

# *Box Hill* News

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Vol 25 No.3

June - July 2020

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### **SUPPORTING NHS CHARITY**

Sean's Static Cycle Marathons

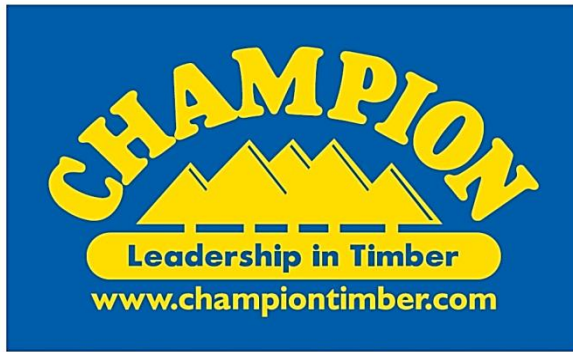
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### **LOCKDOWN JOURNAL**

Maureen's Weekly Diary

Pages 19-23 & 36-39

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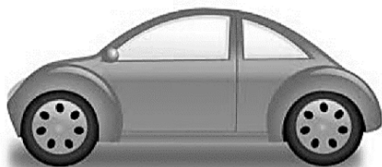
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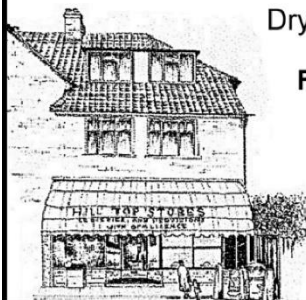
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### **EVENTS/MEETINGS FOR 2020**

**1st June – BHNC AGM, 8.00pm Village Hall (Postponed)**

**5th October – Public Meeting, 8.00 pm Village Hall (Provisional)**

Please note: In the light of current restrictions, the Box Hill Neighbourhood Council AGM scheduled for 1 June 2020 has been postponed until further notice.

The scheduled public meeting on 5th October 2020 will be kept under review. If there are any matters residents wish to raise in the interim these can be sent to:

Martin Williams: martin@chestnutlodgemail.com Mobile: 07917 227233

Malcolm Ladell: malcolmladell@btinternet.com Landline: 01737 843644

### **COVID-19**

We hope everyone has remained safe during the pandemic. We have received some lovely stories of how residents have been pulling together to look after their neighbours, particular those have been asked to self-isolate.

It is obviously a very worrying time for everyone and we appreciate the implications that self-isolation can have on one's anxiety levels, but on the positive side it is an opportunity to connect with neighbours you might not have met before. Putting a little note through their doors offering your support if you are able to help is a simple way to contribute.

For the latest government information - <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>.

### **HIGHWAYS**

BHNC monitors any issues and reports them to Surrey CC Highways. If residents have any concerns, they should report them to Hazel Watson our County Councillor

### **PLANNING**

Nothing to report at this time. BHNC does review any planning notices received and general matters are highlighted to Committee members if required. Any planning issues or queries should be referred to David Preedy.

### **CYCLING EVENTS**

Information not available at time of going to press

### **FEEDBACK**

The BHNC welcomes residents to feedback any concerns they might have about the village. You can do this by emailing [admin@boxhillcommunity.com](mailto:admin@boxhillcommunity.com) or contacting any member of the BHNC - Martin Williams, Jeremy John, Julie Lever, Malcolm Ladell, or Jen Martinez (Ladell). We also welcome suggestions on how the money we raise could be distributed for the benefit of the village.

Continued >>

### **ADVICE FROM SURREY POLICE**

'Livestock Worrying' is a criminal offence where a dog chases or attacks livestock in a way that causes harm. They ask dog owners of Surrey community to:

- Keep your dog on a lead near livestock and, if they get agitated, walk them away.
- Ensure your dog does not stray off the path or area where you have right of access.
- Ensure that your dog is under control and will come back to you on your command, if it does not it should not be off the lead.
- If there is an encounter with your dog and livestock then try to contact the farmer first so they can get there as soon as possible, then contact the Police.
- Keep in mind that it is your responsibility to have your dog under full control at all times even when walking along a footpath next to their field.

### **MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON 2nd March 2020**

Our apologies for not including these in previous issue

BHNC Committee Members present:

Martin Williams (Chairman), Jeremy John, Jenny Martinez, Malcolm Ladell

In attendance: SCC Councillor Hazel Watson, MVDC Councillor David Preedy

### **Items Discussed at Public Meeting**

#### **1. Highways: Boxhill Road – Double Yellow Lines**

Applications by some Box Hill residents have been submitted to SCC Highways for additional Double Yellow Lines covering sections of Boxhill Road as follows:

- a. From the existing double yellow lines that currently end at The Stables to the junction with Ashurst Drive.
- b. From the frontage of Hillcrest to join up with those in front of Roof of the World
- c. On both sides of Boxhill Road at frontages of Upper Farm and the Smith & Western

Proposals (a) and (b) would create double yellow lines on both sides of Box Hill Road from its junction with Headley Heath Approach to almost Ashurst Drive that some residents are fearful will create a downhill racetrack. Suggestions of road humps or protruding islands that require street lights were mentioned but these would have a negative effect on wildlife and are likely to be objected to by a large number residents who had moved to Box Hill to get away from urbanisation.

Continued >>

**[Public Meeting item 1. Highways: Boxhill Road - Double Yellow Lines]**

The SCC Boxhill Road consultation is expected to happen in April or May but could be delayed due to the Coronavirus restrictions. Please contact SCC Cllr Hazel Watson if you wish to comment or object or lookout for SCC notices for date of public consultation in local press or pinned to nearby telegraph poles.

2. **Planning:** Jeremy John stated that currently there were no significant or controversial planning applications to report for Box Hill.
3. **Membership of BHNC:** It has been mentioned that due to personal commitments and ageing of some committee members it was increasingly difficult to maintain and improve the free services that BHNC provides to residents. The committee would welcome volunteers prepared to give up some of their spare time to become a member of the BHNC Committee.
4. **Local Groups:** In regard to item 3 above it was also suggested that perhaps BHNC should arrange a social afternoon with members of the local groups, particularly those that BHNC help support. The purpose of meeting to discuss and ask, and hopefully appoint, one or two of their members to become full or part-time members of the BHNC Committee.
5. **Santa's drive from Hilltop Stores to the Carol Concert at the Village Hall:**

Despite the inclement weather Santa again kindly visited us - this time wearing clothes borrowed from an Elf as his own suit had got damaged in a snowstorm on his way down from the North Pole.

Due to the inclement weather the Carols were sung in the Village Hall followed by entertainment for the children (and adults) provided by a professional entertainer hired by the BHNC. Food and drinks were purchased by BHNC and added to the delicious homemade cakes etc provided by some residents.

Santa overlooked the handing out of raffle prizes kindly donated by residents and some purchased by the BHNC from the profit of the Ride London Box Hill Refreshment Stop. The raffle raised £347 that went towards the cost of the Christmas Tree and it lights displayed on the grass in front of the Village Hall.

Thanks to those residents who helped with the clearing up and loading of items used into the cars to be taken back to the homes where they will be stored ready for Christmas 2020.
6. **Redundant Phone Box at Hillcrest:** It was agreed not to adopt it as it was not the old-style red phone box and appears to be on private land.

Continued >>

**[Public Meeting Items Discussed]**

- 7. Future Mole Valley (Local Plan 2018-2033) Closes 23rd March 2010:** Full details available on MVDC website.

Main points are that Box Hill is set within the Greenbelt and in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty adjacent to areas of Special Scientific Interest and Special Landscape Value thus, apart from the possibility of minor infill to the side (but not in front or to the rear) of existing buildings development will not be allowed. It is proposed that the present outdated village boundaries be adjusted to avoid confusion whereby the existing village boundaries cut across the gardens of properties whereby one part is within and the other part is without the village boundary or where, as is the case with Headley Heath Approach, one side of the road is within and the other side of the road is outside of the village boundary. Please refer your queries to MVDC Cllr David Preedy.

- 8. Next Public Meetings in 2020:**

Annual General Meeting on 1st June at 8pm in Village Hall - postponed.

Public Meeting on 5th October at 8pm in Village Hall - provisional

- 9. Litter Picking Group:** In recent years, Malcolm Ladell has arranged litter picking throughout the roads within the village of Box Hill by members and friends of BHNC at about the same time as that carried out regularly in Headley by members and friends of Headley Parish Council. Bags and handheld pickers were provided by MVDC plus additional handheld pickers provided by BHNC with the rubbish being collected and disposed of by MVDC. Due to ill health this had fallen by the wayside on Box Hill until Mr Rob Moon a new resident moved in and started to do it himself. Perhaps we should ask Mr Moon if he would like assistance from BHNC and residents of Box Hill.

- 10. Ride London event over Box Hill:** The effects were discussed regarding the uncertainty caused by Coronavirus/Covid-19 as to when movement restrictions will be lifted. Accordingly, it is difficult to predict when, or if, public attended events will be able to take place this summer/autumn.

The loss of income from running the Box Hill RideLondon refreshment stop will have a negative effect on social activities organised by BHNC for the benefit of the residents of Box Hill.

- 11. Other public events including BHNC Christmas**

As per 10 above – difficult to predict

- 12. Website**

New email system appears to be working well. If not, please let Julie Lever know.

Continued >>





**[Public Meeting Items Discussed]**

**13. A.O.B.**

- a. In view of the rising cost of continuing the current practice of replacing a natural Christmas Tree each year and the objection of the Church to planting a living semi-permanent tree it has been decided to obtain quotes for the purchase of an artificial tree that could be erected and taken down each year.
- b. BHNC Chairman, Martin Williams has been looking into the concerns expressed by some older residents about the alternative use of surplus funds donated by the public when St Andrews was being built and held by the Church that the original donators may have assumed would be set aside for the future maintenance of St Andrews Church.
- c. BHNC Chairman, Martin Williams is also looking into the concerns expressed by some older residents about what happens when the lease granted by the Church on the land upon which the Village Hall stands ends in about 50 years. The building of the Village Hall was paid for from donations contributed by Box Hill residents and their friends but, if the lease is not renewed the Village Hall could become the property of the Church.

**Items Raised Subsequent to the Public Meeting**

**A) Obnoxious smell along sections of Boxhill Road**

Could be overflow of drains or sewers caused by flooding due to recent very heavy downpours of rain. This has already been reported by Malcolm Ladell to SCC Cllr Hazel Watson and MVDC Cllr David Preedy

**B) The Mobile Mid Surrey Community Fridge**

Provides food free of charge to anyone who needs it. Donations accepted if you can, but it is not essential. Van visits Box Hill on Wednesday and parks in front of St Andrews Church from 1.00pm to 1.20pm and then moves to car park behind the Surrey Hills Park Office from 1.25pm to 1.45pm

**C) Parking in National Car Parks**

Last year the NT changed their system so that NT Members must display a parking ticket in their car – displaying the membership badge is no longer sufficient. You can get a free ticket by entering your membership number into the ticket machine. By doing this you get free parking and also enable the NT site you are visiting to get a £2 credit towards its running costs.

Continued >>



**[Public Meeting – Items Raised After Meeting]**

**D) MVDC Joint Enforcement Team (JET)**

You can report Abandoned Vehicles, Fly Tipping, Graffiti, Littering from a vehicle by logging onto: [www.molevalley.gov.uk/jet](http://www.molevalley.gov.uk/jet)

**E) Box Hill Community Website**

If you have not already registered on our website, please do so – it is extremely easy to sign up. Just go to: [www.boxhillcommunity.com](http://www.boxhillcommunity.com). Once you have registered you will receive regular emails updating you about items of interest to residents of Box Hill village.

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# ***Box Hill*** **News**

## **ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS** **Renewal 2020-21**

In the April-May issue, we said we would defer collection of this year's subscriptions until the end of July. In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, this was always going to be subject to review based on Government guidelines and the wellbeing of our subscribers and team members when collecting envelopes.

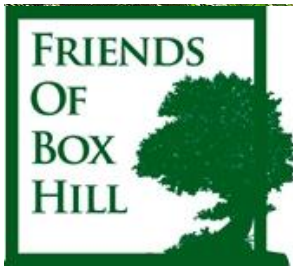
Whilst the rules on staying at home have been relaxed a little, and more businesses will be able to re-open over the coming months, social-distancing measures are likely to remain in place for a while longer.

In view of this, we will not be putting out the brown subscription renewal envelopes until the August-September issue, which will be delivered at the end of July. **Envelopes will not then be collected until the end of SEPTEMBER.**

**We will continue to deliver copies to existing subscribers** in the hope that you will renew for the 2020-21 year. We know many of you are keen to make your payment promptly which is much appreciated. However, in the current circumstances as mentioned above, **we would ask all subscribers to hold their payments until the end of SEPTEMBER** when hopefully the current social-contact restrictions have been eased.

Many thanks for continuing to read **Box Hill News**. We rely on your support to keep the magazine going – it's now in its 35th year!!

Keep Safe and Stay Well.



## Spring Newsletter Updated: 23 May 2020

Taking account of the Government guidelines on Covid-19, the situation on Box Hill and Headley Heath is regularly reviewed by National Trust (NT). NT provides general briefings for staff on a daily basis with important update briefings on Tuesdays and Thursday and then local staff consider how this should work in their own areas. All of this is, of course, carried out online. As you would expect with no visitor income and investments affected by the volatility of the stock market, NT are maintaining strong controls over all spending, and budgets are being reduced. This means that most projects have been stopped or deferred. NT has furloughed around 80% of their staff and all volunteer activity is on hold and none are working at present. Only those staff deemed to be essential remain, carrying out strictly essential tasks only drawn up by the NT Leadership team.

Andy Wright is the only Countryside Manager operating, and there are seven staff made up of Lead Rangers and Rangers covering all the Surrey Hills countryside. Federico Ghittoni (Fede) is working on Box Hill and Headley Heath and Mark Dawson is the Lead Ranger for Box Hill, Headley Heath and all the other East Surrey countryside properties. Francisco Martinez (Fran) has been furloughed. Fede is undertaking tree surveys and Mark and Fede have to carry out essential Compliance and safety checks, inspections and carry out work such as keeping footpaths clear and safe plus make regular tours of areas to look for potential problems and monitor visitors using the property and maintain a continuous liaison with local Police .

The whole issue of implementing social distancing has been problematic for the police on Box Hill and on weekends leading up to Easter there were significant numbers of people sunbathing on the Box Hill Viewpoint and Donkey Green and groups of cyclists and motorcyclists congregating there. This resulted in the decision by the NT in conjunction with Surrey County Council and the Police to close the NT Car Parks.



Continued >>

# Friends of Box Hill Spring Newsletter (Continuation)

When this didn't reduce the problem sufficiently, Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO)



*Easter Sunday at NT Visitor Centre*

were implemented on the public highways at the top and bottom of the Zig Zag Road, thereby closing the Zig Zag Road to all traffic. This was implemented over Easter together with frequent patrols by the police and penalty notices being applied by the police in some circumstances. This was effective and resulted in far fewer people visiting Box Hill and infringing social distancing requirements.

With the changed guidelines allowing people to travel to take exercise, many

more visitors were parking on the roads and verges so following consultation with SCC, local neighbourhood councils and the police, NT opened the Zig Zag Road and the NT Car Parks from the 15th May. This situation will continue to be reviewed and NT have contingency plans in place for closure or implementation of a one-way system as appropriate if needed. The normal charges for parking apply with emphasis on paying by Ringo to avoid contact with the machines. There is no catering and the toilets remain closed for safety reasons regarding social distancing implementation.

Andy and Mark have been working hard throughout this time to work out and implement the best approach to the various problems, to patrol the Hill thereby showing a presence and to contact the police when they see problems. They can only ever have one person in a vehicle, and they must endeavour to maintain social distancing at all times. This is proving difficult at times with people keen to talk or complain and coming far too close. Mark is keen to stress that if anyone sees someone causing a problem on any of the properties they should not approach or speak to them about it but contact police on 101 or report online with Surrey Police. Some people's fuses are short at the moment and a well-meaning member of the public has been attacked locally for calling someone on their behaviour.

With the reduction of NT budget, many of the projects that were planned for Box Hill within the Estate Management Plan will, at the very least, be deferred. Luckily, the fencing and hedging on Chapel Farm was put in place before the lockdown and Steve Conisbee has drilled one field with an herb rich mix that can be grazed rather than made into silage as before. This should result in richer wildlife, hopefully even this year. Planned work for Box Hill Farm has been deferred.

Lyn Richards (Chair, Friends of Box Hill)



# DOG GROOMING DAYS

Well what can I say. Who would have thought that a lockdown, with isolation and closed businesses, would have happened in this day and age?

The blame game has already started, but you know - who said what, who knew what, who did what, things should have happened quicker, we should have been better prepared, is not what it's about because it's happened! We cannot turn the clock back. What we can take from it is that many of us have learnt to work together and many have made sacrifices (so many with their lives). We have found that we can manage with what we have, we can share and help each other. Yes, it has brought out the best in many, but sadly the worst in others - with the stock piling and getting aggressive with shop workers, not staying in when advised to help the NHS. Sad that some people reduce themselves to that.

I know it has been difficult. I too have lost money, but more than that I have not been able to see my Mum who is in care with dementia and she is nearly 90 years old; what time is left for us to see each other gets shorter as each day goes by. But then I think of all the people who are in the same position as me and I know I am not alone. Then there are all those people who have lost loved ones and were not able to be with them at the end, and that is so heart breaking.

Let's hope we learn something from this and the NHS who we all knew needed more investment, equipment and decent salaries will get all the help they need, for they really are in the front line, dealing directly with the sick and dying, and at risk and expense of their own lives. I hope that finally they get the recognition they deserve and the equipment that they need.

Let us not forget the care workers. I know from my own Mother's care home what sacrifices the carers have made and it is all over the country. I am sure we join together in saluting all those in the frontline whatever profession they are in, and should it happen again (and it could) that, having experienced this once, we will be better prepared.

Now to the dog grooming. People come before animals, which is why many groomers closed. Besides, we were told to. I believe there were a small group that defied advice and remained open but that was risky. Many of us wanted to help stop the spread of the virus by not working. Now we have to heavily rely on pet owners grooming their own dogs. The pet owners who don't normally groom are unlikely to groom their dogs during this isolation, and that can cause their dog to suffer from matts pulling on the coat, gunky eyes and mucky bottoms. It also means by not regularly grooming, pet owners will not discover problems that could cost their dog its life.

Continued >>



# DOG GROOMING DAYS (Continuation)

As a dog groomer, we were put in a very difficult position, because of the Animal Welfare Act. We wanted to keep working for the sake of the pets and we felt bad that we did not; this wasn't helped by customers of other groomers having a right old go and even swearing at them.

Thankfully, all my customers have been understanding and I would like to thank them for their patience at this difficult time. I would also like to say that there will be a huge backlog of dogs needing to be groomed. I will be working longer hours and the odd Sunday. My assistant will not work extra hours or Sundays, so I can only accept dogs I can do on my own until she is allowed to come back to work. Please be patient with me. I will get to your dog eventually and I am well aware that they will be desperate to be groomed.

Thank you to Sue and Lynn and to my neighbours (you know who you are) who knowing that I do not drive and with no buses, kindly did shopping for me. It has been greatly appreciated.

UPDATE: We have now been told that dog groomers may open up to do dogs that would be at health risk if not dealt with, although this directive could change overnight. Let's hope that by the time of my next article, things have improved, and we can all get back to normality.

Until next time, **Maureen**

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## Advice on how to look after your pets during coronavirus

There is no evidence of dogs, cats or other pets in the UK catching coronavirus and there is nothing to suggest pets can pass the virus on to humans.

If you're a dog owner who has coronavirus symptoms, ask someone who doesn't live with you to walk your dog.

If you do not have symptoms of coronavirus and you're walking your or somebody else's dog:

- keep 2 metres away from other people and animals
- wash your hands before and after handling a dog
- pick up and drop off someone else's dog at their door

If you're a cat owner, you don't need to change anything about the way you look after your cat. Remember to wash your hands before and after touching cats or other pets.

Info: [www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-for-people-with-animals](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-for-people-with-animals)

# COVID-19 LOCKDOWN JOURNAL by Maureen Sears

It's hard to imagine that until February most of us only knew Corona as a drink, popular in the 60/70's. How that one word was to change the whole world.

When this nightmare is over and it becomes history, it will tell of the death toll of each country. This is a week by week account of a 71-year old in lockdown. I've tried to keep it light-hearted in places but believe me when I tell you that every morning when I wake up, I thank God that my family and I are OK so far.

## Week 1: 23 - 29 March 2020



All over 70-year olds have to go into self-isolation, we can only leave the house for shopping (if you have no one to do it for you) to collect medication and exercise. I'm lucky because I have my daughter and son quite close, so they will make sure I don't starve. We've just completed one week - OMG, is it only a week!! The days are so long, not helping that the clocks went

forward yesterday, so the evenings will be staying lighter. In the first week, I've done quite a bit of walking so lucky to live here. It is so quiet as most of the planes are not flying. When I was out walking today, I was lucky enough to see four baby deer on the path in front of me. Seems as if the wildlife has taken back the land. They can't make a worse job of it than we have, that's for sure.

My daughter brought me some shopping today, it was lovely to see her, even if it was only from a distant. I have four grandchildren and I miss them so much, but as long as they stay safe and healthy, that's OK. I pray every night that we will all survive this nightmare. My friends and I ring each other often, just to check none of us have popped their clogs in the night. All the schools in the UK closed down this week, all GCSE and A-Level exams have been cancelled. Boris Johnson announced today that there is now a national lockdown. People are to work from home if possible.

## Week 2: 30 March – 5 April 2020

It's Monday morning, the second week of isolation. I was due to get my hair cut on the very day that the lockdown came into force so couldn't go to the hairdressers and now my hair badly needs cutting. I have ordered some hairdressers scissors from eBay, but they haven't arrived yet. I managed to find a blunt pair at the back of the man drawer!! Doesn't look too bad! But over time, because I can only cut the front and sides, I will have a mullet - not a good look for someone aged 71!!

I've made lamb shank in a slow cooker for dinner; only problem is, it won't be ready for 8 hours!! I try to exercise most days, haven't got around to it yet today, but it's on my list. Yes, I have a list. It's not very exciting, it has things like " have a shower, get dressed, brush teeth" but it makes me feel better ticking them off, and who knows I might forget to shower if I didn't have my list.

Continued >>

# COVID-19 LOCKDOWN JOURNAL

## Week 2: 30 March – 5 April 2020 (Continuation)

I spoke to a friend of mine on the phone the other day, she said she dresses every day as if she's going out, and do you know what? It dawned on me that I'd worn the same top for four days!

It's Wednesday still week two. OMG, it can't only be Wednesday! The bulb has gone in my fire and I don't have a replacement, in normal times I would nip to Asda for a bulb. Tried ordering some from Amazon and I can expect delivery in 6 weeks! Luckily for me, my friend and neighbour had one which she kindly gave to me. Sounds stupid that this would be so important but at this time I need the comfort of red glow in my fire.



My sleeping habits seem to be changing, I got up at 2.45am this morning and made myself a cup of oxo! Weird!

Today I intend to go for a walk, I haven't been outside for the last couple of days as it's been so cold. Hopefully, it's changing; they are saying it could be 20 degrees at the weekend. I'll save my outdoor jobs until then. I need to cut the grass and clean

the car neither of which really need doing, but they're on my list.

I've tried to keep this Journal a bit light-hearted or I would fall apart. Sometimes I wake up in the morning and for just a few seconds I think I've just had a bad dream.

Every day we're given the death toll for that day.

It's Friday, hasn't felt as long this week. I've just been outside measuring the road; no, I haven't gone mad - I was measuring out 2 meters which is the social distance we should observe. My neighbour and I practice walking at this distance which is OK; you can still hear each other so we are off for a walk tomorrow, almost together!

We went for our walk today, got carried away and before we realised, we had been out for two hours. My daughter brought my shopping up today, it was so good to see her and my grandchildren. It was a lovely warm day, so we were able to sit outside (keeping 2 metres apart, of course) for a while. Think we were a bit over ambitious on our walk as we now both have backache.

## Week 3: 6 – 12 April 2020

It's Monday and the start of another week in lockdown. The death toll is going up daily, now over 5,000 people have died in hospital from COVID-19. Yes, it's changed its name, must be a good reason for this! As the weather is good, a lot of people are ignoring the lockdown. The police were called to a park in London where there were over 3000 people. It's now been closed. I feel blessed to live on Box Hill, but we've had our share of problems over this weekend with crowds of people coming to the Viewpoint. A police helicopter was called out to disperse the crowds.

Continued >>

# COVID-19 LOCKDOWN JOURNAL

## Week 3: 6 – 12 April 2020 (Continuation)

On a lighter note, this week I plan to cut the grass and clean the car! These things have been on my list for some time now, so might not get done again this week, but who knows! I have started exercising in earnest now, every morning I do my Tai Chi and some hula hooping. I'm trying to walk for an hour most days, but this doesn't always happen, in fact it only happens rarely.



The Queen spoke to the Nation on Sunday, only the fifth time in her reign that she's done this (apart from Christmas of course). It was very uplifting, but I have to say, just a little smile at the end would have been nice Liz.

Boris Johnson is in hospital with the virus. He is very poorly, and everyone is praying he pulls through. The death toll has now risen to 7,000. China seems to have got through the worst of it and people are coming out of lockdown; let's hope they haven't relaxed too soon.

I had some great news today. In the normal world, I volunteer as a Reiki therapist for the Macmillan centre at East Surrey Hospital. One of my patients who has been battling cancer for over four years now, contracted COVID-19 and was very poorly. He refused to go to hospital, but two and a half weeks later he has turned a corner and thankfully is on the mend. It's so good to hear of people beating this rather than how many have died. More good news the scissors have arrived. Yippee!

Boris is still in hospital; this is the sixth day. Every Thursday at 8pm we stand outside our homes and clap as a thank you to the NHS; it can be really moving. We have been told that the lockdown is going to be extended, but we don't know yet by how long.

This weekend is Easter, the police are out stopping people from going away for the long weekend under current lockdown rules. I know I'm one of the worst for complaining about people not staying at home, but can you imagine being stuck in one of these high-rise blocks with maybe two or three small children! You can understand how, when the sun is shining, they escape to a park for an hour or two. I think the police will have a hard job this Easter weekend keeping the parks and beauty spots clear of people. My daughter has been invited on Facebook to a music festival on Good Friday! Not sure how it's going to work, but it's all done online! My son, daughter-in-law and granddaughters visited today bringing shopping and chocolate; so lovely to see them. We were able to sit outside for a while as it was a lovely day.

Good news: Boris has left hospital.

Continued >>

# COVID-19 LOCKDOWN JOURNAL (Continuation)

## Week 4: 13 - 19 April 2020

It's Monday and the start of another week in lockdown. Unfortunately, the temperature has dropped by 14 degrees since yesterday! Typical Bank holiday Monday. The death toll has now reached 11,500. These are people who have died in hospital and it doesn't include people who have died at home or in care homes, so the true figure is much higher. The NHS are doing an amazing job, but there is a shortage of personal protection equipment, known as PPE. Without PPE, doctors and nurses are having to treat patients with little or no protection.

In the USA they have dug a mass grave outside of New York; it has 700 coffins in it so far. This can't be happening! When I saw it on television, for a minute I thought I was watching some sort of disaster movie.

Last week, because the weather was so good, it was easy to pretend everything was normal; we all sat outside and caught the sun, but the temperature has dropped again so now we're all back indoors with the heating on. Everywhere is so quiet! No people or cars or planes. The only good thing to come out of this is the ozone layer is apparently repairing itself; also, crime is down and so are petrol prices (£1.05 per litre and falling).

It's now Wednesday (I think). Thankfully, it's getting warmer. (I'm beginning to sound like a weatherman or rather woman) so at least we can sit outside and get some fresh air. I've run out of things to do. I've cleaned every inch of my house, every cupboard including the man drawer, all the paintwork inside the house and also outside, I bet you can see my house from space, it's gleaming so bright.



A 99-year old war veteran called Captain Tom Moore wanted to raise £1000 for NHS by walking 100 laps of his garden before he reached his 100th birthday. He completed it today and has raised over 22 million pounds! What an achievement. People are calling for him to get a knighthood and rightly so.

The lockdown has been extended by at least another three weeks - that's fine by me. There's talk that they might open up the parks again, this could be because the mental health and domestic abuse is now at an all-time high. Just realised, I've stopped making my list! Don't know when that happened, but it proves I don't need it as I've remembered to shower and brush my teeth every day!

Continued >>



# COVID-19 LOCKDOWN JOURNAL

## **Week 4: 13 - 19 April 2020** (Continuation)

I pass the time baking (when I'm not polishing). I'm now beginning to run out of flour etc. I try to only ask my family to get essentials for me, so don't want to ask them to get caster sugar, sultanas, walnuts ... the list goes on. I may have to do a sneaky trip to Asda soon. I find this really scary as I haven't left the house, apart from my walks, in five or six weeks - or is that months! There's talk that, when we eventually come out of lockdown, we may have to wear face masks until they find a vaccine. But who knows, there are so many stories going around, if you listen to all of them you would go crazy.

On my walk in the woods today I was so happy to see the bluebells coming out.

## **Week 5: 20 - 26 April 2020**

It's Monday again. Here's your weather bulletin- lovely and sunny, but not very warm and also very windy. The death toll is now 16,500 and still not reached its peak. Some good news though, the amount of people contracting COVID-19 is going down. Proves that the lockdown is working. It's being said that the reason we have this PPE problem amongst other things is that the government were too slow to react in the beginning. Poor Boris, he thought his biggest headache was Brexit! Maybe this explains why we are now up there with the highest deaths in the world!

It is the Anniversary of my late husband's passing on St Georges day. He died of cancer aged 42 in 1989. This will be the first time in 31 years that I'll miss visiting the cemetery as its closed.

I ordered my face masks from Amazon yesterday, just in case there's a shortage when we come out of lockdown. I'm sure they won't arrive when they say (nothing else has). Speaking of shortages, everyone must be baking! No flour, caster sugar or baked beans to be found. I need these things (can do without the beans). My daughter and daughter-in-law are going to try the local shops, sometimes better than the supermarkets.

I'm running out of things to clean, not warm enough to sit outside. So yesterday I decided to clean the oven. OMG what an awful job! Now I remember why I get an oven cleaning company in. It doesn't even look that good!

Just heard on the News that they are starting human vaccine trials tomorrow. I hope and pray that it works as it's the only way to rid the world of this terrible virus, but it's going to take time.

US President Donald Trump came out with a classic; he suggested we might try injecting COVID-19 patients with disinfectant! When there was a complete outcry, he said he wasn't serious and was just "floating it out there", whatever that means. I think you've finally lost it Trump (very dangerous man).

**Continued on page 36 >>**

# 2020 Prudential RideLondon festival of cycling is cancelled

This decision was taken by the London authorities, after engagement with their partners involved in the planning of the event, as the priority at the present time is the health and safety of residents and an event of this size, with the number of participants, spectators and key workers on the ground managing logistics, cannot be made safe.

The RideLondon is still scheduled to take place in 2021 but, at present, it has no headline sponsor – 2020 was the last year the Prudential was to be associated with the event. No 2021 date has yet been announced as the Organisers need to review, operationally, how the impact of Coronavirus will affect the mechanics of hosting a mass participation event on this scale. These implications will only become evident when we begin to understand the legacy of Coronavirus and its impact on society.

Surrey County Council has previously approved the event for 2021 and earlier this year consulted residents on its future for 2022 and beyond. I would, once again, like to thank all residents who responded to the consultation. The County Council's Cabinet was due to review the results of the consultation in April but, due to the Coronavirus crisis, this was postponed as other more immediate decisions needed to be actioned. The results of the consultation will now be considered at a July County Council Cabinet meeting.

Alongside the County Council considering the future of the event, the RideLondon Organisers, with the current unknowns about the short-term future for mass participation events, are also taking the opportunity to fully review the format and timing of the event.

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## DID YOU KNOW

If you catch up with a cyclist when there is a solid white line on your side of the road, you must not overtake if the cyclist is moving at more than 10mph. Be patient and wait for broken line, then leave plenty of space when you do pass. Passing too close is also an offence.

Roads Policing Unit (RPU) - Surrey Police

Source: Mole Valley Beat Bulletin Thursday 7th May 2020

# One Year Later (April 2019 – 2020) by Gill Hoddinott

A year ago, I said goodbye to Box Hill - my home and many friends - to move to a tiny cottage and garden in the Cotswolds. Though I have never looked back, I have not forgotten you all and those twenty good years on the Hill.

I have settled very happily here amongst such a friendly community and I am also fortunate to have lovely neighbours. Having my daughter Nicky and the girls only three minutes down the lane is of course the cherry on the top, and even under these strange circumstances, they pop round for a chat and a laugh with me over a cuppa on the lawn. Once we are back to normal, and if you are in the area, remember there will always be a welcome.

During this time of self-isolation, I keep myself busy with sometimes not enough hours in the day! Last September, we put up the super nesting box Anya made me. I warned her there was little hope of a nest this spring but yes, the dearest pair of blue tits have now finished building and she is laying! The box is on a solid wooden fence under honeysuckle at the top of the garden – perfect for me to observe the goings on from my breakfast nook whilst not disturbing them.



A flock of forty ewes with huge tummies graze in the valley below which makes for a lovely little walk with hardly a soul around. Each day, I inspected 'my' flock because any minute they had to pop. Joy oh joy! yesterday, when I spotted the first two pairs of twins and a set of triplets! For them life goes on, blissfully unaware of our human predicament at present. I bet all creatures, the environment, and David Attenborough must be clapping their hands for the unaccustomed peace and quiet.

Continued >>

# One Year Later (continuation)

In addition to all this activity, I am sorting out my parents' old black and white photos going back to 1914 – a fascinating pictorial history of their lives, and a very absorbing occupation.

As I write to you on this hot sunny day, spring bulbs nod at me in a gentle breeze. Beside me, a mass of mauve and pink aubrietia cascades down the old stone wall and beyond is a gorgeous view over horse fields with the River Severn in the distance.

All this so beautiful and such a comfort during this wretched and worrying time, so remain patient and follow the advice given us, for it will pass. Stay safe, keep well, and take care. Love Gill

---

## Isolation

Surrey - 8th March 2020 (No. 318)

A frosted morning, burned gold by the morning sun  
For us, another day in isolation has begun.  
Yet violets are generously scattered down the bank  
And as glorious gorse begins to flower - still my heart gives thanks.

A pheasant on his morning round proudly struts ahead.  
I'm grateful to relish these sights, as spring gently lifts her head.  
As daffodils nod encouragement, my heart fills again with love.  
Small birds flit, calling out to all, and a Buzzard soars above.

Be thankful in these fearful times that nature keeps on giving,  
Though no aircraft fly; and few cars journey, I am simply content - to be living.  
The rugby field is desolate, no cries of laughter from boys,  
No riotous noise or whistle blowing, no shouts of parental joy.

It's time to wake to nature's call and begin to acknowledge her needs.  
How selfish we humans have become, festering in our greed.  
Mother Nature knows our dilemma but at present she cares not.  
Earth is taking a well-earned rest, whether we like it  
...or not.

Patricia Irvine

Author of: *In Light and In Shade*

[www.patriciairvine.co.uk](http://www.patriciairvine.co.uk)



## Daily Static Cycle Marathon during COVID-19 lockdown for NHS Charities Together

Box Hill resident Sean Feeney (75) is undertaking a massive challenge to raise money for the NHS because he “wants to make a difference”.

Each morning since 21st April, the bike shop on Box Hill has set up a static bike so that Sean can fulfil his pledge to cycle a marathon 26 miles every day until the lockdown ends to raise as much money as possible for our wonderful NHS.

Many Box Hill residents have already made generous donations, either in person when Sean is outside the Hilltop Stores, or via his JustGiving web page. Some people have contributed by undertaking their own fundraising, like Muriel Barnish who put sunflower plants outside her front gate and raised £30 from passers-by.

Sean has been tirelessly supported by his wife Sandra who has canvassed family and friends to publicise Sean’s fundraising efforts. Sandra herself has made two local radio appeals, and editorial pieces have appeared in the Sunday Mirror and the Dorking & Leatherhead Advertiser newspapers.



As at 24th May, the total raised according to Sean’s JustGiving page was a fabulous **£6,127** but we would like to help get this figure even higher. Pop along to the Hilltop Stores between 9am and midday any day very soon and give Sean some support; or if you have internet access, visit his JustGiving page.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/sean-feeney>

# NHS HEADLEY COURT (aka NHS Seacole Centre\*)



*Transformation Team at Headley Court*



*NHS & SCC Representatives in one of the Wards*

On Monday 4th May, Headley Court opened its doors to the first NHS patients under a plan to provide additional capacity to cope with increased demand for hospital facilities during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Renamed NHS Headley Court and operated by Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust, the transformation from a former military rehabilitation centre into a temporary NHS site took three weeks of intensive effort.

The site is currently owned by two funds managed by Fiera Real Estate, which bought the site in May 2019 when the Ministry of Defence completed its relocation to a new site in Loughborough. The owners have worked with the NHS and Surrey County Council (SCC) to make

the site available and undertake a process to get it ready as a temporary community hospital.

In a statement on 24th April, developers said that the area had been given to the NHS at no cost and on a rent-free basis for the next six months to help ease the pressure on local hospitals, the nearest of which is Epsom Hospital.

Former medical buildings have been turned into a fully equipped hospital site able to hold up to 300 beds, and there is also on-site staff accommodation

The facility is being used by patients who are recovering from coronavirus and are no longer needing care in an acute hospital, and those who have COVID-19 and can no longer cope with their symptoms at home. The day-to-day running of the site will be down to those in charge of the Epsom Hospital trust.

In the long term, developers are still looking to turn the site into a mixture of housing and care facilities, but the chief executive of Fiera Real Estate, Alex Price, said the company was "proud" to have handed it to the NHS temporarily. He said: "It's fitting that a facility that has helped those who serve our country can once again serve the country and the local community."

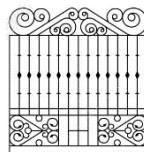
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\* Mary Seacole was a Jamaican born pioneering nurse who helped soldiers to recover from the Crimean War and inspired the name of the new facility at Headley Court.

# Down Under but not Out!

(written by a 75-year old in New Zealand during the lockdown)

I'm normally a social girl, I love to meet my mates  
But lately with the virus here we can't go out the gates.  
You see, we are the 'oldies' now, we need to stay inside  
If they haven't seen us for a while, they'll think we've upped and died.



They'll never know the things we did before we got this old  
There wasn't any Facebook so not everything was told.  
We may seem sweet old ladies who would never be uncouth  
But we grew up in the 60s - if you only knew the truth!

There was sex and drugs and rock 'n roll, the pill and miniskirts  
We smoked, we drank, we partied and were quite outrageous flirts.  
Then we settled down, got married and turned into someone's mum,  
Somebody's wife, then nana, who on earth did we become?



We didn't mind the change of pace because our lives were full  
But to bury us before we're dead is like a red rag to a bull!  
So here you find me stuck inside for four weeks, maybe more  
I finally found myself again, then I had to close the door!



It didn't really bother me, I'd while away the hour  
I'd bake for all the family, but I've got no bloody flour!  
Now Netflix is just wonderful, I like a gutsy thriller  
I'm swooning over Idris or some random sexy killer.



At least I've got a stash of booze for when I'm being idle  
There's wine and whisky, even gin if I'm feeling suicidal!  
So, let's all drink to lockdown to recovery and health  
And hope this bloody virus doesn't decimate our wealth.



We'll all get through the crisis and be back to join our mates  
Just hoping I'm not far too wide to fit through the flaming gates!

Submitted by Lucinda Lewis





# VE DAY FUNDRAISING for **SOLDIERS' CHARITY**



Despite the current situation, a lovely day was had by all on VE Day in Headley Heath Approach. A collection for the Army Benevolent Fund, also known as the Soldiers' Charity, raised £140.11. Thank you to all who donated.

Paula & Nick Davies



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# Birth of the Garden Cities by Maureen Le Brocq

Letchworth, the World's first Garden City, is where my family lived for over 45 years; my grandparents and great-grandmother far longer than that. I was raised there, schooled there, had my first job there. I cannot claim to be born there however, but only because Letchworth did not have a maternity hospital, so I was born in Hitchin instead, but was only there a week before arriving in Letchworth at the family home and will always consider myself a Letchworth gal.

Before Letchworth came into being, it was one of the ancient parishes of Hertfordshire. The parish church of St Mary the Virgin being built in the 12th or 13th century. The village then, was located along what is now called Letchworth Lane.

Letchworth Garden City came into being, because one man had a dream. He dreamt of creating a healthy way of living, by creating a town combined with the country. That man was Ebenezer Howard (below).



Ebenezer was born 29th January 1850 in Fore Street, City of London. He was the son of a Baker and he attended private boarding schools in Suffolk and Hertfordshire. He left school at the age of 15 and up to the age of 21 he had several clerical jobs, then emigrated to America. Influenced by a farming uncle he began work as a farmer, but his efforts failed. From Nebraska, he moved on to Chicago and worked as a reporter for the courts and the newspapers. It was during this period he began to ponder on improving the quality of life.

In 1876 Ebenezer returned to England, where he spent the rest of his working life working for the Hansard Company. Hansard being the traditional name of the hand scripts of Parliamentary Debates in Britain and the Commonwealth companies. Ebenezer's time in parliament opened him up to ideas about social reform and this helped him with his ideas for a Garden City.

In 1879 Ebenezer married and started a family. In his spare time, he created outlines of garden cities considering social problems of the time and to find alternatives. He mingled with free thinkers, anarchists, and socialists whose ideas greatly influenced him. Ebenezer disliked the way modern cities were being developed, he felt people should live in places that combined both town and countryside. He only had one publication "Tomorrow: A Peaceful Path to Real Reform". This was later revised in 1902 to "Garden Cities of Tomorrow". His book offered a vision of towns free of slums but instead to offer opportunity, amusement and good wages and the country of fresh air, beauty, and low rents. In 1899, Ebenezer founded the Garden City Association.

Continued >>

## Birth of the Garden Cities (Continuation)

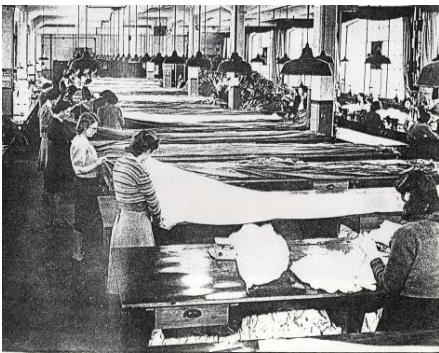
Ebenezer's ideas, in association with Henry Harvey and the co-partnership Housing Movement, attracted enough attention and funding to begin Letchworth Garden City. A suburban garden city 37 miles from North London, Letchworth was officially born in October 1903.



The shops, at the centre of Letchworth, surrounded by cottages and some larger houses. There was a small area at the bottom of the town eventually, that contained a largish paddling pool. Still there today. In later years, once a year there would be a fete. The railway station was at the top of the town. Away from the town, yet within walking distance was the industrial area. Trees, shrubs, hedges and plenty of flowers were all around.



In 1912, the Spirella Company, manufacturers of corsets, began building its factory which was finished in 1920. As it was at the top of the town, it was disguised as a large country house, complete with towers and a ballroom. During the second world war, the factory produced parachutes. With corsets going out of fashion, the factory eventually closed its doors in the 1980s. However, this impressive building was converted into offices.



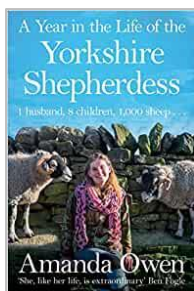
Other businesses arrived. In 1922 Shelvoke and Drewry came, manufacturing dustcarts

and fire engines, Irvins Air chutes Parachutes and a steel foundry that was often the target of German bombers during WW2.

The UK's first roundabout was built in Letchworth in 1909 and is still there today. Several housing estates have now been built and it is still being developed. Some would say it has spoilt the idea of Ebenezer Howard, whereas others would say its progress.

Ebenezer created Welwyn Garden City in 1920 and died in May 1928 aged 78.

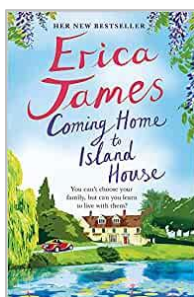
# BOOKWORM compiled by Ann Marshall



## **A Year in the Life of the Yorkshire Shepherdess**

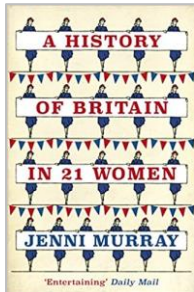
by **Amanda Owen**

If you have seen the television programmes and read her first book, then you will really love this one. Amanda takes us through the year month by month. Through the tribulations and triumphs of farming and family life with now 9 children (only 8 in this book). The book is both sad and hilarious and is a wonderful tale of life in the Yorkshire Dales.



## **Coming Home to Island House** by **Erica James**

Summer 1939. After touring Europe, Romily Temple returns to Suffolk and her new husband the charismatic Jack Dervereux. But when Jack falls ill, his estranged children are called back and given seven days to bury their resentments and accept their new stepmother. This is an excellent author and I hope she writes a sequel to this book.

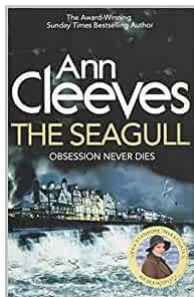


## **A History of Britain in 21 Women** by **Jenni Murray**

This is not a dry history book, but a most readable account of women, from Boadicea to Nicola Sturgeon. As for the rest of them you will have to read the book - particularly if you are a woman.

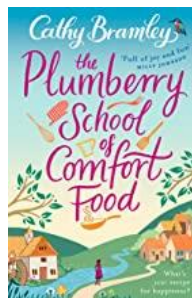
## **The Seagull** by **Ann Cleeves**

As ever this author is excellent. The detective you will know if you have watched Vera on TV. Set in the North East there is plenty of atmosphere and a very intriguing story line that will really keep you guessing right until the end. This is one detective story not to be missed.



## **The Plumberry School of Comfort Food** by **Cathy Bramley**

Verity Bloom has lost interest in cooking since she lost her best friend and baking companion two years ago. But an opportunity to help a friend lands her back in the heart of the kitchen. When tragedy strikes at the start of the cookery school. Can Verity find the magic ingredient for Plumberry while writing her own recipe for happiness? A lovely story, complete with delicious recipes.



# DORKING MUSEUM – What's On

The Old Foundry, 62 West Street, Dorking RH4 1BS  
Email: [admin@dorkingmuseum.org.uk](mailto:admin@dorkingmuseum.org.uk)

[www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk](http://www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk) Tel: 01306 876591  
Open: Thursday, Friday & Saturday, 10am to 4pm

With the summer solstice on June 21st, it seems strange to be welcoming in the season without the usual array of activities. At the time of writing, the Museum remains closed, our planned summer E. M. Forster exhibition has been deferred until next year and our external activities remain on hold until current restrictions have been relaxed, so please check our website for updates.

Even though the doors are closed, activity is still going on within the limitations imposed by the coronavirus shutdown. Just as at home, it has provided a good opportunity for our volunteers to take on new projects, find new ways of doing things and get down to those jobs that may have been put on one side while the Museum was open. Maintenance work is being carried out, collections catalogued, and archives digitised – and in various gardens you may see children's dressing up costumes from WW2 or the Mayflower hanging on the washing line after repair and cleaning.



In preparation for the Museum's autumn exhibition, '**Mayflower 400**', commemorating the 400th anniversary of the sailing of The Mayflower, some Museum volunteers are in the process of creating replica seventeenth century costumes – dressing up clothes for children and adult garments for display, whilst the team from the Dorking Men's Shed are working with the team to make a cross section model of the Mayflower and its contents.

Volunteer Peter Brown, who is working on a new Dorking themed children's action book, received a heart-warming email from a mother whose son, Charlie (left), is fascinated by fossils and had

been taking part in a group videocall with his friends discussing his astounding collection. Charlie was not going to let a global pandemic, or his confinement get in the way of his hobbies. For the children's book, it would be particularly interesting to follow these events through young eyes. Photos of activities or children's diaries and artworks can be used for future projects and kept safe for future historians.

Continued >>

# DORKING MUSEUM – What's On (Continuation)



*Boy with pump at Chalk Pit Cottages  
(demolished in 1960s)*

The Museum Archives team is looking to establish an “In the Time of the Coronavirus” collection to provide a record of these unusual times and is asking people to save any relevant ephemera. Maybe photos of empty shelves, queues or empty streets or a diary of the times in digital or hardcopy. The team would love to collect these after it is all over.

Volunteer Peter Sturge and Sally Hulbert are researching the story of Dorking’s chalk-pits, focusing on the lime works, the people who worked there and the houses on the ridge. If you have information or photographs that might assist this project, they would be delighted to hear from you.

June 1st to 7th is officially designated **Volunteers’ Week**, which celebrates the work of volunteers and raises awareness about the

benefits of becoming a volunteer and the diverse volunteering roles available. The Museum offers a variety of opportunities, but here are two recent appeals:

**Facilities Working Party:** We are looking to put together a team of volunteers with DIY or professional skills who would be willing to join a friendly team of like-minded volunteers to oversee maintenance, decoration and improvement of the interior and exterior of the Museum building. We are looking for expressions of interest from those able to offer a few hours from time to time and skilled in painting, plumbing, cleaning, and other minor maintenance work.

**Costumes and artefacts:** We are seeking an individual who would enjoy coming into the Museum on a regular basis to both check and maintain our hands-on costumes and artefacts. Included would be looking after the real and replica dressing up clothing in the World War Two area; the Evacuee Suitcase; replica 1620s dressing up clothing in the William Mullins area; and the ever-popular hats from a range of eras. Possible repairs and occasional cleaning are also a part of this role.

If you can contribute to any of the collections of material or are interested in a volunteer position, please e-mail [admin@dorkingmuseum.org.uk](mailto:admin@dorkingmuseum.org.uk) or write to the Museum at 62 West Street, Dorking RH4 1BS. For an update on resumption of activities, to read our regularly updated blog, to join or to donate, visit the website [www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk](http://www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk).

# COVID-19 LOCKDOWN JOURNAL by Maureen Sears

## Week 5: 20 - 26 April 2020 (Continuation from page 23)

As it's got warmer, we are all sitting outside again. It's so nice to sit in the sunshine and have a chat with people passing by, it really does make you feel better. Now I've done most of my jobs, I'm beginning to find the lockdown hard going, but the good news is both my daughter and daughter-in-law between them have got most things I need for my baking, but still a shortage of caster sugar. I've got some, but I'm rationing it. Surprise, surprise, my face masks have arrived, well done Amazon! They actually came before the date they gave me. The masks are black, and I look a bit like Dick Turpin, but if they help who cares!

The clapping on Thursday at 8pm is gathering momentum. This week after the clapping some of us attempted to sing "we'll meet again"; pretty feeble if I'm perfectly honest! Next week, I'm thinking of putting Alexa on the doorstep to see if Vera Lyn can help us out. Sorry to keep harping on about caster sugar (I think I'm becoming obsessed) but out of desperation I've ordered some online. The only one I could get comes in a 5kg bag! I should have enough to supply the whole of Box Hill. But usual story, won't be here for two or three weeks!

I'm ending this week's Journal on a very sombre and scary note: Death toll in UK hospitals 20,780; Death toll worldwide 206,542; People worldwide who have or had COVID-19, almost 3 million. Keep safe everyone.

## Week 6: 27 April – 3 May 2020

Here we go again, another week under our belts - who knows how many more! There is talk of opening some businesses soon because the economy is in dire straits and businesses are going under daily. Strangely they are opening DIY shops, and some garden centres. I might clean my car today – yes, I know, I've said this every week, but still haven't done it, but just might today!

When I went for walk in the woods yesterday, there were bluebells everywhere, looks so beautiful. Has anyone else noticed how blue the sky is? This is due to very



little pollution and other rubbish we hit the atmosphere with. Apparently, our sky is as blue as a Tropical Islands! Boris is back at work today; it's been four weeks since he contracted COVID-19. It has just come to light how close to death he was for three days. An announcement of his death was ready to be broadcast. He spent two weeks convalescing at Chequers. Let's hope he's ready for the onslaught. Just heard on the News he has become a father to a baby boy, Well done Boris! Could have been a very different story.

Continued >>



# COVID-19 LOCKDOWN JOURNAL

**Week 6: 27 April – 3 May 2020** (Continuation)

The government have decided to include the deaths in care homes when they announce death tolls. This is going to start tomorrow, bet that will be a shock.

A lot of people are feeling down at the moment. I think it's because we've all had to stay inside as its been raining on and off for most of the week. I haven't felt too good this week, I don't think it's the virus, but I'm paranoid (as are most of us) at the moment; strangely it comes and goes. Yesterday was 1st May, I felt much better and so went for a walk in the woods, I did Tai Chi amongst the bluebells (how hippy!). Today the sun is shining, looks like it's going to be a nice day.

I was right about the death toll! It now stands at 26,500. The government announced that they would hit 100,000 tests by end of April. Suddenly yesterday, the figures jumped up from 80,000 to 122,347. Some people are questioning this! Maybe the



figures were tampered with? Just saying...

Not much has been said about PPE this week, so I would assume they've sorted it out at last. We are to be told next week if we are to stay in lockdown for another three weeks. Personally, I don't think I would feel happy going out into the world yet, I think we need to get the figures for people contracting COVID-19 down. It seems we might have to wear masks when we do come out.

My daughter came today with my shopping, she also brought me flowers and chocolates as a treat, bless her. I'm waiting for the sun to come out so I can go for my walk. As lovely as it is here, I would dearly love to sit on a beach and watch the sea for a while, but I know that won't be happening anytime soon.

Today I am really struggling! I'm usually a "cup half full" type of person, but I've woken up this morning and for no reason at all I can't stop crying! I just need to get out, not just for a walk, but OUT. Against my better judgement, I drove to Asda, I just had to get in the car and drive somewhere. I didn't go into the supermarket, just got some petrol. I wore gloves and a mask and wiped everything I touched with antibacterial wipes, I didn't go near anyone, so I think I'm OK. It felt good to feel normal for 20mins. Don't know what the family will say, maybe I'll keep quiet about it. The novelty of lockdown has now worn off. People are not ringing each other so often, everyone has had enough of cleaning and it's too cold to sit outside, no wonder we're going a bit "stir crazy" or is it just me?

For a change I thought I'd walk up Boxhill Road. They have barricaded the road from Upper Farm onwards, and it looks like a war zone. Nothing's getting through there, that's for sure.

Continued >>

# COVID-19 LOCKDOWN JOURNAL (Continuation)

## Week 7: 4 – 10 May 2020

Today should have been the Mayday bank holiday but it was changed to Friday 8th May which is VE Day. The powers that be didn't want to give us two Bank holidays in one week, so they moved Bank holiday Monday to Friday (are you with me so far?). Little did they know when they decided this that every day would be like a Bank holiday for most of us. As all the calendars were printed before this decision it has caused no end of confusion!

The death toll is now at 28,500 but the daily deaths appear to be slowing down at last. Boris is to make an announcement later this week about the next step in lockdown, or so it's rumoured. There is so much speculation at the moment.

Unfortunately, we now have the highest death toll in Europe - 31,500 which is second only to USA in the world. I'm told that if you go into London, you wouldn't know there's a lockdown in place, with heavy traffic and lots of people. No wonder we are getting an average of 4,000 people a day contracting the virus. How can Boris ease



the lockdown with figures like these? Tomorrow is VE Day, not the celebrations that were planned for 75th Anniversary, but people are doing their best. The Queen is going to make a speech - she's been busy so far this year!

It's Saturday today, beautiful sunny day, going for a walk later, making the most of the good weather as apparently, it's all going to change tomorrow -

seems to be a pattern forming here! Sunday cold then warming up through the week. Maybe it happens every May, but we don't notice as we go about our busy lives.

A couple of weeks ago, I might have mentioned that we were awaiting a shipment of PPE from Turkey, after much delay and then having to go and pick it up ourselves it finally arrived, it's now transpired that it's failed to meet safety standards and so is completely useless!

I did a terrible thing yesterday; I drove to Dorking and went shopping. Yes, I know, as I'm 71-years old I broke the rules (I think) but just had to get myself a few treats. My family are great and bring me shopping every week. But I only ever ask for essentials. "I just needed to treat myself your Honour "!

Continued >>



# COVID-19 LOCKDOWN JOURNAL

## Week 7: 4 – 10 May 2020 (Continuation)

I went to Marks, and I have to say I was very impressed as it was all laid out for social distancing, with a one-out one-in policy. I bought smoked salmon, strawberries and cream, and the list goes on. I haven't told the family yet; might leave it and let them read it here! The rules are a bit confusing; Rule 5: over-70's not allowed out unless for shopping, medication or exercise. I did some shopping, bought Paracetamol (that covered medication) and walked from and to the car park, so actually, I don't think I broke any rules (who knows).

Well, Boris addressed the nation today, and I have to say most of the nation are a bit confused! We have been told, we are still in lockdown, but can go out for as long as we like to exercise; we can even drive to parks and beaches to exercise from Wednesday! People are now encouraged to return to work, but only if you can drive there and try not to use public transport. There was no mention of the over-70s so assume this applies to us too, in which case I'm off to Brighton on Wednesday morning (only kidding). I think I'll just carry on as I have for the last seven weeks, with maybe the odd sneaky trip to Marks.

Until the next issue, stay safe everyone. Maureen Sears

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## Lock Down Thoughts in May 2020 by Uta Nash

It's nice up here on Boxhill Road  
but often residents were quite annoyed  
by thousands of cyclists from near and abroad  
the peace of our lives had been destroyed.  
Racing along, come rain, come shine,  
Day after day, time after time.

That's obviously changed now, much to the good,  
and all is quiet and calm,  
thanks to Corona, it acted like balm.  
But why am I in such a sad mood?

We do live in loneliness and also in fear -  
So, this is my wish now in 2020  
that the Virus nightmare will soon disappear  
and the cyclists can come back in plenty!

Then never again shall I mumble and grumble,  
No, I shall cheer them from here to Westhumble!

# Cricket in Headley

“Surrey contains a number of lovely village grounds, but perhaps one of the best and most popular with spectators, is Headley”



*Headley Cricket Club: Sunday 2nd September 2018 T20 Old Freeman's vs Headley Sunday X1*

No, not the words of a biased club member, but the opening sentence of an article written in 1986 by an independent journalist in ‘The Club Cricketer’. Such sentiments had been expressed more than fifty years earlier in 1931 by the famous A R Gilligan, then Special Cricket Writer (note not ‘correspondent’) for ‘The News Chronicle’:

“When I was asked by the editor to embark upon a tour of the English counties to watch village cricket, I was delighted, for here surely is the backbone of the game.

“I made a heartening beginning to this new experience on Saturday and went to see Headley play North Holmwood and found myself in one of the beauty spots of the Surrey Downland. The Headley ground is marvellously situated on the top of a hill 670ft above sea level with glorious views over the adjoining commons – a favourite spot for motoring picnics. There were as many as thirty-five cars ranged along one side of the ground”.

The history of cricket in Headley is not fully documented but it is clear that a club had been founded in 1871. By 1893, however, it was noted in the Parish records that the club “had fallen into decay by the removal of members from the neighbourhood and apathy of the remaining ones...”

Continued >>

# Cricket in Headley (Continuation)

Then on April 10th, 1893 “a largely attended meeting of the parishioners was held in the schoolroom for the purpose of starting a cricket club.” Rules were agreed and the proposals accepted. And so, the Headley Cricket Club as we know it was established using the present ground. The area in question had previously been a public recreation ground given to the parish in 1862 by the Hon Mrs Howard. Parish records at the time show considerable controversy over whether the Club should pay the Lord of The Manor 6p a year as rent for the ground!

By 1897 cricket was a regular feature at Headley and some twelve matches were played that season. A Mr A Johns received a special mention for his remarkable bowling analysis that year – 14 overs, 7 maidens, 12 runs, 12 wickets – average 1! Presumably the pitch was somewhat sporting, not having fully recovered from its previous use over many years. Other leading lights at that time were Messrs F and W. Stovell who, in 1896, had arranged a two-innings match between the Gentlemen of Headley and the Ladies. The Ladies won by 27 runs but, to be fair, it should be added that the Gentlemen had been required to play left-handed and bat with sticks! Even so the result must have been a blow to male pride for there is no record of such a match ever being played again.

At this time mention is made of the Cricket Club’s long association with ‘The Cock Inn’. After the concluding match of the 1897 season when the married men played the bachelors (match drawn) there was an “excellent repast at the Cock Inn...after the cloth was removed the remainder of the evening was devoted to merriment”.



By 1912 the Club could boast its own pavilion when the Countess of Harrowby opened the new structure erected in commemoration of the Coronation (left).

All cricket clubs faced problems during the two world wars and Headley suffered a particularly serious blow in the early forties when the area was used for the stationing of thousands of Canadian troops

who, whilst generally remembered fondly, accidentally burned down the pavilion. Seven years later the present pavilion was built using funds provided by Mrs D.Willis, together with generous contributions from the Lord of the Manor, Mr H.M.Crookenden and the Gaekwar of Baroda of Headley Grove.

Continued >>

# Cricket in Headley (Continuation)

If the keenness and enthusiasm of Headley cricketers should ever be in question, doubters should be reminded that a past Vicar, the Rev Vernon, a great sportsman, once forgot all about a wedding one Saturday afternoon and the game was interrupted when the irate groom arrived on the pitch and hauled him back to the Church.

Arguably, the most important figure in the Club's history was the late Colonel S.L.Bibby, CBE, who was Club President from 1922 to 1971 (fifty years) and whose memorial service was held at Headley in June 1985. Sir Michael Pickard, the current

President, has a hard task to match that record but is still going strong after thirty-six years.



The Team of 1955: Eric Breaks, Roy Cooper, Jo Macnamara, Peter Pryke, Peter Nunn, Alan Farmer, Bentley Farmer, Austin Farmer, Bill Stovell, Bill Churchill & Roger Farmer

Whole families have had a long and happy association with the Club. The Stovells, involved since 1896 when WE.Stovell was Hon Gen Secretary, together with the Farmer family could at one time have raised a highly competent team between them. Both families are still keen supporters. The Wates once had four family

members playing together regularly with Sir Ronald Wates being elected President during the '80s.

During the fifties and sixties, the attractive setting of the ground attracted a number of notable players. In 1960, Tony Lock, the Surrey beneficiary that year, brought a County Eleven to play at Headley. Past England Captains Ted Dexter and Peter May both appeared in celebrity games and for three years running film star Terry Thomas organised showbiz elevens to visit the Club.

Headley's happy association with the Cock was somewhat curtailed in 1977 when the Committee decided "after considerable discussion" to experiment with a temporary bar in the Pavilion to see whether it met with a favourable response from the players and supporters. A license was obtained, and the hand-pumped ale became the envy of visiting teams providing an inducement on hot summer evenings for an early finish to the cricket!

Continued >>

# Cricket in Headley (Continuation)

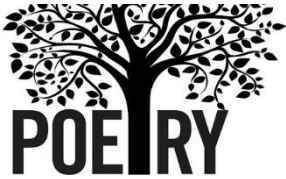
So, what of the future? Less cricket being played in schools creates a real problem faced by most clubs as it hinders the supply of new players necessary to maintain the right balance of youth and experience, energy and guile.

Still, Headley-style cricket appears to fill a gap in the market by offering a haven for players who value the traditional elements of the game and the spirit in which village cricket has always been played for centuries.

Happily, the number of cars lined up on a Sunday afternoon (all Sunday matches are played at home) vastly exceeds the thirty-five or so referred to by A.E.R.Gilligan in 1931!

Source: Based on an article written by Peter Dorey to celebrate Headley Cricket Club's Centenary in 1993.





## Reading poetry

Reading poetry aloud, sharing a discussion about the meaning and the form, sometimes familiar poems by familiar poets, sometime poems by unfamiliar poets,

- that's what **Headley Poetry Group** does. We are not a writing group although we welcome original work. Our main purpose is to share our love of poetry.

Each month there is an agreed subject. Recently one of the subjects was 'Love, Lust, and Longing'. Plenty of poems and poets to choose from that month, as you may imagine!

We also focus on the work of one poet. Here's a little quiz. Who is this poet? They lived in the late 19th and early 20th century, they were described by Thomas Hardy as '*Far and away the best living poet*', and by Siegfried Sassoon as '*The only poet who could give me a lump in my throat*', and by Virginia Woolf as '*The greatest living poetess*'?

Yes, this is Charlotte Mew and she was the most popular choice of the group when we decided our programme for the year last January. You may already know her most famous poem, '***The Farmers Bride***'. From her biography and the poems that we have recently read, we got a more rounded view of her work. A commentator wrote recently "Charlotte Mew broke the mould of contemporary styles in the early 20th century and created a unique poetic voice." Here is one of her poems:

### From a Window

Up here, with June, the sycamore throws  
    Across the window a whispering screen;  
I shall miss the sycamore more, I suppose,  
Than anything else on this earth that is out in green.  
    But I mean to go through the door without fear,  
    Not caring much what happens here  
        When I'm away:—  
How green the screen is across the panes  
    Or who goes laughing along the lanes  
With my old lover all summer day.

If you love reading poetry, I invite you join one of the monthly meetings of the Headley Poetry Group. (On-line meetings actually during social distancing.) From June onwards we will be choosing, reading and sharing on subjects such as Poems on Art/Paintings, Philip Larkin, Poets Laureate and Poets born after 1975.

For more information or to join the mailing list contact [charlesholme@aol.com](mailto:charlesholme@aol.com)



# Letter from the Rector

*[In the absence of a direct communication from Harry, this text was taken from the June-July issue of the Parish Magazine for Headley with Box Hill]*

We are living in extraordinary times (I find 'unprecedented' is a word that is being over-used) and we are all needing to adapt in all kinds of ways.

It is sad that The Tree and the Cock Inn are shut, but great that Hilltop Stores and Headley Village Stores have risen to the challenge – well done Hiren and Nemesia, and Julie and Glen.

Services are not allowed to be held in St Andrew's or St Mary's so our services are now online. You can find my mini-service broadcasts on YouTube via the Church website [www.headleyboxhillchurches.org.uk](http://www.headleyboxhillchurches.org.uk) and you can join Christopher's live-stream services on Facebook or Zoom.

In common with many charities, the Church is under considerable financial pressure. So, a very big thank you to all those who have switched their method of giving from weekly envelopes to Standing Order or who have sent a one-off donation. If you have been thinking of how to do this, but have not yet done so, it would be greatly appreciated. One-off donations can be made through the PayPal link on our website or by contacting our treasurer Roger Kitley. There is also a Standing Order form on the website.

Alternatively, we are now part of the Parish Giving scheme, a national scheme for regular giving to churches by direct debit. If this is of interest to you, Roger has all the details of how to go about setting this up and he can be contacted at [rogerkitley@gmail.com](mailto:rogerkitley@gmail.com) on 01372 277491 or 07785 990229.

Very best wishes and do let us know your prayer requests.

**Revd Harry Latham**

The Rectory, Breech Lane, Walton-on-the-Hill, Tadworth, KT20 7SD  
The United Benefice of Headley & Box Hill with Walton-on-the-Hill  
Landline: 01737 812105 Mobile: 07947 650127



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All enquiries to **Barrie Fox**

**barrie.fox@talk21.com**

**01737 844941 or 07747 814062**



# PRIZE WORD GAME – 2 x £10 Prizes to be won!!

Thanks to all those who submitted answers for Word Game 90. There were **29** entries of which just **THREE** had all correct answers. A VERY TOUGH GAME. One clue line was most problematic, with many entrants giving “Comic” instead of “Movie”. With only three correct answers, we’ve decided to award all three entrants a £10 Prize.

**Game 89 answers:** ALPINE (**PLANT**) POTS, BANANA (**BOAT**) TRIP, CARTOON (**MOVIE**) CHARACTERS, FALSE (**TOOTH**) DECAY, GATLING (**GUN**) CLUB, GOURMET (**DINING**) ROOM, PICKET (**FENCE**) TREATMENT, RED (**CHILLI**) PEPPER, RED (**ONION**) BAHJI, SKI (**HOLIDAY**) HOME

**£10 Voucher winners:** ANGELA CAIRNS  
ALISON MAWDSLEY  
EILEEN MCANDREW

*Your vouchers will be delivered to you shortly.*

**NO OTHER CORRECT ANSWERS WERE RECEIVED.** A tricky game during tough times, but please keep trying – you have to be **In-it-to-win-it!**

## Word Game No. 91 – Good Luck Everyone!

The **TWO** winning entries will be awarded a £10 voucher each, to be redeemed at either the **Hilltop Stores** or the **Headley Village Stores**

BEAUTY	(7)	WINNER	Name:
EUROVISION	(4)	CONTEST	Address:
HARRIS	(5)	JACKET	
INCOME	(3)	RETURN	
INDIAN	(6)	BOWLS	Tel:
GLASS	(3)	MONICAL	<b>ENTRY CLOSING DATE IS MIDNIGHT ON 18<sup>th</sup> July 2020</b>
PILOT	(5)	DESK	
REMOTE	(7)	CAPITAL	
ROYAL	(4)	ORDER	
SURGICAL	(6)	LEVEL	<i>Compiled by QuizKid (91)</i>

**IMPORTANT:** Please enter full contact details and submit your entries to the Editor at the address shown on page 2. Thank you.

**HOW IT WORKS:** For those who haven’t had a go before, it’s quite simple; all you have to do is find the word in the middle column that links the word in the left column with the one in the right column. So, if the left column has BRAMLEY and the right column has PIE, the answer I’m looking for is APPLE i.e. Bramley Apple, Apple Pie. We even give you a little clue by telling you the number of letters in the missing word – so (5) for APPLE. All correct entries are folded and put into a “hat”. After a good shake to make sure there’s no chance of knowing who the entries are from, the winning entry is drawn. The Editor’s decision is final.

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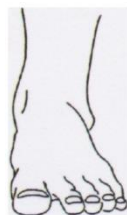
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# BOX HILL LOCAL CONTACTS

<b>BOX HILL SOCIAL CLUB</b>	Village Hall, Tuesdays 2pm-4pm	
Secretary:	Brian Hobbs	01737 844647
<b>CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP</b>	Tuesdays 10.30am	01737 844747
Contact:	Fred & Glenys Williams	
<b>CRAFT CLUB</b>	Village Hall, 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday monthly 2.00-4.30pm	
Contact:	June Parrett	01737 842455
<b>GOOD NEIGHBOURS</b>	Glenys Williams	01737 844747
	St Andrew's Church, Tea Party 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday monthly 2pm-4pm	
Transport Requests:	Calls MONDAY to FRIDAY, 9am to 5pm ONLY	07557 325 885
<b>SCRABBLE GROUP</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday monthly 2.00 – 5.00pm	
Contact:	Uta Nash	01737 841606
<b>VILLAGE HALL</b> Chairman:	Anthony Deavin	01737 842749
Lettings:	Karen Nearn      lettings@boxhillvh.com	01737 844284
Website:	www.hallshire.com/halls/view/1312/box-hill-village-hall	
<b>VILLAGERS</b>	Village Hall, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday monthly 2.30pm	
Chairman/Secretary:	Valerie Cross	01737 843165
<b>DOCTORS' SURGERY</b>	Hillside, Boxhill Road	01737 843525
	Urgent problems outside surgery hours	01306 881313
<b>MOLE VALLEY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR</b>	David Preedy	T: 01372 361151
12 Hurst Close, Headley, KT18 6DZ	cllr.preedy@talktalk.net	M: 07904 127 091
<b>SURREY COUNTY COUNCILLOR</b>	Hazel Watson	01306 880120
	h.watson@surreycc.gov.uk	
<b>MP FOR MOLE VALLEY</b>	Sir Paul Beresford MP	01306 883312
212, Barnett Wood Lane, Ashted, Surrey, KT21 2DB	mvca@btconnect.com	
<b>BOX HILL NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCIL</b>	www.boxhillcommunity.com	
	Jenny Martinez (Ladell)	01737 843644
	jenladell@hotmail.com	
<b>PARISH OF HEADLEY WITH BOX HILL</b>	Revd Harry Latham	01737 812105
	isaiah61@uwclub.net	
Editor, Parish Magazine:	Pip Burley	01372 363689
	pip@philipburleyltd.demon.co.uk	
<b>SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM</b>	PC Dave Sadler	Dial 101
	molevalley@surrey.pnn.police.uk	
<b>ACTION FOR CARERS Surrey</b> (supporting unpaid Carers across Surrey)		0303 040 1234
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