

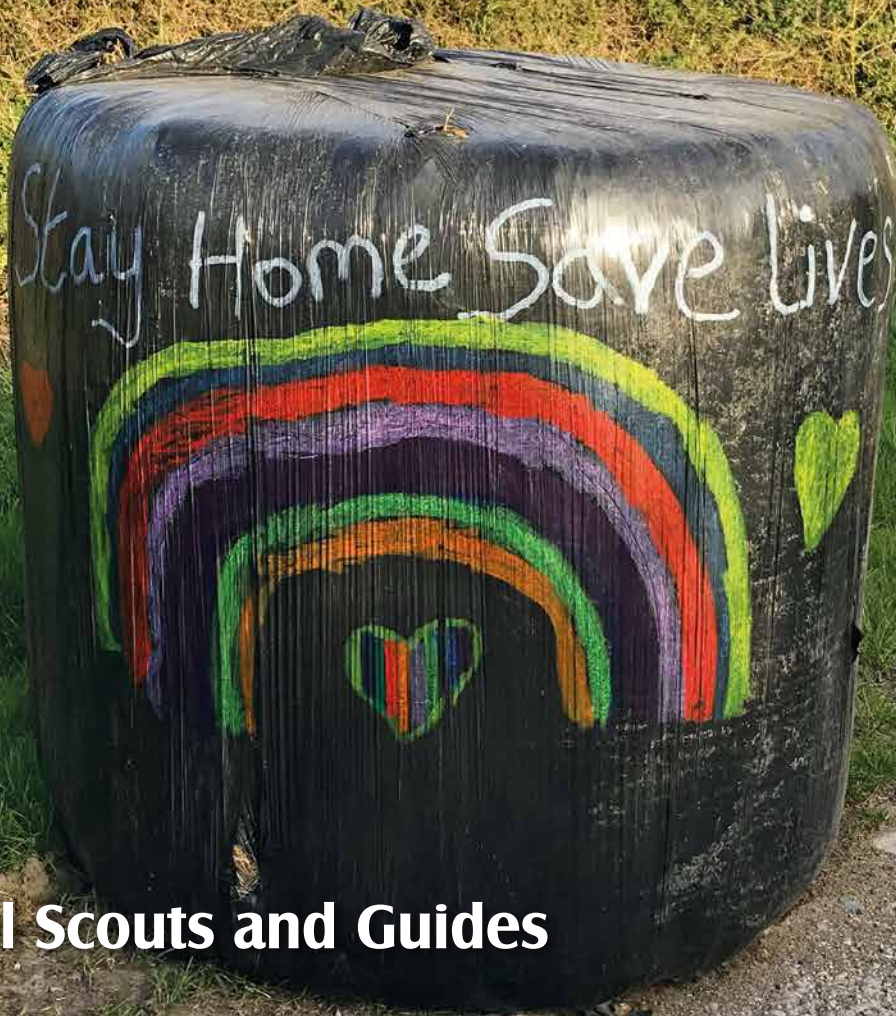
May 2020

The

BRAMLEY

FOR BRAMLEY AND LITTLE LONDON

Magazine



- **Virtual Scouts and Guides**
- **Helping our NHS**
- **Coronavirus information**

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The Bramley Magazine

for Bramley and
Little London

May 2020

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*Produced and delivered by the Church
for the benefit of the community.*

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

Cover photo:

Rose Aslett's Rainbow

So, how is lockdown treating you? I've decided it's a bit like Marmite – some days you love it, other days you hate it. I'm loving spending more time with my family, going on country walks together, having a break from the school run, listening to the birds and not having to do any dusting (well, no-one's visiting so who's going to know!). I'm hating not being able to visit my wider family and friends, trying to understand Year 7 maths, watching my grey roots growing at an alarming rate and not being able to escape to Costa for my favourite mocha. And while having my husband in the house 24/7 is much better than I feared it would be, I do think we need to change the marriage vows: *For better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in self-isolation...*

Overall, I am adapting pretty well and finding more positives than negatives. However, I appreciate for some people it is very hard. If you are working long hours while trying to home-school or are stuck inside without a garden it must be very challenging. I do believe, though, that we will look back on these days as a special time when a lot of us were able to slow down a bit, reconnect with our close family and enjoy the simple pleasures in life. I spoke to one family (from a safe 2m distance) who had lived in Bramley for 10 years and visited all the National Trust properties in the area, but had only just discovered the Frith.

Of course, we are very lucky to be in lockdown at a time when technology is so advanced. Zoom has become my new best friend. I had never heard of it before March but now I am using it most days for meetings, catch-ups, church services, etc. I'm actually seeing more of some friends than I used to. Last week we had a Zoom cocktail party with friends from as far afield as Cumbria and Cardiff. There was no expensive drinks bill, no worries about driving home afterwards or missing the last train. Usually we meet up two or three times a year and exchange the odd phone call. Now we chat once a week for a couple of hours.

Whether you are in self-isolation or still working full time, I hope you will find something to interest you in the magazine. We have a word search, a crossword and code word to keep you occupied and there are a few other ideas to while away the time on page 9 and in Michael Luck's article on page 11. If the garden is as far as you have travelled recently, then do take a look at the photos on page 16 and 17 and bring some of the local countryside back into your life. For those still enjoying a daily walk, why not try Gwen Owen's ABC of trees on page 18? And if you want to know how you can help others, read about our inspiring neighbours on page 8.

Take Care and Stay Safe

Rachel

Rachel Barclay Smith, Editor

Why we delivered the magazines

There may be some of you who, quite understandably, question why we are continuing to deliver the magazine. I would like to reassure you that we did not take this decision lightly but thought long and hard about it, consulting with our deliverers, the printers and the Bramley Community Facebook members.

The vast majority of our deliverers confirmed that they were happy to continue delivering the magazine and some even offered to do extra rounds. Our printers, Greenhouse Graphics, advised that those finishing and packing the magazines wore latex gloves. They also pointed to research showing that the virus is killed by the printing process and only lasts for a very short time on paper and cardboard (a much shorter period than on your mobile phone.) This is borne out by the fact that newspapers and magazines are still on sale and the post office is continuing to deliver letters and parcels.

Once we were sure that there would be no risk to our deliverers or readers, we conducted a Facebook poll which showed that 192 people wanted the magazine delivered, compared with 51 who preferred to read it online and six who wanted to collect it from the Church or OneStop.

We also considered the fact that a lot of people who are self-isolating or living alone do not have access to the internet and so the magazine is one of the few ways they can keep in touch with what is happening in the community and find out how to access help.

Finally, we advised all the volunteers to wear gloves when delivering the magazine and follow the usual social distancing rules. We put a message on Facebook advising people who didn't want the magazine delivered to put a note to that effect on their letter boxes.

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St James Church, Bramley

Due to Government and the Church of England regulations regarding the COVID-19 Coronavirus, the church is currently locked, and services will not be conducted in Church for the time being. Once restrictions have been lifted, services will resume in the Church.

At this time, we are holding **virtual services on Sundays and special occasions** using Zoom. For further details about how to access these services, please look at the St James Church Website www.StJamesBramley.com

or the St James Church Facebook page www.facebook.com/stjamesbramley

or contact Steve Day
on 07341 552732

Virtual Church – in Real Time

Who would have thought that Sunday mornings could be such a blast?

Back before the lockdown (remember that?) we were holding three services at St James's on a Sunday morning, each of them very different from the others, each with its own regular attendees. On most Sundays, we get 80-90 people coming along over the course of those services – young and old and in-between, families, couples and people on their own.

But in late March, of course, we all went into lockdown. The Church of England decided that churches must close, since social distancing is quite impossible to maintain when you get together for worship. What could we do then?

Well, wonderfully, we have quite a few people in our congregations who are tech-savvy. We tried out a couple of things: I recorded a Communion service for YouTube, and on Mothering Sunday, the first Sunday we were locked down, I did a Facebook Live talk. But then we hit on the idea of holding a Sunday service on Zoom – and launched it for the first time the following Sunday, the day the clocks went forward, wondering if anyone would respond to the email invitation.

The result was truly astonishing. We had scores of people logging in on their devices, and they all loved it! A typical comment on one email I received said: "Congratulations to you and your team for a truly amazing experience. Who would have thought it, just a few months ago, that so many of the church community could come together in such a fashion? Warming and uplifting." And we've kept it going every Sunday since then. On Easter Sunday we had 84 screens logged in, and by my rough calculation, that probably means over 150 adults and children were present for the service. Extraordinary!

We open the meeting at 10 o'clock and people log in from all over Bramley and Little London – and also from other places, with congregation members inviting relatives and friends to join in, because they don't have their own services to attend. At our most recent service, we had visitors from Scotland, Yorkshire and New Zealand! The greetings and chatter go on for half an hour, and then at 10.30, everyone's microphones except the leader's are muted, and we start the service with a welcome and a prayer. In the course of the service, we sing a couple of hymns or songs accompanied by backing tracks, have a children's activity, listen to a Bible reading and a short talk and join in the prayers. It's a really simple format – and somehow, it all works wonderfully. Personally, I thank God for the technology which makes it all possible and the skilled people who manage it.

If you'd like to join us on a Sunday morning for this virtual service, you'd be very welcome. The lockdown is going to last for a while longer – and this is a great opportunity for you to try out our church in a very pain-free and unobtrusive way. Elsewhere on this page you can see how to register for it, and we'll send you the details of how to log in. Do come and stick a toe in the virtual water: we'd love to have you there!

John Lenton

From the Registers

Funerals

Edna Margaret Louisa JOHNS, at West Berkshire Crematorium, on Wednesday 1 April, 2020.

Paul Jonathan Peter HILL, at Sherfield on Loddon Burial Ground, on Thursday 9 April, 2020

Adversity does not build character,
it reveals it.

James Lane Allen, writer



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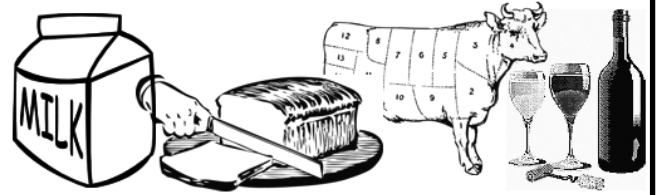
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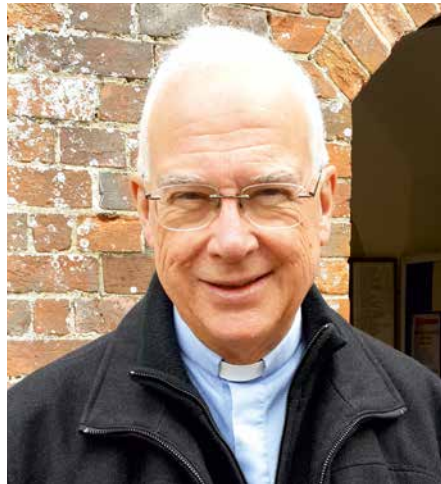
When our two children were in their mid-teens, one of our in-laws gave them a videotape of *Red Dwarf*, the BBC sci-fi comedy, for Christmas, and they were instantly hooked – and after a while, so was I, despite wondering if I really ought to ban it, given it was rather rude in places and the language not exactly suitable for family viewing. But it really was very funny, and in the end I grinned and bore it, and several pieces of dialogue have become part of our family lore.

One scene in particular comes to mind: Lister and The Cat are sitting at the controls of a little space vehicle, travelling through outer space, searching for the other two characters, Rimmer (a hologram) and Kryten (a humanoid) who have vanished down a Time Hole. Lister turns to Cat and says in broadest Scouse, “It’s no good; it’s three weeks we’ve been searching for them. We ain’t gonna find them.”

“Nope,” agrees The Cat. “Face it, they’re gone, buddy.” Pause. Then he grins. “But hey, look on the bright side: *they’re gone, buddy!*”

By the time you read this, we will have been in lock-down for six weeks, and probably none of us will know even by then how much longer it’s to go on after that. Perhaps another six weeks, who knows? Maybe longer? Face it, life might not return to normal for a couple of months or more yet, buddy. But hey, look on the bright side: *life might not return to normal for a couple of months or more yet, buddy!*

There’s nothing funny about this virus, of course. Many of us have lost people we knew and loved to Covid-19, or have seen friends and family go through really hard times of suffering, physical, mental, financial, emotional or whatever, as a result of the pandemic. Nothing can soften those blows.



Rev'd John Lenton

But for those of us fortunate enough to be spared the sickness or the hardships of losing jobs and businesses, there actually is a bright side to the lock-down.

Parents and children are spending unprecedented amounts of time together. For many children, this period may well stand out as a special memory, a time when Dad played with them in the garden during the day, Mum showed them how to make pancakes, Dad read them a story and it wasn’t even bedtime, the whole family went for walks together, helped to make a den in the living room, played Monopoly in the evening. And even when the new term starts, Mum or Dad will be there supervising the lessons, trying to remember how to do long division or what the capital of Peru is.

The absence of traffic, the quietness of the roads, the deserted streets and pavements of our towns are apparently bringing a significant drop in atmospheric pollution levels, as well as encouraging birds to sing and small wildlife to emerge into the open. The dawn chorus is singing at the top of its voice, and it sounds louder and closer than in previous years.

Communication with distant family and friends has seen a dramatic rise. In our own case, our son in California phones us on FaceTime every weekday for a chat and an update. It’s unheard-of; before the lockdown we had a call every two or three months, if we were lucky. If we wanted to chat, we had to phone them – but tended to hold back, so as not

to be a nuisance. Those days are past. Much-loved faces appear on the phone or the monitor and we chat happily for ages. We call friends and siblings on Zoom and spend time group-gossiping. It’s wonderful!

Above all, our country, so hopelessly divided at the end of 2019, has come dramatically together, united against the Coronavirus, united in its applause and support for the NHS and its staff, united in helping the vulnerable and the elderly in our communities, united in offering to do things for our neighbours. Regardless of political allegiance, everyone was rooting for Boris to get well. We are all pulling together in the same direction; the turmoil of Brexit seems remote, a thing of the past.

One of the favourite songs at our regular informal service, Sunday@ nine, acknowledges that life is a mixture of darkness and light – but declares that through all the ups and downs, we still bless the Lord’s name, because His goodness is evident even in the bad times:

Blessed be your name
In the land that is plentiful,
Where the streams of abundance flow,
Blessed be your name!

And blessed be your name
When I’m found in the desert place,
Though I walk through the wilderness,
Blessed be your Name!

Every blessing you pour out I’ll turn
back to praise.
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still
I will say...
Blessed be the Name of the Lord!

Yes, these are dark times; but look on the bright side! The Lord doesn’t leave us alone; He stays with us through good and bad, dark and light, sad and joyful. We will eventually come through this time; and He will still be with us on the far side of it. “Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age,” He promised us at the end of St Matthew’s Gospel. We can trust Him to be there with us through thick and thin, thank God.

We may not have been allowed out to **Meet The Neighbours** this past month, but some people in Bramley have found wonderful ways to help others. **Bramley Magazine** has been speaking to some of them.

Bramley Telephone Team

Beckie Bethell was inspired to set up a telephone network after a 'phone call with her dad. The group has rapidly expanded and now collects prescriptions, too. **Beckie told us:**

"We moved to Bramley 10 years ago. We had good friends who already lived here and loved the village, plus the train link was useful as both of our children then went to school in Reading.

"I set up the Bramley Telephone Team primarily to keep in contact with those who were about to become isolated. The idea came after chatting with my father who lives alone in Spain. He was getting confused about the evolving situation and wondering how he would cope. It quickly became a lot bigger and now, with our amazing volunteers, we not only do calls but pick up prescriptions and help with shopping.

"The community response has been amazing. Thanks to Emma setting up the Bramley Community page we have over 70 volunteers and have been able to help a lot of households.



Beckie Bethell with her horse, Vibe

It has been great getting to know so many lovely people who are having to isolate and real friendships are being formed.

"We have had some very unusual requests! Due to confidentiality I cannot name them but, trust me, we have had some giggles and even been able to help with some of them.

"Keep being lovely, Bramley! I really hope the friendships being formed and the amazing community spirit lasts for the years to come."

If you want to support the Telephone Team, or need help yourself, please call Beckie on: 07427 434042

NHS toiletries

Ingrid Woodhouse saw a plea from a nurse at Basingstoke Hospital, saying staff and patients needed toiletries. **Ingrid writes:**

"At the end of 2017 my family returned to the UK after 13 years in New Zealand. As a Basingstoke girl, we returned and chose Bramley as it was somewhere I knew from many years ago. Bramley is our home and we have settled well with many friends.

"Our family are avid fundraisers and have supported many charities over the years. For various reasons, in the current situation, I am unable to work, however that does not mean I can't help.



Staff at Parklands hospital, Basingstoke, with donated toiletries & treats



Ingrid Woodhouse with her husband, Mark, and son, Osten

"I saw someone ask for items for the nurses and patients, so I quickly asked what they needed. I put out some requests for toiletries, hand creams, tea & coffee sachets, treats and coloured pictures. Very, very quickly the response was - and still is - overwhelming. The donations arrive and my family distributes. The thanks we receive as a community for these donations makes it so very worthwhile.

"At the end of the day, what really matters is that your loved ones are well, you've done your best and that you're thankful for all you have." #Staysafe #Tomorrowwillbeagoodday

If you want to donate toiletries for hospitals, please contact Ingrid: igwoody@icloud.com

Food for Paramedics

A group of Bramley residents have been delivering snacks to Bramley Community Responders and paramedics at Basingstoke Ambulance station. With long shifts, many call outs and extra cleaning, the teams are struggling to find time to eat. Pre-packaged snacks, fruit, snack pots, cakes and biscuits have been gratefully received – and more are needed!

You can leave donations at **Bramley One Stop Shop**, or contact **Bramley Green Larder** - sarah@bramleygreenlarder.co.uk



Paramedics at Basingstoke ambulance station with donated snacks



Just some of the donations



Thank you to Christine Barton for taking this photo

USEFUL LOCAL INFORMATION

Opening hours (correct at 18 April 2020)

One Stop

Monday to Sunday: 7am to 9pm

Post Office

Monday to Sunday: 8.30am – 5.30pm

Bramley Bakery

Monday to Friday: 8am to 3pm

Saturday: 8am to 2pm

Sunday: 8am to 1pm

Provisions

One Stop (01256 881258) and **The Shop in Sherfield** (01256 882234) are both delivering groceries to people who can't get out.

Elm Park Garden Centre is delivering garden supplies – 01256 850587

The Spice Room at the Bramley Inn is delivering takeaway food on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays – 01256 881580 or 01256 882506

Help and support

Bramley Telephone team – call Beckie on 07427 434042 (see page 8)

Hampshire Coronavirus Helpline –

'Hantshelp4vulnerable' – seven days a week, from 9am to 5pm, on: 0333 370 4000

And see important information on **page 31**

Leisure time

Lots of local attractions are adapting to the lockdown. Here are just three examples but I'm sure there are many other local activities we can get involved in and businesses we can support, so do share any ideas on the Bramley Magazine Facebook page

Jane Dunton is running an online singing group.

See her Facebook page - **The Online Singing Community Studio**

The **Musication Station** is a free community music project from Anvil Arts and has online activities for all ages and abilities. See their Facebook page

Join **Hampshire Libraries** on their Facebook page for lots of daily activities

If you are missing your trips to The Vyne, why not watch these YouTube videos:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=JAPjJ9SRFho>

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=QU3GNZk_gwo

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=5kBqG-AW9Q>

If the theatre is more your thing, **Newbury Corn**

Exchange is running an Armchair reviewers' session. You can watch a free streaming of a National Theatre production and then share your thoughts and comments with other watchers <https://cornexchangenew.com/event/armchair-reviewers-club>

Some light relief

We all need a bit of light relief at the moment so thank you to these friendly dinosaurs who visited Clift Meadow in April - we hope to see them again!

Thank you from Cherry Blossom Care Home

This is a photo of Pixie who is in Year 1 at Bramley Church of England Primary School. Pixie kindly delivered letters to our residents, made by the children in her class. These letters really lifted the spirits of our residents in this hard time of not being able to see loved ones.

Staff and residents at Cherry Blossom would like to thank all of you in our community who have thought of us and sent their support and thanks in forms of letters, posters, knitted gifts and treats.

We would also like to thank everyone for the respect shown by kindly leaving their gifts in our basket at the front of the home. All gifts are distributed evenly.

Angela Macquillin

Cherry Blossom Care home would love to receive more letters or cards from young people in the village. They are much appreciated by the residents, especially those who have no family members. Please post direct to Angela Macquillin at Barchester Homes, Cherry Blossom Care Home, German Road, Bramley, Tadley, Hants.



Wordsearch

E	L	R	T	H	R	U	M	E	Y	E	D	V	A
C	R	H	I	Z	O	M	E	R	E	S	B	M	T
S	M	A	U	T	E	Z	A	P	A	U	I	Y	E
U	L	E	B	M	U	V	D	E	N	O	E	C	P
O	O	A	N	E	I	E	E	T	N	I	N	O	A
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T	N	P	E	R	E	N	N	I	A	L	H	N	I

PETIOLE	PERENNIAL
THRUM-EYED	DIOECIOUS
GERMINATION	MONOECIOUS
CULTIVAR	ARIL
PIN-EYED	MYCORRHIZA
EVERGREEN	TEPAL
DRUPE	ANNUAL
SEPAL	BIENNIAL
UMBEL	RHIZOME

Some more light relief

Did you hear the one about John Travolta testing negative for the coronavirus? It turns out it was just Saturday Night Fever.

In an unsettling reversal of my teenage years, I am now yelling at my parents for going out.

So many coronavirus jokes out there, it's a pundemic.

Day two without sports. Found a young lady sitting on my couch. Apparently, she's my wife. She seems nice.



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Lockdown

I began writing this on Easter Saturday. As I sat down, my phone pinged a reminder from my diary: 'Coffee Duty tomorrow', after the Easter Sunday service. And I thought: I would give anything to be doing coffee duty tomorrow because it would be normal! I have deleted some things from the diary, but every now and again I get a reminder of what we should have been doing. A meal with old colleagues in Winchester: gone. School Reunion: gone. And so on. This month would have been the start of our 'grandparent duties' every Monday as my daughter went back to work after maternity leave. We were looking forward to having Oliver once a week. Now we have to content ourselves with video calls. Oliver believes we live in a little box in my daughter's hand.

But new things have arrived in my diary. Friday drinks with friends in the 'Zoom Bar'. How fortunate we are to have the ability to keep up with friends and relatives remotely. I can still work from home, as I often do anyway. There are different treats in store for us. Today I will be watching a rerun of the Headingley Test Match last year and pretending to myself it is live, to bring some semblance of normality. I know that many of you are binge-watching TV series or reading the books that have sat unopened for 'when I have more time'. Well, we have plenty of that now.

I know that this is hard for many. NHS staff in particular are suddenly on the front line in a war against an invisible enemy. Many have lost earnings. We are all getting used to a relatively new word (to us): furlough. We are doing small acts of kindness for people who were previously strangers, and they to us. At the time of writing, it seems that this will continue for many more weeks. With that in mind, here is a challenge for you all, as you sit wondering what to do next.

I read in the Times that the poet Liv Torc has invented a 'new' form of poetry: the Haiflu. Actually, it's not new. The Haiku is a classical Japanese form of poetry consisting of precisely 17 syllables arranged as three lines of 5, 7 and 5. The new Haiflu should capture some aspect of life under the lockdown. This has fascinated me, and as we all have more time on our hands, with the Editor's permission we will have a competition with maybe the best one or two published next month.

A lady called Demi Anter wrote this, which can serve as an example:

Porridge for the twelfth/Damn day in a row: I am/now made of porridge.

And here is my own effort:

Garden's looking nice/My wife is toiling daily/I just like to watch.

Email your entries to Rachel: editor@bramleymagazine.org.uk. Good Luck!

Michael Luck

Do send me your attempts at a Haiflu. If you're not on email just give me a call on 541251 and I can collect them from you. Rachel

Spirit of Community

I have been particularly struck by the sense of community in this country during this pandemic. This is highlighted by the NHS clap, the amazing volunteers and rainbows among so many other things. In Bramley there is a strong online community, where people offer help and advice daily, plus laughs, and no one needs to feel totally alone if they extend a hand. But there is a wider community who doesn't or can't engage with social media and they mustn't be forgotten. This magazine is a powerful way of keeping the community informed. One of the things that binds a village community together is tradition, such as annual events that bring everyone together as active participants or as observers.

The **Bramley Show** is one of these traditions and has been going for 34 years. Many older residents will be familiar with the event, which was initially a horticultural show, but many new families have joined this village and may not know what a village show is. Yes, there is an element of competition, but it isn't just about being judged. It is about taking part with other local people, learning new things and having fun.

This year the show may take on a different format, but it will happen. However, it needs this wonderful village community to support it. Right now, we have time on our side to learn new things, rediscover previous interests and have fun. The categories for this year's show will be on the web site from 1 May, so take a look and help to continue this tradition by planning an entry, or two or three

Check the web site www.bramleyshow.org.uk Email: thebramleyshow@gmail.com

And don't forget the **Scarecrow Festival** begins in July, so start planning! We want a bigger and better display this year!

Sue Howell

Lunch Club

Hi, Lunch Club Members –



I hope you are all well and coping with the current situation. When our next meeting will be remains to be seen, but hopefully your telephones will be ringing soon, with a date for our next lunch together.

We wish Christine a speedy recovery after her recent operation and also wish her 'Happy Birthday' for the end of April.

A donation has been sent to St. Michael's Hospice in memory of Jill who died last month.

Take care everyone.

Freda Clark

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Bramley Parish Council

Life feels a bit strange right now, but the Parish Council is still working away in the background on behalf of Bramley residents. As you might expect, the lockdown has had an effect on how we are working, and on one or two projects.

Parish Council meetings are suspended for the moment. Measures have been put in place to enable the day to day running of the Council, and details of these can be found on the Parish Council website here: <https://www.bramleypc.co.uk/en/legislation-and-policies/890-high-consequence-infectious-disease-policy>. The Clerk is working as normal and will respond to any queries sent to her at parishclerk@bramleypc.co.uk or by phone on 07810 692486.

Sadly, the playground refurbishment at Clift Meadow has been delayed due to the lockdown. Work was due to start on 20 April – this has been tentatively delayed to 4 May, but if the lockdown continues, it's reasonable to assume that this may be delayed further. We are keeping a close eye on the situation.

Also on the subject of Clift Meadow, please note that the tennis court, ball court, playground, and multigym equipment are CLOSED for the duration of the lockdown. We appreciate that people may want to use these as part of their daily exercise; however, government guidance dictates that they should be closed, and our PCSOs have backed this up.

Many of you will be aware that the big meeting at the end of March to deal with the Manydown planning application (ref 17/00818/OUT) was postponed due to the lockdown. We do not have any rescheduled dates as yet, but the

planning application can still be viewed and commented on at the Borough Council website here: <https://planning.basingstoke.gov.uk/online-applications/>. Remember, the outcome for this application is likely to have a direct impact on possible development elsewhere in the Borough, including Bramley.

Finally, we would like to give a big thank you to all those in the Parish who have volunteered in the last few weeks to help out those who are self-isolating, unwell, or otherwise unable to get out to the shops. They have made an enormous contribution to the community, and special thanks should go to Beckie Bethell, who has co-ordinated the volunteer response. If you are interested in volunteering, or would like some assistance, please contact Beckie on 07427 434042 or by email at d.bethell@virgin.net

Stay safe everyone.

Maxta Thomas

Parish Clerk

Dr Judith Darmady OBE

Tributes have been pouring in for Dr Judith Darmady OBE, who died at Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital in April, after contracting coronavirus.

Appearing on Good Morning Britain, Dr Hilary Jones paid a special tribute to a woman who touched the lives of so many in Basingstoke. Dr Jones said: "I wanted to pay tribute to Dr Judith Darmady who died at Basingstoke. She was an amazing paediatrician; she saved the lives of two of my children and treated my eldest for diabetes."

Dr Darmady was also a great supporter of a Romanian orphanage that cared over the years for a group of orphans that had been infected with HIV blood, tirelessly raising money to provide for them. She lived in Sherborne St John and came along to services at St James from time to time, as well as regularly attending the Music Festival.



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VIRTUAL GUIDES

As a Guide, my Wednesday nights were always filled with various fun activities as I worked on interest badges and skills builders with the other Guides in my unit. We were divided into three groups, each doing a separate skills builder: Live Smart in Skills for My Future, Network in Know Myself and Feel Good in Be Well.

All that has changed now. However, thanks to technology, we can still do those interest badges and the activities that go with them. Our Guide Leaders have been giving us ideas and instructions on how to do these activities and skills builders through Facebook videos so we can carry on with them at home. Although it is not as fun as going to a proper Guides meeting, it does give us more flexibility as we can choose when to do our activities. I have been doing some during the Easter holidays and as part of the Feel Good skills builder I have prepared a fitness guide and a fruit 'rainbow' showing why different coloured fruits are good for us.

I can't wait for this lockdown to end, but until then, I'm glad I have things I can keep pushing on with.

Sophia Barclay Smith, 1st Bramley Guides

Normally, we look forward to sharing some of the achievements of our wonderful pupils across the curriculum. However, **Bramley School** is a very different place at the moment, as Head of School, **Steve Moore**, explains.

Since closing to the vast majority of pupils, we have been busy exploring new and exciting ways to engage our pupils in learning from home. The way we see it, Bramley C of E Primary is still going strong. We still have nearly 400 pupils who we are extremely proud of but instead of learning together in one building, they are currently learning across approximately 250 buildings within the area.

Learning from Home

The staff at the school are currently producing weekly Home Learning packs for children to access at home. The packs include engaging tasks which focus on consolidating learning across english, mathematics and topics. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents for all of their efforts in delivering the learning packs to the children whilst at home. This is not easy! In a recent Bramley Bulletin, I shared my experiences of 'home schooling' my own children...

If you have found it a challenge, please don't worry. My wife has done a fantastic job with my two daughters whilst I've been at school. Several Fridays ago, it was my turn! All I can say is that I'm glad Ofsted weren't in the area! Give me nearly 400 Bramley pupils any day! The tears and tantrums interrupted nearly every task – luckily I managed to dry my eyes and pull myself together in order to complete the day. It was my toughest day teaching in 15 years! So, please don't worry if you have had similar experiences. It's absolutely okay not to complete the tasks, or to cuddle up and watch a film instead. The most important thing is your child's well-being. Keeping them happy and safe with some reading thrown in too is great.

In school...

As you know, we remain open for a select few children. It has been incredibly quiet with so many people following the Government's guidelines and making arrangements to look after



their children at home. As a result, we have a very small staff team in each day to look after the children and provide them with a range of learning experiences and lovely experiences including planting in the allotment, roasting marshmallows on a campfire and, most recently, the children wanted to create a banner thanking the key workers for their dedication, bravery and hard work (see photo). Most importantly, we make sure that they are cared for and that they enjoy themselves in the hope that they don't worry too much about their parents, many of whom are working in incredibly difficult circumstances.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the fantastic key workers we are lucky to have within our community. It truly is a privilege to be able to look after just some of the many children whose parents are real life superheroes. If there is anything that we can do to further support you, please let us know.

New entrants

This is the time of year when parents and children find out where they will be taking their first steps into the school environment. Although this year is slightly different to previous years, it is important that we embrace the anticipation, excitement and nerves which are all part of the build up to starting school.

If your child has been allocated a place at Bramley Church of England Primary School, we very much look forward to welcoming you. Being in the same situation with my eldest this time last year, I know how you feel. Please rest assured knowing that we will ensure that a full and thorough transition programme is implemented,

meaning that your child will make the successful step into the next phase of their education. We will be in touch to outline our plans very soon.

Although this is a very challenging time, we have been urging people to try to remain positive and embrace elements of a simpler life. Our values of Love, Respect and Courage seem all the more relevant at the moment. We are living through a unique time which we hope we will never experience again. As humans, we are resilient by nature and thrive when challenged. This is a challenge but it is one we will get through.

Stay safe and take care.



Bin collections

From Monday 20 April Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council will collect your grey waste bin fortnightly instead of weekly. This is a temporary change during the COVID-19 pandemic. Your recycling collection will take place as usual and your waste bin will be emptied on the opposite week. Your collection day will not change. There's lots more information on the council's website here <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/covid-19-bins-and-recycling>

- If you have a grey 140 litre waste bin you can leave out two additional bags for collection.
- If you have a large family you can apply for an additional bin if you do not already have one.
- Assisted collections will continue.



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They were the Millers

At a Royal British Legion Committee Meeting (long before the lockdown) we thought we had spotted a typing error on the War Memorial in St James Church. There are two Leading Telegraphist Millers listed: a Leading Telegraphist Albert Miller RN from the Great War and a Leading Telegraphist HJ Miller GC RN Subs from WWII. Surely they couldn't have both been the same rank and the same name? Well, Miller is not an uncommon name so I thought it was unlikely they were related, but it warranted some further investigation.

Leading Telegraphist Albert Joseph Miller served in the Royal Navy in the Great War in submarines. He was in HMS E-50 which was lost at sea with all souls aboard on 31 January 1918. He was 21 years old. It was assumed HMS E-50 hit a mine and sank without trace.

Leading Telegraphist Henry James Miller GC was born on 28 November 1900. He joined the Royal Navy in 1918 and eventually volunteered for submarines in 1934. He joined HM Submarine Unity in January 1940. The following is an excerpt from an article written about him by Rhydian Vaughan in the Bramley Magazine a few years ago.

At 1730 hrs on 29th April 1940 Unity sailed from Blyth for Norway. The weather was poor, with visibility down to 200 yards as Unity moved out of the harbour. In the main channel the Norwegian ship Atle Jarl was proceeding inbound, part of a convoy from Scotland to the Tyne. Neither vessel was aware of the other until the submarine spotted the ship 50 yards away on a collision course. There was just time to shut the bulkhead doors and order the engines astern before the Atle Jarl slammed into the submarine at 1907 hrs.

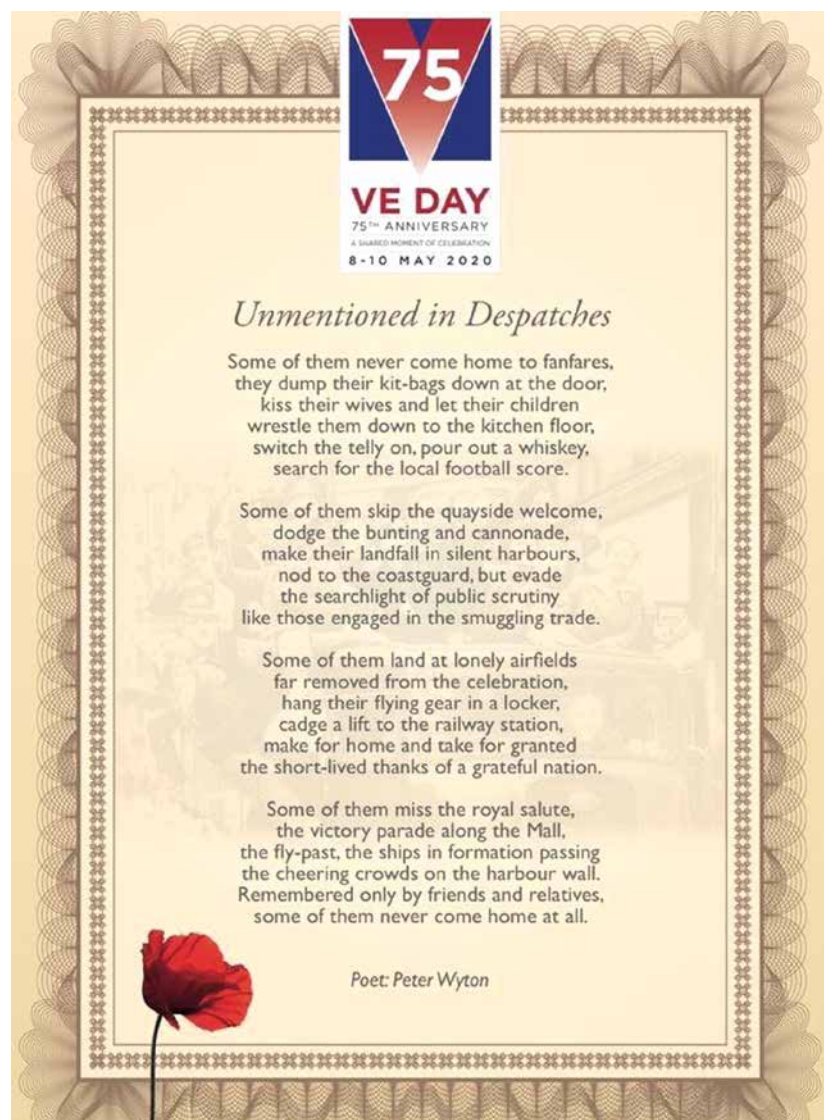
Although the submarine sank in five minutes, all the crew bar two escaped from the stricken vessel. Those two, Lt JNA Low & Able Seaman HJ Miller, had been on duty in the control room. When the order to abandon ship was given, they were instrumental in helping every member of the crew to escape in those five minutes, resulting in the selfless sacrifice of their own lives. Both men were awarded a posthumous Empire Gallantry Medal, later exchanged (in September 1940) for the George Cross, upon its inauguration. Their names are inscribed on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.



So, what is the connection between the two Millers who died in two different World Wars 22 years apart; both in the Royal Navy; both serving in HM Submarines; both Leading Telegraphists; both lost at sea with no known grave?

Albert was Henry's elder brother.

Steve Day
Branch Treasurer
Royal British Legion



We are very fortunate to be surrounded by such beautiful countryside and lots of you have captured the magic of Spring and the spectacular sunsets on your daily walks. Here are a few photos taken by **Neil Owen, George Aitchison** and **Georgina Blake**.

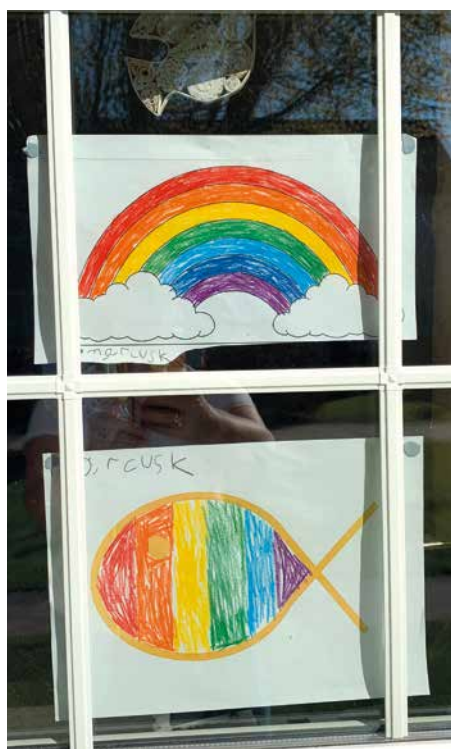




Rainbows

As you have been walking around Bramley and Little London you may have seen pictures of rainbows in some windows. They have primarily been drawn by children to offer a message of hope to the public during the coronavirus lockdown. Some children from Bramley School have also put up pictures of the rainbow-coloured fish, which they usually wear on their jumpers. Here is a picture by Marcus Knowles, aged 5 and a very artistic one made by Ingrid Woodhouse.

If you have painted a rainbow, do email a photo of it to editor@bramleymagazine.org.uk and I can include it next month.



An ABC of Trees....for adults and children

Compiled by Gwen Owen

How many of these trees can you find when you are taking a walk in and around Bramley and Little London?

Some species are used as hedging plants in gardens or can be found in hedgerows. A few of the plants below are not trees. It's not easy to find a tree for every letter of the alphabet!

Which are evergreen and which are deciduous? Some have culinary or medicinal uses and some are poisonous. Which of the plants are associated with Christmas?

For more information check the Woodland Trust website. www.woodlandtrust.org.uk, the Royal Horticultural Society website www.rhs.org.uk or Usborne Quicklinks www.usborne.com/quicklinks/eng/ (click on nature and outdoors).

A	Ash	
	Acer	
B	Blackthorn (sloe)	
C	Conifer	There are lots of different kinds. How does a conifer differ from other trees?
	Cherry	
D	Dogwood	
E	Elder	Tiny flowers appearing now...good for making cordial later in the year!
	Eucalyptus	In one very long road (there's a clue!) in Bramley there are 4 in a row. Rub the leaves and notice the smell. Which animal is associated with the eucalyptus tree?
F	Fagus sylvatica (Latin name for beech)	
G	Gorse	Flowers almost all the time. An old saying goes 'When gorse is out of blossom, kissing's out of fashion'
H	Hawthorn	
	Hazel	
	Horse Chestnut	
I	Ivy	
J	Juniper	
K	Kerria japonica	A shrub with yellowy orange flowers that look a bit like pompoms
L	Laurel	
	Laburnum	
M	Magnolia	
N	Norway Spruce	
O	Oak	
P	Poplar	
Q	Quercus robur	See also 'O'. This is the Latin name for English Oak. There are other types of oak too such as Quercus ilex, the Evergreen Oak which has bark that spirals clockwise.
R	Rowan	
S	Sycamore	
	Scots pine	
	Sequoiadendron giganteum	Or Giant Redwood/Wellingtonia. There is one in a prominent position in Bramley. This species is the biggest (by volume, not height) in the world, but has the tiniest 'leaves', really scales. Press the bark, it is 'spongy'.
T	Tilia	Lime – no relation to the citrus fruit!
U	Yew!	
V	Viscum album	A hemiparasite that grows in trees
W	Willow	
X	Ilex aquifolium	Latin name for common holly or English holly
Y	Yucca	
Z	Zea Mays	You will not see this growing at this time of year but you will most likely have some of the kernels in your kitchen cupboard or freezer. This plant provides a snack to be eaten while watching a film. This plant is sometimes used to create a maze. Got it yet??

Proudly Scouting on:

The Scout Association prides itself on getting young people out in the 'great outdoors' and equipping them with 'Skills for life', although, like everyone else at the moment, we've had to embrace the 'great indoors'! On 16 March, all face-to-face Scouting was cancelled, for the first time in the organisation's 113 year history. However, in keeping with our ethos, we were 'prepared' to shift online and wasted no time in doing so. Our dedicated and resourceful leadership team managed to organise, plan and run our first online Cub meeting via Zoom ready for our next scheduled session on the 23 March – in which we showed off our pets and projects, along with frantically searching our houses for scavenger hunt items!

As leaders, our commitment to building resilience, and to facilitate (virtual) social interaction of our young people has proven to be a huge success - not to mention great fun for young people and leaders alike! The programme meetings have included Scavenger hunts, 'Kahoot!' Quizzes, and much, much more... We've also created a competition for the sections with loads of challenges and badges which can be completed at home. We know that this will be a tough time for all of our young people, many of whom will not understand what is going on around them. Therefore, we hope that our actions provide some sense of stability and – by providing activity ideas for parents and guardians – ease some of the household stress mounting during lockdown.

I'd like to say a huge thank you to the parents for their support and feedback. This has been a learning curve for all of us; by the time we return we'll all be tech wizards!

If you're at home looking for things to do, the Scout website has over 100 "great indoors" activities on their website for everyone to take part in (even if you've never been a Scout): <https://www.scouts.org.uk/the-great-indoors/>

Please do take a look and let us know how you get on: harrison.gorst@silchesterscouts.org.uk



Although we can't wait to get back out camping again, Bramley Scout Group will continue to be there for the young people in our community throughout this period and back to normality.

Harrison Gorst
District Youth Commissioner (Silchester District)
Assistant Leader: Bramley Cubs and Scouts

O What A Wonderful Scene

AfterEaster Productions in association with The Carrot Club and the Phyl Davies Music Trust present an 'entertainment' at some point in 2020.

The entertainment is a "spin off event" to Cross House @ 25. Various spin off events were planned to take place around July 2020, but due to the current climate this will be extended to the end of 2020. It is hoped some of the spin off ideas will take root for the future.

The entertainment will take place at either Cross House or St. James Church, Bramley, or possibly both, and will be a live performance with some 'remote/virtual' overtones. We hope one item will be a group of singers performing the last item of the popular cantata *Captain Noah and His Floating Zoo*, which celebrates its fiftieth anniversary this year. This last item, which is called *O What A Wonderful Scene*, is very appropriate at the moment as it describes a 'Rainbow', something children have been making and displaying in their windows over these past weeks.

If you search YouTube for *O What A Wonderful Scene* you should find performances by choirs/singers (I would

recommend this as a learning tool but also as some 'time out': it is hard work this 'lockdown business' but necessary, I'm sure you agree). For children who sing, and beginners of all ages who want to sing the melody (tune), I can recommend Huddersfield Youth Choirs. For those who want to learn or sing harmony there are two performances, one of which is from a Jewish choir. In the Jewish tradition, as in other cultures, there is a maxim: "(He) who saves a life saves the world entire"; a reminder perhaps of the importance of our behaviour during this and any future lockdown. For Welsh speakers, or those learning Welsh, there is Llangennesh School Choir (near Llanelli) to inspire you.

If you would like a copy of the music let me know on jonathanlarge@waitrose.com, 07952 293 001 (text only) or by post to Cross House, Bramley (Hants). I'll keep you posted on any rehearsals which will not be remote or virtual but will be worth the wait. Let's join in and sing along.

Jonathan Large (Director of Music)

Hampshire County Councillor
Rhydian Vaughan MBE
Calleva Division



Annual Spring Report May 2020

Facts and Figures; Hampshire's population is 1,376,300 (2018) the third most populous county in England (85% is rural and 15% urban). Hampshire CC maintains 5400 miles of roads, 4300 miles of pavements, 133,000 streetlights, 481 schools, 45 libraries, 3 Discovery Centres and 1 e-library, 16 care homes with 960 beds for older people, 9 residential homes for children and young people, 24 Household Waste Centres and 5 Country Parks. Every year 94% of all household waste is diverted from landfill (40% recycled) and burnt for energy and powers 50,000 homes. Every day 454,000 people travel to work by car or van, 86,000 bus journeys are made, and 4% journeys are by train. More than half of Hampshire's EU citizens have signed up to the Government's EU settlement scheme.

Budget (2020-21) includes spending £2.1 billion on delivering important public services to 1.3 million residents during the next financial year. One-off investment is pledged for tackling climate change (up to £2 million) and an extra £2 million each year for fixing potholes, with an additional £3 million for 2020/21. This is on top of the £10 million spent annually on Operation Resilience - the long-term strategy to ensure Hampshire's road network is more resilient to the impact of heavy traffic and worsening winters.

Social care pressures top the list of priorities with the number of people aged 75+ in Hampshire increasing by almost a third over the next few years. The County Council agreed a 3.99% increase in the council tax precept from 1 April 2020 – of which 2% is specifically for adult social care. Hampshire is still the 2nd lowest council tax of all counties in England.

HCC will also propose major investment in Hampshire's economy, jobs and the quality of the environment - with projects totalling £386.5 million over the next three years.

Schemes include:

£94.8 million for new and extended school buildings in Hampshire to ensure a school place for every child in Hampshire – and 19,100 new school places by September 2023

£115.8 million for structural maintenance and improvement of roads and bridges in Hampshire

£830,000 to deal with the impact of ash die back disease

£3.2m LED Street lighting replacement scheme

£45.8 million for integrated transport schemes including over £10 million specifically focused on walking and cycling improvements

Climate Change; Hampshire County Council has been taking active steps to ensure Hampshire is resilient to climate change and in mitigating further changes through carbon reduction measures. HCC's own emissions have reduced by more than 43%, with more than a 50% reduction by 2025 and carbon neutrality by 2050. **The 2050 Hampshire Commission of Enquiry** placed climate change and the environment as its top priority. In the budget HCC pledged £2m towards climate change measures in addition to the capital schemes outlined above. HCC is aware its greatest

leadership and influence will be achieved by working in partnership with the District, City and Parish Councils, businesses and communities. At a household level HCC is supporting the county-wide Greening Campaign. This aims to find simple solutions around reducing and measuring power consumption, insulating housing stock, reducing water usage, sourcing local food, community travel and renewable energy schemes. Parish representatives will be invited to attend our regular climate change briefing events.

PS If you would like to adopt a tree at **Sir Harold Hillier Gardens**, then please call the team on 01794 369318

Public Health -Coronavirus (Covid-19); Hampshire County Council continues to keep a close watch on the Coronavirus outbreak with processes in place to respond if and when required. You can stay up to date with latest advice, information and guidance on www.hants.gov.uk/coronavirus. HCC issues a daily coronavirus bulletin which I send to Parish Councils for distribution where applicable.

A helpline for frail or vulnerable residents who lack support and who need urgent assistance is Coronavirus Hampshire Helpline- Hantshelp4vulnerable- and can be contacted on **0333 370 4000**, available 7 days a week from 9am to 5pm.

Schools; 2019 GCSE performance statistics confirmed that Hampshire pupils continue to perform better than their peers nationally at the end of year 11, along with over 90% of our schools being judged as good or outstanding by Ofsted.

Councillor Grants; This financial year I supported the following local causes in my Division with grants from the Councillor Devolved Grant Scheme;

Reindeer trail, Sherfield on Loddon

Stratfield Saye speed watch

Hannington Defibrillator

Silchester playground funding box

Basingstoke NeighbourCare

Strimmer for Pamber & Little London Lengthsman

Standard for Bramley Guides

Mortimer West End Speed Indicator Device

Bramley Speedwatch Speed Indicator Device

Sherfield Village Hall kitchen refurb

Hampshire & IOW Amphibian & Reptile Group, (Cufaude Lane Toad crossings)

Stay safe.

fb.com/tellrhydian

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Covid-19 Information

Official guidance continues to evolve, however the information in this article was correct as of 9th April 2020.

The last three months have seen our lives change immeasurably. That they don't change forever is our shared mission. This deadly enemy is beatable – and, if we follow the scientific advice, we will beat it. I wanted to assure you that action is being taken and to let you know what you can do.

A lot of support has been offered – to support the NHS, to protect jobs, businesses and the self-employed, to make sure pupils get their qualifications and to help with household bills, rents and mortgages – though I know not everyone has taken it up. If you need guidance on where to turn, please visit my website: ranil.uk/covid or my special email address: covid@ranil.uk

Hampshire also now has a single Coronavirus Helpline – 'Hantshelp4vulnerable' – following requests by local MPs, for frail or vulnerable people who need urgent assistance with essential food or household supplies, collection of medication, or who are at risk of loneliness. This can be contacted, seven days a week, from 9am to 5pm, on: 0333 370 4000

What should you do

STAY AT HOME. The government has instructed everyone to stay home and only leave for four reasons: (1) shopping for basic necessities, as infrequently as possible; (2) one form of exercise a day – alone or with household members; (3) any medical need, or to provide care or to help a vulnerable person; (4) travelling to and from work, but only where this absolutely cannot be done from home.

These reasons are exceptions – even when doing these, you should minimise time outside and make sure you are 6'6" / 2m apart from anyone outside your household.

SHIELD THE EXTREMELY VULNERABLE. The NHS has contacted those at extremely high risk of severe illness from coronavirus; you're strongly advised to stay home at all times and avoid any face-to-face contact, for twelve weeks.

Even those who didn't receive a letter as extremely vulnerable may still be classed as vulnerable – those over 70, those under 70 with underlying health conditions, and pregnant women; the government advises you to be particularly stringent in social distancing, even where otherwise permitted. I would personally urge you to stay at home if you can too.

SELF-ISOLATION. If you, or someone you live with, has a high temperature, a new, continuous cough, or other symptoms, however mild – stay at home! Self-isolation will save lives, so it's really important. You must self-isolate for seven days if you live alone, and must all isolate for 14 days if you live with others. You must also isolate for seven days from when you get symptoms, which may mean isolating for more than 14 days total.

You do not need to contact NHS 111 to self-isolate but, if symptoms worsen, or you're no better after seven days, contact 111.nhs.uk or, if not online, call NHS 111. For medical emergencies, dial 999. Please follow the outlined measures – and the advice to wash your hands remains valid too!

No-one is denying the challenge we face. People will have to make sacrifices as we win the fight. And I can assure you that the government will do whatever it takes.

STAY AT HOME. PROTECT THE NHS. SAVE LIVES.

Ranil Jayawardena, MP



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Conversations with a purpose

Bramley Knitting Group

We have had to cancel our meetings along with everyone else, but hope it will not be too long before we can gather together again. In the meantime, keep knitting and stay safe.

Regards

Judith Harris and the Gang



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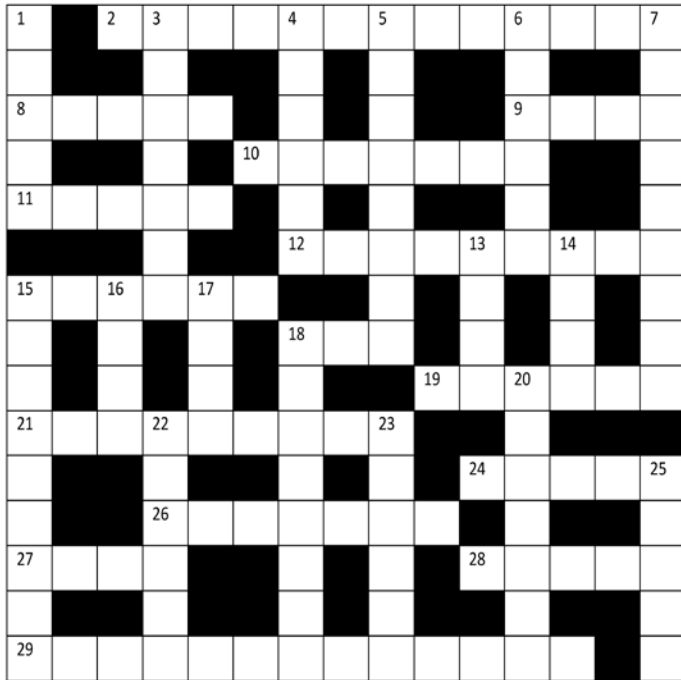
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Cryptic Crossword No: 37

See page 31 for the answers.



Across

- 2 Australian magician? (3,6,2,2)
 8 Bedding of French short former soldier. (5)
 9 Connect banjo into somewhere within. (4)
 10 Mixed care via expensive fish eggs. (7)
 11 Joint show of respect after the Spanish. (5)
 12 Amuse to go into at around home. (9)
 15 Possibility with chinese detective gaining hundred before point. (6)
 18 March inside to find curve. (3)
 19 Backward view of parts of lamination reveal creature. (6)
 21 Call henge thereabouts for a dare. (9)
 24 Country has a point before ache. (5)
 26 Birds expected performance deteriorates. (7)
 27 Relation haunts within. (4)
 28 Charged part of shark before journalist. (5)
 29 Students of ancient land go to pigs style in a way. (13)

Down

- 1 Sensible betting ploy or border. (5)
 3 Dance with tool and feathers? (7)

- 4 Follows just when taking precautions. (2,4)
 5 Air dictat less a junction all at sea for sea. (8)
 6 Item to complain about? (6)
 7 Land in fez awry for wine. (9)
 13 Precipitation sounds like rule. (4)
 14 Funny how a tom cat can hide such a small thing. (4)
 15 Work out without physical effort. (9)
 16 Reflective pop group. (4)
 17 Wound wire perhaps or turmoil. (4)
 18 Unusual with shortened muscle put before typical state. (8)
 20 Stamp prim nit all over. (7)
 22 Pot pal in reverse to get computer. (6)
 23 Consuming gin and tea of sorts. (6)
 25 To rid an item backwards somewhere is a low point. (5)

CodeWord No: 24

See page 31 for the answers.

13	3	24	22	13		11	3	6	20	4	13	19
22		3		22	5	22		17		6		17
21	22	24	22	21		14	4	21	23	11	3	18
17		17		3		1		6		13		20
2	17	21	4	18		22	23	3	6	22	18	22
22		14		25				12				22
	8	3	2	9	7	3	18	3	16	22	14	
22				3				6		10		26
14	3	15	9	15	22	14		17	6	6	13	17
3		3		11		3		2		3		3
8	22	14	2	3	7	22		3	6	2	17	21
21		21		18		2	5	4		22		22
22	7	22	13	1	22	15		18	17	14	3	13

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	T											R
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Each number represents a unique letter from the alphabet and all 26 letters are used. Two letters are given to make a start.

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News from The Priory

The Priory Primary School has had a very busy two terms since opening its doors in September - it welcomed its new headteacher, Mr Mike Stewart; successfully undertook its school's inspection (OFSTED); constructed a new school library and mapped its vision for the future. However, one might imagine that all of this progress would be halted as the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in national school closures in March. Well, actually, the progress never halted, and despite an incredibly challenging set of circumstances, it has resulted in a new wave of learning and activity whilst the country is in lockdown.

The teachers have adapted to using a range of online applications and programmes to support the home learning process. This has included identifying the best digital resources and recording aspects of their lessons to ensure the children at home still have that face-to-face time with their teachers and can get instant feedback on their submitted tasks. The school staff have also embraced video conferencing in order to stay connected and hold their staff meetings in a virtual forum. For the staff, it has certainly been a brave new world of education, with teachers embracing innovative approaches such as the use of Augmented Reality (AR), for the first time.

For the children, whilst nothing can truly compare with the interaction that they have at school with their teachers and friends - at least they can engage in a broad variety of learning that requires them to record their outcomes

and work in a variety of interesting ways. Browsing through the children's various uploaded videos to see how (for example) they have protected fragile eggs from certain doom by constructing them an effective parachute; or a pupil posting their daily phonics by teaching the phonemes to their sister - it is truly heart-warming to know that even during this time of terrible crisis, the love of learning continues unabated.

For some pupils, whose parents are key workers - their attendance at school continues, although in much different circumstances. With a very small class size, this select group of students have been engaging in a wide range of activities - from creating adverts to remind parents to "Stay Indoors" during the lockdown; to planting a new vegetable crop in the school's gardens. Additionally, much work has also been done to recognise just how proud the Priory community is of their parent key workers as they carry out their vital roles at this time of great uncertainty. The Priory wishes to thank each one of these brave parents for everything they are doing.

So, although the fast-paced progress at The Priory has taken a different course recently, the development of learning is still paramount and whilst we continue to hope the end is in sight, we can take solace in the wonderful learning that is occurring during this period of lockdown.

Mr Mike Stewart





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Message from the Mayor of Basingstoke and Deane Cllr Diane Taylor

I have always noted that humans are great adjusters. Whenever there is a difficult and significant change in our lives, perhaps a death or illness or relationship break-up, we can feel that we will never get used to it... but somehow, with time, we always manage to adjust to our “new normal” and get on with life in its different format.

If you had told me last year that in Spring 2020 I would be confined to my home for weeks on end, working forever at the computer, not meeting people face-to-face, queueing to get into food shops, unable to attend a single public meeting or event, I would have been horrified. How can I live like that? Guess what – I can! Like everyone who is either completely isolated for health reasons or, at the other end of the scale, working all hours to save the lives of dangerously ill people, somehow we humans adjust and find a way to get on with life.

One of the final public duties of my Mayoral year would have been to lead the celebrations of the 75th Anniversary of VE Day on Friday 8 May. Needless to say, there will be no public event to mark this significant occasion – just a video of me at the War Memorial at 10am on that morning which will go out on social media.

However, can I encourage everyone to find a way – perhaps in the afternoon at about 3pm – to raise a glass or a tea cup in in your own homes in celebration of a victory that brought us the great life that we are privileged to lead today.

The resilience, courage and determination of this nation during World War Two astounds me. Let’s celebrate the outcome of a war that logically we should have lost – but, with our great allies, we won! And what’s more, we will win the Coronavirus war too!

In the meantime, please stay safe by staying at home unless it’s for an essential journey as outlined by the government and help to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

If you are a vulnerable resident self-isolating due to an increased risk of illness, and have no friends or family nearby, you can register for support to access food supplies and collection of prescriptions. Call the Coronavirus Hampshire Helpline on 0333 370 4000, available seven days a week, from 9am to 5pm or visit www.basingstoke.gov.uk/covid-19-community-hub for more information.

One Of The Best Decisions

“I missed not seeing you during the Coronavirus lockdown, Granddad. After you had finished all those jobs that Grandma had been waiting for you to do, what did you do then?”

“I made one of the best decisions in my life” you replied.

“What was that Granddad?”

“I’d been thinking about it for a while but with all the time in the world to consider what to do with my life, when this lock down eventually ends, I decided to join the Probus Club of Basingstoke.”

“What do they get up to, Granddad?”

“Well, I had read in the Bramley magazine about this group of like-minded retired men who get together regularly for social interchange and meetings where they have interesting speakers and good lunches.”

“Won’t Grandma mind you going out all the time without her?”

“They also have social occasions most months that I can take your Grandma to and have trips to interesting places that she and I can attend.”

“Was it difficult to apply, Granddad?”

“As those meerkats on the TV advertisements say, ‘Simples’. I phoned their Secretary and had an exploratory chat about what their plans are when these social distancing regulations are lifted and it all sounded like something that suited my style and life experiences. It was really easy and I felt that I would be made most welcome. I can’t wait to go to their meetings when they start again.”

If this sounds like you, then phone Jonathan Ratcliff on 07501 271547, for an informal chat. It really is that simple.

See www.probusbasingstoke.club

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Many plants and trees are coming into flower now, so it's a good time to learn a bit more about this process in **The Ur-Flower Water Lily** by **John Stubbs**

Just supposin' you could go back to Bramley as it was say, 130 million years ago. It's quite possible that the flower in your pond would look just like this one, in our garden pond. Unremarkable? Well, bear in mind that back then, the ancestor animal nearest related to us humans would have looked rather like a shrew. In fact, we can't be very sure of how these flowers actually looked as they don't fossilise at all well, being a bit squishier than a brontosaurus, so it's just a bit speculative, but it would have had a very similar structure to our water lily. And I'm not sure, but it might be that our shrew-like ancestors didn't have much interest in ponds, or flowers, come to that.

However, it's also quite a thought that, before then, plants had been slowly evolving for some four hundred million years without coming up with a decent flower. Then all at once (comparatively) there's a new branch in the tree of plant-life, and flowers flowered, leading to just about every useful crop plant that now exists. In the subsequent æons an awful lot happened, from losing dinosaurs to getting mammals, even primates: arguably, though, one of the great and dramatic world life-events was the emergence of these first flowers. Some stick-in-the-mud plants stayed with the old ways – getting by with hanging their seeds on the outside, as still do fir-cones, but it was a bit of a dead end, diversity-wise. Bring the seeds into an internal nursery, where they can be cared for, fertilised and nurtured in-house, as it were, is safer, warmer, more hygienic and quicker in the long run. Some external-seed plants did use insect pollination, but flower-power overwhelmingly won.

Darwin was, typically, very concerned with the way that flowers blossomed so suddenly – and the way insects so quickly jumped on the pollinating band-wagon. Did this mean his nice, minutely incremental evolution processes could be by-passed by some sort of magical jump, a great leap forward? He called it an 'abominable



mystery' – there were always a lot of deniers ready to pounce. I'm sure he'd have been greatly tickled by the way 21st C genome sequencing is beginning to sort things out. One aspect of the process is looking at the way genes from different species overlap: in this way the oldest sequences can be traced, to see which plant did what, first of all. It was found a few years back that a particular plant from a remote South Pacific island, with a rather rudimentary sort of flower, was the nearest existing species to the original flowering group. The next up the line, sequenced at the end of last year, was the water lily. Now this one really fits the bill – brilliant colours fully displayed, scents and pollen abundant, a real flower.

The point is that this plant shows the structure of the proper flower without the hang-overs of the very first model, which still kept the male and female structures quite separate: how these changes came about, though, is yet unclear. It could be that another radical change, the doubling-up of the number of genes in an apparently a random mistake that occurred a while previously, made rapid evolution more likely. It could also have been that extra leaf area, as opposed to

small needles, gave a boost to expand the flower business, or the sheer productivity increase afforded by employing insects and the like to do the hard work of pollination spurred progress. And, of course, it's still a fact that though there are hundreds of thousands more flowering than non-flowering species, in the vast areas of the northern forests, pine needles still reign supreme.

This sort of genetic research is increasingly valuable in fields such as enhancing crop yields. If we can know, for example, how a plant found a way of inventing a tomato from scratch, as it were, then making a crop more productive or pest resistant can probably be done much more efficiently. It gives a fast-forward button – rather than breeding lots of varieties and, months or years later, throwing away nearly all the results as they didn't have the desired qualities, the properties needed can be selected and built in.

Not that any one's likely to come up with something that would have caused M. Monet to clutch his head and reach for a can of paint stripper. Our water lilies just don't need updates.

Struggling with an injury or persistent pain?

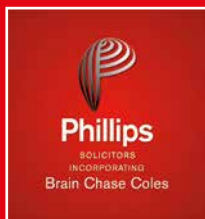
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So, whilst our Town Gate office in London Street, Basingstoke is temporarily closed to visitors, we can still deal with your enquiries to a normal level of service via email, over the phone or by video conferencing.

In some essential circumstances we can meet clients in person but only with a prior appointment.

Moving Home

Our Residential Property team is still able to assist and advise you if you are looking to buy or sell a property.

The government would prefer, where possible, that all transactions were delayed.

However, if you are moving to

a vacant property, you are in fact able to continue with the transaction as long as you follow the government's guidance and take all sensible precautions.

However, it is important that you get the view of your lawyers dealing with your transaction.

Making A Will

There is no need to let the coronavirus lockdown stop your plans in putting your financial affairs in order by making a Will.

Our Wills and Probate team are able to advise you on drawing up a new Will, updating an existing Will and can help you maximise your Inheritance Tax allowances.

The Ministry of Justice recently has announced that certain lawyers, including those acting with the execution of Wills, are classified as key workers as they deliver essential services during the crisis.

Child Arrangements

If you have children and are separated from the other parent, the lockdown does not prevent you

from seeing your child.

Taking your children to see the other parent and picking them up afterwards is currently deemed as essential travel, if it can take place safely.

Should you be unable to allow any direct contact because of health concerns based on public health guidance, such as when someone in your household is showing symptoms of COVID-19 or a child may have one of the underlying health conditions which make them more vulnerable, then you should consider allowing the other parent to speak to your child or children via telephone, FaceTime, Zoom or Skype.

Employment and Business Law

Our team of lawyers are regularly monitoring the government's emergency measures, such as the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and the temporary changes to Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) and assisting businesses who are looking to review their commercial contracts.

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Mondays

<i>Badminton</i>	Village Hall
<i>Boxercise</i>	Cross House
<i>Petite Dance</i>	Village Hall
<i>Hipp Pilates</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Pilates 9am</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Stay Active As You Age Class – 11am</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Cubs 6.30-8pm</i>	School Hall
<i>Trail Runners 7.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow car park

Tuesdays

<i>Parish Council Meetings 3rd Tuesday of the month</i>	Bramley Room, Village Hall
<i>Badminton</i>	Village Hall
<i>Bell Ringing 8pm</i>	St James's
<i>Karate</i>	Primary School Hall
<i>Petite Dance</i>	Village Hall
<i>Slimming World</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Short Mat Bowls</i>	Village Hall
<i>Tuesday Club</i>	St Stephen's Hall
<i>WG Pilates 9.15 – 10.15am</i>	Cross House
<i>Pilates 9.30am</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>0-5 Toddler Group 10.15 - 11.45am</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>WG Pilates 6.45 – 7.45pm</i>	Cross House
<i>Walking 4 Fitness & Friendship 6.50 for 7pm (March-Sept)</i>	Clift Meadow car park
<i>Yoga 7.00pm & 8.15pm</i>	Village Hall
<i>Hipp Pilates 7-9pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Table Tennis - 7pm</i>	St Stephen's Hall, Little London

Wednesdays

<i>1st Bramley Brownies</i>	Village Hall
<i>Guides 7.30pm</i>	Village Hall
<i>Rainbows</i>	Village Hall
<i>Scouts</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>WG Pilates 9.15 – 10.15am</i>	Cross House
<i>Caterpillar Music 9.45am</i>	Village Hall
<i>Bramley Tea and Coffee morning 10-11.30am</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Pilates 6.30pm & 8.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion

Trail Runners 7.30pm

Clift Meadow car park

HIIT/Bootcamp 7.45-8.30

School Hall

Thursdays

<i>Bramley & Romans Floral Society 1st Thursday</i>	Sherfield on Loddon Village Hall
<i>Dance Club</i>	Primary School Hall
<i>Lunch Club 2nd Thursday</i>	Cross House
<i>Pilates</i>	St Stephen's Hall
<i>WI 2nd Thursday</i>	Village Hall
<i>Yoga for Sleep and Stress 1st Thursday</i>	Village Hall
<i>Body Tone 9am</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Perform 5.45pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Hatha Yoga 6.30-7.30pm</i>	Cross House
<i>Pregnancy yoga 6.30pm</i>	Village Hall
<i>Activ8 youth club Years 3,4,5 and 6: 4pm - 5.30pm Years 7 8 and 9: 5.30pm - 7pm</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Beavers 6.30pm - 7.30pm</i>	School Hall
<i>Zumba 6.45pm</i>	Village Hall
<i>Hipp Pilates 7-8pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion

Fridays

<i>Hatha Yoga 9.30-10.45am</i>	Cross House
<i>Muddy Fingers 10:00 - 10:50am</i>	Brocas Hall
<i>Pilates 11.30am</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Hipp Pilates 1.30-2.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Perform 3.30pm</i>	Clift Meadow Pavilion
<i>Beavers 6.30pm - 7.30pm</i>	School Hall

Saturdays

<i>Good for Mums Hiit Fix</i>	Cross House
<i>Ladies Boxercise</i>	Cross House
<i>Petite Dance</i>	Village Hall

Sundays

<i>See page 5 for Church services at St James's Bramley</i>	
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Do you have a listing on this page? If so, please can you check that the details are correct and let me have the timings if they are missing.

Any corrections or additions can be emailed to editor@bramleymagazine.org.uk

THANK YOU

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@gmail.com	Bookings
Cross House	Steve Day	07341 552732	crosshousebramley@gmail.com	Bookings
Village Hall	Catriona Hayward	07464 749997	Bookings@bvht.org.uk	Bookings
School Hall	Alison Tarrant	881339		
Activ8 youth club	Colette Bibby		colette@bdyc.org.uk	
Active Mums Post Natal Exercise	Emma Perkins	07973 389407	emmatraining@hotmail.com www.emmaperkins.com	
Badminton	Jane Matthews	881647		
Beavers, Cubs & Scouts	Jodie Saunders	881113	jodie@bramley-scouts.org.uk	
Bell ringers	Terry Cooper	881102		
Bramley Out of School Club/Holiday Club	Julie Belam	07711 339306	info@bramleyoutofschoolclub.com www.bramleyoutofschoolclub.com	
Bramley United FC	Mick Walsh	07802 912615/ 01256 881241	michael.p.walsh@openreach.co.uk	
Bramley Volunteer Drivers		07787 166924	Visit us on Facebook	
Brownies	Katie Slater and Jayne White	07545 319342	bramley.brownies@gmail.com	Now Weds only
Caterpillar Music	Jasmine McCarthy	07952 935021	jasmine.mccarthy@caterpillarmusic.com	
Country Music	Roy Seymour	07917 744780		No children please
Exercise classes	Caroline Sherlock	07845 217901	caroline@this2thisfitness.co.uk	
Floral Society	Joyce Rawlinson	889040		
Guides	Ailsa Stockwell	07584 676931		
Hatha Yoga	Jacqui Morris	07539 432228	jacqui.morris28@gmail.com	
HiiTFix (Postnatal Exercise)	Helen Hill	07766 554599	helen@goodformums.co.uk www.goodformums.co.uk	
Hipp Pilates	Jo Kemp Williams	07557 412400	jo.kemp-williams@outlook.com	
Ladies Boxercise	Helen Hill	07766 554599	helen@ladiesboxercise.co.uk www.ladiesboxercise.co.uk	
Little Apples	Jo Whatley & Sian Davies	07598 588460	manager@littleapples.org	
Lunch Club	Chris Woodward	884065		
Muddy Fingers	Lauren Dotor Cespedes	07775 594463	info@muddyfingersgardenclub.co.uk	
Naturally Yoga with Sam	Samantha Webber	07713 349227	www.naturallyyoga.co.uk sam@naturalnook.co.uk	
Perform	Gemma Payne	07825 916496	gemmapayne@perform.org.uk	
Petite Dance	Louise Pain	07877 890673	misslouise.petite@outlook.com	
Pilates	Heather Lewis	07785 254313	hsfitnessuk@mac.com	
Pilates	Kelly James	07789 487499	kkellyjames@aol.com	
Pilates (WG Pilates)	Wendy Gill	07961 102535	wendygill44@yahoo.co.uk	
Royal British Legion	Rhydian Vaughan	07774 681516		
Short Mat Bowls	John & Pauline Walker	881065		
Slimming World	Casey	07950 838937	ww.slimmingworld.co.uk	
St Stephen's Hall	Doreen Quilter	850394	doreen.quilter@btinternet.com	Bookings
Thula Mama	Rebecca Cooch	07971 798945	rebecca.cooch@gmail.com	
Trail Runners	Richard Perkins		richardperkins@yahoo.com	
Walking 4 Fitness & Friendship	Julie Wilson		juliebelam12@gmail.com	See Facebook: Walking 4 Fitness & Friendship
WI	Pat Cole	881715	gpcoles37@gmail.com	
Yoga	Mark Golding	07969 890722	goldingyoga@gmail.com goldingyoga.com	
Zumba	Gisella Soulsby	07704 918050	zumbagisella1@gmail.com	
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PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

Cryptic Crossword No: 37 Solution

NADIR	25	EGYPTOLOGISTS	29
EATING	23	FINED	28
LAPTOP	22	AUNT	27
IMPRINT	20	PARROTS	26
ABNORMAL	18	SPAIN	24
COIL	17	CHALLENGE	21
ABBA	16	ANIMAL	19
CALCULATE	15	ARC	18
ATOM	14	CHANCE	15
RAIN	13	ENTERTAIN	12
ZINFANDEL	7	ELBOW	11
OBJECT	6	CAVIARE	10
ADRIATIC	5	JOIN	9
IN CASE	4	DUVEET	8
HOEDOWN	3	THEWIZARDPOFZ	2
HEDGE	1		

Down

Across

CodeWord No: 24 Solution

R	I	D	A	N	S	E	G	R	E	M	E
E		E		O	W	T	N		L		L
L	A	T	C	I	E	M	I	T	D	E	B
I		I		T	I		H		I		I
A	R	C	C	A	D	E	S	U	S	I	D
J		X		C			I				E
	D	E	Z	I	N	I	M	U	T	B	
E				F			Q		D		E
E	N	E	C	I	P	E	N	O	L	A	T
K		R		C		G			A		A
N		H	I	P	O	L	D	E	L	V	E
A		C		A		E	W	E		I	E
Y		O	R	C	I	H		R	E	V	R

WATCH OUT for these common COVID-19 Scams:

- An offer of £258 from the government to help during the coronavirus outbreak just by entering your bank details. Government departments never ask for your bank details in this way.
 - A scam email from HM Government asking for donations to the NHS during the COVID-19 outbreak.
 - A fake government email stating: "As schools will be closing, if you're entitled to free school meals, please send your bank details and we will make sure you are supported"
- Selling scam products such as supplements and anti-virus kits that falsely claim to cure or prevent COVID-19, fake swabbing kits, hand sanitisers, and face masks These products can be dangerous.
- A text asking recipients to pay a £35 fine as it says they have been 'recorded as leaving their home on three occasions during the lockdown'.

Anyone who has been a victim of fraud or cybercrime can report it to **Action Fraud** on **0300 123 2040**

If you've been affected by crime you can contact the **Victim Support** team on **0808 178 1641**



CORONA VIRUS

SUPPORT SERVICES

WHERE TO GET HELP
DURING THE COVID-19
PANDEMIC

Helplines are now available to provide information and advice, as well as practical support to frail or vulnerable residents who need urgent assistance with essential food or household supplies, collection of medication, or who are at risk of loneliness:

- Hampshire Helpline **0333 370 4000**
- Portsmouth **023 9268 8004**
- Southampton **023 8083 4800**
- Isle of Wight **01983 823 600**

If you're concerned for someone who is at risk because of underlying health issues or they're elderly you can register them, or get them to register, on the government's Covid-19 support service www.gov.uk/coronavirus-extremely-vulnerable or call **0800 028 8327**, to get help delivering essential supplies and any additional care they might need.

The community response during the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation has been amazing, with hundreds of individuals, groups and organisations coming forward on the ground, and through social media, to offer support. It's great to see the community coming together to help each other but as there is no way to validate some of these groups please exercise caution in sharing personal details with unknown people.

Helplines:

- Mind Charity **0300 123 3393** Text: 86463 Email: info@mind.org.uk
- Samaritans **116 123** Email: jo@samaritans.org
- The Silver Line (advice and friendship for the elderly) **0800 470 80 90** www.thesilverline.org.uk
- Age UK (telephone friendship service for over 60s) **0800 678 1602** www.ageuk.org.uk
- Hampshire Domestic Abuse Service **03300 165112**
- National Domestic Abuse Helpline **0808 2000 247**
- Childline **0800 1111**
- Respect Phoneline **0808 8024040**



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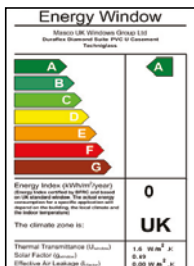
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