

The Rotherwick News

February/March 2023

Volume 35 Edition 2

*Snowdrops and Daffodils,
Butterflies and Bees...
one down three to go!*



Absolutely Agnes...

“And February was so long that it lasted into March” Dar Williams

Agnes found this quote in a book she recently read ‘We All Want Impossible Things’ by Catherine Newman (beautiful cover, dreadfully sad), which got her pondering, why do we always want to rush ahead so?

What’s wrong with a little languishing? This year particularly, Agnes is determined to take things at a slower pace – positively es-cargot-esc in fact.

Because the fireside is still beckoning, suppers are still erring on the side of stodge & the deepest plum coloured wine still desirous. No, there is no need to hurry dear little February along– let her take her time, for all good things come to those who wait.

For soon enough we shall be ready to throw open our arms and welcome March.

The garden will finally wake, we can hopefully shed our thermals & embrace the energy to begin a Spring clean. I don’t know about you, but it only takes a string of sunny March days before even Agnes can no longer ignore the dusty sills & slatternly skirtings.

But dusting comes with its own hazards and so Agnes has begun concocting her own potions to do the job, which promise to be kinder to the cottage and the environment at large. Until the alchemy is complete, please allow a wide berth as you pass by, for the mixing of substances can be a temperamental affair!

For now, Agnes is going to throw another log on the fire & pour herself a glass of something plummy and let’s hope that March, when she finally arrives brings much needed sunshine and energy to Rotherwick & beyond.

Languish away dear friends.

Agnes



PS. If you would like to see more of what Agnes is up to, do follow her village adventures: Instagram: [absolutely_agnes](#)
Facebook: [absolutelyagnes](#)

Pencils, Pens and Ink

That's January done and dusted and it won't be long until February is nothing but a distant memory. I read or heard the other day, can't quite remember which, that as a reward for getting through January we should have summer not February.

Anyway we do have it, it's the second month of the year and usually considered as the last month of winter. However I've been around long enough to know that March could also be winter. Fingers crossed for spring.

So what did February give us? Spring like days, some hard frosts, a Snow moon and our very own Rotherwick Tea Towel.

Yep, I've been wondering around Rotherwick and popping into people's gardens and taking pictures of your houses. Obviously I was invited, I wouldn't dare to do it otherwise. I have amassed 78 pictures of houses, buildings and structures in the village. Thank you to everyone who got in touch, whether that was via email, text, messenger, a third party or just stopping me in the street or the pub. From Home farm to Bunkers Hill farm and from top of the Street to beyond the crossroads. I've turned right at the crossroads and I've turned left. I've gone up Wedmans Lane and up Hook Road. I've gone behind hedges, down footpaths and across fields.



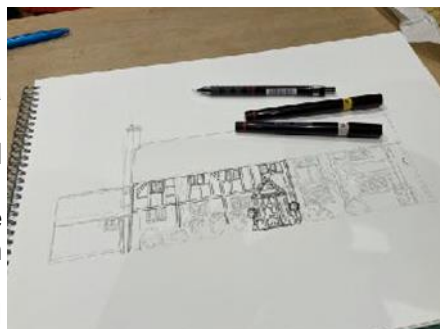
Now I'm aware that there are roughly 150 houses in Rotherwick so I'm sorry I haven't drawn them all but I can only fit about 80 on a tea towel.

I have been sketching your houses since the end of November and it's been great fun. A selection of them can be found on my instagram account if you want to have a look @danartisan

The idea was simple enough. Sketch buildings in the village and then get a tea towel printed. What I didn't expect was each sketch roughly takes 40mins plus to do. First roughly in pencil then in black ink. Once that is done it then requires saving to the computer so I can resize it adjust the saturation or sharpness for instance.

I had approached a couple of companies that print tea towels, one of which had sent me a pack telling me exactly what I need to do. Following their instructions it has now been sent to them for printing.

While I'm busy telling you about the process, I'll let you know what I use. I've been sketching your houses with a Rotring propelling pencil. Once I'm happy with the proportions of the sketch and the required detail (as it's only for a tea towel), I then go over the sketch with one of three pens. I use Rotring Isograph pens in various sizes .25, .35 and .50. These have super fine nibs and when I first started this project I was using older radiograph pens but I managed to drop one and bend the nib, so a replacement was needed. The ink is a normal drawing ink and comes as a refillable bottle.



The paper for the sketches is 160gsm, this is the weight/ thickness, normal computer paper is usually 70-80 so its twice as thick. Oh and an eraser. No one is that good.

I have other thickness of paper, I have 220 mixed media. This basically means its thicker/ heavier and can be used for sketching, watercolours, pencil or even acrylic paints. I have other paper such as heavier 300 gsm and different sizes, A5, A4, A3 along with pocket sketch books.

Not that I've used them on the tea towel sketches but I have various paint brushes, I won't bore you with these but let's just say buying cheap doesn't pay.

You might be wondering if you're still reading this far, have I always sketched or drawn pictures?

The answer is no. At school I left with O level art, I had aspirations of going to Wiltshire to attend a sign writing college but ended up being an aircraft engineer. I have since completed a degree in garden design which I thor-



oughly enjoyed, and it was here where I got the chance to draw lots. But it wasn't until last November I thought I would get my pens and pencils out again. Since then I have been drawing, sketching every day. Your houses and plenty of other buildings. There are drawing challenges on the internet which are great fun #dtiys draw this in your style. I have also been drawing various

shops and houses I like the look of. This shop is a little boutique in Somerset.

I have been approached by a few people in the village for instance to do a drawing of their house. So if this is something you might like the idea of then give me a shout and we can have a chat.

In the meantime, fingers crossed that the Tea Towel gods are smiling upon us and hopefully by the next issue of The Rotherwick News I will have some lovely unique tea towels to sell to you to raise funds for 1st Bramshill Rotherwick Scouts.

Ramblings of Rotherwick

Voter ID



From May 2023, voters in Hart will be required to show photographic identification at polling stations before they are given a ballot paper. This will affect all voters across Hart who vote in person or by proxy, at the next local election, due to be held on **Thursday 4 May 2023**.

The types of ID allowed include:

- Various concessionary travel passes
- PASS cards
- Ministry of Defence identity cards
- Photocard parking permits issued as part of the Blue Badge scheme
- Driver's licences
- Passports

Expired photographic identification will also be accepted if the photograph is of a good enough likeness to allow polling station staff to confirm the identity of the holder. [See full list of photo ID accepted at GOV.UK](#)

No suitable photo ID?

If you do not have any of the accepted photo ID, and you want to vote at the polling station, you will need to apply for a **free Voter Authority Certificate**. This is a free photographic identification document specific for the purposes of voting. **Voters who do not produce a Voter Authority Certificate or valid identification will not be allowed to vote on the polling day.**

Apply online

You can apply for your Voter Authority Certificate online via:
www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate

Apply In person (from February 2023)

You can also apply in person at Hart District Council. Please call 01252 774077 or email elections@hart.gov.uk to make an appointment.

Information you will need to provide:

When applying for a Voter Authority Certificate, you will need to provide your:

- name
- address
- date of birth
- National Insurance number - found on payslips or official letters about tax, pensions or benefits.
- A recent photograph

You should apply using the same name that you used to register to vote.

You can still apply if you don't know your National Insurance number, or don't have one. You will need to provide other forms of proof of identity, such as a birth certificate, bank statement and a utility bill.

Postal and proxy vote

Postal voters will not be affected and will be issued with their postal ballot papers as usual. If you choose to vote by proxy, then the person who you have trusted to vote on your behalf will have to take their own identification in order to be issued with a ballot paper.

(Further links & information can be found at www.Hart.gov.uk/voter-id)

Poetry Group at the Church

The poetry group meets in the church on the second Sunday of the month at 3pm. With the aid of tea and cakes we look at a poet or a particular topic for poems. Very informal - please join us!
Any questions? Call (01256) 211508.

We had an excellent meeting this month and a dozen of us gave Tennyson a good visit. We missed those who didn't come.

Tennyson was poet laureate for 42 years from 1850 - much longer than any other laureate before or since. He came from a large family which knew triumphs and disasters but he never had a job other than being a poet. He knew Victoria, Albert and Gladstone well and after initial refusal, accepted a peerage late in life to become, as we think of him now, Alfred, Lord Tennyson.

'The Lady of Shalott' 'The charge of the Light Brigade' 'Crossing the Bar' are just tiny fractions of his output. One event had a huge impact on his life: the death of his close friend Arthur Hallam in 1833. Many poems, short and massively long, dwell on this event and one is 'Break, Break, Break' Here as poets so often do, he addresses the inanimate (anaphora), this time the waves. Their relentless beating mimics his lasting grief and the juxtaposition of carefree characters only torments the narrator. Frequent reference to ships may refer to his friend's body being brought home from his sudden death overseas.

See what the poem sparks for you!

So,

*'Break, break, break,
On thy cold grey stones, O Sea!
And I would that my tongue could utter
The thoughts that arise in me.*

*O well for the fisherman's boy,
That he shouts with his sister at play!
O well for the sailor lad,
That he sings in his boat on the bay!*

*And the stately ships go on
To their haven under the hill;
But O for the touch of a vanish'd hand,
And the sound of a voice that is still!*

*Break, break, break
At the foot of thy crags, O Sea!
But the tender grace of a day that is dead
Will never come back to me.*

Next time, at 3pm in Rotherwick church on Sunday 12 March we will be visiting John Masfield - who had a long and very interesting life.

Swot him up, or just come along and eat cake and listen. You already know his 'Sea Fever' and 'Cargoes' so dig deeper.

Put a note in your diary to make sure that if the pope or Charles III invites you to lunch that day, you decline and invite him to our group.

Regards,
David

Macmillan Nurses

I'm sure you all know of the work they do in support of Cancer Patients and their families.

They are always in need of more cash but this doesn't need to be the folding stuff! If you save your old inkjet cartridges they can be recycled and Macmillan receives the cash.

The Village Magpies have agreed to take them or just put them in an old envelope and pop them through my door "Feldheim" Wedmans Lane.

Inkjet cartridges ONLY originals or compatibles.

Many thanks,

Tony Merricks

Distributors for the Rotherwick News wanted

The Rotherwick News is looking for new distributors to help deliver the magazine. The distribution is shared between many helpers monthly but sometimes distribution coincides with holidays etc. so it would be good to have a couple of 'stand in' distributors as well as regulars. If you would like to help with the Rotherwick News distribution and want to find out more please contact Catherine at catherinebolt@gmail.com.

Thank you to all those who have been helping distribute the Rotherwick News. Thanks also to Madeline who is stepping down as a distributor, your help has been greatly appreciated.



Lego Titanic

It's been nearly 111 years since the RMS Titanic sank. Lego recreated this massive ship as a model in 2021.

So I bought the Lego 1:200 scale model. At 9090 pieces it's not quite the largest Lego set, losing to the world map and later the Eiffel Tower, but its still the longest at 135 cm or four and a half feet or the length that an eight year old child is tall and still dominates mum's sideboard.

It took about 3 months (birthday and Christmas included) to save enough money but it was totally worth it with an interior that includes the engine and boiler rooms, the first class restaurant and grand staircase.

The ludicrously thick instruction book that is about one and a half inches thick includes information and facts such as that the Titanic only had three functional funnels and that the fourth was for looks.

Once built there is display stands along the keel of the ship to make it easier to lift up and there is also a Titanic nameplate as well .

The box is about 14 kilos and I can fit in it.

It is Titanic.

By Evan Pearce



(It looks amazing Evan—thanks for sharing with us).

Get Gardening



After the heavy frosts our spring bulbs are now popping their heads above the frozen ground. We've one lonely snowdrop at the moment but the daffodils, crocus and even the bluebells are emerging.

I read an article recently about crocus and saffron, could I harvest my own? Apparently not, as saffron is harvested from the autumn crocus, 'crocus sativus' and is not even related to the spring crocus. The autumn crocus, sometimes called 'meadow crocus', is part of the lily family whilst the spring crocus is from the iris family. Chepyng Walden in Essex used to be the centre of the saffron trade in the 1500's and because of this renamed itself Saffron Walden as it is still known today. Iran is now the main producer but saffron has recently returned to Saffron Walden albeit in a small way (www.swmuseumsoc.org.uk). Many thousands of plants are needed to produce a tiny amount of saffron which is harvested from the crocus flower. The stigmas from the flower are gathered by hand making it very labour intensive. Hence it is the world's most expensive spice, some say more expensive than gold—apparently in London it now sells for £75 a gram! According to 'Gardeners World' all parts of the plant can be toxic, so I think I will give the autumn crocus a miss! Saffron does have some benefits, it is an antioxidant, a sex-stimulant plus it helps with high blood pressure and menopausal problems. (www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-essex.)



www.justfunfacts.com



<https://www.coolkidfacts.com/vanilla->

A crossword answer inspired me to look up the second most expensive spice which is vanilla. I thought it came from the 'vanilla plant' but it actually comes from orchids however the genus is vanilla. The orchids are grown in the tropics as a vine, have yellow, green or creamy white flowers with fruit about 8 inches long. The fruit are long capsules which can take 8 months to mature. When harvested the fruit is green, cured for about 10 days in the sun to become the chocolate brown colour we recognise. Vanilla is not only used as a flavouring such as ice cream but is said to be good for weight loss, aromatherapy, fever, gas and wrinkled skin. I'm not a fan of vanilla but maybe I should be! (www.justfunfacts.com/interesting-facts-about-vanilla)

By the time the Rotherwick News is out you may have missed the snowdrops but for later spring bulbs have a look at the National Garden Scheme website and West Green House which opens in March.

Catherine

Sustainable or Just a Hoarder?

Recent decorating plans chez nous have got me thinking. Am I shrouded in a halo of sustainability or am I just kidding myself when, in reality, I am a plain and simple hoarder? A recent move to decorate the spare bedroom, which has remained 'dormant' since we moved in, prompted this deep philosophical thinking.

Obviously the first stage was to sort the piles of stuff that had accumulated over the years. I must reassure that this room bore no resemblance to those on TV where the family struggle to even step inside the room for the build-up of possessions! Despite my children being in their twenties now, the room was a treasure trove including early children's artworks, their first pair of baby socks, lovely wooden toys which will surely be used again one day, cards from significant occasions including my own christening (love those retro cards), older clothes which I rarely wear and a plethora of other items which will get used again one day, surely.

Our house is full of treasures (my husband may not agree with that description) accumulated over a lifetime, some passed down through the family despite being of little use and no value whatsoever and others that may have been a bargain buy at a car boot sale. Even though they are not all still 'on display' I can't bear to part with these things even though I know I perhaps should. If I still find them aesthetically pleasing I can't let them go. Then there is the stuff you do consider throwing out but convince yourself it may be useful or even valuable one day – when I create that artwork I've been meaning to do or visit that place etc, etc. Surely that's being sustainable, planning to reuse objects that otherwise may end up in landfill? My family may not agree, they often encourage a sort out!

So as I mull over the question, hoarder or just sustainable, it gladdens my heart that I am still able to select clothes from my wardrobe that my mother had run up by seamstresses in the Far East in the 1960s, that my daughter often wears my 1980s Top Shop leather coat and that I still keep my biscuits in the same tin I had as a university student in the 80s. Being a hoarder or whatever you choose to call it definitely has it's plus points.

Marion Robak

(Let's go with sustainability!)

Robin Miles Ceasar

29th June 1936- 24th November 2022

Robin Miles Ceasar, known as Bob, lived in Rotherwick for most of his life, in the house that was once his parents. He was the youngest of three children. His brother Raymond was well known in the village.

Bob attended the village school in Rotherwick before moving to Hartley Wintney Secondary School at the age of 11. He should have gone to Grammar School but the expense, including uniform costs made it impossible for his parents to fund. Life was very different then. At the age of 14 he left school, working on a farm for a year before setting out to join the Royal Navy, a career which spanned 10 years. He saw many countries during his time in the Navy, travelling widely across the world, to the Arctic, Cyprus, Florida and California to name but a few.

10 years after Bob first joined the Navy, Raymond told him he could earn more becoming an electrician so he came home and a new career began, once he completed the training.

Bob loved gardening and eventually this became his full time job. He looked after many gardens in Rotherwick including Rotherwick Churchyard and Rotherwick Village Hall. He was a familiar sight rolling down the road on his mower waving as the villagers tooted their car horn 'Hello'. Such was the quality of his work with a great eye for detail, he never had to advertise.

Bob was also a familiar sight playing darts in the Coach and Horses and The Fox, now closed, at Lyde Green.

Bob, a very long-standing member of our community. He will be missed.

News Update From Rotherwick Cricket Club



We are pleased to report that Rotherwick Cricket Club will be returning to our much-loved home ground this season. We will be playing Wednesday evening league matches this year and planning to restart our Saturday afternoon league matches in the 2024 season.

In addition, we will be aiming to start a Sunday team this year, with the view to playing traditional English village cricket, on a friendly basis. Players of any sex and any standard (including complete beginners) will be welcome. We intend to make these games a family event, so bring your picnics and enjoy the sound of leather on willow at our most wonderful of settings.

We will also be running our highly successful All Stars and Dynamos courses again this year. Following the first running of these courses last year, when 34 boys and girls enrolled, the sessions will run on Friday evenings over eight weeks from 5th May. All Stars is for girls and boys ages 5 to 8 and Dynamos is for ages 8 to 11. The sessions not only help to improve the hand/eye coordination, but most of all, they are great fun. For further details and to enrol on the courses in Rotherwick, please go to ecb.co.uk/play/all-stars and ecb.co.uk/play/dynamos.

To help run the courses, we are looking for additional Activators and Helpers to supervise each session. Should anyone be interested, then full training will be given, (including a DBS check) and you would not need to commit to helping every week.

We also aim to run training sessions for Junior players aged 11+. These will be run by ECB qualified coaches and will really help to improve the girls and boys cricketing skills.

It is important that cricket is open to girls and women, as well as boys and men so we welcome all-comers of any standard, including complete beginners.

Although we did not play at the ground last year, Rotherwick Cricket Club replaced the Artificial Wicket, which will be of huge benefit to the village. The total cost was £10,287.60, so we are grateful to the Parish Council for their contribution of £250, to Hook and Odiham Lions for their grant of £500 and to Hampshire County Council (Jonathan Glen) for their grant of £750. The remainder of the cost was paid by Rotherwick Cricket Club and various other grants that we were able to secure - including a generous donation from Lisa Fincham at Boyett Mayes Limited.

The Club wishes to express our sincere gratitude to Alan Rutter and Jon Wheeler, who have stood down as Chairman and Secretary respectively. They have worked tirelessly for the club over many years and without their perseverance, the Club would not have survived.

So, we are looking forward to a wonderful summer of cricket in Rotherwick, for all ages and abilities. Do come along to watch and if you would like to play or assist us in any other way, please contact our Secretary, Tim Culver for more information. Tel: 07882 406429 E-mail: t.culver@sky.com



Quiz of the Month

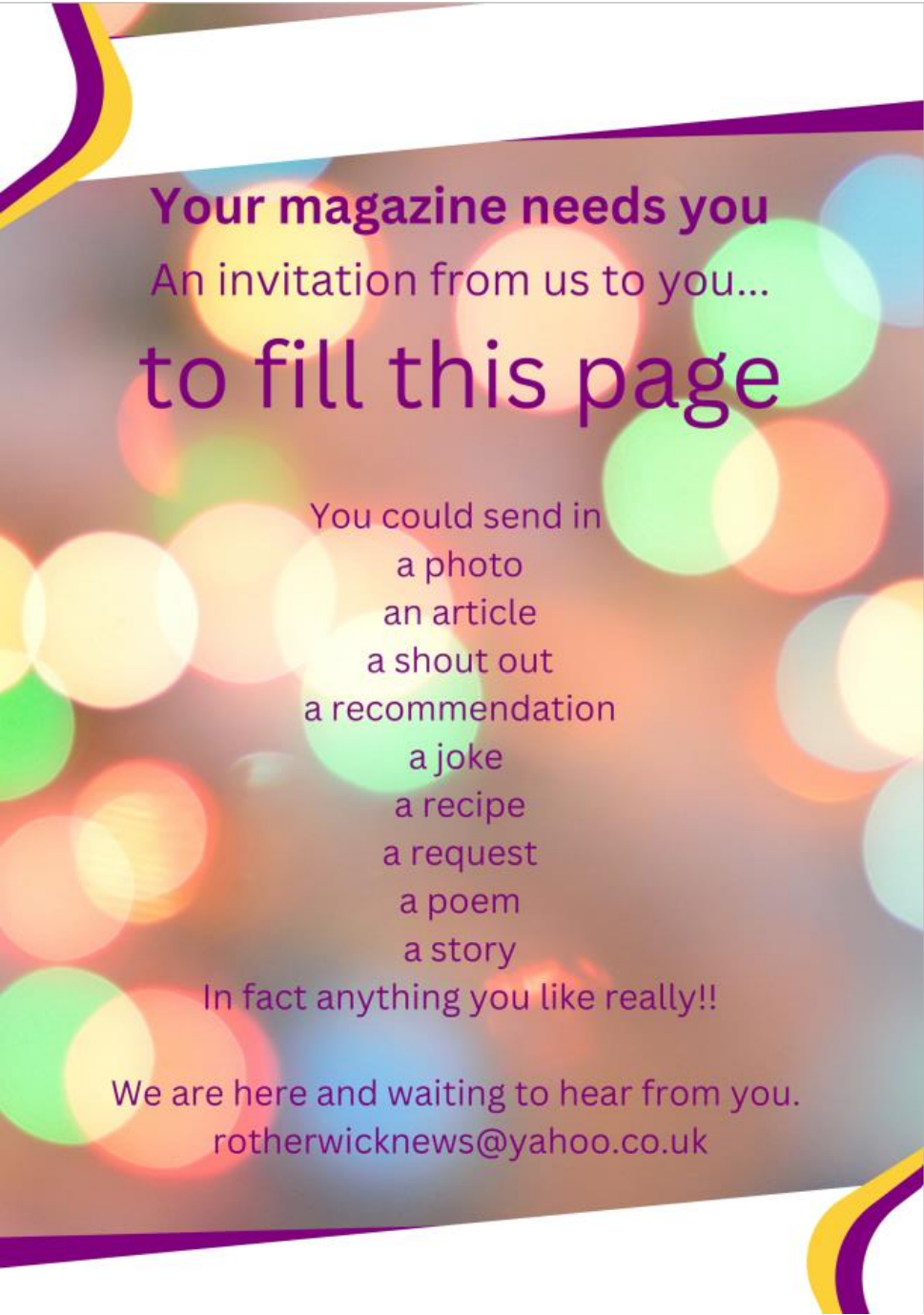
February Questions

1. What is the only word in English ending in the letters 'mt'?
2. Now kept in Edinburgh Castle, which stone is to be used for the coronation of Charles III at Westminster Abbey?
3. Who painted The Water Lily Pool?
4. April 2023 marks the 10th anniversary of whose funeral at St Paul's Cathedral?
5. Who designed the Beatles Sgt Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band album cover?
6. Which charity event held annually in the UK on the first Thursday in March gives every child in the UK a voucher?
7. Which country beginning with the letter 'T' has a shoreline on the Andaman Sea?
8. Which TV character said, "Live long and prosper"?
9. In which country would one find 8 of the world's 10 highest mountains?
10. Which soup has calf's head as its main ingredient?

'Quizinquisitor'

Answers to last month's quiz are on page 18





Your magazine needs you

An invitation from us to you...

to fill this page

You could send in
a photo
an article
a shout out
a recommendation
a joke
a recipe
a request
a poem
a story

In fact anything you like really!!

We are here and waiting to hear from you.
rotherwicknews@yahoo.co.uk

Start clearing out your cupboards in readiness for the Scout's annual Bag2School visit, booked for

****Saturday 25th March****

Tea, coffee and cake for sale, come and see what we are doing on Saturday morning.

Open 9.30-12 noon

Drop to Scout Den, Hook Road, Rotherwick

We accept the following
'good quality' items for
RE-USE:



Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing

Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)

Handbags

Hats

Bags

Scarves and ties

Jewellery

Lingerie

Socks

Belts

Soft toys

Household linen

Household curtains

Household towels

Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

We DO NOT accept:



Duvets and blankets

Pillows and cushions

Carpets, rugs and mats
(including bath, shower and toilet mats)

Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing

School uniforms with and without logo

Corporate clothing and work-wear

Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material



JANUARY Answers

1. Jeremy Paxman announced he would be stepping down as host of TV quiz University Challenge after more than 28 years, who is taking over his role this year?

AMOL RAJAN

2. Bruce Kent passed away in June 2022, in which politically active organisation did he hold leadership roles from the 1960s onwards?

CND (Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament)

3. Although the media concentrated on Matt Hancock being a contestant who actually won 2022's "I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out of Here"?

JILL SCOTT

4. Which famous painting in London's National Gallery did "Just Stop Oil" protestors glue themselves to in July 2022?"

THE HAYWAIN (*John Constable*)

5. On January 1st 2023, which country replaced the kuna with the euro as its unit of currency?

CROATIA

6. Which building, which became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2007 and was also a finalist in a 2000 campaign to find the "New Seven Wonders of the World", will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2023?

SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

7. Whose name goes before "And the Dial Of Destiny" to give the name of the fifth film in a franchise that is scheduled for release in the summer of 2023?

INDIANA JONES

8. Which Commonwealth Games gold medallist has a Twitter bio that reads 'Chronically indecisive so I've adopted two surnames and the hep-tathlon'?

KATARINA JOHNSON-THOMPSON

9. True or false: a 2022 study found that dogs cry tears of joy when their owners return home.

TRUE

10. At Queen Elizabeth II's funeral in September 2022, which of the armed forces pulled the State Gun Carriage from Westminster Abbey to Wellington Arch?

ROYAL NAVY (*98 ratings pulled it with another 40 behind acting as a brake*).

‘Quizinquisitor’

Rotherwick Parish Council needs your help.



The annual Rotherwick litter pick is taking place on

**Saturday 18th March
12 noon,**

meeting at the church.

It is a great opportunity to meet other residents, old faces and new and make our beautiful village litter free once more.

Refreshments will be available.

A message from Rotherwick Parish Council

**There will be
a commemorative tree planting
in honour of HRH Queen Elizabeth's
Platinum Jubilee
at the playing fields, Rotherwick
on Saturday 11th March 10am
all welcome.**

PARLEZ-VOUS EV?

(reflecting on 18 months ownership of an all-electric car)

After several years' deliberation, we took delivery of our Tesla Model 3 in mid-2021 and had covered over 15,000 miles by December 2022. There was much to learn about living with an electric vehicle (EV). My personal reflections are shared in this article. If you are a technophobe, look away now!

Battery size is everything? Yes, but ... Many manufacturers now boast over 200 miles theoretical range (rather less for real world driving), in practice this means battery capacity of at least 50kWh. The battery is the heaviest part of the car. Larger battery capacity increases weight/suspension stiffness and extends charging time, so capacity is not the only consideration for living with an EV.

Put a SoC in it. EV owners do not routinely discharge their batteries from 100% to 0% state of charge ('SoC'), which is impractical and could shorten battery life. For current battery technologies, an 80/20 approach is typically recommended; in other words, daily charging up to around 80% and re-charge at around 20%, with occasional charging above 80% SoC when required for longer trips.

Energy efficiency. Energy efficiency varies with style of driving, reducing significantly in low temperatures. With steady driving in good conditions, our average consumption is less than 250W/mile (4 miles per kWh). For our battery of nominal 75kWh, this means around 180 miles in the 80/20% SoC range with around 25 mins to recharge at a Tesla supercharger (c. 45kWh added).

Regeneration. Forget Doctor Who, for an EV this is kinetic energy recovered to the battery when the motor is not drawing current, to improve energy efficiency. Solutions differ between manufacturers as to the extent of regeneration and integration with the brake. In a Tesla, release of the accelerator initiates regeneration braking and the brake pedal is little used in normal driving.

AC-DC. Not a rock band, alternating current (AC) and direct current (DC) are types of electricity current supplied by fixed chargers. A dedicated charger on a single-phase AC supply typically delivers around 7kW; on a three-phase AC supply this becomes 22kW. Connected to an AC charger, the EV on-board charger converts to DC to charge the battery. Many public charge points have AC chargers rated 7kW or 22kW. DC chargers deliver energy faster but the fixed infrastructure costs are higher.

Charge points are not the same. ‘Slow’ (or ‘granny’) charging refers to charging from a 3-pin domestic socket, charging at around 2.5kW (say 10 miles/hr). ‘Fast’ charging typically refers to AC chargers 7kW to 22 kW, ‘rapid’ chargers being those delivering at faster charge rates. The latter are generally DC chargers rated at least 50kW, with chargers rated above 100kW being ‘ultra-rapid’. At home overnight, speed of charge is less important than on a road trip where ultra-rapid charging is desirable. A destination stop to charge whilst shopping or in the gym (or for a long lunch!) falls between. Most owners charge at home or at work, rather than public chargers, whenever possible.

Watt was that? You might think charging time could be calculated from the rating of the charger and the time, e.g. 1 hour on a 50kW charger should add 50kWh to the battery. This is a beginner’s error! In practice, the characteristics of the on-board charger come into play. For instance, AC charging on a Tesla is limited to 11kW (around 44 miles/hr) even on a 22kW charger, but it can charge at up to 250kW on a DC charger. By contrast, a Renault Zoe can charge on AC at 22kW but is limited to 50kW on DC. Further, EVs do not store energy from DC chargers at a uniform rate, charging fastest when the battery is at lowest SoC and slowing significantly above 80% SoC to protect the battery.

Cables and connectors. This is a story of VHS and BetaMax revisited. In the early days, connectors were produced to a variety of standards. Nowadays, most manufacturers use ‘Type-2’ connectors for AC chargers which are generally ‘un-tethered’, meaning the cable is carried in the car. DC chargers usually have a ‘tethered’ cable fixed to the charge point (as at a fuel pump) with a ‘CCS’ connector to plug into the car. A different ‘ChAdeMO’ DC connector is used on some EVs, e.g. the Nissan Leaf.

Charge tariffs, the wild west. Tariffs vary enormously and have increased significantly in the energy crisis. They could vary from (say) £0.34p/kWh at home (lower if an off-peak tariff is available) to over £0.75/kWh on rapid charger networks, with every figure between. An average of £0.40p/kWh at 4 miles/kWh efficiency equates to 10p/mile: at a tariff of £0.80p/kWh this would be 20p/mile.

The day of the RFIDs. A challenge for operators of public chargers is billing. Until recently, many public charge points were equipped only with an RFID card reader to start/stop charging. For the operator, this solution avoids the expense of installing a payment card reader on each charger: for users it means signing up to an account to get the operator’s RFID card. On a long trip this could create difficulties using public chargers on a one-off basis without multiple RFID cards. Fortunately, the situation is improving. Many fast chargers and most rapid chargers now operate from a card reader or via a phone app. Matters are straightforward at a Tesla supercharger, where the Tesla connector authenticates directly to the owner’s account.

The map. Network operators maintain their own web/mobile app-accessible maps to show the location of their charge points with information such as: number of chargers, their kW rating(s) and connector type, method of payment accepted (RFID, card, and/or app) and status (available, busy, out of service). The real-time accuracy of this information can be patchy. There are many public charge operators, e.g. BP Pulse, Shell Recharge, PodPoint, Instavolt (registered office in Chineham), Ionity and Tesla, each network with its own infrastructure and billing arrangements. Platforms such as Zap-Map (UK) and ChargeMap (Europe) have emerged which affiliate with multiple network operators to give a combined view of public charge points. In a Tesla, in-car navigation is integrated with Tesla supercharger locations (150 or 250kW) showing their status. German manufacturers (with Hyundai) are catching up with their Ionity network, linking navigation to Ionity 350kW chargers being rolled out across major routes in Europe. 'A Better Route Planner' or 'ABRP'. Simple EV route planners assume a journey start at 100% and allow arrival at 0% SoC, which is unrealistic. More practical might be a start at 90% SoC with a need to arrive with (say) 30% SoC, knowing charging might not be possible at the destination. ABRP is a cult app for EV users, allowing journey/charging scenarios to be investigated based on EV model.

Time spent in reconnaissance is seldom wasted. The military adage certainly applies when planning longer trips in an EV. Online research of charge point maps is invaluable to identify public chargers you expect to use. Unlike a fuel station, public charge points can be illusive if you need to rely on a location not used before.

The experience so far. Our transition to an EV has been positive but you do need to think differently. Both the car and its charging ecosystem are factors to consider if deciding to switch. Forward planning makes road trips quite feasible: our longer trips include Amsterdam and Corsica (via Toulon-Bastia), talking to many interesting people at charge points along the way (think bikers!).

Jonathan Wort

(Food for thought –thanks for sending this in).

Please visit www.rotherwick.org.uk
for Rotherwick Parish information and sign up for Parish Alerts.

PPG Meetings

At our regular meeting on the 19th January (minutes published on <https://www.whitewaterhealth.nhs.uk>) we discussed how we can continue to improve communications with patients in our role as a *“Critical Friend”* of the practice.

We currently have **outbound** communication channels through the local publications, organisations, schools, Facebook and Instagram. The publications are necessarily a little dated as print timing demands early submission for articles. We really appreciate the support provided by these publications in reaching our community of patients. In addition, we provide posters in various locations throughout Hartley Wintney and Hook as appropriate. We are currently reviewing the way we communicate with patients and how patients communicate with the practice and would welcome suggestions.

Our **inbound** communications have been added to through the years and these are shown at the end of the article but include:

- PPG Drop boxes in both Surgeries.
- A PPG telephone number where messages can be left.
- A PPG e mail contact
- A number of folks have communicated on Facebook, and we currently have some 620 + followers. Each posting receives in the order of 1500 viewings.
- Instagram is slowly building up its followers

At each of our PPG meetings there is always a senior partner [a GP] and the practice Business Manager present to provide an update on the changes and challenges within the practice. The matters discussed are wide ranging and address any concerns raised by patients and the PPG, updates and any changes planned. Some of these are that there is now a clinical pharmacist in the practice every day, and a paramedic has been appointed as a frailty lead. There are currently 200 GP vacancies across Hampshire and Berkshire. Staffing remains a huge challenge but the practice are doing all they can to recruit new staff.

The updated and refreshed website <https://www.whitewaterhealth.nhs.uk> is well worth a visit and e-consult is now back on line and you will be able to both make and cancel appointments. It is hoped that more doctor appointments will be available, however the pressure across the NHS and general practice has shown no signs of easing.

PPG Contact Details

Whitewaterppg@gmail.com or Tel: 01256 678671

<https://www.facebook.com/WhitewaterPPG>

(Please note we cannot deal with any medical or personal matters.

The email address for the practice is: nhccg.whitewaterhealth.nhs.uk)

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Cajun chicken burger , slaw, BBQ sauce, cheese and chips	£11
Vegetarian 'haggis wellington' , hassle back potato, carrot, kale	£10
Chicken Breast filled with garlic cream cheese, wrapped in bacon served with baby jackets, white wine bbq sauce, grilled mushrooms and tomatoes	£14
Vegan burger , seeded bun, BBQ sauce, vegan cheese, lettuce, tomato, red onion & fries	£11
Butter chicken curry , mushroom rice, flat bread	£14.5
Pie of the day , mash potato, seasonal vegetable, red wine jus	£14.5
Beer battered cod and chips with tartare sauce and peas	£10
Honey roasted Ham , egg and chips, side salad	£10
Chocolate Brownie , chocolate sauce	£5
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Hart North Police (based in Aldershot, non urgent)		101
	Hart.North.Police@hampshire.pnn.police.uk	

Use of Photos in the Rotherwick News



Please Read the Following Carefully

It is great to have photos in the Rotherwick News to add interest and bring an article to life. A picture paints a thousand words as they say.

However, the editors are aware that photos are personal data and as such will take every care to ensure that privacy is respected.

Before publishing any photo, the editors will always seek your permission, or in the case of children, the permission of the parents before publishing any photos sent in by a third party. This will be sought either verbally, by email or text. You may be asked to give written permission for the photo to be used. This maybe in the form of an affirmative reply to an email or text. It will be assumed that by sending in a photo of yourselves, including your children, you are giving permission for it to be published.

Looking Ahead



Upcoming dates

11th March—commemorative tree planting 10 am Rotherwick playing fields, see page 15

12th March—poetry group at the church, see page 7

18th March—Annual Rotherwick litter pick, see page 19

25th March—Bag 2 School collection at scout hut, see page 17

That would be good to go in the Rotherwick News!"

Thank you... to the people who have contributed to this month's magazine. Most of the articles are signed by their author but not all. For those articles that appear to be "anonymous" the editors would like to give a mention to Dan Pearce for his contribution this month. Also thanks to Ruth Brooker for the front cover photo.

Please keep your articles and photos coming—they bring the magazine to life and it is so interesting to see and read about people we all know and love.

As always you can send to rotherwicknews@yahoo.co.uk by 10th of the month. What could be easier?