

Pixham Post

The Pixham Residents Association Newsletter

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Closure of OPS



Old Pixham School closed at the end of May with a hand-over to Guildford Diocese at the end of June. There was a farewell bash when Pixham residents gave a spirited farewell tinted with sadness. The latest news is that the building was sold at auction to a dental practice based in Sevenoaks. Further information to follow.

PRA AGM

We held our AGM in St Mary's Church this year on Friday 17th May, another change brought about by the sad closure of Old Pixham School.

Lots of people attended and we were pleased to welcome the school's Directors who answered questions from the audience about the closure.

On a more positive note, Debbie Whitton and Pixham's STAG - Traffic Action Group - have been working steadily to improve traffic matters in Pixham. Our Events



Supergroup has organised some splendid events particularly the Street Swap where over 40 households put unwanted good-as-new items outside their homes for people to take. They are re-thinking alternative events and venues, so watch this space and look out for news.

Our budget is healthy and the Committee were all re-elected, with no-one standing down. Without their efforts Pixham would be a poorer community so thanks to you all for deciding to continue.

We were delighted to welcome three new Committee members, Lucy, Rupert and Jaquie whose verve and enthusiasm is hugely appreciated.

This will be an interesting year with new people, new visions and new events. We want to reach out to all who live in Pixham whether you rent or have your own home, whether you're out or at home all day, whether you're younger or older, so please let us know your bright ideas by emailing me.

Pat Smith chairpra@yahoo.com

Church News

Messy Harvest
Harvest Festival

Sat 12th October 10.30 - 1.00 with lunch

Sun 13th October 10.30 with

a "Bring and Share" lunch

Wed 18th Dec 7.00pm

Tue 24th December 5.30pm

Anne Brown annebrown49@hotmail.com

Carols by Candlelight
Crib Service

Update on Old Pixham School.

Sadly we lost the use of Old Pixham School in May of this year.



It had been the hub of Pixham for over a decade helping our community to thrive with quiz and film nights, coffee mornings, Christmas and Hallowe'en events, pop up pubs, Cafe Mayo, our annual summer fete plus countless other events.

Alternative venues have proved difficult if not impossible to find,

meaning some events have been curtailed.

You may have seen the notice outside Old Pixham School advising the community that Pixham Residents' Association has applied to have OPS registered as an Asset of Community Value (ACV). Our application will be decided on 17th October 2024

If we are successful, this will mean that we get the first chance to buy when OPS is next on the market. There is funding available for some of this: the rest we will have to raise.

It will also greatly reduce the scope of any planning applications.

The aim is to reclaim OPS for the community.

The PRA would like to thank those of you who have given your support to our application by signing petitions or writing to the Council.

Find out more on the PRA website: Home | Mysite (pixhamresidents.org)

Jaquie Mcginley jf.mcginley3@gmail.com

Quiz Night Returns at a New Venue

We'll hold our first quiz evening of the new season at St Mary's Church from around 7.30pm on Friday 25th October.

The main change: as we no longer have our own alcohol licence it will be a "Bring Your Own Bottle" (and glasses!).

As always we'll provide a meal. Keep a look out for a flyer with all the details.

It will be an excellent and sociable evening with home-made food, superb quiz questions by Kim, and lots of fun. Book a team table (max 8) or come as an individual and join a team on the night. Only £10.

Contact:

Tracy Williamson tracyann.williamson@aol.com to book your table.

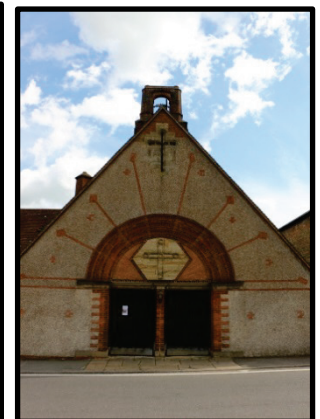
Harvest Festival at St. Mary's



Messy Harvest

Saturday October 12th
10.30am - 1.00pm
St. Mary's Church, Pixham Lane,
Dorking
Family Harvest activities with lunch
Come and join the fun





Join/Renew Pixham Residents' Association Membership 2024

At £5 per household it's the bargain of the year. The Membership now starts in January, but you can join any time. Pay online (preferred), cash or cheque. Membership remains at £5 per household but the PRA is such good value. You can make your life easier with a yearly standing order.

See Over 

Pixham Potager

Pixham Potager Community Kitchen Garden

Do you know about us? We are a small group of local people who enjoy gardening together.

Our large garden was rescued from a sea of brambles by some bold and enthusiastic mainly Pixham residents some 12 years ago and now produces beautiful fruit and vegetables a-plenty.

Growing your own food is notoriously satisfying and when you do it alongside others you can learn together and share your skills.

So, if you've thought about getting an allotment but think it might be too much, or just want to spend more time outdoors then please consider joining us.

All ages and skill levels are welcome, why not come and take a look?

Jackie Enquiries: jackiemacey8@gmail.com

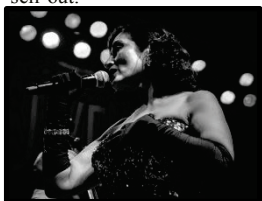
St Mary Sessions

St Mary's Sessions returned this autumn with their fourth (crazy how that time has flown!) season of top-notch live music.

Kicking off the season on September 21st was Charlie Parr –their biggest booking yet as part of his European tour. He brought his unique brand of folk blues to the dreaming spires (you have to dream, there's no spire) of St Mary's – a real feather in our cap and an act that we were over the moon to be hosting. Fans attended from way beyond Dorking and the event was a sell-out.



On 26th October, we have an excellent act - Aisha Khan and The Rajahs, American roots music, Jazz, Blues and Rhythm & Blues. Then on the 30th November we have a big party with funk/soul/blues act The Soul Immigrants. All events are on our Facebook page, and you can also join our mailing list to stay in touch about all events. We've also booked the first two acts of 2025 and are in the process of booking more as we speak. Hope to see you soon for more fantastic (and local!) live music. We bring a quality of act to Dorking that is only usually found in London, have a fantastic little bar, and a hugely atmospheric venue in the shape of our very own Lutyens masterpiece, St Mary's Pixham.



Ivan Tucker

T: 01306 502277, M: 07906 190676 E: ivantuckeruk@gmail.com

Pixham Traffic Action Group – STAG Good News!



You may remember that a small group of residents was formed late last year to look into possible ways to reduce speeding and to calm traffic in Pixham Lane. This was specifically in advance of the Pixham Mills development. We held a well-attended meeting to find out what residents wanted.

Chair Debbie Whitton recently attended a small Council meeting to put forward our application for 2 vehicle-activated signs on Pixham Lane. The meeting went well, with lots of interest and questions from the Councillors involved. We have recently heard the outcome, and are very pleased to say that the application has been approved. We are now waiting to hear when the signs will be installed.

The remaining popular options such as an additional pedestrian island, a road buildout at the northern end of Pixham Lane and possible posts and/or trees on some of the verges, have been discussed with STAG, Cllr Watson, SCC Highways and Stonegate. They will become conditions of the planning application for the 69 houses (MO/24/0315), if granted. We still haven't heard when this application will be coming to the Council's Development Management Committee and will let you know the date.

As an aside, the PRA has recently asked Stonegate to cut back the vegetation overgrowing the path between the Pixham Mills entrance and Pixham End Cottages.

Debbie Whitton

Shiny Side Down Films

Our final film at OPS on Friday 19th April was *Sound of Metal*, the story of a rock drummer learning to come to terms with his pending deafness.

The closure of OPS meant we had to find a new home as there was nothing in Pixham.

The good news is we are trying out the Green Room on Saturday 9th November with the classic "Casablanca". We already have 14 bookings. It's just behind Dorking Halls, next to the car park..



Do come and join us.

Doors will open at 7.30 for film start of 8.00. It will cost £10.00 due to licensing costs and use of the building.

There will be a bar open the whole evening and it will be a good chance to socialise in their bar area, so come early! The Green Room is a lovely, intimate venue with a great atmosphere.

We hope that our Pixham regulars will come along as we would miss you hugely.

The original concept of SSD was to show more obscure or off-beat films that did not get a general release in cinemas. For several years this proved to be a successful formula but now we are keen to carry on with a new look at our film programming. Your ideas will be very welcome.

My contact details are below – and **come along to join us**, to make a success of our new venture.

Brian Downing briandowning@btinternet.com



Brian Downing briandowning@btinternet.com

Coffee Mornings

The Coffee Mornings at the Scout Hut are proving to be very successful. The next will be on Wednesday 6th November, from 10 am to 12 noon. As always, look out for the banner.

All welcome from 0 – 100!

Susie Hurst: susie_hurst@hotmail.co.uk

Unique singing workshop at St Mary's Saturday November 9th, 10am-4pm

Following from the success of the Zimbabwean singing workshop in April with Bruce Ncube in St. Mary's Church, Pixham-based The Wild Choir is continuing to invite guest choir leaders to bring unique singing traditions from around the world.

On Saturday November 9th we have a day of Georgian Polyphonic singing. Georgia is a small country bordering Russia and the Black Sea and its stunning polyphonic music and unique alphabet have been recognised by UNESCO as an 'intangible cultural heritage of humanity'. This is a workshop for anyone comfortable with group singing to learn beautiful songs with leading Georgian music specialist and community singing specialist Holly Taylor Zuntz. No reading music necessary, Saturday November 9th, 10am - 4pm.

Book online at www.thewildchoir.com

P.R.A Membership 2024 Form

Name:.....

Address:.....

E-mail address (for updates & local news):.....

Payment by Bank transfer to Pixham Residents Association sort code 40-19-22, a/c 61522590. Please give your House number and Road as the bank reference. If you're unable to pay online you can still pay by card, cheque or cash at any PRA event or return a form via your street steward or directly to Treasurer, David Sinden, 87 Leslie Road, Pixham, Dorking RH4 1PW. Any cheques are payable to Pixham Residents' Association.

Many thanks for your support.