

Arborfield News

Autumn 2023



Issue Number 149

Chair's Update

Welcome to the Autumn edition of the Arborfield News. Despite the break in Parish Council meetings in August we have not been idle, this is a short roundup of what your council has been doing in the last three months – if you are interested in joining us to help make Arborfield an even better place to live then please get in touch with me at chair@arborfield.org.uk.

Improvements to Parish owned assets

Following completion of phase one of the **Arborfield Pavilion** refurbishment we have received planning approval for phase two and, after a public tender, have selected the contractor to complete the build. Despite the inclusion of planning conditions (mainly parking and landscaping) we are pleased that we can finally progress the project to deliver a new parish office and changing rooms for sports teams. Completion of this project will bring the parish office back to the heart of the Parish and deliver an expanded, improved pavilion with a significantly lower carbon footprint and a visual enhancement to our beautiful park.

Pound Copse is a much-loved part of Arborfield and a designated Local Wildlife Site. We have recently completed urgent tree work identified by our arboriculturist to remove dead parts of a tree on the boundary. We always endeavour to work with the environment when we have to carry out tree works and in this case we have left the trunk standing as there is evidence that it is being used as a nesting/roosting site. We are also getting costs for replacement of the entry fencing and a rotten bench along the path.

The **Old Churchyard**, while not a Parish Council asset, is the council's responsibility. In agreement with the church we have recently completed the first part of a programme of work moving and securing fallen railings from a tomb, fencing off the tombs which are dangerous and blocking up the entrance to the building. At our meeting in September we approved spend to remove the dangerous sections of the boundary wall where it has been undermined by the mature trees. The wall will be replaced by a fence to keep the site boundary secure. As most of you are aware, the Old Churchyard is in the area that may be included in Wokingham's local plan for a development of 4,500 houses. I would encourage all of you to walk

to the Old Churchyard and experience the tranquility of this area close to the beautiful River Loddon so that you too will be inspired to help the council, and local groups such as SOLVE (Save our Loddon Valley Environment) defend this unique environment against yet another unsustainable housing estate.

The **Coombes woodland** purchase, jointly with Barkham Parish Council, is proceeding through conveyancing and I would expect by the end of the calendar year we will be the owners of 60 acres of this critical habitat that lies between Arborfield and Barkham. Both parishes have allocated CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) money received from developers to this project. We are putting in place a working committee comprising councillors from both parishes who will have delegated powers to manage the woodland for the enjoyment, and education, of everyone in the parishes in perpetuity. We have just completed an arboricultural assessment of the trees close to the paths and I'm pleased that there is only one tree requiring immediate attention which will allow us to phase the other tree works required over a longer period in line with budget availability.

Litter

In late September, I, Councillor Stevens and our Parish Clerk attended the first ever joint Arborfield and Barkham litter pick centred on Arborfield Green and the southern part of the parish. Thanks to the Parish Clerks for organising and publicising the event across the parishes and to the 15 local residents who came out to pick litter.

After almost a year of chasing WBC to clean the litter on Observer Way we have been assured that it will be completed by the end of October. We have, however, been here before with several assurances, which were then missed. So, we will see what happens this time.

You should have seen on local Facebook groups and our website, that WBC are consulting on a significant reduction in litter picking, public litter bins and grass cutting – in fact a reduction in all the services that make the Borough an acceptable place to live. If you haven't already responded to the consultation, which has now closed for the public, please send your comments to parishclerk@arborfield.org.uk and we will consolidate into

the Parish Council response.

Planning

Keeping up with all the planning applications in Arborfield sometimes feels like a full-time job so it is especially satisfying when we see a completely inappropriate application, to which we objected, being withdrawn because the applicant has finally realised that it won't work. This was the case with the absurd plan to put a petrol station and shop on the southern end of Observer Way. I am aware that some people on social media have expressed their frustration at the withdrawal so let me set out the reasons why this was a crazy site for a petrol station: firstly, and most importantly it would set a dangerous precedent for lots of other development all along Observer Way; secondly the proposed entry and exit would have led to completely unacceptable traffic chaos on the Eversley Road between the Langley Common Road roundabout and the Observer Way at the same place that cyclists, pedestrians and horse riders are crossing the road to access the path along Observer Way; finally, an additional store would have taken customers from the Village Shop and the Co-op potentially rendering them unviable which would have been to the detriment of the residents of the parish.

On page 9, Councillor Fox who heads up our planning responses, has set out the planning reasons for objecting to these applications – it always strengthens the case if WBC see the strength of local feeling about applications so I would encourage you all to submit responses and to use the planning reasons we have set out in this Arborfield News.

Another completely inappropriate application has been submitted, this time for an industrial estate on the land between Pound Copse and Observer Way. Similar to the petrol station, this proposal also contravenes the same Neighbourhood Plan policies and the Core Strategy – you can see the council's objection on our website, or search using planning application number 223083.

https://publicaccess.wokingham.gov.uk/PublicAccess_Live/Document/ViewDocument?id=2429605187444C198EA316B5BC5E9753

This application would be particularly damaging as it is right next to Pound Copse which is an area of ancient woodland, known bat roost and local wildlife area.

along the Reading Road. The Council agreed to write to WBC to support this petition as we recognise the volume of traffic along a narrow lane has become unacceptable. We urge Wokingham to identify the funds to complete this work as soon as possible.

Thanks for reading, and if you would like to join the Council to support all these important and interesting projects then mail me on chair@arborfield.org.uk and we can have a chat about what being a councillor means.

Andrew Clint
Chair of Arborfield and Newland Parish Council.



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News from the Village Hall

We had a good response to the Village Show, which was heartening given that we had to cancel last year due to the sad passing of Queen Elizabeth II, and for several years before that due to the Covid pandemic. We raised £48.50 from visitors and entries, £28 from refreshments, with a total of 52 visitors. My special thanks to Val' and Trev' Milam, June and Barrie Mann, Margaret and David Edwards, Lorna Parker, Richard Percy, Janet Hooper and all those who helped on the day to make it happen. I am pleased to announce the class winners below, full results with more photos on our website here:

<https://arborfieldvillagehall.org.uk/villageshow>

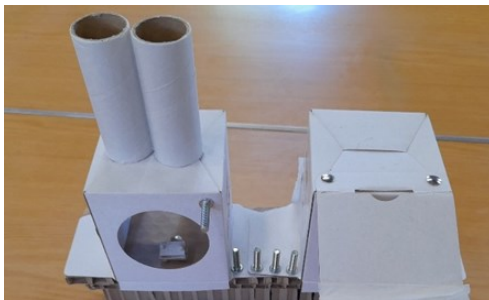
Photography: John Cornish. **Art:** Sarah Fitchet. **Needlecraft:** Judy Stevens. **Woodcraft:** Tony Dance. **Garden produce:** Max Edwards. **Potted Plant:** Sheila Bunce. **Cookery:** Wendy Edminson. **Under 5 Making:** Bertie Uprichard. **Ages 5 to 11 Making:** Julia Soos-Eary. **Ages 5 – 11 Art:** Amelia Hedley. **Ages 11 - 16 Art:** Eli Kuscü. **Ages 5-11 Writing:** Grace Cordery.



Top Left: Pigs by Sarah Fitchet

Top Right: Vases of Flowers

Left: Landscape by Eli Kuscü



Left: Produce by Max Edwards

Above: Power Station by Julia Soos-Eary

Cost of living help

£100 support grant for essentials - You can get a £100 grant from our partners Age UK Berkshire or Citizens Advice to help. Apply by visiting wokingham.gov.uk/hsf or by calling **Citizens Advice Wokingham, 0808 278 7958**. **Keep warmer and spend less on bills**—The Winter Warmers scheme involves charities like First Days Children’s Charity supplying energy efficient items such as slow cookers and air fryers to people who need them. For more information visit wokingham.gov.uk/winter-warmers Items given out last year helped residents save an estimated £150,000 last winter.

Schools Meal Grant—If you have a child who receives means-tested free school meals there is specific support for your family. This is through the First Days Children’s Charity. Apply now through their website at: www.firstdays.net/hsf

For more advice and information on all support available, visit:

- **The Cost of Living Help Hub at:**
wokingham.gov.uk/cost-of-living
- **Citizens Advice One Front Door:**
citizensadvicewokingham.org.uk/onefrontdoor
Tel: 0808 278 7958, Monday to Friday.

Borough Councillor's Report

After last May's local elections the Lib Dems, supported by Labour, now run the Council. Next May with new boundary changes there will be an all-out election of 54 wards. Arborfield, Barkham and part of Finchampstead will form the new Borough Ward. The Parish Councils will remain the same.

The Lib Dem's Leader, before the election, campaigned against Hall Farm's 4,500 planned houses but once elected he did nothing to reduce these numbers although 2,200 of these houses are not required by the Government within the planning period. As it was the Conservatives who introduced Hall Farm and the 4,500 houses into the new housing local plan and they still support them it would suggest that neither the Lib Dems or the Conservatives care about Arborfield.

The traffic calming scheme continues to be a very sensitive subject which I am still trying to address with very limited progress to date. I also support traffic calming requests on Biggs Lane but once again no progress to date. The Borough Council is looking at changes to California Crossroads which are linked to the additional traffic generation locally. Thanks to pressure from the Parish Council a clean-up of Observer way is planned for the Autumn.

Grass cutting (lack of) and fly tipping continue to be issues that need addressing. Sadly the Borough Council sees reducing the following services as part of their cost cutting exercises: Litter bins, weed spraying, bottle banks storage area cleaning, town centre cleaning, non-town centre cleaning, road sweeping, footpath cleaning, A329M and A33 cleaning and grass cutting. Having put up car parking charges they are also consulting on reducing the existing leisure facilities at St Crispin's Leisure Centre. I have objected very strongly to all of these suggestions/consultations.

I am not looking forward to the state of the Borough, especially Arborfield and its surrounds when the Borough Council cuts back on these services. I notice they do not look at in-house staff economies. They just pick the easy hits like services residents take for granted.

The impact on trees with Tree Preservation Orders in Kelvin Close is ongoing and although the land is not the responsibility of the Borough Council I believe they have a responsibility for the trees' health.

Ending with good news, my thanks to Susan Tyldesley along with all the helpers who got the SHARE scheme up and running in Arborfield. SHARE is operating in Arborfield on Thursdays (PM) at The Royal British Legion. SHARE offers fresh fruit veg and bakery items free of charge to anyone who could do with a bit of extra help food wise.

Just turn up with a bag and a one pound donation, which goes to the registered charity SHARE Wokingham, to help with running costs. No questions asked.

Any issues or questions please get in touch using garycown75@gmail.com as its the best email to use as I monitor it daily. Alternatively use gary.cowan@wokingham.gov.uk Regards Gary Cowan

PLANNING ARTICLE

The Parish Council has to be consulted on planning applications but the decision is taken by Wokingham Borough Council as the planning authority.

Our role at the parish is to ensure that we highlight the planning reasons why an application should be supported or rejected. Until the adoption of the new Local Plan Update (delayed by WBC) the planning policies set out in the Arborfield and Barkham Local Plan and the Core Strategy are the policies by which Wokingham has to judge applications. This does not include whether we, or local residents like or want a particular development hence when we submit our responses to applications we focus on whether the application follows or contravenes these key policies.

We will always uphold the Arborfield and Barkham Neighbourhood Plan <https://arborfield.org.uk/document-category/neighbourhood-plan/> which was adopted following a local referendum and therefore represents the will of the residents of the two parishes.

If you wish to object to inappropriate applications that contravene this adopted plan, you can use the key policies that we have set out in a document on our website at:

<https://arborfield.org.uk/documents/how-to-respond-to-planning-applications/>

Hope Explored

'What is our only hope in life and in death?'

How would you answer that question? Just think about it for a moment. It is a searching question and one to which we may feel it is just not possible to have an answer.

Life can be so full of uncertainty. The last few years have taught us that more than we would have wanted, what with the pandemic being followed by political turmoil at home, events in Ukraine and the ongoing cost of living crisis. We perhaps used to look to authority figures to inspire hope, but our confidence in leaders seems to be at an all-time low. And as for death... surely that is where hope ultimately ends. We don't like to think about it.

Except... we can never fully suppress the human need for hope and that longing to know that life has purpose? Don't we all at times long to feel peace in our hearts, and to know that death is not the end? A verse in a book of the Bible called Ecclesiastes tells us that God *'has set eternity in the human heart.'* What that suggests is that the

longing we have in our hearts is not to be ignored, but a clue, pointing to a hope that really can be found.

When on earth, Jesus explained that he came to give us hope... steadfast and certain hope which cannot be found anywhere else.

Have you ever looked into his claims?

Would you like to?

At our churches we welcome anyone who wants to find out more, as well as those who already have faith. You would always be welcome to join us any Sunday at 10am or 4pm.

We are also going to be running a short 3-week course called, 'Hope Explored' which offers the opportunity to focus on these things more closely.

More details on our website

www.abch.org.uk.

*"God has set
eternity in the
human heart"*

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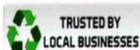


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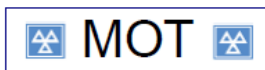


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Open mornings



Do you or someone you know have a child due to start reception in September 2024?

Are you or someone you know looking for a nursery place for a 3 or 4 year old?

Please join us at one of our open mornings, we would love to welcome you. Bookings can be made via our website www.thecoombes.com or by scanning the QR code below:

The Coombes C of E Primary
School 2023/24 Open Mornings



THE COOMBES

Primary School

A Love of Learning Grows Here...

Forest School at The Coombes



Great excitement in Chestnut Class as our first group of children made their way "into the woods," for their new Forest School session. After a quick safety briefing it was all fun and games, with lots of learning about our fabulous outdoor environment too.

Ethan, "We played 123 Where Are You? I was good at hiding!"

Georgia, "We made up stories about things that we found on the ground. I found an acorn cup. I said that fairies used it to drink their tea."

Lauren, "We found oak apples and learnt that they are made by parasitic wasp larvae that take over the acorn. Mr Stoves had to look it up, but he was pretty sure it was a Knopper Gall."

Molly, "I found a stick that looked like a piece of Christmas tree. We talked about the differences between conifers and deciduous trees."

Johnny, "I found some rotten wood, it looked like a skull!"

Olivia, "It was great having time to play with our friends in the woods. I can't wait for our next session"



A Love of Learning Grows Here...

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Accounts@arborfield.org.uk

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SCHOOL • CHURCH • COMMUNITY

OPEN DAY EVENTS

for parents with children starting school in September 2024

"Serving one another humbly in love" Galatians 5:13b

**Application deadline for Year R September 2024 is midnight on
15th January 2024**

This is a difficult and confusing time...you want to make the right choice and find the right fit for your child as they start their school journey.

Charles Kingsley's C of E primary school is a one form entry village school set in the heart of the village of Eversley. Our school ethos is to nurture the strengths and talents of all who join our school family. The school is characterised by the strong partnership between pupils, staff, parents and Governors. Through our values, we believe we prepare your child to meet the challenges the future holds and provide them with the best possible start.

If you would like to come and learn more about our "Outstanding" Church school, (Ofsted 2011, SIAMS 2016), our Open Evening Events will be held on:

Friday 3 November 2023 ~ 9.15am – 10.45am: Talk and Tour

Wednesday 22 November 2023 ~ 7.00pm – 8pm: Tour **only**

Thursday 23 November 2023 ~ 9.15am – 10.15am: Talk **only**

Friday 24 November 2023 ~ 9.15am – 10.15am: Talk **only**

Thursday 30 November 2023 ~ 9.15am – 10.45am: Talk and Tour

Monday 4 December 2023 ~ 1.30pm – 3.00pm: Talk and Tour

Tuesday 9 January 2024 ~ 9.15am – 10.45am: Talk and Tour

In order to provide a more personalised visit, each must be pre-booked.

**Please contact the school office on 0118-9732187
adminoffice@charleskingsleys.hants.sch.uk to book your place**

A Gem from the History Archives

OUR SCHOOLS – Part 1 THE NATIONAL SCHOOL

This year is the 150th anniversary of our local school, built for the children of Arborfield, Newland and Barkham, which the school will celebrate in November.

Before 1873 there was a National School in Farley Hill Road, now Greensward Lane, opened in 1840 by the National Society for Promoting Religious Education.

The Society was founded on October 16th, 1811. At the founding meeting a statement about educational purpose was recorded: *“That the National Religion should be made the foundation of National Education, and should be the first and chief thing taught to the poor, according to the excellent Liturgy and Catechism by our Church”*.

The mission of the Society was to found a Church school in every parish in England and Wales.

NATIONAL SCHOOL

The school was built by voluntary subscription of the gentry and farmers under the fostering care of the Rev. J.W. Hayes – who obtained assistance from the Diocesan Board, Parliamentary Grant, and the National Society

Donations were received from the following:-

Rev. J.W. Hayes, Rector	25.0.0	The Miss Harmer	2.2.0
Sir Henry Russell	25.0.0	Mr. Terry	2.0.0
Mr. Walter	20.0.0	Mr. Fuller	2.0.0
Mr. J. Walter	10.0.0	Rev. W. Halme	1.0.0
Mr. Dawson	10.0.0	Rev. T. Robertson	1.0.0
Messrs. J. & C. Simonds	20.0.0	Mr. Wansey	1.0.0
Rev. A. Cameron	5.0.0	Mr. Hewitt	1.0.0
Mr. Conroy	5.0.0	Mr. Pither	1.0.0
Lady Hayes	5.0.0	Mr. Englefield	1.0.0

Right: What was the National School on Greensward Lane, now a residence.



Donations totalled	142.2.0
Parliamentary Grant	65.0.0
Diocesan Board	20.0.0
National Society	10.0.0
TOTAL	<u>237.2.0</u>

Sir John Conroy, Bibles,
Testaments & books 15.3.0

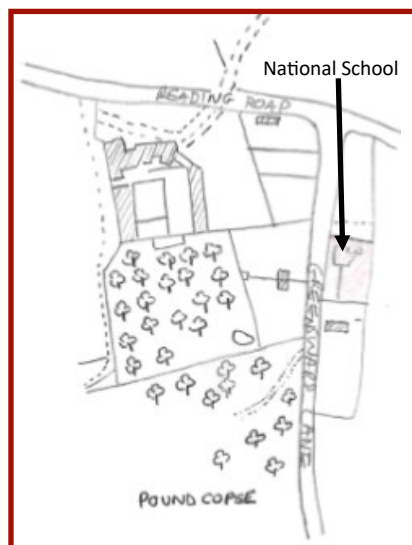
<u>Expenses, Building</u>	1840
School room	129.16.6
Cottage	68.18.0
Drains, fences	21.14.0
Extra books	14.18.5½
	235.6.11½

Fitting up Schoolroom 10.0.0

Expenses Not listed

Annual Subs to support the School

Rev. J.W. Hayes	10.0.0
Mr. Dawson	5.0.0
Mr. Walter	5.0.0



Above: Diagram to show location of the National School on Greensward Lane.

The Master, Mr. Henry Purrell, received 20s. per week (s = shillings) supported by voluntary contributions of the gentry in the neighbourhood.

The school was situated in Farley Hill Road, now known as Greensward Lane, and ceased to be a school in 1873 when the Church of England school was built.

The old school appears to be one of few buildings not pulled down or allowed to decay in the parish and still stands to this day.

Source: The Conroy Papers, Balliol College Library, Oxford



Remembrance Sunday



**Come along and show your
respects at
Arborfield and Barkham's
Remembrance Sunday Parade**



On



**12th November at
10.30am**

**At the going down of the sun and in the
morning, we will remember them.**



**Starting at the Royal British Legion, Eversley Road at
10.30am, parading to the war memorial for a service before
returning to the Legion for refreshments.**

What's on at the British Legion



Halloween
Fancy Dress Party
SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER 2023 | 7- 11PM
**ARBORFIELD ROYAL
BRITISH LEGION**
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT | TEX & THE TROUBADOURS
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ARBORFIELD RBL, EVERSLEY ROAD, ARBORFIELD, READING, RG2 9PR



**RBL'S CHRISTMAS
SANTA'S GROTTO**

SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER AT 3:00PM

TICKETS £7.50 per child.
TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE AT THE BAR.
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION, EVERSLEY RD, ARBORFIELD, READING, RG2 9PR



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS
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DANCE PARTY**

SAT 23 DECEMBER 2023

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OVER 18s | ENTRY £10 | 8PM - 11PM
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT BAR OR ON THE DOOR

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION, EVERSLEY RD, ARBORFIELD,
READING, RG2 9PR



Leave a Light on as the nights draw in

As the clocks go back, please leave a light on... and burglars in the dark!

You can make your home look occupied without it costing more

- Close curtains and blinds
- Hide valuables
- Ask a neighbour to park on your drive if you are away
- Make sure your post doesn't pile up
- Empty your bins regularly

You can also

- Try to make your home look occupied by using timer switches on lights and radios.
- Consider purchasing and installing a video doorbell, house alarm or CCTV system.
- Illuminate your front door with dusk to dawn lighting that comes on automatically.
- Always double lock doors and windows when you go to bed.
- Close and double lock all doors and windows when going out, even if you're only away from home for a short period of time. Those 10 or 15 minutes on the school run are all a burglar needs to break into your home.
- Don't advertise you are away from home on social media.
- Keep all valuables and keys out of sight and away from doors, windows and letterboxes and register your valuables with www.immobilise.com
- When not in use, store electronic car key fobs in a security pouch to prevent them being scanned by thieves to open and steal your car.

When working from home, ensure laptops and electronic equipment are not on view. Don't give thieves the tools to burgle your house, ensure sheds and garages are locked and secure.

Visit **www.thamesvalley.police.uk** for further crime prevention advice.

Register for Thames Valley Alert at: **www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk** to receive free crime and information updates.

Consider joining a local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. For more information, visit **www.ourwatch.org.uk**

Please contact us if you have any information relating to crime in your neighbourhood. Report online at www.thamesvalley.police.uk or call us on 101. Always dial 999 in an emergency.

Alternatively, you can call Crimestoppers anonymously on free phone 0800 555 111. Follow us on social media for regular crime updates and find out what your local policing teams are up to:

Facebook: TVP Bracknell & Wokingham

Twitter: @TVP_Wokingham

SHARE in Arborfield

Bring a £1 donation and a shopping bag. SHARE offers fresh produce, like bread and vegetables, for those who need it. These are surplus stock from local supermarkets. More than 2,000 people use it each week across the borough.



Running on some **Thursdays, 4pm to 6pm**, at the **Royal British Legion on Eversley Road, RG2 9PR** from **3.30pm to 4.30pm** on: **2nd, 16th, 30th of November**

You can check opening times and exact locations on our website.

Visit **wokingham.gov.uk/food-help**

Parish Council Grants

Every year the Parish Council budgets a small amount of money which local organisations that benefit the residents of the Parish may apply for as a grant . If you would like to apply, please visit:

arborfield.org.uk/grant-policy-and-application-form/

Here we see how some of this year's grants have helped the following:



"We have used your grant funding to supporting local clients, by providing them with free, independent, impartial and confidential advice and support".



"Keep Mobile Community Transport CIO is most grateful to Arborfield and Newland Parish Council for their recent grant.

We are reliant on the parishes in Wokingham and Bracknell Forest boroughs to help us pay for the increased costs of fuel and maintenance of our fleet of minibuses. The funds received have been used to help us maintain our service to provide people in the parish with the transport they need, at a cost they can afford, so that they can lead an active life and are kept from becoming isolated because of their disabilities".



WJSC
Wokingham Job Support Centre
Helping you find a job

Wokingham Job Support Centre

"This year with the grant money from Arborfield and Newland Parish Council, we managed to invest in a new website, improved IT and instigate a market awareness programme".



Berkshire Vision
Supporting The
Visually Impaired

"We would like to thank Arborfield and Newland Parish Council very much for their recent grant. Berkshire Vision is a local charity that currently supports over 1,000 blind and partially sighted adults and children across the

county. It has many services which help combat isolation and boost self-esteem. If you, or a family member, would like more information please visit our website www.berkshirevision.org.uk or ring our office on 0118 987 2803"

Please send any comments or suggestions on articles you would like to see in your Arborfield news to **parishclerk@arborfield.org.uk**

Distributed free to all residents in the Arborfield and Newland parish, by residents. Content provided by local groups, the parish office, your local councillors and the community.

Printed by Oak Tree Communications.

If you would like to advertise your business here, email:

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Or email:

Arborfield.Secretary@rbl.community

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SPEED WATCH September 2023

We have been active again during the summer with sessions every week and sometimes two.

The results of our activity might be having an effect on the speed through the village, as we have on more than one occasion recorded no speeding traffic.

We will continue to be active this Autumn, which includes two new sites, thanks to the support from the Parish Council, who have funded us with additional equipment.

We occasionally get some verbal abuse from passing motorists, but also praise from villagers, including one very kind gentleman who stopped by with a pack of bottle water on what was one of the hottest days of the year, thank you.

Thanks also to our speed watch team, for their ongoing help and support.

Richard Percy

Arborfield Speed Watch Co-ordinator.

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Arborfield Village Christmas Songs



Come along to Christmas songs round the tree at



Arborfield Cross

6pm on Tuesday 5th December

All welcome, just turn up.



With Mince Pies and Mulled Wine.



ARBORFIELD NEWS

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE Andrew Clint, Jim Murphy, Vanessa Starkey,
Parish Clerk & Linda Fothergill. Tel: 0118 976 1489
Email: parishclerk@arborfield.org.uk

DISCLAIMER This is a Parish Council publication for the Community. Any views or opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the writers and are not necessarily shared by the Parish Council.



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Useful Contacts

Ambulance/Fire/Police	Emergency	999
Arborfield & Newland Parish Council		0118 976 1489
Chairman: Andrew Clint; Planning: David McIntosh; Finance: Jim Murphy; Parks: Vanessa Starkey. email: parishclerk@arborfield.org.uk		
Arborfield Aces Youth Football Club	Secretary - Barney Jones email: a.k.jones@reading.ac.uk	07585 937973
Arborfield Football Club	Secretary - Sara Brown Email: arborfieldfc@btinternet.com	07908 343381
Arborfield Garrison Residents Action Group (AGRAG)		www.arborfield-garrison-rag.org.uk
Arborfield Green Community Centre	email: community@arborfieldgreen.co.uk	
Arborfield Local History Society		www.arborfieldhistory.org.uk
Arborfield Village Hall	bookings@arborfieldvillagehall.org.uk (Bookings) chair@arborfieldvillagehall.org.uk (Admin) treasurer@arborfieldvillagehall.org.uk (Finance) www.arborfieldvillagehall.org.uk	
Brownies 1st Arborfield	Village Hall on Mondays Val Milam	0118 973 1133 07986 062198
Bus Service	Route 3—Reading Buses	0118 959 4000
Churches		
Arborfield & Barkham	Rev Piers Bickersteth	0118 976 0285
St Eligius	Rev Tonia Elliott tonia@steligius.church	07534 636375
Citizens Advice Bureau	Wokingham	0844 499 4126
Doctors	Swallowfield Medical Practice	0118 988 3134
	Finchampstead Surgery	0118 973 2678
	NHS Direct 111 Covid Enquiries 119	
Employment Advice	Job Centre, Reading	0845 604 3719
	Wokingham Job Support Centre	0118 977 0517

Environment Agency	24 hour Emergency hotline	0800 80 70 60
	Flood line	0345 602 6340
Farley Hill	Bowls Club	John Atack 0118 988 5611
	Cricket Club	Simon Longfield 07594 110592
Garrison Community Centre		0118 976 3283
Hazebrouck Day Nursery & Pre School	Tina Dallaway	0118 976 2054
Helplines	Alcoholics Anonymous	0800 9177 650
	Age UK	0800 169 6565
	Childline	0800 1111
	Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
	Dementia—Alzheimer's Society	0333 150 3456
	Drugs - Talk to Frank	0300 123 6600
	Missing People UK	116 000
	NSPCC	0808 800 5000
	National Debtline	0808 808 4000
	Relate, Reading	0118 987 6161
	RSPCA	0300 1234 999
	Samaritans - Free Phone	116 123
Hospitals	Royal Berks, Reading	0118 322 5111
	Wokingham	0118 949 5000
Keep Moving Chair Based Exercise Class	Mondays at the Village Hall	07801 676489
Library Services	Wokingham Library	0118 978 1368
Morris Borderline Dancers	Bob Jones	0118 971 2658
MP	Rt Hon Sir John Redwood MP	020 7219 4205
Police	Emergency	999
	Neighbourhood Team, Non Emergency	101
Poperinghe Pre-School	Manager—Gail Prewett	0118 976 2427

Post Office	Barkham Stores	0118 979 9131
	Co-Op, Finchampstead	0118 973 3241
RoADAR - Advanced Drivers and Riders		www.roadartvg.org.uk
Royal British Legion	Arborfield Club	0118 976 0360
Schools	Bohunt	0118 907 6237
	Coombes CE Primary , Arborfield	0118 976 0751
	Emmbrook School, Wokingham	0118 978 4406
	Forest Boys School, Winnersh	0118 978 1626
	Holt Girls School, Wokingham	0118 978 0165
	Oakbank, Three Mile Cross	0118 988 3616
	St Crispin's School, Wokingham	0118 978 1144
Shinfield Voluntary Car Service		0118 988 3400
Sing for your Self with Soph Tarttelin		07973 311580
	Village Hall on Tuesdays 12.30—2.00pm	www.singforyourself.co.uk
Finchampstead Children's Centre		
Play & Learn Session every Tues 9.30am – 11am - Drop in session		0118 908 8166
Theatres	The Anvil, Basingstoke	01256 844244
	Hexagon, Reading	0118 960 6060
	Mill at Sonning	0118 969 8000
	Wokingham Theatre	0118 978 5363
	Shinfield Players	0118 975 8880
Trains	National Rail Enquiries	08457 484950
Traveline	Public Transport Advice	0871 200 2233
Water	Thames Water	Bill Advice 0845 9200 888
		Report a leak 0800 714614
Wokingham Borough Council	Main Switchboard all enquiries	0118 974 6000
WBC Councillor for Arborfield	Gary Cowan	0118 976 0281
	Gary.cowan@wokingham.gov.uk	
Wokingham and Emmbrook Football Club (WEFC)		www.wefc.club
	Club Secretary; Anne-Louise Doe, email: secretary@wefc.club	
Wokingham District Veteran Tree Association		0118 976 0914
	Arborfield Co-ordinator: Di Thorne	www.wdvta.org.uk
Yoga at the Village Hall	Jude Bell	07887 351372
	Mondays 7:30 - 8:45pm, and, Wednesdays 1:30 - 2.30pm	

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