

Ringwood & Fordingbridge NEWS



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Issue 896 • November 13th to November 26th • 2024

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RINGWOOD COMMUNITY HUB - NOW OPEN



Ringwood Community Hub (Long Lane in Kingston, Ringwood) held an opening event for their two-storey pavilion with changing rooms, offices and a club house. A 3G Artificial Turf Pitch opened for football training in February 2023. Full story and upcoming FIXTURES on page 14

INSIDE

- Page 10 - Health & Beauty
- Page 14/15 - Sport (Football & Judo)
- Page 18-19 - Whats On
- Page 22 - History
- Page 26 - Small Ads
- Page 30 - Puzzle Page

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EDITOR

Baby, Its Dark Outside...

It's that time of year again. The clocks have fallen backwards and the dark nights are setting in. For many, this time of year can be a struggle. Here are some things to try to help the transition into winter go smoothly.

Sync with natural light: Prioritise getting outside or near to a bright window in the morning. This can help regulate your body's internal clock, stabilising your mood and improving alertness throughout the day.

Adapt your sleep routine: As the days grow shorter our bodies naturally crave more rest, making it a great time to look at your sleep habits. Go to bed and wake up at the same time each day, even on weekends, to maintain a consistent schedule.

Use indoor light to your advantage: Our bodies are sensitive to light levels, and during winter many people struggle with energy dips due to reduced sunlight. Light therapy oxes, which simulate natural sunlight, are popular for combating winter's

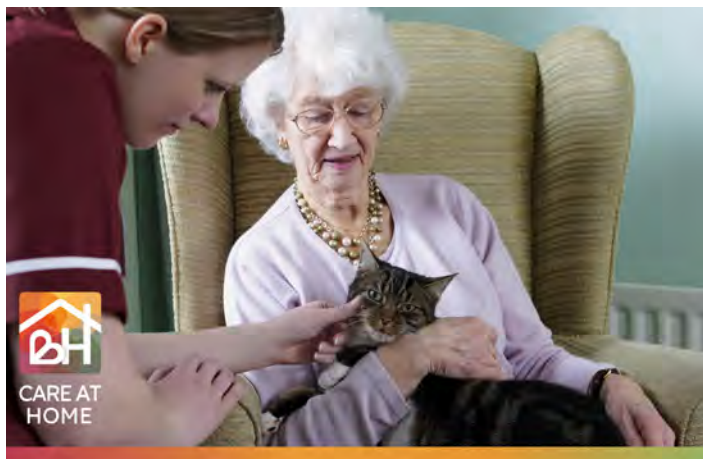
shorter days.

Keep moving, even in the cold: Physical activity is crucial for maintaining mood and energy, particularly as the winter darkness sets in. Although it may be tempting to stay indoors, even brief outdoor walks can improve your mood.

With small changes, we can harness this seasonabl shift to refocus, helping to get through the winter season.



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Publishers:

Darren & Naomi Loose

Advertising:

Rae Frederick
07970 831881
sales@rfnews.uk

Editorial

editor@rfnews.uk

Telephone:

01425 563111

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HAVE AN EVENT COMING UP

All non profit making community events can be advertised here FREE OF CHARGE. Please email your article to editor@rfnews.uk

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NEWS

3rd RINGWOOD SCOUT GROUP CELEBRATES 70 YEARS OF SCOUTING

This is a great milestone for 3rd Ringwood to have achieved so on the 25th August we had a family afternoon with lots of scouting activities, picnic and a special 70th Anniversary celebration cake and badge at Harry's Island Scout Campsite near Burley. What a joyous way to spend an afternoon, who knew that so many activities could be shared with children and parents and give pleasure to all those visitors helping us celebrate.

We had activities including archery, tomahawk throwing, go cart racing/rides, inflatable obstacle course, water slide and just the freedom to run about safely.

3rd Ringwood has always been a popular group, who many will



recognise attending the Remembrance Day service in their uniforms, doing litter picking after the carnival and helping set up and clear after the Ellingham Show. In this our 70th year we are also excited to have opened a Squirrel Drey for 4 -6 year old children, some of whom were able to join in on Sunday, with the help of their parents, who could see what fun they are going to have in Scouting.

As is said Scouting sets you up for life and seeing ages from four to eighty proves this.

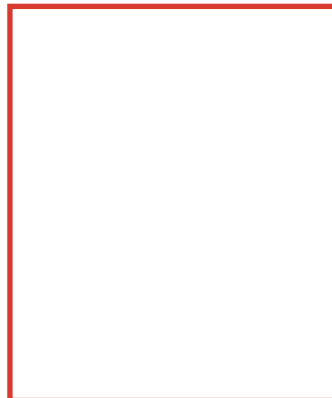


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Operation: 'Meeting House'

Ringwood Meeting House, the place where 'People meet People' located in the heart of our busy little town. A happy band of hardworking volunteers and Trustees ensure the building is well maintained and open to the public daily.

Bryan Thurston is the Operations Manager overseeing the efficient, daily running of the Meeting House. A varied career preceded his appointment here.

An accredited aircraft engineer on the BAC 1-11 at Hurn, he then transferred to BAC Filton to work on the English prototype Concorde (002), then moved to Bavaria Airlines in Munich, doing frontline pre and post flight inspections on the commercial passenger fleet of 6 BAC 1-11's.

Back in the UK, Bryan's engineering skills enabled a transition into garden machinery service & sales, working for J T Lowes at Longham (owned by Flymo Ltd) where he eventually advanced to become a Flymo Area Sales Manager.

Bryan says his 'methodical' skill set has enabled him to embrace the variety of tasks for which he is responsible: liaison with Utility companies and maintenance contracts, rotas for our volunteer workforce, organisation of concerts, social media publicity, purchaser of kitchen supplies, and overseeing the continuing digitalisation program of the History archives section.

Above all Bryan feels his most important role is to meet and greet visitors. A personal warm welcome and assistance, with an eagerness to promote the unique features that the Meeting House offers.

Can you spare 2 hours a week? If you have the interest and skills to help in our café or with digitalising archives, we would love to hear from you. Please contact the Meeting House Operations Manager, Bryan Thurston on 01425 480656



Ringwood Meeting House
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NEWS

Changes at Ringwood Foodbank

In 2023/24 our distribution centres in Ringwood, Fordingbridge and Verwood provided a total of 42,000 meals to those in need in our communities demonstrating the continuing need for our services. We wanted to let our communities know about some changes in the way we operate.

Our Ringwood distribution centre has now moved to the Greyfriars activity centre where, as well as our food distribution area, we have a comfortable area for clients to enjoy a hot drink and a chat. Citizens Advice Financial Inclusion workers are now present at each session to help our clients and from November Hammer-sley Homes, a local mental health charity, will be operating a drop in session each Wednesday. We are also offering space for drop in facilities to other charities and organisations who share our objective of alleviating poverty. Details of opening hours can be found on our website Ringwood.foodbank.org.uk

Unfortunately our Fordingbridge distribution centre is having to leave the United Reform Church hall, where we currently operate from, by 31st December as the Church is closing. We are urgently looking for new premises to run the Fordingbridge distribution centre from, ideally close to the centre of the town. Please let us know if you can help.

Ringwood Foodbank has now changed its charitable status to that of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. We are still registered with the Charity Commission and there will be little or no impact on our day to day operation. However one consequence of this move is that we have had to change our bank accounts. We have tried to contact all our regular financial donors to advise them of the change but have been unable to contact all. If you would like to continue or indeed start making financial donations to Ringwood Foodbank please contact our Treasurer, Jonathan, at



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finance@ringwood.foodbank.org.uk for details. Ringwood Foodbank, although an independent charity, is affiliated to Trussell, previously Trussell Trust. Trussell are going through a rebranding exercise and we are following suit. Our new logo can be seen at the top of this article. Thank you to all those who continue to support Ringwood Foodbank through your donation of food, money or time.

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NEWS

Understanding Investments: Key Areas of Change post Budget 2024

There was an unusually long gap between election day and budget day with many rumours and much speculation bordering on hysteria. Now we can move onto facts (or facts as we know them, since measures may well change before they become effective).

For the sake of brevity, I won't cover changes which only affect a small number of people, nor things that weren't changed. Instead I will focus on three changes which may affect a large number of people in regard to their personal financial planning.

1: Pensions and Inheritance Tax (IHT)

There were strong rumours that we could see a change to the tax treatment of pension death benefits and this has materialized. From April 2027, most pension death benefits will be included in the estate for IHT purposes.

This will require careful financial planning to work out the most tax-efficient way to release income in retirement, considering all tax wrappers available. However there is now a consultation period during which the practicalities and processes of how to implement this change will be considered. It is important to wait for the outcome of the consultation so that all the details are clear before making significant changes to existing plans. This will include clarity on the tax treatment for beneficiaries and whether the current change to their treatment on death post age 75 will continue (income drawn from the pension as beneficiary draw-down is currently tax-free if the pension holder dies pre age 75 or is taxed as income at the beneficiaries tax rate if the pension holder dies post age 75). If death benefits are subject to IHT at any age, there is the risk of double-taxation post age 75.

2: Capital Gains Tax (CGT)

Capital gains tax rates increased on 31st October 2024 to 18% for basic rate taxpayers and 24% for higher rate and additional rate taxpayers, up from 10% and 20% respectively. There is no change to CGT rates on residential property, which continue to be taxed at 18% and 24%. There is no change to the CGT annual exemption of £3,000 for individuals and £1,500 for trusts.

For many years CGT rates have been attractive compared to income tax rates. In addition there were generous annual exemptions which have been reduced during the past 2 years from £12,000 for individuals and £6,000 for trusts to the current levels notes above. This resulted in clients often investing in General Investment Accounts (GIAs) once they had fully utilized their tax-efficient wrappers such as ISAs and pensions. Due to the now increased CGT rates and reduced annual exemptions, it will be important that clients review the different tax wrappers available for their investments that sit outside of their ISAs and pensions. This may include consideration of onshore and offshore bond wrappers.

3: ISAs and the proposed "British ISA"

There are no changes to the current ISA subscription limits and no cap on accumulated ISA savings. The "British ISA" proposed at the last budget will not go ahead.

Financial planning can be complex and it is important that you are able to keep up to date with legislation and keep your investment strategies under review. This can take time and requires resources not always easily available. This is why clients work with financial advisers such as ourselves.

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

Pensions are a long-term investment not normally accessible until age 55 (57 from April 2028). 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. The tax implications of pension saving and withdrawal will be based on your individual circumstances, tax legislation and regulation which are subject to change.

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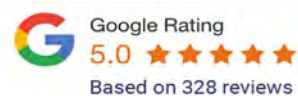
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NEWS

Friends of Fordingbridge Surgery



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On Friday 18th October 2024

FoFS held their very first Quiz Night at St Mary's Hall, Fordingbridge. Eighty two people made up fifteen teams of quizzers.

Cheese and ham ploughman's suppers were served during the interval.

The winners were team Alfred and team The Bean Sprouts who tied for 1st place. After a tie break question The Bean Sprouts were the overall winners. 2nd place was The Over the Hill Gang and 3rd The Flu Fighters. The Quizerables won the prize for the unusual team name.

Our thanks go to all those who supported us at this event. The evening raised a fantastic £719.25, so thank you. Money raised goes to support the Surgery with equipment and services not provided by the NHS.



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NEWS

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Homeless Appeal 2024

'The collection of ladies' and gents' warm clothing plus foodstuffs and toiletries, on behalf of the Danny Cracknell Homeless at Christmas Appeal 2024, continues to gather pace.



The collection point is Grants of Ringwood's office in the Furlong Centre, Ringwood (01425) 480456 and will continue until Wednesday 11th December'

Many thanks for your continual support and generosity'



SEE PAGE 30 FOR OUR NEW PUZZLES PAGE

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SPORT & NEWS

Ringwood Community Hub Launch

It was a day for celebration last Friday (1st Nov) with the formal launch of the “Ringwood Community Hub” at Long Lane, Ringwood.

Young players from Ringwood Town FC and enthusiastic “walking footballers” from the Club’s site partners AFCB CST showed their enjoyment of playing football on the 3G Artificial Turf Pitch before joining guests in the new pavilion for the formal opening ceremony.

Past and present members from the Club mingled with town councillors and NFDC councillors and representatives from local

company Knights Brown, the main contractor for the project. Rae Frederick, Town Mayor and Chair of the Council, and Jill Cleary, Leader of NFDC, both spoke highly of the “amazing facilities” available for the community.

In his speech Phil King, Chair RTFC, said “Throughout its long history the club has always been dedicated to providing organised football for the youth of the town and engaging with the wider community ... we can now offer a fantastic environment for everyone to enjoy their football and for that amazing community spirit to continue.”

Steve Cuss, Head of AFCB Community Sports Trust, was joined by Jeff Mostyn Community Sports Trust Ambassador, said “We now look forward to maximising the investment and usage of the site by the local Ringwood population through community engagement projects.”



The Story of 50 Years of the Ringwood Judo Club in Greyfriars

In the summer of 1974 Gillian Habbin, the then Warden of Greyfriars, approached Keith Adams asking if he was prepared to start a Judo Class for children.

There had been a Junior Judo Class in Greyfriars in the early 1960's but this had long since folded so that in 1974 the only Judo in Ringwood was in a further education evening class in the Ringwood Secondary School. Keith agreed. The mats (tatami) from the 1960's had been stored and were now utilised to make a tatami in the Small Hall. The class was a success even though many of the children were the sons/daughters/acquaintances etc. of the adult players in the further education class. Very soon after, probably in the summer of 1975, the further education class closed, and most of the players, who were known as The Ringwood Judo Club moved to Greyfriars, and so Greyfriars became the home of the Ringwood Judo Club.

In January 1977 the Greyfriars Hall (which incorporated The Small Hall) was opened. Additional mats, canvas, and frame were purchased to make a County competition sized mat area. The Club membership expanded and its players became a force to be reckoned with in County and Area competitions with some members both junior and senior becoming members of County and Southern Area Judo Squads and winning medals at all levels of competitions including National Championships.

It was during this time that the Hampshire Judo League was formed and the clubs Ladies and Girls Teams were undefeated during the whole of the league's existence. The Men and Boys could however only manage runners-up in their respective leagues.

In 1978 the club joined with the Matsumachi Judo Club of Christchurch in a twinning arrangement with the Honfleur and Deauville Judo Clubs of France. Several exchanges were made over the next few years and many friendships were made, some of which exist today.



It was in the 1970's and 1980's that the club entered floats in the Ringwood Carnival as a way of advertising its activities. Ground-work predominated but some throws were carried out when the procession was at times stationary.

In October 1992 the Club moved into the new Activities Centre. Ray Stephans Olympic Judo Silver Medalist came to formally welcome the Club into its new home where it still meets every Monday and Wednesday evenings, with Junior being 6.30pm till 8pm and the Adult Class 8pm 'till 9.30pm. Additional modern tatami and crash mats have been purchased giving the Club a very large mat area. The Club is now able to host the Hampshire Randori (free practice) Sessions when adult players from many clubs come to practice.

Keith retired from Judo in 2020 and several British Judo Association (BJA) coaches have since run the Club but the current team of four is led by Didier Di Mario (Didi for short) The Club has a thriving membership at both Junior and Senior levels with some international players among its membership.

The Club is open on both Monday and Wednesday evenings for small junior players (aged 5 to 9yrs) at 6pm 'till 7pm older junior players (aged 10 to 15yrs) at 7pm to 8pm and adults (16yrs+) from 8pm to 9.30pm Anyone interested, junior or senior, in learning and practicing Judo just turn up at the Activities Centre sited at the rear of Ringwood Library at the appropriate time and introduce yourself to the on duty coach.

To celebrate this occasion the club are staging judo demonstrations and have a go opportunities from 11am to 1pm in the Activities Centre Greyfriars on Saturday 7th December 2024.

Ringwood Town Football Club
Ringwood Community Hub
Long Lane, BH24 3BX

1st Team Fixtures
2024 - 25

Date	H/A	Opponents
Sat 16-Nov	H	Ash Utd
Tue 19-Nov	H	Hedge End R'grs (cup)*
Sat 23-Nov	A	Hamworthy Utd
Sat 30-Nov	H	Romsey Town
Sat 7-Dec	H	Frimley Green
Sat 14-Dec	H	Verwood Town
Sat 21-Dec	A	Amesbury Town
Sat 28-Dec	H	Totton & Eling

*KO 19:45, otherwise 15:00

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NEWS

Growing Dementia Crisis Heightens Strain on Unpaid Carers

As the UK's population grows older, the number of people living with dementia is also rising, which in turn increases the number of unpaid family carers. It's currently estimated that one in three people will take on the role of a carer for someone with dementia at some point in their lives, with many finding themselves caring for multiple relatives affected by this difficult condition.

The significant pressure faced by these carers often leads to considerable distress, anxiety, and a heightened risk of burnout and deterioration in their health. With over 700,000 people in the UK currently fulfilling the role of primary unpaid carers for individuals with dementia, it is crucial to ensure that comprehensive support services are in place.

To address this growing need, Age Concern Hampshire offers essential services through its Care & Wellbeing Centres, providing affordable day care specifically designed for those with dementia. These facilities offer much-needed respite for carers, giving them the opportunity to rest and attend to their own needs while ensuring that their loved ones receive quality care in a safe and supportive environment.

Hannah Park, Head of Operations at Age Concern Hampshire, says, "With the rising number of people living with dementia, it's essential to provide support that lightens the load for unpaid carers. Our Care & Wellbeing Centres are designed to offer both relief and high-quality care, ensuring carers get the help they need." The Charity's Care & Wellbeing Centres focus on comprehensive support, designed to provide stimulating activities and social interaction for people with dementia, helping to enhance their quality of life and maintain their cognitive functions. These centres not only cater to the needs of those with dementia but also provide a supportive community for carers, offering them guidance, resources, and a break from their demanding roles.

For more information about Age Concern Hampshire's Care & Wellbeing Centres in Dibden, New Milton, Locks Heath, and Yate-



ley, please visit their website: <https://www.ageconcernhampshire.org.uk/care-and-wellbeing-services-hampshire> or call them on 01962 868545.

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Fordingbridge Flower Club

Michael Bowyer, MBE and Janet Newman, Chairman of Fordingbridge Flower Club with the arrangement that was presented to her as a founder member as the Club begins its celebration of 50 years. Michael was one of the first demonstrators to attend the Club 40 years ago.



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Jamie & Friends Hike 100km for Charity

On the 1-2nd of November 2024, Jamie took on the Jurassic Coast Ultra Challenge along with a couple of friends, in order to raise money for a cause close to him.

Starting from Corfe Castle, the route heads to Swanage, then along to Lulworth Cove, past Durdle Door, with ups and downs all the way to Weymouth, along Chesil Beach to Bridport.

Along the way, he raised £1450 for people who have been financially affected by cancer and the burden it can have upon families. He chose Angela Collins to donate the raised funds to. Angie has had two bouts of breast cancer, the last resulting in a mastectomy and chemotherapy, both of which meant she had to take time off



work. The added worry of rent increases and cost of living has affected Angela and her family and Jamie hopes that this donation will make a difference to her family.



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WHATS ON



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GREYFRIARS
community centre

What's on at Greyfriars!

19 November – Man the Builder

Alastair Duncan presents a fascinating insight into today's world, drawing on a life's experience in building and civil engineering. 3-week course from 19 November – £30. Tickets available at [Greyfriars](http://www.greyfriars.org.uk) or via TicketSource.

21 November – U3A – "Return to Base-a Ringwood wartime incident"

Meeting monthly at 2.00pm on the 3rd Thursday for a social gathering and an entertaining talk with our guest speaker is local historian Ken Chatfield. For details www.ringwoodu3a.org.uk2.

23 November – Moviola – Vindication Swim

Cinema showing of the story of Mercedes Gleitze, who in 1927 became the first British woman to swim the English Channel. Tickets only £6 at TicketSource or in the centre, New Forest Ice creams available and doors open at 2 for a 2:30pm start.

29 November – Fun with the Flamin Ukes

Join us for another brilliant night of great musical fun with the Flamin Ukes, our house band! Tickets are just £10 available on TicketSource or in the centre, bar available but bring your own nibbles!

30 November- Final Travelling Trends Fashion Show

With bargains galore, Greyfriars models and a brilliant afternoon in "store", this is the last time we will be welcoming Elaine and her team. Tickets just £5 from the centre or TicketSource.

HAVE AN EVENT COMING UP?

All non profit making community events can be advertised here FREE OF CHARGE.

Please email your article to editor@rfnews.uk



Ringwood actions
to climate emergency

Forthcoming Events

Pick to Plates (Festive Vegetables) - Trinity Church Hall - Thursday 28th November - 12 noon - 1.30pm
Seeking some inspiration for your Christmas dinner, join Kate and Mollie to taste some amazing variations on traditional vegetable side dishes. Free tickets available via the link

Ringwood Community Fridge - Christmas Fundraiser - Ringwood Library - Saturday 30th November - 10am to 1.30pm
Join us for a cuppa and a mince pie plus tombolas, raffles and much more. All proceeds go towards keeping the fridge running

For more information visit www.raceagainstime.org.uk or email ringwoodraceagainstime@gmail.com



WHATS ON

MUSIC *at the*
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Blue Tides



Friday 15th November

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 Start 7:30pm – (doors open 7:00pm)
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Soprano : Amy Carson
Contralto : Charlotte Tetley
Tenor : James Hutchings
Bass : Timothy Dickinson

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 Leader Peter Bussereau

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Chris Carter Richard Phethean Lisa Hammond MBE Jack Doherty

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Richard Wilson

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BETTLES GALLERY - WINTER EXHIBITION

The door is open again of the BETTLES GALLERY for a WINTER EXHIBITION starting with a preview on Friday 22nd November 6-8pm and then Saturday 23rd through to 22nd December. Open Wed-Sat 10.30 – 4.00pm or by appointment.

This selling exhibition is showcasing artists from Salisbury, Ringwood and Bournemouth with ceramics from London to Penzance. Artist, Lindsey Cole is showing her latest work moving subtly towards more impressionist reality. Whereas, we are pleased to be showing internationally respected painter, Martyn Brewster's prints and drawings. Salisbury based Deborah Sweeney shows her bold collage seascapes. Also it would be a chance to see Roger Bettle's introspective coastline watercolours

The studio pottery comes from a clutch of well know makers, including Lisa Hammond MBE who has been a judge on "Throw Down" and creator of the charity "Adopt a Potter". Molly Milton is a beneficiary of this scheme and shows some of her domestic ware. Tim Andrews, Richard Phethean and Jack Doherty all come from Devon and Cornwall and Chris Carter is from "up north". All the participants in the exhibition are gallery favourites and we are just so pleased to have the opportunity to show their work to you.

NEWS

The Autumn Budget Unveils Significant Changes to Inheritance Tax



The 2024 Autumn Budget introduces key changes to Inheritance Tax (IHT), impacting financial planning for individuals and families. At Fiander Tovell, our Private Client tax team, led by Diane Warren, are here to guide you through these updates and their implications for taxpayers and beneficiaries.

Nil Rate Bands Remain Frozen

The nil rate band will remain frozen at £325,000 until 5 April 2030, marking 21 years since the last increase! The residence nil rate band stays at £175,000, with the taper starting at £2 million. As more estates fall within the IHT net, individuals should consider gifting or transferring assets now, with a particular view to retaining the valuable residence nil rate band.

Unused Pension Funds to be Subject to IHT

Starting 6 April 2027, the government will incorporate unused pension funds into an individual's estate for IHT purposes. This significant change underscores the need for careful estate planning to mitigate the tax implications for beneficiaries.

Changes to IHT Relief for Agricultural and Business Property

In a widely criticised decision within the farming sector, agricultural and business property will retain 100% IHT relief up to a combined limit of £1 million starting 6 April 2026. Any value above this limit will receive 50% relief. These changes may mean that heirs will need to sell or borrow to finance the tax liability, making IHT planning essential.

Business property relief will be reduced from 100% to 50% for quoted shares designated as 'not listed' on recognised stock exchange markets, like AIM.

Agricultural Property Relief Expanded

Beginning 6 April 2025, Agricultural Property Relief will expand to include land managed under environmental agreements with the UK government or other government entities. Individuals should consider assessing their eligibility under these new regulations.

Get in Touch

We're here to provide expert guidance regarding the changes made in the Autumn Budget. From exploring new tax-efficient approaches to enhancing your current plan, our team offers expert support tailored to your unique circumstances.

To learn more or discuss your specific needs, please get in touch by calling 023 8033 2733 or email dianewarren@fiandertovell.co.uk

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NEW
INSTRUCTION



TOWN CENTRE

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- 2 Double Bedroom
- Large Lounge/diner
- Fitted Kitchen
- Covered Parking
- Share of the Freehold
- No Chain

NEW
INSTRUCTION



RINGWOOD

£239,950

- Ground Floor Flat
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Fitted Kitchen
- Shower Room
- Garage
- Vacant Possession

NEW
INSTRUCTION



RINGWOOD

£475,000

- Semi Detached Chalet
- 3 Double Bedrooms
- 2 Bathrooms
- Kitchen/Breakfast room
- Lounge *Cloaks/utility
- Conservatory
- West facing gardens
- Garage and Parking

NEW
INSTRUCTION



WIMBORNE MINSTER

£460,000

- 3 Storey Semi Detached house
- 3 Double Bedrooms
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- Separate Lounge
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- Garage and Parking

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A Huge Thank You from Ringwood Town Council

It's taken us a few days to recover from the incredible success of this year's Ringwood Grand Fireworks, and we're still glowing from the turnout and community spirit! Nearly 7,000 people joined us to enjoy two spectacular displays, and we couldn't be more grateful for the support and enthusiasm from everyone involved. We'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Ringwood Rotary and Ringwood Men's Shed for managing the new ticketing arrangements so smoothly at the gates. A big thank you also goes to Ben and Dan from Ringwood Carnival, who were invaluable in assisting our event control team on the radios, and to other Carnival volunteers for helping to pack away in the pitch dark. And finally, to Ringwood Roundtable. Not only did they help create a fantastic bonfire but also raised an outstanding £4000 on the charity bar which will be used to support good causes in the local community. We'd also like to recognize our generous sponsors, including our headline sponsor Frettens and Oak Mount Care. Your support makes events like this possible, and we honestly couldn't do it without you!

As a reminder, any surplus funds generated from Ringwood Grand Fireworks goes back into helping to fund other wonderful events such as Winter Wonderland, D-Day 80, Party in the Park, and many more.

Speaking of Ringwood Winter Wonderland, we hope you've marked your calendar for Sunday, 1st December! This year's event promises to be extra special, with a few surprises in store—including brand-new town lights that will bring an added sparkle to the season! And don't forget to pop into the Gateway in Ringwood to buy your grotto tickets before they sell out!



Thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered, and supported us—together, we make these events happen for Ringwood!

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AN ODE TO RINGWOOD

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Because all we need is not very far

Everyone so friendly, and smile they should.

Events so many, and very good.

Praise to organisers who give us their time

Carnival, fun fair, piggy racing too

But last night's Grand Fireworks were sublime.

The brilliant band got everyone bopping

Food drink and fun fair were the topping

In total agreement our family of ten,

declared there and then

That this will be our annual event.

A huge cheer to Ringwood for putting things on!

Monks Hatch and family from Lytchett to Romsey.

HISTORY & NEWS

Lighting Up the Centre of Town



Perhaps one of the most unique structures in the town, the Jubilee Lamp, is a central feature within the Market Place, but it hasn't always found favour or been kept in the best condition.

In the centre of Ringwood Market Place sits an unusual five lantern street light, which originally incorporated a drinking fountain at its base. The was erected for the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1887 and paid for by public subscription. Comments by a local historian in 1894 that "the writer cannot bring himself to speak of it in any terms of praise" was perhaps a sign of things to come.

During the next 80 or so years, the original gas lit lanterns were removed to be replaced by an unfortunate electric lamp, the drinking fountain was concreted in and the central post became a home for a sign directing people to public toilets. Add in front car parking and a long running snack van, and things were looking pretty bleak for this icon of the town.

The Silver Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II in 1977 brought about an opportunity to return the lamp to its former glory and it was given a complete restoration with five new lanterns being made to

replicate the lost originals and the lamp was once again visible in its original glory. A further scheme of works in 1994 revealed the makers to have been the iron foundry; George Smith & Co of Glasgow.

When redesigning The Ringwood Society logo, the designer, John Saunders of Work of Importance, chose to represent the community of Ringwood by illustrating the Jubilee Lamp, which is both at the physical heart of the town and is the backdrop to so many community events including the Carnival, Pedal Car Grand Prix and of course, Christmas Eve.

The Ringwood Society promotes the town through their Town Trail, which leads visitors through the town, illuminating the history and character to those who may not be aware. Copies of this can be picked up throughout the town centre.

The Society always welcomes new members to support their work, with projects and by joining the executive committee. The more members the Society has, the more which can be achieved! Membership of the Society is only £10 a year for a single membership, only £18 per year for a couple, with students receiving free membership. Further details can be found on their relaunched website www.ringwoodsociety.org.uk



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Handy tips to make your renovation project a success

Have a Clear Vision: Create a vision board with your favourite looks and styles, and keep it updated as you come across new ideas.

Know What's Achievable: Understand what can be achieved for your property, considering planning permissions, Building Regulations, and any specific rules for listed buildings or Conservation Areas.

Call in the Professionals: Consult with architects, designers, builders, and structural engineers to ensure your project is feasible and meets all requirements.

Get the Council on Your Side: Keep in touch with the local council for guidance on planning applications and building regulations approval.

Set a Realistic Budget: Plan your budget realistically, including a contingency fund for unexpected costs that may arise during the renovation.

Appoint the Right Team: Choose experienced and reliable tradespeople who understand your vision and can work within your budget and timeframe.

Establish a Realistic Timescale: Work with your team to determine a realistic timeline for the project, allowing for unexpected delays.

Communicate with Your Builders: Regular meetings with your contractor or project manager will help ensure that deadlines are being met and progress is on track.

Ask Questions: Don't hesitate to ask questions and seek clarification on any aspect of the renovation process.

Be Prepared for the Unexpected: Anticipate unforeseen incidents and be ready to make decisions quickly to keep the project moving forward.

Stay Focused on Your Dream: Try to avoid making major design changes once construction has started, as this can lead to additional costs and delays.

Enjoy the Process: Remember that all the planning and hard work will pay off as you see your dream home taking shape. Stay patient and focused on the end goal.

By following these tips, you can navigate your renovation project smoothly and achieve the results you desire. Good luck with your renovation journey.

If it's all too overwhelming for you, give us a call and ask for some professional advice from us here at Northfield, we have been established for over 30 years, working throughout Hampshire, Dorset, and the surrounding areas, building a solid reputable reputation within this time.

Call us now for a free consultation on 01425 483964

NEWS

Gillian Habbin MBE 1928-2024

It is with great sadness that members of Greyfriars Community Centre received the news that Gillian Habbin had died in Bournemouth Hospital on Saturday 26th October after a long and invaluable lifetime of service to Ringwood.

Gillian was a founder member of Ringwood & District Community Association in 1958 and became its manager in 1969, a position she held with dedication, immense efficiency and unflinching cheerfulness throughout the ensuing 26 years. She was a founder member of many of the clubs held by Greyfriars, particularly Ringwood Floral Decoration Society. Her beautiful flower arrangements were admired by all.



Gillian later accepted the role of Honorary Secretary and continued to provide administrative oversight of life at Greyfriars up until very recently, when ill health deprived us of her services. She remained our President, a source of useful memories and unceasing interest in all that was happening at Greyfriars and elsewhere in Ringwood.

Gillian was awarded the MBE in 2011 for her services to the community throughout her adult life, including her 25 years as a local Justice of the Peace. Her love of her garden, her country pursuits (particularly fishing) and her organisational skills overseeing ploughing matches, the Carvers gates on Carnival day and the RMDS Summer Shows at Greyfriars have all been recalled by her many friends and admirers.

She will be greatly missed by all who knew her and undoubtedly live on in the history of Greyfriars. We are forever thankful to her.

A memorial service for Gillian will be held in Ringwood Parish Church on Tuesday 26th November at 1pm and afterwards at Greyfriars at 2.15pm. A book of condolence has been opened at Greyfriars; any personal letters will be passed on to her family.

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- * Slice of Cake £2.50
- * Coffee or Tea £1.00

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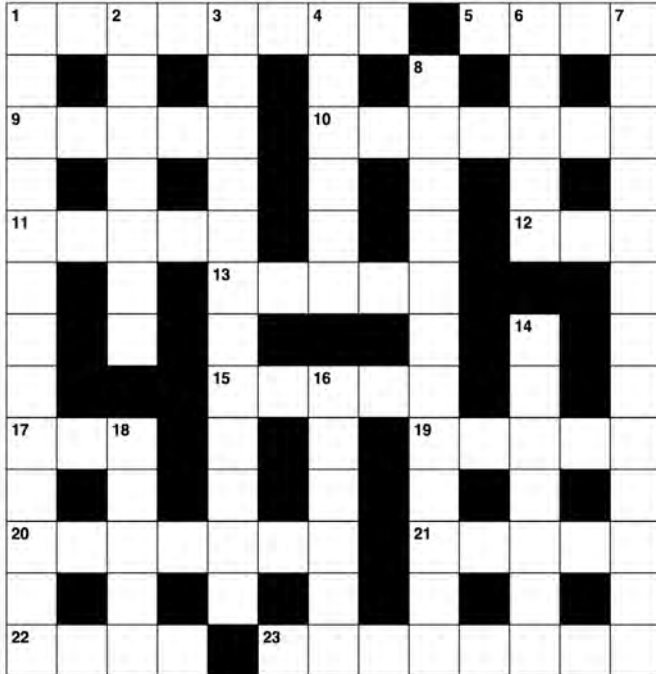
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Puzzle Corner



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Crossword



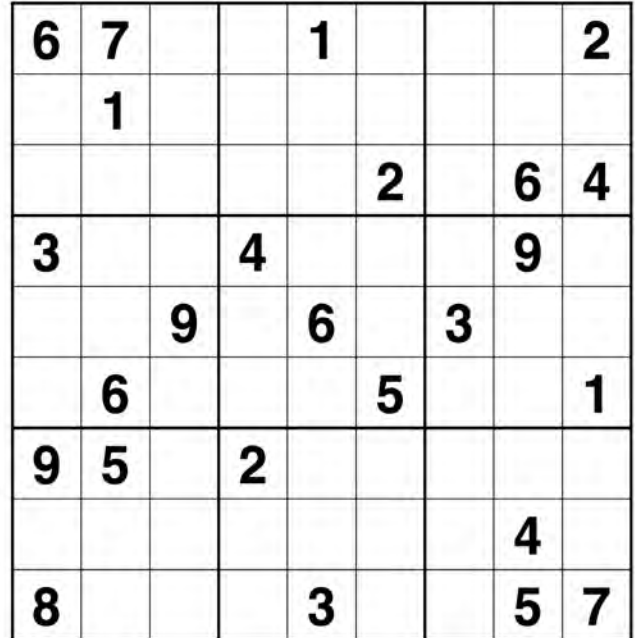
Across

- 1 - Garment worn after a shower (8)
- 5 - Mischievous sprites (4)
- 9 - Declare invalid (5)
- 10 - A very skilled performer (7)
- 11 - Understood with certainty (5)
- 12 - Took an exam (3)
- 13 - Ironic metaphor (5)
- 15 - Break out with force (5)
- 17 - Hairpiece (3)
- 19 - Basic units of chemical elements (5)
- 20 - Concern; implicate (7)
- 21 - Assumed proposition (5)
- 22 - Sell (anag) (4)
- 23 - School pupils (8)

Down

- 1 - Type of traditional photography (5-3-5)
- 2 - Insubstantial (7)
- 3 - Incessantly (12)
- 4 - Treelike grass (6)
- 6 - Small dust particles (5)
- 7 - Meteors (8,5)
- 8 - Wearing glasses (12)
- 14 - Bouncer (7)
- 16 - Turbulence (6)
- 18 - Mallet (5)

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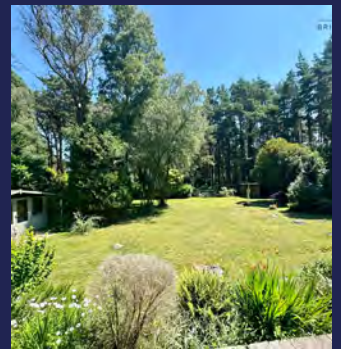


Avon Castle £499,950

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Rocketing up
Mortgage approvals at their highest since August 2022

up 49%
year-on-year

Source: Datafirst by PriceHubble, Bank of England, October 2024

- Remember remember this November, the housing market is still ablaze with activity from igniting buyer interest.
- Mortgage approvals rocketed up to 65,647 in September, reaching heights not seen since August 2022. This marks the fourth consecutive monthly increase, with rates a dazzling 49% over last year's lower levels.
- 10 million people buy and use fireworks in the UK annually, with 61% surveyed saying they personally enjoy fireworks.



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