# Charvil Village News



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#### Inside this issue:

Charvil Pre-School to close at May half term....



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#### **Editorial**

After some false starts, it looks as though Spring has finally decided to make an appearance. With the improved weather and the lighter evenings, there are great opportunities for our residents to get out and about, to enjoy the many beautiful walks, parks and lakes that Charvil has to offer, as well as the village amenities. I do hope you can take the opportunity to do so.

Inside this issue we have an update on the Charvil Village Fete in June and information regarding several other village events run by local groups. If you are involved in a Charvil-based group, society or charity and would like to highlight your activities in Charvil Village News, please contact me.

Please do continue to share your thoughts and highlight your issues and concerns by contacting the CPC team using e-mail or <a href="www.charvil.com">www.charvil.com</a> (which also has news and information about our council, facilities and village life), as well as following us on Facebook and Twitter.

Wishing you a fabulous Spring and Summer ahead - we hope you enjoy this latest issue of Charvil Village News.

Amanda Burton, Assistant Clerk





#### Mr Ranju Khurana BDS (Lon) MFDSRCS (Eng) MClinDent (Lon) MRD (Eng) Registered Specialist Prosthodontist GDC No: 74950

Dr Anu Chadha BDS (Lon) MFDSRCS (Edin) MSc in Prostherics (Lon) GDC No: 79744

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#### Chairman's Foreword

It's a great shame that there will no longer be a pre-school provision in the village now that St Andrew's Church in Sonning have sealed the fate of Charvil Pre-School by serving it (and all the other users of the Jubilee Hall) with an eviction notice. With no suitable home to relocate to the pre-school is forced to close at May half term.

The staff and committee have done a tremendous job in turning the fortunes of the pre-school around. It had lost its way a little and received a poor Ofsted rating but it's now rated Good and had a committee that really got to grips with fundraising. Sadly, five wonderful staff members will lose their jobs as a result and, of course, several local families now need to seek alternative pre-school places.

The Parochial Church Council stated that they cannot afford to run the building at a loss but were unwilling to entertain a proposal that Charvil Parish Council take over the management of the property and underwrite its running costs. Officially the future of the site is 'undecided' but I can't imagine that this valuable building plot will remain undeveloped for long.

Talking of building plots, Hicks Developments have won their appeal against Wokingham's refusal of planning permission on "Hicks Field". Consequently, we'll soon have 25 more families in the village and whilst we'll welcome them into village life it's more than a little unsatisfactory that the Planning Inspector didn't give more consideration to the impact on village infrastructure. We don't need the additional traffic on an already busy Park Lane / Old Bath Road junction and we have a popular primary school that is already oversubscribed and turning away children from the village.

All in all that's a bit of a disappointing note on which to be signing off as Chairman. I've decided not to stand again next year in order to pursue other interests. I've really enjoyed my time as a Parish Councillor - I've picked up knowledge and learned new skills, I've met and worked with some fantastic people and of course enjoyed playing a small role in looking after the village. I have no concerns about the abilities or commitment of whoever takes over given that the next Chair is already serving as one of my excellent team of Councillors.

Of course, that means there will soon be a vacancy for a new Parish Councillor. If you feel you have something to offer the community and you fancy an interesting challenge why not come along to one of our monthly meetings to see what it's all about.

#### **Edited Extracts from the Minutes of Parish Council Meetings**

#### Meeting held on 12th December 2016

<u>Donations</u> - It was resolved to award £200 to the police, £300 to Keep Mobile and £300 to Twyford, Wargrave and District Volunteer Centre as S137 payments, which was approved unanimously. There was some debate about whether to award the pre-school a donation at this point, so it was decided by a majority vote of four to three to earmark £600 for a donation to the Pre-school, subject to a positive outcome with their meeting with Sonning PCC.

<u>Environment</u> The Chair of Environment reported that the crocuses from the Rotary Club had been planted by the school. The idea to actively promote Adopt-a-Street was considered by Council, and it was decided that Cllrs McCann and Mowlem would promote on Facebook. Council also considered whether to promote "Britain in Bloom" projects, and Council felt that it would be best to start on a limited basis, perhaps by encouraging school parents and residents to work on tidying up the plantings in the East Park Farm car park. The Chair of the Environment also reported that ten tree stumps have been delivered for the Forest School.

To consider the future of Jubilee Hall and what course of action Council may wish to take — Council has offered to talk to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of Sonning to take over Jubilee Hall. It is paramount that there is a home for the Pre-school in the village, but it is recognised that this home doesn't necessarily have to be at Jubilee Hall, but there is presently no other alternative long term home. The pre-school is hoping to meet with the PCC and will report back to the Parish Council. Once Council has heard back from the PCC, it will consider its position. Clerk's note: the PCC have replied, offering an informal meeting

#### Meeting held on 16th January 2017

<u>Local Plan Update</u> – Representatives of the seven Northern Parishes of Charvil, Hurst, Wargrave, Sonning, Twyford, Ruscombe and Remenham met to discuss their respective potential sites, and their general grounds for objection. It became clear that for all, there were common threads based on fears for infrastructure, green belt and flood plain. It was agreed that a joint letter should be sent to the Borough and a second meeting was held to finalise the broad content and Cllr Gillett has drafted a letter for all clerks and borough councillors to sign and send to Wokingham. *Clerk's note: this letter was duly delivered and has received two replies, acknowledging it.* 

**Environment** - It was noted that the council had received an updated TPO for the Wee Waif to reflect what is currently there. Council are a little concerned that this is still inaccurate so Cllrs Hobson, McCann and Jeffery are going to check the accuracy of this and all the other TPOs in Charvil with the possible help of the Veteran Tree Society.

<u>Highways</u> – Council considered whether they should request the Borough to remove the pinch point on Waingels Road, and it was agreed that the clerk would send a letter to the acting head of Highways with this request.

To consider the response from the Sonning PCC and the next steps regarding Jubilee Hall — The response was noted and it was felt that once the pre-school had met with the Church, Council would respond appropriately, possibly asking for a copy of the "Deed of Gift". Some residents have asked for the building to be listed as an asset of community value, and council agreed that if this seemed appropriate, they would do it. Clerk's note: given that the response from the Church was not encouraging, and the pre-school are considering their future, it did not seem useful at this point to respond to the Church.

<u>Update on Lighting Plans for East Park Farm</u> – The clerk reported that these were to be installed this week. *Clerk's note: These have now been installed.* 

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#### Meeting held on 20th February 2017

<u>Open Forum</u> – Four residents attended, three to discuss the appeal on the land adjacent to the Model Farm Cottages on the A4, and one to discuss the pinch point. The three residents concerned with the appeal ran through the issues they have come up against in living next to the site, including the use of their address, visitors asking them to open the gate, two more caravans based on the site, floodlights shining into their bedrooms, a cesspit being installed, commercial vehicles using the site, the erection of a high fence and other disturbance. The Chairman explained that any extra comments to be put before the appeal inspector must be planning based and that Council would write to bring these additional issues to their attention in addition to the original objections.

The fourth resident was concerned that Council wished to install a further pinch point on Beggars Hill Road, but Cllr Gillett explained that what Council actually wanted to do was to remove the pinch point altogether because it seemed to be serving little purpose in deterring traffic , but is leading to many incidents of car damage.

**Environment** - Cllr McCann reported that she has five people interested in becoming tree wardens – herself, Cllrs Jeffery and Hobson, plus two other residents. They will receive training from the Veteran Tree Association. She also reported that Rachel Chopping form the School wanted to meet her regarding the progress of the Forest School, and that the editor of the Sonning Church magazine wanted to run something on the Nature Trail.

Highways – Cllr Mowlem ran through the exchange of correspondence regarding the Waingels Road pinch point which concluded that it would be a very low priority for Wokingham to go through the necessary processes to have it removed. Council asked Cllr Hobbs to see if the original order was temporary as it was the Council's understanding that it was. Cllr Mowlem then explained her interest in finding out whether the gated signs that have been installed by Hurst Village Society would be beneficial to Charvil. The police suggest they are effective in slowing down traffic, but Council would like some more detailed data before deciding whether these would be a worthwhile investment. Cllr Bell reported back from a meeting he attended at the Borough over the Local Plan and Highways. He reported that Alex Deans, the acting Head of Highway, would be happy to communicate further with parishes as plans develop for new roads, and Council asked the clerk to invite him to a meeting as plans develop.

To note the decision to close the pre-school and consider any further action – The Chairman reported that he and Cllr McCann attended the extra -ordinary meeting of the pre-school, where the decision was made to close it at the end of May. A lady had attended this meeting who is interested in setting up a pre-school in the village, but at present there is no suitable location. Borough Cllr Hobbs is going to ask the Church for copies of the ownership of the land at St Patrick's and Cllrs Bell and Hobson would like to meet with the vicar to see if there is any way that the Church could help fund a new pre-school.

<u>Planning Matters considered at recent Parish Council Meetings</u>

#### The Council had no objection to the following applications:

- 163127 Application for the proposed erection of first floor side extension, changes to garage access and fenestration at Orchard House, Milestone Avenue
- 163227 Application for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension to 50, Park View Drive North
- 163268 Application for the proposed erection of a new artist's studio adjacent to drive area, installation of roof lights to roof/side elevation, erection of new porch, extension and alterations to existing patio/terrace area and changes in fenestration at Heron's Creek, Thames Drive





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- 163421 Application for the proposed single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory at 55, The Hawthorns
- 163521 Application for the proposed erection of a part single, part two storey rear extension and two storey side extension to Paradise, Beggars Hill Road
- 170016 Application for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension with 3 roof lights, conversion of existing garage to additional habitable accommodation and erection of in-fill side extension, to include raising of existing flat roof and internal alterations at 22, Chiltern Drive
- 170078 Application for the proposed erection of a single storey rear and side extension, erection of single storey to form a new porch and new dormers to the front and rear at 15 Old Bath Road
- 170317 Application for the proposed erection of two link detached bungalows at the land at the rear of 70-72 Old Bath Road





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#### Council made comments on the following applications

163463 Application for vehicular access to serve temporary works compound required for electrification of railway (retrospective) on Land south of Waingels Road the clerk was asked to comment as follows:

Council appreciates and supports the electrification project, but does have some concerns about this gateway. Council has reservations about the siting of the compound itself but appreciates that this is not the subject of this application.

As far as the gateway is concerned, Council would not like this access to set a precedent for future gateways onto Waingels Road from this agricultural area.

Further, although this application is to serve the temporary compound, there is nothing in the application to suggest the application itself is for a temporary gateway; Council would like a condition to be placed on any approval of this application that the gateway be returned to its original form once the compound is removed.

## The following applications were approved by Wokingham Borough Council:

- 161992 Application for the proposed part two storey part single storey front extension, part conversion of existing garage to habitable accommodation, conversion of loft space to habitable accommodation, to include dormer extensions and alterations to fenestration at 72, East Park Farm Drive
- 162278 Application for the proposed erection of a part two storey, part single storey side extension to the existing dwelling, raising the roof to incorporate an additional habitable room and installation of rear dormer window at 20, Charvil Meadow Road
- 162747 Application for the proposed single storey front extension to existing dwelling at 22 Cheviot Drive
- 163201 Certificate of Lawful Development to erect single storey rear extension at 21, Mendip Close
- 163095 Application for the retention of 2 existing A/C condensers and the proposed relocation of 2 existing condensers (part retrospective)
- 163127 Application for the proposed erection of first floor side extension, changes to garage access and fenestration at Orchard House, Milestone Avenue

- 163268 Application for proposed erection of a new artist's studio, installation of roof lights, erection of new porch and changes in fenestration at Heron's Creek. Thames Drive
- 163421 Application for the proposed single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory at 55 The Hawthorns
- 163463 Application for vehicular access to serve temporary works compound required for electrification of railway (retrospective) on Land South of Waingels Road
- Application for the proposed erection of a part single, part two storey rear extension and two storey side extension to Paradise, Beggars Hill Road

# The Following Application was refused by Wokingham Borough Council

163141 Application for the proposed erection of a first-floor side extension to 12, Quantock Close

#### **New Appeals**

- Application for the proposed use of land for the stationing of caravans for residential purposes for 2 gypsy pitches together with the formation of utility/dayrooms and hard standing ancillary to that use on land adjacent to Model Farm Cottages, Bath Road Council resolved to add to the comments already submitted based on the planning issues brought to the council by the neighbouring residents; namely, the high fence, loss of amenity, the installation of the cesspit, the commercial use of the site and the increased number of caravans on the site, which is situated in the countryside and on a major road.
- 160902 Application to erect a single dwelling with a triple garage on land off Waingels Road

#### **Appeals Dismissed**

- 160778 Application for front and rear extension at 11 Park Lane
- 160849 Application to erect a two-bedroom dwelling and demolish existing garage at 111 Old Bath Road

#### **Appeal Allowed**

160902 Application to erect a five-bedroom dwelling and a triple garage on Land off Waingels Road

# FULL DETAILS OF ALL APPLICATIONS REFERRED TO ABOVE CAN BE FOUND ON: www.wokingham.gov.uk



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Meetings of Charvil Parish Council 2017		
24th April 2017	Full Council Meeting	
8 May 2017	Amenities Committee Meeting	
10 May 2017	Annual Parish Meeting	
22 May 2017	Full Council Meeting	
5 June 2017	Amenities Committee Meeting	
19 June 2017	Full Council Meeting	
3 July 2017	Amenities Committee Meeting	
17 July 2017	Full Council Meeting	
21 August 2017	Planning and Finance	
MEETINIOC COMMENIOE AT O	THE VILLAGE HALL	

MEETINGS COMMENCE <u>AT 8 pm</u> and are held in <u>THE VILLAGE HALL</u>, PARK LANE.

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Charvil Parish Councillors		
Chris Drew	Chairman of Council	954 5424
John Davies	Amenities Committee	934 5258
	Chairman	
Jim Gillett		969 7156
Jackie Jeffery	Planning	969 0834
Paul Mundy	Amenities Vice Chairman	934 4253
Lauren McCann	Environment	934 1372
James Bell	Finance	934 5221
John Hobson	Staffing Committee	934 4913
Fiona Mowlem	Highways	07957
		867636
Parish Council Officers		
Miranda Parker	Parish Clerk	901 7719
Amanda Burton	Assistant Parish Clerk	07850
	and Newsletter Editor	234363

#### **Borough Councillor's Report**

#### Dear Resident

¼ way through 2017 has not been a good start for Charvil as we have lost the Appeal for Hicks to build 25 Houses on The Hawthorns. It was only a matter of time before Hicks appeals would have been won. For many years this has been fought and going back some 6 years ago, when Hicks wanted 55 Houses, I persuaded Hicks to reduce this to 25 of which Hicks have stuck too with the appeal. I will be writing to Hicks requesting some guidelines to times and noise when the development starts and would ask residents to let me know if these are breached in any way.

My main concern is the future for Charvil as the Northern Areas of WBC have been looked at favourably for the building of over 5500 houses if not more. The Councillors, Parishes and MP are working together on this most destroying of developments within Charvil, Twyford and Ruscombe. Not only do we not have any form of infrastructure which can be built around developments, most importantly businesses will suffer - more cars means more time to arrive late at work and this is already costing businesses .

Building large housing estates does not necessary solve a problem, there are numerous amounts of brown field sites that can accommodate small developments 2-5 houses and therefore I ask that you keep the pressure up with your MP and the Housing Minister Gavin Barwell MP.

#### Hare Hatch:

Hare Hatch lost their High Court Battle with WBC, of which I do feel sad about as I still feel that a form of negotiating could have taken place. We are where we are. What is going to happen next, I have no idea, but I am sure the surrounding areas will be kept updated with the newsletters from Hare Hatch.

#### Milestone Avenue:

I investigated the possibility of adopting the road for all residents and made contact with the Crown Estate who partially own the road. It is all very complicated as some belong to the Estate and other areas don't. This has been rejected due to the number of residents down Milestone Avenue and the cost involved with deeds etc.

#### Kebab Van:

The Licenses are due for renewal this year (again a two year license) I and West Berkshire have received complaints. The rubbish situation is not down to the Kebab Van as he clears away rubbish around the area of the van—meeting the regulations to hold a license. The surrounding other areas he cannot be held responsible for, this is down to the general public taking more care with their litter.

#### Fly Tipping:

This has most definitely increased within the area. If you see fly tipping please can you let me know as soon as possible. If you see fly tipping been undertaken please take a photo and send to me where WBC will deal with. Your details will never be recorded.

#### Jubilee Hall and Pre-School:

The closure of the Hall and Preschool is not a request from the WBC and is solely down to the PCC, I hasten to add that this is a private matter as the grounds are a private holding.

The meeting arranged for parents by the pre-school, which took place on the 13<sup>th</sup> February, made the decision to close the pre-school at that, which left the council little opportunity to find alternative premises. If the pre-school were informed of the church's intentions to ask the pre-school to vacate Jubilee Hall in a timely manner, there was a possibility of alternative accommodation at Loddon Hall in Twyford. This venue has now been secured by an alternative provider who has applied to Ofsted for registration and expect to open after Easter, which should help the sufficiency of places in the local area.

The early year's team supports settings whenever they can and does not want another pre-school to close; however sometimes there is little the council can do with regard to finding premises. The Local Authority has yet to explore alternative accommodation options with the Parish Council or local schools but will ensure that discussions take place to endeavour to reach a favourable solution.

#### Foster Caring:

WBC have a shortfall of Foster Carers if you would be interested in fostering please contact WBC or give me a call and I can direct you to the right people to talk too.

I can be contacted on <a href="mailto:emma.hobbs@wokingham.gov">emma.hobbs@wokingham.gov</a> or 07788 403841

Emma Hobbs, Borough Councillor

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#### **Twyford NHPT Spring Update for Charvil**

At last the lighter evenings and warmer weather are finally with us. As lovely as it is for spring/summer to be here it can bring with it an unwanted problem that affects the whole community - anti-social behaviour (ASB).

Last summer we received a high number of ASB reports, particularly around the youth shelter in King Georges Field. We are aware of these issues and have been dealing with those involved, however, if you do see anything of this nature please report it to us on 101.

#### **Theft from Motor Vehicles**

We have seen a rise in thefts from motor vehicles in recent weeks and we would urge residents to report any suspicious activity to the neighbourhood team. If you believe there is a crime in progress, please call 999, otherwise please report it via the non-emergency number 101 to help with ongoing enquiries.

Please help to keep your vehicles safe by following the advice below:

- Always make sure you lock your car and close your windows even if you're away from your vehicle for just a few minutes
- Never leave your keys in the ignition while your vehicle is unattended opportunistic thieves will often steal cars that have been left with the engine running to defrost the windows

- Do not leave anything on display in your vehicle take all your valuables with you
- Never think leaving items in the boot is safe someone could have seen you put them in there

#### **Parking**

The team covers a very large area which includes 10 schools and we endeavor to patrol as many of these to make sure everyone is safe and parking legally.

We have had numerous complaints regarding commuter parking in many residential roads in the vicinity of Twyford Train Station. As some of you may have seen, we have been issuing Fixed Penalty Notices in and around Station Road and Station Terrace. In just one day PCSO Jessica Howells issued 16 Fixed Penalty Notices. Wokingham Borough Council are now in the process of taking responsibility back for parking issues and this will be completed by the end of the year.

#### What the neighbourhood team have been doing

PC Chris Harrison has been the driving force behind three very successful speed/mobile phone/seatbelt enforcement days where the team have been joined by our colleagues from Wokingham & Crowthorne Neighbourhood Teams as well as Roads Policing Officers.

In addition to numerous tickets issued for these offences, two vehicles were also seized for having no insurance and no tax.

On 1 March 2017 new legislation came into effect for those found using a handheld mobile phone while driving. Previously, this offence had attracted three penalty points and £100 fine. This has now increased to six points and £200 and newly qualified drivers will lose their licence if they are caught using a mobile phone behind the wheel.

#### **Charvil Short Mat Bowls**

Are you interested in a new hobby?

Charvil Short Mat Bowling Club is looking for new members to join its Wednesday evening sessions at Charvil Village Hall from 6:45pm to 9:00pm.

Beginners are welcome and bowling woods are provided, there is no requirement to have any previous bowling experience.

If interested telephone 01189 345605 for further information.

#### Holiday time

It's the time of year when people are planning to go on holiday and with all the excitement that comes with this, home security might not be top of your list of priorities.

Please can we ask you to have a good look around your home and garden to see if your security is up to date and to give yourself time to make any adjustments before you go away.

#### Contact us

To contact the neighbourhood team, please call us on the non-emergency number 101 or via email at Twyfordnhpt@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk. Please note this email address cannot be used to report crimes or for any urgent matters. In an emergency, please call 999.

If you have information about crime or anti-social behaviour in your area but you do not want to speak to the police, please call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

Twyford Police Station is open Wednesday 2pm - 6pm and Saturday 9am-1pm and is manned by volunteers. They are there to answer any queries and pass messages to the rest of the team.

To view information on your neighbourhood team you visit the force website can www.thamesvalley.police.uk. You can also follow us on twitter via @TVP Wokingham.

Jackie Daniels, PCSO



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#### CHARVIL VILLAGE FETE

The Charvil Village Fete is to be held on Saturday 17th June 2017, commencing 12.30pm, at East Park Farm Pavilion, Park Lane, Charvil, RG10 9TR

This year the location has changed to allow more stalls and entertainments to be provided. We will have some special guests for you to meet. We also have inflatables, mini-golf, tots corner, test your strength, football spin the wheel, tea coffee and cakes from Emma's, the Parish Council are running the BBQ for us. You can also see displays from the local emergency services. Daleks and Uncle Charley will be entertaining the younger members of the family.

This year we are moving to the East Park Pavilion to allow more stalls and enhance the layout of the Fete to include children related activities, catering outlets close to the Pavilion. As well as the BBQ we have Candy Floss and Popcorn, Wood Fired Pizza, Indian food, Thai Food and a Beer Tent also selling Pimms.

We have a bumper selection of stalls selling cards, health and well-being products, facecloths, cupcakes, books, cakes and bric-a-brac, tombola, nail painting, skin care, pet services, sweets, garden ornaments, fantasy glass, jewellery, watches, purses, bags, cosmetics, garden plants, pottery painting and information/charity stalls for Chiropractics, Massage and Complementary Therapies, The Cystic Fibrosis Trust, Help for Heroes, Kids Bee Happy with Maddie, Slimming World. The sweet stall is raising funds for the Imran Cancer Appeal.

Local groups attending and represented include The Charvil Art Group, Charvil Womens Club, Charvil Senior Residents Club and Charvil Village Society. The Fete is run to allow groups like these to introduce themselves to the community.

Vince Martyn/Mark Donlan

#### **CHARVIL WOMEN'S CLUB**

We meet at Charvil Village Hall in Park Lane on the first Thursday of each month at 8pm. The meetings are very informal with a talk by a visiting speaker, a raffle and refreshments. During the year we arrange outings to places of interest and a local theatre. We would welcome new members and if you are interested please ring Shirley Newman on 0118 9340589 or turn up on one of the following dates.

4<sup>th</sup> May: 'Life on the reef' – Neil Stewart

1<sup>st</sup> June: 'Eccentric London Part 1' – Alan Copeland

6<sup>th</sup> July: 'Thanks for the memory – Stars of the past from radio, silver

screen and television' - Tony King

Shirley Newman, Group Leader





## CHARVIL SENIOR RESIDENTS CLUB WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME A FEW NEW FACES

Perhaps you have got into a rut, may be you would like to enjoy an afternoon tea & chat away from your usual routine? We are a small, simple, informal and supportively friendly social group for older residents founded sometime several decades ago, firstly meeting in St. Patrick's Hall, Charvil, but now settled in Charvil Village Hall. We occasionally arrange a lunch or tea at a local venue, or, usually in the Spring or Summer, sometimes a river trip, garden visit, etc. We are driven by what members would like to do.

We meet from 2 to 4pm generally every 2 weeks on Tuesday afternoons. The age range is very broad. If you are energetic help preparing our tea is always appreciated, If you are less mobile or want to just come to relax in a chair in the company of others that is just as appreciated & important.

No transport? We will do our best to arrange a lift for you. Anxious at the prospect of that first meeting? One of us could meet you on the day or beforehand. For the full list of meeting dates for the coming year and any questions, queries, etc please telephone Julie on Charvil 01189 345059.

Hope to meet you sometime soon.

Julie Bennett

#### SONNING FLORAL ARRANGEMENT SOCIETY

The Sonning Floral Arrangement Society have moved from the Pearson Hall, Sonning to the Charvil Village Hall. Although this was not an easy decision, we have been made to feel very welcome at this lovely venue, well equipped hall with plenty of parking space – our reason for moving from Pearson.

We want to assure our members we are still Sonning Floral Arrangement Society. We meet on the second Thursday of the month at 2.00pm prompt. Come and join us. We are entertained by some highly qualified demonstrators covering the art of flower arranging. The meetings are enjoyable and educational and we conclude with a nice cup of tea/coffee. We are a happy chatty club with happy chatty members. We welcome visitors for a very reasonable fee of £5. We enjoy other events such as coffee mornings, afternoon teas, coach outings to gardens, flower festivals or anything else related to flowers.

Chairman : Ann de Prato Tel: 0118 961 6185 email ann.deprato@ntlworld.com

#### CHARVIL ART GROUP

Our move into Charvil Village Hall last September has proved very successful. The warm well-lit room provides us with an ideal centre for our meetings with ample parking. We are proudly celebrating our 45th year and the club is thriving.

We meet regularly each Wednesday evening from 7.30 to 9.30 pm, with a varied programme of painting, drawing, tutors, demonstrators and lectures. The club meets from September to July, with outdoor painting sessions in the Summer.

Our recent publicity drive has brought in several new members since Christmas. We would welcome anyone, beginner or otherwise, with an interest in art, who would like to develop and improve their art appreciation and skills to come and join us.

We are a happy group of people and enjoy our meetings. We have two exhibitions a year, usually with about a hundred of our paintings on display, with original works for sale. We recently provided some paintings for the Sonning Parish Calendar which gave us an opportunity to paint local scenes.

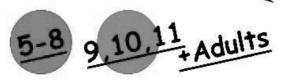
Membership for the whole year is £30.00, but as we are now into the years programme £20.00 would see you through to July, with the weekly £1.00 to cover running costs, tea, coffee and biscuits.

If you're interested in joining us, or would like a taster of what we do, or would like more information please contact Ken on 01189690274 or turn up on a Wednesday evening.

# Charvil Community Tennis Club



Taster Open Olympic Day 2nd April 12.30 – 2.30 PM WELCOME



Lessons are splt into the age groups.

Please contact for further information:

www.charvilcommunitytennis.org.uk

Email: membership@charvilcommunitytennis.org.uk

Phone: 07447 934700 (Carl - Chairman)





#### **Hedgehog Street**

Hedgehogs need our help: it's about gardens and neighbours.

Hedgehog Street is a campaign aimed at ensuring the hedgehog, the UK's only spiny mammal, remains a common and familiar part of British life. We know hedgehogs are in trouble. We've lost a third of all our hedgehogs in ten years.

The Parish Council would like to promote the aims and objectives of this campaign to help make Charvil a great place for Hedgehogs to live.

Hedgehogs are declining severely in Britain. Worryingly, they seem to be doing just as badly in the wider countryside as they are in our towns and cities. Fortunately, we know that hedgehogs love gardens and we know what features they need to survive and thrive in towns and villages. This is why Hedgehog



Street was born. It's all about simple things everyone can do to help save our favourite wild animal.

The Hedgehog Street website has a huge amount of information about how you can help hedgehogs. You can visit it at <a href="https://www.hedgehogstreet.org">www.hedgehogstreet.org</a>.

Ensuring hedgehogs can pass freely through your garden is the most important thing you can do to help them

Why do hedgehogs need holes in fences?

Hedgehogs travel around one mile every night through our parks and gardens in their quest to find enough food and a mate. If you have an enclosed garden you might be getting in the way of their plans.

We now know that one of the main reasons why hedgehogs are declining in Britain is because our fences and walls are becoming more and more secure, reducing the amount of land available to them.

We can make their life a little easier by removing the barriers within our control – for example, by making holes in or under our garden fences and walls for them to pass through.

If you want to do this you can visit the Hedgehog Street website which has information on how to make DIY 'Hedgehog Highways'.



13cm by 13cm is sufficient for any hedgehog to pass through. This will be too small for nearly all pets. You can map the holes you make by going to bighedgehogmap.org. This gives a picture of activity across the country.

If you do make holes in your fences, safety is very important. Take care with tools and only adults should do the work, with the permission of the landowner.

The website has further information on this and other tips on how to help hedgehogs. For example:

- · Create a wild corner in your garden
- Tidy up netting and litter
- · Put out food and water
- · Check before strimming
- Be careful with bonfires
- Build a log pile

This campaign is as much about getting people to cooperate as it is about gardening for wildlife. So it would be great if you could work with your neighbours to create Hedgehog Streets. The campaign would like to hear from you. You can sign up to be a Hedgehog Champion and record what you are doing to help hedgehogs. There are lots of resources available on the site so please have a look. The Parish Council would also like to hear what you are doing so please email me on j.hobson212@btinternet.com to let me know how you are getting on.

John Hobson, Charvil Parish Councillor

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#### **CELEBRATING 25 YEARS IN TWYFORD**



In March 1992, Elizabeth Jones and Sue Brown opened the doors of their 2 roomed Physiotherapy clinic in Station Road Twyford. Their objective was to offer Twyford and the surrounding areas high quality, cutting edge treatments centred around the patients.

25 years later the Physiocare Clinic is still in the heart of Twyford, only moving a small distance down the road to Church Street. It now offers 5 state of the art treatment rooms, a fully equipped Gym and a team of 8 Physiotherapists trained to the highest clinical standards. The



Physiotherapists regularly run Pilates classes and provide in house clinics in local businesses and schools as well as providing support to local sports clubs.



Elizabeth Jones owner and clinical lead Physiotherapist says 'Physiotherapy has changed a lot over the last 25 Years but the one thing that never changes is the patients and however big we grow we will continue to treat people the way that we did when we had 2 rooms, giving them the individual attention that they need to lead healthy pain free

lives. Thank you to everyone who has made Physiocare part of your

#### **1ST CHARVIL GUIDES**



Charvil Guides have had a busy term doing a Film badge. The Guides made silhouettes of themselves, made short videos and had a film evening with pop-corn. We have also learned First Aid and made tie-dyed T-shirts which the girls modelled the following week. We are still looking for another adult leader but this term we have welcomed a new Young Leader and five Guides took their Promise. Here is a photo of some of the girls

wearing the tie-dyed T-shirts that we did this term.

Ruth Hulley, Guide Leader

#### **1ST CHARVIL SCOUTS - IN YOUR COMMUNITY**

Since we last updated you on our group's progress, we have continued to grow. Several of our older Beavers have now moved into our Cubs section and been invested, which has made way for some new children on the waiting list to move in to Beavers. Our Cubs have taken part in some great activities, including a much-enjoyed session at Reading Climbing Centre. Our new Beaver leaders have run some great activities during the weekly sessions and are planning to be outdoors as the evenings get lighter and warmer in the summer term. Both groups continue to work towards a number of skills and badges.

We now have a good team of leaders and volunteers so we will be able to take more children in to Beavers from our waiting list over the next term or so though we need to be mindful that we ensure we have enough spaces available for them to move up to Cubs. Our focus for the remainder of this year will also be some events and fundraising activities so watch this space for how you can get involved, and look out for us at local events.

Local children can go on our Beavers waiting list from their 5th birthday, and Cubs from their 7th birthday. If you are interested in getting your child on the list, and/or in offering help to the group in the future, please contact us via <a href="mailto:cont@gmail.com">charvilscout@gmail.com</a>. We rely on adult volunteers to be involved, in order that we can continue to offer varied, educational and fun activities for all of our children.

#### **CHARVIL BROWNIES**

We have had an exciting time this term which started with a move to our new meeting place at Charvil Village Hall. Special thanks go to Amanda Burton for helping us with this transition.

This term, the Brownies have been working towards the world cultures badge which included a celebration of Chinese New Year, making some delicious Anzac biscuits to celebrate Australia Day and decorating eggs in the style of an Eastern European Easter egg. The Brownies also celebrated World Thinking Day with Rainbows, Brownies and Guides from Charvil, Sonning, Twyford and Hurst doing a number of different activities around the theme of "Grow".

Our favourite activity though was the yoga session with Ché Bond which saw the Brownies doing some great balancing moves as well as some very quiet relaxation.

If your daughter is interested in joining Girlguiding whether it is Rainbows, Brownies or Guides we recommended that you put her the waiting list as soon as possible – just follow the links on the Girlguiding website <a href="https://www.girlguiding.org.uk">www.girlguiding.org.uk</a>

We're also always looking for more volunteers and so if you are interested, please let us know.

Hannah Absolom, Barn Owl

#### **Sonning Church of England Primary School**

Work is currently being completed on a new adventure playground at Sonning Church of England Primary School. The works have included removing the previous adventure playground and re-surfacing the space to provide additional free play space for the children. A small area of the school field has been prepared and new adventure playground installed. It is anticipated the children will be enjoying the new equipment by the end of

This project has only be possible due to the extraordinary work of the school PTA and generosity of school families and the local community/businesses. The project, costing in excess of £40k, was fundraised for over an 18 month period with various fundraising events held. The children can't wait to use it!

More information about the school can be found at <a href="http://www.sonning.wokingham.sch.uk">http://www.sonning.wokingham.sch.uk</a> or follow the school on Twitter @SonningPrimary

Luke Henderson, Head Teacher



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3 editions per year are produced and there is a discount to put your ad in all 3 editions.

Contact:

bookings@charvil.com



#### **JEWEL TONES**

Charvil based girls' choir Jewel Tones are busy preparing for several concerts, festivals and competitions over the next few months. The girls are working on a wide range of songs including one in Japanese and one in Latin. Our annual concert is at Norden Farm Centre for the Arts, Maidenhead on May 13<sup>th</sup> - tickets are available from the Box Office. Joining us for this are the Crosfields School Chamber Choir and Taplow Children's Choir. On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, the choir will be holding an Open Evening for potential new members to come along and see what we do. This will be at Charvil Hall at 6.15pm. If you would like more details please contact the choir's Musical Director. Suzanne Newman. on 9340589 suzanneynewman@btinternet.com

#### **TWYFORD LIBRARY, APRIL-JUNE 2017**

#### What's On for Adults

**Knit and Natter** - Drop in for knitting and a chat. Third Tuesday in each month 2pm to 3pm

**Reminiscence Club** - Discuss memories of days gone by.
First Tuesday in each month 10.30am to 12noon

Twyford Author Book Group Monday April 3, June 5, 2.30pm to 3.30pm

Twyford Tuesday Reading Group Second Tuesday in each month 2.30pm to 3.30pm

#### What's On for Children and Young People

**Get Arty** - Spring themed arts and crafts for children aged 4 to 12 years old. £1.50 charge, Just drop in Tuesday April 4, 2pm to 3pm

**Storytime** - For children aged 5 years old and under. Free, just drop in! Tuesday April 18, May 16, June 20 4pm to 4.30pm



For all the latest news, events and much more don't forget to visit www.charvil.com



#### POLEHAMPTON OPEN AIR SWIMMING POOL

Polehampton Junior School, Kibblewhite Crescent, Twyford

The swimming pool is re-opening for the summer on Saturday 6th May, 2017—Come and visit us on our opening day 10am-12pm

Membership to the pool is open to all residents living in Twyford, Ruscombe, Charvil, Hurst & Wargrave and to families with children attending schools within these areas. Join up and enjoy the summer in our pool – we would love to hear from you! Please visit our website at www.psaswimming.co.uk or find us on Facebook for opening times and conditions.



- Fully tiled, 25 metre long, heated outdoor swimming pool in pleasant grounds, with showers and newly refurbished changing facilities and washrooms.
- Family swimming sessions Monday/Wednesday/Thursday and Friday afternoons. Also Saturday mornings. (please refer to our website for full timetable)
- Lane Swimming for over 16's, weekday evenings 7pm-8pm (except Tuesday)
- Early bird swimming. Mon/Wed/Fri (6.45am-7.45am)
- Teenage fitness swim for ages 12-16 years wishing to swim lengths (Mon/Wed 6-7pm)
- Dedicated 'under fives' sessions Friday mornings (11.45am-1pm) subject to supervision. (Please contact Rachel Arkell on 934 4801 if you can help)
- We will be running swimming lessons during the summer holidays in partnership with a local swim school. Members only. (Further details to follow on our web & Facebook pages)
- The pool is also available for children's pool parties (Members only)
- Family membership just £40 for the season!

Please note: All sessions are subject to adequate supervision. We are entirely dependent upon voluntary help, particularly for poolside supervision. If you can help on a regular basis, please contact the Chairperson: Lesley Jarvis on Tel 07720 040500. Poolside First Aid training course provided.

#### **CHARVIL VILLAGE SOCIETY**

Over 50 people attended February's very enjoyable Race Night; the Tote raising £68 which has been added to the society's charitable monies. In total, the society has raised £460 for distribution shortly to Sue Ryder, Nettlebed and the Diana Brimblecombe Animal Rescue Centre in Hurst.

Looking ahead the Village Society has several events planned including a summer walk to complement the Boxing Day walk. If you would like to attend the walk or any of the other events, please contact Mark at <a href="markabe@btconnect.com">markabe@btconnect.com</a> or 9343918.

#### Friday June 16<sup>th</sup> 2017: Charvil Country Park Walk at 7:00 pm



Walk leaves from the Village Hall, Park Lane and will entail approx. 2-3 miles around the Country Park, ending at the Lands End pub for light refreshments.

No booking required, although it would be helpful to know if you would like to come along. There is **no charge** for this event; everyone welcome (including dogs). Tel: 9343918 or email markabe@btconnect.com

# Thursday July 13, 2017: Annual General Meeting, Committee Room, Village Hall

8 pm - Open to all members of the Village Society.

More details of the society on the Parish website at:

<a href="http://www.charvil.com/clubs-and-societies/charvil-village-society/">http://www.charvil.com/clubs-and-societies/charvil-village-society/</a>



#### Friday September 29, 2017: Village Quiz at 7:45 pm

Details and bookings through
Mark A'Bear - Tel: 9343918
Bring your own drinks and nibbles, £7.00 per person
Early booking essential



#### And finally ......

We'd very much like to run some new and different events, so please get in touch if you have some thoughts on what we might do.

Current ideas include a Film Night and Beer Festival. We are also trying to find ways of keeping everyone informed of the events we're running and by far the easiest way of doing this is via the occasional email. There is also information on the Charvil website at:

http://www.charvil.com/clubs-and-societies/charvil-village-society/

If you would like to receive event information from the village society, please drop me an email at: markabe@btconnect.com

#### SONNING AND CHARVIL JUNIOR CRICKET CLUB

The cricket season is fast approaching and we are open to new registrations from age 5 upwards. We have different programmes for each age group so please email for details and joining instructions. We are accepting new players in several of our age groups.

Our indoor programme has already started and these are being led by Aftab Habib, Level 3 coach and former England and Leicester batsman. This is a huge step up in our coaching quality as Aftab is involved in the ECB and Berkshire coaching establishment.

This year we are fielding teams at U9, U11, U13, U15 and running our usual U7 beginner sessions. We will also field an adult midweek team that play 20/20 style designed to help our older boys get used to adult cricket in a relaxed and fast-paced environment.

All of our teams compete in the Berkshire Youth Cricket League and we are consistent contenders for major trophies. A number of our players are selected for the full and district County squads.

Many congratulations to the two boys that won the 2016 Colt of the Year and Runner-up awards, respectively Gagandeep Sahota and Emil Rayfield, both of whom also played some adult cricket with Gagandeep scoring a brilliant 70 one Sunday afternoon.

Please contact me on <a href="mailto:scicket@ntlworld.com">scicricket@ntlworld.com</a> to receive the 2017 season programme and supporting information as it becomes available. A number of teams were oversubscribed last season so don't delay.

Nick Ray, Founder and Coordinator, S&CJCC

#### **ME2 CLUB**

#### Local Children's Charity needs your help?

Since 2003 Me2 Club volunteers have enabled children and young people with additional needs and disabilities (aged 5-19 years) throughout the Wokingham Borough to attend a mainstream activity of their choice. We support young people in a wide range of activities including uniformed groups, ice-skating, swimming, sports, drama and dance sessions. The young people we support struggle to access these activities because of their needs, resulting in social isolation, lack of confidence and self-esteem.

In the last year, our amazing 129 volunteers have supported 94 young people to take part in mainstream activities they would not otherwise have been able to access. To do this Me2 Club recruits, trains, screens and supports volunteers before they are carefully matched with a young person. The volunteers support our young people by getting to know them, understanding their specific needs and enabling them to attend and enjoy their weekly activity. As a parent said Me2 Club is: "an amazing organisation that by producing a volunteer for a small amount of time, provides so much to the child and family."

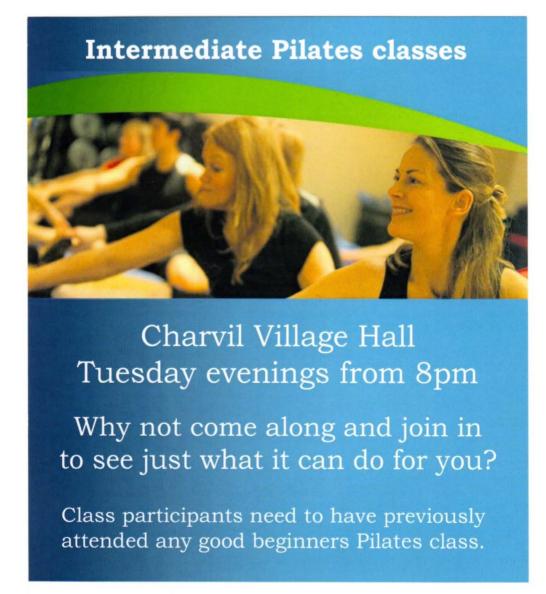
For all small charities fundraising remains a priority so that we can reach out to all the families who need our support. As well as working with wonderful grant funders, both national and local, over the next year we are looking to diversify our funding streams and we would love to hear from you if you could support us by:

- Taking on a sponsored challenge. Current ideas involve running, swimming and sky diving but we are always happy to hear other suggestions.
- Run a fundraising event for us please let us know your ideas and we can provide banners, buckets and other support.
- Nominate us as your "Charity of the Year".
- Joining in with our charity quiz night on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March at Coronation Hall in Woodley. Tickets are £15 (which includes a fish & chip supper) and must be purchased in advance. For more details please take a look at our website www.me2club.org.uk.

If you can help support our work, either with fundraising or by volunteering with us, please do get in touch via the contact details on our website <a href="https://www.me2club.org.uk">www.me2club.org.uk</a>. We would also love to hear from you if there is a child or young person in your family who would benefit from our help.

#### Contact details:

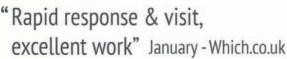
Liz McDaniel (Fundraising Development Officer) liz@me2club.org.uk



Contact Virginia by email: Virginia.obrien@btinternet.com or give her a call on: 07903 330471



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