

The Rotherwick News

November/December 2022

Volume 34 Edition 11

GUESS WHO'S COMING.

**17TH DECEMBER, ROTHERWICK VILLAGE
HALL, 3PM**

**Who comes down your chimney and into your home?
Fills stockings with presents and then he is gone.**

**Come and eat mince pies, we have sweeties, quite a few.
Bring your Granny, your Grandpa, Mum and Dad too.**

**I hope if we sing Jingle Bells as loud as can be,
we might find Santa under our Rotherwick Christmas tree.**



**My helpers will be
serving tea, coffee
and mince pies
(no charge!)**

Absolutely Agnes...

Just as Agnes was beginning to think she was going to have to slip into Liz Truss' kitten heels & lead the country out of the mire...in steps Dishy Rishi.... CAN we now leave the politics to those in Westminster & focus on our own little lives? It remains to be seen.

Inevitably, our thoughts are preoccupied with our homes, how to heat them & stay cosy in the midst of an ever-worsening crisis.

For Agnes, always one to look for the silver lining, autumn & winter have long been welcome visitors. In fact, from August onwards Agnes is on the lookout for those magical signs that we can ditch the flesh, wrap ourselves up & begin to retreat inside.

"Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and if I were a bird, I would fly about the earth seeking the successive autumns" George Eliot

Well perhaps flying about the earth might be pushing it, but certainly trying to embrace the excuse to hibernate is as delicious to Agnes as ever.

Surely breakfasting by candlelight, suppers by the fire & heading off to Bedfordshire armed with a hot water bottle & a good book are some of life's little pleasures.

Before we know it, Autumn will slip gently & icily into winter, where food becomes 'stewier', drinks a little darker & the layer of woollen accoutrements ever deeper.

In the meantime, Agnes is busy dusting off her thermals, stocking up her library & testing out a few sherries...purely for research purposes.

But be warned Mr. Sunak, I'm keeping a very close eye on you!

Warmest wishes,



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](#)

Get Gardening



Did anyone notice whilst walking up (or down) The Street in October the bits of 'dust' floating about in the air? I thought it was bits of ash from a bonfire but couldn't smell one. I recently found out they were cabbage whiteflies! Apparently they come from fields growing brassicas and are tiny moth-like insects about 2mm in size. Their immobile nymphs attach themselves to plants but in autumn the females migrate to find new host plants. The dry weather this year has caused them to increase in population. I think they may well have been the same cloud of flies I saw eager to escape when I removed the netting from my sprouts. Talking of sprouts—something has stripped one of my sprout plants completely bare. Do deer like sprouts I wonder or did the pigeons take a fancy to just one of the plants?

The squirrels will be pleased that there seem to be an abundance of acorns this year. (As well as loved by pigs they can also be eaten by humans—but DON'T try them raw when they are poisonous to humans. They need to be 'leached' first to remove any tannin and then can be turned into flour and all sorts—find out more at www.woodland.org.uk.) I planted one of the many acorns we get a few years ago and, although it's taken a while, I now have an oak sapling about a metre tall, which I'm really quite pleased with, although I doubt I will be around when it finally reaches adulthood!



Anyone one else inundated with fungi? After much 'googling' I can't make up my mind whether we have 'honey fungus' or 'wood pinkgill'. As its amongst our trees honey fungus would not be good. Having just become an RHS member I've asked for their advice. All that was needed were several photos of the fungi from

all angles and where they are growing. It takes up to 10 days for a reply but I'm keeping my fingers crossed they are identified as the latter.

This is time of year I usually plant spring bulbs to replace those I'm always digging up during the year! Tulips are one of my favourites and I often plant them in pots layering them with other bulbs. To layer bulbs you start at the bottom with the tallest and latest flowering (alliums in my case) ending with the smallest and earliest on top. The Sarah Raven website has some good examples, but they do need to be netted to keep out the squirrels. I've given up planting cyclamens which must have the tastiest bulbs of all as even fairly large plants have been uprooted by a determined squirrel.



<https://www.sarahraven.com/>



HAS ANYBODY SEEN SANTA, YET?

At this time of year many of us will already be thinking all things "Christmas". There will probably have been plenty of planning done for the big day already, and then there will be lots of shopping yet to do, especially if there are last-minute presents still to buy.

Decorating the house and tree, which can be very time-consuming is fun to do and helps get us into the spirit of the season. A little Xmas music during the process and a glass of sherry on completion are a tradition in our house! The indoor decorations make the house cosy, and welcoming to any guests during the season. The cheerful outdoor decorations that many villagers put up at this time of year also add to the Christmas spirit, for both locals and visitors to the Village.

My own decorations are taken down at the appropriate time in early January and I am usually very glad when they are, since two weeks with them on show is just about enough for me. I cannot imagine living with Xmas decorations left up all year long, although I have visited one place at least where they are permanent - but it is not just one house.

I have been to the North Pole!

I can almost hear your shouted response to this "Yes, *pull the other one!*" Seriously, though, I have been to the North Pole, but not the same one that you are probably thinking of - this particular one is in Alaska, not far from Fairbanks and just north of Moose Creek.



Here, they have road names such as St. Nicholas Drive, Mistletoe Lane, Santa Claus Lane, and Chris Kringle Drive. There are candy cane lampposts and a store called Santa Claus House, selling (yes, you've guessed it) all things Christmassy.

Outside of the store is a super-large statue of Santa, ideal for those tourist photos! They also have an Antler Academy of Flying and Reindeer Games, where it is possible to feed the team of reindeer and learn about them.



Whilst driving through the town we think we may have also even seen Santa, or a man with long, white hair and a long beard who looked very much like him (perhaps a visit to the barber was overdue)!

Coming across the North Pole was unexpected as we drove on our tour through Alaska, and it made for a fun visit - but all year round? No thank you! Bah! Humbug!

Happy Christmas everyone!

Lin

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 Bob Humble, Dan Pearce, Lottie Girling and Catherine Bolt for their contributions this month. Front page photos by Sue Cutler.

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?

Christmas game ideas

Christmas is coming and I'm going to quickly share 3 board games that we absolutely love, all though I rarely win at them. Each one makes you think and they can all be played in different ways, so get them on your Santa list.

So first up is **FReNeTiC**, think Scrabble but with the periodic table and an egg timer. You all play at once, recommended 8+. Educational albeit subliminal, make as many words as possible with the periodic tables, chemical element tiles that are in play on the board.

Next is **A Race in Time**, by History Heroes.

It's the first one to get from Ancient Era to the moon. 2 - 8 people aged 8+ (but younger siblings can take part)



Fun and educational, choose your character and complete the objectives. Pick a number between 1- 6, answer the question and move forward. Do you know your Boudicca from your Rosa Parks, or your Einstein from your Attila the Hun. I often lose at this game, but there is a fold out poster to help us older people.



My final one if you're stuck for a pressie is **Who Knows Where?** A Geography board game.

2-4 players, they recommend age 12+ on this one but we have been playing it for over a year and our child has only just turned 11.

It's a global location game (you often have to guess). There are 5 categories over 1000 questions some are images. You move your piece around the board after you've got your question or your opponent's question right.

This game is brilliant for testing the old grey matter, and I can safely say that our under 12 year old has won way more times than us.

All the Games are in the £20-30 price range, but I can safely say you'll get your moneys worth.



Great ideas Dan—thank you.

Rotherwick Lunch Club goes AWOL

It was a cool, still, moonless evening in the small, sleepy hamlet that is Rotherwick. A small convoy of assorted vehicles assembled at the cross-roads ready to set off on an out of village experience.

It had been agreed at the previous month's village lunch that it was time to call Tony's bluff and organise an evening get together at the Giggling Squid in Farnham to find out if it really was as good as he kept saying. He'd been waxing lyrically, and loudly, about this place for months and, quite frankly, we were all getting a bit sick of hearing about it, so we thought we'd give it a try to shut him up!

Nine of the regulars set off in four cars, in a tight formation which lasted only a few minutes as we reached the top of Hook Road and entered the real world of traffic and immediately got separated. No need to panic though because we all thought we knew where we were going.

As it happened, some of us managed to regroup at the top of the hill just outside Farnham where the beautiful rural county of Hampshire crashes up against the heavily settled county that is Surrey. However, crossing the border into this dark, foreboding county was accomplished with ease as we all switched our vehicles into Stealth Mode and held radio silence.

The Giggling Squid, on Castle Street, is a lovely light and open Thai restaurant with a warm and friendly atmosphere and welcoming and efficient staff. They soon had us seated and were happy to explain what was in some of the less well-known dishes and how they were cooked. They also joined in, as appropriate, some of the light-hearted banter that always swirls around this group.



After much discussion, indecision and general confusion the starters and mains were ordered. When they arrived there was again much discussion, indecision and general confusion as half of us didn't know what we'd ordered (it was foreign after all!), half of us didn't even remember ordering and the other half couldn't care less.

It pains me to say this, but Tony was absolutely right. The Giggling Squid is indeed a lovely restaurant, guaranteed to dish up beautifully cooked, authentic Thai cuisine. Well worth a visit, even though it does require two border crossings. On the positive side, Stealth Mode isn't needed on the return journey.

Bond, Unibond
Encouraging people to stick together.

(Photo: courtesy Giggling Squid)



Rotherwick Village Lunch Thursday 1st December at "The Falcon"

You are all invited to join us at "The Falcon" on the 1st of December where we are promised freshly roasted turkey crown, green sprouts, roast potatoes, oodles of stuffing and lashings of cranberry sauce! amongst other delights, on the 3 course menu, for the grossly overpriced sum of £ 19 + grats, (Lee has to fill someone's stocking somehow!!)

Booking is essential, and to avoid waste, we are pre-selecting from the Menu. Just send an e-mail to anthony@merricks.me.uk to reserve your spot.

Menu

Seasonal sharing platters including pigs in blankets, marmite Brussel sprouts, crispy camembert, Whitebait, crispy jalapenos and bread

*Fresh Roasted Turkey Crown, roast potatoes, honey glazed parsnips, carrots, brussel sprouts pigs in blanket, stuffing, cranberry sauce and jus
Vegetable tagine, Moroccan spiced cous cous, roasted vegetables
Game keepers pie, cheesy mash, seasonal vegetables and gravy*

*Christmas pudding brandy cream
Mincemeat and apple crumble, spiced crème anglaise
Sorbets and ice cream*

£ 19.00 pp + Grats

Pre-booking essential



ROTHERWICK VILLAGE HALL



If you live in Rotherwick and it is safe to assume you do if you are reading this, you will no doubt drive and walk past the village hall almost every day. I daresay you wonder at its magnificence and indeed it is one of the best village halls in Hampshire. It is a comforting and familiar sight to see, you pass it and know you are almost home.

BUT

Do you know what goes on behind that large wooden door?

On a weekly basis it is hired out to a Mother and Toddler Group, Zumba and three separate groups of badminton. It is regularly used for weddings, hired out at the weekend from Friday to Sunday. Many a happy couple dancing the Saturday night away with their wedding party to the fabulous (but not always quiet!) tunes being knocked out from a band on the stage (yes, we have a stage).

There is a kitchen, cloakroom, ladies and gent's loos, a large hall with a stage, back room and a committee room (which was at one time a billiard room). The large main hall and committee room (along with the kitchen) can be hired separately or together. There is also coloured LED lighting to set the mood. If you live in the village, it is your Hall and therefore the hire rates are greatly reduced.

The Hall is managed by a volunteer committee who are also the trustees. We have a booking secretary and a caretaker.

The Hall has a website <https://www.rvh.org.uk> and there you can find all sorts of interesting information as to why the hall was built in the first place. You can look at availability and who to contact if you would like to hire it for a family party perhaps. You can see photos of the interior.

Very recently there is a move to hold more local functions at the hall, organised by a newly set up social committee. Having sat in on the meeting I feel some good times to come in the Hall for the village, not unlike the wonderful Jubilee event we all celebrated together.

If you have any ideas/suggestions you would like to raise in regards to your Hall, please send them to: - chairman@rvh.org.uk

If you would like to join our email list to be kept in touch more about upcoming events at the hall, please email chairman@rvh.org.uk

Please be assured the village hall committee will only use your email address to contact you about events at the hall and will not share your email address with any individual or organisation without your permission.

The Village Hall committee

La vie en Rose Cottage

I was mulling over with my father a little while ago that on the 1st November 2022, he would have been living in his house for forty years. That is an extraordinarily long time to live in the same place. Even more extraordinary is that he has managed to do so little to it during that time. Rockside is a lovely house. It sits at about 400 feet above sea level on the eastern side of the Malvern Hills, with views stretching 25 miles into the Severn Valley and beyond. It has seven bedrooms over three floors, a large but dated kitchen (orange formica surfaces anyone?) and a fireplace you could park a car in. Stepping out of the (steep) back garden takes one straight onto the Malvern Hills from where many miles of walks with splendid views are available to you. One of life's most unexpected joys is being able to leave the house for a hefty walk without having to put the dog on the lead once. Northern people tend to be rather rude about the hills as, like most things, it seems the hills "*oop north*" are superior, being significantly older/higher/steeper/dangerous/not-even-hills-but-mountains, but notwithstanding this, and despite not having lived there for 22 years, I have a huge affinity for them (the hills, not northerners, although they too are perfectly agreeable).

Whilst I have been a fairly frequent visitor to Malvern since I moved down south in 2000, I have returned to Malvern more frequently in recent years. This was driven in part by a longing for the countryside and space (something that led us to move to Rotherwick), but also through the increasing ill-health and frailty of my parents. Mum is now in a nursing home and Dad (83 – born 6 months before the war, but swears he had nothing to do with it) has aged quickly in that time. He has always been a man of his time and a very sociable sort, but Mum going into care, followed by lockdown, increasing frailty and failing eyesight have taken their toll. Last year he had to stop driving when it became apparent that not only could he not read road signs, but that he couldn't see them. Whilst this might be expected in certain circumstances, we were on the M4 at the time where the

road signs have surface areas of the Isle of Wight (I was driving). Last week, whilst visiting Dad, it became clear he was very unwell, and courtesy of a magnificent crew from the West Midlands Ambulance Service, he ended up in hospital where he remains for the time being. For the first time in as long as I can remember, I ended up at Rockside on my own; my goodness it was quiet.

Before I go on, a few points. First of all, I was not strictly on my own; the dog had travelled up with me on the train, but whilst I love her dearly and hate being without her, she is not the greatest conversationalist. The house has wifi, so I could speak to Sarah and the children back in Rotherwick whenever I fancied it. I should also add that I love them dearly and hate being away from them. They are generally better conversationalists to boot. Finally, I've never considered myself one of those gregarious types who must be surrounded by people at all times – strictly *entre-nous*, I rather like those moments *chez Gasser* when I have the place to myself and can play the piano and sing loudly to my heart's content without the resident art critics providing me with one-star reviews. However, finding oneself *tout seul* in Malvern for the large part of the next few days was a wholly novel experience.



Autumnal fog in the Malverns

I went to bed early on the Friday night, and waking correspondingly early and in need of something to do, took the dog for a mighty yomp over the hills on Saturday morning. We were gone for about an hour and a half, walking through thick autumnal fog, before returning back to the house for a hearty breakfast. Having sorted various bits and pieces out, I then went to visit Dad in hospital followed by lunch

with my brother to discuss short term arrangements for his care, before returning back to Rockside at 2pm. Gosh, at least 8 hours of “not much” lay ahead of me, with no one to discuss it with.

It was time to go out again. I looked at the dog curled up on the sofa, recovering from her earlier exertions. She is not allowed on the sofa at home, a fiercely enforced edict from High Command.

At Rockside, the converse is de rigeur, and I am expected by the dog to vacate the armchair in order to make space, she being neither keen nor accustomed to sharing the soft furnishings. Occupation of said armchair is a strategic, tactical affair between us, with each regarding the vacation of said chair by the other as a display of risible weakness to be capitalised upon immediately. When we got the dog, people informed me that she would be warm, loving, loyal, keen to please and possess the energy output of a nuclear power station. Generally she has never let me down, but when it comes to “that chair” her demeanour shifts. She doesn’t growl or bark or anything like that; she simply takes pride in trying to outwit me. “Walk?” I said with that faux cheerfulness that people generally reserve for canines, small children and the hard-of-hearing. As a cocker spaniel, I have often considered that she has a fairly expressive face, able to convey varying degrees of inquisition, cheerfulness, even worry on rare occasions. Her response however, was one she has been polishing over recent months, a combination of sarcasm and suspicion. She did all she could to maintain her cataleptic state, whilst doing enough to roll her eyes in my general direction. She was not enthused by the prospect, and made it known with a long sigh that bordered on derision. After not inconsiderable cajoling and an element of shoving, we were up and away heading over the hills into Great Malvern.

Matthew Gasser

*Discover more about Great Malvern
next month.*



The Malverns in August

The History of Rotherwick



In 1916 the daughter of the Rev Stapleton wrote the History of Rotherwick and its Church, this was in the care of the Church Wardens, as were many other documents relating to the establishment of the School and the construction of the Village Hall. It became apparent that not only did these documents need some tender loving care to preserve them but safe storage.

Other documents were found, poor books showing charitable giving to the village poor and more recently a ledger showing the costs of Tylney Hall back in the 1890s, this has been kindly lent by the Whistler family.

Lin Humble has kindly agreed to catalogue all the documents then we are to get advice from the archivist in Winchester on how to copy them and hopefully put them onto a USB stick for use by the School or other interested parties.

If all goes well we'd like to have them exhibited over a weekend in the Village Hall.

Do you have any old documents/deeds /photos that might be able to form part of this record? If so let Lin or myself know.

Thanks are due to Ray Beech and Steve Burrige for spending time digging out all the books.

Tony Merricks

Rotherwick's Junior Bake Off Christmas Special



**Are you ready for another challenge?
Are you under 16?**

Could **YOU** be our Star Baker?



Look out for more details and how to enter in our next edition.

Remembrance Sunday In Rotherwick



Sunday 13th November and the Beavers Cubs and Scouts of 1st Bramshill Rotherwick formed up at the village hall for the Remembrance Parade 2022.

Immaculately turned out, their neckerchiefs were ironed and their shoes were polished, ask Leo (still on his hands) but he had done them himself.

10.30 and the parade left the village hall for the march up to the church where the remembrance service was taking place.

Beavers led the parade, with the cubs and then the scouts. Plenty of parents and well wishers followed.

Once the flags and the wreaths had been laid, we had the service. Hymns, prayers and readings were all delivered with heart felt feelings. Three scouts Luke, Daniel and Evan read from the lectern and then we had young Harry light a candle.

After the service the scout group formed a guard of honour as the villagers left the service on quiet reflection.

The church was packed which was lovely to see. Well done to all involved.

We shall remember them.



Dan Pearce

..... WHAT SHOULD YOU DO ON A MISERABLE, RAINY, NOVEMBER EVENING?

Well, you probably could stay home and curl up with a good book, or watch yet another repeat on television. On the other hand, you might spend your time with a cup of tea and that jigsaw puzzle you've yet to finish! But, instead of "doing the usual" many of our stalwart villagers braved the weather (which, to say the least, had been testing us for most of the week), in order to attend the Rotherwick Fireworks Display.

It *could* have turned out to be a flop! After all the planning that had gone into it and the amount of rain that had been falling throughout the day (and most of the previous week) it was a relief to those Village Hall Committee members and trusty helpers who had spent their own precious time and effort to put the event together when, at 6:30 pm people started to arrive. Despite the incessant drizzle, mums and dads were arriving in a steady stream with their young ones, amongst couples and larger family groups ready to watch the display.



Image: Simon Beynon

A queue began to form almost instantly for the freshly-cooked hotdogs, all prepared and cooked by our trusty crew – Village Hall Committee members and helpers – and many were enjoyed before the fireworks got going; there was also lots of foot-tapping and swaying to the lively music, with some energetic youngsters even having a jive. Once the fireworks started, there were many "oohs" and "aahs" and fist-pumps as they shot into the sky with a bang, lighting up the skies of Rotherwick. Another tremendous display from the "Head Torch Trio"!

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.

Village Hall Fireworks



Despite concerns about the poor weather affecting attendance, the Village Hall Committee are pleased to report a good turnout to see the annual fireworks display.

Thank you to all those who donated on the evening: raising
£508.24 towards the cost of the fireworks.

We would like to give a massive shout out to the following 'Friends of the Village Hall' whom without their help, the event would be unmanageable.

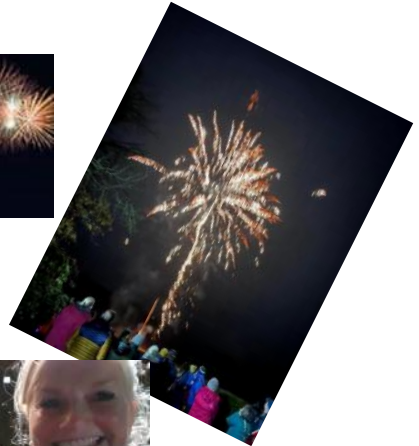
Sue Cutler for helping on the hot dogs!

Bob & Lin Humble- Sound system and fireworks

David Robak- Donations on 'the door'

Geoff Scrutton - Fireworks

Mike Linwood- Fireworks



This annual event has always proved hugely popular in the village and we would like to see our Hall being used more for social events.

If you have any ideas for a village social event we would love to hear from you. Please email them to the committee at chairman@rvh.org.uk

Photo Gallery

Thanks to
Sue, Lucy, Rachel,
Amanda and Jenny
for sharing these fab photos.

Don't be shy—send yours in to
rotherwicknews@yahoo.co.uk



Beautiful pampas grass by
the pond at Tylney Hall.
By Sue Cutler



Hi ya, from the cows at
Lyde Green Farm.
By Lucy Tarbox





A lovely crisp autumnal day looking up the fields to Lyde Larder on Remembrance day.



Our fluffball Ruby enjoying the Rotherwick pumpkin patch.

By Rachel Edwards



Little boxes edged with moss. Beautifully managed by nature! By Amanda Palmer



By Eve Wort



Awe and and wonder at the fireworks.

The Parish Council is continuing to partner with HIWARG in the timely maintenance and conservation of our ponds.

All our gardens support the local wildlife, and in order to build a better understanding of the wider ecosystem and its needs, please think about taking part in the 'record pool'. (See below flyer)



**Hampshire & Isle of Wight
Amphibian & Reptile Group**
<https://groups.arguk.org/hiwarg>

HIWARG is a volunteer group whose focus is the conservation of native amphibian and reptile species. We are involved in habitat management, surveying, public engagement, volunteer training & doing as much as possible to understand & protect the native species across the county.



Please help us to monitor reptiles and amphibians, by recording your sightings on Record Pool. This will be a great help with their conservation on a local and national level.

Visit Record Pool to add your sightings and photos:

www.recordpool.org.uk





Quiz of the Month

November Questions

- 1. The Royal Company of Archers is a ceremonial unit 1. Another day, another Prime Minister. Where was Rishi Sunak born?**
- 2. The Ford Motor Company have recently announced that they are discontinuing one of their most successful models. Which one?**
- 3. Which portmanteau word is commonly used to refer to the act of goods becoming smaller, but their price staying the same, such as the number of Jaffa Cakes in a packet being reduced from 12 to 10?**
- 4. Which English Romantic poet composed "To Autumn" after a walk near Winchester one autumnal evening?**
- 5. With around 400 players participating, what are the WCC, which are held annually on the second Sunday in October in Northamptonshire?**
- 6. In a list of Noble gases, which comes last alphabetically?**
- 7. Then known as Princess Elizabeth, in what position in the line of succession to the British throne was Queen Elizabeth II when she was born in 1926?**
- 8. Talisker is a brand of whisky distilled on which Scottish island?**
- 9. An 1888 painting called 'The Red Vineyard Near Arles' is the only painting known by name that which famous artist sold in his lifetime?**
- 10. What is the name of the village in which Postman Pat does his rounds?**

'Quizinquisitor'



Answers to last month's quiz are on page 26

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

Sea City, Vikings and the year is 878AD

Well we headed south last month to visit the Sea City museum in Southampton.

Packed with amazing history and artefacts about the city and its early roots way, way back in Neolithic times.

They always say every day is a school day and I was flabbergasted to find out that Southampton only acquired city status in 1964. Oh and several buildings such as the old Magistrates Court, where Sea City is housed is a 100% green, being heated by geothermal and cooling with zero carbon output.

The building itself is fantastic grade II structure and you must visit the loos on the ground floor as they are housed in the old prison cells.

The museum itself has the tragic story of the Titanic. I personally didn't see one reference to Leo or Kate but only to the huge amount of locals who were involved in one way or another on its ill fated maiden and final voyage from Southampton.

There are plenty of items on display with a poignant story behind each one, 200 in fact. There's stories to read and to listen to as they have a short film in the old court room, where actors are reading excerpts from the inquest after the fatal accident.



One of the stories was of how a couple of workers got held up and the ship left port without them, I can almost guarantee they were moaning like mad at how they had missed the Titanic leaving, yet when they found out what happened they must have seen it as a blessing.

We were amazed at one room which had a map of Southampton on the floor and it showed you with the aid of red dots where every worker lived that came from the city.

The gateway to the world exhibition will give you a quick glimpse of 200,000 years of history. Stone tools to ocean liners, the comings and goings of Romans to Victorians, winners and losers, Southampton has played a major role in our country's vibrant history.

Now there is a charge to visit the museum but you can make a day of it and also visit the Tudor Merchant's house while you're in the city.

We tied in lunch and a visit to the Lego shop, to be honest, the museum was better.

Vikings!

A while back at the beginning of the school term we got invited to White-water C of E school to meet the new teaching staff. This was a really nice gesture of the school to allow all the parents to come and meet their respective class teachers. It makes it so much easier when your child mentions them by name and you know exactly who they are talking about.

The downside to this is when the teacher in question mentions what their different topics are throughout the school year and then asks everyone in the room if anyone could make them a Viking Longship? Now the question was asked but I didn't expect the response by the other parents when they turned to look at myself at the same time saying I could.

Well, unfortunately I'm not a shipwright or a carpenter and she did want one made from wood. However, I did agree to make one out of cardboard as we have plenty of card for recycling, so myself and my trusty apprentice set about making a longboat.

Scanning lots of different images on the computer and looking at my apprentice's substantial historical library we set about sketching out then cutting. Once the hull was made and glued into shape with a few ribs for strength, we then moved onto the deck and the mast. All made from cardboard and copious amounts of glue (honestly we were picking it off our fingers every evening). We then moved onto cutting out strips for the deck and the clinker boards for the hull.

The figure head for those with good eyesight is the same as the one found in the British museum. The design on the sail and one of the shields is that of Harold Hardrada the king of Norway 1046 - 1066.

Oars made and everything fixed and painted, we only had the rigging left. Once that was all in place with his knots he'd learnt at scouts, we think we have a very passable looking Viking Longship.

Definitely not made out of wood and only took a week to build.



See page 23 to go back in time to 878AD

How Do You Take Yours?

Yes, it's that time of year again to break out the mulled wine! As soon as the evenings draw in and the leaves begin to fall, my hankering starts. As I'm the only one in the household with a taste for this tippie, I have been known to warm myself up an individual portion in the festive build up, well actually Bonfire Night is realistically when it begins! He indoors despises anything with even a hint of cinnamon therein.



We have the Romans to thank for this warming concoction (Hail Caesar!), for it was they who brought forth wine via The Rhine and Danube rivers into Northern Europe. From there nations created their own twist, so be it vin chaud, glühwein or glögg, it still remains the quintessential cosy Christmas warmer.

I wouldn't want to insult by offering a basic recipe here, but it is worth 'mulling' over some of the alternative versions around. Aside from the traditional combination of red wine, cinnamon, cloves, orange and sugar why not add some grated nutmeg, a couple of cardamom pods or star anise or even a bay leaf. The addition of some stem or fresh ginger is popular in some parts.

A Swedish glögg packs more of a punch with brandy or vodka being added along with raisins and almonds. The Spanish allegedly add lemon peel and a vanilla bean to their mulled wine. I'm a fan of adding a drop of brandy to the mix but how about trying rum or Cointreau instead. Of course, it's not only wine that is up for mulling, cider rises well to the occasion too. I also read of sloe gin being mulled with apple juice and spices.

How about mulled rosé? The BBC Good Food website (bbcgoodfood.com) has such a recipe where the rosé is mulled with stem ginger, black peppercorns, all spice berries, sliced grapefruit, star anise and a spot of crème de cassis. I must say I've yet to try it but it's definitely on the list. Non-alcoholic versions where apple, cranberry or even



pomegranate juice is mulled using the same spice and fruit mix means anyone can enjoy this winter warmer.



Remember, presentation is everything, so dress to impress, decorating with a sprig of rosemary or thyme with the slice of orange, or thread some cranberries or other berries onto a cocktail stick to stand in the glass. Raise that glass.

LET THE FESTIVE CHEER COMMENCE!

Marion Robak

Pictures – cookinginmygenes.com, kitchentreaty.com

878AD—An idea for a day out

Now I can't share a lot about this as we are visiting after I've submitted this article to be printed, but I can at least tell you what I know about it.

This is so brand new that the public haven't even visited yet as I type. It opens on the 12th November (roughly two weeks ago as you read this).

So this is 9th Century Winchester in the year 878, it's a mixture of live performers and augmented reality. Stunning video projections will help create this immersive experience.

Early medieval Wessex is recreated in majestic detail by Assassins Creed Valhalla (computer game people).

There is also a downloadable app for in game content (the young will understand all of this).

So there's stories from the thief to the reeve, the soldier to the slave. These are some of the performances that will be taking place along with Anglo Saxon objects and Anglo Saxon games. There's also their foes, the Vikings. Old buildings are brought back to life and what I can say is the West Gate I've seen in all its former glory.

It's £15 per adult and £9.50 per child but you can return as many times as you like in a year but you do need to book a time slot. For Museum Association members it's free.

Search out 878AD Winchester or stop us and ask us about it, as we will have visited already as I mentioned.

Ramblings of Rotherwick

Matt Heck Roth and Guests Gardeners



This group is about the vexations and pleasures of gardening of which there are many.

It is for the gardeners of the parishes of Mattingley, Heckfield and Rotherwick Hampshire and their invited friends who are gardeners themselves. It is set up so people can exchange advice and tips about gardening and help each other with their gardening difficulties. It is a group where people can have a complete break from "other stuff".

If you would like to join the group, which is a private group, please follow the Facebook link and then send us a request to join.

When you join please do respect the reason the group has been set up – to talk about gardening and to get away from "other stuff".

Thank you.

Regards and best wishes,

The Gardening Admin Team – Dan and Leonard

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/245433353315508/>

OCTOBER Quiz Answers

1. The Royal Company of Archers is a ceremonial unit that serves as the Sovereign's bodyguard in which country? **SCOTLAND**
2. In 2001, who was caught cheating on ITV's "Who Wants to be a Millionaire"? **CHARLES INGRAM**
3. In Harry Potter, which ghost haunted the second-floor girls' lavatory at Hogwarts? **MOANIBG MYRTLE**
4. At what age did Elvis Presley die? **42**
5. Scottish football team Queen of the South plays its home matches in which town? **DUMFRIES**
6. How are the academics and authors Jacob and Wilhelm better known? **THE BROTHERS GRIMM**
7. How many British Labour Prime Ministers have there been? **SIX (MacDonald, Attlee, Wilson, Callaghan, Blair and Brown)**
8. In which Wiltshire town are the Headquarters of the UK Space Agency? **SWINDON**
9. What type of animal features on the national flag of the Falkland Islands? **SHEEP**
10. The 2nd Elizabethan era has just passed. What era are we now living in? **CAROLEAN**

Best wishes to everyone in this Christmas Time and for the new year ahead

PPG and Practice Update

The flu clinics were run successfully in October and November in both Hook and Hartley Wintney. The PPG supported the practice staff in a very efficient and generally free flowing process. Doctors and Nurses attended patients who had difficulty in entering the buildings by administrating the jabs in the car park. Patients were in good form and appreciative of the opportunity.

Pharmacy Meetings Update

The PPG have continued discussions with the local pharmacies with the aim of improving prescription services. A successful joint meeting was held in September between Lloyds Pharmacy in Hartley Wintney and the practice. Several actions were agreed, and regular follow-up meetings are planned. Similar joint meetings with the practice and Whitewater Pharmacy and Boots in Hook are scheduled.

The PPG are pleased to announce the launch of a staff recognition programme. For the teams in the practice

If you would like to pass on your thanks to any member of the Whitewater Health team, or if you'd simply like to recognise particularly good service, please email us at Whitewaterppg@gmail.com or drop a note in the PPG mail box you can also leave a message on the PPG phone line **01256 678671** and we will ensure your compliment gets passed on. it's very easy for the practice staff to only hear complaints. We want to ensure they also hear compliments.

During September the practice provided 7509 appointments across both locations. There were 202 appointments where patients failed to attend. The loss of these appointments is disappointing. If you are unable to attend, please make every effort to inform the practice- and yes, it is acknowledged that calling can be time consuming.

The practice is very aware of the challenges facing patients trying to contact them, and there has been a huge increase in the number (130% since May) of calls during this period. Additional team members are being recruited and the communications system has had a significant upgrade to assist team members directly and respond to calls.

COVID continues to loom large in everything we do, and the NHS is open for service as usual. You should not delay consulting with your doctor if you have a medical concern.

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)



Knowing where you are is always important and we are highlighting a smart phone App called “What three words”. The App is available on Apple and Android phones.

What3words is a quick and simple way to find, share and save exact locations. The system converts GPS coordinates into 3-word addresses. We will be posting links on our Facebook page during December. It is useful to know your own location and keep it handy, as if unfortunately, you need the emergency services, they can locate where you are within a few metres/ yards.

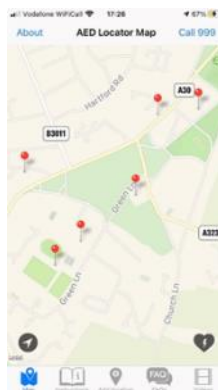
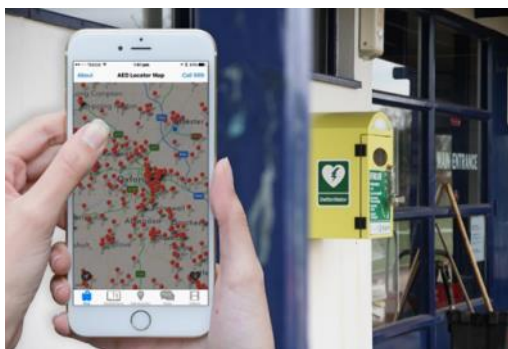
As an example the **What3word** code for the surgery in Reading Road is /// Champions.modifies.desktops

**Local Defibrillators Hook / Hartley
Wintney**



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Save a Life APP



With Christmas upon us we would ask everyone to take some time to know where the nearest defibrillators are located. This is not just for Christmas but important for every day. We will be posting links to the “Save a Life app” during this month. We would recommend a walk around the local area to spot them. There are two new installations this year in Hartley Wintney.

Where is your nearest AED?

The Savealife App on your phone will inform you

**Download the app and take a note of your nearest AED [defibril-
lator] available on Apple and Android**



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Haloumi fries , sweet chilli jam	£7
Pop Corn Chicken , sweet chilli jam	£6
Potato skins , cheese and onion, sour cream, and salsa	£7
Crispy jalapenos , blue cheese dip	£4.5
Beef burger , cheddar & fries <i>add bacon £1</i>	£11
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
Sticky toffee pudding and toffee sauce	£5
Apple and rhubarb crumble with crème anglaise	£5

Sides

Hand cut fat chips **£4**, sweet potato fries **£4.5**, market vegetables **£4**, beer
battered onion rings **£4.5**, truffle parmesan fries **£6**, skinny fries **£4**,
cheese topped garlic bread **£5**

Kids Mains **£6.50**

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Whitewater School	Mr Glen Golding – Executive Headteacher	
	Mr Steve Moore – Executive Head of School	
		01256 762637
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Badminton Club	Richard Burke, Secretary	01256 761013
		badminton@rjne.co.uk
Rotherwick Toddler Group	Caroline Brown	carolinebrown1@me.com
HCC Councillor for Rotherwick	Jonathan Glen	jonathan.glen@hants.gov.uk
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Rotherwick Village Hall



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Upcoming dates

December 1st – Village Christmas lunch at The Falcon– see page 9

December 7th – Christmas Wreath making at the village hall

December 8th – Meet your Neighbourhood Policing Team at the village hall
See page 35

December 17th – 2pm Father Christmas driving round Rotherwick– see below

December 17th– 3pm Christmas at the village hall— see page 7

Father Christmas is coming to Rotherwick



The editors have been informed that Santa will be travelling through the village on 17th December before arriving at the village hall in time for mince pies. Apparently from about 2pm, he will be checking out his Christmas Eve route to make a note of any changes since last year.

Unfortunately, all wished for presents are still being prepared by his Elves, some of whom are 'working from home' delaying production but it is certain that they will be ready for delivery on Christmas Eve as expected.

However, in the meantime, if any mums/dads/grandparents would like Santa to give a present to a child (or adult) as he drives around Rotherwick on the 17th, they can give them to the editors in advance then we will see that he has them with him before he arrives in the village. He will then make a point of stopping at your house to greet you and give the present.

Contact email: - rotherwicknews@yahoo.co.uk to organize before 17th December.

Santa will only be able to give out the presents during his drive round the village BEFORE arriving at the hall.