



## **REMEMBRANCE SERVICE 2022** by Mike Sawyer (Banstead Royal British Legion)



The Banstead Remembrance Parades were as well attended as usual and our community has again done the Legion proud. Our shorter Friday Parade (11am/11/11) was led by our Mayor, Councillor Kelly who laid a wreath on behalf of Reigate & Banstead Council. Our Sunday Parade, on 13<sup>th</sup> November, was led by the Surrey Legion President Brigadier Evans (Deputy Lord Lieutenant), our deputy Mayor Councillor Absalom and Crispin Blunt MP, along with large numbers of children and many groups. Over 30 wreaths were laid and is expected to remain for a few weeks as

evidence of Remembrance. This is a major event with the Service conducted by members of Banstead 5 Churches, led by our Chaplain the Rev. Phil Maudsley, and one of the largest Remembrance Sunday Parades in Surrey. The attendance was wonderful and we are so proud and grateful for the communities' support.



And for the Poppy Appeal, our communities have responded famously over the years and we have regularly collected over £40,000. 2021 was exceptional as we received over £11,000 from the Banstead May Queen Parade and our total was about £53,000, the biggest in Surrey. In 2022, despite the economic gloom, we received over £45,000 – a most amazing amount in the circumstances, so thank you to all involved, especially those who gave up their time to collect at Asda and Waitrose. And also to our local schools which between them raised about £3,500!

Again the lamppost poppies set the scene, so thanks to all who put them up each year. I have asked the Legion to produce plastic-free ones for the future, but the present ones will have to soldier on (sorry!) for the time being.

Our Borough and County Councillors and Residents' Associations give us so much support and we owe them a great debt of gratitude. This will again be demonstrated, in 2023, as our County Councillors (Cllrs Luke Bennett and Frank Kelly) and the BVRA have agreed to fund a new flagpole that we hope will be installed by the War Memorial in the early spring.

A huge thank you to all who helped us. As always, I would be grateful for any photos of these events to pass on to County and London, and would of course ask more people to contact me to join our large band of helpers for this year's appeal.



## **WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR by David Talbot**

Welcome to our winter newsheet. I hope that you all enjoyed the Christmas and New Year break, and I wish you all a, slightly belated, happy and prosperous New Year.

Our village continues to change with two banks closed and a new retirement home on the old Priory School site. Further changes are expected - please see the articles by Catalina, Cliff, Marion and Brian.

My thanks to everyone on the committee, all our contributors and our unsung heroes - our road stewards who deliver our newsheet to our members.

We aim to represent the whole village, but of course, it's much easier if you are a member. If you are interested in joining or know someone who is (it's just £3.00 per year) - please send an email to the address on the front page or see the appeal from Sally below.



## **REQUEST FOR HELP by Sally Hull**

Over the last few years our committee numbers have dwindled through retirement, relocation and the sad passing of David Gradidge in 2021. The Committee works more flexibly following the restrictions of Covid but our numbers need bolstering to 'spread the load'. If you are able to support us in any way, or would like to know how you can, please get in touch via our email address or with Sally Hull on 370050 or 07779 246343. Thank you.

## **AN INTRODUCTION by Rev. Phil Maudsley (Vicar of All Saints, Banstead)**

I write this magazine article as the new(ish) vicar of All Saints, Banstead. I have been in post for just over a year, which means I am still very much at the beginning of my journey in the South. I'm starting to get better at remembering names and finding my way around Surrey, but there is still a lot more to discover. My installation service in September 2021, was an occasion of joy for many. As we look at the news headlines around us, that can feel like a distant memory with a great deal of worry and anxiety floating around due to the cost of living. Worries about what this winter will be like for us all...and if I'm honest there are moments when I am anxious too. Anxiety is nothing new, and since the first lockdown in 2020, it seems far more heightened for many. There are still some who find it a challenge to return to our pre-pandemic life, visiting All Saints or other church buildings - these are still some people within our community we need to continue looking out for if we don't see them every week. To try and help with times of feeling anxious, I want to refer back to the reading I chose for my installation service in 2021 - Philippians 4 - and in particular verse 8:

***Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.***

This direction in verse 8 is to think about all the wonderful and lovely things it lists; things which often run directly opposite to the normal practice we see in the media. If we read the headlines we often see stories which seem far removed from God's beautiful creation - and this is where the advice comes into play - we need to fill our minds with all it suggests in order to focus on the joy of creation around us, and the joy promised in the seasons of Advent and Christmas. I encourage you then as the days are shorter and the weather potentially gets less friendly to fill your mind with those things that bring you joy, and that we can celebrate and enjoy; and then try to share this joy with others and encourage others to think whatsoever these things are...If we at All Saints can walk alongside the community of Banstead in any way, please do get in touch. Wishing you a season of finding peace and joy.

## **PLANNING MATTERS** by **Catalina Vassallo-Bonner**

We have had a variety of planning applications and results since our last newssheet went to press. Most of which have been the normal run-of-the-mill without any problems attached. However, there have been one or two which have generated a lot of feeling within the Banstead area. Firstly, the appeal hearing for Wellesford Close will be heard at some time in the early part of 2023, probably January. Despite the fact the comments from over 100 people were already in the hands of the inspectors, more were sent as a result of the Statement of Fact by the developer. Banstead is already well on the way to achieve the target of 218 new properties by 2027 set by Reigate & Banstead in the Local Plan in 2014.

The other application that has received well over 100 comments is the proposal to demolish the 50 year old club house at Banstead Cricket Club. We appreciate there are now a lot more players; adults, boys, girls and, of course, visiting clubs, all of whom need modern facilities. However, most correspondents were concerned about more traffic, the fact this is Green Belt, the increased parking spaces and the fact that the new two storey building could be hosting activities which would go on between 10.00 and 01.00. The decision on the application is not expected until 2023.

As you know Banstead is now down to one bank, HSBC. There had been hopes that the library would provide space for a Barclays pop-up bank facility but this was not possible. Instead it will be provided in the Community Centre on Park Road which has excellent on-site parking. I expect there will be more information to come.

The Reigate & Banstead Local Plan: Core Strategy which was signed off in 2014 is coming to the end of its life and will be replaced in 2027. It covers Spatial Strategy, Housing, Environment, Community Services and Infrastructure, Transport and Local Economy and Regeneration. Work will start in January on the new one and a number of temporary extra staff will be employed to make sure that the normal work of Corporate Policy and other departments can be carried out.

## **TREES AND STUMPS** by **Cliff Glanfield**

**Trees** - I am very pleased to report that Surrey County Council have now planted 17 trees of varying species on the grass verges of Winkworth Road. This has been paid for by SCC from their highways tree planting budget and I would like to thank Robbie Stewart, Highways Environmental Officer for his proactive work in pushing this through. We have tried to fill some of the gaps but there are still sections where more could be planted in the future. There are also plenty of gaps in grass verges around the village and we will be identifying priority areas for planting in 2023. There are some restrictions though; trees can't be planted near to underground services, where there are telephone wires overhead nor on grass verges with a width of less than 1.1m.

**Stumps** - Recently, a large partially dead tree on the corner of Garratts Lane and Garrard road was removed and the stump was actually ground out at the same time. I enquired of SCC whether this was a change in policy but was informed that this was an error on behalf of the contractor. There are about 20 stumps still dotted around the village and we have allocated BVRA funds to hopefully remove most of these early in 2023.



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## **BANSTEAD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY by Diana Beck (BHS)**

Banstead Horticultural Society really enjoyed our delayed, post-covid, 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations in 2022 and were particularly delighted and privileged to welcome Gardeners Question Time in November. Thank you to all who have contributed to our success and who are continuing to share our love of all things growing: from nature, to gardens, to arts.

We are looking forward to another year full of interesting events, activities and shows in 2023. We love engaging with local businesses and initiatives and by popular demand local nurseryman Andy Morris (the nursery across the road from Dobies) will talk to us about getting the garden ready for spring: he is a very down-to-earth friendly speaker full of practical tips that are easy to understand.

Our coffee morning takes place on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023 from 10 am at the Community Hall in Park Road. Entry costs include refreshments and are £1 per member and £2 for visitors, who are always very welcome.

## **BANSTEAD FLOWER CLUB by Vicki Hollands (Banstead Flower Club)**



The Font - arranged by Monica Gerlach and Brenda Miles

2022 was a fantastic year for Banstead Flower Club. From our first meeting in January, the Committee and Club Members worked tirelessly to make sure our 65th Anniversary was celebrated in style. Barely a week went by when we weren't busy with meetings, workshops and planning for events and competitions.

Our last event was to stage a Flower Festival in All Saints Church in October. After months of preparation the day finally arrived and Flower Club Members along with Church Flowers arrangers arrived laden with flowers and foliage to begin their transformation of the Church. After several hours with our heads down concentrating on our creations, we downed tools to survey our work. We were thrilled! The Church looked fabulous. The festival ran for 3 days and we were pleased to raise in excess of £300 from donations for our nominated local charity 'The Tuesday Club', who support people with Dementia and their carers.

A huge thank you goes to our sponsor, Signature who have been incredibly supportive to the Flower

Club during 2022 and have provided us with a celebratory lunch, anniversary cake, free ice-cream and pumpkin soup and homemade bread and have generously offered to continue their support in 2023 for which we are very grateful.

Banstead Committee and its members would like to wish residents and friends of Banstead a healthy and happy new year.

This year we have some fabulous demonstrators booked to entertain us, in-house competitions and workshops, and possibly one or two surprises up our sleeves as well!

If you love flowers or would just like an afternoon out, we welcome you to join us. Our monthly meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of the month at Banstead Community Hall, Park Road, SM7 3AJ, Doors Open at 1.30 for 2pm, Visitors (£9). Our First Meeting in 2023 will be on Wednesday 22nd February. For further details please contact us on; [www.surreynafas.org.uk/banstead-flower-club](http://www.surreynafas.org.uk/banstead-flower-club), email [bansteadflowerclub@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bansteadflowerclub@hotmail.co.uk) or contact Vicki Hollands on 07845 250308.



Arranged by Alison Honor and Carole Giovenetti

## **CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY EVENT by Councillor Nadean Moses (event organiser)**

Thursday 1st December 2022 and we're back with a bang! Hundreds of people flocked to Banstead High Street for the annual Banstead Christmas Community Event from 5pm - 8pm.

Banstead Library held a competition with over 20 fantastic entrances for the Christmas event poster competition a big thank you to them and all the entrees and congratulations to the winner: Isabelle. New this time! We had a mega raffle with fantastic prizes, donations from businesses, a very big thank you! We raised over £1,300.

Thanks to the Personal Agent, Ora Hair and The Natural Way for selling raffle tickets on the day. All proceeds will go to new Christmas lights and the 2023 event. Thank you everyone that bought a ticket.

The Mayor of Reigate and Banstead, Frank Kelly, opened the event at 5:00pm with one of his chosen charities 'The Include Choir'. The Orchard was filled with people watching singers and performers from West End Stage Stars, Show Choir, Willow Dance and Fitness, Cada star and DJ LED. Not forgetting the main man himself Mr Father Christmas, who with help from The Banstead Rotary switched on the Christmas lights. They started at the Woolpack at 6:00pm then made their way up the High Street.



Hope you got to pop into Gowen & Stevens offices to pick up some Christmas treats and visit Christ Church Banstead for a journey through Narnia in a magical interactive experience. Back by popular demand were Jebb the Jester, Theo the magician and Kiara Sing (who was singing Christmas classics at Café Italia).

Music was provided by Redhill Corps of Drums and Lenny the Lion was giving big hugs. Also

supporting were: All Saints Church DJ LED, PCSO Officers and Banstead Cricket Club, Fusion lights, Trident Medical and our favorite minion Stuart. Jenny the giraffe was in attendance at Lancaster's Estate agents and the Storm Troopers at Copley Clark Solicitors collected for The Children's Trust.

It was a jam-packed event for all the family. Thank you to all the businesses and our great community that support the Christmas Event and lights - the event wouldn't happen without you! Plus we raised funds for the Banstead Rotary and many local charities.

Thank you



## **CONSERVATION GRAZING ON BANSTEAD COMMONS** by Lucy Shea

### **(Conservators)**

Banstead Commons Conservators would like to invite you to join our Virtual Talk entitled 'Conservation Grazing on Banstead Commons' which is being held via Zoom on Tuesday 17 January, 2023 at 7.30pm. Sean Grufferty from the Downlands Partnership will present the work of the Partnership across the North Downs and how grazing livestock can help to conserve nationally rare habitats and bring real value to local people and communities.

The Banstead Commons Conservators are working together with the Downlands Partnership to graze Banstead Commons this winter. There is a mixed flock of Herwicks and Beulah Speckled Face slowly working their way across our site to help reduce the sward height and create niche environments to promote biodiversity and meet the needs of the unique flora and fauna that can be found on the site. For further information, or to register your attendance, please email Lucy at [clerk@bansteadcommonsconservators.co.uk](mailto:clerk@bansteadcommonsconservators.co.uk) or call 07919 251 512.



## **AT LAST... SOME GOOD NEWS!** by Marion Hayns (BViB)

We are delighted to announce that after a long campaign fronted by BViB, works are due to start at the end of January on the complete refurbishment of the Lady Neville Children's Play Park. Whether this will include the toddlers scooter park we are not yet sure since the exact positioning of this eagerly awaited addition has yet to be confirmed. We are so grateful to all of you who have supported us so patiently, and also to those who have helped to make it happen including our councillors Nadean and Eddy.

Meanwhile, may we encourage you to take a stroll through Chucks Meadow in the spring to check out the hundreds of spring bulbs that have been planted in trenches around the trees there. These, we hope, will bring life and colour to that previously neglected area which now includes three new benches upon which you can sit and admire the golden daffodils and narcissi!





## USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

### BVRA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**David Talbot** - Chairman and Treasurer

**Martin Matt** - Secretary

**Catalina Vassallo-Bonner** – Planning

**Cliff Glanfield** - Data Records Manager

**Ben Martin, Brian Ransom, Melanie Ramsay,**

**Richard Heath and Sally Hull.**

Group email: Banstead-BVRA@outlook.com

## LOCAL COUNCILLORS

**Luke Bennett** – Surrey County Councillor

email: luke.bennett@surreycc.gov.uk

**Nadean Moses** - Borough Councillor

email: Cllr.Moses@reigate-banstead.gov.uk

**Eddy Humphreys** – Borough Councillor

email: Cllr.Humphreys@reigate-banstead.gov.uk

**Sam Walsh** – Borough Councillor

email: Cllr.Walsh@reigate-banstead.gov.uk

## MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

**Crispin Blunt, M.P.**

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38-40 Bell Street, Reigate RH2 7BA

## FUTURE EVENTS

### BANSTEAD ARTS FESTIVAL SOCIETY by Jeff Young (BAFS)

**18<sup>th</sup> February 2023 - Ayaka Shigeno.** Born in Japan, Ayaka Shigeno joined the Yehudi Menuhin School at age 14 and subsequently studied at Berlin University of Fine Arts. She has appeared in venues such as Wigmore Hall and Concertgebouw and performed as soloist in festivals in Gstaad and Deia. She is currently teaching at the Yehudi Menuhin School and works for Guildhall School of Music and Drama as a collaborative pianist. For this piano recital, she has chosen pieces based on the idea of 'images' and will perform works by Debussy, Chopin and Mussorgsky.

**18<sup>th</sup> March 2023 - Ben Tarlton, cello and Robin Green, piano.** Ben Tarlton was born in Wales and attended the Yehudi Menuhin School from where he won a Scholarship to study at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. As well as his solo recital work, including an award-winner's recital at Wigmore Hall, he has won acclaim for his concerto and chamber music performances. Robin Green enjoys a busy career as a soloist, chamber musician and conductor. He regularly performs in festivals in the UK and Europe. Their programme will include works by Schumann, Faure, Bartok, Janacek and Brahms.

**Time: 7:30pm - Venue: Community Hall, Park Road, Banstead SM7 3AJ. Box Office: Prices: Adults - £15; School pupils – Free.** Further details and Box Office information see [www.bansteadarts.co.uk](http://www.bansteadarts.co.uk)

### OTHER EVENTS:

A selection of upcoming events - for more details please see our website (address on front cover).

**25th to 28th January** - Pilgrim Pantomimes- 'Beauty and the Beast' - Church Institute.

**30th January** at various times - Curzon Cinema - Film: 'Fisherman's Friends' - Church Institute

**1st February** - Chipstead Arts Society - Patrick Conner 'Tea, Opium and Hong Kong'- Community Hall

**15th February** - BHS - Coffee morning - Andy Morris - 'Getting the Garden Ready for Spring'-  
Community Hall

**10th March**- BHS - Peter Almond will be talking about 'Tips on Showing' - Community Hall

**1st April** - St Cecilia Choir - Concert - Durufle Requiem & works by Lili Boulanger - St Andrew's Church,  
Northey Avenue, Cheam, Surrey, SM2 7HR