



## STAY SAFE AS LOCKDOWN EASES

### SAFE ROUTE—ROAD SAFETY PROJECT

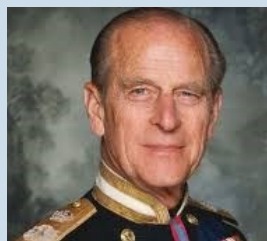
Thank you to all those who have already shown your support for Safe Route Pirbright Brookwood. If you haven't yet heard about it - Safe Route wants to see safety improvements made to the junction at the North of the village joining Dawney Hill and Gole Road to Brookwood and the canal. Current safety issues include pedestrians forced to cross on blind bends, no barriers between pedestrians and traffic, and lack of pavement on part of the route. One of the knock on effects of the dangers of this route, is people choosing to drive the route leading to more congestion and parking issues in the village. Please help us improve this and make the route safer. More information at <https://saferoute.wixsite.com/pirbrightbrookwood>, including a link to the petition, as well as a contact form, should you wish to get in touch: <http://chnng.it/fgF6CWVbP>.



### HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE PHILIP, THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH 1921– 2021

Both the Parish Council and the Church sent messages of condolence to Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Family on behalf of the community of Pirbright, on the sad news of the death of The Duke of Edinburgh. The messages can be read in full on the Church and Parish Council websites. On the announcement of the death of the Duke on 9th April, the church tenor bell was tolled 108 times - nine for a man, and 99 for his age. The bell tolled again for his funeral on 17th April. Messages of sympathy have been received from our Twinning friends in Cagny.

See page 5 for Prince Philip's visits to Pirbright



### BROOKWOOD CEMETERY SOCIETY

The Brookwood Cemetery Society is looking forward to the easing of the Covid-19 restrictions and on the 18 May 2021 will offer bookable "Five and a Guide" themed walks around the cemetery. This is five visitors and a society guide and for more details on the themed walks visit the society website [www.tbcs.org.uk](http://www.tbcs.org.uk) To book contact [walks@tbcs.org.uk](mailto:walks@tbcs.org.uk) or 07768748935. A donation of £4 per person once received, will confirm a place on the walk.



## ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH

*Just a thought.....*



### Life's Full of Ups and Downs

Over the past year many of us have taken to walking as a form of exercise, and Pirbright is truly blessed with some wonderful walks. There really is little to compare with being in the fresh air, whatever the temperature, enjoying the sights and sounds of nature all around us. Much of the walking in and around Pirbright is fairly flat, any hills or slopes are gently undulating and not overly challenging. For more demanding walks we have to go further afield; my own favourite place for walks is the beautiful island of Iona, and one of the walks I enjoy is scaling *Dun I*, the highest point on the island, from whose summit on a good day one can see for miles.

As we get older it's rather more of a struggle getting to the top; it can be easy to slip or miss a step and take a (somewhat undignified!) tumble, and I'm usually panting a bit when I get there. Coming down again is much easier, and seems to take half the time it took to go up. But it's still a little perilous in places and care is essential. Uphill can be a struggle, downhill is usually a lot easier. Just like life itself.

So it has been for so many of us over the past year of lockdown: mostly an uphill struggle trying to deal with the 'new reality'. Sadly, for a lot of

folk it must have been even harder than that, especially if they've lost their job or a loved one, and there must have been times when some will have thought, 'why go on, I just can't do this'. For others it will have been difficult to keep focused on the goal of getting to the top of the hill and be able to say, 'I've made it'. But get there we can and will.

However, there seem to have been far too many folk who have been determined make an over-hasty start on the easy part – the downhill. It may be that some of them have tripped and fallen in their haste, either contracting Covid-19 themselves or unwittingly passing it on to others in their eagerness to return to 'normality'.

So it was with Jesus: from what was arguably the key moment in his ministry, the Sermon on the Mount, on to Jerusalem to be feted and acclaimed by the crowds on Palm Sunday and then on to his crucifixion on another hill as we remembered just a few weeks ago at Easter.

Discipleship, being, or doing our best to be a follower of Jesus, is likewise not an easy one; it's sometimes difficult to stick with it, as Jesus tells us in Matthew's Gospel, 'narrow [is] the road that leads to life, and only a few find it' (Matthew 7:14).

Life is indeed full of ups and downs. Now, as life is slowly returning to 'normal', we just need to take care to look where we're going. Getting to the top and down again safely will be so worth it!

*Rev'd Gary Williamson*



**Contact Rev Bev** 07495 395225 [revbev.stmaa@gmail.com](mailto:revbev.stmaa@gmail.com)

**Church Administrator** Chris Green [admin@pirbrightchurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@pirbrightchurch.org.uk) 07599154872

**Churchwardens** Catherine Coble 481234 07947 032210

[catherine-churchwarden@pirbrightchurch.org.uk](mailto:catherine-churchwarden@pirbrightchurch.org.uk)

Helen Whitworth 07777 659138 [helen-churchwarden@pirbrightchurch.org.uk](mailto:helen-churchwarden@pirbrightchurch.org.uk)

## CHURCH PLANT SALE Saturday 8th May 11am-2pm in the churchyard

Come and stock up on locally grown bedding plants and hanging baskets, as well as perennials and vegetables at the church plant sale. Meet Wellie, our PeriNews gardening expert for tips and advice AND support our lovely old church at the same time. As well as plants, you can sample the famous Fulk's sausage sizzle, and buy home-made cakes and preserves. To comply with Covid safety regulations the sale will be a little different from usual, with everything well spaced in the churchyard, and limited numbers at any one time so please observe signs and take notice of marshals to help keep everyone safe. Our sincere thanks to Knight Frank Estate Agents for supporting the church by sponsoring the plant sale and garden walks this year.



## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK MAY 10th -16th 2021 (Mike Milner)

Due to the continuing virus restrictions, there will not be any of the red donation envelopes distributed again this year in order to protect collectors and organisers. This time we are providing a ***tailored web link*** in the May church website bulletins for Pirbright which you can click and donate to CA adding to the village's running total. There will also be messages of encouragement. You can apply GiftAid to your contribution too. You can still donate directly on line at [ChristianAid.org.uk](http://ChristianAid.org.uk). Just enter the amount to give and click on the DONATE link. GiftAid can also be added or you can post a cheque to Freepost Christian Aid. The cheque should be made out to "Christian Aid". If you want to use GiftAid by post, just add your name and address on a slip of paper and declare that you are a taxpayer.



### ***Christian Aid needs donations more than ever at this time!***

For queries contact me, Mike Milner, on 01483 487587 or [mikemilner@waitrose.com](mailto:mikemilner@waitrose.com). But please do not hand any donations to me personally.



Laughter is God's sunshine.

## CHURCH SERVICES IN MAY

St Michael's is delighted that the church is now open regularly for public worship though with restrictions on numbers, mask wearing and no singing. From 12th May we are also trialing the return of Wednesday communion services (sadly without café).

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>2 May</b>  | 10am Family Service with communion,<br>in church and on zoom |
| <b>9 May</b>  | 10am Easter 6 (Holy Communion)                               |
| <b>12 May</b> | 9am (said Holy Communion)                                    |
| <b>16 May</b> | 10am Easter 7 (Holy Communion)                               |
| <b>23 May</b> | 10am Pentecost (Holy Communion)                              |
| <b>30 May</b> | 10am Trinity Sunday (Holy Communion)                         |



It will be very helpful for our planning if you can please contact Caroline Bews on 01483 289123 if you would like to attend either in church or on Zoom.

The church will also be opened for private prayer on Wednesdays, 10 am to 12 noon. For further information/help, go to our website: [www.pirbrightchurch.org.uk](http://www.pirbrightchurch.org.uk).

## PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL



### Annual Parish Meeting

The Parish Council held its 124<sup>th</sup> Assembly of Electors on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021 with presentations from Lt Col Shamus Kelly ATP Pirbright, James Herd of Surrey Wildlife Trust and Cllr Keith Whitham Surrey County Council. Councillors David Woollett and Elaine Eason also spoke about specific projects the Parish Council had undertaken over the last financial year and about what the role of a Councillor involves. The



Chairman, Steve Fidgett, opened the meeting with an explanation of activities and of how the precept had been spent last year, including maintenance of the Green and associated facilities.

A further presentation was given by the President and Vice President of Pirbright Cricket Club who are looking for support from parishioners on the new multi-purpose pavilion that is planned to replace

the current structure which is sadly no longer fit for purpose. It is hoped that in addition to pledges from local people, that additional funding will come from Surrey County Council from 'Your Fund Surrey'. The project is featured on the Parish Website under Latest News and residents were encouraged to "like" the project on <https://yourfundsurreymap.commonplace.is/comments/5fb2dbd8c935995fe21ffb99>

As explained at the meeting, the number of votes by members of the public will make a huge difference as to how the project is rated and ultimately its chances of success. With the Parish busier than ever, the Chairman also encouraged local people to get involved with the Council and encouraged the community to attend monthly Parish Council meetings which will soon once again be held in person. Details of the meetings are on the website.

**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

### PIRBRIGHT COUNTRY MARKET

A big thank you to all our friends old and new for the huge welcome we received when reopening at the end of March; your comments are very much appreciated and make it all worthwhile. Although only in the small hall at present we look forward to moving back into the Main Hall sometime during May with our full range on offer.

### ROYAL BRITISH LEGION, PIRBRIGHT

Sadly, due to the pandemic, we have cancelled this year's annual dinner scheduled for 8th May. We look forward to arranging one for 2022 when hopefully life will be back to normal - whatever normal becomes. On a more positive note we hope to start our monthly social meetings in July so look out for details in the June PeriNews. We hope all our members and friends are keeping safe and well but if you need any support please make contact.

*Anne Hawkins. 01252 404276*

**MUMMY AND ME BOOTCAMP** Wednesdays 10:30 am on the village green.

£8 per session pay as you go Contact [hayley.mullens@hotmail.com](mailto:hayley.mullens@hotmail.com)



## PIRBRIGHT SUMMER FAIR: Saturday 4th September

**Surfing in Pirbright?!** Oh yes! The latest attraction to be announced for the Summer fair is a surf simulator. It's a once in a lifetime chance to say you went surfing in Pirbright. And, by popular request, the petting zoo will be back on the green. Watch this space for more details, and to book your stall, or to volunteer on the day contact tel 01483 476432 or [pirbright-summer-event@hotmail.com](mailto:pirbright-summer-event@hotmail.com)

## PIRBRIGHT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: Plant sale 22nd and Sunday 23rd May 2021

The Horticultural Society plant sale will be at 5 West Heath, Pirbright. Please come and support our first event for some time. If you have any plants or unwanted seed packets to sell to help fund raising please bring them along in good time on the day, but it would help to let Pauline Allen know if you are going to bring some offerings on 476553 or [pauline.allen48@btinternet.com](mailto:pauline.allen48@btinternet.com). All plants will be individually priced on tables and to avoid any close contact there will be cash boxes but no card payments, so please bring cash. Please come and support our sale.

**Advance notice:** First regular meeting Tuesday 14th September, 8pm in Lord Pirbright's Hall 'Question and answer session' with Geoff Peach.

## PIRBRIGHT HISTORIANS Prince Philip in Pirbright

In April, the Army Training Centre in Pirbright was the site of intensive rehearsals for the funeral of the Duke of Edinburgh. It appears that the Duke of Edinburgh made two visits to Pirbright in April 1956, travelling by helicopter to visit the 'Government Research Centre', now The Pirbright Institute, on April 11th, and returning to inspect the Training Centre of the Welsh Guards, of which he was colonel in Chief, the next day. Were you there? The arrival of the Prince by helicopter must have been a thrill for local children so if you remember that, or any royal visit, the Pirbright Historians would love to hear from you! *Editor*



IN SEARCH OF KNOWLEDGE : Prince Philip when he landed was received by Sir Alexander Fleck, chairman of I.C.I., Mr. A. J. Quig (extreme left), deputy chairman of I.C.I., Mr. Stephen Cheveley (centre), chairman, Central Agricultural Control, I.C.I., a farmer and this year's president of the Farmers' Club. From Jealott's Hill Prince Philip went on by helicopter to the Government Research Station at Pirbright in Surrey.

A VISIT TO THE WELSH GUARDS : The Duke inspects the marksmanship of some of the troops at the small-bore rifle targets during his visit to the Training Company at [Pirbright](#). The Duke is Colonel of the Regiment.



## CUNNINGHAM HOUSE

We've had a few people on our waiting list for over a year now, as they made initial enquiries about moving to Cunningham House just before the pandemic hit, but haven't felt confident about moving with virus restrictions dominating our lives and restricting travel.

A year on, as lockdown restrictions ease slowly and the over 80's have generally had their second vaccination, prospective residents and their families are feeling more confident about safely making the move. We're looking forward to finally welcoming them; and their families will definitely be relieved to have their relative closer to them.

*Lucy*



It turns out that being an adult now is mostly just googling how to do stuff.

## PIRBRIGHT TENNIS CLUB

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

Welcome to new members and everyone for the summer season! Please visit our website for the latest newsletter and government advice.

### Look what the club has to offer:

**Club Night:** every Tuesday from 7pm. Just turn up and play anytime during the evening.

**Ladies Morning:** every Monday 9am.

**Summer Tournaments:** Sign up for Men's and Ladies Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles. Email your details to: [pkelly\\_whiterabbits@sky.com](mailto:pkelly_whiterabbits@sky.com)

**Jean Seager Tournament** (players over 45) on 24th July: to enter this one day tournament contact:

Pip Bodilly: [antoniabodilly@gmail.com](mailto:antoniabodilly@gmail.com)

**Cardio Tennis:** Thursdays (term time) 9.45 – 10.45am.

**Ball machine:** Book online for free hitting sessions with full remote control.

**Senior and Junior Coaching, Re-stringing:** Tim Seymour: 07887 723554 or [tennisextremeuk@gmail.com](mailto:tennisextremeuk@gmail.com) website: [www.tennis-extreme.com](http://www.tennis-extreme.com)

Membership renewal is now overdue.

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



## PIRBRIGHT CRICKET CLUB

Lots of chance to get involved this year.

**Men's** (Training Thursdays 6:30-8pm matches Sat & Sun pm) £100 subs

**Women's** Softball cricket (Training Tuesdays 6:45-8pm coaching every other week) 4 Festival days £25 subs

**Disability group** (Monday 6:30-7:30pm 10<sup>th</sup> May-12<sup>th</sup> July inc) £10 membership coaching free

**Youth Section** Sch Years R-7 £50 & £85 see below

**Sch Yr R & 1:** Saturday 8:30-9:15am 1<sup>st</sup> May – 17<sup>th</sup> July Parents on field, learning the game & certificate scheme

**Sch Yr 2,3,4,5,6, (Girls):** Friday 7:15-8:15pm – Matches & festivals Sun am

**Sch Yr 2,3,4 (Boys):** Friday 5:15-6:15pm & Matches Sat / Sun am

**Sch Yr 5 (Boys):** Friday 7:15-8:15pm & Matches Sat/Sun am & some evenings

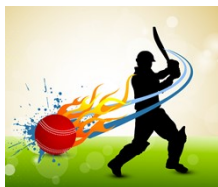
**Sch Yr 6 & 7 (Boys):** Friday 6:15-7:15pm & Matches mostly Sun am

We have experienced Surrey coaches leading Youth, Women's & Disability sessions.

Do get involved – contact

**[Pycmember-ship@yahoo.com](mailto:Pycmember-ship@yahoo.com)**

Chris Smith ,  
Development Officer



## CHURCHYARD CHRONICLES

It has been a very long, hard winter and we have more reason than usual to celebrate the arrival of Spring. And now that we are all allowed to mix a little more out of doors, what could be better than a traditional Maypole Dance! So with a bit of help from the bellringers we dug out the old Maypole and roped in any children we could find. At first all went well, the girls skipped to the right, and the boys skipped to the left, holding their ribbons and bobbing over and under as they passed. Then they all changed directions, boys to the left and girls to the right. That's when things started getting a little confused, and it was the point at which I realised I should have made sure, *before* we started, that everyone knew their right from their left. It took 30 minutes and a small surgical procedure to free some of the smallest infants from the tightly woven lattice. So if the Churchwardens ask .... you haven't seen me!

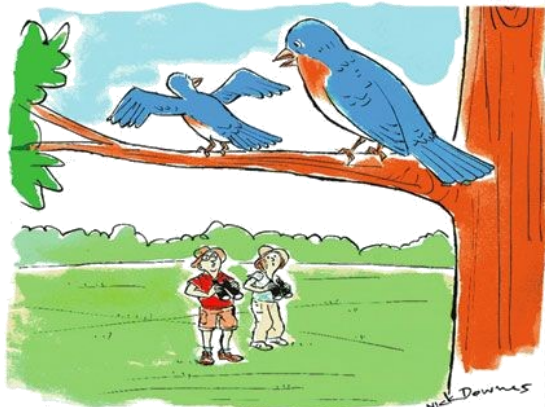
*Yellow Rabbit*



## MAY GARDENING TIPS from Wellie

When I wrote this column last year I talked about how we were all at home, keeping social distances and struggling to get any seeds to sow, compost or plants for our gardens. A year on, we have a little more freedom, and garden centres have been open, but even they are struggling to source stock due to covid and Brexit. One thing is clear though, our gardens have kept growing and are not affected by any of these issues, and in fact they might even have had a bit more tender loving care this past year. Some things you might like to do this month- Earth up potatoes. French and runner beans and sweetcorn can be sown outside now. Start removing side shoots from tomatoes. These shoots can be put in a glass of water to root then planted up to make more tomato plants that will fruit later on. Hang pheromone traps in apple trees. Put straw around your strawberries and net them before the birds get in and enjoy them.

Plant out summer bedding....after risks of frosts have passed. Keep on top of those weeds, either hoe or hand weed them. Don't let them set seed, otherwise you will be encouraging more weeds into your garden. For example, the annual weed shepherd's purse can produce 2-3,000 seeds per plant. Mow lawns regularly now, apply a weed, feed and moss treatment if not already done. Prune spring-flowering shrubs such as Choisya and Ribes after flowering. Tie in climbing and rambling roses as near to horizontal as possible. Trim back Alyssum and Aubrieta after flowering to encourage fresh growth.



"Not yet. Don't fly off until the moment they raise their binoculars."

## PIRBRIGHT NEWS MAY 2021

**A Pirbright Resident** was delighted to receive her second dose of Covid vaccine in Woking. Unfortunately, on her way home she began to experience blurred vision and struggled to get home. She rang the vaccination centre and asked if she should go straight to the hospital for help. She was told NOT to go to the hospital, but that someone would pop round and return the glasses she had left behind.

**Cunningham House** residents will welcome the Spring with the dance of the seven thermal vests, followed by a Vic's vapour rub and a hot toddy.

**Pirbright Ant Fanciers Association** are currently the subject of a medical study to understand why they suffered so few cases of Covid. The answer appears to be that they all have a very large number of anty-bodies.

**Pirbright Skydiving Club** have corrected their promotional leaflet after a production error omitted the second part of the slogan *'You do not need a parachute to skydive - you need a parachute to skydive twice.'* The club member is recovering in hospital.

**Pirbright Naturists** announced a new club Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. Yes, they are under nude management.

**Pirbright Adventurers** are looking forward to being able to travel again very soon. After some disagreement as to where they would go for their first adventure after lockdown, the Chairman set up a world map and declared they would go wherever a thrown dart landed. It turns out they will be spending two weeks this summer under the stage in Lord Pirbright's Hall.



*Well that's the Spring Cleaning sorted!*

## LIZZIE IN LOCKDOWN

Restrictions might be easing, but Lizzie wasn't quite ready to go out without a few spare face masks, just in case!



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