



WISHING ALL OUR PUPILS A SUCCESSFUL NEW SCHOOL YEAR

FRIENDS OF PIRBRIGHT SURGERY

'Making the most of our NHS' is the title of an Open Meeting to be presented by The Friends of Pirbright Surgery at Pirbright School on Thursday 14th September at 7pm.

Everyone is welcome to come along and hear speakers talking about what specialists attached to the Surgery can do for us, such as Social Prescribers, Community Pharmacists, Physiotherapists, and the Bedser Hub.

There will also be an opportunity for visitors to talk to these and other experts individually about a wide variety of local supporting services, and the benefits of appropriate exercise for mental and physical health. Parking will be available at the school for those less able to walk, with additional parking in the village



Cat care

I took my cat to the vet. "I'm afraid she swallowed a ball of wool," I confessed. "Ah, that would explain it," said the vet, "she appears to be having mittens."



PIRBRIGHT WI - Garden Coffee Morning

We are holding a fund-raising Garden Coffee Morning in aid of the Fountain Centre, our charity of the year, on Friday 22nd September 10 30 am - 12 30 pm in the garden of Linda Wynne's home, York Cottage, Pirbright Green GU240JT - under cover if wet.

All are welcome, come on your own or bring a friend or two. Entry is by donation for refreshments. There will be a Raffle and a Bring and Buy Stall (all contributions welcome - books, jigsaws, bric a brac, spare garden produce etc).

The Fountain Centre is a small independent charity located in St Luke's Cancer Centre at the Royal Surrey County Hospital with some therapeutic services also at Frimley Park and Ashford St Peter's Hospitals. It provides information and support for those living with and beyond cancer. It offers advice, counselling, complementary therapies, support groups, bereavement support, yoga, meditation, creative arts and beauty workshops.

Members meeting - 'Courage and conviction: the Englishwomen who rescued Jews in WW2' by Joanna Bogle is our talk this month on Tuesday September 19th at 7pm in the Club Room in Lord Pirbright's Hall. Visitors are always welcome.

The WI are still serving refreshments on Thursday mornings 10am to 11.15am at the Country Market *Irene Dredge 01483 233279 irenedredge@outlook.com*

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH



Just a thought.....

Tortoise...or Hare?

When you reach what the French so charmingly refer to as 'a certain age' something rather odd seems to happen. Gone are those long summer days of our childhood, when the school holidays stretched endlessly ahead of us. Now, being well past that 'certain age', I find myself wondering where on earth the days, weeks and months have gone. And I'm sure I'm not alone in wishing everything would slow down just a bit. Life seems to be happening at breakneck speed around me, and even with the best will in the world I struggle to complete my daily 'to-do' list.

It seems that the days when I could find the time to 'stand and stare' are gone for good. I would be the first to admit that I am a bit of a dreamer; I love to find a comfy place to sit and just think, to step outside the world rushing past me and perhaps consider one of those deep and often unanswerable questions,

such as: what is life really all about?;

What are we doing here?...is this really all there is?

As you read this, I will – God willing – be on a tiny and very remote Hebridean island enjoying walks in truly fresh air, taking in the amazing views, spending time reading (or writing), chatting with my travelling companions (and probably enjoying a wee dram of the local spirits).

But I will also be spending some time – no, *making* time to spend with the God who created such beauty.

There are many passages from the Bible that I treasure; but the one that came to me during the recent Prayer Course, and the one that comes to me particularly on that beautiful 'thin place' is, 'Be still, and know that I am God' (Psalm 46:10).

But to be still we have to *slow down*.

Believe me, it's not just my advancing years that make me a tortoise; life is far too short and precious to rush it.

Revd Gary Williamson



Out of the mouths of babes....

The Vicar's daughter was watching intently as her daddy sat at his desk working.

Child "What are you doing Daddy?"

Vicar "I'm writing my Just a Thought piece for PeriNews."

Child "How do you know what to write Daddy?"

Vicar "I ask God to help me and He tells me what to write."

Pause....

Child "So why do you keep crossing bits out, Daddy?"



CONTACTS

Vicar: Rev George Watkinson georgealbionwatkinson@gmail.com 07711944327

Churchwardens: Helen Whitworth helen-churchwarden@pirbrightchurch.org.uk 07777 659138 and Julia Douetil julia-churchwarden@pirbrightchurch.org.uk

07718 610494 **Church Administrator:** Heidi Gower admin@pirbrightchurch.org.uk

07984323709 **Website:** www.pirbrightchurch.org.uk

ALPHA COURSE

Do you have questions about the Christian faith which you've never had answered? Would you just like to know more about what Christians believe, and how it influences their lives? The eight week Alpha Course is a no- obligation opportunity to explore Christianity, to discuss, ask questions and find out more over a light meal in relaxed company. The course will run through the Spring term, so look out for more information in future editions. We hope you will join us and bring a friend. In the meantime if you would like to know more about Alpha please go to <https://alpha.org/about/>



29th September is Michaelmas, the feast day of St Michael and All Angels

Michael is an archangel, whose name means 'who is like unto God?' He makes various appearances throughout the Bible, from the book of Daniel to the Book of Revelation. In Daniel, he is 'one of the princes' of the heavenly host, and the special guardian of Israel. In Revelation, he is the principal fighter of the heavenly battle against the Devil.

In art Michael is often depicted as slaying the dragon, as in the 14th century East Anglian Psalters, or in Epstein's famous sculpture at Coventry cathedral. Or he is found (in medieval art) as weighing souls, Michael's most famous shrine in western Europe is Mont-Saint-Michel, where a Benedictine abbey was founded in the 10th century.

Michaelmas



In medieval England, Michaelmas marked the end of the farming year, when the harvest was over, and the bailiff or reeve of the manor would be making out the accounts for the year. It became one of the 'quarter days', when accounts had to be settled. On manors, it was the day when a reeve (foreman) was elected from the peasants. Michaelmas hiring fairs were held at the end of September or beginning of October, enabling labourers to find work for the year ahead. Michaelmas is still a significant dates marking the terms in the judicial, financial and academic year.

CUNNINGHAM HOUSE

The start of September will see many young Pirbrighters begin the next phase of their education/career path, which may be college, university, an apprenticeship or maybe diving straight into the job market. I wonder how many are planning to become a carer for elderly people. It is a career which is often overlooked and undervalued yet can be so rewarding; not in monetary value but in making a difference to an older person's life. Working at Cunningham House for the last 14 years has shown me that old age brings both physical and mental challenges, but a little support from our lovely self-employed carer as well as peer support from fellow residents makes a huge difference to their well-being.

Lucy



PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL



Parish Councillor Elected

The Council would like to announce that Mrs Lindsay Graham became the seventh Parish Councillor on Wednesday 9th August 2023 having been elected by a majority vote of residents. The Council would like to thank all those who voted and explain that Parish elections are non-political. The Parish Council was not permitted to give out any information about the candidates prior to the election, other than their names. Campaigning is the responsibility of the candidates themselves.

As you will have read in previous articles, local residents formally contacted GBC to call for an election when the vacancy arose in June. This election has resulted in a cost to the Parish Council of £3,300.

Councillors have three main areas of work:

- Decision-making: attending meetings and committees with other elected members, Councillors decide which activities to support, where money should be spent, what services should be delivered and what policies should be implemented;
- Monitoring: Councillors make sure that their decisions lead to efficient and effective services by keeping an eye on how well things are working;
- Getting involved locally: as local elected

representatives, Councillors have responsibilities towards their parishioners and local organisations. Having been Clerk for over 20 years, Lindsay will be a very capable Councillor. Being a voice for the community can affect real change and although the role requires dedication and is certainly time-consuming we are sure Lindsay will not regret putting herself forward to serve her community. Attending a council meeting is the best way to find out what the Parish Council is all about. Members of the public are welcome to attend all meetings of the Council and may address the Council about any matter of concern during the first ten minutes of the meeting.



A calendar of forthcoming meetings is on the Parish website and the Clerk is always available to answer queries or help in any way she can (contact details below).

Pirbright Parish Council

Chair: Steve Fidgett, sfidgett@pirbright-pc.gov.uk 07785 978817

Parish Clerk: Helen Myers, clerk@pirbright-pc.gov.uk 07485 411214

Parish website www.pirbright-pc.gov.uk

Lord Pirbright's Hall Catherine Loots lph@pirbright-pc.gov.uk 07494 485056

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

If you would like to hear about your Committee's visit to the Western Front during August when we traced Pirbrighters' graves and memorials, please join us at the Fox Inn, Fox Corner at 8pm on Monday, 11th September. *Anne Hawkins 01252 404276*

RAWLINS CLUB

Our next meeting is on Friday 8th September 2.00 - 4.00pm in Lord Pirbright's Hall. The talk will be 'Queen Victoria and Prince Albert: Rulers, Partners and Rivals' by Dr Judy Hill. *Denise Granger 01483 472070*

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SHOW RESULTS



Thank you to everyone who supported our Annual Show, all our exhibitors and those who brought stalls to the hall grounds. The prizewinners are:

The Briant Perpetual Cup for the highest number of points in section A (cut flowers) Shared by Jadwiga Grimshaw & Pam Talbot.

The Dowling Perpetual Cup for the highest number of points in section B (vegetables) Denise Granger.

The Rawlins Perpetual Cup for the highest number of points in section C (soft fruit) Denise Granger.

The Sayers Centenary Cup for the highest number of points in section D (pot plants) Philip Barralet.

Section E - Club Challenge - Elaine Kelly

Section F - Exemption Class - Jadwiga Grimshaw

Bernard Rose Perpetual Salver for the best single entry in all the Horticultural classes David Burch

The Jim Rice Trophy for the best collection of vegetables David Burch

The RHS Banksian Medal for the highest number of points in the whole of the horticultural classes Denise Granger

The Fairs Perpetual Cup for the highest number of points in Floral Art (classes 72 - 79) Anne Bowles

The Muriel Slorick Trophy for the Best Single entry in Floral Art (classes 72 - 79) Rosemary Read.

The Mamie Grover Trophy (People's Choice) for the best exhibit (classes 72 - 79) Wendy Kinder

The Fairs Trophy for the highest number of points (Handicraft) Classes 80 - 92 Irene Price

The Godwin Austin Cup for the Best single entry in classes 80 - 92 Irene Price

The Moonraker Cup for cookery (classes 93 -106) Jonathan Nel

The Ron Douglas Cup for the best single entry in class 106 (Men only) Julian Didyk

The Lyle Perpetual Cup (Boys and Girls) for the highest number of points in classes 107 - 117 Olive Lynch

The Carr Cup (Boys and Girls) for the best single entry in classes 107 - 111 Rose Ruby-Smith

The Marguerite Suter Trophy (Boys and Girls) best single entry in classes 112 - 116 Olive Lynch

The Faggeter Cup (Boys and Girls) for First place in Class 117 Archie Evans

Congratulations to all prizewinners!

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 12th September at 7.30 in the Clubroom of Lord Pirbright's Hall when our speaker will be Andrew Halstead talking on 'Beneficial insects in the garden' Do come and join us.

Philip Barralet

PIRBRIGHT HISTORIANS

When we came to Pirbright some 50 years ago, I thought that the village was historically fairly 'recent'; sandy scrubland hard-won from the heath by stubborn medieval peasants. However, this photo is of a Neolithic tranchet axe head found near Kiln Hill on Pirbright Common by the late Peter Netherton, and a dig in the 1990s at the Manor House found Roman and Iron Age pottery sherds and fragments of struck flint. To find evidence of early settlement in such unlikely places seemed amazing, but, thinking on, perhaps Pirbright wasn't such a bad spot after all. There's water from the streams. On the Common there was flint and clay for pots, plenty of rabbits to eat, heather for thatch and ironstone on the Hogs Back for smelting (a lump of iron slag was unearthed near Kiln Hill). Thousands of years of history are just under our feet. Food for thought.....



Jonathan Foster : jonathan@pirbright.info .

PIRBRIGHT TENNIS CLUB



It was great to see the enthusiasm of the very young junior players with our new coach, Jack Hicklin, in the summer holidays. Starting young helps a lot to gain the skills needed for tennis. Contact Michael Jefferies for Junior or Senior Coaching: 07748 767339 or email: jefferiesmichael@hotmail.com

In spite of the rain we had a relaxed day of tennis and BBQ in the Jean Seager Tournament in July. Congratulations to the winners: Rupert Spurgeon and Alison Holman. Runners up: Colin Greenwood and Hilary Gower. Come and watch some of our best players in our 2023 Summer Tournament Club Champions Finals on Sunday 24th September from midday.

We've had some very enjoyable special Tuesday club nights with BBQ, wine, beer and Pimms during the summer. We hope to have more in the autumn and winter. Meanwhile all are welcome to come every Tuesday evening from 6:30pm for some friendly tennis.

See our website for activities throughout the week.

New members: please contact Fiona Robotham: info@pirbrighttennisclub.com

PIRBRIGHT CRICKET CLUB



From 35 male playing members in 2019 we now have 260 members from the local community playing across :

- Youth Cricket (100+ boys and 50+ girls and numbers growing)
- women (22),
- mid-week T20, merging adult and youth hard ball (35)
- walking cricket for the over 55's (20)

All this in addition to the Saturday League and Sunday Friendly team (33).

Whilst outdoors matches wrap up in late September, indoor winter nets allow techniques to be honed. All new members welcome whatever your ability or interest as player, supporter, coach, fundraiser or even as sponsor.

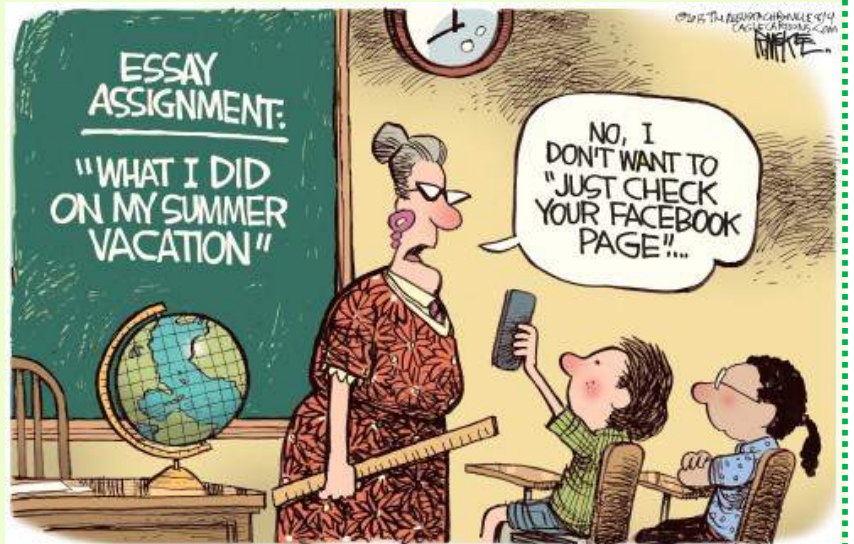
And finally...

Don't forget the English National Opera cricket match on Sunday 3rd September, a highlight of our cricketing year! Play is from 12:00 followed by musical performances and BBQ from 17:00 where all are welcome ... bring a chair !

Graeme Marks 07821 412138

SEPTEMBER GARDENING TIPS from Wellie

Bring in houseplants that were moved outside for the summer, before temperatures start to drop. Lift and divide congested clumps of perennials, once they have finished flowering. Plant spring bulbs such as daffodils, hyacinths and snake's-head fritillaries. Take cuttings of fuchsias, pelargoniums and salvias. Collect ripe seeds, store in envelopes and label ready to sow next year. Some varieties of broad beans and peas can be sown now so that you have an early crop next year. Plant onion sets and garlic bulbs. Spring cabbages and spinach can also be sown, but might need to be protected from frosts. Clear leaves shading pumpkins to help them to ripen for Halloween, and raise them off the ground to prevent them from rotting. Cut bean and pea plants at ground level after they have finished, leaving the roots in the ground as they will release nitrogen back into the soil as they break down. There is a technique that is being used more now which is 'Chop and drop'. Rather than pulling out annuals and cutting down perennials and putting on the compost heap or in your green waste bin, the idea is to cut the plants at ground level, chop up the stems and then leave on the beds to decompose where they are. This technique is thought to help reduce water loss from evaporation, slowly release nutrients back into the soil, save time and trips to the compost heap/bin, support soil life but if you prefer neat and tidy beds this idea might not be for you!



G'day Cousin Yell! Just thought I'd drop you a line, to let you know how things are going here in St Phillip's, Church, Sydney, in beautiful Australia. The weather is pretty much the same as you are getting back in Blighty, cool and showery, but it is only spring here and at least we have the summer to look forward to!

Like you, I have my paws full trying to run the church yard, keeping the bellringers under control, making sure the flower ladies are happy and checking that the biscuits for coffee after the service haven't gone stale. Luckily I don't have squabbling squirrels to sort out, here it's squawking cockatoos and laughing kookaburras that need a firm paw. The church mice can be pretty cheeky here too, but I guess that's the same the world over, right? I'm not one to boast, but my churchyard patrols have ensured that St Phillip's hasn't been bothered by a single dingo in all my tenure as guardian of the churchyard. I know what you're going to say - there aren't any dingoes in Sydney, but that just goes to show how effective my patrols are!

Sorry, must dash, there's a nasty outbreak of wombats in the vestry! See ya! Cousin Digger

CHURCHYARD CHRONICLES

PIRBRIGHT COMMUNITY CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2023

3	Sun	9:30am noon	Family service with Church Band, St Michael's Church ENO Cricket match & 17:00 musical BBQ
6	Wed	2:30pm	Scrabble at Cunningham House
8	Fri	2:00pm	Rawlins Club 'Queen Victoria and Prince Albert', LPH
10	Sun	9:30am	Holy Communion, St Michael's Church
11	Mon	8:00pm	Royal British Legion Meeting, The Fox Inn at Fox Corner
12	Tues	7:30pm	Horticultural Society 'Beneficial Insects', LPH
13	Wed	2:30pm	Craft circle at Cunningham House
14	Thur	7:00pm	Friends of Pirbright Surgery open meeting, the Primary School
17	Sun	9:30am	Holy Communion, St Michael's Church
19	Tues	10:15am 7:00pm	Mid-week Communion with Café Club, St Michael's WI members' meeting, 'Courage and Conviction', LPH
22	Fri	10:30am	WI Charity Garden Coffee Morning, York Cottage
24	Sun	9:30am noon	Holy Communion Service St Michael's Church Tennis Club Champions Finals, at the tennis club
26	Tues	10:00am	Craft Coffee and Chat in the Church Room
29	Fri		Michaelmas (see page 3)



Advice to husbands:

Try praising your wife now and then, even if it does startle her at first.

IT FIX

Passwords – either simple to remember (and therefore potentially guess) or so fiendishly complex and unrecallable as to render the account impregnable to anyone, including the legitimate owner. Is there a way to have what would look like a random collection of letters (and numbers and other symbols) in a format that is easily remembered?

Try this next time you need to create a password – think of a quote,



song lyric or other easily recalled phrase and use the first letter of each word E.g. Henry V Act 3 Scene 1 – 'Once more unto the breach dear friends, once more' becomes Omutbdf,om – a seemingly random collection of 10 characters. If a number is required then how about - Omutbdf,1m -. If Rick Astley is more your thing, how about Nggyu,ng1yd you get the gist. You'll be surprised how quickly you can generate and recall passwords created using this technique.

Richard Hyde

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