



# The Villager

May 2023

Sherbornes and Pamber



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# Editorial

## Damage to St Andrew's Church Window

I am sad to report that the stained-glass window behind the altar in St Andrew's church has been damaged. There are several holes in the window and a ball bearing was found inside the church. We therefore believe this damage to have been done on purpose. There was also damage to the outside tap and a downpipe. The damage has been reported to the Police.

The church is not only our place of worship; it is a historical building that has been part of our community for over 900 years. It will require specialist skills to repair the stained glass, and although we are making an insurance claim there will still be a significant cost to the church, which is reliant on donations from the congregation to maintain the church buildings.

The PCC Standing Committee are investigating the possible installation of motion sensitive lights and CCTV to ensure that we have evidence for any future incidents, but this will add to costs.

Could I please ask that villagers walking past the church remain vigilant, and if you notice any nuisance behaviour around the church buildings or the churchyard, please report this to the PCC or the Police on 101. Thank you

*Lynda Harding*  
Churchwarden



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

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Contact us at [villagermagazine@gmail.com](mailto:villagermagazine@gmail.com)

# Claiming Dates

## May 2023

2	Women's Fellowship, SSJ Village Hall, Speaker "The Amazing World of Magic" + Plant Stall	2.00pm
4	Election Day, SSJ Village Hall - (ALL classes are cancelled this day because of the election).	7.00am – 10.00pm
6	Sherborne St John Social Club – Live Screening of Coronation, Free Refreshments - Book tickets	11.00am
6	Sherborne St John Social Club – Family Skittles, Games & lunch - Book tickets	2.00pm
6	Sherborne St John Social Club – Visit from 'King Charles'	3.00pm
6	Sherborne St John Social Club – Best dressed King & Queen Competition - Book tickets	4.00pm
6	Sherborne St John Social Club – Frank Sinatra Tribute night and Charity Raffle - Book tickets	7.30pm
7-9	WB & NH Open Studios – Ramridge, Monk Sherborne Rd, RG24 9LH - www.joansart.co.uk	11.00am – 5.00pm
8	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	9.30am-11.30am
11-14	WB & NH Open Studios – Ramridge, Monk Sherborne Rd, RG24 9LH - www.joansart.co.uk	11.00am – 5.00pm
13	Sherborne St John Social Club –Eurovision Party - Book tickets	7.30pm
14	Basingstoke Festival of Speed, Memorial Park, Basingstoke	11.00am – 4.00pm
20	Sherborne St John Social Club – Charlie Suggitt Comedian, Doors Open 7.30pm - Book tickets	8.30pm
22	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	9.30am-11.30am
24	SSJ Parish Council AGM, Chute Pavilion	7.15pm
24	St Michael's Hospice - St. Michael's Movie Night, Barton's Mill - stmichaelshospice.org.uk	
25-29	WB & NH Open Studios – Ramridge, Monk Sherborne Rd, RG24 9LH - www.joansart.co.uk	11.00am – 5.00pm

## June 2023

3	Sherborne St John Social Club – Family Fun Event - Book tickets	4.00pm
3	Sherborne St John Social Club – Race Night - Book tickets	7.30pm
5	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	9.30am-11.30am
6	Women's Fellowship, SSJ Village Hall, Speaker "The Story Behind the English Dictionary"	2.00pm
17	Sherborne St John Social Club – Freddy Mercury Tribute - Book tickets	7.30pm
19	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	9.30am-11.30am
23	Basingstoke Festival – until Sunday 9th July. See publicity around the town	
24	Sherborne St John Social Club – Family Fun Event, Mr Mayhem & Tamtastic - Book tickets	4.00pm – 6.00pm
24	Sherborne St John Social Club – Double Tribute Night, Amy Winehouse & Cher - Book tickets	7.30pm

## July 2023

2	St Michael's Hospice - Sunflower Celebration, St. Michael's Hospice - stmichaelshospice.org.uk	
3	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	9.30am-11.30am
4	Women's Fellowship – OUTING	
15	Sherborne St John Social Club – Rock Band, The Darker my Horizon - Book tickets	7.30pm
17	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	9.30am-11.30am
22	Sherborne St John Social Club – Beer Festival - Book tickets	2.00pm
22	Sherborne St John Social Club – Carbon Copy Band - Book tickets	7.30pm
31	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	9.30am-11.30am

## August 2023

1	Women's Fellowship, SSJ Village Hall, Speaker "Sugar and Spice And All Things Nice"	2.00pm
14	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	9.30am-11.30am
28	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	9.30am-11.30am

## September 2023

5	Women's Fellowship, SSJ Village Hall, Speaker "The Am Dram Tart" + Harvest Tea	2.00pm
8	St Michael's Hospice - SMH Golf Day, Sherfield Oaks Golf Club - stmichaelshospice.org.uk	
11	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	9.30am-11.30am
25	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	9.30am-11.30am
30	St Michael's Hospice - Moonlight Walk, Festival Place - stmichaelshospice.org.uk	

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



# Services for May 2023

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

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

## Sunday Club:

For children from School year R and upwards will meet during the service.

*For more information please contact Caroline Elphick on 01256 851384*

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

As we are now in a period of vacancy for the position of Rector of the parish, we may have some preachers yet to be confirmed.

Please check our website or register for our weekly newsletter for up-to-date information.

## 07 May – King's Coronation Service

10am All-Age Coronation Celebration – SSJ Village Hall Steve Howe

## 14 May

10am Morning Worship St Andrew's  
Esther: Power & Corruption Esther Chapter 1 Bret Rohloff

Please note, there will be no service at All Saints on 14th May

## 21 May

10am Morning Worship St Andrew's  
Esther: God quietly at work Esther Chapter 2 Steve Howe

## 28 May

10am All-Age Morning Worship St Andrew's  
Miracles of Jesus: Luke 9:28-36 Pippa Aslet  
The Transfiguration– Jesus' true glory revealed.  
10am As above Pamber Priory Andy Spence

## MIDWEEK

Home Groups meet in the week of Monday 8th & 22nd May

Central Prayer Meeting – Second Saturday at 8.30am –13th May

Little Acorns – Wednesday's at 10am-11.30am at SSJ village hall, term time only

# Roman Catholic Services (Tel: 819772)

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

## Weekday Mass

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

\* Time & Venue could vary



PARISH COUNCIL

**Kiln Farm**

As in last month's Villager the main topic of concern for the Village is the proposed development of Kiln Farm with 350 houses. The Parish Council sincerely hopes that many of you reading this have already sent in your objections to Basingstoke and Deane BC. The Parish Council has also been working with the same consultant for the Neighbourhood Plan to produce a report to support our objections.

**If you have not sent your objection as yet – we urge you to do so – its not too late.**

At the time of writing we have not had any further details of the possible development of Weybrook Farm – if we do we will let you all know.

As a village we really do not wish to be joined to Basingstoke, to lose our individuality, our community and our identity as a lovely village we are all very happy to live in.

**Neighbourhood Plan**

Following the consultation exercise in January, work is nearing conclusion on

the 1st draft of the review of the NP, which is due to be submitted for initial comments to the local planning team at Basingstoke later in April. Once these comments are received & included, the draft plan will be submitted for the Reg 14 consultation stage by the summer, to be followed by further local consultation before its finalised.

We have commissioned and completed specialist reports on landscape/key views and the local gap, heritage and protecting the conservation area, with support from planning consultants ET Planning using Locality grant funding. Local volunteers have produced a wildlife ecology report. A design code is to be produced by AECOM which will accompany the plan, seeking to ensure that future new development is more in keeping with the character of the village. The plan will include stronger policies on heritage, protecting local greenspaces, the landscape and the maintaining the local gap between the village and Basingstoke.

On housing, we are subject to pressure from a number of speculative sites at the moment. We expect that the NP will help to protect the village against speculative development, but much also depends on the selection of major housing sites within the Local Plan by the borough council, which is due out in Autumn this year.

**The Kings Coronation**

An event which has not happened for 70 years is about to occur – I am of

course referring to the Coronation of King Charles III on the 6th May 2023, especially as very few of us remember the last one.

**The Village extends its warmest Congratulations to our new King and Queen Consort.**

On this occasion most of the events are in the Village Hall and in Sherborne's Social Club over the Coronation weekend, the Parish Council having decided not to hold its own events for a number of reasons including affordability and confliction with other organisations.

One Neighbourhood -You may have noticed a number of "One Neighbourhood" signs around the village. The first meeting was a success with over 60 attending and a few local "road" groups have been set up which will run themselves.

It is lovely to hear about that happening, it strengthens our local community atmosphere.

**Parish Clerk**

The Parish Council is still looking for a Parish Clerk following the departure of Mrs Penny Mayo last July.

*Councillor Linda Agnew*



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**emma@thehay.co.uk**

# News from the Pambers and Little London

Hello again everyone,



I write to you on a glorious evening, the sun streaming through the study window. There's a real feeling of Spring in the air. Lawns all look wonderfully lush, hardly surprising since this has been the wettest March since time immemorial! - or 1981 at least. The daffodils in Pamber Forest were superb last week; they seem to get better every year. They were greatly appreciated by my fellow-walkers, not least the one of the canine variety.

And our recently-planted magnolia has produced some beautiful blooms. It does not begin to compare with the fabulous magnolias in the villages. There is one as you leave Little London on the Silchester Rd. It appears to be perfectly symmetrical, as though it has been pruned with the help of a tape-measure - or a pudding basin.

Superb! Any tips on magnolia care most welcome 😊. And if any proud magnolia owners send me a picture of their tree in all its glory, I could create a collage for our next issue.

Tips on deer dissuasion also most welcome. There must be a gap in our link fencing - note to self, check it out - as I was surprised to see a muntjac in the garden early one morning last week. I can only describe it as 'hanging around' as it didn't seem at all interested in the plants. Looked to be trying to cadge a fag from a mate behind the gym! They really are quite unattractive creatures, aren't they? Most unlike their cousins.

Another indication of Spring was the frogspawn spotted by a friend. I haven't seen any frogspawn yet but was amused to witness a spot of frogs-porn. (Those of a nervous disposition should look away now 😊)



I'm afraid I have no Villager to whom to introduce you this month: the person lined-up was unable to contribute for personal reasons. That gives me an opportunity - and the space! - to invite you to suggest someone who ploughs their own furrow - maybe even literally - quietly, and who deserves a mention in our August publication. You may even like to have your very own moment of fame! Copious detail not required; just a line or two and a pic so we recognize you.



When you read this the Coronation will be upon us and I do hope some of you will send me some photos of local celebrations. I was immensely grateful to those kind readers who sent me some of their Platinum Jubilee pics, and was only sorry I was unable to include them all.

Enough. Continue to enjoy our lovely villages and their rural surroundings and do, please, send me any news of interest to others. Thank you! **B**

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## Flytipping

Now you see it .....



But after 1++ years..... Now you don't !



Thank you to Basingstoke & Deane Street Cleaning Team for clearing the mess down Kiln Farm track.

**If you see any fly-tipping do contact**  
**Rhys.Gilbert@basingstoke.gov.uk**  
**Tel: 01256 845272 or phone 101**

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# Staying in touch with Nature at The Priory



Spring is a beautiful time of the year across the UK, and no more so than at The Priory Primary School in Pamber End. We feel very grateful that the school is surrounded by trees and greenery. The school has a gardening club that works every week on planting and pruning and weeding and digging. They are responsible for our amazing flower boat!



The school also has an active Eco Council, which is one of our student leadership groups. Recently the Eco Council has done three things to help the environment:

- Introduced a battery recycling scheme
- Devised a system to reduce food waste at lunchtimes
- Ordered and planted 200 trees from the Woodland Trust

Learning comes in many different ways at The Priory and instilling a love of nature is one way that we inspire a love of learning.

We currently have some spaces, so if you are interested in your children coming to The Priory, please give us a call on 01256 850062 or email [office@priory.hants.sch.uk](mailto:office@priory.hants.sch.uk) to arrange a visit. We also have an Open Day coming up on 25th May 2023, so if you'd like to see the school in all its glory, please give us a call to reserve a place.



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## Sherborne St John Primary School

At the end of the Spring Term, we enjoyed celebrating Easter with our service at St Andrew's Church and our annual Easter bonnet parade. Families came to watch as the infant children paraded their bonnets. It always amazes us to see the creativity and effort that goes into the bonnet designs. Prizes were won for the most eggtrime, most eggciting amongst a host of others!

Our Year 1, Year 2 and Class 4 children also performed for the school and their parents. The infant children put on a great show, demonstrating what they had learnt about tuned percussion. The Year 5 and 6 children, went on to wow us with their guitar skills. They have made so much progress in a short period of time, it was a lovely way to round off the term.

By the time this edition of The Villager is published, we will have been back in school a few weeks and well into our Summer Term. May is a busy month and we have plenty to look forward to.

We have special events to celebrate King Charles III's coronation planned with a particular focus on all the volunteers whose contribution we value so much.

Class 3 are getting ready to perform their country dancing and may pole dance at our May Festival on the 12th May. Our Reception children will be

visiting QMC for a science investigation day while at the other end of the school, Year 6 will be sitting their SATS tests; we know that they have worked so hard and will do themselves proud.

*Sherbert*

SSJ School Villager Correspondent



# Sherborne St John Social Club

## **CORONATION DAY, 6TH MAY 2023 FAMILY EVENTS** **(Free events, £1 entry for non members)**



<b>11AM</b>	Live screening of coronation on our big screen TV (free bacon rolls and tea/coffee)
<b>1PM</b>	Visit by the Mayor and Mayoress
<b>2PM (APPROX.)</b>	Family skittles games and lunch
<b>3PM</b>	Visit from King Charles
<b>4PM</b>	Best dressed king and queen competition
<b>6.30PM</b>	Fish and Chip Van outside club (Self pay)
<b>7.30PM</b>	Frank Sinatra tribute night & Charity raffle



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## *Upcoming* **EVENTS** FOR MAY - JULY 2023

<b>6TH MAY</b>	<b>CORONATION BREAKFAST – FREE</b> <b>CORONATION FAMILY EVENTS – FREE</b> <b>FRANK SINATRA BAND – FREE</b>	AT 11AM  AT 7.30PM
<b>13TH MAY</b>	<b>EUROVISION PARTY</b>	AT 7.30PM
<b>20TH MAY</b>	<b>CHARLIE SUGGITT COMEDIAN</b>	AT 8PM
<b>3RD JUNE</b>	<b>FAMILY FUN DAY</b> <b>RACE NIGHT</b>	AT 4PM AT 7.30PM
<b>17TH JUNE</b>	<b>FREDDY MERCURY TRIBUTE</b>	AT 7.30PM
<b>24TH JUNE</b>	<b>FAMILY FUN EVENT</b> <b>DOUBLE TRIBUTE NIGHT – AMY WINEHOUSE AND CHER</b>	AT 4PM AT 7.30PM
<b>15TH JULY</b>	<b>ROCK BAND, THE DARKER MY HORIZON</b>	AT 7.30PM
<b>22ND JULY</b>	<b>BEER FESTIVAL</b> <b>CARBON COPY BAND</b>	AT 2PM AT 7.30PM

**GET YOUR TICKETS ONLINE - [SSJSOCIALCLUB.COM](http://SSJSOCIALCLUB.COM)**

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# Beau's Blog

Isn't it time for my walk yet???



I patiently wait for the Boss to complete his perusal of the daily news, finish his cup of coffee or his nap or whatever is stopping him from taking me for my walk.

Patience is a virtue the Mrs tells me, not sure about virtue, I would prefer a rawhide "tue" any day.

Back to the daily walk - if the sun is shining there is never a problem. Usually the Boss is as enthusiastic as me to get outside but if a few raindrops fall from the sky the story is oh so different. He does not like the rain or grey days, you know the type - low cloud and dismal outlook - these are the days he disappears into his workshop and it's a devil of a job to get him to come out. I have perfected a few ploys to encourage him to spend time with

me. These include fetching my ball and dropping it at his feet while looking encouragingly into his eyes and wagging my tail. Another is standing directly in front of him and staring unblinkingly at him for long moments of time or until the Mrs dissolves into giggles and says "I think Beau is trying to get your attention" - I can always rely on her for back up. Finally I resort to touch as per this photo. I can remain in this position for any length of time, occasionally changing paws, until the weight of my paw gets to him, making his foot ache, at which point and with encouragement from the Mrs he eventually gives in and I get to go on my walk.

Now that is patience.....

<http://beauregardsdogblog.blogspot.com>

## Camino de Santiago de Compostela (goes through Monk Sherborne!)



The body of Saint James was 'found' buried in northwest Spain about 1200 years ago and has been venerated

ever since - especially in Medieval times and, increasingly, in recent times. A large cathedral was built there and it has now been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. 'Santiago' means 'Saint James' in English.

In England, in the year 1121 King Henry I issued an order to build a great royal Abbey in Reading - and it was enormous, becoming one of the largest

Abbeys in Europe; however it did take around 200 years to complete. King Henry died on 1st December 1135 and was buried in front of the altar; Thomas Becket consecrated the Abbey in the year 1164 (building still continued). Reading Abbey was confiscated by King Henry VIII in 1539 and used it as a desirable royal residence. Subsequently the Abbey fell into ruins which were heavily used in building defences during the English Civil War when Reading was besieged by Parliamentarian forces

Pamber Priory was first proposed in the year 1110, and it was sufficiently complete for it to be consecrated by

Bishop William Giffard in 1128 (note that it is now approaching its 900th anniversary).

The St James Way (the English part of the pilgrim route to Santiago de Compostela) commences at Reading Abbey, comes through Silchester and Bramley and then through Pamber Priory and the footpaths of Monk Sherborne on to Worting and, finally, Winchester and Southampton. Pilgrims could divert to Portsmouth to catch ships for the onward journey to North France or all the way direct to North Spain.

*David Cullum*

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King's Coronation Party at The Olive Tree

Saturday 6th May



Let's all celebrate the King's  
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# Sherborne St John History Society



## 20th CENTURY CORONATIONS

The local newspaper, then called the Hants & Berks Gazette, reported the festivities held in the villages for the Coronations held in 1902, 1911, 1937 and 1953. Parish Council Minutes also give us some detail.

Planning for King Edward VII's Coronation was fraught with difficulties. Originally planned for 26 June 1902 it had to be postponed due to the King's illness, just 2 days before. An abdominal operation was performed on the King on a table in the music room of Buckingham Palace. While the King was recovering a Service was held on the 26th which many of the foreign dignitaries attended. They then went home so the Coronation on 9th August was a British only event.

In spite of the delay in proceedings the Gazette reported that in SSJ 'the festivities were not on an elaborate scale, but what was done was done well. There was a church service which 'was well attended, high and low, rich and poor mingled together to celebrate & thank God for the recovery and crowning of the King.' This was followed by a tea in the Schools for 160 children and then all went to the cricket field for competitive sports – 'a very happy and successful day'.

Local celebrations for the next Coronation, of King George V, in 1911, were much more elaborate.

The SSJ School Log book reported that the Schools were closed for a week from 21st June. Funds of £100 were raised and two committees were formed. The Gazette reported that the General Committee was led by Mr Chute of the Vyne and Mr Hammond, the school headmaster. There was a separate Ladies committee.

Invitations were sent to every house. It isn't clear how many workers were given time off, but after a short Service at the cricket ground everyone processed to Vyne Farm where '400 villagers sat down to a meal of roast and boiled beef, roast mutton, salads, bread, cheese, beer and mineral water'. Sports were held at The Vyne and tea was served at 4pm for 650 villagers each of whom were presented with a souvenir mug and plate. It was then the turn of the schoolchildren to put on a show which included Morris dancing. The celebrations ended with the Hook band playing for dancing and a finale of fireworks on the far side of the lake.

We don't have such a detailed account of the 1937 Coronation of King George VI. The celebrations seem to have been confined to a parade of children in fancy dress alongside decorated prams and bicycles walking from the Square to the recreation ground where there were competitive sports, maypole & folk dancing. No mention of food except for chocolate bars given to the children.

There will be a fair number of villagers who can recall the 1953 Coronation. Much effort was put into planning for events to be held on Saturday 6th June. Committees were formed in the preceding September to organise fundraising, entertainment etc. The W.I. was asked to organise the catering. The Parish Council minutes are particularly

detailed. £12 was allocated for souvenir mugs – these were to be given to the 123 children at school by Lady Chute prior to the Coronation. Teas were to be provided for the old people at an expected cost of £25 allowing 2s per head, other adults to be charged. A tea caddy was to be given to old people unable to attend. The football club agreed to organise the sports, Mr Paxton the fireworks and Mrs Lobjoit the community singing. Bramley Camp were asked to arrange for tents and seating. The Basingstoke British Legion band agreed to play.

There was a two day holiday for school children and on the actual Coronation day there was judging for the best decorated house competition. They probably didn't look their best in the dull and wet weather. The main village celebrations were held on the following Saturday which was 'a bright sunny day'. It started at 1pm with a parade of decorated vehicles in Manor Road. Does David Duffin remember winning 1st prize for his bicycle?

In SSJ, as in previous celebrations, there was then a procession from the Square to the recreation ground, where after a short service conducted by the rector, Rev J Vallance, a fancy dress parade was held. Tea was provided then the sports began. Community singing and dancing featured in the evening which culminated with a grand firework display at 10pm followed by a Scouts campfire.

The celebrations were judged as very successful with many volunteers contributing. Mr F Webber as Hon. Sec. was particularly applauded in the parish magazine for his work and enthusiasm.

*jshelvey@lillydown.net*

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# Hampshire County Councillor Report Calleva Division

## 1. Parking and Traffic Management

On 1 April 2023 the responsibility for Parking and Traffic Management services reverted from B&DBC to HCC.

Requests for new parking controls such as yellow lines, disabled parking bays and access protection markings will henceforth be handled directly by the County Council. Yellow lines and other waiting restrictions can be requested at: [traffic.management@hants.gov.uk](mailto:traffic.management@hants.gov.uk).

You can now report a parking contravention online on the Hants website. This is apparently proving to be a popular feature. To see this feature please visit our parking pages online.

From 1 April 2023, new on-street residents' parking permits will be digital, rather than paper based, although current permits will remain valid until the date of their expiry. All new permits issued by Hampshire County Council will need to be applied for via MiPermit, which will allow residents to apply through an app, online, or over the telephone.

Responsibility for off-street car parking will remain with the Borough Council except for Durngate Car Park in Winchester which is already managed by the County Council.

## 2. Budget provides £6m extra funding to pothole repairs

In March the persistent wet weather created further deterioration in road surfaces. This has been frustrating as February was not as bad as forecast and Hampshire Highways were getting on top of the situation following a very wet and freezing January. Let's hope we have a drier month in April! I can assure you that Hampshire Highways are working round the clock to assess, prioritise and fix potholes. Please continue to report road defects on the website, we really appreciate it.

In the Spring Budget on 15 March the Chancellor announced a further

£200m for the National Pothole Fund to help local communities to tackle potholes with £5,954,400 confirmed for Hampshire.

This is welcome additional funding. But the twin challenges of ongoing materials inflation and ongoing severe weather (almost certainly exacerbated by climate change) means that substantial further funding is still needed. We will continue to make the case to Government for further funding and a multi-year settlement.

## 3. Create a Local Nature Reserve

On 20 March 2023 DEFRA and Natural England updated the guidance on declaring a Local Nature Reserve. It is now much easier for Parish Councils to make a declaration. This is a great opportunity for Parish Councils to contribute to Nature Recovery whilst engaging members of the community of all ages in a worthwhile project which leaves a lasting legacy for generations to come.

### How to declare a local nature reserve:

To declare your site as a LNR, first you should contact Natural England by email: [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk) or telephone: 0300 060 3900.

You'll be asked to formally declare your LNR by sending a draft declaration document - you can use this declaration document template (MS Word Document, 26 KB). It must be signed by the relevant local authority committees, have a map showing the boundary and a management plan detailing:

- ownership of the land
- any agreements or partnerships
- why the LNR site was chosen
- aims and objectives
- biodiversity management and environmental education
- community participation, access and visitor management
- costs and funding arrangements

Following the consultation you will be asked to send the final declaration document to Natural England, signed by the relevant local authority committees.

- To read the guidance in full please click on this link:

[www.gov.uk/guidance/create-and-manage-local-nature-reserves](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/create-and-manage-local-nature-reserves)

## 4. Campaign to recruit more Foster Parents

While we have been working hard to reduce the number of children coming into care, the gap between the number of children needing a loving home and the number of Foster Carers available in Hampshire, continues to widen.

In order to close the gap, Fostering Hampshire Children has launched its #OpenYourDoor campaign. Dedicated to discovering 150 new fostering households across the county by the end of 2023, the campaign works with local communities across Hampshire to galvanise residents to support vulnerable children who desperately need our help.

Parish Councils can play an important and useful role in supporting the campaign by:

- a. sharing the messages across your PC social media channels and email groups;
- b. including an article in your local newsletters .

Thank you for supporting the #OpenYourDoor campaign

*Cllr Rhydian Vaughan MBE*

Member for Calleva Division  
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# Open Your Door to Fostering

## **Every 12 hours another Hampshire child comes into care in need of a foster carer.**

Children deserve to feel safe and happy. They deserve to be cared for. They deserve the opportunity to work towards achieving their potential. They deserve to have a stable home.

While Hampshire County Council has been working hard to reduce the number of children coming into care, the gap between the number of children needing a loving home and the number of foster carers available in Hampshire continues to widen. For every child for whom we find a home, there are others waiting. In order to close the gap, Fostering Hampshire Children has launched a campaign asking Hampshire residents to #OpenYourDoor. Dedicated to finding 150 new foster care households across the county by the end of 2023, the campaign works with local communities across Hampshire to galvanise residents to support vulnerable children who need our help.

Foster carers are kind, nurturing and selfless people. They play a vital role in advocating for young people currently in care, nurturing their physical and mental well-being, strengthening their

identities, and supporting them on their journeys. It is also important that local communities continue to do all they can to support current foster carers with the hugely important role they play in looking after the most vulnerable children in Hampshire.

Fostering Hampshire Children is an OFSTED-outstanding Local Authority offering generous allowances and pioneering training and support. Our growing community keeps you connected in your vital role enhancing children's lives. Through the Hampshire Hive, buddies, and groups, you will be well supported throughout your fostering journey.

You don't need to own your home or be in a long-term relationship. Sexuality and ethnicity don't matter. You don't have to do fostering as a 'full-time job,' and you certainly don't need to be 'practically perfect in every way.' Fostering Hampshire Children is looking for ordinary people aged over 21 who want to make positive changes within our communities across the county.

There are some things you do need: a spare bedroom, patience, resilience, open-mindedness, and positivity to name but a few. Fostering isn't always

easy; there are challenges to overcome and difficult days, but it's also a chance to build new relationships, learn about other cultures and offer stability to a young person at the time it's needed most. The support and training opportunities provided by Hampshire County Council are excellent, and the peer-to-peer support networks are second to none.

Fostering Hampshire Children urgently needs more foster carers to provide homes for Hampshire children, from babies through to teenagers, asylum seekers, sibling groups and children with additional needs or disabilities. We need your help today.

## **Can you open your door and become a foster carer in Hampshire?**

Please visit the Fostering Hampshire Children website at [hants.gov.uk/openyourdoor](https://hants.gov.uk/openyourdoor) and download an information pack today to discover more about becoming a foster carer. Together, we can make a difference to Hampshire's most vulnerable children.



---

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**With the cost-of-living crisis increasing demand for the Foodbank, we're looking to enhance the day to day running of our head office, central warehouse and seven local Foodbank Centres.**

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**We are having to re-advertise this vacancy, as our recently appointed Operations Manager has had to step down because of unforeseen family health issues.**

**We'll be looking for someone with excellent operational and administrative skills and the Christian faith, values and ethos which underpin all areas of our operation.**

**If you would like a full job description and to find out how to apply, please contact Phil Thomas the Foodbank's Chair of Trustees by emailing a brief note to: [1126phil@gmail.com](mailto:1126phil@gmail.com)**

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**Festival of Transport, Sunday 14th May 2023, Basingstoke Memorial Park**  
**The History of The Festival of Transport**



The Festival of Transport has been running in Basingstoke for 30 years. The Festival was originally established by the Thorneycroft Society, set up, by the previous employees, of this major manufacturer of lorries & cars in Basingstoke for over 75 years until its closure in 1969. Situated where Morrisons is now located, Thorneycroft's manufactured commercial and military vehicles and supplied specialist vehicles for both World War 1 and WW2, 'The Might Antar' used by the military from 1940 as the standard Tank transporter, will be on show at this year's Festival.

Less well-known is Thorneycroft's brief foray into car manufacturing, when, from 1903 to 1912, the firm produced high-quality cars at its Basingstoke factory.

For the last 5 years the Festival has been run by Basingstoke Deane Rotary, initially in collaboration with the Thorneycroft Society & Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council but now completely independently, but we still get help and support from the society members.

Over the years the show has grown enormously and is now one of the largest shows in the South of England, not just cars, but all vehicles, buses, lorries, vans and motor bikes, The exhibitor numbers are quite exceptional with some 900 cars, commercial vehicles, tractors and static engines occupying the War Memorial Park, behind the Civic Offices, in the town centre. Last year in wonderful weather conditions it was estimated that 20,000 people attended over our 5-hour opening period.



### **LOVE VOLUNTEERING**

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To be one of the team of almost 100 that help at the Festival of Transport - just for a couple of hours, half a day or all day - get in touch with Paul Temple - see contact info

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

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# The Royal British Legion



With the Coronation of our new king at this time, we in the RBL wait with interest to discover who will become our Royal Patron. Our late Queen Elizabeth II held this position during the whole of her reign and there is an expectation that our new monarch, with his own military history, will assume this mantle which we are immensely proud to bear.

Since the British Legion was formed in 1921, in the aftermath of WWI, it has always had a royal Patron; however its 'Royal' suffix was not granted until May 1971 to mark its Golden Anniversary.

At a ceremony in Cross House, attended by the Mayor & Mayoress of Basingstoke & Deane, the Bramley & District branch made some changes to various positions.

Tim Russell, the County Chairman, handed over the Standard to our new Standard Bearer Luke Holdcroft.

Luke is an ex submariner, he lives in Bramley and is a Firefighter at Rushmore Fire Station.

Air Commodore John Delafield took over as our Branch President and was invested with the badge of Office; The Revd Mark Anderson has agreed to become the Branch Padre and was invested with the appropriate British Legion prayer scarf.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Coffee morning at Sherfield Garden Centre Wednesday 3rd May from 10.30am - drop by for a chat!**

**Branch Meeting, Tuesday 9th May, 7.30pm at Cross House. Speaker TBC.**

**Visit our stall at Bramley Fete on Saturday 13 May. We are looking for books to sell which have a military connection, however tenuous. If you have any to donate please bring them to our stall on the day or contact me to arrange collection.**

*John Morley*

Branch Chairman  
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## Basingstoke Male Voice Choir – 23 in 23!



No it's not our birthday – the choir is well beyond 23 years old having been founded in 1964 – see photo!

Instead 23 is the number of choristers we would love to join us this year (2023). We enjoyed a successful recruitment campaign last year but, sadly, circumstances have conspired to leave us still short of our desired strength. A bigger choir gives us much more scope and flexibility to hold concerts on a regular basis – so we need more members. More concerts mean raising funds for local causes – probably more important in 2023 than ever!

The world renowned Treorchy Male Choir numbers in excess of 90 singers from a village of only 3,500 residents – Basingstoke has 120,000 residents. Surely we can 'drum up' another 23! We'll take more than 23 if possible but let's not be greedy!

Being in a choir can be a rewarding pastime. In addition to well known health benefits, it provides a great social vehicle for the man looking to give up a few hours a week in the search for complete contentment! Here is a quote from one of last years intake:

*'I joined BMVC in June and have learned so much about singing, especially in a group. It's a wonderful feeling when, all of a sudden, the weeks of practice come together. Not having formal singing or choir experience I thought might hold me back but that's not the case. I have been welcomed into a very professional yet 'fun loving' group.'*

We'll be running another Open Evening towards the end of spring but why wait

until then. You can come along to any of our rehearsals to get a taste of what to expect (Tuesday evenings at 7:30 PM at St Michael's Church Cottage in Basingstoke). Bring your friends, uncles, brothers – the only requirement we ask is that you're male! If necessary we can offer singing lessons but we don't demand any prior singing experience – it's just an opportunity to enjoy singing! We need voices across the board – whether your tenor, bass or baritone you'll be welcome.

Our choristers range from 18 to 80 years old so you're almost certain to find someone you can relate to. We'll assign you a mentor and before you know it, you'll be performing in concerts. Come along on a Tuesday – we'd love to see you! If you'd rather wait for the Open Evening you can always let us know or if you want more information contact us by visiting our website (<http://basingstokemvc.org.uk/contact/>) or email us at [basingstokemvc@outlook.com](mailto:basingstokemvc@outlook.com)



# Probus Hears About the History of Newbury Racecourse



Those readers who have not had the pleasure of an exciting day at Newbury Racecourse the talk by Probus Club member David Wickens shed some light on many interesting facets of our local horse racing course.

The Jockey Club, formed in 1750, licensed horse racing and controlled all matters that became known as “the sport of Kings.” The first record of racing in the area was in 1805 when heathlands

and country estates of the landed gentry were used, with this style continuing for a century.

The present course was the vision of Kingsclere trainer John Porter, who had fortunate connections with King Edward VII. After several designs had been rejected, finally approval was given by the Jockey Club to build the course mainly to his design. The cost was £57,240 with the first race meeting held in 1905. The course was recognised as having many original features for the owner/trainers, horses, jockeys and members of the public.

During both world wars racing was suspended, however the racecourse played an important role for the military with a variety of uses and especially in WW1 when it was used as a prisoner of war camp for captured German soldiers.

Over the years Newbury has had several important Flat and Jump races and is recognised as one of the “Top Ten” courses – attracting many famous horses and jockeys from all over the country to compete for big prize money.

Redevelopment of the racecourse started in 2010 with new facilities financed by the sale of land for housing and apartments on and around the course together with a children’s nursery, hotel and gym. The venue is also used for outdoor Pop concerts and was selected as a vaccination centre during the Covid pandemic.

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

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# Basingstoke Festival

Basingstoke Festival will return this summer to bring the best of the local, national and international arts to residents and visitors, running from Friday 23 June until Sunday 9 July.

The free family-friendly festival, based in Basingstoke town centre and across the surrounding borough, will give audiences the opportunity to experience and take part in outdoor dance, circus and street theatre performances in unusual places.

The festival will start with a parade through Basingstoke town centre with over 500 young people and community performers, and guests produced by local Fluid Motion Theatre Company. The theme of the parade this year is 'Flourish – being the best you can be'.

This year 15 national shows will be performed outdoors in the streets and parks of Basingstoke and Deane, across all three weekends. There will also be a programme of over 50 indoor and community events taking place across the borough during the festival.

One of national shows being performed this year is *Look Mum, No Hands* from Daryl and Co. and Mimbre. This is tender story about friendship and growing up and explores the idea of independence versus interdependence, vulnerability and strength, using striking physical imagery. The performance takes

advantage of the fact that one of the characters uses a wheelchair to create original and unexpected acrobatic shapes and choreographies.

The Place will present *The album: skool edition* by SAY, an outdoor dance show celebrating the joy and innocence of making up dances to exciting new music. Combining fast-paced and slick contemporary routines to new music, including tracks with UK beatbox champion MC Zani and alternative pop artist Naomi Banks, this is an interactive show created specifically for kids and their families.

A show which will engage all the senses, *Eau de Memoire* from Francesca Baglione, as Miss High Leg Kick, will be interactive and fun, celebrating the rich experiences and memories evoked by our sense of smell.

The festival will also be supporting home-grown local talent. This includes Proteus Theatre Company performing Shakespeare's *The Tempest* and Fluid Motion premiering a new show *The Greatest Show on Earth*, where audiences will be able to immerse themselves in the natural world to improve wellbeing. Scratchbuilt Productions' *The Fairy Finders Trail* will take audiences through town centre green spaces on a magical adventure and Junk Jodie's new show for children *SEA-TACULAR* will highlight the importance of protecting seas and rivers from plastic pollution.

Leader of Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council Cllr Simon Minas-Bound said: "The festival will span three weekends and offer something for every member of the family.

"With local, national and international acts performing across the borough, it's an opportunity to explore and participate in circus, dance and street theatre on your doorstep. This will be another event that proves Basingstoke and Deane is a great place to live and visit.

"There are also lots of community events to enjoy, with a programme of local performances and workshops. Basingstoke Festival will be flourishing this year, so keep an eye on the festival website and social media to find out when more acts are announced."

Basingstoke Festival is a partner in Without Walls, working with festivals and artists and bringing fantastic outdoor arts to people in towns and cities across the UK.

**For more information on Basingstoke Festival and how to get involved, visit [www.basingstokefestival.co.uk](http://www.basingstokefestival.co.uk) or follow @BasingstokeFestival on Facebook and @BstokeFestival on Twitter and Instagram.**

**The website will be regularly updated as more acts are confirmed.**

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## Coronation trails and picnic at The Vyne



In celebration of this landmark occasion two themed family trails will run at The Vyne from 6 May to 4 June inclusive.

On the garden trail, running 10am-4pm, see if you can spot 74 handmade crowns signifying each year of HM King Charles III's life.

On the house trail running 11am-3pm, count the portraits of all the monarchs

who have reigned since the time of Charles II.

On 8th May 12-3pm, bring your friends, family and a picnic and join The Vyne's big picnic on the North Lawn to celebrate the Coronation.

Don't forget to pre-book your parking space either online or by calling 0344 249 1895. Normal admission applies.





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# Basingstoke Civil Service Retirement Fellowship



At the meeting held on 5th April the Chairman, David Cowling, welcomed 41 members and 3 visitors and, after giving apologies and announcing birthdays, mentioned that as the next meeting would be held just before the Coronation we would have a small celebration ourselves. So instead of the usual biscuits there would be "coronation inspired" cake to have with the tea or coffee and he asked that any prizes donated for the raffle followed a red, white or blue theme. Also if members wanted to bring flags or bunting this would be very welcome.

Our speaker this month was Jackie Dimmock who gave a talk titled "30 years in Hampshire Constabulary" in

which she gave us a flavour of what life was like for a police woman in the early years of her career in 1982. She explained that good team work was vital for the job and how relying on colleagues was essential in order for the force to do a professional job. She enjoyed how every day was different and that when they started work that day they never knew what to expect as almost anything could happen. The downside to this was the danger any police constable could be put in whilst carrying out day to day duties and the resulting injuries which could be sustained. This was, however, all told with a great deal of humour and illustrated throughout with a variety of tapestries and examples of situations she had dealt with.

Our first trip of the year was on Monday 20th March when we had a tour of the Houses of Parliament. It meant an early start but we arrived in plenty of time to have a cup of coffee in the café before our tour started at 10.30. All of the staff were very friendly and helpful and our guide had a wealth of knowledge which he imparted to us as we visited both

houses and the lobbies. After the visit everyone found different things to do and have lunch before we left for home.

On Thursday 27th April there is Afternoon Tea at BCOT which includes sandwiches, cakes and of course tea all for £11. Then on Thursday 18th May our trip is to Swindon Steam and Designer Outlet and on Thursday 29th June we are going to the beautiful Exbury Gardens which should then be in full bloom. If you would like to join us on any of these trips please let us know.

The next meeting will be on 3rd May when Colin Pawson will give a talk titled "The Tootler" and on 7th June Tony Stafford will talk about "Bishops, Sex and Money".

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*

# Women's Fellowship

The April meeting Talk was given by Mr Jeff Evans on The Questionable History of the Quiz Show. Mr. Evans is himself a renowned quizzier and question setter, joining in teams alongside such champions as Paul Sinha, Anne Heggarty, from The Chase, and Kevin Ashman and Pat Simmons from Eggheads.

The first quiz show appeared on the BBC in 1938, called Spelling Bee, which was eighteen months before the general quiz show came into being. However, with the onset of World War Two the quiz show was stopped for over seven years when, in 1946, the show was taken across the Atlantic to New York by Alistaire Cook, the well-known writer and presenter of Letter to America. Back in the UK, London was the main venue and this began to cause problems when would-be contestants from all over the UK wanted to apply but were unable to travel to the studios. Manchester was the first provincial city to host quiz shows and became the Quiz Hub. Jeff Evans gave the (true) story of Bridge End - any wanna-be contestant had to put the front page of the Radio Times in their window on a given day when the TV crew was in town, and a crew member would knock on their

front door and possibly give them a slot on the quiz show.

The 1950's, '60's and 70's saw a huge increase in popularity of these quiz shows, with ITV in fierce competition. An issue the BBC had was the quality of the prizes, or amount of money given away, as it was considered inappropriate to spend the licence-holders' fees on such questionable matters. The ITV and other burgeoning commercial channels did not have this problem as their advertising fees more than covered the ever-sophisticated and expensive prizes.

Quizzes became more and more complex, and the quiz masters had to not only give out the questions but be a general entertainer to keep the studio audiences, radio listeners and television viewers interested. Michael Miles compered Take Your Pick throughout the '60's, until he died in 1971. Eamonn Andrews, Ted Moulton and Hughie Green all became popular compères, with shows such as Double Your Money, Name That Tune and Mastermind.

The BBC, ever mindful of the level of prize money, introduced games where the coveted prize was a Trophy - such as University Challenge and Brain of Britain.

Hostesses were introduced in the '60's and provided a stepping-stone for some actors, namely Amanda Barry and Dame Maggie Smith, who both started out as a hostess. One popular hostess was Monica Rose, a London girl who was mischievously outspoken, so much so that she was given her own Guest Hostess slot.

With the millennium came a change in the Quiz Show. Much higher sums of money were on offer, the studio audience was more of a feature and of course women were becoming popular contestants. Judith Kepple was the first person to win £1 million on Who Wants to be a Millionaire, which took two years to be won.

Such is the popularity of the quiz show, they can be accessed any time of the day or night, on a number of channels.

Mr Evans was thanked for his most interesting talk by Pat Burt.

**The next meeting on the 2nd May will be a talk on The Amazing World of Magic.**

**Meetings start at 2pm.**

**Everyone welcome.**

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- Payment for advertisements must be received in advance and are limited to 10 lines of type.
- For information on annual block advertisements please contact Emma Foreman

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# Contacts

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ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH	The Presbytery, Popley Way, Basingstoke	819722
BASINGSTOKE COMMUNITY CHURCH	Sarum Hill Centre, Basingstoke	316000
CLERKS TO PARISH COUNCILS		
SSJ	clerk@sherbornestjohn-pc.gov.uk	07714 770940
MS Mrs Cally Morris	clerk@monksherberborne-pc.gov.uk	07721 076186
Pamber Chris Gunnell	clerk@pamber-pc.gov.uk	07942 637210
BOROUGH COUNCILLOR for SSJ	David McIntyre cllr.David.McIntyre@basingstoke.gov.uk	
BOROUGH COUNCILLOR for Pamber	Kerri Carruthers	07824 797912
	Cllr.kerri.carruthers@basingstoke.gov.uk	
BASINGSTOKE & DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL	Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke	844844
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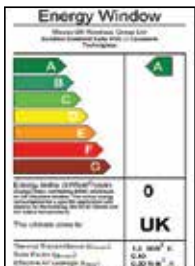
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