

June 2021

The

# BRAMLEY

FOR BRAMLEY AND LITTLE LONDON

Magazine

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- **Chase the Sun**
- **Bramley Village Hub**

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# The Bramley Magazine

for Bramley and  
Little London

**June 2021**

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

Material for the July/August 2021 issue to  
be sent (preferably by email) to the editor  
no later than **14 June** please.

Cover photo:

Millennium Garden, Rachel Barclay Smith

An Italian poet called Antonio Porchia wrote that *we live in hope of becoming a memory* and I guess, deep down, we all want to be remembered - hopefully for good things and not for our most embarrassing moments. Last month we shared our memories of John and Ann Lenton, who impacted so many lives in Bramley and Little London. This month we remember three more people who were part of our community: Phyl Davies, Oliver Warner and Alan Broadbent. All of them have all been remembered in different and lasting ways by their friends.

The young children in our community will have many hours of fun playing in Oliver's garden, created in memory of Oliver Warner who touched all our hearts as he bravely coped with neuroblastoma. If you turn to page 13 you will see why I wish I was 6 again! I don't think it is a coincidence that the garden was officially opened on May the 4th – Star Wars Day.

A few days earlier, as you will see on page 10, a holly bush was dedicated to the memory of Phyl Davies. I am sure many of you will remember Phyl, who lived in Bramley for around 60 years. She was involved in numerous clubs and committees and when I first moved to the village she seemed to write most of the articles in the magazine! Phyl was a keen gardener and I am sure she would have approved of the holly bush her friends chose for her. Alan Broadbent was a regular at the Bramley Inn and spent a lot of time waiting outside for the bus. A number of his friends have commissioned a bench in his memory, as you can read on page 10. I'm sure many of us will appreciate having somewhere to sit as we wait for the number 14 to arrive.

By the time you read this we will (hopefully) be approaching the end of lockdown and instead of sitting outside the Bramley Inn on Alan's bench, we will be able to enjoy a drink inside. Of course, a lot of us have probably drunk rather too much during the pandemic. We may have started off with good intentions – finding new walks and doing Joe Wicks every day - but it wasn't long before many of us were slumped in front of the TV with a bottle of wine. I guess we all got into a few bad habits during the pandemic, but if drinking was one of them then you have the perfect excuse to carry on. It is estimated that the food and beverage industry needs a £25.66 billion boost to return to pre-pandemic levels. Drastic drinking is therefore required to make up those losses. All we have to do is go to the pub and drink 122 glasses of wine or 124 pints. Not all in one go - by the end of summer should do it. If you don't want to drink, you can still help by eating 976 packets of crisps or 40 roast dinners at the bar. It's a challenge but someone has to do it!

Best wishes

**Rachel**

Rachel Barclay Smith, Editor

Apologies to Georgina Evans and Kerry Whiffin for using the wrong surnames in the article about the food hampers last month. I used the names in their email addresses, not realising these were their maiden names.

I am pleased to say that both Georgina and Kerry are still very much married (to their respective husbands that is, not to each other!)

“The oldest, shortest words - “yes” and “no” - are those which require the most thought.”

**Pythagoras**

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All the events described here are obviously subject to change, if Government Covid-19 guidelines and rules should change. Please do check our website, [www.stjamesbramley.com](http://www.stjamesbramley.com), for any last minute changes.

**Church diary for June...**

<b>6th</b>	<b>1st Sunday after Trinity</b>
9:00	Matins (BCP) – St James’s Church
9:00	Shell Club – Cross House
10:30	Virtual Service on Zoom
<b>13th</b>	<b>2nd Sunday after Trinity</b>
9:00	Holy Communion – St James’s Church
9:00	Shell Club – Cross House
10:30	Virtual Service on Zoom
<b>20th</b>	<b>3rd Sunday after Trinity</b>
9:00	Morning Worship – St James’s Church
9:00	Shell Club – Cross House
10:30	Virtual Service on Zoom
<b>27th</b>	<b>4th Sunday after Trinity</b>
9:00	Sunday@Nine – Cross House
10:30	Holy Communion – St James’s Church

**... and into July**

<b>4th</b>	<b>5th Sunday after Trinity</b>
9:00	Sunday@Nine – Cross House
10:30	Matins (BCP) – St James’s Church
<b>11th</b>	<b>6th Sunday after Trinity</b>
9:00	Sunday@Nine – Cross House
10:30	Holy Communion – St James’s Church
<b>18th</b>	<b>7th Sunday after Trinity</b>
9:00	Sunday@Nine – Cross House
10:30	Holy Communion – St James’s Church

**Notes: Even though restrictions are easing it is still important that for in-person Church Services, you need to book in with Steve Day, the Parish Administrator. This is to ensure the numbers do not go over our capacity restrictions due to social distancing and allows us to remain COVID Secure.**

**To attend the Zoom services for the first time, please contact Steve in order to be added to our email distribution list, which will provide you with the Zoom connection details. Steve can be contacted on 07341 552732 or by email on [Crosshousebramley@gmail.com](mailto:Crosshousebramley@gmail.com).**

The following services will also be taking place during June-July in our neighbouring churches. See [www.stleonardschurch.co.uk](http://www.stleonardschurch.co.uk) for further details.

<b>6th</b>	<b>1st Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>27th</b>	<b>4th Sunday after Trinity</b>
10:00	Holy Communion – Online/St Leonard’s	10:00	Together in Worship – Online/St Leonard’s
10:00	Family Service – St Mary’s Stratfield Saye		
6:30pm	Evensong – St Mary’s Hartley Wespall	<b>July</b>	
<b>13th</b>	<b>2nd Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th Sunday after Trinity</b>
10.00	Morning Worship – Online/St Leonard’s	10:00	Holy Communion – Online/St Leonard’s
		10:00	Family Service – St Mary’s Stratfield Saye
<b>20th</b>	<b>3rd Sunday after Trinity</b>	6:30pm	Evensong – St Mary’s Hartley Wespall
10:00	Holy Communion – Online/St Leonard’s		
6:30pm	Evensong – St Mary’s Hartley Wespall		



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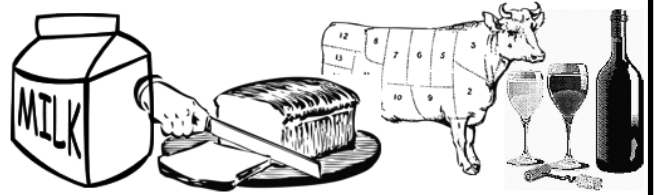
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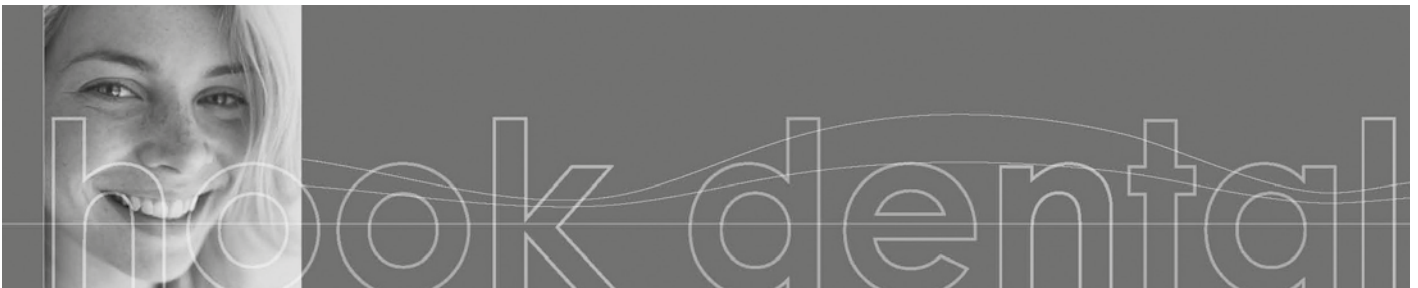
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**T**here's an awful lot of change about. Take this column, for example: this isn't the familiar face you expect to see when you turn to the **On Reflection** page, is it?

I know many in Bramley, and certainly all at St James's, are desperately sad to be losing John and Ann Lenton from the village soon, following his retirement. (At least you can take comfort in the fact that someone else got landed with the job of trying to write the first post-Lenton 'On Reflection'...)

And that's not the end of it. There are fields being turned into solar farms, roads being widened, and (even more) houses being built. I understand that at Bramley Primary School this year's Year 6s are preparing to make the transition to senior school, and before you know it, like mine, they'll be transforming into an entirely new species: the teenager.

And who knows what the world those teenagers will live in as adults will look like? Technology is changing our world at an unprecedented and exponential rate, and the climate crisis is accelerating – it's difficult even to imagine just how different the world might look even 10 years from now.

As a family we've been embracing an uncomfortable amount of change ourselves recently, moving from Bramley to Cheshire mid-pandemic. It's exciting, and there's lots to love about our new home, but we miss our friends in Bramley terribly and there have been times (many times) when we've looked at each other and said, in effect: 'What have we done?!'



Alison Jones

As I write we're starting to emerge from lockdown and there are some very welcome changes on the way: by the time you read this I hope we'll be able to hug friends again, and sit inside a café if it's raining rather than huddling under an umbrella. But while the vaccination programme continues so efficiently in our own country, the virus continues to rampage elsewhere, causing devastating suffering and itself undergoing a process of change, producing those 'variants of concern' that could take us back to the drawing board, vaccine-wise.

All in all, it can feel as though the world is a very uncertain, scary place, and that things are changing almost by the minute. Given that change is the only constant in life, though, it's odd that we find it so exhausting. It's almost as if we weren't designed for it.

C. S. Lewis, author of *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, once wrote to a friend observing how strange it is that even though humans have been living in it for so many thousands of years, we don't seem to be fully at home in time.

*'We are always amazed by it – how fast it goes, how slowly it goes, how*

*much of it is gone. Where, we cry, has the time gone? We aren't adapted to it, not at home in it... we were created for eternity.'*

If you're feeling a bit motion sick with the pace of all this change, it's helpful to hang on to what St Paul wrote in his letter to the Hebrews: 'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.' For Christians, having that truth at the centre of our lives transforms our perspective. Just as ballerinas fix their eyes on a single stable point to keep their balance as they pirouette, keeping our eyes fixed on him can keep us steady and peaceful as the world shifts around us. Change, both good and bad, looks very different when you take the eternal view, and that can cause us to reflect on what's really important to us too. It doesn't give us a free pass from engaging with all the change – on the contrary, Christians are called on to live out Christ's very practical love and 'rightness' wherever they find themselves, whether at home, in the office or at the highest levels of international politics. In fact we're called to BE the change, when there's injustice or need. But simply having that fixed point to keep our eyes on can keep us steady through the most turbulent of times.

Assuming things change as we hope over the coming weeks and we move to the fourth stage of 'easement' of restrictions, we're looking forward to visiting Bramley at the end of June for the restarting of the Sunday@ nine service, and to seeing many dear familiar faces. I expect we'll find ourselves stuck at the level crossing barrier at least once while we're down. SOME things never change...

**A**s well as saying a sad farewell to John and Ann Lenton, we have also had to say goodbye to our Priest in Charge, Stephen Ball, and his wife Lorna.



Stephen is based in Sherfield on Loddon and his last service was at St Leonard's Church on 30 May. Stephen has been a regular visitor to St James and both he and Lorna have made a huge contribution to the life of our local community.

Stephen and Lorna both brought many talents to their roles. As well as being a wise and inspirational minister, Stephen is a professional church musician and an experienced carpenter, who produced a lovely display for St Leonard's 900th anniversary flower festival. Lorna helped to lead the 'In Touch' scheme, which ensures that church community

members are supported, particularly at times of difficulty. She has also been responsible for leading the flower arranging team, who have created beautiful flower displays over the years.

Stephen and Lorna are remaining in Sherfield for the time being, although Stephen will not have a licence to officiate at services. Eventually they will be moving away from Hampshire. We wish them every happiness and fulfilment in the next chapter of their life together.

**Y**ou can't really have missed, in our last issue, the fact that Bramley's vicar has retired. But the work of the church doesn't stop! This month, **Meet the Neighbours**, went to meet **Malcolm Knowles**, one of the people making sure it all carries on.

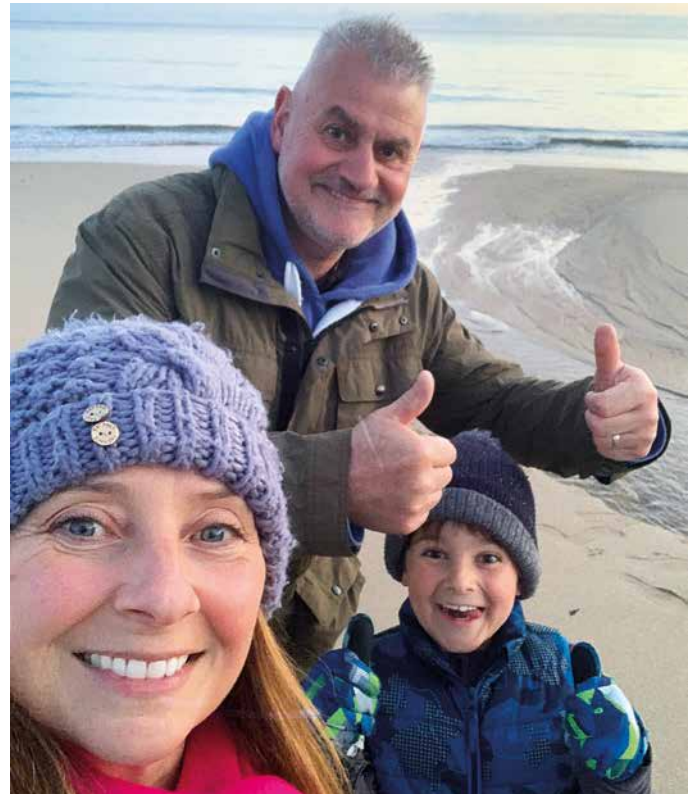
**Bramley Magazine (BM): What brought you to Bramley?**

Malcolm Knowles: My wife Lucy and I arrived in Bramley in October 2010. We were looking for a home where we could settle down and look to the future; ideally somewhere leafy, with a thriving community. My head office was in Bristol and Lucy's work meant commuting to London, Edinburgh and Manchester regularly, as well as other countries. So we were looking for a quiet village with reasonable access to airports and motorways.

In December 2018, I accepted redundancy from M&S Bank - I set up Branch banking in their stores. By then, our son Marcus (now six) was about to start school here in Bramley, so retirement seemed the way forward.

**BM: What occupies your time?**

MK: I wear a number of hats! I look after our home and do school runs with Marcus - when not being home school teacher during the various lockdowns! I take great pride in our garden, growing most of our own vegetables. I am a Reading FC season ticket holder, with my grown up daughters and Marcus. There is often a list of jobs we seem to keep generating together too. Don't ask me what the latest serial to watch on TV is, as I rarely sit down, but we do love a good movie.



I am also one of the two churchwardens at St James' church here in Bramley. A churchwarden is chosen by a congregation to help the vicar of a parish with administration and other duties. Those duties can be anything from maintaining the upkeep of buildings, dealing with permission applications for any changes - and even catching mice! I'm also part of the bell ringing team, if you get to hear those.

We have entered a busy time at St James' with the retirement of John Lenton. With most businesses, when the chairman goes there is already a replacement to fill their shoes. The Church of England waits for a vicar to leave before any work starts on recruitment, so the parish councils of the various churches in our Benefice (our group of parishes/churches) are working on that. We very much look forward to welcoming our new vicar, hopefully in the next few months.

**BM: That doesn't sound much like a retirement! So, even though St James' is 'between vicars', that doesn't mean everything stops?**

MK: Not at all. In fact it's business as usual and we won't be looking to change anything that is currently in place for now.

**BM: So what happens if people need a vicar or they want to come to church?**

MK: Bramley Magazine will keep sharing details of services and people can check St James' website for marriages, baptisms etc. Both will provide details of how anyone can get in touch with a vicar should they require one.

**BM: What does your family like most about living in Bramley?**

MK: We have beautiful countryside in our village which is easily accessible by foot, bike or car. We have great road and rail links with our own village train station. There's lots of outside space, walks, woods and playgrounds to explore. We are lucky to have lots of great places to eat and drink locally, which we enjoy exploring together and with friends.



**BM: Do you have a favourite pastime?**

MK: We go skiing once a year and take regular trips to our family holiday place in Cornwall. We drive to the south of France every summer and love road trips in general, knowing we will come home to Bramley. On our family walks or bike rides there are usually picnics or snacks to keep Marcus happy. We have definitely missed seeing our friends socially this year. My wife loves to cook and host and we really love a good get-together.



**BM: What advice would you give to someone who is thinking of moving here?**

MK: Enjoy all of the local facilities, such as Bramley Bakery, One Stop shop, Mekanix and the Fish and Chip van..... there's so much right at our doorstep, why travel when it's available here?!

All three of us are fortunate to now have many lovely friends in the village.

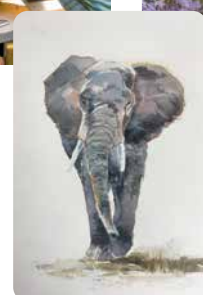


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On Saturday 1 May 2021, several villagers attended a short **Service of Dedication** for the Holly tree that we planted in memory of **Phyl Davies**.

Phyl Davies was a lovely lady who lived in Bramley for many years and was involved in so much in the village. The ceremony was held in the churchyard, in the area beside the tree. Revd. John Lenton read out the Bible passage that Phyl had selected for her funeral service, and followed this with some prayers.



### CHERRY BLOSSOM MANOR CONGRATULATES 'CARING' EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Residents and staff at Cherry Blossom Manor applauded as Health Care Assistant Sam Jackson was named 'Employee of the Month' for bringing in the sunshine.

Sam was nominated by residents and colleagues who felt she really deserved extra recognition for the amazing smile she brings every day.

Gigi Despojo, General Manager, said: "I'm delighted to have such a caring and talented individual working as part of our team and I hope this 'Employee of the Month' award goes some way towards showing how much Sam's happy attitude is valued. We are really proud of the way she approaches every day as if it's Christmas Day."

Sam said: "I am honoured to receive this award, although it wasn't necessary: coming to work and seeing my second family is reward enough."

### NEW BENCH

You may have noticed this new bench at the bus stop in front of the Bramley Inn. Lee and Mandy, who used to run the pub, commissioned it with the help of a generous donation from Nigel Lloyd. It is in memory of their friend, Alan Broadbent, who spent a lot of time waiting for a bus there.

What a lovely gesture.



Sam was congratulated for her achievement and presented with a £25 voucher

## **Update from Bramley Parish Council**

The elections are over and the Parish Council welcomes two new residents to the Council, Steve Day and Colin Shimell. We hope they will bring new ideas and work as tirelessly as the present and past Councillors have over the years to make Bramley a pleasant, secure and happy place to live. The PC thanks the outgoing Councillors, Alan Munday, Chris Flooks and Iain James for all their work and efforts on the Parish Council.

With the new Ward Boundary for Bramley, we now have three Borough Councillors to support us, Cllrs Chris Tomblin, Nick Robinson and Simon Mahaffey. Congratulations and we look forward to working with you in the future along with our County Councillor, Rhydian Vaughan. Congratulations on the Election results.

So, what business is of immediate concern?

The Solar Farm application is still in the system with no decision as yet. Both applicants, for the Solar Farm and the battery installation, have requested meetings with the Parish Council. We wait for them to confirm dates.

The on-going saga concerning the sewage infrastructure in Bramley continues, but within Thames Water we have now a Principal Engineer who recognises the problems and is progressing to put forward solutions. Thames Water are at the point of putting forward for approval a proposal "To increase the flow rate from Bramley No1 Sewage Pumping Station (SPS) during storm events". This is effectively increasing the size of the existing rising main from Bramley to the Sewage Treatment Works at Sherfield; not something that will happen quickly and we are told it will be expensive, but it is the only acceptable solution.

Issues at St James Park continue to be discussed with Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council and Persimmon Homes. These include the lighting across Clift Meadow, the footpath across Clift Meadow, the fencing around the attenuation pool and the finalising of the allotments.

We are finally seeing progress concerning the modifications to the junction at the end of Bramley Lane and the C32. Hopefully this will complete over the summer. The Parish Council is keen to see the completion of this major element of its 'Safe Route to School' project.

Work continues to ensure the residents of Bramley have a pleasant and secure village to live in. Later in the year, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council will be putting out for consultation the sites across the Borough that are being suggested for further housing development as part of the Local Plan. We are sure Bramley will be in there, so there will be serious discussions at that time and the Council will need considerable input from residents as regards their views and wishes.

The Parish Council has been working hard to make officers at Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council aware of the need to protect Bramley from over development and aware of the existing infrastructure problems. The PC has submitted several reports and consultation responses to the Borough Council and these can be found on the Parish Council website [www.bramley-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bramley-pc.gov.uk). They include the recent 'Issues and Options' consultation, local green space promotions, sewage issues updates and our recently commissioned independent studies on infrastructure.

Bramley Parish Council will need the support of all residents in ensuring Bramley remains a rural village in the future.

Future Parish Council meetings are scheduled for 8 June (Planning Committee), 15 June (Full Council), 13 July (Planning Committee), and 20 July (Full Council). The June meetings will be online; however, we hope to have the July meetings in person, depending on whether the Covid restrictions are lifted on 21 June.

In the meantime, stay safe and let's hope we can all enjoy a warm and safe summer.

Kindest regards, Cllr Malcolm Bell on behalf of Bramley Parish Council

## **Welcome to The Bramley Village Hub**

<https://bramleyvillagehub.com>

Those of you who follow the Bramley Community Facebook page may have seen the launch of a new website for Bramley. The idea came from two of us who are comparatively new to the village and would have liked a site like this to learn more about the place in which we live. Do take a look, like our Facebook page and keep checking in for new additions. We will continue to add information, and if there is something you think could be added, please let us know. In time, there will be a business directory, where local businesses can advertise for a small yearly fee. We want to have "everything in one place".

## **The Scarecrows are on their way**

Straw is being gathered as a new scarecrow adventure begins in Bramley on 6 July until 23 August. This year we hope to welcome some new friends – magical creatures and fantastic beasts. To register your scarecrow, please email [thebramleyshow@gmail.com](mailto:thebramleyshow@gmail.com) with your name and the address where the scarecrow is located, so photos can be taken.

## **Bramley Village Garden**

If you visit Clift Meadow, you may have seen a change to the garden alongside the tennis courts. A group of villagers have taken over the care of the garden and have exciting plans for it over the next couple of years. Until then, some vegetables, herbs and flowers have been planted for the village to see. Hopefully there will be a small fundraising event at the Clift Meadow Fete, so watch this space.

## **Hopping Mad**

A belated thank you to the Bramley knitters who gave so much time to create the bunnies that were distributed around the village the day before Easter. The children who found them were so excited and, like the fairies at Christmas, there were requests for any spares as a few children were disappointed not to have found one. Thankfully the Easter bunny could oblige. What will be next???

**Results of the local elections – Thursday 6 May 2021**

Parish Council - Bramley West

Electorate: 1564 | Turnout (37%)

Name of candidate	Description (if any)	Votes	Elected?
CAPEL, Liz		405	<b>ELECTED</b>
FLOODS, Chris		140	
MUNDAY, Alan David	Independent	202	
OBORN, Keith		277	<b>ELECTED</b>
SHIMELL, Colin Richard	Putting Bramley First	240	<b>ELECTED</b>
TOMBLIN, Chris		399	<b>ELECTED</b>
WARWICK, Antony Blaine	Putting Bramley First	125	

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council - Bramley

Electorate: 6,663 | Turnout: (41%) | Spoiled votes: 21

Candidate	Party	Votes	Elected?
HEATH Christine	Hampshire Independents	428	
JAYAWARDENA Nalin Mahinda	Conservative Party	1,098	
MAHAFFEY Simon Heelum	Conservative Party	1,142	<b>ELECTED</b>
MASSEY Lydia	Labour Party	475	
ROBINSON Nick	Conservative Party	1,426	<b>ELECTED</b>
SCOTT Mark Edmund	Liberal Democrat	649	
TOMBLIN Chris	Basingstoke & Deane	1,259	<b>ELECTED</b>

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council - Tadley & Pamber

(which includes Little London)

Electorate: 8,751 | Turnout: (37%) | Spoiled votes: 10

Candidate	Party	Votes	Elected?
BENNETT Charlotte Beatrice Margaret	Hampshire Independents	253	
BOUND Mike	Liberal Democrat	819	
CARRUTHERS Kerri Elizabeth	Conservative Party	1,583	<b>ELECTED</b>
GARDINER Elliott Oliver	Labour Party	396	
GIBBONS Steve	Liberal Democrat	638	
LEEKES David Alan	Conservative Party	1,678	<b>ELECTED</b>
MELLOR Derek Preston	Conservative Party	1,480	<b>ELECTED</b>
REEVES Simon David	Labour Party	374	
RUSSELL Matt	Labour Party	356	
SLIMIIN Jo	Liberal Democrat	1,004	

Hampshire County Council – Calleva

Electorate: 11,620 | Turnout: (41%) | Spoiled votes: 50

Election Candidate	Party	Votes	%	Outcome
Rhydian Vaughan MBE	Conservatives	3007	64%	<b>Elected</b>
Roger Thorpe Ward	Liberal Democrats	717	15%	Not elected
Thomas James Kingsley	Labour	605	13%	Not elected
Robert John Holliday	Hampshire Independents	402	8%	Not elected

**Knitting Club**

Good news at last! Jean is hopeful that she can organise a meeting in her garden in June with all the appropriate covid-safety measures in place. Keep knitting and hopefully see you all soon



Judith Harris

**Chineham & Sherfield Park Scarecrow Trail 24th- 25th July**

Come and join Basingstoke and District Disability Forum (BDDF) on 24th – 25th July for this fantastic annual community event. ‘The Rolls Royce of Scarecrow Trails’ returns, local residents are busily constructing their entries which follow this years’ theme ‘Heroes and Villains’. Last year, we surpassed all expectations and the hundreds of families that attended enjoyed the 96 amazing entries over 2 trails which covered a total of 6 miles. This year all scarecrows will remain on display until 30th July, so everyone has a chance to complete the trail.

Saturday’s family activities will be based at Chineham Christ Church, then moving to Sherfield Park Community Centre on Sunday. These will include local craft stalls, refreshments, raffle and the fantastic team from ‘Pop Up and Play’ will be providing entertainment for the kids. For those coming from further afield, parking will be available at Four Lanes Community School.

If you want to get involved there are loads of ways that you can support us, as well as taking part in the event to follow the trail. We are a small charity and rely on the help of our volunteers. You could support disabled people taking part with a guided walk, assist at the main sites with maps and refreshments, or help the organization of the event. If you would like to get involved, please contact [info@bddf.org.uk](mailto:info@bddf.org.uk)

Last year we raised £5077, these are vital funds for the charity to continue our work – all services are free to access, from seated yoga to IT courses and our signposting services, and will support our mission to facilitate increased awareness, active involvement and healthy promotion of disability and those who live it. For more information, please visit our website [www.bddf.org.uk](http://www.bddf.org.uk), telephone 01256 423869 or follow us on social media to keep up to date with our services.

**O**n 4 May a very special garden was opened at Bramley School, in memory of **Oliver Warner**.

The project was funded in part by the school and by a combination of local fundraising, the Bramley School Association and generous contributions from businesses with close links to Oliver's family.

Oliver's family were joined by staff and head teachers from Bramley School, along with members of the BSA and the governing body, to plant a tree and officially open the garden. Oliver's younger brother, Joshua, did the honours of cutting the ribbon and planting a tree, before bringing his year 1 classmates out to 'test drive' the new play area. There had been much anticipation from the children, who had seen the garden develop, but not yet been allowed in until the finishing touches were applied, and so they had a wonderful time and thoroughly enjoyed exploring the new play equipment!



Year R love playing in Oliver's garden



Oliver's family said: "we are all so incredibly proud to have this beautiful garden dedicated to our wonderful little boy and big brother. For us, there will always be a part of Oliver in the garden and school for years to come and we couldn't be more grateful to those who helped make this possible. It once

again demonstrates what a supportive school and community we are lucky to be part of in Bramley. The pain of losing Oliver has been immense and so having this garden, and knowing Oliver will always be remembered, is incredibly comforting".





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**THE FIELD MARSHAL AND THE LANCE BOMBARDIER**

15 May 2021 marked a very special occasion in the history of the Royal British Legion, commemorating 100 years since its founding.

Before the Great War, there was scant attention paid to the care of wounded veterans. They received little support from the State and were only given an insignificant war pension.

**Earl Haig** became increasingly concerned about this problem during the Great War, while he commanded First Corps, First Army and then became Commander-in-Chief of the British Army on the Western Front. Some soldiers were even returned to the front line having been medically discharged, because there was such a shortage of manpower. This caused outrage and from 1917, three separate veterans' organisations arose, each with a bias towards different political parties.

During this time, another person in our history was 6' 6½" **Thomas Frederick Lister**, a dominant figure indeed. He joined the Royal Garrison Artillery in 1914, became a Lance Bombardier, and then was wounded and discharged in 1916.

Fred Lister joined the first organisation - The National Federation of Discharged and Demobilised Sailors and Soldiers, linked to the Liberal Party, and later became its second President. This was followed by the Comrades of the Great War (Conservatives) and the National Association of Discharged Sailors and Soldiers (Labour Party).

Years of bickering followed the Great War but, by the encouragement of Earl Haig, in the Spring of 1920 all three organisations decided that unity was the only way forward and they called a conference. A fourth group joined them, founded by Earl Haig in 1920, called the Officers' Association.

Further meetings followed and final agreement came at a conference in May 1921, chaired by Fred Lister, to form the **British Legion**. The Prince of Wales was to be the Patron, Earl Haig the President and Fred Lister the Chairman. The following morning at 9 o'clock, on 15 May 1921, as a symbol of unity, a wreath was laid at the Cenotaph by leaders from the four organisations, with the Field Marshal and the Lance Bombardier.

Earl Haig remained the President until his sudden death in 1928, aged 66 years. Fred Lister was knighted in 1961, and worked tirelessly for the Legion until his death in 1966, aged 79.

Only on the Golden Anniversary in 1971 did the British Legion gain the Royal title.

The Royal British Legion is now well known for its Poppy Appeal, Festival of Remembrance, and Service at the Cenotaph. Money is raised to support veterans and their families for their financial, welfare, social and emotional needs.

There are over 2500 Branches in the UK and overseas and also Social Clubs, Bands and Motorcycle groups around the country.

The Bramley & District Branch President Tony Evans, and the Branch Treasurer Steve Day, attended a commemoration service at the Basingstoke War Memorial on Saturday 15 May 2021 along with Basingstoke and Overton Branch, Old Basing and District Branch and Tadley & District Branch. The first time that all four Standards of the Branches in the Basingstoke & Deane Council area have been paraded. The Mayor's Consort and Chaplain Dr Andy Taylor gave a speech and this was followed by a presentation and speech by The Worshipful the Mayor of Basingstoke and Deane, Cllr Diane Taylor.

At 9:00am the same day, The Branch Vice Chairman, Rhydian Vaughan, laid a wreath at the Bramley War Memorial in St James Church.

*You don't need to have served in the Armed Forces to join the Royal British Legion!*

Steve Day – Branch Treasurer  
Bramley.treasurer@rbl.community

Michael Luck – Branch Secretary  
Bramley.secretary@rbl.community

Rhydian Vaughan – Branch Vice Chairman  
Rhydian@battlefieldtours.co



The Four Standards are paraded at Basingstoke War Memorial



Rhydian Vaughan laid a wreath at the Bramley War Memorial



**T**here's a lot happening at **Clift Meadow** at the moment and, as you can read on the opposite page, it will be welcoming some special visitors on 19 June. **Alan Matthews** tells us more in **Meadow Talk**.

Looking out of the window watching the rain come down, it's hard to remember those freezing cold days of January and February, as the path widening approached the pub and the spirit of lockdown generated all those positive and inspirational comments from the good people of Bramley. But the efforts were clearly worthwhile as it motivated a **dedicated team of volunteers** who now, every week, devote their time to cutting, rolling, strimming (when we can get the line to work!), planting and generally making the Meadow a place that all ages can enjoy.

The **cricket** square looks a picture and, so far, there have been two very successful matches. There is a full season ahead, which will keep everyone busy. A short "play" strip has been cut and rolled at the end of one of the football pitches, where dads and grandparents can enjoy playing with their youngsters. It's not Lord's, but it's of a standard that the original Bramley cricket team played on nearly 30 years ago, so please use it and enjoy. It will be kept cut and rolled for you, but please...replace your own divots!

**Loddon football** are making full use of both pitches and judging by the enthusiasm emanating on a Sunday morning, they are thoroughly enjoying the freedom. If your dog is a "digger", can you please try and fill any holes they leave. There have been some very big divots in the Meadow that will do some serious damage to young and old ankles.

On the subject of **dogs**...there are still some owners who think it is okay to leave deposits around the Meadow. It's NOT okay and it's not very pleasant for the people who have to clean it up. New poo bins are being installed over the next few weeks...please, please, use them.

Our **Wild Garden** has now been planted. It is situated between the main road and the tennis courts and, when it is fully grown, will be visible from the road and should look impressive. A grass pathway has been cut through the area which will be cut regularly. The existing covering will be allowed to grow up, so the daisies, dandelions and other 'natural' plants will complement those recently planted. The entrance to the pathway is clearly identified off the tarmac path, just before the bend down towards the pavilion. We are not sure how long it will take to grow...so be patient...

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**O**n 19 June, the nearest Saturday to the longest day, the **Chase the Sun bike ride** will be coming through the village.



Bramley is exactly half way on this 205-mile ride between North Kent and Burnham on Sea in Somerset. The riders will have set off at sunrise (04:41) that morning and need to be in Burnham by sunset

(21:33). The Meadow has stepped in to provide the half way pit stop and help the village manage the riders. At the moment there are over 900 entrants!

The **Meadow car park** will be closed to all but rider-associated users from 8am, and will reopen as soon as the last rider has left, which will be at about 3pm. The **tennis courts** will also be closed for the same period to provide the riders with safe storage for their bikes while they refuel and take a short rest. For safety reasons, cars and bikes will need to be kept as far apart as is possible so the only vehicles you will see in the car park will be catering vehicles, rider support vehicles and emergency vehicles. We are mindful of the new housing and parking issues within the village, and have arranged to use the car parks in the nearby office space, Clift Surgery and Butter Daisy Nursery for off road parking. We are very grateful for their kind contribution to this event. The Village Hall has also made part of their car park available

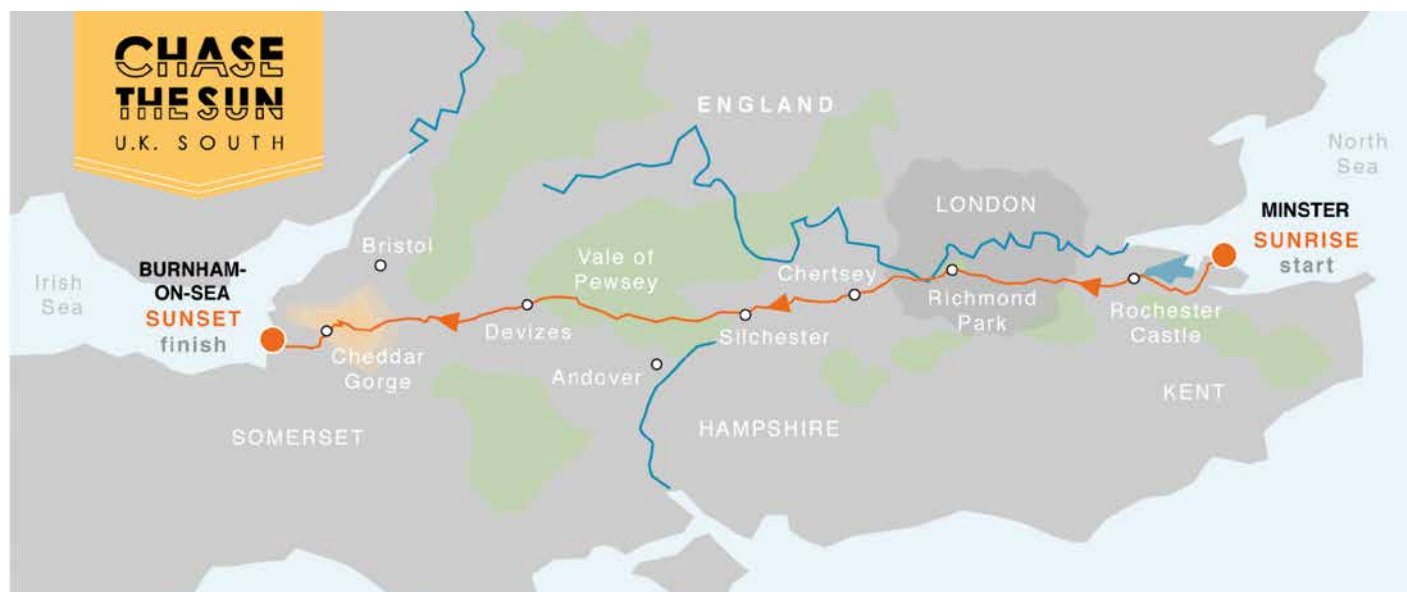
for those who will be staying for the full six hours. There is a cricket match that afternoon and while it will not interfere with the riders, the players will need to park, so they will be using Butter Daisy's car park.

We, in cooperation with the local police, will be trying to encourage the riders to avoid the level crossing and the centre of the village. This will entail the riders crossing the railway via Minchens Bridge and coming down Minchens Lane to the Meadow. They will leave the Meadow and re-join The Street at the junction. The riders will be well spaced out after 100 plus miles in the saddle so there will not be huge pelotons of riders all arriving at the same time (we hope!) A great deal of care and a fair bit of patience and tolerance on 19 June would be very gratefully received, to ensure all get home safely.

The ATC are going to assist with the management of people and process and we will all be doing our utmost to minimise inconvenience to all, especially those living in St James Park.

The WI are kindly assisting with providing much needed sustenance to the riders throughout the day and if you would like to volunteer to assist, even if it's just buttering bread and filling sandwiches, I am sure any offer will be gratefully received.

This is a high-profile event and while not a race, the riders taking part are on a challenge that deserves our support and respect. 205 miles in a day is a serious ride and the good people of Bramley have the opportunity to add some serious value to their efforts.



## Whitchurch silk mill

### Welcome Back to the Friday Country Market

The Friday Country Market has resumed in the Mill's garden and it's been lovely to see all the producers again and, of course, to be able to buy their varied and colourful wares. The market is here every Friday from 9.30–11.30.

### Mill Open and a Very Special Offer

It's exciting to have the whole of the Mill site open again and to be able to welcome visitors. Although some restrictions have eased, many social distancing restrictions will remain in place so you can safely and confidently enjoy your visit. In celebration of the re-opening, all our windows

were washed inside and out. That's 800 panes of glass! A proper challenge for the window cleaners.

To say a big thank you for helping to raise more than £1.7m to create a sustainable future for the Mill we're offering free entry to National Lottery players from Saturday 5 to Sunday 13 June 2021. We are open Tuesday to Sunday, 10.30am to 5pm. To redeem this offer all you need is one National Lottery ticket or scratch card per family, adult or group of adults. Paper and digital tickets/scratchcards for all National Lottery games qualify.

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



**LIFESTYLE**

**T**hank you to **Ian Evett** for sending me this photo of the bluebells in the Frith. They looked beautiful this year and we are so lucky to have them on our doorstep.



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# Hold the date... It's the Bramley Fete!

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Over Easter, the Bramley branch of **Sansome & George** ran a **colouring competition** for local children.

Choosing the winning three was a tough task for David Burrows, Area Manager. “The standard of colouring-in was fantastic and I was really impressed with the top three - they thoroughly deserved their Easter Eggs!”

There three winners were:

1st - Jacob Evans            2nd - Zaiden Jarvis            3rd - Ava Gathern

Here they are with their prizes. Congratulations to them all!



**L**ike many people, **Probus Club** member, **Stephen Thair**, has a special memory of meeting **Prince Philip**. The brief encounter took place many years ago and in a far-off land.

“I met Prince Philip on the Queen’s Silver Jubilee Tour of the Commonwealth in 1977, when I was working as a Barrister and Solicitor in the Department of Justice, Papua New Guinea” explained Stephen.



“I was running a Junior Scout Troup of expatriate boys with Geoff, another leader. The Queen and Prince Philip were to inspect an assembly of Scouts at a parade ground in Port Moresby.

Being well-organised, the Scouts were all in position for 11am, when the inspection was due to commence. However, 11am came and went,

with no sign of the royal party. The tropical sun rose ever higher in the sky over the parade ground, and it was, to say the least, very hot. Eventually, at around midday, the Queen and Prince Philip arrived and began their inspections.

I was at one end of our Troop and Geoff at the other. Other Scout Groups were either side of us. Prince Philip was two groups away, when the boy standing next to Geoff fainted

because of the heat. Geoff carried him to the shade of a tree where he revived. By then Prince Philip had arrived at our Group, and so Geoff missed out and I was the only representative for him to speak to.

Prince Philip asked me what I was doing in the country and when I explained, he asked if I was enjoying it – which I was – and then moved on. He was perfectly pleasant to me. I had been anxious as my father had told a story of a friend who had been introduced to Prince Philip and when he replied to a question as to what he did, received the comment “Oh no, not another b\* \* \* \* y solicitor!”.

Stephen always felt marginally guilty that Geoff missed out on a Prince Philip encounter, although in fairness it could just as easily have been the boy next to him who fainted!



1st. Boroko Junior Scouts - Burn’s Peak, Port Moresby

There has been lots going on at **Bramley Church of England Primary School** recently. Here is an update from **Steve Moore, Head of School**.

It has been lovely to see so many smiling faces coming back to school following the Easter Break! It's been a fantastic start to the term, with the classrooms so full of learning they're bursting at the seams. There's lots to catch up with, following the recent partial closures of school and we've been delighted to see such a productive and purposeful first half of the summer term. As a school, we recognise the importance of reading, writing and maths but we really do value the wider curriculum and foundation subjects. This has really been showcased in recent weeks with rich and engaging learning experiences for our children.

The children in EYFS have had lots of fun learning about pets: finding out about what makes a good pet, how to look after them and recording their friend's favourite pet on tally charts. The role play area became a busy vet shop with the children handling money to buy the different pets, supporting our maths focus. One particular 'Wow Moment' had to be when a five year old sent the adults into a frantic Google search to check out their animal fact. "Did you know that a male platypus can give a mega-sting from its hind leg that's like being stung by a hundred hornets?" Never underestimate their thirst for taking their learning that one step further.

Year 1 have been growing their own beanstalks in the classroom which is creating great excitement as the odd root is starting to appear! The children are hoping they will grow tall enough to reach the giant's castle. As well as growing beans, they have been watching their caterpillars grow, until they become chrysalides before taking their first flight as butterflies! In the meantime, Year 2 have been designing and making cushions as part of their Grand Designers topic. This involved testing different materials before decorating and sewing their material to make a usable cushion.

It has been a fun-filled first half of the Summer term in the Year 3 & 4 corridor. Both year groups experienced something very different. They have been transported back to Ancient Egypt and the Ancient Maya through the power of virtual reality. This experience provided the pupils with real excitement as well as a deeper understanding about these incredible civilisations.



Our oldest year groups have also been delving into fascinating aspects of history. Year 5 have been looking into previous monarchs and how their reigns shaped Britain. The children are exploring how each monarch had different rules before deciding whether we believe them to have been a good ruler of the country or not. The Year 6 children have explored the reasons behind the start of World War One and what life was like in trench warfare. They have discovered the sacrifice that many brave souls gave and how horses played such a crucial part from 1914-1918. The children have really developed a great awareness and appreciation of this infamous part of British history.

The children and staff have really embraced the challenge of 'catching up' whilst ensuring a broad and engaging curriculum. We very much look forward to continuing to find new and exciting ways to inspire our young minds!

### RESIDENTS AT CHERRY BLOSSOM MANOR ENJOY LIVE VIRTUAL COOKERY DEMONSTRATION

To celebrate National Vegetarian Week, staff and residents at Barchester's Cherry Blossom Manor care home in Bramley were treated to an interactive virtual cookery demo courtesy of chef, Alex Connell, from Vegetarian for Life.

Chef Alex whipped up some tasty, healthy vegetarian snacks in a live, interactive cookery demo. Much to residents' delight Angel, the head chef at Cherry Blossom had prepared the same recipes so that residents could try all the dishes. Residents sampled delicious, light and summery veggie dishes including borlotti bean and dill pate, Greek fritters with tzatziki and coronation 'chicken' pastries. All finished off with a sweet and simple but totally yummy banana bread.

Alex says "It was an absolute pleasure to be able to prepare these dishes for the Barchester residents and even more so because they got to taste them, despite my not being able to be there in person.

General Manager, Gigi Despojo, said: "This was a virtual cookery demo with a difference, it was brilliant that our residents were able to taste the recipes as they were being prepared. It was a really enjoyable afternoon, we're so grateful to Alex and Vegetarian for Life."



## Things I Know Which Are Now Useless

I am what is known by sociologists as a Baby Boomer. That term covers those who were born between 1946 and 1964. I was born in the middle of that range. It refers to the fact that during World War 2, many men were away and even those who remained behind were cautious about starting a family as they did not know what the future held for any child. Clearly the floodgates were released as peacetime returned. There have been many changes in all aspects of life since that time. I therefore learned many things that, as the years went on, became completely irrelevant. Here are just a few.

I can start a car with a starting handle. My first car was a ten-year-old Austin Cambridge. As soon as winter came it would not start, because batteries lose a lot of charge as the temperature drops. However, I knew that I could insert the starting handle through the hole in the front bumper and turn it, with the ignition on and the choke pulled out, until it fired. And I also knew the key thing: engines can kick back, so you never wrap your thumb round the handle because it would be dislocated or broken if that happened. There are no starting handles now. No chokes on cars either. And no broken thumbs.

I can add up in pounds, shillings and pence. All through my primary and early secondary school years, all of the maths problems were set using this monetary system. Twelve pennies in a shilling, twenty shillings in a pound, twenty one shillings in a guinea, just to make things more complicated. When we switched to decimal currency, I was a few months short of 17. I had an early morning job before school looking after the newsagent's shop for half an hour while the owner had breakfast before the staff came in later. I had to translate from old money to new for all of the customers who came in for their typical newspaper and cigarettes before getting off to work. And a teenager selling cigarettes? This would not happen now.

I can do Roman numerals. This was always tricky in the twentieth century, because of the '19' being 'MCM'. Things got easier as we passed 2000, which was a simple 'MM' I was born in MCMLIV. I started work in MCMLXXV. I was married in MCMLXXXI, which means that in MMXXI it is our XL wedding anniversary. Give this to your children to translate. Actually, I quite like the XL wedding anniversary. We might have that on the cake this year. This seemed to be essential knowledge for schoolchildren when I was growing up. It just made me wonder how the Romans ever managed to gain an empire. They did not even have a zero.

As I write this, it is the 100th (Cth?) anniversary of the founding of the British Legion. It only became Royal after L years (I must stop this). Steve Day's article elsewhere in the magazine tells the story of the founding of the Legion and mentions Thomas Frederick Lister, who stood, in modern terms, 2 metres tall. As you will see in the article on page 19, that was 6 feet 6 and a half inches. How to write this using a modern keyboard, in the way that it would have been written then? We had to find the symbol for the fraction 'half'. Here it is:  $\frac{1}{2}$ . He stood 6'6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Totally meaningless to a modern reader, but that brought back so many memories. I do miss it.

Michael Luck

## BRAMLEY WI

At last month's Zoom meeting we had a very interesting talk from a delightful gentleman called David, who was the Head Gardener of Gilbert White's House in Selborne. He had lots of slides of established cottage gardens and talked about what plants would be best for our own gardens. David took questions afterwards and kindly sent us a list of the plants that he had mentioned, which we distributed to all the members.

Some of our members have been knitting sunflowers for the Bramley show; they are very colourful and we look forward to seeing them displayed.

This month was going to be our AGM but we have decided to hold that at our July meeting instead, so Val, one of our members, set us a quiz of 30 questions. There were a lot of moans of "oh, I don't know that!" and then jubilation when they knew the answer. It was very enjoyable. We followed the quiz with a 'show and tell' of anything we had done during lockdown. Some beautiful craft work was displayed and one member talked about a book she had been reading, which seemed very exciting. She is going to lend it to other members.

This month we are all meeting at Clift Meadow for lunch, and then in July we will be celebrating our birthday with a party of cocktails and nibbles in a member's garden. We will be outside again in August, but hopefully by September we will be able to go back to the Village Hall and have a speaker.

Jane Matthews

### Shell Club is back!

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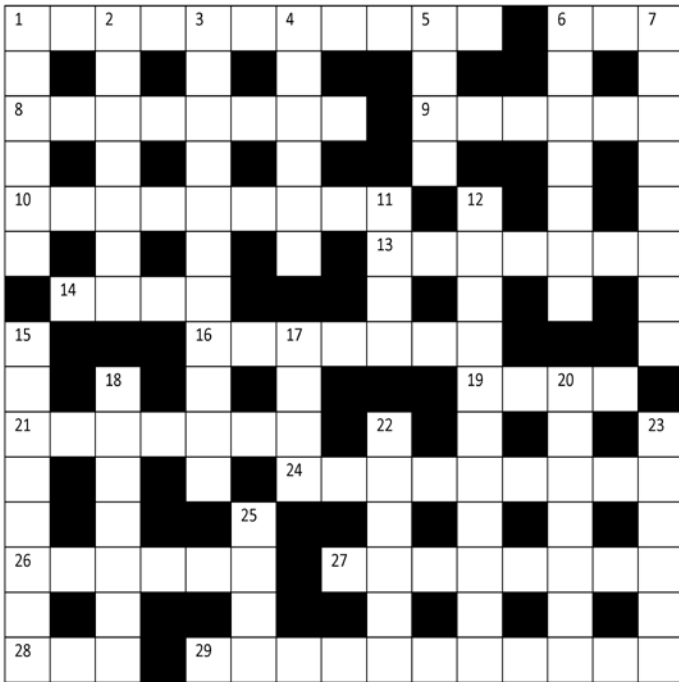


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**Cryptic Crossword No: 49**

See page 31 for the answers.



**Across**

- 1 Can hardly con rob somehow to produce compound. (11)
- 6 Mountain discovered using a scalpel. (3)
- 8 Fruit broadcast expected to inter. (8)
- 9 Savage deposit. (6)
- 10 I got eaten trying to bargain. (9)
- 13 The more I see of this gives me a proposition. (7)
- 14 No charge when liberal. (4)
- 16 Composition squeezed time between my French and an era. (7)
- 19 Measure maybe wee north of the border. (4)
- 21 Greater London love affair for charm. (7)
- 24 Found a tic in soap thanks to my eye technicians. (9)
- 26 Civil local like I choose initially in which to drink. (6)
- 27 Fresh starter. (8)
- 28 Beam uplifting if broadcast in the plural. (3)
- 29 Mined a root around pole to find divisor. (11)

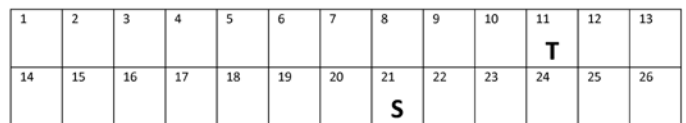
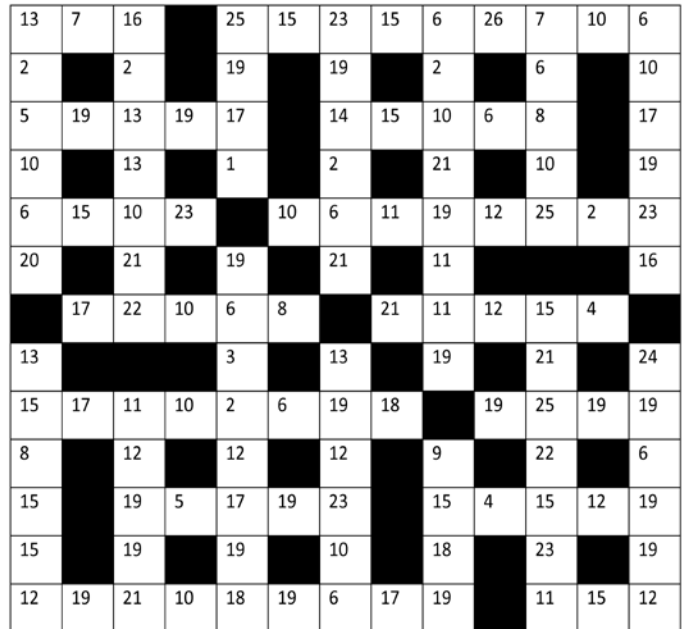
**Down**

- 1 Punishment or taking action to avoid it. (6)
- 2 Lady looking to lay a bet perhaps. (7)

- 3 Feeling of elation having made this giant leap. (4,3,4)
- 4 Article bowler Stuart may use to be away. (6)
- 5 Float houses to extract a pledge. (4)
- 6 Row kart in such a way to find craft. (7)
- 7 For deep rum, there is no alternative to be scented. (8)
- 11 Erupter that now and then starts. (4)
- 12 Blessing of good grammar perhaps. (11)
- 15 Windy player not always wearing trousers. (8)
- 17 Famous fiddler seen in banner overhead. (4)
- 18 Fetcher at court. (7)
- 20 A profit perhaps and street very adjacent. (7)
- 22 Flower or media technology. (6)
- 23 Sounds like you are internal to user for money-lender. (6)
- 25 Eruption of cane perhaps. (4)

**CodeWord No: 35**

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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## Butter Daisy Nursery

Wow, what can we say about this month? Well firstly we must tell you about the amazing revamp of our Pre-School Suite. As packages and deliveries arrived, we were bursting at the seams before the transformation took place. The children are now excitedly exploring their new and beautifully enriched environment, with a variety of zones which range from our charming construction corner to our restful reading rug and our magical mark-making and playful play dough stations, to name just a few.



This month the children have also been engaging in scientific investigations, making predictions and observing change when different components are added together. The children were particularly dazzled by the cola and Mentos volcano and amazed to see how high the fizz could go. "Just imagine if it reached the moon!" one of the children commented.



Our Babies have shown a big interest in looking at their own reflections recently and we decided to take this interest further as we set up some mirror play for them to explore. They enjoyed picking up the handheld mirrors and making lots of funny faces back at themselves in their reflection. They all found this so amusing!

The Toddlers continued with their love of painting and sticking masking tape to paper. They stuck the tape down firmly and painted over it, peeling it off when dry, and were amazed with the lines left behind! We experimented with colours too; the children used colouring pencils to make marks on paper and dribbled coloured glue all over it before adding lots of sparkly sequins. We also stamped alphabet stampers to paper looking at letters and their individual shapes.

If you are interested in coming to visit the Butter team please call on 01256 882515. There is lots of information about all nurseries within the company, our mission statement, opening times and fees on our website [www.mydaisynursery.com](http://www.mydaisynursery.com)



## Hello Everyone from Little Apples

It's another busy term here at Little Apples.

When we returned to pre-school after Easter, the Little Apples celebrated St George's Day with a castle and by making shields decorated with their choice of shapes and colours. We have now started our focus on minibeasts and we are thinking about all sorts of bugs and creepy crawlies. We are exploring the life cycle of butterflies in lots of different ways. We are learning the words to describe the different stages of a caterpillar's life and having fun trying to spot butterflies in our flower garden, especially when the sun shines. We have our own baby caterpillars too – at the moment they are tiny but eating away, just like The Very Hungry Caterpillar. We will care for them through the different stages until the excitement of releasing the fully matured butterflies.



This week we are also enjoying a pizza kitchen in our role play corner. The children helped make our pizza ovens and are exploring a range of ways to recreate "pizza" with different media, including playdough and real herbs.



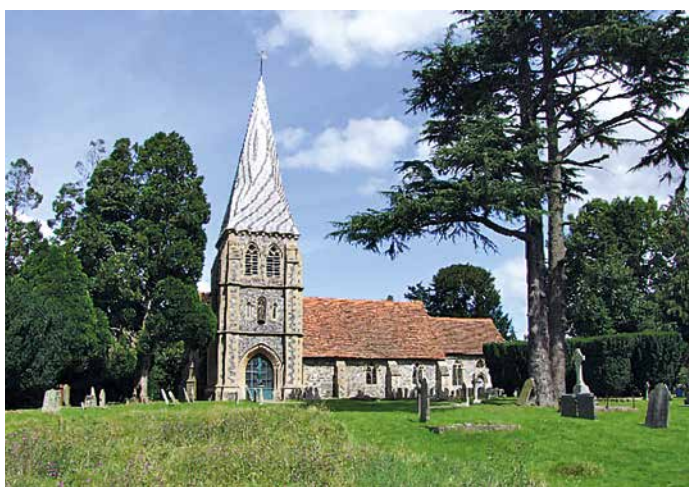
This activity has helped the children explore many areas of the Early Years Foundation stage including maths through counting, shapes and size and positional language; physical development through placing the items and balancing the pizzas into the ovens, and communication and language through discussing what we are doing, our likes and preferences and learning new vocabulary.

Please contact us on [manager@littleapples.org](mailto:manager@littleapples.org) if you are interested in any information about our nursery. We accept children from two years old and are currently allocating spaces for next academic year, so please register your pre-school child now to avoid disappointment. Information on help with childcare can be found at <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

[www.littleapples.org](http://www.littleapples.org) Tel - 07598 588460

**D**id you know that St James Church in Bramley is part of a wider group of four local churches? This group goes by the snappy name of The United Benefice of Sherfield on Loddon, Stratfield Saye and Stratfield Turgis with Hartley Wespall, Bramley and Little London. You won't be surprised to know there are plans to update that name.

But where are these churches? Well, most of you will have passed St Leonard's Church in Sherfield-on-Loddon, even if you weren't aware of it. It's set back from the A33 opposite the road to the garden centre. You can get a good view of it as you drive from Sherfield Park towards the Longbridge Mill roundabout, but why not turn into the large car park and take a closer look?



There has been a church on the site for 900 years but little remains of the original church building, which was extensively restored in the late 19th century. Some older features still remain, including some 14th century traceried windows, some brasses from the 1590s and floor tomb slabs from 1708 and 1735.

In recent years major refurbishment works have been completed including the re-shingling of the spire and the addition of a hall with kitchen and lavatory facilities.

The other two churches are to the north of Sherfield-on-Loddon, in the hamlets of Stratfield Saye and Hartley Wespall. We will take a look at these churches in future articles.

## Bramley and Romans Floral Society

We held a Zoom meeting on Thursday 6 May, when Carol Bennett demonstrated five arrangements under the title "May Time".

First there was a simple contemporary design of three test tubes filled with orchids, hanging from a ring, which was covered with wool and contorted willow. Next there was a Japanese theme: three bamboo structures in a narrow tray, decorated with Solomon's Seal, apple blossom and traditional Japanese clematis.

Instead of hanging ribbons from a pole to illustrate May Day, the third arrangement used plaited ribbons to form a base and to cover two smaller square cartons. Flowers were arranged sparsely around the edges, so that the beautiful ribbons could be seen, and there was a small colourful arrangement in the top carton.

The fourth arrangement was in a dish with a structured crisscross top. Beech twigs, tulips and ranunculus were inserted through the gaps of the top. Lastly, Carol filled a simple long tray with five glasses covered with paper and tied with a bow. Each glass was filled with posies in coordinating colours.


Only two of the arrangements used oasis - a contribution to becoming green.



Our next meeting on 10 June will be a demonstration entitled "Summer Time" by Jane Hass. It will still be on Zoom and Dusty will send out the link nearer the time.

When it is possible to resume regular meetings, these will take place at Sherfield on Loddon village hall at 1.30pm on the first Thursday of the month.

Eileen Gulston



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**I**s there a reason why the colours on this beautiful butterfly resemble a well-known brand of mustard?

**John Stubbs** answers that question in **A Hot Tip**

In the end I decided that no, seeing the year's first Orange Tip was not to be called the 'harbinger' of spring. Nice sort of word that it is, apparently harbinger started its literary life meaning the job of fixing up accommodation for important visitors – hence making a welcome resting place, as in harbour. Bit of a cliché, anyway, and nowadays sadly stuck either with spring or doom. Butterfly-wise you might well have seen a rather tatty Peacock on a warm March afternoon, or the odd Brimstone even in January, but they'll have been last year's editions, having spent the winter hiding in nooks and crannies, disguised as best they can from mice and spiders. But an Orange Tip in the garden definitely marks the start of early summer: it's usually the first butterfly to wriggle out of its chrysalis to stretch its wings for a flight and a drink. The little green caterpillars will have hunkered down, sometime from July last year, with a calendar and the weather forecast, to spend the winter months completely recasting themselves.

Early to mid-April, somehow these guys time their emergence for a warmish spell. Quite how this is accomplished so precisely is unclear, though related to day-length and temperatures. It's a tricky call for the insect; a week too soon could mean snow and no nectar - a week too late and you miss the best of the fun courtship rituals and egg laying sites. Over millennia, the species will have evolved to suit a location, with a range of a few early-birds and latecomers to cater for exceptional years. That's fine, and works when the average seasonal timing is stable – a rapid, step change however, continued for each of a number of years, means that losses will be high, hence subsequent broods tend to be smaller each year. Though insect egg production is normally generous, evolution doesn't handle rapid changes at all well, so climate heating and consequent earlier spring-times can stress populations beyond recovery, particularly when other factors such as a habitat loss are added.

Luckily, the Orange Tip isn't at present much threatened. The over-wintering chrysalis is well disguised, and some

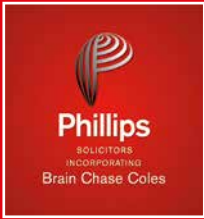


of its food-plants may bloom early to suit an early hatching. The photo above I took mid-April, a male on the flower Honesty, one of the handful of plants in the brassica family, favoured by this butterfly, that include varieties of wild mustards. Now, of course, mustards aren't known for their mild sweetness – surely a young caterpillar would go for plants tasting of grass or lettuce? Apparently not. A field of oil-seed rape has pretty powerful pong, horseradish can bring tears to your eyes, as may wasabi and a range of culinary mustards from Dijon to Norwich. Such plants produce spicy chemicals primarily to deter browsers, but these are from the group of plants that this insect chooses for its eggs. The hatchlings start by eating their eggshells, followed by the occasional sibling, if they get too close. Then it eats the plant's seedpods for a month or so, the parts of the plant from which mustards are made, so it's going to be the spiciest tasting bit.

Come next Spring when the pupæ hatch, the butterflies will be out there looking for nectar and mates – and as one of the first to appear, they might

look like a quick snack for any hungry bird. Or anyway, for any hungry novice bird. Those few instances when a bird's been seen to try Orange Tip for lunch have resulted in a prompt change of mind and much beak-wiping. A lot of butterflies are unpleasant eating, but this one, it seems, is the pits. So, an early life consuming mustard oils is not just a healthy diet, but gives added predator protection.

The males make a point of advertising their flavour with the vivid wing decals, even brighter than a tin of Colman's. The females, however, don't bother, keeping plain white upper wings. Modesty, or bravado? One theory is that it's a case of the females selecting those males that look the brightest, hence most healthy and least prone to getting eaten. It could also suit their different roles – the males tend to adopt a sunny local pitch, while the females zoom off round the field edges, keeping a lower profile. Personally, I reckon that if I'd spent a month eating nothing but mustard seeds, I'd have more than a few brightly coloured patches.



**Planning for the future**



Lucy Watson

When it comes to thinking about the future of your loved ones it is important to have plans in place to cover all eventualities should anything happen to you.

Many people put off planning for the future because it is something they would rather not think about, or choose to worry about it at a later date – after all few people like to face up to the eventuality of their passing.

If this sounds like you, your loved ones could be left with some very complicated issues to resolve at a difficult and emotional time.

It is worth remembering that if you do not make a Will, when you die your estate will be dealt with according to the Rules of Intestacy, where the law dictates who inherits your estate. This may be against your wishes, especially if you are unmarried or live with your partner.

At Phillips Solicitors, our expert lawyers in our Wills and Probate team, understand the importance of planning for the future.

To find out how we can help you plan for the future, please contact Lucy Watson, who is the head of our Wills and Probate team, by calling 01256 854646, emailing [lucy.watson@phillips-law.co.uk](mailto:lucy.watson@phillips-law.co.uk) or by visiting [www.phillips-law.co.uk/wills-probate](http://www.phillips-law.co.uk/wills-probate)

When contacting Phillips Solicitors, please mention The Bramley Magazine.

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In addition to drafting and reviewing Wills, we offer a wide range of other services too. These include dealing with your affairs after your death through our probate service, where we wind up your estate with sensitivity and understanding and help your family get through what can be a very confusing and upsetting time.

We can arrange for Lasting Powers of Attorney (LPAs) to be set up, so that someone can take care of your decisions in the event that you lose capacity, maybe as a result of an accident or illness.

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**If something you ordered hasn't arrived**

If you bought something from a business to be delivered, it's the seller's responsibility to make sure the item is delivered to you.

If the seller used a courier, they should chase the courier to find out what's happened to your order - it's not your responsibility.

Check the delivery address you gave the seller. Then contact them and ask where your order is.

If the seller claims they've delivered it or don't know where it is, you can ask for a redelivery. You might be able to get a refund in some circumstances.

**If you still want your order**

Under the Consumer Rights Act, you can ask the seller to deliver the item again if the item wasn't delivered either:

- by an agreed date
- within a reasonable time - usually within 30 days:

**If you want to cancel your order**

You can cancel and ask for your money back if you don't get the item either:

- within 30 days of buying it
- on the date you agreed with the seller - if it was essential to receive it by then (for example, for an event)
- on the date of the second chance delivery you agreed with the seller

**If you think the seller has broken the law**

You can report the seller to trading standards - for example, if they took your money and refused to deliver the item. Trading Standards may investigate but won't usually be able to get you your money back.

If you need help to write a letter to the seller or are not sure what to do next, please contact us to see if 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)



**Basingstoke Cops** have recently updated us on who our local **Police Community Support Officer** is and how we should contact them.

Perhaps you like to make your local PCSO aware of something in your area, ask them a question, request some crime prevention advice, invite them to a community engagement or just arrange to meet them. The best way to contact us is via e-mail as we all work different shifts. **Please DON'T report crimes via e-mail.**

**Basingstoke Rural:**

**East** – areas include Bramley, Sherfield, Pamber and Silchester

PCSO 17926 Clapham  
([hannah.clapham@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:hannah.clapham@hampshire.pnn.police.uk))

**West** – areas include Tadley, Baughurst, Kingsclere, Burgclere, Highclere, St. Mary Bourne, East Woodhay and Sherborne St John

PCSO 17690 Ireland  
([bethany.ireland@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:bethany.ireland@hampshire.pnn.police.uk))

The above are supported by Sergeants, Police Constables (including many new students) and Special PC's (volunteers) across our Neighbourhood and Response and Patrol teams.

**Contact us?**

- 999 should only be used in emergency situations; when a life is in danger or a crime is happening right now.
- To speak to the police about anything else, you should call 101 or contact us online.

**Below are some useful links:**

- To report a crime <http://orlo.uk/i9Es5>
- To report Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) <http://orlo.uk/cx1S>

**Follow us:**

- Facebook - BasingstokeCops
- Twitter - Basingstoke Cops and @BstokeRuralCops
- Hampshire Alert – <http://orlo.uk/Xb5vZ>

**Group Mailbox:**

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**BUSINESS SIGNS**

Seen outside a camping Shop -  
*Now is the discount of our winter tent*

A Plumbers firm called –  
*All Cisterns Go*

The sign on Wayne the window cleaner's van –  
*I can see clearly now that Wayne has gone*

<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>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
<i>Karate</i>	Primary School Hall
<i>Petite Dance</i>	Village Hall
<i>Short Mat Bowls</i>	Village Hall
<i>Tuesday Club</i>	St Stephen's 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>WG Pilates 6.45 – 7.45pm</i>	Cross House
<i>Walking 4 Fitness &amp; Friendship 6.50 for 7pm (March-Sept)</i>	Clift Meadow car park
<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>Guides 7.30pm</i>	Village Hall
<i>Rainbows</i>	Village Hall
<i>Scouts</i>	Primary School Hall
<i>WG Pilates 9.15 – 10.15am</i>	Cross House
<i>Caterpillar Music 9.45am</i>	Village Hall
<i>Bramley Tea and Coffee morning 10-11.30am</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Pilates 7-8pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Yoga with Sam 6.45pm &amp; 8pm</i>	Brocas Hall
<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>Lunch Club 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday</i>	Cross House
<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>Pregnancy yoga 6.30pm</i>	Village Hall
<i>Beavers 6.30pm - 7.30pm</i>	School Hall
<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
<i>Beavers 6.30pm - 7.30pm</i>	School Hall

<b>Saturdays</b>	
<i>Petite Dance</i>	Village Hall
<i>Tennis (age 7-13)</i>	Clift Meadow

<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	Eileen Gulston	881125	e.e.gulston@gmail.com	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		
Activ8 Youth Club	Ed Ives	07964 069390		
Badminton	Jane Matthews	881647		
Beavers, Cubs & Scouts	Jodie Saunders	881113	jodie@bramley-scouts.org.uk	
Bell Ringers	Terry Cooper	881102		
Bramley Out of School Club/Holiday Club	Julie Belam	07711 339306	info@bramleyoutofschoolclub.com www.bramleyoutofschoolclub.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
Caterpillar Music	Jasmine McCarthy	07952 935021	jasmine.mccarthy@caterpillarmusic.com	
Clift Meadow Youth Cricket (Old Basing CC)	John Huntingdon		john.huntingdon@turbex.co.uk	
Clift Meadow Youth Football (Loddon Sports)	Chris Stevens	07782 325094		
Country Music	Roy Seymour	07917 744780		No children please
Floral Society	Linda Dove	01256 886167 07842 339161		
Guides	Ailsa Stockwell	07584 676931		
Hipp Pilates	Jo Kemp Williams	07557 412400	jo.kemp-williams@outlook.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	John & Pauline Walker	881065		
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	Julie Wilson		juliebelam12@gmail.com	See Facebook: Walking 4 Fitness & Friendship
WI	Pat Cole	881715	gpcoles37@gmail.com	
Yoga	Mark Golding	07969 890722	goldingyoga@gmail.com goldingyoga.com	

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**Cryptic Crossword No: 49 Solution**

ACNE	25	DENOMINATOR	29
USURER	23	RAY	28
STREAM	22	BEGINNER	27
AGAINST	20	PUBLIC	26
BALBOY	18	OPTICANS	24
NERO	17	GLAMOUR	21
BAGPIPER	15	DRAM	19
BENEDICTON	12	MONTAGE	16
ETNA	11	FREE	14
PERFUMED	7	THEOREM	13
ARTWORK	6	NEGOTIATE	10
GATH	5	TARTAR	9
ABROAD	4	DEWBERRY	8
OVERTHEMOON	3	ALP	6
DOWAGER	2	HYDROCARBON	1
HIDING	1		

Down

**CodeWord No: 35 Solution**

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



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