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Barkham Newsletter

Issue 127 Spring 2019

from the Barkham Village Residents Association

<http://www.barkham.org.uk>

Twitter: @BarkhamVRA Facebook: <http://gid.uk/BVRAF>

HELP!!

We urgently need a new Newsletter Editor and Membership Secretary see page 5



Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday 21 April 3pm

Junipers Play Area see page 10

**Barkham Clean Up
Sunday 24 March
see page 14**

**Family Skittles Evening
Saturday 23 March
see page 10**

2019 Subscriptions

2019 BVRA Membership Fees are now due and remain at £2 per household

If you have not already done so, please pay your distributor, who is:

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Chairman's Chat

Welcome to the spring edition of the newsletter. In writing this the weather is mild and spring like and apart from the road works and traffic there is a nice feel to the local community. Regular readers of the Newsletter will note that I have changed the title of this article from Chairman's Report to Chairman's Chat. A very small change, but, I felt that the term report was too formal and actually reminded me painfully of my pre retirement years in the office. I would like to emphasise that the Resident Association is all about you and the local community and as such I would like to increase the interaction and the dialogue using the Newsletter, the BVRA Web Page and also social media. I will come back to these latter in the Chat.

Whilst I don't like doing it, and hopefully will not make it a habit of it, I am going to have a bit of a moan. We are still looking for two volunteers from the local community to fill the key roles of Newsletter Editor and Membership Secretary. Not one person from the 900 plus dwellings that we distribute to has stepped forward! We continue to function based on others filling in and the former occupants of the posts being willing to provide assistance and guidance. We have repeated the adds for these

positions in this edition so please give it some serious thought. Perhaps you are recently retired and want to get more involved in local community (as I did). Perhaps you have recently moved to the area and can use this as an opportunity to further integrate. I know that everyone is busy but whilst being essential, these are not hugely time consuming roles. I am making recruiting for these two roles my personal priority over the next two months. Please give it some thought either give me a call or email me for a chat.

Back to interaction and dialogue. In addition to the Newsletter we have an excellent Web Page that has been developed and maintained by our webmaster Dave Clements. Simply use the link provided on the front page of the Newsletter or type Barkham Village Residents into your browser. I would like to get more residents using this as it provides a platform that allows us to provide current information, interaction and dialogue. To encourage the use of the website we will be kicking off a light hearted "Spring in Barkham" photo competition. Check out the Editorial for further information.

We also have a Facebook Group that is well maintained and administered (also by Dave Clements). Many of you will have Facebook accounts (love it or hate it) and I encourage you to sign up for this group <http://gid.uk/BVRAF>

In addition to the material that is already there we will be increasingly using this to allow Residents to "Have Your Say". You will be encouraged to comment on what you want the Residents Association to get involved in and what we

should be doing to improve our community. You will also be able to raise questions and via the Residents Committee get answers. Sign up today. Any technical difficulties ask your kids! We will be publishing a selection of "Have Your Say" in the next and subsequent Newsletters. For those who can't face Facebook you can use email and we will respond.

Finally, in the Chat, I would like to add my thanks to all of the work that was done to make the Carols in the Park and the Quiz Night a huge success. Carols in the Park may seem a dark, cold and distant memory but I was especially pleased to see so many people with young children enjoying the community spirit. All of the feedback was incredibly positive. We have upcoming events that are detailed in the later Social Matters section. Have a look and sign up. We are also looking for new ideas for things that we should be doing socially and the Summer Family Picnic (at an early stage of planning) is an example of this. Our aim is one of being inclusive and getting the widest possible audience involved in the Residents Social activities. With this in mind let us have your ideas – simply email social@barkham.org.uk or use Facebook. We are always looking for additional volunteers for our Social Team. If you are interested, please use the social email address.

Let's continue to increase participation in our social events.

Many thanks and enjoy spring

Alan Dixon
BVRA Chairman.

Editorial

As you know from the last Newsletter Stewart Richardson stepped down as editor after the Winter Edition. In the absence of a replacement, as mentioned in the Chairman's Chat, the Chairman is now getting his hands dirty by doing some editing! I am however grateful for the ongoing guidance and advice from Stewart. Without this we might not have made the press.

The never ending threat of further housing development continues to be the main concern for our community and you will see that Councillor John Kaiser and Laurence Heath have both devoted their regular contributions to different aspects this subject. As residents we continue see the never ending increase in traffic, road works and general disruption to our daily life. As John states in his

article this is only the tip of the iceberg unless we can curb the overall development with particular emphasis on Barkham Square. I hope as many of you as possible provided your views to Wokingham Council's consultation process. By being active and vocal on this subject we have an opportunity to influence the outcome. On an associated note we need to continue to be vigilant with regard to the Coombes and the plots that have recently been sold. Please report any untoward activity on these sites. We need to report any such activity to Wokingham Borough Council.

Photo Competition – Spring in Barkham

As mentioned in the Chairman's Chat we are encouraging greater use of the Residents Association Website. As a part of this we are kicking off a light hearted

photo competition "Spring in Barkham". We are looking for your photos that capture the feel of spring in our local community. It can be nature, people, activities, something quirky. Basically, anything that you feel is relevant. It's not a technical competition so photos taken on mobile phones are more than acceptable. Simply send with an email to newsletter@barkham.org.uk state your name, the title of the photo and when/where it was taken. We will then put these onto the website so that everyone who accesses the website can see them. The Residents Association Committee will "judge" the 3 photos that best capture Barkham in the Spring. These will then appear in the summer edition of the Newsletter.

Make sure that you have a look at the upcoming social events and let's try and make sure that the attendance at these is the best ever.

The Quiz

The theme this time is simple – "Red". Each question or answer will contain the word "red".

1. Who wrote "My love is like a red, red rose....."?
2. How many times did Red Rum win the Grand National?
3. What was the name of the group of student paramilitaries mobilised by Mao Zedong during China's Cultural Revolution?
4. How many aircraft are in a normal Red Arrows formation?
5. Which Neil Diamond song was a number 1 for UB40 in 1983?
6. Who co-wrote, produced, directed and starred in the film "Reds" in 1981?
7. In which Indian city would you find the Red Fort?
8. Red Bull F1 team's two drivers for the 2018 season were Daniel Ricciardo and who else?
9. The animal *Sciurus Vulgaris* is better known as what?
10. and finally, what is this a definition of – "the belief or mentality that agents of communism are hiding among the greater populace, waiting for an opportunity to spread their agenda"?

Answers on page 15



Christian festivals that remembers the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

But what is that all about? Is it really something to celebrate? "Why is it Good Friday if that's when Jesus died?" as one ten-year-old boy asked me. And as for someone rising from the dead... are you serious?! And what's the point of that anyway?

At St James' Church, we believe that the message of Easter is great news for us today. It speaks about who we are as people; about the astonishing love of the God who made us; and about the opportunity to know him personally, both in this life, and beyond. We'd love to invite you to join us this Easter to find out more.

Julian Bidgood (Minister of Barkham)

St James' Church

Why Easter?

Look around the shops at this time of year and it seems clear that Easter is about one thing – chocolate of course! But whilst most of us love the eggs and other treats that come our way, we are hopefully aware that Easter is more than a marketing ploy by Cadburys: it is one of the major



Barkham Village Hall

Next to St James' Church, beautiful rural setting for weddings, christenings and parties.

From as little as £23/hr for both halls. £26.50/hr after 6.00 p.m. on Saturday.

Can accommodate 175 guests and now has a new fully equipped kitchen. Plus with the benefit of Lottery Funding a new ceiling and lighting have been installed which can be fully dimmable for evening celebrations.

If you are a group who needs somewhere to meet on a regular basis why not use your local village hall, we have plenty of tables and chairs and spacious car park and grounds for use during the summer. We offer very competitive rates for regular users.

Further information can be obtained from the parish council web site with photographs of the hall plus a calendar with availability. Please contact Judith Neuhofer on 979 0296 or email judith.neuhofer@btinternet.com

BVRA 2018/19 GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Chairman: Alan Dixon
chairman@barkham.org.uk
977 1831
- Secretary: Pam Edwards
secretary@barkham.org.uk
977 6623
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973 4806
treasurer@barkham.org.uk
- Social: (contact) Gill Powell
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- Membership: vacant
membership@barkham.org.uk
- Newsletter: vacant
newsletter@barkham.org.uk
- Web Site: Dave Clements
989 2198
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- Development Watch:
Stewart Richardson
979 1914
development@barkham.org.uk

Advertising and Newsletter Contributions

Newsletter articles / contributions for the Summer edition should be in by 17 May 2019. It helps if these can be submitted in electronic form by email to newsletter@barkham.org.uk.

For trade adverts, contact Ian Overton by email to treasurer@barkham.org.uk, or call 973 4806. We offer three landscape sizes, 64mm x 54mm at £22, 124mm x 105mm at £52 and 190x130mm at £100, for 4 quarterly insertions.

Distribution of the next issue will take place in early June.

New Barkham Newsletter Editor Second Appeal – Please Help

This is the second appeal for volunteers for this key position as mentioned in the Chairman's Chat. **It is now critical that someone steps forward to volunteer for this role.**

The Barkham Newsletter was started in in 1987 and has been produced regularly since. The previous Editor stepped down after many years' service at the end of 2018 following the production of the winter edition of the Newsletter. This is a further urgent appeal for a volunteer to step forward.

The Newsletter is published 4 times a year – Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. For each edition, the main tasks are as follows:

- Receive articles via email, edit as necessary (usually not too much required as the contributors are aware of the required format)
- Layout the articles with the "publisher" who drives the publishing software.
- Proof read and email to the printing company.

The previous editor has stated that he is prepared to help and guide initially.

The Editor will also become part of the BVRA Committee and help make collective decisions on behalf of the Residents Association.

Interested? Please contact the BVRA Chairman (see opposite) to discuss this.

Alan Dixon
newsletter@barkham.org.uk

The BVRA needs a new Membership Secretary!

Duties are to:

- Maintain a membership register
(handling of subscription money will be dealt with separately).
- Print rounds for distributors - 4 times per annum
- Cover for distributors on holiday.

Over the whole year, it takes less than 30 hours to the entire job.

Please contact our Chairman, Alan Dixon (details opposite), if you are interested in helping the BVRA by taking on this role or would like more details.



The Way to Deliver New Homes and Barkham Square

I believe the only way to deliver the 350,000 new homes required per annum across the UK by government is to build new towns rather than trying to squeeze more and more into existing settlements. To do this we need to look to the past and the post war era when the number of homes needed were delivered. This would allow a policy of infrastructure first rather than the current policy which means roads services and communities facilities follow on. This causes chaos to existing residents and those who have moved into the new homes during the various phases of build. As a result, all residents live on a building site with unfinished roads and a lack of local services such as shops and schools for years.

In the late 1940s, 50s and 60s New Towns and Garden Cities were outside of the then existing planning system. Instead, they were under the New Town Development Corporation which had substantial strategic powers for land purchase and development planning. New Town Development Corporations had powers to acquire, own, manage and dispose of land and

property, undertake building operation, provide public utilities such as roads and generally do anything necessary to develop the new town.

These corporations enjoyed exceptionally favourable arrangements for land purchase at existing (or close to existing) use values and were effectively able to acquire all land needed to build the new towns.

The very strong land acquisition, infrastructure provision, planning and especially house building powers of the Development Corporations were very effective in delivering the UK's new towns in the right places. If the government is committed to delivering the number of homes needed in UK it could be that these powers should be vested in local authorities, especially where there is a history of housing delivery underperformance or a lack of a five-year land supply.

The standard approach to development in the Netherlands and Germany has been for the municipality to buy undeveloped land, provide the necessary infrastructure and services, parcel it into lots and sell them at prices that recover the costs involved. The sites are then developed by private companies, housing associations and individual owner-occupiers including self-build. In Germany, 'land readjustment' in preparation for development is one of the main instruments in local planning.

To rely on the current model of land supply and the flawed housing delivery model is folly and will never deliver the number of homes the government aspire too, or the people need. At the same time in an effort to deliver

the numbers current policy requires will destroy existing towns and villages. Developers will take the easy route by squeezing in more and more homes into existing towns and villages, connecting them to already over loaded utilities and services without the necessary infrastructure.

This leads me onto the update of the Wokingham Borough's Local Plan and Barkham Square. Barkham Square was submitted by developers for upwards of 1,000 houses in the call for sites as part of the Local Plan Update process. It was subject to consideration as one of the three sites prioritised for early investigation in the council's plan, the other sites being Ruscombe and Grazley. This was back in July 2018. Since that time the council have changed their mind and have decided to put all 300 sites submitted up for consultation before moving forward with the preferred sites which will then come out of the full consultation.

It is quite possible that this mean Barkham will still get on to the preferred list once the consultation has been completed and evaluated. My view is Barkham Square does not work. The suggested highway infrastructure does not work, it is very much landlocked with no access to major transport communications and there is no way of delivering them due to the nature of its location. It is also outside the development red lines for the Arborfield Strategic Development Location (SDL). When the council presented its local plan for inspection in public back in 2010 the inspector made it clear he would not allow gaps between settlements. This was a term in the document which

the council requested to protect the country side and to allow each village settlement or town to retain its unique identity. The inspector's argument was that because we have red lines around our SDL's detailing the areas allocated for development it would be protection in itself. As you can see, by allowing SDL creep, which Barkham Square is, it removes that protection and would allow all the SDL's approved to grow and grow until we end up with one massive urban development running across the south of the borough from the M4 to the border of Hampshire.

Thirdly, we have seen a resident's petition presented to the council with over 4,000 signatures rejecting Barkham Square. This is the highest number the council has ever seen on a petition and so it is obvious to all that residents also believe it does not work and that there is no local support.

The council continues to plough through our current Local Plan, where over 12,000 permissions for new homes have been granted and less than 3,000 of those homes have been built across the borough. Of these there are less than 300 on the Arborfield site. Consequentially, the future disruption and congestion caused by development on such a massive scale should be clear to all. The saving grace is the first round of the council's Local Plan may have transformed parts of the borough, but, it has brought with it badly needed new roads, schools and services in addition to new homes. In the case of Arborfield a large percentage of the site was brown field land on the abandoned army facility.

If Barkham Square is allowed to go ahead not only will it mean another 5-10 years of residents (new and existing) living on a building site, it will mean more congestion and with it gridlock across the south of the borough.

I for one will continue to fight for Barkham Square to be removed from the Local Plan for all of the reasons above. Not least, I will support the residents of Barkham and help the council avoid the folly of following the path of SDL creep. I supported the original local plan as I could see the benefits of schools and roads and new communities with their own identities, but, enough is enough. If we wish to retain the identity of our Towns and Parish's and avoid infill across the borough the Local Plan Update must be strategy led. It should not be dictated to by random locations just because they are owned by or which developers have options on.

Which neatly brings me back to the start. New towns in suitable locations, supported by their own services and infrastructure are the only way to deliver the 350,000 homes across the UK that we are constantly told are needed.

Remember if you need to contact me with regards any issues you may have with your borough council, you can email me or call me

John Kaiser
Ward Member for Barkham and Mayor Wokingham Borough council
Tel: 0177192359
[Email j.kaiser@wokingham.gov.uk](mailto:j.kaiser@wokingham.gov.uk)

Finchampstead Flower Club

The Flower Club produces some amazing arrangements as illustrated. If you would like to learn new skills or develop your existing flower arranging skills why not join us.



Finchampstead Flower Club meet on the fourth Monday of each month. After a hot drink and a biscuit, a demonstrator starts at 8pm. We then produce a variety of arrangements on a given theme in less than two hours. It is always a joy to watch and listen and there is an opportunity to win an arrangement in the raffle.

If you would like to attend, feel free to come to California Hall at about 7.45 pm. The first meeting (and refreshments) are free.

Alternatively, you can call the chair, Lis Barrett on 989 2092, beforehand

The next meeting is on March 25th

Kriss Turner



had already met with the prime minister to discuss local concerns about overdevelopment.

He also accepted that the conclusion of the debate had been mishandled and it would not happen again. Sadly, a similar fiasco occurred a few weeks later when another similar petition was presented! As a consequence, the Council is looking at framing new procedures: while I have little optimism that the proposals will help the process, it is clear that the political consequences must be striking home. In all, WBC has now received four petitions with a combined total of 10,000 signatures and to emphasize the point, the Conservative candidate was trounced at the recent Evendons by-election.

In the meantime, we must all await the next steps in the Local Plan Update. The latest round of consultation has just been completed and we must wait to see what is proposed for the "Preferred Options" which are scheduled to be published in the autumn. This will lead to another consultation before the year is out. With the matter of Barkham Square still in play (see John Kaiser's article), this could be the most important that Barkham has ever seen.

Incidentally, BPC's own response to the last consultation is published on the Barkham Parish website.

Neighbourhood Plan – the next hurdles

The Steering Group has been in discussion with WBC regarding the Neighbourhood Plan. The purpose of the discussion is to ensure compliance with national and local planning policies.

Some detailed changes to the Neighbourhood Plan are being finalised. It is expected that final documents will be completed very soon.

It had been anticipated that the Plan would go to the WBC Executive in February for approval as a consultation document. However, WBC have reviewed this in the light of local elections in May, and the associated "purdah" period that starts on 26 March. There is a long lead-time on Executive meetings, and it would have been necessary to have the plan and all supporting documents ready well before Christmas to meet the deadline for the February meeting.

WBC have therefore proposed that the plan be considered by their Executive in June, with consultation in July/August (perhaps lengthened in view of summer holidays), and an Examiner appointed concurrently with the consultation. It would then be possible to present the Examiner with all the documents shortly after the consultation ends, probably in September. Subject then to a successful examination it is likely that the Neighbourhood Plan would go to referendum in early December.

It is frustrating that the timetable has become so prolonged, but this is outside the control of the Steering Group. Planning is a long winded process!

The Coombes

Activities in The Coombes are causing enormous concern to residents. The sale of a dozen or so small parcels of land near Coombes Lane has led to trees being felled, undergrowth

removed and the construction of a timber building intended as a dwelling.

I would like to record the excellent work done by the BVRA Development Watch, which has allowed many residents to pass on their observations to WBC. I also commend WBC for being quick to act and that they have already put in train court proceedings and served the necessary legal notices.

But sadly, as mentioned earlier, planning is a slow process and quick fixes are rare, especially in matters of enforcement where the legal procedures are extremely cumbersome. The final dénouement, I fear, is still a long way ahead.

Laurence Heath
Chair of Planning Committee
Barkham Parish Council



At our meeting in November we enjoyed a talk and slide show on "The Seasons". The photos were wonderful and we appreciated the dedication that it took from the photographer to take them. In December we held our Christmas party where we enjoyed food provided by members and lovely mulled wine. We played games and picked a Secret Santa gift. At the January meeting I entertained members with a card making workshop. I provided the kits and everyone made a decoupage card. We also met at the Bull at Arborfield for a meal in the evening in January.

stand down as Chairperson, after many years, and Shirley Warner became our new Chairperson. We held a silent auction to raise money for the club (see photo).

Also in February we visited Wokingham theatre where we saw "Goodnight Mister Tom". This performance was splendid with special mention for the puppeteer who manipulated the dog puppet.

On March 6th our speaker will talk about being a film extra.

On April 3rd our speaker will talk about Winston Churchill.

We meet at Barkham Village Hall on the first Wednesday evening of the month at 7.45pm. Visitors are welcome so if you are new to the area why not come along and meet us for an evening and then see if you would like to join.

Pam Edwards

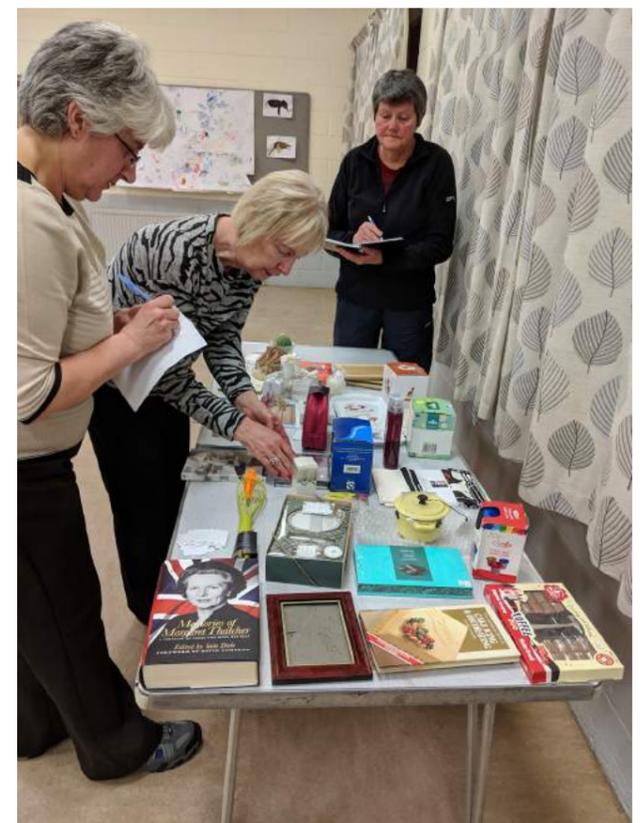
The February meeting was our AGM where we saw Pauline Vestey

Scouts 
1st Arborfield

1st Arborfield Scout group are looking for Scout leaders.

We meet every Monday during the school term at The Coombes School, Arborfield from 1915-2045. There are a team of parents in place but need someone to take an active lead to ensure we are ready for every session. It doesn't mean you will need stand at the front and/or be the go to person (although that's welcome as well) for the parents but more of a facilitator to ensure we have our planning meetings, have enough cover for the night's activities, etc.

If you are interested, please contact
gsl@arborfieldscouts.org.uk





Social Matters

As I write, it is mid-February and the weather is amazing! It's mild, sunny and unusually great for this time of the year - a few weeks ago we were in the grip of a wintry cold snap with snow causing havoc locally in Basingstoke, on the M3, and south of Reading with abandoned cars stranded overnight. What a difference a few weeks can make. The garden has suddenly jumped into life with daffodils and snowdrops in bloom, the days are getting longer and it does feel as if Spring is here!

We have a couple of events to look forward to soon - the Family Skittles and the Children's Easter Egg Hunt, but first I must report on the 2 events from the end of last year, the Quiz and Carols in the Park.

The Quiz was very well attended; a great number of keen competitors took part and welcomed the return of Steve and Anita who, although they had retired the previous year, came back from their home in the south to step in to do the Quiz again. So a huge 'thank you' to them. Not surprisingly the winning team was the same as last year - Simon and Louise, Ruth and Mike and Julie and Richard - they are just so good!. We will be looking for a team to challenge them strongly next year! The fish



and chip supper went down well and a great time was had by all. The Carols in the Park in the Junipers was again very well attended despite the chilly night. Children and adults alike sang their favourite carols to the Breakaway Brass Band, and finished off the evening with mulled wine and mince pies. A bucket collection was made for the band as they had so kindly given up their time. All in all, it was a great way to start the festive season. Go to the BVRA website and view the Breakaway Brass Band Video. It will take you back to winter but good to view if you haven't already. Thanks to all those who helped.

Now to future events. The Family Skittles Evening is on Saturday 23rd March, 7.00

for 7.30 in the Village Hall. A ploughman's supper will be provided and there will be the usual licensed bar. Tickets are still available from Gill Powell, preferably by email on social@barkham.org.uk or by telephone on 0118 978 3373. They are priced £10 and £5 for primary school aged children. Do come along - it's always great fun, and there are prizes.

The Children's Easter Egg Hunt takes place on Easter Sunday, April 21st at 3pm in the Junipers field. Entrance on the day is 50pence for children and while they are all busy hunting for tokens to exchange for small chocolate eggs the adults will be able to buy raffle tickets for the Giant Egg and other chocolate prizes. We hope for



fine weather as this is always a popular family event.

This year an extra event has been planned for the Summer- the date yet to be announced, but possibly a Saturday in late June. This is the Summer Family Picnic and Fun Day, when it is hoped we can spend a day/afternoon enjoying games and events and a 'bring your own picnic' in the Junipers field. More details in the next newsletter.

Other events for this year are also planned- the Barn Dance on 28th September, and the Quiz on 23rd November - all by popular request. So please put these dates in the diary and look out for details in the next newsletter.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the events, enjoying the fun and supporting your local Barkham Village Residents' Association

Shirley Warner
Social Committee Member

If you would like to receive email alerts with details of forthcoming social events, please register at <https://bit.ly/2T4kRXs>





and had to buy a sack to see us through to Spring. Also I have just run out of apples because many were attacked by codling moths, the maggots of which tunnel into the apples and ruin them. I am taking more counter measures this season to try and combat them. A winter wash was the first action, to kill off some of the bugs hibernating on the trees themselves.

I have finished pruning the fruit trees and checked that all the cordons are tied in securely.

In the greenhouse I cleared out everything, washed inside and out and finally I fumigated it to get rid of any hibernating bugs. Inside the propagator some tomato seeds have germinated so I have set up the automatic overhead lights to increase the day length so as to encourage the grow of sturdy plants.

I have set up the seed potatoes for this year in egg boxes by a window to 'chit' them – get sturdy (green) shoots rather than long thin (white) ones.

Alan's Patch

Last summer is now a distant memory but as I write we are in a relatively warm period after the snow but I dare say there are more cold snaps to come. At least the increasing day length cheers us up and we are seeing the first signs of Spring. I went on an organised walk last week in Boxford near Newbury to see the fantastic display of snowdrops there.



Nearer home, we've still eating butternut squash, shallots, carrots, parsnips, spinach, leeks and a few beetroots. As reported last time the dry summer meant I had a poor main crop of potatoes

With the winters milder these days the perennial herbs have survived outside. Some we use all year round - rosemary, sage, thyme and oregano.

In the autumn I collected the leaves and added them to the leaf cage on top of last year's which had not rotted owing to the hot dry summer. They just about fitted, well, after jumping up and down on top of the cage! They have now compressed to two-thirds of the original height so are hopefully rotting away slowly.

My other photograph was taken in the village but do you know where? Go to Page 15 to find out.



News from Your Parish Council

Parish Clean Up

This year's Parish Clean Up will take place on Sunday 24th March, between 9.30 a.m. and 12.00. We meet at Barkham Village Hall, all you need to bring is some gloves as we will provide you with sacks, litter pickers and jackets. If you have young children, we will allocate you a safe area such as a park. All the weary volunteers will be rewarded with bacon rolls, homemade cakes, tea, coffee or squash. Please support this Clean Up and give one hour of your time, as it keeps Barkham a lovely litter free place to live and makes a huge difference.

Vacancy for Councillors

We have two vacancies for a parish councillor to join the Team as we meet the challenges of a rapidly changing local Environment.

Barkham covers an area from its boundaries in Barkham Road, Barkham Ride, and Bearwood Road to its Southern boundaries in Arborfield Green (the majority of which is in Barkham), Park Lane, and towards the end of Langley Common Road and School Road.

From established communities in Elizabeth Park, rural and semi-rural areas and the new

community developing at Arborfield Green, the Parish faces many opportunities and challenges. The Council has been heavily involved in commenting and consulting on new development as well as challenging new proposals like the potential 500-1000 houses at Barkham Square.

Parish Councils are beginning to benefit from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which will provide funds to help enhance facilities for residents. There is also a Neighbourhood Plan in prospect.

This means we need as broad a spread of councillors as possible as we work with residents on the future of the area.

Existing councillors live across the Parish.

To find out more, contact our Parish Clerk and arrange to come along to one of the monthly meetings.

History Books

The "Barkham A History" book can be obtained from the Clerk at £8.50 each or from Henry Street Garden Centre.

FARLEY HILL BOWLS CLUB NEWS

Following our most enjoyable Christmas Quiz in December, in January our Annual Club Dinner was held at the Black Boy in Shinfield. This also went very well in spite of having bad weather on the night - again! Apart from being well fed, the highlight of the evening was the conferring of Life Membership upon Sid Peters, our retiring Hon. President after 10 years.

By the time you get to read this we will have tried our own form of the Generation Game for the first time and have held our regular annual Race Night on 9th March. Several local people have joined our club as Social Members just to join in on our enjoyable winter Social evenings, although it's now much too late to do so now! However, our bowling season starts at the end of April. If you fancy just having a go at lawn bowls, or maybe taking the game up seriously, please come along to our Open Days on 4th & 5th May this year. All you will need is flat soled shoes (trainers will do). We will be there to show you how it is done between 2.00 & 6.00 pm, when we will also be having a plant sale to raise club funds. You will find our club at the Victory Hall, Church Road, Farley Hill RG7 1TR.

More information is on our website: www.farleyhillbowlsclub.org.uk or by contacting Bill Dowling, Club Secretary, on 01344 772130 or E-mail: secretary@farleyhillbowlsclub.org.uk



Wokingham Choral Society presents



Dvorak's Stabat Mater

7.30pm Saturday 23rd March, 2019

At The Great Hall, University of Reading, London Road
Campus, Reading RG1 5AQ

Tickets: £15, £5 for students & under 18s. Visit our website for details.

www.wokingham-choral-society.org.uk



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CLARINET RECITAL AT STELIGIUSCOMMUNITY CHURCH, ARBORFIELD GREEN

The audience of about 100 people enjoyed an excellent Clarinet Recital at the Winter Lunch-time Concert at St Eligius Community Church, Arborfield Green on Thursday, 7 February. The clarinetist, Nathan Ross, a graduate of the Royal College of Music, has performed at numerous venues throughout the UK including Buckingham Palace. He was accompanied on the piano by his father, Ross Winters, who was Professor of Recorder at the RCM and Head of Recorder at Birmingham Conservatoire.

The excellent programme commenced with four of Gerald Finzi's Five Bagatelles: the mellow but decisive Prelude; the atmospheric Romance; the wistful Carol; and the graceful Forlana - most musically performed. The 3rd Movement: Rondo Allegretto of Francois Devienne's Premiere Sonata was exhilarating, with rapid fingerwork, gentle and expressive middle passages and a fantastic ending!

The audience was privileged to hear award-winning composer Elizabeth Winters' composition 'Prelude 6.52 am'! The piece is linked to the birth of her son, Edward, at 6.52 am! It is constructed on one constantly developing idea, with drama, intensity and moments of repose, finally coming to rest. It was wonderful to hear the piece played so sensitively by Father, accompanied by Grandfather

10. Reds under the bed
9. Red Squirrel
8. Max Verstappen
7. Delhi
6. Warren Beatty
5. Red Red Wine
4. 9
3. The Red Guards
2. (1973:74,77)
1. Robert Burns
The Quiz - answers

Alan's Patch answer: in the woods on the north side of one of the footpaths in the Coombes, quite near the sign in the previous edition, grid ref SU787675.

and listened to by Mother, Grandmother and Edward!

Finally, André Messager's Solo de Concours (Competition Solo) showed the performers' amazing skills in the brilliant, rapid fingerwork, gentle and lyrical middle section and fantastic runs at the end. The 'Family Recital' with very high professional standards received tumultuous applause!

Our next concert featuring Linda North, Piano is on Thursday 2nd May at 12:30.

Barkham Diary

23/03/19	BVRA Skittles	BVH	7.00pm
25/03/19	Finchampstead Flower Club	CRH	7.30pm
26/03/19	Parish Council Planning Review	BVH	7.30pm
03/04/19	Barkham Ladies Social Club	BVH	7.45pm
09/04/19	Barkham Parish Council	BVH	8.00pm
09/04/19	Dinton Pastures Walkers Group	BVH	7.30pm
10/04/19	Bonsai Club	BVH	7.30pm
21/04/19	BVRA Easter Egg Hunt	Junipers	3pm
22/04/19	Finchampstead Flower Club	CRH	7.30pm
23/04/19	Parish Council Planning Review	BVH	7.30pm
01/05/19	Barkham Ladies Social Club	BVH	7.45pm
08/05/19	Bonsai Club	BVH	7.30pm
14/05/19	Barkham Parish Council	BVH	8.00pm
14/05/19	Dinton Pastures Walkers Group	BVH	7.30pm
17/05/19	Copy deadline for Summer Newsletter		
27/05/19	Finchampstead Flower Club	CRH	7.30pm
28/05/19	Parish Council Planning Review	BVH	7.30pm
05/06/19	Barkham Ladies Social Club	BVH	7.45pm
11/06/19	Barkham Parish Council	BVH	8.00pm
12/06/19	Bonsai Club	BVH	7.30pm
12/06/19	Dinton Pastures Walkers Group	BVH	7.30pm
Weekly Events			
Mondays	Pilates Class	BVH	11.30am
Mondays	Dog Training	BVH	6.30pm
Tues-Fri	Barkham Pre-School	BVH	9.00am
Thursdays	Pilates Class	BVH	6.15pm

AVH is Arborfield Village Hall BVH is Barkham Village Hall
CRH is California Ratepayers Hall

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*** Venues ***

Laddon Valley Leisure Centre, R66 4GD	: Mondays	7:30-8:30pm
Arborfield Green Leisure Centre, R62 9NN	: Wednesdays	7:30-8:30pm
Woodford Park Leisure Centre, R65 4LY	: Fridays	6:30-8:00pm
Arborfield Green Leisure Centre, R62 9NN	: Saturdays	11:30-12:30noon

ELGAR ENIGMA VARIATIONS
VAUGHAN WILLIAMS THE WASPS OVERTURE & GREENSLEEVES
MALCOLM ARNOLD ENGLISH DANCES
HAMISH MACCUNN LAND OF THE MOUNTAIN AND THE FLOOD
BUTTERWORTH BANKS OF GREEN WILLOW

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS THE LARK ASCENDING SOLOIST JOSHUA DALTON

CROWTHORNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
CONDUCTOR ROBERT ROSCOE LEADER MIKE JESSOP

Concert

SATURDAY MARCH 30TH 7.30pm
THE OLD GYM WELLINGTON COLLEGE, CROWTHORNE

TICKETS £13 in advance, £15 on the door (includes interval drink)
Aged 16 and under free
Advance tickets from our website and Decor Interiors, Crowthorne High Street or the Information Centre, Wokingham Town Hall
www.crowthorneorchestra.com

the BIG tidy up

Barkham Parish Council Clean Up Day 2019

Meeting at Barkham Village Hall on Sunday 24 March 2019 at 9.30am to 12noon.

Please come along and lend a hand but remember to wear gloves, strong footwear and suitable clothing.

Refreshments, safety vests and litter pickers will be provided.

Just turn up on the day or for further details please contact Ellen Tims 0118 976 2089, email clerk@barkham-parishcouncil.org.uk or visit: www.wokingham.gov.uk/litterpick

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