The Ringwood & Fordingbridge NEWS

Issue 920 ● October 20th to November 17th ● 2026

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Fixtures 2026-27

Date		Opponents
Sat 24 Oct	H	Fawley AFC
Tue 27 Oct	A	Folland Sports*
Sat 31 Oct	H	Sandhurst Town
Sat 7 Nov	A	Newport (IOW)
Tue 10 Nov	H	AFC Stoneham*
Sat 14 Nov	H	Alresford Town
Sat 21 Nov	H	Whitchurch Utd

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KO 3pm *7:45pm
fixtures subject to change

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Budget day is coming! Are you ready?

On Wednesday 28 October, Chancellor John Healey delivers his first Budget - and he's already refused to rule out tax rises. For Ringwood's business owners, contractors, landlords and self-employed, that's exactly the kind of uncertainty worth getting ahead of, rather than reacting to afterwards.

The rumour mill has been busy: capital gains tax creeping closer to income tax rates, further tightening of Business Asset Disposal Relief (already raised to 18% this April), and talk - again - of the pension tax-free lump sum being trimmed. None of it is confirmed, and none of it will be until the Chancellor actually stands up.

What is already locked in is the freeze on income tax and National Insurance thresholds - including the £12,570 personal allowance - which runs until April 2031, quietly pulling more of your income into higher tax bands each year, Budget or no Budget.

So what should you do before 28 October? Mostly: don't panic, and don't let a headline make the decision for you. If you're already weighing up selling a property, a business or a chunk of shares, talk to us about timing first. If you're close to drawing your pension, speak to a regulated financial adviser before acting on a rumour.

We've written a full blog detailing any elements that are already confirmed, and what's still speculation. Follow the QR code to have a read.

Got a decision pending that the Budget could affect? Call or email before you act, not after.

Read more here:
Visit **www.donaldsonross.co.uk/blog**

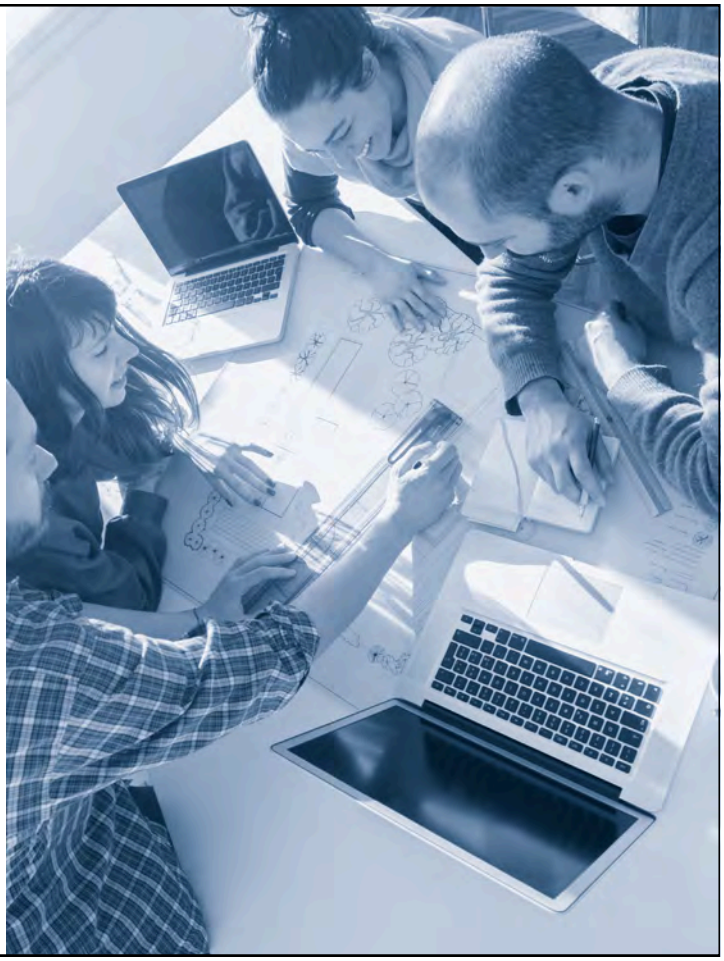
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EDITOR

A Magical Time for Ringwood and Fordingbridge

There is something truly special about this time of year in Ringwood and Fordingbridge, as our towns prepare to embrace the festive season with a wonderful programme of events that bring communities together and spread Christmas cheer.

From the excitement of the fireworks display to the sparkle of the Christmas lights being switched on, these celebrations mark the beginning of a season filled with warmth, goodwill and a real sense of community spirit.

Late-night shopping offers the perfect opportunity to browse our local shops, discover unique gifts and enjoy the festive atmosphere on our high streets. At a time when independent businesses face many challenges, these events are also a valuable reminder of the importance of supporting our local traders. Every purchase made locally helps keep our town centres vibrant and thriving.

The Christmas market adds another layer of festive magic, giving residents and visitors the chance to discover seasonal treats, handmade gifts and perhaps a little inspiration for their Christmas celebrations. Meanwhile, the traditional carol service offers a quieter, more reflective moment to pause amid the bustle, share familiar songs and remember what makes this season so meaningful.

What makes these occasions particularly special is not simply the lights, music or festivities, but the people who make them happen. The organisers, volunteers, local businesses and community groups all deserve our thanks for helping to create events that people of all ages can enjoy.

Ringwood and Fordingbridge have so much to celebrate. By coming together, supporting local businesses and taking part in these wonderful occasions, we can make this Christmas season memorable for everyone.

Let us embrace the festivities, enjoy the magic and celebrate all that is good about our towns.

Darren & Naomi

The Ringwood & Fordingbridge NEWS

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NEWS

Ringwood student's eco-friendly wheelie bin design brought to life

Innovative design combines practical bin storage with a mini wildlife habitat

An innovative idea developed by a Year 12 student at Ringwood School has been brought to life through a collaboration between Ringwood Town Council, Ringwood School, Greening Ringwood and local businesses and volunteers.

The project began in 2025 when Ringwood Town Council teamed up with Ringwood School to challenge students to rethink something found outside almost every home – the humble wheelie bin.

The Ringwood Eco Wheelie Bin Store Challenge asked students to design an innovative, practical and environmentally friendly storage solution that could do more than simply hide their wheelie bins.

Students were encouraged to think creatively about incorporating green roofs, pollinator-friendly planting, wildlife features, sustainable materials and attractive design, turning an everyday household necessity into something that could also benefit nature.

Georgina Wilson, a Year 12 student at Ringwood School, took on the challenge and developed an imaginative design that transforms a practical wheelie bin store into a miniature garden habitat.

Her design incorporates a living green roof, pollinator-friendly planting and wildlife features, while providing a practical solution for storing wheelie bins. Georgina carefully considered the materials, planting and construction, demonstrating how good design can combine practicality, sustainability and creativity.

But the idea wasn't going to remain on paper.

With the help of Bob, a Greening Ringwood volunteer, Georgina has seen her design become a full-size prototype. Bob generously opened his workshop and shared his time, practical skills and knowledge to help turn Georgina's design into reality.

The project has also received valuable support from The Fencing Centre in Chapel Lane Hurn, which generously donated the timber used to construct the wheelie bin store.

The finished prototype will now be displayed at Ringwood Library, thanks to Hampshire County Council, giving local residents the opportunity to see Georgina's original concept brought to life.

Cllr Rae Frederick, who originally brought the idea forward, said: "What started as a design challenge at Ringwood School has become something tangible that the whole community can see. Georgina has put an enormous amount of thought into her design, thinking about sustainability, biodiversity and how an everyday object can become something much more positive.

"It has been fantastic to see the idea develop from a drawing on paper into a real wheelie bin store, thanks to Georgina, Bob and everyone who has supported the project. It is exactly the sort of community collaboration that we should be encouraging.

"I hope the finished project inspires other young people to look at everyday problems differently and think creatively about how they could make a difference."

County Councillor Martin Eyre has been supportive of the project and is looking at how it could link with Hampshire County Council's Parish Pollinator Pledge, helping to promote pollinator-friendly planting and biodiversity across the county.

The project reflects a simple idea: practical structures in gardens, such as wheelie bin stores, can be designed to provide additional habitat for bees, butterflies and other insects. If similar approaches were adopted by more households, these small pockets of planting could collectively contribute to a more wildlife-friendly town.

The Town Council hopes the display will encourage residents to think about the opportunities to incorporate nature into everyday spaces and demonstrate how small changes can make a positive contribution to biodiversity.

The project is a great example of what can be achieved when young people, schools, volunteers, local organisations and businesses work together – taking a creative idea from the classroom and turning it into something the wider community can enjoy. Georgina's eco-friendly wheelie bin store is now on display at Ringwood Library for the community to see.



(left to right) Bob Wilson (Greening Ringwood volunteer), Georgina Wilson, Sue Shepherd (Ringwood Library), Hampshire County Cllr Martin Eyre and a representative from The Fencing Centre

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Trinity United Launches £300,000 Appeal To Protect Ringwood Landmark and Community Hub

Scaffolding goes up as Trinity United launches its funding appeal: Save our Spires!

Scaffolding has gone up at Trinity United, Ringwood to keep the **iconic spires safe** while funds are raised for their repair and for essential restoration work on other parts of this Grade II iconic local landmark.

Church Minister Revd. Sue Baker-Maher said: "Losing the spires would be bad enough, but Trinity United is so much more than a building. It is a community hub used by hundreds of local people every week"

Built in 1866 in the Victorian Gothic Revival style, Trinity United's distinctive spires, pinnacles and pointed lancet windows have been a familiar feature of Ringwood for generations.

But its more than just a building - Trinity United is both a place of worship and a thriving community centre. Each week, hundreds take part in activities including dance, exercise, martial arts, drama and music. The building also hosts support services, including dementia, mental health and addiction support, cardiac rehabilitation and mobility training. Its role as an arts venue brings choirs, concerts and performances to enrich the town cultural programme.

A £54,800 grant from the United Reformed Church (Wessex) Trust Ltd has provided a much needed and welcome start, but significant additional funding is needed. **To find out how to help go to** https://www.trinityringwood.co.uk/Groups/322022/The_Trinity_Appeal.aspx or **come to the next appeal event our Quiz night on Friday 20th November.** *(more details in the 'Whats On' section on P.12)*



A new home for jewellery making in Fordingbridge

There's something new taking shape in the heart of Fordingbridge. I've recently opened a beautiful new studio where I can bring together two things I love: creating jewellery and teaching others the craft.

The larger studio has allowed me to expand my jewellery-making classes, with regular bi-weekly sessions where you can learn new skills and create your own piece of jewellery in a relaxed, friendly environment. Classes include molten pendants, stone-set rings and wax-carving masterclasses, with something for complete beginners as well as those with some experience.

I also offer private make-your-own wedding ring sessions, giving couples the chance to spend time together creating something truly personal to wear on their wedding day.

Alongside teaching, I specialise in bespoke jewellery, remodelling treasured pieces, repairs and alterations.

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NEWS

Ringwood Grand Fireworks

Preparations for Ringwood Grand Fireworks on Sunday 1st November are almost complete and organisers, Ringwood Town Council, are hoping for the biggest turn out yet! This hugely popular event for all ages includes a fairground, children's entertainment, fire shows, two fireworks displays and live music from the highly acclaimed Swing Unlimited Big Band.

There will be plenty of food options on site including bratwurst, pizza, burgers, hog roast as well as sweet treats. Ringwood and District Round Table will be running a bar with all profits going to support local charities and activities in the area. Carvers Clubhouse will be offering a special event menu including pie and mash, hot dogs and jacket potatoes.

Tickets are on sale via Ticket Tailor at: https://buytickets.at/ringwoodtowncouncil/2418970 with Super Early Bird on sale until 8th October at a price of £3 (plus booking fee) and, as ever, pre-schoolers, people with disabilities and their carers are free.

Gates open at 3pm for the fairground, children's entertainment, food, and drink stalls. A 'low bangs' display starts at 5:30pm. Swing Unlimited Big Band will be on stage from 6pm performing their wide repertoire of 30's and 40's Jazz right through to more modern pop songs for all age groups to enjoy. The bonfire will be lit around 6.15pm and the main display at 7pm.

"Charly Keith, Ringwood Town Council Event Manager, said, "This is one of my favourite dates in the Ringwood events calendar. As ever, we work hard to keep our ticket prices as low as possible for the benefit of our local community and want to thank our headline sponsor, Clear Insurance Management, for their support in helping us achieve this. Along with sponsors: R&F news, Hendersons Bearings, Lonsdale wealth management, J&R Jewellery, Kimber's, RMC, Allum & Sidaway, Sandpiper Mortgages.
We also give thanks to local charities and community organisations who help us with this event including the Rotary Club of Ringwood, Ringwood and District Round Table, Men's Shed and Ringwood Carnival. We couldn't do it without your help."



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RINGWOOD TOWN COUNCIL
NEWSLETTER

Issue 008 October 2026

We look back on a memorable summer filled with community events and activities. Celebrations marking the 800th anniversary of the Royal Market Charter brought people together to recognise Ringwood's unique history and heritage. Carvers Clubhouse packed summer programme once again proved popular, offering families a wide range of activities to enjoy.
We now look forward to our two signature events in November— Ringwood Grand Fireworks and Ringwood Winter Wanderland—which promise even more opportunities for the community to celebrate together locally.
We are also pleased to report positive outcomes from our internal and external audits, providing reassurance that the Council continues to operate effectively and responsibly.



Ringwood Grand Fireworks

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https://buytickets.at/ringwoodtowncouncil/2418970

Upper Kingston Allotment Competition

On Sunday 13th September, Upper Kingston allotment holders gathered for their annual competition, proudly presenting the results of their hard work. Displays included impressive vegetables, home-grown fruit, colourful flowers and carefully tended plots. With so many excellent entries, choosing the winners was no easy task, reflecting the dedication, skill and passion across the allotment community. The event celebrated the community spirit that makes the allotments so special.



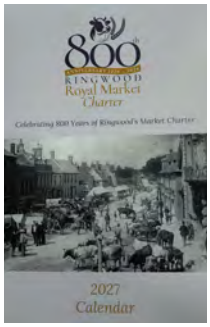


Remembrance in Ringwood

Come together during the Remembrance period to honour those who served and sacrificed their lives to defend our freedoms. On Remembrance Sunday, 8th November, services will take place across Ringwood before a parade gathers in Market Place at 11:30am. The procession will continue to the War Memorial Gardens for a short service, followed by the formal Act of Remembrance at noon. Further details on all commemorative events taking place are avialable on our website:
https://www.ringwood.gov.uk/events/remembrance/

RINGWOOD WINTER 2026 WANDERLAND

SAVE THE DATE: Ringwood Winter Wanderland returns!
In 2026, Ringwood will sparkle throughout December with festive activities and lights. Our signature celebration, featuring the light switch-on, festive market and entertainment, will take place on **Sunday 29 November**.



Looking for a present for someone who loves Ringwood? The Ringwood 800th Anniversary Commemorative Calendar could be just the thing. A beautiful way to celebrate and share our Market's remarkable history featuring a collection of images celebrating Ringwood Market, its heritage and its community. Calendars and other souvenirs are on sale at Ringwood Gateway.

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Nicky is very knowledgeable and professional. After just two visits she removed a wart. Really impressed with her kindness and care afterwards when she regularly checked in to see how it was going.

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What's New

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- Power Sculpt 30
- Sound baths coming soon

Spotlight

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BY ELEMENTS

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ELEMENTS HEALTH HUBS | RINGWOOD

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NEWS

Understanding Investments - Pension Taxes on Death

From April 6th 2027 pension values will to be included in an estate value for Inheritance Tax (IHT) purposes.

What does this mean?

If your total estate including pension values is under your IHT allowances then there is no change to the way they are taxed currently. This will only affect clients whose estates exceed their IHT allowances when including pension assets along with all other assets. For this article we are focusing on pension taxes only and not wider IHT rules.

Death Pre Age 75:

Inheritance tax applies unless the nomination on death is to a spouse or charity. There is no income tax charge or lump sum charge unless the proceeds exceed the Lump Sum Death Benefit Allowance (LSDBA) of £1,073,000. The Lump Sum Allowance (LSA) of £268,250 still applies to tax free cash.

Death post age 75:

As above other than the fact that an income tax charge would also apply at the beneficiaries marginal rate of tax. This could mean that two tax charges will apply-IHT and income tax on the beneficiary.

The ability to control the way income is paid out to the beneficiary could be very important to mitigate the tax rate paid. For example if a pension provides only for a lump sum death payment and is valued at say £150,000, that is added to the beneficiaries income in that tax year so part of the payment would then be taxed at additional rate tax and higher rate tax. Under beneficiary drawdown the beneficiary can choose the level of income they draw out and do this over a number of years to control the income tax charge. Many pension plans don't offer beneficiary drawdown so this should be checked. We also recommend seeking the advice of an accountant for tax calculations/liabilities should they apply.

A change in the way wealthy clients treat pensions?

Pensions are still very tax-efficient saving vehicles. You receive tax relief on the way in, money then grows tax free, and on the way out you receive a lump sum tax free with the remainder taxable at your marginal tax rate (often lower than the tax you saved on the way in).

Many clients will still need their pensions to pay for their own retirement needs and will draw money out from them via drawdown or the purchase of an annuity. In this case client behavior is less likely to change due to a potential IHT charge on death.

The changes do affect clients who have surplus assets for their own needs and up to now had expected to leave their pension pots to their children or grandchildren IHT free. It's those clients who need to review their planning as the tax rate on death post age 75 could be as high as 67% (assuming the pension is liable to IHT and the beneficiary is not a spouse or charity and is an additional rate tax-payer).

The positive news is that there are multiple planning strategies that can be used now to mitigate the effect of the upcoming change and there is some time to put these into place.

My colleagues Stewart Sims-Handcock, Howard Goodship and I are available for a no cost or obligation initial chat to discuss your personal requirements.

Harry Goodship is an Independent Financial Adviser with Lonsdale Wealth Management, 5 Friday's Court, Ringwood Tel: 01425 208490, www.lonsdaleservices.co.uk

A pension is a long-term investment not normally accessible until age 55 (57 from April 2028). The value of your investments (and any income from them) can go down as well as up which would have an impact on the level of pension benefits available. The tax implications of pension withdrawals will be based on your individual circumstances, tax legislation and regulation which are subject to change.

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Hazards for dogs swimming in rivers

Many dogs love to swim in our local rivers. It's a great form of exercise and is a great way for them to keep cool in warmer weather. However, there are several hazards to be aware of.

Fast-moving currents
Rivers can have strong currents, especially after rainfall, which can quickly carry dogs away. Check how fast the water is moving and make sure there are easy exit points from the water. Sadly, even incredibly strong swimmers, including Labradors, can get into difficulty and drown.

Cold water shock
UK rivers maintain cold temperatures year-round, which can cause muscle cramps and shock. Try to prevent them from diving straight into deep water - enter via a shallow area.

Waterborne diseases
Blue-green algae - These toxins can be fatal to dogs and are often found in still or slow-moving water in warm weather. They tend to appear as green or blue scum or foam at the water's edge.

Sewage contaminated water
Ingestion of water contaminated by sewage or agricultural run-off can cause severe vomiting, diarrhoea and dehydration from Salmonella or E.coli infection Check local warnings and avoid letting your dog swim when water quality is poor.

Leptospirosis (Weil's disease)
This can be spread in waterways contaminated by infected rats - all dogs should be vaccinated against this often fatal disease.

Parasites
Giardia and Cryptosporidium are microscopic parasites that can be contracted from water. These tend to cause chronic diarrhoea, weight loss and sometimes vomiting.

Seek veterinary guidance if

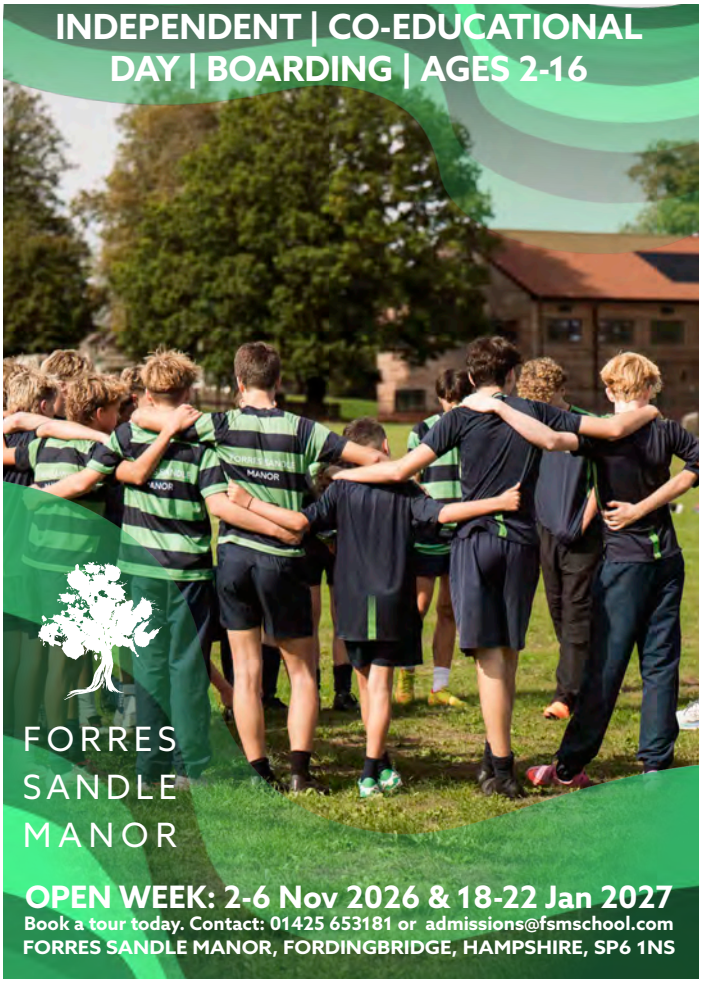
your dog develops any of the following after drinking from or swimming in a river:

-Gastrointestinal symptoms such as vomiting or diarrhoea
-Lethargy, weakness, loss of co-ordination or seizures
-Loss of appetite or general malaise

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WHATS ON

GARDEN CLUB
Ibsley & District Horticultural Society

'Preparing for your show'

Barry Newman

Advice on growing, preparation and staging plus tips on what the judges look for (*tricks of the trade*)

Thursday 29th Oct. 2026 at 7.30pm

Ibsley Village Hall
BH24 3NL

Free to members £3 to visitors

All welcome!

Fundraising EVENT

QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 20th November at 7.30pm
Trinity Centre, Ringwood BH24 1DH

£5 per person - bar & nibbles available
Raffle with prizes

Please email Alan (contact@trinityringwood.co.uk) to bag a table for 6 people to support our efforts to raise much needed funds.



SAVE OUR SPIRES
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Please help us raise £300,000!
WWW.TRINITYRINGWOOD.CO.UK

Scan this code or visit our website to discover how you can help us restore Ringwood's iconic spires and the historic building. Together, we can safeguard this much loved local landmark for generations to come.

Ringwood Meeting House & History Centre

Organ Recital

Join us for an afternoon of music with organist Timothy Rice
With refreshments including Cream Teas



Sat 24th Oct
2.30pm - 4pm
Doors open 2pm
Tickets: £10

Accessible Venue
Transport issues & need help getting there? Contact us!

Scan QR code, purchase in advance at Meeting House, or on the door (subject to availability)

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OCTOBER 27TH - 31ST

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WHATS ON

THE BARN ★★★★★
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ON STAGE

5 NOV DR RICHARD SHEPHERD
Time of Death – More Unnatural Causes
6 NOV TRIGGER HAPPY TV LIVE!
with Dom Joly
13 NOV TREVOR HORN
Adventures in modern recording
14 NOV RUSSELL WATSON
An intimate evening with 'The Voice'
18 NOV RONNIE, REGGIE & ME
with Fred Dineage



LIVE MUSIC

7 NOV RAT PACK LIVE
Experience the definition of cool!
21 NOV THE COUNTERFEIT SIXTIES
5 DEC WHOLE LOTTA SHAKIN'
The Shakin Stevens Christmas Show
12 DEC THE 80s BAND
Christmas Special
18 DEC THE JAM'D
The UKs No1 tribute to The Jam
19 DEC LEGEND
The Music of Bob Marley



What's on at Greyfriars!

Tuesdays – Ringwood Scottish Country Dancing

From 7.30 to 9.30pm, no partner required, for beginners or those already familiar with the steps and formations such as the petronella turn. Mary will guide you through the evening. Find our more, email romeyschofield@gmail.com, or call 01202896186

28 Oct – Ringwood Antiques

Dr Francis Burroughes presents an engaging exploration of 'Glass across the Centuries'. An enjoyable introduction to the beauty and craftsmanship of glass old and new. Entry price £10, doors open at Greyfriars at **7pm for 7.30pm start**.

30 Oct – Flamin Ukes in concert

The fabulous Flamin Ukes invite you to their Greyfriars fundraiser **from 2.30pm**. Tickets at just £10 from Greyfriars and include a delicious cream tea. Get set for a fun-filled afternoon.

28 Nov – Art of North Africa

Chris Bradley returns for a fascinating talk exploring the rich art, history and culture of four remarkable North African countries. The stories and traditions will be revealed from **10am-3.30pm**. Tickets £30 inc coffee & light lunch. Tickets from Greyfriars or TicketSource.

1 Dec – Paul Martin Valuation Day

Returning for one of his Greyfriars Valuation Days, from **10.30am-3pm**. Bring along your treasures, or just yourself to speak to Paul himself for his expert advice and fascinating insights.

Greyfriars Book Sale – Sat 5 Dec

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HAVE AN EVENT COMING UP?

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Please email your article to editor@rfnews.uk

WHATS ON



Ringwood Meeting House
& History Centre

Queen of Sheba:
Empress or Enigma

A talk by Chris Bradley



Sat 21st November
2pm-3pm
Doors open 1.30pm

Tickets: £10

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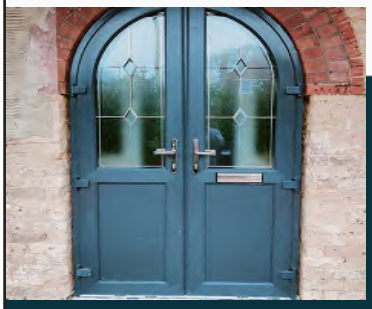
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Clay Nest Café



Address: 23 High Street, Ringwood, BH24 1AB

When did you open?

We officially opened our doors on 27 August 2026, so we are still a very new addition to Ringwood High Street. It has been a busy and exciting first few weeks, and we are incredibly grateful for the welcome we have received from the local community.

Why did you open?

Ringwood has always been our weekend "coffee and cake" retreat. The town has a fantastic coffee culture and lots of great places to visit. But we wanted to create something a little different for Ringwood – a place where people could slow down, be creative and spend quality time together.

The idea behind Clay Nest Café, inspired by our 12-year-old daughter, was to combine a traditional café atmosphere with the experience of painting your own pottery. We wanted it to be somewhere people could meet for coffee, bring their children, catch up with friends, celebrate a birthday or simply enjoy a couple of relaxing hours doing something creative.

For us, it is as much about the experience and the time spent together as it is about the finished pottery masterpiece.

What do you offer?

Our main offering is the experience of painting your own pottery. Customers choose a piece from our pottery collection and create their own design. We then glaze and fire the piece in our studio, ready for collection.

But you don't have to paint pottery to enjoy Clay Nest Café. You can simply pop in for a coffee and cake, catch up with a friend or take a break while you're in town. We serve artisan coffee, teas, fresh cakes, snacks, paninis and toasties.

We also have an exclusive private party room for birthdays, celebrations, group bookings and corporate events. Alongside this, we are developing a programme of creative workshops and special events, including our adults-only Paint, Sip & Unwind evenings.

Why should people shop with you?

Clay Nest Café is an independent local business, and we hope we offer something a little different – something that gives people another reason to visit and enjoy Ringwood High Street.

When somebody visits us, they are creating a memory as well as a piece of pottery. You don't need to be artistic, and there is no right or wrong way to do it. It is about switching off, enjoying yourself and spending time with the people you are with.

We want everyone who walks through our doors to feel welcome and comfortable.

How's business?

The response since opening has been really encouraging. We are still learning and developing the business every day, but seeing tables full of families, friends and groups enjoying themselves is exactly what we hoped for when we started.

We have also been delighted by the number of customers who have already returned to paint again.

Any message to the residents?

Simply, a huge thank you. As a new independent business, every visit, recommendation, Google review, social media share and kind word makes a genuine difference.

If you haven't visited us yet, please pop in and say hello. You don't have to paint pottery to visit – you are always welcome to come in for a coffee and have a look around.

SPECIAL OFFER

Readers of The Ringwood & Fordingbridge News can enjoy 10% off a pottery painting session when they book with us and bring a copy of the latest issue when they visit.

Online subscribers can simply quote "R&F NEWS CNC 2026" when booking.

The offer is valid for visits made up to and including 30 November 2026.



SHOP LOCAL

Supporting our community

Here we are offering local independant shops the chance to showcase their business for **FREE**. If you would like to be considered please contact us at

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NEWS

The Danny Cracknell 'Homeless at Christmas Appeal 2026

This years appeal will commence from Monday 2nd November and the organisers are anticipating growing support from across our local community.

Now in its' 38th year, the appeal, originally the brainchild of Danny Cracknell, Jimmy Gogan and Jock McMaster, has grown from strength to strength, supporting an ever increasing number of homeless people, whom, for a variety of reasons, find themselves in desperate need of food, clothing and shelter.

These basic essentials, which many of us take for granted, have provided a lifeline and make those less fortunate aware that, throughout communities such as ours, there are many kind and generous people who really do care and want to make a difference.

Warm ladies and gents clothing, especially coats, socks, gloves, hats, scarves, jumpers, shoes/boots/trainers, sleeping bags, blankets, rugs, thermos flasks, tooth brushes and razors are crucial.

Similarly toiletries, tinned food of all types, coffee, tea, sugar, dried pasta and any long lasting foodstuffs are also vital.

Jock, whom has been there from the beginning, reflects on how important the bond between himself and his dearly departed friends, (Danny and Jimmy), was in being able to collaborate and encourage many close friends and family to support this appeal.

The ability to offer support to many less fortunate has left a lasting impression and is also seen as a fitting tribute to those who are no longer around to help.

All donations are being received at Grants of Ringwood's estate agency office in The Furlong Centre in Ringwood.

Jon Grant and his colleagues, Sally and Toni are available to assist and are contactable on 01425 480456.

The collection will continue until Friday 11th December and your support as ever will make such a difference in these most challenging of times.

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Obituary for Denis Killen 29/6/1933 - 06/10/2026

Denis' mother used to call him "Mister Glad to Be Alive"; he lived and breathed this maxim throughout his rich and fulfilling life.
He passed away peacefully on Tuesday 6th October with his wife Sheila, his daughter Heidi, son Tim and granddaughter Destiny at his side. For Denis his family was everything.

Born in Clapton, London on 29th June 1933 into a family of Arsenal supporters, one of his great passions which he shared with his son Tim.

He lived through the London blitz in WW2 and had a close call when a V1 rocket landed two streets from the family home, blowing out all the windows!

After National Service in the RAF in Malta Denis began working for the Limmer and Trinidad Lake Asphalt Company, working on the M1 and maintaining the track at Silvestone for the British Grand Prix.

In 1964 Denis married Sheila Playdon at Malvern Priory in Worcestershire.

In 1967 Denis, Sheila with their two children Tim and Heidi, moved from the Midlands to the New Forest Market town of Ringwood taking ownership of a thriving newsagent, gift shop and lending library called Lunns Library.

He and Sheila loved being part of the wonderful Ringwood community, that makes this town a truly special place to live and grow up in.

IN 1969 Denis was invited to join the Ringwood Rotary Club whose motto is "Service Above Self" it seemed to align closely with his own values.

Within Rotary he held many positions, including Club President from 1986-1987, in 2006 receiving the Paul Harris Fellowship (PHF) for outstanding service to the community and in 2020 an award for 50 years of Rotary Membership.

Denis and Sheila were active members of Ringwood Chamber of Trade and Commerce. In 1971 this organisation took over the lead on Ringwood's amazing Christmas Eve festivities. Denis was at the heart of this playing the town Santa on a horse drawn sleigh for over four decades.

In the early 1970s Denis and Sheila join the Bournemouth Branch of the National Federation of Retail Newsagents (N.F.R.N). Denis enjoyed participating in branch activities and supporting other independent newsagents with core issues. He held the offices of Branch Secretary, Treasurer and President.

Many would have been content with this level of involvement, but Denis knew he had more to give and so put himself up for election to the Southern District Council, representing the Bournemouth branch. Shortly afterwards he was elected to the governing body of the Federation the National Council, serving as a National Councillor for the Southern District for many years and also serving as a member of the Standing Orders Committee responsible for rules and procedure within the Federation. He had a reputation for being a gentleman, who was firm but fair and would always be available to help a colleague and lend an ear when required.

Denis served two terms as a ward councillor on New Forest District Council for the seat of Ringwood South from 1983-1991. He had a reputation for fair play and supporting those within his Ward and across Ringwood. He also oversaw some the key projects that have shaped Ringwood as we know it today. Like the Sainbury's complex development and the Furlong car parks.

Ever the entrepreneurs Lunns evolved to include a Toy shop in the mid-1970s and as retail patterns shifted a move into Arts and Crafts but always with a newsagents at the core with an extensive home delivery network.

Denis had over 40 years of service across three Masonic lodges at Peartree in Southampton, Jubilee in Bournemouth and finally Unity in Ringwood.

In retirement Denis enjoyed being a member of Ringwood and District Probus Club, serving as Club President in 2010 and never



seeing age as an obstacle joined the Ringwood Veterans Hub just after his 90th Birthday.

Denis made an impact on every single person he met, no matter how young or old, or from which social background or country they hailed from

I was talking to an old friend of his a few days ago and he said how would any of us like to be remembered? He went on to tell me that as he spread word of Denis' passing, he was told time and time again "Denis was such a lovely man!"

Denis lived his whole life as though it was one great adventure, but selflessly and with love for life, his fellow humans and his family.



NEWS

Have your say on the future of Fordingbridge

Residents of Fordingbridge are being invited to help shape the future of the town as the proposed Neighbourhood Plan moves to its next stage of public engagement and consultation.

The draft Neighbourhood Plan, prepared by Fordingbridge Town Council with support from local volunteers, and the involvement of community groups, is the result of more than a year of conversations with people across the town, gathering local views on what matters most about Fordingbridge and what could be improved. Those discussions have helped shape a plan covering a range of issues, including protecting the town's heritage and landscape, improving the town centre, safeguarding green spaces and considering how streets and public spaces can work better for residents, businesses and visitors.

Now the local community will have the chance to see how their views have been reflected in the draft and to comment on the proposals before the plan is finalised.

Public exhibition and Consultation

A public exhibition is being held at Fordingbridge Town Hall for 3 days from Thursday 5th November 2026 (6pm -9pm), Friday 6th November (10am – 5pm) and Saturday 7th November from (9am – 5pm).

Residents can drop in at any time during the exhibition to view the plan, explore maps and display boards and talk directly to members of the team who have been involved in preparing it. There will also be an opportunity to give views and ask questions in person. The events are informal and open to all, making it easy for everyone to learn more about the draft plan and make their views known.

The exhibition forms part of the plan's formal six-week public consultation, running from 19th October to 30th November. All comments received during the consultation will be considered before the plan is finalised. Residents who are unable to attend the exhibition will still be able to respond to the consultation and make their views known. The draft plan and details of how to respond will be available on the Town Councils website fordingbridge.gov.uk, with a paper copy of the draft plan and consultation survey also available at the local information office Kings Yard Fordingbridge.

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Why does the plan matter?

A Neighbourhood Plan gives local communities a greater say in how their area develops. Once adopted, it becomes part of the statutory planning framework, has legal weight and will be used alongside other planning policies when decisions are made about development in Fordingbridge.

That means the plan could influence what is built in the town, where development takes place and how new development responds to Fordingbridge's character and environment for many years to come.

The consultation therefore provides an important opportunity for local people to look at the proposals and help shape the final plan. Everyone with an interest in the future of Fordingbridge is encouraged to take the opportunity to read the draft plan and make their views known.

Please scan here for direct access to the online plan

Urgent Appeal: Volunteers Needed to Save Fordingbridge Youth Clubs

The Salvation Army in Fordingbridge has issued an urgent appeal for volunteers to help prevent its vital weekly youth sessions from being scaled back.

The youth programme, which provides a safe and positive environment for young people aged 9–13, is facing a critical shortage of volunteers following the departure of several team members earlier this year and a further reduction in numbers over the summer. Without additional support, the future of the clubs is at risk.

The group runs back-to-back youth clubs every Thursday from 3:15pm to 6:30pm, offering young people a space to develop life skills, build confidence, and thrive. Organisers are asking local people to commit to just a few hours a month to keep these essential services running. Ideally, new recruits would help one week per month, covering both sessions, though those able to commit to just one of the groups are also encouraged to apply.

Volunteers can expect to get involved in a wide range of activities — from pool, air hockey, foosball and outdoor football to card and board games, with leaders joining in on the Switch and Xbox too. Yet the most important part of the role is building positive relationships and having meaningful conversations that help young people develop resilience, wisdom and support networks. Cooking and craft sessions have also been part of the programme in the past and could return with volunteers skilled in those areas.

Mike French, who leads The Salvation Army in Fordingbridge, said: "We rely on the generosity of volunteers to shine Christ's love in our community — they are truly the backbone of all that we do. Without people willing to step forward, our youth clubs simply cannot exist. If you have a heart for young people and a longing to make a lasting mark in your community, we would love to hear from you. Just one session a month can change lives — for the young people who need a safe place to belong, and for the community we are all part of building together."



The team is particularly seeking individuals aged 18 or over who are willing and able to work with children and young people across the two linked groups. No previous experience is required. Full training, including safeguarding and a DBS check, will be provided. What matters most, the charity says, is a genuine desire to support, nurture, and engage positively with young people.

The role is part of The Salvation Army's wider missional activity in Fordingbridge, and those coming forward will help ensure these essential programmes can continue to serve local families. Those interested in volunteering can contact church leader via email: Michael.French@salvationarmy.org.uk.

Across the UK and Ireland, volunteers play an important role in The Salvation Army's community and outreach work, covering a diverse range of issues from anti-trafficking and modern slavery to homelessness and addiction support, care for older people, and loneliness and isolation. For more information about The Salvation Army in Fordingbridge: Fordingbridge | The Salvation Army.

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MEET THE TEAM



Darren *Jo* *Amelia* *Jenny* *Lucy* *Harry* *Jason*

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CARNIVAL

Wow – what a week for Ringwood Carnival this year!

Last year the market town of Ringwood experienced an almighty downpour for the afternoon of the biggest event on the town's calendar (which actually DIDN'T dampen spirits) so you can be sure that everything was crossed for the third Saturday in September this year.

The supporters of Carnival 2026 – participants and onlookers alike – arrived in their droves. Procession entries for the afternoon parade did NOT disappoint. They were a glorious and hedonist mix – from the schools' incredible floats (Toy Story, 100 years of David Attenborough and Astronauts and Aliens), to 'Tale of Two Futures' from the Scouts and we then an influx of Wild Wild West themes this year!...

We were delighted that we once again hit a massive number of entries for the afternoon, with some clever designs that must have taken a lot of dedication, passion, teamwork and of course construction time! Once again, our local community is the only thing that makes our Carnival successful – without a procession, there is NO CARNIVAL.

And of course – the sun sets and everything comes alive again! One of the main highlights of the day is our evening procession - bright, colourful, loud and fun - and in the wonderful Ringwood style we all know and expect.

We are lucky to have the ability to book some wonderful acts for Carnival, with many continuing to return year after year to our town's event – such as Batala Portsmouth Samba Band, Ignis Fire Performers, Transformers ...and you can be sure that we also always have something new and exciting up our sleeves!

For the FIRST TIME to Ringwood, some of the UK's BEST BMX Flatland stunt performers were performing as part of one of our many pre-procession shows. Demonstrating incredible balance,







RINGWOOD Carnival 2026

Afternoon Procession Winners 2026

Class	Position	Club/Organisation Name	Entry Title
1	GOLD	Youth Riders Charity	Youth Riders
1	SILVER	Howling Commandos	Pirates
1	BRONZE	Adams/Solomon	The Good Life
2	GOLD	Spiral Blue	Spiral Blue Wild West
2	SILVER	Katie's Krew Carnival Club	Snow White and Katie's Krew
2	BRONZE	The Stable Family Trust	Toy Story
3	GOLD	Ringwood CE Infants School	Astronauts & Aliens - We All Belong Here
3	SILVER	Poulner Junior School	Toy Story
3	BRONZE	1st Poulner Scouts	A Tale of Two Futures

Trophy	Club/Organisation Name	Entry Name
Catweazle Best Youth Walking Entry	Revolution Cheerleading Academy	RCA
Jade Clarke Best Youth Entry (any class)	1st Poulner Scouts	A Tale of Two Futures
The Jen and Den Best School	Poulner Junior School	Toy Story















"A special thank you to Ringwood & Fordingbridge News, for the support to Ringwood Carnival the paper gives 12 months a year - thank you Darren & Naomi. Enabling us to advertise and communicate with readers and therefore contributing to the success of our event."

skill and rhythm - the crew performed at Greyfriars Roundabout, while of course the annual Live on The Lawn festival was enjoyed by many at The Community Centre.

And who can forget the exciting High Stunt Aerial Stunt jumps in the Market Place Arena? The atmosphere was electric, with gasps and cheers as the gravity-defying loops on the half-pipe wowed the crowds!

The excitement never stops on Carnival Day...even when the procession finishes in the evening. The night sky is lit up by NOT JUST the fireworks, but the FOUR fire performers, IGNIS, on the High Street, with an amazing end of the show for the Ringwood Crowds. Aren't we lucky to have a day full of SO much entertainment?

And as much as we are a community event, we are also thankful to be a registered charity, and more thankful to those putting the pennies in the penny pots. Because of YOU, we have raised £6,500 to donate to local charities and groups that need our help.

And we'll never forget that none of this could happen without the generosity of our wonderful sponsors.

Let's continue with the stats – because we ALL love a stat about Carnival:

That's £6.5k raised, a RECORD number of procession entries in the afternoon – 68! A HUGE 22 music acts across town as part of Carnival Unplugged, and a MASSIVE estimated 10,000 spectators lining the streets of our little market town throughout the day.

And let's not forget the procession winners – 3 class categories, 6 trophies awarded – and the MLW WINNER of Best in Show was Poulner Junior School with their Toy Story entry! Well deserved.

We had a FESTIVAL of entertainment across the day – and with our popular ever-growing events as part of Carnival Week running up to Carnival Day, we should ALL be proud. Because YOU, the people of Ringwood, ARE Carnival, and we LOVE you for it.

Let's celebrate its success together.

Bring on RINGWOOD CARNIVAL 2027 - What will YOU do?!

RINGWOOD 2026 Carnival

Evening Procession Winners 2026

Class	Position	Club/Organisation Name	Entry Title
1	GOLD	Adams/Soloman	The Good Life
1	SILVER	Ulfhedinn Vikings	Vikings
1	BRONZE	Sinclair C5 Owners Club	Sinclair C5 Club
2	GOLD	Joy Family and Friends	Mario Tuk
2	SILVER	Girlguiding Ringwood	English Country Garden
2	BRONZE	Newport Carnival & Community Events Assoc	The Newport Saloon
3	GOLD	KC Electrical Distributors Ltd	Pirates
3	SILVER	David Lloyd	Wild Wild West
3	BRONZE	Cheater Family	Steam Roller SIR ECHO

Trophy	Club/Organisation Name	Entry Name
Cox and Hicks Most Humorous (any class)	Alan Wiseman	Infantino OUT, Alan IN

Trophy - Michael Lingam-Willgoss – Best in Show (any class)		
Gold	Poulner Junior School	Toy Story
Silver	Joy Family and Friends	Mario Tuk
Bronze	Katie's Krew Carnival Club	Snow White and Katie's Krew

















Photos: Credti to Trevor Pogson of Ringwood Photography Club

NEWS

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION RINGWOOD & DISTRICT BRANCH

REMEMBRANCE WEEKEND

7th, 8th November and 11th November 2026

The Ringwood and District Branch of the Royal British Legion works with Ringwood Town Council and the Parish of Ringwood to organise and co-ordinate the Remembrance services and events.



On Saturday 7th November a service will be held at Ringwood Cemetery. Gathering at 10.45am in the Cemetery Car Park and then walking to the Commonwealth War Graves – during the service a Poppy Cross will be placed on each one – everyone is welcome to join us there.

The Civic Service of Remembrance, which is open to everyone, will be held in the Parish Church, Ringwood Market Square, on Sunday 8th November beginning at 10.50am Members of the Town Council, Local Organisations, Cadets and Serving members of the Armed Forces will be in attendance. The Church will be open from 10.00am and it is asked that everyone is in their seats by 10.45.

The service will be followed immediately by a Parade from the Market Square through Ringwood to the War Memorial, other Churches and Organisations will join the parade in the Square. Wreaths will be laid and the Silence sounded. After the wreath laying ceremony the parade will return to the Market Square where it will be dismissed.

On Wednesday 11th November a service will take place at the War Memorial beginning at 10.45am At 11am a Maroon, will signal the beginning of the National 2 Minutes Silence. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION RINGWOOD & BRANSGORE DISTRICT

LIVE ON

To the memory of the fallen and the future of the living
Each year the nation expresses its unequivocal support for The Royal British Legion's work through the annual Poppy Appeal. The Royal British Legion is the UK's leading Service charity. It provides practical care, advice, emotional and financial support to serving members of the Armed Forces, veterans of all ages and their families, its Mission is to provide Welfare, Comradeship, and Representation and Remembrance for the Armed Forces Community.

The Poppy Appeal is the Royal British Legion's biggest fundraising campaign and runs year-round. The 'Poppy Appeal Year' runs from the October to September . It takes over 350,000 volunteers and staff to organise the Poppy Appeal each year. More than 40 million Remembrance poppies, 500,000 poppies of other types, 5 million Remembrance petals, 100,000 wreaths and sprays, 750,000 Remembrance Crosses and other Remembrance items are made at the Poppy Factory each year.

Poppies were first suggested as a symbol of Remembrance in 1918 but it was not until Armistice Day (the last day of World War 1) that the first Poppy Appeal was born. In 1922 Major George Howson, a young infantry officer, formed the Disabled Society to help disabled ex-Service men and women from the First World War. He suggested to the Legion that members of the Disabled Society could make poppies, and the Poppy Factory was founded in Richmond in 1922. The original poppy was designed so that workers with a disability could easily assemble it and this principle remains today although the Poppy has been updated to be recyclable!

Money raised goes to support the Legions welfare work for the Armed Forces community, whether it is families coping with the loss of a loved one, help at home to adapt to independent living, recovery centres for injured personnel, money and careers advice or residential care, the Legion aims to help the most in need. Now with the Armed Forces changing and the return of all service personnel to England, strains on public sector support; and a peak in welfare demand from older veterans, the Service community is facing increasing health and welfare needs for the foreseeable future and The Royal British Legion is there, with your help, to support them.

The Ringwood and Bransgore Branch of the Royal British Legion will begin its Annual Poppy Appeal on Saturday 24th October 2026.

The Poppy Appeal Gazebo will be open from 8.30am to 4pm – weather permitting and can be found here
Saturday 24th October - Gateway
Wednesday 28th October – Gateway
Friday 30th October – Furlong
Saturday 31st October – Furlong
Wednesday 4th November – Gateway
Friday 6th October – Furlong
Saturday 7th November - Furlong

Thank You in Advance for your support for the Poppy Appeal.



HISTORY & NEWS

The Ringwood Society Awards 2026 – Another Group of Worthy Wins



First started 45 years ago, The Ringwood Society made their annual Design and Conservation Awards at their open meeting last Thursday with another group of worthy winners. Two awards and one commendation were awarded for 2026 across the residential and commercial categories.

The residential award was given to DUA Architecture for their extension and restoration of 5 Broadshard Lane. This award shows that good design has a home throughout the town, not just in the Conservation Area and marks only the second time since 2003 that an award has been given outside the Conservation Area. This is testament to the hard work, good design and thought given to the project.



The commercial award for 2026 has been awarded to Curry Garden Restaurant for their external work to 10 High Street. The idea that a listed building cannot change doesn't always have to be the case as this project shows.The attention to detail shown by owner Jay Khan in sourcing the right materials is evident in the quality of the undulating rendering, reflecting the historic character of the building and was further evidenced in a heartfelt acceptance speech.

Whilst the look of the building has changed, the mock timbering on the first floor in fact only dated to the 20th century. It was in no way historic of the historic appearance of this Grade II listed 16th century building, of which the Khan family have been custodians for over 40 years.



Poor signage is the bane of any Conservation Area, particularly Ringwood, where an increasing number of poorly designed signage schemes seem to regular appear, despite best efforts of the Planning Authority. New ventures joining the town are always welcome but there is trepidation as to how they will present their business through signage.

Great news then that Fridays at Fridays Cross have carefully considered the design of their signage, using the existing timber fascia without further layers of add-ons, and with a carefully chosen colour palette, next door to the 2024 commercial award winner; Rose and Lily Florals. The Society expressed hope that both business will serve as an example of what can be achieved with a little care.

The Green Gram serves up Green Feast, its first pop-up vegetarian restaurant

Fordingbridge's award-winning community refill shop, The Green Gram, is launching Green Feast, a pop-up vegetarian restaurant at Bridge's Cafe, on Tuesday 3rd November 2026. Guests are invited to arrive at 7pm for a 7.30pm start and enjoy a menu created by an expert chef Tim Tonkin using ingredients from The Green Gram's own shelves.

The proposed menu opens with seeded bread, oil and vinegar, followed by sunflower seed ricotta with dukkah and roasted butternut squash. The main course brings together spiced cauliflower and slow-cooked celeriac with lentils, pickled raisins and toasted coconut, while dessert is ginger parkin with rehydrated figs and ice cream. Tea or coffee to finish is courtesy of Bridge's Cafe. Some dishes may change on the night.

Jo Anderson, Manager at The Green Gram, says: "Green Feast is a chance to show just how delicious cooking from the refill shop can be. Every dish on the menu includes ingredients our customers can buy loose, without any single-use plastic packaging. We can't wait to share an evening of good food with our community."

Tickets cost £30 per person and must be bought in advance from The Green Gram Community Refill Shop, where both cash and card are accepted. To keep things simple for this first event, guests are asked to bring their own drinks. Tap water and glasses will be provided.

If the evening is a success, The Green Gram hopes to make Green Feast a regular event.

For more information about Green Feast or The Green Gram, visit www.thegreengram.org, email team@thegreengram.org or call 01425 837600.

The unknown story of the River Beaulieu

FORDINGBRIDGE HISTORY SOCIETY

The River Beaulieu was once a sleepy waterway but all that changed when it was requisitioned by the Navy to help with the War effort.

Marc Heighway, a longtime New Forest resident, recently curated an exhibition that focused on the river's vital role. He is joining **Fordingbridge History Society (FHS) to talk about "The River Beaulieu at War" on Monday 9 November, from 2pm to 3.30pm.** Marc will also include a visual tour showing wartime elements that are 'hidden in plain sight'.

Do come along and join us to find out more **at Avonway Community Centre, Shaftesbury Street, Fordingbridge SP6 1JF.** Marc's talk will be followed by complimentary refreshments and the opportunity to talk with the speaker and FHS Members.

'The River Beaulieu at War' talk is free to FHS members. Visitors are most welcome (for a small fee of £5 per person). There is a large public car park just a few minutes from Avonway and a drop off facility in front of the building.

The December FHS meeting topic is "A time at sea with the British Antarctic Expedition".

For further details, check out the FHS website (fordingbridgehistorysociety.org.uk), contact secretary@fordingbridgehistorysociety.org.uk or 'phone 01425 657040.

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 7th 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 8th November – Remembrance Sunday

On Remembrance Sunday, various church 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 between 11.30 and 13.00.

Wednesday 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.

They gave their Tomorrow so we could have our Today....Lest We Forget



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	H.M.S. Monmouth
01/11/1914	Albert Edward Wareham	Leading Seaman	H.M.S. Monmouth
02/11/1914	Arthur Janes	Private	1st Bn, Hampshire Regiment
03/11/1916	Auberon Thomas Herbert	Captain	Hampshire Yeomanry/ 22 Squadron RFC
03/11/1940	Frederick Frampton	Petty Officer (DEMS)	HMS Patrocius
06/11/1917	Cecil Young	Private	1st/9th Bn, Durham Light Infantry
07/11/1941	Raymond F C Dean	Sergeant (Pilot)	501 Squadron, RAFVR
10/11/1943	Frederick Hyde	Chief Engine Room Artificer	HMS Northray II
13/11/1939	J Risdon	Petty Officer Cook	HMS Adventure
14/11/1916	Richard Forbes Lowndes	Second Lieutenant	5th Bn, King's 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 OBE	Wing Commander	236 Squadron, RAF
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 Scotts
30/11/1942	Alfred Brewer	Flight Sergeant	10 Squadron, RAFVR
30/11/1943	Gerald Alfred Duncombe	Gunner	Royal Artillery

Lest We Forget

NEWS

Ringwood Bowling Club's 'HOT' Summer

The performances by the members of Ringwood Bowling Club, this season, were as HOT as the the Sun was during the summer months.

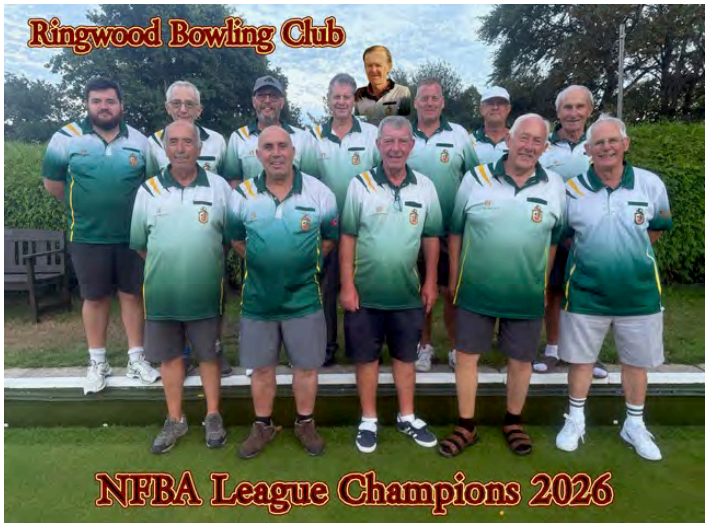
At the end of July, the Men's 1st Team were crowned New Forest Bowling Association League Champions after an enthralling final match against Fordingbridge.

Ringwood got off to a good start but Fordingbridge soon hit back and took the lead, after 6 Ends.

Fordingbridge then accelerated away so that an overall win for Ringwood was out of the question.

Knowing that 3 Points would virtually guarantee the League Title and 2 Points would mean relying on other results, the final points tally for Ringwood was on a knife-edge.

Ringwood then rallied and fought back well, in the last 3 Ends, to take 2 Points from the game to eventually Crown them as League Champions. Rinks 2 - 2. Shots 63 - 52. Points 6 -2.



Then, at the end of August, Ringwood's Saturday 1st Team were crowned Bournemouth & District Bowling Association's Premier League Division 2 Champions after having been relegated, from Division 1, the previous year.

Also, Ringwood's 2nd String, 'A' Team, gained promotion by finishing as Runners Up in Division 5 of the B&DBA Premier League.

September was good as well with Ringwood's 'A' Team triumphant in the New Forest Bowling Association's Ringwood Shield, knockout, competition.

It was an exciting end to the match when the 'A' Team came up against Totton & Eling in the Final held at Milford on Sea.

When three of the Rinks had finished their matches, the overall score was 38 - 38 and the last Rink still had 2 Ends to play.

Leading by 1 Shot, they added another shot on the seventeenth End then, on the last End, the Icing was put on the Cake by adding a remarkable 5 Shots for a Final Winning Tally of, Rinks 2½ - 1½. Shots 61 - 54.



There were also Individual Trophy Winners in the following Competitions.

NFBA Singles - Derrick Fulker

NFBA Champion of Champions - John Sanderson

NFBA Fours - Steve Hill, Derrick Fulker, Paul Wright and Peter Knight

B&DBA Singles - Lee Croad

Ringwood Ladies also had a good season. In the New Forest Women's Bowling Association's Top League, 'A', they finished on equal points with League Winners, Waterside 2 but finished in 4th place on Shots Difference.

In the B&DWBA Thursday Triples League 1, the Ladies came in 3rd, on equal points with Ferndown Diamonds but way behind the Winners, Fordingbridge, by 19 Points

See more at www.ringwoodbowlingclub.co.uk

RKO & BKO Celebrate Success at Oxford Open Championships

Members of Ringwood Kickboxing Organisation (RKO) enjoyed a fantastic weekend of competition at the Oxford Open Championships, competing alongside their sister club, Basingstoke Kickboxing Organisation (BKO).

Together, the RKO and BKO fighters achieved an impressive combined medal haul of:

* 9 Gold
* 4 Silver
* 3 Bronze

Representing RKO were Avery, Richie and Katrina Ferioli, who each stepped onto the mats against strong opposition and represented the club with determination, courage and excellent sportsmanship.

Richie produced an impressive performance in the Points Fighting division, securing a fantastic silver medal. After missing out in his Light Contact division, he came back strongly in Points Fighting, demonstrating improved focus and tactics alongside some brilliant jumping kicks to earn his place on the podium.

Avery also put in a determined performance. Although she didn't secure a medal on this occasion, she showed great strength and courage throughout her fights and gained valuable competition experience to take back into training.

The championships also marked a special return for Katrina Ferioli, who stepped back onto the competition mats following a year away from competing.

Katrina made an impressive return, securing three bronze placings across Girls' Points Fighting, Girls' Light Contact and Ladies' Adult Points Fighting.

RKO's fighters competed alongside their BKO family, with both clubs supporting and encouraging one another throughout the weekend.

One of the weekend's major highlights was BKO's Mia Purkiss being crowned Grand Champion, a fantastic achievement to add to an already successful championship for the two clubs.

RKO head coach Liz Ferioli-Brown, a WAKO World, European and British Champion, said:

"I'm incredibly proud of everyone who stepped onto the mats. Competition isn't just about winning medals. It takes courage to walk out there, face an opponent and put everything you've been practising into action.

"Avery gained valuable experience, Richie showed some fantastic improvements and came away with a brilliant silver, and it was wonderful to see Katrina competing again after a year away and returning with three bronze placings.

"We're also incredibly proud of our BKO family. The support between the two clubs is something very special, and the combined

medal results show just how hard everyone has been working."

Across the two days, advanced, intermediate and novice competitors took to the mats, giving fighters at different stages of their development the opportunity to gain experience and test their skills against quality opposition.

While the combined total of 9 gold, 4 silver and 3 bronze medals was a fantastic achievement for RKO and BKO, the weekend was about much more than medals. Every fighter gained experience, identified areas to work on and returned home with something to take back into training.

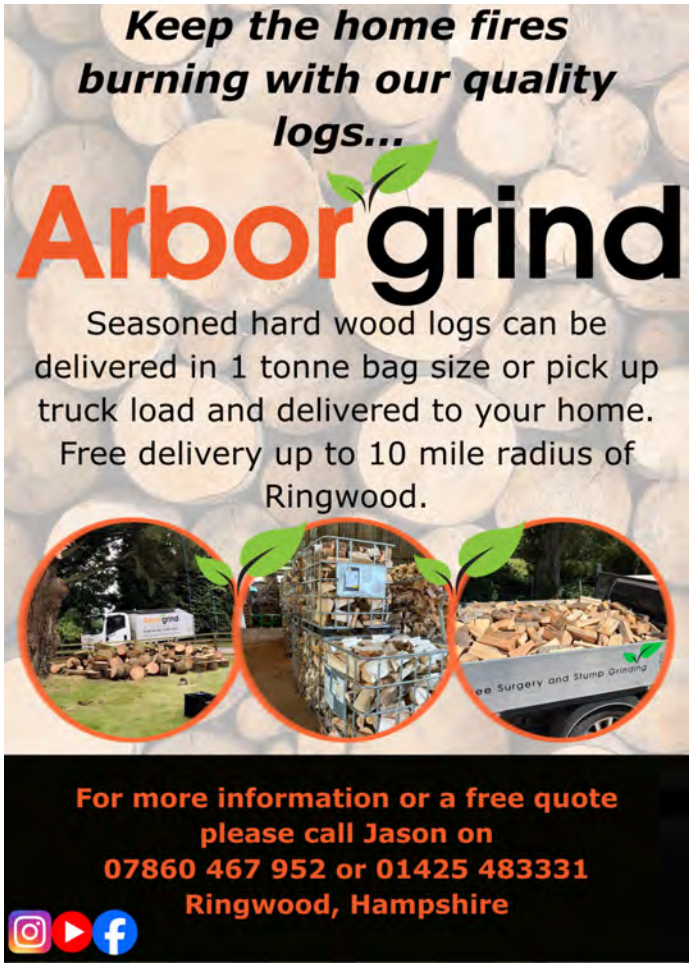
Ringwood Kickboxing Organisation is based at the Wesley Centre in Ringwood and provides Points Fighting and Light Contact kickboxing for children, teenagers and adults.















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Ringwood care home launches men's club for residents to share skills

Residents at a Ringwood care home are putting their woodworking skills to good use through a new men's club.

The team at St Ives House care home, on Horton Road in Ashley Heath, which is run by not-for-profit charity Care South, have created their own St Ives House Men's Club. It aims to bring residents together to work on projects and share skills from their time at school, as well as in their working lives.

The group, which meets every month, has already built a bench for the care home's grounds, a 'busy board' for residents living with dementia, and hedgehog houses and bird boxes for the wildlife that visits the home's garden. The meetings also give them the chance to talk to other residents about projects they've previously worked on over the years, while sharing some drinks and snacks.

Ken, who lives in St Ives House, said: "It's nice making things together, having never done anything like that before. We've previously put together a bench, which I now sit on every morning."

Mike, who also lives at the home, said: "I do enjoy getting together at the club, where I can chat about when I was 'on the tools' building houses in my job."

Meanwhile, David, another resident, said: "The club reminds me of when I made a bedside table at school. I find the club interesting and think it might inspire me to make something again in the future."

Emma Cotton, Home Manager at St Ives House, said: "It's wonderful to hear our residents chatting and realising how much they have in common from their working lives and their woodworking skills learned at school. The room becomes a hive of activity when the club meets and it's a joy to see them feeling a sense of accomplishment when they complete their projects. At St Ives House, we are keen to enable our residents to keep enjoying their own hobbies, while creating opportunities for them to build new friendships over shared interests."

St Ives House provides residential, respite, and dementia care. Residents enjoy a daily programme of events organised by the dedicated activities team to enable them to socialise and build friendships.
Care South is a not-for-profit provider of high-quality residential care homes across 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 or call 01425 209464 to book a tour.





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NEWS

Ringwood School Celebrates

Ringwood School celebrates outstanding teaching, high achievement and happy, successful students following recent OFSTED.

Ofsted report recognises significant improvement at Ringwood School and Sixth Form, with five judgements at 'strong standard' level.

Ringwood School is celebrating a highly positive Ofsted report following an inspection on 15th and 16th September, which recognises the high quality of education provided across the school and sixth form, alongside its strong commitment to student wellbeing, safety, personal development and a genuine sense of belonging.

The report follows its previous 'good' judgement (using the old framework) and reflects the dedication of staff, students, governors, parents and carers in creating an environment where young people can thrive.

Under Ofsted's new inspection framework, Ringwood School has been judged to meet the 'strong standard' across five areas. This represents a significant achievement, particularly given that the new grading system places demanding expectations on schools to meet all aspects of the relevant criteria. The outcome aligns with the level of performance associated with the previous 'outstanding' judgement.

A central theme of the report is the positive experience of students at Ringwood School. Inspectors commented that "pupils are safe, happy and successful" and that "pupils are thriving", highlighting the school's strong "culture of belonging". These findings reflect the school's commitment to ensuring that every young person feels valued, supported and able to achieve their potential.

The quality of teaching was also a particular strength identified by inspectors. Teachers were praised as "passionate and inspiring" and described as "experts in their subjects". The report notes that students "enjoy lessons" and are "empowered to work hard", enabling them to "thrive in lessons". This high-quality teaching translates into "highly positive outcomes", with students progressing to "ambitious and appropriate destinations" after leaving school.

Inspectors also recognised the caring and inclusive environment created by staff and the school's strong safeguarding culture. The report states that, as a result, "pupils are made safer and feel safe". This recognition underlines the importance Ringwood School places on ensuring that students are not only successful academically, but also supported and secure throughout their time at school.

Beyond the classroom, the report celebrates the breadth of opportunities available to students through the school's enrichment programme and careers support. Inspectors noted that the "wider enrichment offer and careers support ensure that students also develop mature life skills". Students were particularly enthusiastic about these opportunities, which enable them to build confidence and resilience, develop leadership skills, contribute meaningfully to school life and prepare for their futures.

The report's final words provide perhaps the most powerful endorsement of all. Reflecting on their experience of the school, one student told inspectors: **"I feel so lucky to come to this school."** This sentiment captures the ethos that Ringwood School strives to foster every day: a community where young people feel a strong sense of belonging, are inspired to achieve and have the opportunities and support they need to flourish.

Leanne Symonds, Headteacher said: "We are absolutely delighted with this report, which recognises the quality of education, care and opportunities we provide for our students. It is particularly rewarding to see the significant progress the school has made over the past four years, while remaining firmly focused on what matters most: ensuring that every young person feels safe, happy, valued and able to succeed. This achievement is a testament to the hard work and commitment of our staff, the enthusiasm and ambition of our students, and the support of our governors, parents and carers. I am incredibly proud of our whole school community and grateful to everyone who contributes to making Ringwood School such a special place to learn and grow."



The report celebrates a collective achievement and provides further encouragement for Ringwood School to continue striving for the very best education, care and opportunities for every young person.

The report can be read in full here:
https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/23/136657

You are invited to enter The Ringwood Turning Prize

The Turning Prize is a parody art competition where the goal is to create the 'most rubbish' artwork using the absolute minimum amount of effort possible. Pun-based titles are highly encouraged and if the judges decide you have tried too hard or put in too much effort, your entry will be immediately disqualified.

Key Rules

- Minimum effort essential, entries requiring exertion are tossed out.
- Submissions should feature humour and witty, pun-heavy titles.
- Absolutely no paper, cardboard entries are accepted.
- One entry per person.
- Submissions will be accepted and displayed at Ringwood Parish Church during the first three weeks of October. Dates and times on Ringwood Benefice website.
- You must include your name or pseudonym, phone number and the title of your art work.
- Entry Fees are £5 for 18+ years, under 18 free. All monies raised will be donated to CAP charity (Christians Against Poverty).
- The winner will take home the prestigious Turning Prize Trophy. This will be awarded during the 10.30am Service at Ringwood Parish Church on Sunday 1st November.

THE TURNING PRIZE 2026



RINGWOOD BENEFICE

Ringwood & Poulner Toad Patrol

Toads are in trouble – but you could help



photo credit to Louis P

The past year's early flooding followed by summer heatwaves, drought and wildfire have all put severe strain on our local wildlife. Amphibians in particular such as toads, newts and frogs struggle to survive in long periods of excessive heat and no rain. One local well established conservation group, Ringwood and Poulner Toad Patrol, will soon be playing their part in helping to save toads as they face the dangers of an often busy rural road. And once again this year they're looking for more volunteers ahead of the toad migration and breeding season.

"With toad numbers sadly in sharp decline, every life we can save is more precious than ever," said Nicola Yorke who runs the patrol. "The route we look after on the outskirts of Ringwood next to Blashford Lakes can be especially dangerous for them as many risk being killed under the wheels of cars and vans."

The toads begin their migration journeys on mild evenings in January, often crawling long distances as they travel to breed at the edge of Blashford Lakes. By early Spring after their eggs are laid in water they make the return journey, once again facing the dangers of the road.

"Our brilliant volunteers take it in turns to drive slowly along the road that runs from the North Poulner crossroads up to the Moyles Court ford below Rockford Common," said Nicola. "We patrol from dusk until 11pm, stopping to pick up any toads or newts we see and carry them across the road so they can safely continue their journey. All we ask for is a commitment to spare a couple of hours one evening every week from mid January through to the end of March."

First set up in 1988, the patrol was given a prestigious Community Award by Ringwood Town Council in May 2025 in recognition of the importance of the local toad population and the efforts of the patrol to help them survive migration. In recent years it has extended its social and community activities to include giving regular talks to local schools and groups, creating an outdoor amphibian photo gallery at Moors Valley, taking part in the Ringwood Carnival, regularly fielding a pub quiz team at the Alice Lisle, attending the Folds Farm Charity Event in Godshill, participating in the Ringwood Town Council Annual Assembly, supporting three young patrollers as they completed their Bronze DofE volunteering commitment, and raising money for the wildlife charity Froglife who coordinate toad patrolling throughout the UK.

"Toads play such a vital part in our natural ecosystem that it's really important to carry on our work of saving as many lives as we can," said Nicola. "We'd love to hear from anyone interested in joining our friendly, inclusive group of passionate, dedicated patrollers. We'd also be really grateful if drivers on the route slowed down, remained patient and kept an eye out for the toads. It would make an enormous difference and many more precious lives would be saved."

Interested in volunteering? Email rptoadpatrol1@gmail.com

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NEWS

COUNTY COUNSILLOR'S CORNER

One of the most common questions asked on the doorstep when I was out campaigning earlier this year, was why do we have to pay to park in the Forest?

A good question about something that was just dropped on local residents with very little warning. No consultation! No cheaper options for local residents! £96 for the year for national membership, or you pay by the hour! Take it or leave it!

After consulting Forestry England's website, one will find that most other forests under their management, have another option: a Local Forest Membership which applies to a single forest (Not New Forest!) and cost circa £45 per year!

At the County Council full meeting, held on 1st October, a motion was submitted; very similar to that agreed by the NFDC earlier; asking for the leader of the council to write to Forestry England requesting the introduction of this Local Membership option to be applied to the New Forest. This would enable more people to be able to afford this additional cost in these times of ever-depleting spare income! I still believe, disabled, blue card holders should have free access but, one step at a time!

As County Councillor for Ringwood, I stood up and supported the motion on behalf of all my residents. It was my first speech in council, and although nerve-racking, I tried to put forward an argument stating the effect these charges were having on local residents, and the attendance at our local forest car parks.

Personally, I don't think Forestry England will play ball and will just carry on; they have to recoup their investment one way or another! I would love to be wrong in this instance, but I'm not holding my breath! We shall see!

As ever, stay safe.

Cllr Martin Eyre



Ringwood Care Home Awarded 'Team of the Year Award by HCC

Bickerley Green is very proud to announce that the entire staff team at Bickerley Green Residential and Nursing Home, has been recognised, by Hampshire County Council's Adults' Health and Care Directorate as 'Team of Year'. Jess Hutchinson, Director of AHC, spoke about how every day, colleagues across Adults' Health and Care make an incredible difference to people's lives. "We don't always get the opportunity to stop and reflect on that, so having a time dedicated to celebrating those achievements feels special. Particularly, I would add my congratulations to everyone at Bickerley Green upon receiving an 'Making a Difference Award'. This is a wonderful achievement and a true testament to the positive impact of everyone's work.

The Bickerley Green team has demonstrated exceptional teamwork, innovation, and compassion across their 60-bed dual care home, delivering outstanding care through a whole-home approach. From creative wellbeing initiatives such as the "Dream Days" programme and support for the Veteran Friendly Framework, to improvements in safety, personalised care, and daily living, every team member has played a vital role in enhancing residents' quality of life.

Innovation, professionalism, and a strong commitment to person-centred care are evident throughout the home. Whether through leadership, clinical practice, catering, housekeeping, or wellbeing/activities, staff consistently create a safe, welcoming, and supportive environment for residents and their families, earning high levels of praise and appreciation.

Winning this award marks a significant milestone. Your commitment, hard work, and dedication to the Directorate are greatly valued and make a meaningful difference."

Registered manager, Tracy Flint, added "This is a fantastic achievement, and I truly believe it reflects the compassion,



dedication, and commitment which each member of staff brings to our service every day. I am very proud of everyone's hard work and continued support. This recognition is richly deserved for us all at Bickerley Green.



Are you aged 16-22 - Applications are now open for Lions Youth Camps abroad for 2027

10 extraordinary young people from our local community enjoyed an exciting summer abroad in Japan, Finland, Wisconsin (USA), Massachusetts (USA), Canada, Germany, Brazil and Hungary at a Lions International Youth Camp made possible through Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions Club.



Pictured above are some of the amazing adventures experienced by our international ambassadors abroad this summer. 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 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 2027, please contact Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions Club at 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. 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".

One local student who went to a Lions Youth Camp in Japan said "This exchange has profoundly changed my perspective on the world. Navigating a country so beautifully different from my own taught me adaptability, patience, and independence. Meeting peers from all over the globe at the youth camp proved that despite our cultural differences, we all share the same core values of friendship and curiosity. I return home with improved communication skills, a deep respect for Japanese traditions, and a powerful longing to go back again!" Another visiting Germany echoed similar enthusiasm for the scheme "Looking back, Lions has taught me more than I expected. It has helped me become more confident, open-minded and willing to embrace unfamiliar situations. Although the trip eventually came to an end, the memories, friendships and lessons I gained from it will stay with me for a long time. It is an experience I am extremely grateful to have had, and one that I would happily do all over again".

Pictured above are the wonderful photos from the Lions Youth Camp at Lake Louise in Alberta Canada. Isabella explained "My Lions trip to The Woodcreek Mountain Adventure Camp in Canada was the experience of a lifetime and a life-changing trip for me. My trip was such an adventure, and I have made friends for a lifetime. I will always cherish my time in Canada and cannot recommend it enough! My advice is don't be afraid and go for the adventure, you can do it!".

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) , by phone on 0345 833 5819 or simply come along to one of our monthly meetings.







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SMALL ADS * BEREAVEMENTS * ANNOUNCEMENTS

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BEREAVEMENTS

Green
Dorothy Constance
Peacefully passed away on
30th September 2026, aged 102 years.
Beloved mother of Dawn, Paul, Richard, Bryan and Roger.
A cherished grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great grandmother. Dorothy leaves behind a beautiful legacy of love, wisdom and strength over four generations.
Family and friends are invited to attend the funeral service at Poulner Baptist Chapel on Thursday 22nd October at 11.00am. Family flowers only please, donations to Tear Fund c/o Tapper & Son of Ringwood.

Killen
Denis
Passed away peacefully at home with is family at his side on Tueday 6th October 2026 aged 93 years.
Beloved wife of Sheila, Father to Heidi and Tim, Brother to Gill and the best Grandpa to Destiny.
Lunns established in 1967 continues to serve the community of Ringwood under the ownership of his daughter Heidi and her team.
Family and Friends are invited to celebrate his wonderful life at a memorial service at St Peter & Pauls Parish Church, Ringwood on Thursday 29th October at 1.30pm.
Family Flowers only, but donations are welcome and can be made to MacMillan Caring Locally c/o Tapper & Son of Ringwood.

Clarke
Christine
Passed away peacefully at home on
Friday 25th September 2026, aged 83 years.
Funeral Service to be held at Our Lady of Sorrows & St Philip Benizi on Wednesday 21st October 2026 at 11.30am, followed by burial at St James Church, Alderholt at 12:45pm.
Family flowers only, donations if desired for The Coda Music and Arts Trust, c/o I. N. Newman Ltd, Griffin Mews, High Street, Fordingbridge, Hampshire, SP6 1AX.

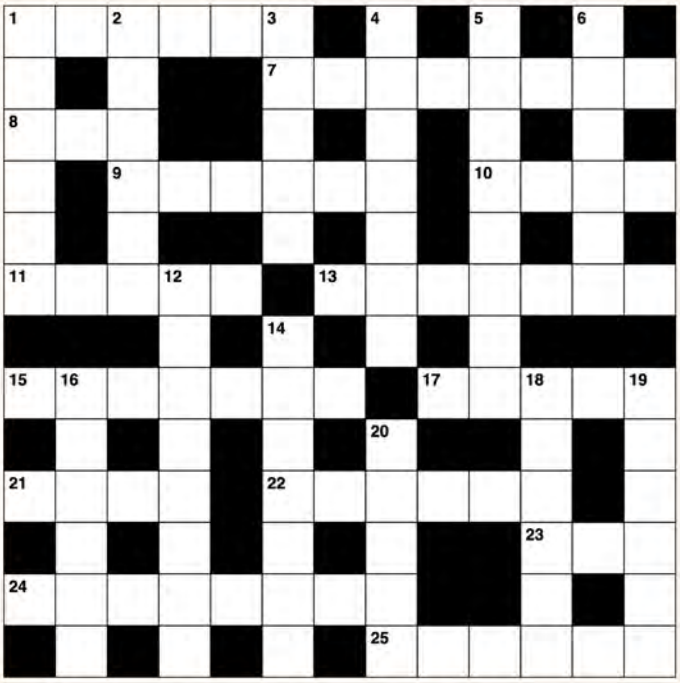
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Crossword



Across

1 - Thing that is totally true (6)
7 - Amaze (8)
8 - Group of whales (3)
9 - Item thrown by an athlete (6)
10 - Exploits (4)
11 - Rejuvenate (5)
13 - Fall back (7)
15 - Disturbance; commotion (7)
17 - Doctor (5)
21 - Guided journey (4)
22 - Periods of darkness (6)
23 - Silent (3)
24 - Relating to scripture (8)
25 - Large birds of prey (6)

Down

1 - Burrowing rodent (6)
2 - Unexpected (6)
3 - Spear (5)
4 - Stored away (7)
5 - Prevent heat loss (8)
6 - Organic compounds (6)
12 - Fully (8)
14 - Link together (7)
16 - System of social perfection (6)
18 - Dreary (6)
19 - Tiny bits of bread (6)
20 - Spry (5)

Answers for last the last issue:

R	E	A	P	P	E	A	R	■	I	T	E	M
E	■	N	■	R	■	I	■	U	■	O	■	I
V	A	G	U	E	■	R	E	N	E	G	E	S
O	■	E	■	M	■	B	■	D	■	A	■	C
L	A	R	G	E	■	A	■	E	■	S	U	E
U	■	E	■	D	I	G	I	T	■	■	■	L
T	■	D	■	I	■	■	■	E	■	V	■	L
I	■	■	■	T	O	P	I	C	■	O	■	A
O	P	T	■	A	■	R	■	T	A	L	O	N
N	■	R	■	T	■	A	■	A	■	C	■	E
A	C	A	D	E	M	Y	■	B	R	A	V	O
R	■	W	■	D	■	E	■	L	■	N	■	U
Y	O	L	K	■	F	R	E	E	D	O	M	S

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

Sudoku

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

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