



CHAIRPERSON'S LETTER

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Dear Members,

As we near the end of very successful Olympic Games, following an equally successful Queen Diamond Jubilee celebration, which have brought a great feel-good factor to the nation, it is perhaps now time to reflect once more the importance of the community spirit in our village. The West End Village Fete and the Ag & Hort Show are great outward signs of people in the village getting together and enjoying themselves. It is also a great opportunity simply to meet, renew friendships and catch up on the news. WEVS was in attendance once more at the Village Fete and it was great to see so many people there, despite the inclement weather. We had our new supersize tent on display for the first time and it proved to be a very popular attraction, particularly during the frequent downpours that pervaded the afternoon. We will also be at the Ag & Hort Show in September, so do pop in and say hello and have a look at all the things the Society is doing for the village. If you wish to give up a bit of your time to get involved in helping out with the Society this is a good opportunity to find out more. All the Society details are also on the website (www.wevs.org.com), where you will find the 2 West End walks, heritage and nature. The maps to these will also be available at our AG & Hort stall.

One of the pressing issues we are involved with at the moment is the protection of the village against unwanted and unjustified development. The village has once more become a potential target for new development with the recently published Surrey Heath Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (June 2012). This document reviews the possibility of the Reserve Sites (land off Beldam Bridge Road/Benner Lane and Kings Road) providing a capacity of 170 homes in years 6 -10 of the Local Development Framework leading up to 2027. Whilst the Site Allocations Development Plan Document (due for consultation in 2013) will specifically allocate land for development, a potential marker has been placed by the Surrey Heath Council for development of these sites. WEVS together with other local groups will closely monitor this situation and make representations where we feel that location and quantum of future development would be detrimental to the high-quality living environment that we all currently enjoy.

Lastly, can I make an appeal for new distributors of the newsletter? Whilst many members now receive a copy of their newsletter electronically, there are still many that receive theirs through the front door. If you have a few hours to spare from time to time and want to get to know your local streets a bit better contact Yvette Jones, our Membership Secretary, who will be happy to provide the information on how you can get involved. Hope to see as many of you as possible at Ag & Hort show on the 8th September!

Dave Norris Chairperson

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Having volunteered 18 months ago, the Olympics had finally arrived. I was selected through an interview process to be a National Olympic Committee (NOC) assistant. This basically meant I was dedicated to an Olympic team, from when they arrived until they left, and offer them Personal Assistant services. There were a total 1500 assistants at the main Olympics and 1200 at the Paralympics. The team I, and another volunteer, were allocated to, was the Kingdom of Bhutan. I have to admit I had not heard of Bhutan before the event, so it was exciting and interesting to read up on it. Bhutan is a small country nestling in the Himalayas, between Nepal and China, if you did not know. They have a population of about 700,000 and only allowed television into the country in 1999. They have been voted the happiest nation in the world. Interesting fact: Bhutan's national sport is archery. They arrived in the UK on the evening of Wednesday 18th and I started fully working for the Chef de Mission (CdM), Leader of the Team, on the 19th July. I took most of my annual leave to cover the Olympic period.



Bhutan Athletes under the Olympic Rings inside the Village



We were based in the privileged environment of the Olympic Village and the CdM could use us any time between 7am and 10pm. We spent 20 hours of training, then two days of driver training to understand the cars and Olympic routes between event locations. Bhutan only had two athletes competing, one in archery at Lords Cricket ground and the second in shooting at Woolwich. We had tours of both sites with the CdM to make sure we knew the layout before the athletes arrived.

One of the big highlights of the week, before the games started, was seeing one of the technical rehearsals on Monday 30th. It was awesome, even though large sections were missed out to keep the surprise. As you all have seen now it was fantastic. My top memory was of the technical rehearsal on Wednesday. All us NOC assistants represented the athletes, so at the end of the show we marched in to the stadium representing the Olympic teams and carrying the flags. As we entered the stadium we were joined by the ladies who carried the name boards and a small child carrying an orange bucket. We all know now the bucket represented the petal that became part of the Olympic flame sculpture. We

marched to the centre of the arena and in fact stood exactly on the spot where two days later the Olympic flame grew out of the stadium floor. Unbelievable!

The Olympic rings coming together at the technical rehearsal



On the night of the opening ceremony I guided the Bhutan team and officials to the stadium along the honour guard, which was formed by over 200 schools, each with 10 pupils. The atmosphere was amazing, with photographs and autographs being taken and given by all. The performers leaving the stadium, once they had finished, added to the noise, excitement and colour. Each school was given a country to create a banner for. Ours was very close to the stadium. The Bhutan archer was given the honour of flag bearer. I had met some school children on the train on the way in that day. They came from Bognor and, after telling them my role, I had asked them to give a big cheer for Bhutan. As we walked past, where they were standing that night, they did not disappoint.

The Bhutan team were all dressed in the national costume and I could not have been more proud to be with them as we waited outside. Just imagine what it was like when Usain Bolt went past or when Team GB came in as the last team. What a night, I even managed to leave the park and get home to West End to see the flame coming into the park by boat and the fireworks.

The experience of working behind the scenes at the Olympics will always stay with me.

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WEVS SUBSCRIPTIONS

If you have not paid your subscription yet, please help our team of distributors by paying at Shiv's store, or at the WEVS stall at the Ag & Hort show on 8th September. Our distributors call on you to collect subs, but are not always fortunate enough to catch you in. As you can appreciate this can be quite difficult to do, please make time to drop your subs to us if your distributor hasn't caught up with you this year. There is a form below if you prefer to use Shiv's. If you are at the Ag & Hort, just pop along to the WEVS stall and pay. If you can't remember whether you have paid, we will be able to tell you at the stall. You can also discuss village issues if you would like to or just pass the time of day!

WEVS Subs (£3 per household, £1.50 per household with a pensioner)

Name.....

Address (street and house number)

WEST END, WINDLESHAM AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL

Angela Astall

This year's events start with the PLOUGHING MATCH, which takes place on Sunday 2nd September 2012 on land at Manor Farm, STOKE D'ABERNON KT11 3PU by kind permission of Jim and Janet Miller. Ploughing commences at 10:15am 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 10:15am until about 1:00pm. Prize giving will be at 2.30pm.

The ANNUAL SHOW will be on Saturday 8th September at Tringham Hall, West End at 2:00pm. 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. The local W.I.s will also be showing their skills and competing against each other, and there's a dog show starting at 2:00pm.

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 £10 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 West End Post Office and Brown's Newsagents. Entry forms, barn dance tickets and any other information may be obtained from the Show Secretary, Angela Astall (01483 480342). Entry forms must be returned by Saturday 1st September.

"Songs of Praise" will be held in the marquee at 6:00pm on Sunday 9th September with the Bisley Almac band accompanying the singing. Do come and enjoy a wonderful ending to the show weekend.

"BE EXTRA VIGILANT," says PC Alison Worger.

- **Lock up your bicycles - use the garage or shed.**
- **Mark all your property – DNA marking can be checked out through your Neighbourhood Watch group.**
- **Take extra care with leaflet drops – if you don't know the company then check with Trading Standards.**
- **Monitor your post – if you are expecting items that relate to personal identity information (e.g. new credit or debit cards), then don't wait too long to ring the company, if they have not arrived.**

NEXT POLICE SURGERY: 03/09/12 The Pavilion, Benner Lane 7pm

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