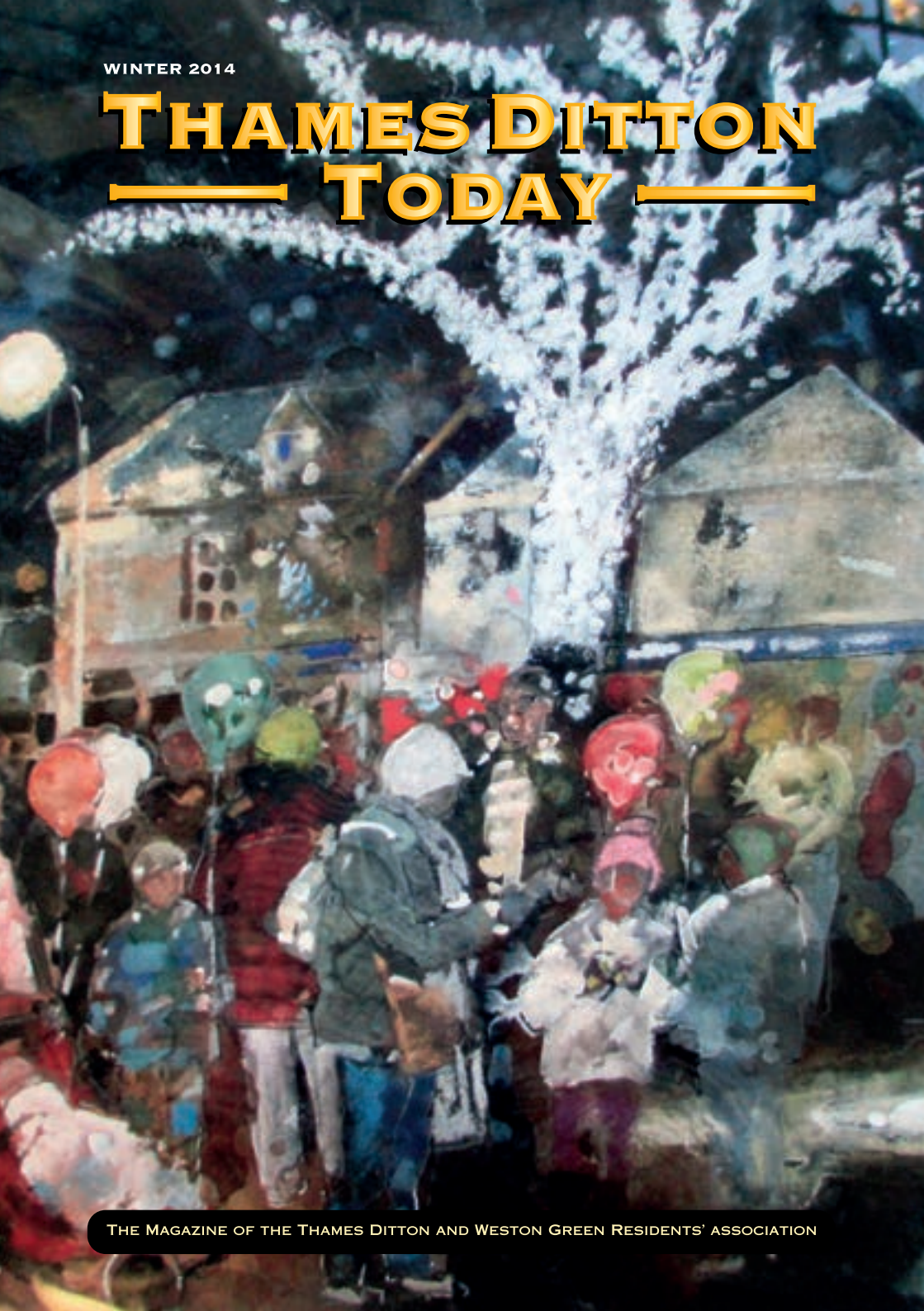


WINTER 2014

# THAMES DITTON — TODAY —



THE MAGAZINE OF THE THAMES DITTON AND WESTON GREEN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION



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# THAMES DITTON TODAY

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The Magazine of the Thames Ditton and Weston Green  
Residents' Association  
Published quarterly since Spring 1970

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Winter 2014

## Editorial Team

Libby MacIntyre & Sandra Dennis  
editor@residents-association.com

## Magazine Design

Guy Holman  
24 Angel Road,  
Thames Ditton  
020 8398 1770

## Distribution Manager

David Youd  
6 Riversdale Road,  
Thames Ditton KT7 0QL  
020 8398 3216

## Advertisement Manager

Verity Park  
20 Portsmouth Avenue,  
Thames Ditton KT7 0RT  
020 8398 5926

## Contributors

You are welcome to submit articles or images. Please contact the Editorial Team well in advance of the next deadline 8 February.

## Advertisers

Thames Ditton Today is delivered to an influential 4000 households throughout Thames Ditton and Weston Green. Contact Verity Park for rates for full page, half and quarter page advertising.

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Cover illustration: *The Christmas Fair, Thames Ditton*  
Painting by Alan Hepburn (see article pg 17)

[www.residents-association.com](http://www.residents-association.com)

Officers and staff of the Association are volunteers, but we must fund costs of this magazine, administrative and election expenses, and other expenses such as spring bulb-planting and the village Christmas tree. The subscription is only £3 per household. If you can contribute more, please do so. Subscriptions (in an envelope please) may be left at Boots Pharmacy, 14 High Street, or Thorkill Road Pharmacy, 94 Thorkill Road, Thames Ditton. Or post to Membership Secretary Peter Haynes at 6 Onslow Gardens, Thames Ditton KT7 0JJ. Thank you.

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29 High Street, Thames Ditton  
Surrey KT7 0SD

T: 020 8398 2500  
F: 020 8398 9990  
E: thamesditton@hawesandco.co.uk



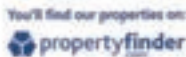
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# THAMES DITTON & WESTON GREEN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION



## About the Association

Founded in 1934 our Association is a strong, locally based non-party-political organization concerned with protecting the amenities and furthering the interests of the inhabitants of Thames Ditton and Weston Green. We work to preserve and enhance the best in our attractive environment and the quality of life of everyone in our community.

Through regular meetings, social activities, our magazine and website we keep in touch with residents' views and we raise and spend funds for the benefit of the community, from tree and bulb planting to contesting unacceptable development projects.

With five Residents' Councillors we have a strong voice on Elmbridge Council working with other Residents' Councillors to ensure that decisions are based on the needs of local communities and on good management rather than on party politics.

Our Residents' County Councillor Peter Hickman represents our views at Surrey County Council.

**President:** Maureen Sheldrick,  
34 The Woodlands, Esher

**Surrey County Councillor:**  
Peter Hickman, Little Lodge,  
Watts Road, Thames Ditton 020 8339 0931

## Thames Ditton Councillors

Tricia Bland,  
29 Station Road, Thames Ditton 020 8339 0485

Ruth Lyon,  
11 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton 020 8398 3396

Karen Randolph,  
Deepfield, Giggs Hill Road,  
Thames Ditton 020 8398 5005

## Weston Green Councillors

Ruth Bruce,  
15 Imber Grove, Esher 020 8398 8324

Tannia Shipley, Clinton House,  
27 Lower Green Road, Esher 020 8398 2484

## Officers

Chairman: Rhodri Richards,  
Ditton Cottage, Giggs Hill Road,  
Thames Ditton 020 8224 5181

Vice-Chairman: Martin Wilberforce,  
7 River Avenue, Thames Ditton 020 8398 4732

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62 Thorkhill Road, Thames Ditton 020 8398 7101

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Membership Secretary: Peter Haynes  
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## Conveners of Sub-Committees

Health and Community:  
Karen Randolph (see above)

Planning: Graham Cooke,  
23 Ashley Road, Thames Ditton 020 8398 8509

Highways, Drainage: Andrew Roberts,  
1 Boyle Farm Road, Thames Ditton 020 8786 6882

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THE NEXT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION OPEN MEETINGS ARE  
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# News from the Residents' Association

## to mid-November



### Remembrance Sunday

Every year, along with a growing number of local residents, the Residents' Association (RA) remembers the country's war dead. On Remembrance Sunday (November 9) in Weston Green a wreath on behalf of the RA was laid at All Saints Church by our President, Maureen Sheldrick. Cllr Tannia Shipley laid a wreath on behalf of Elmbridge Borough Council (EBC)



*RA Chairman Rhodri Richards lays a wreath on Remembrance Sunday*

In Thames Ditton, following a service at St Nicholas Church, Rhodri Richards, RA Chairman, laid a wreath on behalf of the RA at the war memorial on Giggs Hill Green. Cllr Karen Randolph laid a wreath on behalf of EBC

### Post Office

Post Office Ltd has confirmed that it will be proceeding with its proposal to move the current Post Office branch from the newsagents at 42 High Street, Thames Ditton to new premises at the retail outlet Simply Fresh, which is also in the High Street. Posters are up to let customers know and a detailed letter providing further information about the consultation

is available on the RA website or at [postofficeviews.co.uk](http://postofficeviews.co.uk).

Post Office Ltd has said it is confident the new branch is suitably located .. (and) will meet customer needs whilst helping to provide future sustainability for the branch.

### Elmbridge Parking Review 2014

There is a public consultation from 31 October to 28 November on proposed extensions to parking restrictions. They are:

**Thames Ditton High Street:** three stretches would be restricted to one hour with no return within one hour Monday to Saturday 0800–1800 (designed to make space available for shoppers etc.)

**Riversdale Road:** a stretch of no waiting at any time is proposed on one side of the first stretch of road from Summer Road.

**The Woodlands:** short stretches of no waiting at any time and no waiting Monday-Friday 1100-1300.

**Ember Lane, bend with Chestnut Ave:** short section of no waiting Monday-Friday 0800-0930 and 1430-1600; and on other bend sections of no waiting any time.

See the RA website for further details.

If you have comments or objections send them in writing to Elmbridge 2014 Parking Review, Parking Team, Rowan House, Merrow Lane, Guildford GU4 7BQ or complete SCC's online form at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/3YYLKLN>. You can also navigate to the Elmbridge 2014 Parking Review via the Surrey County Council website.

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## Campaign to stop dog fouling

A number of residents have raised serious concerns about dog fouling especially in Summer Road recreation ground. EBC are currently running a campaign to tackle dog fouling and litter and Ward Councillors have arranged for the Parks Control Team to carry out patrols in the Summer Road Recreation Ground in mid-November.

They will be armed with postcards which encourage people to report dog-fouling



offences, and poo-bag dispensers to engage with dog owners - and also some blue balloons strategically placed to show where dog poo has been found to highlight the problem!

Details of the campaign and how you can get involved are on the EBC website [www.elmbridge.gov.uk/environment/streets/dogfouling.htm](http://www.elmbridge.gov.uk/environment/streets/dogfouling.htm)

## Planning Legislation - National and Local

To say there is a great deal going on in the field of planning rules and regulations is an understatement and our local Councillors and Association Officers spend a large amount of time keeping up to date with all the changes. Most of these come from central government, which claims it is making the planning process simpler, although the vast amount of documentation created makes this look rather questionable.

The RA was represented at the recent independent examination of Elmbridge Borough Council's (EBC) Development Management Plan and made a number of representations, in particular the need for more robust and concise rules to regulate development in areas prone to flooding. We also highlighted the need to ensure

that where applications for larger scale developments were being considered, proper consideration be given to infrastructure needs. The number of local school places is already insufficient.

EBC was already quite advanced in preparing an updated Local Plan and the many supporting documents required by central government. A number of RA members had spent considerable time reviewing this work.

Sadly, the effect of the government moving the goalposts yet again has meant that all the work undertaken has to be revisited. Some Councils have suffered legal challenges by developers where their plans do not incorporate changes required by the new National Planning Policy Framework.

If a plan is found to be unsound, the consequences could be dire for areas such as the Green Belt. Councils could find it hard to resist proposals for development if the plan is deemed 'unsound'.

Ours is a particularly attractive area to property developers. Whilst we recognise the need to increase the supply of dwellings nationally, and particularly in the South East, we will continue to use our best endeavours to protect much-valued open and green belt areas for the benefit of the public.

## Planning

The restoration of the **Home of Compassion** (HoC) and its eventual refurbishment into a care home is well under way. The project is currently on schedule and expected to finish in February 2016. Early on, during the deep-piling process, some residents expressed concerns that the resulting shockwaves may have had a negative impact on buildings adjacent to the site in the High Street, including The Red Lion, whose owner described the



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shockwaves as ‘feeling like earthquake tremors.’ However, we have been assured by the site project manager that no damage to foundations or walls can have occurred at such a distance. To ensure safety to all buildings there was daily monitoring of the HoC walls nearest the piling works and these were unaffected by the process.

A separate issue is the reinforcement of part of the outside wall which has bowed significantly making it highly vulnerable. As this is an important heritage feature English Heritage is insisting this be retained. The contractors, MP Brothers, will be looking at ways to reinforce it from the inside. At the time of writing the original Georgian sash windows are out for repair.

The appeal decision regarding **Royal Thames House** on the site of the old Dairy Crest building on Portsmouth Road has been published. In 2008 permission was granted to build nine houses with limited basement space not intended for habitation. At that time Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) had not been introduced and therefore did not apply to the 2008 planning permission and the nine units did not attract affordable housing contributions. CIL was introduced in 2010 and a development of ten units would also attract affordable housing contributions.

Ten houses with habitable basements were subsequently built, contrary to the 2008 planning permission. EBC issued an enforcement notice for demolition of the unauthorized building and the builders appealed to the Planning Inspectorate.

In summary, the Planning Inspector found that the work that has been carried out is so different from what was approved that it does not constitute the implementation of the 2008 permission. The appeal therefore

failed. The Planning Inspector varied the enforcement notice to require the builders to remedy the site so that it met the application that had been approved. The full appeal decision can be found in the planning forum on the RA website.

Unfortunately we are finding an increasing number of cases where developers do not build to the agreed plans and residents have to seek enforcement by EBC.

An application for development of four houses following demolition of **29 Embercourt Road** (2014/3620) is under consideration by EBC. This site has historic significance as the aircraft designer Sir Sydney Camm lived there from 1938 until his death in 1966. He is considered by many aviation historians to be the most important military aviation figure this country has ever had. He designed a large proportion of the UK’s World War Two military aircraft including versions of the Harrier, culminating, in the 1960s in the incredible Harrier Jump Jet.

Work at **55b High Street** is under way. We are pleased to welcome Elaine, who has opened a new interiors shop called **Maud** at 55 High Street. She is planning to sell beautiful and unusual things for you and your home and we look forward to her contribution to the retail scene in the village.

The revised application at **Taggs Boatyard** (2014/1600) is still under consideration by the Environment Agency and EBC Planning Department.

The current planning application for development at **The Ewe Public House** (2014/2729) is being scrutinised by EBC Planning Officers. No permission is required for a ‘change of use’ from public house to a shop but permission is required

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for the single-storey extension, installation of a new ATM and alterations to a boundary wall following demolition of a conservatory.

There is much public concern regarding highway safety and parking around this site. This was flagged up recently by the Ward Councillors who discussed the matter with a Surrey County Council Officer. The full report made by Surrey Highways can be seen on the website but the main thrust was that it did not feel that deliveries could be safely made in the present location – at the front of the public house. The report suggested that there could be a solution if the deliveries were made via the car park. We will wait for a decision but highway safety is a key issue and has to be addressed.

### **Litter/fly-tipping**

Refuse management, litter and fly-tipping remain an ongoing problem in the area around The Broadway, Hampton Court Way. Ward Councillors are working with officers to remedy the situation.

### **Milbourne Pond**

Steady progress is being made. The borehole was installed in July and the water has been analysed and found to be of good quality. There is also sufficient water present to top up the pond when necessary. The pond may need re-profiling, and perhaps an artificial liner, but it has been decided to monitor the situation over the coming winter months to see how the present clay liner responds during the wetter weather. Confirmation is awaited from ERM (the Environmental Management Foundation) regarding the safe abstraction rate of water. It is hoped that this work will proceed in the early Spring. The RA's Andrew Roberts is to be commended for driving this work forward – without his determination and innovative approach to the many obstacles that have presented themselves, the

restoration of this much loved pond would not have been possible.

Local residents and Ward Councillors joined in a Community Day on Sunday October 19 to clear much of the self-seeded scrub that surrounded the pond. A path was cleared of grass and weeds to encourage people to use it instead of walking on the common and eroding the grass. Clearing this path was extremely hard work but some stalwart and determined Weston 'Greenies' rose to the challenge and did a super job. Many thanks must go to all the residents who turned out and particularly to Peter Dodge, who organises this event on a regular basis.

### **The Pantomime**

The Friends of Thames Ditton Hospital host Charles Court Opera's Christmas pantomime Billy the Kid : Panto Western, promising swinging doors, bar brawls, cowboys, Indians and jaw-dropping musical numbers on Friday and Saturday 16th and 17th January. See page 37 for details.

Again, Dairy Crest are generously sponsoring the production. In recent years these pantomimes have helped to raise over £40,000 for vital equipment for NHS patients at Emberbrook, including the ultrasound and last year's echo-cardiograph equipment. This enables patients to be diagnosed and treated much more quickly than having to wait for a hospital appointment.

### **Christmas Greetings**

We wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

### **Residents-Association.com**

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# Know your local Councillor

## Tannia Shipley



Ever since I met Tannia Shipley I have been bowled over by the amount she does for the community and the sheer volume of work she gets through. Her passions run from preserving our open spaces to caring for the elderly and vulnerable; whilst supporting the arts in Elmbridge through her Chairmanship of the RC Sherriff Trust and being involved in her local church. To me she is a real example of the adage ‘if you want something done, ask a busy person’.

If Tannia were to appear on Mastermind she might choose as her specialist subject ‘the network of culverts, streams and ditches that criss-cross Weston Green’. As you will see from the article on page 31 this area has been known for ditches since records began and it seemed to some that the area around Esher Station had been known for flooding for about the same amount of time!

Since first being elected in 1999 to represent Weston Green on Elmbridge Borough Council she has brought her considerable energy to bear to tackle this problem. The fact that Esher station did not flood last winter in spite of the wettest weather on record was testament to her hard work.

To achieve that change she has tramped almost every inch of Weston Green,

identifying the drainage channels, clarifying who is responsible for maintaining what, bringing different parties together to agree where responsibilities are handed over



and co-ordinating clearance work to best effect. And she does not relax. *“We have to be extremely vigilant about keeping the culverts open, we monitor the situation so we’re ready to act if necessary.”*

Having lived in Weston Green for 25 years she is also vigilant to any threat to this beautiful corner of Elmbridge with its commons, woodland and ancient ponds. She says a key part of her role is to try to ensure that any development is appropriate

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to the area and preserves our special environment. *“We are custodians of these commons for future generations”.*

Tannia leads by example and together with fellow Weston Greenies has been active in commons working parties, whether to clear litter or tackle overgrown vegetation with the advice and guidance of EBC’s Countryside Team.

Tannia spends much of her time helping people and her specialist subject for round two of Mastermind could be care of the vulnerable and elderly in Elmbridge.

She currently chairs the Elmbridge Older Peoples’ Advisory Body and is on the committee of CHEER (Concern and Help for East Elmbridge Retired). She is also a Trustee of both the Elmbridge Trust for Older People and Walsingham Care.

*“Because I’ve been a Councillor for many years I know what doors to knock on, I am able to act as a conduit, knowing who to call upon to get things done. This is the part of the job that I love, making contact with people and trying to help them with their concerns. As a Councillor it is important to listen to people and to have an open mind.”*

Whenever she is asked how she sees her role as Councillor she is clear: *“To do my best to represent everyone in the ward. As a Residents’ Councillor I’m independent, and not confined by the dogma of national politics. There is no place for that at a local level – it’s all about providing local solutions to local problems.”*

**Libby MacIntyre**



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# Need a lift? – Dittons & Weston Green



The prospect of a hospital appointment is daunting. Aside from medical concerns, getting there is tricky—allowing time to find a parking space, having the right change for the meter and the cost of parking itself. Taxis and minicabs are expensive and public transport though cheaper isn't an option if you are elderly, disabled, unwell or infirm.

Fortunately for local residents Dittons and Weston Green Neighbourcare provides the answer. Founded over 30 years ago it's a local charity that offers car lifts to frail, vulnerable or infirm people who need to attend care appointments, including hospitals, doctors, or the dentist. It's largely but not exclusively used by the elderly, and offers its service to anyone in genuine need. I met Avril Ashworth, Chair of Ditton and Weston Green Neighbourcare to find out how it works.

The charity is staffed by almost 80 local volunteers. Many are retired, all are CRB checked. There are 28 telephone operators who commit to answer the phones for one morning a month between 9am-12 noon. They take calls from over 200 local clients and book around 150 "drives" per month.

When a telephone operator receives a call they match the caller with a volunteer driver who will drive the client to their appointment, often accompanying them inside the building. They wait for them, and return them home. The phone operators have around 50 volunteer drivers they can call who each commit to drive the charity's clients to their appointments. The drivers are volunteers and not "on call" so phone operators often have several calls to make

before they find one who is available, but they always commit to finding one that day and confirm the booking with the client. Bookings cannot be taken for the same day.

The operators try hard to get to know the clients so wherever possible they match the driver to the client. This is why new clients provide basic information: contact details, next of kin, doctor and medical conditions. Avril says *"It's nice when clients know their driver."*

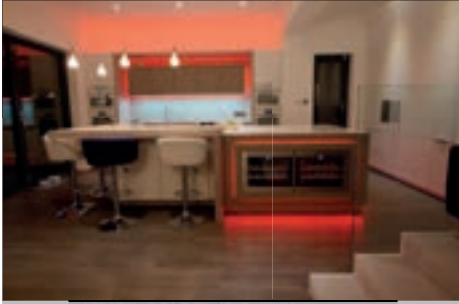
Lifts are mainly within the local area but extend to the Royal Marsden at Sutton, Epsom Hospital and St George's Tooting. Clients only pay a donation towards the cost of petrol. For example, a lift to and from Kingston Hospital costs £5. This makes the service particularly suitable for pensioners.

The charity is funded by a modest grant from Elmbridge Council and by public donations. If you would like to donate please contact Avril (see below). I asked her what the charity needs most, equipment for example? *"It's always more volunteers. They don't have to commit to how much time they give each week, it's very flexible, entirely up to them and training is given. It's very rewarding and both drivers and phone operators benefit from the friendships made between themselves and our clients."*

For more information about Dittons and Weston Green Neighbourcare email Avril Ashworth at **[avrilashworth@btinternet.com](mailto:avrilashworth@btinternet.com)** She will be delighted to welcome you aboard.

**Sandra Dennis**

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# Neighbourcare

## A thank you to the volunteers



At the time of writing (late October), poppies come ever more into view as the anniversary of the Armistice approaches. The boxes of poppies and collecting tins are distributed, collected and counted by a small army of volunteers, each doing “their bit”.

Readers will also be familiar with the stone fountain on the roundabout outside what was the Home of Compassion, placed there by The Metropolitan Fountain and Cattle Trough Association, created by Samuel Gurney MP in 1859. These days it would be a rare event to see a horse pass, let alone drink. Rather than see it decayed and abandoned, a local lady (Francine) has planted, weeded and tended it. What would summer in the village be, if without the resulting glorious display? Or winter’s darker shades?

The onset of winter also heralds the approach of Christmas. Volunteers ensure that the village is lit and garlanded, with a magnificent tree to gladden all those young at heart, even if not in being.

For my part, the joys of youth are now but memories; the cares of youth supplanted by the need to see the doctor, dentist or attend a hospital appointment. However, some things do not change. A trip to the hairdresser is still valued, not least because a girl always wants to look

her best! A social life remains important, even if nights out clubbing have given way to the Day Centre.



*Neighbourcare driver helps with local lift*

None of these things would be possible for me without Neighbourcare volunteers to help me, and people like me, with transport.

Therefore, I would like to thank all those many people who help make Thames Ditton such a nice place to live, and express my special gratitude to the volunteers of Neighbourcare. Never despair at the news, there are still nice, caring, dedicated people around.

And the people you help, do appreciate it.  
Big Thank You!

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# Portrait of an artist – Alan Hepburn



Use your loaf – you must remember the TV advert. It's been voted Britain's favourite, even though it was made way back in 1973. A small boy, pushing his creaking bike up a steep cobbled hill, the basket laden with a certain brand of bread. Dvorak's New World symphony, played by a brass band, in the background. A voice intoning "It's as good for you today as it's ever been."

The bread was Hovis. The advert director was Ridley Scott, later to find world fame through the Alien film series and Blade Runner. The steep hill, despite the 'oop north' feel, was actually Gold Hill, in Shaftesbury, Dorset. And the Hovis marketing director who came up with the original brainwave? Why, Alan Hepburn of the High Street, Thames Ditton, of course!

To those who know the man well, that revelation is not so surprising. Alan has been an award-winning artist and creative spirit for decades. And the bread? Why, the man used to run Thames Ditton's Village Bakery, from 1982 to 1998, on the site now occupied by Simply Fresh.

Alan's journey did not start in Thames Ditton or even England. He was born in Edinburgh in 1934 and in the early '50s studied fine art at Edinburgh University and College of Art, where he was taught by the influential artists Sir William Gillies, Sir Robin Philipson and James Cumming.

The days experimenting with colour, light and landscape came to an end (or perhaps moved on to a different phase) with National Service when Alan became an RAF fighter pilot from 1955 to 1957.



Emerging on Civvy Street in 1957 he found there was not much call for fighter pilots - or talented watercolourists - and with a new wife and family now in the picture he took up a career in advertising. Whilst many products came and went it was during his time as Advertising Manager for Hovis Ltd that he oversaw the creation of television advertising history.

The '80s were a tough decade even for the best and when Alan was made redundant he went from company executive to setting up a bakery and catering business with his wife Hilary. At its height the business had a bakery at three shops, with the flagship bakery shop in Thames Ditton High Street.

In 1992 he and Hilary moved house to the High Street, just doors away from company HQ. For nearly two decades

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they lived and worked in the heart of the village, providing a great focal point for residents where bread and buns were served alongside village news and vast vats of soup were made on site to complement the sandwiches.

Service went wider than the traditional village baker, as Alan also served the community as Residents' Association Borough Councillor from 1996 to 2000. When it is sometimes difficult to feel connected to national politics, it must have been nice to be able to meet your local Councillor as you did your shopping!

Throughout his career Alan continued to paint and when he finally retired from business in 1998 he took up the brush full time. His painting career blossomed. In the years that followed he was a finalist in the prestigious Singer and Friedlander/Sunday Times Watercolour Competition no fewer than eight times, and overall winner in 2000. He and Hilary have travelled widely and his travels have inspired a series of paintings, from the deserts of Syria - and sadly it may be many years before travellers are back that way - to the romance of Paris. Closer to home he has immortalised colourful London pubs and our very own



Thames Ditton, producing a series of works depicting the village winter (see front cover) and summer street fairs. Alan exhibits regularly in London art galleries and you may have seen some of his local paintings on show in View Gallery in the High Street.

Alan has another proud boast: he believes he is the only Thames Ditton resident to have his entire family tree living in the village.

It may have taken Alan some years to steer his life from Edinburgh College of Art to professional artist, but to paraphrase the famous advert: *"It's as good today as it's ever been at AlanHepburn.com"*.



*Thames Ditton Summer Fair*

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# 'Tis the season...



Christmas is coming!... and the four Christian Churches in our area (All Saints Weston Green (CofE), Our Lady of Lourdes (RC), St Nicholas (CofE) and Thames Ditton United Reformed Church) are all gearing up to celebrate one of the happiest times in the Christian calendar – Advent – when we celebrate the coming of the Christ child. Advent encompasses the four weeks before Christmas and this year it starts on Sunday 30 November. It is a time filled with activities – not just for the children but also for the adults to remind them of the joy that Christmas brings and of Christ’s message of peace and love to all on Earth.

In our increasingly secular world, many would say that Christmas has been hijacked as a commercial event. Certainly, mince pies and Christmas cards seem to appear ever earlier in the shops. However, even for non-Christians and those no longer practising the faith, there is an excitement, an awe about Christmas that attracts them to hear the magical old story of the birth of Christ and to join in the celebration.

All of the Churches in our area have a variety of Christmas activities (in addition to their normal services) to which all are welcome – whether you are a Christian or not. The children’s activities range

from Toy Services when congregation members bring in toys that will be donated to various local charities, Tots Praise in Church, various Christingle services, a Crib service and the Children’s Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, at all of which the Christmas story is retold for little ones – and some not so little! There are also children’s Christmas parties and arts and crafts sessions that promise good fun for all involved.

For adults, aside from various church services, there are social gatherings such as the Christmas Miscellany at the URC with a selection of music, poetry, stories and carols (plus mulled wine and mince pies!) to get you into the Christmas spirit, or the All Saints’ Beer & Carols at Marney’s and The Greyhound pubs.

All the Churches have a Nine Lessons and Carols service during which Scripture readings which relate to the Christmas narrative are interspersed with carols. It’s the Christmas equivalent of a ‘Songs of Praise’. For non-Christians this would be a good service to find out what it’s all about.

Below are listed the Christmas activities of the four Churches though you can always check their websites to see what else is happening at the Church. (Yes – all the Churches have websites!)

## **All Saints, Weston Green**

30 November	7pm	Advent Carol service
6 December	time tbc	Beer & Carols at Marney’s
14 December	4pm	Christingle service
18 December	10am	SmAll Saints Christmas Party
21 December	7pm	Nine Lessons & Carols
24 December	2pm/4pm	Crib services
	11.30	Midnight Mass
25 December	9.45am	Christmas Day

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## Our Lady of Lourdes

7 December	6pm	Advent Celebration of Reconciliation
14 December	5pm	Advent Carols and Readings
24 December	6pm	Children's Christmas service
	10.30pm	Carol Singing followed by
	11pm	Christmas Eve Mass
25 December		Christmas Morning service (at 9 & 10.45 am)

## St Nicholas Church

7 December	10am	Family Toy Service
11 December	9.30am	Tots Praise in Church
14 December	4pm	Christingle service
21 December	10am	Christmas Sunday School (crafts and fun)
	6.30pm	Nine Lessons & Carols
24 December	4pm	Blessing of the Crib
	11.30pm	Midnight Communion
25 December		Christmas Day services (at 8, 10 and 11.15am)

## Thames Ditton United Reformed Church

6 December	7 for 7.30pm	A Christmas Miscellany (songs, poems and carols)
14 December	10.45am	Christmas Toy Service
21 December	10.45am	Nine Lessons & Carols
24 December	6pm	Children's Christmas Eve Candlelight service
25 December	9am	Christmas Day service



Whatever your faith or beliefs, may this holiday time be a happy one for you and, if you feel like joining in any of the activities listed above – please do. You will be very much welcomed. And when the joyful Christmas bells ring out on Christmas morning, may the traditional Christmas blessing of – ‘Peace on Earth, Good will to all people’ – be taken up so that in our troubled world joy may come to all. A happy and blessed Christmas to you all.

**Linda Lambert**



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# The best Christmas Fair yet



The High Street Christmas Fair is one of the most eagerly anticipated events of the year. For a few magical hours residents are wowed by the entertainment, thrilled by the activities, enticed by the delicious delicacies, and enthralled by the Christmas lights, perhaps the twinkliest in the whole of Elmbridge.

This year will be no exception. Main Fair organiser, Tracy Blatchford, owner of gift emporium Bradley + Brown explains its appeal. *“Our High Street Fair is special because it’s not about how much you’ve got to spend but about coming down and being part of the whole village celebration. It’s a treat for everyone and anyone to enjoy without having to spend loads of money”.*

The Fair brings many different elements of our community together – not just the shops promoting their fantastic goods and gifts, our cafes, restaurants and pubs showcasing the best of TD’s food and drink – but the many groups, clubs and associations which make the village such a unique place: our fantastic choirs, dance troupes, performing arts and fitness groups (for all ages!), our Brownies, the TD Crafters, local charities and, of course,

the Residents’ Association and Retailers’ Association.

Then there are the many highlights – the switching on of the Christmas lights by a VIP guest, this year Lucy Alexander, presenter of BBC1’s Homes Under The Hammer, following in the footsteps of EastEnders Charlie Brooks and Downton Abbey’s Mrs Patmore, plus Santa in his Grotto, joined this year by Jack Frost, spreading his chilly Christmas cheer amongst the crowd. Not forgetting fantastic compere John McGuinn, assisted by his wife Sally, directing the programme of entertainment,



music and revelry from the lime tree. *Lucy Alexander presenter of BBC TV Show Homes under the Hammer will be switching on the Christmas Light*

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*Santa and Poppy 2013*

It's a far cry from TD's very first High Street Christmas Fair, pioneered by Jeremy Hamilton, owner of gift emporium The Stitchery, 11 years ago. *"It's beginnings were very humble. Apart from the shops remaining open we hired a bouncy castle and Joe from the George & Dragon made gallons of mulled wine. But there was no professional road closure, we used wheelie bins to stop the traffic and crossed our fingers the villagers would come."*

*They did, in their droves. "We were absolutely stunned", continues Jeremy, "the Fair was a fantastic success and we knew we'd started something that would run and run."*

Since then the High Street Christmas Fair has grown steadily every year but the defining moment came back in 2011.

*"The lighting of the lime tree for the first time raised the level of the event," says Jeremy. "This really put our Christmas Fair on the map, not only becoming a go-to event for all who live in the village, but attracting visitors from all over Elmbridge".*

The lights didn't stop there, over the

next two years, tree holders were erected on shops, businesses and residences throughout the High Street to ensure a magical twinkling display to rival those of the smartest addresses in the land. The message is clear: this isn't just another street, it is the heart of our community which is why the Christmas Fair is the only place to be on Sunday November 30th, 3-6pm – celebrating the start of the festivities. If you haven't already, put the date in your diary now!

**Tricia W. Bland**

**Christmas Lights Organiser**





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# The MADAS touch



Antique? Who or what are you calling an antique?!! Just because the Molesey and District Antiques Society (MADAS) is over 40 years old we don't consider ourselves antique! Indeed, we are an active and lively group that meets at the Vera Fletcher Hall on the first Tuesday of every month from October to June. Our talks cover a wide range of topics from antiques and history to art and architecture, and our speakers include people such as local art historian Alan Hepburn and television personalities Eric Knowles, David Barby and Antiques Roadshow experts Ian Pickford and Lennox Cato.

The talks, which usually run for about an hour, begin at 8pm though we start serving refreshments – coffee, tea and wine – at 7.30pm. We have a short break at 9pm followed by a question and answer period. Members are also invited to bring two items on the relevant subject that they would like the speaker to comment on. We usually finish about 9.40pm.

Our upcoming talks cover such diverse topics as Moorcroft Pottery, Hallmarks, Victorian Rubbish Treasures and the artists Constable and Turner. The Moorcroft talk (in February) will be given by Eric Knowles who is always a very popular speaker, and the talk about Turner and Constable fits in nicely with the new film about Turner starring Timothy Spall and the various shows on the two artists that are currently running in galleries in London.

We also have an active programme of visits – Strawberry Hill House, Royal Holloway College, Ightham Mote and the Inns of Court in London are some of the

most recent places we have explored. For each visit we have had our own guide and in some cases we have had a private tour before the venue has been opened to the public.

We have something of interest for everyone so do come and join us. The annual subscription is £25 for the nine talks. Or, if you rather, just come on the night as a guest visitor. The charge for those evenings is £5 a time. All are welcome.

**Linda Lambert**



*MADAS members enjoying a visit to Strawberry Hill House*

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# Flooding and The Lower Thames Strategy



Late last year and early this year there was considerable flooding in and around Thames Ditton, following the country's wettest-ever winter. We live at the end of Alexandra Road, near the Albany pub, and in the peak, apart from flooding our basement (even with two sump pumps going), the flood water was crossing our garden to join water that had already flooded from the street gullies, (see photo). To find out more we contacted our MP (Dominic Raab) and the Environment Agency (EA). Both, it must be said, have been extremely helpful! Here are the main points that we have found.

According to EA records, peak river flows in early February were significantly lower than those experienced in the past floods at just over 500 cubic metres of water per second. In 1947 the peak was around 700 and in 1894, 800 cubic metres per second. However, this year the high flow was maintained over many more weeks than previously. This peak flow represented about a 1:15 year event. It was a slightly higher level than the flooding recorded in Thames Ditton in 2003.

Thames Ditton's most relevant measuring point for river height is on Thames Ditton Island - Site 7246. The peak height recorded there was 6.77m above sea level (normal range 4.46–5.50m) on 10th Feb 2014. Thames Ditton Island paths and gardens were flooded and water went about 100m up Alexandra Road, affecting several houses.

The EA has been planning to implement the Lower Thames Strategy to improve flood resilience for some time. This covers

the section of the River Thames between Teddington Lock and Datchet, including Thames Ditton. Subsequent to Public Consultation in 2009, surveys and outline design work are underway.

Now called the River Thames Scheme (Datchet to Teddington) further consultation is expected as the scheme develops. For the stretch of river between Molesey and Teddington Locks, no actual improvements are proposed to the river channel but the weirs at both locks will be upgraded to provide increased flow and reduce the water levels upstream of each weir in flood conditions. It is estimated that peak flow for the 1:20 year flood event will increase by around 4% when the rest of the Lower Thames Strategy is implemented.

Improvements to the weirs will be the first part of the strategy, starting in 2016/17, subject to planning and funding being agreed. The operation of the weir at Teddington is subject to tidal influences, including whether the Thames Barrier is operated. It seems that for maintenance reasons, the Thames Barrier will be used less into the future and the EA will be undertaking detailed modelling of the operation of the weir under different flooding and tide scenarios to ensure that the designs will be effective.

In addition, the EA is making Property Level Products (PLP) available to qualifying residents in Thames Ditton to make their homes more flood resistant. The criterion for eligibility is a 'threshold' level of less than the 1:40 year flood event, post-scheme.

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In Thames Ditton, the EA are relating this to their available modelling output for a 1 in 50 year event. This equates to a level of 7.3m at Thames Ditton Island, 0.53m higher than this year. The EA has undertaken surveys in all areas that it believes are at risk and is approaching households that qualify. The products will be provided free of charge and will require manual installation whenever there is an EA flood warning.

The 'threshold' is taken as the lowest property threshold and does not take into account the existence of basements etc.. These are likely to be more affected by ground water levels rising which, because there is a lot of Thames gravel, increase quickly as the river level rises. There are a number of houses with basements that were affected (including ours) and I have made the point that, although using the threshold level is easy to measure and administer, it does unfairly discriminate against these, as basement levels will normally be lower.

There is another unrelated grant available, administered by Surrey County Council called the Repair and Renew Grant. This provides up to £5,000 per property to repair damage sustained last winter as a result of flooding, irrespective of insurance cover and to improve resilience.

The EA will also be considering community level measures for Thames Ditton that may protect many houses in the area. This will include discussions with Thames Water and/or the Local Council to prevent flood water coming from their street gullies and consideration of raising bank levels at the lowest points.

We shall continue to keep in touch with Dominic Raab and the EA to monitor progress and will report anything significant via this magazine. Meanwhile, let's hope that mother nature doesn't provide us with another 1:15 year event this winter and is kind enough to wait until the flood improvements are made!

**Linda and Tony Thompson**



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# Digging for ditches – Dyketown



People call me up to ask about the history of Thames Ditton and Weston Green in the period after the Second World War, but rarely can I help them. For me, ‘history’ ended about the time that I was born. If anything, my curiosity about these villages has led to earlier and earlier times. Material may be scant, but you can ask pertinent questions of it. Questions that any Saxon living here could have answered with ease a thousand or more years ago.

## Where’s the dyke in “Dyke Tun”?

As we trudge cursing through the rain there’s no shortage of ditches around here, at times overflowing, but which one gave Thames Ditton its name? The Anglo-Saxon origins of the name “Ditton” - Dictun - prosaically indicate a homestead (or tun) by a dyke or ditch (or dic). This sort of earthwork was excavated with spoil alongside acting as either a defensive boundary or perhaps, in low-lying areas like ours, as a mix of drainage and a raised embankment that could serve for passage across marshy ground.

Given that there must have been many ditches and dykes, there are surprisingly few “dyketowns” or “ditchtowns” in England. Apart from the two Dittons here, there’s one in Kent and one near Cambridge, and maybe one or two more that don’t come up in searches. Although by Domesday there were two Dittons locally, one of which (that became Long Ditton) already had a church, it is not clear when their differentiation began.

What became Thames Ditton first appears in 983 as “Dittune” in a land grant by Aethelred to Aethelmaer and then as “Dictun” in a grant to the abbey of Eynsham in 1005. It seems logical to assume that the names of both Domesday Dittons, adjacent as they were, referred to the same ditch or dyke. And that the river Thames is not the ditch in question! Consideration is clouded because what we think of as the current boundaries of Thames Ditton and Long Ditton - distinguishing names that were not in use until the mid 13thC - have evolved since those times, with changing church parishes, disappearing or fragmented manors, and emerging entities of local law, administration and representation. And finally, although it is tempting to assume that the dyke in question may have been the line of separation between the two, that is not necessarily the case.

Long Ditton’s local historian Peter Fussell (“Fish off The Slab” pub. St Mary’s PCC 1994) concluded that the dyke that gave its name to the Dittons ran straight and south for two miles from the point where the Rythe joins the Thames. The indentation can still be made out today. He asserts that it “must have been excavated as a boundary,” perhaps the western boundary of Kingston. But evidence is not cited to support the visual case.

Norden’s map of 1594 (don’t you just love old maps?) shows what appears to be a long and fairly straight watercourse draining a large pond named “Willmore Ponde” (this also features on Speed’s map

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Norden's map - 1594

of 1611). But this, one of the earliest maps available, is drawn from eye and from memory and is inaccurate.

It prompts a number of questions including whether Norden's river is simply a representation of the River Rythe, out of its present day and better charted course, or whether it has something to do with the dyke to which Fussell refers. And whether the Rythe itself might be the dyke or ditch in the Ditton question. However, this was not the man-made boundary one would expect

from the word "dic" and is an unsatisfying interpretation.

### The Fullingadic

Six years ago a new theory emerged concerning the formation of medieval Surrey and its boundaries. Earlier, medievalist John Blair had focused on the founding charters of the minster or monastery at Chertsey. In the year 672, Frithuwold, a regional Mercian sub-king, granted to Chertsey substantial areas of land southeast of Sonning, seat of the Saxon clan of the Sunningas, and west of "the ancient dic, that is Fullingadic"

(translated from the charter). The Fullingadic is held to mark the western boundary of the Fullingas (of Fulham) with the Woccingas (of Woking). Blair concluded that the Fullingadic ran southwards from the Thames at Weybridge - see diagram. There are physical features at places along that line to support the postulated dyke. Along with other scholars, Blair dismissed later Chertsey charters claiming substantially greater areas of land as "essentially false, though probably

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containing some genuine information”. However, he noted that Frithuwold’s conquests south of the river and to the east did extend to the vicinity of Bermondsey.

Where facts are in short supply, inductive reasoning comes to hand. Writing in the Surrey Archaeological Society bulletins in 2008, Rob Briggs, a graduate student in early medieval matters, considered that the great size of the areas claimed in the later Chertsey charters should not simply be dismissed as “deliberate inflation or a scribal error”. The claims might be true. Briggs argued plausibly that if this was the case, the Fullingadic would be located further to the east and might represent as much of a north-south boundary as

and Winchester”.

Briggs writes: “The closeness with which the postulated line of the road comes to the Thames between Thames Ditton and Seething Wells to the south west of Kingston may identify the easternmost extent of the [Chertsey] estate. Here the Rythe (Old English *ryth*, ‘small stream’) could have constituted a negligibly short stretch of boundary between the river and Fullingadic.”

As for the Roman road, well, the main problem is that despite conjectures and some circumstantial evidence from place names, there has been no hard archaeological evidence dug up to support it. That aside, seen from the narrower



an east-west one. Furthermore, given that by the year 672 the charter already referred to the Fullingadic as ancient, its course might have been that of “the long-conjectured Roman road between London

perspective of Thames Ditton and Long Ditton, a Briggsian interpretation of the line of the Fullingadic as an ancient boundary, a raised embankment and drainage ditch, possibly a road, is attractive and plausible.

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I would add that it could also fit the name “Ditton Marsh” interpreted as stemming from the Anglo-Saxon “Dictun Mearc” - mearc meaning boundary or march rather than marsh. Ditton Marsh described the lands along what is now the Portsmouth Road, from about Giggs Hill to about the present day Orleans Arms, and took in the area to where Manor Road South runs in today’s Hinchley Wood coincident with the line postulated by Briggs for the Fullingadic.

### **Marshes**

It is also evident that low-lying Thames Ditton was much marshier before the Thames was tamed, even than it is today. So Ditton Marsh might have nothing to do with Saxon names (alas I have not, so far, found any references pinpointing the name’s early use). The floods last winter prompted me to take a much closer look at that useful map produced for planning bodies by the Environment Agency to show the

flood plains in various shades of blue. It is EA and Ordnance Survey copyright though freely viewable on the web – and manifestly ignored by planners. What interests me are the relatively small areas of white - the dry areas which you would expect earlier settlers to choose. They coincide pretty well with what we know of the earliest estates and buildings in Thames Ditton and Weston Green: the area of the Church and its hinterland; the area between Weston Green Road and Embercourt Road where Manor Farm used to be; the area that was the Basing Field with ancient rights of pasture; and the area of Imber Court. Those match up with what we can infer of the early manors of Dictun, Limeurde (Immeworth or Imber) and Westone.

And along the present Portsmouth Road in what was Ditton Marsh? The flood map shows that yes, it would have been pretty marshy. Did the Fullingadic cross it?...

**Keith Evetts**

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## **For further study see:**

Early Medieval Surrey: Landholding, Church and Settlement; John Blair, Surrey Archaeological Society, 1991: Introduction and Chap 1.

Finding The Fullingadic : Frithuwold’s Endowment Of Chertsey Abbey, And New Perspectives On Surrey In The 7th Century; Rob Briggs, Surrey Archaeological Society Bulletin 407 April 2008 pp 2-6

From Fullingadic To Freoricburna: Aspects Of Mercian And West Saxon Overlordship In Anglo-Saxon Surrey; Rob Briggs, Surrey Archaeological Society

Bulletin 410 October 2008 pp 18-22 (considers and rejects the [inherently unlikely] proposition that Ditton might have been the site of Frithuwold’s royal villa)

Ashtead’s missing river and Willmore Pond; J.R. Clube, Proceedings of the Leatherhead & District Local History Society 5 (1987–96) pp146–8 (the ‘Willmore Pond’ shown on Speed’s map of 1611 was Barons Pond, shown with a fictitious river linking it to the Hogsmill.)

**Keith Evetts**



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# THE THEATRE IN THAMES DITTON AT THE VERA FLETCHER HALL

*Friday 16th & Saturday 17th January 7.30pm*

*Charles Court Opera presents*

## **BILLY THE KID – A PANTO WESTERN**

Another riotous pantomime, promising swinging doors, bar brawls, cowboys, Indians and jaw dropping musical numbers from pop to opera. “These annual pantos are the best of them” DAILY TELEGRAPH  
TICKETS Friday £12.50 Saturday £38 including 3 course dinner in aid of Thames Ditton Hospital Appeal, from Karen Randolph 020 8398 5005 (Sponsored by Dairy Crest)

*Friday 13th February 7.30pm*

## **CASABLANCA with Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman**

“As time goes by...” In partnership with Thames Ditton United Reformed Church. Oscar winning wartime love story when former lovers meet in Rick’s nightclub in Casablanca, with love struggling against patriotism. TICKETS £6

*Sunday 1st March 7.30pm*

## **TICKLING THE IVORIES**

Actor, pianist, singer **Michael Lunts** presents a hundred years of comedy song from Gilbert & Sullivan and Music Hall to Flanders & Swann and Tom Lehrer “superb pianist... faultless singing, genuine wit and genial, nostalgic sophistication” THE GUARDIAN. TICKETS £12

*Saturday 7th March 7.30pm*

## **Rosemary Branch Theatre presents PRIDE AND PREJUDICE**

Jane Austen’s classic story of the five Bennet sisters and their admirers, proud Mr. Darcy, affable Mr. Bingley, rakish Mr. Wickham... in this comedy of manners with music and humour. TICKETS £12.50

## YOUNG PEOPLE’S THEATRE

*Tuesday 13th January 1.00pm Wednesday 14th January 10.00am & 1.30pm*

### **Proteus Theatre Company presents RAPUNZEL**

A hair-raising, foot-tapping, high-flying show with music, puppets and gravity defying actors. TICKETS £7

*Saturday 7th February 11.30am, 2.00pm & 3.30pm*

### **Little Angel Theatre presents HANDA’S SURPRISE**

The much loved book of Handa’s encounters with ostrich, zebra giraffe and the parrot is brought to life through puppetry, dance and songs. For 2 ½ – 5 years. TICKETS £7

*Saturday 21st March 2.30pm*

### **Image Musical Theatre presents MERLIN, THE SWORD IN THE STONE**

A family participation musical based on the legend of the young knight Arthur, who, guided by Merlin the Wizard, draws the sword from the stone to become King. For 5 – 11 years. TICKETS £7

*Friday 27th March 10.45am*

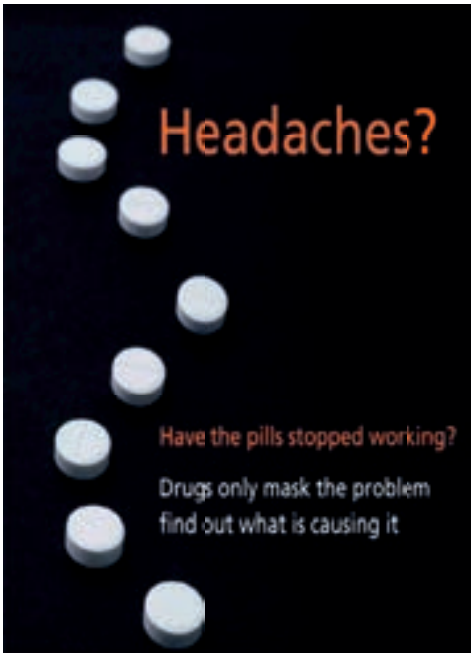
### **English Touring Opera presents SHACKLETON’S CAT**

**A new opera.** 8 singers, musicians and puppeteers tell the story of Ernest Shackleton’s voyage to Antarctica 100 years ago and how the crew struggled to survive when the ship got destroyed by ice. For 7 – 11 years. TICKETS £7

**Tickets for all shows from Box Office, Joan Leifer Tel: 0844 884 8832 and  
Bradley+Brown, 50 High Street, Thames Ditton**

**To hire the Vera Fletcher Hall, contact Manager Helen Mason Tel: 08456 528 529  
[www.verafletcherhall.co.uk](http://www.verafletcherhall.co.uk)**

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# Thames Ditton Island bridge gets a makeover



There aren't many people who can claim to own a steel suspension bridge - or at least one forty-seventh of one - and the residents of Thames Ditton Island are extremely proud of theirs.

Built in 1939 the old girl is starting to show her age in places and so the islanders have commissioned a makeover. If you've visited The Swan recently you will have noticed the scaffolding and heard the rhythmic banging as workers remove the rust that has built up over the years.

Fortunately there is nothing too serious to worry about and a good rub down and re-paint will soon have her looking as good as new.

The bridge was built by the company David Rowell of Westminster and has a number of brothers and sisters dotted around the UK and even one as far away as the Falkland Islands. The cost to the islanders at the time was approximately £3,000 which is about £135,000 in today's money. Amazing value and testament to a time when British engineering was still the envy of the world.

There is a saying that "They don't make

'em like they used to" and the bridge is a great example of this. It's hard to imagine that in this day and age a modern bridge would be built with such elegant lines or



with such bomb-proof engineering. The surveyor in charge of the current project estimates that the steel hawsers could support a structure five times the weight and believes the bridge will probably outlive all the current residents.



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When you stand in the middle of the bridge to take in the unspoilt views you get a real feeling of solidity and permanence. Unfortunately, unless you live on the island you won't be able to experience this for yourself: the bridge has a security gate and the islanders take their privacy and security extremely seriously.

Before the current lock system was put in place, the River Thames at Thames Ditton was actually tidal and you could sometimes walk across at low tide, or else a ferryman, residing on neighbouring Swan Island, would row you across for a small fee. Straightening and dredging of the river eventually meant that the island was only accessible by water and as more and more residents built permanent dwellings on the island the need for a bridge became apparent.

As well as providing a link to the mainland and a conduit for gas, water,

electricity and removal of sewage, the bridge plays another important role. If you ever stand on the bridge at the end of the working day and watch the islanders come home you'll often hear a big sigh and see a straightening of the shoulders. Living on the island is a bit like being on holiday, every day. People often talk about the relief of getting home and pulling up the metaphorical drawbridge – well, the islanders very nearly do!

It's not for everyone but if you were to ask most of the residents they would tell you they couldn't imagine living anywhere else.

As for their bridge, it shares a special place in the hearts of all the residents. When asked why, one islander gave the obvious answer "*It stops me from getting my feet wet*". Ask a silly question...

**Patrick Ponsford**

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**WELCOME TO ALL**

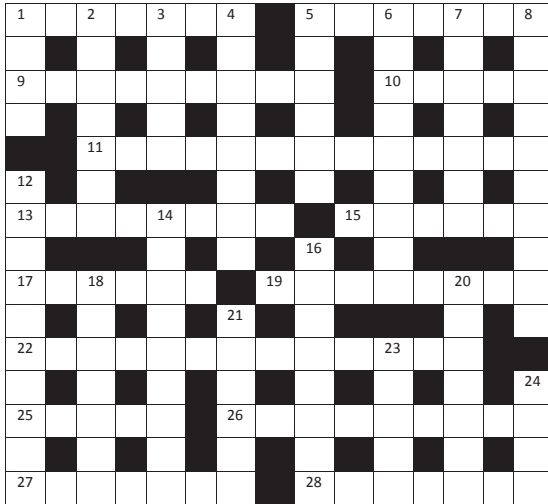
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# Winter Crossword

By Michael Jackson



The first three correct entries randomly opened after the closing date of 15 January 2015 will win a £5 voucher to spend in local shops.

Please send the completed puzzle (or photocopy) enclosing your name and address, with the envelope clearly marked 'Crossword Competition', to:

Thames Ditton Today  
 Crossword Competition  
 24 High Street  
 Thames Ditton  
 KT7 0RY

## ACROSS

1. A two winged aircraft (7)
5. An examination of health (7)
9. Strangely our Lucy is odd (9)
10. Daughter of Zeus and Leda (5)
11. For all well-proportioned intakes prepare a salad Benedict (8.5)
13. Orchestral opening; e.g. 'Egmont' (8)
15. In Japan a matted hat (6)
17. A lecture hall or public place where Aristotle taught (6)
19. Without anxiety (8)
22. Crimean Basket weavers now into furniture? (7.6)
25. Do not proceed when light is... (2.3)
26. To test or question again (2-7)
27. Give assurance as to conditions (7)
28. Monolithic needle (7)

## DOWN

1. German composer J.S.and Sons (4)
2. Allegorical story (7)
3. Coral island (5)
4. See the castle from the restored 'Rose Line'(8)
5. Henry, journalist and editor wrote about the London poor (6)
6. Dry out (9)
7. A large crater (7)
8. Wm. Kent and L. Brown were renowned for some of these (10)
12. Tax men, Bin men, et al, they will take it from you (10)
14. Filet of beef; if not sure do cook carefully (9)
16. Secretaries have gone off to see a singing bird-catcher (8)
- 18 but not at this floorshow (7)
- 20 ...and music not by this Italian composer (7)
21. Weather is squally, blustery (6)
23. Put in high spirits (5)
24. A hard wood (4)

# Solution to the Autumn Crossword

By Maureen Wilcox



			B	O	Y	L	E	F	A	R	M			
B		A		L		E		R		E		P		R
R	E	S	P	I	T	E		E	N	F	O	R	C	E
O		S		V		W		E		U		I		V
G	R	A	C	E	L	A	N	D		T	E	N	S	E
U		S				R		O		I		C		R
E	A	S	Y		A	D	A	M	A	N	D	E	V	E
			I		S					G		W		
N	O	N	S	T	A	R	T	E	R		S	I	G	H
E		A		A		O		N				L		U
A	C	T	O	R		E	G	G	S	H	E	L	L	S
R		I		R		D		R		E		I		S
B	R	O	M	I	D	E		A	L	A	B	A	M	A
Y		N		N		E		V		V		M		R
			A	G	G	R	I	E	V	E	D			

Congratulations to the sender of the only correct entry who wins a £5 voucher to spend in local shops.

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## SERVICES

Cheer (Concern and Help for East Elmbridge Retired)	Harry Livesey	01372 879321
Dittons and Weston Green Neighbourcare	Avril Ashworth	020 8398 7521
<b>Elmbridge Borough Council Community Support Services</b>		
Thames Ditton Centre for Retired People	Mon & Thurs	0208 398 5921
Thames Ditton Children's Centre	Tues, Weds, Fri	0208 398 3772
Meals on Wheels, Community Transport, Dial-a-Ride,	ask for service	
Alarm & Telecare services, Relief Carers	at central switchboard	01372 474474
Homesupport Elmbridge	Pam Howard (Manager)	01932 267128
Esher and District Stroke Club	Ann Pollock	0208 398 6132
Voluntary Action Elmbridge	Sally Dubery	01372 463587
Surrey Youth and Adult Education Service	Elmbridge Area	020 8979 8334

## GROUPS

Girl Guiding in TD & WG	Mrs K Williams	020 8398 1300
1st Thames Ditton Brownies	Mrs. Bronach Hughes	020 8398 1628
3rd Thames Ditton Brownies	Deborah Daoud	020 8398 5521
2nd Thames Ditton Rainbows	Nicki Sutherland	020 8398 4202
1st Weston Green (All Saints) Scout Group	Carole Needham	07975 842423
1st Weston Green Guides (All Saints)	Mrs. Louise Lewis	020 8398 4843
2nd Thames Ditton Guides	Mrs. Bronach Hughes	020 8398 1628
1st Weston Green Brownies (All Saints)	Mrs K Williams	020 8398 1300
2nd Weston Green Brownies	Mrs J Epps	020 8395 0595
1st Weston Green Rainbows	Mrs Helen Hill	020 8398 3135
4th Thames Ditton Ajax Sea Scouts	Alison Derrick	020 8398 0041
Dittons Scout Group	Laura Clarke	0208 398 3447
Coffee and chat (United Reformed Church)	Mrs. E. Barker	01372 467491
Emberbrook Trefoil Guild	Mrs. Adrienne Nealing	020 8398 5582
Friends of Bushey and Home Parks	Jean Smith	020 8977 9391
Friends of Walsingham Care	Miss Valerie Chicken	0208 398 2932
Molesey and Dittons Neighbourhood Watch	Chairman: John Haberfield	020 8398 5256
Parents and Toddlers(St Nicholas church)	Information	020 8398 7211
Ripieno Choir	Nick Harris	020 8399 7231
Surrey Bell-ringers	Nick Pattenden	Nick@FSLimited.com

## CLUBS

Albany Motor Yacht Club	Secretary	01784 466651
Arts and Heritage Club	Carol Butcher	01932 867511
Claremont PROBUS Club	Mr. P. Collins	020 8398 3125
Claygate Bridge Club	Hon. Secretary	020 8398 1710
Colets Health & Fitness	Giordano Orsini	020 8398 7108
Dittons Skiff and Punting Club	Hon Secretary	07710 139417
Dittons & Hinchley Wood Royal British Legion	Hon Secretary	020 8398 6263
Ember Players (Drama) Ember Sports Club	Anne Segall	020 8941 4528
Ember Sports Club	Zenda Hedges	020 8398 7038
Ember Sports Club: Bowls	Sylvia Jones	01932 788701

Ember Sports Club: Croquet	Dr. David Cooke	01932 862841
Ember Sports Club: Tennis	Annabel Duncan	0208 786 6318
Esher Bowling Club	Roger Cooper	01372 468109
Esher Bridge Centre	Paul Whicker	01372 460157
Esher Camera Club	Billy Buchanan	020 8398 3169
Esher 41 and Ex-Round Tablers' Club	Dr. R. Tudor-Williams	020 8398 0108
Folk Dance Club	Pam Phillips	01372 373745
Hinchley Wood / Dittons PROBUS Club	Geoff Francis	01932 867771
Long Ditton Cricket Club	Nigel Hardy	020 8398 8361
Long Ditton Garden Club	Heather Harvey	020 8398 2642
Model Railway Society (Hampton Court)	Secretary	01932 241224
Mothers Union (All Saints)	Jill Cotter	0208 398 4598
Old Cranleigh Rugby Club	Tony Price	07801 837129
Old Cranleigh Hockey Club	Simon Marshall (Men)	07801 737695
	Helen Hawes (Ladies)	07771 557900
River Club (BMYC)	David Walker	0870 460 3586
Rotary Club, Esher	Geoff Morris	01932 868454
Rubber Bridge TD Lawn Tennis Club	Val	020 8399 9972
Surbiton Croquet Club	Alec Thomas	020 8398 2391
Surbiton Golf Club	Secretary	0208 398 3101
Surbiton Hockey Club	Secretary	020 8398 2401
Thames Ditton Lawn Tennis Club	Chris Lewis	07770 562569
Thames Ditton & Esher Golf Club	Mark Rodbard	020 8398 1551
Thames Ditton Squash Club (Colets)	Dave Peck	020 8398 7108
Thames Ditton Cricket Club	Howard Frish (Secretary)	07947 561449

#### SOCIETIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Ember Choral Society	Linda Bridges	020 8399 5402
Esher Recorded Music Society	Miss S. M. Garrat	0208 398 8541
Esher and Molesey Garden Society	Chris Walker (Sec)	0208 398 6651
Esher and District Amnesty International	Cherry Eddy (Campaigns)	0208 398 4377
Hampton Court Way Allotment Association	Lettings: Piotr Hennig	0208 398 5358
Long Ditton Youth Club	Toni Izard	07749 633973
Lynwood Allotment Society	Louise Flaig	020 8398 7704
Molesey and District Antiques Society	Linda Lambert	020 8398 1476
NADFAS (Decorative & Fine Arts) Kingston	Mrs. Valerie Windsor	020 8549 9967
Soroptimist International (Kingston District)	Secretary: Pat Harman	020 8390 3507
Thames Ditton Women's Institute (W.I.)	Secretary	020 8398 8615

#### OTHER

Cancer Research UK	Mrs. Vivienne Harris	0208 398 6787
Elmbridge Fairtrade Network	Judy Porter	0208 398 6401
University of the Third Age (U3A)	Hon Sec Anne Brown	01932 881633
Vera Fletcher Hall	Lettings: Helen Mason	08456 528 529
	Membership: Sue Morris	0208 224 0980

**Please contact the Editor to amend these listings**



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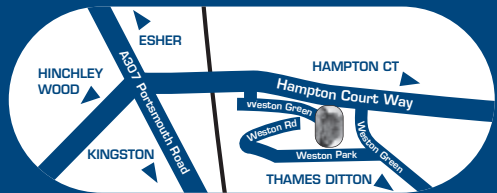
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