



St Michael & All Angels Church  
Pirbright Parish Council

# Peri News

No 565

November 2020



## THANK YOU TO ALL SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN

### REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

We will remember them. That is our commitment as a community, to remember all those who served in times of war, and especially those whose lives were taken by war. We do and we will remember them. But this year the Act of Remembrance may have to be different because of the corona virus pandemic. The Church, Parish Council and Royal British Legion are working together to find a way of honouring our commitment, on behalf of the whole community, to those who served, but in these fast changing times it is impossible to plan with any certainty. So please check the Church and Parish websites close to Sunday 8th and Wednesday 11th November for more detailed information about how and where our Act of Remembrance will take place.

Whether in the church, at the war memorial, on the village green, or in our own homes, we WILL remember them.



*Editor*

### FESTIVE FACEMASKS

Put on a Festive Face for Christmas with made to order facemasks and help to support our local church. New fabrics are available including special Christmas designs. For more details contact Helen Whitworth on 07777659138 or go to <https://www.pirbrightchurch.org.uk/masks.htm>.



### PIRBRIGHT CHRISTMAS TRAIL

Christmas is going to be tricky this year, and we'll all need something to lift our spirits, that's where the Friends of Pirbright School come in. FOPS are planning a Christmas trail for the whole community to enjoy. The trail will consist of decorated windows, a map to follow and clues to find, there will be a small fee and tickets/maps will be available through FOPS. We hope that whatever the world throws at us we will still be able to safely enjoy the event, outdoors, keeping physically distanced but bringing our community together and giving our children a little Pirbright Christmas magic.

We would love to hear from anyone who would like to decorate a window in their home for the event, it can be as simple or extravagant as you like! The trail will run from Friday 11th Dec- Sun 3rd Jan. Please contact Gemma 07737407146 [barber.gemma@googlemail.com](mailto:barber.gemma@googlemail.com) for more info or to get involved.



## ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH

### *Just a thought.....*

#### **What's the magic word?**

When I was a child I was taught to say please and thank you if I asked for something or if someone gave me something nice. Even if I didn't particularly like whatever the something was, I still had to be grateful for it. After every birthday and after Christmas I had to write my thank you letters - a chore I must confess I didn't enjoy very much. My children were always taught the same, and yes, they always grumbled about it too.

I also remember my parents saying, 'what's the magic word?' when I was asking for a drink, or a biscuit, or a special birthday or Christmas present. It's quite true that if you say 'please' when you're asking for a treat you're much more likely to get a positive reaction. That's what is at the heart of prayer: in effect we're asking God for something close to our hearts, and although God

is always listening, he's also waiting for the magic word. Or rather, words. Our prayers will always be answered, maybe not in the way we expect, but in God's own way. So it's only right and proper that we should say 'thank you' as well.

These days there are so many things that I am thankful for, good health, a lovely home, family and friends not least among them. But perhaps one of the things I am most thankful for is the fact that I have lived my whole life in a part of the world that has been free from the horror of war, although of course that is not the case for everyone. Whether it was a good thing or not I didn't even have to go through the rigours of National Service; I have always been thankful for that, but I often wonder if it might have made me a better or at least a less self-centred person.

In November every year we remember with pride and humble gratitude the men and women who served their country, and so many of whom paid the ultimate price. Although lots of them volunteered to serve their country in time of war, many were conscripted. Nobody asked them, and they weren't given much of a choice - and the word 'please' probably didn't enter into it. But it's because of them that we're here today, so we can and should take this opportunity to say thank you to them all. Which I do, unreservedly, on behalf of us all.

*Rev'd Gary Williamson*



*Be kind. Everyone you meet is fighting a tough battle.*



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e mail [churchwardens@pirbrightchurch.org.uk](mailto:churchwardens@pirbrightchurch.org.uk)

## CUNNINGHAM HOUSE

Here at Cunningham House, we've been very fortunate over the years to have benefited from the strong community spirit in Pirbright. Many villagers have donated home grown fruit and veg, jams and chutneys and delicious apple pies baked by Cath. Residents have been transported to church in style via various villagers' motors; taken on Grand Days Out; and have admired the horticultural efforts of our talented volunteer gardeners. In the pre-Covid days, our residents also enjoyed visitors popping in for coffee and a chat.

Although mixing socially is more difficult these days, we still encourage safe visits from family members, and of course phone calls from anyone carry no risk of virus transmission! A few minutes' conversation can make a big difference to our residents, or indeed to any elderly person who may be feeling isolated. On 5<sup>th</sup> October, Captain Sir Tom Moore (of NHS fundraising fame) launched a podcast entitled 'The Originals' as part of a national campaign to tackle loneliness among older people, which has worsened during the pandemic. The campaign, led by Age UK, is encouraging people to have a meaningful conversation with an older person. As we head into the dark winter months with no sign of the pandemic receding, it's surely more important than ever to encourage Pirbright's spirit of community and do all we can to help all of its elderly residents.



## ST MICHAEL'S MEGANORMOUS CHRISTMAS QUIZ

Next month you will be able to exercise your little grey cells, and help Pirbright Village Church at the same time with the St Michael and All Angels' Meganormous Christmas Quiz. With 7 sets of puzzles, you only need to get one correct to be in with a chance of winning prizes of £200, £100, £50, a magnum of champagne or a case of wine. Full details in the December PeriNews.



## ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

At the deferred APCM in October, Church Warden Pauline Cannon stood down after more than five years of service. Helen Whitworth was elected in her place to serve alongside Catherine Cobley who was re-elected. Four members of the PCC were also elected. For full details see the church website. Our sincere thanks to all those who have served our community in these roles, and to all those stepping forward to serve.



## CHURCH SERVICES in November

- 1<sup>st</sup> 10:00am All Saints, family service, zoom only, no service in church, Rev Bev Hunt
  - 8<sup>th</sup> 10:00am Service of Remembrance in church\* + zoom, Rev Bev Hunt
  - 10:50am Community Act of Remembrance\*
  - 15<sup>th</sup> 10:00am Holy Communion in church plus zoom, Rev Gary Williamson
  - 22<sup>nd</sup> 10:00am Holy Communion in church plus zoom, Rev Bev Hunt
  - 29<sup>th</sup> 10:00am Holy Communion in church plus zoom, Rev Bev Hunt
- \* venue to be confirmed, check church website nearer the time



## PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL

### Pirbright Community Sports Pavilion

The Parish Council has been in detailed discussions with Pirbright Cricket Club and Pirbright Football Club and Pirbright Youth Football Club on replacing the old cricket pavilion and developing a wide range of grass roots sports activity for the wider community. After 70 years we need a new pavilion for a new era of sporting endeavour in Pirbright and to build on the success of our established clubs. It has been great to see youth and adult football played competitively on the village green this year and the ground has never been in better shape. Youth cricket coaching took off tremendously over the summer and is oversubscribed, with over 70% of children coming from the Parish and local schools and with sufficient interest to form teams in a range of age groups and for the first time a ladies side. We want to encourage sports participation at all levels and all ages and abilities, and to have these facilities locally, so our community don't have to travel to access team sports and activity.

So working with the stakeholder groups the Trustees of Lord Pirbright's Hall and Recreation Ground, with the support of the Parish Council and the clubs, are developing the clear business plan and funding proposals to add to local donations and we are now preparing a bid to the new Surrey County Council Community Fund to help us with

construction. This bid process will be taking place over the autumn and if



all goes well, we hope to have a decision and funding in place sometime in the new year. There is much to do, but momentum is now with us and we hope that before long we can have the use of a new community asset that will encourage the development of wider participation in a range of sports and recreation for the whole community for the next 100 years.



### Trees



The established woodland and trees around our Parish, and especially framing the village green, form part of the essential character of the Parish. They help frame our space and add to the

richness and diversity of our environment. But, as with all things, they change over time and need management. As part of our responsibilities as a public body we recently commissioned a comprehensive tree survey of the trees on Parish Council land, especially those in areas of the green close to people and activity. This has flagged the need for some urgent work that is required to ensure that these remain safe over the winter and some further works needing to be undertaken in the coming months. We will progress with the short term actions identified in the next month or so, but rest assured that this is essential for the long term health of the woodland and setting of our green. We are working on a strategy for the replacement of trees wherever possible consistent with good woodland husbandry.

**Pirbright Parish Council Chair:** Steve Fidgett, [sdfidgett@icloud.com](mailto:sdfidgett@icloud.com), 07785 978817

**Parish Clerk:** Helen Myers, [clerk@pirbright-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@pirbright-pc.gov.uk) 07485 411214

**Parish website** [www.pirbright-pc.gov.uk](http://www.pirbright-pc.gov.uk)

**Lord Pirbright's Hall** Lindsay Graham [lph@pirbright-pc.gov.uk](mailto:lph@pirbright-pc.gov.uk) tel 01483 476432

## LORD PIRBRIGHT'S HALL

**New caretaker and Groundsman:** The Parish Council and Lord Pirbright's Hall are pleased to welcome our new caretaker & groundsman, Roy Coverly, who has joined the team, bringing a wealth of practical knowledge and experience to the role. Roy lives at Fox Corner, where he is also on the management committee of the Community Wildlife Area.



**Cleaner for Lord Pirbright's Hall:** 10 hours to be spread across the week. £12 per hour. For details please contact Lindsay Graham on 01483 476432 or [LPH@pirbright-pc.gov.uk](mailto:LPH@pirbright-pc.gov.uk).

## PIRBRIGHT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

**Best dressed tree competition:** We are all going to need something to cheer us this Christmas so why not enter your Christmas tree in the Horticultural Society's Christmas competition for children and adults? It is open to anyone, not just HS members, and there are classes for the best dressed Christmas tree, the best wreath and the best table decoration. The competition will be judged from photographs initially but if circumstances allow the top three in each category will be judged *in situ*. For full information and an entry form, contact Philip Barralet at [philipbarralet@gmail.com](mailto:philipbarralet@gmail.com).



## PIRBRIGHT COUNTRY MARKET

Our sincere thanks to everyone who has supported us over the past three months; no matter what the weather we are here in Lord Pirbright's Hall every Thursday 10am to 11.15am. As Christmas fast approaches; now is a good time to order your Christmas cakes, planted Christmas arrangements or that extra special gift. Come and chat with one of our team about your requirements.

*Rosemary Richmond*



Junk - something you throw away about three weeks before you need it.

## PIRBRIGHT HISTORIANS

Mercifully, diphtheria is no longer endemic here and it's vanishingly rare nowadays for a child to die in the UK of this disease. 138 years ago it was a very different story, when a deadly epidemic swept through the local area and Pirbright was particularly badly hit. Between January and December 1882, there were 106 cases, of which 9 were fatal, with a further 3 in the following spring; this out of an average school attendance of 104. The Board School, under head Abel William Hill (pictured) was closed by the Medical Officer for Heath for almost 20 weeks. Unaware that the disease was spread by respiratory droplets (like Covid-19), he also had the sanitary & water systems checked (no piped water or sewerage those days). Fortunately, this was to be our worst outbreak, with only rare mentions in the school log book afterwards. What, I wonder, did the children do in lockdown without mobiles, TV or even radio?



*Jonathan Foster: [jonathan@pirbright.info](mailto:jonathan@pirbright.info)*

## LIZZIE IN LOCKDOWN

The 'covid safe' dinner date wasn't quite as romantic as Lizzie had hoped.



## CALLING ALL CHILDREN!

A brand new children's marching band is coming to Pirbright. Raiders Performing Arts is looking for children aged between 6-18 to join our exciting new band. No experience is required and we supply all instruments, tuition and uniforms. After the year we have had children need to find things to do and Raiders offers any child to be a part of our band. We have valved trumpets, marching percussion, tuned percussion and colour guard/pom poms/ majorettes.

Your child will be given an instrument, taught to play it and learn musical routines to then perform in local parades, fetes and carnivals. We promise a fun time for all children where they will learn a great new skill, belong to part of a team and make many new friends.

We are nearly ready to launch once government guidelines allow us. If you have a child who is interested and wants a FREE TRIAL NIGHT then contact us to book a place.

Children love to play music.

Paul Newman

Director Raiders Performing Arts

[nobbypaul66@gmail.com](mailto:nobbypaul66@gmail.com) 07773 058317



## PIRBRIGHT TENNIS CLUB

[www.pirbrighttennisclub.com](http://www.pirbrighttennisclub.com)

Why not join our Club Night WhatsApp group! You can then let others know if you will attend.

Email your contact phone number to: [paul.hampson8@gmail.com](mailto:paul.hampson8@gmail.com)

The ladies doubles club winter league and the men's Box leagues will continue throughout the winter. Book courts on our website. Play with social distancing and hygiene following government and LTA's guidelines. See the LTA's Coronavirus latest advice: [www.lta.org.uk](http://www.lta.org.uk)

Club Nights every Tuesday from 6.30pm.

Coaching and Re-stringing: Tim Seymour:

Tel: 07887 723554 or

email: [tennisextremeuk@gmail.com](mailto:tennisextremeuk@gmail.com)



[www.tennisextreme.com](http://www.tennisextreme.com)

New membership: Monika Driscoll: e-mail: [driscollmonika@gmail.com](mailto:driscollmonika@gmail.com)

## PIRBRIGHT CRICKET CLUB

Very sad to report the death of Paul Garrad, a fine wicketkeeper and batsman who could bowl as well. Paul played for Pirbright when he lived in Chapel Lane in the 1980s and returned early 1990s. He was a popular member of the Saturday League team and played for the Presidents team a year ago. His humour and enthusiasm, not to mention his sometimes outspoken way of playing Cricket will be sadly missed.

He leaves Thora and daughter Freja.

*Peter Austin Chairman*



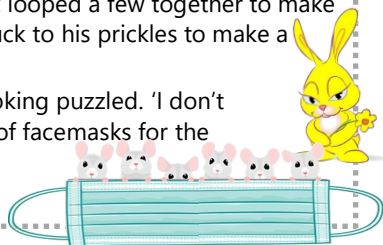


## CHURCHYARD CHRONICLES

Brrr, these winter nights are turning very cold. It's all right for you humans, you can just turn up the heating or put on an extra layer of clothes when the temperature drops, but out here in the churchyard we have to work hard to stay warm. So the animals were delighted to find a whole stack of little blue blankets in the church, just the right size for us. The squirrels were the first to take a few and soon their drey had a lovely soft lining. Mrs Mouse made a cosy quilt for her litter of babies, and the voles hung them up by the loops on the ends to make super comfy hammocks. The blue tits declared they were just the thing for keeping draughts out of their nest. Fox looped a few together to make a warm scarf and hedgehog just rolled over one so it stuck to his prickles to make a snug coat.

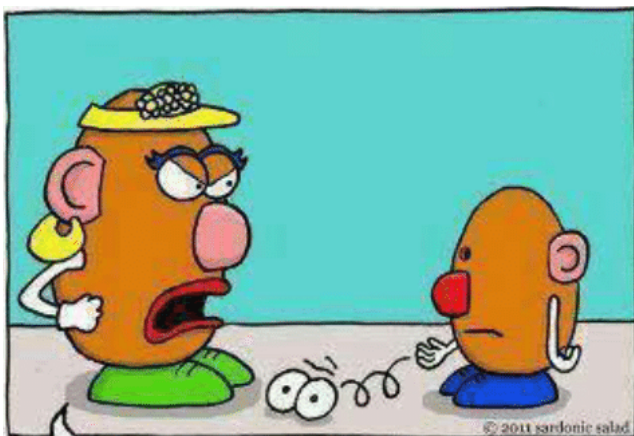
The next morning we found our new Church Warden looking puzzled. 'I don't understand' she said 'Last night I put out a whole stack of facemasks for the service today, and they have all gone!' Ooops!

If you see her, don't let on, will you. *Yellow Rabbit*



## NOVEMBER GARDENING TIPS from Wellie

Keep raking up leaves from lawns and paths, and off the beds if they are laying thickly, if not they can be left for the worms to break them up and incorporate them into the soil. Tie-in long whippy shoots of climbers and wall shrubs. Prune roses to prevent wind-rock and this is also the time to prune most deciduous trees, but a lot of deciduous ornamental grasses can be left until the spring. Prune grapevines after leaf fall, but before the end of December to avoid 'bleeding' of sap. Now is the ideal time to plant bare rooted plants, they need to be planted promptly, before they dry out. They can be heeled into the soil for a short period if conditions are not suitable for planting. Plant tulip bulbs now, once other spring bulbs are in, thereby lessening their chance of being infected by the fungal disease tulip blight. Keep overwintering brassicas covered with netting to prevent pigeon damage. Plant garlic cloves and shallots (if not done last month). Lift and divide rhubarb crowns. Parsnips can start to be harvested after the first frosts when their flavour will have been sweetened. The first week in November is traditionally the time to make sowings of peas and broad beans. Start winter pruning apple and pear trees. Turf can still be laid now, providing the ground isn't frozen but keep off lawns in wet weather to avoid compacting the soil.



DON'T YOU ROLL YOUR EYES AT ME, YOUNG MAN!



## BONFIRE NIGHT NOVEMBER 2020



With so many events cancelled this year, we all need some fun and Pirbright clubs and societies have gone to town with plans with their Guy Fawkes celebrations this year.

**PIRBRIGHT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY** are going for the traditional bonfire made of leaves again, though this year they are topping it with a Guy in the form of a scarecrow after last year's unfortunate incident with the giant slug Guy. The slug was a very popular choice but in the interests of authenticity it had a generous covering of slime, which put the fire out.

**PIRBRIGHT PLAYERS'** performance of The Gunpowder Plot in Lord Pirbright's Hall had to be postponed. The health and safety officer said that the realistic torture scenes featuring a genuine rack were fine but he was not happy about the kegs of real gunpowder under the stage.



**PIRBRIGHT ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION** plan to recreate Chariots of Fire with a race around the village green between the first and last chime of the clock on Lord Pirbright's Hall at noon. So far one member has succeeded in the challenge, although some felt that it was not entirely in the spirit of the film to do so on a motorbike.

**RAWLINS CLUB** enjoyed a very animated talk on The Great Fire of London. One member reported 'The special effects were thrilling and thanks to Mrs Beasley's lightning reactions and accuracy with the tea pot, the stage curtains were only slightly singed.'

**CUNNINGHAM HOUSE:** The residents' Over 80s Limbo Dancing Group entered into the Bonfire Night spirit with a dazzling show of flexibility under a flaming bar. A carer was heard to comment 'So that's how they keep getting out to the pub after lights out!'



**PIRBRIGHT TWINNING ASSOCIATION** combined their bonfire party with traditional Beaujolais Nouveau celebrations. The evening was a great success though fire and free flowing wine proved to be a heady mix. 'The fire walking might have been a step too far' said one member 'but I'm sure the Chairman will be able to walk again very soon.' (Don't try this at home.)

**PIRBRIGHT VILLAGE PRIMARY SCHOOL** are building their bonfire with out of date DFE covid regulations, risk assessments and risk management strategies amassed over the course of the last few months as DFE requirements changed almost weekly. Surrey Fire Brigade are standing by.

**PIRBRIGHT CRICKET CLUB** are recreating the famous Ashes by burning the bales of the stumps used in the last match with Brookwood Cricket Club.

**THE CRICKETERS ON THE GREEN** are not participating in bonfire night celebrations this time around. They wished the other events well but said they had had quite enough fires for one year.

*Enjoy your bonfire night safely, and don't forget to keep pets indoors.*

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