

November 2022

The

# BRAMLEY

FOR BRAMLEY AND LITTLE LONDON

Magazine



- Remembrance
- A day in the life of a GP
- Terry's Reading Walkabouts

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articles and  
much more**



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# The Bramley Magazine

for Bramley and  
Little London

**November 2022**

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

## Editorial

Who, or what, comes to mind when you hear the word hero?

Possibly the most obvious example of a hero is a war hero. As we enter the month of Remembrance, we remember those who have given their lives to serve their country in wars and conflicts, both past and present. As Rev. John Morley wrote on behalf of the Royal British Legion in the September issue of the Bramley magazine, the focus for remembrance for 2022-23 is to give thanks to our National Servicemen. The National Service years were from 1947 to 1963 where more than 2 million men were conscripted into the British Army, Royal Navy or Royal Air Force. National conscripts were required to serve 18 months, which was extended to two years during the Korean War. During the National Service years, a total of 395 National Servicemen were killed in active service. You can find out more about the activity of the Royal British Legion on page 19.

Perhaps when you hear the word hero, you think of a doctor or nurse. During the Covid-19 pandemic the term 'NHS heroes' was often, and rightly, used to describe those who worked on the front line tackling the pandemic. Although it can seem like life is back to normal post-pandemic, Covid cases are on the rise again, and the NHS continues to be stretched as it works to clear the backlog created by the pandemic. From this month, we have a new feature from Clift Meadow surgery entitled "a Day in the Life" where staff at Clift Meadow share what a typical day might be like for them. In this edition, GP Dr Charlotte Hutchings, writes about an average day for her at the surgery, and Trainee GP Laura Champion tells us about her experience. Former hospital Governor, Keith Bunker, also shares news from the hospital on page 21.

Maybe for you, your hero is a family member, someone close to you or someone you know in the community. This month we have a number of articles featuring some everyday heroes, from one Bramley resident's stepfather who has raised a significant amount for charity with his Reading walkabouts (page 16 & 17), to the star of our Meet the Neighbours feature who does some amazing volunteer work (page 8).

I encourage you to think about how you can be an 'everyday hero' this month, and how you can thank some of your heroes.

I hope you enjoy the issue.

**Georgie Blake**

Joint Editor

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.

**For the Fallen by Laurence Binyon**

Our cover photo features some artwork spotted in the Frith. Does anyone know the name of the artist?

Material for the December / January issue to be sent (preferably by email) to the editor no later than 13th November please.

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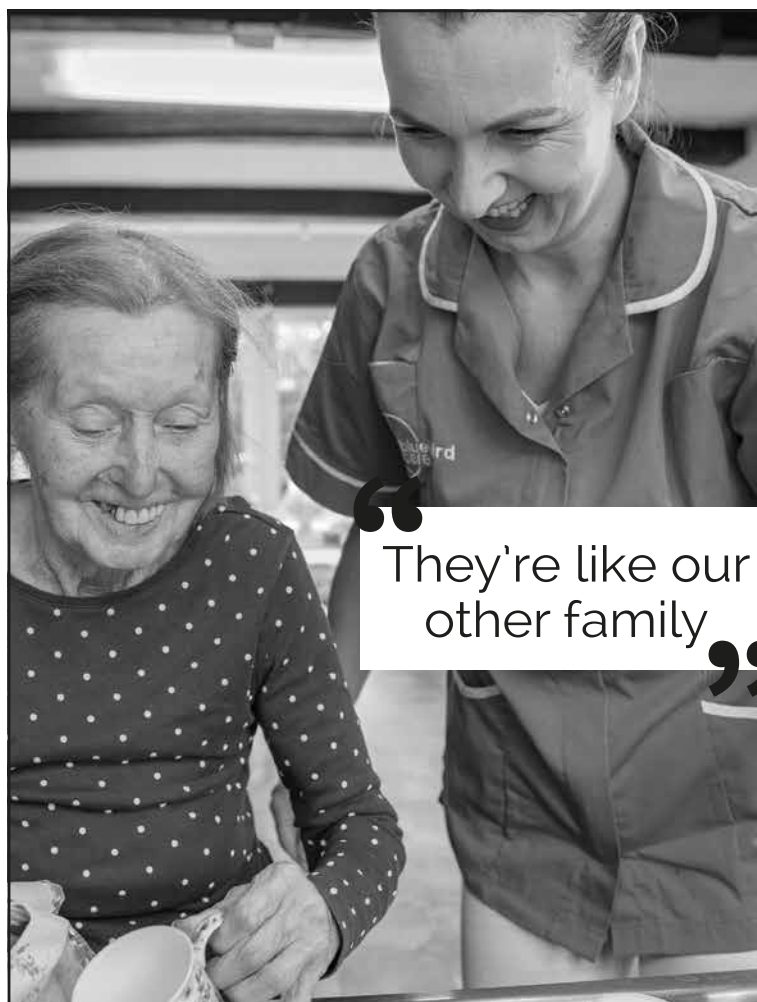
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### Church diary for November...

<b>6th</b>	<b>3rd Sunday before Advent</b>
9.00	Sunday@nine – Cross House
10.30	BCP Matins – St James
<b>13th</b>	<b>Remembrance Sunday</b>
8.00	Holy Communion – St James
	<b>No Sunday@nine</b>
10.30	Remembrance Service – St James
<b>20th</b>	<b>Sunday next before Advent (Christ the King)</b>
9.00	Sunday@nine – Cross House
10.30	Morning Worship – St James
<b>27th</b>	<b>Advent Sunday</b>
9.00	Sunday@nine – Cross House
10.30	Holy Communion – St James

### And into December...

<b>4th</b>	<b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b>
9.00	Sunday@nine – Cross House
10.30	BCP Matins – St James
<b>11th</b>	<b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b>
8.00	Holy Communion – St James
9.30	Making Christingles – Cross House
10.30	Christingle Service – St James

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### From the Registers

**Baptisms**  
Ivy WILLIAMSON

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### Services at our neighbouring churches for November

<b>6th</b>	<b>3rd Sunday before Advent</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
3.00pm	Memorial Service – St Leonard's
<b>11th</b>	
4.30pm	Messy Church – Sherfield Park Community Centre

<b>13th</b>	<b>Remembrance Sunday</b>
10.45	Remembrance – War Memorial Sherfield Village
10.45	Remembrance – St Mary's Hartley Wespall
10.45	Remembrance – St Mary's Stratfield Saye
<b>20th</b>	<b>Sunday next before Advent (Christ the King)</b>
10.00	Holy Communion – St Leonard's/Online
6.30pm	BCP Evensong – St Mary's Hartley Wespall
<b>27th</b>	<b>Advent Sunday</b>
10.00	Together in Worship – St Leonard's/Online

Online services – All are very welcome to join the online services, please contact Karen West for details – revkarenw24@gmail.com



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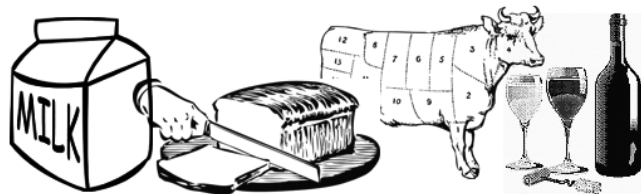
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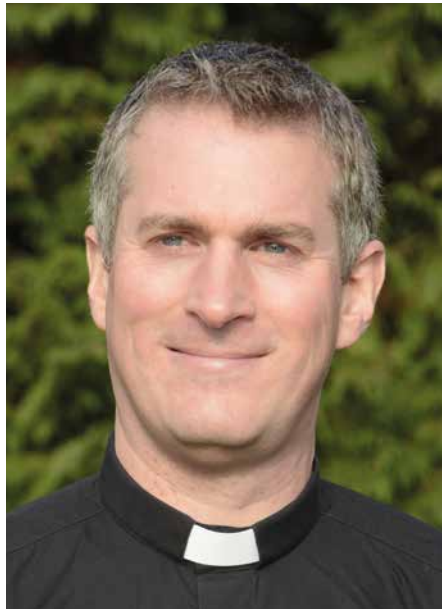
## In this month's On Reflection, Rev. Mark Anderson reflects on the season of remembering

As we get older, we tend to forget things. My theory is that during life we accumulate many ideas, experiences, memories, etc. and so there's a lot of things to remember! It's no wonder we forget a few of them every now and then.

There are some things we want to forget. There are painful memories we would rather be gone, to haunt us no more. There are significant moments and people who we would want to remember for as long as we can - perhaps reliving an enjoyable time we spent with someone special.

We are in the season of remembering.

At Harvest time, we remembered people who work to provide for all our needs, especially farmers, but also many others who work (often hidden from us) so we can have everything we need to enjoy life.



Rev'd Mark Anderson

During November we have Remembrance Sunday, when we remember all those who have given their life for the security and freedom of our nation and other countries too. We

recite the names of those local people who died in the two World Wars and we remember their ultimate sacrifice which meant we can live without the threat of persecution.

During November we also remember all those who have died. All Saints Day is 1 st November and it's when we remember those who have passed away and how we can be inspired by their examples of faith, which spurs us on to a deeper understanding of, and greater service to God. All Saints Day is also known as All Hallows' Day, which is why we have Halloween - the eve of All Hallows: a time to remember those who have died.

You are welcome to join us at St Leonards's Church, Sherfield at 3pm on Sunday 6th November for a memorial service for those loved ones who are no longer with us. Tea and cake will be served afterwards.



## MEMORIAL SERVICE

3.00 p.m. 6<sup>th</sup> November at  
St. Leonard's Church

You are warmly invited to a special time for remembering and celebrating those we have

loved and who have died

*Everyone most welcome*

*Bring a memento if you wish  
and at a quiet part in the service  
These are placed on the altar*



*Refreshments in the Church Room afterwards*



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**Next session is 9th December  
put it in your diary now!**



**I**n this month's **Meet The Neighbours**, we meet **Jo Weineck**, who is a familiar face to the toddlers and their parents in the village.

**How long have you been in Bramley?**

Just over 30 years ago, we built our house in the paddock of the former Pigeons Pub on Bramley Green. We're so fortunate to be here in Bramley, it's a lovely base for walking and cycling. Bramley has grown since we've been here, bringing new vitality and many lovely people. I always see a friendly face while walking the dog.

**Tell us about your family.**

I met my South African husband Graeme, while we were both working in Porto, Portugal, then our jobs brought us to the Basingstoke area. Our two eldest daughters now live in London. Our house is home to our youngest daughter, Graeme and me, 2 cats and a very lively but loving dog. It's also now a second home to our recently added gorgeous grandson.

**How did you get involved with the Bramley 0-5 Toddler Group?**

A week after retiring from teaching, I saw a plea for help from Bramley 0-5s in this magazine. That was 4 years ago. I still love meeting the delightful children and families who come along.

**What does it involve?**

I help setting up and tidying up the toys, prepare 'healthy' snacks for the children and not so healthy biscuits, tea and coffee for parents and carers. It's often my job to lead the story and singing time. It's always great to see and hear the children listen and respond enthusiastically. It's a warm welcoming group, but also constantly changing as children grow, move on and go to school. At the moment, we're in need of more regular helpers. If anyone has free time on Tuesday mornings to help occasionally, it would be greatly appreciated.

**Do you do any other volunteering?**

I taught a wide age range over the years but was happiest with younger children. As a SENCo for the last 20 years, I met many families struggling for various reasons. When a friend suggested volunteering with the local Home-Start, it was a natural next step.



Jo Weineck

Home-Start runs groups supporting families and young children. It supports a range of needs, including young mums, multiple births, well-being, preparing for school, as well as offering one-to-one parental support in the home. Currently, I'm supporting a young mum with no immediate family or friends in the area. Again, more volunteers are always welcome!

**Do you have any other hobbies?**

I've always enjoyed cooking, gardening and reading, but since retiring I've joined the local U3a. I'm learning new skills from the talented ladies in the quilting group, keeping my mind and creative juices flowing in the creative writing group and my body active in the walking netball group. I like to keep myself busy, but there's always time for a cup of tea with friends and family - new or old.





**G**rahame Mellor and his wife **Deirdre** are relatively new to living in Bramley and so didn't know what to expect when they attended the **Harvest Festival** at St James' Church. Judging by their report below, they seemed to enjoy it!



We had never been to a service followed by a Harvest lunch before, as they had always been separate events, so this sounded like a really lovely idea. Approaching the porch, it was very clear that the church would be attractively and seasonally decorated. Joyce and her team had done a wonderful and colourful job with natural seasonal flowers, delightfully displayed around the church, creating a wonderful autumn atmosphere.



In Rev. Mark's opening address, he produced items from a bag to illustrate who we should be thanking at this special time of year; for example, fresh produce reminded us to thank our farmers and Mark's running shorts remind us of garment

makers around the world who produce clothes. Later, we would hear from Andrew Doggart about his forgotten potatoes and his bouquet of broccoli, as well as other breakfast products from his bag.



Time now to heartily sing that very famous and traditional hymn *We Plough the Fields and Scatter*, a hymn that brings home the feeling of harvest and a favourite since our younger days. How uplifting to hear



a full church singing such a meaningful message. After the second song, *He's got the Whole World in his Hands*, the children left to go to their groups in Cross House and when they returned, their smiles clearly showed the success and satisfaction of their project. They proudly produced the harvest picture they had created, and they all received a bag of delicious homemade flapjack. Food was donated by the congregation and 58.9 kg of food was taken to the Foodbank while all the fresh produce was donated to Two Saints, May Place Hostel, in Basingstoke which provides 24-hour support for people who have been made homeless.



Soon it was time for our harvest lunch, so with great delight we all moved through to the main hall, which looked simply wonderful. Everyone sat down at beautifully decorated tables and the lunch team did an absolutely amazing job preparing, presenting and serving a delicious, wholesome hot meal of chicken or vegetable casserole, apple crumble, cheese & biscuits and a glass of wine. The Bramley Bakery also donated this spectacular Harvest loaf. The room was full of a constant buzz which conveyed happiness and contentment.



Our sincere congratulations and thanks to all those who worked so hard on this most moving and memorable Harvest Festival.



Our bountiful Harvest of St. James' love, warmth, kindness, sincerity and friendship, followed by a delicious lunch and lovely company - all safely and gratefully gathered in!



**As the months and seasons change on Clift Meadow, please enjoy these photos from Clift Meadow Trust of Clift Meadow at different times of the year.**





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# Cllr Bruce Ansell provides this month's update from Bramley Parish Council

## Your Councillors

Your Bramley Parish Councillors are elected members of the local community who want to do something positive and aim to make a difference by influencing decisions that affect your area. Parish Councillors give their time (they are not paid) to work on your behalf, serving to improve the quality of life and local environment in Bramley. Your Parish Council is the closest tier of local government to you.

## Allotments

Bramley Parish Council has continued to work towards the new allotment site at St. James Park, with some progress being made on the lease from Persimmon. When we are in possession of the site, Cllr Colin Shimell, who is the lead councillor on allotment matters, will issue details on applications. If you are interested in an allotment either at St James Park or our other site at Grays Meadow by the Church, then please contact the Parish Clerk.

## Local Plan Update

The draft Local Plan is a hot topic at Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council

(BDBC). On 27th September 2022, the BDBC's Cabinet took the decision to take more time to carry out further work to consider a suitable housing requirement for the Borough, in advance of consulting on a draft Local Plan Update (Regulation 18). Officers have indicated a revised timetable at <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/LDS>. The timetable indicates the statutory stage that includes a six-week consultation on a draft plan will now occur in Autumn 2023. Final adoption once all stages are complete is scheduled for Autumn 2025.

## Planning

As always Bramley has several ongoing development applications.

**21/03758/OUT** - Land At Stocks Farm The Street - Outline planning permission (with all matters reserved except for access) for the demolition of one dwelling and erection of up to 140 dwellings and a community building of up to 250sqm. The developer has lodged an appeal through non-determination of the decision by BDBC. The Bramley PC understands that the appeal hearing is likely to be in January 2023, this will be a public inquiry.

**20/03403/FUL** - Site At Minchens Lane Bramley - Installation of renewable led energy generating station, comprising ground-mounted photovoltaic solar arrays, battery-based electricity storage containers together

with substation, inverter/ transformer stations, site accesses, internal access tracks, security measures, access gates, other ancillary infrastructure, landscaping biodiversity enhancements including a Forest School, associated car parking and Nature Area. Although refused by BDBC, this has also gone to appeal, with the hearing due to start on 13th December for four or five days. Again, this will be a public inquiry.

## Meetings

The next scheduled meetings for Bramley PC are Planning Committee on 8th November, and full Council on 15th November. December meetings will be on 13th and 20th December. All meetings are at 7.00pm in the Bramley Room at the Village Hall, and members of the public are welcome to attend.

Our website [www.bramley-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bramley-pc.gov.uk) enables you to catch up on how your Parish Council is serving you. These pages include all the minutes of Parish Council Meetings. If there is anything that you feel the Council should be aware of or where it can help or support you, then please contact the Parish Council.

## Contact Details

Maxta Thomas, Parish Clerk,  
[clerk@bramley-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@bramley-pc.gov.uk)  
 Tel: 07810 692486  
 Website – [www.bramley-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bramley-pc.gov.uk)

## A Razor in the Desert

As we reach November, the season of poppies and Remembrance, my mind always returns to the adults in my family who served in World War 2. My father always used the razor he was issued with when he was called up in 1940, right until he passed away in the 1970s. Unlike the one in the picture, his razor was bent. The handle did not meet the blade holder at a right angle. How that came to be was one of the stories that he did tell us – like many of that generation, some of what he experienced remained unsaid until his dying day.

He was encamped somewhere in the Western Desert of North Africa as part of Montgomery's Eighth Army, known as the Desert Rats. He and his mates were turning in for the night as all was quiet. But suddenly they heard the noise of a tank in the distance, which seemed to be approaching. They were not too far



from the Germans but all had been quiet, so this was worrying. They left the tent and crept to the top of a ridge, where they could see what was happening. Was this a German tank? Or was it one of ours? It was dusk so they only had the sound of the engine to guide them. As it got closer, they realised it was British. It was on its own, and heading straight for the tent they had just vacated. It mounted the ridge and then drove straight over their tent, flattening it. At this point the tank crew realised what they had done and came to a

halt, just before they would have flattened another tent. My father and his mates rushed over as the crew emerged from the tank. Harsh words were exchanged, unsuitable for this magazine. Although fortunately there were no casualties – run over by a friendly tank is not something you would want on your war record – the tent and the contents were in a bad state. As my dad went to get his stuff together, he found his razor, a bit squashed on a stone after its encounter with a tank track.

As I said, he kept that razor for the rest of his life. I think he kept it to remind him of his and his mates' escape. The family have recently been clearing the house after the death of my mother earlier this year, but the razor is nowhere to be found. Maybe he is using it in the afterlife. I like to think so.

**Michael Luck**

## Clift Surgery – A Day in the life of...

Hello, I am Charlotte Hutchings and I have been a local GP for 20 years, but am a new addition to Clift Surgery, having joined Nigel Fisher, Roisin Ward and Alma Kilgariff as a Partner in March this year.

We want to share what we are doing to try and provide excellent care for our patients at a difficult time for us all, particularly since the Covid pandemic. We thought that sharing a typical day for different members of the team would be helpful, to understand how we work and what we do. This month we are starting with **‘a day in the life of a GP’**.

So, I arrive at the surgery just before 8 am and join the reception team as our telephone lines open to patients for routine and urgent calls. From 8-8:30 I will review test results, consultant letters, emails and tasks from members of the surgery team, as well as sign prescriptions and send them electronically to the dispensary and other local chemists. At the same time, I will be checking the list of patients being added to the ‘same day’ duty list to make sure there is nothing urgent before the rest of the clinical team join at 8:30 to start calling patients or seeing those booked in for ‘face to face’ appointments. As the GP leading the duty team whilst other GP colleagues are doing prebooked clinics, I will usually call the patients that have more complicated medical problems, but also be available to support and advise our fantastic team of nurses, nurse practitioners, physiotherapist, clinical pharmacists and receptionists. We will all be seeing and speaking to patients until 1 pm, but make sure that we have a break for 15 minutes together, which is a time to touch base with each other.

During the morning, I will go through to the dispensary regularly to sign prescriptions and help with any medication queries. At 1 pm, we have a lunchtime clinical meeting and that will often be online with specialist or GP colleagues sharing updates whilst we eat our lunch. We also do home visits for those who are unable to get to the surgery.

At 2 pm, our afternoon session starts, and I will have a prebooked clinic which is a mix of telephone calls, econsult queries and ‘face to face’ appointments for less urgent problems. On some afternoons I will also visit the Grange Nursing Home where I provide medical care for 25 residents. I usually finish seeing patients at 5-5:30 if I am not the duty GP and will then check test results, medication requests and write referral letters, reports and review hospital letters and tasks that have been sent to me by the practice team. My colleagues will cover the duty/urgent problems for the afternoon until 18:30 and will do any home visits after that if required.

Often the ‘paperwork’ is not finished by 18:30, so the GPs and management team have laptops so that we can log on from home to complete administrative tasks and do essential training and audits/management as well as clinical work.

*One of my other roles, along with Roisin Ward, is training new GPs, which is so important for the future of our General Practice. We currently have 2 GP Trainees, one of whom is **Laura Champion** who has been working with us this year. Laura shares her experience below...*

### Hello. I am Laura Champion.

I am a Trainee GP, placed at Clift Surgery for 1-year as part of a 3-year GP training programme. I will complete 1.5 years in hospital and 1.5 years in GP surgeries in order to gain a wide range of clinical experience.

### Day to Day Role:

I see routine and duty patients, home visits and do a range of other checks within the surgery. I also still carry on my training with guidance from senior GP’s and by attending lectures.

### Why I wanted to be a GP:

I worked in the Army before choosing to re-train as a mature student, to be a doctor, and then specifically a GP. I chose to be a GP as I enjoy helping a wide range of people and dealing with a number of different medical conditions and illnesses. Being a GP gives me the time to get to know patients and the opportunity to follow up on investigations and treatments, over further appointments, if required. I also enjoy being part of a large team and working with physiotherapists, wellness coaches and so on to share knowledge. As a busy mum of 3, general practice also gives me the flexibility to work part time and so ensuring a correct work-life balance.

I love being a GP however, my days are often non-stop and although I have a finish time, this can often overrun, and I am normally racing to collect my children! Some people’s attitudes and dissatisfaction with GPs can also be frustrating, especially when I know how hard I and my colleagues work to provide quality healthcare.

We really want to work **with** and **for** our Community.

### Next month our Reception Team will share their typical day with you.

## Bramley WI

For our October meeting we had a speaker, Jackie Dimmock, who is a retired Police Officer. Her talk was on her 30 years working for Hampshire Police. Jackie did a wonderful presentation and told us some very funny stories. She is coming back next year for part 2 of her talk. After the talk, we had tea and cake as it was one of our member’s birthdays, and then completed the evening with the official business. We had a full house and had six guests who were most welcome; it was lovely to see them.

During October, we prepared shoeboxes for the Rotary Club for the shoebox appeal, for children abroad who are in need

of little treats for Christmas. The members have been very generous, so our grateful thanks to all of them. We had an assortment of things, toys, toiletries, games, knitted scarves and gloves, which I am sure the children will be thrilled with.

For our next meeting in November, some members of the Morris Dancers are coming to give us a talk on the history of this dance, which should be very interesting.

Also in October, we had our usual walk over the fields in Sherfield, and of course afterwards had lunch. Our next walk is on 2nd November.

**Jane Matthews**



## Wilder Bramley shares an update on its "Build a Bug Hotel" challenge:

The winners of our "Build a Bug Hotel" school holidays challenge were Flynn Gregory (age 6) for key stage 1 and Sid Jenkins (age 9) for key stage 2. We were very impressed and have included their inspiring ideas in our bug hotel built at the Community Bee Garden in Clift Meadow.

Flynn was lucky to find old pallets, pinecones and bamboo in his grandparents' greenhouse and he also collected some bark. He ended up building two bug hotels! His special creative feature was to paint some stones to add colour and attract bugs. He has seen woodlice and spiders there and a tiny frog who is camera shy!



Flynn with Becky Kirby (Forest School Practitioner) and Katie James

that he liked drilling holes in logs. He made a pond from an old washing up bowl near the bug hotel with a brick inside to stop bugs from drowning. He also nailed an old frying pan to the side by the pond for a birdbath. He has seen lots of hotel residents including a spider, flies, woodlice, a snail, frogs, toads, slow worms and grass snakes.

One of the features we especially liked was the felt roof which Sid enjoyed nailing in and the water collector, which includes old guttering to catch water, then take it to the hydration station. We have copied this in our bee garden bug hotel.

When the boys came down for their awards, they filled the newly built bug hotel structure with recycled materials. They were very excited to receive their certificates, some stickers and paper and a handwritten card from Chris Packham. We hope they, and other residents, can add organic material to help bugs and our ecosystem to thrive.

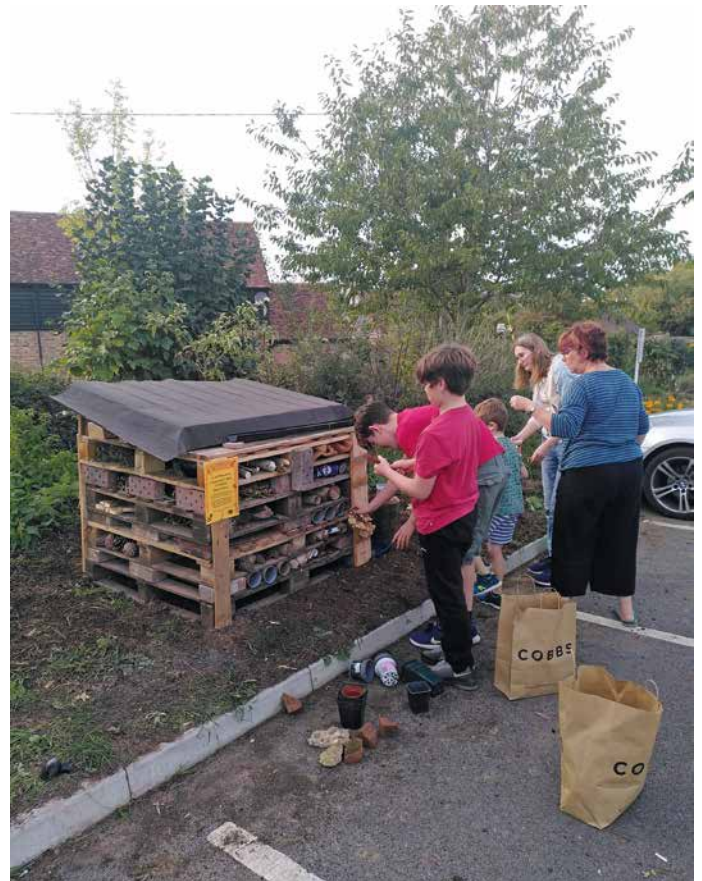
If you'd like to join in helping our environment, do head over to our Wilder Bramley Facebook page or ring 07503 155669.

**Katie James**

Sid and his family collected bricks, with holes, for bees and pallets from Freecycle. Sticks, dried grass and leaves, straw, cardboard, bark and pinecones were collected from the woods. He learned



Sid receives his award from Katie James (Wilder Bramley) and Becky Kirby



The new Bee Garden bug hotel was inspired by Sid and Flynn's clever creations

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**St James' churchyard is looking a lot better after its annual Autumn tidy, thanks to a great group of church volunteers. If you are walking through to the burial ground, you will see a new gravestone that was uncovered.**



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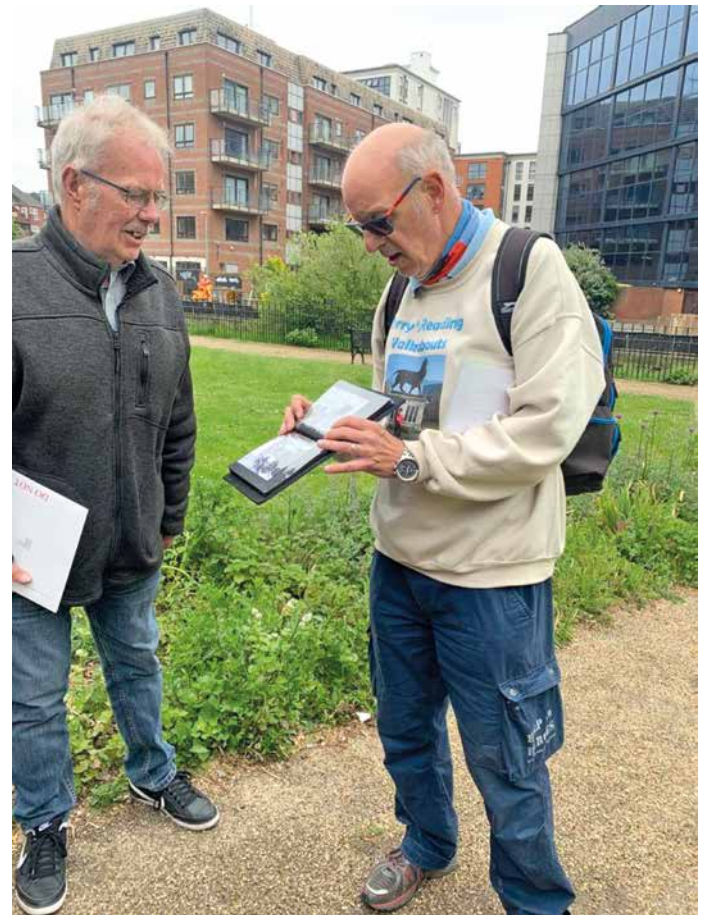
## Terry's Reading Walkabouts

Bramley resident Angela would like to introduce you to her stepfather and Oliver & Amelie Wynn's Granddad, Terry Dixon, a former project manager, who set up Terry's Reading Walkabouts after retiring early in July 2016.

He is an outdoor person who had a desire to get fitter and meet new people. This has turned into a one-man operation for the fledgling amateur historian who meets tourists, newcomers and quizzical residents to take them on easy walks around Reading.

"I have lived in Reading all my life and my parents before me," explained the grandfather of four.

"I feel that so many people now living or travelling to Reading do not know about or fully appreciate its wonderful history, culture, heritage and facilities."



Terry charges £5 per adult, £1 per child (Free for under 5). All the monies (excepting minimal expenses) go to local Charities, his 2022/23 ones are:

- Parents And Children Together (PACT) - has been building and strengthening families since 1911. Reading based, PACT is an adoption charity and family support

Terry's Main Town Centre Walkabouts take in the great landmarks of Reading including 5 generations of the railway station, the Town Hall, walking through the 900 year old important Abbey Ruins, past the World-Famous Reading Gaol, into The Butts and covers the 5 B's that made Reading famous!

A few gems that Terry might let slip as you walk:-

- The only fighting in Southern England in the 1688 Glorious Revolution took place in Reading in 3 places.
- A 1960's cafe in Harris Arcade was owned by Marianne Faithful's mother. The Rolling Stones used to sit and drink coffee in there, and that is where Mick Jagger met his future girlfriend.
- The walk passes St Laurence Church, this is close to where Paddington author Michael Bond narrowly survived a WWII bombing.
- Many TV series and films have been filmed in or around Reading, these include The Sweeney and part of the gangster movie Bugsy Malone in the Huntley & Palmers factory.

The fact that Arthur Conan Doyle got the inspiration for Doctor Watson by a war veteran listed on the remarkable Forbury Maiwand Lion, is news to most life-long Readingites (correct term – Redingensians) and visitors!

"I'm a people person and greatly enjoy meeting and enlightening people, I cannot think of a better way of doing this than hosting Terry's Reading Walkabouts."





provider which helps hundreds of families every year through outstanding adoption services and award-winning therapeutic support and inspirational community projects across the south of England - <https://www.pactcharity.org/>.

- Royal Berks Charity are here to support the Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust vision to continue to drive improvement in patient experience and be an outstanding provider of health services for the local community. Through fundraising and generous donations, they are able to add extra value and support pioneering and innovative work for the benefit of those that need help. It's the extras – both small and large – above and beyond the scope of the NHS budget, which really makes a difference - <https://www.royalberkscharity.co.uk/>

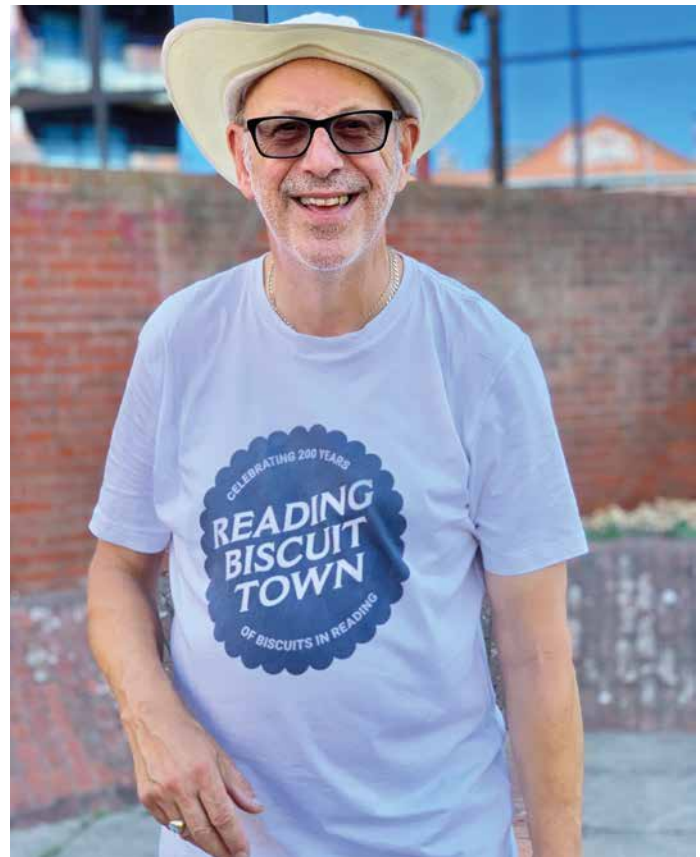
Terry's success has been amazing. Starting with a few people walking once a month, now he can be doing two or three Walkabouts most weeks of the year and has taken out 1000s of people. Despite all the challenges of Covid-19, he has now raised well over £11,000 for 15 different, mainly Reading based charities. The demand is high, and he finds himself needing to add new Walkabouts every year. He now has a remarkable 16 different themes and routes to satisfy his fans, some of which have completed all of them! Terry's Walkabouts pulls walkers from local villages, towns, counties and now people are coming from London on the new Crossrail Elizabethan Line.

Terry has also got involved in many local organisations & events, including being the Safety Officer for the Reading Gaol Hug. He also does speeches and illustrated talks, plus has three YouTube videos on Reading. Two very successful 'Women of Reading' walks, led to probably his proudest achievement, which saw him write a book with a local Artist – Linda Saul – about Reading Influential Women via local publishers – <https://tworiverspress.com/shop/readings-influential-women/>. As a dyslexic engineer, it was never on his bucket list to write a book! The book is a wide-ranging and fact-filled compendium of 69 women, with a connection to the Reading area. It includes campaigners, a gold medallist, world changers, painters, international sports women, writers, a fish scientist called ET, one of Britain's worst serial killers, plus many more.

This has been a particularly successful year with Terry introducing 3 new Walkabouts;

- The first in his home village of Tilehurst launched in March.
- The second and most popular Walkabout, celebrates 200 years since the opening of Joseph Huntley's first bakery on London Street, which soon became Huntley & Palmers (H&P). They became the biggest Biscuit factory in the World, employing nearly 6,000 employees! H&P put Reading, or should I say Biscuit Town, on the world map. At one stage, they made nearly 400 different biscuits & cakes. Incidentally, Reading FC were called the Biscuitmen and they are celebrating their 150th anniversary this year.
- The third has just been launched and is another joint project with the Reading Civic Society, which covers The Mount, Redlands & Alexandra Road Conservation Areas (CAs). Reading has 15 CAs.

Terry has been nominated for a 2022 Pride of Reading Award.



To find out more, or to book on one of Terry's Reading Walkabouts, you can ring him on 07505351517, email him at [terry.dixon89@virginmedia.com](mailto:terry.dixon89@virginmedia.com), or find him on Facebook.

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Friday: 8.30am via Zoom

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\*This gives you unlimited access to Zoom classes for a week

All classes are available to join via Zoom if preferred. Classes are recorded and available for 7 days

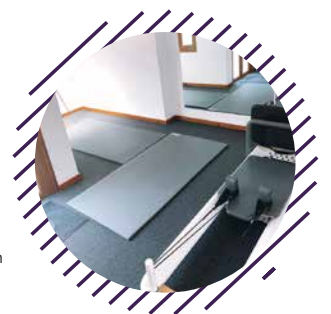
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## A Day in the life of the Reception Class at Bramley Primary School

Our youngest children have now been in school for 5 full weeks, settling into their learning, routines and making new friends. The change in children when they start school (as we are sure many of you know from experience) is dramatic, they almost 'grow up' overnight. They are also exhausted when they get home from the busy-ness of learning and social interactions.



In our Ladybird and Puffin classes, the children have started the year exploring the topic of 'Where do I belong in my community?' They have painted portraits of themselves (which now decorate their classrooms), used 'bricks' to build houses and enjoyed the role play kitchen where they use real household objects to 'make meals'. In our EYFS area, we use as many real items as we can, so the children feel different textures, materials and weights as part of their continuous play.



The children really enjoy their 'small world' play time where they engage in play with mini figures such as dinosaur lands, train tracks and making towns from houses. It has been very loud when they were singing a range of nursery rhymes and tapping out different rhythms and pulses.

Children love their playtime in the wide outdoor area we are lucky enough to have as well as imaginative playtime over in our wonderful Oliver's Garden. In the hall, they have been practising their climbing and balancing skills using different apparatus.

Within all of the fun, it is astounding the progress children are already making with their basic skills. First thing in the morning, children take part in phonics lessons guided by our Little Wandle scheme. Listening to the children practising how to make accurate sounds for each letter and then blending to build words has been great to hear – they are also delving into the 'tricky words' that we just can't sound out!

Their numerical knowledge has also been growing, a key skill they have already started to practise is being able

to quickly recognise how many is in a group of objects without having to count them one-by-one.

As you can see, it is completely understandable why our children come home so tired from school – so much learning and so many interactions taking place all day.

A huge well done to our children and their families for settling so quickly!



## Bramley Church of England Primary School Year R Open Mornings

Is your child turning 4 before the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023? If so, now is the time to explore different schools.

To help you make the all-important decision as to where to send your child, **Bramley C of E Primary School** is hosting *open mornings*. These mornings will allow you to make an informed choice.

Our open mornings this year are:

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 9.00am**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 9.00am**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October at 9.00am**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 9.00am**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 9.00am**



These sessions will last approximately 1 hour and are a great opportunity for you to see the school in action. You can pick up a prospectus and ask as many questions as you like.

*"Bramley School has such a warm and welcoming atmosphere. In our experience, it has given our children a nurturing environment where they have all felt supported and challenged to grow both academically and individually."* (Parent comment)

*"Pupils enjoy coming to this school. They understand the importance of their school's values of **Love, Respect and Courage**."* (Ofsted Feb '20)

Please either email [adminoffice@bramley.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@bramley.hants.sch.uk) or phone the school on 01256 881339 to book your place.

**The application deadline is 15 January 2023**





## Royal British Legion

### Annual Dinner

We held our first post-pandemic dinner at Sherfield Oaks Golf Club on Friday 7th October. There were 42 members and friends present and all seemed to enjoy the occasion.

Our guest speaker was the Rt Rev'd David Williams, Bishop of Basingstoke, who spoke movingly about our late Queen and RBL Patron. He spoke about the way people came together in mourning and thankfulness for her long life and the openness with which she shared the faith by which she lived her life.

A raffle and auction were held, and the evening raised £420 for the RBL.

### Acts & Services of Remembrance

Acts & Services of Remembrance will be held across our branch area, Bramley, Sherfield, Sherborne St John and Stratfield Saye on Friday 11 November, Armistice Day, and on Remembrance Sunday. King Charles will lead the national service of Remembrance at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday.

### Poppy Appeal

The annual RBL Poppy Appeal is underway. Please give as generously as you are able, to help to provide support in so many ways to past and present Service personnel and their dependents. In the conflicts in which they fought; ALL gave some - Some gave ALL. Thank you.

### Standard Bearer

Finally, the Branch is looking for a new Standard Bearer to take over from Tony Evans who has discharged this duty for many years and whom we thank. Our Branch Standard is a newer one and much lighter than previous ones. Training will be given. The Standard is paraded at Remembrance events and also, when requested, at members funerals.

If you might be interested, please contact me in the first instance on 07900 892566 or revjmorley@talktalk.net

### John Morley

Branch Chairman  
designate



### Deadline for December/January Magazine

Please note that the deadline for the next magazine, which will cover December and January, is **Sunday 13 November**, rather than the 15th. This is to fit in with printing schedules and ensure we can deliver the magazine by the beginning of December.

If this will cause a problem, please email [editor@bramleymagazine.org.uk](mailto:editor@bramleymagazine.org.uk)

Thank you

The advertisement features a collage of roofing-related images: a red tiled roof, a moss-covered roof, a roof with gutters and fascias, a roof with solar panels, and a roof with a leak. Text overlays include: 'Moss Removal from £285', 'Proud members of Checkatrade.com Where reputation matters', 'Assured Roofing Ltd www.assuredroofingltd.co.uk Guildford 01483 399204 07961 609811', 'APPROVED ROOFERS Approved & Recommended', and 'Find & Repair a Leak from £325'.

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## Autumn at Little Apples

As the days get shorter and colder, we are celebrating Harvest Festival and the wonders of the season at Little Apples.

The children have been exploring vegetables and they made our favourite vegetable soup, learning about healthy eating, safety and practising their cutting skills. We then enjoyed the healthy soup for a snack with wholemeal bread which you can see in the photos. The children are also exploring the insides of pumpkins as



a sensory experience and using baby “munchkins” on water to experiment with floating and sinking. Munchkins are small squashes or baby pumpkins, as in the photo of an Autumn display. They are also making sparkly frosted spiders web spirals and we have also learnt about hibernation.

Additionally, we have been learning about space and our solar system, looking at some stunning images taken by powerful telescopes and comparing

the size and characteristics of different planets.

Physical activity is very important for young children's health and development, and we are very lucky to have access to our large and secure garden area, with a safety surface playground, grass section and nature area. Our wildflower meadow is still a beautiful display, even in the cold damp weather and we hope some bumblebees are hibernating in our bee hotels. We play outside every day, whatever the weather, giving the children the chance to see the changing seasons, develop their physical skills and have fun in the fresh air. We have obstacle courses, stilts and balancing, trikes and scooters and ball games, offering a variety of activities outside every day.

If you would like to register a child, or have any questions about pre-school or funding, please contact Jo on [manager@littleapples.org](mailto:manager@littleapples.org) or phone 07598 588 460. Demand for places is high at the moment, so we recommend making contact early to avoid disappointment.



## Bramley Speedwatch

### Roll out of 20 mph zones, a growing trend:

There is currently a general push across the country for the introduction of 20 mph zones. The Welsh Government will be the first in the world to lower limits on residential roads from 30 mph to 20 mph in a bid to encourage people to walk and cycle more. London has committed to reducing speed limits to 20 mph on all 220 km of the TfL road network (London's red routes) by 2024, in addition to the roads in the congestion charge zone which have carried the lower limit since March 2020. Cornwall is changing the speed limit on 700 roads from 30 mph to 20 mph as part of a survey to establish if all 30 mph limit roads should also be reduced to 20 mph.

### Concerning speeds:

The Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) positioned on The Street (Village Hall east bound traffic flow) recorded 3 vehicles exceeding 60 mph including 1 vehicle travelling at 72 mph (east bound).

### Recent Local SpeedWatch Activity:

2 Manned Deployments were carried out during September, both by the Village Hall. The Details of 14 vehicles were passed onto the Police. Max speed recorded during deployment was 44 mph.

### Equipment:

A speed gun is being loaned to Bramley Speedwatch by Hampshire Police to trial. A familiarisation session took place with the Church Crookham Speedwatch Group on 19th October prior to trialing the speed gun in Bramley on the 25th & 27th October. The speed gun is approved by Hampshire Police for Speedwatch use and is reported to be accurate to within 0.5 mph.

If you have any question/concerns regarding about SpeedWatch please email:

[speedwatch@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:speedwatch@hampshire.pnn.police.uk) or visit [www.hampshire.police.uk](http://www.hampshire.police.uk)

Keep Safe and Watch Your Speed

**Graham White**, Bramley Speedwatch Coordinator

### Speed Indicator Device (SID) DATA:

SID Location	Days deployed	Traffic direction	% of vehicles exceeding 30 mph	No. vehicles exceeding 60 mph	Max speed recorded (mph)
Village Hall	7	East Bound	41%	3	72
Village Hall	7	West Bound	28%	0	58



## **Keith Bunker, former Hospital Governor, shares some reflections on our local hospital...**

Whilst most of us are acting as if the pandemic is behind us, that would be unwise. Beds are once again filling up with Covid patients. At the time of writing, there are 82 cases, with about half coming in due to the virus, and the other half for different reasons but testing positive on admission. In both cases, it is the elderly, with many not yet having received the latest booster jab which is often administered with a flu jab. This is not helping the hospital bring waiting lists down, with staff absences and patients unable to attend appointments at the last minute. However, the backlog remains a priority: the numbers of those waiting longest to be cared for are falling and the long-term plan is that nobody will have to wait more than 52 weeks.

When we look at the hospital's performance, whilst none of us like to be kept waiting in A&E (now termed ED – emergency department), it is encouraging to reflect that our

hospital's performance is well above the national average. Similarly, the Trust is fourth in the country when it comes to meeting the targets for cancer treatments. That said, analysis of the figures for one of the major cancers shows that the referral and diagnostic rate has radically dropped with the advent of Covid. This would suggest that when people eventually seek advice, their cancer may be much more advanced and thus more difficult to treat and with a poorer potential outcome. For this reason, health care professionals are encouraging people who have any concerns to seek early advice.

Many will have noticed the large new building under construction adjacent to the Sherborne Building at the north end of the site. This is for a new 'Cath' lab. Currently Basingstoke has only one unit, which has performed some amazing miracles over the years, but with no backup if anything fails. By contrast, Portsmouth has four units. These labs are vital for modern heart surgery, such as insertion of stents which have transformed so many peoples' lives. The new unit

is planned to open in November. It is also anticipated that Basingstoke will receive its first robot within the next six months which will help with precision delicate surgery, especially with kidney and bowel operations, Basingstoke being one of the leading UK centres for bowel cancer treatment.

Finally, despite all the 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 anyone else 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

## **Whitchurch Silk Mill**

### **Claim a 50% Discount with a 'Winter Pass'**

Escape to Whitchurch Silk Mill on the banks of the River Test in beautiful rural Hampshire this winter. We are offering 50% off our standard admission fee from 1 November 2022 to 1 February 2023 and your ticket will automatically be valid to use as many times as you like in the time period of the offer – up to three months of visits!

There's plenty to see and do: discover the Mill's story, see our weavers weave silk as their forebears have done for centuries, test your own skills on our hands-on looms, and enjoy the Mill Café's refreshments either indoors or in the sun at our outside tables.

Why not combine a visit to the Mill with a walk along the Mill Trail that passes five historic mills between Whitchurch and Laverstoke and takes in picturesque scenery along the banks of the River Test. Bombay Sapphire and other attractions are nearby, too.

## **Upcoming Events**

- 16 November 2022 – Home Education Event for primary-age home-school children. Email [learning@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk](mailto:learning@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk) to find out more.
- 2 December 2022 – The Weaver's Arms, the Mill's pop-up pub, will be open for one night only as part of the Christmas at the Mill programme.
- 3rd & 4th December 2022 – The Mill's Christmas Market.
- First Thursday of every month – Pins & Needles, the Mill's popular adult crafting sessions. Tickets are £10, including tuition, all materials and a hot drink. Booking is essential as numbers are limited.

The current exhibition, Stripes, is running until 20th November 2022 and is free with admission. This exhibition explores stripes, a pattern synonymous with Whitchurch silk. Stripes were once the mark of the devil and are now an iconic print used in day-to-day fashion and furnishings. The exhibition draws from the Mill's own extensive archive, enhanced with loaned



objects from collaborators, and explores the creation, history and use of stripes since the invention of textile production.

## **Friends Membership**

With Whitchurch Silk Mill Friends membership, you can enjoy:

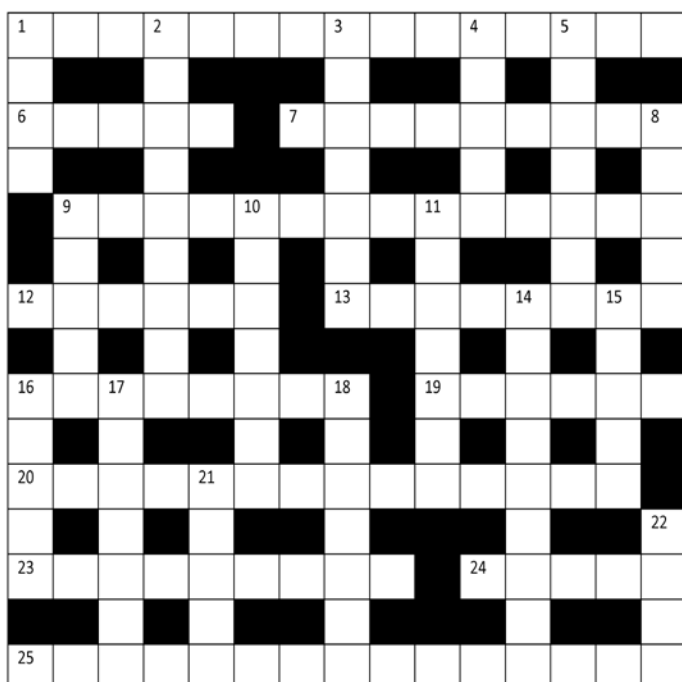
- Unlimited entry to the Mill for a year
- A year's free entry to all exhibitions and selected events with Friends exclusive private viewing
- A Friends café loyalty card
- The Mill's annual garden party

## **Contact Information**

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

# Cryptic Crossword No: 63

See page 31 for the answers.



- 5 Sewing tools that are needless without point. (7)
- 8 Because of act of evil against church. (5)
- 9 To begin with, can he arrange items round about to find a seat. (5)
- 10 Light made up of network and bird. (7)
- 11 The care it took to arrange an area. (7)
- 14 Rode better did our ten although confused. (9)
- 15 Playground device find ones winging it. (5)
- 16 Hang a bit of this for country. (5)
- 17 Not at an arrangement for condiment. (7)
- 18 Chute or mix to feel again. (7)
- 21 Blacksmith's tool, and not very inward looking to start with. (5)
- 22 Somewhere a real piece of space. (4)

## CodeWord No: 49

See page 31 for the answers.

8	23	3	3	7		1		2	19	9	4	17
23		2		2		23		13		13		23
9	13	25	24	23	6	20	2	1		26	14	9
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25	24	23	13	11	23	25	14	23	13	25	4	6
11		13				23		10				21
	23	1	21	18	6		12	2	5	2	6	
22				1		5				16		23
23	5	2	24	1	2	2	13	23	13	16	9	11
6		14		10		6		14		21		11
23	15	2		2	6	18	11	17	21	2	24	2
13		10		13		10		2		23		11
25	15	4	11	25		2		13	18	1	2	11

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
D					C							
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

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

### Across

- 1 Game show to multiply one's assets by two. (6,4,5)
- 6 Class of travel for those who like fresh air perhaps. (5)
- 7 Yet headland can have the quality of quiet. (9)
- 9 Silent comedian, yet produced laughter. (7,7)
- 12 Group of people featured in Coronation Street. (6)
- 13 Game the Parisian followed by angry European. (8)
- 16 Spendour one finds in grand European buildings. (8)
- 19 Get at tainting within. (6)
- 20 Movie, musical by another title. (4,3,3,4)
- 23 Software protection sounds like a relative infectious agent. (9)
- 24 Snake with mathematical ability perhaps. (5)
- 25 Beethoven piano piece, perhaps he was reminiscing about his other job. (9,6)

### Down

- 1 Fruit or meeting. (4)
- 2 Uncivilised person perhaps, Conan was one. (9)
- 3 Preparation for porridge perhaps. (7)
- 4 Give whiskey malt a chance to discover this island. (5)

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## Your Photos

A selection of photos taken by locals in the community:



**Donna Walker**

*"Today seems like a lovely Autumnal day so starting to clear the garden ready for winter..."*



**Katie James**

*"More fun activities – litter picking this time... 2 bags collected."*

### ◀ Trudie Draper

*Let us know what you have been up to – submit your photos to [editor@bramleymagazine.org.uk](mailto:editor@bramleymagazine.org.uk).*

## COMPETITION TIME!

UK Productions and Anvil Arts present:

### CINDERELLA

*starring Debbie McGee and Chris Pizzey*

Fri 9 Dec 2022 – Mon 2 Jan 2023

The Anvil, Basingstoke

[www.anvilarts.org.uk](http://www.anvilarts.org.uk) / 01256 844244

You shall go to the ball this Christmas!

Bramley Magazine is teaming up with Anvil Arts and offering you the chance of winning a family ticket to this year's magical family pantomime Cinderella, at The Anvil from 9 December.

The lovely Debbie McGee makes her Anvil debut as the delightful Fairy Godmother, starring alongside hilarious Chris Pizzey, who returns by popular demand, as Buttons. UK Pantomime Award winners 2022 Nic Gibney and Duncan Burt will play the meddling Ugly Sisters.

With the best jokes, spectacular scenery, beautiful costumes, live music, and two beautiful Shetland ponies, join



Cinderella and make your dreams come true at The Anvil's spectacular panto.

To enter this special competition, please answer the following question:

**What does the Fairy Godmother use to make a carriage to take Cinderella to the Ball?**

Email your answer, along with your name and a daytime telephone number, to: [competitions@anvilarts.org.uk](mailto:competitions@anvilarts.org.uk)

Remember, the clock is ticking, so make sure you get your competition entry in by 24 November!

*(Family ticket is 2 adults, 2 children OR 1 adult, 3 children. Subject to availability. T&Cs apply)*





## BASINGSTOKE CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT FELLOWSHIP

The October monthly meeting was held on 5th October as usual in Brookvale Village Hall. At the meeting, the Chairman, David Cowling, welcomed members and proceeded to wish Happy Birthday to the persons with birthdays in October. The Chairman also reminded members of the trips planned for the rest of the year.

The November trip on 17th November to Bordon has been changed to Rosebourne Garden Centre, Weyhill, where we will be able to buy lunch as well as visit the Garden Centre for pre-Christmas shopping. The cost of the trip is £14 and £16 for non-members.



For December, the trip is the Christmas lunch at BCOT on 15th December, which will be £30. If anyone wishes to come

on either of these trips, please let us know.

Our talk this month was by Alan Jones and titled 'Body Language'. In this interesting talk, he explained how humans have the inborn skill to read other humans' body language without even being aware that they are doing this. We do this without words within 7 seconds, and 76% of the time, we are accurate. We do this instinctively and sub-consciously, with women being better at it than men. The hands and face are the first to be noticed when we meet others, although not all gestures are universal, so some caution is required in foreign countries, as some gestures can have completely different meanings to those intended.



Ships about Medical Care to the Under Served. On 7th December, there is the usual Christmas Buffet with a talk

The next meeting is on 2nd November with a presentation from Mercy



from Paul Whittle about his train journey to the Arctic Circle.

The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the Brookvale Village Hall from 10am 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**



**St. Michael's Hospice**  
**Reindeer Run**  
**Sunday 18th December 2022, 9am**  
 Setting off from Queen Anne's Square,  
 Festival Place, Basingstoke, RG21 7BA

**3K RUN**

**Join us for a festive family fun run!**

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Find out more:  
[www.stmichaelsospice.org.uk](http://www.stmichaelsospice.org.uk)  
 #ReindeerRun @smhbasingstoke

**ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPICE**  
 (NORTH HAMPSHIRE)

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Registered Charity no. 1002856

**ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPICE**  
 (NORTH HAMPSHIRE)

*Light up a Life*

**Sunday 4th December 2022, 6pm**  
**St. Michael's Hospice, RG24 9NB**

**@smhbasingstoke #lual**

Remember and celebrate the life of someone special by dedicating a star as part of our Light up a Life appeal. Our special service offers time for reflection and to share memories with those closest to us. Our Light up a Life appeal and service is open to everyone, not just those who have been touched by our Hospice care. Please remember to wrap up warm if you plan to attend the service.

To dedicate a star to a loved one, please visit:  
[www.stmichaelsospice.org.uk](http://www.stmichaelsospice.org.uk)

For more information please call 01256 848848 or email [events@stmichaelsospice.org.uk](mailto:events@stmichaelsospice.org.uk)

**ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPICE**  
 (NORTH HAMPSHIRE)

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**I**n this month's **Beautiful Bramley**, John Stubbs writes about a lesser spotted bird in Bramley, the Sparrowhawk:

I guess it was some four or five years back. I'd just put the car in the garage (some of us still do that) and headed over towards the house, brain in neutral. But just as I closed the garage door there was a thwack and a scatter of blue feathers raining down – whatever's happened? Then I saw ahead of me a flapping bundle of birds and debris, landing just beyond the back door. Not wishing to intrude on the proceedings, I quietly went in and watched from a window above: evidently a female sparrowhawk had taken a pigeon right above my head, just as I emerged. She would have had target-fixation and wouldn't have been looking out for wandering humans. She killed the prey quickly, and over the next forty minutes dissected and scooped the whole bird – leaving just feathers and claws – I couldn't find even the skull.

The sparrowhawk is not a big bird, nothing like the red kites or buzzards we see around the fields: in size more like a wood pigeon, the female a little larger than the male. The one below, photographed by my neighbour in his garden more recently might, perhaps, be slightly embarrassed by it – they don't usually pose on a common birdbath like some sort of an ordinary bird - they know their status: a blasted

oak, perhaps, rather than this sort of quotidian thing. However, like it or not, it's a garden bird, because that's where the hunting's good. Small and agile, the sparrowhawk can use the cover around gardens and pounce, where the bigger raptors wouldn't have room to manoeuvre.

They do get a bit of flak from bird-feeding enthusiasts, as a well-attended garden bird table can be seen as their local larder, stocked to reduce the need to hunt and stalk the next meal: why else would they all be there ready and waiting? The busy sparrowhawk, with a growing family to feed, might misunderstand the benefactor's intentions, but it's not an unreasonable assumption from its own point of view. It does raise the question, of course, as to whether predation by the occasional visitor has a marked effect on, for instance, songbird numbers, or even how many pigeons we see.

Here we come to some of the basic factors of predator / prey dynamics, and the main aspects are in fact pretty well established, both by long term observation and detailed local studies. I think primarily it must be seen that these animals have been around and evolved together over the ages. No predator species could exist if they consumed all their prey, and over the longer term a balance must be established. Sparrowhawk populations have waxed and waned, depending more recently on factors such as shotguns, gamebird policies,

DDT, deforestation, and their legal protection status. Throughout those periods where data are available, no correlation has been seen between, for instance, a widespread drop in songbirds and a rise in the numbers of predators. If anything, the surveys show that the presence of predators generally improves the variety and numbers of prey species, as well as health and ability to adapt to changing conditions, by tending to take the weakest from populations.

One interesting factor is that young adults, on leaving the parental nest, take a sort of gap-year break. Once the parents' handouts fizzle out, they'll start to fend for themselves, and they naturally favour an area where prey are to be found, over one lacking their food sources. This is the most dangerous period for the lately-fledged birds – they lose weight and over half of the brood will perish, one way or another. But it does mean that those areas with more adult sparrowhawks will have fewer incoming new nesters – the spreading will therefore tend to even out the effects on local populations of smaller birds.

A supremely handsome bird such as this, has to be the most impressive avian visitor you're likely to get in the garden around here. The kites will be way up high, getting hassle from the crows, the buzzards could be even higher, circling almost out of sight. But this character, fairly common but shy, and in and out in a flash, is the one to see.



Photograph: Robert Cheke

## Stamp duty changes for residential properties



Lisa Rigby

On Friday 23rd September the Chancellor announced some changes to the stamp duty thresholds in the mini budget. The threshold for payment of stamp duty has been raised to £250,000 which means that no stamp duty will be payable on a residential property costing up to £250,000 (unless a surcharged rate applies such as the 2nd home or non-UK resident surcharges).

With effect from 23rd September 2022 the Stamp duty thresholds are as follows:

£0 – £250,000 = 0%

£250,001 – £925,000 = 5%

£925,001 – £1.5 MILL = 10%

£1.5 Mill above = 12%

The 3% surcharge for second homes will continue to apply as well as the non-UK residents charge but the changes have resulted in savings for most home buyers.

Company purchases continue to be charged at the higher rates but the increase in the lower threshold will generate a saving of up to £2,500.00 on an average buy to let purchase.

Changes were also made to the first-time buyer discount bringing greater savings for those buying their first home. No stamp duty is payable on the first £425,000 of the purchase price of a property costing up to £625,000.00 for first time buyers who intend to live in the property being purchased and are UK resident. If, however, the purchase price property being purchased exceeds £625,000 then the discount will not apply, and the standard stamp duty thresholds will continue to apply to the purchase.



For further assistance with any conveyancing matters, please do not hesitate to contact Lisa Rigby by calling 01256 854645 or by emailing [lisa.rigby@phillips-law.co.uk](mailto:lisa.rigby@phillips-law.co.uk)

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## HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL MARINES AT THE ANVIL

**Sunday 29th January 2023, 3:00pm**

*'A great gift for that difficult to buy for person'*

Proceeds to Rotary supported Charities

Basingstoke Deane Rotary has been privileged in past years to host the Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines at The Anvil playing to very full houses. Covid got in our way but last January we were again able to bring talented musicians to play for us and we will welcome them back in January 2023.

An exciting performance is on offer with some military music but you'll be entertained by a variety of music genres, swing band, Pop, classical, and comedic pieces. We've been delighted by music from the movies, Bond themes and Star Wars and good old-fashioned tunes known and enjoyed by all generations.

The majestic full concert Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines, will include the Corps of Drums

Everyone's favourites, our special guests, The Chelsea Pensioners, were at the last minute confined to barracks in 2022, but they should be with us again to make this a very special event.

**Tickets on sale from The Anvil Box Office.**

## BASINGSTOKE NEIGHBOURCARE Volunteering opportunities

NeighbourCare, supports clients, by providing a transport service to those who are unable to use other forms of public transport. For the elderly, infirm or those who need a little help with mobility. Including transporting people to medical appointments and therapy sessions, providing trips to visit a loved one, helping them to the library, taking them to older persons' clubs, or simply taking them shopping. Some of our volunteers are able to assist with clients' wheelchairs.

Volunteers devote anything from an hour a week to a couple of hours a day to assist people to get to their appointments. A service that really makes a difference to the lives of the people they help.

You can be that volunteer!

For info go to <https://www.neighbourcare.com>

## SAVE THE DATE!

**St Michaels Hospice Light up a Life**

Sunday 4th December 2022 at 6:00 pm

St. Michael's Hospice, RG24 9NB

A special commemorative service offers time to reflect and share memories with those closest to you with Christmas carols and music. Basingstoke Deane Rotary will again be volunteering help with this event. See the Hospice website for parking and information

[www.rcbd.org.uk](http://www.rcbd.org.uk)

Facebook: @RotaryBasingstokeDeane

Twitter: @RBstokeDeane

## North Hampshire Prostate Cancer Support Group

It was a real privilege to have Prof Richard Hindley, one of Britain's leading urologists, based here in our local hospital trust, as our key speaker at our September meeting.

Prof Hindley joined us via Zoom, which gave the group its first chance to put into operation our new Zoom screen system, which has recently been purchased, following the kindness of the Loddon Lilies, who have chosen to actively fundraise on our behalf this year. Once operational, the system worked particularly well.

Throughout Richard's talk, it became clear that we are particularly well served locally, as the Trust is one of the leading innovation and treatment centres in the UK, with some of its work having worldwide implications in terms of treatments. Basingstoke continues to excel in terms of innovation, and in undertaking trials of new treatments. Currently, it has been selected along with Oxford and Imperial College to perform UK trials of a new steam treatment system which has shown promise in the US. At the same time the 'Promise' trial is checking whether the quality of diagnosis is still effective in MRI scans

if the present method of giving dye injections to highlight tumours is not used. If proven, this will give benefits of time saving and elimination of allergic reaction with some patients.

Another example of Basingstoke's lead in the treatment of prostate cancer, is that Basingstoke was only the second location in the UK to use high intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU). Richard explained that HIFU is recognised as being less damaging to peripheral tissue, leading to reduced side effects. Whilst no trial has been formally run, early indications suggest that over the last 7-8 years the outcomes between radiotherapy and HIFU show no significant difference. It has also been remarkably effective in reducing the impact of additional minor tumours.

Richard emphasised the importance of PSA testing, indicating that this form of testing has radically improved in accuracy and value over recent years. In his view, a screening programme will be implemented before too long. He added that in future MRI screening is ultimately likely to become the key marker, with the added benefits of identifying the exact size and location of any suspect tumours, enabling accurate targeted biopsies and better assessment of various treatment options.



Following a round of questions to Richard from the floor, there was a very genuine expression of appreciation given to him for giving up time from the operating theatre.

With prostate cancer now the most prevalent cancer in the UK, it is disturbing to realise that in 2020 the number being diagnosed was about 25% of previous years, with 2021 still only about one third. This clearly suggests that there are many cases existing yet to be diagnosed, but worryingly with probably much more advanced disease and thus poorer prognosis.

It was encouraging to have a number of members join us for the first time and it was encouraging to hear that they want to participate at future events.

**Keith Bunker**

Former Hospital Governor

**Mondays**

<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

**Tuesdays**

<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

**Wednesdays**

<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 Pavilion
<i>Walking 4 Fitness &amp; Friendship 6.40 for 6.45pm (April-Sept)</i>	Clift Meadow car park
<i>Pilates 7-8pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Trail Runners 7.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow car park

**Thursdays**

<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>Petite Dance 6.45pm</i>	Village Hall
<i>Hipp Pilates 7-8pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion

**Fridays**

<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

**Saturdays**

<i>Petite Dance</i>	Village Hall
<i>Tennis (age 7-13)</i>	Clift Meadow
<i>Karate 11.00-12.00pm</i>	Primary School Hall

**Sundays**

*See page 5 for Church services at St James's Bramley*

**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	Roy Seymour	07917 744780		No children please
Floral Society	Linda Dove	01256 886167 07842 339161		
Guides	Pam Luck	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	gpcoles37@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

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 bram.mag.adverts@gmail.com

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### Sussex Jazz Kings Return to Basingstoke

The Basingstoke Lions Club is delighted to bring back The Sussex Jazz Kings.



This group of highly talented musicians, who play UK wide, combine their individual musical expertise with fun and the rapport they build with their audience, to provide a first-class evening of toe-tapping traditional jazz and entertainment. As ever, all money raised at this Lions concert goes straight out to good causes in the community as identified by the local club.

Details:

**Saturday, 3rd December 2022**

Doors open 7.30pm

Music 8pm to 10.30pm

**Royal British Legion Hall, Crown Lane, Old Basing, Basingstoke RG24 7DN**

Tickets are £12.50 and available from: [www.basingstokelions.org.uk](http://www.basingstokelions.org.uk) or Tony Bamberger [tony.bamberger@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tony.bamberger@hotmail.co.uk) – 01256 850254

Contact: Annie Vicars – [av@mypostoffice.co.uk](mailto:av@mypostoffice.co.uk)

The Lions Club of Basingstoke

Registered Charity No: 274337

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### Basingstoke Gang Show returns to The Haymarket for its 28th stunning variety show extravaganza

With a production of classic to contemporary performances brought alive by over 65 people in this highly entertaining show, the audience can expect to be delighted by magnificent music & LOL comedy.

Basingstoke Gang Show is recognised as the best-selling and longest running 'family variety show' in our region and showcases an extremely talented cast. The 11 performances, many over February half term week, will entertain audiences as you laugh out loud, tap your toes and sing along to the songs that you love.

Awarded **best compilation show** by **NODA National Operatic and Dramatic Association** for our 2020 show. This is an amateur production not to be missed, as it showcases the very best of local talent in the Scout & Guide associations.

The dates are Thursday 9th February to Saturday 18th February 2023, excluding Sunday 12th. Matinee performances are also on Saturday 11th and 18th February.

Ticket prices: Adults £22.00, Children £15.00. Last night (Saturday 18th) all seats £24.

**Early Booking Discount:** Book by 21st December 2022 to save £2.00 off each ticket by quoting code 'BGS23' for performances on Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th February only.

**Group Booking Discount** buy 10 or more tickets and get £1 off each ticket if booked by 15th January 2023. One discount only, per booking.



Take a look at the Basingstoke Gang Show website [www.basingstokegangshow.com](http://www.basingstokegangshow.com)





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## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

### Cryptic Crossword No: 63 Solution

AREA	22	DOUBLE YOUR MONEY	1
ANVIL	21	THIRD	6
RETOUCH	18	STILLNESS	7
ANNATTO	17	CHARLIE CHAPLIN	9
GHANA	16	NATION	12
SWING	15	LACROSSE	13
OUTRIDDEN	14	GRANDEUR	16
HECTARE	11	ATTAIN	19
LANTERN	10	ANNA AND THE KING	20
CHAIR	9	ANTIVIRUS	23
SINCE	8	ADDER	24
NEEDLES	5	MOONLIGHT SONATA	25
MALTA	4		
OATMEAL	3		
BARBARIAN	2		
DATE	1		

Down

Across

### CodeWord No: 49 Solution

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

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