

Review

90p

October 2023



Rowledge

Boundstone

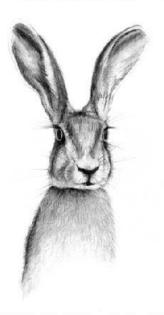
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From the Vicarage

As I write this my final contribution to the Rowledge Review before I move onto my new role as Rector of a group of Churches on the Suffolk coast, I thought I would look back through my files to see what I wrote in August 2016 by way of my very first reflection for the parish magazine. I was rather surprised to read the following:



We recently holidayed in Walberswick on the Suffolk coast. Sitting on the beach watching the sea helps me in my reflection. As I observed the waves, I was reminded of something David Adam says in his book Tides and Seasons.

"We are a very small and frail craft in a mighty ocean. Yet we may be privileged to discover, in the ebb and flow, that nothing is lost, only changed. As the tide ebbs on one shore, it flows on another. In the ebbing, the sea is not diminished: as one area decreases another is increasing. The end of one thing always heralds the beginning of something new. In the same way the beginning of something marks the end of an old order."

If we can discover these precious moments to pause and reflect on life and bring God into our times of quiet, we will be privileged to see that even though we can often feel small and frail and that life does indeed have its ebbs and flows, nothing is lost only changed. But God himself is unchanging. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever," says the writer to the Hebrews. I have found him to be totally reliable and completely faithful.

It is strangely, to this same spot on the Suffolk coast that we are now preparing to move and whilst our time here ebbs, it is flowing into our new life in Southwold. Whilst for our family and the church community at St. James' we are in a season of change, we hold onto the unchanging love and hope that we find in Jesus Christ.

My prayer for you all has always been that you would know the love God has for you and the hope that being a follower of Jesus brings to every human life that encounters Him.

Despite the ebb and flow of life, the seasons where the waves seem rough and those where we experience calm, God is the only constant. His love can be a sure and certain anchor. May you know the security that He offers us.

It has been the greatest privilege to be the Vicar of Rowledge for these past seven years and this community will always remain very special to us.

I wanted to publicly express my thanks for the great kindnesses show to me and my family by so many, but especially to those at St. James', Rowledge C of E Primary School, Little Fishes Nursery and, one of my favourite places of ministry, the Hare and Hounds!

To quote the great high priestly prayer from the Bible:

October 2023

Revd Russ Gant, Vicar

"The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace."

With my love,

Numbers 6: 24-26

IN OUR PRAYERS

If you have any specific prayer requests, you are invited to email **prayer@stjamesrowledge.org.uk** (or contact Russ by phone) who will ensure the church prays for your situation.

PARISH REGISTER

Baptisms

Harper Voice – 24th September

Marriages

Emma Lennon and Tom Page – 8th September Nadia Morad and Ahren Lester – 23rd September

News from the Nursery

This month we have been settling back into nursery life. We were delighted to welcome back the children to Little Fishes; some old friends and lots of lovely new faces. We have spent time getting to know each other, making new friends and exploring our learning theme of Me and My Family.



We've also been enjoying a return to forest school. Learning about nature and appreciating the great outdoors.





All are most cordially invited to attend a

Service of Thanksgiving



For the ministry of the outgoing Vicar of Rowledge the Revd Russ Gant

Sunday 15th October at 11am at St. James' Church.

The service will be followed by a 'Bring and Share' lunch in the Church Centre.

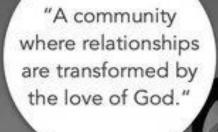


Join us! Onsite + Online

Is it time you reconnected with your soul?

St. James' is your local parish church and we are here for everyone - no exceptions.

Why not join us onsite or online? All are very welcome.





A traditional service of Holy Communion with choral music at **9.15am**.

A more contemporary service at **10.45am**.

For all the latest news and information about services and other events call us on -(01252) 792402 or visit our website -

stjamesrowledge.org.uk



Parish Vacancy News - Karen Fewster and Clive Jourdain, Churchwardens

Dear Friends, we thought we would give you an update on recent activity relating to our forthcoming parish vacancy. It may seem that nothing much has happened, but in fact, the PCC has been busy!

Firstly, we are very grateful for all who took the time to complete the SWOT exercise. The results were very illuminating and have helped us understand better what makes St James' such a vibrant and diverse community. The PCC spent half a day together on 2nd September, with a Diocesan facilitator, discerning where we are now as a church and where we would like to be in the years to come. This was a very fruitful and positive meeting. The outcomes will help us describe the qualities we are looking for in our new Vicar and how best to describe our vision for the future. This will enable us to complete the Parish Profile (the document that will be sent to all potential candidates). We now have some firm dates to add to the timetable we gave you in July.

0- 00pto00.	
3 rd October	Section 11 meeting - to sign off the Parish profile, agree the
	wording for the advertisement and select Parish
	representatives.
15 th October	Russ' last service at 11am followed by a bring and share lunch.
November – 4 weeks	Vacancy advertised nationally.
4 th December	Likely closing date for applications.
13 th December	Shortlisting of candidates.
16 th and 17 th January	Candidates visit the parish, interviews and hopefully
	appointment.

Complete the Parish Profile

For your prayers Please continue to pray for the Churchwardens and the PCC as we complete the Parish Profile. Pray too for the Bishop, Archdeacon and Area Dean as they guide us through this process. Please also pray for our next vicar, who is already (hopefully) discerning God's call to pastures new!

Installation of new vicar (hopefully).

Volunteering Church life continues as normal (well almost) during a vacancy. If you can give a little time to help us during the vacancy and beyond, we would be very happy to hear from you. There are lots of opportunities to get involved. Some of the areas where we need help include:

- Working with children's groups #hungry and Thirsty and helping us maintain contact with Rowledge C of E Primary School and Little Fishes Nursery School
- We need musicians too on a Sunday morning drums, guitar, piano, etc. Do you play or sing?
- Welcomers for both services
- Administrative support to help Rosie keep the office running
- And so on....

31st September

Mid March/April?

We are grateful for all your support and prayers.

October 2023

St. JAMES' CHURCH - October services

We are now meeting as a whole congregation in church weekly, physically, for worship, however we are continuing with our live-streamed services each Sunday for those who prefer that style or are not ready to return to the church building. Do join us live on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/StJamesChurchRowledge

Usual Sunday services 9.15am and 10.45am.

See our website for details.

stjamesrowledge.org.uk

If you want to receive email invitations to any of our online resources, email

vicar@stjamesrowledge.org.uk



October services will follow the themes of:

1st October 5 Holy Habits, Part 4 – "Giving" **10.45 – United service**

(Harvest Thanksgiving – see page 9)

8th October 5 Holy Habits, Part 5 – "Serving" 9.15 – Holy Communion (CW)

10.45 – Morning Worship

15th **October** Farewells (Gants last service) **11.00 – United service**

(see page 5)

22nd October Solid Foundations, Part 1 9.15 – Holy Communion (CW)

"What's your life built on?" 10.45 – Morning Worship

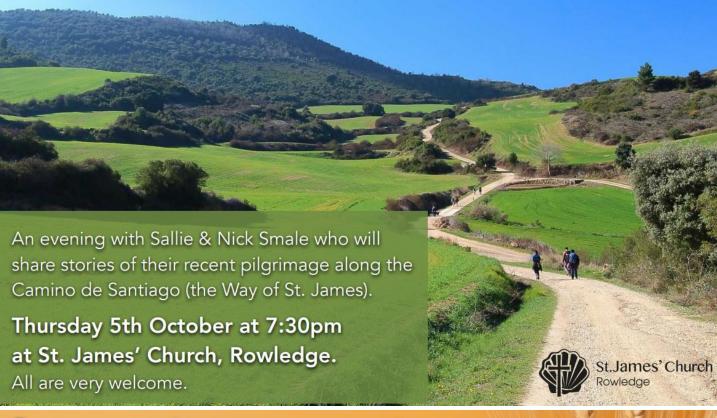
29th **October** Solid Foundations, Part 2 9.15 – Holy Communion (BCP)

"Starting from the right place" 10.45 – Morning Worship



PILGRIMS ON AN ANCIENT PATH

Reflections on walking the Camino de Santiago





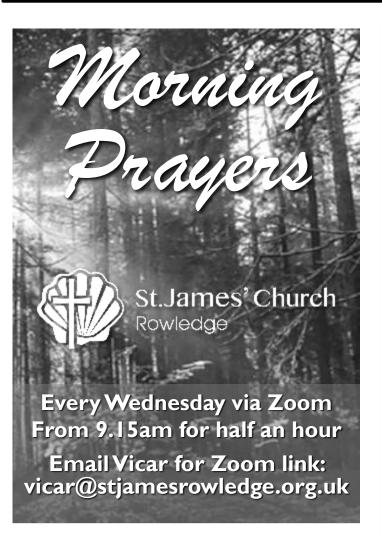
Church is OPEN!

Open Daily 9am - 5pm.

St James' Church is OPEN for individual private prayers and Sunday worship.

It is sacred space within the village, a refuge for quiet and reflection, and everyone is welcome to visit, or come and sit, to think, to pray, to find some space.





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METHODIST CHURCH

The Methodist Church - open for worship on Sundays at 10.00am.

Services and Preachers for October:

Sunday 1st **October** Rev'd Dr Michael Hopkins - Harvest Festival

Sunday 8th **October** Rev'd Philip Simpkins - Holy Communion

Sunday 15th October Rev'd David Ashby

Sunday 22nd October Stephen Clay

Sunday 29th October Rev'd Dr Michael Hopkins

Cameo

Cameo meets on Wednesdays from 2-4pm in the Methodist Hall for board games & tea

October dates: Wednesday 11th October and Wednesday 25th October

Healing Service

The healing Service is held on the first Wednesday of the month in the Church. The next Service is

Wednesday 4th October at 3.00pm

House Group

The next Meeting is **Tuesday 10th October** at

10.30am at David & Aileen's home. 01252 795438

Our Prayer Chain

Led by Mike & Joyce, our Prayer Chain can be accessed

on: **01252 793363**

If you would like to speak to our Minister, Philip Simpkins, his number is: 01420 83167

Sunday Lunch

You are invited to lunch at The Methodist Hall on

Sunday 29th October at 12.30pm.

Please book via Aileen Ashby 01252 795438

Midweek Lunch at Rowledge Methodist Church

The next Thursday Lunch will be held on **Thursday 5th October** at 12.30pm Please book with Aileen Ashby 01252 975438



Monthly pop-up community café at St. James' Church Centre

Saturday 7th October from 10am - 12noon



A place to meet, and chat with family, friends and neighbours.

Open on the second Saturday of each month.



Coffee, tea, juices and cakes all freely available (donations welcome). Well-behaved dogs welcome.



Do you know anyone who is grieving from bereavement and needs more support or time?



Meeting weekly in Farnham, the group is supported by pastoral assistants and bereavement visitors attached to various Farnham Christian churches, and allows an opportunity for those who are bereaved and lonely to meet others who understand.

Bereavement Café meet every Monday afternoon 3 - 4:30pm for tea and chat at Riverside Café at Farnham Maltings

If you would like more details please contact Mary on **07999 368128** or info@friendstogetherbereavement.org

There are also occasional evening groups for those who need to talk and share about a bereavement. Parents, Spouses, Children, Friends... Do you know anyone who is grieving and would like support?

Contact Mary on **07999 368128**

You are also welcome to bring someone you know who may benefit from the support group, but not want to attend on their own. Accompanying friends are also welcome.

St James' Church Website

Take a look at our website.

Full of interesting information and details of everything going on at St James'.



We'd love to hear your comments.

www.stjamesrowledge.org.uk

For all the latest information, visit us online at stjamesrowledge.org.uk

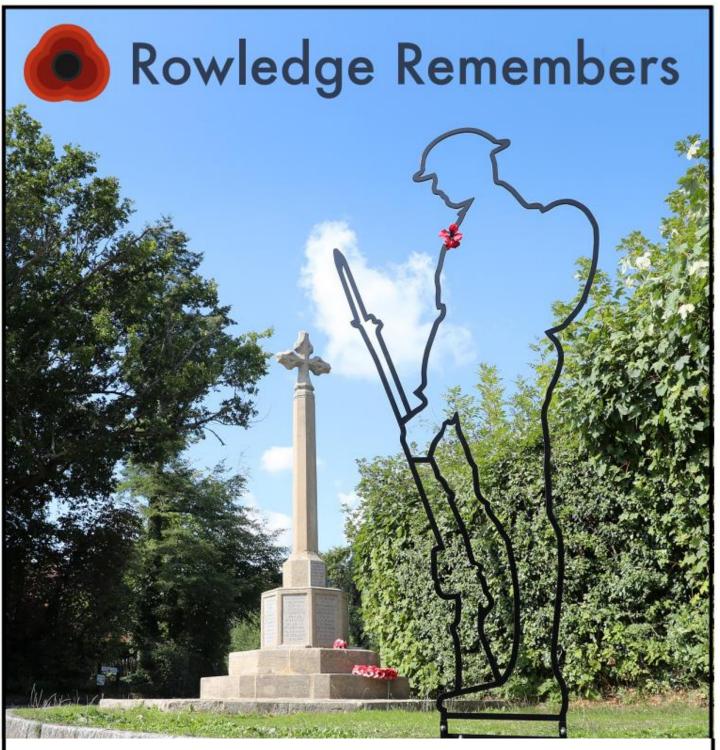












Do join us at St. James' Church on **Sunday 12th November at 10am** for a Service of Remembrance.

After the service, at approximately 10:45am, we process to the War Memorial for the Act of Remembrance at 11am. All are very welcome.

"Lest we forget."

You look like a role model

Rowledge's young people need a team of volunteers to help run their Tuesday Nights.



Contact: Peter Everett (07974 215405)

Colette Grist (07879 406926)

PS - You don't have to be Bear Grylls to volunteer!



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www.littlefishesrowledge.org.uk St. James' Church, Rowledge 01252 794617 • admin@littlefishesrowledge.org.uk



A different kind of service



As the Revd Russ Gant, Vicar of Rowledge, entered his last month of ministry before a move back to his native Suffolk, he recently spent an evening pulling the pints at the Hare and Hounds.

Russ, who takes up his new post of Rector to the Sole Bay group of churches centred on Southwold on the Suffolk coast in November, offered to help out when he heard the pub was short-staffed. His evening shift became quite the talking point!

Adrian and Ann-Marie Halpin decided to make the most of the Vicar's offer and arranged a music night to coincide. The pub did a roaring trade with many villagers and visitors alike surprised to see someone in a clerical collar taking their orders, filling the glasses and clearing empties.

Revd Russ, said, "I thoroughly enjoyed my shift, and it was great to chat with so many from the community. All Vicars should make time to do this every once in a while." But he also admitted that "having been on my feet for over six hours, it gave me a whole new appreciation for the hard work of landlords and bar staff in our local pubs. Adrian and Ann-Marie are the most amazing, community-minded people and the Hare and Hounds is as much a place of fellowship as any church."

Adrian said that there had been all the expected jokes about whether the Vicar could turn water into wine, or multiply the fish and chips on the menu! Russ is very approachable, a good laugh and will be a hard act to follow when he moves on. We all wish him well in his new parishes.

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ZUMBA GOLD (low impact) Tuesdays 9.30am Rowledge Village Hall





Mondays 9.30am Elstead Village Hall Wednesdays 11.30am Rowledge Village Hall

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Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery

Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery are pleased to share a wonderfully exciting and diverse exhibition and event programme. Featuring live music, theatre, walks, workshops and family activity days, there is so much to experience!

To browse our What's On brochure, please visit: www.petersfieldmuseum.co.uk

Nicholas Lees: Abstract Vessels 19 September – 18 November

Nicholas Lees is a sculptor based in Selborne. Working with porcelain clay, his abstract vessels are thrown on the wheel before being hand carved. Through his sculptures and drawings, he explores the empherality and uncertainty of perception and how our visual experience of reality is conditional upon light, space and body.



Gyles Brandreth:

Fun and Fabulous Jumpers Part II 5 September – 23 December

Gyles Brandreth is a writer, broadcaster, actor, former MP and award-winning podcaster, who knows Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery well because he went to school nearby, at Bedales, in the 1960s.

In the 1970s and 1980s, he became well-known for the distinctive jumpers he wore on breakfast television, inspiring fashion trends and bringing joy to many.

Part two of this exhibition celebrates these distinctive joyous jumpers, from pantomime to Christmas trees and penguins.



Visiting Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery Opening Times:

Tuesday to Saturday – 10.00am to 5.00pm (Last entry at 4.00pm).

Admission Prices:

Adults - £8.00 | Young People (5-17) - £4.00 | Children Under 5: Free Family, group and concession tickets are available – please visit **www.petersfieldmuseum.co.uk** for more details.

Gardening Gossip - John Negus

Action Stations

Scarify lawns to remove clogging thatch – dead grass – to encourage robust growth.

Encourage Christmas cacti to flower freely by positioning them in good light but not direct sunshine.

Prune hybrid tea and floribunda roses by half their height to reduce risk of autumn gales loosening root systems.

Lift gladioli and snap off old, spent corms from new ones. Then overwinter this year's newcomers in a warm place for two weeks before consigning them to a cool, frost-free shed.

Mound soil around leeks to increase their length of blanched stem.

Plant of the month: Shrubby germander

Why am I suggesting that you grow this plant, botanically Teucrium fruticans? Because it has quintessential charm. Not only are its multiple racemes of pale flowers alluring, but they complement its silvery-white, down-covered leaves and stems. There's only one proviso: it needs a sunny, sheltered site where its roots can probe free-draining soil. If space is limited, opt for the smaller form, 'Compactum'.

A native of S. Europe and N. Africa, it's an enviable drought resister. Introduced to western gardens in 1714, it won an RHS Award of Merit in 1982

Sage thoughts

Author, naturalist, philosopher, lawyer and army and naval commander, Gaius Plinius Secundus, or to give him his more popular name, Pliny the Elder, composed the following thought-provoking words:

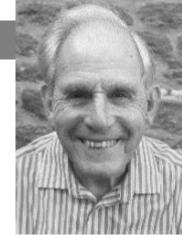
"...the earth, gentle and indulgent, ever subservient to the wants of man, spreads her walks with flowers, and her table with plenty; returns with interest, every good committed to her care."

Top Tips

Like most of us, Mike Guy enjoys seeing and hearing birds in his garden. This month our gardening enthusiast is suggesting that we put up nesting boxes for bluetits, wrens and our favourite little robins for next spring.

That's progress!

My admiration for Natural England is growing by the minute. Its idea of launching a dozen new nature recovery schemes, including linking Thursley, Frensham and Hankley Commons, gets my vote. An area of around 40,000 acres of precious heathland to improve biodiversity means that more curlews, nightjars, Dartford warblers and sand lizards will enjoy a greater uninterrupted area for breeding.



October 2023

Have you seen it?

The quaintly named Jack O'lantern fungus. A bright and luminescent orange hue, it's sprouting around Dockenfield and Frensham. A native of North America's Rocky mountains, it has migrated to Britain where it remains elusive. Indeed there have only been around 20 recorded sightings in Britain, mainly in the South East. Beware! It's highly poisonous. If ingested the toxin muscarine can seriously damage the digestive system. Admire it but don't touch it.

Botanically Omphalotus illudens, it parasitises oak and ash roots.

Perilous pursuits

Frederick Martin Josef Welwitsch (1806-1872) was an extraordinary man. After graduating in medicine at Vienna University, he was backed by the Portuguese Government to explore Angola and South-West Africa. There he amassed an enormous herbarium, the best ever collected in Tropical Africa.



"Several miles before reaching Cape Negro the coast rises

to about 400ft, forming a plateau as flat as a table. This tabular elevation... of loose sandstone shingle, is clothed with vegetation of the highest interest. Among its diverse forms is one whose stem diameter, often of 4ft, never rises to more than one foot throughout its entire duration, which might exceed a century. From it a wealth of leathery leaves are split into numerous ribbon-like segments."

This plant, later named Welwitschia mirabilis, is found only in a narrow 1200 kilometre strip between the Kuiseb River, in Namibia and the Nicolau River, in Angola. The entire region has an annual rainfall of less than 100 millimetres.

Seeking new choral members

Farnham & Bourne Choral Society members are looking forward to starting rehearsals on Wednesday 6th September after the summer break. We meet every Wednesday at 7.30pm at South Farnham School in Menin Way during term time and have an exciting programme of choral works to prepare for the 2023/24 season.

Under Ben de Souza, our talented musical director, we have been developing as a choir by including a wider range of musical styles, but retain a firm foundation in the popular classical standards.

We're always delighted to welcome new members and you'll be pleased to hear that we don't audition, so there's nothing to stop you giving it a go.

It's really fun!

http://www.farnham-choral.org.uk

https://www.facebook.com/FandBChoral/



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Help needed - more than ever!

FARNHAM FOODBANK FELDING DEODLE IN CRISIS

At this difficult time, please do support your local Foodbank.

Donations can be made at St. James' Church, Rowledge Co-Op, Waitrose or at Anne Blackman, 12 Prospect Road or Mike Randall at Poplars, 7 The Avenue. There is a huge increase in need at the moment, especially from those families who would usually

be reliant on school dinners.

To access the Foodbank should you be in need, please see contact details below.

https://farnham.foodbank.org.uk

The Church Office, Church Lane, Rowledge, GU10 4EN.

PHONE - 01252 792402

EMAIL - admin@stjamesrowledge.org.uk

info@farnham.foodbank.org.uk

The Foodbank would also be very grateful for any financial contributions vou feel moved to make.

"The Foodbank was

there when we really

needed it, it was an

absolute lifeline."

Foodbank Vouchers

St James' Church is now able to issue Foodbank vouchers for those in need. To be eligible for an emergency food parcel as an individual or a family, you will need to be referred with a voucher from the church office.

Your referral will be completely confidential. If you or someone you know is in need then please contact the church office on 01252 792 402.

Foodbank need:

Tinned veg

Tinned meat (not corned beef)

Custard

Savoury snacks

UHT milk

UHT juice

Small jars of coffee

They have plenty of baked beans and pasta

Anne Blackman (01252 793344) If you have any queries, do contact:

Thank you for your support

Village Tidy-Up

Saturday 11th Nov.

Meet at the Hare & Hounds at 10am for coffee, help clean our village until noon and then stay on for a drink and lunch in the pub

Bring the family.

We will, as usual, concentrate on the areas around the centre of the village but, the more who join in, then the wider the area that we can tidy.

We will be tidying gardens, reclaiming pavements/roads beginning to be covered up by verge creep, plus picking up litter, cleaning gutters etc.





Just bring gardening gloves and, if possible, a broom, gardening tools and waste sacks...
...and join in the fun!

Please encourage your friends and neighbours to also join in.

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Interested in installing solar panels and battery storage?

If you're interested in installing solar panels on your home, or adding battery storage, sign up now for Solar Together East Hampshire and get the best possible price.

Solar Together East Hampshire (www.solartogether.co.uk/east-hampshire), a Hampshire County Council initiative, will help homeowners feel confident that they are paying the right price for a high-quality installation from pre-approved installers.



You can join the groupbuying scheme which offers solar panels with optional battery storage and EV charge points, as well as retrofit battery storage for residents who have already invested in solar panels and are looking to get more from the renewable energy they generate as well as increase their independence from the grid.

There's a simple five-step process:

- **1. Register** registration is quick, free and without obligation.
- **2. Auction** a reverse auction is held with pre-vetted installers, who compete to offer the most competitive price.
- **3. Personal recommendation** you'll receive a detailed but easy to understand personal recommendation.
- **4. You decide** you decide if you want to accept the recommendation, with access to a dedicated helpdesk to answer any questions.
- **5. Roof survey and installation** the winning installer will survey your roof to check if the recommended number of panels will fit and the expected level of generation will be reached. If you're happy, the installation of the solar PV system will take place.
- This innovative scheme builds on six years of highly successful Solar Together programme run across the UK. To date Solar Together has delivered over 22,000 installations and over 460,000 tonnes of avoided lifetime carbon emissions.

Registrations will close on Friday 27 October 2023.

October 2023

The "What's happening in Rowledge... ...and who to contact?" section

ROWLEDGE VILLAGE EVENTS CALENDAR 2023

Rowledge Activities - Weekly Calendar

Time	Group	Age	Venue
Children's E	<u> </u>		
			7,
Mon-Fri			
09.00-15.30	Rowledge Preschool	2-4	Village Hall
09.00-15.00	Little Fishes Nursery School	2-4	St James Church
Tuesday			
17.00-18.15	Beavers	5-8	Village Hall
18.15-19.30	Cubs	8-10	Village Hall
19.30-21.15	Scouts	10-14	Village Hall
Wednesday			
09.15-11.00	Baby & Toddler Group (term time)	0-4	Village Hall
15.00-19.30	Ballet	3-13	Village Hall
16.45-18.00	Octave children's choir	7+	St James' Church
17.00-18.00	Rainbows	5-7	Methodist Hall
18.30-20.00	Guides	10-14	Methodist Hall
19.00-20.30	#hungry (youth group)	11-16	St James' Church Hall
Thursday			
18.15-19.45	Brownies	7-10	School Hall
18.30-19.30	Thirsty (yrs 5-6) - term time only	9-11	St James' Church Hall



Adults' Events

Mondou		
<i>Monday</i> 08.30-09.00	Marning Provers	St James' Church
19.30-21.30	Morning Prayers Pilates	Village Hall
Tuesday	riiales	Village i iali
09.30-10.30	Zumba Gold (term time only)	Village Hall
09.00-11.15	Pilates	Rowledge Club
14.00-17.00	Quilters (fortnightly)	Methodist Hall
19.00-20.00	Pilates	St James' Church Hall
19.30-21.15	Community Choir	Frensham Heights School
19.45- 22.00	Women's Institute (3 rd Tuesday)	The Rowledge Club
20.00-22.30	After 8 ladies group (2 nd Tuesday)	Homes
Wednesday	The common group (Exception)	
08.30-09.00	Morning Prayers	St James' Church
10.30- 12.00	Mother's Union	St James' Church
14.00-15.00	Nordic Walking	Forest (St James gate)
14.00-16.00	Cameo social group (2 nd &4 th Wed)	Methodist Hall
15.00-16.00	Healing Service (1st Wed)	Methodist Church
19.00-22.00	Bridge	Village Club
18.30-19.30	Handbell ringers	St James' Church
19.45-22.30	Badminton Club	Village Hall
Thursday		
09.00-16.00	Patchers	Methodist Hall
10.00-12.00	Art Club	Village Hall
12.30-14.00	Luncheon Club (last Thursday)	Methodist Hall
19.30-22.00	Gardening Club (2 nd Thursday)	Village Hall
20.30-23.00	Men's Group (3 rd Thursday)	Hare and Hounds
Friday		
08.30-09.00	Morning Prayers	St James' Church
09.00-12.00	Coffee Spot	Village Hall
19.00-20.00	Choir practice	St James' Church
	nd Saturday of month)	
10.00 - 12.00	The Coffee Mug	St James' Church

Many group times

Many group times

changing - check,

organisers (overleaf)

organisers



Contact details
are in the Village
are in the Jirectory - in the
Directory - in the
centre pages of
the Rowledge
Review.

ROWLEDGE DIRECTORY – 2023

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October 2023

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Baby & Toddler Group	Hazel Cottrell	07977 892694	hazel.Cottrell @ntlworld.com	
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Rowledge After School Club	School Office	01252 792346	admin@ rowledge.hants.sch.uk	
Rowledge Football Club	Catherine Greenwood	01252 781785	catherine.greenwood@tribalgroup.com	
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Rowledge Review				
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Chiropractor	Anna Maynard	01252 793183		
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Hampshire Victim Support	[24 hr]	01252 342777		
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Pollinator Patch with Juliet from Hive Helpers



Season of mists...

As I write this, we have been experiencing record temperatures and tropical nights in an unexpected heatwave – we are used to the weather changing for the better once the children go back to school, but this is extraordinary in a year of extraordinary weather. In January, we had hard frosts and severe temperatures, it was bone-dry in February, wet in March and April, hot and dry in May and June, followed by a more typical British summer during July and August, with changeable cooler and wetter weather. Who knows what we will be experiencing when you read this!

Extreme weather in a temperate climate like ours will take wildlife by surprise (and us!). It can be challenging for our pollinators, who need to feed frequently in their short lives. Bumblebees prefer the milder temperatures of the temperate regions (in fact, according to the Bumblebee Conservation Trust, that's why Britain has almost 10% of the world's bumblebee species, a much higher proportion than for most other insects). They note that bumblebee activity drops off around 28°C and ceases altogether at about 32°C. Conversely, butterflies enjoy high temperatures and lots of sunshine – but their caterpillar offspring require fresh green plants on which to feed, so lack of rain can be a problem. Hopefully, the weather this July which allowed our plants to recover will have been conducive to them. It will be interesting to see the results of this year's Big Butterfly Count run by Butterfly Conservation from 14th July – 6th August. They have already reported a huge increase in red admiral sightings this year – I have certainly spotted many more than normal.

Pollinator plant of the month

At this time of year, with forage getting scarcer, there is one plant which saves the day, our native common ivy (*Hedera helix*). You will hear the buzzing from ivy flowers before you see the bees! The yellow-green flowers on mature ivy are produced in small rounded clusters, and you should be able to spot the Ivy mining bee, distinguishable from the honey bee by the smart black and yellow stripes on its abdomen. This is the last of the solitary bees to emerge and can be seen from late August into November. As its name implies, it nests below ground in sparsely vegetated patches including lawns — a good excuse for a bare patch! Although solitary, in that it does not form a colony like honey bees and bumblebees, you will often see large numbers of these bees in a small area. Interestingly, this bee was only spotted in 2001 in Dorset, since when it has spread through most of southern Britain.

Other October plants for pollinators

We inherited the Japanese anemone (*Anemone x hybrida*) along with the house 30 years ago, and it's still going strong! These tough plants spread easily and are great for pollinators. Less hardy is *Agastache*, variously known as Korean mint and giant hyssop, which in my garden succumbed to the frosts earlier in the year, but if it

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survives, is one of the very best plants for attracting bees to your garden, according to the RHS. A plant I always associate with autumn is the Michaelmas daisy, still commonly known as Aster, although many of these daisy-flowered plants have been reclassified and have a different genus name. Whatever they're called, the bees love 'em! Another plant to have been reclassified recently is the border sedum,

now labouring under the mouthful Hylotelephium. These sun-loving perennials with fleshy leaves and masses of flat pink flowerheads are irresistible to pollinators they are just acquiring the first flush of pink as I write, and the bees are already there! The picture was on our Facebook page, great to see that Rowledge School Busy Bees Club share a name with us!



For a comprehensive list of plants for pollinators, visit https://www.rhs.org.uk/science/conservation-biodiversity/wildlife/plants-for-pollinators and download the garden plants list.

For more information about Hive Helpers, please visit www.hivehelpers.co.uk, email us on office@hivehelpers.co.uk or phone us on 07895 547637

Hedgehogs in Rowledge - Juliet Leeves

The Farnham Biodiversity Partnership are desperate for sightings of hedgehogs in Rowledge.

Hedgehogs may well be going into hibernation around now but members of the Farnham Biodiversity Partnership are keen to hear of any sightings, regular or one off, of hedgehogs (whether dead or alive) in and around Rowledge in recent years. If you have seen any hedgehogs in the last 5 years please can you let them know by dropping them an email to the following email address including the location and approximate date: mhchun1728@yahoo.co.uk



Any photos would also be very much appreciated.

Ivy - the last of the summer nectar - Martin Angel

Ivy has just begun to flower in our hedge rows. Its flowers produce copious amounts of nectar which are a vital energy resource for wildlife preparing either to migrate to warm climes or to overwinter. Yet ivy has a very bad press and gets cut back by those who believe that tidiness is next to godliness. The ivy in the hedge opposite our house has just been trimmed, for no good reason! Exploiters of ivy fall into two categories a day shift and a night shift.

The day shift is most active when it is sunny and includes a host of insects ranging from several types of hoverfly, butterflies, bees and wasps including thee occasional hornet. The bees include honey bees, several bumblebee, and a recent arrival to this country - ivy bees. Ivy bees were first arrived in Britain in 2001, and have spread rapidly throughout southern Britain and much of Wales; they are now being reported from the north. You can learn more about them by viewing a U-tube talk at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8C6tkfiePpE. They are the dominant bee

species exploiting the ivy along
Boundstone Road and the car park by the
Rowledge Primary school. They are
ground nesting species forming colonies
of individual nests, preferring sandy soils.
The males emerge first and compete to
mate with the first female forming
frenzied balls of competing males
surrounding the first emerging females.
They do not sting, unlike honey bees,
wasps and some bumblebees.



The most interesting bumblebee you will see on the ivy flowers is the tree bumblebee – immediately recognisable by its orange thorax, which is another recent immigrant from Europe, Many of the hoverflies mimic bees deterring would be attackers by their resemblance to 'stingers'. Hoverflies are very important service providers in gardens as not only as pollinators but also as pest controllers since both adults and larvae consume aphids. Other significant pest controllers are lacewings, which look fragile with their transparent wings and green bodies. There is one beautiful butterfly that is common on the ivy blossom – the red admiral. These butterflies have recently changed their behaviour probably in response to climate change. They used to migrate across the Channel to overwinter in southern Europe, but most are now hibernating in sheltered places – often in outbuildings and tree holes. Whether preparing for migrate overseas (note birds are not the only animals to migrate to Europe many insects do) or to find frost free hibernation sites, nectar from ivy is a vital energy source ensuring survival.

I am most interested the night shift. I recommend wearing a high-vis jacket and using

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a head torch. A head torch helps to spot moths and spiders because they have reflective layers at the back of their eyes which back scatters the light from the eyes causing them to gleam. This only works effectively if your light source is on a level with your eyes, so a hand-held torch only shows the eye-shine if you hold your torch alongside your head.

The main members of the night shift are moths. I have photographed 55 species of moth on ivy at night. But the night shift also includes woodlice, slugs, snails, centipedes and I have even found a smooth newt a couple of metres above the ground on ivy. There is a commonly held myth that ivy parasitises and hence kills trees. Ivy is an epiphyte using trees for support. It does increase a tree's windage making it more vulnerable to being blown down in a gale, and if a tree on your property is blown down and damages neighbouring property you are financially responsible. This makes the general public less tolerant of this amazing plant, but why the ivy is hacked from hedgerows is illogical and highly damaging to the conservation

of our biodiversity.



Angle shades moth - one of the commoner moths on ivy

Frosted orange - one of the more colourful moths found on ivy.



An unexpected ivy visitor – a smooth newt.

Disaster on the Coronation Day that wasn't!by Neil Pittaway

As we get nearer to Remembrance Sunday, this story starts at the close of the Boer War in South Africa and takes us to the perils of serving the country in wartime, in this case the Merchant Navy or the R.A.F.

Towards the end of the nineteenth century, a family moved from Fulham in south west London to Rowledge. I say a family but Elizabeth Ann Freeman brought her three young sons here when their father, Eli Freeman had left to fight in South Africa. The sons were Timothy Henry Eli born in Chelsea on August 17th 1894, George Edward also born in Chelsea in 1896 and Richard William born in Fulham in 1898.

The Freemans were living in one of the Rosslyn Villas on the Long Road, these days five houses beyond Cumpsteys Corner and three houses before the Village Hall. In this contemporaneous picture taken before the shops were built, Rosslyn Villas are alongside the gent with a bike. Just look at the relatively empty road compared with today.



This is the 'Freeman' entry for Rosslyn Villa in the 1901 census, Elizabeth (née Bedford) had two of her younger unmarried sisters also living with her:

Rossignal 1	Hesabetham Freeman leife M	38
7- 1-1-1-	Vinothy Stewy Do Some 5	6
1 1 1	George Edward Do Son 5	5
1 1	Richard Colleanto Son S	3
1 1	lilice Butford Seiter 3	34
a vivi	Harrier Louis Do Sister 5	31

Why they chose Rowledge to live in whist Eli was away isn't clear but one thing is certain, they didn't remain here and by 1905 they were living in Enfield, father Eli having left the army to work as a bank messenger.

I suspect the family moved away from Rowledge very soon after a tragic accident on the Long Road. Once again, take in the empty road in the picture and then read this accident report from the Surrey Advertiser for July 2nd 1902. The little boy was eight, not nine, the accident on June 26th.

The doctor would have been Dr. Edmond Field Robinson, Physician and Surgeon, a Yorkshireman who lived at 'The Haven' near Millbridge, Frensham.

By looking at the children's ages, the little boy will have been Timothy Henry Eli Freeman. I would imagine the vehicles were both horse- drawn, but not necessarily.

The Coronation for Edward V11 was scheduled for June 26th 1902 but because the King developed appendicitis it was delayed until August 9th 1902. However, at the King's insistence, many celebrations planned for June 26th still took place and I imagine it was one of these Timothy had been to, the poor lad likely still distracted by the excitement. The second report in the same Surrey Advertiser outlined Rowledge's celebrations on June 26th 1902.

ACCIDENT AT ROWLEDGE

On returning from the Coronation festivities on Thursday evening a little boy narved Freeman, aged nine, living at Roslyn stepped out of the way of an approaching vehicle, and on its passing, he went back into the road, and was knocked down by another vehicle coming close behind. A wheel struck him on the head, fracturing the base of the skull, and bruising him considerably on the aide and other parts of the body. He was carried home unconscious, and was attended by Dr. Robinson, of Frensham. The doctor arrived about 11 o'clock, and about the same time the boy's father, who has been away in South Africa as a Reservist for some years. returned home, having come from the Cape by the Bavarian.

When the serious nature of the King's illness became known, it was generally felt that the festivities arranged for Coronation Day should be postponed, and it was only because of the expressed desire of His Majesty that the country celebrations should take place that the local Festivities Committee decided to carry out their programme, omitting the bonfire only. Consequently, at 1.45 a united service of intercession was held at the Parish Church, conducted by the Vicar, with the assistance of Mr. Hawthorne (representing the Free Churches), After the service the who read the lesson. children marched in procession, headed by the Rowledge Brass Band, to grounds lent by Mr. Charrington. On arrival, commemorative medals provided by Mr. R. Young were distributed by Miss Zoc Young. At four o'clock the children's tea took place, and an hour later the adults were served with a like repast. In the course of the afternoon and evening programme of sports for parishioners of all ages was gone through, and at the close the prizes were distributed by Miss Rose Iane, daughter of Major Lane, the hon, see, of the committee.

The first article, 'Accident at Rowledge' mentions that Timothy's father, Eli had returned from army service in South Africa on the S.S. Bavarian, seen here.

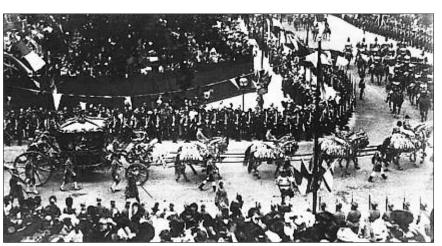
The shipping company records for the S.S. Bavarian in June 1902 tell the story:



June 10th: departed Cape Town with about 1400 troops of the army for England.

June 23rd: arrived at Southampton with 1400 officers and men who had been chosen to represent the British Army of South Africa at the Coronation.

With the Coronation initially due three days later, the army were seemingly cutting their arrival a bit fine!



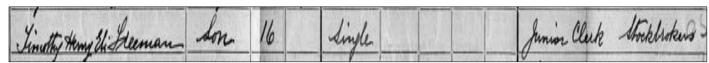
However, Timothy would not only have been excited about the June 26th celebrations but also that his father Eli had just come home to serve the King at the Coronation. I wonder if Eli is standing guard in this photograph of Edward V11 leaving the Palace for the Abbey.

Timothy might even have been clutching his Coronation gift tin of chocolate that school children were given. Could he have opened it and been distracted? As you can maybe just see on this tin (recently sold, chocolate intact!) it was printed with the 26th June 1902 date on the lower right-hand side.



It seems that Timothy thankfully recovered from his terrible accident and the family moved to Enfield. In 1908 aged 14, he was confirmed by the Bishop of Islington.

By the time of the 1911 census, Timothy Henry Eli Freeman aged 16/17 was working with an Enfield stockbroker as a junior clerk.



Throughout 1913, WW1 was looming and by the time it was declared Timothy Henry Eli Freeman had reversed his name to become Henry Timothy Eli Freeman and was undertaking training to be a Merchant Navy Wireless Operator....known as a 'sparks'.

He received his licence, #1595 'First Class' from the Post Office in October1915

This was his WW1
Mercantile Marine
medal card with medals
issued in 1920 and 1921

Freeman My JE Cert wireless Oper

Surname FREEMAN

Or

Or

OF 14 3 9

Or

Christian names IENRY, TIMOTHY FLAT R82 No. 100 445

Place of birth Marine Ribbon issued 12 to M.M.O. 2000 445

Mercantile Marine Ribbon issued 13 to M.M.O. 2000 465

Mercantile Marine Medal issued 14 to M.M.O. 2000 465

British Medal issued 15 to M.M.O. 2000 465

It appears that thankfully young 'sparks' Henry survived WW1 and on December 22nd 1918, soon after the war ended, he married a victualler's daughter, Mary (May) Lilian Jones at Hooton in Cheshire, not far from the

Liverpool docks where it is likely Henry's various ships were based.

The couple had three children, Jeanne in 1921, Arthur in 1924 and Patricia in 1926.

Henry's Merchant Navy record from 1919-1921 shows that he had two small scars on his right forearm. Maybe these were caused by his accident in Rowledge.

Henry's post WW1 service record from 1921 to 1939 seems to indicate that he continued as a ship's wireless operator until around August 1930 with a gap from 1925 until 1930 and then resumed his role in July 1939. From at least 1929, his wife Mary (May) was living with her mother and her three children. Henry had moved to South Wales.

C.R. 10. No. of Identity Certificate. 20.2. 445

M.N.S. Region Regional No.

Surname Rating Regional No.

Rating R. N. R. No.

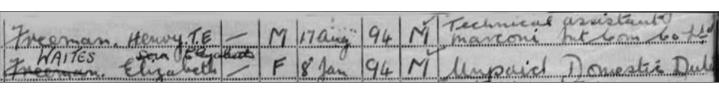
No. and Grade of B/T Certificate R. N. R. No.

Date and Place of Biddle Rating Regional Regi

9. 12. 21 6. 7. 22 18350 mar 22.9.22 40404 2. 11. 23 5. 1. 24 9.12.24 148076 18. 3. 25 45427 10. 12.25 43663 361 - 8 - 30 ROYSTON GRANGE 31.4.39 142410

A South Wales newspaper report for 1934 indicates that Henry was by then living in Gaer Park, Newport where he was successfully prosecuted for damages for being responsible for a head on collision whilst visibility was reduced by the steam from a steam wagon. Indeed, electoral registers show that in 1929 Henry had moved from Liverpool to Newbridge near Newport, Wales and was living as a border with a James and Dora Elizabeth Waites.

The 1939 register for 141 Gaer Park Drive, Newport shows at first glance that Henry (M for married) had apparently remarried to an Elizabeth (M for married) and was working as a technical assistant with Marconi who provided ship's wireless equipment.



However, as eventually corrected on the register, Elizabeth Freeman was indeed a married lady but not to Henry. She was Dora Elizabeth Waites, a one-time skating instructress with whom Henry had been living since at least 1929, first as a border with her husband James but alone with Dora from 1933. Her colliery worker husband, James Henry Waites seems to have become a singer and left for the USA in 1925 returning soon after but possibly going to the USA permanently around 1933.

With WW2 looming, the last entry in Henry's Merchant Navy wireless operator record shows that in 1939, after an on shore installation engineer break of about eight years,

he resumed his wireless operator duties on board the 'Royston Grange' whose official number was 142410.

The 'Royston Grange' was completed in 1918 and was previously named 'Salada', as seen here before being renamed.



This return to wireless operator duty was to be for less than four months.

At 13.19 hours on November 25th 1939 Henry's ship was fifty miles off Lands-End and in convoy SL-8B returning from Sierra Leone. One torpedo from a German U boat (submarine), U-28 commanded by a very successful Günter Kuhnke was enough to sink the ship. All the crew survived and were picked up by a British Trawler, 'Romilly' and taken to Swansea. Henry would have stayed at his wireless operator post as long as possible calling for help and thankfully those distress calls, likely in morse code were picked up by the 'Romilly'.

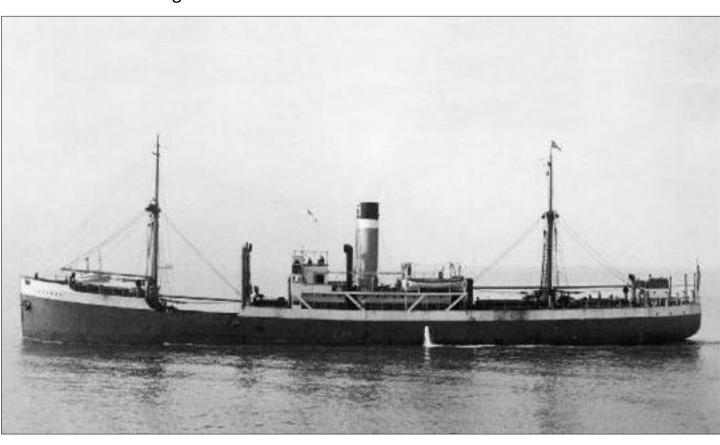
I would imagine that as the 'Royston Grange' was the last entry in Henry's maritime record, he was able to return to his 'on-shore' wartime duties with Marconi and possibly continued those as a marine installation engineer until his death on May 14th 1950 at the age of fifty-five at St, Woollos hospital, Newport. He suffered from prostate and kidney issues. At the time, Henry seen here, was still living in 141 Gaer Park Drive with his long-time partner, Dora Elizabeth Waites who died at Newport in 1963.



Henry's first daughter, Jeanne married a

20-year-old R.A.F. 139 Squadron, bomber command observer, Sergeant Stanley Godfrey Hill in 1940. Sadly, he died in Norwich in April 1941 following injuries sustained in a steel works raid over Holland.

Henry's only son, Arthur Hector Freeman was not as fortunate as his father as he was lost at sea when on 13th March 1943 his ship, the S.S. Opporto (shown here) sailing from Liverpool for Seville, was torpedoed by U-107 off Cape Finisterre. Arthur was nineteen and serving as an assistant steward. All but four of the crew of 47 were lost.



Henry's wife, Mary (May) Lilia Freeman, née Jones, continued to live in Liverpool with her first daughter Jeanne until at least 1960 and died in Macclesfield in 1966.



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Fun in the sun! - Adele Regan

On Saturday the 19th August, St James' Church family went on a wonderful trip down to Hayling Island for some fun in the sun! We pottered down to Hayling Island with some grey clouds above and blustering winds whipping the waves 10 feet above brave swimmers. Some wrapped up warm and took shelter from the elements behind the breakwaters, whilst others stripped off and dove straight into the crashing waves for some bracing wild swimming!



As lunch approached we put in a mass order at the local chippy and regained our energy with fish and chips which was devoured in the now blazing sunshine as we looked out to the glistening sea and the Isle of Wight.

As the afternoon was drawing to a close, the young people headed off to explore the rides and arcades that Hayling had to offer as the others wound their way back to Rowledge.

The trip was a wonderful time of fellowship and friendship between all ages and was the perfect example of the church that St James' is; we are a community of people of all ages, who walk alongside one another in good times and bad with Jesus at the centre of all we do, transforming our lives.

















Hospice Care Gets Refurbishment at Guildford Site

Local hospice care charity Phyllis Tuckwell has recently carried out a complete internal refurbishment of the Beacon Centre in Guildford, where it provides much of its community and Living Well care from.

Phyllis Tuckwell provides supportive and end of life care for patients and families across the whole of West Surrey and part of North-East Hampshire. It has worked from the Beacon Centre in Guildford, which is located on the site of the Royal Surrey County Hospital, since 2015, giving easier access to its services to patients and their families and carers who live on the east side of its catchment area.



The Living Well community care which the charity provides from the Beacon Centre supports patients who need help managing living everyday life with their illness.

Its doctors, nursing team, therapists, social workers, counsellors and pastoral care team visit patients at home, keep in touch by phone, and run two eight-week programmes which help patients and their families and carers to manage living everyday life with an

advanced or terminal illness.

"We have carried out an extensive refurbishment of the Beacon Centre, to improve the facilities and environment there for our patients and their families and carers, and also for our staff and volunteers," said Maria Aziz, Beacon Centre Manager at Phyllis Tuckwell. "We have created two new consulting rooms, a new one-to-one room, two group session rooms and a new reception area.



We have also improved staff facilities, adding a new kitchen and a staff welfare area. In addition to this, we have updated our IT infrastructure, and have extended our fresh air ventilation and air conditioning systems to additional areas of the building. The lighting throughout the building has been replaced with energy efficient LED lighting, we have decorated throughout, and we have replaced all of the flooring with materials and colours appropriate for dementia care."

Phyllis Tuckwell is also currently in the process of building a <u>new Hospice</u> on its existing site in Farnham. Demolition of the existing building is planned to take place

towards the end of the year and building work will start from January 2024, with the charity aiming to move into the new Hospice by January 2026.



While this work is underway, all of Phyllis Tuckwell's Living Well services and much of its community services will be based at the Beacon Centre. Its In-Patient Unit services will be temporarily relocated to a new 10-room wing at Kings Lodge care home in Camberley. To find out more, please visit www.pth.org.uk/new-hospice

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A new East Hampshire District Council project aims to improve the levels of physical activity for inactive adults, or those with health conditions.



Get Up & Go! helps to break down the barriers to exercise by funding beginners' physical activity sessions at greatly discounted prices. The classes are situated at easily accessible venues within the community. If you would like to participate, no matter your age or level of experience, go to: **www.getupandgoeasthants.com**



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Give a Few Hours to Make a Big Difference

If you're looking for a worthwhile way to spend a few spare hours a week, then look no further! Local hospice care charity Phyllis Tuckwell is searching for volunteer drivers, escorts and receptionists, and would love to hear from you!

Phyllis Tuckwell is currently looking for volunteers to help drive its patients to and from the sessions and appointments that it provides at the Beacon Centre in Guildford, and escorts to sit in the car with patients, to make sure they are comfortable and to chat with them on the journey. It is also looking for volunteer receptionists to help on its reception at Headway House in Farnham town centre, where the charity has relocated its support staff and some of its community team

while it is building a new Hospice.

Volunteering is a hugely rewarding way to spend a few hours a week and can make such a big difference to both patients and staff.
Without volunteer transport, many patients would be unable to get to the Beacon Centre for the group sessions which are held there.



These sessions are really important, as they offer patients nursing care, therapies, advice on managing symptoms such as breathlessness, fatigue and anxiety, and creative activities such as Mindfulness with Clay and Confidence through Cooking. As well as appreciating the lift to these sessions, patients also look forward to having a chat with their driver and escort, so the role is social as well as practical.

The receptionist role at Headway House is also social as well as practical, as you will be the first person that visitors meet and will welcome them to the building. You'll get to know the other receptionists and staff who work there too, and really feel like you're part of the team.

If you would like to find out more about any of these volunteering roles, please contact Phyllis Tuckwell's Voluntary Services team on **voluntary.services@pth.org.uk** or call **01252 729400**.

ROWLEDGEVILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB

SEPTEMBER PRIZE DRAW

The draw for £100 was made at Coffee Spot on Friday 1st September and the winner, Mike Bowen, was present to hear the good news.

Now is a good time to take out 100 Club annual tickets as the bumper Christmas draw for £250 and £100 prizes is fast approaching. Just £12 buys you a year's single number in the draw - and you can take as many numbers as you like! Come to Coffee Spot on any Friday and pick up an application form. Alternatively send an email to treasurer@rowledgevillagehall.com .



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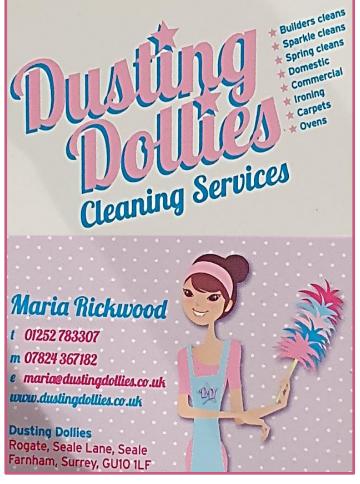
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Know your left from your right - Driving ...Perry Mitchell

I was recently watching a TV programme about cars and I was astonished to learn that the French also drove on the left until 1933. It prompted me to ask what determined this change and indeed why any countries drive as they do. First a contrived couple of terms to avoid confusion. Here in UK we drive on the left side of the road from the right seat of the car, so let us call that road-left and driver-right. Clearly on the Continent they drive road-right and driver-left.

It turns out that driving on the left (as we do) was the natural evolution to allow horsemen to pass each other with their right (sword) hands. In fact it was recently determined that the Romans drove road-left. However, both France and USA used heavy wagons with teams of horses, driven by a rider sitting on one of the horses. He would naturally sit on the rear left horse to allow his right hand to use a whip.

He would prefer to pass another wagon on the right to ensure clearance for his wheels. There were other reasons in France connected to the revolution and later with Napoleon to promote the road-right preference. Napoleon's conquests carried this to other European countries. The nations that resisted invasion — Britain, the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Russia and Portugal — generally kept to road-left. Remarkably, Austria was split between left and right (based upon Napoleon's progress) for well over a contury until the



progress) for well over a century until the road-left driving was finally finished by the Nazis in 1939, and the same happened to Czechoslovakia and Hungary. Russia changed to road-right in 1916 presumably connected to the War. Portugal resisted until 1923 before confusion at the land border with Spain finally took its toll. The final European convert to road-right was Sweden, who did not change until 1967. There is the oft repeated joke that they changed over a weekend, first with the trucks and then later with cars! In practice they changed everybody at one (early morning) time with a 10 minute break between. There had been a long publicity campaign before the change to ensure nobody was surprised!

The heavy wagons of France and USA were not much used in UK, so there was never a similar pressure to change. In fact driving on the left was only made a legal requirement in Britain in 1756, and then solely for London Bridge. It gradually passed through statutes for towns and then elsewhere, until finally in 1835 it became nationwide.

Britain passed on its road-left driving requirement to all its worldwide territories,

where it has mostly stuck. Canada succumbed in the 1920s to pressure from across the border in USA and also from the French population. An interesting one is Pakistan, which considered a change (perhaps to needle the Indians) from left to right in the 1960s. The main argument against was that camel trains often drove through the night while their drivers dozed. The difficulty in teaching old camels new tricks was a decisive factor in Pakistan rejecting the change. Both Australia and South Africa have maintained driving road-left and their climate has caused both countries to become a source of low rust vintage cars to British enthusiasts.

Japan had a similar tradition to Britain of driving on the left based upon swords (and for them) Samurai. This was cemented by aid from Britain at starting their railways, where the Brits took their rail-left rule which spread into trams. Some neighbouring Asian countries like Vietnam and Cambodia have been influenced by their French Colonial past and drive road-right, whereas Britain's Colonial heritage puts most of the rest of South East Asia on the left. The odd one is Myanmar (former Burma) which also (as a former British Colony) drove on the left right up to 1970 when the rather eccentric leader General Ne Win decided to change. (One rumour suggested it was on the advice of his wife and astrology!) Since then, drivers learnt to cope (with their mostly old British and Japanese driver-right cars) on the 'wrong' side but recently the Government has banned the import of any more such driver-right vehicles.

When we get down to the actual design of vehicles, the earliest cars in USA actually had driver-right (this photo shows a 1905 Ford). It was 1908 before Ford models placed the driver on the left. This of course made sense with road-right to enable a better drivers' view of the road and to ease passenger disembarkation at kerbside. In fact for city use with a single driver, it can be argued that a 'wrong' side position is an advantage. Going back to my opening sentence, it turns out this was a



mistake but early Parisian delivery vans did indeed often have a driver-right setup and this probably led to the presenter miss-takingly thinking that all French vehicles were thus.

With the obvious exception of the gear stick, most vehicles now have common control layouts whatever the driving side. This basically comes down to cost cutting. My first vehicle was a Morris Minivan and it had a right hand indicator stalk which is the obvious choice for driver-right. Due to large sales in Europe, Minis changed to a left hand stalk to have a common (thus cheaper) design for both. Imported Japanese cars had a right hand stalk, but for similar reasons to the Mini, Nissan cars made in Sunderland (and sold in Europe) have adopted a common left hand stalk! There is thus the rather bizarre fact that Nissan drive-right cars have opposite side indicator stalks

depending on where they are made! Perhaps it is a 'back-handed' complement that suggests that British drivers are more willing to compromise!

It is an interesting fact that scientists have analysed both sides of driving and determined that driver-right, road-left is actually a safer option. This is more to do with the large majority of right eye dominance rather than right handedness. I spent 6 years living in Greece with a driver-left car, and I have driven on the continent extensively with driver-right cars. I found that I adapted to driver-left very quickly and it always seemed natural. Driving on road-right with a driver-right car needs constant attention. It is easy to absent-mindedly slip to road-left if no other cars are in the vicinity!

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SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Can you spot the 11 differences between these two pictures?





Q: What is the pumpkin's favourite sport? A: Squash.

Q: What do you call the feeling that you've had this coffee before? A: Deja-Brew

Q: What did one autumn leaf say to the other?

A: I'm falling for you

Q: How do scarecrows decide who should be head scarecrow? A: They take a straw poll.

Q: What did the fish say when it was grabbed by its tail? A: That's the end of me!

Q: When do mechanics drink coffee?

Q: When they are on a brake...

Q: Which car do most vegetarians drive? A: A Volks-vegan.

Q: Why do hotel staff dress up as witches on Halloween?
A: To provide the best broom service.

4	1						6	8
6							2	
						5	1	
			2	4		6	9	
3				5				
5		6			9			1
			7			3		
9		2		6	4			
		7	9		8		5	

Sudoku Each puzzle has a solution that can be reached logically without guessing. Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 9 space shape.

EDITORIAL



PLEASE NOTE: The official deadline for copy for the November issue of the Review is FRIDAY 13th October 2023.... LATEST DATE!!

Please either send articles through email: **rowledgereview@yahoo.co.uk** or leave your masterpieces in the pigeonhole provided in St James' Church.

We always welcome your contributions and would love to hear from anyone who think they could contribute a series of articles on a theme – any subject considered.

Please also continue to notify us of any required changes to the Directory listing.

Please send articles to **rowledgereview@yahoo.co.uk** not to Tony Carpenter's personal email account.

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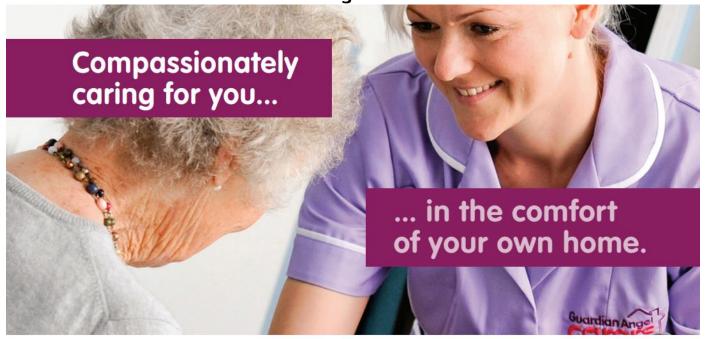




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