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# Chineham

Issue 398  
March 2017

# *Chat*

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Daffodils Photograph by Peter Malcolm.

## March 2017

Last year we ran a bit of a campaign in the Chat. It had come to our attention that some households in Chineham were not receiving their monthly copy of the Chat correctly. Some were not receiving a copy at all, some were receiving them only intermittently, and some were receiving them late. As a result of that campaign we received reports from a lot of the problem areas. This was hugely useful, as it has enabled our Distribution Coordinator to refresh and replace road distributors in the relevant areas. So this is a reminder to everyone to keep on expecting your copy of the Chat every month within a week or so of the first of the month. Obviously there may be one-off problems—real life can sometimes intervene for anyone—but if you have regular “issues with your issues” then please keep right on letting us know. We can only fix what we know to be broken!

On that subject, we are now with some sadness starting our hunt for a replacement Distribution Coordinator and also a Team Administrator as our wonderful Laura will be moving out of the area in the future. With shoes as big as hers to fill we will need to ensure we allow plenty of time. Could you be the next integral cog in the Chat team? Please see page 10 for a brief description of each role.

Jo Appleford-Cook

### The Chineham Chat Team Contacts

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#### **Treasurer**

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#### **Advertising Composer**

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#### **Webmaster**

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

**Visit [www.chinehamchat.com](http://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 Jo Appleford-Cook, 16 Guinea Court or as above.

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

## Chineham Village Club

Entertainment events for March include the following:-

**Rugby Union 6-Nations:** All games will be shown on our big screen and on our lounge bar TV. Also, we will have reduced prices on all draught beers and some wines when any of the home nations are playing.

**Monday 6th:** Join us and try to win some generous cash prizes. The action starts at 20.00.

**Thursday 16th:** Senior citizens' bingo and lunch. The afternoon starts at 13.00.

John Prince

## Chineham Village Hall

There have recently been some changes to the timetable of events taking place in the halls, including some new classes, so an updated list of activities is shown below for your information.

### Main Hall

**Monday:** Gym Minis: 9.30–11.30 am, (Shelley 07769 916299);

**Pilates:** 12–1pm, (Pam pamsteele@idnet.com);

**David Smith Dance:** (see [www.davidsmithdance.com](http://www.davidsmithdance.com) for further details/timings or David 07791 749163);

**3rd Chineham Brownies,** 5.30–6.55pm;

**1st Chineham Guides,** 7–9pm;

**Tuesday:** Caterpillar Music: 9.40–11.40am, (Jasmin 07952 935021);

**Aerobics:** 7.30–8.30pm, (Tracey 07707 681070, [tcercise2010@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tcercise2010@hotmail.co.uk));

**Wednesday:** Yoga: 10.15–11.45am, (Maria 07771 921185);

**Lynden School of Dance:** 3.45–6pm, ([Lyndendance@aol.com](mailto:Lyndendance@aol.com));

**Weight Watchers:** 6.30–8.00pm, (07884 240215);

**Zumba:** 8.30–9.30pm, (Rina 07971 553658);

**Thursday:** Slimming World: 9.30am, 11.30am, 5.30pm, 7.30pm (Faith 07966 933994);

**Friday:** Caterpillar Music: 9.30–11.30am, (Jasmin 07952 935021);  
**Lynden School of Dance:** 3.45–6pm, ([Lyndendance@aol.com](mailto:Lyndendance@aol.com));

**David Smith Dance:** (for contact details see Monday);

**Sunday:** Karate, 6.30–8pm, (Sam 07919 338556);

**David Smith Dance:** (for contact details see Monday).

### Community Rooms

**Monday:** 1st Chineham Rainbow Guides: 5.30–6.30pm;

**Craft Circle:** 3rd Monday of every month, 7.30–10pm;

**Tuesday:** Music with Mummy: 10am–12.30pm, (Cathy 07766 931170)

**Yoga:** 7–8pm, (Chris 07712 427428);

**Wednesday:** Talking Tots: 9.30–10.30am;

**Yoga:** 7.15–8.30pm, Maria 07771 921185;

**Thursday:** Little Pumas: 4–6pm, Kate 07887 993207;

**Saturday:** Young Yogis: 9.30–11.30am, [youngyogiswithg@gmail.com](mailto:youngyogiswithg@gmail.com).

These details can also be found on our calendar at [www.chinehamvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.chinehamvillagehall.co.uk) and on the noticeboard outside the main hall. If you are looking for a venue for a party or to hold a regular class or meeting please contact our booking telephone line on 07935 328172, email [chinehamvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:chinehamvillagehall@gmail.com) or complete an enquiry form/check on room availability at our website [www.chinehamvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.chinehamvillagehall.co.uk).

Lynne Hughes

## Chineham Library

March sees the start of a new venture in some of the libraries in our area: the 'Discussing Dyslexia' series of talks. These cover a range of aspects of dyslexia, from secondary school challenges to giving confidence and coping strategies. There will be five talks from the 2nd March to the 11th May, with each session costing £4 to attend, or there is an offer of £15 to attend all five. Further information is available from Chineham Library and the library websites.

The regular children's activities include preschool storytimes on 11th, 18th and 25th of March at 10am and rhymetimes every Tuesday, with under ones at 10am and over ones at 11am. Saturday craft on 4th March will have a Mother's Day theme, and runs from 10am, with the next craft session being 1st April. The Construction Club for children to play with Lego is every Saturday from 2–3.30pm. The Chatterbooks group for primary school age will meet on 16th March and 13th April, where children discuss books and make crafts. The Coding Club is now successfully up and running, with a waiting list.

The reading groups meet as normal with the Crime Group on 4th March and 1st April and the CHIPPS group on 15th March and the 12th April. Crime Group starts at 10.30am, and CHIPPS at 10am, with new members welcome at both. Age Concern still provide computer assistance for the over 50s on Wednesdays from 10am–1pm, with places bookable via 423874. Dates for the Colour and Create adult colouring group are 8th and 22nd March and 5th April. One final date to note is Wed 8th March, when Chineham Library will not open until 2pm. All library staff in our area are attending an important staff development session. For that reason, all the other nearest libraries will be similarly affected. We do apologise for

any inconvenience which this may cause. For further details about any events please check social media, or contact the library.

Cathy Foster

## Chineham WI

Chineham WI usually arrange an annual meal in February and this year we enjoyed a Chinese banquet at The Mayflower Basingstoke. We had a super meal with lots of chatter and laughter. In January our members experienced history from memory, not just from a book, when our speaker, Mr Ernest Unger, gave us a very moving insight into the holocaust from his personal experience. In February some of our quick-witted members entered a team for the Charity Mayor's Quiz at BCOT again. Last autumn, the National Federation of WIs combined with Salisbury Museum for an unusual creative venture. WI members were invited to craft spoons using natural textiles such as wool and cotton by knitting, crochet or sewing. The textile spoons were dipped in porcelain and fired in a kiln with a view to exhibiting the finished porcelain spoons. You can see the exhibition, "Spoons—a stirring tale" at Salisbury Museum between 8th April and 3rd September.

Whatever your interests, Chineham WI provide a varied programme of events including intellectual topics, craft demonstrations and social events. An annual subscription of £39 guarantees you eleven monthly meetings together with regular copies of the WI Life magazine and the opportunity to join a warm and lively group of local ladies. Our next meeting is on Monday 27 March at 7:30pm at Christ Church, Chineham and our upcoming meetings include:

**27 March** Craft evening

**24 Apr** Talk (Deborah Woodland, Milestones)

**22 May** AGM - Select the Committee

Pam Malcolm, Chineham WI

## **Farleigh Wallop Woodland Walk**

Register for a wonderful spring day out at Lord Portsmouth Estate, Farleigh Wallop, Hampshire as St. Michael's Hospice have again organised walks on Sunday 9th April. With beautiful views across the rolling Hampshire countryside, blooming bluebells and the opportunity to spend quality time with friends and family, two legged or four legged, what better way to enjoy the new season.

Starting from 9.30, there are two routes, 5 or 10 miles with both guaranteed to give you a superb day out. At the end, you will be welcomed to help celebrate the Hospice's 25th Anniversary by enjoying a delicious cream tea in the stunning setting of Home Barn.

To sign up and for more information please visit the Hospice website: [stmichaelshospice.org.uk/events](http://stmichaelshospice.org.uk/events) or call fundraising on 01256 848 848 or follow us on Twitter @smhbasingstoke #WoodlandWalk

Sue O'Flinn

## **NWR**

Following our planning meeting on 6th February we now have a varied and interesting programme for the year ahead. As well as our monthly lunches and book group meetings we have some interesting discussions including: Wedding customs around the world; The NHS; Mindfulness; Highs and lows of working life; All about Italy (including food and wine of course!) and our own version of Desert Island discs. Also a trip to Jane Austen's house, a talk by the Manager of Chineham Library and, sometime ahead, a trip to Valkenburg and Maastricht Christmas Markets.

For our next meeting, 2pm on Mon 6th March, we will be discussing Manners: the

good the bad and the ugly. We will also be joining other groups for our annual Area Quiz Night, hosted by Sherfield on Loddon on 17th March. We hope to do well but not too well as the winners have to organise the quiz for next year.

Our meetings are usually in the afternoon in each others' homes with some evening meetings. There is a lot of information on the website: [nwr.org.uk](http://nwr.org.uk) or to find out about our group, or to come along to any of our meetings (to check us out with no obligation to join) please contact Avril Keable, email: [avrilkeable@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:avrilkeable@hotmail.co.uk) tel: 01256 322832 or Evelyn Jones, email: [evelyncjones@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:evelyncjones@hotmail.co.uk) tel: 01256 816636

Diane Hope

## **The Sherbornes Art Exhibition**

The Sherbornes Art Exhibition (Sherborne St John Village Hall, RG24 9HP, Sat 22 April 10am-5pm and Sun 23 April 10am-4pm) is a biennial event formed over 8 years ago by artists Pat Burt and Lindsay Berry, to exhibit their own work and to invite different artists each year to join them in raising funds for charities close to their hearts.

Works from the original group of painters led by Mike Hall, a professional artist, comprising Pat Burt, Richard Turner, Tom Anderson, Jenny Finch, Nicky Bunker, Judith Hinsley, and Linda Bliss are included along with invited local guest artists, sculptors and ceramicists. The aim is to keep the exhibition as "local" as possible, whilst providing a quality show with a variety of artistic styles. The charities benefiting this year are Sherborne St John Village Hall and Sebastian's Action Trust.

Lindsay Berry

## **Great Binfields Primary School**

Our topic this term has been toys. We brought our toys into school for a whole week! During this week, we sketched them, created a story about our toys coming to life and went outside to plan a journey for them to go on!

In Art, we have been studying the artist Andy Warhol. We then created our own pictures of toys and turned them into pop art pictures! We will also be creating pop art bunting with toys on for our Grandparents' tea party. At the tea party, our Grandparents come in to school to have some tea with sandwiches and cakes and tell us what toys and games they had when they were children. We will be making some games for them to play when they come to visit.

We even managed to turn Maths into fun. We have been naming 3D shapes and creating our own 3D robots, and in ICT we have been creating our own Lego movies using iPads! For a treat we took part in a drama session with Perform and went on a fairy tale adventure! What a busy time we've had so far!

Chestnut and Oak Classes (Year 1)

## **Travelling Trends**

A fashion show to raise funds for the Pink Place (local cancer charity) will be held at 7pm (show starts 7.30pm) on Thursday 27th April at The Holiday Inn, Basingstoke. Travelling Trends allows you to try on, buy and take home garments that same night with no ordering. Tickets are £10 and include a welcome drink. Contact Kathy on 07769 947540, email [kathymarian1@aol.com](mailto:kathymarian1@aol.com) or the Pink Place 07899 970841 email [info@thepinkplace.org.uk](mailto:info@thepinkplace.org.uk).

Natasha Walsh

## **Tickled Pink**

Tickled Pink, a comedy night in aid of the Blue Space (male cancer support) will be held at 7.30pm on Saturday 25th March at the Red Lion Hotel, Basingstoke. Featured will be Zoe Lyons (from TV shows such as Live At The Apollo), Steve Day, Jan Jack and MC Phil Dinsdale. Tickets £20; book online via [www.thepinkplace.org.uk](http://www.thepinkplace.org.uk).

Natasha Walsh

## **Hospital Radio Basingstoke**

Hospital Radio Basingstoke is the free radio service for the patients and staff at Basingstoke and North Hants Hospital. Our aim is to provide information and entertainment to patients, and our programmes cover requests, dedications and a range of shows of all types, from comedy and plays to specialist music. Listen at [webradio.radiomonitor.com/m3u/HRBasingstoke](http://webradio.radiomonitor.com/m3u/HRBasingstoke).

We provide programming 24 hours a day but most importantly, our request shows are on the air in the evenings and during the day at weekends. We are always looking for new members to join the HRB team. Full members will be shown how to produce and present a regular show, while ward visitors spend time visiting patients, collecting requests and promoting the station. In addition to presenters and ward visitors we are particularly looking for anyone who may be interested in one of several Committee positions: Fundraising Officer, Public Relations Officer, Secretary or Station Manager.

For a chat about volunteer opportunities on HRB contact Roger Scott on 782477 or email [mailbox@roger-scott.co.uk](mailto:mailbox@roger-scott.co.uk) You can also check our website at [www.hrbasingstoke.co.uk](http://www.hrbasingstoke.co.uk)

Roger Scott, HRB Committee Member

## Nature Notes

The first signs of spring are later this year. Even the snowdrops, sheltered under the large holly bush, took for ages to appear and are only now just in bud. The winter aconites beat them into flowering. In case you don't know this delight, it has a large yellow buttercup-shaped flower, surrounded by a green frill.

Whilst standing in that area I noticed that all the berries had been stripped from the holly. There are always rustlings emanating from that direction, so, it could have been any of the blackbirds, wood pigeons or starlings that I see frequently. I have counted five blackbirds at one time, with four cocks scrapping. There is one blackbird that enjoys splashing in the large dish of water, regardless of any other birds. Today, I watched as a collared dove sat on the rim drinking daintily, ignoring all the frantic washing taking place at the other end. I think it may be the same blackbird who fastidiously removed one leaf at a time before his ablutions, last year. Thankfully, I do not now have to pour boiling water over the ice.

The squirrel has returned a number of times to raid the bird feeders. It is not content to climb down to eat nuts on the ground, but hangs from branches. I spotted it standing on a medium sized branch in the evergreen *Elaeagnus* eating a nut. It then stretched back to the hanger, selected a nut, balanced back to consume it, and continued until it had eaten its fill. I know squirrels are really rats with furry tails, but they are cute in this part of the country, where the red ones do not need our protection. I hope it doesn't end up squashed crossing to the main wood.

The catkins on the hazel trees on Thornhill Way are swinging in the breeze. Hopefully, the gales have finished, so they will dance

for a few more weeks. I must visit Tollhouse Meadow to check on the alder catkins and see if any frogspawn has been laid in the pond. Please inform me if you see any. The frogs in my small pond have not yet appeared so I must replace the shallow dish in which they always like to lay their frogspawn.

Ginny Wright  
ginny.wright2@btinternet.com  
479562

## Chat Admin and Distribution

The Chat is looking for a replacement Administration and Distribution Coordinator to replace a departing team member. If either of these roles appeals to you then please contact [editor@chinehamchat.com](mailto:editor@chinehamchat.com) or [distribution@chinehamchat.com](mailto:distribution@chinehamchat.com) for more information and an informal discussion.

**Chat Team Administrator:** Maintain a list of team members/contact details, minutes of the Chat meetings held every 3 months, organise/print agenda for each meeting, copy all updated Chat spreadsheets, minutes etc. to the Chat Dropbox, archive copies of the Chat with the Archivist at the Hampshire Records Office, liaise with the Editor to proof each copy of the Chat.

**Distribution Coordinator:** Collect copies of the Chat from printer, divide into 10 distributor groups, deliver to each area distributor, maintain records of area and road distributors plus a list of emergency volunteers, replace retiring area and road distributors as necessary, organise annual gift vouchers for all distributors.

Jo Appleford-Cook

## **Smear Test Attendance Urged**

Our GP Practices want to enlighten women about the importance of attending their smear test. You may think it's not a great topic to highlight here, but it could save lives. With better treatment, the Cervical Screening Programme and the availability of HPV vaccines (the anti-cervical cancer vaccination for young girls), the survival and prevention of cervical cancer has improved dramatically in the last decade. However, a staggering number of women are being diagnosed with cervical cancer every day and sadly three will also lose their battle against it.

One of the biggest reasons for this is not attending the screening programme (commonly known as the smear test) when invited. This picks up changes in the cells of the cervix before cancer has developed. All women aged 25-49 receive an invite to attend every three years, and those aged 50-64 every five years. Despite this, many young women are not attending their smear tests. GPs are encouraging all women to get a test booked as soon as you receive the invite.

GP and cancer specialist Dr. Charlotte Hutchings said: 'Cervical screening prevents around 5000 cases of cervical cancer every year in the UK. It is a concern that the test in younger women is decreasing in North Hampshire. We need to educate women about the test sensitively so they can make an informed decision about whether to have the test. Screening is an important part of the fight for better cancer survival in the UK.' For more information about cervical cancer please go to the NHS Choices website: [www.nhs.uk/conditions/cancer-of-the-cervix/Pages/Introduction.aspx](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/cancer-of-the-cervix/Pages/Introduction.aspx).

Gilly Duckworth

## **WW1 Beacons**

On 11th November 2018 a chain of around 1,000 beacons will be lit around the UK to

commemorate those who fought in World War 1. While I realise that almost no-one is still here from that time, many of us appreciate the sacrifices made then by members of our family and strangers by buying a poppy, going to a family grave or watching programmes on TV. This is likely to be a huge nationwide celebration. Would you like Chineham to be involved in that big celebration next year? Do you believe that children should learn about what happened then (and two decades later in WW2)? Would you be prepared to help in some way on the day or beforehand? Perhaps your school, business Group or Club wants to be a part of it? Please let us know by the end of this month. Contact Chineham Parish Council Clerk on 474500 (office hours), email [clerk@chineham.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@chineham.gov.uk) or [assistantclerk@chineham.gov.uk](mailto:assistantclerk@chineham.gov.uk), or see [www.chineham.gov.uk](http://www.chineham.gov.uk).

Marian Adams

## **Habla Espanol?**

Would you like the opportunity to speak Spanish in an informal atmosphere with like minded people? Maybe you own a property in Spain, are learning the language and want to feel more comfortable with conversing, or are Spanish speaking and would like an opportunity to help others become more fluent. Our group meets in each others houses once a month for a sociable get together over a drink and some 'tapas'. Due to some of our friends moving away, we are now seeking new blood. The emphasis is on an informal evening of Spanish conversation and a bit of fun (we often play a verbal game later in the evening). Whilst a reasonable level of Spanish helps, it is not essential. Meetings are currently Friday evenings, but this is open for discussion. If you think this might be of interest, then email [bjbear54@yahoo.com](mailto:bjbear54@yahoo.com) or call 324053.

Bridget Hunter

## News from the Beat

I am very happy to report there is currently little to make you aware by the way of crime. As of this month, there are no criminal issues in the local area ongoing. That said, there have been a few sporadic incidents of burglary which would seem to be linked to a number of similar offences reported elsewhere in Basingstoke. The offenders in these burglaries seem to look for houses with insecurities such as doors that have not been double-locked, those left unlocked at night or with open/unlocked windows. As such, I am urging all residents to ensure all their properties are as secure as possible, with all doors and windows locked in order to deter any opportunistic criminals.

We have also had a high number of reports of tools being stolen from vehicles all over the town of Basingstoke. Many of these thefts occurred with no visible damage to the vehicles themselves, showing no signs of forced entry. There is a possibility that owners have left their vehicles unlocked. In an effort to discover the number of insecure vans, myself and my colleague carried out numerous checks in the Chineham area, finding about 1 in 10 were left unlocked (information packs were left inside for the driver). This is therefore an appeal to all residents who own or park vehicles, especially vans, with tools left in them overnight to make sure that they are locked and if possible any valuable property is removed overnight. If you cannot remove the tools then please consider investing in a quality alarm for the vehicle as it could save you money in the long run.

On a more positive note, the local team has begun an active campaign to work with the local residents and schools in order to improve the ever-present issue of inconsiderate and illegal parking at and near the schools during drop-off and pick up

times. It is an ongoing strategy which involves the residents of the affected areas to actively observe and report any inconsiderate parking with photographic evidence. The residents have been briefed on what constitutes a reportable offence as well as what we require by way of evidence. We will then speak to the drivers involved, taking the most appropriate action based on the offence and whether the driver has previously been warned. This has just started but the feedback is that there has been an improvement and we hope this continues. I would like to thank all parties involved, including Four Lanes Schools, as well as all residents for your cooperation and help and to those drivers who think about how their parking affects others.

I would like to make residents aware of the Sherfield Park Youth Hub which runs every Wednesday on a weekly basis. This is available for all ages and runs separate sessions within the evening for different age groups. There are various activities each week put on by the organisers, giving local children a chance to socialise and make new friends in a positive environment. If you are interested, please do not hesitate to come along to one of our Youth Hubs, running every Wednesday during term time. The Mini Hub is designed for children of school years 4-6, begins at 18.15 and ends at 19.15, followed by the Junior Hub, tailored for school years 7-9 ending at 20.30. The session is concluded by Youth Hub which is intended for years 10-12. Many sessions are attended by a local officer from our Neighbourhood Policing team and are therefore a unique opportunity for parents and young people to speak to their local officer should they require assistance or alternatively simply wish to seek advice on a specific issue.

Your Local Neighbourhood Policing Team

## **Keith Brant Multiple Sclerosis Trust**

The Trust Fund was started by Keith Brant, during his mayoral year in 1993 to make small grants to sufferers of Multiple Sclerosis who live within the Borough of Basingstoke and Deane. We aim to help purchase items of equipment that will significantly improve your life. There is no limit to the number of times you can apply as we recognise that Multiple Sclerosis is a progressive condition and an individual's needs may change. For more information and an application form please phone 07974679039.

Linda MacQuillin  
Secretary Keith Brant MS Trust

## **Basingstoke Speakers Club**

Would you love to be great at giving presentations or speaking in public, but find yourself overcome with nerves? Then Basingstoke Speakers Club is for you! The club is part of Toastmasters, a worldwide not for profit organisation dedicated to supporting its members in becoming the best public speakers they can be. With a comprehensive syllabus and warm and supportive atmosphere, it's the fastest way to hone your speaking skills -and put those nerves to good use!

Visitors are always welcome free, so why not come and check us out? We meet every first and third Wednesday of the month at The Apollo Hotel in Basingstoke. For more information visit [www.facebook.com/basingstokespeakers](http://www.facebook.com/basingstokespeakers) or call us today on 07468 331483.

Viv Woodley

## **Basing Singers**

We are putting on our Spring Concert featuring music from both films and musicals on Saturday 25th March at

7.30pm with guests Hannington Silver Band. This will be held in Old Basing Village Hall (RG24 7DA)

Tickets cost £7.00 for adults and £1.00 for children and they will be available on the night at the door or beforehand at Glaysher Butchers Belle Vue Road, Old Basing or by telephoning 01256 850415. There will be refreshments and a raffle. All welcome.

Sue Wilson

## **Virgin Fibre Broadband**

A recent meeting was held by Virgin Media to update residents in Old Basing and Lychpit on the progress on installing fibre broadband there. It began late last year and digging trenches, installing cables and connecting to properties is expected to finish in late April; then 'go live' mid-May after testing. It's currently 1 of 20 such projects in Southern England's rural and semi-rural areas with a similar number further north; towns and cities aren't included.

The next stage will begin with a similar number until around 90% of non-urban England is connected by 2021, costing around £3 billion. These new areas won't be announced until just before they intend to start work to reduce the possibility of rival firms enticing customers away. How do they decide where to work next? They choose the areas where the greatest number of residents have registered their interest with Virgin – [virginmedia.com/cablemystreet](http://virginmedia.com/cablemystreet). This could of course impact the residents of Chineham, if there is enough interest!

They have 4 packages for houses (50/100/150/200 MBPS) and up to 300 MBPS for businesses and schools, with phone and TV packages shortly afterwards. Their cables will be able to cope with these speeds, unlike BT landline.

Marian Adams

## **County and Borough Councillor Elaine Still**

Housing development is always a controversial subject and it's very important to ensure the correct infrastructure is installed to mitigate the effect of increased traffic and people on already stretched services. I continue to keep a close eye and input into proposed developments, particularly those on our doorstep at Redlands and East of Basingstoke.

BDBC has prepared a Draft Development Brief to guide future housing development on these sites, both of which are strategic allocations within the Basingstoke and Deane Adopted Local Plan (2011–2029) and will accommodate approximately 615 homes with associated facilities. The council is currently seeking views on the draft document.

The Development Brief sets out a series of principles that provide detail to guide future development across both sites. The draft Development Brief and guidance on how to respond can be viewed on the borough council's website [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/EoBAndRSPD](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/EoBAndRSPD). Also, paper copies of all the consultation documents are available for public viewing at the Borough Council's offices. The documents are also available to view in all libraries across the borough during their normal opening hours.

If you would like to learn more about the Development Brief or have any questions please contact the borough council's Planning Policy Team on 01256 844 844 or email [local.plan@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:local.plan@basingstoke.gov.uk).

Elaine Still  
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## **Borough Councillor Paul Miller**

As you read this, we should have more information on the remedial work that we understand will be undertaken on the Black Dam Junction to attempt to reduce the number of accidents that have taken place over the past year since completion. We will now also have to contend with further work on the A33 as I have already mentioned in the Chat and it may be coincident with these projected works; we still await details and will pass them on when we have them.

Planning continues for the housing developments to the east of the A 33 between the Binfields and Taylors Farm roundabouts with the northern most site, Redlands, recently receiving Outline Permission. Work on this site is expected to start at the end of 2017 through to 2019. The A33 road improvements are aimed, in part, to reflect the additional traffic these developments will generate.

We are all aware of the pressure on the NHS currently and I would like to reassure our residents that your three Ward Councillors continue to engage with the Chineham Medical Practice to develop a local strategy to allow more patients to be accommodated as our housing development continues. From a personal point of view, I consider we are most fortunate in Chineham to have such a well structured Practice with the most dedicated and considerate staff who are constantly under pressure despite having over 12,000 residents on their roll.

Paul Miller  
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[cllr.paul.miller@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.paul.miller@basingstoke.gov.uk)

## **Chineham Tigers**

Big congratulations and well-done to the u10 Chineham Tigers Amber team for winning the Peter Houseman Youth League Winter Plate cup. The team progressed through 4 rounds of hard fought opposition scoring 28 goals and only conceding 2, to come up against Sherborne Saint John Sharks in the final, on the 08th January, where in a closely contended game, the team emerged as 3-2 winners. The team played really well throughout, where often the opposition managers would congratulate us on our passing ability and playing together as a team.

Looking forward now to the spring tournament, where we can hopefully defend our title!

Dan Fuller (Manager)

## **Great Binfields Primary School**

We are looking for additional cleaning staff to help keep our school clean and tidy. We have two teams of cleaners, one working from 6.30-8.30am and the other working from 3.30-5.30pm.

We are also looking for a Site Manager for our school, which is currently being expanded. We need an energetic, enthusiastic and conscientious person who is flexible, hardworking and a team player to manage our wonderful school site. Good DIY skills are a must! Our Site Manager will work with our whole team to provide a great environment for our children, staff and visitors. This is a permanent, full-time position, working split shifts.

If you would like to find out more contact Helen Worgan on 460532 or [adminoffice@greatbinfields.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@greatbinfields.hants.sch.uk).

Helen Worgan

## **Hook Choral Society**

Hook Choral Society will hold their Spring Concert at St John's Church, London Road, Hook at 7.30pm on Saturday 8th April. The first half of the concert will comprise choral anthems such as Panis angelicus by Franck, Abendlied by Rhenberger, Pater noster by Handl and Crucifixus by Lotti. There will also be a piece by Monteverdi, and two works by Mendelssohn.

In contrast to the more formal first half, the second half will include the eleven English, Scottish and Irish folk songs of the cycle entitled The Sprig of Thyme arranged by John Rutter. Do come and join us for a celebration of this great music. Tickets £12.00 (concessions £10, accompanied children under 11 free) will be available from choir members, Trees Newsagents in Hook or by ringing 07734 667888.

Sara Williams

## **Ready Emmy Walk Update**

Last year we featured a fundraising appeal for a local girl with Cerebral Palsy Spastic Diplegia to have a spinal operation ([www.readyemmywalk.co.uk](http://www.readyemmywalk.co.uk)). Her Great-Aunt sends this update:

Wonderful news on Emmy: the operation was a success. The wonderful people of Basingstoke contributed generously to our appeal and raised £107,000. She will need physio for a least two years which has to be paid for privately at over £100 per hour (because she had the operation outside of the NHS no support is allowed). So every penny will count. Emmy walked 30 steps independently at physio last week. Lord John McFall is a great champion of the Spinal Dorsal Rhizotomy community and is pushing for further investigation for its application under the NHS. I am keeping him updated on Emmy's progress.

J Aris

## Minister's Message

We will all remember the shocking death of Labour MP Jo Cox last year and the courageous way in which her family conducted themselves. Nothing can take away the searing loss her family has suffered but it is wonderful to hear positive things starting to emerge from this tragedy. Jo Cox, who personally suffered from loneliness after leaving home for university, had started work on a cross-party campaign to help tackle this issue and it has now had its official launch thanks to colleagues and family members. Research in the UK shows over nine million people say they are "always or often lonely" but most would not talk about it in public. MPs want the report to be a call to action to encourage people to chat and start conversations. The commission is asking people to do more, for example knocking on a door or picking up a phone.

Jo Cox's sister, Kim Leadbeater, said she wanted to continue her sister's legacy "by ridding society of loneliness one conversation at a time". What a fantastic idea and one in which we can all participate. At some time in our lives we will all come across people who are feeling some degree of loneliness. Perhaps we have a friend, neighbour or elderly relative who lives alone. Maybe there's a new mum or dad at the school gate, a new face in the office or a new pupil in your class. Do you know someone who has been recently bereaved or is suffering loss in some way? Is there someone you know who is often ignored by folk for some reason? People are unlikely to announce they are feeling lonely but by being proactive and starting a conversation, we can all potentially make a difference to people's lives and help to ease their loneliness. Isn't that something special?

Jesus suffered loneliness in his life on earth.

He was rejected and let down by close friends but talked to his father and found the strength and comfort he needed to carry on. He 'started a conversation!' Perhaps we may find ourselves in a state of loneliness at the moment and feel unsure of where to turn. There are some beautiful psalms in the bible that show us that our sorrows are known by God and that he is there for us, wanting to bring comfort especially in our times of trouble. Why not tell him about your situation and see how he answers your prayers?

Our conversations have the power to alleviate loneliness so let's get behind Jo Cox's cause, knock on a door, pick up a phone and get chatting! A great way to honour her memory! If you are interested in finding out more about local groups that help befriend the lonely do check out this link: [www.housingcare.org/service/list/s-22-companionship-befriending/1-232-basingstoke-and-deane.aspx](http://www.housingcare.org/service/list/s-22-companionship-befriending/1-232-basingstoke-and-deane.aspx)

Liz Duke.

(East Basingstoke Community Church)

## Christ Church Activities

**Sunday services:** 9am and 10.30am—no charge, all welcome! The 9am service tends to be quieter and more reflective; we have a music band with drums and guitars at the 10.30am services when we also have groups for children and young people of all ages from babies to 18+. During March we will continue to look at some of the Psalms which are a great source of inspiration. On Sunday 26 March we will be having special services at 9 and 10.30am for Mothering Sunday—all welcome. There will be small posies of flowers for the ladies.

**Prayer:** is there something you would like prayer for? Do let us know—contact details below. If you would like to come and pray you are most welcome: our Prayer Room is open whenever the building is open. Drop in

to sit and pray in silence, or we can arrange for someone to pray with you. We meet weekly to pray on alternate Sunday and Monday evenings; you would be welcome to join us (please contact the office for details).

**Coffee and Co:** 9.30–11.30am. Our café is open to all every Monday during term time; coffee and cakes are available, along with toys for the children and a warm welcome!

**Luncheon Club:** 20 Mar, 12noon. Everyone is invited to join us for a tasty two course meal—£5 for adults, £2.50 for children. Lifts may be available so if you need transport please let us know; there is no need to let us know if you are coming, but if you have any special dietary needs we do need to know in advance.

**123 Matinee Group:** 14 Mar, 1-3pm. This social/support group is aimed at “older friends” although everyone is welcome; no charge. This month we will be finding out about the local library service and we will be doing seated exercises as usual. There will be a warm welcome, plenty of people to chat with and there will be refreshments. If you are interested in coming along and/or helping you would be most welcome.

**CCBBies:** Thursdays 10-11.15am. On offer: free play, Bible stories, crafts, refreshments, friendship and fun; each week the children have a simple craft to take home and if the weather is good we will play out on the patio. Parents/carers are required to stay with their children – all welcome!

**Messy Church:** 13 Mar, 3.45 onwards. 3.45pm games/refreshments (so you can come straight from school), 4.15pm activities, 5.15pm supper, 5.45pm time to go home! Families are invited as we learn about Jesus and the Bible together in a creative way; this month we will be looking at Gideon. No charge although donations

welcome towards the food cost.

**Kids' Club:** 4 Mar, 5-6.30pm. £1 entrance fee (first visit free), bring your friends and some change for tuck and a hot snack. Crafts, music, fun and games for children at primary school. All welcome!

**C3Y:** Fridays, 8–9.30pm. Our youth club for young people in year 6 and upwards is open for fun and games every Friday during term time in the Wesley Hall. The entrance fee is just £1 (first visit free); bring a friend as well as some spare change for tuck.

**Ladies' film night:** probably Fri 31 Mar, 7 for 7.30pm! Please contact us to confirm and to book. We will be watching “Me Before You”; there is no charge to watch the film, and light refreshments will cost just £4 per person. All profits will go to a local charity.

**Blood Donor Clinic:** Tues 21 Mar. Please book your appointment at [www.blood.co.uk](http://www.blood.co.uk).

**First Aid Course:** Sat 25 Mar. There is a small charge for non-Christ Church members. If you would be interested in attending please contact us for details.

**Charity collections:** we collect stamps (new and used), ink cartridges, postcards, spectacles, socks, tools, bedding, tins/packets of food, and supermarket milk bottle tops for various charities. We can find a home for most things so if you have anything you would like to pass on do contact us!

**Room hire:** rooms are available to hire either on a one-off or regular basis. Contact us for details or look on our website [www.christchurchchineham.org.uk](http://www.christchurchchineham.org.uk). Prices start at £8.25 per hour (Community Rate) which includes use of the kitchen/snack bar where tea, coffee, sugar and squash are provided.

Ruth Randall

## Basingstoke Lions Club

It is difficult to describe the tension that precedes each of our fundraising endeavours. Will we get an audience, break even, or make sufficient to enable us to help those who have no other source of assistance? Even with a brilliant group like ABBA Sensation there is always that niggling uncertainty. Fortunately the eternal attraction of that wonderful music won out and 180 people braved the weather to enjoy themselves at QMC on the 21st. This is the fourth time that the group has appeared for us and they certainly live up to their name. Their performance was electrifying and the audience took full advantage by dancing with great enthusiasm. They also made a very good attempt at drinking the bar dry and bought copious raffle tickets. The whole evening put everyone in great good humour and gave a marvellous boost to our Charity Account of £1215.

### Upcoming Events:

**Easter Eggs:** If you visit your local over the next couple of months the odds are that you'll see a very large chocolate Easter Egg being raffled. We provide the eggs and, if the pub supports a specific charity, half of the proceeds can be donated to that charity. The other half goes into our Charity Account.

**8 Apr Quiz Night:** Come along and pit your wits against our notorious question master. Contact Philip Wilson tel:352393 or philiphwilson@btinternet.com to book your table. We can take only 22 tables.

**Welfare:** In the current climate the failure of a domestic appliance can represent an insurmountable problem for many families and a high proportion of our income is spent meeting such needs brought to our attention by Social Services.

Philip Wilson

## Probus Club

Retired RAF Squadron Leader Chris Perkins MVO from Kempshott has traced his old squadron's role in supporting the Allied Forces in their campaign to free Belgium and Holland from German occupation during WW2. Based for many years at RAF Odiham, 33 Squadron operated Supermarine Spitfires in ground attack roles. Chris uncovered details of a battle, vastly overshadowed by the tragic events occurring at that time at Arnhem.

The Battle of the Scheldt estuary was a military operation in northern Belgium and the south western Netherlands in October and November 1944, to secure the port of Antwerp. The First Canadian Army was given the task of clearing the Scheldt area of German occupiers. In addition to Canadian infantry and armoured troops, it included the 1st British Corps, and the 1st Polish Armoured Division. It was joined by American, Belgian, and Dutch units. The flooded, muddy terrain was probably the most difficult battlefield in the war and the well-fortified German defences made the Battle of the Scheldt especially gruelling and bloody. At the end of the five week offensive, the victorious First Canadian Army had taken 41,043 prisoners, but suffered 12,873 casualties (killed, wounded, or missing), 6,367 being Canadians. 33 Squadron at that time was also an international unit and consisted of many volunteer pilots from around the world. Chris and his former colleague located a number of these brave young airmen now resting in remote cemeteries.

For more information about the Probus Club see [www.probusbasingstoke.webs.com](http://www.probusbasingstoke.webs.com) or phone secretary Paul Flint on 07770 886521

Paul Flint

## Chineham Parish Council

**Overgrown vegetation:** This is a plea to keep an eye on your boundary hedges and borders. Please keep them cut back and don't allow them to encroach on public footpaths. This includes the vegetation that is growing beyond your fencing but is within the curtilage of your property.

**Flood Re:** Flood Re was established by the UK Government and the insurance industry to enable you to find affordable insurance if you live in a residential house built before January 2009 and located in a flood risk area. For more information go to [www.floodre.co.uk/homeowner/](http://www.floodre.co.uk/homeowner/).

**Bund:** The Parish Council is pleased to report that in conjunction with Hampshire County Council a bund has been installed on the corner of Thornhill Way and Reading Road to act as a deterrent to unauthorised traveller encampments.

**Broadband:** Virgin Media are providing a network boost to communities across the UK. For more information and to register your interest please go to [www.virginmedia.com/cablemystreet/](http://www.virginmedia.com/cablemystreet/). It is hoped that a Community Liaison Officer for network expansion will be able to visit Chineham in the near future.

**Street Lighting:** The Parish Council has received recent enquiries about additional lighting through Binfields Woods from North Binfields towards the Chineham Shopping Centre. We have been advised by HCC that their budget for additional lighting is now set aside for areas of high crime or existing night-time road safety issues and so is not available for this location. We have also been advised by Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council (the landowner) that the woods are a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) and as such lighting should be kept to a minimum.

The next Parish Council meeting is on 13 March at 7.45pm in the Community Rooms

of Chineham Village Hall. If there is a Chineham issue you are concerned about, please contact the Clerk, Sally Jackson on 474500, email [clerk@chineham.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@chineham.gov.uk) or the Assistant Clerk, Julia Johnston on 3 2 4 3 4 5 , e m a i l [assistantclerk@chineham.gov.uk](mailto:assistantclerk@chineham.gov.uk) (office hours only please). The Parish Council website is at [www.chineham.gov.uk](http://www.chineham.gov.uk).

Sally Jackson

## Thanks to Elaine Still

Chineham is fortunate to have a councillor like Elaine Still. The residents of our close needed to call on Elaine's help as we were plagued for over a year with travellers setting up camp, complete with caravans, horse, dog and other vehicles, at the only entrance to our close. The encampment was intimidating for drivers and pedestrians, with the road littered with debris by day and burning pallets by night. Residents were frustrated to discover the measures to deal with traveller incursions take a great deal of time to implement. This meant that they would arrive, stay for a considerable time, move on as required and then return within weeks. Clearly a permanent solution was needed. Elaine supported us every step of the way. She gave unstintingly of her time, campaigned hard on our behalf with all the relevant authorities to obtain an appropriate preventive solution and then the funding to enable this to happen. Thanks to her perseverance and stamina we can now walk or drive out of the close safely.

When problems occur, we all look for someone to sort things out and solutions are not always easy. My neighbours and I owe Elaine a huge debt of gratitude and her work is greatly appreciated.

Philip Whitaker

## **Civil Service Retirement Fellowship**

February's speaker was Gina Ireland who gave a talk on the History of Greeting Cards tracing their origins back to the ancient Chinese and Egyptians. Some were found to have been made in Europe in the 1400s but it wasn't until the mid-19th century that they became more popular with the advent of commercially produced cards and the introduction of a reliable postage service. Christmas and birthday cards were those mostly sent but soon cards for special occasions such as Valentine's Day (1840), Mother's Day (1872), Easter (1989) and Father's Day (1907) became available. Postcards were also produced from 1869 and their popularity spread as more people went on holiday. It is now possible to buy a card for almost any occasion with the UK industry being worth nearly £2 billion and over 880 million being sold last year. Gina had brought with her a large collection of cards including some very old ones which everyone was able to look at after her talk.

The next meeting is on 1st March when we will be holding our AGM followed by lunch. The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Brookvale Village Hall from 10 am to 12 noon and all retired Civil Servants and their partners are welcome. There are forthcoming trips to Chichester on Wed 22nd March, which will be do-as-you-please, and Parham House on Fri 21st April which will include entry to the house and gardens. The year's programme and further details about meetings can be obtained from the Secretary on 418770 or at [bjmapbr@ntlworld.com](mailto:bjmapbr@ntlworld.com) and if you would like to join us on any of our trips please contact Kate Lambeth on 328791.

David Cowling

## **Chat Distributor Needed**

We need to replace one of our distributors. If you live in the Reading Road area and are willing to post 35 Chat copies each month, please get in touch.

Laura Romney

[distribution@chinehamchat.com](mailto:distribution@chinehamchat.com), 817893

## **Development Concerns**

I recently heard on social media that Hampshire County Council (landowners) and Basingstoke and Deane (planning authority), are engaged in preparing plans for a housing development of the area they call "East of Basingstoke", but what is really "East of Chineham".

The East of Basingstoke site has potential for initially 450 dwellings with formal provisions for the travelling community - in the longer term this could be about 900 homes planned. There is no mention of any extra healthcare provision so it seems that there will be an even greater strain on our already overstretched local doctors. Appointments are already taking weeks and this is without Razors Farm having been built. The local infrastructure in terms of the A33 is already dangerous and often back to back towards Reading from 7:20am without thousands more vehicles.

There has been little communication on this from the local councillors and I understand the build is due to start next year once the local plan has been formally adopted. As a local resident I am furious about this and the lack of visibility to residents. To learn more about these proposals or find links for formal comment, go to [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/EoBandRSPD](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/EoBandRSPD) - this closes 3rd March for our views on the draft document. We have to protect our local community and services as much as we can!

L Martin

## Chineham Conservation Group

2017 has started well – the conservation group goes from strength to strength with new members this year and is looking for even more! We are concentrating on the routine maintenance of Great Sorrells Copse between now and April and that will mean we will generate lots of woody material which could be of use to gardeners:

- runner bean poles, pea supports, support poles for rambling plants,
- logs for use in the garden or, more importantly, logs for wood burning stoves.

Don't imagine that nature conservation volunteering is all chopping down woods and heavy work – there is a host of tasks to be done, lightweight and heavyweight. Later this spring and summer we have lots of things to do in the woods: surveying the wild flowers, recording the butterflies and birds we support, along with renewing the guided walk. We are also keen to work with youth groups - anyone for pond dipping in Tollhouse Meadow?

If any of this encourages you to get in contact you will find us via our email address [chinehamcgg@google.com](mailto:chinehamcgg@google.com) or find our facebook page Chineham Conservation Group.

Marion Wolstencroft

## Saddened by Spotlight

I was surprised and saddened by the appearance of "Spotlight on Chineham" in the February issue of the Chat, especially the use of their banner headline. The Chat has been free of political or other bias for years, just representing the views and opinions of residents. Indeed the articles by Councillors have been restricted to what they are doing on our behalf, to avoid any political messages or electioneering. However, it now seems the Chat is aligning

itself to one particular part of our political spectrum by giving free promotion to one specific grouping.

"Spotlight on Chineham" has been the election promotion vehicle for at least four candidates in recent years and promoting it through the use of the banner headline and content/tone of the first paragraph of the article, is surely inappropriate for an unfettered and free Chat. I would hate to see the Chat politicised for just this one group or indeed opened up to contributions from other candidates, groups or parties. I thought the remainder of the article informative and interesting, wholly appropriate for the Chat, except the title of the contributor. I hope this is not to be a regular feature and that the Chat will remain free of political bias or constraints.

Dennis Clapp

***Editor's Reply:** the Chat will remain free from political bias. The Spotlight article is intended to cover local issues in a factual manner. However, we welcome views from Chineham residents on the new feature!*

## Reading Road NW Scheme

Would you be willing to act as the coordinator of a resurrected NHW scheme in Reading Road? Chineham NHW committee members and PCSOs are willing to post flyers, canvass residents and help to set up the scheme, which is the time-consuming bit! We need a volunteer to create a group of email addresses of all those Reading Road residents who sign up and then to forward to them any relevant email messages from the police and others. Coordinators need to be police-checked but are not obliged to attend meetings or join the committee.

Laura Romney  
[chinehamnhw@bdnw.org.uk](mailto:chinehamnhw@bdnw.org.uk), 817893

## Four Lanes Community Centre

**Happy Hands and Dancing Feet:** Wed 9.30-11.00am, £12.00 for 6 weeks or £2.50 per week on a drop-in basis. For mums/dads, babies and pre-school children. Life with young children can be exciting, exhausting, rewarding, challenging, joyful and daunting. Come and join us and have fun. There will be a range of activities including indoor and outdoor toys, arts and crafts, stories and rhymes, drinks and biscuits, all based in a safe and welcoming environment. Please contact us to register your interest.

**ZUMBA:** Zumba is a popular fitness programme inspired by Latin dance. It's the best way to lose weight while enjoying high energy and motivating dance moves alongside fantastic dance music. Mondays 7.30pm to 8.30pm, Tuesdays 7.00pm to 8.00pm. Cost: £5.25 Mondays, £6.00 Tuesdays, pay as you go. Contact Lisa (Mondays) 07884 267722 or Candice (Tuesdays) 07843 979340.

**Clubbercise:** bring a night out to your work out. Fun, easy to follow dance fitness routines using glowsticks to club anthems from the 90's to the latest chart music. Taught in a darkened room with disco lights. Thursdays 8.00pm to 8.45pm, classes to be booked in advance on <https://bookwhen.com/clubberciseWITHaimee> or <https://www.facebook.com/clubberciseWITHaimee/>.

**Hatha Yoga:** No previous experience required, suitable for all levels. Payable in blocks of 6 weeks cost £30.00 or drops in welcome at £6.00 per class. Tuesdays 6.15–7.15pm at the Infant School. For further information and to book the course please contact Kati on 07450 226719 or email [pumpkinyoga@gmail.com](mailto:pumpkinyoga@gmail.com).

**Linguatastic:** Languages with Linguatastic

include French and Spanish before school clubs; Italian, Spanish and French for adults; and French for secondary school pupils. For further information please email [info@linguatastic.com](mailto:info@linguatastic.com) or phone 471474.

**Good Companions—over 55s Group:** Come along and enjoy tea and homemade cake with a variety of speakers and activities. Events available on request. Four Lanes Community Centre, 3rd Tuesday of every month.

**Holiday Play Scheme:** The Holiday Play Scheme is a great idea to keep your children entertained during the school holidays. 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 of fun. We have 2 options for session times:  
Session A 8.30am-4.00pm – price £14.75  
Session B 8.30am-5.30pm – price £18.00

The above clubs are available to Infant and Junior children who attend school full time.

Virginia Wyatt

## Premature Baby Unit Fundraiser

I am raising money for the Neonatal Unit at Basingstoke Hospital by selling lots of toys, sweets and other interesting bits and pieces.

Please come and see me in the garden area of The Chineham Arms from 3 to 5pm on Sunday 2 April to help me raise as much as I can for the Neonatal Unit. There will be loads of bargains!

Mary Land-Wilkins, aged 8

## Basingstoke Discovery Centre

To book a place, order online from [www.hants.gov.uk/shop/home.php](http://www.hants.gov.uk/shop/home.php), visit Basingstoke Discovery Centre in Festival Place, or call 01256 478670. Advance booking is strongly recommended.

### March events:

**Wonderful Wordsmiths:** Wed 1, 15 & 29, 4–5pm, ages 8–13, free. Gain confidence in your writing and meet like-minded people in this friendly group.

**Writing Workshop: How to write your memoir and autobiography:** Wed 1, 11am–3pm, £20. Ever wanted to write a memoir but don't know where to start? Then this workshop will inspire you. We will look at compiling information, layout and structure and ways to make your memoir accessible and readable. We will also look at cost effective ways of self publishing your memoir. The workshop is run on an informal lecture and discussion group basis. Suitable for beginners and experienced writers. Della Galton has a memoir published by Accent Press. She is a novelist, short story writer and journalist and has been published for over twenty-five years. She's had over 1500 short stories published in the UK alone. She returns to Basingstoke Discovery Centre by popular demand.

**Painting for Fun:** Thu 2, 16 & 30, 2.30–4.30pm, free. Informal group of painters who share tips and conversation in coffee shop area.

**Hearing Impaired Reading Group:** Fri 3, 2–4pm, free. An opportunity to meet people in a similar situation round a shared interest.

**Drop-In Surgery with Local Councillor:** Sat 4, 2–3pm. Meet your Hampshire County Councillor for Basingstoke Central, Criss Connor, to discuss local issues.

**Ferrets for Fun:** Sat 4, 2pm, £3.50 (no concessions). With real ferrets! With their

aggressive reputation and extremely sharp teeth, Ferrets For Fun seeks to dispel the myths surrounding this fascinating animal while looking at the history and use of ferrets across more than 2000 years. A fascinating talk suitable for ages 8 – adult. (Under 16s must be accompanied by an adult.)

**Children's Crafts:** Sat 4, from 10am, ages 3+, free.

**Board in the Library:** Sat 4, 11am–4pm, and Wednesday 8 & 22, 2–6pm, free. Bring out your competitive streak with games like Splendour and Carcassonne. Or working cooperatively – try a game of Pandemic to help save humanity!

**Disability Signpost Service:** Tues 7, 10am–12noon. Drop-in for information on topics including transport, benefits, housing and more.

**Basingstoke Disability Connections:** Tues 7, 12.30–2.30pm. Informal get-together for people affected by disability.

**Memory Box Project:** Fri 10 & 24, 10.30am–12.30pm. The memory box project is an exciting reminiscence project open to all. Drop in and share some stories around the interesting objects on display.

**Discover Board Games:** Sat 11 & 25, 10am–1pm, ages 3+, free.

**Young Embroiderers Club:** Sat 11, 10am–12noon, ages 5–16, £5.

**Chatterbooks:** Mon 13, 4–5pm, ages 8–11, free. Are you a Bookaholic? Do you enjoy sharing ideas, making new friends and exploring new subjects? Join Chatterbooks, a book group aimed at 8–11 year olds. Books, activities, quizzes and lots more. Sign up at the Information Desk in the library.

**Creative Writing:** Wed 15, 2–4pm, £1.

**Poetry Group:** Wed 15, 10.30am–12.00 noon, £1. Read and share poetry with other like-minded people.

### **An Evening of Science Wed 15:**

**Danger! High voltage**, 7.15pm, £3. With Dr Mark Dallas, Lecturer in Cellular and Molecular Neuroscience at the University of Reading. Here we will explore the wonders of neuroscience and the power of our own bodies' electricity. The presentation will delve into how we can record this electricity, what it means and how we can harness it for amazing things.

**Introduction to Exoplanets**, 7.15pm, £3. Talk by Basingstoke Astronomical Society. In the past 15 years we have discovered 1,000s of planets that orbit not our star but the stars on the night sky. How many are there? What are they like? How did we find them?

**Cosmetics Workshop**, 6-8.45pm, £22.50. Learn how to make your own healthy and natural cosmetics, free from chemical ingredients. It's easy, ecological and a lot of fun! Beginning with a brief explanation about the ingredients and essential oils used, you will participate in a hands-on workshop and create three products which are yours.

**The Nutshell Studies of Unexplained Death by Frances Glessner Lee**, 7.15pm, £5. Forensics Workshop. Work as a team of detectives to solve a triple homicide. Led by Anna Chaussee, Senior Lecturer in Forensics at the University of Winchester, you will be using methods still used to train current detectives and forensic students.

**Forensics Linguistics**, 7.15pm, £5. An interactive session. Dr Carolin Esser-Miles.

**Cake Science**, 7.30pm, £7.50. With Mama Brown cakes. Teri Brown invites you to taste the difference in this talk about the science involved in baking.

**Evening reading Group**, 7pm, free. If you would like to join a reading group but are unable to meet with one of our afternoon groups, join us this evening for a chat.

**3-D Colouring**, from 6.30pm, free. Bring your own colouring to life using the 3D Quiver App. All materials and support provided.

**Evening Creative Writing Group**, 7pm, free.

Introductory meeting led by author Kristen Bailey. If you would like to join a creative writing group join us for a chat and advice about writing techniques.

**Board in the Library**, from 6.30pm, free. Pandemic - come and play this co-operative board game. Other games available to play.

**Crime Fiction Reading Group**: Sat 18, 2pm, free.

**The Hither Side of the Hedge**: Sat 18, 2pm, £3.50. Folk Active give an illustrated and interactive presentation about the folk song collector, author and artist Alice Gillington (1863-1934) and the traditional Hampshire songs and dances she collected from Gypsy families in Southampton and the New Forest. Expect readings, poems, songs, step dancing and a simple social dance that the audience can join in with.

**Family Chess Coaching**: Sat 25, 10am-1pm (drop-in), free. David Graham and members of the Basingstoke Junior Chess Club offer hints, tips and guidance for complete beginners as well as to those with some knowledge and experience.

**StreetPass**: Sat 25, 11am-4pm, free. Experience a new level of social gaming with your gaming consoles.

**Visually Impaired Reading Group**: Mon 27, 10am-12 noon, free.

**How do you take yours?:** Tues 28, 2pm, £4. With Terri from Pedlars and Petticoats historical presentation company. Meet a 1950s housewife celebrating the end of rationing with her own special tea party. Find out about the history of tea and how to make the perfect cuppa, discover tea etiquette and superstitions and hear stories of smugglers! Refreshments included. [www.pedlarsandpetticoats.co.uk](http://www.pedlarsandpetticoats.co.uk).

Helen Beevers

# SPOTLIGHT

## on CHINEHAM

### What's in a name?

Our last article finished with reference to Pecche Place. That is a rather strange road name, so where did it come from? Before we address that, let us go back a couple of decades to when names for Chineham's new roads were being considered. These days, road names are decided quite early on in the development phase with allocation of—for obvious reasons—the all-important postcodes. However, 30 years ago development sites progressed for many months with no formal road names and just plot numbers. It was often difficult finding the homes of new residents! Somewhere along the line it was decided that roads should be named after some of the longer-established families in the area. Thus we have names like Hanmore, Gibbons (should have been Gibbons), Mattock, and Maynard. More recently, Froome Place was named after Chineham's oldest resident Olive Froom, but again a spelling mistake occurred.

St Joseph's Crescent was an attempt to immortalize the name of the old wooden church which used to be in Reading Road and which was later replaced by Christ Church on the opposite side. During all this time, developers have had their own ideas about street names and managed to slip in some of their own less imaginative offerings, (like roads named after battleships!). In an attempt to maintain some historic linkages, a then parish councillor, Brian Sperring, made trips to the Hampshire Records Office in Winchester and pored over ancient maps. Most of the road names in North Binfields come from that source. Pecche is thought to be a local

landowning family name and may be linked with a one-time London mayor. Interestingly, Fox's Furlong came from a request for suggestions from the public and was chosen from a number put forward.

Whilst some people (including the county council) persist in labeling Reading Road "Old Reading Road", the name has never changed from when it was the A33 and to do so requires the borough council to conduct a poll of residents. As residents of Chineham know only too well, the spelling of our parish presents problems given that the "e" is silent. Some older maps actually show it spelt without the "e". Unlike, say, Hatch Warren, Chineham is a parish in its own right and is not part of Basingstoke town. It is part of Basingstoke and Deane Borough. The Royal Mail has not yet formally declared "Basingstoke" redundant as part of the postal address. However, in these days of postcodes, it is totally superfluous and some residents leave Basingstoke out of their address to emphasise the point. This is quite important in order to help maintain Chineham's distinct identity, particularly when we are treated as just part of the town.

We shall return to this matter, but leave you with an example of where sloppy addressing leads to false information. Take, for instance, Highclere Castle. It is in fact in Hampshire, but because the postal address is "Berkshire", the news media invariably report it as being in that county. Given the celebrity status of Downton Abbey, is it not right that the accolade should rest with Hampshire?

Martin Biermann

# Chineham Chat Extra – March 2017

Occasionally we have too much material to fit into the printed magazine, or material arrives after we've gone to print. We've decided

that when this happens we will include the extra articles at the end of the online edition, in a *Chineham Chat Extra* section.

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## Linguatastic Language Academy

We start off this month with World Book Day on 2nd March. Our little ones will be dressing up as their favourite book characters and the older ones will be celebrating by reading some books in the languages they are learning.

From 18th to 26th March, it's "French Language Week". Of course, French is the official language of France, but did you know that it is also spoken in Monaco, Luxembourg, some parts of Belgium and Switzerland, in the Canadian province of Québec, parts of North and Central Africa, Vietnam, Cambodia, Madagascar and the French Overseas Departments and Territories? It can also still be heard in some communities of French origin in the USA, in Maine and Louisiana.

On 24th March, it's Red Nose Day and little ones in our Spanish playschool will be dressing up in red. Red is a good colour for this group as it appears in many of the flags of countries where Spanish is spoken (Spain, Mexico, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Panama, Peru, Bolivia and Chile, to name but a few).

On Sunday 26th March, it's Mother's Day and although the children will not be at Linguatastic on that day, we hope that they will have a bit of Linguatastic with them when they wish their mothers a "Mǔqīnjié kuàilè", "Feliz Día de la Madre" or something along these lines in another language!

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## Board Game Open Day

Chineham Board Gamers would like to invite you to our open day on 25th March. We are running this event in support of the NSPCC.

If you yearn for a challenge beyond Monopoly or Scrabble or wish to try something new then pay us a visit.

Most of our board games are aimed at 10-year-olds and upwards. We also ask that if children are attending they are accompanied by an adult.

Please find us at Chineham Christ Church, Reading Road, Chineham Basingstoke, RG24 8LT.