

Ewell History Day returns to Bourne Hall

11 September 2023



Bourne Hall in **Ewell** is hosting a celebration of local history on Saturday 16 September. Ewell History Day will take visitors on a journey from the Bronze Age up to World War II.

The public will be able to see blacksmith **Dr James Dilly** cast a bronze axe head, watch as Iron Age folk make offerings to their gods in Bourne Hall lake, witness a gladiator fight, meet Henry VIII, try their hands at some brass rubbing, learn about the Ewell witch and listen to wartime stories from the Hampshire Regiment.

Councillor **Clive Woodbridge**, Chair of Epsom & Ewell Borough Council’s Community and Wellbeing Committee, said, “Last year’s Ewell History Day was sadly cancelled following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, so I am pleased to see it return this year.

“What better way to learn about the interesting and varied history of this area, than to see it come to life before your eyes? It’s sure to be a fun day out for all the family.”

The Programme:

10am	Opens to the public
10.30am	Romans march down Ewell Village from the Grove to Bourne Hall
11am	Mayor opens History Day. Iron Age folk throw gifts in the lake
11.30am	Witchhunter tells the true story of Joan Butts - the Ewell witch
12pm	Fight to the death between a local Iron Age warrior and gladiator
12.30pm	Bronze Age metal smelting
1pm	An audience with Henry VIII
2pm	Children learn a Roman Army drill
2.30pm	Witchhunter tells the true story of Joan Butts - the Ewell witch
3pm	Bronze Age metal smelting
3.30pm	Children learn a Roman Army drill
4pm	An audience with Henry VIII
4.30pm	Fight to the death between a local Iron Age warrior and gladiator
5pm	Finish

Ewell History Day runs from 10am to 5pm, and entry is free.

The Flying Saucer Café will be open for refreshments.

Beckenham Edge Extraordinary Encounter

11 September 2023



Sutton and Epsom 41 - Beckenham 42. It was a case of polar opposites on the opening Saturday for this weekend's combatants as the hosts began the campaign with an away defeat at Reeds whilst the visitors got off the mark with a thrilling 36-31 home win against London Cornish. **Sutton and Epsom** had not had the pleasure of hosting the Kent club since their 28-8 victory in November 2013. The Black and Whites gave debuts to starting prop Callum Gibson whilst utility back Jack Briggs began on the bench. In marked contrast evergreen George London returned to the colours to make his 187th appearance. The match surpassed even the weather in terms of being unexpected and eleven tries later Beckenham won by a solitary point as the scoreboard read 42-41.

The Rugby Lane crowd palavered peacefully onwards from the clubhouse into the unclouded jollity of the afternoon to witness the Class of 2023-4 open their domestic account. The thermometer told of testing temperatures in the 90s and the challenging conditions were certain to be a factor in proceedings. Freddy Bunting kicked off for the hosts. The first opportunity was given to the visitors as Sutton strayed offside to give Lewis Bunton a simple penalty to put Beckenham on the scoreboard, 3-0, in the third minute. Sutton and Epsom replied in kind moments later as Freddy Bunting equalised with a penalty of his own for 3-3. The Bunting boot then set up a great opportunity with a fabulous 50 20 kick. An ensuing quickly taken penalty by Chris Ballard had the Black and Whites under the posts. Will Lloyd went close before it went wide for Gareth O'Brien to jink his way over. Freddy Bunting added the simple conversion for a 10-3 lead.

The next sortie to the Kent 22 resulted in a second Sutton goal. Michael Bennion made a break and Max Russell kept it alive before it was switched to the right. Gareth O'Brien then glided in untouched under the posts from 30 metres for his second try. Freddy Bunting did the necessary for 17-3 and the players enjoyed a much needed official hydration break. With thirsts slaked and suitably revitalised the boys from Balmoral Avenue swept into the home 22 and won a penalty five out. They set up the lineout and though their catch and drive faltered they were awarded another penalty. A quick tap and a powerful burst saw Jamaican international Rimarni Richards score. The conversion drifted wide but Beckenham had reduced the deficit to 8-17. The Black and Whites immediately extended their lead, though Michael Bennion's dummy went unsold, the ball was recycled, George London stooped to take a pass on the half-volley then made light of the attentions of the visitors' defence to relentlessly power on and touch down from 20 metres. Freddy Bunting bisected the uprights and Sutton and Epsom had clear water at 24-8 approaching the half hour mark.

That clear water was to be the high water mark for the hosts as their ascendancy was alarmingly transformed by a stunning Kent comeback. It was not so much a turning of the tide but a tectonic shift of seismic proportions. A careless penalty at the restart gifted Beckenham an opportunity from a 5-metre lineout. They executed their process to perfection as former skipper Liam Markey flopped over. Despite the conversion failing they were on their way back at 13-24. It was the visitors' turn to err at the restart, not only kicking out on the full but also following up by giving away a penalty. Sutton and Epsom opted for the kick to the corner rather than through the uprights but the gamble did not pay dividends. Moments later at the other end the men from Balmoral Avenue were more clinical as they won their lineout and a bullocking run by Rimarni Richards crossed the whitewash. On this occasion Lewis Bunton added the extras for 20-24. As a disbelieving home crowd dropped their remarks into the understanding air there was one more twist, or perhaps dagger to the heart, before the half-time whistle. Dan Hamilton gathered a loose ball in his own half and he sprinted by the grandstand with no one ahead of him. Desperate cover closed him down but a wonderful support run by Lewis Bunton saw the 10 score. He added the conversion and the visitors turned around 27-24 to the good to end a jaw-dropping half of rugby.

It was hard to know if the incarnadine faces of the Sutton players were from the heat or their embarrassment. The Kent team continued the second period where they left off in the first. Within moments Lewis Bunton had added another penalty for a 30-24 lead. From the restart the catch was run back 50 metres and soon followed try number five with a strong finish on the flank by winger Stefan Linton. The touchline conversion failed but Beckenham were 35-24 ahead with 27 unanswered points. At this stage the visitors looked to be favourites to continue their hot streak and run up a cricket score. However, the pendulum swung back in favour of the Black and Whites.

A positive carry by debutant Callum Gibson offered Sutton some respite with a penalty. Captain Bunting steadied the ship and ended the drought to close the gap to 27-35. Better was to come to raise the spirits of the Rugby Lane crowd. A desperate kick and chase by Max Russell led to a 5-metre penalty. Sadly Max Russell showed all the circumspection of the

Gadarene swine with the same result as the Biblical beasts as his quick tap gave away possession. Fortunately for Sutton and Epsom they soon got a penalty that reduced Beckenham to 14 men as Mr Duncan Butler-Wheelhouse issued a yellow card to captain Hans Laud-Anderson showing no empathy towards a fellow double-barrelled man. More woe fell upon the visitors as Ewan McTaggart emerged from a pile of players with a try from the 5-metre lineout to secure an Sutton and Epsom bonus point. Freddy Bunting converted expertly from the touchline to make it a one-point game with Beckenham 35-34 ahead.

It was time for the final official water break and cool heads were certainly at a premium as the game entered the final quarter. Sutton started to play with fluency, the tackling improved, turnovers were being won and the set scrum was secure. The Black and Whites regained the lead with their best team try of the afternoon. Multiple phases had Callum Gibson, Max Russell and Ciaran Mohr make gains and it was left to the vastly experienced George London to force his way over from close-range for his brace. Freddy Bunting once more converted from touch to lead 41-35 leaving Beckenham searching for a goal in the last ten minutes as a try would not suffice.

A spectacular finish ensued as the tension led to errors. Kicks went out on the full, balls were dropped and penalties neutered attacks. Then with the game in time added on the visitors had the chance to kick a penalty into the corner. Could they once again score from a 5-metre lineout? The ball was secured but the drive was held and anxious moments passed until a shrill blast of the whistle. Everyone expected a try but a penalty try was a surprise to those seeking shelter from the sun in the grandstand. Instead of a very challenging conversion from the flank Beckenham had an automatic 7-point score and had regained the lead 42-41. Surely that was the end of the drama.

With noteworthy game management the visiting pack controlled the restart. Slowly and steadily they advanced to the Sutton 22 and the Sutton and Epsom defence dared not concede a penalty but were desperate for a turnover. Unexpectedly Beckenham gave away a penalty and offered the hosts a lifeline. It was advanced by Bunting's boot to halfway. The lineout was secured and the endgame began. The ball went wide and the Kent territory was entered. Then the ultimate drama as Sir awarded the hosts a penalty. It was Captain Bunting who had to go to the well once more and attempt another kick from the touchline. The ball soared over the height of the uprights but inches wide and the final whistle blew. Beckenham had triumphed 42-41 and the Black and Whites had the consolation of two bonus points.

Both teams had moments of dominance but also had periods they would want to forget. It was cruel that the brilliant place-kicking of Freddy Bunting was not rewarded by one last successful strike to add to the previous magnificent seven. The Sutton scrum was a source of strength, Gareth O'Brien sidestepped his way to two tries and veteran George London also doubled up with forceful scores. Equally Beckenham had their standout performers with the powerful carrying of prop Rimarni Richards being rewarded with two tries, Dan Hamilton was central to the comeback and their lineout converted the chances they were provided with remorseless efficiency.

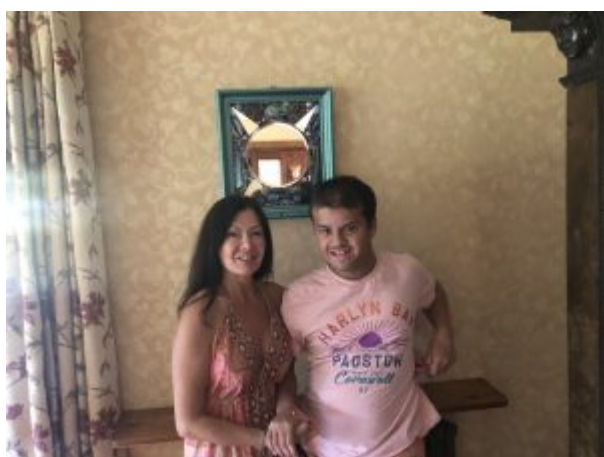
Next Saturday, 16th September, the charabanc will be heading to Geoffrey Knight Fields for a fixture with Old Reigatian. OR have opened their campaign with an impressive 33-7 home win against Sidcup before a 36-26 winning trip to London Cornish in round 2. Meanwhile the Black and Whites will hope it will be third time lucky as they search for their first win.

Sutton and Epsom: Michael Bennion, Max Russell, Ross Parsons, Freddy Bunting ©, Ciaran Mohr, Gareth O'Brien, Chris Ballard, Will Lloyd, Chris Farrell, Callum Gibson, Ewan McTaggart, Josh Glanville, George London, Rob Hegarty and Kean Orchard. Replacements: (all used) Tom Boaden, Jack Howes and Jack Briggs.

Beckenham: Luke Bosch, Stefan Linton, Dan Hamilton, Matt Lovell, Tom Bateman, Lewis Bunton, Ben Murphy, George Baker, Lamar Sinclair, Rimarni Richards, Ciall Kirwan, Josh Hiscott, Liam Markey, Tom Ward, Hans Laud-Anderson. Replacements: (all used) Rob Willden, Olly Stapleton and Sami Suliman.

School transport early term teething problems

11 September 2023



Families have been left without school transport for the start of term despite **Surrey County Council** promising to “learn lessons” after pupils were left stranded last year.

One parent of a 19-year-old with severe learning difficulties said she “stopped mentioning” going back to school to her son once she realised transport probably wouldn't be in place in time for the start of term.

Georgie Morris said her son, Greg, missed the first four days of his school term, but has now had confirmation that he will be able to get to school on Monday (September 11).

She first had transport approved for Greg, who has a placement at a New Malden college which is the nearest suitable

place for him, in June.

But having waited through the summer for details to be confirmed she claims she was told the day before Greg was due to go back on September 5 that there was no transport in place.

Having spoken to someone at the county council on Thursday, September 7, Georgie then had Greg's transport confirmed.

Despite some families not having transport sorted for the start of the new term Surrey County Council bosses say "significant improvements" have been made since last year but admitted there were issues with finding providers for a small number of children who require specialist provision due to their needs.

There are also more than 350 applications waiting for travel arrangements, but a council spokesperson explained these were from 544 applications made in August. So far more than 170 have been dealt with, with the remaining ones on track to be assessed within the 30 day timescales.

But she said Greg, who is non-verbal, has severe learning difficulties and global developmental delay, is bored at home, and needs the stimulation school brings.

She said: "I tell him 'It's so many sleeps until school', so he was geared up to go to school. Once I realised this wasn't going to happen, I just stopped mentioning it, we just carried on with the holidays."

She couldn't drive Greg from her Dorking home to the college, saying she doesn't always have access to the car, and it would be too stressful for her. But once she had the transport confirmed, she said she "instantly felt okay".

Georgie told the LDRS: "I'm lucky in the fact that I can chase and I've got the wherewithal to kick up a stink and to get things done, but a lot of these parents don't."

She worried about other parents, some of whom may have additional needs themselves, or might not know where to turn.

While she's sympathetic with staff at the council who have a "very difficult" job to do, she said better accountability and communication were needed.

A county council spokesperson said: "There is a small cohort of children who require specialist provision for high and/or complex medical needs that, due to a lack of suitable providers, are waiting for appropriate arrangements. "We are in direct contact with these families and are actively working with them to find a solution. Measures such as personal travel allowances have been offered in the short-term."

In May, councillors were warned that the county council needed to tackle a £12million overspend on school transport "to avoid adversely impacting services".

A review following issues at the start of the 2022 school year led to 50 recommendations for the authority, as councillors heard that families were turning to food banks in the face of delays and suffering an impact on their mental health.

Councillor **Clare Curran**, cabinet member for education and learning, told a select committee meeting in December she didn't "underestimate" the task at hand, but was "confident" that by this September families wouldn't "suffer the failure" of the 2022 start to the year.

A council spokesperson told the LDRS this week: "Significant improvements have been made regarding the assessment and planning of families' transport arrangements, and addressing the challenges faced previously. We are not currently experiencing any application or travel delivery backlogs, and across the last six months 95% of applications were assessed within our agreed timescales.

"All applications for home to school travel assistance received prior to 31 July were processed, and families had their travel arrangements communicated to them, before the start of the autumn term."

Families with specific complaints and enquiries are urged to call the council's Contact Centre on 0300 200 1004 so it can investigate.

Related reports:

Surrey's school transport £12M overspend

School transport failings lead to foodbanks...

Families 'in limbo' as SCC fails on school transport

Unprovoked attack on man and his dog in Epsom

11 September 2023



On 5th September 40 year old Scott Smith of Tonstall Road, Epsom assaulted another Epsom man in an “unprovoked attack”. After the assault, during which the victim fought back in self-defence and Smith “came off worse”, Smith kicked the victim’s “innocent” small dog with such force that he rendered the pet unconscious.

The incident took place outside and within a local supermarket and the episode was recorded on the shop’s CCTV camera. This led to the prompt arrest of Smith who was brought in custody before the Surrey Magistrates sitting in Guildford on Saturday 9th September.

Smith pleaded guilty to an offence of common assault and an offence of causing unnecessary suffering to an animal.

The presiding magistrate stated the offences were so serious the decision on sentence would be reached on another day when all “sentencing options” would be considered.

Council solve Scots Pine tree puzzle

11 September 2023



The Planning Committee Meeting, held at Epsom Town Hall on 7 September 2023 centred around two key topics: a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) concerning a Scots Pine tree in Grafton Road and the modification of approved plans for a construction project in Boleyn Avenue. After a brief discussion, two motions were passed.

Regarding the Scots Pine tree TPO, a historical mapping error had inaccurately placed the tree. Originally, it was marked as if it were located in the front garden of No. 10, but it was listed under the address of No. 8 in the TPO schedule. To rectify this, it was recommended to issue a new TPO, providing temporary protection to the tree. The Planning Development and Enforcement officer presented the motion and explained the TPO application procedure, highlighting the historical nature of the error.

Three key recommendations emerged:

1. Confirmation of Tree Preservation Order No. 476A without modification
2. Revocation of Tree Preservation Order No. 476.
3. Modification of Tree Preservation Order No. 6 to remove the reference to Pine T17.

However, some debate ensued as both the tree owner and the neighbour raised concerns. Their primary worries included the tree’s height, branches falling during strong winds, and damage to the pavement caused by birds. Additionally, the tree owner expressed frustration over the extended duration of their application and objection to the TPO.

During the meeting, several councillors voiced concerns about potential limitations on future actions concerning the tree if the TPO application succeeded. Councillor **Julian Freeman** (LibDem College) questioned the evaluation system and its impact on daylight where the trees were located, while Councillor **Peter O’Donovan** (RA Ewell Court) expressed concerns about the tree’s size and height and its potential impact on nearby residents and properties.

On the other hand, Councillor **Neil Dallen** (RA Town) emphasised that the motion primarily aimed to correct documentation. He clarified, “As I understand, for the TPO to be corrected and put in the right place. If the tree gets too big or branches start falling off, then even though it’s got a TPO, they can apply to prune the tree or do whatever’s needed. It’s not causing any damage to property.” The motion passed with one abstention.

The second topic discussed was the modification of approved plans for a construction project at 15 Boleyn Avenue. This project involved a two-story, two-bedroom dwelling with additional garage space. After a brief presentation by the officer and clarifications by Councillor **Phil Neale** (RA Cuddington), the motion received unanimous approval.

Healthy future for Epsom's restored White House

11 September 2023



The **White House**, located at 16 Waterloo Road, **Epsom**, nestled between Blacks Burgers and Nandos, is a Grade II listed building that dates back to the early 1700s. Recently, it has undergone a beautiful restoration in preparation for an exciting new phase in its rich history.



The new owner has successfully preserved the building's charm and character, while modernizing its internal features to create comfortable and contemporary treatment and therapy spaces. The White House is transformed into a Health and Wellness Centre, where professionals with various skills can utilize rooms once occupied by two historically significant individuals, as confirmed by the plaque on the building's front, visible from the pathway.

Around 1800, Prince George and Mrs. Fitzherbert resided in the same building now known as The White House. However, the question arises: What became of Princess Caroline, the woman Prince George married just five years earlier, and why

is her name absent from the plaque?

While King George III led a scandal-free life, the same cannot be said for his son, Prince George, who lived an extravagant lifestyle characterized by heavy drinking and entertaining mistresses. Burdened by mounting debts, Prince George sought financial assistance from his father, who agreed to help him under the condition that Prince George marry his cousin, Princess Caroline of Brunswick.



Although Prince George had previously secretly married the twice-widowed Maria Anne Fitzherbert, this marriage was invalid because King George III had not consented to it. On April 8, 1795, Prince George married Princess Caroline at the Chapel Royal, St. James's Palace. However, the couple proved incompatible despite Caroline giving birth to Princess Charlotte, George's only legitimate child, just nine months after their wedding ceremony.

Upon their first meeting, Prince George called for a glass of brandy, while Princess Caroline commented on how much thinner and more handsome George appeared in the portrait she had seen of him. Prince George found his wife unattractive and "unhygienic" and could not bear to have intimate relations with her (he ensured he was drunk on the night of their wedding). Princess Caroline, on the other hand, was beloved by the public, who generally despised her husband, "the Prince of Pleasure," due to his continuous overindulgence and accumulating debts.

On January 29, 1820, George ascended to the throne as King of the United Kingdom and Hanover, with Caroline becoming Queen Consort in name. George sought a divorce from Caroline but couldn't obtain one due to the weak evidence against her. This was partly because Caroline was held in high regard by the public, who viewed George's conduct as immoral.

Caroline was barred from attending King George IV's coronation on July 19, 1821, and subsequently fell ill in London. Tragically, she passed away three weeks after the coronation she had not been allowed to attend. Her funeral procession moved slowly through London en route to Brunswick, where she was laid to rest. This allowed George to continue his romantic attachment to Maria Fitzherbert and entertain other mistresses.



The brass medallion, which I purchased a few years ago at **Oxfam in Epsom High Street**, likely belonged to one of Queen Caroline's supporters before her death. It resembles a miniature portrait, much like the one of Prince George shown above. "Caroline Queen of England" is inscribed around the perimeter of the medallion, featuring a bust of King George IV's lawful wife.

The brass medallion serves as a poignant reminder of how poorly Queen Caroline was treated by her husband, King George IV, and underscores the ongoing need to ensure that women from all cultures and walks of life are shown respect and treated fairly in today's modern society.

Epsom horse owners asked to take survey

11 September 2023



Britain's inaugural **Thoroughbred Census** has been initiated, inviting former racehorse owners to partake in the survey open until December 31, 2023. The primary aim is to enhance the traceability of retired racehorses.

About the Census: The census is a collaborative effort with Retraining of Racehorses (RoR), the official aftercare charity of British Racing, funded by the Racing Foundation. It receives support from World Horse Welfare and Weatherbys General Stud Book and is coordinated with experts from Hartpury University. This initiative is a crucial component of British Racing's Horse Welfare Board's five-year welfare strategy, 'A Life Well Lived.' The project's objective is to enhance the traceability of thoroughbreds after their racing careers conclude.

The Census seeks to address a recognized data gap resulting from infrequent updates to equine identification documents (passports) once thoroughbreds transition into private ownership. By improving data accuracy, British Racing and RoR aim to provide enhanced support to owners, including access to educational resources and avenues for competition if desired. Additionally, it fosters informed and supportive communities. Furthermore, it equips the Horse Welfare Board and RoR to enhance and adapt welfare initiatives and facilitates rapid and effective communication in the event of an equine disease outbreak.

Helena Flynn, Programme Director of the Horse Welfare Board, stated, "This campaign will help us emphasize responsible ownership and the critical role every thoroughbred owner plays in ensuring the accuracy of their equine identification document (passport)."

What Information Does the Census Require? To complete the survey, owners must provide the horse's equine identification document (passport) number, microchip number, age, current residence, second career, and other pertinent details to compile a comprehensive dataset for retired British racehorses in 2023.

Why is an Additional Objective of the Census Necessary? Typically, new horse owners are expected to update ownership information within 30 days. During their racing careers, this information is meticulously maintained by breeders, owners, and trainers in the Weatherbys General Stud Book. However, data for former racehorses significantly declines when they enter private ownership after retiring from racing, with equine identification document (passport) compliance averaging just 20% across the equestrian community. This decline may stem from a lack of awareness regarding the importance of this phase, uncertainty about associated costs, a reluctance to update documents even after a horse has passed away, and a general disinterest in participating in the process.

Therefore, an additional goal of the census is to engage with private owners to encourage them to review and, if necessary, update their horse's equine identification card (passport). Moreover, owners of horses previously registered with licensed British trainers will be invited to register their horses for free with RoR.

David Catlow, Managing Director of Retraining of Racehorses, emphasized, "The 'social license' for the use of horses in sport is under increasing scrutiny, with the welfare of former racehorses after retirement being a specific concern. This initiative is a significant stride toward ensuring thoroughbreds enjoy a healthy and caring existence throughout their lives, while also providing the racing industry with pertinent data to inform future decisions."

To complete the form, please visit: https://uwe.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8bNJFzR2FB95ZlQ

Participation in the census is voluntary, but owners are strongly encouraged to join the community and contribute. Full findings will be disclosed in the first quarter of 2024.

White van man to go green?

11 September 2023



Diesel van owners who drive along the Guildford stretch of the A3 more than three times a week, could be eligible for a grant to replace their vehicle with an electric model.

Surrey County Council is working in partnership with Guildford Borough Council to deliver a £11 million National Highways scheme, aimed at reducing high levels of pollution in the area. Applications can be made here from today (Thursday 07 September) as 'International Day of Clean air for blue skies' gets underway.

Vehicle dealerships that sell and lease qualifying electric light commercial vehicles are also being encouraged to apply to participate in the scheme. Applications can be made at www.surreycc.gov.uk/a3evgrantdealer. A free event is being held for interested dealerships in Guildford on **Tuesday 12 September 2023**. Tickets can be booked here.

Matt Furniss, Cabinet Member for Transport, Infrastructure and Growth said, "Reducing carbon emissions and improving air quality is a major priority for Surrey County Council as we strive to achieve our target to be a net-zero county by 2050. Pollution levels on this stretch of the A3 are unacceptable and we want to do all we can to improve this situation and protect the health and wellbeing of local residents.

"I'm delighted that we are able to offer van owners a financial incentive to replace their diesel vans with electric alternatives and to support small businesses in the switch to lower emissions. We'll also be increasing the provision of charge points near the A3 as we are across the county.

"I encourage franchised dealers who supply light commercial electric vehicles to support this scheme and apply to be an accredited dealership. This is an important first step in our joint work to improve air quality along the A3 and we hope to announce further joint interventions in the near future."

Andrew Bean, Principal Air Quality Advisor at National Highways said, "We are delighted to be working with Surrey and Guildford Councils on this scheme. Not only are we working together to improve air quality around the A3, we are reducing carbon emissions and helping businesses that regularly travel up and down the A3 at the same time.

"We strongly encourage all interested dealers to sign up and help deliver electric vans for local businesses and regular users of the A3".

Cllr Merel Rehorst-Smith, Lead Councillor for Regulatory and Democratic Services at Guildford Borough Council said, "This scheme is one of the new measures we're supporting to help improve air quality along the A3, benefitting Guildford and the surrounding villages. Our officers have worked hard to get this scheme of the ground and obtain the funding for it. We hope that local dealers and businesses will want to get involved."

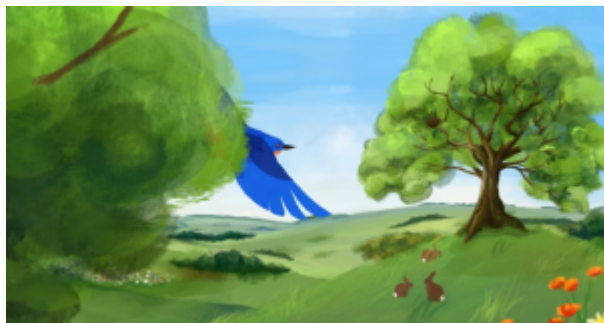
"Offering diesel van owners financial help to switch to an electric vehicle will be a real incentive for them to use a greener form of transport."

More information is available at www.surreycc.gov.uk/a3evgrantdealer

Image: Will Mellor - actor from White Van Man series. CC BBC

Surrey Uni film award in the Cannes

11 September 2023



A thought-provoking animated film made at the **University of Surrey**, which encourages its viewers to ***Remember the Future***, has achieved the accolade of 'Best Environmental Film' at the **Cannes World Film Festival**.

Co-created by the University's Institute for Sustainability to support its vision of a world where everyone can live fulfilling and healthy lives within the limits of the planet, the film seeks to draw in viewers emotionally and win hearts and minds to the need to collaborate and act.

Remember the Future was produced and directed by Jon Weinbren, who is the Programme Director for Surrey's MA in Film, Animation and Digital Arts within the University's Department of Music and Media. The film shows a tree that is ailing because of environmental damage. The tree is saved from destruction by cooperation between an optimistic, visionary child and a songbird, delivering an upbeat, hopeful way forward.

Professor Lorenzo Fioramonti, Founding Director of the University of Surrey's Institute for Sustainability, said:

"A tree is a symbolic and almost permanent thing. We see it through the seasons and ages, with a child dreaming of a future which rubs out the climate emergency. We see the solutions which are within our reach. We hope this film plants the seed and encourages people to work with each other and be connected."

Co-written by Tom Hill and brought to life by a team of artists led by animation director Izzy Barszcz, the film was crafted using digital natural media techniques to create an evocative water-colour feel. It also features an original song composed and performed by Surrey alumna Alice Mills.

Jon Weinbren said:

"We experimented with using some of the latest AI-based image generation and style transfer techniques, but the quality

we were achieving wasn't high enough. Instead, our team of animators resorted to 'traditional' digital painting techniques to create the hand-crafted look and feel which, along with a beautifully arresting, specially composed song, helps the film engage on a powerful emotional level."

Nathalie Hinds, Head of Operations and Partnerships at the Institute for Sustainability, said:

"Achieving a sustainable world takes cooperation and inspiration, as well as technology and regulation. At Surrey, we're working on all of these, with the Institute for Sustainability taking an active, leading role. Strategic partners of the Institute, who were lucky to have an exclusive preview of the film, gave feedback how the film not only creates a sense of urgency, but is a true beacon of hope. They hope to use it within their organisations to inspire staff and suppliers."

Remember the Future has been entered for other film festivals and will also screen at the Electric Theatre as part of Guildford's Car Free Day on Sunday 24 September. Find out more about Car Free Day, watch a trailer or see how the film was made on YouTube.

For information about the MA in Film, Animation and Digital Arts, visit the website.

Hampton Court ULEZ maze challenge

11 September 2023



The expansion of London's Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) to the Surrey border affects attractions like Hampton Court Palace, some of which is on the charge boundary.

ULEZ, introduced by Transport for London to improve air quality in the capital, sees drivers of non-compliant cars charged to enter the area it covers.

Hampton Court Palace, located alongside the Thames and just over Hampton Court Bridge from Surrey is largely inside the new London ULEZ however some routes from its car park avoid charges.

The A308 towards Staines and the M3 forms the border of the ULEZ, meaning cars travelling along it are not passing into the zone.

Therefore non-compliant cars will not need to pay the daily charge of £12.50, and those driving to Hampton Court Palace will not be in the zone on entering the landmark's car park.

However the exit from the palace's car park is on the other side of the roundabout, where Hampton Court Road continues towards Kingston, and is just inside the charging zone.

According to a camera map on ulez.co.uk, the first camera on the A308 is further up the road, on the corner with Campbell Road.

This means drivers coming out of the car park and turning left to go back towards the roundabout, as they would need to, may not be caught entering the zone.

In response to a query on Twitter about driving to and from the palace in the newly-extended zone, Historic Royal Palaces said: "Hampton Court Palace and its car park are within ULEZ, however if you are driving from outside of London into our car park and back out again you will not be seen by the enforcement camera and will not be charged – provided you don't re-enter the zone."

A link was included to the TfL site to check whether or not a car meets the emissions standards, and would therefore need to pay the charge.



What would Henry VIII have made of a tax like the ULEZ charge?

in addition to non-Parliamentary “benevolences” he exacted from the wealthy he did impose a tax on all beards, except his own. So maybe the vagaries of ULEZ would have been to His liking.

A Historic Royal Palaces spokesperson said: “Our priority is to continue to provide clear information for visitors, to inform the decisions they make about travel to and from Hampton Court Palace. We will continue to work with TfL to ensure that we provide the most up to date information on this.”

The ULEZ is in force 24 hours a day, midnight to midnight, every day of the year, except for Christmas Day.

According to TfL, nine out of ten cars seen driving in outer London already meet the ULEZ emissions standards.

Since its introduction, TfL said the ULEZ had already helped to reduce nitrogen dioxide pollution by nearly half in central London and by a fifth in inner London.

Several Surrey councils objected to the expansion of the zone, calling for a scrappage scheme to be extended to Surrey residents and for more exemptions.

Related reports:

Signs of Surrey resistance to ULEZ continue

London Mayor confirms drive of ULEZ to Epsom border. ULEZ explainer.

High Court gives ULEZ the green light to Epsom’s borders

ULEZ court challenge begins

ULEZ driving old cars to Epsom market

Challenge to ULEZ gaining grounds

Many Surrey motorists will be paying the ULEZ charge.

ULEZ Court battle looming

Image: Luke Nicolaides CC BY-SA 2.0

Surrey to fight Ash dieback

11 September 2023



Surrey County Council will undertake a programme of woodland management across its countryside estate this autumn, with a focus on tackling Ash dieback to protect public safety where needed, as well as identifying current and future nature recovery opportunities.

As England’s most wooded county, Surrey is heavily affected by Ash dieback, a non-native fungus which weakens the structure of Ash trees, making them liable to fall in an unpredictable way. Unfortunately, there is no known cure for Ash dieback and the disease spreads rapidly, with around 80% of the nation’s ash trees anticipated to succumb to it.

While trees in higher risk areas will need to be felled in the interest of public safety, Surrey County Council recognises the amount of ecological, historical and cultural importance that woodland has in the county, as well as its contribution to

biodiversity and carbon sequestration.

Residents had previously raised concerns about getting the balance right between protecting the public and protecting nature. As part of the planning process for this year's upcoming works, several local experts have been consulted to support in developing an appropriate approach and methodology, including Surrey Bat Group, Surrey Badger Group, Surrey Dormouse Group, Save Surrey's Countryside, Surrey Botanical Society and Butterfly Conservation Surrey amongst others. The Council will continue to liaise with local experts throughout the season in addition to its work with organisations such as Natural England, the Forestry Commission and Surrey Wildlife Trust.

Recognising the guidance provided, the Council's approach will now focus on higher risk areas around public rights of way, car parks and roads. This approach has led to around 2400 metres of permissive path being removed from the felling programme at Sheeples in West Horsley. Notices to divert the public away from some quieter permissive paths have been installed, an approach which follows similar action on National Trust land to minimise disturbance to biodiversity and encourage areas for wildlife to thrive.

A number of other measures are being put in place to minimise the impact of necessary works on nature including:

- Having a qualified ecologist on site throughout the works;
- Investing in specialist equipment and using specialist contractors to minimise disturbance;
- Undertaking work outside of ground nesting bird season;
- Creating new habitats for protected species such as Dormice;
- Development of new long term woodland plans linked to the Council's nature recovery strategy;
- Replanting or encouraging natural regeneration of suitable tree species wherever appropriate.

Following extensive arboricultural and ecological surveys, works are anticipated to focus around targeted areas of **Sheeples** (West Horsley), **Newlands Corner** (near Guildford), Park Ham (near Betchingley), **Norbury Park** (Leatherhead/Dorking), **Brockham Quarry**, **Beech Avenue** (Effingham) and areas of the **Downs Link** path. All works are subject to all necessary permissions and licenses being secured, so may be subject to change. Where Ash dieback works are taking place, tree species other than Ash may also be removed for safety reasons.

Marisa Heath, Surrey County Council Cabinet Member for the Environment comments: "Ash dieback has had a devastating effect on ash trees not only across Surrey but nationally. Over the coming months we will be undertaking safety works across our countryside estate, however we will be managing this carefully and have minimised felling where we can.

"We will also be looking at how we can improve the overall quality and biodiversity of our woodland in order to develop long term woodland habitat management plans, as we understand the important role that trees play in helping us reduce the impacts of climate change and also in providing important habitats to a range of species. We have facilitated the planting of over 385,000 trees and we have plans to plant more during this tree planting season, but also to ensure we have a range of habitats for nature recovery."

As part of Surrey's ambition to be a carbon neutral county by 2050, Surrey County Council has a target to facilitate the planting of 1.2 million new trees (one for every resident) by 2030. Tree planting season is underway and more details on how to get involved can be found online.

'Show and tell' walks are being offered to the public as an opportunity to find out more about Ash dieback and the Council's plans to address it. Details of the events are below:

- **Beech Avenue, Effingham:** 9 September, 9.30am to 11am. Meet on corner of Beech Close and Beech Avenue, KT24 5PQ. Please park respectfully in nearby roads.
- **Sheeples, West Horsley:** 9 September, 12pm to 1.30pm. Meet at Green Dene car park, KT24 5TA.
- **Newlands Corner, near Guildford:** 16 September, 9.30am to 11am. Meet at White Lane car park, GU5 9BQ.
- **Norbury Park, Leatherhead:** 16 September, 11.30am to 1pm. Meet by Wild About Coffee (please note there is no parking at the coffee van - use Young Street, Fetcham or Crabtree car parks and follow signs)

Booking is not required, simply turn up at the meeting location shortly before the start time. For those unable to attend site walks, there will also be public drop-in sessions during September and October with details available online.

Further details on Ash dieback works are available at www.surreycc.gov.uk/ashdieback, including a short information video. Onsite information will also be available at each site throughout the works.

Epsom and Ewell Citizens Advice Bureau AGM 2023

11 September 2023

CITIZENS ADVICE EPSOM & EWELL

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

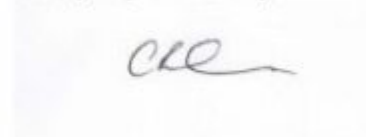
Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Citizens Advice Epsom and Ewell will be held at the Epsom Club, 41-43 Church Street, Epsom, KT17 4PW on Tuesday 19 September 2023 at 5.30pm.

Agenda:

1. Apologies for absence
2. Resolution A: To approve the minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting.
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. Treasurer's oral report
5. Resolutions:
 - B. To approve and adopt the Annual Report and Accounts for the year 2022-23.
 - C. To note the Board's appointment of Longmeade Consult Ltd as the Independent Examiner.
 - D. To note the retirement of Patrick O'Driscoll as Trustee /Director under Article 44.
 - E. To elect the following new Trustees/Directors for a three-year term:
 - (a) Simon Culhane
 - (b) James Thornton
 - (c) Barry Nash
 - (d) Sarah Noak

Members who are unable to attend may appoint a proxy. Proxy forms must be submitted by email to the Company Secretary at secretary@caee.org.uk or delivered to Citizens Advice Epsom and Ewell, Old Town Hall, The Parade, Epsom, Surrey KT18 5AG at least 48 hours before the meeting. An instrument of proxy which is not so delivered shall be invalid.

Company Secretary



By Order of the Board

World class live-jazz returns to Epsom

11 September 2023



Epsom Jazz Club returns this Tuesday 12th September for another three highly anticipated world class jazz concerts, beginning with their first intimate duo show.

The wondrous pair of Cuban Jazz violinist **Omar Puente** and Italian pianist and composer **Ilario Ferrari** have performed their "**Mediterranean meets Cuba**" show numerous times in London to sellout crowds and now Epsom Jazz Club has encouraged them to bring it to our Borough to launch the new Season. Omar can often be seen leading his own sextet in

venues such as Ronnie Scott's and upon many a Jazz Festival stage. Ilario is equally busy, having just released his third album as band leader, a work for piano and string quartet that combines Classical music, contemporary Jazz and Indian rhythms. They promise to take the audience on a journey from Cuba, the shores of south Italy and back, exploring the common ground and new possibilities that come from the encounter of the Afro-Cuban Jazz tradition and the Mediterranean Culture.

Next month, on Tuesday 10th October Epsom Jazz Club plays host to an all-star Saxophone Quartet led by swing and the straight-ahead focussed **Fraser Smith**. In-demand pianist **Rob Barron** makes his return to Epsom after his visit in August (with vibes player Nat Steele), alongside revered bassist **Simon Read** and stalwart jazz drummer **Steve Brown**. Swinging sax quartets are often so popular with audiences and these four musicians are amongst the best. Following Fraser's album release in April this year, the band has been gigging all over the UK showcasing much of the music from "TipTop!" as well as hard bop / bebop arrangements of popular standards.

And finally, on Tuesday 7th November arguably one of the world's best jazz clarinetists, **Giacomo Smith**, will be performing on the Oaks Room stage. Born in Italy and raised in upstate New York, Giacomo leads many great projects (including Kansas Smitty's, Hot Five, Trav'lin Light) as well as being in demand all over the world as a soloist and collaborator. He's produced recordings for Jamie Cullum, rising star Jas Kayser and the debut album from actor Damian Lewis alongside performing regularly as a featured soloist with Gregory Porter the Southbank Sinfonia and other international orchestras. His writing, production and collaborations have garnered 10m + streams and counting. Alongside New Zealand born jazz guitarist and banjo player **Alexander 'Honey' Boulton**, and US born (and Manhattan School of Music and Royal Academy of Music graduate) double bassist **Will Sach**, Epsom Jazz Club has booked a phenomenal trio for their Autumn Season finale!

Tickets for all these concerts are on sale now and available to buy in advance either via their website **EpsomJazzClub.com** or by going directly to the **ticket site**.

<http://twitter.com/EpsomJazzClub>

<http://facebook.com/EpsomJazzClub>

<http://instagram.com/EpsomJazzClub>

Reeds Weybridge 27 - Sutton & Epsom 12

11 September 2023



Following the disappointment of last season's relegation **Sutton & Epsom RFC** had a stern test in their Regional 2 South East opener with a trip to Reeds Weybridge. The hosts are one of the country's most upwardly mobile clubs with six promotions in the last eight campaigns whilst they finished third at the last time of asking. There was some compensation for missing out on their habitual climb up the rugby pyramid. An excellent cup run ended in an 18-3 defeat to league rivals Battersea Ironsides at Saracens' StoneX Stadium in the final of the inaugural Papa John's Regional 2 South Plate. For the Black & Whites it was their first league encounter with the men from Whiteley Village. S&E welcomed debutants Chris Ballard, Kean Orchard and Max Russell to the 1st XV whilst, on the other end of the scale, it was a red-letter-day for Will Lloyd as the veteran prop made his 100th 1st XV league appearance. Unfortunately, Sutton failed to open their account at the first time of asking as Reeds Weybridge deservedly won by 27-12.

On a magnificent summer's afternoon, with a cricket match in progress on the other side of the trees, S&E's new captain, Freddy Bunting, initiated proceedings kicking down the modest slope with a gentle breeze in his face. The hosts completely dominated the opening fifteen minutes. They imposed their tempo and pattern on the game. After an initial penetrative carry by a forward or two the ball was spun wide. Despite the territory and possession the forward bursts were modest rather than devastating. Sutton survived a quick tapped penalty from the alert Ollie Palmer but having cleared their lines incurred their first penalty to the new experimental tackle laws. A probing kick to the corner gave RW a great attacking platform. The first assault was repelled by a Matt Whitaker tackle but swift recycling saw the ball swung blind and an overlap was created for lock Cameron Goodwin to stride home. Jack Jesty added the extras with a sweetly struck conversion from the flank for a 7-0 lead.

Buoyed by the opening score on five minutes the Hersham men looked to stamp their

authority on the game and extend their advantage. Despite the next ten minutes being one-way traffic the hosts and spectators were frustrated by the stop-start nature of the proceedings. Errors were met with a bountiful whistle as infringements and rustiness were not excused by Referee Wright. A second try for RW seemed inevitable as Coriolanian Sutton defence was required to hold their line. The ball was sent wide for an inevitable score but a diving Michael Davies intercepted a pass with a catch more familiar to cricket than rugby. The frustrated hosts conceded a penalty and the visitors cleared from under their posts.

Belatedly S&E had some possession and immediately put it to great effect. Fluent handling saw them arrive for their first visit into the alien 22. Another penalty was awarded and Bunting kicked to the corner. Before the lineout was taken prop Alex Mount was replaced by Tom Boaden. From the throw a well-executed lineout saw the mass of Black & White shirts bundle over the line. Rob Hegarty emerged from the pile to claim the try. Freddy Bunting's touchline conversion drifted wide as Reeds led 7-5. They followed a period of dominance from the men from Rugby Lane. The visitors mimicked their opposition by failing to add to their total despite the monopoly of territory and possession. Though they were unfortunate that when Ben Tame crossed the whitewash from another lineout the referee was unsighted and gave the only decision available to her and Reeds had a relieving drop out. However, the visitors only had themselves to blame for failing to secure the lead. They were turned over near the line and conceded a penalty with a try at their mercy. It was the turn of RW to show the virtues of Horatio on his famous bridge.

Sutton's profligacy was punished in the 40 th minute. Chris Ballard's pass was impeded at the ruck and the loose ball was poached. Captain Bunting made an excellent tackle to stop the try but the second wave saw hooker Rhys Day score despite another thunderous tackle. Jack Jesty added the conversion to stretch the lead to 14-5. There was eight additional minutes to the half and Sutton spent more time in the far 22 but to no avail as the sides went into the interval with Reeds Weybridge 14-5 to the good.

Naturally Sutton and Epsom were desperate for the opening score of the second period. But within a minute it was the boot of Jesty that added an early penalty from in front of the posts for a healthy advantage of 17-5. The visitors played at a higher tempo but still struggled to be clinical as they tried to get back into the game. Frequent blasts of the whistle impaired both teams until the Hersham side were offered another opportunity to extend their lead. For the only occasion in the game Jack Jesty erred and S&E's task was not made any harder. Solid defence rebuffed the Black & Whites as Gareth O'Brien's scything run was halted by the offence of crossing. Reeds Weybridge then gave the visitors a lesson in scoring. From a period of sustained pressure and patient ball retention blindside Joe Wastie rounded off the attack. Normal service resumed from Jack Jesty and RW led by the sizeable margin of 24-5.

Sutton and Epsom needed a rapid reply and it came from the most familiar source. An alert Chris Ballard took a quick tap penalty then the ball was spread wide and S&E threatened again but this time Matt Whitaker was on hand to score. Freddy Bunting eased over the conversion to trail 12-24. For Reeds' Captain Herbie Finn there was not the standard scolding vituperation that often follows these moments but the sagacious advice to his troops that the game was not over. The Black & Whites needed to maintain the pressure and add to this score to create doubt in the minds of their opponents. However, careless penalties were conceded, the ball was cleared and any flames of recovery were extinguished by the commendably calm game management of the hosts.

In the last five minutes Referee Wright brandished a yellow card, going about the task with a mortician's lofty detachment from the irksome job in hand. Reeds would have to play out the game with 14 but it was too late to have a telling impact as Joe Wastie went from player to spectator. After five minutes of time added on the hosts were awarded another penalty and the assured Jack Jesty bisected the uprights to conclude proceedings with Reeds Weybridge victorious to the tune of 27-12.

Reeds deserved their victory. Their lineout provided quality possession, their forwards carried effectively and they played at pace. Through notable absentees in their ranks they perhaps lacked that telling intervention in the back division to punch holes in the defence but they will not be overtly concerned having taken the points. Unlike Sutton and Epsom they opted to kick simple penalties and kept the opposition at arm's length. The hosts played with an excellent tempo and to their familiar pattern and imposed themselves on the game in the first quarter. They should have gained more than their solitary goal but early season rustiness will no doubt be replaced by clinical efficiency in the weeks to come. Their defence was resolute and their game management in the last quarter meant there was going to be no famous Sutton comeback.

For the visitors it was a delight to see the return of Matt Whitaker. Sutton and Epsom without Whitaker would be like Hamlet without the Prince and for the umpteenth time the opposition declared him the pick of the S&E bunch. Debutant Chris Ballard at 9 impressed with not only his service but also his ability to exploit the gaps. It was not for want of effort that centurion Will Lloyd failed to be on the winning side. He was rock solid in the scrum, made his carries and offloads as well as a crucial intervention on the line that prevented a Reeds try. Neither side benefited from the frequency of the stoppages but the Black & Whites failed to play with the fluency that was demonstrated in pre-season. One feels a victory would transform their demeanour.

Next Saturday 9th September league rugby returns to Rugby Lane with a 3pm home fixture

against Beckenham RFC all are most welcome to attend.

Sutton & Epsom:

Michael Bennion, Max Russell, Michael Davies, Freddy Bunting ©, Ciaran Mohr, Gareth O'Brien, Chris Ballard, Alex Mount, Chris Farrell, Will Lloyd, Kean Orchard, Josh Glanville, Ben Tame, Rob Hegarty & Matt Whitaker.

Replacements: (all used)

Tom Boaden, Ewan McTaggart and Ross Parsons.

Reeds Weybridge

Brad Robbins, Kitan Ojo, Josh Clark, Billy Maddock, Jack Grady, Jack Jesty, Ollie Palmer, Lennan Day, Rhys Day, Riley Milsom, Cameron Goodwin, Herbie Finn ©, Joe Wastie, Lewis Jones, Michael Wasko.

Replacements: (all used)

William Scott, Shannon Fullen and Peter Daverns.

Befriend the aged

11 September 2023



Loneliness is something that people of all ages can feel, but it is older people who perhaps feel this more acutely. Our **Volunteer Befrienders** visit an older person on a regular basis to offer a supportive and reliable relationship to our clients who may be socially isolated to provide companionship and support.

If you have an hour or two a week to spare, it would be great if you could consider becoming a Volunteer Befriender for **Age Concern Epsom and Ewell**. No specific qualifications are required, just good listening skills, reliability, an interest in older people and a sense of humour.

We will ensure you receive the necessary training before you start your befriending journey and will provide ongoing support. If you would like to know more, please contact Jane Hodgson, Volunteer Co-ordinator on jane.hodgson@ageconcernepsom.org.uk or by telephone on 01372 732456.

Fair photography of Ewell man celebrated

11 September 2023



Fairground enthusiast, **Philip Bradley of Ewell**, spent his life compiling a written and photographic record of every fair he visited from 1936 until his death in 1999. He amassed 30,000 photographs of fairs across the country and was highly regarded by showmen and fairground people. His collection, held at **Surrey History Centre**, is of national importance, providing an invaluable history of twentieth century fairgrounds (SHC ref 6790). You can find out more about Philip Bradley and his archive on the Exploring Surrey's Past website

The top image shows a superb shot taken by Bradley of Elias Harris' Wall of Death ride, 'The Demon Riders', at Lindfield Fair, 1949.

We all remember the fun and excitement of going to fair - the thrilling rides, the sights and sounds of fairground machinery, eating too much candyfloss, and the tears and tantrums at not being able to win a cuddly toy on the coconut

shy! If you're interested in researching fairgrounds in Surrey, or just want a trip down 'Memory Lane', look no further than our Exploring Surrey's Past website 'Fairgrounds in Surrey' theme pages to discover all about fairs in the county and the sources we hold here Fairgrounds in Surrey (exploringsurreypast.org.uk).

[Click here for the full newsletter from Surrey History Centre](#)