this year the band has led stirring

Coronation celebration concerts at Fetcham and Brooklands aircraft and motor museum, and giving a musical boost to village days at

Ashted (10th June) and Bookham (17th June). Further dates to note include Polesden Lacey on 3rd September.

All that, a revamped website and new branding (see logo shown here). But it's not been plain sailing. We lost players because of Covid, and university and other career moves. But now we're back up to full strength thanks largely to an influx of young talent from the MVSb Training Band.

If you're interested in joining that band, or would like any further information about these or other events, secretary Sarah Kent would love to hear from you on (01372) 456 176.

**Our Summer Concert will be in the Old Barn Hall at 8pm on Monday 19 June. Tickets £10 from the office or Sarah Kent on 01372 156 176.**



# Wavelengths

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BOOKHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

*Bringing people together*

### Have you paid your Member Donation?

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# Rotary, Bookham & Horsley

## Have you ever wondered what Rotary does?

We are just a group of friendly men and women mostly over 50, who want to make a difference to the world in which we live and get enjoyment from doing so.

There are lots of us (over 1.4 million worldwide) and you'll see us running events to raise funds or volunteering our time and energy to help people both locally and

internationally.

One of our larger projects is the eradication of polio – cases have reduced by 99.9% since we started the programme some 35 years ago. Rotary worldwide has raised over \$2.1 billion for this cause and now, wild polio is only endemic in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

If you find you have some time on your hands through working from home or early retirement, perhaps missing the companionship of your

colleagues and would like to meet a group of similar-minded individuals, then we'd love to hear from you.

Please email Tim at [tim.bass2020@outlook.com](mailto:tim.bass2020@outlook.com) to find out more.

**Our very popular 'Songs from the Shows' returns to the Old Barn Hall on 27th May at 7.50pm.**

For tickets please contact David on 01372 452342

## LeRoc Dance



After our very successful first year at the Old Barn Hall offering LeRoc modern jive dancing in the main hall, and our expert teachers teaching on same evening "Tango" in the Harrison Room, we now have a dance night every month on a Saturday night this year.

We held a very enjoyable New Year's Year Ball last year with 150 dancers attending.

We teach Modern Jive class every Tuesday at Ashted Peace Memorial Hall, then come once a month dancing at the "Old Barn Hall".

Come and learn a few dance moves, come on your own or with others. All welcome.

We really love this venue and look forward to continuing the great reputation Jag Jive had for running similar dance nights.

If you would like to find out more and dates we are on then [www.leroc.dance](http://www.leroc.dance) or email [info@leroc.dance](mailto:info@leroc.dance)

01737 769600 or 07944 971195

We are next on:-

May 20th; June 10th; July 8th; Aug 19th; Sept 23rd and then other dates right to end of December.

Doors open at 7.20pm. Admission price for the evening is £12 and that includes a hot drink & cake.

No pre booking required.

LeRoc has been teaching dance since 1995 and the main aim of an evening's dance, is its a social dance night out

Come and join in the fun.

## Polesden Lacey Infant School



It has been a long winter but as I write this article, in early April, Spring and Summer seem to be fast approaching. Being nestled amongst rolling fields and the beautiful woodlands that surround Polesden Lacey Infant School, we are frequently reminded of the seasons and how nature has to be resilient and take whatever comes its way.

Last summer we saw the grass bound back to be green and vibrant following the long hot months with no rain. This winter we have seen crocuses push through the snow, shallots

planted in the autumn are now bursting through in the allotment and the buds are opening on the new fruit trees in the orchard, hopefully getting ready to bear plums and pears for the first time later this year.

Our children also benefit from this amazing environment. Not only do they experience first-hand the wonder of our planet and the importance of looking after it but they can also draw upon the courage and resilience of the flora and fauna. These are values that we believe are so important for all of us in our school community, along with being fair, respectful, curious and caring. Using these values, we like to challenge our children and 'stretch their brains', helping them to develop their 'Growth Mind Set'.

The pupils talk of the power of 'YET' and explain they may not be able to do something at the moment but with belief in themselves and hard work they will overcome the challenges that they encounter. The teachers are skilled at setting challenges that are not too easy or too difficult but are just hard enough for their pupils to eventually succeed.



It is a privilege to see children puzzle, struggle and be triumphant, the smiles and squeals of delight make being in a school like Polesden Lacey Infant School such a joy. It is something that our parents also recognize. In our recent successful OFSTED report a parent was quoted saying: "Polesden Lacey Infants is a magical place that gives our children wings to become enthusiastic, resilient and independent learners."

# Rainbow Pre School



At the beginning of the spring term we welcomed a few new starters into Rainbow and it has been lovely to see how well they have settled into the rhythm of our pre-school. They have been enjoying a variety of fun activities/themes this term such as Pancake Day (where they made pretend pancakes/cakes with our vanilla scented playdough), emergency services and emergency service vehicles and Easter.

We have managed to get over to the library garden (between the downpours) for lots of



outdoor games and activities, including one of our outdoor Easter egg hunts. They had a smaller Easter egg, rabbit and chick hunt in our 'feely tray' to see how many of each they could find. The children also enjoy using Great Bookham School playground several times a week, where another of our colour and number Easter egg hunts went on.

The children have been busy planting seeds and watering the spring bulbs, which they planted in the autumn in our Rainbow garden. They will be adding more plants such as strawberry/tomato plants and edible herbs for them to water and care for in the warmer months ahead.

We are in the process of arranging a mobile farm visit. We aim to do this each year as the children really benefit from the hands on experience and learning about what care the farm animals need. They have the opportunity should they wish, to touch or hold the smaller animals like chickens, rabbits and lambs. We make a photo storybook of the children and



animals together with written quotes from the children. This goes in our Rainbow library for the children to recall and talk about.

As the warmer weather approaches, we will be taking the children down to Bookham common to observe the changes that happen in spring, visit the nearby ponds and have a play in the woodland climbing area.

If you would like more details about our Pre-school or to arrange a visit, please contact Heidi Watson on 01372 811313 or Email: [rainbow@bookhambaptist.org](mailto:rainbow@bookhambaptist.org)

## Bookham Help Your Neighbour Scheme

### CAN YOU HELP

Do you have an hour to spare now and then? BOOKHAM HELP YOUR NEIGHBOUR SCHEME is looking for drivers. We are a voluntary

scheme providing lifts to medical appointments for elderly residents living in Bookham who are no longer able to make these journeys alone. Volunteer Drivers give as much or as little time as they choose & are not committed to any

particular day of the week.

For further information please contact Heather Davies 01372 454403  
Ann Cook 01372 457204

## Bookham Bees WI



Bookham Bees has had a busy start to the year. We launched 2023 in style with an evening of Belly Dancing. I don't think as we left home that night many of us thought that shortly we would be on our feet with coins jangling round our hips, joining in with the troupe.

The Bees February meeting provided us with



*Murder Mystery – a fun and buzzing evening*

an enthralling talk from Cherrill Sands entitled 'Women Writers and Their Gardens'. Her interesting talk encompassed famous authors and their horticultural delights, from Agatha Christie to JK Rowling. In March we ventured Down Memory Lane with Paul Weakley as he entertained us with songs and tales from throughout his career and travels as a singer in several ensembles and productions

Our big celebration will be our April meeting when Bookham Bees WI celebrates its fifth birthday with Raw Honey Gin Distillery. We look forward to Sam Robinson telling us about the distillery and providing samples to add to the cheer, along with birthday cake and lots of chat and fun.

An extremely successful Murder Mystery evening was held at the beginning of March, which was a sell-out. The Old Barn Hall was jam-packed with guests trying to decipher the clues and decide 'who dun it'. Money Penny

Productions gave us an excellent show. It was poetic justice when the team from Dyscover, the Bees Charity for the year, won. We raised £550 on the raffle which will be donated to Dyscover.

Bookham Bees WI has grown enormously since its inauguration in April 2018. We now have many different groups, covering a wide range of interests, several of which are overflowing. These include several Book Groups, Bridge, Knit & Crochet, Sewing, Family History, Gardening, Coffee Mornings, Pub Nights, theatre visits and lots of Walking Groups

Bookham Bees WI warmly welcomes new members. We meet the first Wednesday of every month in The Old Barn Hall, Bookham at 7.30 for 7.45pm. Please do turn up to see what we do or for more information contact:

[dianagreenman@gmail.com](mailto:dianagreenman@gmail.com)

# Bookham Country Market



## No Fools Day!

Although the Market is open every Friday from 10am to 12.00 noon in the Old Barn Hall, we opened also on Saturday 1st April with a special Easter theme. This drew in many customers who are unable to visit on a Friday, and 65% of those attending were people we usually do not see.

During the last three months we served 318 customers, 98 of whom had not attended previously. We continue to have a core group of 40 customers who regularly visit the Market and we are extremely grateful to them.

There was a special Coronation market on Friday 5th May, the day before the Coronation, and we are already planning a Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 29th September and a Pre-Christmas Saturday market on 11th November. Look out for further information about these events.

The market will also be on the Field at Village Day on Saturday 17th June and in the Old Barn Hall with crafts for sale on Open Gardens Day – Sunday 25th June

A wide range of high quality hand-made craft products is always available, lovingly

created by our highly skilled home craft makers, and new producers have joined us recently.

We also offer a wide product range

– Home cooked cakes and ready meals, award winning specialty cheeses and artisan breads, home-made preserves and local Fetcham honey.

All these products and more –free range eggs, home propagated plants & garden produce in season and books – are available every Friday.

You can make sure you get what you want by ordering via our on-line ordering system. Just go to <https://bookham-country-market.sumup.link/> and place your order by

12 noon Wednesday to collect two days later at the Friday Market.

Having done your shopping, relax in the coffee shop, maybe with friends, and enjoy a Fairtrade coffee or Teapigs tea with a slice of home-made cake or biscuits.

The market is run completely by volunteers and is a valuable community activity providing a venue for social interaction, income for the BCA to help the upkeep of the Old Barn Hall and a source of high quality, locally produced products for its customers.

See and read more at [www.bookhammarket.wixsite.com/mrkt](http://www.bookhammarket.wixsite.com/mrkt)

Contact us at [bookhammarket@gmail.com](mailto:bookhammarket@gmail.com) 07836 646456



*Karen produces beautifully decorated scarves, platters, cards and pictures*



*Gabriela produces intricately decorated bottles, prints and similar articles*

## Great Bookham Belles WI



Another fun filled and enlightening term has flown by for Great Bookham Belles WI. At our January meeting we welcomed Esmé and Heather from The Curvy Wellness Company as our speakers educating us about having a healthy relationship with food.

Our environmental group organised our February meeting which was a “swishing” event. Members swapped clothes which they no longer wore or wanted and Leah spoke to us about “fast fashion” and how we can manage our wardrobes more sustainably.

The speaker at our March meeting was Siobhan Daniels who is known as the

“retirement rebel”. Having experienced ageism at her place of work she retired, sold her flat and possessions and bought a camper van. For the last 4 years she has lived and travelled in it experiencing the beauty of the UK countryside and finding fulfilment in the peace and tranquillity. Spending 4 months alone in a Norfolk field during lockdown gave her the opportunity to write a book about her experiences.

Congratulations to Team Netbelles (our walking netball group) who played at the Surrey Storm Festival in January achieving 1st and 3rd place in the “In it to win it” section and 1st place in the “wobble and jiggle” section.

Our cleaning ambassadors have new tabards with our WI name on to wear when clearing litter from the streets of Bookham.

Our charity for this year is Leatherhead Start, a charity which aims to improve the lives of local homeless people. We will continue to raise funds for their much needed work over the coming months.

We look forward to the warmer summer months to enjoy more outdoor activities, we will have our usual “Jolly Jars” stall at Bookham Village Day so please come and visit us there.

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



## Old Barn Hall Jazz Club

Members of the Old Barn Jazz Club invite you to join them one coming Sunday when they meet at the Hall, 55 Church Road. Concert meetings are held every Sunday from 1 to 4 pm. We are highly rated nationwide as a well-known venue for New Orleans traditional jazz,



played by leading bands, many of international repute.

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

Our local helpers include Margaret, Alan and Barry, under the direction of Graham. They are assisted by other willing supporters who create a happy atmosphere into which newcomers are always welcome. There is no

membership fee to join the club. So why not pop in any Sunday, when the music (and dancing) starts at 1 pm (entrance fee £13).

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

### Sunday Calendar of events

- May 28th Gambit Jazzmen
- June 4th Golden Eagle Celebration Five
- June 11th Excelsior Vintage Jazz Band
- June 18th Gambit Jazzmen
- June 25th No Jazz – Bookham Open Gardens

## Bookham and Fetcham Gardeners' Association

### WILDLIFE IN GARDENS (and the Eastwick Allotment shop)

As someone who enjoys both my garden and an allotment, I am well aware of how both help support wildlife in urban areas. Allotments generally form some of the best habitat mosaics and wildlife corridors with some linking up with parks, tracks, hedgerows, churchyards and rivers.

These days we try to reduce or eliminate the use of chemicals wherever possible and use companion planting and physical barriers to combat pests such as aphids, slugs and sawfly. In your garden try to create habitats for wildlife. For example, bee boxes, hedgehog

houses, log and stone piles for invertebrates like toads and slow worms who will also inhabit a compost heap, and we see many of them on the allotments.

Manage hedges to give birds nesting opportunities in a safe environment, and when space allows set aside unmown grassy areas to nurture insects and amphibians. Patches of nettles will provide both plant foods and breeding areas for butterflies. By planting late, mid-season and early blooming nectar rich flowers you will attract pollinators and beneficial insects all year round. In the garden, make a pond. Keep it ice free in winter by floating a ball on the top but of course

make sure it is safe for children.

Feed birds throughout winter and wherever possible supply nesting boxes. At the shop on Eastwick Allotments we also sell bird food at a very good price to our members and of course membership is open to all gardeners – not just plot holders. It's just £5 to join and you'll certainly recoup the cost in a season many times over if you buy most of your gardening needs there. Come along any Sunday morning between 10am and midday when the shop is open. We are on the allotments and the entrance is at the bottom of Keswick Road near the junction with Eastwick Road.

**Brian Smith, Committee Member**

## Bookham Seniors Computer Club



Queen Elizabeth II's coronation in 1953 brought the nation together as although few people had their own television set 10.4 million people watched in the homes of friends and neighbours and another 1.5 million watched in public places like pubs and cinemas.

Technology has advanced beyond what could have been imagined in 1953 and now people will be watching King Charles III's coronation in May on a vast array of devices including colour TVs, personal computers, laptops, tablets and smartphones.

Bookham Seniors Computer Club helps senior residents in Bookham and the surrounding area use today's digital technology by providing sessions on a broad range of devices and topics. The club recently introduced a new session on using Smart TVs which proved to be very popular.

The club started its summer term with an Open Day at Little Bookham Village Hall on Friday 21 April 2023 where members were invited to suggest topics from which the term's programme has been finalised. Courses include Windows 10 basics, tablets and smartphones for beginners (iPad and iPhone in particular with some classes covering Android devices) and using catch-up services such as BBC iPlayer, ITVX and Amazon Prime This is now available on the club's website at [bookhamseniorscomputerclub.co.uk](http://bookhamseniorscomputerclub.co.uk).

Meetings are held on Friday mornings between 10 and 12 at Little Bookham Village Hall (except the first Friday in the month which

will be held via Zoom). Annual membership costs £25 which includes tea, coffee and biscuits. with no additional charges for attending any of the sessions

The club runs informal sessions where you can get help with any problem you are having or have questions about PCs, tablets or smartphones. Sessions are free to members and are held at Little Bookham Village Hall on the first Wednesday afternoon of each month (except August) from 14.30 to 16.30.

The committee also provides help to members by email, telephone and occasionally by remote connection, and keeps them up-to-date via email and its website.

The club welcomes new members. If you are interested in finding out more about the BSCC then phone Sue on 01372 454461 or Brian on 01372 450604, visit our website [bookhamseniorscomputerclub.co.uk](http://bookhamseniorscomputerclub.co.uk) or come and talk to us at Bookham Village Day.

# Bookham Baptist Church



This winter we introduced a warm space initiative, alongside the Community Fridge. Faced with the plunging temperatures of winter and the growing numbers attracted to the fridge in recent months, there was clearly a need to bring people in out of the cold.

The initiative has been a huge success. People are turning up from 10am each Tuesday and Friday morning to enjoy tea, coffee and

conversation whilst they wait with numbered tickets to collect their food from the community fridge. We are so grateful to all the volunteers who have enabled us to open this space up to the community.

There was plenty to keep us busy over Easter! We teamed up with other local churches for 'Churches Together' services, opening up the building on Easter Sunday, we invited all to join us for breakfast followed by Communion and a special Easter celebration service.

The Children's Centre celebrated a special Easter party with their toddler group – Crawlers and Cruisers; a regular group for 0-5's which runs each Wednesday in term time from 10.30am. The Children's Centre team always run some special Summer Holiday events throughout July and August, so please visit their pages on the Bookham Baptist website to find out more.

Golden Years continues to meet weekly here at Bookham Baptist and at ERC from 2pm each Wednesday – a space for all over 60's in our community to gather. Tea and coffee is served, with puzzles and craft. The recent addition of a table tennis and pool table here at Bookham Baptist has proved a popular addition to proceedings. The Group enjoyed a concert this Spring from Grace Notes (another U3A Band), which treated us to a variety of popular musical items.

Our youth look forward to their annual Summer trip this August – an exciting 5 day trip to Satellites, a Christian youth festival which is always very popular. The youth meet every Friday at 7.30pm and also each Sunday. All newcomers are welcome!

Visit [www.bookhambaptist.org](http://www.bookhambaptist.org) to find about these and many more events here at Bookham Baptist Church!

## Bookham Rifle Club – fun shoot

Bookham RC have retained the Browne Martin Cup after a superb shoot at the Lord Roberts Range at Bisley.

The Browne Martin is a competition for clubs from the Home counties, and consists of an initial stage for teams of five shooting two cards each at 25 yards at their home range. Then the top eight teams compete shoulder to shoulder at Bisley on a knockout basis for the trophy.

In the quarter final versus Ashford RC,

Bookham scored 979 points out of a possible 1000 against Ashford's total of 942. In the semi final versus Surbiton Postal RC, Bookham scored 982 against Surbiton's 963, so going through to the final versus Colchester RC.

The final is always a more tense affair with nerves playing a big part, however Bookham show what a good team they are by only dropping three points on the first target and then finishing with the best score of the day with 986 out of a 1000 against Colchester's score of 975.



## Bookham Butterflies WI



Bookham Butterflies and guests visited Bletchley Park – the home of the World War 2 codebreakers – on their first outing of 2023. It was an especially poignant visit for Butterflies member Jeanette Chamberlain (pictured), whose father Reg Galpin served in the Royal Signals Radio Security Service. His name is on the Roll of Honour at Bletchley Park, because he worked at the listening stations sending information to Bletchley Park for decoding.

In the National Radio Centre, Jeanette met the volunteers on site who happened to be reading a book containing Reg's picture. When she pointed this out, a lovely conversation ensued, after which they gave her a copy of the book 'Radio Wars' to which she had previously contributed.

Since the start of the year, we have welcomed several very varied and thought-provoking speakers to our monthly meetings. In January, our very own Treasurer Benita Middleton gave a talk on the history of the Post Office – we learnt about how the delivery of written post has developed from Ancient Egypt, via carrier pigeons, to modern-day drones! History was also the theme for February's speaker Jessica Thurtell, whose subject was the history of English food from Saxon times to the present day.

In a very witty and entertaining way, our speaker for March, Louise Ryrie, taught us how to "find and keep" our pelvic floor! Louise is a qualified dance and Pilates teacher – she took us through a variety of simple exercises and went into some really useful detail about how our bodies work. At the same monthly meeting, we held a raffle, which raised £73 for our chosen charity, Eikon, a Surrey organisation which supports children and young people to overcome difficulties and trauma.

The monthly visits by our Exploring Gardens group are now getting underway, following the winter break. Trips to RHS Wisley, Moleshill House in Cobham and Ashcombe Garden at Westhumble are planned over the coming months.

For more information about our WI, visit our website [www.bookhambutterflieswi.com](http://www.bookhambutterflieswi.com)

# Bookham Bowling Club

## 90th ANNIVERSARY

The Bookham Bowling Club was formed on 16th October 1933 under the auspices of W.W. Leavis of Groveside, Great Bookham, then chairman of Leatherhead Urban District Council.

Alfred Longhurst a landscape gardener was contracted to construct a bowling green on the Chrystie Recreation Ground. The work cost £200 and the contract is still in the club files.

The pavilion, now used for storage, was given to the club by Herbert Allen who owned the land where Allen Road now stands.

The Ladies section was formed in 1935. It was known as The Bookhams BC until 1938.

The club flourished and the members maintained the Bowling Green until 1938 when the Council agreed to maintain the green and the premises were leased to the



Club on favourable terms. After the Second World War the green deteriorated and in the early 1970s the Club members assisted the Council groundsman to improve the green.

In 1975 the club accepted full responsibility for the maintenance from the Council and have done so ever since..

In 1971 the old pavilion was too small for the membership of 90 and the Council agreed to provide a new building complete with furniture and fittings. The Club undertook the internal decorations and the new Club House

was opened in 1972 by Stan Taylor the Chairman of the Council. In 1983 toilets were added and a bar was added in 1994 thanks to a grant from the Foundation for Arts & Sports.

So here we are in 2023 with a membership of 120 and social members of 50. The Club is more than a bowls club putting on events throughout the year, Disability and Charity events, Short Mat bowls, Quiz nights, Bingo & Whist/Bridge nights alongside the Internal & External Club bowls events.

There are special events planned for this our 90th Anniversary.

See our website: [www.Bookhambowls.co.uk](http://www.Bookhambowls.co.uk) for more details.

The historic photograph is from 1933 and shows the Founding Members. Do you know anyone? If so please contact us.

See [www.Bookhambowls.co.uk](http://www.Bookhambowls.co.uk)

# Bookham Choral Society

Over the past few months we have been very busy rehearsing for the Leith Hill Music Festival in the Dorking Halls from 14 – 15 April. It was lovely to have the festival back to its full form after the disruptions of the past few years.

For the Bookham Festival day on Friday 14 April, we competed against four other choirs before joining together under the direction of the Festival Conductor, Jonathan Willcocks and the Southern Pro Musica Orchestra to rehearse the Concert pieces for the evening. Very fittingly for the Coronation, we sang

Zadok the Priest by Handel as well as a beautiful modern choral work, 'Laudate' by Cecilia McDowall and then the great 'Nelson Mass' by Haydn.

It was a huge privilege to be able to sing in such a large choir. Many thanks to Richard Robbins, our Musical Director, and Anthony Merryweather, our Accompanist, who have rehearsed us so diligently this term.

After Easter we will be preparing for our Summer Concert on Saturday 15 July. We are

so pleased to be back to St Nicolas Church, Bookham this year and will be presenting a delightful programme of music. The concert, 'Sun, Moon, Sea and Movie Stars' will include 'Sun Moon, Sea and Stars' by Bob Chilcott and some memorable melodies from the Silver Screen. We look forward to seeing you all there.

If you would like to join the choir, please visit [www.bookhamchoralsociety.co.uk](http://www.bookhamchoralsociety.co.uk) You would be made very welcome.

**Cheryl Mendham**

# Great Bookham Pre-School

## Opening of Great Bookham Pre-School



We are delighted to announce that Great Bookham Pre-School is now officially open and accepting children from their 3rd birthday. The newly refurbished pre-school is based within the grounds of Great Bookham School

and benefits from the extensive facilities on offer, including our Forest School, library, and allotment area. As a headteacher, I am thrilled to be able to lead and offer this provision to the local community and have every aspiration that our pre-school will be a wonderful addition to the other successful early years settings in Bookham and beyond.

At Great Bookham Pre-School, we truly understand the importance of valuing each child as a unique individual and the power of a positive early years experience. We are committed to ensuring that every child who attends our setting will be in receipt of the highest quality early years practice, rooted in love, nurture and care .

If you would like to tour our new setting or

would like any further information then please contact the school office who will arrange a tour of the pre-school, and wider school if wanted, with the headteacher.

Contact details: [info@gbs.sfet.org.uk](mailto:info@gbs.sfet.org.uk)

**Jenna Allen**



# Bookham Open Gardens Day – Sunday 25th June, 10am – 5pm



Do come and join in this annual event where typically over 700 people enjoy going round the village, meeting friends and neighbours along the way. This year we have around 11 varied and attractive private gardens to share with you, all but two opening for the first time! This year we are extending out into Fetcham so two of the gardens are at the far end of Lower Road but we promise you they'll be worth the journey. We will be joined by Polesden Lacey Infants School, Manor House School, Little Bookham Allotments and The Grange's Walled Garden.

Our open gardens come in all shapes and sizes, from the formal to more laid-back planting, and some with wildlife friendly planting and habitats. You'll see fruit and vegetable plots in some of the gardens too.

Find out more about individual gardens in the programme which will be available at our ticket outlets or can be downloaded from mid-May from our website at [www.bookhamopengardens.co.uk](http://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. We will be serving our normal delicious home-baked cakes, rolls and drinks throughout the day at the Hall. and do buy some plants whilst you're there. Once again the Country Market will have some produce and crafts available.

Plants should be available to buy at a number of the gardens.

Since there's no minibus service, why not cycle around, share a car, or just see how far you get walking? As you walk between gardens, do look out for beautifully decorated Blue Hearts, indicating a verge of lovely flowers to attract pollinators that are so important for biodiversity.

**Tickets on sale from 1st June: £7 in advance from**

- Online at [www.bookhamopengardens.co.uk](http://www.bookhamopengardens.co.uk)
- The Vineries Garden Centre, Lower Rd, Effingham (event sponsors)
- Brackenburys, 17a High Street
- Bookham Quick Stop, New Parade, Leatherhead Rd (next to Esso garage)
- Old Barn Hall office, Church Rd, KT23 3PQ. Tel: 01372 456307 (open Mon, Wed, Fri 9:30 - noon)
- Village Day, Sat 17th June, on the field

**On the day** you can buy tickets (£8) 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). Regret no dogs, other than assistance dogs.

Contactless payment will again be available at the Old Barn Hall and on Village Day. 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](http://www.bookhamopengardens.co.uk), look for 'Bookham Open Gardens' on Facebook, or

contact Brenda Kent on 01372 453952 / Email: [bnb.selworthy@btinternet.com](mailto:bnb.selworthy@btinternet.com)

BOOKHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION – Registered Charity No. 1148881

Diane Poole

# Village Day Programme - Saturday

- 11.15am The fancy dress Parade of local groups assemble in the High Street
- 11.40am The Parade moves off down Church Road to the Old Barn Hall Field

## Taking part in the Parade

Jason Wright's vintage Austin 7  
Leatherhead Lions' Float  
Bus Stop Pre-school  
Peter Pan Playschool  
Polesden Lacey Playschool  
Rainbow Pre-school  
Eastwick Infant School  
Polesden Lacey Infant School  
Great Bookham School

## In the Arena


- 11.30am Mole Valley Silver Band
- 12 noon Presentation of the trophies to the Parade group winners and Runners-up plus announcing winners of the best dressed stalls
- 12.05pm Mole Valley Silver Band
- 12.35pm Eastwick School
- 12.45pm Great Bookham School
- 12.55pm Polesden Lacey Infant School
- 1.05pm The Natalie Goodacre Trio
- 1.25pm Action Theatre
- 1.40pm Primary Covers Band
- 2.10pm The Natalie Goodacre Trio
- 2.30pm Primary Covers Band
- 3.00pm The Natalie Goodacre Trio
- 3.15pm Primary Covers Band
- 4.00 Close

THE VINERIES  
Lower Road  
Effingham  
Surrey  
KT24 5JP



**SPONSOR**  
**BOOKHAM VILLAGE DAY**  
AND OPEN GARDEN

*Extensive Stocks of High Quality*  
*All grown on our nurseries*  
*1000's of Shrubs, Trees, Perennials*  
*Come and visit our Coffee*



**BOOKHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
*Bringing people together*

Village Day is run by Bookham Community Centre with the help of our affiliated clubs and societies of the public. Money raised from the day will be used to improve the Old Barn Hall and its facilities.



# Saturday 17 June 2023 - On Safari



Telephone  
01372 458934

## VILLAGES OF BOOKHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

### VILLAGES OF BOOKHAM VILLAGE DAY

Geraniums & Bedding Plants  
... here in Effingham  
... Herbs & Mediterranean Plants  
... Shop and Restaurant



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
*people together*  
...m Community Association  
...rganisations and members  
...is used to maintain and  
...nd publish the Bookhams

## What can you do at Village Day?

- **Small animal and duck handling** *with Bocketts Farm*
- Conquer the **Last Man Standing** *with Churches Together of Bookham*
- Ride the **Bucking Bronco** *by Elios & DiCarlos Hairdreassing*
- Try your skill *with Curchods* **Coconut Shy**
- **Magic and children's fun** *with Donner Optometrists*
- Win a cuddly toy on the **Toy Tombola**
- **Tea Cup Ride...Hoop La...Football shooting Game**
- **Bungee Trampolines** in the front car park
- ...and many more stalls, games and displays

## Food & Drink

- **Real Ale Bar** with even more cask beer
- **Silent Pool Gin Stall**
- **Lunches & Teas with delicious cakes in the main hall**
- **Taste of Texas Barbecue in the field**
- **Mantio Ice Creams**
- **Candyfloss, sweets plus soft drinks** *by Tesco*

## In the Arena

- **Displays by Schools and Clubs**
- **Music from Mole Valley Silver Band, Primary Covers & The Natalie Goodacre Trio**



## 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](mailto:keithslark@tiscali.co.uk)

# Peter Pan Playschool



As the Spring Term comes to an end, we've had lots of fun around Easter. We made pancakes for Shrove Tuesday using a vegan recipe which the children all enjoyed eating. We made Easter cards using cotton buds and paint to make spotty patterns and stripes on a template, and then wrote some messages inside.

Later in the week we went on a walk to the local postbox to send these cards home via Royal Mail – the children have really enjoyed receiving their cards when the post arrives at home! Making meaningful marks is an important pre-writing skill, so this was a really fun way to introduce this.

We were also lucky enough to have a short service in Eastwick Road Church, where we

watched a short clip of the story "Little Bird" which we'd been reading at playschool. We learned how Easter is a time to celebrate new life and that we have Easter eggs to represent this. We'd been making clay Easter nests for group time, and the knitting group at the church had made the children a little Easter basket with some chocolate eggs inside which was a very special treat to take home!

For parents looking ahead to register at playschool, we have closed the waiting list for September 2023 and are already taking enquiries for September 2024, so please do get in touch as early as possible to secure your child's place.



Peter Pan Playschool is an inclusive pre-school setting, which cares for children from 2 years old until school age. We offer weekday morning sessions 9.10-12.10 during term time, with optional extended hours until 1.10 and 2.40 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. We accept Government FEET and FEE funding as well as the extended 30 hours funding. To find out more about us please take a look at our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/PeterPanPlayschool](http://www.facebook.com/PeterPanPlayschool) and our website [www.peterpanplayschool.co.uk](http://www.peterpanplayschool.co.uk) Or send us an email at [peterpanplayschool@gmail.com](mailto:peterpanplayschool@gmail.com) or call us on 07908 018924 and Louise and the staff team will be happy to answer any questions.



# Mole Valley Indoor Bowling Club

## MVIBC players at Inter County level

A team of our members has been very successful in selection to join other Surrey players in the Over 60 Inter County Finals, held at Nottingham. The opposition was a team from Norfolk. The Surrey team won on three rinks out of six but unfortunately not with sufficient points to take the Finals Cup. Roll on next year!

In addition to this, the club is doing very well in the East Surrey Mixed League with good teams of ladies and gents playing in a range of venues throughout the season.

ESML League Table to 31st March 2023

ESML League Table to 31st March 2023								
Club	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Shots			Total Points
					F	A	Diff	
Mole Valley	10	5		5	601	576	25	65
Donyngs	10	6		4	585	532	53	64
OCBC	9	5		4	513	572	-59	52
Sutton	8	3	1	4	403	415	-12	46
Croydon	8	5	1	2	444	403	41	57
KGF	7	2		5	382	431	-49	26

Club internal competitions have reached their final rounds, with play-offs in April, and once again Bookham members have had a strong representation. We hope there will be plenty of club members, family and friends coming to the club - supporting these competitions and



enjoying the facilities during the finals weekend.

The busy season of indoor bowling ends in April. However, an increasing number of MVIBC members continue to enjoy their indoor bowling throughout the summer - all part of their annual fee.

The summer leagues run on as roll-up sessions every Tuesday and Thursday morning, and due to the increasing interest - new summer competitions have been organised with other indoor clubs. Further details will be on the club notice boards and website.

Interested!

**The big event of annual MVIBC recruitment runs on each Saturday morning in September between 10am and 1pm**

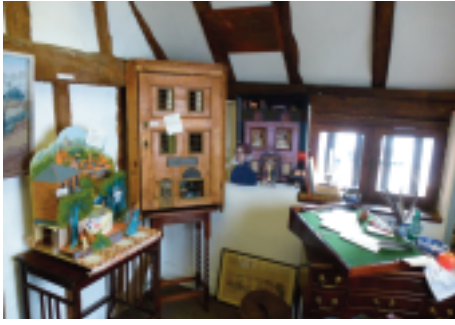
On these recruitment days we will offer our visitors a free casual introduction to indoor bowling. It's so easy to enjoy and meet new friends.

If you would like to find out more about indoor bowling at MVIBC – please visit our website at [www.mvibc.co.uk](http://www.mvibc.co.uk) or email [mail4mvibc@gmail.com](mailto:mail4mvibc@gmail.com)

The club is located within Leatherhead Leisure Centre with adequate free nearby parking for members. You will find that indoor bowling provides a different level of challenge for **everyone, at all ages**, in a comfortable environment and the opportunity to make new friends – all at a very reasonable cost.

M Mackie

# Leatherhead Museum



All six of Jane Austen's classic Regency period novels are set in southern England and while she is mostly associated with Hampshire, Bath and points west of here, she personally stayed in Bookham, mentions Boxhill by name, and is thought to have based her novel Emma in Leatherhead, while renaming it "Highbury".

As she lived from 1775 to 1817, she is very likely to have passed the same Hampton Cottage which now houses the Leatherhead Museum in Church Street. No wonder then that the brand new exhibition opened there from April this year is Jane Austen's

Leatherhead, and the museum's new Curator, Cathy Brett, and her team are aiming to add the area to the international trail of locations followed by Austen enthusiasts from across the world.

The exhibition in the museum's Hollis Room includes period costumes made and worn by The LiterARTY Collective in 'A Regency Happening' an event staged during last year's Mole Valley Heritage Week. The show also features artworks, photographs, videos, maps, illustrations and artefacts from the museum's archives.

Cathy's research along with fellow artist Lucy Quinnell has produced evidence to support Leatherhead as the real life Highbury and visitors to the exhibition are encouraged to contribute their own thoughts on actual local people and places that may have inspired the novelist more than 200 years ago. A series of linked outreach projects include 'Walking in Jane Austen's Footsteps', a guided walk around locations that may have inspired 'Emma'.

The Hollis Room is just one of six newly transformed rooms presenting the rich heritage of the Leatherhead district. Cathy says: "We are custodians of a wonderful collection, gathered by our predecessors, and we must share this valuable resource with the town. The museum is the interface between collection and community. Through our displays of artefacts, themed exhibits and events, we are taking the 'Story of Leatherhead' to the whole community."



# The Plastic Free Bookham Project



Since the beginning of the year we've been doing the groundwork for recruiting more Community Allies, approaching a number of local organisations who are now considering signing our Plastic Free Pledge. Our Community Ally objective is now 70% complete, with six more allies needed. If you run a local group and would like to get involved, contact us at [pfbookham@gmail.com](mailto:pfbookham@gmail.com).

We've also talked to a number of small-medium independent businesses about the possibility of becoming Business Champions. If you're interested in helping us meet our objective, please visit the business page on the Plastic Free Communities website <https://plasticfree.org.uk/get-involved/business/>

or email us for more information at the above email address.

In March we attended an away day run by Surrey Climate Commission, an independent community interest group set up to help all organisations across the county contribute to reducing the effects of climate change. The away day was attended by members of Surrey and local councils, local businesses, environmental charities and groups. The aim was to discuss areas that the Commission is already working on and what else it could do. You can find out about the Commission's work at [www.surreyclimate.org.uk](http://www.surreyclimate.org.uk) and read more about the wider network of climate commissions across the UK at [pcancities.org.uk](http://pcancities.org.uk)

The away day was held at Zero Carbon Guildford ([www.zerocarbondguildford.org](http://www.zerocarbondguildford.org)) and

there was much excitement post-lunch when we heard that the Prime Minister had congratulated the initiative on its recent sustainability award in response to a question from Guildford's MP! If you're in the town a visit is highly recommended for its vegan cafe, refill shop, lots of information on environmental matters and regular events.

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

# Eastwick WI



Eastwick WI has enjoyed a good start to 2023. In January we welcomed Richard Griffin, a

former royal protection officer. He worked with several members of the royal family and had a warm relationship with the late Queen.

The following month our speaker was Lucy Quinnell from the Fire and Iron Gallery in Leatherhead. Her account of the history of blacksmithing and the development of ironwork to the present day was fascinating. The gallery now specialises in commemorative and artistic pieces such as the Dorking

cockerel and the gates at the Globe theatre. March's talk, by Rosemary Horton, was on climate change and we also heard about "Plastic free Bookham" from local activist Diane Poole. There was a popular second-hand book sale.

Eastwick WI is a lively friendly group and welcomes visitors and new members to its meetings in the Old Barn Hall on the third Wednesday evening of the month. Information is on our website : [eastwickwi.chessck.co.uk](http://eastwickwi.chessck.co.uk)

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# Bookham Afternoon Bridge Club

Bookham Bridge Club meet up on Monday and Thursday afternoons. We are pleased to report that growing numbers of our membership are returning to play face to face 'duplicate' bridge at the club.

We regularly see 20 – 21 tables of four playing bridge in the airy hall, which is great news now that hopefully, the worst of Covid is behind us. We have recently been able to hold several charity bridge events to support national and local charities. These include Children in Need, the Ukraine, Queen Elizabeth Foundation for the Disabled and The Grange.

We have also supported the Old Barn Hall funds where we play bridge in this lovely



period building. Well done Bookham Bridge Club members! We have had fun and excellent bridge along the way back to more normal times!

Pictured are Steve Lock & Alick Fraser, winning Best Pairs Score 2021/2022 and the BABC Committee members, Kate Castree (secretary),



Neil Higgins (Chairman) and Sue McDonald (Treasurer).

# The Grange

**Save The Date:** We will be celebrating our 85th Anniversary being based in Bookham with a Heritage Open Day on Saturday 16th September between 11am and 4pm. Guided tours will cover the history of the site, the house and those who lived there. To make it an extra special occasion we also aim to have entertainment, games, music, activities for children, a puppet show, a tombola and a variety of refreshments, all whilst embracing this year's Heritage theme of 'unveiling creativity'. Entry will be free and everyone is invited. More details nearer the date.



## During Winter/Spring 2023

Some of our gardening team took a course on using leaf blowers and we are pleased to congratulate all 6 of them who worked hard but passed effortlessly in the end.

Our photography group travelled up to the 'Wildlife Photographer of the Year' exhibition at The Natural History Museum. They had a great day out and were inspired by all the amazing photos. The group will be using the trip as part of their experience for their ADSAN qualification.

Further creative projects have been undertaken including basket weaving, the creation of pottery gargoyles and in woodwork our well-known bird boxes.

Simply Scones has been going strong, with different flavours of the month and visits from various large groups including local WIs, The Sunbury Embroidery Gallery are the winners of our planning questionnaire competition which came to a close at the end of April. We

thank all those who took part in answering our questions regarding our Outdoor Learning and Community Centre. To find out more about it and to help us get the project underway you can sponsor the people we support who are taking part on May 20th's 5k Obstacle Colour Rush by visiting: <https://bit.ly/GrangeColourObstacle>

Our retail enterprise team has been busy creating new merchandise designs for our cards, homewares and embroidered items. Look out for us this Summer at Village Day where we will also have our fudge and plants for sale. With Father's Day on 18th June don't forget we have the perfect gifts and cards that can be bought online <https://bit.ly/GrangeFathersDay> or at our Shop@No.5 Church Road, Bookham.



# Bookham Litter Picking Group

The litter picking group meets on the 1st Sunday of the month, unless it is a bank holiday weekend, in which case it will meet on the 2nd Sunday. This is a change.

We meet at 11am at Lower Shott car park. After signing in, equipment is provided and



places to pick are allocated. We collect for about an hour. New members are warmly welcomed. You are not expected to come every month!

If you can't come on a Sunday, you might like to become a "Womble" - doing your own litter pick at a time convenient for you. Equipment can be provided for that.

Even if you haven't been before, you might like to join us on Sunday May 14th as part of The Big Help Out (which starts on May 8th.) Refreshments will be provided afterwards!



If you would like more information, contact me at [litterpicking@bookhamresidents.org](mailto:litterpicking@bookhamresidents.org)

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# Surrey Artists

## Inspiring Art Near You This June

Your local artists have been busy creating amazing work over the past year and are delighted to be opening their studios between the 3rd to 18th of June as part of the annual Surrey Artists' Open Studios (SAOS) free event.

To help you plan your visits they have created "The Leatherhead Art Trail map" which shows the locations of four studios displaying hundreds of original artworks including landscapes, abstract art, sculptures, and

illustration by 8 local artists from Leatherhead, Fetcham, and Bookham.

It's a fantastic opportunity to meet the artists and ask questions, buy direct from the artists, or take part in a workshop to learn a new skill. There will be something for everyone!

You can find the full SAOS brochure in the local library and various shops and cafés in the area, including the Country Market at the Old Barn Hall every Friday morning for you to pick up nearer the time.

For further information, please visit [www.surreyopenstudios.org.uk](http://www.surreyopenstudios.org.uk) where you can also find out more about the artists, their work and contact details.

Look out for and follow the orange signage!

We look forward to welcoming you to our studios.

Anna, Cathy, Debbie, Gill, Hugh, Imogen, Jill and Tania

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Saturday	3	3	3	3	
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Studios Open 11am-5pm, Evenings until 9pm

**2023 SAOS**  
surrey artists open studios  
[surreyopenstudios.org.uk](http://surreyopenstudios.org.uk)

# Mole Valley WI

Our speaker in January, Mario Creatura, took us on a virtual tour of No 10 Downing Street which has 100 rooms! Mario has been working there as a Special Advisor to Theresa May and involved with all aspects of social media. The talk was a mix of humour, history and amazing information about the working life of the house and its occupants.

February was our birthday month and we started the evening with a glass of fizz. Our president took a vote on which social event we would like to plan and we have decided to have a Murder Mystery evening on 10th June. After tea and cake we were then entertained

by the Tony Bevan Jazz Band.

On a lovely February morning our gardening groups went on organised tour to Gatton Park to see the snowdrops. After the tour there was coffee and cake and then time to look around the gardens at leisure.

We are looking forward to more interesting meetings including Arts and Crafts Gardens and Richmond Park. Information about Mole Valley is on our website [molevalleywi.chessck.co.uk](http://molevalleywi.chessck.co.uk) so why not join us on the second Tuesday of the month where we would make you most welcome.



# RSPB

## MAY DAWN CHORUS

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. 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 heats up, male birdsong reaches its zenith 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 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.

The tawny owl hoots as it retires to its daytime roost in a large tree after a night of hunting. Not long after, a robin begins to sing. Then every robin competes. Blackbirds soon join in with their melodies. Robins and blackbirds have large pupils and so see more at dawn and dusk than most garden birds.

Chaffinches pigeons and doves are heard next. Then the others join the chorus in rapid succession. The dawn chorus is an experience not a tutorial, so don't expect to learn to identify birdsong during the dawn chorus.



Lots of individuals of every species are all singing at once in a glorious cacophony.

More information can be found at:

Facebook: RSPB Dorking and District

Website:

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

Email: [rspborking@gmail.com](mailto:rspborking@gmail.com)

## The Arts Society Bookham



In February we celebrated our 20th Anniversary with a coffee morning in the Old Barn Hall. The Society was launched in January 2003 by John Tiffney who persuaded a group of friends to form what was then called the Decorative and Fine Arts Society. One of the original group, Judy Money, remains as a committee member and baked the excellent cake, iced by chairman Angela Stevens, that we enjoyed with our coffee. Angela thanked all committee members who had worked for the Society over the years. She reminded us not to forget those who provide refreshments and those who in the dark and cold of winter to assist with car parking.

Meanwhile the full monthly programme continued in March with an informative, fully illustrated account by Julian Halsby of John Singer Sargent. A lighter note in April, 'an untold story of Carry On actor Peter



Butterworth and his wife Janet Brown' by their son Tyler.

In May the life of Ivor Novello 'Master of the Romantic Waltz song and so much more' will be given by John Snelson. The development of London's luxury hotels is the subject of our June lecture by Simon Whitehouse, 'Putting on the Ritz'. July will see a talk about the owners and makers of Rococo Silver by Ralph Hoyle.

A day visit to the Bournemouth seaside in June will allow us to visit the Russell-Coates Art Gallery and Museum. Later, in July, we have been invited by our neighbour society at Leatherhead to join them in a visit to Longford Castle to view the collection of early portraits,

porcelain and tapestries.

Members in May have an excursion to view the 'Houses and Heritage of Devon'. Later in the year we visit the Mediterranean and learn about 'The History of Western Sicily and Palermo'.

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

John Cook



# Bookham Flower Club



In a break from tradition, Bookham Flower Club started the New Year with an afternoon tea and quiz. There was also a large Bring and Buy stall which was very well supported and the proceeds were donated to MacMillan Nurses. It was a good time to socialise, pick up a bargain and test our knowledge!



Carol Ferris was the demonstrator at our February meeting, her title being "Wish you were here again". Her clever designs illustrated Monet's Garden, Wisley Gardens, Kew Gardens Orchid Festival, Venice and Beth Chatto's garden - a gravel garden in Essex.

The March meeting was our AGM which followed a delicious lunch provided by a local caterer. Our Chairman, Christine Martin, retired after four interesting and unusual years in post. The Club is indebted to her for all her hard work and leadership, and she was presented with a beautiful glass vase as a token of the club's appreciation. Pat Crawford was voted in as the new Chairman and presented with her badge of office. Emma Sweeny stepped down from her Presidency, Christine now taking over this honorary position. Pat outlined the next year's programme which promises some excellent entertainment.

We are looking forward to our club's Floral Design Show at The Old Barn Hall on Saturday 1st July. There has been much preparation for this event to which the public are invited to enjoy the artistry of the designs on the theme

of "Let's Celebrate". The club will be celebrating its Diamond Anniversary this year. The Show will be open for viewing from 12.30 pm and finishes at 5.30 pm. There will be an entry fee of £5 but children under 12 years old can enjoy the show free of charge. Cream teas will also be available. We look forward to you joining us to help us celebrate.

**Bookham Flower Club**  
Presents its  
**Diamond Anniversary**  
**Floral Design Show**  
**"Let's Celebrate"**

Please help us celebrate by joining us for a truly relaxing afternoon, losing yourself in the scents and colours of spectacular flower displays and taking time to enjoy a delicious cream tea at

**The Old Barn Hall**  
**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023**  
**12.30pm.....5.30pm**  
**Admission £5**  
**Children under 12 years old free**

# Bookham Stamp Club



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

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

## Sell your stamp collection

We are interested in purchasing unwanted collections, but at the moment there is a temporary suspension of this "service" until a replacement is found, as our former Trading Secretary has retired. Nevertheless, please contact the Secretary Barry Feltham for the latest by email and he will return your enquiry: [secretary@bookhamstampclub.com](mailto:secretary@bookhamstampclub.com)

## 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 50 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](http://www.bookhamstampclub.com)

## Our recent meetings

In January, we had 'Members Day'. A one pager which brought a whole range of topics. In the second half member Henry Coward showed us his collection of Machins. February brought us Fred Hoadley and his display on Switzerland

We were treated to a special afternoon in March, delivered by our distinguished guest speaker, Michael Sefi, (pictured) the former keeper of the Queen's collection. Michael displayed the various aspects of the Downey Head issue. Much of the material shown formed part of an international Gold Medal exhibit in 2001. The second half Michael displayed 'Transatlantic Post Office' covers and postcards from 1905 to 1914 from on board cruise liners.

## Our upcoming meetings

- Tuesday 23 May – AGM & Mini Auction
- Tuesday 27 June – Richard Hewitt – Scottish Airmails
- Tuesday 25th July – John Davies – A Philatelic History of the 1890 Penny Postage Jubilee

**We welcome experienced stamp collectors and newcomers.**

**Barry Feltham**  
**Hon. Secretary**  
[www.bookhamstampclub.com](http://www.bookhamstampclub.com)

# Effingham and Leatherhead RFC:

**A thriving rugby club for all ages and abilities**



Effingham and Leatherhead RFC, known as the Eagles, is a friendly, community rugby club. Over the summer we'll be enjoying a well-deserved rest after a season of incredibly rewarding rugby, but we'll also be looking ahead to the 2023/24 season.

The Eagles Minis is a vibrant and important section of the club and we're looking forward to welcoming a new intake of young players. Running from Reception (U5) through to Year 6 (U11), this section of the club is home to over 200 boys and girls experiencing the sport for the first time. They start with non-contact tag rugby, learning fundamental ball and

coordination skills, and move through to a 9-a-side, contact version of the sport. New rules are introduced gradually, through fun and challenging games – and importantly the players make lifelong friends as they start their rugby journey.

The Minis graduate to join the Juniors section of the club after their U11 season, and the players start the next phase of their rugby journey. The Eagles Juniors (U12-U18) are a thriving part of the club and we often welcome an influx of new players of all abilities at this stage, who might be trying rugby at senior school for the first time. Across all age groups, this year's Juniors are competing really well in their Surrey Rugby cup competitions, with all age groups taking part in finals days at the end of April.

When the 2023/24 season begins, our Senior team will be fighting for promotion in a new Surrey league, and the Rugby World Cup also starts on 8th September. We will be showing all of the big games in our clubhouse, with

special social rugby membership available so everyone can enjoy the spectacle as a Rugby Community! There's never been a better time to get involved in rugby, so why not get in touch via the email addresses below, visit our website or pop down to see us.

[www.eaglesrugby.club](http://www.eaglesrugby.club)

U6-U11: [minischairman@eaglesrugby.club](mailto:minischairman@eaglesrugby.club)

U12-U18: [justin@tomorrowadvertising.com](mailto:justin@tomorrowadvertising.com)

Adult contact/touch rugby:  
[chairman@eaglesrugby.club](mailto:chairman@eaglesrugby.club)



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or telephone Roger on 01372 456307

Click 'Bookings' on our website [www.bookhamcommunityassociation.org](http://www.bookhamcommunityassociation.org)

Check out our website on

**[www.bookhamcommunityassociation.org](http://www.bookhamcommunityassociation.org)**

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

Make sure you keep your organisation's details up to date and

let us know if you have an event coming up.



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## Contact us to enquire about availability

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