10 days of events
13 - 22 Sept 2019

This year’s themes
MOLE VALLEY
on the MAP
and
PEOPLE POWER

FREE access to Historic Buildings
• Events • Exhibitions • Performances • Talks • Walks
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About the Front Cover
Background Map: Ordnance Survey First Series 1816, University of Portsmouth, visionofbritain.org.uk.
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People Power – In the footsteps of the Suffragettes and What the Surrey Hills Suffragettes did next (see page 23 and 24). Tillingbourne Waterfall (see page 26), photo ©Rod Shaw. Leith Hill Place (see page 35), photo ©National Trust Images/John Miller. Buckland Windmill (see page 17).

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E&OE.
Introduction

25 Years of Heritage Open Days

25 years ago a small number of towns and cities throughout England took part in Heritage Open Days, a new concept that involved providing free access to interesting places not normally open to the public. It was a simple idea originating from the Council for Europe to encourage interest in local architecture and culture and foster civic pride. The Leatherhead Society was one of those early participants, opening a number of buildings including Wesley House and Sweech House.

Gradually the scale of the event grew, incorporating more and more areas of the country and greater numbers of events and visitors. Today it is England’s largest voluntary festival of culture comprising over 2,500 organisations, 5,600 events, 40,000 volunteers and 3 million visitors across England. The length of the event increased from 2 days to 4, then 8 and now, in its 25th year, it covers 10 consecutive days from 13 to 22 September. It is to be hoped that by extending the period of the festival more people will enjoy a greater number of events than in previous years. Heritage Open Days is a firmly established national event with a secure future, mirrored locally where there is strong support from businesses, volunteers and Mole Valley District Council.

Over the years many things have changed. Responsibility for Heritage Open Days was handed over to the former English Heritage, then to The Heritage Alliance before being securely embedded in the safe hands of the National Trust, supported by Historic England and funded through the People’s Postcode Lottery. Locally the big change came in 2000 when Dorking and Leatherhead combined and Heritage Open Days became a Mole Valley-wide event. During the 20th anniversary celebrations Mole Valley was awarded ‘Star Organiser’ status.

Some things never change, however. First, events are still free to anyone who wishes to enjoy them. Secondly, the responsibility for organising the range of open properties, guided walks, exhibitions, talks, music and performance of various types lies with local communities. The reason why Mole Valley has been able to compete on equal terms with the great historic towns and cities in England is primarily because of the enthusiasm and expertise contained within history societies, museums, arts organisations and individual enthusiasts who feel passionately about their church, or their business, or their bit of the District. We are extraordinarily blessed with a rich vein of knowledgeable people for whom Heritage Open Days provides an opportunity to share their stories about why something is where it is, who was responsible for it and why it is important.

Heritage Open Days is a celebration: of the quirky, the unique, the eccentric, the diverse and the beautiful: all those things that together make Mole Valley a magical place. We hope that the programme of events on this the 25th anniversary of Heritage Open Days, will bring that magic to life.
Themes for 2019

With such a variety of events it is impossible in a short introduction to give a complete picture of all that is on offer over the 10 days. The original concept of providing access to interesting places not usually open to the public still forms the core of the programme. Just about every type of building is open to visitors: medieval houses and grand country estates, schools, caves, theatres, churches and chapels, windmills and museums. Business premises are included which are as varied as a brewery, a brick factory and a variety of shops. The natural world is also part of our heritage with a particular focus on the Surrey Hills, rivers and streams, bugs and beetles.

People Power

There are two themes that thread their way through the 10 days of events. The first is People Power, the national theme. The theme is intended to celebrate the ability of local communities, groups and individuals to bring about change. Heritage Open Days is itself a demonstration of people power since the events it generates are organised by people who have a strong feeling for and commitment to their local environment. Several events highlight individual people who have connections with Mole Valley and whose influence may have extended well beyond the boundaries of the District. These people include William Mullins of Dorking who was one of those with other Pilgrim Fathers who emigrated to America on board the Mayflower 400 years ago. A new art feature will be installed commemorating this special anniversary of the Mayflower’s sailing and the links to Dorking; the creator of this new landmark will be explaining the inspiration behind it. A very different person of power was Lord Beaverbrook, newspaper magnet and occupier of Cherkley Court, Leatherhead who played a significant role in the Winston Churchill’s war cabinet and is particularly associated with the Spitfire aeroplane. The previous owner of Cherkley, Abraham Dixon, was a less flamboyant character but his influence on the local community was significant and the Letherhead Institute, the venue for a number of Heritage Open Days events, was his gift to the community. A talk at the Institute contrasts these two very different characters. Also remembered is Sir Barnes Wallis, another local person whose influence on the outcome of the World War II was crucial and whose death 40 years ago is commemorated in a special exhibition in the Tithe Barn in Little Bookham. At the other end of the scale is an exhibition in Ashtead telling the story of Gordon Tucker from 1916 to 1919 based on his tiny diaries.

People power can also be exercised collectively. In Charlwood the restoration of 2 important listed buildings, Lowfield Heath Windmill and, just recently, Providence Chapel, would not have been possible without the intervention of the local community. They took responsibility for the buildings that mattered to them and providing them with a future. Both buildings will be open. Reference to people power would be incomplete without a mention of the Suffragette Movement. The influence of local people on the national outcome of the Votes for Women campaign.
was extremely important. There is an opportunity to visit some of the sites behind the Movement. A talk by historian Kathy Atherton on the final day of the festival will provide a fitting conclusion to the exploration of people power by looking at what happened to the women involved after the Representation of the People Act was passed in 1918.

50 years of Theatre in Leatherhead
The 50th anniversary of the completion of the theatre in Leatherhead is another cause for celebration both as an architectural gem and as a cultural centre. In this case the people power came from Hazel Vincent Wallace and Dame Sibyl Thorndike who were significant figures in the world of theatre and supporters of the theatre project. A celebration of the contribution of the theatre to the life of Leatherhead, its architectural significance and the people who made it possible takes place over two days during Heritage Open Days.

Mole Valley on the Map
The second, more local, theme is Mole Valley on the Map. This theme allows us to tell the story of change and of the evolution of our towns, villages and countryside through the medium of maps. Another way of looking at it is to acknowledge the people, places and events that have raised the profile of the District and made us different, newsworthy or even nationally important. We take a look at the Olympic cycle races and what was involved in delivering that event from the National Trust’s perspective and put Mole Valley into the international limelight. The opening event looks at the life and work of architect, MacDonald Gill, graphic designer and typographer known for his pictorial maps including those of the London Underground. The Charles Close Society for the study of Ordnance Survey maps visits Great Bookham and several communities offer opportunities to explore maps old and new to provide a fascinating insight into the growth and evolution of towns and villages.

Celebrating 25 Years of Heritage Open Days
Mole Valley has much to celebrate after 25 years of events in every corner of the District from Stoke D’Abernon in the north west corner to Headley in the north east and Charlwood in the south east to Walliswood in the south west. The geographical diversity is matched by the variety of ways in which it showcases its stories. Dance, music, drama, guided walks, exhibitions, talks and visual arts have featured regularly and this year is no exception. The organisers want to showcase the rich history and culture of Mole Valley and the talented people who make the District special. They want it to be enjoyable and fun, whether you are studying the finer points of the Louis Lagerre mural at Fetcham Park or ‘punishing’ locals at the pillory during the Leatherhead Medieval Festival. Heritage Open Days is also for all ages and events such as Bugs and Beetles at Box Hill are suitable for the very youngest. There is truly ‘something for everyone’.

Access for Disabled People
Not all buildings will be fully accessible to wheelchairs. Each entry provides an indication of access constraints. For further information on individual properties please contact 01306 879247.
Where to Go for Information

This booklet has been arranged by area so that it is possible to make linked visits to a number of properties in the same part of the District. There is a day-to-day quick guide to events on pages 6-11 to make it easy to locate individual events.

Further details of each event can be obtained by visiting the Heritage Open Days website www.heritageopendays.org.uk. This easy-to-use website contains all the information you will need to plan your visits, including location and access details.

If you do not have access to the internet, staff in the Customer Services Unit at Mole Valley District Council will assist with queries; the telephone number is 01306 885001.

Booking for Events

Booking arrangements are indicated where they apply. Some events must be booked in advance, usually because the number of visitors needs to be controlled. Please read the information for each event carefully to determine whether booking is necessary and, if it is, please refer to the booking instructions.

The Dorking Halls will handle ticket requests for a number of the events in the programme. Advance requests for tickets can be made before booking opens at the Dorking Halls on 5th August, but no tickets will be issued until after this date. A ballot will decide who will be issued with tickets in the event that the demand exceeds the number of places available. After the 5th August, tickets will be issued on a first-come-first-served basis and will normally be issued within two days of receipt of the booking request.

When booking places through the Dorking Halls requests should be submitted by email to: boxoffice@molevalley.gov.uk marked ‘Heritage Open Days’. Please ensure you state the event you wish to book, the number of places you would like, when you wish to visit, your name and postal address and a contact telephone number.

If you do not have access to the internet, postal bookings can be sent to: Dorking Halls Box Office, Dorking Halls, Reigate Road, Dorking RH4 1SG enclosing a stamped addressed envelope. If you find that you have been allocated tickets for events and subsequently are not able to attend, please return them to the issuing body so that they can be reallocated.

Walks and Guided Tours

Where an event involves lengthy walking or steep slopes, some indication is given as to the fitness levels that are necessary. Please ensure that you can complete the walk or tour comfortably and that you wear appropriate clothing and footwear. This is particularly true of the Dorking Caves.

Thanks

The local organising committee for Heritage Open Days in Mole Valley would like to acknowledge the time and funding from a variety of organisations, businesses and individuals across the District to enable visitors to enjoy events free of charge. The Committee would also wish to thank Mole Valley District Council and Downs Solicitors for their financial support towards producing this programme booklet and other promotional material.
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Event Opening see page listing for further details and event time
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## Quick Guide Events

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Event Opening see page listing for further details and event time
ABINGER HAMMER

**Surrey Archaeological Society Abinger Research Centre**
*Abinger Hammer Village School, Hackhurst Lane, Abinger Hammer, RH5 6SE*

The Surrey Archaeological Society's Research Centre and Library at Abinger will be open especially to the public, featuring displays on local research, finds from the area, and we give you the chance to browse the collections while members of the Society will be on hand to give you opportunities to observe or take part in various activities, including environmental processing. Refreshments will be provided.

- **Sunday 15 September: 11:00 – 16:00**
- **Sunday 22 September: 10:00 – 16:00**

**Directions:** Access via a steep lane beside the Abinger School of Cookery, or by the footpath on the main road just passed the Post Office. There is no parking at the property and access is not suitable for disabled people.

ASHTEAD

**Ashtead Rye Meadows Wetlands**
*Fairholme Crescent, Ashtead, KT21 2HN*

Over the last 7 years our volunteers have been creating and developing a wetland area running along both sides of the Rye Brook, a small tributary of the river Mole. In that time we have planted a Jubilee Wood, reshaped the river banks, created ponds and scrapes to encourage the biodiversity of the area and generally have done all we could to encourage wildlife whilst also enabling the Rye Brook to work as the flood escape zone on the north side of Ashtead. Our resurfaced footpaths enable buggies and pushchairs to be used with ease. We have also created a Centenary Field commemorating those Ashtead residents who fell in the Great War.

- **Saturday 21 September: 11:00 – 15:00**

**Site Info:** Volunteers on hand to advise and guide. Boots or wellies recommended. There are no toilets on site. Dogs welcome.

**Directions:** Access to the Centenary Field and the Rye Meadows is via the Public Footpath from Fairholme Crescent (off Bushey Shaw/Links Road, Ashtead), and there is on-street parking in the area, but please be considerate to our neighbours.
Corporal Gordon Tucker: Life in a Pocket Diary 1916 – 1919

*St Giles’ Church, Park Lane, Ashtead, KT21 1EJ*

Corporal Gordon Tucker worked as a mechanic and rigger at Beaulieu, Hounslow and Wye aerodromes during World War I, and later retired to Ashtead, Surrey. This exhibition features extracts from his diaries and photographs he took between 1916 and 1919. In this set of his fascinating tiny diaries, he detailed his repairs on various WW I planes, as well as his flights with the airmen, his run-ins with senior officers, his likes, dislikes, the food he had to eat, visits to the cinema and the theatre, his holidays and, most intriguing of all, his many romantic liaisons.

■ **Sunday 15 September: 14:00 – 16:30**
  
  **Site Info:** Suitable for those with limited mobility or mobility aids.
  
  **Directions:** see below under St Giles’ Church.

St Giles’ Church and The Dell Centre Open Afternoon

*St Giles’ Church, Park Lane, Ashtead, KT21 1EJ*

St Giles is a lovely 12th century Grade II* listed church, and our volunteers will be on hand to direct you and answer questions but this will be a self-guided visit. The bells are rung Sunday evening to mark the Choral VI evensong service at 18:00 – so please do stay and join with us?

■ **Sunday 15 September: 14:00 – 16:30**

  **Refreshments will be available between 14:00 and 16:30 in the Dell Centre.**
  
  **Site Info:** Suitable for those with limited mobility or mobility aids and access to the church and refreshments in the Dell centre is paved. St Giles will be hosting the Corporal Gordon Tucker exhibition (see above).
  
  **Directions:** South off A24 into Park Lane at northern end of The Street. Church is a quarter of a mile on the left. There is plenty of parking along our wooded drive.

BOOKHAM: GREAT AND LITTLE BOOKHAM

*Events in Little Bookham are being run in conjunction with events in neighbouring Effingham. More details of the Effingham events be viewed on www.heritageopendays.org*

All Saints Church, Little Bookham

*All Saints Church, Manor House Lane, Little Bookham, Bookham, KT23 4EL*

A chance to visit the ancient, Grade II* listed, church of All Saints believed to have originated from about 1100 and containing probably the finest set of hatchments in Surrey – and a 1,300 years' old yew tree in the churchyard. We also prize our rare Vulgate Bible, the armorials of the Pollen/Maddox/Boileau families, dating from the 16th century, and a list of Lords of the Manor and patrons of the church. After, do also visit the adjacent 15th century Tithe Barn (refreshments available here), and the Manor House School and 18th century Manor House – if you have more time, do follow the 600yd Bishop’s Walk to our sister church of St Lawrence on the Effingham Heritage Trail.

■ **Saturday 14 September: 09:00 – 17:00**

  **Directions:** The church is along a footpath off Manor House Lane, between the A246 Guildford Road and Lower Road, east of Effingham.
Bookham Village on the Map

Great Bookham is one of the most picturesque and vibrant village centres in Surrey with a wealth of characterful and independent shops. Come to the beating heart of the community – meet the shopkeepers and share their knowledge and enjoy what they can offer. A day to celebrate our local shops with activities, demonstrations and tasters for all. There will be a programme of events displayed in Bookham. Local historian Tony Mathews writes: ‘A joy of living in Bookham is the small scale, informality and community-based atmosphere of its shopping centre. Big enough to serve our daily needs, small enough to ensure familiarity whenever we enter any premises.’

- **Saturday 14 September: 09:00 – 13:00**
  - **Directions:** The event is taking place in Bookham High Street, Church Road and Lower Shott.

Manor Farm Tithe Barn – and Barnes Wallis Anniversary

Visit this 15th century, Grade II listed, Tithe Barn originally for All Saints Church (also open) and enjoy an exhibition specially mounted by the Effingham Residents’ Association to mark the 40th anniversary of the death of Sir Barnes Neville Wallis CBE, and celebrate his life. Sir Neville, a distinguished resident of Effingham, was a famous engineer and inventor best known for his development of the ‘bouncing bomb’ used in the Dambusters raid in 1943 during WW II. He is buried at St Lawrence Church (which is a short walk away). Displays include material kindly loaned by Brooklands Museum, and the exhibition is supported by the Barnes Wallis Foundation and members of his family. The Barn itself is one of the largest in Surrey at 4,500 sq ft, and major conservation work was completed five years ago. Panels showing its history will also be on display. Refreshments can be enjoyed in the barn or in the terraced courtyard garden which has been recreated from photographs taken in the 1920s. Families with children very welcome.

- **Saturday 14 September: 09:00 – 17:00**
  - **Access Info:** The new courtyard garden has no wheelchair access, but is totally visible from the barn. No wheelchair access to toilets.
  - **Directions:** Manor Farm is off the A246 from Leatherhead to Guildford; turn right into Manor House Lane, the barn is on the right-hand side opposite the 2nd school entrance.

Manor House School Heritage Day

Visit our beautiful school, housed in a Grade II listed Queen Anne Manor House built in 1710. You can also wander around the delightful grounds and gardens of this former Manor House – with the Tithe Barn adjacent – bought by Miss Green, our founder, in 1937 to become a day and boarding school for girls. Over the decades as the school has grown in size further buildings have been added, and in 2000 the school became a Day-School only for girls 2/16 years old. The nursery became co-educational in 2017. Our Archives of photos, publications and other items will be on view.

- **Saturday 14 September: 10:00 – 17:00**
  - **Site Info:** 1 hour approx self-guided tour.
  - **Directions:** Next to All Saints Church, Little Bookham.
Polesden Lacey
National Trust, Polesden Lacey House, Bookham, RH5 6BD
Polesden Lacey is your space to enjoy; a place of contrasts with the Edwardian elegance of this 19th century house set within the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Little wonder that this wonderful location was the weekend party house of the incomparable socialite Margaret Greville, close friend of the Royal Family. Discover her world-renowned collections of Faberge, majolica, and Dutch Old Masters inside, and the formal gardens offering fantastic colours and fragrances at this time of year and a fascinating array of wildlife and butterflies.

- **Friday 13 September: 10:00 – 17:00**
  - **Directions:** From Leatherhead take the A246 towards Bookham. Turn left before the village into Lower Shott following signs to Polesden Lacey.

The Grange
The Grange Centre, The Grange, Rectory Lane, Bookham, KT23 4DZ
Visit our 19th century house and gardens and see maps of the site dating from 1614. Our ‘Heritage Room’ hails from when The Grange was ‘The School of Stitchery and Lace’, and contains a collection of textiles and lace made for Queen Mary, plus letters from royal households ordering items. Hear stories from former students of the School and read about our history and see a display of maps of the local area and find out who lived at The Grange over the centuries. Explore our Victorian Ballroom and Conservatory situated in the Main House and stroll around the grounds, and our well-stocked walled garden and sensory garden.

- **Saturday 14 September: 11:00 – 16:00**
  - **Guided tours – max 12 people per tour – 30 mins – plus 15 mins film.**
  - **Site Info:** Tea and cakes - with music! - available 11:00 – 15:30.
  - **Directions:** The Grange is in Rectory Lane, off the A246 (opposite Dobbies Nursery). It is near Bookham Village.
The Origins and Early Years of Ordnance Survey  
*Old Barn Hall, Church Road, Bookham, KT23 3PQ*

Most people in the UK going for a walk in the countryside take and use an Ordnance Survey Map – even if they have the app on their phone these days – but very few know about the origins of OS and how the map they are using has evolved into a very British institution that has led the world. This talk, by John King of The Charles Close Society for the study of Ordnance Survey Maps, will illustrate the history of Ordnance Survey with particular reference to places of local interest to link to our ‘Mole Valley on the Map’ theme. He will also delve into the 18th century origins of OS from the first baselines on Hounslow Heath and Romney Marsh. Local references will also include the OS in Chessington during the war years and later. An exhibition and literature from the Society will be on view.

- **Wednesday 18 September: 19:30**  
  Talk will last 60 minutes with time for questions.

Tracing the Development of Great Bookham  
*St Nicolas Church, Lower Road, Great Bookham, Bookham, KT23 3PH*

Local Historian Lyn Spencer will talk about the development of Great Bookham up to the early 19th century, and the relevance it has as one of many settlements on the dip-slope of the North Downs. Maps will illustrate the growth of the village, together with an examination of the factors that influenced its development over the centuries.

- **Saturday 21 September: 14:30 – 15:30**  
  Booking Required; via the Dorking Halls Box Office – see info on p5.  
  Booking; opens 5 Aug. Max 50 people.

  **Directions:**  
  We are on Lower Road at the crossroads in Great Bookham. The talk will be in The Pastoral Centre behind the Church – accessed through the churchyard or via the path by Carolina’s tearoom in Church Road. Pay & Display car park nearby on Lower Road.

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**Box Hill**

Box Hill Bugs & Beetles – drop in session  
*The Fort Tea Rooms, Boxhill Road, Box Hill, KT20 7LB*

Free taster session to Box Hill Bugs & Beetles – inspirational play, muddy puddles and a deep rooted connection to the natural world are all part of our sessions, so do come along and stay for as little or as long as you wish and immerse your little ones into the beautiful landscape of Box Hill and all the delights to be found amongst the trees and living creatures. Enjoy singing, playing outdoors and learning some fascinating facts. Age range: Box Hill ‘Bugs’: pre-school/toddlers, Box Hill ‘Beetles’; up to 7yrs. Dress for mess!

- **Saturday 21 September: 10:00 – 12:00**  
  **Directions:**  
  At BoxHill National Trust Café and education centre are opposite the car park.
BUCKLAND

**Buckland Windmill**
*Yewdells, Dungates Lane, Buckland, RH3 7BD*
Visit our unique and fascinating windmill, a fine example of industrial archaeology of the 1860s and the only surviving wind-powered sawmill in the UK, all surrounded by an interesting garden. Restored between 1995/2004 – with fresh painting during 2015 – the windmill now has a circular saw and lathe but functions only for demonstrations.

Visit our website: [www.bucklandsurrey.net/village-history/buckland-windmill/](http://www.bucklandsurrey.net/village-history/buckland-windmill/)

- **Sunday 22 September: 13:00 – 17:00**
  - **Site Info:** Refreshments available. Level access to garden and exterior of mill.
  - **Directions:** Park near Buckland Deli or opposite on Rectory Lane (village green) and walk down Dungates Lane.

CAPEL

**Dorking Brewery Tour**
*Aldhurst Farm, Temple Lane, Capel, RH5 5HJ*
Come and visit Dorking Brewery – yes, we are in Capel – and meet the team, see how our beer is made, and enjoy a free pint while you do!

- **Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 September: 11:00**
  - Max 100 people per tour – which lasts 45 minutes.
  - **Booking Required:** Neel 01306 877988 (info@dorkingbrewery.com)
  - Booking; opens 5 July.
  - **Access Info:** We are a working brewery, children must be supervised.
  - **Directions:** There is a small car park opposite the brewery.

CHARLWOOD

**Lowfield Heath Windmill**
*Lowfield Heath Windmill, Russ Hill, Charlwood, RH6 0EL*
Visit a complete 18th century windmill and enjoy a guided tour and small exhibition about our restoration of it. Visitors are free to enjoy the grounds (and even bring a picnic?). The Windmill is Grade II listed originally built c1737 at Lowfield Heath, where it worked until the 1880s when it fell into disrepair, until it was dismantled in 1987 and then moved to its present site.

- **Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 September: 13:30 – 17:00**
  - Max 10 people per tour which last 30 minutes.
  - **Access Info:** Children under 5 are not allowed into the upper part of the mill as the access steps are steep.
  - **Directions:** From the centre of Charlwood, head towards ‘Russ Hill Hotel’ and the mill is 800yds on the right.
Providence Chapel  
*Chapel Road, Charlwood, RH6 0DA*  
A very unusual, recently-restored non-conformist chapel containing an interesting and new historical exhibition. Remarkable for its American colonial style, with veranda and charming interior, it was originally built in 1796 in Horsham as part of their Napoleonic barracks, and it was moved here in 1816. Listed Grade II*- praised by Pevsner!

- **Friday 20 and Saturday 21 September: 11:00 – 16:00**  
  **Directions:** The Chapel is located off The Street in the centre of Charlwood and close to the School.

St Nicholas’ Church, Charlwood  
*St Nicholas Church, The Street, Charlwood, RH6 0EE*  
Did you know that Charlwood put Mole Valley on the map in c1080 when the Normans decided, for some unknown reason, to build a church here? Happily, much of the Norman church does remain – a hidden door to the rood loft was discovered only last year – we have the significant 13th century wall paintings which suggest a MeToo story of a young girl who refuses sex with a rich lord and, as a result, gets swallowed by a dragon. And a magnificent medieval screen enclosing a former chantry chapel where prayers were said to speed the deceased local squire through purgatory. New lighting, installed last summer, will be switched on, almost for the first time, for these days.

- **Friday 20 and Saturday 21 September: 10:00 – 16:00**  
  30 minute tour, plus talk – and accompanying music.  
  **Access Info:** Uneven stone path to church. Disabled access via the Rectory Drive (111 The Street)  
  **Directions:** On-street parking only (on the side of Norwood Hill Road).

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**Dorking Heritage Trail for Children**

Explore Dorking with Priscilla and Joseph to discover the Mullins’ family adventures in a new and strange land nearly 400 years ago!

pick up a trail leaflet from the Dorking Museum or Mullins Coffee Shop, both in West Street, Dorking
DORKING

**Behind the Scenes at Dorking Halls and Dorking Masonic Lodge**

*Dorking Halls, Reigate Road, Dorking, RH4 1SG*

Designed by Percy W Meredith, the Dorking Halls were opened in 1931, and from the start enjoyed a long and significant association with composer Ralph Vaughan Williams, who inspired the Dorking and Leith Hill Music Festival. After an introduction recounting the history of this popular venue, visitors will be taken behind the scenes to areas not normally accessed by the public – such as the lighting matrix, sound box, stage, dressing rooms, the 3 projection rooms, and store areas. The Dorking Masonic Lodge, who hold regular meetings and are covenanted users of Dorking Halls, will display a selection of artefacts in the Masonic Hall on Saturday between 10:00/12:30, and their Members will be on hand to answer questions.

- **Saturday 21 September: Tours 11:00 and 12:30**
  - Max 20 people per tour which lasts 45 minutes.
  - **Access Info:** Some areas are inaccessible for wheelchairs. Parking, including disabled parking, is provided to the rear of the Halls in a pay-and-display car park.
  - **Directions:** The Halls is near the Deepdene roundabout on the A25 into Dorking town centre.

**Deepdene and the Wartime Railway**

*The Green Room Theatre, Rear of Dorking Halls, Reigate Road, Dorking, RH4 1SG*

Step back into the past with this illustrated talk exploring the important part the Deepdene estate played in WWII as the headquarters of the Southern Railway. Featuring photographs, first-hand accounts and rarely seen film footage – all researched as part of the Mole Valley District Council’s Deepdene Trail project supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

- **Thursday 19 September: 19:30**
  - Max 80 people. Talk lasts 90 minutes including time for Q&A.
  - **Directions:** The Green Room Theatre is behind the Dorking Halls on the far side of the car park.

**Deepdene Rediscovered**

*53A West Street, Dorking, RH4 1BS*

Join us to hear the Secretary of the Mausoleum and Monuments Trust and Deepdene Trail Project manager, **Alexander Bagnall**, give an overview of the historic Deepdene estate and its subsequent uncovering. It has been a remarkable story of national significance and its garden can lay claim to being a place where art and nature were shaped by one of the country’s great taste-makers, Thomas Hope. Its early decline during the last decades of the 19th century has been little understood until now. This talk, to coincide with the publication of a new guide to Deepdene, will shed light on this period outlining the rise and fall and subsequent uncovering and reopening to the public in 2016. There will be an opportunity to purchase a copy of the new publication: ‘The Deepdene: A landscape rediscovered’ at the event.

- **Friday 20 September: 19:30**
  - Talk will last 60 minutes.
  - **Directions:** The URC church is in the middle of West Street, and the talk will be in the Follett Hall at right. Parking available in town centre car parks.
Discovering MacDonald Gill: Architect, Artist and Mapmaker

*Denbies Wine Estate, Bradley Lane, Dorking, RH5 6AA*

This significant talk in this outstanding venue, is the ‘Launch Event’ for this year’s HOD, and we are delighted to host Caroline Walker, Arts Society lecturer and great-niece of the artist MacDonald Gill as she presents a colourful overview of the versatile personal life and artistic achievements of her great-uncle. ‘Max’ was the younger brother of sculptor and typographer Eric Gill, (see entry for Catholic Church, Leatherhead page 27) and was an architect, graphic designer and typographer, best known for his pictorial maps – especially those of the London Underground. He also created; painted maps for Arts&Crafts houses including Lindisfarne Castle, magnificent murals for Cunard liners, and eye-catching publicity posters for organisations such as the Empire Marketing Board. An enduring legacy is his alphabet for the Imperial War Graves Commission used on all British military headstones since WWI.

**Friday 13 September: 19:30**

Talk lasts 60 minutes.

**Booking Required:** via the Dorking Halls Box Office – see info p5.

**Booking:** opens 5 Aug.

**Site Info:** Visitors can also pre-book a meal after the event in the Gallery Restaurant at a 20% discount – quote ‘Heritage 20’ when booking. A pay bar will also be available in the Gallery Restaurant after the talk.

**Directions:** Denbies Wine Estate is located just off A24, a mile north of Dorking and 5 miles south of Leatherhead. Follow brown signage.

**Dorking Cave Tours**

*next to War Memorial, South Street, Dorking, RH4 2HQ*

Welcome to part of Dorking’s extensive and strange system of cellars, caves, and tunnels that were cut into the soft Greensand over the centuries dating back to at least the 17th century. The extensive galleries were used most recently as wine cellars and, below them, a series of steep staircases lead down deep under Butter Hill to a cave of uncertain age and purpose.

**Saturday 21 September: Tours at 10:00, 11:00, 13:00 and 14:00**

45mins duration. Max 12 per tour.

Meet 10mins early for guide briefing beside the War Memorial.

**Booking Required:** Book on the Dorking Museum website – *www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk/south-street-caves/*

Booking opens: 8 July.

**Access Info:** WC nearby. No wheelchair access. The tour is not suitable for people with bad arthritis, heart or breathing problems, claustrophobia, arachnophobia or advanced pregnancy. Sensible footwear only!

**Directions:** Opposite Waitrose in South Street.

**Dorking Heritage Trail for Children**

*Mullins Coffee Shop, 58 West Street, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 1BS*

Meet Priscilla and Joseph who lived here in Dorking 400 years ago and whose lives would be turned upside down when their parents decided to sail to America on the Mayflower. This is a walk-yourself route, so pick up a trail leaflet at the Dorking Museum in West Street or from Mullins Café, a few doors down, and follow the lives of the Mullins family and their two youngest children. Walk through the streets of
17th century Dorking to discover the triumphs – and the tragedy - of their journey to the New World. The trail will include some tasks to be undertaken along the way with a small prize for those who complete it successfully.

- **Friday 13 to Sunday 22 September**
  Trail takes about 60 minutes. Starting point is from the museum.
  **The leaflet is available from**
  Dorking Museum on **Thursday – Saturday 10:00 – 16:00** and also at Mullins Coffee shop **10:00 – 17:00** on any other day.
  **Access Info:** The trail is through town centre streets which are suitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs.
  **Directions:** The museum and Mullins Coffee Shop are a short distance from High Street in West Street.

**Dorking Museum & Heritage Centre**

*Dorking Museum, Unit 1, 62 West Street, Dorking, RH4 1BS*

Come and visit the Museum for free over Heritage Open Weekend.

We have many, many maps of Dorking and the surrounding areas. Come and visit us over the weekend – we’d love to tell you about our maps!

- **Thursday 19, Friday 20, Saturday 21 September: 10:00 – 16:00**

**Dorking Museum – Betchworth Castle Walk**

*Opposite Wyevale Garden Centre, Reigate Road, Dorking, RH4 1NP*

Join a Dorking Museum guide and walk around the picturesque ruins of this fortified Norman manor-house, traditionally home to the lords of that manor, from its 11th century building by Robert Fitz Gilbert – the estate was so significant that by 1800 it stretched from the zigzag at Box Hill to beyond Blackbrook. The house was bought by Henry Hope to add to his Deepdene estate in 1834, and much of the masonry was removed and the Castle was allowed to collapse to create a picturesque ruin.

- **Saturday 21 September: 14:00 – 15:30**
  **Booking Required:** via the Dorking Halls Box Office – see info p5.
  Booking; opens 5 Aug.

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‘Over the last twenty five years, Heritage Open days has inspired millions of people to connect with amazing historic places on their doorstep. More than this, it has inspired people to stand up for these valued local spaces and look after them. HODs is driven entirely by passionate local volunteers and rooted firmly in local communities, which helps them grow into heritage festivals and week-long celebrations of our shared history’.

Hilary McGrady, Director-General, National Trust.
Dorking Museum – Deepdene Trail Walk
*Deepdene Avenue, Dorking, RH5 4AZ*

Join museum guides on a walk around the newly-restored landscaped grounds of the Deepdene, and see the splendid Hope Mausoleum – all part of the Hope Springs Eternal project, of which Dorking Museum is proud to be a part. The walk is on unpaved paths so sturdy shoes are necessary.

- **Sunday 15 September: 14:00 – 15:30**
  - Max 20 per tour – lasts 90mins.
  - **Booking Required:** via the Dorking Halls Box Office – see info p5.
  - Booking; opens 5 Aug.

- **Site Info:** Well behaved dogs on leads are welcome – but are not allowed into the Mausoleum.

- **Directions:** The walk starts 100yds uphill (south) from the entrance to former Kuoni site.

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Dorking Museum – Dorking and the Mayflower Walk
*Dorking Museum, Unit 1, 62 West Street, Dorking, RH4 1BS*

Huge interest is growing for the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower leaving the UK coming up in 2020. Let us guide you around the area through the eyes of passenger William Mullins, whose house on West Street, by the Dorking Museum, is the only surviving home of a Pilgrim Father remaining in this country.

- **Sunday 22 September: 14:00 – 15:30**
  - Max 15 people. Walk is 90 minutes.
  - **Booking Required:** via the Dorking Halls Box Office – see info p5.
  - Booking; opens 5 Aug.

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Dorking Quaker Meeting House
*Butter Hill, South Street, Dorking, RH4 2LE*

A display, including maps and old photographs, which traces the meeting of Dorking Quakers from Clarendon House to a barn in West Street and thence to our tranquil Victorian Meeting House on Butter Hill. Why and how? Come and see, over tea. The Meeting House has a rare bi-parting screen – to be opened at 11:30 and 14:30.

- **Saturday 21 September: 10:00 – 16:00**
  - **Acess Info:** Wheelchair access at back garden door.
  - **Directions:** On Butter Hill, which is a slip road off South Street just after the Bull’s Head pub.
Mole Valley on the Map
*The Dorking Halls, Reigate Road, Dorking, RH4 1SJ*

Enjoy a Mole Valley coach tour with Blue Badge Tourist Guide, Bronwen Mills, as she eulogises on the highlights of our ‘valley’ as you drive past grand houses and ancient landmarks, through historic towns and nearby villages. Admire the beautiful landscapes and scenic viewpoints from the comfort of your seat, whilst hearing about the history of the area and the stories of the people who have lived here.

- **Friday 20 September: Tours at 10:00 and 12:00**
  - Max 36 people per tour – which lasts about 90 minutes.
  - **Booking Required;** via the Dorking Halls Box Office – see info on p5.
  - **Booking; opens 5 Aug.**
  - **Site Info:** There are toilets and refreshments available at The Dorking Halls.
  - **Directions:** The coach will depart from the bus stop outside the Dorking Halls – park behind the Dorking Halls.

Mullins House/Coffee Shop
*Mullins Coffee Shop, 58 West Street, Dorking, RH4 1BS*

Come into our very old shop where William Mullins once made those famous shoes which he and his daughter Priscilla, took with them on the ‘Mayflower’, and peek around the corner up the original stairs (not now accessible), and the original fireplace and wall. You will be able to read more about Mullin’s journey to the New World printed on canvas hung on the original wall.

- **Thursday 19 and Friday 20 September: 09:30 – 16:00**
- **Saturday 21 September: 09:30 – 16:30**
- **Sunday 22 September: 10:00 – 15:00**
  - **Site Info:** Enjoy our coffee and home-baked cakes at 10% discount for Heritage Open Days visitors (minimum spend £5.00 pp).
  - **Directions:** A few doors down from Dorking Museum.

People Power – In the footsteps of the Suffragettes
*Dorking Halls, Reigate Road, Dorking, RH4 1SG*

Dorking Museum experts will walk you around the locations within the town that were linked with the campaign for the vote in Dorking, including the election headquarters of the ‘Leith Hill Women’s Suffrage Society’ and the headquarters of the 1912 ‘Dorking and Holmwood Campaign.’ Walk will last 90 minutes at a reasonable pace and the route is on paved surfaces.

- **Sunday 15 September: 14:00 – 15:30** Max 15 people.
  - **Booking Required;** call Erica on 07792068696 (ericachambers@hotmail.com)
  - **Directions:** Parking is available at the Dorking Halls.
People Power – What the Surrey Hills Suffragettes did next

53A West Street, Dorking, RH4 1BS

An illustrated talk by historian and writer, Kathy Atherton. In 1918 the vote for women was won and so was the war. So what did those who had plotted their campaigns from Dorking and Holmwood and the surrounding villages do with the rest of their lives? Enjoy the results in this illustrated talk by historian and writer, Kathy Atherton. By 1919 Emmeline Pethick Lawrence, Mrs Pankhurst’s treasurer, was marching in protest on Parliament again, accompanied by a guard of ex-servicemen. Her husband was fighting Winston Churchill for a seat in Parliament, assisted by the model for Kind Hearts and Coronets’ Agatha D’Ascoyne; the couple’s later campaigning lives and those of their local associates continued - from atrocities in Ireland, to Gandhi in Peaslake, from protests at the Italian invasion of Abyssinia to the Spanish Civil War via the founding of national charities, the first women to stand for Parliament, the fight for equal pay, and for women’s right to sit in the House of Lords.

- **Sunday 22 September: 15:00 – 16:00**
  Talk last 60 minutes.
  **Access Info:** There is free car parking in the town centre car parks
  **Directions:** The URC Church is in the middle of West Street. The talk is in the Follett Hall, to the right.

‘Rampant Rooster’ Morris Dancers

West Street, Dorking, RH4 1BS

‘Rampant Rooster’ Morris Dancers will be performing twice in West Street – do come along to enjoy and share with us this traditional colourful, lively display – our Morris group was formed 25 years ago in Dorking and are a mixed side of men and women who dance traditional Cotswold and Border Morris dances to live traditional music. For Heritage Day we are partnering with the United Reform Church, one of Dorking’s Historic Buildings, and also with Dorking Museum who will have an exhibition about local women, including Mary Neal who was instrumental in keeping the Morris tradition alive between the wars.

- **Saturday 21 September: 11:00 and 12:00**
  **Directions:** West Street is a continuation of the A25 as you come into the one-way system. There is a pay-and-display car park in West Street.

S C Fuller – Fourth Generation Family Business

Fullers, 28-30 South Street, Dorking, RH4 2HQ

Come into our shop to see a display of local memorabilia highlighting the story of our family and their place in the history of Dorking both in business and the community since 1882. As the fourth generation of the Fuller family retail outlet we are now celebrating over a century in business

- **All days from Friday 13 to Saturday 21 September: 10:00 – 16:00**
- **Both Sunday 15 and Sunday 22 September: 10:00 – 14:00**
  **Directions:** Use town centre car parks, and SC Fuller is five shops down from Waitrose.
St Mary’s Church, Pixham

*Pixham Lane, Dorking, RH4 1PT*

Within our unusual, simple, but much admired barrel-vaulted church (Grade II* listed) built in 1903 and designed by the celebrated Edwardian architect Sir Edwin Lutyens, we will highlight the history of Pixham, and of Sir Edwin Lutyens, Gertrude Jekyll, and Mary Mayo. We hope to have a short musical performance on French Horn, clarinet, piano and organ around mid-day. Special art exhibition by the Pixham Group of Artists. Refreshments available.

- **Saturday 21 September: 10:00 – 16:00**
  - **Access Info:** Easy disabled access – except stage/altar area.
  - **Directions:** Pixham Lane runs between A24/A25 east of Dorking. Church is by the railway bridge.

FETCHAM

Fetcham Park – Discover the history and art behind Surrey’s ‘best-kept’ secret

*Badingham Drive, Fetcham, KT22 9ES*

We are delighted to offer this rare opportunity to explore Fetcham Park and see the recent work on the Laguerre murals by fine old paintings conservator and restorer, **Paul Tsangari**. With our Historian **Vivien White** we will uncover Fetcham Park’s colourful past since the early 1700s. Many original features exist to this day, including the spectacular murals on the grand staircase by renowned royal painter Louis Laguerre whose work can also be seen at Chatsworth and Blenheim Palace. The murals have benefitted from much-needed conservation work by Paul and are now revealed in their near-original stunning colours. The gardens too have historical merit having been designed by the King’s architect, William Talman, and laid out as his last completed work by George London, one of the most significant garden designers of the late 17th and early 18th centuries. Over the years, Fetcham Park has been a family home and a boys’ school and, since 1999, it has been an award-winning business and event centre.

- **Friday 20 September: 18:00 – 21:00;**
  - **talks by** **Vivien White/Paul Tsangari** at 19:00, tour of the Hall 20:00.
  - Max 80 people per tour/session.

**Booking Required:** via Dorking Halls Box Office – see info on p5.

**Booking:** opens 5 Aug.

**Site Info:** Portable access ramp; cloakroom with adapted WC. Voluntary donations to St Mary’s Church building appeal. Pay-bar for wine, soft drinks and snacks.

**Directions:** From Lower Road turn into Badingham Drive and immediately right through the gates of the house.
St Mary’s Church, Fetcham
10A The Ridgeway, Fetcham, KT22 9AZ

Come and be enchanted by our beautiful church – tucked away behind The Ridgeway and Lower Road roundabout – where worship has taken place for over a thousand years. See our Saxon window arch of Roman bricks, and note how the church has been improved and enlarged almost every century since then, more recently in 2014 when we finalised a beautiful and sympathetic reordering of the interior.

Saturday 14 September: 09:30 – 17:00
Sunday 15 September: 12:30 – 17:00
Guided tours take 20/30mins, at 14:30 and 16:00

Site Info: There will be a range of activities (for children also) throughout Saturday, and on Sunday afternoon. There are Sunday services: 08:00 Communion Service /Prayer Book. 09:30 Parish Communion/Common Worship. 11:15 Informal Service.
Do come and join us at any of these services.

Directions: Access is via a drive alongside No 10 The Ridgeway. This private drive is one-way with the exit opening onto Lower Road. Ample car parking with disabled access.

GOMSHALL AND WOTTON
Exploring the Tales of the Tillingbourne
Gomshall Railway Station, Wotton, Gomshall, Surrey, RH5 9NX

Join the Vice-President of the Surrey Hills Society on this guided walk through the landscape of the Tillingbourne valley to discover evidence of its industrial past - and blacksmithing in particular. Explore the sites of former mills and historic houses in and around the village, taking in the scenic fields and country roads which run through what was once a booming and thriving industrial landscape. The project was created by the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty unit with a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund in 2016. This included the creation of a permanent display of the industrial heritage of the area now in the Shere Museum.

Sunday 15 September: 11:00 – 13:00
Max 25 people, and walk takes 2 hours.
Booking Required; via the Dorking Halls Box Office – see info p5.
Booking; opens 5 Aug.

Access Info: There are a couple of stiles.
Walk Info: Dogs on leads welcome. Not specifically designed for children but they are welcome. This will be an easy walk.
Directions: The walk starts at Gomshall Railway Station.
LEATHERHEAD

A ‘Star of Life’ – Dame Sibyl Thorndike

*The Leatherhead Theatre, 7 Church Street, Leatherhead, KT22 8DN*

The story of Dame Sibyl Thorndike as told by local raconteur, Richard Hughes, celebrates not just her sparkling life and role in the theatre’s development, but links to the 50th anniversary of the theatre that bore her name. ‘A Star of Life’ was the apt description of Dame Sibyl expressed by the writer Sir Alan Herbert. Hear how the life and influence of this remarkable actress and social campaigner who was actively involved with and gave her name to Leatherhead’s new theatre and where she gave her final stage performance.

- **Wednesday 18 September: 19:00 – 20:00**
  As part of the 50th anniversary celebrations, an exhibition on the history of the building featuring memorabilia from the last 50 years, will be open from 18:00.
  **Directions:** The theatre entrance is opposite Waitrose in Church Street.


Beaverbrook: The Man Who Made A Difference

*St. Johns School, Epsom Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8SP*

As part of the ‘People Power’ theme for Heritage Open Days, Pam Burbidge will give a talk on the life of William Maxwell Aitken, Lord Beaverbrook, the political manipulator par excellence, who lived for many years at Cherkley Court, Leatherhead. Lord Beaverbrook was a financier, journalist, politician and – above all – a controller. This talk covers the history of this remarkable man from his birth, early life and business career in Canada, his arrival in Britain, his success as a politician and government minister in two wars, all during his occupation of Cherkley Court, and his later business dealings and his unique contribution to Great Britain. The talk will also consider his social circle of friends, wives, mistresses, political alliances and his charitable work.

- **Saturday 14 September: 19:30 – 20:30**
  Talk is about 60 minutes.
  **Directions:** Follow signs to ‘Media Centre’ – limited parking at the school but there is town centre parking.


Catholic Church of Our Lady and St Peter, Leatherhead

*Garlands Road, Leatherhead, KT22 7EZ*

Built in 1923, the church was designed by Joseph Goldie (1882-1953), the third generation of a dynasty of influential Catholic architects. The church also contains the Stations of the Cross by Eric Gill (1882-1940) who also designed the Stations of the Cross for Westminster Cathedral. The 14 Stations were carved by Joseph Cribb from his workshop in Ditchling, Sussex. Several windows contain stained glass by the celebrated Arts & Crafts designer Paul Woodruffe (1875-1954) – who also designed the glass for St Patrick’s Cathedral in New York. In more recent times, Caroline and Tony Benyon have added further windows. The church also has a variety of interesting icons from early 19th century to the present day.

- **Saturday 14 September: 11:00 – 12:00**
  **Access Info:** Wheelchair access is available via the Presbytery. Toilets and baby changing facilities are in the parish hall next to the church.
  **Directions:** We are at the junction of Copthorne Road to the north-west, which joins the A245 (Bypass Road), Garlands Road to the south-east and St John’s Avenue to the south-west.
Leatherhead Medieval Festival
24 The Swan Centre, High Street, Leatherhead, KT22 8AH
For one day only, step back with us in time with this town-centre medieval themed festival which includes battling knights, music, arts, crafts, and a chance to ‘punish’ locals in the pillory! Come in fancy dress to take part in the procession which will be the finale to our 25th Anniversary Heritage Open Days celebrations in and around Mole Valley. This event also marks the launch of MV ‘Arts Alive 2019’ with the virtuistic folk experience ‘Cabareilidh’. See latest publicity for full programme.

- **Saturday 21 September: 11:00 – 15:00**
  - **Directions:** Events will take place in and around High Street and the Swan Centre.

Leatherhead Methodist Church
10 Church Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8AY
Leatherhead has very special connections with John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, for it was here in 1791 that he preached his last sermon. Find out about the history of Methodism in the town at our church – moved here in 1887 after a small group of Methodists established their first meeting house nearby in Bridge Street in 1860.

- **Saturday 21 September: 09:30 – 16:00**
- **Sunday 22 September: 13:00 – 16:00**
  - **Directions:** We are half-way along Church Road and a few minutes walk from the Town Centre.

Leatherhead Museum
(Leatherhead & District Local History Society)
Leatherhead Museum, 64 Church Street, Leatherhead, KT22 8DP
Our little jewel of a museum is in the 17th century Hampton Cottage – which has recently had life-extending, essential structural repairs and been refurbished. New displays – and exhibition – include the life and work of local artist Anthony Hill. The WW2 room upstairs recreates VE Day 1945 as it could have been when Mr and Mrs Hollis lived here. We hope to have a display of newspapers about the lead up to the declaration of war in 1939 – 80 years ago.

- **Thursday 19 and Friday 20 September: 13:00 to 16:00**
- **Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 September: 10:00 to 16:00**
  - **Site Info:** The upstairs rooms including the Anthony Hill exhibition and the Hollis WW2 room are up steep stairs. There are some narrow passages.
  - **Directions:** We are next to the Blue Cafe, just along from Waitrose. There is parking nearby in the Swan Centre and in the car park behind the Parish Hall opposite the Parish Church.
Memorable Moments in the History of Leatherhead Parish Church

Parish Church Hall, Church Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8BD

Do you have stories, personal recollections, or photos relating to Leatherhead Parish? The medieval church of St Mary and St Nicholas is the oldest building in Leatherhead and has been a focal point of community life for nearly 1,000 years. While we are repairing and enhancing the building to make it fit for worship and community usage in the 21st century, we are also investing in new and exciting ways to tell our heritage story better. As well as presenting the significant architectural features of this Grade II* listed building, and the history of ancient artefacts and historic people, we hope to include the stories of local people; you or your ancestors may have been baptised, married or buried here, sung in the choir, rung the bells, performed in a nativity play, cleaned or tidied the churchyard – maybe something more unusual that we just haven’t thought of! So, come along, see what we discover, tell us what interests you, and get involved. Activities and refreshments will be available throughout the event, so you can stay as long (or as short) as you like!

■ Wednesday 18 September: 16:00 – 22:00

Access Info: The Church Hall is very accessible. Please contact us if you require a parking permit to park near the entrance.

Site Info: Escorted tours of the church building may be available – call the Church Office for further details on 01372 362 544 (Wed/Fri 09:00 –12:00).

Directions: We dominate the skyline at the southern gateway of Leatherhead, overlooking the River Mole. Easiest access is via A24 at Given’s Grove roundabout and follow B2450.

Riverside Walk

Town Bridge Car Park, End of Bridge Street, Leatherhead, Surrey

The River Mole runs through the centre of Leatherhead and, unlike other stretches, there is public access along the riverbank. On this guided 2-hr walk you will see the river close-up with all its associated wildlife, and find out about the work that keeps it healthy.

■ Sunday 22 September: 14:00 – 16:00

Maximum 30 people.

Site Info: Level, surfaced paths, some gentle incline, some bare ground/muddy.

Directions: Meet at Town Bridge Car Park, end of Bridge Street by Running Horse Pub.
St John’s School, Leatherhead
Epsom Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8SP

St John’s School was founded in 1851 by the Rev Ashby Haslewood, vicar of St Mark’s, Hamilton Terrace in St John’s Wood in London, to educate the sons of clergymen. In 1854, the School moved into neighbouring Kilburn, and two other locations before arriving in Leatherhead in 1872 – with just 63 pupils. Since then, the school has continued to expand and is now a community of over 800 pupils. Set in 50 acres, the School site is a splendid mixture of old and new, with mid-Victorian architecture complemented by a state-of-the-art Science Centre, and modern classroom blocks and boarding houses. In 1989 the first Sixth Form girls were admitted, and the school became fully co-educational from September 2012. The School’s Old Chapel re-opened in April 2014 after extensive renovation and restoration. Former now-illustrious pupils include the eminent, contemporary architect Lord Rogers; novelist and playwright, Sir Anthony Hope; popular dance band leader, Victor Silvester; missionary and modern martyr, Fr Vivian Redlich, and the renowned archaeologist, Sir Leonard Woolley.

■ Saturday 21 September: Tours at 13:00 and 15:00
  Exhibition in Chapel 13:00 – 16:00
  Site Info: Disabled parking is available.
  Directions: On B2122 Epsom Road, 200m out of town centre.

Theatre in 1960s Leatherhead: the Origins of the Thorndike Theatre
The Leatherhead Theatre, 7 Church Street, Leatherhead, KT22 8DN

Opened as the Thorndike Theatre in 1969, the building was commissioned by Hazel Vincent Wallace and the Leatherhead Repertory Company, and was designed by Roderick Ham. It was quickly recognised as one of the best theatres of the time even though there was a surge of openings across the country in the 60s-80s. Expert Dr Alistair Fair (University of Edinburgh) will explain why the building matters and why it remains highly regarded, having been ‘listed’ as a structure of architectural significance. He will also explain how and why the new theatre came about, what ideas shaped the design, and how Roderick Ham responded?

■ Tuesday 17 September: 19:00 – 20:00 Talk is 60 minutes.
  Site Info: This event is part of our 50th anniversary celebration and we have an exhibition on the history of the building will include various items of memorabilia for you to see.
  Directions: The Theatre is opposite Waitrose.

To rather risk the perils of the sea...
Rowhurst Forge, Oxshott Road, Leatherhead, KT22 0EN

In the setting of one of Mole Valley’s oldest houses, Lucy Quinnell will explain the themes behind the new public artwork for Dorking inspired by West Street’s William Mullins who sailed on the ‘Mayflower’ in 1620. The detailed and colourful ironwork tells the story of a Dorking resident who risked everything for a new life in America. It was produced by Fire and Iron, a working forge and gallery at Rowhurst – a Grade II* Listed Building – which was the focus of a recent Surrey Archaeological Society excavation, resulting in Iron Age and Roman finds. Lucy Quinnell designed the installation around themes concerned with journeys, as she is fascinated by social history and the reasons people migrate, being herself a descendant of early Welsh
ironfounding settlers who set sail for India in the 1700s, and also of the Surrey branch of the Quinnell ironfounders who sailed to India in 1822. One granddaughter married a British soldier and their grandson came ‘home’ to Britain, where the family ironworking tradition resumed. So no surprise that Lucy is curious about why William Mullins felt he had to embark? In the atmospheric Rowhurst's living room, Lucy will expand these themes, creating a tangled web of intriguing human tales that collide in this 2019 artwork for Mole Valley.

- **Thursday 19 September: Talks at 15:00 and 20:00**
  Max 16 people per talk. 1-2 hours.
  Booking Required; email lucy@fireandiron.co.uk with name/quantity needed.
  Booking; opens 1 Aug.

- **Site Info:** Rowhurst is an old building with many steps.
- **Directions:** SatNav may take you north of the M25 (we are just south of it), so we recommend that you look at the map before setting out. Public transport details can be found on Fire and Iron’s website.
LEATHERHEAD INSTITUTE EVENTS AND WALKS
Letherhead Institute, 67 High Street, Leatherhead, KT22 8AH

Directions: We are the large Victorian building at the top of the High Street. There is nearby parking along Leret Way in the Swan Centre.

A Tale of Two Towns
Were you aware Leatherhead has a twin town, across the Channel? Triel-sur-Seine is beautifully situated on the banks of the River Seine just 37 km northwest of Paris. This is the story of two towns and the people and friendships that have developed over the years. Join us for a coffee or tea from 11:00 to browse our exhibition of the people and places that make our Triel/Leatherhead twinning so special. At 12:00 and 14:30 there will be a short talk giving facts and figures about Triel and an opportunity for questions. From 12:30 you are invited for refreshments. What we want to celebrate is that despite the turbulence of UK-European relationships, twinning provides opportunities to deepen our ties at a personal level, to appreciate cultural differences and to recognise that we face so many of the same issues. The Triellois are very hospitable, welcoming us into their homes. Some of our memorable moments have included visiting Giverny, Versailles, the Palais Garnier in Paris, Montmartre, and boating on the Seine – even riverside dinner dances! We also enjoy showing off the treasures of our area to the Triellois when they visit us alternate years.

Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 September: 10:00 – 16:00

A Town at the Crossroads
Leatherhead Community Association Event
Leatherhead earned its name as a “town at the crossroads” from medieval times and over the centuries, but it was the coming of the railways in the mid-19th century that continued to keep Mole Valley strategically on the map. The old Swan Hotel was an important stop for changing horses for coaches travelling to the South Coast or cross-country to Guildford. The Mole gap between Leatherhead and Dorking was one of the few natural breaches in the North Downs, and its potential as a rail corridor was identified as early as 1830 when a line linking London to Brighton was proposed. The subsequent openings of Leatherhead and Dorking stations in mid-19th century on this line continued to keep Mole Valley on the map. You can view a silent film, from Surrey History Centre, which offers a fascinating record of a bygone era in Surrey’s railway history; almost every station and line within the county is represented through a superb array of photographs (1867 is the earliest) complemented with archive 8mm colour cine from the 1960/70s – magnificently capturing the network as the age of steam drew to a close.

Sunday 22 September: 14:00 – 16:00
Leatherhead by the River

Leatherhead Community Association Event

‘Starmakerz’ Theatre School, Leatherhead would like to take you on a journey of dance down by the river – so do join us to watch our little ducklings, swans and river animals perform to celebrate wildlife in the River Mole as the young students perform their interpretation of the fascinating wildlife along the River Mole.

• Saturday 21 September: 14:00

Leatherhead Historic Town Walk

Walk starts at the Letherhad Institute. See page 32 for directions.

A guided walk of the historic market town of Leatherhead by a member of the Leatherhead and District Local History Society. The circular walk will highlight our connections with Jane Austen, Dr Marie Stopes and Donald Campbell, and takes in the High Street, the River Mole, the Mansion House, the Museum and the Parish Church.

• Sunday 22 September: 14:00
Max 20 people. Walk is 2 hours.
Booking Required; Fred Meynen on 01372 372930 (fredmeynen@live.co.uk)
Booking; opens 22 July.

Walk Info: Some steps involved – wear sensible shoes.

Leatherhead Institute

Leatherhead Community Association Event

Explore the special exhibitions and events in this magnificent Victorian building, which has stood at the top of the High Street since 1892 – which is why it retains its old spelling! – when it was built by local benefactor Abraham Dixon of Cherkley Court, to provide educational, social and recreational facilities for the townspeople. The Leatherhead Community Association was established as a charity in 1977 to continue to fulfill Abraham Dixon’s vision.

• Friday 20 14:00 – 16:00
• Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 September: 10:00 – 16:00

Mole Valley in the Frame

Leatherhead Arts Club will be exhibiting a colourful range of paintings of local scenes by local artists in a wide range of mixed media, really putting Mole Valley on the Map. Some of the artists will be present – and hoping you buy!

• Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 September: 10:00 – 16:00
People Power in Preservation
*Leatherhead Residents’ Association and Letherhead Institute Trustees Event*
Visit an exhibition of artefacts originally owned by Abraham Dixon, the local benefactor who gifted the Institute to the people of Leatherhead. Also on view are the Leatherhead Residents’ Association’s display of maps ancient and modern, noting the work of the LRA to preserve the heritage buildings and countryside of Leatherhead – including Leach Grove woods, Teazle Wood, and the banks of the River Mole.

- **Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 September: 10:00 – 16:00**
  The exhibition will also be on view at the talk in the Abraham Dixon hall at 14:00 on Friday 20 September.

Spies and Trained Assassins: How events in the Mole Valley Changed the direction of World War Two
*Leatherhead Community Association Event*
Local historian, **Lorraine Spindler** uncovers Surrey’s historic links to the activities of spies, and how the training of assassins in Surrey changed the direction of World War II. In 2018 a coroner ruled the government could keep secret whether there were any links between British spies and Russian businessman Alexander Perepilichnyy, who collapsed in 2012 when out jogging near his Surrey mansion. Foreign interference in the affairs of our country is not new; in 1871, a novella by George Tomkyns Chesney described a fictitious battle in which two armies converged outside Dorking ending with the conquest of the whole of the British Empire and its conversion into a heavily-taxed province! Both Tomkyn and the Guildford novelist William Le Queux, helped whip up terror of foreign spies and invasion before a single shot was fired during the World War I. From reservoirs guarded by scouts, crossword clues, undercover bank managers, and the establishment of at least 6 Special Operations Executive (SOE) training centres, Surrey was significant in counter-espionage.

- **Saturday 21 September: 11:00 – 12:00**

The Evolution of this Area in Maps
*Leatherhead Community Association Event*
This exhibition will focus on maps of the Leatherhead, Ashtead, Fetcham and Bookham area through the past three centuries, and we will link these to prints, photographs and texts to reveal how the area has evolved as wealth has spread and people have become more curious and inventive.

- **Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 September: 10:00 – 16:00**

The Story of Cherkley Court – A Tale of Contrasts
*Leatherhead and District Local History Society Event*
Local historian, **Tony Matthews**, uses Leatherhead & District Local History Society and other sources to tell of Leatherhead’s contrasting experiences of the Dixon and Beaverbrook periods at Cherkley Court, with his analysis of what has happened since. Abraham Dixon was a great and much respected friend of the town, supporting many local societies and most notably responsible for the building of the Letherhead Institute. He also rebuilt Cherkley Court after a fire in 1893, and in 1910 it was bought by Canadian tycoon Max Aitken who went on to make an impact on national history but was not viewed kindly by the town.

- **Friday 20 September: 14:00 – 15:00**
LEIGH

St Bartholomew’s Church, Leigh
Church Road, Leigh, RH2 8NJ
A picturesque church in the centre of the pretty village of Leigh, fronting the village green. Our 15th century church was restored in the mid-19th century and is constructed of local sandstone with a Horsham stone roof. There will be a discovery trail for children, a talk on the history of the church and you can enjoy tea and cakes served in this lovely setting.

- **Friday 13 September: 10:00 – 17:00**
  - ‘discovery talk’ at 14:00, children’s trail at 15:00.
- **Sunday 15 September: 14:00 – 17:00.**

  **Directions:** In the centre of the village of Leigh, south of A25 between Dorking and Reigate.

LEITH HILL

Leith Hill Place
Leith Hill Place, Leith Hill Lane, Holmbury St. Mary, RH5 6LY
Visit the childhood home of composer Ralph Vaughan Williams, and explore a house with over 400 years of history – with our breathtaking views across the Surrey Hills. Enjoy cakes and scones freshly baked by volunteers, and find out more about the multi-media works of artist **Blaze Cyan** whose work is inspired by mysterious forests, woodland and ancient trees – and she will be in attendance.

- **Saturday 21 September: 11:00 – 17:00**

  **Site Info:** Ramped access to ground floor. Stepped access to first floor.

  **Directions:** Disabled parking and drop off at the house. Parking in the Rhododendron Wood car park on Tanhurst Lane (sat nav RH5 6LU). Distance to house is approx 7 minutes.

Leith Hill Tower
Leith Hill Tower, nr Coldharbour Village, RH5 6LU
Our NT Lead Ranger, **Nicky Scott**, will talk about the history of this iconic Surrey landmark – before you climb up Leith Hill Tower’s spiral stairs to see one of the best views around; on a clear day you can see the London skyline to the north and the sea sparkling through Shoreham Gap to the south. The top of the tower is the highest point in south east England.

- **Saturday 21 September: 10:00 – 11:00 and 14:00 – 15:00**

  **Site Info:** There is no parking available at the foot of the Tower – nearest car park is a 20 minute walk. There are no toilets at the Tower and access to the top is via a steep spiral staircase.

  **Directions:** For parking, use SatNav: RH5 6LU (Starveall Corner); RH5 6LX (Windy Gap), RH5 6HG (Landslip).
MICKLEHAM

Dalewood House – Box Hill School
Box Hill School, London Road, Mickleham, Dorking, RH5 6EA
Take this opportunity to visit our impressive school – and especially Dalewood House constructed in 1883 by a local developer, Charles J. Fox. It was designed by the Victorian architect, John Norton, who also designed Tyntesfield in Somerset. Its design is both mock-Tudor and Gothic with an interior full of hand-painted tiles, beautifully crafted stained glass windows and fine wood panelling, with magnificent fireplaces throughout. In 1890 the house was sold to David Evans (one of the 19th century’s pre-eminent silk printers), on whose death it passed to his daughter, Lucie Fosberie, until 1939, and remained in almost continuous private ownership by the Evans family until converted into use as a school after WWII. Tours of the school will be available guided by staff at the school and will include refreshments.

- **Saturday 21 September: Tours at 13:00 and 14:30**
  Max 20 people per tour.
  Booking Preferred; via Dorking Hall Box Office – see info on page 5.
  Booking; opens 5 Aug.

  Access Info: The building is on three floors with no lift access.
  Directions: Box Hill School is in the centre of Mickleham close to the church and the ‘Running Horses’.

Jumping Through Hoops:
Box Hill and The Olympic Road Cycling Race
Field Studies Council, Juniper Hall Field Centre, Old London Road, Mickleham, RH5 6DA
Box Hill’s fame as a beauty spot and important wildlife site is well known and goes back hundreds of years. But, arguably, nothing in recent times has put Mole Valley and Box Hill ‘on the map’ more than the hosting of the 2012 Olympic Road Cycling Race. In this talk, Andrew Wright, National Trust Countryside Manager for the Surrey Hills-East, provides a behind-the-scenes insight into planning and hosting the Olympic cycling road race in a “warts'n'all” entertaining but truthful account of the highs and lows relating to the event and its ongoing legacy.

- **Tuesday 17 September: 19:30**
  Talk lasts 60 minutes – in the Templeton Room.

  Directions: Juniper Hall is a large red-brick building on the B2209 about 1 mile north of the A24 Burford Bridge roundabout.
St Michael’s and All Saints Church, Mickleham

*Old London Road, Mickleham, RH5 6EB*

Come and view the history of St Michael’s Church and its relationship to the Mickleham Village Community – and our link to St Michael’s School Mickleham. A programme of events will be available and there will be a trail showing the route between church and school. Events will include a video history, use of historical maps, and a churchyard tour plus some street entertainment.

- **Friday 20, Saturday 21, and Sunday 22 September: 10:00 – 16:00**
  - **Directions:** We are in the centre of Mickleham opposite the ‘Running Horses’.

St Michael’s Infant School, Mickleham: History Open Day

*St Michael’s Infant School, School Lane, Mickleham, Dorking, RH5 6EW*

Our display will show how the school – and this part of Mickleham – has changed since the school opened in 1908, through the photographs, drawings and maps we have which show how the small original school developed into what we have today. This event is being put on in conjunction with St Michael’s Church, Mickleham.

- **Saturday 21 September: 10:00 – 16:00. Tour lasts 30 minutes**
  - **Site Info:** No general parking on site. Public parking spaces are available on the east side of the A24 and in the centre of Mickleham. There is a footpath to the church in Mickleham.
  - **Directions:** A banner will be displayed at the bottom of our lane by the Frascati restaurant on the A24. Also there will be signs showing the way from the church.

OCKLEY

Buckinghill Farm Tour

*Buckinghill Farm, Stane Street, Ockley, RH5 4PY*

Come and be fascinated by our listed medieval hall house dating from 1415 and the separately listed threshing barn located alongside the Roman road of Stane Street. The farmhouse has many interesting internal features, including exposed peg-jointed oak framing with carpenters’ marks, inglenook fireplaces, bread oven, restored brick cooking range and a stone floor.

- **Thursday 19 September: Tours 11:30 and 14:30**
  - Max 8 people per tour. Tour takes about 90 minutes.
  - **Booking Preferred:** via Dorking Hall Box Office – see info on page 5.
  - **Booking:** opens 5 Aug.
  - **Site Info:** Visitors must keep together in group. Unsuitable for young children.
  - **Directions:** We are at the end of single-track road off the sharp bend on the A29, one mile north of Ockley.
RANMORE

St Barnabas’ Church
Ranmore Common Road, Dorking, RH5 6SP

“Why is this remarkable building here in the middle of nowhere?” we are often asked – and the answer is a simple one; this church and the school next door was the centre of the lives of the workers on the Denbies Estate who, with their families, numbered more than 300. It was all built in 1859 by George Cubitt MP, the first Lord Ashcombe and owner of the Denbies Estate. His architect was the renowned Sir George Gilbert Scott. In 1919 the south transept of the church became a poignant memorial to the three eldest Cubitt brothers who died in the Great War and features a mural and Nativity scene painted by E. Reginald Frampton, ‘the Last of the Pre-Raphaelites’. The building is noted for the wide variety of stones used in the construction and decoration.

- **Saturday 21 September:** 14:00 – 17:00
- **Sunday 22 September:** 14:00 – 16:00
  - with a special choral Evensong starting at 16:00.

**Site Info:** Ramp into the church. Explanatory literature is available and some people will be available to answer questions.

**Directions:** Drive up Ashcombe Road or Station Road to join Ranmore Road and at the top of the hill turn right.

REIGATE

Reigate Fort Open Day
Reigate Fort, Reigate Hill, Reigate, RH2 0HX

Open for one day only, come and take a look at the interior of the fort buildings at Reigate Fort, not normally open to the public, including the toolstore, shifting lobby and magazine will be open.

- **Sunday 22 September:** 10:00 – 15:00

**Directions:** Use the Wray Lane car park at RH2 0HX. From the car park, walk 500m to Reigate Fort.

STOKE D’ABERNON

Slyfield House
Slyfield House, Cobham Road, Stoke d’Abern, Cobham, KT11 3QE

Book early for this once-a-year enjoyment of Slyfield House, the Grade I listed Jacobean house whose proud owners will guide you through this Jacobean jewel of a house with many original features.

- **Saturday 21 September:** 11:00 – 12:00

Max 20 people. Tour is about 90 minutes.

**Booking Required:** via the Dorking Halls Box Office – see info on p5.

**Access Info:** Wheelchair access to garden and ground floor only.

**Directions:** We are opposite the entrance of the Yehudi Menuhin School. Follow signs for parking.
WALLISWOOD

Keymer Handmade Clay Roof Tiles and Wienerberger Factory Tour

_Wienerberger Ltd, Walliswood, Dorking, RH5 5QH_

Welcome to this rare opportunity of seeing inside the Wienerberger’s Ewhurst factory, one of the largest brick manufacturing sites in the South East of England. The site opened in the 1920’s and has an overall site area in excess of 400 acres including large areas of historic woodland and farmland. The site was historically the ‘Ockley Works’, from the 1920’s right through to 2004 when Wienerberger Ltd acquired it. This factory is home to the famous Keymer handmade roof tiles, which have been produced in the area since 1588. Our visitors will visit our beautiful showroom, and participate in a full factory tour – and you will also be able to try your hand at making a Keymer tile! Our visitor centre will be running activities, with tour guides on hand to show you around. Following this year’s focus of ‘Mole Valley on the Map’, we will be showcasing vintage photographs, maps and newspaper articles showing the factory’s rich history.

■ **Saturday 14 September: 10:00 – 15:00**

_Tour Info:_ Max 13 per tour. 1-hour for full tour which runs every half hour from 10:30 to 14:00. The factory tour is not suitable for very young children but they would enjoy being in the Visitor centre.

_Booking Required:_ the Visitors Centre is free to explore throughout the day but Factory tours must be pre-booked via; Beth Edwards 07831 389253 (beth.edwards@wienerberger.com). Booking; opens 15 July.

_Access Info:_ As this is a working factory, not all areas are accessible to wheelchairs or pushchairs. However, the main visitor centre and the Keymer making area, are both accessible. Accessible toilet.

_Directions:_ Use Sat Nav postcode RH5 5QH and follow signs for ‘Ewhurst Brickworks’ on approach.

WESTCOTT

Milton Court: Open House

_Unum, Westcott Road, Dorking, RH4 3LZ_

Take this opportunity to visit Milton Court, a stunning Jacobean Manor House overlooking a lake and surrounded by beautiful countryside; it was built in 1611 and now features 19th-century additions and interior designs by William Burgess. Find out more about the unique Jacobean staircase, and our strong associations with Ralph Vaughan Williams, and its fascinating World War II history with newly-uncovered historical artefacts – and the occasional friendly ghost! Collect a beautifully illustrated ‘self-guided’ tour map of the “Mile Walk”. Plenty to see and do – refreshments will be on sale and all proceeds to charity.

■ **Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 September: 11:00 – 16:00**

_Access Info:_ Mile Walk has uneven pathways, so unsuitable for wheelchairs.

_Directions:_ Between Dorking and Westcott on the A24 – look out for blue ‘Unum’ signs.
Discovering MacDonald Gill: Architect, Artist and Mapmaker

hosted by Caroline Walker

Friday 13 September 2019, 7.30
Denbies Wine Estate RH5 6AA

more info see page 20, for booking details see page 5
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W: bookhardings.com

Wellwood
Wellhouse Lane
Betchworth
Surrey
RH3 7HH
Launch Event
Discovering MacDonald Gill: Architect, Artist and Mapmaker

Meet Priscilla and Joseph
see page 20

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