



Urban Renaissance Villages Limited

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BRAMSHOTT OPENS ITS GARDEN GATES

Life in the Hampshire village of Bramshott usually proceeds at a gentle pace, but things became somewhat busier than usual on 12th and 13th June, as over 800 visitors arrived for the 12th Bramshott Open Gardens festival. This year, 34 private gardens were open to the public, encompassing everything from formal landscaped grounds to charming little cottage gardens, gracing some of the most beautiful homes in Hampshire. Bramshott Open Gardens is sponsored by local development for the over 55s, Bramshott Place Village, which is firmly establishing itself as part of the community.

Cliff Meyler, Operations Director of Bramshott Place Village's development company Urban Renaissance Villages who officially opened the event on Saturday June 12, commented: "Bramshott Open Gardens was a resounding success and I was very proud that we were its main sponsors. I had no idea just how many beautiful and well tended gardens there were in Bramshott." Craig McGregor, Chair of the organising Committee for Bramshott Open Gardens, was also delighted by the outcome. "I think we had a record number of visitors this year and the concert in the Church was wonderful."

Visitors were taken around the gardens by a fleet of minibuses, enjoying the green-fingered skills of Bramshott residents, as well as a few more unexpected items. One garden put on a display



Cliff Meyler cuts the ribbon to officially open the Bramshott Open Gardens festival(L to R) Craig McGregor, Councillor Sam James (and Frisbee the dog!), Cliff Meyler of Urban Renaissance Villages, Angela Glass, Tony Rudyard and Damien Hinds MP

of vintage lawn mowers, and at another house, Clementine Nuttall opened up her stone and woodcarving studio. As well as the private gardens, the Allotment Gardens were also open for inspection, selling their plants and produce to benefit Bramshott Open Gardens' nominated good causes: St Mary's Church, the Ancient Sunken Lanes Project and MacMillan Cancer Support. A trio of cottages in Tunbridge Lane also had furniture, tools, crafts and upholstered items for sale. Approximately over £10,000 was raised for the charities.



The Bramshott Open Gardens Committee, together with VIP guests, visit Clerks, in Bramshott, owned by Alan and Ro Weston.

(L to R) Alan Weston, Cliff Meyler from Urban Renaissance Villages - seated, Angela Glass, Ro Weston, Damien Hinds MP - seated Tony Rudyard, Jacqui Hinds

Food and drink, much of it locally produced, was provided throughout the weekend in the form of a barbeque and tea tent in the church grounds. Additionally, some of the private gardens also offered refreshments, with home made cakes proving especially popular!

St Mary's Church also played an important role in Bramshott Open Gardens, with a stunning Flower Festival over the weekend, and the creation of an annual Scroll of Remembrance, which commemorates local residents' loved ones who have passed away. However, the highlight was undoubtedly the Concert Recital on Saturday evening, when popular classics were performed by a solo soprano, a string ensemble and organ.

Bramshott is an ancient village with an old mill and a twelfth century manor house. It has a

rather spooky reputation as one of the most haunted villages in England. Committee Chair Craig McGregor owns one of the houses where odd things happen from time to time. "My house is reputedly haunted by a black pig, though personally I haven't seen it, but sometimes doors bang shut for no reason, and I certainly have the feeling that I am never alone in the house, even though the rest of the family are out. I have to say though, that it never feels malevolent. " Perhaps attracted by its other-worldliness, vintage movie star Boris Karloff once lived in Bramshott, in a house surrounded by a coffin-shaped garden wall!

Bramshott Place Village - which is definitely not haunted! - is now well established and many of the apartments and cottages are occupied. It is an outstanding living environment, offering a lifestyle with increasing appeal for the independent, busy over 55s, who like the idea of a community of like-minded neighbours, with convenient facilities, full estate management, and a little extra security in the form of a call system connecting all properties to the Village Manager's office.

Now is the time to take advantage of a move to Bramshott Place Village as the exclusive Clubhouse is now open, offering a restaurant, bar, library and leisure facilities including a hydrotherapy pool. The first three bedroom homes at Bramshott Place Village, in Frobisher House, have just been released, and there is a very limited number of two bedroom apartments and cottages still available. Prices range from £295,000 to £325,000 for the apartments and from £440,000 to £550,000 for the cottages. Each property is sold with a 125-year lease and ample outdoor parking. Further information about the homes available for sale at Bramshott Place Village is available from sole agents Clarke Gammon Weller, on 01428 722800, or by visiting www.bramshottplace.co.uk

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