

WINTER 2025

WESTHORSLEY INFO

News and information from West Horsley Parish Council



SEASONS GREETINGS FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

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Keep our roads safe



HELLO FROM THE WHPC CHAIRMAN

Welcome to our 2025 Winter Newsletter

What beautiful autumn colours adorned our Village this year reminding us that Christmas is fast approaching. Time then for reflection on our year; what a one it has been!! Our VE Day celebrations drew circa 2000 people – how fabulous was that – our Youth Council excelled, we finally got the main flooding issues addressed, achieved improvements in the playground but latterly, regrettably, have seen anti-social behaviour damaging property, speeding through Manorwood and motor bikes racing around Bens Wood. Thankfully, the Police are aware and helping to monitor the situation.

We said a fond farewell to our longest ever serving Councillor, Mel Beynon, who retired after 40 years of civic service and duty welcoming Charlie Walker in her place. Charlotte and Bea who helped shape the Youth Council serving for 4 years have left for University. We thank them wishing great success in their future endeavours.

And now we face major change as Surrey County and Guildford Borough Councils will be dissolved in favour of a West Surrey Unitary Authority. More about this later.

I hope you will find reading this newsletter interesting and enjoyable.

So time for me to say a huge thank you for



all their work and contributions during the year: our Clerks, Julia and Karen, fellow Parish, Youth, Surrey County and Guildford Borough Councillors, our Village Warden Steve, gardener Rob and his team and Trevor for his watching brief of the tennis court.

Sending all our residents Yuletide Greetings and best wishes for a peaceful 2026.

Elaine Best – chairman@westhorsley-pc.gov.uk

THANK YOU, MEL

Councillor Mel Beynon retired from the Parish Council in July having served for 40 years.

During this time, Mel was a stalwart for civic duty playing her part to improve the Village, respond to residents' concerns and lead specific areas of work. Mel had a vision to involve the Village youth in local democracy and was instrumental



in establishing the West Horsley Youth Council 8 years ago. Supported quietly, but most ably by her husband Rhys, she spearheaded "West Horsley in Bloom" for 15 years, initiated the Teddy Bears Picnic and was responsible for the Village Litter Picks.

Mel, whose passion for wildlife and gardens, made certain the Village Orchard was accessible to all and introduced the Orchard Guardians to keep a watchful eye over it.

She led the Community Events Task Group for many years and was active on the Roads and Assets TGs ensuring there were benches for people to sit on and bins for rubbish – in timber of course to keep the natural feel – and represented the PC on the Friends of Horsey Station and the Climate Change Action Network. Wherever a need arose, Mel was there to help problem solve.

A true civic servant whom we miss greatly but after such long service, time to shred the agenda papers and leave the emails behind!

Thank you, Mel.

Elaine Best – chairman@westhorsley-pc.gov.uk

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The views or opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those held by WHPC.

Front Cover: A special visitor to West Horsley Place during the 2024 Christmas Lantern Parade, taken by Adrian Groenwald

The Henry Smith Charity

founded in 1628

Please remember that our historic Village Parish Charity can give small grants to residents in need. Please make a request, in confidence, via the clerk@westhorsley-pc.gov.uk or Tel 01483 901905.

NEW COUNCILLOR CHARLIE WALKER

Charlie has been a resident of West Horsley for the past 18 years, where he and his wife have raised their three children, all of whom attended local schools. Professionally, Charlie is a Chartered Surveyor with over 30 years' experience in the commercial property sector. Having commuted for many years via Horsley station into London, he now travels in the opposite direction to Guildford, where he runs his own property investment business. Deeply rooted in the community, Charlie is committed to preserving the unique character of our village and supporting responsible development – ensuring that future growth enhances the amenities and quality of life for all residents.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

AFTER 50 YEARS, IT'S ALL CHANGE...

The Government's decision to proceed with two new unitary authorities means Surrey County and 11 District and Borough Councils will be abolished. Their reasoning for the change is to: simplify local government, strengthen local decision-making, improve financial sustainability, accelerate housing delivery and improve co-ordination of public services. Abolition will be on 1st April 2027 with the shadow authorities for East and West Surrey created following all-out elections in May 2026. The new Unitaries will assume full powers on 1st April 2027.

All this means, as a parish council, we will continue intact but expect to strengthen our role in community engagement and representation. We will work with the Joint Committee and Implementation Team for West Surrey and seek to obtain those assets currently owned by either

SCC or GBC that are important to the Village. Our own elections are due in May 2027.

We share residents' concerns about the implications over the level of debt reported in Woking and Spelthorne and the potential consequences this may have for our own Council tax. To date, the Government has confirmed a £500m in-principle debt repayment support for Woking Borough Council during 2026/27.

We will hold another Community Forum in the Village Hall once we understand more about the implications, expectations, timetable and consequences. This will be in the New Year before Easter.

Elaine Best – chairman@westhorsley-pc.gov.uk



Government Confirms it's Two Unitaries for Surrey

TASK GROUPS COVERING YOUR VILLAGE

Regular Task Group meetings are held in addition to official Parish Council and Committee meetings. Here is an update from each Task Group, including the name and email for the lead councillors who you can contact if you have a query.

COMMUNICATIONS TASK GROUP

We continue to produce E-Bulletins when something of particular importance needs to be brought to residents' attention along with bi-annual newsletters. Please sign up to our mailing list using the QR code for regular updates digitally. You don't have to live in West Horsley to receive these.



For greater security and authenticity, we moved our email and website address to westhorsley-pc.gov.uk during the summer. In July, we held a Community Forum on the imminent Local Government Reorganisation when over 70 people attended; another will be organised once we know a bit more about it. We plan to re-vamp our website in the New Year.

Contact, cldrrogson@westhorsley-pc.gov.uk

S106-PAYMENTS FROM DEVELOPERS

Via GBC we receive monies from developers once a significant proportion of their development is completed or occupied. Such monies are to support the impact of development on the local community. Whilst we still await monies from Manorwood, we have received them from Oakland Farm and this has contributed towards the boiler replacement at the Village Hall. We have applied for monies from the proposed developments at Waterloo Farm and Glenview.

Elaine best, chairman@westhorsley-pc.gov.uk

ASSETS & APPEARANCE TASK GROUP

Village Appearance

Our village warden Steve Peach is doing a great job in keeping our village neat and tidy throughout the year. We have had a memorably warm and dry Summer, and the village has never looked better, but now that Autumn has arrived if you have frontage to one of the main roads please collect your fallen leaves and dispose of them responsibly as sweeping them onto the pavement or into the road causes blocked drains and all the problems that will inevitably ensue.

Assets

We are aware of an alarming increase in anti-social behaviour and are urgently looking at measures to protect the Village's principal assets, notably the tennis court. We are privileged to live in a peaceful and beautiful Village with respectful residents but if you do witness any anti-social behaviour please report it to the relevant authorities immediately, either by using www.crimestoppers-uk.org or by dialling 999 or 101.

Elsewhere, we are in the process of updating the Millennium Point viewing platform and plaque now that the view has been enhanced by careful tree pruning, and our thanks must go to the Surrey Countryside Team for their considerable assistance.

If there are any matters that residents feel need to be considered or improved, please do not hesitate to contact Councillor Tony Rogers. *Tony Rogers, cllrrogers@westhorsley-pc.gov.uk*

PLANNING COMMITTEE

The West Horsley Neighbourhood Plan (NP), which helps shape and protect our village's future, is to be reviewed to ensure it is fit for purpose. The first step is to undertake a housing needs assessment which will be in January 2026. This is an ideal opportunity for you to have your say on the future of West Horsley. We encourage residents to complete the survey so that the review of the NP reflects the views of those who are fortunate to call West Horsley their home. The government continues to review the planning process and policies. This has raised many challenges in considering planning applications (44 from April to October 2025), especially the concept of Grey Belt land.

Guy Murray, cllrmurray@westhorsley-pc.gov.uk

ROAD SAFETY & MAINTENANCE TASK GROUP

In response to residents who have recently expressed concern over the speed of traffic through West Horsley, the Parish Council arranged for a traffic speed survey to be carried out for a week in November. The data collected will be used to consider safety for both motorists and pedestrians. The pavement along The Street from Cranmore Lane to Walnut Tree Close is due to be repaired/resurfaced in March 2026. The Parish Council continues to actively engage with SCC Highways, East Horsley PC, County Cllr Booth and Borough Cllr Young in considering road related projects across both villages and, where possible, minimising the impact on our residents.

Tony Rogers, cllrrogers@westhorsley-pc.gov.uk



West Horsley Youth Council



MAMMA MIA! OUTDOOR CINEMA & LIVE MUSIC EVENING

A little bit of Greece came to West Horsley on Thursday 28th August as West Horsley Youth Council took over Horsley and Send Cricket Club, presenting an "Evening of Outdoor Cinema & Live Music" featuring the iconic music film *Mamma Mia!* and showcasing young local talent. We were delighted that the event, especially designed for 13-18 year old residents, was fully booked, with over 100 audience members in attendance.

First on the bill was West Horsley's very own up-and-coming musical theatre star Ellie Cain with a fabulous solo pop set covering everything from Chaka Khan to Chappell Roan, followed by Guildford-based teen band Silent Hill, who performed classics such as Adele's *Rolling in the Deep* and The Cure's *Friday I'm In Love*. Guests were able to enjoy woodfired pizzas from Rustic Bros Pizza Co, local ice cream from Grays Gelato, and popcorn and sweets sold by the Youth Council team as the musicians played, before settling in to watch the film on the big screen as the sun set over the fields.

Feedback from audience members has been overwhelmingly positive and we are so grateful to everyone who booked a ticket and came along; it was great to see so many local young people come together to celebrate the end of the summer holidays and enjoy themselves in this way.

A huge thank you to Horsley and Send Cricket Club – Gordon Robinson, Les Heaton, and Joel Cheng in particular – for allowing us to use their fantastic facilities and helping out so much in the lead up to and on the evening itself, and our incredible team of adult volunteers, including Parish Councillors, parents and friends, without whom the evening literally could not have gone ahead.

THE HORSLEY HUSTLE

The Horsley Hustle Family Fun Run returned on the 1st June this year, and what an amazing day it was! Over 200 residents of all ages and abilities – the largest number so far – joined us in the sunshine at West Horsley Place to take part in 2km, 5km, and 10km routes as well as the new additions this year, a Wellbeing Walking Trail and Tai Chi classes with local instructor Dr Luke Zhang.

We loved seeing all the participants "shake it off" and get stuck into the fabulous dance warm up, superbly led by teenage West Horsley residents Tilly and Scarlett. The runners were kept well fuelled once again by Grays Gelato, Mamma Lourdes Pizza, and Tiger Lily Café, along with brand new West Horsley based business Rupert Street Food serving up bacon rolls. Everyone also received the now-

traditional home made "edible medal" upon completion of the race.

A special mention must go to the St. Martin's Church "Couch to 5k" team who had been training for the run as a group for several weeks beforehand, as well as to all of the absolutely fantastic fancy dress entrants – we saw everything from King Charles (complete with spaniel!) to Snow White!

Our thanks must go, as always, to the wonderful team at West Horsley Place, especially Clare Clinton and Matt Link, for their generosity and assistance in allowing us to put on this event at their venue, and to those volunteers who so willingly gave up their time on the morning to check runners in, serve refreshments, and marshal the route.

The real highlight, however, was being joined by Zoe Franklin, MP for Guildford and villages, who kindly accepted the Youth Council's invitation to be Guest of Honour, despite it taking place on her birthday! It was a real pleasure for the Youth Council team to meet and introduce ourselves to Zoe, who was really impressed by the organisation, attendance and great spirits surrounding the whole event; we were delighted to receive a letter from Zoe reaffirming this recently and encouraging the ongoing work the Youth Council does.

The Horsley Hustle has become a highlight of the West Horsley calendar for many residents and we are so proud of the event it has become: a real celebration of our diverse community and environment. If you'd like to join us for the next one, please do save the date now: it will take place again at West Horsley Place, on Sunday 31st May 2026!



Zoe Franklin MP presented the awards for best fancy dress





MEET NEW YOUTH COUNCILLOR TILLY!

Our newest member, Tilly, joined at our June Youth Council meeting, and we are all really glad to have her on board. We asked Tilly a few questions to introduce herself as a new Youth Councillor.

- **How old are you?** 16, in year 12.
- **How did you find out about WHYC?** I visited the Clothes Swap in April and was really impressed which made me want to find out more about the team behind it.
- **Why did you decide to apply to join WHYC?** I am new to the area having only moved here this year, and saw it as a great opportunity to get more involved in my community and make some new friends.
- **What is your favourite colour?** Green
- **What is your favourite subject at school?** Drama.
- **Fun fact about you?** I have 5 chickens!



FAREWELL TO BEA & CHARLOTTE

It was a bittersweet moment at our September meeting as we bid farewell to Youth Councillors Bea and Charlotte, as they head off to read History at Exeter University and Classics/Modern Languages at Oxford University respectively. Bea was one of the founding members of WHYC in 2020 and Charlotte joined in 2022. Both have served terms as Chair and brought so much energy and enthusiasm to their roles as Youth Councillors. It has been a real pleasure for us all to work alongside and get to know both Bea and Charlotte and they will be sorely missed, but we wish them the very best for this next chapter of life!

BIODIVERSITY TASK GROUP

The new biodiversity group met for the first time in July. The team reviewed the Government Biodiversity policy and cross referenced the Parish Councils Biodiversity Policy and actions to ensure compliance with the duty for which we are accountable. The task group identified the land owned by the Parish Council and carried out visits to undertake an assessment of maintenance work to be done to preserve and enhance those open spaces. To get involved email: clrrmattcock@westhorsley-pc.gov.uk

THE HORSLEYS CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK

The Horsley's are fortunate to enjoy some of the most beautiful night skies in Surrey and our CAN group invites your support to preserve them. Reducing unnecessary night-time lighting protects wildlife, cuts carbon emissions, saves energy and costs, and allows everyone to enjoy the stars. Local businesses, schools and households are encouraged to turn off non-essential lighting overnight. For guidance on reducing illuminations and review a map of our dark skies, visit: England's Light Pollution and Dark Skies Map.

Visit cpre.org



HORSLEY HERITAGE GROUP

Horsley Heritage seeks to enhance our awareness of the rich heritage assets to be found in East Horsley and West Horsley, collectively referred to as 'the Horsleys'.

Begun in 2024, Horsley Heritage is a voluntary task group supported and funded jointly by East Horsley Parish Council and West Horsley Parish Council. Our team comprises a group of volunteers, a mix of parish councillors and other residents.

You may have noticed a number of blue roundel attached to fences outside some local buildings. If you click on the QR code displayed on the roundel it will take you to our description of the building. Also on the roundel is the website address which contains pages of information about both villages. For more information (and a very good read) please go to: www.horsleyheritage.info

SPEED WATCH

West Horsley Parish Council recognises that residents in the village generally, are concerned about speed.

The Community Speed Watch team with ad-hoc support from Surrey Police, is our best identifier of unsociable driving.

The key aim of Community Speed Watch is not to punish drivers but to deter speeding and improve awareness. By being visible on our streets, volunteers are doing something practical to end behaviour that is anti-social and sometimes lethal.

We need more volunteers, can you offer an hour or more each month?

Speed Watch volunteering is easy, sociable, interesting and effective.

If you want more information, please send an e-mail to WestHorsleyCSW@gmail.com or stop and have a chat with us when we are out and for more information please have a look at communityspeedwatch.org and surreyroadsafe.org.uk.



FRIENDS OF HORSLEY STATION

The friends and staff of Horsley Station hosted a visit by the local MP Zoe Franklin on August 6th, as part of a tour of stations in her constituency. The primary focus was the lack of step free access to the London bound platform. The friends group continue to manage the planting and maintenance of the floral planters and wild areas. The local art displays in the waiting room are regularly changed and are appreciated by travellers. The group are planning an annual Open day based on the success of this year's event.



Learn, laugh, live

In September the Horsley u3a reached a significant milestone of 700 members! The Chairman, Andy Gibson, said that "this is indicative of our u3a being a thriving and growing organisation. We run nearly 70 different activity groups for people who are retired or not in full time work". There is no age limit, minimum or maximum, and new members are always welcome.

Members who have particular interests or skills are encouraged to participate in the organisation of group activities and even step in to leadership roles. We cover everything—nearly—but if there isn't already a club for your particular interest you're welcome to form one and you'll be given help to do so by our experienced committee.

But whether it's joining one—or more—clubs why not give it a go—after all the u3a mission is to "Learn, Laugh, Live".

New members will be made very welcome. Please contact us at: www.horsleyu3a.org.uk

GARDENS AND CHURCHES

HORSLEY GARDEN SOCIETY CENTENARY

We celebrated our centenary this year. Although possibly nearer to 161 years than 100, and affiliated to the RHS since 1924, our currently thriving society wanted to mark its existence.

Celebrations included a lovely display of flowers for our Spring Show at East Horsley village hall on beautiful April afternoon. This was followed by a special tea and champagne and talk given by Bob Flowerdew.

In June we were hosts to BBC's Gardeners Question Time. The 140 strong audience were invited to put questions to the panel – Pippa Greenwood, James Wong and Juliet Sargent.

We have also listened to number of gardening-related talks – most recently from Janet John of the Wild Flower Society.

Our more active events have included workshops sowing seeds, flower-arranging and Christmas decoration workshops, garden visits and our popular May plant sale.

We held our Summer Show in July, many people attended on a sunny afternoon to look at the exhibits of flowers, plants, fruit, vegetables and home craft entries of cakes, jams, chutneys and marmalade – and children's entries. Silver cups were awarded.

Membership of this friendly society is open

to local residents – people new to gardening and children are especially welcome.

Horsley Garden Society
www.horsleygardsociety.com



GRACE AND FLAVOUR 2025 (HORSLEY'S COMMUNITY KITCHEN GARDEN)

Growing vegetables in the summer of 2025, the driest we have experienced, has been challenging. Our water supply is not designed to cope with this extreme of climate.



It would have been much easier if we had only planted vegetables that grow well in a Mediterranean Climate. Tomatoes, peppers and aubergines have thrived outdoors. Sun loving crops such as squash, beans and sweetcorn (we defeated the badgers) have been excellent. However, the summer brassicas such as calabrese (broccoli) have struggled.

A big bonus was our fruit crop, which has been magnificent. (We have 75 fruit trees, mainly fan trained or espaliered.) The plums and gages, which have often been decimated by late frosts, were exceptional. Pears, apples and quinces have been superb.

Our NGS (National Garden Scheme) Open Day was a highlight, with over 200 visitors raising money for both the NGS and Cherry Trees.

Another highlight was the renovation of the bridge over the pond in our wildlife area, thanks to a grant from the Horsleys Community Fund.

For next year we are investigating a drip irrigation system!! www.graceandflavour.org

WEST HORSLEY IN BLOOM 2025

THE WINNERS ARE...

BEST FRONT GARDEN

Rosemary Tribe

BEST BACK GARDEN

Jeremy Miles

BEST CONTAINER

Catherine Young

BEST ALLOTMENT AT GRACE & FLAVOUR

Tom Suffolk

BEST NON-RESIDENTIAL DISPLAY (LARGE)

Grace & Flavour Community Garden

BEST NON-RESIDENTIAL DISPLAY (SMALL)

Glenesk School

SUSTAINABILITY CHAMPION

Walija Chew

BEST FIRST TIME ENTRY

Greg Swarbrick

MIKE CHAPMAN MEMORIAL CUP (FOR BEST VEGETABLE PLOT)

Diana Brighton

ILIFF COMMUNITY AWARD

Matt Link @ West Horsley Place
Sensory Garden

JUDGES' PRIZE

Horsley Station

ROXBURGHE CUP

Joint winners Walija Chew & Tom Suffolk

JUNIOR COMPETITION CUP

Devon Hyper-Thomas

In addition, 23 Gold, 20 Silver Gilt and 10 Silver certificates were awarded.



WEST HORSLEY In Bloom 2025

Over the past two years, judging days for West Horsley in Bloom have presented the judges with totally opposite challenges weather-wise (too hot, too cold!), but this year the conditions were just right.

They were joined by two new judges, Sara Cain and Chris Nairn, who were a great addition to the judging panel along with Ann Masset, Sarah Christiansen and Heather Mason. An official photographer, Rex Butcher, joined the team as well this year and patiently accompanied them while 53 entries throughout the village were being judged over two mornings. The photos were displayed at the Presentation evening which took place on 27th June in the Village Hall so that everyone could appreciate the wonderfully impressive gardens.

The Worshipful the Mayor of Guildford, Councillor Howard Smith and his daughter, Audrey, were in attendance as well as WHPC Chairman Elaine Best, members of the Parish Council and all the competition entrants and their guests. Everyone was welcomed with drinks and canapes which were followed by presentations of the award certificates, prizes and cups to the entrants for all their hard work and outstanding efforts. Celia Chapman who

organises the Children's competition 'Potato in a Pot', presented a cup to this year's winner, Devon Hyper-Thomas for growing the heaviest potato.

A decision was made to include Horsley Station in this year's competition as it celebrated 140 years since the railway opened and began serving the residents of West and East Horsley. The judges enjoyed meeting with the 'Friends of Horsley Station', a group of volunteers who have enhanced the appearance of the station with the introduction of various planters and areas of grass and flowers specially cultivated to encourage wildlife.

At the end of evening, Cllr Elaine Best thanked all those residents who had taken part, the West Horsley in Bloom Committee and especially the very generous competition sponsors without whom this Community event would not be possible:

Squire's Garden Centre, Spring Reach Nursery, Adam Aaronson, CT Cars, Artichoke Interiors, Plantpassion, Wimbledon Garden Services, Timberwood Tree Care and Milloe Soft Furnishings. Report by Sarah Christiansen and Heather Mason, WHIB 2025 Organisers



Winners of the Potatoes in a Pot Competition



Winners of the Roxburghe Cup

ST MARY'S CHURCH

You may have heard in the newspapers that there is a "quiet revival" happening in this country. I like that, as revivals around the world often seem to be noisy and showy. How very English for it to be "quiet"!

You may have wondered, is this playing out in West Horsley at all? The short answer is: Yes! Here at St Mary's, we are seeing people re-engaging with a long-cooled faith and dipping their toe into Church again. We have more than 20 guests on our current Alpha Course, which gives people the space to ask and discuss some of the big questions of life. It's genuinely brilliant and we will be running another Alpha in January, if you have a curious spirit and wonder what Christianity might have to offer.

Between now and then, we have a packed Christmas schedule including our beautiful Carols by Candlelight Service on Sunday 14th December and a traditional Christingle service on Christmas Eve. Do keep an eye on our webpage for service details.

Rev'd Phil Herrington, Rector, West Horsley



HORSLEY METHODIST CHURCH

A Warm Welcome awaits you at the Methodist Church, next to the village hall, both at our Sunday morning services at 10am and at our Thursday coffee mornings at 10:30am. We also hold occasional afternoon teas for our friends and neighbours. This season why not join us for our carols for all evening at 7pm on Saturday November 29th. And at Christmas we will be having a crib service at 4:30pm on Christmas Eve and our Christmas Day service at 10am on the 25th. Do join us next year when we will be celebrating our 150th anniversary – quite a milestone.

Visit www.westhorsleymethodistchurch.org.uk for further details of our church and our activities.



VILLAGE ASSETS

WEST HORSLEY VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall is in the heart of West Horsley, located at the junction of The Street and Silkmore Lane. It is a wonderful community asset available to all residents. The original part was built in 1924 and now has 3 rooms available for hire, including 2 well-stocked modern kitchens as well as free Wi-fi (super-fast, fibre broadband). It has free parking for hirers and there is a large, enclosed children's playground, designed for younger children to the side of the building. Many of you will be already aware of the West Horsley Village Hall and the various activities which take place there but those who are newer to the village may not be, so please spread the word! The Village Hall has a comprehensive website for more detailed information. There is an online diary and booking system so it's always possible to see what's available, even when the office is closed www.westhorsleyvillagehall.org.

Prices from 1st Jan 2026

Main Hall	£16.50	£18.00	£92.00
Cedar Room	£13.30	£14.80	£77.00
Rubin Room	£7.00	£ 8.50	£30.00

There is something for everyone at the Village Hall including Brownies, cardio exercise classes, Pilates, Yoga, Seated Exercise, Zumba Gold, ballroom dancing, Tai Chi, various U3A classes, meetings of Horsley Garden Society, West Horsley Evening Women's Institute and West

Surrey Natural History Society. Please check the notice boards for details. The Village Hall is also the home of the Whippets, our fantastic village Junior Amateur Dramatic Society and the monthly meetings of West Horsley Parish Council. There are some slots now available for new regular hirers including on Friday mornings/afternoon in both the Main Hall and the Cedar Room, Both the Main Hall and the Cedar Room work well for children's birthday parties with the Main Hall being large enough to take a bouncy castle! So, book your parties now. For any queries please contact the Village Hall Administrator, Kelane, at whvhbooking@gmail.com or on 01483 285454 (9am-5pm Mon-Thurs please).



GOODHART RENDEL COMMUNITY HALL

This is a beautifully refurbished venue that reopened in 2023 as a vibrant hub for local events, gatherings and celebrations. The history of the hall goes back to WW2 and the gift of the premises (the old NAFFI) from the Canadian Government who had allied troops billeted locally. This history is maintained today as the Goodhart Rendel Charity (owners of the hall) are involved in the support of veterans and military projects. The Hall is rooted in the community spirit and is the perfect place to bring people together. Open on Thursday, Friday at 7pm and Saturdays at 5pm run by local volunteers for local people, the Hall as well as having a bar, pool, snooker and darts – now has a flourishing schedule of events with Quiz and music nights (always sold out!) – and with Christmas just around the corner wreath making classes are always popular. By the time this article will be read Halloween will have come and gone and somewhere in the region of 50 local children will have attended pumpkin decorating classes over half term. The committee would love to invite readers to come to the Hall on Christmas Eve serving mince pies and mulled wine.

The Goodhart Rendel charity exists for all kinds of military personnel from today's youth, cadets etc to established military veterans.

It is with great pride that the Charity can confirm that it is finalising a distribution of Charity funds to almost 20 local and national organisations.

Just after the first bend in Cranmore Lane.

<https://horsleygrch.co.uk>



VILLAGE TENNIS COURT

Did you know that the Parish Council owns and manages a village tennis court? The court is located on Long Reach, near Horsley Football Club, and it is free for residents to use. It was fully refurbished in 2022, and there are plans afoot to install CCTV cameras and linear low-level lighting, so the court can be used safely all year round.

Details for accessing our new online booking system (Hallmaster) are available on our website or by scanning the QR Code westhorsleypc.gov.uk/Tennis_Court_25152.aspx

Sadly, there have been ongoing incidences of poor behaviour at the tennis court over the summer, with deliberate damage to the hut, bin, umpire's chair and court surface. As a result, the Parish Council has had no alternative but to lock the court when not in use. We ask residents and hirers to report any damage to the Clerk at clerk@westhorsleypc.gov.uk. Any suspicious activity should be reported directly to Surrey Police who are monitoring the situation.



VILLAGE PLAYGROUND

Over the summer the Parish Council installed a brand-new piece of playground equipment at the Village Playground, this time with our very youngest residents in mind. The new colourful home and garden play equipment has proved to be very popular and its colourful design with a variety of movable and tactile elements make it great for storytelling, role playing and interaction.

Thank you to County Councillor Booth who assisted us with securing a Your Fund Surrey Small Community Projects grant for this project. Repairs to the soft play surfaces under the large climbing frame and swings are now needed, so there may soon be some disruption while these are completed. We apologise in advance for any inconvenience this may cause.



Surrey County Councillor Dennis Booth with the new Playground equipment

ANYONE FOR PICKLEBALL?

Following numerous requests from residents, the Parish Council has decided to add the lines for Pickleball to the tennis court, providing an alternative to the fast-paced and physically challenging game of tennis. Pickleball is a mix of tennis, ping pong, and badminton and is the fastest growing emerging sport in the UK. It is quick, easy and fun to learn and the smaller court size and slower pace of the game make it particularly accessible for children and older adults.

Thanks to SCC Cllr Dennis Booth who supported our successful application for a "Your Councillor Community Fund" grant for this project. We hope the new lines will be in place soon.

HORSLEY'S WHEELS KEEP TURNING

As this year closes on a special year celebrating 25 years of neighbourly support, the Wheel of Care is grateful for all who have helped keep this much-loved service moving.

Since its beginnings in West Horsley and its unification with East Horsley Care in 2023, the Wheel has stayed true to its purpose: making sure local residents remain connected, supported and able to get where they need to go. Today, volunteers help complete around 70 journeys each month, from medical appointments to social outings, as well as supporting our popular community clubs.

This anniversary reminds us of one enduring truth: many hands really do make light work. Looking ahead to the New Year, we hope more people will consider joining our team. Volunteering is flexible – and truly meaningful – just one drive a month can make a difference.

If you're thinking about a New Year's resolution that gives back, please get in touch with our Duty Officer on 07788 552 767, Monday to Friday, 10am-12 noon.





WHAT A LOAD OF RUBBISH

A number of volunteers met on the morning of the 18th of October for the Autumn Litter Pick organised by West Horsley Parish Council. The weather was kind and all the volunteers were able to do their tasks in relative comfort. At the end of the morning the participants met in the orchard for a well deserved Cup of something accompanied by cakes and biscuits.

As you can see from the picture the job needed doing! Various strange objects were found amongst them a very large gas canister and many many beer cans and wine bottles. It was a very worthwhile exercise and the Spring litter pick will take place on the 14th of March 2026 when we look forward to seeing even more volunteers!

Please contact our Litter Pick Coordinator Paul Dodgson at clrrdodgson@westhorsley-pc.gov.uk to get involved.

DRAINS AND DITCHES

A polite reminder that you are responsible for keeping clear and maintaining any drainage ditches/culverts on your land. At this time of year, it is important to remove leaves and other debris from blocking ditches to prevent surface water flooding. If you use a leaf blower, please do not blow leaves into the carriageway as this is one of the main causes of blocked drains in the roads.



MUSIC GIFT TO RALEIGH SCHOOL

As part of their initiative to encourage musicians of all ages in the Horsleys, the Horsley Live Music Club (HLMC) has used funds accumulated from music events it has promoted since the inception of the club in 2022 to purchase instruments for use by pupils at the Raleigh school in West Horsley.

Sarah Robinson, Head of Music at the Raleigh says that the recent acquisition of 30 recorders and 20 ukuleles will be put to good use by the pupils. HLMC is also funding guitar lessons for one pupil and piano lessons for two others.

Sarah believes that this initiative will enable more children to actively participate in making music with all the acknowledged educational and social benefits that brings. The fortunate aspiring guitarist also has access to a child's sized guitar which has been donated by an HLMC committee member.

Founding member and Treasurer of HLMC, Peter Earle, stated that HLMC hopes to extend financial support as other

requirements are identified. Peter suggests that if anyone has a musical instrument that is surplus to requirements to contact the club at www.horsleylivemusic.com to see if it can be repurposed.

Looking ahead, it is hoped that one day, pupils from the Raleigh will play at an HLMC event.

For those interested in attending future HLMC events or becoming involved in the club, details are available on the club website or contact can be made by email at: livemusic@btinternet.com



TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC

On 20th September nearly 50 Teddy Bears and their friends gathered at the Sensory Garden at West Horsley Place.

While there they were much entertained by Andy, our wonderful magician, and some of the humans-adults and children – who had their faces painted.

Picnics and treats were consumed; the adults had a chance to have a chat and get to know one another while the children were kept amused by Andy's antics.

Luckily, for most of the afternoon the rain held off and there was even a bit of sunshine but eventually the rain came and put a slightly early halt to proceedings. However it was widely agreed that everybody – and the Bears – had had a very enjoyable afternoon.



CALENDAR OF COMMUNITY EVENTS

EVENTS SCHEDULE FOR 2026

We are delighted to confirm our provisional schedule of events for 2026.

SATURDAY 14 MARCH

Spring Litter Pick meet at West Horsley Village Hall

SPRING 2026 (TBC)

Awards for Service to the Community Presentation Evening at West Horsley Place

SUNDAY 19 APRIL

Youth Council Clothes Swap at West Horsley Village Hall

TUESDAY 28 APRIL

The Annual Parish Meeting at West Horsley Village Hall

SUNDAY 31 MAY

Youth Council Fun Run 'The Horsley Hustle 2026' at West Horsley Place

MONDAY 15 & TUESDAY 16 JUNE

West Horsley in Bloom
Judging Mornings

FRIDAY 3 JULY

West Horsley in Bloom Presentation Evening at West Horsley Village Hall

SATURDAY 12 OR 19 SEPTEMBER (TBC)

The Annual Teddy Bears' Picnic in the Sensory Garden at West Horsley Place

SATURDAY 17 OCTOBER

Autumn Litter Pick meet at West Horsley Village Hall

SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER (TBC)

Christmas Lantern Parade at West Horsley Place

For updates on our events schedule please visit our website.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD



ACROSS

2. Wax light with a flame
4. Bright shape seen above the stable
6. Building where Jesus was born
8. Small brown bird seen on Christmas cards
10. The story of the birth of Jesus
13. Evergreen decorated in homes
14. Spiky green Christmas plant
15. The earthly father of Jesus
16. Reindeer that pulls Santa's sleigh
17. Frosty figure with a carrot nose

DOWN

1. Gift opened on Christmas morning
2. Songs sung at Christmas
3. Feeding place where baby Jesus was laid
5. Father Christmas
7. Heavenly messenger
9. Where Jesus was born
11. Climbing Christmas plant often paired with holly
12. Group Singing Christmas songs together

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Chairman and Peter from the Youth Council at the Remembrance Sunday service at St Mary's Church.





West Horsley Parish Council

HORSLEY CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

ARTS

Horsley & Clandon Society of Arts
Robyn Cormack Tel: 01483 224063

Horsley Craft Group
Jody Fern Tel: 01483 284437

The Arts Society Horsley
www.theartssocietyhorsley.org.uk

The Arts Society Horsley Lovelace
www.theartssocietyhorsleylovelace.org.uk

CLUBS

University of the Third Age (u3a)
www.horsleyu3a.org.uk

East Horsley Women's Institute
Helen Taylorson Tel: 01483 283577

West Horsley Evening Women's Institute
Pam Tel: 01483 281798

West Surrey Natural History Society
Tel: 01372 457623

The Probus Club of the Horsleys
www.horsleyprobus.org.uk

Rotary Club of Bookham & Horsley
Mark Secker Tel: 01372 458733

Grace & Flavour Community Garden
www.graceandflavour.org

East Horsley Bridge Club
www.bridgewebs.com/easthorsley

Horsley Floral Decoration Group
Ruth Farmer Tel: 01483 202440

Horsley Garden Society
Terry Lazenby Tel: 01483 284232

Beehive Craft Group
www.easthorsleychurch.org.uk

The Horsley Wheel of Care
www.horsleywheelofcare.co.uk

Horsley Heritage
www.horsleyheritage.info

DRAMATICS & CHORAL

The Nomad Theatre
www.nomadtheatre.com

The Whips Players
www.whipstheatre.org

Horsley Choral Society
www.horsleychoralsociety.com

YOUTH

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts & Explorer Scouts
www.firsthorsley.co.uk

4th Horsley Brownies
Email: horsleybrownies@yahoo.co.uk

1st West Horsley Brownies
Email: westhorsleybrownies@gmail.com

1st Horsley Guides
Karlenne Peach Tel: 01483 224692

SPORTS & ACTIVITIES

Sports facilities & Skatepark
Kingston Meadow, Kingston Avenue

The Horsley Shufflers – running group
www.facebook.com/HorsleyShufflers

Horsley Football Club, West Horsley
www.horsleyfc.co.uk

Effingham and Leatherhead RFC
<https://eaglesrugby.club>

West Horsley Community Club
Snooker & Pool

Robert Elliott Tel: 07702 922217

Effingham Table Tennis Club

Tim Hobbs Tel: 01372 452197

Horsley Tennis Club

www.horsleysportsclub.com

Horsley Badminton Club

www.horsleybadminton.co.uk

Horsley Cricket Club

www.horsleysportsclub.com

Effingham Cricket Club

www.effinghamcc.co.uk

Horsley and Send Cricket Club

www.horsleyandsendcc.co.uk

AWARDS FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE IN WEST HORSLEY...

Our bi-annual awards evening will be in Spring 2026 at West Horsley Place. Nominations will be invited early in the New Year. Please do think of individuals or groups who have gone above and beyond to support people in our Village. If you think they are due proper recognition for the commitment and time they have given to support others, please nominate them. Details will be available on our website (westhorsley-pc.gov.uk) in January.

YOUTH COUNCILLOR RECRUITMENT

We are, as always, on the look out for new Youth Councillors to join our relaxed, friendly and close-knit team. Anyone aged 13 to 18 and living in West or East Horsley is invited to apply. It is not a huge time commitment but we do expect a willingness to attend regular meetings, contribute to group decisions and work effectively as part of an efficient team. As we hope you can see from our report, being a Youth Councillor is an invaluable experience, offering the chance to develop crucial life skills, add something unique to your CV, and make new friends from within the village, all while contributing to our thriving community and helping to make it an even better place for young people to live in. If you, or someone you know, may be interested, please do get in touch today via the Parish Clerk at clerk@westhorsley-pc.gov.uk.



MEET THE TEAM

Join us at our Monthly meetings (third Tuesday of the Month) and have your say about your village! If you can't make it sign up to our mailing list to be up to date on current projects, events and issues affecting West Horsley.

PARISH COUNCIL CONTACTS

ELAINE BEST
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chairman@westhorsley-pc.gov.uk

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cllrmurray@westhorsley-pc.gov.uk

TONY ROGERS
cllrrogers@westhorsley-pc.gov.uk

STEPHEN SKINNER
cllrskinner@westhorsley-pc.gov.uk

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS & WEBSITES

Neighbourhood Policing Team

Tel: 101
guildford@surrey.police.uk

GBC Refuse Collection

Tel: 01483 505050
www.guildford.gov.uk

Slyfield Recycling Centre

Tel: 01483 532187

Guildford Borough Council

<https://www.guildford.gov.uk/customers/s/>

Water Leaks

Tel: 0345 357 2407
www.affinitywater.co.uk

Gas Leaks

Tel: 0800 11 19 99

Electricity Power Cuts

Tel: 0800 31 63 105 or 105 (Mobile)

www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk

Flooding & Waterways

www.gov.uk

Environment incident hotline

Tel: 0800 80 70 60

www.gov.uk

Surrey County Council

www.surreycc.gov.uk/do-it-online/

SCC Highways Roads & Transport

www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport

Floodline:

Tel: 0345 988 1188