
Binfield Heath Village News

Issue No. 101

February 2021

SHADDO Christmas Panto Trail

This year SHADDO couldn't stage a panto for the first time in 20 years. So, with the aim of bringing the Panto spirit to you, over 60 residents from Binfield Heath, Shiplake & Shiplake Cross displayed Panto props/scenes in their gardens. Over Christmas and New Year, there was a Panto trail to spot the Panto. This was a welcome focus for walks over the Christmas period. Some props came out of SHADDO cupboards, but others were made by local volunteers - the creative talents of our local residents were there for all to see. (Photos of some Village exhibits overleaf).

Neighbourhood planning

Last Monday's Parish Council zoom meeting was attended by Robyn Tobutt from South and Vale Neighbourhood Planning Group, who talked about ways to get started on the project. She addressed its scope, what we could include in it and how much involvement would be needed from the community. The next task is to establish the level of interest and enthusiasm from residents of the parish and the degree to which they would be willing to take part. In normal times this would be done at a public meeting but continuing Covid restrictions obviously prevent that. Instead, a letter will be sent to every household, asking a few simple questions and for you to tell us what you think.

Meanwhile, if you are interested, take a look at the Neighbourhood Planning Roadmap on the [village website](https://www.village-website.com) or go to <https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/?s=neighbourhood+planning> to find out more.

Kindling

Kiln dried kindling is always available at Veronica, Heathfield Ave, BH (courtesy of the Heads). All proceeds are in aid of Thames Valley Air Ambulance, £3.00/bag and £5/2 bags. Please put monies in donation box on the drive.

Public Footpaths

Please stick to the footpaths when out walking. There has been a lot of news in the press about people exercising in the countryside during lockdown with sadly, consequential damage to crops in open farmland. This is also true of the farm fields round our parish, where the high number of exercisers has caused footpaths to widen into planted areas, damaging young winter crops. Sometimes walkers are wandering around fields where there are no official footpaths and, again, causing damage to plants and wildlife. The recent snow, whilst such welcome fun for families, has brought its own increase in footfall and people building snow creations, ranging from traditional snowmen to park benches have left a trail of destruction. Some people sledged and cycled over planted crops.

The plea from farm manager, Simon Beddows is for people to enjoy the countryside but also to respect it, by sticking to official footpaths. The message is that by trampling on the crop, walkers are walking on next year's loaves of bread.

"We would like to explain to people that they are damaging next year's food supply when walking across fields, as well disturbing wildlife, insects and birds by going along field margins," says Tristan Phillimore. Sadly, as a result of this, there will be more signposting around the fields.

Shrove Tuesday, 16 Feb, 7pm

The Church/Benefice Pancake Supper normally takes place in the Village Hall. Clearly, that's out of the question this year, so they will gather on Zoom instead. Everyone is welcome, but if you want pancakes, you'll need to make your own. Pancake stories and poems will be shared, incl the history of their Pancake Supper celebrations. If you'd like to join, please email: benefice.sdh@gmail.com and you will be sent a link. *We look forward to seeing you, Rev Sarah (07770 930756).*

Ash Wednesday – Weds, 17 Feb

Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent, so you might be thinking about either giving, or maybe taking something up. In these pandemic times, where we have had to let go of so many things, maybe doing something positive to promote our wellbeing is more helpful.

Someone has kindly put together a 'Love yourself through Lent' sheet, which you can find on the Benefice [FB page](#), or you can get a copy by emailing revsarahjoy@icloud.com. Activities include 'phone a friend', 'sing as loudly as you can' or 'have a nap': One for each day -. just small things to make you smile and feel happy.

Lent Course - Sundays during Lent at 4pm via Zoom - Everyone welcome Exploring what it means to be Christian, email benefice.sdh@gmail.com for more information.

For those shielding

A reminder that if anybody is shielding or vulnerable, there is a network of people in the village who can help with shopping, prescription pick-ups, telephone chats if you're feeling lonely, or help with any other urgent errands or concerns you might have. Please contact Amanda on 07799 038492 to be put in touch with a friendly neighbour who can help.

Newsletter

Get your newsletter as soon as it is published. We aim is to get as many as possible on our village mailing list, so that we only have to deliver to newcomers and those without internet access. Please email your email address to marina.hart@virgin.net to be added to the list.

You can also access the newsletter from the [VILLAGE WEBSITE](#). Please also let [me](#) know if you wish to unsubscribe. A hard copy will not be delivered to you though.

Office/treatment room/studio to rent

Working from home? Lovely garden room with private parking and own entrance to rent. It's also possible to share the space and rent it for half the week this. For photos and more details, please contact Helma on 07814 720584

