



OUTWOOD NEWS

**OUTWOOD
NEWS**
COPY DATE

**JUNE
2026**

**Friday
22nd May**

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be inserted without
prior agreement.*

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copy to:
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@outwood.org



**A COMMUNITY LITTER PICK WILL BE HELD
ON SATURDAY 9th MAY FROM 10.30AM
See page 16**

MAY 2026

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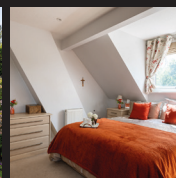
01883 744 020 | we-love-plants.co.uk | hello@weloveplants.co

@nichoward Nic Howard Garden Design



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Square Feet: 1996



Maison

maisonpartnership.com

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james@maisonpartnership.com



OUTWOOD FILM CLUB

Lloyd Hall

NEXT FILM CLUB DATE IS FRIDAY 8th MAY
for



Doors open at 7.00pm as before and we'll also be trying to tweak the sound reproduction in the hall for extra clarity.

Thank you to our friends, old & new, who made the March screening of Operation Mincemeat so enjoyable and successful.

I hope the bar refreshments were adequate and, as we sold out of ice creams, they'll stay on the menu!

Thanks to those who made some great suggestions for future films and we are going through these to see what we might get.

Our selection will be in the next Outwood News and will be screened in the Lloyd Hall on **Friday 12th June**.

The team look forward to seeing you all again
- why not bring a friend?

CHURCH NEWS

ALAN'S AMBLINGS

Dear friends

As we enter the Merry month of May, Spring has reached its prime and the long hot days of summer beckon. The woods are a riot of colour and smells with the last of the bluebells and wild garlic still in bloom joined by red campion and foxgloves with hawthorn trees decked in white blossom.



There are many folk traditions associated with the month of May including dancing round the Maypole, crowning of the May Queen, Morris Dancing and colourful parades across the country invoking the spirit of Summer.

In the Christian calendar many important festivals occur in May including the agricultural festival of Rogationtide, the Ascension of Jesus into heaven and the great feast of Pentecost which occurs 50 days after Easter and marks the coming of the Holy Spirit in power on the disciples who were gathered with Mary and others in an Upper Room in Jerusalem and heralds the dramatic birth of the church. May is also a month associated with Mary, the mother of Jesus and on May 31st we commemorate the visit of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth when the baby Jesus is said to have leapt for joy in her mother's womb and Mary utters the famous words known as the Magnificat.

Rogation Sunday this year falls on Sunday 10th May and is associated with blessing of the crops and prayers for farmers and those who work on the land. It is also the time when traditionally the ceremony of Beating of the Bounds occurs with people walking round the parish to pray for God's blessing on all that we do here. This year we have a special united service at 10am at St Mary's Horne with the new Archdeacon of Reigate as our guest preacher. All are welcome to attend!

The following Thursday, 14th May marks Ascension Day the day we remember Jesus ascending back into heaven after his work on earth is done. There will be a special service in the evening at 7pm in St John's Church in Outwood.

Finally, the great feast of Pentecost, the birthday of the Church, takes place on Sunday 24th May with services at the normal times at each of our 3 churches.



CHURCH NEWS

So, there is much to look forward in May as we move towards the Summer.
I end with a seasonal poem, called 'A May Morning' by Ellwood Roberts

The mist of early morning
Has slowly passed away,
A scene of rarest beauty
Unfolds where late it lay.
What can surpass in sweetness
The charm that dwells in May?
The wondrous fresh leaves glisten
In sunshine glad and bright;
The birds, in merry humour,
Give thanks for Spring's sweet light;
The miracle of May-time
Bursts full upon the sight.
The whole green earth rejoices
In warmth and light to-day;
The scent of myriad blossoms
Is wafted far away.
Where is there other brightness
Like that we find in May?

Every Blessing
Alan, Rector.

Rev. Alan Bayes
The Rectory, 5 TheAcorns, Smallfield, RH6 9QJ
Email: revalanbayes@aol.com

PAT CARTER

For all your electrical work

Tel: 01342 843883

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PILATES

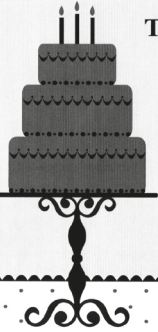
THURSDAYS

9.30AM

Lloyd Hall, Outwood

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MARCH 2026



The bluebells are out in force and in Outwood the woodlands are a gorgeous purple panoply.

Many of our ladies have been keen to take a local walk in the Spring sunshine that we have been enjoying,

From bluebells to church bells! If you live anywhere in England, you are likely to be within reach of the unique sound of a peal of church bells.

Our visiting speaker this month was Milica Reardon, a Surrey Association General Master of bellringing, who spoke to us with huge passion and incredible knowledge about her craft. Historically, the first evidence of terracotta bells comes from China 5,000 years ago: the words “ding” and “dong” are from the Chinese language! Here in England, it was St. Bede who decided that bell ringing should be introduced for religious ceremonies such as funerals, and this soon became popular through the Middle Ages, when church bells were considered to have supernatural powers. We were pleased to learn that women have been involved with bells for hundreds of years: in 1441 a bell was recorded as being cast by a woman at a London foundry and in 1896 the first woman was allowed to ring an actual peal in church. Milica herself is a dedicated ringer and she used her PowerPoint presentation to show us the many churches with which she has been involved.

As this was an open meeting, we were pleased to welcome visitors from other local WI groups, as well as family and friends, to share our fascinating afternoon.

Milica proving that bellringing can be woman's work.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday May 5th at 2.30pm when ex-detective Steve Lewis will be showing us how to solve a murder!



Elizabeth Dyke

OUTWOOD CRICKET CLUB



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NATURE WATCH

Spring

By William Shakespeare

*When daisies pied and violets blue
And lady smocks all silver white
And cuckoo buds of yellow hue
Do paint the meadows with delight
The cuckoo then on every tree
Mocks married men for thus sings he
Cuckoo.*

The first verse of the bards spring song from Love's Labours Lost so perfectly captures the pleasures of spring, which this year has been early and in many cases flowers and insects appeared as much as three to four weeks earlier than average. Despite the very wet weather during January and February last winter proved to be very mild with little in the way of frost or snow. In turn these warmer than average conditions resulted in an early start to spring. Records show that at Kew Gardens on 8th May the temperature reached an all-time high of 26.6° and a major survey has shown that since 1970 the average spring temperature increased by almost 2°. Couple this data with the news that many species of birds and fish are moving to cooler northern environments provides clear evidence of climate change. Trees and shrubs were breaking into leaf and flowering ahead of time and the hawthorns in more sheltered spots were flowering in the first week of April - we have always called it May blossom. As usual the oak and ash have continued to vie to see who can come into leaf last. This year it is the ash although many young trees appear to have succumbed to the combination of the hot dry spell last summer and the ash die-back fungus. Locally, bluebells were coming to their peak in mid-April resulting in the usual date for bluebell walks being brought forward. There seem to be more than ever, or perhaps it is because the weather is dry, the sun is out and the beautiful blue carpets on the woodland floor are simply more vivid. Every now and again the sharp eyed will spot one or two white bluebells. I've seen more this year than before with small groups popping up unexpectedly such as along Wasp Green Lane, near Brightleigh Farm; on the road to Smallfield and I even found both a blue and white version self-sown near the base of one of our climbing roses.

Butterflies were also early starters. I spotted orange tips in late March some time before their favourite host plant garlic chicory, which first appeared in the second week of April. Similarly, the common blue showed up in the garden at the end of March when they normally appear in late April/May. By mid-April large white butterflies could be seen in gardens probably on the lookout for brassicas. Yet another early bird report came from Lyn Wilson of Rookwood Farm, who said that the first of the swallows returning to her big barn arrived from their winter quarters in southern Africa on 30th March. Yet another bird which becomes more visible in springtime is the mallard ducks and their ducklings and word came that a large number had been seen on the pond on the common near the cricket club. I paid a visit and although there were 4 or 5 it is possible that numbers may have been reduced by fox predation – usually a reason for large clutches.



Orange Tip Butterfly

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Our Burstow group committee is thrilled to announce we have raised over half a million (£520,349 to be exact!) since the committee was formed in 1988.

We would like to express our gratitude for all the support from our fabulous loyal community who over the years have attended our events, bought raffle tickets, fund raised on our behalf and made donations.

You have helped us (and our predecessors) achieve this fantastic mile-stone.

The money undoubtedly makes a huge difference to patient care, both at the hospice and within the community.

Thank you from the Burstow ladies.



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Come And Meet Each Other.

In April, the Come and Meet Each Other group met in Smallfield church hall for friendship, laughter and to be entertained by the local hand-bell group, led by Rev Charles Sargent. Tunes such as Hot Cross Buns, Aura Lee, (Love Me Tender) and the Bridal March rang out. One brave CAMEO member took a turn on the bells and good fun was had by all.

Next month, we meet on 1st May when there will be a short talk on social prescribing and the Wrinkly Minstrels will entertain. Everyone is welcome for tea, cakes and a chat.

Any queries, please message Helen on 07762632620.



Hear Here!

Having trouble with your hearing aid?

Do you need some new batteries?

Do you need new hearing aid tubes?

For free basic maintenance and free batteries, funded by the NHS, come along to Smallfield Church Hall, Redehall Road, on the first Friday of the month at any time from 1.30-2.30pm or on the second Wednesday of the month from 10.30-11.30am.

For any further information, please feel free to contact NHS audiology trained volunteer,

HELEN on 01342 843550 or text 07762 632620

Everyone welcome

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Jackie 07505974380

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OUTWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

CHANGES IN PARISH COUNCIL

I would firstly like to welcome Angela Baker as our new parish council clerk. Angela comes with a wealth of experience, not only as a clerk but also as a councillor within Edenbridge. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Rodabe for all that she has done as our clerk and wish her the very best in her retirement.

There have also been some changes of councillors. Nick de Wiggondene-Sheppard stepped down as our Chair last month and, after many years of service, Mary Baldock has now retired from her role as councillor. Mary has dedicated many years as a parish councillor and has been a fantastic source of knowledge for new councillors joining the team. Both vacancies have been advertised and will be filled in the coming weeks.

COMMUNITY LITTER PICK

Our next community litter pick will be on **Saturday 9th May from 10.30am**. It would be great to see as many volunteers as possible. We have high-vis jackets, pickers and bags – just bring a pair of sturdy gloves and appropriate clothing for the weather. Litter picks are a great way of giving back a little to improve our local area and a wonderful opportunity to meet neighbours. Please meet outside Lloyd Hall

The Parish Council would like to thank those within our village who routinely carry out their own litter picks around our roads and verges. Your hard work and community spirit does not go unnoticed and we are grateful for everything that you do to keep our lovely village tidy.

Cllr Helena Devlin
Vice-Chair

CONTACT DETAILS

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are held each month except August and December

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Helena Devlin Vice Chair - Highways

velma9612@gmail.com 07718 278402

Anna Malley Planning

anna.malley1@gmail.com 07802 581006

Patrick McIntosh Airports

c0nnect1@me.com 07860 745832

PARISH CLERK

Angela Baker

Email: parish.clerk@outwood.org

Tel: TBC

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Ashleigh Bolton 07717 881061

Sue Farr 07973 541297

Richard Smith 07702 077673

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Chris Farr Chris.Farr@surreycc.gov.uk

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

General 03456 009009

Pot Holes 0300 200 1003

email: fixmystreet.com

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MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Claire Coutinho

Email: claire.coutinho.mp@parliament.uk

House of Commons (Direct Line) 020 7219 5972

Constituency Office 01883 715782

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Booking Enquiries

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Management Committee Secretary

Helena Devlin 07718 278402

Email: lhmc@lloydhall.org

NATIONAL TRUST

Harewoods Estate Office 01342 843225

Email: harewoods@nationaltrust.org.uk

www.nationaltrust.org.uk

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Tandridge Neighbourhood Policing Team

Email: tandridge@surrey.pnn.police.uk

Mark Osland Email: outwoodnw@gmail.com

POLICE

Emergency Attendance 999

Report non-urgent incidents 101

Crime Prevention Advice

Mark Howells

Email: mark.howells@surrey.pnn.police.uk

PS Brooker is the Southern Sergeant

Email: Joshua.Brooker@surrey.pnn.police.uk

The PC's for our area are Lee Newman and
Rowan Futter

Email: Lee.Newman@surrey.pnn.police.uk

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Leaves Redhill Bus Station	09.00
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The public can contact the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner in the following ways:

Telephone: 01483 630 200

Email: SurreyPCC@surrey.police.uk

Website: www.surrey-pcc.gov.uk

SURREY CONNECT ON DEMAND BUS SERVICE

The connect service operates Monday to Friday 7am to 7pm and Saturday 8am to 6pm.

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Bus passes can be used.

Look up details on the following website:

website: surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/buses-and-other-transport/community-transport/surrey-connect

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR MAY

Sunday 3rd May

- 8.00am Book of Common Prayer Communion - Horne
9.30am Holy Communion - Burstow
10.00am Family Service - Horne
11.00am Holy Communion - Outwood

Sunday 10th May - Rogation Sunday

- 10.00am Benefice Service
with the Archdeacon of Reigate - Horne
3.00pm Café Church - Smallfield Church Hall

Thursday 14th May - Ascension Day

- 7.30pm Benefice Communion Service - Outwood

Sunday 17th May

- 9.30am Holy Communion - Burstow
10.00am Holy Communion - Horne
11.00am Holy Communion - Outwood

Sunday 24th May - Pentecost Sunday

- 9.30am Holy Communion - Burstow
10.00am Morning Worship - Horne
11.00am Holy Communion - Outwood

Sunday 31st May - Trinity Sunday

- 9.30am Morning Worship - Burstow
10.00am Holy Communion - Horne
11.00am Morning Worship - Outwood

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DIARY OF EVENTS

MAY

- Saturday 2nd** **OUTWOOD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY -
PLANT SALE**
10.00am-noon - St Johns Church
- Tuesday 5th** **WI MEETING "How to solve a murder"**
2.30pm - Lloyd Hall
- Tuesday 5th** **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**
- Friday 8th** **FILM CLUB**
"DOWNTON ABBEY - THE GRAND FINALE"
7.00pm for 7.30pm - Lloyd Hall
- Saturday 9th** **COMMUNITY LITTER PICK**
10.30am - Lloyd Hall

JUNE

- Tuesday 2nd** **WI MEETING "Middle Aged & Motorbike Mad"**
2.30pm - Lloyd Hall
- Saturday 20th** **OHS EARLY SUMMER SHOW**
2.00-4.00pm - St Johns Church
- Friday 12th** **FILM CLUB**
7.00pm for 7.30pm - Lloyd Hall

OUTWOOD VILLAGE WEBSITE
www.outwood.org

The website Diary page, maintained by Outwood News, lists all village events (*of which we are aware*) taking place up to a year in advance.

Why not take a look to avoid a clash of dates!

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Priya Williams

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Director of St. Julien Financial Planning
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Mobile: 07903 302515
Email: priya.williams@sjpp.co.uk



ST. JULIEN

FINANCIAL PLANNING

Named as a trusted financial adviser in the Times and Telegraph (March 24), Priya has over 16 years of experience in the finance industry, having previously transitioned from an accountancy background. Financial Wellbeing is at the core of the service she provides, and she owns an accredited financial wellbeing practice. Priya is also a mental health first aider. She provides holistic advice to her clients and helps them build their financial futures through goals-based financial planning in the form of investment, retirement and estate planning.

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Claire Coutinho MP
Member of Parliament for East Surrey

Visit my website

If you ever need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact my office. You can get in touch using the details below, or scan the QR code above to visit my website, where you can send me an email directly.

I hold regular advice surgeries, so if you would like to request an appointment please email me at the address below.

Get in touch!

- ✉ claire.coutinho.mp@parliament.uk
- 🌐 Clairecoutinho.com
- ☎ 0207 219 5972

After my recent invitation in this column welcoming constituents and community groups to visit the Houses of Parliament, my mailbag has been overflowing with letters and emails from all across East Surrey. With the mesmerising intricacies of the architecture and centuries of British history enveloping every room, it was a wonderful joy to welcome the near two dozen farmers who made the trek to London. They all had plenty to say about the MPs who work here – but to be courteous to this magazine's editorial guidelines, I'll leave those words to your imagination!

On the subject of tours, it was a pleasure to bring Kemi Badenoch to Godstone a few weeks ago to hear from some of the local business owners who have faced such disruption this past year. Never-ending increases to business rates has been a particular worry, so to have the Valuation Office Agency pass the buck to Tandridge District Council after my request for a rates taper was disappointing. In any case, I have written now to TDC's Chief Executive to repeat my request on behalf of Godstone businesses.

My Godstone traffic management survey has also now closed. Thank you to the over four hundred village residents who took the time to submit their thoughts. This mammoth response shows the strong sense of feeling locally, which I will put to Surrey County Council. You can keep up to date with my traffic campaign and conversations with SCC on my Facebook page.

I also had some cracking days out knocking on doors and chatting to residents ahead of the local elections on the 7th May. In Merstham it was great to stick my head into the boxing gym – certainly a formidable bunch! I'm glad thanks to Cllr Mus Tary working with the gym, the eyesore front boarding is going to be tidied up soon. I was also in Smallfield, where unauthorised traveller developments and noxious fires were top of people's minds. I'm pleased to say that after five months of determined badgering, the Housing and Planning Minister has finally agreed to meet with me. Fingers crossed the Government begins to recognise the impact this lawlessness is having on rural communities across the country, but most importantly here in East Surrey. If you have any questions you would like me to ask the Minister, please send them to me here: claire.coutinho.mp@parliament.uk.

Finally, I end with a plea. I was recently contacted by Saturn V Rebound Therapy, who, after more than 30 years at their current location in Caterham, are in desperate need of a new home for their much-loved disability activity centre. The magnificent team there use full-sized trampolines to improve mobility, coordination, confidence and overall wellbeing for people with complex needs. If you have any suggestions or ideas, please email me and I will ask my team to put you in touch with Rebound Therapy.

OUTWOOD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Outwood Horticultural Society Membership is open to all and new members are very welcome. Only £5 per year. Benefits of membership include discounts at Burstow Nurseries and Thompson & Morgan. Please contact us at outwoodhortsoc@gmail.com to find out more or to join the society.

PLANT SALE

Please join us at St Johns Churchyard on
Saturday 2nd May 10.00am - noon
for our plant sale.

Everyone is invited.

We would be grateful for donations of plants you may have to spare. Please bring them along to the churchyard at the beginning of the plant sale.

EARLY SUMMER SHOW

Our Early Summer Show will take place at St John's Church on
Saturday 20th June 2.00-4.00pm

Entries are welcome from members and non-members alike. The schedule and entry form will be inserted into next month's edition of Outwood News.

Even if you don't enter any produce do come along to admire the exhibits.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2026

LATE SUMMER SHOW Lloyd Hall
Saturday 5th September

Photographic Classes for the Late Summer Show:

Relative Values
Sense of Scale
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What's on at Lloyd Hall

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10.00am Wood Carving b.monk031@btinternet.com

Tuesday

14.30pm W.I. presidentoutwood@surreyfedwi.org.uk
(1st Tuesday of month)

Wednesday

9.30am Yoga reigatemassageandyoga@gmail.com
11.00am Coffee Morning ukmikia@hotmail.com
13.30pm Yoga jdyson7@hotmail.com
18.00pm Dance Classes harmonydancing@hotmail.co.uk

Thursday

9.30am Pilates lmcfitness@icloud.com
15.00pm Dance Classes harmonydancing@hotmail.co.uk

COFFEE MORNING



**We hold a Coffee Morning at Lloyd Hall
every Wednesday from 11.00 to 12 noon**

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OUTWOOD NEWS COPY DATES

ISSUE

June

July

August & September

COPY DATE

22nd May

19th June

17th July

NOTE: Please submit copy either as finished artwork (a PDF of the correct size) or, if using WORD, in the simplest form. Please avoid using text boxes.

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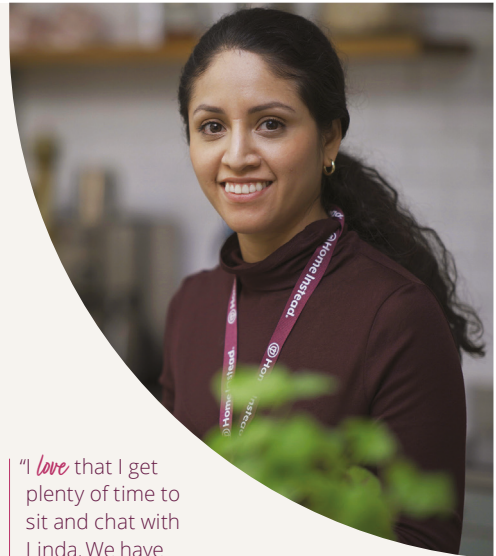
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