



Learning about plants on Sheepheas

## Our Special Surrey Hills

Back in December 2018, the Sunday Times included the Surrey Hills as one of the twenty must-visit places for the year ahead. Given it was a somewhat exotic list and the Surrey Hills was sandwiched between the Loire Valley and Ethiopia it was truly a ringing endorsement. The Surrey Hills were described as one of England's prettiest corners, something Surrey Hills Society membership has of course appreciated for years!

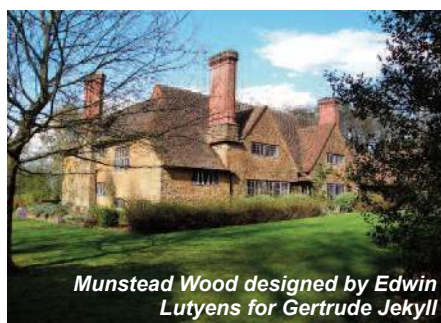
The focus of the article was Denbies' Wine Estate, the largest single-estate vineyard in England. The success of Surrey's vineyards over the past few years is unprecedented; with the same geology as the Champagne region of France, and vastly improved marketing, the Surrey Hills vineyards are now renowned for producing award winning wines. Nearby Chilworth, High Clandon and Albury, along with Greyfriars, are all worth a visit, and it's not just wine that is getting all the glory, micro-breweries and gin distilleries are also expanding fast, the most famous perhaps being Silent Pool.



*New woodland planting at Langley Vale*

What else draws visitors to our area? Without doubt the stunning and accessible countryside

including Leith Hill, with its famous gothic tower built to raise the hill above 1,000 feet. Box Hill, with extensive views and a plethora of wildlife, and voted as one of England's most popular picnicking spots. The Devil's Punchbowl, where legend leads us to believe it was caused by the Devil pelting Thor with enormous handfuls of earth rather than erosion caused by spring water. Perhaps less well known, but just as beautiful, is Thursley Common, one of the largest surviving heathlands in Surrey and home to many species of damsel and dragonflies. Near Epsom Downs, the Woodland Trust's Langley Vale Centenary Forest is a plantation of 200,000 broadleaf trees forming a fine tribute to those who lost their lives in WW1.



*Munstead Wood designed by Edwin Lutyens for Gertrude Jekyll*

Equally wonderful are the houses, gardens and galleries, each with their special area of interest. There are many exquisite Arts and Crafts houses and gardens in the area, courtesy of Sir Edwin Lutyens & Gertrude Jekyll, Voysey and Charles Harrison Townsend. Watts Gallery, a legacy of

Victorian artist George Frederick Watts, runs ever changing workshops and exhibitions. Elsewhere, Gatton Park, landscaped by Capability Brown, and ranked as one of his best designs, offers something for everyone to enjoy throughout the year.



*Leith Hill Place*

National Trust houses of special interest include the renowned Edwardian country retreat, Polesden Lacey, which regularly showcases a range of fascinating exhibitions and Leith Hill Place, Ralph Vaughan Williams' childhood home. A special mention must go to Clandon Park reopening for part of this year to enable visitors to see the progress made since the devastating fire.

For leisure, there is so much choice – ranging from the arts to active sports such as off-road cycling or walking & running in the countryside. Alternatively, for those who like a day at the races we have Epsom Downs Racecourse, home to some of the finest flat racing including the world-famous Derby.

This just touches upon why the Surrey Hills is so special. No doubt each reader will be compiling their own list and wondering why we have left out their favourite.



## Chairman's Views



It has been an incredibly busy few months. I was delighted to accompany members on a number of walks across the Surrey Hills including going up to Holmbury Hill from Belmont School and exploring the environs of Ewhurst on a wet and windy day, when I was truly amazed how many braved the elements. Just recently we had a delightful walk near Frensham Little Pond. St John's Seminary in Womersley also proved very popular.

In addition to all these excursions, a number of the trustees met with the rest of the Surrey Hills family at High Ashurst Outdoor Education Centre for an intensive morning of discussion to identify our aims over the coming year. This included representatives from the Surrey Hills AONB Board, Surrey Hills Enterprises, Surrey Hills Arts and the Surrey Hills Trust Fund. Two weeks later we had a working session of the Society to build on the outcomes of the family away day and

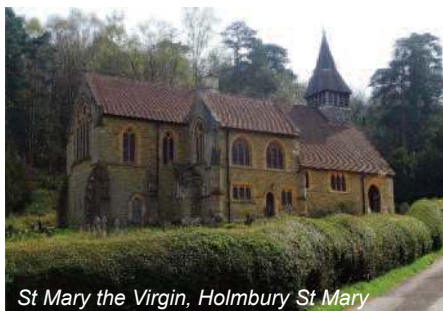
refine our thoughts about our own action plan for the next three years. I will be writing more about this in our next newsletter.

As the Society continues to grow, we recognise the importance of collaborating with others. One other Society visit was to the newly rebuilt Educational Nature Reserve at Nower Wood run by Surrey Wildlife Trust (SWT). Only two days later SWT invited me to a Youth Summit, which we partly sponsored, where enthusiastic 16-18 year olds were encouraged to come together and "stand up for nature" and to devise ways to promote a greener sustainable future that prioritises the environment. In August we will be having a guided walk with SWT on Ash Ranges.

Another new venture was a jointly promoted walk with Investec International Music Festival on 10th May from Shere to the Saxon Church in Albury, where we enjoyed a guided tour and a short musical interlude.

We are also collaborating with the Arts and Crafts Movement in Surrey. Our first joint event, in Abinger on 13th June, is a study day at Goddards, designed by Lutyens.

The main focus of the day will be George Edmund Street, an architect who designed



St Mary the Virgin, Holmbury St Mary



On top of The Devils Jumps near Frensham

St Mary the Virgin church at Holmbury St Mary in memory of his wife.

Within the Surrey Hills family, Surrey Hills Enterprises, who promote our rural businesses, are also keen to welcome the Society and we are planning a number of visits with some of their members in the autumn. Also, we are working very closely with Visit Surrey to promote the Surrey Hills whenever we can.

All in all there will be something for everyone over the coming months and I wish you a very pleasant summer.

### Dates for your Diary

**Sunday 22nd September**, Surrey Hills Challenge and Festival of Sport at Denbies, Dorking

See [www.surreyhillschallenge.com](http://www.surreyhillschallenge.com)

**Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th October**, Surrey Hills Wood Fair

See [www.surreyhills.org/events/the-2019-surrey-hills-wood-fair](http://www.surreyhills.org/events/the-2019-surrey-hills-wood-fair)

**Saturday 12th October**, Surrey Hills Society AGM at the Evelyn Hall, Abinger Common

## Volunteer Portrait – Peter and Jean Arnold

Jean and I have lived on the edge of the Surrey Hills AONB since we moved to Leatherhead over 34 years ago. We both worked some distance away and used the Surrey Hills for our weekend walks but after retiring a few years ago we wanted to get to know our local AONB better and to give something back. As well as volunteering for the National Trust, we both have roles within the Society.

I have been a member of the Events Committee for 6 years and I organise several events a year. These can be a fascinating way to find out about a particular place in great detail and also challenging to get everything set up for the visit. It is satisfying to make use of the skills that I have gained

through my working life as an industrial chemist, a charity worker and a Scout Leader, to help the Surrey Hills Society.

Jean has recently started organising volunteers for the shows in the area which the Society attends, to spread the word about the Surrey Hills and to recruit members. Jean worked as a Chartered Accountant for over 30 years, which provided her with the administrative skills that she is now utilising for the Society.

We both help man the gazebo at shows, encouraging people to visit and enjoy this wonderful area and also recruiting new members to the Society.

We enjoy meeting new people at events and shows and it keeps us both mentally and

physically active which is very important as age creeps up on us. We also relish discovering places which are previously unknown to us.



## My Surrey Hills

My Surrey Hills is a series of videos focusing on people. What those people all have in common is the Surrey Hills and the love they have for the area that they live, work in or simply enjoy visiting.

Each month we introduce you to a new person and unveil their video. You'll discover a runner, cyclist, artist, volunteer, wild swimmer, wildlife enthusiast and more...

Each of the videos is produced by Dorking based videographer Markus Dell. So far we've introduced you to Jude Palmer, who loves being outdoors and regularly undertakes her passion of running in the Surrey Hills; Michelle Eastell, a Forest School leader who is passionate about woodlands and the benefit they bring both physically and mentally; and Michael Sowerby, a landscape photographer.

You can view the videos on our My Surrey Hills YouTube channel.



Video #2, Michelle Eastell



Devil's Punch Bowl

## 70 years of protected landscapes

2019 marks 70 years since the Government passed an Act of Parliament to establish National Parks and AONBs. To recognise this the Surrey Hills and South Downs National Park are leading a campaign to celebrate protected landscapes in the South East. The High Weald and Kent Downs AONBs have also signed up. The major

transport providers in the South East (South Western, Southern, Great Western, Stagecoach South & East and Metrobus) have agreed to support the campaign through their on-station marketing and digital media. The aim is to encourage awareness of protected landscapes and encourage use of sustainable transport.

## Oxted Station – Promoting the North Downs Way

Passengers at Oxted station were in for a surprise recently when they started their Monday morning commute. The glass entrance porch to platform 2 has been transformed with a huge, colourful display promoting the 153 mile North Downs Way National Trail and highlighting access stations on the rail network from the Kent coast and through Surrey.

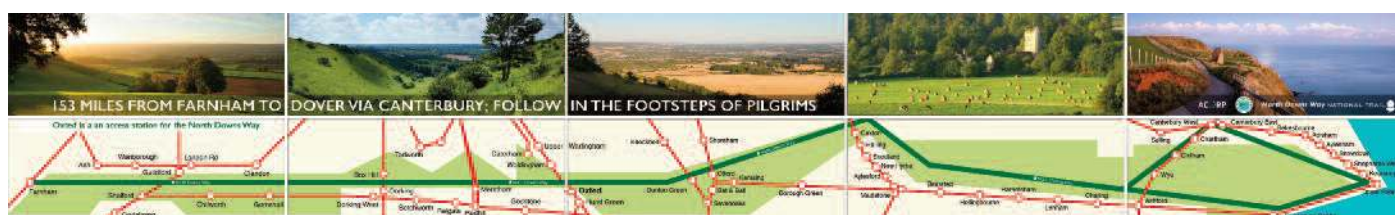
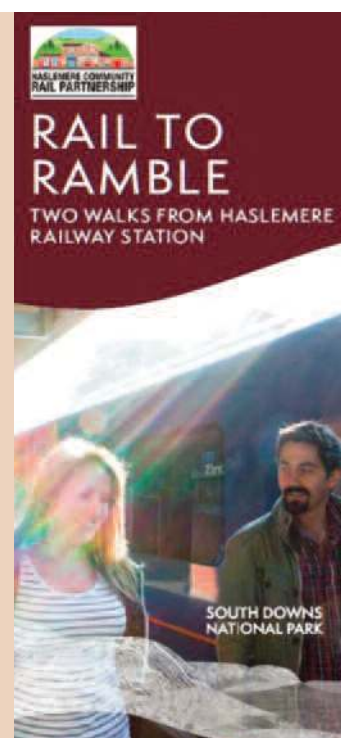
The Trail Manager, Peter Morris, has worked hard to promote a project for a 'hop on, hop off' way to walk the trail in manageable sections by using the rail network. Southern agreed to help and produced a series of posters giving directions from the stations to the Trail. The project has also been rolled out across local GWR managed stations. Other key partners have been the Association of Community Rail Partnerships (CRP) and the Sussex and North Downs CRPs.

Sussex CRP had already been working at Oxted station with various planting and artwork projects and saw an opportunity to go big and bold. The huge glass porch offered a fantastic showcase to support the project that can be viewed from both platforms.

Graham Upton (ACRP award winning artist) was asked to lead the design and with information provided by Peter Morris and Sussex CRP he set about designing a tube inspired, easy to follow map of the Trail. The result is both eye-catching and effective with viewers already asking more about the North Downs Way.

## Rail to Ramble 2019

The Surrey Hills AONB Board is working in partnership with the Haslemere Community Rail Partnership (HCRP) and the Surrey Hills Society to produce a Rail to Ramble walking route from Haslemere to Witley station. The South Downs National Park has already worked with HCRP to produce a walk from Haslemere to Liphook and this new walk into the Surrey Hills will look similar in design style as part of a suite of leaflets. It is hoped to launch the new leaflet during summer 2019.





# Surrey Hills Gems

4th May marked the first official "Surrey Day" – a celebration of Surrey organised jointly by BBC Surrey, Visit Surrey and Surrey Life Magazine. To kick-start the promotion, BBC Surrey asked its listeners to select their Seven Wonders of Surrey. Four of them are in the Surrey Hills. Three appear in these pages whilst the fourth – the River Wey – creates a thread across the area and, along with the River Mole, provides the setting for many of Surrey's wonderful features. We hope that you will agree with most of our choices on these pages.



## Leith Hill Tower a BBC Surrey listener selection

This iconic tower marks the highest point in south-east England. From the top, on a clear day, you can supposedly see parts of 13 counties. Whether or not you achieve this feat, you can certainly see an incredible distance beyond London and even see the sea through the Shoreham Gap. Now owned by the National Trust, the tower was originally built in 1765 by Richard Hull of Leith Hill Place as 'a place for people to enjoy the glory of the English countryside'. Some things don't change!

## Watts Gallery Artists' Village a BBC Surrey listener selection

Watts Gallery Artists' Village is a unique Arts & Crafts gem nestled in the Surrey Hills. George Frederic Watts was a painter and sculptor born in London in 1817 who moved to Limnerslease in Compton in 1891. He was considered to be the greatest painter of the Victorian era. Watts Gallery, which is dedicated to his wife Mary, opened to the public in 1904 and now contains over 100 of his paintings plus various sculptures. Also in the village is the wonderful Grade 1 listed Watts Chapel.



*Photo: Richard Mortimore*

## Waverley Abbey a BBC Surrey listener selection

The ruins of Waverley Abbey provide a peaceful haven for exploration and reflection in the meadows beside the River Wey. In 1128, monks from France settled here and Waverley soon became the springboard for Cistercian settlement in southern England. The monks and lay brothers farmed the surrounding land, were active in the wool trade, and provided shelter for pilgrims and travellers along with an infirmary for the sick. In 1536 much of the abbey was dismantled and some of the stone was reused to build Loseley House.

## Thursley Common

Witley, Ockley and Thursley Commons still survive despite new roads and major housing pressures. Thursley Common is particularly important and has been given protection by Natural England as a National Nature Reserve. Covering 326 hectares of woodland, heath and mire it is a life-giving haven for wildlife. From its boardwalk one may see up to 20 species of damsel and dragonflies and the area is a mecca for bird watchers during the summer when the Hobby arrives to feed on them.



## Cherkley Court (Beaverbrook)

The Surrey Hills has many wonderful properties. Cherkley Court, near Leatherhead, is a Victorian neo-classical mansion set in 370 acres. Originally built in 1860 for a Birmingham wool manufacturer it was rebuilt for him in 1893 after a fire. Acquired by Canadian-born press baron Lord Beaverbrook in 1920 the house attracted many famous guests including Winston Churchill, H.G. Wells and Rudyard Kipling. The property is now run as a luxury hotel known as Beaverbrook.

## Denbies

From wine buffs to walkers to weddings, Denbies Wine Estate, the largest single estate vineyard in the UK, offers something for everyone. The opening of the UK's first luxury Wine Hotel is imminent along with the expansion and modernisation of the winery. The hotel is committed to best practice in green-tourism, while its restaurant will champion local food. Gaining 24 medals during the 2018 wine season, Denbies quality wines and stunning location attracts around 350,000 visitors each year.



Photo: Matthew Williams



## Polesden Lacey

Polesden Lacey is probably the best known National Trust property in Surrey. A Regency house transformed into a superb Edwardian mansion by McEwans brewery heiress, Mrs Ronald Greville, it provides a wonderful snapshot of the lives and leisure of the early 20th century elite. But there is much more to Polesden Lacey than just the house. The grounds extend to 1400 acres, within which are a walled rose garden, woodland trails, and landscaped lawns with fabulous views across the surrounding hills.

## Box Hill

Box Hill has long been famous as a destination for day-trippers. Managed by the National Trust it is an outstanding area of woodland and chalk downland. But the hill has been famous for generations. By 1815 it was already sufficiently well known for Jane Austen to site the picnic in "Emma" here believing that her readers would be able to identify the location. More recently, the 2012 Olympic cycle race put Box Hill back on the international stage and it is now the most visited location in Surrey.



## Devils Punch Bowl

The Devil's Punch Bowl has spectacular views and wonderful walking opportunities across open heathland and through shady woodland. Nearby is the stunning scenery at Highcombe Edge and Gibbet Hill which is the second highest point in Surrey. This is good walking country with many footpaths to explore. The area underwent a huge transformation in 2011 when the Hindhead Tunnel was opened and is now sown with heather and planted with 200,000 new trees and shrubs as part of a National Trust restoration project.

## Gatton Park

Gatton Park is renowned as being the work of "Capability" Brown whose 300th anniversary occurred recently. Comprising about 600 acres, the core features and gardens are managed by the Gatton Trust and the outlying areas by the National Trust. The house has had many owners through the centuries but Jeremiah Colman (of mustard fame) is probably the best known. A curiosity in the grounds is the Town Hall, a small covered structure where election results were announced.



Photo: Epsom Racecourse

## Epsom Racecourse

Epsom Downs Racecourse is situated high up on the North Downs. It has enjoyed a long association with the British Royal Family, with the Queen attending most years for the Derby - the UK's premier thoroughbred horse race for three-year-old colts and fillies. The first official recorded race was held on the Downs in 1661. In 1913 the suffragette, Emily Davison, threw herself in front of King George V's horse Anmer, bringing him down and suffered fatal injuries in the process.



# Championing our wildlife – 60 years of Surrey Wildlife Trust

Congratulations to Surrey Wildlife Trust (SWT) for reaching their 60th birthday. Their work is critical to the well-being of Surrey's countryside. Saving our challenged wildlife and countryside is a hot topic at the moment and SWT make it easy for everyone to get engaged and make a difference locally.

To celebrate, SWT are planning a 'Guildford Goes Wild' event on 1st – 2nd June in Guildford's High Street. They are also encouraging people to take part in their Arts & Photography competition from 25th May – 14th June, their Bay Pond Open Day on

15th June, as well as their regular Bioblitz events on 27th – 28th July. SWT are also always looking for new volunteers. There are lots of interesting things to see and do throughout the year, whilst knowing your subscriptions and donations are going to support our precious wildlife.

Their other important role is to educate young people to value and enjoy the countryside around them. As part of the 60th celebrations a Youth Summit was held on 28th March, which was attended by Gordon Jackson (SHS Chairman) along



SHS Members Pond Dipping at Nower Wood

with Chris Howard (our Vice President and now an SWT Trustee). Wildlife presenter, Nick Baker, from 'Spring Watch' worked with the 16-18 year olds who attended from various schools across the county. The Surrey Hills Society provided £500 sponsorship towards this project to show our support for their vital work.

The Surrey Hills Society has had a close relationship with SWT since our formation. The previous Chief Executive (CE), Nigel Davenport, served on the original committee that set up our charity. The present CE, Sarah Jane Chimbwandira, is an active volunteer and Trustee of our charity. As the Surrey Hills AONB does not own any land in its own right, it is critical that we work together with land managers like SWT on over-arching projects and issues that affect the Surrey Hills AONB.

Happy Birthday Surrey Wildlife Trust!

For more details visit:

[www.surreywildlifetrust.org](http://www.surreywildlifetrust.org)



Youth Summit with Nick Baker at Nower Wood

## Tribute to Graham Butler: First Chairman of SHS Events Team and Founder Trustee

Sadly one of our members and active volunteers, Graham Butler died on 23rd November 2018 after a long, courageous and cheerfully-borne battle with cancer. His great passion was walking and he was an active member of the Ramblers all his life. He represented the Ramblers on



Graham Butler (in red) - doing what he enjoyed most with SHS

numerous organisations dealing with access and rights of way, about which he became a fount of knowledge and the go-to person for anyone needing advice on such matters. For Surrey Area, he was Secretary or Acting Secretary and Access Officer, also representing them at the Ramblers' General Council, chaired the Countryside Access Forum, and was a founder member of Guildford's Walkfest.

He was a Surrey Hills Society Founder Member and served on the first Trustee Board. He also served as the first Chairman of the Events Committee and was the man responsible for introducing walking events into our programme. Chris Howard, SHS Vice President, reflected that "Graham did an enormous amount to set up our charity

and I will always be incredibly grateful for his efforts and his friendship."

Graham was also passionate about improving and extending London's walking network, being Secretary of the Ramblers Greater London Forum for 10 years. He contributed to the successful Love London, Walk London campaign to have walking included as a key strategy of mayoral manifestos, as a result of which London now has a Walking & Cycling Commissioner. He was an enthusiastic member of the Vanguard Rambling Club, joining in 1969, and was its Treasurer for 44 years. He played a huge part in getting the Vanguard Way established as one of the leading trails for walkers in southern England.

## Sponsor's View

In my Sponsor's View this time I want to celebrate the art and sculpture in the Surrey Hills – and in particular the work of Surrey Hills Arts, a part of the Surrey Hills family.

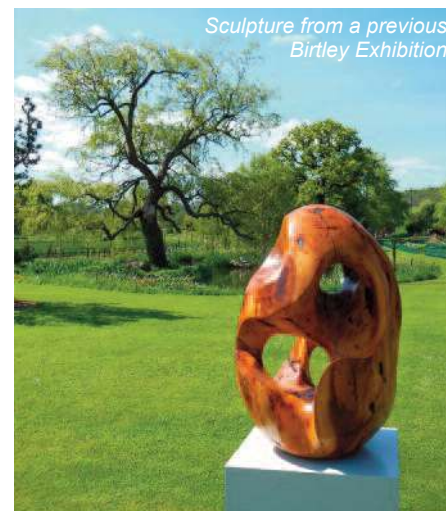


*Sculpture Park at Churt*

Under the leadership of Alison Clarke it has managed numerous projects across the area over the past years, including the Inspiring Views sculptures across Waverley and the Surrey Unearthed project. The most recent sculpture event is detailed in the article below.

And Surrey Hills Arts is not the only family member that is helping us to enjoy some of the finest art and craftsmanship that can be found here in Surrey. One event that has interested me is the Surrey Hills Sculpture Trail and Arts Festival that is being organised by Surrey Hills Enterprises in conjunction with the Surrey Hills Sculpture Society. This is being held at the Birtley Estate in Bramley, near Guildford, from Saturday 4th May until Sunday 2nd June. Details can be found on the Surrey Hills Enterprises website.

There are literally thousands of remarkable sculptural works of art in the Surrey Hills that are accessible to the public, either free or in return for a modest entry fee. Both the Hannah Peschar Sculpture Garden near Ockley and the Sculpture Park at Churt are well worth a visit! Most towns and villages have sculptures that help to tell their story and that of the people who once lived there.



*Sculpture from a previous Birtley Exhibition*

I would dearly like our Society, in conjunction with Surrey Hills Arts, to create a leaflet and online trail that would link all these works of art and to help visitors to explore the Surrey Hills with the help of a second set of eyes! I know that this would be a massive task, but I am happy to help to prepare the ground and work with other members to bring it to fruition.

*Anthony Wakefield*

## New Surrey Hills sculpture appears on Farnham Heath

Something new and very exciting appeared on Farnham Heath Nature Reserve this Spring and it's caught the attention of the BBC! 'The House of Invisible Hands' is a permanent wooden structure constructed out of oak with walls of chestnut coppice created by sculptor Walter Bailey.

The inspiration for the piece came from the historical process of local glass making during mediaeval times. This practise involved working within the forest and using the raw materials of the landscape to keep the furnaces going. The impurities in the materials created the green of the resulting glass objects.

Walter comments; "The House of Invisible Hands is a shrine to those who made forest glass. The glass was made by peasants

and often children worked long hours stoking the furnaces. This structure represents the many hands that laboured within local forests years ago."

The hand carved oak structure blends in amongst the trees at the view point on Farnham Heath offering a shelter and rest point for walkers to experience the artwork from outside and within.

The BBC Countryfile team were so taken with the concept of the piece that they wanted to film it being built. They joined Walter and his team of volunteers as they created the structure. Walter comments; "It was fantastic for the Countryfile Team to take such an interest in the piece – it's a great opportunity to profile the arts within

Surrey but also the magnificent landscape of the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty".

The Sculpture can be found on the RSPB Farnham Heath Nature Reserve. Visitors can park at the Rural Life Centre, The Reeds Road, Tilford GU10 2DL.



*The House of Invisible Hands*

## Planning views

The new Surrey Hills AONB Management Plan 2019-2024 is currently being prepared for formal adoption at the end of this year. The Plan is unlikely to be very different from the existing 2014-2019 Plan as there appears to be no need for significant changes. Also the Government review of the future of National Parks and AONBs, being carried out by a Panel led by Julian Glover, may recommend changes that could require the

Management Plan to be reviewed well before the 2024 expiry date.

It is hoped that the constituent Surrey Hills Borough and District Councils will agree to the proposed tightening up of aspects of the Planning Section of the Management Plan. This is considered necessary in light of experience in the last 5 years from the 1400 or so planning application consultations received by the AONB Planning Adviser. These have identified additional emerging threats to the

beauty of the AONB that need addressing.

The good news is that most new Local Plans being prepared, or recently adopted, include within their landscape protection policies a requirement for planning applications to take into account the Surrey Hills AONB Management Plan. Inclusion of reference to the Management Plan in local plans possibly gives its policies greater status.

*Clive Smith*

*Surrey Hills AONB Planning Adviser*





## Event Programme June – Autumn 2019

Visit our website for more information and additional events.




Booking is essential – even for free ones. Bookings generally open about 6 weeks before each event. Non email users can get more information by sending an SAE to the address above.

**Saturday 1st June**

**Free guided walk on North Downs Way from Farnham to Chilworth**  

Join us on this 14 mile all day trek starting from Farnham Railway station, GU9 8AD. Part of the Farnham Walking Festival. Visit [www.farnhamwalkingfestival.org](http://www.farnhamwalkingfestival.org)

**Sunday 2nd June**

**Explore Greensand Way – A choice of 2 walks from Brockham**   

A Free 5 mile guided walk along the Greensand Way looping back at lunchtime or a 10 mile walk to Reigate returning via Reigate Heath Windmill. Meet on Brockham Green, RH3 7JJ.

**Wednesday 5th June**

**East Clandon Village Day**


A morning exploration of East Clandon with a local historian, followed by lunch. An afternoon tour, talk and tasting at High Clandon Vineyard makes a fitting climax to this fascinating day.

**Thursday 13th June**

**Croquet at Polesden Lacey**

Enjoy an afternoon learning how to play croquet on this exquisite lawn. Whether you have played before or are a novice, come and enjoy this special opportunity followed by a cream tea.

**Thursday 13th June**

**Study Day with “Arts and Crafts Movement in Surrey”** 



Focusing on George Edmund Street, an architect who designed St Mary the Virgin church at Holmbury St Mary with visits to the church and to Peaslake.

**Wednesday 19th June**

**Sublime Sanctuaries – Exploring Brookwood Cemetery**

Private guided tour around part of Brookwood Cemetery and the Orthodox St Edward Brotherhood Church followed by lunch at Lord Pirbright's Hall.

**Sunday 7th July**

**Explore Gatton Park**  

Our Free guided monthly walk. Discover the beautiful gardens designed by Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown. Meet at Wray Lane Car Park, Reigate Hill RH2 0HX.

**Sunday 7th July**

**Gatton Country Fair**  

A great day out for all the family, with craft stalls, demonstrations, children's activities and a fun dog show.

**Thursday 11th July**

**Chairman's Day – Hampton Estate**

Join Gordon & Sue Jackson for this private tour of the Hampton Estate, home of Bill & Bridget Biddell. This is a special opportunity to learn about the challenges facing farming in Surrey and some of the innovative diversifications employed on this estate.

**Saturday 13th July**

**Guided tour of Cranleigh and visit to the Charles Brooking Collection**

A day discovering some hidden gems in Cranleigh, including the Arts Centre and a fascinating museum of architectural history including windows, doors and even the old doors of Wembley stadium.

**Thursday 1st August**

**A rare opportunity to explore Ash Ranges**

Join Sarah Jane Chimbwandira, CE of Surrey Wildlife Trust & SHS Trustee on this special day learning how this rare heathland habitat is managed in combination with its military use.

**Sunday 4th August**

**Explore Compton**  

Our Free guided monthly walk around this pretty village with many Arts & Craft Movement connections. Meet at Compton Green, The Street, Compton, GU3 1JQ.

**Wednesday 7th August**

**Visit Pratsham Grange, Holmbury St Mary**




Join Alan and Felicity Comber at this delightful late Victorian house and its 5 acres of grounds, complete with cascading ponds and extensive scented rose and blue hydrangea beds. A Surrey Hills gem.

**Saturday 17th August**

**Wanborough Great Barn**



The huge barn was built in 1388 by Waverley Abbey. It is one of the oldest in the UK. Join us for a private guided tour of this historic area, including the barn, ancient church and learn about its secret role in WW2.

**Sunday 1st September**

**Explore Guildford's famous Stoke Park**   



Our Free guided monthly walk. Enjoy this very easy 1 hour walk around the park and discover some hidden gems, including a piece of ancient woodland. Meet at entrance to Spectrum Leisure Centre, Parkway, Guildford GU1 1UP. 3 hours free parking. Part of Guildford's Walkfest [www.guildfordwalkfest.co.uk](http://www.guildfordwalkfest.co.uk)

**Saturday 14th September**

**Guided walk along the Way to Shalford Mill**  

A Free guided walk to learn more about the industrial history of the Tillingbourne Valley. Event includes an opportunity to visit Shalford Chapel of Rest. Meet in front of Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, Guildford. Part of Heritage Open Days [www.guildford.gov.uk/heritageopendays](http://www.guildford.gov.uk/heritageopendays)

**Sunday 15th September**

**Discover the industrial history of Abinger**  

A Free guided walk around Abinger as part of Mole Valley Heritage Open Days. Meet at Gomshall Railway Station, GU5 9NX.



Dog friendly but kept on a short lead throughout the walk



Family Friendly



Signposting for events where SHS will be present



Our FREE guided monthly walk on 1st Sunday of the month. 10.30am for an 11am start, finishing about 1pm.



Easy/flat



Moderate



Challenging

To join us go to [www.surreyhillssociety.org](http://www.surreyhillssociety.org) or phone 07530 949302