



# BRAMLEY UPDATE

## December 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](mailto: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

- Thursday 14th December – Bramley Parish Council meeting. 7:30pm in the Village Hall meeting room.
- Saturday 16th December – Storytime in Bramley Library from 1:45pm followed by carols from Bellfields Community Choir at 3:00pm.
- Tuesday 19th December – Bramley Parish Council Planning Review committee meeting. 7:30pm in the Village Hall meeting room.
- Tuesday 2nd January – Bramley Parish Council Planning Review committee meeting. 7:30pm in the Village Hall meeting room.

You can also view local events in the Village Diary at [www.bramleyvillagesociety.org/village-diary/](http://www.bramleyvillagesociety.org/village-diary/). If you would like to add your society, club or organisation's public events to the Village Diary, you can now do so by filling in a simple form (see the link on the website).

## WHAT'S HAPPENED?

### Bramley Parish Council update

At the Parish Council in November, Councillors discussed a number of matters including:

- Overgrowing vegetation on the Downs Link  
For some months we have been asking Surrey County Council to cut back the overgrowing nettles, etc alongside the Downs Link through Bramley. During November, they finally confirmed that they do not have any available funds to carry out this work. They do, however, have a volunteer group who will be working throughout January to clear them. Once this is done, we will arrange for a contractor to come to clean the surface of the path, making it a more pleasant path to walk / ride along.
- Eastwood Road play area  
On various occasions over the last month, the play carriage at the play area was tipped over by, we believe, a group of boys, leading to some minor damage to the equipment. Fortunately, we have been able to repair the carriage (and have now fixed it to the ground). If you have any information about who the individuals are, we would be grateful if you could inform the Parish Clerk.  
The Parish Council has recently given the go ahead for some improvement work to the Eastwood Road play area. These works will commence early in 2018.

- **2018/19 Budget**

Initial discussions were held at the meeting about the Parish Council budget for 2018/19. Decisions will be made at the December meeting and how the budget will affect the precept (the Parish Council portion of your Council Tax bill) will be reported in the next issue of Bramley Update.

Minutes of the meeting can be found on the Parish Council website at [www.bramleyparish.co.uk/index.php?PageID=1008](http://www.bramleyparish.co.uk/index.php?PageID=1008). The next Parish Council meeting is taking place on Thursday 14th December. Members of the public are very welcome to attend the meeting and will have the opportunity to raise matters of interest with Councillors. The agenda for the meeting will be published on the Parish Council website one week prior to the meeting.

### **Police Update**

A recent priority for our local Policing team has been several incidents of criminal damage caused by air pellets in a number of local areas (including Bramley). An increased policing presence in the affected areas has thankfully seen a decrease in this crime.

There have, however been 3 telephone fraud crimes reported by Bramley residents. Unfortunately, 2 of the victims parted with significant sums of money to the fraudsters.

- One scam involves the victim receiving a call (usually from overseas) instilling panic and urgency to make a payment by purchasing iTunes gift cards from the nearest retailer. After the cards have been purchased, the victim is asked to pay by sharing the 16-digit code on the back of the card with the caller over the phone.
- Another scam involves people usually in overseas call centres ringing up the victim saying that they are representatives from Microsoft technical support. They say the victim can purchase software from them to speed up their computers and ask for their bank card details.

Police warn residents to be vigilant and cautious of these types of unsolicited calls and to report any calls such as these to the Police by telephoning 101. Never disclose the following details:

- Four-digit card Pin to anyone, including your bank or the police
- Full password or online banking codes
- Personal details, unless you are sure who you are talking to.

Residents are encouraged to sign up to "In The Know" ([www.intheknow.community/](http://www.intheknow.community/)) for latest crime updates, crime prevention advice and news in the area.

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING?**

### **Bramley Neighbourhood Plan Update**

We are continuing to gather community views to help build the Neighbourhood Plan and will shortly be sending out a short questionnaire to discover your opinion on potential future uses of the Downs Link. This information we receive from you will be vital in helping us to shape parts of the Plan, so do look out for it to drop through your letterbox. The survey is also available to complete electronically – visit [www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BramleyDownsLink](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BramleyDownsLink) to complete it now! We look forward to receiving your responses.

### **Update from Bramley Library**

There is something for all ages in our village library ..... all the time but particularly on Saturday 16th December. At 1:45pm we host another of our popular Storytime & Art events for people aged 4-7 years with siblings being most welcome. At 3:00pm the Bellfields Community Choir will entertain us with their uplifting singing. Many of our volunteers will be attending so if you would like to chat to us about joining the team and even staying to mingle at the volunteers' social, you would be most welcome.

Rhyme-Time will be festive themed on both the 22nd and 29th December. Do remember Rhyme-Time takes place every Friday at 11:00am.

We are also running a Bauble Bonanza around Bramley Village. Find numbered baubles and note them on your entry form available from the library now until the morning of the 23rd December when the winning entry will be drawn from the correct responses.

The Library will be closing for Christmas at 1:00pm on Saturday 23rd December, reopening as usual at 2:00pm on Thursday 28th December.

### **Further fundraising opportunities for William Le Fort**

There has been much activity recently to help raise funds for local resident William Le Fort's life-saving treatment in the US – thank you if you have already donated. There are still further opportunities to donate if you have not done so but would like to:

- **Boxing for William**

You may already have seen Leo Stephens, a Bramley boxer, wearing the logo "Fighting for William Warrior" on the back of his t-shirt pounding our streets as he gets into training for a boxing match to support our fundraising for William ([www.solvingkidscancer.org.uk/appeal/william](http://www.solvingkidscancer.org.uk/appeal/william))

Half of the ticket price and Leo's purse will go straight to Solving Kids Cancer to support William's Cancer treatment in New York. He will be on the bill of an "In Your Face White Collar Boxing" evening, from 7:30pm, Friday 8th December at the Pyramids in Portsmouth. We have just heard that Shayne Wilkinson and Keith Hawley who are on the same bill will also be donating their fight money to William! Tickets are £25, please contact Jenny Fay if you would like one, or would like to sponsor Leo - [jennyfay@btinternet.com](mailto:jennyfay@btinternet.com) or 01483 893112.

- Bramley Café is offering another opportunity to help raise funds. Until 23rd December, Bramley Café will donate 10% of your bill to the fund. There is a voucher available that you can print and take it with you next time you visit the café.

### **Be Winter Ready**

According to UK Power Networks, in recent years the chances of unscheduled problems with electricity and gas supply have dropped dramatically. Since 1990, network companies have invested £80bn in improving the reliability of local energy networks in the UK. As a result, on average, electricity customers have a power cut just once every two years and gas distribution customers will have their gas supply interrupted without advance notice just once every 40 years.

Whilst the UK's gas and electricity supply is very reliable, bad winter weather can cause damage and disruption.

Steps you can take to 'Be Winter Ready':

- Know your free emergency numbers: In a power cut dial 105 or, for a gas emergency, dial 0800 111999.
- Prepare your home: Keep a torch handy and get your appliances serviced by a Gas Safe registered engineer to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
  - Register as a vulnerable customer: Vulnerable households can get extra support by signing up to the Priority Services Register. Visit [www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/internet/en/power-cuts/priority-services-during-a-power-cut/](http://www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/internet/en/power-cuts/priority-services-during-a-power-cut/) to find out more about the Priority Services Register in London, the South and East of England or to sign up.
- Keep your eyes open: Keep an eye on the weather forecast and, if you have a power cut or a gas emergency, check on your neighbours.

### **Update from Holy Trinity, Bramley**

#### Christmas Services at Holy Trinity Bramley

- Sunday 10th December  
5:00pm Christingle Service - in support of The Children's Society
- Sunday 17th December  
5:00pm The Village Carol Service by Candlelight - in support of Crisis at Christmas. Followed by mulled wine and mince pies
- Christmas Eve  
5:00pm Crib Service. Children – please come dressed as angels, shepherds or wise men!

11:30pm Midnight Mass

- Christmas Day  
8:00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)  
9:45am Family Communion Service

#### Christmas Services at St Andrew's Grafham

- Sunday 17th December  
11:15am Carol Service
- Christmas Day  
11:15am Family Communion Service

The Coffee Stop, usually open every Monday morning in the Parish Room from 9.00-11.00am will be closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

The next Messy Church will be on Saturday 20th January, from 4:00-6:00pm. Play, story, craft activities, singing and a cooked evening meal for parents and children.

#### Dates for your new 2018 diary:

- Monthly Mindfulness - from 9:30-10:30am on 29th January, 26th February, 26th March, 30th April, 21st May, 25th June 2018. Everyone welcome, no experience is needed.
- Saturday 13th January - Visit to the Shah Jahan Mosque, Woking, the first purpose-built mosque in the UK. More details will be available nearer the time.
- Friday 3rd March, 7:00pm – Come to Supper in Holy Trinity Parish Room. “Three Ladies, Three Faiths” - Come and hear more about the Hindu, Muslim and Christian faith perspective, followed by a Hindu devotional dance.

More details about everything that's going on at Holy Trinity, the weekly Newsletter and the Parish Magazine can be found at [www.holytrinitybramley.org.uk](http://www.holytrinitybramley.org.uk).

#### **The Bramley Village Design Statement**

The Bramley Village Design Statement (VDS) addresses how developments in our parish should be undertaken, and as such will complement the Bramley Neighbourhood Plan being produced by the Parish Council which considers where development could take place. To be more specific, the VDS objectives are:

- to describe the distinctive character of the Civil Parish of Bramley, which includes Thorncombe Street, Grafham, Smithbrook and the surrounding countryside;
- to show how character can be identified in terms of the landscape and shape of the settlement, and the nature of the buildings themselves;
- to draw up design principles based on the distinctive local character;
- to work in partnership with the planning service in the context of existing local planning policy, and to influence future policies.

The VDS will ensure that the wishes of residents in terms of the character of future developments are taken into account by the formal planning process. Bramley is a great place to live, both in terms of its strong community spirit and its setting in the Surrey Hills. It would be negligent to allow the quality of life in the Parish to deteriorate through inappropriate developments.

If you care about the nature of developments close to you then please consider actively supporting the Bramley Village Society in the preparation of the Bramley VDS. For further information, please contact Joe O'Connell (BVS Chair) on 01483 894250, Richard Farr (BVS secretary) on 01483 893905, or email to [bramleyvillagesociety@gmail.com](mailto:bramleyvillagesociety@gmail.com).

#### **Changes to parking for Blue Badge holders**

It is generally assumed that parking with a Blue Badge was free. Please note that some County Councils and NHS Hospitals are now or soon will be charging badge holders.

Waverley Borough Council - [www.waverley.gov.uk/info/478/car\\_parks/879/blue\\_badge\\_disabled\\_parking](http://www.waverley.gov.uk/info/478/car_parks/879/blue_badge_disabled_parking)

Blue Badge Holders now have to pay in ALL parking bays in Waverley Borough Council-owned car parks, although you get one free hour after buying your ticket. You should pay for one hour less than you need, but the first hour will always be chargeable.

However, if you are on one of the following benefits, then you can apply for a free parking permit if you are a Waverley resident for use in Waverley only.

- Attendance Allowance (all rates)
- Council Tax Support
- Disability Living Allowance (higher rate)
- Employment Support Allowance
- Housing Benefit
- Income Support
- Job Seekers Allowance
- Pension Credit
- Personal Independence Payment (higher rate)
- Universal Credit
- Working Tax Credit
- Any other income related benefit

The permit will allow blue badge motorists to park for free when displaying both their Blue Badge and Permit – this applies to Disabled Bays (max 3 hours) or general bays unrestricted.

Guildford Borough Council - [www.guildford.gov.uk/article/16810/Disabled-parking](http://www.guildford.gov.uk/article/16810/Disabled-parking).

GBC have not yet implemented any changes. You can park for free in any GBC pay and display car parks with no time limit. However, you do have to pay normal rates for any pay on exit car parks. Note you can park for free on any pay & display bay, resident bay or dual use bay on the street with no time limit. If you park in a disabled bay, it is free but limited to 3 hours. Single and double yellow lines are free but restricted to 3 hours. See your Blue Badge parking details for full clarification.

Royal Surrey County Hospital - [www.royalsurrey.nhs.uk/patients/getting-here/](http://www.royalsurrey.nhs.uk/patients/getting-here/)

Blue Badge Holders must now pay £4 (per day) or £15.50 (per week). This is the minimum and maximum. Simply park in a disabled bay or any that you can find and go to a ticket machine, select the blue badge option for day/week and pay. You will need to know your car registration and will not have to go back to the car to display the ticket. There are a few low-income benefits which might allow you to reclaim your costs - see [www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/2017-05/nhsbsa-help-with-health-costs-quick-guide.pdf](http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/2017-05/nhsbsa-help-with-health-costs-quick-guide.pdf).

Frimley Park Hospital (including Wrexham Park & Leatherwood) - [www.fhft.nhs.uk/your-visit/](http://www.fhft.nhs.uk/your-visit/).

There is no free parking for Blue Badge holders. Some on low income or benefits will be able to reclaim the cost of parking, same as other NHS hospitals - [www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/2017-05/nhsbsa-help-with-health-costs-quick-guide.pdf](http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/2017-05/nhsbsa-help-with-health-costs-quick-guide.pdf).

Don't assume you can park with your Blue Badge for free – always double check either online in advance or check the local signage.

### **Pegasus from Surrey Police**

If you find it hard to communicate with Police or emergency service, Surrey Police have a scheme that may help called Pegasus.

The Pegasus scheme is a database operated and managed by Surrey Police that helps people with certain disabilities and other vulnerable people, contact the Police. The database contains details of people with physical and learning disabilities, or mental ill health problems, who have registered because they have difficulty giving their details when making contact. Those who are registered with Pegasus will receive a personal identification number (PIN) that can be used when calling the Police. When you make the call and use your Pegasus PIN, the Police will get your information from the database, meaning that you don't have to spend time giving your name and details and you can quickly get on with telling them why you called.

Pegasus is not just about contacting the police by phone, you can also show your card to a police officer, member of police staff or other emergency services staff should you require assistance in person. When producing the card to someone in person, this will let the officer or emergency services worker know that you may require additional help and support.

Anyone who has a disability or illness that may make it hard to communicate with the police in an emergency or difficult situation can register for a Pegasus PIN. Registering is free and any information you give is held securely and you can change or update your details at any time. You can also ask that your information is shared with other participating agencies e.g. Surrey Fire and Rescue, South East Ambulance Service and local authorities.

If you think Pegasus could help you or someone you know, more information can be found at <https://surrey.police.uk/contact-us/accessible-ways-to-contact-us/>, or you can telephone 101 or 01483 571212.

### **Update from Bramley History Society**

Bramley History Society's next meeting will be on Saturday 27th January 2018 and will be an illustrated talk on "Guildford's Lost Shops" by David Rose. It will take place in St Catherine's Preparatory School Hall and begins at 2:30pm. Admission - £2 for Members and £3 for Visitors.

The Bramley 2018 Calendar is now available at £5 and can be obtained from Jill and Gordon Bryant on 01483 892911 or [gordonbryant471@btinternet.com](mailto:gordonbryant471@btinternet.com).

### **Update from St Catherine's School**

Autumn Term ends on Thursday 14th December. Spring Term starts on Wednesday 10th January.

Baby Cats Classics – Thursday 18th January, 9:45-10:45 am

Informal and interactive concert in St Catherine's Prep School Gym featuring music for parents and babies/toddlers 0-4 years. Admission is free but places should be reserved by emailing [prepoffice.junior@stcatherines.info](mailto:prepoffice.junior@stcatherines.info).

Informal Concert – Thursday 25th January at 7:00pm

A free concert in the Lower Atrium; no need to pre-book tickets.

String Sectional Concert – Monday 29th January at 7:30pm

Holy Trinity Church, Bramley.

Prospective Senior School Parents' Morning – Tuesday 30th January at 9:15 am

Contact Mrs Clare Woodgates on 01483 899609 or [clare.woodgates@stcatherines.info](mailto:clare.woodgates@stcatherines.info).

St Catherine's Prep School Open Morning – Friday 2nd February 9:45-11:45 am

Contact Mrs Sally Manhire on 01483 899665 or [sally.manhire@stcatherines.info](mailto:sally.manhire@stcatherines.info).

St Catherine's School would like to wish everyone in Bramley a peaceful, restful and very Happy Christmas.

### **Back pain?**

Do you suffer with back pain? You may have been advised by a health professional to seek appropriate exercise to manage your condition, or you may feel that gentle movement may help you.

The Healthy Back Programme is a weekly class in Bramley. It's for people who have chronic or intermittent back pain. Using movement/postures, breath-work and relaxation methods pain can be alleviated through the release of tension, the strengthening of supporting muscles and mobilisation of the spine.

The group meets Wednesday evenings, 6:30pm for one hour. For a free trial class contact Rachael Hill, 07554 427007, [rachhill@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rachhill@hotmail.co.uk). More information can be found at [www.mindbodysoulyoga.co.uk](http://www.mindbodysoulyoga.co.uk).

### **Come and join the Wintershall Community Choir!**

Weekly rehearsals recommence at 7:00pm on Wednesday 10th January on the beautiful Wintershall Estate a little south of Bramley, and last until 8:30pm. Everyone is welcome, whether you are an experienced singer or whether you have been told you cannot sing – discover that you have a voice after all! There will be no subscription for the Winter term, and it is anticipated the subscription for the Summer term will equate to £3 per session. A wide variety of music is performed. There is a performance at the end of each term to aim for, and a lot of fun is had on the way! If you or any of your friends might be interested, please contact Stuart White on [stuartwhite@waitrose.com](mailto:stuartwhite@waitrose.com) or 01483 892645.

### **Surrey Hills Christmas Concerts**

There will be a Family Christmas Concert in Cranleigh on Saturday 9th December starting at 6:30pm. This concert will feature all the choirs – the Training Choir, Young Voices (junior choir), the Surrey Hills Singers, (ladies choir), finishing with a set from the Chamber Choir.

If you would like a more sophisticated concert, there is a late night concert on Sunday 10th December at 8:00pm in St Nicholas Church in Guildford. This concert features the two adult choirs from the Saturday event singing additional repertoire.

Tickets for Saturday: £12 Adults and £3 for children 16 and under. Tickets for Sunday: Adults £12 and £5 for children 16 and under. Tickets include wine and refreshments and are available to purchase online at [www.surreyhills-choirs.co.uk/tickets](http://www.surreyhills-choirs.co.uk/tickets), by email to [tickets@surreyhills-choirs.co.uk](mailto:tickets@surreyhills-choirs.co.uk) or call 01483 892474.

### **Surrey Half Marathon**

The Surrey Half Marathon will be taking place on 11th March 2018 from Woking Leisure Centre. This is a friendly and local event, which promises a high-quality experience for every runner. The fast, flat course invites great mix of novices and returning runners back each year, and boasts one of the fastest half marathon course records of 1:02 hrs.

The scenic, single-lap half marathon is set in the glorious countryside surrounding Woking and Guildford, and follows a fully-closed and professionally marked and measured route out from Woking town into the rural delights of the nearby villages. This picturesque race is made even more enjoyable by live music and communities of local supporters.

There is also a 5km race and the largest Kids Race aged 6-16 for a 2km Run.

More details can be found at [www.surreyhalfmarathon.co.uk](http://www.surreyhalfmarathon.co.uk).

Bramley Update is usually circulated between the 4th and 7th of each month. If you have a contribution to the content, please send it to [bramleyupdate@gmail.com](mailto:bramleyupdate@gmail.com) by the end of the preceding month.

Best wishes and Merry Christmas!

Bramley Parish Council  
[www.bramleyparish.co.uk](http://www.bramleyparish.co.uk)

If you wish to SUBSCRIBE, email [bramleyupdate@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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.