

# Binfield Heath Village News

Issue No. 102

March 2021

## Red Nose Day



Jake and Mia are busy making cakes for Red Nose Day and will be selling them outside the village shop on Friday, 19 March, 3.30 – 4.30 pm.

## Mystery crocheter



We have our very own crocheting 'Banksy' in the village. Does anyone know who this mystery person is, who not only decked the phone box with crocheted decorations at Christmas but then surprised us all with a wealth of hearts around the bus shelter on Valentine's Day, as in the photo above?. They even left little hearts for anyone to pick up and take home. Thank you so much for cheering us up in the depths of lockdown and winter. We'll find you yet! This may be inspired by a Facebook page, [Random Acts of Crochet Kindness](#).

## Village stroll at Easter



This comes from a Shiplake resident, with the idea being for as many households as possible from Binfield Heath, Shiplake Cross and Shiplake taking part (see poster attached). As we are still quite limited over Easter, it would be great if we could decorate our gates, front doors, hedges in some way to celebrate Easter and together to lift our collective spirits. It will make our regular strolls around the village all the more interesting!

## Flower Show to go ahead this year

The best village news is that the Binfield Heath Flower Show is planned to take place again this year as usual, on August Bank Holiday Saturday.

It will be held as before on the field opposite Holmwood, courtesy of its owners.

Put the date in your diaries – there will be more news over the coming months.

## Neighbourhood Plan consultation

The parish council (PC) is consulting all parishioners on whether to create a Neighbourhood Plan (NP). The council cannot hold a public meeting because of Covid-19 regulations. In order to reach as many people as possible, the council has used emails where known and also posted paper copies. They would appreciate your views in order to gauge the level of support among parishioners.

To create the plan, there will need to be a steering group comprising councillors and residents, supported by working parties to look after specific topic areas. Please read the document when you receive it. This is a serious undertaking and needs a commitment from both the PC and the community. Click here for a full and easy-to-understand [guide to creating a NP](#).

You are recommended to take a look before responding to the consultation. Your answers to the questions will be immensely useful and do not commit you to anything at this stage. Please respond, online or on a paper copy dropped into the shop, by March 31 – anonymously if you prefer. The PC really needs to hear your opinion.

Paul Rollason, Chairman, Binfield Heath PC, [paulrollasonbinfieldheath@hotmail.com](mailto:paulrollasonbinfieldheath@hotmail.com).

## Kindling

Kiln dried kindling is always available at Veronica, Heathfield Avenue, BH (organised by the Heads). All proceeds in aid of Thames Valley Air Ambulance, £3.00/ bag or £5.00/two bags. Please put money in the donation box on the drive.

## Grey shrike spotted on Kiln Lane

Courtesy of Neil George, this [grey shrike](#) was seen this week. There were only 62 of this rare bird spotted in the UK last year.



## Fresh fish on Fridays

In case anyone is unaware, the owners of the Square in Henley sell fresh fish on a Friday morning, outside the Shiplake village shop, 08.30 – 11.00. Click here for the [article from the Henley Standard](#) in Jan.

## Shiplake Tennis Club

We are welcoming new members! Please get in touch if you are interested in joining our friendly, local tennis club. Details can be found at [www.shiplaketennisclub.co.uk](http://www.shiplaketennisclub.co.uk) or please contact [member-ship@shiplaketennisclub.co.uk](mailto:member-ship@shiplaketennisclub.co.uk) We are hoping to re-open the club on 29 March 2021, Covid restrictions permitting. The usual joining fee for new members has been waived until Easter so please don't delay, join today!

## **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.

## **A Window for Wilfred**

---

You may have already been contacted regarding the latest Wilfred Owen project to install a memorial window in All Saints Church, Dunsden and probably received a leaflet with your Christmas greetings from the Church Benefice. The Dunsden Owen Association have just set up a crowdfunding page <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/stained-glass-window-for-wilfred-owen> to publicise what they are doing and to raise necessary funds.

The celebrated WW1 poet lived in Dunsden as a young man. He was strongly influenced by his 18 months here, as he came face to face with the poverty, disease and injustice suffered by local people. This social concern carried over into his care and interest in the soldiers, who fought alongside him in WW1. We are very keen therefore that the local community should have a direct stake in the window, so we are appealing to local residents. The brochure is on [owenindunsden.org](http://owenindunsden.org).

## **Wool donations**

---

These are urgently needed for knitters, who make up items for various charities for families in urgent need of blankets and clothing. If you are able to help it would be very much appreciated. Please contact Rose on 0118 9479513.

## **Readifood**

---

This Reading food bank have sent a letter to Sharon and Gavin (as attached) to thank all of us for our food donations, collected at the village shop. They also sent a certificate of thanks, and both are posted up in the village shop. Thank you very much for all of your contributions. Deliveries are made to the Food Bank fortnightly currently. The collection box is by the till in the shop.

## **Binfield Heath Church**

---

You are warmly invited to Binfield Heath Church's Easter Service on the theme of:

**Easter: a Reason for Real Hope**  
Easter Sunday, 4 April at 4:30pm  
Binfield Heath Church, RG9 4LJ.

We have COVID-secure procedures in place in line with government guidelines. Face coverings must be worn (unless you have an exemption).

Our normal weekly services are also taking place, again with COVID-secure procedures in place.  
Sundays: 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. All welcome.

## **Shiplake, Dunsden and Harpsden Church**

---

After much discussion, we are pleased to say that during Holy Week and beyond we will be once more holding services in our churches. Please click on <http://www.shiplakedunsdenharpsden.org.uk> for the different services, where they are and timings. It would be helpful if you could book a place as, sadly, due to Covid restrictions, capacity is limited. Please book in via: [benefice.sdh@gmail.com](mailto:benefice.sdh@gmail.com). After Easter we will be holding one service every Sunday at 10am by rotation in our three churches. Please look at our website for tails: <http://www.shiplakedunsdenharpsden.org.uk>

However, please be aware that all this might change if Government guidelines change. Our Monday, Wednesday and Friday services will remain on-line for the time being and our Sunday service will also be available on-line each week as well.

We are hoping to reopen Harpsden and Shiplake Churches for Private Prayer after Easter, again please look on the website for more information and opening times.

With all Gods Blessings to you this Easter and if we can help you in any way please do ask.  
*Revd Robert Thewsey*

## **Piano lessons for adults**

---

Face to face piano lessons in Binfield Heath restarting from 12 April. Beginners welcome. Spaces available for adult learners on a Tuesday or Friday morning. Please contact Helma for more details on 07814 720584.

## **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](mailto: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.

## **Dates for your diary:**

Weds, 17 March, 7pm  
Flower Show Committee meeting

Fri, 19 March, 3.30 – 4.30 pm  
Red Nose Day cake sale

31 March – deadline for returning NP plan consultation document

Sun, 4 April at 4.30pm  
Easter Sunday at Binfield Heath church

Sunday, 4 April at 10.00am  
Easter Eucharist at Shiplake Church