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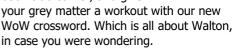
# <u>E</u>ditor's Note By Laura Palmer

Wow! In so many ways! I'm excited and yet slightly awed to be editing Window on Walton for the first time.

I realise I have big shoes to fill—Emmeline you did an incredible job with WoW over the past three years and I know that I've not been alone in looking forward to each new edition. I use the shoe analogy loosely: I'm sure Emm that your feet are dainty, whereas until recently I had to buy men's running shoes...

I digress. What am I excited about? Well, we have some of our regular fabulous columns from Harry, Tracy, Tom, Mo, Tim, and the lovely Walton-in-Bloom team. There's the latest from Little Cherubs and the MU, an update on the community garden at Christchurch, and historian Robert Ruddell tells us about PM Lloyd George and some of the goings on in Nursery Road in the early 20th Century. I love history, especially when it's right on the doorstep! Not forgetting the World Day of Prayer on the 5th of March.

Plus we have some new features. Our local forest school leader, Claire Whitton, explains the joys and benefits of learning outdoors, whilst Chris Thompson gives us an insight into his chilly-sounding (and really rather brave) open water swimming adventures. Find out what's what in teen fiction in WoW's comfy new book club corner, and give



I'm delighted that my first WoW should be the spring edition, a time of new beginnings, hope and growth, and of course the joy of Jesus's resurrection on Easter Sunday. Uncertainty surrounds and engulfs us at the moment and yet those daffodils and snowdrops that bravely push their way towards the sun are signs of a more colourful (and delightfully warmer) time to come.

For all the uncertainty, there's a good deal more that we can have faith in.

On the subject of new beginnings—am I the only person in the village without a puppy? I'm anticipating a swift exit from social media such is my inadequacy. Though my youngest appears to be surgically attached to a Dalmation onesie, and seeing as he is already housetrained, I'll go with that for now.

Please support this community project by paying £10 per year and guarantee yourself an issue every two months, hand delivered to your door.

Please email admin@stpeterswoth.org for more info. Thank you.

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The deadline for the May/June Edition is 15th April. Please send all contributions, by email to:-Laura Palmer at colourmehappykitchen@icloud.com All views expressed are those of the individual authors and are not necessarily those of St Peter's or Christchurch.

# \*\*\*

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### 🕍 Rector's Letter By Reverend Harry Latham

I am writing this at the start of Lent with its message of prayer and fasting and preparation as we look forward to Easter. The last 12 months have been a bit like a very lengthy fast, with the Lockdowns being especially painful. But at least St Peter's is allowed to be open for Private Prayer and Sunday Services and there will be Easter Services this year!



ourselves in that we also do not have to wait nor be socially distanced from God who has made himself known to us in Jesus!

Secondly Jesus says the Kingdom of God has come near (literally it is at hand). He is saying you can put your hand out and touch it. You can feel its presence and be

impacted by it so the unseen can become as real as the seen and shape our lives day by day.

Thirdly Jesus says repent and believe the good news! No one likes the sound of repentance, but it simply means to have a positive change. Jim Packer spoke of repentance as a virtuous spiral in which we repeatedly turn from all that we know of the wrong and damaging stuff in our lives, to give all that we know of ourselves to all that we know of God.

Hopefully, the older we get the better we know ourselves and the more experience we have of God. So let us ask God to help us with positive change at Easter and beyond.

In the first Lockdown people did pray more (according to the media) and did join online services from churches they had not been in touch with before. But how has it been for you? Have you found it easier to pray in the last 12 months or harder? I would be interested to know. Has this very difficult season helped or strengthened us spiritually? Are we better prepared as disciples of Jesus going forward?

In Mark's Gospel chapter 1 John the Baptist's ministry comes to an end and Jesus' public ministry starts in Galilee and we get a wonderful summary of the good news that the Jesus brought and that the Church is commissioned to demonstrate and proclaim in Lockdown and beyond: <sup>15</sup> "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

There are three parts to this message. Firstly, that the Time has come; meaning both that something new has happened (the Messiah has come) and that Today is the day of God's favour (so act now)! No need to wait (for a people who had been waiting for hundreds of years). We can apply it to

### "Read, Mark, Learn

and inwardly digest... @St Peter's"

A Mid-week evening on ZOOM looking at the Acts of the Apostles, 8pm-9.30pm.

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays

We re-started on January 14<sup>th</sup>



Mar	Time	Service/Event	Place
Wed 3rd	8.00pm	Lent Course	Zoom
Thu 4th	9am-4pm	Private Prayer	St Peter's Church
Sun 7th	8.00am 11.00am 1pm-4pm	Holy Communion (1662) All Age Service Private Prayer	St Peter's Church
Wed 10th	8.00pm	Lent Course	Zoom
Thu 11th	9am-4pm 8.00pm	Private Prayer RML	St Peter's Church Zoom
Sun 14th	11.00am 1pm-4pm	Mothering Sunday Communion Service Private Prayer	St Peter's Church
Wed 17th	8.00pm	Lent Course	Zoom
Thu 18th	9am-4pm	Private Prayer	St Peter's Church
Sun 21st	8.00am 11.00am 1pm-4pm	Holy Communion (1662) Family Service Private Prayer	St Peter's Church St Peter's Church St Peter's Church
Wed 24th	8.00pm	Lent Course	Zoom
Thu 25th	9am-4pm 8.00pm	Private Prayer RML	St Peter's Church Zoom
Sun 28th	8.00am	Palm Sunday Holy Communion	St Peter's Church
	11.00am 1pm-4pm	Family Communion Private Prayer	St Peter's Church St Peter's Church
Wed 31st	8.00pm	Lent Course	Zoom

### **From St Peter's Registers**

January 15th Funeral of David Easby

#### **CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC**

This is a provisional schedule, please subscribe to regular emails for updates at admin@stpeterswoth.org or contact Harry for zoom details

April	Time	Service/Event	Place
Thu 1st	9am-4pm 8.00pm	Private Prayer Maundy Thursday Service	St Peter's Church Zoom
Fri 2nd	10.00am	Good Friday Churchyard Service	St Peter's Church
Sun 4th	8.00am 11.00am 9am-4pm	Easter Holy Communion Easter Family Communion Private Prayer	St Peter's Church St Peter's Church St Peter's Church
Thu 8th	9am-4pm 8.00pm	Private Prayer RML	St Peter's Church Zoom
Sun 11th	11.00am 1pm-4pm	Parish Communion Private Prayer	St Peter's Church St Peter's Church
Thu 15th	9am-4pm	Private Prayer	St Peter's Church
Sun 18th	8.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion (1662) Family Service Private Prayer	St Peter's Church St Peter's Church St Peter's Church
Thurs 22nd	9am-4pm 8.00pm	Private Prayer RML	St Peter's Church Zoom
Sun 25th	8.00am 11.00am 12 noon 1pm-4pm	Holy Communion (1662) Family Communion Annual Meeting Private Prayer	St Peter's Church St Peter's Church St Peter's Church St Peter's Church
Thu 29th	9am-4pm		St Peter's Church

We welcome you at St Peter's for safe and distanced services. Please register your attendance at admin@stpeterswoth.org and wear a face covering.

Thank you.



A SIX-WEEK COURSE on WEDNESDAYS at 8.00pm 24th February to 31st March



# $\underline{\underline{\mathsf{S}}}$ Services Within Our Benefice of Headley & Box Hill

Please see Headley and Box Hill website for up to date services. www.headleyboxhillchurches.org.uk

		St Mary's, Headley		
7th March	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)		
	10.30am	Parish Communion		
14th March	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)	1	
	9.30am	Family Communion with St Andrew's		
21st March	10.30am	Parish Communion		
28th March	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)		
	9.30am	Family Communion		
29th, 30th, 31st March	8.00pm	Compline (Zoom)		
4th April	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)		
	10.30am	Easter Communion		
11th April	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)		
	9.30am	Family Communion with St Andrew's		
18th April	10.30am	Parish Communion		
25th April	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)		
	9.30am	Family Communion		
		St Andrew's, Box Hill		
7th March	9.30am	Contemporary Worship		
14th March	9.30am	Family Communion at St Mary's		
21st March	9.30am	Informal Communion		
28th March	9.30am	Morning Praise		
29th, 30th, 31st March	8.00pm	Compline (Zoom)		
4th April	9.30am	Easter Communion		
11th April	9.30am	Family Communion at St Mary's		
18th April	9.30am	Informal Communion		
25th April	9.30am	Morning Praise		

# $\underline{\underline{\mathsf{B}}}$ Book Club Corner: The Percy Jackson Series By Harry Wisbey

Book Club Corner is Window on Walton's new regular column celebrating some of the best in teen fiction. This edition features Harry, aged 11, and why he is a big fan of Percy Jackson and his adventures.

If you are aged between 10 and 14 and have a book or series of books you would like to share please contact Laura at colourmehappykitchen@icloud.com

**Title**: Percy Jackson **Author**: Rick Riordan

Star Rating: 5 stars (out of 5)

**About these books**: Percy Jackson is a heroic character in an amazing five-book series by Rick Riordan. The books are set in modern day America and contain many characters and references from ancient Greek Mythology.

Have you ever heard of a half-blood? Because that's what Percy and lots of other children are – even if they don't yet realise it. In Greek Mythology, a half-blood is someone who is half mortal, half god. In these books, all the half-blood children take refuge in a place called Camp Half-Blood.

The first book, The Lightning Thief, starts in New York City, where Percy has been moving schools each year, until a monster attacks Percy and his mother. His mum takes Percy and Grover, his best friend from school, to a summer camp on Long Island. But this is no ordinary summer camp. It is protected by a mystical barrier that keeps mortals out and children safe inside, a place where they can learn fighting skills or just hang out with other campers.

Each book in the series follows Percy on a particular quest – for example retrieving magical artefacts, fighting horrifying monsters and occasionally running into a Greek god or goddess like Apollo or Artemis.

**My thoughts about the books**: The Percy Jackson series are the first books I've ever come across that were "un-putdown-able". They just hooked me in every time I picked them up because they're engaging, adventurous and I really like the characters.

During the first lockdown, I was reading them for up to three hours each day, so I got through the first set of books rather quickly. Luckily, there were two more sets of books describing Percy's other adventures! I also like these books because they are written as if they were Percy's diaries, telling you details of his thoughts and feelings (details you didn't find in the mediocre Hollywood films of the first books).

Plus, I like them because they connect very well to the topic of the Ancient Greeks that we studied in school for Year 5. I liked the series so much that I lent them out to a couple of friends from my class and they really enjoyed them too.



# Little Cherubs

As previous Little Cherubs (do they ever stop being little cherubs I wonder?!) we were delighted to receive our Valentine/Lent package through the door.



It contained: 2 heart shapes to decorate...A Valentine's Day colouring sheet...A little handwritten prayer on rainbow paper...A rainbow bracelet...A

pancake sheet with activity ideas...Two Lent challenge worksheets to try.



Thank you Jean, Karen, Harry, Mo and Sylvia, what a lovely surprise!

I especially love the "Love yourself through Lent" ideas sheet, full of self-care ideas for the lead up to Easter, and the "Together at Lent" challenge, 40 fun ideas to make a positive commitment to spending time together as a family with God.

My favourites from Together at Lent are: Encourage one another with words of truth...Donate to and pray for your local food bank...Build a den together and hang out with God...Dance to a favourite worship song...Plant some seeds together...Go for a walk in God's wonderful creation...Phone a family friend and remind them they are loved. And from Love yourself through Lent: *Turn off your phone for an hour...Watch a favourite film...Try a new hobby...Look for pictures in the clouds...Light a candle...Talk to a plant.* 

(If you would like a copy of either poster please contact the editor)

# Talking of Love, don't forget it's Mothering Sunday on 14th March!

Little Cherubs is a termtime group for pre-schoolers with a parent, grandparent or carer, held at St Peter's Church and featuring stories, singing, dancing, crafts and refreshments. £2 per family.

Sadly Little Cherubs is on hold at the moment due to the pandemic but will re-start as soon as permitted. Please contact Karen Rand on karenrand@gmail.com for more details.



# ★ Insight By Tom Rhind-Tutt MBE

Our 94-year-old lay minister, at St Peter's, shares his thoughts and experiences.

Each time I write one of these articles I try to share with you something that is really important to me. It may be a new discovery or an event that I recognise as being relevant to our present situation. I do not need to look far these days, for the coronavirus has disturbed our lives more than anything I can recall since the declaration of War in 1939.

Certainly, we now face unimagined challenges. I was recently amazed to discover that I have an unrecognised personal resource to help me, provided I learn how to use this amazing gift. Jim, a cousin of mine, recently died and he left in his Will sufficient money to pay for an illustrated 'Family History' to be distributed to relatives and close friends. Three cousins have gladly taken on the task of writing and producing the book. My role is to write the life story of my Father and his family. Last week was his 150<sup>th</sup> birthday!!

When I accepted the role, I knew that there were few documents or records on which I could draw. I would have to rely on family and friends and trust that my dyslexia did not get in the way. I took a blank sheet of paper and started to write down key dates and events. Over several weeks I produced a rough outline of some of the items that I felt might be included.

Each day I go for a walk for more than an hour so as to preserve my fitness. I enjoy walking in the beautiful countryside around Walton on the Hill, from the lovely woodland walks to the vast space on the Golf Course. One day I realised that usually when walking. I did not think about anything in particular but allowed my mind to wander. It occurred to me that, perhaps, I had hidden memories that could help me in my research. From then on in my walks, I would focus for an

hour or more on one particular time, or event in mv life.

Nothing happened until

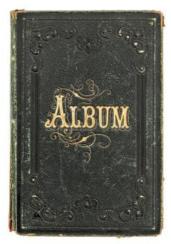
after an interval of about two weeks when I then realised that I could now 'imagine' a particular place and events. For example, I was able to 'imagine' when I was about age three and my brother Alec was born. A few weeks later, my Mother said that Gwen, our Governess, should sleep in the Nursery and I should be moved into the Box Room, I loved the Nursery with the black board, lovely coal fire and the familiar pictures round the walls. How I cried and protested!! All to no avail. How I hated that room!

Then Gwen took me to Miss Pulham's Toy Shop. She showed me wallpapers and transfers of Railway Engines and Trains, She said I could choose those I liked and she would paste them on my bedroom walls. I was delighted. Now I was so happy and proud of 'My Train Room'. I could 'see' the train transfers on the blue walls, the Aladdin oil heater, my little bed, the brown lino, the red rua...

Since then, my memory has 'brought to view' many places and situations. The detail is often significant. Always it starts by my



thinking of a particular place or circumstance for at least half an hour. During this time I often I find it hard to imagine the scene. Then two or three weeks later I can recall a huge amount of detail.



My daughter recently came across an old Family Photo Album from the 1930's. She lent it to me. Using a magnifying alass. I examined the detail in the pictures, so I could compare their reality

with what I had drafted. Everything that I had described was identical to the actual pictures. No wonder that the memory is so vivid.

These days I use this approach, sometimes, to dwell on events in the Bible. Later on, I sometimes receive lovely new 'understandings' for events have become so real to me. I intend to further explore this form of Meditation for it is a way to enter into a deeper understanding of how God is wanting to be an integral part of our lives. I have no idea if other WoW readers enjoy this ability to recover memory. I would be really interested to hear from Readers of their experiences past or recent. My good wishes to all our Readers for safe and happy lives.

Your Invitation — if you would like to talk about what Tom has described just email 'tom@rhindtutt.com' and he will gladly respond.

# An Easter Poem & Prayer by John Birch

Love poured out on that cruel cross, a blood offering so we might go free.

Love poured out, infusing this world with rivers of grace and hope of rebirth.

Love poured out, and into these hearts, who drink from a stream that never runs dry



Dear Lord,

We are often not the Easter People that we should be, living in the certain knowledge of your great mercy and love. Distracted by the world around us we fail to hear your voice, or hide when faith is challenged as we wander off the path. Forgive us, we pray; restore the love that we first had, a faith that can endure. We will keep our eyes fixed on you, Lord, and with you at our right hand we shall not be shaken. **Amen.** 

# <u>36</u>

### Christchurch - Can you help?

The foundations for a community garden continue at Christchurch, with lots of hard work and time invested so far.

The brambles have been especially tricky to remove but progression is noticeable, and the church is more noticeable and looks more welcoming already. Many thanks go to Janet Holah for all her work so far.

Some of the exciting plans include growing vegetables of all sorts to be used by the Open Group once they are able to resume their Saturday Kitchen activities, as well as the creation of a sunflower garden with the help of Walton on the Hill Primary School—rumour has it things might even get competitive!

A flower garden remains at the side adjacent to the main church entrance, planted up with perennials, roses, alpines and bulbs ready for the next growing season.

As it is a community garden in the heart of our village, Christchurch is looking for volunteers to both help prepare the site and



also help with planting and tending the crops, etc. It's hard work but very therapeutic and the more hands the better.

Any help would be very gratefully received. please do contact Janet on 01737 813494 or 07789 181455 if you can spare a few hours to be part of this fantastic community project. In addition if anyone has any spare capacity in their garden waste bin, that would also be very helpful.

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## Easter Lilies at St Peter's By Penelope Dring

As in previous years at Easter in St. Peter's, there will be lilies in remembrance of loved ones no longer with us.

If you would like to remember a loved one in this way, the list will be in the church porch until Palm Sunday morning (28th March). Please write your name and contact telephone number, and print clearly the names of those to be remembered - they will be inscribed in our special Easter Remembrance Book.

£6 per name to be inscribed - please give the money to me or the sidesperson on duty as soon as possible, alternatively ring Penelope on 01737 81 3719. Proceeds will go to St. Peter's.



#### A NOTE FROM NORMA

THE ROYAL MARSDEN Christmas cards. We just want to say THANK YOU to everyone who supported the charity by buying their Christmas cards. Marilyn Reid and I sold a fantastic £1,276 worth. Quite an achievement in these difficult times. We also sent a cheque for £350 to the hospital made up of extra donations, sales of craft items (made by Alison) refreshments and film show (42nd Street), and refreshments

at our gate on Boxing Day (socially distanced for any walkers passing by). The fund raising team were delighted with the result. Thank you and take care. Marilyn and Norma.

#### GREETINGS CARDS.

If you wish to purchase Greetings Cards that benefit St Peter's, please call me as I keep a supply at home. These are cards suitable for all occasions and are £1 each. Many thanks, Norma 01737 812639.

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### "Is there any evidence for the resurrection of Jesus?"

This is a really good question to ask and the answer is "Yes!"

Modern sceptics sometimes say "Dead people do not rise from the dead. Therefore Jesus Christ did not rise from the dead. End of discussion."

But to quote the UCCF publication Uncover "the philosophical question of induction, does not allow the conclusion to be drawn from the premise. Observation does not determine fixed laws, which may be used to determine whether something did or did not happen in the past. It merely establishes the probability of events of a certain type."

What cannot be denied is that the earliest Christians certainly believed Jesus had been raised from the dead. So let us look at the evidence at then decide what is most probable.

Jesus' mutilated body was wrapped tight in a linen cloth and placed in a rock tomb with a very heavy stone blocking the entrance. A guard of soldiers was placed to prevent the body being moved.

But three days later the stone was rolled away, the tomb was empty, the body missing. Moreover the disciples gave accounts of seeing the risen Jesus and a terrified group pf people found new courage to continue Jesus' ministry.

Of his closest followers all but one were martyred for proclaiming Jesus was God and had been raised from the dead. Was Jesus really dead?

Well the Roman flogging often killed people and crucifixion always did. A spear was



pushed into Jesus' heart to check he was dead and he was. Any idea that he revived in the tomb and escaped is ridiculous.

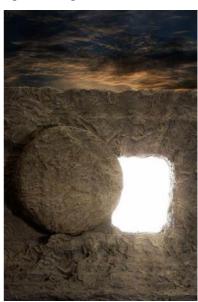
Did the Jewish leaders steal the body? Well if

they had they could have produced it to squash claims of resurrection.

Did the disciples steal the body? Well if they had done so would they really be willing to die for a lie?

The most probable explanation for their behaviour and for the growth of the early Church in the Roman Empire is that Jesus did rise from the dead.

But here is the rub and maybe the reason some people prefer to think of Jesus as dead. If he was raised then it gives considerable weight to the things he taught about himself. The logic is that he was and is the Son of God, that he loves us very much, that he did indeed die for our sins and that he will return to judge the living and the dead.



# Mother's $\mathsf{U}$ nion By Karen Rand

#### **Lent Reflection**

We welcomed Revd David Skitt to our February meeting and enjoyed a very



thoughtful and prayerful Lent Reflection. One member comments: "A beautiful hour ... as David guided our thoughts as we gently focused on our Lord and our Lenten journey. I could have easily continued for another hour!

#### **Modern Day Slavery**

On Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, Guildford Diocese MU has organised a zoom meeting with Suzette Jones who works for the Clewer Initiative. Suzette will be talking about Modern Day Slavery. All welcome to join via zoom.

### **Working Relationally for the Common** Good

On Tuesday 9th March at 8 pm our speaker is Professor Anne Edwards. a member of Walton MU and St Peter's church. Anne is going to share some of her ideas and research on 'Working Relationally for the Common Good'.

In summary: 'The pandemic has prompted many optimistic statements about the recalibration of society and more attention to the community-oriented values that could shape our interactions. Many of these pronouncements concentrate on the need to re-focus our thinking so that 'we' comes to dominate 'I'.

The Upswing, by Bob Putnam, the political scientist author of Bowling Alone, offers a convincing statistical analysis. At the same time church leaders including Pope Francis, the late Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks and

echo the need to focus on the 'we'. Jonathan Sacks

summarised the potential impact of the pandemic on this move: 'Rarely has it been clearer what we lose by focusing on the 'I' and gain by caring about the 'we'. When this is all over we shall emerge with a stronger sense of 'we'.'

Anne is a social scientist with no pretensions to being a theologian; but has long been concerned about the dangers of an overweening sense of self, or 'I', that is disconnected from responsibility with and for others.

In this session she will briefly outline the three 'relational concepts' she has developed over the last 20 years. They emerged in her research on how different professionals collaborate to support the social inclusion of marginalised children and families, and are 'relational expertise', 'common knowledge' and 'relational agency'. Anne will share a few examples in order to clarify these ideas; but the main purpose of the session is to consider their relevance to our lives and whether they might help inform a strong shift in society towards a 'we' focus.

To prepare for the discussion you might like to think of when someone has helped you with a problem or you have helped another, or perhaps when you hoped to help someone but couldn't and see whether these relational concepts make sense in connection with that experience. `

Our April meeting is at **8pm on 13th April.** Please email Karen Rand for details: karenrand@gmail.com



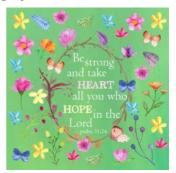
**Mothering Sunday** is the **14th March** this year. The Mothers Union website has a variety of ideas for children's crafts, reflections and prayers and also the opportunity to buy an ethical gift or card for any occasion to support the charity. Visit mueshop.org to find out more.

#### A prayer for Mothering Sunday

Gentle God, on this day we bring to you our prayers of gratitude for all mothers. Grant to them the courage that Mary had as they look after and cherish all those in their care.

### A prayer for Easter Sunday 4th April

Alleluia, Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia! We praise you for your triumph over sin and rejoice at your glorious resurrection. Grant us grace to live as Easter people, always rejoicing in this new life you have opened to us through your resurrection.



#### Important dates later in the year:

Oct 11<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Prison Week.

Nov 25<sup>th</sup> – Dec 10<sup>th</sup> 16 Days of Activism against gender violence. We hope that we may meet in person soon, but until then, we will continue our meetings on zoom. Please email Karen Rand: <a href="mailto:karenrand@gmail.com">karenrand@gmail.com</a> if you would like to join us for any of the meetings.

# Open Group & Village Kitchen By Mo Atkins

Open Group members are looking forward to being together in person, hopefully before too long. This year we will continue to raise funds for the Princess Alice Hospice. It is hard to believe that it is almost a year since 'Soup Saturdays', during Lent, became 'Soup Takeaways', from Christchurch Hall and then 'Soup Deliveries', from Norma's kitchen, as the scale of the pandemic became apparent. Now, at the start of Lent 2021, the soup ladles are out again though unfortunately it is only possible, under current guidelines, to provide soup to a restricted number. Roll on the day when we can be reunited and share soup, fellowship and more!

Epsom Food Bank was the grateful recipient of a Christmas Eve 'supermarket sweep'!

£100 worth of specially chosen groceries were donated by Sutta, manager of Walton Co-op, as part of the company's generous community strategy. A kind gesture, which was much appreciated.

#### THANK YOU CO-OP!

If you would like to be on the Open Group mailing list, please let us know, by email to Mo, <a href="mailto:moatkins@hotmail.co.uk">moatkins@hotmail.co.uk</a> or call Norma on 01737 812639.



# $\succeq$ Taking the Plunge by Chris Thompson

Keen bather and Romantic poet Lord Byron famously swam across the Dardanelles from Turkey to the Aegean in homage to ancient Greeks who performed the same legendary nautical feat. Lacking a maritime bridge between Europe and Asia in east Surrey, I chose the next best thing: Buckland lagoon, just off the A25.

Back in the summer my motivation was simple: how to stay fit – mentally and physically – during lockdown. Team sports were too risky and I did not wish to visit leisure centres, even when they were open. Jogging bored me to tears. And there weren't enough hours between work and home life for idle, leisurely walks.

That left swimming up to four times a week in a bucolic setting outside Reigate as the only viable alternative. My preference, I discovered, was widely shared. On any summer or early autumn evening during the week, or weekend morning, a dozen or more outdoor swimmers would congregate under a makeshift marquee organized by the Surrey Hills Adventure Company (SHAC). The effect of bathing in cool, clean water surrounded by moorhens and swans, was remarkable: apart from welcome exercise, I felt calmer and better able to manage stress.

As autumn progressed, numbers thinned. Not wishing to deprive Window on Walton readers of first hand, in-depth reportage, I chucked my wetsuit in late October when the lagoon was 10 degrees centigrade. A word on temperatures. Those who scoff at what may be considered the equivalent of a mild winter's day on dry land have obviously never swum in 10 degree water. Roughly speaking, wetsuits are strongly recommended for anything below 16 degrees. The Outdoor Swimming Society describes anything between 6-11 degrees as "freezing". In other words, it was eye-wateringly chilly.

If that sounds painful, it was. When water first encased my skin it felt like burning, with breath arriving in big, jolting gasps. If that prompts the inquiry, "Why continue?", it was



precisely this nagging doubt which flashed through my freezing cranium as I pushed off into the frigid depths.

And yet, with concentrated breathing, the body soon relaxed. This was acclimatization or, physically, the process of blood being preserved in your core organs at the expense of the extremities. After a minute or two of something close to panic my brain gave permission to swim on. Not in warmth but in comfort.

Cue the light-headed exhilaration of cutting through Baltic water enveloped by the sounds and smells of nature. With repeated swims acclimatization quickens. Two months after my first dip *au naturale* (or close enough), I could glide into 5.5 degrees water with practically no discomfort. To be sure, fingers and toes remain cold. Pain and eventual numbness in the latter are what usually pushed me out, some 15 minutes later, exhausted and giddy.

This was followed by a rush of endorphins combined with uncontrollable chattering as blood returns to the appendages. The shaking, I am reliably informed, is a sign of health: a tell-tale sign of hypothermia is an inability to shiver. The afterglow of a cold swim lasts with me for the rest of the day.

Having been suspended since New Year, the latest lockdown has been especially cruel. I crave the cold water. Forced to embark on another monotonous jog, I daydream one day of crossing Byron's Dardanelles.



# The joys and benefits of Learning Outside

With three sons and two dogs going outside has always been part of my family routine. The distinction blurs between walking our dogs and walking ourselves – we are all happier outside. Our dogs need to go out whatever the weather so that's what we do, no fuss, just layering up with waterproofs and pretending to be Peppa Pig jumping in puddles and sliding in the mud; or, if it's warm, slapping on sun-cream and hiding in the shade of the woods.

I have been a teacher for 20 years including 10 years at the Little School on the Green. Here I trained to be a Forest School Leader and this was a revelation for me. Having previously tried to deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum within the confines of the Church Hall, now we could spend the entire session outside in the woods. Communication and Language? Tick! Physical Development? Well yes, we barely stopped! Personal, Social and Emotional Development? Children could use the space and freedom of the woods to develop.

I moved to teaching part-time at Walton-on-

the-Hill Primary School in Cygnets class (Reception) and introduced Forest School to the school. It was thrilling to take classes outside, and we were rewarded by huge smiles, rich discussion and interest in our environment and, oh yes, very muddy children!

We've encountered problems along the way. The Heath is a public space so we share our adventures with dog walkers and other members of the public. As part of our Risk Assessment we discuss Stranger Danger (we 'Say Hello but we DO NOT go'), litter, dog mess and standing quietly should a dog or horse come near. This is why, if you see us, please avoid the group and don't be offended if we stop what we're doing and stand quietly until you pass by; we need to ensure the group behaves respectfully and safely.

Campfires are not allowed on the Heath so we have been developing a Fire Circle at our School Playing fields (Breech Lane). Here we cook, do Science experiments and involve the whole class in the process. We have made Gruffalo crumble using apples from our fruit trees, cooked and flipped pancakes, discovered how to make different dyes by





boiling different plants, and enjoyed whole evenings of camping songs and eating s'mores as successive Year 4s camped overnight on our fields.

Over the years I have witnessed the huge benefits of being outside. Children who are quiet in class come to life in the woods, blossoming into explorers and investigators. Children who prefer strict routines with predictable outcomes might be expected to flounder in the open ended environment of Forest School. They might start off wanting their den to be 'The Best' but over time come to appreciate the skills of others, and question what does 'The Best' really mean? The freedom of being outside often dissipates behavioural problems, children have space to breathe, avoid frictions and actually have time to learn.

Having said this, we find some children do need a little support to take advantage of what's on offer and let go of a supporting adult's hand. We plan structured activities to engage children who might find the initial freedom overwhelming. It is worth bearing in mind that some children are not allowed to play outside at home; one child shared that she's discouraged from playing in her garden 'because she might get muddy'. For many children, their normal day (pre-Covid) was home-car-school-car-home.

Covid-19 has certainly led to discussion about the benefits of learning outside. Our school has been open throughout the Pandemic providing education for Key Worker children in school and Home Learning for everyone



else. Recent outdoor learning highlights include supporting the RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch and throwing ourselves (literally!) into the snow building snowmen, igloos, sledging runs and snow angels.

When all children do return to school, being outside will be a key part of our support strategy. It is perhaps our biggest asset in building stamina and supporting physical and mental health, and we have never been more appreciative of our beautiful locality.



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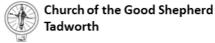
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## **Community Support in Tadworth and Walton**

# Support for all residents

This support continues to help those isolated, or isolating, at home. If a second wave of Covid-19 affects us, we will be there to offer

- a) help with shopping;
- b) prescription collection and delivery;
- c) friendship and telephone support.

Also, thanks to donations, a hardship fund can make small grants where there is a particular short-term need.

### **Volunteers**

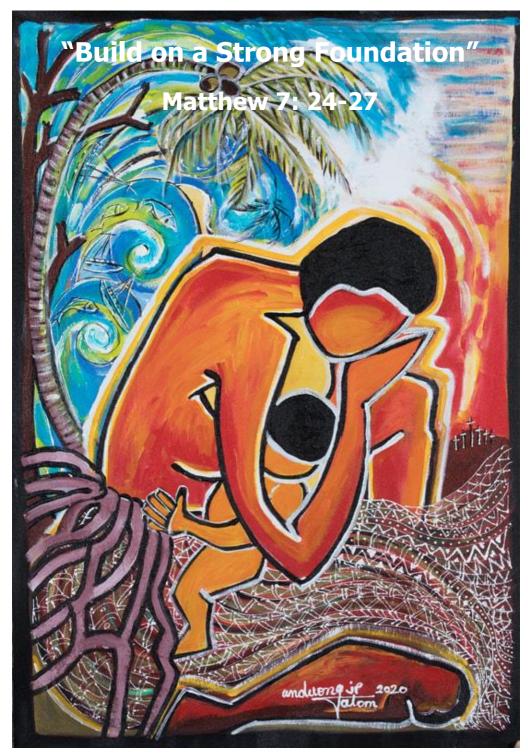
All volunteers are local residents and are vetted. It is a tribute to our community spirit that so many of you volunteered to help. With some volunteers returned to work, or to college studies, we may ask again those who were not needed in the Spring. If you would like to join the volunteer list, do contact us.

### **CONTACTS**

Mike Fox TWRAandWatch@virginmedia.com 01737 350452
Mo Atkins moatkins@hotmail.co.uk 07799 136894
Norma Darter normadarter@hotmail.co.uk 01737 812639
Timothy Astin tim.astin@virginmedia.com 07786 667170







# World Day of Prayer 2021 by Mo Atkins

During the 29th episode of the current series of University Challenge, in February, Jeremy Paxman asked,

'Which country was formerly called the New Hebrides? It was renamed when it gained independence in 1980?'

**'VANUATU**' came the correct answer from the Magdalene College, Cambridge team.

Until recently, that question and answer would not have meant more to me than just another passing, interesting fact, but this time it had significance.

Why? Because this year's World Day of Prayer (WDP) Service has been prepared by the Christian women of the scattered islands of **VANUATU**.

The annual service, which is women led, was scheduled, to take place, as is custom, on the first Friday of March. This year it is the turn of St Mary's, Headley, to act as hosts to our local group of churches.

We had been looking forward to carrying out the wishes of the women of Vanuatu, in their thoughtfully prepared service, on the theme, 'Build on a Strong Foundation'.

However, at the time of writing plans for the coming months remain uncertain. It is very much hoped to hold the actual service, later in the year, at St. Mary's, where we shall look forward to refreshments, afterwards, in the wonderful, newly built 'Octagon'.

In the meantime, the local WDP committee is planning to mark the actual **World Day of Prayer**, on **FRIDAY**, **5th MARCH**, with a short collection of virtual readings and prayers from Vanuatu.

WDP is a global movement (formerly known as the Women's World Day of Prayer) and, on the world clock, Vanuatu is one of the first

countries to hold the service, written by its own people, helping to set off the 'wave of prayer'.

Every year, it is moving to think that, all over the world, churches are using the same order of service, in the same twenty four hour period. It seems right to be part of that plan, if only in a small way.

If you would like to join, via Zoom, or for further information, please contact Mo on 07799136894 or email:
moatkins@hotmail.co.uk

Those who came to St Peter's last year will remember the sun streaming, through the stained glass windows, as we celebrated the words of the women of Zimbabwe.

Sadly, I was to report, in the next edition of Window on Walton, that this was the last occasion on which the church was filled with worshippers, before services were suspended, for the first lockdown.

Let us hope that this year's WDP service will be one of the first to be held after the latest, prolonged period of restriction and that we can start to 'Build on a Strong Foundation'



# **Walton Parochial Charities**

Providing help and creating hope in Walton on the Hill Are you struggling to make ends meet?



If you live within the parish of Walton on the Hill then the Walton Parochial Charities could help you.

This fund was created some time ago to provide relief for those 'in need,' the sick or disabled, distressed and the elderly within the Walton on the Hill parish

### How can we help?

If you or anyone you know is struggling to make ends meet and could do with some help then please ask them to leave a message in confidence of course at the St Peter's Church office on 01737 668254 and someone will return their call. Alternatively email admin@stpeterswoth.org

We Want to Help.



# Local History: Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George By Robert Ruddell

On the eve of the First World War the Walton Heath Golf Club membership included four past and future Prime Ministers: -

Arthur James Balfour (Cons) 1902-1905
David Lloyd George (Lib) 1916-1922
Andrew Bonar Law (Cons) 1922-1923
Sir Winston Churchill (Cons) 1940-1945 and 1951 to 1955.

David Lloyd George from 1913 until 1919 had a house in the village in Nursery Road where he spent much of his time during the war often playing golf. 'The war is obviously being conducted from Walton's 19<sup>th</sup> hole,' someone said after Lloyd George became prime minister of the coalition government in 1916.



'Clearly far more of the business of Britain was done on Walton Heath than in the House of Commons,' another author commented in retrospect.

This is my synopsis of his life whilst living in the village. If you would like to read more then I recommend reading a delightful book written by Ffion Hague in 2008. 'The Pain and Privilege' The Women in Lloyd George's Life.

The following article first appeared in 2017 in *The Banstead Library Display:* 

Walton on the Hill's most notable resident was David Lloyd George, Prime Minister from 1916-22. In 1907, when he was 44, and President of the Board of Trade, he was persuaded by George Allardice Riddell to join him as a member at Walton Heath Golf Club where he remained a member until 1945.

In 1911 Lloyd George was playing there once or twice a week. By 1913 the members of the golf club included six Cabinet ministers, (four on the committee), 24 MPs, 21 Lords, and two Bishops. Winston Churchill's political alliance with Lloyd George was facilitated by their mutual enthusiasm for golf.

It was 1911 when Frances Stevenson came to work in the Lloyd George household as a



private tutor in French and music to his daughter Megan. Megan went to Garretts Hall School in Banstead during term time, returning to Downing Street for holidays. Before long a close relationship was formed which was to all purposes another marriage. In 1929 Frances had a daughter, Jennifer Mary.

Riddell had become Lloyd George's audience, listening post, sounding board, informant, occasional adviser and general confidant. His Rolls Royce and London House, 20 Queen Anne's Gate could be placed at the politician's disposal.

Riddell built a house for David and a few days before completion in February 1913 it was bombed and damaged by the Suffragettes. The house named Cliftondown (now Pinfold), enabled David to indulge in his two passions golf and his secretary—mistress Frances; and was ideal for their liaison as it was beyond the village, well screened by thick hedges, and not far from Wallington where she still lived with her parents. Frances spent 30 years as his political confidante, becoming the first—ever female Private Secretary at 10 Downing Street. The situation, secret and complex, required juggling and deft manipulation at all times.

The respectability Francis craved was hers at last in 1943, but she was to be married for less than two years before he died.

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WALTON AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY by KENNETH R CLEW 1968



**Cliftondown (later Pinfold Manor)** 

# <u>₩</u>Walton Village Forum



Don't forget to visit the new Walton Village Forum website for the latest on what's happening in our village. There is information about Forum meetings, village history, a social wall and a fantastic blog. The latest blog posts include how to get the most out of on-line school, walking routes and scavenger hunt ideas for kids and an excellent mental health interview.

The following is modified from the latest blog post about walking in our local area, something we can all agree is made a lot more enjoyable thanks to the tireless efforts of our litter pickers, to whom once again we extend our gratitude.

"Although a lot of our freedoms might have been cut off from the lockdown, at least we are allowed to walk, and where better to explore than Walton on the Hill and the surrounding area?! Most of us can probably say that we didn't walk anywhere *near* as much as we do now, and it's become a lot more precious and appreciated! There are so many unexplored places to see and paths to take if you need a change of scenery. Why not try this scavenger hunt activity if you have small people to entertain along the way?!



Or Try visiting <a href="https://fancyfreewalks.org">https://fancyfreewalks.org</a> for some specific walking routes to suit your time and energy budgets.

#### Scavenger hunt!

Why not try to see how many of these things you can spot on your next walk?!

- 5 birds!
- 5 different types of tree!
- A rabbit holes or homes for small animals, like bird nests!
- Worms on the ground!
- Large, long sticks or branches on the ground that you could use as a hiking stick!
- Pretty flowers look at what colour they are and see what they smell like!
- Have 5 cars passed you? Count the number of blue cars you see!
- 2 squirrels!
- See or hear 3 airplanes!"

Finally, another mention for local photographer Andrew Wilson's book "Wild About Walton and the Surrey Hills". As many of you know the Walton Village Forum are selling these to raise funds in support of our local community projects and initiatives. Definitely worth getting hold of a copy if you don't have one already, so please don't hesitate to get in touch should you like one. It will certainly help with the crossword on page 42!

In closing, if anyone would like to get involved with the Forum or share ideas or suggestions please don't hesitate to get in touch via info@waltonvillageforum.org.

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## Walton on the Hill Primary School By Headteacher Tim Samuel



In the previous edition of Window on Walton I wrote about how excited we were to be back together as a school community in January 2021, the challenges of 2020 firmly behind us.

That lasted a single day in January; since then we have been subject to a new way of working under Lockdown 3.0.

Despite being physically separated, our school community remains strong and I would like to thank our school staff team, parents/carers and the wider community of our village for their support and kindness.

What has *surprised* me over the last 6 weeks is how many people have asked me what I have been up to since our school closed on 5<sup>th</sup> January! Walton on the Hill Primary School has been *fully* open to all children throughout. We have physically welcomed around 30% of pupils, whether as

children of critical workers or having a specific need to be in school, while delivering remote learning to children

at home.

All members of the staff have risen to the challenge, working tirelessly to provide comprehensive learning packs for children of all ages and deliver live learning via Zoom. They have maintained an open dialogue with families to address any challenges around learning and monitor and provide feedback on the work uploaded from home. All this whilst teaching in school as well.

Quite simply the commitment, professionalism and creativity of every member of staff to support all the children in our community during this challenging time has been astounding. We have received some fantastic feedback from parents and our survey has informed how we have shaped our offer in these past few months.

One key message I have shared with all members of our school community throughout Lockdown is the importance of physical, emotional and mental wellbeing. I have spent time at home when my own children have been isolating and trying to keep on top of my own work alongside supporting their learning is tough.

I would never suggest that education is not important, but given the challenges many families are facing I asked our school community not to let school-work put any extra pressure on family life. We can work together to establish what gaps a child may have in their education within a few months, however, it could take years to repair any emotional damage.

With every household's circumstances different there may have been times when children just could not complete all the work for a whole host of reasons and our school community recognises that this is absolutely fine. It is all about balance.

Recently on the radio a listener shared that whatever we are currently going through every day is one day closer to the end of Lockdown. Another commentator shared that at that the end of every storm comes the rainbow. These resonate with me as we continue to work our hardest to keep mind and soul healthy.

I write this article having spent the day with my daughter cooking pancakes of every imaginable flavour. On the eve of Lent I reflected on this special time. As I have historically I will forgo my vices of crisps and chocolate, but I will also consider what I will change over the next 40 days. I also like to think of Lent as being a time to add in elements of a positive lifestyle. This year each day I will be more disciplined in ensuring 20 minutes each of exercise, playing or listening to music, and reading (for either leisure or in a professional role).

An hour a day of 'me' time may be a challenge but I hope to stick to this as far as possible for a sustainable professional, spiritual and personal benefit.

I have heard the term 'Build Back Better' many times recently. By quoting it here please note I am in no way aligning with any group or expressing any political affiliation, however, it is a concept that we as a school staff have been contemplating as we plan for the future.

What changes to pre-Covid life might we make, both in the short and long term? Initially, when we can open our doors fully again, our absolute priority is to welcome the children back into school and ensure that they and their families feel safe and secure while with us. Moving forward we would like to retain the use of technology to improve communications with all stakeholders and to enhance the connection between home-life and school.

This year there will be no formal testing or SATs (Standard Assessment Tests) and we aim to spend the time ensuring the curriculum reflects what the children need for the next step in their journey. For our Cygnets and Swans that might be phonics and emerging writing, in year 6 it is readying for transition to secondary school.

On all levels I hope that there are some sustainable and meaningful changes once the pandemic is finally under complete control and I would urge all members of our community to consider what the positives are from this challenging time and how these can be continued going forward.

Schools are still open!

Children are still learning!

### TWOAT Tadworth & Walton Overseas Aid Trust By Mike Fox



Eye Patients, St Luke's

An unexpected benefit from the pandemic has been the much greater use being made of video conferencing in general and the Zoom software system in particular. This has enabled the TWOAT Committee to talk directly to some of the contacts from projects we support.

Our previous approach was that a member of our committee would be nominated as our principal contact and they would keep in touch with projects, in the old days via letters but more recently via email and telephone. At a TWOAT committee meeting each project's nominated principal contact would give a brief report of the current situation identifying any additional financial or other help that might be needed.

At our Annual Meeting we typically invite one project contact to come and give a talk to those of our supporters who could attend that night. As we normally support over 20 individual projects our supporters had little opportunity for direct interaction with most of them. However, since we started to use Zoom for Committee meetings with our projects and throwing open an invitation to our supporters to join the discussions, we have provided access to about 1/3 of our projects.

The most recent discussion was with two doctors who were given the immense task four years ago of restarting medical services at an abandoned mission hospital, St Luke's, in rural India. To complicate their task they have to regularly return to the UK, they are currently in the Shetlands, to practise medicine here. This is both to provide supplements to their income to sustain them in India and importantly to preserve their qualifications as medical practitioners in the UK.

They spoke to us from the Shetlands as they cannot currently return to India. It was an inspirational experience to hear what they have achieved so far in terms of re-establishing facilities for both outpatients and eye surgery at St Luke's and using some of our funds to facilitate this.

We plan to continue these Zoom sessions, even after the lock down is over, so please regularly check our website <a href="https://www.TWOAT.org">www.TWOAT.org</a> to see when you can participate and hear first-hand about the projects we support.

Please contact Mike Fox mike.fox2@ntlworld.com or 01737 350452 to be added to the TWOAT supporters' list.

# The "Level Up" Project By Mike Fox

The Level Up Project is being run by Raven Housing Trust on behalf of Reigate & Banstead Council.

Its purpose is to solicit donations of no longer required laptops from residents or businesses that can be refurbished for use by pupils trying to do school work in homes where there are inadequate or no IT facilities.

The response since the New Year has been excellent with over 300 donations of which 175 have already been refurbished and passed to the schools that need them.

However, across the borough the level of demand is in excess of 1,000 laptops so there is a long way still to go. The laptops have to use the Windows 7 or later software (note that means Windows XP and Windows Vista as well as Apple systems are not suitable).

Help has already been provided by large businesses such as Pfizer with a grant towards the refurbishment costs and Fidelity who have provided staff volunteers to carry out the refurbishment.

A team of volunteer drivers has been recruited to collect and deliver laptops but more could be needed in future. If you have a laptop that might be suitable or if you work for a company that be replacing older systems or if you are a potential driver please contact Mike Fox on 01737 350452 or <a href="mike.fox2@ntlworld.com">mike.fox2@ntlworld.com</a> for further information.

Alternatively visit the Level Up project web site at <a href="https://www.varb.org.uk/level-up/">https://www.varb.org.uk/level-up/</a>

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**Walton Pharmacy Prescription Delivery.**  For patients who are self isolating and do not have a friend or relative to collect their prescription.

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Striding Into Motherhood

A free local support group for new mums and mums to be, looking for support through the coronavirus

www.facebook.com/groups/ stridingintomotherhood

**Walton Parochial Charity** 

Are you struggling financially? St Peter's has a small fund available to help anyone in need living in the Walton on the Hill parish.

01737 668254 Please leave a message.

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https://www.coop.co.uk/

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#### **SUNDAYS**

- **8.00am 1662 Prayer Book Communion** (45mins) This is a quiet traditional and spoken service of Communion with a short talk (a wonderful way to start the day)
- **11.00am Main Morning Service** (60mins)This service is our main service of the day. We welcome you all, safe and socially distanced. Please register your interest at admin@stpeterswoth.org

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday is an ALL-AGE Service



 $2^{\text{nd}}$  Sunday is a Parish Communion Service (more traditional)



3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday is a FAMILY Service



4<sup>th</sup> Sunday is a FAMILY Communion Service (less traditional)





#### **Private Praver**

Sundays and Thursdays, a quiet time at St Peter's to reflect and pray.

Sunday 1-4pm

Thursday 9am -4pm

#### Read, Mark, Learn

Is back on Zoom on Thursday evenings at 8pm, looking at the Acts of the Apostles.

March 11th and 25th

April 8th and 22nd

#### **Lent Course: Psalms**

8pm—9pm on Zoom every Wednesday from 24th February to 31st March. Contact Harry for more details.



Well Being—Realistic Optimism By Tracy Latham

After what has felt to many like a particularly long and tough winter, I find myself thinking about the theme of optimism, or perhaps more particularly hope.

As we head towards the spring equinox and the gradual lengthening of the light and with the vaccination programme being rolled out so successfully across our nation, I do find myself feeling more hopeful and optimistic.

And I am very glad about this because I believe it is nearly impossible to persevere, meet challenges, and recover from failures, if you do not have hope.

How many times have you been working way too long and hard, with no success in sight, and felt yourself begin to lose hope?

A lack of hope drains our energy and slows us down. A line in one of my favourite songs says 'lost hope is a barren land and nothing lives there.'

"The brain is a bit like Velcro when it comes to the negative...the positive...takes 15 seconds longer to hold"

However, psychologist John Townsend warns us against a wrong kind of hope. He writes that 'there is a type of hope that won't help you. Psychologists call it defensive hope.

This is an expectation of a good outcome that is based on nothing but wishes and desires. There is no reality to the expectation, and it will fail you.'

When we moved in to the Rectory, I was full of hope as I began to plant up a large and empty flower bed in the back garden. I merrily bought plants I hoped would grow well and was very optimistic they would.

**CORE** Counselling

However much to my dismay at least a half of them were devoured by slugs within weeks. My hope and my optimism were not grounded in reality. I had done no research into finding slug resistant plants and I did not put down any slug pellets. Nor did I ask my neighbours if they could share their experience of what grows well in our vicinity.



The result was much disappointment. I think that optimism alone would not have helped me bounce back from this. In fact, it might have led me to plant more plants desperately wanting them to do better but without any evidence that they would.

What I needed was a dose of something called 'Realistic Optimism.' This is an optimism that is grounded in reality and action rather than just wishes and desires.

This optimism requires us to own and embrace both the negative and the positive and when we do this, we are in a better position to problem—solve and empower ourselves. Being with people who have realistic belief in us and can hear, accept and contain both our positive and negative feelings and experiences can also be very helpful and can help us learn and grow and feel more energised, creative and able to rebuild.

"...an optimism that is grounded in reality and action rather than just wishes and desires."

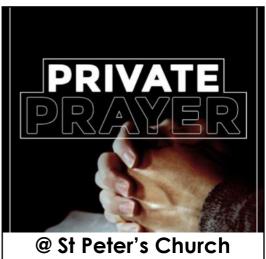
After 12 months of setbacks and disappointments I think that many of us are in need of hope and some Realistic Optimism.

In order to achieve this, we may well need to make space to acknowledge our disappointment, sadness and anger. We may also need to sit with the positive and the signs of hope.

The other day I heard someone say that the brain is a bit like Velcro when it comes to the negative; it sticks instantly and strongly. But with regards to the positive it is more like an old-fashioned glue; it takes 15 seconds longer to take hold.

So as spring approaches, I hope we can take time to sit and grieve what has been hard and what has been lost. But also sit with the signs of hope.

The spring bulbs coming into flower encourage us that seasons change; that there can be new energy to rebuild and hope for the future. And I trust there will be things that were discovered in Lockdown that have value in the year ahead.



Sunday 3-4pm

Thursday 11am-12noon



## Window On Walton Crossword Number 1!

I hope you enjoy the first Window on Walton crossword of recent times!

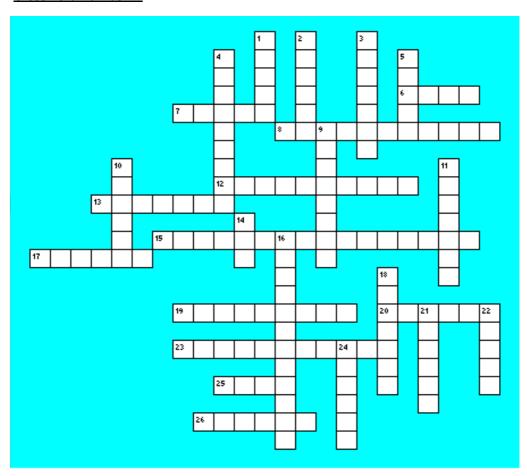
Many thanks go to Liz and John Bishop for most of the clues.

Lots of the answers can be found in this edition of the magazine, and also Wild about Walton and the Surrey Hills, the new book by local photographer Andrew Wilson.

If you fancy trying your brain at creating clues for the May-June WoW crossword, please contact the editor on colourmehappykitchen@icloud.com.

A full set of answers can be obtained by emailing the editor.

#### **Crossword number 1.**



#### **Down**

- 1. Not one for ball games (5)
- 2. Origin of Commonwealth soldiers billeted in WOTH in WWII (6)
- 3. Fixture removed from St Peter's in 2012 (7)
- 4. PM member of Walton Heath Golf Club (9)
- 5. Quarterly WOTH Meeting (5)
- 9. First shelter on reaching St Peter's (8)
- 10. Most likely place to spot a swan in WOTH(6)
- 11.Manor House Home to 15 across and 23 across (7)
- 14. Wise church body (1,1,1)
- 16. Cause of explosion at 11 down (12)
- 18. Architect of Chussex in Nursery Road and associate of 17 across (7)
- 21.Royal member of Walton Heath Golf Club (6)
- 22. Current canine resident at The Rectory (5)
- 24. 20th Century politician who owned Walton Manor (6)

#### Across

- 6. Divisive Screen (4)
- 7. Number of bells in St Peter's tower (5)
- 8. Once home to Catherine of Aragon (6,5)
- 12.Location of St Peter's Millennium Window (4,6)
- 13. A step up for St Peter's choir (7)
- 15. Mistress then wife of 23 across, resided at 11 down (7,9)
- 17. Nowhere to Hyde for this famous green fingered creator at Dormy House (6)
- 19. Pistol Vertex (3, 6)
- 20. The Bell (3,3)
- 23. Prime resident of Nursery Road (5,6)
- 25. Oldest part of St Peter's interior, said to date back to Henry VIII (4)
- 26. London bookshop occupying the Riddell Hall during WWII (6)

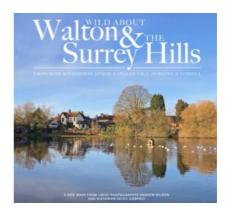




Maybe you have fond memories of the local schools? The wonderful village May Pageant? Maybe your garden or you yourself feature in it?







## 36

## Local Chef Laura Palmer Easy pesto-stuffed mushrooms



You might not think there is "mushroom" in your life for this humble relative of the toadstool, but these really put the "fun" in fungi. (Sorry.) This dish is frugal, vegetarian and easily vegan (though if you are averse to a meat free meal feel free to add some chopped prosciutto). It's perfect as starter or main course, and lassy enough to upscale for a buffet or dinner party, in less socially awkward times of course. You could even use chestnut mushrooms and serve it as a canape. Use gluten free bread if you prefer a gluten free version. Clearly.

Serve a couple of these atop a bed of baby leaves for a lunchtime treat, or for a more substantial meal, use to crown some spaghetti and tomato sauce for an alternative to meatballs.



6 large portobello mushrooms

2 slices of stale bread

1 red onion

2 garlic cloves

3 tablespoons of pesto

2 tablespoons pine nuts

About 15 pitted kalamata olives

30g strong cheddar style cheese (optional)

3-4 tablespoons light olive oil

Optional: 2-3 slices prosciutto, chopped

Sea salt to taste

- 1. Grate or crumble the bread and pop in a shallow dish in a medium oven (140C fan) for about 20 minutes or until lightly browned.
- 2. Finely chop the onion and fry in 2 tbsp of the oil until soft. Add two good pinches of salt. Meanwhile rinse and dry the mushrooms and remove the stalks.
- 3. Roughly chop the stalks and add to the onion in the pan. Grate in the garlic. Stir well and cook, stirring, until stalks have softened.
- 4. Turn off the heat, add about 2/3 of the toasted breadcrumbs and all the pesto. Taste and add salt if necessary. Or prosciutto.
- 5. Take a large flat dish, toss the mushroom boats in the remaining oil and place skin side down in the dish. Divide the pesto mix between the mushrooms.
- 6. Top with the olives, cheese and a scattering of pine nuts. Bake at 200C for 15-20 minutes or until the mushrooms are cooked through.









### Walton In Bloom in conjunction with the Walton Village Forum

By Jean Bye and Janet Collis

We hope you are all well and keeping safe. Isn't wonderful to see spring bulbs emerging? Do look out for our latest bulb planting efforts opposite Walton Newsagent!

Have you ever heard of a bulb lasagne? I'm trying this out myself (see picture) - basically you plant bulbs, usually in a container, with the earliest flowering at the top followed underneath by later varieties in order of flowering. Sarah Raven's website has a video that explains this well, her bulb selection is wonderful too. You can find her

at sarahraven.com

A bith lasagne

freshwater shrimps, and if you're lucky, a few damselflies darting around the water. You might even see a bird having a bath.

Place away from bright sunshine and deep shade. Stack large stones at one end for wildlife to enter or climb out, add water and enjoy choosing a few aquatic plants.

Don't add wildlife as they will find the pond for themselves. Choose your plants from a local aquatic garden centre.

Visit the garden section at www.rspb.org.uk for more details on creating mini-ponds in your garden.

Finally, Christchurch is hoping to create a community garden and needs your help to get the beds ready and tend the crops. The more people that get involved, the easy it will be to look after. Please contact Janet Holah on 01737 813494 or 07789 181455.

#### JOBS FOR MARCH AND APRIL

- 1. Now is a good time to order your plug plants and seeds. There are some lovely seed and flower catalogues out there and online.
- 2. Remove a few inches of compost from your containers and replace with new compost to give the plants a good start.
- 3. Apply a good layer of mulch to the borders to suppress weeds.
- 4. Sow herb seeds directly into containers for a constant supply throughout the summer.

Do you have an old Belfast/Butler sink in your garden? Why not pot up a pond? Young children love to get involved in this. It's exciting to watch pond skaters, water lice (like long-legged underwater woodlice),



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## **Treemasters**

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Walton Heath Manor is a residential care home for older people and we are committed to promoting independence and diversity in personal choice. We understand the importance of personal preferences and aim always to respond in a manner which makes every individual feel valued and respected. Walton Heath Manor also offers short stay breaks for convalescence and respite care.

For further information or to be sent a brochure please call us on

Walton Heath Manor, Hurst Drive, Walton-on-the-Hill, Surrey KT20 7QT email: admin@whmanor.co.uk www.whmanor.co.uk



PUBLIC SERVICES							
Doctors	Heathcote Medical Centre	360202					
	Box Hill	843525					
Police	Surrey Police	01483 571212 or 101					
Hospitals	Epsom General	01372 735735					
	St Helier	020 8644 4343					
	Leatherhead	01372384384					
CHARITIES							
Home Farm Trust	Kevin Shaw	812223					
RSPCA	Regional Control Centre	08705 555999					
Swan Sanctuary Helpline	MCI . F	01932 240790					
TWOAT	Mike Fox	350452					
Dyscover	Rosemary Townsend	819419					
R.N.L.I Friends Of St Peter's	Margaret Fox Philip Truett	350452 813832					
Age Concern	Timp Tracti	352156					
Banstead Live At Home	Tracy Baxter	07968 351211					
The Children's Trust	ridey baxes	365000					
Walton Parochial Church Charity		668254					
HALLS AVAILABLE							
Community Centre-bookings	Ann Liddle	819959					
Riddell Hall	Catherine Shrimpton	813265					
Walton Scout & Guide HQ	Julia Boddy	812371					
Walton Primary School	Mrs Young	812103					
Christchurch Hall	Sheila Brotherhood	813678					
GROUPS							
Christchurch Guild	Shelia Brotherhood	813678					
Gage Players Amateur Dramatics	S. Currie	359283					
Open Group	Mo Atkins	813834					
The Arts Society	Mike Roshier	01372 813196					
Tadworth & Walton Residents	Gillian Bockmeulen	355206					
Association		04070 077007					
Walton on the Hill & District Local History Society	Peter Denyer	01372 377337					
Walton Village Forum	Grant Webster	819915					
Mothers Union-Mothers & Uthers	Karen Rand	213311					
SCHOOLS/NURSERIES/GROUPS							
Walton on the Hill Primary School	Timothy Samuel	812103					
Walton Toddler Group	Joanne Woods	07751686874					
Little Cherubs	Karen Rand	213311					
SCOUTING & GIRLGUIDING							
Rainbows	Tracy Honeyman	02086438021					
Brownies	Avril Farley	356160					
Guides	Beverly Heywood-Jones	351761					
Group Scout Leader	Avril Farley	356160					
Parents wishing to register a child for Beavers or Cubs please contact	Anna Yates	annafeatherstone@hotmail.com					
Beavers or Cubs please contact	4.5						



#### **MOTHERS DAY WORDSEARCH**

Α	D	М	0	Х	W	F	Т	S	U	Р	S	٧	N	S	W	Q	В
U	Р	D	C	٧	Α	Х	Α	Н	S	Т	0	S	В	М	J	U	G
Т	C	Н	В	Ε	Ε	Т	S	U	0	E	G	Α	R	U	0	C	J
U	Υ	0	Х	0	В	Н	Н	Ν	D	G	L	Ε	S	D	N	P	А
S	D	Р	S	K	J	0	Р	0	В	N	٧	F	N	Α	C	C	Х
D	J	Р	Υ	1	М	U	Μ	М	Υ	I	R	Υ	L	J	P	0	٧
F	Ε	L	Т	Ν	Ε	G	Υ	R	Z	R	E	В	0	E	D	E	J
G	Ν	Ε	Ν	D	М	Н	D	Ε	C	U	D	D	L	E	S	Α	Υ
L	C	В	K	0	S	Т	Α	М	Т	Т	N	P	Α	N	Υ	0	T
L	0	٧	Ε	S	R	F	S	R	Ν	R	E	R	F	D	0	R	C
D	U	F	Ε	S	G	U	Н	S	Ε	U	М	0	N	U	F	E	U
Н	R	S	S	R	S	L	0	٧	1	Ν	G	В	Х	R	U	Н	В
С	Α	R	Е	P	В	R	Υ	L	Т	В	F	L	P	L	Α	R	Z
S	G	В	L	Е	S	S	Ε	D	Α	Q	0	Е	Т	N	Т	E	Ν
Α	1	S	Т	C	Е	Т	0	R	P	Υ	٧	М	Т	G	K	P	N
R	Ν	F	Р	М	Н	C	J	R	М	М	0	S	Т	P	Z	U	G
J	G	Ν	1	S	Т	J	0	Υ	F	U	L	0	E	Н	Ε	S	1
L	L	U	F	1	Т	U	Α	Ε	В	0	Н	L	S	D	W	Α	K
Ε	R	R	1	В	D	W	G	Ε	G	Ν	1	٧	L	G	R	0	F
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Н	С	Q	E	Υ	U	Р	S	D	K	P	С	R	Χ	М	U	F	С

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Where in Walton is this.......

Answer in the next issue.



And the answer to last issues photo is...Christchurch







# Come and Join The Arts Society Walton on the Hill

Riddell Hall, Deans Lane, Walton on the Hill KT20 7UL

Because of Covid 19 we are following Government Guide lines and will only commence our meetings when advised it is safe to do so.

From September 2020 we are having Lectures from our incredible Lecturers every month via Zoom Our normal Lecture Days are on the Third Thursday of The Month (except August)

If you love the Arts this is for you For more information see our web site:www.theartssocietywaltononthehill.org.uk

Or contact our Membership Secretary Mike Roshier 01372 813196

