

# Ringwood & Fordingbridge NEWS



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Issue 908 • October 15th to November 18th • 2025

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# RINGWOOD GRAND FIREWORKS

**Sunday 2 November 2025**

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## Ringwood Grand Fireworks Returns with Online Ticketing System!

Preparations for the highly anticipated Ringwood Grand Fireworks on Sunday 2nd November are almost complete, and Ringwood Town Council is excited to welcome back the

(continues on page 14)

## INSIDE

Page 11 - Council Newsletter  
Page 12/13 - Health & Beauty  
Page 14 - Commemorative  
Events  
Page 16-19 - Sport  
Page 20-23 - Whats On  
Page 24 - History  
Page 28 - Puzzles  
Page 30-31 - Carnival  
Page 34 - Small Ads  
Page 38-39 - Property

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# Do You Need to Register for Self Assessment? Deadline Approaching

For many people, tax feels simple - your employer takes care of it through PAYE and that's that. But if you've started earning outside your main job, the rules may be different. You could need to register for Self Assessment with HMRC - and the deadline is fast approaching.

The UK tax year runs from 6 April to 5 April. If you earned additional income at any point between **6 April 2024 and 5 April 2025**, you must register with HMRC by **5 October 2025**. Your first online tax return and any tax due will then need to be submitted by **31 January 2026**.

There are two useful **allowances**:

- **Trading allowance** - you can earn up to £1,000 from self-employment or casual work in a tax year without registering.
- **Property allowance** - you can also earn up to £1,000 in property income (such as rent) without registering.

But if you go over either limit, you **must declare it**. Other reasons you might need to register include investment income, dividends, capital gains, or claiming certain tax reliefs.

At **Donaldson Ross & Co**, we're seeing more landlords and small business owners coming forward with undeclared income. HMRC now matches data from banks, letting platforms and more - so it's far safer to register than risk penalties.

Scan the QR code to read our full guide and check if you need to register this year.

## Want to read more?

Read our full blog here:



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## Community Spirit...

Ringwood Carnival you did not let us down!

Even with the rain in the afternoon you turned out and supported this great event. It was so good to see the town so busy and so many people smiling and laughing, putting all the troubles we have to one side.

So whats next?

### Ringwood Grand Fireworks -

**Sunday 2nd November** - Another event for the locals to come together and enjoy (see inside for further details).

### Remembrance Events

**Saturday 8th November** - Commemorative events will take place in November and will start with a service at the Commonwealth War Graves in Ringwood Cemetery. Starting at 10:45am. Poppy crosses will laid on the graves of service personnel whose last resting place is Ringwood.

**Sunday 9th November** - Remembrance Sunday, various services will take place around the town after which a parade will gather in Market Place at 1130am. The procession will walk to the War Memorial Garden where a short service will take place, followed by the formal Act of Remembrance at 12 noon. There will be

a formal wreath-laying ceremony and a procession back to Market Place.

**Tuesday 11th November** - On Armistice Day a service will place at the War Memorial Garden at 10:45am when a National 2 Minute Silence will be observed at 11am. In accordance with local tradition, the start and end of the silence will be marked by the firing of a maroon generating a loud bang heard around the town.

**Christmas Celebrations** - more details in the next issue but dont forget to put Sunday 30th November in your diaries so you dont miss the amazing **Wanderland Market**.

We are incredibly fortunate to have such a dedicated community of volunteers who work tirelessly to put on a wide range of local events throughout the year. These events bring people together, create a strong sense of belonging, and make the town a vibrant and welcoming place to live. Their hard work and generosity truly enrich life in Ringwood, and the town is lucky to have them.

*Darren & Naomi*

## Ringwood & Fordingbridge NEWS

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## NEWS

# Fordingbridge Surgery's new POD room helps patients with blood pressure monitoring in secure and comfortable environment

Fordingbridge Surgery has unveiled a brand-new POD Room, designed to help patients check their blood pressure simply, privately and conveniently. The POD Room has been installed following a period of consultation, during which the surgery actively listened to patient feedback. It offers a quiet, user-friendly space where patients can monitor their blood pressure independently, supporting the surgery's wider commitment to preventative care and early intervention. All readings taken in the POD room will automatically be added to a patient's record, which will then be monitored by the practice. Where there are concerns, the medical team will proactively reach out those patients of concern.

This initiative is part of the Fordingbridge Healthy Hearts Programme, which aims to reduce the risk of strokes and heart attacks in the local community. Every five minutes, someone in the UK suffers a stroke or heart attack – and in half of those cases, high blood pressure is the cause. Often silent, high blood pressure affects 1 in 3 adults in the UK, with over 6 million people unaware they have it.

### Why the POD Room Matters:

- \* Blood pressure checks are quick, easy and lifesaving
- \* The POD Room offers privacy and convenience



\* Patients can book via reception or online at [fordingbridgegps.co.uk](http://fordingbridgegps.co.uk)

\* Annual monitoring helps manage risks and supports healthier lifestyles

The installation has been made possible thanks to a £12,000 grant from New Forest District Council, with the support of Councillor David Millar, and a generous donation from the Friends of Fordingbridge Surgery. The new Pod room replaces the temporary system introduced during the pandemic, which required spacing between patients and limited access.

Dr Toby Wallis, Senior GP Partner at Fordingbridge Surgery, said: "We're proud to offer this new facility to our patients. It's a simple but powerful tool in helping people take control of their health and prevent serious conditions before they develop. We're hoping the new POD room will encourage patients to join the Fordingbridge Healthy Hearts Programme and check their blood pressure more frequently."

For more information or to book a POD Room appointment, visit [fordingbridgegps.co.uk](http://fordingbridgegps.co.uk) or speak to the reception team.

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## A Tail of Expansion: For The Love of Dog opens fourth salon in Ringwood

Seven years ago, Eloise Ansell was driving around Dorset and Hampshire in a single mobile grooming van. With nothing but her passion, a set of clippers, and a whole lot of love for dogs, she dreamed of creating something special. That dream grew into reality when she and her husband, Luke Ansell, founded For The Love of Dog - a family-run business that has become Dorset and Hampshire's leading, and highest-rated, dog grooming company. This October, they celebrate the opening of their fourth salon in Ringwood, Hampshire - joining top rated existing salons in Poole, Christchurch, and Lymington.

With salons already trusted by thousands of pet parents, For The Love of Dog has earned its reputation not through outside investment, but by staying true to its core values: compassion, community, and care. Every step of the business has been self-funded, with every penny invested back into safe, welcoming spaces where dogs feel at home. Founder Luke Ansell adds "from a single van to four salons, opening in Ringwood is an emotional milestone - it's proof of our remarkable journey and the countless tails we've helped wag along the way."

"Over the years we've built a really special community of dog lovers in Poole, Lymington, and Christchurch, and now we have the chance to welcome even more wagging tails into the For The Love of Dog family. For us, grooming has never been just about appearances - it's about your dog's comfort, confidence, and overall well-being," said Eloise. "Our team is incredibly passionate about what they do and I couldn't be prouder of the care and attention they show every single dog who walks through our doors. We know how important it is to trust the people who care for your dog, and that's something we never take lightly. Our mission is to give every owner peace of mind and every pup a positive, happy



experience - and we're beyond excited to bring that to Ringwood."

From the start, the Ansell's have believed in one thing: that running a successful business begins with heart - putting people and their dogs first. The company hires for character above all else, believing that dogs can sense kindness and respond to it. This approach has built a loyal following, with glowing reviews praising the team's patience, attentiveness, and the way even the most nervous pups are put at ease.

The new Ringwood salon will offer the full range of services - from puppy introductions to specialist treatments - delivered by a team chosen for their compassion as much as their credentials.

For The Love of Dog has grown from a van to four thriving salons not because of strategy sheets, but because of trust, heart, and a team of people who treat every dog like their own. With the Ringwood salon now joining the family, even more wagging tails are set to leave the grooming table - happy, safe, and looking their very best.



## NEWS

# An exciting summer abroad for 8 local youths with Lions International Youth Camp Scheme

8 extraordinary young people from our local community enjoyed an exciting summer abroad in Japan, Iowa (USA), Turkey, Spain, Germany and Hungary at a Lions International Youth Camp made possible through Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions Club.

Pictured above at the top is Tom who visited Osaka in Japan and went through a cleansing ritual in the mountains guided by Japanese Monks, and from the pictures below Isabella exploring Hungary with plenty of new found international friends at the camp. Katie visited Southern Spain, Emma and Indigo had a fantastic time in different parts of Turkey, Colette went to rural Iowa in USA, and went on a road trip with her host family for 5 days to Canada and took in Toronto and Niagra Falls, and Anna visited Northern Germany. Lions President Alastair Ward commented "for most people this was their first time abroad and the confidence and enthusiasm brought back by each young person from their time at the international youth camp is incredible. They will have made friendships and memories that will last a lifetime".

The Lions International Youth Camp & Exchange Program runs each year during the summer months. Multiple places are available on this scheme which is designed to promote friendship, travel and a greater international cultural awareness. Every trip is unique, and each young person will spend up to 2 weeks living with a host family (or in the case of Tom this year 5 in rural Japan) and then a further week to 10 days at an international youth camp comprising young people from around the world. Every year over 100 International Youth Camps will be arranged by Lions International spanning 40

different countries.

Every Lions Camp is different and exciting and offers everyone participating a life-changing experience; to explore the culture and sights of that country; to be more independent; and to make new friends around the world. Commonly, those taking part will only need to raise enough funds for their flights and spending money with Lions Clubs meeting other expenses. If you are aged between 16 and 22 and wish to apply for an international Lions youth camp abroad in the summer of 2026, please contact Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions Club at [www.randflions.org.uk](http://www.randflions.org.uk) or call 0345 833 5819. The scheme has been in operation since 1961 and is a wonderful opportunity for young people to travel abroad safely, explore a new country, and make new friends with other young people from around the world.

Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions Club meet at 8pm on the second Thursday of every month at the Trinity Church in Ringwood. They are proud to be part of an international family of Lions Clubs made up of volunteers who besides their youth projects aim to help anyone in need within their local communities and further afield. Anyone wishing to find out more about their work including this scheme can contact them on their website ([www.randflions.org.uk](http://www.randflions.org.uk)), by phone on 0345 833 5819 or simply come along to one of our monthly meetings.

**Will you be over 16 next summer?**

**Why not Explore the world with Lions International**



Over 100 Lions International Youth Camps are available worldwide each year – find out how to apply at [www.randflions.org.uk](http://www.randflions.org.uk)



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## NEWS

### Ringwood Antiques Club

At their first meeting of this season, members of Ringwood Antiques Club dived into the oceans as salvage master Kevin Patience told of the many treasures of the deep recovered from a great range of wrecks around the world.

The next Antiques meeting will be on Wednesday 22nd October when Duncan Sowry-House, a keen collector of ceramics, will be tracing the evolution of Poole Pottery through every decade of production. The Pottery influenced not only the British design movement but also the role of women in the whole creative process – aspects which Duncan is very keen to support.

New members are most welcome to join Ringwood Antiques Club, which meets at Greyfriars Community Centre on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. A membership charge of £20 covers all meetings up to and includ-

ing 27th May 2026 (NB no meeting in December) and is open to subscribing members of Greyfriars Community Association. Guests are welcome at £10 per evening. For further details see [www.ringwoodantiquesclub.org.uk](http://www.ringwoodantiquesclub.org.uk)

### Bickerley Green Raises over £180 for Macmillan Cancer Care with a Coffee Morning

On Friday 26th September, the residents, relatives, friends and staff enjoyed delicious home-made cakes and a nice cup of tea or coffee. Residents had been looking forward to this annual event and they were not to be disappointed. With a section of homemade cakes including: lemon drizzle cake, coffee and walnut cake, banana and cheery loaf and chocolate cake it was difficult to choose which cake to try. Many opted to have a little piece of every cake offered. Along with copious cups of coffee and tea, Bickerley Green raised an impressive £180 to support of

Macmillan Cancer Care. Tracy Flint, the registered manager, said "The Macmillan coffee morning is one of our regular events which we love to support. We at, Bickerley Green, try to do something to support the wider community and who doesn't enjoy a lovely slice of home-made cake. I would like to thank everyone for supporting this worthwhile charity and we're looking forward to our next Macmillan coffee morning in September 2026."



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## Avon Valley Concerts welcomes cello and piano duo, Laura van der Heijden and Jâms Coleman to Ringwood

Avon Valley Concerts is delighted to welcome cellist Laura van der Heijden and pianist Jâms Coleman to the Trinity Centre in Ringwood on 31st October 2025. This will be the second concert in the season after a vibrant opening performance by the Lumas Winds. The concert will start at 7pm and the ticket price is £18, with under 25s admitted free of charge.

Laura van der Heijden is an accomplished cellist who won the BBC Young Musician of the Year competition in 2012. Earlier this year she gave a wonderful performance of the Elgar cello concerto with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. Accompanying Laura will be Jâms Coleman, a pianist who regularly plays as a soloist, chamber musician and vocal accompanist at prestigious festivals in the UK and abroad. The duo have recorded two albums, the latest of which 'Path to the Moon' was released in 2024 to excellent reviews, being described as 'gently alluring, enigmatic and romantic' by Gramophone.

Laura and Jâms will perform a varied programme, including works by Milhaud, Boulanger, Fauré and Franck.

Event details:

Date: Friday 31 October 2025

Time: 7.00pm

Venue: Trinity Centre, Ringwood, BH24 1DH

Tickets may be purchased from Greyfriars Community Centre and

Grants Estate Agents in Ringwood, Caxton Decor in Fordingbridge, online via our website [www.avonvalleyconcerts.com](http://www.avonvalleyconcerts.com) and on the door.



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**Nov 12th -If God is love, why is there suffering?**

**Nov 19th -Is death the end, or can we hope for something beyond death?**

**Nov 26th -Is there any evidence to support belief in God?**

**Dec 3rd - Is there any answer to sin and evil in the world?**

All talks begin at 7pm, followed by open questions and refreshments. **FREE** entry, and all are welcome, no matter what your beliefs.



## NEWS

# Understanding Investments: The importance of tax wrappers

Investments returns are primarily driven by investments markets, asset allocation and charges. Ensuring whoever is managing your investments are making sensible, well researched choices and are charging you a fair fee for doing so is job No1.

What many people don't understand is that the tax wrapper you then hold the investments in will also affect the financial outcome as tax can be a drag on performance. Therefore it's important that you own your investments in the optimal tax wrapper for your personal circumstances.

ISAs and Pensions are usually the first wrappers to consider as any growth within these are capital gains tax and income tax free. Pensions have more complex rules around contributions and withdrawals but for the purposes of this article the important thing to understand is that the underlying investment content of both ISAs and Pensions are tax free.

If a client has more money to invest then there are 3 main alternative wrappers; General Investment Account, Onshore Bond or Offshore Bond. What are the main features and considerations of each?

### 1-General Investment Account (GIA):

Returns are subject to income tax and capital gains tax. Dividends are taxed at 8.75% and interest at 20% for basic rate tax-payers but these increase to 33.75% and 40% for higher rate tax-payers and 39.35% and 45% for additional rate tax-payers. Capital gains tax is now at 18% or 24% (basic rate and higher/additional rate) and the annual capital gains tax exemption is £3,000.

**The increase in the rate of capital gains tax and the reduction in the annual exemption means higher and additional rate tax-payers need to carefully consider whether a GIA is still the most suitable wrapper within which to hold their investments.**

### 2-Onshore Investment Bond:

The underlying investment growth is taxed as corporation tax equating to 20%. Interest is taxed at 20% and dividends are tax-free. Onshore Bonds are subject to the "chargeable event regime" which means that on surrender or death a tax event occurs which calculates the total return on the bond and any gains are subject

to income tax. However a 20% tax credit is applied. Depending on the bond-holder's tax position in the year of the event, there may be no further tax to pay or there may be a further 20% or 25% tax to pay on any growth of the investments. These bonds also allow up to 5% per annum of capital withdrawals for up to 20 years with no immediate tax charge.

**Higher rate tax-payers now who will become basic rate tax-payers in retirement may be able to benefit from lower taxation on growth than a GIA but the key is mitigating a tax charge on exit which requires careful consideration.**

### 3-Offshore Investment Bond:

The underlying investment growth is tax free so these benefit from "gross roll-up". However they are also subject to the same "chargeable event regime" as Onshore Bonds and the same tax rules on surrender or exit but without the 20% tax credit. Therefore all returns are taxed at 20%, 40% or 45%.

**It is important that there is an exit plan for these bonds. It is possible to assign segments of the bond (this is also possible with Onshore Bonds) so we often see these being assigned to a family member who is a none or basic rate tax-payer such as a grand-child to fund university fees or for a deposit for a house.**

Tax rules are subject to change and are more detailed than a short-article can cover. Therefore it's important you take personal, financial advice before making any decisions on which wrapper works best for your circumstances.

Stewart, Harry and I are available for a free initial, no obligation chat to discuss and consider your personal situation.

Howard Goodship is an Independent Financial Adviser with Lonsdale Wealth Management, 5 Friday's Court, Ringwood Tel: 01425 208490, [www.lonsdaleservices.co.uk](http://www.lonsdaleservices.co.uk).

*The value of an investment and the income from it could go down as well as up. The return at the end of the investment period is not guaranteed and you may get back less than you originally invested. The contents of this article are for information purposes only and do not constitute individual advice. The Financial Conduct Authority does not regulate Cash-flow planning or tax advice.*

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# RINGWOOD TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



Issue 005

October 2025

As autumn approaches, we're excited to share the latest news and highlights from around the town. This season has been full of celebration and community spirit. Congratulations to everyone involved in Ringwood Carnival, which was a huge success and a real highlight for residents. Meanwhile, exciting improvements at Carvers are now complete, including the new Multi-Use Games Area, which we've named "Carvers Courts", providing a fantastic facility for all ages to enjoy. Looking ahead, we have plenty to look forward to, including our annual fireworks display, the Winter Wonderland event and next year we will be celebrating the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Market Charter. With ongoing projects, community achievements, and seasonal events, Ringwood continues to thrive thanks to the support and involvement of its residents.



## Welcoming New Leadership and Honouring Departures

We're pleased to welcome Charmaine Bennett as Ringwood's new Town Clerk. Many of you will know Charmaine from her role as Clubhouse & Events Manager, where she helped deliver community events and improve local facilities. She took over on 1 September, following the retirement of Chris Wilkins.

*"I'm honoured to take on the role of Town Clerk and continue serving the Ringwood community. I look forward to working with residents, councillors, and staff to help shape a vibrant future for our town."* – Charmaine Bennett

We also said goodbye to Paul Venthams, our Grounds Manager, who retired after more than 20 years of service, and Laura Smith, our Finance Manager, who is moving on to new opportunities. We thank them both – and Chris – for their contributions to the town. We are now recruiting for a part-time Finance Manager. Details are available on our website.

## RACE to Green: Transforming Ringwood

For the past three years, volunteers from RACE to Green, part of Ringwood Actions for Climate Emergency, have been creating pollinator-friendly planting across the town. Their work benefits residents, visitors, and local wildlife.

Starting with Gateway Square, the project now covers 12 sites and 18 tubs, with over 1,000 plants and thousands of bulbs added. Volunteers have contributed more than 650 hours, supported by the Town Council's Grounds Team with materials, waste removal, and watering.

Councillors have praised the group's "fantastic work," and a photographic display at Ringwood Gateway shows the impressive transformations. With continued community support, RACE to Green hopes to expand to more areas of the town.



## Ringwood Lights Up: Grand Fireworks Display

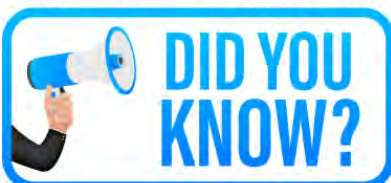
Tickets are now on sale for our annual Grand Fireworks Display at Carvers Recreation Ground on Sunday 2nd November. This family-friendly event promises an evening of dazzling entertainment for all ages.

Visitors can enjoy two spectacular fireworks displays, live music from local performers, fairground rides, a traditional bonfire, and a variety of food stalls and a charity bar.

Join us to celebrate the season, enjoy the stunning fireworks, and support a memorable community event.

## Small Grants Scheme – Supporting Local Organisations

Last month the Council awarded grants to Ringwood Men's Shed, Ringwood Rotary, the Parish Church, Helping Older People New Forest, and Forest Forge Theatre Company. Grants are available to support a wide range of community projects and activities – applications for the next round of funding will open in March.



The Council manages over 20 public open spaces and other bits of land in and around the parish. A full list and map is available on our website under parish and ward information.


[www.ringwood.gov.uk](http://www.ringwood.gov.uk)

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## HEALTH, BEAUTY & WELLBEING



### EVER THOUGHT ABOUT HAVING PERMANENT HAIR REMOVAL?

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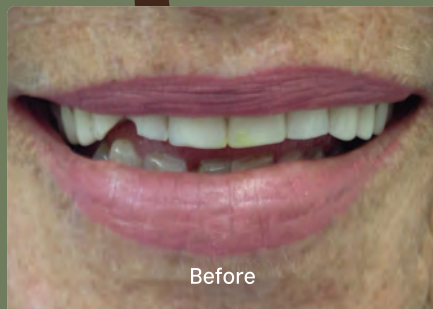


## Southfield DENTAL PRACTICE

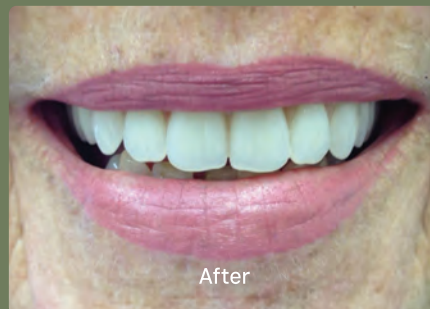
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## HEALTH, BEAUTY & WELLBEING



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Verwood, BH31 7PY

### Christchurch

**01202 048222**  
14 Saxon Square,  
Christchurch, BH23 1QA

## NEWS

continued from page 1 - local community once again. This hugely popular event, enjoyed by all ages, will feature two stunning fireworks displays, fairground, children's circus workshops, fire shows, and live music from the much-loved Swing Unlimited Big Band.

### What's New This Year?

While the event remains the same crowd-pleasing celebration, organisers have once again set the event as **online-only ticketing system**. Based on feedback from attendees and to enhance safety and convenience, **tickets must be purchased online**.

- **Early Bird tickets** are £3.85 until two weeks before the event (Monday 20th October).
- **Tickets after that date** will be £5.50 (online only).
- **Pre-schoolers and people with disabilities** can attend for free.

To make it as easy as possible for everyone, tickets will be available online until they sell out, including during the event itself. For those who may need assistance with the new system, our team will be on hand to help on the day or at Ringwood Gateway in advance. In addition to the ticket prices above, there is also a small ticket handling fee.

### Event Highlights:

- **Gates open at 3pm** for the fairground, children's entertainment, and a wide range of food and drink stalls.
- A **'low noise' display** begins at 5:30pm, perfect for those who prefer a quieter experience.
- The **Swing Unlimited Big Band** takes the stage at 6pm, performing an eclectic mix of jazz along with more modern pop tunes that everyone will love.
- The **bonfire will be lit at 6:15pm**, followed by the main fireworks display at 7pm.

Cllr Rae Frederick, Chair of the Events Committee and Town Mayor, says:

*"The Ringwood Grand Fireworks is always a highlight of our towns calendar, bringing the community together for an unforgettable event. We are especially grateful to A-One insurance our headline sponsor this year for their generous support in helping make this fantastic event possible."*

### Delicious Food & Drink:

Food vendors on-site will offer a variety of hot food, drinks and treats including local, bratwurst, gourmet burgers, bubble tea, pizza, and sweet delights. The **Ringwood Roundtable** will also be running a bar, with all profits supporting local charities and activities. Don't miss out on this fantastic evening of fun, entertainment, and fireworks! Get your tickets online now and be part of the biggest Ringwood Grand Fireworks yet.

For more information and to purchase your tickets online please visit Ticket Tailor <https://buytickets.at/ringwoodtowncouncil/1875063>, for event FAQ's visit the Town Council website, <https://www.ringwood.gov.uk/firework-display/>

## Ringwood Remembers: Community Invited to Commemorative Events



The people of Ringwood are invited to come together over the Remembrance period to honour the service and sacrifice of those who gave their lives to defend our freedoms and protect our way of life.

A series of commemorative events will take place across the town, offering residents the opportunity to reflect and pay tribute.

### Saturday 8th November – Service at the War Graves

The period of remembrance begins with a service at the War Graves in Ringwood Cemetery. Attendees are invited to gather in the cemetery car park at 10:45am before walking to the graves where poppy crosses will be laid in honour of service personnel buried in Ringwood. This event is open to all.

### Sunday 9th November – Remembrance Sunday

On Remembrance Sunday, a series of services will take place across Ringwood. From 11:30am, participants will gather in the Market Place ahead of a formal parade to the War Memorial Garden. A short service will follow, culminating in the **Act of Remembrance at 12 noon**, with a wreath-laying ceremony and a return procession to the Market Place. Members of the public are warmly invited to attend and may bring their own tributes to lay at the memorial during the appropriate time. Please note: a short road closure will be in effect to allow the safe passage of the procession.

### Tuesday 11th November – Armistice Day

A service will take place at the War Memorial Gardens at 10:45am to mark Armistice Day. At **11:00am**, the National Two Minutes' Silence will be observed. In accordance with local tradition, the silence will be signalled by the firing of a maroon, which will generate a loud bang heard throughout the town. These events are an important opportunity for the community to pause, reflect, and give thanks to those who served and continue to serve.

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## SPORT

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Check out our website [www.ringwoodtabletennisclub.co.uk](http://www.ringwoodtabletennisclub.co.uk) for more information.



## SPORT

## 'Hampshire's Golden Girls'

Ringwood Bowling Club Ladies Helen Blackiston and Christine Pentelow are the 2025 Bowls Hampshire Women's Golden Pairs Champions.

During the summer Helen and Chris played four Pairs matches, in the Bowls Hampshire West Area, defeating pairings from Southbourne, Moordown and Bournemouth Bowling Clubs to qualify for the All Hampshire Finals.

The Finals took place in August at Banister Park. In their morning Semi Final Helen and Chris won 20 - 16 against Sue Dixon and Janie Vickers of Oakley BC.

The afternoon Final, against Jean Garrod and Lyn Booth of Mayfield Park BC, was an exciting very close game with Helen and Chris victorious by one shot, 19 - 18 to become the Bowls Hampshire Women's Golden Pairs Champions 2025. Well done Helen and Chris.

Find Ringwood Bowling Club at [www.ringwoodbowlingclub.co.uk](http://www.ringwoodbowlingclub.co.uk)



### DELIVERY TEAM

We are looking for people to join our delivery team in Ringwood - 3rd Wednesday/Thursday of the month. Interested, please contact Rae at

Email: [sales@rfnews.uk](mailto:sales@rfnews.uk)



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2025-26



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Tue 28 Oct	A	Totton & Eling*
Sat 1 Nov	A	Aldermaston
Sat 8 Nov	A	Alresford Town

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## NEWS

### BrightWater: Redefining Property in Ringwood

When it comes to property, many assume they need multiple firms to manage different stages of the journey — one for sales, another for lettings, and perhaps a specialist for development advice. In Ringwood, that was the norm — until BrightWater arrived. Bringing together expertise across residential, land, new homes, and all sectors of commercial property, BrightWater offers a seamless, all-encompassing service under one roof.

BrightWater is the town's only multi-discipline property agency, reshaping how people buy, sell, let, and develop property. By bringing a complete range of services together under one roof, the firm offers something unique: a single, trusted partner for every stage of your property journey.

From property management — giving landlords confidence that their investments are in safe hands — to land and new homes advice on acquisitions, planning, and development consultancy, BrightWater's expertise extends well beyond the traditional. Our company is equally at ease helping a first-time buyer purchase their first home as it is advising a developer on the strategic potential of a multi-acre site.

#### Strengthening Commercial Expertise

The latest chapter in BrightWater's growth is the expansion of its commercial property division. Recognising that businesses deserve the same depth of support as private clients, the firm has built a team combining experience with fresh perspective.

At the helm is Jason Lewis our newly appointed Commercial Di-

rector, who brings extensive sector knowledge and a proven track record. Alongside Jason we have Harry Loose our new Commercial Consultant who together bring a significant step forward in BrightWater's ability to advise on offices, retail, industrial, and mixed-use developments — creating new opportunities for businesses of all sizes.

#### The BrightWater Difference

In a market where property services have long been fragmented, BrightWater stands out as a truly comprehensive practice — dedicated to guiding clients through every stage of their property journey. Whether you're buying your first home, expanding your investment portfolio, moving your business, or planning a new development, BrightWater is here to help.

For all your property matters, contact BrightWater.

Scan the QR code below to visit our website and keep up to date with our blogs or look at our helpful property guides.



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## Willow Crowned RKO's August Plank Challenge Champion

RKO's August Plank Challenge ended with a spectacular show of strength as young kickboxer Willow claimed the top spot—holding a plank for an astonishing 15 minutes.

The challenge, open to all members of Ringwood Kickboxing Organisation, tested core endurance and mental grit throughout the month. But it was Willow who stole the spotlight, demonstrating remarkable focus and resilience well beyond her years.

"Fifteen minutes is no small feat," said RKO founder Liz Ferioli-Brown. "Willow's determination and calm under pressure were inspiring to everyone in the club."

The challenge saw widespread participation, with members of all ages pushing their limits and cheering each other on. While Willow took the crown, every participant was celebrated for their effort, progress, and team spirit.

In a heartwarming twist, the challenge also raised £105 towards improvements at the Wesley



Centre, the beloved home of RKO. The funds will go toward enhancing facilities for members and visitors alike—proof that every plank held helped build something bigger.



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## WHATS ON

### Ringwood Musical & Dramatic Society Presents: The 'IN' Famous Soirée

A Night of Laugh-Out-Loud Comedy at The Barn, Ringwood – 28th October to 1st November

If you're looking for a great laugh this autumn, look no further than Ringwood Musical & Dramatic Society's 'IN' Famous Soirée – Ringwood's premier comedy sketch show for grown-ups!

Packed with original sketches, hilarious characters and a touch of cheeky humour, the Soirée promises an evening of entertainment you won't forget. In fact, it's probably Ringwood's only comedy sketch show for adults – so make sure you don't miss out!

The event runs from Tuesday 28th October to Saturday 1st November at The Barn, Ringwood, transforming the venue into a lively cabaret-style setting. Some tables will be sold as full tables of 10, so it's the perfect excuse to gather your friends, share some nibbles and enjoy a night of laughter.

Please note: while you're welcome to bring your own snacks, drinks must be purchased from the well-stocked bar. Tickets always sell fast for this popular show – so don't delay! Book your tickets now at [ticketsource.co.uk/rmds](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/rmds) and get ready for a night of side-splitting fun.

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#### Event Details:

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- \* Tuesday 28th October – Saturday 1st November
- \* Presented by Ringwood Musical & Dramatic Society
- \* Bar available | Adults only

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- 7 NOV** DAN BUDD AS ROBBIE WILLIAMS  
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- 8 NOV** BYE BYE BABY  
 THE MUSIC OF FRANKIE VALLI & THE FOUR SEASONS
- 14 NOV** TOM BALL  
 AS SEEN ON BRITAIN'S GOT TALENT
- 20 NOV** RICH HALL - CHIN MUSIC  
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- 21 NOV** MOST HAUNTED LIVE - THE STAGE SHOW  
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- 22 NOV** THE DRIFTERS  
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- 13 DEC** RADIO GAGA  
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- 20 DEC** NEW PURPLE CELEBRATION  
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### What's on at Greyfriars!

#### 23 October – Menopause Mad Hatter Tea Party

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#### 25 October – Greyfriars Boot Sale

Come along from 8-12 noon for some great bargains. £10 fee for our sellers to include bacon roll & hot drink. Bookings: email [office@greyfriarsringwood.org.uk](mailto:office@greyfriarsringwood.org.uk) or call 01425 472613.

#### 29 October – The Friends of Greyfriars AGM

Find out more about the important work of The Friends from 2.30pm at Greyfriars Community Centre and enjoy a lovely cream tea.

#### 30 October – Greyfriars Community Courtyard Cafe

Launching our fundraising campaign for the Café, we ready to make this dream a reality. Come along at 2pm to hear what you've told us via our survey and learn more about our plans.

#### 31 October – Ringwood Twining Association – Quiz!

In the Ann Rose Room at Greyfriars at 7pm. £15 per person includes Fish & Chips or Pea Fritters & Chips (BYO drinks & glasses). There's a raffle on the night, they welcome your donations. Please contact Grahame Short on 07775803487

## HAVE AN EVENT COMING UP?

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Marie Curie Fundraising Group



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**7.15pm for 7.30pm start**

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# HISTORY & NEWS

## And The Winners Are....



Last night saw The Ringwood Society reward the best of design in Ringwood over the last twelve months with their flagship Design and Conservation Awards 2025 sponsored by Lonsdale Wealth Management. Lucky recipients received their prizes at The Society’s Autumn Open Meeting at Greyfriars Community Centre.

The awards, founded in 1981 and relaunched three years ago, were this year given to; Monsreed Ltd and Williams Lester Architects with their new houses in Strides Lane (above left) receiving a Residential Award; Colston Trustees Ltd, Kennedy’s Southern Ltd and Winkle-Bottom Chartered Surveyors receiving a Commercial Award for their restoration of the ex-WH Smith building on the High Street (centre); and Love to B Skincare and Artful Charlie receiving a Commercial Award for their new hand painted signage at 14 The Furlong Shopping Centre (above right). “Once again we have had a great crop of projects this year, reminding us of the continuing high standard of new work in the town. The three award winning projects are particularly gratifying, with these trio being excellent examples of what happens when a dedicated team commits to doing the best job they can for their scheme” said Chair of The Ringwood Society; Alex Bancroft. “We are already looking forward to what the next twelve months will bring for next year’s awards and nominations are now open!”

### Ringwood Lantern of Remembrance

SHINING IN NOVEMBER  
IN HONOUR OF

DATE OF DEATH	NAME	RANK	REGIMENT OR SHIP
01/11/1914	Ralph Frederick Fall PERRETT	Musician	Royal Marines HMS Monmouth
01/11/1914	Albert Edward WAREHAM	Boatman	ex Coast Guard HMS Monmouth
02/11/1914	Arthur JANES	Private	(1st Bn Hampshire Regiment
03/11/1916	Auberon Thomas HERBERT (LORD LUCAS)	Captain	Hampshire Yeomanry then 22 Squadron RFC
03/11/1940	Frederick FRAMPTON	Petty Officer (DEMS)	HMS Patrocius (AMC) Atlantic Convoy
06/11/1917	Cecil YOUNG	Private	(1st Bn Hampshire Regiment
10/11/1943	Frederick HYDE	Chief ERA DSM	HMS Northray II(Hayling Island)
13/11/1939	J RISDON	Petty Officer (Cook)	HMS Adventure
14/11/1916	Richard Forbes LOWNDES	(2nd) Lieutenant	Kings Royal Rifle Corps
16/11/1917	Charles NEWELL	Driver	Horse Transport Army Service Corps
16/11/1917	George SMALL	Private	(11th Bn) Hampshire Regiment
20/11/1917	Frederick George BARROW	Private	(1st Bn) Dorsetshire Regiment
20/11/1942	Howard Duncan FRASER	Wing Commander OBE	Royal Air Force
24/11/1917	Ernest Thomas ANDREWS	Private	(2nd/4th Bn) Hampshire Regiment
25/11/1917	William Charles HOPKINS	Private	(7th) Bn Royal Sussex Regiment
29/11/1916	James MacNeil CLAPPERTON	Private	Royal Scots later Royal Defence Corps
30/11/1942	Alfred BREWER	Flight Sergeant	RAFVR
30/11/1943	Gerald Alfred DUNCOMBE	Gunner	Royal Artillery

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## NEWS

### Greyfriars Community Café

Greyfriars Community Centre received planning permission to create a Café in the central courtyard a few years ago, and now those plans are poised to become a reality.

Claire Alexander, Greyfriars Community Centre manager said “We’re thrilled to be launching our fundraising campaign for the Community Café at Greyfriars! Over the summer we’ve been refining plans and now we’re ready to focus on making this dream come true. For many, Greyfriars is more than a centre, it’s a second home. The café will be its ‘kitchen table’: a warm, welcoming space to meet over good food and barista coffee.”

Greyfriars has over 800 members and is home to over 100 clubs. Their input is vital to making these plans a success. As a first step a survey has been circulated. There will then be a members’ meeting to share plans and ideas at 2pm on Thursday 30th October and a meeting for the businesses that use the Community Centre at 6.30pm on Wednesday 12th November.

“We’re delighted to say that we’ve received pledges for half of the money we need for the building, but we really want the whole community to be involved, so we’d love people to come along to hear and see more about this exciting project and explore how we might work together on fundraising.” Claire added.

The picture above is an impression of how the Community Café might look, kindly put together by a Greyfriars member.

Ringwood & District Community Centre (known as Greyfriars) is a Registered Charity with Charity Number 301929



**WORDWRIGHT'S POETRY CAFE**

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**Time:** 7pm to 9pm  
**Dates:** 4th November 2025  
 2nd December 2025  
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## Ringwood care home residents cheer on four-legged friends at Muddy Dog Dash fundraiser

Ringwood care home residents enjoyed an action-packed day cheering on four-legged friends at a charity obstacle course. Residents from St Ives House, on Horton Road, attended Lewis-Manning Hospice Care's Muddy Dog Dash, a dog-themed charity run held at Avon Heath Country Park. This was the second Muddy Dog Dash organised by Lewis-Manning Hospice Care this year with the first having taken place at Upton Country Park in March.

Participants tackled a novelty obstacle course with their four-legged friends featuring muddy ditches, tunnels, and ball pits. Residents from St Ives House, which is run by not-for-profit charity Care South, enjoyed applauding and chatting to the finalists, as well as watching pooches take part in the event's 'Dazzling Dog Show'. Care South is proud to support Lewis-Manning Hospice Care, which provides support to people with life-limiting illnesses and their families across East Dorset.

Ken, a resident at St Ives House, said: "I've had six dogs over the years, and I used to bring them to Avon Heath Country Park, so it was nice to come back and to see lots of labradors, springer spaniels and retrievers there. Dogs give such a lot of love to you."

Liz, another resident at the home, added: "Anything that involves dogs is great. I've had dogs before and so it was fantastic to meet so many at the event. It was also lovely to feel like part of the community, which is something that I want to stay part of."

Two members of the team, Dan Banks, Care Team Leader at St Ives House, and Angie l'Anson, Group Practice Development Lead at Care South, completed the 5k route, with a shorter 3km also

available.

Emma Cotton, Home Manager at St Ives House, said: "It was wonderful for our residents to be part of such a fantastic, fun event in their local community. Their faces lit up as they got to meet so many different dogs. It was a joy to enable them to play their own part in all the excitement and action on the day."

Anna DuRose, Events Fundraiser for Lewis-Manning Hospice Care, said: "We were pleased to welcome the St Ives House residents to our first Ringwood-based Muddy Dog Dash. They brought so much enthusiasm and positive spirit to the event, and it was lovely to see them having fun in the sunshine while cheering on all the dogs and participants. We are so grateful to Care South for their generous support which enables us to reach people living with life-limiting conditions."

St Ives House provides residential, respite and dementia care with residents enjoying a daily programme of events led by an in-house activities team to bring them together to socialise and build friendships.

Care South is a leading provider of high-quality residential and home care services across the south of England, with care homes in Dorset, north Devon and Somerset, and care at home offices covering Dorset and Somerset.

For more information about the care services available at St Ives House, visit [care-south.co.uk](http://care-south.co.uk) or call the home on 01425 209464.



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# Puzzle Corner

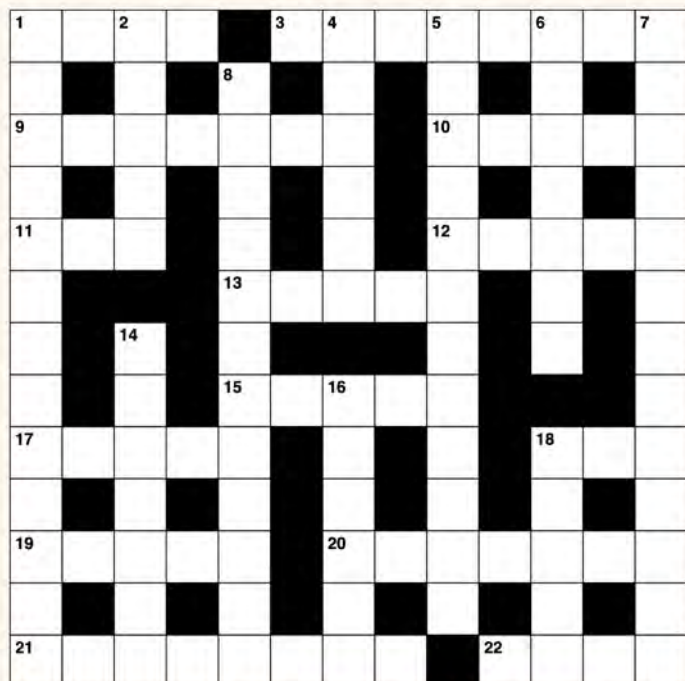
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## Crossword



### Across

- 1 - Wire lattice (4)
- 3 - Creative (8)
- 9 - Brass wind instrument (7)
- 10 - Unit of heat (5)
- 11 - Soak up; wipe away (3)
- 12 - Last Greek letter (5)
- 13 - Lubricated (5)
- 15 - Having three dimensions (5)
- 17 - Cruel or severe (5)
- 18 - Hip (anag) (3)
- 19 - Small firework (5)
- 20 - Type of cocktail (7)
- 21 - Stops temporarily (8)
- 22 - Extremely (4)

### Down

- 1 - Process of transformation (of an insect) (13)
- 2 - Drink noisily (5)
- 4 - Narrate a story once again (6)
- 5 - Preliminary (12)
- 6 - Thus; as a result (7)
- 7 - Ability to get along (13)
- 8 - Easy to converse with (12)
- 14 - Disguises or covers (7)
- 16 - Shone (3)
- 18 - Item won in a competition (5)

### Answers for last the last issue:



5	9	3	4	8	7	2	1	6
8	2	6	1	3	9	5	4	7
4	1	7	6	5	2	9	8	3
7	8	2	3	9	4	6	5	1
1	3	9	5	2	6	8	7	4
6	5	4	8	7	1	3	2	9
3	4	1	2	6	8	7	9	5
2	7	5	9	4	3	1	6	8
9	6	8	7	1	5	4	3	2

## Sudoku

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to visit our website:

			9				2	
			5					
		7	8			6	5	4
		9			6		4	
2				4				1
	7		1			3		
9	5	6			2	1		
					5			
	2				1			

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## RINGWOOD TWINNING ASSOCIATION

### Quiz Evening

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# NEWS

## Rain didn't stop the fun on Carnival Day!



**WHAT** a Carnival Day we had this year! Ringwood was busy and bustling all day even the rain couldn't dampen the spirits of Carnival goers!

This year on Saturday 20th September, it was exactly 2pm when the heavens opened exactly the same time as the start of the afternoon parade, but that didn't stop the smiles and laughter. Ringwood saw one of its biggest processions for many years full to the brim with colour, singing, dancing and lots of music the people of Ringwood lined the streets and braved the rain to watch!

With so many fantastic entries this year, the judges had a difficult job! They decided that the MLW Best of Show would be awarded to Waldorf School with the entry "Golden Autumn".

Howard Cox, President of the Ringwood Carnival said: "It was a phenomenal day and the number of participants and supporters who were involved this year was incredible. We did have a little bit of rain in the afternoon but that certainly did not dampen spirits at all. The fact that all the participants carried on regardless and the crowds turned out in support despite the weather is a wonderful testament to the popularity and public support for our carnival."

As well as the dazzling afternoon and evening processions, there was entertainment throughout the whole day, with live music across the day as part of Carnival Unplugged, an aerial BMX bike display in the Market Place and the Transformers characters at Greyfriars Roundabout. At Greyfriars Community Centre, 'Live on the Lawn' offered music, food and drink stalls, a mini car show and the Carnival Bar for more cold refreshments.

Over at the Bickerley field, there was lots of fun to be had at Adam's fun fair which had some of the UK's biggest rides and lots to see at The Village Green stalls, which hosted a wonderful mix of food, crafts, charity and games stalls there was also circus skills workshops and a BMX stunt displays.

The fun continued after the evening procession with the End of Show Fire Performance in the Market Place Arena, followed by the Grand Finale Firework Display at 9.30pm at the Bickerley field. Carnival revellers enjoyed the official Carnival afterparty at Framp-ton's New Forest late into the night.

The Carnival Committee are already busy planning for 2026 (Saturday 19th September) so why don't you get involved and take part in the procession/s? With useful guides, templates and assistance on the Carnival website joining in the fun couldn't be easier.

### Afternoon Procession Winners 2025

Class	Position	Club/Organisation Name	Entry Title
1	GOLD	Jude Lloyd	The Spitfire
1	SILVER	Cats Protection Dorset Cat Centre	Cats
1	BRONZE	RKO Ringwood Kickboxing Organisation	RKO's Parade of Strength and Energy
2	GOLD	The Stables Family Home Trust	Mad Hatter Tea Party
2	SILVER	Spiral Blue	Spiral Blue Pirates
2	BRONZE	Katies Crew	Oktoberfest
3	GOLD	Ringwood Waldorf School	Golden Autumn
3	SILVER	Poulner Junior School	Minecraft
3	BRONZE	Ringwood Infant School	LEGO

Trophy	Club/Organisation Name	Entry Name
Catweazle	Skatepark Community Group	Youth Riders
Best Youth Walking Entry	1st Poulner Scout Group	Cirque de Poulner
Jade Clarke	Ringwood Infant School	LEGO
Best Youth Entry (any class)		
The Jen and Den		
Best School		

### Evening Procession Winners 2025

Class	Position	Club/Organisation Name	Entry Title
1	GOLD	Liffhedinn Vikings	Liffhedinn Vikings
1	SILVER	Sinclair C5s	Sinclair C5s
1	BRONZE	Revolution Cheerleading Academy	RCA
2	GOLD	Katies Crew	Oktoberfest
2	SILVER	Joy family and Friends	Jurassic Tuk Tuk
2	BRONZE	Newport Carnival	Newport
3	GOLD	1st Poulner Scout Group	Cirque de Poulner
3	SILVER	Bournemouth & Boscombe Light Opera Company	Annie the Musical
3	BRONZE	Holtwood Community Farm	Pumpkin Farmer

Trophy	Club/Organisation Name	Entry Name
Cox and Hicks	Joy family and Friends	Jurassic Tuk Tuk
Most Humorous (any class)		

Trophy	Michael Lingam-Willgoss – Best in Show (any class)
Gold	Ringwood Waldorf School
Silver	Katies Crew
Bronze	Bournemouth & Boscombe Light Opera Company





RINGWOOD  
**Carnival**



Credit to Trevor Pogson (Ringwood Camera Club) for the photos

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## NEWS

### New men's space in Fordingbridge tackles mental health



In a quiet hall on a Sunday afternoon, the sound of a pool game and casual conversation marks a significant step forward for men's wellbeing in the community. The Salvation Army in Fordingbridge has launched 'Men's Space', a new initiative designed to provide a vital, welcoming environment for men to connect, share, and support each other's mental health.

Led by local Youth & Community Worker Rob Aston, the group held its first meeting recently, welcoming four men to its safe and non-judgmental setting. The initiative was born from Rob's passion for men's mental wellness and conversations with men attending the church's services and other groups.

Rob said, "Following various conversations with men, it became clear we need a safe space to talk and spend time together, to combat the loneliness we can all face. We aim to create a place to celebrate our successes, share our struggles, and offer mutual support. Whether it's economic stress or personal pressures, this is a reminder to every man in Fordingbridge: you don't have to face hardships alone."

Currently meeting once a month from 2-3.30pm on the third Sunday at The Salvation Army hall on Roundhill, Men's Space is open to all men aged 18 plus. The sessions are set up in a social format, featuring a pool table, air hockey, table football, video game consoles, and a café area. The relaxed atmosphere is intentionally designed to foster friendship and open conversation without

pressure.

Looking ahead, the group plans to expand its activities to include countryside walks, shared meals, and potentially guest speakers, all with the continued goal of fighting isolation and depression by building a stronger, more supportive community among men.

For 140 years, the Salvation Army has served Fordingbridge through practical support and compassionate outreach, helping those in need while building a stronger community. The church and charity has regular social events and support groups that provide a sense of belonging and reduce isolation. Additionally, its pastoral support to students in the local school helps to tackle mental health issues and boost young people's well-being. To learn more about The Salvation Army in Fordingbridge, visit their website: Fordingbridge | The Salvation Army. <https://www.salvation-army.org.uk/fordingbridge>



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Come along and discover more by joining **Dr Henry Goodall** (Life President of the Friends of the New Forest Airfields (FONFA)) and **Fordingbridge History Society (FHS)** on **Monday 10 November from 2.30pm in Avonway Community Centre**, Shaftesbury Street, Fordingbridge SP6 1JF.

Henry Goodall was formerly a Consultant Occupational Physician and a Paratrooper in the Territorial Army. He is a founder

member of the New Aviation Heritage Centre located in Sopley.



The talk is free to members of FHS and visitors are most welcome to join us for a small fee (£5 per person). After the talk there are complimentary refreshments and the opportunity to have further discussions with the speaker and other members and guests.

There is a large public car park just a few minutes from Avonway and a drop off facility in front of the building.

FHS was established over 60 years ago. We meet on the 2nd Monday of the month at Avonway and offer a series of 8 talks between October to April. The annual subscription is £15.00 per person.

For further details, check out the FHS website ([fordingbridgehistorysociety.org.uk](http://fordingbridgehistorysociety.org.uk)) or contact [secretary@fordingbridgehistorysociety.org.uk](mailto:secretary@fordingbridgehistorysociety.org.uk)



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**Ringwood £375,000**



- Modern Semi-Detached House Built in 2020
- 4 bedrooms • Master en-suite • Open plan lounge/diner/kitchen • Study • Cloakroom
- 2 parking spaces • Private gardens
- No Forward Chain • **SOLE AGENTS**

**Ringwood £430,000**



- Modern Link Detached House • 4 bedrooms
- Some mdernisation needed • Kitchen
- Lounge/diner with brick fireplace
- Cloakroom • Downstairs Study/bed 4
- Garage • 2 Car spaces • **SOLE AGENTS**

**Ringwood £350,000**

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**Founder**  
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