



VILLAGE SIGNS by Brian Ransom

Having been in situ for twenty two years, the two scrollwork village signs in Garratts Lane and by the Sutton Lane and Winkworth Road roundabout, were in need of refurbishment. Corrosion, dull paintwork and neglect had taken their toll and despite the Banstead Village in Bloom's under-planting they looked tired.

Having earlier cleared away the previous planting, on 19th May Richard, a contractor we employed to help, and myself dismantled both old village signs. We found that some of the scrollwork head fixings had stripped threads and were insecure, one of four mounting studs had sheared off on the Sutton lane sign and both signposts were full of water due to a lack of sealing on the top joints - all points we needed to rectify to make them safe in future.

Jura-Spray Ltd of Mitcham undertook the task of shot-blasting and repainting the signs. This time the words 'Banstead Village' and the top point of the surround, were painted in gold paint to make them more visible. In mid July, Richard and I collected the newly painted signs and re-erected them onto their repaired foundations. I made positive, secure fixings for the very heavy scrollwork head pieces and sealant was used to prevent water getting in and corroding the inside of the posts.

Banstead Village in Bloom have agreed to once again under-plant the Garratts Lane sign and Banstead Preparatory School will adopt and plant-up the Sutton Lane signpost when the new term starts. This work was funded by Surrey County Councillor Luke Bennett's Members Community Allocation grant and the surplus funds from the New Village Sign which BVRA erected in July 2019. We also thank Mr Richard Neal and Jura-Spray Ltd for their help in this project.

I've been told that people didn't notice the signs had been removed whilst they were away but I do hope you all think it was a worthwhile task and one which improves our lovely village!

Editor's note - Thanks to Cllr Luke Bennett (for the generous donation for restoring these signs) and to Brian for all his hard work in undertaking this refurbishment.



SURREY
COUNTY COUNCIL

This project is supported through the

Members' Community
Allocation Fund

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR by David Talbot

Welcome to our autumn newsheet. I hope that you all enjoyed the summer weather and managed to get a break. The picture (courtesy of Lucy Shea - Commons Conservators) shows our glorious Banstead Commons

Our village continues to change with some new retirement apartments in the process of replacing our old Priory School and some shop closures / changes on our high street (please see Catalina's article)

We are working hard to try to extend our tree stock in the village (please see article from Cliff). Our village continues to benefit from all the voluntary groups (please see articles from Kerry Garner, Vicki Hollands and Marion Hayns).

We are always keen to extend our committee, either as a members of our Executive team or as an occasional helper. Please contact us if you are interested or just curious about helping us support our lovely village or if you would like an informal chat (our email address is on the front page).

My thanks to all our contributors for their work and their articles and to our team of road stewards whose job it is to deliver this newsheet to your door and collect your subscriptions.

Don't forget to check out our website - address on the front cover or if you have a smart phone, simply scan the QR code (the funny squiggle at the top of the front page) for more information.



DIGITAL COMMUNICATION / SOCIAL MEDIA by Sally Hull

It was lovely to be out and about in person once again, at the Banstead May Queen Fair and the Village Fete earlier this year, meeting some of our members and road stewards along with other visitors to the BVRA stall.

There seemed to be a sense of village life returning to normality and people enjoying community interaction again. We had some interesting chats about familiar subjects but also about how to reach out and be inclusive to younger residents and families, a topic we also touched on during the BVRA AGM.

Whilst we recognise that our current membership includes all ages that like to receive the hard copy newsheets we are also keen to embrace areas of the community not so well represented in our current membership, such as young families.

Feedback that we have received to date is that for many, family life is busy and parents' time is under pressure - so digital communication and social media are a more popular and effective way to stay in touch.

Looking at how to develop our digital communication and social media presence, in addition to our traditional methods, we would love to chat to you if you can offer social media skills or experience.

This may only be some advice and direction to get the ball rolling and not necessarily a regular commitment. If you can contribute more, you would certainly be welcome. If you, or anyone you know would be prepared to have an informal chat please give me a call (370050) or drop an email to Banstead-BVRA@outlook.com for my attention.

PLANNING MATTERS by Catalina Vassallo-Bonner

Since our last newsheet, I have discovered that there is a current planning application to convert Oscar's into a dentist. However, that application is due to expire on September 12th of this year which means we will keep the green barrier for some time longer until something else turns up. You also know that Pizza Hut has been given permission to turn Snuggs Jewelers, into a takeaway and that Starbucks has opened in what was Santander. Barclays Bank is closing its doors on September 28th of this year and Lloyds will be closing on November 24th which will leave Banstead with HSBC as its only bank. As an application has been received for new signage and a replacement ATM machine we can only hope it will be with us a while longer.

The Priory development is coming to an end. It is only when you look at the rear from the Horseshoe that you see how big it is. I understand that it is hoped the first residents will move in in October. The application to build on the Roseacre site, off Holly Hill Drive, has been resubmitted with eight rather than nine dwellings. The Appeal against the building at Arlington Stables will be heard in November at the Town Hall. Nothing more has been heard of on the Wellesford Close site. It is now four months since the development was refused.

It has been noticeable in the last two months that the number of planning applications has shrunk. In the main they still deal with loft conversions and rear or side extensions but instead of the five or six a week we are getting no more than one or two. It is likely that with the cost of living rising this will drop even further.

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) by Eddy Humphreys (local councillor)

I am delighted to draw to your attention some of the recent projects that have received or are in the process of receiving CIL funding - the new bus shelters, new seating for the Lady Neville recreation ground, along with new gym equipment, new paths at the Garton recreation ground and funding for the BVIB, to name just a few.

The fund is available to improve our Village and surrounding area for the benefit of the community (please note this does not include highways). Whilst we have more ideas we would welcome any you may have. Please contact any one of your Councillors or the BVRA.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS by David Talbot

Many thanks to all our members who are increasingly paying the annual subscriptions via bank standing orders. This helps our road stewards.

If you are planning to set up a standing order please ensure that:

- The payments are set to repeat on a yearly basis.
- The reference is completed with your address (abbreviated where necessary) - really important, so we know the address for which you are paying.

Our bank details are as follows: Sort Code: **30-98-90**, Account Number: **16716560**

Account Name: **Banstead Village Residents Association**

Our subscription amount is: **£3.00**



The BVRA Newsheet is supported by;

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BLOOMIN' LOVELY GARDENS by Kerry Garner

For those of you who visited Banstead Village in Bloom's first Open Gardens event, I am sure you will agree it was a huge success. If you missed it, there's always next year!

10 beautiful gardens were opened to the public for two afternoons in June. Lambert Road allotment holders welcomed visitors to view their produce. Signature Care Homes of Banstead gave their visitors a glass of Pimms whilst they looked around the grounds. Colin Sutherland's hand-made railway and air raid shelter were also a hit. Tea and cake were sold in three of the private gardens giving weary visitors a welcome sit down in beautiful surroundings. The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Rosemary Absalom supported the event and chatted to visitors whilst enjoying some tea and cake.



I am delighted to say that the gardens were visited by over 300 people and the event raised £2,531. Banstead Age Concern received £1685 from ticket sales. Other charities received donations from sales of cakes, plants, cards and paintings. The Royal Marsden £333.70, MIND £165, Princess Alice Hospice £157, MS Research Treatment and Education £131, Tuesday Club £40 and BViB £20.



The afternoon was enjoyed by visitors and garden owners alike. Banstead residents showed how much they enjoy all things 'In Bloom' and a big thank you to them for supporting this community event. It was great fun, the sun shone and lots of cake was eaten. For those of you who missed this year's Open Gardens, I am already planning next year's event. I need new gardens for the trail, please contact me if you would like to take part. Large, small and medium gardens are needed, it's great fun and you meet

lots of very nice people. Please contact me, Kerry Garner via bvib@outlook.com.

SIT DOWN AND REST AWHILE! by Marion Hayns (BViB)

Well – it has only taken just over three years to get to this point but by the time you read this we are hopeful that you will be pleased so far with all that has been started. As you all know by now, this saga began when Banstead Village in Bloom, following on from the award of a gold medal in the RHS Villages in Bloom Competition in 2019, made repeated representations to Reigate & Banstead Council for increased investment in the neglected Lady Neville Recreation Ground.

It seems to have taken forever to get here since each stage was dependent upon money being found to fund it but as of now – mid August – we have newly restored wide and flat paths flowing throughout the park which will now accommodate both pushchairs and wheelchairs, for which we are very grateful.

Now, the new benches, purchased with money from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Fund together with generous donations from two local families can be placed in situ. Four will go in shaded areas surrounding the cricket field and a further two in Chucks Meadow, the remaining three are to go in the High Street. All are made of recyclable material thus rendering them almost vandal proof and maintenance free.

I am sure you will agree that the improvements to the Banstead Neville Bowls Club have really opened up that dark and overgrown corner, and we are promised that work is to begin on a complete revamp of the Children's Play Park in the autumn. (continued on next page)

SIT DOWN AND REST AWHILE! by Marion Hayns (BViB) continued

Sadly, we have had to compromise on our original vision for this area since both Covid and the success of the England Women's football team, would you believe, have put the brakes on any new developments on the tennis courts for the foreseeable future. All local authorities are now having to comply with new government guidelines requiring a survey of the provision of all leisure facilities in their area.



It maybe that the mini scooter area will be safer sited nearer the cafe, given the amount of petty vandalism so prevalent. Our hope is that by the time you read this, it will have been possible to agree a workable plan so that Banstead children of all ages can enjoy a park, which at present is totally inadequate for their needs.

BANSTEAD FLOWER CLUB NEWS by Vicki Hollands

Well here we are three quarters of the way through 2022 and yet it seems just a few weeks since January and the start of the Flower Clubs 65th Year. In June, after many months of planning, we finally staged our Flower Show in conjunction with Banstead Village in Bloom, and were thrilled with both the amount of visitors through the door and the support we received from the community.

The show consisted of nine classes which were open to Banstead Flower Club members, competitors from other Surrey Flower Clubs, Banstead Horticultural Society and All Saints Church Flower Arrangers. Each class was generously sponsored by local businesses and the Flower Club are very grateful for their support. Not only were there over 50 beautiful exhibits on display at the show but also a tombola and tea room with delicious homemade cakes which both proved to be very popular with our visitors.



In July we welcomed National Demonstrator and Chelsea Gold Medal Winner, Angela Turner. Angela entertained us with tales of her years as a Demonstrator whilst composing several lovely flower arrangements. To add to what was already a lovely afternoon, Signature Care kindly came along and handed out free ice-cream to members and visitors, which was a welcome treat on a very hot day!

Not a club to sit idly, we are now in the throes of planning our next event which is a Flower Festival to be held in All Saints Church from Friday 7th until Sunday 9th October. All Saints is a beautiful church and we are aiming to make it even more beautiful with the help of our club members and their floral skills, so make a note in your diaries and come along and see our display.

Our monthly meeting is held on the 4th Wednesday of the month. An exception to this will be on November 30th (the 5th Wednesday), when we will have National Demonstrator, Nick Ground coming along to entertain us. Please come along and join us at Banstead Community Hall, Park Road SM7 3AJ. Doors open at 1.30 for 2pm. Visitors (£8) are always welcome and we promise you an enjoyable and entertaining afternoon.

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL UPDATE by Luke Bennett (SCC councillor)

I am delighted to provide a brief overview of some of the projects I have been working on in recent weeks and months.

Ugly 5G / mobile phone masts & planning policy - I have launched a petition to stipulate that all 5G mobile phone masts are installed in dark green colour and camouflaged behind trees / tall structures. To support / sign the petition, please visit the Reigate & Banstead Borough Council website and navigate to the petitions portal.



Trees - In July, I had a very productive meeting in Banstead with Cliff (BVRA), Cllr Nadean Moses and Surrey County Council Officers to identify where we can plant some new road-side trees.

Longcroft GP surgery - In early July, I chaired a meeting along with Cllr Nadean Moses, the NHS, Crispin Blunt and representatives of the surgery to identify the action required to progress the longstanding aspiration to relocate the GP surgery.

Pavement improvements / Highways budget - I have submitted a number of requests for pavement resurfacing which will be completed this financial year (before April 2023).

Armed Forces Day / Falklands 40 - In June, Armed Forces Day flag-raising ceremonies took place at Reigate & Banstead Town Hall and Surrey County Council HQ. I also attended the local Banstead Royal British Legion service commemorating 40 years since the Falklands War. We will remember them.

Local Councillor community fund - This year I will be dividing this (£5000) community fund equally between my three residents' associations, i.e. Banstead, Woodmansterne and Chipstead.

As always, if there is anything I can help you with, please do let me know.

ROAD STEWARDS by David Talbot

Huge thanks to all our road stewards who deliver our newsheets and collect our subscriptions. We currently have vacancies in the following roads: Chipstead Road, Diceland Road, Harbourfield Road, High Street (north side), Holly Lane West, Lambert Road and The Oval.

Please contact us (email address on the front cover) if you can help – you meet some very nice people.

TREES by Cliff Glanfield

There has been some progress recently with Surrey County Council on tree planting. Earlier this year, our County Councillor, Luke Bennett, arranged various meetings with SCC officers connected with tree planting, but several officers left their posts and matters stalled.

More recently Robbie Stewart has joined as Highways Environmental Officer. He is keen to see trees planted and has been very proactive. He has confirmed that SCC does have a tree planting budget for Highways of about £120,000. This is for the whole of Surrey though. There is apparently some money available this financial year and we have made applications for up to 20 trees to be planted in the grass verges in Winkworth Road, to try and resurrect what used to be a pleasant avenue and at the same time potentially reduce road noise.

The next step will be for SCC to carry out utility checks for the planting locations and we hope that we may see the trees planted in November/December this year. There are plenty more gaps on grass verges around the village that could be filled and we will be looking to attend to these next year. In the meantime SCC will not generally grind out stumps, so we will continue our stump grinding programme using BVRA funds.

FUTURE EVENTS

BANSTEAD COMMONS CONSERVATORS by Nadean Moses (local councillor)

Banstead Commons Conservators have been invited by Cllr Nick Harrison, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, to attend the regular meeting on Thursday October 17th to discuss their projected 2023/2024 budget.

The Commons have been an important area to Reigate and Banstead Borough, an area especially valuable during the pandemic. It has been a personal journey as I too live without my own private outside space. I see how valuable the Commons are as space for all to enjoy, not only for myself but to others in the same situation. There are so many benefits we can get from our green spaces, it's extremely important as we need to pay attention to our mental health and wellbeing and have space to breathe.

Most Council Committee meetings are now be available to view via webcast, meeting videos are maintained for a six-month period and can be viewed from the webcast library.

BANSTEAD ARTS FESTIVAL SOCIETY by Jeff Young (BAFS)

Concerts start at 7:30pm at the Community Hall, Park Road, Banstead SM7 3AJ. Further details and Box Office information see www.bansteadarts.co.uk

15th October 2022 - Galliard Ensemble with Viv McLean - The Galliard Ensemble, currently in its 29th year, is one of Britain's leading chamber groups and is known for its virtuosity and distinctive performance style. They are joined by accomplished British pianist Viv McLean. The concert will include works by Rossini, Mozart, Poulenc, Chopin, Eugène Bozza and Jean Françaix.

19th November 2022 - The Mithras Trio - The Mithras Trio is fast growing a reputation as one of the next generation's most exciting piano trios. Formed in 2017 at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama they are currently members of the prestigious BBC New Generation Artists scheme. The concert will include works by Bridge, Beethoven, Lili Boulanger and Ravel.

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

BVRA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

David Talbot - Chairman and Treasurer

Catalina Vassallo-Bonner – Planning

Martin Matt - Secretary

Cliff Glanfield - Data Records Manager

**Ben Martin, Brian Ransom, Melanie Ramsay,
Richard Heath and Sally Hull**

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FUTURE EVENTS (continued)

BANSTEAD ROYAL BRITISH LEGION by Mike Sawyer (Banstead RBL)

This year we will again be parading from the Library, Banstead, to our War Memorial for a service at 11 am on Sunday 13th November to commemorate the sacrifice of so many for our safety and way of life. We have invited the Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Brigadier Paul Evans OBE, DL, who is also President of Surrey RBL to lead our parade. This event is all the more poignant in view of the current warfare in Europe. All are invited to join us in this service, but in the interests of safety we are asking for a few volunteers to

act as road marshals in support of the road closures. Natty safety vests and guidance will be provided! If finance and the necessary consents are in place in time we hope to be able to have a new flagpole installed for this and future ceremonies. We are grateful for the support of our councillors in this proposal and would welcome other contributions to make this a reality. As always we would ask anyone who is able to help with collections to contact me at nms.brbl@virgin media.com



BANSTEAD CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY EVENT by Nadean Moses (BBG)

5:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Thursday, 1st December, Banstead will sparkle. On behalf of the Banstead Business Guild, The Mayor of Reigate and Banstead, Frank Kelly will open the event at 5:00 PM.

This year, there will be another Banstead Christmas poster competition at Banstead Library with the fantastic artwork displayed online and in the Library! Well done Annabel, age 9, last year's winner! During last year's Best Christmas Shop Front competition, businesses made a real effort with handmade snowflakes, a snow machine and a real-life Father Christmas sitting in the window. Winner for Best Shop Front Competition went to Banstead Kitchen Studios

Also this year we aim to have you singing and dancing in the Orchard and up and down the High Street, with amazing entertainment with lots to see and do. Not forgetting the main man himself, Mr Father Christmas, with helpers from The Banstead Rotary, switching on the Christmas lights on the evening of 1st December 2022. Thank you to all the businesses and our great community that support the Christmas Event and the Banstead lights, the event wouldn't happen without you, plus, it raises funds for the Banstead Rotary and many local Charities. **Thank you.** Make sure your little ones take part in this year's Banstead Christmas poster competition.

OTHER EVENTS by David Talbot

Saturday 1st October at 9:30 AM - Banstead Combined Charities - Christmas Fair - Community Hall

Friday 7th October at 7:30 PM - BHS - John Hughes 'Monet: Painter and Gardener' - Community Hall

Friday to Sunday 7th to 9th October - Flower Club - Flower Festival - All Saints Church

Saturday 15th October at 7:30 PM - BAFS - Galliard Ensemble with Viv McLean - Community Hall

Wednesday 26th October at 2:00 PM - Flower Club - 'Autumn Tapestry' - Community Hall

Monday 31st October at various times - Curzon Cinema - film: 'The Duke' - Church Institute

Saturday 5th November - Cricket Club - Fireworks - Cricket ground

Sunday 13th November at 10:15 AM - RBL - Remembrance Day parade - High Street

Saturday 19th November at 7:30 PM - BAFS - The Mithras Trio - Community Hall

Wednesday 30th November at 2:00 PM - Flower Club - Nick Grounds: 'The Apple Tree' - Community Hall

Thursday 1st December at 5:00 PM Rotary / BBG - Christmas Community Event - High Street