
Chineham

Issue 418
November 2018

Chat



Lest we forget. Photograph by Peter Malcolm.

November 2018

Recently I have noticed something I have never before personally encountered. I am not sure if it has been everywhere all this time and I just didn't notice it, or managed to miss the common times for the occurrence, or whether it was a genuinely rare event and is now increasing as a phenomenon. I am of course talking about going shopping in your pyjamas (what could be more important?). It seems particularly common at the One Stop shop, with everything from little toddlers (well, who hasn't given up the unequal battle of trying to stuff a small child into their clothes at some point) to teenagers and adults. Mostly girls, I'd have to say, but perhaps with men it's just harder to actually notice.

Now, I would love to get on my soapbox and start decrying the dropping standards of modern society, the lack of effort and so on. Mostly though, I tend think it looks pretty comfortable and wish I was brave enough to do it. (I'm not. No one needs to see that.) The idea of just popping to the shop in one's jimjams for coffee and cake sounds wonderfully continental, and then of course just collapsing back into the sofa with no chancing needed...on balance, maybe I'll start hunting for a unicorn onesie.

Jo Appleford-Cook

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*****NEXT COPY DATE: 14th November*****

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, I am delighted to report that we shall be joining in with the nationwide commemoration of the 100 years' anniversary of the end of WW1. On **Saturday 10th November** we will be holding a firework display. The doors will open at 5pm and the firework display will take place at 6.30pm but we will have activities and a BBQ on the go throughout the evening from 5pm onwards. This is a free event but tickets must be obtained in advance from the club as there will be a restriction on numbers. We will also be asking attendees to make a donation to The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and Help For Heroes on the night. Other entertainment events during November:

Mon 5: Bingo, in the lounge bar at 8pm

Tues 13: Saxon Wood Xmas market. Come along and support a great cause and see if you can buy some early stocking-fillers for Christmas.

Sat 24: Quiz night. 8pm in the lounge bar. Prizes for the winning team and spot prizes along the way. Teams can have a maximum of six people and the entrance fee is £1 per head

That's it for November but make sure you look at December's Chat so that you can see the events we have planned for the Christmas and New Year period.

John Prince, Chairman

Chineham Village Hall

Over 60's afternoon social anyone? As the winter months draw in, we are thinking of giving free use of the Community Rooms for an afternoon

each week to give local seniors the opportunity to get together socially either for a chat over a cup of tea and biscuits or maybe to play cards, chess or any board games you might be interested in. However, we need to know if there are enough people interested in doing this. We would also need someone on site to organise refreshments, games, etc. to whom a small fee would be paid. This would suit someone who is retired and active. Whether you are interested in organising this event or simply want to socialise, please call 07927 649083 in order that we can gauge whether there would be enough people to make this worthwhile. Please leave a message with your details so we can return your call.

Children's Ballet: For those of you with pre-school children, the Nightingale School of Ballet is now holding ballet classes in the Community Rooms on Wednesday afternoons at 2pm.

Slimming World update: Thursday morning sessions now commence at 9am and 11am.

If you are looking for a party venue, or wish to hold a regular class or meeting please contact our booking line on 07935 328172, email to chinehamvillagehall@gmail.com or complete an enquiry form/check on www.chinehamvillagehall.co.uk. Please note: the Booking Clerk is not available during the day so you need to leave a message for her to return your call. As we receive too many missed daytime calls to respond to, unless you leave a message your enquiry cannot be followed up.

Lynne Hughes

Chineham WI

September saw us enter a team for the national WI annual Skittles Competition. The Chineham team did very well, coming second to Basingstoke WI. Everyone had a great evening, including supper with our friends from five other local WIs.

Our Committee have almost completed the programme of events for 2019. We have a varied selection of speakers and in-house events planned to enlighten and entertain. Topics for 2019 include English canals, Stone Age food, poetry, polar bears and glaciers. Events include lunch, Scrabble and gardening clubs, outings, games, competitions and a Pudding and Pimms night! Why not join us for our next meeting on **Monday 26th November** at 7:30pm in the Shaftesbury Room, Christ Church, when we will be acting as the jury on an historical criminal case? The evidence and testimony will be provided for us to consider. Will we reach the same verdict as the original jury? Enjoy a free taster meeting and help us reach our verdict!

You are warmly invited to our annual Christmas Craft Fair on **Saturday 17th November** at Chineham Village Hall between 11am and 3pm. At least eighteen different crafts will be represented by local crafters, with an array of inspiring gifts for everyone on Santa and Secret Santa's gift lists. All the crafters have been selected for their quality items and value for money. Their items are lovingly handmade by humans (not mass-produced by robots!). There are no delivery costs, no delays, and entry and parking are free. So please come

and take the opportunity to choose your gifts in person, without any of the online risk! A warm welcome awaits you.

Pam Malcolm,
Treasurer, Chineham WI

Mixed Plastic Recycling News

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services and the Environment Cllr Hayley Eachus said: "There has been a drop in the market for recycling mixed plastics making it unviable for the company providing mixed plastic bring banks in the borough to sell on the material for recycling. This is a national issue affecting other local authorities around the country. It is important that the items we collect at these banks are being recycled or, if this is not possible, then the most efficient and environmentally friendly method of disposal used. To guarantee this we have decided, for the moment, to close the plastic recycling banks from Thursday 18 October while we work with Hampshire County Council to look for markets for this material.

I would like to encourage residents to continue to recycle clean plastic bottles including drink bottles, shampoo and bleach bottles in their kerbside green bin and place all other plastics in their grey waste bin. This will be sent to the Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) to produce electricity which is fed back to the national grid and is still the best option, environmentally, for non-recyclable waste."

K Lloyd

Events at Anvil Arts

November events:

Thu 1-Sat 3, 7.30pm, Sat 2pm, The Haymarket

Sherlock Holmes: The Sign of Four: by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, adapted for the stage by Nick Lane. When Mary Morstan arrives at 221B, Baker Street to request help with the mystery of her missing father, Holmes takes the case. Together with Dr Watson he uncovers a plot involving murder, corruption and stolen jewels. Original live music, stylish theatricality and magical story-telling combine for an unforgettable theatrical experience. Tickets: Thu £23, Fri-Sat £25, 2pm £20; Over 65s £2 off, under 16s and f/t students £14

Thu 1, 7.45pm, The Anvil

Vienna Tonkünstler Orchestra. Pianist Angela Hewitt joins the orchestra for a programme that includes Bernstein's Overture: On the Town, Beethoven's Piano Concerto no 5 and Sibelius' Symphony no 5. Conducted by Yutaka Sado. Tickets: £41, £37, £30, £23, £15; Under 25s and f/t students £11

Sat 3, 8.15pm, The Forge

Melrose Quartet. Melrose Quartet are an all-round folk act, with both tight a capella harmony and energy-packed instrumentals. From deep roots in their hometown's vibrant music, song and dance scene, Sheffield-based Melrose Quartet have attracted an enviable reputation. Tickets: £17.50; over 65s, under 16s and f/t students £15.50

Thu 8, 7.45pm, The Anvil

Brendan Cole, All Night Long 2018. Ex-Strictly Come Dancing's Brendan Cole takes to the stage with his sensational guest dancers with an extravagant mix of Latin fever and ballroom magic in his latest production. Tickets: £39

Fri 9, 12.30pm & 2.30pm, Sat 10, 11am & 1.30pm, The Haymarket

How To Hide a Lion, directed and adapted by Peter Glanville with music and songs by Barb Jungr. When a lion is chased out of town, a little girl helps him to find somewhere to hide and the misinformed town folk try to track him down. Helen Stephens' magical book, How to Hide a Lion, comes to life with playful humour and dazzling puppets. Suitable for ages 3 to 6, and their families. Tickets: £15.50

Fri 9, 7.45pm, The Anvil

Woman to Woman, Judie Tzuke, Beverly Craven and Julia Fordham Orchestral Show. Woman to Woman sees a timeless collaboration between three of the UK's most celebrated female singer-songwriters perform their hit singles and album tracks alongside a 20-piece string orchestra featuring some of the UK's finest young musicians from the world-renowned Chetham's School of Music. Tickets: £36.50, £33.50, £30.50. VIP Meet and Greet tickets £78

Fri 16, 7.30pm, The Anvil

Russell Watson, Canzoni d'Amore. The UK's best-selling classical crossover artist of all time returns with his new show Canzoni d'Amore. Tickets: £48, £43, £38

Tue 27, 7.30pm, The Haymarket

Dad's Army Radio Hour. Based on the BBC sitcom by David Croft and Jimmy Perry. Two actors play 25 characters in this brilliant staging of radio scripts based on favourite episodes from the original TV series. Tickets: £19

Tue 27, 7.45pm, The Anvil

George Hinchcliffe's Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain with Bells On. The well-loved ukulele orchestra, the group that made the uke cool, invite you to join

them in a bit of festive frivolity - With Bells On, as they provide a little midwinter mischief and the chance to play or sing a-long with the odd well-worn Christmas number. Tickets: £27

Wed 28 Nov-Sat 1 Dec, 7.30pm, Thu & Sat 2pm, The Haymarket

The Eleventh Hour by John Goodrum. Although signed and agreed at 5am on 11th of November 1918, the ceasefire is set at 11am to allow notice to be delivered to all fronts. And while his mother and father, wife Emmie and young son Billy are celebrating news of the end of the war back home in England, Private Harry Furber and his friend Charlie Juster are sent on one last mission into No Man's Land. From the striking reality of the trenches to the exuberant celebrations on the home front, this play marks the centenary of the signing of the Armistice that ended World War One. Tickets: Wed-Thu £23, Fri-Sat £25, 2pm £20; Over 65s £2 off, under 16s and f/t students £14

Thu 29, 7.45pm, The Anvil

Show of Hands with Cormac Byrne, Joint Venture. Cormac Byrne (percussionist of Seth Lakeman Band fame) completes the Show of Hands autumn trio (along with Steve Knightley and Phil Beer) giving it a fresh new sound. Expect the festival favourites along with songs from the band's upcoming album Joint Venture. Tickets: £28; under 21s £15.50

Andrea Bath

Probus Club

The man behind such world famous products, Frank Hornby, was the subject of a talk given by John Hollands to the Probus Club of Basingstoke.

Born in 1863, Frank Hornby was the 7th of 8 children. Liverpool was his lifelong home, ending as Conservative MP for Everton. He started as a cashier and having realised that perseverance was the key to success founded a branch of the Band of Hope around 1900. This was a temperance organisation with several million members throughout the country.

He wanted boys to take up useful trades and started to develop a construction kit which he patented in 1901. Initially called Mechanics Made Easy the name changed to Meccano in 1907 and around this time it was exported to over 40 countries. It had initially been plain metal then painted red and green then blue and yellow. Instructional monthly Meccano magazines became required reading.

The famous Binns Road factory in Liverpool was opened in 1914 employing up to 2000 people, mainly women. After WW1, Hornby introduced model trains to compete against resurgent German toy manufacturers. The engines were driven by clockwork motors and then by 1925 mains electricity. Export markets had decals on the trucks and passenger coaches pertinent to their own countries. The factory started to make model figures and equipment to complement the train sets. They were called Dinky Toys. Road vehicles were added to add authenticity to the layouts and thus began the third string of this toy manufacturer which continued up to the closure of the company in 1978. Today Dinky Toys, especially with original boxes, command extraordinary prices at auction.

Paul Flint

Nature Notes

I have received many messages concerning hedgehogs around Chineham, which is great news. Helen sent me an article warning us not to feed meal worms to hedgehogs, as their bones can be affected. Thank you Helen. Elizabeth in Reading Road has had five babies eating from one dish, which is fantastic. Remember that any small ones (approximately 500 grams) should be taken to a vet or sanctuary when the nights begin to feel really cold. (I cut up a piece of cheese that size to give me an idea!) I have to purchase a new winter home to leave at the end of the garden. I hope the one chosen from RSPB has a large enough entrance, because the hedgehogs visiting my house are now very large. Perhaps I should check with the experts. Will let you know.

The birds have returned after spending their summer in the meadows, with approximately ten house sparrows announcing their arrival with loud choruses from the hedges. They have been joined by a pair of blue tits and several blackbirds. Although they are a pest to the farmer, the wood pigeons, who have a later breeding season, are not bothering me much, except when one takes off from the awning and whizzes past my ear.

One morning, Julia and I were amazed to witness hundreds of rooks flying east across the house. Normally I count only a hundred at most, in late afternoon going to the rookery near Crondall, which they have done for hundreds of years. Despite the fact that there were a lot of stragglers, we came to the conclusion it was a

migratory flight, with a bird book confirming this later.

I saw lots of teasels on the side of the A33 as I travelled along one day, but was annoyed to find them cut down the next day. I was going to scatter the seeds along the roads in Chineham to pick up some of the pollution. It was difficult to find any in the end, although if I had walked along the verge between the red men roundabout and the Tesco one, I gather I would have been luckier. Might try it another time if I wear a high vis jacket.

I was idly watching the road at the top of Mattock Way, when I spotted a squirrel dart across the road and back in front of a car. It waited until the car had passed, then crossed again. I saw it again several days later, but was astonished when it cut across in front of my car two weeks later. It survived!

There are berries on many of my bushes, including the firethorn, which is now 15 feet high. The ivy is starting to blossom, but as there isn't much, I bought several heleniums with masses of yellow flowers that are supposed to be ideal for the bees. That Russian vine further up the road has increased in length and is still in full blossom. I must ask the owner if I may have some cuttings before it is cut down, as it would supplement the plants growing along my fence. I haven't managed to buy it anywhere.

Please keep feeding the hedgehogs and don't light bonfires without checking for them.

Ginny Wright
ginny.wright24@gmail.com, 479562

Community Noticeboard Anniversary

17th October saw the celebration of the Chineham Community Noticeboard Facebook group's first anniversary! It's hard to believe it's only been a year as so much seems to have happened. The group was established with the goal of helping our great community to work together, interact with each other and help make Chineham and surrounding areas a happier and safer place to live. Little did I realise that many members would be more interested in Conan and Doyle, my pet goats. The twins became a big part of the group by popular demand and seem to have made many friends around Chineham. It's always a pleasure to see the happiness they seem to bring.

In less than a year we have seen our group membership increase to over 2500 and growing. Fortunately, I now have a fantastic team of fellow admins who help run the group with the same passion and enthusiasm, as some members like to keep us on our toes at times! We take immense pride in the diversity of the group and believe it is a reflection of how we endeavour to keep it positive and respectful to all.

As a group, we are immensely proud that we have been able to help many others. Last Christmas, our charity fundraiser raised £315 for Julian House, an outreach charity who work with the homeless, as well as a large collection of supplies for the local food bank. In April, we organised the Great Chineham Clean-Up, with nearly 100 volunteers clearing 400kgs of rubbish. In the summer we had another collection, this time for the Camrose Centre, collecting food and drinks to help feed the homeless. This in turn inspired another member to let us

know that her employer was disposing of a lot of new bedding, which was all donated to the Spotlight Centre in Popley.

This November, we'll be working with our friends at the Chineham Chat and holding a collection for toys to be donated to disadvantaged children, followed by another collection in December voted on by our members for the Christmas charity fundraiser! Not to mention general information, lost items, missing pets, traffic updates, warnings of suspicious behaviour, bad jokes and notifications of local events to name the more regular uses of the group.

It is with immense gratitude that I thank all our members for helping to make the group what it is. I also thank my fellow admins, who dedicate their time so willingly and have become close friends. The group is a place for anyone who wishes to be connected with our great community and members can contribute as much or as little as they please. We look forward to seeing what our second year as a group has to bring! If you wish to join, you'll find the Chineham Community Noticeboard on Facebook, where we look forward to welcoming you.

Mark Butler

Charity Toy Collection

The Spotlight Centre in Popley is holding a Christmas Toy Appeal for donations of new toys. These will be given to vulnerable and disadvantaged local children. If anyone in Chineham would like to donate, I am happy to organise delivery to the Spotlight Centre—please drop any toys into 16 Guinea Court and I will add them to my own pile of donations! Let's make a happy Christmas for a local child.

Jo Appleford-Cook

Basingstoke Lions Club

Our MacMillan Nurses Coffee Morning was its usual resounding success. I think we raised about £250 which is a great result for two hours of gluttony and coffee slurping. Motown, which raised just under £700, at the Royal British Legion was a stonking success too. Not quite as good as my fag packet accounting calculated for my original report, but still an acceptable result for an evening of super music and a lot of exuberant dancing none of which would have made the grade on "Strictly". On the down side, we had to cancel the concert which The Band of the Hampshire Constabulary were due to perform for us. We apologise to all who were looking forward to the concert and thank the Band and QMC for their understanding of our predicament.

Welfare: One of our more intelligent and perspicacious members (an unusual combination in our Club) asked me a question. He/she does that a lot, but this one was actually worth answering. "How have we spent the money we raised over the past year?" As each case is dealt with on its own particular merits, and we have to ensure that individuals are not identified, it was a bit of a poser. So the assistance was extracted under the following loose categories:-

Family support: miscellaneous—£774 (5 cases)

Family support: white goods and furniture—£618 (5 cases)

Family support: school uniforms—£356 (6 cases)

Pensioners' event/equipment—£400 (2 cases)

Various youth/disability—£2013 (8 cases)

Community & Message in a Bottle—£800 (2 cases)

Christmas donations and lunches—£2200 (7 cases)

Other charities without their own dedicated fundraising support—£3500 (11 cases)

Normally we would, during this period, have contributed to disaster relief efforts around the world funded through our International Fund. But austerity has hit the most vulnerable hardest. We hope normal service will be resumed as soon as possible.

Fundraising: The Caerphilly Male Voice Choir sing for us on **17th November** and ticket sales are looking good. Please get in touch with mauricehockley@hotmail.com or jomolincoln@btinternet.com before we sell out.

Quiz Night at the Cliddesden Millenium Hall is on **3rd November**. Invitations have already been issued to our regulars. So if you want to join in the fun, apply direct to philipjhwilson@btinternet.com. Five tables are still available.

Thank you for your support.

Philip Wilson

Old Basing Tennis Club

Annual Quiz - there is still time to enter a team! To book a table for your team please contact Carol Torselli by email: OBTC.Information@gmail.com or phone: 01256 818149. The Quiz is being held on **Saturday 10th**

November, 7.00 for 7.30pm start at Old Basing Village Hall. Teams of 6 people (please think of a name!) costing £6 per person. A raffle will be held during the evening. Please bring your own food and drink. We look forward to seeing you at this enjoyable evening!

AGM - this will be held on **Tuesday 6th November** at 7.30pm at the Cricket Club.

Following his triple wins at OBTC Finals' Day, Jamie Thomas has gone on to win the Men's Singles at the Basingstoke and District League Individual Finals' Day which was held on Sunday, 16th September at Beechdown. He beat Simon Mennear of Waverley TC 6-3, 6-3, playing some excellent tennis. Congratulations Jamie!

If you would like to find out more about OBTC please email our Secretary, Jan, at OBTC.Information@gmail.com—we would love to hear from you!

Lynne Thomas, Chair

Motown Music Magic

The Lions Club would like to thank Lou Taylor for giving us such a marvellous evening of real dancing music and Tracy and her team at the Royal British Legion Old Basing for hosting and supporting it so ably.

In spite of the rival attractions of "Strictly" and "The X Factor" over 80 people, including some of the Old Basing Bowlers, chose to brave the elements and come along to strut their stuff. The dance floor was well used from the outset. As usual it was the girls who led the way, but it wasn't too long before the male wallflowers were

tempted onto the floor by Lou's seductive voice and their gyrating partners. Such was the enthusiasm that the show overran by about 15 minutes and even when the music stopped the joyful mood continued.

When we were clearing up the fun continued when we found that we had entertained a pseudo health and safety adviser, henceforth to be known as "Josh One Chair", unawares. Thanks a lot Josh! To put icing on the cake (and there were several delicious ones of those around too) the evening raised nearly £800 which the Lions Club will use to help local people in need. Check us out via our website www.basingstokelions.org.uk.

Philip Wilson

Marie Curie Collection

Thank you very much for your generosity at Chineham Shopping Centre in the very cold weather back in February this year; we raised an amazing £495.41. Marie Curie Care provides nursing for seriously ill people in their home; unfortunately they are unable to provide nurses in the Basingstoke area at this time but they do have nurses in other parts of Hampshire. They also use the money to pay for research into palliative care.

Tesco at the Chineham Shopping Centre have kindly invited Marie Curie Care to collect on **Wednesday 5 December** so if you have an hour or more to spare please call Sally or Sophie on 023 8026 3123 or go to t.campaign.mariecurie.org.uk/webApp/mcc_supporterRegistration to register for a collection near you.

K Manley

County and Borough Councillor Elaine Still

I have received some calls regarding the plans for the Chineham District Centre, mainly concerned about the parking but generally positive and excited. I have similar feelings. Good access (inc. pedestrian) and parking are essential and I have asked questions of Tellon Capital on the issues during and after construction. Re parking: the current plan is to leave the south car park (nearest Tesco) much as it is, and to build a new car park that links to the existing north west car park (nearest Boots/Matalan) which means a net gain of 100 spaces. Part of this new car park will be underground. The access plan is for the cars to come off the existing roundabout and enter into the new underground car park. They could then drive up onto ground level and the current car park access to Matalan would become exit only.

Over 280 people attended the second public exhibition on 27 Sep. I am told that 83% of those who attended expressed support for the plans, with further helpful and constructive suggestions received. Tellon have assured me that where possible they will seek to incorporate the feedback received into their final plans. They intend to submit a planning application to the Borough Council in autumn 2018 and will keep all interested parties informed as the project progresses.

If you would like further information in the meantime then contact chinehamconsultation@telloncapital.com or phone 0800 2987040.

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Borough Councillor Paul Miller

The month of November brings the BDBC closer to the conclusion of the reorganisation of the Wards and reducing the total number of Councillors by 10%. The details of the new Ward boundaries and the new names for some of them, will be published on the Council website later this month as soon as the Boundary Commission release their decision. As far as Chineham is concerned, neither our boundary nor the number of Councillors representing you should change as the criteria set by the Commission is met almost exactly by the Chineham Ward as it is today.

Residents should see fairly rapid progress in the planning process for the redevelopment of the Chineham District Centre and I wish to thank everyone who has contributed to the public consultation events and their written inputs to the owners of the Centre, Tellon. There will be further opportunities to provide comments and observations on the proposed details of the Planning Application as soon as it is published by BDBC, anticipated before the end of this year. As far as I understand it, the redevelopment is planned in two phases, early spring to late autumn 2019 then early 2020 to complete before Christmas that year. It is envisaged that high number of business that are remaining during these works will be capable of continuous trading during this time.

Paul Miller
Borough Councillor
01256 467400
07777 659022

Four Lanes Infant School

Year 2 have been learning to write exciting stories about the Three Little Pigs and Red Riding Hood, adding interesting words to describe the characters or objects in the story. We even wrote our own wanted posters to catch the Big Bad Wolf and we have learnt about exclamatory sentences! We have been practising joining our writing too. We had to sort out the library books for Mrs Vaughan (while she is away in Brazil helping to build houses) we had to sort them into fiction and non-fiction books. We looked at what was the same – they both have words and pictures and what was different. Non-fiction books are interesting and are real facts. Fiction books are also interesting but are not real, made up and are stories or poems. Non-fiction books often have a contents or index page and you can read them in any order. Non-fiction books have lots of titles, fiction books often have chapters.

Year 1 went on an autumn walk to help them to write exciting autumn poems and information all about what they know about autumn. They have been starting to make a self-portrait using textures and lines in the style of Picasso. In maths they have been learning about place value, finding one more and one less and using the ‘part-part-whole’ model ready for doing addition. (A part-part-whole model shows how the whole number can be split up into two parts which equal the whole.)

Year R have also been learning about autumn. They went on their autumn walk to spot changes outside and

collected leaves, twigs, conkers and other autumn objects and they took lots of photos. They have been learning about numbers, and learning about what 1, 2 and 3 represent, finding the right number of objects to match the number, finding one more and playing games with the numbers 2 and 3 like pairs and noughts and crosses. They have been learning the phonic sounds and have learnt the songs and cued articulation signs to go with them. They have had fun using maths and writing outside in the playground.

Sophie Fry and Arthur Hawthorne

Basingstoke Blues Club

The Basingstoke Blues Club in association with the Basingstoke Railway Social Club presents Catfish, on **Saturday 17th November**. Internationally acclaimed Blues Award winning band Catfish have a reputation as an excellent live band with a phenomenal frontman in 23-year-old guitarist/vocalist Matt Long who plays with a real passion for the blues. Over two years they received five nominations in the British Blues Awards and have just been awarded a UK Blues Award as Blues Act of the Year. Both their albums have received nominations and awards too. Don't miss this chance to see them!

All welcome - 8pm till late. £8 on the door. Licensed bar and low prices. Profits to Brain Tumour Research – charity number 1153487. For further details please contact Rex on 01256 321837 or 07979 422590.

C Nield

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+. Our sermons are recorded and are available along with the sermon text 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; you would be most welcome to join us (please contact the office for details).

Weekly Groups

Sparklers: Thursdays, 9.30am to 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 c/of the church office.

Coffee and Co: Mondays, 9.30-11.30am, term time only. Home made cakes, freshly brewed coffee, plus lots of toys for babies and tots.

This month:

Messy Church: There will be no Messy

Church in November as we will have had the Messy Light Party at the end of last month. The next one will be on Monday 10 December and will feature Messy Christingle! A time of creativity, worship and food. We enjoy fun activities and share a meal. 3.45-5.45pm. Carers must stay with their children.

123 Matinee Group: Tuesday 13 November, 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. Our guest speaker is from the Fire Service. 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 27 November, 11am. A small friendly group of worshippers meets monthly to receive Holy Communion – all are welcome. Afterwards, why not stay for a tasty two-course lunch?

Luncheon Club: Tuesday 27 November 12.00pm. The cost is £5, children £2.50. Tickets are available by contacting Jan Markey on 01256 356829. If you have any special dietary requirements please let us know. Call if you would like a lift as we may be able to arrange this.

Everyone is welcome to attend either or both of the above.

Update on the Christmas Shoebox Appeal: Thank you to everyone who came to help fill 300 shoeboxes destined for underprivileged children in Eastern European countries. It was lovely to see them all getting on with this very important task and also

chatting and having some fun together as well. Also a big thank you to the ladies who cooked cakes for us all - they were wonderful and greatly appreciated! However, our biggest thanks must go to the two splendid leaders of this project, Sue Richards and Brenda Risby without whose hard work all year round, this appeal just would not take place. In recognition of this, during the afternoon Rev Jonathan Clark presented Sue and Brenda with a bouquet of flowers each. The boxes are being collected from the church on 6 November so it's not too late for you to fill a shoebox of your own. We have leaflets in church with suggested items you could put in them - they don't have to be new, pre-loved possessions in good condition are just as good and eco-friendly too! Each box must be accompanied by £4 to cover transport costs. Get your box to us by 5th November.

Exciting event in December! On December 8th from 10-5 we are holding a Christmas Tree Festival. Local businesses, community groups, schools, youth and children's clubs are invited to display a Christmas Tree - application forms are available from [the Church](mailto:thechurch@emailfestival@christchurchchineham.org.uk) or email [festival@christchurchchineham.org.uk](mailto:thechurch@emailfestival@christchurchchineham.org.uk) and must be returned by 11 November.

Charity collections: we continue to collect stamps (new and used), postcards, spectacles, socks, tools, tins and packets of food, and tops from supermarket milk bottles for charity. We also collect most items of men's clothing for the Camrose Centre for the homeless. We can receive single bedding and can find a home for most things so if you have anything you would like to pass on do contact us!

Thank you everyone for your continued support.

Room hire: rooms are available to hire either on a one-off or regular basis. Contact us for details or look on our website which can be found at www.christchurchchineham.org.uk. Prices start at £8.50 per hour (Community Rate) which includes use of the kitchen/snack bar where tea, coffee, sugar and squash are provided.

Further information: if you would like to know anything about the life and activities of Christ Church please contact Gill on 01256 474280 or at office@christchurchchineham.org.uk or drop in to the office which is open on from Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 2.30pm. You can also find out information about Christ Church on our website which can be found at www.christchurchchineham.org.uk, or on Facebook (www.facebook.com/christchurchchineham) and follow us on Twitter @ccChineham.

Gill Godfrey

St Michael's Hospice

November is a busy month for the Hospice. Staff are busy preparing for the annual Light Up A Life Service and helping with all the different November Nights activities.

November Nights is a wonderful campaign for when the nights are drawing in, giving an excuse to have a fun evening with friends and family and at the same time raise money for St Michael's Hospice. Some popular things to do are a cheese & wine evening, a games evening, Bonfire Night Party, a girl's night in being pampered, or a pub quiz night. The list is endless of the different things you could do to be involved. If you have

an idea for November Nights please let us know, or if you need supporting material to help promote your event, please give Lynne Grimshaw a call on 01256 848845 or email Lynne.grimshaw@stmichaelshospice.org.uk

On **Sunday December 2nd**, a beam of light will illuminate Basingstoke as supporters gather at the Hospice to remember loved ones. St. Michael's Hospice is looking forward to welcoming the community to its annual Light up a Life remembrance service starting at 6pm within the Hospice grounds. The poignant service allows those who wish to remember loved ones the opportunity to dedicate a star in memory. Stars can be dedicated via the Hospice website or by contacting the Hospice but to be featured in the order of service dedications must have been received by **23rd November**.

For more information please visit St. Michael's Hospice website at stmichaelshospice.org.uk or call the fundraising team on 01256 848848.

Sue O'Flinn

Linguatastic

In Germany, in November, people celebrate St Martin's Day. The story goes that there was once a wealthy man who was travelling through the country. On his travels, he passed a very poor man sitting on the street, wearing only rags and suffering from the cold. He begged St. Martin for something to wear or to eat. St. Martin was riding on his horse and therefore also susceptible to the cold weather, but he straight away took his sword and cut his cloak in half to share with the poor man on the street. To remember this event of sharing with people who have less than we do,

Germans walk through the streets with home-made lanterns and sing songs to spread the message. Sometimes they also perform a play to enact the story.

And like St Martin, we too, are looking to help others this month when we participate in some fundraising for Children in Need. Linguatastic children will be bringing in things they no longer need/want during the week of 12th November and selling them to each other (in the languages they are learning of course). Look out for photos on our Facebook page.

And finally, starting this month are:

- Italian classes for beginners (adults)
- Spanish classes for beginners (adults)
- French classes for primary school age bilinguals

For further information or to book a place, please e-mail info@linguatastic.com or telephone 471474.

Fiona Biermann

Chineham Parish Council

Commemorative Seat: The Parish Council has installed a "lest we forget" commemorative seat on behalf of the Chineham community to recognise and commemorate the sacrifices of everyone affected by any war or conflict. The seat has been installed on Thornhill Way close to the junction with Mattock Way. County Councillor Elaine Still has kindly agreed to carry out the official unveiling which will take place at 11am on **Saturday 10th November**.

Promoting services: Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council is keen to promote the services it provides, in

particular the opportunity to report items of concern. Their “report it” feature can be found at www.basingstoke.gov.uk/report where residents can directly report fly-tipping, graffiti, overgrown grass, shrubs or hedging etc.

The next Chineham Parish Council meeting is to be held on **12 November**. 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 email assistantclerk@chineham.gov.uk during office hours only please. The Parish Council website can be found at www.chineham.gov.uk.

Julia Johnston

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 ongoing. £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 Regional Administrator on 07759 615876.

Pegasus Karate Club: Traditional Wado Ryu Karate for beginners and advanced students. Wednesdays 7.00–9.00pm 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 by 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.

Holiday Play Scheme: Keep your children entertained during the school holidays. Open to school children aged 4–11 years. Fabulous 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 day. We have 2 options for session times:

Session A 8.30am to 4.00pm – £16.75

Session B 8.30am to 5.30pm – £20.00

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

Virginia Wyatt

Civil Service Retirement Fellowship

50 members attended the meeting on 3rd October. Tony Brazier, the Secretary, gave a reminder of the forthcoming Mystery Trip in October, the trip to Basildon Park (which would include lunch in Theale) on Thursday 22 November and the Christmas Lunch at BCOT on Thursday 13 December.

The speaker this month was Malcolm Nelson who had worked for 40 years as a customs officer mainly at Heathrow airport. He explained that it was a particularly important airport to those who wanted to smuggle drugs into the country as it was not only easy to reach from most places abroad but was then conveniently close to London. In fact 80% of the illegal drugs found came in through Heathrow. He then went on to give an outline of the considerations taken into account by customs officers when a number of planes would land within a few minutes each with about 450 passengers taking just 20–30 minutes to pass through the “Green Channel”. He gave a number of examples of their procedures which ensured that they were able to target the people thought most likely to be smuggling illicit contraband into the country and the big part taken by their specialist dog teams in this process.

Malcolm also brought along copies of his books “Forty Years Catching Smugglers” and “In Pursuit of the Two Legged Mule”

The next meeting is on **7th November** when the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service are coming to give a talk on Fire Safety at Home. Also at this meeting there will be a Christmas themed “Bring

and Buy Sale” to raise further funds towards the new sound system. 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. 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

Basingstoke Symphony Orchestra

At the Anvil on **Sunday 11th November** at 7.45, Basingstoke Symphony Orchestra gives their Autumn Reflections Concert. Basingstoke Symphony Orchestra presents a programme of respectful, contemplative music for this special Remembrance Sunday. Promising English composer Butterworth was himself killed in action on the Somme in 1916 and his piece, "A Shropshire Lad" which was written in 1912 is based on Housman's poems of the same name. Stephen Scotchmer's Unanswered Prayer is a particularly poignant and appropriate piece for this concert, as is Ravel's antique miniature, Pavane pour une infante défunte.

Sara Deborah Timossi will join the orchestra to perform Brahms' violin concert and the concert concludes with Sibelius' short, single-movement Seventh Symphony, his last.

Tickets are available from www.anvilarts.org.uk or by calling 01256 884244.

E Jenkins

Basingstoke Discovery Centre

November events:

Local Radio Talk by Pam Marsden, Tues 13, 2pm, £4. Pam Gillard worked for the BBC from 1970-1997 and has a unique view of live programming in BBC Local Radio in the 70's, 80's and 90's in the UK and abroad. Her interesting and informative talk, with photos and BBC memorabilia, takes you through her years of Local Radio and Pam has a wealth of stories to tell about a bygone age of radio.

AWE Orion Laser Facility Talk, Tues 27, 2pm, £4. A fascinating insight into the Orion laser facility. Orion is the UK's largest laser and is used to study high energy density plasma physics. Nick Hopps will discuss the incredible technology behind Orion, provide a brief overview of some of the experiments that are conducted within the facility and describe how visiting academics are also able to use Orion in research into laboratory astrophysics.

12 Hours – Jane Austen's Engagement, Fri 30, 2pm, £6.50. This exciting new monodrama is a dramatization of a real event in the life of one of the world's most famous authors and explores issues that concern women even today about the dilemmas of accepting an offer of marriage. Come and be part of a play in development. This workshop will include a reading of 2 scenes, followed by audience critique and feedback.

Children's Events:

Children's Craft, Sat 10th, 10am to 12pm, free. Celebrate autumn with our free autumn-themed craft activity.

Learning in Libraries courses:

Sewing for the Home – Soft Furnishings, Weds 7th, 14th & 21st (3 weeks), 9:30am - 1.30pm, £60. Learn how to produce soft furnishings for the home.

Learners will work with different levels and techniques of sewing, including hand and machine sewing. You will need a sewing machine. Please ask the staff at Basingstoke Discovery Centre if you do not have access to your own sewing machine, as some will be available to use.

Mixed Media Art – 'MIX IT UP', Tues 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th November and 4th & 18th December, (6-week course, 2 hours per week), 4–6pm, £60. This course will introduce learners to creating unique and innovative art and design work based on mixed media, techniques and processes. Create, review, mount and present mixed media artwork.

Scott Hyde

Governors Wanted

School governors can transform the lives of children and young people by improving education standards. Working as a team, governors support and challenge school leadership. Their professional skills and expertise are harnessed to make strategic decisions that improve the learning environment and future prospects for children in schools. By volunteering your time you are rewarded by being part of your school's improvement journey and can also have the opportunity to take part in activities with those that really matter - the children.

At Great Binfields Primary School we are looking for someone to join our friendly team of Governors. If you would like to chat to someone about how you can shape and challenge the future of your local primary school please contact Mrs Debbie Robinson, Clerk to the Governing Body, on 01256 460532.

Debbie Robinson

Great Binfields Primary School

What's been happening since the start of the term at Great Binfields Primary School? In short, lots; there is never a dull day here at school as we pride ourselves on having a rich, broad and vibrant curriculum. However, we have highlighted 2 events to share with you this time.

Our children in Y1 really enjoyed and learned so much from their recent visitors—we had a local, mobile farm visit our school! The children asked so many great questions as well as answered lots of the questions posed to them too. This experience really helps our Y1 children get into their new 'Food and Farming' topic. As you can imagine, they absolutely loved getting up close to the animals and the animals enjoyed being groomed and petted too.

Our Year 4 children had a busy morning launching their Scrumdiddlyumptious topic recently. They had some Charlie and the Chocolate Factory inspired activities where the children designed and created their own factory advertisement posters, complete with a tag line showing why it was such an exciting place. They also did blindfold ingredient tasting—some ingredients were sweet, some were salty and some were surprising! Mr Wood, one of our LSAs definitely tried to trick some of the children with what they were eating. They have also been creating their own chocolate bars by melting down chocolate and working as a team to choose three delicious toppings. The children had a brilliant time and then they thought more about where chocolate actually comes from.

Please do have a look on our school website to see what other year groups have been up to at since starting this

academic year: www.greatbinfields.co.uk. We have our New Prospective EYFS Open Mornings soon, please ring our school on 01256 460532 to book an appointment to see our school in action.

D Robinson

Old Basing Tennis Club

On the second weekend of September the Chineham Cub scouts went on their annual "Just Friends" camp. This is a water based weekend at Horseshoe Lake, Yateley, where cub scouts come along with a responsible adult to take part alongside them. This year there were 30 cubs with their "adults" - a range of mums, dads and aunts. Over the weekend everyone took part in dragon boat racing, sailing, stand up paddle boards, sit on tops, raft building challenge with race, BBQ, camp fire and an overnight camp.

This camp was, once again, a great success where adults are given the chance to spend some quality time with their cubs talking part in outdoor activities with no electronic devices in sight. All of the parents always thoroughly enjoy this camp and head off home on the Sunday afternoon for a rest. The camp's success is, in part, due to the great staff at Horseshoe Lake and the commitment of the adult and young leaders from the 1st Chineham Scout Group.

If anyone is interested in helping the Scout group—with anything from leaders to exec committee members to caretaker activities—please contact us at join@1stchineham.org.uk for further information.

G Howard

NWR

National Women's Register (NWR) has groups across the UK that connect women who are interested in everything and talk about anything! Our local group currently has 16 members. You are very welcome to join us for lively conversation and make new friends. We meet at 2pm on the first Monday of the month, but lunch or cinema outings are arranged at other times. There is also a Reading Group meeting in the evening every 4th Thursday. Most discussion meetings have 4-10 members who can make it, so these meetings are held in each other's homes in Chineham and Old Basing.

Our discussion meeting for October was on the theme of Modern Inventions: love them or hate them. Everyone approved of satnavs, the progress in modern medicine and domestic gadgets that removed the drudgery of housework. We discussed how scientific discoveries inspired the works of subsequent generations of scientists, and how IT inventions have revolutionised our lives. Automated telephone systems where you keep pressing buttons for the next option were less liked. In conclusion one member recommended 'Factfulness: Ten Reasons We're Wrong About The World - And Why Things Are Better Than You Think' by the late Hans Rosling, a 2018 publication which is an ultimately optimistic account of where we are and how we got here.

In November several members are visiting Bletchley Park, once the top-secret home of the World War Two Codebreakers, which is now a vibrant heritage attraction. The National NWR has arranged a private guided tour of the park, as well as two hands-on workshop sessions from a choice of: Codes and Ciphers: Inception to Intelligence;

Decoding Bletchley Park and the Story of Enigma; or Cyber Security and the Story of Lorenz, and there will be time to explore independently.

Our next main meeting will be in the evening on **Monday 12 November** when we participate in the stimulating National NWR Telephone Quiz. We bounce ideas off each other for a collaborative answer to a cryptic general knowledge quiz. We are currently discussing the format of our Christmas lunch on **3 December**. For information about NWR please look at the website: nwr.org.uk. To check out our local group do come to any of our meetings. Please contact Evelyn Jones via evelyncjones@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01256 816636 for more details.

Sandie Tapping

News from the Beat

This is going to be a short message this month to discuss staffing. The Neighbourhood Policing Team for Basingstoke is headed by an Inspector and two Sergeants. Chineham has one Police Constable and myself, but further to this we are now delighted to welcome PCSO Charlotte Moring to the team. She will be working alongside me in our community and can be contacted via 101 or by email at charlotte-emily.moring@hampshire.pnn.police.uk. We will of course keep you updated with any changes that happen from here on. There are Council Community Safety Patrol Officers too that work to help keep people safe and disrupt anti-social behaviour.

I am glad to say that we have received a lot of support from members of public in investigating crime. A great part of that is CCTV footage that people have sent us relating to criminals attempting to gain

entry to vehicles. In one case, this was relatively late in the morning (5am) rather than the more usual time of about 1-2am.

Within the Neighbourhood Policing Team it is looking likely that more officers will be designated to combat drug related crime, including crime that supports drug supply i.e. theft, vehicle crime etc. PCSOs actively support this work by gathering intelligence and helping to build a picture of crime patterns, so please continue to call or email us if you have any questions or concerns.

Basingstoke East NPT

Cats Protection Fayre

Basingstoke and District Cats Protection will be at the Viabes Craft Centre for our annual Christmas Fayre on **Saturday 24th November** from 1.30–3.30pm. There'll be lots of stalls to browse and things to tempt you! We'll have our 2019 diaries and calendars as well as a selection of Christmas goodies for you, your friends and your cats. Entry is 50p or a donation of cat food, so please come along and say hello!

Basingstoke and District Cats Protection is run entirely by dedicated volunteers. Our main work is taking in cats and kittens from owners who can no longer care for them. Cats are cared for by our network of volunteer fosterers in cat pens or indoors. We also take in strays and attempt to reunite them with their original owner. If the owner can't be traced, the cat is re-homed. We constantly raise funds to pay for the care and treatment of the cats in our care, relying on the generosity of the general public, our supporters and members to be able to continue our work.

Alan Davis

Four Lanes Junior School

In Year 6, the children at Four Lanes Community Junior School have been composing some stunning war poetry, which we are excited to share with you.

Mourning Mother

I waited 'till he came
'Mourning Mother' they said
Dejected, sorrowful, miserable
My boy had gone
With his gun and armour.

I waited 'till he came
'Mourning Mother' they said
Scared, frightened, alarmed
My boy slept in the muddy trenches
Gas choking him.

I waited 'till he came
'Mourning Mother' they said
Wounded, broken
My boy hit
As another bomb dropped.

I waited 'till he came
'Mourning Mother' they said
Proud, noble, dignified
My boy fought
Remember me.

I waited 'till he came...
Written by Lillia

My brothers falling, wounded, fading,
My heart beating hard in my chest,
Soldiers with bullets sunk in their broken bodies,
Knowing their death is near...

Everyone running, trying to find cover,
All of them crying and lost,
Bombs falling all around them,
Scrambling with terror in their minds.

Children weeping, cold and alone,
Hiding in shelters in tears,
Asking their mothers, "What's going on?"
Fearing the worst of their families.

Written by Amelia

Emma Powell

Cycle Path Developments?

A few months ago there was an exchange of letters in the Chat regarding the use of the interconnecting pathways in Chineham for cycling. A number of people, mainly dog walkers, objected and nothing changed. However, I see new posts have been put in place all along the pavement in Carpenters Down (Popley) and again at Binfields Road (Lychpit) showing dual use of the pavements, in other words for shared use by pedestrians and cyclists. These signs are depicted on the Borough Council web site.

I think this is an excellent idea and hope the 'dual use' will be extended to our pavements and pathways as well. When can we look forward to seeing them in Chineham? Perhaps Councillor Paul Miller, who I understand is a keen cyclist, can tell us? According to 'Cycling UK' statistics shown on Google, 5.4 million people in England (aged over 16) cycle once a week!

T Luker

New Book from Local Author

A local children's author from Sheffield on Loddon has just released her second book. "Harry, A Cat's Tale, A Purrfect Day", is now available to buy from Amazon and Waterstones for £6.99. The book takes you back into the garden of number 89 Pavilion Way, where you will find the rather large tabby cat called Harry. If you would like to follow Harry's Facebook page you can at [Harryacatstaleofficialpage](#).

S Lawrence

RSPCA

Everything is now looking much more like winter is approaching. With it being fireworks season, the first thing we wanted to share was some advice on how to make

things easier for what can be a frightening time for some animals. For indoor pets like cats and dogs, having somewhere to hide can be a help to them; for example, under furniture or in a cupboard. Try to make sure they have access to their safe hiding place at all times if possible. Dogs like having a play area with all their favourite toys to help them relax. You can try to help by ignoring the fireworks yourself and playing with their toys to see if they want to join you, and if they have a doggy friend that isn't afraid of fireworks then keeping them together may help comfort them. Frightened cats will likely want to be left alone; if they do hide then trying to tempt them out may be more stressful for them. Of course, if any of your pets do want comforting then it's perfectly fine to give them cuddles! If you have a pet that is particularly afraid of fireworks, there is help available for them. Speak to your vet who can offer advice and refer you to an animal behaviourist if necessary.

Bonfires are also another signature of a crisp autumn day or evening, though bear in mind that what looks to you like a pile of leaves ready for burning might look like a nice hibernation spot for a hedgehog. If possible, rebuild your bonfire before lighting and always be sure to check it thoroughly before you do light it.

We mentioned last time that the shop has recently undergone many improvements, and we've since had some really positive feedback. We also had a very generous donation of some great glassware recently so call in to the shop and check out what we have. We also have quite a few older cats looking for a forever home, if that home might be yours then be sure to see who we currently have in our care on the website: www.rspca.org.uk/local/basingstoke-and-andover-branch.

D Hubert