

Bisterne News

DECEMBER 2022 ISSUE 72

Many thanks to Thomas London Day Schools for sponsoring the newsletter

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We would like to enormously thank everyone who took the time to enter this year's Scarecrow Festival, we really do appreciate the time and effort spent on your wonderful creations.

As you know this is a huge fundraiser for the Bisterne Village Hall, which like most Halls has been massively affected by the Pandemic. By holding events like this, we have been able to raise much needed funds which are used to maintain it. Of course this event would not have been able to go ahead without local support, so again THANK YOU!

A huge thank you also goes to Café Velo for being our sponsors and spending the time visiting every entry and judging them. Results are on page 4.

Looking ahead to next year, the Festival celebrates its 20th year. This event was the creation of the late Jocelyn Gratwick who while on holiday saw a similar festival and brought the idea back to Bisterne. It is a much loved Festival and we are so pleased that 20 years on it is still going but again it would not take place if it weren't for your support. So please get your thinking caps on for next year's Festival and lets make it the best yet! Entries are for everyone so if you know of anyone who would like to enter please encourage them, there are plenty of safe places we can locate entries.

Julia Brewer—Committee member of Bisterne Village Hall

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

FRIDAY 9 DECEMBER

7.30PM

AV YFC QUIZ NIGHT

FRIDAY 16 DECEMBER

2PM—SFHT CAROLS

SUNDAY 18 DECEMBER

11AM - NINE LESSONS & CAROLS

ST PAUL'S BISTERNE

SUNDAY 13 TO MONDAY 28 AUGUST 2023

20TH ANNIVERSARY SCARECROW FESTIVAL



A Year in the life on Bisterne

As Covid rumbled on, 2022 was a year when we all started to emerge again and feel relatively normal.

In May, combined with the Stable Family Home Trust, the **Manor garden** opened through the **National Garden Scheme**. 250 people came through the gate to walk through both gardens and be rewarded with the offer of tea and cake while being serenaded by the Ringwood & Burley Band.

On the same day, the **Young Farmers' Club bi-annual Steam Rally** took place at Kingston Farm which was a great success and raised over £3000 for their chosen charity which was a tremendous effort.



June was a busy month starting with **HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Street Party and Barn Dance**. The weather was on the cool side so no chances were taken and the food was laid up on trestle tables in a barn at Kingston. Festooned with bunting and flags, we were put through our paces by an enthusiastic caller who had driven all the way from Swansea!

The following w/e **Open Farm Sunday** brought 4000 people to Brixey's Farm for an educational day out to see the milking parlour, and be offered tractor rides through the woods with informative stands to learn the ways and crafts of the countryside. **The South Avon and Stour Agricultural Society** Committee did a great job organising this event. Throughout the year they offer visits and tours to places of interest so if you'd like to become a member, please contact: secretary.southaveonandstour@gmail.com

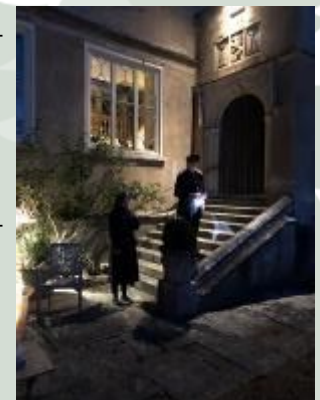
St Paul's Church, Bisterne, one of the six churches in the Ringwood Benefice, continues to offer two services each month on the **first (18.00) and third (10.30) Sundays**. The Vicar resigned in July to become Archdeacon of Derby City so a worthy group of retired clergy or lay preachers currently preside at services. Probationers under supervision do a great job keeping the churchyard in order, the grass cut and the hedges neat and tidy. The church was originally built for the Estate workers to save them walking or bicycling into Ringwood and although the congregation has dwindled over the years, it continues to provide comfort and solace to all who use it for regular worship, christenings, weddings or funerals. The **Harvest Festival** at the end of September brought in representatives from all the churches in the Benefice and was a wonderful celebration of rural life. On **Remembrance Sunday** a short service took place by the War Memorial to commemorate the fallen, the names read out and the last post played, a poignant reminder not to forget and to thank all those who lost their lives on our behalf. The annual **Carol Service** will take place on **Sunday 18th December at 11.00am**, an opportunity to come and sing some of the old favourites.

At the end of August the annual **Scarecrow Competition** took place with people flocking from all over the locality and further afield to come and see the innovative creations. The Village Hall Committee is responsible for organising this event and it is a key way to raise funds for the Hall. In September the scarecrows are all gathered on to a float for the Ringwood Carnival, and this year were rewarded with a Bronze award for their efforts.

The Stable Family Home Trust continue to hold fundraising events throughout the year and in September gave a marvellous Jazz and Soul concert in the garden. These are public events and all are welcome to attend. They raise awareness for the charity which provides vital support for adults with special needs.

After HM the Queen's death, on the eve of her funeral on September 18th, the Government encouraged communities to get together for a minute's silence. Tenants and locals gathered at the Manor when Hallam, in his role as a Deputy Lieutenant of Hampshire, read out the letter of condolence and re-read the Proclamation for King Charles's succession. The National Anthem was sung followed by refreshments. I think everyone felt her loss and it was good to share feelings.

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In October a **community litter pick** was organised by the Village Hall Committee. This is not just a job for committee members but for ALL OF US living in and around Bisterne. If you value living in the country and enjoy all the benefits of rural life, the flora and fauna, the hedgerows and trees, isn't it so much nicer not to have to look at the detritus of rubbish strewn along the verges? Please help us by picking up litter around where you live. We only hold these events to make people aware of the problem but it is up to all of us to do our part in helping make our landscape a cleaner, nicer place to live. After at least 30 bags of rubbish were collected it was a joy to drive around and not see endless cans, crisp packets and coffee cups all along the roadside. Thank you to all the kind volunteers.



On November 4th the annual **Bisterne Fireworks and Bonfire Night** was held with mulled wine and a welcome BBQ on offer. This is a free event, very well attended, with buckets for donations.

In essence, there is a great deal going on in and around Bisterne throughout the year. There is no pub or village shop at which to meet each other (although the garage and Crow Farm Shop nearly qualify), so these events are important to keep the community together. The Village Hall Committee and the Bisterne Estate are the backbone of the community; anyone who would like to volunteer and get more involved, do please get in touch.

www.bisternevillagehall.org and on Facebook or <https://bisterne.com>

We also have a village WhatsApp group Bisterne Exchange. If you'd like to be added to the group, please let me know. It was started during Lockdown and is an excellent forum to borrow/exchange things from each other and/or communicate.

Lal Mills

Lalmills16@gmail.com

Crow Residents dates for your diaries:

Day	Date	Time	Event
Sunday	5 March	12 noon	Winter Lunch
Monday	1 May	10.30	May day walk
Sunday	4 June	12 noon	Summer lunch
Sunday	13 August	11.00	Croquet & Boules
Wednesday	11 th October	10.30	Car rally

SFHT Carols in the Courtyard, Friday 16th December 2-4pm

Join us in the Stables courtyard at Bisterne, Ringwood from 2pm, as SFHT host a special Christmas Carol Concert to get you into that festive mood!

The afternoon will include a special performance from SFHT clients, a flurry of snow and a good ole fashioned sing song from the talented Poppy Neame with all your favourite carols.

So, wear your best Christmas jumper and/or hat, tune those tonsils and browse our festive stalls at your leisure which includes artisan crafts & gifts, Christmas wreaths & decorations a raffle and plenty of food and refreshments to keep you warm.



The Stable Family Home Trust, The Stables, Bisterne, Ringwood BH24 3BN supporting adults with learning disabilities



Bisterne Village Hall

If you have a birthday party, family gathering, band practice or fitness/dance class planned then please consider hiring the Hall.

The hall is a registered charity, (Charity No. 301747) and is licensed by New Forest District Council for 100 persons.

Parking spaces for approximately 20 cars.

Separate Ladies and Gents Toilets including disabled facilities.

Fully fitted kitchen including microwave, cooker and fridge and crockery and cutlery for 100 persons. Tables and chairs (approx. 100 chairs in total).

For all enquiries please contact admin@bisternevillagehall.org



Bisterne Scarecrow Results 2022

Class One - Single Scarecrow

1st - The Very Hungry Caterpillar
2nd - Kong

3rd - Fairground Attraction & The Invisible Mans Helpdesk

We come with Nan every year!
We are local :) Keep up the amazing work

Class Two - Pair of Scarecrows

1st - Will Barrow
2nd - Milk Maid

3rd - Tour de France (Bisterne Style) & What No Snow

Class Three - Group of Scarecrows

1st - 25 Years of Harry Potter
2nd - Friends Reunited
3rd - Pyjama Party

Brilliant Scarecrows, as always!
Been coming for probably 12 years!

Champion Scarecrow

25 Years of Harry Potter

Publics Favourite

The Very Hungry Caterpillar

Lovely tour round Bisterne
and the inventive creations.
Always a good event.

FABULOUS! We LOVE the idea and are looking forward to next years display. Thanks for all you effort.

Once again a fantastic show, see you next year

So good to be back—thanks for all the marvellous fun—really appreciate the effort you guys put in