



WELCOME  
TO OUR  
*Community*  
TADLEY

WE ARE SO HAPPY YOU ARE HERE!

## Tadley Town Council Welcome Pack

On behalf of Tadley Town Council, we are delighted to welcome you to our community. Whether you have moved from across the country or just from a neighbouring town, we are thrilled that you have chosen to make Tadley your home.

Tadley is a town with a proud history and a very bright future. From the wild beauty of Tadley Common to our bustling local shops on Mulfords Hill, there is so much to explore. What truly makes our town special, however, is the people. You've joined a community that looks out for one another, supported by a fantastic network of volunteers, social clubs, and local organisations.

This Welcome Pack is designed to help you settle in quickly. Inside, you will find:

- The Essentials: Information on bin collections, healthcare, and transport.
- The Social Scene: A guide to the hubs like The Link, the Ambrose Allen Centre and Ambassadors Club, where you can find everything from gaming groups to dance classes.
- The Great Outdoors: Maps for our local walks and the nearby Silchester Roman City.

As your Town Council, we are here to represent you. The Full Council meets bi-monthly at the Council Offices at 2 Franklin Avenue, and our committees meet regularly on Zoom. All our meetings are always open to the public. We encourage you to get involved, share your ideas for the town, and help us keep Tadley a place we are all proud to call home.

If you have any questions or need assistance as you settle in, please don't hesitate to visit our website at [www.tadleytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.tadleytowncouncil.gov.uk).

Once again, welcome home. We look forward to seeing you around town.

## Maps and information

### [Walking routes in Tadley](#)

#### [Pamber Forest](#)

An ancient woodland with heath and wood pasture rich in butterflies and birds. Lots of lovely walks through the forest from Tadley to Little London.

#### [The Silchester Trail](#)

An attractive circular walk of up to 8 miles which is waymarked along its route.

#### [Tadley Common](#)



#### [Map of Tadley](#)

#### [Waste Collections](#)

#### [Reporting a pothole](#)

or download the Our Hants app:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/ourhants>

#### [Town Council Newsletter](#)

<p><b><u>Tadley Town Council</u></b>  Telephone No: 0118 981 3360  E: <a href="mailto:clerk@tadleytowncouncil.gov.uk">clerk@tadleytowncouncil.gov.uk</a></p>	<p><b>Library</b>  <u>Tadley Library</u></p>
<p><b>Community Centre</b>  <u>The Link</u></p>	<p><b>Leisure facilities and gym</b>  <u>Tadley Health and Fitness</u>  <u>Hurst Leisure Centre</u>  <u>Bishopswood Golf Club</u>  Tadley Allotments  <u>Aldermaston Bowls Club</u></p>
<p><b>Halls to Hire</b>  <u>Ambrose Allen Centre</u>  <u>The Link</u>  <u>The Point</u>  <u>Tadley Memorial Hall</u>  <u>Heath End Village Hall</u>  <u>Pamber Heath Village Hall</u>  <u>Silchester Village Hall</u></p>	<p><b>Churches</b>  <u>St Michael's</u>  <u>Tadley Common Methodist</u>  <u>The United Reformed Church</u>  <u>Main Road Methodist</u>  <u>St Peter's</u>  <u>St Paul's</u>  <u>St Mary's</u>  <u>St Stephen's Baughurst</u>  <u>Community Church Tadley</u>  <u>Salvation Army</u>  <u>Pamber Heath Gospel</u>  <u>Churches Together Around Tadley</u></p>
<p><b>Other Groups</b>  <u>Scouts and Guiding Group</u>  <u>Aldermaston Air Cadets</u>  <u>Tadley &amp; District Historical Society</u>  <u>Tadley Roundabout</u>  <u>Loddon Valley Lions</u></p>	<p><b>Social Clubs</b>  <u>Ambassadors Members Club</u>  <u>RecSoc</u></p>
<p><b>Nurserys and Preschools</b>  <u>Tadley Under 5's Pre-school</u>  <u>Little Stars Pre-school</u>  <u>Impstone Pre-school</u>  BoPeeps Pre-school  <u>Greenacre Pre-school</u>  <u>Saplings Pre-school</u>  <u>Miss Pollys</u>  <u>Cedars @ Boot Farm</u>  Jubilee Day Nursery  <u>Tiny Town Kindergarten</u></p>	<p><b>Primary Schools</b>  <u>Bishopswood School</u>  <u>Burnham Copse Primary</u>  <u>Tadley Community Primary School</u>  <u>The Priory Primary School</u>  <u>Silchester Primary School</u></p>

<p><b>Secondary Schools</b> <u>The Hurst</u></p>	<p><b>Doctors</b> <u>Tadley Medical Partnership</u></p>
<p><b>Pharmacies</b> <u>Morlands Pharmacy</u> <u>Holmwood Pharmacy</u></p>	<p><b>Vets</b> <u>GP Vets</u> <u>Donnington Grove Vets</u></p>
<p><b>Post Offices</b> Bishopswood Road Post Office Premier Shop, Aldermaston Road</p>	<p><b>Funeral Directors</b> <u>Miles and Daughters</u> <u>Ashbrook Funeral Directors</u> <u>Tadley Funeralcare</u></p>
<p><b>Supermarket/Convenience stores</b> <u>Lidl</u> <u>Sainsburys</u> <u>Tesco Express</u> Londis, Bishopswood Parade Premier Shop, Bishopswood Parade <u>Simply Fresh</u> <u>Co-op, New Road</u> <u>Simply Fresh, Franklin Avenue</u> <u>Morrisons Local, Giles Road</u> Londis, Pamber Heath</p>	<p><b>Hair and Beauty</b> <u>Radiance Hair and Beauty</u> <u>Melrose Beauty</u> <u>The Hairport</u> <u>Tahlia's</u> <u>Snips</u> <u>The Colour Room</u> <u>Tadley Barbers</u> <u>New Image Turkish Barbers</u> <u>Istanbul Barbers</u> <u>Jacobs Barbers</u> <u>Barber Lounge</u> <u>Golden Touch Turkish Barbers</u> <u>Gems Beauty Room</u> <u>Shabby2Chic</u> <u>Jo's Beauty Den</u></p>
<p><b>Local Shops</b> <u>Pet's Corner</u> <u>Pedal On (cycle shop)</u> <u>Napa Auto Parts</u> <u>St Michael's Charity Shop</u></p>	<p><b>Petrol Garage</b> <u>Esso Fuels</u> <u>Shell Garage</u> <u>Gales Garage, Sherborne St John</u></p>
<p><b>Opticians</b> <u>Leightons</u> <u>Optimum Vision</u></p>	<p><b>Dentist</b> <u>Tadley Dental Care</u> <u>Harrisons Dental</u> <u>Lee Dental Care</u></p>

<p><b>Take Aways</b>  <a href="#">Ali BaBa</a>  <a href="#">Grillz</a>  <a href="#">Domino's Pizza</a>  <a href="#">Subway</a>  <a href="#">Greggs</a>  <a href="#">Sizzling Chicken</a>  <a href="#">Tadley Tandori</a>  <a href="#">Ali'z</a>  <a href="#">Tasty House Chinese</a>  <a href="#">New Dynasty Chinese</a>  <a href="#">Happy Valley Fish and Chip Shop</a>  <a href="#">Gourmet Queens</a>  <a href="#">Cods &amp; Rockers</a></p>	<p><b>Restaurants and Public House</b>  <a href="#">Tadley Tandori</a>  <a href="#">The Elephant (Indian)</a>  <a href="#">The Fox &amp; Hounds, Tadley</a>  <a href="#">The Pelican, Pamber Heath</a>  <a href="#">The Calleva, Silchester</a>  <a href="#">The Queens College Arms, Pamber</a>  <a href="#">End</a>  <a href="#">The Red Lion, Mortimer West End</a>  <a href="#">The Badgers Wood, Baughurst</a>  <a href="#">The New Inn, Tadley</a>  <a href="#">Hinds Head, Aldermaston</a>  <a href="#">George and Dragon Wolverton</a>  <a href="#">Common</a></p>
<p><b>Garden Centre's</b>  <a href="#">Hilliers, Aldermaston</a>  <a href="#">Lakeside, Tadley</a>  <a href="#">Elm Park Garden Centre</a></p>	<p><b>Cafés</b>  <a href="#">Starbucks</a>  <a href="#">Café Retreat</a>  <a href="#">Gourmet Queens</a>  <a href="#">Little Roses, Pamber End</a>  <a href="#">Hilliers Garden Centre</a></p>
<p><b>Car Garage and MOT Centre</b>  <a href="#">Tadley MOT Centre</a>  <a href="#">Allen's Garage</a>  <a href="#">Mendem Motors</a>  <a href="#">Anchor Cars</a></p>	<p><b>Tyres and Exhausts</b>  <a href="#">Tadley Tyres</a>  <a href="#">Wheelgame</a>  <a href="#">Allens's Garage</a></p>
<p><b>Local Bands</b>  <a href="#">Tadley Band</a>  <a href="#">Tadley Concert Brass</a>  <a href="#">South Berks Concert Band</a></p>	<p><b>Elderly Services</b>  Age Concern Tadley  <a href="#">Tadley Elderly Day Care</a>  <a href="#">Age Concern Hampshire –</a>  <a href="#">Chiropody</a></p>
<p><b>Play Areas</b>  Tadley Skatepark  Multi Use Games Area  Zip Line  The Green  Giles Road  Loves Corner  <a href="#">Details</a></p>	<p><b>Sports Clubs</b>  <a href="#">Tadley Calleva Youth FC</a>  <a href="#">Tadley Calleva FC</a>  <a href="#">Tadley Rugby Club</a>  <a href="#">Aldermaston FC</a></p>

Tadley has a fascinating history that sets it apart from many other Hampshire villages. It evolved from a small, wooded settlement of independent "besom broom makers" into a unique town with deep ties to both the Roman Empire and the modern atomic age.

Key chapters in the story of Tadley:

### 1. The Ancient Roots (Silchester)

While Tadley itself grew later, its history is inseparable from its neighbour, Calleva Atrebatum (Silchester). This was a major Roman town just two miles away. The "Portway" Roman road runs right through the area, and for centuries, the land around Tadley was likely used for timber and hunting to support the Roman city.

### 2. The "Treacle Miners" and Besom Makers

For most of its history, Tadley was a "squatter" village on the edge of the Pamber Forest. Unlike villages controlled by a single wealthy landlord, Tadley was full of independent people who made their living from the heathland.

- Besom Making: Tadley was famous for making besom brooms (traditional twig brooms) from the local birch and heather. These were sold as far away as London and the northern coal mines. The Royal Warrant was awarded to the Nash family in 1999 by the late Queen, as 'Manufacturer of Besom Brooms and Pea Sticks'. The new Royal Warrant was affixed to the Nash family house (next to the library) in 2026.
- The Treacle Legend: You will still hear locals called "Treacle Miners." Legend says that locals once hid contraband (like poached game or stolen goods) in the ground, and when caught, they claimed they were "digging for treacle." Another version says a load of molasses once spilled on the road, and locals rushed to scoop it up. To this day, the Tadley Treacle Fair celebrates this quirky identity.

### 3. The Arrival of the AWE (1950s)

The biggest turning point in Tadley's history was the construction of the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) at Aldermaston in the early 1950s.

- Before this, Tadley was a quiet village of about 1,000 people.
- The AWE brought thousands of workers and scientists to the area. To house them, the village saw a massive housing boom, transforming it into the town it is today. This is why Tadley has a unique mix of 1950s/60s architecture alongside older thatched cottages.

### 4. The Famous "Gospel Hall"

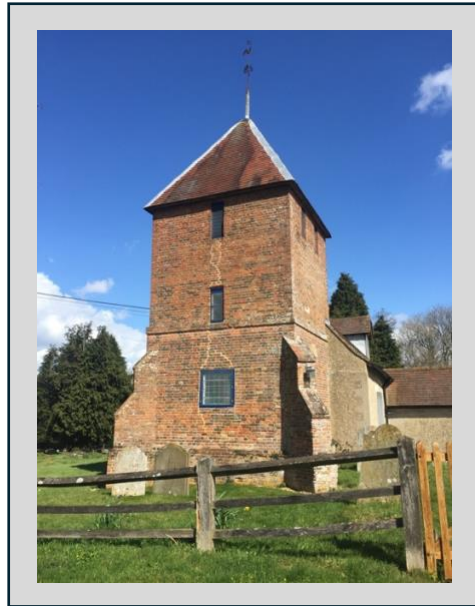
Religion played a huge role in Tadley's social history. The Old Meeting (the United Reformed Church) and the various Gospel Halls were central to life for the independent-minded villagers. Even today, the town has a high number of churches relative to its size, reflecting that history of community and non-conformity.

## 5. From "Village" to "Town"

Tadley officially became a Town in 1987. Despite this, many long-term residents still refer to it as "the village," reflecting the close-knit community feel that has survived despite the rapid growth of the late 20th century.

### Tadley Landmarks:

- St. Peter's Church: Dating back to the 11th century (though much of it was rebuilt), it stands as a reminder of the medieval village.



- The Common: A SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) that remains largely as it was when the besom makers worked the land hundreds of years ago.