Magna Carta Memorial (Chertsey Camera Club)
OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name and Contact Information</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Honorary Life President</td>
<td>Mrs Pamela Gaskin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Mr Bob Edney, <a href="mailto:robertedney@btinternet.com">robertedney@btinternet.com</a></td>
<td>01932 849332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>Mr Ian Lee, <a href="mailto:chairman@addolesterolcommunityassociation.org">chairman@addolesterolcommunityassociation.org</a></td>
<td>07831 279374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice Chairman</td>
<td>Mr Paul Bungard, <a href="mailto:bungard@virginmedia.com">bungard@virginmedia.com</a></td>
<td>01932 845649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hon. Treasurer</td>
<td>Mr Malcolm Smith, <a href="mailto:malcolm.smiths62@ntlworld.com">malcolm.smiths62@ntlworld.com</a></td>
<td>01932 882355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hon. Secretary</td>
<td>Mrs June Tilbury, <a href="mailto:acesecretary18@gmail.com">acesecretary18@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>01932 842019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Sec</td>
<td>Mrs Sheilagh McKay, 14 Wren Crescent, Addlestone, KT15 2IR</td>
<td>01932 857400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookings Manager</td>
<td>Mr Vince Mitchell, <a href="mailto:bookings@addolesterolcommunityassociation.org">bookings@addolesterolcommunityassociation.org</a></td>
<td>07934 287004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Press &amp; Publicity</td>
<td>Mr Graham Botterill, <a href="mailto:graham.botterill@btinternet.com">graham.botterill@btinternet.com</a></td>
<td>01932 844653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centre Posters</td>
<td>Mr Lance Jones, <a href="mailto:lancejonesmail@gmail.com">lancejonesmail@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance Co-ordinator</td>
<td>Mr Paul Bungard, <a href="mailto:bungard@virginmedia.com">bungard@virginmedia.com</a></td>
<td>07425 201007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entertainments Chairman</td>
<td>Mr Rob Walters, <a href="mailto:roblynwaters@aol.com">roblynwaters@aol.com</a></td>
<td>01252 542938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club 200 organiser</td>
<td>Mrs Monica Kitchenside, <a href="mailto:m.kitchenside@btinternet.com">m.kitchenside@btinternet.com</a></td>
<td>01932 562281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustees</td>
<td>Mr M C Smith, Mr E A Genet, Mr R A Edney</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER/AUDITOR: Messrs Breckman & Company Ltd


For hiring the Community Centre & booking information please contact the bookings manager.

**TULK HALL** (including kitchen)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Hourly Rate</th>
<th>Session Rate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday to Friday</td>
<td>£20.50</td>
<td>£140.00</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>£38.00</td>
<td>£255.00</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>£30.00</td>
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**MURIEL WISE SUITE** (including kitchen)

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<td>£18.00</td>
<td>£69.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>£28.00</td>
<td>£163.00</td>
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<td>£20.50</td>
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**MITCHELL HALL**

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<tr>
<td>Monday to Friday</td>
<td>£14.50</td>
<td>£42.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>£20.00</td>
<td>£121.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>£15.50</td>
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</table>

**COMMITTEE ROOM** per hour £10.00

**STUDIO 1** per hour £4.75

**STUDIO 2** per hour £10.00

**COLIN GASKIN ROOM** per hour £12.50

**Notes**
1. Evening bookings to finish at 11.30pm. ALL rooms to be vacated by midnight. Part of an hour to count as one hour.
2. Dishwashers are available but please follow instructions attached to the front of the unit.
3. Main Kitchen hired to first course. If another Hall is booked later, the two groups may share it by mutual arrangement. Washing up liquid and tea towels are not supplied.
4. Projector, with screen, is available by arrangement.
The deadline, for submissions to edition 291, is Wednesday 4th March.

## THE ASSOCIATION’S SECTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADDLESTONE COMMUNITY THEATRE</th>
<th>CHERTSEY CAMERA CLUB.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 8pm</td>
<td>Thursday 8pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact: Betty Percey 01932 953897</td>
<td>Fortnightly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:bettypercey45@gmail.com">bettypercey45@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Contact: Barrie Reynolds 01784 433493</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COACH TRIPS &amp; SHORT BREAKS</th>
<th>K.A.T.S PRODUCTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For information or a copy of our Day Trips &amp; Short Breaks programme, please contact: Rob Waters 01252 542938 7 Gleneagles Drive Farnborough, GU14 0PH</td>
<td>Tuesday 7-9pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact: Pauline Attridge 01932 853804</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KEEP FIT</th>
<th>MODERN SEQUENCE DANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 7.30pm</td>
<td>Monday 8pm incl. Bank holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact: Carol Bayton 01932 566507 <a href="mailto:carolabayton@yahoo.co.uk">carolabayton@yahoo.co.uk</a></td>
<td>For details, please contact: Tricia Bennett 01483 808747/07884 107916 <a href="mailto:tricia.bennett@hotmail.com">tricia.bennett@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>TANGENT BADMINTON</th>
<th>200 Club</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 10am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact: Dawn Knowles 01932 346218 Players need good knowledge of the game</td>
<td>Help the Association, with a chance to win a prize in the monthly draw, by joining the 200 Club. Shares cost £1 per month. Double your chance of a win by having more than one share. Contact Monica Kitchenside 01932 562281</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Addlestone Community Centre  Garfield Road

The Centre in the heart of the Community of Addlestone

The Centre is probably the largest and best equipped community provision in Surrey. A large, up to 400 capacity hall with retractable seating, performance stage with full lighting setup and a complex sound system, 4 metre projection screen with projector and 2 badminton courts. Two smaller halls with over 80 capacity, and 4 smaller rooms with capacity of 18 to 24. Two fully equipped kitchens and a large foyer with Café setup.

Over 40 regular activities and events take place each week with more being planned. All rooms are available for hire 7 days a week.

All major rooms have full air conditioning and all rooms have their own table and chair stores.

Community Café open weekdays 10 - 4pm
Home made cakes and hot soup and snacks

Badminton classes for beginners/improvers - Keep fit - Dancing classes - Ballroom Dances - Slimming - Jive Club - Badminton Club - French for children - Drama Groups for Adults and Children - Children's Playgroups - Camera Club - Quilting Classes - Historical Society - Music events - Bridge Club - Classes for the visually impaired - Visiting Chiropodist - U3A - “Our Shed” - British Sign Language classes - Keep fit activities for older people - Table Tennis

More activities planned - view our website or email (see links below)
Check our website for activities during Living Well Week

Bookings - 07934 287004
email - bookings@addlestonecommunityassociation.org

Centre Information - 01932 843646
email - info@addlestonecommunityassociation.org

Website:
www.addlestonecommunityassociation.org
EDITORIAL

Café News

The Café is open weekdays from 10am to 3pm; and we are now offering hot snacks and special offers. We will be offering monthly specials starting in February with buy a hot drink and get a homemade cake. Drop in and see with your friends or meet new ones in our welcoming Café and find out what is happening in YOUR Community Centre.

Can you help at the Centre?

Addlestone Community Association currently has over 500 members and hundreds more users. Volunteers are doing the majority of the work in keeping the day-to-day business of the Centre going. Only our Caretaker/Bookings Manager, Vince, is paid for (some of) the work that he does.

We are looking for members to join our friendly team: to man (or woman) the reception area, deliver this fine magazine and to give a hand to the club’s officers, like the Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Magazine Editor. Full training is given and only a few hours a week would be a great help.

If you’d like to assist, please let us know.

June Tilbury – Secretary
acasecretary18@gmail.com  07767 604927
DO YOU USE AMAZON?

You can support Addlestone Community Association if you login to SMILE.AMAZON.co.uk when you shop. When you login you will be asked for the Charity you wish to support. Enter ADDLESTONE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION and you will be connected to the correct charity. From now on DON’T login to Amazon.co.uk but use SMILE.AMAZON.CO.UK All the functions are the same as ordinary Amazon.

When you login in future, the Amazon header will also include the item “Supporting Addlestone Community Association”. Unfortunately not all product are eligible for a donation but when you select an item for potential purchase it will state if it is eligible for a donation to the Association.

How much is the donation? It’s 0.5% of the product price. This doesn’t sound much but if a lot of us use this opportunity then it can add up to a useful amount. To date Amazon have donated £2 million to charities so it does add up.

It costs you nothing but will support the work of the Association. Please tell others about this: neighbours, family and friends. The more the merrier and more donations to help our community projects.

Ian Lee (Chairman)

ON A WIDER FRONT

In the 1950s, there was a scheme whereby British people could apply to emigrate to Australia. If they were accepted by the Australian government, their passage cost only £10 per person. My husband Ted’s uncle, aunt and children took advantage of this scheme and they have lived there ever since.

Ted’s last remaining cousin, Margie, still phones me two or three times a year to see if I am still ok; and I contact her with family news. After seeing on television the dreadful disaster in Australia caused by the bush fires, I rang Margie. She lives in South Australia, in a small town quite near Adelaide.

She told me of the terrible devastation there. Temperatures are reaching 47 degrees C. All the wild animals are dying through fire and starvation. Farmers are having to shoot all their cattle because they will otherwise starve to death. They think it will take at least 20 years for the land to recover and necessary vegetation to grow. Although Australia is a cattle country, they think they will need to import meat from New Zealand this coming year to feed the people.

She said the smell of smoke is all pervasive. They try to stay indoors and those people who have air-conditioning, use it all the time.

In their part of Australia they have had a drought for 5 years and seeing our floods on television they long to have some of our water – what a strange world.

Betty Percey
ADDLESTONE COMMUNITY CENTRE
BRASS BAND CONCERTS 2020

Happy New Year to one and all. If one of your New Year resolutions is to try something new, then come along to one of our band concerts this year at the Addlestone Community Centre. You will be amazed at the excellent musicianship of our local concert and brass bands. If you are one of our regulars, you already know how great these concerts are ….so spread the word!

Sunday 9th February 3pm (doors open 2.30pm) – Staines Lammas Band

We welcome back one of our regular local bands, the excellent Staines Lammas Band, a thriving community brass band based at Staines Lammas Park under the baton of their esteemed Musical Director, Lee Woodward.

Made up of 25 amateur players, many of whom play for other local contesting bands, they are an extremely friendly, sociable band whose main aim is to rehearse enjoyable music together and promote this at their regular engagements.

They play a wide range of music, from traditional brass band marches to classical, film music, modern and pop music and everything in between.

In 2019 Staines Lammas won the Genet Trophy yet again at Challenging Brass! Unbeaten now for many years, this band is outstanding in their musicianship and delivery.

Their concerts are always well received so come and join us for an afternoon of musical delights – and a delicious cream tea too.

Forthcoming dates for your diaries

Sunday 19th April - band to be announced *(please note new date)*

Sunday 7th June - band to be announced

Sunday 12th September – Bourne Concert Band of Woking

Sunday 25th October – Challenging Brass !

Sunday 6th December – The Egham Band

Tickets

Tickets are £10 including a Cream Tea

For tickets or further information contact Emmie West 01932 846983

Box Office Addlestone Community Centre weekdays 10am to 12 noon or Christies, 92b Station Road, Addlestone.
Review of the Egham Band Christmas Concert

Come the first week of December and it's almost impossible to avoid the cacophony of Christmas muzak blaring out in shops and on radio and TV. The repetitious banality of it all becomes hard on the ears; so what a joy it is to hear well-worn festive favourites played in a somewhat different style.

That's why those of us who attended the Christmas tea concert at Addlestone Community Centre on Sunday 1st December had broad smiles on our faces after the Egham Band treated us to some gorgeous arrangements of seasonal pop songs and evergreens.

How fantastic to hear brass versions of the likes of Fairytale of New York and Maria Carey's All I Want For Christmas. No grating, loud, electric shenanigans, just the sheer delight of yuletide music played expertly and with passion by one of the area’s finest brass bands. There were plenty of other wonderful offerings, including a jazzy Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, a beautifully slow-paced Gesu Bambino and We Three Kings given a big band treatment. A few more tunes helped ensure the festive atmosphere was all-enveloping, including O Holy Night, When A Child Is Born and the inevitable Jingle Bells, the latter featuring a brilliant tuba solo from Andy White. For any grinches in the audience there was even a non-Christmas medley of Sinatra Hits.

Egham Youth Band took the stage at the start of the second half, and earned a well-deserved reception for their meticulous three-tune presentation, rounded off by their take on Slade's Merry Christmas Everybody. Egham Band's much-praised policy of taking brass music into local schools is certainly paying off and more than 100 children are now being taught brass. Egham Training Band will be reformed in 2020 to take the good work a stage further.

For the second concert running there was a full house at the community centre, bringing a broad smile to the face of organiser Emmie West, who surely couldn't have asked for a better Christmas present. She and her hard-working team of volunteers will be back again in 2020 serving up plenty more cream tea brass band delights.

Barry Dix

ADDESTONE COMMUNITY THEATRE

TO ALL ACT MEMBERS NEW AND OLD

A HAPPY NEW YEAR

On 8th and 9th May, we will present our show to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE DAY with a Street Party in the Addlestone Community Centre

It will be an immersive theatre production, with everyone helping with ideas, facilitated by Lance Jones. We are inviting all who are interested and want to be involved in the show in any capacity to come along to the Centre on Thursday 5th March at 7.30 pm

Best wishes to all

BETTY
Chertsey Camera Club Section – January 2020

At our November evening meetings we enjoyed Chris Palmer’s talk on "The Prints and the Paper", and several of us were inspired to explore more macro photography by Ann Healey, and her presentation on “Beautiful Bugs”. We will be looking deeper into Monochrome images with a talk and workshop by Paul Graber in January, and an evening talk on “Eccentric London” by Alan Copeland at the end of the month, followed by our quarterly ‘Print’ competition in February.

Our members early morning November ‘Stroll And Shoot’ outing to Bushy Park was a very misty occasion, but they were up to the challenge and produced several striking images.

We closed our Autumn season with our ‘themed’ competition on “Life on the River”, judged for us by Charles Pearson, our congratulations go to Wendy Almood, David Standley, Janet Mills, and Barrie Reynolds for their high-scoring entries.

We ended the year in style with a very enjoyable Christmas celebration, with our thanks to Gwyneth Enticott for the smooth organisation!

For the full programme of our activities this season, please see our website:  
www.chertseycameracleclub.uk  Our programme of talks, demonstrations and competitions for the coming season can be found there, and new members with an interest in photography will always be welcome.

We meet in the Muriel Wise Suite at the Addlestone Community Centre from September through May on alternate Thursday evenings starting at 8:00 pm.
THE ADDLESTONE SINGERS

Our Christmas Concert on behalf of Shooting Star Children’s Hospices on 9th December attracted a full audience at the Addlestone Methodist Church. Passing through the foyer into the church, they were greeted with the sight of ten beautifully presented hampers (contents mostly generously donated by the Co-op stores in New Haw and Green Lane). Who could resist buying a raffle ticket or two in the hope of taking one home? Also was a table displaying all manner of stocking fillers from cards, toys, teddies to decorated wooden mirrors – all proceeds going to SSCH.

There was a very traditional start to the concert – with audience and choir joining in singing Once in Royal David’s City. This was followed by the equally traditional Christmas is Coming the Geese are Getting Fat from the choir (with the alto section relishing a loud ‘FAT’ in appropriate places!).

Carol Baxter, on behalf of SSCH, spoke about the services the charity provides in the Surrey and the West London area, either at the Hospice or in the patient’s home. She said that it costs £10m a year to run the Hospice and made the point that unlike adult hospices, which receive 25-30% grants, children’s hospices only get 7-10%. For this reason, the SSCH was very grateful for public donations for help and to give the charity the lifeline it needs to meet its costs.

Our guests this year were three members of the brass section of the Chertsey Orchestra, Claire Garner (who founded the group) and two of her lady musicians, playing variously the French horn, euphonium and trumpet. They treated us to medleys of Christmas carols in both parts of the programme ranging from God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen, In the Bleak Midwinter to Hark the Herald Angels Sing. Claire invited us all to sing along with the music, which we did!

In the two halves of the programme, the choir sang a mixture of carols, including: a West Indian carol The Virgin Mary had a Baby Boy; John Rutter’s Christmas Lullaby; upbeat ‘Swinging Shepherd Blues; as well as encouraging audience participation in Ding Dong Merrily on High and O Little Town of Bethlehem.

Although no snow was forecast, we included Winter Wonderland which told of “snow glist’ning” and “sleigh bells ringing” as well as Silent Night and White Christmas.

The concert came to a close with everyone singing O come All Ye Faithful.

Time then to thank our Musical Director, Susan Higgins; pianist, Janet Mannan and our guests from the Chertsey
Orchestra. Last but not least – raffle numbers were called and delighted winners collected their hampers from SSCH colleagues in the foyer.

Thanks to our generous audience and various choir contributions, we were able to give Shooting Star Children’s Hospice the sum of £639.02 from donations on the night. A big thank you to all who gave to achieve this wonderful amount and also to those who donated to the choir’s fund.

Our Spring Term begins on Monday, 6th January, 2020 and we would welcome any prospective new lady members to join us at the Addlestone Methodist Church, Station Road. The evenings begin at 8.00pm till 9.45pm with a break for tea and biscuits. Find out more by visiting our website www.addlestone-singers.co.uk or contact Elizabeth on 01932 564099.

Margaret Grimwood

KEEP FIT

The Keep Fit Section of the Addlestone Community Association meets every Wednesday evening in the Tulk Hall, between 7.30pm and 8.45pm.

Regular activities include aerobic exercises, floor work and an extended routine, to music, which is usually taught over a three to four week period. We suggest you wear comfortable clothing, jazz shoes or bare feet, and bring along a mat to make floor work more comfortable.

We are a very friendly group, and new members are always welcome to come along and give the class a try.

We restart again on Wednesday 15th January 2020 until we break for the Easter holidays on Wednesday 1st April 2020.

Carol Bayton

BOURNE CONCERT BAND

The Band’s Charity Christmas Concert, at St Peter’s Church, Chertsey, was well-attended and featured a mix of Christmas selections, carols and well-known Beatles and James Bond music. We enjoyed mince pies and light refreshments in the church hall afterwards.

Band practices immediately turned to music for Spring concerts, with two programmes to finalise. On Saturday 1st February, we return to St Peter’s Church, Chertsey, for a Winter Concert, starting at 7.30pm. Tickets are £5, available from the church office, office@stpeterschertsey.org.uk tel. 01932 570155. The music will be a mix of popular, new and seasonal favourites.

On Saturday 14th March, we will hold a concert of Music from the Movies at All Saints Church Hall, New Haw, starting at 7.30pm. Tickets are £6, available from band members or contact the church office to reserve: officeallsaintsnewhaw@gmail.com tel. 01932 349297.

The band has welcomed back a couple of members this year, but is still seeking a tuba player and percussionist, plus another trombone player. Rehearsals are Tuesday evenings at Darley Dene School in Addlestone, 8 – 10pm. Full details of band rehearsals and concerts are available on: www.bourneconcertband.org.uk

Linda Salt
ADDLESTONE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We held our usual Christmas Social Evening on Tuesday, 3rd December, to which members brought plates of food: we did several quizzes, ate, drank and generally had a good time.

Our January meeting, on Tuesday 7th, was our Members’ Evening, when members give short talks on any subject which they think might interest others. This year we had four talks. The first was by Jill Williams on an artist called Richard Allam: Chertsey Museum has two of his paintings, and Jill researched other members of his family, which included an architect, an engraver and various other professions. He lived in Barnes at one point, and then moved to Thorpe. He died in 1872.

The second talk was by Sheila Binns, and was a piece of research she had done into Sir Edward Colebrooke, who was the benefactor and virtually the founder of Ottershaw, and who owned Ottershaw Park. He moved with his family out of London because one of his sons had died of an illness caused by the bad air, and he wanted a more country area with clean air in which to bring up his children. His charming obituary in “The Times” was dated 11th January, 1890.

The third was by David Barker on various items of local industrial archaeology, including slides of one of the trade tokens issued in 1812 by Weybridge Mills (which variously processed iron, oil and other substances) instead of money: they were called Bunn pennies after a local ironmaster called Bunn, who was a colourful local character.

The fourth talk was by Jocelyn Barker on the Duchess of York and her connection with the Grotto in Weybridge. The Grotto was built by the Earl of Lincoln in Oatlands Park, which he owned in the 1700s and was lined with quartz crystals; and when the Duchess came to visit Weybridge, she was particularly impressed by the Grotto and spent a lot of her time there. The Grotto is, of course, commemorated by Grotto Road, just off Thames Street in Weybridge; and the Duchess herself is commemorated, for all her good works in the Weybridge area, by the tall column on Monument Green at the bottom of Monument Hill, which originally included the Dialstone from Seven Dials in London (demolished in 1948) – the Dialstone is now situated beside Weybridge Library.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, 4th February, and is a talk on (the French writer) Emile Zola – his exile in England, by David King; and the meeting on Tuesday, 3rd March, is a talk by our member David Barker on Daniel Thorne, Addlestone Antiquarian, and the Armada.

Do come to one of our meetings some time (the first Tuesday of each month except August), with coffee served at 7.45 for an 8 p.m. start in the Muriel Wise Suite of the Community Centre. We cover a wide range of subjects (including gardens and local railways, which usually draw many visitors from outside the Society). Our website shows the year’s programme (www.addlestonehistory.net); and each meeting is announced shortly beforehand on posters around Runnymede Borough. Visitors are very welcome and pay £3, but a year’s membership costs only £15: you might want to join us if you’ve enjoyed listening to a talk, as it is obviously economically more beneficial to become a member.

Pat Brown (Secretary)
ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTE

It's a balmy, Summer's evening in late June. 14-year-old Archie had been cooling off in the water with friends after their school sports day. They were jumping off Axmouth Harbour wall into the river at Seaton. But with the tide on its way out, Archie got caught in the strong current and couldn't get back to the wall.

His friend, 14-year-old Bo, decided to jump in to help, only to get caught in the current himself. He managed to reach Archie who by this time was tiring. Bo gave Archie the encouragement he needed to keep his head above water. But both boys were now at the mercy of the sea and its cold temperatures. They needed help...and they needed it fast.

Luckily someone recognised the emergency and the RNLI Lifeboat at Lyme Regis was launched.

When their RNLI pagers went off, Senior Helm Tim, and his crew, were about to tuck into their evening meals. They abandoned their plans for the evening, raced to the station and launched the Lyme Regis lifeboat.

"Persons in the water is as bad as it gets," says Tim. "We need to get there as quick as we can. You always react differently when children are involved. I guess they're more vulnerable and still have so much to do in life."

It took Lyme Regis lifeboat crew just 10 minutes to arrive on scene and spot the two boys in the water. By this time, the boys had been there for at least 30 minutes.

The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea. Its volunteers (95% are unpaid) provide a 24-hour search and rescue service around the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland coasts. The RNLI operates 238 lifeboat stations in the UK and Ireland and more than 240 lifeguard units on beaches around the UK and Channel Islands. The RNLI is independent of Coastguard and government and depends on voluntary donations and legacies to maintain its rescue service. Since the RNLI was founded in 1824, its lifeboat crews and lifeguards have saved over 142,700 lives.

But it not just happening on the coast. Your nearest Lifeboat Station is just a few miles away at Teddington. RNLI lifeboats have been operating on the River Thames since 2 January 2002, from our lifeboat stations at Chiswick, Gravesend, Teddington and Tower.

They were the first lifeboat stations to specifically cover a river rather than estuarial waters or the sea.
The decision for a permanent lifeboat service on the Thames followed the tragedy of the Marchioness disaster, on 20 August 1989, when the party boat Marchioness collided with the dredger Bowbelle and sank…resulting in the loss of 51 lives.

Every second counts. The river’s cold temperature, rapid pace and changing tides make it incredibly dangerous. Speed is of the utmost importance and anyone in the water must be reached within minutes, especially given the constant heavy traffic from passing watercraft of every kind.

That’s why at Tower, Chiswick and Gravesend a crew is always on duty, 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year. If there’s an emergency on the river, they have to launch within 90 seconds of the Coastguard’s request.

In fact, our Tower lifeboat crew are the busiest in the UK with the highest number of launches each year, closely followed by Chiswick.

The RNLI story is one that captures audiences young and old and if you would like to hear and see more about the RNLI please ask. As a RNLI Community Presenter, I deliver presentations, to local groups, that explain how the modern RNLI continues to provide the world’s finest marine rescue service, entirely funded by voluntary contribution. Presentations to youth groups include an element of water safety information.

Please contact me for any help I may be able to provide: colin.rnli@gmail.com

Colin Brown
RNLI Community Presenter
ACADAYTRIPS

In October the ACA coach outing was to a meeting of The Pudding Club, based at the Three Ways House Hotel in Mickleton.

The club was established, in 1985, to “prevent the demise of the great British Pudding, at a time when restaurants seemed to offer only tiny portions of Frozen Cheesecake and tasteless Gateaux”.

After the first course we were offered unlimitedhelpings of five traditional British Puddings: Passion Fruit Roulade, Very Chocolate, Sticky Toffee and Date, Jam Roly Poly and Blackcurrant and Lemon Pudding. All served with lashings of Custard.

On the return journey home, the coach was much heavier than on the outward run!
In November, the ACA visited Longleat.

Arriving there, we were dropped off at the Indian Village for a comfort stop, coffee and eats, before a coach ride around the Safari Park (Well we could not be expected to walk...much to the disappointment of the lions).

After that we were free to explore the house, gardens and other attractions until dusk when all the displays were lit up.

I think that this was the most popular trip of 2019.

All enquiries, about day trips and short breaks, to Rob Waters, Travel Manager, A.C.A., 7, Gleneagles Drive, Southwood, Farnborough, Hants. GU14 0PH. Telephone 01252 542938.
WEYBRIDGE MALE VOICE CHOIR SPRING CONCERT

Friday 6th March at 7.30 p.m.
The Catholic Church of Christ the Prince of Peace, Portmore Way, Weybridge KT13 8JD

Our Spring Concert is now much earlier in the year. And it’s on a Friday evening. We’ll be back at our traditional and well-loved venue of Christ Prince of Peace, with its beautiful atmosphere and wonderful acoustics.

This Spring concert will be our first big concert of 2020 and it will feature a great variety of pieces to entertain and move you.

For the guest spots for this concert, we are delighted to welcome pianists Hannah Stanley and Gareth Giles for both solo and duet performances. Hannah and Gareth are both wonderful long term friends of the choir. They are probably well-known to many of our audience for their brilliant virtuoso performances in a wide variety of styles including jazz, cocktail, show tunes, ballads and light classical.

The programme has something for everyone with many modern classics and pieces new to our repertoire, together with traditional male voice choir pieces including songs from shows, spirituals, Welsh hymns and traditional numbers.

As a flavour of what you can expect, here are some of the newer pieces in our repertoire that we are performing:
The iconic Top ten 1983 hit- Africa by Toto; Rum, the Snow Patrol 2004 alternative rock hit; Queen’s Freddie Mercury’s 1976 hit Somebody to Love; Elvis’s 60’s Can’t Help Falling in Love; Gershwin’s Fascinating Rhythm, and Glen Miller’s big band piece In the Mood; and as a complete contrast a wonderful haunting a cappella setting of Tennyson’s famous poem Crossing the Bar.

We promise to send you home delighted with your evening with us and with our guests Hannah and Gareth.
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