



The Villager

July 2026

Sherbornes and Pamber



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- + Medicine usage reviews (new and upcoming)

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

Phone/Fax: 01256 357637

Editor's Note

Please note that there will be a combined Villager magazine to cover the months of August AND September. Any article for inclusion in that issue should be sent to the editor by 12th July.



Mrs Champion's rose – or rather Bella and Ed Davies'- in full bloom

Upcoming EVENTS
JUNE - JULY 2026
MEAT RAFFLE EVERY FRIDAY
BINGO EVERY SUNDAY
QUIZ NIGHT 17TH /24TH JUNE
1/2/3 WEEK IN JULY
EVENTS START

24TH JUNE	CHRIS JAZZ FRIENDS	8:00PM
27TH JUNE	ROBBIE WILLIAMS TRIBUTE	8:00PM
27TH JUNE	PANAMA V ENGLAND	10:00PM
4TH JULY	DOLLY PARTON TRIBUTE	8:30PM
11TH JULY	RYAN UPTON / SOLO ARTIST	8:30PM
18TH JULY	PRIVATE FUNCTION OZ BAR	7.30PM
25TH JULY	SKITTLES NIGHT	7.30PM
29TH JULY	GOODWOOD DAY OUT	9:00AM
29TH JULY	CHRIS JAZZ FRIENDS	8:00PM

MORE EVENTS TO FOLLOW
TICKETS ONLINE @ SSJSOCIALCLUB.COM
OR BEHIND THE BAR
SHERBORNE ST JOHN SOCIAL CLUB

Cover Photo: Raindrops on Roses

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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Man Up?

What does it mean to be a man today? A recent documentary by former England manager Gareth Southgate highlighted the unique challenges facing young men, noting a sharp rise in those out of education or work.

In response to the crisis, online “manosphere” influencers offer a solution: “man up” – exert dominance, and win at all costs, especially in the spheres of wealth, fitness and relationships with women. Their content also taps into a perception among many that the world is against them – surveys show over half of British men feel society now punishes them simply for acting like men.

But what does “acting like a man” really mean?

Sociologist Dr. Michael Kimmel conducted a worldwide study asking thousands of young men two questions: “what makes a good man?” and “what makes a real man?” Interestingly, he found two completely different answers:

- A **“Good Man”**: Respondents universally listed virtues like honesty, honour, responsibility, and protecting the vulnerable.



- A **“Real Man”**: The answers shifted toward exerting power, taking control, and suppressing emotions.

So which is it? Does it have to be an either/or choice?

At our next Men’s Breakfast, we will be exploring an alternative perspective. We will look at how the example and teaching of Jesus can shape a healthier, more fulfilling identity—one where men and women alike are valued as equal, yet distinct.

Whether you regularly attend church or just want a space to chat through these ideas over a cooked breakfast you are incredibly welcome. Please invite a friend, neighbour, or family member who might enjoy the discussion.

Rev. Stewart Deering

stewart.deering@sherborneswithpamber.org
07359 717577

Men's Breakfast



SATURDAY 11TH JULY
9.15 - 10.15AM
MONK SHERBORNE VILLAGE HALL

Talk: Man Up?

A christian response
to the rise of the
manosphere



Email admin@sherborneswithpamber.org
or scan the QR Code to sign up
Suggested donation: £3



July

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

Weds 1st 10-11.30am Little Acorns Baby & Toddler Group at SSJ Village Hall

Sun 5th **10.30am** Communion with children's groups at St Andrew's - **Why are we so anxious? (Philippians 4 vs 4-9)**
3pm Family Walk starting at The Rectory

Mon 6th 12-12.30pm Men's Bible Study in the Parish Room

Weds 8th **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

Sat 11th 9.00-10.15am Men's Breakfast at Monk Sherborne Village Hall

Sun 12th **10.30am** Morning Worship with children's groups at St Andrew's **World Mission Sunday**
4pm Families at 4 barbecue at The Rectory.

Weds 15th **10-11.30am** Little Acorns Baby and Toddler Group at SSJ Village Hall
12 noon Midday Prayer at All Saints'

Sat 18th 4.30-6pm Dads and Kids Barbecue at the Rectory

Sun 19th **10.30am** Morning Worship with children's groups at St Andrew's - **Real Happiness (Luke 6 17-26)**
6pm Evening Communion in the Parish Room

Weds 22nd 12noon Midday Prayer at St Andrew's

Sun 26th 10.30am All Age Worship at St Andrew's - **Real Love (Luke 6 vs 27-36)**

Sun 2nd Aug 10.30am All Age Worship at St Andrew's - **Real Friendship (Luke 6 vs 37-42)**



Church Office: admin@sherborneswithpamber.org 07786 975969

Rector: stewartdeering@sherborneswithpamber.org 07359 717577

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For regular updates please scan the QR code:



Sherborne St John Parish Council

Summer is officially here, although it is raining as I write this. A great time to get out and about and enjoy our lovely village and the surrounding countryside.

Parish Council Announcement

The Chairman of Sherborne St John Parish Council, Richard Morgan, stood down as Chair and as a member of the Parish Council at the May meeting. The remaining members of the Council and the many parishioners, who know how hard Richard has worked on behalf of the village for the past 14 years, would like to thank him for his efforts.

The Parish has grown significantly during his tenure, and we have navigated two iterations of the Neighbourhood Plan to minimise the impact of development in the village. This has given us back a Village Shop and controlled discrete developments of Sireburne Close, Bob's Farm and Watercress Cottages but also allowed us to successfully fight the unnecessary and unwanted development of Cranesfield and Aldermaston Road.

The Parish Council is now looking to co-opt a new councillor to replace Richard. If anyone is passionate about Sherborne St John and would like to step forward to support the four remaining councillors in continuing the work to keep our village the place we all want it to be, please can you contact Alison, our Clerk (clerk@sherbornestjohn-pc.gov.uk) or any of the councillors on or before the 15th July.

Children's Playgrounds

Chute Playground. Unfortunately, we are unable to announce the opening of the new, upgraded younger children's play area at the Chute. The work is almost complete but unfortunately there have been a number of unforeseen factors meaning we have been unable

to get the works finished ready for inspection. This shouldn't take much longer and may even be complete by the time you read this article, particularly as the summer holidays are almost here.

Parish Council Meetings

It is always good to see parishioners at our council meetings. Whether you have a matter to raise with the Parish Council, or are just interested in what we do, it would be great to see you. The meetings are usually held on the fourth Wednesday of every other month at the Chute from 7:15pm

The next two meetings are **Wednesday 22nd July** and **Wednesday 23rd September**.

Parish Council Drop-In Session/ Village Hall Coffee Morning

Alison will be holding the next Drop-in Session at the coffee morning on the **6th July 2026**, the following one will be on the **3rd August 2026**.

Everyone is welcome so please come along and have a chat with the Parish Council and raise any concerns you may have and support our local community.

Allotments

Cranes Road Allotment. Last time I wrote the article for the Villager back in February I reported that the allotment holders on the Cranes Road site have been requesting water on site for a long time. But putting in mains water was not an option, so we were looking at a plan for large water storage containers.

I am happy to report that these are now on site and due to be filled third week in June so we should be up and running by the time this article is published. Great work particularly from our site wardens and allotment holders to get this delivered.

Cllr Carl Davies

Monk Sherborne & Charter Alley Parish Council

The Annual Parish Assembly and Parish Council meeting were held on 13th May, a summary of the parish council activities over the previous 12 months was provided, including the financial position.

The Parish council were encouraged by the attendance of local community a welcome change.

The 1/4 Parish Council was also held on the same evening, matters discussed included the speed of traffic through the parish, missing/damaged highway signage and pot holes.

The Parish Council have raised the issues and are seeking guidance on how to progress speeding.

Residents are requested to log highway issues on the Hampshire County Council website <http://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways>.

Residents are reminded that it is the landowners responsibility to maintain hedgerows, which should not be cut between March - September and to not fill ditches with rubble and grass/garden waste.

The minutes of the meetings are published on the web site: <http://www.monksherborne-pc.gov.uk/>

The next meetings will be held on 15th July & 16th September.

Claiming Dates

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
5	Jazz on A Summer Afternoon, B/S Concert Band @ Sherfield on Loddon Village Hall, Tickets £12	3.00pm
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
15	Hospital Male Voice Choir Summer Concert, Canteen at the Hospital. Free admission	7.30pm – 9.30pm
18	Sherborne St John Social Club Private Function OZ Bar	7.30pm
20	Knit & Knatter Craft Group, SSJ Village Hall, tea/coffee available	1.00pm – 3.00pm
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 >
26	Sherborne St John Social Club Outing to Goodwood	9.00am
29	Sherborne St John Social Club, Chris's Jazz Friends	8.00pm

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

September 2026

1	Women's Fellowship, British Emigrants in the Empire. Harvest Tea.	2.00pm
4	Monk Sherborne Village Night, Monk Sherborne Village Hall	6.00pm – 8.00pm
6	Monk Sherborne Village Fête, Monk Sherborne	12.00pm
7	SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
14	Monk Sherborne Coffee Morning, Monk Sherborne Village Hall	10.45am – 12.00
14	Knit & Knatter Craft Group, SSJ Village Hall, tea/coffee available	1.00pm – 3.00pm
21	SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall	10.00am – 12.00
26	Sherborne St John VILLAGE MARKET, SSJ Village Hall	12.00am - 3.00pm
26	Sherbornes with Pamber churches women's brunch, Monk Sherborne Village Hall	10.30am – 11.30am
28	Knit & Knatter Craft Group, SSJ Village Hall, tea/coffee available	1.00pm – 3.00pm
30	Board Games at The Swan - Eat @ 12pm, Play @ 1pm	12pm >

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

There is Something Special About Village Life



It is not simply the buildings, the countryside or the history that make our villages such wonderful places to live — it is the people. Behind almost every event, activity, improvement or community tradition is a volunteer quietly giving up their time to help others. Across our villages we are

incredibly fortunate to have so many people willing to step forward and make a difference. Whether it is organising fêtes and summer events, supporting schools, supporting churches and chapels, maintaining village halls, leading scout groups, preserving local history, caring for green spaces, arranging remembrance services, running coffee mornings or checking in on neighbours — volunteers are the glue that keeps village life vibrant and connected.

Parish councils also play a hugely important role in village life, often with very little recognition of the amount of work involved. Parish councillors volunteer countless hours dealing with everything from planning applications and highways concerns to community facilities, local events and protecting the character of their villages. They are often the first people residents turn to when something goes wrong and the first to champion opportunities when something positive can be achieved.

I particularly wanted to take this opportunity to thank Richard Morgan, who has recently stepped down as Chairman of Sherborne St John Parish Council. Richard has given fourteen years of dedicated service to the parish council and the wider village community. Chairing a parish council is not always easy. It requires patience, balance, commitment and a genuine desire to serve the community. Richard has given all of those things generously and deserves our sincere thanks for the contribution he has made to village life in Sherborne St John.

One of the great strengths of our villages is that so many people still care deeply about where they live and are prepared to get involved. In a world where people are often busy and pulled in many different directions, volunteering remains one of the most important ways we strengthen community spirit and ensure our villages continue to thrive for future generations.

So to every volunteer — whether your contribution is highly visible or quietly carried out behind the scenes — thank you. Our villages simply would not be the same without you.

Simon Minas-Bound

Sherborne St John & Rooksdown Ward
Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council
07879 477696

Beau's Blog

Did you know I was a contortionist in a former life.....?



I know this looks odd but believe me in this recent heatwave this method of sleeping with my head and ear on the cool tile floor is most advantageous. The next step would

be to put my entire tummy, head and neck on the tiles and the step after that is to take a dip in the lake and after that a hosing down with a cold hose pipe.

You will be pleased to hear I have shed most of my under fur (the insulating layer that allows me to swim in winter without freezing). The Mrs is not so pleased as so much came out in this heatwave she felt it was unnecessary to buy any carpet! Most of the bird's nests

in this area are lined with my fur, they can't believe how generous I am with my undercoat.

Did you know that the name for heatwave over here in France is "canicule" which closely resembles my canine genes. When I first heard the word, I thought it was all about me and preened in hearing myself spoken about so much. When the Mrs explained that what everyone was talking about was the heat wave, I was somewhat disappointed but cheered up when it could also be explained as "dog-days". All you want to do is sleep like a dog when it is so hot which indeed both myself, the Boss and the Mrs did during the hottest hours, however on closer inspection upon breaking the word "cani cule" down in translation it appears they may be talking about my bottom from which, on occasion, surreptitious eruptions have made me rather unpopular in this house. So given these varying descriptions I think it best to stay out of the heat and keep a "cool" profile!

<http://beauregardsdogblog.blogspot.com>

News from Pamber and Little London

Hello everyone,

It's raining! That's not normally something of particular note, and not usually cause for rejoicing, but looking at the state of our plants and lawns, I must confess to a degree of relief. Our wisteria, fabulous last year, was pathetic. Even our 20+ year old beech hedges are complaining and I'm hoping the learned advice I have had from one very keen and competent gardener will bear fruit - Not literally, you understand, it being a beech hedge! Interesting to note that my immediate reaction of feeding would be the wrong one: water deeply only for now - and then mulch - as we want to encourage the roots, not the foliage. Complicated business this gardening malarky!



But the glorious weather has been wonderful for bees, butterflies and baskers, and I have little sympathy for the moaners for whom it's always either too hot or too cold. That said, I recognize how lucky I am to be retired and able to repair to a cool area of the house, garden or forest to escape the heat rather than

slave away in a boiling office/classroom/hospital etc. You may already know that Lee Kuan Yew, founding

Prime Minister of Singapore and a man not noted for his gentle and moderate approach to life, attributed the immense success of Singapore as an economic power to rival that of Europe and the US as, in large part, due to the invention of air conditioning! And, by all accounts, this may well be the way we are going too!

It was lovely for us to be able to enjoy this lovely weather on walks in Pamber Forest but it is important to remember that not everyone is able to do this. For that reason I was extremely interested to read about the Wheelie Good Walk, an organization whose aim is to make the countryside accessible to wheelchair users. The group was launched as part of this year's Alton Walking Festival and the path in question has been rendered wheelchair-friendly by the removal or adaptation of stiles and gates and the ground made even. Alton Town Council and Ropley Parish Council have said they intend to publish their accessible walks on their websites. Something to look out for, and something to consider for our community?

Until next time,

B 🐝 bdownes.villager@gmail.com

SHERFEST

Party In The Park

4TH JULY 12PM - 8PM

FREE ENTRY

SATURDAY 4TH JULY, 12NOON - 8PM, SHERFIELD PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE, RG27 0FP

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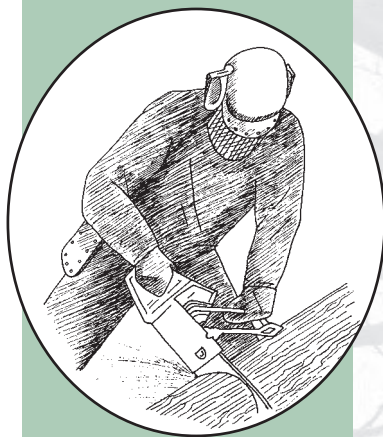
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SSJ Primary School



It has been another busy and exciting time at school. Our Rocket Kids Day was a real highlight, with pupils enjoying stories about space and rockets before designing and building their own models and engaging in hands-on STEM activities.

The day ended with the dramatic launch of a dynamite-powered rocket-which we believe is still somewhere to be found in the village!

Our Junior pupils are currently in full swing preparing for their production of The Lion King and we are already seeing fantastic enthusiasm and talent during rehearsals.

We were also very proud of our girls' Tag Rugby team, who achieved a brilliant win at the Tag Rugby Tournament last half term, showing great teamwork and determination.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Summer Fayre last weekend. Despite the unpredictable weather, it was wonderfully well attended and raised around £2000 for the school. We are especially grateful

to local residents who came along or displayed boards in their gardens to help advertise the event-your support makes a real difference.

Over the next few weeks, we will begin transitioning children into their new classes, and our Year 6 pupils will visit Winchester Cathedral as part of their leavers' celebrations. We will also be saying goodbye to some much-loved members of staff-Mrs Rolmanis, Mrs Johnston, Mrs Skelton and Mrs Webster. We are hosting a Family Picnic on Monday 20th July, and anyone with a connection to the school who would like to join us to say farewell is warmly invited-please contact the office to let us know if you would like to attend.

We will also be holding an Open Day on 1st July for families who may be looking for a school place-please do share this date and our poster with anyone who may be interested, as we do have a few spaces available across the school.

Our next update will come right at the end of term, when all the really exciting events take place. Until then- enjoy the sunshine, everyone!

Sherbert

SSJ School Villager Correspondent



Elm Park Garden Centre

www.elmparkgardencentre.co.uk

Tel 01256 850587



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PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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another year group?

We'd love to show you around our caring and
ambitious school

**SUMMER OPEN DAY 2026
WEDNESDAY 1ST JULY.**

Contact: adminoffice@sherborne-st-john.hants.sch.uk
or
call: 01256 850180

TRUTH TRUST FORGIVENESS





Come and join us for a
Summer Celebration in Song
15 July 2026 • 7.30pm-9.30pm
The Rendezvous Restaurant
North Hants Hospital
Aldermaston Road
RG24 9NA

Remembering our late President,
Myrddin (Merv) Rees O.B.E

Refreshments available at the end of the performance
Entry Free – donations gratefully accepted for
Basingstoke Hospital Oncology Unit.

Musical Director: Dai Ogborn BEM
Deputy Musical Director: Steve Busby
Accompanist: Paul Wright



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St Michael's Hospice

Summer Memories

Make your dedication

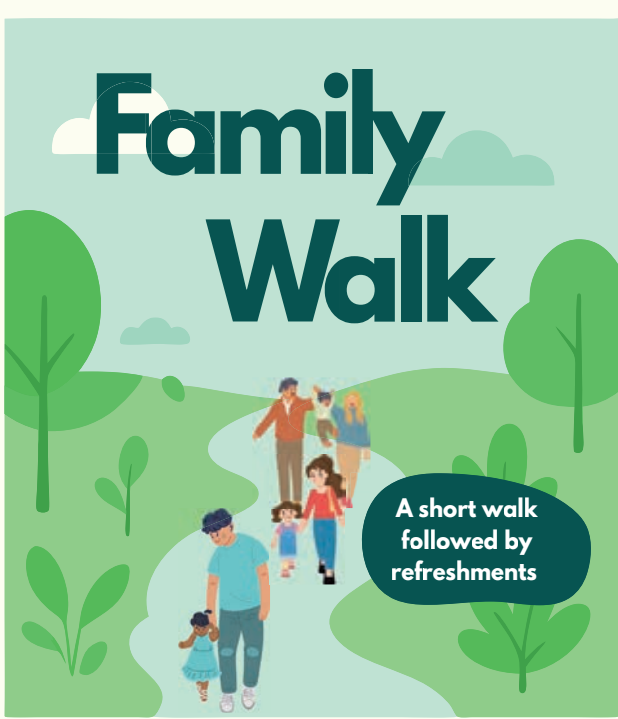
**Make a dedication in
memory of someone special**

Reserve your **limited-edition feather keepsake** and
honour a loved one in the Summer Memories Meadow

Join us on Sunday 12 July 2026
From 11am - 1.30pm | Service begins at 12.30pm
Worting House, Church Lane, Worting, Basingstoke, RG23 8PY

Further information: stmichaelshospice.org.uk

Charity Reg No (England and Wales): 1050894 / Tel: 01256 850180
St. Michael's Hospice, Basil de Redend House, Aldermaston Road, Basingstoke, RG24 9NA



Family Walk

A short walk
followed by
refreshments

Sunday 5th July - 3pm

**Starting at The Rectory
Vyne Road
Sherborne St John**
admin@sherborneswithpamber.org

**SHERBORNE WITH
PAMBER CHURCHES**

News from Clift Surgery and the PPG

This month focuses on Dr Ward's Fundraiser. I am sure everyone will be interested in her effort and what the money raised is being spent on and information about the next NHS App training session.



"As many of you know I took on a huge challenge in March 2026 to complete a race set in the Swedish Arctic circle aimed at walking 500 km within 10 days whilst pulling a pulk carrying my food, sleeping and safety equipment. I was doing this in aid of raising money for our local frailty team to provide them with additional equipment to help them be able to manage the vulnerable members of our community within their own home, and reduce the need for hospital admission or appointments at the surgery. For this population any journey outside their own home can be a huge outlay of energy and effort, so any measures to minimise this is beneficial.

To this end I managed to raise £4500 in funds with overwhelming support and good wishes from many of the Clift family of patients. I cannot thank everyone enough for their kindness and generosity and wanted to share what these funds have and will enable.

We have purchased a portable ECG that will ensure we can not only capture issues arising with the heart rhythm but enable us to be more proactive in ensuring medications prescribed are appropriately monitored for side effects (a common reason for avoidable admission). Many disorders of heart rhythm are simple to manage without the need for specialist input so diagnosing this early will reassure the patient and enable efficient management at home.

We have also purchased a portable bladder scanner that will help determine issues early with catheterised patients, but also help to ensure maximum comfort of palliative patients who may be in discomfort related to their bladder but not be in a position to communicate this, so having a means to see if their bladder is distended and potentially a source of pain is hugely valuable in providing quick solutions where comfort is a priority.

The remaining money is set aside for iPads for the team to use on home visits to record their notes in the patients homes and access information on the patient records ie medication lists, allergies,

significant history. Being able to have information to hand and an efficient means to record their visit without returning to the surgery between visits will create time for further support of housebound patients. This is still in progress, as is always the way with devices carrying important data and the necessary due diligence that applies, but we hope this will be available to the team soon.

Despite not being able to complete the race due to getting a chest infection and having to pull out 185km into the 500km race, I fully intend to honour the commitment and have entered again in March 2027. It will be a huge boost to see the benefit of the money raised in patient care to drive me on in the second attempt and I can't thank you enough for the support shown."

The next drop in for patients who want to learn more or become more confident in using the NHS App will be on Saturday 18th July from 9.30 – 11.30am at Clift Surgery. Please pass on this information to those who might benefit from this session. You just need a smart phone, tablet or laptop.

Any questions please email ppgclift@gmail.com
Don't forget to check out the PPG website www.ppgclift.org.uk and follow us on Facebook.

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Monk Sherborne Village Fete

Sunday 6th Sept 2026, 12:00pm - 5:00pm

Monk Sherborne Village Hall



Get ready for a fantastic afternoon filled with traditional fete fun! Here are some of the wonderful activities and refreshments we have lined up for you:

- Friendly Dog Show (bring your furry friends!)
- Children's races & the classic Tug of War
- Bouncy Castle
- Beautiful displays of Fruit, Veg, Flowers & Crafts
- Delicious Refreshments: food, Tea & cake, plus a bar serving Beer, Wine & Pimms

For further information or to volunteer, please email enquiries@monksherbornevillagehall.org.uk or contact Cheryl 07759064220

Schedule

11:00 AM	Doors open for exhibitors	3:30 PM	Dog Show (weather permitting)
12:00 PM	Gates open - Food, Bar, Tea & cake available from 12:30	4:30 PM	Raffle
2:30 PM	Children's races	5:00 PM	Tug of war and close

Fete Exhibit Items

Vegetables

1. Five potatoes
2. Five tomatoes
3. Five cherry or plum tomatoes
4. Three carrots
5. Two cucumbers
6. Three beetroots
7. Two courgettes
8. Three onions
9. A dish of soft fruit
10. A dish of apples/pears/plums
11. A dish of walnuts/figs
12. A squash/pumpkin

Children's (age groups: 0 - 4 / 4 - 10 / 10 - 16)

13. Six decorated fairy cakes
14. A garden on a tray
15. A vegetable animal
16. A painting/drawing - with a Book theme
17. A handmade item

Novelty Vegetables

18. Heaviest marrow
19. Heaviest carrot
20. Ugliest vegetable

Flowers

21. A vase of five flowers
22. Two rose stems both the same
23. A flower/fruit arrangement – Seaside theme
24. Three dahlias – all the same

Home Cooking

25. A gluten free cake
26. Six cheese/plain scones
27. A jar of jam/marmalade/chutney/honey

Hand Made items

28. A knitted/crocheted item
29. A quilted/patchwork item
30. A painting - Countryside theme
31. A hand-crafted item (pottery/wood carving)

Family

32. A scarecrow – Sporting theme
33. Largest sunflower head
34. A hanging basket/pot of flowers
35. 6 eggs

- 11am – 12pm: Drop off and display your entries at the Village Hall.
- 12pm – 2pm: Judging is in progress (hall closed to the public).
- 2pm – 5pm: Hall open for public viewing of exhibits.



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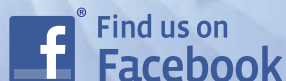
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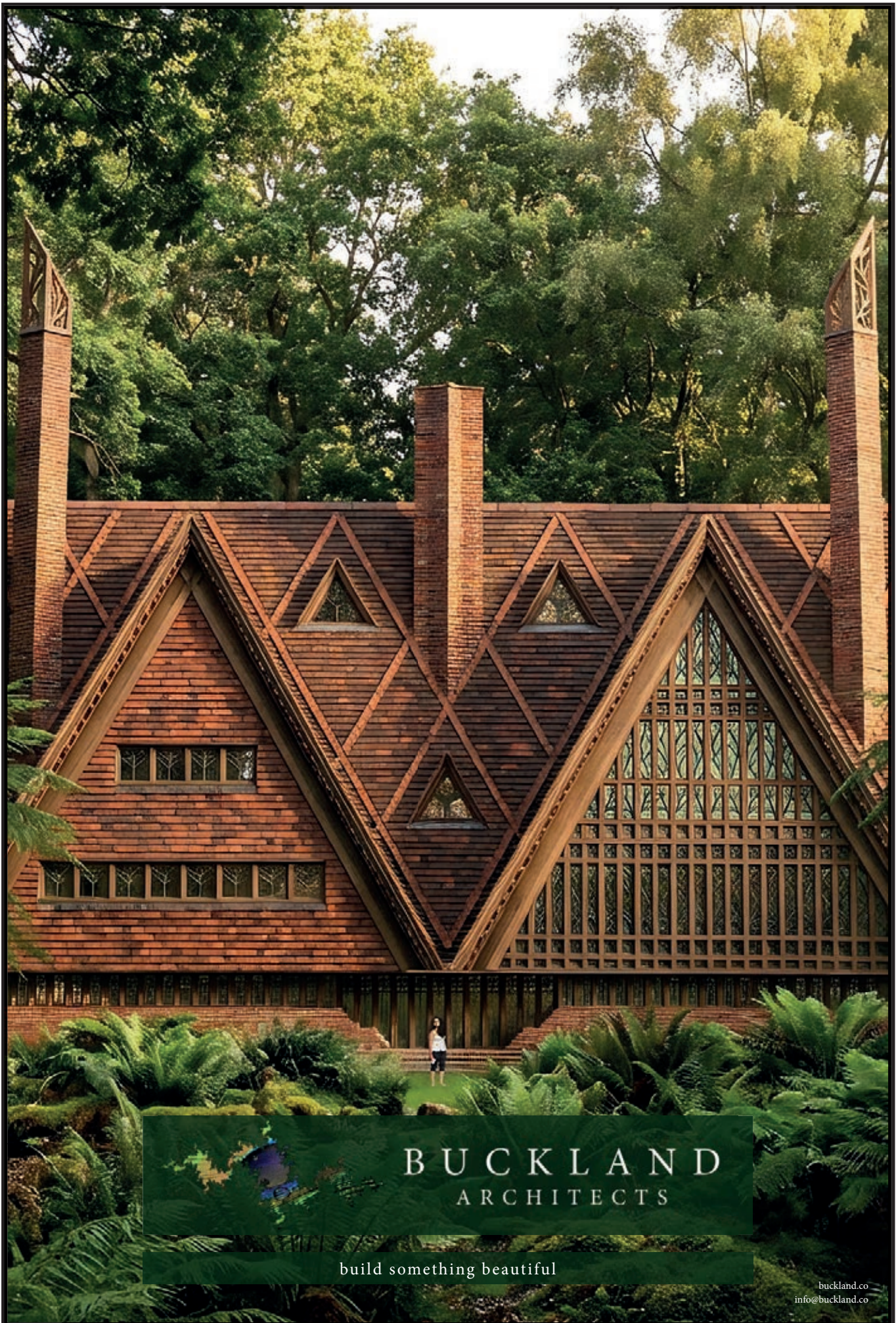


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The Royal British Legion



On Saturday 6th June, members of the Bramley and District Branch of the Royal British Legion attended the Colonel's Review of the Trooping of the Colour at Horseguards Parade in London.



While the weather was not kind, the Guardsmen from the Grenadier Guards and supporting incremental companies were immaculate and unphased by the conditions - the

discipline and standards on show were remarkable. It is also really fun to bump in to serving members of the Army and meeting up with old friends.

I have to say that it always amazes me how good the quality of music is from the massed bands of the Household Division, and especially those musicians that play on horseback. Of note, the horses of the mounted cavalry did not behave as well as the Guardsmen; one tipping off a rider and another insisting at one point to walk backwards

through an advancing column of guards! You would have thought that this would be a disaster but in true form the Grenadiers gracefully held back, opened ranks and then came back together again seamlessly. For something that is not rehearsed it looked a rather polished manoeuvre.

For those interested in attending next year please get in touch at bramley.secretary@rbl.community



Basingstoke Ladies Probus Club



'WHAT DID YOU DO LAST NIGHT...? SAVE A LIFE?'

Someone in SERV Wessex probably did.

At their May meeting, the Basingstoke Ladies Probus Club listened in awe to Rob Harris, a volunteer blood driver, detail the service of **S(erviceby) E(mergency) R(ider) VWessex**, the voluntary emergency rider charity better known as "Blood Bikes".

Operating 365 days a year across East Dorset, Hampshire and Wiltshire, SERV Wessex provides an essential out-of-hours courier service for NHS hospitals and healthcare providers. Staffed entirely by unpaid male and female volunteers, the charity transports vital medical supplies between hospitals, dialysis units, laboratories and emergency response teams, including Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance (HIOWAA). Items carried include blood, plasma and platelets, pathology samples, medication, frozen donor human milk and essential medical equipment.

Originally formed in 2019 to support Queen Alexandra Hospital in Portsmouth, SERV Wessex received the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2021 in recognition of its support to the NHS during the pandemic.

Today, around 95 volunteers — riders, drivers, dispatchers, fundraisers and administrators — give their time free of charge. Most use their own vehicles, supported by a small charity fleet of marked motorcycles and cars.

Volunteer dispatchers work from home coordinating deliveries, monitoring weather and road conditions, and

liaising with hospitals and partner Blood Bike groups when inter-county transfers are required.

In 2025 alone, SERV Wessex covered more than 139,000 miles, completed around 2,300 delivery jobs and transported approximately 3,800 medical items, saving the NHS an estimated £185,000 in courier costs.

Annual operating costs are approximately £50,000, with an additional £25,000 required every four years for vehicle replacement and fleet renewal. The charity relies entirely on public fundraising via community events, supermarket collections and local group talks, grant applications and online donation schemes to maintain its life-saving services.

As the leaflet asks: **'What did you do last night?'** The Ladies Probus Club felt very humbled...

Yet another fascinating monthly talk, combined with the BCoT restaurant's delicious lunch offering.

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

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



North Hampshire Prostate Cancer Support Group

Who would have believed that a charity founded in 1945 at the end of the second world war would today fly regularly to more destinations than any commercial airline? Murray Kendon, a New Zealander and former pilot in Coastal Command, and Stuart King, a 25-year-old with many years war time service as a senior aircraft engineer in the RAF, opted to give up their assured futures to found Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) which now operates 140 aircraft in 23 countries with a plane taking off or landing somewhere in the world every 5 minutes.

Their first aircraft, a twin engined 4-seater Miles Gemini, was used to undertake a very challenging survey flight across Africa in 1948. The plane's short fuel range required many refuelling stops, greatly adding to delays in starting and ended in them crashing in Burundi where the plane itself was a write-off, but thankfully they were both able to crawl out, and make their way back to Nairobi and then London.

The subsequent survey report was well received and 2 years later a used De Havilland Rapide was purchased. This plane was larger, more powerful and crucially had wider tyres for operating out of grass strips and other poor surfaces, making its first service flight with MAF in Sudan in 1950.

John explained some of the challenges for the pilots, operating often in flooded areas and sometimes in rebel-controlled regions. Runways too can be challenging,

and to illustrate this he showed a slide of a steep-sloped humped mud road which had been used as a runway. To illustrate their life-saving healthcare flights (Medevacs), he told the story of Ruth a 12-year-old girl who was badly injured by bullets through her bowels who undoubtedly would have died had she had to endure the challenging overland journey from the remote highlands of Papua New Guinea to the nearest hospital. She was saved by a short 4-hour medevac flight that MAF were able to provide.



John summarised the key activities MAF is involved in:

- Health and education; flying in medical staff to remote places and medevacs;
- Disaster relief (eg after the 2004 tsunami and hiring helicopters to help bring in supplies after the Nepalese earthquake in 2015);
- Development, aiming to improve agriculture and irrigation, as well as helping local people start their own businesses and thus gain independence;
- Finally acting in a Mission Capacity flying in bibles and transport to help with their distribution.

For more information:- www.maf-uk.org
info@nhpcsg.uk.org; www.nhpcsg.org.uk

Basingstoke Festival

Saturday 4th July

To help you make the most of everything on offer, we've created two carefully planned routes so you can experience all the shows in just one day.

Locations: War Memorial Park, Eastrop Park & the Amphitheatre in Festival Place

Route One

Pipes and Poo – 10.30am to 11am (show) and 11.10am to 11.40am (installation)

The Magical Toy Hospital – 11.30am to 12.15pm

Grab a picnic or visit somewhere in the town centre for lunch

Bin Rat!!! – 1pm to 1.50pm

Bella – 2pm to 2.45pm

Hydropunk – 3pm to 3.30pm

Grow – 3.40pm to 4.20pm

Bamboo – 5pm to 5.45pm

Route Two

Bella – 10.30am to 11.15am

Hydropunk – 11.30am to 12noon

Grow – 12.10pm to 12.50pm

Grab a picnic or visit somewhere in the town centre for lunch

Bamboo – 2pm to 2.45pm

Pipes and Poo – 3.05pm to 3.35pm

The Magical Toy Hospital – 4pm to 4.45pm

Bin Rat!!! – 5pm to 5.50pm



Women's Fellowship



The June meeting held a talk given by Ruth Kerr, which was A Wander Without Wellies, although Ruth had donned a pair of regal-looking green wellies with a wonderfully appropriate hat, taking the seated audience - the ones without wellies - on a guided tour around the UK on a variety of paths and roads.

The first port of call in East Meon along the South Downs Way included a slide of a black-eyed barn owl, swooping just before dawn to catch the last morsel of breakfast before daylight. Secondly, along a drove road to Wales, with a slide of historic Drovers Inn, a welcome stop for hungry and weary travellers. Here we learned the habits of the red kite, popular when considered to be useful as it ate all kinds of discarded kitchen rubbish. Their numbers later dwindled when considered to be a pest, but reintroduced for a conservation programme between 1988 and 1994, the birds being imported from Sweden.

Off to Teesdale, Yorkshire, where black grouse were integrated for a breeding programme on the Coverhead Estate, the moorland being the centre for conservation and biodiversity projects. Further North, to Carlisle along a coal road, used by pack horses, later diminished due to the onset of the railway, together with the closure of the mines.

Onwards on our journey to Scotland, where military roads were built as a result of the aristocratic landowners, in particular George 1st in 1774, who

decreed that the peasant crofters should be denied any kind of control of the land, and so increased the Army to build bridges, barracks and roads to enable them to keep the wayward commoners in check. North again to Fort William to see the red deer, also known as fairy cattle linked to the Norse, Greek and Egyptian mythologies. Here architectural digs have unearthed deer antlers attached to the skull, though the reason for this is not known.

Destitution roads in the Highlands, thus called due to the potato famine of the 1740's when 80% of the diet was supposedly potatoes, thus forcing some of the population to leave their homes. Across to the Cairngorms to see the Horse of the Woods, aka the capercaillie grouse, a protected species now, due to disturbance and loss of habitat.

South now, along the Roman road to Hadrian's Wall to see the golden eagles, originally imported, with the population now tagged for research and monitoring purposes. Further South still, in East Anglia, to the land of heather where the nature reserves are protecting wildlife as well as heather, which in turn protect the peat below the surface, the greatest carbon storage that exists.

Finally, back to East Meon, to the lakes and springs, now a haven for lapwings as well as trout, and where the water is purified to enable it to flow freely into the local rivers.

Ruth was thanked by Julie Crawley for her fascinating presentation.

The July Outing is to the Fishbourne Palace and Chichester. The August meeting will include a talk on Theatrical myths, legends and superstitions.

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Financial Matters: The quiet power of compounding

What return would you rather have: 50% on £10,000 or 50% on £200,000?

Most people would choose the second option. A £100,000 gain could be life-changing, while £5,000 is certainly welcome, but unlikely to transform your circumstances.

But what if I told you that the person with £5,000 is 18 years old, and the person with £100,000 is 60? What explains the difference?

The answer is simple: time.

The 60-year-old was once that 18-year-old. Over the past 40+ years, they have steadily invested, showing patience and discipline. They didn't chase the highest possible returns. Instead, they aimed for decent, reliable returns—and, crucially, kept going year after year.

This is where compounding comes in.

Compounding is what happens when your returns start earning returns of their own. Over time, this creates a powerful snowball effect. The longer the

snowball rolls, the bigger it gets.

However, compounding isn't always easy to grasp. That's the difference between simple growth and compounded growth. Our brains are more comfortable with straight lines than curves that accelerate over time.

One of the most famous investors in the world, Warren Buffett, is often held up as an example of investing success. There are countless books written about how he made his fortune. But one key point is often overlooked: he has been investing for over 70 years. His success is not just about skill—it's also about time and consistency. He allowed compounding to do its work over decades.

The encouraging news is you don't need to be a brilliant investor. You just need to give your money time to grow.



Double Donations for Good Causes

Two local charities have benefitted from financial support from a Basingstoke Masonic Lodge.

Stepping Stones DS, that supports children and young persons with Down syndrome and Basingstoke & District Young Carers have each been the recipient of a donation of £1,000 from the 106 years old Elvetham Masonic Lodge.



Although based in Fleet, Stepping Stones DS provide support for children across a wide area, stretching from West Surrey to the western edge of Basingstoke, and from the Reading and south Berkshire region down to north Hampshire. Founded in 2006 the charity offers tailored support to 160 children with Down syndrome, as well as their families and the professionals involved in their care. This includes educational, social, physical, and wellbeing programmes.

Community Fundraising officer, Sarah Sutton expressed her thanks to Richard Pflieger, the Charity Steward of Elvetham Lodge:

“This donation can fund a full year of school outreach for one child that promotes learning, communication, independence and confidence, giving children with Down syndrome the opportunity to reach their full potential.”

Over 120 children and young people are supported by Basingstoke & District Young Carers to provide them with respite care from their domestic responsibilities looking after a family member with health or social needs.

It is thought that as many as one in five children, 700,000 nationally, take on the responsibility of a physical caring role or be impacted by their caring responsibilities at home.



Three different age groups up to 18 enjoy time every Thursday evening under the auspices of Basingstoke & District Young Carers at the Warren youth club, part of the Hatch Warren Community Centre. This provides vital respite, support and social opportunities that they can miss with school friends who do not understand the unique challenges they endure in looking after the needs of family members.

Youth Team Leader, Colette Bibby, received the cheque from Michael Whittaker, the Worshipful Master of Elvetham Lodge and explained:

“This donation will help subsidise our extensive summer activities for all age groups and fund transport for young carers who would struggle to attend our respite clubs. It ensures they can be part of a close-knit community and enjoy time with others who understand their experiences.”

This year's summer programme includes parties, BBQs and many outside trips including overnight stays. The autumn term will bring a family Halloween celebration and festive outings, including a pantomime trip and a large Christmas party.

Elvetham Lodge is fortunate to use some of the interest from investments for a round of summer donations but along with the 8,000 freemasons in the Masonic province of Hampshire and Isle of Wight, also contribute to a charitable fund that can average one million pounds annually. Nationally freemason support for various good causes, including medical research, educational projects and some international disaster relief can reach £50 million each year.

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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@thehay.co.uk



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- 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

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH BASINGSTOKE COMMUNITY CHURCH CLERKS TO PARISH COUNCILS

SSJ Clerk/Admin Alison Heward
SSJ Clerk/Finance Rosie Burton
MS Mrs Cally Morris
Pamber Chris Gunnell

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR for SSJ
BOROUGH COUNCILLOR for Pamber
BASINGSTOKE & DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
HAMPSHIRE POLICE
PCSO Kane Lucas No. 19624
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

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 Carol Ellis
MS Village Hall
SSJ Village Hall Shawna Campbell
The Chute Pavilion Terry Buller
Royal British Legion Rev John Morley
SSJ Social Club

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

EDUCATION

THE PRIORY PRIMARY ACADEMY TRUST
SSJ C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL
ST BEDE'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

PUBLIC SERVICES

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

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

Revd Stewart Deering

Mob: 07359 717577 Tel: 01256 647900

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The Castle, Winchester 01962 841841
Non-emergency 101 or 01962 841534
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blacksmithguitar@talktalk.net 01256 850282 / 07702 550226
https://www.jobcentrejobs.co.uk

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or Mr Paul Hamilton 07917 005862
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Mr Matt Walsh (Head teacher) 850062
Ms Vickie Alvis (Head teacher) 01256 850180
Mr Jamie Carroll 473379

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

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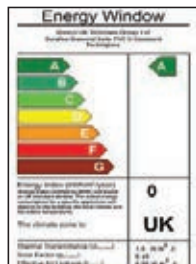
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