



# *The Bramley* **FREE** *Magazine*

FOR BRAMLEY AND  
LITTLE LONDON

December 2014 / January 2015



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# The Bramley Magazine

*for Bramley and  
Little London*

**Dec 2014 / Jan 2015**

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**Material for the February issue to be sent to the editor as soon as possible and no later than 15 January**

Welcome to the December/January edition of the Bramley Magazine. There is a lot going on in the village over Christmas so don't miss the invitations and information throughout this issue.

The Christmas shopping frenzy seems to start earlier every year. Harrods unveiled its Christmas shop at the height of summer, and the Christmas ranges started appearing in the high street soon after. All this makes us feel very inefficient if we haven't got everything wrapped by the beginning of November.

In our rush to buy presents, get the tree decorated and stuff the turkey, it is easy to forget about the true meaning of Christmas. So, why not come along to one of the village's Christmas events in December to give you a chance to slow down a bit and reflect on this special time of the year.

Perhaps join in the carols at the bakery on Saturday 6 December, when mulled wine and mince pies will also be served.

A very merry Christmas and a happy New Year from the Magazine Team



"But I am sure that I have always thought of Christmas time, when it has come round...as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely."

Charles Dickens (A Christmas Carol)

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## Church diary for December 2014...

<b>6th</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
5.00pm	<b>**Lighting the Christmas Tree, Carols &amp; Readings with Tadley Concert Brass – Bramley Village Bakery**</b>
<b>7th</b>	<b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b>
9.00	NO Holy Communion – Little London
10.30	Matins (1662) – Bramley
6.00pm	Carol Service – Little London
<b>14th</b>	<b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b>
8.00	Holy Communion – Bramley
10.30	Holy Communion – Bramley
<b>21st</b>	<b>4th Sunday of Advent</b>
8.00	Holy Communion (1662) – Bramley
10.30	<b>NO</b> Mid-Morning service – Bramley
6.00pm	Carol Service - Bramley
<b>24th</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b>
5.00pm	Crib Service – Bramley
11.30pm	Midnight Holy Communion – Bramley
<b>25th</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>
10.30	Christmas Family Communion – Bramley
<b>28th</b>	<b>First Sunday of Christmas</b>
10.30	Holy Communion - Bramley

## ...and into January 2015

<b>4th</b>	<b>The Epiphany</b>
9.00	Holy Communion – Little London
10.30	Matins (1662) - Bramley
<b>10th</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
4.30pm	<b>**Café Church – School Hall**</b>
<b>11th</b>	<b>First Sunday of Epiphany</b>
8.00	Holy Communion – Bramley
10.30	Holy Communion – Bramley
<b>18th</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Epiphany</b>
8.00	Holy Communion – Bramley
10.30	Family Service – Bramley
<b>25th</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Epiphany</b>
8.00	Holy Communion – Bramley
10.30	Holy Communion – Bramley

## ...and into February 2015

<b>1st</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Epiphany</b>
9.00	Holy Communion – Little London
10.30	Matins (1662) – Bramley
<b>7th</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
4.30pm	<b>**Café Church – School Hall**</b>
<b>8th</b>	<b>Second Sunday before Lent</b>
8.00	Holy Communion – Bramley
10.30	Holy Communion – Bramley

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## Catholic services

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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](mailto:stbedes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) for information

See [www.stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk](http://www.stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk)

For details of Christmas services, please visit the website.

### Tadley

St Michael's Church, Bishopswood Road, RG26 4HG

Saturday Mass: 6.00 pm

Sunday Mass: 9.30 am

Parish priest: **0118 9814572**



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**The Reverend John Lenton**, vicar of St James's church, commends the volunteers in Bramley who give **service with a smile**, and pays a special tribute to our outgoing Editor.

I often hear it said that it's really difficult to get anyone in Bramley to step forward and volunteer for anything, as if it's somehow harder to find willing and able people here than in other parts of the country.

Certainly, I remember that when we were in Romania, it was next to impossible to get anyone to volunteer to do anything at all, because over the course of the Communist years, people used to get press-ganged into doing things – "Right, we need three volunteers to sweep the street: you, you and you will do..." – and the result was that volunteering was seen as a mug's game.

But Bramley? Well, actually, it seems to me that we don't do badly in terms of volunteers. We have a Parish Council formed of volunteers; all the governors at the School are volunteers, who willingly give time and commitment to meetings and training and reading papers as well as taking the risk of being jumped upon by Ofsted. The Clift Meadow Trustees and those running the new Youth Facility all offer their services free of charge. The Bramley Lunch Club organisers, all of them volunteers, make it possible for over 20 elderly people to meet together every month and enjoy a cooked lunch, with extra treats at Christmas and in the summer.

This magazine is another example of willing voluntary commitment. You get your monthly copy very quickly each new month because a volunteer delivers it promptly to your door. A volunteer editorial team proof-reads, edits, checks spelling, amends grammar and generally tries to make the publication as readable and interesting as possible.

And this is where I'm going to get embarrassing, as I would like to pay special tribute to a volunteer who has made a very particular contribution to this Magazine – the outgoing Editor, Sarah Mitchell. As regular readers will know, in September Sarah moved with her husband, Mark, to Cornwall



Rev'd John Lenton

so as to be near her mother. Despite coping with a house purchase, packing up their house at this end and unpacking at the far end, Sarah said that she was willing to continue editing the Magazine for a while from Cornwall until we found a new Editor. That is real commitment!

Sarah is a professional journalist, who's had a highly successful career working as a producer for ITN in London, but who moved to this area two years ago following a bout of ill health. Shortly after moving here, she came to me and offered, as part of her Christian service, to work for the church in Bramley one day a week, doing whatever we asked of her. It was obvious that the best way to use her gifts was to ask her to help as an Assistant Editor for the Magazine – and then when the Editor, Rachel Holland, who had done sterling work in getting the Magazine distributed village-wide, decided to step down as she and her husband, Chris, were buying a house abroad, Sarah was the obvious successor.

Her calm, professional influence and journalistic talents have made a huge difference to the quality of the Magazine over the relatively short time she has served as Editor. She has massively streamlined and simplified the editorial process and tasks, working with Chris Wright, our gifted graphic designer, to enhance the whole look of the Magazine. So now, as she hands over the reins to her successor, Rachel Barclay Smith – another volunteer

from the church! – we are conscious of an enormous debt of gratitude to her for all she has done, and I publicly thank her for sticking with us so heroically! And we all wish Rachel well and assure her of our support and encouragement as she takes on the task.

Jesus told a story of a businessman who went on a long trip, leaving his business in the hands of three employees, giving each of them sums of money to invest on his behalf, the amount depending on his judgment of their abilities to use it well. Two of them put the money to work and made a good return on it, and when the businessman came back, he commended them warmly for their faithfulness and hard work. The third one just handed back the money, saying he'd buried it in the ground as he didn't want to take any risks with it. The businessman was angry with him, calling him wicked and lazy.

You know, just as those employees were given the money for investments in Jesus' story, each of us is given opportunities to serve God and our community, as Sarah has done so faithfully with the Magazine. How wonderful it would be for us at the end of the day to be told, as those two hard-working employees in Jesus' story heard, "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

## BRAMLEY



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# Many people in Bramley stopped to mark Remembrance Day last month

There is something about Remembrance that draws people to the church, even when they have no particular faith. Perhaps it's the awareness that Christians see death as a gateway to life rather than the end of everything, and that perspective brings some comfort to those who mourn. But whatever the motivation behind it, whether religious, nostalgic or simply personal, hundreds of thousands of people do go along to a Remembrance Service at their church, and St James, Bramley, is no exception.

This year, our church was once again packed as we lustily sang the familiar hymns – "O God, our help in ages past", "For those in peril on the sea", and "O valiant hearts" – and repeated the concluding words of the Exhortation: "We will remember them." It was a delight to see so many young people joining in: Scouts, Cubs, Brownies and Beavers all brought their standards up to the front of the church, following the example of Tony



British Legion Chair, Rhydian Vaughan, was invited to give the address at the Welsh Guards Remembrance service in London

Evans, the standard-bearer of the Royal British Legion.

The first part of the service runs to split-second timing every year, and the organisers breathed a sigh of relief as the throb of the Chinook was heard in the distance at exactly the right point in the service, approaching and finally sweeping over the church at precisely 10.59am before receding into the distance. As silence fell, our trumpeter David Lee sounded the Last

Post, followed after the two-minute silence by Reveille.

The Reverend John Lenton reflected in his sermon on the themes of fear, courage and sacrifice, relating

the story of an Allied soldier who, at huge risk to himself, overcame his fear and rescued a wounded enemy soldier caught up in the barbed wire of the trenches in 1917. John referred to the Bible reading, which contained the phrase, "Perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment," making the point that Jesus Christ's sacrifice of Himself on the cross rescued us from punishment, because of God's perfect love for the world.

At the end of the service, following the Kohima Epitaph, "When you go home, tell them of us and say, 'For their tomorrow, we gave our today'", the congregation filed out to the stirring sound of the band of the Irish Guards playing the March of the Royal British Legion.



Remembrance parade



A chinook flew over St James's church at 10:59



**F**or this month's **Meet The Neighbours**, several people asked to know more about our regular nature writer. **John and Sarah Stubbs** tell us why they love beautiful Bramley.

**BM: What brought you to Bramley?**

We moved here in the early '70s from the Croydon area when John's employer - The Automobile Association - relocated. The place had no motorway, no gas, no drains. It had three-digit phone numbers, a grocer's, a butcher's, a tiny post office, a doctor's surgery where the meds could be left out for you on the windowsill and a vicar in a panama hat. There were probably some 700 souls, including Clifts, Hanmores, Oslers, Bulpits and Bartletts.

We'd bought what had been the original post office and shop, complete with telegraph pole and a pile of junk six feet high in the back garden. Visitors always commented on how much 'potential' the place had ... that became a bit of a swear word for us!

But it was a friendly place and our next door neighbours in particular were very welcoming - Henry and Mary Bartlett and their family. That made a huge difference - and so we stayed on. The Bartletts did so much for us and the whole community, Sarah was pleased to play a part in having Bartlett Road named after them when she was on the Parish Council

Sarah taught at Queen Mary's sixth form college and Limington House School; she also taught and counselled for many years at Basingstoke College of Technology.

Not long after setting up here our two lovely daughters arrived: we reckon they're a tribute to Bramley Primary School, even allowing for an element of local bias. We now have two lively grandchildren as well.

**BM: So what keeps you here?**

Sarah: Like many others, I consider it a privilege to live in Bramley. I've always tried to be involved in village life and various committees; Badminton, Playgroup, Silver Jubilee, Parish Council, School Governing Body, School Association, Bramley Fun Day 2014 and currently the Clift Meadow Trust.

We're trying to widen the opportunities for villagers to use the facility. The aim of the Trust is to make life healthier, happier and more interesting for the village. I knew the Clift brothers and their plan was to leave a cricket club as a thank you to the village for the 300 years their family lived there and to encourage the village to play more cricket. We're still hoping to have a Bramley cricket team, if someone wanted to lead one!

**BM: John – how did you come to be so interested in nature?**

John: I'm no expert! I just look at something I like and try to find out a bit more about it. I've always had an interest in bugs and beetles and how things work - I guess that's my engineering background. I don't want to preach at anyone.... just to make people aware of what's around them and some of the issues.

You may not believe this but I used to have a regular column in FHM magazine!!! Motoring advice, I hasten to add - but still, I used to be a bit embarrassed to go and see if the magazine was on the shelf!

**BM: I imagine you've seen many many changes over the years? And a few challenges?**

Yes, especially as so few people now work where they live. There are new people moving here all the time, great to use that new energy to take the village forward. It's also been nice to see people moving here from abroad - when we first moved here just going to Reading was almost a foreign trip!

Our biggest challenge is getting old! That and the increased traffic. Too much of it doesn't stick to the speed limit and can be quite dangerous.

**BM: What's the best thing about living in Bramley?**

Sarah: There are lots of lovely people trying to do good things - we need a bit more of that, as everyone is so busy.

John: There's lots to see and plenty to do. We have loads going on to whet the interest and all this nature around us...not a bad spot at all, I reckon!



John & Sarah Stubbs (right), daughters Carolyn & Jane and grandsons Charlie & Thomas.

Do you know someone who contributes to our community, who you'd like us to feature? Please email [editor@bramleymagazine.org.uk](mailto:editor@bramleymagazine.org.uk) or tell one of the editorial team.



## Priory School building project has begun

In last month's issue we told you our school was being significantly remodelled; the kitchen and staff room will change places, there'll be new toilets and new reception, library and resource areas.

Here are a few 'before' pictures of the work being done. As you can imagine we are all very excited and cannot wait to show you the 'after' pictures in the next magazine!



Lucinda Dunne



## Promise and possibility at Bramley Primary School

It has been an excellent term in which so much has happened! We have celebrated children's successes and marked the usual events such as Harvest and Remembrance. We were thrilled to welcome so many people to our open morning in October; the tours given by year 6 pupils were particularly well received.

It has been a term of change as ever in a school. We have successfully introduced the revised National Curriculum and evolved how we assess children in relation to end of year expectations. We have embedded our core values of Love, Faith and Hope, with each class promise reflecting the trio. In addition, we have also successfully implemented the universal free school meals for all infant children. In amongst it all, we have experienced some fabulous learning, with the Egyptian Museum and two residential particular highlights.

The spring term brings with it the real crux of the school year. It is the term when children really accelerate and maximise learning. Our continued collaboration with parents and families will be vital to enabling excellent progress for all.

We have some excellent performances from lower school children in the lead up to Christmas, along with Christmas lunch, BSA disco and a special Christmas concert on the

last day of term. We look forward to your continued support for our learning community.

Prayers and best wishes for all.



Andy Higgs, Headteacher

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## The Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme

A scheme allowing police to inform individuals if their partner has a history of domestic violence was introduced across England and Wales in March 2014.

The Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme, also known as 'Clare's law', is named after Clare Wood who was killed by her partner in 2009.

Under the scheme, anyone who is concerned that they or someone they know could be the victim of domestic violence can ask the police about a person's previous history of domestic violence or violent acts. The scheme also allows the police to warn an individual at risk of domestic violence rather than waiting for them to make a request.

The police can disclose information where it is necessary to protect potential victims from domestic violence.

### Domestic Violence Protection Notices and Orders

The police can issue a Domestic Violence Protection Notice and then apply to the magistrates' court for a Domestic Violence Protection Order to protect a victim from domestic violence.

Domestic Violence Protection Notices and Orders immediately protect a victim of domestic violence. The perpetrator can also be banned from returning to the home and having contact with the victim for up to 28 days. This gives the victim time to explore the options available to them. If a Domestic Violence Protection Order is breached, the perpetrator can be arrested and brought before the court.

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### Need further information or Help?

Basingstoke Citizens Advice Bureau, (located within Basingstoke Discovery Centre) can help you with queries you have on budgeting, benefits and debt, relationships, immigration, employment issues, and consumer rights. We operate a drop-in service 10-3.30 Monday to Friday (except Thursday) and Saturday mornings 10-12.

The Advice Line telephone number is **0844 245 1283**.

Online help from Citizens Advice can be found at [www.adviceguide.org.uk](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk)

## Clare's Law - The Domestic Abuse Disclosure Scheme



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## Little Apples of Bramley

We are the local pre-school who are in Bramley Village Hall every Monday – Friday in term time. Run by an experienced, well-qualified staff of Mums, we are committed to delivering a happy, safe and fun place for your child to learn and make friends.

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## Christmas warning from Crimestoppers

Here we are with Christmas snapping at our heels all over again. It doesn't seem possible; we've only just put away the tree from last year and finished the Easter Eggs!

As our shopping centres start filling to bursting point with shoppers, police are out in force to dissuade those inclined to help themselves from committing crimes.

There is an assumption from some thieves that stealing from shops is a victimless crime. Clearly that is not the case, and we all finish up paying increased prices to cover the cost of those who help themselves. In the current economic climate, smaller traders particularly can ill afford to have their stock stolen.

Often, shoplifting 'teams' will travel from outside the area to target a town, fill their bags, and then move on. Police will be at bus and rail stations targeting those that thought it might be a good idea to travel to Hampshire to steal someone else's Christmas.

Keep an eye on your shopping bags too. There are many distractions at this time of year, and if you have your young children with you, they too will be excited (even more excited than you!) and take more of your attention. It only takes a moment for someone to pick up one of your shopping bags and walk away with it. You may not even notice until you get home, and then wonder if you're going



mad as you were sure you'd bought.....

When loading your car in supermarket car parks, keep an eye on your trolley. Again, it only takes a moment for someone to walk by and take something from the top of your trolley while you are putting your handbag in the front of the car, or strapping your children into their seats. A bottle of spirits or even a joint of meat can easily disappear without you even noticing, and can be quite expensive to replace.

If you suspect a drink driver or have information about ANY crime, please do not hesitate to give Crimestoppers a call on 0800 555 111 or log on to [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org) where you can also give information and remain anonymous. For the tweeters among you, please follow me @HantsCrimestopp for regular Crimestoppers updates.

I wish you a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

PC 741 Simon Wright

## A reader's warning....

Last month someone entered my house and stole some jewellery. Even worse - I discovered that the last time I'd had the items valued was 1998. Since then, they have quadrupled in value - but I've learned to my cost that insurers do not automatically update the value with

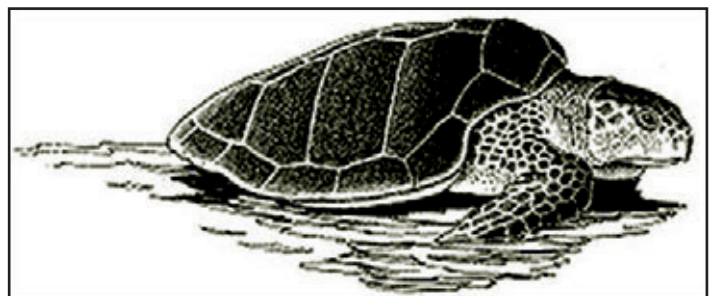
inflation. So if you haven't had your valuables valued for some time, it may cost a bit but it will be worth it. Most insurers require you to detail all items over £1000-2000. Don't get caught out like I was!!!

## Save wildlife – without spending any money

Did you know that many beautiful creatures die because of our rubbish?

There are two things that you can do very easily that will help.

Hundreds of turtles die every year because they eat floating plastic bags, thinking they are jellyfish. By knotting plastic



bags and film before throwing them out, firstly, they do not fly out of rubbish trucks easily, and secondly, they do not float, or resemble jellyfish if they make it to the oceans.

Many birds and some of our own wildlife die slowly and painfully when they put their heads through the plastic rings that hold cans of beer together in fours or sixes. These can be made safer by cutting through the rings before they go in the bin.

It is easy to think that these small measures are not worthwhile when there is a big world out there full of people not doing these little things. Well, every little must help, and at least you would know that your rubbish will not be lethal to a lovely animal. Please think about wildlife, and spread the word!

Catrina Stockwell



### JAM at St James's

In addition to the wonderful Shell Club for young children, we've recently begun a group at St James's for older children on Sunday mornings.

And we finally have a name for this new group too: JAM (Jesus and Me – not the laziest abbreviation ever for James, although it works for that too).



So if you have children between 9 and 14 or so, why not try it out? Come along to church at 10.30am every Sunday and we'll slip out after the first hymn and head upstairs in Cross House for games, discussion, quizzes and more. We're keen to try some more adventurous activities, such as making films, expeditions and drama sketches, so bring your ideas and let's get JAMming!

Alison Jones

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## Bramley & Romans Floral Society

Lorraine was our demonstrator for the November meeting. She called her demonstration 'Magic Moments' and each arrangement was based on a memorable day of her life. The first, a pink and green bride's bouquet complete with veil – Wedding Day.



Sunflower arrangement

The next design was a sail with red and orange roses and gerberas, and cream midelino sticks. It was finished with a bronze medal depicting the day her son won this medal for sailing. Her third demonstration reminded her of the day she ran her first half-marathon - an arrangement with sunflowers creating a sign post.

After these first three arrangements we had our usual break for home made cake & tea.

The next magical day for Lorraine was when she entered the Chelsea Flower Show – this was a basket full of greenery arranged to look like a wonderful garden with blue and mauve agapanthus. The final memorable day was when she entered the NAFAS National at Southport. This was depicted by a natural design with lots of green pussy willow.

At the end of the demonstrations we raffled off all the arrangements.

We meet on the first Thursday of the



'Wedding Day' Pink and green bride's bouquet

month at Sherfield on Loddon Village hall starting at 1.30pm – visitors are always welcome. Please contact Eileen on **01256 881125** for information.

Eileen Gulston

## Bramley WI

This month our speaker and demonstrator was Vivienne who lives in the village. We all made fabric wreaths, in red, gold and silver for Christmas. It was most enjoyable, as it was quite easy and you got results quite quickly. They all looked very pretty. A lot of members took more kits home to do in their spare time. Our very grateful thanks to Vivienne for coming along and giving us a delightful evening. She is involved in part of the shop called 'Pride and Joy' in the Old Bakery on Aldermaston Road in Sherborne St John. It stocks a lot of fabrics, including quilting cottons and patterns, and you can have a nice cup of tea and cake, a sandwich or even a cream tea! There are also craft lessons including knitting and patchwork.

The Bramley Belles are rehearsing for their performance at the Christmas Party on 11 December. If anyone would like to come along to this party it is in the main hall from 7.45pm, and there will be a light buffet and drinks while the performance is on. If you are interested can you let me know on 881647 - you will be most welcome.

Jane Matthews

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## National Women's Register - come to the film!

This was the invitation given by Pat Thomson to the NWR and, on 29 October, members made their way to Dollis Green 'Cinema'. In the darkness a small torch gleamed and in true old cinema style we were shown to our seats.

First on the programme was the newsreel by Universal then of course the cartoon - remember Gabby the Fire Chief? In the interval which followed, the usherette appeared (what a likeness to our member Rose!) bearing a tray with choc ices for sale. These had to be paid for in old money. Pat had found an old shilling and there were several three pence pieces like we used to find in Christmas puddings.

Once settled again in our seats the main feature was announced. Gasps of surprise as Greer Garson and Walter

Pidgeon's names come up and we knew that we were to be taken back to second world war time days with Mrs Miniver. 1939 and the day war broke out - the sirens sound and soon the Air Raid Warden is there demanding that the chink of light showing through the blinds be covered up. The "all clear" sounds and then life continues as the middle class family strive to carry on bringing up their children.

A wounded enemy pilot gets found and helped by Mrs Miniver who has a rose named after her, which of course wins at the local show. Father takes in a trip across the channel in the family boat and we see them down in the air-raid shelter as bombs fall around. Through romance and tragedy of death the drama carries on. The American 1942 romantic war drama was based on a 1940 novel.



What an evening to remember. Thank you Pat for the entertainment, great memories and delicious refreshments.

On 26 November the group will meet again in Dollis Green for the serious matter of discussion of the 2015 programme and we will then proceed to the Loddon Mill for a meal. Probably this magazine will not be out in time for you to come to that meeting but please feel welcome to come to the Christmas Party on 17 December at Jill's home in The Street at 7.30pm. New members will find friendship and fun. Please give me a call **01256 881296** or see [www.nwr.org.uk](http://www.nwr.org.uk)

Phyl Davies

## Bramley Lunch Club

The club met in Cross House on 13 November. As Christmas gets nearer, Phoenix Cards were invited and a representative was there so that members could buy their cards without the problems of going to town shopping.

Members were then each given a form called "Food and Drink Diary". This asked them to record the food they had the previous day. The information needed was quite detailed but presented little difficulty to our members as they remember items from early morning, breakfast, mid morning, lunch, tea, evening meal and bed time snack. Obviously not all had every item. For the purpose of the questionnaire they were reminded about such things as having milk with their cereals and how much fluid they needed.

On completion each was presented with a picture of the "Eatwell Plate." This will help them to see if their intake of food gives them the right balance. The "Plate" shows five sections and although every member had a different intake of foods they all had five items from the fruit and veg section, five from the bread, potatoes and pasta section, two from meat, fish and eggs and two from dairy foods. There is a purple section they could almost do without as it has items high in fat and sugar.

Good Neighbours Support Group recommended this survey to representatives at their recent AGM and supplied data. It gave rise to much interest and chat for members on how different we all are. One member likes cereals without milk and there's Arthur with a lovely diet including a couple of glasses of wine a day.

Time for our lunch and Judy and team served us up sausages, creamed potato and cabbage, with lots of lovely gravy. With the treacle sponge which followed we were all full up. After the general raffle there was a special raffle of an amaryllis for fund raising. There was a discussion about 11 December which is the 'Christmas' meeting with seasonal lunch and drinks. All are welcome. Please give Pat a ring on **01256 882441** or Judy on **01256 881053**. Phyl Davies

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**I**n October, 52 local children went on a Scout Camp in Farnborough. **Richard Newnham** tells us about an exciting weekend with a Remembrance theme, in memory of D-Day and World War One.

From air rifle shooting to a scavenger hunt, the activities were abundant at the Bramley Scouts Group camp this year.

Scouts, Cubs and Beavers all enjoyed a fun packed weekend under canvas at the Hampshire County Council run outdoor centre, Runways End, in Farnborough.



We all arrived on Friday evening and set ourselves up in our tents. The weather was good, which was a relief because the forecast was rain. Once we had settled in we were all fed and sent off on a night hike to 'take back control of the local airport, which had been taken over by the invading army'.

This successful sortie into the dark was followed by a good night's sleep and us getting up very early the next morning all bright as buttons.

Air rifle shooting, high ropes and a team challenge lay ahead that morning and the excitement over breakfast was tangible.

The day passed very quickly with all these amazing activities. Some of the group even made their own food after being taught how to light fires, using an axe and a saw. Most were taught how to make dough twists packed with strawberry jam or lemon curd.

After their tasty and healthy dinner, the group reassembled around a large campfire and spent the evening singing songs and making merry. For the older children, there were further games in the dark. Bed was relatively early and thankfully it was a quiet night for all.

The next morning started with breakfast, followed by Scouts Own, a great way to reflect on the plight of others or on the sacrifices others have made for us.

Next were the team games led by the Scout leaders. The Scavenger Hunt was a favourite, together with an obstacle course and tower building.



The Sunday was finished off with prizes for those who had shown outstanding behaviour and bravery throughout the weekend.

The group would like to extend their gratitude to all those who helped make this weekend unforgettable for all those who were there.

Deserving a special mention is the organiser of the event, John Crampton-Haywood, who arranged the whole program and brought the whole thing together. We must not forget those who fed all of us for the whole weekend - a BIG BRAVO to Neil and Alison Smith.





# **Bramley Lighting of Christmas Tree and Carols with Tadley Concert Brass**

**Saturday 6 December  
Bramley Village Bakery  
5pm**

# **Carols in Little London**

DID YOU COME TO St STEPHEN'S LAST YEAR?  
WERE YOU HOLDING A PRESENT?

This year we meet on

**Sunday 7th December**

And we might be going 'crackers'

Location:- **St Stephen's Church**

Time:- 6 p.m.

FOLLOWING THEIR APPEARANCE LAST YEAR

**THE KJJ TRIO**

(that's Ken, Judith and John to you)

WILL AGAIN BE ACCOMPANYING THE SINGING

The evening will conclude with mince pies  
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If you require transport please contact us on

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## **OUR CHRISTMAS SERVICES**



### **BRAMLEY VILLAGE BAKERY**

**Saturday 6 December**

Carols, Readings, Lighting of Christmas tree, mulled  
wine and mince pies

### **ST JAMES'S CHURCH, BRAMLEY**

**Sunday 30 November**

10.30am Christingle Family Service

**Sunday 21 December**

6.00 pm Carol Service

### **Wednesday 24 December – Christmas Eve**

5.00 pm Crib Service

11.30 pm Midnight Communion

### **Thursday 25 December – Christmas Day**

10.30 am Christmas Family Communion

### **ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH, LITTLE LONDON**

**Sunday 7 December**

6.00 pm Carol Service

## **Bramley Scout Group**

### **Local Christmas Card Delivery Service**

Would you like someone else to hand deliver  
your Christmas Cards for you?

Then the Bramley Scout Group can help.

Post boxes will be located at Sherfield Shop,  
Bramley Bakery, Clift Meadow Surgery  
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28th November – 11th December.

Delivery to residents in **Bramley** or  
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(excluding Sherfield Park) only.

Please make a donation of not less than 20p  
per card (in a separate envelope).

Please ensure all cards are  
properly addressed.

**Thank you very much  
& have a  
very Happy Christmas!**





## The true meaning of Christmas is ... ?!

Do you get to the beginning of the School holidays and find that you still haven't wrapped the presents, bought the turkey and replaced the tin of biscuits you ate last night?

Then why not book your children into the Christmas Holiday Bible Club in Cross House on Christmas Eve? The day will start at 10.30 and there will be crafts, games and singing to keep the children entertained.

More importantly, the children will be able to learn about the true meaning of Christmas by taking part in the Crib Service at 5pm. Much of the day will be spent preparing for this – there will be rehearsals in church and costumes to wear. There will also be a party tea to sustain the children through their Oscar-winning performances.



The children will be occupied all day and you can join us in church at 5pm to sing some carols and see your children take part in the crib service.

The event is for all children between the ages of 4 and 12. There will be a small charge of £2 per child to cover materials and tea.

See the flyer below for further information and please book ahead so that we know how many to cater for.

The Shell Club team



Little angels at last year's crib service



## Christmas Holiday Bible Club

Cross House  
St James, Bramley

**Christmas Eve**  
**10:30am to 5pm**

**(when we will then perform at the Crib Service)**

**Come and join us for a day of craft, games, singing and take part in our Christmas Nativity at 5pm.**

**Don't forget a picnic lunch – a snack tea will be provided.**



**For 4 to 12 year olds**

**Email us to book your place:**

**[bramleyshellclub@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bramleyshellclub@hotmail.co.uk)**



**F**undraising and camping are just some of the many activities that have kept the **Bramley Scout Group** busy this term. **Jodie Saunders** tells us what they have been up to, and how they can help deliver your Christmas cards.

Before half term the scouts learnt to pitch tents and tie knots, went hiking and circuit training (not on the same night), played skittles and launched rockets. Meanwhile the cubs have also been pitching tents and tying knots. In addition they tried to light fires on the wettest night in October (some did succeed), went orienteering and enjoyed playing Wide Games. The beavers have been working towards their friendship challenge badge and

their communicator badge, as well as taking part in lots of fun games and fundraising.

One of our cubs, Oscar, organised a very successful sponsored run for the beavers and cubs. The participants were very committed and completed many laps of the school field. The money is still coming in, but so far nearly £450 has been raised for the British Heart Foundation. Well done Oscar for organising it all!

Over half term, we held our Group camp (see separate article) which was attended by most of our members and we also volunteered to help the British Legion



Oscar raised £450 for British Heart Foundation

with their Poppy Collection around the village. Our members (and their all-important parents) collected nearly £900, which has significantly helped the British Legion's fundraising effort in Bramley this year.

We have also had a couple of our members achieving the highest award for their section. Jack has earned his Chief Scout's Bronze award and Euan has completed his Chief Scout's Silver award.

In the run up to Christmas the scouts will be enjoying bonfire evening by building a fire and guys to put on it, learning to map read and going climbing in Reading. The cubs will be modelling and painting clay, decorating biscuits and enjoying a well-deserved go-karting trip. The scouts and cubs are also planning a night of carol singing around the village on 15 December, so keep your ears peeled for them and show them your support. The beavers will be visiting the fire station, meeting a pilot and a policeman and decorating biscuits before ending the term with a well-earned party.

Finally we will, once again, be offering our Christmas Postal Service around Bramley and Sherfield-on-Loddon. If you have any Christmas cards that you would like us to deliver to your friends and family in these two villages, please put them in one of our special post boxes (see separate advert on p18 for full details).



Scouts helped raise £900 for British Legion



## Pamber Parish Council Notes

**Pamber Parish Council meeting, 10 November 2014.**

### St. Stephen's Hall, Little London

A grant of £1,000 was approved for St. Stephen's Hall. The money will go towards the cost of carrying out essential repairs and it is hoped that the work can now be started very soon. Booking details for the hall are available on the parish council website.

### Budget 2015-2016

Work has started on preparing the budget for the 2015/16 financial year but this cannot be finalised until January as information regarding available grants will not be received from the Borough Council until December/January. It is hoped that the council will be able to increase the grant that is made available towards the maintenance and running of St. Stephen's Hall. There will be further consideration of the budget at the December and January meetings.

### Emergency Plan

Minor changes to the Emergency Plan were approved at the meeting in order to bring it into line with the latest government guidance. Some additional contact numbers have been added and there is a change in the order that the information is presented: the emergency rest centres for the south ward remain the same. The revised version of the plan will be made available on the website.

### Meeting Dates

The dates for meetings in 2015 were approved and details may be found on the website and on the notice boards. Meetings are generally held on the second Monday of the month (except August) and start at 7.30pm. There are occasionally variations and so it is advisable to check if you wish to attend a meeting. As there will be parish council elections in May, the annual meeting will be held on the third Monday of the month in order to comply with government regulations.

The members of Pamber Parish Council wish all parishioners a very Happy Christmas and send their best wishes for the New Year.



The next meeting of Pamber Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Monday, 8 December 2014 in St. Stephen's Hall, Little London and on 12 January 2015 in The Memorial Hall, Pamber Heath. All parishioners are welcome to attend. Details of meetings are displayed on the notice boards and on the website

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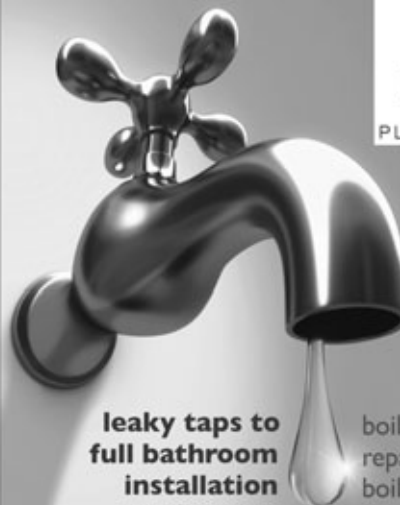
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# The Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust is celebrating a huge funding boost of £39,934.00 from SITA Trust for their project "Hook Common/Bartley Heath Conservation Grazing Project" in North Hampshire.

Hook Common and Bartley Heath is an area of lowland heathland, a priority habitat for conservation, and a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Before the modern road network and Junction 5 of the M3 was in place the area was one open expanse of heathland that was kept open by grazing livestock, periodic burning and commoners cutting trees and scrub. During the 1900s agricultural changes led to a decline in these activities and the fragmentation of the area by roads. This led to lack of management which in turn led to secondary woodland establishing in some areas and a loss of many of the rare plants that were present.

Over the last couple of years the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust cleared much of the secondary woodland and put up over 5.5km of stock fencing to facilitate grazing the area with livestock. The funding that has been provided by the SITA Trust



Livestock performing conservation grazing.

will fund the purchase of a herd of British White cattle that will enable the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust to take the project through the next stage by providing conservation grazing.

Grazing Hook Common and Bartley Heath with the British White cattle, a rare breed of cattle, will have several benefits to the habitat. They will browse on young birch trees that grow up on the heathland, preventing it turning into secondary woodland again. The grazing will reduce the dominance of purple moor grass on the heathland. Purple moor grass forms dense tussocks that shade out other specialist heathland plants, such

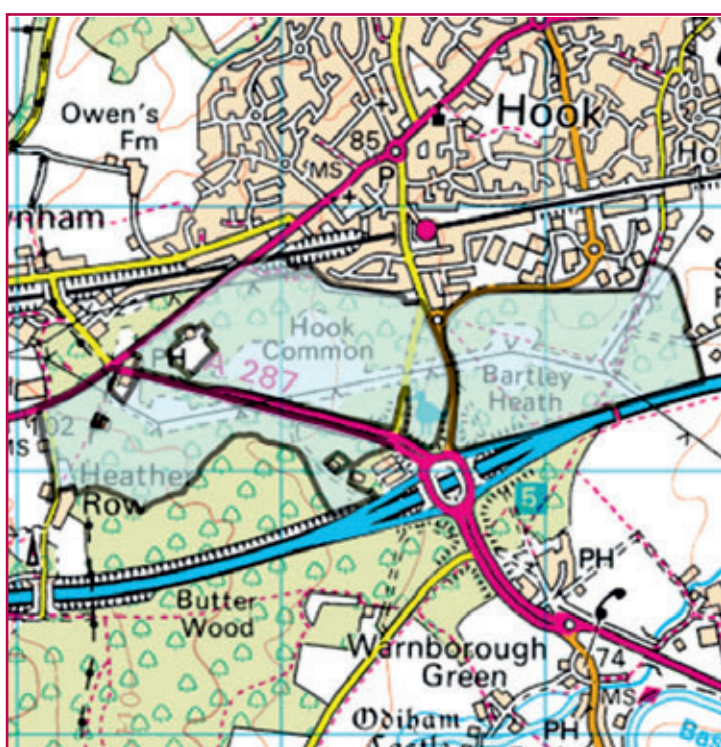
as heather. With appropriate levels of cattle grazing these tussocks will be reduced and the botanical diversity of the heathland will improve. The cattle will also provide ground disturbance, poaching, via the action of their hooves in the wet ground. This will create bare ground that will allow germination opportunities for specialised heathland plants.

Jools Granville of SITA Trust added. "the panel of biodiversity experts that consult on our enriching nature applications were supportive of this project as a best practice appropriate management for these sites and were aware that British White cattle are a good hardy breed that are suitable for extensive heathland grazing. "We are delighted to have been able to support this project through the Landfill Communities Fund"

SITA Trust provides grants through the Landfill Communities Fund. This important source of funding has been available since 1997 and has provided such worthy projects with more than £1.3 billion.

If you would like to get involved with the conservation work that is going on at Hook Common and Bartley Heath, either by helping check the cattle or getting involved in some hands on conservation work, then please contact:

Guy Mason on  
[guy.mason@hiwwt.org.uk](mailto:guy.mason@hiwwt.org.uk)  
 or 01256 381190.



Location of Hook Common and Bartley Heath



## Hampshire & Isle of Wight



## Little Apples prepare for Christmas

We have had a very busy autumn at Little Apples nursery, getting to know lots of new children and their families, which is great.

The children have enjoyed activities and learning based around "Me and my world" and autumn as well as talking about Halloween and Remembrance.

We've been able to play out in our garden a lot. The children have been looking for signs of autumn and winter and made bird feeders to help take care of our native wildlife. Here, one Little Apple has saved a tiny spider he found inside; he was keen to reunite the little creature with its family, while his friends enjoy practising writing and drawing. This is not just something we do inside, on paper! Inside, especially when the



rain has been too heavy to play outside, lots of different activities can help support physical development writing. Games such as threading help develop fine motor skills and also maths development as we count and measure. Most importantly though – it's fun!

Soon we will be thinking about Christmas and getting ready for our Christmas performance on December



19th. This will be followed by our Christmas party and hopefully two very special visitors – a wizard and Father Christmas.

We are lucky this academic year to be taking part in the "Keep on talking" programme being run by Hampshire County Council in conjunction with Bramley School. As the name suggests, this training and enhancement scheme is focused on developing communication and language in under fives. As well as talking and speech sounds, this covers social communication, understanding, listening and attention and is a great opportunity to help all children develop their communication skills.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas!

Jo Whatley, Joint Manager

## Could you knit for a good cause?

On 28 October, members met at Dusty's home in Bramley Green Road. There was a fair attendance but it has become obvious that it is important for us to have more members in order to do the work we have been asked. This is to contribute to the supply of jumpers and slip-overs for children at night, mainly in Zimbabwe.

Revive and Thrive, one of the charities we help, needs small jumpers for children aged up to three and we now also help Knit for Peace with any knitted items. Blankets are needed by them all. Please come and join us, either at our friendly monthly meetings, or by knitting at home. If you knit at home, a simple pattern is available and, if you call Edna, she will deliver wool.

In October, Margaret brought along six of her lovely knitted blankets. Pat Jones finished off her so colourful red crochet blanket, while Dusty was making hats in red and green. Avril, June and Phyl stuck to making jumpers for Zimbabwe, while Sarah finished off a pretty lavender coloured one and has enough wool for another.

Thank you to Jay Hudson who has

joined the team as a home knitter making squares. As Nelly, our chief knitter of squares, moved away this has come at just the right time. Hopefully Phyl's crochet, learned at the recent Discovery Centre workshop, will become better and the squares will be crocheted together.

There was an exchange of news and ideas until it was time for a break and, with coffee and tea, Dusty produced her lovely coffee cake and very special fruit cake, made in her slow cooker.

There was an interesting discussion about recipes: such a help and bonus to add to our usual clickety-click side of things. You can see how informal and friendly the group is so please come, give us a try and help the good work.

On 25

November, we will be at Jill's in Meadow View, The Street but, possibly by the time this magazine reaches you, the December and January venues will have been decided. So please give me a call on 01256 881296.



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## **Bramley PC**

It has been a busy two months for the Parish Council and much has been achieved, but not everything we set out to do. The best news is that we filled two of the vacant Parish Councillor positions in October and a third vacancy will be filled in December. I would ask you to join me in welcoming Councillors Pat Murphy and Chris Clarke who joined us in October; I will announce our third new member next month.

### **What have we been doing?**

As you are aware we are promoting safety in the community and hope to gain access to considerable funds to help us move this project forward. A recent Basingstoke and Deane Cabinet Decision gives us one year to develop the proposal which will focus on safety and access around the level crossing area and the C32 road leading to that location. Alongside this longer term project we have been considering requests for financial support from the Clift Meadow Park Trust, Village Hall Trust and those responsible for Cross House. I am pleased to announce that we have been able to make significant contributions to all three and we will all see and benefit from upgrades to

those important community facilities. Other projects are still being worked on with the Borough Council to provide facilities in other locations around the Parish.

### **New Roundabout on the C32**

We have heard much from residents regarding the new roundabout under construction on the C32 at the junction with Campbell Road. Our Councillor responsible for highways and transport has been doing his best to help resolve traffic flow problems in the immediate area; we will continue to render what assistance we can, although our ability to influence is limited. At this point I do want to clear up one misconception and that is that the Parish Council did not support plans for the four-exit roundabout currently under construction.

### **Flooding in Coopers Lane**

For those in Coopers Lane we are working with the County engineers to resolve the flooding and pot-hole issues at the northern end of the roadway. Hopefully by the time you read this that issue will have been resolved.

### **Planning Applications**

We have no update on the any potential "Strawberry Fields" development, however the Minchens Lane application will be reviewed by the Borough's Development committee on December 3rd this year. We will post the outcome on our website as soon as it is available.

### **Local Development Plan**

Regarding the local Development Plan the inspector has given his initial thoughts, and we will post his report on the web site.

The next meetings of Bramley Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 15 December 2014 and on Monday 19 January 2015 in the Bramley Room, Bramley Village Hall. All parishioners are welcome to attend. Details of meetings are displayed on the notice boards and on the website.

Website: <http://bramleypc.co.uk>  
Maxta Thomas (Clerk) **07810 692486**

Cllr. Anthony Durrant,  
Parish Council Chairman

## **Neighbourhood Planning, November 2014**

The results of the housing questionnaires have been analysed. There were 453 replies in total.

The results confirmed previous comments that the community prefers the idea of housing on a site to be at a lower level, in keeping with a rural aspect.

Percentages:

51% voted for maximum of 50 houses per site.  
16% voted for maximum of 100 houses per site.  
26% voted for other levels of housing, from zero up to 900.

This included 51 replies that said no housing. In line with the local plan, from a Neighbourhood Plan perspective, this is not possible. Therefore, if that number is taken out of the analysis, the percentages

increase to:

57% saying 50 houses max  
18% saying 100 houses max  
17% saying other levels (which spanned in the main 10 houses up to the 50 mark - the missing percentages are taken up by figures of 150 and 200 houses per site)

The residents saying zero housing are not to be ignored but, in writing a policy on housing which conforms to the local plan, the figure zero cannot be considered. However, once more this indicates the concern of the community that Bramley has taken enough development and that housing numbers in the future should be low. As was written in one comments section: "enough is enough".

The re-edited policies of the Neighbourhood Plan have been

produced and are waiting to be proof-read. Comments have been received from the planning officers of BDBC and they are encouraging. Taking into account their comments, we are nearing a plan that will be acceptable, meeting all the strategic requirements. The formatting of the plan will be completed in November. Presentation will then be made to BDBC for the 6 weeks sustainability assessment, and to the PC and the community for approval. Further editing may be required before presentation for independent examination, prior to a referendum.

Thank you to all those residents that took the time to respond to our questionnaire. Your answers and comments are the basis of the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Malcolm Bell, Chair

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**I**t's a popular, if prickly, feature of Christmas decorations. Bramley Magazine's nature writer, **John Stubbs**, marvels at the myths surrounding the humble holly.

For us, of course, they come in very handy once a year; the brilliant colours, the sort of deep, glittering gloss that sergeant-majors used to dream about. For the tree, though, they're organs, as vital as lungs are to us. These leaves are clever as clever, for lots of different reasons, some of which might not be immediately obvious.

Holly opts out of the usual autumn routine. Most of our trees pack up for the winter, storing away their hard-won magnesium by breaking down the green chlorophyll to give us red, russet and yellow leaves, before dropping them all over the place for us to sweep up. Light-duty leaves are too much like hard work for a tree to keep in good

nick all the year round; when there's not much sunlight, why bother? The holly's prickly versions, though, are much more durable. They'll be good for more like four years, and will be at work all the year round: they gain a better share of what sunlight there is as soon as the competition literally drops off. Durability, though, costs. A strong, substantial leaf that's there all the time is going to get eaten when there's not much else to munch – hence the prickled edges. And it's no good having floppy spines, so they're curved to give rigidity and thickened

to keep them sticking out. The shape of the leaf reduces damage from weighty snow, as it's easily dislodged, and the thick cuticle and waxy surface are important to reduce water loss in dry, frosty conditions.

The higher leaves, over say a couple of metres aloft, will have much less prickliness, as cattle and other browsers won't bother them so much. For this reason, in medieval times the upper branches of holly were cut and used as winter fodder, much less problem than drying and storing grass crops, and highly nutritious. Deer and ponies, it seems, will chew off branches and leave them to rest for a few days before eating, this presumably making them more digestible, or perhaps just a bit easier on the tongue.



Holly is a genus of 400 to 600 species of flowering plants in the family Aquifoliaceae

And it's probably around the period in history when winter fodder was hard to come by that a lot of the superstitions surrounding holly became widespread. The range of funny ideas is surprising, the facts a little obscure. For instance, it's bad luck to cut down a holly tree – having one near the home protects from lightning and improves fertility. In hedgerows, the holly must be allowed to grow above the level of the rest of the hedge – so that witches (who, of course, fly along hedgerows) are much discombobulated. I'd have thought

this might have caused even more aggravation, with road-rage added to their normal less-than-benevolent disposition. However, that was the received wisdom. Not a bad idea, of course – the holly in hedgerows makes a good wind and stock-proof barrier, the higher growth can be used for fodder and, apparently, when you're ploughing, occasional taller trees make good reference marks on the horizon to get a straight line (especially after one too many ploughman's lunches, perhaps).

It has been suggested that the pointy leaves of holly somehow discharge atmospheric ionisation, making lightning dispersion a credible claim. Bit dubious about that one; I really can't see how a thunder cloud at six miles up is going to worry about some

knee-high prickles. It would be a tricky one to evaluate, though, and certainly fewer holly trees are struck than oaks.

My guess is that a lot of these myths and superstitions were rather like our present day urban wisdom. For instance, we have a government 'nudge unit': this exists to more or less covertly change our

behaviour – pay your taxes, drink less, walk instead of drive, cut down on the doughnuts. Who could object? Must be better than more EU legislation, surely... It could be the same as our feudal overlords saying you mustn't cut the holly, as they wanted a good stock of it, just reinforcing their argument a bit to make sure the message got home. Did we swallow that sort of thing, or did we always realise it was just a leg-pull – a bit like present day election promises, some might say?!



## MOVING HOUSE – PLAN AHEAD

Moving house can be a potentially stressful time. There is a lot to organise – packing, removers, utilities, surveys, mortgages, new schools etc., and delay in the conveyancing process can be a factor. So what causes delay? Certainly one factor is the number of people in a “chain”. You may be ready, but if (for example) your buyers’ buyer is still waiting for a mortgage offer, then nothing can happen until that is received. Everyone therefore moves at the pace of the slowest “link”. It is most important that the estate agent thoroughly checks the “chain” before you consider accepting an offer.

You should choose a solicitor or conveyancer with whom you can establish a good working relationship to deal with this major financial transaction for you. In choosing a solicitor, you should consider using a local firm, which can offer the following advantages :-

- You know the individual solicitor who will be dealing with the matter, so that you do not speak to someone different every time you call.
- You can ensure that it is a solicitor (or Chartered Legal Executive) dealing with the matter from the outset – not an unqualified person “supervised” by a solicitor.
- Being able to meet and discuss matters face to face can be very beneficial, especially when difficulties arise or matters need to progress rapidly.
- Use a firm with a depth of expertise. You may need assistance in future on a range of issues, so establish a relationship with a firm that can advise on more than just your house move.
- Use a solicitor if possible recommended by family or friends – consider avoiding some estate agent recommendations where the conveyancing firm is many miles away and recommended because of “referral” payments the estate agent receives from that firm.

Unfortunately, you cannot always avoid a certain amount of stress with a major undertaking such as moving house, but advance planning and careful choice of adviser can reduce this.

Contact Jane Beaven or Neil Henson or visit our website.



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**M**any of you have told us how much you enjoy using the **Basingstoke Discovery Centre**. Here is a full list of their **events for December and January**

### Work of the LT Museum & the role of the Friends

Thursday 4  
December,  
2pm / £3

Barry

LeJeune is

Chairman of the London Transport Museum Friends.



He will look at the role of the London Transport Museum and its Friends in preserving London's transport heritage. He will also describe two recent, major projects: the restoration of a Victorian Metropolitan Line coach, as part of the celebrations of 150 years of London Underground in 2013; and the restoration of a 1910 B-type bus in 2014 as part of the commemoration of the outbreak of World War One.

### Reindeer & Stars

Saturday 13  
December 10:30  
am or 1:30pm /  
£10



Ages 10 – Adult (Under 16's must be accompanied by a ticket-paying adult)

Take a break from shopping and have fun making some rustic Christmas decorations in our willow workshop. We will be making tiny reindeer, lots of simple stars to hang in your windows and a little woven tree.

### Christmas Craft

Monday 22 December, 10 am -  
12noon / FREE

Tuesday 23rd December, 2pm – 4pm  
/ FREE

Wednesday 24 December, 10am -  
12noon /FREE drop-in

Festive themed craft activities.  
Ages 7+



### New Year Craft

Monday 29  
December, 10am  
- 12noon / FREE

Tuesday 30  
December, 2pm  
– 4pm / FREE

Wednesday 31 December, 10am -  
12noon / FREE drop-in

Festive themed craft activities.  
Ages 7+



### Astronomy Presentation

With John Stapleton

Thursday 15 January /  
details TBC

As a taster to the Stargazing Live Event, join members of the Basingstoke Astronomical Society for fun presentation of our solar system and what we can expect to see in our skies this coming March...



### Cupcake Workshop

Saturday 31  
January / 1:30pm  
– 3:30pm / £12

There is something for everyone - from those less experienced to those that make cakes more regularly. Please bring four undecorated cupcakes, all other equipment is provided.



### Beginners Camera Workshop

Saturday 24 January /  
10am – 4pm / £35



Learn to use all your camera settings and functions with confidence. Join experienced photographer, Geoff Read, for a fun and practical session to help you understand ISO, aperture, composition and lighting. Suitable for DSLRS and Bridge cameras. Explore a basic editing programme and dabble in Macro and Portrait Photography. Make sure you bring a fully charged battery with your camera, empty memory card and handbook if you have one.



### Make a Basket in a Day

Saturday 17 January,  
10am – 4pm / £35



Come and spend a fun day learning a new craft and go home with a lovely basket you've made yourself. Beginners are welcome to come and make a small round basket.

### Knit and Knatter

December 29 /  
10am-12noon /  
FREE

Take pleasure in meeting other friendly knitters at regular meetings throughout the year.



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

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<https://twitter.com/BasingstokeDC>

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Keep an eye out for our January-April 2015 brochure, due to come out early December.

Tickets for the following events will then be available to purchase.

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If you are still looking for a festive venue then check availability on [www.bramleybookings.org.uk](http://www.bramleybookings.org.uk) or ring our Bookings Secretary on 01256 881125.

Our new website will be launched before Christmas and have details of events and activities coming up in 2015.

**Wishing all our regular and occasional users a merry Christmas & happy New Year**

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# BEN WHEELER Pianos

<b>Mondays</b>  <i>Parish Council Meetings</i> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month Village Hall  <i>Pilates</i> Clift Pavilion <i>Zumba</i> Cross House 9am <i>Beavers</i> School Hall <i>Cubs</i> School Hall <i>Badminton</i> Village Hall <i>Trail Runners</i> 7.30pm Clift Meadow car park	<b>Tuesdays</b>  <i>0-5 club</i> Clift Pavilion <i>Dance Club (Petite School)</i> Village Hall <i>Slimming World</i> Clift Pavilion <i>Zumba</i> 7 pm Cross House <i>Community Choir</i> 7pm Sherfield School <i>Short Mat Bowls</i> Village Hall <i>Badminton</i> Village Hall <i>Karate</i> Primary School Hall <i>Bell Ringing</i> St James's	<b>Wednesdays</b>  <i>Rainbows</i> Village Hall <i>1<sup>st</sup> Bramley Brownies</i> Village Hall <i>Scouts</i> Village Hall  <i>Pilates</i> Village Hall <i>Circuits</i> 8pm School Hall <i>Trail Runners</i> 7.30pm Clift Meadow car park
<b>Thursdays</b>  <i>Bramley &amp; Romans Floral Society</i> 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday, Sherfield on Loddon V Hall <i>WI</i> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday, Village Hall <i>Lunch Club</i> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday Cross House <i>WI Lite</i> 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday, Village Hall  <i>Legs, Bums &amp; Tums</i> 9am Clift Meadow Pavilion <i>Dance Club (Petite)</i> Village Hall <i>Dance Club</i> Primary School Hall	<b>Fridays</b>  <i>Fitball</i> 9.15am Clift Meadow Pavilion   <b>Saturdays</b>  <i>Dance School</i> Village Hall	<b>Sundays</b>  <i>Church services at St James's Bramley &amp; St Stephen's Little London</i>  see Church Diary on page 5

### 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	Eileen Gulston	881125	Bramleybookings.org.uk	Bookings
School Hall	Julie Francis	881339		
Badminton	Jane Matthews	881647		
Bell ringers	Terry Cooper	881102		
Brownies	Suzanne Cox	07920 822221	suzanne-cox@hotmail.com	Now Weds only
Beavers, Cubs & Scouts	Jodie Saunders	881113	communications@bramley-scouts.org.uk	
Community Choir	Dorian Edwards	07825 616759	www.singhealthy.co.uk	
Country Music	Roy Seymour	07917 744780		No children please
Dance Club (Petite)	Louise Onslow	883568		
Exercise classes	Caroline Sherlock	07845 217901	caroline@this2thisfitness.co.uk	
Floral Society	Joyce Rawlinson	889040		
Guides	Emma Seal Patrick Croombs	07867 550399	emma_seal@waitrose.co.uk patrick.croombs@hp.com	
Lunch Club	Pat Jones	882441		
Royal British Legion	Chris Holland	883486	bramleyrbl@gmail.com	
Short Mat Bowls	John & Pauline Walker	881065		
WI	Anne Porter	881691		
WI Lite	Sarah Spencer		k_srah@hotmail.com	
Little Apples	Jo Whatley & Sian Davies	886408	manager@littleapples.org	
Trail Runners	Richard Perkins		richardperkins@yahoo.com	
Zumba	Julie Spencer	07765 066651	info@ca-boom.co.uk	





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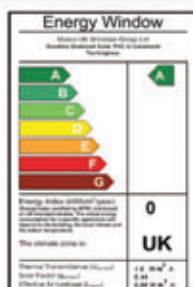


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