



Bisley Residents Association

'Your Bisley' Newsletter No. 52, Spring 2022

Thanks to all who helped cheer us through a dark cold December!



Bisley was unable to have the usual tree and lights at the War Memorial at Christmas – BUT various brilliant Bisley people got together and placed decorated Christmas trees there. Well done folks! Some Bisley folk really went to town, decorating their houses with Christmas lights, many of them raising funds for charities. *Norman Holden*



The Christmas Tree Festival at Holy Trinity Church, West End was a delight. Woking and Sam Beare Hospices and the Church shared the £2,000 raised.



'Carols at the Farm' with mulled wine and mince pies gave us a heartwarming evening. *(Photo by Peter Fry)*

B.R.A. Events

In 2021, Bisley Residents' Association did its best to return to 'normal'. Our 16th AGM and 29th Open Forum went ahead in October – and we were able to have a very successful Quiz and Supper in November. We also carried on with our regular Committee meetings and, as usual, made ourselves available to any Bisley folk who needed help, advice or an intermediary with the Parish, Borough and County Councils.

BRA Diary Dates 2022

- ▶ Open Forum on Friday 25th March at 7 pm.
- ▶ Quiz and Supper on Friday 6th May
- ▶ Vist us at our usual stand at the Strawberry Fayre on 26th June.
- ▶ 'Brass on the Grass' / Picnic on the village green on Sunday 10th July.
- ▶ Open Forum / AGM Friday 14th October
- ▶ Second Quiz /Supper on Friday 18th November.

The printing and distribution of this issue of 'Your Bisley' Newsletter to residents, in full colour was funded by B.R.A. Please see page 4 for new member / renewal form.

'Teas on the Rec' hopes to restart on Thursday 26th May 2-5 pm.

We've really missed seeing everyone, particularly the children, so keep your fingers crossed for the summer....

As always, we would be grateful for any extra help. Setting up in the morning and clearing away in the afternoon takes far less time with many hands and we always welcome more assistance during the afternoon when we are open. You don't have to be there every week and you can just stand in for an hour or two while someone has a break if you prefer.

Just contact Pauleene Hammett (plhammett@hotmail.com) or Chris Bixley (geraldbixley31@gmail.com).

In the meantime we are meeting for coffee, in Bisley Village Hall, on the first Thursday of the month, from 10am - 12 noon on the 3rd March, 7th April and 5th May.

The 'Teas on the Rec' Team

STRAWBERRY FAYRE

We're back! Date for your diaries
Sunday 26th June 2022

Further information:
Bisley Village Hall website: www.bisleyvillagehall.org
Bisley Facebook page, Parish News and village notice boards
Stay safe and we hope to see everyone again soon.
Bisley Strawberry Fayre Committee

Community Café
at Bisley Village Hall

Monday mornings from 10.00 – 11.45

Friendly Village Café open to everyone
Homemade cards on sale for local charities

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Village Issues

Bisley Remembers

Barry Wells

Barry and Joan Wells were known by so many people in Bisley. It was very sad to hear that Barry passed away on 29th January 2021. Only his close family were able to attend his funeral due to COVID restrictions, but **there will be a service in celebration of Barry's life at St. John the Baptist Church, Bisley for his friends to attend on Saturday 23rd April 2022 at 1.30pm where he will be interred.**



Afterwards his family would love his friends to join them at Bisley Village Hall where there will be refreshments and a chance to say a final farewell. Those who may not be able to attend the church service can come straight to the hall for 2.15pm.

Barry was involved in many activities in the village community and beyond. He was Chairman of Bisley Village Hall 1983-1997, Chairman of the Village Youth Club, he organised the Bisley Bingo Club & Chiropody Clinic, he was instrumental in the setting up of the Bowls Club and was actively involved as a club member (he loved his bowls). He was involved in the setting up of the Day Centre, fundraising for the Day Centre Minibus and he was also the driver for many of the Day Centre outings. He cooked amazing Christmas dinners with Chris Brown at the Village Hall for over 100 people and he played the part of Father Christmas for both Parent & Toddlers and the Playgroup for many years.

He served as a Parish Councillor and was involved in the setting up of the allotments in Queens Road and a seat in memory of the Falklands War along the main road. Many children in the village had wooden toys made by Barry in his workshop. Signs and games were designed and made by Barry for the Strawberry Fayre that are still in use now. Barry was a member of the British Legion and Chairman of the Woking Branch of the RSPCA. So much to celebrate!

Sue Smith

Message from Rev. Fiona Simon

Greetings,

It is so good to be restored to health and be able to resume my parish duties once again. One thing which has emerged during my absence is to address the need for more singers and musicians to enable the musical worship during church services. Our regular Church organist Christine Walker who has been such a gift to this community over the years is retiring and moving away. It would be wonderful to be able to find a replacement!

If you are an organist (or know of an organist), or you are a pianist interested in accompanying and being supported to learn the organ, I would love to hear from you.

We also have worship led by a music group at some services and are looking to add more instrumentalists & singers to our number and hope to arrange some sessions where people can simply come along and enjoy making music together. Our choir has reformed after the pandemic restrictions too, so if you enjoy a good sing, why not come and be part of that.

Music is so good for the soul, a creative outlet that so many have missed during the pandemic and a lot of fun to be part of. It can restore balance and be an outlet. **For more information about musical opportunities through your local church please contact bwefiona@gmail.com.**

Every Blessing, Fiona

Reverend Fiona Simon

Rector of Bisley and West End Parish

The Diocese of Guildford, Church of England

t:01483473377 m:07810160254 e: bwefiona@gmail.com

Peggy Wynter Bee 1924-2021

Holy Trinity Church, West End was packed to overflowing for the Thanksgiving Service for the life of this much-loved and remarkable lady, Peggy Wynter Bee.

Many tributes have been paid to Peggy and we quote from our message of condolence sent to Sarah and Peter Wynter Bee:-

"...Thank you for your message - it was very thoughtful of you, at this sad time, to let us know of the passing of dear Peggy. Please accept our sincerest condolences for you and Peter and the family.

Peggy has been a remarkable lady; she has lived a long, eventful and very distinguished life and she is one of those people who are simply irreplaceable.

We pray that the whole Wynter Bee family will gain some comfort from the respect, admiration and great affection in which Peggy was held by everyone who had the privilege of knowing her.....Our thoughts and prayers are with you and the family....."

Once again, Bisley Residents' Association would like to offer deepest condolences to Peggy's family and many friends.

Norman Holden

Photo courtesy Peggy's family



ALMAC BISLEY BRASS BAND: LOOKING FORWARD TO A GOOD YEAR.

With the challenges of the last two years hopefully behind us we are looking forward to sharing our enjoyment of music with many more people in 2022.

Despite Covid restrictions we were able to perform two concerts at Bisley Village Hall last year – an Autumn Concert at the end of September and the Christmas Concert in December. We really enjoyed performing together again and audience members – in restricted numbers - appeared to enjoy themselves too (see photo below).

Our programme this year includes: Spring Concert – 21 May; Strawberry Fayre – 26 June; Brass on the Grass – 10 July; A Celebration of the Last Night of the Proms – 24 September; Christmas Concert – 10 December. For details of these and other engagements please see our website: <https://almacbisleybrassband.org/>.

Despite every thing we have, in the last couple of years, welcomed a few new players. We would love to see more!. Whether you are looking to get back into playing after a lay-off, are an active player looking to join a new band or have never played a brass instrument please do get in touch via the contacts page on our website, Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/almacbisleybrassband/> or by ringing or texting Graham Davey on 07753 672778



Photo by Norman Holden.

Village Issues

Bisley CofE School

Our children are absolutely loving Forest School!

We currently have a number of programmes running which mean all children get an opportunity to be involved. We have a number of adults in school who have completed the Forest School training and we are putting them to good use!

It all starts in Reception (age 4-5) where all children have one half term where they take part in Forest School every Thursday morning and Year 1 (age 5-6) have one half term where the children take part in Forest School on Thursday afternoon. Mrs Humphries takes the children through basic Forest School activities such as whittling, tree climbing, den building, plant recognition and the very popular, lighting a fire, making smores and hot chocolate!

New this year we have Forest Friday for children in Year 2 (age 6-7) through to Year 6 (age 10-11), which is where every class spends one full Friday every term at Forest School. They spend the whole day learning through Forest School and it has proved very popular! Mrs Stainforth leads the sessions and incorporates learning that has taken place in the classroom. The class teacher is present as well and it is a great opportunity for them to get stuck in with the children outside of the classroom. The majority of our sessions take place on site but recently Year 6 ventured up to Bisley common and had great fun exploring natural objects and all that the common has to offer.

We have also started to use Forest School as an intervention

(small group work) to help children develop their confidence and self-esteem. It has had brilliant results and



we have really seen children blossom and flourish from these sessions.

As well as all the practical skills learnt at Forest School the children learn character building skills such as resilience, self-determination, team work and learning to try something new. They learn how to risk assess a situation, such as checking how stable the branches are before climbing trees or ensuring the fire circle is being adhered to. Skills that are transferable and lifelong.

It really is such a great part of our curriculum and a firm favourite with everyone; including the staff who love taking part just as much as the children!

Clare McConnell, Headteacher

Bisley Womens Institute

In February, Bisley W.I. had a Line Dancing afternoon ably led by member, Ginny Harrington. Those who joined in had a great time learning several routines and others enjoyed watching them, waving flags and accompanying with drums and tambourines!!

At our next meeting on Wednesday 9th March, David Rose will give a talk on "The Villages of Surrey" and our next Craft session, on 23rd March, will be Silk Scarf Dyeing. You will always receive a warm welcome at any of our main meetings, on the second Wednesday, or Craft Sessions, on the Fourth Wednesday. 2pm in the Village Hall.

Liz Colvin, Secretary. 01483 830020

Changes to Bus services through Bisley

The last Arriva {DB - German Railways} 34, 35, and 47 buses ran on 17 December 2021 after the company decided to give up services based on their Guildford depot.

Stagecoach buses have taken on the services, being based at Peasmarsh near Guildford with entirely different liveries.

I use the plural because the company are currently changing to a new livery and as the replacement buses are drawn from elsewhere there is no one colour scheme in being. Pictured is one of the last Arriva buses to serve Bisley.



Gerry Bixley

BISLEY VILLAGE HALL: THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGING.



Nothing ever stays the same. While from the outside the Hall may look the same as ever, a lot has been happening behind the scenes.

Most of it has been really positive. We have got through the pandemic without any serious problems; most of our former regular users have returned and we have quite a lot of new ones. The Hall is used at weekends for a much wider range of celebrations and events than ever before; we have continued to improve the way the Hall looks and we have a fantastic redesigned website (www.bisleyvillagehall.org). The Community Café (see advert) is thriving and we are looking forward this year to holding the Strawberry Fayre on the Village Green for the first time since 2019.

Success has brought some challenges though. Before the pandemic, 9 organisations took most of the time available for hire. Now there are 25! Occasional weekend hire by ad hoc users has become frequent weekend hire. Additional bookings need processing and each of the ad hoc hirers (quite rightly) receives individual attention. We have adjusted the way we do things to cope with all of this and it has worked well. However, now our finance and bookings team faces a big change...

.....Cynthia Banton, our Treasurer for the last 5 years, is standing down in a few months' time. Cynthia - who joined us as a volunteer Trustee and Treasurer after retiring from accounting - has brilliantly steered our charitable trust's finances through the challenges of the pandemic and has managed a robust and effective financial regime. So we now find ourselves needing a new Treasurer. Please get in touch with me if you might be interested in joining our friendly and supportive team of Trustees and I'll tell you what's involved. (See contact details below).

It's great that we can plan to hold our **STRAWBERRY FAYRE** again, but the organisation of it is not easy. Our Strawberry Fayre Committee is busy sorting through the issues. One of these is to get as much support as possible from local companies.

Involvement of some kind - perhaps sponsorship, advertising in the programme, or running a stall - could be a great way of promoting your business to the local community. If you can offer support of any kind please contact Sue Smith: susan.smith983@ntlworld.com.



(Graham Davey - Chair, Bisley Village Hall Management Committee of Trustees. grahamdavey6@aol.com)

Songs of Praise



Come and sing some of your favourite hymns at our 'Songs of Praise' Service which restarts on Tuesday 8th March. Then Tuesdays 12/4, 10/5, 14/6 and 12/8 at Holy Trinity Church, West End.

Start time 2.30 p.m., followed by tea and cake. All welcome. Further details if needed from: Alison Clay 01483 481249 or Pauleene Hammett, 01483 487912 (Pastoral Assistants). WebCare can help with transport for those who need a lift.

Editor: Jim Clarke 'Phone 01483 481437
email: editor@bisleyresidents.org.uk

We are on the web
www.bisleyresidents.org.uk

Bisley Residents Association Committee 2021/2022

Chairman: Norman Holden (chairman@bisleyresidents.org.uk)
2 Quince Drive, Bisley, GU24 9RT. 'phone 01483 830282

Vice Chair: Jim Clarke (vicechair@bisleyresidents.org.uk)

Treasurer: Alex Summers (treasurer@bisleyresidents.org.uk)

Secretary: Liz Colvin (secretary@bisleyresidents.org.uk)

Membership Secretary & Webmaster: Ray Colvin (membership@bisleyresidents.org.uk)

Committee Members: Chris Bixley, Erica Agombar, Nicki Rapley and Paul Hollylee

Bisley and West End Food Bank



Thank you to everyone who has donated, whether food or money. More information, including locations of donation points and a complete list of our referral partners, can be found on our website: bisleywestendfoodbank.org. **If you would like more information please do not hesitate to email bisleywestendfoodbank@gmail.com and, if you would like to make a financial contribution please, visit the justgiving website and type in Bisley and West End Food Bank.**

Thank you, Sarah Wynter Bee

Bisley Parish Council

Bisley Local Elections took place on Thursday 4th November 2021 to elect two new parish councillors. The following were elected, Hilary Kendall and Martin Coltart.

The Parish Council met in January 2022 and Cllr. Steve Moore was elected Chairman and Cllr. Amanda Price Vice Chairman.

The Parish Council meets on the second Monday evening of the month at 7 pm at Bisley Village Hall. Please see the Parish Council web site and notice boards for details of forthcoming meetings.

Contact details:
The Bisley Parish Council office is at 194 Guildford Road, GU24 9EP;
Telephone 01483 480172 email: clerk@bisleyparishcouncil.gov.uk
web site https://bisleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

WEBCare (West End & Bisley Care & Good Neighbour Group)

WEBCare is back to normal with local, DBS checked volunteers providing practical short-term help 7 days a week for anyone needing transport, shopping, prescription collection or assistance with other small jobs. Call **07713 915393**, (phone line open 10 - 12noon Monday – Friday). Messages can be left via email (webcaregu24@gmail.com) to be actioned by the next Duty Officer on duty (minimum 48 hours' notice please). **Please do not leave messages or text the WEBCare mobile.**

We plan to hold our next AGM on Wednesday 11th May at the Bowls Club, West End; 12 noon for refreshments with the AGM at 1 pm. All welcome – come and learn more about what we do and how you could help. We have seen a big increase in the number of people using WEBCare's service and we really need new volunteers. Volunteers can do as much or as little as they like – there are no set times/dates for providing assistance and we now have a WhatsApp messaging system for matching volunteers with requests which is proving very effective.

Normal voluntary contributions (to cover DBS checks, insurance & volunteers' expenses) apply. **Where transport is requested in connection with a Covid vaccination and/or assistance for those who still have to shield no voluntary contributions are requested.** Volunteers may ask that masks are worn when providing transport. We can now provide transport for clients who need to use rollators or walking frames that need lifting & putting in a car boot (NB: if no volunteer is available contact Surrey Heath Community Transport: 01276 707 655 or NHS Transport: 0300 123 9840).

More information on our website: webcaregu24.org.uk

Sarah Wynter Bee

Secretary, WEBCare

(West End & Bisley Care & Good Neighbour Group)



The BRA would like to encourage all members to renew their membership for the year 2022 and warmly welcomes new members. This enables us to work on your behalf on issues affecting our village and helps to provide the 'Your Bisley' Newsletter. We hold a prize draw for all paid-up members with each newsletter (or Forum). If you would like to participate, please renew your subscription or join by filling in the form below. **(Data will be held and used only by B.R.A.)**
The Prize Draw winner for this Newsletter are Mr. and Mrs. Fry - congratulations.

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Bisley Residents Association. New Member / Renewal Application Form. (Please delete as appropriate)
Please accept my membership of the Bisley Residents Association, valid to 31st October 2022, for which I enclose my subscription of £..... Date: (Please tick boxes below)

Title(s): Name(s): Email:

Address: Telephone No:

Annual Subs: Individual £7.00 [] Student / Senior Citizen £5.00 [] Senior Couple £10 [] Couple / Family £12.00 []

Method of Payment: Cash [] Cheque [] Please tick if you require a receipt []

Please send to: Membership Secretary, Ray Colvin, 20 Angelica Rd., Bisley, GU24 9EY or see website for form or email membership@bisleyresidents.org.uk

Please make cheques payable to Bisley Residents Association.