



Bisley Residents Association

'Your Bisley' Newsletter No. 57, Autumn 2023

Remembrance Sunday

The Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service will take place at Bisley War Memorial from 10:45 a.m. on Sunday 12th November 2023, conducted by the Revd Fiona Simon, with laying of poppy wreaths and crosses. Almac Bisley Brass Band, Scouts, Guides, Beavers and Cubs and serving soldiers from Pirbright will be involved.

Everyone is welcome to attend the service. The Parish Council warmly invites everyone back to the Village Hall after the service for refreshments, to be kindly provided by the ladies of Bisley W.I., Bisley Parish Council and local sponsors. Please note the following road closures in place for the service: junction of School Close with Church Lane, junction of Greyfriars Drive with Church Lane and junction of Church Lane with A322 between 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. for the purpose of the Remembrance Day parade.

Nicki Rapley, Clerk to the Parish Council and Norman Holden, Vice Chairman, Bisley, Knaphill and West End RBL.



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Bisley Residents' Association Open Forum and Annual General Meeting

On 13th October 2023. Bisley Residents' Association held our 34th Open Forum and 18th AGM in Bisley Village Hall. Among many village topics discussed, the main theme was 'AI - its present and future effect on Bisley and beyond' in an excellent presentation by our Vice Chairman/Newsletter Editor Jim Clarke. The Mayor of Surrey Heath Cllr Pat Tedder accepted our invitation and our guests included Parish, Borough and County Councillors, representatives of groups and activities etc – and a very wide cross-section of Bisley people. **Members' Prize Draw Winners** were Margrit & John Friend. The second part of the evening was our 18th Annual General Meeting, Reports of a busy and (fairly) successful year were given by the Chairman, Treasurer and Membership Secretary. A 'new' Committee was elected by the members - they are (l to r):-



Chris Bixley; Membership Secretary & Website Manager, Ray Colvin: Secretary, Liz Colvin: Jim Clarke: Treasurer, Alex Summers: Chairman Norman Holden: Nicki Rapley and Paul Hollylee,

Committee Members with visiting SHBC Mayoress Cllr Pat Tedder in the centre.

Brass on the Grass in July.

We all brought our picnics to the Village Green. As usual the Almac Bisley Brass Band were absolutely brilliant!
Norman Holden



| Inside this issue: | Page |
|----------------------------|------|
| <i>Bisley Remembers</i> | 2 |
| <i>Bisley Village Hall</i> | 2 |
| <i>Village Issues</i> | 3 |
| <i>Food Bank</i> | 4 |
| <i>Almac Band</i> | 4 |
| <i>WEBCare</i> | 4 |
| <i>Bonfire Night</i> | 4 |
| <i>Briefly in Bisley</i> | 4 |

BRA Diary Dates 2023/4

- ▶ Quiz / Supper 24th November '23
- ▶ Open Forum 22nd March 2024
- ▶ Quiz / Supper 17th May
- ▶ Strawberry Fayre 23rd June
- ▶ Brass on the Grass/Picnic July
- ▶ Open Forum & AGM 11th Oct.
- ▶ Quiz / Supper 22nd November

Bisley Residents Association funded this issue of 'Your Bisley' Newsletter.

Please see page 4 for new member / renewal forms

BRA Quiz and Fish & Chips Supper

On Friday 24th November we will have our next Quiz/ Supper, starting at 7.30pm. Get your tickets now from committee members - and ALL are invited - £10.00 for B.R.A. members, £12.00 for others (but why not join now, see page 4).

Norman Holden

Bisley Parish Council update

Bisley Parish Council Offices have now moved from the 'Old School House' to the Village Hall.

However, meetings with councillors, the clerk or RFO can be arranged and take place at the Pavilion.

The new postal address for the Council is: Bisley Parish Pavilion Pavilion Lane Off Shaftesbury Road GU24 9EN

Contact the Clerk to the Council, Nicki Rapley, Email: clerk@bisleyparishcouncil.gov.uk Mobile: 0791 7417957

The current Parish Councillors are: Cllrs. Steve Moore (chair), Amanda Price (Vice Chair), John Hutchinson, Hillary Kendall, Ying Perrett. (There are two vacancies.)

The current Surrey Heath Borough Councillors for Bisley and West End Ward are: Cllrs. Liz Noble, Sarbie Kang and Ying Perrett.

The Surrey County Councillor representing Bisley & West End, Lightwater and Chobham is Cllr. Rebecca Jennings-Evans.

The Member of Parliament for Surrey Heath is Michael Gove.

Village Issues

Bisley Remembers

Lynn Rood 1949- 2023

With great sadness we report the passing of a much-loved Bisley resident, Lynn Rood, after a courageous battle against cancer. We are indebted to her daughter Cathy Corner for this account of Lynn's eventful life.

"Mum was born in Doncaster then moved to London, then to Somerset where her father was a policeman, later a prison officer. She met my dad there who was a prison officer.

Mum moved to Bisley over fifty years ago and my brother Stuart and I were both born here. She helped at Bisley village playground in the village hall and then worked at the Almac factory on Church Lane. When Mum went back to work full time she resumed her career as a bank clerk for Midland Bank in Knaphill.



At 40 she decided she wanted to join the police but was first told she couldn't because the cut off-age was 35. She insisted so was told "ok if you can pass all the exams and fitness you can". So she did! The age limit was then changed! She worked as a PC in Knaphill, Lightwater, Woking and also as a Domestic Violence Officer.

The police then wanted to trial a Neighbourhood Policing role. Lynn was asked to set it up - she did so in Sheerwater and it was so successful they now roll it out across Surrey. She later went on to be the Beat

Bobby for Chobham.

The time came for Mum to retire - it lasted about a month but she was miserable so she went back as a civilian working for CID! During her service she received numerous awards including three commendations. She loved her grandchildren and they loved her - she was always ready to

play COD or Zelda with them and to take them ice skating or paint balling. Eventually she did retire but was still very active, stomping around the house with her adored great grandson being a dinosaur or climbing around a soft play with him. until finally she lost her fight with cancer I'd like to thank everyone for their kind messages and support."



This remarkable lady will be greatly missed and we offer our most sincere and heartfelt condolences to Cathy and her family

Norman Holden

Gerry Fowler 1940-2023

We were all saddened to hear of the passing of Gerry Fowler, a popular and familiar figure around Bisley. Gerry was born in Doncaster in 1940. He served with distinction for 17 years in the Guards/Parachute Regiment, where he earned the nickname of "Foxy".

Gerry was a great supporter of Teas on the Rec, over many years and he's remembered with gratitude for his generous gifts to the "Teas" events, such as a PA system - and a group of childrens bicycles which he ordered to be raffled!

He will be missed and we offer our sincere condolences to Ann and the family.

Norman Holden



Bisley Village Hall

WARNING! THIS ARTICLE CONTAINS STRAWBERRIES!

In this article we take a look back at a period that started with a Strawberry Fayre and we take a look at what will be needed to make the next Strawberry Fayre as successful as the previous ones.

A lot has happened at the Hall since the last brilliantly organised and run Strawberry Fayre in June. This included the refurbishment of the Main Hall floor and installation of energy efficient lighting throughout (paid for by funds raised at previous Fayres). Now, everything's much lighter and brighter. And generally, things are going pretty well.

Autumn at the Hall September saw three notable events (on the new floor and under the new lights): a Heritage Open Day on the 17th, a Macmillan Coffee morning on the 18th and Almac Bisley Brass Band's Celebration of the Last Night of the Proms concert on the 23rd (covered in a separate article from the Band).

The Hall's Heritage team put a lot of effort into ensuring that what happened on the day reflected the theme of the national Open Days scheme: "Creativity Unwrapped". The result was an interactive occasion with presentations - including video and recorded music and displays - highlighting the wide range of arts, music, crafts and other activities in which the boys of the former Shaftesbury School were engaged. Among the many attendees were the Mayor of Surrey Heath and several "Old Boys" and relatives of former pupils.

The Hall was buzzing again the next day - Monday the 18th of September - for the Macmillan Coffee morning which raised a fantastic £471. If you were among the many people who enjoyed that why not visit us on other Monday mornings for our Community Café? You can be sure of warm welcome.

More strawberries! In October the Strawberry Fayre team hosted a Discovery Evening at the Hall. Thea Groombridge, who leads the team, says: As many of you will know, the Bisley Strawberry Fayre has been doing its thing for nearly 3 decades, raising tens of thousands of pounds for our wonderful Village Hall. With a few members of our Committee taking the difficult decision to move away from the event, we are now facing a crossroads. How do we take the event forward? To try to answer that, the Committee reached out to our community. At the Discovery Evening on 4th October we shared the Past, Present and Future of our Fayre and invited guests to think about what they can bring. Ultimately, there are certain jobs that need to be covered to enable the event to take place and we need some committed team players to help. More details will be forth coming on various platforms, but get your thinking caps on and consider supporting the future of our fantastic community event. **Contact or interest can be expressed by reaching out to strawberryfayre@bisleyvillagehall.org.uk.**

Coming up Selected dates for your diaries: Bisley Village Hall's Annual General Meeting on Thursday the 9th of November (when Thea will announce the amount raised at this year's Strawberry Fayre); Almac Bisley Brass Band's Christmas Concert on 9th December; the Hall's Christmas Tea on the 15th of December and next year's Strawberry Fayre on 23 June 2024!

Everyone is welcome at the Hall. We are busy but there is space for a few more. If you are interested in booking the Hall, for regular use or for a one-off special occasion, have a look at our website: <https://www.bisleyvillagehall.org/> And some of the groups that do already use the Hall would welcome more people from the local community at their sessions. To see who the groups are and what they offer go to <https://www.bisleyvillagehall.org/regular-hall-users>.

VILLAGE ISSUES

TEAS ON THE REC.

It's hard to believe another summer of 'Teas on the Rec' has just finished. We still can't remember exactly when we began but we're constantly surprised at how many people come along on Thursday afternoons in the summer. It's such a good way of keeping in touch with what you're all doing.

TOTR can only operate because of the time and generosity of so many local people. **OUR THANKS AGAIN TO YOU ALL.**

The monthly Coffee Mornings have now begun on the first Thursday of the month from 10 am – 12 noon. As numbers have grown we've had to move over to **BISLEY VILLAGE HALL.** At our first meeting on 5th October teas, coffees, scones, cake and pastries were all free as our 'thank you' to volunteers and supporters. (Sorry if you missed it!)

The total raised for a range of charities this year was £13,845.
Chris and the Teas on the Rec' Team.

Songs of Praise

Come and sing some of your favourite hymns at our 'Songs of Praise' Service on the second Tuesday of the month at Holy Trinity Church, West End, starting at 2.30 p.m. on November 14th and December 12th.



Followed by Tea and cake, and a chance to chat. **(Please note - this will not take place in January and February 2024.)**

All welcome. Further details if needed from: Alison Clay 01483 481249 or Pauleene Hammett, 01483 487912 (Pastoral Assistants). WebCare can help with transport.

Christmas Tree Festival

On the weekend of 9th & 10th December, we shall once again be holding this festival in Holy Trinity Church, West End. If you would like to decorate a tree for your group / organisation or family, please book one soon. The trees need to be decorated on Friday 8th December and will then be open to the public over that weekend. We will be raising money for Woking and Sam Beare Hospice and our parish church. **For booking form and further details email htreefestival@gmail.com or call Alison Clay on 01483 481249.**

Bisley Women's Institute

Bisley WI continues to thrive. We have been delighted to welcome several new members during the past 12 months. Our meetings have included from line dancing to Dementia Care! Our activities included outings to the Poppy Factory and a boat trip with afternoon tea on the Thames when we were blessed with a glorious afternoon following a wet morning. We were also lucky weather wise for our very enjoyable garden party which we held in the 'back garden' of the Village Hall – our thanks to the Trustees for making it look so welcoming. We have had shopping trips, been to garden centres, eaten pub lunches and now we have our Christmas Lunch at Gorse Hill and the Pantomime to look forward to. The Craft Group meet monthly and have a go at card making techniques, gift wrapping, knitting and crocheting poppies and other items which have appeared on our post box toppers.

We continue to be active in the wider community. We held a Bingo afternoon where we raised over £200 for the Air Ambulance and we will be there with the refreshments on Remembrance Day. We also support Teas on the Rec and the Monday morning Community Cafe. All are welcome to visit us at any of our meetings, which are on the second Wednesday of each month or our Craft afternoons on the fourth Wednesday – always 2pm in the Village Hall.

Contact: Tina 01483 829663 or Barbara 01483 828690
www.bisleywi.co.uk

Bisley Pillarbox's Autumn decoration by the W.I.



GOOD TIMES AT BISLEY VILLAGE HALL

The Community Café
at
Bisley Village Hall
OPEN



In the **MAIN HALL** (September to May)
Monday mornings 10 a.m. - 12 midday

A friendly village café

Plenty of room for pushchairs, prams and mobility scooters
Tea, coffee & squash, toasted fruit loaf and a variety of biscuits/cakes (cash only)
A selection of handmade cards, books, jigsaws and other items on sale for charity

INFORMATION HUB for events in the area
and **LOCAL HONEY** on sale



Bus stops outside the Village Hall
Sue, Barbara and the Community Café Team

BISLEY VILLAGE CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON TEA
Everyone welcome!!
1.30—4.30

Friday 15th December
in the Village Hall.

Tea and Cake
(Cake donations very welcome)

Ukelele Group

Carols, Tombola, Children's activities and Lucky Dip

Please come, have fun and meet friends.

Happy Christmas



Community Cafe MacMillan Coffeemorning

Bisley Community Cafe Team held a MacMillan Coffee morning on Monday 18th September which raised £471.00. We thank everyone who supported us. (See photos on the right)

Rosemary



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

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

Bisley Residents Association Committee 2023/24

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, Nicki Rapley and Paul Hollylee



Bonfire Night

1st Bisley Scouts invite you to the Bonfire Night Celebrations on Bisley Green - Saturday 4th Nov. 2023

Gate open at 6 pm
Bonfire Lighting 6.30 pm
Fireworks from 7 pm

Adults £5
Children £2.50

Hot Dogs, Hot Chocolate (with tokens) Sweets and various Games Stalls

Card Payments preferred on the evening.



Please - No Sparklers, No Dogs

WEBCare

West End & Bisley Care and Good Neighbour Group.

Do you sometimes need help with transport?

If friends, family or your usual support cannot help, we can help with visits to:

- the surgery or hospital (including London)
- the dentist, health centre or hairdresser
- visit a friend or go food shopping.

We provide practical short-term help seven days a week. **Phone: 07713 915393**
[line open 10 to 12 noon Monday to Friday]

We ask for voluntary contributions to reimburse our drivers. New volunteers to drive or man our phone are always welcome.

No big or regular commitment.
For information call the number above.

Bisley and West End Food Bank

The Food Bank continues to serve residents of Bisley & West End who are experiencing difficulties, with twice weekly deliveries of food etc. as needed.

Information can be found on their website: bisleywestendfoodbank.org which gives details of how to apply or donation points for tinned/dried food (in date please).

To make a financial contribution please visit the justgiving website and type in 'Bisley and West End Food Bank'!



ALMAC BISLEY BRASS BAND: COME AND JOIN US!

It is said that 'a picture is worth a thousand words'. If that is so this article will save you, the reader, and me, the author, a lot of time and effort.

Since the Strawberry Fayre at the end of June the Band has presented Brass on the Grass on the Village Green on 9th July and it's Celebration of the Last Night of the Proms Concert in the Village Hall on 23rd September. In between, members of the Band have helped other bands in return for which members of those bands have helped us.

We are very grateful for the help we get. Wouldn't it be lovely, though, if more people from the local area could join the existing group of Band members from Bisley and West End and surrounding areas. (Most of the Band are from a little – in some cases a lot – further afield.). If you would like to learn to play a brass instrument or return to playing you are welcome to get in touch with me at graham.davey6@aol.com or via the contacts page on our website: <https://almacbisleybrassband.org/>

Our next concert is at Christmas in the Village Hall on Saturday the 9th of December. **For further details nearer the time see our website or Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/almacbisleybrassband/>** *Graham Davey*



Briefly in Bisley

2nd Bisley Brownies Special Summer Picnic - a triple celebration. Congratulations to Brown Owl Kate Watson for her 30 years service award and Snowy Owl Emma Heron-Maxwell with her leadership qualification, making her a fully fledged Owl. **Special Congratulations to Ruby Faithfull on her Rainbow Bronze Award.**

Bisley Consolidated Charity & Henry Smith Charity. The Trustees will be meeting at the beginning of November 2023 to decide distribution of grants. If anyone feels they may be eligible (the aims are to give help to the needy, sick and elderly of the Parish of Bisley) application forms are available at Bisley Post Office or contact the secretary Sandy Gunn on 01483 838329 or by email sandygunn213@gmail.com

From the October Bisley and West End Parish News.

An urgent request from the B.R.A. Committee:- Are you able to step in and distribute our Spring issue of 'Your Bisley' newsletter to Bisley households for payment? Please contact Jim, our Vice Chairman and Editor by mid January 2024; see contact details above.

The BRA would like to encourage all members to renew their membership for the year 2023/24 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.)**

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 2024, 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.