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God save the King

Chairman's welcome



Welcome to the May edition of The Villager. It's a very busy time of year, with the main event being the coronation of King Charles III. Our first joint event

with St Marks Church turned out to be a wonderful celebration, which you can read more about inside.

A second event has been the election of your new Parish Councillors. The number of candidates did not exceed the number of vacancies, so no election was required. We'd like to welcome Simon Schofield as a new councillor - you will find a brief introduction from Simon inside.

Also, Paul Howarth decided not to stand for reelection due to other commitments - thanks to Paul for his contribution over the last two years.

Due to ill health Tony Coomber has stepped down and we would like to thank him for time over the past couple of years.

Last, but certainly not least, Bob Hutton has decided to stand down as the Chair for the new civic year and I am proud to have been elected to take over as Chair in his place. I thank him for his guidance over the past year and am very happy to say that he remains on the council as Vice-Chair.

We hope you enjoy this edition; we'd be happy to hear your feedback.

Paul Chillman - Chairman of the Council

NEEDED

Your Parish Council needs you!

If you are interested in being an ambassador for your community, to have a voice and make decisions on behalf of the village, why not become a councillor, get in touch with our parish clerk.

clerk@normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk

The council have been receiving various requests from villagers about matters in and around Normandy.

Can we consider installing cycle racks in the village?

There is currently no funding has been allocated for the council to be able to this, but the council will look to seek a grant.

Where would you like to see a bike stand installed? Please email clerk@normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Can walking and cycling routes in the village be published?

This is something the parish council can consider but would require a grant. If you would like to see more cycle racks around the village, where would you like them to be installed? Please email clerk@normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Should we have more open noticeboards in the village?

The council are receiving more requests for notices on our closed noticeboards, however the space needs to be used for official council notices.

The council are proposing to install more open noticeboards – where would you like these to be installed? Please email clerk@normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk.

The Parish Office

Parish Office is open every Friday in the Village Hall until 1 pm.

Clerk contact details:

clerk@normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk 07739 969518



Parish Assembly 2023

Normandy's annual assembly of the residents was held at the village hall on 23 March. The assembly is an opportunity for residents to get together to hear updates from the council, debate local issues and express views on local concerns and initiatives.

The evening started with an hour's networking of 17 community groups and over 60 residents, all accompanied by a glass of wine/juice. The room was buzzing with conversation as residents swapped information on activities and clubs to get involved with in the village; from art to sport groups, nature to speedwatch groups, plus everything in between.

The assembly was opened by the Chairman of the Council before handing over to our guest speaker, Ann Bott, the CEO of Surrey's Association of Local Councils. We heard from the Chairs of the Finance and Governance Committee, the Estate Committee and the Events group. Followed by an update from our County Councillor, Keith Witham. The assembly ended with a Q&A session from residents.

The Parish Council would like to thank all who attended. If you missed the chance to come along to this annual event, members of the public are always welcome to come to the council meeting throughout the year. Details of all meetings are on the website.





Who's new...

SIMON SCHOFIELD



My working background has been specialised in international taxation and tax law for almost 30 years working for major accountancy firms (Ernst & Young, Deloitte) and multinationals (Samsung, Huawei, GE Capital) in London, Paris and elsewhere although have also held roles as a financial controller and covering internal audit as well. I've also acted as a private sector representative to the World Customs Organisation and worked with various trade associations on EU and OECD direct and indirect tax matters. I currently have a voluntary role with an international trade

association based in the US specialising in e-commerce trade matters although that is likely to cease in the coming months.

My professional qualifications were as a Chartered Accountant (1997) and Chartered Tax Advisor (1994) which I held until my retirement two years ago (and graduated with a Mathematics degree from Emmanuel College in Cambridge back in 1991) As a result the areas where I hope to make a contribution are in relation to finance, governance and risk management and am familiar with poring through complex legislation that may be of assistance in planning and other matters.

I moved into Normandy now almost 10 years ago in November 2013 from Ealing although grew up on the edge of the Peak District in Derbyshire which gave me an appreciation for green spaces and rural life. Since retirement, there has been much more of a desire to contribute to village/town life hence the decision to apply for the Parish Council. However I recognise there will be a lot to learn in the coming months on local authority matters but have always been a great believer in lifelong learning and look forward to the challenge!

Estates and Conservation

I love the springtime in Normandy. Walking around the Common, Manor Fruit Farm or our amazing network of footpaths, there are always fascinating sights and sounds. Whilst it is a very busy time for wildlife, it is a quieter time for practical nature conservation as we do not wish to disturb nesting birds or other creatures.



Cleared inlet ditch to allow water to flow into the eastern edge of the pond.

So it was great to get some of the work done on Normandy Pond at the end of March with the help of a few volunteers. The ditches flowing into and out of the Pond had become very silted up, so a muddy job of clearing those was quite satisfying. We also trimmed back some of the small trees overhanging the pond to ensure more light reaches the water.

We have a large number of recommendations from our recent report from Surrey Wildlife Trust and the Council will be looking to work with other groups and expert individuals to create a practical management plan for conservation work parties throughout the year. We will be looking for volunteers for work parties and if you are interested please get in touch.

The young trees at Manor Fruit Farm are coming into leaf and with luck will do well over the summer. However, the 10 larger trees may need some extra water so if you are able to help with this, please let us know.

With the help of some expert RHS trained volunteers, we are looking to improve the Peace Garden to make it a more welcoming and attractive place to sit, contemplate life and enjoy the view.

We are always open to ideas as to how to improve your community spaces at MFF and Normandy Common, though the latter is primarily a place for wildlife conservation.

The other main area managed by the Council is the Allotments on Westwood Lane. Plots become empty from time to time and if you are interested in having a plot, please contact the clerk.

Written by Cllr Philippa Mitchell



Trimmed trees along the south edge of the pond, reducing shading.

Normandy Conservation Management

The council would like to tap into local knowledge and expertise in order to look after our natural resources, including Normandy Common, the pond, Manor Fruit Farm and the allotments.

In order to achieve this the council is creating a Conservation Group, and would be keen to learn of any residents who would like to sit on this group.

The plan is for the group to meet a couple of times a year to create and monitor an action plan for work that is required, and to organise working parties to get the practical work done. The first meeting will be 7pm on 15 June, if you are keen to get involved please contact the Clerk on

, clerk@normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk

The Normandy Action Group (NAG)

We are a local village association run by residents who care about our community and who wish to protect its special character and its amenities. Join our free mailing list and become better informed about local issues. Don't wait until something you don't like starts happening on your back doorstep!

Natural England has published its recommendations for extending the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural beauty (AONB), which include bringing in most of the existing Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV) north of the Hog's Back between Tongham and Guildford. This would mean that all the area known as Wanborough Fields, plus all the land running up north to Green Lanes East and Flexford Road, plus some of the land to the north of West Flexford Lane running all the way to Wildfields Farm, would become part of the AONB. There is now a further process of public consultation; please comment before 13 June and show your support to increase the chances that these proposals are accepted! Full details on our website www.normandyag.org.uk

This new AONB would include two areas on which controversial developments are currently mooted. The first is a solar farm on three fields owned by the University of Surrey to the west of Blackwell Farm. The planning reference on the GBC website is 22/P/02178, where the detailed proposal can be viewed alongside the large number of objections made by members of the public.

The second is an application for a 74-caravan site at Homestead Farm, off West Flexford Lane. This has been made possible by a steady series of applications by the landowner seeking permission for retrospective Certificates of Lawfulness for Existing Use or Development (CLEUDs). The validity of these has been strongly challenged by local residents, who have formed their own campaigning group 'Wanborough Greenbelt Protection', whose website is www.wanborough.org. An online petition attempting to persuade Guildford Borough Council to reverse the granting of the CLEUDs has at the time of writing attracted 1750 signatures.

writing attracted 1750 signatures.
We are grateful to Normandy Parish
Council and Surrey County Council
for their grants of £100 to allow us to
continue our free service to local residents
via our website and newsletters. If you
haven't yet signed up for the latter, please
visit the NAG website and complete the
form on the 'follow us' tab so we can
place you on our mailing list.

Mike Aaronson – Chair, NAG Steering Committee

GBC's Playrangers

Playrangers is an exciting project which encourages children to play freely outdoors. Free sessions are held after school from 3:30pm-5:30pm in six locations around the Guildford area. You are welcome to attend all sessions but the nearest session to Normandy runs fortnightly in Week 2 of our rota on Tuesdays at Coronation Gardens, Ash, GU12 5DN.





This year so far, we have cooked on the fire, built dens, worked as a team to hook-the-duck, ran an Easter nature trail, amongst other activities! it's been lovely to see so many new and familiar faces. The Playrangers are qualified and experienced play workers. They run play sessions based on using the natural environment as well as child-led play. The team of Playrangers come out in all weathers so remember to wear suitable clothing for outdoor, messy play.

Our Playranger sessions are a great way for children and young people to get outside, be active and make new



friends. Sessions are aimed at 8-12 year olds, however under-8s are welcome if accompanied by an adult. Playrangers runs during term time. All children are welcome to join.

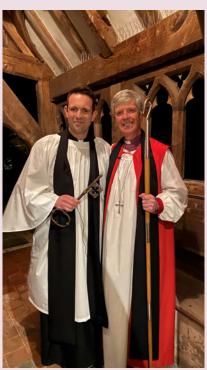
For up-to-date information on our latest Playranger dates and all our other community events and activities please follow us on social media

@GBCcommunitywellbeing

To find out more please visit the website: www.guildford.gov.uk/playrangers, or feel free to email community.wellbeing@guildford.gov.uk or call 01483 444150.

St. Mark's welcome Reverend George Watkinson

We started this year by welcoming Revd. George to be the Vicar of St. Marks. He was licensed by Bishop Andrew on 12 January and will be sharing his time between St. Mark's and St. Michael and All Angels Church in Pirbright. George was previously a curate at Holy Trinity Brompton.



George and the Bishop of Guildford

George is keen to meet as many people as possible within his first six months and to listen a lot. He also plans to build the children's and families ministry of the two parishes and to reach out to local families and see that ministry thrive.

A busy year awaits and George has already got stuck in at the recent Coronation fair at Manor Fruit Farm – which turned out to be a brilliant afternoon with lots fun had by all.

George presides over two Sunday services, with a 9.30am service at St. Michael and an 11.15am service at St. Mark's.

For more information on all that is taking place at St. Mark's, please visit our website: www.stmarkswyke.org. uk and if you would like to contact Revd. George, please email him on georgealbionwatkinson@gmail.com



There's a buzz around the village, more and more people are asking "when is the shop and café opening?"

The answer is very soon, we are aiming to open in early June! By the time you receive this newsletter, the Café may well be up and running, followed by the shop! Watch out for our updates on Facebook and noticeboards and signage around the village.

It has taken a lot of time and effort to get to where we are now. We have a fantastic building, we've restored furniture for the café, shop shelving and fixtures are in place. We have a fully equipment kitchen, ready to serve our delicious menu. We are starting to stock the shelves and train our staff and volunteers.

If you have told us in the past that you'd like to volunteer but haven't completed a form or contacted us, now is the time.

Our volunteer application form can be download from www.normandyshop.co.uk/get-involved. Completing the form will tell us formally you want to volunteer. We will then be in touch to understand when and what you want to do. The form is also a legal requirement to make sure you are treated as an employee and covered by our insurance when working on the premises.



What we really need are more VOLUNTEERS

We can only open the shop if we have enough volunteers, numbers are building but we still need in excess of 50 more!

What jobs will volunteers be doing?

There will be specific shop and café tasks, such as working in the kitchen, preparing food, stocking shelves, taking orders.

There are other behind the scenes jobs, hoovering and cleaning the shop and café, tidying up outside, mowing our lawn area, watering our containers, clearing tables, helping the daily life of the shop and café run smoothly. There will be ongoing DIY tasks as we grow into our space.

Our second share offer is now live and you have the opportunity to invest in your community shop and café! Please visit https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/share-offer-normandy-shop-cafe to buy your shares today!

Volunteer spotlight!

Our Parish has a variety of volunteers supporting the Council in their tasks. In this edition we talk to Richard Cunningham about his volunteering.



How long have you been volunteering?

I have been a volunteer with NPC for about 4 years. Previously I have been a volunteer as a governor at Wyke Primary School, Surrey Police, London Olympics 2012 and with Mutual Support (the Armed Forces group of the Multiple Sclerosis Society).

What do you do to volunteer for the council?

During this time with NPC, I have helped with building the annual November bonfire at MFF; help setup, run and dismantle the bar at the bonfire and fair events; assist with traffic management for the bonfire and fireworks event; pick litter around the village during organised litter picks; have given some help with the NPC Estates team

with their tree planting programme; am a member of the Normandy Community Speedwatch Team and of course I cut the grass footpaths around MFF each summer season on my tractor and strim the grass around the exercise equipment. Please give me a wave if you see me and am always open to new requests for paths should they be appropriate!

Why do you volunteer?

I enjoy volunteering to help in the village to make a small but positive difference to life in our community; to be part of a friendly like-minded team of other volunteers; meeting with other villagers whilst carrying out my tasks and just the enjoyment of being out and about in the village. All this I am generally able to do at times of my choosing without any long-term commitment.

St. Mark's and Normandy Parish Council Coronation Fair

A big thank you to everyone who came along to the St. Mark's and Normandy Parish Council Coronation Fair, it was so lovely to see so many people of all ages attending and having fun. This is was the first joint event between St marks and Normandy Parish Council.

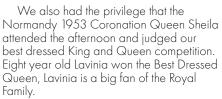




With lots of wonderful things to do from petting adorable animals from Miller's Ark, to arts and crafts, testing abilities on the skills corner and the fun of the traditional coconut shy. There was also plenty of delicious cakes, bbq food and ice cream for everyone to enjoy. Plus a wonderful raffle, with amazing prizes.

















It as also a honour that Michael More-Molyneux The Surrey Lieutenancy and his wife Sarah and Jonathan Lord MP for Woking joined us and opened the Fair along with Reverend George Watkinson. Our guests also unveiled a plaque regarding The Queens Green Canopy 2023, where local residents of Normandy have planted over 500 new trees at Manor Fruit Farm. The guests also got to see inside our new Normandy Community Shop and Cafe.

Lastly, we must say a very big thank you to everyone who organised and worked on the event and the volunteers that came along yesterday to run the stalls. Without you there wouldn't have been a village fair and we are very grateful for all your hard work.

Written by Claire Waters-Duke



NEWS

The Friends of Normandy Wildlife are planning an interesting programme of walks and talks for the 2023 Summer and Autumn season, so if you are interested in the wonderful wildlife we have in and around our village, keep your eyes on our website at www.friendsofnormandywildlife.org.uk where the programme will be advertised. Some dates are yet to be decided but, once confirmed, all will be listed on the website.

Walks....

- Saturday 10th June: An orchid walk around Sheepleas local nature reserve led by Gill Woolfson – meet at 10am at Normandy Common car park.
- Later in July/August date to be confirmed: A guided walk around the RSPB reserve at Tilford.
- In Autumn date to be confirmed: A bat and moth safari around Normandy.

Illustrated talks.....

- Monday 4th September: Dave Williams will tell us 'All about Dormice' one of our smaller and rarely seen mammals.
- Monday 2nd October: Holly Gilder will describe exciting ongoing work 'Saving Britain's Rarest Plants'.
- Monday 6th November: Mark Wright from WWF will give us a 'Halloween talk, Looking at Nature's Own Zombies'!!



All talks start at 7.30 pm with refreshments available from 7.00.

Everyone is very welcome.

There is a small charge of £2 for members, £3 for non-members; free for children and students under 18. For more information contact fnwildlife@gmail.com.



And don't forget....

We would love to know if you see any summer bird migrants – swifts, swallows and house martins in Normandy skies so, if you do, do get in touch.

For wildlife in distress, contact our local wildlife rescue centres: Harper Asprey (01344 623106) and Wildlife Aid (09061 800132).

WILD EXPLORERS NORMANDY

Nature Exploration Adventures for Families

We meet at Normandy Common or Manor Fruit Farm at 10:30 on Sunday mornings for about 1.5 hours of exploration and adventure.

For details email greenyourlife1@gmail.com

https://www.facebook.com/groups/ wildexplorersnormandy



Dates for your diary...



Normandy Historians hold meetings on the third Tuesday of the month commencing at 8.00pm at Normandy Village Hall, Glaziers Lane. Normandy GU3 2DT.

The next talks arranged are:

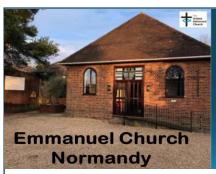
Tuesday 16 May: Clandon Park – the Fire and Restoration. Martin Ellis will describe the effect of the extensive fire at Clandon Park house in 2015, and the plans for the partial restoration of this National Trust property.

Tuesday 19 September: Farnborough Abbey and the Empress Eugenie.

Jo Gosney will describe the formation of St Michael's Abbey, a Benedictine monastic community in the 19th century and its connection to Napoleon III and Empress Eugenie who are buried in the Abbey Crypt.

Tuesday 21 October: The Motor Industry of Farnham

A talk by Len Huff about E D Abbott Limited / Abbotts of Farnham, a coach/car building business which produced iconic cars for Ford and other manufacturers from 1930 to 1972.



Welcome to our Sunday Worship

'Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey you are welcome here'

May 2023 Sunday services start at 10.00am

Sunday 7 May The Coronation/Breakfast Sunday 14 May Thinking about JOY

Sunday 21 May Short Sunday Service - subject is "Waiting" followed by Messy Church at 11.00am

Sunday 28 May PENTECOST

What's On on May

- Flim Club Friday 5 May 2.00pm
- Monday Coffee & Chat 8, 15 and 22 May 10.00am
- Go Deeper Bible Study Group Thursdays 4 & 18 May 7.30pm
- Friendship Club Friday 19 May 2.00pm

www.emmanuelchurchnormandy.co.uk Glaziers Lane, Normandy



WANDER FESTIVAL

This year, Normandy Parish Council are going to trial something new. Instead of a summer fair we are going to host a music festival.

The aim is to keep the event simple, the focus being on music, local food and drink with entertainment available for children. We are fortunate to have a local music producer living in the village (Goldun Egg) who has agreed to put on the festival for us.

We know there will be some people who live in the village who may be concerned about this event, we want to reassure you that this is a trial and we will be seeking feedback afterwards. Both Normandy Parish Council and Goldun Egg want to highlight and embrace the rural nature of our village and there will be a strong focus on sustainability throughout the planning and delivery of the event, ensuring the impact on our local environment and residents is minimal.

If you are interested in attending, please keep the afternoon and evening of Saturday 9th September free. Although plans are still being developed we know we will have a fantastic array of performers, delicious local food options (including vegetarian and vegan), and a range of different drinks available.

We want to make this event as affordable as possible but it will be ticketed to cover our costs and also to raise funds for the village - a percentage of the profits will be invested into improving the play areas in the village.

Please follow the below social media feeds to learn more about the plans, where tickets can be bought from and the musicians who will be performing.

If anyone has any concerns or questions please send these to amy.mcleod@ normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk Facebook - @Wander Festival Instagram - @wanderfestival



Run by:

Mobile Community Liver Health Checks

A mobile van coming to Manor Fruit Farm on Friday 16th June from 8am.

Offering free liver health checks to identify any fibrosis and help prevent liver cancer.



Advertising

If you would like to advertise in The Villager, please email clerk@normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk. There are four issues a year - February, May, September and December. See opposite for costs and sizes.



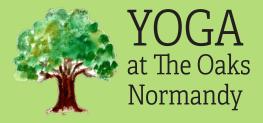


at Normandy Cricket Club is open on Fridays from 6pm Come and support the only bar in the village!



Good company, well stocked bar, lovely surroundings and outdoor space.

Open to all members and non-members alike



Small friendly classes
held in a beautiful barn-like studio.
Online classes available.
Also classes in

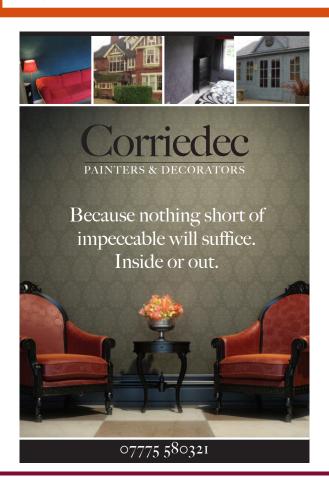
Relaxation & Meditation

For health, balance, peace and awareness.



Sarah Church

07816 534554 sarahchurchyoga@gmail.com www.yogainguildford.com Facebook: YogaAtThe Oaks.Guildford



Advertising

If you would like to advertise in The Villager, please email clerk@normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk. There are four issues a year - February, May September and December. See below for costs and sizes.

Abbeyfield Pirbright & District Society

Cunningham House Pirbright

Supported housing for older people who:

- value their independence
- love good food
- enjoy being sociable



Website:

www.cunninghamhouse.co.uk

cunninghamhousepirbright@gmail.con

Cunningham House is the opertaing name of Abbeyfield Pirbright and District Society Limited, a registered society under the Co-Operative and Community Benefits Societies Act 2014, registration number 22478R





Surrey Police Band in Concert

On behalf of ABF – The Soldiers' Charity

Sunday 18th June 7PM Godalming Borough Hall, GU7 1HR

Tickets available at: www.surreypoliceband.org.uk



The Army's National Charity

Normandy Nightingales Enabling Women



We are a group of women who wear many hats! We wear them well, we change them often and we are willing to attempt new challenges, but the thing we always wear is a smile

Our group is about both educating and enhancing the lives of the women around us. We have items when they are appropriate. We were established in 2016 so in the world of WI groups we are fledglings and have yet to reach our full potential. You would be very welcome to join us on our exciting

Facebook: @NormandyNightingalesWI Website: www.thewi.org.uk





Advertising in The Villager **COST AND SIZES**

ANNUAL COST (4 ISSUES)

1/8 page size (90mm wide x 55mm high) - £30 1/4 page size (90mm wide x 115mm high) - £50

1/2 page size (185mm wide x 115mm high) - £80

ONE INSERT COST

1/8 page size (90mm wide x 50mm high) - £15

1/4 page size (90mm wide x 115mm high) - £25

1/2 page size (185mm wide x 115mm high) - £40

ARTWORK

Please supply your artwork in high resolution pdf. If you need any assistance producing your artwork call Jane on 07966 029830

Who's who

Your Parish Council



Councillor Paul Chillman



Councillor Bob Hutton



Councillor Philippa Mitchell



Councillor Pat Tugwell



Councillor Amy McLeod



Councillor Dabeer Ahmed



Councillor Simon Schofield

Vacancies

PLANNING

Philippa Mitchell
Pat Tugwell
Bob Hutton
Dabeer Ahmed

NPC Committees

ESTATES & FACILITIES

Philippa Mitchell Paul Chillman Dabeer Ahmed Simon Schofield Pat Tugwell

FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

Paul Chillman Bob Hutton Simon Schofield Pat Tugwell Amy McLeod

Surrey County Council

SCC and Borough Councillor for



Normandy and Pirbright Ward

Keith Witham

keith.witham@surreycc.gov.uk www.surreycc.gov.uk

Guildford Borough Council

Borough councillor for Normandy



and Pirbright Ward

David Bilbe david.bilbe@guildford.gov.uk

How do I report a...?

If you notice any issues, such as potholes, flooding, leaks or fly tipping, don't leave it to someone else ... please report it!

Potholes, pavements, blocked and broken drains, flooding, fallen trees and overgrown vegetation, can be reported directly to

Surrey County Council (www.surreycc.gov.uk)

This can be done online, or if you consider a problem to be an immediate threat to life or limb, or do not have internet access, call their Contact Centre on **0300 200 1003**.

Fly tipping Fly tipping on Public Highway or Guildford Borough Council Housing Area will be dealt with by the borough council and can be reported via this link www.guildford.gov.uk/reportflytipping

Keeping you in touch

Here are some of the ways the NPC can keep in touch and you can respond.

There are the traditional methods such as this publication and the village notice boards but there are also online channels which are quick and easy, see below:



The Parish Clerk can be contacted using the following email address: clerk@normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk



On our website you can find council minutes, agendas and other useful information

www.normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk



We have a Facebook page, please follow our tweets on events and updates about the village @normandyparish



Nextdoor is the best way to stay informed about what' going on in your neighbourhood (download the app)