# SurreyHills Society ViewS



# **Arts and Crafts Gems in the Surrey Hills**

Here at the Surrey Hills Society, not only do we celebrate and champion our beautiful landscape but also all the wonderful history, geology and culture that has developed within these leafy hills. The Arts and Crafts movement had a real strong hold here and during the autumn we had the opportunity to visit two interesting Arts and Crafts buildings with all their associated famous visitors and residents. The first was the visit to the Grade 2\* Listed Amesbury Prep. School, the only school Edwin Lutyens designed, in Hindhead, near the Devil's Punchbowl.

The Headmaster, Nigel Taylor gave us a fascinating talk about the history of the school and one of its famous visitors. a Field Marshall in WW 2, 1st Viscount Montgomery of Alamein. Monty's son was a border at the school during the



Amesbury school

war and he used the school as his behind the lines planning headquarters for the D-Day landings. Many thanks to Nigel Taylor and his staff.

A real treat awaited us at Belmont School in December. This Prep School was the former home of Edwin Waterhouse, cofounder of Price Waterhouse, now the largest professional services company in the world. Another Arts and Crafts gem hidden away in the Surrey Hills, it was designed by the famous Arts and Crafts architect George Edward Street and still contains a lot of the original features including some delightful William Morris tapestries and tiles. Waterhouse himself appears to be a real character, choosing to walk the 6 or so miles to Dorking to catch the train to London each day but having his servants bring the carriage behind him in case he got tired!



Belmont school

See your quality photographs used in our trailer and promotional material - enter the competition on page 4.



We are extremely grateful to the Headmistress, Mrs Helen Skrine and her husband, John for giving the Society another delightful day out in Holmbury St Mary, with a brisk walk to enjoy the views at Leith Hill, followed by warming mince pies and mulled wine back at the school.

And finally, a little bit of literary history, Holmbury St Mary is believed to be the basis for the fictional village of Summer Street in "A Room with a View". Its author EM Forster was a long standing resident in neighbouring Abinger



Walking in Holmbury St Mary

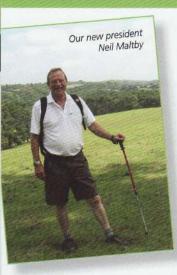
Our thanks to Ringway for providing graphic design and printing of our newsletters. Thanks for items and photos submitted by Ken Bare, Chris Howard, Diane Cooper, AONB office, Alan Oakley, Jo Tollow, Peter Denyer, Andrew Norris and our members who have submitted articles



www.surreyhillssociety.org



# **Chairman's View**



Here we are, three years on from the creation of this Society and look where we have got to! Well firstly, we are still here! Many companies and charities don't make it through those first critical years and yet we have managed to jump that first hurdle. We now have a

fantastic band of volunteers and have a full and topical calendar of events for our members, thanks to Mark Richards and all his volunteers. Due to another group of dedicated volunteers led by Ken Bare, we now have a good presence across the County at all the summer events and festivals and are now a recognised feature of many of the local shows.

All this good work would not be possible without a strong pair of hands back at the office managing everything and this has been expertly handled by Richard Pitts and his loyal band of volunteers who come every week to our office at Warren Farm Barns (by kind permission

of the Surrey Hills AONB Board) and sort all the admin, ably supported by our co-ordinator June Robinson. I cannot mention everyone here by name but thank you all so much for all you do.

This success would not have been possible without the vision and energies of our former Chairman, Neil Maltby, who stood down in October at our AGM. We are all very grateful for the time and effort that he has put into this Society and to the patience and support of his wife Jane and their two lovely daughtersall of whom are members and volunteers. We are delighted that Neil has agreed to stand as our first President of the Society and we look forward to President's Day later in the year where Neil has organised an exciting trip to Epsom Downs Race Course for a real insiders look at one of Surrey's top sports.

I would like to thank all our members who have volunteered at many of our activities and also for supporting all our events. We could not have done it without you. I also don't have the space to thank all the affiliated business members who have helped us with generous donations and support but I must thank Ringway, who have been the Surrey County Council Highways contractors up until recently. They have very kindly provided graphic design and print of this newsletter in liaison with

our editor, Diane Cooper, for the past two years, which has saved the Society a significant amount of money and volunteer time. Thank you Ringway for a fantastic job.

We are currently in discussion with the Surrey Hills AONB Board about some conservation projects and we are doing some exciting work with the Wood Fuels Group in promoting sustainable wood products, which as you will know Surrey has in abundance. If you have ideas which you think will benefit the Surrey Hills and the Society do get in touch to discuss them with me and I look forward to seeing you all at one of our many events in 2012. It promises to be an exciting year and we certainly have a packed programme of events. Please continue to

support us.

Chris Howard Chairman



# Society Clothing now available to order

Now that a local charity - The Grange at Bookham (www.grangecentre.org. uk) - is the supplier of our embroidered fleeces and polo shirts, we no longer have a minimum order level which we need to meet. Therefore, we can take your orders at any time.

To order, please send details of your requirements plus a cheque for the total amount (payable to Surrey Hills Society) to Clothing, Surrey Hills Society, Warren Farm Barns, Headley Lane, Mickleham, Dorking RH5 6DG



Chest (to fit) 30/32 32/34



Ladies fitted polo (white) 65% polyester/35% cotton - £15 each									Mens / unisex fleece (grey) 100% polyester - £25 each								
Size	XS	S	М	L	XL	XXL	3XL	4XL	Size	XS	5	М	L	XL	XXL	3XL	4XL
Ladies size	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	Chest (to fit)	34/36	36/38	38/40	40/42	42/44	44/46	46/48	48/50
Chest (to fit)	30/32	32/34	34/36	36/38	38/40	40/42	42/44	44/46			Ladies fitted fleece (grey) 100% polyester - £25 each						
	Mens	/ unisex	polo (wi	nite) 65%	6 polyest	ter/35%	cotton -	£15 each			Size	XS	5	М	L	XL	XXL
Size	XS	S	М	1	XL	XXL	3XL	4XL	5XL 6XL	La	dies size	8	10	12	14	16	18

Before ordering, please check the size tables carefully since these items are being purchased to order.

38/40 40/42 42/44 44/46 46/48 48/50 50/52 52/54



Chest (to fit) 34/36 36/38

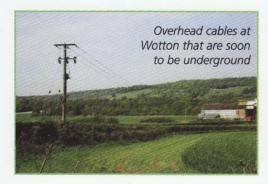
36/38

38/40

40/42

34/36

# **Update from the Surrey Hills AONB office**



### Undergrounding of Electricity Supplies

Thanks to the efforts of Dave Symonds, Landscape Officer for Surrey County Council, funding was agreed for a further 3 sites, all on the Wotton Estate. The schemes at Leith Hill and Painshill Farm, Hascombe should be undertaken in 2012. This represents another £250,000 investment in the Surrey Hills with more schemes being planned with landowners and farmers.

### Our Land – Regional Sustainable Tourism Project.



Launch of the Our Land Project in the Surrey Hills (photo shows from left Rob Fairbanks, Surrey Hills AONB Director, Chris Reynolds, Chairman of Kent Downs, Jeremy Hunt MP, Kate Humble, Nick Johansen AONB Director from the Kent Downs and Justin Francis from Responsible Travel.)

A MAJOR new initiative urging people to reconnect with their local landscapes was launched at the end of October. 'Our Land' unites and celebrates the nine protected landscapes in the South East region – the first time such a collaboration has been created. More than a third of the South East is officially classified as Protected Landscape – this consists of two National Parks and seven Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB): the Chilterns, Cotswolds, High Weald, Isle of

Wight, Kent Downs, New Forest, North Wessex Downs, South Downs and the Surrey Hills. To promote the project a new website www.our-land.co.uk has been created to promote sustainable tourism businesses. Visitors can use the new website to find and book their next holiday; browsing specific regions and accommodation preferences or by viewing suggested itineraries themed around seasons and activities, as well as reading about the sights, sounds and smells that make the different landscapes so distinct. The project was launched in the Surrey Hills by Countryfile presenter Kate Humble and Jeremy Hunt, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. Jeremy comments;

"I am a big fan of the Surrey Hills, they are absolutely breathtaking and we need to be encouraging domestic tourism. I hope people will remember me for my interest in domestic tourism as it is much the most sustainable form of tourism in terms of carbon emissions and it helps to sustain the countryside. It creates jobs and prosperity and can be an absolute life blood for the community. We are incredibly lucky with our countryside. It defines us and I am thrilled to give my support to this project."

#### **Decluttering**

The Surrey Hills Highway Working Group is developing a project about new thinking on rural traffic management and enhancing country lanes and villages. A pilot project has been drawn up for Shamley Green which has been agreed by the village association and the parish council. In the meantime, discussions continue with Surrey Highways and the new contractor, May Gurney, about a schedule of rates for the Surrey Hills Design Guide and arrangements for commissioning works for traditional Surrey Hills finger posts and village signs.

The Director is working with Protected Landscapes colleagues and the European Manager at Surrey County Council to look at the possibility of securing Interreg funding to promote best practice and take forward case studies.



De-cluttering project in Albury - removal of metal signs

## Surrey Hills Festival

The Olympic road cycling race through Surrey on the weekend of 28 and 29 July is probably the one Olympic event that the public can genuinely watch live without the need for expensive tickets or a television screen.

Box Hill is one of the places on the route expected to draw huge crowds and the Surrey Hills AONB in partnership with Denbies Wine Estate is organising a festival of Surrey wine, beer and food. It plans to showcase the best of our local produce and entertainment so that visitors can carry on enjoying themselves once the peleton has completed its nine circuits of Box Hill via the Zig Zag and continued the race. There will be Denbies wine and a variety of Surrey beers, hog roasts, strawberry teas and much more.

Entry for this community event will be free. The Festival starts at 11am on Saturday 28 July and the Denbies train will be on hand to ferry visitors back and forth. Roads will be closed to cars but the vineyard is within easy walking distance of Box Hill, West Humble and Dorking railway stations and accessible by cycle track.

The eyes of the world will be on Surrey that weekend and the festival will be a fantastic advertisement for all that is special about our countryside and especially the Surrey Hills.

Keep an eye on our website for further information as the date draws near.





We want to see your favourite pictures of the Surrey Hills. Our promotional trailer needs a new display for the 2012 season

and we would like to use your photos to show the area through our members eyes.

To take part, all you need to do is send your photos – a maximum of 3 per member – to our special email address shslaptop@yahoo.co.uk together with your name and membership number. Please identify the location of the picture. Photos may be colour or black & white and should be a minimum of 1MB (and preferably around 3MB) in size. The entries will be judged by a team including members of a local photographic society. The top 3 entries will gain a small prize

but these and a far larger number will also have their pictures printed and displayed within our trailer to be seen by the public.

Closing date for entries is **31 March 2012**. By entering, you agree that the Surrey Hills Society may use the photographs in any of its activities and publications.

# **Volunteers at Norbury Park**

In the Autumn of 2011, our former Chairman (Neil Maltby) started developing plans to relocate our promotional trailer to a secure but more accessible, covered, location. Thanks to Surrey Wildlife Trust, we were offered a site at Norbury Park but we would need to create our own shelter.

At around the same time, the Society was approached by rhw Solicitors LLP of Guildford who were investigating opportunities for their staff to have a team day working on a local project.

Inspiration – how about getting the Solicitors to help with the site clearance and erection of the shelter?

rhw seemed keen so Neil developed a design and obtained the materials. In late November our intrepid group of volunteers descended on Norbury Park, near Leatherhead to put the plan into practice. Ivy was cleared, rubbish was







removed, ground was levelled and holes were dug for the supporting posts – supplied by Norbury sawmill. The posts were lifted into position and fixed in place then a framework of panel supports was nailed onto them to allow for the roof fitting at a later date. By dusk, the hard work had been completed to the satisfaction of everyone.

Did the volunteers enjoy themselves? Well they all still had smiles on their faces at the end of the day and a follow-up letter from them has already asked if they can do some more work with us next year! Thank you to all our rhw volunteers for a job well done





# Winelands of the Surrey Hills

Recently, Professor Richard Selley of Imperial College gave us a fascinating talk about Surrey vineyards, ancient and modern. He began by recounting that the Romans planted substantial vineyards across England, but that there was only one hyper-tentative site in the Surrey Hills at Bagden. Viticulture collapsed in the Dark Ages, but was quickly re-established by the Norman Conquest and flourished throughout the Medieval Warm Period. One of the best known medieval vineyards in Surrey is in the grounds of the old Archbishop of Canterbury's Palace at Croydon. During the Little Ice Age of the 15th to mid 19th centuries viticulture only survived in south-east England. There were several notable examples of the period in Surrey, especially at Painshill Park, Cobham, and Deepdene, Dorking. With the start of the Industrial Revolution warm period, viticulture was re-established across large parts of England and Wales.

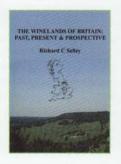
Over 10% of England's wine comes from vineyards in the Surrey Hills - mainly from Denbies but increasingly from other, more recently planted, vineyards. In the last century Surrey vineyards were planted with cool climate grape varieties such as Riesling. Now, however, vineyards are

being re-planted with warmer French varieties, particularly those used in the production of champagne. As global warming continues, by 2080 the Surrey Hills will be able to produce wine from hot climate grape varieties such as Merlot and Viognier. Large areas of southern England, however, will be too hot for viticulture.

Much more information on this topic can be found in Richard's book: *The winelands* of *Britain: past, present & prospective* to order from

www.winelandsofbritain.co.uk or purchased from Denbies Wine Estate.

Richard is also a strong supporter of Mole Valley Geological Society based in Dorking whose talks and events programme includes a number of local themes which may be of interest to our



members. Further details can be found on their website at **www.radix.demon. co.uk/dendron/mvgs/** 

# Re- launch of the Greensand Way

Last October Surrey Ramblers and Surrey County Council's Countryside division celebrated the re-launch of the Surrey section of the Greensand Way long distance route at Leith Hill Tower, near Dorking. Ramblers volunteers and Countryside and Rights of Way Officers have worked together for 18 months on this project to survey, repair and install a new GW waymark along the 55 miles of footpaths and bridleway in Surrey and to publish new downloadable maps at www.surreycc.gov.uk/greensandway.

The National Trust opened the Tower especially for the occasion and invited guests to climb the tower and enjoy the views that extend from the skyline of London in one direction to the south coast in the other.

The whole route, originally devised by the Ramblers in the 1980s, is 108 miles long and stretches across the southern half of Surrey from Haslemere ending at Hamstreet near Ashford in Kent. There's a new leaflet (sponsored by the Ramblers) available from Warren Farm giving information on the new maps.

In Surrey the route starts at Haslemere, passes the Devil's Punchbowl at Hindhead, traverses the main Surrey Hills at Hambledon, Pitch Hill, Holmbury Hill and Leith Hill before descending to Dorking, and eastwards to Reigate, Bletchingley, and on into Kent just beyond Limpsfield. The Way takes its name from the layers of sandstone in which is found the green coloured mineral glauconite.

Look out for our event this coming September 'Walking the Greensand Way' organised by one of our members, Graham Butler.

### **Lovelace Bridges Revisited**

In March 2009, a group from the Society were treated to a guided tour of the newly developed Lovelace Bridges Trail on the hills above East Horsley. A highlight of this walk was a viewing of Stony Dene Bridge which was then undergoing restoration work.

In November 2011, Chris Howard (incoming SHS Chairman) and Ken Bare (SHS Trustee) were amongst a small group invited to witness the Mayor of Guildford leading a celebration to mark the completion of work on Stony Dene Bridge.

Much of the restoration was undertaken



2009 Visit picture courtesy Peter Denyer

by the late Des Hollier and other helpers from Horsley Countryside Preservation Society (HCPS) including our own very strong supporter, Peter Hattersley. HCPS funded completion of the restoration by Crowzon with additional financial support from Surrey Historic Buildings Trust.

It was Peter who organised this recent event - ably assisted by Andrew Norris who had acted as technical advisor to the project. Congratulations to all who were involved in this project which was described by Andrew as an "Exemplar Restoration of the Lovelace Bridges"



2011 Celebration picture courtesy Andrew Norris





Leith Hill Tower

# From Seed to Sawmill: the fulfilling life of a tree

"They're cutting down trees again!" is an understandable exclamation by Surrey residents, as trees they have known and loved from their childhood are being felled. After all, Surrey is known for its trees, being the most wooded county in England despite its relatively large population. "You can't see the houses for the trees" is a good description of our attractive county.

But let's look at it in a wider context. One of the most effective ways of looking after your garden is to prune your plants and trees and shrubs to ensure vigorous growth, and if they die or get too big and ugly, you remove them and replace them with something more suitable. That is exactly what happened to trees and hedgerows in the countryside over the centuries.

The problem is, very little woodland management has taken place since the Second World War, due to the reduced demand for natural wood products and the import of cheap and more exotic timber used for furniture making. Consequently, we have become less used to seeing woodland management in action. For centuries, the Surrey Weald was a great producer of timber for houses, furniture, agricultural tools and equipment, and there are stories of timber trucks having to be abandoned during the winter months as they stuck in the wet clay and sandy lanes! The regular supply of good hardwood timber to our shipyards ensured the dominance of the British Navy. And as the name "Abinger Hammer" suggests, the "Industrial Revolution" started here, utilising the

natural ironstone and abundance of locally produced timber charcoal, until the discovery of the more efficient coal in the Midlands stole the business from us and we went back to being agricultural, utilising the hammer ponds for watercress production!

After the First World War, the huge timber demand for mines and industrial regrowth led to the founding of the Forestry Commission, and the planting of quick-growing softwood trees in the 30s, 40s and 50s. Much planting was on unused heathland that arose because the demand for greater efficiency in farming had led to the abandonment of heathland grazing. Similarly, traditionally grazed downland became unused, leading to the invasion of trees and shrubs onto these formerly open areas with their wide views. Unfortunately, the demand for softwood timber fell away in the 50s and 60s, so many of our former heathland areas became dark, dank forbidding places, with virtually no wildlife. The same can be said for a lot of Surrey woodlands which became overgrown, with little light getting in and then becoming used as dumping grounds.a

More recently, there has been a greater understanding of the need to look after woods and, after selective tree felling has taken place, the sunshine, the bluebells and the birdsong start to reappear. Fortunately, like heather, bluebell seeds remain in the ground for many decades and will flourish again given the right conditions, as can all wildlife.

If we want to keep our beloved Surrey looking beautiful, then responsible tree management is essential.

Alan Oakley

Director of Norbury Park Wood Products

# SurreyHills Wood Fair 2012

Note for your diary: this year's Wood Fair at Birtley House, Bramley. Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 October.

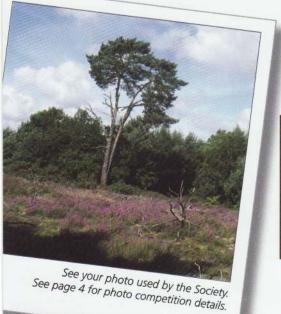


# **External Talks**

Do you belong to other organisations who invite speakers to talk at your meetings? Surrey Hills Society has a presentation about the Surrey Hills AONB which it regularly takes out to groups across Surrey with the aim of telling people more about our wonderful countryside.

We have our own digital projector and screen so can work in almost any venue and for any size of audience. We request a donation to the Society in lieu of speaker payment and can vary the length of the talk to fit the requirements of each group.

If you or your group would be interested in finding out more and, possibly booking our speaker, please send an email to info@ surreyhillssociety.org



Registered Charity number 1125532

# The Hindhead Tunnel



The Hindhead tunnel is now open and rapidly becoming a facility which is taken for granted by travellers. The Surrey Hills Society has held annual visits to the area and to the construction site over recent years so it was with interest that a significant number of us used the tunnel to get to our AGM at Amesbury School recently. The tunnel has been a vast project and it is easy for the traveller to assume that, following the opening, the work is complete. Nothing could be further from the truth.

If you visit the National Trust car park and look from the viewpoint, you will notice a lot of changes. Large scale tree clearance has been undertaken to open up the views again. There are no longer lines of trucks and heavy traffic along the eye-line - as used to be the case when the former A3 was in use. The continual background noise from the vehicles has also disappeared. At present, there is the sound of heavy construction traffic and, walking from the car park along the byway which was the "old A3", one can

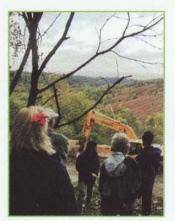
see why. The road surface of the recently closed A3 has been removed and the area is being re-graded as the first step of returning it to heathland. The re-contouring is all being done using material from within the area to avoid introducing "foreign" species and when complete, will be re-sown with heather seed collected locally.

Within the heart of Hindhead, major works are modifying road layouts to reflect the changed traffic flows. Planning proposals are appearing which aim to replace some of the empty properties with private accommodation, community facilities and enhancements to the visitor experience at the Devils Punchbowl. Over time, these and other changes should all support the rejuvenation of the area.

At the same time as the tunnel development works, South East Water has completed a £2m project to secure local water supplies. They have built a new storage reservoir capable of holding

five million litres of treated water. The facility, close to the National Trust Devil's Punchbowl, will ensure drinking water supplies are maintained to 12,500 customers in the Hindhead, Grayshott and Bramshott area.

As the various Hindhead projects come to fruition the area will, hopefully, become identified as a vibrant Surrey Hills destination with stunning views, peaceful surroundings and a thriving community spirit.



Society members visiting the area

# **Society Finance Director Jo Tollow**



Shortly after the birth of my daughter, I came across an advertisement for a Finance Director for the Society. I was already volunteering for another local charity, Talk, but as I was not yet back

at work, I thought this would be a good way to keep my mind active and give me some vital adult contact.

Growing up in Farnham, I have enjoyed cycling and walking in and around the Surrey Hills from a young age and so had a natural interest in promoting this special area for others to enjoy.

I had been involved with many charities before as an auditor and applied for the role. I was immediately struck by the enthusiasm of all those involved in the day to day operation of the Society and was made to feel very welcome.

My current activities for the Society include making submissions for grants

and contributing to the creation of a new membership gift pack to be sold at events, shows and specially selected outlets. I have also enjoyed a few days representing the Society at local shows, which is a great way to meet likeminded people.

I a m now back at work three days a week and enjoy spending time the rest of my time with my daughter.

I am always looking for new places to visit in the Surrey Hills, particularly buggy and child-friendly outdoor spaces (see back page for event planned for 18 August). I try to take part in as many walks and talks as possible so I look forward to meeting more of you soon.



# SurreyHills Society

# Events programme February to October 2012

Keep an eye on our website for additional events to be added to this calendar

Booking is essential and usually opens 2 months before the event - further details at www.surreyhillssociety.org or by sending an SAE to: Surrey Hills Society Events, Warren Farm Barns, Headley Lane, Mickleham, Dorking RH5 6DG

#### Wednesday 8 February

Talk on **Shamley Green Woods** at Wonersh Pavilion. Patrick Mannix will present an illustrated talk about the issues of managing a wood in Surrey, including his 800 year old holly wood. (See also guided walk on 9 June.)

#### Saturday 3 March

A private tour of **Surrey History Centre** in Woking with presentations from Janet Nixon, Senior Heritage Projects Officer and David Williams, Finds Liaison Officer for Surrey and East Berkshire.

#### Friday 16 March

A talk at Shalford on the restoration of the Surrey Section of the **Wey and Arun Canal** 

#### Monday 26 March

A day exclusively for Surrey Hills Society members to enjoy a cookery demonstration of dishes using local Surrey produce in the **Taste of Surrey** kitchens in Peaslake, deep in the Surrey Hills - to be followed by lunch with wine.



#### Thursday 12 April

An exclusive visit to the gardens of **Munstead Wood** has been arranged by kind permission of the owners, Sir Robert and Lady Clark. The 10 acres of restored gardens include woodland, swathes of spring flowers, sunken rockery, shrubbery and topiary box. The present owners' restoration has retained Gertrude Jekyll's genius for planting and design.

#### Tuesday 17 April

Beatrix Potter - A Scientist in Surrey: talk at West Horsley Village Hall. During the 1890s, Beatrix had the ambition to be a scientist and came to West Horsley, to stay with her favourite uncle, to escape from her domineering family, but also for top scientific advice. Fenella Harrison will tell (with pictures) how she and the local historian of the village found all this out - almost by accident - over 20 years ago.

#### Saturday 12 May

A Day in the Country – a guided walk around Headley plus lunch then a visit to the Surrey Wildlife Trust site at Nower Wood.

#### Friday 8 June at 7 pm

A talk by Councillor Ted Howard on the mural in **Chaldon Church** of the 'Ladder of Salvation of the Human Soul' together with 'Purgatory and Hell'. This will be followed by a presentation on the adjacent 14c Chaldon Court by its owner Madeline Hutchins and tours of the house.

#### Saturday 9 June

Guided walk around **Shamley Green Woods** by Patrick Mannix, followed by lunch at the local pub

#### July - date to come

Talk on **Surrey Hills AONB** – Update by Rob Fairbanks at Warren Farm Barns.

#### Wednesday 25 July Family Ramble at Polesden Lacey

#### Wednesday 15 August

An exclusive evening visit to the gardens of **Pratsham Grange** by kind permission of the owners, Alan and Felicity Comber. This 4-acre garden with excellent views of the Surrey Hills has been created around the late Victorian house over the last five years.

#### Saturday 18 August

**Afternoon Easy Access Trail** walk from Margery Wood, Reigate to Colley Hill with time for members' own picnic break to enjoy the views.

#### Saturday 25 August

A walk across **Reigate Heath** from the Skimmington Castle for a guided visit to Reigate Caves.

#### Thursday 6 September

**President's Day – A visit to Epsom** Downs and Racecourse with the opportunity to visit a Trainers' Yard.

#### September

Walking the Greensand Way – dates to be confirmed

#### Saturday 6 October

A Day in the Country "Buckland from 1000 to 2000" a village history walk around Buckland with Duncan Ferns plus coffee, lunch and visits to the Windmill and Sandpit

#### Saturday 13 October

**Grain and Vine Tour at Denbies Wine Estate.** Bacon butty on arrival then vineyard

**Estate.** Bacon butty on arrival then vineyard grape picking. The 360° film experience will be followed by a buffet lunch with tutored wine tasting, brewery tour and tasting.

#### Saturday 20 October

**AGM Bocketts Farm** - a working family farm set in beautiful countryside on the slopes of the North Downs near Leatherhead. AGM followed by Harvest Supper in the Old Barn.

We are always happy to consider ideas for events from members. Or if you would be able to organise a walk, talk or other event or can provide contacts we'd love to hear from you. Contact us at info@surreyhills.org

# Come and join in with one of our events





www.surreyhillssociety.org

