

PERI NEWS

No: 640 January 2024

WE'RE OFF TO SEE THE WIZARD!!!

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz is travelling over the rainbow to Lord Pirbright's Hall. But will he be able to help the Tin Man get a heart, or the Scarecrow some brains or the Cowardly Lion to find his courage? Will Dorothy ever find her way home?

Follow their adventures at the Pirbright Players' glorious musical extravaganza. Fun and laughter for all ages on Saturday 20th January (matinee and evening) and Sunday 21st (matinee only). For tickets contact:

<https://pirbrightplayers.spanglefish.org>.

or David Greenland

david@davidgreenland.plus.com



YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU!

Saturday 8th June

To make this years' village fair a success we need your help! All we ask is for you to commit to a couple of hours on the day.

Please contact us at
pirbrightvillagefair@gmail.com

Theme: Paris Olympics



TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Annual Quiz Sunday 07 January at 6.30pm in Lord Pirbright's Hall.

Teams of 6 or we can allocate you to a table. Tickets available from George Lane by Wed 3rd (noon)

treasurer.twinning@gmail.com

£14 for members

£16 for non-members.

Payment by bank transfer to:
Pirbright Twinning Association

Sort code 30-99-80,

A/C No. 01174367.

Delicious, homemade food, locally sourced,

This month's banner image by kind permission of David Deamer

ALPHA COURSE

Rev Gary, below, raises some challenging issues. How do you feel about God's presence in our troubled world? What difference does Jesus make? To find out more, and explore what Christianity has to say about these questions and more, join the Alpha Course at St Mark's Church Hall, Wyke, Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm, from 17th Jan. <https://www.stmarkswyke.org.uk/alpha.htm>



JUST A THOUGHT

Promises, promises...

So here we are then, 2024.

Christmas is a fading

memory, most of us are

back at work, the children

are looking forward to a

new school term and the

nations of the world

resume their friendly, open

relations with each other

(dream on). And no doubt

many of us have promised

to start exercising, lose

weight, not spend so much

money as last year, give

more to charity, be better

people, do more to help our

community, and so on.

Use the box below to write

down some of your own

promises:

Or just leave it empty; then

it will just be a box empty

of promises (or maybe full

of empty promises...).

Politicians are really, really

good at making all sorts of

promises, and this year

we'll probably hear an

awful lot of them, with a

general election looming.

But a few weeks, months

or years down the line

people will start to ask,

well you promised this, or

that, or whatever. Surely

you didn't say that just to

get elected???

As we celebrated

Christmas, just a week or

so ago, we heard all about

the promise that Jesus'

birth would bring to the

world, a world then

ravaged by wars, hunger,

poverty, disease...

So what's new? The nations

of the world are still

bickering and fighting,

people in some places are

still hungry, many are still

poor, and far, far too many

of our families and friends

suffer ill health.

Cynics might say that God's

promise at Christmas is

just another empty one. But

many, many people are

working very hard to put

right all the wrongs, to stop

wars and make peace, to

find cures for deadly

diseases. For many of

them, they are simply

fulfilling the promise that

Jesus brought to us all.

I promise *you* that God's

promise *can* come true. All

we have to do is work a

little harder to make it so.

And believe it.

On behalf of the whole

team at St Michael's, I wish

you *all* a very Happy New

Year. It's going to be a year

as full of promise as you

want it to be!

Rev'd Gary Williamson

CHURCH ON THE GREEN Sunday 28th January, Lord Pirbright's Hall

It's church, but not as you used to know it! With a welcoming breakfast of coffee and croissants, lively, uplifting music and meaningful worship in a modern, informal style Church on the Green could be just what you need to help you reconnect to the spirit within you. Soul food for adults, fun activities for children, and a warm welcome for everyone await at Lord Pirbright's Hall. Breakfast from 10am, service starts at 10:30.



PIRBRIGHT HISTORIANS

Bullswater Common, in particular the large, triangular piece between the Ash Road and the Guildford Road, was used by the War Office for summer training exercises between 1887 and 1914. Each year up to 2,000 troops would march from Aldershot to Pirbright in a 3-mile line, complete with guns, ammunition and bullocks (for dinner). It would have been a fine sight. They would set up tents on the common and, over the next few days, indulge in skirmishes and military exercises on the Ash Ranges, which were reported at length in local newspapers. Later, at the very start of WW1, the common was used as a training ground for Geordie recruits (pictured below) from Durham and Northumberland prior to their departure for France.

Richard Hartley



YOUR FOODBANK NEEDS YOU!!

Woking Foodbank volunteers are working their socks off to provide essential food and everyday items for folk who are really struggling. These needs are growing for a variety of reasons but donations have been falling. Please remember to order a little extra and drop off at Linnards, The Green or give Catherine Cobleby a ring for collection on 07947 032210. You can really make a difference!

Craft, Coffee and Chat welcomes all hand crafters to enjoy a sociable time whilst working on our own craft projects. We quilt, knit, sew and crochet and hope other crafters will join us.
23 January 10-12 in the Church Room.

THE CIRCLE OF LIFE IN PIRBRIGHT

Remembering Trevor John Matthews of Thompsons Close, West Heath, Pirbright. Trevor died on Sunday 3rd December after a long illness.

And also remembering Dolores Holmes, formerly a resident of Cunningham House, who died in December.

PIRBRIGHT PARISH COUNCIL

Christmas Lights Switch On at LPH

The annual Switch-On was a great success again this year and was made possible by some Parish Council elves who delivered a huge fir tree to the Hall. Our thanks go out to Gibby, Callum, Kirsty and Wayne who made this possible. More elves called Corin and Eoin Newman, Steve Mitchell and Mark Tidy then positioned the tree in place to the enjoyment of many onlookers. Father Christmas himself made a pit-stop at the Hall and spoke to lots of children and took back lists and letters to his actual elves in the North Pole. Thanks go to Elaine & Neil Eason for providing the colourful Grotto and of course to Father Christmas himself for stopping by! We hope to see him again next Christmas.

Thanks also go to the [Pirbright Institute](#) who kindly donated the 12 ft Christmas tree inside the hall and our Hall Manager, Catherine who brightened up the Hall with Lord and Lady Pirbright looking on. The Switch-On coincided with Maggie Read's annual Art Club Exhibition which was well attended and the Council are always amazed at the level of talent on display and available to purchase.

The Parish Councillors wish all residents in our Parish of Pirbright a Happy New Year!

Lord Pirbright's Hall car park will once again act as a recycling point for Christmas trees once the needles have dropped and all the chocolates have been eaten.

Warning: Alabama Rot. PPC have been made aware of a number of sad cases of this disease affecting dogs in the Pirbright area and are urging people to heed vets' advice and to rinse down their dogs after walks in wet and muddy conditions. More details on the PPC website.



Speedwatch Co-ordinators (volunteer roles)

The Parish Council are still looking for 2 new volunteer Co-ordinators to resurrect the Fox Corner and Pirbright Speedwatch groups. Training will be given and the Council supply all the equipment.

The role of the Co-ordinators is to organise the groups of friendly volunteers once a month or so to keep the speeding down in the parish. Please contact the Clerk if you can spare a couple of hours a month for the role.



CUNNINGHAM HOUSE

In the lead up to Christmas, Cunningham House were treated to a visit from our next-door neighbours at Knowl Hill School. Some of the younger children came to sing carols and Christmas songs, and a group of food technology students made an absolutely stunning and delicious chocolate log and very sophisticated mince pies for the residents. Knowl Hill is a hub of incredible talent being nurtured in their pupils, and Cunningham House would like to say thank you for sharing your talents with us.



Royal British Legion

Our first meeting of this New Year is on Monday, 8th January at 8pm at The Fox, Fox Corner. We would be happy to meet anyone who would like to learn more about the Legion. Tel: 01252 404276

Anne Hawkins

Pirbright WI

Dr Judy Hill will speak on *Victorian culinary delights: banquet to poor man's table*. Tuesday 16 January at 7pm in the Club Room in Lord Pirbright's Hall. Visitors are always welcome.

The WI will be serving coffee and tea again on Thursdays from 18th January 10am to 11.15am, pop in when you visit the market.

Places still available for our visit to The National Archives at Kew, on Wednesday 28th February. Sorry about the change of date Please contact Irene Dredge iredredge@outlook.com 01483 233279 asap for further details and form.

Rawlins Club

On Friday 12th January, 2.00 - 4.00pm in Lord Pirbright's Hall, we are very pleased to have Wendy Kinder talking about her days as a Saturday Girl.

Denise Granger 01483 472070

Pirbright Horticultural Society

On Tuesday 9th January at 7.30 pm in the Clubroom of Lord Pirbright's Hall, Nigel Choat will speak on 'Wetlands and waterways'. All welcome, members and visitors. If you haven't thought of becoming a member please consider joining.

Subscriptions are due in January and remain at £20 for an individual and only £25 for family membership. Contact Julian Didyk juliandidyk@sky.com 07799 207059, Card, cash or cheque payments welcomed. We have an interesting range of speakers for our 9 meetings plus a Plant Sale in May and a show on the last Saturday in July.

Philip Barralet

BROOKWOOD SCOUT GROUP

1st Brookwood Scout Group has been successfully running a prize draw for many years, called the 200 Club, which is open to scout parents and the general public. The 200 Club raises funds for equipment, trips and weekly meetings. It's one of our best fund raisers and it also gives out some great prizes. The next draw will be held in the Spring Term, so watch out to see who has won! You don't need to be in Scouts to take part. It's a great way to support the community and if you want to find out more information on how to join, please scan the code or e-mail 200club@brookwoodscouts.org.uk



Join the 200 club

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

New Year is a time for making a few lifestyle changes. New Year Resolutions are easy to make, and a lot harder to keep! But help is on hand, here are some of Pirbright's local experts to help you make positive changes that will last.

Claire Seager Pilates : Claire has a long established reputation locally for her small group Pilates and Barre classes in Pirbright, Brookwood, West End and on Zoom. Her comfortable well equipped West End home studio is perfect for one to one Pilates tuition or a private consultation before starting out. To find out more, contact Claire on claireseagerpilates@gmail.com or [07986 574986](tel:07986574986) or go to www.facebook.com/claireseagerpilates Instagram: @claireseagerpilates



Mounter Fitness: With her philosophy 'Life is all about balance, exercise can be fun and you can eat the foods you want and still live a happy and healthy lifestyle.' Rachel Mounter runs classes in Lord Pirbright's Hall on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with motivational music, focussed on strength and fitness. Classes are £8.50 with discount packages available and there is a special Bring a Friend for Free in January offer. Contact Rachel on 07783 041224 or info@mounterfitness.com or go to www.mounterfitness.com



MJM Physiotherapy: Pirbright's newest physiotherapy studio is led by experienced physiotherapist Michael J Martin. His expertise spans musculoskeletal, sports-induced afflictions; lifestyle and professional occupation-related injuries; spinal discomfort encompassing back and neck regions; hip and knee surgical rehabilitations. Whether you're seeking rejuvenation post-injury, to improve your health and wellbeing, or aiming to enhance your athletic prowess, his studio can be your sanctuary. visit www.mjm-uk.com, email Michael at mike@mjm-uk.com, or message him on 07941 887 162



IT FIX

Imagine the scenario, you're out shopping and have gone to the local coffee shop, Café Calligula, for tea and buns, and to catch up on your emails and do some banking. You scan through the list of wi-fi networks looking for a non-password protected one and find 'Free Café WiFi'. Can you be sure the wi-fi network is safe? It doesn't take much know-how to set up one of these networks, and malicious actors can name their wi-fi network anything they want. Once connected to a router, all plain-text data, for example emails, sent to and received from external servers and websites can, with the right software, be captured for later analysis.

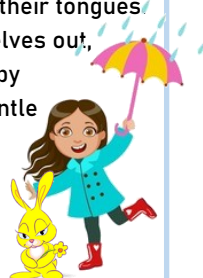
Even if the, possibly password protected, wi-fi has the same name as the one promoted within the café, this doesn't mean that the router has not been compromised in some way. In short, try to make sure no confidential information from your mobile or laptop is transferred while you're on untrusted networks.



CHURCHYARD CHRONICLES

It was raining, *yet again*. The young rabbits had been cooped up in their burrow for too long and tempers were fraying, but there was no sign of a let up in the weather. Then Mum had a brainwave. "Wellies and coats on!" she cried, and ushered them all outside. Soon they were rain dancing, puddle jumping and catching rain drops on their tongues. Everyone was wet, but no-one was cold and, when they had tired themselves out, hot baths and cocoa were the perfect end to the afternoon. With her sleepy family tucked up in bed, Mum stood contentedly, listening to the rain's gentle pattering rhythm, watching the way its soft light tied the earth and sky together, until the sun returned, bringing all the colours of the wet world to life. Life will always bring us rain. Sometimes we need to shelter, and sometimes we just need to dance in it.

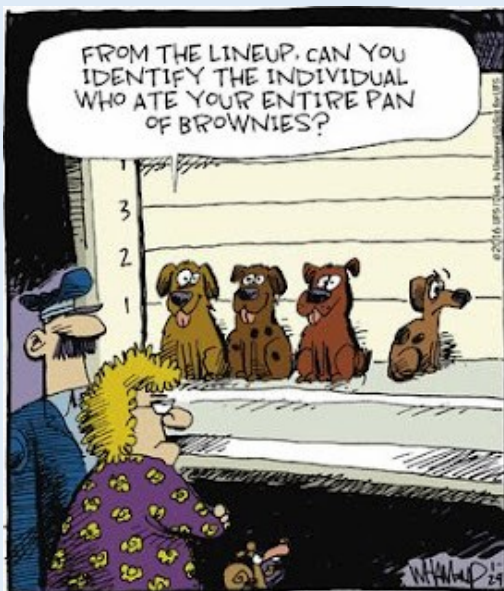
Yellow Rabbit



*Youth is when you're allowed to stay up on New Year's Eve.
Middle age is when you're forced to.*

JANUARY GARDENING TIPS from Wellie

The start of a new year, time to plan what you want to do in your garden over the coming year. Look at seed catalogues and order which seeds you would like to sow. Wash pots and seed trays and clean the glass on your greenhouse. Plant bare-rooted trees and shrubs now. Cut back foliage of hellebores to show off their beautiful flowers. Sow early peas such as 'Feltham First' for harvesting in May/June. Broad beans can be sown inside now, to plant out in February. Prune gooseberries and red-currants to maintain an open-centred bush with eight to ten main branches and prune last year's growth on the main stems by about half. Prune apple and pear trees. To dig or not to dig, that is the question! Digging is an emotive subject. Winter digging was always considered essential, especially on heavy soils such as clay, to let the weather at the soil and help to break it down. For me, the best approach is to lay compost on top and let the soil life take it in. Every time you dig the soil, you are upsetting the soil life and allowing for erosion.



PIRBRIGHT COMMUNITY CALENDAR JANUARY 2024

4	Thur	2:30pm	Scrabble at Cunningham House
7	Sun	9:30am 6:30pm	Family Service with Church Band, St Michael's Twinning Association Quiz, LPH
8	Mon	8:00pm	Royal British Legion meeting, The Fox Inn at Fox Corner
9	Tue	7:30pm	Horticultural Society, 'Wetlands and waterways', LPH
10	Wed	2:30pm	Craft Circle at Cunningham House
12	Fri	2:00pm	Rawlins Club, 'Life as a Saturday Girl', LPH
14	Sun	9:30am	Parish Communion , St Michael's Church
16	Tue	10:15am 7:00pm	Mid week communion with café club, St Michael's Pirbright WI <i>Victorian culinary delights:</i> LPH
17	Wed	7:30pm	Alpha Course session 1, St Mark's Church Hall, Wyke
20	Sat	1:30pm 7:00pm	Wizard of Oz, matinee performance, LPH Wizard of Oz, evening performance, LPH
21	Sun	9:30am 1:30pm	Holy Communion, St Michael's Church Wizard of Oz, matinee performance, LPH
23	Tue	10:00am	Craft Coffee and Chat in the Church Room
24	Wed	7:30pm	Alpha Course session 2, St Mark's Church Hall, Wyke
28	Sun	10:00am	Church on the Green, LPH
31	Wed	7:30pm	Alpha Course session 3, St Mark's Church Hall, Wyke

PIRBRIGHT TENNIS CLUB <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/PirbrightTennisClub>

www.facebook.com/pirbrighttennisclub www.pirbrighttennisclub.com

January can be a bit gloomy after all that enjoyment over Christmas but I look forward to getting on the court and feeling much better. I might even leave the warmth of home and play the odd Tuesday evening club night. See the *Club Activities* page on our website for all that's going on. New members: please contact Fiona Robotham:

info@pirbrighttennisclub.com

David Greenland

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