
Binfield Heath Village News

Issue No. 111

May 2022

Fire in village



In case you missed it, there has been a major event in the village – the Arriva bus to Reading caught fire on Thursday night. It was struggling up the hill noisily, and thanks to a cyclist alerting the driver just in time, all 20 passengers and the driver were evacuated. Then followed explosions and plumes of smoke. No one was hurt. There was smoke for hours and four fire engines came to the scene. The bus was completely burnt out and the bus stop and surrounding trees badly burnt; even the bus stop opposite and trees are quite scorched. Photos are on the BH Village Community FB page. **The hunt is now on for the cyclist, the hero of the hour. Does anyone know who he or she was?**

Annual Parish meeting, 23 May

Everybody is invited to the Binfield Heath Annual Parish Meeting on Monday, which this year includes an exhibition on the progress of our Neighbourhood Plan. The meeting is also any opportunity to chat to councillors about parish issues over a glass of wine. It starts at 6.30pm in the Scout Hut.

There will be a second chance to see the exhibition at the Jubilee celebrations on the Recreation Ground from midday on Sunday, 5 June. The Neighbourhood Plan will give residents a stronger voice over future development in the parish.

Jubilee Bell Peal at Shiplake, 1 June

On Weds, 1 June at 9.45am, a band of ringers comprising two from Shiplake and six friends from other towers in the Oxford Diocese will attempt to ring a peal on the 8 bells at Shiplake church to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. If successful, the peal of just over 5000 changes will take about 2 hours and 50 mins to complete. The method to be rung has not been finally decided, but is likely to be Rutland Surprise Major.

Plant Sale in aid of Thames Valley Air Ambulance

Don't forget The Heads' annual plant sale at Veronica, Heathfield Avenue, starting Sat, 28 May, at 10.00. As before, they will have a range of plants on offer outside their house. Plants will be priced up and there will be an honesty box. All profits will be in aid of Thames Valley Air Ambulance. Please bring plenty of cash, as no change will be given. The sale will continue until stocks run out.

Chiltern walking festival

The [Chilterns Walking Festival](#) takes place 21 May - 5 June.

There are some great local walks in the programme, including a couple led by our very own Philippa Saunders at [Pipsticks](#):

[Wed 1 June - To A Skylark!](#)

[Sat 4 June - In the Footsteps of Wilfred Owen](#)

Knitted items

The FISH Knit and Natter group still have knitted items for babies up to 6 months. If you know of a family in need of these please contact 0118 9479513.

Book your place for Queen's Jubilee lunch

Don't miss out! Over 150 people have already signed up for the Binfield Heath Parish jubilee lunch on the recreation ground on **Sunday, 5 June**. We need to know in advance how many people would like to come, as places in the marquee are restricted. The Parish Council, Village Society and Flower Show teams are running the event together, inviting friends, neighbours and families to a bring-your-own feast and village celebration. Organise a group, tell us how many are coming and we will provide seating. Marquees, tables and chairs will be provided in the tents, but if you prefer you can bring your own.

There will be music from the Saturday night palace concert bar, a children's fancy dress competition, prize for the best table decoration, a royalty-themed quiz and much more. We will be live-streaming events in London so you can watch what's going on in the capital without battling with crowds. Look out, too, for the arrival of the first village flagpole, which will be erected in front of the Forge in time for the jubilee events.

Please let us know on your form (attached) if you can help to move tables and chairs from the Flower Show tent opposite Holmwood up to the recreation ground on Friday, 3 June or set up on Saturday, 4 June and then take it down again on Monday, 6 June. We'd particularly welcome assistance from anyone with a trailer.

National activities start with beacon-lighting on Thursday evening and end with the national Big Jubilee Lunch on Sunday. Bonfires, bugles, choirs, a service at St Paul's Cathedral, BBC concert at Buckingham Palace and parades along the Mall will all be part of the scene. Street parties and village picnics in towns and villages all over the country will mark this historic moment for The Queen: the only monarch in British history to have celebrated a platinum jubilee.

Form attached.

Cuppas, chats and crafts - 6 June at 2pm

The next informal monthly fellowship get-together is on Monday 6 June from 2-3.30pm at All Saints' Church, Dunsden RG4 9PH. We will be sharing some silk painting skills, but feel free to bring your own projects along to show, to share or to just work on while chatting - or just eat cake and share conversation. Refreshments are provided and everyone is welcome. Revd Sarah (07770 930756, revsarahjoy@gmail.com).

Ukrainian families in Binfield Heath

The first family has now arrived and another is arriving soon. The slowness in issuing visas and the need for Ukrainians to stay closer to home means that several did not make it in the end. If you know of any Ukrainians needing accommodation, please contact [me](#), and I'll put you in touch with hosts.

Get your newsletter as soon as it is published. We aim 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.hart9@outlook.com 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:

23 May	Annual Parish meeting
1 June	Ring a peal at Shiplake church, 09.45
5 June	Platinum Jubilee lunch
6 June	Cuppas, chats and crafts