



## Chairman's Letter

Phew! It's hot in West End! As I write, the sun is shining, there are some clouds in the sky but there is no rain forecast for the next ten days. The driest July on record and the UK's highest ever temperatures afforded ideal conditions for a major fire on the ranges which burned for several weeks. Fortunately, no homes caught alight but the smoke and acrid smell of burning affected the whole Village. Burning is a natural process of heathland and although it looks terrible now, it will recover as it has done many times in the past.



I am pleased to report however that the three Liquidambar trees we planted on Fellow Green in March are surviving well after regular watering. Our programme of events is going well. Pete and Yvette Jones' Open Garden at the end of May was very successful and raised £250 for the Society. There was a lot of interest in the air source heat pump used to heat their house, as well as the other 'green' measures they have taken. We hope that more members will open their gardens next May for people to enjoy. *(Continued on Page 2)*

*Our Chairman watering the trees with a leaky wheelbarrow*

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DATE	EVENT	VENUE	DETAILS
SEP	Stag sculpture installation	Fellow Green Roundabout	WEVS event See article
SAT 10 SEPT 13:00	Ag and Hort Show + Barn Dance	Recreation Ground	See article
SUN 11 SEP 17:00	History Walk part of national heritage week	Tringham Hall	WEVS event See article
WED 5 OCT 19:15	Technical talk, Air Source Heat Pumps	Sports Pavilion	WEVS event See article
SAT 19 NOV 11:30	Community Orchard Planting	Windlemere SANGS	WEVS event See article
MON 26 DEC 10:00	Boxing Day Walk	Tringham Hall	WEVS event See article

## Chairman's Letter (continued)

Our stand at the Village Fete, held in glorious weather, was well visited and we recruited eight new members. To celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, John Smith provided a nostalgic display of photographs of past West End Jubilee celebrations.

Around 50 or so members enjoyed the Picnic in the Park in early July, sitting in the shade of the trees. Our next events will be our stand at the Ag and Hort show on September 10<sup>th</sup> and the History Heritage walk on 11<sup>th</sup> September. More are in the pipeline.

I am delighted to say that since the last Newsletter we have welcomed two new Committee members - Mrs Pauline Wells who joined in May and Mr Ranjit Bhamra who joined in July. They are long standing residents of the Village and we are very grateful for their commitment. We still have two empty seats on the Committee though.

I hope that you will have (or have had) a wonderful holiday.

## History Walk Around West End

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September WEVS is hosting a walk around the Village which will include Gordon's School and Brentmoor Heath. This is in conjunction with Heritage Open Days.

Meet at Tringham Hall at 5:00pm for a 2.5 mile walk on footpaths, stopping regularly for information on the local history.

The walk will finish at the Hare and Hounds.

The event is free, and will be based upon our recently published book on the history of West End, copies of which are still available for purchase.

See [www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk) and search for GU24.

There are 11 other planned events in Surrey Heath. These will include a Windlesham Heritage Walk on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September.



## WEVS Talk

On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 19:15, WEVS will be hosting a talk on Air Source Heat Pumps. We think this will be of interest to a lot of people as gas boilers are being phased out and Air and Ground Source Heat Pumps are the 'new' way to provide heat in your home.

This is an opportunity to find out more information from an engineer experienced with heat pumps, and from someone who had one installed a year ago.

If successful, WEVS will do more technical talks in the coming months.

The event will be held at the Sports Pavilion GU24 9JP and is free.

The first Community Orchard in Surrey Heath is soon to be planted in West End. West End Village Society's project for 2022 is to purchase and plant good sized fruit trees in the autumn to create a community orchard.

The planting date is Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2022, at 11.30am. Please put this in your diary and come along with a spade to take part or just to watch and join in the fun. The area is located on the Windlemere SANGS [car park what3words: ///lasts.golf.fund], between the new houses and Gordon's School all weather pitch. Surrey Heath Tree Wardens and the Borough Green Space Team will also be on hand to give advice and help out.

WEVS have been fortunate to secure funding from Surrey Heath Tree Wardens, who received a £500 donation from Cllr. Graham Alleway, and a £750 grant from the National Garden Scheme. Originally, we intended to purchase the trees early and store them. However, with the heat wave and dry year, we are very grateful that this didn't happen.

Local residents are invited to contribute trees/money to the project. Trees must be at least 6ft tall (bare rooted trees are fine). All trees planted will be logged on the Queen's Green Canopy database. [<https://queensgreencanopy.org/>]. No memorials are allowed on the SANGS.

This time next year there should be plenty of fruit for everyone to enjoy and the area will be managed as a pollinator friendly meadow. We hope everyone will enjoy the transformation.



## **Did You Know?**

In 1968 West End civil parish separated from Chobham civil parish.

In 1985 the ecclesiastical parish of Bisley and West End was formed (with Holy Trinity church as the parish church).

West End Beavers and Cubs had remarkable success at the Village Fete parade. Tarzan and Pride Rock Colonies joined forces to be 'Changing the Guard at Buckingham Palace' and West End Cubs worked very hard painting their wings (and most of the scout hut floor!) to become the famous 'Red Arrows' The Beavers were immensely proud to be awarded the 'best dressed' category prize and the Cubs were thrilled when they scooped 'most original' and 'best overall.' Everybody looked great this year so the judges must have had a tough time making decisions!



Cubs also kept it local when they visited local beekeeper Greg as part of the Naturalist badge. Not only did they meet the bees, but they also got to buy some of the delicious honey that Greg had prepared especially for them - YUM!



Beavers have been practising their camouflage skills – Spot the Beaver!

Scouts had a special evening at Thorpe lakes, investing some new members and a leader!

It has been great to be able to get back to doing some 'real' scouting this term, even managing a camp and a sleepover!



We have a very crowded Cub section currently. Beavers are having to wait to move up and there is an ever-expanding waiting list. We would love to be able to re-open our second pack but need a small group of adult volunteers to run it. Perhaps a small group of friends? Anyone interested please contact me for an informal chat. No experience necessary – full training is provided free of charge.

*(Julie Komor is Group Scout leader West End Scout Group)*

## WEVS Membership

## Mary Anthony

Annual WEVS subscriptions are £4 per household per year / £2 per pensioner household (over 65). A three-year membership is £10 per household (£5 pensioner).

If you would like to check whether you owe subscriptions, or would like to pay online, email me at the address below with your name and address.

WEVS now has a card payment machine so you can also pay by card at the Ag & Hort Show on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September. Please do visit us at our show stand.

Mary Anthony, WEVS Membership Secretary: [membershipwevs@gmail.com](mailto:membershipwevs@gmail.com)

## Gordon's School Update

Our Pipes and Drums have been celebrating their 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year of being on the West End site of the school and have so far carried out nearly 40 engagements. These have included greeting motorcyclists taking part in the ride from John O' Groats to Land's End in aid of Help for Heroes at Brookwood Military Ceremony; playing alongside the bagrock group the Red Hot Chilli Pipers; Beating Retreat with the Grenadier Guards at Aldershot Garrison and featuring in the Armed Forces Day Military Convoy. They were also honoured to perform in the Last Post Association's Remembrance Service at Menin Gate, Ypres last month.

Twelve of the pipers travelled to Scotland for the Scottish Pipe Band Championships to compete against 110 other bands. The Gordon's pipers are believed to be the first English juvenile band to take part in the championships for a very long time, if not ever.

The school joined millions across the country and world in celebrating the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty The Queen, Patron of Gordon's School. Union Flags were flown on all the flagpoles around the school and bunting festooned the Parade Square and Dining Hall. Her Majesty's historic milestone was marked as part of a number of events at the school, including the Patron's Parade. After the Parade, which was inspected by Major General Angus Fay, a current Gordon's parent and Trustee of the Gordon Foundation, a commemorative tree was planted outside the Chapel and a time capsule buried nearby.

A letter of congratulations was sent to HM The Queen from the school in February and even the lunchtime menus have reflected the event, focussing on traditional British fayre such as bangers and mash, trifle and scones with jam!

We were delighted to be recognised by the TES (formerly the Times Educational Supplement) as Boarding School of the Year in their Schools Awards. Described as the 'Oscars of Education', the awards are chosen by a team of expert judges, including school leaders, inspectors and education researchers who were looking for 'innovation, imagination and efforts to develop children in ways that go beyond the league tables'. Durrell Barnes, judge and head of governance and compliance at RSAcademics said: "It's a state boarding school and they explained well how boarding impacts on the quality of the whole school, and its existence making the school a different place for all of the students, not just the boarders."

The school's Business Breakfasts, open to all in the community, continue to attract more and more local business people. Held at the on-site Sports Hub Café every second Friday of the month during term time, the networking event provides an opportunity to meet and discuss topical business themes in a relaxed environment over a delicious breakfast. Bookings can be made through the box office on the school website – [www.gordons.school/boxoffice](http://www.gordons.school/boxoffice)

**Patron's Parade** – The annual Patron's Parade at Gordon's also celebrated Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Pictured are the Pipes and Drums coming through the school's main gates to the Parade Square, which was bedecked in bunting and Union Flags.



*Continued on Page 6*

## Gordon's School Update (continued)

### About Gordon's School

TES Boarding School of the Year 2022, Gordon's was established in 1885 at the request of Queen Victoria and is a non-selective state boarding school in Woking's West End, Surrey.

Gordon's School has developed into one of the leading boarding schools in the UK and is officially listed as one of Britain's outstanding schools by Her Majesty's Chief Inspector for both 2014 and 2019. The school is situated in 50-acres of beautiful grounds with generous facilities, and seeks to provide a world-class education that ensures all students learn how to be the best they can be.

### Picnic in the Park

Ravi Raveendran



The date was 9th July, the sky was ocean blue; the grass was deep green, although that is hard to remember now; the sun was baking; the hats and shorts were out; the laughter and cheer were louder than the hissing sounds of bottles and cans being opened; leather on willow was seen as was the boules; food was shared and new acquaintances were formed. Our glorious Picnic in the Park was enjoyed by about 50 happy residents who, as you can see, brought their parasols and chairs to relish the evening.



Why not come along next year? It's a fun evening for all the family!

The footpath that runs through Fairfield Lane and crosses the Bagshot Road by Brook Place is very close to Pennyfields where Harts ran a Butchers shop from in the 1800s. They moved the business to Gordon's View next to the Hare & Hounds when it was built in 1887 and opened a drapers next door selling cloths, boots, shoes and stationery. In the early 1900s animals were slaughtered in a building behind the butchers shop. Harts' advert in the West Chobham Parish Magazine of 1916 reads; Harts Family Butcher and Poulterer, General Drapers and Stationers, established 20 years.

Coyne's appear to have taken over the butchers and drapers shops c1952 and added hardware, wool and baby wear to their stock. Up to c1970 there were three shops in Gordon's View. By c1975 Coyne's had left and Mr. G. A. Lees took over, converting the three shops into four. By 1977 Lees Butchers appears to have ceased trading. During the late 1970s there was a Galees good as new and bric-a-brac shop trading from the building, the name Galees came from the name of Mr. G. A. Lees.

From C1900 Benhams traded from Gordon's View, Mr. Kensett was the manager until c1913 when he opened his own grocers shop next to the Wheatsheaf Pub on the Guildford Road. Mr. Beaumont then became the manager of F. W. Benham, Family Grocer & Provision Merchant, Corn, Forage and Seeds. c1964 Benhams closed and the shop traded as a VG Store under Mr. Rusavich. A Mr. Parker then took over the Stores for a short while and c1965 he was followed by a Mr. Rusavich again for a short length of time. In 1967 Mr. Fermo Champion took over Brentmoor Stores until 1987 when he moved to Bagshot and the shop was taken over by Janitorial Supplies until circa 1995.

*My thanks to Stan Martin who provided much of the information above.*

The following information was given to the history project by Mr. Mark Champion. In 1967 Mr. Fermo Champion bought the lease from the previous owner Mr Rusavich who had had lived and worked there with his family. Mr. Champion ran the shop as a VG store with VG supplying most of the goods but he was able to supplement this with extra lines from Nerdin & Peacock Cash & Carry in Aldershot. His shop sold general groceries, tinned products, pet food, bread, bacon, ham, green grocery, cigarettes and had an Off Licence. Initially Mr. Champion found it difficult to establish his business as he had to raise prices but eventually he succeeded.

Mr. Champion stopped running the shop in 1987 but continued to live there and supplemented his income by renting the shop to a cleaning company for 7 years. The block in which the store was located also contained a drapers and a butchers owned by Mr George Lees. In 1975 at 2.00am a fire started in the butchers causing considerable damage, luckily it did not spread to Mr. Champion's shop or to the drapers which were either side of the butchers. His son, Mark, was woken up to find that flames were licking out of the upstairs window which adjoined his bedroom and after waking his parents and ringing the Fire Brigade they could do no more than watch the butchers burn until the Chobham Tender followed by the Woking Engine arrived to extinguish the fire.

Luckily the drapers and butchers were not inhabited but a fire at this time of night, taking into account the fact that the loft space was not divided above the separate properties, could have been fatal had Mr. Champion's son not woken up. Mr. Champion finally sold up and moved to Bagshot c1995.

Hello everyone. For those who don't know me, my name is Adam Bolton and I have replaced Ben Habgood as Surrey Wildlife Trust's area manager for the west of the county. This means I am now the site manager for Brentmoor Heath and Folly Bog as well as Bisley and West End Commons. Ben Habgood remains the site manager for Pirbright Ranges and is in charge of the Red Deer project there. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide an update on SWT's work in the area.

Last winter we carried out significant scrub work on Brentmoor Heath, predominantly along the track that runs adjacent to the Pirbright Ranges fence line. This has helped reduce the risk associated with wildfires along this track as well as helping meet our heathland habitat management objectives. We also created 250 square metres of bare ground which is very important for a variety of insects including solitary bees and wasps. Looking forward to the winter of 2022, we hope to carry out more scrub work and create more bare ground. We are currently in the process of deciding on priority areas and appointing contractors for this work.

As in previous years, our beautiful Belted Galloway cattle have been working hard grazing on both Bisley Common and Folly Bog. They have been on Bisley Common for a couple of months and arrived on Folly Bog at the start of August. Both sets of animals will remain on site for a while, with the Bisley animals rotating around different parts of the common over the next couple of months.



*A pair of mating Silver Studded Blue butterflies with a competing male on Brentmoor Heath*

This year has been a successful year for the rare Silver Studded Blue butterfly on Brentmoor Heath. I have witnessed fantastic numbers of these enigmatic butterflies on visits to the site, with far too many to count in one particularly productive area! Reptiles also seem to be doing well. We have been working closely with a student from Kingston University who hopes to do a study into the effects of cattle grazing on reptile numbers at Folly Bog.

As many of you will know, on the 4<sup>th</sup> July, a wildfire broke out on Pirbright Ranges where over 668 hectares of pristine heathland has now been severely burnt, at great cost to wildlife. The ongoing welfare of the deer herd on site will depend on regular vet checks and inspections by SWT staff. Supplementary food in the form of haylage will also be made available to the deer to ensure they have enough food to maintain good condition heading into winter. For further information on this event and our response to the incident please go to our website <https://www.surreywildlifetrust.org/>

Lastly, I just wanted to say a big thank you to everyone who came to any volunteer sessions with us last winter. We will likely be running more sessions this autumn and winter so please keep an eye on our website for further information.

## West End Tennis Club

West End Tennis Club is now offering reduced membership fees for the second half of its season (September 2022 to March 2023).

Built and supported by West End Parish Council for the community, our club boasts three, well maintained, hard tennis courts located on Benner Lane between the village pond and Tringham Hall with plenty of car parking and temporary toilet facilities outside the Sports Pavilion.



The proposed charges from 1st September are as follows:

- ◆ **One off Joining Fee      £15**
- ◆ **Family Membership Fee   £35   reduced from £50**
- ◆ **Single Membership Fee   £20   reduced from £30**

For information on how to join, please visit <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/WestEndTennisClub> or use our QR code.



## Esso's Southampton to London Pipeline Project—Update

### Current Works

- Trenchless crossing installation under Lightwater Bypass (A322).
- Reinstatement of Halebourne Lane to Windlesham Road.
- Installation in Red Road (These works are scheduled to take approximately six months).
  - \* Briar Avenue is closed as we work across it.
  - \* We intend to keep the Lightwater Road/Red Road junction open using traffic lights. However, if traffic volumes and flow are significantly impacted, we may amend our plans and close this junction.
  - \* Pedestrian footpath access along Red Road will remain open for the duration of the works.
- There is ongoing installation:
  - \* At Windlemere SANGS.
  - \* At Turf Hill.
  - \* From Blackstroud Lane East to Halebourne Lane.

For more details see: [www.slpproject.co.uk](http://www.slpproject.co.uk)

## West End, Windlesham & District Ag & Hort Show

Show day is almost upon us (**Saturday 10th September 2022**) and the committee and volunteers have been hard at work making sure that we build on the success of last year. Many of you will have been growing, making and baking in anticipation for the big day. Don't worry if you haven't yet entered though - there is still time. The deadline for entry forms is Saturday 3rd September.

If you haven't yet picked up a copy of your show schedule there are still some available at Brown's and Orchid in West End. Or, if you would prefer, you can visit [www.wewdahs.org](http://www.wewdahs.org) and download an electronic version.

Timings for show day are as follows:

Stall and outdoor attractions including the BBQ will be open from **1pm** and the marquee and hall will open at **2pm**. If you are a society member you should have received your marquee tickets. Entry to the marquee to view the exhibits for non-members is £1.50, and free for children.

Please do consider becoming a member, benefits include free entry to the marquee and reduced fees for show entries.

The committee are disappointed to announce that despite all John Medhurst's hard work there will be no ploughing match this year. Unfortunately, there are no suitable locations available. If anyone is aware of a landowner that could support a ploughing match we would be very grateful to hear from you and keep this wonderful tradition going.

The good news is that the ever-popular barn dance is going ahead. Tickets are selling fast - check the website for details and how to purchase or visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/west-end-barn-dance-10-sept-2022-tickets-288563450047>

We look forward to welcoming you and seeing the many talents that you have to offer, we have heard that Adrian Page is looking forward to some stiff competition in class 83, Victoria jam sandwich this year!

Do encourage friends and family to join us, there really is something for everyone. You can even bring your four-legged friend along for the dog show!

## Has Autumn Come Early?



*Photo taken by Savitri Kegge in late July*

## The Stag Project

Ravi Raveendran

Following our announcement, you have responded magnificently with your generosity. Nearly 17 residents and businesses have given us money in response to the request in the last Newsletter and to individual visits that we made to the local businesses.

By now we should have also heard about a grant application that we made to Surrey Heath Borough Council, but it seems we may have to wait a bit longer for the outcome. The good news is that even if we are unsuccessful in our grant application, we now have sufficient funds to install the sculpture, leaving out the non-essential details such as replanting the damaged shrubs on the roundabout.



*A sneak preview of the kind of details that you can expect to see in our sculpture. This example shows our sculptor's imagination in using scrap metal.*

As a result, we have reset the start date to September. This will give us time to answer Surrey County Council's technical queries on the fixing details design. We have been in touch with the sculptor recently to inform him of the revised start date. We are very excited about the prospect of the project starting on site.

You can see from the picture how the sculptor uses scrap metals in an imaginative way to make shapes. Our sculpture will be similar to this one when finished.

It is not too late to donate; and it's easy. Please make your payment to **Sort code - 20-97-58; Account no. 50930180**. Remember to put the reference as **2019POTY** followed by your surname.

Lookout for the big animal coming to West End soon!

## The Boxing Day Walk

WEVS will be holding its traditional Boxing Day walk during the festive break. It has been a very popular event in the West End calendar for many years with well over 100 regularly coming along to take a little gentle exercise over the Christmas holiday.

The route the walk follows will very much depend upon the amount of rainfall we have in the weeks before the event. Normally it covers a distance of around three miles, although the route is designed so that those less inclined to complete it can easily return home before the end. Mid-way there is an exit point where those who have had enough or are disinclined to tackle stiles (only a few) and possibly wetter ground can return to the village by road.

Participants assemble in the car park of Tringham Hall for a 10:30 start, suitably attired with warm clothing & sensible footwear. The route takes walkers across Brentmoor Heath and around the back of the village, ending up close to the Hare & Hounds Pub about 1 ½ hours later, just in time to take some well-earned refreshments.

Please come and join us. It's great fun and you are most welcome!

## Tringham Hall Update

It is with great sadness that we report that Bob Thorpe, caretaker at Tringham Hall, has passed away at the age of 69, due to pneumonia.

Pauline and Bob were employed as caretakers in April 1982 so have been there for over 40 years. Pauline Thorpe has agreed to stay on as the sole caretaker.

The funeral will be held at Woking Crematorium, 68 Hermitage Road, Woking GU21 8TJ, on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 13.00. Pauline has asked that anyone attending the funeral NOT to wear sombre clothing.

Our condolences to Pauline and her family.

West End Village Hall Management Trust.

### Bisley & West End Parish News

If you are not already a subscriber why not sign up to have your Parish News delivered by hand each month? It's a really useful source of local information and contacts featuring local events, advertisers, charitable organisations, news and updates from village groups and much, much, more. Any profits generated from advertising goes towards the upkeep of our lovely Church buildings.

And..... Dare we say it... it makes a great Christmas present idea for a friend or neighbour who is not already a subscriber!

For subscriptions please email us:

[weparishnews@gmail.com](mailto:weparishnews@gmail.com) or contact Stella Pasley on 01276 857033

**Just £10 for the calendar year or £3 for the remainder of 2022**

**WEVS Committee—**[comms@wevs.org.uk](mailto:comms@wevs.org.uk)

**Chairperson:** Jeff Llewellyn    **Secretary:** Yvette Jones    **Treasurer:** Anne Allard

**Membership Secretary:** Mary Anthony    **Newsletter Editor:** Pete Jones

**Other members:** Ranjit Bhamra, Andrew Hopkins, Savitri Kegge, Dave Norris, Ravi Raveendran, Jan Smith, Pauline Wells