

May 2019

The

BRAMLEY

FOR BRAMLEY AND
LITTLE LONDON

Magazine

The Bramley litter pick

Life as a sea scout

The return of Graffiti Classics

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The Bramley Magazine

*for Bramley and
Little London*

May 2019

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

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

Cover photo:
Bluebells in the Frith

Don't you just love May? There's the promise of warmer weather, the whole of Summer is before us and we have two bank holidays! Following on so soon after Easter, that's four bank holidays in less than six weeks. I wonder what you will be doing on these precious days off. Going to the beach, shopping, visiting relatives? I've reached true middle age now and joined the National Trust, so you may find me at Cliveden or Basildon Park.

One downside to these bank holidays is the litter generated by visitors. After the early May bank holiday last year, when temperatures soared to 28°C, the residents of Brighton were faced with 50 tonnes of rubbish left by thousands of day trippers, while Southsea Common in Hampshire and Chatsworth Park in Derbyshire also had mounds of litter left over. Fortunately, Bramley and Little London don't have that much of a problem, although I was surprised at how much rubbish was collected during the litter collection last month. We collected nearly a sack of rubbish just between Meade Barn and the church. My daughter and her friend became experts at using the "grabby hand" and we were pleased we had been provided with protective gloves. Well done to Wendy Castle for organising the clean-up, and to all the volunteers who took part. They are featured on pages 8 and 9.

If you are a member of the Bramley Community Facebook Group you may have seen the litter pick promoted on those pages. There can be a lot of negative comments on Facebook and people are rightly upset about the amount of vandalism in the village and the insensitive parking. But there are lots of positive comments too. On the same day as the litter pick, someone put up a post asking whether we had picked our 5-a-day. She had been inspired by a lady she saw picking up litter in Bramley Lane who gave her the great idea of picking up five pieces of rubbish per day. As she pointed out, this would equate to 35 pieces of litter a week and 140 pieces per month, and if we all did this then together we could make a difference in our lovely village. The comments under the post showed that several people are already doing their bit to keep Bramley tidy so, who knows, if this catches on we may not then need regular clean up events (although I would miss my rewarding coffee from Cupper Joe!).

The newly cleaned up Clift Meadow was put to excellent use (sorry – couldn't resist) on Good Friday when lots of you joined in the annual Easter egg hunt. This was just one of the events on over Easter and you can find photos on page 20. In fact, there seem to be more photos than articles in this month's magazine, with a few more on page 19 to keep the train spotters happy. We also have news from the Village Hall and Parish Council and updates about the Bramley Show and Cross House. So if you've got any Easter Eggs left then put the kettle on, treat yourself to a bit of chocolate and get reading.

Best Wishes

Rachel

Rachel Barclay Smith, Editor

In helping others, we shall help ourselves, for
whatever good we give out completes the circle
and comes back to us

Flora Edwards, American author

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<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/childrens-services/childcare/parents/cis/eye/2-year-old-offer-2.htm#criteria>

• From September 2017, some 3 & 4 year olds will receive 30 hours per week free childcare.

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Email : manager@littleapples.org

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Church diary for May...

5th	3rd Sunday of Easter
8.00	Holy Communion – St James
9.00	Sunday@nine – Cross House
10.30	Matins (BCP, 1662) – St James
12th	4th Sunday of Easter
8.00	Holy Communion (BCP, 1662) – St James
9.00	Sunday@nine – Cross House
10.30	Holy Communion – St James
19th	5th Sunday of Easter
8.00	Holy Communion – Little London
9.00	Sunday@nine – Cross House
10.30	Morning Worship – St James
26th	6th Sunday of Easter
8.00	Holy Communion – St James
9.00	Sunday@nine – Cross House
10.30	Holy Communion – St James
30th	Ascension Day
10.30	Holy Communion – St James

... And into June...

2nd	Sunday after Ascension
8.00	Holy Communion – St James
9.00	Sunday@nine – Cross House
10.30	Matins (BCP, 1662) – St James
9th	Pentecost
8.00	Holy Communion (BCP, 1662) – St James
9.00	Sunday@nine – Cross House
10.30	Holy Communion – St James
16th	Trinity Sunday
8.00	Holy Communion – Little London
9.00	Sunday@nine – Cross House
10.30	Morning Worship – St James

Which worship style suits you best?

On most Sundays at Bramley Church, we have three morning services, each one reflecting a different style – but all three committed to worshipping God and thinking about the Bible's teaching.

8.00 Holy Communion: A quiet, reflective service without music.

9.00 Sunday@nine: A very informal, lively, relaxed service in Cross House, our church hall, with upbeat music led by a small band. Coffee/tea and breakfast pastries are served from 8.45 and throughout the service. Activities are run for younger and older children

10.30 Worship: A more structured Church of England morning service, using words from Common Worship or the Book of Common Prayer, and with more traditional hymns accompanied by our lovely organ.

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Catholic services

Basingstoke

Church of St Bede, Popley Way, RG24 9DX
Sunday Mass: 9.00 am, 11.00 am and 6.30 pm in St Bede's
Mass usually: Tues, Thurs and Sat 9.30 am in St Bede's
Holy Ghost Church, Sherborne Road, RG21 5TX:
Mass usually: Mon, Wed, Fri 9.30 am in Holy Ghost Church
Phone 01256 465214 or email
stbedes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk for information
See www.stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk

Tadley

St Michael's Church, Bishopswood Road, RG26 4HG
Saturday Mass: 6.00 pm
Sunday Mass: 9.15 am
Parish priest: **0118 9814572**



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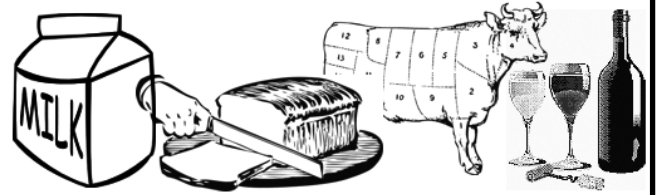
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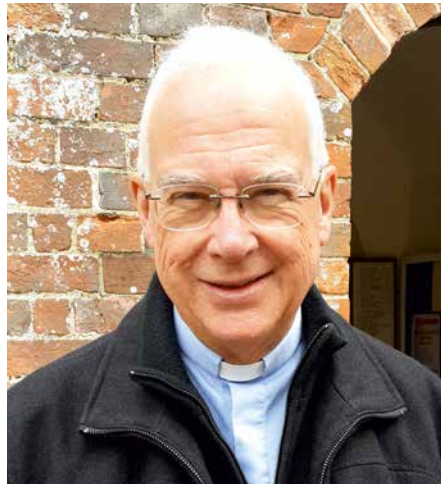
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We spent all last Sunday afternoon glued to the television, watching the final round of the Masters golf tournament at the Augusta National course in Georgia, as Tiger Woods pulled off what was arguably the most remarkable come-back in golfing history, winning the competition just one stroke ahead of his nearest rivals. He last won the coveted green jacket that is awarded to the winner of the Masters in 2005; now, 14 years later – a lifetime in most sports, including golf – here he was, shrugging his way into that handsome jacket for the fifth time in his life.

Even if you're not a golfer, even if you have zero interest in the sport and no plans to change that outlook, you still can't help but be astonished at the way Tiger's fortunes have changed over the last 20 years. He first won the Masters aged 21 in 1997, the youngest player ever to win at Augusta. Over the next 12 years, he set record after record. He had a reputation for being squeaky clean in every regard, a man of total integrity, with a beautiful wife and gorgeous children. He commanded top dollar for firms to use his name to endorse their products. He is reputed to have earned over \$10 billion dollars since turning professional in 1996, of which only 10% has come from prize money. At every tournament, he was followed by adoring crowds, cheering him on.

And then, in 2009, it all collapsed. In the small hours one morning he was found in the driving seat of his car, bleeding and semi-conscious after hitting a tree outside his Florida home. No sooner had the news of the accident hit the headlines round the world, prompting questions about what he was doing out on his own at that time, and why he'd hit a tree so near to home,



Rev'd John Lenton

than rumours began emerging of a string of extramarital affairs and other disreputable activities, rumours that quickly proved to be true.

His reputation was in tatters. His wife left him and divorce followed. He became the butt of jokes on every late-night talk show. Sponsors dropped him left, right and centre. Worst of all, his health and his golf game fell apart. Between 2014 and 2018 he underwent four back operations. By 2017, he was ranked 1,199 in the world rankings. And in 2017, police charged him with driving under the influence when they discovered him asleep in his car at the side of the road with the engine running. Cruelly, the police leaked his mugshot to the press; the photo showed him with bags under his eyes, looking like a down-and-out. He was clearly finished.

Except he wasn't. His comeback began the next year, after he recovered from the last of his operations. He won his first major tournament since 2013 and moved up to number 13 in the 2018 world rankings. And last Sunday at the Masters he showed great composure under tremendous pressure as he battled his opponents, gaining and losing and regaining the lead at different points in the final round, cheered on by the crowd that had deserted him and laughed at him in the bad years but now wanted him to win back all that he had lost. And in the end, he came through to win in fine style. A truly remarkable come-back; it's no wonder that Tiger's

joy and delight showed this to be the sweetest victory of his lifetime. And perhaps it's my imagination, but it seemed to me that the experience of the bad years had given him a humility that caused him to regard the victory, not as his rightful due, but as a generous gift, a second chance.

It was a great come-back for Tiger, a thrill to watch. But two weeks ago, on Easter Sunday, we celebrated a come-back that put Tiger's in the shade. Two grieving women went to weep at the tomb of the man that they'd seen brutally executed on the Friday. But when those two women arrived at the tomb on the Sunday morning, they found it wide open. Two men in gleaming white clothes were standing there, who asked the women: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!"

Over the following six weeks, Jesus Christ was seen by more than 500 people; a number of times he came and spoke to his disciples and others, ate with them, held their hands – not a ghost, but a living, warm, vibrant human being.

To come back from defeat and disaster to victory – that was a great event for Tiger and his fans. To come back from the defeat and disaster of death on a Roman cross to vigorous, victorious life – that was a truly supernatural event, not just for Jesus and his immediate friends and disciples, but for every human being since then who is willing to believe, to take him at his word, and to follow him. Because his victory over death meant that he can promise freedom from the fear of death, the guarantee of life with him forever, to everyone who trusts him with their lives. That is the true message of Easter.

I hope that Easter for you this year, as you look back, was more than just a Bank Holiday with lots of chocolate eggs – but if that's all it was, there's still time to think again: may it be the start of a come-back for you and for everyone who hears and accepts the message of Easter for themselves.

In this month's Meet the Neighbours we meet some of the volunteers who took part in the Bramley litter pick on Saturday 13 April



Sue Hill

"Litter drives me nuts. My family all live locally and we always pick up our rubbish. Why can't others?!"



Neil, Alison, James and Oliver McMahon.

Oliver: "We're picking up litter because it's bad for animals."

James: "We like playing here so it's good to help keep it tidy."



Osten Woodhouse

Osten is in Cubs

"I'm doing this because it helps nature. The grossest thing I found was a dog poo bag. A full one."



Rachel, Jonathan and Sophia Barclay Smith

Rachel: "We picked up a lot of rubbish from hedgerows and ditches. I think people must throw it out of their car windows without thinking about the people who live here."

Sophia: "We found some broken bottles. If an animal had stepped on the glass it could have been badly hurt."



Alison Pitch with sons George and Thomas

George: "I don't want the animals to eat it and get sick - and it would be horrible if it was all dirty when we run around and play here."



Bianca LeRoux with daughter Hollie and dog Casper

Holly: "I wanted to help because I don't want Casper to eat rubbish and get poorly when we go for a walk."

Bianca: "We've been watching programmes about caring for the planet - it makes me really sad to see litter."

Do you know someone who contributes to our community, who you'd like us to feature?
Please email editor@bramleymagazine.org.uk or tell one of the editorial team.



Husband and wife, David Canham & Amanda Giles.

David: "It's good to do something that supports our community."

Amanda: "It's great to be part of something that brings the village together like this."



From left to right: Sarah, Eleanor, Helena and Laura

Sarah & Eleanor met Helena and her daughter Laura on this litter pick.

Sarah: "The grossest things we found were dirty nappies and dog poo bags."

Eleanor: "It's lovely to be able to give something back to our community."

Helena: "It's oddly satisfying! And great to see you're making a difference."



Vanessa & Amelia Moss (mother and daughter).

"We wanted to do something for the community. The grossest thing we found was cigarette butts."



Copper Joe kindly gave out free tea, coffee and hot chocolate to the volunteers.

Some of the volunteers with the sacks of rubbish (and cardboard!) they collected.



Bramley & Romans Floral Society

Our meeting in April was a workshop run by Stephanie Cornell, a demonstrator who is also a member of our club. Her workshop was called 'Spring Baskets'. We had all been given a list of what to bring along and Stephanie provided the baskets and other materials. She began by demonstrating how to wrap the small plants we had bought in cellophane before we put them round the edges of the basket. This allowed us to take them out and plant them in our gardens afterward. Next we placed four small glasses in the centre of the arrangement and filled them with spring flowers. As you can see from this picture the hall looked

really spring-like and all the baskets had an individual twist to them.

We stopped for a very welcome cup of tea and home-made cake and held our all important raffle for the afternoon's arrangements.

We meet on the 1st Thursday of the month at Sherfield on Loddon Village hall at 1.30pm. Our next meeting is on 2 May and is a demonstration entitled 'From Ice to Fire' by Mrs Christine Evans

Everyone is welcome. Please contact Eileen on 01256 881125
Eileen Gulston



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News from Bramley Village Hall

In mid-March we started the tendering process for the building work for the extension and refurbishment of the Village Hall; this part of the process is due to be completed by mid-April and we hope that by the end of April we should have a better idea of the timescale for delivery of the project. Knowing that will enable us to better assess the impact of the work on users of the Village Hall. Prior to the start of the work we will invite representatives from all of the user groups, community bodies and commercial hirers to a briefing session to talk through the plans for the Village Hall and discuss proposals for managing disruptive periods of the building work (we hope that not all of the building will be inaccessible for the entire period of the building works).

Looking ahead to the completion of the project, we intend to hold a grand opening event to celebrate its completion and to show our appreciation of the efforts of all those involved in delivering and supporting this project, including the users of the Village Hall. One of the events we will be announcing during the summer will be a children's competition to come up with a name for the new room we will be adding to the Village Hall – more details in due course. In the run-up to the grand opening event we would like to generate some media coverage of Bramley's new facilities and to look into different ways we can use social media to engage with the community in Bramley.

This brings me to a very specific issue and a request to our community, or at least one part of it. A few years ago,

the Government commissioned some work on charity governance and the make-up of Trustee bodies; the report (by the Charities Aid Foundation, CAF) identified that nationally over two-thirds of Trustees of charities were aged over 50 and that only 2% of Trustees fell into the 18-24 age group. Since then, the Government and many charities have been working to encourage younger people to get involved in Trustee boards through the **Young Trustees Scheme**. Here in Bramley, the Village Hall Trustees are keen to support this scheme; 80% of the Trustees are over 50 and we would like to have two younger members join the Trustees Committee this year. As Young Trustees they will be given mentoring by existing Trustees and will have specific roles and projects (such as working with the media, developing our communications and working with new community groups just starting up); this may involve using their existing skills and knowledge or it may encourage them to develop new skills. In any case, experience on the Trustee Committee is always good for the CV. Some more formal training opportunities may be available. If you are, or know someone who is, aged 18-24 and are interested in supporting the local community and can spare at least one evening per month and a few hours occasionally for some project work, then please contact me at chairman@bvht.org.uk

Gareth Jones

Chairman, Bramley Village Hall Trust

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Traveller Injunction

In June last year Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council obtained a 12-month court injunction to prevent travellers from setting up camp in Bramley, Sherfield, Silchester, Chineham and the recreation ground at Turgis Green. This was one of very few injunctions of its type in the UK and has proved very successful in reducing tension within the community. It also covered fly tipping but not the encampment on Cufaude Lane as this pre-dates the court order. The injunction gives the police the power of immediate arrest of anyone who breaches it.

On 4 April this year the court extended the order to include Basingstoke town centre and Tadley Common, an area of 26 square miles, and also extended the injunction to last five years. This is the first injunction of its type in the UK and is the result of years of hard work by councillors and council officers.

I will now be pressing the council to provide proper provision for travellers in the future so that unlawful encampments are no longer necessary.

Cllr Nick Robinson. 07585 578295

Representing Bramley and Sherfield.

Bramley Show 2019

Last month we gave you the recipe for the “men only” ginger bread and here is the recipe for the carrot cake which will be class 60 in the Domestic division of the schedule for this year.

CARROT CAKE RECIPE

100g/4oz caster sugar
75g/3oz self-raising flour
A pinch of salt
½ teaspoon cinnamon
½ teaspoon bicarbonate
of soda
60ml/2floz oil
1 egg
75g/3oz grated carrots

Topping

100g/4oz cream cheese
50g/2oz butter
50g/2oz icing sugar
chopped nuts
A few drops of
vanilla essence

- 1 Grease an 18cm/7inch square cake tin lined with greaseproof paper
- 2 Pre-heat oven to moderate Gas4 340 F 180 C
- 3 Sift the first 5 ingredients into a bowl, then beat in the oil and egg
- 4 Mix in the grated carrots
- 5 Put the mixture into prepared tin and bake in the middle of the preheated oven for 45mins or until firm.
- 6 Turn the cake out on to a wire rack to cool. When cold slice it carefully through the middle ready for the filling and topping.
- 7 Cream together all the topping ingredients except the nuts. Divide the mixture and sandwich the two pieces of cake together with half of it. Spread the rest over the top and sprinkle with nuts.

No recipe will be designated for the lemon drizzle cake at class 66 in the schedule.

At time of writing there are still some seed potatoes available for the children's potato competition.

We are also still seeking the help of someone versed in computer skills to take on management of our website and also someone to organise and manage the proposed Scarecrow Festival. If nobody becomes available the scarecrow festival will have to be dropped for this year. The members of our management committee for the show are a willing crew, but can only do so much and are largely bereft of the necessary social media and computer skills required to enable effective communication with the general public today, so any help in this area would be much appreciated. If you can help please contact Anne Porter at 9, Longbridge Road on 01256 881691.

Anne Porter

Bramley Show Committee

Clinic Closure

Clift Meadow baby clinic is closing. Final clinic date will be the 8th of May.

The decision to close this clinic is to centralise our sources or clients in the Basingstoke area to make our services more accessible for all.

See below for child health clinic options.

Self-weigh and advice:

The Ridgeway Community Centre, Blackdown Close, Buckskin, RG22 5BN

Every Monday, from 3 June 2019.

09.15 to 10.45 am

Clinic 2

The Discovery Centre, (Town Centre Library), Festival Place, Basingstoke RG21 7LS.

Every Friday.

09.30 to 11.00 am.

Health advice options:

ChatHealth 0-5 - parents/carers text messaging service

Available Monday to Thursday from 09.00 - 4.30 pm.

Friday 9-4 pm

07520 615720

Healthier Together website - what0-18.nhs.uk

Basingstoke Neighbourcare

Do you need a lift to the hospital or the library or do you want to visit a loved one? If you are elderly, infirm or disabled and unable to drive yourself, Basingstoke Neighbourcare is here to help you. We cover the whole Basingstoke district out to Tadley and Bramley and surrounding villages and can also do trips further afield to major regional hospitals such as Frimley, Guildford and Southampton.

Volunteers are also needed so please get in touch if you can help.

Call 01256 423832 for further information.

Are you in need of a babysitter?

Hello, my name is Eve Saunders and I am looking for families in the village to babysit for. I am 18 years old and I am currently in my last year studying Childcare CACHE level 3 at Basingstoke College of Technology (BCOT). Twice a week for my placement I am in Alphabet City nursery in Highfields in Basingstoke. I am a friendly, happy and caring person. I have had experience of babysitting before as I have babysat for other families and for my two younger cousins. I am available from 6-10pm most days in the week and available on weekends in the evenings and during the day. In the day my hourly charge is £8 and in the evenings £7. If you need me after midnight it would be £10.

You can contact me on my mobile: 07563 929689 Or

My home number: 01256 850617

Graffiti Classics are coming back to the Bramley and Little London Music Festival on Saturday 15 June

Graffiti Classics took the Music Festival by storm in 2017. They didn't sit on chairs playing unknown pieces of classical music. They wore silly hats, danced around the church and sang *Danny Boy*. They even did a memorable performance of *The devil came down to Georgia*. If the Rev'd John Lenton had any concerns about one of the performers dressing up as a devil in church, he managed to hide it very well!

Graffiti Classics promised us an evening of music, fun and laughter and they certainly delivered, showing how classical music can be funny and exhilarating for everyone, young and old.

The band is now in demand all over the world so it is testament to the excellent reputation of the Bramley and Little London Music Festival that they were keen to return this year. I am sure the audience at St James Church will be just as appreciative as the audiences who have heard them perform in Singapore, Malaysia, Vietnam, Tunisia, Sweden, Holland, Estonia, Spain, Italy, Norway, Denmark, Greece and Ireland.

I am looking forward to attending a concert, dance show, gypsy-folk romp and stand-up comedy set all in one evening. Whether you regularly listen to classical music or have never touched a musical instrument in your life I am sure there will be something for you on the 15 June.

Here are some photos from their performance in 2017 taken by Ian Evett and this is what the press have said about Graffiti Classics:

"A simply wonderful show!"

The Times

"Graffiti Classics, the most sensational string quartet... combine superb classical music skills with inventive comedy and relentless dance energy... From Cossack dance to can-can, they caper their way through the popular classics."

Daily Mail



Dispelling the myths of the Music Festival

I'll have to listen to long unknown pieces of classical music.

Not at all. All the performers are instructed to entertain us and they usually play a mixture of short pieces, both classical and modern. They always like to engage with the audience so will chat to you about the music too.

I'll still be sitting for hours in a cold church

The concerts aren't long. Usually 45 minutes for the first part, followed by a short interval to stretch your legs, and then another 45 minutes. And the Festival is in mid June; it will be warm and sunny by then (hopefully!)

But the pews will still be uncomfortable

When did you last go to St James's?

We have comfy red cushions on the pews now!

So it will all be over by about 9.15? That's a bit early.

Well, you can leave then if you like but you will be missing out on the second part of the evening. After every concert complimentary drinks and canapés are served in Cross House, next to the church, and you get the chance to meet the performers (and even get their autographs!)

There's not much parking at the church and it's a long way to walk if you live in the middle of Bramley.

We are very grateful to Mrs Hall who allows us to use her farmyard as a car park. The farm is right next to the church and our trusty car park

attendants will be on hand to show you the best place to park.

If you have any other questions or would like to buy tickets do please get in touch by email, phone or via the website or Facebook page

But I could have a barbecue instead.

Well, you could, but how often do you get the chance to hear live, professional music in your village at such a low price?

Rachel Barclay Smith

Email: rbarclaysmith@gmail.com

Phone: 07570 972425/01256 541251

Website:

<http://bramleymusicfestival.org.uk>

Facebook – Bramley and Little London Music Festival

Royal British Legion - Bramley and District Branch



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

As those of you who attended the last

Branch meeting in February will know, we had a very successful meeting at Cherry Blossom Manor Care Home. We were very well looked after by the staff and residents of the care home and we would like to extend our thanks to them. So successful was this last meeting that we intend to hold the next meeting at the same location. This will be held on Tuesday 14 May 2019 starting at 7:30 pm at the Cherry Blossom Manor Care Home in German Road Bramley. As usual, we will serve light refreshments, including drinks. We look forward to seeing members and any casual visitors who may be interested in what we do.

At this meeting, you will all get a chance to see our new Branch Standard which has now been delivered. Our

Branch President and Standard Bearer would be delighted to show anyone the standard, as I am sure he would like an apprentice!!!

Also, an open invitation to those who have thought about joining the Royal British Legion. I know I have been speaking to a few people who said they would like to join us, so do come along and find out more. You will be made very welcome. Remember you DON'T need to have served in the Armed Forces to attend or become a member.



Hope to see many of you on Tuesday 14 May.

Steve Day – Branch Treasurer
– 07341 552732

<http://branches.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/bramley-district>

THE HURST SINGERS

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PARISH CHURCH

- MUSICAL EVENT

SATURDAY, 29 JUNE 2019

AT 7.30PM

THE HURST SINGERS

(Director Elaine Cox)

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We often hear what the Scouts in Bramley are getting up to but I wonder if any of them have had as many adventures as **Geoff Twine** did when he was a **Sea Scout in the 1940s**

I was 10 years old when I was inducted into the 1st Southbourne Sea Scouts. It was 1942, mid-way through the Second World War, and the scouts were engaged in various activities to help the war effort. I recall being involved in paper collections and metal collections, which were mainly redundant pots and pans. Some scouts went to work on farms but because I lived on a farm I was able to work at home, which I did after school and during the school holidays. My jobs included driving the tractor, harvesting, grass cutting and ploughing, all under my Dad's supervision.

My scout headquarters were adjacent to Chichester Harbour and close to RAF Thorney Island, which has some vivid memories for me. I recall one winter's evening in 1944 when an RAF Wellington aircraft, taking off towards the north from RAF Thorney Island, collided with a Mosquito aircraft flying east to west. The Wellington was cut in two and the tail portion of the aircraft, which contained the rear gunner in his turret, fell into Princed Harbour which was at low tide at the time. We heard the crash in the scout hall and two scouts rushed down to the shore and waded out into the mud to find the gunner. Unfortunately he was already dead, but the scouts, who were only 14 and 15 at the time, showed great presence of mind in attempting to rescue him. A plaque was erected in recognition of their bravery.

Another incident I remember involved an RAF Beverley aircraft that crashed in the sea short of the runway at RAF Thorney Island. A young scout heard the crash and rushed down to the harbour. The sea was at high tide this time and so he got into his father's boat and cruised out to the crash site. Although some of the crew had died, he managed to save a number of the others in an heroic rescue. He was later thanked and praised by the airman at RAF Thorney Island during a parade held especially for him.

We had many pleasant experiences around that time, despite the wartime restrictions. Because our scout troop was affiliated to the Admiralty at Portsmouth we were allowed to have a selection of boats on the water whereas the civilian population was restricted in using their boats during the war as the Germans could have used them during an invasion. Many weekends we would sail or row from Princed harbour to Wittering. We were also given a whaler boat by the Admiralty and four of us raced against other whalers in Portsmouth harbour. We won the race and were presented with a small engraved silver oar.

One experience which was not so pleasant was a journey I had to undertake in order to qualify as a first-class scout. My instructions for the journey were to paddle a canoe from Itchenor to Birdham Lock and then hike from there to Wittering and camp overnight at a farm. I had to make a fire and cook a meal and then hike back to Itchenor the next day. I had to keep a log of my journey and illustrate it with drawings of interesting buildings I spotted on the way. I had to carry a rucksack, as well as cooking utensils and a small tent. All this had to be perched on top of my canoe, which I had built myself and which my scout master had agreed that I could use. I was dressed in my full scout uniform with no life jacket and I was worried that I might capsize. I could swim but I wasn't a strong swimmer and I don't know how



Geoff in his Sea Scout uniform

I would have coped in the water in full uniform. To add to my worries, half way into the journey a group of porpoises formed alongside my canoe. I read in the local paper sometime later that porpoises had never been seen so far upstream in Chichester harbour. Well, I certainly witnessed them at close quarters and was worried they would cause me to capsize. I did this all on my own at the age of 14. I don't think this would happen today!

As my career in the scouts continued I progressed through the ranks, moving from patrol leader to troop leader and then, at the age of 15, becoming a senior scout. It was at this time that the first post war jamboree took place in France and I attended this with seven other scouts, four of whom were from the 1st Southbourne Sea Scouts. We travelled from Newhaven to Dieppe and then by train to Sens on the River Seine. I remember the journey so well because the war had only been over for two years and the devastation we witnessed was horrendous. I still have my identity badge issued for the jamboree, plus many other badges which we swapped with scouts from other countries.

After the jamboree I seemed to lose my enthusiasm for scouting, but I think this was because I had discovered girls!

Cross House@25

Thank you to all who have begun to contribute ideas on how we can celebrate 25 years of Cross House and have provided information on its main benefactor, Ella Tubb; more on this and firmer dates for your diary in the June edition. In the meantime, some ideas put forward have been a church service(s) to praise God for Cross House and its continued use, a mosaic or wall hanging related to a biblical story of outreach, and extending the patio stones in front of the Cross House office and Sunday School (Shell Club) room in parallel to the grave headstones.

Suggested events have included "Come and Sing Joseph", an evening of cricket reminisces, a model railway event, a children's concert (with adults), a pizza making event and a mini-literary festival. For the last event see a piece below penned by an anonymous writer based in Bramley; it's not me, honest. I'm still on 'Spot The Dog' and have trouble spelling Nebuchadnezzar (hope I spelt it correctly!).

Keep the ideas coming, many thanks.

Jonathan Large

jonathanlarge@waitrose.com or 0795 229 3001 (text only) or hardcopy through Cross House letterbox.

THE THEFT OF THOR'S HAMMER:

(A poem based on a Viking Myth)

There once lived the mighty Thor, his hammer, it made others sore:

in giant bashing days of yore, when there was any fighting.

Thor's hammer's name was Mjolnir, it was Thor's best friend which was very clear, Thor kept Mjolnir safe and very near, when there was any fighting.

But one sad day, Mjolnir was gone, stolen by a Giant who was fierce and strong. Thor said "I will right a wrong", when there was any fighting.

A note there came from Giantland; "I will return Mjolnir, if you give me the hand, of beautiful Freyja, at my command", when there is any fighting.

A cunning plan, young Thor confessed, as beautiful Freyja I will dress.

On my wedding day; Mjolnir I will redress, when there is any fighting.

And so, strong Thor dressed as a bride, to Giantland did fly and ride. A union with Mjolnir, Thor did hide, when there was any fighting.

At the wedding, by the feast, Mjolnir lay, on a tablecloth, well fleeced. Thor touched the hammer, with hands well-greased, when there was any fighting.

The Giant groom said, "hang on a mo, my bride is a bloke", but with one throw, Thor hit him with a mighty blow, when there was any fighting.

So to the matrimonial bed, the Giant with Mjolnir in his head, the moral of this story with the Giant dead, when there was any fighting.

To future folk, young Thor did tome; "Love each other, don't steal or roam, with hammer, don't try this at home", when there is any fighting.

Lunch Club

After a frosty start, the morning of lunch club was greeted by bright sunshine. After our usual welcoming cup of coffee or tea we played a couple of games of bingo, which were played with much hilarity. The first game was won by Arthur while Freda won the second.

This was followed by lunch. The main course was Judy's delicious fish pie with broccoli and peas. For dessert it was profiteroles covered with lots of tasty thick dark chocolate sauce. These were thoroughly enjoyed by everyone, although definitely not very good for our waistlines!

Christine's birthday was celebrated, and she was presented with a lovely potted geranium.

If you would like to join us please contact Christine on telephone no. 884065.

Freda Clark



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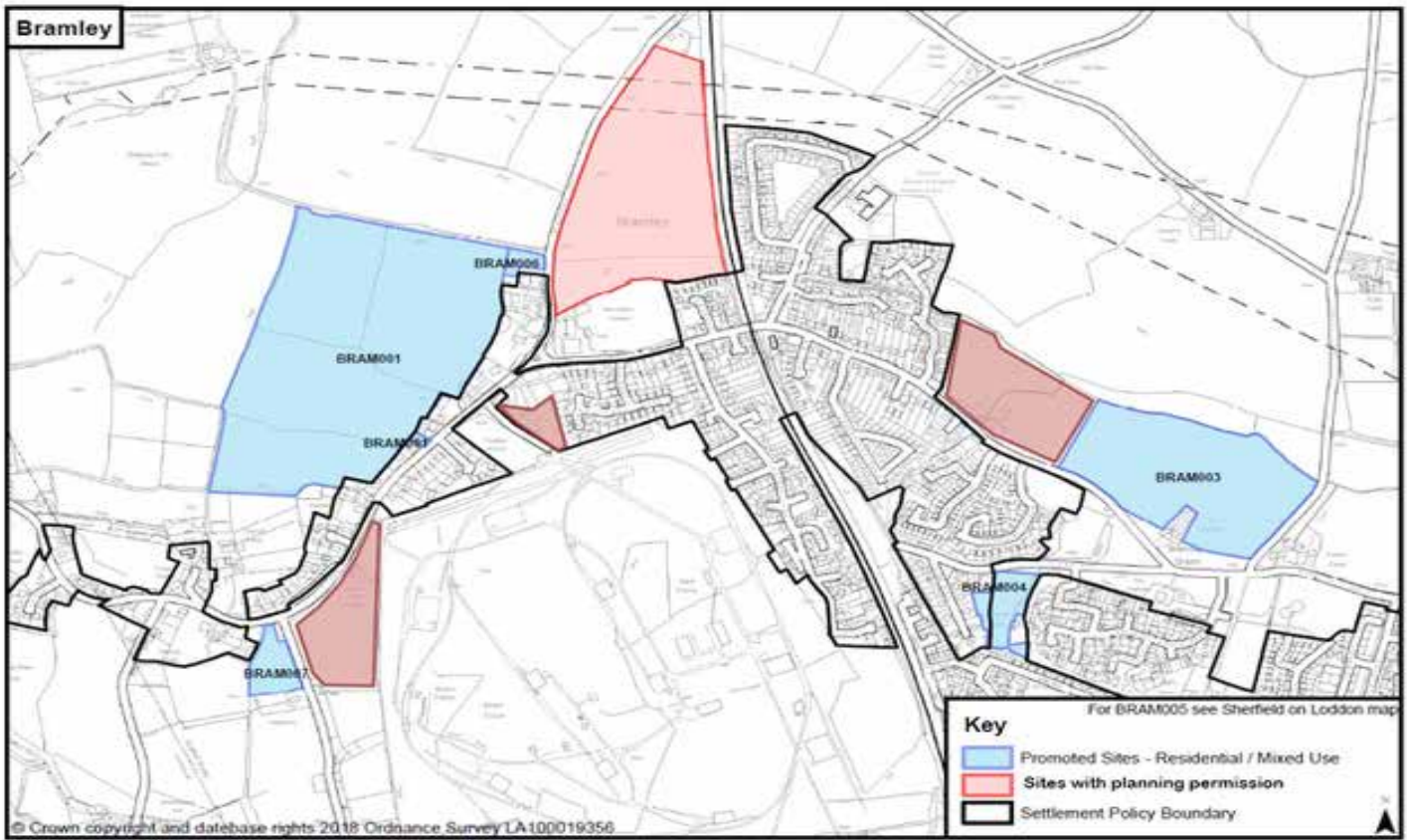
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Update from the Parish Council

Parish Annual Meeting

Once again it is the time for the Parish Council to review the year at its annual meeting. This year we have chosen **Thursday 16 May – 7.30 pm** in the Bramley Room at the Village Hall. Please come along and meet your councillors over a glass of wine and nibbles! We are hopeful to attract guest speakers...

Village Fete classic vehicles

Just a quick call for any classic vehicle owners who would like to join the display on Saturday 11 May to get in contact with Chris Tomblin – christomblin@rocketmail.com. Vehicles will be needed from 10:30 am until the show ends.

Neighbourhood Plan Team

Last month we asked for volunteers to form a working group to look at the development of Bramley from 2029 when both the Basingstoke Local Plan and the Neighbourhood plan period ends. We still need more people to come forward as we need to prepare **now** as BDBC are already in their planning stages...

The map above may help focus on the challenge faced by Bramley. It is from BDBC and shows sites that are being proposed for consideration in the centre of Bramley from 2029 and the PC have added those sites that have planning permission already, most of which are currently being built. This map does not show Razors Farm or Upper Cufaudd farm to the south which will be adding approximately a further 750 homes to Bramley Parish in the next four years or so.

If you can spare the time please contact the Clerk for more details.

Please remember that the Parish Council is here to serve our community. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month. Our website has all the news so please visit www.Bramleypc.co.uk. The clerk can be contacted at parishclerk@bramleypc.co.uk or 07810 692486



Your photographs

I've been sent some varied photos for the magazine this month. This tame robin stayed still long enough for **Karen Orriss** to take this photo of it making friends with her garden gnome. **Phil Bailey** had rather less time to capture these pictures of The Flying Scotsman powering through Bramley Station. And can you guess where **Stuart Bastion** took this aerial shot? (Answer on page 31)





BRAWLEY VILLAGE FETE

SATURDAY 11TH MAY • 12 NOON • CLIFT MEADOW

- CIRCUS SCHOOL • VINTAGE CARS • DOG SHOW •
- FERRET RACING • TADLEY BRASS BAND • STALLS
- FISH & CHIPS • TOMBOLA • FUNFAIR • & much much more!



There was lots going on in Bramley over Easter. Good Friday started with the special children's service as St James. The young helpers made this Easter garden and were reminded of the events that took place between Palm Sunday and Good Friday. The annual Easter Egg hunt at Clift Meadow was as popular as ever and both children and adults enjoyed searching for clues, spurred on by the promise of chocolate. On Sunday it was back to church for an uplifting and joyful Easter service (and more chocolate!). The church looked beautiful, thanks to the talented flower arrangers who had been hard at work on Saturday.



Paradoxically Speaking...

I was reading a detailed technical manual as part of my work a few years ago. I came to a page which bore the single sentence 'This page intentionally left blank'. My first thought was that the page was not blank, because it had that single sentence on it. What was it? It was a paradox. We live in a world full of paradoxes: here are just a few, and I am sure you will be able to think of some more.

The dictionary defines 'paradox' as follows: something which is apparently absurd but is, or may be, really true; or a self-contradictory statement. There is a thing called the Liar's Paradox, known for thousands of years. The liar says 'I am lying' which means they are telling the truth, because they are lying. You can go mad just unravelling statements like this. The ancient Greek philosophers knew how to have a laugh...

The same company who supplied me with the manual also supplied computers. When I opened the big box, there were a number of smaller boxes and envelopes inside. Three of them bore the legend 'Open First'. I was stumped for a minute but I battled through...

I have lived through several periods of fuel shortages, from the 1970s onwards. Invariably signs appear at petrol stations saying maximum purchase 5 gallons, or 20 litres or something similar. Inevitably queues appear and grow longer. Everyone wants their 5 gallons although normally they would fill the tank with 10 or more. So twice as many visits happen and the petrol stations cannot cope. The answer that was suggested was a paradox: have a minimum purchase so that people can only visit when they are nearly empty, which means that the number of visits is reduced and therefore the queues. No-one ever implemented it, however, because even though it's right, it sounds wrong.

There is a story of the tourist in Ireland who wanders into the open door of a pub, before opening hours. 'We're closed', says the barmaid. 'Would you like a drink while you're waiting for opening time?' And in the busy supermarket, with queues ten deep at all checkouts, one customer turned to another and said 'If it wasn't always so busy, more people would shop here'.

I used to have a very demanding and not very logical boss. He asked for yet another job to be completed in a short time and when I asked which of the half dozen tasks I could put on the back burner, he said 'you'll just have to make everything top priority'. Paradoxical indeed!

Even academic subjects feature paradoxes. In economics there is a phenomenon called the Paradox of Thrift. Generally, saving money is regarded as a good thing. But if too many people save too much, then spending falls and the economy contracts, and people lose their jobs because business is bad. This really happened in Japan in the 1990s. A recent speaker put it very succinctly: money is called currency because it should flow like a current, not stagnate in a bank account. Hilaire Belloc made the point in one of my favourite rhymes:

Lord Finchley tried to mend the Electric Light

Himself. It struck him dead: And serve him right!

It is the business of the wealthy man

To give employment to the artisan.

Even if we are not wealthy, we ought to bear this in mind. Money makes the world go round, as the song from *Cabaret* goes.

Michael Luck

Basingstoke Gazette Community Reports for Bramley and Little London

Many of you over the years will have followed the Community Correspondent reports by Phyl Davies every week in the Basingstoke Gazette. Sadly Phyl is no longer with us, but the mantle has now passed to me to continue in her footsteps. I will need items for inclusion to be sent to me by Friday each week. My email address is michael_luck@icloud.com.

Readers' Survey

Keith Dillaway, our Advertising Manager, would like to conduct a readers' survey. It won't take long to complete but will help us develop and improve our magazine.

If you would like to help, please contact him on bram.mag.adverts@gmail.com

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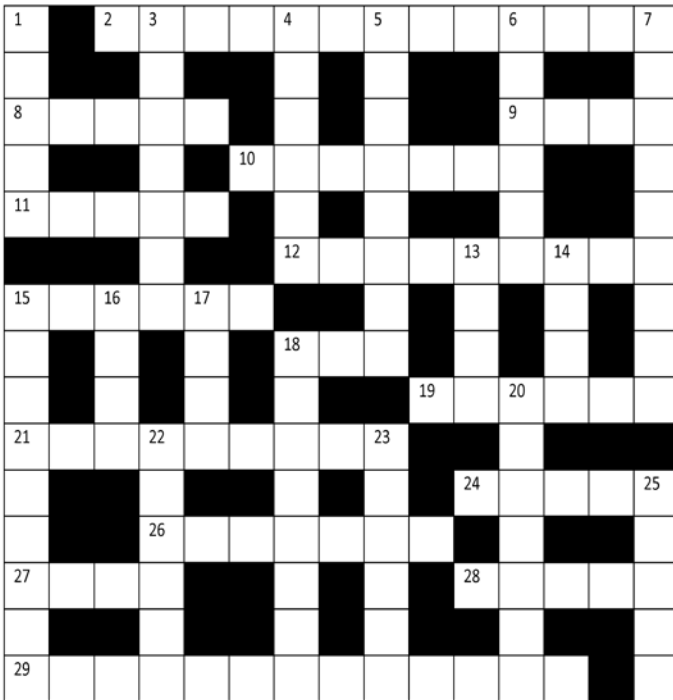


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Please contact me on 07566255890

Cryptic Crossword No: 27

See page 31 for the answers.



ACROSS

- 2 Mementos of one's arrival perhaps. (8,5)
- 8 Deliver in court to a master ? (5)
- 9 Feudal type of containment leads to some sort of tenure. (4)
- 10 Shortened game around many brings about garments. (7)
- 11 Although he confusingly sat in the exam, he still obtained a mark. (5)
- 12 Object about notice to achieve a little bit of weaving. (9)
- 15 Sailor posted a letter despite not being there. (6)
- 18 A place to retire to or to grow things. (3)
- 19 Redo us to become excited. (6)
- 21 Choose before having sat on a conductor. (9)
- 24 The residue of a test match series ? (5)
- 26 Short teacher is too small initially to make gains. (7)
- 27 Record old design. (4)
- 28 Prepare others for rail travel ? (5)
- 29 Wet vessel on fine feathers produced a tale of rabbits. (9,4)

Down

- 1 Initially most old secrets even seem to reveal a prophet. (5)
- 3 It's a bill despite sounding good. (7)
- 4 Pill is easier to swallow than piece of furniture followed by junction. (6)

- 5 Chattered having erected a red tent. (8)
- 6 Victoria was not in this state of mind. (6)
- 7 Dog doll is means to find sound precious metal. (5,4)
- 13 Inside he made a proposal so that he could stay dry in addition. (4)
- 14 Goddess exists repetitively. (4)
- 15 Sunset effect post light. (9)
- 16 I am King, so I reasonably expect, to start with, a respectful address. (4)
- 17 Shopping chain to follow ? (4)
- 18 Inflated marine creature. (8)
- 20 Mixed star team to open. (7)
- 22 Cape to bring about long cloak. (6)
- 23 Unbelievable that parent could be used to produce this kind of trick. (6)
- 25 Burn felt by the beard of the King of Spain some time ago. (5)

CodeWord No: 14

See page 31 for the answers.

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

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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Saturday 15 June

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Claire and Chris

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BATS Next Gen (winners of 2 Regional NODA Awards in March 2019) are proud to announce their forthcoming production of **Our House**.

This high energy, funny, yet thought-provoking musical takes us back to the 1980s and features the music of Madness, including *"Baggy Trousers"*, *"It must be love"*, *"Driving in my car"* and of course *"Our House"*.

Joe Casey is trying to impress his new girlfriend, Sarah, on the night of his 16th birthday. He breaks into a brand new, unoccupied block of flats owned by local property developer Mr Pressman. The police turn up and Joe must decide whether to run or face the music. At this point his life splits into two and we see the consequences of both these decisions on Joe, his family and on Sarah. Just how difficult can it be to make the right choice?

The show runs at The Haymarket, Basingstoke with performance on the 25-27 July at 7.30pm, with a matinee performance on Saturday the 27 July at 2:30pm.

Ticket prices (inclusive of £2 booking fee): Adults - £19.50

Concessions (under 16s, over 65s) - £17.50

Available online via www.anvilarts.org.uk or tel 01256 844844 or in person at the Anvil Box Office, Churchill Way, Basingstoke.

Director is John Eddie. Musical Director is Rachel Glover.

Choreography by Debbie Hemmings and Jade Hollingshead.

OUR HOUSE BY Tim Firth. Music and lyrics by Madness. Our House was first produced at the Cambridge Theatre, London on 28th October 2002.

Producers were Tiger Aspect Productions, Rupert Lord, Andre Ptaszynski and Phil McIntyre in association with Madness.

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International (Europe).

All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI Europe.

www.mtishows.co.uk

CALLED TO THE BAR

BARRISTER: What was the first thing your husband said to you that morning?

WITNESS: He said, 'Where am I, Cathy?'

BARRISTER: And why did that upset you?

WITNESS: My name is Susan!

BARRISTER: How old is your son, the one living with you?

WITNESS: Thirty-eight or thirty-five, I can't remember which.

BARRISTER: How long has he lived with you?

WITNESS: Forty-five years.

BARRISTER: How was your first marriage terminated?

WITNESS: By death.

BARRISTER: And by whose death was it terminated?

WITNESS: Take a guess.

BARRISTER: What gear were you in at the moment of the impact?

WITNESS: Gucci sweats and Reeboks.

BARRISTER: This myasthenia gravis, does it affect your memory at all?

WITNESS: Yes.

BARRISTER: And in what ways does it affect your memory?

WITNESS: I forget.

BARRISTER: You forget? Can you give us an example of something you forgot?

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Basingstoke Rural East newsletter

Your Neighbourhood Policing Team includes:

PC Lee Stanbrook PC Andrew White PCSO Emma Page

Community Priority

The current priority for the area is **theft from motor vehicles**. There were only six incidents reported last month. These involved the same issues as before: theft from vehicles left unattended in rural car parks and theft from work vans where tools are left out overnight. A blue badge was also stolen from a vehicle in Elmhurst.

Your local Neighbourhood Policing Teams need your help in setting new community policing priorities. Help us reduce crime and make your neighbourhood a safe place to live and work in. All we ask is that you spare five minutes to complete a survey to tell us which issues matter the most to you. We will use these results, along with police and partner agency data, to set our priorities for the next three months.

Pamber and Silchester

The football crossbar was stolen from the Mortimer West End Cricket Ground

at some point during the last two weeks of February. Tack equipment was also stolen from stables in Bramley Road. A window was damaged at St Saviour's Church at Mortimer West End between 14 and 16 March.

Bramley and Sherfield-on-Loddon

The Neighbourhood Policing Team in Bramley has seen an increase in reports of anti-social behaviour. Discussions with the Parish Council and Bramley Community Group suggest there have been other incidents that went unreported. It is important to tell us about these incidents. This enables us to get a better picture of ASB in the area. We are looking to identify those people involved.

We have been informed of off-road motorbikes riding with no helmets and no registration plates. A similar report was also made in Mortimer Lane.

In Kirby Drive and Farriers Close, we received reports that damage was caused

to a door and objects have been thrown at other doors. Wyndham Avenue and Clift Meadow are also areas where ASB has been reported.

News from other areas

There have been several reports of rogue trading, in which suspicious traders have visited houses claiming to undertake garden work or building maintenance. A report was also made of persons calling on an address in Tadley offering to complete roofing work.

Please avoid offering work to traders who attend your address, without researching the company involved. A way to avoid being a victim of this crime is to rely on recommendations from friends and family.

If you see anything suspicious, please report it to us. If you would like a visit from your PCSO, email emma.page@hampshire.pnn.police.uk.

To report crime or suspicious activity, call us on 101 or report it online by going to www.hampshire.police.uk. You can also report it anonymously to CrimeStoppers instead of the police, on 0800 555111.



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This is a really clever and nasty fraud, fraudsters telephone you to pretend there is a problem with software on your computer or broadband and state they can fix it by remotely connecting to it. They will instruct you to download a remote access viewing programme and once it's in place, they will have control of that computer. People have lost their life savings in this way, and it's devastating for those who fall victim.

If you get called in this way, the fraudsters may say they are from Microsoft, Talk Talk, Apple, BT or another firm. Don't confirm anything and do not start any process. Simply hang up. If you are worried that you may have had this experience, we would recommend you have an expert look at your laptop/computer in case there is still the software on it. You can also call us on 101 quoting Operation Signature.

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The Brimstone Butterfly has a relatively long life, once it has navigated the precarious caterpillar stage, as John Stubbs explains.

If you look carefully, you may well see this picture as a shot of a butterfly, superbly disguised as a leaf, taking nectar from a flower head. I reckon, though, that I could equally say it shows a piece of a three-dimensional existential jigsaw puzzle: we cannot see, and have only a sketchy idea of the layers of complexity governing how it lives, what it depends on, and how it interacts with its environment and other life-forms. It's just too easy to see it as an incidental garden decoration, minding its own business.

The brimstone is well known, pretty common, and hangs about a lot longer than any other butterflies round here. Most of our native varieties have an adult life in the sun of just a few weeks – some overwintering but rarely making a full year, some have but a few days. This one, however, could expect to be up for what we'd call a first birthday – they probably call it a good old age. There are, of course, both advantages and disadvantages for such an insect to spend a longer time in the adult stage, other than its probably being more fun. The plus points would be a better chance of finding a mate and the ability to cover a large area to find food supplies and the best environmental conditions. The downsides might include having to have anti-freeze in the winter, the need to preserve those delicate wings, and the increased exposure to all sorts of predators – life's slings and arrows, as it were.

The brimstone's lifestyle is rather more ambitious than that of most butterflies. Being mobile for longer allows it to travel around a bit, so that it can find suitable woodland in which to hibernate, and then move back to wetland scrub to find buckthorn on which to lay its eggs. The adults are not fussy eaters, taking a wide range of nectar sources. The larvae, however, can only survive on one of two particular species of buckthorn: this is something of an Achilles' heel for the animal – if that weakness can apply to a caterpillar, with lots of legs but not much in the way of heels. It means that if a parasite wants to catch a brimstone caterpillar, it only has to find one of those plants and stake it out. Parasites naturally like a host that can be reliably found in a specific place. From their point of view, it's a good option to adapt to one host species, so that the timing and method of attack can be evolved to perfection. Why take the chance of grabbing a random host that may turn out to be toxic, or one that dies before you're fully lunched?

The brimstone caterpillar is so widespread that it supports a couple of dedicated parasitic wasps: they depend totally on finding a brimstone larva and laying their eggs in it, no other host will do. This ploy wouldn't work so well if the hosts were rare or unpredictable feeders, they'd be a much more difficult target. The snag is, though, that if a wasp species always hits on one caterpillar species, sooner or later it'll develop a defence strategy. This is one of those multi-million-year arms races – given time, they'll find a way, or die out. These tiny parasitic wasps, the braconids, come in tens of thousands of species, all with slightly different habits – there are so many that only a small proportion have been studied in detail.

So far, so normal – in this miniature world, it really isn't horror-story stuff when an egg laid in a body devours it from the inside out: that's what these wasps do. The thing is that



though the caterpillar will inevitably die when wasped, the attacker has an extra ace. Somehow, the wasp has adapted a virus to behave as an immunosuppressant: the little blighters can thus grow inside undisturbed by the body's natural defences. This virus appears to have no other effects – it's just a sort of built-in assistant. Now how did that come about? The evidence apparently suggests that the virus infected the wasp some 100 million years ago, by chance taking up residence and being copied into the its genetics. One possible benefit of this to the butterfly could be that if a community has one specific parasite, with a stable long-term level of mortality, this wasp has the incentive to deter the attentions of competitor parasites.

All this may seem a bit academic, but in fact such wasps are increasingly being used to control pest caterpillars: used correctly they'll kill the target grub without the use of pesticides, and they're self-deploying, self-limiting and self-reproducing. This could be a very neat trick – but introducing strange species to new environments requires a detailed study of all the possible side effects. It's the sort of area that demands a coherent international process of evaluation and control. The law of unintended consequences is always ready to pounce.

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Basingstoke Lions Club

Having slipped back into the country earlier this month, I thought I might be given a month or so to re-acclimatise. When I suggested this I had doubts cast upon my work ethic and the marital state of my parents. So here we go with the big catch up.

Our November quiz raised £485.85 which was a nice lead into the Christmas Fundraising. We have to thank ASDA, the Co-op Old Basing, Morrisons and Chineham Tesco for allocating time and space for us to make collections, and of course the generous people of Basingstoke who donated a total of £2177.48. The money was used to make donations to the Women's Refuge, the Basingstoke Voluntary Association, Joshua Tree, May Place, Christmas lunches for the elderly and pantomime visits for disadvantaged children. I hope you think it was well spent.

Having had January off for "good" behaviour, the members went straight back in fundraising mode in February. Although I wasn't present, The Apollo Big Band concert at QMC was by all reports absolutely superb. Big Band music has a magic all of its own and it is a great pity that more people didn't turn up to be enlivened and entranced by this superb group. Let's hope the Moscow Drug Club, at QMC on 20 July, attracts more support. Otherwise I'm afraid our ability to assist those in our community in the greatest need will be severely compromised.

The programme for the rest of the year is currently:-

21 September: Ali Mak Rhythm and Blues band at the Royal British Legion

16 November: Quiz Night at the Millennium Hall

Other events are still under consideration. WATCH THIS SPACE.

Philip Wilson

Medical Mayhem

When a panel of doctors was asked to vote on adding a new wing to the local hospital, the **Allergists** voted to scratch the idea and the **Dermatologists** wanted no rash moves. The **Gastroenterologists** had a gut feeling that it was an inside job while the **Neurologists** thought the administrators had a lot of nerve. The **Obstetricians** felt they were labouring under a misconception.

The **Ophthalmologists** considered the idea short sighted, the **Pathologists** protested "over my dead body" while the **Paediatricians** said "Grow up!" The **Psychiatrists** thought it was madness, the **Surgeons** wanted to wash their hands of the whole thing and the **Radiologists** said they could see right through it.

The **Internists** thought it was a bitter pill to swallow, but the **Plastic Surgeons** said that recent events had put a whole new face on the matter. The **Podiatrists** thought it was a step forward but the **Urologists** felt the scheme would not hold water. The **Anaesthetists** thought the whole idea lacked sensitivity but the **Cardiologists** did not have the heart to protest. Finally, the **Proctologists** told the manager they were sick of the whole thing, that he should pull his finger out and put an end to the matter.

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Probus hears about the Royal Flying Corps & Royal Air Force in WW1

Probus Club member, retired RAF Wing Commander Bryan Jenkins gave a presentation about the growth of the Royal Flying Corps during the Great War.

Military thinking in 1910 was that aeroplanes had no potential use in war. General Haig thought in July 1914 that reconnaissance was the cavalry's role. By September this changed when basic aerial reconnaissance enabled the British Expeditionary Force to win a critical battle.

Aviation had to rethink its design and production. There was no domestic production with much reliance on French aircraft and engines.

Failure to fire through the propeller was overcome by having the propeller at the rear of the pilot. By 1915 the German Fokker Eindecker monoplane had overcome this technicality and had superior aerial performance than any British design. Manfred von Richthofen flew a Fokker tri-plane credited with 80 "kills", becoming known as the Red Baron.

Early aerial battles were not successful. Our planes strafed enemy infantry and bombed airfields, factories and transportation facilities. Average life expectancy of a pilot on the Western Front was only 23 days. Of 10,000 RFC airmen who lost their lives, 4,000 died in training, 4,000 in post training and only 2,000 killed as a result of enemy action.

Aircraft production increased but the front line was always waiting for replacements due to insufficient engines. By 1918 there were over 4,000 planes in storage waiting for an engine.

In 1914 the Royal Flying Corps had 2073 personnel. By 1919 there were 4,000 combat aircraft and 114,000 personnel in 150 squadrons. Eleven members of the RFC were awarded the Victoria Cross.

The RFC started with very little, poor equipment. At the end they had better machines, better engines and better pilots than existed anywhere in the world. On 1 April 1918 the RFC became the Royal Air Force.

See www.probusbasingstoke.wordpress.com

Paul Flint

Sopwith Camel with 2 Vickers machine guns firing through the propeller arc and with French engine





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Hugging in the workplace – is it acceptable?



Gill Brown

Hugging has become a newsworthy topic lately, particularly given the allegations levelled at Sir Philip Green the owner of Top Shop and other high street stores. Also even more recently was the news that Ray Kelvin, the founder and chief executive of the fashion chain Ted Baker was accused of misconduct including inappropriate hugging.

At least 50 employees recorded incidents that they regarded as harassment and more than 2,000 employees signed a petition to draw attention to the problem.

There were claims that as well as engaging in frequent and inappropriate hugging, Mr Kelvin had asked some female employees to sit on his knee, cuddle him and allow him to massage their ears. Mr Kelvin denies all allegations of misconduct, but he did resign in the face of these allegations against him.

This may be an extreme example, but it does raise the question as to when physical contact such as hugging is acceptable and when it becomes unacceptable behaviour. What are the boundaries when it comes to physical contact in the workplace?

Naturally behaviour such as inappropriate touching, unwarranted or dominating physical contact and sexual advances are completely

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unacceptable. However, not all physical contact is inappropriate. Many people do engage in hugging at work within quite acceptable boundaries and between consenting adults, the emphasis being on “consenting”. A sincere hug can be emotionally uplifting, especially if discussing ill health, comforting someone who has received bad news or in the course of a celebration. Huggers should still be mindful that not everyone welcomes physical contact and to be aware of this and exercise some common sense.

The law regards unwanted physical contact as a violation of a person’s rights. It is therefore particularly important that managers and figures in authority do not take advantage of their position or make employees feel uncomfortable. Employees often feel that if they object to inappropriate physical contact it could jeopardise their career or even result in them losing their job. However, if a boss or someone in a position of authority forces an employee into a hug or any other physical contact that makes their employee feel uncomfortable or even violated, this should be reported to their HR department, a director or person in authority or a trade union representative or the behaviour is likely to continue. If the matter is not resolved appropriately and immediately then it is advisable to take specialist legal advice.



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Adult events

Zentangle

Tuesday 14 May: 1.30pm-3.30/ £10

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Come and learn the Zentangle method and create beautiful images from repetitive patterns. All materials are included in the costs.

A Death in Peking; Who Really Killed Pamela Werner?

Tuesday 21 May: 2pm/ £3

A Death in Peking; Who Really Killed Pamela Werner - Author and retired police officer Graeme Sheppard investigates this infamous cold case.

Peking, a freezing morning in January 1937, and a young woman, Pamela Werner, is discovered murdered by the old city wall. Most mysteriously, her heart has also been stolen. The crime defeated the British and Chinese police and went unsolved. Eighty years on, the murder theories of Pamela's father (as expounded in the book "Midnight in Peking") are unpicked and shown to be wrong by retired police officer Graeme Sheppard. Examine the evidence, investigate the crime, and discover the real offender from among the nine possible suspects.

Children's events

Elmer Day with Merry-Go-Round Storytelling

Saturday 25 May: 1.30pm and 3pm/ £3.75

Come dressed in your brightest colours and have lots of fun, as Amanda from Merry-Go-Round Storytelling leads this interactive story session based on Elmer.

For ages 2-6

Slime Lab UK

Tuesday 28 May: 1.30pm/ £6

Come along and get slimey with Slime Lab UK Basingstoke! We have been dabbling in slime for a while and the time has finally come to offer our Slime making workshops to you all.

Aimed at (but not exclusive to) children ages 5-10 years old. Your Slime fanatics will spend 60 - 90 minutes creating one - two different slime pots, experimenting with slime handling, join our Slime stretching competition and hang out with some new pals!

We will provide an apron and wipes but please try and remind your children to wear old clothes and tie up long hair.

Where was the photo?

The photo on page 18 is of an iron age fort called Bullsdown Camp. It's on the left-hand side of the road from Sherfield, as you drive to Bramley

Summer open-air events at The Vyne

Following a £5.4m roof project and the installation of a new layout in the house, The Vyne have expanded their programme of open-air evening events for 2019.

Four evening events, two plays and two cinemas will take place on the north lawn this summer. Pack your picnics, camping chairs, blankets and torches ready for this line-up:

On 27 July, playful theatre troupe The Pantaloons will be performing an adaptation of Jane Austen's Sense and Sensibility.

On 10 August, The Lord Chamberlain's Men will perform A Midsummer Night's Dream.

On 16 August, there will be a screening of Bohemian Rhapsody (Rated 12A).

Finally, on 17 August there will be a screening of The Greatest Showman (Rated PG).

These are ticketed events, for more information visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/the-vyne or call the box office on 0344 2491895.

Please check performance times and gate opening times.

Cryptic Crossword No: 27 Solution

25	SINGE	29	WATERSHIPDOWN
23	ENTRAP	28	TRAIN
22	CAPOTE	27	LOGO
20	UNSCREW	26	PROPTS
18	BLOWFISH	24	ASHES
17	NEXT	21	ELECTRODE
16	SIRE	19	ROUSED
15	AFTERGLOW	18	BED
14	ISIS	15	ABSENT
13	ALSO	12	THREADING
7	SOLIDGOLD	11	STAIN
6	AMUSED	10	CLOTHES
5	NATTERED	9	UDAL
4	TABLET	8	SERVE
3	INVOICE	2	VISITINGCARDS
1	MOSES		

Down

Across

CodeWord No: 14 Solution

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

Mondays

<i>Badminton</i>	Village Hall
<i>Petite Dance</i>	Village Hall
<i>Pilates 9am</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Stay Active As You Age Class – 11am</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Cubs 6.30-8pm</i>	School Hall
<i>Trail Runners 7.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow car park

Tuesdays

<i>Parish Council Meetings 3rd 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>Pilates 9.30am</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>0-5 Toddler Group 10.15 - 11.45am</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Walking 4 Fitness & Friendship 6.50 for 7pm (March-Sept)</i>	Clift Meadow car park
<i>Yoga 7.00pm Beginners 8.15pm Continuers</i>	Bramley Room, Village Hall
<i>Hipp Pilates 7-9pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Table Tennis - 7pm</i>	St Stephen's Hall, Little London

Wednesdays

<i>1st Bramley Brownies</i>	Village Hall
<i>Guides 7.30pm</i>	Village Hall
<i>Rainbows</i>	Village Hall
<i>Scouts</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Baby Clinic plus Stay and Play 2nd Wednesday 9.30-11.00am</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>WG Pilates 9.30-10.30am</i>	Cross House
<i>Caterpillar Music 9.45am</i>	Village Hall
<i>Pregnancy yoga 6-7pm</i>	Cross House
<i>Pilates 6.30pm & 8.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion

<i>Clubbelt yoga 7.15-8.45pm</i>	Cross House
<i>Trail Runners 7.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow car park
<i>HIIT/Bootcamp 7.45-8.30</i>	School Hall

Thursdays

<i>Bramley & Romans Floral Society 1st Thursday</i>	Sherfield on Loddon Village Hall
<i>Burlexercise</i>	Village Hall
<i>Dance Club</i>	Primary School Hall
<i>Lunch Club 2nd Thursday</i>	Cross House
<i>Pilates</i>	St Stephen's Hall
<i>WI 2nd Thursday</i>	Village Hall
<i>Yoga for Sleep and Stress 1st Thursday</i>	Village Hall
<i>Body Tone 9am</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Muddy Fingers 10:00 - 10:50am</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Perform 5.45pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Hatha Yoga 6-7pm, 7.15-8.15pm & 8.30-9.30pm</i>	Cross House
<i>Youth Club 6-8pm</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Beavers 6.30pm - 7.30pm</i>	School Hall
<i>Hipp Pilates 7-8pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion

Fridays

<i>Hatha Yoga 9.30-10.45am</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Pilates 11.30am</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Hipp Pilates 1.30-2.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Perform 3.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Beavers 6.30pm - 7.30pm</i>	School Hall

Saturdays

<i>Petite Dance</i>	Village Hall
<i>Yoga Meditation, 11am-12.30pm</i>	Village Hall

Sundays

See page 5 for Church services at St James's Bramley & St Stephen's Little London

Contact Details for Village Clubs and Organisations

Organisation	Name	Tel No	Email	Remarks
Parish Council	Maxta Thomas	07810 692486	www.bramleypc.co.uk parishclerk@bramleypc.co.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		
Active Mums Post Natal Exercise	Emma Perkins	07973 389407	emmatraining@hotmail.com www.emmaperkins.com	
Age Concern Village Agent	David Canham	07776 595019	villageagent@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk	
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	
Bramley Youth Club	Roxy Mills	01256 423812	rmills@BVaction.org.uk www.basingstokevoluntaryaction.co.uk/youth	
Brownies	Katie Slater and Jayne White	07545 319342	bramley.brownies@gmail.com	Now Weds only
Burlexercise	Natasha Bligh	07981 578145		
Caterpillar Music	Jasmine McCarthy	07952 935021	jasmine.mccarthy@caterpillarmusic.com	
Country Music	Roy Seymour	07917 744780		No children please
Exercise classes	Caroline Sherlock	07845 217901	caroline@this2thisfitness.co.uk	
Floral Society	Joyce Rawlinson	889040		
Guides	Ailsa Stockwell	07584 676931		
Hatha Yoga	Jacqui Morris	07539 432228	jacqui.morris28@gmail.com	
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		
Muddy Fingers	Lauren Dotor Cespedes	07775 594463	info@muddyfingersgardenclub.co.uk	
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	
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Royal British Legion	Rhydian Vaughan	07774 681516		
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