



PIRBRIGHT VILLAGE PRIMARY SCHOOL PRAISED BY OFSTED

'Pupils ...take advantage of their learning opportunities and achieve their best.'

Following an inspection in February, Pirbright Village Primary School has received a glowing report from OFSTED. The inspection confirmed that it **continues to be a good school, where pupils learn in a happy environment** and where school leaders always put the needs of pupils first. **Pupils work hard, are polite and form very strong relationships** with their friends and the adults who look after them. The inspector was impressed by the school's **high expectations and the children's love of learning** throughout the school. Pupils' behaviour is excellent, **children enjoy the challenges** that their teachers set them and have positive attitudes to learning.



The inspector praised **an ambitious, well-balanced curriculum that captures children's interest** and enables them to achieve well. Teachers prepare interesting topics that bring together learning across a range of subjects so that **children are able to use and apply their learning** in new situations, which helps to strengthen their understanding. **Teachers take swift action if pupils are falling behind to help them catch up.**

From the earliest age, **children learn to take on roles and responsibilities**, from 'Tidy Teams' in reception to sports leaders, Peer Mediators and Learning Champions.



The whole community can be proud of our children, their teachers and all the staff who support them. Our thanks and congratulations to each and every one of them!

PIRBRIGHT SINGERS



If you enjoy music, do join the Pirbright Singers and Friends in concert on 1st April at 7:30pm in St. Michael's Church and hear the wonderful Faure Requiem, Mozart's Laudate Dominum and Handel's coronation anthem, Zadok the Priest, written for King George II in 1727. Tickets £10 on the door [cash or card] and free to all under 18 years. Light refreshments served afterwards.

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH



Just a thought.....

New beginnings

April is a time of returning to the old, children go back to school after Easter holidays, clubs and activities restart and life carries on. However, April is also a time of new beginnings. The Church celebrates the most important event in its history; the resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ. Businesses start their new financial year looking to the year ahead, for others it ushers in new projects at work or in the house. Amongst all that is old and familiar there is also often something new.

Over this last year we have witnessed lots of change in the church and this next year ahead will likewise bring with it many new



beginnings. God is wanting to do new things in our midst, He is wanting us to step out in new and exciting ways and most importantly he is guiding us in these. There is a concept that theologians love to use when they talk about mission; it is called *Missio Dei* (the mission of God). It essentially means that God himself is at work in his own mission to the world, and as part of this mission He invites us, His Church, to join in. I love these verses from Isaiah 'Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?' (Isa 43:18-19) Do we perceive what new things God is doing around us?

As a church we are looking forward to the year ahead and all the excitement that it brings. It is my prayer that we notice these new things that God is leading us in. That amongst the old we would see God's new beginnings.

Wishing you every blessing in all things old and new,

Rev'd George

CELEBRATING EASTER WITH US

St Michael's Church in Pirbright and St Mark's in Wyke are joining together to offer a range of services this Easter, and you are invited to join any or all of them.

On **Maudy Thursday** (6th April) at 5pm at St Mark's Church Hall in Wyke we have a joint, family friendly service over a shared Seder meal. On **Good Friday** (7th) at 2pm at the Church in Wyke we follow the Stations of the Cross in a quietly contemplative service. Then on **Easter Sunday** (9th) at 9:30am there will be a joyful celebration of the Risen Christ at St Michael's in Pirbright, followed by a children's Easter Egg hunt.



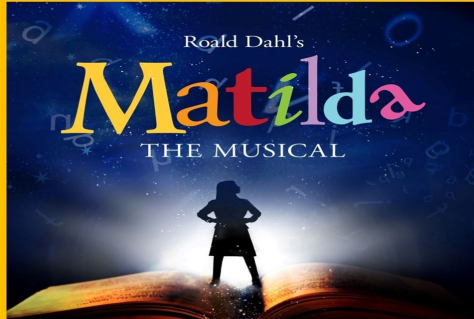
CONTACTS

Vicar: Rev George Watkinson, please call 07711944327

Church Administrator: Heidi Gower admin@pirbrightchurch.org.uk
07984323709 **Website:** www.pirbrightchurch.org.uk



Family Friendly Film At Pirbright Church



Sunday 2nd April 2023

2.00pm (2.30pm curtains open)

Price: Pay what you can



**Refreshments
(Including Bar)**

Enquiries at:

helenwelliewhitworth@btinternet.com

0777659138

CHURCH PLANT SALE - Sat 13th May

Time to start planting to make the most of your garden this year. For a full range of plants, from beautiful hanging baskets to tasty vegetables, come to the Churchyard Plant Sale from 11am to 2pm on Saturday 13th May. All plants raised by



local gardeners who can advise you on growing, so you know the plants will be happy in your garden.

Whilst you are there, enjoy a Fulk's sausage sizzle with a hot drink and stock up on home made cakes and preserves from our produce stall.

PIRBRIGHT SUMMER FAIR - Around the World - Saturday June 17th

Our latest exciting bookings include **Bumper Cars** and **Darwin's Kingdom** which has all sorts of exotic animals for you to see and interact with.

HOW YOU CAN HELP There are lots of ways to get involved in the Fair:

Volunteer We need plenty of people who can spare a couple of hours on the day to help - to volunteer contact Helen Helen-churchwarden@pirbrightchurch.org.uk

Little Green Displays Make your entry for the display on the Little Green that will reflect the Around the World theme, there will be prizes! Entries can be anything from well known National characters or landmarks from anywhere in the world to flags, globes, signposts, animals, modes of transport. To **register your display** please contact Zara (zara.hodgson@bnpparisbas.com) or Lil (alexandra.Houghton@carterjonas.co.uk)

Promote your business, club or hobby with a stall showcasing what you offer to the hundreds of visitors who come to the fair.

To book a stall contact Sara sara_dennis@talktalk.net

Be there bring your family and friends to the church and the Green to enjoy a day of fun and be part of this great community.



PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL

Community Litter Pick Saturday 15th April 2023

The Parish Council is arranging another litter-picking session to deal with the scourge of street litter blighting our neighbourhood. We are now formally arranging these biannually, but are appreciative of the efforts made by residents who pick up litter throughout the year. If you are able to spare an hour or so, please meet outside LPH at 2pm on Sat 15 April for an hour or so. All equipment is provided, but you may wish to bring along your own gloves. We look forward to seeing you there.

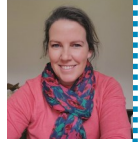
Annual Parish Meeting Monday 24th April 2023 at 8pm

Don't forget - to find out more about the Parish Council's plans and projects for 2023 and receive the latest update on the new pavilion, village hall and what the parish council are doing to improve the village,

come along to the APM on 24th April at 8pm. There will also be presentations from the Junior football coaches who are launching a new girls' football club in the village and information from Surrey County Council's Countryside Partnership team who carry out work on the heathlands. A Q&A session is scheduled along with refreshments.

Meet our new LPH Secretary!

The Trustees of Lord Pirbright's Hall are happy to announce that Catherine Loots has joined the team to look after the village hall and its hirers. Catherine lives in the village and is married with two young sons. We hope you will make her feel welcome. Catherine joins at an exciting time with more projects being planned for the hall and with the new pavilion reaching completion.



I have just spend ten minutes rearranging the dishwasher to accommodate something it would have taken 30 seconds to wash by hand.



REWILDING PIRBRIGHT

Loss of natural habitat has been a growing concern, and a recent report showed that invasive flora now outnumber native species in some areas. Rewilding, or helping land to return to a natural state where native plants, flowers, animals and insects will thrive can not only reverse this trend but also recreate the beautiful countryside that our grandparents enjoyed. Plans are progressing to re-wild the commons around Pirbright, with heaths and meadows, providing homes for Dartford warblers, owls, lizards and dormice. Management of local streams to allow water voles to thrive will be achieved naturally by the introduction of beavers in Swallow Pond, and the natural cultivation of scrubland around the ranges will be improved by the re-introduction of wild boar. Population control of wild boar will be managed nature's way by the release of wolves into the woodland around Dawney Hill. Detailed plans of the rewilding project will be published on 1st April.



Pirbright Parish Council

Chair: Steve Fidgett, sfidgett@pirbright-pc.gov.uk 07785 978817

Parish Clerk: Helen Myers, clerk@pirbright-pc.gov.uk 07485 411214

Parish website www.pirbright-pc.gov.uk

Lord Pirbright's Hall Catherine Loots lph@pirbright-pc.gov.uk

PIRBRIGHT HISTORIANS



Another little gem via Helen Myers, this post-card view would have been taken in the 1900s, the same era as last month's. Who was HJB? Any ideas, readers?

jonathan@pirbright.info

PIRBRIGHT WI.

If you like the sound of 'Villains & Heroes of the Basingstoke Canal' then come and listen to Roger Cansdale on Tuesday 18th April at 7.00 pm in the Club Room in Lord Pirbrights Hall. Visitors always welcome.

The WI serve Coffee and Teas with a lovely selection of biscuits on Thursday Mornings 10 am-11.15. When you pop into the Country Market why not visit us *Irene Dredge 233279*
iredredge@outlook.com

PIRBRIGHT COUNTRY MARKET

Every Thursday 10-11:15 in the village hall. Scrumptious cakes, home made meals, fresh eggs and locally produced meat, crafts and plants *Rosemary Richmond*



RAWLINS CLUB

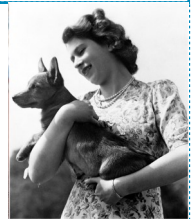
Our next meeting is on Friday 14th April 2.00 to 4.00pm in Lord Pirbright's Hall. There will be a very short AGM followed by a talk "Animals in the Lives of Their Famous Owners" by Susan Howe.

Denise Granger 01483 472070

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Due to Easter, we are meeting on Monday, 3rd April at 8pm at the Fox Inn, Fox Corner and we are there if anyone wishes to learn about the Legion and how it can help our veterans.

Contact: Anne Hawkins. Tel 01252 404276



HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Our next meeting is in the Clubroom of Lord Pirbright's Hall at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 11th April when Peter Herring will speak on the topic of "Magnificent Magnolia" Guests and visitors welcome. Refreshments will be available and hopefully we will be able to judge the Daffodil competition. Anyone wishing to become a member from Pirbright or neighbouring villages will be most welcome.

Annual plant sale This will be held over the weekend of 20th/ 21st May at the home of Pauline and Mike Allen, 5 West Heath, Pirbright GU24 0JQ. (1/2 mile up Church Lane past the Church). The sale will run on both days from 10 am onwards.

Any good quality plants that you wish to donate for sale would be most welcome. Where possible all plants should be labelled and in clean pots. Any garden tools or pots etc will also be welcome. There will be a raffle and refreshments.

Please support this important fundraiser for the Society. *Philip Barralet*



CUNNINGHAM HOUSE

Calling all Wordle fans.....we invite you to step away from your screens for an afternoon and join our sociable game of Scrabble at Cunningham House on the first Wednesday of every month at 2.30pm. Trust me when I say, you will be truly challenged by a generation of people who haven't grown up with spellcheck!! And there's free tea and homemade cake! Just turn up or call 488751.



Lucy

HARD TIMES

Betty was reminiscing about being a student nurse in Hull in the 1960s. They didn't have a lot of spare cash, so they mostly ate at the hospital, although the food was not great. Sometimes kindly visitors gave them left-over treats they had brought for patients who had not wanted to eat them. One evening a woman brought a home-made pie to the kitchen and said "Would you eat this up, love?" Within minutes the hungry students had devoured every delicious crumb. Not long after, their benefactor returned and asked, "Is me 'usband's pie 'ot yet dearie?"



PIRBRIGHT TENNIS CLUB

[https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/
PirbrightTennisClub](https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/PirbrightTennisClub)



www.facebook.com/pirbrighttennisclub

If you've often wondered whether to join a tennis club, now is the best time to join. The beginning of a new season. All ages and abilities are welcome to our friendly club. Visit our website and Facebook page for more details.

Existing members, please renew your subscriptions on **1st April online on the website** at the same prices. Ideally cancel standing orders and update your subscription online. This makes it MUCH easier to administrate.

Tuesday 18th April, from 6.30, is our first 2023 **club night with a BBQ and drinks**. However all are welcome to play tennis every Tuesday evening from 6.30 with friends and new members. Just turn up or join our WhatsApp group. Contact Paul Kelly: 07748 303996

jefferiesmichael@hotmail.com or visit our website for coaching and all activities.

We look forward to seeing new and existing members. *David Greenland*

PIRBRIGHT CRICKET CLUB,

Ex-Chairman is delighted and relieved to announce that



Graeme Marks has taken over as Chairman for Pirbright Cricket Club following the AGM. I am very glad to know the club is in good hands. Being Chairman has been a privilege and an honour, I am of course NOT leaving the village or cricket!! I am really grateful to those who gave me an opportunity to play despite not exactly being the best and to Chris Smith for encouraging players of all standards, changing the club and ensuring a future for it which frankly it did not have. I am grateful to Charlie Rose for giving me a chance 30 years ago when other clubs didn't, even my school! Cricket, as I have said before, is ours. We have inherited it and must pass on, and remember "When the Great Scorer comes to write against your name he writes not that you won or lost but how you played the game."

Thanks everyone. I am and will remain really grateful. *Peter Austin*

PS the next ex-Chairman's bash subject to confirmation will be on 14th May. Email me if you would like to know more.

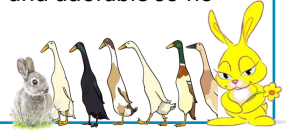
CHURCHYARD CHRONICLES

Our friends up at the school are feeling pretty pleased after that lovely report from the Man from Ofsted. Our friends on the farm I mean, the school's animals. When news arrived of a person with a clipboard poking around the place, asking lots of questions the animals leapt into action to support their school. The micropigs demonstrated their best table manners and the pygmy goats showed off their acrobatic skills on their climbing frame. The running ducks put on a superb display of synchronised running and the chickens laid a clutch of perfect eggs. Even the reptiles did their slow motion hypnotising dance, though the tortoises just slept through the whole thing. Of course the rabbits didn't need to do anything, they just looked superior and adorable so no inspector could fail to agree that they were outstanding!*

Go Pirbright school farm!

Yellow Rabbit

* *Rabbit biased? Me? Surely not. YR*



John visited Jim and was amazed to find him playing chess with his dog. John watched the game in astonishment for a while. "I can hardly believe my eyes!" he said. "That's the smartest dog I've ever seen." "He's not that smart," replied Jim. "I've beaten him three games out of five."

APRIL GARDENING TIPS from Wellie

The weather can be very changeable, it can be warm and sunny during the day, but the temperatures can still really drop over night. Plant out second early potatoes in the first two weeks and main crops in last two weeks of April. Carry on sowing vegetables directly into prepared soil including carrots, turnips (sponsored by HM Government), peas, broadbeans, spinach and lettuce. Sow tender courgettes, cucumbers and pumpkins indoors. Plant out autumn sown sweet peas. As your plants start to grow, so will the weeds. Spend some time clearing the beds now, then mulch with organic compost to suppress the weeds and help retain moisture. Hardy annuals can be sown outdoors now. Feed shrubs and roses and check for pest and diseases now. Aphids can be removed by rubbing them off with your fingers. Plant summer bulbs such as alliums, eucomis and lilies.

Fig trees can be pruned now if they have outgrown their space, by cutting back any over long shoots. Use a spring/summer feed on the lawn. Spray weeds on driveways and paths this month when they are actively growing. Birds are very active in the garden now so make sure there is plenty of food and fresh water available for them, and do not be tempted to trim any hedges or shrubs where there might be any birds nesting.



**"I had a wild and reckless youth.
I ate gluten and peanuts without
wearing a helmet or sunblock."**

PIRBRIGHT COMMUNITY CALENDAR APRIL 2023

1	Sat	7:30pm	Pirbright Singers, 'Faure Requiem' at St Michael's Church
2	Sun	9:30am 2:00pm	Family Service with church band, St Michael's Church Family Film at St Michael's - 'Matilda the Musical'
3	Mon	8:00pm	Royal British Legion Meeting, The Fox Inn
5	Wed	2:30pm	Scrabble at Cunningham House
6	Thur	5:00pm	Joint service with Seder meal at St Mark's Church Hall Wyke
7	Fri	2:00pm	Joint service, Stations of the Cross at St Mark's Church Wyke
9	Sun	9:30am	All ages Easter Sunday service at St Michael's + Easter egg hunt
11	Tues	7:30pm	Horticultural Society, 'Magnificent Magnolias', LPH
12	Wed	2:30pm	Craft Circle at Cunningham House
14	Fri	2:00pm	Rawlins Club, 'Animals and Their Famous Owners', LPH
15	Sat	2:00pm	Community Litter Pick, meet at LPH
16	Sun	9:30am	Holy Communion Service St Michael's Church
18	Tues	10:15am 6:30pm 7:00pm	Said Communion followed by Café Club, in the church Tennis club night & BBQ WI meeting 'Villains & Heroes of the Basingstoke Canal' LPH
23	Sun	9:30am	Holy Communion Service St Michael's Church
24	Mon	8:00pm	Annual Parish Meeting, LPH
25	Tues	10:00am	Craft, Coffee and Chat in the Church Room
30	Sun	9:30am	Holy Communion Service St Michael's Church

How does the Easter Bunny stay fit? Hare-obics
 How does the Easter Bunny keep his fur tidy? With a hare-brush
 What are the Easter Bunny's favourite books? Ones with hoppy endings.



PIRBRIGHT ART CLUB!

Do come and see the display of our members' paintings currently showing at the new gallery/shop: Quince Cottage Gallery (formerly Pirbright Post Office). We change the art display every few weeks and work by our artists has 'pride of place' on the exhibition screens in the front window but there is plenty more to see inside! The gallery is a showcase for Pirbright Art Club's artists and for other local makers' work. We have framed and unframed paintings for sale, including local Surrey and Pirbright scenes. Opening hours are Saturdays 10am - 2pm or by appointment.

Contact Maggie Read for details 07977 552780 or pirbrightartclub@btconnect.com

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