



BRAMLEY UPDATE

February 2017

News from Bramley and Grafham brought to you by Bramley Parish Council

Welcome to Bramley Update! Something you'd like to put into the next edition, or comments about what you'd like to see in it? Email bramleyparish@gmail.com.

Friends or family in Bramley? Think they'd like to see this email? Please suggest they subscribe (see below). Do you belong to a society or club? You can use this to publicise your events. There's no charge for subscribing or contributing to Bramley Update.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Saturday 11th February – Valentine Concert in Holy Trinity Church Bramley from 7:00pm
- Tuesday 14th February – Bramley Parish Council Planning Review committee meeting. 7:30pm in Bramley Village Hall meeting room. All welcome.
- Thursday 16th February – 'Storytime and Fun' for 4-7 year olds in Bramley Library from 2:30pm
- Thursday 16th February – Bramley Parish Council meeting. 7:30pm in the Village Hall meeting room. All welcome.
- Saturday 25th February – Bramley-Rhens Quiz Night. 7:30pm in Bramley Village Hall.
- Tuesday 28th February – Bramley Parish Council Planning Review committee meeting. 7:30pm in the Bramley Village Hall meeting room. All welcome.
- Monday 6th March – Bramley Showcase evening at the Village Hall from 8:00pm.
- Wednesday 22nd March – A Bridge Drive in Bramley Village Hall in support of the Holy Trinity Bell Restoration Appeal. The first hand will be at 2:00pm. A delicious tea will be served mid-afternoon. Contact Janet Cartwright on 01483 892306 to reserve a table.
- Saturday 25th March – "The Guildford Suffrage Movement" talk for Bramley History Society. 2:30pm in St Catherine's Preparatory School Hall.

WHAT'S HAPPENED?

Bramley Parish Council update

At the Parish Council meeting in January, Parish Councillors discussed a number of matters including the production of a Neighbourhood Plan for Bramley.

Now that Waverley Borough Council has produced its (albeit currently draft) Local Plan setting out their aims and objectives up to 2032, the Parish Council believes it would be a good idea for the community to produce a Neighbourhood Plan for Bramley.

A Neighbourhood Plan is a community-led framework for guiding the future development, regeneration and conservation of an area. It is about the use and development of land and may contain a vision, aims, planning policies, proposals for improving the area or providing new facilities, or allocation of key sites for

specific kinds of development. An adopted Neighbourhood Plan will form part of Waverley's statutory development plan against which all planning applications and development proposals will be decided. It therefore has more weight in planning decisions than, for example, a parish plan or a village design statement.

In order for such a plan to be effective, it is vital that the community is involved from the outset. We are seeking to put together a small group of local representatives to form a committee to help produce the plan. This committee should be made up of people who firstly have the time to attend meetings and do a certain amount of work outside of these meetings, but also have an interest in how the future of Bramley should look. Depending on your expertise, you may not be involved in the whole process, but able to donate some time as and when your skills are in demand. You may have:

- an interest in architecture or historical buildings;
- skills in designing surveys;
- market research skills and can analyse responses to consultations;
- skills in writing planning policies;
- project management expertise;
- design and/or photography skills that could help with the production of the plan.

All of these skills and more will help in the production of the plan. If you are interested in being part of the committee, please contact Kathy Victor, the Parish Clerk at bramleyparish@gmail.com or telephone 01483 894138 with brief details of how you feel you can help. More information on Neighbourhood Planning can be found on the MyCommunity website at <http://mycommunity.org.uk/take-action/neighbourhood-planning/>.

You may have noticed that the Parish Council website is currently out of action. Unfortunately, the site was hacked in January and the Parish Clerk is working hard to get it back online as soon as possible. Whilst we usually publish all meeting agendas, minutes and other information on the site, at present this is not possible. Whilst the site is down, if you would like meeting information or anything else, please email Kathy Victor at bramleyparish@gmail.com or telephone her on 01483 894138.

The next Parish Council meeting is taking place on Thursday 16th February from 7:30pm in the Village Hall meeting room. The public are very welcome to attend the meeting and will have the opportunity to discuss any matters of interest with the Councillors.

Piano recital in Bramley Village Hall

Thanks to all who came to the piano concert in Bramley Village Hall in January. It was an overwhelming success with over 100 people in the audience to hear a range of piano, violin and 'cello pieces to show off the fantastic baby grand piano now in permanent residence on the Village Hall stage. We raised just over £1,000 from this concert alone which has made a big contribution to the cost of the refurbishment works on the piano. Thanks (again) to Stuart White for all his work in arranging the concert and making it such a great success. We plan to hold further concerts in the future ... watch this space! The piano is available to hirers of the Village Hall with the prior consent of the Parish Council. Contact the Parish Clerk for details.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Update from Bramley Library

Half-term activity

On Thursday 16th February from 2:30pm to 4:00pm the library is hosting a half-term 'Storytime and Fun' session. It will be suitable for 4-7 year olds, and their siblings are welcome too. Do join the fun! See if you can spot the colourful additions to the decor in the junior library when you're there.

The Library Virtual Bookshelf

Did you know that being a Surrey Library member gives you access to a huge range of online resources? Some of them (such as Ancestry.com and Find My Past) can only be accessed from the public computer in a

Surrey Library. Many others are available from any computer, tablet, Kindle or smartphone. You just need your library card number and PIN and a little bit of time to get familiar with what's available.

The list of online resources is far too long to include everything. Just as a taster, they include GoCitizen (for citizenship testing support), IELTS sites for the International English Language Test support, the Naxos Music Library, Oxford Art Online, Theory Test Pro for UK driving theory test support, and The Times digital archive from 1785-2011. There is also the Zinio Magazine Collection – a free newsagent at your fingertips (without the sweets!). Just some of the Zinio titles available are Amateur Photographer, BBC Good Food, Country Life, Cosmopolitan, Cycling Weekly, Esquire, Gardeners' World, Golf Monthly, Good Housekeeping, Guitarist, Hello!, Horse and Hound, Ideal Home, National Geographic, New Scientist, Papercraft, Perfect Wedding, Popular Science, Radio Times, Simply Knitting, The Economist, The Week, Rugby World, Yoga Today, Xbox. There are many, many more.

To have a look from home, get your library card and PIN, search for 'Surrey Libraries' using your favourite search engine, and on the Surrey Libraries page follow the link for the Online Reference Shelf. The sign-in details vary from resource to resource, so follow the directions carefully. Or pop in to Bramley Library (or any other Surrey Library really, but we'd like to see you in Bramley Library!) and ask one of our volunteers to help you on one of our public PCs. If you don't know your library PIN we can help you with that at the library too. Enjoy the online reading and we look forward to seeing you soon.

The Alan Dale Plate

Astonishing that it is already 15 years since Alan died. His influence lives on with those who knew and loved working with him on so many local projects: the Scouts, the Cubs, the Bonfire, the Fete, the Village Society, the joint Parish Council working parties – and for those closest to him, cider-making and copse-cutting. A true countryman and a tower of strength, enthusiasm and commitment.

When Alan died his cider-making friends gave a plate to be awarded every year or so to some young person from Bramley or Wonersh, preferably under the age of 30, who has in some way shown commitment to enhancing village life. Recognition should be given to all, particularly the young, who regularly and cheerfully give their time without even having to be asked. Past holders of the place have included Sally Thompson (nee Bacon), Sam Tyers (nee Callow), Jo Oakes, Sam Honey, Michael Hancock, David Hyde, Nick and Rob Terry and Rachel Johnson.

This year the plate has gone to Lee Burgess. We all know him as a cheerful, welcoming and efficient fellow behind the bar of the Jolly Farmer. That is his official face. What he is valued for, so far as the cider-makers are concerned, is the way he has spent over the years so much time and energy on cricket in Bramley; as a club member, as groundsman and as captain of our 1st team. But also it was typical of his care for others that during the gas crisis before Christmas he unassumingly appeared at SGN's bustling Church Room control centre, asking if there was any way in which he could help. Would that there were more like him.

Cider has many virtues but it does not save its makers from ageing. They are no longer so much in touch with young people who might qualify for the plate. They would therefore warmly welcome recommendations from the villages at large. Please contact John Clements (892662), Eddie Richardson (898440), Stuart or Richard Dale (893847) or Murray Campbell (893234). They would love to have a few names up their sleeves for next year and beyond.

Door-to-door pedlars

We have received reports of persistent and at times aggressive door-to-door salesmen in the area in January. They may introduce themselves as ex-military men struggling to find work or on a Young Offenders scheme. You are advised to not buy goods from people such as these and report their visit to your house to the Police by telephoning 101.

Last-minute reminder – Bramley-Rhens Quiz Night

Have you booked your table yet for the Bramley-Rhens Quiz Night taking place on Saturday 25th February from 7:30pm in Bramley Village Hall? Places are filling up fast, so please contact Sue or Bob Mould on 892738 or email robert.mould@homecall.co.uk as soon as possible with your reservation. Don't forget to take food, drinks and something to write with!

Community Meal Service – Urgent Help Required!

Can you spare between 1.5 and 2 hours a month, or more, to deliver nourishing meals to the housebound in and around Bramley? Rowleys Centre for the Community are now producing meals for delivery in Cranleigh and the surrounding villages. There are no drivers to deliver meals to Bramley, Blackheath and Shamley Green.

Mileage is paid and every assistance will be given when you start. If you can help, or would like more information, please telephone Tina on 01483 277155.

Bramley Showcase – Monday 6th March at 8:00pm in the Village Hall

The local clubs, societies and voluntary organisations are an important part of what makes Bramley such a vibrant community. Not only do they provide recreational and social facilities, they also enable residents to meet with like-minded others.

The Bramley Showcase is an annual event run by the Bramley Village Society (BVS) where clubs, societies and organisations set out their wares in the Village Hall. To help the evening along, BVS provide a free glass of wine, Bramley cider, or a soft drink on your arrival. Everyone is welcome to drop in, so why not come and socialise with other residents?

The Village Society is particularly keen that new residents find out what is available in Bramley, so if you have new neighbours who may not have signed up to Bramley Update, please encourage them to attend the Bramley Showcase – it's a fun evening and an easy way to get integrated into village life.

If your local club, society or voluntary organisation hasn't attended the Showcase evening before and would like to this year, please contact the Village Society (bramleyvillagesociety@gmail.com) or phone Joe O'Connell on 01483 894250.

Problems with Broadband?

There are still many homes within Bramley parish that have not been included in the Superfast Surrey broadband upgrade and with no immediate plans on the table, it may fall to residents to apply for a Community Fibre Partnership grant. An application has been started for the homes currently without access to fibre broadband along the A281 between the Birtley Green area and Palmers Cross, including parts of Run Common Road and Thorncombe Street. If you live in this area and have not received a letter inviting you to join the initial application of interest, please get in touch with Jo Gregory at Palmers Cross House, Palmers Cross, Bramley on 01483 272016 or via email at jojo@jojocooperphotography.co.uk for more information.

Update from St Catherine's School

Woodwind & Brass Sectional Concert – Tuesday 28th February at 7:30pm

A free concert in the Auditorium – no need to pre-book tickets.

West Side Story – Wednesday 8th to Friday 10th February at 7:30pm

St Catherine's whole school production of West Side Story in the Auditorium. Tickets £10. Book at <http://westside.bpt.me> or call 0800 411 8881.

Mozart's Requiem

The St Catherine's Association Choir will be performing Mozart's Requiem in Holy Trinity Church, Guildford on Saturday 18th March at 7:30pm. Tickets will be going on sale shortly. Please email association@stcatherines.info.

Bramley History Society

The next History Society meeting is on Saturday 25th March, "The Guildford Suffrage Movement". An illustrated talk by Carol Brown.

The talk will be in St Catherine's Preparatory School Hall and begins at 2:30pm. It will be followed by tea and biscuits and lots of chat. All are welcome. Entry is £2 for members and £3 for non-members.

Annual membership of the Bramley History Society is £5 per person. Contact 01483 892911 or jillbryant471@btinternet.com for more details. The Society holds 4 or 5 meetings each year with a speaker on subjects of local history and provides a free annual magazine to all members.

Come to a Valentine's Concert in Holy Trinity Church, Bramley on Saturday 11th February at 7:00pm

A romantic evening awaits you, courtesy of the superbly talented young soprano Lucy Cronlin, accompanied on the Church's Steinway by Richard Saxel, Head of Performance at Cranleigh School. Beautiful songs on the theme of love by composers as wide ranging as Robert Schumann, Michael Head, Richard Rogers and Cole Porter will transport you far from the depths of a winter evening to the blissful realm of St Valentine. The concert is in support of the valuable work done by our local YMCA Downslink Group. Tickets are £10 (£5 under 18 and students) are available in advance from Robertsons in Bramley High Street, and at the door, and a free glass of wine or soft drink will be served in the interval. If you wish to reserve a ticket or have any queries, please call or email Stuart White (stuartwhite@waitrose.com / 01483 892645).

What's happening at Holy Trinity – your local Parish Church?

The next Messy Church will be held on Saturday 25th February. There's play, stories, craft activities, signing AND a delicious cooked evening meal for parents and children. It's all free and a lot of fun – come and join in!

The Coffee Stop – is open every Monday morning in the Parish Room from 9:00am to 11:00am. People of all ages are welcome – from parents who've just dropped children off at school to others just popping to the shops. There's fresh Fairtrade coffee, tea, toasts, home-made cakes, and also toys and games to keep little ones busy while their parents are enjoying their coffee (and cake) in peace!

Free Mindfulness sessions – will be held in Holy Trinity Parish Room from 9:30am to 10:30am on Monday 27th February, Monday 27th March and Monday 24th April. The sessions will be led by Suzette Jones, Diocesan Health & Wellbeing Adviser. Everyone is welcome and no experience is needed. For more information contact suzette.jones@cofeguildford.org.uk or telephone 01483 790335.

What will you give up for LENT? Are you thinking of the usual chocolate / cake / alcohol? Why not this Lent fill up an old jam-jar (or two) with some money to donate to WaterAid. Just £5 could pay for a tap so that children can have access to clean water instead of having to walk miles every day to bring it back in a bucket. Lent starts on 1st March – come and pick up a jar sleeve from the back of the church and fill it up!

The Holy Trinity Bell Restoration Appeal. This year the bells at Holy Trinity Church will be 275 years old, and have not had any significant restoration work done on them since 1911. An appeal has been launched to raise nearly £50,000 to have them re-tuned, reconditioned, repaired as necessary and re-hung. There are various ways of supporting this big project. In March there will be a Bridge Drive and the 1st April Bramley Music concert will be in support of the bells. Please pick up a flyer from the back of the church or read the article in the Parish Magazine or on the website for more information.

More details about everything that's going on at Holy Trinity, the weekly newsletter and the Parish Magazine can be found on the website – www.holytrinitybramley.org.uk.

U3A Wonersh

On Monday 13th, Dennis May will present the latest in his series on Big Band Music: "Strings and Things"; and on Thursday 16th, Rupert Matthews, an author of historical books, will speak on "Wellington: his life and battles" – both in the Lawnsmead Hall at 2:30pm. On Tuesday 21st, the Bridge Group will meet (as usual in the third week of the month) at 1:45pm in the Turner Room at Lawnsmead, with the following meeting on the first Tuesday of March. At its monthly meeting on Thursday 23rd February, the Photography Group will be considering 'how to observe and compose a picture': 2:30pm in the Lawnsmead Hall. Michael Hartnell's lectures on "Opera for All" take place on the first Tuesday of the month at 2:00pm in Bramley Village Hall: the next will therefore be on Tuesday 7th March.

Full information about all the activities of Wonersh U3A can be obtained via the website at <http://u3asites.org.uk/wonersh>.

Mindfulness taster session – Tuesday 7th March, 7:30pm to 8:30pm, Bramley Library meeting room

Interested to find out what mindfulness is and how it can help reduce stress and improve wellbeing? Join a taster session, led by mindfulness teacher and former GP, Claire Garthwaite. Email claire@withmindfulness.co.uk if you would like to attend or visit www.withmindfulness.co.uk for more details of courses. Cost £5.

Bramley Update is usually circulated in the first week of each month. If you have a contribution to the content, please send it to bramleyupdate@gmail.com by the end of the preceding month.

Best wishes

Bramley Parish Council
www.bramleyparish.co.uk

If you wish to SUBSCRIBE, email bramleyupdate@gmail.com including your name and address in the email.

If you wish to discuss any matters with a parish councillor, their full contact details are available on the parish website www.bramleyparish.co.uk.

Bramley Update is intended to be as accurate as possible but readers should satisfy themselves before relying on the information, not least because dates do change. The content does not necessarily represent the views or policies of Bramley Parish Council unless specifically identified as such.