



The Villager

June 2026

Sherbornes and Pamber



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Monday - Friday 9am to 7pm Saturday 9am to 5pm
We do not close for lunch

Phone/Fax: 01256 357637



For more information go to our website
sherborneswithpamber.org

YOU ARE INVITED TO A

CELEBRATION OF MUSIC

20
JUNE

AT
ST ANDREW'S
CHURCH

2.30 -
4.30 PM

Musical performances
3.00-4.00pm

Admission free

Children's activities

try your hand at
playing instruments

Choir

have a go at
bell ringing

Refreshments

Contact geoffennant@sherborneswithpamber.org if you would like to perform



Where am I?

Do you know this
mystery location?

Find the answer
on Page 20

Cover Photo: Kingfisher by Mark Wilson

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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Trivia?

Have you ever found yourself in the middle of a pub quiz, desperately trying to remember the name of Napoleon's horse or which planet has the most moons? For those of us who love a good quiz, there is something strangely addictive about trivia. We love to fill our heads with facts that, if we're honest, are of no real use to us once the final answer sheet has been collected in.

The word trivia (as our own resident Quizmaster Steve Howe tells me) comes from the Latin trivium, meaning "three roads." It originally described a place where three paths met—a crossroads. In the ancient world, the trivium was where people from all walks of life would bump into each other. It was a place for public chatter, local gossip, and general street-talk.

Over time, we started using it to describe "trivial" things - the light, everyday stuff we use to distract ourselves or pass the time. And let's face it, in a world that often feels heavy, we all need a bit of a distraction!


Trivia can be good fun, but every so often, usually when things go quiet or we're at a crossroads of our own, a deeper kind of question bubbles up. These aren't the ones with a ten-second countdown and a prize at the end, they are the questions that define who we are.

The Bible is full of very honest, very raw questions asked by people who were stressed, confused, or searching for meaning—just like us. Over the next few weeks in church we're going to explore some of these questions together in our Asking God series.

Whether you have a faith, used to have one, or have never stepped through the doors of a church, you are very welcome to come along. Please feel free to simply come and observe and listen in, you won't be asked to do anything you're not comfortable with.

There may be other questions you have which you can send in by emailing the church office or putting them in the blue welcome box at St Andrew's. We'll think about ways of addressing these at a future event.

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



ASKING GOD

BIG QUESTIONS SURPRISING ANSWERS

Sundays 10.30am

St Andrew's Church Sherborne St John

Our services are relaxed and family friendly, they usually last just over an hour. There is Communion on 7th June & 5th July so these services will be a little longer.

24 th May	How can I know? <small>Needing assurance</small>	Genesis 15 v 1 - 21
31 st May	Who am I? <small>Trying to find confidence</small>	Exodus 3 v 1 - 17
7 th June	How long? <small>Waiting for it to get better</small>	Psalms 13
14 th June	Don't you care? <small>Feeling abandoned</small>	Mark 4 v 35 - 51
21 st June	What must I do? <small>Needing to know the way</small>	Acts 16 v 16 - 34
28 th June	Who is worthy? <small>Choosing who to follow</small>	Revelation 5 v 1 - 14
5 th July	Why are we so anxious? <small>Finding peace in a frantic world</small>	Philippians 4 v 4 - 9

WHAT'S YOUR QUESTION?

PUT IT IN THE WELCOME BOX IN ST ANDREW'S
(OPEN SUNDAY - WEDNESDAY)
OR EMAIL THE CHURCH OFFICE

admin@sherborneswithpamber.org



SHERBORNES WITH
PAMBER CHURCHES

June

Connect

With Our Communities

Share

God's Love

Grow

In Faith In Jesus

St Andrew's **Sherborne St John** | All Saints' **Monk Sherborne** | **Pamber** Priory
www.sherborneswithpamber.org facebook.com/sherborneswithpamber

Sun 31st 10.30am All Age Worship at St Andrew's **Asking God: Who am I? Exodus 3 v 1 - 17**

Mon 1st 10.00am Maintenance Monday at St Andrew's
12-1pm Men's Bible Study at St Andrew's

Weds 3rd 10-11.30am Little Acorns Baby & Toddler Group at SSJ Village Hall
12-12.30pm Midday Prayer at St Andrew's

Sun 7th 10.30am Communion with groups for children at St Andrew's **Asking God: How long? Psalm 13**

Mon 8th 8.00-9.00am Prayer Breakfast in the Parish Room

Weds 10th 10-11.30am Little Acorns Baby and Toddler Group at SSJ Village Hall
12 noon Midday Prayer at St Andrew's
2-4pm Being Together in the Parish Room

Sun 14th 9.30 Holy Communion at All Saints **Asking God: Don't you care? Mark 4 v 35 - 51**
10.30am Morning Worship with groups for children at St Andrew's
4pm Families at 4 at St Andrew's

Weds 17th 10-11.30am Little Acorns Baby and Toddler Group at SSJ Village Hall
12 noon Midday Prayer at All Saints'

Sat 20th 2.30-4.30pm Celebration of Music at St Andrew's

Sun 21st 10.30am Morning Worship with children's groups at St Andrew's **Asking God: What must I do? Acts 16 v 16-34**

Weds 20th 10-11.30am Little Acorns Baby and Toddler Group at SSJ Village Hall
12noon Midday Prayer at St Andrew's

Sun 28th 10.30am All Age Worship at St Andrew's **Asking God: Who is worthy? Revelation 5 v 1 - 14**

Tues 30th 11am Tuesday Communion at Pamber Priory



Church Office: admin@sherborneswithpamber.org 07786 975969
Rector: stewartdeering@sherborneswithpamber.org 07359 717577
Safeguarding: safeguarding@sherborneswithpamber.org 07798 550023

For regular updates please scan the QR code:



News from Pamber and Little London

Hello everyone,

I have discovered a latent interest in birds, or rather birdsong! A few days ago I was introduced to Merlin Bird ID – other apps are, I'm sure, available. For those who don't know, it is a means of identifying, via your mobile, (how else?) which bird is producing the song you can hear. The only problem is my gardening is much less efficient as I have to keep pausing to see which bird my phone has alerted me to. I could look at the names listed later of course but that would mean I had no chance at all of **seeing** the bird!

On a more serious note....

Can you help?

Pamber Parish Council is updating its Emergency Response Plan and needs volunteers who own 4 x 4 vehicles and would be prepared to help rescue fellow parishioners in the event of flooding, snow or ice.

Volunteers who own chainsaws and would be prepared to help remove branches which have closed roads after storms would also be greatly appreciated. If you are able to help, please contact the Clerk on clerk@pamber.pc.gov.uk. Saying what you could offer to do. Every little helps! Thank you!

Development Proposals

Our PPC Chairman, Simon, has taken the time to look into these proposals and reports that a

representation has been sent to BDBC which links together 3 or 4 sites which would provide in the region of 1300 homes. These parcels of land are north of Pamber End on either side of the A340 as far as Greenacres. And since the Local Plan has reached Reg 18, the authority is obliged to consider such representations, even if they have previously been rejected. A member of the Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Cabinet feels this is a poor presentation which would require many more details before it could be given serious consideration, and that there are other representations in areas outside Pamber which would be more feasible. The Parish Council is, unsurprisingly, making representations objecting to the proposal.

On a lighter note, I hope you enjoy one of the birthday cards my husband received. (I would have been a more suitable recipient, techno-phobe that I am!) But we began with an app and shall close with another . . .



Until next time,

B 🐝 bdownes.villager@gmail.com

Beau's Blog



She has stolen my bed!! Well not actually stolen but usurped may be a better word. Laying there defying me with her watchful gaze. Meet Cookie, sometimes

known as The Cookie Monster owing to her rather aggressive attitude to dogs she does not know. She came to stay for a few days. I can't really call her a girlfriend as we have a sort of love/hate relationship – I love her but she hates me - can you believe it???

When she is not actively ignoring me we occasionally play chase but when things get a bit too energetic she has the knack of retreating under a table or a chair where she knows she has the advantage of size as I am too big to follow her. Here we have a stand-off. She knows well enough that this is my new bed and she has no business laying on it but we have had a bit of a runaround so a rest is required. As soon as she is on the move again I shall make it my business to regain rights over my new bed and be sure to stretch out covering most of it so she has no option but to cuddle up to me if she wants to use it again. I am not top dog for nothing – I have my wily ways to win her over.....

<http://beauregardsdogblog.blogspot.com>

Claiming Dates

June 2026

1	SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
2	Women's Fellowship, A Wander Without Wellies	2.00pm
5	Monk Sherborne Village Night, Monk Sherborne Village Hall	6.00pm – 8.00pm
6	Sherborne St John Primary School Fayre	12.00pm – 2.00pm
6	Sherborne St John Social Club, Ben & Bryony Music Quiz.	7.30pm
8	Monk Sherborne Coffee Morning, Monk Sherborne Village Hall	10.45am – 12.00
8	Knit & Knatter Craft Group, SSJ Village Hall, tea/coffee available	1.00pm – 3.00pm
14	Sherbornes with Pamber, Families at 4, St. Andrews Church	4.00pm -5.00pm
15	SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
20	Musical Event at St Andrews Church, Music, bell ringing, refreshments. All welcome	2.30 – 4.30pm
22	Knit & Knatter Craft Group, SSJ Village Hall, tea/coffee available	1.00pm – 3.00pm
24	Board Games at The Swan - Eat @ 12pm, Play @ 1pm	12pm
24	Sherborne St John Social Club, Chris's Jazz Friends	8.00pm
25	Royal British Legion Summer Lunch, Sherfield on Loddon Village Hall	12.30pm
25	Open Garden, The Mill House, SSJ RG24 9HU Admission £6 (children free) Tea & Cakes	2 – 5pm
27	Sherborne St John VILLAGE MARKET, SSJ Village Hall	12.00am - 3.00pm
27	Sherborne St John Social Club, Robbie Williams Tribute. Tickets online at ssjsocialclub.com	8.30pm
28	Open Garden, The Mill House, SSJ RG24 9HU Admission £6 (children free) Tea & Cakes	2 – 5pm
29	SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00

July 2026

3	Monk Sherborne Village Night, Monk Sherborne Village Hall	6.00pm – 8.00pm
4	Sherborne St John Social Club, Dolly Parton Tribute. Tickets online at ssjsocialclub.com	8.30pm
6	Knit & Knatter Craft Group, SSJ Village Hall, tea/coffee available	1.00pm – 3.00pm
7	Women's Fellowship, OUTING	
11	Sherborne St John Social Club, Ryan Upton / Solo Artist. Tickets online at ssjsocialclub.com	8.30pm
12	Sherbornes with Pamber, Families at 4, St. Andrews Church	4.00pm -5.00pm
13	SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
13	Monk Sherborne Coffee Morning, Monk Sherborne Village Hall	10.45am – 12.00
20	Knit & Knatter Craft Group, SSJ Village Hall, tea/coffee available	1.00pm – 3.00pm
22	Sherborne St John Social Club, Chris's Jazz Friends	8.00pm
25	Sherborne St John VILLAGE MARKET, SSJ Village Hall	12.00am - 3.00pm
25	Sherborne St John Social Club, Skittles Night	7.30pm
27	SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
29	Board Games at The Swan - Eat @ 12pm, Play @ 1pm	12pm

August 2026

3	Knit & Knatter Craft Group, SSJ Village Hall, tea/coffee available	1.00pm – 3.00pm
4	Women's Fellowship, Theatrical Myths, Legends and Superstitions	2.00pm
7	Monk Sherborne Village Night, Monk Sherborne Village Hall	6.00pm – 8.00pm
10	SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
10	Monk Sherborne Coffee Morning, Monk Sherborne Village Hall	10.45am – 12.00
17	Knit & Knatter Craft Group, SSJ Village Hall, tea/coffee available	1.00pm – 3.00pm
22	Sherborne St John VILLAGE MARKET, SSJ Village Hall	12.00am - 3.00pm
24	SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
26	Board Games at The Swan - Eat @ 12pm, Play @ 1pm	12pm
28-30	Basingstoke Art Club Summer Exhibition, Dummer Village Hall, Up Street Dummer, RG25 2AK	
31	Knit & Knatter Craft Group, SSJ Village Hall, tea/coffee available	1.00pm – 3.00pm

Notify Claiming Dates to Lindsay Berry on lindsayberry0@gmail.com or message on [07775 800955](tel:07775800955)

SSJ Parish Council Annual Report

General

- A positive year of achievement with plans for more this coming fiscal year.
- Financially stable.

Finance

- We are now a parish of approximately 1,800 parishioners and an annual precept of £49.6k.
- Financially we're in good shape, finishing the year on an even keel - £130k in the bank. Down from last year but we have completed a number of big ticket items during this past fiscal year and have more planned for this coming fiscal year.
- Finance Package - up and running. We now have the invoicing of the Allotments implemented. The next step will be to introduce bookings/payment of the Pavilion. This will allow potential users of the hall to manage their own bookings.
- Like all new computer systems we've had a few hiccups on the way which means that we're perhaps not as far forward as previously anticipated.
- 2026/2027 Precept
 - The precept was raised from £49.23 to £49.95 p.a. for band D housing.
 - The increasing number of properties within the Parish have allowed the Council to keep the increase per household to a minimum and also to complete a number of repairs and improvements.
 - The Basingstoke precept increased from £146.43 to £151.42.

Parish Council/Borough Council - Comings and Goings

- Given the increasing number of parishioners and properties that now populate the parish we decided to take on an additional Clerk.
- Alison Heward now deals with the Administration items and Rosie is our nominated RFO (Responsible Financial Officer) focusing on the finances of the Parish.
- You can meet with Alison at the regular Monday coffee mornings in the Village Hall to discuss any face to face issue that you want to progress.
- We welcome Karl Rand as our new Borough Councillor as part of team Ganesh/Minas-Bound

Neighbourhood Plan

- A revised/new Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted to signed off by BDBC - with an allocation of zero new houses for the Sherborne St John Parish allocation. Having this plan helped the Parish defeat the application for 26 additional houses at the end of Cranesfield.
- A new Government means that the Basingstoke Local Plan will change and therefore by implication the SSJ Neighbourhood Plan will possibly change.
- Following a Government announcement on March 25, 2026, Hampshire's two-tier council system will be replaced by 5 new unitary authorities in April 2028. The 15 existing district, borough, and county councils will cease to exist, creating new authorities in

North, Mid, South East, and South West Hampshire. Basingstoke will merge with Hart and Rushmoor to form the new North Hampshire Council.

The Chute

- The previous fiscal year saw a spend of approx. £15k on improvements, drains, showers and toilets.
- Plans for this year include the installation of a CCTV system to cover the Chute car park and the pavilion.
- We had hoped to have the CCTV system installed by now. The issue with the new play area has seen the Council adopt a more cautious timetable.
- There are other areas of the Chute where we're seeing specific items that will soon require repair: the roof and the heating system to name but two (it's seemingly impossible to find spares for the existing heaters).
- The Council anticipates an increase to the Chute hire rate of approximately 5% - yet to be agreed.

Playgrounds

- Like buses they seem to come along in 2's.
- BBDC have built a new play area at the bottom of Cranesfield.
- The Parish Council had hoped to have the new play area on the Chute recreation ground completed. However the supplier has done some fancy legal footwork in dissolving their company leaving the play area unfinished. The Parish Council is working with its insurers and legal team to understand how we might get the playground finished. In the interim the Council is getting quotes from suppliers in order to complete the work using its own funds - hence the cautious schedule for the CCTV installation.

Allotments

- The Council have offered an allotment to the school for their use.
- We've been 'promised' 12 new allotments by BDBC but discussions between the developer and BDBC appear to move forward at the speed of a tired sloth.
- After a lengthy process we have solved the issue of providing water to the Cranes Road allotments. Large water tanks will be located on site and kept topped up by regular deliveries of water.

Website

- With the increased activity across the Parish and an increasing number of residents, the existing website needs to reflect our expanding Parish.
- If you can help with this refresh please contact the Clerk.

Roads/Potholes

- Like Speeding - a perennial issue with seemingly no solution. The HCC process seems to be to complete a temporary repair and then come back at a later stage to effect a full and proper repair. BDBC suggest that this process is seemingly more cost effective than a proper resolution in the first place.
- There seems to be a lot of highlighting of areas of road requiring repair but not a lot of repair - the highlighting disappearing before the promised repair.

Speeding

- A never ending issue.
- Concerns over Cranes Road being used as a rat run - this is a major concern if either/both of the current planning applications for Weybrook golf course or Kiln Farm go ahead. There are still speeding issues with the A340 and Vyne Road areas of the village. We have the 'maximum' allowed signage, etc.
- There is good news re: monies to replace existing speeding 'street furniture'. The details of the grant cannot however be disclosed at this stage.

Planning

- There are planning applications for significant developments on or close to the village boundaries that will impact the village - increased traffic flows, reduced strategic gap. The applications at Kiln Farm and Weybrook Farm, both with approx. 250 houses are two of the key developments we must fight against.
- An application is pending for a large solar farm north of Morgaston Road and skirting the Vyne. Village opinion seems to be split as to whether or not this application is a good thing.
- The application for 26 houses at the end of Cranesfield has been rejected (again) - hopefully with enough

evidence to dissuade the developer from a 3rd submission.

Police

- I may be tempting fate but we have a new police officer assigned to the village - contact details as follow; "Kane Lucas (19624)" <kane.lucas@hampshire.police.uk>

Audits

- The Parish Council is 'legal' as it has passed all of its 2025/2026 internal audit actions.

Lengthsman

- Please contact the Clerk with any jobs that you could envision the Lengthsman completing.

Summer Fayre /Musical Event

- No fayre this year although the Parish Council is in discussion with the Church as to how we might produce a combined event. More details in this issue of the Villager.

Richard Morgan,

On behalf of Sherborne St John Parish Council
Chair 21/05/2025

Councillor Karl Rand



THREE Conservative councillors elected in Basingstoke on Friday have pledged to fight for their communities on issues ranging from antisocial behaviour and housing development to protecting green spaces, as the party held all three of its borough council seats in this year's elections.

Cllr Karl Rand, newly elected for Sherborne St John & Rooksdown, said he was "surprisingly emotional" after a result he described as the product of weeks of hard physical campaigning. He said his priority would be acting as a direct point of contact for residents on everyday quality-of-life issues.

"We're all aware of the national situation. We wanted to campaign on local issues, and I'm elected to represent my community, my neighbours," he said. "I just want to be a point of contact for any issues they're having. I want to hear about them."

I'm proud to represent the villages in the ward as well as the urban areas and appreciate that the issues arising can be very different but whatever is causing concern please let me know. I look forward to getting to village events and meeting residents and I'm particularly keen to build links with the sports clubs in the areas such as Sherborne St John FC and Ramsdell CC alongside other local groups.

You can contact me via:

Cllr.Karl.Rand@basingstoke.gov.uk

Calleva - results				
Election Candidate	Party	Votes	%	Outcome
Rhydian Peter Vaughan	Conservatives	1994	36%	Elected
Lorraine Harper	Reform UK	1506	27%	Not elected
Jo Slimin	Liberal Democrat	1266	23%	Not elected
Gary Scott	Green Party	452	8%	Not elected
Bradley David Phillips	Labour	317	6%	Not elected

Voting Summary	
Details	Number
Seats	1
Total votes	5535
Electorate	12346
Number of ballot papers issued	5565
Number of ballot papers rejected	30
Turnout	45%

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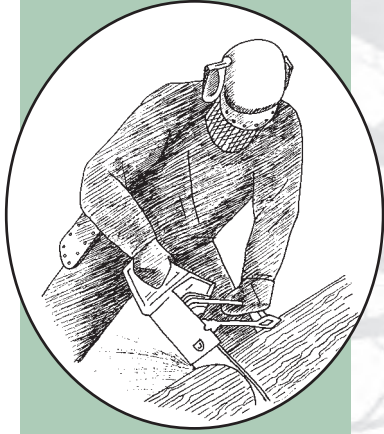
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Sherborne St John Tennis Club

- Monday 7:00 pm** Mixed social tennis turn up and play throughout the summer.
- Thursday 9.30- 11:30am** Social Tennis throughout the year.
- Thursday 7:00-8pm** Drills and Drinks – Taken by Simon James Level 5 LTA coach cost Members £10 per session Non Members £12. Followed with drinks at the Social Club.
- Social events:** Our Annual Tennis event will take place on Sunday 19th July, 2026

We also have also have a mens and ladies team in The Basingstoke Doubles League

Membership costs for 2026/27 season	
Family	£86.00 per year
Couples	£71.00 per year
Single	£56.00 per year
Juniors under 18	£16.00 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 07577 557850 or email ssj.tennis@hotmail.co.uk



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SSJ Primary School

It's been a wonderfully busy time, starting with a recent meeting about the upcoming Allotment Project. Exciting plans are growing (just like the vegetables!) and we're really looking forward to seeing this project continue to blossom with community support. Keep your eyes peeled for some volunteering opportunities.

We were delighted to celebrate our recent May Festival, which was a truly joyful occasion. Families gathered to enjoy picnics together while watching the traditional maypole dancing, followed by wonderful country dancing performed by Class 3. The children's hard work really showed, and it was a delightful celebration of spring enjoyed by all.

This week is also a very important one at school as it is SATs week. We are incredibly proud of all our Year 6 children, who have shown such determination, resilience and positivity. Well done, Year 6 -we're all cheering you on!

Next week, we will be formally welcoming our new Year R families, who are beginning their journey of getting ready for September. We're so excited to meet them and to help them feel part of our school family.

Finally, don't forget to mark your calendars for our Summer Fair on 6th June. Everyone is welcome for a day packed with fun in the sun, smiles, games and laughter – all while raising much-needed funds for the school.

That's all from me for now.
Until next time, keep smiling!

Sherbert

SSJ School Villager Correspondent



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News from Clift Surgery and the PPG

Patient Feedback

I am sure all of you at some point will have received a text message or NHS message asking for feedback after an appointment. I know some patients find this irritating and some might ignore it, but have you considered why you get sent this message? This is called the Friends and Family Test and is a national NHS initiative that gives every patient the chance to feed back on the service they have received.

The FFT is a quick NHS question that asks:

“Would you recommend our service to your friends and family?”

You simply choose an answer and, if you wish, add a short comment.

Why your response matters

- It helps the surgery understand what is working well
- It highlights where things could be improved
- It is anonymous, quick, and safe
- Your comments are read every month and used to shape real changes

Your voice makes a difference

Every response helps the practice improve care for everyone in Bramley — including you, your neighbours, and your family.

How to take part

Complete the form sent via phone after your appointment. It only takes a moment.

The GP Patient Survey

The GP Patient Survey is a national questionnaire that

asks patients about their experience of their GP practice — things like access, appointments, communication, continuity, and overall satisfaction.

It helps show what is working well and where improvements are needed across England.

Who sends it?

The survey is sent by NHS England, not by the GP practice. It is carried out on their behalf by Ipsos, an independent research company.

How it works

- A random selection of patients from each GP practice is invited.
- Invitations are sent by post, with an option to complete it online.
- Results are published nationally and broken down by practice.

As only a small percentage of patients are sent this survey, do consider taking part. The surgery is not informed when the survey goes out, and it is anonymous.

Patient Voices required

NHS Hampshire is asking patients to feedback about Integrated Urgent Care provision by completing the following survey:

<https://survey.ntropydata.co.uk/surveys/JG2026IUC2>

Patient feedback is important so please take part and share if possible.

Unfortunately, there is no obvious way of completing a paper version at the moment.

Website: www.ppgclift.org.uk

Email: ppgclift@gmail.com



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Do you have a leaky loo?

Saving water is an environmentally sound thing to do, but it can also decrease your water bills.

Thames Water has calculated that even a small trickle in your toilet bowl can waste up to 200 litres per day. This is the equivalent of a large bathtub, four washing machine loads or 800 cups of tea! More importantly, at the end of the year, this trickle would add over £160 to your water bill.

As a result, if you have a leaking loo, the cost to repair it should be less than the cost of the water you are wasting.

Check your toilets now with either a leaky loo strip or follow this cheap method:

1. Wait 30 minutes after flushing, dry the back of the pan with toilet paper
2. Place a new, dry sheet of toilet paper on the back of the pan
3. Leave it there for at least 3-hours (or overnight) without using the toilet
4. If the paper is wet or torn in the morning, you have a leaky loo



Want to talk to someone about other ways you can save money? Get in touch with **Citizens Advice Tadley & District**. We're an independent local charity providing free, confidential and impartial advice for local people, to help them find a way forward.

You can either drop in to our office on Franklin Avenue (RG26 4ET) during our opening hours (Weekdays 10am to 1pm, Mon + Thurs till 3pm), call our free Adviceline on 0808 278 7987 (leave a voicemail), or fill in our form at: <https://www.catadley.org/email>

Alternatively, if you'd like to support the work we do, you can find out more about volunteering and donating here: <http://www.catadley.org/support-us>



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27TH JUNE	ROBBIE WILLIAMS TRIBUTE	8:30PM
4TH JULY	DOLLY PARTON TRIBUTE	8:30PM
11TH JULY	RYAN UPTON / SOLO ARTIST	8:30PM
22ND JULY	CHRIS JAZZ FRIENDS	8:00PM
25TH JULY	SKITTLES NIGHT	7.30PM

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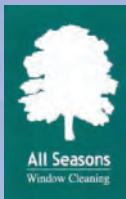
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Probus Club Cruise the Basingstoke Canal



A relaxing afternoon spent cruising the Basingstoke canal was enjoyed by members and their spouses of the Probus Club of Basingstoke.

Organised by Probus member Chris Perkins MVO, a retired RAF officer, he explained "We boarded at Odiham and travelled a return journey to Church Crookham with an on-board galley serving snacks and drinks and commentary by "Skipper" Tony Webb who pointed out places of interest and wildlife en-route"



They travelled on the boat 'John Pinkerton' which was named after the original contractor when the canal was

opened in 1794 connecting Basingstoke with the River Thames at Weybridge via the Wey Navigation. Over the years there were tunnel collapses, bankruptcies, falling demand and constant limited water supply which all conspired to ensure the canal was never a commercial success.

A planned connection from Basingstoke to meet the Kennet & Avon canal at Newbury never came to fruition.

By 1950 the lack of maintenance meant the canal was derelict and it took fifteen years of restoration until 1991 for the canal to be opened as a fully navigable waterway for 32 miles.

Today, the Basingstoke canal provides a superb facility for water activities, a haven for wildlife (it is an SSSI) an amenity for recreation and wellbeing, and a heritage asset thanks to the team of volunteer restorers of the Basingstoke Canal Society. Today, it is run by the Basingstoke Canal Authority financed by Hampshire and Surrey County Councils and local councils along its restored length.

For more information about the Probus Club of Basingstoke see www.probusbasingstoke.club or email their secretary secretaryprobusbasingstoke@outlook.com or phone 07814 937202.

Basingstoke Ladies Probus Club



At the April meeting, as the sun shone brightly outdoors, the members of the Basingstoke Ladies Probus Club sat mesmerized indoors by the achievements of 5 women scientists to whom so much is owed. All was explained by Dr. Ian Goodall, a retired headteacher of Yateley School with degrees from four UK universities and an encyclopedic knowledge of his subject, he brought the following very much to life:

Marie Curie (1867–1934) was a Polish-born physicist and chemist who pioneered the study of radioactivity. Working with her husband Pierre Curie, she discovered polonium and radium and laid the foundations of modern nuclear science. After his death, she became the first female professor at the University of Paris and led vital First World War medical innovations, including mobile X-ray units that treated over a million soldiers. She was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize and remains the only person awarded Nobels in two scientific fields. Her refusal to patent radium ensured its use in global research.

Rosalind Franklin (1920–1958) was a British scientist whose X-ray crystallography work was crucial to revealing the structure of DNA. Her "Photograph 51" provided key evidence of the molecule's double helix form. Although her contribution was not fully recognised during her lifetime, her research was essential to one of the greatest scientific discoveries of the 20th century. She died at 37, but her legacy is honoured in major scientific institutions and space exploration projects bearing her name.

Dorothy Hodgkin (1910–1994) was a British chemist and Nobel Prize winner who advanced X-ray crystallography to determine the structures of key biological molecules. She solved the structures of penicillin, vitamin B12 and insulin, transforming

medicine and enabling new treatments, particularly for diabetes. Despite chronic rheumatoid arthritis, she continued to lead major scientific breakthroughs and became the only British woman to win the Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

Rachel Carson (1907–1964) was an American biologist and author whose book *Silent Spring* exposed the environmental damage caused by synthetic pesticides. Her work led to major policy changes, including restrictions on DDT, and helped launch the modern environmental movement. Trained in marine biology, she combined science and writing to bring ecological issues to global attention and influenced the creation of the US Environmental Protection Agency.

Lynn Margulis (1938–2011) was an American biologist who transformed evolutionary theory with her endosymbiosis model. She proposed that complex cells evolved through symbiotic partnerships, such as mitochondria originating as independent organisms. Her ideas, initially widely rejected, are now fundamental to biology. She entered university at 15, earned her PhD in 1965, and later received major recognition including the US National Medal of Science.

As well as highlighting their discoveries, Dr. Goodall was clear how these very special people had to work extra hard to gain recognition, because they were women. Understandably he had a particularly appreciative audience.

If interested to know more about BLPC membership and the upcoming programme, contact:

The Admin Secretary - reverendjane@hotmail.co.uk
07754 296994

Women's Fellowship

The May meeting, which included the annual plant and produce stall, also included a talk given by Mr. Brian Margetson originally titled "Ghosts, Royals and Ferrymen" but now, in 2026, the Men had been crossed out as he acknowledged that women also operate ferries, one of whom worked into her seventies and had raised ten children, in Alsbury, Wiltshire. In the 1990s Brian decided to embark upon a photographic journey of ferries old and new, some now extinct, large and small.



Two ferries with famous connections were the Mersey Ferry, the inspiration behind Gerry Marsden of Gerry and the Pacemakers fame, and his song Ferry Across The Mersey. Bob Dylan had a connection to the Severn Ferry when

he was on tour in 1966. One Barry Fernstein took the now famous photographs of Dylan dressed in black, beside the River Severn and which is featured on his album of the time when he transformed his music from folk to electric. During the English Civil War King Charles 1st wanted to cross the Severn Estuary into Wales, but so did the Roundheads - resulting in a plot to deter the King from using the ferry due to the supposed dangerous level of the tides.

We heard of two ghost stories, one relating to a ferry in Holywell, Cambridgeshire. This Ferry Inn was,

and still is, known for its reported ghost of one Juliet Tewsley who committed suicide and was buried in an unmarked grave.

The area was subsequently redeveloped for expansion of the inn which now houses her grave in its floor. Each year, on her birthday on 17th March, she is said to make an appearance.

One ferry in Felixtowe, was used by scientists and technicians who needed to cross the River Deben to reach the Bawdsey Radar Station, the birthplace of radar research and development. All components had to be given a name and one was given in honour of the ferry boatman a Mr. Winkley who had lost an arm, and the component was named 'Winkley's Arm'.

One 'local' ferry in Hampshire, the Hamble ferry, was operated by a gentleman who retired in 2001 aged 81. The business was taken over by a company who then painted all the ferry boats pink.

Modern ferries today are a far cry from the old one-person operator, and include the Isle of Wight ferries, Channel crossing ferries to France and Spain, and from Wales to Ireland. London Thames ferries are known as Uber Boats by the Thames Clippers and are fast catamarans operating a busy and frequent service.

Mr. Margetson was thanked for his talk by Jenny Cooke.

The June meeting on Tuesday 2nd will include a talk given by Ruth Kerr on A Wander Without Wellies.



Where am I?

Bedruthan Steps in Cornwall
- between Newquay and Padstow.



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Basingstoke Deane
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BASINGSTOKE FESTIVAL OF TRANSPORT 2026

WOW — WHAT AN AMAZING DAY!



A huge thank you to everyone who came along and made the event so special. We're also incredibly grateful to all the exhibitors who brought their fantastic vehicles, the stall holders, the food vendors, and the motor dealers — your support helps us raise vital funds while still keeping the event free for everyone to enjoy.

A massive shout out, too, to our brilliant volunteers. Our regulars and some newbies who signed up. The Scouts and their leaders, Army cadets, our and our Rotary colleagues from other clubs. They all give their time so generously to help us set up, run, and pack down the event, and we simply couldn't do it without them. And of course, our heartfelt thanks to our wonderful partners at the Hants and Berks 4x4 Club for their invaluable support and Basingstoke Deane Borough Council.

It's a great free day out for families, yes, we do make a modest charge for car parking — but that goes to the charities we support.



SUPPORTING SAFER CHILDBIRTH FOR LOCAL FAMILIES

The Maternity Department at Basingstoke Hospital urgently needs new **Cardiotopography (CTG) machines** — vital equipment used to monitor pregnant women, women in labour, and the wellbeing of their unborn babies. The current machines are outdated and can't be upgraded, meaning they no longer meet the standard of care our community deserves.



By helping to replace them with **modern, data rich, fully updatable CTG machines**, we can make a real and lasting difference. These state of the art monitors provide clearer, more reliable information for midwives and doctors, supporting safer decision making during pregnancy and childbirth. Ultimately, they help protect mothers and babies at the moments when it matters most.

This investment will directly benefit families across Basingstoke and the surrounding area, ensuring our local hospital has the tools it needs to deliver the safest possible care.

Alongside this important project, we will continue to support a range of **local charities** and selected **international causes**, extending our impact to communities near and far

Basingstoke Deane Rotary is a group of 25 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 Alf, alf.mccarthy@btinternet.com or Paul, tempaul45@gmail.com to find out more.

We think you'll be pleasantly surprised.

Facebook: [@RotaryBasingstokeDeane](https://www.facebook.com/RotaryBasingstokeDeane) | X: [@RBstokeDeane](https://twitter.com/RBstokeDeane)

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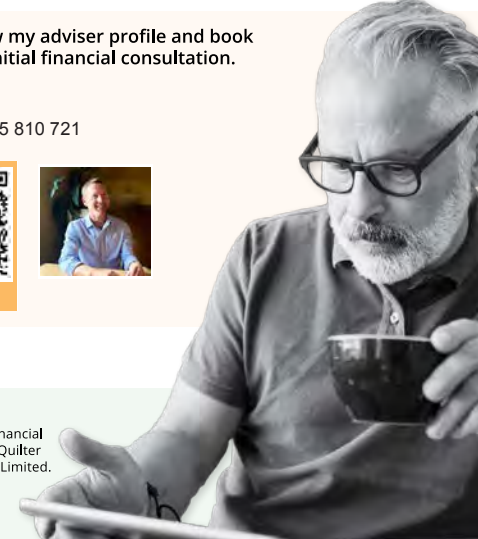
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28 November / 12 December

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Basingstoke Festival celebrates 15 years of art in unusual places

Basingstoke Festival is back and this year it's bigger and bursting with more creativity as it celebrates 15 years of bringing free outdoor arts, culture and community together across the borough.

Running from **Friday 19 June to Sunday 5 July** and produced by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, the award-winning festival will see free performances pop-up in Basingstoke town centre and other locations across the borough.

Audiences will be able to immerse themselves in live performances and soak up the borough's vibrant arts offer by discovering new artists, whether with a picnic for a full day of entertainment or popping by for a performance or two.

Opening on Friday 19 June, the festival will start with a parade making its way through the Top of the Town. This year's theme - the Parade of the Mythical Beasts - is being brought to life by Scratch Built Productions, bringing together community groups, schools, businesses and residents. There will be giant creations, live music and colourful performances as the festival officially begins.

There will be much more on offer, including comedy, circus skills, interactive installations, poetry, rap and



storytelling. Full schedules for each weekend will be available on the festival website and social media.

“While we wait to hear on our bid to become the UK's first ever Town of Culture, this year's festival provides a great opportunity to come together and enjoy the creativity and fun that makes Basingstoke and Deane so special.”

More information about Basingstoke Festival and how residents and visitors can take part is on the website at www.BasingstokeFestival.co.uk or on social media channels @BasingstokeFestival on Facebook and @BstokeFestival on Instagram.

Basingstoke Festival is part of Without Walls, a network of organisations bringing innovative outdoor arts to towns and cities across England. There is more information at www.WithoutWalls.uk.com.

Open Garden at Mill House, SSJ

Teas, coffee and home-made cakes are once again on offer to everyone in the gardens of Mill House this June.

The dates are: Thursday 25th and Sunday 28th of June. 2pm to 6pm.



Many villagers will, over the last ten years, have seen the general transformation of the site and restoration of a working waterwheel from afar. This is the annual chance to roam, see and enjoy the planting, the streams and the gardens in full.

Strolling to this nearby venue for tea makes a perfect afternoon out should you have friends or family around that weekend.

Free parking is offered for drivers and the venue is well signposted. Simply approach the house via the Wyne Road entrance opposite the new houses at “Bob's Farm”. For satnav use RG24 9HU.

The entrance fee is £6 for adults (children are free) and all receipts go to charity.

Full details at:

<https://ngs.org.uk/gardens/mill-house-rg24/>

Jazz on a Summer's Afternoon

Join **Basingstoke Concert Band** for a relaxing afternoon of live jazz and summer favourites on **Sunday 5 July 2026 at 3.00pm**

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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.

CHEEKY PAWS AND CLAWS Established, experienced dog walker. Home visits for all pets. Pet sitting. Equestrian/hoofted animals. Fully insured. 20 years as a zoo keeper. <http://www.facebook.com/cheekypaws.claws> 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

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.

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

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

CORNWALL HOLIDAY CARAVAN RENTAL We have a lovely 2-bedroom caravan available at Harlyn Sands Holiday Park near Padstow - just a short walk to the dog friendly beautiful beach at Harlyn Bay & within the 7 bays area. Just off the South West coast path & next to Trevoze Golf club. Sleeps up to 4, fully equipped kitchen, cosy lounge area, and great on-site facilities including indoor pool, entertainment complex with restaurant and bar. Perfect for families, couples, or a relaxing coastal break. Message me for availability and prices - happy to answer any questions. soozeandstephen@gmail.com

FOR SALE
One glass table/chrome frame rectangular table 140cm x 80cm with four chairs - £50
A vintage style cream coloured SMEG fridge with freezer compartment in good order - £50
Offers considered.
Please phone 07787150759 to view.

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The Villager

CALL Emma Foreman
07747 015494
emma@thehaye.co.uk



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- Kitchens plumbed / Taps replaced
- Dishwashers & Washing Machines Installed
- Leaking radiators repaired or replaced
- Outside taps fitted
- Block drains cleared
- Leaking gutters & Down-pipes repaired

Mickey: 07888 828542

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
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH	The Presbytery, Popley Way, Basingstoke	819722
BASINGSTOKE COMMUNITY CHURCH	Sarum Hill Centre, Basingstoke	316000
CLERKS TO PARISH COUNCILS		
SSJ Clerk/Admin	Alison Heward	clerk@sherbornestjohn-pc.gov.uk 07399 213133
SSJ Clerk/Finance	Rosie Burton	finance@sherbornestjohn-pc.gov.uk 07714 770940
MS	Mrs Cally Morris	clerk@monksherbome-pc.gov.uk 07721 076186
Pamber	Chris Gunnell	clerk@pamber-pc.gov.uk 07942 637210
BOROUGH COUNCILLOR for SSJ	David McIntyre	Cllr.David.McIntyre@basingstoke.gov.uk
BOROUGH COUNCILLOR for Pamber	Androulla Johnstone	Cllr.Androulla.Johnstone@basingstoke.gov.uk
BASINGSTOKE & DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL	Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke	844844
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL	The Castle, Winchester	01962 841841
HAMPSHIRE POLICE	Non-emergency	101 or 01962 841534
PCSO Kane Lucas No. 19624	Kane.lucas@hampshire.police.uk	
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH	ted_wilkinson@btinternet.com	01256 850891
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH (Charter Alley)	blacksmithguitar@talktalk.net	01256 850282 / 07702 550226
NEAREST JOB CENTRE	https://www.jobcentrejobs.co.uk	
LOCAL GROUPS		
WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP	Mrs Loraine Brown, (Secretary)	01256 590359
RAINBOWS	Caroline Givan: caroline.givan@gmail.com	
BROWNIES	Tramayne Henwood	ssjbrownies@outlook.com
GUIDES	Heidi Wadsworth	ssjguides@yahoo.com
CUBS	Ms Trish Field	01420 544904
Little Acorns, Bumps/Babes/Toddlers in SSJ	Mrs Liz Gwynn	07770 373282
SSJ SOCIAL CLUB	(ssjscinformation@gmail.com)	850303
SSJ HISTORY SOCIETY	Mrs Jane Shelvey	jshelvey@lillydown.net
TENNIS CLUB	Paul & Maria Saunders - ssj.tennis@hotmail.co.uk	07577 557850
SSJ RETIREMENT COFFEE MORNING	Mrs Margaret Cramer	850390
SUMMIT JUDO CLUB	Mr Len Dunce	07860 435 831
	or Mr Paul Hamilton	07917 005862
YOGA in SSJ Village Hall	Mrs Jacqui Morris	881336
SHORT MAT INDOORS BOWLS CLUB	Mr Graham Welsby	07970 182319
FOOTBALL CLUB	Mr Terry Buller tel.buller@gmail.com	07584 169241
PICCOLO PRE-SCHOOL NURSERY	Claudia or Jane info@piccolopsn.com www.piccolopsn.com	07528 726248
THE VYNE HOUSE (National Trust)	Mr Stuart Maughan	01256 883858
SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING	Mrs J. Hughes email: tadleysd@gmail.com	
BALLET at SSJ Village Hall	Jenni Stafford	jenni@jsba.uk
VENUE BOOKINGS:		
St Stephen's Hall	Carol Ellis	07960 049189
MS Village Hall		enquiries@monksherbomevillagehall.org.uk 07759 064220
SSJ Village Hall	Shawna Campbell	ssjhallbookings@yahoo.com 07526 954835
The Chute Pavilion	Terry Buller	tel.buller@gmail.com 07584 169241
Royal British Legion	Rev John Morley	revjohnmorley43@gmail.com
SSJ Social Club		ssjscinformation@gmail.com
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 C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL	Ms Vickie Alvis (Head teacher)	01256 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
DIAL-A-RIDE	Monday-Friday 8.30-12.00 am and 2.00-4.15 pm	01256 462101

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

Julie Crawley

villagemagazine@gmail.com

07703 720961

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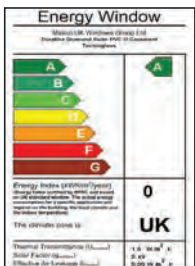
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