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Includes Burpham Community Association newsletter.

Burpham Pages

November &
December
2021

Incorporating Jacobs Well

Burpham Residents' Winter Lectures return for 2022.

One-hour winter lectures are given by local residents for local residents.

Burpham during WWII.

As Remembrance Day approaches we look back to see how life in Burpham was remembered by residents.

Guildford's ghosts.

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Includes: Community Update from the Burpham Community Association

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Burpham Pages

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delivered free to over 3,000 homes.

Focussed on the local community and
the services available in the general
area. Includes Burpham Community
Association newsletter.

www.burpham-pages.co.uk

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Welcome

Dear Neighbours, I always feel as we reach our November/December issue things start to get a bit exciting. We've just had Halloween, Firework Night is around the corner and then we start the build up to Christmas and New Year.

Perhaps the end to 2021 will be a little more predictable than the end of 2020, or will it? As we approach the colder winter months the news is still full of the debates over masks, social distancing and ventilation. Hopefully we can all do the right thing and minimise the spread of Covid (although as I write this I am aware the level of cases are quite high locally).

However, concerns around the ongoing pandemic aside, it's fantastic to see so many more events being organised this season, compared to last year. The panto at the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre is back this year (oh yes it is!), as are the wonderful fireworks at Stoke Park organised by the Guildford Lions. Then, as we enter 2022, the Burpham Residents' lectures are back too. Also worth supporting are the Fountain Centre's Celebration of Christmas Concert and the various events going on at Elm Nursery.

If you're looking for some 'low impact' fireworks, preceded by games, crafts, face painting etc then why not get some tickets for the Burpham Church Family Fireworks on Sunday 7th November and don't forget the Act of Remembrance

taking place on Sunday 14th November at St. Luke's war memorial from 10.45am.

As we head in to the festive season, traditionally a family focussed time of year, please do take the time to think of people around you who may be spending some time on their own. A brief hello, a quick conversation or a welcome cup of tea can be all it takes to make a huge difference to their Christmas.

So, with so much going on locally I want to wish everybody a happy and safe Christmas and New Year. Have a great time, think of others and I look forward to speaking to you in 2022!

Paul Nicholls (Editor)

editor@burpham-pages.co.uk

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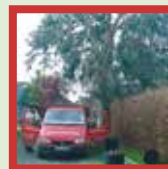
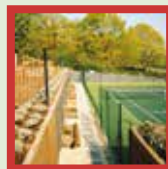
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Local news & events: get involved and tell us more about your news and events organised in Burpham, Jacobs Well and the surrounding areas.

Guildford Lions' 'Firework Fiesta' to go ahead this year.



After the cancellation of the fireworks in 2020 due to the lockdown restrictions it's great to see that the Guildford Lions Firework Fiesta will be going ahead this year.

Guildford Lions are delighted to confirm our annual fireworks display **WILL** take place this year, on **Saturday 6th November at Stoke Park**, albeit with a number of changes.

To ensure the evening remains as safe as possible we have decided to make some radical changes which can be summarised as follows:

1 Due to the current concerns and

uncertainties it is with real regret we must confirm that there will not be any torchlight procession this year. Our concerns centre on the lack of available space for social distancing.

2 The fireworks display on **Stoke Park** will still go ahead as the size of the park will allow people to socially distance if they so wish.

3 To offset the loss of the torchlight procession we will be introducing

live music for the first time. This will feature **Blurasis** an award winning band who cover songs by a host of artists including Blur, Oasis, Coldplay and many more.

- 4 **Peter Gordon** will again be our MC.
- 5 Again, for the first time the event will be an all ticket affair and contactless only. **Gates will open at 5.00pm**, the **music will be at 6.00pm & 7.30pm** with the **fireworks at 8.30pm**.
- 6 Tickets will cost **£10 per adult** with children under 16, accompanied by their parents, free. Tickets will be available via www.seetickets.com – early bird ticket sales will be starting shortly priced at £8.00.
- 7 There will be a **full licensed bar**, a **real ale marquee** and a **gin bar** by Pub of the Year The Star Inn, Godalming plus delicious hot food by **Mandira's Kitchen**.
- 8 Free parking will again be available at the Spectrum and The Guildford College with disabled parking available at the Guildford High School on London Road.

It will be wonderful to once again host such a wonderful community event and as ever **ALL** profits from the evening will be used to support our clubs welfare fund and also the Guildford Sea Scouts.

For more information please visit our website www.guildfordlions.com or our Facebook Page www.facebook.com/GuildfordLionsClub/



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What's on this month

November &
December 2021

Burpham Residents' Winter Lectures 2022



Creatures of the Rain: Gargoyles, grotesques and hunkypunks – Friday 7th January 2022.

Cheer up your chilly nights among friends. These one-hour **Winter Lectures** are given by local residents for local residents. There's no fee, but a collection at the exit to help room costs. All lectures take place at the **Burpham Village Hall** on Burpham Lane.

They all start at **8.00pm** and last just over an hour, including questions.

Friday 7th January 2022

Creatures of the Rain: Gargoyles, Grotesques and Hunkypunks



Andrew Plumridge will reveal some of the bizarre creatures that enrich the upper reaches of our churches and public buildings.

Friday 14th January 2022

Freewheeling to Vienna



Paul Gillingham will share his adventure of cycling to Austria's capital.

Friday 21st January 2022

Yes, Minister – an insider's view



Former minister Bob Hughes will take us behind the scenes of government to consider the realities of life at the top.

Friday 28th January 2022

Medieval sex and marriage



Historically, marriage has been an awkward matter. Why were panels of women assembled to assess the virility of a husband? And just how celibate were the priests who married them? Brian Creese will answer these questions and more.

Friday 4th February 2022

You have the right to remain silent...



Andrew Plumridge will lead us through a selection of bizarre and obscure laws that you probably break on a daily basis.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN



We were able to resume our meetings in the Village Hall in September and October with the speakers using Zoom, enabling us to have 'hybrid' meetings.

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month (except August) at 7.30pm.

We hold our AGM in November and in December we are celebrating with a Christmas lunch.

Details of our Programme for 2022 will be posted on our website when speakers are confirmed.

The WI plays a unique role in providing women with opportunities to build new skills, to make good friends, to take part in a wide variety of activities and to campaign on issues that matter to them and their communities.

If you would like further information about our WI, including how you can join our meetings please email us at burphamevewi@hotmail.com

For further information:

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What's on this month

November &
December 2021

Christmas at Elm Nursery



Elm Nursery is a family run farm shop, children's farm, plant nursery and cafe located in leafy Sutton Green.

This Christmas, Elm Nursery has everything you need for the festive period and for the big day. Order your free range turkey now, along with beef, lamb or game and all the trimmings. The shop has a large selection of fresh, seasonal vegetables to buy in store or to order for Christmas dining. It really does offer stress free shopping and you will be supporting a local business too! A huge range of high quality, British grown Christmas trees will be ready to buy from the last weekend of November along with decorations and gifts.

The children's farm at Elm Nursery is well worth a visit for animal lovers in the family! They have alpacas, goats, guinea pigs, free roaming chickens, pigs, Shetland ponies and a friendly donkey called Applejack. Food to feed the chickens is available to buy in the farm shop. It is an ideal venue for a low key morning or afternoon out for young and pre-school children, without the pressure of a day trip. **Entrance to the farm is £4 per person and under 2's are free.**

From **Sat 4th – Thurs 23rd December**,

there will be festive scenes on the farm. Father Christmas usually parks his sleigh for safekeeping until Christmas Eve. The sleigh is perfect for little helpers to sit in (and a fab family photo opportunity!). **The farm is open every day from 10am – 3.30pm (last entry 3pm).** No need to book.

Elm Farm Café has been newly refurbished and is open under new management for brunch, light lunches, home-made quiches, soups and cakes. Fresh coffee and other hot drinks are on the menu too. The café is **open Tues – Sun, 9.00am – 3.30pm (closed Mondays)** open every day during school holidays.



Sutton Green Road, Sutton Green,
Guildford, Surrey, GU22 0ES.
Telephone: **01483 755559**
Website: elmnursery.co.uk
Facebook: [@elmnurseryfarm](https://www.facebook.com/elmnurseryfarm)
Instagram: [@elmnursery](https://www.instagram.com/elmnursery)

Saturday 27th November

Jacobs Well Christmas Craft Fair



10.30am to 4.30pm at the
Jacobs Well Village Hall.

There'll be refreshments available to purchase, plenty of free parking and free entrance to the hall. Contact Zoe at jwcraftfair@gmail.com with any enquiries and follow us on Facebook for more updates:

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This brand-new adaptation weaves together seven wonderful tales and features original music and songs, running for 26 performances.

Visit guildford-shakespeare-company.co.uk for further info and tickets.

Do you have any events happening in and around Burpham & Jacobs Well that you would like added in the next issue?

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What's on this month

November &
December 2021

Wednesday 8th December

Fountain Centre's Celebration of Christmas Concert



The Fountain Centre team are delighted to be holding their traditional Carol Concert, hosted by patron and renowned Opera soprano **Kathryn Harries** and featuring special guests **Surrey Hills Choir** and **St Edmunds Catholic Junior School Choir**.



Kathryn Harries performing at Charterhouse.

The Fountain Centre Carol Concert takes place at **Holy Trinity Church** at the top of Guildford High Street on **Wednesday 8 December 2021 from 7pm to 9pm**. Tickets are already on sale from **www.thelittleboxoffice.com/fountaincentre** and cost £10 each (under 12's go free)

Holy Trinity church has full disabled access, and the ticket price includes a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie. There will be a cash bar and an opportunity to purchase Fountain Centre Christmas cards and other Fountain Centre branded goods making ideal gifts.

Fountain Centre Chairman Martin Read said: "We are so excited to be getting back to real events as its been so long since we have been able to meet all our supporters and patrons face to

face. The lack of events has made fundraising very difficult but the demand for our services is as high as ever so the proceeds from this event will be put to good use. Our Christmas concert is always a joy so we are really looking forward to seeing everyone again in this lovely venue."

Details of the work of the Fountain Centre can be found at **www.fountaincentre.org** along with details of this event and a link to tickets.

The Fountain Centre is an independent charity established in 1998 and based at St. Lukes Cancer Centre at the Royal Surrey County Hospital. The charity supports over 2500 cancer patients and their families as they go on their cancer journey with counselling, complimentary therapies, wellbeing, family service and more.

Sunday 7th November

Burpham Church Family Fireworks



4.00-5.30pm. A 'fair' style event with games, crafts, face painting and featuring the **Hope Space** for Burpham – a chance to let go and look forward. Hot food on sale from our mission partner **Neat2eat**. Finishing with **Low Impact Fireworks at 5.30pm**. At our church in New Inn Lane. This is a ticketed event and tickets must be bought in advance from the church office. **01493 825533** or **office@burphamchurch.org.uk**

Sunday 14th November

Act of Remembrance



10.45am. At St Luke's War Memorial, in front of St Luke's Church on Burpham Lane. All welcome for our act of Remembrance, and then do stay for interactive worship focused on hope, peace & remembrance followed by coffee and donuts.

Sunday 28th November

Messy Christingle



4.00pm. Mark the start of Advent with this family friendly service of light. Make your own Christingle (orange with sweets and a candle), join us for informal worship and sandwich tea after. At our church in New Inn Lane.

Christmas dates to follow!

Please see our website.

Regular Services at Burpham Church

Generally all at Church of the Holy Spirit in New Inn Lane – check website for one offs at St Luke's Church.

Sunday 9.15am

Holy Communion



We use the Church of England Common Worship service with hymns. This service runs every week

Sunday 10.45am

Contemporary Worship



With groups for children under 11: this informal service with a band, runs MOST weeks, but not when we have messy church in the afternoon. Check out our website for full information. **www.burphamchurch.org.uk**

Sunday 4.00pm

Messy Church



An interactive worship time with craft, games, songs, puppets and followed by a sandwich tea.

Thursday 11.00am

Holy Communion



A quiet shorter, reflective service.

All welcome!

Christmas at Elm Nursery

Christmas trees

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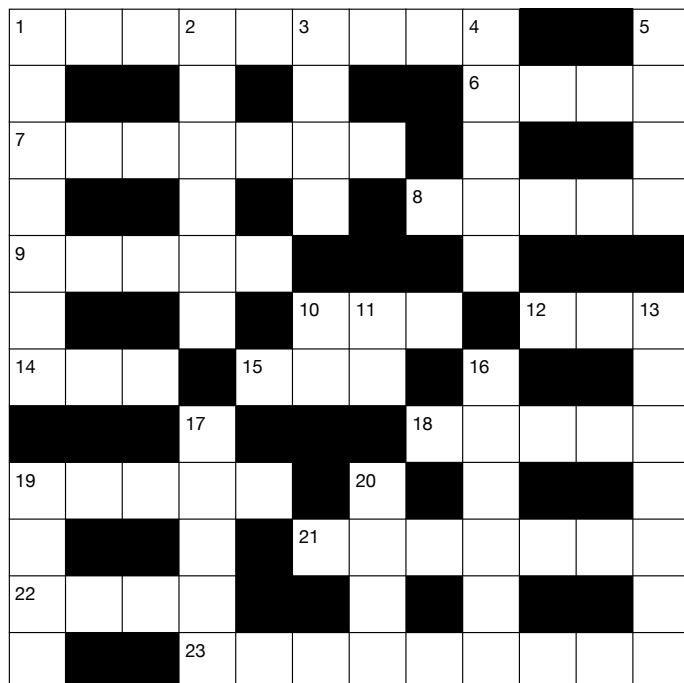
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Burpham Pages Crossword

Crossword No. 20
November & December 2021

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Across

- 1 Covered walkway in a convent or monastery (9)
- 6 2 or 4 wheeled vehicle pulled by a horse (4)
- 7 Steel tracks along which trains run (7)
- 8 The White Island (5)
- 9 Carrying deoxygenated blood to the heart (5)
- 10 Chew and swallow (3)
- 12 Spherical shape or object (3)
- 14 Expressing negation or absence (3)
- 15 The fifth month (3)
- 18 Mounds or ridges of sand formed by the wind (5)
- 19 Having reverted to a wild state (5)
- 21 To write or create music or poetry (7)
- 22 A male ruler (4)
- 23 Bristled implement for styling your hair (9)

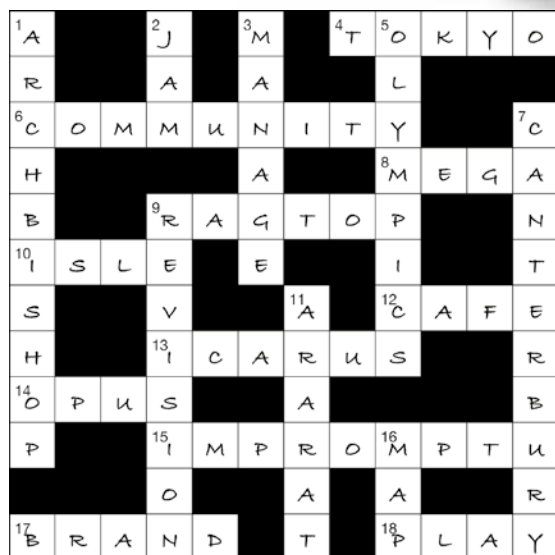
Down

- 1 Vehicle towed by a car & equipped for living in (7)
- 2 Land surrounded by water (6)
- 3 Vehicle powered by electricity from overhead cables, running on rails laid in a public road (4)
- 4 Self-contained underwater breathing apparatus (5)
- 5 Active volcano in Sicily (4)
- 10 Video game company with offices in Guildford (acronym) (2)
- 11 Affirmative (2)
- 13 Beg for urgently or anxiously (7)
- 16 Knitted garment with long sleeves (6)
- 17 Smile while making sounds with your voice that show you think something is funny (5)
- 19 Imitation or counterfeit (4)
- 20 Journey to fulfill a round of engagements (4)

Solution to Crossword No. 19

Burpham Pages issue No. 94
September & October 2021

The solution to each crossword will be published in the following issue of Burpham Pages as well as on our website www.burpham-pages.co.uk
For the November – December 2021 solution please see our January – February 2022 issue.



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Generosity

What's not to like!



Everyone loves a bit of generosity when it's given to them. Who doesn't love that kind person who gives you their car parking ticket they've hardly used, or the store owner who gives you an extra something free just because, or the tradesperson who waives their fee or whatever it is!

We all love it when people are generous towards us. Generosity puts a smile on your face and a lightness in your spirit, it warms our hearts and helps us to look on others in a different way.

Mahatma Gandhi said: "Gentleness, self-sacrifice and generosity are the exclusive possession of no one race or religion." How true, generosity is something most of us can agree on – it's a great thing to experience and a wonderful thing to encourage in one another. I may not always agree with Richard Dawkins, but he was definitely on the right track when he said: "Let us try to teach generosity and altruism, because we are born selfish."

As I write this at the end of October, we at Burpham church have just been taking part in a week of Generosity. We've shared reflections and

challenges to help us think about how to grow a more generous spirit, because the truth is, many of us find it easier to receive generosity than to give it! But generosity breeds generosity. I have found that I am more likely to be generous to others when I have experienced it myself. Perhaps that is true for you too.

Sometimes the needs of the world can seem overwhelming, and it feels like the little you can do is a mere drop in the ocean, but that's when Mother Teresa's words ring in my ears, "Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time and always start with the person nearest you."

Many people have been immensely generous over the last 18 months as they have seen others in need and reached out to help – and we all

salute those who have given above and beyond. May you experience the truth of Jesus' words for yourself:

"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Luke 6:38

Here's to a new and ongoing generosity among us all here in Burpham!

With every blessing
Rev'd James & Jo Levasier

james@burphamchurch.org.uk
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Welcome to the **Burpham Community Association**

Community Update

November & December 2021

Defibrillators for Burpham

The BCA took part in the Burpham Wellfest on August 22nd and would like to thank Ruth Stone and her team for organising a great day. We took the opportunity to launch our fundraising campaign for two Community Public Access Defibrillators (cPADs) for Burpham which we hope will be located at Sutherland Memorial Park and Aldi.

We shall be working with the Community Heartbeat Trust, a charity aiming to aid and support communities in the correct provision of defibrillators. So far, some 7,000 communities have benefitted from their help.

Defibrillators, also known as AEDs (automated external defibrillators), help someone in cardiac arrest by sending a current of electricity across the heart to allow it to resume a normal rhythm.

Defibrillators, also known as AEDs (automated external defibrillators), help someone in cardiac arrest by sending a current of electricity across the heart to allow it to resume a normal rhythm. If cardiac arrest is untreated, death occurs in around 97% of cases. With rapid action –



good CPR (chest compressions) and the use of a defibrillator – survival to hospital can be 70%.

There is no point in buying cPADs and leaving them on a convenient wall. We want to run awareness sessions and CPR training, and the cPADs will need ongoing maintenance to ensure they are fully functional at all times.

So how much will all this cost?

Two high specification Zoll 3 defibrillators, carry cases, outdoor heated cabinets, installation, training, support and maintenance for a few years will cost in the region of £6000.

If you would like to get involved with this project and help with fundraising events, please email cpad@burphamca.org.uk You can also donate by using our JustGiving

page <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/burpham-community-association>

Cardiac arrest can happen to anyone at any time – it can affect children and adults, males and females, and all ethnic groups.

It could be your life or that of someone you love.

At the time of writing (early October) donations collected total £1,387.73. This includes £1,000 from the BCA.

Please help us raise the rest!



BCA on Facebook & Twitter!

Join the conversation! Open to members and non-members, it's a great way to stay up-to-date with everything that's happening in our community.

twitter.com/burpham_c_a
 facebook.com/burphamCA/



Guildford Community Lottery

A way for everyone to support local causes and be in with a chance to win prizes of up to £25,000. **50% of all tickets sold from our page go to the BCA!**

Tickets only cost £1 per week, buy now at www.guildfordlottery.org/support/burpham-community-association

To get in touch with the BCA: Contact the secretary on secretary@burphamca.org.uk call **01483 567791** or visit the website at www.burphamca.org.uk

We represent the community of Burpham, Guildford

Burpham Neighbourhood Forum Survey

Do you have any concerns about the future of Burpham? How will traffic from Gosden Hill affect us? How will the proposed Sustainable Movement Corridor affect London Road – will there really be room for two bus lanes, two cycle lanes and two general traffic lanes? Can our bus services be improved?

How good is our water supply – a recent publication from Thames Water suggests that Guildford can rely on a bore hole and the river as “they never run dry.” Well, not yet anyway.

The BNF are carrying out a survey prior to updating the Burpham Neighbourhood Plan. A copy was in the last issue of Burpham Pages. Please complete it and let us know your views on the future of Burpham by the end of November 2021. You can also do this online via the BNF website. If you require a further hard copy please contact the Forum Secretary on **01483 826124**.



BCA Committee

The Secretary will definitely be retiring at the end of this year and the committee is looking for someone to take over the role.

Ideally we would like to see several people step up to help; we are a small group trying to deal with important issues for the community. The more willing hands, the lighter the load. If you think you can help, contact the Secretary – please!

Don't forget...

The 2021 series of Winter Talks in the Village Hall – or via Zoom if there are restrictions in place. The dates are 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th of January and the 4th February.

And finally...

You are cordially invited to join us for a Christmas celebration on Saturday 11th December, 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There will be mulled wine, festive nibbles, a Christmas quiz and a tombola.

Please could you let the Secretary know if you intend coming to give us an idea of numbers.

See you there!



Help by joining the Burpham Community Association today!

NB We never share your data or use it for any purpose other than informing you of BCA activities.

Subscriptions are £8 per household or £4 per single occupancy and run from January to December. Join now or renew your membership for 2021.

You can pay by:

Direct Debit – visit our website at www.burphamca.org.uk which has a link to this system – an email to treasurer@burphamca.org.uk giving your details would be helpful.

Online –

Account name: Burpham Community Association.

Sort Code: 40-22-26.

Account Number: 41049194

To help the Treasurer please identify yourself using initials, surname and the first line of your address.

Please contact Liz Turner, our Membership Secretary, if you have any queries. Her email address is membership@burphamca.org.uk

Burpham During the Second World War

Moira MacQuaide's history of Burpham

As we approach Remembrance Day in 2021, it's worth looking back to see how life in Burpham was remembered by residents. Then, as now, everyone was affected by changes to daily life, much of which was totally out of their control. The village was very different to now, with working farms along both sides of the London Road and fewer houses.

Burpham Primary School started changing in 1939 when trenches were dug in the grounds to provide air raid shelters, but these were useless as they filled with rain water, and it wasn't until late 1940 that a proper concrete shelter was installed – Jean Menzies remembered playing Hangman in there.

The school doubled in size to 62, when evacuated children from Fulham arrived as part of Operation Pied Piper, living with local families.

Many were amazed at being in a rural area, with farmland, animals, trees and flowers abounding. Miss Chesterfield arrived in 1940 to be the Headmistress, becoming the longest serving teacher in the school's history. Children planted vegetables as part of the Dig for Victory



Burpham school children gardening in 1945 (N Hamilton).

campaign, and enjoyed the chocolate powder sent from Canada for them to take home – dipping their fingers in it on the way. The Surrey Emergency Committee tried to requisition the iron railings around the perimeter of the school, to be melted down for munitions, but they faced the full force of Miss Chesterfield's disapproval and the railings are still there today. Miss

Lugsden and Miss Pratt also joined the school during the war years, and all three teachers retired in the early 1970s.

The Burpham air raid siren was at the **Kingpost**, being a central point for the village but, although the school could hear the siren telling them to go to the air raid shelter, they couldn't hear the all-clear one telling them to come out!

Mr Nobes, the publican of the **Green Man**, was told by the Food Office that two churns of milk would be provided for the evacuee children who were travelling from London. Pat Ward, his daughter, remembered that the pub had been a centre for family gatherings, but war broke up families. Also, it was difficult to get supplies as the pub was allocated gin and whisky

If you are willing to share your memories and/or photos to tell us more about Burpham then please contact Moira MacQuaide, either by e-mail (moira.macquaide@gmail.com) or by phone or text (07963 756543). My two books ('**The History of Burpham Primary School**' and '**Burpham – A Gateway to Guildford**') are still available from me for £10 (free delivery locally) or on Amazon.

The Green Man circa 1930s (postcard).



on the basis of pre-war requirements, despite it being busier during the war.

The pub kept lots of chickens, which provided eggs and meat. They didn't take in any evacuee children because they sold alcohol in the pub. She said that the Government was keen to keep the **London Road** open, in case the rail line was bombed.

Barbara Stone remembered that a bomb went off near the bridge on **New Inn Lane**, presumably intended for the railway, and the roof of her house was lifted up and back down, leaving broken windows and cracks in walls. Her father, Valentine Gow, worked for Cow & Gate and was responsible for ensuring that factories had all the necessary parts to keep going, so he had to travel round the country – he invented the first milk bottle washing machine. He was also in the Home Guard. She also remembered all the children were issued with gas masks and hers had a Mickey Mouse face in red and blue.

The Home Guard B Company set up its HQ at the **Green Man**, meeting in the Function Room in the Paddock Rooms. One of their duties was going out at night to check that houses had blackout curtains at their windows. Captain EH Shepard, who illustrated Winnie the Pooh books, was second in command of the Battalion in 1942. At the end of the war, members of the Home Guard were sent a letter

from King George VI, thanking them for their time and effort. There was a Prisoner of War camp in Merrow, where many prisoners were kept – some of the Italian prisoners worked on Gosden Hill Farm, making baskets to sell, while some German prisoners worked at cutting hedges.

Fundraising was important and various social events were organised by the **Burpham Women's Institute**, in aid of projects such as the Salute the Soldier Week. Children collected National Savings Stamps, which raised funds for War Weapons Week.

Leo Keene, who farmed **Gosden Hill Farm**, served with the Milk Marketing Board during the war, ensuring that milk was available where it was needed, especially for schools. The farm provided accommodation for girls from the ATS, WRAF and WRNS, who would pay for board & lodging with food coupons. Farm workers were usually reserved occupations, so they could continue providing food to the community.

The **London Road** was busy with military vehicles travelling back and forth, including lots of tanks. Also, American soldiers came through Burpham and threw sweets to the children as they went past.

The **St Luke's War Memorial** on Burpham Lane shows the names of the 11 men who lost their lives in WW2. Many of their fathers served

with the Home Guard. All but three of those who died were under 25 years old – so young to die.

- Aubrey Collins of Hawthorne Way
- James Cross of London Road
- Norman Drake of Orchard Road
- Jack Dunn of Meadow Road
- Clive Hammond of Jacob's Well
- Harry Hirst of Orchard Road
- Derek Lord of Orchard Road
- Kenneth Percival of Paddocks Road
- Frederick Ranger of Winterhill Way
- Samuel Reid of Burpham Lane
- Peter Vickers of Orchard Road



Names on St Luke's War Memorial.

Many others from the village served in the forces and came home after the war.

War time was challenging for most people. Rationing of food, coupons to buy clothes, air raid shelters in the garden, blackouts in the house, and watching the planes fighting in the sky. So many people, in the forces and a range of other occupations, made it possible for most of our parents and grandparents to get through those difficult years.

The Duke and Duchess of Sutherland held a garden party at Sutton Place in June 1945, to celebrate the end of the war in Europe. Many Burpham residents were invited to this. Street parties were held around the country, but the only image found for Burpham was of Merrow Lane children gathered for their party.



Merrow Lane children celebrating VE Day 1945 (A Keane).



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GUILDFORD GHOSTS & THEIR STORIES

By Alex Rose

Although Halloween is behind us, the ghouls and ghosts of Guildford and its neighbouring towns still lurk. If you have a steady nerve, read on to hear their haunting stories.

For 20 years, ghost tours of Guildford have uncovered a darker side of the town centre to tourists and locals alike. In this article we'll explore some of the most intriguing tales from our local area, including the chilling sightings of **Guildford Castle**, an unexplainable A3 apparition, the infamous legend of **Silent Pool** and more.

Nestled in the Surrey Hills – an area of outstanding beauty – lies **Silent Pool** near **Shere**, a well-known walker's hotspot boasting a popular gin distillery company of the same name. The serene and mysterious Silent Pool is a spring-fed lake secluded by trees and shrouded in an eerie stillness said to be haunted by the presence of a

woodcutter's daughter. It was near here that Agatha Christie's car was discovered whilst she was missing for eleven days before being discovered at a hotel in Harrogate with apparent memory loss, a mystery likened to her own novels. It was also here that the 19th century poet, Alfred Tennyson used to visit and muse over his poems.




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There are many variations of the legend of **Silent Pool**, but most begin with the woodcutter's daughter, Emma – sometimes Alice – bathing in the tranquil water. It is generally believed that a nobleman on horseback approached her, and in an attempt to escape his advances, the girl swam to a deeper part of the lake and drowned. The nobleman, frightened, made his escape, leaving behind his hat which would be discovered by the woodcutter the next day, in search of his daughter. The hat bore the royal crest of Prince John, who later became Bad King John. The ghost of the woodcutter's ill-fated daughter is said to be seen at midnight, dressed in virginal white, floating over the surface of the water and at times, the silence of the pool has reportedly been broken by Emma's (or Alice's) screams for mercy. However, the most common phenomena experienced at Silent Pool are strange noises and the feeling of being followed.

More recently, on December 11, 2002, Surrey police received a frenzy of calls reporting a car veering off the road near the A3 turn off to **Burpham**. This was no regular accident, and what unfolded afterwards has become local folklore.

In this article we'll explore some of the most intriguing tales from our local area, including the chilling sightings of Guildford Castle, an unexplainable A3 apparition, the infamous legend of Silent Pool and more.

When the police went to investigate the incident, no trace of a crash was found, despite the numerous sightings. No tyre marks were on the road, nor any flattened foliage where the car was said to have crashed, and it took until the next

morning, when dawn broke, for a car to be found. However, this car, a maroon Vauxhall Astra was covered in undergrowth, indicating that it had been there for much longer than one night. The wreckage was nose down in a ditch, invisible to the road above, and nearby lay the decomposed body of the driver who seemed to have survived the crash and managed to drag himself part way up the embankment in an attempt to get help, before dying. When he was discovered along with the car five months later, he was no more than a skeleton. The driver was eventually identified as Christopher Chandler, an alleged robber on the run from the police, who had been reported missing in July 2002 by his brother. But how could this be, when a multitude of witnesses saw the accident only the evening before? How could so many people have witnessed a crash five months after it occurred? Many believe that it must



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Mark Baker's photograph taken at the Mount Cemetery.

have been some sort of ghostly re-enactment of that fateful night.

One of Surrey's most impressive ruins is the mighty **Guildford Castle**. Now known for its beautiful grounds, it was built shortly after the Norman conquest of 1066, and renovated around 2003. It seems to be these renovations that have stirred the slumbers of the castle's oldest residents. In recent years, there have been a number of reports that visiting families have come running out of the castle's ground floor carrying near hysterical children. These children have described witnessing an



Guildford Castle, site of a chilling apparition.

emaciated figure chained to the castle walls. Chillingly, the apparition was sighted in the part of the castle used as a prison for those incarcerated accused of serious crimes such as murder, and any prisoners would await their execution here, if found guilty. None of the children, of course, would have been aware of this.

The highest point to be seen from Guildford town centre is **The Mount**, where, in the 18th century, executions would be carried out in view of the high street. Halfway up The Mount sits **The Mount Cemetery**, where Alice's Adventures In Wonderland author, Lewis Carroll, is buried. The Mount happens to be the setting for one of the most convincing photographs of a ghost. The picture features an unidentifiable spectral figure looming in the centre of a path, surrounded by spindly trees, and half obscured by the heavy fog. These were taken by Mark Baker, and the Director of The Ghost Finder Paranormal Society, Barri Ghai

said "I am stuck for words on this one – these images have caused quite a stir among my team. We are actually convincing ourselves that this could be genuine, a real ghost, but obviously for us to say that without a full investigation of the area is a tough one."

Guildford appears to be littered with paranormal attractions like **The Angel Hotel** and **The King's Head** pub as well as the aforementioned locations and many more. Clearly, the town we live in boasts a rich and ghostly past of people who were once as alive as we are now, so what will our presence today create for the future?



A Victorian artist's sketch of Silent Pool.

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Burpham Gardening Club News

November & December

To join the club or our meetings call John Boon on 01483 874123

Congratulations to the Trophy winners at our Autumn Show, Morriss Kemp (Ron Sporle Shield, Four Tomatoes, Ted Crump Rosebowl, a Single Rose, Howard Plate, Three Roses, Newman Trophy, a Single Dahlia).

Thank you to the other fourteen members who supported the show.

The Trophies will be presented on November 23rd when Andrew Halstead will be talking about **'Bugs that bite back'**.

Things to do in the garden in November.

- 🍷 The Planting of Tulips should be completed by the end of this month.
- 🍷 Cut down faded perennials leaving Penstemon and other late flowering perennials to continue flowering.
- 🍷 Dahlias and Cannas can still be lifted and stored in a dry place if you do not want to risk frost damage by overwintering them in the ground. They should be lifted, dried and stored in a frost free place ready for planting next Spring, if they are being overwintered in the ground they should be covered with a mulch dressing.
- 🍷 Apply an application of a mulch dressing to protect Agapanthus from the frost.
- 🍷 Half hardy Fuchsias and Pelargoniums should be cut back and brought undercover, reduce watering so that they remain

dormant during the winter months.

- 🍷 The watering of Houseplants should be reduced as the nights draw in.
- 🍷 Amaryllis bulbs should be potted up for Christmas flowering.
- 🍷 Bring potted Hyacinths into a light cool area once they begin to shoot.
- 🍷 Reduce the watering of Houseplants.

Continue to rake fallen leaves off of the lawn.

- 🍷 Now is a good time to plant Raspberry Canes, Fruit Trees and Bushes.
- 🍷 Start the winter pruning of Apple and Pear trees.
- 🍷 Aquadulce Broad Beans should be planted now to produce an early crop ahead of the Spring invasion of Blackfly.
- 🍷 Garlic cloves can still be planted.
- 🍷 Continue to rake fallen leaves off of the lawn.

Things to do in the garden in December.

- 🍷 Indoor Azaleas should be watered frequently to prevent the dense root ball from drying out, rainwater is

better than tap water.

- 🍷 Poinsettias are a popular gift at this time of the year, they should be kept in a warm light place away from draughts, they do not like to be overwatered. All other Houseplants should be kept in a bright place as winter light levels fall on frosty nights do not leave them trapped between closed curtains and the window.
- 🍷 Pinch out the tips of Sweet Peas sown in October to encourage bushy growth.
- 🍷 The vegetable plot should be cleared of all left over plant debris and lightly dug over to open up the ground so that the winter frost can get in and destroy bugs and diseases.
- 🍷 Rhubarb crowns can be forced by covering them with dark bucket.
- 🍷 Grape vines, Acers and Birches should be pruned before Christmas to prevent bleeding, most deciduous trees can now be cut back, leave Prunus species until they are in leaf next Spring, Magnolias should be left until the Summer
- 🍷 Keep off of the Lawn when it is frosty or very wet.

Useful numbers

Police

Call **101** for local police team

Village Halls

Sutherland Memorial Hall..... 01483 300404

Jacobs Well Village Hall..... 07482 632144

Burpham Village Hall..... 07752 549313

Local Councils & Councillors

Borough Councillor (Burpham)

George Potter..... 07411 005115

Ted Mayne..... 01483 565296

Borough Councillor

(Worplesdon & Jacobs Well)

Ruth Brothwell..... 01483 223571

Ann McShee..... 01483 825907

Bob McShee..... 01483 825907

Worplesdon Parish Council

(Jacobs Well)..... 01483 300094

County Councillor

(Guildford East – Merrow & Burpham)

George Potter..... 07411 005115

Supermarkets

Sainsbury's (Burpham)..... 01483 506767

Local Associations

Burpham Community Association.....

01483 567791

Jacobs Well Residents Association

(Secretary)..... 01483 577994

(Chair)..... 01483 822976

Veterinary Surgeons

Stocton Veterinary Centre..... 01483 604308

Alder Veterinary Practice..... 01483 536036

Chemists

Boots Pharmacy (Merrow)..... 01483 572421

Lloyds Pharmacy in Sainsbury's

(Burpham)..... 01483 566076

Schools

Burpham Primary School..... 01483 572510

George Abbot School..... 01483 888000

Sports Venues

Sutherland Memorial Park..... 01483 444718

Hospitals

BMI Mount Alvernia Hospital.....
01483 570122

Royal Surrey County Hospital.....
01483 571122

Nuffield Health Guildford Hospital.....
01483 555800

Doctors

Merrow Park Surgery..... 01483 503331

Churches

Burpham Church (St Luke's & The Church of The Holy Spirit)..... 01483 825533

Local Charities

Age UK Surrey..... 01483 503414

Challengers..... 01483 230060

Guildford Lions..... 0345 833 2884

The Fountain Centre..... 01483 406618

Headway Surrey..... 01483 454433

Dentists

Burpham Dental Care..... 01483 561666

Waterden Dental Practice..... 01483 565290

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