# THE BROMHAM HOOT

JULY/AUGUST 2021



# **NUMBERS YOU MIGHT NEED**

Devizes (01380) numbers unless otherwise shown

Parish of Bromham, Chittoe and Sandy Lane			Bromham Parish Council		
Rector	Revd Ruth Schofield	850191	Chairman	Peter Paget	85024
		07738 858909	Clerk	Rosalind Humphries	850874
Email: revrschofield@gmail.com		Email: rosalindjhumphries@gmail.com			
Associate Priest	Rev Heather Smith	07795 822515	Wiltshire Council	All departments	0300 4560100
Lay Minister	Caroline Culley	850531	Bromham Social Centre		
Methodist Church	Rev Pam Stranks	01249 818923	Bookings	Dave Paget	859492
Email: pamstranks@gmail.com		Email: bookings@bromhamsocialcentre.co.uk			
	Jenny Blackman	850580	Chairmen	Malcolm Turner	850204
<b>Roman Catholic Church</b>	Fr Paul Gonsalves	723572		Pete Davis	850792
St. Nicholas School	Office	850391	Owl Manager	Sue Dolman	85067
PTA Chair	Amy Rockall	07811 346347			
		ganisations			
Bell Ringers	Linda Drummond-Harris	07905 188030	Phoenix Club	Sandra Davis (Acting)	850792
Busy Kids Pre-school	Judi McKendrick	859389	Royal British Legion	Neil Meadows	850360
Carnival Chairman	Pete Davis	850792	Short Mat Bowls	George Henderson	01249 815388
Drama Club	Penny Lander	859002	Spye Park Cricket Club	Tom Mornement	850913
Football Club	Pete Wallis	07917 697298	Stitchers	Ann Hannah	850589
Footpath Group	Linda Drummond-Harris	07905 188030	Tennis Court Bookings	Caroline Jones	850260
Friends B & SL Churches	Carol Drew	850908	Twinning Association	Janet Giles	850327
Gardening Club	Sue Skelt	850601	W.I. President	Deborah White	07900 98722
Little Angels	Carole Myer	850706	Wives Group	Muriel Sibun	850126
Monday Club Organiser	Caroline Culley	07557 983940	Youth Club Secretary	Rosalind Humphries	850874
Mothers' Union	Carole Myer	850706			

Village Website: www.bromhamwiltshire.org

BROMHAM PARISH COUNCILLORS 2021					
Name	Address	Tel. No.			
Brian AMOR	52 Hawkstreet, Bromham, Chippenham, Wilts SN15 2HU	850485			
Rod AMOR	81 New Road, Bromham, Chippenham, Wilts, SN15 2JB	850045			
Jim BUTLER	Bromham House Farm, 40 Devizes Road, Bromham, SN15 2DX	850230			
Jean COLLENS	17 Church Hill, Bromham, Chippenham, Wilts, SN15 2JQ	850675			
Adam COLLINS	81 Devizes Road, Bromham, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 2DZ	850228 / 850186			
Phil COLLINS	81 Devizes Road, Bromham, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 2DZ	850228 / 07971 120601			
Peter HINDLE	85 Netherstreet, Bromham, Chippenham, Wiltshire. SN15 2DW	850925 / 07711423549			
Sam PAGET	28 Greystones, Bromham, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 2JT	850246			
Peter PAGET (CHAIRMAN)	28 Greystones, Bromham, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 2JT	850246			
Keith MAHONEY	43 The Pound, Bromham, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 2HF	850441			
Jonathon SEED	Wayside, 12 Chittoe Heath, Bromham, Chippenham SN15 2EH	07770 774463			
Adam SLUSARCZYK	40 New Road, Bromham, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 2JB	07834 451728			
Gregory WILKINSON	Willowbrook, 46 The Common, Bromham SN15 2JJ	850295			

# The Bromham Hoot is created and produced by:

Editor - Peter Hindle, Content - Heather Smith, Advertising - Tracey Hutchison Caroline Culley

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# WELCOME TO THE BROMHAM HOOT

Welcome to the July/August 2021 edition of the Bromham Hoot.

This issue was planned to be a celebration; the 1st birthday of The Hoot, the final lifting of Covid restrictions, all the details of the Bromham Carnival and plans for the re-start of many village organisations, but village life has been completely overshadowed by the devastating fire at the Social Centre.

I think this post from Sam Paget on Spotted in Bromham accurately sums up the feelings of everyone:



"Reflecting on the loss of the Social Centre I've realised it was so much more than a building to the village, it was a villager in itself. It feels a bit like we are all mourning the loss of a popular member of the community. If any positive can be taken from all this, it's brought back out the lovely Bromham community spirit and togetherness that Covid has suppressed somewhat for the last 18 months. We will come out of this even stronger as a village - stay safe and keep your heads up."

For those of you who don't know the history of the Social Centre, and how the funds were raised to build it, you'll find an article from Dennis Powney in this issue of The Hoot with some photos from the early days. Hopefully we can collect many more memories of good times at the Social centre for an article in the next Hoot.

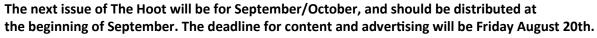
Sadly the Carnival procession has had to be cancelled as lifting of the final Covid restrictions has been delayed and therefore we have not been able to get an event license from Wiltshire Council. The Teddy Bear Trail will go ahead as planned over the weekend of July 24th - 25th. The Carnival Committee is also planning a Teddy Bear's Picnic for the village on Saturday July 24th. See more details in this issue, on the Carnival and Spotted in Bromham Facebook pages and on village notice boards over the next few weeks.

# HAPPY FIRST BIRTHDAY TO THE BROMHAM HOOT!!

Amazingly, this will be the seventh issue of The Bromham Hoot and the beginning of our second year. A massive thank you to everyone who has contributed, and especially to all of our advertisers who make it possible to produce the magazine. Please continue to support them.

Finally thank you to all the distributors who make sure that your copy of The Bromham Hoot is delivered through you letterbox every time.

Please keep telling us what you like, and don't like about the Hoot, and send us anything you think the village might be interested in. If there are any frustrated writers or amateur graphic artists in the village - please let us know! The more help we can get the better!

















## **BROMHAM PARISH COUNCIL REPORT MAY - JUNE 2021**

#### **Bromham Social Centre:**

Like everyone else in Bromham, the Parish Council were shocked and saddened by the devastating fire at the Social Centre yesterday. We are incredibly thankful no one was injured - luckily Monday Club had not quite started, and the few people who were in the building at the time could be evacuated quickly.

To set everyone's mind at rest, the Social Centre building is insured and we are working with the insurance company to plan the next steps. A priority will be to secure the site which is currently dangerous, with parts of the internal structure very unstable. Please do not try to go through the safety fencing and make sure that children are kept well away.

As always, Bromham has pulled together as a community. We saw villagers making cups of tea and bringing cold drinks including The Westbrook providing food for the emergency services as they fought the blaze, and in less than 24 hours we have seen the Just Giving page for Adam Dempsey raise more than £10,000.

In the short term, many village organisations have lost equipment, supplies etc. that were stored in the Social Centre and they will be grateful for help in getting up and running again. The Parish Council is willing to hold any funds received. Please could any local organisations who had equipment in the hall list the contents lost, with an estimated replacement value, and forward it to the Parish Clerk.

Thank you for all the offers of help and suggestions for the future. The parish will obviously have a huge input into the long term plans. In the short term we need to make sure that we can find temporary homes for organisations that were planning to start up again in the Autumn after being closed due to the pandemic. We are looking at temporary mobile accommodation that could be sited on the car park.

# **Parish Council Meeting May 10th**

The PC was able to return to face to face meetings. 11 newly elected Councillors signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and the two vacant positions for co-options advertised. Mr Peter Paget was re-elected as Chairman.

**Traveller's Land New Road:** The issued Stop Notice was still in place until 11th May, but then work commenced with the erection of fencing and a new entrance. The PC gave WC daily updates, but no further action was taken by WC. 300 Tons of hard-core was delivered and during the Bank Holiday weekend the new enclosure became home to the 3 existing static caravans and 8 touring vans. WC served a further Enforcement notice on the land.

**Update:** Other WC outstanding issues are still being pursued by the PC

**Parish Plan:** Despite the resignation of two members, the NH Steering group is still addressing the issues of proposed sites in the village. A new call for sites has been discussed. An additional grant will be applied for to enable completion of the Plan. New members welcome.

The Owl: A new lease is being completed by Wansbroughs; this has now been put on hold.

**The New Orchard:** 3 trees will be replaced in the Autumn. A stone has been erected for a plaque.

May 17th: A Complaints Committee meeting was held and the complaint resolved.

May 24th: A meeting was arranged for Parishioners and WC to discuss activity on the Traveller's land, New Road. Laura Mayes, our new WC representative and Mike Wilmott, WC Area Development Manager also attended. 18 Parishioners attended. The 3 refused planning applications, the 2 Appeal dismissals, the existing Enforcement Notice and Stop Notice were discussed, including the delay to the Court hearing. It is not sure if the Court hearing submission is still with WC Legal Team or with the Courts awaiting a date for the hearing. The PC was led to believe the holdup was with the Courts due to Covid.

The new compound, fencing, hedging and entrance were again discussed with the concern that WC was not taking action to prevent illegal occupation on land with an Enforcement Order in place.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING May 28th: see separate report. Attended by 2 parishioners.

June 1st: Meeting with MP Danny Kruger, WC Laura Mayes and 5 Parishioners. P Paget and R Humphries

The Parishioners' and the Parish Council's concerns were discussed and the actions required to go forward, a timescale for the Court Order to be pursued. LM to arrange a meeting with all WC departments concerned. It was also confirmed that WC had declined a new Planning Application for the land.

A new Enforcement Order was issued 02.06.2021.

DK and LM to liaise and report back to the Parish Council.

**June 10th:** Meeting with MP Danny Kruger ,WC Nick Botteril Cabinet Minister for Development Strategic Planning and Climate Change and Sam Fox Corporate Director for Place. 5 Parishioners P Paget & R Humphries.

The process so far again discussed including WC and Police input.

The illegal use of the land and the issue of dirty water and sewerage as the land is now occupied. A notice was served concerning this on 4<sup>th</sup> June regarding Execution of Works of Drainage etc.

Parishioners asked to report any incidents or change of routine when using New Road. (RH has a WC log sheet) The PC will be given updates by DK and LM

# **Parish Council Meeting June 14th**

Meeting held in the Church due to the Social centre fire.

Two new Councillors Co-opted. Adam Slusarczyk, 40 New Road and Sam Paget, 28 Greystones.

Laura Mayes introduced herself as our new WC councillor and Deputy Leader of WC and Cabinet Member for Children's Services and gave an update on WC issues, the traveller's Land and Covid. LM reported a meeting to recruit foster parents for teenagers on 29<sup>th</sup> June.

RH attended the CATG meeting and reported on the speed limit for the A342. The PC has agreed to pay 25% of the cost for a survey, also 25% of costs for the new "Village Shops" signs on the A342 and 25% of the costs for "Pedestrians in Road" signs for the Pound/Horsepool. Additional lights for the Pound allotment footpath are still being considered. The Metro Count for Church Hill has now been actioned.

Wyatt's Lake - On going LM

Parish Plan: £8000 Grant applied for, New members required, a new call for sites to be initiated.

Allotment: Best Kept plot judging to take place in July.

Best Kept Village Competition: entered.

Play Area: Inspections and risk assessments carried out by Wicksteed.

**Gigaclear:** Councillor Peter Hindle has volunteered to be the PC representative. Gigaclear has been contracted to complete an ultrafast full fibre broadband network in Northern Wiltshire focusing on rural locations, Bromham will be part of their intervention area.

#### PLANNING APPLICATIONS: May/June

PL/2021/04973 The Greyhound Inn, Bromham, T1 Spruce tree – fell to prevent excessive shading and root trip hazard.

PL/2021/03793 11 The Crescent, Bromham. Proposed single storey extension

**PL/2021/04191** 96 The Common, Bromham Garage conversion (utility and home gym) including office extension.

**21/02420/FUL** Bromham House Farm, 40 Devizes Road, Bromham. The construction of agricultural greenhouses,

storage silos, pack house, turning and loading area, car parking, landscaping planting

PL/2021/03748 Griffin Farm, Bowden Hill, Lacock. Change of use of 4 existing buildings from storage to multiple light

industry.

PL/2021/04081 9 Durlett Road, Bromham SN15 2HY. Commercial Property behind dwelling (formerly Hammond

Transport) – Construction of 4 Commercial Units, Change of use of site to B2/B8

PL/2021/04596 West Winds, 72 Netherstreet. Outline application for demolition of bungalow and replacement with 2

detached dwellings and works.

All Parish Council minutes are available on the Village website when approved.

**Rosalind Humphries**, Parish Clerk

Tel: 850874

Email: rosalindjhumphries@gmail.com

# **BROMHAM PARISH COUNCIL - ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2021**

PRESENT: Councillors PP KM PH BA RA JB JS JC Parishioners: C Culley, D Fillis, C Wilson

APOLOGIES: Laura Mayes – Statement received and read.

#### **Chairman's Welcome and Report**

The Chairman thanked all attending although disappointed that only 3 parishioners attended. Thanks to the PC Councillors including the new Councillor following recent elections. Thanks to Anna Cuthbert for all her assistance on behalf of the Parish Council, who has been replaced by Laura Mayes who is also Deputy Leader of WC. Again thanks were given to the Clerk for her assistance and organising ZOOM meetings during Covid Lockdowns.

The Chairman also thanked all employees and parishioners who assist the PC and the Parish including The Good Neighbours Volunteers who supported the community through Covid, and organise the production of HOOT magazine.

Due to Covid an Annual Parish Meeting was not held last year - 2020. The Chairman gave a month by month report of PC activities over the past year.

# Minutes of last Year's Meeting $\mathbf{30}^{\mathsf{TH}}$ April 2019

RH read all the relevant points due to the minutes being for 2019.

**Action update:** Necessary actions were carried out in 2019/20 including Metro counts, speed reduction pursued for Church Hill and the A342. Due to the cost of flashing signs and regulations and installation difficulties, they have not been pursued. The Traveller's Site, New Road is still ongoing with WC Enforcement Team as is Wyatt's Lake. Flooding throughout the village has been addressed by WC.

Financial Statement: Presented by RH. Copies circulated to all. PRO JC SEC DF AIF

Balances at 31.03.2021

Ordinary acc. £11629.90 Investment acc. £25498.13 Other accs. £1328.55 TOTAL ASSETS 31.03.21 £38456.58

#### Bromham Steering Group/Village Neighbourhood Plan update:

The Chairperson of the NH Steering Group Jim Butler gave an update, progress has been made covering many aspects of the plan, but it has been difficult due to Covid and Zoom meetings including public consultations. A new call for sites is underway due to the unique characteristics of Bromham with a 5 hamlet approach to include smaller developments and avoid larger developers. The demand is for young people, first time buyers and shared ownership such as Breach Close and Netherstreet. It was discussed at great length the requirement for small mixed developments of housing in order to provide the affordable housing element. An appeal has been made to WC to reduce the allocated number of dwellings required from 80 to 65 up until 2035. A further grant has been applied for, This plan is a chance to get things right for our village to be proud of, which will also support businesses and our community facilities. New committee members are welcome to join the group.

## **Other Village Organisations:**

Caroline Culley – representing the new Eco Bromham group, Bromham Good Neighbours and Organiser of the Monday Club.

The first meeting of the Eco group will take place on 10<sup>th</sup> June, the group hopes to cover sustainable energy, plastics, gardening etc. and involving young people with a passion.

Caroline also reported on the Bromham Good Neighbours who were very active during lockdowns and are still operating collecting prescriptions and Shopping etc.

The HOOT is another volunteer project due to Covid when the Parish Magazine was unable to be produced. The HOOT is a beautiful colour version of similar content to the Parish Magazine and is now self-funding due to advertisements. It is produced bi-monthly and printed by Springfield and Rose. Peter Hindle is the new Editor. Additional help and donations are always welcome. A business account is being set up.

The Monday Club is due to resume in June.

#### **Open Village Discussion:**

Traveller's Site, New Road: many are disappointed including the PC with how WC has reacted to recent events at the site. It is not known and was not confirmed by WC Mike Wilmott at a recent meeting if the Court Order is still with WC's legal team or with the Courts and held up due to Covid it was felt that this was not acceptable after being led to believe it was with the Courts waiting for a hearing for the past 18 months.

L Mayes has taken this on and our Local MP Danny Kruger has been contacted. It is hoped with their backing some action will be taken by WC when legally possible.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance.

## LAURA MAYES - Wiltshire Councillor for Bromham, Rowde & Roundway

I am delighted to have been elected to be your Wiltshire Councillor. As a farmer's daughter it is wonderful to be representing a proper rural area – it seems there is something growing in every corner of Bromham!

I have lived in Roundway Village for over twenty years and been a Wiltshire Councillor for 12 years. I am currently the Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education & Skills and have recently been appointed Deputy Leader of the Council.

My first few weeks as your Councillor have certainly been eventful! I am very grateful to everyone for being so kind and supportive and look forward to working with the community to improve our area.



Like everyone, I was sad and shocked about the fire at the Social Centre but have been so impressed with the way Bromham residents have come together to support each other. I visited the site and spoke to the Parish Clerk to offer help but I know the community will work together to create a new centre for the village as soon as possible.

Whilst I met many Bromham residents during the election, I look forward to meeting more of you as I get involved in local issues. I have been attending Parish Council meetings for a while to get up to speed but please contact me directly if you need help and support with any Council matter including Planning, Housing, Benefits, Waste and Education.

Please also get in touch if you have any ideas for our area. My email address is <a href="mailto:laura.mayes@wiltshire.gov.uk">laura.mayes@wiltshire.gov.uk</a>

#### BROMHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Bromham Neighbourhood Plan was discussed at the Parish Public meeting and it was agreed that any future development in the village should consist of small housing sites, some of which would be specifically allowed for low cost or affordable housing to help first time buyers and local young families.

Wiltshire Plan has requested Bromham finds 80 new housing sites by 2036, some of which have already been achieved. We have appealed against this to reduce the number to 65-still a large amount.

To accommodate this we are calling for land owners in Bromham or the Hamlets of Bromham Parish to put forward any potential sites to Bromham Parish council. Alternatively email me at <a href="mailto:bdjbutler@aol.com">bdjbutler@aol.com</a> with a plan of the site and a covering letter.

This will also apply to land owners looking to put forward sites for employment use.

We are also looking for members to join the group to help complete the plan that has now become more important with the sad demise of our social centre. If you wish us to consider your ideas - perhaps on community facilities please contact us and we will try to help.

Jim Butler, Chairman, Bromham Neighbourhood Plan

### VILLAGE DEFIBRILLATORS

Following the fire at the Social Centre the defibrillator has been removed and is waiting to be relocated. In the meantime, here is a reminder of where the other defibrillators are located in the village.

**Hawkstreet: Telephone Kiosk** 

Netherstreet: Telephone Kiosk (near the Haveli)

Angell House, Highfield

**Collins Farm Shop (on fence by entrance gate)** 

In case of an emergency and these need to be used, you simply dial 999 and give the location and the Ambulance Service will provide the code which opens the cabinet.



## **Bromham Post Office**

Following the devastating fire and loss of the Social Centre, Bromham Post Office will temporarily move to the Church.

Opening times will be as usual, Monday 13.30 - 15.30 and Wednesday 9.00 - 11.00.

The system may be slightly slower than usual due to Wi-Fi connection, but Tina is determined to provide this service to support the village. Hand sanitiser is available and face masks must be worn unless exempt. Thank you for your support.









This term at Busy Kids nursery the children have been learning about the summer season and the seaside.

They have enjoyed lots of water play outside and have been painting some beautiful seaside pictures. They have been learning to recognise numbers through mathematical play with sharks and dolphins.

They have also been learning to grow and take care of plants. They have planted their own sunflowers and have been watering our herb garden which was created by one of the children's grandparents. They have really enjoyed exploring the different smells and textures of the herbs and learning how each of them can be used.

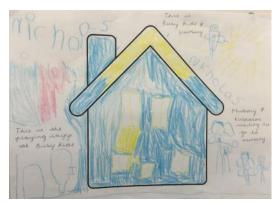
One of the children's parents kindly gifted us a voucher to have hatching eggs at the nursery. The children have loved learning about the process the eggs go through and then watching them hatch. They have enjoyed getting to know the chicks and naming them, John and Raspberry!











A lovely picture of Busy Kids drawn by Nicholas, aged 4.

## Meet the team

In this issue we are introducing our wonderful nursery manager Michelle.

"Hi. I'm Michelle. I have a Foundation degree in Early Years and Education (Level 5)

I have previously worked in nurseries and schools in England and Russia, as well as working as a nanny in

England, France and Australia. I have also volunteered in an orphanage in Mexico.

I enjoy time with my daughter, walks with my dog, reading, swimming, going to the cinema, festivals, travelling, cooking and keeping fit."



# BUSY KIDS FUNDRAISING



As a committee run charity, Busy Kids usually hold lots of fundraising activities throughout the year. Unfortunately the last year has offered little opportunity to raise funds but, with restrictions gradually being lifted, we have lots of plans to make up for this.

We are currently fundraising to purchase some new outdoor play equipment for the children and also to fund a new day room to give the children more space to learn and play indoors as well. We have set ourselves an ambitious target of raising £10,000 in a year.

If you are able to contribute to any of our fundraising efforts it would be very much appreciated.



## Judi's 100KM Walk

On the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of July Busy Kids Business Manager Judi will be attempting to walk 100 kilometres along the Ridgeway from Lewknor to Avebury. This is an organised challenge called Race to the Stones.

Judi is aiming to raise enough money to replace all the outdoor play equipment and hopefully get some new equipment as well. Please see the link below to the Just Giving page if you would like to support Judi in her challenge





# **Busy Kids Bazaar**

We will be holding a children's clothes and toys sale on Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th July, the weekend of the Teddy Bear Trail.

We have already had lots of donations of good quality clothes and toys. If you have anything you would like to donate, please contact: jennahumphries@hotmail.co.uk or emma.napier@hotmail.co.uk

Please do come along and support us that weekend. We would really appreciate it and would love to see you all.

#### Other ways to help raise money...

You can help to raise money for Busy Kids by ordering your children's nametags through mynametags.com. You just need to add the code 14627 at the checkout and they will donate 24% of the order value to Busy Kids.



You can also donate by using Amazon Smile. All you need to do is go to smile.amazon.co.uk and add Busy Kids as your organisation. You shop in exactly the same way as you normally would on Amazon and they will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to Busy Kids.



#### FROM THE METHODIST CHAPEL

"So, tell me, what have you learnt today?"

We are all lifelong learners. The old saying, "you can't teach an old dog new tricks," is probably not true. Many people take on new challenges, hobbies and learn new skills throughout their lives. We can also pass on our skills, experience and knowledge. From whom do you learn and with whom do you share your skills and experience?

Years ago when on a training placement, my supervisor would often ask the question: "So, tell me, what have you learnt?" She wasn't just testing my knowledge, or assessing my skills. She was wondering what impact the placement was having on me – what had I learned about myself, how teachable was I and how were circumstances changing and challenging me and shaping who I was? Certainly, this last year or so has challenged and shaped us all in varying ways.

I shall be retiring at the end of August and what a year this past year has been. I have learned much about myself, for instance how I deal with disappointment and delay, surprise and unknown circumstances. I have learnt such things as new ways of working, new priorities and timescales, appreciating local shops and facilities and being thankful for the gifts and skills and support of other people.

As this will be my last little contribution to the Bromham Hoot Magazine I do wish the good folk of Bromham all the very best for the future and may the village community grow, be strengthened and discover new things for the future.

With thoughts and prayers and every blessing.

Pam

**Bromham Methodist Church** 

#### **BROMHAM CHURCHES CHARITY SURVIVES VOLUNTEER CRISIS**

Local fund raising charity The Friends of Bromham and Sandy Lane Churches was under threat of closure due to a lack of volunteers but at its Annual General Meeting a plan for its future management was agreed.



At least for the coming year to the next AGM the charity will be run by its three trustees rather than a management committee. Its funds will continue to be available to support the Parochial Church Council in carrying out any repairs and maintenance of the buildings and grounds of the parish church of St Nicholas and the church of St Mary and St Nicholas at Sandy Lane. Some fund raising events will continue to be supported.



Any volunteers coming forward to help the Friends to continue will still be most welcome and do not have to be members of the congregation of either church. The churches are distinctive features and important amenities in both villages. More information about the charity is available on the village website <a href="www.bromhamwiltshire.org">www.bromhamwiltshire.org</a> or by calling Rev Ruth Schofield on 01380 850191.

# **Small Pilgrim Places**

The two churches in our parish, St Nicholas in Bromham and St Mary and St Nicholas in Sandy Lane are joining the Small Pilgrim Places network. You can be a pilgrim. You may have faith, or be unsure. Being a pilgrim is what you make of it. We invite everyone to come and spend time in the peace and quiet of our beautiful churches. It will give you space to ponder, breathe, meditate, pray and just be. Inside our churches look for the Small Pilgrim Places signs and find the prayers and meditations placed there to help you on your pilgrimage.





There is also a pilgrimage walk, from Sandy Lane, via Bromham church to Rowde church. Our first pilgrimage walk will have happened by the time you read this. Pick up the leaflet in any of the 3 churches and follow it yourself. It is 5 miles, a gentle walk, with time to think and reflect and enjoy the peace.

Come and make the most of our lovely churches. They are here for everyone to enjoy.



#### **BROMHAM & ROWDE CHURCHES**

Bromham has stepped up to the mark as a place of exceptional kindness and resilience. On the day of the Social Centre fire, and since then, I've heard so many stories of generosity and care for those who've been affected. There have also been stories about the memories of days and nights spent there, for carnival, family parties, birthdays, weddings, and all the clubs and groups who met within the walls every week or month over the years. It's as though the Social Centre was another village character, playing a central part in everyone's stories from Youth Club to Pudding Run, bingo to skittles. It's been shocking to lose that important part of so many memories.

One of the ways that many of us respond to difficult situations is to pray. Either before or after doing something practical, or in those tough times when we're forced to wait, we can ask God to protect or comfort people we care about. We can also pray for guidance when we're facing confusion or decisions. And there are 'thank you' prayers for kindness that people have shown, and particularly thanks that no-one was seriously injured.

The church is now open every weekday for prayer. There might be times when village groups are using the church, so please be patient if that's the case when you were hoping for some quiet time. If you need a venue for a meeting or club in the centre of the village, please do get in touch and we'll do our best to help. The Church at Sandy Lane is also open and is a wonderful space for peace and quiet.

With love and prayers,

**Revd Ruth** 

St Nicholas Church Bromham opening times for private prayer

Monday – Friday 10am to 4pm Saturday 10am to 12 noon

St Nicholas and St Mary Church Sandy Lane is open for private prayer every day from 10am to 4pm

# **Services in July**

**Sunday July 4<sup>th</sup>** 10am Holy Communion, Bromham

**Sunday July 11**<sup>th</sup> 8am Holy Communion (BCP), Sandy Lane

**Sunday July 18**<sup>th</sup> 8am Holy Communion (BCP), Bromham

10am Holy Communion, Bromham

Sunday July 25<sup>th</sup> 8am Holy Communion (BCP), Sandy Lane

For August services, see notice in the church porch towards the end of July



#### A prickly subject

If you are lucky enough to have one or more of these delightful little creatures in your garden it is very likely you will be encouraging them to stay by putting out food for them. After all, their idea of a tasty meal is a nice juicy slug or snail and we definitely don't want to encourage those. They will eat a whole range of things from worms and insects to carrion and fallen fruit but they also like tinned or dried cat or dog food. I think we all know that they shouldn't be given bread and milk - just place a dish of water near the food bowl. Another thing to avoid is dried mealworms as eating too many of these can cause bone disease.

To avoid the food being scoffed by the neighbour's cat, make a feeding station out of an upturned box with just a hedgehog sized hole in the side. A plastic storage box with a lid is ideal.

Your hedgehog might even like somewhere to curl up during the daytime, to hibernate or even make a nest to raise its young. There are plenty of hedgehog houses available to buy online and instructions for making your own. Find a sheltered corner of your garden out of full sun to position the house, and provide nesting material such as hay, straw or dead leaves.



#### **Linda Drummond-Harris**

## **VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS & ACTIVITIES**

#### **Bromham Footpath Group**

We have continued to attract people from the village and further afield and numbers range from the high teens to the high twenties. The two hour walk currently starts at 09.30 but this is subject to review at the end of July when we might revert to the earlier time of 09.00.

We had planned a picnic for Thursday 20th May but the weather forecast was so dire we postponed it to the following week. Then the week after we had coffee and cake by the sports pavilion. We were very much looking forward to resuming our normal programme in July of coffee and cake in the church on the second Thursday and an 'out of village' pub walk on the fourth Thursday but it now looks as if that will have to be postponed to August.

The Amblers group is also growing. They meet opposite the Greyhound at 10.00 and walk for about an hour, followed by coffee and chat.

**Linda Drummond-Harris** 

#### Notes from the Belfry

Our first opportunity to ring on 6 bells for a Sunday fell on 30th May - which of course was the Bank Holiday weekend when many of the regulars were away or otherwise engaged, but we did manage to ring 5 bells with the assistance of one of the footpath group who is also a ringer.

The following week we could only manage 4 but hopefully from now on we should be back to full strength.

We have also been able to resume practices on a Tuesday evening, limited to 45 minutes of ringing. Again, as we are only able to have 6 ringers in the tower at a time this takes a bit of organising on a week by week basis. We have had many people comment on how lovely it is to hear the bells again. It is certainly good to be back on the end of a rope!

**Linda Drummond-Harris** 

### **Gardening Club**

Hopefuly at the end of the summer we can start the Gardening Club again. However some of our committee are retiring and we would like to ask our members, or anybody else interested, to become committee members and help with this popular club.

Jean Turner - 01380 850204

#### **Bromham Football Club**

I am writing this 2 days after the Social Centre fire, but with a positive and resilient heart! The social centre, and the Owl, were (and will be again) the heart of the village. They will rise again!

In the meantime, the Bromham FC Owls will continue to wear the badge with pride into, we hope, a full 2021/22 season.

The last 2 seasons have been curtailed early but we have 4 village teams (2 youth, 2 adult) chomping at the bit to play more football. We also have a visiting team using the pitch on a Sunday morning so there is football every weekend from September to May for anyone who wants to watch.

We would love to start a group for younger children as well... but we need a coach. So, if you have children in years 3,4,5,6 and would like to get involved, please let me know at wallispeter13@gmail.com

Have a great summer!

**Pete Wallis** 

#### **Bromham WI**

From all Bromham WI we would like to say how devastated we are at the loss of the Social Centre this week. Our heart felt sympathy goes out to the Owl and Parish Council for what will be a long road ahead, if we can help in any way please do let us know.

We are currently looking at alternative venues for our regular monthly meetings and will let the membership know as soon as we are able.

Additionally the Government delay until July for removal of restrictions means our plans for the WI get together on 15th July will have to be cancelled. We are hopeful that we can still hold the Summer Garden Party in August, and we will write to all our members to advise the plans, date, time and venue.

If amongst all this backdrop there are new members wishing to join then please do not hesitate to contact us. You will be assured of a warm welcome!

www.stnicholasbromham.co.uk admin@st-nicholasvc.wilts.sch.uk

01380 850 391

Head Teacher: Mrs. J. Lewis



#### St. Nicholas C of E (VC) Primary School

The Leaze Bromham Chippenham Wiltshire SN15 2EY

'They will soar on wings like eagles.' Isaiah 40.31

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Hope, Courage, Love and Friendship

## Hello everyone,

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First of all I would like to extend our thoughts and best wishes to all those affected by the terrible fire at the social centre this week. It is such a loss for the village but I know that this amazing community will rally round and support each other to make the best of a difficult situation and move forwards with hope and kindness. If we can do anything at school to help please do not hesitate to contact me.

## **Bikeability Sessions**

Our Year 6s thoroughly enjoyed their bikeability sessions last week run by Wiltshire Council aimed at improving their road safety and cycling skills. Take a look below to see them in action. It was lovely to get feedback from the coach who said that: "The behaviour and attitude to learning from all was fantastic." Well done to all and enjoy cycling!









The children in Thorn Class have been making the most of this marvellous weather and using their tree identification skills whilst out and about in our local area.







Keep safe and take care. With best wishes from all at St. Nich's.

#### THANK YOU!

The Friends of St Nicholas (PTA) would like to say a big thank you to Carolyn White and Liz Durrant for their generous donation to the School following the huge success of the Netherstreet Plant Sale which was held on Saturday 24th April 2021.

The Friends of St Nicholas (PTA) were given a donation of £250. Mrs Jo Lewis (Headteacher) has requested that the donation is put towards a Den for the Holly Class enrichment area which the children will thoroughly enjoy and benefit from.

Thank you so much from all of us at St Nich's for your incredible generosity.

From L to R: Jo Lewis, Head Teacher, Carolyn White and Liz Madigan who organised the sale, Amy Rockall, PTA Chair



## **ECO BROMHAM**

We have just launched the new Eco Bromham group and we hope that everyone in Bromham will be part of it. Our aim is to take practical actions in the village to encourage more sustainable living and to spread ideas about the sort of things you can do to make a difference.

## What sort of eco things could we start doing?

- \* Plastic free Bromham, moving away from single use items to reusables
- \* Guided nature walks and trails
- \* Bird and Bat walks
- \* Planting wildlife/insect/bee friendly borders/verges
- \* Community allotments
- \* Best Wildlife Friendly Garden Competition
- \* Eco Talks
- \* Tree Planting
- \* Book swap

#### Who can be involved?

Anyone living in the Parish. Everyone can be eco minded and have ideas.

#### How can I contribute?

If you have an eco idea which will benefit the community then we will support and assist in turning that idea into action.

## Do I need any special skills or experience?

No, enthusiasm is a great attribute to share. However, if you do have a skill that you can share eg leading group nature walks, sewing skills, gardening tips, organisation skills, connections to other eco minded groups....the list is endless, then let us know.

## Will I have to attend meetings?

Not if you don't want to. You can find out what we are up to via our Facebook group Eco Bromham or Instagram. If you would like to invest more time and be a core member of the group, do attend our zoom meetings.

There will be plenty more opportunities to let us know what you are passionate about:

- \* By another public meeting soon
- \* Via our Facebook page, Eco Bromham and Instagram
- \* Via groups that you are part of, like the Youth Club, children at St Nich's etc.



## WALKING THE ENGLISH CHANNEL, IN BROMHAM??

A bit of background - I work in the Sandridge Lane area for 3-5 weeks, on an adhoc basis of anything between 4-6 times a year. During my daily 2 hours off, I enjoy walking in the area.

However during the cold winter months, I had gotten a tad lazy and lethargic, and needed a challenge to get my feet plodding again! While surfing the web, I came across the "The Conqueror Challenges", which are virtual walking/swimming/cycling challenges, set in some amazing destinations around the world, and aimed at helping to keep fit and achieve fitness targets so much more interesting!

As much as it goes against the grain to pay for something I can do for free - I knew that parting with my well earned moola would be incentive enough to get me on the road again! And besides which, the money was being put to good use - via the Eden Project, a tree would be planted on my behalf as I passed specific points on the challenge. And at the end of the walk, there was a real medal!

The first challenge I chose was the English Channel. Ironically, it was the shortest distance available - which had nothing to do with my laziness - but that's my story and I'm sticking to it! I gave myself 14 days in which to complete the 21 miles from Dover to France.







Dusting my camera off, and dragging my walking boots out from the dark depths of their hiding place, I planned my walks according to the weather forecast, and with water bottle and rain jacket in hand, I set off to conquer the English Channel on foot!





Besides being out in the fresh countryside air of Bromham, and on a few trips testing my rain jacket out, I was also rewarded with a few stunning virtual postcards and discovered some interesting information about the channel and tunnel; as well as my destination arrival point in France!

At the end of the walk my medal arrived..... a very solid, well made metal and coloured medal on a bright blue ribbon.

These are just some of the photos I took during each daily walk.

Now to plan my next walk - decisions decisions - where on earth shall I walk to next?

Sioux Gijzen



#### **Bromham Youth Group**

It is with great sadness and shock that our village has lost the heart of the community the Social Centre. Our original article for this edition was about finally re-opening the club and moving from online back to in person sessions which the members have been eager to take part in. The thoughts of everyone at Bromham Youth club go out to Adam, Sue and all the other clubs, organisations and people within the village that are affected by this tragedy. Sadly for the club all of the kit we had built up was destroyed in the fire. We will be setting up a GoFundMe page in case anyone would like to contribute to helping us get going again with equipment. Currently as a club, we own one football and a croquet set. We have put the football to good use this week.

We would like to thank the church, The Farm Cookery School and Bromham School Chair of Governors Pete Wallis for quickly reaching out and offering space for the Club to continue to run. We are hoping that from September the club will run from the School hall so watch this space. In the meantime, leading up to the summer break we will run sessions outside if dry/online if wet so keep an eye on the Facebook page for weekly updates. We plan to relaunch the club in September. We can take up to 20 members in a weekly session and prior to Covid were running near to capacity most weeks. Any new members wishing to join please email <a href="mailto:bromhamyouthy@gmail.com">bromhamyouthy@gmail.com</a> to register an interest and we will add you to our waiting list and contact when spaces are available.

It was good to be back outside this week and as it's the Euros we held a football match on the Millennium Field which was great fun and hugely popular. We are planning some outdoor activities for the summer term dates (weather permitting) including rounders, French Cricket, Croquet and a village treasure hunt thatwe have created. We are also hoping to have a summer end of term party with games, snacks and mocktails.







Before our Football match we were extremely lucky to be visited by Carolyn White and Liz Madigan who presented us with a very generous donation of £300 from the Netherstreet Plant Sale. This fantastic sum of money will go towards purchasing some new outdoor sports equipment. A huge thank you to Carolyn, Liz and everyone else at the plant sale for supporting us and helping us to get going again.

During this sad tragedy as always, the village has shown what an amazing supportive community Bromham is.



#### What does a funeral celebrant do?

A celebrant works with bereaved families, who may not want a wholly religious service to ensure that the service remembers and celebrates the life of the person who has died in the way that honors the wishes of the family, and the deceased.

I will visit a family, and together we will create a service that is unique to the person they have lost. That may be help in finding the music, poems, prayers, hymns, and readings, to writing and reading the Eulogy or Tribute. I can also write a eulogy and take great care to ensure that its content, tone, language and sentiment is a true reflection of the person whose life is being remembered and celebrated.



I will also liaise closely with the Funeral Director to ensure that the service runs smoothly.

A celebrant led funeral means that you can choose exactly what you would like included and in which order, you can choose to have your service at the cemetery, the crematorium or have the funeral or memorial service in a different venue. Some families choose to have their service in the grounds of their homes, some at a woodland burial ground or another beautiful venue that is special to them.

The funeral directors that I work with take the upmost care to match their celebrants with a family and you can ask them who they have available. However, it's always your choice and you can choose independently.

Bereavement is always a difficult time for families, and it is wonderful to be able to support them not only with the practical arrangements but in ensuring that they can celebrate the life of their loved on in a meaningful, respectful, and very special way.

#### **Maxine Ward**

## **Monday Club**

Monday 7th June was a landmark day for Monday Club as we were able to welcome back members to the Social Centre for the first time since March last year. There were many happy faces as we caught up with each other over a cup of tea or coffee and enjoyed a delicious lunch cooked for us by Serena Dalby who has stepped in to help out until The Westbrook are able to cater for us again. Sadly we lost a few members during lockdown, and we remembered them in a quiet moment.

Members enjoyed a 'Gentle Movement' session, doing puzzles, playing cards and several rounds of bingo. Some green-fingered members planted out donated plants in troughs in the Owl garden, so look out for these flowering over the summer.

To make conditions as safe as possible, we wore masks, sanitised our hands and had the doors and windows open.

The following week, members were just beginning to arrive at the Social Centre as flames started to take hold of the roof, and shockingly the building burnt to the ground. Thankfully, there were only a few people in the hall, and they were safely evacuated with no injuries.

Unfortunately we are now without a venue. A big thank you to St. Nicholas Church for allowing us to meet there for coffee from 10 - 12 while we look for somewhere with kitchen and toilet facilities that is easily accessible to our elderly members.







#### **The Social Centre**

The original village hall was built as the British Legion Club in 1924, and was handed over to the parish council in 1940. It was situated very close to New Road next to what was then Bromham Post Office.

In 1966 the Village Hall committee decided that the old hall had outlived its day. A Parish Meeting was called but was poorly attended; a second meeting was more successful and a collection was made throughout the village for a working fund.

On 15 December 1966 a committee was formed, with Ivor Gardner in the chair. The work of raising the money then began in earnest and Fireside Bingo was introduced in May 1967. Volunteers delivered the bingo cards around the village. The committee organised a fund-raising 'Festive Dance' in the village hall on Saturday 30 December 1967; tickets were £1 each. This was quite expensive for the time, but all the tickets were sold, giving the committee great encouragement. All of the proceeds of the carnival, each year, were given towards the new building fund at this time.

It was thought that £20,000 would cover the cost of the building and the original idea was to raise £5,000 before applying for a grant. Prices however continued to rise and

because of inflation the decision was made in 1973 to make a start on the building and to raise the rest of the money after completion. By this time the fund raising had realised £15,500. The tender from Messrs REEMA Construction Ltd of £38,333.35p was accepted; work was to commence on 10 December 1973 and was to be completed by 10 August 1974.

Grants of £10,000 were received from the Department of Education and Science and £5,000 from Wiltshire County Council. The building was completed in time for the wedding reception of Linda Gardner and Ray Cargill which was held in the hall on Saturday 21 September 1974. One week later the social centre was declared officially open on Saturday 28 September Captain Thomas Raddon Hood, of Porch House, performed the opening ceremony. He cut the ribbon and declared: 'May this hall be a great source of pleasure to succeeding generations'.





The building had cost £38,500, and the cost of furnishings etc brought the total to £42,000. The social centre committee at this time was chaired by Ivor Gardner. Ron Breach, was the vice-chairman, Peter Paget was the treasurer and Peter Lewis was the secretary. The social centre building originally consisted of the village hall, complete with a stage at the northern end, a lounge, a skittle alley and two committee rooms. There were also toilets, and drinks storerooms, etc. For the first eighteen months the car park was un-surfaced. Then in March 1976 it was laid out, complete with drainage, kerbs and a hard surface, by G. Pearce and Sons Ltd.

The social centre was enlarged in 1981 by the addition of a separate entrance to a new lounge, two new skittle alleys and a further toilet block. Jack Fruen erected the shell of this new building for £41,000; members of the committee carried out the electrical work and the decoration, thus saving much money. The total cost was about £55,000. In October 1985 a self-contained flat for the use of the steward was added.

In early 2012 the adjoining Social Club became a Community Pub and changed it's name to The Owl. This meant it was no longer a members club but was now open to all. Its purpose remained the same, to provide for and support the Social Centre.







# TEDDY BEAR TRAIL 2021 - JULY 24 - 25

We are very sad to say that we have been unable to get an Event Licence to hold this year's Carnival on 17th July due to the government announcement of a delay in fully lifting the Covid restrictions on large events.

However all is not lost. The weekend of 24th - 25th July will still be the Teddy Bear weekend, with the Teddy Bear Trail on both days, starting and finishing at St. Nicholas School. We are also planning a village "Teddy Bears' Picnic" on the field starting from 4pm on the Saturday afternoon for younger families, and as usual for Carnival continuing to 9.30 pm in the evening. Bring your own food, drinks and picnic blankets or chairs, and remain socially distanced. Hopefully we will be able to have a bit of music (maybe even some live music), some games and we will draw the Prize Raffle that evening. We really hope the whole village will come and join us.

Raffle tickets will be available over the coming days from the Village Stores, the butchers, the pubs and from members of the carnival committee who will be making their way round the village as best they can to sell you a book of tickets (£5). Make sure you have your cash ready!

We will be updating information as and when we know more so please get the dates in your diary and tell your friends and family that Bromham is the place to be for that weekend in July. This year all the money we raise will be donated to local organisations that have been affected by the terrible loss of the Social Centre, so please do get involved!















# **HOW CAN I HELP?**

This year the Teddy Bear Trail will be our main fundraising event, so we have decided to create a Teddy Bear Trail programme that will be sold, and include one entry form. Rather than asking for adverts for the usual Carnival programme, we would like to ask for support from local businesses by advertising in this programme. The cost will be £50 for a full page, or £25 for a half page, all in full colour. Thank you to everyone who has supported the programme or sponsored a bear.

Our other big fundraising activity is the Carnival Raffle. If you would like to donate a raffle prize then please let us know and a Committee member will be in touch nearer the time to arrange for collection.

If you have any other ideas or would be prepared to help out on the day - please let us know. Either talk to a member of the committee, or email: **bromhamcarnival@gmail.com** 







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# The Greyhound, Bromham



# **OPENING TIMES**

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(Open Bank Holiday Mondays - lunchtime only)

Tue - Thu: 12:00 - 22:00 Fri - Sat: 12:00 - 23:00 Sun: 12:00 - 16:30

# **FOOD SERVED**

Mon: Closed

Tue - Thu: 12:00 - 16:00 and 17:00 - 20:30 Fri - Sat: 12:00 - 16:00 and 17:00 - 21:00

Sun: 12:00 - 15:00

We are now fully open both indoors and in our delightful garden where you are welcome to pop along for a bite to eat or just a drink!

Our garden has a selection of covered areas including a heated marquee and a garden bar.

NEW for summer 2021 is our very own 'Garden Kitchen' offering Street Food, BBQ'S, Steak Nights, Live Music, and many more great things to come. We do advise you book in advance to avoid disappointment.

## **NEWS FROM OUR OTHER PUBS:**

The Canal Tavern in Bath has already successfully re-opened and The George at Sandy Lane is due to re-open very soon.

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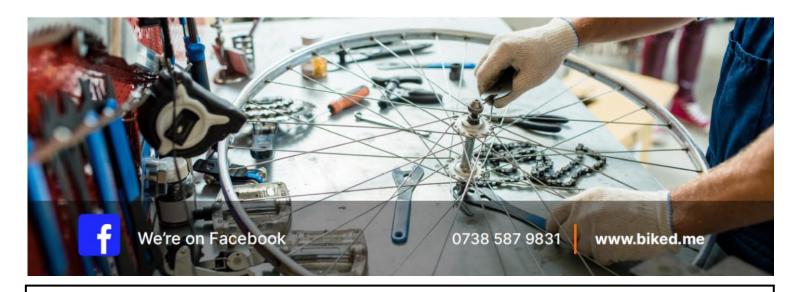
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All of the above applies after 17th May 2021 and is subject to availability and government Covid advice.



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\*subject to eligibility

# The Farm Cookery School

# **WE ARE OPEN!**

It has been so lovely to welcome Customers back through our doors and into our fabulous kitchen. We have been really busy with lots of different classes and events going on.

It occurred to me that our lovely Bromham Neighbours may not know the full extent of what we can do here at The Farm Cookery School

Did you know we did all of this as well as our popular Global Flavours Classes?



Our Dates with a Difference evenings were so popular that we've added some Lunchtime Dates in too. You cook your Mains and then we serve you the desserts you have chosen whilst you relax in the Dining Room



Team Building is especially important right now. Our Corporate Menu Guide is available on the website and has lots of different options to choose from - we can also create a completely bespoke day for you.



We have already had 2 successful School Visits and we are looking forward to welcoming another school next week. Our Alternative Provision Provider application is now in too which we are thrilled about



We run a variety of different Parent & Child classes and we have already managed to get the whole of 2021 on the Website. Aunts, Uncles, Grandparents & Family Friends are also welcome to come along too!



Half Terms and Holidays mean lots of Children's Classes and we have 3 different age groups encompassing 5 year olds to 16 year olds. We even have some special Cake Lady Holiday Clubs this year!

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- \* One machine holds reusable glass bottles, local meat & cakes and coin bags worth £4-50.
- \* New installed coffee machine which uses biodegradable cups, all waste products are recycled.
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**Saturday:** 11.45-11pm **Sunday:** 11.45-6pm

# **Food Service Hours**

Monday: Closed Tuesday: Closed

Wednesday: 11.45-2.30pm & 5pm-8pm Thursday: 11.45-2.30pm & 5pm-8pm Friday: 11.45-2.30 & 5pm-8.30pm

**Saturday:** 11.45-8.30pm **Sunday:** 11.45-4pm

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