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Issue 897 • November 27th to December 17th • 2024

Established 1990

IT'S CHRISTMAS....



Sunday 1 December

Join us in Ringwood for a festive day packed with fun, entertainment, and Christmas cheer!

RINGWOOD GATEWAY

- 11.30am** Santa Arrives
- 12noon - 5.00pm** Santa's Grotto
- 11.30am - 5.00pm** Market, Children's Crafts
- 11.30am - 7.00pm** Art Installation. Unfurl
- 5.35pm** Santa Parade

THE FURLONG SHOPPING CENTRE

- 12noon - 4.00pm** Free Circus Skills Workshops

MARKET PLACE & HIGH STREET

- 11.30am - 6.00pm** Market Stalls
- 11.30am - 6.00pm** Small Children's Fair
- 12noon - 6.00pm** Ringwood and Burley Band
- 12noon - 6.00pm** Live Music and Entertainment
- 5.45pm** Santa Parade
- 6.00pm** Christmas Lights Switch-On
- Various** Steamship Circus Walkabout Entertainment

SOUTHAMPTON ROAD

- 12noon - 5.30pm** Polar Express Rides



Ringwood Winter Wanderland is proudly brought to you by Ringwood Town Council.

YOU ARE INVITED TO

Fordingbridge

Christmas lights

Switch On

FRIDAY 5:30PM | **29** | NOVEMBER TO 8PM

LIGHTS ON 6PM
FREE PARKING

MORE INFO INSIDE

INSIDE 

Page 4 - Spot The Reindeer Competition

Page 15 - Ringwood Christmas

Page 18 & 24 - Church Services

Page 22 - Fordingbridge Christmas

Page 32 - Whats On

Page 34 - Small Ads

Page 38/39 - Competition/Puzzle

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1st Team Fixtures 2024-25

Date	H/A	Opponents
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 & Eiling
Sat 4-Jan	H	Lymington Town
Sat 11-Jan	A	AFC Aldermaston

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Please see inside for full programmes for both Ringwood & Fordingbridge Christmas Events inc Church Services and much more.

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A tax-free turkey you say?!

Christmas is a time for giving, and in years gone by, employers would often gift their staff a tax-free turkey as a festive treat. While the tradition of turkeys has largely disappeared, the idea of rewarding employees at Christmas is still alive and well – though it's important to get the tax side of things right!

Small gifts like festive hampers, chocolates, or non-cash vouchers can be a great way to thank your team for their hard work, and HMRC's trivial benefits rules allow you to do this without any tax implications – as long as the cost is under £50 per

employee and it's not linked to their performance.

If you're thinking of giving something bigger, such as a Christmas bonus, this will need to go through the payroll and have the usual deductions for tax and National Insurance. It's always worth double-checking the rules to avoid any unexpected surprises in the new year.

And what about a staff Christmas party? The annual event exemption lets you spend up to £150 per person per year (including VAT) on festive celebrations without it being treated

as a taxable benefit. It's a great way to bring some cheer while keeping things compliant.

At Donaldson Ross & Co, we can help ensure your festive giving stays within the rules. Let's make this a Christmas to remember – without any tax-related headaches!

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Starting a business?

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Let it Snow!

What a week! Our little towns were transformed into winter wonderlands, making everything feel a lot like Christmas. Whilst the start of the festive season marks excitement and joy for some, others can feel anxious and stressed. Deciding where to eat Christmas dinner, the financial strain of buying presents, it can sometimes get too much. Here's our tips for trying to make the festive season run as smoothly as possible:

- Set realistic expectations. You don't have to host a Pinterest-perfect holiday. Focus on what matters most to you and your loved ones. You do you.
- Make a budget. Decide how much you can afford to spend and stick to it. Remember, meaningful gestures often outweigh expensive gifts.
- Schedule downtime. Carve out time for relaxation amid the chaos. Read a book, take a walk or have a quiet cup of tea.
- Stay neutral. Avoid hot topics or rehashing old arguments. Focus on positive conversations and try to look forward.

Laugh often. Humour can diffuse tension and raise spirits. Enjoy the moment and be present. Put down your phone and immerse yourself in the moment. Memories last longer than any present.



Darren & Naomi



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Ringwood & Fordingbridge NEWS

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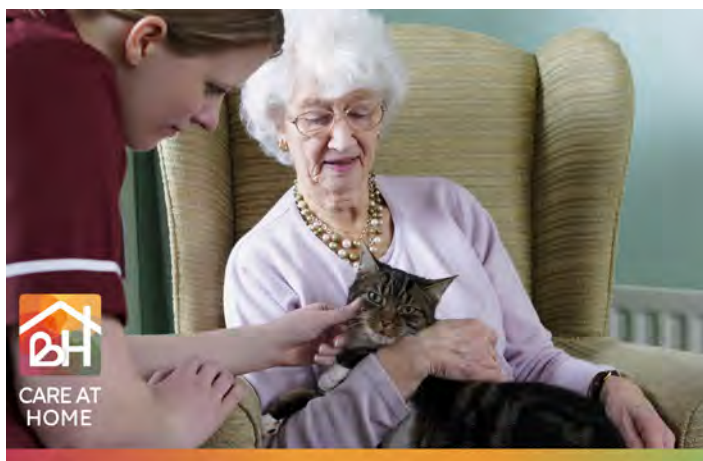
Editorial copy deadline
Wednesday 11th December

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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

The Ringwood and District Branch Poppy Appeal 2024 – Thanks for Your Support.

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal is recognised each year as being part and parcel of the lead up to Remembrance on the 11th November when services are held nationally across the country and, with the support of the Town Council, in Ringwood to mark the occasion. Whilst the Poppy Appeal is perhaps the most recognised activities of the Royal British Legion, fundraising continues year round to support the needs of Veterans, Serving Members of the Armed Forces and their Families.

The Poppy Appeal in Ringwood started on 26th October and continued until 11th November with the Poppy Gazebo appearing either at the Gateway or in the Furlong on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, supported by a number street sellers, and many

shops and businesses

We would like to Thank the people of Ringwood, the shops, businesses, schools and all who visited the Gazebo, for their generous support which, despite the all the concerns, has raised an incredible £29,075 to date.

Thank You.

A fantastic result, and our thanks go to The Gateway and The Furlong shopping centre, for allowing us to have our gazebo on the different days.

If you would be interested in becoming involved in the Legion or the Poppy Appeal for the coming year, or longer, do please email Ringwood.Chairman@rbl.community

SPOT THE REINDEER

How many Reindeer like this can you find in this issue, email your answer to editor@rfnews.uk and you could win a prize. A winner will be picked at random and named in the next issue.



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Fordingbridge Town Council Welcomes Two New Councillors

Fordingbridge Town Council is delighted to have co-opted two new members at October's General Council meeting: Cllr Willard Balthazar and Cllr Chris Ward.

Cllr Willard Balthazar has a background in art and PR and is keen to help promote and expand the unique profile of Fordingbridge in the local community and further afield. With facilities for theatre, music, community cinema and visual arts, he believes Fordingbridge could be seen as an arts and culture town. As President of the Fordingbridge Art Club, Willard is particularly interested in expanding awareness of Fordingbridge as a town that encourages the arts.

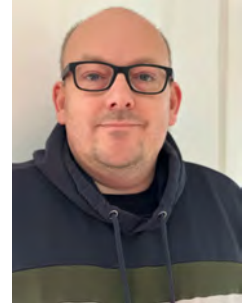
Cllr Chris Ward and his wife own a business in Fordingbridge,

giving him a strong understanding of the local economy and its needs. As a type 1 diabetic and someone with sight problems, Chris understands the importance of accessibility and inclusivity in our community. He is eager to contribute his time and efforts to making a positive impact as a councillor.

Their shared commitment to the town of Fordingbridge make them invaluable additions to the Council.



Cllr Willard Balthazar



Cllr Chris Ward

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NEWS

LAUNCH OF INTERSCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2025

The competition is in its twelfth year and has grown from one participating school to twenty-four schools across the South of England participating in 2024. We plan to make 2025 another record year!

The Rotary Club of Ringwood's Interschools Photography Competition is organised jointly with Ringwood Academy School. The competition invites entries from students, staff, parents and carers at schools across Hampshire, Dorset and Wiltshire. Each entrant is invited to submit a maximum of three images. Entries will be judged in the following age categories: -

- Primary Years R-6
 - School Years 7-10
 - School Years 11-13
 - A parent/carer or school teacher/staff
- All entries must be submitted by JPEG file with a minimum file size of 2MB by email to: - photocompetition@ringwood.hants.sch.uk.

The deadline for entries is Friday 31st January 2025. AI generated images will not be accepted. Full rules available from <https://www.ringwood.hants.sch.uk/photocompetition>



Supported by the Ringwood Rotary Club
Interschool Photography Competition 2025



Open to all schools across Dorset, Hampshire and Wiltshire and all students, parents, carers and staff
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Deadline for entries - Friday 31st January 2025

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NEWS

Ringwood Community Fridge Launches Christmas Fundraiser to Support Local Food Rescue Efforts

Did you know that the Ringwood Community Fridge has successfully saved almost 125 tonnes of food from waste? That's about the weight of 20 adult elephants! But it's not just about saving food; it's also about fostering community spirit and support—all of which come with a cost. It takes around £1,000 a year to keep the Community Fridge running smoothly. Our dedicated volunteers work tirelessly, collecting more than 20 donations every week, often late into the evening. Now, they are stepping up their efforts to ensure this initiative can continue to thrive by organizing a Christmas fundraiser!

Join us at the Ringwood Library on Saturday, 30th November, starting at 10 am, for a festive morning filled with cheer. Enjoy music, delicious mince pies, exciting raffles, and fun tombolas—there's something for everyone!

This event is not just about raising funds; it's also a fantastic opportunity to learn more about the Ringwood Community Fridge and how you can get involved. We are always welcoming new volunteers, and if you have a few hours to spare, especially for our evening collections, we'd love to hear from you!



Support your local community, help us reduce food waste, and spread some holiday cheer this December. Together, we can make a difference!

Ringwood RACE Against Time which runs the fridge is a registered charity – charity number 1189272, more information can be found at www.raceagainsttime.org.uk or for fridge specific questions email ringwoodcommunityfridge@gmail.com

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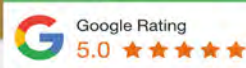
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NEWS



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Bickerley Green's Monday Knit and Knatter Club make Poppy Warhorse

The residents, relatives, friends and staff of Ringwood's Bickerley Green have spent the last few months busily knitting bright red poppies for this year's Remembrance Day. The theme was to knit lots of poppies, many of which have been created by the members of Bickerley Green's Monday Knit and Knatter Club, to decorate a large model of a 'Warhorse' which itself was inspired by famous children's author Michael Morpurgo's book and later film of the same name. Many people lent a hand to adorning this superb sculpture with hundreds of poppies and one relative, who started out as a complete non-knitter, became an expert in knitting poppies, producing many of them whilst spending time sitting with his loved one. The project has been a terrific collaboration which was made possible by so many willing knitters. Rightly so, the Bickerley Green community are very proud of their achievement with 'Poppy' the Warhorse, who now cheerfully resides in the main entrance lobby of Bickerley Green.



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Remembrance Day in Fordingbridge

On Sunday 10th November an Act of Remembrance was held at the Memorial Gates at the entrance to Fordingbridge Recreation Ground, and followed by a procession to the Remembrance Sunday Service at St Mary's Church.

Representatives of uniformed organisations brought standards and flags and many gathered together to remember those who have died in the

great wars of the past century, and to remember those who are still prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

Mayor Pete White said afterwards that he was very proud to have been able to represent Fordingbridge Town Council in laying a wreath and saying a few words at the Remembrance Sunday event at the Recreation Ground. He remarked that it was a great turn out by so many local groups, to form an impressive parade through the town centre to the memorial service afterwards at St Mary's Church.

On Monday, a short Armistice Day Service was led by Rev'd Luke Wickings, Rector of Avon Valley Churches, at Stuckton Road Cemetery. Former WO1 L.R. Goldsmith (Nobby) of the Royal Engineers read out the names of the service men and women



buried there and Mayor Pete White laid a wreath at Stuckton Road Chapel. A two-minute silence was held in remembrance.



The Ringwood and District Branch Poppy Appeal 2024 – Thanks for Your Support



The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal is recognised each year as being part and parcel of the lead up to Remembrance on the 11th November when services are held nationally across the country and, with the support of the Town Council, in Ringwood to mark the occasion.



Whilst the Poppy Appeal is perhaps the most recognised activities of the Royal British Legion, fundraising continues year round to support the needs of Veterans, Serving Members of the Armed Forces and their Families.

The Poppy Appeal in Ringwood started on 26th October and continued until 11th November with the Poppy Gazebo appearing either at the Gateway or in the Furlong on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, supported by a number street sellers, and many shops and businesses

We would like to Thank the people of Ringwood, the shops, businesses, schools and all who visited the Gazebo, for their generous support which, despite the all the concerns, has raised an incredible £29,075 to date. Thank You.

A fantastic result, and our thanks go to The Gateway and The Furlong shopping centre, for allowing us to have our gazebo on the different days.

If you would be interested in becoming involved in the Legion or the Poppy Appeal for the coming year, or longer, do please email Ringwood.Chairman@rbl.community





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NEWS

Danny Cracknell 'Homeless at Christmas' Appeal 2024

As the onset of winter introduces more extreme weather conditions the need for more warm food and clothing becomes more crucial for those whom find themselves in dire circumstances!

The homeless are increasingly vulnerable and this year, in particular, urgently require sleeping bags, blankets (no duvets please) plus warm coats, scarves, hats etc.

There is also a continuing need for food, in particular, tea, coffee, sugar, tinned soups, beans, spaghetti, dry pasta and toiletries.

Your help and support at this time of the year can make a huge difference to some many people who would otherwise struggle to cope with the worsening weather.

Thank you so much, each and every one of you whom has provided some hope to so many less fortunate.

Jon Grant and Jock McMaster are available to collect items if necessary (01425 480456) or you can drop items into Grants of Ringwood in The Furlong Shopping Centre.

The closing date for donations is Wednesday 11th December. Thank you in anticipation.



Ringwood Town Football Club
Ringwood Community Hub

1st Team Fixtures
2024-25

Date	H/A	Opponents
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
Sat 4-Jan	H	Lymington Town
Sat 11-Jan	A	AFC Aldermaston

KO 15:00

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P.S. Don't forget to vote for my Christmas windows too in the Ringwood Winter Wanderland Shop window competition 2024

High Street - Ringwood BH24 1AG
W: with-grace.uk T: 07786 074465
IG: withgrace._





RINGWOOD WINTER WANDERLAND SET TO SPARK FESTIVE MAGIC



Ringwood's much-loved Winter Wonderland returns Sunday, 1st December, promising a spectacular launch to the Christmas season.

Organised by Ringwood Town Council, this highly anticipated community event attracts thousands to the Market Town each year. It begins with a full day of festive activities and continues to delight visitors for the rest of December as they explore the town's stunning Christmas lights and beautifully decorated shop windows.

A Day Packed with Festive Fun

From 11:30 AM to 6:00 PM, Ringwood will transform into a hub of holiday cheer, offering something for everyone:

Over 80 Market Stalls

Discover unique gifts, local produce, arts and crafts, and an array of mouthwatering food and drinks, including mulled wine, hog roast, bratwurst, Greek street food, fish and chips, and stone-baked pizza.

Live Entertainment

Enjoy live performances in the Market Place starting at midday, featuring choirs from both Ringwood and Poulner Junior Schools, followed by a variety of festive acts throughout the afternoon.

Meanwhile, the Ringwood and Burley Band will fill the High Street with joyful music. Be sure to keep an eye out for the thrilling Steamship Circus walkabout entertainers!

Family Fun

Younger visitors can enjoy a mini funfair, try free circus skills in The Furlong Shopping Centre, or take a ride on the enchanting miniature steam train from Chuffley Light Railway, running along Southampton Road.



Santa's Grotto and Festive Parades

Santa will be welcoming children to his magical grotto at Ringwood Gateway (tickets £5, available in advance). He will also lead a festive parade through the town, concluding with the grand Christmas Light Switch-On at 6:00 PM in the Market Place, showcasing a brand-new lighting scheme for the town this year.

Art Installation in Gateway Square

Unfurl is a huge and beautiful robotic light and air installation, which celebrates the wonder of nature's design and makes space for human connection and play. Unfurl has been created by Bristol based studio, Air Giants and is funded by the Arts Council England and Without Walls. Hampshire Cultural Trust has worked in partnership with Ringwood Town Council to bring this world class, outdoor art installation as part of this special event.

Event Highlights Made Possible by Sponsors

This magical day is made possible through the generosity of our sponsors, including headline partner Fretten's Solicitors, stage

sponsor Churchill Living, railway sponsor The Railway Pub, and key supporters such as The Furlong Shopping Centre, Ringwood Motor Company, Oak Mount Care Home, Doughty Engineering, Lonsdale Wealth Management, BH24, and Fred Olsen Travel Agents.

Community Support

We also extend our gratitude to our amazing community partners, including Ringwood Carnival, Ringwood Rotary Club, Ringwood and District Roundtable, Ringwood and Fordingbridge Lions and Ringwood Men's Shed, who help make this event truly special.

Plan Your Visit

The Ringwood Winter Wonderland is a free event, perfect for getting into the holiday spirit with family and friends. For more details about the event, including Santa's Grotto, the Christmas Window Competition, and a full programme of activities, visit:

<https://www.ringwood.gov.uk/events/ringwood-winter-wonderland/>

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Ringwood Winter Wonderland set to spark festive magic

Ringwood's much-loved Winter Wonderland is returning to the Market Town this Sunday, 1 December, promising a spectacular launch to the Christmas season.

Organised by Ringwood Town Council, the event draws thousands to enjoy the town's festive lights, Christmas tree and beautifully decorated shop windows while supporting local businesses and community organisations.

A day full of festive fun

From 11.30am to 6.00pm, the town will transform to offer something for everyone:

- **Over 80 Market Stalls:** Explore unique gifts, local produce, arts, crafts, and delicious food and drink options like mulled wine, hog roast, bratwurst, Greek street food, fish & chips and stone-baked pizza.
- **Live Entertainment:** The Market Place hosts school choirs and festive acts from midday, while the Ringwood and Burley Band performs on the High Street. Don't miss the exciting Steamship Circus walkabout entertainers!
- **Family Fun:** Younger visitors can enjoy a mini funfair, try free circus skills in The Furlong Shopping Centre, or ride the enchanting miniature steam train provided by Chuffley Light Railway along Southampton Road.
- **Santa's Grotto and Parades:** Santa will greet children in his grotto at Ringwood Gateway (tickets £5 available in advance). He will also lead a festive parade, culminating in the Grand Christmas Light Switch-On at 6.00pm in the Market Place.

PLAN YOUR VISIT

Ringwood Winter Wonderland is a free event, making it the perfect way to get into the holiday spirit with family and friends. For full details of the programme, Santa's Grotto, and the Christmas Window Competition, visit:

ringwood.gov.uk/events/ringwood-winter-wonderland/

• Art Installation in Gateway Square

Unfurl, a stunning robotic light and air installation by Bristol's Air Giants, is funded by Arts Council England and Without Walls, brought to Ringwood through Hampshire Cultural Trust for this special day only.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

We couldn't run this event without the support of our wonderful community. Thank you in advance to **Ringwood Carnival, Ringwood Rotary, Ringwood Round Table, Ringwood Lions & Ringwood Men's Shed.**

Event highlights made possible by sponsors

This magical day would not be possible without the support of generous sponsors, including headline partner Fretzens Solicitors, stage sponsor Churchill Living, The Furlong Shopping Centre, Ringwood Motor Company, Oak Mount Care Home, Doughty Engineering, BH24, Fred Olsen Travel Agents, The Railway Pub & Lonsdale Wealth Management.

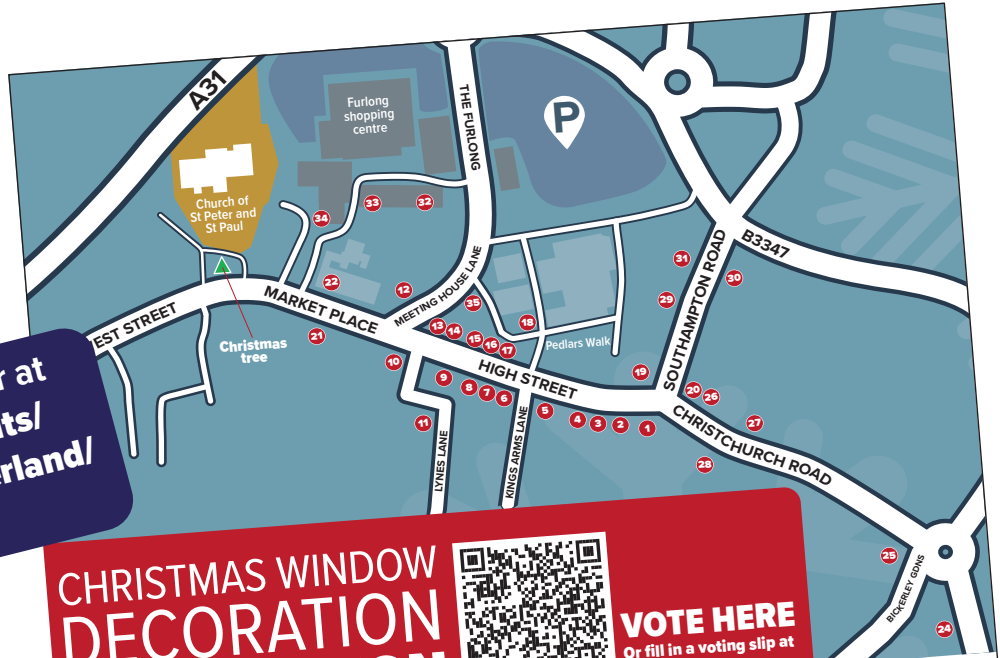
For further information please contact:

Ringwood Town Council

Tel: 01425 473883

Email: town.council@ringwood.gov.uk

Activities running throughout December



Vote using the QR code or at ringwood.gov.uk/events/ringwood-winter-wanderland/ from 2 December

CHRISTMAS WINDOW DECORATION COMPETITION



VOTE HERE
Or fill in a voting slip at Ringwood Gateway

Shops, businesses and community organisations taking part:

High Street/off High Street

- 1 Kimbers Flooring Specialists
- 2 Queen Nails
- 3 Theodore's Café
- 4 Ringwood Fabrics
- 5 Simply Beauty
- 6 Ringwood Fisheries
- 7 W Patterson Butchers
- 8 William Guy Hairdressing
- 9 Allum & Sidaway
- 10 Westover Gallery
- 11 Bakehouse 24
- 12 ALDA Gifts & Trophies
- 13 With-Grace
- 14 Hearnes
- 15 Martin & Co Ringwood
- 16 Champions Barbers Ringwood
- 17 Reeve the Baker
- 18 Sue Ryder
- 19 Brightwater
- 20 Ringwood Nails and Beauty

Market Place/West Street

- 21 Fred Olsen Travel
- 22 The Lighthouse Cookshop
- 23 Little Monkeys at The Old Cottage

Christchurch Road

- 24 Beaux For Your Home
- 25 Greyfriars Community Centre
- 26 Rose & Lily Florist
- 27 Lunns Art Shop
- 28 Páramo Ringwood Store

Southampton Road

- 29 Lewis-Manning Hospice Care Shop
- 30 Razors Barbers
- 31 Crown House Lettings Ltd

The Furlong

- 32 Perfumery & Co
- 33 Francesco Group Ringwood
- 34 Timber
- 35 Paper Mountain



Full programme and more information ringwood.gov.uk

Facebook and Instagram ringwoodtowncouncil



Help Santa find his missing Reindeer!

This Christmas join in the festive fun with the Ringwood Reindeer Ramble. Santa's nine Reindeer have gone missing and he needs your help to track them down.

From Mon 2 December, pick up an activity sheet from **Ringwood Gateway office** or download from: ringwood.gov.uk/events/ringwood-winter-wanderland Once completed hand it back in to be entered into the draw for a chance to win some fabulous prizes. Winners will be announced in the New Year.

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office@ringwoodbenefice.org.uk

Ringwood Benefice is a group of six Church of England churches serving the communities of Ringwood, Poulner, Bisterne, Ellingham, Harbridge, and St Leonards & St Ives.

Full details of Advent, Christmas, and regular services, events and activities can be found on our website www.ringwoodbenefice.org.uk

Ringwood Benefice Advent & Christmas Services 2024

The Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul, Market Place, Ringwood

Sunday 8 th December	6pm Candlelit Carol Service
Monday 23 rd December	4.30pm Christingle Service
Christmas Eve	11.30pm Midnight Holy Communion
Christmas Day	10.30am Family Service with Holy Communion

The Church of St Paul, Bisterne

Sunday 15 th December	11am Nine Lessons & Carols
----------------------------------	----------------------------

St John the Baptist, Poulner

Sunday 8 th December	6pm Family Carol Service followed by a Christmas Tea
Sunday 15 th December	3pm Christmas Messy Church
Sunday 22 nd December	6.30pm The Well Christmas Celebration
Christmas Day	8am BCP Holy Communion

All Saints, Harbridge

Wednesday 18 th December	7.30pm Nine Lessons & Carols with Hyde Band
Christmas Day	10am Christmas Day Matins

St Mary & All Saints, Ellingham

Sunday 1 st December	5.30pm Darkness to Light Service
Sunday 15 th December	5.30pm Nine Lessons & Carols
Christmas Eve	11.30pm Midnight Holy Communion

All Saints Church, St Leonards & St Ives

Sunday 1 st December	10.30am Advent Service
Saturday 14 th December	4pm Community Carol Service at Braeside Village Hall
Wednesday 18 th December	6pm Popup Carols at Victory Oak
Sunday 22 nd December	10am Crib Service
Christmas Eve	11.30pm Midnight Communion
Christmas Day	10am Holy Communion

with many flavours!



Poulner Baptist Chapel

- Sunday 8th December 4pm Christmas Carols for All ~ including Christingle making & puppets
- Sunday 15th Dec. 10am Children's Lego Nativity Service for All
- Sunday 22nd Dec. 6.30pm Traditional Carols by Candlelight
- Wednesday 25th Dec. 10am Christmas Day All Age Service
- Saturday 4th January 4pm Family Time Event ~ New Years Party

All Welcome!

For all other services, please visit our website

Adam Skirton, Poulner Baptist Chapel, Linford Road, Hangersley, Ringwood BH24 3HZ.

Tel: 01425 473388 email: pbcc-office@poulnerchapel.org.uk

Website: www.poulnerchapel.org.uk



**The King's Church,
Ringwood**

The Activity Centre,
Greyfriars, Ringwood

15th December 10:30am
Children's Special

22nd December 10:30am
Christmas Carol Celebration

Rob Hibbitt.

admin@kingschurchringwood.co.uk

**Sacred Heart and St. Therese
of Lisieux, The Close, Ringwood,
BH24 1LA**

Tuesday 24th December 5pm
Mass

Wednesday 25th of December 11am
Mass

**Our Lady of Sorrows and St. Philip
Benizi, 15 Salisbury Road,
Fordingbridge, SP6 1EG**

Tuesday 24th December 7:30pm
Carols and Readings, Mass at 8 pm

Wednesday 25th December at 9am
Mass

Fr Paul Townsend

Parishes of Ringwood and Fordingbridge
01425 653131

Crowe Hill Methodist Church

Sunday 15th December 10.30am - Family Nativity Service with carols, fun and involvement for children of all ages

Tuesday 17th December 7.00pm - Carols by Candlelight around our beautiful tree with time for mince pies and refreshments too.

Thursday 19th December 2.00pm - Blue Christmas - a time of gentle, healing and calm Christmas worship for all those who find the jollity, noise and busy-ness of Christmas too much and too difficult to handle.

Sunday 22nd December 3.00pm - Carols and Communion - a simple and gentle celebration

Wednesday 25th 9.30am - Christmas Day - an all-age family celebration

Find us at : BH24 3DQ

Website : crowehill.co.uk Email : crowehill@gmail.com

Tel : 01425 470310



Trinity United Church, Ringwood

Tuesday 17th December 3.15pm
onwards, - After-school Eco-Club
Christingle and Christmas craft making.
With a short carol service. All welcome.
Come as soon as you can after school.

Sunday 22nd December 10.45am
Carol Service

Wednesday 25th 10.00am
Christmas Day Worship Celebration for
all the family

Revd Mike Shrubsole,
Trinity United Church, Christchurch
Road, Ringwood. BH24 1DH
Tel: 01425 461 440
contact@trinityringwood.co.uk



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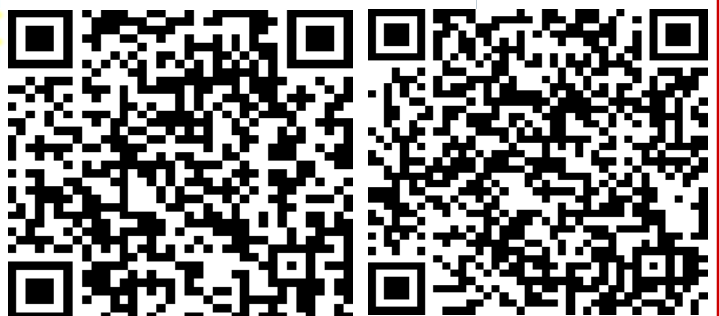
Major Emanuele Carpagnano
Christchurch Road, Ringwood
Tel: 01425 472909

Sunday 8th December 10.30am
Families Carol Service

22nd December 10.30am
Carol Service

Everyone Welcome

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Fordingbridge CHRISTMAS LIGHTS switch on

Sponsored by



29 November

5.30 - 8 pm

Roundhill Car Park

- Santa's Grotto
- Meet the reindeers
- Fairground rides
- Stalls

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

- 5.35 pm Sing Space
Musical Theatre Choir
Main Stage
- 6.00 pm Light switch on
Main Stage
- 6.30 pm Lucy Loves Liquor
Live Music
Main Stage



CHRISTMAS IN FORDINGBRIDGE

Get ready to kick off the festive season in style at the Fordingbridge Lights Switch On event and watch as Fordingbridge Lights up for Christmas! Join us for a magical evening filled with festive fun, entertainment, and cheer for the whole family!

**29
NOV**

5.30PM – 8.00PM

Free parking at both NFDC car parks in Fordingbridge. The Roundhill lower car park will be closed from Thursday 28th November at 6pm.

WHAT'S HAPPENING:

- 5.30pm** – Come and listen to Sing Space Musical Theatre Choir at the main stage in the marketplace
- 5.55pm** – Make way for the lantern parade led by Reverend Luke Wickings
- 6pm** – Santa will arrive on his sleigh to officially switch on the lights for Christmas 2024
- 6.30pm** – Visit Father Christmas in his grotto at Roundhill. A chance for your little ones to meet Father and Mother Christmas. Grab a photo opportunity with Rudolph the reindeer
- Whilst at Roundhill enjoy the fairground rides, grab a sweet treat and maybe a festive wreath or Christmas tree
- 6.30pm – 8pm** – Lucy Loves Liquor will be playing on the main stage in the marketplace

At Fordingbridge Town Hall Christmas Market– Pick up some special Christmas gifts from local traders and businesses

Enjoy the festive atmosphere with music provided by Hyde Band at Roundhill, marvel at the beautiful pipe organ on the High street

Explore and support the many independent local shops and Christmas stalls along the High Street and see what they have to offer. Discover unique gifts and goodies. Drop into the cafes and pubs for festive refreshments.

Pop into the United Reformed Church on Salisbury Street to enjoy the craft market to pick up some unique presents

Bring your friends, family, and festive spirit – it's the perfect way to get into the Christmas mood!

Fordingbridge Town Mayor, Pete White is delighted to announce this very popular annual event:

“Once again I am sure that the Town will enjoy a great evening that will bring the local community together to celebrate the start of the festive season & support our local shops & businesses. I look forward to seeing a busy & happy crowd that night enjoying all the hard work done over the past months by the Fordingbridge Town Council, Fordingbridge Events Group & Fordingbridge Rotary Club to get everything in place.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

2024

AVON VALLEY CHURCHES

SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER		ADVENT SUNDAY
St. Mary's Church, Breamore	4pm	Advent Carols
SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER		
St. Mary's Church, Breamore	11am	Nativity Weekend (until 4pm)
SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER		
St. Mary's Church, Breamore	10am	Nativity Service with Crib scenes
MONDAY 9TH DECEMBER		
Church of the Holy Ascension, Hyde	3.30pm	Messy Church Christingle
FRIDAY 13TH DECEMBER		
St. Boniface Church, Woodgreen	10.30am	Community Fairtrade Christmas Coffee Morning, with Christmas Tree Festival launch
SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER		
St. Mary's Church, Hale	10am	Advent Carols and Readings
Church of the Holy Ascension, Hyde	5.30pm	Candlelit Carol Service
Sandleheath Uniting Church	6.00pm	Carol Service (with Penwood Brass)
WEDNESDAY 18TH DECEMBER		
Horse & Groom Pub, Woodgreen	7.00pm	Carols at the Pub
THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER		
St. Mary's Church, Fordingbridge	7.00pm	Just Carols
FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER		
St. Giles, Godshill	11.00am	Reflective Carol Service
SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER		
St. Boniface Church, Woodgreen	10.00am	Carols and readings
Church of the Holy Ascension, Hyde	3.00pm	Carols on the Common (with brass players from local orchestras)
St. Mary's Church, Breamore	6.00pm	Carols
St. Mary's Church, Fordingbridge	6.00pm	Carols by Candlelight
TUESDAY 24TH DECEMBER		CHRISTMAS EVE
St. Boniface Church, Woodgreen	3.30pm	Crib Service
St. Mary's Church, Fordingbridge	4.00pm	Crib and Christingle
St. Boniface Church, Woodgreen	9.00pm	Looking towards Midnight at Bethlehem
St. Mary's Church, Fordingbridge	11.00pm	Midnight Holy Communion
WEDNESDAY 25TH DECEMBER		CHRISTMAS DAY
St. Mary's Church, Fordingbridge	8.15am	Holy Communion (BCP)
St. Mary's Church, Breamore	10.00am	Holy Communion (CW)
St. Mary's Church, Fordingbridge	10.00am	Family Holy Communion & Carols
St. Mary's Church, Hale	10.00am	Build the Crib, followed by Holy Communion
Church of the Holy Ascension, Hyde	10.00am	Family Service and Holy Communion
SUNDAY 29TH DECEMBER		
Church of the Holy Ascension, Hyde	10.00am	United Service

WESTERN DOWNLAND CHURCHES

SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER

ADVENT SUNDAY

All Saints Church, Martin	5.00pm	From Darkness to Light Advent Service
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WEDNESDAY 11TH DECEMBER

St. George's Church, Damerham	7.00pm	Pulpit to Pub - Village Carol Service
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SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER

All Saints Church, Martin	3.00pm	Nativity Carol Service
St. Leonard's Church, Whitsbury	3.00pm	Nativity Carol Service
St. Andrew's Church, Rockbourne	6.00pm	Service of Lessons & Carols

TUESDAY 24TH DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS EVE

St. George's Church, Damerham	3.00pm	Christingle Celebration (<i>bring your own!</i>)*
All Saints Church, Martin	11.15pm	Christmas Eve Midnight Communion (<i>cont</i>)
St. Leonard's Church, Whitsbury	11.15pm	Christmas Eve Midnight Communion (<i>trad</i>)

WEDNESDAY 25TH DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS DAY

St. George's Church, Damerham	10.00am	Holy Worship & Shortened Communion
St. Andrew's Church, Rockbourne	11.00am	Holy Worship & Shortened Communion

*For Christingle instructions, follow this video: <http://bit.ly/ChristingleCelebration>

FORDINGBRIDGE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER

Fordingbridge United Reformed Church	10.30am	Christmas Carol Service with the 'One Voice' choir
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NOTE This will be the last Sunday Service at the church before it closes. Please come and join us!

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SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER

9.30am	Family Church
6.00pm	Evening Advent Service

SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER

9.30am	Family Church
6.00pm	Evening Advent Service

SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER

9.30am	Family Carol Service
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SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER

6.00pm	Cosy Christmas Carols
--------	-----------------------

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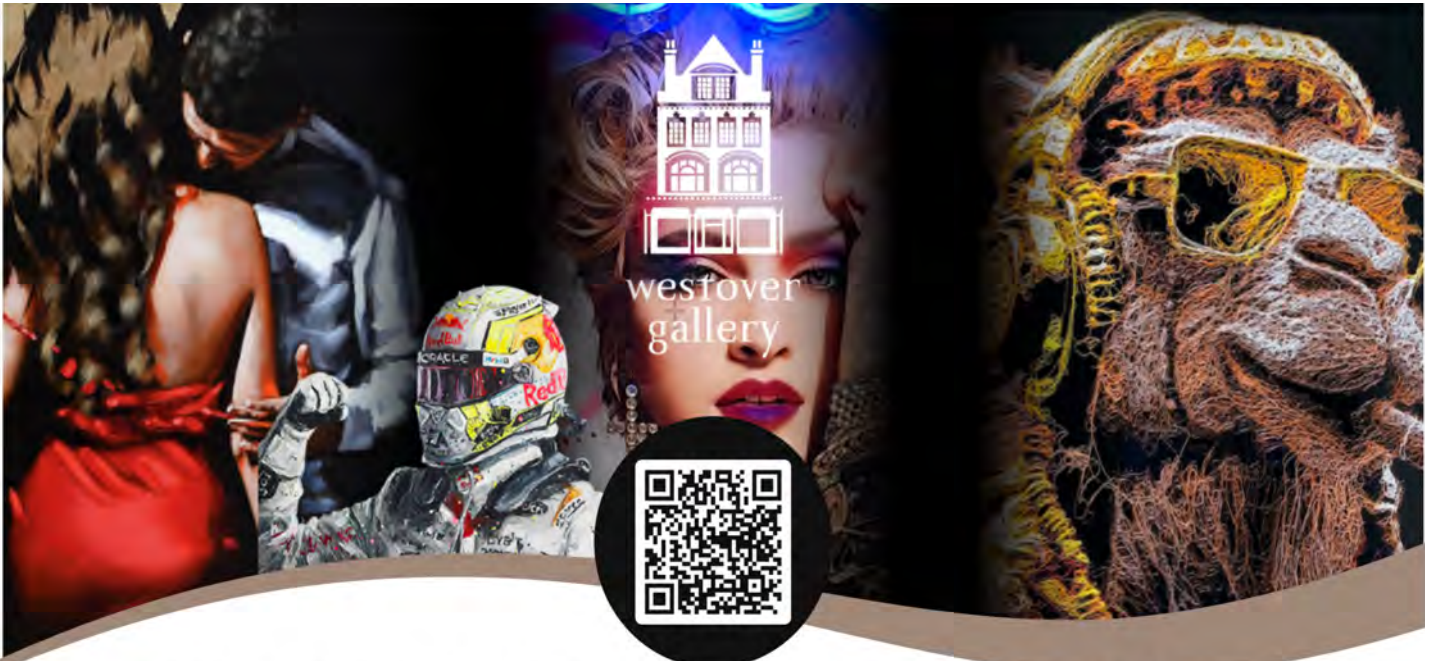
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HISTORY & NEWS



When the Market Place wasn't such a Wanderland

As we look forward to the annual Winter Wanderland celebrations on Sunday, The Ringwood Society have been looking back through their archives to see how the Market Place has changed. It wasn't always quite so wonderful...

The first photo is probably from the 1960s and shows the centre of the Market Place dominated by parking, no room for a stage here. The second photo is from the early 1980s. The car parking is gone, but the dominance of roads remain an unfortunate left over from when this was the main route into the town. The current arrangement dates from a 1994 scheme to enhance the centre of the town, resulting in space which really is the heart of Ringwood.

The Society always welcomes new members to support their work, with projects and by joining the executive committee. 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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Conception - Construction - Completion

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.

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- 14 DEC** **THE SOUND OF SPRINGSTEEN**
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- 14 FEB** **THE COASTAL COMEDY SHOW**
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- 15 FEB** **I LOVE THE 80s**
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GREYFRIARS
community centre

What's on at Greyfriars!

29 November –Fun with the Flamin Ukies

Join us for another brilliant night of great musical fun with the Flamin Ukies, 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 still available just £5 from the centre or TicketSource.

7 December-Christmas Book Sale & Grand Draw

From 9-1 and with thousands of beautiful condition pre-loved books of every genre for sale from just 50p, our Christmas Book Sale will also host our Annual Grand Draw, crafts, food & music . Come along for some festive fun and bargains.

14 December- Ringwood Repair Café

Returning for the final time this year and open from 10-12. Book in your repair online at ringwoodrepaircafeuk@gmail.com or pop in on the day to see what we do and join us for a festive refreshment! Monthly apart from August on the 2nd Saturday.

25 January -Study Group Day School- The Romantics

Is music your passion? Led by Ian Lowes, this day will explore the marriage of voice and orchestra through the works of the Romantic composers. £30 to include a delicious two course lunch and coffee and from 10:00am -3:45pm, book in the centre or on TicketSource.

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Fred. Olsen Travel Agents



Be in with a chance to WIN a Fred. Olsen Cruise for 2!

In celebration of the 'Lights On' event and Fred. Olsen Travel Agents spending their first Christmas in Ringwood, Ringwood & Fordingbridge News are delighted to bring you an opportunity to WIN a cruise for 2 adults for 7 nights onboard Balmoral departing Southampton on the 24th April 2025.

This cruise has been specially timed to visit the Netherlands during the colourful tulip season. From Rotterdam, you can see these iconic flowers in bloom at Keukenhof Gardens or at a tulip farm accompanied by a local tulip grower who can share an insight into how they're grown. Only smaller ships like Balmoral are able to dock in Antwerp, where you will be within walking distance of the city centre, offering you the chance to explore its famous diamond district and sample treats synonymous with Belgium, such as velvety, rich chocolate and flavoursome beer; glide along the canals of Rotterdam and Hamburg; or explore the cities' charming streets by bicycle. Home to one of the world's most influential music scenes, Hamburg is where the Beatles began their career, which you can discover more about with a local Beatles enthusiast.

You will be wanting to know, how to enter - it's simple, just use token 1 and collect token 2 in the next edition, answer the question, complete the entry form and drop it in to Fred. Olsen Travel Agents 25 Market Place, Ringwood before 25th January 2025 - to be in with a chance to win. The draw will take place on 31st January and the winner will be notified.

Terms & Conditions: This prize is non transferrable, or exchangeable and has no cash value. The winner must be available to travel on 24th April 2025 and have a valid passport. The prize includes accommodation during your cruise, all meals and entertainment onboard and does not include drinks, excursions, specialty dining, gratuities or any other personal expenditure. You will need to have valid travel insurance and make your own arrangements to and from the port.

The prize - Cabin for 2 adults sharing onboard L2506 European River Cities with Dutch Tulips departing Southampton, 24th April 2025

ENTRY FORM ENTER BY 25/01/25

Name.....

House name/number.....

Postcode.....

Contact number.....

email.....

Name the famous gardens you could visit on this cruise.....

Add token 2 from the next edition and drop your entry in to Fred. Olsen Travel Agents in Ringwood before 25th January to enter.

TOKEN 1	COLLECT TOKEN 2 IN THE NEXT EDITION AND STICK HERE TO COMPLETE YOUR ENTRY	Please tick this box to receive further information and offers from Fred. Olsen Travel Agents <input type="checkbox"/>
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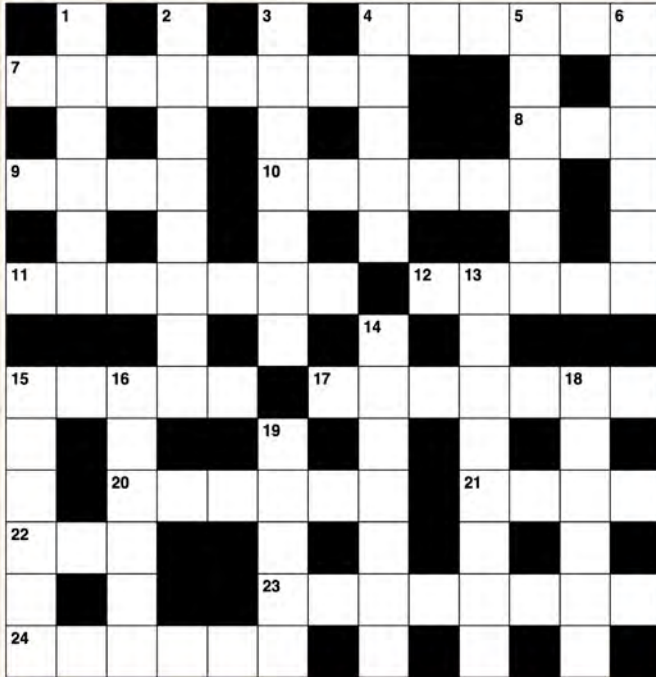
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Puzzle Corner



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Crossword



Across

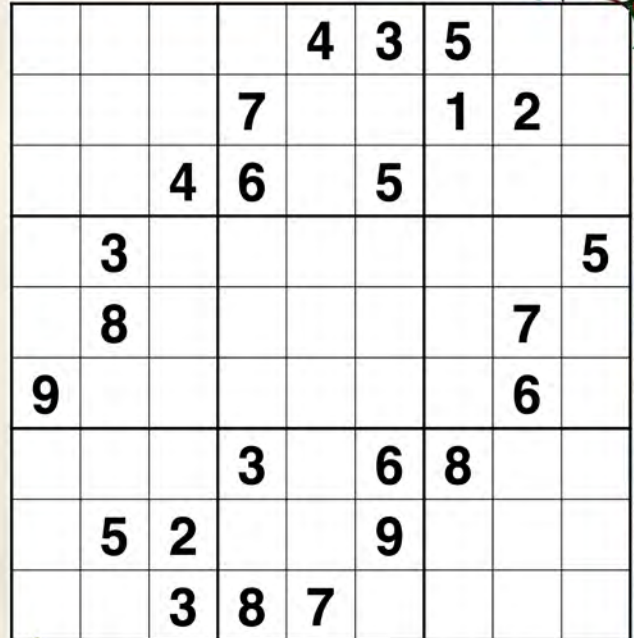
- 4 - Hotter (6)
- 7 - Put off (8)
- 8 - Periodic publication (abbrev.) (2)
- 9 - Flightless bird (4)
- 10 - Majestic (6)
- 11 - Flowers of remembrance (7)
- 12 - Avarice (5)
- 15 - Academy award (5)
- 17 - Island in the West Indies (7)
- 20 - Pollute (6)
- 21 - Having pains (4)
- 22 - How (anag) (3)
- 23 - Inn (8)
- 24 - Large solitary cats (6)

Down

- 1 - Gaming tile with pips in each half (6)
- 2 - Country in North East Africa (8)
- 3 - Support (7)
- 4 - Tearful (5)
- 5 - Mutter (6)
- 6 - Having a rough surface (of terrain) (6)
- 13 - Rouse again (8)
- 14 - Unfortunate (7)
- 15 - Deceive with ingenuity (6)
- 16 - Being with organic and cybernetic parts (6)
- 18 - Hold fast (6)
- 19 - Scottish lakes (5)



Sudoku



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RINGWOOD PRICE GUIDE £875,000

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RINGWOOD - PRICE GUIDE £335,000

Semi-detached house, 64' SF rear garden, level walk of shops & schools, 3 bedrooms, lounge, dining room, kitchen, bathroom/w.c., workshop/studio, parking, gas ch & double glazing. EPC band D



RINGWOOD - PRICE £315,000

Well-presented, end of terrace bungalow, corner plot, open plan kitchen/living room, utility porch, inner hall, 2 bedrooms, bathroom/w.c., gas ch, dble glazing, garage in block, SF rear garden, no chain. Epc band D



RINGWOOD - PRICE £375,000

Modern semi-detached town house, close to Ringwood centre, 2 bedrooms, cloakroom, lounge/dining room, kitchen, 2 en-suites, gas ch, dble glazing, driveway, well enclosed rear garden. Epc band D



NORTH POULNER - PRICE GUIDE £395,000

Semi-detached house, close to schools & lakes, 4 bedrooms, lounge/dining room, kitchen, bathroom/w.c., gas ch, dble glazing, garage, parking, courtyard rear garden. Epc band D



ASHLEY HEATH - PRICE GUIDE - £725,000

Impressive 4 double bedroom bungalow, scope for ff enlargement, gardens 0.20 of an acre, close to amenities, 30' hall, living room, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, utility, en-suite, bathroom/shower room, double garage, parking, dble glazing, gas ch, no chain. Epc band D

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