

Issue 882 • May 1st to May 14th • 2024



What's On in the New Forest & Hampshire

Take a look at what's on in the New Forest for unforgettable experiences, whether you are a local or have friends and family coming to visit, plan ahead and book tickets to fantastic New Forest events. Food festivals, country shows, live music and local food markets are just some of the great events that happen in the New Forest every year.

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Go New Forest is a not-for-profit Community Interest Company (CIC) which delivers marketing and promotional support for the New Forest destination. Our area of interest is the New Forest District Council (NFDC) boundary, including the New Forest National Park.

Visit https://www.thenewforest.co.uk/whats-on/for more information

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planning*issues*

EDITOR

We want to hear from you!

In the last Issue we outlined the exciting plans we had for the Ringwood and Fordingbridge News. At the time of writing we had no idea that our printers were having technical difficulties, which meant the newspaper had to be printed on different quality paper. In hindsight this was a twisted piece of fate, as it allowed us to get feedback on a change we had been considering.

As tends to be the case, we have had mixed reviews. Some people loved the clarity and clearness of the last issue, saying it was easier to read and navigate. Others thought the paper no longer felt like a newspaper.

We want to hear from you - what were your views and opinions on the last issue? Which paper quality do you prefer? Email in and let us have your thoughts.

Another local gem that has recently reinvented itself is Cena Italian. Previously V & Gs, the reputation of this local restaurant is already well established. Having recently undergone a facelift, the interior is modern and welcoming, with the same impecable hospitality that V & Gs was renowned for.



We were looked after by Billie and his team, who ensured that we had everything we needed throughout the evening. The food was simply outstanding.

This May bank holiday why don't you take the time to remind yourselves of those hidden local gems. Our top tip, definitely take a trip to Cena Italian for authentic Italian Cuisine in a friendly, modern atmosphere..... after your pre-drinks at Framptons Bar!

Darren and Naomi

RINGWOOD & FORDINGBRIDGE NEWS

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Ringwood Junior School celebrated World Book Day

Ringwood Junior School celebrated World Book Day on 7th March and children and staff embraced the opportunity to celebrate the magic of books.

Walking through the school gates was 'Emmeline Pankhurst', 'Gangsta Granny', 'Marcus Rashford, 'Beth Mead', 'Esme Higgs, a 'Twitcher, a 'soldier, an 'Oompa Loompa', 'Tom Gates', 'Lottie Brooks' and many more wonderful book characters. Year 3 staff acknowledged, 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarves', Year 4 staff recognised characters from Roald Dahl stories, Year 5 staff dressed as charac-



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ters from, 'Alice in Wonderland' and Year 6 paid homage to, 'Peter Pan'.

The children brought their books in to school and they spent time in class sharing these as well as staff also sharing their favourite books.

Staff at Ringwood Junior School also organised 'The Masked Reader' for children and parents to enjoy.

Efforts were celebrated in a special assembly. Mrs Evans, Headteacher, and Mrs Dallyn, Library Leader commented 'World Book Day continues to develop childrens' enthusiasm and enjoyment for reading which extends beyond the classroom, encouraging the development of positive reading habits.'





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Ringwood HGS May talk

Ringwood branch of the Hampshire Genealogical society are now starting their 2024 summer program of talks in Ringwood Meeting House.

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 7pm. The first talk on 15th May is by David Beardsley entitled Four Centuries of Stories from the Bankes/Kingston Lacey archives. When the National Trust was bequeathed the property in 1981 the archives were transferred to Dorchester Record Office. David has selected 10 items from the archives that are of interest and it includes a letter written by Charles 1. It should be a very interesting evening and visitors are always made welcome.



Happy 100th Birthday Violet

We were delighted to have celebrated Violet Waterman's 100th **Birthday at Oak Mount** Care Home in Poulner.

Violet, who has lived at Oak Mount Care Home for over 7 years, had two parties in the home.

On Saturday Violet had Champagne and nibbles with her family and

friends, organised by her loving son Tony.

On Monday we had a rip - roaring sing - a - long with the other residents and staff, a fantastic

time was had by all, especially Violet who had enjoyed getting a birthday card from the King and was looking forward to being in the local newspaper.



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Understanding Investments – Saving Tax Through Pension Contributions

Pensions is not a word which excites most people! However, I urge you to spend 5 minutes of your time reading the following brief article as pensions can provide extremely effective, tax-efficient investment opportunities. Pensions are also relevant for more people than you might initially think.

The introduction of auto-enrolment has resulted in more people saving towards their retirement through a pension than ever before. A very good outcome for consumers! But it's the tax saving opportunities pensions can offer which I would like to focus on, and I have highlighted some examples below to illustrate.

Employees, Self-Employed and Company Directors:

Each can personally contribute 100% of their relevant UK earnings into their pension (or £3,600 gross if no earnings) and these contributions will attract tax relief. The annual allowance limit of £60,000 (which includes both employee and employer contributions for an individual) should also be considered, which can be tapered back to as little as £10,000 for high earners. Tax relief is available at a person's highest marginal rate i.e. anything between 20% and 45% (even non-taxpayers receive 20% tax relief on contributions to pensions operating 'relief at source' such as personal pensions).

"Carry-Forward" may be available for the previous 3 tax years if the individual had a pension plan in place in those years. To utilise this, the current tax year's annual allowance must be fully used and then it is possible to go back 3 tax years to utilise any unused allowances.

Companies can also contribute to a pension plan on behalf of their employees/directors, and the company's contribution is added to personal contributions when considering the annual allowance.

Many of my employed clients aim to avoid paying higher or additional rate tax on their salary and bonus. Pension contributions can assist in enabling them to mitigate these tax liabilities. The rate at which additional rate tax is applied was reduced to $\pm 125,140$ in April 2023 so this has become even more important.

The reduction and loss of a personal tax free allowance with income over £100,000 and Child Benefit Tax Charge for income over £60,000 can also be mitigated through pension contributions.

Company directors and their accountants often seek my advice on how to draw profits from their business tax-efficiently. Pension contributions are classed as a business expense so, if an employer's pension contribution is made instead of a dividend payment to the director, this can usually save them both corporation tax on the company profits and personal dividend tax on the contribution.

Retirees and Family Contributions:

Even people who don't work can benefit from tax relief on pension contributions up to $\pm 2,880$ per annum as the government top this up to $\pm 3,600$. That's a 25% return on the original $\pm 2,880$ from the tax relief alone!

Many of my older clients help their adult children and grandchildren save for retirement, especially if they have surplus income and/or capital.

Pension contributions made by a third party may still qualify for tax-relief at the recipient's highest marginal rate. For example, an adult child may be a higher rate tax- payer and a pension contribution paid by their parent (who may not pay tax or only pay basic rate tax) could qualify for relief at the higher rate. This can also be effective from an inheritance tax perspective as the pension contribution is classed as a lifetime gift. This is subject to the recipient having relevant earnings and not already using their full annual allowance.

There is no denying pension legislation is complicated, and the devil is in the detail. The examples above are broad and are not meant as financial advice.

If you'd like to learn more or discuss your personal situation, we would be delighted to meet for a free, no obligation initial chat. Howard Goodship is an Independent Financial Adviser with Lonsdale Wealth Management, 5 Friday's Court, Ringwood Tel: 01425 208490 www.lonsdaleservices.co.uk

A pension is a long-term investment not normally accessible until age 55 (57 from April 2028 unless the plan has a protected pension age). The value of your investments (and any income from them) can go down as well as up which would have an impact on the level of pension benefits available. Your pension income could also be affected by the interest rates at the time you take your benefits.

The tax implications of pension withdrawals will be based on your individual circumstances, tax legislation and regulation which are subject to change. You should seek advice to understand your options at retirement.



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The Rugby Family and Our Community has lost a legend

It's with deep sadness that we write that Steve Benson, passed away on Sunday 14th April in Bournemouth hospital with his wife Marian by his side. He will be missed by many at both Ellingham & Ringwood RFC and at Hampshire RFU along with many clubs in Hampshire.

Steve started to become involved in Rugby at the age of 18 and quickly fell in love with not only the game, but also the positive impact it had on people's lives. He moved down to the south coast from Hertfordshire in the late 70s and became a member of Ellingham and Ringwood rugby club in Hampshire. He played for the club for many years but decided that he wanted to give something back to the game and became a referee for several years reaching the national panel and refereeing all over the country at various levels. His highlights were refereeing a very young Jonny Wilkinson and refereeing some Premiership A fixtures in his prime.

Steve took many roles at Ellingham including secretary and he also played a leading role in developing the club's mini and junior section. He went on to be chairman of the club for eight years and played a leading role in the development of the club's new ground and clubhouse at Parsonage Barn Lane, a project that took over ten years to complete and for which he was awarded the Torch Trophy Trust annual award that was presented by Prince Edward at the Army and Navy Club in London. As a result, Steve got involved in the Hampshire RFU, supporting other clubs to improve their facilities and over the last couple of years, he chaired the Hampshire RFU Club Development Committee, while also being President at the Ellingham club.

Through his involvement in the mini and junior section, Steve became more involved in coaching and passed his various qualifications. Probably Steve's greatest coaching success was with the Ellingham girls' team that included his daughter Charlotte along with future internationals Bryony and Poppy Cleall, Lisa Cockburn and Donna Rose. As well as achieving huge success, the team had a



tremendous amount of fun and the end of season tours were legendary.

Steve's last game of rugby for the club was on Friday 8 April 2022 at the age of 64 in a 3rd XV floodlit league fixture against Weymouth's 2nd XV. Ellingham won 40-31 and he played alongside his son Henry and other players he'd coached as juniors. It was a great night, but his one regret was he didn't know it was his last game. He fully expected to be back playing the following September, but his health problems put paid to his ambition to play until he was 70.

Steve's funeral will be on Thursday 16th May at 12:30pm. The funeral will be held at Harbour View Crematorium in Lytchett and the wake will be at Ellingham and Ringwood Rugby club from around 3pm.

It was his wish to have any donations go towards a new Rugby Club Kitchen. Family flowers only.

The dress code will be anything but black, and we encourage anybody affiliated with a sports/rugby club to wear their club colours, ties or blazers.



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Titanic Day at Fordingbridge Junior School

Year 4 pupils from Fordingbridge Junior School were transported back in time during their Titanic Day on the 18th April.

All came to school in authentic costume and were met by the Captain who duly stamped their tickets and assigned them to their designated quarters. From the decadence of First Class to the bowels of the Titanic in Third, it was a truly memorable start to this immersive day.

Much was experienced, from deciding what to pack for the voyage (in their one suitcase) to choosing from their respective menus. The afternoon found the children sampling the 'Grilled Hams' from First Class, Scones from Second Class and Oatmeal Porridge from Third! Games such as skittles and draughts, both of which were played by passengers on the Titanic, were also enjoyed by the children.

Thank you to all parents and carers for providing the wonderful costumes and helping to bring history to life!









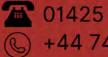


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Ringwood ECO Fair 2024: Embracing Small Sustainable Steps

Ringwood Actions for Climate Emergency (RACE) is proud to announce the return of the Ringwood ECO Fair, taking place on Saturday, 11th May, from 10am to 3:30pm at the Furlong Shopping Centre and outside the Gateway Building. Now in its 4th year, this eagerly anticipated event promises a day filled with education, engagement and eco-friendly fun for all ages.

This year's theme, "Small Sustainable Steps," underscores the importance of individual actions in creating a greener future for our planet. From the youngest members of our community to seasoned environmental enthusiasts, everyone is invited to explore ways to minimise waste, promote recycling and champion tree planting initiatives.

Attendees can look forward to:

- Engaging with local and national conservation organisations
- Discovering sustainable products from eco-conscious businesses
- Participating in interactive activities and workshops
- Enjoying a clothes swap of pre-loved garments at the Ringwood Meeting House starting at 2pm

• Supporting local shops and cafes while perusing hand-picked stalls offering sea glass jewellery, honey, beeswax candles, organic seeds, plastic-free household goods and more.

As a special incentive, RACE will be giving away 50 dwarf fruit trees (first come, first served) to those who pledge to embrace sustainability. These trees will find a new home in the gardens



of Ringwood, contributing to a greener landscape for future generations.

Mary DeBoos, representing RACE, expresses her enthusiasm for the event, stating, "We are thrilled by the overwhelming interest in this year's ECO Fair. With a waiting list for stalls, it's clear that our community is passionate about sustainability. Join us to be inspired, exchange ideas and take home practical steps towards a more ecoconscious lifestyle."

The Ringwood ECO Fair promises something for everyone, from sampling vegetarian and vegan cuisine to learning about local wildlife and crafting nature-based art. Additionally, attendees can gain insights from organisations such as the New Forest National Park Authority, Hampshire Swifts, the New Forest Butterfly Conservation Group and Ringwood Natural History Society.

For more information, www.raceagainsttime.org.uk



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Reviewing Staff Benefits: Enhancing Workplace Well-being

In today's competitive job market, offering attractive staff benefits is crucial for retaining top talent and fostering a positive workplace culture. As businesses evolve, it's essential to periodically review and update these benefits to meet the changing needs and expectations of employees.

A recent survey revealed that employees highly value benefits like flexible working hours, healthcare coverage, and professional development opportunities. Companies that offer these benefits not only attract skilled professionals but also promote employee satisfaction and loyalty.

Moreover, introducing new benefits, such as mental health support or parental leave policies, can address emerging societal issues and demonstrate a company's commitment to employee well-being. Regularly reviewing staff benefits ensures that they remain relevant and impactful, contributing to a motivated and engaged workforce.

In conclusion, a comprehensive review of staff benefits is an investment in both employees' well-being and the company's success. By listening to employee feedback and adapting to changing circumstances, businesses can create a supportive talk2us@aspirejobs.co.uk



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Ringwood care home resident's secret to reaching 107 is being vegetarian

A Ringwood care home resident has credited being a lifelong vegetarian as the reason why she has celebrated her 107th birthday.

Nin, who lives at St Ives House in Ashley Heath, received a visit from the Deputy Mayor of Ringwood, ClIr Rae Frederick, and Simon Bird, Chief Executive of Care South, on her birthday on Thursday 11 April. She then went out for a pub lunch with her friends from the care home, her daughter, Jane, and son-in-law, Eric, followed by tea and birthday cake back at the care home.

Nin received bouquets of flowers and a range of cards to decorate her room. These included a card from King Charles and Queen Camilla which can be added to her collection of cards received from the King and his late mother, Queen Elizabeth II, on Nin's 100th, 105th, and 106th birthdays.

Nin says that the secret to reaching 107 is that she has been vegetarian all her life. She said: "I have never eaten meat. It's not so much that I don't like it. It's more that I have never tried it."

Speaking about her big birthday, Nin said: "Everybody has been so wonderful to me. When I woke up in the morning, I remembered that it was going to be a special day for me."

Cllr Rae Frederick, Deputy Mayor of Ringwood, was thrilled to visit Nin on her birthday to wish her well. She brought a card and bouquet of orange tulips with her, which reminded Nin of a bridesmaid's bouquet she had as a child.

Rae said: "It was incredible to see how happy and relaxed Nin was and to see how well the staff know her at St Ives House. It was a real honour to meet Nin on her 107 birthday."

Emma Cotton, Home Manager at St Ives House, said: "We are so pleased that we could ensure that Nin had a special 107 birthday. She is loved by the whole team





at the care home. At Care South, we love getting to know the individual likes and dislikes of the residents in our care and so it was great to help our oldest resident enjoy her birthday surrounded by family and friends."

St Ives House care home, which is run by not-for-profit charity, Care South, provides specialist residential, respite, and dementia care. The care home features individual rooms for residents which benefit from communal lounges overlooking a landscaped garden and patio area. The care home has a dedicated in-house activities team who organise a daily programme of events to bring residents together to socialise and build friendships.

Care South is the leading provider of high quality residential and home care services across the south of England. Care South has care homes in Dorset, north Devon, Somerset and West Sussex, and home care offices covering east and west Dorset, and northeast Somerset and south Somerset.

For more information about the care services available, go to care-south.co.uk or call Care South on 01202 712410.

Ringwood & District Tangent Club Donate £750

Gill Russell, the Chairman of Ringwood & District Tangent Club, was very pleased to present a cheque for £750 to the Green Cottage Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) on 22 February. The Ringwood Tangent Club, with over 60 members from Ringwood and surrounding areas including Verwood, Wimborne, Christchurch, Fordingbridge & Alderholt, and Bournemouth, wrecently organised a 'posh frocks & hats' Lunch for 156 ladies from 52 Tangent Clubs across the South West. Many local food and drink businesses were very generous in donating prizes for the raffle held during the lunch, which made an astounding £1500. The Tangent Club have shared this between the Clubs' National President's charity Myeloma UK, and our local Green Cottage Riding for the Disabled Association. Green Cottage RDA, based at Three-Legged Cross, provide riding lessons for children with a variety of special needs and disabilities such as cerebral palsy, downs syndrome, autism, ADHD, and many other complex learning and development disorders. Debbie Turner, RDA Group Coach, said that the cheque will do so much to help Green Cottage RDA meet their running costs, which amount to approx. £8,000 every year.



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Care South is a **not-for-profit charity**. Registered Charity No. 1014697. * Correct at time of print.

November 2023

Care South, a not-for-profit charity and leading provider of residential, dementia, nursing, assisted living and care at home across the south of England

SMALL ADS

BEREAVEMENT NOTICE

SANGER Anthony Frederick

With great sadness we announce the peaceful passing of Tony Sanger, aged 84.

He died at home on April 10th where he was being cared for by his devoted wife, Pat.

He will be greatly missed by all his family.

The funeral service is being held at Test Valley next Thursday and arranged by Tappers in Ringwood. Donations to Cancer Research UK or the RSPB are being arranged by them.

HAMMERTON Lin

Sadly passed away at the Woodside Lodge Care Home, Bransgore on 6th April 2024, aged 70 years.

A loving wife to Allen, step-mother to Tracey and Julia, granny to Tom and Will, Sister of Pat and the late Brian, sister-in-law to Sandra and auntie to Luke and Laura.

She will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

Funeral Service at St. John The Baptist Church, Burley on Friday 3rd May at 1:30pm.

Please wear something pink and if you have a classic car, it would be welcome.

Family flowers only please, donations in memory of Lin are for the Alzheimer's Society and may be sent to W. Smith & Sons, Funeral Directors, 3A Runnymead Parade, Ringwood Road, Bransgore, Nr. Christchurch, BH23 8NJ. Tel: 01425 674595



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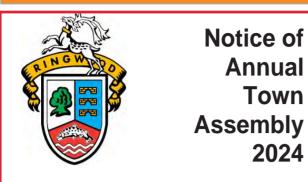
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WHATS ON



THE TOWN OF RINGWOOD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Town Assembly will be held at Ringwood Gateway, The Furlong, Ringwood BH24 1AT, on **Wednesday** 15th May 2024 at 7pm.

AGENDA

- 1. To approve the Minutes of the last Annual Town Assembly held on 31st May 2023
- 2. Matters arising from the Minutes
- 3. Presentation of Community Awards
- 4. To receive the Annual Report of the Town Mayor
- 5. To receive the reports of Town Council Committee Chairpersons
- To receive a verbal report from Cllr J. Heron upon the financial status of the Ringwood United Charities
- 7. To receive a presentation on Ringwood Neighbourhood Plan
- To consider any other item of business by permission of the Town Mayor, Cllr Gareth Deboos

ALL ELECTORS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND



Noor Inayat Khan Indian princess, SOE operative and WWII spy



An illustrated presentation by Nick Saunders, Milton Heritage Society

Date: Friday, 10 May 2024 Time: 7.30 pm Place: Greyfriars Community Centre Christchurch Rd, Ringwood BH24 1DW Visitors: £5 at the door Wine: £2.50 per glass

> Enquiries to Hon Sec: Penny Buckley Tel: 07985-004830 Or ringwoodfrenchcircle@gmail.com https://ringwood-cercle.weebly.com/

Historical Highlights of Ringwood

In a new course at Greyfriars starting on Tuesday May 14th, local historian Mary Baldwin will be tracing how Ringwood has developed over the centuries.

Discover the history of Ringwood's manor, market, industries, transport and some of its buildings, both religious and secular. Join her to learn more about the gradual evolution of our town. Starts on Tuesday 14th May 10.30 - 12.30 for five weeks. Cost £40 for the course. To register, contact Greyfriars Reception 01425 472613 or email office@greyfriarsringwood.org.uk

Greyfriars Study Group

HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS OF RINGWOOD

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What's on in May!

3rd May 7pm Tickets are still available for our fundraising concert with The Flamin Ukes. Come and join us for a night of great music, fun and a singalong. Tickets are £10. A bar is available but bring your own nibbles!

10th and 17th May 10-12pm "Things that you might not know about the New Forest"" a talk by Alistair Duncan. Tickets are just £8 with coffee included.

10th May 7:30pm Cercle Amical present a talk about Noor Inayat Khan known as the Indian Princess who was a WW2 Spy. Tickets are £5 on the door. This friendly and welcoming group have some fantastic speakers throughout the year. **11th May** 10-12pm 2nd Saturday of the month, Ringwood Repair Café. Bring along your broken items for our volunteers to repair, saving these items from landfill. Or just drop in for a tea or coffee.

14th May 10.30-12.30pm Local historian Mary Baldwin presents Historical Highlights of Ringwood. Beginning on the 14th May for five weeks, join Mary to discover more about the gradual evolution of our town over the centuries. £40 for the course bookable at Greyfriars reception. 21st May10-12pm Watercolour Workshop. Come and paint the iconic sunflower with Cathy Morris. 10-12pm £22.50. Book on at www.thepaintboxarts.com.

28th May Art Workshop with The Makery- check out the Facebook page to book on. Also coming soon!

6th June Ringwood DD day 80th Anniversary Commemorations. Ringwood and Burley Band will be performing prior to the lighting of the beacon in the Memorial Gardens at 9:15 and as part of the commemorations you are invited to bring your



Big Bug Hunt - Friday 31st May 1pm to 3pm Jack Wright Field, Crow Hill

For more information visit www.raceagainsttime.org.uk



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