

# Can you beat the ULEZ charge?

8 March 2023



Established in **Epsom** in 1904 **Wilsons** car dealership still keeps ahead with the times. LDRS reports on its efforts to stay ahead of ULEZ expansion to Epsom and Ewell’s London borders

A quick-thinking car dealership in Surrey is advertising ULEZ compliant cars to drivers looking to make the switch before the zone expands to the Surrey border later this year.

Wilsons Epsom car dealership, in Kiln Lane, has placed a huge advert emblazoned with “beat the ULEZ charge” and its marketing team said they have been thinking of going large as the expansion was “something that’s been in the news a lot lately”.

Last year, London mayor Sadiq Khan announced the expansion of the Ultra Low Emissions Zone (ULEZ) which would bring it right up to the county’s border with the capital in areas such as Epsom and Ewell, Elmbridge and Spelthorne from August 2023.

The scheme will slap motorists of most petrol cars registered with the DVLA before 2005 with a £12.50 daily charge to enter the ULEZ zone after August 29. Diesel cars must be much newer and will have had to have been registered after September 2015 to enter the zone free of charge.

Check your vehicle [HERE](#)

The car dealership told the LDRS : “It’s at the forefront of people’s minds and there is a lot of confusion still around with councils looking to challenge the expansion or to comply with the new zones.” they added: “The situation was still at an early stage given the zone is only scheduled to come into force in August. People who have got older vehicles are considering electric or hybrid. ULEZ directly impacts our business and we want to be helping all of our customers as much as possible. We have a large range of ULEZ complaint stock and we want to show that off to customers.”

According to the Mayor of London’s office, five million more Londoners will breathe cleaner air as a result of the zone expanding.

A scrappage scheme exists for Londoners, but those on the outside are currently unable to apply despite requests from Mr Khan to the Prime Minister to include Surrey residents.

Surrey County Council was one of five local authorities to announce a legal challenge to the scheme.

Related reports:

[Will Me’lud halt ULEZ expansion to Epsom borders?](#)

[A sign of no signs to come on ULEZ?](#)

[ULEZ will come to Epsom and Ewell borders](#)

[Yet more on ULEZ....](#)

[More on Epsom and Ewell and Surrey and ULEZ](#)

[Council’s last minute opposition to ULEZ extension.](#)

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## “Imagine this house is in Epsom” says our man in Ukraine.

8 March 2023



Epsom based **Surrey Stands With Ukraine**'s charity director returned from Ukraine recently. Interviewed yesterday by Epsom and Ewell Times (E&ET).

E&ET: Why did you go?

Lionel Blackman: The fantastic Epsom and Ewell team of volunteers of Surrey Stands With Ukraine has raised over £380,000 from the generous public and sent over £1 million worth of donated supplies to Ukraine over this first year of the War. A charity should know those who distribute aid on its behalf and after one year it was time to meet some of our Ukraine partners in person.

Photo is of a destroyed house in the Ukrainian village of Moschun just north of Kyiv.

E&ET: Who did you meet?

LB: We have supported a variety of groups relieving the civilian victims of the war. I met a team of English women who help refugees at the Polish border railway station of Przemsyl. Groups based in Kyiv who send our supplies to Ukrainians who continue to live near the front-line, who evacuate elderly and children from such areas and who are helping rebuild communities whose homes have been destroyed.

E&ET: Was your visit worthwhile?

LB: In Ukraine I just spent one and a half nights in hotels, half a night in an air raid shelter and one night on a train. It was deliberately a short visit so not to distract our partners from their vital volunteer work and their ordinary paid employment. But still, getting to know them better and being fully satisfied as to their commitment to honest and selfless voluntary charitable service is important for our own charity, our wonderful volunteers and our donors. We can continue with ever more confidence that we are doing the right thing and spending the funds appropriately.

E&ET: What did you see of the war?

LB: There were drone attacks on Kyiv the night I stayed hence half of it spent underground. Hosts told me that the air raid sirens sound every other night. Is Putin trying to wear you all down? I asked. "Never, he will never do that". This is the thing. Putin is uniting a nation he thought he could divide.

I visited Moschun. The defenders of this village held the line and stopped the Russian army getting to nearby Kyiv last year. Most of the homes are destroyed. The Negotiator's Annual Estate Agents Awards organised by our charity's trustee and Epsom resident Grant Leonard, raised funds for 20 generators that we sent to Moschun with the assistance of local Epsom, district, national and Kyiv Rotary.

E&ET: When will the war end?

LB: A charity can't get involved in the politics but personally I am of the opinion that Putin needs to be defeated militarily and the people of Russia have to turn against this war before it will end.

It is the UK Government's role to aid foreign military. A charity can only support civilians whose lives should not be attacked in any war. In this war civilians are being killed and maimed and made homeless in their thousands.

Surrey Stands With Ukraine and the great public of **Epsom and Ewell** and beyond have to help the civilian victims for the long haul *and keep giving*.

Just imagine that once beautiful house in the photo was in Epsom?

## Public meeting on Local Plan

8 March 2023



On Monday 13th March at 7pm at Wallace Fields Junior School Dorling Drive, Ewell, Epsom KT17 3BH, Epsom and Ewell

Times will chair a public meeting on the Draft Local Plan. The meeting will feature a panel of experts. Tim Murphy CPRE, Margaret Hollings Epsom Civic Society and Chair Licensing Planning and Policy Committee Cllr Steven McCormick (Council officers invited). Questions and view points from the public attending will be allowed. We will confirm if the meeting can be followed online in the next few days.

Registration to attend is not required but it would be helpful to us if you did inform us of your intention to attend. This will help some planning. Also it would help the chair of the meeting if you submitted questions in advance.

The Epsom and Ewell Borough Council is holding an extraordinary meeting on 22nd March at 7.30pm at The Town Hall, The Parade, Epsom to discuss a motion about the Draft Local Plan. Only 11 councillors approved the Draft Local Plan going forward at a meeting of the Licensing Planning and Policy Committee of 30th January. The Full Council meeting of the 22nd March will be the first public opportunity for all Councillors to speak on the Local Plan.

You can tell us if you are attending the Epsom and Ewell Times Local Plan Public Meeting and suggest a question by filling in:

Local Plan meeting attendance and question form.

Related reports:

[Epsom and Ewell Local Plan meeting times](#)

[Mole Valley Local Plan paused: official](#)

[Epsom & Ewell Borough Council Draft Local Plan.](#)

[Green-belters seeing red on Local Plan?](#)

[Hook Road Arena plans and links to many other related reports.](#)

## The Prince of Maidenhead Reigns Supreme

8 March 2023



Sutton & Epsom RFC 26 - Maidenhead 45. Saturday 4th March.

The Black & Whites returned to Rugby Lane in the knowledge that their race had been run this season. The men in magenta had torn them to shreds at Braywick Park in November and both squads were fully aware of that outcome. Despite the match having no consequence with regard to the league table or which cup competition would be entered both sides produced a thrilling spectacle played at breakneck pace with eleven tries to applaud. Maidenhead won by 45-26 but Sutton restored their pride with a performance that deservedly earned them a bonus point.

It might have been the first Saturday in March but there was no sign of spring in the air as Freddy Bunting started the match with a biting wind behind him. From the outset it was clear that the visitors were going to utilise their excellent back division and run the ball from anywhere. This scenario was no surprise to the hosts whose defensive line on the Berkshire 22 held firm despite several efforts to break free. Reluctantly Maidenhead cleared with the boot. S&E's first possession proved to be most productive. The covering Caddy charged towards the 22 and after several swift phases Alex Mawdsley's perfectly timed pass allowed Robbie Martey to score. Freddy Bunting added the conversion for 7-0.

That instant success focussed the Maidenhead minds and within five minutes they had not only drawn level but had taken the lead. Though Sutton safely secured the restart after a few phases near halfway the opted to kick. Their opponent countered at pace searching for space on the right before switching to the opposite flank. An arcing run by centre Harry Wells set up the prolific Alex Turton who ran round under the posts. Moments later Harry Wells turned from provider to scorer. A long clearance into the Surrey men's 22 was run back but the ball was turned over and the alert Harry Wells swept down the unguarded blindside to score. Greg Smith converted both scores and the boys from Braywick Park led 14-7 after a magnificent seven opening minutes.

There was no respite from the high tempo as both teams threw themselves headlong into attack. Equally both sides were demonstrating resolute defence. At the start of the second quarter the Black & Whites encamped within five minutes of glory. Jordan Huie went close, a 5-metre catch and drive was denied and a golden opportunity to level the scores was missed. Then to heap Pelion upon Ossa the visitors cleared their lines and scored with their next attack. Harry Wells was a central figure again as he put Greg Smith into space. The fly half burst into enemy territory and



was only stopped by an excellent tackle by Alex Mawdsley but the ball was soon in the hands of Scott Prince who ran in the last 30 metres for the first of his three tries of the afternoon. Greg Smith, perfection personified, added the extras for 21-7.

Excellent Sutton defence from the restart regained possession and moments later the hosts had a penalty. A well-rehearsed lineout ploy saw George Drye rampage down the touchline. The ball was spun wide to the opposite flank where Jordan Huie was thwarted by excellent cover. A minute later it was Chris Farrell throwing himself at the line like a torpedo who went agonising close and a shrill blast from Mr Dixon's whistle gave Maidenhead a relieving penalty. Very soon relief became a form of cruel and unusual punishment. A speculative kick ahead by Scott Prince enjoyed a favourable bounce and the ball was transferred to fullback James Maddern who coasted home to score. Greg Smith celebrated the bonus point try with another conversion for 28-7. With the interval rapidly approaching the hosts desperately needed some reward for their first half endeavours. It was now S&E's turn to run back a clearance kick and score. Robbie Martey evaded the first man, sped through the gap and drawing the retreating defence onto him he passed to Jamie See who did well to cover the last 10 metres to touch down. Freddy Bunting added the conversion as the referee concluded the first half with the magenta men 28-14 ahead. Despite the score-line the Black & Whites had had the majority of the possession and territory as well as more minutes in their opponent's 22. However, the visitors were ruthless in exploiting any errors as well as additionally demonstrating scintillating back play.

Sutton enjoyed the perfect start to the second period with a try. Despite failing to secure the 5-metre lineout they regained possession and this time they were not to be denied close to the line. Appropriately George London was the scorer on an afternoon when he carried with relentless aggression and to great effect. Trailing 19-28 S&E were right back in the contest. It was now the turn of the Braywick Park boys to turn the screw in the Sutton 22. Time and again the Rugby Lane men scythed down the opposition but the Maidenhead team patiently retained possession until a long pass found Scott Prince who crossed the whitewash for the second time. Though the conversion drifted wide the visitors had a 14-point cushion leading 33-19 with half an hour to go. Despite dominating the next fifteen minutes with George Drye to the fore with rampaging runs synonymous of classic locks throughout the ages S&E erred at the crucial moment. Whether it was a lineout infringement or pressure from the organised and resolute opposition defence they failed to add to their score. To massage sodium chloride into the laceration Maidenhead needed the merest glimpse of a chance to see them adding to their account. A turnover near their line led to an audacious counter that saw captain Niall Crossley put into space and stride in from 40 metres. With Greg Smith having departed with an earlier injury scrum half Archie Dunnill took over the kicking duties and bisected the uprights for 40-19.

Making light of the latest setback Sutton continued the search for a fourth try and a bonus point. The remarkable pace of the game did not relent and the attacks rained down at either end. A jinking run by Dan Jones hinted at greater deeds. Then five minutes later Alex Mawdsley made a break on halfway but his errant pass was gathered by Scott Prince who needed no second invitation to sprint in unopposed to complete his hat trick. The challenging conversion drifted wide and Maidenhead led 45-19. The game entered time added on and the Black & Whites continued their quest for the Holy Grail of the bonus point. Agonisingly they were held up over the line. Then with the final play of the afternoon there was at last ecstasy after so much agony. Fittingly the score followed another charge from George Drye and an incisive burst from Robbie Martey to set up Freddy Bunting for his first league try for the Black & Whites. He failed to convert his score and the referee ended the contest with Maidenhead 45-26 victors.

In the end it was Maidenhead's superior quality that told in an enthralling contest. Harry Wells was at the creative heart and wingers Prince and Turton were a constant menace with the former taking the glory with his triple. The Black & Whites more than played a supporting role in this fixture. The back row trio of Messrs Tame, London and Caddy were exceptional as they tackled, harried and carried throughout. George Drye played like a man possessed, as ever Steve Munford tackled everything that moved and parenthood has not blunted Jamie See's talents. For S&E it was an afternoon when every error was punished with brutal efficiency whilst they failed to make the most of their chances. That being said they took the game to one of the best attacking sides in the league from their early opening score to their bonus point try on the final play of the game and deserve great credit for their performance.

The season concludes for Sutton & Epsom next Saturday with the visit of Bracknell who defeated the Black & Whites on the opening day of the season. The kick off at Rugby Lane will be 3pm. It is hoped that a sizable crowd will be present to bid a fond farewell to the departing quartet of Sam Hurley, James Caddy, Jamie See and George Drye who have given many years of devoted service to the team and have been instrumental in the club's recent successes.

### **Sutton & Epsom**

Alex Mawdsley, Jordan Huie, Sam Hurley, Jamie See, Robbie Martey, Freddy Bunting, Steve Munford, Tom Boaden, Chris Farrell ©, Will Lloyd, George Drye, Josh Glanville, Ben Tame, George London & James Caddy.

Replacements: (all used) Joe Reid, Dan Jones & Joe Lovatt.

### **Maidenhead**

James Maddern, Scott Prince, Harry Wells, Niall Crossley ©, Alex Turton, Greg Smith, Archie Dunnill, Elio Mandozzi, Jake Leach, Finlay Glass, Brook Harvey-Smith, Mark Grimshaw, Chris Gill, William Macaulay & Ed Atkins.  
 Replacements: Dan Hostetler, Mykel Parrott & Charlie

## Late winner points Epsom's way.

8 March 2023



Selsey 2-3 Epsom & Ewell FC. Southern Combination League – Division One. Saturday 4th March.

Ultimately Saturday's League match at Selsey was decided by, and will be remembered for a 90th minute goal that should not have stood, but over the ninety minutes I felt we had done enough to secure the points and we were in fact cruising to a comfortable victory at one point. However, two goals in quick succession from the home side made reinvigorated the match as a contest and set up an entertaining finish, with the points going back up the A24 to Epsom.

I was told before the match that we had ten players out, although only two changes were made from the eleven who started our victory over Dorking Wanderers on Tuesday evening as Chris Boulter and Mario Quiassaca were missing, and they were replaced by George Owusu and Ryan Smith with Nick Wilson showing further versatility this week and playing alongside Ollie Thompson in the back four. We did look a little weaker on the bench though, with five named, although one was our other keeper Toby McKimm, and another was Jamie Byatt who wouldn't be participating due to injury.

With our Assistant Manager Matt Chapman taking charge of the side following the departure of Anthony Jupp, we made a bright start to proceedings, although the first real chance did fall to the home side when a corner was headed just over Tom Theobald's crossbar on the quarter hour mark. Following this, we went straight up the other end where Jaan Stanley delivered a peach of a cross from the left and Owusu met it with a side footed volley that crashed off the underside of the bar and out again.

Selsey had the ball in the net in the 17th minute, but the flag was up for offside and they had another shot on goal which was blocked by one of our defenders before Ollie Thompson picked up a yellow card that was more clumsy than malicious. From this point though we began to take control and Gideon Acheampong made a good run on the right to earn us a corner. From that Smith corner on the half hour Wilson flicked it on and Thompson met it four yards out with a bullet header that gave Syd Davies in the Selsey goal no chance whatsoever.

Owusu, Jaevon Dyer and Athan Smith-Joseph were asking a lot of questions with their direct running on a playing surface that was very much to their liking while Stanley buzzed around to good effect, just a day after his 21st birthday. Dyer was next to show with a run and strike that Davies parried to safety and we went in at the half with a deserved lead.

We started the second half well. Kevin Moreno-Gomez made tracks down the left before laying the ball back to Smith-Joseph whose curling shot was just tipped over the bar by Davies, although the corner was cleared. However, he wouldn't be denied on his fiftieth appearance for our club and after a spell of good pressure, the ball was fed across to Smith-Joseph again and he beat a man before casually clipping the ball just inside the far post from a step or two inside the penalty area in the 52nd minute. He was at it again a few minutes later with a delicious diagonal pass to Owusu who had beaten the offside trap, but with just Davies to beat, he took a really heavy touch and the ball ran through to their keeper. Next to cause trouble was Stanley who blocked a Davies clearance, but the ball rather luckily rebounded to a defender and was cleared.

In the 66th minute Theo Lukyamuzi joined from the bench for his debut, coming from Peterborough and the 49th player to play for us this season showed some good touches and pace in his spell on the left wing in relief of Owusu.

Moments later though we had our first scare for a while when a slide rule pass set Cian Griffin-Tilley through on goal, although Theobald stood up well and blocked his shot from close range. It was a great save but it clearly provided the home side with a spark as they began to up their work rate and force us back. Shane Brazil on the right wing was starting to give us a few issues with his clever wing play, and in the 77th minute Selsey had a goal back with a deep left wing cross that was met with a strike from James Henton from fairly close range. This was disappointing as we had looked like we'd be good for another clean sheet, but before we'd got our breath back a loose defensive header went straight into the path of Griffin-Tilley and he sent the ball under the advancing Theobald to level the scores up just two minutes later.

At this stage the home side had the momentum and Theobald had to make another save from Brazil's low shot before the controversial ending, which came in the 90th minute.

With the clock ticking down Davies in the Selsey goal had the ball at his feet and for some reason appeared to want to waste time and hang on for the draw which I thought was a bit odd after all they had done to get back in the game. However, Dyer was in to nick the ball away from him, although the ball then went out of play by about a foot before Dyer quickly knocked it back across the goal line. Davies appeared to look over for the Assistant at about the same time I did, only to see him around forty yards up the field, clearly anticipating that Davies had been going to pick the ball up and kick it downfield. He was in no position to see whether the ball had crossed the line and in that instant Dyer had turned to face



goal and sent the ball towards the empty net from twenty yards. It wasn't totally clear if the ball was actually going in, but Thomas Blamire had no idea if there was someone behind him and he tried to block the shot, although he only succeeded in diverting the ball straight into the empty net.

The goal itself was hugely controversial though, as it should not have stood in the first place and with no time left for Selsey to recover the final whistle went soon after. We had taken all three points; a little fortuitously in the end due to the actual circumstances of the winning goal, but I felt we were the better side for much of the match and totally deserved our result against a team that had defeated leaders Shoreham in midweek. We now sit five points behind the leaders as a result of this win and have another difficult match against in-form Godalming Town on Tuesday, although it is worth noting that this will be our last match of the season against a current top five club. Shoreham's run-in is significantly more challenging with trips to Godalming, Dorking Wanderers B and a visit to Selsey. Maybe the title race isn't over just yet.

Epsom & Ewell: Tom Theobald, Gideon Acheampong, Kevin Moreno-Gomez, Ryan Smith (c), Ollie Thompson, Nick Wilson, Jaevon Dyer, Gavin Quintyne, George Owusu, Jaan Stanley, Athan Smith-Joseph

Subs: Theo Lukyamuzi for Owusu (67), Kofi Quartey for Smith-Joseph (92)

## Surrey's get greener update

8 March 2023



Surrey County Council and the **Greener Futures Partnership** are on a mission to make Surrey carbon free and greener by 2050. Here are links to the latest updates from Surrey County Council:

**Use the new Energy Advice Tool to help save money:** [Find out more](#)

**"I finally took the plunge and sold my car"** Read Becky's story and also find out how you could win an e-bike. [Read more](#)

**Seven tips to save £70.** How being savvy with your food could save you money and play your part to reduce waste in Surrey. [Read more](#)

**Celebrating World Wildlife Day.** What we're doing to enhance and protect wildlife in Surrey as we tackle climate change. [Read more](#)

**Growing verges wild for bees and flowers.** Wondering why our grass is getting longer in some areas? [Read more](#)

**M25 junction 10/A3 Wisley improvement scheme.** National Highways traffic improvements which will include improvements for local habitats and safer journeys. [Read more](#)

Surrey County Council ask you to share this information with your friends and all are encouraged to **sign-up** to its bi-monthly newsletter.

## Celebrating celebrated Surrey women

8 March 2023



March is **Women's History Month**. You can discover important and inspiring stories of Surrey women in history on Surrey History Centre's (SHC) Exploring Surrey's Past website. Watch out for social media throughout the month too. The month also incorporates International Women's Day on 8 March. Both initiatives promote the achievements and contributions of women in the past and present, and the ongoing campaign for equality in all areas of life. From artists to actors, suffragettes to scientists, and gardeners to musicians,

**Harriet Grote**, (right in image) 19th century Radical 'female politician', hostess and patron. For Women's History Month,

SHC celebrates the long life of a radical writer and hostess through the recollections of the Farrer family of Abinger Hall in Surrey, whose papers SHC hold.

The 'Influential Women' section of case studies for SHC's Exploring Surrey's Past website was created by Surrey's museums and each museum revealed stories from their collections about talented and inspiring local women. These included **Margaret Robinson** of Chertsey (1920-2016), (centre in image) who was an artist, a puppeteer, and a model-maker with a worldwide fan base as a result of the models she created for Hammer Film, most noticeably *The Hound of the Baskervilles* and *The Mummy*. You can read all of the stores here.

Surrey's women played a vital role during the First World War, serving as Red Cross nurses at home and abroad, working on the Home Front in the Women's Land Army, and being munitions workers in factories. The Surrey in the Great War website records and preserves their contribution and hosts research guides, film and fascinating stories about local women. One of the films you can watch captures a rural community caught on camera for a local newsreel, with members of the Women's Land Army demonstrated their ploughing skills in an inter-farm competition at Cross Farm, Shackleford, in April 1917. Find out more and watch the film.

Text and photos courtesy of The Surrey History Centre.

## Pay black hole takes £2.2M Epsom Hospital funds

8 March 2023



**Epsom and St Helier Trust** has set out how it is working to claw back **£2.2million in salary overpayments**. A board meeting of the trust heard that people continuing to be paid after they had left a role was one issue that had led to the outstanding money.

The Epsom and St Helier Trust board met on Friday (March 3) heard that there was "angst" against the trust when it was accused of "pushing people into hardship" when reclaiming money.

Meeting documents show that as of November 30, the trust had £2.2m of salary overpayments of which £798,000 had been invoiced for, and £382,000 was being repaid via agreed plans.

There was work being done with a payroll overpayments team and the HR department to look at £823,000 of outstanding overpayment money to make sure it could be recovered from people who were not responding or where the trust did not have a forwarding address.

**Andrew Grimshaw**, group chief finance officer, told the meeting that where the the trust was seeking contact or had had no contact with people who owed money was invariably people who had left and not been "terminated" on the system. He said the trust did agree an extended repayment plan with a lot of people to get overpayments back.

The "single most effective action" in stopping overpayments was terminating people on the system when they resigned from a role, he told the meeting. But he added: "A lot of the angst we see is when we are accused of pushing people into hardship."

An active review had been carried out to find out how many people were being paid who shouldn't be, meaning a lot of new cases had been found. The meeting chair, **Gillian Norton**, said she knew the board was "sensitive" to the issue, and in the past had given "a very clear steer" on it.

She added: "It's public money so we have a duty to recover it but we have to do it in a way that is compassionate."

**Derek Macallan**, a non-executive director on the board, he was conscious of how hard it was to employ people and how many steps there were to new starters. He asked: "At the end of employment is there a black hole people go into and keep being paid?"

The chair of the Audit Committee, **Peter Kane**, responded that there had been improvements made but there was "still some way to go. We will be keeping our eyes on it, we'e not letting go of it despite the fact that improvements have been made."



# Patient nut complaint to protect others

8 March 2023



The **Epsom and St Helier Trust board** heard the complaint of a patient allergic to nuts given nut oil. LDRS reports:

A hospital patient with a peanut allergy and an epipen was given medication for a nosebleed which contained nut oil. The patient at **St Helier hospital** was told before going home that the A&E doctor “didn’t think” the cream contained nut oil, a hospital trust board meeting heard. But on returning home and reading the leaflet, the unnamed patient learned there was in fact arachis oil, or peanut oil, in the medication. The patient had gone to the emergency department after a nosebleed, having started on a medication to help reduce blood clots. The patient had told the nursing team on arrival at the hospital and the doctor who prescribed the cream for the nosebleed about their allergy.

On contacting the emergency department, the patient was told there was not an alternative medicine that could be prescribed.

Members of the Epsom and St Helier Trust board heard at a meeting on Friday (March 3) that the patient then contacted their GP for an alternative before making a complaint to the trust so the issue would not affect other patients.

The board meeting, held at Epsom hospital, heard from a registrar and a consultant in the emergency department what steps had since been taken to learn lessons from the incident. These included a safety alert being sent within the team and the individual doctor being spoken to, while board members also asked what more could be done at trust level to help in what was a “very, very busy” department.

**Ruth Charlton**, the site chief medical officer, said the emergency department was of the only in the trust to use a paper prescription method rather than electronic. She also said that because the emergency department was operating 24/7, and doing things very quickly, patients were not sent to pharmacy for medications, which would be “an extra checking mechanism in place”. She said an electronic system would flag allergens, such as cows’ milk, in a medication and then allow something else to be prescribed instead.

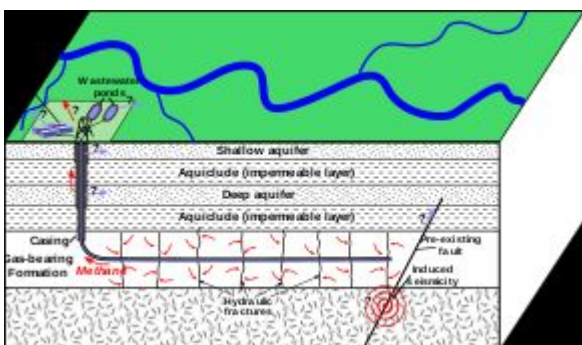
She added: “We need to take away this case and look at what more we could do to address the systems issues.”

The meeting also heard it was not clear what checks were made by the doctor about what was in the medication, or who the patient had spoken to when calling the hospital to ask about alternative medications.

Board chair, **Gillian Norton**, said the board was impressed with the “rigorous approach to learning” shown by the department and thanked the doctors for sharing the experience. She said: “Keep up the great work. “We are very conscious that you have done all this learning and thought about this while you have got this incredibly busy day job.”

## Fractious Court case anticipated

8 March 2023



Anti-fracking campaigners are celebrating after the High Court granted a judicial review into the exploratory drilling of £123 million of oil near the **Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty**.

The **UK Oil and Gas (UKOG)** was refused planning permission to search for fossil fuels at Loxley Well in Dunsfold in December 2020 by Surrey County Council’s planning committee.

But UKOG, which describes itself as an energy company focused on oil and gas exploration, appealed in June 2022 after a public inquiry. It was granted permission by the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, led by Surrey Heath **MP Michael Gove**.

Almost immediately, **Waverley Borough Council** challenged the appeal decision in the High Court with £13,000 set aside for the legal challenge. Yesterday, the High Court ruled the matter would be examined again – by Judicial Review.



Responding to the court decision was **Frack Free Surrey**. They said: “We are delighted by the news. Allowing exploration for fossil gas during a climate emergency, and in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, was an appalling decision by the government. We need to rapidly wean ourselves off gas, not look for more of it. It will be good to hear the arguments tested in the High Court.”

The legal challenge has been supported by the **Goodwill Law Project**. The group’s director, **Jo Maugham**, said: “No Secretary of State who cared about the natural environment, or climate change, would have ignored the wishes of local people to grant planning permission for a huge new fracking project next to an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. We are pleased the High Court has given **Protect Dunsfold**, who we are supporting, permission to bring a judicial review challenge to a decision made under Michael Gove.”

According to lawyers, the Protect Dunsfold campaign succeeded for two reasons. The first was the “inconsistency in decision-making” by Secretary of State Michael Gove, who gave the Dunsfold drilling site the go-ahead on the same day he refused permission for a comparable site.

The second is that Dunsfold sits on the edge of an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and there should be great weight to “conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty”.

**Jeremy Hunt**, now Chancellor and whose constituency covers Dunsfold, has previously campaigned against the drilling site going ahead. He was approached for comment.

UK Oil and Gas (UKOG) and DLUHC were approached for comment.

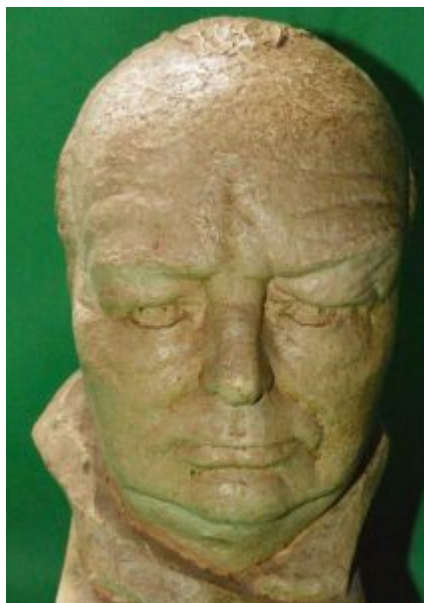
Paul Follows, leader of Waverley Borough Council has been approached for comment.

No date has been set for the review.

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## Churchill’s visits to Epsom

8 March 2023



In 1903 Winston Churchill, then the MP for Oldham, visited Epsom College and unveiled a memorial stained glass window in memory of the Old Epsomians who had died in the Boer War. The memorial stained glass window was commissioned and paid for by Old Epsomians and designed by Francis Oldaker. Oldaker was an Old Epsomian and stained glass artist, he lived locally and is buried in Epsom’s Ashley Road cemetery.



Unveiled by Winston Churchill. Image courtesy Epsom College

Winston Churchill was a fan of horse raising and attended the Epsom Derby on 4 June 1949 with his wife Clementine. He became Sir Winston in 1953.

I'm hoping that readers will be able throw light on a plaster bust of Churchill created by Churchill's only female cousin, Clare Sheridan in 1943.

Clare Sheridan was a "colourful" character who established herself as a successful sculptor of portrait busts; her sitters included her then lover, the actor Charlie Chaplin together with H G Wells, Lord Asquith, Trotsky and Lenin. Her involvement with prominent Russians led to her being placed under surveillance by British intelligence much to the embarrassment of Churchill and his political colleagues who urged him to stay away from her.

Sheridan's bronze busts of her first cousin Churchill were created during World War 2, but only after Sheridan threatened to commit suicide outside 10 Downing Street if Churchill failed to allow her to sculpt him. Examples of her bronze busts of Sir Winston Churchill can be found at Churchill's former home, Chartwell as well as at Blenheim Palace, Harrow School and Hastings Town Hall, but the whereabouts of a smaller bust created by Clare Sheridan especially for Churchill's wife, Clementine is not known.

References to Clare Sheridan's bronze busts of Sir Winston Churchill can be found in quite a few of Churchill's WW2 letters, but having studied all the relevant letters in great detail, I have not been able to find out anything about the smaller plaster bust which I purchased at a London estate sale.

Could it be that the 9-inch-high plaster bust of Sir Winston Churchill that I acquired at an estate sale is the small bust of Sir Winston Churchill that wartime letters confirm was given to Churchill's wife, Clementine by Clare Sheridan?

Please contact The Epsom and Ewell Times if you have any information about Clare Sheridan's small plaster bust of Sir Winston Churchill.

## Suffragette stage play review

8 March 2023





**Sarah Dewing**, who initiated the statue of Emily Davison in Epsom's Market Square reviews "**Emmeline**" a play about the foremost British suffragette, Emmeline Pankhurst, and the fight for the vote for women at the start of the 20th century.

"Emmeline" was performed at Esher Theatre on 24th and 25th February, as part of a tour that began in Oxford and will end in Manchester on 8th March, International Women's Day. It is the debut play of young playwright and actor Beatrice Hyde, who also played Sylvia Pankhurst in the production. It was staged by the Theatre Lab Company, a London-based theatre company and was directed by Its Artistic Director, Anastasia Revi.

Beatrice condensed thirty years of suffragette history into two and a half hours, which sounds intense, but the interval broke it up nicely. She spent five years researching the Pankhursts and the events that took place around the struggle for government acceptance of women's suffrage.

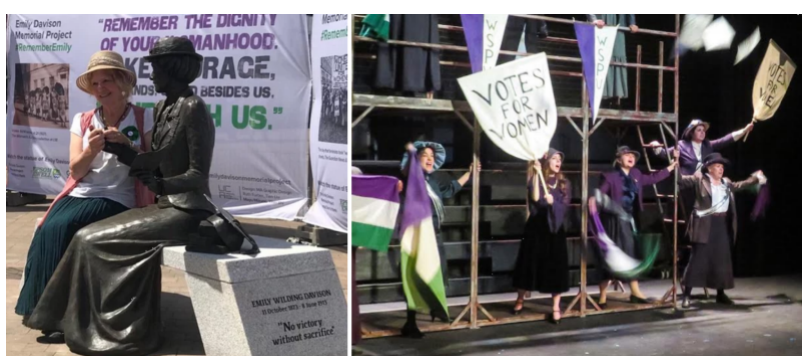
The play focused on the relationships between the newly widowed Emmeline and her three daughters, Christobel, Adela and in particular, Sylvia. Her relationship with her mother becomes increasingly fractious as the strategies pursued by the Women's Social and Political Union, founded by Emmeline, become increasingly at odds with her socialist principles. These were encouraged further by her relationship with the founder of the Labour movement, Keir Hardie.

At the same time as we are let into the Pankhurst family dynamics, we are shown their social and political context including the debate around the cause between prominent politicians of the day and many of the stand-out events during the suffragette era, including the actions of Emily Wilding Davison at the Epsom Derby in 1913.

The play was well acted by a diverse cast of actors, with a stand-out performance by Georgie Rhys as Emmeline in particular. Direction was impressive, given the sheer intensity of the plot, and coordination of all the different aspects of the production.

The set was very simple but effective, with a two-tier stage with raised platforms at the rear and sides, minimalist lighting and a variety of props that often acted as symbols rather than literal objects. The sound design accompanying the production was an important aspect of the overall impact of the play, with several authentic and beautifully sung suffragette songs. reprieved throughout the play to rousing effect.

I loved the use of the background presence of an actor portrayed as the "heroic woman" motif throughout the play, representing the movement and its ups and downs. This was inspired by an illustration on the front page of an original Suffragette newspaper. I also thought the sound design and production really took the play to a different level.



Emily Davison Statue and the play Emmeline

For me, the psychological aspects of the play highlighted the personal costs, as well as rewards and triumphs, that are paid by those in single-minded pursuit of a mission to the exclusion of all else, including health, safety and relationships with loved ones. The play alludes to Emmeline's drive to finish the work started by her beloved husband as the source of this obsession.

Ironically, without those like Emmeline and her daughters, who willingly devote their lives to a cause, social progress could not happen. In this case, women would not have the rights they have today, even if there is still a way to go. This is brought home to the present day at the end with a scene where Emmeline is portrayed as her statue outside the Houses of Parliament. This play is an impressive debut for Beatrice Hyde, but also a production that I would highly recommend for anyone with an interest in 20th Century history, women's rights and psychological drama.

**Sarah Dewing**  
**Chair**  
**Emily Davison Memorial Project**



# Mole Valley Local Plan paused: official

8 March 2023



Inspectors have agreed to pause the examination of Mole Valley's 6,000 home blueprint amid attempts to remove all green belt sites for development.

Mole Valley District Council had written to the Planning Inspectorate asking to remove all green belt sites from its draft local plan in anticipation of government changes to the planning system. But these hopes have been dashed by the inspector on the grounds it could not prejudge any prospective changes. Despite the setback, the inspector said they would be happy to delay hearings until May – when any new rule changes become clearer- and that is where things stand.

Local plans are the basis for planning decisions in an area. They outline the type, location and density of development that is likely to be permitted. Without one, developers have much freer range to chance their arms.

The council also does not have a five year housing land supply, which again tips the favour towards developers and increases the urgency with which Mole Valley District Council needs to get its local plan signed off.

Mole Valley District Council's leader member for planning, Councillor Margaret Cooksey, said that, while disappointed the local plan has been delayed yet again it is a better outcome than having to start the process from scratch. She said: "I am disappointed we are having to pause and delay. The longer we are without an adopted plan the more at risk our green sites are. If we carry on we have to work on current National Planning Policy Framework rules and greenfield sites we have in the plan. That is what we are trying to prevent. But if we just abandon the current plan we would have to start from scratch and that would take a lot longer. We don't want to lose the good parts of the draft plan."

She said they have already received an application to build on one of the green belt sites they are trying to remove from the local plan.

The planning inspector agreed to delay examination of the local plan until May 25 at which time there should be greater clarity around future national planning policy and will also accommodate the implications of the council's all out local elections in May.

Related reports:

Lessons for Epsom in Mole Valley's "shouty" Local Plan struggle?

How Green is My Mole Valley?

Can Epsom and Ewell get more dense?

## After Ronnie Scott's? Epsom of course!

8 March 2023



Fresh from their 'Two for the Road' concert at **Ronnie Scott's**, internationally renowned virtuoso jazz guitarist visiting from Norway, **Frode Kjekstad** is pairing up with local legend **Nigel Price**. Together with Italian drum sensation **Laura Klain** and the brilliant **Mikele Montolli** on double bass, they will give a special live concert in the heart of Epsom on **Saturday 11th March**.

Epsom Jazz Club, resident in the Oaks Room, Church Street, Epsom has sold out all its regular Tuesday concerts this season. So this is the last chance to enjoy the unique cabaret seated venue until next season starts in May. A real taste of the world famous Ronnie Scott atmosphere and music brought to your own Town.

Frode has wowed audiences whilst playing alongside heavyweight jazz stars such as Dr Lonnie Smith, Mike LeDonne and Eric Alexander.

Epsom Jazz Club advises buy your tickets in advance. Go to [www.epsomjazzclub.com](http://www.epsomjazzclub.com) for tickets.

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## Sue Bull - a special lady. An obituary.

8 March 2023



Susan Helen Bull (Sue) was born in January 1958 in Dorset but her family moved back to Berkshire in the mid-1960s. Born into a farming community she and her older brother were the first in the family to go to university and Sue graduated in Economics from London University. She worked at Eversheds in the City of London as a Company Secretary and then moved to Epsom in 1982.

She was an active member of Christ Church (Epsom) for many years, becoming a very successful churchwarden, which led to a calling to ordained ministry. She was appointed Curate at St Barnabas Church in 1998 and continued to have a close association with the parish in her later work as a chaplain at both Surrey and Borders NHS Trust and Epsom and St Helier NHS Trust. For several years she continued to lead St Barnabas Church on a voluntary basis while the church appointed a new vicar, leading worship and facilitating the church's wider links to the local community.

As a mental health chaplain, she saw the pain and lack of community support for the people discharged from mental hospitals and for people suffering from mental ill-health generally. A lifetime calling started, first founding the Monday drop-in in collaboration with St Barnabas Church, later founding the Love Me Love My Mind charity in 2008 and acting as Chair until her death in December 2022. The charity is run entirely by volunteers and is funded by grants and donations; it aims to break down stigma and inspire understanding about mental health.

At a time when very few spoke about mental health, Sue championed this cause, building a strong community in the Monday drop-in and raising awareness through the Epsom Mental Health and Wellbeing Festival. This annual event went from being a table in Epsom marketplace handing out leaflets, to a full week of activities with high-profile expert speakers. As it grew, Sue organised the festival in collaboration with other charities in Epsom and ran it with an army of volunteers. She was always an extremely competent, professional but unassuming leader. Sue had a flair for building connections. She was totally inclusive and developed an extensive network across every sector in our local community as well as nationally. The festival has been recognised nationally as a unique community engagement model, visited by NHS England and serving as a model for other areas.

Sue was an intellectual with a clear purpose. She studied Theology in Switzerland, gained a Masters in Theology from Dublin and was in the process of writing a PhD thesis about mental health and the Church. Her compassionate, deep spirituality was recognised when she became a chaplain for Westminster Abbey in 2018 and was part of the official prayer support for the late Queen's funeral.

Sue's loving, calm and self-effacing exterior hid a rooted commitment, strong sense of justice and steely determination for her calling, which at times could make her (as she would humorously say with a twinkle) 'more than a little awkward' for the benefit of others.

Sue did not have children, but through her calling became a supporting mother figure to many. She leaves behind two grieving families - her natural and acquired one.

Epsom has lost a very special lady.

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You can find out much more about the Charity Sue inspired on the website linked here: [Love Me Love My Mind](#)

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## Epsom and Ewell FC wandering to top table?

8 March 2023

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
Shoreham	24	16	7	1	63	21	42	55
Epsom & Ewell	23	15	2	6	51	26	25	47
Dorking Wanderers B	25	14	4	7	44	26	18	46
Wick	24	14	3	7	49	36	13	45

Epsom & Ewell FC 1-0 Dorking Wanderers B. Southern Combination League - Division One. Tuesday 28th February.

As a supporter, it is sometimes easy to forget after an awful performance that the players are hurting too and on Tuesday evening they were able to consign that East Preston defeat to history with a fine 1-0 win over a Dorking Wanderers B team that we had failed to defeat since November 2018, courtesy of a Jaevon Dyer penalty that he earned himself midway through the first half.

And without doubt, despite much improved performances across the board, Dyer was the star turn in this contest, threatening on the attack and even putting in a good defensive shift when he was without the ball.

Dorking Wanderers B came into this match on the back of claiming thirteen points out of the fifteen available since the Christmas fixtures; a run that started at our expense at the start of January. However, this result enabled our boys to leapfrog them into second place and we were given an added bonus when unbeaten leaders Shoreham slipped up at home to Selsey the same evening, ensuring that they are not yet completely out of sight in the race for the title.

There were a number of changes from Saturday's defeat. Captain Ryan Smith was absent, while Kevin Moreno-Gomez and Oliver Thompson came back into the defence at the expense of Alex Penfold and Dylan Merchant-Simmonds who were on the bench. Dyer came back into the starting line up alongside Mario Quiassaca and the surprising re-appearance of Jaan Stanley, as the club had announced this week that he had been recalled by Raynes Park Vale! With these two on the field we appeared much more of a threat and started the game brightly.

Stanley's left wing cross was clawed away from danger by Jacob Teddy the visiting keeper as early as the third minute and although chances were limited in this period, the balance of play was well in our favour and it looked like if any team were going to score, it would be us. And so it proved when Athan Smith-Joseph made tracks on the left and his low ball in deflected upwards. As a defender went to clear the ball, Dyer got in front of him and was promptly brought down in the penalty area, picking himself up to score a confident penalty in the 26th minute; his first spot kick for the club and his first goal since finding the net against Billingshurst in October.

Dorking's only real opportunity of the first half came with a low shot that was deflected just wide of our post but the corner was cleared and we went in at the break without any more concerns.

We clearly weren't prepared to settle on that single goal lead as we came out for the second half and took the match to our opponents in search of that second goal. Smith-Joseph sent a low shot in after good work from Dyer but Teddy made an easy save and Dyer turned provider for Quiassaca a few minutes later, although again Teddy wasn't really tested when the shot came in.

We then fashioned a pair of really good chances and Smith-Joseph will be wondering how he didn't take one of them if not both. In the 61st minute Dyer made another great run on the right wing and his low ball across goal found our striker just six yards out, but his shot struck the post and went out for a goal kick. Then four minutes later Dyer again stretched the full back before laying the ball back to Gideon Acheampong to deliver to the far post where Smith-Joseph somehow sent his header wide from six yards!

This was a shame as we certainly deserved a second goal and the absence of one ensured that the final ten minutes would be a little more nervy than they needed to be, although we had one more good chance in that closing period when a clever flick from Quiassaca set Stanley through and he set up Dyer whose shot was well blocked.

Ultimately, Dorking Wanderers failed to carry a real threat on goal in the absence of their main striker Ben Aubrey and so our first half goal would prove sufficient to claim the points and gain a measure of revenge for our late loss there by the same score in January.

It seems odd to be talking about the Shoreham defeat on the same evening, when they remain eight points ahead of us with a far superior goal difference, even though we do hold a game in hand, as we have some very difficult matches ahead of us, not least Selsey on Saturday who will be flying after handing the leaders their first defeat of the season and where around 200 largely partisan supporters will be present to ensure their good form continues. However, we just need to focus on our own form and we'll see where that takes us. In the meantime, credit is due to our players for finally defeating a team that have given us a lot of trouble in recent seasons.

Epsom & Ewell: Tom Theobald, Gideon Acheampong (c), Kevin Moreno-Gomez, Nick Wilson, Chris Boulter, Ollie Thompson, Jaevon Dyer, Gavin Quintyne, Mario Quiassaca, Jaan Stanley, Athan Smith-Joseph

Subs: Rory Edwards for Dyer (86), George Owusu for Quiassaca (92)