



## NEW VICAR FOR PIRBRIGHT ANNOUNCED

There's been a real buzz at St Michael's since the announcement that the Rev'd George Watkinson has been appointed as the next Vicar of Pirbright and Wyke parishes. We are looking forward to the moments when you will have a chance to meet George, he has got so many things to share with you! Here is his personal message:

"We are delighted to be moving to Pirbright and Wyke in a few weeks' time. I am married to Anna, and we have two young children, Sofia (5) and Edith (2). We have spent the last two and a half years in London serving at Holy Trinity Brompton, and before that we were at Christ Church in Winchester where I was curate. As a family we very much enjoy meeting new people and building community, as well as exploring new places and walks in the countryside. We can't wait to meet you all soon and see what God has in store for us as a church in this new season."

George and his family moved into Pirbright vicarage in mid-December before going to Finland for Christmas with Anna's parents. They are loving the village already and are also looking forward to loving Normandy too.

George's installation service is booked in with Bishop Andrew for 12 January at St Mark's and his first service will be on Sunday 15 January at St Michael's. Please come and meet him then, or plans are afoot for a social get-together. We hope you will join with our excitement as we look forward into 2023 and a new year of opportunities! *Catherine and Helen, Churchwardens*



## FAMILY FILM NIGHT 'ENCANTO' . Friday 27th January

The Madrigals are an extraordinary family who live hidden in the mountains of Colombia in a charmed place called the Encanto. The magic of the Encanto has blessed every child in the family with a unique gift - every child except Mirabel. But she soon may be the Madrigals' last hope when she discovers that the magic surrounding the Encanto is in danger.

Experience the full musical experience through the church's superb sound system! An enchanting evening for all the family, with snacks for the children and a bar for the grown ups.

We want all our community to be able to enjoy this enchanting evening, so tickets are on a 'Pay What You Can' basis.

Pay on the door or to prebook your place contact Helen Whitworth [helen-churchwarden@pirbrightchurch.org.uk](mailto:helen-churchwarden@pirbrightchurch.org.uk) 07777 659138



# ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH

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



### **All Change...**

If you have ever been, a regular traveller by train or bus, you will no doubt be familiar with the announcement 'all change'. You groan, collect your belongings and join your fellow passengers trying to find a seat as comfortable and convenient as the one you've just been told to leave.

As we emerge from the ashes of 2022, one of the words of the year just about summed up what lots of us must have been feeling:

**permacrisis.** Our government has lurched from crisis to crisis, doing what it can (or not, depending on your political allegiance) to alleviate the issues facing so many people. Ordinary people are cold and hungry. Strikes and demonstrations have become long, drawn-out struggles that appear to have little effect other than to inconvenience others. Every day, it seems, there were

reports of national (and international) corruption, racism, misogyny, religious intolerance, ageism, domestic and social violence, climate change...the list goes on and on. As one commentator put it, our attitude has changed from 'yes I can', to 'why should I?' All this just a few weeks after we were singing 'Joy to the World'.

But there is a great deal to celebrate and be joyful about in our own community as we stumble with some trepidation into 2023.

We will be welcoming a new priest into our community with his young family. This wonderful news certainly encourages me to look forward to an opportunity to build a new church community – or at least to revive and refresh what we already have.

We have so much to be thankful for in our modern world. So as we look to the future with renewed hope and faith, why not look to our own and other communities, to see what we might do to help rebuild them?

How can we make a difference? How can we help to bring some joy into our neighbours' lives? All change...*please*.

On behalf of all the team at St Michael & All Angels, I wish you all a happy, successful...and *community-minded* New Year.

*Rev'd Gary Williamson*



### **OUR THANKS**

It goes without saying that God didn't leave us in the lurch during the vacancy, as he gave us a great little team of visiting priests to love and support us and in particular, our much-loved Rev Bev who became our interim priest in charge for two years. She kept us strong with her thoughtful leadership and wisdom. Thank you, thank you, to them all.



**Churchwardens:** Helen Whitworth [helen-churchwarden@pirbrightchurch.org.uk](mailto:helen-churchwarden@pirbrightchurch.org.uk) 07777 659138 and Catherine Copley [catherine-churchwarden@pirbrightchurch.org.uk](mailto:catherine-churchwarden@pirbrightchurch.org.uk) 01483 481234 or 07947 032210

**Church Administrator:** Heidi Gower [admin@pirbrightchurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@pirbrightchurch.org.uk) 07984323709

**Website:** [www.pirbrightchurch.org.uk](http://www.pirbrightchurch.org.uk)

## CUNNINGHAM HOUSE

As energy prices soar and winter begins to bite, many communities are introducing 'Warm Hubs'; a place for people to go to be warm, have a hot drink and get advice on cutting energy costs. Our elderly residents are experts on this subject, having lived through a time when a stove was the only source of heat and with no running hot water, water for washing had to be heated on the stove. One resident recalls using the luke – warm water from her hot water bottle to wash in the following morning. Cunningham House isn't an official Warm Hub, but we invite people to join us for a hot drink, biscuits and warm and friendly atmosphere, every morning 11 -12am. And the craft circle is back at Cunningham House on 11th Jan, with lots of new ideas for the Summer Fair!



### PIRBRIGHT SUMMER FAIR SATURDAY JUNE 17th 2023



This year's theme is **Around the World** so look forward to stalls and games for all the family, reflecting many different countries and cultures.

If you are able to offer any help on the day please contact Helen Whitworth (see pg2) or would like to have a stall at the fair please contact Sara Dennis

[sara.dennis@talktalk.net](mailto:sara.dennis@talktalk.net)

### CHURCH NEW YEAR LUNCH

14th January 12:00 for 12:30

Chase away the post Christmas gloom at a sociable lunch in the Church Room.

With the ultimate comfort menu of shepherd's pie, with a vegetarian alternative chickpea casserole, followed by treacle tart with ice cream, all washed down with a glass of wine, don't miss it!!

Tickets £15 from Helen Whitworth  
(contact details page 2)



To kick start the new year I went to have my IQ tested, and it came back negative.

## PIRBRIGHT HISTORIANS

Fuel subsidies? Spare a thought for poor Pibrighthers who, maybe through no fault of their own, had to rely on the Overseers of the Poor in the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. In Pibrbright, the accounts record many thousands of turves supplied for warming the deserving poor. When parish relief ceased in 1834 some charities took over, in our case, Smiths and Poultons for blankets in the 1880s and, after scrimping and saving all her life, 2 shillings a year (10p) to domestic servant Ann Pantling from 1908.

Winters were harder then. In 1875, the Thames froze over at Richmond. In the 1870s Mrs Owston, the Vicar's wife, used to take a (stone) hot water bottle and blanket to church. John Cherryman, at Causeway Farm, purchased the luxury of this cast-iron stove for his kitchen. 100 years later, the same stove, in the same cavernous fireplace, was still struggling to heat the house. Tony Fulk recalls son Fred Cherryman and wife Jessie huddled together, both wearing overcoats.

*[jonathan@pibrbright.info](mailto:jonathan@pibrbright.info)*



## PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL

### Happy New Year to all our Residents!

The Parish Council hope that 2023 will be a safe and happy year for us all. We would also like to give you advance notice of a possible and exciting event to take place in February... a large film crew may be coming to Pirbright for a week of filming and whilst this brings an exciting opportunity to the village, it will also bring some disruption with the Green being used as a base for camera crews, actors, extras etc. We will work with the production company to minimise any inconvenience but please bear with us and if it goes ahead, please contact the Clerk or your Councillors if you have any worries or questions. Thank you!

### Sign up to a Priority Services Register

Extra support when you need it most, from keeping water running, charging medical equipment or staying warm, it's vital to keep utilities going in the event of a problem with your gas, electricity or water. If you or someone you know is vulnerable, requires additional assistance or has additional communication needs then you can sign up to the free Priority

Services Register for each of your utility providers. Other benefits include advance notice of planned power cuts or interruptions to water supply, help accessing prepayment meters, receiving bills in an alternative format and more.

You will need to register separately for each utility. Simply go to the Surrey County Council website and search "Priority Service Register".

### What to do if you want to report a problem:

Below are two useful links to enable parishioners to report problems with the following:

To report a problem with pavements, footpaths, bridleways, roads, potholes, street furniture or overgrown vegetation along the highway go to

[www.surreycc.gov.uk/report-it-online](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/report-it-online)

To report a missed bin collection, fly tipping, an abandoned vehicle, antisocial dog behaviour, a planning breach, a council owned tree or hedge  
[www.guildford.gov.uk/report](http://www.guildford.gov.uk/report)

**Your Parish Council** exists to represent the community of Pirbright and wants to hear your views and issues. A list of the parish meetings for 2023 appears on the parish council website and parishioners are always warmly welcomed to attend these meetings to raise concerns and to hear about issues being talked about. Agendas and Minutes are published monthly on the website and Agendas for forthcoming meetings are posted on notice boards around our community. Please do come and engage with us.



**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** Victoria Everton  
[lph@pirbright-pc.gov.uk](mailto:lph@pirbright-pc.gov.uk) 07563825540

## PIRBRIGHT TWINNING ASSOCIATION

**Quiz Night** We are delighted to announce that our popular Annual Quiz is back on 6.30pm, Sunday 8 January at Lord Pirbright's Hall. There will be our usual delicious home cooked buffet, including dietary options as required. Tickets available from Jim Grimshaw ([trocha@clara.co.uk](mailto:trocha@clara.co.uk)) at £13 for members and £15 for non-members. Payment by bank transfer (BACS) to: Pirbright Twinning Association Sort code 30-99-80, A/C No. 01174367. [Pirbright.twinning.association@gmail.com](mailto:Pirbright.twinning.association@gmail.com)



## PIRBRIGHT WI.

At our first meeting of 2023 we will be entertained with a talk from the West Horsley Place Trust about West Horsley Manor House on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January at 7.00 pm in the Club Room in Lord Pirbright's Hall. Visitors are always welcome to come to our talks.

**Pirbright WI** still serve Coffee and Teas on Thursdays 10 am - 11.15. Visit the Market and come for a chat over coffee or tea with a lovely selection of biscuits in the Club room at Lord Pirbright's Hall.

*Irene Dredge 01483 233279*  
[iredredge@outlook.com](mailto:iredredge@outlook.com)

## HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Our first meeting is on Tuesday 10th January when our speaker will be Pamela Holt speaking on the History of Kew. Our meeting will start at the earlier time of 7pm in the Clubroom of Lord Pirbright's hall, The Green, Pirbright GU24 0JE Refreshments will be available as usual. Guests and visitors are welcome as are residents of neighbouring parishes.



## RAWLINS CLUB



Our next meeting is on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January between 2.00 and 4.00pm in Lord

Pirbright's Hall. The talk will be "Mind Your Language; A Potted History of English" by Revd. Gary Williamson.

*Denise Granger 01483 472070*

## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Our next social meeting is on Monday 16th January, at 8pm but we also cover any business at these meetings, so if you have any items to raise, please come and join us. The venue is The Fox Inn, Fox Corner.

*Contact: Anne Hawkins 01252 404276*

## PIRBRIGHT COUNTRY MARKET

The shortest day has passed, and whatever nastiness of weather we may look forward to in January at least we notice that the days are getting longer.

Following our Christmas break we re-open on Thursday January 19<sup>th</sup>. Forget about the cold and come and join us for all those things you have missed over our Christmas break. You will find a warm welcome at Lord Pirbright's Hall every Thursday morning between 10.00 and 11.15

*Rosemary Richmond*



*My New Year's Resolution is to tolerate fools more gladly, provided this does not encourage them to take up more of my time.*





## SUPPORT OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES - Town and Country Funeral Directors

Did you know that we have a local, independent Funeral Directors tucked away at Fox Corner, who have been serving the community in their own special way for the past eight years. Adrian has over 30 years experience in the funeral profession, Rosalyn just over 20 years, and they offer a completely bespoke service for each family, which can be as simple or elaborate as you wish. They help every step of the way with guidance, suggestions, and reassurance. They can help with paperwork, provision of vehicles, liaison with venues and officials, providing as much or as little assistance as you need to create the ceremony that you want.

To contact them phone 01483 799914 or find out more at

<https://townandcountryfuneraldirectors.co.uk>



## CALLING ALL ACOUSTIC GUITARISTS!



We are a small group of like minded guitar enthusiasts, mostly of retirement age, who meet regularly twice a month in Pirbright to improve practical and theoretical skills. We play a mixture of blues, country, and popular music mostly at intermediate level and learn through a shared musical experience.

If you would be interested in joining us in the New Year to share and contribute in this experience then please contact Peter Cutting on 01252 835735 or 07801 845102 for further information.

### PIRBRIGHT TENNIS CLUB

Emma Raducanu recently surprised pupils from the Sacred Heart High School in Hammersmith. The girls were taking part in a LTA Youth Tennis Leaders course at the National Tennis Centre. They couldn't believe their eyes when they saw her! Emma said 'I'm really passionate about showing what sport, especially tennis, can do for young people.' What an inspiration Emma is, for young and old.

**Activities & Coaching – visit our website** to explore all the activities and coaching throughout the winter. Members of all ages or abilities can play on our fabulous courts with floodlights in the evening.

**Our Popular Quiz** returns on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February: to reserve (or join) a table email: [ali.williams03@gmail.com](mailto:ali.williams03@gmail.com)

**To join the club** e mail [info@pirbrighttennisclub.com](mailto:info@pirbrighttennisclub.com)

Visit our website and Facebook for all



activities and news. *David Greenland*

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/PirbrightTennisClub>

### PIRBRIGHT CRICKET CLUB,

At New Year Chairman reflects on his luck in joining PCC in, wait for it, 1992! I watched for so many years from the boundary and I promised myself just one game on the hallowed turf!!! My immense pleasure, which I try to pass on to others by recruiting, was enhanced by players such as Terry Kinsella, Charlie Rose, Pat Straker, Derek Bytheway and Dubbie Burch (who still reads the Perinews\*) to name a few. Those villagers I encourage to stand amongst us and ACTUALLY PLAY would be in good company and following in the footsteps of giants. Meanwhile we await the rise of the Pavilion - admiration going to builders working in all conditions..... Bless them!!  
*Peter Austin*



\* Hi Dubbie! (Editor)

## CHURCHYARD CHRONICLES

Last year my New Year's resolution was to get fit and slim. So on January 1st I hopped ten times round the church yard, did 20 jumps and had nothing but lettuce for lunch. On January 2nd I hopped twice round the churchyard, did three jumps and had lettuce and a sausage roll for lunch. On January the 3rd I watched the baby rabbits hopping round the churchyard, put on a jumper and had pizza and chocolate cake for lunch. On 4th January I had a brain wave, and for the rest of January I gave all my friends pizza, chocolate cake, ice cream, macaroni cheese and chips. I didn't lose any weight, but when I stood next to my friends everybody thought I had!

*Yellow Rabbit*



## VOLUNTEERING—Why not become a heathland habitat helper?

Surrey Countryside Partnerships' conservation crew need local volunteers to join them at Bullswater Common North to help in heathland restoration, opening up this precious habitat so the rare flora and fauna can thrive. Monday 9 January and Monday 6 February. Meet/park in Bullswater Common Road, Pirbright GU24 0LZ at 10am to around 3pm. Please wear old clothes, stout footwear and bring your own drinks/lunch. We provide tools, gloves, instruction and insurance. Over 16s please. Please contact us by email: [mole.project@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:mole.project@surreycc.gov.uk) to find out more and to let us know in advance if you would like to volunteer on either or both dates.

## JANUARY GARDENING TIPS from Wellie

Plant bare-root roses, shrubs, hedging and ornamental trees, as long as the ground isn't frozen. Remove and bin hellebore foliage marked with black blotches, to limit the spread of leaf spot disease. Deadhead winter pansies and other bedding regularly, and remove any foliage affected by downy mildew. Check for rot on stored bulbs and tubers, and ensure dahlia and canna tubers haven't totally dried out. Continue pruning climbing roses, while they are dormant. Winter-prune apple and pear trees to remove any dead, damaged, congested and diseased branches. Prune gooseberries and redcurrants, cutting sideshoots back to three buds from their base. Plant bare-root fruit bushes, trees and canes into enriched soil, as long as the ground isn't frozen. Cover rhubarb plants with a bucket or terracotta pot to force an early crop of tender long stems. Prune blackcurrants, if you haven't done so already, removing about a quarter of the old stems. Winter can be a tough time for wildlife. Provide high-energy food for birds to help them through the winter months. Top up bird baths with fresh water daily and melt ice with warm water on frosty days. Clean out and scrub bird feeders regularly to

maintain hygiene. Put up bird boxes sheltered spots, on tree trunks, sheds walls, well before the nesting season begins.

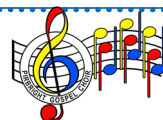


## PIRBRIGHT COMMUNITY CALENDAR JANUARY 2023

1	Sun	10:00am	Holy Communion
4	Wed	10:15am	Mid-week Communion followed by Café Club
8	Sun	10:00am 6:30pm	Family Service, Rev Bev Hunt Twinning Association Quiz Night and Supper, LPH
9	Mon	10:00am	Bullswater Common Conservation working party
10	Tues	7:00pm	Horticultural Society, History of Kew, LPH (NB earlier start time)
11	Fri	2:00pm	Craft Circle at Cunningham House
12	Thur	7:30pm	Installation of Rev George Watkinson at St Marks, Wyke
13	Fri	2:00pm	Rawlins Club 'Mind Your Language', LPH
14	Sat	10:00am 12:00pm	Operation Churchyard New Year Lunch in the Church Room
15	Sun	10:00am	Holy Communion, Archdeacon of Surrey, Paul Davies and welcoming Rev George Watkinson
16	Mon	8:00pm	Royal British Legion, Fox Inn, Fox Corner
17	Tues	7:00pm	Pirbright WI, 'West Horsley Manor House', LPH
19	Thur	10:00am	Country Market re-opens for the year, LPH
22	Sun	10:00am	Holy Communion,
25	Wed	10:00am	Craft, Coffee and Chat in the church room
27	Fri	6:00pm	Family Film Night 'Encanto' in the church
29	Sun	10:00am	Holy Communion,

### CHOIR LEADER NEEDED - CAN YOU HELP?

Pirbright Gospel Choir is a small but well established and enthusiastic community choir who meet weekly for the joy of singing together. We welcome people of all faiths and none. and will give any kind of music our best shot, from traditional gospel songs, folk and musicals to rock and pop. We work hard to make a lovely sound, but our practice nights are always full of laughter. We were delighted for our Musical Director when she got a promotion, but it meant she could no longer lead us. If you have experience of leading a choir, and would like to work with a supportive, enthusiastic and fun loving group of people, or if you know someone who might be interested, please contact Julia Douetil [julia.douetil@gmail.com](mailto:julia.douetil@gmail.com). To find out more about us please go to <https://www.pirbrightchurch.org.uk/pirbrightgospelchoir.htm>



*New Year's resolution : something that goes in one year and out the other.*

**Editor:** Julia Douetil, [julia.douetil@gmail.com](mailto:julia.douetil@gmail.com) or Church Cottage, Church Lane, Pirbright, GU24 0JJ. Please send copy for February **by 8th January**. To receive PeriNews by e mail just email Julia Douetil at the above address.