



BRAMLEY UPDATE

January 2019

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

Welcome to Bramley Update and Happy New Year! 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

- Thursday 17th January – Bramley Parish Council meeting. 7:30pm in the Village Hall meeting room. All welcome.
- Saturday 19th January – Neighbourhood Plan consultation drop-in session. 3:00pm to 5:00pm in Bramley Village Hall (more details below).
- Saturday 19th January – Bramley Music's "Rising Stars" at 7:00pm in Holy Trinity church, Bramley. More details below.
- Tuesday 22nd January – Neighbourhood Plan consultation drop-in session. 6:00pm to 8:00pm in Bramley Library (more details below).
- Tuesday 22nd January – Bramley Parish Council Planning Review committee meeting. 7:30pm in the Village Hall meeting room. All welcome.
- Saturday 26th January – Bramley History Society meeting and talk on Church bells at Holy Trinity. 2:30pm in the Lecture Hall at St Catherine's Senior School.
- Wednesday 30th January – Neighbourhood Plan consultation drop-in session. 10:00am to 1:00pm in Bramley Library (more details below).
- Tuesday 5th February – Bramley Parish Council Planning Review committee meeting. 7:30pm in the Village Hall meeting room. All welcome.
- Saturday 9th February – Neighbourhood Plan consultation drop-in session. 10:00am to 1:00pm in Bramley Village Hall (more details below).

You can also view local events in the Village Diary at www.bramlevillagesociety.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 meeting in December, Councillors discussed a number of matters including:

- Precept and Parish Council budget for 2019/20
Councillors discussed and finalised the budget for the next financial year commencing 1st April 2019.

Details of the budget will be published shortly on the Parish Council website.

A Precept figure of £42,087 was agreed, an increase of 3% from last year (in line with the Retail Price Index). This equates to an increase in Council Tax for a Band D household in Bramley of 54p for the Parish Council portion of the Council Tax bill.

- **Stone Barn**

A preliminary bat survey was carried out in the Stone Barn next to the Village Hall and evidence of bats was found. This means that a further survey needs to be carried out from May onwards to establish the species and number of bats using the barn to roost. This means that the project to convert the barn to office space will be delayed until the second half of 2019. We plan to apply for planning permission for the conversion in the first quarter of the year and issue an invitation to tender for the works, so we are ready to start work as soon as we are able.

- **Cooker in Village Hall**

Some of you may have noticed that the old cooker in the Village Hall was disconnected in December. This was due to a small gas leak within the appliance. At the meeting in December, Councillors agreed to purchase a new, bigger and more versatile cooker for the kitchen. It will be available to use from mid-January.

The full minutes of the meeting are available on the Parish Council website.

The next Parish Council meeting is taking place on Thursday 17th January. 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

There were a number of house burglaries across the parish towards the end of 2018. Our Neighbourhood Police team inform us that vulnerable side entrances and boundaries are almost always the preferred entry points for perpetrators. Residents are urged to keep these secure at all times. They also advise that house alarms are a good deterrent and do work in the majority of cases.

Power problems

Many of you may have experienced extended power cut(s) during December. The Parish Council has contacted UK Power Networks to try to find out what the cause of these were and will be meeting with representatives from the company this month.

You may not know that UK Power Networks have a Priority Services Register offering support for vulnerable people during a power cut. This support is available:

- If you rely on medical equipment
- If you have refrigerated medicines
- If you have a serious or chronic illness
- If you have a disability
- If you or someone you care for is living with dementia
- If you are of pensionable age
- If you have children under five in your household
- If you need extra support for a short time period (e.g. if you are recovering from medical treatment).

If this applies to you, or you know of someone applicable, do visit www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/power-cut/priority-services-register to register. Those who do not have internet access can phone 0800 783 8866 and select option 1 to talk to an adviser. You can also use the same phone number to report an emergency (select option 1) or to report loss of power (option 2).

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Bramley Neighbourhood Plan statutory consultation – 12th January to 22nd February 2019

All residents and businesses in the parish of Bramley have been sent a letter inviting them to submit comments to us about the contents of the draft Bramley Neighbourhood Plan. Your comments will influence

our final draft before it is submitted to Waverley Borough Council and then reviewed by an independent examiner.

If you have not already done so, we urge you to read the Plan! It states what houses will be allowed where, what criteria will be used to assess planning applications for new housing, what policies will control, e.g. parking, what Bramley's attitude will be towards, e.g. applications for new mobile phone masts.

You can view it online at www.bramleyparish.co.uk/community/bramley-parish-council-15042/bramley-neighbourhood-plan/ or you can read a printed version in Bramley Library, the Jolly Farmer and Wheatsheaf public houses, The Nest coffee shop on Bramley High Street or in Bricks Restaurant at Smithbrook Kilns.

The consultation period lasts for 6 weeks, so your comments must be returned to us by 22nd February. We have arranged a number of drop-in sessions for you to discuss the plan with us, as follows:

- 19th January, 3:00pm to 5:00pm in Bramley Village Hall
- 22nd January, 6:00pm to 8:00pm in Bramley Library
- 30th January, 10:00am to 1:00pm in Bramley Library
- 9th February, 10:00am to 1:00pm in Bramley Village Hall
- 13th February, 10:00am to 1:00pm in Unit 62 at Smithbrook Kilns
- 20th February, 6:00pm to 8:00pm in Bramley Library

Feedback forms have been sent to you. You can also submit your comments electronically by following the link above.

Your opinions are valuable – it's YOUR community and village! Please let us know what you think.

Tree works alongside A281 at Rushett Common

Following recent tree safety inspections at Rushett Common, Waverley Borough Council's Tree Team has highlighted a number of trees which are no longer safe to retain as a result of Ash Dieback. Ash Dieback is a fungal disease that causes the death of Ash trees either directly as a consequence of the disease or because of colonisation by root decaying fungi such as Honey Fungus causing entire tree failure.

Following consultation with the Forestry Commission the worst affected trees will be felled across the site between 28th January and 6th February on various dates, depending on the weather. These works have been programmed during this time in order to avoid bird breeding season. Unfortunately two-way automated traffic controls will be required for 1 day of the works along A281 at Rooks Hill. We do not know the exact date, but it will be between 28th January and 6th February.

Update from Bramley Library

Bramley Library wishes you all a very happy new year and hopes to welcome you to our premises. Perhaps one of your resolutions is to join a bookclub? If so, our Thursday afternoon one would welcome you (the Friday morning one currently has a waiting list). And for the real youngsters in the community, Rhyme Time is held every Friday at 11:00am.

Update from the Wey & Arun Canal Trust

You may have noticed some works being carried out by the Wey & Arun Canal Trust alongside the Downs Link to the south of the village. The Trust is in the final throes of acquiring nearly 1 km of canal which starts a few hundred meters to the south of the end of Linersh Wood. This is the original canal and is in water though it is very overgrown, shallow and leaking in parts. The Trust is busy installing a footpath to the south and east of the bridleway bridge which will form part of a new circular walking route, open to the public, crossing the restored canal twice. At the current Birtley bridge (which is a dam at the moment) the Trust most likely re-instate a swing bridge which will have been the original way of crossing the canal. Further south a lift bridge will be installed, giving the landowners access to the field on the west side of the canal and allowing the walking route to rejoin the Downs Link. Both of these bridges will require planning permission which the Trust will seek during 2019. The bridges will be built by the Trust as funds allow, but they hope within the next 2-3 years. A temporary access track to the west of the Downlink has been formed (which is the most visible work from the Downs Link at present). When the work is completed this temporary track will be removed.

To the north of the village, the wire fencing that has been in place for some time on the west side of the aqueduct will soon be replaced with a new wooden fence. On the east side, the Trust has been examining the foundations of the south east corner with a view to repairing the structure which risks further deterioration and falling into the river, thus increasing the risk of flooding. This work will start soon and will be fenced off with wire fencing for public safety whilst the work is underway.

Bramley Cricket

Bramley Cricket Club should like to wish the village a Happy New Year and extend a free taster session at their Winter Nets which start Tuesday 5th February at Broadwater School Sports Hall in Farncombe (£5 per session or £30 for the duration thereafter). Sessions last one hour, from 8:00pm, every Tuesday for 10 weeks. If you are interested in joining, please do not hesitate to contact Lee on chairman@bramleycc.co.uk for further information.

Update from Holy Trinity, Bramley

Details about regular services at Holy Trinity and St Andrew's Grafham as well as weekly and monthly activities can be found in the FREE Parish Magazine, and at www.holytrinitybramley.org.uk.

There will be no Parish Lunch in January. The next one will be held in the Parish Room, at 12:30pm on Sunday 10th February. Please e-mail office@holytrinitybramley.org.uk or phone 890042 to reserve a place. The cost is £5 per head for two courses (excluding drinks), payable on the day.

Bramley History Society

Bramley History Society's next meetings will be on Saturday 26th January 2019 and will include an illustrated talk by Richard Seaborne on the Church bells of Holy Trinity. For those of you that have read his book you know this will be a good talk. Please note that the venue has changed for this talk only – it will take place in the Lecture Hall at St Catherine's Senior School and will begin at 2:30pm. The talk will be followed by tea and chat. Admission is £2 for Members, £3 for Visitors. The Lecture Hall is through the glass entrance just as you enter the school drive.

Publications are available (members will already have received their copies): -

- The Bramley Record covering 1914 - £2.50
- The Bramley Record covering 1915 - £2.50
- The Bramley Record covering 1916 - £2.50
- The Bramley Record covering 1917 - £2.50
- The Bramley Record covering 1918 - £2.50

Buy one get second half price, all five for £9.

All of the above will be available at the Society's meetings or from Jill or Gordon on 01483 892911 or bramleyhs1914@gmail.com.

They are always looking for new ideas and general help. You are invited to join the committee. They meet about 5 or 6 times a year to discuss ideas for articles, research and also to set up the logistics for up and coming events. Contact Jill or Gordon as above if you are interested in getting involved.

Bramley Music

On Saturday 19th January at 7:00pm come to the 'Rising Stars' concert in Holy Trinity Church, Bramley, entitled 'Across the Pyrenees' – French and Spanish music for saxophone with fantastic young musicians Jonathan Radford (saxophone) and Christine Zerafa (piano) in association with the Royal College of Music and in support of the RCM Hardship Fund. This will be an exciting and colourful exploration of the cultural sympathy and musical styles of the two countries on either side of the Pyrenees, including music by well-known composers Darius Mihaud (his popular 'Scaramouche'), Manuel de Falla and Gabriel Fauré. In addition, there are some lesser known but nonetheless superb composers to discover, and the climax is a 'Fantasie Brillante' on tunes from the much-loved opera Carmen. As you can imagine, dance rhythms feature throughout, and this is sure to be a concert to get the pulses racing – just the thing for January! Tickets are £10 (students and under 18s £5) available in person from Robertson's in Bramley High Street; they can also be reserved via Stuart White

(stuartwhite@waitrose.com or 01483 892645), and they will be available at the door. As usual there will be a free glass of wine or soft drink in the interval.

U3A Wonersh

This year, Bramley continues to host a number of U3A Wonersh regular events, including the History of Art Group which is meeting at 2:30pm at Bramley Village Hall on Tuesday 15th January, followed the next day (Wednesday 16th) by the fortnightly Table Tennis session at 10:30am in Bramley Sports Pavilion. Woodcarving is in action on Friday 18th at 10:15am in Bramley Village Hall, with the Art Group meeting at the same venue on Friday 25th at 2:00pm.

This month's Pub Lunch is just up the road at the Grantley Arms, Wonersh, on Wednesday 9th January starting at 12:30pm, and this month's Walk commences at 10:00am on Tuesday 15th January from Blackheath main car park. Tai Chi continues on Tuesday mornings for both improvers and intermediate pupils at Lawnsmead Hall, Wonersh.

An advanced notice for February: a new French Language group starts on Friday 15th February at 10:00am in the Turner Room, Lawnsmead, Wonersh – a valuable opportunity to revise your French before this year's holiday season begins.

For the full list of activities and events, plus further details, please contact Cilla Morris on 01483 892348 or visit <https://u3asites.org.uk/wonersh>.

Bramley Wheels

Bramley Wheels is a group of volunteers who provide lifts to medical appointments for Bramley villagers. They need some extra help at the moment as 2 of their volunteers who man the Bramley Wheels phone are themselves having medical treatment and are therefore having a break from volunteering for Bramley Wheels.

They need a couple of new people to volunteer to help man the Bramley Wheels mobile phone. The phone is on Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays) from 10:00am to 12 noon. Your job would be to answer the phone and take down the details of the person who is phoning for a lift (i.e. where they want to go and at what time etc) and then find a driver to give the lift. You will be given a list of volunteer drivers. Some weeks there may be no calls, some weeks maybe 6 or 7. You don't have to be able to drive to do this as it can be done in the comfort of your own home or you can take the phone out whilst your dog walking etc, just keep a pen and paper handy to jot down any details should you get a call.

Even if you can do one/two weeks a year (Mon - Fri 10-12) it would be a great help.

They are a very friendly group of volunteers and their clients are very appreciative of the lifts. If you are interested or would like any more information, please contact Jo Oakes on joanneoakes@aol.com or 01483 898558.

Free mindfulness taster session

on Tuesday 26th February, 7:30pm to 8:30pm, side room at Bramley library

Interested to find out what mindfulness is?

Learn how it can help with wellbeing, relaxation, sleep quality and to manage stress. Hear about the scientific evidence behind mindfulness and why it is taught in the NHS.

Led by Claire Garthwaite, mindfulness teacher and former GP. Email claire@withmindfulness.co.uk if you would like to attend.

8 week mindfulness courses (8x 2 hour sessions) start in April 2019. Visit www.withmindfulness.co.uk for more details.

Wonersh and District Garden Club

The first meeting of 2019 will take place on Wednesday 6th February at 7.30pm in the Wonersh Memorial Hall when the Chairman Graham Payne, will give a pictorial presentation of 'Gardens and Plants from around the world'.

New members are welcome, particularly to this first meeting of the new year.

Looking ahead, at the next meeting on Wednesday 6th March, Simon Richards from London Royal Parks will be giving an illustrated talk on 'Richmond Park and the Isabella Plantation'.

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

Details about future events taking place in Bramley and its immediate vicinity are welcome, as are news items that would be of interest to residents of Bramley. Adverts for job opportunities and information about events outside of our area will not be published.

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.