



WEST END VILLAGE SOCIETY

Visit us on: www.wevs.org.uk

Summer 09
Journal
Issue 160

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Dear Members,

Yet another busy month for WEVS, and for me...so I will try to be brief and outline the key issues on which we are active or monitoring. I hope that you are enjoying our new web site www.wevs.org.uk, through which you can keep up to date with all that is relevant to West End. Please also scan the diary pages to see all local events for the future. Feedback on the web site has been very positive and helpful, but of course we always would like more!! This is essential for future development of the site.

WEVS are very concerned with the current trend to reduce hours at the West End Doctors surgery. They are now closed on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. This is obviously a major concern especially for the ill/ elderly who will now have to struggle to Chobham. The Practise Manager is cutting costs and reallocating resource to Chobham. From a practical point of view, West End has 8,000 patients to Chobham's 3,000 this makes no sense. Finance needs to be allocated according to need. For details please see our web site.

On the planning front, BP has succeeded in pushing through its development plans, as we understand there is no M & S as was reported, however plans are much more in keeping with the requirements of the village and some consideration has been given to the neighbouring residential properties with limited opening hours and protection for the landmark poplar trees so visible from around the village. Thank you for your support over the years.

I recently, together with John Pearman & Graham Alleway, went to see our local MP Michael Gove to present the petition of over 2000 signatures against a possible large housing allocation. He encouraged us to continue with our campaign and pledged to give his support. He gave advice to identify the ways in which the proposed development falls foul of existing policies. We are already taking that line but it was good to get his views. Both he and Stuart MacLeod thought that the West End development would be unlikely to go ahead because it does not meet the sustainability criteria. We've heard that before of course so not much comfort there. We feel that a return to Green Belt would be a significant step in the right direction. Mr Gove outlined that the Conservatives will scrap the regional policy of housing allocation from central government. They propose community driven developments based on local needs. Just what we wanted to hear! He also said that it was important to continue the work on the Village design Statement, which will give a legally based constraint against such developments. As always give me a call or email on any issues or comments and hope to see you at the Ag & Hort show on the village green 12th September 2009.

Marc Bedwell – Chairman - Mobile: 07880 715812 e-mail: chairman@wevs.org.uk

Inside this issue

Chairman's Letter	1
Holy Trinity School Diary Dates	2
Tingham Hall BBQ Mobile Library / Editor	2
VDS	3
WE Parish Council Report	3
Planning Applications	4
Brentmoor Heath Nature Reserve	5-6
Alien Invaders	6
West End History Project	7
Police Update	8
Ag & Hort Show	8

WEVS Committee

Chairman - Marc Bedwell Mobile: 07880 715812 e-mail: chairman@wevs.org.uk

Membership Secretary - Stuart Cazaly 01483 474374 membership@wevs.org.uk

Vice Chairman/Secretary - Duncan Peebles **Treasurer** - Robin Short

Communications Team:
(Web Site) Pete Jones, Yvette Jones and Savitri Kegge comms@wevs.org.uk

Committee Members: Mary Adler, Jeff Llewellyn, Judy Douch, Graham Alleway, Dave Norris

Newsletter Editor: Dianne Norris e-mail: deenorris@hotmail.co.uk

HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL

Local school wins gold for the second year running in the Surrey Heath Litter Free Schools Awards



Pupils have taken to the streets to try and clean up litter in and around West End. As part of the competition, the children have to keep their school and surrounding environment free from litter.

Mr Butterick, Head teacher at the school, said, "They have fluorescent vests which they wear on the way home or to school in the mornings and they go out with their parents to collect litter locally. One of the children even collected litter from as far as Lightwater using pickers, with one child getting six bags of rubbish. It all gets accumulated and we record how much we collected. What we have is a hedonistic society of people who are very selfish and do not care enough about the world. We have got the children to be aware of the environment and get them to play their part. The children were so enthusiastic that we ran out of litter pickers!!"

♥Note from Editor♥

As this is the first edition of the newsletter with me as editor, I would like to thank all the committee for their help and support in getting this out. A big thank you, also, to all our contributors for the amazing amount of articles. I will be very happy to hear from any of our readers who have suggestions for future articles, or items to contribute, or who simply want to say 'Hi'.
Dianne

DIARY DATES

- | | |
|---|--|
| Sunday 6th September | Tringham Hall BBQ 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm (see details below) |
| Saturday 12th September
Tringham Hall | Ag and Hort Show 2:00 pm followed by
Barn Dance 8:00 pm Tringham Hall |
| Sunday 13th September | "Songs of Praise" will be held in the marquee at 6.00pm |
| Monday 14th September
Sports Pavilion | 7:00 pm Police Surgery
7:30 pm WEVS Committee Meeting. |

Tringham Hall

Benner Lane
West End

END OF SUMMER BBQ

Relax while we cook for you!

Find out what activities are available in our village

Sunday 6th September
12.30 – 4.30

Pay Bar
Tickets £5.00 each (to cover cost of food) available from
Pam Akerman 01276 858397
Kathy Arnott 01276 503030

All proceeds to go to the refurbishment of Tringham Hall

Mobile Library

Update on the Mobile Library which visits West End.

There have been one or two changes so here is their timetable for their visits to West End:-

WEEKLY: Fellow Green - Monday from 3.25pm to 4.00pm

FORTNIGHTLY: Brentmoor Road / Broad Street (just outside 'Hinton' in Broad Street) from 1.55pm to 2.10 pm.

So their next visit will be on August 25th and fortnightly thereafter.

They keep very much on time. There is a good selection of books and they would welcome more visitors.

Stuart Cazaly

VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT

Judy Douch

Since the last Newsletter the Steering Group has met twice and we have put in motion a qualitative Questionnaire which was launched at the Village Fete in June. We are seeking broad opinions about the quality of life in West End: what residents value, what they would like to preserve and how they see the position of West End leading up to 2026. The emphasis has to be on the built environment, housing stock, transport, flooding and other environmental issues.

The team will have a stand at the Show on September 12th so do come and make your opinions known. This is a preliminary to a much more detailed questionnaire which every household will receive towards the end of the year. Your input at this stage will help us to prepare the final document.

We are also looking to obtain funding from different sources, so any offer of financial sponsorship would be gratefully received and acknowledged in our draft document to be submitted for consideration by Surrey Heath Borough Council.

Graham Alleway

WEST END PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council has been advised that the funds for community crime prevention projects via proceeds of crime has just been withdrawn by the government. We will continue researching other avenues until we have a pledge of funds, then engage the younger people of West End to ensure a Multi Use Games Area would meet their desires.

A meeting was hosted by the Parish with County Councillor Lavinia Sealy, Inspector James Norbury and Ian Haller from Surrey Heath Highways, in response to increasing resident concerns about Speeding through the Village. A broad range of issues were raised giving us some defined target areas to address with the responsible agencies. Some measures are committed to be implemented in the coming months, namely speed limit reductions on residential roads, and Vehicle Activated Signs along Benner Lane.

The Parish Council with the help of the Garden Club will be refreshing the War Memorial which is beginning to look weather-beaten. It will probably be a poignant year for remembering more recent sacrifices by our service personnel, and will be a small token of respect for these and more distant past losses in the great wars.

Gypsy and Traveller sites public consultation results by South East England Regional Authority shows 75% of residents support the government to provide many more pitches in selected areas. The MORI POLL (one aspect of consultation) can be viewed

http://www.southeastra.gov.uk/southeastplan/consultation/g_and_t/mori_gtts_poll-dec08.pdf

You can still comment on the proposals by visiting this site before end of August 2009.

<http://www.gose.gov.uk/gose/planning/regionalPlanning>

<u>BOROUGH COUNCIL</u>	<u>COUNTY COUNCIL</u>
Contact Borough Councillors Keith Bush & Stuart Macleod Cllr Stuart MacLeod Stuart.MacLeod@surreyheath.gov.uk Cllr Keith Bush Keith.Bush@surreyheath.gov.uk	Contact County Councillor Lavinia Sealy lsealy@surreycc.gov.uk

We welcome all Resident feedback via email westendparish@btconnect.com or phone 01276 855361

Local Planning Applications are handled by Surrey Heath Borough Council Planning Department. If a planning application close to you is submitted then the Council will send you a letter informing you of the fact. You normally have 14 days to respond, although as most applications take 8 weeks or so to be reviewed you can respond after this date. The Parish Council is also invited to pass comment on all applications for the Village.

So far this year in the Parish of West End a total of 57 planning applications have been submitted, the majority of these are for house extensions (34), applications from Farms account for some 19 applications, either for change of use for buildings or retrospective applications to retain buildings. To date only five applications have been received for "replace and rebuilds" for houses.

You can view these applications on line via the Surrey Heath Borough Council Planning Application Portal at <https://www.public.surreyheath-online.gov.uk>

There is also a new web service available, go to <http://www.planningalerts.com/> and you can sign up to receive an email notification for any submitted planning application near you.

Here are some of the applications submitted that we are tracking, a couple have recently been decided upon;

09/0258 – Gordon’s Filling Station (BP Station on Guilford Road)

Erection of a fuel forecourt, canopy, sales building with associated plant, car parking and services following demolition of existing petrol filling station.

The application was recently given a 'defer and delegate' recommendation at a SH planning committee meeting, this means that BP will be granted planning permission within the next 3 months provided they meet a number of additional conditions.

There are a total of 17 conditions which require BP to submit further details and documentations to be approved by the Local Planning Authority (LPA), some of the main points are;

- Building material details and samples
- Details of plant and machinery
- Details of hard and soft landscaping
- An amended arboricultural statement to take into account the works required to amend the watercourse.
- Details of suitable watercourse system.
- Details of external lighting.
- Scheme for entrance and exit signs.
- Survey to be undertaken to ascertain the presence of protected species (flora and fauna) on site.
- An options appraisal and remediation strategy for land contamination and a verification plan.
- Method of Construction Statement.
- Provide facilities to keep the local highway clean.
- Surface water drainage details
- Should these details be provided then BP have 3 years to commence building works. It should also be noted that the store will not be a Marks and Spencer's as previously dangled by BP and will have the operating hours of 6:00 to 22:00.

Members of both Parish and WEVS went along to offer further objections but these had no effect on the planning committee decision.

08/1050 – Herne Cottage (Rubus Close / Brentmoor Lane, behind Martin’s Tyres)

Erection of a 60 bedroom C2 residential care/nursing home and associated works. Erection of a detached two storey dwelling house following demolition of existing dwelling.

This has been refused and no appeal has been submitted to date. Given that this and the previous planning application were submitted two weeks before Christmas, presumably so that folks would be too busy to respond, we will have to wait until December to see if a further application arrives from Bewley Homes.

09/0117, 0118, 0119 & 08/1108, 1107, 1106 – Willow Farm, Bagshot Road, Chobham

Various applications for retention of existing buildings to provide stables and tack room, forage room and standing bay. Numerous applications submitted many of which are retrospective, this is Green Belt land.

Although not strictly in West End these applications are of interest to many. One of the applications will be discussed at the August planning meeting with a view to a refusal. This could be a test case for the others.

Sparrowhawk chicks watch mother prepare meal – Dave Clary



I write in early August and the heather is coming into full bloom. A beekeeper has placed 7 extra beehives beside the reserve and the welcome buzz is back. With all the concerns about drastic declines in bee numbers from disease and colony collapse, it is good to know that the local heather is supporting some healthy and very active bees.

A pair of Sparrowhawk nested in the centre of the reserve and successfully raised 4 chicks. They can be heard mewling to demand feeding from the parents even though they are fully-fledged and flying around. They have to be taught to catch food for themselves. The early spring weather was kind to breeding birds and it seems that the Dartford Warbler, Woodlark and Stonechat have managed to raise good broods to start to replace the many that did not survive the prolonged cold winter weather.

Butterflies have had a much better year. Silver-studded Blue butterflies have had an excellent season despite concerns that after 2 poor summers their numbers would be down. This is probably due to the fact that dull summers mean the heather plants remain succulent on which the caterpillars feed. Their main flight period this summer coincided with the hot spell of weather at the end of June. There has been a marvellous influx of Painted Lady butterflies this summer.

I have been carrying out a butterfly transect walk on the Reserve for 20 years. I started the survey in 1990 to monitor the effects of the conservation management of the Reserve. Different butterflies require different plants and habitats at each stages of development; egg, caterpillar, pupa and butterfly so are an excellent indicator of the general health of the countryside. The survey requires a walk of about 1-hour around a set route once a

week from 1st April until the end of September under certain weather conditions. All butterflies that pass within an imaginary 5m box around you are recorded and at the end of the season the results are sent to Butterfly Conservation to compare the state of butterflies overall in Surrey and throughout the UK. It is a fascinating study. I started with very limited knowledge of butterflies and always set off clutching my butterfly identification book. After 20 years I would like to take a break from this weekly commitment. Is there anyone who would like to learn how to undertake a butterfly survey and continue to send records to Butterfly Conservation? Ideally, 2 people would undertake a survey so that if one is away then the other would be



around to ensure that as few weeks as possible are missed, particularly in the middle of the summer. Please get in touch if you would be interested.



Another monitoring project that I would welcome occasional support with is the recording of the

hydrology dipwells that are located around the reserve to monitor the level of groundwater. The variation of the depth of groundwater affects all the plants and is also an indication of the effect – or not – of climate change! This task requires little skill. The dipwells are widely dispersed around the reserve and to walk around them takes about 1½ hours. Surveying is done once a fortnight, usually on a Wednesday, and I would welcome offers of help for the occasional week when I am away. The surveying started in August 2006, the week after the deluge. The longer the recording is continued the better idea we will get of how the different areas retain water during times of heavy

rainfall and the rate at which they dry out. Please get in touch if you would be interested. The dates of some of the autumn and winter Volunteer Work Parties on the reserve have been fixed but details of the meeting point and tasks are still to be confirmed. Please check the notice boards or ring Scott Dodd on 07799-894154 for details and to let him know if you will be joining the group.

Sunday 20th September
Sunday 18th October
Sunday 15th November
Thursday 17th December
Sunday 20th December

ALIEN INVADERS

Judy Douch

I have been asked to write an article about non-native weed species, (some of which can be found in West End), the problems they cause, and what can be done to control them.

Weeds are essentially plants growing in the wrong place: alien species that have become invasive weeds were often introduced as “plants of horticultural interest”, usually by Victorian plant hunters. They were the glory seekers and did not appreciate what would happen to some of these plants in British conditions. The common purple **Rhododendron**, introduced from Asia, is widespread, it’s dense, rapid growth swamps and excludes light from woodland plants. **Ragwort**, a serious danger to grazing animals, was an escapee from Oxford Botanic Garden and spread along the lines of the newly laid track of the Great Western Railway. The only consolation is that Ragwort has been exploited by the cinnabar moth: the larvae incorporate the toxins and they protect the larvae from predators, leaving the larvae unharmed.

Water plants, very often introduced into garden ponds as oxygenating plants, can cause widespread problems in water courses if they escape from ponds. The following listed plants can be found in aquatic centres, freely available, however certain organisations, for example *Plantlife*, are campaigning for a ban on their sale.



Myriophyllum aquaticum (right), Parrot’s feather, produces masses of growth, which if it dies, uses up oxygen in decomposition and dependent animals in the pond will subsequently die – this is known as eutrophication. This plant is a problem in the pond on the Recreation Ground in West End.



Impatiens glandulifera (left), Himalayan or Indian balsam, a very large (up to 3m) relative of our popular busy lizzies, introduced into gardens in 1839, escaped and liked the damp conditions of riverbanks and other damp ground.

Read the **full report** on Alien Invaders on our website: www.wevs.org.uk

Photographs sent in by Plantlife. For an identification sheet showing others, go to their website www.plantlife.org.uk, click on surveys, then invasive plants where there is a link to download the leaflet ‘Against the Flow’. Ed.

The Great War

War with Germany was declared on the 4th August 1914, hostilities ended 11th November 1918. 143 men from West End enlisted to fight for King and Country. 47 of them were killed and are listed on the Roll of Honour in Holy Trinity Church. 12 were decorated for Gallantry; [we have records of 7]. 29 names are inscribed on our Memorial Wheel Cross; the other 18 are commemorated outside West End.

During the war, Mrs Robbins the vicars' wife was appointed to represent the Parish for "The Incorporated Soldiers and Sailors Help Society" and Mrs Temple was Secretary of the Red Cross Society. The Institute [now the Social Club] as well as holding fund raisers for the war was the headquarters of The War Emergency Committee and the West Chobham Volunteer Training Corps. These organisations all working together throughout the war, sent parcels containing 5 shillings, letters and cigarettes to all the serving men from West End. Replies to these letters and sad news were often published in the West Chobham Parish Magazine. 9 local men were taken prisoner some never returned. One family had 23 relatives serving, another 6 and yet another 5. One family lost two sons, two stepsons and a brother in law

Letters From The Front

To the Rev M Robbins,
Dear Sir,

Many thanks for your letter and cigarettes, which I received today. Glad to say I am still in the best of health-happy with it all, like the rest of the boy's. We have struck a rather hot position this time, but never worry we will do our best-never say die. If I get a lump of lead put it down to hard luck, but we never think anything about it-just keep going on, no matter what happens; but all the same I shall be glad when it is all over. It is an awfully rough life we lead; we sleep in barns on straw, and rats run over us when we try to sleep; I have never seen such a country for rats, they are everywhere we go. We get plenty of food and clothing, which we need. You should see us going about through the mud! One has to laugh; we look more like mud-larks than soldiers. Well Sir, I must close, as time is rolling round and I have my duty to do. Remember me to all.

Dear Sir-I am taking the greatest pleasure in writing to thank you, and to ask if you would thank the people of Chobham for there very great kindness in sending me the most lovely parcel, which I received quiet safely. It came as a great surprise to me after we left that awful Gallipoli Peninsular, and I cannot tell you how much I appreciated your kindness. I am very sorry I was not able to write before, but I did not know who to write to until I found out from my people. You will be pleased to know, Sir, that I am quite well and feeling very fit.

Again thanking you and the people of Chobham for their great kindness,
Believe me to remain yours sincerely

The citation for one of our men who received the Military Medal reads as follows; for gallantry and devotion to duty at Kemmel on 15th during a nine hours bombardment. This Pte, by his cheerfulness and high morale kept his comrades [who were mostly unfits] in very good fighting order and although they suffered numerous casualties were full of fight at the end of it, due greatly to the fine example of bravery set by this Pte., who is himself permanently unfit.

Another article referring to one of our men reads; This Corporal from the E York's received the D.C.M. and £20 for carrying the wounded out of the firing line; wounded in carrying the fourth; came home on leave, returned, and was killed in action four days later.

The excellent records kept by Holy Trinity West Cobham Parish Magazine made this article possible.

POLICE UPDATE FOR WEST END

Some of you living on the Nursery Green estate will remember PCSO Mike Mann delivering some diary sheets through your doors. These were for residents in the area to note down any issues they have regarding anti-social behaviour in the area. Mike has collected the majority of these and we are pleased to say that the problems seem to have reduced dramatically. If you still have your diary sheet, please forward it to us at Lightwater Police Office. While we did see a reduction in reports of anti-social behaviour, a number of people have brought the issue of anti-social use of motorbikes on the estate to our attention. This is the issue we will now be focusing on and we are already in the process of dealing with some individuals. If you have any information regarding this or indeed any other issue please contact us.

Note the new initiative to engage the community by being accessible at popular locations, i.e. Gosden Road shops on Saturday mornings. Go to website page for latest date and location.

<http://www.surrey.police.uk/neighbourhood/neighbourhood.asp?area=SHCB>

WEST END, WINDLESHAM AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Angela Astall

This year's events start with the PLOUGHING MATCH, which takes place on Sunday 6th September 2009 on land at Hollybush Lane, A30 London Road, 200 yards past Longacre Nursery, by kind permission of Mr. P Long.

Ploughing commences at 10.15 a.m. and there are usually around 20 ploughmen. Spectators are welcome - no charge - but there will be a raffle. Bring children, dogs on leads and enjoy the competition any time after 10.15 a.m. until about 1.00 p.m. Prize giving will be at 2.30pm.

The ANNUAL SHOW will be on Saturday 12th September at Tringham Hall, West End at 2.00p.m. Widely recognized as the best traditional village show in Northwest Surrey, it is the aim of the Society to promote interest in all aspects of competitive exhibiting and, in doing so, create opportunities for the public to see the outstanding skills of both members and non-members.

The principal classes consist of traditional subjects such as fruit, flowers and vegetables but over the years have been extended to cater for wider interests. There are classes for floral arrangements, art, photography, cookery, handicrafts, wine-making and honey, as well as poultry and pets. There is an extensive range of classes for children of all ages, including scarecrow and sunflowers competitions. The local W.I.s will also be showing their skills and competing against each other. During the afternoon there will be additional attractions, such as craft stalls, tractor rides, side shows and refreshments. This special day culminates in traditional barn dancing, held in the marquee, to live music. Adults and children over 14 years old welcome. Tickets cost £9 each, include a ploughman's supper, and are available from the Secretary in advance. Real ale will be on sale, but please bring your own glasses and any other drink you may require.

Show schedules are available for 50p from Bisley Post Office and West End newsagents. Entry forms, barn dance tickets and any other information may be obtained from the Show Secretary, Angela Astall (Tel: 01483 480342). Entry forms must be returned by Saturday 5th September.

"Songs of Praise" will be held in the marquee at 6.00p.m. on Sunday 13th September with the Bisley Almac band accompanying the singing. Do come and enjoy a wonderful ending to Show Weekend.

Disclaimer: Articles and photographs are supplied and printed with permission of the authors who have sole responsibilities for the content contained therein.