

June 2023

The

# BRAMLEY

FOR BRAMLEY AND LITTLE LONDON

Magazine



- **Coronation Celebrations**
- **Bramley Fête**
- **Bramley Station Garden**

**Plus all the usual articles  
and much more**



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# The Bramley Magazine

for Bramley and  
Little London

**June 2023**

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*Produced and delivered by the Church  
for the benefit of the community.*

**Editorial**

One of my favourite stories from the Coronation coverage was a young boy who was camped out excitedly on the Mall waiting for the arrival of the new King and Queen. This boy had seen a Royal Wedding (Harry & Meghan's), a Platinum Jubilee, Queen Elizabeth II's funeral and now the Coronation of King Charles III - and he's only 5! We have certainly seen a series of Royal events over the last few years, and whether you are a Republican or Royalist or somewhere in between, we can all agree that these events have really brought together communities all over the UK, and shown how Britain can rise to any occasion. Lots of Bramley residents got together for street parties, which included some fantastic cakes! (p. 16 + 17). A number of Bramley residents also joined residents from nearby parishes for a 12 mile walk from St. Leonard's Church in Sherfield-on-Loddon to St. James Church in Bramley. Rev. Mark Anderson writes about how this walk echoes a tradition from medieval times in this month's On Reflection (p. 7).

This issue is filled with lots of other community stories, from communities such as the Royal British Legion (p. 12) to the Clift Meadow Community café (p. 6) which is open every Wednesday (in term time) for people to drop in, to clubs such as the Bramley & Romans Floral Society (p. 23) and the new craft club (p. 6). The month of May also had the annual Clift Meadow Bramley fête, with the usual fantastic turnout of Bramley residents, lots of stalls, games, a petting zoo, and of course the dog show! (p. 18 + 19).

All of these things would not happen without the efforts of organisers and volunteers, so thank you to all those who help to put on these wonderful events, clubs and displays for the people of Bramley and make Bramley a special community to live in.

I hope you enjoy the celebratory issue.

**Georgie Blake**

Joint Editor

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much."

**Helen Keller**

**Wanted: Magazine Deliverer**

We are looking for someone to deliver the Bramley magazine to the homes in The Smithy and Anvil Way. If you can help, please email Rachel or Georgie on editor@bramleymagazine.org.uk. Many thanks to Olga Day who was previously in charge of this round.

Cover Photo: Bramley Fête – Jan Wright

Material for the July / August issue to be sent (preferably by email) to the editor no later than 15th June please.

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**Church diary for June...**

<b>4th</b>	<b>Trinity Sunday</b>
9.00	Sunday@nine – Cross House
10.30	Matins (BCP) – St James
<b>11th</b>	<b>1st Sunday after Trinity</b>
9.00	Sunday@nine – Cross House
10.30	Holy Communion – St James
<b>18th</b>	<b>2nd Sunday after Trinity</b>
9.00	Sunday@nine – Cross House
10.30	Morning Worship – St James
<b>25th</b>	<b>3rd Sunday after Trinity</b>
9.00	Sunday@nine – Cross House
10.30	Holy Communion – St James

**...and into July...**

<b>2nd</b>	<b>4th Sunday after Trinity</b>
9.00	Sunday@nine – Cross House
10.30	Matins (BCP) – St James
<b>9th</b>	<b>5th Sunday after Trinity</b>
9.00	Sunday@nine – Cross House
10.30	Holy Communion – St James
<b>16th</b>	<b>6th Sunday after Trinity</b>
9.00	Sunday@nine – Cross House
10.30	Morning Worship – St James

**From the Registers**

**Funeral**

Arthur RAWLINSON  
11th May St James Church

**Benefice Services**

<b>4th</b>	<b>Trinity Sunday</b>
10.00	Holy Communion – St Leonard’s / Online
10.00	Family Service – St Mary’s Hartley Wespall
10.00	Family Service – St Mary’s Stratfield Saye
<b>9th</b>	
4.30pm	Messy Church – Sherfield Park Community Centre
<b>11th</b>	<b>1st Sunday after Trinity</b>
11.00	Songs of Praise (special service with Tadley Brass) – Sherfield Village Green (in the marquee near the car park)
<b>18th</b>	<b>2nd Sunday after Trinity</b>
10.00	Holy Communion – St Leonard’s / online
6.30pm	BCP Evensong – St Mary’s Hartley Wespall
<b>25th</b>	<b>3rd Sunday after Trinity</b>
10.00	Cafe Church – St Leonard’s / Online

**Other local churches**

**St Bede’s, Catholic Church**

Popley Way, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG24 9DX  
<https://www.stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk>

**St Michael’s, Catholic Church**

Bishopswood Road, Tadley RG26 4HG.  
<https://stmandsto.org.uk>

**Breach Lane Baptist Chapel**

Sherfield on Loddon  
For information on services please contact  
Geoffrey Belsham on 01256 882534



**The Accident**

“Keith, I have a problem.” It was a sunny September day and the first time our lovely Ukrainian guest had phoned me so I knew it must be serious. I found out something traumatic had happened to her near the level crossing, so I cycled there straight away. It turned out that a minibus driver had reversed into her out of the estate agent whilst she was stationary and then drove off. Against English law of course to do that, whilst in Ukraine they have to wait for the police to turn up. As she was driving a Ukrainian car, it must have been immediately obvious that she was not English. Thus, I was really irritated that someone should leave an accident scene knowing full well that the driver has had to leave their home. I prayed to God to help me to know what to do. Thankfully, there was a witness, Estelle, who had the sense both to write down the driver’s number plate and to give her contact details to our lovely guest. My insurance company did not want to know, and her insurance company had far bigger problems to worry about. So, I paid for legal advice extension to our home policy. They didn’t want to know either. So, I continued to pray and read up online. I discovered the motor insurance bureau exists for such contingencies as people driving away from an accident scene. Eventually through a rather complicated route, I discovered the minibus insurer. “Legal wheels turn slowly and grind to a halt over Christmas and new year” a solicitor once informed me and that proved to be true. The insurer acknowledged responsibility in November and agreed to take responsibility for the claim in January. Further delays were caused by the garage, but I kept praying, convinced of the need for justice. Our guests wanted to keep the car and about a week before they drove home to Odessa, six months after the accident, a decent offer was made. When they left, it helped us enormously to know they had some money, so the timing of the settlement worked well.

**Keith Dillway**

**Felt Sew Good Craft Group**

Bramley’s new monthly craft group for wellbeing starts on Monday 12th June at Brocas Hall between 10:00 – 12:00.

Crafting is a great way to relieve stress and anxiety and is also a way of meeting new people, whatever your age.

The group is for those who love to craft and those who would like to try. No experience needed, just a willingness to give it a go.

Refreshments will be provided.

A small donation towards the craft supplies would be appreciated.

If you would like to join the group, please get in touch via email feltsewgoodbramley@gmail.com or text 07711983494.

**Knit in Public Day** is on **Saturday 10th June** and so do drop by Clift Meadow near the Pavilion between **10.30 and 12:00**, to learn more. Bring your needles and wool and join us if you would like to.

*Supported by Bramley Parish Council and Clift Surgery.*

**Lunch Club**



April found a group of us at the Capital Garden’s restaurant for a cream tea. This consisted of lovely finger sandwiches, (salmon and cream cheese, cucumber and coronation chicken), warm scones, (one fruit and one plain), with clotted cream and strawberry jam and the cakes were chocolate brownies and small red velvet cakes. We especially enjoyed delicious tall glasses of lemon posset, which was an unexpected extra. And I almost forgot to mention the pots of tea (of which there was a choice)! The staff were very attentive, nothing was too much trouble, and the afternoon was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. We even managed to avoid the April showers!

**Freda Clark**

**Clift Meadow Community Café**

The Clift Meadow Community café runs every Wednesday, during term time, in the Clift Meadow Pavilion from 10:00 to 11:30.

The aim is to provide a place for people to meet up and share a hot or cold drink with cake (usually homemade). There is no price list, but we appreciate cash donations towards our running costs.

If you feel concerned about coming along by yourself, then arrive between 10:15 & 10:30 when someone from the team will be by the doors to welcome you. No matter what time you arrive you will be very welcome to join us!

Look out for posters around the village and on our Facebook page as well as the Bramley Community page for upcoming events.

Hope to see you soon.

**Thank You**

Dear friends of Bramley Church, Bramley Village and many other places,

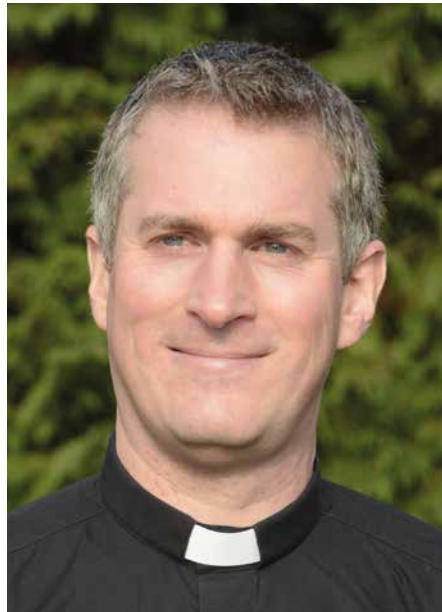
Thank you for the wonderful tributes you sent to me for my dear Arthur. We had just over 150 cards to date and still have some arriving in the post. Thank you so much to all who came to the Service of Thanksgiving, it was so memorable, and will stay with me for all time. Thank you also to Mark Anderson, who was so very helpful in every aspect of the arrangements and to John Lenton for taking part in the service; Arthur would have been so pleased with it all. Not forgetting the amazing ladies who gave us the most wonderful buffet: they made sandwiches, quiches, baked lovely cakes, sausage rolls, meat pies, and more. Yvonne, Alan and I are so grateful to everyone for their prayers, their time, their effort, and mostly their love to us. It has carried me through this sad time and shown what God’s love, and the love of family and friends, can do.

Thank you all so much from the bottom of my heart.

**Love Joyce (Rawlinson)**

**W**alking is in many ways a blessing, **Rev. Mark Anderson** writes in this month's **On Reflection**

On the Bank Holiday Monday of the Coronation weekend, we held a Coronation Walk visiting the churches in the parishes of Sherfield on Loddon, Hartley Wespall, Stratfield Saye, Stratfield Turgis and Bramley (in that order). It was 12 miles, but we started with a bacon roll at St Leonard's to help us get on our way! It took 6 hours (including a break at the Wellington Arms). The weather was kind to us, and to end, we enjoyed a BBQ at St James Church in Bramley. We also enjoyed the beauty of our local countryside, good exercise and conversation - at one point we had 104 people with us.



Rev'd Mark Anderson

a significant portion of land, which remains as the borough boundary to this day\*.

So, we followed in a tradition which has its origins in the fifth century, since then known as 'Rogation': an ancient church festival to seek blessing for a community and its sustenance. The word rogation comes from the Latin verb rogare, meaning "to ask", which reflects our asking for God's blessing on agriculture and where we live. "Rogation Sunday" is the sixth Sunday of Easter and is followed by 3 "Rogation Days" (days for fasting and prayer), and then the Thursday of that week: Ascension Day, the 40th day after Easter (Easter Sunday being day 1).

Rogation invites people to ask for blessing – for a particular place; for all its inhabitants; for every endeavour to

promote the common good. It is totally inclusive – joining everyone in seeking sustenance and a commitment to play their part in its provision.

So next time you are walking in one of our local villages or through the surrounding countryside, as you enjoy their beauty, why not say a prayer for the people who live here, for all to flourish and to know God's goodness, nourishing every endeavour.

**Rev'd Mark Anderson**

Vicar, St James Bramley

*\*Taken from Parish, by Andrew Rumsey (published by scm press)*



As we were walking, I was reminded of the tradition which has happened in rural villages since medieval times: the tradition of "beating the bounds" of the parish. Beating the bounds was a time of praying for God's blessing upon the crops and the well-being of the village, a sharing of hope in God's goodness to nourish every endeavour, which enables people to flourish.

In days gone by, beating the bounds was also a time for each parish to reassert its territory. There is an account of one particular Rogation Day in 1560 that marked the culmination of a longstanding territorial dispute, played out in their annual beating of the bounds, between 'the Croydon men' and the 'Penge men', over the precise location of their respective parish borders. During his Rogation walk of the bounds, Richard Finch, the vicar of Croydon ('a man of not very determined character'), encountered the equivalent party from Penge and backed down following aggressive accusations of trespass, thus conceding to them



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 Next Messy Church is Friday 14th July-save the date!





**T**his month, we meet **Wendy Hall** who is often seen running around the lanes of Bramley. She recently set off on a gruelling challenge from Bramley, for a great cause.

**How long have you been in Bramley and what first brought you here?**

We have lived in Bramley for 5 years with our two children and Rafferty the Labrador. As National Trust members, we regularly visited the Vyne when we lived near Reading, and always enjoyed driving through Bramley village. We felt very lucky to be able to make the move in the Spring of 2018.

**You've been busy recently with an important fundraiser. Can you tell us about that?**

I lost my brother to depression last Summer following an incomplete spinal injury which he sustained whilst out on a bike ride.

He was a keen cyclist and runner. I set myself a dual challenge of cycling from Hampshire to the Kent coast (where we both grew up) and then the TCS London Marathon fundraising for The Spinal Injuries Association.

A very hilly 125 miles lay ahead of me and although the weather wasn't kind for much of the ride my team and I completed the challenge in glorious sunshine on Saturday 15th April.

The following weekend I swapped the pedals for my running shoes and ran the Marathon. An incredible day and although my legs were still heavy from the ride I loved it and it was a fitting tribute to my brother.



Thanks to the amazing generosity of my supporters I have raised £2,300 for SIA which will help so many people to live a fulfilled life with a complete or incomplete spinal injury.

<https://sia-london-marathon-2023.justgiving-sites.com/fundraising/WendyrunnerHall>

**What are your hobbies and interests?**

I'm a keen runner and love the local trails. When we first moved to Bramley, I explored the local area whilst out running and it didn't take long for me to build up good local knowledge of the footpaths and surrounding villages. I now have my favourite routes and can be spotted at the weekends out on the trails and during the week I love to wind down with a run after work. It's the perfect way to enjoy our stunning landscape and wildlife.

I'm a Mental Health Champion and a keen advocate for the benefits of sport as a way to improve mental health and in particular the positive impact regular physical activity has for neurodiversity in children.

**What's the best thing about Bramley for you?**

We are a sporty family who love the outdoors. Bramley gives us green spaces, friendly faces, a great school and the occasional cream cake from the bakery. Our dog, Rafferty has made friends too and we enjoy our meet and greets with other dog owners on walks around the village. I'm currently training for an ultra next month, so if you see me out and about, do give me a wave!





## Bramley Station Garden

Nine years ago, Bramley Station Manager Mal Thurman put up a poster asking for someone to help with gardening at the station. Linda Dillaway and a team from a Bramley prayer group set out to create two raised flower beds at the entrance to the station. With Mal's help they were able to get suitable plants and transform it from an old tree and weed-filled mess to the colourful garden you see today. They have been maintaining it ever since. You may have seen Linda and her helpers hard at work as you ran to catch your train. After all those years the team have decided to pass on the baton (or trowel!) to St James' Church and, hopefully, we can maintain the standards set by Linda and her dedicated team.

A big thank you to Linda, Tania, Judith, Ken, Keith, Richard, Caroline, Nathan and Sam for all their hard work. And a big shout out to Mal, who has since retired, and to Wyevale Garden Centre Chineham (now under new ownership), who donated some Spring bulbs.

You may not be surprised to know that bureaucracy has moved on since 2014.



Linda Dillaway passing over the trowel to Rachel Barclay Smith, Churchwarden at St James' Church

No longer can a team of gardeners just turn up to do a spot of weeding and get reimbursed by the station manager for the cost of a few plants. Nowadays we must undergo health and safety training before we can do any work and need to complete a grant application to buy a few bedding

plants. So, once we get through all the red tape, we will start gardening. In the meantime, next time you are stuck at the barriers, why not take a minute to look at the garden. If you would like to volunteer to help care for it, just let me know.

**Rachel Barclay Smith**



## Little Apples Half-Termly Update

This half term, the children have been thinking about gardens and outside. We have been studying the lifecycle of caterpillars and butterflies and had our own caterpillars. We have also been learning about other mini beasts and the children love finding bugs and spiders in our garden.

We have learnt about growing plants and the stages they go through. Each child decorated a plant pot for the coronation and planted a sunflower seed to take home and grow. We have some growing at Little Apples as well and it's always exciting to see how much they grow.

Children learn about maths in context when they measure the growing plants.

We have also worked hard to revamp our mud kitchen in the garden, which provides a great space for children to experiment with texture and the properties of materials.

The children celebrated the King's coronation, making their own crowns and plenty of red, white and blue crafts. We also made vegetable pizzas while we are learning about healthy eating.

Little Apples is currently fully subscribed for this academic year, but we are taking reservations for next academic year, September 2023 to July 2024. Demand is unusually high, so if you're interested in registering a child, please get in touch. You can email Jo at [manager@littleapples.org](mailto:manager@littleapples.org) or call us on (07598) 588468.





## Bramley SpeedWatch

### Speed Indicator Device (SID) Data (April):

Both SIDs were in use throughout April, in various locations throughout the Village. The data continues to show high levels of speed violations.

There have been a number of comments on social media regarding the accuracy of SID data when the SID is positioned just after the 40 - 30mph transition between Lane End and Farriers Close. The SID records the approaching vehicle speed and the speed of the vehicle after it has passed the SID. When reporting the data for the SID located in this position it is the "leaving SID data" that is reported and thus is a true reflection of the vehicles speed in the 30 mph Zone.

SID Location	Traffic Direction	% speed Violations (+30mph)	Max Speed Recorded
The Street Village Hall	East	43%	69
Farriers	West	53%	70
West of 40-30mph transition Bramley Green*	West	82%	66
Farriers	East	45%	59
The Street by Churchlands	East	45%	64
The Street Village Hall	East	38%	64

\*These readings are filtered on vehicles leaving the SID, so all are within the 30 mph Zone

### Recent Local SpeedWatch Activity

4 manned deployments were carried out during April - 3 at The Smithy and 1 at Strawberry Fields. The details of 55 vehicles were passed onto the police. The maximum speed recorded was 46 mph with a total of 491 vehicles checked.

### Speeding Penalties (Ref: Police.UK)

The minimum penalty for speeding is a £100 fine and 3 points added to your licence. Receiving 12 or more points within 3 years may disqualify you from driving. A newly qualified driver receiving 6 points during the first 2 years will have their licence automatically revoked. To get it back, they need to apply and pay for a new provisional licence, and pass both theory and practical tests again.

Within 14 days of your vehicle being caught speeding by camera, the registered keeper will be sent a:

- Notice of Intended Prosecution
- Section 172 notice

They, or for a company vehicle, the company secretary, must return the notice within 28 days telling the police who was driving. This is referred to the Magistrates' Court if ignored. As the driver, depending on the speed, once you've responded to the notice you'll be sent:

- an option for a speed awareness course;
- a fixed penalty notice;
- or a letter telling you to go to court.

bramleyspeedwatch@yahoo.com  
speedwatch@hampshire.pnn.police.uk or visit:  
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Keep Safe and Watch Your Speed

**Graham White** Bramley SpeedWatch Coordinator



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**Parish Council Update**

Once again, the annual Clift Meadow fête enjoyed dry weather, even if the sun was a little late in turning up! The attendance looked to be good and certainly the queue for the ice cream van was consistently long. Thank you to all the hard working volunteers who make this event so special.

**Local Elections**

Candidate	Party	Votes	Elected?
BAKER Paula	Liberal Democrats	223	
COULTHARD Adam James	Labour Party	260	
MAHAFFEY Simon Heelum	Conservative Party	758	
TOMBLIN Christopher	Basingstoke & Deane Independents	1,096	<b>Elected</b>

The results of the local borough elections on May 4th resulted in yours truly being re-elected as one of your three ward councillors. Thank you for your support.

**Coronation of King Charles**

I hope that you all enjoyed the Coronation and the local events that took place during the 3 days earlier in May. The Parish Council is discussing plans to commemorate the event by obtaining plaques for each of the community buildings in Bramley.

**Wilding at Bramley Green**

Recent heavy rains have interfered with the planned cutting regime for those areas allocated to the wilding of the green. It is now likely that the area will see longer grass than anticipated. The current plan is to leave the first cut of the season until late July, to maximise the opportunity for local flora and fauna to make use of the spring abundancy. The second cut will be in the autumn, in late September or early October. The verges and site lines at junctions will be maintained regularly, and a path across the regularly used part of the green will also be maintained to make it easier for regular users. More information about the grasslands project can be found on the Wilder Bramley Facebook page and on the Bramley Parish Council website.

**St James' Park Allotments**

The allotments have finally been handed over from the developer to the parish and all works should now be finished (exception being the car park gate). The new tenants have been allocated their plots and hopefully planting is now underway. It has been a long struggle, but the efforts by the Parish Council team have finally been successful.

**Councillor Vacancy**

Following the resignation of Councillor Bruce Ansell, we have successfully co-opted Councillor Alan Munday onto the Parish Council. However, due to his increasing work commitments we have to say goodbye to Cllr Steve Day. Thank you Steve, for all your hard work during your time of office and we wish you all future success.

We are now looking for a replacement; if you are interested in joining the Parish Council then please contact Maxta, our clerk.

**Planning highlights**

**Stocks Farm** - As you are no doubt aware, the planning inspectorate has overturned the Borough Council in allowing this development. The system relies on the opinion of just one person, and it was the 'inspector's' view that the heritage concerns were of insufficient harm to outweigh the benefit of extra housing. All your Parish and Borough councillors spent time at the hearing defending Bramley's position and have looked at whether a Judicial Review would be allowed. It was the opinion of the legal teams used by the Borough Council that the Inspector had followed the correct procedure and so any legal challenge would be lost.

**Solar Farm** - The Residents Association have been granted a Judicial Review which means there will be a hearing scheduled late in the year. Therefore, the development is currently on hold until the result of this legal case.

**Bramley Garage and Bakery** - The Parish Council spoke against this application at the recent Borough Council Development Control meeting. The Committee was minded to approve, but as I am a member, I was able to secure conditions that no occupation can take place until Thames Water has sorted Bramley sewage issues. The footpath will have bollards to protect users, and the class of use of the commercial unit is limited to the provision of food / café / local retail food shop. This was to prevent other business use such as industry and offices – in order to maintain the site as a community benefit.

**Houses next to Clift Surgery** - The Parish Council and your ward councillors did not support this application. However, whilst it had been granted planning in principle, the next stage of application was refused on a technicality. The applicant appealed to the planning inspectorate and they allowed the appeal. This application was a new application (just to "tidy" up the applicants planning application) and would have been hard to refuse (another appeal would most certainly be lost and incur a cost to the taxpayer) due to what went before. The majority of the committee supported it on this basis and your local members were outvoted. There is a condition that the houses cannot be used until Thames water is consulted and therefore happy that the system has capacity.

**Meetings and Contact Details**

The June Parish Council meeting is on Tuesday 14th June at 7.00pm in the Bramley Room at Bramley Village Hall.

The Annual Parish Meeting is to be held on Tuesday 6th June and we are looking to have representatives from the Borough Council to discuss planning matters – this is to be confirmed. As with all meetings, this is fully open to all residents to attend, and we would encourage you to come along and find out what the Parish Council and other local groups have been up to in the last year.

**Cllr Chris Tomblin**

**Contact Details**

Parish Clerk - Maxta Thomas clerk@bramley-pc.gov.uk  
 Phone 07810 692486 Website:- www.bramley-pc.gov.uk  
 Facebook Page - www.facebook.com/BramleyPC

## News from the Village Hall

May - June 2023

It's a busy time at the Village Hall as we're making plans and identifying projects for the next two years.

We have already signed the contract for the refurbishment of the floor in the main hall and committee room. This will be a messy job requiring the sanding down, waxing and resealing of the floor surface and necessitates the closure of those two rooms for a two-week period starting on 24 July. The other project is the replacement of the units in the main kitchen, installation of a new sink, new tiling and the addition of a dishwasher to ensure that we keep our crockery clean. We had hoped to undertake this project immediately after the work on the floor in the main hall, but we're still getting quotes from kitchen fitters and while we've had some success in applying for grants to fund the work, we still have more funds to raise. Therefore, it looks like we will hold this project until April 2024, which is the next time when we can close that part of the Hall for the two weeks needed to undertake the work. Other projects include periodic paint updates to the walls and doors to deal with scuffs and other marks, some damp treatment work in the Bramley Room and exploration of a successor to our fire alarm system, components for which are no longer available.

Externally, work has been completed to replace the stock fence to the rear of the Hall and to clear brambles from the ditch borders. We still have two dead trees to remove which will be undertaken in the next few months. The hedges adjacent to the pedestrian entrance have been cut back to improve visibility of our signage - a big thank you to the volunteers who turned out to help with that work. A new 'Bramley Village Hall' sign is being commissioned and will be installed in the next few months. We hope it will include some solar powered illumination so that visitors can see it at night. The Trustees have started to examine ways in which the green spaces around the Hall can be rewilded; this is as much about supporting the Village's green agenda as it is about reducing our garden maintenance costs. One of our Trustees, Mike Welch, has had one meeting with Wilder Bramley to explore the possibility of working in partnership and we now have a raft of ideas for further discussion.

Sadly, one of our Trustees, Max Fullerton has resigned; he and his wife intend to spend the next year travelling across Europe to Asia. We wish them good luck and 'bon voyage'. Max will be greatly missed as a Trustee. If you would like to step up and volunteer to replace him, please get in touch or come along to our Annual General Meeting on 3 July. The meeting will be held in the Bramley Room at the Hall at 7pm.

Finally, our Annual Report for 2022-23 has just been published on our website; you can read it at <https://www.bramleyhampshire.org.uk/village-hall>.

### Gareth Jones

Chairman, Bramley Village Hall Trustees

Contact: [chairman@bvht.org.uk](mailto:chairman@bvht.org.uk) or call 07471 897810



## Royal British Legion Bramley & District News

**ROYAL BRITISH LEGION** What a colourful, spectacular and immaculate display of military precision surrounding the central act of Coronation Day, the service in Westminster Abbey where King Charles III and Queen Camilla were crowned. The ritual was both ancient and relevant but the King's theme, inherited from his mother, was the same: "I come not to be served but to serve". A very wonderful and moving ceremony. God save the King!

At our branch meeting on Tuesday 13 June at 7.30 p.m. in Cross House, Bramley, Luke Holdcroft, our new branch Standard Bearer, will give us an illustrated talk about his years of service in the Royal Navy and a life beneath the waves. Everyone is most welcome.

We have a stall at Sherfield Fete on Saturday 10 June, so do come along to see us, support our raffle and look through our donated military-linked books. We will again be supported by members of Hampshire RBL Riders Branch on their magnificent Harley Davidson machines.

Since 2006, the last Saturday in June has been designated by HM Government as Veterans Day - and from 2009 as

Armed Forces Day. It is an opportunity, away from the particular poignancy of Remembrance, to come together to celebrate the contribution made by our armed forces community, past, present and future to our national life. In 2023, the main national event will be held in Falmouth, Cornwall on 24 June but other major towns and cities will have their own events.

Our service people are not just for conflict zones. Recently, the RAF has provided evacuation flights for British people from Sudan and a few years ago from Afghanistan. They have been called upon to help during the Covid pandemic, during times of flood and fire, as a relief ambulance service and during many national events. They were magnificently on display during the coronation of HM The King.

On the Monday prior to Armed Forces Day, 19 June, a special flag is raised in civic ceremonies across the country. Do look out for the flag, and show your support for our servicemen and women, Veterans and those of 'the Old Brigade' and the fantastic young people in our Cadet units and those who lead them.

For our Wednesday 7 June coffee drop-in, I invite you to join me at one of my favourite coffee locations, The Exchange Coffee Shop on Chineham Business Park, 200 Crockford Lane, RG24 8AL from 10.30am. Hopefully it will be warm enough to sit outside!

### John Morley

Branch Chairman

[revjmorley@talktalk.net](mailto:revjmorley@talktalk.net)

07900 892566







## NEWS FROM THE BRAMLEY SHOW

### Show Schedule

The 35th Bramley Show will take place at the **Bramley Village Hall** on **Sunday 13th August 2023**, and we want everyone to have plenty of time to prepare their exhibits. That's why the Bramley Show Committee are pleased to announce that the full **Bramley Show 2023 Show Schedule** has now been published to our website. Hard copies of the schedule will be made available at various locations around the area nearer the actual show on Sunday 13th August.

The Bramley Show has something for everyone. So, now is the time for the gardeners, flower arrangers, crafters, culinary enthusiasts, photographers and artists of Bramley to decide on their potential entries. And, for the children of Bramley, there are plenty of interesting challenges to keep them occupied on wet days and holidays.

You don't have to be an expert to enter any of the classes. You just need a "have a go" attitude and enjoy being a part in one of Bramley's traditional events.

Please visit our website [www.bramleyshow.org.uk](http://www.bramleyshow.org.uk) and take a look at the new schedule. It contains all the details on this year's classes, show opening times and how to submit your entries.

If you would like a copy of the schedule or just need to know more, then please e-mail us on [bramleyvillageshow@gmail.com](mailto:bramleyvillageshow@gmail.com).

## Loddon Quilting Group

**Venue: Sherfield on Loddon Village Hall**

**When: Third Thursday of the month**

Have you ever wondered what happens at Sherfield Village Hall on the third Thursday of every month, where you will see ladies and gents arriving with laden bags, sewing machines and much more? Well, we thought we would let you know about our monthly Quilting Group. We are hosting an Open Meeting on Thursday 15th June 2023 from 11.30 am until 3.30 pm. If you fancy joining us, do come along and see us at work. We have some spaces if you are interested in joining us on a monthly basis.

We are a very productive group and have raised money for charity. We have also supported our NHS by making articles that are required in different parts of the hospital such as small hearts for transplant patients/donors and also small hearts for new babies and their mums when they are separated, and the babies go into the neonatal unit. Many of our members make quilts and these are donated for various charities. We are also known to run workshops and also invite traders along to our meetings, so there is often an opportunity to have a little spend as one cannot have too much material in their stash! During our monthly meetings we have a 'Show and Tell' section where our talented members show their achievements. The items made are amazing and range from full size quilts, table runners, cushions and bags and much more - too many to mention here!

Our May meeting is going to be celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III and we have a competition running for our members. We will also be having a cream tea in May. Obviously, we do not do this every month but we certainly do have tea and cakes every month. You do not have to have any knowledge of quilting, but just be enthusiastic about sewing and the rest will follow.



## Drivers Needed



### Bramley Volunteer Drivers

Bramley Volunteer Drivers (including Sherfield Park) offer a driving scheme for local people. We are looking for extra volunteer drivers to help get people to important appointments. Mileage expenses are paid and time is flexible to suit you.

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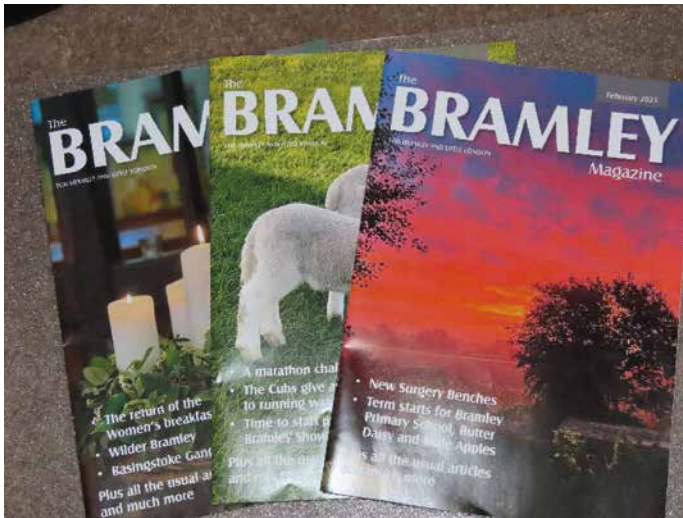
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Two of our readers, **Grahame & Deidre Mellor**, kindly wrote the below article about the **Bramley magazine**. We promise we didn't pay them to write this!



We are sure that all readers of the Bramley Magazine have not failed to recognise that this lovely publication drops through our letter boxes as regular as clockwork each month without any fuss and without any charge. We are so very lucky to have such dedicated people in our community who must work so hard and give so much time to ensure that our individual copies arrive in good order and on time. We would like to take an opportunity to say a very sincere "Thank You" to our two editors, Rachel and Georgie, the team of those who make the house to house deliveries and the entire team who help make it all happen and ensure its success.



Each edition comes with a bright mostly seasonal colourful front cover inviting us in to explore its pages bursting with colour, interest and information from our village and surrounding area. Take a moment to consider the front cover of the March 23 issue and this most attractive image of two lambs, perfectly posing, prepared to have a professional picture taken to create a perfect welcome to

spring. A photograph of this nature does not come easily and clearly demonstrates the editor's determination to capture and convey this lovely image! This photograph was most probably taken in the spring of previous years to ensure current print deadlines are achieved!

We believe that there are over 2,000 copies printed and distributed so it really must take tremendous teamwork to mastermind, organise, and coordinate the whole operation.

We feel that we should recognise this excellent work and say a very sincere and grateful 'thank you' to the whole team involved - there just can't be too many UK village parishes that could boast a colourful and reliable communication of this quality and quantity.

Thank You,

**Deidre & Grahame**

Marguerite Close

### Butter Daisy

It has been another joyous month for the children at Butter Daisy Nursery, with much to celebrate and be thankful for.



We joined the Nation in marking the historical occasion of King Charles III Coronation by creating a commemorative tapestry and having a special afternoon tea party. The children made bunting and took part in other themed activities such as the Baby Suite's pretend London bus; Toddler Suite's London landmark building and Pre-



School's imaginary street party. A life-sized King Charles kept popping up in different locations throughout the celebration and the children enjoyed pointing him out. It was a wonderful time for all, and the children have since been sharing stories and photos of the Coronation and the ways in which they celebrated at home too.

As we settle into the Summer Term, we are preparing our next Parent Information Evening and look forward to welcoming our families into the setting to have a taste of what their child's educators are doing on a daily basis to support each child's learning and development. With the lighter evenings we will be able to showcase our garden and the fabulous resources we have on offer in the outdoor environment, and how it all fits into the Early Years Foundation Stage and our Butter Daisy Curriculum.

There will be no need to take a vacation this year as we will be unpacking all the summer fun at nursery – our annual "Summer of Fun" plans are underway – look out for more information later this year. In the meantime, our Spring-time adventures continue as we learn about sun safety during Sun Awareness Week – all that we need now is some sun.

For further details and information about our setting please do not hesitate to contact us on 01256 882515 or email us at [butter@mydaisynursery.com](mailto:butter@mydaisynursery.com).




**St James' Church had a busy time over the Coronation weekend, as Rachel Barclay Smith explains**

The celebrations started on Saturday morning when the church bells were rung for half an hour. The ringers, who included a number of new recruits, rang two methods appropriately called *Kings* and *Queens*. On Sunday a Commemorative Service was held, which included hymns from the Coronation and special prayers for the King and our country.



(with his kind permission, of course!). Having watched the Duke carry the Queen's crown at the Coronation, it was fitting to be walking through his beautiful estate a few days later. The rain held off and the walkers were rewarded with a BBQ and more cake at St James' Church. It was a feat of organisation, so thank you to all involved.






**RINGING FOR THE CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III & QUEEN CAMILLA**

**Winchester & Portsmouth Diocesan Guild**  
On Saturday, 6th May 2023 in 30m  
**Bramley, Hampshire**  
St James

**General Ringing Including Kings and Queens**

Jonathan Barclay Smith  
Rachel Barclay Smith  
Sophia Barclay Smith  
Terry Cooper  
Ian Evett  
Tamsin Gill  
Malcolm Knowles  
Jonathan Large  
Claire F Roulstone  
Ian Roulstone (C)  
Andromeda Witchalls

Rung for the Coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla.



Our talented flower arrangers had worked their magic again and decorated the church beautifully for the Coronation. Throughout the weekend a steady stream of visitors came to admire the spectacular arrangements, and many stayed on to enjoy tea and a vast selection of delicious cakes in Cross House.

On bank holiday Monday over 100 people (plus dogs) took part in a community walk around the four churches in our Benefice. Starting with breakfast at St Leonard's in Sherfield, the walkers chose whether to walk the full 12-mile route, or just do sections. The highlight was walking through the Duke of Wellington's private estate

**Coronation Celebrations**

Bramley residents celebrated the Coronation of King Charles III in style with street parties, picnics and lots of cake!

Approximately 50 residents of Beach's Crescent, family, friends and other villagers attended a bring-your-own picnic lunch.





Another group of Bramley residents enjoyed an afternoon tea in the Village Hall.



**Beach's Crescent**

About 50 neighbours on Longbridge Road took the opportunity to enjoy some cake and a chat in the sunshine. The afternoon came to an end with the National Anthem and a toast to the King.





## Bramley Fête

The sun came out for the annual Clift Meadow Bramley Fête on Saturday 14th May.

Photos by Jan Wright.







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**S**ummer term is in full swing at **Bramley C of E Primary School** - the range of engaging learning activities and additional events is making for an exciting term!

The children in Early Years have been busy creating and making their own puppets to make a puppet show. They have been drawing their own ideas or cutting out pictures and sticking lolly sticks on their pictures to create the puppets. They have repurposed cardboard boxes to make a stage and have used additional props from the small world to enhance their stage shows. It was wonderful to show them how to use iPads to video it themselves – they took great delight in putting on shows for their friends.

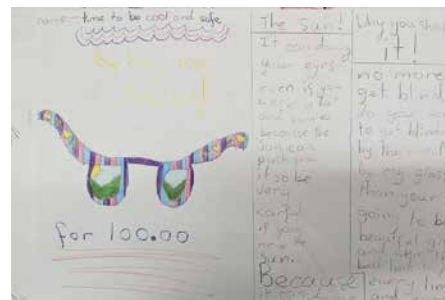


In Year 1, the children have been learning about authority in R.E.. They had a lovely morning out walking to visit St James' church to learn more about this with Reverend Mark. They have been practising their story writing skills in English by writing their own stories linking to Goldilocks and the Three Bears. They loved sharing them with their classmates.

The children in Year 2 are having weekly gymnastics sessions with a local coach – a great opportunity to develop

their flexibility and coordination with an expert! Their writing is focusing on information leaflets, creating guides for 'How to look after a pet human' based on the story Beegu. They have needed to write from the perspective of an alien which has been great fun.

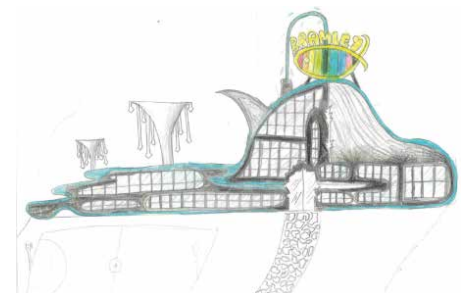
In Year 3, they have been reading the book, *The King who Banned the Dark*, linking to their topic of Light and Dark. The children have been testing a range of materials to see how reflective they are. They investigated whether objects were opaque or transparent and combined this knowledge to design their own pair of sunglasses!



The children in Year 4 have been learning about classification in science, looking at the different features of animal classes and have created questions in order to sort a range of animals. The children also went and looked at what invertebrates we have living on the school grounds. They have loved watching clips from David Attenborough's Wild Isles and have written their own commentary for one of the videos, using a range of writing skills to add details.

The children in Year 5 have been looking at key monarchs who had a significant impact on Britain this term. Last week they debated and voted on which one they felt had impacted the way we live our lives the most. In their writing, they have been taking on the role of monarch to write a declaration speech introducing new laws to the land! Their persuasive skills are fantastic and we think they may have enjoyed the idea of 'being in charge' a bit too much!

In Year 6, the topic focus has been looking at different architects - Hadid, Gaudi, Wren and Gehry - they all have very different styles which the children compared and identified aspects they liked or not. The children then had the task to redesign our school building in the style of one of these artists. The results were amazing! In R.E., we have been looking at rituals involved in different religions such as Ramadan and Eid in Islam.



So many rich opportunities for the children to really put into practise skills they have developed over the year!

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**Hampshire County Council – Calleva Division – Update**

**Potholes**

Potholes and other road defects are one of our biggest issues locally so I thought I would update you on what is happening.

Given the high number of potholes that have formed this winter, HCC’s Highways team took the decision to carry out more emergency temporary infill repairs to keep roads safe and serviceable. Over 40,000 of these potholes were filled in the three months from December to February.

The Government has allocated just under £6million to Hampshire for additional pothole repairs. We anticipate this money being used to fill approximately 39,000 additional potholes over the summer.

As ever, please do report potholes at: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/potholes>.

**Schools**

Parents in Hampshire who applied on time for a school place for children starting school in September 2023 have been sent the outcome of their application by Hampshire County Council.

98.77 % of parents have been offered a reception year place for their child in one of their three preferred choice schools, with 93.02 % allocated a place at their first choice of school. Of pupils transferring from infant school to junior school (Year 3), 99.29 % received a place at one of their three choices, and 97.88 % obtained a place at their first choice of school.

Parents are being encouraged at this time to consider how their child will travel to and from school, and whether they may need transport assistance. School transport is available for children who meet specific eligibility criteria, after they reach compulsory school age (five years old). The deadline to submit transport applications is 31 July 2023. For more information about school transport assistance, please visit the County Council’s website.

**The Big Fix**

With ‘The Big Fix’ campaign running throughout May, Hampshire residents are being encouraged to give old items, gathering dust or potentially destined for the bin, a new lease of life by visiting their local Repair Café, helping themselves to save money and reduce waste.

The Big Fix is a national campaign to promote the growing number of Repair Cafés across the UK, run by volunteers who teach residents how to fix items at home so that fewer items end up as waste.

There are 17 members of the County Council’s Hampshire Repair Café network which offers training and general advice. Since May last year, the network has collectively run over 90 events restoring over 1,000 items to usable order. These include broken items such as electronics, garden equipment, clothing, jewellery, and much more. The initiative is supported through HCC’s waste prevention community grant programme.

To find a local event, search for ‘Hampshire Repair Café Network, or visit: <https://therestartproject.org/networks/hampshire/>

**Beware of ticks**

HCC’s Countryside Service has advised residents to be ‘tick aware’ when spending time outdoors as the summer approaches. Ticks are small spider-like animals, almost invisible to the eye. They can cause serious illnesses, such as Lyme Disease.

Prevention tips include avoiding tall grassy areas, reduce the amount of exposed skin, check yourself, your children and your pets for ticks and use insect repellent. HCC’s Countryside Service also advise that you should remove any found ticks as quickly as possible with fine-tipped tweezers or a tick removal tool, clean the area, and for several weeks monitor the bitten area for any rashes that may appear. Contact your doctor immediately if you begin to feel unwell with flu-like symptoms or develop a spreading circular red rash.

**God save the King!**

What a fabulous occasion the weekend of the Coronation has been, it was wonderful to see the communities coming together in celebration. For me, it has also been a great opportunity to see the benefits of some of the grants I have given this year.

The new season for HCC grants opens in June, do let me know if there are any good community projects in need of support.

**Cllr Rhydian Vaughan**

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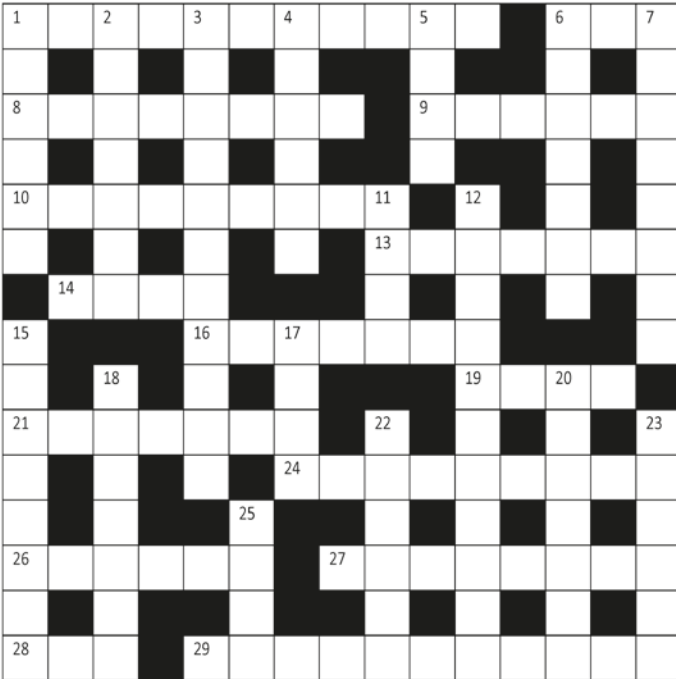
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**Cryptic Crossword No: 69**

See page 31 for the answers.



**Across**

- 1 Tie moon diet around for Bond film. (2,4,2,3)
- 6 Expert card perhaps ? (3)
- 8 One of many when the heavens open. (8)
- 9 Mad clock. (6)
- 10 A tint trio can be wearing down. (9)
- 13 Look to front a riot in province. (7)
- 14 Thought I'd earn a view internally. (4)
- 16 Furniture or group. (7)
- 19 Worker for body part. (4)
- 21 Precedes Jack or follows nut. (7)
- 24 Dope with an unfeeling head perhaps. (9)
- 26 Radio I cover for optical protection. (6)
- 27 Bureau to crate hidden Caesar possibly. (8)
- 28 Even Tolstoy had a plaything. (3)
- 29 Assembly firm with newspaper head and not worried. (11)

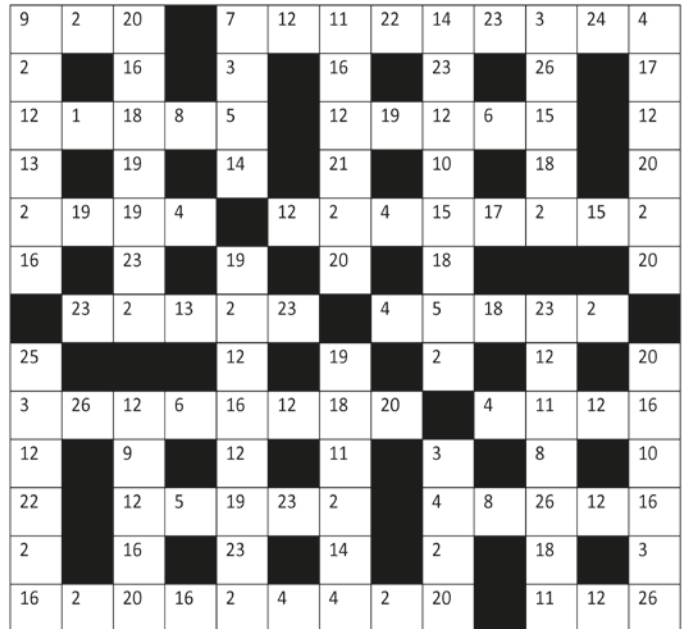
**Down**

- 1 No order round my awful life can be seen to be usual. (6)
- 2 I entertain teddy only to be found to be spoiled. (7)

- 3 Made cia rake around for island bake. (7,4)
- 4 Obi got larger than required. (3,3)
- 5 Race found in incarnation. (4)
- 6 Squawk warden in a way is clumsy. (7)
- 7 More motions leads to finding feelings. (8)
- 11 Time which can be described as high. (4)
- 12 The cots pose a problem to finding listening instrument. (11)
- 15 Chance that I'd found myself within accent. (8)
- 17 Farm building or unit of nuclear cross-section. (4)
- 18 Confused, yet bart managed to find storage device. (7)
- 20 Particle, no charge there then. (7)
- 22 Call into question when Ming up in chaos. (6)
- 23 The Spanish date turned around and was ecstatic. (6)
- 25 God of doing interesting new things initially. (4)

**CodeWord No: 55**

See page 31 for the answers.



Each number represents a unique letter from the alphabet and all 26 letters are used. Two letters are given to make a start.

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## Bramley and Romans Floral Society

Mrs Melanie Smith was our demonstrator for our meeting on Thursday 4th May, and we enjoyed a demonstration entitled “Pretty as a Picture”. To start, Melanie set up 5 large rustic wooden picture frames and told us that she and her husband had made these from one and a half pallets. She then produced arrangements depicting her ‘neighbours’ gardens! Mr Green’s garden – a large piece of driftwood and a type of protea, and Miss Peacock’s garden – blue and purple flowers and two peacock feathers. By the time she produced a hand tied arrangement with yellow gerberas and roses – Colonel Mustard - people realised that these ‘neighbours’ were Cluedo characters. For Miss Scarlet’s garden, she chose pink antirrhinum. Another arrangement consisted of glass phials arranged in a circle and filled with flowers. Melanie finished her demonstration with an arrangement on top of a glass bowl in red, white and blue flowers with a crown as a nod to the Coronation. She placed all her arrangements within the frames which depicted her theme beautifully.

We meet on the first Thursday of every month, except January, at 1.30 p.m. All are welcome to join us for demonstrations, workshops, tea/coffee and cake and a chat at Sherfield Village Hall.

Contacts: Dusty Taylor (01256) 881420 and Ilene Iles (01256) 880559.



## Wilder Bramley’s Day at the Fête

One of the joys of running Wilder Bramley events is the opportunity to meet and connect with people all across the village who are interested in the natural world. It seemed only fitting, therefore, that a little over a year since our founding, we should make our presence felt at the biggest event in the Bramley calendar, the Clift Meadow Fête.

Even more gratifying than the sheer number of visitors who already knew about us, were the many who were keen to select a ‘Random Act of Wildness’ from our lucky dip and commit to the challenge of doing something to help nature in their local area. Popular choices included building a bee hotel, participating in ‘No Mow May’, and going hunting for bugs.

Popular with the children were the seed bombs that they could make on the stall, from soil and clay. Meanwhile, we delighted in hearing from the adults about all the things you have already been doing in your own gardens, from creating wild flower corners to digging ponds.

It seems that the people of Bramley really do love and value the wildlife that surrounds us, and that is a source of great hope for the future.

### Mark Glover

Upcoming events:

**9 June, Wildlife Trust Talk and Social:** Come along and hear about the Hampshire Wildlife Trust’s work in our area, including supporting our Wilder projects. Enjoy free coffee/tea and cakes afterwards and get to chat with like-minded people in our village! Clift Pavilion, 7.30-10 p.m.

**First week of June, Evening Birdsong Walk:** Stroll with us, listening to and enjoying our local birds. Weather dependent so look out for posters and on Facebook.

**22 July Butterfly Walk:** Led by an expert, we hope to see some of the beautiful butterflies, rare and common, around the Bramley Green Grasslands area.

**10 and 31 August. Bat Walks:** Details to follow.

**14 August Moth Trapping Night:** Details to follow.

For your free, personal wildlife gardening consultation, contact us below.

Why not join us? Head over to our Wilder Bramley Facebook page or contact us on: 07503 15669 Wilder. [bramley@gmail.com](mailto:bramley@gmail.com).



Hayley and Mark manning the WB fête stand.



Making seed bombs was popular with the children.



We have done a lot in the last 12 months!

# Phillips Law

## WHY IS MY CONVEYANCING TRANSACTION TAKING SO LONG?

It is a common grumble that conveyancing takes longer than expected. Buyers are keen to own their new properties as soon as possible but the average transaction takes around 12 weeks from offer to completion.

### Several factors can contribute to delays:

#### Identification

Conveyancers are required by law to verify the identity of clients and the source of their funds. Ensure you have ID documents and proof of deposit readily available at the very start of the transaction.

#### Lost Documents

If you have carried out work to a property you are selling, get planning and building regulation paperwork together. Check you have your Final Certificates. A surprising number of sellers do not request the building inspector for a final inspection so do not receive their Completion Certificates.

#### Lost Title Deeds

Although most properties are now

registered with the Land Registry some unregistered land remains, particularly where the property has remained in the same family for many years. If you have original deeds, please keep these safe.

#### Missing Rights

When viewing a property make a point of checking for private access roads and shared driveways, private or shared services such as drainage, and other unusual features.

#### Service Information Packs

Properties that are leasehold or have an estate service charge require these, and they can take anything between 2 to 8 weeks to be returned by management companies. If your property is subject to a service charge, let your conveyancer know early.

#### Missing Landlords and Defective Leases

If your property is leasehold or subject to ground rent, ensure you have your latest ground rent receipt or freeholder contact details available.

#### Finance Problems

Speak to your bank or financial adviser before making an offer. If

you are funding your purchase from savings, check how long it takes to release the funds - a Life Time ISA can take up to 3 weeks to be released. If you are receiving a gifted deposit, you need to provide information on the source of the funds to your conveyancer and mortgage lender, so submit your paperwork early.

#### Search Delays

Most local authorities can return an Official Local Search within two weeks, but some require longer as not all records are readily available. Further searches may be required in particular circumstances like former mining areas or relative to the particular property such as a Highways Search where there are access issues.

Whilst delays can be frustrating, there may be factors outside of your conveyancer's control. It is important that the documentation is correct and complies with legislation to avoid future problems, so you need to be flexible with target dates and review these regularly as the transaction proceeds.

Phillips' Residential Property team work hard to make sure risks are minimalised, contracts are kept to and your transaction is as seamless as possible. For more information, please contact the Conveyancing Team at Phillips Law on 01256 460830.

## Cross House

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Ideal for functions such as birthday parties, baptism teas, keep-fit classes, presentations, wedding receptions, boardroom meetings and classes of various sizes.

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For further details or to book ring Steve Day on 07341 552732 or email [crosshousebramley@gmail.com](mailto:crosshousebramley@gmail.com)



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## Of Cabbages and Things

Take a stroll round Bramley in early summertime, and the chances are you'll see a crop of brilliant mustard yellow. Pass an allotment and there'll be cabbages, sprouts, kohlrabi, cauliflowers, broccoli, kale, horseradish, even turnips, if you're lucky. In a garden there might be candytuft, honesty – and a useful crop of woad, perhaps. This just shows the range of different plants that we use, sell, eat, burn, or just enjoy, doesn't it? Well, no. That's really not a range, it's just a lot of alternative faces of the same plant. Brassicas are a bit like the dog family: since we humans adopted them, they've been tweaked into all sorts of shapes and sizes. Is this unfair on them, or are we just another innocent agent of evolution? Left to its own devices, what plant would go to the trouble of growing a dense, heavy and nutrient-demanding block of leaves and then keep them bundled up so they couldn't see any sunlight? They can't be any use to a plant like that, surely. And how come this particular species can adapt to so many forms, over just a few thousand years, rather than the aeons that seem to be the norm?

In fact, this background knowledge of a species is very relevant to research into present day needs for new varieties of crops resistant to higher temperatures, changing rainfall, and different diseases and pests. Hence genetic studies are being used to find the original cabbage. From this, the presumption is our ancestors chose the specimens that they favoured to take to their home plots and cultivate. Gradually they'd have fostered plants with larger heads, or a tall stalk with more and more buds or bigger flowers, and separated them to grow apart, according to taste. The prime suspect for the primordial cabbage turns out to be a rather straggly wild cabbage, growing on coastal areas around the Aegean, that was domesticated from the late bronze age. Apparently though, it's all a bit tricky because the putative market gardeners weren't too hot on controlling their experiments, hence the specimens were all mixed up, with lots of them escaping to go feral, then becoming cross-bred back in with the original sorts. But it does seem that they struck green gold. The resulting cultivars were easy to grow,



stored well, and were very nutritious. The period over which they were domesticated coincided with the time that coastal trading was expanding, hence the plants wound up all round the big European ports – and some matelots later favoured the cabbage as a healthy preventative of scurvy that would survive lying in the bilges a while. Brussels apparently took a particular fancy to sprouts, though it was not until the 13th Century that they became eponymous.

However, not everything about the brassicas meets with universal approval. One of the main features they have in common is the use of a number of sulphur compounds in the leaves, primarily to ward off browsers. The balance of the mix, from about a hundred different chemicals, makes them less attractive to some insects and mammals, some humans included. It seems that the early forms of Brussels sprouts in particular were very bitter, and hence had a limited appeal. More lately this bitterness has been reduced by selective breeding and cultivation, though possibly not to the complete satisfaction of every child confronted at the dinner table. Obviously tastes vary, but the problem

arises from a reaction between mouth bacteria and enzymes while eating these leaves, with children being more likely to find the result unpleasant. It also has a genetic component, so the children of parents who love sprouts are less troubled by the taste – though other factors will likely affect this.

The ur-cabbage, brings us a range of goods from the Jersey walking-stick cabbage (growing up to 20 feet tall, so they say), to an oil that's used as a supplement in diesel fuel, with dubious benefit. In between, amongst others, there's horseradish, which I used to prepare wearing breathing-mask and goggles, and the neep. This is probably a swede, or possibly a turnip, depending on where you were brought up and how disputatious you are. There are more varieties of capitata cabbage (those with a dense leaf head), than you can shake a stalk at, in any colourway you fancy. There are buds and flowers either to look at or eat, or both. And there are sprouts: essential, or execrable, your choice.

**John Stubbs**

## BASINGSTOKE CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT FELLOWSHIP



At the meeting held on 3rd May, the Chairman, David Cowling, welcomed 47 members and 2 visitors. Coronation celebratory cake was enjoyed with the usual cup of tea or coffee. Our thanks go to Pam's daughter Maria for the flag cake and David's daughter Claire for the cup cakes, both of which, I can personally confirm, were delicious. Tony Brazier, the Secretary, confirmed that the May trip to Swindon Outlet and Steam Museum had been cancelled due to lack of interest, but that the trip to Exbury Gardens would be going ahead, and bookings for the Russell Cotes Museum in Bournemouth, and The Kennet & Avon canal are still open.



The talk this month was by Colin Pawson titled "The Tootler" in which

he gave a history of stage coach transport through the ages. At the beginning it was expensive, dangerous and uncomfortable but as roads improved in the 1820s, it became more common until the advent of the railway in the 1830s and 40s. The title refers to the calls made by the stage guard on the coach horn to warn of the intentions of the coach. He demonstrated some of the tunes on a horn by taking us on an imaginary journey between Basingstoke and Whitchurch. Added to this, Colin was splendidly dressed in the costume of a guard.



Our next trip is to Exbury Gardens on Thursday 29th June. The cost is £38 to

members and £40 for non members. On 20th July, the trip is to Russell Cotes Museum and Art Gallery in Bournemouth. On 10th August, there is a trip on the Kennet & Avon Canal.

Our speaker for 7th June is Tony Stafford with a talk titled 'Bishops, Sex and Money', and on 5th July we have Marie Bowes from the Cinnamon Trust.

The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the 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**

## Rotary Round-Up

### Thanks To Our Volunteers

Basingstoke Festival of Transport, run by us, requires a lot of careful planning, but also relies on an army of nearly 90 amazing volunteers who work with us on the day to make this event happen. They help us set up, park up the vehicles, sell programmes and a host of other jobs. We would like to take the opportunity of saying a huge thank you to our volunteers. Without them giving us their time, we would not be able to put on the biggest event in Basingstoke's annual calendar, so thank you!

### The Big Help Out

Where were you on Coronation Monday? Did you join the big help out? Those that did had a whole lot of different experiences. This is what they said – "[They] did things they had not done before", "Met people [they] didn't know and made new friends" and "went home tired and happy with a feeling of wellbeing".



With busy lives, it can be hard to find time to volunteer. However, the benefits of volunteering can be enormous. The right match can help you to find friends, connect with the community, learn new skills, and even advance your career. Basingstoke Voluntary Action is the place to start, it's a great place to find out about charities, volunteering and what's happening locally that you can get involved in. Try it and see!

Our Rotary Club works with a number of local charities. It's not just about giving money, it is also about giving our time to assist a charity in their fundraising by stewarding an event, or perhaps car parking for an event, such as the St Michael's Hospice Light up a life or their recent fundraising walk at Farleigh Wallop Estate.

### Disability Awareness Day



We recently helped Basingstoke District Disability Forum with their Disability Awareness Day held in the Malls in the Town Centre in April.

Basingstoke Deane

**Rotary**



This event signposts people to more than 30 local charities that all work to support those in the district with disabilities to live more inclusive lives.

### More about the Rotary Club

Basingstoke Deane Rotary is a group of 35 men & 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, go to [www.rcbd.org.uk](http://www.rcbd.org.uk) to see what we have coming up, or contact Helen or Paul to find out more.

### Contacts

Helen Ricketts:  
[helen@highpathway.co.uk](mailto:helen@highpathway.co.uk)

Paul Temple:  
[tempaul45@gmail.com](mailto:tempaul45@gmail.com)

Facebook: @RotaryBasingstokeDeane  
Twitter: @RBstokeDeane



**Probus Club Annual Ladies' Lunch**

This yearly event is one of the many occasions when the members of the Probus Club of Basingstoke treat their wives and lady friends to a delightful lunch as a way of thanking them for allowing the men in their lives to enjoy the company of other like-minded men in social discourse.

This lunch was held at the Test Valley Golf Club and although there was a reduction in the attendees compared to previous years, this was due to the illness of four members and two others away on holiday. The event was expertly organised by Oakley residents, Alan and Liliane May. This will be their

swan song as they have overseen this lunch and the Christmas festivities since 2008. Club president, Alex Marianos, thanked Alan and Liliane for their superb expertise developed over the years and of which all members were fully appreciative.

The Probus Club has been in continuous operation since it was founded in Basingstoke 44 years ago and has had an extensive array of members over the years with the criteria that they be retired and, like the name of the club, Probus, that they had professional or business experience.

The club's executive committee is a prime example of the diversity of the working lives of the membership. The

president was a civil engineer who built bridges over the M4; the vice president was a nuclear scientist; the secretary was a solicitor; the outings organiser was an officer in the RAF; the speaker finder was an engineering sales manager; the publicity officer had a small printing business; the welfare officer was a civil servant; and the remaining member of the committee was another RAF officer who is about to conclude his year of office as the Mayor of Basingstoke & Deane.

If you are considering joining, see [www.probusbasingstoke.club](http://www.probusbasingstoke.club) for more information.



**Whitchurch Silk Mill**

**A New Team Member**

We've recently welcomed a new team member, Louise Mackay, who has joined us as Visitor Experience Manager after the departure of our long-term colleague Lisa Gale. Louise has great heritage experience and we're sure she will be a great asset to our team.

**Weftival – Our First Weaving Festival**

On 3 & 4 June we'll be celebrating weaving at the Mill in two days packed with guest speakers, workshops, guided tours, demonstrations and plenty of entertainment for weaving fans of all ages. You'll be able to learn about our weaving heritage, have a go at different types of weaving, and experience the Mill like never before! Joining us will be The Grange at Bookham, exhibiting embroidered works of art using some of our silk.

**The Whitchurch Parish Fete**

The Mill and the Gill Nethercott Centre are jointly hosting the Parish Fete on Saturday 15 July. You can expect a great family afternoon with all the usual fete stalls and activities.

**'Weave a Wall Hanging' Workshops**

Our popular wall hanging workshops are back and will take place on multiple days between 10 & 21 June.

**Wet Felting Workshop**

Join us on 16 June for a three-hour workshop with tutor Deborah Wheeler



and learn how to make a purse or pouch using the wet felting process.

**Keeping Calm and Carrying on: Women's Lives on the Homefront in World War 2**

We're really looking forward to this event: an evening with A J Pearce, author of Mrs Porter Calling. Thursday 29 June, 7.30pm. Tickets are £20 including a welcome drink.

**Whitchurch Open Gardens Event**

This new event, in aid of the Mill, will take place on 2 July and will feature delightful gardens in a circular walk starting and finishing at the Mill and taking in the Test riverbank and the Mill Trail on the way. Cream teas will be available on the Mill's lawn, kindly supported by Rodda's and Tiptree as part of their National Cream Tea Day celebration, and Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants will have a plant stall to tempt you. Cost £10 per person; accompanied under 16s free.

**Current Exhibition – 'In and around the Mill'**

Visual Marks – Textile Artists will be in our exhibition space until 25 June, showing art inspired by the Mill and its surroundings. The group's artists use many forms of media, including machine and hand stitching, painting, collage and appliqué, and the exhibition shows a diverse and interesting collection for visitors to enjoy. Free with admission to the Mill.

**Pins and Needles Craft Group**

Our friendly adult crafting group meets on the first Thursday of the month and is open to all. On 1 June we'll be quilling (the art of rolling paper to create images). Tickets £15 including tuition, materials and a hot drink. Booking is essential, as places go fast. Tickets and further information for the above events are available on the Whitchurch Silk Mill website.

[info@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk](mailto:info@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk)  
01256 892065  
[www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk](http://www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk)

<b>Mondays</b>	
<i>Badminton</i>	Village Hall
<i>Petite Dance</i>	Village Hall
<i>Hipp Pilates</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Pilates 9am</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Pregnancy Yoga with Sam 6pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Yoga with Sam 7.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Classical Pilates, 6pm-7pm</i>	Village Hall
<i>Kickboxing 6-7pm juniors, 7-8pm adults</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Cubs 6.30-8pm</i>	School Hall
<i>Trail Runners 7.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow car park

<b>Tuesdays</b>	
<i>Parish Council Meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month</i>	Bramley Room, Village Hall
<i>Badminton</i>	Village Hall
<i>Bell Ringing 8pm</i>	St James's Church
<i>Petite Dance</i>	Village Hall
<i>Short Mat Bowls</i>	Village Hall
<i>WG Pilates 9.15 – 10.15am</i>	Cross House
<i>Pilates 9.30am</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Mother &amp; Toddler group 10.15 - 11.45am</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Beavers 5.45pm - 6.45pm</i>	School Hall
<i>WG Pilates 6.45 – 7.45pm</i>	Cross House
<i>Scouts 7-8.30pm</i>	School Hall
<i>Hipp Pilates 7-9pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Table Tennis - 7pm</i>	St Stephen's Hall, Little London

<b>Wednesdays</b>	
<i>1<sup>st</sup> Bramley Brownies</i>	Village Hall
<i>Wednesday Club 10am to midday</i>	St Stephen's Hall
<i>Guides 7.30pm</i>	Village Hall
<i>WG Pilates 9.15 – 10.15am</i>	Cross House
<i>Bramley Tea and Coffee morning 10-11.30am</i>	Clift Meadow Community Cafe
<i>Pilates 7-8pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Trail Runners 7.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow car park

<b>Thursdays</b>	
<i>Bramley &amp; Romans Floral Society 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday</i>	Sherfield on Loddon Village Hall
<i>Dance Club</i>	Primary School Hall
<i>Pilates</i>	St Stephen's Hall
<i>WI 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday</i>	Village Hall
<i>Yoga for Sleep and Stress 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday</i>	Village Hall
<i>Lynden School of Dance &amp; Gymnastics 3.30 to 7.15pm</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Perform 5.45pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Hatha Yoga 6.30-7.30pm</i>	Cross House
<i>Classical Pilates - 6.30-7.30pm</i>	Village Hall
<i>Walking 4 Fitness &amp; Friendship 6.40 for 6.45pm (April-Sept)</i>	Clift Meadow car park
<i>Petite Dance 6.45pm</i>	Village Hall
<i>Hipp Pilates 7-8pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion

<b>Fridays</b>	
<i>Hatha Yoga 9.30-10.45am</i>	Cross House
<i>Hipp Pilates 1.30-2.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Perform 3.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Youth Club 5pm</i>	Brocas Hall

<b>Saturdays</b>	
<i>Petite Dance</i>	Village Hall
<i>Tennis (age 7-13)</i>	Clift Meadow
<i>Karate 11.00-12.00pm</i>	Primary School Hall
<i>Live Country Music with Dance 8pm 1st and 3rd Saturday each month</i>	Village Hall

<b>Sundays</b>	
<i>See page 5 for Church services at St James's Bramley</i>	

**Do you have a listing on this page? If so, please can you check that the details are correct and let me have the timings if they are missing. Any corrections or additions can be emailed to [editor@bramleymagazine.org.uk](mailto:editor@bramleymagazine.org.uk)**  
**THANK YOU**



### Contact Details for Village Clubs and Organisations

Organisation	Name	Tel No	Email	Remarks
Parish Council	Maxta Thomas	07810 692486	www.bramley-pc.gov.uk clerk@bramley-pc.gov.uk	Not for bookings
Clift Meadow	Bookings Team	01256 260270	bookings@cliftmeadow.org.uk	Bookings
Cross House	Steve Day	07341 552732	crosshousebramley@gmail.com	Bookings
Village Hall	Catriona Hayward	07464 749997	Bookings@bvht.org.uk	Bookings
School Hall	Alison Tarrant	881339		
0-5s Club	Christine Delve	07739 763618	christinedelve@gmail.com	
Activ8 Youth Club	Ed Ives	07964 069390		
Badminton	Jane Matthews	881647		
Beavers, Cubs & Scouts	Jodie Saunders	881113	jodie@bramley-scouts.org.uk	
Bell Ringers	Jonathan Barclay Smith	541251	rjbarclaysmith@gmail.com	
Bramley United FC	Mick Walsh	07802 912615/ 01256 881241	michael.p.walsh@openreach.co.uk	
Bramley Volunteer Drivers		07787 166924	Visit us on Facebook	
Brownies	Katie Slater and Jayne White	07545 319342	bramley.brownies@gmail.com	Now Weds only
Classical Pilates	Naomi		naomi@nbkpilates.co.uk	
Clift Meadow Youth Cricket (Old Basing CC)	Nick Cooper		nickcooper1@sky.com	
Clift Meadow Youth Football (Loddon Sports)			loddonfcsecretary@outlook.com <a href="https://www.loddonsportsfc.com">https://www.loddonsportsfc.com</a>	
Country Music	Maureen Durrant	07512 704707		No children please
Floral Society	Linda Dove	01256 886167 07842 339161		
Guides		07890 152846	firstbramleyguides@yahoo.com	
Hipp Pilates	Jo Kemp Williams	07557 412400	jo.kemp-williams@outlook.com	
Kickboxing	Leigh Bushnell	07730 678049	wkmabikma@gmail.com	
Little Apples	Jo Whatley & Sian Davies	07598 588460	manager@littleapples.org	
Lunch Club	Chris Woodward	884065		
Lynden School of Dance & Gymnastics	Charlotte	07717 803080		
Mother & Toddler group	Christine Delve	07739 763618		
Naturally Yoga with Sam	Samantha Webber	07713 349227	www.naturallyyoga.co.uk sam@naturalnook.co.uk	
Perform	Gemma Payne	07825 916496	gemmapayne@perform.org.uk	
Petite Dance	Louise Pain	07877 890673	misslouise.petite@outlook.com	
Pilates	Heather Lewis	07785 254313	hsfitnessuk@mac.com	
Pilates	Kelly James	07789 487499	kkellyjames@aol.com	
Pilates (WG Pilates)	Wendy Gill	07961 102535	wendygill44@yahoo.co.uk	
Royal British Legion	Rhydian Vaughan	07774 681516		
Short Mat Bowls	Judy Foyle	881821	stevefoyle@hotmail.co.uk	
Side by Side Dog Training	Carolann Dyson	07779 121440	sidebysidedogtraining@gmail.com www.sidebyside-dogtraining.co.uk	Bookings
St Stephen's Hall	Doreen Quilter	850394	doreen.quilter@btinternet.com	Bookings
Tennis (Clift Meadow)	Simon	07904 340004		
Thula Mama	Rebecca Cooch	07971 798945	rebecca.cooch@gmail.com	
Trail Runners	Richard Perkins		richardperkins@yahoo.com	
Walking 4 Fitness & Friendship	Facebook		See Facebook: Walking 4 Fitness & Friendship	
WI	Pat Cole	881715	gpcole37@gmail.com	
Wilder Bramley		07503 155669	wilder.bramley@gmail.com or visit us on Facebook	
Yoga	Mark Golding	07969 890722	goldingyoga@gmail.com goldingyoga.com	

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTS

To advertise in the classified section and reach 2000 homes in and around Bramley for as little as £2 per line, contact: Keith Dillaway  
 bram.mag.adverts@gmail.com

**Your local dog walker, dog groomer and pet sitter is Claire** Facebook: Rocky's Rambles - 5\* Yell reviews  
 Telephone: 07588 130799

## Basingstoke & Deane Welcomes a New Mayor

Councillor David Leeks has been appointed as the new Mayor for Basingstoke and Deane, with his wife, Amanda as Mayoress. Cllr Leeks previously served as Mayor in 2011 and has been a councillor for the Tadley area since 1995. The Deputy Mayor for Basingstoke and Deane during 2023/24 is Cllr Dan Putty and his consort is Marie-Noelle Marion-Stephen. Throughout his term as Mayor, Cllr Leeks will be supporting three local causes: Shopmobility Basingstoke, Citizens Advice Basingstoke and Citizens Advice Tadley.

The annual Civic Sunday Service to welcome the new Mayor of Basingstoke & Deane will be on Sunday 11th June 2023 at 3 pm at St Michael's Church, Basingstoke. The service is open to residents, councillors and other dignitaries. Please go to - [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/civic-sunday](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/civic-sunday) - for more information, including how to book your free ticket.



## Sunflower Celebration



Find out more!

**Sunday 2 July 2023**

St. Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire), Basil de Ferranti House, Aldermaston Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG24 9NB

Come together to remember and celebrate loved ones at our Sunflower Celebration in the Hospice grounds on **Sunday 2 July**, arrive from 2pm for a 3pm service. Make a dedication to a loved one and celebrate their life with us.

For more information please visit: [stmichaelsospice.org.uk/sunflower23](http://stmichaelsospice.org.uk/sunflower23)

Registered Charity Number: 1002856



## Citizens Advice: Support For Mortgage Interest

Support for mortgage interest (SMI) is a loan from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) to help pay towards the **interest** on your mortgage or another home loan.

You might get SMI if you own your home or you're in a shared ownership scheme. You need to be getting one of these benefits:

- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Income Support
- Universal Credit
- Pension Credit

If you get Universal Credit and you earn any money from work, the DWP won't offer you SMI.

The DWP will charge interest on the SMI loan - this means you'll pay back more than you borrowed. Even though you'll pay interest, it could be cheaper than other ways of borrowing money. You'll need to pay back the loan, but usually only when you sell your home or give it to someone else. For example, you might give the home to your son or daughter, even if you still live there. You won't have to pay back any money you get in your benefit payments to help with other housing costs like service charges.

SMI can also help to pay the interest payments for a:

- mortgage for the home you live in
- loan to help you buy more of your home
- loan to help with other costs like legal fees and stamp duty
- loan to pay off your mortgage
- alternative finance arrangement like an Islamic mortgage - if you get Universal Credit or Pension Credit

You might also get help with other loans for service charges or repairs. SMI can only help pay your **interest** payments. It won't pay off the capital of your mortgage.

**If you would like help dealing with claiming benefits, the cost of living or any other issue, please contact Citizens Advice to see how we can help.**

Call us on 0300 3309 064

Chat online: [citizensadvice.org.uk/contact-us](http://citizensadvice.org.uk/contact-us)

Website: [www.basingstokeandtadleycab.org.uk](http://www.basingstokeandtadleycab.org.uk)

Or search on the National Citizens advice website [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)



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**PUZZLE SOLUTIONS**

**Cryptic Crossword No: 69 Solution**

NIDN	25	UNCONCERNED	29
ELATED	23	TOY	28
IMPUGN	22	AUTOCRAT	27
NEUTRON	20	EYELID	26
BATTERY	18	NUMBSKULL	24
BARN	17	CRACKER	21
ACCIDENT	15	HAND	19
STETHOSCOPE	12	CABINET	16
NOON	11	IDEA	14
EMOTIONS	7	ONTARIO	13
AWKWARD	6	ATTRITION	10
INCA	5	CUCKOO	9
TOOBIG	4	RAINDROP	8
MADEIRACAKE	3	ACE	6
TAINTED	2	NOTMETODIE	1
NORMAL	1		

Down Across

**CodeWord No: 55 Solution**

N	A	C		D	E	S	S	E	R	D	E	R
U		I		E		P		L		R		E
R	A	N	O	S		E	B	L	A	M	A	K
Y		O		U		C		A		W		A
R	A	R	C	S		D	A	I	R	A	F	U
D		A		E		B		A				D
	E	L	E	M	S		L	E	V	E	L	
D				I		D	B		L			R
E	T	E	H	E	S	A		S	B	B	E	E
D		I		Y		Z		P		B		V
A		T	F	A	B	A		M	I	O	X	A
H		N		L		R		U		R		E
S	G	U	L	P	K	C	A	J		D	E	W

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Solar Factor (g <sub>g</sub> )	0.89
Effective Air Leakage (q <sub>l</sub> )	2.00 W/m <sup>3</sup> ·K
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