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# Chineham

Issue 410  
March 2018

# *Chat*

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New Chineham sign on Hanmore Road. Photograph by Peter Malcolm

## March 2018

It can hardly have escaped your notice that we are currently suffering from a crime wave in Chineham. (If it has, you should probably consider yourself lucky). There has been an acknowledged upswing in incidents, particularly those involving car thefts and break ins, vandalism, anti-social behaviour and similar. There also seems to be an increase in speeding and similar driving offences. It is hard not to speculate about the link between this increase and the lack of a dedicated Chineham police officer, something which seems to be unresolved since July 2017, when PC Piper was moved. We are also sadly lacking the News from the Beat article here in the Chat, despite enquiries. I am sure our PCSOs are very busy of course, but it would be great if we could maintain the old level of engagement with the community.

What can we do? The old advice is still good—don't leave anything of value in your vehicle (many electronics can be detected even if out of sight) and keep it locked. Consider joining your local Neighbourhood Watch group and following them on Facebook. And perhaps if you have some time, get involved with Speedwatch and other community groups—Chineham is a lovely area, so let's do all we can to keep it that way.

Jo Appleford-Cook

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**\*\*\*NEXT COPY DATE: 12th March\*\*\***

Please submit copy to Jo Appleford-Cook, 16 Guinea Court or as above.

Your copy can be accepted handwritten, typed, or by e-mail.

## Chineham Village Club

Entertainment in the club during March is as follows:

**Monday 5th:** Bingo in the lounge bar. Start time is 8pm.

**Saturday 17th:** We shall be showing all three games of the final round of the Rugby Six Nations on our big screen and in the evening we will be enjoying some live acoustic music with Jack Howson. This event will commence at 8pm and will be held in the lounge bar.

John Prince

## Chineham Village Hall

A timetable of current events in the halls, for both adults and children, are detailed below, and can also be found on the calendar of events on our website. Please contact the organisers if you require more information.

### Main Hall

**Monday:** Gym Minis, 9.30–11.30am, Shelley 07769 916299; Pilates, 12-1pm, Pam pamsteele@idnet.com; David Smith Dance, check [www.davidsmithdance.com](http://www.davidsmithdance.com) for further details/timings or contact David on 07791 749163; 3rd Chineham Brownies, 5.30–6.55pm; 1st Chineham Guides, 7–9pm.

**Tuesday:** Caterpillar Music, 9.40–11.40am, Jasmin 07952 935021; Aerobics, 7.30-8.30pm, Tracey 07707 681070 or [tcxercise2010@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tcxercise2010@hotmail.co.uk).

**Wednesday:** Tots Play, 10.15am–12.45pm, Lynden School of Dance, 3.45–6pm, [Lyndendance@aol.com](mailto:Lyndendance@aol.com); Weight Watchers, 6.30-8.00pm, 07884 240215; Zumba, 8.30-9.30pm, Rina 07971 553658.

**Thursday:** Slimming World, sessions commencing at 9.30am, 11.30am, 5.30pm and 7.30pm, Faith 07966 933994.

**Friday:** Caterpillar Music, 9.30–1.15pm, Jasmin 07952 935021; Lynden School of Dance, 3.45 - 6pm, [Lyndendance@aol.com](mailto:Lyndendance@aol.com); David Smith Dance, [www.davidsmithdance.com](http://www.davidsmithdance.com), 07791 749163.

**Sunday:** Karate, 6.30-8pm, Sam 07919 338556; David Smith Dance, [www.davidsmithdance.com](http://www.davidsmithdance.com), 07791 749163.

### Community Rooms

**Monday:** 1st Chineham Rainbow Guides, 5.30-6.30pm; Craft Circle, 1st and 3rd Monday of every month, 7.30-10pm.

**Tuesday:** Yoga, 7-8pm, Chris 07712 427428.

**Wednesday:** Yoga 9.45–11am, Yoga, 7.15–8.30pm, Maria 07771 921185.

**Thursday:** Little Pumas, 4-6pm, Kate 07887 993207.

**Saturday:** Young Yogis, 9.30–11.30am, [youngyogiswithg@gmail.com](mailto:youngyogiswithg@gmail.com).

If you are looking for a party venue, or wish to hold a regular class or meeting please contact our booking line on 07935 328172, send an email to [chinehamvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:chinehamvillagehall@gmail.com) or complete an enquiry form/check availability at [www.chinehamvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.chinehamvillagehall.co.uk).

Lynne Hughes

## Chineham Library

It's good to see that the days are becoming lighter and finally this month the clocks go forward. So do come and join us in the library on 17th March when there is a session on Container Gardening at 2pm. Tickets costing £4 can be bought in advance, and some plants will be available for sale afterwards. The craft session on the 3rd will have a Mother's Day theme, so perhaps dads/grandparents could bring

younger ones along between 10am – 12pm to produce something for the day?

Regular activities for children continue as usual with storytimes at 10am on all other Saturdays, and rhymetimes on Tuesday mornings at 10am for under ones and 11am for over ones. The Chatterbooks reading group has its next two meetings on the 15th March and the 12th April, from 3.45–4.45pm. Don't forget Construction Club on Saturdays where children can play with Lego from 1.30pm onwards.

Our adult groups are also meeting as usual, with the Crime Reading group on the 17th March at 10.30am and the CHIPPS reading group on the 14th March. Our newly formed writing group meets on the 1st March and the 5th April from 5.30–7pm and new members are very welcome to join. Age Concern continue to provide computer tuition on Wednesday mornings from 10am. For further information please contact their area office on: 01256 423874.

Looking ahead to April we are privileged to be hosting an author talk by Jean Fullerton. Jean is talking about 'Inside the writer's mind', and the event will take place on the 19th April at 7.30pm. Tickets costing £6 are obtainable from the library. It should be an interesting evening.

Please continue to follow us via social media for the most up-to-date information.

Cathy Foster

## Chineham WI

Ann Sevier, a verderer from the New Forest, came to our meeting in January with an illustrated talk about the life of the ponies in the New Forest and the role of a verderer. Ann was a very

knowledgeable speaker with many anecdotes and we enjoyed a splendid evening in her company.

Back in September 2017 our skittles team won the local heat of the annual national WI skittles competition. The semi-finals took place in February, but unfortunately we couldn't raise a team because the event took place during half-term and we had to withdraw.

In early February many of our members gathered for an evening at Zizzi's in Basingstoke. It was our annual meal, which never fails to cheer us all up after the long winter evenings. We all enjoyed great food and great company! The lunch bunch will be visiting The Hatch for their next lunchtime get-together, while the Scrabble group enjoy the hospitality at the Chineham Arms and the Gardening Club will be visiting Conkers Garden Centre.

It's always a delight to welcome new members to our WI. The Hampshire Federation centenary certainly makes 2018 a good year to join us! If you are new to Chineham, this is a great way to meet new friends. Don't be shy! Come along to the Shaftesbury Room, Christ Church, Reading Road, Chineham for 7:30pm on 26th March and try your hand at glass painting (please bring an empty glass jar). You are assured of a warm welcome from a lively group of ladies. Here are just some of the upcoming topics on offer in our 2018 programme:

**26 March:** Craft Evening-glass painting

**23 April:** Ladies of the Tower

**21 May:** AGM - time to elect a new President

Pam Malcolm

## Chineham Parish Council

**Annual Parish Assembly:** All residents are invited to attend the Annual Parish Assembly which is scheduled for 19 April 2018 in the Community Rooms at the Chineham Village Hall. The Chairman will provide a report of the Parish Council, a statement of accounts for the year ended 31 March 2018 will be presented and it is hoped that a speaker of interest will be attending. Please refer to the Parish Council website and noticeboards for further details.

**Road safety concerns:** We continue to be aware of the concerns of residents about the excessive speed and general bad driving by some drivers along Hanmore Road. Please remember that this is still a residential road and the speed limit is 30mph. The Parish Council has arranged for a mobile speed limit reminder device to be placed on Hanmore Road for a short period and we plan to use it at regular intervals throughout the year.

**Grants:** Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 empowers the Parish Council to spend some of its money, subject to limits, on purposes that it considers to be "in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, their area, or any part of it, or all or some of its inhabitants." Grants under Section 137 are only available to Groups or Organisations (personal applications cannot be considered) and any grant requests must be supported by a Chineham Parish Council Grant Application Form which is available to download from our website or by contacting the Clerk. The request must be from a Group or Organisation that supports or has a direct benefit to the

residents of Chineham.

**Overgrown vegetation:** This is a plea as we move towards spring to keep an eye on your boundary hedges and borders. Please keep them cut back and don't allow them to encroach on public footpaths. This includes the vegetation that may be growing beyond your fencing but is within the curtilage of your property. Please do not dispose of your garden waste on public land or in any of our copses. Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council operates a green waste collection scheme if you are unable to take it to the Household Recycling facility on Wade Road. For more information about the green waste collection scheme please refer to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's website.

**Events:** The Parish Council website has an "Events Calendar" & so if you would like to provide details of any events for Chineham residents we can include them.

The next Chineham Parish Council meeting is to be held on 12 March 2018. The Meeting starts at 7.45pm and will take place in the Community Rooms at the Chineham Village Hall. The Parish Council is here to help the residents of Chineham, so if there is a Chineham issue you are concerned about, please feel free to contact the Clerk, Sally Jackson on 01256 474500 or email [clerk@chineham.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@chineham.gov.uk) or the Assistant Clerk, Julia Johnston on 01256 324345 or email [assistantclerk@chineham.gov.uk](mailto:assistantclerk@chineham.gov.uk) during office hours only please. The Parish Council website can be found at [www.chineham.gov.uk](http://www.chineham.gov.uk).

Sally Jackson

## **BAOS**

BAOS proudly presents the iconic musical, *Fiddler on the Roof*, 13-17 March 2018. *Fiddler on the Roof* is a much-loved story, set in 1905 in the small, tradition-steeped Jewish village of Anatevka. Throughout the show, time-honoured traditions of Anatevka are both embraced and challenged by dairyman Tevye and his colourful community, as they witness his daughters, Tzeitel, Hodel, and Chava, grow up and fall in love in a time of change in Russia.

*Fiddler on the Roof's* premiere in 1964 saw the musical become the longest-running Broadway musical in history, a title it maintained for almost ten years. It is the love and humour woven through the story that has filled audiences with hope, faith, charity and warmth for generations, and keeps this story alive today. Featuring timeless songs such as the beautiful *Sunrise, Sunset*, the boisterous *If I Were a Rich Man*, and the classic *Matchmaker, Matchmaker*, BAOS's energetic, thought-provoking production will have you both crying and laughing.

Tickets can be purchased through Anvil Arts by visiting [www.anvilarts.org.uk/whats-on/fiddler-on-the-roof](http://www.anvilarts.org.uk/whats-on/fiddler-on-the-roof) or calling the box office on 01256 844244. Ticket prices: Tuesday £20, Wednesday – Saturday £23.00 (including Saturday matinee), under 16s £15.00 all shows. Concessions: £1.00 reduction for full time students and over 65s, group discount: 10 or more at £1.00 discount per ticket.

Rebecca Greenhill

## **Chineham Board Gamers**

Chineham Board Gamers would like to invite you to our open day on the 24th of March. If you yearn for a challenge beyond Monopoly or Scrabble or wish to try something new then pay us a visit. The open day will run from 12:00 to 23:00 and is a free event for new people.

We are running a 2 hour session for small children from 12:00 to 14:00 and will run appropriate games. Most of our board games will be aimed at 10 year olds and upwards after 14:00. We will also be joined by local Barista "Cuppa Joe" from 13:00 to 17:00. We also ask that if children are attending they are accompanied by an adult.

Please find us at Chineham Christ Church, Reading Road, Chineham Basingstoke, RG24 8LT. Thank you for your support.

Rob Stokes

## **Old Basing Tennis Club**

Not long now until the evenings are longer and we can play tennis at our regular club nights. These will start on Tuesday 27th March at 6.00pm. From then on we shall have club nights on Tuesdays & Fridays throughout the summer with both sessions starting at 6.00pm.

The club is situated at the Recreation Ground in Riley Lane, Old Basing, in a lovely setting. We welcome new members, so if you would like to join us please get in touch with Lynne Thomas at [lynne.thomas8@btinternet.com](mailto:lynne.thomas8@btinternet.com). We would love to see you!

Lynne Thomas

## Nature Notes

I seem to spend a lot of my time refilling the bird feeders, especially the suet holders. Each one will accommodate six house sparrows at a time with some waiting on the branches above. I thought that they were unable to cling to the wire, but over the years I have fed them here they have gradually moved from being only ground feeders to these acrobats. It was very difficult to count them for the bird count, but after we divided the feeders from the drinkers and bathers, we came to the conclusion that there were approximately twenty two of them at that time. Even the robins, starlings and blackbirds are seen clinging to feed on occasions, despite having worms and sultanas on the ground. I admit that I chase away the pigeons and magpies when spotted clinging and wolfing large amounts of food. Well, there's a limit, as the same nourishment is available three feet below!

Yellow is the colour of nature in spring and it shows up well early here in Chineham with the catkins bursting forth in many places. There were half a dozen yellow crocuses in flower along Thornhill Way on 23rd January and more continued popping up to brighten the grass. Several hedges were composed solely of winter jasmine, which hadn't been visible before.

There are five aconites and coloured primroses in the area under the holly hedge, but only three snowdrops so far. One thinks of the snowdrop as the earliest

flower, although at The Vyne there were thousands in bloom at the same time as mine and they were not sheltered.

I discovered a small tortoiseshell butterfly fluttering on the windowsill. It must have awakened with the combination of heat from the radiator and the strong sun. I captured it and tucked it under a pile of leaves by the front door, where I hope it will resume its hibernation.

Sometimes hedgehogs will awaken looking for food, so I leave biscuits in the usual feeding place. On a few mornings, the dish has been emptied. Would a fox or deer eat them?

Thank you to those who answered the call for toad helpers.

Ginny Wright  
ginny.wright2@btinternet.com  
479562

***Editor's Note:** for more information on the common toad and the need for Toad Patrols in Cufaude Lane—and how to volunteer to help!—please also see Cllr Elaine Still's article on page 18 of the Chat.*

***Did you know?:** St Patrick's Day falls on March 17th. The day associated with the patron saint of Ireland is becoming one of the biggest international saint's celebrations, with millions spent on Guinness every year!*

## **Four Lanes Infant School**

Fun Fit was a great success and we have raised lots of money to improve our playtimes.

To finish their topic on Transport, Year R went on a walk around Chineham. They saw trains, cars, vans, a bus, bikes and scooters. One child said, 'The trip was fun because I like transport'. They talked about trips on boats and aeroplanes. The children played with transport outside and in the classroom with the train track, cars and wrote all about their trip. They have been learning about capacity making fuel for their transport they designed using multi-coloured water.

Year 1 have enjoyed their Jack and the Beanstalk topic. They have investigated the school grounds and designed a map to show the giant where to build his castle. Next they wrote a letter to the Giant. They made a wanted poster to find Jack. In RE they have learnt about the concept of authority, thinking about the life of Jesus and in their lives there are police and teachers. Lastly they have made diorama boxes to show the story of Jack and the Beanstalk.

It has been a busy few weeks for Year 2. We have been finishing our Kenya topic. We made a lion fact file by writing about the lion's appearance, behaviour, diet, habitat and other facts.

We have made a clay pot by making a clay circle and a long clay sausage. We put water on the circle and wrapped

the sausage shape round the outside of the circle and coiled it up putting water between each layer. When we had finished we had to leave them to dry over the weekend. Once they were dry we painted them with a background colour, when this was dry we painted animal designs like black and white stripes for a zebra, orange background and circles on top for a leopard.

We have been thinking about being special and celebrating differences. We thought about what makes us special, like helping our brothers or sisters, being good at Tae Kwon Do and trying hard with our learning.

Austin Argent, Daniel Chapman,  
Mathis Choux

## **Old Basing Bowling Club**

We are holding two Open Days on Saturday April 14th and Sunday April 22nd between 10.30am and 2.30pm. We welcome new bowlers as well as those who may have played in the past to try the game and sample our facilities at our Club which is located on the Recreation Ground next to the Parish Council offices. There is no charge and we will provide equipment and help as required. Please try to bring a pair of flat soled shoes for wear on the green.

For more information about the bowling club please visit [www.oldbasingbowlingclub.co.uk](http://www.oldbasingbowlingclub.co.uk).

Maurice Bates

## **Fighting Cancer**

In the UK in 2014 there were 356,860 new cases of cancer diagnosed. In the same year there were 163,444 deaths from cancer. 50% of those diagnosed survive cancer for 10 or more years. Only 42% of cancer cases are preventable. After being diagnosed with cancer, people may be going through a range of emotions. They may need time off and support to process those emotions together with those around them.

In Basingstoke we have a number of cancer charities alongside the major projects of the Pelican Cancer and Ark Cancer charities. This year Basingstoke Rotary are raising monies for local cancer charities. We have already started planning events and are organizing a charity golf day on Friday 18 May at Basingstoke Golf Club. If you know any golfers who may be interested please contact the organizer, Robert Jenner OBE, on 07985 626105. Entry is available for teams of four at £55 per person.

A two day festival is also planned for May 12th and 13th at Down Grange. We already have food and trade stalls making bookings. We offer registered charities a free pitch so that they can come and raise awareness through marketing and/or running a fun stall. Last year we had 29 charities take part. If you are involved with a charity or know of one that would benefit then let us know via [www.basingstoke.rotaryweb.org](http://www.basingstoke.rotaryweb.org). Additionally, we organize entertainment on the two days including John Searle Fun Fair, Clive Fortune Big Band, Spotlight display,

Morris Dancers and many more. Make a note in your diaries, come along and help in the fight against cancer.

David Curtis

## **SSAFA**

The Hampshire/Basingstoke branch of the UK's oldest armed forces charity, SSAFA, will be out in force again in 2018 commencing with The Basingstoke Festival of Transport at The Memorial Park on Sunday 6 May 2018 and collecting for local heroes and their families at various superstores.

SSAFA provides lifelong support for our Forces and their families. Each year the charity helps over 60 families in Basingstoke and Tadley surrounding area and 50,000 nationally.

These funds are vital if SSAFA is to continue to support those who have served their country and ensure that they are not disadvantaged by their service. We are finding that our cases are becoming increasingly complex with younger veterans coming forward for help in greater numbers. We offer a range of support from practical and financial assistance to emotional care and befriending.

If you would like to know more about how SSAFA can help you or someone you know, please get in touch at 07807 668398 or visit [www.ssafa.org.uk](http://www.ssafa.org.uk).

Alex Ball

## **Four Lanes Community Centre**

**Good Companions over 55s group:** Four Lanes Community Centre, 3rd Tuesday of every month.

**Hatha Yoga:** Thursdays 6.15pm to 7.15pm at the Junior School. Payable in blocks of 6 weeks cost £30.00 or drops in welcome £6.00 per class. For further information and to book please contact Kati on 07450 226719 or email [pumpkinyoga@gmail.com](mailto:pumpkinyoga@gmail.com).

**Happy Hands and Dancing Feet:** for mums, dads, babies and pre-school children. Weds: 9.30am–11.00am on-going. £12.00 for 6 weeks or £2.50 per week on a drop-in basis. Please contact us to register your interest.

**Pegasus Karate Club:** Traditional Wado Ryu Karate for beginners and advanced students. Wednesdays 7.00pm to 9.00pm at Four Lanes Junior School. Contact: 07733 410370.

**Zumba:** Mondays: 7.30pm to 8.30pm, Tuesdays: 7.00pm to 8.00pm. £5.25 on Mondays and £6.00 on Tuesdays, pay as you go. Contact: Lisa 07884 267722.

**Clubbercise:** Thursdays 8.00pm–8.45pm. Classes to be booked in advance on <https://bookwhen.com/clubbercisewithaimee> or <https://www.facebook.com/clubbercisewithaimee/>.

**Summit Judo:** Fridays 3.40pm–4.40pm. Contact Paul Hamilton by email [info@summitjudo.co.uk](mailto:info@summitjudo.co.uk) or call 07917 005862.

**Linguatastic:** Languages include: French and Spanish before school clubs, Italian, Spanish and French for adults, French for Secondary School pupils. For further information please email [info@linguatastic.com](mailto:info@linguatastic.com) or phone 471474.

Virginia Wyatt

## **Basingstoke Choral Society**

7.45 on Saturday 24th March, The Anvil, Basingstoke, New London Sinfonia, Basingstoke Choral Society. The Requiem was Brahms' 'magnum opus' composed when he was only 33 and thought to have been prompted by the deaths of both his mother and good friend Robert Schumann. Unlike the traditional requiem, Brahms wanted his Requiem to focus on comforting the living that were left behind. Brahms referred to it as a human requiem, rejecting the usual Latin text for his native German, using the Lutheran translation of the Bible. It is an emotional work whose lack of angry judgement in favour of heartfelt mourning and consolation makes it also an anthem for our time.

We look forward to welcoming you to our concert at the Anvil which also includes Beethoven's 7th Symphony. Tickets from the Anvil on 01256 844244 or on [www.anvilarts.org.uk](http://www.anvilarts.org.uk) (£27, £21, £16, £12, students and under 16s £7).

Margaret Lucas

## **Basing Singers**

Basing Singers and Ooh Mama are performing excerpts from The Messiah and a full supporting programme in St. Mary's Church, Old Basing on Sunday 25th March from 7.00pm. Tickets are £7.00 for adults while children under 16 are free and will be on sale from Glaysher Butchers, Belle Vue Parade, Old Basing, at the door on the night of the concert or by telephoning 01256 471493. A truly memorable evening.

Sue Wilson

## **County and Borough Councillor Elaine Still**

As a Borough and County Councillor I hear about, and become involved in, a huge range of local projects and issues. One recent and rather unusual request involves the protection of toads during their migration to breeding ponds. The Common Toad is no longer a common species, partly due to loss of habitat, but also because of increasing mortality on roads. Toads visit ponds in the early spring to spawn, but for the rest of the year they live in woods, ditches and gardens, where they feed on slugs, earthworms and other small invertebrates.

A large population of toads live in the fields and woods alongside Cufaude Lane, but they all congregate to spawn in the same pond when the weather warms up in late February or March. The problem facing the toads is that they often have to cross roads to get to their ponds, with many of them ending up squashed by the traffic. Cufaude Lane is no longer a quiet country road with little traffic and the toads now need our help. Toad patrol volunteers help by collecting toads from the road and moving them to safety, and also warning oncoming traffic of the dangers to wildlife. If you are interested in helping, contact Andrew Cleave MBE on 07785 767263.

I am arranging for special road signs to be placed warning drivers that toads may be crossing Cufaude Lane, and have also volunteered to join some Toad Patrols.

Elaine Still  
Tel: 880926 / 07864 691342  
elainestill.com, elaine.still@hants.gov.uk  
cllr.elaine.still@basingstoke.gov.uk

## **Borough Cllr Paul Miller**

As you read this, we are all having to endure the restrictions and frustrations generated by the A33 roadworks in and round Chineham and by the continuing work at Junction 6 to the M3. The Ward Councillors have, in conjunction with the Chineham Parish Council, passed on to our residents all information that comes to hand through formal notifications of these works and post them to the CPC website.

In these days of social media I can think of at least 6 separate popular 'platforms' that have evolved and many more individual groups within those, and you can imagine that to cover all those media sources to communicate to residents over community issues would be time consuming to the extreme. The CPC website is available to everyone who has an internet connection i.e. uses social media, and it contains the latest information that we have on matters that affect the Chineham Community directly. I would ask residents that if you have questions or see any incidents or activity not mentioned on the CPC website that you contact the Parish Council via the website or contact one of the Ward Councillors. We are then better placed to respond to residents queries directly when we may miss it on these many social media sources.

Hopefully, the wintery weather is easing up with the longer days and we can look forward to a sunny and mild spring.

Paul Miller  
Borough Councillor  
01256 467400/07777 659022  
cllr.paul.miller@basingstoke.gov.uk

## **Spring Fair**

Basingstoke & District Cats Protection Branch are holding their Spring Fair at the Ambrose Allen Centre, Franklin Avenue, Tadley on Saturday 10 March 2018. Running from 1.00–3.30pm, it promises to be a fun-filled afternoon for all the family.

The Spring Fair will host the Branch Annual Photographic Competition, kindly organised by David and Marion Canning. In addition, photographs will be selected for Mr and Mrs Canning's 2019 calendar which they sell to raise more funds for the branch. To enter the 2018 Photographic Competition, or if you would like your cat's photograph to appear in the 2019 calendar, please email [basingstoke-cats@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:basingstoke-cats@hotmail.co.uk).

As well as a variety of stalls to appeal to people of all ages, visitors can treat themselves to some of the delicious homemade cakes available and sit down for a cuppa. Entry is 50p or a donation of cat food, so please come along and give the cats your support.

Homing and Welfare Officer, Ann Walsh said "Last year, the branch rehomed 156 cats and kittens and either neutered or assisted with the costs of neutering for 307 cats and kittens. So our bills are considerable and we rely on our wonderful supporters that enable us to carry on our work".

Rachel Cassell

## **Les Miserables: School Edition**

BATS Next Gen are proud to bring this author-approved edition of the musical to Basingstoke, performed entirely by students.

This epic story of poverty, justice and love set against adversity in 19th century France has been deemed one of the best musicals of contemporary day. With dynamic and emotionally powerful music, including I Dreamed a Dream, Bring Him Home, On My Own and Do You Hear the People Sing?, audiences worldwide are as keen to see it now as ever.

The Haymarket 12 - 14 April, evenings 7.30pm, Saturday matinee 2.30pm. Box Office 01256 844244, [www.anvilarts.org.uk](http://www.anvilarts.org.uk).

Rachel Glover

## **Chat Distributors Needed**

We still urgently require road distributors for the following roads:

- Parkwood Close
- Binfields Close
- Chineham Shopping Centre

The Chat is staffed and distributed entirely by volunteers and we reply on our road distributors to get the Chat to its recipients every month. Please get in touch if you would be able to take on any of these vital roles.

Mike & Kathryn  
479594  
[distribution@chinehamchat.com](mailto:distribution@chinehamchat.com)

## Minister's Message

Dreams... Looking back, I have had a range of dream experiences, often a combination of memories, life's worries and wishful opportunities. I don't know about interpreting dreams, but I do know that the Lord used a few weird and wonderful dreams in days gone by to reveal His plans for the future. Take the prophet Isaiah. He lay down one night and had a very strange dream; you can read about it in Isaiah 35. It's a marvellous chapter for anyone with a fearful, faint heart because it talks about going from gloom to glory, from depression to ecstasy. In his dream, Isaiah found himself in the middle of a desert with nothing but sand stretching to the horizon. He felt depressed in the dream, just like the bleak landscape. He felt hungry and thirsty and very unsatisfied. Just then, the dream took an exciting turn. Out of the sand pushed one small flower and then another. Soon grass sprouted and then trees loaded with fruit. Immediately upon awakening, Isaiah hurried to write down a fantastic description of the abundant paradise blooming and budding all around him. The good news is that Isaiah forecasts this for all of God's people!

As spring begins to burst forth, remember that Jesus Christ is alive and does change lives. At Christ Church, you can be sure of a warm welcome from our fellowship. As we journey through Lent and look forward to Easter Day we hope to encourage each other through the 'desert days' and celebrate the joyful ones too.

May every blessing be yours.

Rebecca Podevin  
Christ Church Fellowship

## Christ Church Activities

**Sunday services:** 9am and 10.30am—no charge, all welcome! The 9am service tends to be quieter and more reflective; we have a music band with drums and guitars at the 10.30am services when we also have groups for children and young people of all ages from babies to 18+. During the first part of March we will be continuing to look at how we can follow Christ, leading into preparations for Easter at the end of the month.

**Maundy Thursday:** Thursday 29 March 7.30pm. A reflective service of Holy Communion.

**Good Friday:** Friday 30 March 11.30am. All age worship.

**Easter Day:** Sunday 1 April 9.00am – Holy Communion, 10.30am – a service for all, including activities for the children.

**Daytime Holy Communion:** Tuesday 27 March, 11:00am.

**Prayer:** is there something you would like prayer for? Do let us know—contact details below. If you would like to come and pray you are most welcome: our Prayer Room is open whenever the building is open. Drop in to sit and pray in silence, or we can arrange for someone to pray with you. We meet weekly to pray on alternate Sunday and Monday evenings; you would be welcome to join us (please contact the office for details).

**Coffee and Co:** Mondays 9.30-11.30am. We will be open every Monday in term time for delicious coffee and cake, good company and toys for the children. Everyone is welcome.

**Luncheon Club:** Tuesday 27 March, 12:00am. The cost is £5 – no need to book, but it would be helpful to know if you have any special dietary requirements so please give us a call. Also call if you would like a lift as we may be able to arrange this.

**123 Matinee Group:** 13 March, 1-3pm. This social/support group is aimed at “older friends” although everyone is welcome; no charge. You will find a warm welcome, plenty of people to chat with and there will be refreshments and a range of activities. This month includes a visit from “Helping Hands for the Blind”. If you are interested in coming along and/or helping you would be most welcome.

**CCBBies:** Thursdays, 9.30am to 11.15am. This group is for pre-school children and their parents/grandparents/carers for free play, refreshments, games, stories from the Bible and songs. Each week there is a craft for the children to take home. There is no charge although we do ask for a contribution towards the cost of the refreshments.

**Messy Church:** Monday 12 March. A time of creativity, worship and food! Come and enjoy fun activities and share a meal with us! 3.45-5.45pm, carers must stay with their children

**Kids' Club:** Saturday 17 March, 4:30-5.45pm. £1 entrance fee (first visit free), bring your friends and some change for tuck and a hot snack.

**C3Y:** Friday 16 March. (C3Y is now meeting once every half-term)

**Charity collections:** we continue to collect stamps (new and used),

postcards, spectacles, socks, tools, tins and packets of food, and tops from supermarket milk bottles for various charities. Unfortunately we are no longer able to collect all bedding as there has been a change of management at the local homeless shelter, however, we can receive single bedding and we can find a home for most things so if you have anything you would like to pass on do contact us! Thank you everyone for your continued support.

**Room hire:** rooms are available to hire either on a one-off or regular basis. Contact us for details or look on [www.christchurchchineham.org.uk](http://www.christchurchchineham.org.uk). Prices start at £8.50/h (Community Rate) which includes use of the kitchen/snack bar where tea, coffee, sugar and squash are provided. Groups that regularly hire the church include Guides, Chineham Board Gamers and Bridge, along with a range of University of the Third Age groups including Patchwork and Latin.

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

Gill Godfrey

## **Probus Club**

Members of the Probus Club of Basingstoke had an informative look behind the scenes of this airfield, perhaps best known for the Farnborough International Air Show. The visit was organised by Chineham resident and Probus member Tony Atchison.

Samuel Cody made the first sustained powered flight in England here in 1908 and from WW1 Farnborough has been closely concerned with testing and evaluating aircraft. The Royal Aircraft Establishment (RAE), was established here and resident until 1985.

Increases in housing and lack of airspace hampered military flying and closure loomed. Part of the airfield was released for general and business aviation use, but with poor uptake, closure was inevitable. The company TAG, (Techniques d'Avant Garde), secured the airfield for a multi-million pound purchase. TAG Heuer watches was an earlier investment although is now owned by LVMH luxury brands group. Today they own 25% of the McLaren car group. TAG has similar airfield operations in Switzerland and Spain.

Significant capital expenditure in landscaping and modernising the airfield was needed for bespoke VIP business jet operations and current Civilian Aviation Authority regulations. These included a new control tower, radar unit, spacious aircraft maintenance hangars and an extensive aircraft apron for multi jet parking, servicing and operations. The 2440 metres runway was resurfaced. To attract business users TAG

commissioned a luxurious terminal building that provides the very best hospitality for both VIP passengers and Aircraft Crews. Besides customs, immigration and security facilities passengers may drive directly to their waiting aircraft. No lengthy and tedious waits here inbound or outbound! Their customers demand and receive high quality and discrete service standards.

All are part of a comprehensive bespoke solution encompassing complete aircraft and passenger handling services for business clients on London's doorstep. TAG Farnborough employs over 1000 people with 28,000 aircraft movements which will be increased to 50,000 over the forthcoming years. See [www.probusbasingstoke.wordpress.com](http://www.probusbasingstoke.wordpress.com).

Paul Flint

## **Quiz Night**

Saturday 3 March (7pm start), at Café Dome, Sullivan Road, Basingstoke RG22 4EH (behind Gillies Health Centre). Limited parking at Café Dome - please use Asda car park.

Entry £5 per person, maximum of six people per team. Refreshments: fully licensed bar available, selling beer, wine, soft drinks and snacks. Raffle tickets on sale on the night. Great prizes to be won!

Booking required to register your team, please contact Basingstoke and District Disability Forum (BDDF) via email: [info@bddf.org.uk](mailto:info@bddf.org.uk), or phone: 01256 425869. All proceeds will go to BDDF (charity no. 1155660), [www.bddf.org.uk](http://www.bddf.org.uk).

Amanda Knowles

## Linguatastic

We start off this month with World Book Day on 1st March. Our little ones will be dressing up as their favourite book characters, whilst the older ones will be celebrating by reading some books in the languages they are learning.

Indeed, we wonder whether any Chineham Chat readers recognise the following books and can work out what they have in common? “Barbar”, “Asterix” “The Little Prince”? Of course, they are all originally written in French! And what about other famous books written in other languages and translated into English? Do post us a little line on our Facebook page (search “Linguatastic”) with your answers. There are lots out there...

On Sunday 11th March, it’s Mother’s Day and although the children will not be at Linguatastic on that day, we hope that they will have a bit of Linguatastic with them when they wish their mothers a “Mǔqīnjié kuàilè”, “Feliz Día de la Madre” or something along these lines in another language!

Towards the end of this month, we will of course, be preparing for Easter, with spring-themed crafts and Easter egg hunts. Make sure you keep an eye out for our Easter display (with a typically international flavour) at Tesco, Chineham.

Fiona Biermann

## Chat Database Needed

Advertising revenue is critical to the continued success of the Chineham Chat magazine and managing

renewals & payments are key to ensuring this continued revenue. We currently use a basic Excel spreadsheet with mail merge to record active advertising and issue reminders & invoices. This method has served us well in the past but now requires a lot of oversight when offering monthly payment plans to our local businesses.

Is there someone in Chineham able to discuss our requirements and develop a database we can use to efficiently support this important aspect of the magazine? A web based front end to allow more than one person to access the system would be an advantage! P l e a s e e m a i l adverts@chinehamchat.com or call Tony on 01256 516072 to chat. Many thanks for your support.

Tony Heeley

## Chineham Clean Up

The Great Chineham Clean-Up! Sunday 4th March, from 10:00-16:00. A community litter-pick is being organised by the Chineham Community Noticeboard. Meet up will be at the Chineham Village Hall car park.

If you wish to help clean up our great community and can spare any time, please come to the car park during those hours, where someone will be waiting to greet you. Feel free to bring your entire family! For further information, please contact the admin team on the Chineham Community Noticeboard Facebook page! ( w w w . f a c e b o o k . c o m / groups/1327800794009170/)

Mark Butler

## **Civil Service Retirement Fellowship**

There were 48 members and 4 visitors at the meeting held on 7th February who enjoyed the usual tea, coffee and biscuits before David Cowling, the Chairman, welcomed everyone and gave apologies from those unable to attend. Christine Broadbent, the Welfare Officer, gave her report and then Tony Brazier, the Secretary, gave details of the forthcoming visits to Oxford on Thursday 22nd March (which will be a "do as you please" trip) and Chartwell National Trust property on Thursday 26th April.

The speaker at this month's meeting was Barbara Cummins who recounted her experiences of cycling through the USA, Scandinavia, Central America and Australia. She explained that on retirement she wanted something physical to undertake and after weighing up the options decided that cycling would be best for her. After having a cycle made for her and giving it a trial run here she decided to take on a trip of nearly 3000 miles down the East Coast Greenway of America from Boston to Miami. This was followed 2 years later by a cycling tour of Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland through to the Russian border. Then followed Central America, France coast-to-coast and, closer to home, the Pennine Way before setting off in 2016 to Australia, along the Great Ocean Road, Tasmania, New Zealand Fiji and Hawaii. She illustrated her talk with many photographs and told of her numerous encounters and the kindness and hospitality she received along the way which she reciprocates to cyclists visiting here.

The next meeting is on 7th March when the AGM will be held. Also at this meeting John Howson will be displaying some of his drawings and Claire Eastick from Southern Health will speak on the Frailty Awareness campaign after which we will be going to the Conservative Club for a carvery lunch. The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Brookvale Village Hall from 10 am to 12 noon and all retired Civil Servants and their partners are welcome. Further details about meetings and outings can be obtained from the Secretary Tony Brazier on 07715 640171 and if you would like to join us on one of our trips contact Kate Lambeth on 01256 328791.

David Cowling

## **Comedy Improv**

Weekly\* Improv Comedy Drop-in Rehearsal and Jam. Every Friday\* at the White Hart, London Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 4AE. This is like a drop-in class for those that want to play, perform and try improvising a lot. We shall explore some teaching, directing and coaching, dependent on the people in the room. The idea would be to run a set each session. Beginners welcome. This will cost £5pp.

[www.nathanimprov.com/p/local.html](http://www.nathanimprov.com/p/local.html)  
[www.facebook.com/basingstokeimprov](http://www.facebook.com/basingstokeimprov)  
@BasingstokeImprov (twitter)

\*Email [basingstoke@nathanimprov.com](mailto:basingstoke@nathanimprov.com) to confirm event, as the venue may not always be available and I may be on tour.

Nathan Keates

## Four Lanes Junior School

In Young Authors' Club this week the children were commissioned with writing 'Show Not Tell' poetry – can you guess what they are describing?

### My friend

My friend,  
Is it your shaggy but ginger fur?  
Or is it your whiskers that never bend?  
My friend.  
The melodic sound you make,  
The skills you have.  
Your eyes groggy but awake,  
My friend.  
Your cheeky plan,  
The pink button nose.  
You run across the land  
My best friend.

*By Lily*

### Big or Small

Small or big you still scare me, you pesky creature.  
Just leave me alone!  
Some people love you  
But I hate you,  
Always in the corner,  
Just staring at me.  
Big or small  
You still scare me.

*By Shaela*

With purple slimy skin and chubby tentacles and a giant head  
Slithering across the sea floor,  
Eating colourful fish  
And shaking the colossal tentacles,  
Slithering side to side,  
Dark ink floating on the water.

*By Phoebe*

Long wiry whiskers  
Its roar as loud as a trumpet,  
As sly as a fox,  
A mane as golden as the sun,  
King of the jungle,  
Mighty runner,  
Hunting your prey as you stroll through the night.

*By Penny*

Mrs Becousse,  
Young Authors' Club

## Basingstoke Horticultural Society

In 2017 we have enjoyed talks ranging from climate change in the garden to growing herbs. We would now like to give others in the Basingstoke area the opportunity to benefit from the speakers we have booked for 2018.

**Monday 19 March:** The Lavender Fields (Tim Butler)

**Monday 16 April:** Growing Vegetables without a Garden (Kelvin Mason)

**Monday 21 May:** Roses (David May)

Our meetings are held at Kempshott Village Hall, Stratton Park, Pack Lane, Basingstoke RG22 5HN. Meetings commence at 7.30pm. For further details or enquiries tel. 01256 466281 or 01256 324185.

Philip Wraight

***Did you know?:*** There are 16 other Saint's Days celebrated in March. These include St David's Day on March 1st, Patron Saint of Wales.

## **Basingstoke Discovery Centre**

To book a place, order online from [www.hants.gov.uk/shop/home.php](http://www.hants.gov.uk/shop/home.php), visit Basingstoke Discovery Centre in Festival Place, or call 01256 478670. Advance booking is strongly recommended.

### **March events:**

**Fiction For all Tastes: a writing workshop.** Saturday 3, 11am – 3pm, £15. A workshop led by two award winning authors, Abi Oliver/Anne Murray and Helen Matthews. Come along and share tips on the writing process and how to get published. The workshop is led through a mixture of talk, discussion and writing exercises.

### **Science Night**

Wednesday 14, from 6pm.

Please note that all talks are intended for an adult audience

**Discover the World's Largest Telescope Under Construction - Europe's ELT.** 6–7pm, £3.50. Come along and find out about the Extremely Large Telescope (ELT) and the engineering science behind its construction. This talk is presented by Dave Shave-Wall, former Chairman of Basingstoke Astronomical Society, part time Astrophotographer and full time Chief Technologist at IBM.

**Get Creative with Cosplay.** 6–7pm, £3.50. Members of the Basingstoke Cosplay Collective explore a range of different techniques and materials to inspire you to make your own costumes in this very visual demonstration!

**Gravitational Waves: A new window to the universe.** 6 – 7pm, £3.50. Learn about what gravitational waves are, how they are made, and how scientists detect them. Discover the monster

gravitational wave machines that live in space, and how they can be used to solve the mysteries of the universe, as we embark on the era of multi-messenger astronomy.

**The Scientific Secrets of Doctor Who.** 7.30pm, £5. Writer Simon Guerrier and astronomer Dr Marek Kukula team up to explore the scientific secrets of Doctor Who. When Doctor Who was first broadcast in 1963 the show was intended to educate as well as entertain. Although teaching science may have slipped from its agenda, a show featuring black holes, time travel and alien worlds still presents a great opportunity to engage audiences with the real science behind the fiction.

### **Learning in Libraries**

Free courses for adults, led by a qualified tutor.

**Kickstart your Creative Writing.** Wednesday 14, 10am – 1pm, free. For people who write/who wish to write in any genre or for any age, this course aims to help generate new ideas and get your creativity flowing.

**Get to Know Your iPad.** Saturday 17, 10am – 4.30pm, free. An introduction to iPads for new owners, those thinking of buying one and for those who already own an iPad but would like to get more out of it.

**Digital Photography Introduction,** Friday 23, 10am – 12.30pm, free. This course aims to explore the various parts and features of a Digital Camera and take photographs using different settings plus portrait, flash and macro photos. You will need a digital camera and a compatible memory card and charged batteries and the camera manual if you have it.

## Children's Events

**Children's Craft—World Book Day Celebration.** Saturday 3rd, from 10am, free, ages 3+. Book character fun with crafts and colouring.

**Miniprofessors Children's Science Days.** Saturday 10 & 17, 10am–12 noon, free, ages 2+. Drop-in science with the Miniprofessors, plus crafts and treasure trails.

**Children's Craft – Easter craft and trail.** Saturday 31, from 10am, free, ages 3+. Egg-tastic craft and colouring.

Scott Hyde

## **Events at Anvil Arts**

**Sun 4 Mar, 12pm & 3.30pm, The Anvil**  
Milkshake! Live: Milkshake! favourites Bob the Builder, Little Princess, Noddy, Fireman Sam, Winnie and Wilbur, Wissper, and Milkshake's very own Milkshake! Monkey plus two presenters take you on a journey through the world's favourite fairy tales in an all-singing, all-dancing musical extravaganza. Tickets: £17.50; under 16s £15.50

**Thu 8 Mar, 7.30pm, The Haymarket**  
The Blues Band: The five virtuosos offer a stunning menu of original compositions and blues classics, all delivered with passion, knowledge, love of the genre and entertaining showmanship. Tickets: £23

**Fri 9 Mar, 7.30pm, The Anvil**  
Paul Carrack: The great Sheffield-born singer, songwriter and former frontman of Ace, Squeeze and Mike & The Mechanics returns to The Anvil. Dubbed by the BBC as 'The man with the golden voice', Paul is a key figure in British pop history with a back catalogue that includes How Long, Tempted and The Living Years. Tickets: £41.50, £34.50

**Fri 9 Mar, 7.30pm, The Haymarket**  
Leveret & Spiro: The Eccentric Orbits Tour. Featuring seven of the UK's top instrumentalists, the two incredible ensembles fly the flag for new English instrumental music. Tickets: £22; under 25s £12 (limited availability)

**Sat 10 Mar, 8pm, The Anvil**  
Ed Byrne: Recognised as one of the finest observational comics in the industry, Ed Byrne's television includes Mock the Week, Have I Got News for You?, Live at the Apollo, Comic Relief Bake Off 2015, The World's Most Dangerous Roads as well as his and Dara O Briain's Big Adventure, and Dara and Ed's Road to Mandalay. Tickets: £26 (suitable for ages 12 and over)

**Thu 15 Mar, 7.45pm, The Anvil**  
Stuttgart SWR Symphony Orchestra: Sir Roger Norrington conducts the Stuttgart SWR Symphony Orchestra as they perform three works by Beethoven, joined by soloist Francesco Piemontesi for the Piano Concerto no 3. Tickets: £40, £36, £29, £22, £14; under 16s and f/t students £10

**Fri 16 Mar, 8pm, The Anvil**  
Rumours of Fleetwood Mac: 40 Years of Rumours. The world's finest tribute to Fleetwood Mac returns with a brand new show celebrating 40 years of the Rumours album. Tickets: £35.50, £25.50

**Tue 20 Mar, 2.30 & 7.30pm, The Haymarket**  
Teechers – by John Godber. Teechers brings to life an array of terrifying teachers and hopeless pupils through the eyes of Salty, Gail and Hobby; three Year 11 students about to leave school for good. Tickets: 7.30pm perf £22, 2.30pm perf £19; over 65s £29; f/t students £13

**Tue 20 Mar, Doors 7pm, The Anvil**  
The Levellers (acoustic) + Ginger Wildheart (acoustic). Celebrating their

30th anniversary, Brighton folk-punk band The Levellers are touring following the release of their acoustic album. Tickets: £29.50, £27

**Sat 24 Mar, 7.30pm, The Haymarket**

Aly Bain & Phil Cunningham: Having toured together since 1986 to packed concert halls all over the world, Aly and Phil continue to charm audiences with their stunning music and on-stage charisma. Witty and humorous banter sits alongside tunes that tug the heartstrings, and joyous reels and melodies that get the feet tapping. Tickets: £19; over 65s, under 16s and f/t students £17

**Tue 27 Mar, 2pm & 4pm, Wed 28 Mar, 11am & 2pm, The Haymarket**

Sarah and Duck's Big Top Birthday: Join Sarah and Duck, and a host of your favourite friends from the BAFTA Award-winning CBeebies show including The Ribbon Sisters, The Shallots, Flamingo & John and Umbrella, as they plan a birthday party for Scarf Lady in their garden. Told through a fantastic blend of puppetry, storytelling and music, you will be taken on a magical adventure. Tickets: £14.50 (suitable for ages 3 and up)

**Tue 27 Mar, 7.30pm, The Anvil**

Jonathan Pie: Back to the Studio. Enjoy a night of political parody that soon descends into comic chaos as the frustrated news reporter is back and he's angrier than ever. Tickets: £24.50; f/t students £19.50 (suitable for ages 16 and over)

**Sat 31 Mar, 7.30pm, The Anvil**

Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. The OAE perform one of the masterpieces of Western music, Bach's St Matthew Passion, directed by Mark Padmore. Please note earlier start time. Tickets: £40, £36, £29, £22, £14

Andrea Bath

## NWR

February was our planning meeting where we put our programme together for the coming year. As usual the suggestions were many and varied and we have selected topics ranging from The Suffragettes, in recognition of the centenary of the Suffrage Act; What is on our Bucket List; Our Favourite Poem/Book or piece of music; Modern Inventions: love them or hate them; The Advertising Industry and Exploring our Personality Type amongst others. Some of our members are also hoping to attend the National Conference in Chester in June where the theme will be Nature versus Human Innovation.

Our lunch club for February will be going to The Cafe Dome and our Reading Group, who meet in the evenings on the 4th Thursday of each month, will be discussing The Tobacconist by Robert Seethaler. We have also decided to introduce a coffee morning to alternate with the monthly Lunch Club as well as arranging Theatre trips, cinema visits, walks or whatever other activities are suggested by our members.

Our meetings are very friendly and informal, usually but not always, in the afternoon in each others' homes. If you would like to find out more about NWR there is a lot of information on the website: [nwr.org.uk](http://nwr.org.uk) or to find out more about our group in particular, or to come along to any of our meetings (to check us out with no obligation to join) please contact: Avril Keable, email: [avrilkeable@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:avrilkeable@hotmail.co.uk), tel: 01256 322832 or Evelyn Jones, email: [evelyncjjones@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:evelyncjjones@hotmail.co.uk), tel: 01256 816636.

Diane Hope

## **Lego Tour in Festival Place**

Over Easter, from Thursday 29th March to Sunday 8th April, the Great Brick Safari LEGO tour will be in Festival Place. Customers can find all the animals on the entertaining, interactive trail to win a prize and on Good Friday (30th March) and Easter Saturday (31st March) there will be an interactive Bright Bricks session in Porchester Square where children can build their own lion or tiger LEGO face to take home with them. A LEGO safari jeep will also be ready and raring to go for those all important selfies.

For further information on upcoming events at Festival Place visit [www.festivalplace.co.uk](http://www.festivalplace.co.uk) or find them on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Naomi Snuggs

## **Lost Ring—Update**

In last month's edition of the 'Chat' you kindly published an article concerning my lost ring. I am so pleased to say that, as a result, my ring and I have been re-united.

May I offer my sincere thanks to the lady who found my ring, to the police for holding it in safe-keeping and to the Chineham Chat for publishing my original letter.

Doreen Kirby

## **Farleigh Wallop Woodland Walk**

St. Michael's Hospice Farleigh Wallop Woodland Walk: Sunday 8th April, Farleigh Wallop Estate, Farleigh Wallop, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG25 2HX. Registration has opened! While we wait

for spring to arrive, why not plan something to look forward to by registering for a wonderful day out on the Farleigh Wallop Estate enjoying country walks organised by St. Michael's Hospice. Last year's event took place in glorious sunshine and was so popular that we have had to limit participant numbers to 500 this year.

Enjoy beautiful views across the rolling Hampshire countryside, blooming bluebells and the opportunity to spend quality time with friends and family, two legged or four legged, all followed by a delicious cream tea in the stunning setting of Home Barn. Starting from 09.30 choose to walk either our 5 or 10 mile route which both guarantee to give you a superb day out.

The Farleigh Estate has a huge amount of history. If you decide to walk the 5 mile route, you will pass by St. Andrew Church which now stands in isolation. Back in the 17th Century, the area around the Church was the village of Farleigh Wallop; however, the houses are believed to have been destroyed during the Civil War. On both routes you will see a glimpse of Farleigh House. The Farleigh Estate has been in the Wallop family since 1430, however, the house was rebuilt in 1730 following a fire. In 1954, it became a prep school for boys until Quentin Wallop modernised the house and gardens living with his family from 1989 – 2014.

To sign up and for more information please visit the Hospice website at: [stmichaelsospice.org.uk/events](http://stmichaelsospice.org.uk/events) or call fundraising on 01256 848 848. Alternatively, follow us on Twitter @smhbasingstoke #WoodlandWalk

Sue O'Flinn