

SPRING 2025

WEST HORSLEY INFO

News and information from West Horsley Parish Council

Wellbeing Special

Activities & Sports
in your Village

IN THIS ISSUE



Wellbeing Survey Included
in this issue



Free Village Facilities



Youth Council Sporting Event –
HORSLEY HUSTLE



Wildlife Welfare & Biodiversity





HELLO FROM THE WHPC CHAIRMAN

Welcome to our 2025 Spring-Summer Edition

As I write this the sun is at last shining and streaming through my window; so uplifting despite the cold frosty nights that follow. What a difference the sun makes – it raises a smile and feeling of wanting to get out and about. Perhaps some gardening – I hope so with West Horsley in Bloom 2025 around the corner. The children's gardening competition "Potatoes in a Pot" got off to a great start with their "planting-up." It effects our feelings of well-being no matter what age we are.

So, following discussions last year, we have been thinking about the concept of well-being and what we might do to help facilitate improving well-being in our Village community. This led to us setting well-being as a strategic aim for our next three years. More on this appears throughout this newsletter including our new initiative informed by our West Horsley Youth Council for study halls during the exam periods and a questionnaire to let us know what residents would like.



Cllr Elaine Best
chairman@westhorsley.info

I hope you will find this newsletter an interesting read and send best wishes for a sun-filled summer that's not too hot!!

Elaine Best – chairman@westhorsley.info

STATEMENT & STRATEGIC VISION

In preparation for our new financial year, the Council has reviewed its strategic plan for 2025-2028. Our vision remains to:

Preserve the community spirit and rural nature of West Horsley, including its architectural and landscape heritage, special characteristics, and environmental assets, for the benefit of residents of all ages. Our mission is to:

Continue to be a competent, progressive, inclusive, and efficiently run Parish Council that communicates well, works in partnership, delivers for its community, and has its voice heard.

We have four major strategic themes: community, innovation, place making and well-being. These cover such aspects of continuation of our Youth Council, securing a Parish Office, mitigating effects of climate change, addressing flooding, improving pavements, promoting biodiversity and the protection of wildlife, researching well-being need, delivering a programme of events and influencing statutory authorities.

We have set priorities for these strategic themes in our business plan for 2025/26. These include:

- submitting requests for infrastructure projects that can be set against housing developments
- maintaining and improving village appearance
- updating of the website and relevant digital platforms
- developing the Youth Council

- delivering activities and events that positively contribute to well-being
- supporting the Horsley Climate Action Network
- promoting biodiversity and maintaining the dark skies policy

Full details of our plans and priorities are set out in the paper Strategic Plan 2025-2028 available on our website. We welcome feedback from residents at any time and hopefully you joined us at our Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 29th April, at West Horsley Village Hall and found it informative.

Elaine Best – Chairman@westhorsley.info



Local Spring Flowers

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The views or opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those held by WHPC.

Front Cover: Taken by Editor of Daffodils on Nightingale Crescent, West Horsley

The
Henry Smith
Charity
founded in 1628

Please remember that our historic Village Parish Charity can give small grants to residents in need. Please make a request, in confidence, via the clerk@westhorsley.info or Tel 01483 901905.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Following the revised National Planning Policy Framework on 12 December 2024, changes continue to be implemented to planning policy to deliver on the government's ambitious promises to build more homes with the latest being The Planning and Infrastructure Bill introduced to Parliament on 11 March. To ensure that the West Horsley Neighbourhood Plan remains fit for purpose in protecting and shaping the development of our village, the Parish Council consider that the time is right to review our Plan this year. If you would like to be involved in the review or have any suggestions, please contact our deputy clerk.



TASK GROUPS COVERING YOUR VILLAGE

Regular Task Group meetings are held in addition to official Parish Council and Committee meetings. Here is an update from each Task Group, including the name and email for the lead councillors who you can contact if you have a query.

COMMUNICATIONS TASK GROUP

Please note that all Parish Councillors email addresses will be changing in the future to **@westhorsley-pc.gov.uk**. This is to ensure an extra security layer in our communications. This format has been adopted by many Parish Councils throughout the UK. In addition, our website will also be changing shortly to also carry the ".gov.uk" instead of ".info". Our Parish Council Village Newsletter will retain the same name with a minor omission of the "dot" to ensure continuity – as seen on this issue. Remember you don't have to live in West Horsley to receive our E-Bulletins or Digital Newsletters! Please sign up to our mailing list today.

Vanessa Buosi – cllrbuosi@westhorsley.info



THE COMMUNITY TASK GROUP

The Youth Council has created this fun summer event for people of all ages. On 1st June join us at West Horsley Place for a very fun run. Fear not, you do not have to run, you can jog or walk and there will also be free taster sessions of more accessible exercises to try. Fancy dress welcome! 2k, 5k and 10k routes to choose from. Teddy Bear's Picnic: This autumn event for children up to the age of 7 is a lovely opportunity for parents of young families to meet each other. While the children have a fun afternoon of games, a magic show and competitions, parents, grandparents, and guardians can have a cup of tea or coffee and get to know each other. Christmas Lantern parade: Another opportunity for those with children (for ages 4-11) to come together and celebrate community spirit in the festive season. Meet other families, have some drinks and nibbles, and join in our traditional lantern parade. Watch our website, noticeboards, and social media for detail. See the back page of this newsletter for up-and-coming dates for 2025.

Clare Clinton – cllrcinton@westhorsley.info

ROAD SAFETY & MAINTENANCE TASK GROUP

Inconsiderate parking is an increasing concern in our village. Vehicles are being parked encroaching on pavements causing safety concerns for pedestrians who are forced into the road to walk around them. Parking too close to driveway entrance and road junctions also creates difficulties for road users as visibility is greatly reduced.

We suggest you do not park on a pavement – not least because you risk being given a parking ticket! Several have been given already by the police. In the spirit of health and & wellbeing perhaps walk to our lovely pubs if you can.

Residents are encouraged to report any highway issue such as potholes and blocked drains via Surrey County Council's Fix My Street website. www.surreycc.gov.uk/do-it-online/report-it-online.

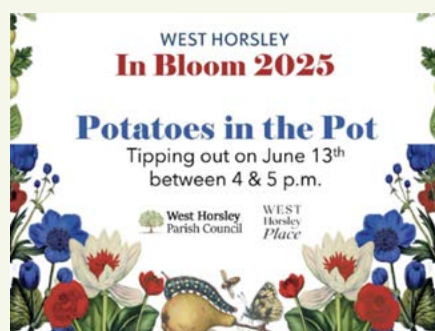
3 photographs can be uploaded to help 'show' the problem. If you need any assistance in reporting an issue, please contact our Deputy Clerk.

deputyclerk@westhorsley.info

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Parish Council's (PC's) financial year is 1st April to 31st March, as for all local authority organizations. When setting the budget, the PC attempts to be rigorous in its approach. Lower-level authorities are not exempt from the NIC increase. For the year starting 1st April 2025, the PC restricted the overall increase in the precept to marginally over 2.5% to take account of rising costs. However, when you received your Council Tax bill you will note that the PC element shows a reduction of 1.5%. The reason for this somewhat anomalous situation is that the figure in your Council Tax bill is based on the division of the PC precept by a calculated equivalent of Band D properties in the village. The number of properties has increased due to all the building in the village, possibly one good thing to come from the developments, so the figure in your Council Tax bill for the Parish Council Precept has been reduced.

Frances King – cllrfking@westhorsley.info



ASSETS & VILLAGE APPEARANCE TASK GROUP

Now that Winter has at long last disappeared and Spring is in the air, it is vital to the appearance of our beautiful village for all residents with main road frontage to comply with your obligation to maintain your property frontage and keep the village looking as neat as possible – Thank you. However, it is now the bird nesting season so, until September, any hedge trimming until September should be kept to a minimum or unless it impedes pedestrians. The blue hearts mark village zones where plants and wildflowers are encouraged to grow naturally, with reduced mowing encouraging biodiversity. We are looking to re-furbish Millennium Point, our viewpoint at the top of Sheepleas, which is now 25 years old and needs to be updated. If you haven't visited it yet, it's well worth a look! Our thanks must go to the Surrey Countryside team who have recently cleared many of the trees so that the far-reaching views towards the London skyline can be enjoyed.

It is very encouraging to see that the tennis court is being used regularly - it is an asset for the benefit of all residents so get the racquets out and have some fun! but don't forget to book in advance!

Tony Rogers cllrrogers@westhorsley.info





West Horsley Youth Council

"THE HORSLEY HUSTLE"!

West Horsley Youth Council is excited to welcome you to our third annual Horsley Hustle Fun Run which is taking place on Sunday 1st June in the grounds of West Horsley Place.

This ever-popular event is free to enter and open to absolutely anyone, totally irrespective of ability- you are welcome to walk, jog, or run at your own pace, and at the past two events we have had everyone from babies in prams to grandparents taking part!

Fancy dress is encouraged; there will be 2k, 5k, and 10k routes available and a range of food

and drink to enjoy after the races alongside a prizegiving ceremony for the winners and best costumes.

This year, we are looking to work with the Community Events & Wellbeing Task Group to develop this event further, with more on offer for everyone, so watch this space!

Make sure you are following us at [@westhorsleyyc](https://www.instagram.com/westhorsleyyc) on Instagram for more information as it arrives and check the Parish Council website for details of how to register your place soon.

THE HORSLEY HUSTLE



FUN RUN FOR ALL
WALK-JOG-RUN

SAVE THE DATE!

WEST HORSLEY PLACE, SUNDAY 1ST JUNE, 10.30AM – 1PM



West Horsley Parish Council

STUDENT STUDY HALL

A SAFE SPACE FOR HORSLEY TEENAGERS IN YEARS 10-13 TO REVISE FOR EXAMS



ALL STUDY HALL SESSIONS WILL BE SUPERVISED BY VOLUNTEERS WITH ENHANCED DBS CHECKS. LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

- 24 APRIL 5-7.30PM
- 25 APRIL 5-7.30PM
- 1 MAY 5-7.30PM
- 2 MAY 5-7.30PM
- 8 MAY NO SESSION
- 9 MAY 5-7.30PM
- 15 MAY 5-7.30PM
- 16 MAY 5-7.30PM
- 22 MAY *4.30-7PM*
- 23 MAY 5-7.30PM
- 29 MAY 5-7.30PM
- 30 MAY 5-7.30PM
- 5 JUNE 5-7.30PM
- 6 JUNE 5-7.30PM
- 12 JUNE 5-7.30PM
- 13 JUNE 5-7.30PM



THURS & FRI EVENINGS
APRIL-JUNE 5- 7.30 PM

WEST HORSLEY VILLAGE HALL
WWW.WESTHORSLEY.INFO



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO SUPERVISE SESSIONS PLEASE EMAIL CLL@CLINTON@WESTHORSLEY.INFO

SPRING VILLAGE LITTER PICK

Another successful litter pick with a huge turnout of volunteers finding the most unbelievable types of rubbish! There should be a vote for the most bizarre!



One of the biggest items collected

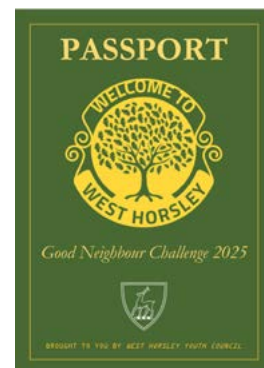


Our most recent event was a repeat of last year's Clothes Swap. The aim was to celebrate sustainable fashion in style, giving "preloved" clothes in good condition a new lease of life by accepting donations on Saturday 26th April which we then sorted and displayed for sale on Sunday 27th April. Donors were offered "tokens" for the value of their items which they could exchange for "new to them" clothes from amongst the other donations. We were overwhelmed, as last year, by the popularity of this concept, receiving thousands of pounds worth of donations and welcoming hundreds of shoppers to our sale. It was a stark but reassuring reminder that if we all "do our bit" in our own way we can make a big difference collectively, and it was very heartening to see such an excellent uptake for this eco-friendly initiative.

THE WEST HORSLEY GOOD NEIGHBOUR CHALLENGE

We have also been pleased to once again partner with The Raleigh School to deliver the Good Neighbour Challenge. Every student at the school was offered the chance to take part in this ten-week challenge which encouraged them to develop their social, historical, and environmental awareness through a range of tasks such as picking up litter, travelling to school on foot or by bike, and visiting lesser-known amenities in our village. We were pleased to see so many students take part once again and we loved visiting the school - a trip down memory lane for some- to distribute certificates and mementoes to the children, a fitting reward for their participation and commitment. Congratulations to all the new West Horsley Good Neighbours of 2025!

Youth Cllr Adrian, Chairman
youthcouncil@westhorsley.info
Vanessa Buosi Vice, Chair WHPC
mailto:cllrbusosi@westhorsley.info
Website: http://www.westhorsley.info/YOUTH_COUNCIL_38458.aspx



OUR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

This Spring's Wellbeing Newsletter highlights local groups that promote growing plants and vegetables as a therapeutic, socially engaging activity.

GRACE & FLAVOUR COMMUNITY KITCHEN GARDEN

Grace and Flavour is a no dig vegetable, fruit and cut flower community garden on Ripley Lane in West Horsley. The garden does not use any chemical herbicides or pesticides that would not meet organic standards. The garden is wildlife friendly too. We have about 60 active members at the moment. Our workdays are Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings. There are separate allotments alongside the community garden.

The membership is made up of a range of people with different physical capabilities. Some are extremely fit and relish the more physical aspects of gardening, for example we have to wheelbarrow hundreds of loads of manure and compost. Others are happier with slightly more gentle tasks of sowing, planting, thinning, weeding, and cropping. The members have a range of knowledge too, many come to learn about vegetable growing.

We plant over 1000 potatoes (and crop them) and 3000+ leeks as examples of the scale of the work. The garden grows, in addition to a wide range of vegetables, soft fruit, apples, pears, plums and quinces. We have an ever-expanding cut flower section.

The garden is an opportunity for a wide range of people from different backgrounds to socialise and work together on a common community project. Members take a great deal of pride in the garden. This winter we have had the chance to tidy and restore many parts of the garden. At this stage of the year people often say they have never seen the garden looking so good. However, the garden is better observed about the time of our NGS Open Day on Sunday



G&F in full bloom

27th July, when hopefully there will be a huge range of vegetables at their peak.

We are a self-financing community interest group. The vegetables we grow are mainly sold to our members at discounted prices, dependent on how many hours they work in the garden. This enables our members to potentially have an incredibly healthy lifestyle with zero miles vegetables to eat. In the summer we send out vegetable boxes to about 30 Horsley households who have restricted access to fresh produce for reasons such as age, immobility, or infirmity. We take a small amount of our vegetables to a food bank in Cobham. If we have surplus vegetables available mainly in the summer, we sell them after midday on Saturdays at the garden.

We always welcome new members.

www.graceandflavour.org

BIODIVERSITY TASK GROUP

Under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 there is a duty on public authorities in England to have regard to conserving biodiversity as part of their policy or decision making. Conserving biodiversity can include restoring or enhancing a population or habitat. Government guidance was published on 17 May 2023 asking councils to complete their first consideration of what action to take for biodiversity by 1 January 2024 and agree policies and objectives as soon as possible afterwards.

Arising from this the West Horsley Parish Council has formed a Biodiversity Task Group to consider what action can be taken to increase biodiversity within the Parish.

The first action is to develop a small wildflower meadow (sensory zone) within the Village Green.



HORSLEY GARDEN SOCIETY

In 2024, Horsley Garden Society concluded it was at least 100 years old and as a result is celebrating its centenary year with two exciting events. On April 5th we held our Spring Show at East Horsley Village Hall and are thrilled that 'Gardening Guru' Bob Flowerdew had agreed to give us a talk entitled "No work Gardening" whilst we enjoy a delicious afternoon tea. Bob, who will be very well-known to listeners of the BBC's Gardeners Question Time as an amusing and very knowledgeable panellist (especially on the topic of ingenious and sometimes surprising ways to make compost), is one of the founder members of the organic gardening movement. We welcomed the President of the Royal Horticultural Society, Mr Keith Weed to present the prizes to our Spring Show winners.

On June 10th, in East Horsley Village Hall, we are excited to announce that the BBC will be recording two episodes of Gardeners Question Time. At the time of going to press we do not know which celebrity panellists will be answering the questions, but it is sure to be a very entertaining evening. This event is open to the public and more information will be posted on our website nearer the time with details of how to apply for tickets.

Horsley Garden Society is a thriving local society with over a hundred members. New members are warmly invited to join us for interesting

talks, garden visits, seasonal workshops, and opportunities to take part in our friendly Spring and Summer shows if they wish. No gardening experience is required but enthusiasm is welcomed – our motto is Education, Enjoyment and Community!

Whilst we are celebrating our centenary, recent investigation has suggested that the society is much older. The West Horsley Village Hall Horticultural Society, was affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society of Great Britain by July 1924 as the Certificate of Merit, awarded to Miss Flora Smither for her Botanical Specimen, shows. It was assumed that this was the first show held by the Society, but surprisingly, information has come to light revealing that East and West Horsley and East Clandon Cottage Gardeners Society held its 53rd Annual Horticultural Show at Horsley Towers on 27th July 1916. We therefore could claim to be at least 160 years old and as such the celebrations this year are fully justified!



West Horsley Village Hall Event

WELLBEING IN WEST HORSLEY

An objective of WHPC is to help support the mental health and wellbeing of people who live in our parish. We define wellbeing as functioning well in life through having a sense of meaning and feeling connected to other people.

Our aim as a Parish Council is to offer opportunities to strengthen local, relevant networks to support a sense of wellbeing in the population that we serve.

Our mental health affects all of us. It includes our emotional, psychological, and social wellbeing. Our mental health affects how we think, feel and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others and make healthy choices.

Studies have shown that people tend to have greater resilience when they feel part of a community. We thrive when we have strong connections with others and supportive communities around us.

HOW YOUR PARISH COUNCIL CAN SUPPORT

As a parish council we are not mental health experts and cannot provide specialist services. However, we can respond to the need in our community by creating a programme of events and activities for all ages that will empower people to come together and feel happier.

These activities could range from opportunities to connect with nature, chances to socialise and make new friends, free fitness/walking groups and more. We would like to hear from you how we can enrich village life and lift our community.

We have a Community Events & Wellbeing Task Group made up of parish councillors and community volunteers. This group programmes and runs our community events and activities, including our wellbeing programme. If you would be interested in volunteering to support our work, please email clerk@westhorsley.info.



WEST HORSLEY WELLBEING SURVEY

West Horsley Parish Council wants to support our community's wellbeing. To do this in the most effective way possible we need to understand the requirements of our residents.

You can shape our free programme of wellbeing events and activities by helping us to better understand your wellbeing needs. You can do this by completing the West Horsley Wellbeing survey. Completing the survey should take less than five minutes of your time. All responses are anonymous, and the data collected will only be used by the Parish Council. What we learn will inform our wellbeing programme for the coming year.

This is your chance to let us know how you are feeling and what we can do support your journey to good mental health.

We need to hear from as many members of our community as possible, so please do share the QR code on page 7 with your family, neighbours, and local organisations!

SURVEY INSERTED INTO THIS ISSUE

If you require a further hard copy of the survey, please email clerk@westhorsley.info or call the parish office on **01483 901905**



WEST Horsley Place

A few upcoming events at West Horsley Place enabling the raising of funds to maintain the manor house which is a great asset within West Horsley.

Open Day: World War II

TUESDAY 13 & TUESDAY 27 MAY
10AM – 4PM

To commemorate the 80th anniversary of VE and celebrate Surrey Day, explore the World War II history at West Horsley Place, which housed Canadian soldiers.

Pottery Flowers and seed heads

WEDNESDAY 21 MAY
Create your own beautiful garden ceramics.

Portrait Masterclass

WEDNESDAY 28 MAY

Tudor Family Portraits

THURSDAY 29 MAY
Step back in time and imagine your family as Tudor nobles in this fun family painting workshop.

For ticket information and booking, please visit www.westhorsleyplace.org.
chrisie.paver@westhorsleyplace.org

WELLBEING IN WEST HORSLEY

NEW WELLBEING PROGRAMMES IN PLACE

A great example of this is our current Student Study Hall programme. We consulted the West Horsley Youth Council about how we could best support mental health and wellbeing for the teenagers in our community.

The Youth Council let us know that exam stress was a major source of anxiety for them. They suggested that the parish council could fund and deliver a safe space for 14-18s to revise for exams after school.

Thanks to support from the Horsley Community Fund, we have been able to offer two weekly Study Hall sessions at the Village Hall from mid-April to mid-June on Thursday and Friday evenings. Find out more info at www.westhorsley.info.

FUTURE IDEAS/CHANGES?

1. Improving the Information on our website

We will add signposting information on our website so that you have a one-stop place to go to find all the information you need about local wellbeing resources. We are lucky to live in a place that has so many brilliant community groups and organisations- you will be able to connect with groups like the WI, U3A, Wheel of Care or organisations like our churches and community garden via our website. We can also point you to medical, mental health and local authority services.

2. Social Opportunities

We could provide coffee and chat sessions for those that would like to socialise more and make new friends.

3. Connections with Nature

We could provide opportunities for our community to enjoy the benefits of nature on walks, garden visits, forest bathing or through expert talks.

4. Moving More

We could facilitate regular walk & talks or jogging groups.

Please help us to be as effective in supporting wellbeing in the village as we can by responding to our survey. The information we gather from survey responses will inform the types of wellbeing events and activities that we can provide as well as tell us which segments of our community could benefit.

You can respond to the survey digitally by scanning the QR code or you can respond by hard copy posting your completed survey to West Horsley Village Hall (marked FAO West Horsley Clerk) and dropping it in the WHPC letter box at the village hall.



West Horsley
Parish Council

STUDENT STUDY HALL

A SAFE SPACE FOR HORSLEY
TEENAGERS IN YEARS 10-13 TO REVISE
FOR EXAMS



ALL STUDY HALL SESSIONS WILL BE
SUPERVISED BY VOLUNTEERS WITH ENHANCED
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- 13 JUNE 5-7.30PM



THURS & FRI EVENINGS
APRIL-JUNE 5- 7.30 PM



WEST HORSLEY VILLAGE HALL
WWW.WESTHORSLEY.INFO

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO SUPERVISE SESSIONS PLEASE EMAIL CLLRCLINTON@WESTHORSLEY.INFO



GOODHART RENDELL COMMUNITY HALL (GRCH)

GRCH are running a range of events for local residents. The latest wellbeing events are the "Weekly Sound Bath Sessions" Sundays & Tuesday at 6.30 pm run by Vin. To secure your place contact vinnieweeden@gmail.com

WELLBEING THROUGH SPORTS AND FITNESS

Horsley & Send Cricket Club is a community club where cricket has been played since 1896. The club is a hidden gem, with two full size pitches set in beautiful Surrey countryside just off Ripley Lane. The club welcomes players of all ages, abilities and backgrounds and aims to provide an environment in which all can flourish. It currently has nearly 400 playing members, including around 300 junior members ranging from the ages of 4 to 18. In the summer there are cricket matches or training taking place virtually every day.

We run four adult teams; the 1st XI now plays at a very high level, having been promoted in three of the last four seasons, whilst the 4th XI is more social cricket and largely a mixture of the old and the young. Our junior section is thriving, with a growing girl's section which the club is very keen to expand further. We run "minis" sessions for U5s to U7s, boys and girls, on Saturday mornings with an emphasis on participation and fun. Older children and teenagers have structured training sessions in the week run by qualified coaches, which aim to develop their skills in an inclusive and fun environment. In total we run over 20 junior teams and play over 150 junior matches against other clubs. The club aims to instil a lifelong love of cricket, and we involve juniors in adult cricket as soon as they are ready for it.

Having two quality pitches means the club's facilities are in high demand. In 2024, we hosted a men's Surrey Club Cup Finals Day, the Women's T20 Surrey Slam Finals Day, and numerous Surrey Seniors County fixtures. There will be more of the same this year.

A lot has been happening at the club recently, both on the field and off it. Last year we employed a new groundsman, who has improved the quality of the pitches further. We have attracted some excellent new players for this season and the 1st XI will be pushing hard for yet another promotion. We have also attracted new, highly qualified coaches for both girls and boys. New and generous sponsors will help our ambition to improve the facilities further. It is truly exciting times.

Finally, the clubhouse was refurbished over the winter and is now a sleek and modern-looking facility available to both cricketers and non-cricketers alike. If you are looking for a venue for a meeting, an exercise class, a party, or anything really, do get in touch with the club.

So, if you want to get into or back into cricket or just want to relax in a wonderful environment on a Saturday afternoon, Horsley & Send is the place for you. For more information, visit www.horsleyandsendcc.co.uk and follow the club on social media (IG - horsleyandsendcc; Facebook - Horsley and Send Cricket Club).



Brave Biker!



Horsley Football Club Reserve team - 2025
Guildford & Woking Alliance Division 2 Champions



ANNIE EMMERSON

Annie Emmerson last featured in our 2022 sport and wellbeing newsletter. Annie is delighted to announce the launch of a new Podcast.

The Be Braver Podcast brings experts and guests together to tell the stories of those who have found the courage to step outside their comfort zone and chase big seemingly unrealistic goals.

So if you have ever thought about changing careers, learning a new skill or language, climbing a mountain or doing an extreme sporting challenge then sit tight and hear from those who have achieved those dreams. After all, life is not a dress rehearsal.

Hosts are Annie Emmerson and Josie Perry. Annie went from party girl to international triathlete. Former world number one and turned broadcaster and motivational speaker.

Dr Josephine (Josie) Perry is a former communications Director who has become a Chartered Sport Psychologist and author and often found on the gymnastic's air track trying to master handsprings.

Annie Emmerson and Dr Josie Perry
<https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/the-be-braver-podcast/id1803234893?i=1000702960449>

WELLBEING THROUGH CONNECTIONS



Entry is now open for this year's West Horsley in Bloom gardening competition, open to all West Horsley residents, businesses, and community groups.

The best way to enter is to complete the online entry form. Alternatively, you can email your name, address and contact number with a list of the categories you wish to enter to westhorsleyinbloom@gmail.com; or give Heather a call on 07881 833197.

The categories are:

- Back Garden
- Front Garden
- Vegetable Garden
- Sustainability Champion
- First Time Entry
- Non-Residential, Large
- Non-Residential, Small
- Grace and Flavour Allotment
- Container

Closing date for entries is **Sunday 1 June**. Judging on **Mon 9 & Tues 10 June**. All entrants will be invited to the Presentation Evening on Friday 27 June.

All the details are available on the [Parish Council's website](#)

FRIENDS OF HORSLEY STATION

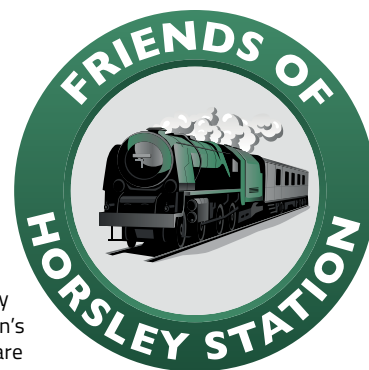
Horsley Station Celebrated 200 years of railway on April 12th of this year. An event enjoyed by East and West alike. The Friends of Horsley Station, whilst researching our station's 140th birthday, established that we are lucky to have a footbridge! Yes, the joyous 46 steps we enjoy today only arrived in around 1905.

For the first twenty years, intrepid users of London bound Platform One, Horsley and Ockham & Ripley Station (as it then was) were likely to have three options. First, they could leg it up to the Guildford end of the platform. There they could take their chances on the wooden "barrow crossing" built for porters.

Second, if they were still feeling lucky, they could use the narrower, centrally located, and boarded foot crossing which was technically only for station staff. The last option would have been to use portable steps put in place on either side by station staff. From there users could step down and play hopscotch over the ballast, sleepers, and rails, making sure they clambered up the other side before a train approached and the steps were hauled up.

Still feeling negative about those 46 steps!

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MEN'S LUNCH CLUB

The Horsley Lunch Club for Men started in January 2025 and currently has very enthusiastic members, who vary in ability and experience, but all of them want to learn new skills, new recipes, gain confidence and have a sociable time in a zero-pressure environment.

We have carers, a widower and men who were simply told by their wives to join!

The key is cooking real food from scratch that can be replicated at home. The recipes can be prepared as a single portion or in batches for freezing.

The original intention was to run one session a month, but because of the popularity and interest this new Club has generated we are now running two sessions each month.

At the first session in March, we were being given a brilliant knife skills lesson by Collin Addison the Head Chef from The King William IV (aka The King Billy). It is great to see the pub supporting local clubs & societies.

Over the first five sessions the group has cooked sweet and sour chicken, a sausage and red pepper hotpot, turkey mince curry, a chicken stroganoff along with vegetables and a Bolognese sauce with pasta. Some of these recipes have now been cooked at home and it is good to know that they and their family are still alive.

Without the financial support of The Horsley Community Fund and the enthusiasm from them together with the Rev Phil Herrington and his team from St Mary's this project would never have started, and the Club are very grateful for all that they have done. The Club has just had 2 grant applications approved by WHPC & EHPC to cover the costs of another cooking station which will allow us to take on even more members.

The Club is open to all men of all ages, abilities, and location. You do not need to live in East or West Horsley.

There is no mandatory charge, but we suggest a donation of £4 to help support the success of the Club and cover food costs only. If you can bring your own apron and a sense of humour. Everything else is then provided!

If you would like more information, please contact Edward via horsleylunchclubformen@gmail.com or call on **01483 285394**.



Elaine Best Chair of West Horsley Parish Council awards Winner of Best Dressed

WELLBEING IN WEST HORSLEY

COVID-19 5 YEARS ON NATIONAL REFLECTION DAY WAS 9TH MARCH 2025

Last autumn St Martin's Church, during their service of dedication for the newly installed stained-glass windows marking the covid years, gifted residents of East and West Horsley each an oak tree. This to be a lasting memorial to "honour the community spirit of the Horsleys through the pandemic." On the National Day of Reflection (9th March), exactly five years from when the pandemic hit the UK, I was delighted to welcome Renos Pittarides Rector and the Churchwardens of St Martins, the Chairman and Director of West

Horsley Place and our Rector Phil Herrington who, with me, formally received the tree on behalf of West Horsley residents. My thanks go to WHP Trustees and Matt Link, estate manager, who planted the oak located in the field opposite Place Farm Barn. A plaque has been placed alongside. I hope residents will wander across and take a look when visiting West Horsley Place. If it does as well as our Village Green oak, it will be thriving in 400+ years' time!

Elaine Best – Chairman@westhorsley.info



From small acorns grow mighty Oaks



Elaine Best – Chair WHPC, St Martin's Rev Renos Pittarides & Chris Jany St Mary's Rev Phil Herrington, West Horsley Place Giles Reid Keith Bannister – incoming chairman and his wife Lorraine and Matt Link, Head G roundsman

HORSLEY LIBRARY

Libraries are important spaces for young families as reading brings profound and wide-ranging benefits that can have a lifelong positive impact on children's lives. Shared reading is a valuable bonding activity, creating opportunities for joint attention and emotional closeness between a child and their parent or carer.

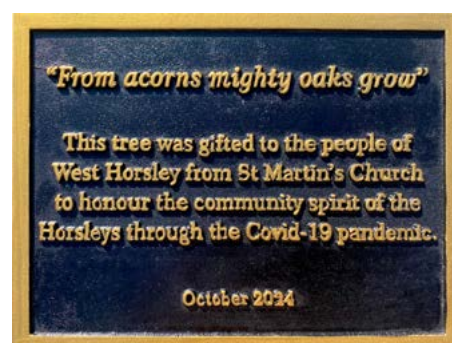
On Friday mornings at Horsley Library there are weekly rhymetime sessions aimed at babies and toddlers, aged under five, along with their mums, dads, and carers. The events are based entirely on sharing nursery rhymes, action songs and percussion music. They are fun, interactive, and noisy! Nursery rhymes are great for language development, they have a lot of rhythm which catch baby's attention, and repetition, which is good for speech development. It is also a wonderful way of introducing babies and toddlers to their local library. Rhymetimes are free and are a wonderful opportunity for dads, mums, carers and children to make new friends in a relaxed setting.

The library is currently looking for a new volunteer to join the Rhymetime team who would be available biweekly, volunteering every other Friday 10-11.15am to help with leading this activity. If you would be interested in joining Rhymetime as a volunteer or participant, do call by the library when it is open to find out more.

ST MARYS CHURCH

"Wellbeing" has become a multi-billion-pound industry seeking to cure the restless souls of people navigating the challenges of life. I have benefitted hugely from Pilates, and enjoy slow walks in nature with my dog, yet it is still easy to feel unsatisfied at a deeper soul level. At that point, I turn to the ancient wisdom of the Bible, and Jesus: "Are you tired? Worn out? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me – watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace.... Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly." Learning the unforced rhythms of grace. That is what we need.

*Rev'd Philip Herrington
Rector, West Horsley*



OUR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

LIGHT POLLUTION & WILDLIFE WELFARE AT NIGHT

"Street lighting does not feature anywhere within the village, which nowadays is an unusual characteristic. The darkness at night is one of the key characteristics of rural areas and it represents a major difference between what is rural and what is urban. Security lights, floodlights and streetlights all break into the darkness and create a veil of light across the night sky. CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England)

As such, care and consideration must be employed going into the future, to ensure that the level of light spill does not increase any further, which would undermine the character of this Conservation Area".

Guildford Borough Council

Our Village is still vulnerable to light spill, much of it is wasting energy, shining upwards where it is not needed, spilling into homes & streets, and affecting the behaviour of wildlife. Light pollution negatively impacts wildlife by disrupting natural behaviours, such as migration, foraging, and reproduction, and can lead to disorientation, habitat loss, and increased mortality. The map shows light pollution in West Horsley (the brighter the colour the greater the light pollution).

Please consider how much light spill you are creating:

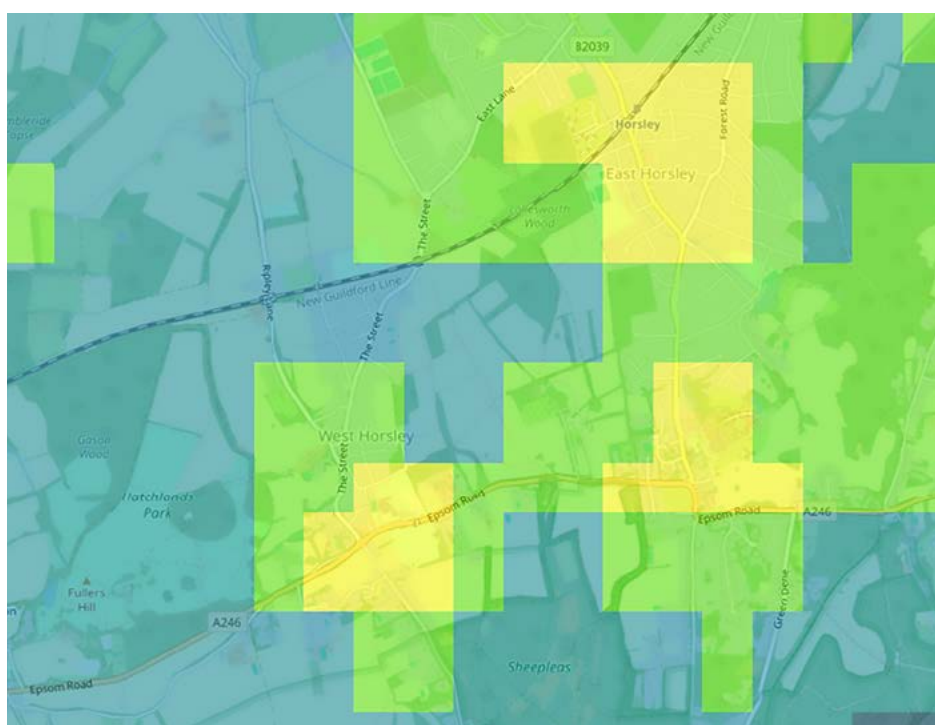
- Direct any lighting downwards as far as possible.
- Use a movement sensor that restricts the length of time the lights remain on.
- Do not use bright white LED lights but rather a warm white, if only bright white lighting is available for the purpose use lighting gel to reduce the glare.
- Never leave your outside lights on all night

Please note for Planning & Development

Policy WH15 of the West Horsley Neighbourhood Plan 2016-33 (pg51-58), relates to 'Dark Skies'.

"All development proposals should be designed to minimise the occurrence of light pollution. The Parish Council will expect such schemes to employ energy-efficient forms of lighting that also reduce light scatter and comply with the current guidelines established for rural areas by the Institute of Lighting Professionals (ILP). Proposals for all development will be expected to demonstrate how it is intended to prevent light pollution. Information on these measures must be submitted with applications, and where a development would potentially impact on light levels in the area, an appropriate lighting scheme will be secured by planning condition."

Although the above relates to new developments the same principles should be applied to all new lighting schemes. Thank you for your support.



HORSLEY C.A.N. (CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK) UPDATE

Nature Recovery – Spring into Action was our key event this year held in March. The talk featured four key speakers from SCC, SWT, GEF and the Surrey Hills National Landscape. Focusing on what we can all do in our gardens and local areas to preserve and enhance wildlife; it was a lively informative evening. Details of the Surrey Nature Recovery programme and how you can help can be found here: <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/land-planning-and-development/local-nature-recovery-strategy-lhrs>

The Blue Hearts initiative to reduce mowing on the verges to preserve and enhance the natural environment, continue to be located across East and West Horsley, in places identified by the C.A.N. team. The Repair Café is held on the first Saturday morning of each month between 10 -12.30 in the Canterbury Rooms adjacent to St Martin's Church. The C.A.N. are working on a group project to support a plastic free Horsley, to coincide with national 'Plastic Free July' And don't forget, you can recycle pill packets, glasses and make up in our local Library! If you would like to lead a Climate Change project please contact Catherine Young, Chair, Horsleys' C.A.N.

Catherine Young, Borough Councillor for Clandon & Horsley: Catherine.young@guildford.gov.uk



Night Wildlife: Credit: P Marazzi



West Horsley Parish Council

HORSLEY CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

ARTS

Horsley & Clandon Society of Arts
Robyn Cormack Tel: 01483 224063

Horsley Craft Group
Jody Fern Tel: 01483 284437

The Arts Society Horsley
www.theartsocietyhorsley.org.uk

The Arts Society Horsley Lovelace
www.theartsocietyhorsleylovelace.org.uk

CLUBS

University of the Third Age (u3a)
www.horsleyu3a.org.uk

East Horsley Women's Institute
Helen Taylorson Tel: 01483 283577

West Horsley Evening Women's Institute
Pam Tel: 01483 281798

West Surrey Natural History Society
Tel: 01372 457623

The Probus Club of the Horsleys
David Lush Tel: 01483 280267

Rotary Club of Bookham & Horsley
Mark Secker Tel: 01372 458733

Grace & Flavour Community Garden
www.graceandflavour.org

East Horsley Bridge Club
www.bridgewebs.com/easthorsley

Horsley Floral Decoration Group
Ruth Farmer Tel: 01483 202440

Horsley Garden Society
Terry Lazenby Tel: 01483 284232

Beehive Craft Group
www.easthorsleychurch.org.uk

The Horsley Wheel of Care
www.horsleywheelofcare.co.uk

DRAMATICS & CHORAL

The Nomad Theatre
www.nomadtheatre.com

The Whips Players
www.whipstheatre.org

Horsley Choral Society
www.horsleychoralsociety.com

YOUTH

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts & Explorer Scouts
www.firsthorsley.co.uk

4th Horsley Brownies
Email: horsleybrownies@yahoo.co.uk

1st West Horsley Brownies
Email: westhorsleybrownies@gmail.com

1st Horsley Guides
Karlennie Peach Tel: 01483 224692

SPORTS & ACTIVITIES

Sports facilities & Skatepark
Kingston Meadow, Kingston Avenue

The Horsley Shufflers – running group
www.facebook.com/HorsleyShufflers

Horsley Football Club, West Horsley
www.horsleyfc.co.uk

Effingham and Leatherhead RFC
<https://eaglesrugby.club>

West Horsley Community Club
Snooker & Pool
Robert Elliott Tel: 07702 922217

Effingham Table Tennis Club
Tim Hobbs Tel: 01372 452197

Horsley Tennis Club
www.horsleysportsclub.com

Horsley Badminton Club
www.horsleybadminton.co.uk

Horsley Cricket Club
www.horsleysportsclub.com

Effingham Cricket Club
www.effinghamcc.co.uk

Horsley and Send Cricket Club
www.horsleyandsendcc.co.uk

WEST HORSLEY VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall is a community facility with 2 halls, one with a stage, and one smaller room. The original, Main Hall, was built in 1923 and by early January 1924 it was being hired out. The exact date is unknown, but research shows it must have been between July and December 1923. There were extensions to the Main Hall in 1962 funded by Sir Eric Bowater who was living at Dene Place at the time. Also, a building known as 'The Hut' was replaced by the Cedar Room, known as such as it was built using Red Cedar from Canada, the birthplace of Sir Eric. Until 1962 it was operated by the Parish Council, but under a Deed of Trust the running of the buildings and associated playground was handed over to the West Horsley Village Hall Management Committee. The Committee comprises representatives of the main hirers of the hall and members of the public. It is well used by many local organizations, groups, and individuals for a full range of activities. Even though well used there are times when it is available for hire, please go to www.westhorsleyvillagehall.org/availability

WEST HORSLEY PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR 2025

We hope you save the dates for our following events confirmed so far in 2025. Please keep an eye on our website for further details: westhorsley.info

- **8 May** - VE Day: We will come together as a community to commemorate the 80th anniversary of VE day.
- **1 June** - Horsley Hustle: Join us for a morning of fun and improve your fitness too! This event is created and run by the WH Youth Council and is for all ages and fitness levels.
- **9 & 10 June** - Judging Days for West Horsley in Bloom
- **27 June** - West Horsley in Bloom Awards Presentation



MEET THE TEAM

Join us at our Monthly meetings (third Tuesday of the Month) and have your say about your village! If you can't make it sign up to our mailing list to be up to date on current projects, events and issues affecting West Horsley.

PARISH COUNCIL CONTACTS



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STEPHEN SKINNER
cllrskinner@westhorsley.info

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS & WEBSITES

Neighbourhood Policing Team
Tel: 101
guildford@surrey.police.uk

GBC Refuse Collection
Tel: 01483 505050
www.guildford.gov.uk

Slyfield Recycling Centre
Tel: 01483 532187

Guildford Borough Council
<https://my.guildford.gov.uk/customers/s/>

Water Leaks
Tel: 0345 357 2407
www.affinitywater.co.uk

Gas Leaks
Tel: 0800 11 19 99

Electricity Power Cuts
Tel: 0800 31 63 105 or 105 (Mobile)
www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk

Flooding & Waterways
www.gov.uk

Environment incident hotline
Tel: 0800 80 70 60
www.gov.uk

Surrey County Council
www.surreycc.gov.uk/do-it-online/

SCC Highways Roads & Transport
www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport

Floodline:
Tel: 0345 988 1188