

The Binfield Beacon

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



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February 2023



*Love me now while I am living,
Do not wait until I'm gone and
they have it chiseled in marble,
sweet words on ice-cold stone.*

Image from Carrie Z from Pixabay

Our Mission is to help people follow Jesus and his teachings

Church Office: 01344 421079 office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk [facebook.com/allsaintswithstmarks](https://www.facebook.com/allsaintswithstmarks)
www.binfieldcofechurches.org.uk Produced by All Saints' with St Mark's Churches

SERVICES & DIARY

SERVICES

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

FEBRUARY 2023

Sunday 5th Feb	8.15am 9.30am 11.00am	Book of Common Prayer Communion Common Worship Communion Informal All Age Baptism Service
Sunday 12th Feb	8.15am 9.30am 11.00am	Book of Common Prayer Communion Common Worship Communion Informal Service
Sunday 19th Feb	8.15am 9.30am 11.00am	Book of Common Prayer Communion Common Worship Communion Informal Communion Service
Sunday 26th Feb	8.15am 9.30am 11.00am	Book of Common Prayer Communion Common Worship Communion Informal Service

MARCH 2023

Sunday 5th Mar	8.15am 9.30am 11.00am	Book of Common Prayer Communion Common Worship Communion Informal All Age Baptism Service
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3G, a group for babies and toddlers, meets **every Wednesday during term time. From 10am to 11.30am** at

St Mark's Church on Popeswood Road, Binfield.

DATES: 1st, 8th, 22nd February and 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th March

Come and join us for lots of fun, with toys, a story and singing plus refreshments for the little ones as well as the adults. It is an opportunity for everyone to make new friends.

You are assured of a warm welcome.

Jan Watts and Team

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 21st February at 12 noon

If you need a lift, please call Beverley on 07704 437207

DIARY

FEBRUARY 2023

Wed 1st	9.00am 10.00am 7.00pm	Wednesday Women's Walk 3G Toddler Group at St Mark's Church 7UP at St Mark's Church
Thurs 2nd	7.30pm	Adult Choir practice at St Mark's Church
Fri 3rd	8.00pm	Relentless at St Michael's Church, Warfield
Sat 4th	7.45am	Men's Monthly Walk
Wed 8th	10.00am 7.00pm	3G Toddler Group at St Mark's Church 7UP at St Mark's Church
Thurs 9th	7.30pm	Adult Choir practice at St Mark's Church
Fri 10th	8.00pm	Relentless <i>Jumpin Sleepover (contact Daisy for more information daisyridell@gmail.com)</i>
Sun 12th	10.45am	Whizz Kids at St Mark's Church
Thurs 16th	7.30pm	Adult Choir practice at St Mark's Church
Sun 19th	10.45am	Whizz Kids at St Mark's Church
Tues 21st	12 noon	Silver Service at St Mark's Church
Wed 22nd	10.00am 7.00pm	3G Toddler Group at St Mark's Church 7UP at St Mark's Church
Thurs 23rd	7.30pm	Adult Choir practice at St Mark's Church
Fri 24th	8.00pm	Relentless at St Michael's Church, Warfield
Sun 26th	10.45am	Whizz Kids at St Mark's Church
Tues 28th	7.30pm	Practice the presence of God at The Rectory
Wed 30th	10.00am 7.00pm	3G Toddler Group at St Mark's Church 7UP at St Mark's Church

MARCH 2023

Wed 1st	9.00am 10.00am 7.00pm	Wednesday Women's Walk 3G Toddler Group at St Mark's Church 7UP at St Mark's Church
Thurs 2nd	7.30pm	Adult Choir practice at St Mark's Church
Fri 3rd	8.00pm	Relentless at St Michael's Church, Warfield
Sat 4th	7.45am	Men's Monthly Walk

MEN'S MONTHLY COUNTRY WALK

DATES: Saturday 4th February and 4th March

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 07894 469633 or kimswain@pm.me

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 February - 9am meet Foxes' Den
15th February - NO WALK**

**1st March - 9am meet Foxes' Den
15th March - 9am meet Foxes' Den**

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



Sunday Group for Children School Year 1-6

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

(term time only except the 1st Sunday of the month)

ARTS & CRAFT, GAMES AND MUCH MORE!

Email daisyridell@gmail.com for info

7UP

A café style chill space! With games, sports, tuck shop and creative zone!

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS, ST. MARK'S CHURCH, 7:00-8:30PM

RELENTLESS

A joint youth group with Warfield Church! Enjoy video games, sports and space to hang with friends

FRIDAY EVENINGS, ST. MICHAEL'S WARFIELD, 8:00-9:30PM



PRACTICE THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Our Practice the presence of God sessions take place on the 4th Tuesday of the month at The Rectory

This is a time to be still and to practice listening to God and learning to recognise how he speaks to you.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR RECTOR



THE TIME IS NOW

If you are ever going to love me,
Love me now, while I can know
The sweet and tender feelings
Which from true affection flow.

Love me now while I am living.
Do not wait until I'm gone
And they have it chiseled in marble,
Sweet words on ice-cold stone.

If you have tender thoughts of me,
Please tell me now.
If you wait until I am sleeping, never to awaken,
There will be death between us,
And I won't hear you then.

So, if you love, even a little bit,
Let me know it while I am living
So I can treasure it.

The Bible says, Love builds up (1 Corinthians chapter 8 verse 1).
Let's build others up while they can treasure it.

*Taken from A World of Stories for Preachers and Teachers by
William J Bausch.*

Luke



LIGHTHOUSE PROGRAM –

**Providing Food, Meals and Support to
Homeless, Vulnerable and Needy**



Thank you to everyone that donated and supported the Lighthouse Program over the last couple of months. Given the cold snap prior to Christmas we experienced a high blip in the number of people needing food, meals and basic essentials. The good news is that we were able to satisfy the demand.

Christmas Eve was a busy time for us. With the support of Newbold Church members and our existing volunteer base, we delivered Christmas food hampers to circa 30 people. The hampers included the traditional Christmas meal, other roasts, desserts, cheese and biscuits, crackers, drinks and all the typical festive trimmings. Our clients were delighted and no one went without a feast.

Tesco at Warfield invited us to hold a charity stand in store in December. This was pretty successful in terms of cash donations and cupboard stock items. Thanks to those that came and manned the table. All items collected were distributed in the Christmas Hampers.

We have started the year off with a substantial donation from "danetti" www.danetti.com. This will enable us to purchase key ingredients to ensure the focus remains on home cooked, well balanced meals. As a reminder many of those we help do not have kitchens, some may have occasional use of a microwave and a number store meals in a cool boxes as they don't have a fridge. We would like to thank danetti for their continued support and simply put we would not have been able to feed the quantity of those in need, or supply the quality of food that we have.

We anticipate that we will soon start to experience higher volumes of need as the cost of living continues to rise. We will work along side organisations that refer clients to us. We are building up a freezer stock of meals so that we can support any urgent requests that come to us.

Amanda Thrower

From the Registers:

Baptisms

Lily Kadri-Langford
Sienna Bell Sumner

Weddings

Casey Ferguson & Sophie Hardman

Funerals

Bob Matthews
David Illingworth



Thames Voyces would like to thank our generous guests at our Carol Concert in St Marks in December. Not only was it a superb celebration in a packed church, but following the retiring collection, and donations whilst carol-singing at Waitrose in Bracknell, we were able to donate £162.40 to the Lighthouse Programme.

CONTACT US: 01344 421079 office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk

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Revd Luke Taylor
07939 526361
lukethevicar@gmail.com
(Friday is Luke's day off)

Curate:

Revd Sam Mortimer
07505 426763
rev.sam.mortimer@gmail.com

Churchwarden:

John Hargreaves - 07973 842624
Sue Cledwyn-Davies - 07941 585488

Church Office:

Hayley Fourie, Administrator
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Office mobile number: 07719 545292
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Thursday: 9.00am - 1.00pm

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Church Website:

www.binfieldcofechurches.org.uk



We are also on Facebook
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



Join our mailing list!

Stay up to date with our news and events in between issues of the Beacon...

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and see our Data Privacy Notice



www.binfieldcofechurches.org.uk/contact-list-sign-up/

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
Gisele Taylor	tel. 07724 889169
Dave Dawson	tel. 360389

Or contact the church office on 01344 421079
or email 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 /07850 799434
or Margareta Hawkins 01344 411681



St Mark's Church Hall Available for booking.

Please contact the church office
on 01344 421079 or email
office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk
for more information or to make a booking.



Praying for and with you

We have weekly prayer sheets — please email
office@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk
if you would like something to be included.

The Binfield Beacon



The deadline for Beacon Contributions for the March 2023 issue

is Monday 13th February 2023

Please email:

Beacon@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk
Claire Thomas (Binfield Beacon Editor)

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

CHILDREN AND YOUTH



Hi Everyone,

We hope your new year has been off to a great start, we can't wait to see what 2023 has in store for us!



Over the Christmas period we had loads of festive fun, including the return of the Whizz Kids Christmas party. We played games, made Christmas crafts, and had a blast on the bouncy castle. On Sunday's we've been enjoying all our usual activities of sports, games and bible stories, and one morning we even got cosy and had a pyjama party!



This term we're looking at what it means to be a new creation in Christ, and learning about people who's lives have changed after following Jesus.



Some of our 7UP youth group helped at the Binfield Christmas market to sell the wonderful decorations and crafts we made on Wednesday evenings, and we raised nearly £100 for our youth group, so thank you to everyone who came and bought something, and of course massive thanks to the team who pulled the event off. We also celebrated Christmas in style with a silent disco, which was so much fun!



Coming up in 2023 we have a sleepover at Jump-In trampoline park at the start of the half term which will be for both youth groups, 7UP our Wednesday group, and Relentless our Friday group which is joint with Warfield. Plus this Summer we're heading back to Satellites festival in August, so there's loads to look forward to!

If you'd like to come and give either Whizz Kids (for primary school kids) or 7UP/Relentless (for secondary school kids) a go feel free to drop in, we're open to anyone and would love to see you there!

Daisy - Children's and Youth Worker (daisyriddell@gmail.com)

50 random acts of kindness

- Call a friend
- Make someone laugh
- Send someone flowers out of the blue
- Have a clear out and take items to a charity shop
- Leave a surprise note or drawing on someone's desk
- Let someone know you're proud of them
- Cook a dish for someone else
- Host a get together with your neighbours
- Offer to pick up a friend or family member from work
- Give up your seat to someone who needs it
- Send a letter to a grandparent
- Take someone out for lunch instead of eating at your desk
- Talk to the shop assistant when paying at the till
- Have a conversation with someone who is experiencing homelessness
- Send a letter to a grandparent
- Take someone out for lunch instead of eating at your desk
- Offer to pick up groceries for an elderly neighbour
- Check in with someone who is having a hard time
- Send a handwritten note to someone
- Donate to a charity
- Let someone jump the queue at the supermarket
- Have a conversation with someone who is experiencing homelessness
- Offer to pick up groceries for an elderly neighbour
- Walk a friend's dog
- Reach out to spend time with a friend, family member or neighbour who is experiencing loneliness
- Help with household chores
- Return a lost item to its owner
- Get to know someone new
- Help a friend get active
- Listen to someone who is having a bad day
- Spend time playing with your pet
- Buy someone a healthy snack
- Tell your family you love them
- Smile and say hello to people you may pass every day, but have never spoken to before
- Help a parent carry a pushchair down the stairs
- Help someone who is lost
- Have coffee with someone you haven't seen in a while
- Make someone a cup of tea
- Sign up to do voluntary work in your local community
- Say good morning
- Let someone know why you're thankful for them
- Offer to babysit for a friend
- Pop into a coffee shop and ask to pay for a coffee for them to give to someone later that day for free
- Pick up rubbish lying around in the street

Send...

- A motivational text to a friend who is struggling
- A joke to cheer someone up
- A picture of a cute animal
- An inspirational quote
- An interesting article

Sharing is caring! We want to hear your #KindnessStories. You can tag us @mentalhealth on Twitter and @mentalhealthfoundation on Instagram.
www.mentalhealth.org.uk

FUNDRAISING NEWS

Happy New Year!

We hope you all managed to enjoy a wonderful Christmas (without too many bugs or illnesses plaguing your houses) and that you're feeling ready for 2023 and whatever it may bring!

We are so grateful for the fundraising you helped us achieve last year. We rely solely on your donations (plus any grants we may be awarded) to fund everything we do, so every little bit you contribute makes a difference. We were able to run all our services, weddings, baptisms and youth groups plus maintain our spaces thanks to you! Whether you attended one of our events, made a donation at a Foxes' Den Rhyme Time or a 3G Toddler Group session or bought one of our fundraising items, we appreciate it all.

We already have a list of essential maintenance items the Fabric team are hoping to be able to carry out this year, all on a pretty non-existent budget - and that's before reviewing the Quinquennial Report we finally have! We really hope that you will continue to support us during this year, either through one-off or regular donations, or by running your own fundraising activities to help us. You can find out how and read more information about our two fundraising pots on the 'Giving' section of our website, or please email us!



General Funds:
Supporting the ongoing costs of running our churches and services, including the Parish Share payment and Youth work

Our two fundraising pots:



The Church Care Project:
Funding large building projects and ad-hoc maintenance work on our church spaces

Thank You's

The Binfield Village 2023 calendar was another sellout! Thank you to everyone who supported us by buying one – we hope you enjoy the gorgeous photo of Binfield each month.

The first Binfield Christmas Market on 5th December was a great success, as were our church stalls! We managed to raise funds for the Youth Groups, Church Care and General funds all in one evening!

Other festive activities which took place were Trudy Inge's Wreath-Making workshop, which raised a fantastic £325, and Margareta and Michael Hawkins worked hard selling delicious gingerbread creations to raise an amazing £850!

Thanks also to those who also purchased Christmas cards. We'll look into finding some new designs to print for this year

A reminder of what the Church Care Project funded last year...

- Refurbishing old and laying new wheelchair-friendly paths at the Cemetery.
- Final payment of St Mark's ceiling repair.
- Sorting out tree storm damage at both churches and paying for a tree survey on other unsafe trees.
- Final payment towards costs of fixing the organ at All Saints'.
- Work in All Saints' churchyard to stop brambles taking over.

THANK YOU!

How to make a donation:

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

- **Online:** see our updated 'Giving' pages on the website, with easy links to make a one-off donation: www.binfieldcofechurches.org.uk/giving-page or click on the 'Donate' link on the Home Page.
- **Cheque:** send a cheque to the church office, made payable to "Binfield PCC".
Please write 'Church Care', 'General Funds', or where you would like your donation used on the back
- **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.



SCAN ME

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!



With many thanks from the Fundraising Team:
www.binfieldcofechurches.org.uk

fundraising@binfieldcofechurches.org.uk
www.facebook.com/AllSaintsWithSt.Marks

COMMUNITY NEWS



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT BINFIELD CE PRIMARY SCHOOL (V.A.)?

Binfield celebrates Christmas!



We had a busy couple of weeks in December with our Christmas celebrations! Reception, KS1 and KS2 put on their best performances for their Nativities. We then had a fabulously

festive Christmas Lunch. Our group of wonderful parents/carers helped to make this occasion really special for the children. They had such fun eating in the hall together, singing and doing the conga around the school!



We also has a very special visitor to our Thank You Assembly on the last day of term!

For the first time in a few years, we were also able to hold our Christmas Bazaar on the first weekend in December. This fabulous event arranged by our hard-working PTA saw the return of all our wonderful stalls and games for the family to enjoy. This event always helps kick start our celebrations whilst raising money for the children.



Egyptian Workshop

Last term Year 3 had great fun on their Egyptian day with Ufton court staff who visited our school for the day. The children took part in the learning fun whilst dressed in Egyptian clothes for the day. They particularly enjoyed looking at the embalming and the mummification process!



Year 1 visits Binfield Library

Our Year 1 children took a walk and visited the library for the morning. Thank you to Sarah Henty for hosting us and allowing the children to explore.



Sports News

Competition, both within the school day and through our extra-curricular provision, is a key element of sport at Binfield. This has an important role to play in allowing children to test skills acquired during lessons, develop teamwork and to understand how to produce a performance when required.

In the last few weeks of last term the children took part in climbing at Oakwood Centre, Panathlon organised by Bracknell SSP along with some of our Year 4, 5 & 6 children taking part in the Cross Country competition and Boccia event.



Our new Key Stage 2 girls Football Club was a success during the first week back at school after the Christmas break. The girls will be working on improving their skills with Garry from Binfield FC.



Twitter

All of our news and events are shared daily on our Twitter page. To follow us please search for @Binfieldschool.



A new venue for the Arts Society Wokingham

After more than 5 years at Newbold College, The Arts Society Wokingham has been forced to find a new home. We have chosen - King's Academy Binfield.

The many members who live in Binfield are delighted that we are 'staying local'.

We chose the venue because of its excellent facilities - free parking in a well lit modern car park and spacious and comfortable accommodation for our monthly lectures.

In the foyer there is plenty of space to meet up with friends over free tea or coffee and biscuits from 7pm.

Our February lecturer, Karin Fernald will make full use of the large central screen in the hall as she explores the life and art of Sir Edwin Landseer, the animal artist who was hugely celebrated and loved for his highland stags, dogs and particularly for his lions in Trafalgar Square.

The lecture starts at 7.30pm on Monday 20th February. Guests and new members are always welcome.

For more details please visit our website <https://www.theartsocietywokingham.org.uk>

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Ofsted approved and Good Rating
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For more info contact info@binfieldpreschool.net
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COMMUNITY NEWS



Despite the national decline in their numbers, Binfield seems to be a popular home for hedgehogs. A few of our members have been keeping an eye on them and the following is a summary of Gill and John Hudson's hedgehog related adventures.

Gill and John's garden is on the list of potential release sites registered with Herbie Hedgehog Rescue (<https://www.herbiehedgehogrescue.com/>) in Reading. They take in hedgehogs that have fallen into ponds, been injured or found out during the day, which indicates that the animal is poorly. As far as possible, hedgehogs should always be released where they were found. However, young hedgehogs do not have a territory to return to so it was possible that a hoglet could be released in Gill and John's garden.

In August 2022, the Hudsons were given a young hedgehog called Sherman to release. After keeping him in the box in the garage until 9pm when it was fully dark, he was put in a hedgehog house in the garden. The hedgehog house already contained hay from his hutch so it had his unique smell. Sherman seemed happy with his new home and he was left to discover his new surroundings. A trail camera was placed nearby, along with some extra new hay in a flower pot on its side so that Sherman could add more and arrange his house as he wanted.



Sherman was seen almost every evening on the trail camera. Initially he was given kitten biscuits to help him gain weight for the winter. He grew quickly and now cat biscuits or hedgehog food are left out along with a saucer of water.

Sherman has now been joined by Rita. Rita was discovered in broad daylight looking for food for herself and her hoglet. Rita's youngster was unwell and is still being looked after by Herbie Hedgehog Rescue. It is possible that the hoglet may be able to join Sherman and Rita in the spring.

Gill and John have also seen another hedgehog (with a distinctive dark patch on his prickles) visiting the garden. They have now made a second feeding station, sacrificing an old toy box to make into a double ended unit in case a fight breaks and a hedgehog needs to make a quick exit.

Gill says "We were so excited and honoured to be asked to release a hedgehog into our garden and it has brought us constant joy ever since". If you want to know more about caring for hedgehogs then have a look at the Herbie Hedgehog Rescue website or the British Hedgehog Preservation Society website (<https://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk/>).

Our next couple of events are:

- Saturday February 18th – Popes Meadow work party. We will be clearing round some of the important trees, planting more trees, and clearing out the ditch.
- Saturday March 18th – We will check the trees that we planted in 2021 and 2022 in Wicks Green and Popes Meadow and plant more to fill any gaps. We will also tidy up the Pocket Cope orchid patch.

Binfield Environment Group can be contacted by email at binfieldeg@gmail.com, via our Facebook group, or via our website <https://binfieldeg.wixsite.com/binfieldeg> **Mike Coker**



ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION BRACKNELL BRANCH UPDATE

I can't believe 2022 is "done and dusted" and we are sailing through the days of 2023 already. What a year 2022 was for the Bracknell Branch of the Royal

Naval Association with various trips away, two fabulous commemorative dinners (St George's Day and Trafalgar Day) and lots of interesting guests and speakers attending our monthly meetings. As always, we ended off the year with our Christmas event which included a very competitive Skittles match among Shipmates and a delicious buffet. Here's to a fantastic 2023 with very much more of



the same to come.

We started the year with our January Branch meeting swiftly followed by our AGM. Usual proceedings in our Branch meeting were observed including welcoming two new Shipmates to the fold (Peter & Matt). Both of them have served with the Royal Navy and they



will certainly have some tales to tell over the coming months. You don't have to be ex-Navy to join you just need to want to spend time with like-minded folks who enjoy tales of the sea, the world, of history and even sometimes tales of the unexpected. New members are always welcome.

The Branch AGM also added a new dimension to the start of the year with all the Committee Members being voted back into post for another term. However, the Vice-Chairman S/M Mike Daley, who has been a stalwart member of the Bracknell Branch since our rebirth in 2015, was asked if he would honour the Branch and become our Branch President, which he duly accepted and was unanimously voted in by the Shipmates. This left an opening for a Vice-Chairman! Shipmate Ron Nicholas was duly proposed and voted in by the Branch members. This appointment will add another new dynamic to the Committee and our meetings, ensuring the continued success of the Branch. Good luck to both S/M Mike and S/M Ron. At the AGM we always like to give back to the community so our annual donations to charity were agreed after a successful year of fund-raising ourselves in 2022.

If you want to know more about the Bracknell RNA, including how you can become a Member, please contact the Secretary, June Boddrell, either by email (secretary.bracknellrna@gmail.com) or by telephone on 01344 311869.

We look forward to meeting you soon.

Yours aye, S/M Marcus

ONCE NAVY, ALWAYS NAVY

COMMUNITY NEWS

NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

(correct as of 06 January 2023)



Binfield Parish Council upcoming meetings:

February 2023

Tuesday 07 February	Amenity Committee	8pm
Tuesday 14 February	Parish Council	8pm
Tuesday 28 February	Planning and Transportation Committee	8pm

Upcoming Events

Sunday 5 th February	Silver Club -Following the success of Silver Sunday for the older members of our community we are pleased to offer our last date of Sunday 5 th February. The event will now be 1-3pm (please make note of the slightly different time to previous events) at the Parish Council Office, Binfield. There will be light refreshments, quiz and games. To reserve your free place please contact the Parish office.	1-3pm
Tuesday 14 th February and Tuesday 14 th March	Opportunities to chat with a Parish Councillor. For more information see below.	7.45pm
Thursday 23 rd March	Annual Parish Meeting	7.30pm
Sunday 7 th May	Coronation of King Charles III – save the date! Party at FarleyWood, further details to follow.	TBC

Opportunities to chat with a Councillor

Binfield Parish Council welcome the opportunity to engage with members of the community on a regular basis. A Parish Council is the level of local government which is closest to the community, with their activities falling into the following areas, 1) representing the local community, 2) delivering services to meet local needs and 3) striving to improve quality of life and community well-being.

If you have anything you would like to share, such as ideas for new facilities in the parish, feedback about recent events or any concerns that the Parish Council can help address, Councillors will be available to speak to 15 minutes prior to each Council meeting for an informal conversation. If you would like to come along, there is no need to book, just turn up and have a chat.

Could you be a Parish Councillor?

There is currently one vacancy 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://binfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk/members-of-binfield-parish-council/#be_a_councillor

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 2022-23, which can be viewed at: <https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk> ('Roads, parking and transport strategies and policies' web page).

Community Grants

The Parish Council are pleased to confirm the following grants have been agreed.

- 1st Binfield Rainbows -£390
- 1st Binfield Brownies - £450
- 3rd Binfield Brownies -£300
- 3rd Binfield Rainbows - £250
- 4th Binfield Guides - £495
- Citizens Advice Bracknell & District -£1,000
- Cruse Bereavement Care Thames Valley Berkshire - £500
8. Foxes' Den Community Hub - £450
9. Plus Three Nurseries - £1,000
10. South Berks Gang Show -£500
11. South Hill Parks Arts Centre -£750
12. Stepping Stones -£750
13. Thames Hospice -£500

Parish People Awards

The aim of the Binfield Parish People awards is to thank and reward those people living in Binfield and who deserve recognition for community activity, environmental achievements or in some other way contribute to the life of the Parish. The awards are presented at the annual parish meeting (March 2023, date TBC). A nomination form can be <https://binfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk/the-parish/parish-peoples-award/> or by contacting the office.

Ceri, Amanda, Purveen, Alisa & Tracey

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

www.binfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

COMMUNITY NEWS



FOXY LUNCHES



If you are struggling to feed yourself or your family at any time, 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

07919448254

claire@foxesden.co.uk

Hello February!

We are still here! Since the last edition of the Beacon the Den has had to face some hard truths and make some big decisions. I have been very open on social media about the financial situation that we have found ourselves in and I wanted to share it here too.

The economic climate that we are all dealing with has affected the Den in many ways; from doubling the price of ingredients to making customers wary of spending.

Not all of our customers are aware, but we are a self-funded charity (CIC) and as the headlines have kept us informed - hospitality as an industry is struggling. If we carried on as we were, we faced the very real possibility of having to close permanently at the end of January. We are still hanging in there...just.

To those lovely customers and friends of the Den that have asked what they can do to help; all I am asking is for kindness and patience. We have been trying a different model in January, where we have run with less staff and more of a coffee shop style menu. We have continued with our community efforts where we can - please be assured we will still be here and working hard for our community for as long as we can; we won't give up without a fight! Thank you all again for your continued support.

Claire x

*foxesden.co.uk @thefoxesdenbinfield 01344 305500
Benetfeld Road, Binfield. RG42 4EW*

Winter Warmers!

Our homemade soups are flying out of the kitchen right now – we only make small batches but my new favourite is the Cauliflower Cheese Soup!



Board Games Evenings

These started out very popular but after covid we struggled to find a suitable time/evening to bring them back.



I know it's not always nice to leave the house on a wet British winter evening, but if you are on your way to a warm, sociable evening filled with a bit of competitiveness and lots of fun – when would be the best time for you? Please email claire@foxesden.co.uk or text 07919448254 with your thoughts and suggestions. See you soon!

The BINFIELD 10K

10am Sunday 21st May 2023

As the February issue of the Beacon hits our doorsteps, the countdown is now on to the Binfield 10K! With just 16 weeks to go, the committee is busy planning to ensure that it is a great day for everyone. If you haven't encountered the race in past years, once a year we organise a road race for up to 850 runners, joggers and walkers around our lovely village.

If you are interested in participating in the event, there is plenty of time to start training, or ramp up your training so that you can get a great PB. Entries are now open at www.binfield10k.co.uk/entries Why not get a team together and run for a local charity? Or you could dress up and run for fun. It would be great to see some crazy characters!

The 10K is open to everyone in the community and we hope

you will all get involved. This village event creates such a buzz and we need volunteers on the field, marshals on the route and crowds cheering the runners on. We are also looking for more sponsors. The 10K is organised by a team of volunteers and every penny goes to charity. If you would like to help us by sponsoring the event in some way then please get in touch by emailing enquiries@binfield10k.co.uk to find out about the sponsorship options open to you.

This year we are delighted to welcome back some of our loyal sponsors, as well as welcome on board some new faces. Sponsor options are available to meet your budget and by helping us, you are raising awareness of your business and also helping local charities that we support.

If you would like to find out more about the Binfield 10K then please visit us at: www.binfield10k.co.uk or find us on the socials [@Binfield10k](https://www.instagram.com/Binfield10k)

The Binfield 10k Committee

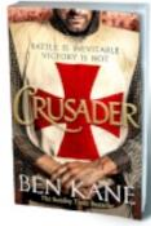


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COMMUNITY NEWS

BINFIELD LIBRARY NEWS

I start February's Beacon with exciting news *The amazing author **Ben Kane** will be hosting a book event on Wednesday 22nd February, 6pm at Whitegrove Library. Tickets need to be purchased in advance and cost £2.00.* If you don't know where Whitegrove library is it's by the big Tesco in Warfield with lots of free parking.



Have you heard about the **Community Winter Hubs**? No? Well, Binfield Library is one! The idea is to provide a warm, safe, and sociable space to anyone whether you're a member of the library or not. Most of us are feeling the pinch but everything we are offering is free; enjoy our books, computers, newspapers, magazines, Wi Fi and events or if you prefer bring your own books, games or activities.

We are offering a variety of free activities to support you to stay well this winter through the **Five Ways to Winter Wellness campaign**. The sessions organised by Bracknell Forest' Council's Public Health Team are led by qualified instructors and include wellness walks, fire safety and energy efficiency talks, healthy eating, and mental wellbeing advice. To find out what activities are on across the borough visit <https://health.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/five-ways-to-winter-wellness-timetable>

Weekly events:

The ever-popular **Rhyme Time** sessions for preschool children continues every Thursday at 9.30am, a small 50p charge applies, this group is followed by a craft activity (£1.50 charge if your child stays for both the singing and the craft).

Dani our lovely Friday library assistant does an **After-School Craft** session which starts at 3.30pm, this event needs to be booked so we can make sure we have enough resources for everyone and there is a small charge.

After a long absence we will be starting **Lego** again on Monday

afternoons, it's free so come along and impress us with your imaginative pieces which we will display for everyone to admire.

We are also starting a **Community Jigsaw Puzzle** for adults, so if any of you have unwanted puzzles, we'd be delighted to take them off your hands.

Every other week:

The **Reminiscences Group** hosted by our wonderful Natalie is on the first and third Thursday of the month at 11 am. If you're interested in discussing your memories of the past please come along, everyone is welcome. There is a small charge of £1 to include tea or coffee.

Please feel free to bring along a small item related to your memories if you wish.

The next few meetings will be on:

2nd February – children's birthday parties

16th February – pre decimalisation coins

2nd March – medicines and hospitals

16th March – music of the 60's and 70's

6th April – films

Derek's Quiz – second and fourth Thursday of the month at 11 am, £1 charge.

The next dates for this fun and informal quiz are:

9th February, 23rd February, 9th March, 23rd March, 13th April

Knit & Natter - 1st Monday of the month 2 – 4 pm and 3rd Saturday of the month 1.30 – 3.30 pm. This group really needs people, you don't even have to knit, you could just natter!

Remember when everything else seems to be costing more, the library is free :)

For more details of library events please go to www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/libraries, find us on facebook and twitter or call 01344 306663.

Sar Henty

BINFIELD GARDEN CLUB



After welcoming us all back and wishing us a happy New Year, our chairman, Ralph, introduced Mike Coker of the Binfield Environment Group. We enjoyed a most interesting talk and discussion with Mike, a local man who has the wellbeing and interests of our area at his heart.

We saw slides of various areas around Binfield and heard of how they are watched and cared for and also what needs to be done to protect our wonderful countryside, birds and mammals.

Amongst other slides Mike showed us some very special old trees remaining from when our area was part of the Royal Hunting Forest, talked about The Cut which runs through into the Thames, and the challenges of pollution and over exploitation.

It is reassuring to hear that this group, working with Bracknell Forest and their Biodiversity Action Plan, can identify the issues faced and follow their aim to make Binfield better for wild life and people. Mike was very open to questions and our members raised some very important and interesting points, completing a good evening's meeting. We look forward to

seeing him again in January 2024 to update us on his group's activities over the year and discuss how we can help.

We have some excellent talks booked for the rest of 2023 ranging from British Castle Gardens to fuchsias and scented plants, and at least one outing. Do look on our website for details. We would love to have some new members, guests and visitors and also need some new helpers for the committee so please come forward and keep our lovely club going.

Congratulations to Stephanie, who was presented with the Annual Challenge Cup 2022 for her dahlias by our President Alan.

Please come along to our next meeting with a talk by Everett Leeds on Clematis through the seasons. 7.15pm at Memorial Hall, 2nd February



For more information binfieldgardenclub.wordpress.com

Sue Jeffery

2023 Art Exhibitions



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- Sunday 19th **March** 9.00am-1.00pm Farmers Market Car Park 3 Ascot Racecourse, Ascot High St., Ascot SL5 7JX *Free Admission*
- Saturday 8th **April** 11.00am-5.00pm Windsor Parish Church High Street Windsor SL4 1LT (Near The Guildhall) *Free Admission*
- Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th **April** 12.00-5.00pm Brownlow Hall, Newell Green, Warfield RG42 6AB *Free Admission*
With guest craft brewer Bond Brews of Wokingham
- Saturday 20th **May** 11.00am-5.00pm Windsor Parish Church, High St, Windsor SL4 1LT (Near The Guildhall) *Free Admission*
- Saturday 10th **June** 10.00am-6.00pm Royal Windsor Flower Show, Windsor Great Park
Buy Royal Windsor Flower Show entry tickets online <https://rwrhs.com/flower-show/>
- Saturday 8th **July** 11.00am-5.00pm Windsor Parish Church High St, Windsor SL4 1LT (Near The Guildhall) *Free Admission*
- Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd **July** 12.00-5.00pm Brownlow Hall, Newell Green, Warfield RG42 6AB *Free Admission*

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