

Our lovely front covers are provided each month by Stan Venitt.

Our Magazine is printed by Rob and his Team from Barkers Print

in Dorking.



YOUR PHOTOS

Where have you been on your walks?

We would love to see you out on your walks! If you would like to send in your pictures to be considered for the Your Photos section of the magazine, please email them to capeleditor@gmail.com



Hi Neighbours - Sam Samuel



The Capel Market Every Other Saturday



Geese are not just for Christmas
Wammes



Sunset at Box Hill - Jo Dawes

Welcome from the editor...

You can never cross the ocean unless you have the courage to lose sight of the shore - Christopher Columbus

As I welcome you in to Issue 7 - I am amazed and proud we have completed a full 6 months of magazine! I sat the other day and placed them all out on the table and couldn't stop smiling! What a wonderful thing to be part of!

In this Issue, I wanted to think about people and courage.

In the dictionary courage is defined as: the choice and willingness to confront agony, pain, danger, uncertainty, or intimidation.

I think in the world that we live in today, courage is part of every day life. There are things that are always uncertain around us, yet we carry on and thrive in the environment we live in.

Courage is the commitment to begin without any Attending the Capel Market on Saturday showed me many different types of courage! Many people have started new business ventures or adapted their original ones - it is lovely to see so many people support one another and help them on their way to success.

Success is a strange word - and it means many guarantee of different things to many people, but we pride ourselves on our successes and this is offer the people remember about us.

As I reflect on the past 6 months being editor of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe the magazine, courage is always something that springs to mind.

Creating a new look to the 'orange mag' needed a lot of courage - there was a lot of uncertainty, without any guarantee of success - but look at where we are today.

The next part of our journey is to recruit a Fundraising Volunteer who would be willing to help create some fundraising opportunities to ensure the magazine carries on thriving and growing - if this is something you would be interested in helping with, please get in touch by emailing capeleditor@gmail.com

As always keep reading and I will see you all soon Corinne xx









Word on the Street for July 2021.....

We are now past the halfway mark for the year and things are slowly getting back to normal (well a new normal anyway). We partly expected the lockdown extension from that man Boris (who's he?) but glad we are not going backwards.

So looking forwards to this month, we have lots going on again.

Tuesday Nights are now Taco Tuesdays where we are serving lovely Mexican favourites (including margaritas, which apparently make you tipsy). On Tuesday 13th is our monthly quiz, feel free to come down and join in. This months charity is https://www.crohnscolitisfoundation.org/We will also be holding a coffee and cake morning for them on Wednesday the 28th.

A big thank you on behalf of St Catherine's Hospice for your kind support and generosity for last months charity drive. We raised over £1400.

The Capel Market has come to the village, every second Saturday from 8.30-11.30am in the carpark. Selling all sorts of goodies, farm to fork fresh groceries, spices, flowers, artisan cookies, and much more. July markets are 3rd, 17th and 31st.

Gin Club will be on Thursday the 22nd July, £10 per person for gin samples, cocktails and nibbles. Each month we sample a new craft gin and sometimes a few old favourites as well.

Saturday July 31st we are holding a No Years Eve party. This is to celebrate all the birthdays, anniversaries and events missed over the last 16 months. Tickets available from www.capelboxoffice.co.uk be sure to get in early as limited numbers available. Fantastic band starts at 8pm till late.

As always keep safe and well and see you all soon.





Liz's Letter



It may only be in rural or semi rural churches that the bride to be arrives in full wedding regalia astride her horse. This delightful event was the first of our 'wedding type' services in Capel this year. I say 'wedding type' as it was a service of blessing for a couple who are to be married abroad later this year. Our beautiful bride rode her horse who was resplendent in bridal rosettes woven into her mane from the Village Hall to the Lych Gate, swiftly dismounting to change her shoes, adjust her dress and off she strode to join her fiancee, family and friends waiting for her inside church. It was a very special occasion and one which we were pleased to be able to do for a local family who celebrated afterwards with a fabulous reception back at the village hall. Meanwhile over at St Margarets in Ockley we had our first proper wedding of the year. Not having officiated at a wedding since 2019 it was another great way of getting back into the wedding season so to speak. This was rather a special day as the bride and groom were two of our Ockley bellringers. In fact the groom had proposed to the bride during bell ringing practice with champagne waiting round the pillar! On the happy day the bride and groom wore 1940's vintage clothes, arriving this time not by horse but in a vintage MG and greeted awaiting friends and family in the churchyard before the service. The groom even found time to ring the bells before he took his marriage vows! We still cannot sing inside in church but this didn't stop the music as two amazing musicians Jon and Magda played 'Pelagia's song' on the mandolin as the bride and groom strode down the aisle! As numbers were still restricted for receptions at that point, instead we all enjoyed champagne and cake outside church afterwards. My favourite food!!

It just goes to show that despite restrictions and complications celebrations can still take place and can be used to provide an experience that we might not otherwise have had! Both services, the Service of Blessing at Capel and the Wedding at Ockley had to be resourceful, flexible, and simple. Both occasions (I think) were free of some of the stress that surrounds the culture of micro managed celebrations where if something goes wrong, which it inevitably can, it can appear a disaster. I'm sure we have all been there in one form or another! The other thing of course is that we have to be as flexible as church, as much as we can within certain legalities of course! You can be assured that your village churches try their very best to help with pastoral services and other occasions as much as we can. This of course applies to the funeral services we are privileged to assist with in Capel and Ockley and sadly in the last few weeks we have had to say farewell to some well known local friends this time in Capel. Once again restrictions have meant flexibility but with some very talented family

members we have witnessed some very beautiful musical moments amidst the amazing courage and inspiration of those who are grieving. It is incredible how everything comes together and in my view is such authentic worship to present to God. Although if you read the poem below you will find that he is very gracious! With authenticity and simplicity in mind then, here is the beautiful poem which I first heard read at our June Cafe Church. It describes the true simplicity of praying to our Maker and I hope you find it useful.

> Vicar of St John the Baptist Capel and St. Margaret's Church Ockley

Just talk to me

Don't be afraid if you don't understand any Don't fear you won't do it right Don't worry about performing Just talk to me

Don't need to wait until you're hopeless Don't try to impress me Don't need a special voice you keep reserved just for me Don't even have to close your eyes Just talk to me

Don't worry that you don't love me enough Don't need to do anything special Don't pretend you're someone or something that you're not Just talk to me

Don't try to be impressive Don't think about your image Don't need to be self-conscious Just talk to me

Don't think it has to make sense Don't feel the need to use complete sentences Don't feel the need to use words at all Just talk to me

Don't pretend to be happy if you are not Don't be overwhelmed if you feel hopeless Don't worry if I'll do what you ask

Don't worry if you're pleasing me Don't think you have to have all the

Don't try to feel anything different at

Just talk to me

Just talk to me

Don't bother about the rules Don't bother about whether there are Don't pursue anything by which to measure yourself

Just talk to me

Don't try to hide anything Don't concern yourself about whether you're wasting my time with trivialities Just talk to me

Don't think anything is too insignificant to bring up Don't worry if you cry Don't worry if you don't Just talk to me

Don't be afraid Don't be unnatural Don't be anything you don't want to be Just talk to me

Don't hesitate to shout if you feel like it Don't hesitate to rant Don't pretend Just talk to me

Don't forget to laugh with me Don't forget that I'm the one who started all this Don't be surprised if I talk back Just talk to me

Don't forget to listen Don't forget I care more than you can possibly imagine Don't worry about the silence Just talk to me Just talk to me Just talk to me

Written by God

CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR THE PARISH OF CAPEL AND OCKLEY - JULY

SUNDAY 4TH TRINITY 5

9:30AM Matins BCP at St Margaret's Ockley

10:30AM Family Communion CW at St John's Capel

2:00PM Teas at St Margaret's Church, Ockley (2pm - 5pm)

SUNDAY 11TH TRINITY 6

9:30AM Matins BCP at St Margaret's Ockley 10:30AM CAFE CHURCH at The Crown Capel

2:00pm Holy Baptism at St John the Baptist, Capel

SATURDAY 17TH 2:30PM Holy Baptism at St John the Baptist, Capel

SUNDAY 18TH TRINITY 7

9:30AM Holy Communion at St Margaret's Ockley 10:30AM Family Communion CW at St John's Capel

SUNDAY 25TH TRINITY 8

9:30AM Matins BCP at St Margaret's Ockley 10:30AM Family Communion at St John's Capel

12:00pm Holy Baptism

3:00pm Teas at St John's Capel (3pm - 5pm)

AUGUST

SUNDAY 1ST TRINITY 9

9:30AM Matins BCP at St Margaret's Ockley

10:30AM Family Communion CW at St John's Capel

BCP - service is from The Book of Common Prayer 1662

CW - service is from Common Worship 2005

Please also note that St John's is open during the week and at weekends but St Margaret's is only open at weekends. For all the latest information and updates please visit our parish website www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk



FROM THE REGISTERS Capel and Ockley

We celebrate the marriage of

Joanna Clair Laws and Norbert Graham Hunt

12th June 2021

In Memoriam
We mourn the loss of
Christopher David Markham

29th May 2021



SING MY CHILD



The Surrey Hills Chamber Choir and Surrey Hills Singers celebrate singing together again with an open air musical feast"

Like the rest of the UK, the Surrey Hills choirs have been very restricted by lockdown rules and although, at the time of writing, amateur choirs are still not allowed to rehearse indoors together in groups greater than 6, this has not dampened the desire of the Chamber Choir or Singers to put on a summer concert this year. Rehearsing on zoom, then in groups of 6 outdoors and now as a full choir outdoors, the choirs have practised in sun, rain, freezing cold temperatures, wind, hail and thunder and lightning! The resilience of the singers has been quite amazing.

As the guidelines for choirs have not followed the Government roadmap, we have been forced to adapt our summer concert on Saturday 3 rd July 2021 to suit the current situation and are quite excited by the result - an outdoor summer performance in the setting of the stunning garden of The Crown pub, Capel, with plenty of refreshments on hand and the option to have a pub meal afterwards. Tables are set up to be socially distanced if restrictions are not lifted.

Due to the unpredictability of the British weather the event will be held 3pmlate and the performance time will be announced on our website on Friday once the weather forecast is known. Our ideal performance time is 4pm. In the event of cancellation, there will be a full ticket refund.

As always, our programme features many styles and eras of music from the Renaissance to the present day. Highlights from the Chamber Choir include Parce mihi domine with improvisation by saxophonist Alex Forsyth, A Little Jazz Mass by Bob Chilcott, Billy Joel's The Longest Time, Words by Anders Edenroth, and Underneath the Stars by Kate Rusby. The Singers will entertain with Fields of Gold by Sting, Never Enough from the Greatest Showman, And all that Jazz from the musical Chicago as well as some lovely classic and folk songs. The opening song "Sing my child" by Sarah Quartel perfectly captures the optimism for the future and the need to sing, and we have a very catchy encore that took the UK by storm last year.

Tickets can be booked through www. https://www.capelboxoffice.co.uk/ and are £12 and £5 for under 16s. There are only 100 places available so have a look and see if places are still available. There is plenty of seating but pop a fold-up chair or picnic rug in your boot just in case all the seats are taken.

We are really looking forward to this unexpected outdoor summer concert with a lovely social element and look forward to seeing you there.

Dineke Van De Bogerd



THE ARTS SOCIETY BETCHWORTH

OUR JULY 2021 LECTURE AT HOME BY ZOOM FOR MEMBERS AND VISITORS A FASCINATING HOUR

If you are not a member do come as a visitor. Zooming is not complicated and we provide easy to follow instructions.

MONDAY 19th July at 2.30 pm. A Private Palace of Art: Frederick Leighton's Studio House.



Frederic Leighton's studio-house (now Leighton House Museum) is one of the most remarkable buildings of the nineteenth-century. First built in the 1860s, Leighton continued to extend and embellish his home over the next thirty years, transforming what had been a relatively modest house into a palace of art. The construction of the exotic Arab Hall, lined with Islamic tiles collected as Leighton

travelled through the Middle East brought new fame to the house. This lecture explores Leighton's motivations in lavishing such attention on the construction of his home and how it came to embody the idea of how a Great Artist should live.

Our lecturer Daniel Robbins is Senior Curator, Museums with the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and is responsible for two of London's most significant house museums: Leighton House Museum and 18 Stafford Terrace. He was responsible for leading the award-winning project to restore the historic interiors of the house completed between 2008 and 2010 and is now leading a £7 million refurbishment project addressing the additions made to the building in the twentieth century.

Join us on Monday, July 19th at 2.30pm for this stimulating, illustrated lecture. It is free for members but do come as a visitor for £5.

Email Pat Frankland: pat frankland@hotmail.com or ring 01737 842028

All you need is a PC, laptop or tablet, a comfy chair and your favourite tipple!

For all our events see our website

www.theartssocietybetchworth.org.uk



CAPEL CHORAL SOCIETY: Live singing!

With COVID restrictions gradually being removed, Capel Choral, along with many other choirs and their singers, has been hoping for an early return to 'live' rehearsals. However, while many restrictions were lifted on the 17th of May, the 'rule of six' continued to effectively prohibit choral singing indoors. Many choirs consider that singers are being unfairly penalised, particularly when suitable precautions have been planned, and online petitions have produced large numbers of 'signatures'.

Capel has been continuing with Zoom rehearsals in the meantime, and conductor Stuart Longley has been finding a variety of pieces, some familiar, some less so, for us to sing online. However, in an attempt to reintroduce 'live' singing, with warmer weather the Choir has started introducing some open-air rehearsals (albeit with the cover of an opensided barn!) with appropriate distancing, personal protection and a risk assessment. This has proved very popular, showing the eagerness of singers to sing together once again. The fervent hope is that full indoor rehearsals will be possible by September, when local choirs will be hoping to start learning the music for their own concerts, and for April 2022's Leith Hill Festival. The LHMF is also planning a 'Come & Ding' in Dorking Halls on the 16th October with Verdi's Requiem. Details will appear on the LHMF website www.lhmf.org when it is confirmed that it can take place. Capel Choral Society is taking a summer break after its rehearsal on the 28th June but will warmly welcome any aspiring singers who wish to join them on Monday evenings, hopefully in Capel Memorial Hall, from early September.

Please contact the Secretary, Rosemary Goddard, to learn more about the Choir: rosemary@stylehurstfarm.com , or telephone 01306 711259.



J and T Cleaning Services

For the professional cleaning of

- Carpets and Rugs
- Upholstery
- Leather
- Curtains
- Hard Floors
- Protection Treatment

Hot pressure washing - suitable for

- Patios
- Paths
- Decking
- Brickwork
- Drives



Please call for a free no-obligation quotation

Call Tracey 07770 436 639



Would you like to advertise with us? If so please contact us: capeladvertising@gmail.com



Tel: 07584 469355 Email: info@chopnatch.co.uk www.chopnatch.co.uk

Mobile Chain Sawing and Log Splitting Service.

We provide an on-site wood splitting service for your home or business.

If you have fallen trees on your property or have previously had trees felled by a tree surgeon, we affer a complete service to cut and split your timber into logs.

Friendly and reliable service.



Becky's Professional Dog Grooming



'City & Guilds Qualified' Handstripping, clipping, bathing and nails - also see web page on

www.doggroomingdorking.co.uk, Becky Robinson 07739 263 244 -23 Anstiebury Close, Beare Green, RH5 4RE





Dorking Decorators

Your local Professional Painting and decorating company. Over 40 years experience. Approved by Trading Standards & Checkatrade.

110% Customer Service guaranteed!! Tel: 01306 640418

www.dorkingdecorators.co.uk

REWILDING IN CAPEL

An Internet Natural History bookstore that I occasionally use regularly sends me updates on new titles which might be of interest. This week the titles were various stories of people involved in Rewilding in the UK, from a farmer who inherited a farm in the Lake District hills, to the Carrifran Wildwood Project in the southern uplands of Scotland and the huge wilding project by the National Trust for Scotland at the Mar Lodge Estate in the Cairngorms National Park. Closer to Capel, just south of Horsham the 3,500acre Knepp Castle Estate narrative written by Isabella Tree recounts the transformation of that land since 2001, once intensively farmed and now devoted to pioneer Rewilding to create new habitats for wildlife. All these Rewilding efforts were initiated in response to concern about the appalling loss of wildlife and wild places in our crowded country and a determination to reverse its environmental degradation.



In recent years, the subject of Rewilding has received wide publicity, yet until recently this concept was familiar to just a handful of enthusiasts. At Fraserfields Reserve, we are proud to be included in that "handful of enthusiasts". In 1984, long before the dictionary definition of Rewilding was coined, we purchased three poor agricultural fields with a stream running through, east of The Street and part of the old Clarks Green Farm, in a quest to bring the natural world back to this village. A contour map of the 15 acres was drawn and became the blueprint for where to site ponds and wet areas in the damp Wealden clay, where to plant 3000 native trees, and where a wildflower meadow could thrive. A 20ton Poclain digger, years of planting and maintenance and nature did the rest. We were amazed at how quickly wildlife of all kinds found us once the appropriate habitat was established. We now boast several species which are in decline nationally - breeding birds including Nightingales, Slow Worms, Great Crested Newts, 24 species of Dragonflies, naturally regenerated Wild Service Trees, and surprisingly we have clusters of Dogs Mercury. The Dogs Mercury rhizomes which are remnants of ancient woodland, have survived despite years of intensive farming on the site.



Regular readers of the Magazine will recall our story of the Nightingale found here, frozen with hypothermia during one of this year's unseasonably frosty April nights. This same bird carried a British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) ring on its legs, and when history of the ring investigated by the BTO, it was confirmed that this bird had been ringed last year at the Knepp Estate. This Nightingale singing for several weeks following that episode and we hope and believe that it finally nested here. What a wonderful success story for

Rewilding projects in our area, both at Knepp and in Capel. Our great hope now is that more people will be inspired to Rewild even small pockets of land in their gardens to further improve the situation for our wildlife.

Janet Fraser



Tea and cake are often staples in any house, but why only have tea and cake in the comfort of your own home.

Pop down to St John the Baptist and take part in Teas in Capel - raising money for fantastic causes.

Please see a list of dates below (for your diary!)

25th July, 15th August, 29th August 30th August, 12th September, 3rd October 7th November, 28th November, 12th December

Capel Horticultural Society



In "normal" times we would, this month, be busy preparing for our annual show. Sadly, it's not to be so we must look to the future and see what other activities can be arranged.

With the summer holidays ahead of us we would like to challenge all children under the age of 12 to take part in our Summer Activity Treasure Hunt.

We will distribute all the details through the local schools and it will also be available to download on the CHS website from August 1st . www.capelhorticulturalsociety.org.uk

The pack will include a wide range of challenges and activities to encourage all participants to get outside, explore and discover throughout the summer holidays.

The completed challenge should be returned to the Parish Hall on Saturday 18th September between 09.00 – 11.00. The winner will be announced on Monday 20 th September and will receive four tickets to the British Wildlife Centre at Lingfield. Everyone who completes the challenge will also receive a prize and a year's free family membership to the Society.

Good luck to all who enter!

Then, with the adults in mind, this autumn we plan to present some evening talks with a horticultural theme, although certainly nothing highly scientific or too technical! Previous talks have been fun and informative always providing useful hints and tips for gardeners of all abilities. Keep an eye on our website for more details or contact any member of the Horticultural Society committee.



Jane Major



July's long, hot lazy days are a time to sit back and relax outdoors. An abundance of flowers throughout the garden, birdsong and scent filling the air. Vegetable plots and allotments are full of produce ready to be harvested. All that hard work and digging earlier in the year has paid off!

The main job for the next month is dead heading. Keep everything flowering for as long as possible by removing spent flower heads to stop them setting seed. Unless of course the plant has interesting hips or berries to come

- deadhead, feed weekly and water pots and hanging baskets thoroughly
- keep on top of weeds
- cut back early flowering perennials to encourage a second flush
- sow biennials such as foxgloves, wallflowers and honesty for flowering next year
- watch out for pests to try to minimise infestations
- take cuttings of tender perennials such as pelargonium, salvia, fuchsia and penstemmon
- take softwood shrubs cuttings
- cut lavender for drying
- keep feeding late summer flowering perennials such as dahlias
- perennial meadows and wildflower patches can be cut back now with a strimmer. Leave seed heads on the ground for a few days so the seed is dispersed. Remove all cuttings so the soil is not enriched
- mow lawns on a higher cut
- clear blanket weed from ponds. Top up water levels
- congested clumps of iris can be divided after flowering
- keep picking sweet peas, feed weekly and water regularly in dry spells to avoid mildew
- make sure tall perennials are staked to stop them breaking in high winds
- keep successional sowing salad crops for a regular supply through the summer
- pinch out side shoots on cordon tomato plants. Water daily to stop the fruit splitting. Feed weekly.
- pick courgettes regularly to avoid them becoming too large
- pinch out the tips of courgettes and squash plants to encourage them to branch out. Water regularly

- cut down broad beans after harvesting but leave the roots as they release nitrogen back to the soil
- plant out purple sprouting broccoli and winter leeks
- sow Swiss chard
- lift and divide rhubarb plants, throwing out the centre of old clumps
- prune plum trees
- raspberry canes can be thinned
- propagate strawberries by pinning down the new young plants on runners in soil. They will root in no time

Make sure to pick flowers from the garden to enjoy inside. There is nothing quite like a hand picked bunch of sweet peas in the bedroom or small posies of your favourite flowers on window sills!

Sally Griffin



Christian Aid Collection



Thank you to all who donated in Christian Aid week.



The tin at Capel News collected £2.34.
The tin at Carters collected £22.17.
Together they made £24.51.

A bucket collection was held for three days outside Barclays bank in Dorking, in Christian aid week and collected £750.

Online giving raised £110 pounds and £75 was reclaimable tax.

Overall the collections raised more than £1000. Many thanks to all who donated to this worthy cause.

Sue Partridge

the beauty rooms

OPEN NOW!

- Gel Manicures
- Waxing
- Environ Facials
- CACI Non Surgical Lift
- Massage
- Hot Stone Massage
- LVL Lash Lift
- Manicures & Pedicures

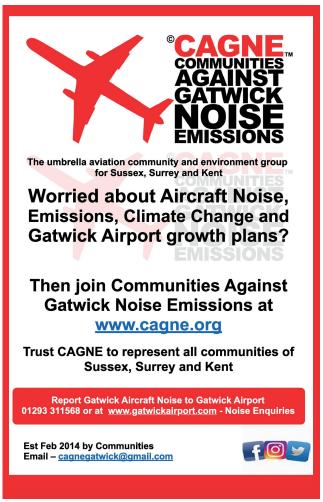
1 Beare Green Court, Beare Green Surrey. RH5 4SL T: 01306 898004

www.beautyroomsbearegreen.co.uk













What's on in Capel?



Welcome to a new section in the Capel & Beare Green Parish Magazine.

Each month we will publicise events that will be happening in and around

our lovely parish!

If you have an event you could like to be advertised (costs may apply), please email capeleditor@gmail.com for further information.

- Saturday 3rd July Sing My Child @ The Crown, Capel (see page 6 for more details)
- Saturday 3rd July The Capel Market @ The Crown, Capel
- Tuesday 13th July Pub Quiz @ The Crown, Capel
- Saturday 17th July The Capel Market @ The Crown, Capel
- Sunday 25th July Teas in Capel @ St John the Baptist Church, Capel
- Wednesday 28th July Coffee Morning @ The Crown, Capel
- Thursday 22nd July Gin Club @ The Crown, Capel
- Saturday 31st July The Capel Market @ The Crown, Capel
- Saturday 31st July No Year's Eve Party @ The Crown, Capel

DON'T FORGET

 Summer Activities Treasure Hunt - 18th September (see page 12 for more information)







TOMATOES GALORE

Tomatoes are coming into their own now and there are many different varieties to choose from. All shapes, sizes and colours, but nothing will ever beat one straight off the vine. Save the special ones to eat raw, but both of these recipes will make the best of the most ordinary tomato.

Roasted Feta & Tomatoes

Serves 4 - Vegetarian - Gluten Free

Ingredients:

400g of small tomatoes
500g sun-dried tomatoes finely chopped
2 cloves of garlic sliced
75g pitted olives halved
200g pack of Feta cheese
½ tsp fennel seeds
2 bay leaves
2 or 3 sprigs of oregano
Zest of one lemon cut into strips
3 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
Bread of your choice for serving

Method:

- 1) Preheat oven to 200C/180C fan/400F/Gas mark 6
- 2) Line a small roasting tin with foil. Cut some of the tomatoes in half and put these into the tin with the sun-dried tomatoes, garlic and olives. Season and mix to combine.
- 3) Pat the Feta dry. Nestle the whole block of Feta amongst the tomatoes, scatter with the fennel seeds and tuck in the oregano, bay leaves and lemon zest alongside. Drizzle over the olive oil.
- 4) Cover with foil and roast in the oven for about 10 minutes until the tomatoes are tender and the Feta is soft and starting to brown at the edges.
- 5) Serve with warm or toasted bread to mop up the juices.

Cook's Notes:

This can also be cooked on the BBQ. For a crowd just double the quantities and use a larger tin.

Tomato Tart

Serves 4 as a main course or 6 plus as a starter or part of a meal - Vegetarian

Ingredients:

1 pack of 320g ready-rolled puff pastry. Try the All-Butter Puff Pastry – it really does taste better!

6-8 medium-sized tomatoes - more if they are smaller Handful of finely grated Parmesan cheese Dijon or wholegrain mustard Salt and black pepper

Method:

- 1) Preheat oven to 220C/200C fan/425F/gas mark 7
- 2) Remove pastry from fridge and cardboard box 10 minutes before using
- 3) Unroll the pastry onto a baking sheet. Gently score a border 1cm or ½ inch from the edge. Don't cut right through the pastry.
- 4) Within the border take a pastry brush and spread a thin layer of the mustard over the surface and sprinkle on the cheese.
- 5) Slice the tomatoes and arrange in overlapping rows across the width of the pastry case within the border. Season.
- 6) Bake in the oven for 20-30 minutes until the edges of the pastry are golden and well- risen.

Cook's Notes:

You do pay a little more for ready-rolled puff pastry but if you want to turn a meal around in a hurry it saves a lot of time! If you use a block of pastry, roll it out to approx. 38 x 26cm which is 15 x 10 inches approx. and roll quite thin.

Fruit and veg in season now:

Tomatoes; Broad Beans; Peas; French Beans; many different varieties of Lettuce and Cucumbers.

Raspberries, Strawberries; Gooseberries; Peaches; Cherries and Red & Black Currants.

Judy Cranham

DORKING MUSEUM IN JULY



In June, the team of volunteers at Dorking Museum & Heritage Centre was delighted to have been honoured with The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service – the 'MBE for volunteer groups'. The Award is the highest national honour of its type, awarded to exceptional groups of volunteers across the UK who regularly contribute their



own time to enhance and improve the lives of others, and whose level of initiative and impact are truly outstanding. It was created in 2002 to celebrate The Queen's Golden Jubilee. The Dorking Museum team was one of 241 charities, social enterprises and voluntary groups to receive the prestigious award this year.

Museum interim chairman, Kathy Atherton said: "The Museum is a key part of the cultural heritage of this community. The 15 months we have just been through has been a particularly challenging time for everyone. It has been so difficult to see our doors closed and most of our other activities curtailed. However, our volunteer team has been resilient, often adapting to other roles and new projects where they can – indeed, many have worked harder during the current crisis than ever before. So, after all the disappointment and frustration, our volunteers can welcome some cautious return to normality with the added boost that their hard work and commitment has been recognised with this wonderful and prestigious award."

Appropriately, the award announcement came during Volunteers' Week, an annual celebration of the contribution made by millions of people across the UK through volunteering. This is a time for us to come together and thank all volunteers for their invaluable contribution.

<u>Summer Family Activity:</u> The Museum's family activity this summer is planned to be 'Fun and Games of Yesteryear'. Families are invited to come along to the Museum and have some old-fashioned fun with us, finding out what games people used to play. Before the days of computer games, there were wooden board games, like bagatelle or shove ha'penny, and these and others will be available to play during opening times between 22nd July and 28th August (but subject to any change of covid restrictions, so please check). Come along and try your luck against other family members – 'big kids' are not excluded! This is free with normal admission charges.

Forster@50: Our current special exhibition is 'Forster@50', commemorating the 50 th anniversary of the death of the writer E M Forster. Although best remembered for his novels, Forster was also a prominent political and environmental activist. He knew the Dorking area from a young age, when he regularly visited his aunt in Abinger Hammer and subsequently lived there for over 20 years. The exhibition explores his life locally, the local initiatives he took part in (the Dorking Refugee Committee, the Abinger Pageants) and his local associates (Ralph Vaughan Williams and others) as well as the impact of the area on his novels. A short film put together by the Museum team to accompany the exhibition may be viewed at https://dorkingmuseum.org.uk/forster50/.





Walking in Dorking: The Museum's popular programme of guided walks in the town and surrounds continues – join a scheduled walk or organise a group walk with family or friends at a time to suit you. Scheduled dates for July include The Deepdene Trail and Betchworth Castle, both on Sunday 18 th July, 2pm: both offer exclusive access to features not normally open to the public. In the town, Mayflower 400 Walk (Dorking in the time of William Mullins), Thursday 22 nd July, 6.15pm; Hidden Dorking Historic Walk (hidden treasures of the town), Sunday 25 th July, 2pm; and a walk combining highlights of those two itineraries, Tuesday 6 th July, 4pm. Walks take 90 minutes. Numbers are limited and, under present conditions, social distancing should be observed. Please see the website for details and booking, for dates of other scheduled walks and for group bookings (dorkingmuseum.org/guided-walks-around-dorking/).

<u>Caves Tours:</u> Following further checks and risk assessment, the Museum is planning to resume the popular tours of the South Street Caves. Tours last 45 minutes. The first monthly open day will be on Saturday July 31st, with tours at 10am, 11am, 1pm and 2pm. Details and booking through www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk/south-street-caves/. Tours are also bookable by appointment for any group or organisation, family or friends – just email caves@dorkingmuseum.org.uk to arrange a date.

The Museum is at 62 West Street, Dorking RH4 1BS. Thursday, Friday, Saturday 10am-4pm. Visit www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk. Enquiries to admin@dorkingmuseum.org.uk or phone 01306 876591.

David Burton



Musings of an Eco Nerd



Last month we ordered our new central heating system. Driven by a condensing boiler on its last legs, inspired by new technology and supported by the government's Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) we have opted for a ground source heat pump. Each unit of electric energy put in will extract 3-4 times that from the earth. It works a bit like an inverted fridge and needs boreholes of over 100 meters deep to provide enough contact with ground water to produce the energy required to heat our house and supply domestic hot water.

The system is unlikely to save us money but our carbon footprint will be reduced dramatically. Needless to say we re very excited about this project and will keep you posted on progress.

Dik & Dineke



Building & Renovation Company

Quality Carpentry and Building Works
Custom Built Joinery

Capel: 01293 871008

Email: info@lyneandco.co.uk

View examples of our building and joinery work at

www.lyneandco.co.uk





My Life as a Chimney Sweep David Parker



Part 3

People, continued.

On more than one occasion Joyce would come out to the roadside to meet me when I arrived wearing nothing more than her nightdress which sometimes would be see-through. She would be completely oblivious to the fact that there might be people walking or driving down the road. The last time I saw Joyce dressed like this she was 79 or 80! She thought more of animals than humans. This lady had some very strange views about humans, her extremely non-pc views on immigration are not printable. When Joyce used to phone to make a booking, I would often have a small curse but went there all the same. Now sadly Joyce is no longer with us I miss her. She was 82 when she died. Joyce provided some excellent conversation and gave me much amusement at times. I write this as a mark of respect to Joyce.

I have met a range of more interesting people in my travels. I had an urgent job to do one afternoon. All I had was an address to go to, no name of the customer. On arrival at the house I was greeted by a few dogs bounding down the path barking like mad. The dogs were just noisy and harmless. Not far behind the dogs was this customer a 6'2" model (JK). Very well known..

I have some tenuous connections with literature going around to my customers houses. The first one was near Midhurst some years ago, I worked for Mrs Bond, her husband being Michael, Paddington author. Another local one is a lady I work for has all of the original manuscripts, first editions, LP's and CD's of the Wombles, her mother was the author. Thomas the Tank Engine is the other, I have swept the chimneys for the writer of the music and the writer of the lyrics for the Thomas stories.

With a love of history, I am fortunate to meet a lot of people with connections to the past, one lady in Cowfold is the Granddaughter of Admiral Lord Jellicoe, who commanded the Grand Fleet at the Battle of Jutland in 1916.

I have one customer who owns, with the rest of the family, her brother's Victoria Cross, which is in the Royal Air Force museum, Hendon. Cyril Barton brought back an irreparably damaged Halifax bomber from a raid on Germany, some of his crew had parachuted down over enemy territory and the rest stayed with the aircraft. On return to base Cyril attempted a landing only to end up crashing into a house, the rest of the crew survived with Cyril being the only one killed.

Another customer is related to two holders of the VC. One of these being shot down and killed two years later by the Red Baron, in 1917. This was Major Lanoe Hawker. I also have a customer who had an ancestor that was one of the Duke of Wellingtons Generals during the Peninsular Wars and at Waterloo.

At a house in Plaistow I spoke to the customer who was a pilot for BA, she had been interested in aviation for many years, on the wall was a photograph of her Great Auntie, Amy Johnson.

The ex-wife of a well-known comedian was someone I had seen topless on more than one occasion; things aren't always what they seem!!!! Page 3 of The Sun.

Many more stories of people, too many to write about here. You will realise I cannot use their names.

<u>Places</u>

Interesting houses form a huge part of my work. Petworth House is of great fascination, just walking through the door you start to think about who has walked up the steps. Many members of our Royal Family have visited over the years, Queen Victoria, Edward VII, George's x 2 and many more before and since. Famous politicians from overseas and at home, Dwight D Eisenhower, Winston Churchill and others too numerous to mention.

As many readers will know the history behind Christ's Hospital is interesting so I will not dwell on that, just to say that I am lucky enough to sweep the chimneys there. The furthest from home I swept chimneys was in Shap, Lake District. A customer's daughter had just rented the old railway station and needed a chimney sweep. We were going to County Durham on holiday so she asked if I would do the job. The station closed down in 1968 and had been used as a walker's hostel. Conditions here were basic to say the least. No heating, prisoner of war type wooden bunks and a straw filled mattress. Stella cooked meals for the four of us staying there on a single camping gas burner and the open fire. Stella was going to provide B&B for walkers so was in the process of getting the place a bit better. It was April with snow on the hills around Shap, so you can imagine it was cold inside and out. In the bathroom there was a gap beneath the window sill to the outside world and the air brick in the wall was missing (not a place to sit and read the paper). Having a quick wash on Friday and Saturday night wasn't too bad but a bath on Sunday before we left was a very quick affair, the water didn't stay hot for long. This was not a profitable job but sweeping the five chimneys was enough to pay for the petrol to get us to and from holiday and an experience. Within two weeks Stella had bought a Rayburn from Fittleworth!! Yes Sussex, had it installed and up and running to provide hot water and cooking. This is only a very condensed version of the story.

Living in this area we are fortunate to have a lot of incredibly old properties, not that everyone knows about them.

A good number are hiding from view. To this end I mean that many of them have had the exterior changed dramatically, although in a lot of cases this is historic. Times change, fashions change, things wear out. In Kirdford we have a couple of examples of houses that have a Georgian frontage which has been built in front of the original wall, which was then taken down, this would have been a Tudor style or just after. The tell-tale signs are still there on the beams inside. One of these is seen by members of the public but they just don't realise what it is about. The Half Moon.

There are many old cottages that were built without a chimney which was added much later. At Pound Farm, Shipley one of the old cottages has a piece of the original wall missing so it is possible to investigate the void and see that the old wattle and daub is covered in soot. This would have been a smoke bay, with brick work up to first floor level and the Wattle and daub from there with the smoke leaving through a hole in the roof. A similar property to this is in Lower Street, Pulborough which was originally two cottages.

Another interesting piece in the chimney at the Half Moon is the remains of a Smoke Jack. For those that do not know what this is, let me explain. To put it simply, there are small Christmas decorations that have a fan driven by the heat of candles underneath. This on a much larger scale was a metal fan driven by the heat from the fire, attached to a gear box, this turned a shaft which then connected by a chain to turn a spit.

The oldest houses I have worked in date from the 1200's New Place at Pulborough and Hardham Priory. The house that marks the oldest established settlement I have worked has the remains of a Roman Hypocaust system under one of the floors. Chimneys themselves sometimes have some intricate brick work, as anyone who has been through Shere and Albury may have noticed this. It is worth taking the time and look up occasionally.

Problems.

Apart from the problems mentioned earlier concerning unwanted visitors, there are many problems associated with chimneys.

One quite common problem is a lack of ventilation. This comes in several forms. As times have moved on and people try to keep the heat in and stop the draught, they have fitted double glazing and new doors. This stops the draughts vital to enable the fire to burn. The fire still needs to get air so this will be drawn into the house from the easiest place. On more than one occasion I have been called to work out what the problem is when smoke appears in the bedroom or another room. This is smoke mixed with the air being syphoned down a disused chimney. This sometimes happens in the house next door when they have had double glazing fitted.

This article will be split across several issues - please keep a look out for part 4!







COMPLETE IT SUPPORT

Computer Problem?



Solved! Call us today 01306 880346

support@complete-itsupport.co.uk www.complete-itsupport.co.uk

Local company with over 25 years' experience in the IT industry



Would you like to advertise with us? If so please contact us: capeladvertising@gmail.com

Carters Car Care



For that professional service call 01306 711614

*MOT Centre (class 4 & 7)

*Full service and repair

*Four Wheel Alignment

*Bosch diagnostics

*Air Conditioning

Vicarage Lane Capel





Bullimores



Accountants for Life

Tax • Accounts • Probate Inheritance Tax & Executorship

T: 01306 880880

E: partners@bullimores.co.uk

W: www.bullimores.co.uk

Bullimores LLP licensed to carry out the reserved legal activity of non-contentious probate in England & Wales by the ICAEW

PETER SMITH ELECTRICAL LTD



Company No: 08455608

Qualified Electrician & Handyman.

Friendly, Reliable service. Fully insured and Part P

Approved. 6 Clockhouse Cottages. Horsham Road,

Capel, Surrey, RH5 5||.

Tel: 01306 710588 / 07885 444 395 Email: office.psel@btinternet.com

CAPEL NEWS

Newspapers, Groceries, Off Licence, National Lottery, Aldhurst Milk & Cream

Free Deliveries

Open 6am - 6:30pm Mon - Sat

6am - 3pm Sunday

Tel: 01306 711021



St John the Baptist invites you to...





July 2021

"Love is the whole thing. We are only pieces." Rumi

There are possibly more quotes, clichés, songs and sayings about love than anything else. "Love makes the world go around." "All you need is love". "Love is just a bowl of cherries." (Other fruits are available!) I guess it's because love is something we all experience in some form or other throughout our lives.

I have recently been on the receiving end of an extraordinary amount of additional love - above and beyond even that which is usually lavished upon me by the lovely Judy. (That's my wife, for those of you who don't know us!) I found myself having to spend a few days in hospital where the nursing care was given with a genuine sense of caring and love - not to say a healthy sense of humour! Then there were all the messages, emails and phone calls Judy and I received from family, friends and people from our wonderful village offering help and support. Love has many different faces and actions. Love is, after all, a verb. It's a thing that we do; it's a thing that we ought to do; it's a thing we can't help but do!

As a universal experience, love touches everyone of all faiths and none. The quote at the top of this article is by Rumi, a Sufi poet and Islamic scholar, yet he captures the essence of what it is to be a Christian and follow the example that Jesus set 1200 years before Rumi was writing. At the heart of it all is the truth that God is love. Pure and simple. There are conversations to be had about why people do bad things if we are created in the image of God, as the Bible teaches, and also questions about why a loving God would have created a world in the first place knowing that it would contain both good and evil. But those are for another day.

Right now, I'm happy to be living in the certainty of God's love during the uncertain days that lay ahead. And I'm loving the words of Paul in his letter to the Ephesians. "I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being,

so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."

Bob Cranham

(Café Church meets at The Crown, Capel on Sunday July 11th at 10.30am when Claire Robins will be leading the service. Free coffee & croissants, a band, possibly some poetry, definitely lots of laughter and, hopefully, plenty to think about!)





CAMERA CLUB



For our monthly competition John Cole produced two fabulous images. For 'F' he chose FURY and for 'P' he chose Painshill Bridge.





painshill park

John has been a member of our club for many years and is one of our most experienced photographers. But don't be put off by this standard as beginners are always welcome.

See our website www,capelcameraclub.org.uk
For further info please contact our Chairman Liz Woodham
01306 711003







Would you like to advertise with us? If so please contact us: capeladvertising@gmail.com



NICK SIMPKINS PLUMBING & HEATING ENGINEER

OFTEC & GAS SAFE REGD: Oil & Gas boiler repairs, breakdowns, servicing & replacement. 25 yrs+ experience.

Call 07721 378298

Email: njsimpkins@hotmail.com or visit www.njsimpkins.com



Hand knitted and crocheted blankets, hats and much much more.

For more information please visit us at:



www.facebook.com/MockingjayCrafts www.instagram.com/Mockingjay_Crafts

DIVISIO

We promise an extremely high standard in everything we do and take pride in every job, big or small. Members of Checkatrade for 4 years with over 190 positive reviews.

- Gutter Repair from £80 + VAT - Gutter Cleaning from £80 + VAT
- Moss removal (prices on request Jet Washing from £4 + VAT per sq m
- Hedgehog Gutter Brush Supply & Installation from £7 + VAT per metre

01737 843430 / 07925 477997 www.division.co.uk

info@division.co.uk

Like a farmer's market on your doorstep!



Coles Lane, Ockley

& Denbies Wine Estate, Dorking

We look forward to welcoming you at your local farm shop

OPEN 7 DAYS; FRESH, LOCAL & OWN GROWN PRODUCE; FREE PARKING Coles Lane, Ockley 01306 713474 Denbies Wine Estate, Dorking 01306 880720



Winner – Best Farm Shop in Surrey 2019 & 2020

www.vgfarmshop.com

Village Greens Farm Shop

@villagegreens1

local * natural * ethical







<u>D&S Carters of Capel</u> <u>& Capel Post Office</u>

87 The Street, Capel, Surrey, RH55JX. TEL:01306711177

D&S Carters:

- Fresh fruit and veg
- Groceries
- Car Care
- Hardware
- Café & Fresh Sandwiches
- Fresh Bakery
- · Alcohol & Tobacco
- Fue
- · All your other daily essentials

Capel Post Office:

- Cheque Deposits
- Free Cash Withdrawal
- One4All gift Cards
- Money gram
- Bill payments
- Postal orders
 Parcel force
- Vehicle Tax
- And much much more

D&S Caters is open from Mon-Sat: 7am to 7pm, Sun: 8am-2pm Capel Post Office is open from 7am to 6:30, Sat: 7am-1pm

CAPEL & BEARE GREEN DIRECTORY

A COMPLETE CHIMNEY SERVICE. JOE LUND CHIMNEY SWEEP. CAPS. COWLS. BIRD GUARDS FITTED. ALL AREAS COVERED. TEL 07930 507115

ASHBARN VETERINARY SURGERY	PAGE 26
BECKY'S PROFESSIONAL DOG GROOMING	PAGE 9
BOB CRANHAM - GUITAR LESSONS	PAGE 9
BULLIMORES - ACCOUNTANTS	PAGE 27
CAPEL NEWS	PAGE 27
CARTERS CAR CARE	PAGE 27
CHOP NOTCH	PAGE 9
COMMUNITY AGAINST GATWICK NOISE EMISSIONS (CAGNE)	PAGE 16
COMPLETE IT SUPPORT	PAGE 26
CUTHBERT HEATING & PLUMBING	PAGE 33
D & S CARTERS OF CAPEL	PAGE 31
DIVISION	PAGE 30
DORKING DECORATORS	PAGE 9
EDE BROS - REMOVALS	PAGE 16
J AND T CLEANING SERVICES	PAGE 9

LEITH CONSTRUCTIONPAGE 16
LYNE & COPAGE 22
MOCKINGJAY CRAFTSPAGE 30
NICK SIMPKINS - PLUMBING & HEATINGPAGE 30
PATTY PLUSPAGE 30
PETER SMITH ELECTRICAL LTDPAGE 21
PHIL'S MOWING DORKINGPAGE 26
SHIPTON TREE SERVICESPAGE 26
SHERLOCK FUNERAL SERVICE. TRELLIS HOUSE, SOUTH STREET, DORKING, MONUMENTAL MASONS. TEL: 01306 882266
TOE NAIL CUTTING SERVICEPAGE 16
THE CROWNBACKPAGE
THE VILLAGE IRONING LADYPAGE 30
VILLAGE GREENSPAGE 31

Cuthbert Heating & Plumbing

Gas Boilers, Fires, Cookers, Pipework, Hot & Cold Water, Boiler Services, Repairs & Installations.

07766081339

James@CuthbertHeating.co.uk www.CuthbertHeating.co.uk

CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS IN CAPEL & BEARE GREEN

Allotments	Parish Clerk - 01306 712447
Badminton Club, Capel	Ann Crawford - 01306 631833
Beare Green Community Assn.	Chairman - Sandy Horvath
Beare Green District Councillor	Caroline Salmon - 07712 932 630
L	councillor.salmon@molevalley.gov.uk
Beare Green Parish Councillors	Dave Cox 01306 712002
	Ken Salter 01306 712014
	Lisa Ryan - 07921 622284
Bowls Club, Newdigate	Ameera Garga - 07760 659 612
B ridge Club, Beare Green	Dina 01306 712925
Camera Club, Capel	Liz Woodham 01306 711003
Capel Assist	07593 714 513
Capel Lunches	Sally Wyborn 01306 711575
Capel Pre-School	Tracy Norton & Judy Hebberd
	01306 712717
	wonderfulcapelpreschool@gmail.com
C horal, Capel	Rosemary Goddard 01306 711259
Choral, Beare Green & Newdigate	
Capel Cricket Club	David Jacques 07850 726 500
Capel Evergreens	Pat Morgan 01306 713214
	patmorgan.morgan53@gmail.com
Capel Parish Council	Clerk: Janet Russell 01306 712447
Caper ransii cooneii	Chairman: Chris Ball 01306 710390
	www.capel-pc.gov.uk
Capel Parish Councillors	Paula Dale 01306 713604
•	Paul Garber 01306 711015
	Mandy Schryver 01306 711292
1	Ben Ashwood 01306 713127
C apel Tennis Club	Paul King 07867973652
Crown Creative in Capel	Claire Robins 07817 267089
Coldharbour Councillors	Stuart McLaughlin 01306 712009
	•
District Councillor for Capel,	Lesley Bushnell 01306 711275
Leigh & Newdigate	councillor.bushnell@molevalley.gov.uk
	Mary Huggins 01306 712303
<u> </u>	councillor.huggins@molevalley.gov.uk
Doctors' Surgeries	Capel 01306 711105
	Holmwood 01306 889242
Flix in the Stix, Capel	Chris Coke 01306 711098
Football Club	Chris Anderson 01306 711080
Youth Football Team	enquiries.capelcometsyfc@gmail.com
G uides, Brownies & Scouts	capel.rainbows@btinternet.com
	capelbrownies@gmail.com
	capelguides@outlook.com

Holmwood & Capel Beavers,Cubs & Scouts	Alexandra Fairbrother, 07384 451317, gsl24dorking@gmail.com
Horticultural Society, Capel	David Silliman 01306 712831
Local History Group, Capel	Mary Day 01306 712957
Men's Group, Capel	Phil Partridge 07813 829 326 philip_partridge@btinternet.com
Merebank Over 60's Club, Beare Green	Lilian Buckley 01306 712593
Police	Call 101 or 01483 571212 Unless it's urgent then 999 or report online at www.surrey.police.uk
Q uaker (Friends) Meeting House Capel	Audrey Garnett 01403 260077
Royal British Legion (Dorking & District) Scott-Broadwood C of E	lan Moon 07982 811 592 Richard Orme 01306 875058 01306 711181
First School, Capel	
St John the Baptist Church, Capel & St Margaret's Church, Ockley	Vicar - Rev Liz Richardson 01306 711260
Church Wardens	Norman Ede 01306 713247 Joy Harman 01306 711482 Bellringers - Jon Dale - 01306 711243 Choir - Anthea Smallwood 01306 711883
St John's Group of Artists	yvonne@15ddv.me.uk
Stooball Club, Beare Green	Dot Thorp 01306 712788
Tennis Club, Capel	Lynette Von Kaufman 01306 632857
Village Halls	Capel - Jane Major - 01306 711170 oldjoinery@gmail.com Beare Green - Joan Wigham - 07826 340 143
Walking Groups	Swallows - David Silliman - 01306 712831 david_silliman@yahoo.com Dog Free Strolling for softies Sally Wyborn - 01306 711575 Walk for health S Jennings stephaniejenningschristensen@gmail.com
Weald C of E Primary School Beare Green	Mr S Baguley - 01306 711719
W.I - Capel	Frances Collins 07775340409
Young Farmers	Colin Smith 01273 494528



I Must Be Quackers!



The lockdown cliché of getting a puppy came with all the suspected challenges of ruining the carpet, furniture and a lot of our socks, shoes and clothes. The one challenge we did not suspect was that of our bouncing "teenage" Labrador scaring an unsuspecting female mallard one day in our garden.

"What was she even doing there" was my first thought, but as she flew away I just thought..."that was a lucky escape for her"...until I then heard all the desperately chirping ducklings in the hedge at the back of our garden. They were frantically calling for their mother. I ushered my son and our loony Labrador into the house as I hoped mother duck would return to collect her brood. In the meantime the little ones scattered every which way into all our neighbouring gardens. At which point mother duck did return calling them, but sadly it was futile as it would have been impossible for her to gather them all now, so she flew away, and did not return.



After about an hour I decided to go and see if they were still calling for mum, and sadly one of them was – it was lodged between some old bottles behind a neighbours greenhouse.

I teamed up with one of my neighbours, Dot Thorpe, and we rallied round all the neighbours to see if we could find any more strays. A lot of people had seen or heard the little ducks running through gardens looking mum. Sadly one of the neighbours saw a cat taking off with one of them. After much searching we managed to rescue seven of them (there were likely up to 12 in total) that had scattered around a large area of gardens.

We suspected one of them had broken its leg somehow so called a local vet in to check on it. He assured us they were all fine and asked if I was going to rear them , to which I promptly replied "No Way!"

The following morning I called the Surrey Wildlife trust and got an answering machine. I tried a few other rescue / bird centres but had no luck speaking to anyone that could help. In the meantime my son and I had become rather fond of them and decided maybe we would rear them after all.

We bought duckling food and meal worms for them and sourced a large box for them to live in, and I gave them an old furry hat to snuggle in to keep warm. We estimated they were probably a few days old, so not ready to sleep outside yet. So we kept them indoors for around 5 weeks, with little excursions in a water filled baking tray in the kitchen. We didn't handle them too much since firstly they didn't seem to appreciate it and secondly we intend to release them into the wild at around 8 weeks.

They now live in an outdoor pen on the grass with a water filled child's sandpit for a pond, and they sleep in a hutch at night. They consume more duck food and meal worms than you can imagine, supplemented with chopped greens and lettuce, and we collect pond weed from a local

pond for them to forage through.

They're all now feathered and we are eagerly watching their wing growth, as once they all have fully formed wings and are ready to fly we will be releasing them hopefully to a pond on a local residents farm where they will meet other ducks, and hopefully after all the care they have had so far will not be eaten immediately by the fox! They're incredibly amusing to watch and lovely to listen to. They do everything together, and spend their days swimming, foraging, eating and preening themselves. We have had a wonderful time raising the ducklings, and it's been a wonderful experience for my 6 year old son. And quite the tease for our dog who watches them through the wire licking her lips longingly!

We look forward to seeing them swim for the first time in the pond when we release them.







98 The Street, Capel, Surrey, RH5 5JY, 01306 713250 gladys@thecrowncapel.co.uk



Let's say goodbye and good riddance to 2020!

Saturday 31st July is a date for your diary and a party not to be missed.

So get your party clothes on and boogie on down to The Crown for our No Year's Eve Party, with entertainment from the Wright Time Band and DJ Mark.

Please visit The Capel Box Office (via their website) to book your tickets. Tickets are £30 and include Supper and Bubbles!



Ho's Asian
Kitchen
Wednesdays and
Sundays outside
The Crown
5pm - 9pm



The Crown Capel



thecrowncapel.co.uk

Puppy Kisses
Gladys Cooper Bullydog

