



The Villager

October 2025

Sherbornes and Pamber



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PROTECT SHERBORNE ST. JOHN NOW



Another planning application for 26 homes has been submitted by B.Yond Homes (previously and still owned by Rydon Homes) in relation to the land north east of Cranesfield and north west of the village pond.

This is a unique rural position bordering many important heritage sites including Grade I listed St Andrew's church, the medieval village pond and chalk streams, Grade II listed Manor Farm, the war memorial and cemetery at the heart of the village.

WE CAN STOP THIS - but only if we work together again, by submitting a high number of individual objections which will demonstrate how much the village opposes this application. We must all individually object to this development, if we do not it will give a green light to other developers, resulting in an avalanche of further speculative developments in our village. Previous applications to develop this site have been rejected (and rejected on appeal) but the developers are relentless in trying to build on unsuitable sites with poorly thought out plans to drive their revenues and profits. We as a village need to also be relentless in showing our opposition and objections to unsuitable sites and poorly considered development locations.

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (BDBC) have only recently reconfirmed that Sherborne St. John (SSJ) does not have a requirement for new housing and will continue to have a housing allocation of zero! This is due to the fact that the number of houses built within SSJ over the last 5 years was higher than the housing number required by the BDBC local plan.

Please submit your individual objections to this speculative planning application directly on the BDBC planning portal. The reference for the planning application is **25/02051/FUL**. All individuals have the right to object, so you will be able to submit more than one submission per household, please object individually if you can. Objections, using reference **25/02051/FUL**, can be submitted online via the portal (www.basingstoke.gov.uk), by email (planning.comments@basingstoke.gov.uk) or by letter (**BDBC Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke, RG21 4AH**).

Please note - you must include the planning reference number above, your name and your postal address in your objections otherwise your objections will not be taken into account.

The key (but not limited to) objections to this planning application are as follows:

- Devastating impact on the heritage areas of SSJ, contrary to BDBC Local Plan (BDBC LP) policy EM11 and SSJ Neighbourhood Plan (SSJ NP) policy 9.
- Destruction of important views into and out of the village from public rights of way and from heritage areas, contrary to BDBC LP policy EM1 and EM10. Also contrary to SSJ NP policy 3 and 7.
- Huge detrimental impact on the ecology and abundance of wildlife enjoyed by the entire community around this site, contrary to BDBC LP policy EM4 and SSJ NP policy 6.
- The planning application does not respect the new (2024) SSJ Neighbourhood Plan and is contrary to BDBC LP policy SS1 and SS5.
- The development does not respect the local landscape and is not sympathetic to its character or visual quality and will have detrimental impact on the visual amenity of the area. It is contrary to BDBC LP policy SS6 and SSJ NP policy 3 and 7.
- The development does not respect the sense of tranquillity, remoteness and quiet enjoyment of the landscape from public rights of way and public places. It is contrary to BDBC LP policy EM1 and to SSJ NP policy 3 and 7.
- Please also include other objections which you feel strongly about.

For further information on objections or any other actions related to this matter please contact ssjsog@outlook.com

DON'T DELAY PLEASE OBJECT TO BDBC TO SAVE SHERBORNE ST. JOHN



Take Action Now !!

the Villager
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Thank you!

It has been just over two years since Becky, the children and I arrived in SSJ so I could take up my role as Priest-in-Charge of the parish of Sherbornes with Pamber. How time flies! My institution as Rector last month was a joyful occasion, and a wonderful opportunity to reflect on God's goodness and faithfulness – and on how blessed we feel to be part of this community. If you're wondering what difference becoming Rector makes, the reality is not a lot, other than the fact it means we'll be sticking around a bit longer!

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone from the church

and wider community who have supported and encouraged us along the way. I'm very much looking forward to what God has in store for us over the coming months and years.

If you would like to connect with the church more or find out more about us, please don't hesitate to get in touch. And do feel free to come along to any of the events or services on our calendar; they are open to everyone and we would love to see you.

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



Reverend Stewart and Archdeacon Richard Brand with Church Wardens Tim Aslett and Lynda Harding



Reverend Stewart and the Archdeacon Richard Brand

Cover Photo: Mellow Fruitfulness

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October

Connect | Share | Grow
With Our Communities | God's Love | In Our Faith In Jesus

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

Weds 1st 10-11.30am Little Acorns Baby and Toddler Group at SSJ Village Hall
12-12.30pm Midday Prayer at St Andrew's SSJ
2-4pm Being Together Women's Group in the Parish Room

Sun 5th 10.30am Holy Communion with groups for 0-14s at St Andrew's SSJ
4-6pm Harvest Tea and Ceilidh at SSJ Village Hall

Weds 8th 10-11.30am Little Acorns Baby & Toddler Group at SSJ Village Hall
12-12.30pm Midday Prayer at All Saints' Monk Sherborne

Sun 12th 9.30am Holy Communion at All Saints, Monk Sherborne
10.30am Morning Worship with groups for 0-11s at St Andrew's SSJ

Weds 15th 10-11.30am Little Acorns Baby & Toddler Group at SSJ Village Hall
2.15-3pm SSJ Schools Harvest at St Andrew's SSJ

Thurs 16th 10-midday Poppy Knitting Group in Parish Room at St Andrew's SSJ

Sat 18th 10.00-11.30am Dads and Kids - Games, Craft and Bacon Sandwiches at the Rectory

Sun 19th 10.30am Morning Worship with groups for 0-14s at St Andrew's SSJ

Weds 22nd 10-11.30am Little Acorns Baby & Toddler Group at SSJ Village Hall
12-12.30pm Midday Prayer at Pamber Priory

Sun 26th 9.30am Morning Worship at Pamber Priory
10.30am All Age Service at St Andrew's

Sun 2nd 10.30am All Age Service at St Andrew's
4pm Families at 4 at St Andrew's



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

For regular updates please scan the QR code:



Dads and Kids

2025/2026

Saturdays | 10am | The Rectory

16th Aug

Summer Walk

18th Oct

Games, Craft & Bacon Sandwiches

17th Jan

Welly Walk & Hot Chocolate

21st Mar

Games, Craft & Bacon Sandwiches

16th May

Games, Craft & Bacon Sandwiches

18th July

Family Barbecue (4.30pm)

Rectory Location in SSJ:
Vyne Road, RG24 9HX
what3words fleet.perfumes.slide

SHERBORNES WITH PAMBER CHURCHES

www.sherborneswithpamber.org

FAMILIES

AT FOUR

7th Sept

St Andrew's Church, SSJ 4-5pm

5th Oct

Harvest Tea and Ceilidh, SSJ Village Hall 4-6pm

2nd Nov

St Andrew's Church 4-5pm

7th Dec

St Andrew's Church 4-5pm

Craft

Games

Short talk from the Bible

Singing

Refreshments

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Christmas

Community Choir

Join us for rehearsals on

Thursday evenings

6.45 - 8pm at St Andrew's

13th Nov

20th Nov

27th Nov

4th Dec

11th Dec

18th Dec

Everyone is very welcome to join..
Enthusiasm necessary, experience is not!

Carol Service

21st December

HARVEST TEA

& CEILIDH

5TH OCTOBER | 4-6PM

SSJ VILLAGE HALL

SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES

PLEASE BOOK USING THE QR CODE

SUGGESTED DONATION

£5 PER ADULT

SHERBORNES WITH PAMBER CHURCHES

Visit Our Website
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Claiming Dates

October 2025		
3	Monk Sherborne Drinks Evening, MS Village Hall	7.00pm
3	The Vyne NT, Outdoor Cinema, Scream (18)	
4	The Vyne NT, Outdoor Cinema, Hocus Pocus (PG)	
4	Sherborne St John Social Club, Adele Tribute	7.30pm
4	The Mayor's Chrity Variety Concert , The Anvil, incl. Rick Wakeman, Tickets £30/concessions	7.30pm
4	Basingstoke Concert Band with Basing Singers Harvest Concert, Old Basing Village Hall	7.30pm
5	The Vyne NT, Outdoor Cinema, The Nightmare Before Christma (PG)	
5	Sherbornes with Pamber Churches, Harvest Tea and Ceilidh, SSJ Village Hall, All Welcome	4 - 6pm
5	Destination Basingstoke, Phillips Law Half Marathon	
6	SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
7	Women's Fellowship, SSJ Village Hall, Dambusters	2.00pm – 4.00pm
11	The Vyne NT, We're Going on a Ghost Hunt, Halloween Adventure	
11	Sherborne St John Social Club, Harry J – Solo Artist	7.30pm
13	Monk Sherborne Coffee Morning, MS Village Hall	10.00am - 12.00
13	Knit and Knatter Craft Group, Sherborne St John Village Hall, tea & coffee available	1.00pm – 3.00pm
16	Knit/Crochet Poppies for Remembrance Day, St Andrew's Parish Room, Sherborne St John	10.00am – 12.00
18	Mamma Mia Night in support of Victoria's Promise, SSJ Village Hall	7.30pm
18	Country Music Event with Ian Highland Band, MS Village Hall, £20 incl buffet meal	7.00pm - 11.00pm
18	Sherborne St John Social Club, Buddy Holly Tribute	7.30pm
20	SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
25	Sherborne St John Social Club, Mediumship Session	12md – 3.00pm
25	Sherborne St John Social Club, Skittles Night	7.30pm
27	Knit and Knatter Craft Group, Sherborne St John Village Hall, tea & coffee available	1.00pm – 3.00pm
29	Sherborne St John Social Club, Chris' Jazz Band	7.30pm

November 2025		
1	Rainbows, Brownies & Guides Fundraising Jumble Sale, SSJ Village Hall, Drop off from 11 am	1.00pm
1	Sherborne St John Social Club, Halloween Family Disco & Fancy Dress	6.30pm
2	SwP Churches, Families at 4, St Andrew's Church	4.00pm – 5.00pm
3	SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
4	Women's Fellowship, SSJ Village Hall, Dickens and Christmas + Bring & Buy	2.00pm – 4.00pm
6-8	"My Boy Jack" Rudyard Kiplings search for his only son, Central Studio, Basingstoke	
8	Sherborne St John Social Club, Calli 1940s-60s, Remembrance Day Tribute	7.30pm
9	Poppies for Remembrance Day Service, St Andrew's Church, Sherborne St John	10.30am
10	Knit and Knatter Craft Group, Sherborne St John Village Hall, tea & coffee available	1.00pm – 3.00pm
14	Sherborne St John Social Club, House of Games Quiz	7.30pm
15	Sherborne St John Social Club, Decades Tribute	7.30pm
16	SwP Churches, Bereavement Cafe, Monk Sherborne Village Hall, more info 07703720961	3.30 - 5.30pm
17	SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
22	Sherborne St John Social Club, Kylie Minogue Tribute	7.30pm
22-5/1	The Vyne NT, A Fairytale Christmas at The Vyne	
24	Knit and Knatter Craft Group, Sherborne St John Village Hall, tea & coffee available	1.00pm – 3.00pm
26	Sherborne St John Social Club, Chris' Jazz Band	7.30pm
28	Sherborne St John Social Club, Oxford Christmas Coach Trip	10.00am
29	Sherborne St John Social Club, Carbon Copy Band	7.30pm
30	St Michael's Hospice Reindeer Run	

December 2025		
1 - 19	The Vyne NT, Christmas Lunch in the Brewhouse Tea-room (Weekdays only)	12.00 noon
1	SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
2	Women's Fellowship, Christmas Lunch	
6	SSJ Christmas Market at SSJ Village Hall, Art, craft & gift makers	12md – 4.00pm
8	Knit and Knatter Craft Group, Sherborne St John Village Hall, tea & coffee available	1.00pm – 3.00pm
15	SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
29	SSJ 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

6

7

SSJ Village Hall

Where has the time gone? Here we are again with the nights drawing in earlier, the temperature going down and even leaves falling from the trees! Children have gone back to school and another term of classes started at the hall. A lot has happened in the past year in relation to the Village Hall. New CCTV cameras, painting done inside and out, cleaning up of the outside of the hall by the gardeners and much more to come in the coming months. We have some new groups that have started or are starting in the next few weeks...

Fay Curtis Footcare Clinic-by appointment only (07780 664410) in the Vyne Room same day as coffee morning 10am-2pm

U3a "Happy Feet" adult dance classes on a Tuesday afternoon in a fortnightly pattern starting at 13.45

U3a Quiz once per month

Bath Baby Massage Baby starting on Mondays at 9-10.45 opposite the Coffee morning dates in the hall

Knit and Knatter Craft Group starting on Mondays 1-3pm. Come for a natter, hot drink and maybe a biscuit. Hire time generously donated by the SSJ Parish Council.

NHS are using the Vyne Room once per month starting in October 2025.

Shawna on behalf of the Trustees

UpcomingEVENTS

SEPT TO NOV 2025

WED NIGHT QUIZ

1-2-3 WEEK OF MONTH

DOORS OPEN

7.30PM

BINGO EVERY SUNDAY EVENING

5.30PM

MEAT RAFFLE EVERY FRIDAY

10.00PM

SKITTLES EVERY LAST SATURDAY

7.30PM

24TH SEPT

CHRIS JAZZ BAND

7.30PM

26TH SEPT

SKITTLES NIGHT

7.30PM

04TH OCT

ADELE TRIBUTE

7.30PM

11TH OCT

HARRY J SOLO ARTIST

7.30PM

18TH OCT

BUDDY HOLLY TRIBUTE

7.30PM

25TH OCT

MEDIUMSHIP SESSION

12PM -3PM

25TH OCT

SKITTLES NIGHT

7.30PM

29TH OCT

CHRIS JAZZ BAND

7.30PM

1ST NOV

HALLOWEEN FAMILY DISCO - FANCY DRESS

6.30PM

8TH NOV

CALLI 1940S-60S

7.30PM

REMEMBRANCE DAY TRIBUTE

14TH NOV

HOUSE OF GAMES QUIZ

7.30PM

15TH NOV

DECADES TRIBUTE

7.30PM

22ND NOV

KYLIE MINOGUE TRIBUTE

7.30PM

26TH NOV

CHRIS JAZZ BAND

7.30PM

28TH NOV

OXFORD XMAS COACH TRIP

10AM

29TH NOV

CARBON COPY BAND

7.30PM

TICKETS ONLINE @ SSJSOCIALCLUB.COM

OR BEHIND THE BAR

SHERBORNE ST JOHN SOCIAL CLUB

SSJ Primary School

We are well and truly back into the swing of the new school year and it has been busy! We had our 175th Anniversary Celebrations at the end of September. Which was a wonderful opportunity to look back at the history of the school. Year 6 have completed their Bikeability lessons which prepare them for cycling safely on the local roads. We have had a Jeans for Genes non-school uniform day raising awareness and money for research into genetic conditions.

During the month of October, we look out for the good conkers beginning to drop and we will soon be holding our annual conker tournament which is a highlight of this term. All the children take part with their classes during the week and we come together at the end for a very exciting conker final!

Tours for prospective parents are now underway. Please visit our website <https://www.ssj-school.co.uk/> for more information or contact the school office on 01256 850180 to arrange a tour with our Year 6 ambassadors. We are looking forward to meeting you and showing you how great our school and children are!

Sherbert
SSJ School Villager Correspondent

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Sherborne St John Parish Council

BDBC Local Plan
With the change of regime, BDBC are working on a new local plan for the Basingstoke area. The DRAFT plan suggests there will be no direct housing allocation for the village. This aligns with the zero allocation that the Parish Council submitted via the revised Neighbourhood Plan - the good news. The less than good news. The DRAFT BDBC Local Plan does include an additional 50 homes within the "West of Marnel Park" site allocation (SPS5.10). This extension pushes development further north towards the parish boundary, increasing the cumulative pressure on our community in terms of traffic, services, and countryside setting.

Kiln Farm/Weybrook
There are also the Weybrook Golf course application and the proposed extension to the Kiln Farm development that both appear to currently be on hold.

Cranesfield
As we know, an application for 26 houses in Cranesfield was rejected. However the developer is insistent and has resubmitted the application. The following link will take you to a Facebook page that provides full details of the application and how to submit your objection. The Parish Council will be objecting. <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1ABz1rdegM/?mibextid=wwXifr>

Solar Farm - Monk Sherborne
The Parish Council has submitted an objection to this application in support of the Monk Sherborne Parish Council.

The Chute - Heating
The heating units need replacing. They are expensive to run and it's proving impossible to get spares. The plan is to get the work completed before the winter.

The Chute - Playground
The Parish Council are in the process of finalising specification and price, raising the first whilst reducing the latter. Work should be starting by the end of October. Councillors Agnew and Rowley are leading on this project.

The Chute - Car Park
Our plan to improve the security and access to the Chute progresses. We are looking to install CCTV, upgrade the current car park lighting and extend/resurface the car park with a couple of disabled parking spaces. The CCTV will probably include the car park so we're working out how best to install this car park CCTV camera without intruding on folk in nearby housing.

SSJ Parish Clerk.
We have a new Parish Clerk but wait I hear you say we've recently taken on a Parish Clerk. To be specific we now have x 2 Parish Clerks with a split between Finance and Admin. Since I joined the Parish council some 12 years ago the number of Parishioners has increased from 1,000 to 1,700. The Parish funds have also significantly increased and so require careful stewarding, Our existing Clerk, Rosie Burton, will manage our finances. You can contact Rosie on 07714 947328 or e-mail her at finance@sherbornestjohn-pc.gov.uk. Our new/additional Clerk, Alison Heward, will manage all our admin. You can contact Alison on 07399 213133.

Parish Office
Keep a look out for the date of grand opening.

Scribe
Up and running. Currently the core

Chute finances are being managed by Scribe. The next step is to expand the functionality to enable bookings for the Chute Pavillon and Allotments finances to be managed via Scribe.

Institution - Rev. Deering
By the time this edition of the Villager goes to print, the Institution of the Reverend Stewart Deering will have been held. An "institution service" for a reverend is a formal church ceremony, where a bishop officially admits a new minister into spiritual oversight of a parish or institution. Stewart will then formally be 'in charge' of the Sherbornes with Pamber Parish. The Parish can only benefit from having Stewart as its spiritual leader.

Abba - Village Hall, 18th October
No, the Village Hall team have not pulled off the entertainment scoop of the year, it's better than that.... If you haven't yet got your tickets, then by the time of reading this article there may not be (m)any left. £60 pp or £50 pp if you buy 4 or more tickets. Your ticket buys you a 3 course meal prepared by a local chef, half a bottle of wine, professional dancers and a singer. All the Abba songs you know and love but on your doorstep vs. the trek into London. Contact Hilary Andrews (hilaryandrews16@gmail.com), mobile 07887 856 360 Any profit from the evening will be donated to the Victoria's Promise women's cancer charity.

And Finally.....
By the time you read this article it will be approx. 3 weeks before you need turn your clocks back 1 hour - (25th October).

Richard Morgan
Chair, SSJ Parish Council

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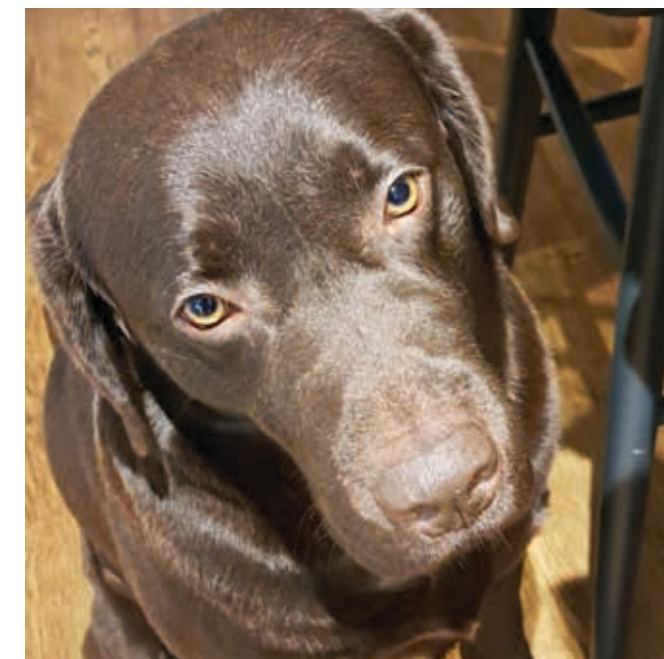
Email: info@blackfoxsweep.co.uk

Web: www.blackfoxsweep.co.uk

Beau's Blog

I hope you all had a good summer. I travelled a lot and swam a lot. This summer I also sunbathed and as you can see – I have a lovely tan....

It was good to explore my second home again, sniffing all the boundaries and playing with my other toys that I had forgotten about. I did slip away once as I picked up an enticing scent on the air which my instincts told me belonged to a lady dog who might welcome a bit of company. However, I was not successful and my escapade ended with an impromptu meeting of all the French neighbours in our little hamlet, instead of my dream of a romantic interlude. After travelling around the immediate area with my nose in the air trying to catch that scent I hadn't gone very far when I heard voices calling. Unfortunately my French is a bit limited and I didn't understand that they were calling me. When I was eventually collared by Monsieur Louis and his wife Yvonne who trotted me towards home we came across all the neighbours who had been out looking for me – I didn't realise I was so popular! The Boss and the Mrs were relieved to see me and I had to sit and wait while they all had a jolly good chinwag. Alas I never did find the lady dog with the enticing perfume – that's why I probably look a bit sad in this photo.....



<http://beauregardsdogblog.blogspot.com>

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happy place!

Teas and coffees available.

Hall hire is very generously provided by the
SSJ PARISH COUNCIL.

News from Pamber and Little London



Well, after a fabulously hot and dry summer, the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness is upon us ridiculously early! I don't think I ever remember making my chutneys as early as this – apple and plum if anyone is interested – and the freezer is crammed full of blackberries. The brambles are empty of fruit, or displaying dead specimens not gathered in time. I can already feel my mouth watering at the prospect of autumnal crumbles. I'm not sure but fear this may pose a problem for migratory birds stocking up before their journey to warmer climes. And the figs! What a

display. Unfortunately mine never seem to ripen fully, bar a handful or two. Any tips from anyone? And in similar vein, if anyone would like to comment on why, having lifted half a dozen, having left in the ground a similar number and having planted a dozen new ones, I have precisely one dahlia in the fountain bed. Very disappointing.

Disappointing is what you see on the face of our occasional dog, Arty. He is on his holidays while his owners, our son and wife, are in the US. We took him for a swim in his favourite Silchester pond, aka Gravelpit Copse, where he was immensely confused by the total lack of water.

I hope to have more local news for you in the next edition. I have been away rather a lot over the summer as have my spies, so not much to report.

B  bdownes.villager@gmail.com



Prostate Cancer Support Group Celebrates 10th Anniversary Facebook @NHPCSG

Cancer rates in the UK now mean about half of us will experience this chilling disease. So support groups helping people travel the pathway for living through this disease, and of going on to a new and positive future, have never been so much in demand.

On August 28th in the lovely setting of Monk Sherborne village hall, the North Hampshire Prostate Cancer Support Group, one of the oldest and largest in the UK, celebrated its 10th anniversary with nearly 80 members and guests sitting down to an excellent meal, followed by anniversary cake. This was ceremonially cut by the founding chair Alan Instone and founder, and oncology nurse Sally Sawyer, surrounded by some of the original members.

Several very special guests included members from 'Tackle Prostate Cancer', the charitable organisation which seeks to not only help with forming new support groups around the country, but also provides invaluable support to the running and promoting of each group's activities.

Members were welcomed with a ticket for their meal with their free raffle number for the prize draw of a generous hamper as lead prize, with subsequent prizes

having been boosted by generous donations from some of the local supermarkets. Although the rain prevented members from mixing outside, a welcoming atmosphere was created in the hall, with colour co-ordinated table settings and members mingling happily, before everyone left with a small memento of the occasion.

For more information:-

Phone 07377 430 242 Email info@nhpcsg.org.uk
Website www.nhpcsg.org.uk



Monk Sherborne Fete and Village Hall News

Despite the weather we had a good turnout on Saturday 30th August for the fete, with great exhibits too. We tried a different format this year, starting later and running into the evening with a disco and a bring your own picnic. Thank you to DJ Les Farr. We also included a Bric a brac stall which proved popular. We had decided that proceeds would be given to a chosen charity on the day. The chosen charity was The British Heart Foundation & we will be donating £400.

Thank you to local businesses & the community who donated raffle prizes. Winners have been contacted, except for Orange 59 & Blue 36. If these tickets belong to you please contact Cheryl on 07759 064220.

Thank you to all who helped by contributing Bric a brac, raffle prizes, cakes, and volunteering on the day to make it a success. And a big thank you to those who set-up and took-down, cleared, tidied & cleaned, ready for a hire on Sunday. Amazing team work

On Friday, September 26th we will have hosted our first inter village quiz between Monk Sherborne & Ramsdell. Proceeds from the event will be donated to Ramsdell Village Hall.

Dates for the diary

Friday, October 3rd:

Village drinks 6-8pm in the hall.

Monday, October 13th:

Coffee morning 10:45-12 in the hall.

Saturday, October 18th:

Country Music Night with The Ian Highland Band (7pm) tickets £20 per head. Please call 01256851202 or 07900156637 to secure your ticket.

Monday November 10th:

Village Hall AGM 7:30pm. Please come along as the trustees need your support, questions, & ideas / views and for you to hear about performance, financial health & future plans.






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17




Take part in our Reindeer Run



Sign up now!

Basingstoke
Sunday 30 November
Time: Arrival at 8AM, start at 9AM
Location: Festival Place, Basingstoke, RG21 7BA

Alton
Sunday 14 December
Time: Arrival at 9AM, start at 10AM
Location: The Market Square, Alton, GU34 1HD

Put on your antlers and walk, dash, dance and prance along the 3K Reindeer Run route to support your local Hospice.

For further information visit stmichaels hospice.org.uk

Charity Reg No (England and Wales): 1002856 | Tel: 01256 848848
St. Michael's Hospice, Basil de Ferranti House, Aldermaston Road, Basingstoke, RG24 9NB




Light up a Life

Sunday 7 December



Dedicate a light

Remember the past, support the present, and shine hope into the future.

Location: St. Joseph's Church, St Michael's Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG22 6TY

We're holding two services for Light up a Life 2025, please register for:

- Service One: 3.30pm (arrival from 2.30pm)
- Service Two: 7pm (arrival from 6pm)

For further information visit stmichaels hospice.org.uk/LUAL

Charity Reg No (England and Wales): 1002856 | Tel: 01256 848848
St. Michael's Hospice, Basil de Ferranti House, Aldermaston Road, Basingstoke, RG24 9NB




Friends of St. Michael's Hospice

Carol Service

Tuesday 9th December | All Saint's, Odiham

Doors open at 6pm, service starts at 7pm

Featuring Schola Cantorum of Oxford and a reading by Ed Chamberlin

Canapes, wine and mince pies

TICKETS: £40



Scan the QR code to book

For more information visit: www.stmichaels hospice.org.uk/events or contact Katherine Jane, High St., Odiham

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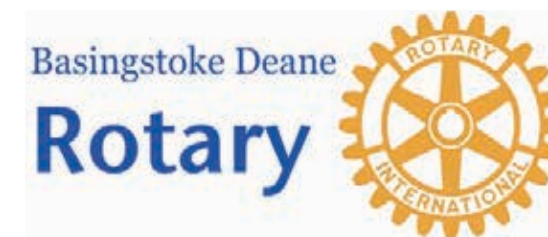
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World Polio Day – 24 October 2025

A Sea of Purple with a Special Meaning



Every year, Rotary clubs across the UK and beyond plant millions of purple crocuses. It's a simple but striking way to raise awareness, raise funds, and add a splash of colour to our towns and villages.

The purple crocus isn't just a flower—it's a symbol of Rotary's worldwide fight to rid the world of polio, echoing the purple dye once used to mark a child's finger after vaccination. In many countries, children who received the vaccine had their little finger dipped in purple dye so health workers knew they'd been protected. That's where the idea of Purple4Polio came from. Rotary uses purple crocuses to spread the message and raise funds for this life-changing work.

Rotary in Basingstoke will plant more crocuses bulbs this autumn so the purple blooms you see around Basingstoke continue to tell this story. And with each one, we are one step closer to ending polio for good

Rotary's Part in Beating Polio

Not so long ago, two diseases—smallpox and polio—were taking the lives of children and adults all over the world. Smallpox was finally wiped out in 1980 thanks to a huge global vaccination effort. By 1990, polio cases in the UK had dropped to just a handful. Today, every child is offered routine polio vaccinations, with boosters later on—a powerful reminder of how well vaccines work.

For over 35 years, Rotary has been leading the charge to end polio through the End Polio Now campaign. Together, members have raised more than \$2.1 billion and given countless hours of their time to help protect almost 3 billion children in 122 countries.

Because of this work, polio is now found only in Afghanistan and Pakistan, and in 2020 Africa was officially declared free of the disease.

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 | X: @RBstokeDeane

Here in Basingstoke and the surrounding villages, local Rotarians have planted purple crocuses as a colourful symbol of hope. You might spot them in bloom at Turnpike Cottages in Overton, the Silk Mill in Whitchurch, and Stratton Park in Kempshott. Each flower is a small reminder of a world where no family has to fear polio again.

Partnership with the Gates Foundation

Rotary is grateful that the philanthropist billionaire Bill Gates has for many years supported Rotary in its commitment to eradicate polio. It was announced in June 2025, that the Gates Foundation will continue to provide a 2:1 match for Rotary's funds raised, totalling up to US\$450 million over three years. A man who uses his significant wealth to improve lives worldwide

JONAS SALK

The unsung hero of this battle. An American virologist and medical researcher who developed one of the first successful polio vaccines which quelled one of the biggest outbreaks of Polio in the US when it was introduced in 1952. The rolling out of Polio vaccination programmes around the world has been a great success.



Joseph Salk has been hailed for his altruism; he chose to not patent the vaccine or seek any profit from it to maximize its global distribution

SAVE THE DATE

OUR ROTARY FUNDRAISING

ROYAL MARINES BAND CONCERT

will be held on January 25th 2026 at The Anvil

Look out for tickets on sale from the box office.

Royal British Legion



During this month, we are gearing up for the annual RBL Poppy Appeal. Our major effort is the stall we run in the reception area at Basingstoke Hospital. Thank you to all who take a turn on the rota for that.



We operate from 9am to 4pm each weekday in the two weeks running up to Remembrance Sunday on 9th November,

This year we have some additional help from Network Rail staff who are using their annual charity release day to support the appeal; most of them are ex-Service members.

Natalie Larner will also have a Poppy stall outside Sherfield Coffee shop each Saturday of the appeal period.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE POPPY APPEAL and help to bring hope and comfort to so many who have been

injured in mind or body while serving in the armed forces of our country.

TRAFALGAR DAY is commemorated annually on 21 October by the Royal Navy. The battle, in which the British Fleet commanded by Vice Admiral Horatio Lord Nelson fought against the much larger attacking fleets of France and Spain, took place off Cadiz and the Strait of Gibraltar in 1805. It is still celebrated in UK naval ports with parades and dinners; Cadets of the Sea Cadet corps also have special ceremonies for the day. We remember all who serve in the Royal Navy today, often away from their families for long periods in some of the world's most tense areas.

Finally, a reminder that our branch AGM will be held on Wednesday 15 October at 7.30pm at Cross House, Bramley. Everyone is welcome and light refreshments will be available.

John Morley

Vice President, Bramley & District RBL
0790 082566
revjohnmorley43@gmail.com

Probus and the Portland Russian Spy Ring



Readers of a certain vintage will no doubt remember the infamous Portland Russian Spy Ring caught in 1961. It was recalled by speaker and Probus Club member David Stiles, who considers that he had a personal involvement before the spies were unmasked.



Following service in the RAF he continued as a contractor on RAF bases. While based at RAF Tangmere near Chichester he was tasked to prepare a civilian

Vickers Varsity aircraft to be held under guard so that it was instantly ready for some secret operation. There were covert trips over three weeks when six men would arrive for night flights. He later concluded that these passengers were members of MI5, the section of the Secret Intelligence Service who are responsible for domestic security.

This period in history is known as 'The Cold War' with the Russians dividing Germany into East and West there was much spying activity by both sides. Honourably discharged from the Royal Navy after the war, Harry Houghton had worked at HMS Osprey on Portland in Dorset. In 1952, he transferred to the British embassy in Warsaw, Poland. He liked a drink and became involved with a woman who turned out to be a member of the Polish Intelligence Service. She encouraged him to import coffee from Britain to sell at inflated prices. When his side hustle was discovered, and being short of money, he was encouraged to approach the Polish authorities to sell them secret information. Drinking concerns by superiors led him returning to England. He was posted to the Portland naval base in Dorset and more specifically in the Admiralty Underwater Weapons Establishment.



The AUWE was the centre of research into underwater weaponry and the first British nuclear submarine, HMS Dreadnought, had been launched in October 1960. Perhaps having been passed his details by Polish intelligence he was groomed by Gordon Lonsdale to develop an interest in Ethel Gee a filing clerk in AUWE. A spinster in her mid-forties she lived on Portland with her widowed mother and other family members.

Gordon Lonsdale was the cover name of Konon Molody, who had arrived in England under a Canadian passport and had been part of the Russian Spy Ring that had been operating in England since 1953. He provided the income needed by Harry Houghton that enabled a relationship to develop with Ethel Gee. Using a camera disguised as a cigarette lighter, Ethel would get copies of plans and information that he passed on to Lonsdale.



How would Lonsdale get this information to his masters in Moscow? Enter Helen and Peter Kroger. Their real names were Lona and Morris Cohen, American communists who used New Zealand passports. Lona Cohen had couriered classified documents about the "Manhattan Project" the US atom bomb development, to the Russian consulate in New York. The Americans considered they were ten years ahead of the Russians in nuclear development. Four years after the first atomic test, the Russians conducted their own nuclear bomb test, using specifications similar to those of the US device.

Peter and Helen Kroger rented a dormer bungalow in Ruislip in west London. Peter opened an antique book shop in London with customers across Europe including Russia. Gordon Lonsdale helped the Krogers dig out a cellar under their kitchen to house transmitting equipment while an aerial went in the roof. Helen Kroger could transmit information in a couple of seconds. It was these transmissions that speaker David Stiles believes is what the mysterious flights with the MI5 personnel were tracking, eventually locating the bungalow in Ruislip.

Much of the information provided by Ethel Gee was reduced to microdots by Lonsdale and placed within the text in the antique books by Peter Kroger. The radio signals gave the destination address; the books were intercepted recovering the microdots.

In January 1961, MI5, which did not have power of arrest, arranged that the police detain all five people involved. This was followed by a trial at the Old Bailey in March 1961, held in camera. Certain information was released to the press, but much remains secret. Gordon Lonsdale was gaoled for 25 years but was involved in a spy swap after four years. Helen and Peter Kroger received 20 years and were swapped for a British businessman. All three were received as Heroes of the Soviet Union. Harry Houghton and Ethel Gee received 15 years and were married in prison.

Over 2,000 documents had been photographed and David Stiles wondered if they really were not that important at all.

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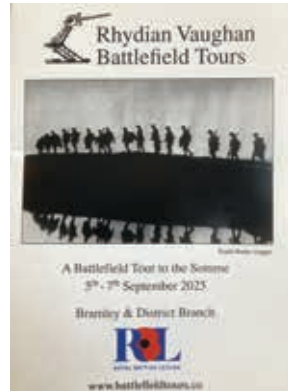
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Trip to the Somme Battlefield



18 members and friends of the Bramley & District branch RBL departed for our weekend adventure to the Somme Battlefield in northern France travelling by coach via Dover. We spent the next 3 days looking and understanding the 14 mile front line that was the battle of the Somme 1916. The ground provides a prospective that

no book or film can quite do justice to and to be on the ground where the carnage ensued is quite another thing.

The first day of the battle, 1st July, was a bad day at the office for the British Army - 58,000 casualties of which 19,240 were killed. The battle, which lasted from July to 17th November, is often painted as a huge failure with British casualties at 420,000 and German at 650,000. However the battle was described by a German staff officer as "the muddy grave of the German Army and the loss of belief in the German high command".

One of the 18 on board comments thus - "our assembled group were enlightened with an authoritative insight into how events on the ground unfolded, coupled to the often tragic outcome. It proved moving and humbling to the entire group and had a profound effect on me and touched my soul in ways that I had not expected. It brings home the tremendous sacrifice of that generation, the likes that fortunately my generation has never experienced and hopefully never will."

Picnic lunches enjoying glorious sunshine, evening revelries in the town of Albert mixed with the pathos of the historical input made this adventure a real treat for those who took part. Thank you all for your enjoyable company and active participation.

Rhydian Vaughan
Battlefield Tours.



Action Hampshire

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Deadline: Sunday 26th October at midnight

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Action Hampshire works on behalf of all local charities to represent the sector's needs to local authorities and funders. Their regular e-newsletter contains useful updates and links to new funding opportunities as well as details about new project funds they are delivering. Their projects focus on tackling health inequalities, organisational development, poverty and cost of living, community led research, and rural affordable housing. They are currently inviting applications for several community-focused projects, including funding opportunities for initiatives such as 'Healthwatch Hampshire Engagement', 'Safe and Warm Communities', and 'Let's Be Smoke Free'. Visit www.actionhampshire.org.uk or call 01962 854971 to learn more and see how they can support your group.



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

TSI COMMERCIAL & DOMESTIC BUILDING MAINTENANCE. Electrical. Plumbing. Capentry or Decoratong. For a quotation, please phone **01256 780460** or **07989 940210**.

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: scruckshanktutor@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.

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/cheeky.paws.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**

THE BASINGSTOKE ARTISAN HANDYMAN Local, trustworthy and reliable. A skilled Handyman who can also add a bespoke flavour to your projects. Any size job considered, quick and simple to complex. www.thebartyman.co.uk **07827 216806**

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**

T

F

PLUMBING AND TILING



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Tom Fisher
07825 701989
tom_fisher_5@hotmail.com



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- Bathroom taps and Baths Replaced
- Toilet cisterns repaired or replaced
- Leaking taps repaired
- Shower controls replaced

- 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
BASINGSTOKE COMMUNITY CHURCH
CLERKS TO PARISH COUNCILS
SSJ Rosi Burton
MS Mrs Cally Morris
Pamber Chris Gunnell

The Presbytery, Popley Way, Basingstoke 819722
Sarum Hill Centre, Basingstoke 316000

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR for SSJ
BOROUGH COUNCILLOR for Pamber
BASINGSTOKE & DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
HAMPSHIRE POLICE

clerk@sherbornestjohn-pc.gov.uk 07714 947328
clerk@monksherborne-pc.gov.uk 07721 076186
clerk@pamber-pc.gov.uk 07942 637210
David McIntyre Cllr.David.McIntyre@basingstoke.gov.uk
Androulla Johnstone Cllr.Androulla.Johnstone@basingstoke.gov.uk
Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke 844844
The Castle, Winchester 01962 841841
Non-emergency 101 or 01962 841534
www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime
ted_wilkinson@btinternet.com 01256 850891
blacksmithguitar@talktalk.net 01256 850282 / 07702 550226
<https://www.jobcentrejobs.co.uk>

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH (Charter Alley)
NEAREST JOB CENTRE

LOCAL GROUPS
WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP
RAINBOWS
BROWNIES
GUIDES
CUBS
Little Acorns, Bumps/Babes/Toddlers in SSJ
SSJ SOCIAL CLUB
SSJ HISTORY SOCIETY
TENNIS CLUB
SSJ RETIREMENT COFFEE MORNING
SUMMIT JUDO CLUB

Mrs Loraine Brown, (Secretary) 01256 590359
Caroline Givan: caroline.givan@gmail.com
TramayneHenwood - ssjbrownies@outlook.com 422083
Sam Hazlewood - ssjguides@yahoo.com 880132
Ms Trish Field 01420 544904
Mrs Liz Gwynn 07770 373282
Kerry Barrington - ssjscinformation@gmail.com 850303
Mrs Jane Shelvey jshelvey@lillydown.net
Paul & Maria Saunders - ssj.tennis@hotmail.co.uk 07577 557850
Mrs Margaret Cramer 850390
Mr Len Dunce 07860 435 831
or Mr Paul Hamilton 07917 005862
Mrs Jacqui Morris 881336
Mr Les Bone 850973
Mr Terry Buller tel.buller@gmail.com 07584 169241
Claudia or Jane info@piccolopsn.com 07528 726248
www.piccolopsn.com
Mr Stuart Maughan 01256 883858
Mrs J. Hughes email: tadleysd@gmail.com
Jenni Stafford jenni@jsba.uk

YOGA in SSJ Village Hall
SHORT MAT INDOORS BOWLS CLUB
FOOTBALL CLUB
PICCOLO PRE-SCHOOL NURSERY

THE VYNE HOUSE (National Trust)
SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING
BALLET at SSJ Village Hall

VENUE BOOKINGS:

St Stephen’s Hall Doreen Quilter
MS Village Hall
SSJ Village Hall Shawna Campbell
The Chute Pavilion Terry Buller
Royal British Legion Rev John Morley
SSJ Social Club

07854 280343
enquiries@monksherbornevillagehall.org.uk 07759 064220
ssjhallbookings@yahoo.com 07526 954835
tel.buller@gmail.com 07584 169241
revjohnmorley43@gmail.com
ssjscinformation@gmail.com

HEALTH CARE
NORTH HANTS HOSPITALS NHS TRUST
HANTSDOC
BRAMBLYS GRANGE
CHINEHAM SURGERY
CROWN HEIGHTS MEDICAL CENTRE
CLIFT SURGERY, BRAMLEY
HOLMWOOD, TADLEY
ROOKSDOWN SURGERY
MORELAND SURGERY

473202
01189 365592
467778
479244
329021
881228
01189 814166
399710
0118 9816661

EDUCATION
THE PRIORY PRIMARY ACADEMY TRUST
SSJ PRIMARY SCHOOL
ST BEDE’S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr Matt Walsh (Head teacher) 850062
Ms Sarah Jolliffe (Head teacher) 850180
Mr Jamie Carroll 473379

PUBLIC SERVICES
CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU
BRITISH RAIL NATIONAL ENQUIRIES
BUS STATION (STAGECOACH)
LIBRARIES

0808 2787829
0345 484950
0871 121 0190
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

Julie Crawley

villagermagazine@gmail.com

07703 720961

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RAINBOW

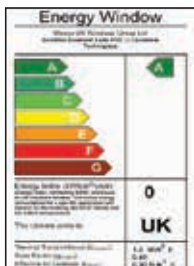
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