
Chineham

Issue 362
March 2014

Chat



Snowdrops herald better weather to come. Photograph by Phil Slater.

March 2014

The Chat has been very fortunate in attracting Maxine Jackson to volunteer as our new Advertising Composer. Maxine will take over from Stewart Ward over the next few weeks.

Maxine works full time as a Graphic Designer but has managed to find a few hours to help the Chat and our local community. Chineham needs more volunteers like Maxine and all the others who work unpaid to improve our neighbourhood and it's facilities. Speedwatch and the school governors are the latest groups to appeal for volunteers.

On the subject of helping, do you have any pictures of Chineham or events in Chineham that we could use on our cover? It's best if they are topical for the season or recent/current events. Just e-mail them to me at the address below. You could also attach an article on the event—we always need interesting and new material.

Dennis Clapp

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Plus 100 others who deliver the Chat free of charge to homes throughout Chineham.

Visit www.chinehamchat.com for back issues and information on advertising.

Please Note

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NEXT COPY DATE: 14th March

Please submit copy to Dennis Clapp, 21 Reading Road or as above.

Your copy can be accepted handwritten, typed, by e-mail or on common format PC disks.

Chineham Village Club

First of all may I take this opportunity to thank all of our members who attended the finance meeting on 13 February. It was a positive session which generated a number of ideas in regard to both cost-cutting and revenue growth. The committee will now look at the outputs in detail and generate an action plan aimed at taking the club forward. This will be published in the club over the course of the next few weeks. We will also be holding a follow-up meeting towards the end of May.

Entertainment events for March are:

Monday 3: Cash bingo in the lounge bar @ 20.30.

Saturday 15: Live pig racing in the sports bar @ 19.30. Families are to welcome to what should be an entertaining evening. Why not come along and try and win some money on the porkers.

Thursday 20: Senior citizens' bingo and lunch in the lounge bar @ 13.00

Saturday 22: Live jazz and funk night with Phar. This is a free admittance, adult-only event.

Saturday 29: Family night with a disco and entertainment in the lounge bar @ 19.00.

Every Friday we have our supervised Kids' Club in the committee room @ 19.00.

Every Sunday we have Texas Hold 'Em poker in the lounge bar @ 19.00 and 21.00.

Finally, don't forget that we cover all major sporting events, including the Champions League and Six Nations rugby on our big screen.

John Prince, Chairman

Chineham Village Hall

Hopefully the spring is on its way, although at the time of writing it certainly doesn't feel like it - we seem to be paying for that long dry summer with a washout winter! For those of you who enjoy running, to date the running trail in the field hasn't flooded, so you might find a bit of respite from the puddles and spray from passing traffic by taking advantage of this amenity whenever the weather is inclement.

In the halls all our regulars are back after school half term break with various sessions for adults, pre-school and school children. The regular yoga class held in the Community Hall on Thursday evenings has now been extended to include a class for beginners and, along with all other events, details can be found on the noticeboard at the entrance to the main village hall.

If you are interested in booking either of the halls or the meeting room for your wedding, party, class, meeting, etc. please contact the Bookings Clerk who will be happy to provide you with details of availability, etc. and to arrange a visit to show you around the venue. The Bookings Clerk can be contacted by telephone on 01256 842745 or by email to chinehamvillagehall@hotmail.com but please note that the she is not always

available to answer the phone, so be sure to leave a message with your contact details and she will return your call. Alternatively you can make an enquiry at our website www.chinehamvillagehall.co.uk.

Lynne Hughes

Chineham Library

This is your local library, help us to meet the needs of our community. Please talk to us about groups or activities you would like to see happening here.

In the library this month:

ChiPPs: Our next session for this reading group for parents will be on Wednesday, 19 March at 10 am. The book for this month is *The Understudy* by D Nicholls, pop into the library for more information.

Over 60s get-together: We would like to thank everyone who came to our Open House session last month, we hope you all enjoyed our 'Love your Library' day.

IT and Biscuits! Would you like to know how to use eReaders? Be more confident using a computer? Then come to our next session on Saturday 8 March at 10am and all will be revealed.

Knitting/Craft group: This session now meets every other Wednesday from 2pm onwards until 3.30pm. Dates as follows : Wednesday 5 and 19 March, Wednesday 2, 16 and 30 April. Just bring your project (knitting, sewing, quilting) along and join in with a cuppa and a chat.

The library is an ideal area for kids to do their homework. Friday night is 'homework help night', pop along after school and we will help you find the right book for that project.

Don't forget every Tuesday morning is baby rhyme at 10.30 and toddler rhyme at 11.15 am. Storytime every Friday morning for pre-schoolers at 11am.

Wendy Castle

Community Governor Wanted

Four Lanes Community Junior School needs a new Community Governor.

Being a Governor is a rewarding and effective way of making a voluntary contribution to your community and to the lives of local young people. Community Governors are appointed by the Governing Body to represent community interests. They live or work in the community served by the school and have a keen interest in the schools success.

We are looking for someone that has:

- * An interest in our children's future
- * Time, energy and enthusiasm
- * A desire to make a difference
- * Readiness to accept responsibility
- * An ability to work as a team
- * Are you happy to ask questions, listen and learn?

If you are interested in becoming a community governor, please contact Tracy Neilson for more information on Tracy.neilson@fourlanes-jun.hants.sch.uk 01256 816326.

Matthew Bailey, Chair of Governors

NWR

We are a lively and friendly group of women who meet at each other's homes on the first Monday afternoon of the month and we would like to welcome new members.

If you are interested and would like to learn more please contact Diane Hope on 01256 325554 or email diane.hope@tiscali.co.uk or Evelyn Jones on 01256 816636 or email evelyncjjones@hotmail.co.uk.

Our programme for this year includes a games afternoon, theatre trip, topical discussion, a pottery lesson, a quiz, a walk and lunch out. We are not too serious and enjoy a good laugh.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Evelyn Jones

Wellbeing and Leisure Fair

This will take place on Saturday 22 March, 11am - 3pm at the Roger Morris Centre, Eastrop Way, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 4QE.

At this spring Fair a range of organisations will come together to provide free wellbeing consultations and leisure advice. Local business and services will offer a range of reduced price taster sessions of: pampers, treatments and physical activities to enable people to experience the benefits and find new ways of improving their wellbeing.

The event will offer leisure information, bring different communities together to socialise, enable those attending to

try new things and make positive lifestyle changes. Entry is free.

A free bus shuttle service will run every 30 minutes from the Basingstoke Bus station to the Roger Morris Centre.

Annie Noble

Conservation Volunteers

It has been great to see some new faces at the work parties and also thanks to the scouts for their work in Great Sorrell's Copse.

Back in the autumn we did some work on the pond in Tollhouse meadow; we managed to clear quite a substantial amount of rushes and weeds and with all the recent rain it is looking very pond like! Tree guard removal in Tollhouse meadow was the next project - we have now removed all the guards on the pond side of the road, as well as a large amount of litter. Now it's just the guards on the other side of the road to do. Coppicing in Great Sorrells we were lucky with the weather and had a lovely morning in the sun clearing an area in the middle and constructing a "dead hedge". Further dates for work parties in Chineham and Popley are to be confirmed, but they always run from 10am-1pm, with refreshments provided half way through. All tools are provided and no experience is necessary. There is no obligation to come every month, so we hope to see you anytime. More information on the BDBC website or from Ann-07718194207 or Helen- 358048.

Helen Haider

Greening Campaign

Greening Chineham is again able to offer free thermal surveys to local residents. If you want to find out where your house is losing expensive heat energy please contact us by emailing to greeningchineham@hotmail.co.uk. Inexpensive insulation in the right place could help you to reduce your fuel bills and at the same time reduce the size of your carbon footprint. We can also offer free use of electricity monitors which can help members of the household to change their behaviour and save energy and reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

You may not have heard of the electric car project which has come to Chineham. A cluster of 10 neighbours in Chineham have worked hard to get on to this project. The trial is researching the effect on the local electricity grid of having a number of electric cars charging overnight. So far there are only seven of these clusters across the country. Each participant in the project leases a new Nissan Leaf car for the duration of the project. For more information see <http://myelectricavenue.info/our-trials>.

Recently I wrote about the activity of the Winchester Action on Climate Change group (WINACC). This group is starting a programme called Cool Communities which in many respects is similar to our Greening Campaign. The Cool Communities programme shows people easy ways to make lifestyle changes to reduce their energy consumption. It is possible to reduce your carbon footprint by 25% in

just 30 days. If you are already doing 5 of the small energy saving actions shown on the Chineham pledge card then you are on the way towards reducing the size of your carbon footprint but much more can be done.



The great thing about this programme is that it has community at its heart. How does it work? In a small friendly team of like minded people you get the support and encouragement needed to really make a difference to energy bills.

There is a handbook which shows exactly how the programme works and how savings can be made. If you would like to find out more come to one of our social meetings, the next one is at 7.30pm at the Chineham Arms on Tuesday 11 March. Go to www.greeningchineham.hampshire.org.uk for the 10 small energy saving actions on the Chineham pledge card or email us for information at greeningchineham@hotmail.co.uk.

Sue Juon

Mobile Phone Found

On Thursday 16 Jan while walking to school with my son at about half past 8, we found an HTC mobile phone in Elvetham Rise. It is white and it appears to work fine in that the display comes on and it all looks OK. I handed it in at the police station so if anyone wants to claim it, that would be the place to go.

Sarah Coles

News from the Beat

Crime update by PC Charlton: Crime and disorder has remained very low over the last month. The only acquisitive crime of note was a theft from vehicle that occurred in Fennel close. A wallet containing money and credit cards, a work laptop, I-pod and a pair of sunglasses were stolen from a vehicle. It is not clear how this occurred as there were no signs of forced entry. It occurred overnight from 5 to 6 February. If you saw anything suspicious or have any information that may help, please contact me on the details below.

Once again, I will take the opportunity to remind residents of the importance of ensuring vehicles are locked and secured when unattended, and that all valuables are removed. It was only a few months ago that we suffered the spate of 30+ thefts from vehicles left unlocked and I do not want to see this happen again.

So far this year (early February) I have arrested 3 people for driving their vehicles whilst over the prescribed alcohol limit in the area of Chineham. The fact that some arrogant and careless people insist on driving their vehicles whilst they are unfit do so is beyond belief. Is it worth risking the loss of a driving licence? Especially when this can lead to the loss of a job, and consequently the loss of a home if unable to pay the rent/mortgage? But most seriously, is it worth placing yourself, and more importantly other people, at risk of injury or worse? If you're one of those people who thinks it is, then ask yourself if you would be able to look the friends, relatives or

loved ones of a person you have injured/killed in the eye and say, "it was worth it?" How you would feel if someone close to you was the victim of a drink driver? It is not worth it. Almost every one of us enjoys drink, but if you need to get somewhere afterwards, you have 3 choices; i) designate a sober driver, ii) get a taxi, or iii) walk.

Anti-social behaviour by PCSO Strauss:

I am pleased to report that ASB remains very low with no current problem areas or people. However we are finding evidence of cannabis use at the children's play park at the top of Cufaude Lane next to the allotments. Needless to say we are frequently patrolling the park and stopping and searching any persons suspected of possessing drugs. This is clearly not a suitable place to abuse any substance and any persons found doing so will be dealt with accordingly.

PC Jim Charlton 21015 and PCSO Richard Strauss 14735

Beat surgery – 1st Wed. of the month at Costa Coffee in the Chineham Centre at 16:30-17:30

Tel: 101 (or request to leave a message using our collar numbers).
james.charlton@hampshire.pnn.police.uk
richard.strauss@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

Did You Know?

Over the last 150 years the average height of people in industrialised nations increased by 10cm (4in).

The tallest nation in the world is the Watusis of Burundi at 1.98m (6ft 6in).

Bridge Over the A33

I've just read the article concerning G C Edwards letter to Sean Woodward.

I live off the Old Reading Road and regularly walk to the Chineham Shopping Centre crossing at the site of the proposed Pelican Crossing. The speed that vehicles exit the roundabout heading north always seems excessive but I am sure is within the 50mph limit. Even reducing the limit to 30mph would not help as I am sure I cannot run fast enough to outpace a vehicle doing this speed.

I totally agree with G C Edwards views. A Pelican crossing would be a complete disaster and a accident waiting to happen.

I had not considered a bridge, but that seems an entirely perfect answer. Especially a visually attractive one such as a much smaller version of the curved bridges over the Tyne in Newcastle.

Maybe we should have a competition to come up with the best design.

Paul Wilson

Swaptogs

I am mum to two very busy children and up until a few years ago worked full time in the IT industry. My eureka moment came when they both came home from school one Monday and said, "we need an outfit for class on Thursday please". Being new to the area I did not have a network of friends I could beg, borrow or steal from and no time to make outfits, so

another expensive trip to town had to be made. The seeds for Swaptogs were planted that day. I examined all the paid and free "sales" sites and the problems I experienced. Now I knew what Swaptogs should offer; low cost yearly subscription, no adverts in the members account area, fast and easy to use, able to buy, swap sell or just give away items, able to list down to local School level and more. Take a look at our how does it work page <http://www.swaptogs.co.uk/how-does-it-work/> for all info on what's different about Swaptogs. We offer the service to Schools and Childrens clubs so that they can re-cycle their unwanted items, and promote any events they may be running, as well as providing a platform for low cost business advertising. Swaptogs has also partnered up with CLIC Sargent, a fantastic childrens charity and will be donating 5% of membership and advertising fees to this fantastic charity at the end of 2014.

To kick start the site we are offering half price membership until the end of September 2014, that's just £5.00 for a years unlimited trading. We hope savvy parents will join us in spreading the re-cycling word and join us at www.swaptogs.co.uk, or drop by our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Swaptogs>. You can email me at admin@swaptogs.co.uk for a chat or to find out more about Swaptogs.

Christine Robertson

Did You Know?

About 13% of people are left handed.

Chineham Parish Council

Following the attendance of some of our Councillors at a recent Hampshire County Council Parish Engagement event where flood risk management was discussed, we would like to remind residents that they have responsibilities in keeping ditches clear that are connected to their properties even though they might be the other side of the hedge/ fence. With this in mind and with an increase in reports of garden waste being dumped in and around ditches in the Parish, we would request that every effort is made to keep ditches clear near to your property. If we can all look after our immediate surroundings then hopefully we will escape more serious outcomes.

The Parish Council has agreed to purchase a publicly accessible defibrillator for the community to use as a rapid response to anybody experiencing a cardiac arrest. This might help within the first few minutes of an attack before the emergency services arrive. They are simple to use - even without training. This unit will be located on an outside wall at the Village Hall. The South Central Ambulance Service suggests that we could have a core number of volunteers who could be called to pick the defibrillator up and attend a local resident in need. We would welcome an indication of residents who might be able to assist the community. Please contact the Clerk if you feel that you could support this initiative. The Parish Council will provide more information when the defibrillator is in place.

Are you concerned by the volumes of traffic using Chineham as a rat-run? The Parish Council is and will be commissioning a traffic study across various locations in Chineham to analyse where the traffic hot spots and numbers are.

We hope that the new footpath through Great Binfields Woods is of benefit to all – particularly to provide a safe route to Great Binfields School and the MUGA.

After working with local residents to address their concerns, we finally should soon be seeing the completion of the Petty's Brook Fitness Trail – ready for us to get outside for some spring time exercise!

The next Chineham Parish Council meeting is to be held on 14 April. It starts at 7.45 pm in the Community Rooms at Chineham Village Hall (the public session will start at 7.50 pm).

The Parish Council is here to help the residents of Chineham, so if there is a Chineham issue you are concerned about, please feel free to contact the Clerk, Sally Jackson on 474500 or email clerk@chineham.gov.uk or the Assistant Clerk, Julia Johnston on 01256 324345 or email assistantclerk@chineham.gov.uk during office hours only please. The Parish Council website can be found at www.chineham.gov.uk.

Did You Know?

The liver is the largest of the body's internal organs. The skin is the body's largest organ.

Why Anonymous?

Why does your "Fed up Resident" correspondent in last month's issue of the Chat, need to hide behind the cloak of anonymity? Your "shy" contributor suggested that I should be using my column to address the issues of shopping trolleys and "Gypsies", although I am sure he means "travellers".

I am not altogether sure what I am supposed to say on these topics beyond what has been said before. Not writing a monthly epistle about a topic does not mean doing nothing. But meanwhile, if your correspondent has any good legal ideas – rather than just being personally offensive – on these topics, I'd be delighted to see how such might be progressed. I'm sure that my colleague councillors would also appreciate such assistance although your correspondent's ire does for some novel reason not extend to a complaint about their failure to constantly write about these matters.

As regards the general topic of my column, I make no apologies. To my mind, energy conservation and climate protection rank as topics of premier importance. If we do not take proper regard of these matters, shopping trolleys and travellers will fade into total obscurity, along with many others.

Cllr Martin Biermann,

Did You Know?

In 1900, a person could expect to live to be 47. Today it is over 70.

Borough Councillor Martin Biermann

Well, when I wrote last month's column, I had no idea what was yet to come!

As I now write, there is said to be even more to come and the nation has meanwhile suffered a pretty big shock. What puzzles me somewhat is that when back in, I think, 2005, Chineham was hardly accessible and Tollhouse Meadow was (as it should be) flooded, we had had less rain than now. Clearly there must have been some improvements elsewhere for the meadow now to be only partially flooded. Even though Thames Water has largely shirked its responsibility to maintain the culverted part of Petty's Brook, the overall system has worked well and despite the Environment Agency's maps, houses have so far (fingers crossed) being protected. Long may it remain so.

Following last month's article, I have received some modest protestations from the local highways team. There was obviously a feeling that I was having a go at them. This was emphatically not the thrust of my message. I believe that with their limited resources they do a pretty good job. The issue is that their resources are far too limited and – in my view – will have to be substantially increased. I am persuaded by the many experts who believe that this is only a taster with more to come in the years ahead. Resilience will then be the watchword.

Martin Biermann
Tel: 01256 352434
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Facebook: Chineham Spotlight

County & Borough Councillor Elaine Still

As I write this article (14 Feb) there seems to be no let up to the appalling weather conditions. To date HCC (Hampshire County Council) Highway Staff have been working around the clock and since Christmas Eve Highway Staff have dealt with 7,000 incidents on the roads, including clearing 1000 fallen trees and so far 50,000 sandbags have been filled across Hampshire. In response to all of this, resources have been diverted from our non-Highways and Flooding work to deal with the current flooding emergency. This means HCC are no longer able to deal with non urgent highways, transport and other matters, or they may take longer to respond than usual.

M3 Junction 6 Black Dam Improvement: The Highways Agency is working in partnership with Hampshire County Council and Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council to deliver the scheme below. County and Borough Councillors have been involved throughout the design process and have had substantial input into the proposed improvements. The Highways Agency are also planning a briefing for the Parish Council early March.

Main construction is planned to take place from July 2014 to March 2015 and will involve:

M3 Spur Road: widening to provide three lanes southbound from Black Dam roundabout to the M3 junction 6 roundabout

A339 Southbound: widening to provide four lanes approaching the roundabout

A339 Northbound: widening into the central reserve to provide four lanes to the A3010 Churchill Way diverge

A30 Ringway South: widening to provide three lanes on approach to/from the roundabout.

Provision of two lanes onto the A339 northbound carriageway

A30 London Road: widening to provide two lanes to the roundabout and two lanes to the four-lane northbound carriageway through the roundabout. Widening to provide two lanes off the exit from the roundabout.

Associated works will include the following:

- realigning all approaches to the roundabout
- installing new traffic signals
- installing new street lighting
- installing new traffic signs to advise motorists of the revised layout
- renewal of road markings

These works are part of the national pinch point programme to reduce congestion and help improve the local economy. The pinch point programme forms part of the UK Government's growth initiative, outlined during the Chancellor's Autumn Statement in November 2011.

Elaine Still

Tel: 01256 880926

Mobile: 07747 862913

cllr.e.still@basingstoke.gov.uk

Borough Councillor Paul Miller

The devastating weather in the form of floods and gale force winds have plagued all parts of the UK and Basingstoke has not been exempt. Fortunately Chineham has escaped the worst of the atrocious weather but I know that some of the residents have lost power on occasions and many have had fences blown over. As I write, there are severe wind and flood warnings in force and the Borough has the Emergency Centres manned to respond to whatever Mother Nature throws our way. The forecasts do not give any indications when this ordeal will fade, but we will be glad when it calms down. It all started back at the turn of the year that seems such a long time ago! I am sure that you will join me in extending our sympathies to those who have had to be evacuated from their homes because of the flood waters and trust they are back home very soon.

The one aspect of the floods that has been surprising is the severe effects caused by rising groundwater and with advent of further development over the next few years, the effect of this feature must be minimised.

Chineham Parish Council and my fellow Ward Councillors have continued to progress the Recreation Facilities programme we started some 6 years ago with the provision of a Fitness Trail based around Petty's Brook. This should be completed as you read this and with the Spring approaching (hopefully), we shall all be able to "check out" the fitness equipment.

Paul Miller

Tel: 01256 467400

Mobile: 07777 659022

cllr.paul.miller@basingstoke.gov.uk

Help Wanted

I can't use a computer because of a health condition. I am looking for an assistant with good typing and computer skills who can help with emails, internet, searches and word processing. In Chineham I would like someone for 2 hours a week at £10 per hour. A weekday morning preferred. Please ring me on 463760.

Ruth Davis

Speedwatch Volunteers

We here at Chineham Speedwatch are also desperate for volunteers to help out.

We share the equipment with Old Basing, and in the period since last April they have "caught" over 100 drivers speeding, whereas here in Chineham we have only "caught" around 6! The difference being that Old Basing have a core of volunteers to help out, whereas we do not. The equipment often sits idly in the cupboard at the community centre.

All that is required is around 1 hour a week over a four week period on alternate months.

If anyone would like to volunteer to help "catch" speeding drivers then please either contact myself at bobr53@orange.net or the Chineham Parish clerk at clerk@chineham.co.uk.

It seems that it is so easy to sit back in the comfort of our homes and say "let someone else do that". Why not give up just a few hours a month to help your community, there are a number of groups in our community looking for

help, and all that is required is just few hours a month.

Bob Ricket

Four Lanes Trust Grants

2014 is the 40th anniversary of the Four Lanes Trust. Since 1974 we have given almost £1,200,000 in grants to over 780 different groups in the Basingstoke district, who are active in the fields of education, the arts and social and community action.

To celebrate our 40th anniversary the Trustees plan to offer up to 40 grants of £250 to local groups in their June 2014 meeting. Bids will be welcome from today and bidding will close on Friday 23 May. There is no application form. Simply, on not more than one side of A4 paper, please tell us:

About you:

- * The name of your organisation
- * Your full contact details
- * What service you provide for the residents of the area

What you want the money for:

- * What will you spend the money on?
- * Who will this benefit?

Send a copy of your most recent accounts with your bid.

Send you application to bobcarr@fourlt.fsnet.co.uk or Bob Carr, 5 Ferguson Close, Basingstoke, RG21 3LA

For more information about The Four Lanes Trust go to www.fourlanestrust.org.uk

Bob Carr, Director

Minister's Message

I was playing indoor cricket recently and a friend bowled a wide ball, which costs three runs indoors, not a problem. The next ball he did the same, no worries but when he did the same the next ball, well, we did have some worries.

It brought to mind some thoughts I'd picked up from a youtube clip. The clip was about what the author called 'the third space'. In a wider presentation he spoke of tennis players and his idea was that what separated the best out, was what they did between points. The best, he suggested, are defined by what they do between points. They reflect on what has happened and then put the point behind them. They relax and find a deep calm and then they focus on the next point – reflect rest and reset!

It struck me that if after the first wide my friend had done this he might have been in a better position to bowl the next balls.

The clip suggests that this use of 'the third space' could also help us in the busy lives that many of us lead. Many of us have busy working schedules and move from one task to the next but are still mulling over what has just happened. We also wear many hats and so perhaps come home still thinking about what has happened at work.

The suggestion is that we can be better in all we do if we use the transition times between things to reflect, rest and reset.

I heard about this from a friend of mind. He is a lecturer in a theological college and one day as we were walking from the college to his home, a journey of probably only 600 metres, he said to me, "when I get to this point I reflect on what has been happening in college. Thank God for what he has been doing in and through me. Now when I get to this point I begin to rest and leave with God the issues still to be sorted out at college. Finally when I get here I reset to being not a lecturer but a husband and a father and to focus on what might be there for me when I open the front door." I think being the father of five perhaps he needed to prepare!

However it struck me that, whether we believe in God and prayer or not, we could all gain by using the third space as we move between things so that we are perhaps better prepared for each thing we face.

Reflect, rest and reset – something to think about as you go on to the next thing.

Ian Bentley, Minister at Christ Church

Christ & Community Church Activities

Welcome to Christ Church Chineham!

Our Sunday services are at 9am and 10.30am, and everyone is welcome! Our 9am services tend to be quiet and reflective. They finish by 10am and include a service of Holy Communion every other week. Our 10.30am services follow the same

theme, and there are groups for children of all ages from 0-18+ (no charge) together with a worship band usually including drums and guitars. During March we will be tracing through Scripture what it is that God has said to the church in the past about service; through this we can reflect on the gifts that God has given us and see how we might use them or are using them in God's service. Take a look at our website for a copy of the sermon programme – www.christchurchchineham.org.uk. On 16 March Richard Turnbull, a previous minister of Christ Church, will be preaching, and we will be having special services on 30 March for Mothering Sunday when all the ladies will be given flowers arranged by the children.

Coffee and Co, our Monday morning cafe, is open from 9.30am to 11.30am every Monday during term-time. There are delicious cakes and “posh” coffee on sale, with drinks and craft activities for the children, and a selection of books, cards and fairly traded groceries on sale.

CCBBies is our Thursday morning group for pre-school children and their parents/carers from 10am to 11.15am – they meet every Thursday during term time. Activities include free play, refreshments, a Bible story, prayers, songs and crafts. There is no charge and all are welcome!

Our next **“Who let the Dads out?”** session will be on Saturday 8 March from 10am to 11.30am – pre-schoolers and their Dads are invited to join us for free play, crafts and music,

not forgetting bacon butties! There is no charge.

Children at primary school are invited to join us for **Kids' Club** on Saturday 8 March from 5-6.30pm. All the usual fun and games will be on offer, and there are sure to be crafts and music too! The entrance fee is £1 – bring some extra cash for tuck and a hot snack, and bring a friend or two as well!

Messy Church will take place on Monday 3 March and also Monday 31 March (yes, two Messy Churches this month!) when families are invited to come along to find out about Jesus and the Bible in a fun and messy way! Doors open 3.45pm for refreshments/games, crafts/activities from 4.15pm, supper is served at 5.15pm and it is time to go home at 5.45pm. There is no charge, although donations towards the cost of the food are always welcome. There is no need to book, but if you are coming and have a special dietary need it would be great if you could let us know in advance.

TGIF Youth Club – young people from year 6 upwards are invited to join us for activities every Friday during term time! The Club will be open from 8-9.30pm. The entrance fee is £1 per person – bring along some extra cash for tuck and bring a friend or two as well. Special activities this month include “Whodunnit?”, Wacky Races and Easter.

Our Prayer Room is open while the building is open. Everyone is welcome to come and sit quietly in prayer and

reflection. On the subject of prayer, if you have any prayer requests please let us know and we will pray for you. "Come and Pray" with us on Monday 24 March from 8-9pm when we pray for our community, our church and our world. All welcome – you do not have to pray out loud and prayers are led.

There will be a service of Morning Prayer at 11am on Tuesday 25 March followed by lunch at 12noon. You are welcome to attend either or both! Lunch costs £4 for adults and £2 for children – just turn up, no need to book. All welcome. If you have any special dietary needs please let us know in advance!

One of our mission partners is the House of Hope in India where children are educated and cared for. On Friday 7 March we will be hosting a Curry Night to raise awareness of the House of Hope – tickets (£7.50 for adults, £5 for children) must be booked in advance and are available from Ruth in the church office.

Competitive? Enjoy a challenge? Come along to our **Quiz Night** on Saturday 29 March! Select your hand-picked team and test your knowledge against Chineham's best! Hot snack food and soft drinks available to purchase – you are welcome to bring your own alcoholic drinks. Tickets £6 per team (maximum of 6 people per team) to be booked in advance with Ruth in the office.

We have a range of rooms that you can hire out on a one-off or regular basis. Perhaps you are looking for

somewhere to host a children's party or a special celebration meal? Or maybe you run a group that is looking for a venue? Our prices start from £7.50 per hour – that rate includes use of the nearby kitchen/snack bar and fairly traded tea, coffee and sugar are provided, as well as squash for any children. A range of groups hire rooms on a regular basis including Slimming World, Tiny Talk and Bridge, and U3A groups such as Painting for Beginners, Family History and Mahjong. For details of current activities and room hire details take a look at our website or contact Ruth in the office.

There will be a **Blood Donation Clinic** at Christ Church on Tuesday 18 March – to book your appointment go to www.blood.co.uk

Thank you to everyone who continues to bring in items for our various charity appeals – as well as collecting used stamps and postcards, the tops from supermarket milk bottles, spectacles, food (e.g. snack pots, tins, tea, coffee, breakfast cereals) for the Camrose Day Centre, and bedding and sleeping bags for May Place, the hostel for the homeless in Basingtoke town centre, bedding and towels for a "safe house", we are also currently collecting socks (new and used, particularly men's socks) and flasks for May Place. You can drop your donations of bedding, flasks and socks into the Church office, or take them directly to May Place. We also collect used inkjet cartridges so if you have any you would like to donate we would be delighted to receive them.

For details about any of our services or activities please contact Ruth in the office (Christ Church, Reading Road, Chineham, RG24 8LT, 474280, admin@christchurchchineham.org.uk) or take a look at our website www.christchurchchineham.org.uk. Also, you can find us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/christchurchchineham) and follow us on Twitter @ccChineham.

Community Church in the School! You will find us at our regular home of Four Lanes Junior School. We are a relaxed group of about 80 people across the age ranges, who meet to worship God in a lively and contemporary way. You will find that we place a high value on the contribution of each person and love to make room for the variety of who each person is when we gather. We have many young people, who contribute a lot to our shared community. To find us come to Four Lanes Junior School for 10am on Sunday or check out the web site at www.bccnet.org.uk/east You are welcome to visit us anytime or to find out more online. If you have a particular prayer request then you can send us a message via the website and we will pray for your situation. Alternatively you can make contact via our office on 01256 316000 and ask for Phil Norris.

Ruth Randall

Basingstoke Choral Society

We are holding a concert on Sunday 6 April at 7pm in The Anvil, Basingstoke.

Music will include Stabat Mater and William Tell Overture by Rossini, and

Te Deum by Verdi.

WE are accompanied by New London Sinfonia and Croydon Philharmonic Chorus under conductor David Gibson.

Tickets are available from The Anvil Box Office on 01256 884244 or www.anvilarts.org.uk.

Fiona Wright

Museum of Army Flying

Observing the Planets : The Museum in Middle Wallop is hosting an Evening of Stargazing on Saturday 8 March at 7pm. The event will allow visitors to learn more about the night sky and the amazing planets in our solar system. Tickets are £6 per person.

Battle Lines : As part of the World War One Centenary Commemorations, the Museum is hosting Forest Forge Theatre Company's production of 'Battle Lines' on 17 April. Looking at the regions experiences of war, 'Battle Lines' will explore the way three wars have shaped the lives of generations. Performances start at 7pm. Tickets are £7 for adults and £4 for children and students. Tickets are available online at www.armyflying.com or from the Museum shop prior to the event and on the door.

Did You Know?

The bones in your body are not white—they range in colour from beige to light brown. The bones in museums are often white because they have been boiled and cleaned.

Basingstoke Discovery Centre

To book visit Basingstoke Discovery Centre in Festival Place, or call 01256 478670. Advance booking is strongly recommended. To find out more about Basingstoke Discovery Centre and Hampshire Libraries visit www.hants.gov.uk/bsdc

Portrait Photography for Beginners: A six-hour workshop on the basics of successful portrait photography with a DSLR, CSC or Bridge camera. Lighting, camera settings and poses will be covered. Sat 1 March, 10am to 4pm, £35.

Riots and Bombs: Walking Tour of Basingstoke to Victory Roundabout and back covering the more violent history to have taken place in this area. With Hidden Britain tours. Sun 2 March, 2pm, £3.

Britain Had Talent: Oliver Double, author of Britain Had Talent: A History of Variety Theatre, will tell you about the comedians, singers, dancers, acrobats, magicians, ventriloquists and other speciality acts who made variety what it was, and show you items from his collection of variety artefacts. Sat 8 March, 2pm, £3.

Hampshire Cricket: 150 Not Out Dave Allen, honorary archivist at the Ageas Bowl, celebrates 150 years of County Cricket in Hampshire by discussing the club's history, developments and key moments along with his new book. Tue 11 March, 2pm, £3.

Floral Fruit and Vegetable Carving: A

rare opportunity to learn to sculpt using fruit and vegetables with professional fruit carvers, Carving Magic. Sat 15 March, 9.30am, £15 (includes all materials).

Educating Basingstoke: Barbara Applin of the Basingstoke Archaeological & Historical Society will highlight many of Basingstoke's schools and colleges over the years. Using school records, newspaper reports and photographs to describe how they were built and used. Fri 21 March, 2pm, £3.

Craft Fair: Meet a range of local craft-makers and find individual, original items for your gift buying. Sat 22 March, 10am to 3pm, free entry.

Hidden Basingstoke Walking Tour: Lasting just over one hour this tour uncovers some of Basingstoke's lesser-known facts. A fun and informative walk of the area around the Discovery Centre. Tue 25 March, 11am, £3.

Everyday First Aid: Suitable for ages 18+, this three hour workshop is for anyone wanting a flexible and informal first aid session, making skills simple to do and easy to remember. Sat 29 March, 1pm, £3

Jack the Ripper: In this entertaining talk, historian Rupert Matthews explains how the police came very close to catching Jack the Ripper, missing him by less than 10 seconds on one occasion, and speculates on why the horrific trail of murders stopped so suddenly. Mon 31 March, 2pm, £3.

Steven Hunt

Four Lanes Infant School

Just before half term, Year R read a book which led them to learn all about winter, the effect it has on their world and to solve the problem of how to get the carrots out of the ice! They learnt how winter changes the environment around them and they were posed a question by the rabbit. His carrots had got frozen into the ice and he asked for their help to get them out. The children had to use their scientific skills to work out what to do, with suggestions ranging from “dropping it on the floor” to “running the ice under warm water” They made some enlightening discoveries like true scientists!

Year 1 have been History Detectives this term and have been learning about homes and wash days in the past. They went on a school trip to Milestones museum and learnt about how many changes there have been since Victorian times to help mummy and daddy do the washing. The children had a wonderful time and had a lot to say about it. “I think you would have to be very strong to do the washing in the olden days because you had to do it in a bucket.” All of the children learnt something new and the highlight of the trip was the “man sitting on the toilet because they didn’t have bathrooms indoors!”

Year 2 have looked at the country Kenya in Geography and compared it with our own home in Britain. The children were able to look at real Kenyan artefacts which then influenced their fantastic drawing art work. In science they have been looking at materials and the changes

that you can make to them. “We were real scientists and we got to do experiments!” They learnt where the best place was for ice to melt and what would cause this to happen.

Four lanes Infant School would like to invite any member of the community who is interested in sharing a skill, talent or interest with the children to contact us on 01256 324256 and we will call you back. Thank you.

Miss Allen and the children of Four lanes Infant School

Divorce Recovery Workshop

This six session course helps divorced or separated people to come to terms with a relationship that has irretrievably broken down.

It is run and facilitated, not by professionals but by those of us who have experienced the breakdown of a marriage or relationship and who have benefited from the support both during and following the workshop.

Our next Workshop will start on 27 March in Basingstoke.

For further information telephone Jane on 850942 or 07580 453079 or email basingstoke@drw.org.uk or visit our website www.drw.org.uk.

Alan Fletcher

Did You Know?

A person remains conscious for eight seconds after being decapitated.

Nature Notes

I am hoping to revisit the snowdrops at Welford Park near Newbury, but in view of the weather and that the river runs right through, I phoned to check the situation. I was informed that the River Lambourn had not risen over the banks, the flowers were looking good and although the ground was boggy, it would be fine for a trip. All I need now is some sun. The flowers cover a vast area and look like a covering of snow. There are so many it is fantastic. The medieval monks brought them from France because of their medicinal properties. Possibly the plants were divided each year and after eight hundred years have spread themselves out aided by floods at times. There had been a monastery here and a number of other large snowdrop colonies in Britain have also proved to be on the sites of churches or monasteries.

The Snowdrop ,which was associated with purity ,was brought into churches on 2 February, the Feast of the Purification (Candlemas). I am attempting to discover why this date is so important in weather -lore. This year 2 Feb was a glorious day which boded ill for the weather. (If Candlemas day be fair and bright, winter will have another flight) or variations depending on the part of the country you were raised.

As I write this, I am wondering if it will reach the editor. The wind is rising but apart from flickering lights, we have been luckier than a lot of the country. At least Chineham's wildlife shouldn't be too affected, whereas in places covered by water for so long, it will take many years for life to return.

I hope your relatives are not affected by this terrible situation.

Please keep watching and let me know on ginny.wright2@btinternet.com or 479562.

Ginny Wright

Old Basing Bowling Club

We are getting ready for the 2014 season which runs from 20 April until 14 September. Old Basing Bowling Club has been running for 65 years and has excellent facilities for both bowling and social purposes including our own bar.

There is a full schedule of friendly matches each weekend; we play league games every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday; plus internal and inter-club knock-out competitions. In addition we have two informal evenings on a turn-up-and-play basis.

Come and have a go at the club on the Old Basing recreation ground next to the Parish Council offices. We have two formal Open Sessions planned for new or experienced players: 27 April between 2pm to 4pm and 4 May between 10am and 12pm or alternatively turn up on any Thursday evening through the season. Our three qualified coaches will be only too pleased to help. Please bring flat shoes, preferably with no tread, thank you

More information can be found on www.oldbasingbowlingclub.co.uk.

John Fountaine

Four Lanes Community Centre

Knit and Natter: This course is suitable for all abilities. It is a great chance to see what other people have made, to find new patterns and pick up some wool and along the way make some new friends. Don't be shy about coming along to join us. If you think this is something you would like to do, contact the office to discuss what days and times works best for you. We will set up a register of interest.

Messy Play for Dads: Saturday 8 March 10.00am to 12.00pm. Great fun for children and adults alike, using their senses to explore and develop their co-ordination, fine motor control and to develop number skills. Contact us to register your interest

Learn through Play: This is a joint course for parents/carers of pre-school children. Enjoy fun activities with your child. Starts Friday 9.30 to 11.30am date to be confirmed. Contact us to register your interest.

Get My Digital SLR on to Manual: 5 week course. An introduction to Digital SLR/Bridge Camera photography. Starts Monday 3 March 7.00pm to 9.00pm. Cost £45.

Creative Digital Imaging: 5 week course. Starts Tuesday 4 March 7pm to 9.00pm. Cost £45

Intermediate Digital SLR: 5 week course. Starts Wednesday 14 May 7.00pm to 9.00pm. Cost £45.

Fitsteps: (Junior Hall) All the moves from ballroom and latin dances set in a fitness class. Contact Helena on

0 1 1 8 9 8 8 9 7 4 4 o r
Helena.housego@btinternet.com for more information. Thursdays, 7.45pm to 8.45pm. Cost £6.00 per class or £20.00 per month.

Pilates: (Community Room at Junior School). All abilities welcome. Tuesday 7.00pm to 8.00pm. Cost £5.00 per week pay as you go. Contact as Hot Yoga. Please telephone Suzy on 07837 719716.

Fitness Freestyle Yoga: (Infant Hall) Yoga based fitness class without the spirituality. Mondays 8.10pm to 9.10pm. Costs £5.00 per week on a pay as you go basis. Contact Louise on loubemit@gmail.com or 07985 676201.

GOL: Mondays at Junior School and Tuesday at Infant School. 3.40pm–4.40pm. Contact Doreen at GOL on 01256 381652.

Holiday Play Scheme: Open to school children aged from 4 to 11 years. The Holiday Play Scheme provides a fabulous day of activities supervised by our friendly and professional team to keep the children amused with arts and crafts, sports, games and fun food. The Holiday Play Scheme runs through every school holiday and inset days and is lots fun. We have 2 options for sessions times:
Session A 8.30am to 4.00pm – price £14.75
Session B 8.30am to 5.30pm – price £18.00

Virginia Wyatt Tel: 810499
www.fourlanescentre.com

Basingstoke Civil Service Retirement Fellowship

The speaker on Wednesday 5 February was Brian Spicer who had been the estate manager at Hackwood House. He titled his talk "Sale of the Century" which was the name given to the auctioning off of the contents after Lady Camrose had died in 1997. The sale eventually raised £7.3 million over 4 days with 7000 people viewing the items. He gave details of the prices fetched for particular pieces of furniture and finished by advising anyone interested in buying antiques to always ask Who? What? Why? and When? about any item they intended buying.

The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Brookvale Village Hall from 10am - 12 noon and all retired Civil Servants and their partners are welcome. The next meeting on 5 March will be the AGM followed by lunch at the Conservative Club in Bounty Road.

Details about future trips can be obtained from Kate Lambeth on 01256 328791 and for further details about the group please contact the Secretary Tony Brazier on 01256 418770 or at bjmapbr@ntlworld.com.

David Cowling

Head Teacher Reports to Probus

Roger Busk, a retired junior school head teacher, who these days is chair of governors at a different school, was the speaker at the Probus Club of

Basingstoke. His career spanned seven prime ministers and fifteen ministers of education with each one having their own views of the educational system of their day.

The introduction of the national curriculum complemented by teacher training has had a significant positive effect on schooling. Inset training, brought in by Kenneth Baker, started to improve how things went on in the classroom and these ensured continued development.

Ofsted inspections are gradually raising the bar so what was considered a satisfactory inspection of a school previously now may require attention to certain aspects. This is not necessarily a case of falling standards but a requirement to keep advancing.

Potential members of the Probus Club of Basingstoke can have an initial chat with the secretary Gerry Anslow, on 325253 or gerry.anslow@talktalk.net. The club's web site www.probusbasingstoke.webs.com has full details of its activities.

Paul Flint

Garden Shop

Old Basing Allotment & Garden Society, Riley Lane, Old Basing. (opp Bolton Arms pub) shop is open every Sunday 2 March to 29 June, 1030 to 12 noon.

Membership costs £5. There is also a plant sale on Sunday 11 May.

Contact Tony Stoney on 479951.

Café Scientifique

Café Scientifique meets in Basingstoke on the last Monday of the month (excluding bank holidays) at The Tea bar, 9-13 London Street, Top of Town (next to the Post Office).

Come and explore the latest ideas in science and technology for the price of a cup of coffee or a glass of wine. Come along at 7.00pm to buy drinks and cakes before the talk starts at 7.30pm. The talk lasts 30/40 minutes; we then have a short break followed by discussion and aim to finish around 9.00pm.

Entry is free, but we do encourage you to buy drinks and cakes at the bar to show your support for The Tea Bar who sponsor us, providing the venue.

To see our full calendar of events, details of the talks below and receive email reminders of what's happening, join our Meetup Group at: www.meetup.com/cafesci-basingstoke

Future talks for 2014:

Monday 31 March: Prof Toby Tyrrell, Southampton Oceanography Centre – “Life and the environment - an evaluation of the Gaia hypothesis”

Monday 28 April: Dr Jon Copley, Southampton University – “Discovering new life and new resources in the deep ocean: a choice for our future”

Monday 19 May: Prof John Shepherd, Southampton University – “Climate Change: What's happening and what can we do about it?”

Monday 30 June: Dr Ken Collin,

Southampton University – “Cetaceans: from whaling to dolphin healing”

Monday 28 July: TBC

Monday 18 August: TBC

Monday 29 September: Dr Rob Ewing, Southampton University – “How do proteins communicate? Mapping the network of proteins in the human cell”

Bob Clifford

Cancer Fundraiser

Pelican Cancer Foundation is hosting a fundraising event, a private viewing of 2013's critically acclaimed British-Asian comedy Jadoo.

Jadoo is a colourful and engaging food-feud-and-family comedy feature film set in Leicester. It centres on two brothers, both chefs, who fall-out catastrophically and set-up rival restaurants, on opposite sides of the same road.

In an unmissable opportunity, guests will also be joined by a member of the production team who will introduce the film. In keeping with the theme of the evening, tickets also include a delicious 2-course Indian meal.

The event takes place on Thursday 20 March at 7:00 pm in The Ark Conference Centre, Basingstoke Hospital.

Tickets cost £25 and can be purchased by contacting Pelican on either events@pelicancancer.org or 01256 314 746 .

Abby Blackwell

SOLVE

The Council Planning Infrastructure and Scrutiny Committee (P&IOSCOM) on 30 January decided to recommend an unchanged Local Plan (LP) housing target of 748hpa. After uncertainties over the assumptions on economic and employment growth they went against the recommendation from the Borough Planning Officers to increase this to 807hpa. One Councillor suggested the Officers were 'naïve' if they accepted the assumptions given the record on past predictions.

Councillors also questioned the consequences of Council's Economic Growth Strategy used by developers to show the need for more people to move into the town rather than improve the prosperity of those already here. Handing developers a weapon with which to press the case for increased housing in the Borough was not the smartest move.

CountryWatch and SOLVE have prepared a proposal to reduce the Local Plan period. In essence we are proposing a 15 year plan, 2011-2026, instead of the proposed 18 year plan to 2029. Adopting a 15 year plan, which is all that is required, reflects the position of other neighbouring councils and would reduce the Borough housing target by 2,400 homes. If the longer period is adopted it would allocate, some say blight, some sites for an unnecessarily long period of time and simply increase developers' land banks.

SOLVE is lobbying Councillors to reject the Officers housing growth agenda and instead reflect the very clear wishes of residents across the

Borough that we have already carried more than our fair share of development.

Meanwhile the extremely wet weather continues and demonstrates the consequences of development on and around river flood plains. We have a number of photographs of flooding problems in and around Loddon Valley. If anyone has any they wish to share with us please send these to our email address info@solveloddon.org.

For more information go to <http://www.solveloddon.org/>

Peter Bloyce

Design a Flower Bed

The competition for seven to 11 year olds living in the Borough invites them to create a design to reflect the First World War Centenary.

Flowers of different colours will be used to recreate the winning design in a prominent oval flower bed in Eastrop Park in Basingstoke in June, together with a sign giving the name of the young designer. As well as seeing their design actually bloom, the winner will receive a £50 Festival Place voucher. The runner-up will also receive a £50 Festival Place voucher and all entrants will receive a certificate.

The closing date for entries is Sunday 23 March. For more information on the competition and other activities to mark the centenary, see www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/WWI100, email WWI100@basingstoke.gov.uk or call 01256 844844.