

# The Rector's Letter

Dear Friends,

"Oh to be in England, now that April's here" - so wrote Robert Browning, and H E Bates made the first part the title of one of his books, but these days many of us seem to be leaving these shores for warmer climes, or at least planning to, rather than rejoicing in the bluebells and the budding leaves on the trees. In our household it is known as a good month to be in Scotland (no midges, and the sun does actually shine quite often !), but let's be honest, it really is a good time to be out and about as the countryside gears up for luxuriant growth, and we are in a better position to notice this than most of the population, so let's do just that.

No, you haven't strayed into the Horticultural section, or Countryside notes, and Yes, I do hate gardening, but even I cannot help getting a `lift` from the signs of resurgent life that surround us at this time of year - it's natural, isn't it ? I write, of course, with Easter still some way off, and you will probably read this well afterwards, but I cannot help drawing the analogy between spring and Resurrection... what was dead, like my front hedge, is alive again - not just resuscitated, but fresh and vigorous; it's another miracle.

Unfortunately, the same will probably not be said for the daily round of news, as I imagine that the `phoney election` will still be going on (even if it has turned into a real one, it will still sound the same...) and the various threats hanging over us all - see last month, if in doubt - are unlikely to have gone away either. But even an election brings a chance of something new, something that is not down to nature, but to us. When the time comes, find out what the various parties really think about the things that really matter - rather than the smokescreen of things that politicians often put up to confuse you - and then get out there and vote. Not voting is not a serious option, because we will get a government however few people go to the polls, but probably a worse one (and with less reason to blame others for it).

No elections in the Bible, of course (but plenty of complaints about governments !), yet people still managed to get on with their lives. They just didn't know what they were missing, did they ? They did know a thing or two about the seasons of the year, and what was coming next when fig trees came into leaf [summer], and Jesus tells his audience that all the signs that he has just mentioned in that passage [Mark 13 / Matthew 24] will come "before this generation pass away". But did they see them ? And, if they did, what did they do about it ? Some responded; others did not. The challenge is the same to us today: will we read the signs of the times correctly, and will we respond appropriately ?

With England in April - with the spring - it should surely be a lifting of the heart, a giving of thanks to God, but with the other things that beset our twenty-first century world: debt, poverty, disease, terrorism and war, global warming and all its effects, we need an altogether more serious response than many of us - or any government - have yet made. Pray that we may all yet read the signs of our times correctly, and respond quickly.

*William Lang.*

## **ELSTEAD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

The meeting will be held at the United Reformed Church Hall on 18th April at 8.00pm.  
A review of the work of the Parish Council and plans for the future.

Followed by a talk on re-cycling by a guest speaker:  
Martin Shorten of Waverley Borough Council



Rosemary's Ramblings – April 2005

So the man in the street has re-written the Ten Commandments. Or at least 40,000 people were involved in a survey organised by Channel 4 to determine the nation's "top ten" commandments.

Well, you might be pleased to know that you are now allowed to covet (look longingly at) your neighbour's ox and ass or even his wife – but you are still not allowed to commit adultery with her.

The Sabbath is no longer regarded as holy – but then with church attendance in decline whilst other offers of temptation such as "playing football" or "going shopping" are on the increase it is hardly surprising that Sunday is no longer regarded as special because it is God's day.

However, I was pleased to learn "don't kill", "don't steal" and "respect mum and dad" still feature as well as some new ones such as "be honest", "protect and nurture the environment", "protect and nurture children" and "protect and nurture the vulnerable".

"Take responsibility for your actions" is now the new "number 2" which Jon Snow who presented the Channel 4 programme thought was hugely significant. Since we live, he claims, in a "BSE" society – Blame Someone Else" – so the concept of taking responsibility makes a refreshing change.

But what is "number 1"? What are the words of wisdom which the nation considers so important they should be adhered to by every man, woman and child? In the programme Jon Snow built up to the announcement with an assurance that this commandment was something completely new, which represented the changing face of humanity. What is it?

"Treat others as you would have them treat you".

If you check out Mark chapter 12, verse 28, you will find the story of one of the teachers of the law who asked Jesus, "which, in your opinion is the most important commandment?" Jesus replied, "there are two". The second was "love your neighbour as yourself".

Maybe there is still some evidence of Christianity in our society after all!!!

*Rosemary*

## Parish Registers

### BAPTISM

13th March      Toby O'Neil

### FUNERAL

11th February	Pamela Brown	Aged 63 years
24th February	William (Bill) Grant	Aged 83 years
11th March	Hermerinda (Asun) Ohladowski	Aged 80 years

Please Note: Initial arrangements for baptisms and Marriages should be made with the Rector or with Peter Waddell (Parish Co-Ordinator).

Initial arrangements for Funerals should be made with an Undertaker.

# The Editor

The gathering of stalls at the open day for Elstead Societies the other Saturday resulted in a Village Hall full of stands and people. It was good to see the Bridge Club playing, the Garden Club selling vegetables, and plenty of people manning the other stands. I hope that they all managed to recruit some new members.

I could not help wondering why the number of organisations for ladies is greater than those who cater for men. In the modern world, should not organisations be open to both sexes?

PS. If you are sending items for publication to me, please use the address [news@elstead.org.uk](mailto:news@elstead.org.uk) Also the article may be included with the months news on the elstead village web site unless we are asked to withhold it.

## St James Ladies Fellowship

### **Coffee Morning in Aid of Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice.**

Youth Centre.

May 14th 10.30 – 12 noon

Plants Cakes Handicrafts Raffle.

## TREASURE HUNT RESULTS

The results of the C.T.I.E Family Treasure Hunt held on 26th February were:

The winners were a group comprising:- James, Lisa and Peter O'Donnell, Oliver Davies and Wesley and Derek Saunders.

Runners-up were the Green family from Ham Lane.

Congratulations to all who took part.

*Roger Stephens*

APRIL				
4 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	Playscheme	St. James School	703 456	p 15
7 <sup>th</sup> - 9 <sup>th</sup>	PETS	Village Hall		p 17
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup>	Plant Sale & Celebreties	Manor Fruit Fm Normandy	01483 571944	p 17
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup>	Handels Jeptha	Charterhouse Hall	01483 425257	p 22
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup>	Serendipity Fashion Show	Ben Travers Charterhouse	01483 577475	p 22
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council AGM.	URC Hall		p 4
MAY				
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>	Peter Pan Open Day	Sports Paviliion	703 456	p 17
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup>	Evg WI Coffee & Sale	Youth Centre	703 378	p 9
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee Mornng Phyllis Tuckwell	Youth Centre		p 6

# NEWS FROM ELSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

After a re-appraisal of the Thursley Road Pavilion project by the Trust and the Council we are all much more optimistic about getting the construction started before too long. The design will be radically modified to match the estimated provision of funds with a good deal of the work carried out by local firms and volunteers on a self build basis. Although the outer shell of the new building will be unchanged, only the ground floor will be completed and at a later stage when more money is collected the upper storey can be put in place. The people of the village have been remarkably generous so far but the Trust still needs to raise more money to get even this first stage completed and we are very hopeful about getting a grant from Waverley BC.

The Council has already made arrangements for a grant and will be putting in for a loan from the Public Works Board which will be repaid by the Trust. Pressure is still being applied to HM Customs & Excise to agree to the granting of a zero rate for VAT under the special concession for community buildings of this type. We await their further consideration with our fingers crossed !

At the Local Committee in Waverley in January I raised questions on the lack of action about traffic calming and a pedestrian crossing. I give the reply in full :

" A STAR (Strategic Traffic Action in Rural Areas) proposal was considered by the Waverley Local Transport Service in 2002. The STAR methodology is being further developed and new ways of implementing this type of initiative are now in place and revised proposals are now being considered. In order to ensure that we are proposing concepts that are acceptable to users we have been consulting with relevant colleagues in the County council and with the school. At present there are no funds identified to construct any proposals but once there is an agreed scheme in place this will be re-submitted to the Local Transport Plan Task Group in September 2005 for consideration for funding in 2006/7. As part of the feasibility study, surveys will need to be undertaken in the spring (2005) to ascertain whether a pedestrian crossing would be the right solution on the B2001".

We have responded to clarify a number of these points and await a reply with interest.

*Denis Holmes    Chairman*

## Women's World Day of Prayer in Elstead

Ruby coloured balloons flew, candles glowed and the celebratory cake was cut when Elstead women celebrated forty years of observing the Women's World Day of Prayer (WWDP) service in the village on the first Friday of March. On arrival, St James' Church looked beautiful in its coat of pristine snow which had done nothing to deter supportive men and women, some from surrounding villages, from joining in the celebrations. The cold was quickly forgotten as spurred on by the organ music and the Occasional Singers of Elstead, under the direction of Mrs Ula Oakley, the congregation sang lustily and joined in the words which echoed the theme of the service 'Let our Light Shine'.

The service was led by Mrs Sue Plews who gave a resume of the history of the WWDP in Elstead. The address was given by Mrs Marlene Moore, President of the WWDP in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Marlene gave a deeper insight into the background of life in Poland and the lives of the Polish Christian women who had been responsible for the planning of this year's service.

Everyone agreed that the anniversary had been a joyful occasion and a welcome boost to the spirit on a wintry March day.

*The Elstead Committee*

# SCHOOL DAYS

News from the children and  
staff of  
St. James Church of England  
(Aided) Primary School



## More praise for St James!

We were delighted again last month when we received confirmation of having successfully passed the first 3 criteria in the Surrey Healthy Schools Award programme: Managing the programme; Safety and the Environment; and Sex and Relationship Education. The Award moderators came into school and talked to children and their School Council reps, staff and governors as well as observing lessons and the school environment. They were very complimentary about the quality of answers they received from the children and said in their report that they were "extremely impressed with the happy, healthy ethos that was evident throughout the school." They particularly praised the major impact that Ann Tann has had as Headteacher and the commitment of our wonderful caretaker, Nigel Sorensen. The Award will take another 2 years to complete, with the focus on a different set of three criteria in each subsequent year.

In March, the school also held a very exciting Science and Technology Week when the normal curriculum routine was suspended. Children took part in a range of experiments that involved them in designing, creating and testing a wide variety of constructions. The teachers were supported by a number of visiting engineers who volunteered their time and expertise to bring levers, pulleys, pneumatics, electrical circuits, structures, waterproofing and forces to life. One of the 'rockets' children made travelled through the air so successfully it ended up in a neighbouring garden! Many parents confirmed the effectiveness of this approach, describing how the children had come home full of news about what they had done during the day with clear ideas of how and why their creations had performed.

By the time you read this, our Infant and Junior Choirs will have taken part in the Farnham Festival – a wonderful opportunity to join with other local schools to perform original choral works to a large audience. We are very fortunate in having a specialist Music teacher who coaches and prepares the children for this valuable cultural experience. We await news of the venue for the end of year Combined Surrey Junior Schools Choir concert – the last one at the Royal Albert Hall was an awe-inspiring event.

*Rachel Dunnage*  
(Parent Governor)



## The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children

As in previous years, the Society is holding its Silent Vigil nation-wide on Saturday April 23rd 2005. Locally, the vigil will be held at the Town Bridge in Godalming between 11am and 1pm.

The Society invites you to join with us in this pro-life vigil to demonstrate opposition to the workings of the 1967 Abortion Act, which so far has led to the deaths of some six million unborn babies in this country.

For further information please contact Jane Franklin on 01252-782466.



# Elstead Garden Club



The Garden Club enjoyed being transported back to summer on a cold February evening, when our secretary, Susan Holmes, took us to the gardens of Devon and Cornwall. Coleton Fishacre, near Dartmouth, was the first garden we visited, home of the D'Oyley Carte family, where the site - a valley sloping down to the sea - was first noted by the eventual purchasers when sailing by on their yacht. They bought it, and built a beautiful house in art nouveau style, and created a wonderful garden. It slopes down to the sea in terraces, and echiums, tea trees and many other beautiful plants are features.

Overbecks is a National Trust garden, overlooking the Salcombe estuary, named after a former owner, and this was the second garden we visited in Devon.

We then moved into Cornwall, where we started at Llanhydrock, where there are a number of formal gardens, with clipped yew hedges and planted with swathes of bright colour. The Eden project, near St Austell, is a totally different idea, where an old quarry has been given over to the famous biomes, - huge transparent spheres which house a collection of plants ranging from tropical to temperate, chosen to show their economic rather than their horticultural value.

The Lost Gardens of Heligan were just that until they were rescued from the neglect into which they had sunk after the First World war, when their army of gardeners marched away, never to return. The pond had to be dug out by hand, and the tree ferns and gunnera are a great feature of the garden, as they are of Trebah, overlooking the Helford river. Rhododendrons, cornus, and hydrangeas are all to be seen here, and at Glendurgan, close by. Finally Susan showed us some lovely shots of wild flowers on the Cornish coastal path - thrift and foxgloves - just as beautiful as anything in a garden.

Our next meeting is on Hot Weather Vegetable Growing, and on April 11th, we have Mrs S Coles on Climbers and Wall Shrubs, at 7.45 p.m. in the URC Hall. Our Spring Show is in the Village Hall on April 16th, at 2 p.m. Do try and enter something - it really is fun, and as the present writer can testify, its really not too hard to get a place card! Even if you don't enter, the Village Hall will be well worth a visit.

*Gillian Drew*

## ELSTEAD EVENING WI

### **COFFEE MORNING AND SALE**

In the Youth Centre

Saturday May 7th from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon.

Traditional cakes, preserves, bric-a-brac, plants and paperbacks for sale.  
Tea, coffee, cakes and biscuits will be served.

*Come along and join us for a browse and a cuppa!*

# ELSTEAD AFTERNOON W.I. REPORT

The sight of sunflowers on a cold, snowy afternoon gave great cheer to the 48 members and 3 guests who attended the March meeting of Elstead Afternoon W.I. Joan Young, a Chelsea Flower Show gold medallist, was the speaker, giving a heartwarming demonstration entitled 'Easter Flower Arrangements'. Using a turntable upon which to mount her creations, she used sunflowers, tulips, daffodils, primroses, chrysanthemums and statice, pussy willow, senecio, white ranunculi and roses to produce six arrangements of different shapes, sizes and colours which could grace any home to perfection. A few tips were divulged, such as not placing two flowers side by side at the same height, and infilling gaps with knotted tulip leaves and coloured sisal. Stripped willow can be moulded to make shapes such as balls, which can be sprayed with coloured paint. These can be suspended on an arrangement to great effect.

Joan donated all six arrangements to the raffle table, which caused a rush for extra tickets. Venetia Pierce proposed an appreciative vote of thanks for Joan's demonstration and generosity.

On the same floral theme, Peggy Tilley won the competition for a 'Spring Flower Arrangement'.

On 26th February the W.I. presented a stall at the 'Explore Village Life' afternoon in Elstead Village Hall, showing a scrap-book going back over many years, which attracted much interest.

The Farnham Group meeting will be on Tuesday 19th April at 7.30 pm where a produce stall will be introduced. A Quiz Evening will be held on 22nd July in the Village Hall and plans for an August trip to the Royal Pavilion at Brighton are well under way.

The next meeting will be held at the U.R.C. Hall, Elstead, on 7th April, when Mr. C. Read will speak on 'Treasures from Victorian Rubbish Dumps'.

*Christine Welland.*

# ELSTEAD EVENING W.I. REPORT OF MEETING HELD ON TUES- DAY 1st MARCH 2005

It was serendipity that our Evening WI display was opposite the Aid to Children Everywhere stand on Saturday last at the exhibition of Village Organisations in the village hall.

Geoff Stokes together with Olive and Robert McKerlie kindly accepted our invitation (at such short notice) to speak at our meeting three days later, our proposed speaker having had to cancel.

They gave us such an interesting history and promotion of the charity which has been instrumental since 1990 in taking aid to Romania in the form of clothes, bedding, hospital equipment and also providing sanitary facilities, decorations, refurbishment of old buildings for medical and school use. We were all impressed by the generosity and dedication of their volunteers, including Elstead resident John Simmons, and the tremendous amount of organisation involved in these annual ventures. There are many rural villages in the Carpathian region of Romania that must be truly grateful for their sterling work over the last fifteen years. The journey alone takes at least four days with the border crossing with Hungary now being easier since they have joined the EC.

Our own activities for March include joining the WI monthly walk around the ridge at the Dropping Zone followed by a Lent lunch at the URC Hall. We also organise an 'Out and About' local trip on every third Tuesday and we shall be visiting Frensham Church this month followed by tea at the Garden Centre in Reeds Road. Husbands and friends are very welcome to join this event.

We are a busy, friendly group and make visitors and new members very welcome. Do come and spend an evening with us, we would love to see you. Ring May on 01252 703378 or Diane on 01252 702119 for any further information.

*Diane Tulett*

# Country Diary March 2005

The opening paragraph of last months diary was about thinking of getting out into the garden; then it turned cold and we had a number of days of unpleasant weather. The bird feeders have been working overtime and on particularly freezing cold and wet days have needed filling twice a day. The fat balls have been welcomed by those who don't eat seeds, including the magpies who will eat a ball (the size of a tennis ball) in one rapid sitting of about 20 seconds.

The cock pheasant that has claimed our front garden and struts up and down showing his plumage now has ten wives in tow; I think he is a glutton for punishment. He and the wives spent the early hours rooting on our long front border and seeming to find things to eat. As soon as they start nesting they will moving into the field and we can start our annual effort of removing the couch grass which seems to be the main weed around here.

We have just purchased Bill Oddie's 'How To Watch Wild Life' and it was very gratifying to read the same things that I have been saying about our native wild life here in Elstead. It is on reflection that I realised that we have been writing our monthly nature records since 1993, that is twelve years of observing wild life most especially in our garden and the surrounding fields. All you have to do is sit quietly and watch. Over this period things have changed. The springs are definitely not as wet as they used to be and we seem to get flash floods in the late Autumn. The summers seem dryer although not last summer, and not always as hot. The climate changes do have an effect on the wild life eg the swallows leave later in the year and the birds generally nest earlier.

This spring has been particularly dry, and we do need a good down pour for a few days to get things moving. Even the primroses in our garden are wilting from lack of moisture. I don't ever remember having to water in the spring before. Mind you we could water every day and this sandy soil would not get waterlogged. The crocuses are up on the front lawn and we look forward to the appearance of the bluebells, the leaves are already above ground. The recent snow at the beginning of March did not hang around, pity, as I like to get out and see how many animal footprints I can find. Just in case we get any more snow or muddy conditions I have drawn a few for you to look out for.



Fallow Deer



Badger.

As large as a dogs paw print.  
Claw marks are often visible



Fox.

Four toes, claws distinct, hair  
between pads.

*Richard & Diana Terry*

## DO YOU HAVE ANY UNWANTED WOOL?

The ladies of Guardian Court have started a knitting group.

We are making blankets and cardigans for the neo-natal Units at the Royal Surrey and Frimley Park Hospitals.

Do you have any 3ply, 4ply or double knitting acrylic Yarns you no longer need? If so, please could we have it?

Thank you:

*Helen Marrant,  
Scheme Manager  
Guardian Court,  
Thursley Road, Elstead.*

Tel: 702217

Email: guardianct0417@beconnect.com

# GOOD COMPANIONS.

Our Meeting in late February fell on a date which happened to be one of the worst days of the winter, so it was with regret we had to cancel it, as if anyone should have fallen it would have been awful. This meant - we had to explain to our Speaker, but as Jeffrey lived in the village, he understood, and has been booked for another date later in the year. Cancellation of a meeting is very rare, I can only recall it happening no more than three off four times in my association with the Club in the last 30 odd years.

We had in earlier years many more members than now, (at one time having to close it to new members to keep it under 100) but nowadays the percentage of folk joining is minimal.

At the recent Lent Activity at The Village Hall 'Know your Village' when 24 Associations promoted their particular Club, Betty Edna 'manned' a table for us, giving an outline on our meetings, topics, and items of interest. It was an enjoyable afternoon, and enabled us to have an insight into other Clubs and Charitable work in and around our village.

Next Meeting Jessie Cowell. Musical Associations.

*Freda Shaw*

## St James Ladies Fellowship

St James Ladies Fellowship heard from one of our own members, Barbara Bartlett at our February meeting, about the pleasures and the pitfalls of looking after "other people's children".

As a young mother with two small boys, Barbara and her husband were inspired to offer a short term foster home to children in need. In those days it was sufficient to be willing foster parents, none of the endless red tape and assessment modern foster parents have to undergo. They had a succession of children, mainly under five, most of whom stayed for only a few weeks because of a temporary difficulty at home. Then they were asked if they would have a little girl, Debbie, for rather longer, because her mother had died, and her father was having difficulty in looking after her. The experience of fostering had been a pleasant one, and the two boys had enjoyed the experience of babies in the house, so the Bartlett family agreed, and Debbie stayed with them for several years until she was almost school age, and her father married again, so she was able to go back to her own family. An eighteen year old girl who was pregnant was one of the more difficult cases Barbara had to deal with, but she responded well to the love and care she received.

Later, when both the boys were grown up, leaving only Barbara's two girls at home, they decided to offer a holiday home to children from deprived backgrounds in London. This brought them a wide range of experiences, from delightful children who were no trouble, to lovable rogues like Leon, liable to be in hot water whenever your back was turned, to less attractive children like Kelly, difficult and devious and a severe trial to everyone.

It was fascinating to hear about Barbara's wealth of experiences, hitherto unsuspected by most of us, and to realise how simple and uncomplicated the fostering procedure was in those days.

In March we are having "Desert Island Discs", and on April 26th, Len Parker will be talking about "How I Built the M6 Motorway", at 2.30 p.m. in the Church Room, so do put the date in your diary now. Also do remember our coffee morning, May 14th 10.30-12, in aid of the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice, in the Youth Centre. Plants, cakes, handicrafts, raffle.

*Gillian Drew*

# HOMEGROWN TALENT.

or

## Talking to Lesley Griffiths

“It all began with a conversation I overheard in the Tuck Shop in about 1993,” Lesley explained. “Eve Warren was talking to somebody about having no one to do P.E.T.S.’ costumes and I went up to them and said ‘I make costumes’. ‘Oh do you?’ she said, ‘Come along.’ And then there was no going back. Isn’t it strange how things come about?”

Lesley Griffiths has lived in Elstead for fourteen years and I was talking to her in her workroom, surrounded by her ‘work in progress’ - a partially finished whalebone corset, a delicate tutu with seven layers of tulle and sequins, samples of material, a photo of a 18th century painting for one of her designs, an old engraving of a clown for another...

Under her work table were files containing detailed step by step records of how she has created every costume in her two and a half years studying at the Wimbledon School of Art Theatre School.

What made her decide to start such an ambitious and challenging training course after so long?

“In 1994 I was ‘volunteered’ by a member of P.E.T.S. to the Guildford Opera Company and ended up doing one of the biggest operas in the South of England. I think I did 169 costumes! Talk about learning on the job. I was also involved with other groups, at one point I had three productions on the go at one time and I quite enjoyed it, especially pantomime, but of course I wasn’t paid a penny - it was all for love! So when Guildford Opera awarded me a bursary I did a Summer School at Wimbledon.. We did ‘Corsets and Crinolines’ and then I went back and did ‘Hats’ and I just loved it and was desperate to get back there. I thought if I don’t do it now I never will and then I was given a place for their three year course in October 2002.”

Lesley is obviously a very talented student. Last year she got a First in her Diploma of Higher Education (one of her pieces was the Grimaldi clown costume on show on the PETS stand at the recent Elstead Organisations display in the Village Hall) and this year she will sit her BA Honors in Costume Interpretation in May. The whalebone corset is part of the 1745 riding habit she is making for this exam and she is also working on a Jack in the Box.

“You have to be quite fit and strong to do all this, and you have to really think it through” Lesley told me. “The Jack in the Box’s trousers and box are more about engineering than dressmaking! My dissertation is ‘Cross Dressing and Transvestism in Theatre and Film’ and that is another fascinating aspect of costume”

Lesley is a perfect example of how it is never too late to go after what you really want. With grown children and a variety of jobs, including working in Bridge House, behind her, she is very positive about her new direction.

“I know it is not always easy studying alongside much younger students but I do feel very privileged. Researching my costumes I meet people I would never normally have met and go to some amazing places. I feel as if I am on a journey - to discover my own worth I suppose.”

*Karen Considine*

### A grace for a meal

O Lord, we thank you for this food we are privileged to eat  
and we beseech you to help us to speak the right words -  
that we may not have to eat them later on.

# PETER PAN PRE-SCHOOL

It was smiles all round at Peter Pan last month when Chris Darminin called in for our annual photographs. Chris took lots of pictures and the children loved the entertainment too !

Earlier in the term, a number of our older children were invited to The Heights Prep School in Haslemere. The school had organised a Science morning for us. Our children took part in lots of experiments, learning how to use a microscope, change a liquid into a solid and create a chromatograph ! Our particular favourite was a 'touchy feely' box which all the children enjoyed.

Andrea and I were so impressed we made our own when we returned ! The day was thoroughly enjoyed by the children and adults alike.

This month, the children at Peter Pan Pre-School are off to Horton Farm Park, Epsom. We will be travelling on a coach on Wednesday, 13th April. (Let's hope the weather warms up for us by then.) We do have a few spare places on the coach, if you are interested in joining us, please call me. The cost is £5.00 per person, which includes entrance and coach travel. There's plenty to see and do, and with all the new born animals it's sure to be a fun day out.

Finally, a reminder that if you missed our 'Open Day' last month, we have organised another one for Monday, 4th July between 1.30 and 3.00 pm. We hope to see you then.

*Helen Szczepanski*

## ELSTEAD ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

At our February meeting we had a fascinating evening with Geoff Lunn who gave his talk about Wildlife on your Doorstep. We saw many slides of beautiful creatures many of them from around this area, Geoff has an extensive collection of Wildlife photography, which made it a very interesting evening for us.

The programme for 2005 is as follows:-

March 17th	<b>Skittles Evening</b> £2.50 to include supper	August 18th	<b>Flower Arranging</b> with Pat Pearce Competition: A Summer Flower Arrangement
April 21st	<b>PC Sam Barnett</b> Our Neighbourhood Specialist Officer Competition: A Lemon Meringue Pie	Sept 15th	<b>Taking us back in time.</b> Pam Pearson & Jean Murgatroyd Competition: Two Stuffed Peppers
May 19th	<b>"Candy Bouquets"</b> With Mrs Liz Glover Competition: A 3D Handmade Birthday Card	Oct 20th	<b>Crown Witness Service</b> With Mike Hall Competition: A Posy made out of rubbish
June 16th	<b>"Hats"</b> With our County Chairman Mrs Margaret Cook Competition: A Homemade Peg Bag	Nov 17th	<b>AGM</b> Competition: A Chocolate Gateau for the Mary Ellis Cup and a Tiramisu dessert
July 21st	<b>Evening Mystery Tour</b>	Dec 15th	<b>Christmas Meeting</b> Competition: A Homemade Christmas cracker

In addition to this we hope to have a couple of coach trips in the summer.

We would like to see new members joining us too, so please bring along friends and neighbours to see what the Women's Section are all about.

We meet in the Legion Barn on the THIRD Thursday of each month at 7.30pm new members are always very welcome.

*Sue Taylor, Secretary*

# Elstead Environmental Playscheme 2005



## EASTER HOLIDAYS

Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup> to Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>  
9.00 am – 5.00pm at St. James School, Elstead

**Half or full day sessions available £8.00 per half day (£1.50 extra for lunch) or £15.00 per full day (includes lunch)**

### **ACTIVE FUN FOR EVERYONE**

**Come and join the playscheme if you are aged 5 – 11.  
Further information available from Helen – 01252 703456**

## 60 Years of Christian Aid

Since its birth, Christian Aid has fought relentlessly for a more just world. It began as a way of helping refugees during the months following the end of the second world war.

There have been many campaigns since then, including Drop the Debt, Trade Justice, Land-mines, Child Labour and We Believe in Life before Death.

This year the focus is on :

- Rebuilding livelihoods after the floods in Mozambique
- Giving street children a fresh start in the Democratic Republic of Congo
- Transforming Peruvian communities with clean, safe water

The unique opportunity in 2005 for the global community to make poverty history by promoting justice in world trade.

We have a vision of a world without poverty. By giving and by taking action for trade justice. you can help make that vision become reality this Christian Aid Week.

In Elstead, we need not only your financial support but your time. Last year we were short of collectors but this year, by following the example of the Vicar of Dibley, let's Make Poverty History. Please come and join us in collecting for Christian Aid 15th - 21st May.

*Contact Rev. William Lang, 01252 703251.*

# Traidcraft

We are in the middle of the Fair Trade fortnight as I write. This year we are asked to “CHECK OUT FAIRTRADE”. You can find hundreds of great quality Fairtrade products in stores now - and the range is growing every day.

Millions of farmers depend on selling their crops to survive. But it's a risky business - when prices drop it can spell disaster for farmers. If they earn less than it costs to run the farm, they face real hardship - struggling to buy food or keep their children in school. Ultimately they may lose their land and their livelihood.

For the last six years, coffee prices have remained below the cost of production, causing immense hardship for millions of farmers. By selling a small amount of their coffee at the guaranteed and stable Fairtrade price of US\$1.26 per lb, members of the Kilimanjaro Native Cooperative Union (KNCU) in Tanzania have been able to stay afloat during the crisis. Cafédirect Kilimanjaro arabica ground coffee is sold by Traidcraft.

The Fairtrade price includes a premium which is set aside for farmers and workers to spend on social and environmental projects or to strengthen their organisations. Sugar cane producers in Malawi have used the premium to drill bore holes for clean water.

The 'BIG DRESS' launch on 21st February was a success even if the day was cold. There are photos if you come to the coffee morning at the URC on 2nd April at 10 am.

*Jean Wheatley*

## **Surrey Brass Sell-Out Concert Supports Elstead Pavilion**

Elstead residents were given a veritable treat at the end of February as Surrey Brass donned their sombreros and staged a feast of Mexican music in aid of the Pavilion re-build project. The fiesta atmosphere was further enhanced by great food, spirited dancing and a lively charity auction. This concert was the idea of local resident and Surrey Brass's trumpet-playing Chairman, Will Spencer, who was keen to add to the fundraising effort.

The Pavilion Trust's Secretary, Pat Murphy, took the opportunity to announce that the Trustees were now confident that re-building would start in 2005, once a grant from Waverley had been confirmed. Mr Murphy said that they were very grateful to Waverley and local residents for the support they had given to the project over the last 6 years, particularly since the likelihood of funding from other organisations had dwindled.

The Trust is still in discussions with Customs & Excise over whether the work should be zero-rated for VAT, in the light of their decision in another similar case.

To keep costs to a minimum the project will be using a team of local tradesmen and builders, managed by another local man, Brian Pearse. Building will take place in two phases so the ground floor can be used as soon as possible whilst further funds are raised to fit out the first floor.

For further information about the Pavilion Re-build Project or to make a donation, please contact Mr Murphy on 01252 703970.

Full details of the forthcoming Surrey Brass Concert of English Music at Godalming's Borough Hall on 23rd April – to celebrate St. George's Day – are available on their website: [www.surreybrass.co.uk](http://www.surreybrass.co.uk).

*Rachel Dunnage*

# Spring Garden Plant Sale & Celebrity Presentations

Supporting Normandy Community Therapy Garden for disabled and disadvantaged people. Please visit the centre on the day.

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2005 - 10 am to 5.30 pm

Specialist Nursery Plants & Direct Advice from the Grower

10.15 to 12.00 pm

1.30 to 3 pm

3.15 to 4.45 pm

**Presentation by Fiona Lawrenson Chelsea Gold Medallist**

**Demonstration by Liz Seward Relfe, SWA, SFP, Flower Painting**

**Flower Arranging by Anne Winkworth, Area Demonstrator**

Craft Stalls - Local Organisations - Refreshments all day

Tickets: Entrance £2.50 per person Presentations £5.00

To book, ring after 6 pm: 01483 571944 for Fiona Lawrenson

Where to find us: Manor Fruit Farm, off Glaziers Lane, Normandy, Nr. Guildford. GU3 2DT

## P.E.T.S

### TIPTOE THROUGH THE TOMBSTONES

By Norman Robbins

Elstead Village Hall April 7th, 8th and 9th 2005

Doors open 7.15 for 7.45 pm

Tickets available from Chandlers Garage, Milford Road.

**Bar, Grand Raffle, Refreshments**

## PETER PAN PRE-SCHOOL OPEN DAY



Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2005

1.30 - 3 p.m.

**Please join us for an 'activity' afternoon  
down at the Sports Pavilion, on Thursley  
Road.**

We have spaces available from September  
2005 for  
children aged 2 years 6 months.