
Chineham

Issue 344
September 2012

Chat



Jordan, of Insulate Hampshire, squeezing free insulation material into a car at the Greening Campaign event at Four Lanes School (see page 6).

Picture by Alison Shelton.

September 2012

The Olympics are over and I can get back to something other than watching the television. What a brilliant performance from Team GB and all the other medal winners. But wait, what about the Paralympics? Oh no, not more television! I'm still trying to get tickets for the Paralympics as I write, but without success. The ticket website is a mess! Fortunately, every other aspect of the Games has been well organised and ran smoothly. As you would expect, we can certainly stage a ceremony—opening or closing.

Will we ever have an Olympic Champion in Chineham? Perhaps these Games will inspire some of our youngsters. We may not have the best training facilities for more advanced athletes locally, but we do have plenty of sports facilities in the Basingstoke area to at least get us started.

Talking of Champions, perhaps we should give a gold medal to all our contributors this month. Without the schools and with extra pages to fill, we had a surplus of material! Thank you.

Dennis Clapp

The Chineham Chat Team Contacts

Editorial articles, notices and contributions

Dennis Clapp editor@chinehamchat.com 472720

Children's editorial and contributions

Year 6 Four Lanes School kids@chinehamchat.com

Paid Advertising

Keith Shergold adverts@chinehamchat.com 467459

Distribution

Tony Christmas distribution@chinehamchat.com 357389

Team Administration Laura Romney

Treasurer Sarah Sharpe

Advertising Composer Stewart Ward

Webmaster Phil Slater

Contingency Support Bridget Hunter

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

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

Please Note

The views expressed in Chineham Chat are not necessarily those of the Team. The Team do not accept any liability nor warrant any product or service advertised in Chineham Chat. Copyright on all original material and on © Corel Corporation items in this publication strictly reserved.

*****NEXT COPY DATE: 14th September*****

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

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

Chineham Village Club

Join us for the following events in September:

Saturday 8: 20:00 in the Lounge Bar – Quiz Night! Chairman John is in charge this time around so be ready for some ‘interesting’ questions! (I’d swot up on Charlton Athletic if I was you)! Teams of 6 maximum and only £1 per person to enter. Prizes for members of the winning team and spot prizes en route.

Saturday 15: 14:00 in the Sports Bar is the Coops Cup our annual darts tournament in memory of our late member Martin Cooper. This event is normally held over Easter but we are commemorating the fact that Martin would have turned 60 this September. It’s £3 to enter the competition and all funds raised will be donated to the British Heart Foundation.

Thursday 20: 13:00 in the Lounge Bar – Senior Citizens’ Bingo & Lunch – Another popular favourite in our monthly calendar.

Saturday 29: 19:30 in the Lounge Bar – After a break for the summer we see the return of Family Night. We’ve got a cracking disco booked for the evening with lots of fun and games for our younger members. Free entry. Members only. As it’s a family night kids can stay until closing time.

As always, our popular poker nights happen **every Sunday** in the Lounge Bar. First session at 19:00 and second at 21:00. All welcome.

Please note there will be no Monday night bingo in September due to holidays.

For further information on the club and what’s going on visit our website at www.chinehmvillageclub.co.uk.

John Prince, Chairman

Chineham Village Hall

The school holidays will be over in the next week or so and the Management Committee hope that the new equipment and the track have been useful to everybody of all ages over the summer. Hopefully our successes in the Olympics have inspired many to get fit – dare I say in time for Christmas!

With the new term imminent we will be updating the programmes displayed on the notice board outside the main Hall but in the mean time we can advise that a new group called the **MAD Academy** will be starting on 11 September on a Tuesday morning from 9.20 to 10.20.

Our normal groups will still be running offering activities for all ages throughout the week.

Linguatastic – language groups run in the new building – The Community Rooms - every afternoon as well as mornings from Tuesday to Friday.

In the main Hall on Mondays we have **Gym minis** in the morning and **Brownies and Guides** in the afternoon with an adult **Pilates** class from 12 to 1 pm.

On Tuesdays we now have MAD Academy music and dance for pre-school children in the morning, **Zumba**

from 6 until 7 and **aerobics** from 7.30 pm.

Bopping Babies will be starting again on Wednesday 19 September and **Weight Watchers** are in the evening as usual.

Thursday afternoon is for **Little Pumas** and **Rosemary Conley**.

Friday morning is for **Creation Station** – children’s art and craft, **Lyndon School of Dance** are starting on 7 September from 3.45 to 6 o’clock and **Kick Boxing** early evening, of course we still have **Karate** on a Sunday evening as well.

Times and contacts for all of the above will be on the main notice board.

Marion Hitchin
Clerk

Chineham Man Conquers China

I’m a 72 year old resident of Chineham who is fortunate to be fit and healthy enough to join a group trekking the Great Wall of China for the Alzheimer’s Society.

This will take place between 8 and 13 October and we will be trekking for up to eight hours a day, along old sections of the Wall in remote, mountainous areas north of Beijing. The trek will include steep climbs and descents which test one’s fitness so I have been training daily for the past three months.

Please help me to help people less fortunate than me, using the online

link www.justgiving.com/roger-fuller or send a cheque made payable to Alzheimer’s Society to my address 10, St. Gabriels Lea, Chineham, RG24 8RE.

Roger Fuller

Chineham Village Show

Are you a budding artist, florist, baker, or photographer? If so, pop 13 October into your diaries now! The Chineham Village Show is making a welcome return, and will provide a fantastic opportunity to showcase your hidden talents. Schedules of the classes you can exhibit your work in, are available from:

Make Me It Said, Chineham Centre
Country Florist,
ZigZags Hairdressing
Bottlenecks Wine Merchants
Lloyds Pharmacy
One Stop
Christ Church and their website
www.christchurchchineham.org.uk

Please take a moment to read through the categories, which will include ones for children too. Exhibits can be taken to Christ Church in Reading Road in the morning, will be judged over the lunch break and the Show will be open at 2.30 for everyone during the afternoon, where tea and cake will also be available. Certificates will be awarded to the winners and any unwanted items will be auctioned off at approximately 4pm. So, come along and enjoy the community spirit that this event always inspires.

Keith Lang

Greening Campaign

On Saturday 4 August at 8.30am a team of five, two from Insulate Hampshire and three from Greening Chineham, met in Four Lanes schools car park to set up the DIY free loft insulation event. An HGV arrived carrying the first load of loft insulation and at that point I began to understand the magnitude of the task we had taken on. This was the first batch of 576 rolls of loft insulation for distribution to members of the community who had pre-registered with Greening Chineham. Of course it started raining, heavily, and the wind blew gustily threatening to carry our gazebo and paper work away. The team set to work to unwrap the pallets of material and get organised before the first clients arrived at 10.00am. Inevitably the first clients arrived at 9.00am and then the HGV reappeared with the second load of material and things began to get a little busy. It was just possible to squeeze 5 insulation rolls into a car the size of a Ford Focus so clients who had been allocated 14 rolls were doing multiple trips. Some came with smaller cars and some with lorries but one way or another eventually all 576 rolls were carried away. It would be safe to say that the team was a bit tired but very pleased that the event had been so successful.

Insulate Hampshire is still trying to give away free loft and cavity wall insulation and they are so keen to do this that they have appointed an Energy Advisor for Chineham. Her name is Ginny Richardson and she should be appearing in Chineham



soon. She can be contacted on 0800 952 0037 and her purpose is to get as many residents as possible to take up the free insulation scheme. If you want your loft insulation or cavity wall insulation professionally installed you must sign up by 30 September. If you want free rolls of loft insulation then you can sign up before the next giveaway event which will be in October or November. The date will be announced soon and will be on the Greening Chineham web site. Insulate Hampshire is not a retail company trying to get you to buy something. The offer of free loft and cavity wall insulation is not a scam. The funding for this free offer comes from Scottish Power. If you want to take this last chance to sign up go to www.insulatehampshire.co.uk or telephone the number above.

The Greening Chineham committee is planning an information event to be held in Chineham Village Hall on 17 November. The theme for this event will be Reduce, Reuse and Recycle and we would be really pleased to have your ideas for stalls and speakers that would be of interest to the community. If you would like to run a stall at this event illustrating some aspect of reduce, reuse and recycle please contact us on 01256 354840 or greeningchineham@hotmail.co.uk.

Sue Juon

Did You Know?

Maria Ann Smith introduced the Granny Smith apple in 1838.

News From The Beat

Crime Update: by PC Jim Charlton

Since my last article the area of Sherfield Park (or Taylors Farm) has been targeted by thieves a number of times in mid to late July.

A home in Burgate Crescent was entered by thieves in the early hours of the morning by smashing a side window. They have then stolen electrical and other items, before finding the keys to a Landrover Freelander and stealing it from the driveway.

Another address round the corner in Otterbourne Walk was entered, again in the early hours but by unknown means, and an Audi TT was stolen from the driveway using the keys.

Two residents in the area reported some suspicious incidents around the same period. One lady reported hearing her letterbox opened and then persons trying her back gate. Another resident reported that his garden had been entered overnight.

Finally, a Honda motorbike was stolen overnight from a parking space in Compton Way, but it is not known how it was taken.

Further to this, a home on Reading Road was burgled in early August during the daytime. The thieves tried to force open a side door but eventually smashed the window to get in. They then ransacked the house and got away with a number of items.

As I have said before, it is vital that you protect your property by securing

your rear garden by i) padlocking your gate and ii) trellising the tops of fences. If they can't get into your garden, they can't get to your doors and windows to break in. Leaving your garden insecure allows them easy access to all of the external surface of your house, rather than just the front and/or side of it. Please act on my advice!

Last month I read the complaint from a resident about people cycling on footpaths. This person is quite right in thinking that it is still an offence to cycle on a footpath. Footpaths are meant for pedestrians, but as we see, they are often used by cyclists. The police take a 'relaxed' approach to people cycling on footpaths and will therefore not necessarily always take action against any persons found doing so. However, if a cyclist endangers any person then action could be taken against them for careless and inconsiderate cycling. Cyclists must remember that if they do cycle on a footpath they should always give-way to pedestrians.

With regards to the comment about 'local police' cycling on footpaths; this does occur on occasions but any such cycling is kept to a minimum and must be justifiable, and of course done in a safe and careful manner. Bikes have massive advantages for the police in that they make us more accessible and approachable to the public, whilst also giving us the ability to patrol less conspicuously, go anywhere, travel 'as the crow flies', and have all our senses available to us in order to prevent and detect crime.

Anti-social Behaviour Update: PCSO Richard Strauss:

There was an incident which happened earlier in the month when a member of the public parked her vehicle on Thornhill Way whilst her children were playing at the new skate park. I know it's very annoying when this happens as it forces cars onto the wrong side of the road on a bend, but please do not confront the people doing this yourselves as you leave yourself open to allegations; instead give us a call on 101 and if somebody is available they will happily come and give words of advice to the motorists. I am very impressed with the distance that some people are travelling to use the skate park I am happy that this is being used by everybody and not just Chineham residents.

We have received several reports from residents near Four Lanes School with regards youths hanging around in the evening on the school grounds. We are operating a kick out approach after dark at the school to stop any anti-social behaviour or crime being committed. I urge the residents to keep calling these incidents in so we can deal with them as soon as possible.

We are an intelligence led organisation and we rely on residents supplying us information as well as pro-active patrols, so please if you see anything suspicious or anything that concerns you no matter how small it is please give us a call on 101 so we can action this. We have received some really good information which we were able to pro-actively target which resulted in 2 youths being arrested for drug offenses. We could not have done that

without the help of yourselves, so thank you.

We are holding beat surgeries on the 1st Wednesday of every month in Costa Coffee in Chineham at 16:30-17:30 so feel free to pop in and have a chat with myself PCSO Strauss and PC Charlton if you have any issues or anything concerning you.

PC Jim Charlton 21015 and PCSO Richard Strauss 14735

Tel: 08450 45 45 45 (or request to leave a message using our collar numbers).

james.charlton@hampshire.pnn.police.uk
richard.strauss@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

Great Binfields Primary School - Open Mornings

Is your child due to start school in September 2013? If so, we have arranged some Open Mornings on Wednesday 26 September, Wednesday 3 October, Thursday 25 October and Wednesday 14 November between 9.30 and 11.30am.

This is an opportunity to see our school at work and to talk to some of the pupils who will be conducting tours on these days. The Headteacher will be available to answer any questions you may have.

If you are not able to visit on any of the above days please contact the school office on 01256 460532 and we will be happy to book an alternative appointment for you.

Helen Worgan

Chineham Parish Council

Following on from the opening of both the ball court at Four Lanes Schools and the new running track and fitness trail at the Village Hall, we were delighted that our Mayor, Cllr. Martin Biermann, officially opened the new skate park on 4 August. He was helped by our local BMX 'celebrity' Dan Harris who impressed us all with his amazing skills on the ramps. He was off to compete in the Boardmasters BMX competition in Newquay the following weekend and we wished him success.

Cllr. Paul Miller attended the Chineham Allotments BBQ on Sunday 22 July. The annual 'Allotment of the Year' cup, voted for by fellow plot holders, was presented to Norman Hargraves. A great time was had by all and despite our unpredictable summer weather this event marked a second successful year for the allotment site.

At the time of writing, we have been receiving calls about an unauthorised traveller encampment in Chineham. Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council have specific procedures they must follow when dealing with an unauthorised encampment and these are detailed on their website <http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/browse/community-and-living/community-safety/unauthorised-encampments/>.

The next Chineham Parish Council meeting is to be held on Monday 10 September at 7.45 pm in the Community Rooms at Chineham Village Hall (the public session will start at 7.50 pm).

The Parish Council is here to help the residents of Chineham, so if there is a Chineham issue you are concerned about, please feel free to contact the Clerk, Sally Jackson on 01256 4 7 4 5 0 0 or email clerk@chineham.gov.uk or the Assistant Clerk, Julia Johnston on 01256 3 2 4 3 4 5 or email assistantclerk@chineham.gov.uk during office hours only please.

Chineham WI

An Olympic theme ran (no pun intended) through the Chineham WI meeting last month. A chaotic fun-filled evening was enjoyed by our members who partook in such games as - pin the medal on the athlete, bean bags tossing, flap the swimmer and balloon hopping plus many more. The winners were presented with 'Gold Medals' and the whole night was full of falling about with laughter.

Looking ahead to October we are holding a Craft Fair at Christ Church on the 20 between 10.30am and 1.30pm. Loads of great ideas for Christmas (or just for you) in the form of Candles, Cards, Woodcrafts and many more.

Chineham WI meet at Christchurch Chineham on the fourth Monday of each month. For more information email Ggillyflowerpower@hotmail.com.

Gill Dixon

Did You Know?

Leonardo da Vinci could write with one hand and draw with the other simultaneously.

Borough Councillor Paul Miller

The wonderful experience of the London 2012 Olympic Games has left nearly all the people I come into contact with praising the tremendous efforts and sacrifices of all the athletes to compete for those elusive medals. It is an example to us all and hopefully will begin a resurgence in our young people taking up some of the sporting activities included in the Olympic Games.

On that note, the refurbished and expanded Chineham Skate Park was officially opened by the Basingstoke and Deane Mayor on Saturday 4 August will now provide an excellent starting point for those youngsters who wish to try out the sport.

It was gratifying to see the large number of residents availing themselves of the HCC offer of free top-up insulation rolls that were available in August at Four Lanes School car park. This initiative started by Greening Chineham is the most cost-effective method of reducing heating bills for all of us. Even though the offer was oversubscribed and there is a waiting list, anyone who has collected their allocation of free rolls and finds they have any surplus to their requirements, the organisers would welcome their return. I for one will probably have a roll or two over and will send them back shortly.

Paul Miller
Tel: 01256 467400
Mobile: 07777 659022
cllr.p.miller@basingstoke.gov.uk

Borough Councillor Martin Biermann

Residents may have read about the recent Tesco planning application to build a sizeable new supermarket on the former Smiths Industries site (next to B&Q) on Winchester Road, in Basingstoke.

During the Development Control meeting when the application was eventually thrown out, there was frequent reference by objectors to the fact that a superstore already existed in Chineham and its future would be jeopardised by the proposed new store. The Tesco representatives have repeatedly advised that the company has no intention to close the Chineham outlet, indeed they are contemplating further expansion in Chineham as it is so successful.

Despite the Winchester Road application having been now rejected in its current form by the borough council, it is felt to be more than likely that Tesco will appeal to the Planning Inspectorate to have the local decision overturned so it certainly remains a fairly likely prospect, not least because borough planning officers were firmly recommending approval.

On a completely different topic; the annual problem of overhanging bushes, branches, and weeds along local footpaths is back with us. There has been an improved response from the borough in handling these issues, but manpower restrictions mean that sadly, automatic maintenance is not the order of the day. If a call to the borough does not bring forth a satisfactory response, do feel free to get in touch with either one of the ward councillors or the parish council clerk, and the matter should be addressed.

Martin Biermann
Tel: 01256 352434
cllr.m.biermann@basingstoke.gov.uk
www.spotlightonchineham.co.uk

County & Borough Councillor Elaine Still

South East Water's customer metering programme reaches Chineham

In 2007, the Environment Agency classed the South East of England as seriously water stressed and so South East Water is rolling out a compulsory metering programme as part of its long term plan to manage water supplies in the South East.

By 2015, the Company will have installed 200,000 water meters and by 2020 that number will have risen to 375,000.

The metering programme started in the Oakley area of Basingstoke in July 2011 and has since rolled out the programme throughout the town, finally reaching Chineham in September 2012.

In the majority of cases, South East Water will try and install the meter on your external stop tap which is normally found in the footpath at the boundary of your property; customers will not need to take a day off work for this and any disruption caused I have been told will be minimal. In a very small number of cases where there are shared supplies or if you live in a flat, your meter may need to be installed inside (often under the kitchen sink).

South East Water will be holding a metering drop in session in Chineham in September. At the time of going to print the date was yet to be confirmed. For information on the date and location please visit www.southeastwater.co.uk or call 0333 000 0003.

Alternatively, if you would like further information on what the metering programme means for you, water efficiency advice or details of financial support, please visit www.southeastwater.co.uk or call the metering helpline on 0333 000 0003.

Elaine Still
Tel: 01256 880926
Mobile: 07747 862913
cllr.e.still@basingstoke.gov.uk

Basingstoke Meetup Group

Basingstoke Meetup Group began life in 2008. My vision is for Basingstoke Meetup Group to be the most successful, diverse, friendly and inclusive social group in Basingstoke, providing a warm, friendly group environment within which members can participate in a variety of professionally organized, no or low cost, events in order to try new experiences and make new friends. There are 32+ events on the calendar including several walks, pub quizzes, meals out, a Murder Mystery weekend in December and a group holiday in March next year!

This year we have started Meetup Plus for socialising and networking in your spare time during the day. It is open to anyone between the ages of 30 and 70 years of age and is free to join at the moment.

We are a very friendly bunch and if you are a bit nervous about taking that first step, then you can contact me and I will happily have a chat with you. For more information take a look at our website http://www.meetup.com/Basingstoke-Meetup/pages/About_Basingstoke_Meetup_group/ or <http://www.meetup.com/Basingstoke-Meetup-Plus/>.

So if you feel your social life needs a bit of kick-start, then these could be the groups for you. Take a look, sign up and get active. I look forward to welcoming you to an event very soon.

Anne Murrill

Farewell Martyn Gamble

I would like to thank everyone in Chineham especially connected with Four Lanes Community Junior School, including parents of present and ex pupils who sent cards and sent their good wishes for my retirement.

I have left the school after 12 1/2 years as Headteacher. It has been a privilege to lead the school and work with many families, Governors and staff in and around Chineham for all those years. It has been really good to work with the many people in the community of Chineham through those years as well. I would also like to thank the many people who contributed towards the gift which has enabled me to buy a telescope to enjoy studying the night sky.

I wish everyone in Chineham continued success in all they do in the future. Thank you once again for allowing me to be part of the community and lead the school.

Martyn Gamble

Car Vandalism

My car was keyed last night (30 July), on Thyme Close, which is the second time one of our cars has been keyed in the last year.

Please to be on the lookout and make sure you report such crimes to the police. Perhaps then we can reduce this mindless but expensive vandalism.

Victoria Gosby

Mayor's Charity Appeal Coffee Morning

The coffee morning recently held at the Civic Offices, in aid of the Mayor's charity appeal, raised just over £900. This came from the sale of tickets, a raffle and donations. However, the tickets are a VAT item, therefore the total will be slightly less.

There was a record attendance and a good atmosphere. It was very touching for our part to see many friends and colleagues from Chineham and many of those unable to attend, had sent donations. We were humbled and cannot express our thanks enough for your kindness and continued support.

For those who do not know of the mayoral charities, they are RadCan (raising funds for a radiotherapy unit in Basingstoke hospital), Basingstoke Consortium (helping young people to gain skills and training experience for work), Camrose Resource Centre (for homeless) and Age Concern Basingstoke (supporting older people, their families and carers).

There will be other events planned in September/October. Sorry that the dates are not yet finalised, but please keep an eye on the Chineham Community News column in the Basingstoke Gazette.

Thank you once again.

Chansopha Biermann

Linguatastic's Activities

Children attending Linguatastic's morning and after-school foreign language sessions have had another busy academic year. Topics at our playgroup sessions have included animals and where they live, professions and parts of the body. Topics at our after-school sessions have included meeting other children abroad, travelling and buying tickets and the Olympics.

Linguatastic would like to wish those children moving up to their new 'big' school a good start and great success in their continued learning life. We are very much looking forward to most of them joining us in the after school sessions. We also wish to thank all parents for their support throughout the year, be it through enforcing their child's learning at home, providing an extra pair of hands in sessions or through fund raising.

In the next academic year, there's lots to look forward to, including, a new adult French class to be held on Wednesday evenings for beginners and improvers. We'll also be celebrating European Day of Languages on Saturday 29 September, 6.30-10.30pm at Christ Church, Reading Road. Tickets cost £10 for adults, £4 for children, or £25 for a family ticket (2 adults, 3 children). This includes European food from a buffet, soft drinks, a chance to socialise with others and practise your foreign languages and even a chance to have a go at some country dancing! For the children, there'll also be some face-painting and games to play.

For those of you who are not already involved with Linguatastic, but would like to find out more, please visit www.linguatastic.com, e-mail info@linguatastic.com or telephone 01256 811100. Linguatastic offers French, German, Spanish, Italian and Mandarin classes for children packed with craft, play, songs and more to foster learning and inter-cultural understanding in a fun way. We also offer English as a foreign language, a translation service and private lessons for children and adults.

If you are on Facebook, you can keep up to date with our activities by joining our Facebook group (simply search "Linguatastic").

Fiona Biermann

Shopmobility

Could Shopmobility help you or someone you know?

Shopmobility has a wide range of mobility scooters for hire together with both powered and manual wheelchairs. These can be used in the town centre, on days out, holidays, medical appointments etc. Situated in Church Street they are open Monday to Saturday with pre-booked equipment also available on Sundays. The service is available to all, young and old alike whether the disability be temporary or otherwise. Full training is given.

Telephone 01256 476066 or call in for more information.

Anne Blackmore

Neighbourhood Watch Cycle Treasure Hunt

We're looking forward to meeting you at our Cycle Ride and Treasure Hunt on Sunday 16 September starting at 2 pm at Scout Hall, Hanmore Road. We've tried to include elements of both the Jubilee and the Olympics, and some of the questions will reflect these 2 big events this year. We'll give you a booklet with the route and it'll pose a number of questions and whoever answers the most questions correctly will get the treasure or prize that we'll deliver 2 days later. There'll be refreshments along the route and at the Scout Hall as usual but they'll be a bit different to previous years too.

The route this year is around 10 miles and is almost entirely within Chineham itself and even though some of us have lived here for many years we've still seen places for the first time. So please come along and enjoy the ride we've planned for you - it's not a race, it's an enjoyable ride with some questions to answer.

Marian Adams

National Recognition

Chineham Park Running Club (CPRC) has been awarded affiliated club status with England Athletics, making it a nationally recognised running club.

CPRC was established in the summer of 2009 by a small group of locally based runners. The club now has a growing membership of over 80 men and women of mixed ages and

abilities, that regularly meet to train and taking part in local and national running events.

Contact CPRC by e-mail to admin@chinehamparkrunningclub.co.uk or visit the website www.chinehamparkrunningclub.co.uk or phone Jonathan Matthews 07757 861372; Philip Branigan 07771 910690 or Tracey Howard 07742 607000.

Jon Matthews

Divorce Recovery Workshop

Divorce Recovery Workshop can help if you are currently going through divorce or separation. DRW is a six session course which helps divorced or separated people to come to terms with a relationship that has irretrievably broken down.

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

The Workshops run twice a year, generally April & October. Our next Workshop will start on 27 September in Basingstoke.

For further information telephone Mary on 01256 334022 or visit our website www.drw.org.uk.

Alan Fletcher

Minister's Message

Earlier in the Summer I read a headline which said, "Revenge is sweet: scores settled on websites".

The article went on to say, "More than half of the UK population claim to be contemplating revenge and social networks are the preferred platform for getting even. The rise in popularity of Twitter and Facebook has made it easier and quicker to settle scores and seven in 10 (69%) people polled said online tools are responsible for people's thirst for payback. More than half (52%) said they were currently thinking about getting their own back on someone while almost four in 10 (38%) confessed they had already sought revenge out of anger, jealousy or spite."

In one sense I was not surprised having heard how youngsters bully each other through the medium of Facebook. However, I was disturbed that so many people were wanting to get their own back on other people and that social media seems, from the article, to stimulate people to do that! Perhaps it is the remoteness of sitting at a keyboard apart from other people that enables us to post on the internet what we would not say to the person's face – I don't know.

What I do know is that revenge however it is enacted is not a good thing. Revenge can create a spiral of destructive words or actions. Revenge can't be creative or positive. Yes it hurts the person we are acting against but it also affects us.

We all have times when we want to lash out at someone who has hurt us

or a family member or friend. In one sense it is only natural but it is only natural because our human nature is flawed and not perfect.

Jesus called his followers not to look for revenge but to be willing to turn the other cheek. He put this into practice in his death on the cross, refusing to take action against those who put him there and instead praying for them.

In the Bible it says, "Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry" (James 1v19). Perhaps we could adapt that to today and say, "Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to become angry and slow to tweet!"

Revenge is not so sweet as some imagine. So let us learn how to forgive as Christ forgives us.

Ian Bentley
Minister at Christ Church Chineham

Christ & Community Church Activities

We have two services each Sunday morning – why not come along and join us? We would be delighted to welcome you! Our 9am service tends to be quiet and reflective and more traditional in style – it lasts for one hour. We then have a second service at 10.30am during which we have guitars and drums in our worship band, with separate groups for children and young people of all ages from 0 to 18+. There is no charge. This month our sermon series will be on prayer. For details of each week's readings do take a look at our website

www.christchurchchinheham.org.uk.

Each Sunday evening during term time **the edge**; Chineham youth congregation meets at Christ Church. This is aimed at young people from year 7 upwards – different age groups meet at different times from 6pm onwards.

Our Prayer Room is open while the building is open. Everyone is welcome to come and sit quietly in prayer and reflection. On the subject of prayer, if you have any prayer requests please let us know and we will pray for you. Our next prayer meeting will be on Monday 24 September from 8-9pm - all are welcome as we pray for our community and our world.

Most groups start up again after the summer break including:

Fellowship Group – a monthly service of hymns, prayers and readings with a different speaker each month. Coffee is served from 9.45am and the service begins at 10.15am. We will be meeting on 12 September and this month Christine and Tony will be speaking – do come along to support them.

Kids' Club – children at primary school are invited to join us for fun and games from 5-6.30pm on Saturday 8 September. The entrance fee is £1; bring some extra cash for a hot snack and tuck. We have pool, Wii, table tennis, crafts, a tuck shop, friends and fun. All welcome – bring a friend!

TGIF Youth Club – young people from year 6 upwards are invited every Friday during term time from 8-9.30pm for our usual youth activities plus an extra

activity each month e.g. chocolate fountain, pool competition. The entrance fee is £1 each – do bring some extra cash for tuck and bring a friend too!

Coffee and Co, our morning cafe, opens every Monday from 9.30-11.30am for coffee/tea and delicious cakes. Everyone welcome! There are toys for the children and opportunities to meet new people.

CCBBies – every Thursday from 10-11.30am pre-school children and their parents/carers are invited to join us as we learn about Jesus with stories, songs and crafts. There are toys and refreshments; no charge!

Our next **Messy Church** will be on Monday 8 October i.e. we will not be meeting in September.

As every year, we will be sending shoeboxes filled with small gifts to needy children in Eastern Europe – we will be having two shoebox filling sessions on 1 October (2-5pm) and 2 October (7-9pm) – everyone is welcome to come and help with our “production line”. We continue to collect items to go in boxes so if you have any toiletries, small toys, wrapped sweets, stationery items, hats, gloves and scarves that you would be willing to donate we would be delighted to receive them. We also need lots of empty shoeboxes (ideally wrapped with Christmas wrapping paper, lid separately wrapped!).

Thank you to everyone who continues to bring in items for our various charity appeals – as well as collecting used stamps and postcards, the tops from

supermarket milk bottles, spectacles, food (e.g. snack pots, tins, tea, coffee, breakfast cereals) for the Camrose Day Centre, and bedding for May Place, the hostel for the homeless in Basingtoke town centre, ladies' shoes and clothing for a "safe house", we are also currently collecting socks (new and used, particularly men's socks) for May Place. You can drop your donations of bedding and socks into the Church office, or take them directly to May Place. We also collect used inkjet cartridges so if you have any you would like to donate we would be delighted to receive them.

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

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

our office on 01256 316000 and ask for Phil Norris.

Ruth Randall

Litter

I often take my little girl to play on the swings and slide at the back of Simons Road and am becoming more and more dismayed by the amount of litter that is appearing there.

There really is no excuse for it since there are two litter bins in the vicinity. I am getting fed up with having to pick up after other people who are just too bone idle to walk a few paces to one or the other of them.

I would not normally pick up other people's rubbish but I cannot let my young daughter play safely amongst empty drinks' cans, crisp packets and cigarette packets and even more alarmingly dog poo. It astounds me that someone can manage to put their dog's mess into a bag but then throw it into the play area rather than the bin! I have also had to remove a Tesco trolley.

As an aside, the council would also do well to trim the grass in the play area which is currently up to my daughter's knees.

I hate to come across as a 'Moaning Minnie' but I just want to try to make people aware that the play area is used and the children who play there deserve to be treated with some respect and should be able to enjoy playing in a safe environment.

Name and address supplied

Nature Notes

This has been a dreadful month in the garden. In common with most of the country, I have been on "slug and snail patrol" every night. I found the best way to deal with these blighters is to pick them up with rubber gloves, put them in a lidded pot, then take them across the road. It pays to have a covered container as they can escape very quickly, especially the great grey slug which is 8ins long in length.

I shouldn't really have all those slimy creatures attacking my plants as there are lots of very large frogs loitering in the assorted bird baths. There was a pair in one dish peering at me with their bulbous eyes. I am sure they try to frighten me. They also leap into my path and end up being pushed along by my toes. Ugh. The red one has moved into a giant tub, where hopefully, she will remain. I spotted some empty snail shells by the bird food dishes, so they must give me a little help. A few inch-long baby frogs have hopped out of my way. Their bodies have doubled in size since I last saw them a month ago and they've lost their tails. During the last heatwave I was removing the duckweed (with my trusty tea strainer) when I discovered a tadpole. I hope it will grow into a frog, although this is much later than normal.

Apart from that, the Buddlejias have almost finished flowering. Even deadheading every day, I don't know if there will be enough blossom for the Small Tortoiseshell Butterflies, which should appear in several weeks. I watched a Peacock Butterfly sucking up the nectar from the Verbena bonariensis. I wonder if that is the

butterfly I disturbed from hibernation earlier in the year? Verbena was grown by me for the first time last year, but the bees are so fond of it, I shall scatter more seeds next year. It's a strange plant growing over six feet tall with small purple flowers at the stem tops.

I regret that I haven't more news this month, but, when it wasn't raining, it was too hot for me to venture far. Instead I sat under cover planning the re-planting of the flower beds in Autumn.

I must now go and don my rubber gloves for the nightly patrol. Should you see a pale figure flitting about at midnight, it won't be a ghost—it's me!

Please send your nature news to ginny.wright2@btinternet.com or 479562.

Ginny Wright

Bridge and Lunch

If you'd like to play bridge after a hot lunch with a glass of wine, why not join us at Cheam School, Headley, Newbury, on Friday 16 November, from 12.30 - 4pm. And the afternoon is rounded off with tea and a raffle.

Ticket cost only £20 and all funds raised will support local award winning charity Living Paintings, who provide a free national postal library of Touch to See books for blind and partially sighted children and adults locally and nationally, info@livingpaintings.org.

Please ring 01635 299771 for tickets.

David Tolson

Razor's Farm Building

I attended the Public Meeting at Sherfield Park Community Centre yesterday, 16 July, to look at the detail of the proposed planning application for the development of Razor's Farm. As local people will know, this land is to the west of Caufaude Lane, directly across the road from Sherfield Park and behind the Chineham Business Park.

From the detail on the maps, this development consists only of housing with no proposal for support infrastructure such as Doctor and Dentist surgeries, community facilities, schools or a village shop. The two main exit roads join Caufaude Lane near its junction with Hanmore Road and into the Business Park on the Crockford Lane side.

This can only mean traffic overload to Chineham residents. Hanmore Road and Thornhill Way will become major through roads and the extreme congestion at rush hour entering/exiting at the Thornhill Lights, Tesco Roundabout and Red Man Roundabouts will be intolerable. Considering many business units are still unlet at the present time on the Business Park and the current exit level of traffic between 5 - 6 p.m can snake around the estate, this is extremely worrying for our village.

If these plans go ahead, there will be times, when we the current residents, will find it almost impossible to leave our village. Heaven help anyone with a sick passenger needing urgent exit from Chineham to get to the hospital

at peak times.

I was also concerned to see the amount of areas on the proposed development marked as "balancing ponds". This, by implication of their inclusion, implies that the developers know of a drainage/flooding risk.

I ask that the "people power" of Chineham residents speak out. If we just hope that it will go away, it most certainly will not, if we take the time to write a letter, attend a meeting, contact the Council or our excellent local Councillor's we are in with a fighting chance of this development being revised to meet the well being of all Chineham residents and not being only another way to line the developer's wallets.

Janet Aris

Phoenix Badminton Club

Have you been inspired by the Olympics? Want to make a return to playing badminton? We are a friendly club, playing competitive badminton both at club nights on Tuesday evenings at Sherfield School, Sherfield -on-Loddon, and in the Basingstoke badminton league.

If you want to find out more, please contact Mike Taylor, Club chairman on 0 1 2 5 6 8 4 2 4 6 8 o r mike3749@hotmail.co.uk. We would particularly like to hear from ladies who are under-represented at the club. Our season starts on Tuesday 4 September at 7.30pm.

Mike Taylor

Four Lanes Community Centre

Zumba: Places are limited so early booking is recommended. Starts 17 September 8.00 to 9.00pm. Cost £40.00 for 10 weeks.

Fitness Freestyle Yoga (Infant Hall): Yoga without the spirituality. All abilities are welcome. Starts Monday 3 September 8.10pm to 9.10pm. Costs £5.00 per week on a pay as you go basis. See www.taylored-fitness-training.co.uk or contact Louise on 07590 714078 if you have any questions

Beginners Pilates: (Community Room at Junior School) Starts Tuesday 18 September 6.30pm to 7.15pm for 6 weeks. Cost £25.00.

Pilates: (Community Room at Junior School) All abilities welcome. Starts Tuesday 18 September 7.15pm to 8.15pm. Cost £4.50 per week on a pay as you go basis.

Post Natal Fitness: A gentle re-introduction to basic post-natal exercise and core repair. Starts Thursday 20 September 10.00am to 11.30am for 6 weeks. Cost £30.00.

Get My Digital SLR on to Manual: An introduction to Digital SLR/Bridge Camera photography, assuming zero knowledge. Starts Monday 24 September to 22 October 7.00pm to 9.00pm (5 weeks). Cost £45.00.

Intermediate Digital SLR: Starts Wednesday 26 September to 24 October 7.00pm to 9.00pm (5 weeks) Cost £45.00.

Toddler Groups: Tuesday and Wednesday 10.00 to 11.30am. All under 5's welcome including babies Cost £2.50 per session per family pay as you go. Drinks and biscuits are provided.

Book Club: We are delighted to announce the start of our book club. Come along to exchange your views on various books. It will be left to the tutor and members to find their way. Please register your interest early so as not to be disappointed. Tea & Coffee will be provided. Starts Thursday 27 September 7.00pm to 8.00pm for 5 weeks.

Adult Education & Family Learning Courses will be running at Four Lanes Community Centre. Courses and dates to be advised watch this space!

Virginia Wyatt, Tel: 810499
www.fourlanescentre.com

St Michael's Hospice

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of St Michael's Hospice, a celebratory service is taking place at Winchester Cathedral on Friday 16 November. Guests are invited to arrive at 19.00 with the service commencing at 19.30.

This is a non ticket event, however if you could register your attendance online at stmichaelsospice.org.uk/events it would aid with our planning.

Entry is free, so please join us to celebrate the wonderful work undertaken at Basingstoke and North Hampshire's only Hospice.

Chris Griffiths

Chineham - an Expanding Car Park?

Families are growing up and the kids getting their own transport. This means bigger pressure to leave cars on the public highway because drives are too small to accommodate them.

I understand the problem, but some leave their cars on the road even when there's space on the resident's drive - for a quicker get-away, I can only presume! Some keep commercial vehicles at their homes in addition.

However, I would like to simply point out what the highway code says about the style of parking seen on our streets in Chineham. Also, that those drivers are committing an offence.

What really concerns me is the situation where an ambulance needs to get to the far end of a cul-de-sac, to attend a heart attack victim. And the ambulance crew have to waste precious time finding vehicle owners to get them to move their vehicles so they can get through. How would a family feel about those thoughtless drivers, should that family member pay with their life?

This is a special appeal. Don't be selfish - it could be you fighting for your life waiting for the ambulance. Every second counts!

242

You must not leave your vehicle or trailer in a dangerous position or where it causes any unnecessary obstruction of the road.

[Laws RTA 1988, sect 22 & CUR reg 103]

243

Do not stop or park

- near a school entrance
 - anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services
 - at or near a bus or tram stop or taxi rank
 - on the approach to a level crossing or tramway crossing
 - opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space
 - near the brow of a hill or hump bridge
 - opposite a traffic island or (if this would cause an obstruction) another parked vehicle
 - where you would force other traffic to enter a tram lane
 - where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and powered mobility vehicles
 - in front of an entrance to a property
 - on a bend
 - where you would obstruct cyclists' use of cycle facilities
- except when forced to do so by stationary traffic.

244

You must not park partially or wholly on the pavement in London, and should not do so elsewhere unless signs permit it. Parking on the pavement can obstruct and seriously inconvenience pedestrians, people in wheelchairs or with visual impairments and people with prams or pushchairs.

Stewart Ward

Did You Know?

Mercedes Benz cars are named after Mercedes Jellinek.

British Legion

The Royal British Legion Club is pleased to have the 3 piece band "TimeShare Showband" playing on Saturday 22 September. This entertaining threesome will provide us with a selection of 60's and 70's dancing music with some comedy thrown in as well. Tickets on sale for £6.50 in advance from the bar at the club or £7.50 on the door on the night.

All Premiership / Championship games will be showing in the front Bar all day at weekends & week day evenings. World Cup 2014 Qualifiers start in September: Friday 7 Sept Moldove; Tuesday 11 Sept Ukraine. Please be prompt before the game starts. Bar snacks will be available.

New members are always welcome, so if you would like to become a member and enjoy discounted bar prices, please visit our website www.rbl-olbasing.org.uk or telephone the club manager Kyle on 01256 465800 or just pop in and see us.

Julie Carver

The Joe Glover Trust

The Joe Glover Trust, a Hampshire based children's cancer charity, are getting behind the fundraising appeal for Charlie's Day Unit at Basingstoke and North Hospital, part of the Hampshire Hospitals Foundation Trust. They are aiming to help raise the £50,000 required for the 2 bedded Oncology Unit within Charlie's Day Unit to start making the cancer treatment at Basingstoke Hospital just a little bit easier for children and their families.

Camilla Cordle, whose son underwent treatment at Basingstoke Hospital says "I want to add my support to The Joe Glover Trust who are helping raise funds for Charlie's Day Unit. My son was treated for 3 1/4 years at Charlie's Day Unit when he was undergoing treatment for Leukaemia. They have a wonderful caring team of staff there and I am sure all money raised will go to help and support children needing treatment for all kinds of illnesses. Being well cared for and feeling comfortable in your surroundings when you are in hospital for long periods of time really helps children feel better and more at 'home'.

If you would like to donate please visit at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/BasingstokeAppeal> or if your company would like to get involved, please contact Jane Wilmshurst at The Joe Glover Trust on 07818 417164

Jane Wilmshurst

Simply BOAS

Join Basingstoke Amateur Operatic Society at The Haymarket on Sunday 23 September at 7.00pm as it celebrates 90 years of bringing Quality Musical Entertainment to Inspire during one special evening. Tickets £12; over 60s, under 16s and full-time students £10.

Performing a selection of songs from shows that BAOS have performed over the past 90 years, prepare to be entertained by past and present members of their company, including their upcoming youth group Limelight.

Carlie Cohen

Beer Festival

The 2012 Sherfield-on-Loddon Beer Festival will be held at Sherfield-on-Loddon Village Hall on Saturday 22 September. Doors open at 11.30am, last orders at 10.30pm.

There will be more than 30 real ales (all at £2.50 a pint!) plus cider, perry, and bar selling wine and soft drinks. A range of food will be available and live bands will play throughout the day.

Tickets £5 (either in advance or on the door) and include a festival glass. Tickets available now from our website (www.sherfieldbeerfestival.org.uk) and from outlets in Sherfield on Loddon village. Under 18's free of charge but must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Charities supported: St Michaels Hospice & Sherfield Village Hall

Contact Bruce Jones, 07785 306748 or info@SherfieldBeerFestival.org.uk.

Sally Hennessey

Indoor Bowling Open Day

Loddon Vale Indoor Bowling Club, based at Basingstoke Leisure Park, are holding open days on Saturday 15 September 11am–4pm and Sunday 16 September 12am–4pm.

We are looking for new members of all ages including disabled to come and join our club and have some fun. Our friendly coaches will give you a free lesson and we supply the bowls. Come along and give us a try. The whole family can play this sport on every day

of the week (open 10am-10.30pm). We have comfortable air conditioned premises with bar and restaurant.

Alternatively, for further information call 01256 356507 or e-mail info@loddonvaleibc.co.uk.

Kay Lillywhite

To Infinity and Back Again!

In early July, I decided to transfer my phone and broadband from Sky to BT Infinity. The order was placed and a date arranged for the installation, 12 July. I work from home and rely on the broadband to receive scripts, upload files for approval and for my accountant for instance, to remotely access my books, VAT etc.

The phone line ceased from Sky at around 08.00 and the BT engineer arrived about 11.00. He installed the router and modem but the line was still dead. He disappeared leaving the connections to the house open to the elements - and I haven't seen him or had a call from BT since!

I rang BT (many times) and as expected they passed me around the system with no solution. All I got was "we'll look into it". Eventually, I emailed the Chairman and received a call from their "Executive Complaints Dept." who assured me all would be sorted. They said an engineer would come out and not leave until everything was up and running. One week later and I still have no internet whatsoever and the wires are getting wetter by the day!

The latest news as I write this, is that they cancelled the original order (why? no one knows) and placed a new order for connection in August. Until then, I would have no internet.

I spoke to the Chairman's office again and they promised to connect normal broadband on 23 July, then I will have to re-apply for Infinity once that's connected. Needless to say, they failed to connect it again!

In the meantime, I have lost work through the lack of internet but also because BT would not allow "call forwarding" from my land line to my mobile, so unless I was at home next to my phone, any calls would go unanswered. This was because there was an "open order" on the line and they can't add features to an open order even though they are the ones who placed it!

I'm appalled at the way this has been handled and if nothing else, it is a breach of contract on their behalf. I have still not received an explanation why the job was not completed or why it was cancelled.

All I can say is if you are contemplating BT Infinity, please don't expect anything resembling customer care from BT.

Keith Hicks

I had BT Infinity installed at the end of last year. It all went smoothly and works brilliantly. Luck of the draw? Ed

Spotlight UK

Our new Autumn/Winter timetable is coming soon. It will offer all our usual Street Dance, Contemporary, Ballet, West End dance, Theatre School, SEN Dance and Drama, Singing, Choir, Guitar, Music, Gymnastics, L.A.M.D.A, Art classes, Girls dance troop as well as mixed. However we will be adding new sessions in S.A.F.E defence, Bokwa, Zumba, Flabuloss, Sports and Adult fitness classes.

Please visit www.spotlightuk.org for more details or call 01256 325420

Darran Clark

Basingstoke Lions Club

The Lion of Basingstoke escaped from the Club on Saturday 30 June. But, he was recaptured at Four Lanes School by the children. The children loved him. But the day was very hot so the poor old Lion had to take lots of naps – just like at home his mummy said.

The Lions Club help a whole range of people. You can help us just my going out and having a good time. Our next major events are ABBA Sensation at QMC on 22 September followed by The Hampshire Constabulary Band, also at QMC, on 17 November. A discount of £2 per ticket is given if you buy both at once. You know it makes sense! Get your tickets by calling 01256 421867 or 325280.

Please visit us at <http://www.basingstokelions.org.uk/>.

Philip Wilson