



Barkham Newsletter

£1, free to Members

Issue 105 Autumn 2013

from the Barkham Village Residents Association

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

Next BVRA Social Event Family Skittles Evening Saturday 5 October



More details on page 10

26th BVRA AGM – 14th November 2013

In accordance with the constitution, the BVRA Annual General Meeting will take place at 8pm on Thursday 14th November 2013. The meeting will take place at Barkham Village Hall and all residents of Barkham are welcome to attend. Nominations for any post should reach the Secretary by 24th October.



We have a new Website!
See page 2 for details

In this issue...

Website	2	Gardening	8	Music & concerts	13
Editorial	3	Quiz	9	Ramblers	14
Barkham Parish Council	4	Me2 Club	9	Energy Saving	16
Borough Councillor	4	Social	10	Useful numbers	19
Arborfield Relief Road	6	Church	12	Diary	19



New BVRA Website

We are pleased to announce the launch of the new BVRA website. The site has a fresh new look and introduces a number of additional features that build on the previous version of the site.

Our email subscription service has been extended. Now as well as being able to subscribe to development watch alerts to be kept informed of potential developments in the local area you can also subscribe to receive alerts for our social events. All you need to do is click the links on the home page and provide us with your email address. To ensure email addresses are genuine you will then receive an email asking to confirm your address – if you don't receive this please remember to check your spam folder and also set your email system up to accept emails from barkham.org.uk. If you are already a subscriber to the Development Watch alerts your subscription has been maintained but you will need to subscribe to receive social emails

We have reintroduced the History of Barkham section and have added a couple of new articles which we hope you find interesting. To complement the information about Barkham, Stewart and I have been out and about with our brownie 127's taking pictures for the Images of Barkham sec-

tion. I'm not sure about Stewart but I'm no David Bailey so if you have any photos we could use on the site they will be gratefully received. Please send them to me at the email address below.

We know you like our newsletters but if you are like our household it often gets thrown out with the newspapers [no comment – Ed!]. Well, the good news is the newsletters will be available on the website about a month after you receive your paper copy so if you want to refer back to that article a few months ago it will be available online. This will include the Development Watch alerts so you'll be able to easily

refer back to check previous communications.

There's a lot more information on the site – details of the parish council, a calendar of events and contact details of other local organisations... Well that's about enough from me, why not go and check it out for yourself at <http://barkham.org.uk>.

Finally, we want to keep developing the site so I'd welcome any contributions or suggestions for what you'd like to see on the site. You can contact me at webmaster@barkham.org.uk

Dave Clements

BVRA 2012/13 GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman: vacant

Stewart Richardson acting
chairman@barkham.org.uk

Secretary: Sarina Martin

19 Silver Birches
977 4065

secretary@barkham.org.uk

Treasurer: Ian Overton

6, Waverley Way
Finchampstead
973 4806

treasurer@barkham.org.uk

Social: Judith Collins

31 Almond Close
977 1579

social@barkham.org.uk

Membership: Jim Butler

6 Sandy Lane
978 3572

membership@barkham.org.uk

Newsletter: Stewart Richardson

342 Barkham Road
979 1914

newsletter@barkham.org.uk

Web Site: Dave Clements

32 The Junipers
webmaster@barkham.org.uk



At the June meeting, Gillian Franklin came to talk to us about "the History of Apples". Mr Rees came in July to tell us how he started to write books. We had the annual BBQ in August and it was a treat to have a dry evening. Everyone enjoyed the tasty food. Several trips were made to Wokingham Theatre.

The meetings take place on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm at Barkham Village Hall. For further details, contact Pauline Vestey on 979 1714.

Angela Hands



Editorial

Welcome to the autumn edition of the Barkham Newsletter!

You may recall that in the summer issue we advertised for a new webmaster. Well I pleased to say that Dave Clements stepped forward and took on the role. In fact in the interim he has redesigned the site and if you visit <http://barkham.org.uk> you can see the results for yourself. Please see opposite page for more details. Let us know what you think of the site and all constructive ideas as to how we should develop it will be welcome. It is intended to complement the newsletter and as we only publish quarterly it allows more "immediate" information to be made available to residents.

In this issue of the newsletter Laurence Heath discusses the issues relating to the options being put forward by Wokingham Borough Council for the Arborfield bypass to relieve congestion caused by the planned development at the Garrison. This is of direct relevance to Barkham because, as Laurence says, a poorly designed route may mean much more traffic using Barkham as a route to the M4 and/or Reading.

We have the regular contributions from our WBC councillor and other local societies such as music, gardening and rambling. David Horrocks reports on the Holiday Bible Club which has been running successfully for many years and must be one of the biggest logistical challenges in the area (almost all achieved by volunteers)!

The Quiz this time is on "Food". If you get all the questions right you certainly have a catholic (sorry David) taste!

As always, I would welcome new contributors, even just for a single issue to "have your say".

Stewart Richardson

Advertising and Newsletter Contributions

Newsletter articles / contributions for the Winter edition should be in by 8 November. It helps if these can be submitted in electronic form by email to newsletter@barkham.org.uk. They may also be hand written, and should be sent to the Editor, Stewart Richardson, at 342 Barkham Road, Wokingham, RG41 4DE.

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

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



News from Your Parish Council

Arborfield Garrison Development

The route of the proposed Arborfield by pass was launched at a public meeting at Henry Street Garden Centre last month to a packed room of residents. The details can be found on the Council's web site and there will be exhibitions at Barkham Village Hall on the following dates:-

Friday 4th Oct 1.30 – 5.30 p.m.

Saturday 5th Oct 9.30 – 1.30 p.m.

Do please take a few minutes to have a look and if you have any comments these should be passed back to Wokingham Borough Council

The relevant documents can be viewed on the Wokingham Borough Council website on the following page:

<http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/transport/roads/arborfieldreliefroad>

A consultation will be launched in September.

SDL Community Forum

The date of the next Community Forum will be 19th September at 7.00 p.m. at Henry Street Garden Centre, these are excellent meetings where you can ask questions and raise concerns, please

do support them as they are for your benefit in order that the best possible development with infra structure can be achieved.

Planning Application: Land behind 336-350 Barkham Road

A Planning Application has been submitted which proposes demolition of 346 Barkham Road and erection of 25 dwellings behind 336-350 Barkham Road., with new access from Barkham Road. Barkham Parish Council has objected to this application on the grounds that it is located outside the settlement boundary. This parcel of land is named as a reserve site in the MDD and should not be built on until after 2026.

Application number is F/2013/1483 can be viewed on the Wokingham Borough Council website.

The Sam Hosgood Sporting Endeavour Fund

The Parish Council are delighted that three worthy young people will be presented with a cheque from Sam Hosgood at the next meeting of the Parish Council on 10th September, they are Katie Abrahams who is a talented trampolinist and Jacob Payne and Sarah Wakefield both ice dancers. We wish them every success for the future.

Judith Neuhofer
Clerk to Barkham Parish Council



Borough Councillor's Report

I hope everybody has had a good summer break and even for those who could not get away the weather has helped with all the local fairs and events and hopefully this has recharged the batteries.

The borough council will be back into full swing dealing with the major development applications in the borough and the regeneration of the town centre which has now started.

We will also be burning the midnight oil trying to find the savings forced on us by the reduction in the government grant we receive, even though we are the worst funded council in the UK as far as the government grants are concerned. The saving year on year will need to be in the region of £8million, at the same time we will be ensuring we preserve the services we provide in the borough.

Some residents may have received letters, addressed purely to the household, or a telephone call stating that the company has 'identified that their property is likely to be in the incorrect council tax band' and offering reductions of around £300 per year as well as a lump sum from when they moved into the property, or from 1993 when council tax banding was introduced.

Working together to create a Neighbourhood Plan

This note is aimed at businesses in Barkham but is included in the Newsletter so that all residents can be aware of this aspect of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Arborfield and Newland and Barkham Parish Councils are jointly formulating a Neighbourhood Plan that will take advantage of the opportunities to provide facilities and opportunities in the area through the Localism Act. Residents took part in a survey last year and as a result a number of working groups have been set up to look at issues ranging from transport and education to community facilities and employment, all of which will influence the way Arborfield

Garrison Strategic Development Location (SDL) is developed.

The Employment Working Group has decided to approach local businesses operating in the vicinity of the two parishes to find out the problems and issues that concern them and ways that employment opportunities could be encouraged. With the major redevelopment at Arborfield Garrison there will be a reduction in employment locally, and as a result potentially new provision, especially for starter businesses and the self-employed.

In order that we can carefully assess your business requirements, you are invited not only

to complete this questionnaire but also to consider joining the working group. Simply email clerk@barkham-parishcouncil.org.uk to get more details of this group or any other.

This questionnaire has already been delivered to all Barkham businesses of which we are aware, but you can complete it online via the Survey link on www.barkham-parishcouncil.org.uk or directly via www.surveymonkey.com/s/5HVGJX7. *The information will be used solely to provide non-attributable statistics and will not be passed to third parties. Please respond by FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 27th.*

However, these companies charge a fee of around 30% + VAT for something that residents can investigate themselves – for free.

If you believe you are in the wrong band, then all you need to do is contact the Valuation Office Agency, who are responsible for setting and reviewing council tax bands on all domestic properties, explaining why you believe it is incorrect and it will be reviewed – for free.

Although the service these companies are offering is not illegal, it is just as simple for residents to carry out the process themselves by contacting the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) on 03000 503 600 or by visiting the [VOA website](#) where full details on how to challenge council tax bands are available.

If any residents are concerned by unsolicited letters or phone calls, they should contact Wokingham Direct on (0118) 974 6000

Arborfield Development

Over 640 residents have submitted comments to the council on the MOD planning application which the council is currently evaluating. Traffic was one of the biggest issues due to the adverse impact additional traffic would have on the inadequate local roads in and around Barkham and surrounding areas.

I will be following this with interest as I believe there are a number of errors in the planning application which I know the planning staffs are in the process of trying to resolve with the applicant.

While this is on-going the council have proposed a route for the Bypass at Arborfield and this will also be subject to a separate consultation (see page 6).

One last point on planning by the time you are reading this the council should have approval for the final part of the documentation which supports our core

strategy document which helps with the control of development in the borough. This will hopefully avoid unsuitable development in the Borough and help us to defend our position at appeals against any developer who put forward applications for unsustainable or unsuitable development in the borough.

If I can be of help on any borough matter please do not hesitate to contact me

John Kaiser
Councillor for Barkham
Wokingham Borough Council
Email: john.kaiser@wokingham.gov.uk
Telephone: 0118 9762116
Mobile 0771 419 2352



Arborfield Relief Road

Wokingham Borough Council will start a consultation on Arborfield Relief Road options in September. This follows an examination of four main route options with various sub variants.

This is important for all of us in Barkham, even if at first sight it may seem remote.

- A well thought out solution will absorb traffic from the Arborfield Garrison development and minimise impact on Barkham Roads. Ideally this would depend upon a well-designed layout in the vicinity of the Langley Common roundabout and Biggs Lane, so as to encourage traffic emerging from the Arborfield Garrison to use the relief road rather than the existing road network – in particular Langley Common Road.
- Potentially a well-designed solution will also avoid the need to “upgrade” Barkham Road with traffic lights at the Bull, Bearwood Road and Edneys Hill, as was proposed by the Arborfield Garrison developers.
- A poorly designed solution could result in much more traffic travelling through the

parish. This will happen if routes out of the Arborfield Garrison are circuitous.

The Borough revealed their ‘technically’ preferred route at a forum held at Henry Street Garden Centre last month. This route would start at the Langley Common Road roundabout, hugging the west side of Arborfield village and re-joining the A327 near Pudding Lane Nursery and with an extension to the B3030 (Sindlesham Road/Mole Road).

Not surprisingly it was poorly received by Arborfield residents as the route comes near to existing housing.

Unfortunately the Borough made no attempt to indicate what mitigation in terms of noise and landscaping barriers might be possible, or any proposals to improve environment in the village centre. It was explained simply in terms of traffic management.

At the Wokingham Borough Council Executive later in July, it was decided to consult on all the routes included in the original study. The four main routes are outlined below. (It is confusing that the consultants have used a different numbering scheme compared with the initial proposals that some of you may have seen.) There may well be further variations or alterations in the final consultation documents.

Route A

This is the ‘technically’ preferred option as outlined above. It does start at the Langley Common roundabout, which is a good thing for Barkham. (A variant would start a bit further north, near the British Legion club.) Surprisingly it includes a north-

ern extension round Lockey Farm linking to Mole Road. This will encourage even more traffic along this narrow and winding route and will increase congestion at the two roundabouts at Sindlesham and in Mill Lane – a bad thing for Barkham. As already noted, this is not popular with Arborfield residents given its juxtaposition to the village.

Route B

This route also begins at the Langley Common roundabout and re-joins the A327 near Farley Farm, just south of the bridge across the Loddon. It would be well away from Arborfield village, to the west of the Henry Street garden centre. This route would then provide a link to the proposed Shinfield relief road. This seems to be the best route for providing Arborfield Garrison with direct routes towards Reading and the M4 eastbound and westbound, while avoiding the use of residential roads such as Langley Common Road, Barkham Road and Bearwood Road.

Route C

The westernmost route, this would leave the A327 south of Arborfield Garrison and would re-join it on the edge of Shinfield near the Magpie and Parrott. At this point it would link directly into the Shinfield Road. This route would be very ineffective in attracting traffic from the Arborfield Garrison as the start point is too far south. As a consequence traffic from Arborfield Garrison would mainly use the existing routes through Arborfield Village and along Langley Common Road.

Route D

This is an eastern route, starting from the Langley Common roundabout, crossing School Road and then winding round the east of Arborfield to meet the A327 north of Lockey Farm. (A variant also begins near the British Legion club.) Route D would be quite a problem for Barkham as it is quite circuitous which would make routes via Langley Common Road and Bearwood Road a relatively attractive option to reach the M4. Also, unless the A327 through Arborfield Village was restricted, traffic for Reading could still be tempted to take the shorter route through the Village. It would also run close to housing in the Langley Common Road and School Road areas – transferring the problem from the west of Arborfield. The junction with School Road would have potential congestion and safety problems, particularly in relation to The Coombes School. The alternative would be to truncate School Road, making it into two separate culs de sac.

While it is to be welcomed that that the Borough is prepared to invest in this new road, it is worrying that there does not seem to be a coherent plan to improve traffic circulation in the wider area. For example the willingness to pour yet more traffic into Winnersh seems remarkable. It also seems to be a wasted opportunity to link the Shinfield relief road into the poorly designed Blackboy roundabout, rather than using an alternative junction with the Lower Earley relief road to provide alternative routes to reach the M4 via junctions 10 or 11.

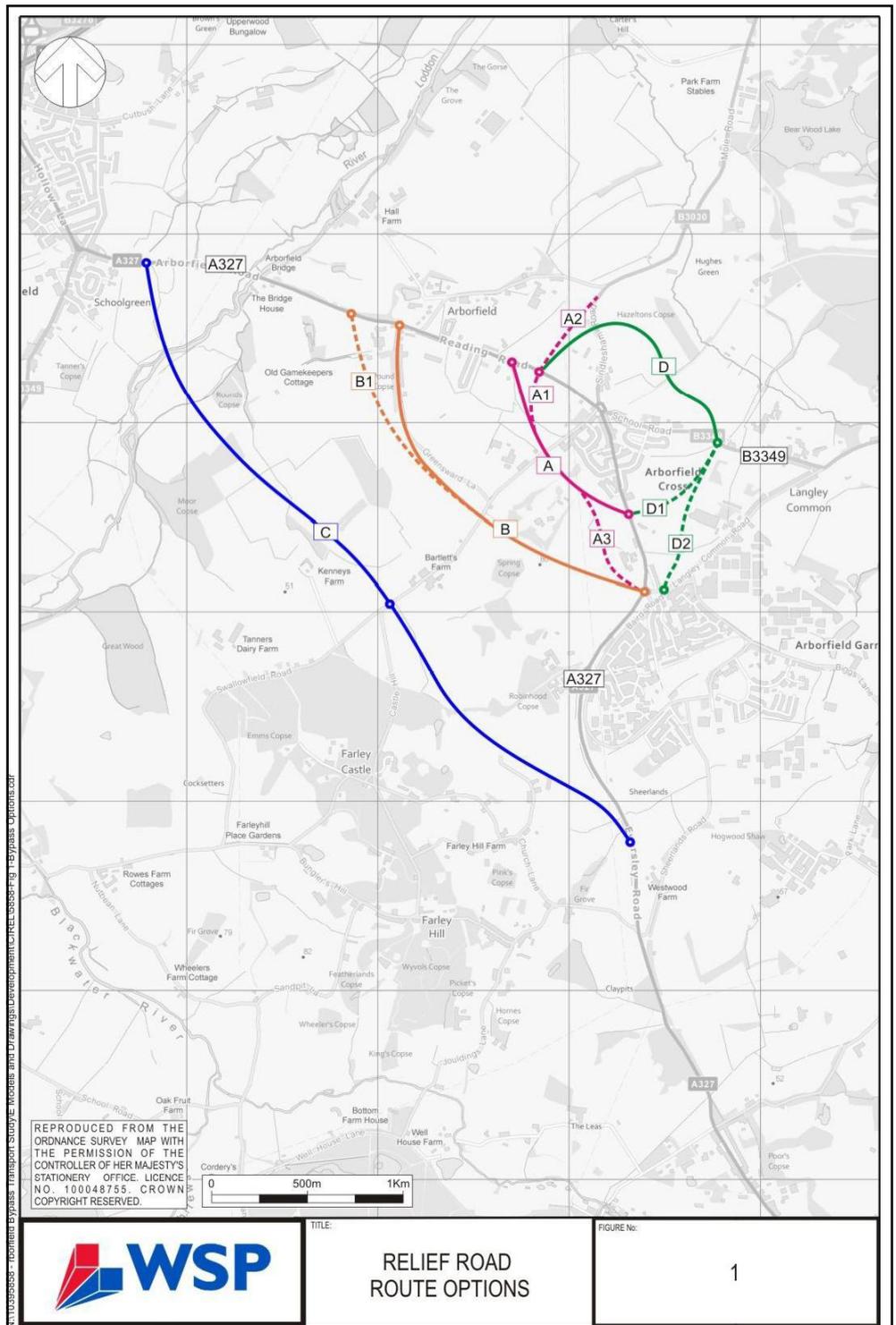
There will be a static exhibition showing the various options at Henry Street Garden Centre

from 9 Sept – 2 Nov and also at Barkham Village Hall on 4 Oct (1.30 -5.30) and 5 Oct (9.30 -1.30).

I encourage residents to look at the various proposals when the consultation begins and to take the trouble to send their comments to the Borough. In my opinion, Option B is the best for Barkham, provided that there is a satisfactory layout for the northern exit from the Arborfield

Garrison, e.g. by creating a direct road from Biggs Lane to the roundabout, with traffic heading east onto Langley Common Road either being forced to backtrack via the roundabout itself or alternatively having lights at the Biggs Lane junction that prioritises traffic turning out of the Arborfield Garrison towards the relief road.

Laurence Heath
Vice Chairman
Barkham Parish Council



For original see <http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/transport/roads/arborfieldreliefroad/>

Arborfield Gardening Association

Some of our members enjoyed the lovely summer weather in July with a trip to Somerset to visit one of our old members who moved near to Ilminster, a beautiful part of the world. We met for a pub lunch after a morning visit to the National Trust property at Barrington Court, and during the afternoon members went various ways, to a fruit farm to buy cherries and the last of the season's asparagus, and to a Cider Mill to see production, taste the merchandise and purchase goods on sale, from Cider, to Apple Aperitif to Cherry Brandy.

See photos of the summer outing – enjoying the shade by a vintage cider press and telling the time with a sundial in the garden. Some members then visited Tintinhull Gardens before the return journey, and most made time for the essential 'cream tea'!

Please contact me Jan on 976 0243 if you are interested in joining our club. We have some 'garden hopping' in September (12th at 7pm), and a talk in the Village Hall on 10th Oct 7.45 'A Head Gardener's Year'. November is our 'Question Time' session at Henry Street Garden Centre – a very exciting event.



Thurs 14th November -7.45pm

Question Time at Henry Street Garden Centre

The AGA Committee is proud to present the Highlight of our year!

On our panel:

Colin Evans - BBC Radio Berkshire's Gardening Presenter

Ray Norton - Landscape Expert from Pudding Lane Nursery

Alan Goid - Champion Rose Grower from 'Streets'

Entry by Ticket only £5pp - *available soon!*

Bring along your garden problems for the experts to solve, challenge them to identify that mystery plant in your garden or just ask for guidance on a new planting scheme

Finchampstead Flower Club

Our next meetings are as follows:

October 28th 'Light my Fire' by Annette Urquart at California Rate Payer's Hall 7.45

November 18th 'Christmas is Coming' by Tan Strong, Open Evening, on Monday 8pm at Finchampstead Memorial Hall.

Visitors and new members are always welcome at any meeting, any inquiries call Elaine Lumsden on 977 4951

Ann Tuffee

Wokingham Times

If you have local news or would like your event photographing for the paper, please let me know. My direct line is 918 3023.

Jon Nurse



Are you looking for ways to develop your work with children and young people? Then sign up for free training with Me2 Club!

The Disability and Inclusion Training Project offers informative and practical courses aimed at increasing the inclusion and support of children and young people with additional needs within any mainstream, out of school, leisure setting.

If you lead or help out at a Wokingham Borough activity group and would like to increase your knowledge, skills or confidence then this free training is a great opportunity! Courses include:

- Autism
- Effective Communication with Children/Young People with Additional Needs
- Epilepsy
- Inclusive Solutions in Mainstream Groups
- Introducing Disability to a Mainstream Group
- Making Mainstream Activities Inclusive to All
- Safeguarding Children (Universal) - with a focus on safeguarding children with disabilities
- Supporting Behaviour Difficulties

Me2 also offers bespoke sessions which will be tailored to help you and your group to overcome any barriers to inclusion you are facing – struggling to develop strategies to manage behaviour difficulties? Not sure how to encourage your other group members to be understanding and inclusive? Thanks to subsidising

The Quiz

For this edition, a topic close to my heart (or stomach!) and probably that of many Barkham residents – FOOD! Answers on page 19.

1. “Food, Glorious Food” is a song from which musical?
2. What is the primary ingredient of guacamole?
3. We are generally accepted to have 5 different types of taste: sweet, sour, salty, bitter and...what is the fifth one?
4. Which meat is usually used in Lancashire Hot Pot?
5. What is the famous Welsh delicacy laverbread made from?
6. What is biltong?
7. “If music be the food of love, play on” is a line from which Shakespeare play?
8. Jalapeno is a type of what?
9. What is Cullen Skink?
10. And finally, (and obscurely!).....in a classic Red Dwarf episode, The Cat pretended to be “Bhindi Bhagi” in an attempt (unsuccessfully) to fool an aggressive alien. Those curry lovers among you may have eaten Bhindi Bhagi many times, but which vegetable is “Bhindi”?

from the Big Lottery Fund Me2 Club can help, at no charge to you!

“Me2 Club training has eased any worries I had of how to involve children” Playworker

“Brilliant – this will help me in the rest of my career, keep up the good work” Outdoors activity leader

If you would like to attend any of these courses, or need advice and guidance regarding a particular child/group, download our training brochure and get in touch. The training brochure contains details on each course and what will be covered as well as all course dates for September 2013 – July 2014. All participants

receive a certificate and training pack.

www.me2club.org.uk/Inclusion.htm
info@me2club.org.uk

0118 969 6369

Facebook: Me2ClubCharity

Twitter: @Me2club

Me2 Club is a Wokingham Borough charity that enables any child/young person aged 5-19 living in the borough, to take part in a mainstream leisure activity of their choice. This is done by matching children with trained volunteers who support them to take part, join in and have fun as well as providing additional support and training to leaders.





Social Matters

What a year this has been – cold and wet for what seemed at the time eternity, followed by days when we experienced very high temperatures and nights when it was so difficult to sleep. Luckily the school holidays were mainly fine so that the children could enjoy playing outside and getting rid of their excess energy.

at secondary school. This price includes a ploughman's supper. We also have a licensed bar and hold a raffle. Please join us – I hold the tickets so either ring me on the number below or email me at the address on page 3, and don't leave it too late as this event is usually very popular and we are restricted on numbers. From past experience we have found that the children really enjoy this event especially when they manage to get a higher score than their parents!

On Saturday 16th November we are holding another quiz evening in the village hall. Tables are for 6 please and in fairness to all any more than that number in a team

Please ensure that when you are ordering tickets that you inform me of any dietary issues – I can do things before the day but not always at the last minute.

In December we will be holding another 'Carols in the Park' but the date has not been decided yet. We should be able to advertise it in our next newsletter but in the meantime have you looked at our new website? We will be placing information there as soon as we have arranged functions.

On behalf of the social committee may I look forward to seeing you at the next function?

Judith Collins – 977 1579



Now that the autumn is upon us it is time to think what to do to keep them, and us, occupied and so on Saturday 5th October we are holding our next village event – a family skittles event at the village hall. Why don't you bring the family along – a group ticket for two adults and two primary school children costs £24.00. Individual tickets are £8.00 for adults and £5.00 for those not yet

will be penalised. If you cannot make a complete team I might be able to help as I often get couples who wish to participate. The cost of the tickets is £8.00 and again a fish and chip supper is included. I have also obtained the licence for the bar and will be holding a raffle. Please contact me for tickets on the number below or via the email address on page 3.



BVRA Distributors' Party

Every year the BVRA holds a party to thank the team of newsletter distributors and other supporters of the residents' association, without whose help we couldn't continue to function and serve the community. This year's event was held at the Village Hall on 10 August and as the weather was set fair we had a barbecue. Thanks to Judith, Jim and the social committee for organising what was a very enjoyable evening (as the photos demonstrate)!





Holiday Bible Club 2013 'When Dreams Come True'

It's all over for another year. But what a year it was: six months of planning; five days of mainly sun (thankfully); approximately 400 children; 150 volunteer helpers (many of whom had taken time off work to be with us); lots of sports, games, and fairground stalls; more crafts than I can remember; inflatables and water sports; and the opportunity to learn some wonderful things from the Old Testament story of Joseph (he of the amazing technicolour dreamcoat)!

We were hugely grateful to the Headmaster, Patrick Pritchett, and others at the Coombes CE Primary School who once again allowed us to run HBC on their field, and to borrow so much of their equipment for the week as well. I've said it before and I'll say it again: it's very hard to imagine how we could ever do it without all the support we receive from the school, the Parish Council, and various others in the local community.

We run a morning programme for under-5s and their parents or carers, and a longer programme for children up to the age



of 14. Once again the numbers signed up took us by surprise. What is particularly exciting is to see more and more children coming from the very local area (and particularly from the Coombes School). We had to pray hard for more people from our churches to join the team, in order to cope with so many who wanted to come, and were very grateful for all those who answered the call, meaning that we didn't have to turn too many children away.

Of course it was exhausting. But once again it was a privilege to be

able to serve the local community in this way. And it is such a thrill to see youngsters of all ages being given the opportunity to think through the message of Christianity for themselves. I think my favourite quote of the week came from the child who told her parents 'My leader makes learning about God so much fun!'

And now it's just four months until the planning begins all over again...

David Horrocks



Trinity Concert Band Present – Around the World in 80 minutes

When: 19:30 on Sat 28th September

Where: Trinity Church, Earley

Contact Name: Box office

Contact Phone: 0118 9690925

Contact Email: dave.robson@ntlworld.com

Further Details: <http://www.trinityband.co.uk>

In this Concert, the Band will take you on a World Tour, featuring “Global Variations” by Nigel Hess, “Oregon” by De Haan, “Fiddler on the Roof”, and “An American in Paris” by George Gershwin (see website for details)

Tickets are £10 up to 24 hours before the concert and £12 on the door. Children under 16 years are free when accompanied by a paying member of the audience. Tickets can be purchased from the Box Office or via our website.

The photo below shows the band performing in Wokingham in June this year.

Dave Robson



CROWTHORNE Symphony ORCHESTRA

Our Summer Concert in July was another good evening – highlights of which for many of us were the beautiful violin playing of the young soloist Molly Cockburn in the ‘Romance for Violin and Orchestra’ by Dvořák and the magnificent Symphony No.7 also by Dvořák. Over the past few years the challenging nature of our programmes and the standard of playing have increased immensely and our audiences have also increased, which is rewarding. If you haven’t been

Prep School in Crowthorne when we will be preparing for our Autumn Concert on 23rd November at the Old Gym, Wellington College at 8pm. The programme includes the arrangement by Elgar of Handel’s ‘Overture in D minor’ from his Chandos Anthem No.2. The original work was scored for a small orchestra but Elgar’s transcription is for full symphony orchestra. We will also be playing Brahms’ Symphony No.4 and the wonderful Cello Concerto by Dvořák when our soloist will



to one of our concerts recently, do give us a try.

Our annual open Orchestra Workshop will be held on Sunday 29th September 2013, at The Old Gym, Wellington College. 10.15-5.00 when we will be working on Prokofiev: *Romeo and Juliet* with Robert Roscoe. There may still be places for some instruments - contact Faye for more info if you are interested in participating workshop@crowthorneorchestra.com.

The orchestra resumes weekly rehearsals on Monday 9th September from 7.45-10pm at Our Lady’s

be Joe Davies, a former pupil at Chetham’s School of Music. Joe is currently in the third year of a music degree at Trinity College.

We welcome anyone who would like to join the orchestra, subject to vacancies, and especially string players. If you are interested and are a competent player, even if you have taken a break from playing, please get in touch or come along to a rehearsal, if only to listen. Our website has lots more information and contact details: www.crowthorneorchestra.com

Chris Gadsby

Everyone is welcome to join Loddon Valley Ramblers on any of these walks. Just turn up at the start or phone the leader for more details. Please wear appropriate clothing & footwear. For more walks visit Loddon Valley Ramblers Website: www.lvra.org.uk



Thursday 26th September: Gently undulating farmland & lanes near Warfield, 5 miles. 10.00am from Weller's Lane, Warfield after street parking, (RG42 6EN). **Leader – Jane T. 0118 978 4319**

Sunday 29th September: Views of Thames Valley, deer park & Thames Path from Remenham, 6 miles. 10.00am from Mill End Free Car Park, Hambleden, (RG9 6TL). **Leader – David R. 01344 777890.**

Thursday 10th October: Pleasant mixture of woodland & farmland northeast of Wargrave, 5 miles. 10.30am outside The Horns pub, Crazies Hill, (RG10 8LY), after parking in the road nearby; if no places left, park around the corner at Cockpole Green. Please respect the grass verge. **Leader – Ray S. 07761 251217.**

Sunday 13th October: Climb to the top of Bowsey Hill, visible from miles around, 4 ½ miles. 1.30pm from the 'Seven Stars' lay-by (pub now closed) on the A4 at Knowl Hill, (RG10 9UR). **Leaders – Pat & Daphne P. 07785 331375.**

Sunday 3rd November: On the borders of the Chilterns: Caversham Park, Crowsley Park & Chalkhouse Green, 5.6 miles. 10.30am in the free public Car Park adjacent to the Clayfield Copse Recreation Ground off Caversham Park Road, Reading, (RG4 6RT). **Leader – Cathy O'N. 07940 801261.**

Thursday 7th November: Field & forest around Sherlock Row & Beenham's Green, 5 ½ miles. 10.00am from Car Park of Sherlock Inn, Sherlock Row (permission obtained), (RG10 0PS); overflow parking on roadside. **Leader – Roger A. 07774 230784.**

Thursday 14th November: Gently undulating woodland to the north of Arborfield Cross, 5 miles. 10.00am from the small free Car Park at Arborfield Cross, about 200m down Swallowfield Road from The Bull – parking has been reserved through Arborfield Parish, (RG2 9QD). **Leaders – Ricardo & Silvia S. 07846 434861.**

Sunday 17th November: Easy walk via Landsend following River Loddon & through Alder Moor, 4 ½ miles. 10.30am from Free Car Park in Ashenbury Park, off Tippings Lane, Woodley, (RG5 4RY). **Leader – Vlad P. 07778 852870.**

Sunday 1st December: Circular walk including Jennetts Park, Easthampstead Court & Popeswood, 5 miles. 10.00am from the Free Car Park of the Hewlett Packard offices at Cain Road, Bracknell (permission arranged, (RG12 1HN). **Leader – Stewart M. 07901 514 832.**

Thursday 5th December: Wellington College, Ambarrow Wood & the Ridges, 5 miles. 10.30am from Simon's Wood NT Free Car Park, Wellingtonia Avenue, Crowthorne, (RG45 6AF). **Leader – Jo M. 07702 123793.**

WJSC is dedicated to offering FREE support and guidance to unemployed people living in the Wokingham Borough.

WJSC prides itself on providing friendly, professional support in an atmosphere where you can spend time in a motivational, open environment which can help remove the feeling of isolation that job searching can sometimes bring. You can also interact with staff who are on hand to answer your questions and give dedicated support to you. So come along and see how we can help.

- 1 to 1 Advisor Support
- CV writing
- Interview techniques / skills / mock
- Career Matching programme
- Microsoft office / Internet access / free wifi
- Printing / telephone
- Newspapers

Workshops have also become an integral part of the services that WJSC offer for CV Writing, Interview Skills and Over 50's. They are run every 3 – 4 weeks from 10:30 – 12:30pm at The Cornerstone. Contact us to book yourself a place.

The Cornerstone
 Norreys Avenue
 Wokingham
 RG40 1UE
 or call Nicola / Alison
 Tel: 01189 770517 for an appointment.
 Email: Jobsearch@wjsc.org.uk
 Website: www.wjsc.org.uk



A group of Loddon Valley Ramblers cross the weir at Hambleden on the Wokingham Way photo by Pat Perridge.



The Wokingham Volunteer Centre will be hosting the annual Volunteer Recruitment Fair on Saturday 12th October from 10am-1pm at the Bradbury Centre in Wokingham, next to Rose Street Methodist Church and behind M & S.

Around 25 local charities have booked stands and you will be able to chat to people who help the elderly, children, families, people with disabilities, the environment, emergency services and so on. Entry is free and there is no need to book, just turn up!

- Do you have a few hours to spare each week?
- Maybe you are recently retired and would like to give some time to the local community?
- Perhaps your children are at school?
- Maybe you are not in employment and would like to keep busy while you are looking for your next job?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then the Wokingham Community Transport Scheme needs you! All you need is your own car - there is no cost to you as we reimburse all your expenses.

The Scheme provides low cost transport for the elderly to hospital, local doctors, dentists, opticians, physiotherapy and so

on – and, when we have enough volunteers, some social trips. Drivers are called on an ad hoc basis or can volunteer for a regular slot or client.

For more information, please contact the Wokingham Volunteer Centre on 0118 977 0749, email wok-vol@btconnect.com, follow us on Facebook or Twitter, or check out our website www.volunteercentrewokingham.org.uk.

Barkham Village Hall

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

From as little as £22/hr for both halls. £25/hr after 6.00 p.m. on Saturday.

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

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

Further information can be obtained from the parish council web site with photographs of the hall plus a calendar with availability. Please contact Judith Neuhof on 9790296 or email clerk@barkham-parishcouncil.org.uk



Wokingham Choral Society

JS BACH MASS IN B MINOR

Saturday 16 November 2013
at 7.30pm

The Great Hall,
University of Reading
(London Rd site)

For details see our website:
wokingham-choral-society.org.uk

Come and sing with us - you will be assured a warm welcome. We practice at Emmbrook Senior School, Wokingham, on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm

Alison Sears

NCT Wokingham Nearly New Sale

Sunday 29th September,
11.15am (11am for members with cards)-12.45pm
Venue: St Crispins School, London Rd, Wokingham, RG40 1SS
Admission: £1 donation (adults only)

We'll be selling good quality maternity wear, baby, toddler and children's clothes, books, toys, DVDs and equipment including cots, high chairs and prams. So it's time to sort out those Autumn and Winter items for sale and to put the date in your diaries now! If you wish to become a seller or a volunteer please go to: www.nct.org.uk/branches/wokingham

the charity for
your community



The photo shows about half of the current staff and a few ex-staff who left years ago but keep in touch. The young lady on the right should be ready to volunteer in about 15 years!

Two of our staff left recently. One, Nicole Perkins, left after 6 years as an Adviser, Supervisor and Bureau Services Manager to go and do a PhD in psychology. The other, Topsy Bradshaw, left after 2 years as our Administration Manager. We used the occasion, prompted by the lovely weather to hold a Bureau Garden Party.

WOKINGHAM
26-28 Market Place
(next to WH Smith), RG40 2AP
public@wokingham-cab.org.uk
www.wokingham-cab.org.uk

Hours:
Mon - Thu: 9.00am - 3.00pm
Fri: 9.00am - 1.00pm

Telephone assessments:
0844 499 4126



10 reasons to refurbish

Is it worth the hassle refurbishing an older home to make it much more energy efficient? Here are 10 reasons why it may feel like the healthy option:

1. Other people's fuel bills go up, yours go down. So you don't dread those winter bills.
2. Your house value is increased, so you are financially better off.¹
3. Your home is future-proofed against increasingly scarce energy supply, so you get peace of mind.
4. Mould growth is reduced or eliminated, so you breathe better.
5. Draught stripping and double glazing insulate you against external noise, so your home is more peaceful.
6. Double glazing increases your security.
7. Draughts are reduced, so you feel warmer and more comfortable.
8. Your home stays warm 24/7, reducing chances of illness. And because all the rooms are warm, you can use all your home.
9. Your home produces less environmentally damaging emissions, helping protect the planet and your kids.
10. Your home is insulated against summer sun, so it need no longer overheat. Happy days!

Complete Pest Solutions

Call Now For A Fast Professional Service from a locally run business.

- Wasps.
- Rats.
- Mice.
- Squirrels.
- Rabbits.
- Bird and Rodent proofing.
- Rural pest management specialists.
- Member of the BASC.
- Control methods and the safe use of Rodenticides.



07990814143

01189761126

To find out more about refurbishing an older home, visit www.superhomes.org.uk

Improve an older home

1. Effect of EPC ratings on house prices
Improve an old home in England from EPC G to A/B rating and its value increases by an average 14% says a June 2013 [DECC report](#). This is fantastic news for people who have retrofitted their homes. However, an April 2013 [EU report](#) found no increase in house values in Oxford (p115) so expect regional differences. The DECC report says that houses with better EPC ratings on average have a higher sale price per square metre, when other factors (including built form, age and geographical region) are eliminated. However, the report cautions that this should not be seen as simply cause and effect, as homes that have higher EPCs are more likely, for example, to have had other home improvement, such as refitted kitchens, which increase the value.

2. The Big Picture

The UK government set a target of a 60% carbon reduction by 2050 in 2005 (this was subsequently increased to 80%). The UK's 25 million homes currently account for 27% of UK carbon emissions. It is estimated that as many as 80% of all homes that will be standing in 2050 have already been built. This means that retrofitting existing homes is a priority if the government's target is to be met. The Government's Green Deal, which will offer loans for energy efficiency improvements, launched in January 2013. Repayments will be on a 'pay as you save' basis, helping overcome any upfront financial obstacles to making the improvements.

The Carer Advisor Service (End of Life)

Supporting carers looking after an adult

A pioneering service is being launched in Wokingham, supporting carers looking after an adult who is in the last year of their life. This free service will be dedicated to making sure that carers have support and information during this difficult time.

Sue Ryder



WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Carer Advisor Service helps carers with:

- advice and information about benefits and grants
- information and advice about local support services available from the voluntary sector, health and social services. This includes respite, carers' assessments and managing their caring role around work and other commitments
- liaison with statutory health and social care services (where this is needed)
- help planning ahead this includes:
 - advice around lasting power of attorney, advance care planning and short term advocacy
- advice about looking after themselves

This service is a partnership with Sue Ryder, Berkshire Carers Service and Wokingham Borough Council and is based at Macmillan House, Wokingham Hospital.

For more information about the service and referrals please contact the Carer Advisor (End of Life) and leave a message if necessary.

call: 01189 495030

visit www.suerydercare.org

Hours of service are office hours Monday to Thursday.

incredible care

Sue Ryder is a charity registered in England and Wales (1052076) and in Scotland (SC039578).
Ref. No. 001732/0413/L/NP/H © Sue Ryder, June 2013. This document will be reviewed in June 2015

Video & Film Transfers

Do you have video tapes of memories you'd like to keep but worried about tape degradation, broken video player, can't find the camera? Let me put them onto DVD for you for a price of £5 per video. Standard VHS, VHS-8, VHS-C, S-VHS-C, DV tapes. Extra DVD's of the same tape £1 per DVD. Sorry, unable to transfer cine films.

Transfer 35mm negatives onto DVD ?

24 film exposure £2.50,
36 film exposure £3.50

Contact Louise on 07721 419436
or on 01344 449728



Village Hall Secretary Wanted

The Village Hall Committee are urgently in need of someone who could take the minutes at the bi monthly committee meetings as the current secretary will be retiring. It is not an onerous job, all that is required is to attend the bi monthly meetings which are held on a Thursday at the Village Hall at 8.30 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of January, March, May, September and November. If anyone feels they could spare an hour please could you contact Chris Barrows (Chairman) 976 0626 or Judith Neuhofer 979 0296 and we would be delighted to give you more information.

The Village Hall is very well used by residents for parties and many social occasions and we take pride in keeping it in good condition. Many of you will have noticed that the toilets have now been refurbished. In order for the Hall to remain in such good condition it does require a Committee to run the hall.

This plea for help was in the last newsletter but nobody has come forward to offer their services; if residents still want the benefit of a village hall for social functions it is vital that this position is filled.

CJM PLUMBING & DECORATING

Professional, reliable, friendly, local domestic plumber, tiler & decorator

NO JOB TOO SMALL – FREE QUOTATIONS – NO CALL OUT CHARGES

Everything from a dripping tap to full bathroom renewals
Ceramic floor & wall tiling
Interior decorating
Guttering

Fully insured



For more information please contact Chris or Kylie on:
01189 733815 or **07827 914748** email: cjmplumbing@btinternet.com



Sunshine Gardening Services

"Making gardens more beautiful"

For all your gardening and landscaping needs

Rely on an efficient and friendly service

Please call 0118 979 2291
www.sunshinegardening.com
22 Thorn Close, Barkham

Vicky's Bodyworks present

Body Control

PILATES

'Pilates is the body conditioning class suitable for all abilities and ages'

By improving posture, reshape your body, relieve tension and create a general feeling of well-being. PILATES is medically recommended to help relieve back pain and stress.

Call Vicky on 0118 989 2572

Barkham Diary

23-Sep-13	Finchampstead Flower Club	CRH	7.30pm
24-Sep-13	Parish Council Planning Review	BVH	7.30pm
28-Sep-13	Refuse Lorry	Junipers	8-11am
2-Oct-13	Barkham Ladies Social Club	BVH	7.45pm
5-Oct-13	BVRA Skittles	BVH	7.30pm
8-Oct-13	Barkham Parish Council	BVH	8.00pm
8-Oct-13	Dinton Pastures Walkers Group	BVH	7.30pm
9-Oct-13	Bonsai Club	BVH	7.30pm
10-Oct-13	Arborfield Gardening Association	AVH	7.45pm
22-Oct-13	Parish Council Planning Review	BVH	7.30pm
26-Oct-13	Refuse Lorry	Junipers	8-11am
28-Oct-13	Finchampstead Flower Club	CRH	7.45pm
6-Nov-13	Barkham Ladies Social Club	BVH	7.45pm
8-Nov-13	Copy deadline for Winter Newsletter		
12-Nov-13	Barkham Parish Council	BVH	8.00pm
12-Nov-13	Dinton Pastures Walkers Group	BVH	7.30pm
13-Nov-13	Bonsai Club	BVH	7.30pm
14-Nov-13	Arborfield Gardening Ass Question Time	Henry Street	7.45pm
14-Nov-13	BVRA AGM	BVH	8pm
16-Nov-13	BVRA Quiz Night	BVH	7.30pm
18-Nov-13	Finchampstead Flower Club	FMH	8.00pm
23-Nov-13	Refuse Lorry	Junipers	8-11am
26-Nov-13	Parish Council Planning Review	BVH	7.30pm
Weekly Events			
Mondays	Pilates Class	BVH	11.30am
Mondays	Dog Training	BVH	6.30pm
Tues-Fri	Barkham Pre-School	BVH	9.00am
Thursdays	Pilates Class	BVH	6.15pm

AVH is Arborfield Village Hall BVH is Barkham Village Hall
CRH is California Ratepayers Hall FMH is Finchampstead Memorial Hall

10. *Okra (Lady's fingers)*

9. *A Scottish soup made from smoked haddock, potatoes and onions*

8. *Chili pepper*

7. *Twelfth Night*

6. *South African cured meat*

5. *Seaweed*

4. *Lamb*

3. *Umani*

2. *Avocado*

1. *Oliver*

The Quiz - answers

AM PM Plumbing and Maintenance

Local friendly plumber - All aspects of plumbing

No job too small



MARK OSBORN

WWW.AMPMPLUMBINGWOKINGHAM.CO.UK

TEL: 0118 9788562 - MOB: 07572 110 799

Useful Numbers

Police

Wokingham Police Station
0845 8 505 505

Crimestoppers 0800 555 111

Council

Wokingham Borough Council 974 6000
Environmental health 974 6384
Social Services 978 9800
Trading Standards 974 6400
24hr out of hours 0800 212 111

Wokingham Town Council 978 3185
Citizen's Advice 0844 499 4126
Wokingham Library 978 1368
Job Support Centre 977 0517

ARBORFIELD TREE CARE

Hedge & Tree Care

Sectional Cutting in Confined Spaces

Fully Insured / Free Estimates & Advice

all Dangerous Work Undertaken

call Martin on: 0800 0741886



Rose Carpentry

All types of carpentry undertaken including:

- Kitchen fitting
- Laminate /solid wood flooring
- Custom made storage
- Fitted wardrobes
- Door & lock replacement
- Skirting, door frame & architrave replacement
- Partitions
- Fencing

City & Guilds Qualified
Fully insured
References available

Contact Liam on
Mobile: 07825 994 126
Tel/Fax: 0118 976 1960
Email: liamrose_8@hotmail.com



Ratcliffe Duce & Gammer Solicitors

Need Legal advice for
your family or your business
Contact: Gill Powell
Ph: (0118) 978 3681
86 Rose Street, Wokingham, RG40 1XU

www.rdg-law.co.uk



Bradbury House & Garden Services

Offering Quality Painting & Decorating Services

Paper Hanging
Internal & External Painting
Tiling - Wall and Floor
Small to medium plastering jobs
Loft Boarding

Garden Maintenance

Grass cutting
Pruning
General Tidy Ups (all cuttings taken away)
Driveway Cleaning

All work considered. Competitive prices and full references available on request. For a reliable, friendly and professional service call... Jon Bradbury

m. 07703 304125 | h. 01189 775 546

e. jibradders@yahoo.co.uk

a. Tangley Cottage, Tangley Drive, Wokingham, RG41 2NY



French Polishing Modern Finishes

Repair and restoration
of all furniture

Removal damage & Insurance work

Free estimates

All work guaranteed

0118 973 4959

Mobile 0797 375 9091



Attention all computer users!

We know how annoying it is when your PC is running slow, won't boot up, or is infected with a virus. So the next time you are having computer problems at home or at work, call in one of Berkshire's leading computer experts, 1-Fix Limited.



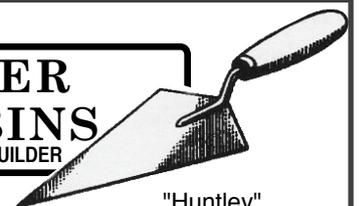
www.1-fix.com

- All hardware and software problems covered
- Evening & weekend call-outs available
- On-site repair, or free pick-up/delivery
- No fix, no fee
- Friendly engineers - No jargon!
- Fully insured - **based in Finchampstead**

Call Craig or Sarah now, on:

0118 926 0084

**PETER
ROBINS**
GENERAL BUILDER



GENERAL BUILDING
RENOVATIONS

EXTENSIONS
STONE WORK

"Huntley"
Doles Lane
WOKINGHAM
Berkshire
RG41 4EB

(0118) 978 2154