

# Charvil Village News

Winter 2016/17



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Inside this issue:

Councillor vacancy at Charvil Parish Council....



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## Editorial

It is with great pleasure I am writing my first editorial since joining the team supporting CPC, in my role as Assistant Clerk. My heartfelt thanks go to my predecessor Tracy Ray and to Liz Black, who held the reins of this magazine until recently.

In my role looking after the amenities such as the Village Hall and East Park Farm Pavilion, it is great to see our wonderful facilities being well-used and enjoyed by so many of our local residents, groups and societies for such a wide variety of purposes.

Please continue to send us your photos of the lovely sights Charvil has to offer. They are often selected for display on our website, or the cover of this magazine.

As always you can contact the CPC team using e-mail or [www.charvil.com](http://www.charvil.com) (which also has news and information about our council, facilities and village life), as well as following us on Facebook and Twitter.

Please feel free to provide feedback about any of the ways CPC interacts with our community – we are always looking for ways to improve the way we communicate.

Wishing you a Happy New Year, and we hope you enjoy this latest issue of Charvil Village News.

*Amanda Burton, Assistant Clerk*

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## **Chairman's Foreword**

Many of you will already have made her acquaintance but I'd like to kick off by welcoming Amanda Burton as our new Assistant Parish Clerk and thus representing Charvil at the 'coal face', running the Village Hall and looking after the village amenities. We're delighted to have her on the team and really pleased with how well she's settled in to the role – especially in view of the fact that we've not made it easy by immediately tasking her with managing our newest acquisition, the pavilion and playing fields at East Park Farm.

After what felt like forever Charvil Parish Council signed a lease to assume control of the playing fields, tennis courts and pavilion from 1<sup>st</sup> September. Our aim, and the early signs are good, is to make better use of the facility for sporting and community groups. We will be looking at options for making the building a little more attractive too!

Additionally, Amanda has put together this newsletter taking over from Liz Black who has been our editor for the last few years. Liz has left the Parish Council so we have a vacancy for a new Parish Councillor.

In case you're wondering, we don't do 'politics' on Charvil Parish Council. You don't need to represent a political party or have any special skillset, just an interest in representing the community in the lowest (first) tier of government. I've been on the Parish Council for, I think, about 10 years, and have found it interesting and immensely rewarding. If you're wondering about joining you'd be welcome to sit in on one of our meetings (they're all open to the public anyway) or to speak with any of us to find out what we do. If you're from the Gingells Farm area of Charvil I'd be especially pleased to invite you on to the Council as we've historically been under represented there.

While I don't expect anybody to have to build an ark in Charvil we are surrounded by water and flood plains so at risk of flooding should we get a sustained period of wet weather. I'm pleased to be able to tell you that we've had a couple of volunteers step forward to act as our village Flood Wardens. One of the key roles of a Flood Warden is to make sure that vulnerable residents are not left to cope alone in the event of a flood so if you're aware of a person who might be in need of assistance please let Miranda, our Parish Clerk, know and we'll add them to the list.

At the end of March we'll again be taking part in the "Big Tidy". I was amazed (and disappointed) by the volume of rubbish collected on each of the last two events. They really do make a huge difference to the local environment. Many hands make light work so please look out for the notices and get involved.

*Chris Drew, Chair, Charvil Parish Council*

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

#### **Meeting held on 18th July 2016**

**Open Forum** - There were no residents, one member of the press and Francesca Hobson from WBC Flooding team attended to give an update of the present position and push for the need for community engagement. The aim is to raise certain roads that often flood, such as the area near the Showcase roundabout, the A321 in Wargrave and the A327 in Shinfield. Various legal measures have, or are in the process, of being taken so that WBC can prevent building within 8 metres of a river; force relevant residents and businesses to keep water courses clear etc. They are also working with other agencies to reduce the effect of flooding – for example, actions to the south of this area can cause unintended consequences on flooding on the Loddon in this area. In the spirit of joint working, WBC would like to develop flood action groups, as they have done very effectively in Swallowfield. This allows groups to access funds to provide residents with various domestic flood defences, such as flood proof doors. These groups are better placed to target the most vulnerable in the community. If it is not possible to form a flood action group, then WBC would like to encourage volunteers to come forward as flood wardens. The Chairman explained that there had been various attempts to encourage people to come forward to be flood wardens, but so far to no avail. Fran Hobson said she would be willing to knock on doors to see whether volunteers could be found – training will be given. She said dog-walkers are ideal, as they must go out in all weathers, and would notice if ditches were blocked etc. An article will also be put into Charvil News and a link included on Facebook so that residents can assess their own flood risk. The Chairman thanked Fran Hobson for coming and she left at 8.40pm.

**Amenities Committee** - It was resolved to amend the hire rates for the pavilion to £12.50 per hour daytime standard rate, £6.50 per hour daytime community rate, £14 per hour evening standard rate and £8.50 per hour evening community rate. All hirers should pay for all the time they are in the building. This was approved unanimously.

The defibrillator has been installed at the Village Hall by MKR Electrical Services at a reduced rate. To be fully operational, the defibrillator guardians should send through their first report to the ambulance service. Either Cllr Bell or Gillett will do this as soon as possible.

It was noted that there are still outstanding works that Council feel WBC need to see to before the pavilion can be fully transferred to Charvil PC's management. These include ensuring the toilets are all working, making sure the floor is sound, and addressing the emergency lighting issues that were highlighted in the risk assessment.

**HIGHWAYS** - The signage at Pipistrelle Way has been changed so that both road signs have a dead-end road sign. Some of the residents of the road have asked whether the name of the road could be amended to remove the "Way" as this suggests it goes somewhere, and, whether the middle stretch of road could be adopted by the council as the road near the newest house has been, as has the area near the social housing closest to the Old Bath Road. The clerk has been asked to investigate.

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## Meeting held on 19th September 2016

**Open Forum** – Amanda Burton, the New Assistant Clerk, attended. Andy Couldrick, the Chief Executive of Wokingham Borough Council and Keith Baker, Head of the Council, attended to explain their 21st Century programme, and one member of the press attended. Messrs Baker and Couldrick explained the financial hole that they are facing, with a £30 million drop in income, and no funding from central government within two years. Not only this, it is unlikely that they will continue to hold on to all the council tax receipts as they do at present, and they will only be able to retain a proportion of the business tax raised in the Borough. As most of the “easy” budget cuts have been made already, the only way is to radically re-think how services are delivered to bring further efficiencies. There are certain statutory services but unlike in Central Govt, these are not ring-fenced, but councils have been allowed to increase the Council Tax by 2% to help pay for these. The executive has asked the council to invest in better IT so that it is easier for residents to interact with the council systems without human intervention. The idea is that the council would still have experts, but that a lot of their workload could be dealt with through IT or at a lower level, so making the most of their expertise and improving the efficiency of the Council. Mr. Couldrick seemed to be reasonably confident that staff were willing to buy into this as it was recognised that things were going to have to change, and it may lead to improved job satisfaction. The idea is to also have some staff based out in the communities, an idea tried before but these attempts have tended to fizzle out. Mr Couldrick feels it is important to try again as there are so many isolated people within the borough, and that these staff need to be there to work with the communities to get them to help themselves more, instead of being reliant on the dwindling support that can be offered from the centre. Wokingham are working with people who have helped district councils make this kind of change, but this is the first time it has been attempted by a Unitary Authority – if it works, Wokingham will be able to sell the model to other Authorities. As far as the inevitable cuts that will need to be made, the staff numbers at Wokingham will reduce from 1000 to 900 over 18 months, and some non-statutory services will inevitably be cut. One that may be are School crossing patrols – one idea was to get local companies to sponsor them, but some of these are very likely to go. The Council is trying to engage the community in the budget discussions by running a series of public meetings this autumn, to try to get across to residents the seriousness of the situation, and what they see as most important.

There was a discussion about CIL and what it can be used for – the chairman made the point that by its very nature, the money is being spent on the large development areas, and that the rest of the parishes are out of the loop. Messrs Couldrick and Baker insisted this was not the case, and that maybe more could be made of the Borough Parish working group to reduce this perception. It was also noted that major improvements in infrastructure could only happen with large developments. This brought the discussion to an end, and the Chairman thanked them for coming and they left at 8.55pm.

**HIGHWAYS** - It was reported that the idea of using some of the allotment land at the Hurst Road allotments for station parking was raised and that there had been an extra-ordinary General Meeting to discuss the possibility. The person who had proposed the motion withdrew it in the light of the publication of the local plan sites that included a great deal of land around Twyford and Charvil. It was resolved that Council would think about this further if and when the topic is re-visited by Twyford Parish Council.

**ENVIRONMENT** - It was reported that the Get Charvil Walking event had been a success, and Council thanked Cllr McCann for her efforts. Cllr McCann reported that the Forest School is progressing, and that the Scouts have been asked to provide some logs from Paddicks Patch for seating. The school would also like to put up a sign saying "Thank you for respecting our Forest School, and Cllr McCann was asking Simon Bartlam's advice. The Parish Council will shortly take possession of 500 crocus corms and Cllr McCann is to ask the school whether they would like some of them.

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### **Meeting held on 17th October 2016**

**Open Forum** – There were no residents present. Inspector Alistair Lloyd, the local neighbourhood inspector attended. He ran through his history with the force and explained that he is responsible for the western area of Wokingham Borough. He explained that Wokingham had merged with Bracknell to save money, to increase resilience, and to be better placed to cope with on/off events such as the Henley Regatta without compromising everyday policing. Loddon Valley will remain the main police station for the area, and Twyford will continue to have a station of some kind. Since he came into post, Inspector Lloyd has undertaken a neighbourhood policing review and from this has drawn three main priorities: problem solving, visibility and engagement to help build community resilience. Problem solving would include the development of No Cold Calling zones, and the police have an organiser who can help get these off the ground; trying to have a joint approach with mental health teams as people who call regularly call the police often have mental health issues; neighbourhood watch etc.

Engagement means trying to get a better idea of what needs to be done, maybe by attending community events, through social media etc. Visibility includes trying to get more residents to sign up to [alert@neighbourhoodalert.co.uk](mailto:alert@neighbourhoodalert.co.uk) ; the more local residents sign up, the more local the news on it would be, and more relevant to the community. The use of social media will also help as this is possibly the most effective way to re-assure residents that the police are dealing with local issues.

One of the major areas of concern is the issue of speeding and Council was asked to contribute to a new Speed Indication Device that will be used across the neighbourhood. To make speed enforcement more effective, police need evidence of the worst places to target enforcement most effectively. Some areas have managed to train members of the public to help conduct surveys and then the worst offenders are written to by the police to let them know this is unacceptable behaviour.

**Amenities Committee-** It was noted that the fire alarm was set off by one of the football teams using the pavilion. There was a discussion about the anti-social behaviour issues at the MUGA. It was agreed it was annoying, but low level. The committee have asked the assistant clerk to consider the costs and options for replacement fencing around the football pitches.

**ENVIRONMENT** - Cllr McCann reported that the Forest School was timetabled for once or twice a week. They would like a sign for the site and the clerk was asked to send them an application form for a grant to help fund this purchase. The school did not like the idea of flags to warn dog walkers. The crocuses will be planted by the school underneath the lime trees by the school.

#### Planning Matters considered at recent Parish Council Meetings

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

- 161646 Application for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension to 6, St. Patrick's Avenue
- 161657 Application for the proposed erection of a two storey front extension, part two storey, part single storey rear extensions, following demolition of existing single storey side extension at 3, Strathmore Drive

- 161714 Application for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension to include part demolition and part conversion of existing garage to form habitable accommodation plus single storey front extension to existing garage at 10, Wenlock Edge.
- 161699 Application for the proposed erection of a part single storey part two storey rear extension and alterations to existing dormer extension at Paradise, Beggars Hill Road.
- 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 two storey side extension to 20 Charvil Meadow Road.
- 162365 Application for the proposed erection of a two storey side extension to 15, St Patricks Avenue.
- 161718 Application for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension to dwelling and single storey side extension to detached garage at 7 Simmons Fields.
- 162395 Application for advertisement consent for the proposed erection of various signage at "Co-Op" Charvil Service Station, New Bath Road, Charvil.
- 162419 Application for the proposed removal of car wash facility to the rear replacing it with a brickwork store room plus new bollards and staff parking bays at Texaco, New Bath Road, Charvil.
- 162398 Adjoining Parish Application to erect one single dwelling on land to the rear of 6, Phillips Close, Woodley.
- 162562 Application for a certificate of lawfulness for the proposed erection of rear dormer extension plus conversion of loft space to habitable accommodation at 123 East Park Farm Drive.

**Council made comments on the following applications**

- 162238 Application for the proposed erection of a first floor front extension over existing garage and single storey side/rear extension to 2, Strathmore Drive – the clerk was asked to comment as follows:

*Council feels that the side extension is bringing the building line forward and could set a precedent for other dwellings along the Old Bath Road. We note that this does not seem materially different from the previous plan that was refused as far as the single storey extension is concerned.*

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

- 161275 Application for the proposed erection of a single storey side extension following demolition and removal of existing garage and carport, change of use of part of existing amenity land to residential at 12, Quantock Close.
- 161384 Application for the proposed erection of a detached single garage, conversion of loft space to habitable accommodation and changes in fenestration at 159 East Park Farm Drive.
- 160618 Application for the proposed erection of a part two storey, part first floor side extension, following demolition of existing garage at 30, Gingells Farm Road.
- 161119 Certificate of lawful Development for the replacement of underground tanks at Texaco, New Bath Road, Charvil.
- 161497 Certificate of Lawful Development for erection of a pergola at 10, Charvil House Road.
- 161646 Application for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension to 6, St Patrick's Avenue.

- 161714 Application for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension to include part demolition and part conversion of existing garage to form habitable accommodation plus single storey front extension to existing garage at 10 Wenlock Edge.
- 162062 Application for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension to 13, Kingsley Close.
- 162419 Full Planning Application for the proposed removal of car wash facility to the rear replacing it with a brickwork store room plus new bollards and staff parking bays at Texaco Garage, New Bath Road, Charvil.

**The Following Applications were refused by Wokingham Borough Council:**

- 160778 Application for the proposed raising of roof to create additional first floor accommodation and the erection of a part single storey part one and a half storey rear/front extension at 11, Park Lane.
- 161565 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/day rooms and hardstanding ancillary to that use on land adjacent to Model Farm Cottages, Bath Road, Sonning.
- 160682 Application for the proposed erection of two link detached bungalows on land to the rear of 70-72 Old Bath Road.
- 161699 Application for the proposed erection of a part single storey part two storey rear extension and alterations to existing dormer extension at Paradise, Beggars Hill Road.

**New Appeals**

- 160778 Application for the proposed raising of roof to create additional first floor accommodation and the erection of a part single storey part one and a half storey rear/front extension at 11, Park Lane
- 160902 Application to erect a single dwelling with a triple garage on land off Waingels Road

**FULL DETAILS OF ALL APPLICATIONS REFERRED TO ABOVE CAN BE FOUND ON: [www.wokingham.gov.uk](http://www.wokingham.gov.uk)**



<b>Meetings of Charvil Parish Council 2017</b>	
9th January 2017	Amenities
<b>16th January 2017</b>	<b>Full Parish Meeting</b>
6th February 2017	Amenities
<b>20th February 2017</b>	<b>Full Council Meeting</b>
6th March 2017	Amenities
<b>20th March 2017</b>	<b>Full Council Meeting</b>
3rd April 2017	Amenities
<b>24th April 2017</b>	<b>Full Council Meeting</b>
<p>MEETINGS COMMENCE AT 8 pm and are held in  THE VILLAGE HALL, PARK LANE.  RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THESE MEETINGS</p>	

<b>Charvil Parish Councillors</b>		
Chris Drew	Chairman of Council	954 5424
John Davies	Amenities Committee Chairman	934 5258
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
<b>Parish Council Officers</b>		
Miranda Parker	Parish Clerk	901 7719
Amanda Burton	Assistant Parish Clerk and Newsletter Editor	07850 234363



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## **Borough Councillor's Report**

Dear Resident

I would like to start this newsletter regarding the issue with Hare Hatch. There was a lengthy meeting that took place within Wokingham Borough Council regarding Hare Hatch and a number of supporters turned up to speak to the council about this ongoing complicated issue.

I would like it to be known that I have and always will support Hare Hatch, this is publicly known within the Conservative Group in WBC. I have received complaints that I did not speak up for Hare Hatch at the meeting and as I explained my hands were tied by the legal department of WBC. My speech of which I will not go into full details, consideration for ideas to reform and changes, not the usual speeches that came out from other group members, although I do agree that we as WBC cannot have one rule for one business and not the same for others. I can assure you all I was not happy that I was not allowed by the Legal Dept. to speak out.

My Colleagues and I will still be working behind the scenes to get this issue sorted so at least there can be some positive issues on both sides to assist all. But unless we are given the green light we cannot publicly come out with our simple rational thoughts. You are going to have to have a little faith that my fellow colleagues in neighbouring Boroughs are doing our level best to assist.

Highways:

Park Lane: The Parish Council feel that to build Pinch points will obstruct traffic by causing further delays down to the Roundabout.

Waingels Road (Bridge) Still in negotiations

Street Lighting

There are a number of street lamps within Charvil that will be replaced, upgraded and replacement of lamps. This is all due to take place in early January, if you have any questions please call me.

The Hawthorns Appeal Hicks

Due to the timings for the publication of the newsletter, we wouldn't have heard about the Hicks appeal dated 12<sup>th</sup> December.

## House Building:

You will have heard about the issue of possibly building 15000 homes in Grazeley. This would be a new town with full infrastructure. However, we cannot sit back on our laurels expecting this to happen with the anticipation that would be the end of development for WBC, as I don't believe it would be. It is known that we here in Charvil could be up against development from the University or the local farmers who could offer their land for building on. Although nothing is to be confirmed until 2019 regarding Grazeley, we need to always be on our guard, which is why the northern borough councillors have started lobbying Theresa May MP, for all development to stop within the WBC area. We cannot take further housing without causing a problem, not only for the infrastructure but businesses who are suffering due to the time it is taking just to get to work. After a survey, an average of 42 minutes to do 5 miles which is costing our local economy a lot of money and eventually the bubble will burst. Business will move out of Berkshire further down the M4 corridor. I therefore, ask you to write to Theresa May MP at [Theresa.may.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:Theresa.may.mp@parliament.uk) The more voices that can be heard the better for our discussions with Theresa May MP.

## 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 wish you all a Happy and Prosperous 2017. I can be contacted on [emma.hobbs@wokingham.gov](mailto:emma.hobbs@wokingham.gov) or 07788 403841.

*Emma Hobbs, Borough Councillor*

### **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.

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

The new season starts on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017 from 6:45pm to 9:00pm.

If interested telephone 01189 345605 for further information.

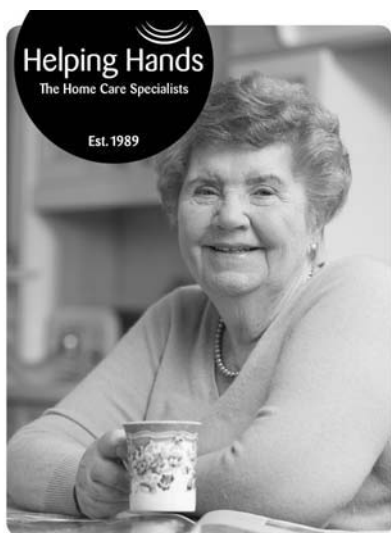
## GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR FOOD WITH HELP FROM re3 AND LOVE FOOD HATE WASTE

Research commissioned by re3, the waste management partnership for Bracknell Forest, Reading and Wokingham Borough councils shows that at 31.9%, food waste makes up almost a third of what goes into re3 residents' rubbish.

It is estimated that 22,836 tonnes of food waste is thrown away a year from houses across the whole of the re3 area of Bracknell Forest, Reading and Wokingham. To put that in perspective, a tonne is the weight of a small car.

Love Food Hate Waste has found that food waste costs the average household in the UK £470 a year. Even the best recyclers who diligently fill their boxes and bins may have, at some time, wasted food, even if it is just the occasional bag of wilted salad leaves. However, this soon adds up. The re3 research shows that a typical household in the re3 area throws away 1.2kg of food a week that was not prepared or taken out of its packaging.

By binning food that could have been eaten, people are paying for it twice, from their household budget, and from their council tax bill for its disposal. re3 sampled waste collected in each council area to assess different waste types. Findings will be used to shape communications to support residents to waste less and recycle more.



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## 12 easy ways to make more of your food and cut down on waste

1. Plan your meals ahead and write a shopping list. It will save you time and money at the supermarket. You may already have what you need for several meals so don't forget to check your fridge, freezer and cupboards before you go shopping.
2. Buy what you need. Don't be tempted by offers if you are not going to be able to eat all your food purchases within their use-by dates.
3. Prepare fruit and vegetables when you first buy them. Wash, dry, dice or slice ingredients for adding to quick and easy home-cooked meals. Storing them in the fridge in plastic containers means they are ready for use, and not languishing forgotten on the bottom shelf.
4. Fruit - except pineapples and bananas - lasts longer if kept in the fridge.
5. Casseroles, curries, frittatas, soups and stir-fries are all great ways to use up Sunday roast leftovers.
6. Store food in accordance with the instructions on the packaging to help it last longer.
7. Rotate your food purchases in your fridge or cupboards. Place your new products at the back and bring older items to the front to help make sure they are eaten within their use-by dates.
8. Some food waste, like potato peelings, is unavoidable, so if you have space, consider setting up a composter in your garden.
9. Hard cheese can be grated and frozen and used to top pasta dishes that are cooked under the grill or in the oven.
10. Keeping your fridge at the right temperature - between 0°C and 5°C - can help preserve food for longer.
11. Bread goes stale much more quickly if stored in the fridge. Keep it in a cool dark place; a bread bin or cupboard is ideal. Bread can also be frozen.
12. Label leftovers before freezing as once frozen, it is often difficult to tell what is inside the box or bag. Freezing food flat in bags rather than in a more rounded shape means that it can be thawed more quickly and provides more freezer space.

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## Charvil Pre-School

We hope that you all had a great break over the festive period. We wish everyone a prosperous New Year.

Our next event will be a Wine and Cheese night in March. Please contact us for any further information.

Please see our calendar for all events at the pre-school. <http://www.freewebs.com/charvilpreschool/>

We currently have vacancies at the pre-school, so please get in contact if you need any information.

The next **Stay and Play Day** will be on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of January, between 10:00 – 11:00.

We are also recruiting for bank staff, so please let us know if you know of anyone that might be interested.

Please contact email: [adm1n.cpc@hotmail.com](mailto:adm1n.cpc@hotmail.com) for booking or more information.

Thank you.

*Johannes Burger, Committee Chair*



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## **Reading & District Cigarette Card & Postcard Club**

The summer outing of the club was a trip to Milestones Museum at Basingstoke, 15 members made their way to the Museum as a result of a talk earlier in the year by Deborah Woodland, a guide and school party co-ordinator at the Museum. It turned out to be a wonderful day out, wandering the mile of streets laid out in Edwardian style with countless displays ranging from early trams to working penny slot machines which were very popular with the younger and older visitors. All sorts of trades and tools were exhibited in re-created working scenes. Other displays showed the development of communications, household appliances including the twin tub!!! T.V.'s, telephones, sewing machines, radios, gramophones, flooding everyone's minds with personal reminiscences. Highly recommended for a fascinating day out for all ages.



The autumn programme began with an interesting talk by our outside regular speaker, Alan Copeland, on "Eccentric London, Part 2". Alan wanders around London observing and photographing street oddities which most people fail to notice.

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The Club's quarterly Auctions are always very popular but of late there has been no collections of old postcards or cigarette cards offered for sale in an auction on behalf of members of the public, details of the auctions, hobbies and the Club can be obtained from Roy Sheppard on 0118-9695155.

Full details can be found on the Club website,  
[www.readingpostcards.com](http://www.readingpostcards.com)

*Roy Sheppard, Publicity Officer*



## Charvil Village Society

For the first time the Village Society ran a quiz on Friday night rather than the traditional Saturday. We really appreciated the support with 15 tables and 110 quizzers turning out to compete for the village trophy. At the end of the evening with a score of 85 (out of 110) 'Don't Trump Us' were the triumphant winners.

The raffle was also generously supported and the monies raised will go to a local charity or charities in the New Year. Looking ahead to 2017, several events are already planned, so please continue to support the Village Society by giving us a call or dropping us an email to book a table. In particular, we need your support for the Race Night on Feb 25.

### Saturday January 28, 2017: Village Quiz at 7:45 pm



Details and bookings through Roger Burns

Tel: 9345524

Bring your own drinks and nibbles,  
£7.00 per person

**Early booking essential**

### Saturday February 25, 2017: Horse-Race Night at 7.45pm

Bring your own drinks and nibbles

Admission £7.00 per person

Bookings through Frazer –

[frazer.dennison@gmail.com](mailto:frazer.dennison@gmail.com)

Tel: Mark - 9343918



### Saturday April 8, 2017: Senior Citizens Concert and Tea



3.00pm to 5.30pm in the Village Hall, Park Lane.

All senior citizens are invited, there is no charge for this event.

Details from Madeleine Boyce - Tel: 934 5260.

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

*Mark A'Bear, Charvil Village Society*

[www.charvil.com/clubs-and-socieities/charvil-village-society/](http://www.charvil.com/clubs-and-socieities/charvil-village-society/)

## **Twyford NHPT Winter Update for Charvil**

Hopefully, you all enjoyed Christmas and New Year. However, while we still have dark evenings don't leave your gifts from Santa on view for an optimistic thief in your home or vehicle. Make sure the postman doesn't have to leave parcels on your doorstep - get them delivered to someone who can accept them on your behalf.

### **Home security**

Now is the time to review your home security, please take a moment to look at our top tips to help keep your property safe:

- Keep your home secure when you go out by locking all windows and doors using good quality locks
- Fit a letterbox cage or restrictor to prevent attempts to open door latches or handles
- Make your property appear occupied when you are out by using timer switches to turn on lights or a radio
- Don't leave keys or any other valuables on view – keep them in a safe place well away from doors and windows
- Ensure that there is adequate security lighting at the front and rear of your property
- Register items at [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com). It's free, takes just a few minutes and if your valuables are stolen, will assist us in reuniting you with your property.

If you feel that you would benefit from a Home Security Assessment, please contact us by dialling 101 and ask to speak to a member of the Twyford Neighbourhood Team.

The cold weather affects the young and old alike. Keep an eye out for your neighbours and if you have any concerns please call us for advice.

### **Team members:**

Sgt 3786 Mark Smith, PC 6401 Simon Botham, PC 4448 Chris Harrison, PCSO C9697 Jackie Daniels and PCSO C3286 Jessica Howells

### **Parking**

This has been an issue throughout the summer which we have been dealing with robustly as necessary.

As people go searching for New Year sales bargains, the demand for parking near our railway stations will increase. Please park carefully, paying special attention to single and double yellow lines around local schools. We continue to support those households and businesses that are experiencing illegal parking issues.



## **Anti-Social Behaviour**

We have seen an increase in anti-social behaviour in the last few months and encourage members of the public to continue to share information with us about this. The team have been actively patrolling those areas which the community have identified as an issue and we have had some good outcomes as a result.

## **Speeding and road safety**

Lately, concerns have been raised about speeding in the parish. The Neighbourhood Team have acted on this and in December conducted speed enforcement and monitoring. A number of people have been issued with fixed penalty notices for speeding and we deal with those using mobile phones whilst travelling through our area robustly.

Remember - speed limits are not targets you need to reach and could be the difference between life and death. An extra 30 seconds on your journey will help you get to wherever you're going safely and may help avoid a speeding ticket.

Think - the inclement weather will start to have an effect on your ability to stop, with rain and ice causing driving conditions to deteriorate. Keep your speed down and remember to check your lights, tyres, anti-freeze and screen wash regularly.

Once again we'll also be on patrol throughout the festive period for drink drivers. Christmas parties, no matter how good they were, will quickly turn sour if you drive home intoxicated, injure yourself or someone else, have an accident or get arrested. Don't take the risk!

## **Sign up to Thames Valley Alert**

This is a free community messaging service allowing the police to inform you by email, text or telephone of incidents in your area as and when they happen. We also pass on advice and can keep you updated regarding meetings and events. Visit [www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk](http://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk) for more details and to sign up.

## **Contact us**

If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighbourhood team you can call us on the police non-emergency number 101. If your call is an emergency then dial 999.

You can also contact us via email: [Twyfordnhpt@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Twyfordnhpt@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk) – please note this email address cannot be used to contact Thames Valley Police to report crimes or for any urgent matters.

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 can visit the force website at: [www.thamesvalley.police.uk](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk).

And now something for the older generations:

As Shaw Taylor on Police 5 used to say,  
***"Keep 'em peeled."***

Have a safe New Year.  
PC Chris Harrison  
Neighbourhood Officer



## Would you like to advertise here?

The Charvil Village News is delivered to all houses in the village.

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**SATURDAY 17<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2017 - Charvil Village Fete**

### Jewel Tones

Charvil-based girls' choir, Jewel Tones, have had a busy Autumn term. The 34 members between the ages of 10 and 18 started the term successfully by winning both the Youth Choir class and the Open Choir class at Maidenhead Festival of Music which was held at Norden Farm Centre for the Arts. The girls sang 'Up on the roof', 'At the end of the day', 'Skye boat song' and 'Out here on my own'.

On November 12<sup>th</sup>, a group from the choir set off for a mini choir tour. Our first stop was Royal Wootton Bassett where we sang at St Bartholomew's Church as guests of local choir Cantanti. We stayed overnight at a local hotel before travelling on to Neath where we shared an afternoon concert with The Sound of Voices and the Tonna Male Voice Choir. After the concert we travelled back to Charvil after the important stop at the motorway services to stock up with sweets!

A Quiz Evening was held at Charvil Hall on November 18<sup>th</sup> which raised £180 for choir funds. On November 27<sup>th</sup>, Jewel Tones joined Time2Sing and Waverley School Choir from Wokingham for their annual concert at Norden Farm. The term finished with several sessions of carol singing and our Christmas meal.

In the New Year the choir will be busy preparing for several concerts and competitions including Music for Youth and Let's Sing Reading. The choir is currently full but we are happy to put any girls who are interested in joining on a waiting list.

*Suzanne Newman – Musical Director*  
0118 9340589 / [suzanneynewman@btinternet.com](mailto:suzanneynewman@btinternet.com)

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**If you are prepared to put yourself forward for these important roles in the life of the village please register an interest with the Clerk, on 9017719 or come along to one of our Monthly Meetings.**

Further information on the work of the Council can be obtained from any Councillor listed on the Parish Notice Boards, from the Clerk or from our web-site -

[www.charvil.com](http://www.charvil.com)

**Closing Date for Applications is Monday  
13th February 2017**

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

It is currently a very exciting time at Sonning Church of England Primary School with building works underway at the school. The works, funded by the Oxford Diocese, include a new office and entrance to the school, refurbishment to some classrooms and internal alterations which will provide space for a new library. The entrance to the school will also be transformed with new gates, fencing and refurbishment to the carpark. The works began in December and are expected to be completed by May 2017.



The school has enjoyed significant support from the local community, enabling the PTA to raise significant funds for improvements to the school playground. Designs are currently being finalised with installation expected in 2017.

The school enjoyed a successful 2016, being recognised again as a 'Good school' after inspection by Ofsted and the Statutory inspection for Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS).

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

*Luke Henderson, Head Teacher*

## **1st Charvil Scouts - in your community**

1<sup>st</sup> Charvil Scouts launched just over two years ago with a Beavers section and has since gone from strength to strength, with recent activities including star-gazing, a Tesco Farm to Fork visit and Treasure hunts in local woods. We then established our Cubs section a year ago and the children are having a great time, working towards challenges including climbing, caving, and designing and building bird boxes. Both Sections have worked towards and gained a number of badges.

After a successful open evening in October we were fortunate to have some volunteers step forward which was great news as it ensures we will have enough leaders to keep the sections running. We are currently inducting new leaders and section assistants who will run the Beavers section from the start of the New Year. We have recently moved some of the older Beavers up into our Cubs group so once the new leaders are up to speed, we will be able offer more places to some of the local children who are on the waiting list. The Cubs are also excited to be moving venue in the New Year from the Piggott Primary School to the Pavilion. So even though 1<sup>st</sup> Charvil is still in its relative infancy, we are entering an exciting phase in the group's development!

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 waiting list, and/or in offering help to the group in the future, please contact us via [charvilscout@gmail.com](mailto:charvilscout@gmail.com). 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.

Chris Jeffery

## 1<sup>st</sup> Charvil Guides

The Guides recently welcomed Quirk's Animal Roadshow to their meeting. Luke began by introducing each of the exotic animals that were contained in the many boxes laid out on tables. He explained how to handle them. Then the girls were free to handle anything. A large Burmese python was very popular as was a chameleon from Madagascar.



There were three other snakes, a giant tortoise and several lizards and geckos. The bravest girls handled a tarantula spider. It was a very enjoyable and informative evening.

*Ruth Hulley, Guide Leader*

## Twyford Library

### 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 February 6, March 6 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** - Arts and crafts fun on Mythical Animals for children aged 4 to 11 years old. Just drop in,

£1.50 charge

Tuesday February 14      11.30am to 12.30pm

**Life's Little Bugs Story session** - Come and meet author Tina Stubbs and meet the Little Bugs, fun story session with activities. For children aged 7 and under.

Tuesday February 21      4pm to 4.30pm



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

[www.charvil.com](http://www.charvil.com)



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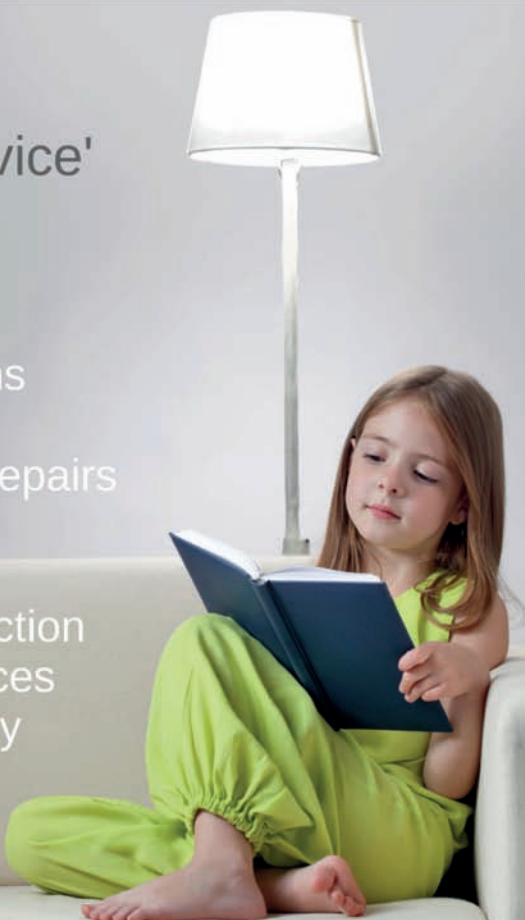




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