

Horsell Matters



The Village Magazine from your Parish Church
October – November 2023

Horsell Directory

St Mary's Church	www.stmarys-horsell.org.uk	
	Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals	772134
Parish Office open	Helen Gravette Tues 9am-4pm, Wed & Fri 9am-1.00pm	772134
	stmaryshorsell@btinternet.com	
Vicar	Rev'd Dmitry Lutsenko vicar@stmarys-horsell.org.uk	755618
Children & Families' Worker	Rebecca Connolly childrenandfamiliesstmarys@gmail.com	772134
Church Wardens	Brian Sheriff Mark McMurtrie	474975 07815 635609
Treasurer	David Leach	823439
Cathedral Link	Gill Saville	773799
Pastoral Assistants	Margaret Johnson Hilary Mitchell Coral Colclough	762481 715459 747481
JAM (Jesus and Me)	Rebecca Connolly (3+) 10am most Sundays	772134
Tiny Treasures	St Andrew's Room Tues 9.30am to 11.30am, term time	832943
Twinkle Tots	Mike Couper, St Andrew's Room Thurs 9.30am to 11.30am, term time	772134
Bell-ringers and Servers	Alan Nichols [occasional] Tues. evening practice	767852
Trinity Methodist Church	office@trinitywoking.org.uk	730754
Horsell Evangelical Church	Revd Andrew Bents	822259
To Book the Village Hall	Paul Bowyer	764047
Parish Institute	www.horsell-parish-institute.org.uk	772134
Horsell Village School	Infants Head Teacher - Mrs J Reeve	714804
Horsell C of E School	Junior Head Teacher - Mrs C Wand	761531
Woking High School	Head Teacher - Mrs M Walter	888447
Halstead St Andrew's School	Headmaster – Mr D Fitzgerald	760943
Horsell Care	Helpline	07552 553414
Residents Association	Alan Taylor ajrolyat@gmail.com	
Scouts, Beavers, Cubs	Ali Stubbs gsl@horsellscouts.org.uk	07734 424568
Explorer Scouts (14-18 Yrs)	Roy Thompson explorers@woking.scouts.host	
Guides & Brownies	www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents	
WI Horsell Afternoon	Alison Evans-Wyatt amevans705@gmail.com	765570
	Meets on 1st Thursday at 1.45pm in the Village Hall	
WI Horsell Evening	Mrs Joan Cox	760783
	Meets on 4th Tuesday at 8.00pm in the Village Hall	
Woking Police Station	dial 101 from mobile or landline	

Our Vision

St Mary's vision consists of three main elements:

- Making Jesus Known
- Sharing Jesus' Love in our Community and World
- Getting to Know Jesus Better

These sit at the heart of everything we do and are central to our Church Development Plan which encourages individuals to listen to God and pray more, improve confidence in sharing our faith, develop ministries for children, and offering styles of worship suited to new members.

We make Jesus known through our Parish Communion on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays, an All Age Worship on the 1st Sunday which is accessible for younger families, a contemporary Holy Communion on the 5th Sunday and additionally Messy Church, Meditation, and Peaceful Prayer and Praise.

To share Jesus' love in the Horsell community we have recently recruited Rebecca Connolly as our Childrens' and Families worker to take Jesus' love out to our local schools and provide improved Christian support to young families. We support events like the Village Show, Heritage weekend, Remembrance day and the Christmas market, often

providing refreshments and craft events. Our upcoming Harvest Festival provides a great opportunity to give thanks for the many gifts we receive from God and a chance to provide food and essential supplies for the homeless at the York Road Project. Plus, preparations are already starting for our popular two Christingle services which take place on the 24th December. At sad and unsettling times St Mary's is open and ready to provide support and reassurance to those that need it.

To help parishioners get to know Jesus better we are running a Bible study course developed by the Bible Society. This helps you see how the books of the Bible are part of one big story, how the key events, books and characters all fit together and helps show relevance to daily life. We would love to have you join these sessions.

Mark McMurtrie
Churchwarden



ST MARY'S CHURCH REGISTERS

Burials and Cremations

We offer our sympathy to the families and friends of those who have died:

Mary Cobbett Susan Puckey Sara Sharif

Weddings

We offer congratulations to: George Lenham & Isabel Taylor

Baptism & Thanksgiving

We welcome into the family of the church: Amos & Ariadne Pocock Elizabeth Young

ST MARY'S CHURCH DIARY **OCTOBER 2023**

Sun 1st	8.00am 10.00am	Holy Communion (CW) All Age Morning Worship
Tues 3rd	9.30am-11.00am 11.00am-4.00pm 2.00pm	Tiny Treasures Baby & Toddler Group Private Prayer Service at Kettlewell House
Wed 4th	11.00am 7.00pm-8.15pm 8.15pm	Mid-Week Holy Communion The Bible Course Session 2 Engine Room House of Prayer
Thurs 5th	9.30am-11.00am 11.00am-4.00pm	Twinkle Tots Private Prayer
Fri 6th	8.50am-12noon 12noon- 2.00pm	Pop In Coffee Come & Craft in St. Andrew's Room
Sun 8th	8.00am 10.00am 6.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Harvest Festival Parish Communion Contemplative Meditation
Tues 10th	9.30am-11.00am 11.00am-4.00pm	Tiny Treasures Baby & Toddler Group Private Prayer
Wed 11th	11.30am-4.00pm 7.00pm-8.15pm	Private Prayer The Bible Course Session 3
Thurs 12th	9.30am-11.00am 11.00am-4.00pm	Twinkle Tots Private Prayer
Fri 13th	8.50am-12noon 12noon-2.00pm	Pop In Coffee Come & Craft in St. Andrew's Room
Sun 15th	8.00am 10.00am 4.00pm 6.00pm	Holy Communion (CW) Parish Communion Messy Church – In St. Andrew's Room Evensong with Guildford Cathedral Choir
Tues 17th	9.30am-11.00am 11.00am-4.00pm	Tiny Treasures Baby & Toddler Group Private Prayer
Wed 18th	11.00am-4.00pm 7.00pm-8.15pm	Private Prayer The Bible Course Session 4
Thurs 19th	11.00am-1.00pm 11.00am-4.00pm	Twinkle Tots Private Prayer
Fri 20th	8.50am-12noon 12noon-2.00pm	Pop In Coffee Come & Craft in St. Andrew's Room
Sun 22nd	8.00am 10.00am 6.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion Peaceful Prayer and Praise
Tues 24th	9.30am-11.00am 11.00am-4.00pm	NO Tiny Treasures Baby & Toddler Group Private Prayer
Wed 25th	11.00am-4.00pm	Private Prayer
Thurs 26th	11.00am-1.00pm	NO Twinkle Tots
Fri 27th	10.00am-12noon	Pop In Coffee
Sun 29th	8.00am 10.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion
Mon 30th	6.30pm	Annual Memorial Service
Tues 31st	9.30am-11.00am 11.00am-4.00pm	Tiny Treasures Baby & Toddler Group Private Prayer



St Mary's Church, Horsell: @StMarysChurchHorsell

CW means Common Worship. BCP means Book of Common Prayer.
All correct at the time of going to print.

For further details please look at our website: www.stmarys-horsell.org.uk

ST MARY'S CHURCH DIARY **NOVEMBER 2023**

Wed 1st	11.00am 8.00pm	Mid-Week Holy Communion Engine Room House of Prayer
Thurs 2nd	9.30am-11.00am 11.00am-4.00pm	Twinkle Tots Private Prayer
Fri 3rd	8.45am-12noon 12noon-2.00pm	Pop In Coffee Come & Craft in St. Andrew's Room
Sun 5th	8.00am 10.00am	Holy Communion Service (CW) All Age Morning Worship
Tues 7th	9.30am-11.00am 11.00am-4.00pm 2.00pm	Tiny Treasures Baby & Toddler Group Private Prayer Service at Kettlewell House
Wed 8th	11am-4.00pm	Private Prayer
Thurs 9th	9.30am-11.00am 11.00am-4.00pm	Twinkle Tots Private Prayer
Fri 10th	8.45am-12noon 12noon-2.00pm	Pop In Coffee Come & Craft in St. Andrew's Room
Sun 12th	8.00am 9.30am 10.50am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Service (BCP) Remembrance Sunday Parish Communion Service at the War Memorial Contemplative Meditation
Tues 14th	9.30am-11.00am 11.00am-4.00pm	Tiny Treasures Baby & Toddler Group Private Prayer
Wed 15th	11.00am-4.00pm	Private Prayer
Thurs 16th	9.30am-11.00am 11.00am-4.00pm	Twinkle Tots Private Prayer
Fri 17th	8.45am-12noon 12noon-2.00pm	Pop In Coffee Come & Craft in St. Andrew's Room
Sun 19th	8.00am 10.00am 4.00pm	Holy Communion (CW) Parish Communion Messy Church
Mon 20th	8.00pm	PCC Meeting
Tues 21st	9.30am-11.00am 11.00am-4.00pm	Tiny Treasures Baby & Toddler Group Private Prayer
Wed 22nd	11.00am-4.00pm	Private Prayer
Thurs 23th	9.30am-11.00am 11.00am-4.00pm	Twinkle Tots Private Prayer
Fri 24th	8.45am-12noon 12noon- 2.00pm	Pop In Coffee Come & Craft in St. Andrew's Room
Sun 26th	8.00am 10.00am 12.15pm 6.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Parish Communion On Your Own Lunch Peaceful Prayer & Praise
Tues 28th	9.30am-11.00am 11.00am-4.00pm	Tiny Treasures Baby & Toddler Group Private Prayer
Wed 29th	11.00am-4.00pm	Private Prayer
Thurs 30th	9.30am-11.00am 11.00am-4.00pm	Twinkle Tots Private Prayer

ST MARY'S CHURCH DIARY **DECEMBER 2023**

Fri 1st	8.45am-12noon 12noon-2.00pm	Pop in Coffee Come & Craft in St. Andrew's Room
Sat 2nd	7.00pm	Mosaic Choir
Sun 3rd	8.00am 10.00am	Holy Communion (CW) All Age Morning Worship

News from St Mary's

Friday Morning Pop in Coffee in St Andrews Room.

This welcoming Friday morning event continues to grow in popularity with many residents dropping in, starting after the school run at 9:00 and ending at 12:00 before the parking restrictions kick in. Some stay for a couple of hours, others just call in, some are regulars, others just occasional visitors.

Everyone is welcome – just pop in – coffee, tea and cake are always available. We do not charge but appreciate donations, the generosity of which not only covers our costs but enables us to support the Young Carers groups at two local schools as well as other local charities. As well as excellent home-made cakes, we are grateful to Woking Funeral Services, for their weekly cake donation. We rely on volunteers and would always appreciate additional helpers if you could spare a few hours once a month.

Every Friday from September, a crafting session has started.

Bring your own craft and enjoy refreshments with fellow crafters from 12 noon until 2pm. Its just £3 a session in term time.

Celebrating 60 years of marriage.

Congratulations from all in the congregation of St Mary's go to Margaret and Geoffrey Johnson who renewed their wedding vows during the Communion Service on 27 August.



The happy couple, 60 years on

Horsell Matters: Next Edition December 2023/January 2024

Copy to be sent by 1st November by email please to: stmaryshorsell@btinternet.com

Advertising: please contact: Sales at Knaphill Print, Tel: 01483 474900 or email: sales@knaphillprint.com

The Horsell Matters team extend their grateful thanks to **Knaphill Print Co Ltd** for producing this not-for-profit Parish magazine.

The views expressed by contributors to the magazine are not necessarily those of the PCC of St. Mary's Church. All advertisements are accepted in good faith.

New Line Drawing of St Mary's

After the removal of the cedar tree, we have a new image.

Whilst I enjoyed art at school on leaving, I trained as a draughtsman and progressed to become a Structural Engineer. I remained interested in art but was apprehensive; classes seemed quite daunting. Encouraged by a friend, I started watercolour painting 5 years ago, with Adult Learning and then a tutor.

There was much to learn, creating a sense of light, rule of thirds, soft/hard edges and tone. I love the flow of the 'water colour' across the paper and ink and wash is also quick and fun. After a career drawing straight lines my challenge has been to create 'loose' work.

Inspiration comes from Instagram, galleries and art magazines. Painting has brought me so much pleasure and I have made some lovely friends along the way. Am I any good? My old tutor said "you can't go wrong in art". You decide [@puccipaints](https://www.instagram.com/puccipaints)
Darren Pucci, Amateur Artist



Churchyard Cat

Following extra people and busyness in my churchyard, careful observation has disclosed that it is due to people fixing the church lighting, tower clock, stonework around the south door, and the south wall of my churchyard. I trust that it will all be completed before the clocks go back an hour on 29 October.

Did you know that in England, all cats need to be microchipped by 10 June 2024? I was chipped some time ago, but it is estimated that over a quarter aren't. Good to know that if I got lost, or was catnapped, the cat squad could get me home.

As you readers know, I share my thoughts with you because cats do like to educate their humans, but it's all a bit one way. To remedy that an email address has been set up for me, so that I can receive your mewings (sorry, musings) via stmaryschurchyardcat@gmail.com I can't promise to reply, as my paws often cover several keys, but I would welcome any feedback.



That Still, Small Voice of Calm

In the busyness of your day, do you sometimes crave a bit of stillness? Sitting quietly, allowing the rhythm of your breath to calm your soul, is something we often neglect to do.

As busy folk, we tell ourselves we simply do not have time. We become distracted by chores that need doing, that email that must be answered, that work deadline, by rushing here and there, by our phones, believing that scrolling through social media is 'taking a break', but never letting our minds or bodies slow down.

If this is you, then occasionally, why not give yourself permission, time out of that busy schedule, to just sit and be. If its midweek, you could pop into St Mary's Church which is open to all on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays between 11am and 4pm. Take a pew. Stop and stare. Gaze at the light shining through the stained-glass windows. Absorb the cool, still quietness. Allow the strain and stress to subside a while and enjoy the beauty of peace within the building. Forget the "earthquake, wind, and fire" that your busy day might have become and listen instead, for the "still, small voice of calm".

The popular hymn 'Dear Lord and Father of Mankind' was adapted from Quaker John Greenleaf Whittier's poem 'The Brewing of Soma' (which he wrote in 1872) by Garrett Horder and published in his 1884 Congregational Hymns.

The final verse of this much-loved hymn, with the words 'O still small voice of calm' is a reference to 1 Kings 19: 9- 16. Here God reveals himself to the prophet Elijah not in an earthquake, or in the wind, or in fire, but in a 'gentle breeze.'



Do not judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant.
Robert Louis Stevenson

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and University of Oxford

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- Face-to-face and Zoom
- Double vaccinated



CONTACT

Emmanuel Bach: 07903 582483
Emmanuel.F.Bach@gmail.com

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Grave Matters – David Brash Dick

Near the path to the church from Wilson Way stands a large stone cross, a memorial to David Brash Dick who was born in Edinburgh in 1846. The son of a master cloth merchant, David studied architecture at the Edinburgh School of Design and by 1861 was apprenticed as a draughtsman to an architect in Scotland. In 1873 he went to Chicago but soon settled in Canada and designed many of the buildings in Toronto in the last quarter of the nineteenth century becoming a founder member of the Toronto Architectural Guild in 1887. He was President of the Ontario Association of Architects in 1893 and married an Irish widow, Margaret Grassick, with two daughters in 1879. He designed residential, institutional, commercial and ecclesiastical buildings and many of his architectural drawings are preserved in the Horwood Collection at the Ontario Archives in Toronto.

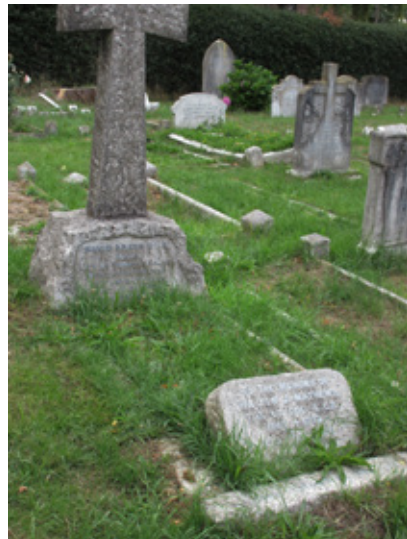
David and his wife returned to Britain in 1902 and after his wife's death in her native Ireland in 1905 he joined his step-daughter and her family in Horsell Rise until his death in 1925 aged 79. The 1911 census shows his step-daughter, Mary Stuart with her husband, Walter J Mathews, and three daughters together with a nurse and a servant. A small stone memorial at the foot of David Brash Dick's grave marks the last resting place for the ashes of his step-daughter and her husband. Walter was a professional soldier and subsequently served in many capacities

on Woking Urban District Council, becoming its Chairman in 1927/28, while Mary founded a local amateur orchestra. At the bottom kerbstone is inscribed "Geraldine 1899-1960" a memorial to their unmarried daughter who was prominent in Horsell, including music and Scouting.



Geraldine Matthews

No photograph of David has been traced, but with acknowledgements to his great-great-grand daughter, Susan, we have photographs of Walter, Mary and Geraldine. There are obituaries and biographies of him on the Worldwide Web and the 'Surrey Advertiser' for 22 Oct 1932 carries a tribute to Walter.



David Brash Dick's Grave

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What is Evensong?

Evensong, also known as Evening Prayer*, is a centuries-old tradition in Christian liturgy that has deep historical roots and is observed in the Anglican and Episcopal traditions.

Its origins can be traced back to the ancient monastic practices of the early Christian Church. The name comes from the Old English *æfensang*, a translation of the Latin *vesperas*, meaning "evening." The office first appeared in the Book of Common Prayer in 1549 (but not the name, which, as far as I'm aware, has never been applied to the service in any "official" prayer book). From there, evensong, as a distinctive service, gained popularity and has become a cherished tradition in Anglican cathedrals and churches. (Whenever the BBC has proposed stopping its weekly broadcast, the outcry has always led to a reversal of the decision.)

The service begins with an opening sentence or sung introit, followed by the singing of psalms, scripture readings, the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis. Intercessions, and the Lord's Prayer are also included, along with hymns and an anthem. The service concludes with a blessing.

It's known for its choral music, often sung by professional choirs or skilled volunteer singers. A rich musical heritage has arisen from it and it continues to offer a serene and contemplative space for individuals to reflect, offer prayers, and be inspired by the beauty of music and the spoken word.

Alan Rapley

The choir of Guildford Cathedral will be singing choral evensong at St Mary's Church at **6.00pm on 15th October**.

*Many choristers refer to "evensnog." Like many groups of people with a shared interest, choral singers have running jokes. It's perhaps rather childish, but you get your pleasures where you can. (Other examples are John Rutter's *Gaelic Blessing*, which becomes "Garlic Dressing," and George Dyson's set of evening canticles in F major, which appears in music lists as *Dyson in F*, is inevitably referred to as "Dicing with Death".)






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Getting to Know

Niamh Jordan, the talent behind one of Horsell's newer businesses, Incredible Little Functions.

The passion behind Niamh's new business is a love of food, hosting parties and more time with her daughter, Theodora (known as Teddy). Niamh spent nearly ten years at the Shaw Family Centre (WFCC) near Wheatsheaf Common, where children living with one parent can meet and spend time with the other parent in a warm and friendly atmosphere. Once her daughter started school she started an admin role at Goldsworth Primary School, hoping the shorter term-only hours would free up time. But it still meant missing school sport's day and she realised that would repeat itself unless things changed.

Niamh and her husband Tim live in central Horsell where the kitchen is the heart of their home. Learning that she has a degree in Interior Architecture, and Tim, who is a Building Pathologist, made sense, given their stylish interior – all their own design and construction. Perfect for hosting their own events.

A love of healthy, tasty food and hosting - what better combination then, to set up business providing graze boxes or spreads for big and small parties, suitable for all ages and dietary requirements.

But does it give more time with her daughter? Definitely. Teddy helps with fruit and veg selection and often comes with mum when setting up at the party's venue. Niamh likes that she provides a good role model to her daughter as a working mum and will no longer miss key occasions.



Niamh and her daughter Theodora

You can follow Incredible Little Functions on Facebook and Instagram.

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Graze tables and Graze boxes for any occasion from £10/head



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Email:

incredible.little.functions@gmail.com



Phone:

07729351899

SUNDAY MORNING ALL-AGE WORSHIP

Lively songs, thought-provoking Bible stories, fun and family fellowship at 10am



First Sunday
of every month

1st October
5th November
3rd December

Saint Mary the Virgin

JESUS AND ME



Jesus and Me

A time for children aged 3+
to learn and worship
together during our 10am
Sunday Services

Every Sunday except when
we have All Age Worship

Saint Mary the Virgin

TINY TREASURES

Baby and Toddler Group

Every Tuesday (term time)

9.30am-11.00am

In the St Andrew's Room-
St Mary's Church, Horsell

Come and make friends,
enjoy play, craft and songs



Saint Mary the Virgin

TWINKLE TOTS



Baby and Toddler Group

Every Thursday (term time)

9.30am-11.00am

In the St Andrew's Room-
St Mary's Church, Horsell

Come and make friends,
enjoy play, craft,
Bible stories and songs



Saint Mary the Virgin



4.00pm to 5.30pm

15th October

19th November

Fun activities for all ages
Please bring your own picnic tea

Saint Mary the Virgin

FRIDAY POP-IN COFFEE

8.45am until noon (term time)

10am-12 noon (school holidays)



Why not drop in for a cuppa, a
piece of cake and a chat once
you have done the school
drop-off?

Saint Mary the Virgin

HARVEST FESTIVAL FAMILY COMMUNION SERVICE

10am Sunday 8th October
All welcome: please join us



Donations of non-perishable items will be
collected during the service and distributed
within the community and to York Road Project



Saint Mary the Virgin

STAY IN TOUCH



St Mary's Parish Office is open
Tuesday 9am-4pm
Wednesday & Friday 9am-1pm
Telephone: 01483 772134



Visit our website at
stmarys-horsell.org.uk



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Email us:
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Our services are streamed via You Tube
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Saint Mary the Virgin

COLOUR AND MATCH

1. Colour in the pictures.
2. Match the pictures to their names. First one has been done for you.
3. Which word doesn't have a picture? Draw the missing object.

star
 match
 lamp
 lightbulb
 Moon
 fireworks
 fire
 sparkler
 torch
 Sun

draw the missing object here

Did you know? In the Bible in the book of John chapter 8 verse 12, Jesus said "I Am the light of the world". God's light shines and makes the darkness of this world disappear. When we believe and follow Jesus, God's light shines for us.

Fungus Foray

Last October, Adam Palferman, a passionate photographer, went on a Fungus Foray organised by the Horsell Common Preservation Society.

Fungus is fascinating: a kingdom of organisms apart from animal or vegetable, with 36,000 genders rather than just 2; nature's recycling plant, eating dead parts of trees and other organisms that they co-exist with. Under the ground or within the tree is the mycelium which is the white web like structure that fruits as a mushroom on the surface. The largest organism in the world is a honey fungus mycelium in the Blue Mountains of Oregon. It covers about 3 square miles and weighs thousands of tonnes.

The expert was Richard Alder from the West Weald Fungus Recording Group. We left the Sandy Trak Car Park and ventured into the trees.

Soon, we came across one type of mushroom or fungus after another. Tiny mushrooms, slimy moulds, blue green elf cups, and Fly Agaric toadstools to name but a few.

Richard was very informative and invited questions. Some mushrooms have gills underneath that can be brittle or strong which is one way to tell the difference between species. Some poisonous mushrooms can look very similar to edible ones.

It was an all-round great experience, despite some heavy rain at the start. We were inspired by what we learned and keen to find more little gems

before the end of the season. We have seen quite a few people with baskets foraging, but unless I knew exactly what is edible and what isn't, I will just admire and take photos of these little natural wonders.

Adam Palferman



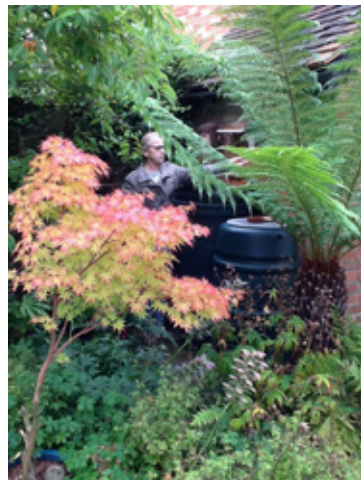
Gardening Matters

Read how Elna Broe tends her garden in autumn and before the cold spells of winter.

Some autumn days will be fine and dry; ideal for tackling necessary outside jobs. Most of my garden will be left alone for a few months to allow small creatures sharing my space to have plenty of protection from decaying foliage until it's safe for them to emerge again on warmer days. The things I must do are:

- clean my bird boxes with hot water, dry them thoroughly and add some dry grass for warmth. Some birds may roost in them over winter;
- divide perennials outgrowing their space. Woody sections (usually in the middle of the clump) can be composted, and healthy sections moved to their new location. Most of my perennials, including echinops, sedum and helianthus, benefit from division every two years;
- rake leaves - an ongoing process, for a few weeks in October. Wetted and stored in old compost bags, pierced to allow excess moisture to escape, they will make precious leaf mould in 12 to 24 months. This will be used in potting compost mixture and as a mulch around plants. It is excellent for breaking down my heavy clay soil;

- mulching bare patches of soil with a 2–4-inch layer. This will keep plant roots warm and protect the soil from severe frosts. Home-made compost will be added to the leaf mould. It's amazing how a mix of chopped prunings and weeds (but not their seed heads!), brown cardboard, egg boxes and vegetable peelings can turn into lovely crumbly compost in a few months. My thanks go to the little brandling worms (that seem to come from nowhere), woodlice, slugs and other creatures that find their way into my compost bins;
- clean the bird feeders at least every two weeks to help prevent disease spreading.



Elna in her garden



The trees are about to show us how lovely it is to just let things go.

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Recipe: Mushrooms on Toast

It's mushroom season: this easy comfort dish can be put together and serve four as a starter, 2 as a main, in 20 minutes

4 large slices sourdough bread
 1 tbsp olive oil
 4 slices prosciutto
 knob of butter
 350g mixed mushrooms
 1 garlic clove, crushed
 4 tbsp crème fraîche
 handful parsley leaves, finely chopped
 seasoning to taste
 Toast the sourdough bread, cut each slice in half, then set aside. Heat a large frying pan with the olive oil. Fry the prosciutto in the pan for about 2 mins on each side until golden and crisp. Tear into large pieces and set aside on kitchen paper.

Add the butter to the pan and then the mushrooms. Cook for 2 mins. Add the garlic and crème fraîche. Cook for 3-5 mins more until the mushrooms are soft and lightly coated in the crème fraîche. Stir through some of the parsley.
 Plate up: on top of the toast, pile a generous dollop of the mushrooms, and top with the prosciutto and more parsley. Season to taste.



If you are a local food business and wish to share a recipe with Horsell Matters readers, please contact the editorial team for requirements.

Hosting a Ukrainian Family in Horsell

We've been hosting a Ukrainian family, in a small bedroom in our house with its own ensuite, for a year. First, a young mum arrived with her baby son, then the husband/dad joined. With limited English, finding work is a challenge. Dad, a dentist in Ukraine, works on a building site here. With the baby crying/teething the parents were anxious we would be disturbed, but this has not been a problem. We've enjoyed sharing meals; the Ukrainian mum is a wonderful cook. She treated us to borscht and other novelties, and her pizzas are the best we've tasted! The young family hope to find their own rented accommodation soon.
 Grahame and Glen Wood



Horsell's 21st Garden Safari

We had lovely warm weather and Horsell was bustling with several hundred people seeking out our open gardens. Whether you are a keen gardener or in need of inspiration Horsell had plenty to offer. On the strength of this a cheque for £5000 was handed over to Sam Beare Hospice. In total over the years the Garden Safari has now raised the magnificent sum of £81,737.

It is not too early to think about next year's safari on 15th and 16th June 2024. Please let me know if you would care to open; new gardens are needed as well as those who have supported us over the 21 years.

Penny Kramer Contact emails: colinandpenny@sky.com or bromleysglad@gmail.com

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Book Review

Little Wing by Freya North is the story of two families over three generations.

Synopsis: In the 1960s, a pregnant 16-year-old is banished to one of the remotest parts of the UK. Years later, Nell and Dougie are both at critical moments in their lives when their paths cross. Between Camden, Colchester and the Outer Hebrides, the 3 story lines converge when secrets are uncovered, and answers sought.

I was pleasantly surprised by how much I enjoyed this heartwarming book; I feared too many clichés about “journeys” and finding oneself. The descriptive passages featuring the island of Harris in the Outer Hebrides are striking. The ordinariness of life in Colchester and Camden comes alive in North’s many characters.

The story unfolds in two timelines –the late 60s and secondly in 2005. Nell works in a community café that employs adults with learning or physical impairments. Dougie, a once talented

photographer, is stuck in advertorial photography to pay the bills. Both are challenged by the relationship they have with an aging parent. We hear the voice of the third protagonist by reading the diary of young Florence (it helps that these are in italics).

The topics covered include teenage pregnancy, mental health, dementia, abandonment, resilience, and heralds the desire to belong, finding fulfilment, the true meaning of family and forgiveness, all with a nod to Jimi Hendrix lyrics and district nursing.

Its in the ‘women’s fiction’ category. Some may find it a

bit sugary, but it deals with big issues sympathetically and in a well-written manner. An easy read with a slow start, picking up a pace as the story unfolds.

Vanessa McMurtrie



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Save the Dates



Support the Horsell Christmas Market on 2nd December 2023 from 1pm-5pm.

Come and enjoy the atmosphere, local crafts, and shops; everything from Christmas Cards, presents, clothes and jewellery.

Horsell Residents Association is hard at work finalising the plans for the 2023 Christmas Market, making a special start to the Festive Season. Many stalls as well as the local shops will be open as usual. Regular visitors to the Market will know that local brews, snacks, and burgers are all available. Bands and other groups will entertain you to complete a great afternoon's shopping.

Stall holders please book early to avoid disappointment.

If you are able to help with planning or setting up, or after the event dismantling and tidying it all away, (many hands are needed to make this event special) please contact: xmas@horsellresidents.com



Saj Hussain and Alan Taylor

WAOS's next production "Sunshine on Leith" is on 31st October – 4th November.




Mark Mowbray (centre), who plays (Rab) with Craig and Charlie of The Proclaimers


WAOS Musical Theatre has had strong connections with Horsell since it began twice yearly productions at the Rhoda McGaw 50 years ago. Residents of Horsell have been members of the theatre group for many years and during this time have performed Christmas concerts and dramatized musical events at St Mary's and more recently at Horsell Village Hall in September this year when we held an evening of stories and songs, an Anniversary Celebration raising funds for the NHS.

The award winning and talented company's next production, "Sunshine on Leith", is based on the songs of the Scottish group, The Proclaimers. Horsell resident, Sue Gaastra, is the production secretary for the show and says it is a drama with humour, about two young soldiers returning from the Afghan battlefields with the intention of rebuilding their family lives and relationships in Edinburgh. The show features many Proclaimers hits, such as "I'm On My Way", "500 Miles" and "Letter From America". It will be at the Rhoda McGaw Theatre, Woking, 31st October to 4th November.

Brian J Higgs, WAOS Musical Theatre



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