

A kingfisher is shown in mid-flight over a body of water. The bird has a long, sharp, dark beak and is angled upwards. Its head is covered in iridescent blue feathers with white spots. The throat and upper breast are a vibrant orange-brown, separated from the blue by a white patch. The wings are dark blue with lighter blue spots. The tail is also blue. The bird's feet are red and are extended downwards. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting water and foliage. The overall composition is dynamic and captures a moment of intense action.

# The Villager

May 2025

Sherbornes and Pamber



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## Editor's Note

Further to my letter last month I would like to thank all those who have already donated to the Villager Magazine Fund to help with costs of producing each issue. If you haven't given yet, and would like to, the bank details are:

### The Villager Community Account:

**Sort Code: 30-18-45      Account No: 00608061**

Thank you

**Julie**

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## You're invited to... Women's Afternoon Tea Party

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Village Hall**



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Suggested donation £5

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### Cover Photo: Kingfisher taken by Graham Crook

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# Love Languages

## How do you show someone you love them?

A few decades ago, Author Gary Chapman outlined what he termed "The Five Love Languages." According to Chapman, there are five general ways people express love for one another: words of affirmation, quality time, gifts, acts of service and physical touch. This concept is often used in marriage preparation courses to stress the importance of showing and not just saying "I love you."

The love of God lies at the very heart of the Christian message. We might often hear it said that God loves us, but how is his love shown? When God was on earth in the person of his Son, Jesus, he used words to affirm people society ignored. He spent time with people who were isolated and cut off from their communities. He gave wine to a groom whose casks had run dry. He served his friends by washing their feet. He wasn't afraid to touch those deemed untouchable. But it was the first Easter when God showed the true depth and extent of his love for us.

In part of the marriage service, the couple exchange rings and say, "all that I am I give to you, and all that I have I share with you." These words recognise that the ultimate love language is sacrifice. For Christians, the ultimate sacrifice, the one that every marriage points to, is the one Jesus made for us when he died on the cross. He gave himself for us so that we can share in his resurrection life – forgiven, free and loved forever.

If you were walking through the churchyard at St Andrew's during April, you might have spotted our Easter Garden.



We were very grateful to Y6 pupils from SSJ School who helped with planting and constructing, and every child who decorated a pebble – they looked wonderful!

Beneath the crosses are some words from the Bible:

***"This is how God showed his love among us: he sent his one and only son into the world that we might live through him."***

*(1 John 4v9)*

If God's love is something you've heard about but never really been shown, can I invite you to join us at any of our services or events. We're running a Christianity Explored course, starting with a Taster Session on 7th May. Do get in touch if you'd like to find out more or sign up

**Rev. Stewart Deering**

[stewart.deering@sherborneswithpamber.org](mailto:stewart.deering@sherborneswithpamber.org)

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# May

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In Our Faith In Jesus

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**Sat 3rd** **8.30-9.30am** Morning Prayer in the Parish Room

**Sun 4th** **10.30am** Holy Communion with Groups for 0-11s at St Andrew's

**Weds 7th**  
**10-11.30am** Little Acorns Baby and Toddler Group at SSJ Village Hall  
**12-12.30pm** Midday Prayer at St Andrew's SSJ  
**2-4pm** Being Together Women's Group in the Parish Room  
**7.30pm** Christianity Explored in the Parish Room

**Sun 11th**  
**9.30am** Holy Communion at All Saints, Monk Sherborne  
**10.30am** Morning Worship with groups for 0-11s at St Andrew's SSJ

**Weds 14th**  
**10-11.30am** Little Acorns Baby & Toddler Group - SSJ Village Hall  
**12-12.30pm** Midday Prayer at All Saints' Monk Sherborne

**Thurs 15th** **10-midday** Poppy Knitting Group in Parish Room at St Andrew's SSJ

**Sun 18th** **10.30am** Mission Partners Sunday with groups for 0-14s St Andrew's SSJ

**Weds 21st**  
**10-11.30am** Little Acorns Baby & Toddler Group - SSJ Village Hall  
**12-12.30pm** Midday Prayer at St Andrew's SSJ  
**7.30-9.00pm** Christianity Explored in the Parish Room

**Sat 24th** **8.30-9.30am** Men's Breakfast venue TBC

**Sun 25th**  
**9.30am** Holy Communion at Pamber Priory  
**10.30am** All Age Worship at St Andrew's SSJ

**Sun 1st June** **10.30am** All Age Worship at St Andrew's SSJ



Church Office: [admin@sherborneswithpamber.org](mailto:admin@sherborneswithpamber.org) 07786 975969  
Minister: [stewartdeering@sherborneswithpamber.org](mailto:stewartdeering@sherborneswithpamber.org) 07359 717577  
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## Our Spaces



What a glorious morning it was for a churchyard working party at St Andrew's on Saturday 5th April, made up of members from the church and wider community. We can all say a big 'thank you' for the hard work of everyone involved in helping to tidy up the churchyard and inside the church building.

This working party was also

designed to help prepare the church for more general opening now under consideration, with the hope that it can be a space everyone can enjoy, whether for quiet reflection or to learn more about the long and valuable history of our village.

In the past, mention has been made of a part of the churchyard to be set aside for a wildlife area; this is already underway in the section between the memorial garden and the church path. The area has received its preparatory mow, before being left to go wild till the autumn. It will offer an easily accessible space for children from the school to explore and learn about the diversity of nature and the importance of conservation.

We hope to organise another Working Party towards the end of the summer – possibly 30th August or 6th September. We'll confirm the date ASAP, all are welcome to get involved!

## Women's Fellowship

This month we had a very interesting but sobering talk from Julian le Good entitled One Man's View of Poverty and Homelessness in the UK.

We learned that a definition of home is a place with your own front door, with your own kitchen and bathroom and where you can do what you like and when you like.

Sadly, there are many that don't enjoy having their own homes. We were surprised to learn that a large proportion of homeless people are in work. Rents in most areas are too high for those on the minimum wage to afford.

Many live temporarily in multiple occupancy houses or hostels where access to the kitchen or use of the bathroom is regulated by the most forceful resident and therefore may not seem like the place of safety that they should be. The length of stay is often limited so there is always the anxiety of what comes next.

We heard that many youngsters running away from home will arrive at the London mainline stations which are patrolled by men offering accommodation and work but sadly these young people will find themselves forced into prostitution. Fortunately, there are London churches who also regularly visit the stations offering a more secure future.

Julian was thanked by Rose Cooper.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 6th May.



### **PSSSSST – have you heard about the Dog Show at the SSJ Village Fete?**

It's time to start preparing so you're ready for the 21 June. You can enter for the following categories at £2 each. To keep things manageable there will be 10 entries per category.

- 1. Best Behaved.**
- 2. Waggiest Tail.**
- 3. Lovable Girl**
- 4. Handsome Boy.**
- 5. Best dressed Dog (and Owner).**

See you there.

# Claiming Dates

## May 2025

|    |                                                                                            |                  |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 3  | Sherborne St John Social Club, Private Function                                            | 7.30pm           |
| 3  | Start of Little People Big Dreams Children's Trail at The Vyne NT, on till 22 June         | 10.00am – 4.00pm |
| 5  | SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall                              | 10.00am – 12.00  |
| 6  | Women's Fellowship, SSJ Village Hall, Christabel Pankhurst                                 | 2.00pm – 4.00pm  |
| 7  | Hospital Male Voice Choir, Free Concert to celebrate VE Day, Hospital Canteen. All welcome | 7.30pm           |
| 8  | Sherborne St John Social Club, AGM, Members only                                           | 7.30pm           |
| 10 | Basingstoke Male Voice Choir, Concert at Brighton Hill Community School                    | 7.30pm           |
| 11 | Basingstoke Festival of Transport, B/S & Deane Rotary, B/S Memorial Park                   |                  |
| 13 | Basingstoke Male Voice Choir, Concert at St Lawrence Church, Wooton                        | 7.30pm           |
| 15 | Knit/Crochet Poppies for Remembrance Day, St Andrew's Parish Room, Sherborne St John       | 10.00am – 12.00  |
| 17 | Sherborne St John Social Club, Decades Tribute                                             | 7.30pm           |
| 19 | SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall                              | 10.00am – 12.00  |
| 20 | Cancer Aware Day, All welcome, Hook Community Centre RG27 9NN                              | 11 - 3pm         |
| 21 | SSJ Parish Council, Annual Parish Council Meeting, The Chute Pavilion, Vyne Road, RG24 9HX | 7.15pm           |
| 28 | Sherborne St John Social Club, Chris's Jazz Friends                                        | 7.30pm           |
| 31 | Sherborne St John Social Club, Private Function                                            | 7.30pm           |

## June 2025

|    |                                                                                      |                 |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 2  | SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall                        | 10.00am – 12.00 |
| 3  | Women's Fellowship, SSJ Village Hall, A Titanic Conspiracy                           | 2.00pm – 4.00pm |
| 14 | Sherborne St John Primary School Fayre, School Playground                            | tbc             |
| 14 | Sherborne St John Social Club, Private Function                                      | 7.30            |
| 16 | SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall                        | 10.00am – 12.00 |
| 19 | Knit/Crochet Poppies for Remembrance Day, St Andrew's Parish Room, Sherborne St John | 10.00am – 12.00 |
| 21 | Sherborne St John Village Fête, The Village Green, Sherborne St John                 | 1.00pm – 4.00pm |
| 21 | The Vyne National Trust – Basingstoke Symphony Orchestra Summer Solstice Concert     | 7.00pm          |
| 21 | Sherborne St John Social Club, Ryan Upton Solo Artist                                | 7.30pm          |
| 30 | SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall                        | 10.00am – 12.00 |

## July 2025

|    |                                                                                      |                 |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1  | Women's Fellowship, SSJ Village Hall, Outing                                         |                 |
| 14 | SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall                        | 10.00am – 12.00 |
| 17 | Knit/Crochet Poppies for Remembrance Day, St Andrew's Parish Room, Sherborne St John | 10.00am – 12.00 |
| 28 | SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall                        | 10.00am – 12.00 |

## August 2025

|    |                                                                                      |                 |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 5  | Women's Fellowship, SSJ Village Hall, Tales of a Roving Reporter                     | 2.00pm – 4.00pm |
| 11 | SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall                        | 10.00am – 12.00 |
| 21 | Knit/Crochet Poppies for Remembrance Day, St Andrew's Parish Room, Sherborne St John | 10.00am – 12.00 |
| 25 | SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall                        | 10.00am – 12.00 |

## September 2025

|    |                                                                                      |                 |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 2  | Women's Fellowship, SSJ Village Hall, The Life of a JP                               | 2.00pm – 4.00pm |
| 8  | SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall                        | 10.00am – 12.00 |
| 18 | Knit/Crochet Poppies for Remembrance Day, St Andrew's Parish Room, Sherborne St John | 10.00am – 12.00 |
| 22 | SSJ Retirement Coffee Morning, Sherborne St John Village Hall                        | 10.00am – 12.00 |

**Notify Claiming Dates to Lindsay Berry on [lindsayberry0@gmail.com](mailto:lindsayberry0@gmail.com) or message on [07775 800955](tel:07775800955)**

# News from Pamber and Little London



“Laughter and apple-blossom floating on the water.” I was reminded of these lovely words of TS Eliot as I weeded and fretted in glorious sunshine in the garden. Fretted primarily about my lavender plants, which are really quite an eyesore - depressingly woody with the occasional flower. Time to replace, maybe? Any tips most welcome. And then, just as I glanced over to the little fountain bowl, a brief, gentle gust deposited a few blossom petals on the water’s surface. And right on cue from a neighbouring garden, the delighted laughter of a small child.

We can only hope that there will still be things to laugh about in our changing world. As I write, the collapse of the stock market is ongoing and I find myself wondering if Faisal Islam’s suggestion that this could be Donald Trump’s “Liz Truss moment” might be true.

In addition to our economic woes, the world seems to be increasingly determined to destroy itself with the tentacles of conflict stretching ever wider. It is with a certain bitter-sweet irony, therefore, that I draw your attention to our community’s celebration of VE Day, the day when the last world war ended and everyone rejoiced in the fact the bloodshed was over. But what was perhaps not grasped was that peace, like war, is, alas, cyclical.

The celebration of VE80 Day will take place on Thursday 8th May in Pamber Park and all are welcome. The event is organized by the Parish Council and there is no entrance fee. There will be fish and chips and a beer tent and live music to help the night along. And at 9.30pm the beacon will be lit. Last year’s event was a great success and I’m sure we’ll be able to say the same of this year’s. Do come!

As ever, I finish my rambling with a plea for information

from the readership. It is difficult to know what to say about the goings-on in the villages and those who live here if you don’t send me any information. It would be particularly nice to “Meet a(nother) Villager” courtesy of this column. Why not you!?

Until next time,

B 🐝 bdownes.villager@gmail.com

## Sign of the times: Sherborne St John at the moment



What do you call a collection of traffic lights? – An annoyance!

# Sherborne St John Primary School

In April, we had a very special Spirituality Day in school that we wanted to tell you all about.

Spirituality is a concept that, as a Church of England school, we knew a bit about but that we wanted to grow within our school. We first talked in worship all together about how spirituality can be defined:

'At Sherborne St John School, we believe spirituality is about reflecting on those special moments that connect us and help us learn more about ourselves, others, the world around us and beyond.'



Then we talked about the four kinds of 'moments' that are part of Spirituality and help us learn more about this concept:

**Mirror moments** - moments where we learn more about **ourselves**;

**Door moments** - moments where we learn more about our connections to **others**;

**Window moments** - moments where we learn more about our connection to the **world** around us;

and **Candle moments** - moments when we learn more about 'the **beyond**' - those questions we just don't know the answer to but that intrigue us.

Then, we split into our three house groups of Chute, Sandys and Brocus, teaming up our older children with

our younger ones. Our Y5 and Y6 School Council and our Worship Team then led a small group at a time to present more information and to complete an activity about each one; we drew ourselves and wrote about our qualities and what made us who we are and special for mirror moments, we made paperchains about people we love and admire for door moments, we made natural collages out in our school grounds for window moments, and we wrote our big questions down for candle moments, which were varied and very insightful! At the end of each session, the children collected a memento to go in their very own 'Spirituality Kit' which they then took home.

Finally we had a worship in the afternoon to bring our learning together and, through the children's suggestions, agreed we'd now work to incorporate the concept of Spirituality into our everyday lives, by thinking about moments we have outside of school, by displaying our learning in school, and about noting and acknowledging the moments we have with each other. We hope that as a school community we can use this concept to help us recognise and learn more about who we are spiritually and to grow as people alongside each other.

*Sherbert*

SSJ School Villager Correspondent



**SSJ SCHOOL SUMMER FAYRE**

**SATURDAY 14TH JUNE**

Do you have any unwanted gifts that you would like to donate to our School summer fayre raffle?

Do you work for a company that would be willing to donate a prize to our raffle?

We would be very grateful and would love to hear from you. Please message us on [School.Association@sherborne-st-john.hants.sch.uk](mailto:School.Association@sherborne-st-john.hants.sch.uk)

We can provide more information if required and a letter on headed paper with our charity details.

We are also happy to promote companies who donate a prize as part of our raffle.



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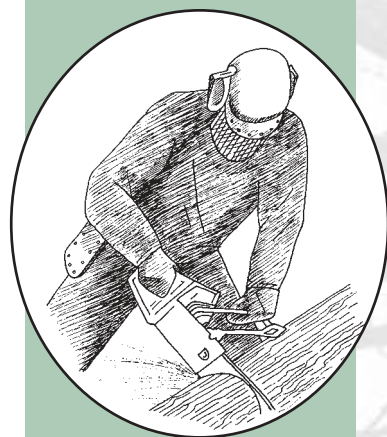
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# The Great British Spring Clean of Sherborne St. John

Could Sherborne St. John be the Best Village in Hampshire? There is so much that is lovely about this place. We would need to start with cleaning up and with litter-picking enthusiasts like this it could be the cleanest village in Hampshire, and it would be so amazing if it was.



Five 3rd and 4th-generation SSJers (with parental support), a couple of litter-pickers and a lot of passion, took a short walk from Monk Sherborne Road to Cranes Road, did the Cranes Road loop and headed back along to Monk Sherborne Road on the other side. In so doing they filled 6 shopping-bags and one bin bag full of litter along with one flat and dehydrated frog. I

imagine you don't find any of that surprising. It's not. But it is mighty depressing and 3rd-world-esque. It doesn't need to be like this.

New research by Keep Britain Tidy reveals that more than 8.5 million adults\* – 16% of the adult population – in the UK participate in litter-picking at least once every six months. If everyone in the village, who takes a daily or occasional constitutional, could pack a bag the next time they went out (and preferably a glove or two), and picked up after the reprobate-litter-droppers who

pass through our village, we could clean up and in more ways than one. Allison Ogden-Newton OBE, Chief Executive at Keep Britain Tidy, said:

*“... litter is more than an eyesore – it prevents investment, creates inequality, damages the environment and makes people feel depressed and unsafe.”*

And that's without mentioning the impact to our wildlife. The RSPCA states that 'Everyday objects that seem perfectly safe can become hazardous when animals come into close contact with them. By binning our rubbish safely instead of littering, we're making choices that could save many lives.'



For our sake and theirs please join forces with our little people, the passionate environmentalists, and help us clean up.

**Elizabeth Hatt**

**(Editor's Note:** We are fortunate to have Martin – our friendly litter picker – in SSJ who does a great job picking up the rubbish; but he cannot be everywhere all the time. His patch does not cover West End and the A340 so Elizabeth and her group of pickers, and others, should be applauded. What a shame we need to pick up other people's rubbish in the 1st place).

---

## Sherborne St John Parish Council

Our village is looking very special at time of the year with the daffodils, cherry blossom and magnolia all out in full bloom and many gardens looking very lovely in the spring.

### **Planning:**

A careful eye is being kept on all planning application's coming our way. With the Government's increase on required housing all councils will be looking for areas to build. In our village there is limited space to offer them .

### **Solar Farm:**

This is ongoing but the village needs to keep an eye on the plans. It will ruin a special area of our village - along the Weybrook for 40 years. That site of special interest will be lost and when returned will never be the same. No one is against solar panels but they must be put in the right location. Your council is doing all it can but people power helps to fight for a better position for the panels. Don't hesitate to contact the clerk with any comments you may have.

### **The Lengthsman Scheme:**

We have once again been given a sum of money for this scheme. It helps us to manage our lovely village. If there any jobs you see ,like a hedge cut back or signs to clean, can you please let your councillor Mrs Jane Bechelet know.

### **The Chute:**

The Chute Recreation Ground is looking good as the football season is coming to the end. Well done for all the hard work people have put in. The play areas have had their safety inspection. We are looking at renewing the play area for the young ones. And plans will be going out to tender soon. The Pavilion is well used by the villagers and other supporters. It is a good location for parties and weddings.

The Parish Council has supported this year's village fete on the 21st of June and the under 10s football team who are going over to France for the Europa Cup Tournament Good luck to them.

Council meetings are now every other month i.e. July 23rd September 24th and November the 26th.

The next meeting will be at the Chute Pavilion on the 21st of May; this will include the Annual Parish Assembly - all parishioners are invited to come and meet your councillors.

**Richard Morgan**

**Chair, SSJ Parish Council**

# Jean Linford

We are sad to note the passing of Jean Linford on Friday 4th April 2025 aged 89 after a short illness. Many villagers will remember Jean, who lived in Bourne Field from 1967 until early 2024, after which she moved to Chichester to be closer to her family. Jean played a full role in the life of the village through her long involvement with the church, choral society, founding the cub scout pack with Elaine Mulcahy, playing for the tennis club, and serving on the committees of the Women's Fellowship and History Society. She also enjoyed her association with the village school and always looked forward to attending the Nativity plays and hearing the children in the playground from her garden at break times. Jean was particularly honoured to be invited to the opening of the new play equipment at the school which she supported in memory of her husband Pat, a long-standing school governor. She made many lifelong friends in the village and enjoyed keeping up with events through reading The Villager after moving to West Sussex. On one occasion while enjoying her new life on the south coast, she even bumped into two old SSJ neighbours emerging from the sea in their wetsuits at Felpham!

She is survived by her sons Paul and Neil and granddaughters Lizzie and Mathilda.



Jean Linford and her husband Pat



Come along and knit, or crochet, poppies for a Remembrance Day display at St Andrews's Church, Sherborne St John.

We will meet on the third Thursday in the month between 10am and 12 noon at the parish Room which is attached to the Rectory. There will be tea and biscuits and lots of time to chat while making poppies. Patterns, red and black wool, needles, all available if needed.

## Dates for your diary:

All Thursdays 15/5, 19/6, 17/7, 21/8, 18/9, 16/10.

Come and see the results of your hard work at St Andrew's on 9th November 10.30am.

Ring Lynne Littlechild for more information.

Tel: 07789 968009

***Greater love has no one than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. John 15 vs 13 (NIV)***

## General Practice Community Cancer Aware Day

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025  
(11:00-15:00)



### Whitewater Loddon Primary Care Network

Representing our three partner practices: Whitewater Health (Hook & Hartley Wintney), Chineham Medical Practice and Clift Surgery, we are delighted to invite our patients to our Community Cancer Aware Day, to talk to our healthcare professionals, GPs and support services:

#### Speak to our advisors

- ✓ Victoria's Promise
- ✓ Princess Royal Trust for Carers
- ✓ North Hampshire Prostate Cancer Support Group
- ✓ 5K Your Way
- ✓ Basingstoke Sports Centre Cancer Rehab
- ✓ Ark Cancer Centre Charity
- ✓ Heartburn Cancer UK
- ✓ Hartley Wintney Volunteer Care Group
- ✓ Basingstoke Breast Cancer Self Help Group
- ✓ The Pink Place
- ✓ Local GPs
- ✓ Basingstoke Aquadrome Cancer Rehab
- ✓ Hook Surgery Patient Participation Group

Snacks and refreshments can be purchased onsite at Hartletts Café

"Healthcare Connecting with the Wider Community to Empower Patients & Practices"

ALL WELCOME!!

Drop in  
throughout the day!

Speak to our advisors

Listen to our talks

**11:00-11:45**  
"Minimising Risk  
& Early Signs"

**12:00-12:45**  
"Experiencing Cancer"



**14:00-14:45**  
"Your Cancer Questions"

**Hook Community Centre**  
Ravenscroft, Hook RG27 9NN

Limited parking available  
If possible, please arrive on foot, by  
public transport (15-minute walk  
from Hook railway station),  
or car share

# Beau's Blog



<http://beauregardsdogblog.blogspot.com>

Smelling the flowers. The Mrs is trying to educate me as to what smells nice in the hope that I can improve my hygiene which will in turn improve my aroma. The Boss thinks she is far too fussy and he says my aroma is fine.

This aroma teaching thing could take a while because there are a lot of flowers blooming as the garden is bursting into flower due to the sunny days we have been having. The grass has also been cut and I am discovering where a lot of my toys have been hiding in the secret corners of the garden. I have taken to rolling on the newly cut grass to get that lovely mown grass smell into my coat.

My coat... that's another minor thing the Mrs keeps on about. As soon as the sun came out my coat seems to be diminishing, in fact much of it is coating the floor instead of me. That noisy suction machine which the Mrs loves so much follows me around nearly every day pinching all my fur. I have to vacate the room in search of a safe haven in case I eventually disappear inside it. Goodness knows what it wants all my fur for... it will soon have the same aroma as me, he he.

## Royal British Legion

We are looking forward to the remembrance and celebration of VE Day on 8 May 1945. Our villages each have events to help us celebrate and these are in the magazine.

Whichever of our villages you in, you are warmly invited to join us for a VE80 Community Supper in Sherfield Village Hall at 6.30pm on Friday 9 May. The meal is FREE but you are invited to make a donation when you have enjoyed it!

We have a Raffle with really good prizes and also an auction for some exciting items. We will also listen to Churchill's speech announcing the end of WW2 in Europe.

Some members will be attending the Colonel's Review of Trooping the Colour on Horseguards Parade on 7 June. This is the final rehearsal for the King's Birthday Parade which is on Saturday 14th June

There is still time to book for our trip to the Somme Battlefield in early September. If you would like to join this short visit, full details can be found by contacting our Branch Chairman Rhydian Vaughan MBE who is a registered Battlefield Guide on 07774 681516.

**John Morley**  
Branch ViceChairman  
Bramley.  
ViceChair@rbl.community



## SHERBORNE ST JOHN

## VILLAGE FETE

### SATURDAY 21 June 2025

### 1 pm – 4 pm

**SHERBORNE ST JOHN VILLAGE HALL AND VILLAGE GREEN**  
**KILN ROAD, SHERBORNE ST JOHN, RG24 9HS**

BBQ ✨ PIMMS ✨ TEAS ✨ CAKES ✨ PLANTS ✨ MUSIC  
TOMBOLA ✨ COCONUT SHY ✨ GAMES ✨ AUCTION  
COMPETITIONS ✨ RAFFLE ✨ FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY  
CROCKSMASH ✨ VINTAGE VEHICLES ✨ BOUNCY CASTLE

👏👏 Please support our Village by your attendance and voluntary help 👏👏  
Your participation is always welcome ❤️ contact [hilaryandrews16@gmail.com](mailto:hilaryandrews16@gmail.com)

**Any donations will be gratefully received at the Village Hall**  
**from 9am – 11 am on 21<sup>st</sup> June for the following stalls:**  
**Cakes - Bottles for Tombola - Plants**

Any profit from the Fete will go towards the upkeep and maintenance of our Village Hall  
Charity Number 301945



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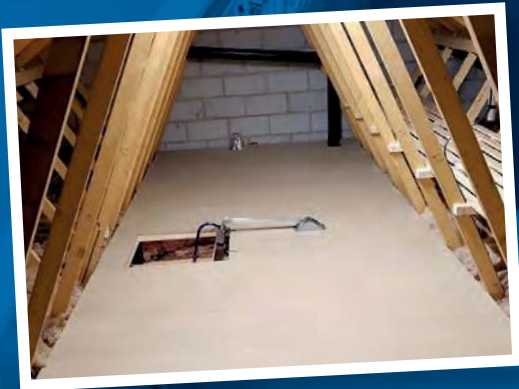
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Basingstoke Deane

Rotary



## ROTARY COLLECTING FOR THE MYANMAR & THAILAND EARTHQUAKE DISASTER



Thanks to the team at Festival Place we were able to react very quickly and collect donations for the disaster on Saturday 5th April. Sadly, President Trump has pushed this awful news off the main news agenda.

**Please donate to SHELTERBOX, Ring +44 300 0300 500.** SHELTERBOX are a trusted Rotary partner, they have warehouses located in frequent disaster areas, they can quickly assess what is required and get relief quickly to affected people. That may be full kits with tents and household equipment or perhaps tool kits and tarpaulins to repair and make dwellings watertight in the short term.



The Mayor & Mayoress helped us with our bucket collection

Thanks to the generosity of the people of Basingstoke and many kind visitors to Festival Place we have been able to send over £1000 to help families in need, **Please donate:** <https://shelterbox.org/myanmar-and-thailand-earthquake/> Thank you



## FESTIVAL of TRANSPORT 2025

**May 11th 11.00 - 4.00pm**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP ON THE DAY**



## WE'D LOVE YOU TO VOLUNTEER

**Become a Friend of Rotary**

**Have fun volunteering with us and help our local community.** To be one of the team of almost 100 that help at the Festival of Transport - just for a couple of hours, half a day or all day- please get in touch with Paul Temple on [tempaul45@gmail.com](mailto:tempaul45@gmail.com). You'll love it

Basingstoke Deane Rotary is a group of 25 men & 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 others less fortunate, and they find Basingstoke Deane Rotary adds another 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](http://www.rcbd.org.uk) to see what we have coming up, or contact Alf, [alf.mccarthy@btinternet.com](mailto:alf.mccarthy@btinternet.com) or Paul, [tempaul45@gmail.com](mailto:tempaul45@gmail.com) to find out more.

We think you'll be pleasantly surprised.

Facebook: @RotaryBasingstokeDeane | X: @RBstokeDeane

# Probus Learn About HMS Broadsword & Falklands War 1982



For speaker Charlie Threlfall, as a short-term Royal Navy officer the prospect of a goodwill tour of ten countries had great appeal. Aged 19 in early April 1982 he was on HMS Broadsword at anchor in Gibraltar. They were readying for a series of social events and cocktail parties across the world as they

planned to show off their three year old warship. Launched in 1979 as a Type 22 Guided Missile Frigate with a displacement of 4,500 tons and a crew of 235, HMS Broadsword was the epitome of the latest thinking in naval warfare. It had no traditional gun batteries but an assortment of guided missiles that could lock on a target without fail.

That very week, on 2nd April 1982, Sub Lieutenant Charlie Threlfall's life changed forever. The Falkland Islands in the South Atlantic were invaded by Argentinian forces. On 5th April HMS Broadsword left Gibraltar heading for Ascension Island about halfway to Las Malvinas, as the Argentinians called this British protectorate.

There, a group of twenty warships and supply vessels were assembled, painting out any identification marks to confuse any attacking forces. Southbound, they sailed in close convoy using no radar and no lights at night so that they could not be located by the enemy. The crew went on Defence Watches of six hours on, six hours off. They were lucky to get four hours sleep each day for ten weeks.

The British submarine Conqueror sank the Argentinian cruiser General Belgrano on 2 May. Questions were asked in Britain if it was a legitimate target as it was purported to be sailing away from the conflict zone, a situation denied years later by the ship's captain. All Argentinian naval ships were ordered back to port and then only aerial attacks continued at the extreme limits of their range.

Action stations came on 4th May when HMS Sheffield was hit by an air launched anti-ship Exocet missile. 170 sailors from the Sheffield were rescued by Broadsword. HMS Broadsword, along with HMS Coventry were positioned in San Carlos Water and were unable to spot enemy aircraft approaching over land and were strafed and bombed, being unable to

offer much resistance. Crew were instructed not to shoot at helicopters only fast jets.

Broadsword and Coventry were then positioned at sea to the west of the Falklands to draw aircraft fire from the troops. With two approaching enemy jets HMS Coventry was hit by three 500lb bombs, caught fire and eventually sank. But as it came across the bow of Broadsword it prevented them from firing their missiles. It was then discovered that at sea it was impossible to reload the four Exocet launchers on Broadsword once the initial four missiles had been fired. One of many lessons learnt during this conflict. HMS Broadsword had a narrow escape from following the fate of HMS Coventry as a 1000lb bomb travelling at 450 mph hit the ship towards the stern, 10 feet above sea level, travelled through two decks and emerged upwards through the flight deck, where it took off the nose of a Lynx helicopter, bounced overboard failing to explode.



Six British warships were lost and sixteen damaged during this conflict. 649 Argentinian military personnel, 255 British and three civilian islanders lost their lives. Charlie Threlfall knows the name of the Argentinian pilot who sent the 1000lb bomb into the side of HMS Broadsword. He says he would never shake his hand as two of his fellow schoolboys from his street on the Isle of Wight were in this conflict. One was a cook and was killed in this action while another, like himself, survived thereby becoming a member of the 'Bomb Alley Survivors Club'.

See [www.probusbasingstoke.club](http://www.probusbasingstoke.club) for more information about this social club for retired professional and business managers.

# Ladies' Probus Club Visit Japanese Garden



At the February meeting of the Ladies' Probus Club of Basingstoke, speaker Graham Bowyer captivated members with a fascinating account of the Japanese garden he and his wife Pauline have cultivated over the past 25 years, inspiring members to visit the garden themselves.

Graham opens his garden in Fleet by special arrangement for parties of 12 – 20 with the proceeds of the entrance fee of £7.50 donated to the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice in Farnham.

The interest in Japanese gardens emerged from their initial visit to Japan in 2000. Since then, Graham and Pauline have visited nine more times, including taking a course in Japanese garden design at a university in Kyoto.

The Ladies Probus' Club had a wonderful afternoon seeing the results of a quarter of a century of a labour of love while enjoying tea and cake in such wonderful surroundings.

The secretary of the Ladies' Probus Club, Pam Luck, can be reached via email at [SecretaryBLPC@gmail.com](mailto:SecretaryBLPC@gmail.com). Email Graham Bowyer at [graham.bowyer@me.com](mailto:graham.bowyer@me.com) to arrange a visit.

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Mendelssohn  
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Holst  
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Bizet  
Pieces from L'Arlesienne Suite no. 2  
Carl Davis  
Theme from Pride & Prejudice  
Tchaikovsky  
Pieces from Swan Lake Ballet Suite  
Elgar  
Pomp & Circumstance March no.4

BSO

National Trust

# Little People, BIG DREAMS® activity trail at The Vyne encourages kids to be bold, be brave and dream big



**Saturday 3 May - Sunday 22 June 2025: discover authors, activists, naturalists and musicians from the bestselling picture-book biography series, for ages 4-7+**

From late spring, a new interactive trail at the National Trust's The Vyne in Hampshire celebrates some of the world's most outstanding people, using artworks from the bestselling Little People, BIG DREAMS® picture-book series. The outdoor trail invites you into the stories of little authors, activists, pop stars and scientists from all over the world.

Little People, BIG DREAMS® is a bestselling biography series created by Maria Isabel Sánchez Vegara, with more than 7.5 million copies sold worldwide. Perfectly plotted for children aged 4-7+, the series introduces trailblazers and dreamers who have made a big impact in the world around them.

There will be plenty of stories to encourage your little ones to dream big as you explore the house and gardens. Delve into the lives of some extraordinary people including Jane Austen, Malala Yousafzai, David Attenborough, Taylor Swift, Steve Irwin and Hans Christian Andersen to name a few. Follow the trail with its fun activities, to find out how their dreams as little children grew to become their reality.

Try kangaroo pouch bean bag toss with Steve Irwin, and 'jam' with Taylor Swift on guitars in the summerhouse. Scout for wetland wildlife with David Attenborough using our binoculars in the bird hide, and create your own mini-theatre performance with Hans Christian Andersen in the wild garden. In the house you can join Jane Austen to find your Regency name in the old kitchen.

Roxanne Cooper, Visitor Operations and Experience Manager at The Vyne says: "We've really enjoyed debating which Little People we should include in this inspiring exhibition trail, which runs from 3 May to

until 22 June. We're excited to present the lives of some iconic people who dreamed big and are making positive changes in the world. The trail is a wonderful way to introduce kids to people who dreamed big and made a positive change in the world. We hope that children will feel empowered to dream big, just like the inspiring people they will meet on their day out at The Vyne."

Peter Marley, Associate Publisher of Frances Lincoln Children's Books, says: "Our best-selling Little People, Big Dreams series introduces children to the lives of outstanding people, from artists to scientists and musicians to activists. All of them achieved incredible things, yet each began life as a child with a dream. We hope that children visiting the colourful and interactive Little People, Big Dreams exhibition and trail at The Vyne, National Trust, this summer will have an unforgettable experience and feel inspired to dream big too."

Other heroes to look out for include athlete Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson, artist Vincent van Gogh and iconic musicians Beyoncé and Stevie Wonder, with many more to discover. Every book in the series is beautifully illustrated by artists. The striking illustrations are displayed to paint a picture of the lives of some extraordinary people, who have played an important part in history and the world we live in today.

The trail runs from 3 May to 22 June 2025. Gardens open 10am-5pm, House 11am – 3pm. Last entry is at 4pm. Normal admission applies (free for National Trust members). Books from the series will be available to buy from the National Trust shop at The Vyne.

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/hampshire/the-vyne/little-people-big-dreams-at-the-vyne>

For more information about The Vyne visit [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/the-vyne](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/the-vyne), or call 01256 883858



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John, Jackie's husband.

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## Summer starts here with the return of Basingstoke Festival for 2025



Start your summer with Basingstoke's award-winning free annual celebration of art, culture, heritage, community and outdoor arts. Join Basingstoke Festival over three weekends from Friday 20 June to Sunday 6 July as they fill the streets with creativity and energy. Performances will pop-up in Basingstoke town centre and other locations across the borough and will be free to watch.

Immerse yourself in the magic of live performances, whether you want to pack up a picnic and enjoy a whole day of entertainment or pop by for a performance or two, join the team to discover new artists and celebrate the creative spirit of Basingstoke.

The opening parade will set the scene of this year's festival with a green, sustainability and inclusivity theme. Pop by an 'eco-zone', alongside a programme

of new acts and some familiar Festival favourites who will explore environmental and nature themes in their shows. Expect performances 'blooming' with fun, energy and the weird, the wacky and the wonderful.

Basingstoke Festival brings together the best of Basingstoke's local talent alongside national artists who have performed across the globe. Whether you're seeking inspiration, entertainment, or simply a captivating experience, Basingstoke Festival promises something for the most inquisitive minds with large scale installations, street theatre, circus, dance and other activities to take part in.

Get ready for an unforgettable experience. Can't wait? Neither can we! Keep an eye on the Basingstoke Festival social channels and [www.BasingstokeFestival.co.uk](http://www.BasingstokeFestival.co.uk) for programme announcements.

---

## May half-term fun at Basingstoke Leisure Park

Looking for family fun this May half-term? Basingstoke Leisure Park has it all!

Step into the shoes of a detective and follow the clues around Milestones Museum in an exciting family-friendly adventure this school holiday. For water-based thrills, head to Basingstoke Aquadrome where the lagoon pool, exciting flumes, and thrilling rapids await. Thrill-seekers will love the adrenaline rush at iFLY Indoor Skydiving, an unforgettable experience for all ages. You can also catch the latest blockbuster movies

at Odeon Cinema or challenge your friends and family to a game of bowling at Hollywood Bowl.

After all that excitement, refuel with a bite to eat at one of the many on-site restaurants - McDonald's, KFC, Costa, and The Spruce Goose. With ample free parking and a wide range of activities for the whole family, Basingstoke Leisure Park is the ideal place to spend your May half-term. Plan your visit today at [www.basingstokeleisurepark.co.uk](http://www.basingstokeleisurepark.co.uk)

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**[emma@thehay.co.uk](mailto:emma@thehay.co.uk)**

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# Small Ads

Enquiries and items for inclusion please contact **Emma Foreman** on **01256 889215/07747 015494** or **emma@thehaye.co.uk**

- The advertising rate is £6 per month or £8 for a box entry. Cheques to be made payable 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**

**TSI COMMERCIAL & DOMESTIC BUILDING MAINTENANCE.** Electrical. Plumbing. Carpentry or Decorating. For a quotation, please phone **01256 780460** or **07989 940210**.

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**ABLE GARDEN SERVICES** Grass and hedge cutting, fencing, turfing, patios, planting, tree work, gravel drives etc. Please call Eddie on **01189 700765** (Pamber Heath) or **07904 440468**

**HOUSE CLEANING BY MARIA** Reliable and affordable services. Experienced, easy going local lady, who checks every corner. Ironing services also available. References available upon request. Email: [mariacleaning@live.co.uk](mailto:mariacleaning@live.co.uk), tel. **07933316989**

**BOOKKEEPING SERVICES** River K Solutions Ltd, for all your bookkeeping needs. Please contact us on **07402173137** for free initial consultation or check our website [www.riverksolutions.co.uk](http://www.riverksolutions.co.uk)

**REGISTERED CHILDMINDER** based in Sherborne St John will have full/part time spaces available from July. Also collecting from Sherborne St John school in September. For more information call: **01256 851249**

**HOME & OFFICE MAINTENANCE SERVICES** All types of installation and maintenance works including electrical, plumbing, IT networks, access/security/alarm/attendance systems, carpentry and decorating. Cleaning services, secure disposal of office document waste. Please call Adam on **07511 495052**. Visa, Master Card, Amex.

**CHEEKY PAWS AND CLAWS** Established, experienced dog walker. Home visits for all pets. Pet sitting. Equestrian/hoofted animals. Fully insured. 20 years as a zoo keeper. <http://www.facebook.com/cheekypaws.claws> email: [kbeeson1@btinternet.com](mailto:kbeeson1@btinternet.com) **07752 414821 (text only)**

**PROFESSIONAL FOOT CARE IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME** Fay Curtis (MCFHP, MAFHP) fully qualified Foot Health Practitioner offers a range of foot services including: Toenail cutting, Nail condition treatments, Corn removal, Callus reduction, Dry and cracked heel remedies, Verruca treatment and Diabetic foot care. To book an appointment call Fay on **07780 664410**

**JON'S GARDENING & HANDYMAN SERVICES** Regular garden maintenance & one off jobs. Fencing, Hedges, Pruning, General tidy ups and home maintenance. For sensible rates and a friendly service please call **07488 347493**.

**BEAUTY THERAPIST** Based in my professional, relaxing home based salon in Pamber Heath. Treatments offered - Gelish Nails, Pedicures, Waxing, Eve Taylor Aromatherapy Facials, Lash Lift, Massage, Indian Head Massage and Reflexology. Strict hygiene / cleaning and COVID safe procedures in place. Please call or text Amey on **07729421869**

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## NEW SEWING/CROCHET CLUB

2 Bobbins is a new Sewing & Crochet Club for kids, age 7-11 yrs old, offering affordable Saturday routine classes, half-term workshops and Sewing & Crochet themed party packages at Osborne Room- Viabes Community Centre, The Harrow Way, Basingstoke RG22 4BJ.

Visit [www.2bobbins.com](http://www.2bobbins.com) for more information or call **07584 220966** today.



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- Leaking radiators repaired or replaced
- Outside taps fitted
- Block drains cleared
- Leaking gutters & Down-pipes repaired

**Mickey: 07888 828542**

# Contacts

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

|                                            |                                                                |                                             |                     |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| CHURCH OF ENGLAND - SWP Parish             | Revd Stewart Deering                                           | Mob: 07359 717577                           | Tel: 01256 647900   |
| ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH                      | The Presbytery, Popley Way, Basingstoke                        | stewart.deering@sherborneswithpamber.org    | 819722              |
| BASINGSTOKE COMMUNITY CHURCH               | Sarum Hill Centre, Basingstoke                                 |                                             | 316000              |
| CLERKS TO PARISH COUNCILS                  |                                                                |                                             |                     |
| SSJ                                        | clerk@sherbornestjohn-pc.gov.uk                                |                                             | 07714 770940        |
| MS                                         | clerk@monksherbome-pc.gov.uk                                   |                                             | 07721 076186        |
| Mrs Cally Morris                           | clerk@pamber-pc.gov.uk                                         |                                             | 07942 637210        |
| Pamber Chris Gunnell                       | David McIntyre                                                 | Cllr.David.McIntyre@basingstoke.gov.uk      |                     |
| BOROUGH COUNCILLOR for SSJ                 | Androulla Johnstone                                            | Cllr.Androulla.Johnstone@basingstoke.gov.uk |                     |
| BOROUGH COUNCILLOR for Pamber              | Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke                        |                                             | 844844              |
| BASINGSTOKE & DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL        | The Castle, Winchester                                         |                                             | 01962 841841        |
| HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL                   | Non-emergency                                                  |                                             | 101 or 01962 841534 |
| HAMPSHIRE POLICE                           | www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime |                                             |                     |
| PC 23888 Simon Denton                      | simon.denton.23888@hampshire.police.uk                         |                                             | 07469562503         |
| NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH                        | ted_wilkinson@btinternet.com                                   |                                             | 01256 850891        |
| NEAREST JOB CENTRE                         | https://www.jobcentrejobs.co.uk                                |                                             |                     |
| <b>LOCAL GROUPS</b>                        |                                                                |                                             |                     |
| WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP                         | Mrs Loraine Brown, (Secretary)                                 |                                             | 01256 590359        |
| RAINBOWS                                   | Caroline Givan: caroline.givan@gmail.com                       |                                             |                     |
| BROWNIES                                   | TramayneHenwood - ssjbrownies@outlook.com                      |                                             | 422083              |
| GUIDES                                     | Sam Hazlewood - ssjguides@yahoo.com                            |                                             | 880132              |
| CUBS                                       | Ms Trish Field                                                 |                                             | 01420 544904        |
| Little Acorns, Bumps/Babes/Toddlers in SSJ | Mrs Liz Gwynn                                                  |                                             | 07770 373282        |
| SSJ SOCIAL CLUB                            | Kerry Barrington - ssjscinformation@gmail.com                  |                                             | 850303              |
| SSJ HISTORY SOCIETY                        | Mrs Jane Shelvey                                               | jshelvey@lillydown.net                      |                     |
| TENNIS CLUB                                | Paul & Maria Saunders - ssj.tennis@hotmail.co.uk               |                                             | 07577 557850        |
| SSJ RETIREMENT COFFEE MORNING              | Mrs Margaret Cramer                                            |                                             | 850390              |
| SUMMIT JUDO CLUB                           | Mr Len Dunce                                                   |                                             | 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                                              |                                             | 01256 883858        |
| SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING                   | Mrs J. Hughes                                                  | email: tadleysd@gmail.com                   |                     |
| BALLET at SSJ Village Hall                 | Jenni Stafford                                                 |                                             | jenni@jsba.uk       |
| <b>VENUE BOOKINGS:</b>                     |                                                                |                                             |                     |
| St Stephen's Hall                          | Doreen Quilter                                                 |                                             | 07854 280343        |
| MS Village Hall                            |                                                                |                                             | 07759 064220        |
| SSJ Village Hall                           | Shawna Campbell                                                |                                             | 07526 954835        |
| The Chute Pavilion                         | Terry Buller                                                   |                                             | 07584 169241        |
| Royal British Legion                       | Rev John Morley                                                |                                             |                     |
| SSJ Social Club                            |                                                                |                                             |                     |
| <b>HEALTH CARE</b>                         |                                                                |                                             |                     |
| 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        |
| <b>EDUCATION</b>                           |                                                                |                                             |                     |
| THE PRIORY PRIMARY ACADEMY TRUST           | Mr Matt Walsh (Head teacher)                                   |                                             | 850062              |
| SSJ PRIMARY SCHOOL                         | Ms Sarah Jolliffe (Head teacher)                               |                                             | 850180              |
| ST BEDE'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL                | Mr Jamie Carroll                                               |                                             | 473379              |
| <b>PUBLIC SERVICES</b>                     |                                                                |                                             |                     |
| CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU                     |                                                                |                                             | 0808 2787829        |
| 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        |

If we have omitted any organisations, and/or their contact details, we apologise and would welcome any information to keep this list up to date and relevant

Julie Crawley

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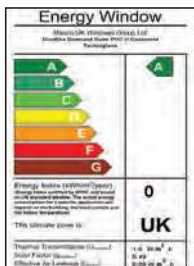
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