

# The Binfield Beacon

Your Binfield Parish Community Magazine - there's lots going on!



December & January 2021/22

## This Month

**Christmas Trees are much better  
with white envelopes!**

Scarecrow Trail Total – page 6

Lighthouse Donations – page 8

Binfield 10K – page 14

Scout Post Details – page 16

Image by TanteTati from Pixabay

**Our Mission is to help people follow Jesus and his teachings**

# SERVICES & DIARY



**UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN**  
A Service celebrating the Joy and Hope of Christmas  
remembering Loved Ones no longer with us

**Beautiful Carols  
and Christmas Music with  
OCCASIONS SINGERS**

SUNDAY 5th DECEMBER at 6.30pm  
ALL SAINTS CHURCH  
Church Hill, Binfield RG42 5NS

For more information please contact:  
occasions.singers@gmail.com  
www.occasions.org  
07815-529156



**CHRISTMAS  
OPEN DOOR**

Christmas Open Door Special  
Thursday 9th December 7pm  
St Mark's Church, Popeswood Road

All welcome for carols followed by mulled wine and  
mince pies.



**CHRISTINGLE SERVICES**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**3.00PM or  
5.00PM**

At All Saints' Church  
All are welcome to this  
popular service



## SERVICES

(All Services are held at All Saints' Church unless specified)

### DECEMBER 2021

Talk Series: A Saviour is born

|   |                |  |
|---|----------------|--|
| <b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup></b>  | 9.30am         | Common Worship Communion                                   |
| <i>Talk: A heart for worship</i>  | 11.00am        | Informal All Age Baptism Service                           |
|   | <b>6.30pm</b>  | <b>Until We Meet Again Service</b>                         |
| <b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup></b>  | <b>7.00pm</b>  | <b>Open Door Christmas Special<br/>at St Mark's Church</b> |
| <b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup></b>   | 8.15am         | Book of Common Prayer Communion                            |
| <i>Talk: Don't miss Christmas</i>   | 9.30am         | Common Worship Communion                                   |
| <b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup></b>   | 9.30am         | Common Worship Communion                                   |
| <i>Talk: The gift of peace at<br/>Christmas</i>                                   | <b>6.30pm</b>  | <b>Carols Service</b>                                      |
| <b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>  | <b>3.00pm</b>  | <b>Christingle Service</b>                                 |
|  | <b>5.00pm</b>  | <b>Christingle Service</b>                                 |
|   | <b>11.30pm</b> | <b>Midnight Service</b>                                    |
| <b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>  | 9.30am         | Book of Common Prayer Communion                            |
| <i>Talk: The gift of joy at<br/>Christmas</i>                                     | <b>10.30am</b> | <b>Informal All Age Christmas Day Service</b>              |
| <b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup></b>   | 9.30am         | Common Worship Communion                                   |
| <i>Talk: Turning the light on</i>   |                |  |

### JANUARY 2022

|                                  |         |                                  |
|----------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>     | 9.30am  | Common Worship Communion         |
| <i>Talk: God's gift of grace</i> |         |                                  |
| <b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup></b>     | 8.15am  | Book of Common Prayer Communion  |
|                                  | 9.30am  | Common Worship Communion         |
| <b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup></b>    | 9.30am  | Common Worship Communion         |
|                                  | 11.00am | Informal Communion Service       |
| <b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>    | 8.15am  | Book of Common Prayer Communion- |
|                                  | 9.30am  | Common Worship Communion         |
| <b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup></b>    | 9.30am  | Common Worship Communion         |

### FEBRUARY 2022

|                              |         |                                  |
|------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup></b> | 9.30am  | Common Worship Communion         |
|                              | 11.00am | Informal All Age Baptism Service |

### DIARY - DECEMBER 2021

|                                  |         |  |
|----------------------------------|---------|--|
| <b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup></b>  | 9.00am  | Wednesday Women's Walk                                     |
|                                  | 7.00pm  | Oasis Youth Group at St Mark's Church                      |
| <b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>   | 7.00pm  | Choir practice at St Mark's Church                         |
| <b>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup></b>   | 7.45am  | Men's Monthly Walk   |
|                                  | 7.30pm  | <b>Dads R Loud Christmas Party<br/>at St Mark's Church</b> |
| <b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup></b>  | 7.00pm  | Oasis Youth Group at St Mark's Church                      |
| <b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup></b>   | 7.00pm  | Choir practice at St Mark's Church                         |
| <b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup></b>    | 10.45am | Whizz Kids at St Mark's Church                             |
| <b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup></b>   | 12 noon | Silver Service at St Mark's Church                         |
| <b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup></b> | 9.00am  | Wednesday Women's Walk                                     |
| <b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup></b>  | 7.00pm  | Choir practice at St Mark's Church                         |
| <b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup></b>    | 10.45am | Whizz Kids at St Mark's Church                             |
| <b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>  | 7.00pm  | Choir practice at St Mark's Church                         |

### DIARY - JANUARY 2022

|                                  |         |                                       |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup></b>   | 7.45am  | Men's Monthly Walk                    |
| <b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup></b>  | 9.00am  | Wednesday Women's Walk                |
|                                  | 7.00pm  | Oasis Youth Group at St Mark's Church |
| <b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup></b>   | 7.00pm  | Choir practice at St Mark's Church    |
| <b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup></b>     | 10.45am | Whizz Kids at St Mark's Church        |
| <b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup></b> | 10.00am | 3G at St Mark's Church                |
|                                  | 7.00pm  | Oasis Youth Group at St Mark's Church |
| <b>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup></b>  | 7.00pm  | Choir practice at St Mark's Church    |
| <b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup></b>    | 10.45am | Whizz Kids at St Mark's Church        |
| <b>Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup></b> | 9.00am  | Wednesday Women's Walk                |
|                                  | 10.00am | 3G at St Mark's Church                |
|                                  | 7.00pm  | Oasis Youth Group at St Mark's Church |
| <b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup></b>  | 7.00pm  | Choir practice at St Mark's Church    |
| <b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>    | 10.45am | Whizz Kids at St Mark's Church        |
| <b>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup></b>   | 12 noon | Silver Service at St Mark's Church    |
| <b>Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup></b> | 10.00am | 3G at St Mark's Church                |
|                                  | 7.00pm  | Oasis Youth Group at St Mark's Church |
| <b>Thursday 27<sup>th</sup></b>  | 7.00pm  | Choir practice at St Mark's Church    |
| <b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup></b>    | 10.45am | Whizz Kids at St Mark's Church        |

All services and groups are correct at the time of going to press, and will comply with government guidance, so may change depending on government advice. Any updates will be published on our website and facebook pages.



# A MESSAGE FROM YOUR RECTOR



## A Small White Envelope

It's just a small, white envelope stuck among the branches of our Christmas tree. No name, no identification, no inscription. It has peeked through the branches of our tree for the past 10 years or so.

It all began because my husband Mike hated Christmas – oh, not the true meaning of Christmas, but the commercial aspects of it: overspending; the frantic running around at the last minute to get a tie for Uncle Harry and the dusting powder for Grandma; the gifts given in desperation because you couldn't think of anything else.

Knowing he felt this way, I decided one year to bypass the usual shirts, sweaters, ties and so forth. I reached for something special just for Mike. The inspiration came in an unusual way.

Our son Kevin, who was 12 that year, was wrestling at the junior level at the school he attended. And shortly before Christmas, there was a non-league match against a team sponsored by an inner-city church. These youngsters, dressed in sneakers so ragged that shoestrings seemed to be the only thing holding them together, presented a sharp contrast to our boys in their spiffy blue and gold uniforms and sparkling new wrestling shoes. As the match began, I was alarmed to see that the other team was wrestling without headgear, a kind of light helmet designed to protect a wrestler's ears.

It was a luxury the ragtag team obviously could not afford. Well, we ended up walloping them. We took every weight class. And as each of their boys got up from the mat, he swaggered around in his tatters with false bravado, a kind of street pride that couldn't acknowledge defeat. Mike, seated beside me, shook his head sadly, "I wish just one of them could have won," he said. "They have a lot of potential, but losing like this could take the heart right out of them."

Mike loved kids – all kids – and he knew them, having coached little league, football, baseball and lacrosse. That's when the idea for his present came.

That afternoon, I went to a local sporting goods store and bought an assortment of wrestling headgear and shoes and sent them anonymously to the inner-city church. On Christmas Eve, I placed the envelope on the tree, the note inside telling Mike what I had done and that this was his gift from me. His smile was the brightest thing about Christmas that year and in succeeding years. For each Christmas, I followed the tradition – one year sending a group of disabled youngsters to a hockey game, another year a cheque to a pair of elderly brothers whose home had burned to the ground the week before Christmas, and on and on.

The envelope became the highlight of our Christmas. It was always the last thing opened on Christmas morning and our children, ignoring their new toys, would stand with wide-

eyed anticipation as their dad lifted the envelope from the tree to reveal its contents.

As the children grew, the toys gave way to more practical presents, but the envelope never lost its allure. And the story doesn't end there.

You see, we lost Mike last year due to dreaded cancer. When Christmas rolled around, I was still so wrapped in grief that I barely got the tree up. But Christmas Eve found me placing an envelope on the tree, and in the morning, it was joined by three more. Each of our children, unbeknownst to the others, had placed an envelope on the tree for their dad. The tradition has grown and someday will expand even further with our grandchildren standing around the tree with wide-eyes anticipation watching as their fathers take down the envelope.

Mike's spirit, like the Christmas spirit, will always be with us.

Surely, the true spirit of Christmas is in giving and not receiving. The Bible says, *for God so loved he gave....John chapter 3 verse 16*. Isn't that why we give presents, because God gave His most precious gift that first Christmas? How can you give to others this Christmas? Maybe you can start your own "white envelope" tradition on your tree this festive season?

***We as a church love to give to Alternative Advent, where we ask anyone who can afford it to buy an extra present (not exceeding 10 pounds in cost) for a single parent who otherwise wouldn't receive a Christmas gift this year because they go with out to ensure that their children don't. If you would like to be involved in Alternative Advent we will be collecting the presents from Sunday 21 November to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December. The presents can either be given to Luke in church, dropped off at the church office or left on the bench outside the front door of the Rectory. They will then be taken to the Family Intervention Team who then distribute them to the single parents in the area who need them the most. Thank you in advance, and I pray you will have a great time of giving this Christmas.***  
**Luke**

Story from [http://godslittleacre.net/inspirationalstories/a\\_small\\_white\\_envelope.html](http://godslittleacre.net/inspirationalstories/a_small_white_envelope.html)

- Written by Nancy W. Gavin-

Used with the Permission of Her Family

First Published in Woman's Day on December 14, 1982

Visit <http://whiteenvelopeproject.org> for more information on this true story.

## From the Registers:

### Baptisms

Oona Edie Isabella Robinson  
Callum Makepeace-Jenkins



## CONTACT US: 07719 545292 [office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk](mailto:office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk)

### Rector:

Rev'd Luke Taylor  
07939 526361  
[lukethevicar@gmail.com](mailto:lukethevicar@gmail.com)  
(Friday is Luke's day off)

### Churchwardens:

John Hargreaves - 07973 842624  
Neil Harrison - 01344 455174

### Church Office:

Hayley Fourie, Administrator  
**Office mobile number 07719 545292**  
[office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk](mailto:office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk)

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Wednesday: 9.00am - 1.00pm  
Thursday: 9.00am - 1.00pm

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### Church Website:

[www.binfieldcofechurches.org.uk](http://www.binfieldcofechurches.org.uk)



We are also on Facebook  
[facebook.com/AllSaintsWithStMarks](https://facebook.com/AllSaintsWithStMarks)

The Church Office is sited in St Mark's Church

### St Mark's Church

Popeswood Road  
Binfield RG42 4AH

### All Saints' Church

Church Hill  
Binfield RG42 5NS

### PLEASE LET US STAY IN TOUCH!

We would like to improve our communication with everyone in the village and congregation. To do this we need to keep our contacts database up to date.

We have a new privacy policy in line with the new GDPR rules on our website.

If you would like to sign up to receive emails from

## Pastoral Care Visiting Team - need a friend?



In All Saints' and St Mark's Churches we have a small pastoral care team who are happy to visit and befriend the people of Binfield. So, if you have recently moved to the area and don't know many people; if your family live far away; if you are a Mum at home with a baby and would like adult company; if you find it difficult to get out or just fancy a friendly chat over a cup of tea, please get in touch with one of us. You don't need to be a member of the church, just enjoy some company occasionally!

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Jane Aylwin       | tel. 481692       |
| Jill Hanson       | tel. 452694       |
| Margareta Hawkins | tel. 411681       |
| Sarah Muller      | tel. 428782       |
| Jan Vigar         | tel. 411267       |
| Gisele Taylor     | tel. 07724 889169 |
| Dave Dawson       | tel. 360389       |

Or contact the church office on 07719 545292  
or email [office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk](mailto:office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk)

## Bereavement Support Team



We will all suffer loss, grief or bereavement at some time in our lives, mainly through death, but also in other ways such as relationship breakdown, loss of a job, or sudden disability. The Bereavement Support Team are not counsellors, but can offer support and companionship if you are suffering a loss of any kind. There is no charge for a visit. All support team members have ID badges.

### Friday Morning Bereavement Group Coffee Morning

**Foxes' Den Café on Fridays 10.30am – 11.30am**  
(term time only)

Peer to Peer support open to anyone dealing with grief. It is not a counselling group, just a friendly get together over a drink.

If you would like to talk to a member of the team, in confidence, please contact Liz Hall  
for more information [orinocco@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:orinocco@hotmail.co.uk) /07850 799434  
or Margareta Hawkins 01344 411681

## CAN YOU HELP?

### All Saints' Church Sunday Service Rotas

We are looking for help on a Sunday morning with:

**Welcoming Reading Prayers**

**Refreshments after the services**

To find out more or be added to one of these rotas please contact Hayley at the Church office on 07719 545292 or email [office@binfieldcofechurch.org.uk](mailto:office@binfieldcofechurch.org.uk).



### Praying for and with you

We have weekly prayer sheets — please email [office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk](mailto:office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk) if you would like something to be included.



### St Mark's Church Hall

Available for booking.

Please contact the church office on 07719 545292 or email [office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk](mailto:office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk) for more information or to make a booking.

# CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Hey Everyone!

We can't believe it's already December, but we're gearing up for the Christmas season at Whizz Kids and Oasis and ready to have some festive fun!



This term at Whizz Kids we've been learning the Lord's Prayer, and have even practiced how to sign it in British sign language! Recently we've talked about forgiving other people when they hurt us, because God always forgives us too. We have loads of fun on Sunday mornings, and love spending time together playing games and sports, crafting and eating popcorn!

Coming up on Monday 20th December we have the return of our Whizz Kids Christmas party! Last year we were unable to have our party so this year we are back and better than ever! This will be open to primary school aged kids, and will include craft, food, dancing, games, and of course a bouncy castle all for £3 each. Booking is required so get in touch with Daisy to secure your place.

At Oasis we've been having our usual Wednesday night hang out, where we play games, socialise and eat toasties.

*Oasis*

We spent some time looking at what the bible says about justice and how we can actively help social issues in our world. We wrote practical steps we can take to make small changes on post-it notes and stuck them on the wall to show that when lots of us make a small change, together it makes a much bigger difference. As we get closer to Christmas we are talking about the different gifts that God promises us; Peace, Joy and Hope, and what it looks like to experience these in today's world.



We have 2 Christmas events for Oasis this month, one being a trip to complete the Reading Twilight Trail and Christmas markets. The booking for this has now closed so we look forward to seeing those who are coming there! In addition we are also having a Christmas party with music, mocktails, and a chance to dress up on Wednesday 8th December. This is open to girls in school years 7-11 and there is still spaces to come along so do email Daisy if you're interested.

On behalf of all the children's and youth teams I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has joined us, helped on team, contributed financially, or prayed for us throughout another challenging year, we couldn't do this without you. We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the new year!

**Daisy - Children's and Youth Worker** ([daisyridell@gmail.com](mailto:daisyridell@gmail.com))



## Alternative Advent Be Good News

Once again we have the opportunity to bring good news and Christmas cheer to people through Alternative Advent.

Alternative Advent is where we purchase an extra present or two for single parents who won't otherwise receive a Christmas present this year. The parents go without to ensure their children don't.

The presents should cost around £5-10. Possible ideas are, toiletries, PJs, slippers, chocolates, gloves, scarves and hats, scented candles, reed diffusers, or anything you think might make a nice gift for a single parent.

If you would like to be involved in Alternative Advent we will be collecting the presents from Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December. The presents can either be given to Luke in church, dropped off at the church office or left on the bench outside the front door of the Rectory. They will then be taken to the Family Intervention Team who then distribute them to the single parents there are 20 single mums and 15 single dads.

*Thank you Luke*



Binfield Tennis Association held our annual charity tennis tournament on Sunday 26th September, in aid of the Children's Liver Disease Foundation.

We were very fortunate with the weather and had a full turnout of 24 players enjoying some great tennis. The winning pair was Lesley Walton and Steve Gardner.



Binfield Tennis Association would like to thank the local shops and businesses who so generously gave prizes to support the event which, combined with members donations and players entry fees, meant we raised an amazing total of £1855 for this great charity.

New members are always welcome. To find out more about your local tennis club, or to join us, please see our website at <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/BinfieldTennisAssociation>

*Clare Dewbury*

**PLEASE NOTE:** The articles in this magazine reflect the personal opinions of the writers and not necessarily those of the Editor or Editorial Team. Furthermore the Editorial Team are not responsible for any errors of fact printed in the magazine. Goods and services advertised in this magazine are not endorsed but readers utilising these facilities retain their statutory rights. The Binfield Beacon is produced by The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Binfield. Registered Charity number 1149382



# GROUPS



We are hoping to restart 3G on Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> January. Of course, this is dependent on there being no escalation of COVID.

The Group will meet from 10.00am to 11.30am at St. Mark's Church, Popeswood Road, every Wednesday with all the usual activities, toys, craft, story and singing.

**Sadly, numbers will be limited due to COVID:**

**You will need to book a place on a Tuesday prior to the session by contacting the Church office 07719 545292.**

**Only those prebooked will be allowed in and all temperatures will be checked on arrival.**

It is a long time since we met. It will be great to catch up with you and your little ones. Hope you can join us.

*Jan Watts and Team*

**3 Generations  
playing together!**

**Starts back  
Wednesday 12th January 2022**

**Every Wednesday  
10am - 11.30am at St Mark's Church,  
Popeswood Road  
Prebooking required on the Tuesday  
please contact 07719 545292**

## WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S WALK

A gentle 2-3 mile walk (which takes about an hour) in and around Binfield village, for women of mixed ages and abilities. Usually on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month. The walks go ahead in all weathers and normally start at 9am from outside Foxes' Den Café and finish there around 10am for a coffee.



**1st Dec - 9am meet Foxes' Den  
15th Dec - 9am meet Foxes' Den  
5th Jan - 9am meet Foxes' Den  
19th Jan - 9am meet Foxes' Den  
2nd Feb - 9am meet Foxes' Den**

For more information contact:  
Gisele on 07724 889169 or  
Claire on 07912 746289

## MEN'S MONTHLY COUNTRY WALK

**DATES: Saturday 4th December  
Saturday 1st January and 5th February**

The Men's Monthly Walk takes place on the 1st Saturday of each month. We start at 7.45am from the car park at Oakmede Shops. The walk lasts approximately 1 hour.

Be ready for all weathers!  
For more information contact Kim Swain on 07884 469633  
or kim.swain1@gmail.com

## THE SILVER SERVICE

A traditional short service designed and led by our retired congregation members followed by a delicious homemade lunch at St Mark's Church.

**Tuesday 14th December and 25th January  
at 12 noon**

*If you need a lift, please call  
Beverly on 07704 437207*



**Children's Sunday  
Group at  
St Mark's Church  
10.45am - 12.15pm**

For children of school years 1-6  
Every Sunday during term time  
(except the 1st Sunday of the month)

**ARTS & CRAFT ACTIVITIES...  
GAMES AND MUCH MORE!**

**ALL CHILDREN WELCOME**  
Email daisyridell@gmail.com for info



**Wednesday Girls'  
Group at  
St Mark's Church  
7pm - 8.30pm**

Oasis is open to all girls in school  
years 7-11  
Every Wednesday during term time

**Come along for games, craft,  
general socialising and lots of talks  
and activities**

Email daisyridell@gmail.com for info



## Scarecrow Trail Update and Total

What an amazing week! Did you notice quite how many people were buzzing around the village, in the rain, sunshine and everything in between? The Scarecrow trail has been a huge success and once again, this is down to the community spirit of Binfield and the magnificent effort that everyone put in.

We are able to finally announce the total of **£8596** which is a fantastic achievement. A special mention goes to Amy at Chase Gardens for the crispy cakes sold throughout the week (and fantastic Gruffalo) and the Everett Family for not only their additional, epic fundraising but for scaring half of Binfield on Halloween. The extra effort and contribution to the fundraising is very much appreciated.

Thank you to the ladies at Crema, the team at The Foxes' Den and Village Stores for selling the maps along with the support from the Binfield Parish Council team. It really is a community event involving many different elements. And finally, thank you to Clare of Line and Stripe who each year donates her time and makes the map, posters and banners look so fun and inspiring!



Please let us know your feedback by contacting us via the Binfield Events website and help make next year's event just as successful.

# FUNDRAISING NEWS



## Starting off the new project...

We have been busy sharing information on our new Church Care Project, so that everyone knows that we're now fundraising for *all* of our church spaces. These include not just All Saints' and St. Mark's churches but also our Parish Cemetery.

The cemetery at Stubbs Hill was consecrated in 1888 and has been in use since for the burial of anyone who resides within our Parish. As the top field is full, the bottom field is now in use and anyone visiting recently will have observed that the site needs some attention and updates...



Our fabric team have drawn up proposals for much needed repairs to the current path and the installation of a new path into and around the lower field to improve general and disabled access. There are also fixes required on the porch and the water supply, and plans to introduce new signage to try and stop the current levels of rubbish left around the area.

We hope you'll all agree that this work is necessary in order to revive this place which is so special to many and while we have some funding in place, more is required to complete it all.

## Events and Activities

You'll find an update in this issue on the amazing funds raised for work on All Saints' by the **Binfield Scarecrow Trail**. Thanks again to everyone who contributed to the success of the event, and to our extra fundraisers Amy and the Everett family! How will we top that effort next year?!

The **Quiz Night**, our first fundraising team event for a while, took place at the start of November. It was so lovely to see a church full of people again, all enjoying their evening out, the great quiz set by John and compared by James, and the amazing food prepared by Jo Foster (Thyme in Catering).

We are looking forward to the next event, the **Dads R Loud Christmas Party** taking place on the **4th December**, and more happening next year. We are working on full calendar of activities - keep checking here or the website for more details!

Don't forget to grab your copy of the **2022 Binfield Village Calendar** and new design **Christmas cards**, at the Foxes' Den Café or via the Church office while stocks last.

We hope you all have a really great Christmas!

## BINFIELD VILLAGE CALENDAR 2022

Great  
Christmas  
gift



See the church website for information  
[www.binfieldcofechurches.org.uk](http://www.binfieldcofechurches.org.uk)

On sale  
now for  
£10!

 [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk)  
feel good shopping

## CHRISTMAS CARDS



New  
designs for  
2021!  
On sale  
now for  
£5 for 10

See the church website for information  
on Sale at The Foxes' Den, the church office and at Church

## How to donate or fundraise:

We would really appreciate your donation; however big or small, it will all help!

- **Cheque:** send a cheque to the church office. Please make sure it's made payable to "**Binfield PCC**". Please write '**Church Care**', '**General Funds**', '**Lighthouse**' or where you would like your donation used on the back and include your name and address if you are a UK tax payer so that we can claim Gift Aid.
- **BACS:** Name: Binfield PCC, Account Number: 80175528, Sort Code: 20-11-74  
Please add **your name + a reference (as above)** if you would like to specify where your donation goes.

**Don't forget to Gift Aid it if you are a UK Tax Payer - this will add an extra 25% to your donation!**

**Contact the church office for more details, or see the church website more information and other ways to raise money!**

**Shop and raise funds at [smile.amazon.co.uk](http://smile.amazon.co.uk) and [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk): search for Binfield PCC**



With many thanks and Seasons Greetings from the Fundraising Team:  
[www.binfieldarcproject.org.uk](http://www.binfieldarcproject.org.uk)

[fundraising@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/binfieldarcproject](https://www.facebook.com/binfieldarcproject)

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Binfield: Registered Charity No: 1149382



# COMMUNITY NEWS



This time of year is particularly busy for the Lighthouse program as colder weather forces the need for warm foods, to an increasing client base. We are often asked, across the months of November to February, what can people do to help?

We send parcels out weekly, with a minimum of 5 meals per head. We "top up" the parcels with other essential items that greatly assist those in need, "ongoing" useful items listed below

**Long life fruit juices**

**Long life milk**

**Toilet paper**

**Biscuits**

**Part baked bread – ie long life rolls/baguettes**

**Fairy liquid**

**Bags of sugar (for tea & coffee)**

## Christmas donations:

Gravy jars/stock pots  
Jars of cranberry sauce  
Long life cream  
Small cartoons of custard  
Crackers  
2L coke/lemonade  
Yule logs  
Stuffing mix

*Note we are always inundated with mince pies, so please avoid donating this item where possible.*

Also, it is very likely that we will be providing approx. 40 individuals with a Christmas meal on Christmas Day (including a number of small children). We will prepare the meals in advance, freeze and then deliver in good time for the big day. We shall be collecting the Christmas donations listed to support this activity:

Our continued thanks go to our local sponsors "danetti" who provide essential items that support our weekly service. [www.danetti.com](http://www.danetti.com)

For further information contact [Amanda.thrower@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Amanda.thrower@hotmail.co.uk)

## Carol Singing, Warfield Tesco Monday 6th December 4-7pm

1st Binfield Rainbows, 1st Binfield Brownies and 4th Binfield Guides will be fundraising for church by singing carols at Warfield Tesco on Monday 6th December from 4-7pm. Please come along to support them. Thanks Liz Hall



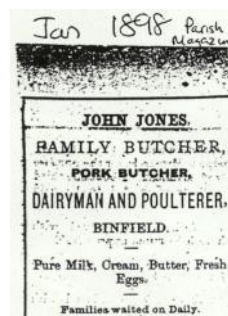
## HAVE YOU SEEN BINFIELD LIBRARY LOCAL HISTORY COLLECTION?

Binfield Library has a great village history collection with files of pictures and articles all about Binfield including the Churches, Schools, Houses, Businesses, the Parish Magazine, well-known people, and the country views all around. It shows what living in Binfield was like in Victorian times and earlier and how times and the village have changed.

Go along to the Library to have a look.

You could get your Christmas Turkey from John Jones the Butcher on Forest Road in 1898. No shortage then! Picture and Parish Magazine Adverts from the Library Files.

*Carolyn Bell*



## Christmas Family Concert 18th December at St Mark's Church

Thames Voyces will be bringing a selection of carols old & new to St Mark's Church, Popeswood Road Binfield on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Their annual family concert of readings and seasonal music (some carols you will be actively encouraged to join in with) will be conducted by their Music Director, Nick Austin and accompanied by Ben Giddens (though he may appreciate some extra help for Jingle Bells). Tickets: £12, £10 concessions, accompanied under 16 **FREE** (Cash or cheque payable to Thames Voyces) you can buy tickets on the door or phone 0118 9677319.

The carol selection will take you back in time, from modern items like Jingle Bells, through those carols we all know and love, back to Medieval times with carols whose origins are in the mystery plays produced by the worshipful guilds within a town, hence one of the older carols is the Coventry Carol. If you enjoy singing then the choir are looking for new members, especially basses. For more information about Thames Voyces and their 2021/22 season, please go to their website: - <http://thamesvoyces.org.uk/> **Peter Anderson**

## The Binfield Beacon

**The deadline for Beacon contributions  
for the February 2022 issue**

**is Monday 10th January 2022**

**Please email:**

**[Beacon@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk](mailto:Beacon@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk)**

**Merry Christmas**

*Claire Thomas (Binfield Beacon Editor)*





# COMMUNITY NEWS

## BINFIELD PATIENT GROUP

**TALKING THERAPIES:** A friendly approachable service that helps people with anxiety, depression, stress and phobias. The benefits of this service are: You will be taught skills to help you overcome your difficulties.

Your GP can refer you or you can contact Talking Therapies, Berkshire by telephoning 0300 365 2000 or go online at [www.talkingtherapies.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk](http://www.talkingtherapies.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk)

**AGEING:** If you are 65 or older it is crucial to be as physically active as possible. Walking can improve everything from blood pressure to mental health.

**HEALTH CARE REMINDERS:** A & E at the hospital is ONLY for accidents & emergencies: i.e. Life-threatening illnesses and injuries.

**OUT OF HOURS:** Anxious or worried? Unsure or confused about an illness? Call 111.

**LOCAL PHARMACY:** Your local pharmacist can help with lots of everyday ailments and offers good advice. Some examples: Diarrhoea. Mouth ulcers. Bites and stings. Painful cough. Short term headache and other everyday ailments.

**HOME MEDICINE CABINET:** Many minor injuries and minor illnesses can be treated at home from a well stocked medicine cabinet. Some examples: Coughs, colds and sore throat. Bruises and strains. Minor burns, cuts and wounds. Your local pharmacy can help with advice on what to stock. Examples: Pain killers. Anti-diarrhoea medicine. Re-hydration mixture. Plasters. Antihistamine.

**EMERGENCIES:** Dial 999 and ask for an ambulance.

**COVID 19:** With the pandemic still prevalent, remember:

**Coronavirus remains a serious health risk. You should stay cautious to help protect yourself and others.**

- Let fresh air in if you meet indoors. Meeting outdoors is safer
- Wear a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces

where you come into contact with people you do not normally meet

- Get tested and self-isolate if required
- If you haven't already, get vaccinated

**SURGERY APPOINTMENT DETAILS:** Due to the continuing coronavirus outbreak, the surgery will continue to run the appointment system in the same way as they have over the past 18 months. This is to limit face-to-face contact whenever possible to help stop the spread of coronavirus and to maximise the number of patients they can consult with every day.

Binfield GP practice is open and if you need a GP appointment please telephone the surgery on 01344 286264.

Please do not come to the surgery unless you have a face-to-face appointment. Appointments are being delivered face-face, online or over the telephone. Measures are in place to keep you safe from infection during a visit to the surgery.

**FLU VACCINATION:** If you are a patient of Binfield surgery, over 50 or in an 'at risk' group and still have not received a flu vaccination, please contact Berkshire Primary Care Ltd on 01344 233300 for advice.

**ARE YOU REGISTERED AT A GP SURGERY:** There are many people living in the Binfield and Bracknell area who are not registered with any doctors surgery, only registering when a doctor's services are required.

It is important to register with a surgery before a service is required. This is important so as to receive the many services offered more quickly but also to give the surgery the necessary finance for providing them.

Both Binfield surgery and Frimley Clinical Commissioning Group receive funding for REGISTERED patients only.

If you are unregistered, please register as soon as possible at your local surgery.

**HAVE A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

*Duncan Johnston - Binfield Patient Group*



## THE BINFIELD BELLES

October saw an influx of new members and we had a great evening with fit steps instructor Vicki Arnold. Fit steps is a dance exercise using ballroom steps and music to keep us fit. Originally invented by some of your Strictly Dancers now very popular with classes for low impact exercise and a higher level. Vicki demonstrated the steps to some great music and a crowd of our members joined in, she has 2 classes running in the village and members were eager to sign up.

We had a very successful day on the Let's open day in the Foxes' Den and as a result we have acquired a lot of new members in the past month.

In between we had the Scarecrow Trail in the village which was so popular our theme was recycling so a rather lovely lady was fashioned from numerous cartons, lids and all manner of other bits.

We took our grandchildren around and the photo is my granddaughter with Maud.



Asked for comments by our members one aptly replied rubbish which she was and is resigned to the recycling bin in Hilary's garden, no waste in this WI.

Monthly events continue and plenty to do and talk about, we now

have a supper club who met last week at the Darachini Indian restaurant it proved a great success and the next will be in February 2022.

Poppies were resplendent on the diamond in the village and also in the church where all our knitted poppies are on display. We did make some garlands to hang up at the triangle but it's a work in progress for next year. Thanks to members for all the hard work.

Still crafting when you read this our craft stall for November will be over but will report on that in February.

Last week our monthly meeting was a taste tester evening trying Christmas goodies from various supermarkets to decide on the best. It was a great. Lots more new members were welcomed and it looks as if we will be putting more enquiries on a waiting list until Covid restrictions allow more in the hall and our members safety is utmost.

It's our 103rd birthday this month and our WI is blooming, our active committee have lots in store for next year, but meanwhile all I can do now is wish you all a very Happy Christmas and Healthy New Year.

Our next meeting after our Christmas Party in December will be on January 13th when the Sahara Walk by our lovely Mary and Ali is on the agenda. If you would like to join our waiting list or have any queries please do call me or email

**Linda Willcocks**

**01344 454503/07708 731294 [binfieldwi@berkshirewi.co.uk](mailto:binfieldwi@berkshirewi.co.uk)**

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## COMMUNITY NEWS



### BINFIELD GARDEN CLUB

Our final talk of 2021 was a really successful and interesting evening with Harriet Rycroft showing us how to plant pots for winter interest and spring joy. Binfield gardens should soon be looking more beautiful than ever!

Harriet was head gardener for many years at Whichford Pottery in Warwickshire where the winters are cold and hard so is able to give expert advice. She plants dozens of pots and containers made from a variety of materials and in different sizes, once in autumn and once in late spring. She says do plant while it's still relatively mild so the plants can put roots down into the compost. A useful tip is to write down what you put in the pots, group them for impact and shelter from the worst of the weather. Put them all where you can see them in winter, the first crocus shoots will come up to cheer you! Don't swipe snow off pot plants, it actually protects them from the wind and melts slowly to water the plants.



Pack autumn pots with bulbs and some lovely evergreen plants through which they will then poke. Harriet showed us many examples from little conifers to alpine plants, euphorbias and hellebores. Later flowering bulbs like tulips, alliums and camassia go in the deepest, crocus



and iris reticulate nearer the top and then the foliage.

Harriet gave us an excellent demonstration, planting up a medium sized pot in her kitchen! Her first advice was to make sure there is a decent hole in the bottom with just one crock over the hole. She said drainage layers are a myth, they take up space which should be compost and they make homes for slugs. Always use the best compost and add slow release fertiliser. Plant bulbs densely, close together but not touching. Harriet put her tulips in a crescent around a conifer and added hellebore Silver Dollar, White Magic muscari and crocus on top to provide a continuous display. Fill the compost to end an inch below the top of the pot and fill that inch with grit to keep the mice off!

Some other suggestions were to plant tulips with grasses and forget me not seeds, Snow Baby narcissi with blue grape hyacinths. And remember, hyacinths are hardy and bloom in March but don't use those prepared for indoors. We all enjoyed Harriet's talk and demonstration so much and came away with many ideas!

Our December 2nd meeting will be a Christmas drinks and buffet social time at the Binfield Club and invitations have been sent to all members – a wonderful chance to end the year and meet up with each other.

January's talk will be by Michelle Cleeve on The Savill Garden where she has been supervisor for many years so do please join us. Check our website [binfieldgardenclub.wordpress.com](http://binfieldgardenclub.wordpress.com).

We wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a safe New Year.

*Sue Jeffery*

### **The BINFIELD 10K** 22nd May 2022

**Plans are well underway for the 2022 Binfield 10K and we can't wait!**

Registrations opened on 1<sup>st</sup> December and so don't miss out. We already have over 500 entries which we have carried over from 2019 and we can't wait to fill the rest! The Binfield 10K is a professional road race but don't forget you can sign up to walk, run or jog. We have sold out every year so don't miss your chance to enter. If running is not your thing, there are plenty of other ways you can be part of this awesome event.

#### **Be a Sponsor**

The Binfield 10K would not be possible without our sponsors. Road races are very expensive and we cannot go ahead without funding from our very kind and generous sponsors. If you or your business would like to find out more about our sponsorship options, please email [enquiries@binfield10k.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@binfield10k.co.uk)

#### **Come and Marshal for Us**

We are proud to say that we have some of the best marshals in the country! If you haven't marshalled for us before, why not give it a go. If you have marshalled for us before, then we can't wait to see you back again. You should have received an

email from us, inviting you to be a marshal so please confirm your availability by emailing [volunteer@binfield10k.co.uk](mailto:volunteer@binfield10k.co.uk)

#### **Volunteer on the Day**

The 10K is special because it involves all of our community. We are grateful for help from the guides, brownies, scouts, local churches, local schools, local cafes, all of whom work together to help make such a great event. If you are involved in a community group and would like to volunteer on the day or you would just like to help out, please do get in touch.

#### **Help us Organise it**

The 10K committee is made up of a wonderful team of volunteers who work hard to create such a successful event. However, we are always looking for new people to join us. If you are interested in joining the committee please email [enquiries@binfield10k.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@binfield10k.co.uk) as we would love to hear from you.

For more information about the 10K please visit our website at [www.binfield10k.co.uk](http://www.binfield10k.co.uk) or please email [enquiries@binfield10k.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@binfield10k.co.uk). We are so looking forward to 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022 and can't wait to see you on the day.

Best wishes  
**The Binfield 10K Committee**



# COMMUNITY NEWS



**News from the Parish Office – December 2021 & January 2022** (correct as of 15 November 2021)

## **Binfield Parish Council upcoming meetings:**

Covid guidelines will be adhered to for all Binfield Parish Council and Committee meetings. Please check the Parish Council's website for any guidance that members of the public should follow when attending meetings.

### **December 2021**

|                      |  |             |
|----------------------|--|-------------|
| Tuesday 7 December   | Amenity Committee  | 8pm         |
| Saturday 12 December | Councillor Drop-In Session (The Foxes' Den community cafe) | 10am – 12pm |
| Tuesday 14 December  | Parish Council   | 8pm         |
| Tuesday 23 December  | Planning and Transportation Committee                      | 8pm         |

### **January 2022**

|                     |  |             |
|---------------------|--|-------------|
| Tuesday 11 January  | Parish Council   | 8pm         |
| Saturday 15 January | Councillor Drop-In Session (The Foxes' Den community cafe) | 10am – 12pm |
| Tuesday 25 January  | Planning and Transportation Committee                      | 8pm         |

### **The Parish Council building will close for the Christmas break at 1pm on Tuesday 21 December**

And reopen to the public on Tuesday 4 January 2022. We will still be accessible on 22, 23 and 24 December by email or web query form and will be checking emails periodically over the Christmas break.

### **Could you be a Parish Councillor?**

There are currently two vacancies to be filled by co-option and we would welcome applications from any interested parties. Please visit the Parish Council website to check application criteria, find out how to apply, and more about the role of a Councillor: <https://www.binfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk/parish-councillor-vacancies>

### **Salt bin provision from the Parish Council for use on public roads**

If we do experience freezing conditions this winter, please note that salt bins are available for you to use on public roads. This provision is part of the Bracknell Forest Highways Winter Service Plan 2021-22, which can be viewed at: <https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk> ('Roads, parking and transport strategies and policies' web page).

### **Platinum Jubilee 2022**

2022 marks the Platinum Anniversary for HM The Queen, commemorating 70 years on the throne. This is a landmark milestone and, as a nation, there will be lots of celebration. A Working Group has been established by the Parish Council and we are seeking views from lots of community groups and individuals who may wish to mark the occasion. If you would like to be involved, please contact the office using the contact details below.

### **New Faces at the Parish Office**

By the time you read this we hope to have three new members of the team to introduce to you, so please check out our website for details of new starters. The outgoing Parish Clerk, Ally Wickham, has shared a brief note – "it's been a real honour to work for my community since 2015. I am very proud I was involved in delivering the new parish office building and bringing events like the Binfield 10k to the area. I am still very much intending to be an active community member but I am looking forward to trying new things too. Wishing the new Parish Clerk and other new staff the very best of luck and hope they enjoy it as much as I have".

### **Wishing you a safe and happy Christmas and New Year!**

On behalf of the Parish Councillors and office staff we would like to send you our very best Christmas and New Year wishes. We hope that, for everyone this year, Christmas celebrations will be shared with family and friends and hope you all find some festive cheer in this year's Christmas trees at the Parish Council building, Knox Green Corner roundabout (at the village centre), the Roebuck and the Travelodge (London Road).

Continue to #staysafe and we look forward to seeing you again soon!

***Ally, Amanda, & Purveen***

01344 454602/Binfield Parish Council at the Parish Office, Benetfeld Road, Binfield, RG42 4EW

Parish Office working hours: 8.45am-1pm Monday to Friday

[office@binfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@binfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk)

[www.binfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk](https://www.binfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk)

# COMMUNITY NEWS



## Season's Greetings!

It is that time of year again! Not only are we all gearing up for festive celebrations, the beginning of December also sees us celebrating the Foxes' Den's third birthday. Three whole years!! They have been three very crazy years with lots of changes and many fun times, but also dealing with lockdowns and other challenges. Our wonderful customers have stuck with us through it all and dare I say it, I think we may have gained a few new ones through our takeaway window. We will be eating cake and raising a glass of fizz at 2pm on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> of December and looking forward to our 4<sup>th</sup> year of keeping the coffee flowing and the community doing 'stuff' J

Talking of which; as this is a double edition of the Beacon we haven't really got the space and the activities all lined up yet for both December and January, so please do pop in and have a peak at our community chalkboard or our facebook page online to see what we have planned for the coming month or two. All the usuals will be there and we will try and come up with a couple of new ones when we can.

So, we hope that you are all being good so that Father Christmas will bring you a treat or two and if you want to treat yourselves, please pop into the Den and enjoy a seasonal coffee or hot chocolate and we will see what 2022 holds!

**Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year – Claire x**  
[foxesden.co.uk](mailto:foxesden.co.uk) [fb.com/thefoxesdencafe](https://fb.com/thefoxesdencafe) 07919 448254  
Benetfield Road, Binfield. RG42 4EW

## FOXY LUNCHES

If you are struggling to feed yourself or your family, please don't go hungry.



These lunch boxes are FREE and we can arrange to have extra supplies delivered if you need them. Call or email me in the strictest confidence and we will make sure that you have food on your table. Claire xx 07919 448254  
[claire@foxesden.co.uk](mailto:claire@foxesden.co.uk)

## Don't miss the Official Binfield 2022 Calendar!

It's back!! Please pop along to the Den to pick up a copy of the 2022 A4 calendar. It is packed full of winning photographs of the local area and has enough space to keep a track of your daily activities. All for only £10 and for a good cause; to help maintain our lovely village churches.



Earlier on in the year I floated the idea of a community group that has the primary aim of looking after Binfield. This was mostly done online (via facebook).

With the start of the new year I think it is time we made the idea a reality. There is no fixed structure yet - the group may be one group or a loose collection of sub groups that each has its own purpose. E.g. preparing Binfield for the Jubilee, community flowerbeds, designing/implementing Christmas decorations, litter picking, etc. The idea is some sort of 'Pride in Binfield' group where we use our skills and energy to make and keep Binfield a great place to live and work.

If you are interested in seeing how you could get involved please keep an eye on the Den's community boards and I hope to host a wine and nibbles evening to kick things off as soon as we can...



**Scouts**  
1st Binfield Air Scouts



### 1<sup>st</sup> BINFIELD SCOUT GROUP Charity CHRISTMAS POST scheme 1<sup>st</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> December 2021

The Scout Post delivery scheme will be taking place once again this Christmas. The Scout Post is operated by the 1<sup>st</sup> Binfield Scout Group, providing a Christmas delivery service to any household with a **Binfield address**, and at the same time raising funds for the whole Scout Group.

The cost is only **40p per card**. Each envelope will be stamped with the Scout Post logo, before being delivered on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December.

Please post your **carefully addressed** cards, and **40p** per card, in a CHRISTMAS POST box. These will be at the following places around Binfield, between Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December and Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December:

**The Foxes' Den Café, Crema Coffee Shop,  
Lloyds Pharmacy, Binfield Library,  
and The Scout Hut.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

**READING MINSTER  
CANDLELIT THREE CHOIRS  
CONCERT**  
*with AUDIENCE CAROLS*

In aid of The Minster Sanctuary  
providing refuge and refreshment to those in need

*with*  
**OCCASIONS SINGERS  
READING A440 CHOIR  
READING MALE VOICE CHOIR**

**5pm, Saturday 18th December, 2021**  
**Tickets: £6**

Available from  Cards for Good Causes in the Minster  
or  
[www.occasionssingers.org](http://www.occasionssingers.org)

Reading Minster of St Mary The Virgin, Chain Street, Reading, RG1 2HX



# COMMUNITY NEWS



## What's been happening at Binfield CE Primary School (V.A.)?

### Year 4 Residential Trip

Year 4 spent two amazing nights at Ufton Court last week. They learned a lot about The Romans through hands-on experiences and had a fantastic time. We hope it will be a wonderful memory to look back on in Year 6!



### Year 5 URE Museum Visit

Our Year 5 children visited The URE Museum of Greek Archaeology, which houses over 3,000 objects and substantial archives. The children were able to view materials from the Greek, Greco-Roman, Egyptian and Cypriot civilisations of the Mediterranean.



### Year 1 Library Visit

Our Year 1 children visited Binfield Library earlier this month.



### Sports News

Since our last update we have attended a Year 6 Tag Rugby event at Great Hollands Recreational ground on the 4th November. The children played 8 games and improved with every game. Unfortunately we did not do enough to secure a semi final place but you can see from their faces, they enjoyed the experience!

from their faces, they enjoyed the experience!

### Diwali celebrations

Our Reception children created colourful paintings and Mehndi hand patterns whilst learning about the Diwali celebrations.



### Remembrance in school on 11<sup>th</sup> November

The children and staff observed a 2 minute silence in commemoration of our fallen heroes and spent time speaking about the importance of remembrance. The children have also been creating art work and poems in this theme.



### Odd Sock Day

To kick start the Anti- Bullying week, the children wore odd socks to school on the Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November!



### Are you looking for a school place in September 2022?

Please have a look on our website to see what our fantastic school can offer your child.

The page linked below holds all of the information for prospective parents, including a virtual tour while we are unable

to provide open mornings

[www.binfieldschool.co.uk/prospective-parents/](http://www.binfieldschool.co.uk/prospective-parents/)



**F.O.B.S.**  
Friends of Binfield School



## BAG 2 SCHOOL COLLECTION

**DATE: FRIDAY, 28TH JANUARY 2022**

**WHERE: PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE CARPARK, BENETFELD ROAD**

FOBS are holding a Bag2School Clothing Collection to help **YOU** declutter and at the same time raise money for **Binfield C of E Primary**.

Please bring your items already bagged between **8am and 10am on Friday, 28th January 2022** to the **Parish Council Car Park on Benetfeld Road**. To adhere to current COVID-19 safety guidelines, you will need to unload your bags into the designated area yourself, please maintain social distancing and do not attend if you are displaying COVID-19 like symptoms.

Bag2School accept the following 'good quality' items **only** for re-use:

- Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- Handbags
- Hats and Belts
- Bags
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery
- Lingerie and Socks
- Soft toys (no plastic please)
- Household linen
- Household curtains
- Household towels
- Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

#### They DO NOT accept:

- Duvets and blankets
- Pillows and cushions
- Carpets, rugs and mats (including bath, shower and toilet mats)
- Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing
- School uniforms with and without logo
- Corporate clothing and workwear
- Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material

**They reserve the right to refuse any unsuitable items.**

**Thank you for your continued support**

## Christmas in the Yillage

**Bringing you festive cheer this December, whilst raising money for our school...**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <br><b>Wreath Kits</b><br>Make your own Christmas wreath      | <br><b>Festive Raffle</b><br>Win great prizes!                      |
| <br><b>Christmas Craft</b><br>Activities for the whole family | <br><b>Seasonal Quiz</b><br>Try our Christmas brain teasers         |
| <br><b>Xmas Jumpers</b><br>Get your festive knitwear          | <br><b>Special Delivery</b><br>Personalised letters from North Pole |
| <br><b>Xmas Traditions</b><br>Reindeer Relish & Magic Bells   | <br><b>Grotto</b><br>Santa will see you now...                      |

**Binfield Believes**  
 19th December 2021 - Are you a Believer?  
**Find it all at: [www.pta-events.co.uk/fobs](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/fobs)**

# COMMUNITY NEWS



## Binfield Library News

Thank you to all our library customers for their support and understanding over the past year and the challenging times. It's been fantastic to be welcoming you back in the library again for events. You really brighten our day!

### Special Christmas and winter activities:

All through December there will be a special Christmas treasure hunt for children around Binfield Library, Christmas craft packs on sale for £1.50 and a 'Guess how many sweets are in the jar' competition (50p).

The Winter Mini Challenge is coming soon! The reading challenge for children will launch on Wednesday 1st December, so keep an eye out for information on how to get involved. In the meantime, you can also check out the Reading Agency's fun games and activities. <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/games>

Each day until 24<sup>th</sup> December we'll be posting photos of Elf on the Library Shelf in one of Bracknell Forest Libraries on our social media pages. Follow us on Instagram (@bracknelllibraries), Facebook (@bracknell.library) and Twitter (@bracknell\_lib) to see what our Elf is up to. He'll be doing his best to help us. We would love your comments on where you think he is, or you can simply say hello! Look out also for our Christmas recommended reads on Instagram. Staff each day will be recommending books to read for the festive season.

### Regular events to put in your calendar or diary:

#### Adult events:

**Afternoon quiz** - Second and fourth Thursday of the month at 11am (Thursday 9th and 23rd December and 13th and 27th January.) £1.

Drop in, no need to book. Everyone is welcome. Our quiz is relaxed, sociable and a lot of fun.

**Knit and natter** - First Monday of the month at 2pm and third Saturday of the month at 1.30pm. (Monday 6th December and Monday 3rd January at 2pm, Saturday 18th December and Saturday 15th January at 1.30pm). Free. Contact Binfield Library to book your place.

Knit and natter is a great way to find new friends, share tips and enjoy some company. Prepare your yarn and needles, have a cuppa ready and get nattering.

**Book group** - Last Monday of the month at 5:45pm. (Monday 31st January). Drop-in, no need to book.

#### Children's events:

**Bounce & Rhyme** sessions for preschool children every Thursday at 9.30am. (It will not run on 16th December.) 50p. Contact the library to book your place.

Join in our friendly and fun singing and music session for babies and toddlers.

**Have a Very Happy Christmas and New Year from all of us at Binfield Library.**

<https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/libraries> **Anne Hayward**

## REMEMBRANCE WEEKEND 2021



The weather on Saturday morning was thankfully dry, although we did have a slight shower during the service. The turnout was slightly less for the Remembrance Day Service, at the War Memorial St Mark's Church. A piper

led in The Royal British Legion, The Royal Naval Association, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Binfield Brownies Standards to start the short service. The service was opened by Reverend Luke Taylor. We then had a pupil from Kings Academy Oakwood tell Len Burritt's Story. Len was a member of The Binfield Royal British Legion and had served in WW2. Sadly Len Passed away in October at 103, But has left his



wonderful stories with the children of Meadow Vale school and many other people. Pupils from Kings Academy Oakwood and Young Leaders from 3<sup>rd</sup> Binfield read poems and prayers. The piper then played Flowers of the forest, while Wreaths were laid from Village Organisations. Luke then read the 92 names from the Roll of Honour, which was followed by the last post and two minutes silence. The service ended with a blessing.

Sunday Morning the standard bearers from The Royal British Legion and The Royal Naval Association, and colour parties from 1<sup>st</sup> Bineild Scouts, 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Binfield Guides and 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Binfield Brownies



lined the path to the church, as the congregation arrived.

The Standards entered to 'I vow to thee my country' and made their way to the altar. A member of Meadow Vale school, who is also a youth member spoke about the 100 years of The Royal British Legion. Then a poem 'Lest We Forget' written by Joan Humphries was read by members of 1<sup>st</sup> Binfield Guides and 3<sup>rd</sup> Binfield Brownies, and prayers read by 1<sup>st</sup> Binfield guides. The Standard Bearers made their way to the Roll of Honour to the strains of 'Lament to a Fallen Soldier', Wreaths were laid and a poppy was dropped for each of Binfields Fallen in All Conflicts. After the Last Post was played the two minutes silence followed. At the end of the two minutes silence Reville was played. The Standards Bearers returned to the final part of 'Lament to a fallen soldier'. The Standards were returned and collection taken to the hymn 'Amazing Grace'. After the National Anthem and blessing the service finished with the hymn 'I cannot tell'. The Collection went to The Poppy Appeal.

The Binfield Branch of The Royal British Legion would like to thank all of those who took part in both services, our affiliated members for all their support, poppies on the end of the pews and in the porch by 1<sup>st</sup> Binfield Rainbows and Brownies and 4<sup>th</sup> Binfield Guides, and the Village for their support each year and giving so generously.

We will let you know what Binfield raised for the poppy appeal in the February Beacon

**LIVE ON to preserve the memory of the fallen and the future of the living**

**Karen Hatt - Chairperson Binfield Branch of The Royal British Legion**



**Environmentally aware**—The Binfield Beacon is printed in the UK on paper manufactured to ISO14001 standard in a European Mill. The paper is FSC approved, ECF acid and chlorine free, biodegradable and sourced from a UK Merchant who is part of the Woodland Trust which helps plant more trees to reduce carbon footprint. Printed using vegetable oil based inks. Please do your part to help the environment by passing on your magazine to others or recycling it responsibly.

**Thank you.**



## COMMUNITY NEWS



2021 has been a good year for Binfield Environment Group. We have been able to run some conservation work parties and other events, which have been supported by a good number of people. Amongst other things, this has allowed us to plant more pollinator-friendly flowers and shrubs

around the parish as well as staying on top of the ever-present menace of litter.

We also have a growing group of surveyors who are monitoring the birds and butterflies across a number of the green-spaces in the parish. These people are going out once a month and walking a pre-defined route so as to record what they see in a relatively scientific way. The data that they are gathering is giving us useful information on how the biodiversity in different parts of the parish compares and how it varies over the course of the year. One way that this is already proving useful is in complementing the information gathered as part of the environmental impact assessments of new developments. We have learnt things we didn't know about Binfield's nature from these EIAs (e.g. where noctule bats might roost) and we have also started to address some of the deficiencies in these EIAs such as that they only record species present at the time of year / day the surveys are conducted.

Blue Mountain continues to be a surprisingly good place to see a wide range of birds and butterflies. In part this is due to the

range of habitat types across the site and the relative maturity of some of these. Piglittle Meadow is a great place for butterflies and birds of prey. The former enjoy the wildflower meadow whilst the latter are easier to spot because of the wide-ranging views from the south-west corner of the site.

We'd like to do more to survey butterflies and other insects across the parish. We will also be investigating how we can make more use of some of the new generation of apps for recording nature sightings, and how we can access data that users of these apps record in Binfield. If you want to share your experiences or want to help out then please get in touch.



We are in the process of preparing a survey to get feedback on what we should do more or less of in future. Please watch out for this survey and give us your thoughts.

Binfield Environment Group can be contacted by email at [binfielddeg@gmail.com](mailto:binfielddeg@gmail.com), via our Facebook group, or via our website <https://binfielddeg.wixsite.com/binfielddeg>

*Mike Coker*



### Bracknell Branch Update

Welcome to all our Shipmates and potential Shipmates reading this edition of the Binfield Beacon. As you turn the pages and read the articles, we will be heading towards the festive period - a time for reflection and a time for family. The Bracknell Branch of the Royal Naval Association is a family to its members. Former service men and women, their partners and then like-minded people who enjoy the comradeship, history, ceremony and fun that being an Associate Member affords you, as we all come together for formal meetings and social events.

Since last we met, the Branch has held yet another successful Trafalgar Dinner (pics below) in memory of the great battle and the famous naval hero, Lord Nelson. This was done over a fabulous meal, a glass of wine and not forgetting the Pussers Rum. Many tales were shared, and the laughter and conversations were a joy to hear.

Many members will have also shown their support to those who have gone before us or are still serving, by joining in at Remembrance events, either live or just at home on the 11<sup>th</sup> or on Remembrance Sunday. With the words "lest we forget" firmly in our hearts we thank them for their service.

As always, our monthly Branch meeting was opened by our Chairman, S/M Nigel Carpenter and in November it followed the usual sharing of information and discussion on how well our fabulous members are doing and what the Branch has been up to. Shipmates were asked to remember the Charity Collection days to be held at Warfield Tesco on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup>,

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December. We would like to invite all to come along and say hello and help us raise funds for the good causes the RNA Bracknell Branch supports. All donations welcome.

Afterwards, the members were given a fascinating insight into the Pluto Project. "PLUTO" stood for "Pipeline Underwater Transportation of Oil" but it was more commonly known as "Pipeline Under the Ocean". Its purpose was to provide plentiful supplies of fuel to sustain the D-Day invasion once many vehicles and tanks were shipped over to France.

For further information, please contact our Branch Secretary, S/M June Boddrell at [secretary.bracknellrna@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.bracknellrna@gmail.com) or by telephone on 01344 311869. We look forward to meeting you soon.

*Yours aye S/M Marcus Carpenter*

### ONCE NAVY, ALWAYS NAVY





## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

*at All Saints' Church*

Sun 5th Dec - 6.30pm - Until We Meet Again

Sun 19th Dec - 6.30pm - Carol Service

Fri 24th Dec - 3pm & 5pm - Christingle

Christmas Day - 9.30am - Communion (BCP)

Christmas Day - 10.30am - All Age Christmas Celebration

Sun 26th Dec - Common Worship Communion

*Also at St Mark's Church*

Thurs 9th Dec - Open Door Christmas Service



**GEEVES  
MASTERMIND  
CLUB**

WISHES YOU A  
MERRY CHRISTMAS  
& PROSPEROUS  
NEW YEAR



**NEED HELP**

**WITH YOUR BUSINESS IDEA?**

**WHICH BUSINESS HAT, HAVE**

**YOU BEEN WEARING?**

Visit our new Binfield Business Hub  
at Lexham House, Forest Road  
Binfield RG42 4HP. Email  
gmc@gmclub.com to make an  
appointment during office hours.

Get the guidance you need to build a profitable business in less time and  
with less effort, alongside experts who can drive your business forward.

Visit our website for GMC Events [www.geevesmastermindclub.com](http://www.geevesmastermindclub.com)

