
Chineham

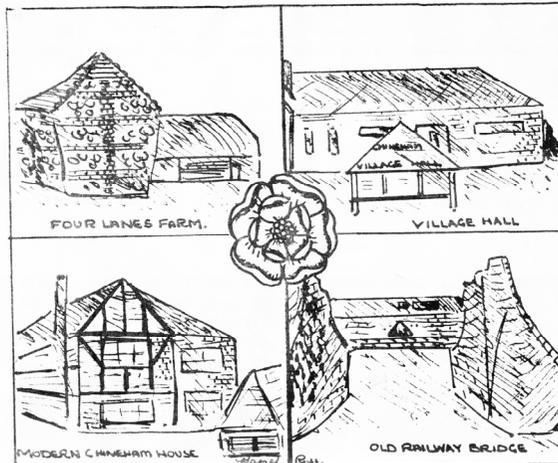
Issue 372
January 2015

Chat

CHINEHAM CHAT

ISSUE No 1

FEBRUARY 1984



Issue 1 of the Chineham Chat dated February 1984. Issue 1 contained 6 pages including the cover. Both the Chat and Chineham have grown considerably over the last 31 years.

January 2015

Unfortunately our earlier close date for copy—to enable printing before the Christmas and New Year close down—caught out a few of our contributors. We hope you enjoy the puzzles we've included to "fill" the space.

The residents of Chineham responded brilliantly to our request for a new volunteer Treasurer. We had seven high standard applicants—unprecedented in the years since I started on the Chat in February 2003. Spoilt for choice it was a difficult task to choose who should join the Team. Toni Read is the "lucky" one to succeed Sarah Sharpe who "retires" at the year end. Thank you very much to everyone and to Sarah for her contribution over the last 3 years. I hope the Village Hall have as much luck recruiting Committee Members.

This process reminded me that the first issue of the Chat was February 1984, so this issue of the Chat completes 31 years of publication of our community magazine. Here's to the next x years!

Dennis Clapp

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

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

Please Note

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

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

January is a relatively quiet month for the club on the entertainment front as we all need time to recover from the hectic festive period. Also, this year we are closing the Sports Bar down for two weeks in January because it is being refurbished.

However, the following events will be taking place in January:

Thursday 22: Senior citizens' bingo and lunch. Starts 13.00 in the lounge bar.

Saturday 24: Music quiz with messrs Hamilton and Prince. This will be held in the lounge bar at 20.00 and teams can have a maximum of six people. Entry fee is £1 per head.

Saturday 31: Family night with a disco in the lounge bar at 19.00

The lounge bar will remain open throughout the refurbishment work and, as it is likely to get busy, children will need to leave the club by 21.00 on Friday and Saturday evenings during the course of the work.

John Prince, Club Chairman

Thank You

On the late afternoon of Wednesday 26 November on getting off the bus in Mattock Way, I slipped on the wet grass at the edge of the path and ended up on my behind.

A kind lady came along to try to help and flagged down a car. She and the lady driver of the car managed to get me on my feet.

The driver of the car insisted that I get in the car in my very wet state and although having two young children in the vehicle and a baby, drove me to my front door and saw me safely inside.

I do not know the names of the ladies but through the Chat would like to thank them both for their kindness. We have some lovely people in Chineham.

John Castledine

Solar Thanks

I would like to say "Thank You very much" to Gareth Sorano and Steve Oakley for their comprehensive and informative answers to my query regarding Solar Panels. Since making my initial enquiry in the Chat I have had 3 companies come and survey and quote for the installation of solar panels. There is much to be considered. The latest technology allows for each panel to have its own connection to the inverter rather than the whole panel only being wired in on one connection. The advantage is that this enables each panel to operate at a maximum at any given time, and more importantly, for you to be able to see if there is one or more panels which are not producing energy as they should.

There are two different kinds of panels. The surveyor should explain this to you, also the origin of the panels: we were amazed to find they are produced in several countries and it would seem each installation company has an opinion of which are

best. The organisations listed by Mr Sorano were most helpful in providing information to make our final decision.

We have already had the panels installed, we were very pleased with the Surveyor of our chosen company who saw us through every stage. His company came and did the EPC check (included in the total cost of installation), they also came back and did an after care check, as they have noticed on the monitoring service that the company runs, that we had a discrepancy with the output on one panel. We can access the monitor dashboard from anywhere we choose via an internet log-in.

A further benefit is the installation of a very simple device that, when you are producing surplus energy, diverts that energy to our immersion heater, thus making further fuel saving as on a "good day" we do not need to use Gas to heat our water.

All in all, yes, it is a substantial initial sum to invest, but invest is what you are doing as over a period of time the return percentage rate on our investment will certainly pay more than the current savings interest rate.

We are very pleased to have become a little extra greener!

Janet Aris

Chineham Village Hall

Happy new year to you all!

The children will soon be back at school and we welcome all our regulars back to the halls after the

Christmas break. Whether you are interested in activities for pre-school/school children, fitness, diet, or maybe learning a new language, there is something to suit most people taking place in the halls. The weekly timetable is displayed on the noticeboard outside the main hall.

Chineham Village Hall Management Committee Members urgently required. As detailed in recent editions of Chineham Chat, we have an urgent need for more members on the Management Committee in order to ensure that all the facilities on site remain available to Chineham residents. To be nominated for the Committee, you simply need to be a Chineham resident, aged 18 or over with an interest in your community.

Anyone interested in being nominated for the committee is welcome to attend our next meeting at 8pm on Monday 26 January in the Committee Room. Entrance is via the Lounge Bar of the Village Club. Please see the February edition of Chineham Chat for further details of the AGM to be held in February when new members will be elected.

A nomination form is shown overleaf and can be completed and sent to the Secretary, Mrs J Chamberlain, at 4 Cuffelle Close, Chineham, Basingstoke, RG24 8RH by 16 February 2015. If you have any queries, please telephone 07927 649083 for further information.

Lynne Hughes

****Nomination Form overleaf****

NOMINATION FORM

I,
(*print full name*), am willing to be nominated for election to the Chineham Village Hall Management Committee and to accept and act in the Trusts of the Charity of Chineham Village Hall and Recreation Ground. I am aged 18 or over and I am a resident of Chineham.

Signature of Nominee:

.....

Address:.....

.....

.....

Tel No:

Proposed by:

.....

Address:.....

.....

.....

Seconded by:

.....

Address:.....

.....

.....

Free Cavity Wall Insulation

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council has been contacted by The Mark Group, an accredited insulation installer, who is offering free cavity wall insulation to households in the borough. This is funded by money from the big energy companies who are obliged by the government to contribute to energy efficiency. If you haven't had your cavities filled, this is a great opportunity to take advantage of this funding before it is gone completely. To find out more email climatechange@basingstoke.gov.uk or phone Lucy Martins on 01256 845620.

Please note you could also contact British Gas who have a free offer at the moment – the council does not recommend The Mark Group over any other insulation company but wishes to signpost to residents any free offers currently available.

Make your home warmer and reduce fuel bills.

Lucy Martins

Did You Know

In 1894, Lord Kelvin predicted that radio had no future; he also predicted that heavier-than-air flying machines were impossible.

Air-filled tyres were used on bicycles before they were used on motorcars.

The paperclip was invented by Norwegian Johann Vaaler.

Greening Campaign

This short article is about some significant numbers, it has been inspired by an essay published by a well known environmental activist, Bill McKibben. The article was first published in July 2012 in Rolling Stone magazine (<http://ow.ly/Fecx6>) and at the time the article went viral.

The first number is 2 degrees Celsius, this is the temperature rise which scientists and governments around the world believe to be the limit if the planet is to avoid dangerous climate change. So far the average temperature of the planet has been raised by 0.8 degrees Celsius and that has done more damage than most scientists expected – melting glaciers and ice sheets, wild weather, drought, floods, rising sea levels. Who decided 2 degrees Celsius was a safe limit and how was it decided?

The second number is 565 gigatonnes, this is the amount of carbon dioxide that scientists estimate can be poured into the atmosphere by mid century and still have some hope of staying within the 2 degree limit. Do we have any chance of staying within this amount? Apparently it seems unlikely as carbon emissions continue to grow by about 3% year on year at which rate the carbon budget will be used up within 16 years. If that trend continues the predicted temperature rise would be 6 degrees Celsius.

Often when confronted with this fact people here in the UK say ‘bring it on, nice and warm’ but consider what would happen to countries lying on the

equator, near the poles or just above sea level.



The third number is 2,795 gigatonnes and this is the scary one. This number was identified by a team of financial analysts from the Carbon Tracker Initiative and it describes the amount of carbon contained in coal, oil and gas reserves already held by the fossil fuel companies. This is the actual amount of fuel available for extraction and it is 5 times higher than the carbon budget of 565 gigatonnes. It goes without saying that oil and gas companies are continuing to explore and hope to identify new sources of fossil fuels. These numbers have not been made up, they have been verified by numerous sources see <http://ow.ly/Fensu>. If you want to find out more I recommend this book ‘The Burning Question’ by Mike Berners-Lee and Duncan Clark.

Since the Greening Chineham group got together in 2010 we have tried to encourage local people to save energy in the home and reduce their carbon emissions. It is clear now that small local actions whilst important in encouraging a change in behaviour will not bring about the big reductions in carbon emissions that are essential.

We want to encourage everyone to think about all the information so freely available in the press and on the web and become active – press for action – make your views known to your local politicians because it is only through government action that big changes will happen. Governments are thinking about how to limit carbon

emissions but time is short and they need encouragement!

One last thought, another number, there are 5 of us in the Greening Chineham group – we could do with some help! Email to greeningchineham@hotmail.co.uk for more information.

Sue Juon

News from the Beat

Crime Update by PC Jim Charlton:

Shortly after submitting last months article there was a spate of thefts from vehicles in the Parish. These occurred in the early hours and all the vehicles targeted had been accidentally left unlocked. With almost all cars now having remote locking, it doesn't take much to get distracted and forgot to lock your vehicle. The criminals rely on this to get lucky and find a car unlocked as they prowls around in the dark trying handles. It's a low-skill and low-risk technique, and as we have seen, often proves fruitful. Just over a year ago we had 30 cars hit in just over a week!

Sometimes the victims will not even realise they are victims, as only a few items may be moved around inside and nothing may have actually been taken. When the owner goes to their vehicle and finds things not quite as they had left them, there is a tendency to explain it away, unless of course it is very obvious that something is missing.

In one of the crimes, the offenders dropped something they had stolen

from another car. This was a black sunglasses case containing two pairs of sunglasses; one 'Quicksilver' and one 'Von Zipper'. These are likely to have been stolen overnight 21 – 22 November. We are keen to locate the owners of these glasses so they can be returned to them and so we can investigate the crime. Please contact me on the details below if they are yours.

One male has been arrested for these offences and is currently on bail; however we are continuing our investigation to identify others who may be involved. If you have any information that could help, please contact me. It will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Clearly there is a very simple way of preventing this sort of crime, and that is to make doubly sure that you have locked your car. It may be that the car later gets accidentally unlocked, perhaps by keys rubbing together in pockets or by children playing with the keys. Therefore it would be a good idea to try your best to make sure this doesn't happen. In addition to this, it helps not to leave any valuables in your vehicle in the first place.

PC Jim Charlton 21015 and PCSO Richard Strauss 14735

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

Tel: 101 (request to leave a message using our collar numbers).

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

Speed Limit

Do you know what the speed limit is in Chineham? Does the lack of road speed signs confuse you? It may surprise a lot of drivers to know that the speed limit in Chineham is in fact 30mph!

Do you know why there are barely any 30mph signs in Chineham? The lack of signage is because every driver should know that continuous street lighting in a built up area means the speed limit is 30mph. Unfortunately this means that the highways agency is not legally required to post speed signs along the route.

I live in Great Oaks Chase which is at the bottom of Hanmore Road in between Mattock Way and the Children's nursery. Are you one of the many, many drivers who think because this is a long straight piece of road and you are a good driver then it is acceptable to accelerate to 50mph or more? Are you one of the drivers that excessively speeds because it is early

in the morning and there is not much traffic about so you feel it is ok? Are you one of the drivers who tailgates the intelligent drivers who dare to drive at the legal limit of 30mph? I regularly walk this stretch of road and witness several times a day numerous drivers speeding, tailgating and even overtaking on occasion.

The 30mph may hinder the speed of your journey fractionally. The 30mph may make the road safer for any other person using it, pedestrian crossing it or any animal that may have ventured on to it. But the biggest thing of all, the

30mph also dramatically reduces the noise pollution from your tyres roaring along the tarmac. Next time you are speeding along Hanmore Road, please spare a thought for all the home owners whose homes are close to, or back onto, this stretch of road. The noise that Hanmore Road now generates because of inconsiderate speeding drivers has become incredibly intrusive. It is completely unacceptable and totally avoidable.

I have written to the highways agency several times to ask for speed signs or some kind of traffic calming but without success. If anyone else is fed up with persistent flouting of the speed limit and the noise and dangers that accompany it then please email `t h e h i g h w a y s` agency `traffic.management@hants.gov.uk` and the Chineham Parish Clerk `clerk@chineham.gov.uk` with your concerns. Maybe if enough people highlight this problem they will relent and finally take action. You can also report any concerns to Basingstoke Police station through their website. I hope lots of you will agree and take action too. This article is my last ditch attempt at slowing the traffic on this piece of road. Let us make Chineham safer and return it to the peaceful area it once was.

K. Glenridding

Did You Know

Optical fibre was invented in 1966 by British scientists Charles Kao and George Hockham.

The first neon sign was made in 1923.

Chineham Parish Council

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

2015 Meeting dates:

The dates for the Full Parish Council meetings in 2015 are scheduled as follows:

January 12	July 13
February 9	August (TBC)
March 9	September 14
April 13	October 12
May 18	November 9
June 8	December 14

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

Vacancy:

The Parish Council is bidding farewell to John Filbey the Parish Council's Rapid Response Warden. John has worked tirelessly for the Parish Council and we are grateful for all his hard work and wish him well. This leaves the Parish Council with a vacancy, so if you are interested in applying for this part-time paid position (5 hours per week); please contact the Clerk for a job description and application form. The deadline for applications is 31 January 2015.

Grit Bins:

There are a number of blue or yellow bins filled with salt and/or grit for use in Chineham on public roads and pavements. They are not provided for private use. Residents can report that

a bin requires refilling via the Hampshire County Council website www.hants.gov.uk. Alternatively, please contact the Parish Council with the location details and we will report it.

Community Speedwatch:

If you are interested in volunteering for this roadside initiative, please contact the Clerk for more information.

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 324345 or email assistantclerk@chineham.gov.uk during office hours only please. The Parish Council website can be found at www.chineham.gov.uk.

A33 Pedestrian Crossing

After only a week or so, since the new 'Tesco' crossing on the A33 was commissioned, I am sad to report that I have been overtaken on the bend immediately after the roundabout (heading north) by cars and vans 'spring-boarding' off the roundabout no less than five times - mainly at peak hours. They were travelling at ridiculously high speeds!

This frightens me greatly as the zig-zag lines are clearly having no effect on drivers or they do not see the crossing until it's too late.

Stewart Ward

Borough Councillor Martin Biermann

Firstly, let me start by wishing readers a good year ahead.

As far as the borough council is concerned, there is something of a new start. Tony Curtis, the long serving chief executive has taken retirement and Mel Barrett has been appointed to take his place. As he is completely new to the council, it is difficult to predict how he will seek to guide the council in the years ahead. That said, it is ultimately the councillors, and in this respect the majority party, which sets the policy.

When things go wrong, (as they have done big time in planning terms recently) councillors are prone to blame officers, or political opponents. A peer review of the functions and management of the borough council recently concluded that the fractious relations between political parties and officers was undermining the efficient delivery of local democracy!

Another issue which is on the horizon relating to local governance is the topic of devolution in England. There is no doubt that local and "regional" structures are likely to be changing in the not too distant future. Hampshire County Council would quite like to become a unitary authority meaning that Basingstoke and Deane and other districts would fundamentally disappear.

I view such a "solution" as potentially disastrous as Hampshire County Council is already far too remote. One need only look at their handling of highway issues locally. One could envisage the other alternative of Basingstoke and Deane possibly becoming a unitary authority and thus removing some of the public confusion about "who does what".

Martin Biermann
Tel: 01256 352434
Text (only): 07900 780902
cllr.m.biermann@basingstoke.gov.uk
Facebook: Chineham Spotlight

Tales of an Allotmenteer

As an amateur allotmenteer, I mistakenly thought I'd be having the winter off, but despite looking sad and tired (the allotment, not me) there is always something to do.

A small number of volunteers have been creosoting the communal shed, which is there for the allotmentees to use, perhaps while sheltering from the rain or taking a coffee break and looking through some of the Kitchen Garden magazines left there to inspire us.

The dead and dying veg have been cleared to make way for vegetables such as onions and broad beans. These should over winter well and provide us with some early treats next year.

As I write this at the beginning of December I am hopeful that my sprouts and parsnips will make it to the Christmas dinner table. For all those of you who turn your noses up at sprouts, children included, try growing some for yourselves. Like all vegetables when they are cooked and eaten almost within a couple of hours of picking (no, I probably won't be picking sprouts on Christmas morning although if you grow them in your garden at home there is no reason why you shouldn't be next year), they taste completely different. For a change try cutting them in half, drizzle with olive oil and Balsamic vinegar and roast them in the oven until nicely browned.

Sally Dodd

County and Borough Councillor Elaine Still

Outcome of Consultation on Reading Road Traffic Calming Scheme, Chineham:

Transport Officers from Hampshire County Council's ETE Dept have consulted residents who live close to the proposed traffic calming scheme on Reading Road to replace the existing raised platform scheme that is considered to be ineffective.

Letters explaining the aims and objectives of the scheme together with a plan, questionnaire and a reply paid envelope to return their comments at no cost to themselves was hand delivered to residents on 14 November. In total the letters, etc were distributed to 10 households and they were asked to send in their comments by 28 November 2014.

By the end of the consultation period a total of 8 responses had been received. Analysis of the responses showed that only 3 residents supported the proposals

Chineham Parish Council were also consulted on the proposals and they discussed this matter at their meeting on Monday 8 December. The Parish Council have subsequently informed Officers that they do not support the proposals.

While it is disappointing not to receive overall support for the proposals, Officers will take on board this outcome and the comments submitted and investigate what possible alternative measures could be put forward that will result in slower vehicle speeds and overall better safety for all users and that local residents will support.

Further engagement with residents and the Parish Council will be undertaken early next year with myself and Hampshire County Council officers.

I wish you all a Happy New Year.

Tel: 01256 880926
Mobile: 07747862913
elaine.still@hants.gov.uk
cllr.elaine.still@basingstoke.gov.uk

Borough Councillor Paul Miller

As I write, The Planning Inspectorate is conducting the first in a series of dialogue meetings at BDBC on the submitted Draft Local Plan with public, elected local government and BDBC Officers representation. This meeting is designed as I understand it, to address concerns that the Planning Inspectorate may have with certain issues within the Draft Plan and hear the "Basingstoke" view of our approach on how the Borough should develop over the next 15 years. This will I gather be an ongoing process over the next few months with the aim of producing an Adopted Plan later this year.

The new Toucan pedestrian crossing is now operational on the A 33 arm of the Binfields roundabout that is designed to provide safer crossing of this busy road to pedestrians and cyclists. Time will tell if this induces increased traffic congestion on the roundabout or not.

The recent 'weather bomb' is bringing extreme weather conditions to parts of the UK at the moment and we must hope that this is not the forerunner of more of the same for us this winter. I make no apology to appeal to our community to please assist those more vulnerable and once again, do not hesitate to contact me in the event that additional help is required.

Have a Happy and Successful New Year in 2015!

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

Christmas Tree Recycling

Once the festivities are over residents can leave their Christmas trees at one of the 22 allocated sites specifically set up by the council across the borough from Friday 2 January until Sunday 25 January.

Every year, around eight million real Christmas trees are thrown away in the UK. This creates about 160,000 tonnes of additional waste. If the trees are recycled instead they are then transformed into ProGrow soil conditioner and wood chippings, which the council then uses for the borough's parks.

The nearest Christmas tree drop-off points for Chineham are at:

- * Oakridge, Upper Sherborne Road playing fields
- * Popley, Carpenters Down Open Space
- * Sheffield on Loddon, Wyevale Garden Centre

If residents miss the collections at these locations, they can take their tree to the recycling centre on Wade Road. The opening hours at Wade Road are 8am to 4pm (closed 1 Jan 2015).

Sophia Waite-King

Did You Know

The first vending machine was invented by Hero of Alexandria in the first century AD. When a coin was dropped into a slot, its weight would pull a cork out of a spigot and the machine would dispense a trickle of holy water.

Basingstoke Civil Service Retirement Fellowship

The group has just enjoyed a visit to The Musical Museum at Brentford, which included a concert of different instruments and was followed by sherry and mince pies. After this there was a guided tour of London and the Christmas lights in the West End with a stop for tea on the way home.

Trips arranged for 2015 are:

24 February: London Museums

17 March: Salisbury

22 April: Danson House, Bexley

21 May: Devizes

12 June: Studley Grange & Lydiard Pk

22 July: Thames River Cruise

20 August: Sissinghurst Castle

14 September: Chiswick House

1 October: Mystery Trip

12 November: Geffrye Museum & Spitalfields Museum

10 December: Christmas Lunch

If you would like to join us on any of our trips, whether you are a member or not, please ring Kate Lambeth on 01256 328791.

The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Brookvale Village Hall from 10 am – 12 noon and all retired Civil Servants and their partners are welcome. The programme of speakers for next year, along with further details about the group, can be obtained from the Secretary Tony Brazier on 01256 418770 or at bjmapbr@ntlworld.com. The next meeting is on 7 January when the speaker will be Brian Spicer on "Springwood at Hackwood Park".

David Cowling

Characterised by Kindness

A very happy New Year to all the residents of Chineham! We genuinely wish each other the very best at this time of year and even though we know that it's highly unlikely that the whole year will go by without some degree of a hic-cup, we still want life to go really well for our family, friends and neighbours.

I've been thinking recently about the difference that it makes when someone expresses even a small act of kindness and how it can bring a very tangible sense of encouragement. I recently lost a watch which I've had for a long time. Even though it had a scratch on the glass and I've worn it for about 15years, I loved it because my daughter bought it for me and it has always reminded me of her. There are other factors of course! The face was a beautiful shade of purple and I really liked the clean and simple lines of the design!

A dear friend gave me her watch to replace it when she realised what had happened. I was very touched by her kindness and it felt so good that there are people who will consider others in such a way. Whilst some might think that was a small act of kindness, I will in fact always remember with gratefulness the consideration of a friend. Several days later my watch was found! So now I'm the proud possessor of 2 stylish watches as my friend wanted me to keep the one she had given me!

This event has caused me to think a lot about the selfless acts of people who are often the unsung heroes of

our communities. They often love so sacrificially and yet without them others' lives would be the poorer.

Another friend of mine loves baking cakes and quietly goes about Chineham delivering them to people she knows who might need a bit of extra love and encouragement. Of course that consideration can be expressed through strategic planning for large community projects or the tireless service of medical or teaching staff etc. All are so valuable and so essential in our lives as we live and work together.

I recently thanked some policemen who I had seen standing in a security position, doing everything possible to make our community safe. They said that it made their day that I had expressed appreciation and that it didn't often happen as they fulfil their necessary role. Whether the task is apparently large or small, something seems to happen in the atmosphere when we express appreciation and love! And however small an act of kindness, I think we'd be surprised by it's long lasting impact.

Kindness is one of the many wonderful attributes of God. In the Bible it is often poetically described as 'loving kindness'. If we are Christ-followers we can expect that there will be an increase in that characteristic in our lives and hopefully therefore a ripple effect on those around us. My prayer for 2015 is that people of our community will often enjoy and even be surprised by creative and unexpected acts of kindness! And even more, that we would all know

God who is the author of the deepest kindness that we could ever experience!

To end I'd like to include a lovely quote from Mother Teresa, who so many people in the world have respected. 'Be kind and merciful. Let no one ever come to you without coming away better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness: kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile, kindness in your warm greeting. In the slums we are the light of God's kindness to the poor. To children, to the poor, to all who suffer and are lonely—give them not only your care, but also your heart'

Hazel Marchment, East Church.

Christ & Community Church Activities

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a "Happy New Year"!

Sunday services: 9am and 10.30am every Sunday – all welcome. Groups for children and young people of all ages meet at the 10.30am service – the 9am service tends to be quieter and more reflective. There is no charge and all are welcome. During January we will be looking at Genesis and our relationship with God. Our sermons are recorded and available on our website at www.christchurchchineham.org.uk.

Midweek services: a service of Holy Communion will be held on Tuesday 27 January at 11am and in the Club Room at Binfields' Close at 10am on Thursday 29 January. All welcome.

Come and pray: we meet regularly for prayer – if you would like to join us do contact us for details. Is there something you would like prayer for? Obviously you can pray anytime and anywhere, but 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.

Coffee and Co: our cafe is open every Monday during term-time from 9.30am to 11.30am. Everyone is welcome to drop in for a coffee and a slice of delicious cake! There are toys for the children and plenty of people to chat with.

Luncheon Club: everyone is welcome to join us for lunch on Tuesday 27 January at 12noon. Adults £4, children £2. There is no need to book.

CCBBies: our group for pre-school children meets every Thursday during term-time from 10-11.15am in the Shaftesbury Room. Parents/carers are required to stay with their children. There is no charge and refreshments are available along with stories, crafts, songs, prayers and free play as we learn about Jesus and the Bible together.

Kids' Club: children at primary school are invited to join us on Saturday 17 January from 5-6.30pm for lots of fun and games. It costs only £1 to come in; bring some extra cash for tuck and a hot snack. The children are supervised and there is no need for parents/carers to stay unless they would like to!

Messy Church: families are invited to join us on Monday 12 January from 3.45pm for games and refreshments. Activities begin at 4.15pm, supper is served at 5.15pm and it is time to go home at 5.45pm. There is no charge although donations towards the cost of the food is welcome. This month we will be learning about the Pharisee and the Tax Collector. Everyone is invited to come and “get messy” with us!

Thank God It's Friday (TGIF) Youth Club: young people in year 6 upwards are invited to join us every Friday in term-time from 8-9.30pm for lots of games, activities, fun and friendship. It will only cost you £1 to come in but do bring some extra cash for tuck and bring a friend too!

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

Room hire: rooms are available to hire either on a one-off or regular basis. Contact us for details or look at www.christchurchchineham.org.uk. Prices start at £7.75 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 Ruth, our Administrator, on 01256 474280 or admin@christchurchchineham.org.uk / www.christchurchchineham.org.uk or drop in when the office is open. You can also find out information about Christ Church on our website www.christchurchchineham.org.uk, at Facebook (www.facebook.com/christchurchchineham) and follow us on Twitter @ccChineham.

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

Ruth Randall

Did You Know

The can opener was invented 48 years after cans were introduced.

Garden Shop Opening

Old Basing Allotment & Garden Society Shop, Riley Lane, Old Basing is open 11 January, 11am to noon.

Renewal of membership or new members for 2015 pay just £5.

The 17th Hampshire Potato Day. will be on Saturday 31/Sunday 1 February, 1000am to 3pm. Adult entry £2, accompanied children free. Testbourne Community Centre, Micheldever Road, Whitchurch RG28 7JF.

Tony Stoney

Probus Visit RAF Museum

A party of 31 consisting of Probus Club members, their wives/partners and friends, went by coach to the RAF Museum at Hendon. For those of the non-military type it was extremely impressive but for those members who had served in the RAF it was a poignant trip down memory lane.

The visit started with a welcome cup of coffee or tea and a Danish pastry in the Echo Alpha Tango (EAT) restaurant which was also the venue for a late lunch. The first sight outside the main entrance to the museum was the Supermarine Spitfire and Hawker Hurricane and then, perhaps surprisingly, two RAF rescue high speed launches which had been used to pick up downed pilots out of the drink.

There were several connected halls so that once inside it would be several hours before everything had been

seen. And what a vast array of aeroplanes were on display. From the earliest glider to the latest stealth fighter. From a German V2 rocket to the impressive AV Roe Vulcan. From ejector seats to the magnificent Short Brothers Sunderland Flying Boat. From The famous AV Roe Lancaster bomber and its American sister the Boeing B 25 the Mitchell bomber. From all kinds of helicopters and autogyros to wartime displays about the blitz. Barnes Wallis and his bouncing bomb used by the Dam Busters and a Dornier dug out of the Goodwin sands. Various plane engines and military vehicles from pre-war Hillman Minx and post war Standard Vanguard staff cars to Ferret scout cars. Everything was magnificently displayed but in parts dimly lit to reduce the corrosion process.

Although a museum of specific interest to the male species the ladies also thoroughly enjoyed the visit. One of the RAF veterans thought it quite awful to see so many machines he had flown in were now in a museum.

More details about the activities of the Probus Club can be seen on www.probusbasingstoke.webs.com or you can phone their Secretary Paul Flint on 07770 886521 for an informal chat.

Paul Flint

Did You Know

The first electronic mail (e mail) was sent in 1972 by Ray Tomlinson. It was also his idea to use the @ sign to separate the name of the user from the name of the computer.

Crimestoppers

Happy New Year to you all! I hope you had a peaceful and crime free Christmas.

The sales have been in full swing for a while (assuming there is anything left after 'Black Friday' in November!), but remember that if something appears to be too good an offer, then it probably is! If you go to a car boot sale, or are offered something in a pub or on a street corner, that really does seem out of place or is ridiculously cheap, please consider that it may be stolen.

This goes for internet auction sites too. Whilst they can be really useful for finding a particular item and often at a bargain price, or for selling some of your own property without the need to get cold and trampled at a car boot sale, a number of stolen items are also disposed of in this way.

Before you buy that bargain piece of jewellery, or knock-down power tools from your 'mate', please consider how you would feel if it were your pride and joy being sold for a fraction of its real value and with no consideration of the sentimental value to its rightful owner.

Remember, if you buy stolen goods, the only person that gains is the vendor. The property is still owned by the person who had it stolen, not by you just because you have paid cash for it, and there are no cash refunds when the property is returned to its rightful owner.

If you are found with stolen property, not only will it be seized but you may

be charged with handling stolen goods, and it would be for you to prove to a Court that you had acted in good faith. However, paying 'a few quid' for a brand new boxed computer out the back of a van may need some creative explaining to justify how you thought it could be a genuine transaction! The Courts treat handling stolen goods as a serious offence - the thinking is that there would be no reason for thieves to steal if there weren't people prepared to buy 'bent gear'.

Sadly, despite a huge amount of effort, thousands of pounds worth of recovered stolen property each year cannot be returned to its owner, as there is no means of identifying it.

A good way to mark your property is to write the postcode and your house number in an 'invisible' marker pen. This can then be read under an ultra-violet light. For property that really can't be easily marked, such as jewellery, china and antiques, I suggest taking photographs of your items. Remember to consider marking other things such as pushchairs and micro scooters as these too are sought after by thieves.

Remember - if you have information about any crime, please do not hesitate to give Crimestoppers a call on 0800 555 111 or log on to www.crimestoppers-uk.org when you can also give information anonymously. If you are on twitter, please follow me @HantsCrimestopp.

PC741 Simon Wright

Indoor Bowling Open Day

Loddon Vale Indoor Bowling Club are holding Open Days on Saturday 14 & Sunday 15 February, 10:00 am – 4:00pm.

This is an opportunity to enjoy some light healthy indoor exercise and meet new friends. Bowlers of all ages are welcome and we have a very strong junior section (from 8 years of age onwards).

Why not join us for the day when we will have experienced coaches on hand to help you enjoy your first game of bowls or just join us for a tea or coffee in our air conditioned restaurant/bar.

Loddon Vale Bowling Club are located at Basingstoke Leisure Park, Churchill Way West, Basingstoke, RG22 6PG. Telephone 01256 356507 or e-mail info@loddonvaleibc.co.uk for more details.

We look forward to meeting you on the day. Join on the day and get 6 month's extra Membership free.

Joyce Holding

BCoT Apprentice Shines at WorldSkills

An Engineering apprentice studying at BCoT has finished fourth in the finals of the 2014 WorldSkills competition.

Tua Yenwattana, who works for local electronics company Sonodyne, attends BCoT one day a week to study as part of his apprenticeship.

Earlier this year, Tua entered the WorldSkills competition. He competed against 105 other young engineers and came 10th, meaning he qualified for the finals.

He said: "I am so pleased I reached the finals as the competition was really tough! It was great to be competing against other young people who are the best in the field – it bought out my competitive side! It is also a great thing to put on the CV."

Tua said he was not nervous going into the finals, adding: "I knew there would be a lot of pressure but I was prepared; I kept the right attitude and just tried my best."

Tua beat off stiff competition and was awarded fourth place, only missing out on third place by 0.9 points and only 5 points behind first place. He now wants to go on and enter the competition again next year, saying: "I am going to train harder, really push myself and go for it! I hope to achieve at least a bronze medal; I'm really determined."

Darren Minton

Did You Know

Thomas Edison filed 1,093 patents, including those for the light bulb, electric railways and the movie camera. When he died in 1931, he held 34 patents for the telephone, 141 for batteries, 150 for the telegraph and 389 patents for electric light and power.

Nature Notes

It is incredible that as I write this there are only two weeks until Christmas, because there are still trees with yellow leaves brightening the scenery. On closer inspection they are all Hazel. With the light breeze on Sunday it was like a whirlwind of golden pennies dancing round the car. Some of the Oaks are completely covered in brown leaves, which always reminds me of a child's drawing of a tree.

Here in Chineham we are lucky to have a number of ancient woodlands, because the UK is one of the least wooded areas in Europe, with just four per cent covered by the native Oak, Ash and Hazel.

In my garden, the Ivy flowers are now ripening into berries, but I heard bees on the False Castor Oil bushes, and now the Viburnum is covered in flowers. I also noticed the first blossoms of Winter Honeysuckle appearing in the hedge. These will be in bloom for several months, so the bees will find nectar for a little longer.

Thank you Steven McKinnon for telling me he had followed the Kingfisher along Petty's Brook. It's good to know that there is still at least one in the vicinity. Steven's previous sighting had been in May.

Hazel was given a bird table with roof and she could not believe it when she saw the crows managing to eat the seed by tucking their heads under this roof. We are now thinking of ways of deterrence as they ignore her banging on the window. It's like my over-large

pigeon trying to grip the mesh holder whilst it turns in circles. If you have managed to solve the problem of the bird table, please contact me.

During my trip to Oxfordshire, I spotted Gorse in flower on the sides of the roads where the soil was sandy. It is always a welcome sight in Winter with a bright yellow glow, however small.

By the time you read this, the festivities will be over, so I wish you a Happy New Year.

Carry on watching. Please inform me of any nature happenings you have encountered at ginny.wright2@btinternet.com or 479562.

Ginny Wright

Countdown Numbers Game

Using the following six numbers can you make the target number 419 using only addition, subtraction, multiplication and division?

100 75 26 14 5 2

Super Conundrum

Can you rearrange the following letters to make a word?

15 letters: SEPMCNTAMHOSCLI

9 letters: CYRANMHIE

6 letters: DELFOR

Both puzzles supplied by Chineham resident Neville Wilson.

Four Lanes Community Centre

Mums, Bumps and Babies: A programme aimed at helping parents find their feet in the early weeks and months. Pre-school children welcome. Wednesdays, 9.30am to 11.00am on-going Cost £12.00 for 6 weeks or £2.50 per week on a drop-in basis. Contact us to register your interest on 01256 810499.

Understanding Behaviour 0 to 5: A 5 week course to increase parent's confidence and self esteem. This is a joint program for both Parents/Carers of Pre-school children.

Start date to be confirmed. Please call to register your interest. Free.

Messy Play for Dads: Messy Play is important for young children, giving them endless ways to develop and learn. All types of play are crucial for children's development and early learning. Starts at Sherfield Park Community Centre on Saturday 24 January, 1.30pm to 3.00pm.

Zumba: 10 week course. Mondays, 7.30pm to 8.30pm. Cost £6 pay as you go. Contact Rina Mistry on 07971 553658.

Get My Digital SLR on to Manual: 5 week course. An introduction to Digital SLR/Bridge camera photography. Starts Monday 12 January 7.00pm to 9.00pm. Cost £55.00.

Creative Digital Imaging: 5 week course. This course will concentrate on creativity. Starts Tuesday 13 January 7pm to 9.00pm. Cost £55.00.

Intermediate Digital SLR: 5 week course. Starts Wednesday 14 January 7.00pm to 9.00pm. Cost £55.00.

Fitness Freestyle Yoga: (Infant Hall) Freestyle Fitness Yoga is a yoga based fitness class without the spirituality. All abilities are welcome. Mondays 7.30pm to 8.30pm. Costs £5.00 per week on a pay as you go basis. Contact: see loubevmit@gmail.com or Louise on 07985 676201 if you have any questions.

GOL: (Football) Mondays at Junior School and Tuesday at Infant School. Starts Monday 12 January at the Junior School 3.40pm to 4.40pm or Tuesday 13 January at the Infant School 3.40pm to 4.40pm. Contact Doreen at GOL on 01256 381652.

For information on all events at Four Lanes Community Centre please telephone 810499 or look at www.fourlanescentre.com.

Virginia Wyatt

Puzzle Answers

Numbers Game:

$$26 - 14 = 12$$

$$12 / 2 = 6$$

$$75 + 6 = 81$$

$$10 \times 5 = 500$$

$$50 - 81 = 419$$

Conundrum:

Accomplishments

Machinery

Folder

Pension Review

Be wary if you're been contacted out of the blue by phone, email, text or via an online advert about getting a 'free pension review' to 'get better returns'.

Most of the companies making these offers haven't been authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority, even though they say they are acting on their behalf. Or companies may say they're representing government about free retirement guidance - an initiative that's not been launched yet.

If you are contacted by one of these companies, ignore them. Professional advice on pensions isn't free and financial advisers authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority are unlikely to cold call.

These reviews are aimed at getting you to move money from an existing personal or occupational pension into other schemes called self-invested personal pensions (SIPP) or small self-administered schemes (SSAS). The pension pot is then typically invested in unregulated investments like overseas property developments, forestry or storage units (store pods). These are higher risk and you could lose everything you've invested, reducing your retirement income.

If you invest your pension in one of these schemes you won't be able to complain to the Financial Ombudsman Service or get compensation from the Financial Services Compensation Scheme if things go wrong. You are unlikely to be able to get your money back if you've dealt with an adviser who isn't authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Getting financial advice about your pension. You should :

- * Always check anyone offering advice or financial services is authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority
- * Get independent advice from an authorised financial adviser if you want to review your pension arrangements.

Make sure you understand how investments work, the risks involved and what they mean for you. Your adviser should consider whether they are suitable for you. For most individual investors, investing your pension money in unregulated investments is unlikely to be in your best interests. Consider all investment options - leaving your pension pot where it is may be the best decision.

If you have already moved your pension and have concerns, contact any authorised companies that were involved. The Ombudsman might be able to help if you cannot get the matter resolved with those companies.

- * Search the Financial Conduct Authority register for authorised advisers at www.fca.org.uk
- * 10 steps to protect yourself from unauthorised firms and how to report them at www.fca.org.uk
- * Contact the Financial Ombudsman Service for concerns about authorised companies at www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk
- * Guidance about pensions from the Money Advice Service at www.moneyadvice.service.org.uk and the Pensions Advisory Service at www.pensionsadvisoryservice.org.uk.

Nicola Dale
Basingstoke Citizens Advice Bureau

Basingstoke Discovery Centre

To book a place, you can order online from <https://www.hants.gov.uk/shop/home.php>, visit Basingstoke Discovery Centre in Festival Place, or call 01256 478670. Advance booking is strongly recommended. To find out more about Basingstoke Discovery Centre and Hampshire Libraries visit www.hants.gov.uk/bsdc, <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/library/bsdc.htm>, <https://twitter.com/BasingstokeDC> <https://www.facebook.com/BasingstokeDC>.

January events:

Astronomy Taster: Thursday 15, 5pm. Free family event. Basingstoke Astronomical Society is a group of like-minded amateurs who meet most months to discuss astronomy. Members have a wide range of experience from absolute beginners to serious observers. They have been a partner to the BBC Stargazing Live event since its inception. As a taster, join them for a fun presentation of our solar system and what we can expect to see in our skies this coming March.

Make a Basket in a Day: Willow workshop with Judith Needham, 10.00am-4.00pm. £40.

Come and spend a fun day learning a new craft and go home with a lovely basket you've made yourself. Beginners are welcome to come and make a small round basket. Those with experience can try an oval basket or experiment with different side weaves and borders and add handles. If you have a specific basket in mind call the tutor, Judith Needham, on

07749 852229 so that appropriate materials can be provided.

This is an Adult workshop and all equipment will be provided.

Second Chance Cinema Club: 'Made in Britain' Season. Thursday 22 January, 1pm & 3:30pm.

Inspired by the Chippendales, 6 unemployed steel workers from Sheffield form a male striptease act, except they're prepared to go 'the full monty' and leave nothing to the imagination! Heart-warming 90s comedy starring Robert Carlyle.

Beginners Camera Workshop: Suitable for DSLRS and Bridge cameras. Saturday 24 January, 10am - 4pm. £35

Get off Auto! Learn to use all your camera settings and functions with confidence. Join experienced photographer, Geoff Read, for a fun and practical session to help you understand ISO, aperture, composition and lighting. Make sure you bring a fully charged battery with your camera, empty memory card and handbook if you have one.

Valentine's Day Cupcake: With Kate Aherne from Sugartown Cupcakes. Saturday 31 January, 1:30pm - 3:30pm. £12.

What better way to show you care than a gift of delicious cupcakes you have created yourself. Kate will teach you four designs that are achievable yet will wow! Please bring four undecorated cupcakes, all other equipment is provided.

Phil Jarvis

Sudoku

Easy

8					5			6
	2	6	7		3		8	9
		4						5
6		2	8	7	9		4	
	1	3	2	6	4		9	8
4		8	3	5	1	6		7
3	8	9		2	7	1		
1	4				6		5	2
2				4	8			

Medium

			7	5	3		6	4
7		3	2		4	9		
		4	6			2		7
	7		1	2	6	3		
			3	7				
6	3						1	
1	4			3	2		7	8
3								
2				6			9	

Both puzzles supplied by Chineham resident Neville Wilson