



## Singing Workshop

Pupils at St Paul's School, Chipperfield were treated to two days of singing workshops on 26th and 27th January, arranged by FOSP (the parent teacher association called Friends of St Paul's) and generously funded by Chipperfield Choral Society's Hammond Award.

Workshops were led by three professional singers and a pianist. The children enjoyed fruit-related vocal warm-ups using their bodies as instruments to create different rhythms and were then taught a specific piece to perform at a showcase on the final day.

Performances included 'Do-re-mi' from the Sound of Music, 'Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious' from Mary Poppins and 'Here come our new soldier boys' from Bizet's Carmen.

The whole school also learned a lullaby from South Africa called 'Thula Mama' combining different parts and harmonies. The final performance was very impressive, leaving many a wet eye in the audience. It was wonderful to see the children so engaged and enjoying the singing, as well as being able to perform together as a school.

Thank you, again, to Chipperfield Choral Society.



*Chipperfield Choral Society with singers Rosie Clifford and Dingle Yandall; pianist Petra Hajduchova; Headteacher Miss Moore; member of FOSP Elfrieda Power; Head of School Governors Stephen Morrill and some pupils from St Paul's School.*

## CHIPPERFIELD VILLAGE HALL



**Saturday 25th March**  
**7:30pm**

**Tickets £8 per person**

**Bring your own Supper**  
**Pay bar (card payments preferred)**  
**Maximum 8 people per team**

Tickets available from James Bush - 07983 106669  
or please contact anyone within the Village Hall committee  
**All welcome**

All proceeds go to Chipperfield Village Hall for ongoing maintenance. Charity number 250164.



## SAVE THE DATE

### Coronation Celebrations

Following on from the hugely successful village Jubilee celebrations last year, we intend to have a variation on that theme for the King's coronation. Taking our cue from King Charles III who has asked for the celebrations to be pared down from last year, we are following his suggested outline, see draft programme below.

**Friday 5 May:** Comedy Night in the Village Hall featuring A-list comedians. **Saturday 6:** Murder Mystery in the Village Hall, run by CTG. **Sunday activities 7 May:** Thanksgiving Service in St Paul's Church. Bring your own picnic to the common, plus we plan to have food vendors. **Sunday evening:** Musical event in St Paul's church - details to follow. **Monday 8:** The King has asked that the country hold a Volunteering Day and therefore we are planning to get many of you involved in a 'Smarten Up Your Village Project' - helping neighbours to tidy gardens, clearing litter and generally sprucing up our beautiful village.

Other things may be added but this is the basic plan so far.

**We need helpers to do all this**, so please contact me if you can help in any way at all. It would be good to match the fantastic turn out of volunteers that we had in 2022.

**Phil Waine and Luke Hinton, Chipperfield Events CIC: 07771 712636**

## Ukraine Ride

**Sunday 8th January New Year Ride for Ukraine**

CVBA has been organising the New Year Ride for around twenty years and this year we decided to do something slightly different and raise money for the World Horse Welfare Ukraine Appeal.

With the forecast due to be truly awful, the Ride was nearly cancelled the day before but we dug in our heels and, wow, we are so pleased we did.

We turned up not knowing how many people would show but we had nothing to worry about. Amazingly, around 25 horses and their riders turned up, despite the clouds getting darker before our very eyes.

**Julia** from *The Plough* in Belsize laid on hot sausage rolls, mulled wine, hot chocolate and lots of other goodies for the riders and those who came to support on foot. It was quite a sight seeing so many supporters for such a deserving cause. We had timed 'ride off' to perfection (she says, sarcastically). Just as we headed off the wind and rain started but that wasn't about to ruin our fun. We had 20 for the 'Fast' ride led by **Nicola Park** and five chose the calmer option for a ride around Chipperfield woods. We had no takers this time for the 'Medium' ride, unfortunately due to a lack of horses (very unreliable beasts)

The weather was not kind for the duration, but this didn't dampen spirits or the enthusiasm. In fact, we think it made it more fun. Horses and riders had the best time riding out together as a group and new friendships were formed. There are now very few riding schools that serve the area, so it was a good opportunity to meet new people and those who, maybe, don't get a chance to ride out in company.

Special thanks go to **Julia** for hosting us, **Sandie Payne** who helped to collect the donations, and to **Angela Kemp** (ex CVBA Chairman) who started the collection with a generous donation, even without a horse!

With everyone's generosity we managed to raise **£200** for the Ukraine Appeal and a cheque is on its way to the charity.

**CVBA was formed in 1973 to make local roads safer for both horse and rider.**

Membership starts from as little as £2 per month to support safe off-road riding in the area. We are looking for Committee Members to ensure the legacy of our unique Bridleways Association in the area with its licensed and permissive tracks. For more information on the CVBA, please visit our website [www.CVBA.org.uk](http://www.CVBA.org.uk) We are also on Facebook and Instagram if you would like to keep up to speed with our next event.

*Nicola Park and Saira Bunnage, CVBA Committee Members*



## Friends of St Paul's School

Friends of St Paul's School would like to say a huge thank you to Chipperfield Theatre Group for allowing us to help with their fantastic **Snow White** production last year. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves as, I'm sure, those who managed to watch, did too! Thanks to you we also made a lovely start to the year raising funds for the school. We are currently looking at events that can include the local community and raise as much money as possible. Thank you to those who attended the **wine tasting evening** and we hope to see some of you at our **Summer Fair** which will be held on the **17 June**.

*Robyn Craddock, Friends of St Paul's Chairperson*



**CHIPPERFIELD CARE** is a group of volunteers who have got together to help those who are unable to find their own transport to essential appointments such as hospitals, doctors, dentists, medical clinics, fortnightly Sainsbury's shop etc.

If you are having problems getting to these, and are unable to use public transport or ask family for help, please call our **Help Line** on **01923 264700 - 9.30am - 12.30pm** on weekdays, and we will do our very best to help.

Our help line is run by our volunteer Duty Officers at the above times. They will then find a volunteer Driver to arrange the safe transport of our clients to and from their requested destination.

To ensure we can always meet people's requests for much needed transport, we do need more drivers. Could you volunteer as a driver (or duty Officer) for just a few hours a month?

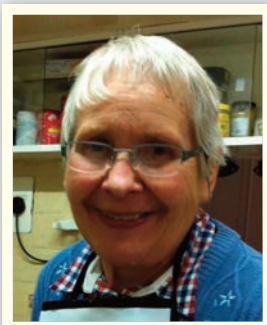
If so, please call Patricia Harrison (Organiser) on 01923 261595 or Mark Jarrad (Chairman) on 01923 268910



**THURSDAYS at BLACKWELL'S**

Eyes down at **8.30pm**. Have a chat, a drink and something to eat with friends





## Bridget Margaret Brook

29 January 1935 - 4 December 2022

Bridget was born in Canterbury to Harold and Ruth Gurgeon and grew up in Kent with her sister, Jenny. She met her husband, Richard, whilst on a holiday in the Alps. After they married they lived in Woking where Lynda was born and then moved to Chipperfield where David was born.

Bridget adored children and qualified as a nursery nurse and child carer. She worked in a Barnado's home before marriage and after her children were born she worked in the nursery school in Kings Langley. She also helped out when the Mount Prison ran a creche for the children of visiting mothers.

Bridget and Richard loved walking and knew every footpath in the area. They enjoyed watching the wildlife. Holidays were very important to them and one of their favourite places was the Scilly Isles.

Bridget loved her home and garden. Cooking produce from her well stocked garden was important. Bunches of daffodils were often picked to decorate the church on Mothering Sunday. As outings got less easy for her she was happiest when she was at home surrounded by her many treasures and she could enjoy looking through her holiday photos and records of events in her life. She had a very strong faith and church was always a vital part of her life. Latterly, even though it was a struggle, she was determined to make it and when she couldn't and the service was live streamed, one of her carers kindly downloaded it for her. She had regularly attended a church home group. She lived out her faith and supported and visited many people when she was well enough. She visited Olive Taylor and Daphne Pritchard on a weekly basis and hated it when she could no longer visit. She was very community minded; she delivered Chipperfield News and was a Poppy Collector for many years. She was an active member of the WI and served on the committee and often won competition prizes. She was also a member of the Mothers' Union and with them served afternoon teas at the Abbey.

Bridget could only remain at home with the faithful support of her carers/helpers and neighbours. Cheryl and Denise were long time loyal and committed home helps but they became her dedicated carers. The love and support they gave her beyond normal activities was wonderful. Extra help from Social Services enabled her to continue living in her much loved home.

Family were so important to Bridget and, as David lived in America and Lynda in Liverpool, it was all the more special when they and their families could visit.

Bridget was a special person and she will be missed not only by her family but by all her friends as well.



## CHIPPERFIELD CARE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 7 March at 1.30pm

In the Parish Room  
of St Paul's Church

You might have heard of Chipperfield Care or, indeed, seen our new banner at the Football Ground, but are still not quite sure about what we do in the village. We would therefore like to invite anyone who is interested in the work of Chipperfield Care to join our volunteers at our AGM. At this meeting we hear from our Organiser, **Patricia Harrison**, about the work that the organisation has carried out over the past year and we also adopt the charity's accounts for the year 2022 which are explained by our Treasurer, **Juliane Coupland**. We do, of course, welcome any questions.

We are delighted to invite everyone to stay on for refreshments after the formal meeting with an opportunity to meet up with old and new friends.

If you are not currently a volunteer but might be able to spare two or three hours a month and are considering joining Chipperfield Care, either as a Driver or a Duty Officer (or both), you would be particularly welcome to stay on after the AGM to chat with other volunteers about what we do and how we do it.

**If you would like any further information, please contact either:**

**Mark Jarrad 01923 268910 (Chairman) or Patricia Harrison 01923 261595 (Organiser)**



## Chipperfield Choral Society celebrates Delia Meehan's 32 years of musical leadership with Handel's Messiah on 1 April, 7pm at

**Barbirolli Hall, St Clement Dane's School**

**Delia Meehan** joined Chipperfield Choral Society as Musical Director in 1991, although her association with the Society actually dates back to 1971 when she played oboe in the orchestra that accompanied the concerts.

Delia's inspirational musical leadership of the Chipperfield Choral Society over the last 32 years has enabled the choir to grow from a

small village choral society to a major and highly respected musical force in South West Hertfordshire. The secret of this has been her unique style of musical leadership which encourages and motivates the choir to achieve a level of choral music-making of a very high standard.

Delia is retiring in April as Musical Director. As a celebration and thanks for her many years of unstinting service to the choir, we will be performing **Handel's Messiah** under Delia's leadership with full orchestra. This will be a very special occasion with many former choir members invited back to sing and a wonderful quartet of soloists comprising **Emma Bell** (*soprano*) our patron, **Rosie Clifford** (*mezzo*) who started her singing career with the choir, **Tom Robson** (*tenor*) and **Alex Ashworth** (*bass*).

Tickets are available now from choir members and the box office on **01923 400520**. Please order your tickets in good time as this is sure to be a sold-out concert and one of the highlights of the local choral music calendar.

For further information: [www.chipperfieldchoral.co.uk](http://www.chipperfieldchoral.co.uk)

John Morrish

## Doris Yates

Doris was delighted to join in a church lunch in the Parish Room on what happened to be her 96th birthday. The delicious lunch was prepared and cooked by Pat Smith and her team and rounded off with a splendid birthday cake.

For many years in the late 1960s Doris and her husband Bill owned and ran the newsagents in Chapel Croft (in the days when most houses in Chipperfield took a daily newspaper!). Until last year Doris delivered Chipperfield News along Chapel Croft. For 30 years Doris has been a poppy collector and is looking forward to being out there again this year.



## Chipperfield News invites new members to its team

**When I was asked many years ago if I would like to be a joint editor, I was thrilled. A chance to be part of the community and to know what is going on (book my seat in good time for the panto); to get to know lots of people so that walking around the village is never just a five-minute exercise.**

There are lots of ways in which you can be involved - chasing stories, editing and proof reading, assisting

with or managing the financial side; or working with our advertisers, arranging printing and distributing to the deliverers.

We are looking for more people to join our team and help with all the above roles. Time commitment varies depending on what you do but, other than print deadlines, it is flexible and always fun and interesting.

If you would like to know more or are interested in joining, please feel free to get in touch with one of our team. Their names are on the back page and they would be delighted to explain more about what we do and how rewarding working for Chipperfield News can be.

*Sue Walker, Editor*



## Parish Council Update February 2023

**On behalf of the village and Parish Council, we would like to thank a donor for their kind and generous gift towards the replacement of the blighted box hedge around the War Memorial.**

Herts CC and two utility companies are planning significant road and utility works in and around Chipperfield which will affect traffic and pedestrians. Apart from usual maintenance repairs, there are two major utility projects running concurrently in and around Chipperfield which will cause intermittent full or partial road closures. These will be over an extended period. Herts CC have issued blanket approval for sections of highway for a period of 18 months to avoid having to issue individual notices for each section of works, but this does not mean that roads will be closed for that amount of time. The approval requires pre-warning signs to be displayed in advance of each section of work where traffic control or complete closure is necessary, with the sign specifying the dates. The works include the replacement of old iron gas piping with modern yellow plastic gas piping (Cadent) and installation of fibre telecom cables (Openreach).

I am sorry to say that due to rising costs associated with looking after the village and running the Parish Council, we are proposing a modest rise in the precept raised from each household alongside the council tax bill. The rise in percentage terms appears large but in real terms it amounts to approximately 16p per week based on a Band D property. We hope this rise will not cause too much hardship to householders.

The continuing SANG (Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace) discussions have led us to form a working party of villagers and councillors to develop strategies with Dacorum (DBC) to ameliorate the impact of the SANG proposal on our village. As we still have the option to influence how it will affect our Common, we would like to reiterate our invitation to all parishioners to join the working party.

If you would like to help, actively contribute or raise questions with our joint villager/CPC working group, please let the Parish Clerk know.

Until we can motivate DBC to attend to the ponds, can we please ask the public, and especially dog owners, to stop adding sticks and wood debris to the ponds.

We are still open to receive nominations for our Chipperfield Outstanding Service Award scheme to celebrate an individual's outstanding contribution to the village or village life. We will announce the award at the Annual Parish Meeting in May. Please report all potholes directly to Herts Highways as the more reports they receive, the more likely it is they will be dealt with.

Parking issues remain in the village with roads, access and footpaths being blocked. Please be mindful of others and park safely and responsibly.

### Planning Applications

The local planning authority for Chipperfield is Dacorum Borough Council (DBC). Your Parish Council is a statutory consultee and has a planning committee that meets every three weeks. The committee seeks to reflect the views of the community in its response and comments to DBC. Any resident of Chipperfield may comment about planning applications affecting the village using DBC's online planning portal as well as informing the Parish Council of her/his opinions.

### Applications

- 23/00195 **Russett View, Dunny Lane** - Garage conversion, extension and alterations
- 23/00205 **Rear of Osteria, The Street** - Construction of garage with flat above
- 23/00228 **'The Yard', Chapel Croft** - Use of yard for roofing business
- 22/03719 **129 Scatterdells Lane** - Removal of planning condition
- 22/03810 **16 Croft Cottages, Croft Lane** - single & 2 storey extensions
- 22/03746 **Saddlebow, The Common** - Demolition of cricket net, construction of greenhouse, internal alterations

### Decisions

- 22/03493 **Pilgrim Cottage, Megg Lane** - Demolition of existing cattery buildings and construction of new dwelling  
**Refused**
- 22/03709 **Keymers, Chapel Croft** - Construction of garden outbuilding (new application)  
**Granted**
- 22/03484 **42 Tower Hill** - Single storey side extension  
**Granted**
- 22/03470 **Coltsfoot, Stoney Lane** - Single storey rear and side extensions  
**Granted**
- 22/02752 **'The Yard', Chapel Croft** - Two dwellings  
**Refused**



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## The Churches in Chipperfield

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Father Richard Mway Zeng SDS

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### BAPTIST CHURCH

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### ST PAUL'S AND HOLY CROSS

The Bible contains a number of clear messages relating to the environment and how we should treat it. There is guidance to care for the natural world and to act responsibly with the resources that are entrusted to us.

One of the first messages given by God and which is one of the most well-known passages in the Bible regarding this topic, is in the book of Genesis where God asks Adam and Eve to tend to the Garden of Eden. (Genesis 2:15). This is easily understood as a message for us to care for the natural world and to use its resources wisely. It is also stated that God created the world and all that is in it, and that everything has a purpose and is valued in His sight. (Psalm 24:1). Therefore, everyone has the call to respect and protect the natural world and not allow it to be exploited or to be destroyed.

In the parable of the talents, Jesus teaches that we will be held accountable for how we use the resources of our world. (Matthew 25:14-30) Being good stewards of the planet means being aware of the impact of our actions on the environment and the future of our planet.

The signs that are appearing throughout the world of the impact of climate change show we are not heeding the advice in the Bible. We all need to play our part in ways to treat the world and the environment and not to ignore and deny what is happening around us. The pandemic prevented air travel and the planet was able to repair itself for a short while in such a way that raises hope for the future, if people allow. The soaring energy prices are making many people think about installing solar panels and air or ground source heat pumps that are environmentally friendly and do not rely on fossil fuels. The fuel crisis may help towards the challenges of climate change.

Whatever a person's faith, it is in everyone's interest to nurture the environment and nature around them for our generation, and for future generations. One of the best ways to combat stress is to reconnect with nature and get outside and away from our screens. As we head into Spring, maybe we should all try to be aware of the beauty around us and to think of ways we can protect it, both locally and on a greater scale.

*Alison Bush*

### OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE SAVIOUR RC CHURCH

Spring has arrived. Hurrah! Now we can move from dark days to lighter ones and cold days to warmer ones. I love Spring as the flowers bloom, the birds sing and trees and bushes start to bud. It's a good time to witness and be inspired by God's creation.

This year Lent began on 22 February. The fourth Sunday of Lent, 19 March, is known as 'Laetare Sunday'. Our priests only wear rose vestments twice during the liturgical year - on the third Sunday of Advent and the fourth Sunday of Lent. Rose is worn on these days to show joy and love as we await Christ's coming - both His birth and His Resurrection. Laetare (meaning rejoice) Sunday is the Church's way of giving us a boost as we approach the darkness and distress of Passiontide and Holy Week. It's an opportunity to appreciate what awaits us on Easter Sunday - the reality that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead and the joy his salvation has brought us.

The gospel for that Sunday tells of the encounter between Jesus and a blind beggar whose sight he restores. As the story develops, light dawns, and the beggar slowly becomes aware of just who gave him back his sight. In our own lives, we sometimes struggle through uncertainty and times of darkness. We can worry about money, relationships, health, work and even growing old. Coping with the death of a loved one is one of the hardest things most people go through. We wonder if we'll ever see the light at the end of the tunnel. We hope that Jesus will give us the grace to see more clearly and provide us with the light to guide us through the bad times.

On Laetare Sunday each year we also celebrate Mothering Sunday. Mothering Sunday originally was a feast of the Church, celebrating the 'Mother Church', drawing her children back to home and to attend the church in which they were baptised. It has now developed into the more commercial 'Mothers' Day'. A day when we show our appreciation with flowers, presents and cards. We remind ourselves of the unconditional love of mothers to their children and children's love for their mothers. This day is also for mothers who are no longer with us but whose memory we always cherish. We are also reminded

of our heavenly Mother, Mary, and the very special place she has as the mother of the Son of God. In fact, we wouldn't be observing Lent or the joy of the resurrection without the motherhood of Mary. Christ's birth and our salvation were only made possible by Mary's humble response to the words of the Angel Gabriel: "I am the Lord's servant; may it happen to me as you have said." (Luke 1:38).

We thank God for the gift of all mothers.

*Sue Croucher*



### Friday 3 March - World Day of Prayer

This year's annual World Day of Prayer service has been put together by the Christian women of Taiwan. It provides an opportunity to learn more about Taiwan and to be part of a huge wave of prayer circling the earth for at least 38 hours, beginning at dawn in Western Samoa and Tonga in the Pacific Ocean.

Locally, the service will take place at **10am at Our Lady Mother of the Saviour RC Church, Dunny Lane, Chipperfield** and is supported by people from all the churches in Sarratt, Chipperfield and Bovingdon. The service will be followed by refreshments. Everyone is very welcome to join us.

### ST PAUL'S PARISH CHURCH Church Wardens

Phil Waine: 07771 712636  
wainephilip50@gmail.com  
Ann Waine: 07557 303619  
ann.waine@gmail.com

### ST PAUL'S AND HOLY CROSS BENEFICE OFFICE HOURS

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Thursday: 9.15am - 2.45pm  
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Contact details: Sonya Tolmie  
holycrossstpauls@outlook.com  
01923 264377

### ST PAUL'S PARISH REGISTER

*We welcome into God's  
church*

Theo James Basford and  
Hunter Jack Basford  
22 January

*We commend to God's  
merciful keeping*

Interment of ashes  
Graham Leach - 20 January  
Colin Bignell - 28 January

### MEMORIAL SERVICE IN ST PAUL'S

Ann Christina Rees  
23 January

### CHIPPERFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Planning Committee  
Tuesday 14 March  
at 7.15pm

Meeting venue Blackwell's

Usha Kilich, Clerk to the council  
01923 263901  
parishclerk@chipperfield.org.uk  
www.chipperfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

Visitors now welcome in the CPC office  
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on Monday - Thursday 11am to 1pm,  
Friday with appointment only.

### DIARY OF SERVICES AT ST PAUL'S CHURCH, CHIPPERFIELD AND THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, SARRATT

The Church of England Benefice of Sarratt and Chipperfield

Please note service start times and venues. Everyone is welcome to attend any service in the Benefice. For the most up-to-date information, see our Benefice Weekly News Sheet on hcsp.net.

#### March 2023

|   |                                     |                      |
|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Sunday 5</b> ( <i>1st Sunday of month</i> )  | <b>2nd Sunday of Lent</b>           |                      |
| 9am   | Morning Service                     | Holy Cross           |
| 10.30am   | Benefice Holy Communion             | St Paul's            |
| <b>Sunday 12</b> ( <i>2nd Sunday of month</i> ) | <b>3rd Sunday of Lent</b>           |                      |
| 9am   | Morning Service                     | St Paul's            |
| 10.30am   | Benefice Holy Communion             | Holy Cross           |
| <b>Sunday 19</b> ( <i>3rd Sunday of month</i> ) | <b>MOTHERING SUNDAY</b>             |                      |
| 10.30am   | Family Service for Mothering Sunday | Holy Cross           |
| 10.30am   | Family Service for Mothering Sunday | St Paul's            |
| <b>Sunday 26</b> ( <i>4th Sunday of month</i> ) | <b>5th Sunday of Lent</b>           |                      |
| 9am   | Holy Communion followed by          | St Paul's            |
| 10am  | Chipperfield Annual Church Meetings | St Paul's            |
| 10am  | Morning Service followed by         | Holy Cross           |
| 11am  | Sarratt Annual Church Meetings      | Holy Cross           |
| 12 noon   | Messy Church                        | Sarratt Village Hall |

#### April (first part of month)

|  |                                     |            |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Sunday 2</b> ( <i>1st Sunday of month</i> ) | <b>PALM SUNDAY Holy Week begins</b> |            |
| 9am  | Morning Service                     | Holy Cross |
| 10.30am  | Benefice Holy Communion             | St Paul's  |

#### CHURCH OPENING TIMES

Holy Cross is open each day between 9am and 5pm.

St Paul's is open each day between 10am and 4pm.

*Please continue to pray for the health of our nation and each other*

#### BAPTIST CHURCH

There will be an article about the history of the church in the next edition of Chipperfield News. If you have memories of the church which you would like included, please let me know.

Jacky Murdock: 01923 265221

Email: [secretary@chipperfieldbaptistchurch.co.uk](mailto:secretary@chipperfieldbaptistchurch.co.uk)

#### DIARY OF SERVICES AT OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE SAVIOUR RC CHURCH

|          |        |            |   |
|----------|--------|------------|---|
| Sunday   | 10am   | Mass       | NB For further information regarding        |
| Saturday | 6.30pm | Vigil Mass | Weekday Masses, please check the newsletter |
| Friday   | 10am   | Mass       | available at Saturday Mass                  |

### PINTS OF VIEW: Monday 20 March, 8pm

Our March get-together will be on **Monday 20th March at the Plough, Belsize, starting at 8pm**. The topic will be *'The Vetting of Public Servants'*. How effective are procedures for vetting new recruits and existing employees in police forces, education and other areas of public service? How should they be improved? Our discussion will be led by Stephen Morrill. Pints of View is an informal gathering in which to explore topical matters, aspects of faith, moral issues and ethical dilemmas. Come and join us on the 20th March. You will be very welcome.

*John Guy and Alan Milsom*



## My Big Garden Bird Watch

The last weekend of January is always the time for the RSPB's Big Garden Bird Watch when everyone is asked to watch the birds in their garden for an hour and report the sightings back to the Society. I had missed doing it for a couple of years and thought it would be interesting to see what birds came to the new bird table. The view from my breakfast table takes in the feeders that my mum used to watch, the wildlife pond, as well as a bird's eye view of the new bird table. So, I set myself up with a pad and pen, binoculars, a pot of tea and lots of toast and marmalade. In case anything interesting happened at the pond, I put the telescope in the living room at the ready.

The new table was very well used. The most frequent visitors were Great tits; 4 individuals made a total of 35 visits. A pair of Nuthatches were constantly back and forth, then I realised there were 2 pairs who made 23 visits. Bluetits were plentiful as well as Coal tits, while a pair of Bullfinches stayed in the Prunus tree, eating the buds. A Great Spotted Woodpecker came to mum's feeder; it was always her favourite visitor. The grass in front of the wildlife pond was full of birds which turned out to be Redwings, 8 in total.

Towards the end of the hour things slowed a bit but it was then that the pond got busy with bathers. A couple of Fieldfares had a very splashy time followed by a steady stream of Blackbirds. They all like the same spot, right on the top waterfall where it's quite shallow. Apart from the Fieldfares, most birds bathed on their own, a queue forming in the dogwood bush to the side.

The time passed very quickly; 18 different species were spotted, not a bad total, but not Greenfinches or Siskins which were always on our list when our son was little. The only green birds were the Parakeets! The new bird table is a great success; its position just right for breakfast viewing and more uplifting than reading the paper!

Wendy Bathurst



## Friends of Chipperfield Common Thursday 16 March

What better time than the beginning of Spring to get out in the woods to do a satisfying couple of hours work with like-minded keen volunteers and, of course, professionals who will guide and help you out. There is plenty to be done, none too back breaking. A welcome break for tea/coffee/biscuits eases the strain.

Do wear suitable boots and gloves and bring along a waterproof, just in case. Tools will be provided but bring your own preferred secateurs, saws, etc. if you wish.

For more details, please contact the Trees and Woodlands Team, Dacorum Borough Council on 01442 228844.



## HEMEL HEMPSTEAD Local Group in Chipperfield

Our first few meetings at the Chipperfield Village Hall in December and January were very well attended and, gratifyingly, included many new attendees from both the Chipperfield, Bovington and Chorleywood communities.

Meetings are normally held on the **first Monday of each month** featuring a natural history talk and not, necessarily, just about birds.

Our next meeting is on **Monday 6 March** with a talk entitled 'Swifts'.

There will be refreshments and a raffle, and displays of members' photographs, local news, and other activities. We also arrange monthly car sharing outings, with coach trips to the more distant reserves.

**Doors open at 7.15pm for a 7.45pm start, finishing at 9.45pm.**

As before, everyone is welcome to attend, whether experienced or not, RSPB members or not. There is no annual membership fee but there is a small entry fee.

So, please come along and/or visit our website at

**[www.rspb.org.uk/groups/hemelhempestead](http://www.rspb.org.uk/groups/hemelhempestead)**

or contact Mary on **01442 264752**.

For outing details contact Axel on **01442 257856**.

We look forward to seeing you again at our monthly meetings.

## Chipperfield Horticultural Society

We look forward to welcoming everyone to our first show of the year; the **Spring Show** in the **Village Hall on Saturday 18 March**.

Classes in Flowers, Vegetables, Floral Art, Handicraft, Photography, Home Baking and the Junior Section allow lots of opportunities to show off your skills. So why not join us!

Photography categories are 'Garden Wildlife', 'After Dark', and 'Feeding Time'. Domestic classes include a marble cake, focaccia and quiche.

As always, delicious homemade cakes, tea and coffee are served and it's a great opportunity to catch up with old friends.

Our main speaker of the year is **Christine Walkden** on **Tuesday 4 April** talking to us about '**The Life and Times of a Gardener**'. She will be familiar to listeners to Gardeners' Question Time on BBC Radio 4. She has also featured in several television documentaries. Tickets are selling fast and can be purchased at the Show.

We are a supportive, friendly group and would welcome some new committee members to help run the Society.

Members should be receiving emails updating them of our plans. If not, then please contact us at

**[chipperfieldhortsoc@hotmail.com](mailto:chipperfieldhortsoc@hotmail.com)**.

Please also let us know if your contact details have changed.

Mo Barton

# CHIPPERFIELD CLUBS, CLASSES AND SOCIETIES

| EVENT  | DAY  | TIME                                      | LOCATION            |
|--|--|---|---------------------|
| Art Workshop   | Saturday monthly                                 | 9.30am                                    | Parish Room         |
| Ballet - adult   | Wednesday  | 10 - 11 / 11.30 - 12.30am                 | Blackwells          |
| Ballet - kids  | Monday   | 5 - 5.45 / 5.45 - 6.30 / 6.30 - 7.15pm    | Blackwells          |
| Ballet - kids  | Wednesday  | 4 - 4.30 / 4.30 - 5 / 5 - 6.15pm          | Blackwells          |
| Ballet - kids  | Thursday   | 4 - 5 / 5 - 6.15pm                        | Blackwells          |
| Ballet - kids  | Saturday   | 9.30 - 10.30 / 10.30 - 11.30am / 12 - 1pm | Blackwells          |
| Brownies   | Wednesday  | 6.30pm                                    | Parish Room         |
| Children's Dance   | Friday   | 10am and 12pm                             | Village Hall        |
| Chipperfield Choral Society  | Thursday   | 7.45 - 9.45pm                             | Village Hall        |
| Chipperfield pre-school and out of school care                         | Monday - Friday (Term time)                      | 7.30am - 6.15pm                           | Small Hall          |
| Church Choir   | Friday   | 7.30pm                                    | Parish Room         |
| Collective Performing Arts   | Monday   | 3.30 - 7.45pm                             | Blackwell's Studio  |
| Collective Performing Arts   | Wednesday  | 4.00 - 6.15pm                             | Blackwell's Studio  |
| Collective Performing Arts   | Thursday   | 5.00 - 6.15pm                             | Blackwell's Studio  |
| Collective Performing Arts   | Saturday   | 9.45am - 1.15pm                           | Blackwell's Studio  |
| Drumming   | Tuesday monthly                                  | 7.00pm                                    | Parish Room         |
| Eurythmy, followed by coffee   | Monday   | 9.45 - 11.45am                            | Parish Room         |
| Fitness  | Wednesday  | 7 - 8pm                                   | Village Hall        |
| Gentle Yoga  | Monday   | 1.30 - 3pm                                | Village Hall        |
| Indoor Bowls   | Friday   | 1.30 to 4pm                               | Village Hall        |
| Indoor Bowls   | Tuesday  | 7.00 to 9.30pm                            | Village Hall        |
| Invigorating Local Walks   | Tuesday and Thursday                             | 9.30am                                    | Blackwells car park |
| Keep Fit   | Tuesday  | 10.30am                                   | Parish Room         |
| Keep Fit - gentle!   | Thursday   | 9.30am                                    | Parish Room         |
| Keep Fit   | Thursday   | 10.30am                                   | Parish Room         |
| Pilates  | Tuesday  | 9.30am and 10.30am                        | Blackwells          |
| Pilates  | Wednesday  | 6.30 - 7.30 / 7.30 - 8.30pm               | Blackwells          |
| Pilates  | Wednesday  | 9.15am                                    | Village Hall        |
| Pilates - 9 classes per week   | Wednesday & Friday mornings, and Monday evenings |   | Parish Room         |
| RSPB natural history talk  | First Monday of the month                        | 7.15pm for 7.45pm                         | Village Hall        |
| T'ai Chi   | Friday   | 1.45pm                                    | Parish Room         |
| Yoga - all levels  | Thursday   | 10am                                      | Blackwells          |
| Yoga for men   | Tuesday  | 7pm                                       | Blackwells          |
| Yoga with Carolyn  | Thursday   | 7 - 8pm                                   | Blackwells          |
| Youth Group <a href="http://www.hcsp.net/youth">www.hcsp.net/youth</a> | Thursdays 2 Feb; 2, 16, 30 March                 | 6.30 - 8pm                                | Parish Room         |
| Zumba  | Thursday   | 10 - 11am                                 | Village Hall        |

For information about an event, club or class contact the appropriate hall booking agent listed on page 12 or visit the village website, [www.chipperfield.org.uk/organisations](http://www.chipperfield.org.uk/organisations).

## Chipperfield News Postal Address

The Editor, Chipperfield News, c/o The Post Office Stores, Chapel Croft, Chipperfield, Herts, WD4 9EG

The April 2023 issue is published on 30 March 2023, the last date for copy is 10 March 2023.

Articles or Advertisements are welcome if sent by e-mail or as an attached MS Word doc to:

[editors@chipperfield.org.uk](mailto:editors@chipperfield.org.uk) (editorial) - [tombryan20@aol.com](mailto:tombryan20@aol.com) (advertising).

Chipperfield News is printed by GPS Printworks.

Unit 7, Mowat Industrial Estate, Sandown Road, Watford  
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### HALL BOOKINGS

|                  |                  |              |
|------------------|------------------|--------------|
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| CRICKET PAVILION | Clare McFadyen   | 07787 726612 |
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| SMALL HALL       | Mark Morley      | 07711 187555 |
| VILLAGE HALL     | Richard Harrison | 01923 261595 |



### CHIPPERFIELD

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