



BRAISHFIELD VILLAGE NEWS

Issue 250
October 2021



AN EXCITING VISITOR TO THE SCHOOL - see page 12

Distributed free of charge by the Braishfield Village Association
to the residents of Braishfield and the surrounding hamlets.
Available in colour on the BVA website: www.braishfield.org

Braishfield Village Association

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The BVA attempts to deliver a copy of the ***Braishfield Residents Guide*** and the ***Village Design Statement*** to all new residents. If you have not received these publications, please contact Julie, the Distributor, on 368894.

Latest copy date for the next issue is: **Friday 19th November 2021.**

Cover photo: Braishfield Primary School

<h2>Donations to magazine</h2>

We would like to thank all those who donate toward the cost of Braishfield Village News. We welcome any support you can give us to keep the magazine viable in 2021. If you wish to make a donation please complete the slip below and send with your donation to:-

BVA Treasurer
Mrs Sheila Still, Orchard View, Braishfield SO51 0QB

I enclose £..... towards the running cost of the Braishfield Village News.

Name (please print)

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Tel: EMAIL:

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A standing order form to make annual donations to the BVN is available. Please contact the Treasurer, Sheila Still, and she will send you one.

EDITORS NOTE:

Please send all items for the BVN by email: bvn@braishfield.org

All items for publication must show the name, address and contact number of the originator. Topics should be relevant to the village of Braishfield.

From the Chairman

I hope this note finds you in good health.

Plans are well underway for our Christmas Fayre which is taking place on 27th November (10am to 4pm) in the Village Hall. We already have nearly 20 stalls booked and would love to see you there, so please join us to purchase your Christmas cards, gifts, a mince pie/hot dog or just a drink and a natter! We're delighted that the Pantry will also be open, so please come along to lend your support.

Turning to the Neighbourhood Plan, Sarah Hughes, the Senior Neighbourhood Planning Officer at Test Valley Borough Council wasn't able to attend the September Parish Council Meeting on 7th September but will now attend the 5th October meeting. If at all possible, please try to come along as it is likely to affect all of us in some way. Keep an eye on the Parish Council website for latest details.

Acts of Remembrance will take place at the Braishfield War Memorial from 10:50am on Thursday 11th and Sunday 14th November. Please join us for these important occasions if you are able to. If driving through the village at these times, please be patient.

Finally, it is with much sadness that we lost another great character of Braishfield. Bob Thomson passed away in September, aged 97, but leaves us with very fond memories, especially his photo on the front cover of the Braishfield Village News VE Day Special in June 2020. RIP Bob and love to your family.

Keep well and very best wishes,
Ian

LETTERS

**Contributions for “Letters to the Editor” must provide the writer’s name and address to the Editor.
Maximum word count for letters is 250.**

Dear Editor,

After I had received complaints from many residents in Southern Test Valley about the state of the muddy, slippery pathways caused by fallen wet leaves, I urged Test Valley Council to address the issue by hiring small sweeper machines to sweep the footpaths throughout all areas of the Borough during the late Autumn and Winter months.

At the September Council meeting it was confirmed that they would. So, this winter if residents see any area of pathway needing cleaning, please notify Test Valley Environmental Services.

Yours
Alan Dowden
County Cllr for Baddesley Division
Borough Cllr for Valley Park Ward
Chairman of Valley Park Parish
Council
Deputy Mayor TVBC



DEADLINE DATES FOR BRAISHFIELD VILLAGE NEWS

2021

Nov 19 for DECEMBER

2022

Jan 21 for FEBRUARY

Mar 19 for APRIL

May 20 for JUNE

July 22 for AUGUST

Sept 23 for OCTOBER

Nov 18 for DECEMBER

NOTICES

BRAISHFIELD VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

CHRISTMAS MARKET

27 NOVEMBER 2021

BRAISHFIELD VILLAGE HALL

Any craft, artisan baker, home made preserves etc interested in selling your wares? We are looking to create a traditional Christmas market and would welcome your stall.

Reserve your table now (rate to be agreed) for this event on by contacting

***JULIE KEMP on 01794 368894 or email
juliekemp@googlemail.com.***

All Saints' Church - a date for your diary!



Come and sing Christmas Carols on Braishfield Recreation Ground
with Chandlers Ford BB Brass Band

Friday 17th December 2021 from 6.30 – 7.15pm

Donations in aid of Action for Children

Action For Children | Children's charity | For safe and happy childhoods

Acts of Remembrance 2021

Acts of Remembrance will be held at the Braishfield War Memorial commencing at 10.50am on Thursday 11th and on Sunday 14th November 2021.

Thursday 11th November

There will be a short Act of Remembrance (arranged by Braishfield Parish Council) at the War Memorial when a wreath will be laid by the Braishfield Village Association.

Sunday 14th November

The United Service of Remembrance (arranged by All Saints and United Reformed churches) will only take place at the War Memorial and last for approximately 20 minutes. This service will include the Laying of Wreaths. At this service, there will be an opportunity to donate to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

We will gather in the surrounding area of the War Memorial where we hope to have an amplification system in place and some chairs available.

Jane Bennett

*All Saints' Church PCC Secretary
Chairman of Braishfield Parish Council*

BRAISHFIELD 200 CLUB

Two more draws, in August and September, and two more winners, Dave Old and Ian Jeffery.

We made donations to our All Saints Church and The Jumbulance Trust. We've also gained a few more members, which is most welcome, and there's room for more! If you can afford a fiver a month, £3 of which goes to a good cause, give us a call. And if you have a charity which you are supporting with some endeavour or other, get in contact and we'll see if we can give you some support (i.e. cash). You don't have to be a paying member of the club to be a beneficiary.

David Robinson. (tel. 01794 368774)

VILLAGE HALL AGM

The AGM of The Braishfield Village Hall, covering the period 01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021, will be held at 7.30 pm on Thursday 14th October in The Village Hall.

The meeting will provide an opportunity to hear about the work of the trustees and view the refurbished facilities.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

The Trustees of Braishfield Village Hall.



BRAISHFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY - BOB THOMSON

We are saddened to learn of the passing of Bob Thomson. Bob was a long standing member of the Braishfield Horticultural Society, serving on the committee from 1996 to 2003 and as secretary from 2004 to 2013. As secretary he took on his responsibilities wholeheartedly, bringing humour to articles written for the BVA news. When the annual Flower Show came round Bob was very much in charge. The biggest challenge for the show was always how to organise the different sized tables for the displays – for this Bob compiled a chart, which has been carefully preserved for use at shows ever since. His love of wine and the various hostelrys in the region was also put to effective use for our June garden visits; he would sample several pubs in advance of the garden visit to choose the most suitable for our post visit meal. Likewise for our AGM Bob would take great care to select suitable wines to accompany our buffet. Many of us will have fond memories of Bob and his wife June and will miss them both.

Steve Renvoize – Chairman, Braishfield Horticultural Society, 2010 - 2013

ROMSEY AREA HEALTH AND WELLBEING WALK

Since the outbreak of COVID, when we have been allowed to walk, first in groups of 6 and then in groups of 30, we have been meeting at Braishfield Village to start our walks. This has been better for us to meet the requirements of COVID than our previous location in Romsey.

From the 1st of October we will be returning to Romsey Sports Centre on the first and third Mondays of each month and continuing to walk from Braishfield on the second Monday with a different venue on the fourth Monday in the Romsey Area.

We would like to thank the village of Braishfield for their welcome. For the Parish Council in assisting us with parking and footpath maintenance and Maps. For the Pantry Staff for the Coffee and Cakes we have enjoyed. For the general public in their greetings on our walks. We have enjoyed some wonderful walks and found new routes to negotiate. It has become a favourite destination for many with wonderful views and countryside to enjoy.

If you would like to join in any of our walks, you will be most welcome. We have three walks, a brisk walk which is the most popular for those who like to stride out. A main walk for a more leisurely pace and a slow walk for those less able. We can therefore satisfy all comers. The walks are one hour in length and start at 10.00am. If you would like further details, please email LRice@TestValley.gov.uk.

On the 11th October we will be taking part in the Countryfile Ramble for Children in need, if you would like to join us we will be meeting at Braishfield Village Hall at 10.00am. We will have a donation box to raise money and will be wearing our Pudsey regalia. Do come along this will be a good introduction to our walks.

Romsey Health and Wellbeing Walk Leaders.



CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Sunday 19th December – Saturday 1st January

We are delighted that with Christmas being such a special time for children, and much of Covid hopefully behind us, the Childrens Christmas Tree Festival will again take place at All Saints Church, Braishfield between Sunday 19th December and finish on New Years Day. The festival is yet again another opportunity to give All Saints Church a Christmassy feel and bring much needed joy to the festive period, not only to celebrate the birth of Jesus but help us put the worries of Covid behind us.

Children of any age are invited to enter a tree and previous festivals have shown how imaginative children can be! Trees can be of any medium but not taller than 4ft and any lights must only be battery operated. Trees should be brought and placed in the Church on Saturday 18th December between 10.00 am and 2.00 pm. There is no charge for entering a tree. We are only able to accommodate 12 trees so please help us to make this event a success by encouraging your children to enter.

Any donations raised from viewing will this year go towards funding Sparks Club at Braishfield School and Messy Church.

For further information and to obtain an entry form, please contact ***Carole Renvoize on stevecarole.renvoize@btinternet.com not later than 30th November.***

Organisers: Stephen Treglown (01794 502150) and Carole Renvoize (01794 368766)

Braishfield Village Voices

Village Voices is/are back! Meeting once a month on the 4th Monday from 2-4 in the church room. Anyone is welcome; we are a group of people who get together and have an enjoyable sing, purely for fun. We are not in the business of performing. A cross section of villagers and from further afield, we always welcome newcomers. The dates for the next few sessions are 25th October and 22nd November, we may slot one in in December, then after Christmas it'll be 24th January.

Just arrive, or give me or Meri a call.

Wendy Quarendon 368015 / Meri Knights 368516

FARMING

CONTRIBUTOR WANTED



I'm looking for a local farmer or someone related to farming in the village who would be prepared to write a **regular article** for the Braishfield Village News. Ideally, news about which crops are currently in the fields, issues relating to farming, wildlife and environmental issues on our local farms.

CONTACT Wendy -
bvn@braishfield.org

Braishfield Primary School

Greetings from Braishfield Primary! My name is Jim Cascarini and I am looking forward to beginning my new role as Headteacher at the school. Just like the new pupils in the Early Years, I will be feeling a sense of trepidation mixed with excitement at the new challenges ahead! I look forward to getting to know all pupils, staff, families and members of the local community as the new academic year starts this September.



I have taught in Hampshire for over 20 years in a wide range of primary school settings, more recently just down the road at Ampfield! I love teaching children and seeing how different their approaches to learning can be. As a school leader, working with teachers to improve their own practice is something I also find so rewarding.

We begin this September with a sense of optimism. Having been well led by outgoing Headteacher, Lou Rhodes and ably supported in the summer by Interim Headteacher, Alice Tubbs, Braishfield School is in a good place going forwards. We also have two new teachers, Mrs Doherty (teaching in Big Acorns class) and Mrs Davies (teaching in Saplings class), who will bring experience and stability to our excellent team. I look forward to welcoming many of you into the school as things once again open up and 'normal life' can resume. Here's to a successful year ahead!

Jim Cascarini

What a busy first few weeks we have had already! Braishfield pupils have re-adjusted to 'normal school life' very quickly. Whole school events like assemblies, song practise, break and lunchtimes have been a hit. Our new Reception children have built up their time in school from half days to full time as well. This has been helped by the fantastic 'buddy' system we run in school. Year 6 pupils have a Reception buddy, whom they help, look out for and chat with whenever the opportunity arises.

Visitors are also allowed in to school and our first visitor inspired many of our pupils. David Smith, a Team GB Paralympian and 3-times gold medallist, came in to school to talk about his recent experiences at the Tokyo Games, to demonstrate his sport- boccia- and, of course, to let the children see and feel his shiny gold medal!

Links with the village are always encouraged. It has been great to have the Reverend Jane leading the occasional assembly and the Rev. Tom has also quickly become a friend of Braishfield School. We look forward to celebrating Harvest at the church on 13th October at 2pm. All donations will go towards the work of the Southampton City Mission's excellent Basics Bank. If anyone from the village fancies contributing any tinned or non-perishable goods, please feel free to drop them off at school at any point before the 13th- your donations would be very welcome!

JC



Parish Council

- Footpath 4 has been re-opened following the demolition of the barn.
- Responsibility for the highways (including footpaths) in Braishfield and for road safety lies with Hampshire County Council (HCC). This responsibility includes maintenance of highway verges; HCC also commonly cut back overgrowing hedges, but the responsibility for preventing hedges from obstructing roads and roadside pavements lies with the landowner on whose land the hedge is growing.
- The Council is applying to HCC to initially replace three stiles on two footpaths in the Parish. Two are at the northern end of Footpath 8, (Eldon Lane / Paynes Hay Road) and the third is at the junction of Footpaths 5 and 6 (Malthouse Farm). We will keep you updated regarding this.
- Sarah Hughes (Senior Neighbourhood Planning Officer) will be attending the Parish Council meeting in the Village Hall on the 5th October to answer any questions regarding a Neighbourhood Plan.
- The Council, working with HCC, is taking forward the concerns raised by parishioners re speeding in the village.

Braishfield Climate and Sustainability Group - Verge alongside the John Bevan Path

The president of the Royal Horticultural Society (the wonderfully named Keith Weed) has recently said: 'We are now painfully aware that we face a climate and biodiversity crisis, and that every effort counts'. The verge on the John Bevan path is Braishfield's small contribution to increasing biodiversity. In spring we planted 300 plug plants of native perennial wildflowers amongst the existing grass and 'weeds' on the verge. To allow the plants to establish the verge has not been cut except for a strip along by the road to allow for sight lines. This year the new plants have not had time to make their presence felt or seen in any quantity and the grass has predominated. As most of the plants should by now have set seed the verge is now due to be cut and the cuttings removed. We are hoping that by following this management regime the wildflowers will gradually establish and take over, providing food and habitat for birds, butterflies and

insects. Although at the moment it is not a thing of beauty it is a 'work in progress' and we need time to allow the wildflowers to do their thing. We thank all residents who care for the village and its environment for their patience in allowing us to do this.

For more information on Parish Council matters, please refer to www.braishfield.org.uk



Many of you may have heard of Freedom Church in Romsey. You may know of Freedom's community related projects: Romsey Foodbank, CAP debt support, ServeDirect in Uganda & more recently, refugee support. Perhaps you have friends /neighbours who are part of the church or who support the projects.

Pre-pandemic, Freedom Church was meeting weekly at Romsey School, but of course had to change to 'meet' online from March 2020, until just recently.

For the last few months, some of you may have noticed the Freedom sign outside the village hall on a Sunday morning. In case you were wondering what it's for, we thought it might be helpful to let Braishfield friends know, via the BVN. The church is currently using three community venues (in and around Romsey), as a temporary measure, so that people can get together for worship, to chat & have a coffee too, if they want to. A fourth option is to still watch online - which some people prefer.

We will continue to use Braishfield village hall in a Sunday morning for a while longer, until we're able to meet all together - hopefully in the not too distant future! More information about Freedom Church is available on www.freedomchurch.uk

Braishfield United Reformed Church

How wonderful it has been to hold Sunday Worship at Braishfield URC again. It is good our Sunday Worship has been well supported. We have welcomed visitors too but more are always welcome! During the lockdown, many of our people have worked in the background to keep the church in good order. I will mention a few but there will be others, there always is!



We would like to say a big thank you for the generous donation from two friends of our church. We used some of this money to redecorate the vestry and toilet facilities, all windows, and the church's back and side walls. Thanks go to Adrian Symes, who was project manager, and to Frankie, who did the work. Thanks go to Allison Symes who has typed up and emailed my BVA contributions and to Daniel Symes who helped fill the church's garden rubbish bins.



Sharon Whitfield has kept paying the bills, as our treasurer, and received a number of our congregation's offerings during lockdown. Margaret Batchelor has filled the pulpit supply list until the end of 2021 and completed the Flower Rota for the year. Margaret and Jack Batchelor washed and re-hung the church curtains too. Margery Randall polished the furniture the week before the church re-opened. Rusty Smith turned cupboards out, sent spiders on their way, and removed loads of cobwebs amongst other tasks. (No other creatures have visited to our knowledge so alas no more badger stories to share with you all!).

One change to our usual routine though did come at Harvest. We held our usual Harvest Festival service on Sunday, 19th September but were unable to hold a Harvest Supper. Hopefully we can resume that in 2022. Many thanks to everyone for decorating and un-decorating the church and I hope you enjoy the Harvest pictures. Thanks to lots of people, we are back! And we would love it if you came to join us. Hopefully see you soon.

Shirley Smith

For more details please contact:-

The Minister: The Reverend Mike Perrott, MA - 01794 51216

The Church Secretary: Shirley Smith - 01794 368447

All Saints' Church

All Saints is remembering.....

villagers and others associated with Braishfield who died during 2020 and 2021 and whose funeral services we may not have been able to attend.

We invite everyone to come to a short service in All Saints on Sunday 31st October at 3pm when we will remember them. This will be followed by afternoon tea in the Church Room when we can meet together and share memories.



Everyone is very welcome.

For more information, please contact Jane Bennett on 01794 368109

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We're having our **Harvest Festival Service** on Sunday 3rd October at 9.30am

There will be an opportunity to give groceries for the Food Bank if you would like to

We will meet up for Tea/Coffee and harvest-themed cake afterwards in the Church Room – or outside if the weather is kind
We'd love to see you if you would like to join us!



Braishfield Pantry

As we settle into the 'new normal' in our home and work lives, the Pantry staff members are also enjoying returning to more 'normal' routines and good old-fashioned customer service. We're delighted to be able to use our lovely china cups and plates to serve drinks and cakes again, but we continue to offer our takeaway service for those wishing to use single use containers. We appreciate your support in continuing to wear masks whenever possible during your visits to the shop. Our staff and volunteers have agreed to wear masks also. Perhaps this simple measure, along with the use of plenty of hand sanitiser, will help all of us to stay safe as we move forward out of lockdown?



Several of the Pantry volunteers, along with Sharon, are taking up the great opportunity to complete a first aid course that is to be run in October by Roy Bayntun, one of our brilliant local First Responders. Roy's 2 half day sessions will give a good basic understanding of all things first aid related, including the use of defibrillators; responding to allergic reactions and the use of EpiPens in cases of anaphylaxis.

The course will build on the Pantry staff's own preparations and refresher training for the introduction of 'Natasha's Law' which takes effect in England from 1st October 2021. This legislation follows on from lessons learned after the tragic deaths of people who suffered severe allergic reactions in recent years after eating certain foods. Food business operators must be ready to share full information about ingredients and the 14 main allergens in their food products. Braishfield Pantry is already holding ingredient information for homemade products, so is well ahead, and we would encourage anyone who might have concerns to talk to volunteers and we can give you the relevant folders in order for you to make an informed decision.

As we all return to a little more to our 'normal' life, please do remember that we are always pleased to see you here at the Braishfield Pantry. We

still stock those everyday needs, such as a pint of milk or a loaf of bread as well as packs of stamps, but we also have those lovely treats that help to cheer us up every so often. That reminds me - I can't quite believe it as I am writing this, but at the next update we will be really gearing up for Christmas! So, watch this space for news!

SHEEP MATTER AT ELM GROVE

Life seems kind of quiet for us mere observers, but there is still plenty for Kate to do. The ewes are being prepared to spend time in the field with their rams and so the whole cycle will start again. Kate will have something like 60 breeding ewes this next season, with more north country mules than Lleys, but she has doubled the number of Lleys and hopes to build up her stock of them over the next few months.

All the fences on the farm are being replaced in the autumn, so Ian and Kate are busy taking down the existing, in some cases very old, fencing and Ian is having to remove fallen branches and growth which would be in the way of the new fencing. It'll be interesting to see how the fencer does it; apparently, he has all the gear and hopefully it will be a smooth operation. We really don't want wet conditions for the job, so let's hope the rain holds off.

Sadly, Tilly, Kate's old sheep dog, died several weeks ago; she had had a very enjoyable life on the farm with Kate and the children, being Kate's right-hand help mate for many years. She is missed. She undoubtedly gave Fly some sage advice and Fly is turning out well.

Wendy Quarendon



Scouts (Braishfield)

September has seen 3rd Romsey Scouts, Cubs and Beavers start back up. Not that there wasn't lots going on over the summer. 3rd Romsey Scouts took part in an awesome camp at the start of the holidays. Here's what they got up to...



“Over the holidays, 3rd Romsey (Braishfield) Scouts went to Braggers Wood for a Scout Camp. On the first day (the arrival day) we set up our sleeping and dinner tents and then unpacked. On a gas stove, we cooked our dinner which was spaghetti bolognese. On the second day, we went on a hike after breakfast. We had bacon, egg, sausages, veggie bacon and toast for breakfast. Dinner this evening was homemade pizza cooked in the pizza oven at the campsite. Day 3 activities were building a trebuchet, air rifle shooting and archery which was really exciting. On the last morning, we took down our tents and had pancakes for breakfast. Our favourite activities were the hike and air rifle shooting.”

Zoe Lucas and Henry Merrills



The trebuchet

Meanwhile the cubs were given ‘opportunity’ to work towards their home help and skills badges over the summer break. They could help sort the washing, iron 2 items of clothing (more if they wanted), clean and tidy their room, or even make their bed every day for a whole week! I have yet to hear from Akela, but I can only imagine how popular this opportunity was!

The Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are now all back together for their weekly meet-ups. The cubs got to have the water fight that had had to be postponed

at the end of the summer term, and last week took to the village to undertake a litter pick – what great community spirit.



Social Contact Group

Finally, after much soul searching we decided the time was right to proceed slowly and with care to meet as a group once again.

It was such a happy occasion to meet for coffee and cakes at Headlands Farm Cafe, Wellow where we were well looked after in a safe environment. There was barely a moment in time when conversation faltered, so much to catch up on.

Our plans are in place through to Spring 2022 with our next visit in October to Woodlands Lodge Hotel for scones, cream & jam.

If you would like to join our Group, please don't feel lonely, just give me a ring on 368339

Hazel Prince



Braishfield Flower Arrangement Society

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL – ‘RESONANCE’ – A FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS



Over 300 flower arrangers from Flower Clubs across the Wessex and Jersey Area of NAFAS came together in Winchester Cathedral for ‘Resonance’ a Festival of Flowers, about how memories are triggered by our senses. The designs were all thoughtful and reflective of the losses and sacrifices so many have made following the pandemic.

The build-up and planning started over two years ago. It was a very stressful time for the designer Pip Bensley with all the problems and restrictions associated with Covid. It was also a challenge for the flower arrangers as all the arrangements were to be eco-friendly by not using any Oasis foam.



Once again our team from Braishfield proved what a talented bunch they are. They were given the job of producing an arrangement along either side of the Quire Steps to Pip’s design. It wasn’t until they went to the Cathedral on the Monday morning to set up their arrangement that were aware of exactly what flowers they

were getting and they were not disappointed with the selection – large blue and white hydrangeas, cream roses, phlox, delphiniums and purple lisianthus. The finished arrangements were absolutely stunning. They all felt their efforts were really worthwhile and were particularly pleased when Pip Pensley came along to not only congratulate them on such beautiful

work but also to commend them on being the best organised and efficient team in the Cathedral!

The Festival also gave the girls the opportunity to wear our new flower club aprons!



Congratulations must go to the team of Ann, Beth, Cindy, Diane, Fran, Hazel and Margaret. Well done girls, you did Braishfield proud !

We are delighted that our club is meeting again and details of forthcoming demonstrations can be found on the village website www.braishfield.org .

For more information please contact our Chairman Frances Henderson on 01794 524147 fran.henderson@gmail.com or Secretary Eileen Norman on 02380 731162 braishfieldflowerclub@gmail.com

Carole Renvoize



making travel possible

Affiliated to the Jumbulance Trust: registered charity No. 1090731

September 2021

Our local group had a much better end to the summer with a Lunch Reunion on a very sunny day at the beginning of September in our garden and Barn.

New caterers to us, Wild Garlic did a beautiful BBQ, with pork, fish and delicious vegetarian options for over 50 people. An enormous Raffle raised £370 for the Jumbulance Trust and later we had tea in the garden with a big Jumbulance Cake made by Jan Lewis.

We then had 4 consecutive Day Trips free to local people and also 2 groups – the Romsey Cheshire Home and the Reading and W.Berks Can Do Club. Our own day trips were to The Hawk Consequancy Trust near Andover which was fascinating, with amazing flying displays of many different birds of prey, especially the Secretary Bird and vultures (whom we now all love and understand better) and the owls flying the in the woods. Our 2nd day trip was to Blenheim Palace at Woodstock. We were so lucky with the weather and good company and after months of isolation it really lifted every ones spirits. One gentleman was moved to tears – of joy, to be out amongst people again.

Our 8 day holiday to Norfolk goes out on September 24th and we are all so looking forward to it especially some local residents who hadn't expected to go until we sadly had some last minute drop outs due to accidents. Its just wonderful to be going away somewhere together again.

Anyone who feels able to help us next year, financially, with help on our day trips or as a volunteer on a holiday, do get in touch. We always need younger volunteers as well as nurses and doctors.

Chris Chisholm

Hants and W.Berks Jumbulance Group Leader

cookchrism@aol.com 0788 774 8224

Ride & Stride 2021



Chris and I decided to visit all the churches in the Whitchurch area – we are still working our way through all the areas of Hampshire and discovering our fantastic heritage. There are some wonderful treasures to be seen.

We visited 21 churches there + 2 in Winchester en route to collecting a banner from the Cathedral! Overton had some absolutely scrummy food as well as Steventon! Perhaps we should put together a best food guide! Being guided round the church too was a bonus. Jane Austen, the author, was born in Steventon where her father was rector in 1775, and lived there for 25 years writing the drafts of two of her most famous novels while there.

In Laverstoke we seemed to be following in the hooves of some horses who were participating too! Laverstoke church has an amazing triptych above the altar and the church is still used by the Portal family. Their paper mill at Laverstoke produced watermarked banknotes for the Bank of England, and is now the home of the Bombay Sapphire Distillery.

We could not have done our route without our heritage car – a 1970 MGB Roadster (it was also Heritage Open Day). Perhaps we will have some electric bikes for next year! The weather was great throughout and little traffic in the area we covered.

The end result for us, apart from have a super day out and meeting lots of lovely people, was that thanks to the generosity of our Villagers the sponsorship raised from our two Village churches – All Saints and United Reformed – raised over £400. Very many thanks to everyone for their generous support. We want to keep our wonderful church building heritage for future generations to enjoy.

By generating funds annually through Ride & Stride, Hampshire & the Islands Historic Churches Trust (www.hihct.org.uk) is able to give out grants to churches in need of fabric restoration, re-ordering etc.. Last year the Trust raised over £80,000 on Ride & Stride Day – their best ever result - £10,000 more than before and despite Covid restrictions!

Meryl & Chris Balchin

RATES PER EDITION:

£40 back cover (colour) | £12 half page inside | £24 full page inside



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RUBBISH NEWS

Recyclable materials in cardboard boxes left beside the brown bin on recycling weeks will be collected throughout the year.



Recycle weeks beginning:

11th, 25th October

8th, 22nd November

Household waste weeks beginning:

4th, 18th October

1st, 15th, 29th November

Garden waste green bags are collected the same week as household waste, every other Friday.

Recycling Is Easy!

In Test Valley, we collect 5 types of recyclable materials from Rubbish News brown bin, and we have a network of more than 100 Local Recycling Centres to collect even more items! At home, you can put the following items in your brown recycling bin:

«Paper «Cardboard «Plastic bottles «Tins and cans «Aerosol cans

and you can take the following items to your Local Recycling Centre:

«Glass bottles and jars «Textiles «Aluminium foil
«Cartons «Books and media

To find your nearest or most convenient Local Recycling Centre and to see what you can recycle there, use Recycle Now's Recycling Locator:

www.recyclenow.com/local-recycling

Brown Bin Recycling Tips

« Ensure your recyclable items are clean and dry.

« Don't bag your items – keep them loose or they won't be recycled!

« Don't put other plastics (pots, tubs, trays) in your bin – we can only recycle plastic bottles.

« If in doubt, have a look at the recycling guide:

www.testvalley.gov.uk/recyclingguide

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