

THAMES DITTON • WESTON GREEN • EAST MOLESEY

THAMES DITTON TODAY



THE MAGAZINE OF THE
THAMES DITTON & WESTON GREEN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

A U T U M N 2 0 2 6



**ARE YOU CONSIDERING AN EXTENSION, LOFT
CONVERSION, OUTBUILDING, OR ANY OTHER
ALTERATION OR ADDITION TO YOUR PROPERTY?**

Thames Design and Build provides architectural design and/or construction services to clients across Surrey, with over 80% of our projects being Elmbridge based.

We offer:

- A free consultation to discuss your ideas and advise you on the possibilities and permissions
- A fixed quote for all stages of architectural work
- A fixed quote for your build – we are equally happy to provide a build quote in respect of your existing designs

We have a large portfolio of clients within Elmbridge, so whatever your plans are, we should be able to show you a comparable completed project.



Please email us at **info@thamesdesignandbuild.com**
or visit the website **www.thamesdesignandbuild.com**





THAMES DITTON TODAY

THE MAGAZINE OF THE
THAMES DITTON & WESTON GREEN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY SINCE 1970

Editor

Paul Ovington
editor@residents-association.com
07889874889

Magazine Design

Guy Holman
14 Hayward Road, KT7 0BE
020 8398 1770

Distribution

David Youd
6 Riversdale Road
Thames Ditton KT7 0QL
020 8398 3216

Advertisement Manager

Verity Park
07989896844

Editorial

Contributors

Julie Royce, Louise Russell

Readers are welcome to submit
articles or images. Please contact
the Editorial Team at **editor@
residents-association.com**

Advertisers

Thames Ditton Today is delivered
to an influential 5000 households
throughout Thames Ditton, Weston
Green and East Molesey. Contact
Verity Park for rates for full page,
half and quarter page advertising.

In this Issue:

News from the Residents Association	7
Update from your Residents' Association Councillors at Elmbridge Borough Council.....	12
Update from Nick Darby, your Surrey County Councillor	15
Save our High Street campaign	19
Nature & Climate Festival pull-out programme.....	23
Volunteer to be a flood warden.....	27
Can Marney's Pond be saved	31
Community stalwart Frankie Bell retires.....	35
Local events in pictures.....	39
Summer Crossword Solution and winners and Diary Dates	42
Autumn Crossword.....	43
Services, Clubs, Societies and Groups	44
Vera Fletcher Hall Autumn theatre productions	46

**Cover: *Thames Ditton island suspension footbridge painted by
Susie West* www.artistsusiewest.com**

www.residents-association.com

Officers and staff of the Association are volunteers, but we must fund costs of this magazine, administrative and election expenses, and other expenses such as spring bulb-planting and village Christmas trees. The subscription is only £5 per household. If you can contribute more, please do so. Subscriptions can be paid via our website **www.residents-association.com**; subscriptions (in an envelope please) may be left at View, 34 High Street, Thames Ditton or Thorhill Road Pharmacy, 94 Thorhill Road, Thames Ditton. Or mail to Membership Secretary Peter Haynes at 6 Onslow Gardens, Thames Ditton KT7 0JJ. Thank you.

Published by the Thames Ditton and Weston Green Residents' Association
Printed by Impress Print Services Ltd., Unit 10, 19 Lyon Road, Hersham, Walton on Thames, Surrey KT12 3PU

DanceCraft

at All Saints Weston, Esher

Come dance with us!

New

**PRE-SCHOOL
INFANT
AND
JUNIOR CLASSES**

starting
5th September



Contact Maria



07800 860 898



mias33@hotmail.co.uk



PAINTERS & DECORATORS

We are a team of residential painters and decorators with over 30 years of experience. We are friendly, skilled professionals offering a full range of interior and exterior decorating services.

Contact Clive Hogg
to discuss your decorating needs.

m: 07957 582296

t: 020 8339 0712

e: clive.hogg.ch@gmail.com



15 Hampton Court Avenue,
East Molesey. Surrey. KT8 0BG



TREE CUTTING / PRUNING
HEDGE CUTTING
GARDEN SERVICES & CLEARANCE
TREE PLANTING / STUMP REMOVAL
PRESSURE WASHING
& MORE

CALL 07745145433

--- Free Quote & Advice ---



THAMES DITTON AND WESTON GREEN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

About the Association

Founded in 1934 the Residents' Association is a strong, locally based non-party-political organization, concerned with protecting the amenities and furthering the interest of residents.

We work to preserve and enhance the best in our attractive environment and the quality of life of everyone in our community.

Through regular meetings, social activities, our magazine and website we keep in touch with residents' views and we raise and spend funds for the benefit of the community, from tree and bulb planting to contesting unacceptable development projects.

With six Residents' Councillors we have a strong voice on Elmbridge Council, working with other residents' councillors to ensure that decisions are based on the needs of local communities and on good management, rather than on party politics. Our Residents' County Councillor, Nick Darby, represents our views at Surrey County Council.

President: Martin Wilberforce

7 River Avenue,
Thames Ditton 020 8398 4732

Vice President: Ruth Lyon,

11 Riversdale Road,
Thames Ditton 0208 398 3396

Vice President: Tannia Shipley,

27 Lower Green Road, Esher 020 8398 2484

Surrey County Councillor: Nick Darby,

12 Basing Close, Thames Ditton 07719 728725

Thames Ditton Borough Councillors

Alex Batchelor,
12 Hayward Road, Thames Ditton 07710 943140

Caroline James,
Laurel Cottage, 20 High Street,
Thames Ditton 07970 672723

Elaine Sesemann 07801 943392

Hinchley Wood & Weston Green Borough Councillors

Gill Coates,
The Oaks, Orchard Gate, Esher 020 8873 3040

Janet Turner, 2 Montgomery Ave,
Hinchley Wood 020 8398 1565

James Crawshaw 07500 688632

Officers

Acting Chair: Florian Traub

Hon. Treasurer: Christa Silverthorne
62 Thorkhill Road, Thames Ditton 020 8398 7101

Hon. Secretary: Florian Traub,
33 Portsmouth Avenue, Thames Ditton 07917 643 224

Membership Secretary: Peter Haynes
6 Onslow Gardens, Thames Ditton 020 8398 6019

Conveners of Sub-Committees

Health and Community: Karen Randolph
07947 571019

High Street and Business: Sam Brierley
19 Aragon Avenue
Thames Ditton. 07793 824294

Planning: Rhodri Richards,
Ditton Cottage, Giggs Hill Road,
Thames Ditton 020 8398 4962

Highways, Drainage: Andrew Roberts,
1 Boyle Farm Road, Thames Ditton
andrew.roberts9919@gmail.com

Flooding: Tony Thompson,
Willow End, River Bank, Thames Ditton 07736 677671



THE NEXT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION OPEN MEETING IS

Tuesday 29 September 8.15pm - Vera Fletcher Hall

ALL WHO LIVE AND WORK LOCALLY ARE WELCOME

Music Lessons @ All Saints Church
Chestnut Avenue, Weston Green KT10 8JL



Piano, Flute, Song Writing and Theory

Specializing in adult education
 Adults and Children Welcome

07722574625
 colleenmuriel@hotmail.com.

elflauto.ca

**Antique Clock
 Restoration & Repair**

Specialising in Grandfather, Dial,
 Bracket and Carriage Clocks

Contact: Mark Rowe M.B.H.I
 BADA Diploma. Member of the Watch &
 Clockmakers Guild. West Dean Diploma.



Tel: 020 8605 0331

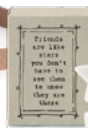
www.theclockgallery.co.uk

Additional Restoration services available
 for Watches, Books, Ceramics and Fine Furniture.
 Antique Clocks also bought and sold.

back to school...



...and off to uni!



love thames ditton
 sh♥plocal

view
 thames ditton

34 High Street Thames Ditton KT7 0RY 020 8972 9706

@ViewGifts

www.view-gifts.com

designed in-house by view thames ditton

The latest news from the Residents' Association



Fountain roundabout

Despite the heatwave we are fortunate to still have the welcoming floral display at the Fountain Roundabout. We are indebted to Gareth and Claire Jones for not only planting the geraniums but for ensuring they have survived throughout the summer with daily watering. Residents of Speer Road, they took over the planting and maintenance a year ago and will in due course be planting the winter display.



Gareth and Claire are pictured by the Fountain with their dog Dolly



Our front cover

The front cover of this Autumn edition front cover is a painting by Brighton artist Susie West of the Thames Ditton island suspension footbridge. Susie is travelling and painting her way around Britain's cities, towns and villages, creating a series of travel poster prints from her own original acrylic paintings - 221 places so far, including Thames Ditton, Hampton Court, Esher Green and several of Surbiton. Visit www.artistsusiewest.com

New Lib Dem Councillors vote themselves a 60 per cent allowance rise

The new Liberal Democrat 'shadow' councillors wasted no time in ensuring they are fully compensated for their efforts by voting themselves a huge pay rise in their first ever meeting. The independent panel that advises on Councillors' allowances suggested they should each get £12,072, as the new East Surrey authority is not fully operational until 1 April 2027. While West Surrey were happy to adopt the panel's recommendation, the new Councillors voted to pay themselves £19,315 this year, compared with the current basic Elmbridge allowance of just £5,876 annually. East Surrey is already facing a funding gap of over £40 million when it takes over.



Al is pictured with his Award

Al wins another award

Alaa 'Al' Habooby of Cafe Noir on Thames Ditton Station and Thames Ditton Tennis Club has won Best Thames Ditton Independent 2026 in this year's Love Elmbridge Awards. The Awards celebrate the fabulous independent shops and businesses across the borough with Al clinching the Award seven times for Thames Ditton over the years, an incredible achievement, which is testimony to his excellent customer service and quality. He said: "It's a real honour to win the Award again as it's voted for by my dear friends and customers who I have had the privilege to serve over many years."

New RA website

The new Residents' Association website has recently been launched to offer an improved user experience with better visuals and content to help residents keep up with the latest news, community projects, campaigns and local history.

We are grateful to The Set Up Design agency in Thames Ditton for their work in building and designing the new site. Visit www.residents-association.com

Curtains rescued

Thames Ditton Boomerang Bags sewing bees have come to the rescue to save the velvet stage curtains at the Vera Fletcher Hall. The curtains have been up for over 30 years and were too heavy to dismantle so the sewing group made the repairs in situ, with three of the ladies holding up the material whilst a fourth operated a sewing machine. The red velvet drapes now have a stunning black velvet trim, hopefully fit for the stage for another 30 years.

Adding to the update of the Vera Fletcher Hall, 17 solar panels have recently been installed to help reduce energy costs and lower the carbon footprint allowing the VFH to continue to serve the community for generations to come.



Pictured (left to right) are Ruth Allen, Pam Pinkett, Hermione Delamere (who also runs the Vera Fletcher Hall Theatre) and Julie Turner.

Queens Road in Bloom

Janie Walford and Pammie Bannister were the joint winners of the annual Queens Road Blooms best front garden competition voted for by all residents. Prizes were generously provided by the Secret Garden Florist in Thames Ditton and Squires Garden Centre.



Janie is pictured outside her home

New retirement village opens

Around 20 families will be the first people moving into Birchgrove's new retirement village, the Hampton Court Estate in Summer Road, Thames Ditton, when it welcomes its first residents in October. Many are from the local area or are moving to the village to be nearer families who live locally. Birchgrove, the only provider of 'rental only' retirement homes, is offering a selection of 78 apartments – a mix of 1, 2 and 3 bedrooms – in three separate buildings, each with their own roof gardens. It has a 24-hour concierge service, a restaurant and bar, wellness studio, landscaped gardens and on-site parking with more than 80 EV charging points.

Trustees wanted

Lynton in Thames Ditton has been providing affordable sheltered housing for nearly 60 years. Set up by a group of

local people, the not-for-profit company Thames Ditton Homes Ltd, currently offers 15 units and now needs some additional voluntary 'trustees' to join its voluntary management committee. The current chair Libby MacIntyre describes it as a great opportunity to get involved in a friendly organisation contributing to the community. She says: "We are looking for a new treasurer and one or two others with general business, housing or HR skills. Most of all we are looking for people who want to get involved in delivering for the community." The commitment is just a few hours a month including meetings. For an informal chat and to find out more, contact Libby on 07706 464001 or email data@tdhlynton.uk

New Dental Studio opens

We welcome to the village, Dr Senthil Thiagarajan, who has opened a new general dental and implant practice, Advanced Dental Studio, in Walpole House, St Leonards Road (the old HSBC building). He has completely renovated and redesigned the building to feature all new treatment rooms, equipment and the latest technology to deliver a quiet and calm environment for patients. Senthil, who originally worked as a dentist in Kingston, moves to Thames Ditton having sold his previous practice in Ipswich.



Senthil is pictured with his wife Sangeetha

Kingston Hospital Radio

Did you know you can listen to Kingston Hospital Radio – even if you're not in hospital! KHR broadcasts online 24/7 with a great variety of programmes – jazz, opera, country and folk, dance anthems, world music – you name it. There is a weekly feature called, 'Every Life has a Soundtrack' where our regular TD Today contributor, Julie Royce, interviews someone from the local community about their lives and the music that shaped them. If you wish to nominate someone do contact Julie on KHRrequest@yahoo.co.uk



Julie (right) is pictured with Thames Ditton pottery teacher Louise Tumazos.

Climate Festival & Photo Competition

The fifth Thames Ditton & Weston Green Nature & Climate Festival will be held from 9 to 11 October. There is something for everyone including a rare chance to see some nature-inspired items in the collection of Elmbridge Museum and an opportunity

to watch the People's Emergency Briefing, the must-see film about the impacts of climate change. See the pull-out programme in the centre pages. In addition, the entry deadline for the Nature & Climate Photography Competition, sponsored by Killik & Co, has been extended to 18 September. Email entries to gcoates@residents-association.com. There are cash prizes for the winners.



Don't Bin It: Repair it!

Since March our community has had its own Repair Cafe - a volunteer-run service where broken household items are repaired free of charge to keep them in circulation, rather than ending up in landfill. The first Repair Cafe was held in the Netherlands in 2009 and since then a network of over 2500 has been set up around the world. Repairs are done by volunteers so success isn't guaranteed, but so far the local team have managed to repair most things. The Repair Cafe @Vital Village usually runs on the last Saturday of the month (except December), although there will be occasional weekday 'pop-ups' and they will be at the Nature & Climate Festival. Typically there are specialists covering electricals, fabrics and clothes and anything from ceramics to woodwork. To date they have repaired a wide variety of items from the obvious like vacuum cleaners, kettles and broken zips to the more unusual such as a wig tin, a slide viewer and a delicate parasol. Book a repair at www.TDNature.org and let the team try to fix it.



THE HAMILTON GOLD COMPANY

SURREY'S PREMIER JEWELLERS AND GOLD BUYERS

We specialise in

- ❖ Scrap gold & silver
- ❖ Investment gold & silver
- ❖ Probate valuations
- ❖ Jewellery alterations
- ❖ Vintage jewellery
- ❖ Swiss watches
- ❖ Engagement & wedding rings
- ❖ Signet rings



Jordan Hamilton

07354 783207

Info@HamiltonGoldCompany.com

www.HamiltonGoldCompany.com

16A High Street, Thames Ditton



SCAN ME



Update from your Residents' Association

Thames Ditton Ward



Elaine Sesemann
TDWGRA



Caroline James
TDWGRA



Alex Batchelor
TDWGRA

Planning Updates

Following approval in March for an **Aldi supermarket on Portsmouth Road** in Thames Ditton (on the old 'Guy Salmon' site), Aldi is now in the process of submitting details to discharge the pre-commencement conditions. Hoarding has been erected and minor internal works and exploratory works to gather the necessary information for the conditions are taking place on-site.

Development at Bransby Lodge. St Leonards Road, Thames Ditton: Planning permission was granted in June for the application 2026/0758.

Housing development on the site of **Hill Park Roses, Woodstock Lane South, Long Ditton**. Following refusal of the application in March, an appeal has been received to be heard at a public enquiry at Elmbridge Civic Centre on 12 January 2027. The exact programme for the enquiry will be agreed nearer to the time, but members of the public will be able to observe the proceedings and register to speak at the enquiry if they wish to.

Mill Road Depot (2025/3216) The application for changes to the operating arrangements of the Mill Road Depot is still under consideration and will be considered by the Planning Committee for determination in due course.

Funding agreed for local infrastructure projects

At the meeting of the Local Spending Board for Hinchley Wood and Weston Green, Long Ditton and Thames Ditton in July, awards were made to allocate Community Infrastructure Levy funding to:

- **Thames Ditton Junior School** for floodlighting three outdoor tennis/netball courts. These will be used by the school and community groups;
- **Long Ditton St Mary's Junior School** for decorating their school hall;
- **Esher Cricket Club** for a contribution towards the cost of purchasing two water removal devices at their practice ground at Imber Court Social Club.

Councillors at Elmbridge Borough Council

Hinchley Wood and Weston Green Ward



Gill Coates
TDWGRA



Janet Turner
HWRA



James Crawshaw
HWRA

Thames Ditton Pharmacy Update

The prospective pharmacist has submitted a new application to secure a licence to open a pharmacy in Thames Ditton High Street, to the Surrey and Sussex Integrated Care Board. We will report their decision in due course.

Waste Collections

Waste collections have been unpredictable over the summer. The problem has been caused by a serious fire at the Leatherhead waste depot several months ago which has put it out of action. As a result, the lorries are having to drive out of the area to an alternative depot, adding as much as three hours onto every trip. Working in excessive heat for weeks on end has exacerbated the problem and rounds are taking much longer to complete. Household waste and recycling has been prioritised over garden waste so the teams can catch up. The advice has been and remains to put your bins out as usual and leave them out until they are collected. We do not know when the Leatherhead depot will be back in action.

Climate Change Projects Funding from Elmbridge

EBC recently opened a funding window for local groups to bid for a share of a £100,000 pot for projects mitigating climate change impacts, improving the environment and reducing waste. TD-based group Nature & Climate Action CIC was successful in obtaining small amounts for the Repair Café @ Vital Village, and a recycling project for hard-to-recycle items. See story on page 10.

Ashley Road Car Park, Thames Ditton: We are delighted to confirm that EV charging points are now installed and fully operational.

Christmas Lights in Thames Ditton High Street: Surrey County Council have installed the necessary 'commando sockets' to the lampposts in the High Street so Thames Ditton is now included in the Elmbridge Christmas Lights contract from 2026 until 2029;

Thames Ditton Station Bike Shelter: Elmbridge BC has agreed to fund a new roof for the bike shelter as part of a cycle infrastructure initiative. We hope it will be installed in the next couple of months.

Thames Ditton isn't just where we work. It's home.

Local people. Modern marketing. Better moving.

Thinking of moving this year?
Let's have a chat.

HJC
ESTATE AGENCY



INDEPENDENT, TRUSTED FINANCIAL ADVICE IN THE HEART OF THAMES DITTON

Knight James' are a friendly, local business offering trusted, impartial financial advice.

Our experienced team are able to offer advice in the following areas:-

- Mortgage & Lending Services
- Investment & Pension Advice
- Portfolio Management
- Retirement & Tax Planning
- Corporate & Employee Benefits
- Commercial Insurance

Contact us today to find out how we can help to put you on the right financial path.



MORTGAGE
SERVICES



COMMERCIAL
INSURANCE



WEALTH
MANAGEMENT



INVESTMENT
& PENSION
ADVICE



Call 020 8398 6677
www.knightjames.com

6 Station Road, Thames Ditton, Surrey KT7 0NR

knightjames
Wealth Management

Update from Nick Darby, our Surrey County Councillor



I make no apology for returning to the vexed problem of traffic issues in the village, particularly relating to Station Road, many of which I have addressed as your county councillor over the past nine years and continue to do so. In this time, there is no doubt that the three parking changes that have been introduced to alleviate pavement driving – double yellow lines, 20mph roundels (recently repainted), as well as 20mph signs on lampposts and daytime restrictions opposite the nursery – have all had a beneficial effect.

Looking ahead, I am pleased to report a new road safety officer is in place for the start of the new school year while working with the Surrey Safer Travel Officer, I have been able to fund through my own budget, Feet First training for Year 3 children at Thames Ditton Junior School. Surrey Highways has also agreed the principle of having a controlled crossing by the Station at the bottom of Speer Road, but it will be for the new East Surrey authority to prioritise and possibly take further.

In relation to pavement driving in Station Road and after lengthy discussions with the Police, I have persuaded them to carry out some preventative enforcement during peak travel times.

Residents should also be aware that I had asked the Elmbridge Parking Officer, to conduct a parking consultation on Station Road and the surrounding roads, with a view to restricting commuter parking. However, Surrey will not have time to

take this forward before the local government changes in 2027, so it will also be a matter for the new East Surrey Council.



For now, it is important we continue to promote road safety and implement the 20mph speed limit and stop pavement driving. Perhaps surprisingly, my understanding is that in its most recent survey, Surrey found that average speeds in Station Road are less than 20mph.

Finally and to clarify, Embercourt Road, Station Road and Watts Road leading to Portsmouth Road, are designated as B roads to allow access for through traffic. Surrey Highways has made it clear to me, that it will not restrict their use as B roads but as it is already doing, will continue to take action to reduce traffic speeds.

Albany Reach

The summer heatwave has led to huge problems at Albany Reach with residents having to put up with a daily influx of visitors. I would like to thank Nell Hickman and all those who have made valiant attempts to keep the area clean and stop the use of BBQs.

With best wishes

Nick Darby

Surrey County Councillor for the Dittons

07719 728725



Your garden made simple with Bloomin' Marvellous

We lovingly transform any garden Space..

Our team specialises in:
Garden Design and Consultation,
Hard and Soft Landscaping,
and Garden Maintenance.
Paths, patios, decking, fencing,
planting, lawn care and more...



Design & Landscaping
Spencer Martin
07944 557571
spencer@bloomin-marvellous.com

Garden Maintenance & Planting
Dan Rand
07496 347642
dan@bloomin-marvellous.com

bloomin-marvellous.com



ELEGANT CURTAINS



CURTAINS | BLINDS | SOFT FURNISHINGS

- Wide Range of Curtain & Blind Styles
- Large Selection of Fabrics
- Tracks & Poles
- Expert Design & Fitting Service



FREE
ESTIMATE &
APPOINTMENT

VISIT: ELEGANTCURTAINS.COM

CALL: 020 8337 7145

EMAIL: INFO@ELEGANTCURTAINS.COM



Bee Inspired
natural honey beeswax skincare

Multi award winning natural skincare handmade in Thames Ditton
Embracing the benefits of beeswax and honey from our bees, together with
carefully selected plant + essential oils we have created a comprehensive
range for all age and skin types
See website for full details or arrange to pop in www.beeinspiredcreams.buzz

YOUR LOCAL FUNERAL DIRECTOR
TRUSTED SINCE 1780

From simple farewells to traditional funerals



For over 240 years, seven generations of the Lodge Family have been privileged to help local families in their time of need. Today, as a proudly employee-owned company, we continue to provide all funerals, whether modern, traditional, green or alternative, with care and compassion.

- Traditional Funerals
- Direct Cremations
- Memorial Masonry
- Floral Tributes
- Funeral Plans
- Wills and Probate

We have a number of branches in the local area. To find your nearest, please scan the QR code.



0208 818 7725
www.lodgebrothers.co.uk

Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Lodge
BROTHERS 1780
the family you can turn to

★ Trustpilot ★★★★★

Proudly rated 5.0 Excellent as of 07/26

Use us or Lose Us and help save Thames Ditton High Street



We are pleased to note that local residents are taking on board the importance of using our core shops to ensure the survival and maintain the vitality of Thames Ditton High Street. The Use Us or Lose Us campaign continues with an updated poster highlighting that shops such as Budgens, Paull's Fruit and Veg, the Secret Garden Florist and Thames Food & Wine – among others. Shops will close.

IF BUDGENS GOES, THE POST OFFICE GOES TOO.

And we know the difficulties we're facing trying to reinstate the chemist.

This is about the future of our High Street.

Use your local shops – or lose them.

It highlights how if Budgens closes, then the village Post Office would go too, a devastating blow especially as the fight to

reinstate a pharmacy in the village is still on-going. Since Boots closed, footfall in the village has fallen by 20 per cent.

The shops are not in principle against Waste to Plate but believe it is in the wrong place and should not be in the heart of the village. They cannot compete with a shop which is giving away food and flowers (or selling at very low prices) and is largely staffed by volunteers, while they have to buy their own stock and pay staff, both of which are being hit by rising inflation.

Lots of people are using WTP but it appears most are from outside Thames Ditton and there is no evidence WTP customers are increasing footfall and taking the opportunity to also visit High Street shops. There is also increased concern that WTP is expanding into the recently vacated shop next door, to open a food processing unit while people living nearby are being affected by the noise of late night deliveries and collection of food waste and rubbish.

However, an application for a grant of more than £19k by WTP for CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) funding was turned down by the CIL Board managed by Elmbridge Borough Council. Councillors were not satisfied that there was a clear distinction between Waste to Plate Ltd (which runs the shop and leases the premises) and Waste to Plate Community Projects CIC, which made the application. Private companies are not eligible for CIL funding.



VISIT our
showroom
or **CALL**
to arrange
a visit to
your
home



SCAN ME

...FOR THE LATEST
Casement Windows,
Sliding Sash Windows,
Composite Entrance Doors,
Bi-Fold Doors, Sliding Patio Doors
& Lantern Roofs

6-7 Grand Parade
Ewell Road,
Tolworth, Surbiton
Surrey KT6 7BE

WARMLITE
Clearly Quality

www.warmlite.co.uk Tel: 020 8399 3377

Discover amazing experiences

at Busy Bees in Thames Ditton



"Children are happy, settled and secure. It is evident staff care for each individual child. All children including those with SEND make good progress and children demonstrate positive attitudes to learning."



Large outdoor garden offers shaded outdoor space for each age group

Our long-standing team has welcomed and nurtured many children

Our staff have passion for the job and care for each individual child who joins us

Excellent links with the local community

Fantastic parent partnerships

NEW REFURB



Enquire today, call 0330 333 8133 or email enrolments@busybees.com

EXPERT TAX ADVICE WHEN IT MATTERS MOST

LKA's award-winning team of Chartered Tax Advisors and Chartered Accountants have been supporting local residents with their tax and accountancy needs for over 15 years.

Our trusted team of tax advisors can help with complex tax planning and compliance issues including:

- Inheritance tax
- Capital gains tax
- Trusts
- Exit planning
- UK self-assessment



Renowned for our focus on client care, our multi-award winning team provides **professional, specialist** advice that's simple to understand.

If you are looking for a friendly team of Chartered Accountants and Chartered Tax Advisors, why not call us on **020 3915 8585** to book in for a FREE 15 minute discovery call.



Annecey Court, Ferry Works,
Summer Road, Thames
Ditton, KT7 0QJ

0203 915 8585
www.lkassociates.co.uk

FAMILY FIREWORKS

1ST NOVEMBER
DOORS OPEN 4PM
FIREWORKS DISPLAY
STARTS AT 18:30



HOT FOOD STALLS • CONFECTIONERY • LICENSED BAR • LIVE DJ
• FAMILY-FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES • FUN FAIR



SCAN TO BOOK

ARRIVE BETWEEN 4PM - 5PM TO
ENJOY 30% OFF RIDES AND DRINKS
DURING SPOOKY HOUR.

TICKETS NOW
ON SALE!



Programme

An inspirational weekend at Vital Village,
Mercer Close, Thames Ditton.
All activities are free and there is no need to book
unless specified.

Please visit www.TDnature.org for more details.



KILLIK & Co
Save | Plan | Invest

Friday 9th October

9.30am to 2.30pm

ELMBRIDGE MUSEUM – ‘INSPIRED BY NATURE’

The brilliant Elmbridge Museum team will be in the cafe with hands-on fun, sharing some of their collection inspired by nature. Ages 5 – 105!

9.30am – 2.30pm

‘MY CARBON FOOTPRINT’ – ART COMPETITION

Pick up a ‘footprint’ (or draw round your own at home) and let your imagination run wild! Show us what you love most in nature. Paint, stickers, etc are provided in the Craft Cabin.

Entries will be judged by local artist Lisa Tolley.

Enter as many times as you want Open to all ages. Prizes awarded on Sunday.

12.00 – 3.00pm

NATURE & CLIMATE ‘SPEED DATING’ EVENT (in association with Green Elmbridge)

Get your ‘elevator pitch’ ready! Representatives from groups working in climate change, environmental action and wildlife conservation across Surrey can get up close and personal in this fast-paced, informal and fun networking session.

Booking for the ‘speed dating’ is essential via Contact Us at **www.TDNature.org**.

Anyone can attend as an observer and join us for a networking lunch afterwards.

Saturday 10th October

9.30am – 2.00pm

CLOTHES SWAP WITH CECILE

Cecile from 'The Thread Atelier' in the High Street returns to Vital Village with her hugely popular clothes swap. Bring your good quality, clean, pre-loved clothes and accessories (adults and children) and exchange them for a whole new look! Find her in the Craft Cabin.

9.30am– 2.00pm

'MY CARBON FOOTPRINT' – ART COMPETITION

(see Friday entry – in the cafe)

9.30am – 2.00pm

ELMBRIDGE MUSEUM – 'INSPIRED BY NATURE'

(See Friday entry – in the Studio)

10.00am – 11.30am

TALKING RUBBISH!

What happens to all our waste? Be amazed and entertained as the Waste & Circular Economy team at Surrey County Council test your knowledge with quizzes, games and a Q&A session. Free recycled memento for all participants.

3.00pm

100 Trees for Sir David Attenborough

Sir David turns 100! Celebrate his centenary by helping us plant 100 young trees in Thames Ditton & Weston Green over the winter. Join us for the first planting on Giggs Hill Green.

7.00pm

FESTIVAL KEYNOTE EVENT

'PEOPLE'S EMERGENCY BRIEFING'

A chance to see this vitally important film which pulls no punches in explaining the climate crisis we are facing.

Don't miss this opportunity – it's the film everyone is talking about. It ends on a positive note, but we know some people will find it disturbing so there will be a chance to unwind and chat afterwards in a welcoming environment. Please book via What's On at **www.vitalvillage.co.uk**.

WARNING: This film is certified 12A but we strongly recommend a minimum age of 16 to view it. Please use your discretion.

Sunday 11th October

10.00am – 12.30pm

REPAIR CAFE@VITAL VILLAGE

Can we fix it? Yes, we can! Meet the volunteers behind the Repair Cafe@Vital Village. Learn how we can help you and watch us in action. (If you want a repair done, please book your slot in advance at www.TDNature.org)

9.30am–3.00pm

CLOTHES SWAP WITH CECILE

(See Saturday entry)

9.30am – 12.30pm

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Coffee and chat

Has the Festival inspired you to help make a difference? The team from Nature & Climate Action CIC will be in the cafe to share info about local volunteering opportunities.

12.45pm

WE ARE THE VOICE

A performance by the children's environmental choir

It would not be the TD&WG Nature & Climate Festival without the brilliant We Are the Voice choir. Don't miss them.

1.45pm

Prizegiving



Although Thames Ditton mainland hasn't flooded since 2013/4, there have been several close calls with Flood Alerts and Flood Warnings issued by the Environment Agency in recent years. Climate Change may make the situation worse and so the Thames Ditton Flood Group is recruiting Flood Wardens

Could you play an important role in your local community and consider volunteering to become a

THAMES DITTON FLOOD WARDEN

The Thames Ditton Flood Group is looking for a team of volunteers who will act as Flood Wardens in the areas of Thames Ditton which are at high risk of flooding.

Training will be provided through the Communities Prepared scheme with 'Hands on' training from the Surrey Fire and Rescue Service.

The role is likely to include communication with residents and the emergency services, participation in training, knowledge of the EA flood alert systems, assisting with evacuation as advised by emergency services, including vulnerable residents, and installation of temporary flood barriers.

If you would like further information, or a no obligation chat about the role, please email

Elaine Sesemann at elaine@sesemann.com



The Royal Cambridge Home

84 Hurst Road, East Molesey, Surrey KT8 9AH

A great place to live, work and visit

Founded in 1851 and having seen many changes over the years, the Home moved in 1944 from Norbiton to Hurst Road in East Molesey where the home resided for many years. Today this unique charity provides residents over 65 with a home for life in a state-of-the-art luxury care home.

The Royal Cambridge is certainly a well-known fixture in the local area but now sporting a 32-bed care home with a spectacular south facing garden. Each bedroom has a walk-in wet room and ensuite toilet. Enjoying all the benefits of life in a fabulous location in East Molesey, Surrey on the edge of the Thames and a 10-minute stroll from Hampton Court to which they are frequent visitors.

The new home also boasts a mobility scooter storage in their back garden for residents still enjoying their independence.



They have a Monday-Friday activities team who are supported by visiting professional musicians and arts and crafts specialists, which enables the Home to provide a full diary of events amidst much laughter and atmosphere. They have their own minibus which is often seen in the local area as they visit many local attractions and enjoy group lunches out at various local garden centres plus the occasional pub lunch.



The Royal Cambridge Home is a delightful place to spend your later years, sharing good times with friends or family and enjoying plenty of activities and hobbies or simply sitting back in a comfy chair in one of their many lounges, all of which enjoy a garden view.

If you are looking for a period of respite or a permanent new home for yourself or your relative or friend then it has never been a better time to find out more about this prestigious, yet homely, independently run, not-for-profit care home in the heart of East Molesey.



Contact:

Tel: 020 8979 3788
Email: enquiries@royalcambridgehome.org
Web: www.royalcambridgehome.org

Your future. Your peace of mind.

Planning for the future or managing the loss of a loved one isn't always easy, but it doesn't have to be stressful.

Our experienced solicitors provide clear, compassionate guidance to make the legal process as smooth as possible.

- Wills
- Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Estate Administration
- Inheritance Tax planning
- Court of Protection

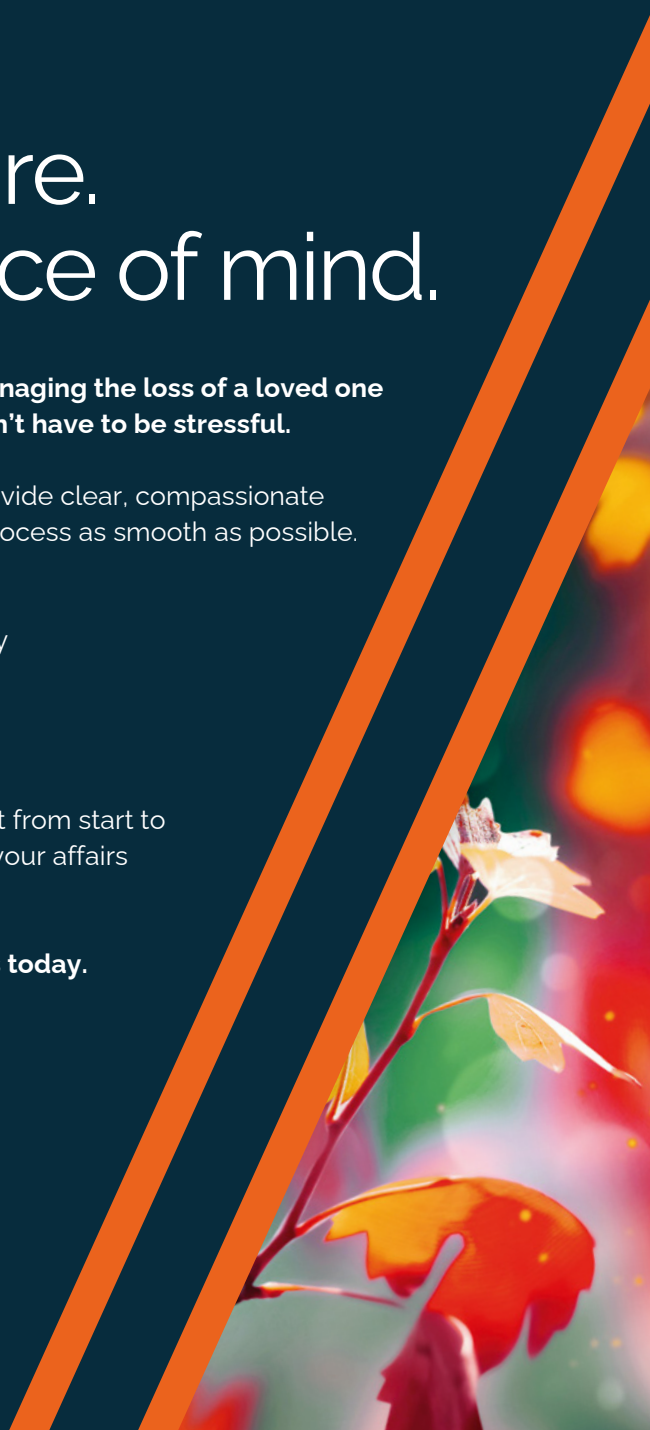
With trusted, personal support from start to finish, you can feel confident your affairs are in safe hands.

Speak to one of our solicitors today.

owenwhitecatlin.co.uk

01372 469 100
contact@owc.co.uk

Addlestone. Ashford. Cobham. Chiswick &
Hammersmith. Esher. Feltham. Shepperton.
Teddington. Twickenham.



Marney's Pond



Some of the volunteers who have been clearing the pond

Despite this summer's heatwave there is still optimism that Marney's Pond can be saved. Louise Russell outlines the history of how the pond has survived over the past century and hopes for the future.

Over the last century the fluctuations of Marney's pond have preoccupied those living locally who treasure this archetypal setting and recognise the significance of the pond, not only for its beauty and public amenity value but also the wide biodiversity it brings to this corner of Weston Green.

The notable architect of his time, Sir Edward Maufe, who designed All Saints Church in 1938, made use of the flat, still, surface of Marney's pond to create beautiful reflections of the white building, which have always characterised this landmark setting and have been a source of inspiration to many photographers and painters, including Terence Cuneo (1907 -1996).

We have been lucky so far, that whilst many ponds across Britain have been lost, it is thanks to the efforts of local people across the decades that Marney's pond has remained a central feature of the Weston Green landscape. Archival records show that over the last century the pond has dried out on three occasions and each time the local community has come to the rescue. In 1948, 'Esher News' reported that despite the amount of rain that had fallen that year, 'Marney's pond had been slowly drying up'. During the extreme heat and drought of 1976, the pond was dry again. Local volunteers launched an appeal to raise £200 and spent many months clearing and relining the base of the pond. And then in 1992, the pond was once more a sad looking place, covered in dry, caked mud and subject to general neglect and vandalism. A group of residents formed Operation Marney Association which set out to refurbish the drainage system and lay a new watertight bed using puddling clay to bring the pond back to life and 'to recapture the lost beauty that was Marney's' (TDT Spring 1992)

Today, the same challenge faces residents again but this time even more extreme. Over the past couple of years extended dry periods have reached critical levels. Despite the heavy rainfall in January and February 2026 this was not sufficient to submerge the resilient vegetation which had taken a firm hold. Within a matter of weeks, the water had either evaporated or drained away through cracks in its bed and the pond has been dry ever since.

HAMPTON HILL WINDOWS

**ESTABLISHED INDEPENDENT
SPECIALISTS FOR 35 YEARS**

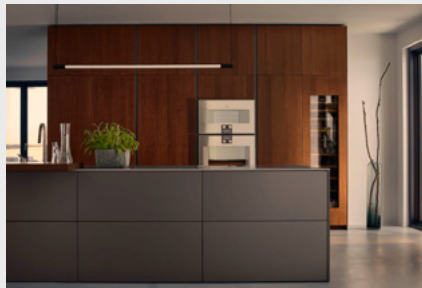


- Hundreds of different styles, shapes, features, colours and glazing options
- uPVC Windows and Doors
- Composite Doors
- Friendly Service
- References on Request
- 10 Year Insurance Backed Guarantee



**Tel 020 8977 1822 • email rsupvc@gmail.com
www.hamptonhillwindows.co.uk**

2 New Broadway, Hampton Road, Hampton Hill, TW12 1JG



Your local independent kitchen specialist offering inspiration, a truly personal service, and value for money.

Scan the QR code for our website or call 01932 379076 to start your kitchen journey

www.moorebydesign.co.uk

Electrician

Are you struggling to find someone to do a small job?

- ♦ Extra Lights and Sockets
- ♦ New Fuseboards
- ♦ Rewires
- ♦ New installations
- ♦ Smoke Alarms
- ♦ Electrical Installation Condition Reports
- ♦ Security Lights
- ♦ Fault Finding
- ♦ Garden Lights

- ✓ Fully Qualified, Insured and Registered
- ✓ Reliable and Friendly Service
- ✓ Flexible Hours
- ✓ Satisfaction Guaranteed
- ✓ Proud to be Local

Call Daniel on

01932 977226

www.peselec.co.uk



A dedicated working party was established this Spring to tackle the most recent challenges in the pond's history. With more than 30 people already signed up on a WhatsApp group (Marney's Pond Squad) a start has been made. Volunteers removed much of the early invasive and deep-rooted weeds. The team at All Saints cleared all their drains which flow into the pond and the 'Slade', the tributary which runs from Ember Lane and feeds the pond, has been cleared by Elmbridge Council. All these measures will help but there is so much more that needs to be done.

Work is already underway to establish the land levels for the pond and where the water table sits. Equipped with this information an external consultant will be invited to recommend what would be the best course of action to help restore the



A reminder of how Marney's Pond used to look

pond. It will take some time, and it may be costly, but it needs to be done. If we are to continue to have Marney's pond at the heart of Weston Green, local people will have to come together not only as a 'hands on' working party but also to raise the necessary funds needed for the project.

If you would like to be included in the updates about progress or be involved in any way, please contact Councillor Gill Coates (GCoates@elmbridge.gov.uk)

MERCER CLOSE CAR PARK, THAMES DITTON KT7 0BS



MAKE A DATE!

ENJOY LOCAL PRODUCE & SUPPORT
SMALL, INDEPENDENT BUSINESSES

27
JUN

25
JUL

22
AUG

26
SEP

24
OCT

28
NOV

SUNDAY **13**
DEC

10AM
to
2PM

4TH SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM

@thamesdittonfarmersmarket

www.thamesdittonfarmersmarket.co.uk

ORGANISED BY



Frankie Bell: Anchored in our Community



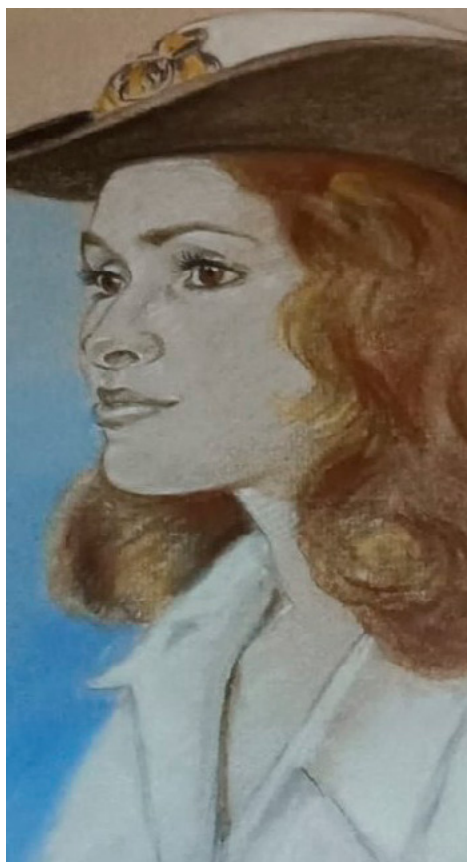
For over 40 years, the good ship 'NeighbourCare' has sailed with one constant at the helm – Frankie Bell. After first finding her sea legs aboard a ship during the early seventies, she later devoted herself to helping local people in and around Thames Ditton, becoming the driving force behind one of our community's most valued charities. She talks to Julie Royce.

You were born a Geordie - what brought you South?

My parents moved us South when I was in my teens, because my mother persuaded my father (who was a GP with a practice close to the River Tyne) to move down to Somerset. However, a bit of my heart will always reside in Northumberland. For a long time we have owned a beach bungalow overlooking Embleton Bay and Dunstanburgh Castle. All three of my grown up children now live in that area, although my youngest son, Ed, is keeping me company in Thames Ditton at present.

You've spent a considerable part of your life at sea – what was it like?

I trained at a secretarial college in Taunton, and in 1973 I joined The Union Castle Line as a purser – the role was a bit like being a hotel receptionist but at sea. We spent long periods on board delivering mail to South Africa which took about six weeks. Then I was lucky enough to work on cruise ships, travelling to South America and around the Mediterranean. Even more fortunate, this is where I met my dear husband, Iain. Our first date was when we docked at Cape Town, and I always tell people he jilted me, but in actual fact he had got himself locked in at a winery there. Life on the cruise ship was very different – for example, we were expected to entertain the guests alongside



Portrait of Frankie at Sea in the 70s

the professional musicians and dancers – dressing up as a 'bunny girl' or singing as black and white minstrels, calling the bingo and so on.

Continued on page 37



S T HOME
& GARDEN SERVICES

07395495171



SERVICES



LANDSCAPING

TURFING

FENCING

DECKING

DRIVEWAYS

PATIOS

PRESSURE WASHING

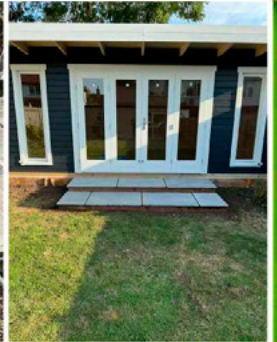
GARDEN MAINTENANCE

GUTTER

ROOF CLEANS

ROOFING

BRICKWORK



CONTACT US



07395 495171

How did you settle in Thames Ditton?

We wanted to get married and weren't allowed to do that and continue our lives at sea. We were living in Kingston and then Long Ditton, and after our first son Adam was born, my parents were visiting and we hired a boat on the river. It broke down at Thames Ditton, so while my father and Iain went about fixing it, my mother and I went shopping. I thought it seemed like a nice place to live and here we are.

How did you get involved with NeighbourCare?

When my father got dementia, I had to drive to Taunton once a week to take him out shopping – so I know all about the difficulties of helping our loved ones who may be living far away. NeighbourCare is a long established registered charity entirely staffed by volunteers. Our drivers use their own cars to provide a door-to-door service to medical appointments, hairdresser and so on. We always need more volunteers! I became involved in the late 70s as one of the drivers, then as a telephone operator and for the last nine years as Chair. The NeighbourCare telephone line can be switched to different numbers so I could often be found travelling up to our beach hut in Northumberland, loaded with all the paperwork so that I could still operate the service remotely. The arrival of new technology, such as What's App, has enabled this to be delivered more efficiently and we can contact all volunteers at the same time rather than individually, which makes it feel less pressurised for them. It was very satisfying to be recognised by the Queen's Award for voluntary service in 2018.

And you have been volunteering with St Nicholas Church for many years too and helping the homeless. You have shown



Frankie now - relaxing into a well-earned retirement

great commitment to the service of others. How does it feel to be setting sail into a very well-earned retirement?

I admit that at first I was sad – end of an era – but now I accept that it is for the best – for me, for my family and for NeighbourCare. The new technology is all very well, but it was beginning to get the better of me and my daughter Juliette persuaded me that I had to let it go. I am ready to make the most of my life 'in retirement'. I am keeping well and I like to see my grandchildren when I can, my friends at St Nicks, reading and keeping fit.

If you would like to continue Frankie's work and help NeighbourCare too, please contact Lesley Haynes on **07791 483445** or visit **www.dwgneighbourcare.org.uk**

Karen's Angels

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORT FOR EVERY OCCASION



Karens Angels, your friendly local company offering wheelchair accessible transport. Our DBS checked team of professional accredited drivers are here to ensure you get where you need to go on time and in comfort.

Passenger Assistants available if required
Door to Door Service
Hospital & Doctor Appointments
Social Gatherings & Church Visits
Long Distant Journeys
Airports

Pre-bookings required to ensure we meet your specific needs
For further information please contact

Karen

0208 224 7848 or 0776 022 0604



TEEN COACHING & NLP



EXAM pressure?
Let's help your Teen!

Self-Confidence
Mental Preparation
Stress Management
Revision Strategies
Motivation

I am Magali Bechade, your local
Coach and NLP Practitioner.
Please email me to set-up your
FREE INITIAL APPOINTMENT.



hello@myspacehappy.com
www.myspacehappy.com

Peace

Hope

Local events in pictures



Members and visitors came together this summer to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the historic and ever popular miniature railway in Claygate Lane, Thames Ditton. Run by the Malden DSME (District Society of Model Engineers) it continues to run 10 engines for the 500 plus visitors who come to the monthly running days on the first Sunday of the month and open days on Bank holidays and other special occasions.



A hundred people filled the Vera Fletcher Hall for a screening of The People's Emergency Briefing. The film brings together leading evidence on the climate and nature crisis and what it means for the UK. The film will also be shown at the Nature & Climate Festival. Organiser Tricia Bland (centre) is pictured with fellow Thames Ditton Foundation Trustees, Julie Turner (left) and Julia Hickman



Members of Ember Bowls Club took part in the annual competition for the Leightons Cup, presented by Leightons Opticians and Hearing Care. Pictured with Leightons John Irvine and Alison Bailey are the winners Wendy Beaney, Paul Robert and Howard Reed.



ADVANCED DENTAL STUDIO

GENERAL DENTAL & IMPLANT PRACTICE

new patients welcome

OPEN FROM 1ST OCTOBER 2026

More than the launch of a dental practice, this marks the beginning of a new chapter for Thames Ditton, one where world-class dentistry, thoughtful design and a deeply personal approach to patient care comes together to redefine what a visit to the dentist can be.

Dr Senthil and his team offer a range of dental treatments including:

General & Family Dental Care • Dental Hygiene Services
Dental Implants • Teeth Whitening • Invisalign & Clear Braces
Cosmetic & Smile Makeovers

For more information, call 0208 2649858, visit www.advanceddentalstudio.co.uk, email info@advanceddentalstudio.co.uk or scan the QR code below:



SCAN ME



WALPOLE HOUSE, 15 ST. LEONARDS RD, THAMES DITTON KT7 0RJ



**Daniel Harrison
Developments Ltd**

QUALITY IS PARAMOUNT

KITCHENS BATHROOMS HOME RENOVATIONS



FULLY INSURED | LOCAL BUSINESS

ALL WORK GUARANTEED | REFERENCES AVAILABLE

**Covering - Weybridge - Esher - Oxshot
Claygate - Surrounds Areas**



07539 626 231



@DanielHarrisonDevelopmentsLtd



danielharrisondevelopmentsltd@outlook.com

Solution to the Summer Crossword



1	W	2	O	3	R	4	L	D	5	B	6	P	7	H	8	A	I	T	9	C	
	A		E		R				A	M	A	Z		E		R					
10	R	U	L	E	S			G		N			11	A	Q	A	B	A			
	B		U		12	E	N	G	L	A	N	D			Q			R			
	L		C		U		I		M		S							U			
	E		T		13	S	E	E	P	A	G	E			14	C			S		
15	R	O	A	D	S			S					16	T	E	A					
					N												T				
			17		C	U	18	P				19	E		20	S	P	A	I	21	N
22	B		E			23	R	E	24	C	Y	C	L	E			M			O	
	R						I			A		U			N		A			T	
	A		25	K		26	M	A	N	D	A	T	E			R				F	
27	Z	A	I	R	E			A		D		28	G	H	A	N	A				
	I		S		29	R	A	D	I	O		A			N				I		
30	L	I	S	T	S			A		R		31	L	A	S	E	R				

Congratulations to the senders of the correct entries opened in the shuffle who win a £10 voucher to spend in local shops.

Jonathan Lewsey

Howard Cruthers

Cumi Mahadeva

Dates for your diary

All Saints Weston Green events:

Community Quiz Night

Saturday 10 October at 7pm

Silent Disco dancing to 80s and 90s classics

Friday 13 November

Crafts and Carols

Thursday 3 December at 7.30pm.

'The Advent of Christmas'

Saturday 5 December, choral music and readings sung by the Whyte Effect

St Mark's Church Surbiton

A Musical Potpourri

Be part of an evening of opera and music on behalf of for Momentum Children's Charity at 6.15pm on Sunday 18 October

www.momentumcharity.org

Thames Ditton Christmas Fair

Sunday 29 November from 3-6pm in the High Street

Monthly events

Farmers' Market

Mercer Close Car Park (by the library) fourth Saturday of the month

Weston Green Litter Pickers

Meet at Marneys pub on the first Saturday in the month at 10.30am

Thames Ditton Litter Pickers

Meet at Thames Ditton Tennis Club car park on third Saturday of the month at 10.45am

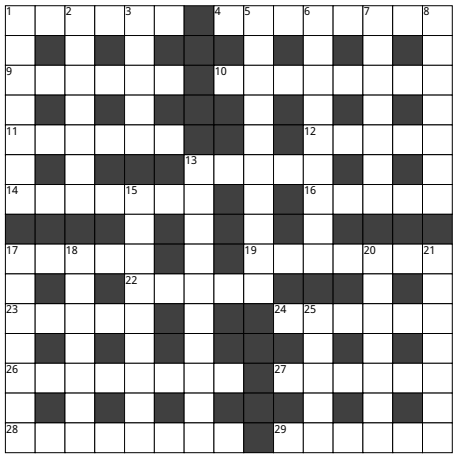
Golden Mondays, Vital Village

Coffee, chat and lunch every week from 9.30am during term time

Autumn Crossword



By Andy Howarth



ACROSS

- 1 St Francis birthplace (6)
- 4 Summer work places? (3,5)
- 9 Abel's brother in mix up over essential vitamin (6)
- 10 Legal precedent from tangled cassette (4,4)
- 11 Declares for nations? (6)
- 12 Boring colour (5)
- 13 Bloods before car crash leads to main artery (5)
- 14 Partner for Rhubarb? (7)
- 16 Scorches (5)
- 17 Stuns Mr O'Connor embracing Arizona (5)
- 19 Augustus can yield hidden Italian gem (7)
- 22 GCSEs (5)
- 23 Dutch footwear favoured by Lowry (5)
- 24 Env. Agency for example, switched around an appealing Greek sea (6)
- 26 Pentonville resident (8)
- 27 Procession (6)
- 28 Calamity (8)
- 29 The _____, a tarot card (6)

Win a £10 voucher

The first three correct entries randomly opened after the closing date of 31st October 2026 will win a £10 voucher to spend in local shops.

Please send the completed puzzle (or photocopy) enclosing your name and address with the envelope clearly marked 'Crossword Competition' to:

Thames Ditton Today
Crossword Competition
60 Basingfield Road, Thames Ditton KT7 0PB

Names of the winners will be published in the Winter edition, unless otherwise requested

DOWN

- 1 Forgetful (7)
- 2 Deep sounding fish? (3,4)
- 3 See within French river (5)
- 5 Into the red with these (10)
- 6 IT storage places (9)
- 7 Golfer Sorenstam in a show of strength (7)
- 8 Israeli coinage (7)
- 13 First couple (4,3,3)
- 15 Examiners in part reassess or settle (9)
- 17 Lobster or crab (7)
- 18 Excited dog trait (7)
- 20 Headless have anger everyday (7)
- 21 Big Apple baseballers (7)
- 25 Greek muse (5)

SERVICES, CLUBS, SOCIETIES AND GROUPS

SERVICES

Cheer (Concern and Help for East Elmbridge Retired)	General Enquiries:	07895 762100 (Mon-Wed) www.cheer-elmbridge.org.uk
Ditton & Weston Green NeighbourCare	Lesley Haynes	07791 483445
Elmbridge Borough Council Community Support Services		
Thames Ditton Dementia Centre	Nikki Harding	01372 474526
Meals on Wheels, Community Transport, Dial-a-Ride, Alarm & Telecare services, Relief Carers	ask for service at central switchboard	01372 474552
Esher and District Stroke Club	Ann Pollock	0208398 6132
Voluntary Action Elmbridge	Sally Dubery	01372 463587
Surrey Youth and Adult Education Service	Elmbridge Area	020 8979 8334

GROUPS

1st Thames Ditton Brownies	Vanessa Corby	1stThamesDittonBrownies@gmail.com
3rd Thames Ditton Brownies		3rdthamesdittonbrownies@gmail.com
1st Weston Green (All Saints) Scout Group		membership@westongreenscouts.org.uk
2nd Weston Green Guides	Deb Meacham	2wgguides@gmail.com
2nd Thames Ditton Guides	Vanessa Corby	2ndThamesDittonGuides@gmail.com
1st Weston Green Brownies (All Saints)		1wgbrownies@gmail.com
3rd Weston Green Brownies		3wgbrownies@gmail.com
1st Weston Green Rainbows	Lizzie Owen	westongreenrainbows@gmail.com
4th Thames Ditton Ajax Sea Scouts	Chris West	chris.west@ajax.org.uk
Dittons Scout Group		www.dittonsscouts.com
Emberbrook Trefoil Guild	Mary Bowen	020 8398 6857
Friends of Bushey and Home Parks	Jean Smith	020 8977 9391
Girlguiding in Thames Ditton and Weston Green		dittonsdistrict.hjh@gmail.com
Molesey and Dittons Neighbourhood Watch	Chairman: John Haberfield	020 8398 5256
Parents and Toddlers(St Nicholas church)	Information	020 8398 7211
Ripieno Choir	Nick Harris	020 8399 7231
Small Saints Baby and Toddler Group	Cathy Wise	cathy@allsaintsweston.com
Surrey Bell-ringers	Giles Andre	020 8979 1994
Bereavement Café	St Nicholas Church Hall	020 8398 9641
Thames Tots (Kings Church, Speer Road)	Abby Kelly	Office@Kingschurch.com

CLUBS

Albany Motor Yacht Club	Secretary	01784466651
All Saints Weston Lunch Club	Alison Cruthers	07957 347170
Archery: Rivernook Bowmen	Nigel Harris	secretary@rivernookbowmen.co.uk
Arts and Heritage Club	Carol Butcher	01932 867511
Cercle Francais d'Esher	Brigitte Tiller	01932 860842 brigitte@ptiller.com
Claygate Bridge Club	Hon. Secretary	020 8398 1710
Colets Health & Fitness	info@colets.co.uk	020 8398 7108
Ditton Bridge Club	John Dagnall	02083984463
Dittons Skiff and Punting Club	Secretary	enquiries@dittons.org.uk
Dittons & Hinchley Wood Royal British Legion	Hon Secretary	020 8398 6263
Ember Players (Drama) Ember Sports Club	Anne Segal	07712 778357

Ember Sports Club	Caroline Anderson	secretary@embersportsclub.org.uk
Ember Sports Club: Bowls	Sylvia Jones	01932 788701
Ember Sports Club: Croquet	Simon Charrington	07917 017453
Ember Sports Club: Tennis	Annabel Duncan	0208 786 6318
English Folk Dancing Club (Thames Ditton)	Jane Ford	07857 826668
Esher Bowling Club	Roger Cooper	01372 468109
Esher Bridge Centre	Paul Whicker	01372 460157
Long Ditton Cricket Club	Nigel Hardy	020 8398 8361
Long Ditton Garden Club	Sarah Cobb	07766 742370
Model Railway Society (Hampton Court)	Secretary	01932 241224
Old Cranleigh Rugby Club	Piers Cushing	07790 003731
Old Cranleigh Hockey Club	Simon Marshall (Men)	07801 737695
	Helen Hawes (Ladies)	07771 557900
Probus Club, Hinchley Wood & the Dittons	Edmund Woolley	020 8398 3581
Probus Club, Sandown	Julian Rye	01932 976994
Probus Club of Molesey	Martin Gibson	moleprobus@gmail.com
Probus Club of Claremont	George Cameron	020 8224 1392
River Club (BMYC)	David Walker	0870 460 3586
Surbiton Croquet Club	Alec Thomas	020 8398 2391
Stragglers Running Club	Andy Howarth	07941 242348
Surbiton Golf Club	Secretary	0208 398 3101
Surbiton Hockey Club	Secretary	020 8398 2401
Thames Ditton Lawn Tennis Club	Steve Aukett	secretary@tdltc.com
Thames Ditton & Esher Golf Club	Mark Rodbard	020 8398 1551
Thames Ditton Squash Club (Colets)	Neal Brooker	020 8398 7108
Thames Ditton Cricket Club	Geoff Dryden	07813 805 645
	Geoff.Dryden@hotmail.com	
Thames Sailing Club	Mark Laity	07515 101056

SOCIETIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Ember Choral	Linda Bridges	020 8399 5402
Esher and Molesey Garden Society	Jean Billett	01372 465961
Esher and District Amnesty International	Cherry Eddy (Campaigns)	0208 398 4377
Hampton Court Way Allotment Association	Lettings: Piotr Hennig	020 8398 5358
Long Ditton Youth Club	Toni Izard	07749 633973
Lynwood Allotment Society	Gill Vickers	07900 225386
The Arts Society	Robin Linnecar	020 8942 1558
Oxshott & Cobham Music Society	Cherry Eddy (Membership)	0208 398 4377
	cherryeddy102@gmail.com	
Soroptimist Women	Jean Smith	07770 417814
Thames Ditton Women's Institute (W.I.)	Secretary	020 8398 8615

OTHER

Vera Fletcher Hall	Lettings: Alison Black	08456 528 529
Vital Village	Lettings: Laura Pring	07511 524982
Weston Green Conservation Area Advisory Committee		wgcaac@outlook.com

Please contact the Editor to amend these listings

AUTUMN SEASON AT THE VERA FLETCHER HALL

The Autumn Season at the Vera Fletcher Hall opens on **Friday 2 October at 7.30 pm** with a Film Night screening of the 2007 French musical biopic about the life of Edith Piaf, **La Vie En Rose**, with English subtitles.

On **Friday 16 October at 7.30 pm** we are very excited to be welcoming Paulus, as seen on BBC1's award-winning *All Together Now!*, and his brand-new show **What Wood Victoria Do?** which takes a deep dive into the world of Victoria Wood, pioneering female comic who wrote and starred in *Dinner Ladies* and *Acorn Antiques*. It is a celebration of those women who don't mince their words but make everything better with a cuppa and a mutual distaste for next door's extension: navigating friendship and loss amongst tea towels and village halls. The show will include some of the brilliant tunes from The Victoria Wood Songbook. This is the only date in a nationwide tour that is in Surrey.

On **Saturday 21 November at 7.30 pm** we are delighted to welcome back Claire Evans (**Home at Seven** and **One Christmas Carol**) with her new show **Mr Bennet's Bride – a prequel to Pride and Prejudice**. This will be part of the premiere professional production run of the play. In this cleverly layered comedy, writer Emma Wood looks back and explores the vexing question of how the ill-suited parents of Elizabeth Bennet, portrayed with such humour in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*,

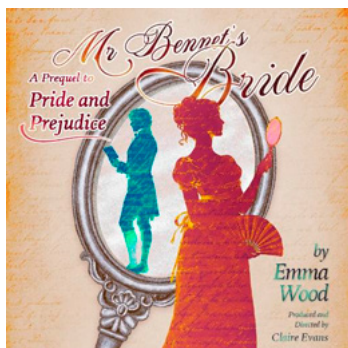
ended up married to each other in the first place. How did bookish and reclusive James Bennet come to be married to the ridiculous but ambitious and pragmatic Mrs Bennet?

Our Christmas Film Night on **Friday 11 December** will be the comedy **In The Bleak Midwinter** (also known by the US title, *A Midwinter's Tale*). The 1995 British Comedy, written and directed by Kenneth Branagh, is shot in Black & White and has a stellar cast. A group of

carol singers will entertain before the screening and a mince pie.

Keep an eye on our website or sign up for our Newsletter for updates on other events in the Autumn Season to be announced.

Tickets for all the Autumn events can be booked via **www.verafletcherhall.co.uk**.



CARPETS4U

NUMBER 1 MOBILE CARPET SHOWROOM

Epsom-based, friendly, Father & Daughter family-run business, established for over 25 years.

We bring 100's of carpet samples to your home with no obligation all at competitive prices.



**Call us today
to arrange a
completely
FREE estimate**

CALL
Holly **01372 632 118**
www.carpets4u.co.uk

10% DISCOUNT
ON PRESENTATION
OF THIS ADVERT

SPECIAL RATES
FOR SENIOR CITIZENS T&Cs APPLY



Over 1,800 Customer Reviews

Proud members of
Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters



FREE FITTING & FURNITURE MOVING - ESTIMATES AND ADVICE



The Lunch Club

Every Wednesday 11:30 am to 13:30 pm

Address: Georgie's Coffee House & Wine Bar

14 Manor Road North, Hinchley Wood, KT10 0SH

Cost: £12.50 for a hot meal, dessert and a drink



We are delighted to be launching our new Community Lunch Club, a welcoming space where local residents can come together, enjoy good food, and build meaningful connections.

The Lunch Club offers a relaxed and friendly environment where conversation comes naturally and everyone feels included. Alongside a delicious lunch, attendees can take part in engaging and cognitively stimulating activities such as games, discussions, and light group exercises designed to keep the mind active.

Whether you come for the food, the activities, or the company, you will always find a warm welcome at our Lunch Club.

**To join, simply drop in or
call 020 3143 4007**

*Visiting*Angels® 
QUALITY AT HOME CARE