
Binfield Heath Village News

Issue No. 91

November 2019

Tim, the postman

You will all know Tim Randall, our lovely postie, who races around the village in his shorts at top speed, putting post through our letterboxes. He has been doing the BH round for most of this century but has now decided to leave the Royal Mail. There is a collection for Tim at the Village Shop and a big card for all to add their farewell messages. Although Tim is officially leaving on 23 November, he will return for the Carols around the Tree on Thursday, 19 December, when he will be presented with the card and gifts from villagers.

Christmas Fayre at Dunsden Village Hall, 30 Nov

Free entry to this Christmas fayre, where you will perhaps find the perfect Christmas gift and can visit Santa and his elves in his grotto. Saturday, 30 November, 10 am - 4 pm, RG4 9QG.

Both halls will have a variety of stalls incl beauty products, stained glass, local cheeses, linens, jewellery, face-painting, sweets, flowers, toys, paintings, cards and much, much more...

Mulled wine and mince pies
Carol singing

Shiplake Live Nativity and carols, 14 Dec

This is an annual event at Shiplake Church. There will be two performances at 11am and 4pm on Sat, 14 December. The event is suitable for children and adults of all ages, who are invited to come in costume or to visit the wardrobe department on arrival. Refreshments are served both before and after the performance and full info can be found at

www.shiplakedunsdenharpsden.org.uk

If there are any adults or children who would like to act in the nativity on the day, please contact Wendy Robinson on trendywendy262@icloud.com.

We particularly welcome any children/teens wanting to be shepherds, wise men, kings, Angel Gabriel, Joseph - we're hoping to find a real mother and baby though.

There will be a short practice rehearsal on the morning of Sat, 14 Dec, and the two performances on the day, so not a big time commitment. It's a lot of fun, and a good run up to Christmas. For more information call 07808 387589.

Carols at the Bottle and Glass, 15 Dec

Starting at 7.30pm there will be carol singing from a local choir with accompaniment by Roger Darbishire, plus lots of audience participation. Please do join us.

Carols around the tree, 19 Dec

The Village Society will be holding its annual Christmas Carol Singing around the Tree in front of the Village Shop, on Thurs, 19 December, 6.30 - 8pm. Free mulled wine & mince pies. Father Christmas will be making an appearance, as will Tim the Postman.

Shiplake College rugby pitches

Shiplake villagers have been actively campaigning against the loss of prime agricultural land (over 9 hectares) opposite Shiplake Farm, which Shiplake College want to use as sports pitches. This was expected to be decided at SODC's planning committee on 6 Nov, but has now been deferred until after a site visit. The College wants to move their existing riverside pitches to higher ground, which won't flood. Objectors say that although the riverside meadows will be put back into agricultural use, this won't be of equivalent value, and that important assets will be lost if the pitches are constructed on the higher ground.

Neighbourhood plan

Watch out for information about parish council meetings next year - we are likely to be asking for support to put a neighbourhood plan in place. We will need to get a good response to the suggestion and then a wide level of help from the parish to carry it out. The final meeting of the year will be held on Monday, November 25 at 7.45pm in the B&G. More info paulrol-lasonbinfieldheath@hotmail.com.

Reading Bridge

Third Thames bridge fears. Our county councillor is pressing local parishes to unite in their condemnation of Reading and Wokingham's plan for a major new river crossing that will end at Playhatch, with no provision for mitigation measures once the expected influx of new traffic hits the Henley Road. SODC & OCC have both condemned the lack of mitigation planning and recommended the bridge be used for public transport, pedestrian and cycling only. This fits with Reading's declaration of a climate emergency. In spite of this, it was announced that Berkshire groups have asked the Govt for £0.8m to fund the preparation of a business case for a major road bridge. If you have views, let your MP John Howell know.

Don't put wipes down the loo

This must be the most putrid entry to date in the Binfield Heath newsletter. The whole sewage system of Kiln Lane ended up in someone's garden a couple of weeks ago. A super-drainage team was called in to clear a couple of months' backlog and the problem was... wet wipes! Please don't flush these nor anything similar down the loo. They also incidentally contain plastic and are not biodegradable,

The Scout Hut

The good news is that the hut can be saved after all. Extensive repairs will be needed over several months but the hut can be restored. For more info or if you would like to make a donation, contact erniepovey@yahoo.co.uk.

Drug-driving in Binfield Heath

Youngsters smoking pot have been spotted round the village, often in the recreation ground at night, or in cars nearby clearly smoking weed. The police are aware but if you see anything, do report it.

Dunsden Hall representative

Dunsden Hall needs a representative from Binfield Heath on its committee. You don't need to be a parish councillor to step forward. (contact Sue Summerland, 0118 9482814, who is stepping down, if you would like to follow this up or want more info).

Quiz night, Dunsden Village Hall, 18 Jan

Beth and John return for another of their very popular brain-teasing quiz nights on Saturday, 18 January. Excellent value tickets including a fish and chips supper can be bought at: buytickets.at/dunsden.

Safari supper, 1 Feb

The village Safari Supper will make a return on Sat, 1st February. Full details to follow.

Lady Audley's Secret, Sat, 8 Feb

'The most sensationally successful of all the sensation novels'.

This will be presented as a radio play, by the gallant troupe of **Actors Bold** with expected audience participation. The plot centres on 'accidental bigamy' which was in literary fashion in the early 1860s. Nearer the time buy tickets at Binfield Heath Stores and online at buytickets.at/dunsden.

Piano lessons for adults

Helma Marlow is a Royal Academy of Music trained piano teacher with over 30 years of teaching experience. She has spaces for adult piano students on weekday mornings and is in Binfield Heath. References available. For more info contact Helma 07814 720584 or helmamarlow@btinternet.com

Speeding

Many villagers have expressed their concern at not only delivery drivers, but also residents speeding in the village and especially up Kiln Lane, which has a speed limit of 20mph. Please be considerate and consider the implications of a child or animal being hit by your speed machine.

The milkmanwoman

You may be surprised to hear that there is still a milk delivery in Binfield Heath. Stacey Boulton delivers on a Tues, Thurs and Sat in the early hours and needs more clients to make the cost of supplying in glass bottles viable. More info on www.milkandmore.co.uk

True Food community

Most will be aware of this cooperative in Emmer Green, where you can refill your plastic containers with good quality detergents etc, They also have a fantastic range of local, quality foods. More info at www.truefood.coop.

Church matters

30 Nov - Evening Advent Concert by The Gratis Choir at Shiplake Church

22 Dec, 6:30pm Carols by Candlelight at BH Chapel - a traditional carol service, followed by refreshments

24 Dec, Christmas Eve
11.30pm Dunsden Midnight Mass
11.30pm Shiplake Midnight Mass

25 Dec, Christmas Day
10am Dunsden Sung Eucharist
11am Shiplake Family Service

10am Family Service at BH Chapel:
Carols and Christmas Message

Sat, 4 Jan, 2:30pm
Induction Service of New Pastor
at BH Chapel

Newsletter

Get your newsletter by email as soon as it is published. Our goal 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 will also be able to access the newsletter from the VILLAGE WEBSITE. www.binfieldheath.org.uk.

Please also let me know if you wish to unsubscribe. A hard copy will not be delivered to you though.

Contributions

If you would like to add any news or make mention of anything of interest to the village for the next newsletter, please email marina.hart@virgin.net.

Dates for your Diary

30 Nov	Christmas Fayre at Dunsden Village Hall
30 Nov	Advent concert by Gratis choir
14 Dec	Shiplake Live Nativity and Carols
15 Dec	Carols at the Bottle and Glass
19 Dec	Carols around the tree and farewell to Tim, the postman
22 Dec	Carols by candlelight at BH chapel
24 Dec	Dunsden and Shiplake midnight mass
25 Dec	Dunsden Sung Eucharist and Shiplake Family Service
	Family service at BH chapel
4 Jan	Induction of new pastor at BH chapel
18 Jan	Quiz night a Dunsden Village Hall
1 Feb	Safari supper
8 Feb	Lady Audley's secret