

December 2016
– January 2017

The

BRAMLEY

Magazine



Remembrance Day in Bramley

Views from our Councillor

What's on at Christmas

*Don't forget! Carols, mince pies and
mulled wine at Clift Meadow Park on
Saturday 3rd December at 5pm*

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The Bramley Magazine

for Bramley and
Little London

December 2016
– **January 2017**

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for the benefit of the community.*

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

Cover photo:

Crib Service 2015 by George Aitchison

Is it my imagination or are the years getting shorter? I am sure it was only 6 months ago that I was rushing around trying to find presents, with only 20 shopping days left until Christmas, and here I am again in just the same state of panic! I guess it is a sign of age. My 8-year-old daughter thinks the year has gone really slowly and that Christmas is never coming!

When my Mum put the Christmas decorations away in January she always used to wonder what would happen to her and her family over the next year. Would things be much the same when she next opened the box of decorations or would there have been changes – a new baby or a house move perhaps? We never really know what is around the corner. Who would have predicted in January 2016 that by the end of the year we would have voted to leave the European Union, Leicester City would have won the Premier League and Donald Trump would be President elect of America. Apparently the odds of all three of these events happening were 3,000,000/1, so if you put a £5 bet on in January, you'd be getting £15million back today. Perhaps I should put a fiver on a white Christmas.....

There are some Bramley related events in 2017 we can predict with certainty. Put the 15th, 16th and 17th June in your new diaries as this is when the Music Festival will take place at St James's Church. There will be more about this in future editions of the magazine. Even further ahead on the 19th August will be the Bramley Show, and the return of the scarecrows. If you don't like thinking that far ahead then turn to page 17 to see what is going on in the village over Christmas. I am looking forward to the carols at Clift Meadow Park on Saturday 3rd December, and Little London will be lighting their Christmas tree the following day. I can almost smell the mulled wine!

I hope you all have a lovely Christmas and a very happy new year. We take a break in January, but will be back again in February (when I can predict that Alice in Wonderland will make an appearance in Bramley Village Hall – but you will have to read the magazine to find out more!).

Best Wishes

Rachel

(Rachel Barclay Smith - Editor)

Joy Dillway

A few months ago I mentioned Joy Dillway in my editorial. A lovely lady who many of you may have seen driving her mobility scooter to the One Stop. She went there nearly every day to buy the Daily Telegraph so that she could complete the cryptic crossword. Sadly, Joy passed away on 1 November, which appropriately was All Saints Day. Such was her faith that I have no doubt she is now telling God the answer to 6 down!

My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others. Come to think of it, why do we have to wait for Christmas to do that?

Bob Hope

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Kleine Blume

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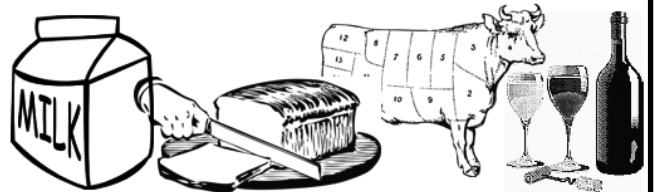
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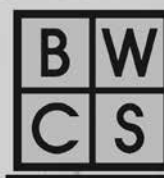
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Church diary for December 2016...

- 4th** **Second Sunday of Advent**
 8.00 Holy Communion – St James
 9.00 Sunday@nine – Cross House
 10.30 Matins (BCP, 1662) – St James
- 11th** **Third Sunday of Advent**
 8.00 Holy Communion (BCP, 1662) – St James
 9.00 Sunday@nine – Cross House
 10.30 Holy Communion – St James
5.00pm Carol Service – Little London
- 18th** **Fourth Sunday of Advent**
 8.30 Holy Communion – Little London
 9.00 Christmas Sunday@nine – Cross House
6.00pm Carol Service – St James
- 24th** **Christmas Eve**
 5.00pm Crib Service – St James
 11.30pm Midnight Holy Communion – St James
- 25th** **Christmas Day**
 10.30 Christmas Family Communion

...January...

- 1st** **First Sunday of Christmas**
 8.00 Holy Communion – St James
 9.00 Sunday@nine – Cross House
 10.30 Matins (BCP, 1662) – St James
- 8th** **The Epiphany**
 8.00 Holy Communion (BCP, 1662) – St James
 9.00 Sunday@nine – Cross House
 10.30 Holy Communion – St James
- 15th** **Second Sunday of Epiphany**
 8.30 Holy Communion – Little London
 10.30 *Together in Worship* – St James
- 22nd** **Third Sunday of Epiphany**
 9.00 Sunday@nine – Cross House
 10.30 Holy Communion – St James
- 29th** **Fourth Sunday of Epiphany**
 9.00 Sunday@nine
 10.30 Morning Worship

...and into February

- 5th** **Fourth Sunday before Lent**
 9.00 Sunday@nine – Cross House
 10.30 Matins (BCP, 1662) – St James
- 12th** **Third Sunday before Lent**
 8.00 Holy Communion (BCP, 1662) – St James
 9.00 Sunday@nine – Cross House
 10.30 Holy Communion – St James
- 19th** **Second Sunday before Lent**
 8.30 Holy Communion – Little London
 10.30 *Together in Worship* – St James

From the Parish Registers:

Baptisms:

- 16 October: Owen Daniel Graham DOTOR CESPEDES
 23 October: William Constantin Balthazar WILLOUGHBY

Marriages:

- 29 October: Ashley James Brian BOWER-DYKE
 and Liza Jane BUTLER
 5 November: Stewart ASLETT and Laura Mary HALL

Ron Goodacre

On 20 November 2016 the Bramley bell ringers rung the bells in memory of Ron Goodacre. Ron had been a regular bell ringer at St James for many years until ill health forced him to give up in his late 70s. The team rang the bells half muffled before and after the 10.30 service.

The Scouts

Due to logistics and timing issues, the Bramley Scouts are not able to do the Christmas post boxes this year. However, we can do your Christmas post on request. If this is something you would like, please contact Liz Cudmore via email: communications@bramley-scouts.org.uk

Catholic services

Basingstoke

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

Tadley

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




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I wouldn't call myself a big Facebook fan. But a few weeks ago, I happened to be scrolling through Facebook in the wee small hours of the morning, because jet-lag still hadn't worn off from our trip to see the family in California – and I came across two postings that really resonated with me, on topics that I've found troubling my mind recently: the election of Donald Trump as US President, and some post-referendum attitudes in our country towards anyone who doesn't look or sound English.

If you're a regular Facebook user, you may well have seen the postings I'm talking about. But just in case you haven't, let me tell you about them.

The first was a 2 minute clip by an American TV sportscaster, Ernie Johnson, who described his feelings at being faced with a Presidential election choice of Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump: "I felt I'd been dealt a bad hand," he says. "There were trust issues with Hillary Clinton I couldn't get past...and some inflammatory rhetoric from Donald Trump that was incomprehensible and indefensible." He felt that he couldn't vote for either candidate and instead wrote in the name of a man he admired, knowing the man wouldn't be elected, but with a clear conscience at not having settled for voting for someone he couldn't actually support.

But then, he watched the first meeting between President Obama and President-Elect Trump, and, he says, "I was hopeful and I was encouraged, that there would be a difference between the President Trump and the Campaigning Trump... We have to give him a chance. But I hope that he's 'all in', in fixing the wounds and the divides that separate this country. But for me to be part of that, I have to look in the mirror and ask myself, 'How am I going to be a better man? How am I going to be a better neighbour? How am I going to be a better citizen, a better American?'"

Ernie Johnson goes on to say that he knows that as a broadcaster, he's not supposed to speak about politics or religion, but since he's already done the political bit, he might as well go in the "R" direction, too. "From one election to the next, I never know who is going to be in the Oval Office. But I always know who's on the Throne: I'm on this earth because God created me, and that's who I answer to. I'm a Christian; I follow this guy named Jesus – you might have heard of Him. And the greatest commandment He gave me was to love others. And Scripture also tells us to pray for our leaders. So that's what I'm going to do. I'm going to pray for Donald Trump. I'm going to pray for all those people who feel like



Rev'd John Lenton

they're on the outside, looking in, who are afraid... In short, I'm praying for America. I'm praying that one day we're going to look back and say, 'You know what? That Donald Trump presidency – it was all right.' I'm praying."

The second posting I saw was by a friend of mine from Bristol. He shared a video put out by *Stop Funding Hate*. It shows a series of clips taken from previous Christmas adverts by the big stores – John Lewis, M&S and so on: the touching scenes about the family whose house burnt down, but whose Christmas was rescued by all the neighbours coming to share their goodies; the WW1 soldiers from both sides meeting to play football

in No Man's Land; the Man in the Moon making eye contact with the child in the bedroom window, and so on.

But, it says, "This is not a Christmas ad... Every year there is a beautiful story with a message about looking out for others, even if they are distant strangers... even if we've been told they're our enemy... But once the tinsel has been taken down everything changes... and the millions of pounds we spend at Christmas at John Lewis, Waitrose, Sainsburys, and M&S is used to buy adverts in papers with another message... that some of us are different... that some of us are a problem or a threat. The money we spend on gifts is used to stir hostility..." And we see the banner newspaper headlines, "BRITAIN MUST BAN MIGRANTS", "1 IN 5 MUSLIMS' SYMPATHY FOR JIHADIS", "KICK OUT FOREIGN CROOKS". Instead, it says, "2017 could be different. So this year, we'd like every brand to not only tell us a story but ask a question: What if goodwill to all wasn't only meant for Christmas?"

On Remembrance Sunday, we reminded ourselves of Jesus' words: "Love one another as I have loved you." Who'd have thought that it would be Facebook which would give me such great examples of how to put His words into practice this Christmas and into 2017?

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London to Venice on a bicycle

Jerry Adams works in international relief and development, and is a church warden at St James’s church, Bramley. His wife Angela is an adviser at Citizens Advice and a governor at Bramley Church of England Primary School. They recently returned from a cycle ride to Venice and I asked Angela about their trip. This is what she told me:

Q: From London to Venice – that sounds like a long way to cycle! What was the distance?

A: The total distance was about 1200 miles, which meant cycling an average of 75 miles a day for 16 days. We also had to cross the Alps, climbing some 26,000 feet (almost the height of Everest) in four days - which was a huge challenge!

Q: What gave you the idea of this ride and what did your friends and family think about it?

A: I wanted to undertake some kind of challenge to celebrate my 60th birthday and this was a longer ride than Jerry and I had attempted before, so we decided this was the challenge for us this year! We also used our ride to raise funds for Shooting Star Chase Children’s Hospices, and our friends and family (who mostly thought we were mad to undertake such a ride) were really supportive. To date we have raised nearly £2500 for these wonderful hospices through sponsorship for this ride.

Q: Have you always been a cyclist?

A: Far from it! For most of my adult life I didn’t do any kind of sport – I



Jerry and Angela leave the Bramley Bakery after enjoying a sustaining snack of coffee and cake

seemed to be too busy juggling a full-time career and family commitments. But once our three children had all left home, in 2010 I decided (to my family’s amazement!) I’d like to cycle from Land’s End to John O’Groats, so I bought a bike and began to learn how to ride it. Since then we’ve cycled from Bordeaux to Barcelona and Calais to Carcassonne as well as the length of Britain twice. I just love cycling now, it’s given me a new lease of life and it’s a wonderful way to see the countryside.



In London for the start of the 1200-mile ride

Q: So where did you start this ride and which countries did you go through?

A: We started at Bramley Bakery, where we enjoyed coffee and delicious cakes before catching the train to London. Coffee and cakes are a very important element of all cycle rides!



It’s hard work going up the hills but Jerry keeps smiling!

Then we set off on our bikes from the London Eye, heading for Lewes (our first overnight stop), the ferry from Newhaven to Dieppe, and then on to Paris. The ride took us through France, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Lichtenstein and finally into Italy.

Q: What were the best and worst parts of the trip?

Although the climbing was tough, the best part of the trip was undoubtedly the experience of crossing the Alps. The scenery is just awesome and we were blessed with fine weather too – although we did have to negotiate snow on the road in a few places!

The worst moment for me was when I fell off my bike and broke my arm. This meant I had to give up on cycling the full distance but I was lucky enough to be able to travel in the luggage van supporting our trip. Jerry cycled all the way to Venice though!

Q: So where do you plan to go next?

A: We love cycling around Hampshire and we have no plans to ride further afield for now. But who knows what opportunities 2017 will bring. Another year, another ride?

Made it! Venice in the afternoon sun



Bramley Church of England School

Year 6 Residential

The first week after half term saw our year 6 pupils head to the coast. They spent the week at the PGL facility in Osmington Bay. The pupils experienced five action packed days where they learnt about the coast through fossil hunting and rock-pooling as well as taking on more physical challenges including climbing, abseiling, the trapeze and the zip wire. The residential was a huge success and the children were a credit to both the school and the village.



Below is a letter which a pupil, Ollie Fowler, has written as part of his homework to PGL to express his thanks.

Dear PGL,

I'm writing to thank you very much for the amazing week I had. The location was beautiful and I thoroughly enjoyed seeing the beach. All of the instructors were really friendly and encouraged us to push ourselves on all of the activities. My favourite activity was the zip wire.

I was really impressed with the food too. I sometimes find it hard to pick something to eat away from home but there was always something I liked.

The evening activities were also great. It was lucky the beds were comfortable because I needed a goodnight's sleep for the busy day ahead!

Yours sincerely

Ollie Fowler

Year 6 Pupil

Bramley C of E Primary School

Year 4 Outcome Event

On 9 November, the Year 4 children shared their learning with parents/carers at their outcome event. This linked to their topic 'Road to Rio' which has involved researching facts about Brazil in ICT, designing and making their own carnival floats in DT and playing a number of Paralympic sports during their PE lessons. All children (and parents) demonstrated great teamwork skills, understanding all the different rules and worked hard in all games! Thank you to everyone who attended.

Throughout our PE lessons, we have learned many different Paralympic sports such as: Sitting Volleyball, Boccia and Goal ball. We learnt how these sports are inclusive to everyone and watched clips from the Rio Olympics to see how the professional athletes competed.

In our P4C lessons, we talked about many aspects of Paralympic sports and had great discussions about: How Paralympic sports are categorised and why are Paralympic athletes so strong?

We asked the children how they felt about their first Year 4 Topic:

"I loved it because I felt included in everything" Evie

"I liked it because I was learning new sports" James

"I liked it because it was a challenge and made me think about how the Paralympic athletes play these games" Darcy.

"I liked it because I learned some of the games that I wouldn't usually play" Matthew

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News from the nursery

This month Butter Daisy Nursery have been exploring the topic of 'Light and Dark' and we have been investigating different light sources and what causes darkness. Pre-School compared daytime and nighttime, sunshine and blue sky, starry nights and shadows.

The children took some transparent coloured shapes under our wooden loft and then shone a torch through to create different colours. We made shadow puppets and were fascinated as we watched the different shadowy shapes appear on the Nursery walls, floor and ceiling. Our Babies and Toddlers used light and dark fabric to build dens which they crawled inside to explore. Our colouring activity led to a discussion about which pictures needed 'dark' colours and which needed 'light' and the children then made a collage where they used various materials to create suns, moons and stars.

The children also enjoyed celebrating Diwali by reading the story of Rama and Sita then making Diwali cards with a handprint elephant design. There was lots of fun and mess as the children made salt dough lamps called Diyas which we decorated with beautiful, brightly coloured paints and lots of glitter to represent the oil lamps that guided Rama and Sita home.



of 'eyeball' meatball pasta, slime green jelly and mummy shaped pizzas!



Every week we are visited by a local instructor who provides educational music and dance classes for the nursery, and we are having so much fun during these music and movement sessions! The class includes a wide range of musical genres and introduces us to songs which are rich in vocabulary and varied in musical styles. The music is brought to life with creative props as we explore instruments and other sensory toys that are tailored to suite every age group.

If you are interested in coming to visit us to meet the team, see the activities on offer and get a feel for the Nursery please call us on 01256 882515. We are currently taking bookings for this academic year as well as for September 2017 onwards.

Kelly Wills



Halloween has been another big theme this month and it really caught the imagination of our little ghosties and ghouls as they took part in activities surrounding this topic. The children carved pumpkins and used the inside of the pumpkin for sensory messy play! They also had fun with Halloween balloons, throwing them up high and trying to catch them as they floated back down. Everyone dressed up and looked 'spooktacular' in their costumes and enjoyed a ghoulish menu

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The Priory Primary School

This month I am delighted that two children from Year 6 have written about their recent experience of studying the Michael Morpurgo classic 'War Horse'. I hope you enjoy reading it.....

This term, year 6 have really enjoyed their topic based on War Horse by Michael Morpurgo. The War Horse story follows the life and events of Joey, a stunning and strong horse, who finds himself on both British and German sides during World War One. Year 6 used their artistic talents to create wonderful winter collages of Joey, which are displayed in the school hall and classroom. They have participated in a number of activities; one of their favourites was watching the movie and comparing it to the book then analysing the features of each and the reasons for the differences. They also had great fun creating freeze frames to represent one of the scenes in the book and presenting it to the class. Some of the other activities they enjoyed were: summarising a chapter, writing a diary entry from a character's point of view, writing a letter to a character in the book from another character in the book, writing a character description and many more. They have gained a greater understanding of what life was like for the horses during World War One and also the journeys taken by the soldiers (British and German) and their families. But without a doubt their favourite project of the year so far was creating an incredible tapestry depicting all the chapters in War Horse, using the technique of talking textile through sewing.

Written by Amber and Fin
Year 6

On behalf of everyone at The Priory may I wish you a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Suzanne Kelly
Headteacher



Bramley WI

This month we had two delightful ladies helping us make Christmas cards and tags. There were some lovely designs and although we got lots of glue on our hands and there was paper and glitter everywhere, it brought out the craft skills in everyone. The meeting ended with refreshments and a raffle.

We are having a stall at the Farmer's Market on the 3rd December and then 15 of us are going up to the Watermill Theatre in Newbury to have lunch and to see 'Sleeping Beauty'. At our next meeting we are having a Christmas party with entertainment.

If anyone is interested in joining us, please contact Jane Matthews on 881647. We have a new programme for 2017 starting with Keep Fit and a board games evening. We meet in the Bramley Room at the village hall on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7.45pm.

Jane Matthews




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Upcoming events at Clift Meadow

2016

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2017

Saturday 14 January Health and Wellbeing Event

Saturday 28 January Table Top Sale

Saturday 11 February Farmers Market

Saturday 11 February Quiz Evening

Saturday 25 March Pamper Evening

Saturday 8 April Quiz Evening

Friday 14 April Easter Egg Hunt and Farmers Market

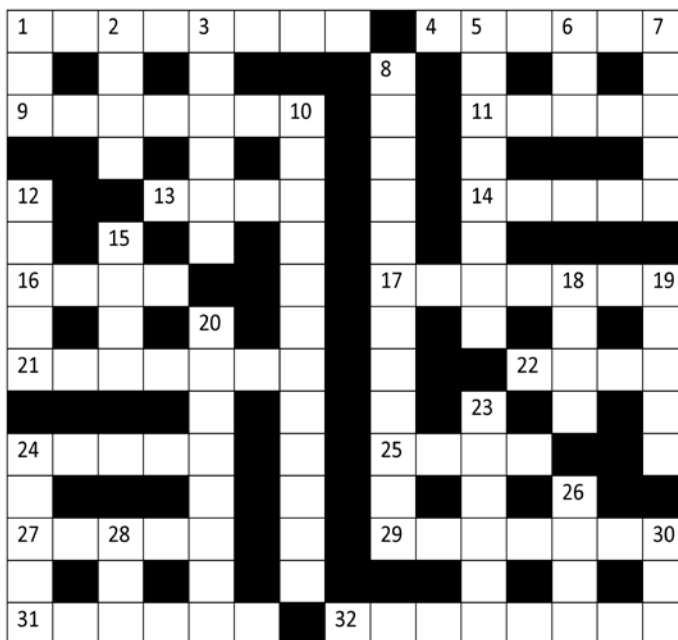
Saturday 29 April St George's Day Fete

Saturday 10 June Farmers Market

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Cryptic Crossword No: 4

See page 25 for the answers.

Across

- 1 Faulty set less questionable character combined to produce something refined. (8)
- 4 Clock part on reverse tin provides French spirit. (6)
- 9 This type of night may help Father Christmas if Rudolph has a nose failure. (7)
- 11 and 7 down He can be found arranged in the memories that can last us a lifetime. (5,5)
- 13 Rings number in if I've found it. (4)
- 14 Silly form of transport that's behind us. (5)
- 16 and 19 down Once A familiar start to many a fairy tale. (4,1,4)
- 17 A middle eastern leader provides a fruity ingredient to a Christmas cake. (7)
- 21 Cinder's friend doubles as a useful garment accessory. (7)
- 22 Bubbly can be found in fruit pastilles. (4)
- 24 Surely, this must be the fastest brightest reindeer ever! (8)
- 25 The night before north can seem flat. (4)
- 27 A boy who will never grow up. (5)
- 29 I sat and ate to satisfy. (7)
- 31 Can this reindeer really tango ? (6)
- 32 Hang it up and be smart about acceptance. (8)

Down

- 1 and 12 down Small character whose size is self descriptive. (3,5)
- 2 and 15 down You'll need two to get through the white stuff. (4,4)
- 3 Toffee sounds like internet lady. (6)
- 5 Hinderance mixed up old boy and castle. (8)
- 6 Sister finds herself in annunciation. (3)
- 7 See 11 across.
- 8 Ding dong, who's that at the front door ? (5,7)
- 10 A carol that the angels did say. (3,5,4)
- 12 See 1 down.
- 15 see 2 down.
- 18 A lapse in time reveals part of church. (4)
- 19 See 16 across.
- 20 A night scene sounds like hit and run. (8)
- 23 Sound of exclamation and mark describes the days for most leading up to Christmas. (6)
- 24 A matchmaking reindeer ? (5)
- 26 Three wise men nearly come from Potter's world. (4)
- 28 Reverse net will quantify many lords a leaping? (3)
- 30 More to do with Easter unless it comes before nog. (3)



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Bramley Resident attends visit by Russian Patriarch Kirill in London

A Primatial visit of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia to the Diocese of Sourozh took place on Sunday 16th October 2016. The Patriarch is the Head of the Russian Orthodox Church in the world – and has no equivalency in the Catholic or Anglican faiths, however could be considered to be between a Cardinal and the Pope in terms of rank. The visit marked 300 years of the presence of the Russian Orthodox Church in Great Britain. The opening in 1716 of a parish of the Russian Church associated with the Russian Embassy was the starting point for the development of Russian Orthodoxy in England. Beginning from the small embassy church the Russian Church spread over the whole of Great Britain and Ireland. The parishes in both countries are united in the Diocese of Sourozh, which was founded in 1962.

The main event of the Primatial visit was the consecration of the Cathedral of the Dormition of the Mother of God in London following a major refurbishment. The work, which has been carried out in preparation for the anniversary celebrations, had included internal reordering, the construction of a new iconostasis, painting of new icons and the installation of a new set of bells. I was overjoyed to be invited to this event and felt blessed to be able to attend the service in the church on such a special day.

Some key excerpts from his speech are below.

“Your eminences, your graces, your eminence Archbishop Elisey, your grace the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby. Your Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent, distinguished representatives of the Catholic Church and the Armenian Church and the Coptic Orthodox Church, fathers, and brothers and sisters. I congratulate wholeheartedly all of you on the historic occasion that has happened today in the life of the Russian Orthodox Church on the British Isles. We are celebrating the 300-year anniversary of the presence of Russian Orthodox believers in the British Isles.”

He went on to conclude.

“God save the Queen! God save the United Kingdom! God save Russia! And praise be to God in our hearts and our bodies.”



Patriarch Kirill with the Archbishop of Canterbury

There had been much press speculation in the run up to the visit due to the perceived support that Patriarch Kirill had given to President Putin, however, his message was one of peace and understanding in the world and the bringing together of the peoples of Great Britain and Russia through prayer.

Olga Day



The Service at the Cathedral of the Dormition of the Mother of God

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In early November our focus was on poppies. We had our own Little Apples Garden of Remembrance in one of the raised flower beds outside the Village Hall, decorated with poppies the children had made. The children also made delicious poppy biscuits.

We're now leading up to Winter and, dare I say it – Christmas! Soon we'll be making hedgehog bread, talking about hibernation and the cold weather and keeping ourselves warm too.

If you'd like come and have a look around with a view to registering your child please get in touch with us at manager@littleapples.org or phone 01256 886408.

Jo & Sian

Autumn at Little Apples

We were pleased to welcome all our Little Apples back after the half-term holiday and hope you all had a spooky Halloween! On our return we were greeted by the sight of a wonderfully coloured carpet of fallen leaves in the playground which the children enjoyed exploring, sweeping and gathering. They also used some of the leaves to create an Autumn collage.

Some splendid Bonfire Night craft was produced, with lots of sparkles and glitter. The children enjoyed telling us about their experiences of fireworks with all the exciting noises and colours. This tied in well with Diwali celebrations, thinking about colour and light and making 'flaming candles'.



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BRAMLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

We are Nearly There!

The Bramley Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted to the External Examiner and it

HAS PASSED

There is some minor editing to be completed as recommended by the Examiner so that it meets the Basic Conditions as laid down in the National Planning Policy Framework.

The conclusion of the examiner was:-

Whilst I have set out my reasoning under individual policies, my overall conclusion is that, subject to my recommendations, the Plan meets the Basic Conditions. It is appropriate to make the Plan. Subject to my recommendations being accepted, I consider that the Bramley Neighbourhood Development Plan 2011-2029 will provide a strong practical framework against which decisions on development can be made. I am pleased to recommend that the Bramley Neighbourhood Development Plan 2011-2029, as modified by my recommendations, should proceed to Referendum.

She commented that:-

- The Bramley Neighbourhood Development Plan has a clear vision. Strategic aims and objectives to achieve the vision help to inform the policies in the Plan.
- I am satisfied that the pre-submission consultation and publicity has met the requirements of Regulation 14 in

The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The consultation and publicity went well beyond the requirements and it is clear that the qualifying body went to considerable lengths to ensure that local residents and interested parties were able to engage in the production of the Plan. I congratulate them on their efforts.

Bramley Parish Council has accepted the recommendations of the examiner and the Plan will be submitted to Basingstoke and Deane by the 5th December which will then begin the arrangements for the

BRAMLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REFERENDUM

On that day, your support is required. The Plan will be accepted if more than 50% of those that vote say YES. Then the Neighbourhood Plan is made and the views of the community as laid down in the policies of the plan are part of the planning procedure of Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

The PC will be holding Open Forums in January to inform you again of the policies, and leaflets will be posted before the referendum. All the information is on the web site www.bramleyndp.org.uk

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Malcolm Bell
On Behalf of Bramley Parish Council

David Smith
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NWR

NATIONAL WOMEN'S REGISTER

On October 26th NWR members made their way to the "Cinema" in Dollis Green. A very smartly dressed usherette showed them to their places to be transported back in time. First came the Movietone News and then, true to the old style cinema, there was a cartoon. It was Popeye - remember him and his wife Olive Oyl and baby Swee'Pea? The lights went on and the smart usherette came round with delicious chocolate iced lollies.

The next item was unusual as Pat gave us a run down on the historical background to the main film, Casablanca. This certainly helped in the understanding of the film and the situation in Morocco at that time. With the lovely Ingrid Bergman and heart throb Humphrey Bogart, the romance, drama and music were all there. What an enjoyable experience. Many thanks to the smart usherette, Pat, for the refreshments and the hospitality.

On December 17th the group's 2016 programme ends with a Christmas party at Meadow View. New members are very welcome - do come and join us. For further details, ring 01256 881691

Phyl Davies



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From the creators of Santa Town and Father Christmas's Christmas List, the perfect festive treat for pre-school children and their families!

Have you ever looked up into the sky, and asked yourself the question; how do reindeer fly?

Christmas Eve can be a bit daunting for a young reindeer about to make her first trip around the world. So many questions... What if I get lost? Will I get hungry on the way? What if I'm afraid of heights!

Everything is ready. The presents are wrapped and Father Christmas's cloak is back from the dry cleaners. There is just one problem for the young reindeer... how does she fly?

Featuring puppetry, music, dance and sensory elements, experience the story of one young reindeer as she prepares for her first Christmas Eve.

Back by popular demand, award-winning Scratch Built Productions have once again joined forces with Proteus Theatre Company to transform the Creation Space into a magical Christmas theatre experience for pre-school children and their families.

Thursday 15th December to Saturday 24th December
10am, 12pm and 2.30pm, Show length approximately 45 minutes.
Tickets £7 each. Children aged 12 months and under go free.
Tickets available from wegottickets.com/proteustheatre or book in person at the Creation Space.



OUR CHRISTMAS SERVICES



Saturday 3 December

5.00pm Carols on Clift Meadow Park
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Mince Pies (courtesy of the Bramley Village Bakery)
and Mulled Wine

Sunday 11 December

5.00pm Carol Service
St Stephen's Church, Little London

Sunday 18 December

6.00 pm Carol Service
St James's Church, Bramley

Saturday 24 December – Christmas Eve

5.00 pm Crib Service – *Primary age children warmly invited to come from 2.00pm to rehearse, have fun, and join in the Nativity Play presented at 5.00pm!*¹

11.30 pm Midnight Communion

Sunday 25 December – Christmas Day

10.30am Christmas Family Communion

¹ For more information and to book a place, email bramleyshellclub@hotmail.co.uk



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Royal British Legion - Bramley & District Branch, Queen's Birthday Dinner

On Friday 28th October 2016, The Bramley & District Branch of the Royal British Legion held its Queen's Birthday Dinner at Sherborne St John Village Hall. The Guest Speaker was Air Marshal Sir Roger Austin AFC RAF (Retd.) who was a one time President of the National Royal British Legion. This was the first time for a number of years that the Branch had hosted a Dinner for its members and guests, that was open to the wider community.

The guests were welcomed at the beginning of the evening, by the Branch Chairman, John Delafield, and the Reverend John Lenton said Grace. After dinner, Sir Roger regaled some stories of his time as President of the Royal British Legion, including one year, where at the Cenotaph in London, he was waiting in the pouring rain for the Parade Marshal to ask permission to march past. As he bowed to the Parade Marshal in response to his salute, Sir Roger's bowler hat, which had been gathering water, poured all over the

Parade Marshal who was considerably shorter. Fortunately he managed not to make any acknowledgement of the situation, as he realised later that day that the BBC camera was in close up on him at the time!!!

The evening finished with an auction of a lunch for two at Tylney Hall, a food hamper and an afternoon for 4 at the

Guards Polo Club in Windsor Great Park. The auction, hosted by the Branch Vice Chairman, Rhydian Vaughan, raised a total of £286. We have received many complimentary comments about the event, the food and the whole evening, and were asked when we could do it again. Well look out in 2017!!!

Steve Day, Branch Treasurer



Bramley & District Royal British Legion Branch

Our first meeting for 2017 will be held on Tuesday 10th January at Cross House, Bramley (next to the Church) at 1900hrs.

Refreshments will be provided and Members, potential Members and the just plain curious are most welcome to join us.

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REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

On a brilliant sunny morning, Bramley held its Remembrance Sunday service with the Church crammed full as is usual on this special day.

The path towards the Church was lined by our Scouts, Cubs and Beavers with their standards and Tony Evans, Standard Bearer for The Bramley and District Branch of the Royal British Legion, held post at the main door.

The service was a mix of poignancy, uplifting hymns and of course Remembrance. Wreaths were laid by Ranil Jayawardena MP, John Delafield, Chairman of our British Legion Branch, Wing Commander Steven Bell, Chief of Staff RAF Odiham, John Ferguson on behalf of Bomb Disposal RAOC, Tony Durrant on behalf of Bramley Parish Council and Max Barbour on behalf of the Scouts. The plaque in memory of our own Peter Cowton, killed in Afghanistan in 2008, had been beautifully decorated with poppies by his family: Generations Chorale sang a lovely rendition of “I vow to thee my Country”.

Eileen Gulston read “In Flanders Fields”, Rhydian Vaughan gave the Exhortation, RAF Odiham provided a chinook to overfly the church at 1059 hrs and John Ferguson gave the Kohima Epitaph to end the service.

Our thanks to Rhydian Vaughan and John Lenton for again organising such a moving service.



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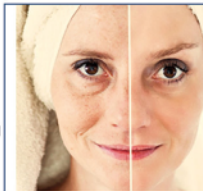


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BRAMLEY KNITTING CIRCLE

The group met at Vectis on October 25th. Although it was half-term and several members had other commitments, it was still a full house. Edna was with us again and June came along after doing duty at the Vyne. Margaret got going with purple wool to make a strip for a rainbow blanket and Judith brought another bobble hat and mittens she had made at home. Janet had been delighted with the one we gave her as a small reward for her large donation of wool. Some members may like to try this as a change from making teddies so Judith will bring the pattern next month. Sue had almost completed a lovely cardigan and we found her some lavender wool to finish it off.

Freda reported that finances were satisfactory and the cost of the courier for the consignment to go after Christmas was well covered. As with every dispatch, a list of the contents must be included and I will put this in the next report to show that we are not just a "Knit and Natter Group" (although a lot of cheerful chat goes on!).

The latest newsletter from "Knit for Peace" reports that with the approach of winter they have been supplying warm clothes and blankets to asylum seekers in the UK, to elderly people living in poorly heated homes and to refugees. Scarves and hats are needed. The rainbow strips for blankets have to be sewn together and Wendy has volunteered for this awkward task. We hope to welcome Wendy next month.

Refreshment time and Dusty's delicious iced coffee cake and Sue's lovely lemon drizzle went down well. How fortunate to have such good cooks. Mention was made of "Christmas Shoe Boxes" for children but the date for this was too near so we will take the idea up with Sue next year. The date for the December meeting has not yet been decided so phone Phyl on 01256 881296 for more information. We will make a New Year start on January 31st 2017. All welcome.

Phyl Davies

BRAMLEY LUNCH CLUB

November 10th was a bright sunny day and members gathered at Cross House for a prompt start. Tea and coffee were quickly served and then Caroline reminded us that the Christmas lunch would be held on December 8th from 11am and there will be a special box for members to "post" their Christmas cards to each other. Gift exchange will be made easy. Each member was asked to bring just one wrapped parcel, which would be put in a "lucky dip".

We then enjoyed a beetle drive, which proceeded under the careful instructions of Jay. We followed the rules under her watchful eye, but there was much laughter as we did not immediately understand who moved up a table or down. The game ended with Freda gaining the gold award for the most "beetle points" and Gill and Phyl runners up for the silver. Many thanks to Jay.

Lunch was called and what a seasonal menu Judy and helpers served up. Plates of delicious braised beef in gravy with dumplings and vegetables. We then had to make room for sticky treacle pudding with lots of custard. The raffle was drawn and there were many prizes including a generous donation of a voucher from the daughter of our late member Eileen. Phyl won this and is very appreciative of the kind gesture. Members Betty and Kim were not well and we all wished them a speedy recovery, hoping they will be well enough to join in next month. As tea and coffee were served Judy suggested that the group produce a little "Newsletter" of its own to which members could contribute their ideas and views of club affairs. With this in mind we all made our way home.

The January meeting will be another special to welcome in 2017. Please phone 01256 884065 if you would like to join us on January 12 2017

Phyl Davies

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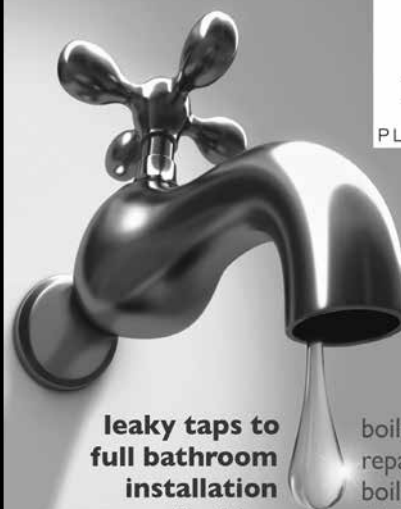
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From your Borough Councillor

It is with great pleasure that I am writing my first article in the Bramley magazine as your elected Borough Councillor for Bramley and Sherfield on Loddon. I have been in and around Bramley with my business being located in Minchens Lane for some 20 years and have been a resident in Sherfield on Loddon for over 11 years. I know the pain of the Level Crossing and the narrow lanes in trying to avoid the barriers, so I thought this might be a good opportunity to share some information.

On the right tracks?

I did take a little road trip around the “lanes” with one of the Senior BDBC officers at the end of October and luckily the Barrier was down every time we emerged on to the main road.



“Flabbergasted” was one of the reactions with an incredulous view on how on earth could the village use all the assets, pub, shop, bakery, school, playing fields and village hall if they were divided!

Following on from that at the beginning of November there was a meeting held at Hampshire County Council with regard to the Bramley Level Crossing.....the meeting yielded the following comments/points;

Clarification that Network Rail do not intend to close the crossing, but that they have been doing so elsewhere in the country, particularly rural public rights of way (rather than road crossing points)

You might be interested to know that Network Rail estimated that the crossing is down for around four minutes per train movement, and there are 199 trains passing through per day resulting in the Barriers down for 8 to 9 hours per day

The Bramley Level Crossing is ranked 21st out of 49 highest safety risk in the ‘Wessex’ area in terms of CCTV controlling crossings and the Barriers are manually operated by signallers controlling the route – who need to balance train reliability / punctuality, safety of all crossing users, and delays to motorists / pedestrians.

It is acknowledged that the rail traffic (freight included) will continue to increase in the medium to long-term, with consequential impacts on barrier down time - improvements to the A33 would assist in providing capacity /reducing congestion – which may help to reduce use of rural lanes as an alternative (Bramley PC work indicated that around 53% of vehicle using the crossing is through traffic).

The bigger picture

So looking at the “bigger picture” for Bramley this brings me to the fact that Bramley Parish Council and Neighbourhood Planning Group has worked very hard in bringing forward a Neighbourhood Plan. The Bramley Neighbourhood Plan (NP) is only the 3rd neighbourhood plan in the borough to reach this stage and it has been reviewed by both the Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council Planning officers and the Independent Examiner and it will be coming forward for a “referendum”.

The referendum, which will be conducted by the borough council, enables you in the local community to vote on whether you support the Plan or not. If there is a positive

vote i.e. at least 50% plus 1 of the votes cast, and it is compatible with EU law, the Plan will then be officially ‘made’ (adopted) by the council. It will then become part of the statutory Development Plan for Bramley parish and be used to help the council decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area. So watch out for the big vote.

Please visit my Facebook page for regular updates and news - <https://www.facebook.com/BramleyandSherfield/> or contact me via email cllr.venetia.rowland@basingstoke.gov.uk



Borough Councillor Venetia Rowland

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Bramley & Romans Floral Society

On November 3rd an Area demonstrator happily filled in at the last minute as our booked demonstrator was unable to attend. Because of these circumstances she called her demonstration `Surprise` and she produced six very different designs off the cuff. She is a very experienced demonstrator entertaining us throughout the afternoon, with her tales making the hall ring with laughter.

Our next meeting is our Christmas Lunch on the 1st December. After the lunch we have a demonstration called `It's the season to be jolly` by Mrs Sue Aston. We meet on the first Thursday of the month at Sherfield on Loddon village hall starting at 1.30pm. For info please contact Eileen on 01256 881125. Visitors are always welcome.



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Typical of a new generation of more mature care workers is Lesley Kitts, who lives near Basingstoke. Lesley, who will be 67 this year, has been a care worker for Bluebird Care for a year - and loves it.

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Beat Report

Burglaries:

No burglaries were reported over this month - fantastic news! Please ensure that your doors and windows are locked when you are leaving your property unattended. If you think “how secure is my home?” and “have I done as much as reasonably possible to ensure I have kept my property safe?” on a regular basis and act on anything you pick up then naturally you will reduce your risk of being a victim.

Please mark your valuables in some way with your postcode or take a picture of them and any distinguishing marks just in case they are recovered by Police, then we will be able to return them to you.

Anti Social Behaviour:

There have been 6 reports of ASB this month. That is a significant decrease in reported incidents over the last month, and this report also includes Halloween.

I have reports of youths using catapults in and around Bramley. There does not appear to be anywhere specifically targeted, however occurrences seem to gravitate around the areas with close access to the cinder track. If you see any youths with catapults in Bramley please call us on 101 so I am aware of where it is going on. If we get no reports, I do not see a problem and therefore cannot try and fix it.

Assault

There has been a significant increase in assault reports this month, but they have not given me any reason for concern. Most of these assaults have stemmed from the same incident and were recorded for crime data integrity reasons. This means that if we are called to an assault and someone is named as a suspect, naturally we will speak to the suspect. If when we talk to this suspect they counter claim that they have been the victim of assault then two assaults will be recorded even if we will not act on one of the allegations. Likewise, if one person assaults two people, this is not one crime - two occurrences will be created to reflect the two (or more) victims.

Cryptic Crossword No: 4 Solutions

Across		Down	
1	TASTEFUL	1	TOM
4	COGNAC	2	SNOW
9	MOONLIT	3	ECLAIR
11	SANTA	5	OBSTACLE
13	FIVE	6	NUN
14	ASSES	7	CLAUS
16	UPON	8	CAROLSINGERS
17	SULTANA	10	THE FIRST NOEL
21	BUTTONS	12	THUMB
22	ASTI	15	BOOT
24	COMET	18	APSE
25	EVEN	19	ATIME
27	PETER	20	NOCTURNE
29	SATIATE	23	HECTIC
31	DANCER	24	CUPID
32	STOCKING	26	MAGI
		28	TEN
		30	EGG

Suspicious Incidents:

There have also been 7 suspicious vehicle/ person reports. One of these incidents was in fact created by me because of something I noticed and dealt with while on duty. I am sure that there are more suspicious incidents happening within the village than are actually being reported. If you notice something then please report it. Don't leave it for someone else. I am a strong believer in trusting your instincts. If you see something that doesn't add up then it won't hurt to report it. Best case scenario is there is nothing to worry about and there is a legitimate reason for that to be happening at that time. Worst case scenario is there is no legitimate reason but because we are not made aware of it we later receive a report from a victim of a crime that could have been prevented.

If you see anything you consider being suspicious, please call us on 101 to report it.

Monthly Crime Stats

ASB – 6	Assault – 15
Burglary Dwelling – 0	Burglary non-Dwelling – 0
Concern for Welfare – 1	Criminal Damage – 5
Driving Complaint – 2	Drink Driving – 0
Drug offences – 0	Harassment – 1
Public Order offences – 1	Road Traffic Collision – 3
Suspicious Incidents – 7	Theft of Pedal Cycle – 1
Theft - 1	

Many thanks, PCSO Nathan Johnson

Bramley Show 2017

Yes, I know it is a long way off until 19 August 2017, the date of the next Bramley Show, but we want to make sure that you have plenty of time to paint and take photographs for the Art and Photography divisions.

The subjects for the Art Division are as follows:-

1. Abstract
2. Black and White
3. Through a Window or Door
4. A Harbour Scene

One painting per class in any medium is permitted.

For the Photography Division the subjects are:-

1. A sunny, rainy or cloudy day.
2. An amusing sign or signs
3. Working parts of machinery
4. A view from underneath.
5. A pair of.....(2 items in one picture).

In this division two photographs 7”x5” per class are permitted.

We had a good response in all classes this year so let's make it even bigger and better this time.

Following the success this year of the Scarecrow Festival held under the auspices of the Bramley Show we have decided to hold another one in 2017 from the 12 to 26 August – i.e the week before and the week after the Bramley Show. Plenty of time then to get creative and put on a really good show.

Anne Porter, Bramley Show Committee

ICE HOLIDAYS

Do you have a physical disability and think you would benefit from a supported group holiday in Spain in a safe and comfortable environment?

Are you fit, healthy and looking for a challenge?

One unique organisation in Hampshire may be of interest.

ICE (Integration - Communication - and Education) is a charitable organisation offering holidays for the physically disabled and their families/spouses overseas. Carers/Helpers and equipment are provided as required as well as transport to and from the airport. Each holiday also includes at least 2 sight-seeing trips. ICE was started in the early 80s with the purpose of raising funds to buy equipment for the disabled. Then one year they raised enough funds to take a JUMBULANCE abroad. After that Terry Thornhill owner of Toucan Travel (local travel agent chain) came on board and arranged and led the holidays until 2015.

I have been a helper on ICE holidays since 2013. Last year I was asked to take over as Holiday Organiser/Leader for the 2016 holiday. I successfully lead the group 2016 holiday to Toremolinos this May and I am currently very busy organising the 2017 holiday to La Pineda in Spain.

We will depart on 14 May 2017 for 10 day at The Hotel Palas <http://www.palaspineda.com/> . Price: £750 per disabled person and £375 for carers/helpers. This is based on 2 people sharing a room and is for half board with wine and

water included with dinner. We also provide adapted rooms, equipment as required, return transport from Basingstoke to Heathrow and local transfers and two day trips.

I am therefore looking for physically disabled people who think they would benefit from a supported group holiday in the sun. They are welcome to bring their spouse or friend/family members as their carer/helper or indeed bring their own professional carer.

I am also seeking to recruit a team of fit, healthy, reliable and competent helpers. Fundraisers are also welcome to join.

ICE is unique. There is no other group like this in Hampshire and as far as I am aware, there is only one other similar group operating in Southern England.

So, if you are physically disabled or recovering from surgery or serious illness and you think is for you please join us NOW!

Also if you feel you would like to help on one of our holidays or enjoy fundraising then join us NOW!

Anne Murrill also runs Basingstoke Meetup Group - <http://www.meetup.com/Basingstoke-Meetup>

For further information and to join us go to: <http://www.meetup.com/ICE-Holidays> .

Or please contact me on Email: anne.murrill@btinternet.com or 01256 811798

Anne Murrill

A WORD FROM THE WOODS with FRITH FOREST SCHOOL!

Well what a wonderful half term we had! We enjoyed meeting some lovely young people and their parents from Bramley and the surrounding area. The youngsters, aged from 5-13, were a delight to work with, full of fun, with their own ideas about how they would like to work. They used a range of skills to build what can only be described as a deluxe den from natural materials. It was a labour of love, with each member of the group making suggestions, giving directions and offering solutions to any problems encountered along the way.

They dragged heavy logs and branches into position. They asked for help to cut those that were too long to fit the space and enjoyed learning how to use a bowsaw with an adult. They had to measure the length, using their own bodies as a guide, due to the height of their ambitious construction. Secure knots were tied to keep the structure in place and ensure the safety of those taking shelter inside, where a cosy carpet of moss had carefully been laid.

Children also enjoyed learning the key "ingredients" necessary to light a fire and then worked hard to master the skill of using a fire steel to strike a spark to light their own mini fires. This progressed on to helping us build and light the big campfire, over which we cooked lunch and toasted marshmallows.

Are you curious to find out more? Do you find yourself wondering what goes on beyond those huge metal National Grid Gates at Frith Forest School? Do come along to our FREE FAMILY FUN SESSION on 10th December between 11am and 1pm. Book your place early.

This is for the whole family, an opportunity for families of all ages to come and try out forest school! Children need to be accompanied by an adult.

Regular SATURDAY Frith Forest FUN clubs start
January 14th 2017 11am-1pm

Children aged 5-13 years, lunch included:
£12.00 per child; £72.00 for 6 weeks

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frithforestschool@gmail.com.

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FRITH FOREST SCHOOL!



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**February half term FUN CLUB: Monday 20th-Friday 24th February 2017
10am-2pm**

- Are you looking for something special to develop your child's confidence, resilience and resourcefulness?
- Does your child have a sense of adventure and love to be outdoors?
- Would they enjoy learning new skills and making new friends?

Children aged 8-13 years: £36.00 per child; 5-8 year olds welcome for 2 hours: £15.00

FRITH FOREST School runs throughout the year:

SATURDAY morning sessions start January 14th 2017 11-1pm: £72.00 for 6 sessions

Birthday parties by arrangement. Group visits also catered for.

Bookings now being taken: frithforestschool@gmail.com / www.anthonycolins.com

Playing Cricket – **John Stubbs** concludes that **the cricket** is one of nature’s goodies
 Don’t upset them though....

Here’s a little animal that really seems to have got its PR image well sorted. It won’t be as useful as the bumblebee, or as extravagant as the butterfly, but it does seem to have that kind of universal appeal – though when you come to think of it, apart from the colouring, it’s not so different from a daddy-longlegs, or even a spider, perish the thought. Anthropomorphism, a really rude word in the trade: it poses as delicately as a ballet dancer, and may sing like a happy choir-boy, so we give it a special status as one of the goodies. This one, a female speckled bush cricket, hopped in the window late in August; in fact they’re not uncommon, it’s just that normally they’re so well camouflaged that they go unnoticed, a trick that didn’t work too well on the windowsill.

They’re obviously closely related to grasshoppers – the easy distinction being that they have these great long antennae, twice as long as the body – grasshoppers make do with little short ones, so much less elegant. Like all insects, they have an external body casing rather than a skeleton of bones. The snag with this is that when you want to grow, it doesn’t stretch – most insects get round this by starting off as a larva, then having a drastic reshape into a finished adult that looks completely different. This is a bit like taking your car in for a service, and getting it back as a small aircraft: a lot of awfully complicated work has to be done, and it takes a fair bit of time. The cricket’s approach is different. Rather than having just one major overhaul, it goes through six more modest upgrades: each one looking much like the adult form, but getting bigger and more complex each time, more like your iPhones. These instars even take the opportunity to re-cycle the old bodywork by eating most of it – I guess this hasn’t been tried with cars, or phones, however. The advantage appears to be that there’s not the long period of downtime: a caterpillar may spend months as a pupa while the changes are underway, and inevitably it’s vulnerable to predation or injury during this time, and it consumes energy that had been stored. On the other hand, having to build six new fully-fitted overcoats is quite demanding, and every time one’s shed, the little guy is exposed with a soft and delicate skin until it’s hardened off. Perhaps growing bones ain’t that bad.

Reputed to be chirpy, in the literal as well as figurative sense, the male of this species uses the serrated edges of the otherwise non-functional wings, rubbed together, to communicate: a mating call, an alarm signal, or warning to a rival as appropriate. In the case of the bush cricket, working at around 40kHz, we’re not going to hear it – though some crickets can be heard by the human ear. Seems a good enough plan for an insect – but it does have some drawbacks. For a start, some geckos have worked out that if you kidnap a female cricket and hold her singing in a burrow, lots of males will come a’calling. This suits a hungry gecko, but isn’t that good for the suitors. Another downer is that some adventitious parasites, on hearing a happy cricket, use the call-sign as a homing beacon for their egg laying – again, not the desired result for the singer.

Apparently crickets used to be kept by the Chinese as portable audio warning devices – when the insect suddenly stopped singing, something or someone was approaching. Territorial males were pitted against each other in miniature cock-fights, and crickets were sold just as domestic pets: there’s also a market for them deep-fried, it seems. The generally



benign view of the little animals is reflected in many myths and folklore tales – from general good luck on finding one in a dwelling, to their specifically forecasting rain. Pinocchio of course had his *Grillo Parlante*, later re-interpreted as Jiminy Cricket. He was not only very wise, for instance admonishing: “My boy, do not trust those who promise to make you rich overnight. They are usually either mad or charlatans!” He was also totally forgiving, to the extent of his ghost becoming the boy’s companion and advisor, despite his former self having been flattened by Pinocchio with a mallet in a fit of pique. Definitely a goody.

CORRECTION

Congratulations to those acute observers who noted that the picture with the last issue’s piece actually showed a group of starlings moulting their juvenile plumage. They were, of course, youngsters on their way out to party, just pretending to be fieldfares for a laugh.

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BRAMLEY YOUTH CLUB

Time flies when you're having so much fun and just like that another month has passed. As we draw to the end of 2016 and head into the festive Christmas spirit, let's take a look at what the BYC Gang has been up to recently.

We had a crazy fun packed autumn programme. We got creative and made our very own Sock Monkeys with the help of a very special guest who popped by to show us all how to make and style our own Sock Monkeys. We then stood to salute as we were put through our paces in an Army Assault Course. This was epic and everyone joined in from double tapping through the tricky ladders, crawling under difficult obstacles and also testing our hand eye coordination at multiple points throughout the course.

We saw the return of the Football Project and enjoyed a kick around and finally ended the month with an almighty Halloween party. See our Facebook page for pictures of the spooky and creepy activities we got up to and the array of Halloween costumes from zombies to wolves, Harley Quinn to Elvis. We pinned the Wart on the Witch's nose, played a rather competitive game of Eyeball Pong, did some apple bobbing and so much more. It was definitely a night to remember.

Let's take a look at what December will bring:
 1st December –do you want to build a snow man?
 8th December – Christmas craft
 15th December – Christmas Party

The BYC youth workers take some time off over the Christmas period to enjoy the festive season with their family and friends so the last official day of the Bramley Youth Club is THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2016. However, don't fear, we will be reopening again on THURSDAY 12TH JANUARY 2017.

If this sounds like something you would be interested in then pop down to BYC on a Thursday @6pm-8pm and meet the gang. Your first session is completely FREE and you will get to enjoy all the activities and more. Also if you are just a big kid and would like to get involved we have loads of opportunities for volunteers and we never refuse the help. For more information regarding the youth club and all the updates head over to our Facebook page @ BramleyYouthProject or alternatively check out our website at www.bvayouth.org.uk

We hope you all have a very Merry Christmas and you enjoy a very Happy New Year.



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December events at the Basingstoke Discovery Centre

To book a place, you can order online from <https://www.hants.gov.uk/shop/home.php>, or visit Basingstoke Discovery Centre in Festival Place, or call 01256 478670. Advance booking is strongly recommended. To find out more about Basingstoke Discovery Centre and Hampshire Libraries visit www.hants.gov.uk/bsdc <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/library/bsdc.htm> <https://twitter.com/BasingstokeDC> <https://www.facebook.com/BasingstokeDC>

Hearing Impaired Reading Group

Friday 2 December / 2pm – 4pm / FREE

An opportunity to meet people in a similar situation round a shared interest.

Board Games for Grown-Ups (FREE)

Saturday 3 December / 11am–4pm

Wednesday 7 December / 2pm–6pm

Wednesday 21 December / 2pm–6pm

Develop your skills of cooperation and strategy in this friendly drop-in group. Meet in the Coffee Shop area. Some games provided or bring your own.

Discover Board Games (FREE) Ages 3+

Saturday 3 December / 10am–1pm

Saturday 17 December / 10am–1pm

Saturday 31 December / 10am–1pm

Make a bicycle basket or shopping basket

Saturday 3 December / 9.30am–4pm / £60

People love to receive hand-made gifts and what could be more impressive than giving someone a bike basket or shopping basket that you've made yourself! We will be making oval willow baskets using the stake and strand technique. This class is aimed at those who've already had a go at willow weaving and want to move up to the next level! A metal frame and willow are provided but there may be an extra charge for fittings to attach the basket to a bike depending on which method you choose. All materials included.

Advanced booking is essential.

Drop-In Surgery with Local Councillor

Saturday 3 December / 2pm–3pm

Meet your Hampshire County Councillor for Basingstoke Central, Criss Connor to discuss local issues.

Disability Signpost Service

Tuesday 6 December / 10am–12noon

Drop-in for information on topics including transport, benefits, housing and more.

Basingstoke Disability Connections

Tuesday 6 September / 12.30pm–2.30pm

Informal get-together for people affected by disability.

Painting for Fun (FREE)

Thursday 8 December / 2.30pm–4.30pm

Thursday 22 December / 2.30pm–4.30pm

Informal group of painters who share tips and conversation in Coffee shop area.

Young Embroiders Club

Saturday 10 December / 10am–12noon /

£5 / Ages 5-16

Learn new skills and meet new friends.

Children's Crafts (FREE) Ages 3+

Saturday 10 December / from 10am

Chatterbooks (FREE) Ages 8-11

Mondays 12 December / 4pm–5pm

Are you a Bookaholic? Do you enjoy sharing ideas, making new friends and exploring new subjects? Books, activities, quizzes and lots more. Sign up at the Information Desk in the library.

Creative Writing for Young Adults

Wednesday 14 December / 4pm–5pm

(FREE) Ages 11-15

Gain confidence in your writing and meet like-minded people in this friendly group.

Willow Stars and Reindeer

Saturday 17 December / 10.30am–

12.30pm / £15 / Ages 10 - Adult

With local basket maker, Judith Needham

Take a break from last minute shopping, bring the kids and have fun making rustic, Shaker-style Christmas decorations using natural willow. Make lots of stars to hang in your windows, tiny reindeer and little woven Christmas trees. All materials included. (Under 16s must be accompanied by a ticket paying adult)

Advanced booking is essential.

Willow Angel (Ages 14–Adult)

Saturday 17 December / 1.30pm–4pm / £25

With local basket maker, Judith Needham

Make an angel (approx. 40cm tall) out of white willow and decorate it with fairy lights. Aimed at those who've done Judith's Christmas Decorations class and want to try something new but suitable for beginners too. All materials included – including the fairy lights. (Under 16s must be accompanied by a ticket paying adult)

Advanced booking is essential.

Family Chess Coaching (FREE)

Saturday 17 December / 10am–1pm (drop-in)

David Graham and members of the Basingstoke Junior Chess Club will be visiting to offer hints, tips and guidance for complete beginners as well as to those with some knowledge and experience.

Crime Fiction Reading Group

Saturday 17 December / 2pm / FREE

Meet others who share your enjoyment of this genre.

Visually Impaired Reading Group

Monday 19 December / 10am–12 noon /

FREE

An opportunity to meet people in a similar situation round a shared interest.

Poetry Group

Wednesday 21 December / 10.30am–

12.00 noon / £1

Read and share poetry with other like-minded people.

NHS staff have flu jab to stay healthy this winter

As the cold weather approaches, NHS staff at North Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group (NHCCG) are offered the flu vaccination to protect themselves and to help reduce the spread of flu.

Flu is highly contagious, can lead to serious complications for those in high-risk groups and, in extreme cases, can prove fatal. The CCG strongly recommends that everyone gets the flu vaccination especially those in high risk groups including:

- all two, three and four years olds (those born between 1 September 2011 and 31 August 2014)
- pregnant women
- adults aged 65 years and older
- anyone with a long-term health condition
- those in long-stay residential care homes
- carers

You can arrange to have your flu vaccination at your local GP surgery (free for those in the high risk groups) or check to see if your local pharmacist is providing them.

For more information please contact Paul Davey (Head of Communications and Engagement) or in his absence Josie Collins (Communications and Engagement Officer) in the NHCCG Communications Team: paul.davey5@nhs.net or josie.collins@nhs.net

Mondays	
<i>Badminton</i>	Village Hall
<i>Beavers</i>	School Hall
<i>Martial Arts</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Music With Mummy</i>	Village Hall
<i>Pilates</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Pilates 9am</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Stay Active As You Age Class – 11am</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Cubs 6.30-8pm</i>	School Hall
<i>Fitness league 7.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Trail Runners 7.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow car park
Tuesdays	
<i>0-5 club</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Badminton</i>	Village Hall
<i>Bell Ringing</i>	St James's
<i>Dance Club (Petite School)</i>	Village Hall
<i>Karate</i>	Primary School Hall
<i>Short Mat Bowls</i>	Village Hall
<i>Tuesday Club</i>	St Stephen's Hall
<i>Pilates 9.30am</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Bramley Mums Walking Group 6.50 for 7pm</i>	Clift Meadow car park
<i>Abs/Skipping 7.15pm</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Zumba 8pm</i>	Brocas Hall
Wednesdays	
<i>1st Bramley Brownies</i>	Village Hall
<i>Guides</i>	Village Hall
<i>Parish Council Meetings 3rd Wednesday of the month</i>	Village Hall
<i>Rainbows</i>	Village Hall
<i>Scouts</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Baby Clinic 2nd Wednesday 9-11.30am</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Pilates 9.30-10.30am</i>	Cross House
<i>Pregnancy yoga 6-7pm</i>	Cross House

<i>Pilates 6.30pm & 8.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Clubbell yoga 7.15-8.45pm</i>	Cross House
<i>Trail Runners 7.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow car park
<i>Circuits 8pm</i>	School Hall
Thursdays	
<i>Bramley & Romans Floral Society 1st Thursday</i>	Sherfield on Loddon Village Hall
<i>Dance Club</i>	Primary School Hall
<i>Dance Club (Petite)</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Lunch Club 2nd Thursday</i>	Cross House
<i>Pilates</i>	St Stephen's Hall
<i>WI 2nd Thursday</i>	Village Hall
<i>WI Lite 4th Thursday</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Legs, Bums & Tums 9am</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Perform 5.45pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Hatha Yoga 6-7pm, 7.15-8.15pm & 8.30-9.30pm</i>	Cross House
<i>Youth Club 6-8pm</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Modern Jive Classes 8-10.30pm</i>	Village Hall
Fridays	
<i>Health Visitor Reviews</i>	Village Hall
<i>Hatha Yoga 9.30-10.45am</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Pilates 11.30am</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Perform 3.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
Saturdays	
<i>Dance School</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Farmers market 1st Saturday</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
Sundays	
<i>Dinky Disco</i>	Village Hall
<i>Stitch Together</i>	Village Hall
<i>See page 5 for Church services at St James's Bramley & St Stephen's Little London</i>	

Contact Details for Village Clubs and Organisations

Organisation	Name	Tel No	Email	Remarks
Parish Council	Maxta Thomas	07810 692486	www.bramleypc.co.uk parishclerk@bramleypc.co.uk	Not for bookings
Clift Meadow	Eileen Gulston	881125	e.e.gulston@btinternet.com	Bookings
Cross House	Pam Luck	882687	crosshousebramley@gmail.com	Bookings
Village Hall	Catriona Hayward	07464 747779	Bookings@bvht.org.uk	Bookings
School Hall	Julie Francis	881339		
Badminton	Jane Matthews	881647		
Beavers, Cubs & Scouts	Jodie Saunders	881113	communications@bramleyscouts.org.uk	
Bell ringers	Terry Cooper	881102		
Bramley Mum's Walking Group	Julie Wilson		juliebelam12@gmail.com	
Bramley Out of School Club and Summer Holiday Club	Julie Belam	07711 339306	info@bramleyoutofschoolclub.com www.bramleyoutofschoolclub.com	
Bramley Volunteer Drivers		07787 166924	Visit us on Facebook	
Bramley Youth Club	Chris Holland	01256 883486	cgh505935@aol.com	
Brownies	Suzanne Cox	07920 822221	suzanne-cox@hotmail.com	Now Weds only
Country Music	Roy Seymour	07917 744780		No children please
Dance Club (Petite)	Louise Onslow	883568		
DanceXAffinity/ Modern Jive	Chris Birch	07979 417743	info@danceaffinity.co.uk	
Dinky Disco	Nikki Mills	07523072591	nikki.m.mills@hotmail.com	
Exercise classes	Caroline Sherlock	07845 217901	caroline@this2thisfitness.co.uk	
Farmers market	Jo Kemp Williams	07557412400	jo.kempwilliams@outlook.com	
Floral Society	Joyce Rawlinson	889040		
Guides	Louise Whitmarsh	01256 881125	louise_whitmarsh@hotmail.com	
Hatha Yoga	Jacqui Morris	07539 432228	jacqui.morris28@gmail.com	
Little Apples	Jo Whatley & Sian Davies	886408	manager@littleapples.org	
Lunch Club	Chris Woodward	884065		
Martial Arts	Rocci	07584281036	rocciboysnr@hotmail.co.uk	
Music with Mummy	Cathy Rowe	07766 931170	cborro2@btinternet.com	
Perform	Gemma Payne	07825916496	gemmapayne@perform.org.uk	
Pilates	Heather Lewis	07785 254313	hsfitnessuk@mac.com	
Pilates	Kelly James	07789 487499	kkellyjames@aol.com	
Royal British Legion	Rhydian Vaughan	07774 681516		
Short Mat Bowls	John & Pauline Walker	881065		
Slimming World	Hannah Sheahan	07426 822902	hannah.sheahan@hotmail.co.uk	
St Stephen's Hall	Doreen Quilter	850394	doreen.quilter@btinternet.com	Bookings
Trail Runners	Richard Perkins		richardperkins@yahoo.com	
WG Pilates	Wendy Gill	07961 102535	wendygill44@yahoo.co.uk	
WI	Anne Porter	881691		
WI Lite	Sarah Spencer		k_srah@hotmail.com	
Yoga	Felicity Wood	07980 304590	felicitywoodyoga@gmail.com	
o-5s club	Laura Lamb	07766 560918	lauraslamb@gmail.com	

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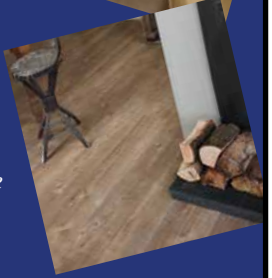
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