



The Villager

November 2019

Greater love has no-one
than this, than to lay down
one's life for his friends.
John 15:13

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Sherbornes and Pamber



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Contact with the Editor

Thank you

Andrea and Peter of Peppercorn, 10 Vyne Road would like to thank all the people who helped in raising £361 for Macmillan's cancer support on Thursday 26th September. As always - it was nice to see so many of you and we hope you enjoyed the day as much as we did. Apologies for the late invites – we will endeavour to be more organised next year!

Local Guide Group

To register a girl for any guiding group, please sign up here here: <https://go.girlguiding.org.uk/join-us/join-as-member/>

To register as a volunteer, please sign up here: <https://go.girlguiding.org.uk/join-us/join-as-volunteer/>

GP Appointments

Numbers of appointments missed at Clift Surgery – slightly less than in the previous month but still way too high. If you decide you do not need an appointment you have booked with your surgery – please **ALWAYS** phone and cancel. It can then be given to someone else.



Careful what you flush

I have been contacted by a resident at the bottom of Spring Close in Sherborne St John. She told me that she has had to contact the Water Board 4 times in the last few weeks to unblock the sewage pipes which pass under her garden from higher up Spring Close. The problems were caused by baby/make up and cleaning wipes being flushed down the loos. These do **NOT** break down in the sewers, and clog up at all the junctions and cause the “unimaginable” to flood this lady’s garden. Please be a good neighbour and don’t flush anything other than loo paper down the drains.

Whilst we are happy to publish items and opinions in this magazine it should be noted that the views expressed by the contributors are not necessarily endorsed by the Editorial team. Readers should also make their own enquiries about, and assessment of, claims and services made by advertisers in this magazine.

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Future Events

November 2019

1	Bramley Fireworks, doors open 5pm, tickets: www.pta-events.co.uk/bramleyschoolassociation	7.00pm
1 - 9	Basingstoke Art Club Exhibition at The Sainsbury Gallery, The Willis Museum, Free entry	10.00am – 5.00pm
2	Beau Farm Shop, open on corner of Morgaston/Vyne Road	10.00am – 4.00pm
4	Pelican Film Society, Leave No Trace, The Ark , Guest Welcome £7	7.30pm
5	Women's Fellowship, Five Generations of the British Raj, SSJ Village Hall	2.00pm
9	Artisan Market, Sherborne St John Village Hall	11.00am–3.00pm
9	Beau Farm Shop, open on corner of Morgaston/Vyne Road	10.00am – 4.00pm
11	SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning at SSJ Village Hall ALL VERY WELCOME	9.30am-11.00am
11	Royal British Legion, 11.11.11 service at SSJ War Memorial	10.45am
16	Beau Farm Shop, open on corner of Morgaston/Vyne Road	10.00am – 4.00pm
18	B/S Horticultural Society, AGM followed by Cheese & Wine, Kempshott VH, Tel: 01256 466281	7.30pm
23	Fish & Chips Quiz Night, Sherborne St John Social Club, book & buy your place by 20 Nov	8.00pm
23	Beau Farm Shop, open on corner of Morgaston/Vyne Road	10.00am – 4.00pm
25	SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning at SSJ Village Hall ALL VERY WELCOME	9.30am-11.00am
29	Tadley Christmas Lights switch on event	
30	Odiham Christmas Extravaganza, Odiham High Street	4.00pm
30	Beau Farm Shop, open on corner of Morgaston/Vyne Road	10.00am – 4.00pm

December 2019

3	Women's Fellowship, Christmas Lunch	
7	Beau Farm Shop, open on corner of Morgaston/Vyne Road	
8	Tadley Singers Christmas Concert, Pamber Heath Memorial Hall, in aid of the Ark Cancer Centre	10.00am – 4.00pm
9	SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning at SSJ Village Hall ALL VERY WELCOME	3.30pm
9	B/S Horticultural Society, Members Christmas Party, Kempshot VH, Tel: 01256 466281	10.00am-11.30am
9	Pelican Film Society Xmas Meal £27 (non-members welcome) £20 members, The Ark	6pm
	Film: Funny Cow, The Ark , Guests Welcome £6	7.30pm
14	Beau Farm Shop, open on corner of Morgaston/Vyne Road	10.00am – 4.00pm
18	Sherborne St John Parish Council Meeting, Chute Pavilion. (Planning meeting 7pm)	7.30pm
21	Beau Farm Shop, open on corner of Morgaston/Vyne Road	10.00am – 4.00pm

This November why not support St. Michael's Hospice November Nights campaign?



The money raised from our November Nights campaign in just five years has already had a huge impact on the Hospice, the patients we care for and their families. Over £11,000 has been raised which has allowed us to care for 2 patients on our in-patient unit for the average 10-day length of stay.

Your November Nights event could contribute to this increasing total and

continue to have an impact on our services in the local community.

You could hold a themed evening, cheese and wine evening? Hold a bonfire party or a 70's night. You could ask your local pub or club to host a quiz or music night in aid of the Hospice. The list is endless and so is the fun.

If you have an idea please let us know,

or if you need supporting material to help promote your event, please give Lynne Grimshaw a call on 01256 848845 or email: Lynne.grimshaw@stmichaelshospice.org.uk



Contacts

PLEASE NOTIFY THE EDITOR OF ANY ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO THIS LIST.
THIS IS THE ONLY WAY OF ENSURING THAT THE DETAILS ARE CORRECT

CHURCH OF ENGLAND	Vacant position at present	
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH	The Presbytery, Popley Way, Basingstoke	819722
BASINGSTOKE COMMUNITY CHURCH	Sarum Hill Centre, Basingstoke	316000
CLERKS TO PARISH COUNCILS		
SSJ Mrs Penny Mayo	clerk@sherbornestjohn-pc.gov.uk	07714 770940
MS Mrs Cally Morris	mspcclerk@gmail.com	07721 076186
Pamber Mrs Leonie Browne	clerk@pamber-pc.gov.uk	07920 787170
BOROUGH COUNCILLOR for SSJ	Mr Tristan Robinson	07817 131821
BOROUGH COUNCILLOR for Pamber	Mr. Roger Gardiner, Nuthatch, The Glen, Pamber Heath	01189 701109
BASINGSTOKE & DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL	Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke	844844
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL	The Castle, Winchester	01962 841841
HAMPSHIRE POLICE	Non-emergency 101 or 01962 841534	
	www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime	
PCSO JOHN DULLINGHAM	john.dullingham@hampshire.pnn.police.uk	
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH	ted_wilkinson@btinternet.com	850891
NEAREST JOB CENTRE	https://www.jobcentrejobs.co.uk	
LOCAL GROUPS		
WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP	Mrs Jenny Cullum (Secretary)	850315
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GUIDES	Sam Hazlewood - ssjguides@yahoo.com	880132
SCOUTS	James Maylen - ssjscouts@gmail.com	
CUBS	Ms Trish Field	01420 544904
MOTHER AND TODDLER	Mrs Barbara Irving	850173
SSJ SOCIAL CLUB	Mr David Hughes (Steward)	850303
SSJ HISTORY SOCIETY	Mrs Jean Linford	850264
TENNIS CLUB	Paul & Maria Saunders	850430
THE 60+ COFFEE MORNING	Mrs Shelley Moore	850577
SUMMIT JUDO CLUB	Mr Len Duncie	07860 435 831
	or Mr Paul Hamilton	07917 005862
YOGA in SSJ Village Hall	Mrs Jacqui Morris	881336
SHORT MAT INDOORS BOWLS CLUB	Mr Les Bone	850973
FOOTBALL CLUB	Mr Terry Buller tel.buller@gmail.com	07584 169241
PICCOLO PRE-SCHOOL NURSERY	Claudia or Jane info@piccolopsn.com	07528 726248
	www.piccolopsn.com	
THE VYNE HOUSE (National Trust)	Mr Stuart Maughan	883858
VENUE BOOKINGS:		
St Stephen's Hall	Doreen Quilter	850036
MS Village Hall	Natasha Chappell natasha.chappell@googlemail.com	01256 851373
		07766 426080
SSJ Village Hall	Shawna Campbell ssjhallbookings@yahoo.com	01256 889534
	Caretaker	07500 776222
The Chute Pavilion	Terry Buller tel.buller@gmail.com	07584 169241
	& Penny Mayo ssjclerk@gmail.com	07714 770 940
HEALTH CARE		
NORTH HANTS HOSPITALS NHS TRUST		473202
HANTSDOC		01189 365592
BRAMBLYS GRANGE		467778
CHINEHAM SURGERY		479244
CROWN HEIGHTS MEDICAL CENTRE		329021
CLIFT SURGERY, BRAMLEY		881228
HOLMWOOD, TADLEY		01189 814166
ROOKSDOWN SURGERY		399710
MORELAND SURGERY		0118 9816661
EDUCATION		
THE PRIORY PRIMARY ACADEMY TRUST	Mr Mike Stewart (Head teacher)	850062
SSJ PRIMARY SCHOOL	Mrs Karen Payne (Head teacher)	850180
ST BEDE'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL	Mr Jamie Carroll	473379
PUBLIC SERVICES		
CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU		322814
BRITISH RAIL NATIONAL ENQUIRIES		0345 484950
BUS STATION (STAGECOACH)		0871 121 0190
LIBRARIES	Basingstoke Town Centre	473901
	Chineham Library	465643
	Tadley Library	0300 555 1387
DIAL-A-RIDE	Monday-Friday 8.30-12.00 am and 2.00-4.15 pm	01256 462101
Julie Crawley	villagemagazine@gmail.com	01256 851003

Services for November

03 Nov

10am Family Communion St Andrew's

10 Nov **Remembrance Sunday**

10am Family service St Andrew's
9.30am Morning Service All Saints

17 Nov

10am Morning Service, Sunday Club & Crèche St Andrew's

24 Nov

10am Morning Service, Sunday Club & Crèche St Andrew's
10am Morning Service The Priory

01 Dec

10am Parish Communion, Sunday Club & Crèche St Andrew's
5pm Advent Carols The Priory

Remembrance on Sunday 10th November

St Andrew's church, supported by the Royal British Legion, are conducting a formal Remembrance Service at 10am - all are welcome.

All Saints church, all are welcome. There will be a procession from the Church to Monk Sherborne War Memorial after the service.

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10AM:

03 Nov	Covenant to Bless Nations	Genesis 17:1-27	To be advised
10 Nov	Remembrance Service		Warren Trask & Rev Peter Russell
17 Nov	God remembered Abraham	Genesis 19:1-38	Andy Spence
24 Nov	Deliverance take Two	Genesis 20:1-18	Warren Trask & Rev Peter Russell
01 Dec	Birth of Isaac	Genesis 21:1-21	Rev Rob Phillips

MIDWEEK

Home Groups meet in the weeks of Monday 11th & 25th November.

We meet for **Central Prayers** at 9.30am in SSJ School, during term time

Roman Catholic Services (Tel: 819772)

Sunday Mass will be celebrated at the Church of St Bede, Popley at the following times: 9.00am 11.00am 6.30pm

Weekday Mass

Tuesday	Church of St Bede, Popley	9.30am *
Wednesday	HG Church, Basingstoke	9.30am *
Thursday	Church of St Bede, Popley	9.30am *
Friday	HG Church, Basingstoke	9.30am *
Saturday	Church of St Bede, Popley	9.30am *

* Time & Venue could vary



'Greater love has no-one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends' (John 15:13).

What does Remembrance Sunday mean for you?

For some it might be a day to remember historical events and pay tribute to those who fell in the World Wars, for others it is little more than observing a two minute silence within our busy lives. For those in the military, veteran and uniformed services communities, it is a proud occasion, often a reunion with brothers and sisters in arms but it can also be a difficult and rather public occasion. Remembrance for many is an everyday event.

In the way that you might live with the loss of a loved one, remembering the smiles, love, care and humour of those you may have lost throughout the year. The loss of a colleague on the battlefield elicits the same sense of loss which is not just remembered on one day: the 11th of November.

I have photos of my family at home that I cherish, this includes my father and grandparents who are no longer alive. We use photos to help us reminisce and with these memories comes an array of emotions and stories that help keep our relationship with a loved one alive. This matters as to forget these valuable memories might feel as though we are losing the relationship and love that we have and hold dear. There is therefore a link between love, meaning and why we try to actively remember those we love.

Love comes in many forms. I am blessed by the love of my family. My wife, Sian would however sometimes joke that I was married to the Army as well because I was often away from home. This was largely because of the purpose that comes from the challenges of war, the responsibilities of command and ensuring you bring everyone home. I genuinely loved those I commanded but of course in a different way to the love I have for my family. But there are overlaps: love comes from feeling supported, trusted, protected and developed. This love can be enhanced when shared experiences are also about overcoming shared challenges which can make bonds stronger. The ultimate demonstration of love being that you would sacrifice yourself for the benefit of another.

It is the unfortunate reality today

that war continues to be a part of the human story – this is the same with sin. There have been only two years since the end of World War II where a British Serviceperson has not died on an operational tour: in this time 7,187 UK Armed Forces personnel have died as a result of military operations. The British Armed Forces began 2019 with troops deployed on operations or based across every continent on the planet in 80 countries. The impact of Iraq and Afghanistan in particular has made Armistice a multi-generational, present tense event. I am not unusual in being part of armed conflict and counter terrorism operations six times in my short career and I was the old one - most of my soldiers were aged 18-25.

But why does all this matter if you are not in or connected to the Military? I have had conversations with people about the purpose or justness of a particular conflict and some are keen to distance themselves from wartime activity for this reason. I don't blame them as there is nothing glorious about war, and our increasing use of social media has heightened our knowledge of conflict to the point we have instant information. It is not, however, the gift of a Serviceman to countermand his or her political master, but in all cases Service Personnel deploy to put themselves in harm's way to protect us as a nation, for which I am very grateful. Their service and sacrifice means that

they give their today for our tomorrow.

It is when you put into perspective that one man (not a whole Army), Jesus, stood up for all of us in the face of all the sin in the world, sacrificing himself as an act of love, to not just protect us but allow us access to a better future (eternal life in heaven) that you realise just how incredible Jesus' sacrifice is. 1 Peter 3:18 states 'For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit'. In the same way the poppy and family photos help us to remember, the cross reminds us of Jesus' sacrifice. There is one key difference however - because Jesus defied death, we can continue to develop a deeper relationship with Him each and every day. Faith in Jesus starts with Remembrance but is so much more.

So, when you purchase your poppies this month please consider how you might remember those who gave all, including Jesus. Remember their stories, their families and the love that was associated with their service and sacrifice. The more one engages in regular remembering the more the significance of their sacrifice endures, and this is why for many Service Personnel Remembrance is not just an annual event but an all-year one.

Major Chris Woodward (Rtd)



Remembrance Sunday November 10th, 2019

St Andrew's Church, Sherborne St John

St Andrew's Church, supported by the Royal British Legion, are conducting a formal Remembrance Service at 10am – all are welcome. Service personnel, uniformed services and those from the scouting associations are welcome in their uniforms.

A formal parade organised by the RBL will occur at the Sherborne St John War Memorial on **Monday 11th November** at 10.45am

All Saints Church, Monk Sherborne

A service of remembrance will be held at All Saints Church starting at the earlier time of 9.30am. All are welcome. There will be a procession from All Saints to the Monk Sherborne war memorial after the service. Peter Russell from Winchester will preach and lead the service.

Other Remembrance ceremonies this year will be held locally as follows:

Bramley St James' Church 1030 on Sunday 10th November
NHH Hospital Chapel 1045 on Monday 11th November



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PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Matters

Cllr Robinson reported that the new green bin collection, after initial teething problems, has now improved.

It is hoped to erect the 'Silent Soldiers' again during the Remembrance period in November with 2 permanently placed by the War Memorial, while a local parish resident is in the process of trying to reinstate the Remembrance Service so do keep an eye on the notice boards for any updates.

It was recorded that the ditches along the side of the Chute Recreation Ground entrance and on the corner of Kiln/Elm Roads need to be dug out as they are not working correctly.

Roads

Hampshire County Council is in the process of completing plans for Vyne Road as it enters the parish from the Bramley direction to install traffic measures to stop speeding vehicles. It is hoped that this could be carried out fairly soon as their representative has obtained some funds and as long as the Parish Council can provide the balance when the total cost is known. The recently installed A340 measures at West End have had a notable improvement on the speed of vehicles through the area.

Cllr Vaughan is continuing to push to get the repair work carried out on Vyne Road which has been scheduled for far too long.

Volunteers are still needed to help in other areas of the village with

monitoring traffic speed using our new equipment, so if you have any time to spare, even if it just an occasional hour, please contact Penny Mayo, clerk@sherbornestjohn-pc.gov.uk

Transport

Unfortunately despite the Parish Council efforts Stagecoach will not run any more bus services through the Village with people at times having to walk to the A340 to access transport.

Lengths man Scheme

This Hampshire County Council initiative is working very well, with smaller problems dealt with quickly – cutting down overhanging path ways, cleaning signs and small repairs. Let me know if there is anything you think they may be able to undertake during their visits.

Chute Recreation Ground & Pavilion

There is fairly urgent work needed on the entrance to the grounds as it joins Vyne Road as the tarmac has badly eroded. The Parish Council is also trying to source a new contractor to carry out necessary repairs to the playground equipment.

The Parish Council is in the process of arranging licenses for various sports clubs using the grounds, facilities and Pavilion to regularize usage and to ensure adequate funds are generated to cover on-going costs, repairs, maintenance and installation of new facilities.

While the Pavilion is in extremely good repair it must be remembered that it is over 20 years old and equipment is getting time expired. Items such as the gas heaters are now obsolete as far as spare parts are concerned so will have to be replaced in the near future as they fail but the Parish Council is confident that there are sufficient funds generated to cover these costs when they occur.

The Pavilion now has an exciting number of different sports activities taking place on site – football, judo, martial arts, bowls, tennis and yoga. So if you want any details about classes or clubs or want to make a party booking contact me on clerk@sherbornestjohn-pc.gov.uk

Neighbourhood Plan – Cranes Road Development.

I contacted Basingstoke and Deane about the unauthorized signage by the new developers which has now been taken down. The Parish Council is in the process of reviewing the application as they are unhappy with the number of trees that the developers wish to remove.

If you have any comments please register them on the website with the Borough Council.

Don't forget everyone is welcome to attend the Parish Council's monthly meetings so if you have any issues you wish to raise please come along to the Wednesday evening meeting or e mail clerk@sherbornestjohn-pc.gov.uk.

Penny Mayo

Pamber Green, Pamber End and Little London notes

Oh dear, what dismal weather! Wind, rain, lights needing to go on in the afternoon and heating coming on frequently. Autumn is definitely well on its way and Pamber Forest is getting soggy.

What an interesting read in last month's Villager from Neil Lockhart about his new cochlear implant. I certainly didn't know that the flu virus could cause profound deafness and can appreciate how devastating the sudden onset of this was for both Neil and his family. I do have the 'flu vaccine and, whilst it can be a bit of a nuisance for a couple of days, it is firmly recommended by health care professionals. Remember, it isn't just you that you are protecting but also the wider public around you.

I hear news from the Priory Primary School of parking difficulties due limited space. This has always been a difficulty for parents as it is a rural school and I remember from my days taking my son there of daily challenges at both ends of the school day and how frustrating it can be. A bit of common sense, patience and safe driving will greatly assist the current situation whilst the school tries to seek whatever improvements are practical.

At the time of writing, there are no further dates for Pamber Parish Council meetings published. As the October meeting took place at St Stephen's Hall, Little London, the next one should take place at Pamber Heath Memorial Hall.

The smart new parish notice board in Pamber Green is located next to the bus stop on the A340 at the end of New Road, Pamber Green. It doesn't seem to be very well used currently but, hopefully, this will pick up as parishioners become increasingly aware of it.

The very successful Felix Music Festival at Brickledons Farm, Silchester has raised in excess of £25,000 for The Bomb Disposal Charity. Well done all.

Choir events are now starting up and, with Christmas coming ever closer, many will have a seasonal flavour. It will be very interesting to see how the inaugural Tadley Autumn Arts Festival develops. It encompasses a wide series of arts related events from 19/10/19 to 25/10/19 which, hopefully, will be repeated in subsequent years. Unfortunately, news arrived too late for the last magazine and it will be over by the time you read this one but it included an open rehearsal for all comers to the Tadley Rock Choir on 23/10/19 at Burnham Copse School from 8pm to 9.30 and, hopefully, a concert at the Hurst Community College in the evening of 25/10/19 to draw together a range of local choirs, both adult and children. For future reference, an internet search of Tadley Arts Festival will bring up lots of information. Advance warning of the Tadley Singers Christmas Concert, together with the Basingstoke Hospital

Male Voice Choir which will be held at Pamber Heath Memorial Hall on Sunday 8/12/19 starting at 3.30 pm, again raising funds for the Ark Cancer Centre Charity. Also of note are the Tadley Christmas Lights switch on event on 29/11/19 and, the now annual, Highclere 'Sing for Peace' on 8/12/19 featuring Tadley Rock Choir as one of the performers.

Don't forget about the copies of the Villager placed in the Little London book exchange in the old telephone box in Beach's Crescent. Take and read these or to receive your own electronic copy, email the editorial team at villagermagazine@gmail.com

Don't forget the quiz at The Plough, Little London every 3rd Monday in the month starting around 8.30pm. Contribute 50p per person and have a very enjoyable evening.

By the time you read this magazine we should know the latest developments on the Brexit process. No doubt it will bring some surprises like everything else associated with it! But, closer to home, send me news and comments on local topics you wish to have publicised.

Ann Ellis
annjellis@googlemail.com

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – SUNDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2019 @ 11am

The annual Remembrance Sunday Service and Parade will take place this year on Sunday 10 November at the War Memorial, Basingstoke.

This year the parade routes have changed. The march will commence from the bandstand in War Memorial Park to the War Memorial. Following the service, the parade will march through the Top of the Town to the end of London Street. There will not be a marquee.

If your association is interested in participating (parade, laying a wreath) then please email

MayoralCoordinator@basingstoke.gov.uk

All are welcome to attend.

ARMISTICE DAY - MONDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2019 @ 11am

The Mayor will also be laying a wreath on Armistice Day, 11 November 2019, at 11am at the War Memorial. Everyone is welcome to attend the short (15-minute) service.

Local Car Parks: <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/content/doclib/2118.pdf>NHH
Hospital Chapel 1045 on Monday 11th November

Sherborne St John Church of England Primary School



Autumn brings with it two major events in our school calendar. The first is the conker competition, in which nearly all the children take part. After some fiercely fought elimination

rounds (not to mention dodging heavy showers!) the finals were won by Kevin and Kathryn. Well done to our conker champions for 2019!

The other Autumn celebration is Harvest, and we held our Harvest Festival in St Andrew's Church with each class taking part in the service. Our Harvest gifts were donated to the Basingstoke Food Bank, and at this time I thought it might be interesting to delve into our school records and find out what was happening in Victorian times. The following entries in the log books show that, as you would expect for a rural school, the Harvest season had a big impact:

August 9th 1871

Number present 51 on account of harvest. Harvest holidays – 5 weeks.

September 17th 1871

School reopened

September 18th 1871

Harvest thanksgiving – holiday in the afternoon.

September 26th 1872

A good many children away digging and picking up potatoes for their parents.

September 5th 1875

School opened – from 12
-20 children present

September 6th 1875

Unable to commence work – the children being engaged at harvest work. School closed for another week.

October 25th 1875

School closed by permission of the Rector to allow the children to gather acorns.

Whilst we might not allow the children time off to gather acorns or help with

the harvest, we are still celebrating the season nearly 150 years later in the same church. We enjoy keeping these old traditions alongside all the new technology that is part of our daily school life!

Sherbert – SSJ School Villager Correspondent

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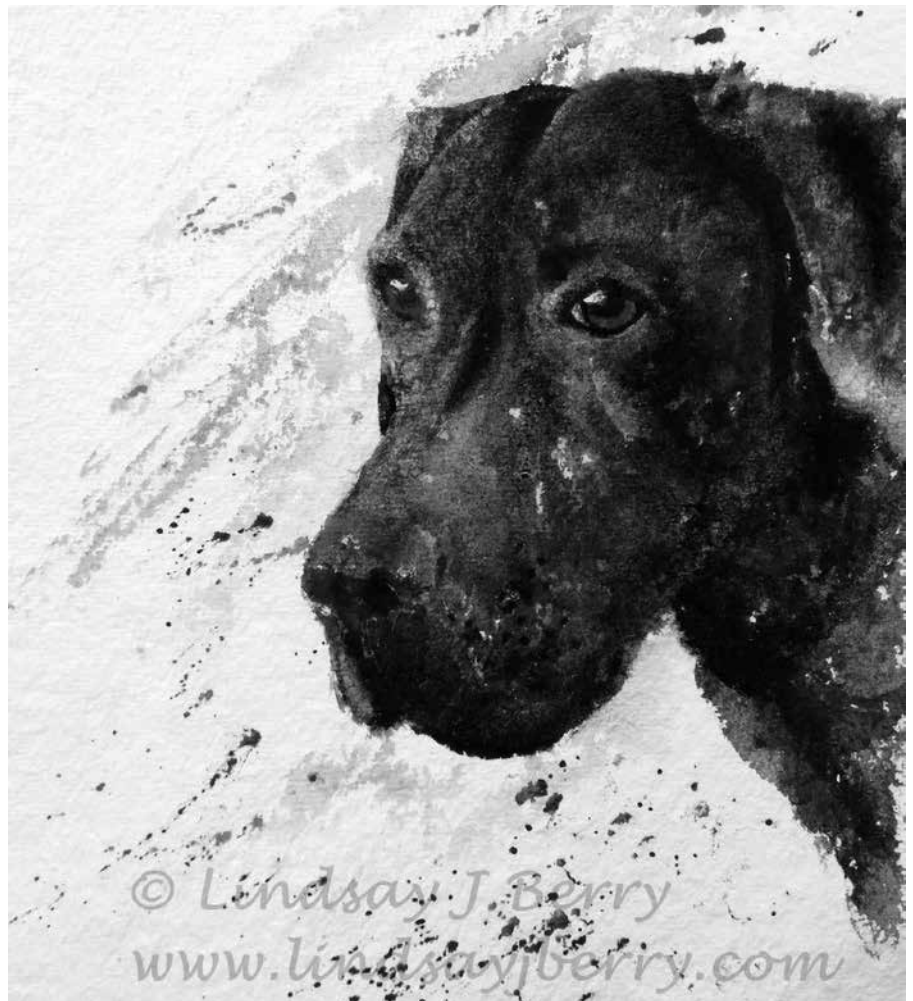


Bert's Blog

At last.....I managed to catch the attention of the Mrs! I have spent many, many years and opportunities, bamboozling, cajoling, charming, coaxing, tempting and manoeuvring to persuade the Mrs that I would be a good subject for her artwork. With my handsome good looks, my naturally elegant wiggly body and extremely waggy tail I thought I would be the dogs b..... well, you know what I mean - the best model ever! My agility however always went against me as I was told I never sat still for long enough and was always on the move. I complained and whined about all the photos of me she could use but none were quite right apparently.

I have sat on her feet, barked my boredom, stood in her way, stolen her paint brushes and drank her painting water, even, at great peril to my own safety, inserted myself into the view she was painting but never had I managed to instigate the inspiration she needed to paint my portrait until now!

I think she was having a bit of a guilt trip as she had been asked to paint the portrait of someone else's pet dog and, once it was completed, could see I was a little put out! When I say "put out" I



don't mean put outdoors as that is my favourite place to be, but "put out" as in the Mrs thought my nose was "put out of joint" which of course was ridiculous as that is my best feature, is as straight as a die and packed full of 300 million olfactory receptors which is 29,999,600

more than hers. Anyway the outcome was that she eventually, after all this time and all my shenanigans decided it was my time to "sit" for a portrait aided by the "right" photograph and here it is....don't I look a handsome beast?

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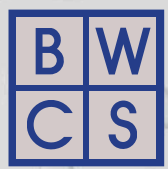
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At our October meeting fellow member Julie Crawley told us about the three month trip to South America that she undertook at the beginning of 2019. Her talk "Beyond Machu Picchu" was illustrated with her own photos. Leaving winter behind she flew via Bogota to Lima before meeting her tour group, 16 people from 10 nationalities with ages ranging from 20 to 75 with a Peruvian guide, Rudy. After flying to a tiny jungle airstrip, the journey proceeded by boat on an Amazon tributary to an Ecolodge



for a 4 day stay in the rainforest. On the river bank they were treated to a sight of a big jaguar and some capybaras, very large rodents

– his prey. The accommodation was comfortable, with running water but no electricity. Candles attracted huge moths, 2 hand-spans wide. Being woken at 5am by howler monkeys was alarming, but a night walk was fascinating, if a little unnerving for the faint hearted !. The two Amazon guides, Hugo and Elvis, were born in the jungle and showed them many medicinal plants that are used as natural mosquito deterrent, and others possible cancer cures. Getting lost would be easy, but help could be summoned by banging on the plentiful hollow vine roots.

The next stop was Cuzco, 11,000ft above sea level, where altitude sickness afflicted some of the group. They were encouraged to chew coca leaves or drink coca tea, which was disgusting, so Julie preferred to endure the occasional headache. The colourful local ladies with their thick plaits, many



Women's Fellowship



petticoats and Sunday aprons, wore a variety of hats. Some looked like lamp shades, but others were the distinctive bowler, originally introduced from England for men but adapted to suit the women's taste. Here some of the party left for the 4 day hike on the Inca Trail, but Julie was happy to take the train, seeing amazing Inca terraces and salt mines. The group met again at the Sun Gate at dawn in thick cloud, which cleared as they walked down to Machu Picchu, a quite wonderful sight. Only used between 1450 and 1550, it was never found by the Spanish and only discovered again in the 20th century by an American, Hiram Bingham. A visit to the historic silver mines at Potosi, where they now mine tin and lithium was quite distressing. At the height of its exploitation local miners took 4-5 hours to carry the silver ore up from the mines; a fall could be a fatal drop of 700ft. The last stop of this part of Julie's trip was at a Salt Hotel in the Uyuni Salt Flats which cover a huge area of 10,000

sq.km where there is no perspective and the group took a number of very strange photos.



Julie returned to the pleasant colonial town of Sucre to stay for 2 months with a missionary couple, Jonny and Olga Andersen and to help home school their children Joanna (9) and Jonah (7). The Andersens have worked with the Quechua community for 8 years and Julie was relieved to find that most spoke some Spanish. Bible stories are told by means of drawings. On her way home she visited the beautiful Lake Titicaca which is the largest inland lake in the world

Julie was thanked by Margaret Plumb for her fascinating tales and we heard that next year she is hoping to go to Vietnam and Cambodia. We look forward to hearing about it.

Next month we look forward to hearing from Jenny Mallin on Five Generations of the British Raj. Copies of her cookbook will be available for sale. Visitors are always welcome.

		Sherborne St John Village Hall Christmas Artisan market Saturday 9th November 10am – 1 pm	
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The Mill House, Sherborne St John

Situated on the popular walking route to the Vyne, Mill House lies on the eastern edge of the village. Part of the Vyne estate until 1954 and subsequently owned by Charles Horton's family, it was bought by Harry and Devika in 2015. The work they have undertaken since has been relentless and significant. We took the chance to ask them about it:

What was your intention when you bought the house?

Very simply to live in a beautiful place. We had been looking for the right kind of home for 3 of 4 years and were living in rented accommodation in Basingstoke to be in a position to act quickly.

Why Mill House?

Luck really. We saw the house on Right Move on Friday evening, visited it on Saturday morning, and following a chat over lunch at the Vyne, we made an offer that same afternoon.

As the buying process progressed, we realised that, after many years as a tenanted pair of cottages, it had become marginalised in its setting. This was simply because all the surrounding land had been extended to maximise agricultural production. Mr Horton kindly allowed us to buy some additional land which means our home now sits in just over ten acres. This includes the main north field through which the footpath to the Vyne runs and the full length of the private driveway that runs down from Vyne Road.

You seem to be keen gardeners

Yes we both love gardening. Harry has served as a Royal Engineer and so the necessary re-shaping of the ground and the use of earthmoving plant doesn't faze him. We plan things together and adjust the long-term vision as things reveal themselves. We are now pretty much through the structural phase of earthworks, construction and planting specimen trees. Our focus now is on the more detailed planting and the winter tasks of re-establishing and laying stock-proof native hedging.



Did you know what you were taking on?

Sort of. The mill pond lies about 12 feet higher than the ground floor of the house and is retained by a hand-built earth dam. Hydrological surveys showed that the combination of the wet silty reed bed, the continuous flow of the stream and the un-maintained dam itself was not just unstable but posed a danger to the house. Because constructing a hefty retaining wall was required anyway, the idea of taking the building project a few steps further and putting back a mill building on the site of the old one became obvious. Despite a few objections, our vision was thankfully shared by Basingstoke planning department who saw the potential to enhance the site and perhaps indeed the wider village.



How old is the original mill?

There has been a mill on this site since at least 1087 when it was noted in the Domesday book. It has definitely been rebuilt several times, as in preparing the foundations for the current construction we found evidence of a Tudor brick mill of a similar age to the Vyne. Historically, individual mill buildings tended to be short-lived, affected by either rot, through dampness, fire mainly caused by the misjudged friction of rotating machinery or the explosion of finely powdered flour.

The brick ruins that many villagers will remember were the remains of the 1797 Mill. This was still active until just after the First World War when it fell into disuse. This happened for a combination of reasons not least because the mill head was too silted-up to allow the sluices to be closed at night allowing the level to rise and sufficient water to be stored over night to power all-day operations the next day.

The new building sits almost exactly on the footprint of the 1797 mill. The historic brick walls of the leat join exactly to the new waterways and wheel pit of the new building.

Does the wheel generate electricity?

Yes. The steel wheel installed last November was operational throughout last winter – when the flow rises from the 80 litres or so a second of summer months to about 160-200 litres a second. At peak, it generates about 3kw continuously. In combination with some solar panels we therefore hope soon to be able to run Mill House using electricity generated wholly on site.

Tell us about the Mill pond?

During 2017 our investigative gardening revealed both the banks of the silted mill pond and the original Georgian brick control sluice that controls the height of the water. By clearing and repairing that sluice we regained the ability to control the height of the water in the pond and thereby dry out the reed bed. As the baking summer of 2018 wore on, we realised that (with diggers on site anyway and the ground being extraordinarily dry) we had a rare opportunity to dredge the pond. We did so with a 7 tonne excavator operating on duck boards. Walkers to the Vyne will remember some of the poorer material being stockpiled in our Northern field to dry before being trucked away. The agriculturally nutritious silt was usefully spread on surrounding fields. Around 5,000 tonnes of material was removed. This allows just over 1million gallons of water to take its place. This is however only about a third of the size of the original mill head, which ran all the way back to the trip-trap bridge. However the successful re-colonisation of that

other part of the original mill head by mature willows made excavating any further impracticable.

There is now a cascade and a waterwheel – Why?

All the spring and rainwater run-off water from the village passes through our site. The growth of our village and with it the extent of drains, domestic driveways, roads and road gulleys means that the rainwater run-off that we experience here today is much more flashy than when the purely spring-fed mill was last operating a century ago. The cascade therefore acts as a necessary safety valve to operate both at times of heavy rainfall and in preference to the wheel.

We must ask - Where are things with the footpath?

A final decision has not yet been made and so we welcome walkers to come and look providing they stick to the path. In the long term though we are keen for reasons both of our own domestic security and also actually given the



danger of the waterwheel and the deep waterways that have been restored, to remove uncontrolled access by the public and confirm the alternative route.

Thank you Harry and Devika

Thank you, Julie. Can we finally just

thank all the many villagers who have expressed their kind support for the work we are doing. We recognize we are very lucky to be the present custodians of this historic element of our village and we hope that our enjoyment of this lovely place is shared by those who pass by.

Who should have the flu vaccine?

Flu is an unpredictable virus that can be unpleasant, but if you're otherwise healthy it'll usually clear up on its own within a week.

It can cause severe illness and even death among vulnerable groups, including older people, pregnant women and people with an underlying health condition. Certain people are more likely to develop potentially serious complications of flu, such as bronchitis and pneumonia. These people are advised to have a flu vaccine each year.

The flu vaccine is free on the NHS for:

- children over the age of 6 months with a long-term health condition
- children aged 2 and 3 years on 31 August 2019 (that is, born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2017)

- children in primary school
- are 65 years old or over
- are pregnant
- have certain medical conditions
- are living in a long-stay residential care home or another long-stay care facility
- receive a carer's allowance, or you're the main carer for an elderly or disabled person whose welfare may be at risk if you fall ill

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Whistler - Social lives 1870 - 1890

John and Sarah Whistler led full lives in SSJ, combining a successful building, plumbing and decorating business with musical and dramatic entertainments, and bringing up eight children. The first born was John in 1861, followed by William, Kate, Henry (Harry), Arthur, Fred, Emmeline (Lena) and lastly Ernest in 1876.

All the children attended the village school. Some of the children followed their father into the building trade, others became teachers. Kate became a pupil teacher in SSJ, passing her pupil teacher exam at the age of fourteen, and became a fully trained teacher. Others went on to school in Basingstoke.

It seems they spent their childhood in SSJ very well occupied, with many interests including sport, bell-ringing and music.

We are indebted to a grand-son of William (Arthur Whistler) for a letter still in the family's possession which reveals some touching reminiscences of life in SSJ between 1870 and 1890. William died in 1940 in Canada and his brother Fred wrote to Hetty, William's daughter, following his death. Here Fred is reminiscing about his boyhood with his brother William:

Fred recalls William was 'fine at' cricket, as well as other sports. They boxed 'with gloves of course', ice-skated on 'dear old Tames Dell', Farm Pond and Vyne Lake. They also enjoyed fencing and fly fishing, fishing in a number of places and of course 'dear old Farm Pond in Sherborne'.

They also spent many happy hours (and days) cycling, as Fred recalls in his letter, riding with William to Auntie Kate in Dorset, fifty miles away, travelling on 'indescribable' roads, full of pot holes, dust and loose stones - William's bicycle caused him not a little discomfort due to

the hardness of the seat, and he suffered from rheumatism from time to time. His bicycle was a 50" 'penny farthing'.



William apparently showed a keen interest in books as well as sport, and he and Fred would take their books on a sunny day and read under the shade of a tree in Sherborne Meadows 'with the bubbling stream laden with the perfume of meadow sweet, cuckoo pints, etc.'

The Whistlers enjoyed social occasions, and were invited to 'fancy parties', one such being a very jolly evening at the Ilsley's of Kiln Farm, as well as the Matthews' at the Mill, and at Weybrook Farm with 'the Portsmouth's and Moody's'.

They also attended amateur theatricals at the Hasker's at The Brewery (West End), and at Christmas time the 'glorious Xmas suppers' and Sunday feasts provided by 'dear old Grandmother Whistler'.

Music was a big part of the family's lives. They all participated in the church choir as recorded by Rev D W Chute. Members of the Matthews family were also in the choir. The choir mistress &

organist, Mrs Chute, wife of the Rector, later observed that 'at one time 6 of the Matthews' family and 8 of the Whistler's, were in the church choir'.

Fred said that Henry, like the others, was musical and played the violin, and sang. Fred also played the violin, as reported in the Hants & Berks Gazette of 21st January 1888: 'a midnight peal was rung on New Year's Eve, after which the ringers ascended the tower and sang the Old Hundredth hymn, ably led by Mr. F. Whistler on his violin'.

Articles in the Gazette in the 1880s tell of members of the Whistler family organising, or taking part in, concert, drama and music events.

Village entertainments were held in the School. One in particular was reported in the Gazette in 1886 organised by Mr John Whistler which included a farce, interspersed with songs, the cast being members of the Whistler and Matthews family and Maud Chute, daughter of the Rector. Mr Whistler was 'praised for his skilful arrangements and the delightful evenings he has favoured the inhabitants of Sherborne with this season'.

All the children left the village when adult. William qualified as a teacher, married Sarah Ilsley of Kiln farm and later emigrated to Canada. Kate married Charles Portsmouth of Weybrook farm and they also emigrated. Fred and Lena went to Jersey. John became a draughtsman but died, aged 29, in Argentina when on an adventure with Harry helping to build a new railway. Harry returned home and took on the family business but didn't settle. He married Helen Ward, the daughter of the Rector of Wootton St Lawrence. They moved to Eltham, Kent and had two of their children, Rex and Laurence became renowned artists.

SSJHisSoc@Lillydown.net

Basingstoke Deane

Rotary



Serving our community

CONTACTS

Helen Ricketts: -
helen@highpathway.co.uk
or
Paul Temple:-
tempaul@dsl.pipex.com

YOUR LOCAL **ROTARY** **ROUNDUP**

'Service above self' our motto

Our main fundraising events are The Anvil Royal Marines Band concert, The international Black Tie Boxing event and The Basingstoke Festival of Transport. The income for these events is goes to support local causes and a few carefully chosen International ones

One of the other things we do is to honour our Motto 'Service above Self' and serve our community by assisting other charities in their activities.

We've supported **The Ark Cancer Centre Charity** since its inception not only financially but also by providing man (woman) power: we've bucket collected at the Star Wars event and for Ark Day last June as well as having fun with the wonderful Jane Austen benches. You can see our Jane Rotary bench in the entrance to the Radiotherapy department at Basingstoke hospital.

We also help **St Michael's Hospice** with their events: The 'Moonlight Walk', providing refreshments, and some members took part. We car park for the important 'Light up a Life' and the 'Farleigh Wallop Woodland Walk'. We run water stations for 'The Big Wheel' and also for the Half Marathon



Our **'Stroke Awareness' Day** will see us taking blood pressure in Waitrose allowing peace of mind for most people but an important warning for those people who are not aware they have high blood pressure, they are given the appropriate advice and that may be go straight to hospital, (do not Pass Go and do not collect £200!) For those few people it may have been life saving. Look out next April for Stroke Awareness Day 2020 and come and get your blood pressure taken

On Sat 30th November 2019 at you'll see us being Elves and helping at **Overton Christmas Fair**, 13.00 -18.00pm. You'll be able to book to see Santa. Recently we've helped run the Pop-up shop in Overton to raise funds for **Lordsfield Swimming Pool**, an important community asset

In the Run up to Christmas we provide, cook and serve Christmas lunch to the people who attend **The Camrose Centre** and the helpers. The Camrose Centre is a drop-in service providing support and assistance to the homeless, vulnerably housed in Basingstoke.

Service above Self is fun and we get a lot of enjoyment doing all these varied events

Save the Date

Sunday 26th January 2020, **The Royal Marines Concert** at the Anvil:15.00 - 19.00pm

3rd May 2020 **Basingstoke Festival of Transport**, War Memorial Park, Basingstoke: 11.00 - 16.00pm:

Basingstoke Deane Rotary is a group of 35 man & women from a wide variety of backgrounds. All live locally in the borough but some commute to work outside Basingstoke. Most joined Rotary to help those less fortunate and find it adds an extremely enjoyable dimension to their lives

If you would like to find out more about how we enjoy ourselves, just tune in to www.rcbd.org.uk to see what we have coming up, or contact Helen or Paul above to find out more. You might be pleasantly surprised!

Facebook: @RotaryBasingstokeDeane

Twitter: @RBstokeDeane

10/19

News from North Hampshire Hospitals Trust

Don't we all love negative news? Newspaper editors know this and use it to sell papers. No organisation seems to attract more negative news than the NHS, despite so many people telling of the wonderful caring and compassionate treatment they, or someone close to them, have received, as evidenced in the 'WOW' awards for staff who have exceeded all expectations.

Is it not time we looked at some of the real positives? I believe we are particularly well cared for with our Trust, which in so many ways is at the forefront of care for us locally. So let us look at some of the facts.

Many of us know that for two of the big four cancers, bowel and prostate, (breast and lung being the other two)

Basingstoke is a centre of excellence. In addition it is strong on the treatment of liver disease, and is only one of two centres in the UK for treating pseudomyxoma peritonei, a rare form of cancer affecting the internal lining of the abdomen. Whilst not classed as a centre of excellence, as an example, many will testify to the life transforming results from surgery in orthopaedics. Whilst hip replacements are widely done, shoulder replacements routinely done in Basingstoke are much more challenging, due to the very tight proximity of nerves, and blood vessels in and around the joint being replaced.

In the UK, medicine is very much 'evidence based' – a soundly scientific approach, and for us as patients, very

reassuring. New ideas, techniques, and drugs, all have to go through rigorous trials prior to them being adopted as standard practice. It has also been demonstrated, that hospitals undertaking most research provide better patient outcomes, hardly surprising when such patients get closer monitoring. It is encouraging to know that in the latest league table issued by the National Institute for Health Research our Trust came out in the top ten in England for recruitment into commercial research studies.

The above are perhaps just a few solid reasons why we should be more positive about our caring Trust.

Keith Bunker, Governor

News from the Basingstoke & Deane Council

The EU Settlement Scheme is run by the Home Office and is intended to ensure that EU citizens who live in the UK can continue to live, work and study here as they do now. EU citizens have until June 2021 to apply – or December 2020 if the UK leaves the EU without a deal.

Details of the scheme can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families/applying-for-settled-status>

Anyone who needs help and support applying to the scheme can either

telephone We are Digital on 03333 445675 for an appointment at the Viabes Centre in Basingstoke.

Or contact Basingstoke, or Tadley, Citizens Advice on 03444 111 306 or Mobile 0300 3300 650.

For those seeking general or specific advice about Brexit, people and businesses can find more advice and guidance through the Government's Get Ready for Brexit campaign at <https://www.gov.uk/brexit>

There was a report to the council's Cabinet on 10 September that outlined the work the council is doing to prepare for Brexit. This may also be of interest and can be found at <https://democracy.basingstoke.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=142&MId=1448>.

If you have any queries please contact Di Bromley (01256 845312) diane.bromley@basingstoke.gov.uk or Jessica Bave (01256 845746) jessica.bave@basingstoke.gov.uk



Basingstoke Civil Service Retirement Fellowship

At the meeting held on Wednesday 2 October 46 members and 3 visitors were welcomed by the chairman, David Cowling. The secretary, Tony Brazier, gave details of the forthcoming trips and reminded those going on the Mystery Trip and the Christmas Lunch to return their menu choices as soon as possible. The Welfare Officer, Christine Broadbent, then gave her update on members who had not been well and also gave the sad news that Bert Clarkson had died aged 96. Bert had in the past been chairman for over 20 years and still regularly attended meetings, especially the AGM when he took over the chair while the new committee were elected.

The speaker this month was Mel Rees who gave the second part of his talk on "My Family and other Meerkats".



He kept us all highly amused with tales mainly connected with his mother in her later years when visits to the doctor, hospital and dentist provided a wealth of almost comedic events and situations. In between this he enlightened us with some of the quirks of the English language along with observations on the behaviour and attitude of those who deal with the public in their everyday occupations. These thoughts and more are also contained in his books written in the pen name Anthony Mann and published by his own company the Trouser Press with the latest, *In Bed with A Mann - Part 2*, available now.

The group's next outing is a on Thursday 21 November to Millets Farm Centre

near Abingdon where there is the Farm Shop, Garden Centre and Restaurants. They will be geared up for Christmas so this will be a good opportunity to get some presents.

The next meeting is on 6 November when the speaker will be a representative from Hampshire Constabulary on "Home and Safety". Also at this meeting we will be holding a Christmas themed Bring and Buy Sale. The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Brookvale Village Hall from 10am to 12noon and all retired Civil Servants, their relatives and friends are welcome. Further details about the group and information about our trips can be obtained by contacting csrfbasingstoke@gmail.com.

David Cowling

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Probuss Hears First Hand Evidence

Should she be worried at the thought of giving her talk for the first time to the all male audience of the Probuss Club of Basingstoke? After all she had almost thirty years' experiences to call upon, all far more serious than this. The good, the bad and the downright funny is how Jackie Dimmock described situations she encountered as an officer in the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Police. Discounting the usual Powerpoint slides, instead she used her hobby of quilting to amusingly illustrate some of her varied incidents as customs and practices changed over the years.

The W in WPC eventually went missing, as a Police Constable had that rank irrespective of gender. However, the uniform did not change until later so she had a straight skirt, stockings and suspenders. Not the most practical attire when responding to a reported break in and forced to climb over a school wall after her male colleague jokingly told her that the gate was locked.

In those days she was issued with a radio but had to buy a pair of handcuffs and a small truncheon that fitted inside her shoulder bag which she would swing with great effect at miscreants.

Trousers came later, but these were men's trousers and consequently fitted women badly.

Today female Police Constables have tailored trousers, advanced radios, CS sprays, handcuffs, cameras and stab vests.

Undertaking a police driving course, Jackie was inexplicably taught to double de-clutch even though the car had a synchromesh gear box. Let out in a small car, although fitted with a blue light it had no siren so she had to use the horn to get through traffic. On her first outing she made the classic error



of driving the wrong way up a one way street. Chasing a suspect would have been her excuse had she been reported.

At a meeting led by the then Chief Constable she failed to ask about a report that 99% of female officers suffered sexual harassment at work. Being news to Jackie she afterwards quizzed the Chief Constable as she wondered if she was the missing one percent. He said that to rectify matters she would be welcome to visit his office anytime. How times change.

Following on from serving five years in the Child Protection Unit Jackie became a Schools Liaison officer. She was able to tease information out of children relating to domestic problems. Children told of drug addict mothers using a lighter under a tea spoon in the kitchen. Others being abused and their siblings in the same school equally suffering were unknown to teachers. Fathers who drove while drunk or did not wear a seat belt were all reported by the children.

Drug raids required a female officer to be part of the team as she would be needed to handle women suspects. One raid on a bungalow the suspect escaped out of a window. Jackie leaned out trying to spot him. An inquisitive donkey came up to the window and bit Jackie's left breast. Everyone said that they should examine the damaged area as it needed to be recorded in the accident book.

In the early days of DNA she became a scene of crimes officer. A girl had been murdered alongside the Basingstoke canal in 1981 with no suspect emerging. All the evidence was kept in Basingstoke. In 2002, in the north, a wife reported her husband for assault. Using familial DNA profiling he was eventually charged with the murder.

For more information about the Probuss Club phone their Secretary, Jonathan Ratcliff on 07501 271547 or see their web site www.probusbasingstoke.wordpress.com

Tadley WEA Day Seminars and Courses WEA.org.uk

Would you like to learn something new in a friendly environment? If so then the Tadley WEA courses and seminars may be for you!

The WEA is a national organization providing adult education in the community. Our offerings are presented by very qualified, professional lecturers at a convenient location and without tests! It's a great way to keep your mind active and meet new people.

One way to introduce yourself to our offerings is to enrol in a one-day seminar. The Friday seminars listed below are from 10am – 4pm in the Ambrose Allen Centre in Tadley, RG26 4ER. The £35 fee/seminar includes lunch.

Day School: Italy to England - The Spread of Renaissance Architecture 28/02/2020 Ref: C3744210

Day School: Masterpieces of Art Nouveau 03/04/2020 Ref: C3744214

Day School: Haydn in England 24/04/2020 Ref: C3744215

Day School: The Art and Architecture of the Sistine Chapel 15/05/2020 Ref: C3744216

To enrol please quote the course reference either online or by ringing 0300 303 3464. For further information please email Jan Smith at tadley.branch@wea.ac.uk

We look forward to seeing you at one of our offerings!



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Saturday 16th November

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All welcome - 8pm till late. £8 on the door. Licensed bar and Low Prices.

Profits to Brain Tumour Research – Charity number 1153487.

Future dates:

Saturday 14th December – Tommy Allen's Trafficker XL.

Saturday 18th January.

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Christmas arrangements for separated parents

Now is the time for separated parents to start thinking about making Christmas arrangements.

While for many parents the festive season is a special time of year, it can be a trying time after a divorce or separation.

From a family law perspective, it is very important that you plan your contact and visiting arrangements in a timely manner before the hectic Christmas period.

Ideally, start discussing the situation with your children's other parent as early as possible, to give yourself plenty of time to come to an arrangement about times and days to see the children.

If you are on amicable terms with your former partner, sit down together with your diaries to record what is agreed to avoid future disputes.

If not, use an impartial third party or solicitor to liaise over access and put it in writing.

Think about how to divide your children's time over the festive period, maybe having the children on Christmas Day every other year and then making Boxing Day a second Christmas Day.

Remember Christmas is only a few days out of the whole year. It can be a time of great joy and happiness for your family, so be prepared to be flexible and try to remember to put the children first.

A little planning well before the holiday season starts can avoid a lot of unnecessary stress and arguments.

Our experienced family solicitors are on hand to help you. They have a wide range of expertise and experience to offer you the best guidance. We will do what we can to help you reach a fair outcome as quickly as possible.

For more information contact the Family Law team at Phillips by calling 01256 460830. You can contact Hayley Eachus directly by calling 01256 854633 or by emailing hayley.eachus@phillips-law.co.uk

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- The advertising rate is £4 per month or £6 for a box entry. Cheques to be made payment to 'The Villager'.
- Payment for advertisements must be received in advance and are limited to 10 lines of type.
- For information on annual block advertisements please contact **Emma Foreman**

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To book a classified advert for the Villager, **register** with this website. Then **search** for The Villager using any of the searches allowed. There is no online payment – you can pay by cheque at the end of the booking process as normal. Once monies are received you will be able to access receipts and check your booking history from this site.

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Intrigued? Book your tickets early for your family and friends to experience

this feel good family show at The Haymarket.

Dates are Thursday 13th to Saturday 22nd February 2020, excluding Sunday 16th. Matinee performances are also on Saturday 15th and 22nd February.

Ticket prices: Adults £20.00, Children £14.00. Last night (Saturday 22nd) all seats £21.

Early Booking Discount (book by 31st December 2019) to save £2.00 off each ticket by quoting code 'BGS2020' for performances on Thursday 13th, Monday 17th, Tuesday 18th February 2020.

Group booking discount of £1.00 off each ticket for every 10 purchased before 31st January 2020. Discounts not available with online bookings. One discount only, per booking.

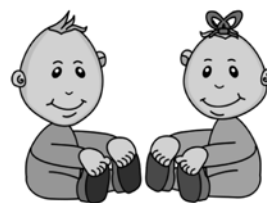
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