



The Villager

May 2024

Sherbornes and Pamber



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Where am I?



Answer on Page 29

Cover Photo: Bee's eye view

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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**the Villager
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The History of our Churches

One of the most frequent questions I get asked by visitors to our churches is: "how old is it?" We are blessed in our Parish to have three beautiful and ancient buildings brimming with history going all the way back to the Norman period. We will celebrate 900 years of Pamber Priory in a few years time, and I'm reliably informed that All Saints' is even older.

Of course the history of our churches goes back even further than this. Every church across the world can trace its history back to a moment almost 2000 years ago, forty days after Jesus of Nazareth walked out of his tomb. On a hill outside Jerusalem he gathered his apostles and commissioned them with these words: "you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1v8)

This event is celebrated every year as Ascension Day (this year falling on Thursday 9th May) and marks Christ's launch of his worldwide Church. Our churches are here, witnessing to the risen Jesus and the peace, hope and purpose that can be found in him for over 900 years because those first

apostles, and all who have followed after them took these words of Jesus to heart.

On Sundays over the next couple of months we're going to be in the first few chapters of Acts looking at the birth of the Church. Not to ask "how old is it?" but to ask "what are we here for?"

As we seek to renew our vision as a church we want to look first to Jesus and his call to us to be his witnesses. Then with that as our foundation, we want to listen to as many as possible in our community as we seek to be witnesses across the whole Parish.

With this in mind I would be delighted to hear from anyone if you have any ideas or suggestions of things we could be doing to bless our community, please don't hesitate to get in touch!

Rev. Stewart Deering
stewart.deering@sherborneswithpamber.org
07359 717577

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 *	Friday	HG Church, Basingstoke	9.30am *
Wednesday	HG Church, Basingstoke	9.30am *	Saturday	Church of St Bede, Popley	9.30am *
Thursday	Church of St Bede, Popley	9.30am *			* Time & Venue could vary



May 2024

Make Jesus known & build up the church in faith & love

St Andrew's Sherborne St John | All Saints Monk Sherborne | Pamber Priory

www.sherborneswithpamber.org facebook.com/sherborneswithpamber

For regular updates please scan the QR code:



Wed 1st

10-11.30am Little Acorns Baby & Toddler - SSJ Village Hall
12-12.30pm Midday Prayer - St Andrew's SSJ

Sun 5th

10am Confirmation Service with Bishop David Williams - St Andrew's

Mon 6th

Homegroups this week: contact admin@sherborneswithpamber.org for details

Wed 8th

10-11.30am Little Acorns Baby & Toddler - SSJ Village Hall
12-12.30pm Midday Prayer - All Saints' Monk Sherborne
7.30pm God's Big Picture - The Rectory, Vyne Road, Sherborne St John

Sat 11th

8.30am Morning Prayer - The Parish Room

Sun 12th

10am Morning Worship - St Andrew's SSJ
10am Holy Communion - All Saints' Monk Sherborne

Wed 15th

10-11.30am Little Acorns Baby & Toddler - SSJ Village Hall
12-12.30pm Midday Prayer - St Andrew's SSJ

Sun 19th

10am Morning Worship - St Andrew's SSJ

Mon 20th

Homegroups this week: contact admin@sherborneswithpamber.org for details

Wed 22nd

10-11.30am Little Acorns Baby & Toddler - SSJ Village Hall
12-12.30pm Midday Prayer - Pamber Priory
7.30pm God's Big Picture - The Rectory

Sun 26th

10am All-Age Morning Worship - St Andrew's SSJ
10am Holy Communion - Pamber Priory
3pm Tea at 3 - The Rectory

The Services at St Andrew's are live streamed on our YouTube channel and are available to watch afterwards. Search Parish of the Sherbornes with Pamber on Youtube or use the link on our website under the Resources Menu.

Children of all ages are very welcome in our services. At St Andrew's we run a Sunday Club during term time and we have a creche space in the tower at the back for pre-schoolers & their carers with toys and a changing table.

Claiming Dates

May 2024

2	Monk Sherborne Village Drinks - First Thursday of the month, Monk Sherborne Village Hall	6.00pm – 8.00pm
6	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
7	Women's Fellowship, SSJ Village Hall, A Portrait of the Architect as a Young Man	2.00pm
11	Sherborne St John Social Club, A & A General Knowledge Quiz	7.30pm
13	Coffee Morning, Monk Sherborne Village Hall	10.45am – 12.00
15	The Arts Society Basingstoke lecture: The Painting Secrets of Freud and Bacon by Alice White	10.30am
18	Sherborne St John Social Club, Private Function	7.30pm
19	Basingstoke Festival of Transport, B/S Memorial Park	
20	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
22	Sherborne St John Social Club, Chris & Jazz Friends	7.30pm – 12.00

June 2024

1	Basingstoke Bridge Club Fundraising – Cream teas and dancing Tickets for sale	2-5pm
1	Sherborne St John Social Club, Pink Tribute – Club Entry Ticket Only	7.30pm
3	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
4	Women's Fellowship, SSJ Village Hall, The Archeology of Basingstoke	2.00pm
5	Sherborne St John Social Club, Private Function	7.30pm
6	Monk Sherborne Village Drinks - First Thursday of the month, Monk Sherborne Village Hall	6.00pm – 8.00pm
8	Sherborne St John Social Club, Ben & Bryony Music Quiz	7.30pm
8	Wyeford Gardens Open Day, Tadley RG26 5QL. £5 entrance fee to charity	11.00am – 4.00pm
15	Sherborne St John Social Club, Danny Connors – Members Free	7.30pm
15	The Vyne (National Trust) BWCB Liquorice Allsorts Clarinet Band	noon – 4.00pm
17	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
19	The Arts Society Basingstoke lecture: Nazi Looting During WWII by Shauna Isaac, S-o-L V. Hall	10.30am
22	'Pimms and Puddings', Sherbornes with Pamber Churches, Sherborne St John Church & Village	7.30pm
22	Sherborne St John Social Club, Private Function	7.30pm
26	Sherborne St John Social Club, Chris & Jazz Friends	7.30pm
29	The Vyne (National Trust) Outdoor Theatre "The Importance of Being Ernest"	7.00pm – 9.00pm

July 2024

1	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
2	Women's Fellowship, OUTING	
2	The Vyne (National Trust) Outdoor Cinema "Grease sing-a-long"	9.15pm – 11.05pm
4	Monk Sherborne Village Drinks - First Thursday of the month, Monk Sherborne Village Hall	6.00pm – 8.00pm
8	Coffee Morning, Monk Sherborne Village Hall	10.45am – 12.00
10	The Arts Society Basingstoke AGM at 10.15, lecture: Post-War Fashion Illustration by Connie Gray	10.30am
12	The Vyne (National Trust) Outdoor Theatre "The Adventures of Dr Dolittle	6.30pm – 8.30pm
12	Royal British Legion Summer BBQ, Sherfield Oaks GC, revjmorley@talktalk.net	
15	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
29	Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00

Notify Claiming Dates to Lindsay Berry on lindsayberry0@gmail.com or message on **07775 800955**

Monk Sherborne & Charter Alley Parish Council

Play Area:

Thanks to generous grants given to the Parish Council by Manydown Charity, our local borough/county councillors and donations from the Village Hall we have been able to go ahead with installation of the new play equipment in the play area.



The project was part funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, receiving £25,000 towards the project. The UK Shared Prosperity Fund is a central pillar of the UK government's Levelling Up agenda and provides £2.6 billion of funding for local investment by March 2025. The Fund aims to improve pride in places and increase life chances across the UK investing in communities and places, supporting local business, people and skills. For more information, visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-prospectus>

Substantial funding was secured through contributions from the Manydown Trust, Manydown Charity, and Monk Sherborne Village Hall. Their combined support facilitated the realisation of the project by providing

the necessary additional funds. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all those who contributed to the implementation of this project.

The play area boasts a range of innovative equipment designed to stimulate creativity, encourage physical activity, and provide endless hours of fun for children of all ages. Safety is our top priority, and extensive measures have been implemented to ensure that the play area is a secure and welcoming environment for children to explore and play. We are proud to have created a play area that is accessible to children of all abilities, being designed with features to ensure that every child can participate and enjoy the play experience. The Parish Council are looking to install a secondary gate at the far end of the Hall into the play area to avoid having to walk through the field. We hope residents and visitors enjoy the new play area.



Roads and Highways:

Residents will be aware of the sorry state of the roads within the Parish at the moment especially the flooded area around the war memorial and Queens House stable entrance. Works have been carried out to ditches around the war

memorial to alleviate this but due to continued heavy rainfalls flooding is still occurring. Hampshire Highways have inspected the area and will be due to jet the pipe under the road around the stable entrance to Queens House once the current waters subside. Residents are encouraged to report any problems with the roads around the Parish as the more incidents reported the more likely Highways will respond with repairs.

A polite notice to residents with drainage ditches on their properties. It is the property owner's responsibility to ensure ditches are clear of debris and can flow freely to overflow drains. This will help alleviate standing surface water on roads.

Charter Alley Stores:

Charter Alley Stores have completed their revamp and opened their new look shop and café serving breakfasts and lunches. Please continue to use and support this valued Parish asset. Please see their Facebook page for menu and curry night updates.

Planning:

24/00390/HSE Woodlands, planning application registered for Proposed Timber Framed Car Port. Parish Council raised no objections.

Village Hall:

Please check the village hall website for new events and classes. The Village Drinks Nights held on the first Thursday of each month continue to be a success and great opportunity for residents to meet one another.

MONK SHERBORNE PARISH COUNCIL AGM

Wednesday 15th May 2024, 7.15pm

Monk Sherborne Village Hall

Clerk: Mrs C Morris

Email: clerk@monksherborne-pc.gov.uk Website: www.monksherborne-pc.gov.uk

Tel: 07721 076186

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News from the Pambers & Little London

I am very grateful to the Ramblers, and particularly Jonathan, for their determined approach to ensuring easy, walker-friendly access to the new footpath in Pamber. I am very grateful, too, to the new landowners, John and Catherine, for their co-operation in this matter. Jonathan gives details below:



“As you may know, the footpath has been formally approved as Pamber FP 504, and appropriate signage has been put along it. However, parts of it were difficult to access – you had to get through the gaps in a couple of fences. To improve this situation the Ramblers have paid for and installed a kissing gate and a pedestrian gate, with the cooperation of the new

landowners, John & Catherine. The gates were installed recently, see pictures. It’s now much easier to get into Pamber Forest from New Road. Pity about the mud! In the first picture, Catherine & John are the two on the right.”



We’ll just have to hope that kissing levels remain at an acceptable level for our rural community 😊



I shall not be availing myself of this walk in the immediate future as I have a better offer in the form of a return trip to Malaysia where we spent nearly 4 very happy years. We will visit friends and old haunts including our favourite tropical island. Can’t wait! This jolly means, of course, that my Pamber and LL news will be extremely sparse and so I would be even more grateful for some snippets from the Readership. Yes, that means you!

Till next time,

B 🐦 bdownes.villager@gmail.com

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 Tea & coffee for the grown-ups & a fruit snack for the children
 £2 per child £1 for additional child

 Little Acorns Sherborne St John



ADVERT FOR PRIORY PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNOR

The Priory Primary School is a small academy primary school situated in the picturesque hamlet of Pamber End, North Hampshire. We have around 190 children across seven classes; children entering in the year they become five and leaving at the age of eleven. The school strives to create a happy stimulating environment where children love to learn, and prides itself on providing an excellent education for all, offering a wealth of opportunities that enable children to develop key skills that will last them a lifetime.

The Governing Board are seeking experienced individuals to join the team. If you are a driven individual with expertise in one of the following fields, we would be delighted to hear from you:

- Finance & Accounting
- Business & Marketing
- Leading in the Education sector
- Safeguarding & Child Protection
- HR or Health & Safety



EXPECTATIONS OF THE ROLE

Governors are concerned with the **strategic** aims and objectives of the school; helping to set and monitor the progress towards these aims. Governors shape and review school policies, ensuring relevant compliance, providing effective support and challenge to the Headteacher.

To achieve this, school governors require interpersonal skills, and the ability to uphold confidentiality and self-evaluate. A governor does not need to be an expert in all areas of governance but will take responsibility for a key area of professional expertise. Relevant training will be provided in addition to attending at least 6 Full Governing Board meetings per academic year - these are a mix of online and face to face meetings. There is also an expectation of two governor visits a year, linked to the school strategic plan. The governor role is a voluntary role.

Being a school governor is a commitment and a responsibility but offers you the opportunity to see first-hand the impact you can make in improving and contributing to the children in your community, also giving you exposure to other areas of school governance that may not be of personal expertise, offering personal growth and being involved in key decisions.

NEXT STEPS:

If you would like more information about this advert, please email our Clerk to Governors, Nickie: hampshire.clerk@hotmail.com Please note that all prospective governors will be required to complete an application form including providing references. All applicants also undergo safer recruitment checks, including DBS checks, prior to being appointed.

Sherborne St John Parish Council

Richard Morgan welcomed parishioners and Paul Freeman to our meeting.

Paul Freeman is the leader of the Safer Roads Unit Team. He explained he is aware of the speeding on our roads through our village but funding and recruitment play a big factor in not being able to do more at the moment; but promises more by October. He is looking for new areas to deploy the van to catch offending drivers.

The Vyne road by the Chute Recreation Ground and the Grange Nursing Home are also cause for concern due to youngsters crossing the road there. He is hoping to get cameras (with the smiley face) permanently in that area.

A strong discussion followed as many parishioners voiced their feelings about the speed on the Aldermaston road.

The Chute

Richard thanked the SSJ Football Club for the clean up after our recent "visitors". Richard also informed the meeting that a barrier would be put in place to stop unwanted visitors in the

future. Consultation has taken place to get the right type of barrier to make sure all can use the Chute as a play area and football ground.

Planning

There were no objections to new applications. The Local Plan is still on going and hoping for a good outcome. The Cranesfield Development has a new date for the appeal hearing on the 30/04/24 at 10am.

Parish Elections

Our council is up for election this year all 5 seats are standing and 1 Borough council seat, Simon Bound is also standing. Election date is on 02/05/24 and you must have I.D to vote.

NEW LOCAL P.C.S.O - Simon Denton 23888 can be contacted at Tadley Police Station. His mobile number is 07469 562503. We hope to welcome Simon at our next council meeting. Next meeting will be at the Chute at 7.15pm on 15/05/24 - all parishioners are welcome to attend.

Cllr Jane Bechelet



Sherborne St John Tennis Club

The courts at the Chute Recreation Ground in Sherborne St John are in great condition.

Come and join a Mixed Club night on **Monday evenings at 7pm** throughout the summer months; when members turn up and play.

Thursday mornings from 10am – Members social tennis.

Annual subscriptions:-

Membership	includes £6 key
Family	£85.00 per year
Couples	£70.00 per year
Single	£55.00 per year
Juniors under 18	£15.50 per year

If you are interested in joining the Tennis Club and/or have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact Paul Saunders 07577557850 or email ssj.tennis@hotmail.co.uk

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Sherborne St John Primary School

At the end of the Spring Term, we joined together with St Andrew’s Church to make Easter Gardens to represent the story of Easter. We are grateful to

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

hoping that the weather is kind to us so that this can take place! Our Reception children will be visiting QMC for a science investigation day while at the



the team of volunteers that came to help us and who spoke to us about the importance of this time of year. The Easter Gardens were taken across to St Andrew’s and used during their Good Friday and Easter Sunday services.

and we have plenty to look forward to. Our May Festival will soon be taking place and Class 3 are getting ready to perform their country dancing and may pole dance. We are also bringing back our sponsored Fun Run this year- we are

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

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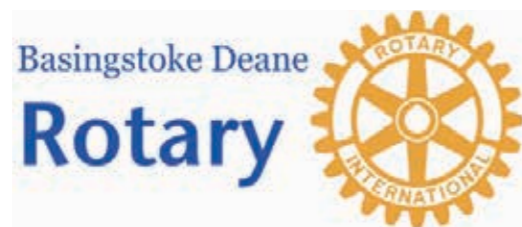
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To be one of the team of almost 100 that help at the Festival of Transport - just for a couple of hours, half a day or all day. To join in -
- get in touch with Paul Temple - see contact info



Basingstoke Deane Rotary is a group of 35 men & women from a wide variety of backgrounds. All live locally in the borough but some commute to work outside Basingstoke. Most joined Rotary to help others less fortunate, and they find Basingstoke Deane Rotary adds another extremely enjoyable dimension to their lives.

If you would like to find out more about how we enjoy ourselves, just tune in to 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.

Facebook: @RotaryBasingstokeDeane | Twitter: @RBstokeDeane

Monk Sherborne Village Hall

The Glen Miller Band event held in March was a great success. Thank you to Mo and Kate for organising the band and food on behalf of the village hall. Proceeds were donated to SSAFA - Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen's Families Association and the Parish Council for the playground.

Monthly pub night & coffee mornings continue to be well attended and provide a chance for a catch-up with friends and neighbours.

The next pub night will be held on **Friday 3rd May, 5 - 8pm (instead of the first Thursday)**. We will be starting a little earlier to hold an opening event for the refurbished play area, with light refreshments for children. We look forward to seeing you there.

Our next coffee morning will be held on **Monday 13th May 10:45 - 12:00**.

The **Village Fete** will be on **Sunday 1st September** this year. Get planting now for those horticultural exhibits

including largest sunflower head, tumbler tomatoes in a pot or hanging basket and chillies.

The village hall website and notice board are updated regularly with dates of forthcoming events, if you are interested in helping at planned events or in the running of the hall, please email us enquiries@monksherbornevillagehall.org.uk

Cheryl Mcsoley
Trustee

Sherborne St John Village Hall Weekly Activities

MONDAY

Retirement Coffee Morning (fortnightly)	10am-12noon	Contact Jenny	jennycooke@outlook.com
Jenni Stafford Ballet Academy	4:05-4:50pm	Contact Jenni	jenni@jsba.uk
Avenue Dance Company	5:00-8:00pm	Contact Lauren	info@avenuedancecompany.co.uk

TUESDAY

Yoga	10-1130am	Contact Jacqui	Jacqui.morris28@gmail.com
Scottish Country Dancing	7:30-9:30pm	Contact Valerie	tadleysd@gmail.com
Women's Fellowship (1st Tues of mth)	2:00-4:00pm	Contact Loraine	01256 590359

WEDNESDAY

Little Acorns (Bumps, Babes, Toddlers)	9:30-11:30am	Contact Liz	lizgwynn.eg@gmail.com
Rainbows	5:00-6:00pm	Contact Caroline	caroline.given@gmail.com
Brownies	6:00-7:30pm	Contact Tramayne	ssjbrownies@outlook.com
Guides	7:30-9:00pm	Contact Sam	ssjguides@yahoo.com

THURSDAY

Tots Play Basingstoke	10:30-12:30pm	Contact Michelle	michelle@totsplay.co.uk
Bridge	1:00-4:30pm	Contact Jean	jean.anderson2@icloud.com
Cubs	6:30-8:00pm	Contact Trish	01420-544904

FRIDAY

Basingstoke Tumble Tots	9:00-1:30	Contact Sarah	basingstoketumbletots@gmail.com
Basingstoke Beekeepers (3rd Fri of mth)	7:00-10:00	Contact Steve	events@basingstokebeekeepers.com

SATURDAY

Open Heavens Christian Fellowship	3:00-5:00pm	Contact Albert	bertlamp@yahoo.com
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Our vyne room also has 3 businesses using its facilities at the moment

Peggys Beauty	various times	Contact Jamie	jamie-saunders2010@hotmail.co.uk
Weybrook Physio	various times	Contact Rachel	rachelruane@yahoo.co.uk
Amanda Bond -acupuncture/sports therapy	various times	Contact Amanda	abond602@gmail.com

If you would like to hire the hall for any special occasions, meetings, birthdays, weddings etc or the vyne room again for meetings, therapies etc please get in touch by email: ssjhallbookings@yahoo.com or by calling **07526 954835**



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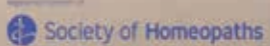

Which Council does what in the Borough?

I am often asked the difference between the County and Borough responsibilities.

If you want to get something dealt with, it is important to understand who does what. I hope you will find this helpful.

Cllr Rhydian Vaughan
Hampshire County Council

 <p>Hampshire County Council</p> <p>Hampshire County Council is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> education - schools and colleges transport - roads and motorways, including things like potholes, street lighting and traffic lights fire and public safety social care libraries strategic planning waste management – household waste recycling centres trading standards. Countryside and country parks <p>To find out more about Hampshire County Council and its services visit www.hants.gov.uk</p>	 <p>Basingstoke and Deane</p> <p>Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> local planning and development control street cleaning, household waste and recycling administering council tax and housing benefit locally managing the waiting list for social housing vacancies, homelessness prevention and promoting good quality housing environmental health and safety parking enforcement licensing promoting economic development and tourism providing parks and leisure facilities building control, local land charge searches and street naming and numbering.
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Probus Hears About WW2 S.O.E. Training at Beaulieu



Visitors to the National Car Museum at Beaulieu, in the New Forest, may have spotted a building close to Palace House which is a museum about the training that took place in WW2 for the S.O.E. Inside is an exhibition about the Secret Army.



The Special Operations Executive was the subject of the latest talk at the Probus Club of Basingstoke by speaker Nick Saunders who is a part time archivist at the Royal Hampshire Regiment Museum in Winchester.

The S.O.E. was set up in 1940 on instructions of Prime Minister Winston Churchill, to "set Europe ablaze" by conducting espionage, sabotage and reconnaissance in German occupied Europe and to aid local resistance movements.



It was not an easy formation as sections of the Secret Intelligence Service (MI6) refused to share facilities in signals training and other sections of the Military top brass also denied the use of their training places. While the S.O.E. had its headquarters in Baker Street, London, opposite the fictional address of Sherlock Holmes, all training took place around the country.

The organisation generated different unofficial names, The Baker Street Irregulars, Churchill's Secret Army, Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare with the most apt, Stately Homes of England, as many country houses and private estates were requisitioned. Several such large properties existed around the Beaulieu estate and served as training bases specialising in the dark arts of guerilla activities.



For security reasons nationalities were kept apart during their time in the S.O.E. to ensure that if captured they would not be able to disclose any knowledge of comparative secret operations in other countries. So effective was this compartmentalising of nationalities that in 1942 five governments in exile, who suggested setting up some form of training for agents to be dropped into occupied countries, were surprised to learn that the S.O.E. had been in operation for two years.

Silent killing, parachute skills, radios, morse code and weapons training were the main courses. Burglary skills were taught as agents would need to access occupied buildings with tests being given of breaking into Palace House

and stealing a bank cheque but without leaving any signs of entry.

It was imperative that their agents had a good knowledge of a particular country and that their language skills were sufficient to pass as a native. Although 13,000 agents underwent training, which included 3,000 at the Beaulieu Finishing School, there were many women who undertook the same training and had volunteered to assume roles in German occupied countries.

The Germans knew about what was happening at Beaulieu and named it The Gangster School. Among the 175 staff at Beaulieu were Guy Burgess and Kim Philby, who later, unearthed as Soviet spies, absconded to Russia. They taught mind games on how to undermine German morale.

The agents dropped into occupied countries should not be compared to the fictional BBC TV series 'Allo 'Allo! which was a wartime sitcom about the French Resistance with the farcical events set around a café, as many agents were captured, tortured and executed.

See www.probusbasingstoke.club for more information.



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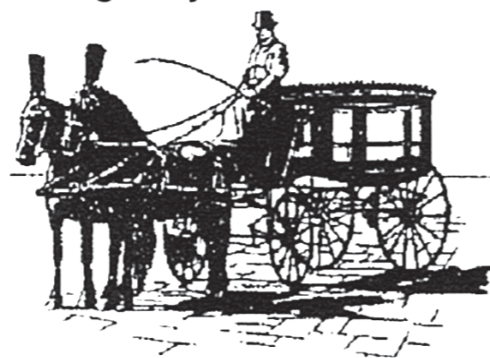
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The Vyne



Catch the last of the bluebells which flowered early in Morgaston Woods. As the orchard and wild garden offer flurries of blossom, the wisteria in the sunken garden will be coming into its own. Towards the end of the month, you might spot the first sweet peas flowering in the walled garden. From 1 June in the house, see a display on the first floor about the Tomb Chamber's

newly conserved 18th-century stained-glass windows. You can also see other 18th-century glass treasures from the collection. Tickets are on sale for summer open-air theatre and cinema on the North Lawn. More information and book at <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/the-vyne>

May Half-term Wildlife Bingo

From 25th May – 2nd June 10-4pm pick up a free wildlife bingo sheet from the Visitors Reception and see how quickly you can spot all the creatures, sights and sounds on it.

Booking not needed
Free event (Admission applies)



Your Local Cats Protection Branch Needs You!!

Basingstoke Cats Protection currently have 10 cats on our waiting list who we so desperately want to help... but with all our current foster homes full of felines there is little we can do.

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PLEASE consider opening your home and heart to a cat in need; if you cannot foster, please spread the word to anyone who may be able to help us.



If you're interested in finding out more, please contact Lynne at adoption@basingstoke.cats.org.uk or call our enquiries line on 01256 584544.

Basingstoke Male Voice Choir – 60 years old!

2024 sees the 60th anniversary of Basingstoke Male Voice Choir. The choir was the 'brainchild' of Idris 'Taffy' Roberts – a local police traffic cop who managed to recruit a hardcore of singers by fair means and foul! The first rehearsal took place in April 1964 in Coombehurst school which then existed in Basingstoke.

Over the years the choir managed to attract more members and at its peak in the mid 80's the choir numbered almost 100 choristers. During the next 60 years the choir performed at various Welsh eisteddfodau, gave numerous concerts, appeared on TV with Harry Secombe as well as touring Canada, USA and the Netherlands. During that period the

choir also raised £000's for local good causes including St Michael's Hospice, the Camrose centre, the Samaritans and Parkinson's Society to name but a few.

Sadly our numbers have declined over the years, but the choir is still alive and well and rehearses every Tuesday evening at 7:30PM at the Moose Centre. You're most welcome to come along and listen and, maybe, join us for the next 60 years!

To celebrate our anniversary we shall be staging a celebratory concert at Church Cottage (adjacent to St Michael's Church) in Basingstoke on June 29th. We'd love to see as many of you as possible – entry will cost £10 and any 'profit' will be donated to local charity.



Tickets can be obtained from the following weblink 'www.ticketsource.co.uk/bmvc'.

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Basingstoke Civil Service Retirement Fellowship



There were 48 members at the meeting held on 3rd April and they were welcomed by the Chairman, David Cowling, who gave apologies received and also congratulated those with birthdays this month. The Secretary, Tony Brazier, gave a reminder of the forthcoming trip to Arundel Castle on 18th April, the visit to Savill gardens on 23rd May and the afternoon tea at BCoT on 20th June. The Welfare Officer, Christine Broadbent, said that she had been in touch with members who were not well and the Chairman thanked her for all the hard work that she did.

Our speaker this month was Daniel Cowling who is Headteacher at Oak Wood School in Hillingdon and had previously visited us to tell us about the challenges faced in turning round a failing school. This time he spoke about not only the challenges facing leaders in education, but in any environment where priorities and expectations were constantly being changed due to political pressures, or changing due to other factors. He told us about those that had inspired him and gave



examples of the ideals that they, and him, had aspired to in trying to be a good leader. Above all he emphasised the need to do the best possible in any given situation and to, listen and learn, while being compassionate at all times when dealing with other people

whatever the circumstances.

Our next meeting is on 1st May when our guest speaker will be a representative from Thrive, The Gardening for Health Charity, to talk about their work.

The group meets on the first Wednesday of the month at the Brookvale Village Hall from 10am to 12 noon and all retired Civil Servants and their relatives and friends are welcome. Further details about the group and information about the meetings and trips can be obtained by contacting csrfbasingstoke@gmail.com or 07715 640171.

David Cowling

Clift Surgery and the Patient Participation Group

From the surgery

Covid Spring boosters will be available at the surgery in April/May (dates to be confirmed) so if you are eligible, you will be contacted and invited to make an appointment.

Have you had your Shingles Vaccination? Check on the website to see if you are eligible and contact the surgery to arrange this. www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/shingles-vaccine/

The number of missed appointments is still disappointing. In March the number missed was 95. Please,

if you no longer want or need an appointment, contact the surgery so these appointments can be released and given to those who really need them. It also costs the surgery money when appointments are missed.

From the PPG

We are delighted to let you know that the car park has had a face lift with new signage at the entrance and newly painted lines. We wish to thank the Bramley Parish Council for supporting this initiative. There are 16 spaces which are now wider, the number of doctors spaces are reduced to 3 and

there are now 3 accessible spaces for those who are disabled, for parents who need to open a door wide, to get out child seats etc and for those who have mobility problems and need space to open a door fully. Please be respectful of these spaces.

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Fancy a game of SKITTLES. We are meeting this month on Tuesday 14 May at The 4 Horseshoes in Sherfield for an evening of skittles, a very old and traditional village pub game. We start at around 7pm and everyone, members and non-members, are warmly invited. If you know the rules you will be especially welcome! There will be a cover charge of £5.

Who knew that the history and development of communications could be so interesting? Steve Day gave a fascinating illustrated talk to members last month from the earliest records of speech, through two tin cans attached by string - many of us did that when we were young - to the setting up of trunk calls via any number of operator run

exchanges to present day Voice over Internet calls. Another development, the digital switchover, is due to be rolled out over the next 18 months.

We were delighted to welcome Holly Church, our new county Membership Engagement Officer to our meeting and to learn something of her role as an enabler and link between branches and county committee.

It's now time to book your place for our great **SUMMER BARBECUE on the new patio at Sherfield Oaks Golf Club on Friday 12 July from 6.30pm. Our special guests are Gp Capt Matt Roberts, Station Commander RAF Odiham, and his wife Alison.**

The club chef is preparing a fabulous menu of meats and salads followed by a

choice of desserts. Vegetarian, GF and other options are available.

During the evening there will be a 3 Ball Hole-in-One fun competition with the ultimate winner winning the cost of their meal! There's a bar, of course, a Grand Raffle and a memorable evening is assured so get together with a few friends and reserve a table.

For a booking form, please contact me (details below) or Rhydian Vaughan (rhydian@battlefieldtours.co). We so look forward to welcoming you for a delightful summer evening. If wet, the meal will be served in the club house.

John Morley

Branch Chairman
revjmorley@talktalk.net

Beau's Blog



I was warned last month that I would have to smarten up my overall approach to personal hygiene and grooming if I was going to be allowed to travel in my newest mode of transport. One in which there is no dividing walls between me and the drivers, ie: the Boss and the Mrs. The Mrs especially is keen for my perfume to change and today I was given a very different and special "treat" which the Mrs told me that I would love and that it might become

a regular thing in the future. . . . Yes I have been "Spaèd". No I have not spelt that wrongly, I am still completely whole, in case you were wondering.

In total ignorance of what was afoot I was quite excited when she suggested I get into the back of her vehicle, something which I am seldom allowed to do, and off we went towards the big green expanse with holes, bunkers and flags where I know the Boss plays with small white balls but which I am not allowed to experience, despite my two favourite things being participated in - walking and retrieving balls. However we stopped short of anticipated recreation and I was delivered into the hands of a delightful young lady who seemed very pleased to see me while the Mrs left me there and dissappeared with a look of relief.

Well, what can I tell you! By the time the Mrs returned an hour later with a slightly worried but expectant look on her face I had been shampooed, combed, trimmed, pedicured,

cleaned, blown dry and totally groomed to within an inch of my life. Despite losing a significant amount of my fur coat and having a completely new perfume around my person I am strangely quite pleased with my new look. I feel very precious now as you can see from the photo where I am showing off my newly trimmed nails. I point blank refused to have them painted.

<http://beauregardsdogblog.blogspot.com>

3 Bears go travelling



Guarding the van against local wildlife!

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Anona Edwards: anonape@googlemail.com 07710 802426

Sam Golding: samgolding55@hotmail.com 07747 177743



All Music Quiz

**Sherborne St John Village Hall
Wednesday 29th May 2pm till 4pm**

Local residents, radio presenters and DJs Christine & James Rowley have joined up with u3a Basingstoke Old Basing and using their musical knowledge will be presenting their All Music Quiz in May.

Playing in teams of 4-6 you can enjoy a fun afternoon with your neighbours, friends and u3a colleagues. Try before you join, means you can come along and have a go and join in the quiz.

Christine & James have a huge selection of music and put together a pop quiz with a difference. Musical clips, like guess the intro, female and male artists will get you tapping your feet and racking your brain. Saying "I know that tune - who was that"?

A picture round gets you chatting amongst your team but can you answer the question with a twist.

Book your team or play with other members

**Email: Christine Rowley PR@basingstokeu3a.org
or call: 07909970321**

Womens Fellowship

The April meeting included a talk given by our own Rose Cooper who, when asked by her son what she had left on her Bucket List, decided a trip to India was in order to see where her parents had married in 1942 Her parents had met 'on the boat going to India' in 1941, when both served in WW2; her father as a TA Lieutenant in the Artillery and her mother, who was a nurse, joined the Queen Alexandra Imperial Military Hospital Service, better known more simply as the QAs.



The information Rose had always known was a black and white photo of her parents outside the Garrison

Church in Deolali, and latterly their marriage certificate, hidden away in the 'family history bag'.

After many hiccups in the planning process for this Pilgrimage (as the talk was called): for example no e-visas in 2023 until the latter months; she, her son and partner found themselves in Mumbai/Bombay (BA flight numbers are still BOM) where they had booked tours before travelling by train (first class means the train had air conditioning, regarded as an essential!) the 85 miles or so North to Deolali, (now known as Devlali) via the city of Nashik. Tours in Mumbai included visiting Mahatma Gandhi's house, the Gate of India, looking remarkably similar to Paris's Arc de Triomphe, Elephanta Island Caves and the Dharavi Slum (of the film Slumdog Millionaire fame).

The day of visiting the Garrison Church was fraught with problems as no-one professed to know where it was - Deolali, or Deolali Camp as it is still called, has definite hints of the old British Colonialism, and everything is

now very much Indian, of course, with the Indian Army In situ at Deolali Camp, where the troops were housed. They eventually found what they thought was the Garrison Church, but turned out to be St Patrick's Church and although a very helpful parishioner did not know where the church was, a tuk-tuk rickshaw was found, and at last, now in the heat of early afternoon, they spent a couple of hours taking photographs, looking inside the church, and enjoying the experience of having found the church at last.

There followed a walking tour of the Spiritual City of Nashik, visiting temples and the famous (in maharashtra) Gangha Ghat, and a flight to Goa for a restful couple of days.

Rose was thanked by Jenny Cooke.

Next month's meeting is a talk on 'The Portrait of an Architect as a Young Man' by Julian Richards.

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DRUM TUITION. Professional musician with over 24 years experience. Teaching all aspects of drumming from counting, reading, playing to tracks, and technique etc. All ages and abilities welcome from total beginners to advanced. For more info please contact John Lezana on 07947 728 686 www.johnlezana.com

PRIVATE TUITION IN FRENCH AND GERMAN with qualified, experienced, CRB checked teachers. All ages and stages, including preparation for examinations (CE, GCSE, IB, A-level etc.), adult conversation and primary/nursery language clubs Daytime or evenings, at home, work or school. Call Samantha Cruickshank (Language Services Specialists) on: 07944 820284 or email: scruickshanktutor@yahoo.co.uk

ABLE GARDEN SERVICES Grass and hedge cutting, fencing, turfing, patios, planting, tree work, gravel drives etc. Please call Eddie on 01189 700765 (Pamber Heath) or 07904 440468

HOUSE CLEANING BY MARIA Reliable and affordable services. Experienced, easy going local lady, who checks every corner. Ironing services also available. References available upon request. Email: mariacleaning@live.co.uk, tel. 07933316989

BOOKKEEPING SERVICES River K Solutions Ltd, for all your bookkeeping needs. Please contact us on 07402173137 for free initial consultation or check our website www.riverksolutions.co.uk

REGISTERED CHILDMINDER based in Sherborne St John will have full/part time spaces available from July. Also collecting from Sherborne St John school in September. For more information call: 01256 851249

HOME & OFFICE MAINTENANCE SERVICES All types of installation and maintenance works including electrical, plumbing, IT networks, access/security/alarm/attendance systems, carpentry and decorating. Cleaning services, secure disposal of office document waste. Please call Adam on 07511 495052. Visa, Master Card, Amex.

LOCAL FOOT HEALTH PRACTITIONER, Visiting Practice, Nail Cutting, Callus Removal, Corn Removal and other treatments. Contact Lynne on 07767 059406

CHEEKY PAWS AND CLAWS Established, experienced dog walker. Home visits for all pets. Pet sitting, Equestrian/hoofed animals. Fully insured. 20 years as a zoo keeper. <http://www.facebook.com/cheekypawsandclaws> email: kbeeson1@btinternet.com 07752 414821 (text only)

PROFESSIONAL FOOT CARE IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME Fay Curtis (MCFHP, MAFHP) fully qualified Foot Health Practitioner offers a range of foot services including: Toenail cutting, Nail condition treatments, Corn removal, Callus reduction, Dry and cracked heel remedies, Verruca treatment and Diabetic foot care. To book an appointment call Fay on 07780 664410

BEAUTY THERAPIST Based in my professional, relaxing home based salon in Pamber Heath. Treatments offered - Gelish Nails, Pedicures, Waxing, Eve Taylor Aromatherapy Facials, Lash Lift, Massage, Indian Head Massage and Reflexology. Strict hygiene / cleaning and COVID safe procedures in place. Please call or text Amey on 07729421869

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JON'S GARDENING & HANDYMAN SERVICES Regular garden maintenance & one off jobs. Fencing, Hedges, Pruning, General tidy ups and home maintenance. For sensible rates and a friendly service please call 07488 347493.

HELEN'S HOUNDS AND MORE Dog Sitting (day and overnight), walking and pop-in visits. Cat and small pet visits. I'm fully insured, DBS checked and Dog First Aid trained. I have existing clients in SSJ and can provide references if required. Email: helenshoundsandmore@gmail.com Mobile: 07930870249

GUITAR TUITION
I am a music Teacher with over 20 years experience of teaching Guitar, and have taught adults and Children, from the age of 6 to 86. I am able to teach up to Grade 7 Classical or Acoustic Guitar, all levels of Ukulele and beginner piano. I am a member of the MU, up to date with my safeguarding training and am D.B.S checked. For availability and prices please contact Sharon Chant on 077940 14178

Contacts

PLEASE NOTIFY THE EDITOR OF ANY ALTERATIONS OR CHANGES TO THIS LIST. THIS IS THE ONLY WAY OF ENSURING THAT THE DETAILS ARE CORRECT

CHURCH OF ENGLAND - SWP Parish	Revd Stewart Deering	Mob: 07359 717577	Tel: 01256 647900
		stewart.deering@sherborneswithpamber.org	819722
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH	The Presbytery, Popley Way, Basingstoke		316000
BASINGSTOKE COMMUNITY CHURCH	Sarum Hill Centre, Basingstoke		
CLERKS TO PARISH COUNCILS			
SSJ	clerk@sherbornestjohn-pc.gov.uk		07714 770940
MS	clerk@monksherbome-pc.gov.uk		07721 076186
Mrs Cally Morris	clerk@pamber-pc.gov.uk		07942 637210
Pamber Chris Gunnell	David McIntyre	Cllr.David.McIntyre@basinstoke.gov.uk	
BOROUGH COUNCILLOR for SSJ	Androulla Johnstone	Cllr.Androulla.Johnstone@basinstoke.gov.uk	
BOROUGH COUNCILLOR for Pamber	Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke		844844
BASINGSTOKE & DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL	The Castle, Winchester		01962 841841
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL	Non-emergency	101 or 01962 841534	
HAMPSHIRE POLICE	www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime		
	simon.denton.23888@hampshire.police.uk		07469562503
PC 23888 Simon Denton	ted_wilkinson@btinternet.com		01256 850891
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH	https://www.jobcentrejobs.co.uk		
NEAREST JOB CENTRE			
LOCAL GROUPS			
WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP	Mrs Loraine Brown, (Secretary)		01256 590359
RAINBOWS	Caroline Givan: caroline.givan@gmail.com		
BROWNIES	TramayneHenwood - ssjbrownies@outlook.com		422083
GUIDES	Sam Hazlewood - ssjguides@yahoo.com		880132
CUBS	Ms Trish Field		01420 544904
Little Acorns, Bumps/Babes/Toddlers in SSJ	Mrs Liz Gwynn		07770 373282
SSJ SOCIAL CLUB			850303
SSJ HISTORY SOCIETY	Mrs Jane Shelvey	jshelvey@lillydown.net	
TENNIS CLUB	Paul & Maria Saunders		850430
SSJ RETIREMENT COFFEE MORNING	Mrs Margaret Cramer		850390
SUMMIT JUDO CLUB	Mr Len Duncce	07860 435 831	
	or Mr Paul Hamilton	07917 005862	
	Mrs Jacqui Morris	881336	
	Mr Les Bone	850973	
YOGA in SSJ Village Hall	Mr Terry Buller	tel.buller@gmail.com	07584 169241
SHORT MAT INDOORS BOWLS CLUB	Claudia or Jane	info@piccolopsn.com	07528 726248
FOOTBALL CLUB		www.piccolopsn.com	
PICCOLO PRE-SCHOOL NURSERY			
	Mr Stuart Maughan		01256 883858
THE VYNE HOUSE (National Trust)	Mrs J. Hughes	email: tadleysd@gmail.com	
SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING	Jenni Stafford		jenni@jsba.uk
BALLET at SSJ Village Hall			
VENUE BOOKINGS:			
St Stephen's Hall	Doreen Quilter		07854 280343
MS Village Hall			07759 064220
SSJ Village Hall	Shawna Campbell		07526 954835
The Chute Pavilion	Terry Buller		07584 169241
Royal British Legion	John Delafield		
HEALTH CARE			
NORTH HANTS HOSPITALS NHS TRUST			473202
HANTSDOC			01189 365592
BRAMBLYS GRANGE			467778
CHINEHAM SURGERY			479244
CROWN HEIGHTS MEDICAL CENTRE			329021
CLIFT SURGERY, BRAMLEY			881228
HOLMWOOD, TADLEY			01189 814166
ROOKSDOWN SURGERY			399710
MORELAND SURGERY			0118 9816661
EDUCATION			
THE PRIORY PRIMARY ACADEMY TRUST	Mr Matt Walsh (Head teacher)		850062
SSJ PRIMARY SCHOOL	Ms Sarah Jolliffe (Head teacher)		850180
ST BEDE'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL	Mr Jamie Carroll		473379
PUBLIC SERVICES			
CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU			0808 2787829
BRITISH RAIL NATIONAL ENQUIRIES			0345 484950
BUS STATION (STAGECOACH)			0871 121 0190
LIBRARIES	Basingstoke Town Centre		473901
	Chineham Library		465643
	Tadley Library		0300 555 1387
	Monday-Friday 8.30-12.00 am and 2.00-4.15 pm		01256 462101
DIAL-A-RIDE			
If we have omitted any organisations, and/or their contact details, we apologise and would welcome any information to keep this list up to date and relevant			
Nov 2023	Julie Crawley	villagermagazine@gmail.com	01256 851003

ONLINE BOOKINGS

All classified adverts can now be booked on the website:

www.fromthesmallestseed.co.uk

To book a classified advert for the Villager, register with this website. Then search for The Villager using any of the searches allowed. There is no online payment - you can pay by cheque at the end of the booking process as normal. Once monies are received you will be able to access receipts and check your booking history from this site.



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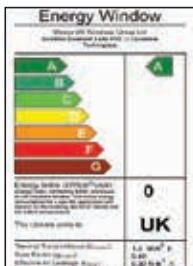
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