Follow the STAR...
As the darkness falls, the light shines more brightly. Quietly, amidst the pressures of these special seasons of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, the light shines which is the light of all people, for all peoples. We look for, celebrate again and wonder at the gift of the Christ-child, not only, but especially through the Church of God. And we sing in a favourite carol, ‘In the bleak midwinter, ‘What can I give him?…Give my heart.’

As our parish church, St Peter’s has been blessed over eight centuries of witness and service in Limpsfield by the gifts of many people in many different ways, through many different moments in our history. Now, we give thanks for all that several people have given over many years, as they complete their service in various roles.

If you value the continuing presence of your parish church, we are at a moment when we need the time and talents of new people to help to sustain and develop our work. You do not necessarily need to be a regular churchgoer: simply to be supportive of the presence and work of our parish church is enough, and warmly welcomed.

Please see pages 8-10 for more details. The best news is that we have a good time in working together at St Peter’s, and find blessings through giving something of ourselves, and serving others.

If you would like to offer yourself and explore further, please do get in touch with me, Jane Tozer, Eleanor Stoneham, our churchwardens, or Caroline Campbell, our church coordinator. See contact details on page 2, or speak with any member of St Peter’s you know.

Thank you. May the wind and the breath of the Holy Spirit inspire you to offer your gift through St Peter’s in the coming year, and encourage others to do that too.

God bless us all this Christmas-time, and in 2020…

Credits:  Front cover artwork by Anya
Back cover artwork by Olivia
Team Rector of Limpsfield & Titsey:
The Rev James Percival  (day off: Monday)
E-mail: james.lttm@gmail.com

Clergy of the Limpsfield & Tatsfield Team Ministry
The Rev Wendy Harvey (Minister-in-Charge, St Andrew’s Limpsfield Chart)
The Rev Ruth Rainbird (St Andrew’s, Limpsfield Chart)
The Rev Vince Short (Team Vicar)  e-mail: vince@lttm.org.uk

St Peter’s Parish Office
Church Coordinator:  Caroline Campbell
       Email: stpeterschurch.lttm@gmail.com
Churchwarden:  Jane Tozer
       Email: janetozer55@hotmail.com
Churchwarden & Verger:  Eleanor Stoneham
       Email: eleanorstoneham@hotmail.com
Stepping Stones for little ones:  Sarah Ching
Xplore (for school age children):  Helen Kemp
Choir:  Ann Osborn

Junior Choir:  Geoff Martin
Church Flowers:  Elizabeth Stoughton-Harris
Road Stewards:  Jean Scott
Bell Ringing:
       Marianne Bell
       Email: marlizbell@btinternet.com
       Lynda Boast
       Email: lyndaboast@hotmail.com
St Peter’s Hall Bookings:
       Pat Davies
       Email: stphlimpsfield@gmail.com

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The Parish Office at the Rectory is open on Tuesday to Friday from 10:00am-1:00pm. The office can be reached on 01883 712512 or e-mail via: stpeterschurch.lttm@gmail.com 
Address: St Peter’s Church Parish Office, High Street, Limpsfield, RH8 0DG

Who’s Who
See the St Peter’s website:
www.stpeterslimpsfield.org

CHURCH INFORMATION

Children at Sunday morning services
Children are welcome every week. Our children’s groups meet during term-time only, except on the first Sunday of the month (our All Age Eucharist) and second Sunday of the month (when we have Messy Church in the afternoon). We all start in church together, and then the children go out to the Millennium Room (Xplore for school-age children, Stepping Stones, for little ones) for activities before returning for communion or blessings with their families. Young families are also welcome to use our children’s area for little ones in the Gresham Chapel.

All Age Eucharist
This simple Eucharist aims to be relaxed and reverential and to especially meet the needs of families with young children. All members of the church community, old and young alike celebrate together, accompanied by our very own all age choir and orchestra. Do come along at 9.15am if you would like to sing with the all-age choir (a relaxed and informal choir for all ages and abilities) – simply turn up and give it a go! All are welcome.

Messy Church
On the second Sunday of every month, from 3.30-5.30pm in the church and Millennium Room, Messy Church offers all ages an afternoon of crafts, activities, celebration and a meal. The Messy Church Sports Club also runs on selected dates (see back cover).

During the week...

Bell Ringing
(Lynda Boast 01883 715085)
Limpsfield Bell Ringers invite you to help us keep our church bells ringing well into the future. Contact Lynda Boast on 715085 to arrange a visit to the tower and find out more about how you can learn. This invitation is open to anybody aged 12 and over, not just church members. Practice night Tuesday.
### Weekday Services

#### MORNING PRAYER
Every Wednesday 10am in church.

#### COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING
10.45am first Wednesday of the month in the Millennium Room. (Please church notices and our website for details). All are welcome.

### Date Services Dec

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Services Dec</th>
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| Sun 1 Dec  | ADVENT SUNDAY  
8am Holy Communion  
10am ALL-AGE EUCHARIST with ALL-AGE CHOIR & ORCHESTRA with First Holy Communion and Christenings  
6:30pm ADVENT CAROL SERVICE followed by drinks and light refreshments |
| Sun 8 Dec  | THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
10am PARISH EUCHARIST  
3.30-5.30pm MESSY CHURCH in the Church / Millennium Room Theme: Christmas |
| Thu 12 Dec | 10.30am-12pm Musical Memories in the Millennium Room |
| Sun 15 Dec | THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
10am PARISH EUCHARIST with the St Peter's Singers (Xplore and Stepping Stones in Millennium Room) |
|           | 12pm Christening  
6:30pm Carol Service at St James’ Church, Titsey |
| Thu 19 Dec | 11am Limpshfield Grange School Carol Service |
| Fri 20 Dec | 10:45am Limpshfield Infant School Carol Service |
| Sun 22 Dec | THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
10am PARISH EUCHARIST (Stepping Stones in Millennium Room - No Xplore)  
6:30pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols by Candlelight in St Peter's followed by mulled wine and mince pies in St Peter's Hall |
| Tue 24 Dec | CHRISTMAS EVE  
3:30pm & 5pm CRIB (Nativity) SERVICES Please come dressed as a shepherd, angel, Mary or Joseph (or just yourself will be fine)  
11:15pm MIDNIGHT MASS (and First Communion of Christmas) |

### Date Services Dec-Jan

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Services Dec-Jan</th>
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| Wed 25 Dec | CHRISTMAS DAY  
8am Holy Communion  
10am FESTIVE FAMILY EUCHARIST (a Christmas celebration for all ages) |
| Sun 29 Dec | FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS  
10am PARISH EUCHARIST with CAROLS |
| Sun 5 Jan  | THE EPIPHANY  
10am ALL-AGE EUCHARIST with the St Peter's Singers & All-Age Orchestra |
| Thu 10 Jan | 10.30am-12pm Musical Memories in the Millennium Room |
| Sun 12 Jan | THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST  
10am PARISH EUCHARIST  
3.30-5.30pm MESSY CHURCH in the Church / Millennium Room Theme: Christingle (with special Christingle service) |
| Thu 13 Feb | 7.30-9.30pm Musical Memories in the Millennium Room |

### Date Services Jan-Feb

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Services Jan-Feb</th>
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| Sun 19 Jan | THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY  
10am PARISH EUCHARIST with the St Peter's Singers (Start of new term for children's groups: Xplore and Stepping Stones in Millennium Room) |
| Sun 26 Jan | THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY  
10am PARISH EUCHARIST (with children's groups: Xplore and Stepping Stones in Millennium Room) |
| Sun 2 Feb  | CANDLEMAS (Presentation of Christ in the Temple)  
10am ALL-AGE EUCHARIST An invitation to celebrate and remember our baptisms. Bring your baptismal candle if you have one! |
| Sun 9 Feb  | THE THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT  
10am PARISH EUCHARIST  
3.30-5.30pm MESSY CHURCH in the Church / Millennium Room Theme: Love rules |
| Thu 13 Feb | 7:30-9:30pm Musical Memories in the Millennium Room |
## PARISH REGISTER

**1 September – 30 November 2019**

### FUNERALS & THANKSGIVING SERVICES

- 17.09.19 Ray & Sheila Chandler
- 10.10.19 Angela Davies
- 14.10.19 Chris Neal
- 25.10.19 Margaret Spiller
- 15.11.19 Eileen Carter
- 16.11.19 Andrew Johnstone

### WEDDINGS

- 7.9.19 David Herbert & Hannah Lloyd-Cowan
- 12.10.19 Richard Martin & Charlene Ting

## CHURCH DIARY - FEBRUARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Services Feb-Mar</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sun 17 Feb</strong></td>
<td><strong>THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT</strong> 10am PARISH EUCHARIST (with children’s groups: Xplore and Stepping Stones in Millennium Room)**</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sun 23 Feb</strong></td>
<td><strong>THE SECOND NEXT BEFORE LENT</strong> 10am PARISH EUCHARIST (with children’s groups: Xplore and Stepping Stones in Millennium Room)**</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wed 26 Feb</strong></td>
<td><strong>ASH WEDNESDAY</strong> 10am HOLY COMMUNION with Imposition of Ashes (at St Andrew’s, Limpsfield Chart) 8.00pm The Liturgy of Ash Wednesday (at St Peter’s, Limpsfield)**</td>
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### DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

- **Sunday 8 December**
  **3.30-5.30pm Christmas Messy Church**
  See opposite page for details

- **Sunday 22 December**
  **6.30pm Carols by Candlelight**
  Followed by mulled wine and mince pies in St Peter’s Hall

- **Thursday 12 December**
  **10.30am-12 Noon Musical Memories**
  in the Millennium Room.
  A stimulating singing group for all, including those with dementia and their carer.

- **Sunday 2 February**
  **10am Candlemas Service**
  A special service, with the lighting of candles. Celebrating and remembering our baptisms.
There are many people behind the scenes that help keep our church running. One of the most crucial roles is that of the Treasurer and those involved in the church finances. At the end of this year David, our current Treasurer, will stand down (though there will still be some transition until April as he winds up this year’s accounts), as will Peter, our Assistant Treasurer, having stayed well beyond his initial three-year stint.

Treasurer roles can seem daunting, but we are looking to simplify them to ensure they are more manageable for a few volunteers going forward – the more volunteers we have, the easier it becomes. Prior accounting experience is not essential for all areas, and thorough training and a handover would be provided.

The Treasurer has overall responsibility for the Church finances and works closely with the others responsible for raising and spending money, including the Assistant Treasurer, Gift Aid Secretary and other church committees such as the Fabric and Church Hall.

The Treasurer prepares the annual accounts, interim accounts and budgets, and our annual response to the Diocesan Pledge (our contribution to the Parish Support Fund). For this part of the role an accounting background is desirable, though financial competence and a willingness to learn is valued just as highly.

The Treasurer is part of the Church Council (PCC) and Standing Committee, so meeting attendance and occasional liaison with the other Treasurers within the Limpsfield & Tatsfield Team Ministry is required.

Next year, the Assistant Treasurer role is going to be replaced with a Book-Keeper, with some self-contained tasks broken up and shared out.

The Book-Keeper will have responsibility for keeping a record of our church financial activity (including that of the Parish News and Church Hall and Glebe, which are now fully integrated into our books) and supporting the Treasurer.

The Book-Keeping role is suitable to be handled as isolated activities by several volunteers, and only need minor time commitments, include:

- Administrative support to the Parish News sales team, creating and dispatching invoices to advertisers and monitoring receipts;
- Managing large utility bills and insurance policies;
- Calculating, reporting and paying statutory fees to the Diocese in respect of our parish's funerals and weddings, and handling the remuneration and reimbursement of our “employees”, that is salaries, fees and expenses.

Broadly, the Book-keeper would be looking at two half days per week, with an extra couple of half days each month; mainly done at home, but optionally an hour or two in the Parish Office might be helpful.

If you feel you can help, offer your gifts or skills in any way, or would like more information on any of these roles, please contact: David Stewart (Treasurer) davidpstewart@sky.com, Peter Monk (Assistant Treasurer) peterdmonk@gmail.com or request a phone conversation with them via the Parish Office 01883 712512.
Christmas Tree Festival 2019

Oxted United Reformed Church, Bluehouse Lane, will be holding its 5th Christmas Tree Festival to support local charities and organisations

Thursday 19th - Saturday 21st December

The church will be open from 4pm – 7pm on those days and you are warmly invited to come and see all the imaginatively decorated trees. We do hope that you will be come and bring your family and friends. There will be refreshments, music and a Traidcraft stall. The trees will be decorated to reflect the work of all the charities or organisations that they represent and together will create a wonderful Christmas atmosphere.

Admission for adults will be £1, which will go to Crisis at Christmas - children free.

Please bring loose change for donations to charities you want to support.
We look forward to welcoming you and your family and friends.
‘Wan Aprill with her soures soote, hath perced the droughte of March to the roote’ so begins Geoffrey Chaucer’s Canterbury Tales. Geoffrey Chaucer was born in 1341 and grew up by the Thames, where his father had a wine importing business. There he would have met sailors and merchants from all over Europe and the Mediterranean, speaking many different languages. He himself knew Middle English, Anglo-Norman, Latin and Italian. His wife was an aristocrat and would not have spoken English, (which was the language of the lower orders) she would have spoken the language of the court which was Anglo-Norman. In the 1390s he wrote his famous The Canterbury Tales and he chose to write the Tales in English. For this reason he is sometimes referred to as the father of the English language.

The poem tells the story of a group of 31 pilgrims who meet while travelling to the shrine of Saint Thomas à Beckett in Canterbury. To pass the time on the journey, they decide that each of them would tell two tales to the assembled company, on the journey there and the journey home. The result is regarded as a masterpiece of medieval literature.

Pilgrims travelled to Canterbury from all over England, many of them passed by Limpsfield along the Pilgrim’s Way at the base of the North Downs. A few years ago, James Percival asked me if we could paint some images of pilgrims visible to passers-by, as a link to the past and reminding people that we are all pilgrims. I felt we would not be able to protect the paintings from the weather and put it out of my mind. One day in January this year Tony Stoughton-Harris met me by chance, next to the blue hoardings and said to me with a twinkle in his eye ‘couldn’t you and your painters paint something nice on these hoardings’? I started to wonder what would look good there. I had seen lots of wonderful street
The museum, which opened on 2nd February this year, is situated on the same site as the newly refurbished St George’s RAF Chapel of Remembrance. The 1951 Grade II listed chapel’s floor is made from propeller blades and it houses a memorial to the 453 airmen who were killed flying from Biggin Hill Sector. The museum safeguards the future of this important building.

Among the museum exhibits are the bell that was rung to scramble the pilots and a table from a local pub into which air crew carved their names. Also on show are letters, paintings and photographs belonging to RAF staff. Visitors can listen to our interactive tablet guide which provides lots of extra content including an interview with Geoffrey Wellum, the youngest Spitfire pilot to fight in the Battle of Britain.

Open Wednesday to Sunday 10am – 5pm, including the Nightingale Café
Open on Tuesdays for booked groups
Tickets Adult: £7.50 Child: £4.00

Keep up to date with our events programme including day time talks, family activities and evening lectures on our Events page: https://bhmm.org.uk/events/
Biggin Hill Memorial Museum, Main Road, Biggin Hill, TN16 3EJ
tel: 01959 422414 web: www.bhmm.org.uk
Registered charity 1162645

Richard Spiller
A new direction for Fancier Dress and Lucy Moore

Last month Fancier Dress celebrated its 12th Halloween as part of Limpsfield High Street. She talks to Sophie Martin about weathering the changes on the high street and her plans for her businesses going forward.

It seems impossible to think Fancier Dress has been on our High Street for 12 years. You've seen lots of changes to the High Street in that time I imagine?

It's almost unrecognisable in terms of our fellow businesses. So many of the original traders have gone, but new blood has come in and for such a tiny high street we are still doing pretty well. The support of local people helps hugely for small businesses like those found in the High Street. The success of Memorial Stores speaks volumes about how the community feels about keeping shops open in our High Street and we have always benefited from local support.

What is the biggest change you've seen in the High Street over the last 12 years?

Probably the cottages in the car park of what was Alexanders, and then Kieran's none of us saw that coming did we? But it seems to have worked and whilst we miss the additional drinking hole, the renovation of The Bull, which won Surrey Pub Of The Year this year, has been great. With Old Oxted just around the corner and the lovely George and of course my favourite The Crown - where I've staged so many theatre shows - we are really well served for good pubs in the area!

I bet the village was surprised when Fancier Dress first arrived? The shop had been a wine merchant's and village store for over a century.

There were a lot of people who didn't think we could possibly survive. I think a fancy dress shop in our little high street, when people have seen them in big shopping centres, seemed strange to some. Over the years we have proved that we are very much a destination shop. We don't rely on passing trade – people don't tend to suddenly think "Oh look a fancy dress shop. I think I'll hire something". They get a party invitation and use Google to find a store not too far away and with great quality costumes and then they usually call to book an appointment, which is one of the reasons we've made the decision to go appointment only from January 2020.

So, from January 2020 anyone wanting to hire costumes will be able to email and get an appointment at a time to suit them rather than having to reach you during 9 – 5 opening hours?

Exactly. We've always had a Thursday late night because we recognise that people are working and modern life just doesn't really fit with standard shop opening hours for a lot of people. When we first opened less than 25% of shopping was done online, now it's over 85%. People want to be able to shop on their own terms at times that suit them. We have found increasingly over the years that there are times when we have staff in the shop with no customers, and other times when customers would like to be able to gain access and we're shut. This email appointment system will mean we can maximise staff efficiency and give maximum flexibility for customers.

You'll still be open for the rush of New Year and then closed for January?

Yes, you can still come in between, 10am-5pm in the break between Boxing Day and New Year and then we will re-open for appointments from the 1st of February. So if you know you have a party or event in January, come and see us in December and we can arrange for you to hire your costume for the whole period at the same price as our usual weekly hire - just think you could be Batman for an entire month!

There are other reasons for reducing your own hours in the shop though aren't there? Your other ventures, in particular Linger Longer Films, are really taking off.

I set up Linger Longer Films at the end of 2017 and we've completed two short films in that time, but I have also increased my own freelance work within the industry, as both a writer and a director. I've also been working with other production companies on film sets, including a short film in final stage post-production starring Miriam Margolyes and Virginia McKen-
Earlier this year I signed a contract to write a feature film for a studio out in Kentucky, and I also have two TV dramas in development. I am a part of the ITV comedy 50/50 network, increasing female representation in comedy writing rooms and also an active member of Women in Film and TV UK. It’s a lot of work and running the appointment schedule will allow me more flexibility to run the two businesses alongside each other.

So basically, it’s exciting times and a bit of a new direction for you and Fancier Dress, and I’m sure we’re all very glad we’re not losing you from the High Street.

It has definitely been an interesting and at times hard time to be in retail. We’ve lost so many big stores and us little guys are struggling as well, but the one thing I really will say hasn’t changed is the great feeling of community within the village. I have customers I costumed whilst pregnant who now bring their teenagers in to buy Halloween costumes or rent for a birthday party.

Limpsfield High Street is still very important to local people and I hope they continue to support all our businesses as much as possible in the years to come.

www.fancierdress.co.uk
lingerlongerfilms.wordpress.com
You weren’t born in Limpsfield, so where do you hail from?
I was born on August 26 1929 at 9 Eastcombe Avenue, Charlton, which now no longer exists because the road eventually had to make way for a bypass. My father rushed off and named me Norman Wilton after his brother, a chemist.

You were an evacuee during WW2. Is that how you ended up in Oxted?
Yes, though rather indirectly. When war broke out, I was ten years old. Both my brothers, Roy and Kenneth, went to Colfe’s Grammar School in Lewisham and I was due to follow. Roy, the eldest, went into the RAF, involved in radar work (it was only many years later he was able to reveal he’d been sent to Bletchley Park to do some work on the Enigma machine). Ken and I were evacuated to Skinners School at Tunbridge Wells, where the classes were over-crowded due to coping with evacuees and we had to make do most of the time with walks across the Common and were billeted with an elderly couple in the sedate part of the Town.

My brother, with a bit more courage, being eighteen months older, took exception to the miserly porridge portions offered at breakfast (complaining that the old boy was trying to kill us!) and our father, greatly agitated, came down next day and took us back home.

Because of the increasing threat of night time enemy bombing raids by Dorniers over our home in Begbie Road, just off Shooters Hill in Blackheath where we had been living from the 1930s, father was anxious to get us away to safety.

A neighbour of ours across the road, who had been lovingly polishing his car each weekend came out to find it gone one morning and a big hole in its place. Also, a barrage balloon crew had been killed in the field at the back of the houses opposite. Fortunately for us, an office colleague of father’s, who lived in Oxted, was about to move house, so father took over the house he had been renting at Brookfield, Gresham Road, which was later to become the site of the present day Oxted Library. You see, I was destined for books even then!

How did you end up in PR and communications?
I completed my education at Oxted County Grammar in 1946, ending up with a distinction in art and little else (!), but filled with an over-riding ambition to become a writer, encouraged partly because I’d managed to win a third prize in a play competition judged by Tibby Clark, the Ealing scriptwriter who lived locally in Granville Road.

My father perhaps wisely persuaded me to take on a safe job in a bank and carry on with my writing hobby in my spare time. I joined Westminster Bank as a junior clerk at their branch in Charing Cross Road, overlooking the north end of Trafalgar Square, in 1947 for a few months until I started my national service in the RAF aged 18.

After completing a course in Equipment Accounts at Hereford, despite having opted to serve overseas, I was instead posted to Hallam Street in London. By contrast, the rest of my classmates, who had asked for a home posting were sent to serve in Germany (naturally!).

Having worked in a Bank, I was of course put into Pay Accounts and finished my time at West Drayton in Middlesex, before being demobbed in 1949.
I reluctantly went back to banking, but after enduring the tedium of working in ag Bank for a number of years, I managed to escape in 1955 and mounted the first slope of becoming a writer by landing a job in the Publicity Department of Siemens Ediswan in Charing Cross Road as Press Liaison Officer for 18 factories, also as sub-editor of the company newspaper.

After that I joined GEC in 1960, becoming Press Officer for radio, TV and electronics and the Company’s Hirst Research Centre, followed by a stint at Firth Cleveland Ltd, located in Cleveland Row, where I set up their press office and then I had the fortune to get a job with World Wide Helicopters in Surrey in 1962, which involved filming an impressive record of the company’s global work over a wide range of support services overseas, to promote its activities. I became so interested in this new exciting departure that I became partner in an industrial film production company making films for a number of industrial groups, combining presentation and scriptwriting.

This job also meant I was firmly back in Surrey which led me to meet my future wife, Jane.

Is that how you came to live in Limpsfield?

Yes, Jane Bateman, as she then was, joined St. Michael’s School, Limpsfield as a Music Teacher, becoming a house mistress in 1963 and I was introduced through my old school friend Edward Everest, whose wife Di worked at St. Michael’s.

By then I had left home and bought a flat in Bishop’s Court, Caterham, where I proposed and was fortunately accepted and we married in St. Peter’s Church, Limpsfield on 2nd April 1965.

Our first son Richard was born in 1967 and with the imminent arrival of Victoria, we were anxious to move to a house that would accommodate our growing family. Luckily our friend Edward Everest and his wife decided to move to Leighton Buzzard and suggested we got in touch with his aunt who owned Fir Tree Cottage (then two adjoining cottages) in Sandy Lane, Limpsfield where they were living.

At the time, it seemed a miracle after fruitless house searching and we were able to move in to our first home together in 1972, with our expanded family of Victoria (born 1971) and Robert (born 1973).

Within a week of arrival, our friend and neighbour Olga Franklin from Bishams Court, a renowned journalist and broadcaster, arrived with a welcome hamper to celebrate the occasion and we were also featured in an article by her in Woman’s Own magazine, comparing us to the current TV episodes of ‘Good Life’!

Eventually, due to an increasingly competitive market in industrial film production, I moved on to become a freelance writer and contributed regular features for a management magazine, before ending my career handling publicity for research and development at British Gas.

How did you get into writing outside of work?

On retirement in 1993, I became interested in researching my family tree after my father mentioned he had no knowledge of his ancestors as his father had died when he was very young. After finishing research on all the branches of my family (and various others), I decided to get down to pursuing my first love of fiction and creative writing and with the advent of self-publishing, published my first...
book, ‘Save Our Shop’ in 2012 followed by the two children’s books – ‘Happenings in Hookwood’ and ‘Grandad Bracey and the Flight to Seven Seas’ in 2013 and 2014, then the sequel to ‘Save Our Shop’ entitled ‘In The Soup’ in 2015; ‘The Spy Who Couldn’t Count’ in 2017 and finally ‘Don’t Bank on it Sweetheart’ in Dec 2018. I have just received ten copies of the latest Bank story, bearing the new publisher’s name of Next Chapter.

What led you down the path of fiction?

Well, becoming such an integral part of the community in Limpsfield brought us in touch with a wealth of friends and unforgettable characters that were begging to be remembered and the fantastic scenery that unfolds as you approach down the High Street turns it all into a fairy like background that provides the perfect setting. Naturally, I had to locate the story of ‘Save Our Shop’ to somewhere on the south coast to avoid any prospect of comparisons being made, but I am sure that the characters I mentioned could be found in any local village store.

Have you been inspired by locals and local events?

Funnily enough, the opening chapter of ‘Happenings in Hookwood’ followed exactly what happened to us in real life. When we arrived to move in to Fir Tree Cottage in 1972 there was no driveway available and all our belongings and furniture had to be humped up the narrow steps from the lane by the long-suffering removal men. In no time at all, the pile of effects reached dizzying proportions as the entrance couldn’t cope with it. Then someone had a bright idea and they pounced on the youngest lad with them and hoisted him up onto the porch overhead where he did his best to feed items in through an open first floor window to shouts of encouragement. So, the opening chapter virtually wrote itself!

With ‘Save Our Shop’, Jane and I had been closely involved in making a success of turning our village shop and Post Office into a community shop and happily helped to invest in its future alongside our friends and neighbours. Jane in particular lost no time in opting to be one of the first to volunteer as one of the supervisors to get the village shop started and encourage other volunteers to join in, and persuaded me to become a supervisor and take an active part in sending out press releases to signal each phase of the operation.

Also, as an active member of the Church choir we enjoyed many blissful choir holidays organised by our highly efficient choir mistress, Ann Osborn, travelling mainly in France, courtesy of Skinners Coaches and driven by our endearing guide called Bernard, who made it so much fun.

As for the hero, William Bridge, he seemed to be the natural choice to take on the fight to help his Uncle in his hour of need in saving the shop from going downhill and to triumph over the unsavoury characters who were intent on ruining the village. The events themselves were not intended to reflect real life, but only what I thought might happen in such a situation and I just let my imagination run riot.

Whatever the situation, I am not happy until I have extracted an element of confusion, spice with humour. I suppose it might have something to do with all the Wodehouse and Bates stories I have read. I love to see the funny side of any situation and can’t wait to get it down on paper. I write to please myself but if it encourages anyone else to join in and appreciate it, so much the better. So romantic comedy seems to me an ideal way of expressing myself.
In ‘The Spy Who Couldn’t Count’. I couldn’t help poking fun of some of the characters depicted in the various government departments described– I’ve seen plenty of examples of this kind of attitude over the years and it seemed quite natural to highlight some of the absurdities.

Jane Wilton sadly died from cancer in December 2017. Michael still lives in Fir Tree Cottage and has eight grandchildren. He is currently working on his new book, The Duncans are Coming!

You can find Michael’s books (under author Michael N Wilton) in the Oxted Library and at Memorial Stores. They are also available on Amazon.co.uk.

Information about all the above shows can be obtained from: www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk or 15a High Street, Westerham, Kent, TN16 1RA (01959 561811)

The Barn Theatre

Sat 14th Dec
2:30pm & 7:30pm
The Gift - The Really Happy Company
A winter showcase featuring gifted and talented local performers in all aspects of dance, music, drama and singing. A fundraising initiative for childhood cancer with George and the Giant Pledge at Royal Marsden
Tickets: £14 from www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk or 01959 561811

Friday 10th January 7:30pm
Saturday 11th - 1:30 & 5:30pm
Sunday 12th - 1:30 & 5:30pm
Wednesday 15th – Friday 17th 7:30pm
Saturday 18th - 2:30 & 7:30pm
Treasure Island - The Oxted Players
Popular traditional family pantomime
Tickets: £10 from www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk or 01883 724852

Wed 5th February 7:45pm
Don Giovanni - The Merry Opera Company
Judgement Day for Don Giovanni, the world’s greatest lover; a supernatural comedy-thriller with murder, a statue that comes to dinner and a hellish sentence passed on the legendary seducer
Tickets: £15 from www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk or 01959 561811

Open House

I wonder how many of you enjoyed Open House London this year? It’s a great opportunity during the third weekend of September each year to see many of London’s finest architectural buildings throughout the City and its boroughs for Free!

There is a guide book which can be ordered on line well in advance of the weekend enabling interested parties to plan their weekend ahead. Ballots can be entered for certain popular buildings such as 10 Downing Street (I have been unsuccessful so far but will enter earlier next year!). There is also the opportunity to volunteer as a guide or steward to all buildings and I have really enjoyed taking part in this way on three occasions - a real bonus for volunteers three years ago was a visit to the top of the Gherkin - something I had wanted to do since it was built but not prepared to work there or join the necessary club!

This year I was a bit restricted for time but was really interested to visit William Morris’ Victorian home The Red House at Bexleyheath built in 1860 in conjunction with his good friend Philip Webb, also Rose Bruford College in Sidcup which has produced so many well known actors, both of which come under the London Borough of Greenwich? My volunteering this year was very close to home at Old Coulsdon (Croydon Borough) on a new development of 24 homes, some to be sold freehold others for key workers in the borough, all part of a scheme by Croydon to build 1000 new homes in the Borough. I joined two delightful young designers for the tour given to 30 interested visitors and the topical question was ‘Are there chargers in the garages for electric cars’ - and there are!! At well known buildings in the centre of London there can be some queuing but just move on and come back later! I did just that once at Battersea and had a wonderful visit to the Church on the river where Turner had painted many times from a window alcove!

Jean Scott

Information about all the above shows can be obtained from: www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk or 15a High Street, Westerham, Kent, TN16 1RA (01959 561811)
Christmas seems to start earlier each year and it’s no different at Limpsfield Memorial Stores as we prepare for our busiest time of the year. Our Christmas stock has been ordered and has been available to buy since November. Why not pop in and pick up a unique Christmas gift from our exciting range of biscuits, tinned goods, stollen, cakes, chocolates, jams and chutneys, cards and decorations, much of which is locally sourced.

This year we will be selling locally reared turkeys from Stockenden Farm in Limpsfield. Tony and his family have been farming here since 1954 and produce slow maturing turkeys kept in large open sided barns to maximise daylight and quality of life and provide them with protection and plenty of space to roam, lots of straw and fresh air.

Limpsfield Memorial Stores has sold Tony’s turkeys for many years now and our customers have said they are the best turkeys they have ever tasted.

From 4th November we will be taking orders for turkeys so contact us as soon as possible to secure your order as they are
very popular. You can specify the size of your turkey, either a whole bird, a crown or a boneless rolled turkey joint.

The turkeys arrive fully prepared and are available for collection from the shop on 23rd and 24th December.

Have you ever come into our shop and wondered why there are always different people serving on the till?
This is because they are volunteers who give up an hour or two of their time to support the shop, which has been run by the community since 1999. So, 2019 has been a busy year for Limpsfield Memorial Stores, as we celebrated 20 years as a community enterprise.

The anniversary was marked by a visit from Peter Ainsworth who, as our local MP at the time, opened the shop in May 1999. We also held competitions, designed a commemorative tea towel and cards, and had a display of photos from the opening, including children from Limpsfield School.

We are always on the look-out for volunteers, so if you would like give some time to the shop, please pop in and have a chat with the volunteer on the till or our shop manager, Kerry. It’s a great way to meet people whilst contributing to a fabulous and much valued resource in the village.

We look forward to meeting you and hope you have a very Merry Christmas!

Kerry Hughes

Professional gardeners and horticulturalists, Tom and Ian, the father and son owners of Northdowns Nursery on Titsey Road, have been growing plants for well over 50 years on the site behind St Peter’s Churchyard.

Well-known and respected in the community, the family has been here for several generations and for those in the know, also grow and sell some great vegetables from their garden shed / office! They have many regular customers for their fabulous Christmas trees and are the suppliers of the trees that line the path to St Peters every year (sponsored by other local businesses). Their trees usually arrive the last weekend of November/first weekend of December. They are very good value for the beautiful quality and sell very quickly. Pop along early, see what they have and support a local business.

Sophie Martin
The Bull Inn, Limpsfield has been named Best Surrey Pub of the Year at the Surrey Life Food & Drink Awards.

This is an amazing achievement for the Limpsfield village pub's first year owned by Enterprising Limpsfield Limited, the company formed by local residents, which consists of over 200 largely local investors.

Up against two excellent finalists in the Best Surrey Pub Category, The Beehive, Englefield Green and The Bluebell, Dockenfield, The Bull Inn had very stiff competition, but won the night in the end with the award being announced at a ceremony at G Live. Now in their sixth year, the Surrey Life Food & Drink Awards have gone from strength to strength and are now viewed as a prestigious annual event and accolade for Surrey-based food and drink businesses.

Businesses and individuals are nominated by the public over a six-month period, with the top six in each category making it to the final cut, where each is discussed at length by the judging panel, who then reduce the finalists to a final three. These top three are then marked against strict criteria to establish the overall winner.

The Bull Inn, an historic village pub going back hundreds of years and the heart of Limpsfield village, re-opened in November 2018, having undergone extensive renovations after its purchase by local investors. It provides excellent food and drink in a beautifully refurbished building, with the added bonus of its upstairs private dining and meeting facilities, a sun-kissed outdoor deck and a beautiful converted barn, The Grain Store, which hosts sporting events, weddings, pop-ups, live music and family entertainment.

The community-centric business aims to be much more than just a pub, and also hosts a number of activities for locals, including guided walks, a weekly cycle ride, exercise sessions and regular tastings, focusing on locally produced food and drink.

Adrienne Gray, co-founder of Enterprising Limpsfield Limited, said, “We are really quite blown away by this incredible achievement. It’s amazing to think we opened less than a year ago. So much has happened in that time and we have only just touched on all the things we want to do at The Bull Inn”. “We have been amazed by the support and good will of the local community and local media, but it’s been a massive team effort,” she continued, “and I’m so grateful to our fabulous chefs, especially Denes Miko; all our lovely bar and wait staff; our office manager, Lauren, the board members, our investors, regulars and our incredible General Manager, Jess Hurren for her tireless dedication in the development and management of the pub right up to the very last minute!”

As Jess has recently gone on maternity leave, The Bull Inn now welcomes James Lawrence as her maternity leave cover. “James has big shoes to fill,” said Adrienne, “but we know he will do a fabulous job, taking over from where Jess left off, in running The Bull and developing our offerings, events and activities. I’m sure he’ll become a very popular and well-known face in the village in no time! We wish Denes and Jess all the very best with their new baby”.

As part of ongoing development, Enterprising Limpsfield Ltd, is now offering a new investment opportunity in order to raise a small amount of additional capital for works to remain a primarily equity business, with minimal debt. “This is a great way to get involved in your local community and to help cement the future of our fabulous historic pub and indeed the village itself,” said Adrienne Gray. “The Bull is very much at the heart of Limpsfield and going from strength to strength as we consolidate our offer, providing a variety of locally-sourced food and drink, a great venue for different types of events and a range of community-based activities in collaboration with local enterprises and associations.”

All investment enquiries about this opportunity should be directed to info@enterprisinglimpsfield.com

For table bookings and even enquiries, please contact info@thebullinnlimpsfield.com or go to the website, www.thebullinnlimpsfield.com

Follow The Bull Inn on Facebook and Instagram @thebullinnlimpsfield.

Sophie Martin
Looking for a new generation of volunteers

If you’ve walked up around the woodland to the east of Grub Street and Limpsfield C of E Infants School, you will most likely have come across the Limpsfield Community Orchard, which nests in a lovely peaceful space by the A25, next to the allotments.

This fantastic endeavour celebrates 10 years of successful apple and pear growing this Autumn and recently held its anniversary party at St Peter’s Hall, hosted by the current chairperson, Helen Ellson, part of the original team who set up this wonderful project.

Working alongside the local community and in particular with the children of Limpsfield Infants School, the Limpsfield Community Orchard is at the forefront of a global movement to re-green spaces. It aims to encourage wildlife by being insecticide and pesticide free and by allowing the grass to grow longer and become more diverse, with many wild flowers, an insect house and lots of different environments to attract local flora, fauna and small children!

The project also encourages a reduction in food miles and aims to teach local children where our food comes from and how to grow their own fruit.

The original team saw the site in December 2009, with Limpsfield in Bloom’s Ann Osborn and Mark Richards, our local National Trust ranger and set up a Community Interest Company, carving out an agreement with the National Trust for a 25-year licence.

The site had been donated to the National Trust in 1968, when the road was widened, but it had been untouched for over 40 years and it was a lot of hard work (and a lot of fun) to clear.

A core collective of bramble beaters toiled away week after week until they had finally cleared the space and on November 10th, 2010 - the coldest day – they finally planted the first trees, which all grew and have borne fruit ever since.

Since then the volunteers have worked hard to keep this lovely orchard healthy and happy. It does still require a lot of TLC, wonderfully provided by a dedicated team of volunteers, who work extremely hard to keep everything in apple pie order!

“We are hugely grateful to our ‘Friends’ who generously support the venture with annual donations and to all the volunteers who have worked so hard to create and maintain this wonderful space,” said Helen Ellson.

The Orchard project can only work and succeed in its mission if more people contribute, not only in donations and working parties, but also by taking responsibility for individual aspects, such as hedges, steps, bonfires and social activities.

It’s a lot of work, but it’s also very rewarding, a really lovely way to make friends, learn about fruit growing and horticulture in general and to spend some quality time outdoors in our wonderful countryside.

“We have managed everything for just about 10 years,” said Helen, “including lots of behind the scenes admin, organising blossom viewing, harvesting, tasting, work parties, pruning…and of course the WASSAIL*. It’s been very enjoyable and rewarding, but we now need new volunteers to help continue our work for the next generation… it could be a team from a local school, guides, scouts, Church or anyone who wants to take up the challenge…”

*What’s a wassail you may ask… well, it’s an ancient English custom of visiting cider-producing apple and pear orchards reciting incantations and singing to the trees to promote a good harvest for the coming year! It’s great fun, an excuse to dress up, get together with a big bonfire, have a laugh and of course drink some mulled cider! Next year it’ll be on Sunday 2nd February 2020 from 5pm, Royal British Legion. Add the date to your diary!

If you’re interested in volunteering with the orchard or indeed getting a group together to help with the ongoing maintenance, wassail or any of the other horticultural or educational activities, please contact Helen Ellson on 07784 144675 or email: helenellson205@btinternet.com.

"We have managed everything for just about 10 years," said Helen, “including lots of behind the scenes admin, organising blossom viewing, harvesting, tasting, work parties, pruning…and of course the WASSAIL*. It’s been very enjoyable and rewarding, but we now need new volunteers to help continue our work for the next generation...it could be a team from a local school, guides, scouts, Church or anyone who wants to take up the challenge...”
In May the elections for Limpsfield Parish Council, (the first contested parish council election for many years) saw four new Limpsfield residents elected to the council to join the five councillors who successfully stood for re-election. You can see details of all your parish councillors on the Limpsfield Parish Council website www.limpsfield.org.

On the same day in May, you may recall that the Limpsfield Neighbourhood Plan went to a public referendum. This was the final stage in a four-year process, to consult with Limpsfield residents and prepare a Neighbourhood Plan, undertaken by local residents and the Parish Council.

If passed (by a simple majority of those voting) at referendum the Neighbourhood Plan would become part of Tandridge District Council’s development policies and become a major influence on planning and development issues in the Limpsfield Parish. The Parish Council was grateful for the strong support shown by local residents, which resulted in 87% of votes being cast in support of the Neighbourhood Plan, on a turnout of 50%, (which is very high when compared with those for other Neighbourhood Plans).

The Limpsfield Neighbourhood Plan was formally made (adopted) by Tandridge District Council on June 25th.

Tandridge Council’s planning decisions now have to take account of the policies contained in the Neighbourhood Plan, for any development in the Limpsfield Parish. The plan also sets out the projects and initiatives for the Parish Council over the 15-year plan period to deliver the policy objectives of the Plan.

We have been working hard to organise our resources to ensure that we can move forward with purpose, start implementing the projects and initiatives and to make sure we are communicating regularly and effectively with parishioners.

Firstly, we have formed three subcommittees to ensure all activities have a core team. These teams are largely councillors supported by other co-optees, whose interest and experience is invaluable to that particular area.

We would also be really keen to hear from anyone who would like to volunteer to help implement various projects when we need extra hands. Please contact the Clerk if you’re willing and available in principle!

Secondly, we have been started to get key projects and activities underway, one of which being an extensive footpath survey to ensure all the paths in our lovely area are accessible and walkable for both residents and visitors to enjoy. Led by Ashley Fosdike, all 40 miles of paths have now been walked and surveyed by the councillors to highlight any areas that need focus. We even went along with our own hedge trimmers to do a bit of cutting back as we went!

Working closely now with Surrey County Council and the East Surrey Walkers, we have identified a list of priority paths, posts and signage that need attention and repair and we have started to address them. Every year from now on, we intend to pound the paths and make sure that they stay in good condition. Please get in touch with the Clerk if you come across any footpaths that need to be reported for obstructions, broken gates, stiles or general overgrowth. We are keen for everyone to be involved, so if you regularly walk a path and fancy ‘adopting’ it, let us know!

Thirdly, we made a promise to improve the way we interact and communicate with the Parish and aim to use all forms of media to keep you informed on
what’s going on. We now have a new website, designed to be easy to use and informative, with all you need to know about the Parish, the Parish Council, the day to day activities we undertake and the projects we aim to implement as part of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Please use the ‘Sign up’ button on the new website to sign up for updates, which means you’ll get news straight to your email as it’s published.

We have also updated our social media and you can now find us:

* on Twitter: @LimpsfieldPC
* Instagram/Facebook: @limpsfieldparishcouncil

Please keep an eye on our feeds for Parish Council updates and useful information and feel free to like, share and comment!

*Feel free to call the Parish Clerk, Sophie Martin on 07514 011355 or email clerk@limpsfield.org.*

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**Upcoming general election**

Please note, the Limpsfield ward has now been divided into two polling areas with polling stations being at St. Peter’s and St. Andrew’s Church halls. You should be receiving a letter from Tandridge Council but please see your polling card, which will let you know which is your correct polling station.

*For at least 8 years the section of the bridleway from Titsey Road (opposite Sandy Lane) has been flooded for most of each year and East Surrey Walkers have regularly pressed Surrey County Council to resolve the situation. Walkers have either had to balance precariously along a narrow bank by a barbed wire fence or wade through the water up to a foot deep. Part of the delay in dealing with the problem has been resolving who had responsibility in dealing with the problem as Highways England are the landowner (there is a M25 bridge further along the track).*

Now at last Surrey CC have instructed contractors to improve the bridleway and Limpsfield Parish Council have helped to partly fund the cost. The result is very impressive as can be seen in the before and after photos. The gate near roadside is also being reinstated and secured, leaving a gap for users alongside and this will prevent any flytipping.

So now Limpsfield residents can walk down Sandy Lane and up Pitchfont Lane in order to get to the walks around Titsey Plantation and up onto the North Downs. Well done to all concerned!

Tony Pearson
The Autumn Term began with us welcoming all our new children into Reception along with other new children and their families who have moved into the area. They have all settled really well into school life and it is lovely to see how joyfully they skip around the corridors.

The term began with our annual visit from the Life Bus, where children learnt about keeping healthy in a fun and interactive way. We have also introduced a new English curriculum at school that places children's literature at its core. The children have been very enthused and excited about their learning, especially Year 1 whose writing has been inspired by the book The Naughty Bus. It is amazing what antics the bus has been up to in and around the school, messing up classrooms and spilling beans everywhere.

In Collective Worship we have looked at Creation and Caring for God's Wonderful World. We have also been reflecting on things that we should feel thankful for and our reflection area in the centre of our school provides opportunities for children to write thank you prayers and think about all God's Wondrous Gifts. At this moment in time, we have just returned back from our Harvest celebration at St Peter's where everything was themed round the Bread of Life. The children sang with such joy, ably accompanied by Father James on the Saxophone and Ann Osborn on the piano. They have been regularly playing for the children in our music Collective Worship each week, which makes such a difference. The prayers that two of the children had written and read so beautifully reminded us of all that we have to be thankful for.

In the second half of this term, we will start to get ready for Christmas, which is a magical time of the year in an Infant School. This year, as in the previous years, we will be performing at the Barn Theatre with our production called The Inn-Spectors - a slightly different look at the traditional nativity story. I will not say too much more as I do not want to take away the surprise if you will be coming along. We will also be having our Christmas Fair on the 7th December and it would be lovely to see some of you there.

Finally, I wanted to let you all know that we have had some very exciting news regarding an application we put into the National Lottery. We have been awarded £10,000 to support us installing a Trim-Trail on Limpsfield Common and making some improvements to our playground areas. We are very excited about the project as it will not only enhance the play experience for the children at our school but it will also provide facilities for the local community. At the moment, a lot of work is going on with the National Trust and other community organisations to ensure that it is all installed safely.

Of course, I am always happy to meet parents/carers and show them around the school at other times by appointment. Please email info@limpsfield.surrey.sch.uk or phone 01883 723183 for an appointment.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Cheryl Hudson
Headteacher
**Blood by Maggie Gee**

This book will probably be quite different to anything you have read before and that is why I’ve chosen it. It is a farcical caper of a novel, bursting with audacious characters and dark humour.

Set in Thanet, against a backdrop of Brexit and concerns about terrorism this could be seen as a novel of our time. However, we are seeing this story through the eyes of Monica Ludd, and she and her family are by no means an everyday family, in fact she describes them as “artistes of awfulness”. Just their physical descriptions alone are laden with visual comedy and this is key to the humour within the novel. Monica (as she often reminds us) is a 6 foot tall, 17 stone, amply-bosomed deputy head at a local school. We are introduced to her family; her siblings include autistic twin brothers who are now millionaires, Fairy – an anorexic super model, Anthea – glammed up to the nines and possibly gay, and a younger brother Fred who sadly passed away during army service.

All great fun until we learn about their father, Albert Ludd: dentist, serial womaniser and violent abuser of all his family members. We meet Albert when Monika finds him brutally battered to apparent death in his own home and unfortunately for Monika she is looking like a prime suspect. The previous night, she had announced very publicly that she wanted to kill him. She has recently bought an axe, and now she is at the scene of the crime (with the axe). What follows is Monika’s story as she goes on the run, tries to prove her innocence and gradually becomes fearful that her father may actually still be alive.

The plot is often implausible and in places deeply violent, but it is the dark humour that carries you along. Maggie Gee weaves so much physical and situational comedy throughout that she is able to hit you now and then with the far larger concerns about whether circles of violence can be broken. Monica is a unique and absorbing character. The novel is written in the first person and she does not hold back when revealing to us her opinions of the people she encounters, but these thoughts are often spoken out loud without her realising which again heightens the comedy. Then suddenly she will let slip an insight into some of the violence that her father wrought upon them during childhood and it is all the more shocking. Behind all this bravado however, is a resourceful, strong woman who has a deep sense of loyalty to the children at her school. This is no doubt due to a desire to right some of the wrongs of her own childhood, and this loyalty is crucial to the closing stages of the novel.

Blood is indeed a major theme – it is literally there in the violent undercurrent, but it is also key to the way in which the Ludd family stick together and ultimately find ways to accept and forgive. I would describe Maggie Gee’s style of writing as a cross between Fleabag and Killing Eve, and Monica has a little bit of the Eleanor Oliphant about her. She is a social misfit, laden with baggage, but you cannot help love, and root for her. This is a manic rollercoaster of a novel so hold on to your hats and get stuck in.

Alex Wilkinson
OXTED & LIMPSFIELD FLORAL DESIGN CLUB
Meetings, with demonstrations and competitions are held on the second Wednesday of each month at St Peter’s Hall at 2.00 pm. Further details from Secretary Angie Street (angielastreet7@gmail.com) or Programme Secretary Liz Norman (anormandliz2@goo glemail.com).

Next events:
December 11th:
AGM & Christmas Lunch
Myra Lester, A mini Flower Arrangement Demonstration: “Christmas Treats”

January 8th:
Susan Shaw, speaker: “An adventure in Peru”

See www.olfs.org.uk for full information.

LIMPSFIELD VILLAGE WI
ST PETERS HALL, LIMPSFIELD HIGH STREET
Limpsfield Village WI meets on the first Wednesday of the month, normally at 2.30 pm. New members & guests are always welcome. Please contact Catherine Webber on 07879 338397 for further details and confirmation of meeting times.

Oxted & Limpsfield Choral Society
UNIVERSAL REFORMED CHURCH, BLUEHOUSE LANE, OXTED
Saturday, 7th December 2019, 7.00 pm
CHRISTMAS CONCERT
PUCCINI: MESSA DI GLORIA WITH CHRISTMAS CAROLS
Admission £12 to include a glass of wine and a mince pie, Children £5 Tickets available on 01883 577749 or on the door
More: www.olcs.org.uk

LIMPSFIELD, OXTED & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
LODHS, now called ‘Come Grow with Us Club’ meets on the first Wednesday of each month (except January and August) in the Red Cross Centre at 8pm. We welcome new members. Enquiries to Malcolm Young on 01883 730032 or myoung@film-buffs.com.
Go to lodhsgardens.blogspot.co.uk for further details

OXTED & DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY
UNIFIED REFORMED CHURCH, BLUEHOUSE LANE
The Society meets fortnightly on Tuesdays at 8pm throughout the winter.

Upcoming talks include:
17 Dec: Christmas Party & short illustrated talk by Charlie Jarrett
7 Jan: Bob Evans - The String of Pearls
21 Jan: Sue Thredair - Rochester Bridge.
4 Feb: Paul Whittle - Rock Steady The Gibraltar Story

Visitors will receive a warm welcome, and can attend for a small fee of £4 per visit. Contact Trevor Burrage on 01883 716848 or see www.oxtedanddistricthistorysociety.org.uk

Your local choral group - first formed in 1961 and still going strong today...
8th December 2019
Christmas Concert
- Dan Forrest’s Lux plus carols for choir and audience
Sunday 8 December at 7.00pm in St John’s church. Contact: hurstgreensingers@gmail.com
Rehearsals for Summer Concert start 7th January 2020

TANDRIDGE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY
TPS is a friendly and informal club with over 70 members, based in the village of Godstone in Surrey. We aim to help members expand and improve their photographic skills by sharing skills, ideas and inspiration.

Most meetings are held at the White Hart Barn in Godstone on Thursdays at 8pm during our September to May season. More: http://tandr ridgephotographicsociety.org.uk

East Surrey Walkers

Some upcoming short walks:
• 14 Dec, 10am: Reigate, Surrey, 5.5 miles (leisurely)
• 15 Dec, 10am: Charlwood, Surrey, 10 miles (moderate)
• 17 Dec, 10am: Betchingly, 3 miles (leisurely)
• 18 Dec 10am: Woldingham, Surrey, 6 miles (leisurely)
• 19 Dec, 10am: Dorking, Dorking, 5.5 miles (leisurely)
• 24 Dec, 10am: Kenley, Surrey, 4 miles (strenuous)

For full details on joining East Surrey Walkers or 3 monthly programme of walks go to www.eastsurreywalkers.org.uk

The Society encourages crafts in the area. It meets every Monday 1.30-4.30pm at the Woodhouse Centre, Hoskins Road Car Park, by Tandridge Leisure Centre, Oxted RH8 9TF

Forthcoming talks include:
Monday 20/01/2020 2-4pm Voyages of Discovery - Embroidery
Carole Waddle
Monday 24/02/2020 2-4pm: Fluff n’ Stuff - Needlefelting - SJ O’Shea
Monday 23/03/2020 2-4pm: Sewing Patterns and Fashion Mags with Frances Tobin

Visitors are welcome to all talks, £5 entry includes tea and biscuits.

Frances Tobin

Monday 23/03/2020 2-4pm:

Needlefelting - SJ O’Shea
Fluff n’ Stuff -

Monday 20/01/2020 2-4pm:

Voyages of Discovery
Carole Waddle

For full details on joining East Surrey Walkers or 3 monthly programme of walks go to www.eastsurreywalkers.org.uk

The Oxted & Limpsfield Music Society brings music of the highest standard to the area, inviting world-renowned artists to perform but still being able to offer tickets at very reasonable prices. Everybody is welcome. Membership of the Society is not required and our concerts are open to all.

Forthcoming concerts:
22nd Feb 2020: Martin James Bartlett
28th March 2020: an evening with Tasmin Little OBE
9th May 2020: the Con Forza String Quintet

For full details of all the Society’s concerts and how to buy tickets go to: www.oxtedandlimpsfieldmusic-society.org.uk

www.hurstgreensingers.co.uk
These boots are made for walking and keeping fit to enjoy the festive fun!

As well as the magic of Christmas, December brings us cold days when all we want to do is snuggle up and keep warm indoors. Resist the temptation – rather than staying inside and hibernating this winter, why not be outside in the fresh air and experience the mood lifting effect and health benefits of a brisk winter walk?

What are you waiting for? – come and join us – a friendly group that enjoys talking whilst walking in the countryside, making new friends and having pub lunches. We also enjoy various social events throughout the year and organise holidays together, both in the UK and abroad. Each week we offer a selection of walks for different abilities, ranging from 3 – 12 miles. There’s bound to be one that suits you and you are welcome to walk with us on one or two occasions before you decide whether to join East Surrey Walkers. We’d love to have your company…

Pamela Cunniffe
www.eastsurreywalkers.org.uk

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS MAGAZINE:
Joy Moore
01883 713552
ads@lttm.org.uk

Paddy Monk
01883 715758
ads@lttm.org.uk

TO SHARE ART, NEWS, FEATURES OR REVIEWS IN THIS MAGAZINE:

Please send contributions by 15th January 2020
to:
PetersNews@lttm.org.uk

Don’t forget to include as many photos as you can!

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