



Happy crowds at the Reigate Tunnel Beer Festival in May, organized by Redhill Redstone Rotary Club which has raised an enormous sum for charities.
More than 1500 people attended over the three days

The Civic Society
For Reigate & Redhill
www.reigatesociety.org.uk



QUARTERLY MAGAZINE
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EVENTS IN REIGATE & REDHILL

17th June 2025 at 7.30 pm
Reigate & Redhill Society AGM & Members
Meeting - £12 entry inc refreshments
St Mark's Church Centre
22 Birkheads Road, Reigate RH2 OAU

20th-22nd June 2025
Reigate Summer festival
<https://reigatesummerfestival.co.uk/>

11-13th July 2025
Reigate Pub in the Park
<https://www.pubintheparkuk.com/reigate>

3-10th October
Arts Takeover: A Week of Creativity,
Community, and Culture in Redhill.

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President: Nicholas Owen

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Pippa Martin

Email: pm.sg@ntlworld.com

Tel: 07801 372523

Secretary:

Jane Artis

Email: janeartis@hotmail.com

Tel: 07831 269866

Acting Vice Chair

Christine Ingram

Email: h.ingram2@ntlworld.com

Treasurer & Registrar

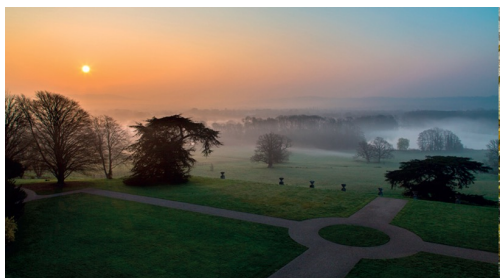
Robert Bogin

Email: robertbogin@gmail.com

Tel: 07989 408834

GATTON PARK OPEN DAYS **12.00-5.00 pm**

Many of these days feature activities for children but there is plenty of space to walk and enjoy the open spaces. Gatton Hall is open for the sale of refreshments.



6 July

3 August

7 September

5 October

2 November

5 December



<https://gattonpark.co.uk/visit/opening-times/>

REIGATE CAVES OPEN DAYS



Barons' Cave Main chamber by Laura Brown

14th June 2025

12th July 2025

9th August 2025

13th September 2025

<https://reigatecaves.org.uk>



Reigate is well known for its 'caves' which riddle the town centre, although these are in fact largely old sand mines. The castle mound overlooking Reigate town centre is composed of soft sandstone and has been mined over several centuries. The castle has long gone but the mound and many of its excavations still remain.

RRS CHAIR NOTES – PIPPA MARTIN

The Beer Festival organised by Redstone Rotary Club in Reigate Tunnel from 15th to 17th May was a great success enjoying excellent weather and making in excess of £20,000 for charities.

The Reigate and Redhill Music Festival ran from 17th to 23rd May.

The Reigate Arts Festival is to be held on 20-22nd June. There are regular musical events at the Cage and Reigate Priory Football Club. Reigate is a busy and thriving town.

Redhill is suffering severely from the loss of the Harlequin and Marks and Spencer and the centre is looking very sad and neglected. The many empty shops with boarded up fronts lend an atmosphere of decay. The market is struggling with no flower stall and fewer traders.

Andy Nash keeps the Belfry looking busy and vibrant despite the drop in footfall. The library operating from the first floor plans to move back to the Warwick Quadrant in September.

The NHS diagnostic Centre is planned to move to the first floor of the Belfry within months.

The Harlequin Support Group maintains its active fight for the return of the theatre, emphasising the loss of community space, the damage to the local economy and trade, Loss to musicians, performers, restaurants and arts education and opportunities for young people to develop confidence and talent. Kate Hymas the borough development officer discussed the Arts takeover in Redhill in October. The society is publishing her article in this Newsletter.

Concerts at St Johns and weekly concerts at St. Matthews continue

The Society was invited to complete a survey on Surrey's 10 year health plan which the Chairman completed.

The residents of Surrey were invited to comment on the Local Government Reorganisation and a webinar was held on 13th May. The Chairman objected on the grounds that Reigate and Redhill would lose its identity and inherit other borough's debts. Members of the Council stated that the Government would absorb the debts.

RRS CHAIR NOTES – PIPPA MARTIN (continued)

No suggestions for Civic Awards have been submitted so none will be awarded this year.

The future of the Community pub The Garibaldi in Mill Street, Redhill was discussed. It is a not-for-profit pub run by volunteers with all profits reinvested back into the venue. It currently runs under a lease but the owner wishes to sell. The landlord has been very supportive but the pub now needs to purchase the freehold to secure its long term future as a community asset. The Garibaldi is financially stable and well supported. Many avenues are being explored to secure funding.

The RRS Council agreed to “pledge” £500.00 subject to guarantees that this would be returned in the event that the sum required was not obtained.

The Reigate & Redhill Society were informed that on 14th May Solum appealed against the Borough’s decision to refuse planning permission for “tower blocks” to be built in the forecourt of Redhill Station. The council agreed that the development would be disastrous for Redhill and Robert Bogin and Pippa Martin attended an ERRA (East Redhill Residents Association) meeting on 23rd May at the Home Cottage and pledged the society’s support. The enquiry is to be held on 8th September 2025.

SECRETARY’S NOTES – JANE ARTIS

Next Open Meetings to be held on Zoom or Face to Face as noted on website

AGM & MEMBERS’ MEETING – SEE PAGE 6

TREASURER’S REPORT for year end March 2025 –ROBERT BOGIN

Net income at year end 2024-2025 was £84.91

Membership subs 2024-2025 were £3082 - previous year was £2982

Balance sheet figure is very healthy

REGISTRAR’S REPORT – ROBERT BOGIN

Number of members at year end was 371 comprising 98 single memberships, 123 family memberships, 20 corporate and 7 others. Thus a total of 248 memberships. The number of new members joining in 2024-2025 was 24. The number of memberships unpaid for 2024-2025 is 23; reminders have been sent out

ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING GROUP – TIM LEE

The APC reviewing and discussions on current planning applications as consultees for RBBC continues as a major role of the committee.

We are also keen to find out in the coming months how the strategy for a new East and West Surrey Council structure is to be implemented and the impact on local sites and buildings such as those used by the borough and county council.

In the meantime there are projects such as the Solum development of Redhill train station and the application for a new Priory School building on the Woodhatch Place. The application for the new Priory School specifically is still open and there have been some amended documents submitted recently that will be reviewed at another planning committee meeting possibly in July. These revised documents do not seem to have changed much following the refused design so it is hard to see how this will be viewed positively by parents and residents alike.

The Civic awards 2025

We have unfortunately made the decision not to hold a Civic awards for this year. This is due to the lack of nomination from members of any worthy projects to be added to the judging list. We as a committee have struggled to recall any successfully completed projects in the last couple of years that would warrant a nomination.

We very much hope that we will have more nominations to be able to form a shortlist and hold the awards in 2026.

Projects can range from outstanding buildings to public sculptures, and we will draw up a short list from the nominations to be judged next year.

New chairperson required:

I am afraid I am still looking for someone to come forward to take over the role of Chair of the APC. The new Chair preferably needs to have experience working within the construction, design, planning or environmental areas and is passionate about protecting and future proofing the quality of the built and natural environment and heritage of the past for future generations.

Please reach out to me if you are interested in joining the committee and taking on the role of chairperson in due course



**NOTICE OF THE 72nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
to be combined with the Annual Members' Meeting**

**Tuesday 17th June 2025 at 7.30 pm
St Mark's Church Centre
22 Birkheads Road, Reigate RH2 0AU**

**Cost for Members' Meeting £12 per head
which includes a finger buffet plus
wine or soft drinks**

**AGENDA FOR THE AGM WILL BE SENT
AT A LATER DATE**

**Speaker for the Members' Meeting is
BRUCE HEALEY
"Rail 200"**

Booking in advance – payment of £12 per head to

**HSBC BANK
Sort code: 40-38-10 Account 70690538 (Business Account)**

**or by cheque made out to REIGATE & REDHILL SOCIETY
and posted to Robert Bogin
Townsend House, 64 Church Street, Reigate RH2 0SP**

RSVP: reigatesociety@gmail.com

WEBSITE & FACEBOOK- BRUCE HEALEY

<https://www.facebook.com/p/The-Reigate-and-Redhill-Society-100064867353379/>

Recordings of all past talks can be found here
https://www.reigatesociety.org.uk/meetings/meeting_notes.php



TRANSPORT GROUP – BRUCE HEALEY

There have been many partial closures of the A3/M25 interchange in the last month or so. At the time of writing there are no further dates announced. The works on the eastbound M25 to add additional refuges on the 'smart motorway' section are nearing completion and the speed limits should soon be removed. Similarly the works on the M3 and M4 are nearing completion.

The Gatton Park Road closure is due to finish in early to mid June depending on which report you read.

The Redhill to Tonbridge railway line is scheduled for a 9-day closure between Saturday, August 16, and Monday, August 25, 2025, to facilitate engineering works with a bus replacement service covering the whole route.

The recent timetable changes have made very little difference to local bus and rail services. There is a proposal for operator Great Central to run a train service from Brighton to Newcastle via Redhill, Reading and Oxford. 5 trains per day in each direction are proposed. Good news for rail travellers but less good news for users of Reigate level crossing. If approved, the services would start in December 2026.

At Gatwick Airport, the drop-off charges have been increased yet again. It will now be a rather exorbitant £7. In an attempt to soften views about the second runway, the airport has agreed to tighter noise limits

GREEN SPACES GROUP (GSG) – HELEN NEVE

Our live links are set out below. For updates, please follow and like GSG on

<https://www.facebook.com/GSGReigateSociety>



<https://twitter.com/GSGReigateSoc>



<https://www.reigatesociety.org.uk/about/na.php>



<https://www.reigatesociety.org.uk/Walks/>





Stand with Us: Save Redhill from Overdevelopment

Dear Friends,

The Reigate and Redhill Society has joined forces with East Redhill Residents Association (ERRA) to support a newly formed Redhill Residents' Action Group (RRAG), it will be a collaboration of several groups. Together, we are fighting Solum's appeal against the council's refusal of their application to build five buildings in two blocks of up to 15 storeys high on Redhill station.

We believe that the proposed development is the wrong development in the wrong place. It's too tall and the plan to move the taxi rank and drop-off (and eventually all the parking) to Redstone Hill will create chaos in Redhill; vehicles will be required to turn right across a heavy stream of downhill traffic on a blind bend to access the station. It will make it more difficult for traffic on St Anne's Drive to get onto Redstone Hill and it will increase pollution levels for pedestrians, commuters, and children walking to school. It will affect commuters in Reigate - not just Redhill.

The attached was posted to Facebook, Instagram, X, and LinkedIn today. It includes the following link to a crowdfunding page:

👉 <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/save-redhill-town-centre>



If you would like to support this appeal at any level, please let us know. If you are able to donate to help fund the appeal (however little—every little helps), please click on the link above.

Please share this link with all your friends and family and on all social media platforms that you can.

Thank you.

<https://redhillsos.co.uk/>





Arts Takeover: A Week of Creativity, Community, and Culture in Redhill.

Get ready for an exciting celebration of the arts in Redhill! From the 3rd to the 10th of October 2025, Redhill will be transformed into a vibrant hub of creativity, culture, and community spirit with the 3rd annual **Arts Takeover**. Curated by the Council's Arts development Officer, this week-long festival will bring together local artists, performers, and creators for a series of thrilling workshops, captivating performances, and a chance to explore the thriving arts scene in and around Redhill. Confirmed events for 2025 include:

Community art gallery in the Belfry

Wild gardening talks

Farnham Maltings Theatre Show

Performances in the Belfry

Ballet and Line Dancing workshops

Art, poetry, writing, jewellery and pottery workshops

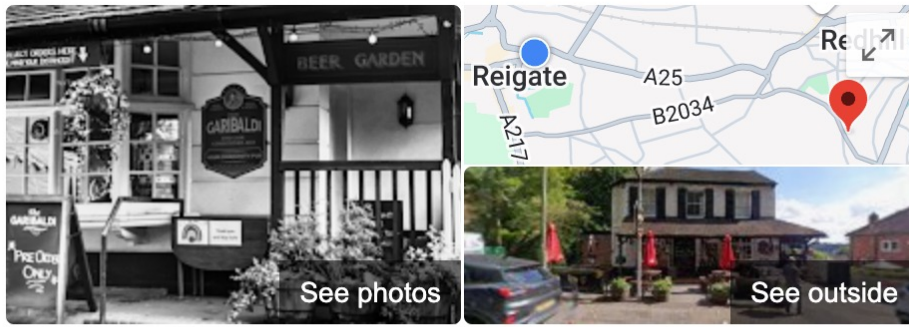
Whether you're an aspiring artist looking to develop your skills, a lover of live performances, or simply someone looking to connect with your community, the **Arts Takeover** has something for everyone. Expect hands-on workshops across a variety of mediums, from visual arts to theatre, dance, and music. All activities are designed to inspire and engage, regardless of age or experience and events are aimed at all ages, from babes to centenarians.

With events taking place at various venues around Redhill, including The Light, Redhill Library, Belfry Shopping Centre, Florrie's Café and the Garibaldi Community Pub and the Woodhatch Community Centre, this is a unique opportunity to explore local spaces in new and exciting ways. Don't miss out on the chance to experience a week of immersive performances, interactive sessions, and the vibrant energy of the local arts scene.

Mark your calendars for **October 3rd - 10th 2025**, and come together with friends, family, and fellow creatives to make memories, learn new skills, and celebrate everything that the arts have to offer. The full timetable will be published in July.

Further details and a taste of 2024 below

<https://www.reigate-banstead.gov.uk/arts-takeover>



The Garibaldi Community Pub

Friends of The Garibaldi Community Interest Company (CIC) Ltd was formed in 2017 to save the Garibaldi pub from closure and conversion to housing.

As a CIC we are limited by Guarantee and so have no shareholders. We are a not for profit company: all income is reinvested into the company and only the manager and bar staff are paid. All the Directors are volunteers, and receive no remuneration for their work.

We've now reached a pivotal moment in the pub's story. The building is privately owned by someone who has always been incredibly supportive of the project, but who has now decided that the time is right to sell. He kindly offered us first refusal, which we accepted in 2024.

Purchasing the building would allow us to secure the pub's long-term future. The Garibaldi is financially stable, well supported, and has shown that it can succeed. Ownership of the building would open up further opportunities to grow and improve the space, helping us protect it as a community asset and do even more for the people of Redhill.

We've explored many funding avenues, including grants, campaigns, and ethical lenders, and continue to pursue all realistic options. The timing of national events has unfortunately affected some of our plans, and the funding environment has proved particularly challenging since last year's general election. Nevertheless, we remain committed to finding a solution that ensures the pub stays in community hands.

When we committed to buy the building last year we exchanged contracts with the agreement that we would complete in June 2025. However the aforementioned general election scuppered these plans, as the Community Ownership Fund (COF), which we were about to send our grant submission to, for 80% of the purchase price, closed.

We are regularly in dialogue with the current owner, who has very generously allowed us a year's further extension to June 2026 on the proviso that we pay him £62,000. This is in addition to the £72,000 we paid last year when we exchanged contracts. We have £42,000 available in our bank and need to raise another £20,000 ASAP.

After we have formally extended the contract for another 12 months we then need to pay the balance of £486,000 as soon as feasibly possible, and no later than June 2026. To support this we are currently preparing an application for the National Lottery, as some funding opened up there late last month. However we are aware that as all other funding closed down with the election last year they are currently 300% oversubscribed.

Our ideal scenario would be for an investor to buy the freehold from the current owner and lease the pub to us with the option for us to buy the freehold in the future, when we can secure the funding.

We are also open to the possibility of taking out a commercial mortgage, but this hinders us in a number of ways:-

- We would want to borrow no more than 40% of the balance owed as, with interest rates as they are, borrowing more than this would put a lot of pressure on our finances
- No one lets you apply for retrospective funding, so we would never be able to apply for a grant to settle the mortgage
- We still need to raise the balance between the amount owed and any mortgage taken.

CORPORATE MEMBERS.

Adam's Gallery www.adamsgallery.co.uk 42a High Street, Reigate RH2 9AT Art gallery 01737-225677	Royal Albert & Alexandra School www.raa-school.co.uk Gatton Park, Reigate RH2 0TW 01737-649050 Boarding school for boys & girls aged 7 to 18
Crow Watkin www.crowwatkin.co.uk 14 Bell Street, Reigate RH2 7BE Independent estate agents, surveyors & valuers 01737-245886	Sawkings Architects Ltd www.sawkingsarchitects.com 1 The Quarry, Betchworth RH3 7BY 01737-845580 Chartered Architects
Dunottar School www.dunottar.surrey.sch.uk High Trees Road, Reigate RH2 7EL Independent co-educational school ages 11-18 01737-761945	Skin Architects www.skin-architects.co.uk Hope Lacy, 20 Ringley Avenue, Reigate RH2 7ET 01737-210457 Chartered Architects
Micklefield School www.micklefieldschool.co.uk 10 Somers Road, Reigate RH2 9DU 01737-242615 Independent prep school for boys & girls aged 2 1/2 to 11	Stentor Music Co. Ltd www.stentor-music.com Albert Road North, Reigate RH2 9EZ 01737-240226 Manufacturers and distributors of musical instruments
Rayners Commercial www.raynerscommercial.com 14a Bell Street, Reigate RH2 7BG 01737-222835 Chartered Surveyors and Commercial Property Agents	Stoneman Funeral Service www.stonemanfunerals.co.uk Doran Court, Reigate Road, Reigate RH1 6AZ 01737-763456 Funeral directors & memorial craftsmen
Reigate Architects www.reigatearchitects.co.uk 24 Holmesdale Road, Reigate RH2 0BQ 01737-243540 Architecture & sustainability	Unusual Expo www.unusualexpo.com Yorke Road, Reigate 07831-882527 Exhibition & Event Design
Reigate Grammar School www.reigategrammar.org Reigate Road, Reigate RH2 0QS 01737-222231 Grammar School	Touchstone Tonewoods www.touchstonetonewoods.co.uk Albert Road North, Reigate RH2 9EZ 01737-221064 Luthier supplies, parts, tools and tonewoods
Reigate Heath Golf Club www.reigateheathgc.com Reigate Heath RH2 8QR 01737-226793 Heathland golf course	TWM Solicitors www.twmsolicitors.com 40 West Street, Reigate RH2 9BT 01737-221212 Solicitors
Reigate Priory Cricket Club www.reigatepriorycc.co.uk Park Lane, Reigate RH2 8JX 01737-244477 Cricket club with senior & junior sections	White & Sons www.whiteandsons.co.uk 24 High Street, Reigate RH2 9AY 01737-222600 Independent estate agents, surveyors and valuers
Reigate Priory School www.reigate-priory.co.uk Bell Street, Reigate RH2 7RL 01737-245065 Junior school	Wray Common Nursing Home www.wray-common.co.uk Wray Common Road, Reigate RH2 0ND 01737-240563
Robinsons www.robinsonsmb.com 1 Bancroft Rd, Reigate RH2 7RP 01737-229200 Chartered Surveyors, Commercial Property Sales, Lettings Lettings, Valuation & Management	WS Planning & Architecture www.wsipa.co.uk 5 Pool House, Bancroft Road, Reigate RH2 7RP 01737-949872 Chartered Town Planners and Chartered Architects Full design and build service



THE REIGATE &
REDHILL SOCIETY

EST 1952



How do I join and
what are the subscription amounts?

Single membership - £10.00 per annum
Family membership - £15.00 per annum
Corporate members - £30.00 per annum

For a membership application form, contact the registrar
Robert Bogin at reigatesociety@gmail.com
or telephone 07989-408834

Alternatively, you can scan the QR code
or complete the form online at
<https://www.reigatesociety.org.uk/contact/>



<https://www.reigatesociety.org.uk>