
Chineham

Issue 420
January 2019

Chat



The Clock Tower. Photo by Peter Malcolm.

January 2019

Happy New Year Chineham! I hope 2019 brings you everything you need. Is anyone making any resolutions for the year? The most common resolutions in the UK are apparently to exercise more, lose weight, eat more healthily, learn a new skill or hobby and drink less. All laudable, worthy goals, I've certainly made a couple of those myself. If only the stats didn't also show we tend to fall off the wagon by the end of the month (also guilty). It's too easy to flop on the sofa with a delicious Christmas gift or three and put it all off for another day/week/month/next year.

So how about something a bit different? Obviously participating in your local community would be a great idea, doing something for charity or other philanthropic goal. But how about something else again—maybe going more eco-friendly for the year? Interesting ideas might include drying clothes naturally rather than using a tumble dryer, getting a reusable coffee cup, eating less meat or recycling everything you possibly can. Perhaps switch your mode of transport to use the car less, make ethical fashion choices or avoid palm oil in your products. Maybe we can go green for 2019.

Jo Appleford-Cook

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

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*****NEXT COPY DATE: 14th January*****

Please submit copy to Jo Appleford-Cook, 16 Guinea Court or as above.

Your copy can be accepted handwritten, typed, or by e-mail.

Chineham Village Club

First of all may I take this opportunity to wish all of our members and their families a happy and prosperous 2019. Dates for your diary during January are as follows:-

Mon 7: Bingo, 8pm in the lounge bar

Sun 27: Members' monthly draw. £50 up for grabs between 3 and 4pm.

John Prince, Chairman

Chineham Village Hall

We hope you had a great Christmas, and would like to wish you all a very happy and prosperous New Year. If you would like to support your local community and are interested in joining the Chineham Village Hall Management Committee to ensure these facilities remain available for all, please give me a call on 07927 649083 for more details. The Management Committee is a registered charity responsible for the halls, buildings and recreational facilities and is a totally separate body from the Village Club Committee. This invitation is open to ALL adult Chineham residents - membership of the Village Club is not required to join the Village Hall Management Committee.

We will be holding our AGM in February and you are more than welcome to attend. A nomination form to become a member of the committee will be printed in the February edition of the Chineham Chat, together with more details about the AGM.

The children will soon be returning to school and we welcome back our

regulars to the halls following the Christmas break. Whether you are interested in diet, dance, exercise, or activities for young children, you will find details of regular classes/sessions on the noticeboard at the halls and on our Calendar of Events on the website shown below.

If you are looking for a venue to hold classes, events or meetings, please contact our Booking Clerk on 07935 328172 for more details (please ensure you leave a message and she will return your call – please note that missed calls are not followed up), e m a i l u s a t chinehamvillagehall@gmail.com or check availability and submit an enquiry form on our website www.chinehamvillagehall.co.uk.

Lynne Hughes

Chineham Library

We hope that you all had an enjoyable Christmas. How about taking up a new interest for the new year? There are spaces in both our general reading group which meets on the last Saturday of each month, and in our writing group, for which more details are available from the library. You are very welcome to come for a trial session.

The December event with Longdog Brewery was very successful, and already events are booked for the new year. **Thurs 21st Feb** we have 'Drama for All', with two free bookable sessions of drama for your children. There will be the regular craft session on **5th Jan** from 10-12, and storytimes at 11am on all other Saturdays. Construction Club providing

Lego and Duplo takes place from 2–3.30pm.

All the other children's activities take place as usual, with rhymetimes on Tuesdays for under ones at 10am and over ones at 11am. Chatterbooks meets on **17th Jan** at 3.45–4.45pm for primary school age children. Coding club is full for this term, places can be booked for after Easter. The Stay and Play reading group for mums and pre-school children meets on **9th Jan** from 10–11am. Crime reading group meet on **19th Jan** and the general reading group on **26th Jan**, both 10.30–11.30am. Writing group meets **10th Jan** from 5.30–7pm. Age Concern will be providing computer tuition for the over 50s on Wednesday mornings from **9th Jan**. Places need to be booked with the area office on 01256 423874.

As well as all these activities the library has much to interest everyone. We have colourful, changing displays and an extensive book stock available for adults and children. Also, we offer free computer and wifi access.

Cathy Foster & the Chineham Library team

Chineham WI

Happy new year! I'm going to begin 2019 by taking you back to November 2018 when Chineham WI hosted their annual Christmas Craft Fair. I'm delighted to report that the fair was a huge success! Thank you so much to everyone who attended, both crafters and visitors. We had more visitors and crafters than ever before, which was superb. Both Chineham WI and all the crafters very much appreciate your

support. The money we raised at the fair will be used by the WI to help to reduce loneliness among local residents. A big THANK YOU on their behalf and we hope to see you again next year.

The speaker at our November monthly meeting enlightened us all as to the role of the jury in a court of law and how much this has changed in recent times. Our speaker, retired barrister Peter Thompson, brought his gown and wig and explained the many changes during the period from the early 1900s, when murderers faced the death penalty, to the present day.

December brought the Christmas Tree Festival to Christ Church and we created a Christmas tree made of boxes wrapped up like Christmas presents to display. Good fun and helpful advertising for our WI. Shortly after the festival it was our monthly meeting, with a storyteller, mince pies and festive cheer (aka mulled wine!).

If your New Year resolution was to do something new this year, why not consider joining Chineham WI? You'll discover lots of variety, new friends and be inspired to do something different. It costs £42 for the year, which includes 11 monthly meetings and six WI Life magazines. Plus there's the opportunity to join Scrabble, gardening and/or lunch clubs. Come and see what you've been missing! You're sure of a warm welcome in the Shaftesbury Room. Christ Church, Reading Road on **Monday 28th January** at 7.30pm.

Pam Malcolm Treasurer, Chineham WI

National Garden Scheme

Only a small percentage of the population is aware of the amazing contributions this organisation has donated to nursing and health charities. The concept is quite simple - owners of quality gardens, be they large or small, agree to open their gardens, through the National Garden Scheme, to the public on specific days or by arrangement. For this privilege, visitors pay a modest entrance fee. All entrance money is donated to the National Garden Scheme. Most owners offer homemade cakes and tea/coffee and many sell plants.

All the money raised throughout England & Wales is distributed to selected nursing & health charities. Macmillan Cancer Support & MS Society, to name a couple. All those charities supported can be viewed at ngs.org.uk/beneficiaries.

In 2017 the National Garden Scheme donated a record £3.1 million to these charities. In the last 4 years Hampshire has raised a record £200,000 per year. We are very proud of this achievement, and would ask that the people of Hampshire, and Chineham in particular, keep an eye out for the Yellow NGS County Booklet, available at most garden centres and outlets in the towns and villages, or visit the web site ngs.org.uk to see which gardens are open close to you - or maybe further afield. Our 2019 season commences in February with the Snowdrop Festival.

Why not enjoy a relaxing visit, (someone else has done all the hard work) at one of the four snowdrop

gardens, at the same time you will be donating to an amazing charity.

Pat Beagley
pat.beagley@ngs.org.uk

Dance Raises Poppy Funds

Last night we put on a Fish and Chip Supper Remembrance Dance Night with the raffle in aid of The British Legion, Old Basing Branch.

Through various raffles during November and concluding with last night, with the help of my pupils from the dance school we have contributed £265.00 to the Old Basing British Legion Branch Poppy Appeal Fund.

The dance was held last night at Chineham Village Hall, with live music Provided by David Last. The dance was a mixture of ballroom, Latin and sequence. Everyone wore red, white and blue. We also held a minute's silence to remember all those that have perished in times of war.

Proceeds were handed to the Representative of the Old Basing British Legion Branch Poppy Appeal Fund, Avril Mitchell, who also gave a speech to thank everyone, and explained that all the proceeds would be used to help those veterans in Hampshire.

I hold regular Monday Tea Dances and Friday Night Dances at Chineham Village Hall. If anyone wants further details they can email me: david@davidsmithdance.com or phone: 07791 749163.

David Smith

Probus Club

We recently enjoyed an excellent evening out at the Mill theatre at Sonning. As it was dark, the views of the attractive old buildings were limited, but inside there is a very cosy bar and upstairs dining area, from which there is easy access into the auditorium. The building dates from the 1700s and 1800s, but there is a mention of mills at Sonning in the Domesday Book. It closed as a flour mill in 1969, and was purchased and converted by the Richards family reopening it as a theatre/restaurant in 1982.

The evening started with a drink followed by an excellent buffet-style meal before the performance. The production was *A Night in Provence*; a comedy about an English couple who have booked a luxury villa for a 2-week summer holiday, only to find that there has been a mix-up by the agents who had not told the owners about the booking. The trouble—or entertainment—starts when the owners arrive from Paris expecting to use the villa for their own holiday. Shortly afterwards the English couple's Irish friends turn up as well. They decide that they will share the villa, and the play is about the stresses and strains that this causes – a heady mixture of champagne, attraction, and cultural differences. The play was well cast, performed enthusiastically and with good comic timing. This is just as well, as the “stage” is effectively a pit, with the audience in a semi-circle looking down on them, rather like a classical Roman or Greek theatre.

For more information about the Probus Club of Basingstoke see www.probusbasingstoke.wordpress.com or phone their secretary, Paul Flint, on 07770 886521 for an informal chat.

Paul Flint

Chat Distribution - Thanks and Update

A big thank you to all of our distributors for giving their time to deliver the Chineham Chat over the last year. We are delighted to say we currently have a full team of area and road distributors, however, we always welcome volunteers who are willing to cover deliveries when current distributors are unable to (due to holidays, illness etc.). Please do get in touch via the details below if you would like to join our team of relief distributors.

Mike & Kathryn
distribution@chinehamchat.com
479594

Basingstoke Horticultural Society

Basingstoke Horticultural Society meetings for the start of 2019 are as follows:

Monday 21 January: Recycling Green Waste - Veolia

Monday 18 February: Trees for a Small Garden – Janet Arm

Monday 18 March: A Year in the life of a Fuchsia Nursery – Carol Gubler

Our meetings are held at Kempshott Village Hall in Stratton Park, Pack Lane, Basingstoke, RG22 5HN and commence at 7.30pm. Visitors £3 including refreshments. For further details please go to: www.bhsociety.btck.co.uk.

Philip Wraight

Nature Notes

November along with July are regarded as the wettest months of the year, although most of the rain came at the start of December. Normally, I would have put covers over the flower beds, but I was busy emptying the saucers under the pots every day to prevent the plants rotting. I did not have time to move any worms that had sheltered underneath. I saw four bumble bees on flowers until 20th November.

As the original hedgehog house took so long to arrive, I ordered another one, which arrived the next day. Despite erecting it immediately, I hope it wasn't too late. I am not going to check inside. Are you aware that the hedgehogs in Chineham are learning the Highway Code? Chris drove onto Thornhill Way from Mattock Way so that he was going slow enough to spot a hedgehog traversing the new zebra crossing on his side of the road. Chris stopped and the hedgehog continued to the centre, where it remained stationary (as per the Highway Code). A car halted on the other side, whereupon the cautious traveller continued on its journey across the stripes to reach the pavement by the post box. A small animal had such an impact that two lanes of traffic obeyed The Highway Code instinctively.

In an old book, I came upon the information that in 1970 there were only 20 pairs of red kites, and those in Wales, so we are lucky now as we look up at the lovely colour of those graceful birds. How easy for animals and plants to become extinct. I worry that I don't have the chaffinches that filled my garden twenty years ago, but

then I talk to someone in another part of Chineham, and they tell me that they have those but no house sparrows. So, now we have this communication, please carry it further and participate in schemes like The Garden Bird Watch. This will take place in January, before the next edition of the Chineham Chat.

Talking of sparrows, they have returned to splashing in the water feature, in addition to eating masses of suet pellets every day. They have been joined by the starlings, who bully the smaller birds. I have had to add another feeder, but I have been informed by Chris, that a squirrel has joined the groups in the early mornings, which accounts for the times that the feeders have been found on the ground. Happy New Year!

Ginny Wright
ginny.wright24@gmail.com, 479562

News from the Poppy Appeal

It is with great pleasure that I can announce that the amount raised for the Old Basing, Hook and District area this Poppy Appeal and remembrance time is £25,843.50. I cannot thank everyone enough for making this amount possible.

There is a lot planned for 2019 to increase this total but we do need additional volunteers to make this possible so, if you are interested in helping please call or email me, Hon Poppy Appeal Organiser Tim Russell on either 0777 288 3964 or Hampshire.chairman@rbl.community.

Tim Russell

SSAFA

The Hampshire/Basingstoke branch of the UK's oldest armed forces charity SSAFA will be out in force again in 2019 commencing with The Basingstoke Festival of Transport at the Memorial Park in May 2019 and collecting for local heroes and their families at various superstores.

SSAFA provides lifelong support for our Forces and their families. Each year the charity helps over 60 families in Basingstoke, Hook, Tadley and surrounding area—over 50,000 nationally.

These funds are vital if SSAFA is to continue to support those who have served their country and ensure that they are not disadvantaged by their service. We are finding that our cases are becoming increasingly complex with younger veterans coming forward for help in greater numbers. We offer a range of support from practical and financial assistance to emotional care and befriending.

If you would like to know more about how SSAFA can help you or someone you know, please get in touch at 07807 668398 or visit us at www.ssafa.org.uk.

As well as SSAFA being able to assist those in need, we have a need for more caseworkers. There are 7,000 volunteer workers throughout the United Kingdom and on service bases. SSAFA caseworkers operate in Europe and overseas British bases where there are expatriate communities.

Being a caseworker is a voluntary job to undertake at times to suit the volunteer, qualification is by attending

a fully funded residential course and working with other trained personnel.

If you feel that you would be able to give a few hours per week to undertake this very rewarding work please contact SSAFA on 07807 668398.

Alex Ball

Chat Assistant Editor Wanted!

Do you have a few hours a month to give to the Chineham Chat? We are creating a new role as Assistant Editor to work with the Editor on creating the issue each month. The role would suit someone who has a bit of time in the evenings, has good standards of written English and is enthusiastic about producing this fabulous little magazine!

We can tailor the role around the applicant, but in short we are looking for some help with managing the editorial inbox, producing the final articles from what is submitted, proofing the issue and general editorial support. The key requirement is reliability (especially around the Chat deadline of the 15th), as we have fixed deadlines at the printer.

If you are interested, or would like more information, please do get in touch with Jo on the details below - happy to have a "chat" to see if it might suit you.

Jo Appleford-Cook
07713 298919
editor@chinehamchat.com

Basingstoke Camera Club

Basingstoke Camera Club is a long-established club for local people interested in photography with a membership of around 80 members. The club welcomes people regardless of the equipment that they use to take photographs or the subjects that they like to photograph. Some members are particularly interested in nature photography whilst others like landscapes or portraits, many though take a broad range of subjects.

Many members will use Digital Single Lens Reflex cameras (so-called DSLRs) but others will use compact cameras or even take photos with their mobile phones. More recently some members have even gone “retro” practising their skills by taking photographs with cameras using black and white film and developing and printing them themselves. The club meets regularly on Thursday nights at the Oakridge West Community centre from September to May and then out and about around Basingstoke in the summer months. Meetings include a diverse programme of activities ranging from practical evenings, talks and lectures plus club competitions both internally and with other clubs. Exhibitions of the members work can be seen at the annual exhibition held in the Basingstoke Discovery Centre every year. This exhibition continues a tradition of club work being exhibited in the town with Hampshire records citing a club exhibition in Basingstoke as early as 1956. The club also runs a major online competition every year with thousands of entries from across the UK, profits from this online competition have enabled the club to make significant donations to St Michael’s Hospice. Members also provide

a range of photographs to the Hospice to decorate the building.

The club welcomes new members whether experienced or novice. Further information on the club is available at the club’s website: basingstokecameraclub.co.uk.

Peter Malcolm

Basingstoke Blues Club

Saturday 19th January: Robert Hokum/ Dave Stone Band. Basingstoke Railway Social Club, Station Approach, Basingstoke RG21 5NB. All welcome - 8pm till late. £8 on the door. Licensed bar and low prices.

Robert Hokum is highly acclaimed by the press and well worth seeing. A regular at Basingstoke Blues Club, he has varied styles from electric and acoustic to Delta Blues and jazz blues. He has been active at the Ealing Blues Club alongside The Rolling Stones, The Who, The Animals and Jack Bruce. He founded The Ealing Blues Festival and hence was included in a recent successful film about the development of the rock scene.

Dave Stone, originally jazz-trained, toured in the ‘90s as ‘road guitarist’ with several big names of the day. A fine guitarist/vocalist whose playing is influenced by diverse influences, he came off the road to focus on his song writing. He gigged locally in Hanwell as frontman of ‘indie band’ The Kings of Wonderland and The King Buster Blues Band. He is founder of The Hanwell Hootie (now London’s biggest free music festival).

Profits to Brain Tumour Research – Charity number 1153487. For further details please contact: Rex on 01256 321837/mobile 07979 422590.

Christine Neild

Old Basing Tennis Club

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Annual Quiz in November. It was a great evening! Sandie and Terry Rice certainly challenged us with some searching questions.

The winter months are quiet, but tennis is still being played at the club. If you would like to find out more about OBTC please look at our new website: <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/OldBasingTennisClub> or contact Jan, our Secretary, by emailing: OBTC.Information@gmail.com.

You can also find Old Basing Tennis Club on Facebook. If you are thinking about playing tennis this year, please do get in touch!

Lynne Thomas, Chair.

Basingstoke Loddon Rotary

Basingstoke Loddon Rotary has started a NEW section for all ages from 18+; volunteers, charities, social enterprise, networking, young professionals, business, families, schools, friends, local authority, sustainable communities, diversity, project leaders.

We believe in positive change through positive action. Have you wanted to volunteer but weren't sure where to start? Can you share your skills or some of your time to give back to others? Now is the perfect time. Basingstoke Loddon Rotary is expanding and recruiting younger

members who want to make a difference. We are non-political, non-religious, inclusive and a catalyst for getting things done both locally and globally. Rotary is the largest and most powerful networking service organisation.

We communicate on social media and/or at meetings, which we hold anywhere and at times to suit. Start off with Associate membership (free) and, as soon as you are ready, progress to Full membership for just £2.31 per week - less than a cup of coffee! For a busy person who has difficulty committing to meetings this is ideal.

To find out more please come along for a chat over a complimentary coffee at Starbucks in Festival Place (by Next, 1st floor) on **Saturday 26th January** between 10.00am & 12.30pm.

Please email us on: rotarybasingstokeloddon@gmail.com or visit us on Facebook: Basingstoke Loddon Rotary Club.

Chris Flemming

Did you know?: that the ancient Babylonians' celebrations of New Year's lasted for eleven days? And you thought your New Year's eve party was tiring...

The tradition of setting New Year's resolutions also dates back to the same people. The most common resolution among Babylonians was to return used farm equipment.

County and Borough Councillor Elaine Still

There are changes this month to the bus services in Chineham. Regarding the main number 7 service, from 6 January, the Monday to Friday daytime frequency is reduced from every 15 minutes to every 20 minutes and the school day variations removed. There is no change to the frequency at weekends. The last bus on Sundays will be 45 minutes later than now.

The 7 was not part of the County Council's recent review as weekday daytime services are operated commercially with Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council support for evening and Sunday services.

The number 14, which also serves Chineham, is a service supported by Hampshire County Council. It is one of the most costly services to support as it serves many rural communities in north Hampshire. After extensive user consultations we have retained a Monday to Saturday service with key journeys at similar times to the current timetable. However the service during the day will be every 2 hours instead of hourly.

Elaine Still
Tel: 880926 / 07747 862913
elaine.still@hants.gov.uk
cllr.elaine.still@basingstoke.gov.uk
Website: elainestill.com

Borough Councillor Paul Miller

Now that most of the road works on the two main roundabouts on the A33 is complete, let us be confident that these improvements will help everyone

experience a smoother and safer journey through our area. It is also to be hoped that the investment that has made into these and other roundabouts around Basingstoke in the foreseeable future will lead to further improvements to our road infrastructure.

I wish to extend my thanks, as many others in Chineham have, to say farewell to PCSO Richard Green at the end of this year. However, I'm sure you'll all join me in offering our great appreciation for all his efforts in maintaining as high a standard of community policing as he could with limited resources. This shortcoming in policing resources is one of the many issues that I endeavour push upwards within local government as I am only too aware that it is residents that have to shoulder the adverse effect of petty crime.

You may have read in a previous Chat that I advised that 'all out' Borough elections would take place next May. This was dependent on the Boundary Commission completing the public consultation and deciding upon the new Ward boundaries by November 2018. This was not completed on time and BDBC has been notified that 'due to an internal administrative error' they will not complete their work until Spring 2019 thus the planned elections will be held in May 2020.

I wish you all a Happy New Year.

Paul Miller
Borough Councillor
01256 467400
07777 659022

Four Lanes Infant School

In Year 2 we have been learning about poems. Some are exciting, some are slow or fast, some rhyme, some don't, some are nonsense, some have lots of expression or you could use actions for them. We have each chosen our favourite poem and are learning to perform them to the rest of the class making them sound interesting. In maths we have been learning about £ and pence. We have been finding ways of making different amounts. We have made totals by adding the pence and then adding the pounds and putting them together.

We have been learning about how Victorian times are different from now. Teachers used to be really strict, the children got hit with the cane and they had to sit in lines sitting up straight and silently. In the mornings they used chalk boards to write and they had to use beautiful handwriting copying the teacher's writing. In the afternoons the boys learnt maths and the girls learnt to sew. We are having a Victorian day before Christmas, it is exciting but we also feel nervous and a bit scared. We will also have Victorian food!

Year 1 have been investigating 2D shapes like rectangle, square, circle, triangle and 3D shapes like a cuboid, sphere, cube and pyramid. They have been looking at the number of edges, corners and faces. They have been retelling the story of Alfie's Christmas, how he gets ready for Christmas. They have been making moving toys and clay pots (dried and painted) to sell at their Elf Workshop where parents have been invited to join in to buy

things using the Elf currency, Elf Jingles.

In Year R they have been thinking about birthdays. They had a birthday party for their class puppet. They made birthday cards and invitations for the party which they posted in a post box. They played party games, made pretend birthday cakes with chocolate flavoured playdough and thought about how they celebrate their own birthdays. They have been thinking about when Baby Jesus was born and how Christians celebrate his birthday. They have been performing their play, 'Shine Star, Shine'.

Happy New Year to you, we wish you a happy healthy 2019 from everyone at Four Lanes Infant School.

Olivia Astill-Suppria and Henry Phillips

Chat Webmaster Urgently Required

A few months ago we appealed for a new Webmaster for the Chineham Chat. Although we had some excellent applicants they have unfortunately all dropped out owing to sudden work commitments. So now the situation is urgent - can you help us? We are hoping someone could take on the task of revamping the Chat website, but after that the time required per month is quite minimal.

The Chat is staffed entirely by volunteers, and we hope someone tech-savvy can step forward and help us!

Jo Appleford-Cook

Minister's Message

I hope you've been well over Christmas, and have had been able to relax and have joyful times with friends and family.

We've witnessed extraordinary and turbulent times in the last few months, haven't we? I'm writing this in the middle of December, and our Prime Minister has just delayed the long-awaited 'Meaningful Vote' on Brexit in Parliament. No-one currently knows how long the delay will be, or why she thinks there's any meaningful chance of a change of position in the EU in the meantime. It's anyone's guess now whether the current deal, no deal, or even no Brexit at all, is most likely.

Whatever the outcome, we will still be left with the massive challenges of poverty, homelessness, debt, pensions, food banks, poor health among too many people, challenges in education when children come to school hungry, and so on. We must move on to face the challenges of the NHS, castrated local authorities, transport failures, infrastructure and other consequences of a decade of austerity. The EU is a long way from being perfect, but it cannot be blamed for all that.

My biggest concern with Brexit has always been that most of the time and energy available to improve the world and society we live in - the job of politics - would be almost entirely consumed for 2 years by negotiating our exit. Now the 2 years is stretching into 4 or 5. We can learn to find our way outside the EU, but future generations may hold us most accountable for the years we forgot about the more important things, distracted by leaving a club that (we've just discovered) costs us less each year

than we spent on supporting Northern Ireland.

We've also lost much of our ability to disagree agreeably. Yes, of course passions have run very high. However, the lies told, and the inability to see shades of grey but only black and white, have damaged us as a nation. Internet message boards and twitter streams are full of hatred, as people post first, and worry about the facts later. Our teenagers have watched all this, and learned that this is normal. Shame on us.

Healing the wounds and hurts is not going to be easy. But it is necessary. If we can do it around us here in Chineham, with the friends that we like, as well as those who voted differently, then we stand a chance of doing it as a nation. May 2019 be the year that we, in our own little way, stop and reflect before rushing to judgement. Listen to opinions we don't like, and those that hold them, and help build bridges, not ever-bigger walls.

With best wishes and prayers from myself, and the rest of the church family at Christ Church.

Jonathan Clark

Christ Church Activities

Sunday services: We welcome all at our 9am and 10.30 services. The 9am service is smaller and more reflective, using traditional hymns. At 10.30am we have a music band, and groups for children and young people from 0 to 16. Our next monthly All Age Worship service is on Sunday 20 January. Our sermons are recorded and are available at www.christchurchchineham.org.uk.

Prayer: is there something you would

like prayer for? Do let us know, contact details below. If you would like to come and pray at the Church you would be most welcome. Our Prayer Room is open whenever the building is open – you are welcome to drop in to sit and pray in silence, or if you would like someone to pray with or for you we can arrange that. We meet weekly to pray on alternate Sunday and Monday evenings (please contact the office for details).

Further information: if you'd like to know more about the life and activities please drop in to see Gill in the office (Mon-Fri 9.30-1.30pm) or learn more or contact through the website: www.christchurchchineham.org.uk, email: hello@christchurchchineham.org.uk, phone: 01256 474280, facebook and instagram: christchurchchineham, twitter: @ccChineham.

Weekly Groups

Sparklers: Thursdays, 9.30–11.15am in term-time. Due to the increasing demand we are pleased to announce that starting from 15th January we will also be running a second session on a Tuesday, again from 9.30-11.15am. This group is for pre-school children and their parents/grandparents/carers for free play, refreshments, games, stories from the Bible and songs. Each week there is a craft for the children to take home. There is no charge although we do ask for a contribution towards the cost of refreshments. All enquiries to Katy Lowe at the church office.

Coffee and Co: Mondays, 9.30-11.30am, in term time. Enjoy mouth-watering home-made cakes, freshly brewed coffee, from our friendly team, plus lots of toys for babies and tots.

This month:

Messy Church: No Messy Church in January (the next date is 11 February 3.45-5.30pm). This is a time of creativity, worship and food! We enjoy fun activities and share a meal. Carers must stay with their children. Free and everyone is welcome.

Swap Shop of children's goods: Monday 7, 9.30-11.30am. Bring a toy, book or clothing in good condition and take something new home! Donations are given to Sebastian's Action Trust.

123 Matinee Group: Tuesday 8, 1-3pm. This social/support group is aimed at "older friends" although everyone is welcome; no charge. You will find a warm welcome, plenty of people to chat with and there will be refreshments and a range of activities. We may be able to arrange a lift - just let us know if this is the case. If you are interested in coming along and/or helping you would be most welcome.

Daytime Holy Communion: Tuesday 22 at 11.00am. A small friendly group of worshippers meets monthly to receive Holy Communion – all are welcome. Why not stay on afterwards for the Lunch club that follows Communion – read on for details.

Luncheon Club: Tuesday 22 January, 12 noon. The cost is £5, children £3.00. A tasty home cooked two course meal and good company! No need to book but if you have any special dietary requirements please let us know. Also call us if you would like a lift as we may be able to arrange it. Contact Jan Markey on 01256 356829 or Gill at the office.

Blood donor session: Tuesday 8 January – 2 sessions, 1-3.25pm and 4.15-6.30pm. New donors always

welcome. Visit www.blood.co.uk for more information or to book an appointment.

Lunch for those living alone: Sunday 13 January at 12.30 for 12.45pm. Contact the office if you would like to come. We provide a home cooked traditional Sunday lunch for £5.

Charity collections: we continue to collect stamps (new and used), postcards, spectacles, tools, tins and packets of food, and tops from supermarket milk bottles for charity. We also collect most items of men's clothing and socks for the Camrose Centre for the homeless.

Room hire: rooms are available to hire either on a one-off or regular basis. Contact us for details or take a look on our website at www.christchurchchineham.org.uk. Prices start at £8.75 per hour (Community Rate) which includes use of the kitchen/snack bar where tea, coffee, sugar and squash are provided. Groups that regularly hire the church include Guides, Chineham Board Gamers and Bridge, along with a range of University of the Third Age groups including Patchwork and Latin.

Gill Godfrey

Chineham Parish Council

Parish Councillors and staff would like to take this opportunity to wish all residents a Happy New Year.

2019 Meeting dates: The dates for the Full Parish Council meetings in 2019 are scheduled as follows:

January 14th	July 8th
February 11th	August 12th
March 11th	September 9th
April 8th	October 14th

May 13th	November 11th
June 10th	December 9th

Meetings start at 7.45pm in the Community Rooms at the Chineham Village Hall (the public session will start at approximately 7.50pm). Agendas are available on the Parish Council noticeboards and on the website three clear days before the meetings.

Chineham District Centre: At the time of writing, a Planning application for the redevelopment of the Chineham District Centre is being considered at Parish Council meetings. Whilst supporting the principles of the proposals, the Parish Council objects to the application in its present form because we have very serious concerns about the proposed positioning of the relocated bus stops to the west of the site. The Parish Council's full response may be found in the minutes of the December meetings available on the website.

Grit Bins: There are a number of blue or yellow bins filled with salt and/or grit for use in Chineham on public roads and pavements. They are not provided for private use. Residents can report that a bin requires refilling via the Hampshire County Council website www.hants.gov.uk. Alternatively, please contact the Parish Council with the location details and we will report it.

Defibrillator: Just a reminder that there is a publicly accessible defibrillator on the external wall at the Village Hall close to the Community Rooms. In the event that the equipment is required, the Operator will inform the 999 caller of the access code.

The next Chineham Parish Council meeting is to be held on **14 January**. The Meeting starts at 7.45pm and will take

place in the Community Rooms at the Chineham Village Hall. 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 01256 474500 or email clerk@chineham.gov.uk or the Assistant Clerk, Julia Johnston on 01256 324345 or assistantclerk@chineham.gov.uk during office hours only please. The Parish Council website can be found at www.chineham.gov.uk.

Sally Jackson

Four Lanes Community Centre

Good Companions over 55s group: Four Lanes Community Centre, 3rd Tuesday of every month.

Yoga: Tuesdays 6.15pm to 6.45pm at the Junior School. Payable in blocks of 6 weeks, cost £30.00, or drops in welcome £6.00 per class. For further information please contact Four Lanes Centre on 01256 810499.

Happy Hands and Dancing Feet: for mums, dads, babies and pre-school children. Weds: 9.30am–11.00am on-going. £12.00 for 6 weeks or £2.50 per week on a drop-in basis. Please contact us to register your interest.

Sama Karate: In the Junior Hall, Wednesdays 5.15-6.15pm. For more information contact the Regional Administrator on 07759 615876.

Pegasus Karate Club: Traditional Wado Ryu Karate for beginners and advanced students. Weds 7–9.00pm at Four Lanes Junior School. Contact: 07733 410370.

Zumba: Mondays: 7.30–8.30pm, Tuesdays: 7.00–8.00pm. £5.25 Mondays and £6.00 Tuesdays, pay as you go. Contact: Lisa 07884 267722.

Clubbercise: Tuesdays 8.00pm–8.45pm. Classes to be booked in advance on <https://bookwhen.com/clubbercisewithaimee> or www.facebook.com/clubbercisewithaimee.

Summit Judo: Fridays 3.40-4.40pm. Contact Paul Hamilton, email info@summitjudo.co.uk or call 07917 005862.

Linguatastic: Languages include: French and Spanish before school clubs, Italian, Spanish and French for adults, French for Secondary School pupils. For further information please email info@linguatastic.com or phone 471474.

Virginia Wyatt

Basingstoke Disability ConneXions

Monthly get-togethers for anyone affected by any type of disability. Come for a chat and to enjoy free tea/coffee and biscuits. Meet new people and talk about issues that are important to you. Sessions: First Tuesday monthly from 12.30-2.30pm, Church Cottage (behind St Michael's Church)

Guest speaker topics:

8 Jan: South Western Railway talk by their disability access and inclusion manager

5 Feb: Learn how to access information to help you stay independent, well and connected to your community

All free, everyone is welcome, no booking needed (just turn up). For more information, please contact us: telephone: 01256 423869, email: info@bddf.org.uk, web: www.bddf.org.uk.

Amanda Knowles

Civil Service Retirement Fellowship

The meeting on 5th December was the Christmas buffet, with musical entertainment supplied by Gary Myles who brought a modern twist to some seasonal favourites.

The programme for the 2019 meetings has been prepared with a Candle Making demonstration in February, the AGM followed by lunch in March, talks on: "The Body Thro the Porthole" in April, The Mid Hants Railway in May, My Life as a Journalist in June, Queen Victoria in July, Florence Nightingale in August, Eccentric London in September, My Family and other Meerkats in October and then a presentation on Home Safety from Hampshire Police in November followed by the Christmas buffet in December. Proposed outings are to the Postal Museum on 27th February, a matinee performance at The Theatre Royal Winchester on 20th March to see The Verdict, The Bombay Sapphire Distillery and Hinton Ampner on 18th April, Kew Gardens on 8th May, Afternoon Tea at BCOT on 22nd May, The Watercress Line on 13th June, Bosham Arts and Crafts Centre on 10th July, Cowes during Regatta week on 15th August, a River Cruise from Oxford on 12th September, the Mystery Trip on 11th October, Millets Farm Centre on 21st November and Christmas Lunch at BCOT on 12th December.

The next meeting is on **9th January** when the speaker is Dan Allen on "What did you do in the War Granny?" The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month (except January when it will be the second) at Brookvale Village Hall from 10 am to 12 noon and all retired Civil Servants and their partners are welcome.

Details can be obtained from the Secretary Tony Brazier on 07715 640171 and for information about our trips please contact Kate Lambeth on 01256 328791.

David Cowling

Chineham Conservation Group

2018-19 Woodland Working Season: Stuck for a New Year's Resolution for 2019? Looking for a more interesting way of getting fresh air and exercise, learning new skills, meeting new people, and doing something to support your local community?

We meet up 10.00-12.00 on the 2nd and 3rd Sunday mornings each month from September to March to manage Chineham's ancient woodlands for you and wildlife. For latest news and updates on where we are working, see our Facebook page and join us at a Copse and date that suits you.

13 Jan - Long Copse

20 Jan - Long Copse

10 Feb - Great Sorrells Copse

17 Feb - Great Sorrells Copse

10 Mar - Guinea Copse

17 Mar - Guinea Copse

(For Long Copse find us at the end of Great Oaks Chase, for Great Sorrells Copse find us at the Whitewood entrance, for Guinea Copse find us at Mongers Piece).

All tools and thornproof gloves are provided. For more details about our woodland working or the many other ways you can help preserve our local wildlife do please get in touch with us at chinehamcg@gmail.com or check out our Facebook page.

Helen Davies

Basingstoke Deane Rotary

It's not too late to book for the Basingstoke Deane Rotary 11th Charity Concert: The Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines (The Anvil, **Sunday 27th January**, 3.00pm). Tickets available from The Anvil Box Office.

Rotary Shoebox Update: Our shoeboxes went to our central collecting area and were then distributed by road transport to children in Albania, Moldova, Montenegro and Rumania, making a total of 27,000 shoeboxes sent from the Wessex Rotary district, full of goodies, to give a little happiness to under privileged children in those countries. Again, thank you to our generous donors. Rotarians oversee the boxes all the way until they're given to the children. To get involved look out for info in 2019

December activities:

1st: A dozen of our "elves" gave a helping hand to Father Christmas at Overton Christmas Market.

2nd: A team provided car parking marshals for the St Michael's Hospice Light up a Life event.

16th: We provided peoplepower for the Pelican Cancer Foundation Festive Fun Run with a couple of our members also donning a Santa suit to take part.

18th: We provided, cooked and served a Festive lunch for the homeless and vulnerably housed of the Camrose centre and their volunteers. We are again pleased to be supporting the Night Light Shelter for the Basingstoke homeless this winter.

Basingstoke Deane Rotary is a group of 35 people from a wide variety of backgrounds. If you would like to find out more about how we enjoy ourselves, just tune in to www.rcbd.org.uk to see what we have coming up, or contact Helen Ricketts: helen@highpathway.co.uk or Paul Temple: tempaul45@gmail.com to find out more. You might be pleasantly surprised! Facebook: @RotaryBasingstokeDeane, Twitter: @RBstokeDeane.

Lindy Richardson

Thank You to our Volunteers and Advertisers

Did you know that every month 3576 copies of the Chineham Chat Magazine are printed and distributed throughout Chineham in over 280 boxes to over 9,240 people? 87 volunteers work together to make sure we keep this important part of our community and we rely solely on the income from our advertisers to be able to cover our printing costs.

We would like to say a big thank you to both our volunteers and advertisers for all your support in 2018. Not many people realise that the any profits from the Chineham Chat are given back to local projects/facilities. In 2019 we would like to urge any local businesses to support our village by advertising with us so we can continue to improve our community further.

Maxine Jackson

All-Out Borough Council Elections Delayed

Major changes to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, scheduled for next year, are being delayed after an administrative error by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England during the consultation on new wards. The number of councillors was set to reduce from 60 to 54 after redrawing the ward boundaries as part of the commission's electoral review of the borough. This would have meant all-out council elections in May 2019.

The commission has now announced that: "Shortly before the scheduled publication of its final recommendations, the commission became aware that, due an administrative error, two submissions made during public consultation had not been made available to it during its consideration of final proposals.

"Given the importance of considering every local voice fairly and equally, the commission has decided to take a fresh look at every submission made during public consultation on the review. After taking into account all the submissions, the commission will decide the final recommendations."

The commission has decided to delay the publication of final recommendations for new electoral arrangements for Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council until 5 March 2019, with the new ward boundaries now set to come into effect at all-out elections in May 2020.

This means that voters will be going to the polls in May next year only for the wards that would have been up

for election under the current 'thirds' cycle, where 20 councillors are elected a year over three years. These wards are: Basing; Baughurst and Tadley North; Bramley and Sherfield; Brighton Hill North; Burghclere, Highclere and St Mary Bourne; Chineham; Eastrop; Grove; Hatch Warren and Beggarwood; Kempshott; Kingsclere; Norden; Oakley and North Waltham; Overton, Laverstoke and Steventon; Pamber and Silchester; South Ham; Tadley Central; Tadley South; Upton Grey and The Candovers and Winklebury.

Returning Officer for elections at the borough council Mel Barrett said: "As a result of the announcement by the commission, the borough will not be holding an all-out election in May 2019 and will revert to the scheduled cycle of elections for one third of the council next year. We prepared for new wards to come into effect in 2019. However, we have also been planning in parallel in case it was not possible for the Parliamentary order to be made in time to hold the all-out elections, so we are fully prepared for next May."

The aim of the electoral review is to recommend ward boundaries that mean each councillor represents approximately the same number of voters. It also aims to ensure that the pattern of wards reflects the interests and identities of local communities as well as promoting effective local government. For more information see www.lgbce.org.uk/allreviews/south-east/hampshire/basingstoke-and-deane.

Sara Shepherd

NWR

To get us into the Christmas spirit our meeting for December was a festive lunch. We held this in the marvellous Lychpit Village Hall which is a brilliant space with lovely facilities and excellent atmosphere, so do check it out if you have any celebrations coming up and are looking for a venue - just up from Tesco Express. As usual there was plenty of delicious food, topped off with the traditional flaming Christmas pudding. We had gifts and crackers and a Christmas Quiz that had us scratching our heads and a good time was had by all.

Our reading group will also be moving away from the usual format by having a book swap instead of discussing one particular book and this will be 8pm on 13th December. If you are finding dull winter days getting you down then come and join us for some lively chatter. We welcome new members, so if you want to make new friends do come along to meet us. We are very social and meet in the afternoon in each others' homes on the first Monday of the month. As well as cinema and theatre trips we will consider any activity that has enough support. We have a regular Lunch club, meeting at different venues on different days of the week and our book lovers meet 8pm every 4th Thursday. For more information about NWR do look at the website: nwr.org.uk or to find out about our group do come along to any of our meetings (to check us out with no obligation to join) please contact: Evelyn Jones, email: evelyncjjones@hotmail.co.uk, tel: 01256 816636.

Diane Hope

News from the Beat

The last month of the year brings the usual festive cheer and seasonal felicitations that can be expected of any reasonable community – and from what decorations I've noticed on my rounds 2018 is no different. If you are like me and get competitive, I would say the Father Christmas ensemble in Elvetham Rise is the most festive of the lot!

Unfortunately, the last month is exactly that for me. I have handed my notice in and will be leaving to pursue a career in Adult Social Care. A full handover is being prepared, but I would like to start by saying that being a PCSO for over 6 years has been a great experience, and the last two years being your beat officer has been the best by far. I have thoroughly enjoyed working for you and it will be sorely missed. My last working day will be 3pm-midnight Christmas Eve.

A replacement is still being organised, but please remember you still have PC Aiden Blackwell and other staff. Any future correspondence should be sent to the email address: basingstoke.town.police@hampshire.pnn.police.uk. Crime reports can be done via 101 or online.

In other news, vehicle crime has been on the minds of many recently. I am glad to say that no recorded offences in this area have been reported recently. Please continue to exercise sensible security measures, especially by locking cars.

I hope to see you all soon prior to my leaving, all the very best.

PCSO Green, 15307
Hampshire Constabulary

Linguatastic

How do you like to celebrate the New Year? The Spanish celebrate La Nochevieja by eating a grape with every clock bell's chime – 12 grapes in 12 seconds. Sound easy? Try it and you might change your mind! The tradition dates back to the early 1900s and it is believed that those who manage to eat all twelve grapes at the right time will have twelve joyful months in the coming year. The fun and festive food don't end on 1st, since "La Epifanía/El Día de los Reyes Magos" is also an important celebration, commemorating the three kings bearing gifts for baby Jesus.

On 5th January, huge parades or 'cabalgatas' are held around Spain and broadcast on television. One of the biggest in Madrid draws crowds of over 100,000, including thousands of children eager to catch the sweets thrown into the crowd by the three kings. On the evening of 5th January, children leave out their polished shoes and some sweets, wine and milk for the kings and their animal transportation. The next morning, their shoes and the house will be full of presents. Indeed, for many families, it'll be the 6th January when gifts are exchanged instead of, or in addition to, 25th December. Families will eat a "Roscón de Reyes", a ring-shaped sweet bread, covered with candied fruits. Hidden inside the Roscón is a figurine and a dried bean. Whoever ends up finding the figurine becomes "king" or "queen" for the day and whoever finds the bean is supposed to buy next year's Roscón!

Although it wasn't us who found the bean in the Roscón last year, we hope to be offering Roscón to our Spanish groups when we start up again on **Monday 7th January**. ¡Feliz Año Nuevo!

Fiona Biermann

NeighbourCare Befrienders

"Becoming a Befriender for NeighbourCare has certainly been one of the most rewarding things I've done in my life." The words of volunteer Lisa Lewis, who has been visiting her client Bob Allen since November 2016 and two years on, continues to do so on a weekly basis; they've formed a lovely friendship.

Our Befrienders are volunteers who are matched carefully with clients who are in need of company or help with reading or form filling. An hour a week to share a cup of tea, a chat about the weather, latest news or whatever may pop up. This makes such a difference to these people's lives and will relieve the loneliness they may often be feeling. Just knowing that someone is going to be calling transforms a very lonely week into having something to look forward to. The mood is lifted and social isolation is prevented.

NeighbourCare also provide the befriender and befriended with relevant support, contacting other services they may need if the befriended's circumstances changes in any way. This can often be the case when our clients are elderly or have any type of disability. Befriending is a totally free service so the funding received from Basingstoke and Deane will maintain this service to the community.

Basingstoke NeighbourCare's Befrienders are people just like Lisa – and like you. If you have a spare hour or so every week please contact NeighbourCare on 01256 423855 (or email us at info@neighbourcare.com) and find out how you can also take part in this incredibly rewarding service.

Hazel Tilbury

Four Lanes Junior School

Four Lanes Community Junior School is celebrating today after receiving another glowing report from Ofsted inspectors.

Four Lanes Community Junior School was once again judged 'Good' but this time with an 'Outstanding' judgement in the area of Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare. In the other areas of Leadership and Management, Quality of Teaching Learning and Assessment and Outcomes for Pupils, the Inspectors also found elements relating to the 'Outstanding' criteria.

Ofsted highlighted the impact of leadership and management stating that: 'The Headteacher and deputy Headteacher provide strong, focused and effective leadership. Their hard work and dedication have resulted in a junior school that develops ambitious, aspirational pupils who believe in themselves.' They also highlighted the school's work to promote pupils' personal development and welfare.

They stated, 'Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is at the heart of all that the school does... This work is central to the development of pupils' outstanding attitudes to learning, excellent behaviour and strong sense of responsibility.'

Headteacher Mrs Corinne Martinez, said: "I am delighted with the results from our recent Ofsted inspection. I am particularly pleased that the inspectors recognise the importance we stress on pupils' personal

development, behaviour and welfare. Pupils' emotional and social development is central to everything we do at the school. Learning is not just about academic achievement but about gaining the skills and attitudes needed to be a responsible citizen with the aspiration and resilience to achieve the very best for yourself, others around you and the wider world.

We recognise that pupils can only develop a love of learning and the skills to progress academically when their emotional needs are met. I am really proud of the staff and pupils at my school and am pleased that all their hard work has been reflected in this Ofsted report. Looking to the future we will not be complacent but will continue to build on our successes. We continue to work on all areas of school life to ensure pupils' achieve the very best outcomes throughout all aspects of school life"

Kathy Bowman, the Chair of Governors said: "The past few years have seen great progress across the school. The staff are an inspiration. They are dedicated to providing pupils with a varied curriculum in a safe and nurturing environment conducive to learning and developing the children's confidence. The governing body works closely with the school to support the continuing improvements reflected in the latest Ofsted report. I would like to thank the staff and governors for the dedication and commitment they have shown to the school over the past three years."

G Wyatt