Accident Advice & Assist



In the event of an accident, call us on 0800 999 7000

Putting you in the driving seat

Know your rights

It's your insurance policy not the insurers, which means that in the event of an accident, whether or not it's your fault, you are entitled to have your vehicle repaired by a manufacturers' approved repairer to their high standards.

At AAA, we offer a completely free of charge 24hr Accident Management for private individuals and business users, ensuring your vehicle is repaired at our state-of-the-art manufacturers' approved Bodyshop.

With one simple phone call, we will deal with your claim from start to finish. If the accident was not your fault, you have the legal right to a like-for-like replacement vehicle completely free of charge. At fault customers will be provided with a free of charge courtesy car whilst your vehicle is being repaired.

For your free of charge Accident Management Pack, please contact **Noel Matraves** on **01628 777720**.



Our Newsletters are delivered by volunteers who have been asked to wear disposable gloves



Oakley Green, Fifield & District Community Association

Summer Newsletter

July 2020



www.ogafcap.co.uk

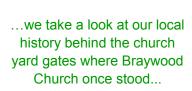
Welcome to the OGAFCA Summer newsletter...

...St Michael's Church in Bray keeps local community and congregation connected via videos, Facebook and website...

...residents put the flags out to celebrate VE Day at home...



...fun Scarecrow Festival planned for August Bank Holiday to thank our local heroes ...





The OGAFCA newsletter is edited by Alison Brayshaw
Printed by DRAYTON: www.drayton.co.uk
Published by Oakley Green, Fifield and District Community Association Limited by Guarantee
Postal address: OGAFCA, Woodlands, Oakley Green Road, Oakley Green, Windsor. SL4 4PZ
The views expressed in the OGAFCA newsletter do not necessarily reflect the editor.
The Oakley Green, Fifield and District Community Association Limited by Guarantee does not accept responsibility for products or services advertised in this publication.

Chairperson's Message

So, the restrictions are easing slowly but we are still a long way off from life as we knew it and maybe, life will never be quite the same again. For many this time has brought great hardship and genuine fears for the future. Let's hope that many of the lessons we have all learnt during this time of enforced reflection will shape our destinies in the time to come in a positive way and encourage us to maintain all the good things that have come to the fore.

During this time there have been many local heroes. Braywood School has been open throughout looking after the children of key workers and Mrs Calvert and her team have been creatively seeking ways to introduce more children safely back into school. Our pubs, forced to close, have been offering delicious take-away menus, many have been running shops providing essential goods so that we didn't have to encounter the queues and crowds of the supermarkets. Our farmers have welcomed us onto their land and ensured that the footpaths were kept clear and safe. And, above all, our community has come together and ensured that no-one was left alone and abandoned even while they were in isolation. As local pubs and restaurants in our area reopen please support them where you can, not just to keep them going but to thank them for supporting us in times of need.

Sadly, all the exciting events that we had planned for this summer have had to be cancelled and our AGM will have to take place on Zoom. Trust me, it will hurt me more than it hurts you! I will have to evolve from a dinosaur to a dolphin in a few short weeks and I may be craving your indulgence throughout but I hope it will still be an enjoyable and informative event for all. It is my turn to stand down as a Director this year so if you wish to take my place, or nominate someone to join us, please get your applications to us by **Wednesday 19 August** so we can arrange the vote at the meeting. Go to http://www.ogafcap.co.uk/PAGES/HOMES/Forms.htm for Forms.

Within the next few weeks many of us will be returning to work and finally getting to meet up with friends and family again. It is important to remember, however, that we still have many vulnerable people in our community, and we must not forget them in our rush to get back to "normal". Please continue to look out for each other and stay safe. And to quote the late, great, Dame Vera Lyn and, indeed, her Majesty the Queen, "We'll meet again".

Please submit Autumn Newsletter contributions by Monday 21 September via the web site or email to alison.j.brayshaw@gmail.com



Oakley Green, Fifield & District Community Association Ltd

If you want to find out what has been done by your Association to make improvements to your area and what activities and projects are being planned in the near future areas such as:

Broadband,

Community Safety,

Drainage,

Local Planning,

Roads & Transport

Social & Recreational

Then please join the Annual General Meeting on Thursday 17 September 2020

Due to social distancing measures it will be a virtual meeting on Zoom. The Zoom invitation will be sent out to members with the Agenda before the AGM

Oakley Green, Fifield and District Community Association Limited hereinafter referred to as "the Association"

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Association will be held as a virtual meeting over the internet on Thursday 17 September 2020 at 7.30 pm

AGENDA

- To receive the Directors' Report and a full statement of accounts showing the receipts and expenditure for the period ending 31 March 2020 and a balance sheet as at that date.
- To receive from the Committee a report of the activities of the Association.
- To elect the required number of Directors which have been duly nominated in accordance with the Rules of the Association.
- To decide on any resolution that has been duly submitted to the meeting in accordance with the Rules of the Association.

Forms for the nomination of a candidate as a Director are available from the Association's website www.ogafcap.co.uk.

Completed forms must be received by the Secretary not less than 28 days before the Annual General Meeting.

Only Members of the Association are entitled to vote at this Meeting.

Any such Member may appoint a Proxy or Proxies and a form is available from the Association's website www.ogafcap.co.uk for Members unable to attend the Meeting.

The completion of a Proxy Form will not prevent a Member from attending and voting at the Meeting in person should he/she subsequently find that he/she is able to do so.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Barbara Frame, Chairperson - 11 July, 2020

www.ogafcap.co.uk

Local History: Braywood House and Church

Just on the cusp of lockdown Alison Brayshaw and I were invited along, by the gardener of Braywood House on Drift Road, to visit the private grounds and gardens and learn more about this historic site where Braywood Church once stood and its links to properties in Oakley Green and New Lodge.



Braywood House sits in 10 acres of private grounds which includes the site



of what was Braywood Church and the churchyard which has 23 graves. The original churchyard gates and wall still stand and can be seen when you walk along the public

footpath. Behind Braywood House a pathway leads through the woods, which are part of the grounds, to

the two Lodge Houses we can see today on the Oakley Green Road. The grounds border onto the crown estate of Windsor and Swinley Forest and anyone staying at Braywood House has free access to roam the 3,100 hectares of forest.





Among the 23 graves is the grave of Elizabeth Van De Weyer who was born in 1817 and was the daughter of Joshua and Lucretia Augusta Bates from Boston U.S.A. She married Jean -Sylvain Van De Weyer in 1839 after meeting Sylvain in

London. Sylvain was special representative to King Leopold 1 in London. He also served briefly as the

8th Prime Minister of Belgium and was the Belgian
Ambassador to London for many years. Elizabeth and
Sylvain had two sons and five daughters who lived in
London and at New Lodge. The land at New Lodge
was a gift from Queen Victoria to the family, as
Elizabeth and her husband were close and honoured
friends. Elizabeth comforted the Queen after the
death of Prince Albert. Louise, their daughter, was
close friends with Princess Louise, Queen Victoria's 6th child.





Braywood's All Saints Church was originally built and endowed by Elizabeth and her husband as a memorial to her father, the late Joshua Bates of Barings Bank in 1866. It was a cruciform building of cut flint with Bath stone dressings in the early English style. It contained a chancel, nave, transepts and South and West porches. Against the South transept was a bell tower with 5 bells,

an angle turret and battlements. The lower part of the tower and South transept formed a memorial chapel. The roof was of a very high pitch and the tall chancel and lower arches of the transepts were polished granite. Mr. Thomas Talbot Bury was the architect (he had been articled to Pugin in 1824) and he also built Braywood House for the Van De Weyers. The first vicar at All Saints was the Revd. William Browning Turner B.A. of Balliol College Oxford who received the vicarage (now Braywood House) and £98 per year.

The gardener we met is slowly uncovering the original stonework of the church and planting sympathetically to expose all the remains.

It is hoped that an invitation will be extended to local residents interested to visit in the future. In the next magazine I hope to write about Bishops Farm.

Sarah Grace

Cricket re-starting! But with new rules for now

We have 9 weeks of cricket season left and the league has been cancelled The good news is that from Saturday 18 July we can play adult 11 a-side cricket and juniors can train in groups of 10. But there are new rules...

- We will play 40 over games.
- We have to stop every 6 overs to sanitize hands and the ball.
- The players won't be able to add sweat or saliva to the ball.
- Batsman now have to run on opposite sides of the wicket, and stay in a 2m lane.
- The clubhouse will remain closed, except for emergency toilet
- Spectators must stay away
- The bar can open from outside.

The list goes on but cricket is back, now if we could just stop the rain!!

Brett Carter - Braywood Cricket Club Chairman



As Summer Term 2020 ends, pupils at Braywood School share their memories...

Starting school was very scary

We were only little, and very wary

Of all the things we had to come

But Braywood welcomes everyone!

We started making lots of friends

Painting things and building dens

The teachers taught us to read and write

We were very tired, we slept all night.

In Year 1 we had Mrs Kilner

The phonics test became much clearer

She gave us lots of tricks to learn

The hardest words we said in turn

We all did well, and got A*

It's thanks to her and her little cards

We also started to do clubs at school

They were really fun and really cool

In Year 2 we had the same teacher

She's kind and fair, just like Mrs Teeder

Then things got tricky with the SAT's

We were made secret agents and got good at that!

Now in Year 3 we're getting older

Mrs Ingram helped to make us bolder

Times tables were tricky and hard to do

But winning Mars Bar saw us through

We're in Year 4 and Corona's come

We're missing school it's so much fun!

There's lots of things we still have to do

PGL, Sports Day, the Summer Concert too

We hope we're back to say Goodbye

Even though we know the Mums will cry

They've made friends, and love the school too

Grab your tissues they're going to boo

As we ring the school bell to say Goodbye

New things ahead it's time to fly

We'll miss Braywood the best school ever

Special memories, things to treasure

Drew - Year 4

I love school because the lessons help us learn and they teach us other life lessons like, caring for our family and our environment.

When the bell goes we all look up to the steeple and line up, it is time to start the school day. On the outside Braywood School looks Victorian. It was built in 1857. On the inside it's up to date with the 21st century. I listen and I learn about the world, computers and I pads help me discover all types of information. I can imagine Victorian children writing on a blackboard, we use power points.

I feel safe and happy at school we don't get the cane by the teachers like the Victorian children did, our teachers are kind. At my school you get rewards my proudest achievement is the Kindness award, you get it when you help your friends or teachers Roald Dahl is a brilliant writer, we read his books at school. Roald Dahl said kindness is the important quality in person. I think that's true

I love school because it makes me smarter and like our motto, from tiny acorns to mighty Oak Trees grow. One day I will be strong, helpful, kind and trustworthy.

Harry Nicholls - Year 3

I've really enjoyed my time at Braywood. I was a bit nervous at first, but everyone is. It didn't take me long to settle in and then it was lots of fun.

My funniest moment was when somebody wrote about an "earquake" instead of an "earthquake."

At Braywood there are many clubs including Football, Rugby, Ballet and Eco Club. There is also an after school club every day.

Lessons include: computing, science, art and music.

During Summer holidays there is a summer camp from 9:00 until 5:00. There you can bake, make, plant and draw.

There is only one problem with Braywood: you don't want to go home!

Danny Dawson - Year 4

Fifield Art Group

Braywood Memorial Hall , Fifield Village

Monday: 10am - Noon or 3 - 5pm

Also Tuesday: 3 - 5pm or 7 - 9pm

All materials supplied plus tea & coffee
lusive cost per session only £6 Private

Inclusive cost per session only £6 Priva tuition or groups at your venue Fees

negotiable

Contact Bill Collier fifieldartgroup@gmail.com

Or by phone 07811 953071

Londis Holyport

Holyport Road

Holyport SL6 2HA

We deliver Newspapers and Magazines

If are interested just call

01628 622915

Or call in for a chat to claim 6 week half price

We also offer Dry Cleaning and Shirt Ironing Service



providing
Horticultural Employment And THerapy
in the Royal Borough

"quality local plants at sensible prices"

We have a superb range of seasonal plants

Spring and Summer bedding, roses, herbaceous perennials shrubs and climbers vegetables and soft fruit hanging baskets and patio pots

our maintenance teams can help care for your garden

need a meeting/training venue?
we have rooms for hire

Open 7 days a week

41 Braywick Road Maidenhead (next to Toby Carvery)

admin@braywickheath.co.uk www.braywickheath.co.uk

we are here to help so call on us 01628 622510



10% discount on production of this advert

Church keeps connected and plans for the future



Dear Friends,

What a very strange time it has been these last few months. The Church has had to find new ways of keeping connected to the local community and congregation. We have managed to put some video recordings of short services during the week and

slightly longer ones for Sundays on the Church Facebook page and website. As lockdown lifts, I believe we are entering an even more challenging time as responsibility shifts onto our own individual decisions and with regards to Church our local decisions about how we implement a safe return to church. The church is currently open for private prayer and reflection on Wednesday mornings from 10.00 am to 11.00 am, we hope to expand this time. We are also looking at how we can safely host Sunday worship again and start to look at funerals and weddings taking place in church again as soon as we possibly can, all be it with reduced numbers and social distancing. Things are changing so quickly at the moment please check our Facebook page and website for the latest news.

Apart from the practicalities, we have also had the opportunity during lockdown to think more about what really matters to us; I have heard a number of people talking about rediscovering the joy of compassion and the vital part our family, friends and neighbours play when we face such unprecedented changes to our lives.

My hope is that in the rush back to 'normality' we do not just forget this. We have had an amazing opportunity to take stock of what is really important in life, let's not forget what we have learnt.

I look forward to seeing you in church when that becomes possible and if this time of lockdown has raised any questions about life and faith please get in touch and I would be more than pleased to be a listening ear.

Keep safe and well,

Search for "St Michael's Church Bray" for Facebook and website or search for my Facebook page "Ainsley Swift"

The Revd Ainsley Swift

Volunteers are needed to help on OGAFCA Work Groups. If you would like to get involved please do contact us through www.ogafcap.co.uk

VE Day Memories as we celebrate 75th Anniversary



As we put out our bunting and celebrated at home in lockdown this year on a Special Bank Holiday for the 75th Anniversary of VE Day, we were treated to what was a beautiful, memorable sunny day. Geoff Hayes, Chairman of the Royal British Legion Holyport & District Branch, shares his memories of that day 75 years ago...



I was born in April 1937 in Eton, Buckinghamshire (now in Berkshire) so was just 8 years old on VE Day 8 May 1945.

My parents would listen every morning and evening to the BBC news bulletins during the war and I remember my mother saying on the morning of 8 May that Winston Churchill would be broadcasting to the Nation at 3pm. We listened to it, to hear that Germany had surrendered and the War in Europe had ended.

We went out into the front garden and were soon joined by all of our neighbours, everyone greatly relieved at the news. With our neighbours we walked down to Eton High Street. To get to Eton High Street we had to pass some of the Eton College boarding houses and the College boys were waving to us from their windows as we walked by. In Eton High Street we joined a giant conga with hundreds of other Eton residents starting from Eton College to Windsor Bridge and back again. Then we had singing and dancing and it was quite late before we returned home. Once home, I realised it was the first time that my mother did not have to draw the blackout curtains.



If you ever wondered if a hedgehog could smile then here's the answer!

It's just the same as moving home! Handled carefully...
...we can make you SMILE too!

Buying or Selling, Renting or Letting our award winning staff will get you there!

For a Special Offer on our rates
To Sell or to Let through Horler & Associates
please ask, for a free market appraisal, from our
experienced valuer.

Sales Windsor rh@horler.co.uk 01753 62.1234 Option 1 Lettings Windsor ew@horler.co.uk 01753 62.1234 Option 2 Datchet Sales & Lettings as@horler.co.uk 01753 54.6667



Covid-19 has affected everyone and everything in one form or another. **DRAYTON** has continued to operate, albeit under different conditions, throughout the lockdown with printing, design and branding services.



In addition to our existing range of sanitisers, a new focus has been on social distancing – graphics, floor mats, posters, barriers, sanitising dispensers, clear screens and more, to help reduce the spread of infection. Ideal for offices, retail, venues, schools & hotels.

Our merchandise division has been busy making Welcome Back Kits, for staff returning to work, Wellbeing Packs for staff at home, PPE Kits for University students.

Take a look at the new range, we can help whatever the environment www.**CORONAVIRUS**.drayton.co.uk



Scarecrow Festival



OGAFCA Fun Scarecrow Festival 29 - 31 August

Sadly the Fifield Fun Day will not take place this summer due to Covid-19 restrictions but it will be back in 2021! As an alternative to our Fifield Fun Day in August , to bring some cheer and fun activity to our community a Fun Scarecrow Festival has been suggested to thank our local heroes.

Throughout Covid-19 lockdown and beyond there are many local heroes who have supported our community in supplying much needed provisions, deliveries and refuse collections, as well as the school teachers who have kept the school open and supported home schooling going, doctors, nurses and carers and our farmers who have kept the footpaths visible and clear for us all to walk across the fields. So, we thought a Fun Scarecrow Festival over the August Bank Holiday weekend would be a lovely way to show our appreciation, have lots of fun, brighten up the villages and show our thanks to our local heroes! For more information contact Trish Pottinger trishapottinger@aol.com 0772 400 5688. We hope as many households as possible will participate so we have a wonderful display of scarecrows for the August Bank Holiday weekend!

BRAYWOOD MEMORIAL HALL

Fifield, Maidenhead SL6 2NX

Available for Hire



- Large Hall and Meeting Room with Boardroom Table, adjoining toilet and kitchenette
- Very competitive rates
- Meetings, conferences, parties, wedding receptions, classes
- Seating for 100 in main hall
- Car parking

For booking and further information email info@braywoodmemorialhall.org

Wet Spots - RBWM meeting to be rescheduled

Nothing has been possible during the period of lockdown we have all been going through. We did have a meeting with RBWM scheduled for Friday March 20 to discuss remaining problem spots with red status - see updated "9 Wet Spots" report at ogafcap.co.uk via the Environment page. We decided it was more sensible to wait until local government might be more able to focus on other things.

As soon as the situation looks and feels safer and slightly more normal we will seek to schedule a new date for that meeting.

OGAFCA Environment



Would you like to advertise in this Newsletter?

Please contact Bill Collier on

07811 953071 or via email: fifieldartgroup@gmail.com or adverts can be submitted via the website www.ogafcap.co.uk

Bray Studios update from Alison Knight Consulting

A planning application for new temporary stages, workshops, and other associated temporary buildings for two years at Bray Studios was recently granted planning permission by The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. The work is well under way, with full attention given to new working practices imposed due to Covid-19. A new fence has been erected along the front of the site and landscaping works are in progress. Further reshaping of the earth bunds and tree planting will take place over the course of the next few months.

A very significant benefit of the studios coming back into operation is the boost to the local economy. Maidenhead firm, 4 Front Security, has recently been appointed to manage and run the 24-hour security services at Bray Studios. Naturally this means new jobs have been created in Maidenhead. The construction staff, site workers and visitors have been using local caterer La Spiga, on the Windsor Road, and those based at the studios are actively using local companies including the Oakley Court Hotel, The Queen's Head filling station, The Greene Oak, and other restaurants in Bray.

There has been a great deal of progress on restoring Down Place House, the Grade II listed building with its iconic portico overlooking the Thames. Thousands of handmade bricks have been used to restore and recreate the west side of the building, which was the original entrance, and the contractors have now moved on to the roof to restore the structure and castellations.

Down Place House dates back to 1750 and was leased to Hammer Film Productions in 1951 for a year, before a new studio (now known as Studio three) was built immediately south of the mansion for Hammer House of Horror where films continued to be made until 1970.

E. Pardoe & Son

High Class Shoe Repairers Quality Cutting

206 Windsor Road Bray, Berks. SL6 2DW Tel: 01628 623630

Welcome Pack

If you are new to the area and have not received a "Welcome Pack" please contact us at www.ogafcap.co.uk

Tax scams

It seems that in these unprecedented times we are all living through there are now even more ways for scammers to try and con people out of money by obtaining bank details etc. So it would be a good time to give everyone a reminder of what those are and what to look out for.

What is a Scam?

Scam is a term used to describe a fraudulent business or scheme that takes money or goods from an unsuspecting person. Cybercriminals get you to click on a link or open an attachment in an email that looks like it comes from a financial institution, e-commerce site government agent such as HMRC or DVLA or any other service or business.

Phishing (pronounced fishing) is another term that is used to describe a malicious individual or group of individuals who scam users by sending e-mails or creating web pages that are designed to collect an individual's online bank, credit card, or other login information.

How to spot a scam or a phishing email

- 1. Contacted out of the blue? If you're not 100% convinced of the identity of the caller, hang up and contact the company from a different phone.
- 2. Deal too good to be true? If a deal sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
- 3. Asked to share personal details? Never share your personal details with anyone you cannot validate are who they say they are. Phishing emails or phone scammers will often try and get valuable personal data from you, and they can use this to steal your identity or steal your money.
- 4. Under pressure to respond quickly? Scammers will often try to hurry your decision making requesting an urgent response or deadline to be met. Always take some time and think things through.
- 5. Vague contact details? Vague contact details can be a PO Box and premium rate numbers (starting '09') or mobile number.
- 6. Spelling and grammar? Legitimate organisations will rarely, if ever, make glaring grammatical or spelling mistakes, and if they do, it will usually be an isolated incident. Scammers often use bad grammar and spelling to ensure only the most vulnerable people will respond to their messages.
- 7. Asked to keep it quiet? Being asked to keep something quiet should be a red flag. It's important to discuss any agreements with your friends, family or independent advisors.

DO NOT give out private information (such as bank details or passwords), reply to text messages, download attachments or click on any links in emails if you're not sure they're genuine. One of the organisation's scammers typically seem to impersonate is HMRC. HMRC will never send notifications of a tax rebate/refund by email, or ask you to disclose personal or payment information by email. If you've had an HMRC email or text message you suspect isn't genuine report it to phishing@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Scams

Email scams: HMRC is aware of a phishing campaign telling customers they can claim a tax refund to help protect themselves from the coronavirus outbreak. Do not reply to the email and do not open any links in the message.

'Goodwill payment' SMS: HMRC is aware of coronavirus SMS scams telling customers they can claim a 'goodwill payment'. Do not reply to the SMS and do not open any links in the message.

This is an example of the scam wording:

'As part of the NHS promise to battle the COV-19 virus, HMRC has issued a payment of £258 as a goodwill payment, follow link to apply.

'£250 fine' SMS: HMRC is aware of a SMS scam which states you will be fined £250 for leaving the house more than once. The message asks recipients to call an 0800 telephone number to appeal. Do not reply to the SMS or call the phone number listed.

Tax refund and other email scams: HMRC will never send notifications by email about tax rebates or refunds. Do not:

- visit the website
- open any attachments
- disclose any personal or payment information

Fraudsters may spoof a genuine email address or change the 'display name' to make it appear genuine.

Bogus phone calls: HMRC is aware of an automated phone call scam which will tell you HMRC is filing a lawsuit against you, and to press one to speak to a caseworker to make a payment. HMRC can confirm this is a scam and you should end the call immediately. Other scam calls may offer a tax refund and request you to provide your bank or credit card information. If you cannot verify the identity of the caller, HMRC recommends that you do not speak to them.

If you've been a victim of the scam and suffered financial loss, report it to Action Fraud, which is the UK's national fraud and crime reporting centre. It provides a central point of contact about fraud and financially motivated internet crime. It offers an online reporting tool at www.actionfraud.police.uk or you can call and speak to an adviser on **0300 123 2040**. As the calls use a variety of phone numbers, to help HMRC investigations you should report full details of the scam by email to: phishing@hmrc.gov.uk, including the:

- date of the call
- phone number used
- content of the call

Social media scams: HMRC is aware of messages sent to customers through social media. A recent scam was identified on Twitter offering a tax refund. These messages are not from genuine HMRC social media accounts and are a scam. HMRC never uses social media to:

- offer a tax rebate
- request personal or financial information

WhatsApp messages: If you receive communication through 'WhatsApp' saying it's from HMRC, it is a scam. Email details of the message to phishing@hmrc.gov.uk then delete it.

So remember, do not visit any website contained within a bogus email or disclose any personal or payment information. If you are still concerned about a contact or your personal information, contact the organisation directly, either by finding their bona fide e-mail address or telephone number. It is so important to check on any form of communications before you react. Scams target people of all backgrounds, ages and income levels. There's no one group of people who are more likely to become a victim of a scam. Outsmart the scammers and stay safe.

This article is taken from: Tax Help for Older People Registered Charity no 1102276 (Scotland no SC045819), offering free tax advice to older people on a low income who cannot afford professional help. The Helpline number is 01308 488066.



Your local dairy serving Fifield & Oakley Green with milk in good old fashioned glass bottles

www.parkviewdairy.co.uk 01628 947 277

Tel: 01628 624935

www.berkshire-vet.co.uk kelperland@yahoo.co.uk

"Traditional values, exceptional care"

KELPERLAND Veterinary centre

Join our **Pet Club** to get 10% off all services and spread the cost of routine treatments

We offer a comprehensive range of quality vet services for your pets. From annual check-ups to advanced diagnostic testing and surgery.

Friendly and independent practice that has been established for over 50 years.

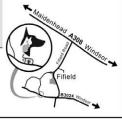
Rural setting in Fifield between Maidenhead and Windsor.

Free parking





Ledger Farm, Forest Green Road, Fifield, Berkshire SL6 2NR



PIGEONS AT WAR

We are all aware of the contribution and huge sacrifice of horses during the First World War and the use of gallant dogs in all areas of warfare today. In Park Lane there is a memorial to the brave animals who fought alongside us in our time of need. At the top right-hand corner of this memorial is a pigeon.



The bravery of these humble birds saved thousands of lives.

First used to great effect in the First World War, pigeons were used to carry messages and intelligence. Mobile lofts were towed by horses and even some double decker buses were converted to carry pigeons to the front lines.

Some pigeons were even packed securely and dropped by parachute to resistance workers behind enemy lines. Usually trained to return to a particular place these birds had to learn to return to different locations. Many

birds were killed or injured in the line of duty and one of these was Mary of Exeter. Despite being wounded three times she still carried her message home. She had part of a wing shot off, was attacked by a German hawk and had three fragments removed from her body. She was eventually awarded the Dickin Medal, which is regarded the animal VC, and is buried in a PDSA pet cemetery in Ilford.



Another famous pigeon, GI Joe, prevented a 'friendly fire' massacre. On 18th October 1943 an American infantry division was about to launch an aerial bombardment of a German occupied town in Italy. They were unaware that the Germans had made an unexpected retreat and the town was now occupied by the British. GI Joe was given the message to abort the bombing. He flew the 20 mile journey in just 20 minutes and arrived just as the American bombers were about to take off. His actions saved a whole infantry brigade.

Altogether 32 pigeons were awarded the Dickin Medal, including Duke of Normandy who won his medal "For being the first bird to arrive with a message from Para troops of 21st Army Group behind enemy lines on D Day 6th June 1944".

Although they are now regarded as a bit of a pest we should remember that these brave birds saved thousands of lives in the two World Wars and were true military heroes.

Roads and Transport update

7.5 tonne Weight Restrictions: The weight restrictions signs have finally gone up on the Oakley Green Road but, sadly, we are seeing flagrant abuse of the new regulations with heavy vehicles ignoring the signs and continuing to use this route. Now that the Covid -19 restrictions have slightly relaxed we have been able to organise a lorry watch and the first one took place on 1 July. We had teams at two locations, John Train's entrance and outside the Braywood Hall, and over two hours recorded errant vehicles. We will now contact the hauliers and remind them of the restrictions. The residents of Fifield Road will not be surprised to learn that we also recorded several lorries using that road too and crossing towards the Drift Road. Many local residents have offered to do their own lorry watches at times to suit them and then report back to us. Obviously, the more information we get the better and we will gradually identify the worst offenders and report them to Trading Standards. Lorry Watch forms are now available on our website.

Speed Limit Reductions: A big disappointment is that the Police have refused to support the reduction in speed limit on the Oakley Green Road to 30mph and therefore this has not been implemented. We intend to challenge this decision. We have also asked for a reduction in the speed limit on the northern end of the Fifield Road where it is national speed limit. We intend to conduct a series of speed watches in both areas to gather yet more evidence that these reductions in speed are necessary.

16A Bus: In the last newsletter we were answering concerns from residents that the local bus service was under threat. Thank you to all those who responded to our appeal for information on bus use. We have made enquires and can find no evidence to suggest that the service is in jeopardy. The current agreement with RBWM lasts until 2022 so there should be no changes until the license is up for renewal.

You may be interested to know that the Parish have instigated air quality monitors in various locations around the Parish. The first two months data has been collected but further surveys will be postponed until traffic movements have returned to a more normal level.

Finally, the Bray Parish Council will be launching a survey in their next newsletter to ask for your views on traffic in the Parish and how it affects you. We urge you to take the time to complete this survey. As with anything, it is so important to have concrete evidence when arguing for any money to be spent on improvements in infrastructure.

Art Classes return

It has been a long wait to get the Art Classes running again but from 20 July they will be back on which is great news after 17 weeks of isolation.

The hall has been thoroughly cleaned and sanitised. On returning, to conform with the rules and regulations, I have six classes running instead of three because of the 2 metre rule and all students have to wear face masks and disposable gloves. Nevertheless all of the students cannot wait to get back into class again. While we have been on lockdown some have kept busy by going outdoors painting and sketching on Holyport Green which has been a welcome retreat and kept us busy.

All classes are full at the moment but when things return to normal anyone wishing to join us will be able to.

I hope to have another exhibition later in the year so look out for more information in the next newsletter.

Bill Collier

Summer Hanging Baskets brighten up the villages

OGAFCA have been granted funding from Bray Parish Council towards summer hanging baskets for the villages which are now up and would like to thank residents who have kindly volunteered to keep the baskets watered.

Dates for your Dairy 2020

- Sunday August 9 Fifield Fun Day POSTPONED till August 2021
- Wednesday August 19 Deadline for return to Secretary of OGAFCA Director Candidate Nomination Forms available on the website.
- Saturday August 29 to 31 OGAFCA Fun Scarecrow Festival
- Thursday September 17 OGAFCA Annual General Meeting on Zoom 7.30pm - invitations will be sent to members with Agenda
- Monday September 21 Editor's Deadline for Autumn Newsletter

Send your comments on any issue relating to our community via OGAFCAP.co.uk or by post to the address on the inside front cover