



# The Villager

October 2022



1926 – 2022

Sherbornes and Pamber



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**Editorial**

The death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, whilst anticipated, still came as a shock. In the past few days since her death we have seen and heard in so much detail about her remarkable life, but also how she touched the lives of so many thousands, if not millions, of people throughout the world. She lived her life with an extraordinary sense of duty and service to her subjects of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth - but millions also considered her a part of their extended family. She always said that it was her Christian faith, and her accountability to God, that was the cornerstone of her reign. May she now enjoy her eternal rest.....

*God save the King*



Whilst we are happy to publish items and opinions in this magazine it should be noted that the views expressed by the contributors are not necessarily endorsed by the Editorial team. Readers should also make their own enquiries about, and assessment of, claims and services made by advertisers in this magazine.

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Cover photo: Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

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As I write this article, the news of the death of our beloved Queen is just filtering through. I imagine we can all recall where we were when we heard the news. It's of that magnitude.

Elizabeth II will be remembered on so many levels but I am sure the way she discharged her duties with the highest levels of service, humility, grace, integrity, dignity and her sense of duty will be at the top of the list. Perhaps the warmest tribute is that she has been referred to as the nation's mother, grandmother and great grandmother. We feel she was one of us and part of our extended family.

For those of us under the age of 70 she has been our only monarch and for all of us she has represented continuity, stability and reliability through the ups and downs of our, and our country's fortunes. We will miss her deeply.

And it begs the question; what was her source of encouragement? Whilst she has been a rock of stability to so many, I am sure the Queen would humbly submit that Jesus Christ has been her rock. This was clear from the very beginning – her accession to the throne. She was just 25 when she became Queen on the death of her beloved father, and she immediately set out to understand what her new role would entail. Central to this was understanding how her Christian faith would shape her reign.

In her first Christmas broadcast in 1952 some months before her coronation, she said this:

*'Pray for me ... that God may give me wisdom and strength to carry out the solemn promises I shall be making, and that I may faithfully serve Him and you, all the days of my life.'*

For Christians everywhere, the Queen has been a wonderful example of a life spent living out her Christian faith in public. This shone through in what she said and how she conducted her life.

The examples are myriad in number and I just want to briefly pick out three aspects of her faith.

## 1. Jesus was her teacher.

Whilst she was steadfast and enduring in her service of her subjects, she was also unflinching and confident in the promises of God through his son Jesus Christ. This was her source of strength and influenced everything in her life.

In 2014 she confirmed this in the Christmas broadcast of that year:

*"For me, the life of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, whose birth we celebrate today, is an inspiration and an anchor in my life. A role model of reconciliation and forgiveness, he stretched out his hands in love, acceptance and healing. Christ's example has taught me to seek to respect and value all people, of whatever faith or none."*

## 2. Jesus was her example of service

The Queen's life was marked by her steadfast dedication to serve.

*In 2008 the Queen said: 'I hope that, like me, you will be comforted by the example of Jesus of Nazareth who, often in circumstances of great adversity, managed to live an outgoing, unselfish and sacrificial life ... He makes it clear that genuine human happiness and satisfaction lie more in giving than receiving; more in serving than in being served.'*

## 3. Forgiveness and reconciliation were her watchwords

The Queen brought people together and promoted peace and mutual respect. Just two examples - on her accession, the Commonwealth consisted of just a handful of countries. Now there are 56 covering every continent and encompassing a third of the world's population. She was the first British monarch in modern times to visit the Republic of Ireland and in a symbolically significant way helped to bring peace after many years of strife.

*In 2011 she said, 'Forgiveness lies at the heart of the Christian faith. It can heal broken families, it can restore friendships and it can reconcile divided communities. It is in forgiveness that we feel the power of God's love.'*

The Queen has given us a wonderful example of living out one's faith in humility, dignity, and gentle authority by having the heart of a servant, giving so much of herself to others and by giving her heart to Jesus Christ, her Lord and Saviour.

Whether you are a Christian or not, her words on the occasion of her Golden Anniversary in 2002 extol a wonderful way to live:

*"I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God!"*

## Steve Howe

*On 12th September, the Sherbornes with Pamber Parochial Church Council met with the Archdeacon of Winchester (Richard Brand) and the Lay Chair of the Romsey Deanery (Sarah Boothman) to discuss how we move forward as a parish following the resignation of Daniel Newman as Rector. Daniel was in post for a little over 2 years and prior to that John Hamilton had been our Rector for over 30 years. Consequently Bishop David, the Archdeacon and the PCC all agreed it would be helpful to conduct a review to provide guidance and support over the coming months leading into the recruitment process for a new minister.*

*The Archdeacon was clear that this review should not slow down the recruitment process but is intended to provide greater clarity and assurance as to the way ahead. Whilst not a public consultation, the review will engage a wide range of church members, including those most closely involved in the running of the parish and its churches.*

*Richard and Sarah will start the review process immediately. They hope to complete this review by the end of November with the recruitment process starting as soon as practical after then.*

The Services at St Andrew's are live streamed on our YouTube channel and are available to watch afterwards.

Visit [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBbHQM4CvpnnPsSGuuglR\\_w](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBbHQM4CvpnnPsSGuuglR_w) or the link on our website under the Resources Menu.

## Sunday Club:

Sunday Club for children from School year R and upwards will meet during the service. For more information please contact Caroline Elphick on 01256 851384

**Creche** – there are a few toys available for use in the Bell Tower, but this will be unsupervised

As we are now in a period of vacancy for the position of Rector of the parish, we may have some preachers yet to be confirmed. Please check our website or register for our weekly newsletter for up-to-date information.

## 02 October – Visiting preacher – The Bishop of Basingstoke

10am	The Lord's Supper	St Andrew's
	The Sermon on the Mount – Where is your treasure	Bishop David Williams
	Matthew 6:19-34	

## 09 October – Harvest Service

10am	Harvest Service	St Andrew's
	The Sermon on the Mount – Ask, Seek, Knock	Steve Howe
	Matthew 5: 17-42	
10am	Morning Worship	All Saints, Andy Spence

## 16 October

10am	Morning Worship	St Andrew's
	The Sermon on the Mount: Are you amazed?	Bret Rohloff
	Matthew 7:1-14	

## 23 October – Half term

10am	All-Age Morning Worship	St Andrew's
	Men & Women of faith: Sarah – When faith falters	Andy Spence
	Genesis 16	
10am	Morning Worship	Pamber Priory
	Preacher's choice	Andrew Doggart

## 30 October

10am	All-Age Morning Worship	St Andrew's
	Men & Women of faith: Abraham – Faith tested	Steve Howe
	Genesis 22	

## 06 November – Followed by bring & share lunch in SSJ village hall

10am	Morning Worship	St Andrew's
	Preacher's choice	Reverend John Hamilton

## MIDWEEK

Home Groups meet in the weeks of Tuesday 12th & 26th June

Central Prayer Meeting – 7th June 8pm





## PARISH COUNCIL

The Chairman and the existing Parish Councillors are delighted to welcome Jane Bechelet as our new co-opted member of the Parish Council. (Jane is co-opted until the next election when she would formally be elected)

Cllr Rowley and the NP Committee have been progressing their work to update the Neighbourhood Plan with our consultant partners working on some of the reports which will update the existing Plan which is still valid.

We have also received the Environmental and Heritage reports supporting our objections to the Rydon proposed plans

Basingstoke and Deane are continuing their work on the Local Plan.

There is a petition instigated by Maria Miller MP against the numbers being proposed for BDBC – details were in the Basingstoke Gazette, your Parish Council urge you to sign it.

The Parish Council has been notified of 3 planning applications Rosevale Cottage, Weybrook Court and Pippins Mount – we will be responding shortly – if you have any objections to raise please let the Clerk know as soon as possible via email: clerk@sherbornestjohn-pc.gov.uk

With the growth of our lovely village, the requirement for greater efficiency, day to day management of the Chute Pavilion, our allotments and other assets, together with the need for additional financial governance, the Parish Council has approved the purchase of a software package “Scribe” which will installed in the coming months bringing us more technologically up to date. We have had demonstrations from a couple of suppliers and feel this package is most suited to our needs and will be easy to use.

We again urge villagers to continue to use the village shop - USE IT OR LOSE IT

Speeding through the village and on the A340 – a constant perennial problem – discussions remain ongoing with the Police Commissioner- you may have noticed recent rubber strips on Chineham Lane.

Sadly, the day after our last Parish Council meeting, we heard our beloved Queen Elizabeth II had passed away peacefully at the grand age of 96. The majority of us will never have known a time when the Queen was not there, we will miss her.

Hopefully many of you will have signed the “In Memorium” book which was in the Village Hall or extended your condolences by other means to the new King Charles and the royal family.

God save the King.

*Linda Agnew*  
Vice Chair  
Sherborne St John Parish Council

# News from The Pambers and Little London

At the time of writing our nation is preparing for another royal event, albeit a more sombre one than when last I wrote on the subject of the Royal Family. I don't know whether any of our number will be going to London to pay their respects, but I am certain that many will be privately doing so to an exemplary Sovereign.

At a more prosaic level, I personally have little to report having spent most of August in France. This is also the case, clearly, with other possible sources of information, e.g the Parish Council - little to report rather than holidays in France - but The Pambers and Little London seem to be ticking along happily.

I was delighted to see a device has appeared on New Rd clocking the speed of traffic and encouraging drivers to slow down. I know this has been requested in the past but hadn't realized it was imminent. I imagine most readers will be glad to see the plan has come to fruition.

How sad it is to see the parched lawns and shrubs in our area and how glad we will be to see some rain! At least the blackberries have done well - we have a bumper crop this year and the phantom plum thief (as mentioned in last month's issue) is manifestly less interested in blackberries. I feel a blackberry and apple pie coming on...



Our walks through Pamber Forest have, as yet, not allowed us to spot the fabulous toadstools we saw a couple of years ago; not perhaps suitable for an omelette.

Stay safe everyone and PLEASE send me some of your news. My email is:

[bdownes.villager@gmail.com](mailto:bdownes.villager@gmail.com)

This is supposed to be a short chatty column about LL&the Ps, not the B Downes show! Thanks.

B. 🐝



## SSJ Lychgate Appeal



Parts of this lychgate are now in a sorry state; we wish to smarten up this area of our village heritage and to get the project underway in this Platinum Jubilee year of our Queen Elizabeth; as I write I hear the news that an era has just come to an end with the passing of our beloved Queen.

We have so far received about £2000 in contributions from members of our community. The Benefact Trust (which some of you might know by its former name the All Churches Trust) has kindly donated £1500 and our Parish Council has in principle very generously agreed to award £1500 as well. We express our warmest thanks to both bodies and to all contributors from our local community.

These contributions have provided enough funds for the project to proceed. Planning for this is already underway. We intend for work to commence within the next few months.

We are pleased and thankful for all donations received so far but you will see that we are still a few thousands short of our target so are still seeking contributions. Further donations would serve a double purpose of contributing to the renovation of a village gem and of paying tribute to our longest reigning monarch.

Donations can be made by bank transfer to **PCC of the Sherbornes with Pamber Covenant Account, Sort Code 30-18-45, Acc No 00259539** using your surname and LYCHGATE as a reference, or alternatively by hand to Lynda Harding at 19 Cranesfield.

If you are able to gift aid your donation, please email [nickandlynda.harding@btinternet.com](mailto:nickandlynda.harding@btinternet.com) for a gift aid form.

Time to update you on the progress of the appeal for our village lychgate, which was launched in the August edition of the Villager. This gave some historical background on lychgates in general and on our lychgate, which was built in 1887 to commemorate the golden jubilee of Queen Victoria.

## BEAUREGARD'S BLOG



Ooh, there is nothing like a bit of plastic to spend a few hours sniffing, licking, chewing, biting, gnawing and generally destroying and making all sorts of crackling noises with. This one is my idea of heaven - Creme Fraiche!! You couldn't ask for a better one unless they do beef flavoured creme fraiche! This photo is of my first taste so to speak...I spent a fair few minutes just holding it and savouring the feeling of what was to come before running around the garden showing off my prize. The Mrs gave it to me but not before she had demolished most of the contents leaving me with just a lick and the excitement of a new toy to chew up. The Mrs thinks this is cheaper than buying toys for me from the pet shop as I have already chewed

or possibly eaten 3 balls, several stuffed flower pots, the floating fountain from the fish pond, an electrical charging point for the Mrs phone, an uncountable number of logs, sticks, branches and off cuts from the wood shed; removed the eyes, ears, ribbons, stuffing, and general insides of numerous soft toys including my own bed!

Apparently this is my teething period and I have been assured from the Boss that I will grow out of it but I am not sure I want to as it is great fun, especially creme fraiche. Only time will tell!

<http://beauregardsdogblog.blogspot.com>



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# Claiming Dates

## October 2022

1	Basingstoke Variety Show in aid of Mayor's Charity, The Anvil	7.30pm
4	Women's Fellowship, Art Workshop	2pm
7	Royal British Legion Annual Dinner, Sherfield Oaks Golf Club	7pm
8	Harvest Quiz Evening, Chute Pavilion Bring your own supper tickets £2.50 ALL WELCOME	7pm
10	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	9.30am-11.30am
15	Blacksmith Folk/Rock band, Monk Sherborne Village Hall Paul Cave 07908 425063	
19	Acoustic Music and Readings at The Plough, Little London	7.45pm
24	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	9.30am-11.30am
26	Sherborne St John Parish Council Meeting, Chute Pavilion. (Planning meeting 7.00pm)	7.30pm

## November 2022

1	Women's Fellowship, Speaker 'Medical Detection Dogs', Bring & Buy	2pm
7	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	9.30am-11.30am
9	Jumble Sale in SSJ Village Hall in aid of Rainbows, Brownies & Guides	10am
19/20	Bridge Weekend for Fast track Beginners and Refreshers, Basingstoke Bridge Club £120 pp	
21	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	9.30am-11.30am
23	Sherborne St John Parish Council Meeting, Chute Pavilion. (Planning meeting 7.00pm)	7.30pm

## December 2022

5	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	9.30am-11.30am
6	Women's Fellowship, CHRISTMAS LUNCH	
14	Sherborne St John Parish Council Meeting, Chute Pavilion(Planning meeting 7.00pm)	7.30pm
19	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	9.30am-11.30am

**Notify Claiming Dates to Lindsay Berry on [lindsayberry0@gmail.com](mailto:lindsayberry0@gmail.com) or message on 07775 800955**

# Roman Catholic Services (Tel: 819772)

Sunday Mass will be celebrated at the Church of St Bede, Popley at the following times: 9.00am 11.00am 6.30pm

## Weekday Mass

Tuesday	Church of St Bede, Popley	9.30am *
Wednesday	HG Church, Basingstoke	9.30am *
Thursday	Church of St Bede, Popley	9.30am *
Friday	HG Church, Basingstoke	9.30am *
Saturday	Church of St Bede, Popley	9.30am *

\* Time & Venue could vary

# FRIENDS OF THE CLIFT SURGERY

All surgeries are required to have a Patient Participation Group (PPG). The focus is communication between the surgery and patients by supporting patients with non-medical advice, highlighting concerns and praise to the surgery and to help the surgery get information out to patients.

Clift Surgery has a core PPG but it is now looking for further support through the Friends of Clift Surgery group, where it can call on volunteers to help at events, fund raise, publicity, and surveys.

This is not an onerous task and it is likely you will only be called upon to help 2 or 3 times a year.

We are looking for a range of people to volunteer, according to area, age, ethnicity.

To become a friend of Clift Surgery you must be a registered patient of Clift surgery.

If you would like to apply, please contact the surgery at [ppgclift@gmail.com](mailto:ppgclift@gmail.com) or talk to the receptionist at the Clift Surgery.

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# Jumble Sale – 5th November 2022

We will be holding a fundraising jumble sale in aid of the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides on the 5th of November 2022 at Sherborne St John Village Hall. We will have teas/coffees for sale, along with cakes and a raffle. We will try to sell anything that has been donated so please do have a sort out and donate anything you can. We can if necessary store items before the sale so please get in touch if that's needed ([ssjbrownies@outlook.com](mailto:ssjbrownies@outlook.com)) or alternatively please bring items to the hall between 8.30 and 9.30 on the day. Doors will open for selling at 10am.

We will happily accept cakes or treats to sell on the day also.

This is our first fundraising jumble sale since Covid so we hope to raise some much needed funds.

Regards,

**Tramayne**  
SSJ Guider

## News from the Hospital

As most of us are increasingly aware, the NHS is in crisis, and one that is steadily getting worse. Trying to speak to a GP is difficult, but worse still is the effort to try and see one – always different each time, negating any chance of a doctor getting to know their patient, and being more proactive in early disease diagnosis. All of this means that people are increasingly resorting to going to their local A & E department, adding additional load on the hospital. Often serious illnesses are now not being identified early enough to result in a good clinical outcome.

So what is happening? Perhaps a clue: of the £1.5Bn extra funding recently announced for the NHS, only £4M will come towards the hospital, and then with strings attached! Looking more deeply, whilst the hospital has increased its clinical staffing over the period of the pandemic by 17%, not only raising its rating from “needs improvement” to “good”, it has also had to cope with Covid. By contrast, as identified by the Policy Exchange think tank, staffing levels at Government departments and the central bodies running the NHS have doubled their headcount!

As a result of a very successful recruitment programme, vacancies in the Trust are now down, and it is hoped that as more normal working expands, the use of expensive agency workers will subside. In particular, a large number of student nurses have been offered

places and many more midwives are now employed, adding to safety in that department. Shortly we should also benefit from a new group of nurses who complete their degree courses this summer. However, with the new NHS focus of ‘Care in the Community’ there is real concern about the ability to recruit sufficient trained staff and funding to meet this aspiration.

The number of inpatients with Covid has started to rise again as a result of the BA4 and 5 mutations of the virus (which are much more transmissible and more likely to affect the lungs). Many of these have been admitted for other ailments, but the Trust's screening has identified them as positive. At the time of writing there were 119 patients across the Trust – also there have been more staff impacted and unable to resume normal working. Although spacing is being relaxed, mask wearing has been re-introduced. Considerable effort is being made to increase the volume of elective work, although this is still not yet at a level to start significantly eating into the backlogs.

Again, with cancer treatment there is improvement, although there is real concern that due to Covid many cases are yet to be identified, and there could soon be a big increase of patients now needing urgent, more aggressive treatment. It is known that with certain high risk cancers the numbers seeking diagnosis during the pandemic was abnormally low, with a marked rebound

now expected. The Wessex region, of which we are part, has been particularly successful in finding these lost cases.

As is widely known, there are plans for a new hospital for Basingstoke. The national plan is for about 40 new hospitals in the next few years, with Basingstoke scheduled for the 2025-2030 building slot. It was encouraging that recently, at Maria Miller's invitation, the minister responsible for this new build programme was invited to visit the present facility, gaining a sound insight into why a new hospital is so critical in view of the declining structure on the present site.

Finally at a time of deep concern about the performance of the NHS, it seems that few are aware that they can become members of the Trust. Membership is free and open to all - patients, their families, friends and carers, hospital staff and everyone who wants to keep in touch with their local hospital service. Not only do members get a regular update from the hospital's CEO, with regular health talks, but they also have the opportunity to select governors to represent their interests to the Trust's management in their local area. The process of applying to become a member is easy and can be accessed from the website [www.hampshirehospitals.nhs.uk/membership](http://www.hampshirehospitals.nhs.uk/membership)

**Keith Bunker**  
Former Hospital Governor



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# WHAT A 12-MONTHS WE HAVE HAD - WEATHERWISE

The summer of 2021 was warm with a day/night temperature some 2.5 C above the 30-year longterm average but it was also seriously wet, especially June with 88.7mm of rain (the average is only 50mm). The total summer rainfall was just shy of 200mm, that is 125% of normal. Autumn 2021 once more started rather wet and warm, but November saw a big change with a severe drop in temperature to below average temperatures in association with a big drop in rainfall (just 16.6mm against an average of 74mm).

The Winter of 2021/22 was, overall, fairly normal with temperatures a little above average and, consequently very little snow. During February winds were persistently from the southwest and so there were no seriously cold spells and fewer frosts; there were no nasty winds from Siberia.

The Spring of 2022 started to show a consistent warming trend with overall day/night temperatures 2.5C above the norm and rainfall beginning to decrease, especially in April with only 22.9mm of rain (43% of average).

The Summer of 2022 was exceptional for both warmth and lack of rainfall. The average daytime maximum temperature for the three months was 5.5C above average - 6.0C for the whole of both July and August - that must be a record! Although the June rainfall totalled 35mm, I only measured 1.0mm during July, and that was spread over 3 days and was therefore totally ineffective. This was followed by August with NO rain until the 16th.

The annual rainfall here over 12 months is about 758mm; in the 12 months to the end of August 2022 I have recorded a total of 558mm - that is 200mm short of the long-term average. We now wait and see just how much damage to the environment will result from this summer's problems.

David Cullum, Pamber Green  
revjmorley@talktalk.net

# Sherborne St John Church of England Primary School

After a long, hot summer, we are now back at school and working hard! Our new children in Class 1 have settled in well, and all have 'Buddies' from Year 6. The Buddy system means that each Year R pupil has a special friend from the top year of the school who will spend time with them over the year, perhaps listening to them read, or helping with a lesson, or just playing together. It is wonderful to see the strong bonds that develop between the children and to watch the fun that they have together!

The Year 6 pupils enjoy taking on a range of responsibilities as they enter their final year at Primary School; these include being librarians, cashiers for the Junior Newbury Building Society, manning the School Office and becoming School Ambassadors. If you have a child who is starting school next September, please contact the School Reception to arrange a visit; you will meet our new School Ambassadors who will be very pleased to show you around and tell you all about our amazing

School. If you've recently moved to the village or know anyone who has moved locally and is looking for a school, we do have a small number of spaces in some year groups and would love to welcome you too.

As many of you may know, the School underwent an Ofsted inspection last June and we are pleased to say that we maintained our 'Good School' rating. The inspection report included some very positive comments about the children, such as:

*"Pupils care for each other and know what it means to be a good friend."*

*"Pupils work hard and are eager to reach their teachers' high expectations."*

*"Pupils are justifiably happy and proud to be at this school."*

The report reflects the ethos and values of the school, and is available to read on our website.

As the days begin to draw in and the leaves of the trees turn colour, we have our traditional Autumn events to look forward to - such as the conker tournament when there is hot competition to be this year's champion!

We also have our Harvest Festival celebration in St Andrew's Church in October - we will be donating items to the Basingstoke Food Bank and hearing about the valuable work that they carry out in our community. When the school was founded, over 170 years ago, most pupils had a farming background and there were often high rates of absence recorded as children were helping with the harvest or collecting acorns, so it is important to keep the links with the past, even if now we are donating bags of pasta or tins of tomatoes rather than fresh produce!

Sherbert  
SSJ School Villager Correspondent

## Weybrook Photo

Photographed by:

Adam Rattray in the dry summer of 2022.

This image illustrates the mosaic of habitats - from meadows to willow-fringed watercourses - nurtured and encouraged by managing Manor Farm land for wildlife.



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# Harvest Supper and Quiz Evening



**Where:** Chute Pavilion

**When:** Saturday 8 October from 7.00 pm

**Price:** £2.50 per person. Make up a team (up to 8) or just come along and make a team on the night.

Bring your own food and drinks.

Tickets available from [steve.g.howe@gmail.com](mailto:steve.g.howe@gmail.com)

All are welcome to join us to celebrate the harvest and to enjoy a fun evening with quizmaster Steve Howe setting the questions.

This event is in aid of the Basingstoke Foodbank – any donations can be brought to the Chute Pavilion on the night, or left in St Andrew's porch on Sunday mornings between 9.30- 11am.

Specific needs can be found on the website:

<https://basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

Financial donations in cheque form can be made out to the Basingstoke Foodbank or by BACS transfer to: Basingstoke Foodbank, Sort Code: 60-02-49, Account Number: 80118577

**THANK YOU**

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# Monk Sherborne Village Hall

The Trustees of the village hall, supported by many volunteers from the local community, held a successful village fete on Sunday 4th September. A selection of horticultural and craft items were bought to the hall in the morning for judging.

The afternoon was spent enjoying the company of the community - Bouncy Castle, Races, Tug of War and Dog Show. Thank you to all who came, proceeds of £700 will be donated to the Parish Council to improve the children's play area.

The hall is actively used for a variety of regular classes, details can be found on the village hall website and on the Monk Sherborne Village Hall Facebook page.

A monthly (2nd Monday) community coffee morning has been held since May, those who have attended have supported various charities with a donation in exchange for a coffee/tea & cake a total £186 has been raised. An afternoon tea organised in support of Breast Cancer Now, saw many from the community enjoy a few hours together and raised £336.

It is becoming a popular venue for children's parties, and other activities. To see availability go to the web site and use the on line booking tool.

We have received many compliments from users, regarding facilities, equipment, outlook and cleanliness. The hall is a valuable community asset

which requires continued volunteers, so if you're interested in joining the team please email [enquiries@monkshorbornevillagehall.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@monkshorbornevillagehall.org.uk) and one of the team will be happy to talk to you about the roles and help required.

The AGM for the Village Hall will be held on Tuesday 11th October 2022 at 8pm, please come along and join the Trustees. The meeting will be followed by light refreshments.

On 15th October Blacksmith Folk/Rock band will be playing at the village hall, tickets in advance from Paul Cave 07908 425063.

Cheryl McSoley



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**SEVERE MONSOON FLOODING IN PAKISTAN**

You will have seen the TV news, thousands of people with nowhere to live after the floods. The disaster has affected more than 33 million people. A SHELTERBOX response team is in Pakistan working to support thousands of people left with nowhere to live.

Aid includes tents, water filters and carriers, mosquito nets, and solar lights.

The most affected locations are Sindh, Punjab, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and Baluchistan.

**SHELTERBOX**



The UK-based international charity SHELTERBOX was founded by the Rotary Club of Helston, Cornwall. Working alongside UNICEF & other international

charities, it provides emergency shelter & survival kits to 1000's of families who have lost everything through natural disasters like the flooding in Pakistan. A full Shelterbox provides a robust tent and the basic essentials for sleeping, cooking and water purification for a family of 10 to survive for 6 months. If needed in that area mosquito nets will

be included. There will also be small toys and books and pencils for children. SHELTER KIT's, and SHELTER TOOL KIT's used to build and repair are also needed. The contents of these kits are tailored to the need in the area and may include tarpaulin, ropes, tie wire, handsaw, nails, hammer, axes & other items such as water filters.

**SHELTERBOX** is the chosen route through which the 32,000 Rotary Clubs operating in over 200 countries around the world can provide rapid and direct emergency help to families in Pakistan in desperate need after this disaster. The contents are tailored to the needs of each disaster area.

Basingstoke Deane Rotary has donated to Shelterbox knowing that they will supply what is need for individual communities in Pakistan.

**Access to clean water**



With floods it can be hard to access safe, clean water.

By providing families with water containers and water filters, safe drinking water becomes one less thing to worry about.

To donate towards a **SHELTERBOX** or **SHELTER KIT** go to; [www.shelterbox.org/donate](http://www.shelterbox.org/donate)

The sturdy green Shelterbox is an essential part of the aid package, and not just for storage. Families use it as a work bench, a wardrobe, a seat, and even a crib!

**CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL 2022**



It's not too late to donate a Shoebox full of goodies to give pleasure to an underprivileged child in Romania, Albania, Montenegro, Moldova,

**Pick up your new boxes and Drop off your filled box at the venues below by 21st October 2022**

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**Oakley Carpets, Station Yard, Andover Road, Basingstoke RG23 7HA**

**Parnell, Jordy & Harvey, Estate Agent, 5 Winchester Street, Overton, RG25 3HR**

**Build-A-Bear Workshop, Unit 17A Festival Place, Basingstoke**

**To find out more about Christmas Shoeboxes - Check out our Website and Social Media below to print off forms and find out where you can get your boxes.**

# Living on the Veg – Elm Road Allotment of Sue and Peter Lake

Successfully growing vegetables, we now know, takes years of experience and a lot of trial, error and listening to the experts (thank you, Ted). The first year was a bit of a shock. I was under the illusion that you popped plants into the ground, watered them, weeded them, loved them and waited for a profusion of delicious, colourful, nutritious, home-grown veg. How quickly we were faced with reality!!



Our plot is at the top of the site and over the years the 'good' soil has washed away to the lush plots at the bottom. The hot, dry spring of 2020 turned the ground into concrete, rabbits (or pigeons) ate the emerging

shoots of our onions and garlic, the caterpillars had the brassicas, the wind took the shed and the only thing we

cultivated with any success were the weeds. It was all very discouraging, and I think we might have given up if it had not been for Pete's bumper crop of pink fir apple potatoes which we were still eating in March 2021 (I'd be very happy never to see another one again but flushed with success, Pete is now harvesting his third crop). Our lovely 'neighbours' Keith and Nicky gave us strawberry plants, beetroot plants – and whatever else they had spare. Nicky made gentle suggestions which really helped. Ted was a constant, and very patient, source of advice. We built some raised beds and Pete spent weeks moving compost from our heap in the garden up to the allotment in his wheel-barrow – a productive way to spend his lockdown exercise hour.



We produced strawberries, potatoes, rhubarb, onions and garlic (second planting!), leeks and beetroot. I planted lavender, thyme, oregano and rosemary to attract the bees and other insects.



This year been a challenge with temperatures reaching record highs and a lack of rainfall. The weeds have, once more, been able to survive and thrive

and refuse to be unearthed. However, we have had some successes and have learnt a lot. Having an allotment is about learning to live with successes and failures and to accept that you have no control over the weather. It is hard work but when you bring home and cook your own 'crops' the effort is definitely worth it.

# The National Trust – The Vyne



This October half- term we have two Halloween garden trails for children of all ages to enjoy.

**Halloween characters trail (ages 7 and under)**

From witches and wizards to cats and toads, ages seven and under will love exploring the gardens in search of familiar Halloween characters.

**Halloween riddle trail (ages 8+)**

Intrigue and curious conundrums await ages eight and up: Ponder brain-teasing Halloween riddles before using the map to find the mysterious answers.

Both these trails will run 22-30 October 10am-4pm. These cost £2 per trail sheet and prize plus normal admission.

And don't forget if you want to visit The Vyne you still need to book your parking space. There is limited parking available due to the on-going reservoir project.

**More information at [nationaltrust.org.uk/the-vyne](http://nationaltrust.org.uk/the-vyne)**



Image credit: ©National Trust Images/Rob Stothard

Basingstoke Deane Rotary is a group of 35men & women from a wide variety of backgrounds. All live locally in the borough but some commute to work outside Basingstoke. Most joined Rotary to help others less fortunate, and they find Basingstoke Deane Rotary adds another extremely enjoyable dimension to their lives.

If you would like to find out more about how we enjoy ourselves, just tune in to [www.rcbd.org.uk](http://www.rcbd.org.uk) to see what we have coming up, or contact Helen or Paul above to find out more . We think you'll be pleasantly surprised.

Facebook: @RotaryBasingstokeDeane  
Twitter: @RBstokeDeane



# BASINGSTOKE CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT FELLOWSHIP

At the monthly meeting on 7 September the Chairman, David Cowling, welcomed the attending members and as Christine Broadbent, the Welfare Officer, was away on holiday he updated members on the welfare situation including the progress of Tony Brazier, the Secretary. He also welcomed back June Brazier, the Treasurer, and reminded us that subscriptions are now due for the year from September 2022 to August 2023.



The speaker for this month was Alan Copeland who gave a talk titled 'Tales of the Unexpected'. These were stories

of curiosities which can be seen in the buildings, roads and landscapes of Southern England. This included the oldest surviving mile post in England dating back to 1669 in Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire and the largest milepost in Esher, Surrey which was erected by a wealthy man who was tired of people not being able to find his house. The stories about the buildings included the house over a railway tunnel in West Sussex and the Victorian spa baths at Tenbury Wells in the West Midlands.

For further details and pictures go to:- [www.curiosities.co.uk](http://www.curiosities.co.uk).

The group's next outing will be on Thursday 13 October when there is a "Do as you please day" to Brighton



with time to visit some of the local attractions, followed on Thursday 17 November with a trip to Bordon Country Market for your pre-Christmas shopping. The Christmas lunch at BCOT is on Thursday 15 December.

**Anyone is welcome to come on any of these trips and if you would like join us please let us know.**

The next meeting is on 5 October when Alan Jones is giving us a presentation on Body Language and on 2 November "Mercy Ships" are coming to tell us about Medical Care to the Under Served. The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Brookvale Village Hall from 10 am to 12 noon and all retired Civil Servants, their relatives and friends are welcome. Further details about the group and information about our meetings and trips can be obtained by contacting: [csrfbasingstoke@gmail.com](mailto:csrfbasingstoke@gmail.com).

*Margaret Atkinson*

# WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The September meeting was a Talk by speaker Mr Nick Gibbs, titled 'How Lockdown Saved My Damaged Brain' - an inspirational account of his life prior to, during and after his cycle accident in 2014.

Nick Gibbs' greatest love was always publishing, which he was involved in for 25 years. He set up his own business, Freshwood Publishing, when he edited magazines involving three different crafts, namely woodworking, sailing and the more short-lived cross-stitching. The seven years he spent editing were happy and fulfilled, until one fateful day when he had a cycle accident in Gloucestershire and had a stay in hospital, in Bristol, for six months. He spent the first ten days in

a coma, after which he was confused and hallucinating. He gave us medical phrases such as 'drowsy versus noisy brain', Deprivation of Liberty Order and getting a Pedlar's Certificate. He was also a craftsman, working in wood-turning mainly, and following his accident he made wooden helicopters, reminiscent of the sycamore seeds which children twist and let go, watching them swivel to the ground. He sold a number of these, and continues to make them.

A turning point in his life came when he read Olympic Rower James Cracknell's book Touching Distance, which inspired him to return to his love of editing magazines. He set up his magazine Quercus, a bi-monthly magazine which he works on today, as well as giving talks

to groups like the Women's Fellowship, and donating fees to Headway.

The account of Nick's days and weeks following his accident were harrowing as well as amusing, and members present were overwhelmed by his account of his experiences. He was thanked by Rose Cooper and there was a short Q & A session. Fortunately the meeting included Harvest Tea, which Nick devoured both before and after his talk, when he continued to chat.

Next month's meeting on the 4th October will be an Art Workshop by Heather Wylde. We look forward to seeing you all then. Visitors are always welcome, 2pm.

# Probus Hears About Life on the Magistrates' Bench



The likes of sayings "You're nicked!" and "Caught banged to rights" are not usually what a magistrate hears when dealing with the deeds of accused miscreants at the first level of the British legal system. Guest speaker at the latest meeting of the Probus Club of Basingstoke was Tony Hersh JP, who gave an insight into a day in the life of a Justice of the Peace.

He has been a magistrate in Basingstoke for about 5 years having spent a career in clinical research. He spoke about the history of magistrates, how long they have been in existence and the changes in their powers over time.

All cases start in this first tier of court justice which has a bench of usually three magistrates and work without a jury. They are limited to dealing with what are known as "summary offences" which include most motoring offences, minor criminal damage and common assault. Sometime burglary and drug offences. More serious cases, known as "indictable offences", are sent to the Crown Court.

He illustrated the types of punishment open to magistrates using the Sentencing Guidelines which provide a boundary on magistrates' judgements. They can impose fines, community service, driving bans and imprisonment up to 12 months. They can remand someone to prison to await trial at Crown Court which is one of the most difficult decisions magistrates have to make. Many months can pass before trial and if the defendant is then found not guilty, they receive no compensation for having spent time in prison.

Of particular interest, he demonstrated a series of actual cases ranging from

shoplifting to fraud and assault among others. He presented the evidence and the stance of the prosecution and defence, and the various sentencing options open to the magistrates. The audience was asked what they thought was appropriate before he disclosed the actual sentence imposed and the reasons behind it.

Anyone can apply to become a magistrate and the court service desire such volunteers to represent society at large. Naturally checks are made about applicants and references are sought but people can apply from aged 18 upwards. Considerable training is undertaken but retirement comes at the age of seventy five. However, the ability of retaining the honorific of JP after your name can be used until your demise.

[tonyhersh@hotmail.com](mailto:tonyhersh@hotmail.com)

See [www.probusbasingstoke.club](http://www.probusbasingstoke.club) for more information about this social club for retired professional and business managers.

# The Royal British Legion



Our Annual Dinner takes places at Sherfield Park Golf Club on Friday 7 October at 7pm for 7.30pm. We are privileged to have Bishop David Williams, Bishop of Basingstoke as our guest after dinner speaker. A few tickets may still be available at £30 from John Morley or Steve Day.

We meet on Tuesday 11 October at 7,30pm at Cross House, adjacent to St James Church, Bramley. There is good car parking.

Our speaker will be Lt Col Kamran Khan, a doctor in the Royal Army Medical Corps who in his ongoing career has served in several overseas theatres during times of conflict and will have some interesting events to share with us. This is an open meeting to which everyone is welcome.

We will also have a brief Branch AGM to approve our accounts and elect officers and committee members. Light refreshments will be available.

THE ANNUAL POPPY APPEAL launches this month and Michael Luck, our local organiser, has written about this. Please support tge appeal generously as the RBL continues its support for veterans, serving personnel and dependents.

**John Morley**

Branch Development Member  
[revjmorley@talktalk.net](mailto:revjmorley@talktalk.net)



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# Anvil Arts, Basingstoke – October 2022

## CRIMES ON CENTRE COURT

**Tue 4-Thu 6 Oct, The Haymarket**  
**Tickets: £24. Under 25s and f/t**  
**students £13 (includes £4 booking fee)**

Multi-award winning New Old Friends present another dose of mirth, murder and mayhem, this time with a side of tennis. A cast of four performers play countless characters with quick-fire changes and quicker wits. An ace of a show which you're sure to (fifteen) love.

## STARS OF THE WEST END -

**Kerry Ellis and Louise Dearman**  
**Fri 7 Oct, 7.30pm, The Anvil**  
**Tickets: £35 (includes £4 booking fee)**

Two leading ladies of the West End present a musical extravaganza of popular hits, accompanied by the fabulous International Film Orchestra and will include music from Wicked, Les Misérables, We Will Rock You, Chess, James Bond and The Greatest Showman to name a few.

## SHOCK HORROR

**Fri 7–Sat 8 Oct, The Haymarket**  
**Tickets: £16. Under 25s £14**  
**(includes £4 booking fee)**

Shock Horror is the vivid ghost story of a fanatic, his film... and the thing that hides inside. Herbert is a horror obsessive, misfit filmmaker, who gets his kicks from scaring viewers. But his last act has awoken a nightmare; now he's the one being haunted. Thunder Road Theatre present this cutting-edge chiller that will excite, unsettle and thrill those brave enough to book.

## BRNO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

**Thu 13 Oct, 7.45pm, The Anvil**  
Founded by Janáček in his hometown, the Brno Philharmonic Orchestra perform two pieces by the composer, Taras Bulba and Jealousy, as well as Martinů's Cello Concerto no. 1 and Dvořák's Symphony no. 8. British cellist Laura van der Heijden joins the orchestra, with conductor Dennis Russell Davies.

## THE TELL-TALE HEART

**Thu 13 – Sat 15 Oct, The Haymarket**  
**Tickets: £24, 2pm £22. Under 25s and f/t**  
**students £15 (includes £4 booking fee)**  
**Suitable for: ages 15 and over**

Imagine you have committed a murder. Imagine someone heard the scream and the police come calling. They're friendly enough, but will your conscience betray you? And what is that noise in your ears that grows ever louder? Is it the beating of your own guilty heart? Or is it the heart of the man you've just killed? Rumpus Theatre Company brings Edgar Allan Poe's Victorian chiller to the stage.

## HOWARD JONES ACOUSTIC TRIO

**With Nick Beggs and Robin Boulton**  
**Sat 15 Oct, 7.30pm, The Anvil**  
**Tickets: £34, £31.50**  
**(includes £4 booking fee)**

A fresh take on Howard's best-known hits (What Is Love?, New Song) and a rare and intimate opportunity to hear first-hand about the inspiration behind his beloved material, plus fascinating recollections from his international touring career. Special guest is Roxanne de Bastion.

## JUAN MARTÍN

**Sat 15 Oct, 7.45pm, The Forge**  
**Tickets: £20. Under 25s £15**  
**(includes £4 booking fee)**

Voted into the top three flamenco guitarists in the world by Guitar Player USA, Juan Martín has toured the world. He played for Picasso's 90th birthday celebrations and his books for learning the guitar are now translated into many languages, with his original book being referred to as 'The Bible' of flamenco guitar.

## LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO

**Plus Muntu Valdo**  
**Wed 19 Oct, 7.30pm, The Anvil**  
**Tickets: £39, £34**  
**(includes £4 booking fee)**

Since they shot to global stardom on Paul Simon's Graceland album, South African vocal powerhouse Ladysmith Black Mambazo have been recognised as one of the world's great vocal groups with their inspirational and uplifting songs. Their special guest is Cameroon-born guitarist and singer, Muntu Valdo.

## THE STEPTOE & SON RADIO SHOW

**Tue 25 Oct, 7.30pm**  
**The Haymarket**  
**Tickets: £21. Under 25s £18**  
**(includes £4 booking fee)**

Albert and Harold, two warring rag-and-bone-men, became favourites throughout the '60s and '70s. Sixty years since the first ever broadcast, Habledon Productions and Apollo Theatre Company breathe life back into the Steptoe household with this fresh and hilarious adaptation of three, original episodes from the long-running smash-hit BBC sitcom, faithfully recreating a live radio recording and reliving some of the Steptoe's finest misadventures.

## SIR RANULPH FIENNES –

**Living Dangerously**  
**Thu 20 Oct, 7.30pm, The Anvil**  
**Tickets: £36.50, £31.50**  
**(includes £4 booking fee)**  
**Suitable for: ages 14 and over**

Named by the Guinness Book of Records as 'the world's greatest living explorer', Sir Ranulph Fiennes has spent his life in pursuit of extreme adventure, risking life and limb in some of the most ambitious private expeditions ever undertaken. Now he offers a personal journey through his life, both light-hearted and strikingly poignant, describing the many endeavours that have pushed his endurance levels to the very limits, inspiring generations, and making him a pioneer of exploration.

## FAUSTUS

**Wed 26 Oct, 8.15pm, The Forge**  
**Tickets: £20. Under 25s £15**  
**(includes £4 booking fee)**

Faustus take traditional English music, rip it up, put it together again, and move it on. A vigorous rhythmic impetus and rock/prog rock influence propels the sound into the here and now, and a range of instruments deployed in unconventional ways gives a special texture, depth, and variety to their sound.

## THE NUTCRACKER

**Fri 28 Oct, 7.30pm, The Anvil**  
**Tickets: £38. Under 25s and f/t**  
**students £36 (includes £3 booking fee)**

The Nutcracker, featuring a live orchestra, is a captivating ballet full of familiar music such as the Waltz of the Flowers and the Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy. Snow flurries, sweets, princes, magic, and love are just some of the elements that capture the hearts and imaginations of those that see it.

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# Small Ads

Enquiries and items for inclusion please contact Emma Foreman on 01256 889215/07747 015494 or emma@thehaye.co.uk

- The advertising rate is £4 per month or £6 for a box entry. Cheques to be made payment to 'The Villager'.
- Payment for advertisements must be received in advance and are limited to 10 lines of type.
- For information on annual block advertisements please contact Emma Foreman

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**ABLE GARDEN SERVICES** Grass and hedge cutting, fencing, turfing, patios, planting, tree work, gravel drives etc. Please call Eddie on 01189 700765 (Pamber Heath) or 07904 440468

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**REGISTERED CHILDMINDER** based in Sherborne St John will have full/part time spaces available from July. Also collecting from Sherborne St John school in September. For more information call: 01256 851249

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MS Mrs Cally Morris  
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If we have omitted any organisations, and/or their contact details, we apologise and would welcome any information to keep this list up to date and relevant

Sam Reeves [pa.swppcc@gmail.com](mailto:pa.swppcc@gmail.com) 07897 562134  
The Presbytery, Popley Way, Basingstoke 819722  
Sarum Hill Centre, Basingstoke 316000

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David McIntyre 07824 797912  
Kerri Carruthers 07824 797912  
Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke 844844  
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Mrs Jenny Cullum (Secretary) 01256 850315  
Caroline Givan: [caroline.givan@gmail.com](mailto:caroline.givan@gmail.com)  
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Ms Trish Field 01420 544904  
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or Mr Paul Hamilton 07917 005862  
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Mr Terry Buller [tel.buller@gmail.com](mailto:tel.buller@gmail.com) 07584 169241  
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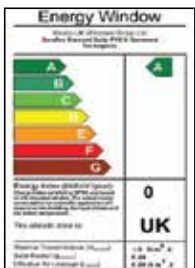


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