



Society donation for Air Ambulance in April 2016

## What exactly does the Society do?

This is a question we get asked all the time. In this edition we hope to answer it. When this charity was established eight years ago, the key aims were agreed to be to **promote, enhance and conserve the physical and natural environment and its natural beauty for the public benefit and advance the knowledge and understanding of the public** [of the Surrey Hills AONB].

As a membership organisation, the first steps in achieving these aims were to encourage people and organisations to join us and to establish a programme of events so that our members and the wider public could learn more about the Surrey Hills. This aspect of our work has continued and we now have an extensive (and often heavily booked) programme as can be seen on the back page.



Children designing puppets for the Tales of Tillingbourne

However, to fully meet our aims, we have also been developing many other aspects of the Society's work so that we not only support the members but also show a significant public benefit. As the Society has matured and become more resilient, we have been able to increase the level and complexity of the external activities which we support.

In 2016 we are heavily involved in the delivery of a Heritage Lottery Fund supported project in the Tillingbourne Valley. We recruited and manage the project co-ordinator, we have Society members as volunteers for the project and will be supporting the various events which form the outputs of the project. For an update on progress please see page 2.

Elsewhere, we are supporting one of the AONB Management Plan objectives of opening up Inspiring Views. This year, we are working with the Gatton Trust as part of their Capability Brown Tercentenary to provide funds to pay for opening up the view of the north shore of the Main Lake. No doubt a number of our members or supporters will also take part in practical volunteering. We are also promoting a number of Gatton events throughout the year (see page 2).

We often get accused of not being a prominent voice in planning matters. That is intentional since we were set up specifically NOT to be a lobby group. However, we do work very closely with the Surrey Hills AONB Planning Adviser and also CPRE. In addition, we do try to broaden knowledge and understanding of planning matters. In April of this year we hosted a forum specifically for Parish Councils and Society members with an interest in the topic.

Our centre pages look at the range of activities we are now involved with. So, to answer the question in the title; we do walks, talks and events, but we also do much more by supporting the activities of third parties and educating the public to the special nature of the Surrey Hills AONB and why it needs to be cherished and protected.

Our theory is that if you don't know about it, you won't value it, and if you don't value it, you won't protect it. Therefore we feel the Society has a very important role to play alongside all our colleagues in other organisations that influence or manage this important designated landscape.

## Chairman's View

Welcome to our Summer 2016 edition. I am very excited about this summer's range of interesting and unusual events for you to enjoy. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible over the coming months.

There is so much going on now behind the scenes, we have dedicated this edition to showcase to you the wide variety of work and activities we now undertake. We are always looking for new people to join our committees, so whether you want to try your hand writing articles for our newsletter, creating an event for us or helping at even



Farnham Town Clerk Iain Lynch and the Mayor Pat Frost

just one of the many shows we attend throughout the year, do please ring or email us to discuss opportunities with you.

Currently we are desperately in need of some drivers with a towbar, willing to deliver our trailer to various shows in the summer. You may only be able to help out once a year, but many hands make light work as they say, so all offers would be gratefully received. Please call me if you think you could assist us on 01483 894437.

I would like to thank Farnham Town Council for hosting a fascinating talk in March in the beautiful council chamber. We were warmly greeted by the Town Mayor, Pat Frost and the Town Clerk, Iain Lynch, who gave a fascinating explanation of what a town council does and also a little bit of history about the town. We were also treated to a highly entertaining presentation by local architect, Damien Blower, whose father and grandfather were all architects based in Farnham. We are doing a little spotlight on Farnham this year, with several visits

*"SHS also gives talks. If your organisation would like to have an illustrated talk about the Surrey Hills, in exchange for a donation to the Society, please contact us at [info@surreyhillssociety.org](mailto:info@surreyhillssociety.org). Our speakers have lots of experience and are happy to customise the talk to your needs."*

planned over the summer including a walk, an all-day special behind the scenes day in the town and castle and a rare opportunity to visit Waverley House and the Abbey ruins.

This year we are also supporting Gatton Trust in their Heritage Lottery Fund bid. We have several visits planned for there too, as well as some practical volunteering in the autumn. Remember that we now have a free short walk somewhere in the county on the first Sunday of the month. Please see the website for details.

I hope you all have a lovely summer enjoying the Surrey Hills.

Working in partnership with Gatton Trust this year, we would like you to know about their events:

**Monday 30th May Fairytale Treasure Hunt**

**Tuesday 31st May – Friday 3rd June**

**Tea in the Japanese Garden**

**Wednesday 1st June Camp building (8 + years)**

**Friday 3rd June Toddler Trails and Tales (2 – 4 years)**

**Sunday 5th June Gardens & Park Open**

**Sunday 3rd July Gatton Country Fair**

**Sunday 4th Sept Open Day, 2 for 1 deal**

More information can be found on [www.gattonpark.com](http://www.gattonpark.com)



## Tillingbourne Tales Heritage Project is well on its way

After a busy winter of volunteer recruitment and training, the project is kicking-off with its oral histories, mapping and river warden activities. We have had some very positive comments about the new website [www.tillingbournetales.co.uk](http://www.tillingbournetales.co.uk), which is up and running and awaiting more content to fill it!

Currently, each village's industrial heritage is being researched by choosing one historical figure who represents its main industry, and supplementing his/her life with social history of the time. These histories are then transformed into 'character tales', which are being made into puppets who will

visit the local schools. Research is well underway and in the process of coming to life through the hands of our artist Elaine Campling and storyteller James Munro. Workshops are taking place in infant schools, where the children are helping to conceptualise the look of their figures.

Project Coordinator, Dr Anne Sassin says "It's important to appreciate that the characters are not tailor-made. They represent what life and industrial work would have been like, and the variety of occupations and range of periods represented, from the 16th right up to the mid-20th century, provide quite the eclectic sample."

This summer will feature the tales of the Tillingbourne figures at several events along the valley: Sunday 12 June at Scout Fete, Shalford, Sunday 31 July in Tillingbourne Tales at Shalford Mill, Sunday 11 September

at Heritage Weekend, Sunday 16 October at Community Celebration in Shere.

To make all these events successful, we need some volunteers to help with whatever needs to be done. If you are interested in volunteering in any way, contact [tillingbournetales@gmail.com](mailto:tillingbournetales@gmail.com), or find out more details by visiting <http://www.tillingbournetales.co.uk>.



Volunteers at work in Chilworth © Steve Peacock

## Inspiring Views

Surrey Hills Arts is a partnership between Surrey Arts, Surrey County Council and Surrey Hills Enterprises. It aims to engage and inspire people with the Surrey Hills AONB through the arts.

Funding has been received from the Mittal Foundation and the initial project, 'Inspiring Views' is underway. The project will open up hidden views in the Surrey Hills and improve access, engage with communities and commission artists' responses to these views. The following artists have been commissioned to create seating:

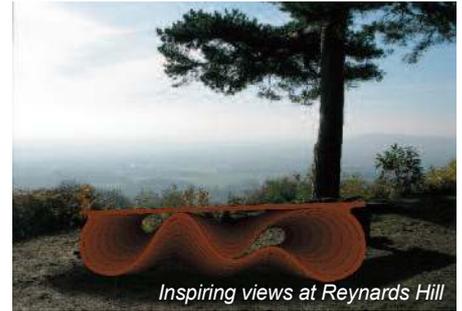
At **Gibbet Hill**, Hindhead, artist Walter Bailey has been inspired by the production of charcoal on the Greensand Way.

At **Reynards Hill**, Surrey artist Russell Jakubowski is inspired by the formation of the Greensand Way, the layers of sedimentation and the contours of the land.

At **Holmbury Hill**, experienced furniture designer Matthew Burt will create a circular piece with four benches creating a conversational arena whilst allowing people to gaze at the view.

Architect Giles Miller will create a wooden shelter at **Winterfold**. Anyone can send their own words or phrases that describe their opinion of the hills and these locations, to be printed onto each shingle of the shelter to [surreyhillsarts@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:surreyhillsarts@surreycc.gov.uk) and make their contribution to this artwork!

Director of Watts Gallery and Chairman of Surrey Hills Arts, Perdita Hunt comments:



*Inspiring views at Reynards Hill*

'The opportunity to bring together art and landscape is powerful and potent. I hope the engagement of artists to create these commissions for all of us to enjoy in some of the most stunning viewpoints in Surrey will give many hours of pleasure and discussion.'

For further information visit [www.inspiringviews.org](http://www.inspiringviews.org)

## North Downs Way Long Distance Trail now Googled

Earlier this year we informed you that the North Downs Way was being Googled. Last summer, Peter Morris, the North Downs Way Manager, traversed the entire route with a Google Trekker device. The images can now be seen on [www.nationaltrail.co.uk/north-downs-way](http://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/north-downs-way).

An impressive new sculpture to mark the start of the North Downs Way Trail in Farnham was officially unveiled by the Mayor of Farnham, Mrs Pat Frost and the Mayor of Waverley, Councillor Mike Band. The impressive sculpture, designed locally by the Utopia Forge in Guildford provides a fitting start to the 153 mile trail which follows a chalk ridge that winds over hills and grassland, passing through valleys and ancient woodland emerging onto the White Cliffs of Dover.

The North Downs Way is one of only 15 designated National Trails in England and Wales with diverse appeal and many unique features. Passing through stunning and varied countryside, the North Downs Way traverses the protected landscapes of the Surrey Hills and Kent Downs AONBs. This makes the trail a great place for a family day out, short walks, life-changing long distance walks, rides, and always rewards with a fantastic, rural, rustic pub lunch.



*Opening of the North Downs Way Trail*

## Surrey Hills Trust Fund takes action

Two grants have now been given by the Surrey Hills Trust Fund. The Fund, established in partnership with the Community Foundation for Surrey, aims to help local communities enjoy the Surrey Hills AONB and safeguard its future for generations to come. The Leatherhead Youth Project were given a grant to take students from Therfield School in Leatherhead out into the Surrey Hills for Forest School Survival Skills Training to help boost confidence and learning.

The RSPB have also been given a grant to help with the ongoing restoration of Farnham Heath after a devastating fire in 2015. The grant has allowed over 1000 native trees including beech, rowan and oak to be planted. These types of tree are much slower and harder to burn than the conifer trees currently on site and so will act as a

natural firebreak to help safeguard the reserve and its wildlife. For further information visit [www.surreyhills.org/trust-fund/](http://www.surreyhills.org/trust-fund/)



*Students enjoying survival skills training*

# How our Society benefits the Surrey Hills

## Talks to the public

During the last six years, Trustees of the Society have given over 70 talks about the AONB to external audiences including Parish Councils, W.I., Probus, U3A, Rotary and local social groups such as National Womens Register, afternoon clubs and so on. In this way we have promoted the AONB to about 3000 attendees and given them an enhanced understanding of what makes the AONB special. If your group would like to book a talk – in exchange for a donation to the society – contact us at [info@surreyhillssociety.org](mailto:info@surreyhillssociety.org)



Chairman of Friends of Farthing Downs, Graham Lomas and Chris Howard

## Promoting the AONB at Shows

The Society has a promotional trailer and gazebo which are regular attendees at a range of external shows across the county. We have been to village fetes and other gatherings with a local focus and had a major presence at larger events such as the County Show, Surrey Hills Wood Fair and the enormous event at Denbies during the 2012 Olympics cycle race. Through these events we have introduced many thousands of people to the AONB and distributed walks leaflets and other information to help the public learn about, appreciate and enjoy the Surrey Hills.



Surrey Hills Wood Fair October 2015

## Working in partnership

The Surrey Hills AONB does not own any land in its own right, so relies on close working partnerships with the major landholders that include Surrey County Council, Surrey Wildlife Trust and National Trust.

2015 was the 250th anniversary of Leith Hill Tower. To mark the occasion, National Trust upgraded their visitor facilities at the tower with new information boards, ground clearance and ordered a renovated Victorian water trough and drinking fountain. The Society donated £1000 towards this project and also made Leith Hill the theme for a number of activities throughout the year to showcase their excellent work in preserving and maintaining this special area.



National Trust ranger, Sam Bailey, receives our donation in December 2014

## Supporting Surrey Hills Trust Fund

In the summer of 2015 we were approached by the Mayor of Waverley to organise a sponsored walk, to be hosted by him, along the Waverley section of the Greensand Way. The Mayor had nominated the Surrey Hills Trust Fund as one of his two mayoral charities. Society members did all the organisation, led the actual walk and helped him to raise nearly £4000. The walkers were a mix of Society members, local councillors, members of the general public and a whole range of supporters. This year the Mayor of Guildford has asked to do the same in his borough and we are organising his sponsored walk for Wednesday 5th October.

We are also supporting the Community Foundation for Surrey with their project to create an annual ultra-marathon event along the Greensand Way from Haslemere to Dorking. This event can be done in smaller sections or as a 26 mile run or walk (see page 7 for more details).



Mayor and Mayoress of Waverley with Chris Howard and Ken Bare

## Promoting the AONB with our media partners

The Society has a strong partnership with Surrey Life magazine and our chairman, Chris Howard, has a monthly article where we can highlight all aspects and issues affecting the area. Last year the editor, Caroline Harrap, asked the Society to write the walks page as well. So we now have the opportunity to promote a walk somewhere across the hills each month. Hopefully this is inspiring even more people to come out and enjoy the countryside.

We have a strong group of volunteers in our Marketing and Communications Committee who write articles for local newspapers and other publications to promote the Surrey Hills and the various activities happening in the area. We also use social media tools to link with our partners and connect with an even wider audience.



Caroline Harrap, Surrey Life editor, at an event SHS attended at the Houses of Parliament in November 2014

## Sponsorship for Community Projects

Several of our members also belong to Horsley Countryside Preservation Society (HCPS). Their organisation had established a 9 mile walk around the Horsleys and as part of the Queens Diamond Jubilee celebrations, the route had been upgraded to make it accessible to off-road mobility vehicles and pushchairs etc. Their map leaflet needed updating and reprinting. The Surrey Hills Society organised and paid for the print run and donated the majority of the leaflets to HCPS – retaining the balance to hand out from SHS promotional displays – so that the walk became accessible to a wider audience.



HCPS walk relaunch April 2015

## Leading on Grant Funded Projects

The Society has supported several Heritage Lottery funded projects including the Hope Springs Eternal in Dorking and Front Line Surrey Hills in Reigate. Currently we are taking a leading role in the Trails and Tales of Tillingbourne projects covering the valley's history from Shalford to Leith Hill. The SHS has engaged the services of Dr. Anne Sassin to co-ordinate the project. Several Society members are active volunteers on this fascinating project.



Volunteers working on Deepdene Gardens excavations in Dorking in September 2013

## Promoting walking in the Surrey Hills

As the Surrey Hills has one of the largest number of footpaths in the country, and covers almost over a quarter of the county, walking is a major attraction of the area. The Society encourages residents to get out and enjoy this beautiful landscape. We organise numerous walks and events each month to highlight all the special features of the AONB.

In 2015 the Society was invited to host a walk as part of the Guildford WalkFest. We took up the offer and designed a 9 mile walk around Shere, Gomshall, Albury and Peaslake based upon the Shere Millennium Trail. The walk was a great success with many non-members taking part and learning about the area. We understand that it was one of the most heavily subscribed walks of the whole programme. We are now booked to do several walks for the 2016 WalkFest!



Guildford WalkFest walk in July 2016

## Engaging with younger audiences

Having established the Society, it became apparent that we were not engaging sufficiently with people in their 20's and 30's. This was partly due to the timing of our events and also because our walks tend to be short, themed, events at a relatively slow pace. To attract younger people, we have set up a programme which provides a walk on the first Sunday of every month specifically targeted at non-members and those who prefer a brisker pace. Using social media to spread the word and making the walks free has opened up the Surrey Hills to younger people who just needed a suitable mechanism to help them to get out and explore. If you are interested, check out the programme on the back page.



Walk for younger audience in Shere April 2015

## Surrey Hills Food & Drink – Local Promotion

The Surrey Hills are home to a vibrant local food and drink producing industry. Many of these are small artisan producers of very high quality products. One of their major constraints is promotion to the public. We have noted through the years that events with local food and drink are always heavily subscribed. Consequently, we have used our events programme as a platform to help our members discover local food and hence act as customers and ambassadors for the producers.



SHS members visiting Silent Pool Gin distillery

## Surrey Food & Drink – Wider Publicity

Working with Visit Surrey and Local Food Surrey, the Society was privileged to be invited to stage a promotion in the Palace of Westminster. The aim was to promote local tourism and the local food and drink scene in Surrey. It was an amazingly successful day with a large attendance of MPs, Ministers, Lords and lots of the supporting staff from within Westminster. Possibly the free samples of high quality food and drink may have helped? Not only did this event highlight to its audience that Surrey is far more than an urban dormitory for London but the publicity created in the media gave an enormous boost to the producers and tourism representatives.

Our vice-chairman, Ken Bare, for the past two years has also been a judge in Surrey Life magazine's Food and Drink Awards.



Taste of Surrey in Westminster with the Prime Minister in November 2014

## Practical volunteering

We are occasionally asked to provide volunteers for hands-on volunteering at various project sites across the area. This includes scrub clearing at Headley Down, rhododendron clearing at Deepdene and Himalayan balsam clearing near Box Hill, to name a few. Recently the Society joined in with Tidy Britain's Clean for the Queen Project with a litter pick at Hindhead.



Clean for the Queen at Hindhead in March 2016

 **Surrey Hills Society**

Registered Charity number 1125532

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



# News from Surrey Hills Enterprises

## Surrey's MPs supporting Surrey Hills CowParade

Surrey MPs have made a moo've to back the Surrey Hills CowParade – the world's largest public art event which comes to the county this summer.

Sir Paul Beresford, Chris Grayling, Philip Hammond, Jonathan Lord, Anne Milton and Dominic Raab, joined members of the CowParade team at the House of Commons to pledge their support to the initiative to promote the Surrey Hills as a national asset for the benefit of local businesses, enhancing the community and conserving the area's unique heritage.

Over the summer months brightly-coloured cows will decorate the hills, farms, towns, schools and popular landmarks across the

county. Organisers are currently encouraging individuals, companies, schools and other organisations to sponsor a life-sized cow and either decorate it themselves or bring in an artist to do it.

The cows will then be displayed around the county before being herded to the inaugural Surrey Hills Food, Drink and Music Festival at Coverwood Farm, Peaslake on September 3. Those judged the pick of the herd will go to auction at a gala ceremony in London later in the year with auction proceeds shared equally between the individual charities selected by the cow sponsors and the Surrey Hills Trust Fund, established in partnership with the Community Foundation for Surrey to conserve and protect the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Anne Milton, MP for Guildford, said: "I am delighted that the CowParade is coming to the Surrey Hills AONB. It's great that this really innovative project will be brought right

into the heart of our beautiful countryside. This is a great way to raise money for community projects that will help the Surrey Hills landscape to thrive. I hope to see many people, businesses and schools getting creative in sponsoring and decorating a cow!"

For more information on how to take part call the Surrey Hills CowParade team on 01483 661150 or visit: [www.surreyhillscowparade.com](http://www.surreyhillscowparade.com).



*Cow Parade at the Houses of Parliament with Surrey MPs Anne Milton, Chris Grayling and Sir Paul Beresford.*

## Society News

### Newlands Corner

The Surrey Hills office has received many enquiries about proposals for car parking charges, a play trail and, potentially, a new Visitor Centre at Newlands Corner, near Guildford. The land is owned by the Albury Estate and has public access due to a long term access agreement with Surrey CC. The Council has passed the management of the land to Surrey Wildlife Trust. The Surrey Hills has been asked by some members and residents as to why we have not commented on these proposals. This is because there has been no formal planning application at this stage. There are outline proposals for a new visitor centre at the site but this is at a very early stage of debate. There has been a strong public outcry from the local community and the appropriate organisations currently

involved in the debate are Shere Parish Council, Guildford Borough Council, Surrey CC, Surrey Wildlife Trust, concerned residents and visitors who use the site.

There have been a number of public meetings and many private meetings between the Borough Council and the County Council. Surrey Hills Society has no planning expertise within our entirely voluntary organisation. Our charity was not set up to be a lobby group. Our role is to promote, educate and support. We will highlight major planning applications across the AONB, cover all the stories affecting the area and we even run Planning Forums to inform and educate but our role does not extend to lobbying. CPRE does an excellent job of lobbying for the protection of the area and that is why they have a seat on the

Surrey Hills Board and why we often promote their work. For concerned residents though, the best organisation to champion local planning issues for you is your parish or town council. The Surrey Hills Planning Advisor will continue to monitor the situation and will comment when any planning application is forthcoming.



*Newlands corner © Martin Hollins, Photocompetition 2014*

### Planning – Dunsfold application

Serious concern has been expressed on behalf of the AONB Board to the planning application for 1,800 dwellings at Dunsfold Aerodrome and, could if permitted, rise to 3,400, together with substantial commercial development. The site lies outside but close to the AONB boundary and its proposed development is a classic example of how such a large scale development could harm the AONB.

In this case the main concern is the likely traffic that would be generated on several unsuitable country lanes covering extensive parts of the AONB, spoiling their relative tranquillity. Concern was also expressed about the urban form of the development impacting upon AONB views from Hascombe Hill.

In 2009 an appeal against a refusal of a similar development proposal was dismissed on sustainability grounds by the Secretary of State, following an Inspector's report and recommendation. If anything the sustainability case is now worse.

Furthermore the principle of a new settlement should be considered through the local plan, rather than as an ad hoc planning permission - especially as the draft plan is imminent.

*The AONB Planning Adviser responded to 211 planning application consultations in the entire area in the financial year 2015/16, more than 50 up from the previous year. The figure has more than doubled since the Adviser was appointed 7 years ago!*

## Sponsor's View



Anthony Wakefield

The winter was very kind to us in Surrey and despite some very rainy days most of us have avoided the floods that we

suffered over the Christmas period in 2013. Still, there is no excuse for us to become complacent about the weather and it has been comforting to see the contractors employed by our local Councils out making our waterways and draining systems more efficient, as well as hearing about the magnificent voluntary work being carried out in the villages to clear streams and ditches of their detritus. When those of you who are booked up to visit Pixham on 30th July see how Lady Wedgwood's house and garden have recovered from the floods, you will be able to appreciate how nature and a good insurer can restore a property to a better state than it was before the disaster!



Pixham Patchworking Garden through the tunnel in Dorking

In this issue I am prompted by the recent launch of the Flood Re insurance scheme to focus on ways that those of us that consider ourselves safe from flooding should help our neighbours to be protected from its perils.

Anthony Wakefield

## Flood protection – should we be building an ark?

In the past ten years there have been at least 13 incidents of serious flooding in the UK with only 2006 and 2011 offering respite. So frequent have these occurrences been that up to five million homes are considered to be at risk. The recent storms Desmond and Eva flooded 16,000 homes in England alone.

In December 2013 severe flooding in Mole Valley and elsewhere in Surrey made a misery of Christmas for around a



A flood resistant house in Dorking

thousand people, including Lady Sandra Wedgwood, who owns Pixham Mill in Dorking. We are planning a tour of her lovely garden later this year as part of a visit to the Pixham Patchworking Garden Project and other features of the village of Pixham.

Surrey County Council published a draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy document in August 2015. There are several types of flooding that have to be considered, including River (fluvial), Surface Water, Groundwater, Reservoir and Sewer.

The main concerns appear to relate to surface water run-off and sewer back up, which affects properties on high ground as well as those close to rivers or reservoirs. In fact properties on higher ground are more likely to be exposed to these dangers, as surface water is likely to take longer to dissipate due to the composition of the soil and the lack of exposed soil that can absorb the liquid.

Surrey is currently undergoing a rapid domestic building boom. However, due to Green Belt restrictions this means that new houses are mostly constructed within existing housing boundaries. So we are witnessing higher density of housing, greater levels of run off and increased pressure on the capacity of aging sewers.



Flooding in 2013 in Pixham, Dorking

While the Environment Agency and other bodies seek to discourage new homes being constructed in fluvial flood areas, no such incentives apply to other properties.

We all owe a duty to our neighbours not just to protect our own homes against flooding, but to consider the effects that paving over drives and patios, pouring grease and fat down the sink, or removing trees and shrubs may have on the ability of local flood defences to cope. Perhaps we should also ask Local Government to consider the consequences of allowing unfettered construction in the ever encroaching suburbs of London.

Anthony Wakefield

## Help us support the Surrey Hills Challenge

The Surrey Hills Challenge, set to be the biggest running and walking event in Surrey, is to take place on Sunday 25 September, with the Greensand Way forming the backdrop to 'The Ultra', a 60 km run, 'The Half', a 21km walk or run, 'The Ten', a 10km walk

or run and 'The Five', a family challenge 5km event. It is open to all ages and fitness abilities. Money raised from the Challenge will help support the Community Foundation for Surrey and the Surrey Hills Trust Fund.

Our Chairman, Chris Howard will be walking the "The Half" and would be delighted if you would join her on the day. To find out more and book your space visit [www.surreyhillschallenge.com](http://www.surreyhillschallenge.com).



## Events Programme June – October 2016

Visit our website for more information and additional events. Bookings generally open about 6 weeks before each event and must be booked in advance – even free ones. Non-email users can get more information by sending an SAE to the address above.

**Sunday 5th June**

### Exploring Woldingham

Meet for 11am prompt start at Woldingham station. Allow around 2 hours for this 2¾ m strenuous walk. Free guided walk.

**Wednesday 8th June**

### Chairman's Day – Championing Food and Farming in Surrey

One of the highlights of our annual calendar! A chance to meet topical and interesting characters and discover aspects of Surrey Hills - this year in the east of the county. Meet some of the families making their livelihood in rural Surrey, including Priory Farm and one of the country's top sheep dog trainers. Discover some interesting farm shops and hidden Surrey views along the way.

**Wednesday 15th June**

### A Visit to Goddards

Goddards was built by architect Edwin Lutyens and has a garden laid out by his friend and collaborator, Gertrude Jekyll. We are privileged to have been granted access for a private viewing of this wonderful Arts & Crafts building situated at Abinger Common.

**Monday 27th June**

### Duxhurst – Surrey's Lost Village

In 1894 Lady Henry Somerset founded Duxhurst (just 3 miles south of Reigate) as a village for the care of inebriate women of all classes. Learn about this forgotten community and Lady Somerset's work. Evening talk.

**Sunday 3rd July**

### Exploring Farnham

Meet at Farnham Station at 10.30am for 11am start. Free guided walk.

**Sunday 3rd July**

### Gatton Country Fair

*Signposting for Gatton Trust*

Part of our support to Gatton Park in 2016. A great day out for all the family. Animals, country crafts and demonstrations, children's activities, fun dog show, gardens and grounds open.

**Monday 4th July**

### Wonderful Waverley

An exclusive visit to Waverley Abbey House, a charming Grade II\* listed Georgian mansion, followed by an exploration of the stunning ruins of Waverley Abbey.

**Wednesday 20th July**

### A Day in Farnham

A fully hosted day exploring the history and sights of Farnham. Discover the wonderful architecture, meet some of its interesting people and learn what makes Farnham such a Surrey gem.

**Saturday 30th July**

### A Pixham Perambulation

A guided afternoon including the Patchworking Garden – a social horticultural project designed for those experiencing difficulties as a result of isolation, bereavement or recovery from either psychological or physical ill-health – PLUS a hosted walk through the gardens of Lady Wedgwood at Pixham Mill.

**Sunday 7th August**

### Exploring The North Downs Way from Guildford

Meet at Town Bridge by White House Pub, Guildford at 10.30am for 11am start. Free guided walk.

**Tuesday 9th August**

### What's That Plant?

Another of our very popular walks with Pamela Holt. This time we will focus on plants as well as trees

**Thursday 18th August**

### Why are there no Georgian houses in Newdigate?

A visit to the old ironworks at Ewood, just north of Newdigate in the company of local historian John Callcutt.

**Sunday 4th September**

### Open Day in Gatton Park

*Signposting for Gatton Trust*

Part of our support to Gatton Park in 2016. A great day out for all the family. Special 2 for 1 deal on the open day for SHS members, 1 – 5 pm.

**Sunday 4th September**

### Exploring Norbury Park

Meet at the car park above Bocketts Farm (Sat Nat Postcode: KT22 9BW) at 10.30am for 11am start. Free guided walk.

**Sunday 11th September**

### Celebrating the Tales of the Tillingbourne

President's Day will actually be an early evening event. Our President has invited us to use a marquee in the grounds of his house on Leith Hill to enjoy the splendid views and hear Tales of the Tillingbourne. The event will include a buffet supper.

**Sunday 25th September**

### Surrey Hills Challenge

*Signposting for Surrey Hills Trust Fund*

A series of walks and runs in the Surrey Hills in aid of the Surrey Hills Trust Fund. More details at [www.surreyhillchallenge.com](http://www.surreyhillchallenge.com)

**1st & 2nd October**

### Surrey Hills Wood Fair

*Signposting for Surrey Hills Enterprises*

Details at [www.surreyhillssociety.org/events/the-surrey-hills-wood-fair](http://www.surreyhillssociety.org/events/the-surrey-hills-wood-fair)

**Wednesday 5th October**

### Mayor's Sponsored Walk

We are organising a sponsored walk for the Mayor of Guildford along the Guildford Borough section of the North Downs Way, in aid of the Surrey Hills Trust Fund. More details on the Events page of our website.

**Saturday 15th October**

### A Day in Brockham

Learn more about this village near Dorking and discover some of its community activities.

**Saturday 22nd October**

### Map Reading to enjoy the Surrey Hills

A training day for those who want to get out and appreciate the Surrey Hills, but do not have the confidence and experience to use Ordnance Survey maps and a compass. Based in Buckland.



Dog friendly



Family Friendly



Open to everyone who enjoys faster, fitter pace but particularly suitable for our 20's-30's group. For more details on 20's-30's events check out Facebook - Discover Guildford, Twitter @DiscoverGfrd or Email: [pete@discoverguildford.co.uk](mailto:pete@discoverguildford.co.uk)