

The Ringwood & Fordingbridge NEWS



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Issue 914 • April 15th to May 19th • 2026

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Join Ringwood's Community Evening



Wednesday 13th May
Ringwood Gateway
Drop in from 6pm
Meeting starts 6.45pm

Ringwood residents are invited to an evening celebrating 800 years of the Market Charter – come and meet local groups, speak with Councillors and Council staff.

This year's Annual Assembly has been designed as a more informal and welcoming opportunity for residents to meet local organisations, speak directly with Councillors and Council staff, and share their views on the future of the town.

Drop in from 6pm to see a wide range of local groups, who will be attending to showcase their work in the community, including Ringwood Society, Greyfriars Community Centre, Ringwood Carnival, Ringwood Round Table, Ringwood Rotary Club, Toad Patrol, Ringwood & Fordingbridge Business Community, RACE, Greening Ringwood, the Repair Café, Community Fridge, and the Men's Shed.

Residents will have the chance to find out more about the activities, support, and volunteering opportunities available locally, as well as connect with the people behind them.

Town Council staff and Councillors will also be on hand throughout the evening to talk about local services, answer questions, and hear directly from residents. A visual overview of the Council's work over the past year will be running during the event.

The formal Annual town Assembly will begin at 6:45pm, providing an opportunity for residents to hear a summary of the Council's work and raise questions or issues of interest.

No booking required, just turn up!



continues on page 5

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We've also been getting ahead of the technology curve. Artificial intelligence is increasingly part of the conversation in accountancy - and we're taking it seriously. That means making deliberate decisions about where it genuinely helps our clients, and equally, where it doesn't. In a profession built on trust and accuracy, that judgement is everything.

With Making Tax Digital for Income Tax arriving from April 2026, now is

the time to make sure your records and processes are ready. Sole traders and landlords above the income threshold will need to be filing quarterly through compliant software - and the threshold drops further in following years. We're already supporting clients through the transition, and we're happy to help you too.

Whether you've been with us for years or you're thinking about making a change, we'd love to have a conversation.



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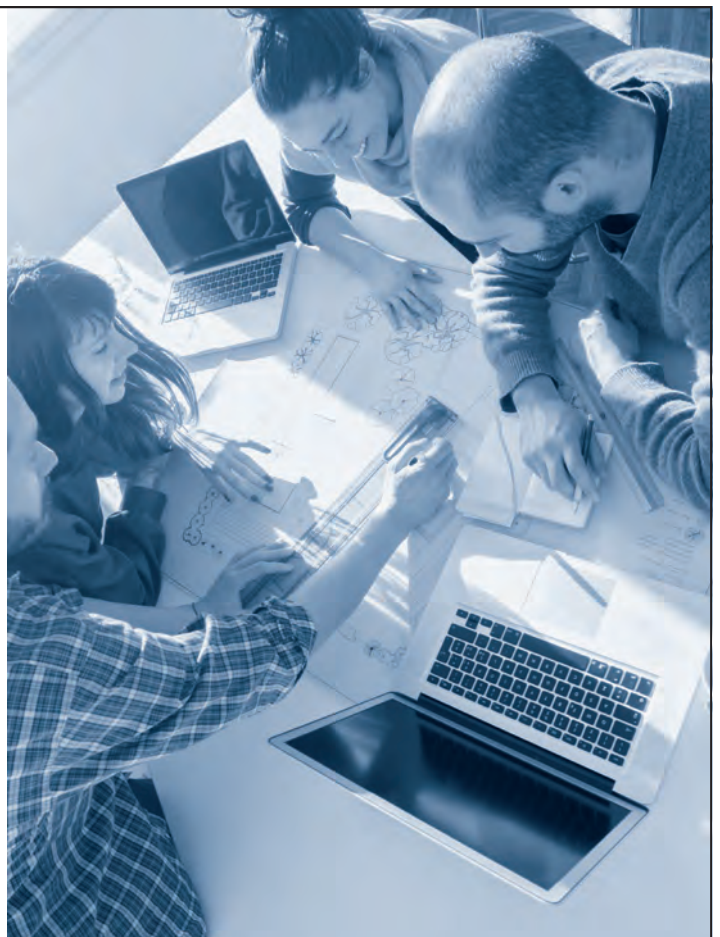
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Now it's time to get outside.

As the clocks spring forward and we officially leave the darker days of winter behind, there's a renewed sense of energy across Ringwood and Fordingbridge. The evenings are now stretching out with welcome daylight, giving us all a little more time to enjoy life beyond our front doors.

For many, this shift marks more than just a change in time—it's a signal that spring has truly arrived. Lighter evenings mean after-work walks are back on the agenda, gardens are calling for attention, and local footpaths and bridleways are beginning to buzz with activity again.

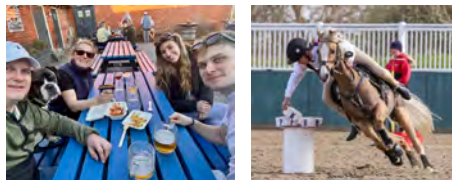
Across the area, familiar sights are returning. Tennis courts are filling up with players shaking off the winter rust, Golfers are hitting the greens, while riders are making the most of longer hacks through the New Forest's scenic trails. Whether it's a casual game, a countryside ride, or simply a stroll along the river, there's something special about being able to enjoy these moments in natural light rather than under street lamps.

The warmer weather, too, plays its part. While it may still be a little unpredictable as British springtime often is—there's a noticeable lift in temperature that makes

being outdoors far more inviting. Cafés and pubs are beginning to set out tables, families are heading to parks after school, and weekend plans are increasingly centred around fresh air and open space.

Ringwood is perfectly placed for this seasonal shift. With the New Forest on the doorstep and a strong sense of community, there's no shortage of ways to make the most of the longer days. From cycling routes to riverside walks, and from local sports clubs to equestrian pursuits, the options are as varied as they are accessible.

So, as the evenings grow lighter and the days a little warmer, it's the perfect time to step outside and reconnect—with nature, with hobbies, and with each other. After all, winter has had its say. Now it's time to get outside.



Darren & Naomi



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NEWS

Ringwood Carnival funds repair of Millennium Clock

Ringwood's much-loved Millennium Clock is now back in full working order, thanks to a donation from Ringwood Carnival.

Located in the town's main car park, the clock has been a familiar feature of Ringwood since it was installed to mark the turn of the millennium. Over time, however, it had fallen into disrepair - until the Ringwood Carnival Committee stepped in to fund its restoration.

The project has brought new life to a landmark that holds both historical and community significance for the town.

The Millennium Clock was originally the brainchild of Ann Cole, a member of The Ringwood Society, who generously offered to donate up to £5,000 towards its installation in 1999. With additional support from Ringwood Town Council, and the efforts of key contributors including Society members, Dick Sheerin and Jeff Wickens, the project moved quickly from concept to completion.

Manufactured by specialist clockmakers Good Directions Ltd in Botley, the clock was installed in December 1999 and officially inaugurated on New Year's Eve as part of Ringwood's Millennium celebrations. The ceremony, led by Reverend Canon John Turpin, was joined by the then Chairman of the Town Council, Councillor Neville Chard, with Ann Cole and Society Chairman Mary Baldwin, and was accompanied by music from The Ringwood and Burley Band, along with festive refreshments for residents.

More than 25 years on, the clock remains an important part of the

town's identity - making its recent restoration particularly meaningful.



Members of the Ringwood Carnival crew were joined by the Mayor of Ringwood, Cllr Rae Frederick, to mark the successful repair. The Carnival's contribution reflects its ongoing commitment to supporting community projects and preserving local heritage.

Thanks to this latest effort, the Millennium Clock once again stands proudly at the heart of Ringwood - keeping time for residents and visitors alike.



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Annual Town Assembly 2026

As part of this year’s event, and in recognition of 800 years since Ringwood was granted its Market Charter, local historian Mary Baldwin will deliver a short talk exploring the history of the town’s market and its role in shaping Ringwood. The evening will conclude with the presentation of the Community Awards, celebrating individuals and groups who have made an outstanding contribution to the local community. Ringwood Town Mayor, Cllr Rae Frederick said: “We wanted to create something that feels open, engaging and genuinely useful for residents. This is an opportunity not just to hear about what’s been happening, but to meet people, share ideas, and be part of the wider community.” Residents are welcome to drop in from 6:00pm, with no booking required.



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Notice of Annual Town Assembly 2026

THE TOWN OF RINGWOOD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Town Assembly will be held at Ringwood Gateway, The Furlong, Ringwood BH24 1AT, on **Wednesday 13th May 2026**.

At 6pm, prior to the formal meeting, a number of local organisations will be showcasing and promoting the work they do in Ringwood. Please come along to support them, learn more and enjoy some refreshments.

AGENDA

At 6:45pm

1. Welcome and opening of the meeting
2. Approval of the minutes of the last Annual Town Assembly held on 14th May/25
3. Annual report on the work of the Town Council by the Town Mayor
4. Community feedback and open forum (questions from electors)
5. Close of the Annual Town Assembly

Following the meeting:-


- Guest Speaker: Mary Baldwin ‘800 years of Ringwood’s Market’
- Presentation of Community Awards




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NEWS

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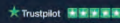
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NEWS

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.

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.

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Spring Gardening: Five Simple Jobs That Make All the Difference

By Guy Payne

After ten years working in gardens across Ringwood, Fordingbridge and the surrounding areas, one thing I've learned is that how a garden looks in summer is often decided well before the warmer weather arrives.

Our local climate is great for gardening. The New Forest area benefits from mild temperatures and good soil, but the winters we experience can leave gardens looking tired and overgrown by the time spring comes around. Borders often need pruning and clearing, lawns need cutting, leaves from autumn still linger, and hedges and trees are ready for attention before new growth begins.

The good news is that a few simple jobs at this time of year can make a huge difference to how your garden performs over the months ahead. With spring now underway, here are five practical things homeowners can do to prepare their gardens for the growing season.

1. Start with a proper tidy-up

Winter can leave gardens covered in fallen leaves, dead stems and general debris. Clearing borders, cutting back old growth and lightly turning the soil helps improve air circulation and allows new growth to come through more easily. It's a simple job, but one that makes an immediate impact.

2. Feed the soil

Healthy gardens start with healthy soil. Over winter, nutrients can become depleted, so adding compost, well-rotted manure or an organic fertiliser in early spring gives plants the boost they need for the season ahead.

3. Prune shrubs and hedges

Early spring is an ideal time to prune many shrubs and tidy hedges before birds begin nesting. Careful pruning encourages stronger growth and helps maintain a natural, balanced shape. It's important to know which plants benefit from pruning now and which are better left until later in the year.

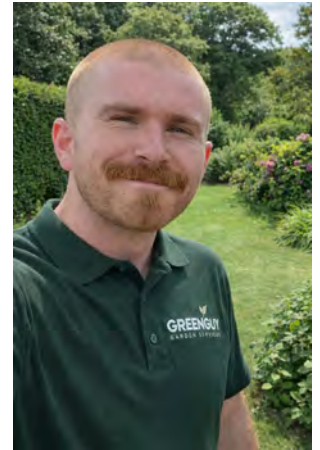
4. Stay ahead of weeds

As the soil begins to warm, weeds grow quickly. Regular light weeding in spring prevents them from taking hold and competing with your plants for nutrients and water. It's far easier to stay on

top of them now than to deal with them once they've spread.

5. Give your lawn a fresh start

Lawns often struggle after a damp winter, particularly where moss has taken hold. Early spring is the perfect time to rake out moss and thatch, apply a lawn feed and overseed any thinner patches. With a bit of attention now, lawns will grow back thicker, greener and healthier in time for the warmer months.



For many people, the garden is one of the most enjoyable parts of their home - somewhere to relax, entertain or simply spend time outdoors. With a little preparation now, you can set things up for a season of strong growth, colour and enjoyment.

If you need a hand getting your garden ready for spring, feel free to get in touch, I'm always happy to help with friendly, reliable and professional service.

Guy Payne is a local gardener with over ten years' experience maintaining gardens across the Ringwood and Fordingbridge area. GreenGuy Garden Services specialises in all aspects of garden maintenance and soft landscaping.

Readers of Ringwood & Fordingbridge News are welcome to mention RFNEWS when getting in touch for a 5% introductory discount.

Contact Guy today for your free quote: 07591 776244 or hello@greenguygardening.com

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Benefits of befriending are not just felt by the older people we support.

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If you would like to volunteer as befriender please email - befriending@hopenewforest.org

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NEWS

Ringwood ECO Fair Celebrates Sustainability and Community Action

The community is invited to come together for the Ringwood ECO Fair on Saturday 9 May, a vibrant event celebrating sustainability, environmental awareness, and local action.

The fair will be held at the Furlong Shopping Centre and the Gateway Building (beside the town council offices) and is proudly run by Ringwood RACE Against Time. The event will bring together local environmental groups, eco-conscious businesses, and community organisations to inspire practical, planet-friendly living.

The Ringwood ECO Fair will feature a range of engaging activities and displays, including educational stalls, hands-on demonstrations, and family-friendly activities designed to show how small everyday choices can make a positive impact on the environment.

Sarah Newland, a trustee of Ringwood RACE Against Time said the fair is about empowering the community. "This is a chance for people to connect, learn, and discover simple ways to live more sustainably while supporting local initiatives."

The event aims to make sustainability visible and accessible in the heart of the community, encouraging conversations and action around climate responsibility and environmental care.

As a special incentive, RACE will have 50 dwarf fruit trees available for a minimum donation of £10 each. Amazing! There will also be a fantastic line up of live music, watch this space for more details.

The Ringwood ECO Fair is free to attend and open to all ages. For more information, follow Ringwood RACE Against Time on social media or visit www.raceagainstime.org.uk. For stall enquiries email ringwoodraceagainstime@gmail.com





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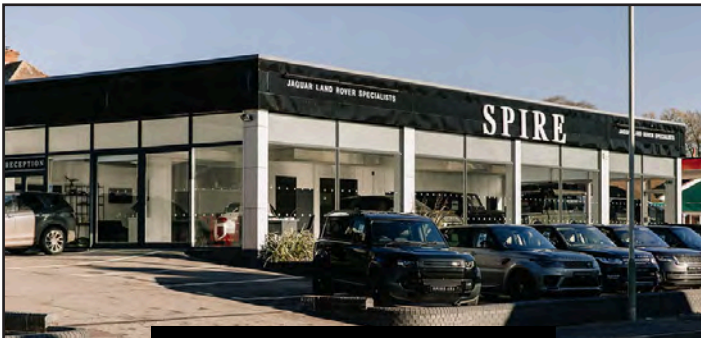


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Fresh air, forest trails and natural landscapes provide the perfect setting for happy cycling this summer.

Meet The Happy Cyclist.

After having spent the last 30 years in full time employment, I decided that 2026 was time for a life change and turn my passion for cycling into something more. I've lived in Ringwood for over 20 years and in that time have been regularly cycling in the New Forest on the many miles of dedicated gravel tracks and quiet country roads.

Over this time, I have been in awe of the New Forest's diverse and stunning scenery, full of wooded landscapes, open heathlands and stunning views. Not forgetting the abundance of wildlife including the beloved ponies! I've often thought how I'd love to share the beautiful surroundings with others and to witness first-hand what I experience. That's where the idea of The Happy Cyclist was born!

So, I decided to put this idea into a reality and offer guided cycle rides in the very areas that I cycle. I've often heard people say that they have a bike in the garage and haven't got anyone to cycle with, or they don't know a route around the area that doesn't involve busy roads. Well now, there's no excuse! I'm also a former local tennis coach, qualified as a mountain bike leader, first aid trained and hold a cycling permit from Forestry England.

My inclusive, guided rides cater for social groups and individuals of all abilities and ages. The routes are low-traffic or completely off-road, covering the Burley, Brockenhurst and wider New Forest areas, making it ideal for relaxed cycling rather than stressful road riding. What could be better than riding along a gravel track surrounded by nature, wildlife, chatting to likeminded people and friends, getting fitter and just feeling great! There is no rush and the rides will be at a pace that suits the group, ensuring the ride is social and fun. Rides can also be customised for corporate or special events.



All rides would start from either a Ringwood, Burley or Brockenhurst meeting point, confirmed a few days in advance. I will be riding weekdays in the summer during 10am to 9pm and Saturday's from 10am to 1pm. Suitable for gravel bikes, mountain bikes or e-bikes and bike hire can also be arranged.

Whether you want to start cycling again, a regular cyclist wanting to explore new routes or want to use cycling as another way of keeping fit, I'd love to hear from you.

Please contact me directly on **07980 669181** or go to my website thehappycyclist.co.uk and join your first ride.

Guided Cycle Rides in the New Forest

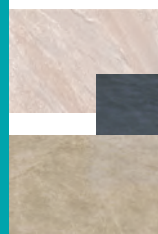
- Group social rides
- One to one rides
- Customised rides
- All abilities and ages



The Happy Cyclist

Contact Chris and join your first ride

07980 669181
chris@thehappycyclist.co.uk
thehappycyclist.co.uk



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NEWS

Ringwood & Burley Brass Band Concert

Are you looking for something different to do on Sunday afternoon 17th May?

If so, why not come along to Trinity Church, Christchurch Road, Ringwood BH24 1DN for an afternoon of traditional and varied musical entertainment?

Ringwood and Burley Brass Band have been entertaining the public for nearly 150 years and are presenting a concert of musical delights, ranging from the traditional Colonel Bogey and Aces High marches through to The Pirates of the Caribbean, Neverland and Fantasia on British Sea Songs.

In addition, the band will be joined by the Southern Union Chorus who delighted the band's Christmas audience.

Under the watchful eye of their Musical Director, Tony Waller, this friendly band rehearses every Friday evening at Greyfriars

Community Centre and has almost doubled in size, since his appointment.

So, why not step away from the usual and experience some local and exciting live music on **Sunday May 17th** at 3pm?

Tickets are available on the door (£8 adult, children free) and further details can be found on their website:

ringwoodandburleyband.co.uk & on Facebook: **Ringwood and Burley Brass Band**. There's easy parking, refreshments and a raffle too!



 
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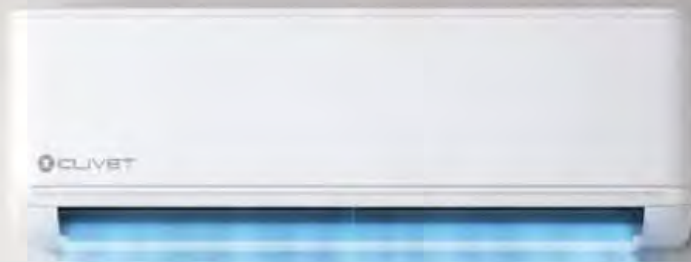
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REVIEWS



SPORT

Havant Match Report

It is fair to say that Ellingham and Ringwood's season in London & SE Division Regional 2 South the highest level the men's team have played has been a challenge to say the least due to the physical demands playing at this level has placed upon the squad and we finished our season off by welcoming Havant 2nd Team who gained promotion with us last year. So could Ellingham round off a tough season knowing they were already relegated back to Hampshire Division 1 next season or would Havant prove too tough a task for the home team who have not beaten their opponents in a league fixture.

With the sun shining down on the Raymond Brown Memorial Ground the home team played towards the SPECSAVERS End with a strong wind behind them they got off to a blistering start within the first two minutes with the forwards linking well with the backs, winger Chris 'Pablo' Frost was able to evade tackles and nipped in the corner to score his first try of the game. Unfortunately he was not able to convert his kick in tricky conditions with the blustery wind. Frosty was on fire in the first of the game in the 13th minute he was able to cross over for another try and this time able to convert his kick to give Ellingham an impressive 12 point lead. Havant fought back following some sustained pressure in the home team's twenty two the forwards drove on and then the ball was quickly worked out to their winger Max Hewett who dived into the corner to earn his team's first points of the game.

Pablo Frost then got his hat trick of tries in the 23rd minute following powerful runs from the forwards notably Josh Ajiboye and George Randall allowing Frosty the space to dive over the line and then regaining his composure slotted over the conversion. Havant fought back and just two minutes later they got their second try of the game when centre James Booth cut a good line to score his first try of the game and Dillon Worsley playing at fly half was able to convert his kick to narrow the gap. Then three minutes later Hewett was back on the score sheet with a strong run down the left flank to score his second try of the game, thankfully for Ellingham the wind was in their favour and Worsley couldn't convert his kick. Therefore, for only the second time this season Ellingham went in at half time 19 points - 17 in their favour.

Ellingham repeated their strong start to the game by matching it within the first two minutes of the second half with Connor Scott, who had a fine game, bulldozing his way over the line much to the delight of Scott himself and his team mates, but to the disbelief to the away team. Frosty was able to convert his kick to extend Ellingham's lead. Five minutes later Ellingham were to extend their lead further with scrum half Zach Morrish linking up well on the right wing with an interchange of passes he avoided some tackles with his darting, mazy run (possibly learnt from injured skipper and regular scrum half Sammy Veneroso) to dive over in the corner to score Ellingham's fifth try of the game.

This spurred Havant back into action and Booth who had caused the home defence problems all game scored his second try after a powerful run through the heart of Ellingham's defence; Worsley was able to slot his kick over to narrow the gap. Despite this set back Ellingham poured forward again to try and take the game away from Havant after sustained pressure from the forwards the referee awarded the home team a penalty in front of the posts in the 62nd minute. To give the forwards a breather, Frost converted the kick to what was to prove to be the defining difference between the sides on 80 minutes. Booth then got his hat trick of tries in the 74th minute with his team mate Worsley kicking the conversion to narrow the gap to those aforementioned defining three points which Ellingham had six minutes to defend.

Havant came at the home team hard and won a scrum on the five-metre line, what happened next defined for me how despite the odds stacked against Ellingham & Ringwood this season they have always fought hard and to the end. With the heavier pack this was Havant's opportunity to possibly drive the tiring Ellingham pack back placing them under pressure, but the opposite happened the forwards dug deep and drove back Havant and were justifiably awarded a penalty for their desire and strength at a time of adversity.



Ellingham were able to hang on to their narrow lead and the game finished Ellingham & Ringwood 34 - Havant 2nd XV - 31, to give the home team their first and only victory of the season. As their first team manager this was to be my last game as I need to concentrate on being Chairman of the club, I have undertaken the role of manager for several years and seen the club achieve heights I have never thought they could reach when I was playing and at that stage languishing in Hampshire Division 3. To say I am proud of this club's achievements is an understatement, so for me personally it seemed fitting to end on a win and to look forward to leading the club towards another 60 years of existence when we celebrate our Diamond Anniversary next season.

Ringwood Kickboxing Organisation RKO at DDay 1st March



Our team delivered a great day of performances, with Steve, Leo, Oscar and Richie all stepping up with real determination and skill. Although Avery and Mark were keen to compete, suitable fighters couldn't be found for them this time but their support and team spirit were very much appreciated.

Leo took on two bouts today. He stepped into the boxing ring for the very first time, showing real heart and composure even though he didn't get the decision. He then went on to deliver an exceptional light-contact performance, completely dominating the rounds and securing a well-deserved first place.

Richie competed in points and demonstrated brilliant timing and focus earning himself a first place finish.

Oscar put on a great performance. He was ahead for much of the fight and even landed a clean head kick. Despite losing by just a single point in the final tally, it was a fantastic, hard fought bout that showed just how much he's progressing.

Steve worked with excellent movement and showcased his skill throughout the bout, finishing with a fantastic first place.

Overall, it was an exceptional day for the whole team full of effort, courage, and brilliant sportsmanship. Thank you to our supporters for bringing the energy.

A huge thank you to team-mate Levi Lee M Bee for travelling all the way from Egypt to support and help the team today your commitment means a great deal to everyone. And a big thank you as well to Dave Ryan and Rebecca Ryan for organising and hosting such a well run event as always.

WHATS ON

Be a 'Time Traveller' and walk through the historic town of Ringwood hearing stories of.....

Murder, Mystery, Secret Agents, Execution, Heroes and Heroines.

TIME TRAVELLER'S WALKS

FREEbut donations in aid of the Meeting House are appreciated.

Please text or call: 07934318151 to book & more information

Next TTW walk coming up :-

**April
Saturday 25th
at 9.30am.**



English Piano Trio to play for Avon Valley Concerts Season Finale

Avon Valley Concerts is delighted to welcome the English Piano Trio to The Trinity Centre in Ringwood for the final concert of the 2025-26 season.



The concert will start at 7pm on Friday 24 April 2026 and tickets for adults cost £18, including complimentary drinks. Under 25s are admitted free of charge.

The English Piano Trio (Piano, Cello, Violin) has celebrated over 30 years of playing together. They perform and record a very wide repertoire, including many lesser-known composers and this will be their first performance for Avon Valley Concerts. The programme includes works by Haydn, Rachmaninov, Schumann and the English composer Rutland Boughton, whose works The English Piano Trio has recorded to excellent reviews.

Event details:

Date: Friday 24 April 2026

Time: 7.00pm (doors open 6.30pm)

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 and on the door.

MUSIC at the MEETING HOUSE



**Liquorice Clarinets and JazzMo
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Here On Friday 17th April 2026

Joined by Laura Taylor on vocals to present :

An evening of swinging jazz and show tunes – from Ain't Misbehavin' to Rhapsody in Blue, Sing...Sing...Sing, to Take 5

We are playing all of our favourite tunes for you!

"We are so happy to be back at the Meeting House"

Ringwood Meeting House

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£10.00 entry on the door - cash or card.

Start 7:30pm – (doors open 7:00pm)

- Licensed bar – Table Service

Chit-Chat Club at the MEETING HOUSE



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from 1.00 till 2.30pm

(all are welcome)



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WHATS ON



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RINGWOOD & BURLEY BAND

Southern Union Chorus

Spring Concert

**17TH
MAY** **STARTS
3:00PM**

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Tickets on the door or online

<https://ringwood-and-burley-band.yapsody.com/>
Adults £8, Children Free




NEW Craftfulness group at Greyfriars

Join a self-led group of like-minded crafters

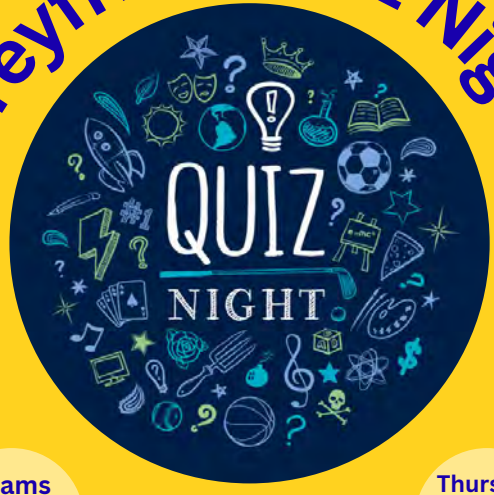
Starts Friday 10 April 9-12

Calling all knitters, beaders, card makers, and crafters

Come along for a free taster session. Thereafter £4

A friendly place to craft chat and share ideas

Register your interest at Greyfriars





Greyfriars Quiz Night

Teams of 6 max

Light snack included
Bar available
£7 per person

Thursday
4 June
7.00 for 7.30

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT GREYFRIARS AND TICKETSOURCE

WHATS ON



LIVE MUSIC - COMEDY - THEATRE - AND MORE!

View all upcoming events and book tickets on our website
www.thebarnringwood.co.uk

LIVE MUSIC

- 2 MAY** THE MAGIC OF THE BEATLES
A sensational tribute to the famous four
- 23 MAY** AHH... FREAK OUT!
Join us for the best DISCO hits!
- 29 MAY** SILENT DISCO
3 channels of music in this immersive experience!
- 30 MAY** MAD DOG MCREA
with The Jimmy Hillbillies
- 18 JUL** HEAVEN IS A PLACE ON EARTH
Where 80s Hits and Girl Power collide!
- 21 AUG** THE ERAS EXPERIENCE
Taylor Swift tribute by Xenna



What's on at Greyfriars!

From 10 April – New Study Group – Roman World

Returning with a brand-new course with the ever-popular Nick Griffiths, including exploring archaeology and monuments. Nick delves into the day-to-day lives of ordinary citizens across the Roman world, Full course £70 available via TicketSource or Greyfriars.

From 10 April – Craftfulness

Calling all knitters, beaders, card makers and crafters. Join a self-led group of like-minded crafters; with a free taster session at Greyfriars **from 9 - noon**, thereafter £3.

From 13 April – Dan's Spanish Lessons

A fun and informal environment to unlock your potential. Six classes available over the course of the week; join Dan for engaging structured lessons. Contact Dan on 07794 197310 or dj.cox@live.co.uk.

22 April – Ringwood Antiques

Join us for a captivating talk by industry expert **Charles Hanson** telling us about hilarious escapades on Bargain Hunt, Flog it and Antiques Roadshow. Doors open from **7pm, to start at 7.30**. Members FREE, guests £10 from Greyfriars reception.

30 April – Paul Martin – Valuation Day

Joining us for another special Valuation Day, **Paul Martin** will be here between **10.30am and 2.30pm** to value your precious items. This is followed by a ticketed Q&E session **from 2pm**. Tickets are £8 to include afternoon tea and available from Greyfriars or Ticketsource.

Date for your diary:
Greyfriars Quiz, 4 June from 7pm



THE BARN, RINGWOOD DOORS: 7PM BOX OFFICE: 01425 201 720

ON STAGE

- 30 APR** JOHN POWER
Cast, The La's and Me
- 1 MAY** THE COASTAL COMEDY SHOW
with Simon Brodtkin
- 31 MAY** PAUL YOUNG
Songs and stories
- 17 JUL** PROFESSOR DAVID OLUSOGA
The global history of the British cup of tea

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 Please email your article to
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Hampshire County Council 2026 7th May Election

I AM sure many voters will know me, Michael Thierry. I bring nearly 30 years of Council experience at Parish, Town, District, and County levels. I have served as Town Mayor on several occasions.

Being a Councillor is about assisting residents with their problems and personal issues. The work of a councillor is varied and demanding. It is being a strong voice when it is needed, being at the end of a telephone line, listening, and I hope reassuring.

We do have vulnerable people within our community, and it is the duty of Councillors to act on behalf of all residents, regardless of their circumstances. During my period as a Councillor, dealing with 'personal cases' has proved the most challenging and rewarding.

As a pensioner myself, I know how careful we must be with our pension payments. Labour removing the Winter Fuel allowance was a cruel blow.

In recent years, I, like so many of you, have come to rely on health services at the Ringwood Medical Centre and the various surrounding hospitals for various treatments.



Gillian & Michael Thierry



VOTE tried an

ONCE again, I am standing to represent you, the surrounding area, in the Hampshire County Council election on 7th May. Please re-elect me to serve as your tried-and-

I was first elected in the last century to represent Ringwood.

Over the past 30 years, I have been a Councillor on Parish, Town, District, and County Councils. Currently, I am a member of the New Forest National Park Authority, with many years of dedicated, loyal service to the residents of Ringwood and the immediate villages and hamlets.

In recent months, I have been acutely aware of the failings, particularly at New Forest District Council and Hampshire County Council. I share residents' frustration with the poor performance of the two major councils.

We are experiencing serious flooding across various parts of the area. Potholes are a continual major problem with financial consequences. Informing

Highways by email and receiving reference number from them do not address the issues.

I want to get back to the days when, rather than 'fire' off an email, I could pick up the phone and speak directly to a responsible Highways Officer.

"An Independent Councillor is free to work for those they serve - the people, rather than the self interests of Political Parties."

In all conscience, I had to consider my position; both Councils could and should do much better for residents.

Although other factors were a consideration, I subsequently withdrew from the Conservative group and became a totally

Voting information

**On the Ballot Paper you will find my name last on the list
THIERRY Michael Hamilton**

Contact details . . .

Although I might not be able to call on you delivering leaflets, please do give me a call or send me an email - to get in touch so we can discuss your concerns about the way in which the councils are run, or other issues.

Telephone: 07702 479095

michael.thierry@icloud.com

Facebook: Cllr Michael Thierry

In previous election campaigns, I have revelled in going door to door with my election leaflet and meeting and talking to residents. Sadly, this year I am unable to undertake personal door-to-door. Three times a week, I attend the Bournemouth Renal Unit as a Dialysis patient. I have also been subject to toe amputations and, therefore, have to restrict my walking. I hope you will understand.

Be assured, my 'conditions' have not stopped me from fulfilling my role as a councillor, attending to the concerns of residents takes priority.

Many years ago, as a family, we chose Ringwood as our home. A great decision! You may recall that for over thirty years, we produced the popular *Ringwood & Fordingbridge NEWS fortnightly newspaper*.

For over eleven years, my wife Gillian has run the Social Tables Club, providing a meeting place for friendship and companionship, and sharing a meal.

Vote THIE

Your Independent Councillor for t



Working for the community and tested

people of Ringwood and the elections to be held on Thursday, Independent County Councillor.

Independent Councillor, non-aligned. I support the people. Increasingly, voters are turning away, finding disappointment with the party system. Promises made and broken by Labour, a lack of direction and purpose by the Conservatives, wishy-washy, pantomime Liberal Democrats, showbiz-style, glitzy Reform and unrealistic, odd-ball Green policies.

One of the defining strengths of Independent Councillors is their ability to act without the constraints of Party Politics. No longer being told how to vote, but being able to vote in the best interest of Ringwood and the area.

It is as an Independent Councillor that I will be standing in the 7th May Hampshire County Elections.

I ask for your support, please!

FERRY
the Ringwood Area

Working for the community

No other Councillor has such an impressive record of getting things done for Ringwood and surrounding villages and hamlets.

Major Community Projects



✓ Parking Clock

Perhaps my most important contribution to residents across the whole of the New Forest is the much-loved and widely used Parking Clock. I proposed a one-off cost Parking Clock used throughout the Forest, assisting local businesses and helping residents, rather than traditional meters. Now in use for 20 years, saving residents hundreds of pounds.

✓ A31 Enhancement

The A31 was always a problem, with a number of fatal accidents. I campaigned for highway improvement, even taking my supporting evidence to Parliament to meet the Road Minister. Enhancement work, including the extra lane and other junction improvements, was a direct result of the campaign I promoted and pushed forward. Residents can see the benefit of the campaign.

✓ Eastfield Lane Pinch Points

When I first joined the Town Council Eastfield Lane was almost a race track, residents complained, 'Something must be done'. I suggested 'Pinch Points' to slow the traffic. The cost of the scheme then was just £3,000, a partnership between Ringwood Town Council and Hampshire County Council.

Financial Support

✓ Post Office



The closure of the Post Office in Southampton Road was detrimental to the community, as many residents relied on postal and banking services. The Post Office's closure affected residents and businesses. I was delighted to support Lunns Newsagent when they opened a post office counter in their shop. County Grant money well spent for the benefit of the whole community. The more so with the reduced banking now available in the town.

✓ Community Grants

In my years as the County Councillor and District Councillor, I have been able to make significant grants to various organisations and in support of community events, for example, Ringwood Carnival and Christmas Eve Carol Singing in the Market Place. Both the Parish Church, Trinity Church and The Salvation Army. Sopley Parish, local Guilding, secured grant funding to enable improvements.

Planning Applications

I have spoken at planning committee meetings AT NFDC in support of significant Ringwood planning applications, particularly when Planning Officers were recommending Refusal!



✓ Ringwood Medical Centre

The old medical centre in The Close was tired and worn out. A purpose-built medical centre was designed. Planning Officers said 'No', raising a number of objections, mainly the size. I attended the Planning Committee and persuaded the committee members to grant approval. Ringwood needed a medical centre providing enhanced services.

✓ Ringwood Parish Church

Once again, Planning Officers wanted to refuse planning permission for the church to incorporate toilets. The church is a listed building, making approval problematic. Once again, I attended the Planning Committee meeting, which considered the application for toilets. I made a strong case for 'exception to policy' and community need. The Planning Committee members voted for the toilets, which are much used today.

✓ Ringwood Gateway



Older residents of Ringwood will recall the very smelly Furlong toilet, which visitors and locals had to use. It was disgusting. As the Councillor, I saw an opportunity to replace the toilets with a purpose-built facility that would provide full council services, bringing together Town, District and County offices into one building, as I proposed, along with new toilets.

✓ Trinity Church

Trinity Church, a landmark building in the town, produced plans to make significant changes to the church. The conservationist viewed the plans with horror. Once again, the officers' response was 'No'. I spoke in favour of the scheme. Members could clearly see the community benefit the project would bring and voted in favour.



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* Correct at time of print.

Care South

It's the care that counts...

Melodies Walk 26

Cam Treble, 32, from Ringwood, is set to take on this year's Melodies walk with a powerful new perspective.

A passionate adventurer and lover of the outdoors, Cam has taken part in the event for several years, joining hundreds of others to raise money for Macmillan Caring Locally and support people facing some of life's toughest challenges. But nine months ago, his own life changed in an instant after he sustained a spinal cord injury - now paralysed from the waist down, it has forced him to rebuild not just his independence, but his entire way of life.

This year, instead of walking the route, Cam will be completing it using a Bowhead adaptive mountain bike. It's a different approach, but very much in keeping with his outlook: find a way, adapt, and keep moving - even if it looks a little different.

Rehabilitation has been far from easy. It has demanded resilience, patience, and finding something to laugh about on the tougher days. But through it all, Cam has stayed focused on what he can do, rather than what he can't - a mindset that has helped him push forward when things felt uncertain.

"This event has always meant a lot to me," he says. "It's about people coming together, challenging themselves, and supporting others. Really showcasing what community means."

Around 300 participants are expected to take part in the walk, raising vital funds for Macmillan Caring Locally, while also supporting Cam's ongoing rehabilitation. The funds raised will help him access specialist equipment, training, and opportunities that are playing a crucial role in helping him regain independence and continue building his new normal.

For Cam, this challenge is about far more than reaching the finish line. It's about showing that even when life throws something huge your way, it doesn't mean the adventure is over, it just means you might have to get a bit more creative with how you take it on.

His journey is one of grit, adaptability, and determination, with just enough humour to keep things grounded. It's proof that while life can change overnight, the things that drive us - purpose, passion, and a willingness to keep going - don't have to.

As he prepares to take on the challenge once again, Cam isn't just showing up. He's showing what's possible, and doing it with a smile, a bit of speed, and a refusal to be defined by anything other than his own mindset.

If Cam's story has inspired you and you'd like to support the fund-raising efforts, tickets for this special event are available on the website (www.melodieswalk.co.uk). If you can't attend, there's also a donations page where you can still contribute.







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HISTORY & NEWS

The Ringwood Society - Growing and Looking to Grow More



The recent Annual General Meeting of The Ringwood Society, the civic/amenity society, for Ringwood saw good news for the organisation, first established in 1962. Chairman Alex Bancroft and Honorary Treasurer Russell Doody were able to advise a full house of members of sustained financial growth and continuing increase in membership numbers.

"With lots of other civic societies closing over the last few years, it is very cheering that we are not only sustaining our numbers, but increasing them. This shows the continued relevance in what we do and how we can help improve and enhance the town we all love. The support we have in terms of membership numbers and finance is critical to ensuring we can not only continue to do what we do, but also to expand our activities and have a greater impact on our surroundings" said Alex. He continued "being instrumental in the restoration of the Millennium Clock is a classic example of what we can offer to enhance our surroundings and we hope people will join us to allow this important work to continue".

The first event in The Society's calendar of events took place last Wednesday with a sold-out members tour of Deans Court in Wimborne. Further events throughout the year will include talks, trips and an exhibition on the history of the market in Ringwood, celebrating the 800th Anniversary of the Market Charter. In addition to this, the committee hope to bring forward the next in their occasional Blue Plaque scheme, which they are looking to revitalise and expand.

Membership Secretary, Wendy Doody, welcomed the expanded programme noting that "the more members we can attract, the more we can do to protect, promote and progress our historic market town, and we look forward to bringing forward new projects to assist with this in the near future."

Since 1962, The Ringwood Society has championed our historic market town through a variety of endeavours, and always welcomes new members to support their work with projects and by joining the executive committee. The more members the Society has, the more which can be achieved! Membership is only £10 a year per person, and students receive free membership. Further details can be found on their website www.ringwoodsociety.org.uk



The Ringwood Society

Ringwood Lantern of Remembrance

SHINING IN MAY IN HONOUR OF

DATE OF DEATH	NAME	RANK	REGIMENT OR SHIP
03/05/1920	Lewis James Guy	Trooper	Royal Horse Artillery
05/05/1916	Edward John Rogers	Private	1 st /4 th Bn, Hampshire
07/05/1917	Alfred John Barnwell	Gunner	211 th Seige Battery
08/05/1915	James Walter Meshier	Gunner	122 nd Heavy Battery
13/05/1915	Reginald Henry Bartlett	Lance Corporal	1 st Bn, Hampshire
16/05/1944	Frederick James Talbot	Private	2 nd Bn, Hertfordshire
17/05/1943	Guy Pegler	Sergeant	617 Sqn, RAF
19/05/1916	Arthur Edwin Thomas	Lance Corporal	2nd Bn, Royal Irish Rifles
21/05/1918	Albert Edward Garland	Private	Somerset Light Infantry
22/05/1920	Sidney Blincoe	Serjeant	Royal Army Service Corps
23/05/1918	Ewart Austin Bouchier Wimbush	Lieutenant	C Sqn, Imbros Air Station, RAF
26/05/1941	Harry James Rogers	Mechanician	HMS Formidable
26/05/1915	Frank Curtis Davis	Private	1 st Bn, Hampshire
31/05/1916	Thomas Major	Stoker 1 st Class	HMS Black Prince
31/05/1916	Arthur Sherman	Corporal	HMS Invincible
31/05/1916	Thomas Henry Smith	Band Corporal	HMS Queen Mary

Lest We Forget

Saturday 18th April 2026

What to expect:

- worship & testimonies
- light breakfast & refreshments
(bring a packed lunch)
- time to pause, reflect, pray
- a safe & encouraging atmosphere

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🕒 **TIME:**
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🎫 **TICKETS: £10**
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f Women Together In Ringwood

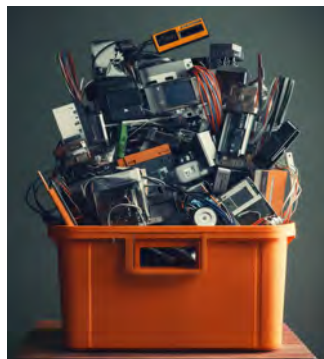
How to recycle electrical items at your local drop-off point

Before recycling an item, check whether you can reuse it, donate it, or sell it.

If an electrical item has a plug, cable, or battery, you can recycle it at your local electrical recycling drop-off point. This can include fairy lights and electrical decorations, or everyday appliances, such as kettles, hairdryers, or televisions.

Electrical items should never go in your household general waste or recycling. Batteries are a safety risk and can cause fires in collection vehicles and at sorting facilities.

To recycle an electrical item, you need to take it to an electrical waste drop-off point, or to a Household Waste and Recycling Centre (the tip).



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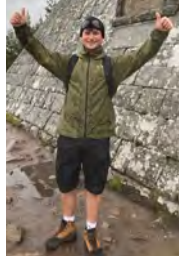
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Stewarts Abbey, Fareham, PO15 5RB

NEWS

Bring Sam Home

In September last year, our world stopped overnight.

My brother Sam suffered a severe traumatic brain injury, including a diffuse axonal injury – one of the most serious forms of brain trauma.



He needed emergency brain surgery to save his life, and has faced many complications since, including hydrocephalus and multiple operations.

The past few months have been both devastating and life-changing, faced with not even knowing if Sam would survive at several points. But despite everything, he is still here and still fighting. He has shown incredible strength and we couldn't be prouder of him.

More recently, Sam was diagnosed with a Prolonged Disorder of Consciousness (PDoC) and transferred from Southampton General Hospital to a specialist neuro-rehabilitation centre in London. This is the best possible place he could be, while they undergo an in-depth assessment to help stimulate awareness and determine the best path forward.

Our next goal is to bring Sam home to Ringwood. But to do this safely, our family home will need significant specialist adaptations and equipment to support him living with a complex neurological injury.

Every pound raised will go directly towards:

- Essential home adaptations

- Specialist equipment
- Long-term rehabilitation support.

If you're from Ringwood, you'll know Sam's friendly face. He's known for his cheeky smile, his kindness, and his willingness to help anyone. He's full of life, loves DJing and takes pride in his work as a plumber. He adores his friends and family deeply, and would do anything for anyone.

Sam is only 23 with his whole life ahead of him. While we don't know what his future holds yet, he deserves every possible chance at recovery, surrounded by family and friends.

If you are able to kindly donate, sponsor, or simply share Sam's story, we would be incredibly grateful. Your support will help us bring Sam home, where he belongs.

As we continue to understand what Sam will need long-term – from care and rehabilitation to the adaptations required to bring him home – we'll be setting goals in stages.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read Sam's story.

Love,
The Wheelers x



To dontae please visit <https://gofund.me/6dc4c36cb>



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RINGWOOD TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



Issue 007

April 2026

As we welcome the arrival of spring, we hope residents and local businesses are enjoying the brighter days and warmer weather. 2026 continues to be a very special year as we celebrate 800 years since the granting of the Royal Market Charter, a milestone in Ringwood's rich and proud heritage.

There are many exciting events to look forward to in the coming months, including our main day of celebration on Sunday 12th July. We also invite you to join us for the Annual Town Assembly on the evening of 13th May, which this year will feature local organisations, a talk on the history and significance of the market, and the presentation of community awards.

Throughout the year, we'll continue to share updates on these celebrations, along with information about the work of the Town Council and how it benefits our community – we hope you'll join us in taking part.



Town Council Strategy 2026–2029

The Council's Strategy for the next three years focuses on helping the town thrive by improving events, communication, facilities, and green spaces. Key priorities include enhancing community engagement, supporting local businesses, and protecting the town's character while guiding sustainable development. Enabled by skilled staff, strong partnerships, and modern systems, the Strategy aims to ensure Ringwood remains vibrant, welcoming, and well-supported.

You can view a copy of the Strategy on our website:
www.ringwood.gov.uk/your-council/

A New-Look Town Assembly

Ringwood's Annual Town Assembly takes place on Wednesday 13th May at Ringwood Gateway (doors open 6.00pm, with light refreshments). This year, the event has been refreshed into a more engaging, community-focused evening. Local organisations will showcase their work, while Town Council staff will be available to answer questions and share updates on services. Councillors will also be on hand to meet residents and hear feedback. As part of the town's 800th anniversary celebrations, local historian Mary Baldwin will give a short talk on the history of Ringwood's market. The evening will conclude with the presentation of this year's Community Awards.



Carvers Clubhouse Update

Carvers Clubhouse has an exciting few months ahead, with a fantastic summer programme for young people and families. Highlights include Cortex circus, the annual Skate Jam and an end of summer mini festival, alongside a range of creative and active sessions. A new photography competition is giving budding photographers the chance to showcase their work. Visitors can now make use of a new water bottle filling station, helping everyone stay hydrated while enjoying the park and facilities. The café continues to be a popular hub, with a refreshed menu offering a range of hot and cold food, snacks and drinks for all ages. Find out more on our website: carversclubhouse.co.uk

Shelter Improvements

We're pleased to be improving several shelters across the town, with grant funding secured for a larger bus shelter in Gorley Road; a replacement roof on the shelter in North Poulner Road; and installation of a seat in Eastfield Lane. The Taxi Shelter in Meeting House Lane will also be refurbished.

Gloves Wanted! Help Us Make History

Gloves have a special place in Ringwood's history, reflecting the town's once thriving glove making trade. As we celebrate 800 years since the granting of the Market Charter, we're creating a unique art installation to honour this heritage, and we need your help.

We're inviting residents to donate unwanted gloves to become part of this bespoke, historical feature. Donations can be dropped off at Ringwood Fabrics, Ringwood Meeting House, or Carvers Clubhouse.



www.ringwood.gov.uk



@ringwoodtowncouncil



01425 473883

PROPERTY - AROUND THE BLOCK

BrightWater Expands in the New Forest with Personal, One-to-One Property Service

Local estate agency BrightWater is proud to announce the launch of BrightWater Signature Homes, a bespoke property service dedicated to exceptional homes across Ringwood and the wider New Forest while continuing to offer its trusted, full-service traditional estate agency to the local community.

As a business firmly rooted in the area, BrightWater has built its reputation on local knowledge, personal service, and long-standing relationships. The introduction of Signature Homes is designed to complement its established offering, giving homeowners more choice in how they sell their property.

The new Signature Homes division focuses on high-value and character properties, specifically those valued at £750,000 and above, combining in-depth local expertise with tailored marketing strategies to present each home at its very best.

At the centre of this service is Emma Roy, BrightWater's dedicated Signature Agent, who lives and works locally. Through a self-employed agent model, Emma is able to provide a truly one-to-one service, personally guiding clients through every stage of the process – from initial consultation to completion. Operating as a self-employed agent, she offers a one-to-one service while benefiting from the full support, infrastructure and backing of the established BrightWater agency. Clients working with Signature Homes deal directly with Emma throughout, ensuring consistency, clear communication, and a relationship built on trust.

Emma Roy said:

"A home is more than just bricks and mortar – it's part of the local community and has its own story. Living and working here myself, I understand what makes this area so special. I work closely with every client on a one-to-one basis, providing honest advice, tailored marketing, and ongoing support, so they feel confident and looked after at every step."

BrightWater's Managing Director, Darren Loose, emphasised that the new service strengthens the company's overall offering rather

than changing its core values.

"We're a local business, and that remains at the heart of everything we do. Our traditional estate agency continues to serve the

community just as it always has, supporting buyers and sellers across all price ranges. Signature Homes simply adds another layer, offering a more tailored, one-to-one approach for higher-value properties, while still backed by the same experienced team and trusted brand."

He added:

"This approach allows us to give clients the best of both worlds – a well-established, high-street agency alongside a more flexible, personalised service. It means we can match the right approach to each individual property and client."

The Signature Homes service includes professional photography, floorplans, video tours, premium online exposure, and targeted marketing campaigns, all carefully designed to reach the right buyers while highlighting what makes each property and its local setting unique.

As a member of the Ethical Agent Network, BrightWater continues to uphold high standards of transparency, integrity, and client care, offering reassurance to homeowners across the region.

BrightWater Signature Homes will serve Ringwood, Fordingbridge, Burley, and surrounding New Forest villages, supporting local homeowners looking for a more personal and effective way to sell – while the wider BrightWater team continues to provide its comprehensive estate agency service across the community.



Emma Roy
BrightWater
Signature Homes

For those considering a move, the message is clear: local expertise, flexible service, and a team that puts people first.

To arrange a private consultation, contact Emma Roy:
07467360001
emma@brightwaterproperties.co.uk

More Land Needed!

Despite our local planning authority's tiered process to identify more land for housing, especially on the west of their district, encompassing Fordingbridge and Ringwood, New Forest District Council need more land to meet their shortfall. Despite the Local Government Reorganisation, and following the latest round of Local Plan Regulation 18 process, it has been announced that the New Forest still require a further 9,000 houses, of which, according to their adopted policy, will result in 50% of these being made available for affordable housing purposes.

By way of background, NFDC are required to put in place a Local Plan, the mechanism for which new housing will be delivered, to meet the district's needs, during the plan period, however, the need for new housing has overtaken the Local Plan process resulting on the 9,000 new homes which are additionally required.

At Brightwater Commercial and Residential, we are working on a number of strategic sites which form part of the new local plan and where, with our experiences, we can advise and support any new land that can help in the delivery against the 9,000 homes requirement. If you have land, ideally located on the edge of exist-

ing settlement in either Ringwood or Fordingbridge, then our team would be happy to explore the potential that your land may have. In the first instance, please contact either Harry Loose or Jason Lewis to discuss this on 01425 478719 or email below.



Harry Loose
Commercial Consultant
harry@brightwaterproperties.co.uk



Jason Lewis
Commercial Director
jason@brightwaterproperties.co.uk

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PROPERTY & NEWS



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OIEO £355,000

Semi-detached house located in Hightown Road | Two bedrooms | One bathroom | Modern decoration throughout | Front aspect sitting room | Fireplace in lounge | Solar panels | Private rear garden | Sought after location | NO CHAIN.



Guide Price £229,950

Semi-detached house in Victoria Gardens | One bedroom | One bathroom | Short walk to town centre | Rear garden | Allocated parking space for two cars | Double glazing throughout the property | NO CHAIN.



**Larch Close, St Ives
GUIDE PRICE £475,000**



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MEET THE TEAM



Darren



Jo



Amelia



Jenny



Lucy



Harry



Jason

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We currently have a variety of commercial premises available for rent and sale, including office spaces, retail units and development or grazing land. Here at Brightwater Commercial, we are always looking to grow and help in anyway we can. If you have a unit you want to sell or rent out, please get in touch today.



Brightwater is proud to be Ringwood’s only multi-discipline property practice, bringing residential sales, lettings, property management, commercial property, land and new homes, and development consultancy together under one roof. Whether you’re buying, selling, letting, investing, or exploring development opportunities, our experienced team provides straightforward advice backed by strong local knowledge and a commitment to building lasting relationships.



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SHOP LOCAL...
SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

With Grace

Emma Jane, owner of With Grace, has recently relocated her much-loved home and interiors business to 92 Christchurch Road, Ringwood, BH24 1DR, marking an exciting new chapter after moving from the High Street. The move, completed on 1st March, reflects both growth and a desire to offer customers an even more inviting and accessible space to explore a carefully curated range of homeware and furnishings.

With Grace has built a strong reputation locally for its unique and thoughtfully selected pieces, and the new premises allow Emma to expand on that vision. The shop offers an inspiring collection of home décor, furniture, silk flowers, scented candles, garden furniture, and interior design services. Each item has been chosen with care, reflecting a blend of style, quality, and individuality that customers have come to expect.

The decision to relocate was driven by the opportunity to create a space that better suits the evolving needs of the business and its customers. Moving away from the High Street has allowed for a more relaxed and spacious environment, where visitors can take their time browsing and finding pieces that truly complement their homes.

Emma's passion for interiors is at the heart of With Grace. Whether customers are looking for a statement piece of furniture, elegant finishing touches, or guidance on styling their home, the shop offers something for everyone. The addition of interior design services means customers can also benefit from a more personalised approach, helping to bring their ideas to life with confidence.

Supporting independent businesses like With Grace plays a vital role in maintaining the character and vibrancy of the local community. Unlike larger chains, small businesses offer a personal touch, unique products, and a genuine connection with their customers. Every purchase made locally helps sustain livelihoods, encourages entrepreneurship, and keeps the town thriving.

Since the relocation, business has been going great, with many returning customers and new visitors discovering what With Grace has to offer. The continued support from the community has been invaluable, and Emma is grateful for the encouragement and loyalty shown throughout the journey.

Looking ahead, Emma hopes to continue growing the business while maintaining the welcoming atmosphere and high standards that define With Grace. She is committed to providing beautiful, quality pieces that help customers create homes they love.

Her message to local residents is simple: support your community shops. By choosing to shop locally, you are not only investing in unique products but also in the people and businesses that make

the area special.

Follow With Grace on face book and Instagram for the latest arrivals and creations.



@WITHGRACE_



SHOP LOCAL
Supporting our community
Here we are offering local independent shops the chance to showcase their business for FREE. If you would like to be considered please contact us at office@rfnews.uk



EDEN

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NEWS

Poulner Players

SHEILA'S ISLAND
BY TIM FIRTH

South Central Ambulance Charity

THIS AMATEUR PRODUCTION OF SHEILA'S ISLAND IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CONCORD THEATRICALS LTD, ON BEHALF OF SAMUEL FRENCH, LTD. WWW.CONCORDTHEATRICALS.CO.UK

1st Poulner Scout Hall
27th to 30th May
Tickets £15
POULNERPLAYERS.COM

NODA

Poulner Players' May Play

Poulner Players are delighted to present Sheila's Island, a sharp and hilarious comedy by Tim Firth, running from 27th to 30th May.

Set on a team-building exercise gone spectacularly wrong, the play follows four women stranded on a remote island, armed with nothing but their clashing personalities and dwindling patience. As tensions rise and survival instincts kick in, Sheila's Island delivers laugh-out-loud moments alongside brilliantly observed character comedy.

This fast-paced production promises an evening of wit, chaos, and unexpected twists, brought to life by a talented local cast and creative team.

Performances will take place at **1st Poulner Scout Hall**, with tickets priced at **£15**. Audiences are encouraged to book early to avoid disappointment.

For more information and to secure your seats, visit poulnerplayers.com.

Don't miss this wildly entertaining night of comedy.

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Ringwood Foodbank

What do you do if.....

you open the fridge or kitchen cupboard and find you have nothing to eat for tonight's tea? A quick trip to the supermarket, an emergency online food order, sort out a takeaway delivery? Or do you just shrug your shoulders and go without, again?

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Foodbanks across the country, including here in Ringwood, see clients in this situation every day and, of course, we are here to help people in that moment of food crisis. We are also actively working to help clients resolve their financial problems and, eventually, remove the need for them to access our help for emergency food. **"Hunger in the UK isn't a food problem, it's an income problem."** In the meantime the need continues and we would not be able to do what we do without the constant support of our local community. If you would like to help add an extra item to your shopping and pop it into the donation box in your food store, download the BanktheFood app which tells you the items we currently need, consider becoming a Friend of Ringwood Foodbank or donate through our website.


Georgia's story


"My marriage ended a few years ago after 16 years of being together. Our children ranged from 16 down to 2 and I was working part time front of house at a local hairdressers. Overnight my life changed from stable and secure to the reality of being completely on my own, responsible for my children and not knowing how to cope (my husband disappeared for a while, physically and emotionally). I didn't tell anyone at first and put my head down and tried to struggle on. Luckily for me I attended a local church


playgroup with my toddler and they could tell something was up. They were brilliant, no prying questions, no judgement, just did I need some help? I didn't really know what to say until one of them asked me whether I had food and I had to admit my kids had eaten toast for dinner the night before. For the next 6 weeks Ringwood Foodbank made sure my kids were fed while I tried to get my life back on track. With lots of support from my friends, my boss, the Foodbank and other local agencies I attended college and qualified as a hairdresser in 1 year. Times were still hard and the Foodbank continued to support me with a monthly or so voucher for food for about a year. I wouldn't have been able to feed my kids, go to college or function without the help of Ringwood Foodbank". Georgia set up Community Haircuts some time ago and runs sessions offering free haircuts on a drop in basis in venues across the area to anyone who cannot afford a haircut


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BEREAVEMENTS

Hibberd

John

John passed away at Bournemouth Hospital on 4th April, aged 84 years. Now re-united with his beloved wife Annette. Much loved Father to Martin, and he will be very sadly missed by all his family and friends. The funeral service will take place on Monday 27th April 2026 at Bournemouth Crematorium at 11.30am. Family flowers only please, but donations, if desired, in memory of John may be made to 'The GO Group' online at <https://checkout.justgiving.com/c/2895426>. All enquiries please to Eden Funeral Directors, Rose Cottage, Castleman Way, Ringwood BH24 3BA Tel 01425 837080

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- 7 - Type of word puzzle (8)
- 8 - Trouble in mind or body (3)
- 9 - Time periods (4)
- 10 - Steep rock faces (6)
- 11 - Acted properly (7)
- 12 - Spy (5)
- 15 - Simple aquatic plants (5)
- 17 - Most healthy (7)
- 20 - Alludes to (6)
- 21 - Possesses (4)
- 22 - Cause friction (3)
- 23 - Gifts (8)
- 24 - Choose (6)

Down

- 1 - Rarely encountered (6)
- 2 - Greek dish (8)
- 3 - Adhesive label (7)
- 4 - Bitterly pungent (5)
- 5 - Ludicrous failure (6)
- 6 - Move with a bounding motion (6)
- 13 - Atmospheric gas (8)
- 14 - Thin paper products used for wiping (7)
- 15 - Prizes (6)
- 16 - Small pet rodent (6)
- 18 - Instrumental piece of music (6)
- 19 - Entice to do something (5)

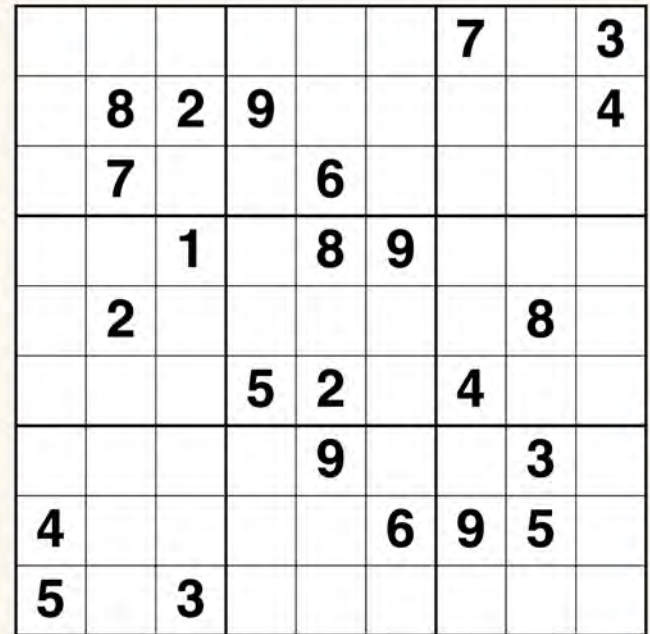
Answers for last the last issue:



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

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Business Spotlight: Award-Winning Perfumery & Co in Ringwood

At the heart of Ringwood's shopping scene, Perfumery & Co at The Furlong has become a true destination for fragrance lovers and beauty enthusiasts alike. This independent, owner-operated boutique is renowned for its warm welcome, expert advice and carefully curated collection of premium brands - delivering a personal shopping experience that keeps customers returning time and again.

Owned and run by the dedicated duo David and Anthony, Perfumery & Co has built a loyal following across the New Forest since opening its Ringwood store, following the success of its original boutique in Lymington. Their passion for fragrance, skincare and customer service is evident in every interaction, with the knowledgeable team taking pride in helping shoppers discover their perfect scent, skincare routine or special gift.

That commitment to excellence has recently been recognised with a major accolade – Independent Retailer of the Year at the New Forest Brilliance in Business Awards.

This prestigious award celebrates their outstanding contribution to the local retail community, highlighting their exceptional customer service, strong community engagement and innovative approach to independent retailing.

The Ringwood boutique offers an impressive range of sought-after brands, including Aesop, Noem, Gravel, L'Occitane, Bramley and Thomas Clipper, alongside exciting additions such as St Eval and Imperial Parfums. Notably, Perfumery & Co is also the exclusive stockist of Chanel fragrance in the New Forest, making it a must-visit destination for customers seeking iconic luxury products closer to home.



Whether you're searching for a signature fragrance, a thoughtful gift, or simply a little indulgence, a visit to Perfumery & Co is always a pleasure. Pop into the boutique at The Furlong in Ringwood - or their sister store in Lymington - to explore the latest collections and enjoy personalised advice from their friendly experts.



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For a full list of stores at The Furlong visit www.thefurlong.co.uk



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