

# The Villager



DECEMBER 2023

Issue 86

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## Chairman's welcome



Welcome to the latest edition of The Villager. On behalf of the Parish Council, I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a happy New Year. This year's bonfire event has just taken place and, like last year, was well attended, especially by families of all ages.

We made a few changes to the organisation and hopefully addressed the main issues from last year. The organising committee, led by Councillor Amy McLeod plus several other councillors, worked with a committed team of volunteers to deliver another spectacular evening of fireworks and general social gathering. It was great to see so many people enjoying the event.

Events take a lot of planning and effort to deliver on the day. None of this would be possible without

volunteers and there are always opportunities for more volunteers to become involved. This may be in the form of planning; set-up; running the event; and last but not least, clearing-up afterwards.

The other major activity since our last newsletter was the preparation of the funding bid for a grant to aid with the cost of replacing the children's playground equipment on Manor Fruit Farm. The bid was sent in October, and we now await a decision from central government.

On a slightly less happy note, Councillor Amy McLeod has decided to stand down from her place on the Council. Amy has been deeply involved in the council for the past 3 years, serving as Chair as well as vice-Chair. Amy has also been heavily involved in planning and running events in that time: the Queen's Jubilee celebration; the King's Coronation celebration; two annual bonfires, and working alongside Goldun Egg to deliver the Wander Festival. Hopefully Amy will be able to find time to assist with future events. Thank you, Amy.

**Cllr Paul Chillman – Chairman of the Council**



## MERRY Christmas

The Parish office will be closed for  
the Christmas period

Last day will be 8 December 2023  
Back open 12 January 2024

**Normandy Parish Council**  
Serving Our Community through working in Partnership



## Play area survey update

In a recent survey conducted around the play area at Manor Fruit Farm, the community has spoken, and the response has been overwhelmingly positive.

The survey, initiated by the council, aimed to gain insights into the preferences and needs of the community concerning play features in the area. The results not only provided valuable information but also paved the way for a potential redevelopment project that could enhance the recreational experience for residents.

**Survey Highlights:** The survey, distributed to residents and regular visitors to Manor Fruit Farm, captured a diverse range of opinions and preferences regarding play equipment. The findings indicate a strong desire for recreational features that cater to various age groups and abilities. The most popular pieces of play equipment identified in the survey included gliding structures, swings, climbing frames, and bouncing elements.

The community showed a significant interest in inclusive play, emphasising the importance of creating an environment that welcomes and accommodates individuals of all abilities. This insight reflects a growing awareness of the need for accessible and inclusive recreational spaces that promote community engagement.

Buoyed by the survey's success, the council has taken proactive steps toward the redevelopment of the play area. A bid for funding has been completed, with the aim of securing financial support for the ambitious project. If successful, the council anticipates being awarded the funding in early 2024.

If the funding is awarded the council will proceed with the next steps in the redevelopment process. This includes going out to tender to find a suitable company to collaborate with on the project. The selection process will be meticulous, prioritising companies with a proven track record in creating engaging, safe, and inclusive play spaces.

### Sponsored walk

On 13 March, come out and support one of our oldest local residents as they do a sponsored walk from Christmas Pie Avenue to Manor Fruit Farm, to raise funds for the new Play Area.



Rachel Cunningham

## Volunteer spotlight!

### What do you do to volunteer for the council?

Over the years I have 'managed' the bar for events such as King Charles III coronation, Wander Fest 2023 and the annual bonfire night. This can involve some pretty long sessions setting up the marquee, serving drinks and then packing away but it is always fun to see so many people enjoying themselves and help raising funds for NPC. I have also litter picked, delivered the parish magazine, and helped clearing non-native

plants near the pond.

I am also one of the two coordinators for Normandy Community Speed Watch; another legacy from my police service! This is my way of continuing to support my past colleagues and also bring some much needed awareness of the speeding issues within Normandy. It is not an onerous task at all and we are always looking for more volunteers to increase our effectiveness. If you're interested in reducing speeding and anti-social driving in Normandy please do contact the clerk who can pass on your details.

### How long have you been volunteering?

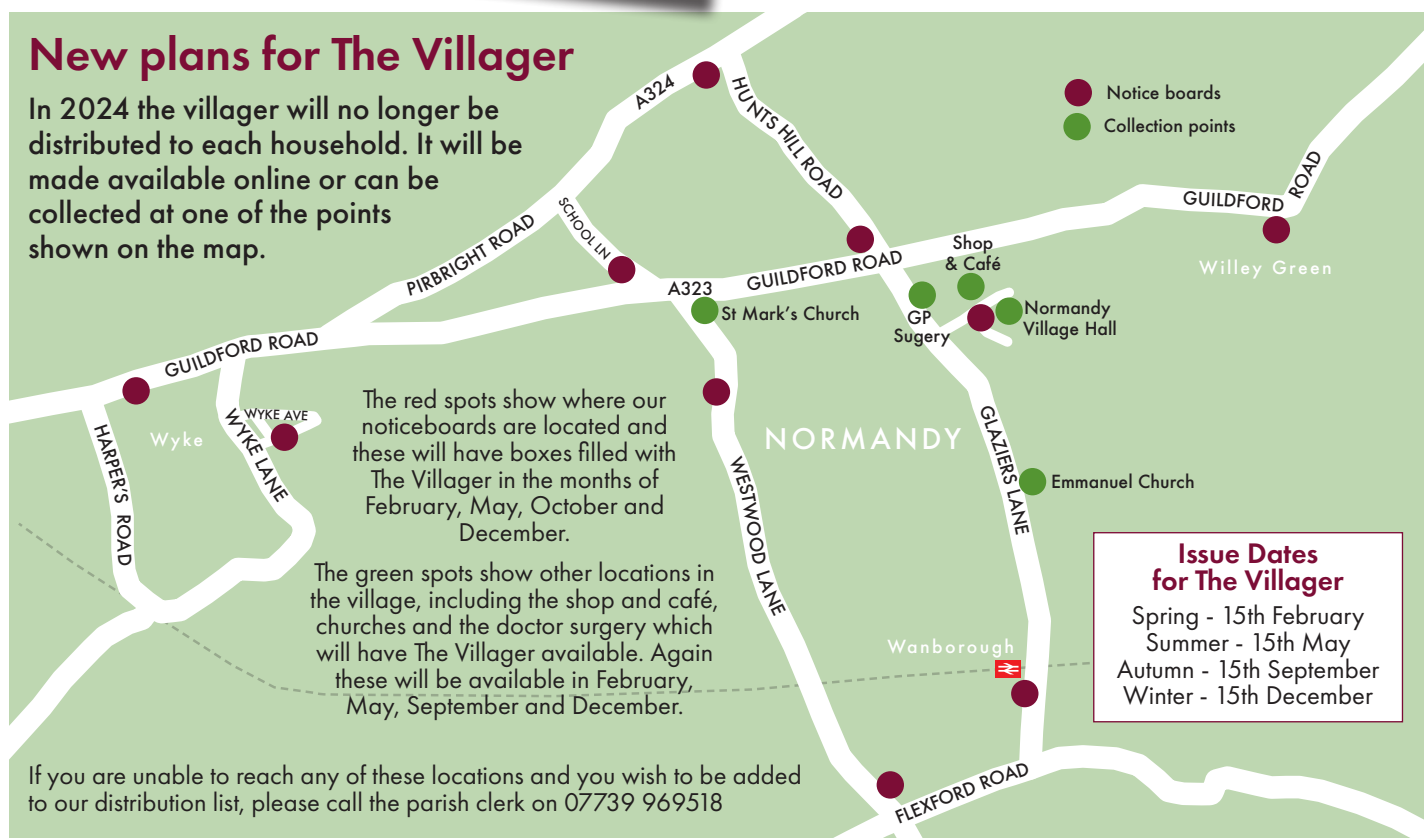
I have lived in Normandy for 14 years and have been volunteering and supporting Normandy Parish Council for five years.

### Why do you volunteer?

After 30 years in the police service being part of the community and helping others remain very much in my 'DNA'. I see the giving of my free time as a 'win - win'. The community benefits and so do I through meeting new people, gaining new skills, mental and physical wellbeing and a huge sense of pride and achievement.

## New plans for The Villager

In 2024 the villager will no longer be distributed to each household. It will be made available online or can be collected at one of the points shown on the map.







## Volunteers needed!

Volunteering is a powerful way to connect with your community, contribute to its well-being, and make a positive impact. One avenue for such meaningful engagement is through volunteering for the council. Below are various opportunities available for residents to actively participate in shaping the community and fostering a sense of togetherness.

### 1. Volunteering for Events:

The council organises a variety of events throughout the year and these events play a crucial role in bringing residents together and creating a vibrant atmosphere. However, these can't be run without the help of marvellous volunteers. It's also a lot of fun having an input into these events and meeting new people.

### 2. Playground Inspections:

Ensuring the safety of community spaces, especially playgrounds, is a top priority for the council. Volunteering for playground inspections involves checking equipment for wear and tear, addressing safety concerns, and ensuring that these spaces remain enjoyable for children. It is a hands-on way to contribute to the well-being of the youngest members of the community.

### 3. Speed Watch:

Normandy's Speed Watch team monitors traffic speeds within the community. Volunteering for Speed Watch allows residents to actively participate in promoting road safety. Supported by Surrey Police and the Normandy councillors, volunteers use speed detection equipment to gather data, creating a safer environment for pedestrians and motorists alike.

### 4. Conservation

**Team:** For those passionate about preserving the environment and enhancing green spaces, joining the conservation team is an ideal option. This role involves working on projects such as pond and community orchard maintenance, maintaining nature trails, and organising clean-up initiatives.

By volunteering for the conservation team, residents contribute to the sustainability and beauty of their parish, fostering a sense of pride and environmental responsibility.

### Council Support:

One of the key aspects that make volunteering for the parish council appealing is the support from elected councillors. These officials appreciate and encourage the active involvement of residents in shaping the community. Volunteers benefit from guidance, resources, and a sense of belonging, knowing that their efforts are valued and acknowledged.

If you are interested in volunteering for the council – please email [clerk@normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## The Flood Forum

In the face of increasing climate-related challenges, communities are grappling with the impacts of extreme weather events, such as flooding. In Normandy, residents are fortunate to have a dedicated platform for addressing local flooding issues - The Flood Forum. Led by Jonathan Lord, this forum plays a vital role in bringing together key stakeholders, including representatives from the borough and county councils, Thames Water, and the Environment Agency, to engage with the community and tackle the pressing issue of flooding.

One of the unique aspects of the Flood Forum is the active involvement of representatives from key organizations. Local government officials from both the borough and county councils attend the meetings to provide updates on ongoing initiatives, discuss policy changes, and address concerns raised by the community. This direct line of communication ensures that the community's needs are heard at the decision-making level.

Thames Water, a major water utility company, is a key participant in the Flood Forum. Their expertise in water management and infrastructure is invaluable in understanding the causes and potential solutions to local flooding issues. The Environment Agency, responsible for environmental protection and flood risk management, also plays a crucial role by providing insights into the broader environmental context and contributing to the development of sustainable flood mitigation strategies.

The Flood Forum goes beyond being a mere discussion platform; it actively encourages community engagement and empowerment. Residents are not just welcome; their input is sought and valued. This two-way communication fosters a sense of shared responsibility and collective action, essential components for building a resilient community.

The Flood Forum has already demonstrated its effectiveness in addressing local flooding



issues. Through collaborative efforts, the forum has facilitated the implementation of improved drainage systems, the identification of vulnerable areas, and the development of community-driven emergency response plans. This proactive approach has not only minimised the impact of flooding but has also strengthened the sense of community among residents.

To find out more and be involved in the next forum, please email [clerk@normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

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## Normandy Remembers

On a damp and grey November morning people began to gather at Normandy War Memorial. Young and old all with the same objective, to remember the brave men and women who gave their lives in the First World War and subsequent wars and conflicts. This was Normandy's tribute to them all.

Members of the congregation from St Mark's Church, Wyke led by Vicar, George Watkinson, joined other villagers and together we paid tribute to those who lost their lives in the First and Second World Wars, with a special Roll Call of the names of those who lived in Normandy during those years.

We all stood, heads bowed, for the two minutes silence. Even the passing traffic seemed to understand the importance of this act of remembrance and drove by with respect. Wreaths were laid by Paul Chillman Chair of Normandy Parish Council, The Chair of The Royal British Legion Normandy Branch, Trustees of the Normandy Branch of The Royal British Legion, on behalf of the RAF, Christmas Pie W.I, Surrey Freemasons, First Normandy Scout Group and Roy Roberts. Following this special service we were all invited to the RBL Hall for a warming 'cuppa' and slice of delicious home-made cake, thanks to Normandy Branch of the Royal British Legion and members of Normandy Social Club who provided this very welcome opportunity to chat with other residents.

**By Cllr Pat Tugwell**

### Did you know? Normandy has two war memorials?

One on the Glaziers Lane crossroads outside the Royal British Legion and a second sited where a Halifax bomber came down in the Second World War, on the 14th hole of Merrist Wood Golf Course, just within the parish boundary.



## Bonfire Night 2023

The village came alive on a crisp autumn evening for its annual Bonfire and Fireworks Night. This delightful event, steeped in tradition and camaraderie, promised a night of enchantment for residents and visitors alike. With a torch-lit procession, a towering bonfire, a mesmerizing firework display, and a mouth-watering array of food and drink options, it was an evening to remember. The event also featured activities for kids, ensuring that it was a family-friendly affair that brought the community together.

The festivities kicked off in the early evening, as the warm glow of torches illuminated the paths. The torch-lit procession wound its way through the village, creating a magical atmosphere. Participants of all ages, carrying torches paraded through the village, with a sense of excitement. The procession culminated at the bonfire site, building anticipation for the evening's main events.

As the last torchbearers arrived at the designated bonfire area, the crowd gathered in eager anticipation. The towering pyre, carefully constructed in the preceding days by a bunch of volunteers, stood as a beacon of warmth and light. The guy, sat on his specially built chair and the bonfire was carefully light.

Following the lighting of the bonfire, the night sky came alive with bursts of colour and light as the low bang fireworks display began. These fireworks were specifically chosen to be less noisy, making it a more tranquil experience suitable for all ages and kinder to wildlife and pets. Spectators of all generations gazed in wonder at the elegant and vibrant fireworks, which painted the night sky with a palette of dazzling colours and intricate patterns. Once they had concluded, there was a pause to allow people to vacate the site before the main event.

As the low bang fireworks display concluded, the anticipation for the main fireworks display mounted. The council had carefully selected a professional pyrotechnics team, ensuring that the night would end with a bang. The main fireworks illuminated the sky with thunderous explosions, filling the night with awe-inspiring displays of light and sound. They were truly spectacular.



The night also featured an array of delectable options for food and drinks, satisfying the appetites of attendees. Food vendors offered a diverse range of options. Pizza, street food burgers, German sausages, and Greek delicacies delighted the palates of visitors. For those looking to quench their thirst, a bar served up beer, cocktails, and wine, ensuring that there was something to suit every taste. Meanwhile, the local scouts provided hot soup, soft drinks, and there was also a scrumptious hot chocolates stall, keeping everyone warm.

Usually the council run a BBQ, but due to lack of volunteers this year, we were unable to. This is a big source of income and allows us to pay for the fireworks each year. For future bonfire events we would be interested to hear from villagers if they would like to volunteer.

While the main attractions of the night were undoubtedly the bonfire and fireworks, there were plenty of activities to keep the children entertained. A variety of rides brought squeals of delight, and a sweet stall offered a colourful array of confections that drew the young and the young at heart.

Normandy Village's Bonfire and Fireworks Night was a resounding success thanks once again to our amazing volunteers, who help bring the community together in



a night of magic and wonder. The torch-lit procession, bonfire, low bang fireworks, and the grand main fireworks display created an enchanting evening that delighted attendees of all ages. This annual tradition exemplifies the sense of unity and celebration that makes Normandy Village a special place to live.





## Find your inner Monty Don

In the heart of Normandy Parish, nestled along Westwood Lane, lies a haven for gardening enthusiasts and nature lovers—the Normandy Parish Council Allotments. This vibrant community space offers both full and half plots to those eager to embrace the therapeutic joys of cultivating their own fresh produce.



The allure of these allotments extends beyond the delicious taste of homegrown fruits, vegetables, and herbs; it provides a serene and peaceful escape for individuals and families alike. The Allotments provide the perfect canvas for cultivating your own little piece of paradise. Whether you are an experienced gardener or a novice with a green thumb, these allotments cater to all skill levels.

### Plot Options

Normandy Parish Council Allotments offer both full and half plots, allowing flexibility for individuals and families with varying gardening ambitions. Whether you dream of cultivating a small herb garden or aspire to grow a diverse array of fruits and vegetables,



these plots provide the space to bring your gardening aspirations to life.

One of the standout features of the Normandy Parish Council Allotments is the friendly and welcoming community of allotment holders. Gardening enthusiasts of all ages come together to share knowledge,

experiences, and the joys of their harvests, making the allotments not just a space for gardening but a community hub.

### Benefits of Allotment Gardening

**Fresh and Healthy Produce:** Enjoy the unparalleled taste of fruits, vegetables, and herbs picked fresh from your own plot.

### Physical and Mental Well-being

Gardening is known to be a therapeutic activity, promoting physical exercise, stress relief, and mental well-being.

### Educational Opportunities

Allotment gardening provides a hands-on learning experience for individuals and families, fostering a deeper understanding of the natural world.

### Environmental Sustainability

Growing your own food contributes to sustainability by reducing the carbon footprint associated with commercial agriculture and transportation.

### More information

If you would like to find out more about the allotments – please get in touch – [clerk@normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk)



**Congratulations to Guildford Archery Club on Manor Fruit Farm, who have been awarded**



**The King's Award for Voluntary Service**





## Practical Action for Wildlife & People

Normandy Conservation Volunteers has been very active over the last few months improving habitats and pathways around Normandy Common.

Back in September we cleared some rushes from the edge of the pond to increase the area of open water. If we don't keep the reeds and rushes back, they will gradually take over the pond. Trees like willow would then follow and within a decade or so, the pond would disappear (again!).

We also fixed the leak on the south side of the pond and built up the path again so that it should not be a pond-side-puddle this winter!

With considered advice from the Normandy Conservation Volunteers Sub-Committee, the Council has decided to make Normandy Pond a conservation pond only. This means that we will not be issuing fishing permits and will actively discourage fishing by humanely removing larger fish.

Then in October it was ditch clearing time, focusing on ditches alongside paths by Normandy Hill House. Without regular clearing, these ditches can overflow onto the paths or even private property. The volunteers carefully removed leaves and silt from the ditches, barrowing it into a few piles which will become wildlife habitat as well. It is important not to damage the ferns and other native bankside vegetation whilst doing this work.

November's job is removing non-native species such as Cherry Laurel and Rhododendron. These species will take over an area and do not let anything else

**The edge of the pond is now leak-proof which means the path is no longer a puddle or stream for much of the winter.**



Fixing the leak in the pond.

grow beneath them. They are not great for our native wildlife and if we remove them, we allow space for native species of plant to move in naturally. To prevent the shrubs from re-growing, Surrey Wildlife Trust have advised us to treat the cut stumps with a herbicide. Normandy Conservation Volunteers are lucky to have a few people with the appropriate skill and permits to carry out this work.

December will be looking after the newly planted trees on Manor Fruit Farm, including removing some of the vegetation growing around them and planting a few more trees to replace ones that have died.

In January we will be back on Normandy



Removing reeds and lopping back willows

Common working on the permissive horse path to cut back some of the bramble and bracken alongside the path, widening it for users and hopefully encouraging a greater diversity of plants to grow there.

See **What's on in Normandy** page 7 for upcoming events. Dates for the rest of the year will be coming soon.

The work parties are open to all, no matter your experience. You can come for a few hours or just half an hour, whatever you have to spare! If hard physical labour is not for you, we would love support in other ways (biscuits go down well!) or even words of encouragement. There are other roles within the Conservation Volunteers such as helping promote the work parties, keeping a record of work done, wildlife surveys and more. If any of this is of interest to you, please get in touch with the Clerk.

**By Cllr Philippa Mitchell**  
- Chair of Estates and Facilities







## What's on in Normandy

### December 2023

**17th December:**

St Marks Church, Wyke - Nine Lessons Service at 10am



### CHRISTMAS EVE

**24th December:**

St Marks Church, Wyke  
- Crib Service at 3pm

Joint Midnight service at St Michael & All Angels Pirbright at 11.30pm

**24th December:**

Emmanuel Church, Glaziers Lane - Carols by Candlelight at 4.30pm

### CHRISTMAS DAY

**25th December:**

St Marks Church, Wyke  
- Communion Service at 11.15am

### January 2024

**6th January:**

St. Mark's Mini Market and Hearing Aid Clinic at St. Mark's Church Hall

**12th January:**

St Marks Church, Wyke - Alpha Course Launch Party with Thai takeaway and quiz night at 7.30pm

**13th January:**

Scrub clearance and glade creation at Normandy Common. Meet at the Football Pavilion car park at 9:00am or find us on the permissive horse ride.

**17th January:**

St Marks Church, Wyke - Alpha sessions running every Wednesday from 7.30pm - 9.00pm

### February 2024

**3rd February:**

St. Mark's Mini Market and Hearing Aid Clinic at St. Mark's Church Hall

**20th February:**

Normandy Historians - The Great Roof of Westminster Hall

Roy Waight will describe the structure and construction of the roof of this iconic building which was produced from Surrey oak trees and manufactured at Farnham.

### March 2024

**13th March:**

Sponsored Walk - Come out and support one of our oldest local residents does a sponsored walk from Christmas Pie Avenue to Manor Fruit Farm, to raise funds for the new Play Area

**16th March:**

Mexican Fiesta - 7.15pm - 10.45pm, Normandy Village Hall, tickets available from: [www.gym-jams.co.uk](http://www.gym-jams.co.uk)

**19th March:**

Normandy Historians - Denmark Street, Soho - The heart of the Music business from the 1940's to 1970's Presented by Malcolm Campbell

### April 2024

**16th April:**

Normandy Historians - Sex and Parish Politics

Louise Falcini, a research fellow in history at Sussex University will give an insight into an aspect of early social history.

### May 2024

**21st May:**

Normandy Historians - The Gentleman's Magazine

Julian Pooley of the Surrey History Centre will introduce an 8th century magazine featuring an early Panorama of Georgian Surrey for the Family and Local Historians.

## Community Grant

The Normandy Community Shop and Cafe was awarded a generous grant to enhance its outdoor space with new furniture and parasols earlier in the year.



The Normandy Community Shop and Cafe has become a staple in the Normandy community, providing a space for neighbours to connect and enjoy delicious meals and beverages. However, its outdoor area was in need of some robust furniture and parasols.

The grant funded the purchase of a set of high-quality tables and chairs, as well as a collection of stylish parasols to provide shade on sunny days. We are sure that you will agree that this investment creates a welcoming and comfortable atmosphere for patrons to enjoy their meals, meet with friends, or simply relax while sipping a cup of coffee.



# FIESTA

Tickets £40 including Big Pan Mexican Chilli

Licensed bar

Saturday 16 March 2024

Normandy Village Hall

7.15pm - 10.45pm

Music from Beat Banditos

raising money towards a new playground in Normandy

sponsored by



[www.gym-jams.co.uk](http://www.gym-jams.co.uk)



## The Grand Opening

On Saturday 14th October the village came together with dignitaries and supporters of the Community Shop and Café to formally open the venture and to recognise the efforts and support of so many people and organisations. The opening had been planned for some time, but was delayed to make sure everything was in place and that the business as a whole was operational and could be seen to be supporting the community.

The weather was kind, meaning that over 200 people attended to witness the formal opening of the Village Shop and Café, which was formally carried out by His Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Surrey, Michael More-Molyneux, who had already shown his support earlier in the project by 'topping out the building'. Alongside the Lord-Lieutenant and his wife were representatives of Surrey County Council who had been so supportive in granting the project over £570,000 from their 'Your Fund' scheme.

Bob Hutton, the Chair of the Management Committee began by introducing the other members of the Management Committee, and thanking them and everyone who had contributed to the success of the venture in adding what will, for years to come, provide a focal point and valuable asset to the community.

He then introduced other members of the opening party, a representative of the many members of the community share scheme, Margaret Jones, who had been chosen at random from the hundreds of people who had invested in the scheme, and Lavinia Cooper, aged 8, whose excellent picture of the shop and café had been picked as



the winner of the childrens' picture competition.

Following his opening speech in which he congratulated the team and their supporters on such an impressive achievement and a very attractive building and surroundings, Michael handed over to Saj Hussain, the Leader of Surrey County Council who, along with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Customer and Communities, Denise Turner-Stewart, formally uncovered a plaque commemorating the massive contribution by Surrey County Council.

It would have taken too long to mention all the people who have contributed to the project, but thanks were offered to Ascot Timber who designed and built such an impressive building, and members of the other various suppliers and supporters and,



of course, the investors in this grand venture.

Following the opening ceremony, guests were invited to look around

the shop and café, its wares and to sample the products of a number of suppliers who attended the event. A thoroughly enjoyable day was had by all.

The Shop and Café is now open six days a week, with the shop open from 9am to 2pm on Monday, 5:30pm on Tuesday to Friday and 4pm on Saturday. The Café serving hot meals opens from Thursday to Saturday from 9am to 2pm. Up to 4pm on Tuesday to Saturday, snacks and hot drinks are available, with this 'coffee shop' closing early on Monday for a well-deserved rest.

Many thanks to all who attended, have contributed and continue to support the shop and the café.

## Access for All – New access ramp at Emmanuel Church, Normandy

Normandy's Borough and County Councillor Keith Witham, cuts the ribbon across the newly revamped Disability Ramp, allowing easy access for all, at Emmanuel Church.

Easy access for all is now the order of the day, for anyone attending any of the events at Emmanuel Church, Normandy.

The previous disability access ramp was crumbling and in need of renovation, and it was hard for wheelchair, pushchair and walking aid users to access the building due to the two front steps into the church building.

Funding was sought from the 'Your Community Councillor Fund', and £450 was provided, making it possible for the ramp to be renovated. The remainder of the money was paid from Emmanuel Church's own resources.

Emmanuel Church, in Glaziers Lane, Normandy, is a warm hub in Normandy village and is very much a part of the local community. The church has a variety of regular events, ranging from Sunday services



and Messy Church for children, evening and day time Bible Studies, Friendship Clubs, Film Clubs, Coffee and Chat, and a village baby and toddler group, who meet in the Emmanuel church building. The building is also available for hire.

Emmanuel Church, Normandy has an old olive tree on site, which is used as a special

prayer tree.

Villagers are invited to write out prayers and hang them on the prayer tree, and Emmanuel Church will pray the prayers during their Sunday services. Further information about all of Emmanuel Church's services and activities can be found on their website at [www.emmanuelchurchnormandy.co.uk](http://www.emmanuelchurchnormandy.co.uk)





## Normandy Historians

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 8.00pm at Normandy Village Hall, Manor Fruit Farm, Glaziers Lane, Normandy GU3 2DT. See **What's On in Normandy** page 7 for more details.

'Normandy – A Village History' is an illustrated talk which can be presented to local clubs and societies. For details please contact [info@normandyhistorians.co.uk](mailto:info@normandyhistorians.co.uk).

For information about the history of Normandy please visit the website: [www.normandyhistorians.co.uk](http://www.normandyhistorians.co.uk)

### Coffee Time Talks at the Guildhall, Guildford

#### Normandy – A Village History

Thursday, 7 March 2024, 11.00am

Alan Norris of Normandy Historians will describe how Normandy has transformed over the last century from several dispersed agricultural communities to a residential dormitory village where most people travel to nearby towns for work and other day-to-day needs. The Coffee Time Talks are arranged by Guildford Heritage Services and held at the Guildhall, High Street, Guildford on the first Thursday of the month. Doors open and coffee is served from 10.30am. Talks start at 11am and last for about 50 minutes. There is no admission charge, but donations are welcome. Please pre-book your place by emailing [heritageservices@guildford.gov.uk](mailto:heritageservices@guildford.gov.uk) or phoning 01483 444751.

## 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 doorstep!

On 31 October we had our AGM in the Village Hall. A full report is on our website. We discussed the threat to wildlife from development in rural areas, the potential value of neighbourhood plans, and the seeming ineffectiveness of planning enforcement in Guildford Borough. The Lead Councillor for Planning at Guildford Borough Council (GBC) described the deficiencies in the national planning system which, combined with chronic under-resourcing of local authorities generally, meant that the dice were loaded in favour of those who chose to ignore the rules.

A current example is visible to the south of the A323 between Wyke and Ash, where the ground has been cleared and hard core laid, trees have been felled, and a large caravan has been installed with a second (at the time of writing) probably imminent – all in the absence of planning permission. It will take years for GBC to address this, just as it is taking them years to deal with the eyesore of Wanborough Fields. The meeting urged GBC to keep up a good flow of communication with local residents about these and other matters so that faith in the system is not lost entirely.

The system for signing up to automatic notification of new planning applications from GBC is now restored. Our website shows how to do this. Many applications in Normandy remain outstanding as long as two years after being made. Again, the backlog reflects the lack of capacity in GBC. Equally, some projects that have obtained planning permission have yet to be started, for example the housing developments at The Elms Centre and in Beech Lane. Meanwhile, the works to construct a road bridge to replace the level crossing at Ash have finally started; when completed they are bound to have an impact on traffic flows through Normandy.

If you haven't yet signed up to receive our regular (around 6 a year) newsletters, 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 services – Community Transport



The Guildford Community Transport service provides regular transport for eligible residents of the borough.

The service helps residents to access a range of activities and services including:

- transport to The Activity Hub based at The Hive
- dial a ride including door to door shopping trips
- voluntary senior activities
- social clubs and social trips
- visiting friends and family
- hospital and other medical appointments

The aim of the service is to promote the independence of residents. It also aims to reduce social exclusion if residents cannot access public transport.

This is a door-to-door service. The service is available to any resident of the borough that meets any of the following criteria:

- people of any age with a physical disability or mobility problem
- people of any age suffering with short-term or long-term ill health
- people of any age with learning difficulties
- people of any age with mental health issues

### Operating times

The team at Guildford Community Transport operates Monday to Thursday 9:00am-4:30pm and Fridays 9:00am - 4:00pm. We have fully accessible vehicles to assist passengers.

### Registering for transport

You will need to register for membership with our service to book transport. The membership fee is £13.90 annually. To register or enquire, contact us on 01483 458055 or email [info.communityservices@guildford.gov.uk](mailto:info.communityservices@guildford.gov.uk).

## Your County and Borough Councillors

### Surrey County Council



**Keith Witham**

[keith.witham@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:keith.witham@surreycc.gov.uk)  
[www.surreycc.gov.uk](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk)

SCC and  
Borough  
Councillor for  
Normandy and  
Pirbright Ward

### Guildford Borough Council



**David Bilbe**

[david.bilbe@guildford.gov.uk](mailto:david.bilbe@guildford.gov.uk)  
[www.guildford.gov.uk](http://www.guildford.gov.uk)

Borough  
Councillor for  
Normandy  
and Pirbright  
Ward

### 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](http://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](http://www.guildford.gov.uk/reportflytipping)**



## Advertising

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



Full refurbishment and extension in Guildford

We undertake any building work, large or small. We offer high quality work with attention to details. If you have a project or dream for your home, we would love to help you make it happen.



THE Register for approved Tradesmen

07944 289167  
[www.vdbgroup.co.uk](http://www.vdbgroup.co.uk)  
[info@vdbgroup.co.uk](mailto:info@vdbgroup.co.uk)  
[instagram: vdbgroupuk](https://www.instagram.com/vdbgroupuk)

## The Cricketers Arms

at Normandy Cricket Club  
 is open on Fridays & Saturdays  
 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



## YOGA at The Oaks Normandy

Small friendly Yoga classes  
 held in a beautiful barn-like studio.

Online classes available.

Relaxation & Meditation classes.

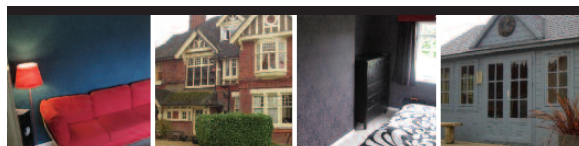
Qi Gong (Chi Kung) classes.

For health, balance, peace and awareness.



### Sarah Church

07816 534554  
[sarahchurchyoga@gmail.com](mailto:sarahchurchyoga@gmail.com)  
[www.yogainguildford.com](http://www.yogainguildford.com)  
 Facebook:  
[YogaAtTheOaks.Guildford](https://www.facebook.com/YogaAtTheOaksGuildford)



## Corriedec

PAINTERS & DECORATORS

Because nothing short of  
 impeccable will suffice.  
 Inside or out.



07775 580321





## Advertising

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### Cunningham House Pirbright

**Supported housing  
for older people who:**

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



**Tel: 01483 488751**

**Website:**

**[www.cunninghamhouse.co.uk](http://www.cunninghamhouse.co.uk)**

**Email:**

**[cunninghamhousepirbright@gmail.com](mailto:cunninghamhousepirbright@gmail.com)**

**Abbeyfield Pirbright & District Society**



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

### Emmanuel Church Glaziers Lane Normandy

#### Special December 2023 Events



24 December - Carols by Candlelight - 4.30pm

#### January 2024

From January to Easter, we will be running a series of sermons on unforgettable walks of the Bible. We will also be prayer walking around the village. Please do join us on Sundays or say hello if you see us walking. All are welcome.



**We would love to pray for you!**

There is a special prayer tree. Please visit our prayer tree and leave your prayers. We will pray for you during our Sunday services. Or you can visit our website to request prayer.

We have many regular groups - Go Deeper Bible Study on Thursday evenings, and Take Time Bible study followed by either Film Club or Friendship Club on Fridays. **To find out more about all of our activities, visit our website.**

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Surrey Police Band presents

## A Christmas Concert

2:30pm / 6:30pm  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December

Tickets  
£10 adults  
£5 under 16s  
Free under 5s

Normandy Village Hall  
Glaziers Lane  
Normandy  
Guildford GU3 2DD

Book now:  
**[www.surreypoliceband.org.uk](http://www.surreypoliceband.org.uk)**  
or via our box office on 07849 675627



### 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](mailto:greenyourlife1@gmail.com)

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



### Advertising in The Villager - COST AND SIZES

#### ANNUAL COST (4 ISSUES)

- 1/8 page size (91mm wide x 55mm high) - £30
- 1/4 page size (91mm wide x 115mm high) - £50
- 1/2 page size (185mm wide x 115mm high) - £80

#### ONE INSERT COST

- 1/8 page size (91mm wide x 50mm high) - £15
- 1/4 page size (91mm 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



## Your Parish Council



Councillor Paul Chillman



Councillor Bob Hutton



Councillor Philippa Mitchell



Councillor Pat Tugwell



Councillor Dabeer Ahmed



Councillor Simon Schofield



Councillor Jane Hill



Councillor Isa Nagle-Taylor

### NPC Committees

#### PLANNING

Philippa Mitchell  
Pat Tugwell  
Bob Hutton  
Dabeer Ahmed  
Isa Nagle-Taylor

#### ESTATES & FACILITIES

Philippa Mitchell  
Paul Chillman  
Simon Schofield  
Pat Tugwell  
Isa Nagle-Taylor  
Jane Hill

#### FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

Paul Chillman  
Bob Hutton  
Simon Schofield  
Pat Tugwell  
Jane Hill



Councillor ?????

**Would you  
like to be  
involved in  
the running  
of your  
village?**

We are looking for one more councillor  
to complete our team.

If you feel you are that person please contact  
the Clerk [clerk@normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

### 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](mailto:clerk@normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
07739969518



On our website you can find council minutes, agendas and  
other useful information [www.normandyparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://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)