



Barkham Newsletter

£2, free to Members

Issue 156 Summer 2026

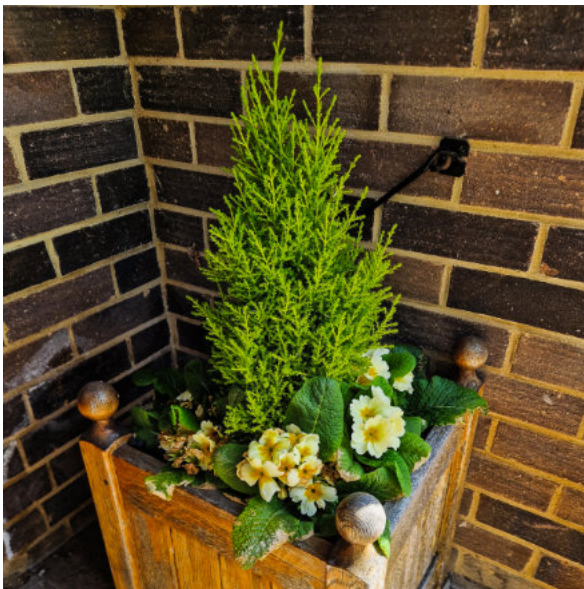
from the Barkham Village Residents Association

Easter Egg Hunt



Our annual Easter Egg Hunt was held on Easter Sunday. See the report on Page 11.

Below is one of the welcoming flower planters outside the Village Hall.



Thames Water Main Project



As expected, this major project is the most disruptive infrastructure project we have experienced in many many years. The signs at the end of the road proclaim **BUSINESS OPEN AS USUAL**. Try telling that to Raj at the Village Store - Post Office! They have been experiencing a drop of 60-70% in earnings since this project started back in the middle of February. It even made the local newspaper, Wokingham Today, link below.

<https://bit.ly/4f1OrFx>



When we learnt of this impact we sent an email to all our online readers encouraging everyone to use the Village Store more. It's a valuable service to our community and it is something we wouldn't want to lose.

WE CAN ALL HELP - instead of popping into town to get a few items, use the store. If everybody visited once or twice a week it could make a real difference

If the project keeps to its original timescale, the road closure will continue until towards the end of September, before heading down the hill along Barkham Road. See more on Page 7.

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- *Wild about the Coombes* Page 10

Editorial



Making our front page, the big story continues to be the disruption caused by the Thames Water trunk main project see more on Pages 4 and 7.

At the recent local elections we gained a new Ward Councillor, Mohima Bose, a Liberal Democrat, who replaces Conservative George Evans. See her introduction on Page 6. I look forward to meeting her.

The Parish Council organised a litter pick in March. Go to Page 5 to see

the impressive amount collected. It would be nice to have a more regular litter pick scheme.

On Page 5 we remember Sam Hosgood, who passed away last November but unfortunately we didn't find out until recently.

One of our members was in contact with the Parish Council about the sharp increase in the precept, see the conversation on Page 8. You might find it interesting.

On Page 11 we have an article about energy saving from Energywise being delivered by Citizens Advice.

Last month I went to see *Glitch!*, the play about resident Pam Stubbs' battle with the Post Office. See Page 21.

Sadly the Bull is closed again for the foreseeable future.

In *Wild about the Coombes* on Page 10 we celebrate bluebells. Rather less well known is another spring flower that coincides with bluebells and which prefers similar growing conditions - wild garlic, see below.



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Email Updates

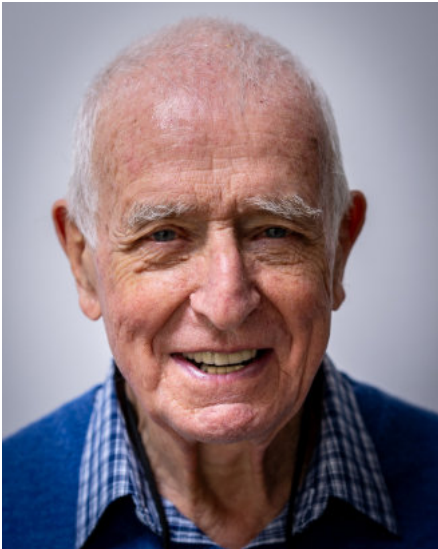
As well as our newsletter we are increasingly using email to keep in touch with members. It is important we are kept up to date with your details. If your details have changed or you aren't getting emails from us, use our member details form on the website

https://barkham.org.uk/member_details to advise us.



We will confirm any request you send to us. Also to ensure you receive our emails please add barkham.org.uk to your safe senders list. If you are unsure how to do this, please email webmaster@barkham.org.uk for advice.

DevWatch Update



Development Watch has been relatively quiet in the last three months with six Alerts having been sent out. Three pre-application residential development consultations have not yet developed into formal planning applications - the land at Arborfield Studios on Langley Common Road (this is in the draft Local Plan currently being considered by the Government) - and Bewley's intention to seek consent for 49 dwellings between Barkham Road and Edneys Hill which is not envisaged in the draft Local Plan. A highly contentious planning application was made a while back on the land which was refused by the Borough and not appealed.

A further pre-application consultation has been made to site a 72 room care home at the junction of Bearwood Road and Highlands Avenue. Readers will be aware that work is already in progress for a care home to be constructed at the junction of Evendons Lane and Blagrove Lane for which planning consent was granted a while back. We will send out Alerts as and when any of the consultations materialise into a formal planning application.

Apart from the pending draft Local Plan there has been a public consultation on the proposed Arborfield and Barkham Neighbourhood Plan review.

The application for a residential development on Limmerhill (behind the Leathern Bottel) was refused on appeal.

- However the Borough has granted consent for 70 houses on the land behind the Coombes primary school accessed by School Road.
- A planning application has also been made to build 135 houses on the land between Eversley Road, Arborfield and the new Arborfield by-pass.

Stop Press! Just before we went to press a very substantial application for outline planning consent has just been made for 660 houses to be built on land forming part of Barkham Square land lying immediately to the north of, and

adjoining, Arborfield Green. Development of this land was envisaged by the draft Local Plan. See [261059](https://www.barkham.org.uk/devwatch/archive/listing).

We will be reporting on the details in our DevWatch Alerts, which are available on our website

<https://barkham.org.uk/devwatch/archive/listing>

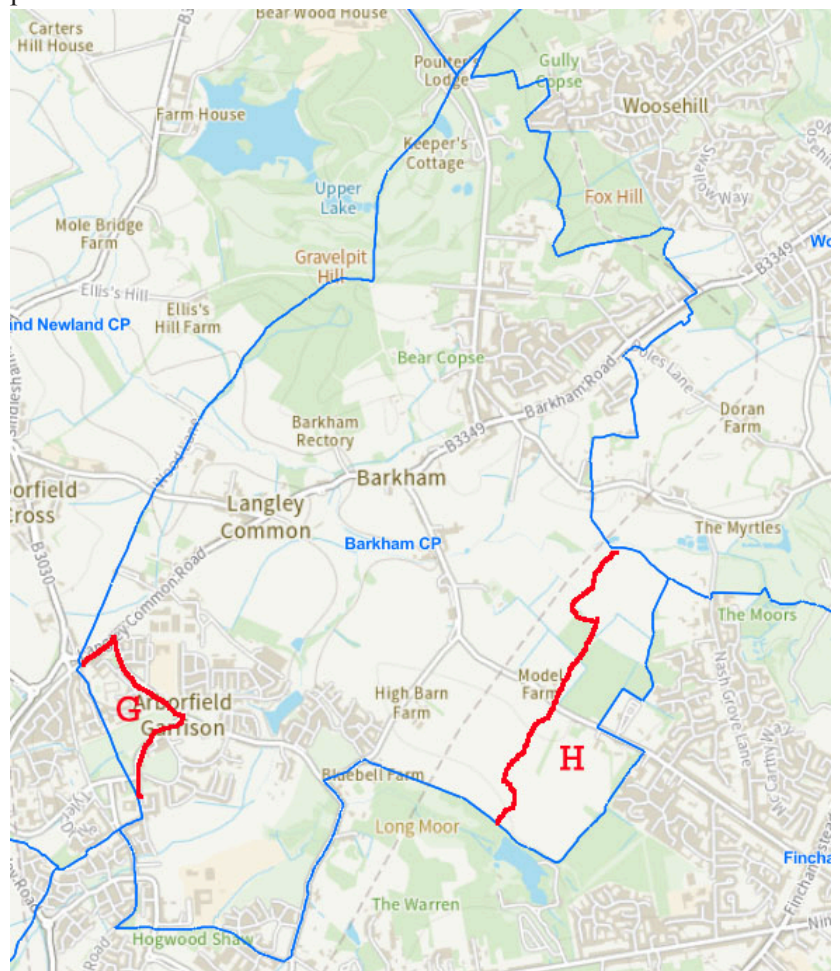
If you would like to receive e-mail alerts then sign up using the link below

<https://www.barkham.org.uk/keep-in-touch>



Parish Boundary Changes

In the last issue we reported that there are some minor changes to the Barkham Parish boundary. See the map. The area marked G has been transferred to Arborfield Parish - and the section marked H will be transferred to Finchampstead Parish in May 2028 when both Barkham and Finchampstead will have local elections.





News from Barkham Parish Council

A message from the Chairman

It's great to see that we look to be getting some better weather and able to spend more time outside. It has given an opportunity for myself and various members of WBC to get out and about the Parish.

Barkham Road has had some (but not all potholes) fixed but WBC are working through those reported so I would encourage any residents to continue report issues, using

<https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/roads/report/report-pothole-and-roadfootway-damage>



In addition they have had drain clearing teams out.

At the Coombes Woodland last month we managed to get the planned droppable bollards installed by WBC at the entrance by Wood Lane hopefully to help prevent incursions of vehicles that previously have done damage.

The outdoor learning centre for Ninemile Ride School, initiated by Barkham Parish Councillors but jointly funded with Finchampstead PC was formally opened and has been very well received by all concerned.

Barkham Parish and Finchampstead Parish Councils met on site at Hazebrouck near the junction of Commonfield lane and Biggs lane to agree location and funding for a safe crossing for school children and local community. This is a widely used crossing point throughout the week. The section of road is being included in the WBC road speed limit review currently being undertaken.

We are looking into the provision of additional facilities for the Junipers recreation area and I hope to be able to provide an update in the next issue.

On a last note, the progress of works to upgrade the water main appears to me to be progressing only slowly and I am concerned as to the impact that this is having to our local Shop and Post office. I would urge local residents to try help support them as much as you are able.

Cllr Mike Barker, Chairman

Planning

Recent major planning applications considered by the Parish Council are:

Appeal: APP/6005646 - Application: 251486 - Land west of Edney's Hill, Barkham Road, Barkham

Full application for the proposed erection of 16 no. dwellings with new access off Edney's Hill, plus footpaths, car ports, parking, landscaping and associated works.

The council submitted additional comments for this appeal, opposing the application.

Recently decided major applications from WBC are:

250735 - Land to the north of School Road, Arborfield Cross

Outline application for the proposed residential development of up to 70 dwellings together with associated access, landscaping, open space and associated works. (All matters reserved except for means of access.)
This application has been approved by WBC

Arborfield & Barkham Joint Neighbourhood Plan

The consultation period for the Neighbourhood Plan has now closed, and we would like to thank everyone who took the time to share their views. The responses are now being carefully analysed, after which the Neighbourhood Plan Committee will meet to review the feedback and consider the next steps. This input is a vital part of shaping the future of the Parish, and further updates will be provided as the work progresses.

Save the Date - Community Fun Day

Residents are invited to save the date for our Community Fun Day on Saturday 19 September 2026.

This free event is open to everyone and promises a great day out for all ages. Enjoy free entry, a range of free activities, browse stalls selling hand-made crafts, and food and drinks will be available to purchase. More details will be shared closer to the date, but be sure to mark your calendar now for a fun-filled community celebration.

Thames Water Mains Upgrade - Project Update

Following our previous update, Thames Water's major water mains upgrade across Barkham and the surrounding area is now underway. The project began in February 2026 and will continue in phases over the coming months to improve water supply reliability and reduce the risk of future pipe failures.

Currently, at the time of writing, Bearwood Road remains closed between Coombes Lane and Hayes Lane, with signed diversion routes in place. Thames Water has confirmed that local access to homes and businesses will

be maintained, although residents may experience short delays when works are taking place nearby. No interruptions to water supply are expected.

As work progresses, further phased closures will take place along Barkham Road, followed later by sections of Langley Common Road. Only the sections where work is actively happening will be affected at any one time.

The Parish Council understands the disruption these works cause but recognises they are essential to protect against unplanned emergency closures and to support future growth. We will continue to share updates as the project moves forward.

Annual Litter Pick

The annual litter pick took place on Sunday 22nd March 2026. This year there were two meeting places, one at Barkham Village Hall, Church Lane and one at Arborfield Green Community Centre, Sheerlands Road. Between our two meeting points, we collected over 90 bags of rubbish! Along the way, we also picked up some unexpected items, including a microwave, a Henry Hoover, a pair of jeans, and even a hoodie.



The Parish Council would like to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who took part in the litter pick. Your time, energy and strong community spirit made a real difference. Your commitment helps keep our parish clean, safe and looking its best, and we truly couldn't do it without you.

Thank you once again to all who joined in - you're all stars!

Sam Hosgood

Last November one of our most well known residents, Sam Hosgood, passed away. Sam is best known for being chairman of the Parish Council for many years. Unfortunately we didn't hear about this until recently. His family have helped me put this piece together to remember him.

Sam Hosgood was born in Wandsworth in 1929 and moved to Barkham in 1948 shortly after leaving the Army where he served in the Royal Engineers. He worked locally and met Joan his future wife while she was out on her milk round.

He went on to work at his father-in-law's farm in Barkham, and then later as a bus driver in Reading and Bracknell. He was also local secretary of the Transport and General Workers Union.

In 1974 he was elected to the parish council and was appointed chairman 10 years later. While on the council he was integral in securing Barkham as an independent parish when the Home Office proposed to merge it with Arborfield and also campaigned for the roundabout at the junction of Bearwood Road. He retired as chairman in 2013 after an amazing 29 years as chairman and 39 years on the council!



In 2000 Sam chaired the team that organised the village's millennium celebrations.

He also joined the committee of the Gorse Ride Community Association in Finchampstead and was a key figure behind the building of the community centre. Sam spent 25 years as a school governor at Nine Mile Ride School, 10 years as chairman, where he managed to acquire two classrooms from the University of Reading.

Sam then enjoyed his time at home with his family. He loved horse racing and looking after his impressive collection of Koi carp.

In November 2025 Sam passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his family who miss him to this day.

Update from our Borough Councillors



Update from Councillor Adrian Betteridge, Borough Councillor

I've been meeting with Thames Water regularly as they progress their trunk main replacement project along Bearwood Road. This included a meeting with officers from the council Highways team to review the traffic management arrangements. Traffic calming measures on the diversion route through Arborfield Cross are being reviewed, as with the additional traffic at peak times these are causing delays across a wider area. I hope that better, safe and sustainable solutions can be found.

Thames are currently a few weeks behind their original plan but hope to catch-up. If you can, please support Raj and the team at the Barkham Village Store and Post Office whilst the works are going on.

As most people recognise, Bearwood Road is in need of resurfacing, but this won't be possible until the Thames Water project is complete. In the meantime, please do continue to report significant issues with the road surface to the council and these will be inspected and repaired as necessary. I regularly report things I see whilst cycling and driving on the road and repairs are normally completed in a matter of days.

Just after my last contribution to BVRA news, the borough council

passed its budget for the coming year. Wokingham has lost out significantly in terms of government funding, to the tune of £43M over the next 3 years. Whilst council tax will rise by just under 5%, as is the case across most of the country, we have managed to again plan a balanced budget that will keep the borough solvent, with some important enhancements as well as some necessary savings.

I am hopeful that we will soon have a way forward on the Barkham Solar Farm project, which was paused when a change in government policy caused the promised grid connection to be withdrawn. This is an important project which will generate income to the borough for local services and will bring some valuable improvements to local walking and cycling routes, eventually linking into Wokingham Town.

Finally, thank you to everyone who voted in the recent local elections – however you voted - and to everyone who stood for election or helped with its organisation. I am thrilled that Barkham has placed its trust in another Liberal Democrat councillor and look forward to working closely with Mohima Bose over the coming years.

**Councillor Adrian Betteridge,
Borough Councillor**
adrian.betteridge@wokingham.gov.uk

Petition for a GP surgery in Arborfield Green

Our MP, Clive Jones, is campaigning for a GP surgery to be set up in Arborfield Green. As part of his campaign he has set up a petition for members of the public to sign. So, if you think this is a good idea then follow the link and lend your support

<https://www.wokinghamlibdems.org.uk/arborfieldgp>



I'm delighted to introduce myself as your newly elected borough councillor for Barkham and Arborfield, joining Councillor Adrian Betteridge as one of two Liberal Democrats representing the ward. I am passionate and energised to stand up for you locally and work on what is important to you. I've met many local residents during the months leading up to the election and look forward to meeting many more of you in future. Finally, I look forward to working together to make our ward a better place for everyone.

**Councillor Mohima Bose,
Borough Councillor**
mohima.bose@wokingham.gov.uk



Thames Water Trunk Main Project

Apart from the reduction in trade at the Village Store this road closure is proving disruptive to travel. I remember driving my kids to the Forest School back in the day. It must be very inconvenient and time consuming using the diversion if you have to do it at least once a day. Here are a few photos of the works at this stage.



Update from Thames Water Contractor, MGroup

Work is continuing on site to install a new trunk water main, which will play an important role in strengthening and improving the long-term reliability of the local water network. We recognise that this work can be disruptive, and we are grateful to residents and road users for their continued patience while these essential upgrades are carried out.

Over the past week, the team has been making steady progress with pipe installation and reinstatement works along Bearwood Road. Areas where work has been completed are being reinstated, with further resurfacing taking place over the coming days to help return sections of the road to normal as quickly as possible.

The work is being delivered in phases using a trench excavation method, which allows the team to install the new main safely while carefully managing existing underground services and maintaining access for residents wherever possible. As part of this process, detailed checks are carried out to locate existing utilities

before installation progresses, helping ensure the work is carried out safely and to the required standard.

As with any project of this nature, some sections of the work are more complex and require additional checks and design coordination before installation can continue. In particular, in parts of the upper section of Bearwood Road, deeper excavation and the presence of existing utilities have required further design input to ensure the safe and effective installation of the new main.

Despite this, the team continues to make progress across the site, progressing installation where possible while working closely with designers to resolve more complex areas.

We will shortly be issuing a further written update to residents and are also planning a local drop-by event where members of the project team will be available to speak directly with the community and answer any questions. Details of this will be shared once confirmed.

BPC Precept conversation

Recently one of my correspondents shared an email conversation with the Clerk of the Parish Council about the increase in the Precept (that part of the Council Tax that the Parish Council receive). I thought you might find it interesting.

Q *It seems, somehow, Barkham Parish can escape limits to council tax increases set at around 5%. Can you explain why the parish has increased by 18% and how it can?*

A The council tax increase limits of around 5% apply to principal authorities (such as county, unitary and district councils) are set by central government, with increases above that level normally requiring a local referendum. Parish and town councils are not subject to these referendum limits, as we set a parish precept, not a council tax rate, and there is no statutory cap on the percentage increase.

I would also like to clarify the figures. Although the overall precept requirement has increased, the charge for a Band D equivalent household has risen from £26.28 to £29.23, which is an increase of £2.95, or 11.23%, rather than 18%.

For the last three years, the Parish Council chose not to increase the precept in order to support residents during the cost-of-living crisis.

However, with ongoing and unavoidable increases in council costs - including inflationary pressures, contractual costs and statutory responsibilities - it has not been possible to continue doing so this year.

The precept was considered and formally agreed at the Council's January meeting, which was held in public. Residents are always very welcome to attend council meetings and to question the council on items being considered or agreed, including the annual budget and precept. For transparency, the approved budget and precept details are also published on the Parish Council's website.

While percentage figures can appear high in isolation, the actual cash impact on an individual household remains relatively modest, and the

parish element still represents only a small proportion of the overall council tax bill, the majority of which is set by the county and district councils.

I hope this explains both why the increase has occurred and how it is lawful.

Q *Thanks for your reply. I did calculate the amount but concerned on how there's no limit. I still wonder why and what money is used for other than planning. I am amazed too that so few even noticed on their forecasts!*

A On your point about there being no limit, this reflects how local government finance is structured. Central government sets referendum limits for principal councils (county, unitary and district councils) because they raise very large sums and provide statutory services. Parish councils are deliberately excluded from those limits because they are the most local tier of government and are intended to be accountable directly to their residents through elections, open meetings and published budgets, rather than through national caps.

In addition to planning related items, the precept for Barkham funds services such as:

- The maintenance of parish land, open spaces and local amenities
- Grounds maintenance and environmental work
- Upkeep of parish assets such as signage and street furniture
- Community projects and local initiatives

And the essential costs of running the council properly and lawfully (staffing, insurance, audit, training and compliance).

Ed:

For the record the precepts for Band D properties in the local parishes for 2026-27 are:

Arborfield & Newland	£88.94
Barkham	£31.00
Finchampstead	£33.92
Swallowfield	£37.44

Some large variations and perhaps Barkham is good value after all!



Burglary Prevention Advice whether home or away this Summer

Home

- Lock all doors and windows at night and when you are out. Ensure all sheds and garden buildings are secure when unoccupied. If you have a UPVC door, remember to lift the handle and lock it with the key.
- Keep all valuables and keys, including car keys, out of sight and reach of windows and letterboxes. Double check your vehicle is locked too.
- Ensure all gates are locked to prevent access to the sides and rear of your property. Move bins away from side walls and fences.
- Keep ladders and tools stored away. Don't leave them outside where they could be used to break into your home.

Away

- Use a timer switch to make your house look occupied, even when it isn't.
- Don't advertise that you are going on holiday on social media - wait to upload your snaps until you get home!
- Consider installing a video doorbell and ensure it is fully charged.
- Ask someone you trust to keep an eye on your home while you are away.
- Don't leave spare keys in obvious places such as under doormats or plant pots.

For more crime prevention advice, please visit our website: <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk>

You can find out your local neighbourhood policing priorities here: <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/area/your-area/>



St James' Barkham

Farewell to Julian

Departures are often sad - even more so when you've known someone well and for a long time. So we are particularly sad to announce that, after more than 18 years as Minister of Barkham, Rev Julian Bidgood is moving on. This summer, Julian and his family will be moving to Sevenoaks, where he will be taking up a post as Associate Rector at St Nicholas' Church. It's a great opportunity, so we're excited for them, but as a church family we are also going to miss them hugely. We know that many in the local community will feel the same way.

We're very thankful to Julian - and Angela and their children - for all the ways they have served during their time in Barkham. Julian has been a great preacher, a wise and gentle pastor, and a humble servant of the Lord Jesus. We've admired his patience and hard work, groaned (occasionally) at his admin, and have loved his sense of humour. He's also been a brilliant colleague.

The process of discerning the next stage for Barkham Church is already underway, led by our Rector (Andy Kearns). Our Parochial Church Council will be playing a key role in this too. Please watch this space for more news in due course.

Of course, no local church belongs to or ultimately depends on ministers and rectors. Christians have always hung onto the fact that Jesus Christ

is the great Shepherd of his people. As church leaders, our role is simply to serve as his under-shepherds, always pointing people away from ourselves and to him.

It's been a privilege to do that at Barkham Church in recent months through our 'Ever feel like something's missing?' initiative. We hear so many people these days talking about a sense that there must be more to life than just what we see and feel around us. Maybe the thing we're missing is hope. Perhaps it's security, or life, or even just knowing who we are. Whatever it is, we're convinced that the answers lie in Jesus. Whoever you are, please know that you are always welcome to come and join us at Barkham Church at 10am or 6pm on any Sunday as we turn our eyes to him.

We're still working out exactly when Julian's final Sunday will be, but please do contact the Church Office if you would like to find out so you can come along. We'd love to see you then too.

David Horrocks



The Quiz

With all the shenanigans going on around the world, it got me thinking about where our food comes. When I looked at this some 20 years ago, I seem to remember that the country producing the most lamb was New Zealand but now it is China! See how you get on finding which country produces the most

1. Oats
2. Olive oil
3. Coffee
4. Chocolate
5. Cocoa beans
6. Wine
7. Tea
8. Bananas
9. Dates
10. Whisky

I hope you enjoy the challenge.

Answers on Page 19

Neighbours

Austria was once at the heart of a major European empire. Do you know how many and which countries border it?

Answers on Page 19

Where in Barkham?

The Council doesn't seem to clean the drains by the road kerbs anymore. Here are two quite close to each other, but where are they?

Answer on Page 19



Wild About the Coombes

What is it about bluebells? I can't think of another British wild flower that excites the human senses so positively, widely and strongly. Strangers walking in the Coombes, and indeed other woodlands, seem to comment on their beauty far more often than about any other flowers.

The week before writing this article, I was walking a stretch of the Chiltern Way near Tring. A field had been left fallow and was covered in dandelions. Half were still bright yellow flowers while the other half had already transformed into fluffy white 'clocks'. But the huge expanse of golden colour did not pull on my heartstrings in the same way. Other walkers seemed equally unexcited and certainly weren't moved to mention the vista. Bluebells, on the other hand prompted many a passing comment that day.

It's not as if bluebells are the first woodland wild flower to appear and herald in the spring. They are preceded by snowdrops, celandine, primroses and ransoms, and followed on by cow parsley, red campion and foxgloves.

If it were our taste for the colour, people would also go into raptures about forget-me-nots, cornflowers, borage and sweet violets. I haven't noticed that.

Perhaps it's a throwback to when we were dependent on what could be found in the wild for food. A quick web search about foraging for bluebells soon put paid to that idea. We should not do it these days as it is now illegal to pick, uproot, or destroy native bluebells in the UK. Apart from the practice being outlawed, helping ourselves to bluebells as a source of food is not good practice as all parts of the bluebell plant are toxic to humans.

If foraging had been the attraction, we should be far more excited by brambles. Blackberries appear in our diet in various forms – eaten directly from the bramble, baked into pies and crumbles, often combined with apple, or conserved as jam or bramble jelly. Less well known is that the young leaves and shoots can be boiled and eaten as a vegetable, while the leaves can be used to make an infusion, like tea.

Most of the comments I hear about brambles, particularly around this time of year, are about them spoiling the appearance of drifts of bluebells that may be trying to grow in the same area. It is safe to discount the idea about our love of bluebells having a direct link to our nutrition.

Bluebells are believed to have appeared shortly after the last Ice Age, and are native to Atlantic Europe. Britain is home to half of the world's population of bluebells. Our love of them is more likely because bluebells are quintessentially British, the sort of thing that the English miss while away from their homes, like custard, crumpets

and Yorkshire puddings. **Ed:** and marmite?

What was that song that Vera Lynn was famous for singing to the troops away fighting in the second world war? Something about there being *Bluebells Over the White Cliffs of Dover*, I think.

Joe Wild





Energywise Wokingham, delivered by Citizens Advice, is a new, free service designed to support residents across Wokingham Borough who are struggling with the rising cost of living, energy debt, or unaffordable fuel bills. Delivered by Citizens Advice, this dedicated service offers comprehensive home energy assessments tailored to your needs, helping you understand your energy use and identify practical ways to make your home warmer, more efficient, and more affordable to run.

With the imminent rise of the Energy price cap in July due to the continuing war in the Middle East there has never been a better time to explore how you can save money on your energy costs.

Our specialist Energywise Wokingham team will explore every available grant, discount, and financial support option to ensure you receive the help you are entitled to. The service is especially focused on those who need it most, including low-income households, residents with health conditions, pensioners, families with young children, and people living in energy inefficient housing.

By getting in touch, you can benefit from personalised support. Choose between a face to face appointment in one of our offices, a telephone appointment and in certain cases a home visit. At this contact we will offer support that not only helps reduce energy costs and prevent debt, but also improves health and wellbeing through warmer homes and greater financial stability. Energywise Wokingham empowers you to take control of your energy situation with trusted, friendly guidance every step of the way.

Ask yourself these questions:

Do you want to maximise your income to make sure you are receiving all the benefits you are entitled to?

Do you have fuel debts and do you need help? Do not worry, in most cases we can apply to trusts and foundations to help pay these off and give you a fresh start.

Do you need advice on how to save energy around the home?

Are you on the best energy tariff for you and your family?

Do you have damp or mould in your property and

don't know what to do about it?

Do you want to make energy saving improvements around the home like a more efficient boiler or insulation? We can help find the best grant scheme and help you apply.

Are you on a prepayment meter and need emergency fuel payments?

We will also provide free energy saving items around the home, if required. If any of the above apply, we are here to help. To contact us:

Visit our website

<https://www.citizensadvicewokingham.org.uk>

and complete our online form,



Email our Energy team directly on

energyadvice@cawokingham.org.uk.

You can call our Adviceline number: 0808 278 7958. Our phone lines are open between 10:00 and 15:00 on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

We also offer a drop-in service at our Wokingham office at Waterford House, Erfstadt Court, Wokingham, RG40 2YF on Monday and Wednesday from 10:00 to 12:00 and Friday from 10:00 to 15:00 and our Woodley office on Tuesday from 10:00 to 16:00.

KIMEL
COMMUNITY CAFE

WE ARE A SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT PROJECT WITH THE AIM OF HELPING NEURODIVERGENT YOUNG ADULTS TO GAIN WORK EXPERIENCE AND LIFE SKILLS

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

FACEBOOK @KIMELCAFE

WEEKDAY- 9:00 - 4:00
WEEKENDS 9:30 - 4:00

120 EVENDONS LANE
RG41 4AT

WE SELL:

- ICE CREAM MILKSHAKES
- REAL FRUIT SMOOTHIES
- HOMEMADE CAKES
- A RANGE OF HOT & COLD DRINKS
- TOASTIES MADE TO ORDER
- OUR OWN BLEND OF COFFEE

BVRA Social



magazine, on posters around the village, on the BVRA website and Facebook page, so make a note of the dates and look out for information.

The Social Team are always looking for new people to join them and help with events - it's always great fun, so if you are interested please contact Gill Powell on

social@barkham.org.uk for more information.

Ed: You can see more photos on our website here.

After recent warm, sunny spells and the wonderful displays of early bluebells and other Spring bulbs, flowers and shrubs we must be hoping that this continues towards a lovely early Summer.

Since the last newsletter there has been one event - the annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt held on Easter Sunday, 5th April, in the Junipers Park. The day was fine and sunny, and well before 2:30pm many families arrived with their children (48 in all) who were all eager to have their bags for collecting their tokens!

The hunt started at 3pm when the older children all rushed up the hill to the wooded area, while the little under 5s had their own separate calmer area.

The raffle did very well and Nigel and daughter Emily, who had kindly offered to help, were kept very busy indeed.

The children all returned quite quickly to exchange their tokens for little chocolate eggs, and then it was time to draw the raffle tickets for the giant Easter Egg and 4 more prizes of smaller egg, bunny, and bags of little eggs.

The winner of the 1st prize was a delighted Alan Greenwood, pictured with grandchildren.

Many families stayed for a time enjoying the happy atmosphere - it had been a very successful afternoon!

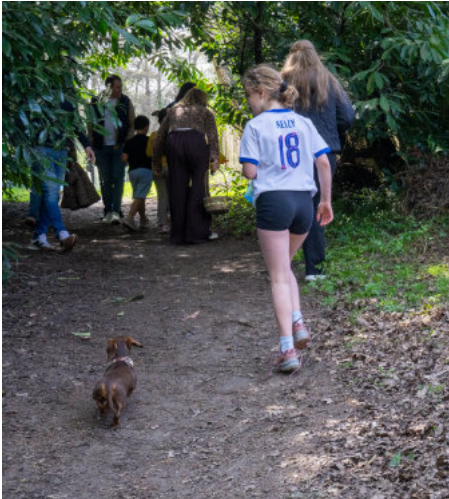
The next event is the annual Family Skittles evening on 9th May. This will have taken place by the time you receive this issue, so we will report on that in the Autumn issue.

Other events in 2026 are:

- The Quiz on Saturday 26th October
- Carols in the Park on Friday 11th December

Details of these will appear in future issues of this





Volunteers Needed!

Join our friendly team, helping to support young people with additional needs 5 - 25 years. Training and ongoing support is provided.

disability confident
COMMITTED

Contact
info@me2club.org.uk
07956 713 180

Me2 Club are looking for volunteers to support our children and young people with additional needs from 5 - 25 years. Our volunteers can choose how they support our work: they can support a child at a weekly mainstream activities such as Scouts to enable them to take part, help with our groups for young people aged 8 - 25 or help with our fundraising stalls.

Me2 Club is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

All our volunteers receive high quality training and ongoing support.

We welcome applications from people applying to adopt or foster, wanting to gain confidence and experience for a new career or just wanting to give back to the local community. Contact us today for more information info@me2club.org.uk



Keep Mobile Needs Your Help – Rising Fuel Costs Impacting Local Transport

Keep Mobile Community Transport CIO has been proudly supporting residents across the borough for many years, providing vital door-to-door transport for older people and disabled residents who are unable to use public transport.

Our services are more than just transport - they are a lifeline. We help people attend medical appointments, go shopping, and most importantly, stay connected to their community, reducing isolation and loneliness.

However, like many organisations, we are now facing significant challenges due to the rising cost of fuel. Over recent months, our fuel expenses have increased substantially, placing real pressure on our ability to continue delivering services at the level our members rely on.

As a small local charity, we work hard to keep our fares affordable, but increasing costs mean we need support from the community now more than ever.

How you can help:

- Make a donation, no matter how small
- Support our fundraising efforts
- Spread the word about what we do
- Volunteer your time as a driver or helper

Every pound raised goes directly towards keeping our vehicles on the road and ensuring that no one is left isolated because they cannot get out.

If you would like to support us or find out more, please visit our website or get in touch:

admin@keepmobile.org.uk
0345 544 0850

Together, we can keep our community moving.

TREE-MENDOUS TREES - Part 2

One of the largest Oak trees in Wokingham Borough resides in Barkham, and it is not very well known, as it is hidden away just North of Bridleway BA20, Map Ref: SU 77882 67063.

It is in a small copse with several other mature oaks and located quite close to the lake behind the nearly 400 year old Barkham Manor.



This large tree has an unusual trunk shape for an oak, in that it is very, very wide at the base and is a very large 7 meter diameter, when measured at a height of 1.5 metres off the ground. This would normally indicate that this Oak tree could be in the region of 700 years old. But, looking at the tree and its very good health, this is probably not the case. Although this tree is also very tall, it does not have many fallen branches or dead wood in its upper canopy, which are the two of the main indicators of an Oak tree's old age.

One possible reason for the tree's good health is the nearby lake which rarely runs dry, so the tree has had a very good water supply for most of its long life. The lake may also be responsible for the very large trunk diameter.

Although this Oak tree has a large trunk diameter, it is by no means the largest in the UK, as this record goes to the "Marton Oak" in Cheshire that is 13.3 meters in diameter, and is thought to be about 1200 years old.

Note, if you plan to visit this tree, be aware that during really wet weather the Bridleway BA20 can become very muddy, so it is best visited in the summer months.

Derek Oxbrough - Tree Warden, Barkham

Email: doxbrough@hotmail.com

Tel: 01189 760578

For more information visit: <https://www.wdvta.org.uk/>



**DO YOU HAVE A
HEAD FOR NUMBERS
AND A HEART FOR
COMMUNITY?**

Barkham Village Hall, a much-loved and well-used space at the heart of village life, is looking for a volunteer **TREASURER** to join its friendly committee. You'll be responsible for overseeing financial transactions, preparing reports, and attending committee meetings every other month.

A full handover and support will be provided by the current Treasurer. This role comes with a small salary.

To find out more, contact the Barkham Village Hall Committee at 07596 554654 or barkhamvillagehall@outlook.com.

Bluebells around the base of a tree in the Coombes



35 Years Ago

In Issue 16 there is mention of delays in the building of the play area in the Junipers field that the kids enjoy so much. Recently I

saw for myself just how good the set up is when my grandchildren were at the Easter Egg Hunt.

On the planning side there were schemes for not one, but two, golf courses in the village - one at

Barkham Square and the other at what became Bearwood Lakes.

Also in planning was the extension to the village hall to provide the storage space.



BARKHAM VILLAGE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 1991

ISSUE 16

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Each time I am asked to do the Chairman's report, I am always pleased to see so many contributions to the Newsletter, as this makes my piece easier to write as I have to keep it short and snappy, so that space can be kept for the real contributions.

Controversial items are not of my repertoire, but I must admit to being very disappointed to see that the formation of a Playbus had been temporarily delayed. I sincerely hope that the Playbus Association is able to find a suitable alternative site, so that a valuable contribution can be made to the community. Whilst talking about the younger element within the Parish, there is more disappointing news regarding the play area. Apparently estimates have been received by the Wokingham District Council for the formation of the play area within the piece of land behind "The Junipers" but I am unable to get a firm commitment from the Recreation and Amenities Department as to when, or if, the play area will ever commence. Needless to say, I am in constant contact with them over this matter, and hope to report some good news in the next newsletter.

Turning to the summer months and events to be held in Barkham, there is, firstly, a musical evening to be held at the Village Hall, organised by the Management Committee. This will be on Saturday 6th July between 7.30 pm and 10.00 pm. It is a hot date.



BARN DANCE AND BARNBROU

BARKHAM VILLAGE HALL EXTENSION PLANNING

Plans are well advanced to provide additional storage at the Village Hall. It is hoped that planning approval will be granted shortly and subject to the costs being approved, work should start in late summer.

Golf Course at Barkham Square
International Resort Holdings have submitted a revised planning application which includes listed building consent to change Barkham Square into a Club House for the proposed Golf Course.

Bearwood College The Estate
have submitted a planning application to include an 18 hole Golf Course with Club House and associated parking off Bearwood Road and, adjacent to Mole Road, houses and a business area. It is understood that this application has been refused in its entirety as the housing aspects do not conform to Wokingham District Council's local plans for the area.

The storage of equipment, not only for the hall itself, but also for the hall users, has always been a problem. By providing additional storage capacity, it is hoped that the general tidiness of the hall will improve, as all the chairs, tables, etc., will not be stored in the main hall.

ONLY The Barkham Hall Management Committee continue to strive to provide the community with a village hall that we can all be proud of, and can only do so with the help of all Hall users in keeping the hall as tidy as possible after use.



RG11 4DG
Tel: (0734) 788059

Alan's Patch

We gardeners, like farmers, are always complaining about the weather! Too much of one thing or not enough of another! Climate change seems to have created two seasons – the wet season between November and March and the dry season from April to October. In the wet season we have all those grey days when it is either raining or the clouds looking like it's about to.

Now we are in the dry season and if the last two or three years are anything to go by it will be largely dry for quite some time until we get a short period of intense rain for a few days.

I do love this time of year when, apart from the beautiful flowers, the foliage is a fresh and vibrant green/yellow. In the sun it's a nice warmth without the intense heat of later in the summer. The wind seems to come from the north or east and is cold so we get the cooling breezes. It can be a bit of a challenge deciding what to wear! Overnight temperatures drop quite low and with the cool breezes I get a wee bit of scorching of the leaves of the potatoes but not enough to kill them.

So, what about the rest of my patch? My new sleeper-based slightly raised beds are working well so far. Most of what's been sown in them is growing well. The peas and broad beans are in one bed and are thriving.



In another I have sown parsnips interspersed with radishes (they are real beauties now).



In the greenhouse I had a disaster when my tomato and pepper/chilli seedlings dried out while I was away. I had to re-sow as well as buy some replacements from our local garden centre. I decided to try some new breeds of tomatoes that I have not grown before. I'll let you know how I get on.

Meanwhile a couple of cabbages self-seeded and are really enjoying life. I have pulled a few leaves to eat but you wouldn't really notice. Also, there are some lovely Little Gem lettuces.



I hope you enjoy the purple flowers on the chives. You are not supposed to let them flower because the stems become tough and inedible, but I have three clumps of them around my patch so, shortly, I will cut this clump back and allow it to regrow.



Finally, with frost forecast overnight on 11th May I hurriedly covered my vulnerable potatoes and luckily they survived! Phew!

the Link visiting scheme

A Small Commitment That Makes a Big Difference

Loneliness isn't always obvious. It often hides in plain sight: someone who goes days without a proper conversation, who rarely leaves the house, or who no longer has the social circle they once did. That's where The Link Visiting Scheme comes in.

Based in Wokingham Borough, The Link Visiting Scheme brings people together through simple, regular friendship. We match volunteers with older people who would welcome a bit more company, usually a weekly visit or phone call, built around shared interests rather than formal support. There's no checklist, no pressure to "fix" anything, just time, conversation and the chance to get to know someone.

Volunteers tell us the role is surprisingly ordinary and that's exactly why it works. A chat over a cup of tea. A short walk. Reminiscing about holidays, pets, work or family life. These small moments add up, providing consistency and connection for someone who might otherwise feel quite cut off.



Volunteering with The Link is designed to fit around real life. Visits are flexible, training is provided, and volunteers are fully supported by our small, experienced team. Some people volunteer after retiring, others while working part-time or full-time or raising families. Many start out wanting to *do something useful* and end up with a new friendship themselves.

Supporters of The Link make this work possible too. Donations and community fundraising help us recruit and train volunteers, support people with no family nearby, and respond when someone's situation changes. It's practical, local support that stays rooted in the community it serves.

Loneliness can feel like a big problem, and it is, but responding to it doesn't have to be complicated. Often, it starts with turning up, listening and being reliable.

If you're looking for a meaningful way to get involved locally, or you'd like to support a charity that focuses on simple, human connection, The Link Visiting Scheme would love to hear from you.

To find out more about volunteering or supporting our work, visit www.linkvisiting.org or get in touch with our team for an informal chat.

Marjie Walker CEO
admin@linkvisiting.org
0118 9798019



CALL TODAY 07769 224268 OR EMAIL LAWBERY17@GOOGLEMAIL.COM



LA Fencing specialises in the supply and installation of high quality fencing and gates and also offers a full design service. We are a small company based in Winnersh, near Reading, Berkshire and have been trading for over 22 years.

SPECIALISED IN:

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- ✓ Custom fencing design
- ✓ Fence repair and maintenance
- ✓ Residential, commercial, or industrial service
- ✓ Decking
- ✓ Sheds
- ✓ Gates



Finchampstead Flower Club



Earlier this year we have watched a demonstration, attended a workshop and enjoyed a club dinner. Coming up, on 22nd June we have Jennifer Thompson who will demonstrate arrangements to the theme “Let there be music” and on 27th July Kathryn Austin will be “in the library”. I wonder what books she will select to be reflected in her arrangements. Why don't you come along to be inspired?

Here are some of our members arrangements as we gradually gain more skills to become ‘foam free’ at our workshops.

We meet at California Hall, 7:30 for 8pm. £6 per visit to include refreshments. Please just turn up or contact the chair, Lis Barrett, 01189892092 Elisabeth.barrett_email@gmail.com for further information.



We look forward to welcoming you.

Kriss Turner

You can also follow our activities on our [website](#)

<https://bit.ly/3X3OkzN>



or on [Facebook](#)
<https://bit.ly/4b0gDVr>



involve
MAKING A DIFFERENCE LOCALLY

Charities, voluntary & community groups, and other not-for-private-profit groups including community businesses: do you need information, bespoke support and advice to grow your group and your services? From how to start a new group and then run it efficiently, to funding advice, to volunteer and committee-member recruitment, plus general and specialist training, **involve Community Services** provide assistance to any local non-profit organisation in Bracknell Forest and Wokingham Borough.

Our charity also has a suite of wellbeing services that run across Wokingham Borough including a universal adult signposting service and a social and emotional support network for those impacted by cancer.

To find out more, contact us on 01344 304 404, reception@involve.community or 0118 228 0480, reception@vcshub.co.uk or look at and download information via <https://involve.community>



The Ladies group continues to meet each month and with prospective new members too.

The March meeting began with the very sad announcement that our founder member, Pat McCarthy, had passed away on 12th February at the great age of 94.

Pat had been so involved with all aspects of the clubs events over the years, and she last attended the meeting in November 2021, with her carer, when we celebrated her 90th birthday with flowers and gifts, much to her delight.

Her funeral on 9th March was attended by 8 of our members - this certainly was an end of an era.

Our speaker for the March meeting had been suddenly unable to attend, so at very short notice Tony Weston, who has visited us several times, stepped in with a wonderful presentation on Brownsea Island.

History Books

The "Barkham A History" book can be obtained from the BPC Clerk at £8.50 each or from Henry Street Garden Centre. These will make ideal presents for anyone who is new to the area and does not already own one.



In April, with husbands and guests invited too, Allan James visited us again with three friends this time, all bringing their guitars and musical instruments. We were wonderfully entertained to an evening of music and songs with us joining in with some singing too!

Our annual *in house* supper of lasagne and salad followed by desserts was our May meeting. 25 ladies enjoyed a delicious meal all organised and prepared by the members of the Committee, with time to chat to each other afterwards.

Future speaker meetings in June and July have topics of *Cell Biology* and *American Riverboats*, respectively, and the annual BBQ is in August with husbands and guests invited again.

Marilyn arranged a wonderful trip to the Open Gardens Day to Rooks Nest garden near Lambourne on 22nd April. 11 members and guests enjoyed a lovely sunny, warm day with splendid displays of bluebells, other Spring bulbs and flowers, together with a picnic lunch.

We meet every first Wednesday of the month at Barkham Village Hall from 7:30pm, and enjoy friendship and various speakers and social events. We warmly welcome new members, so for more information about us and joining the group please contact the Chair, Shirley Warner on 0118 9789124 or 07949 234075 or by email at

shirleyannwarner@gmail.com

We would look forward to see you.

www.pawprintspilatescake.co.uk

Pilates Classes

for beginners
or those who prefer a gentler class
Held at Barkham Village Hall

Tuesday 9:30 & 10:45

Thursday 9:30 & 10:45

Call Trudy on
07503 746253

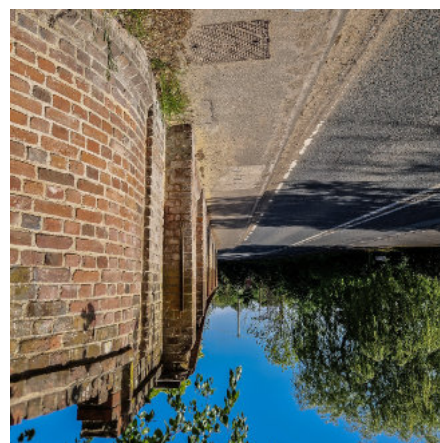


Scan me with your camera to
get all the details on the web

Quiz Answers

9. Scotland - thank goodness!
8. Egypt
7. India
6. China
5. Italy
4. Ivory Coast
3. Germany
2. Brazil
1. Spain

It turns out that China dominates the supply of many foods, even lamb, which used to be dominated by New Zealand. While some are probably to be expected, I think you will find a few answers that surprise you!



Where in Barkham?
These two grids are alongside the Great Wall of Barkham on Barkham Road by Barkham Manor.

- Neighbours**
Austria has eight neighbours:
1. Czechia
 2. Germany
 3. Hungary
 4. Italy
 5. Liechtenstein
 6. Slovakia
 7. Slovenia
 8. Switzerland

CROWTHORNE Symphony ORCHESTRA

As I write, the orchestra has started rehearsing for our Summer Concert on 4th July at All Saints Church, Wokingham. With music by Berlioz (Symphonie Fantastique), Malcolm Arnold (Overture Tam O'Shanter) and Beethoven, there should be something to please all tastes. (See our website for more details).

Beethoven's Piano Concerto No.4 is one of my favourite concertos, so I am really looking forward to the orchestra playing it with soloist Tom Hicks. I remember very clearly that when I was a child, an LP of this work was regularly played in our home. For several years we had only 2 precious LPs - this Beethoven concerto, recorded in the 1950s by Wilhelm Backhaus (I still have it!) and the other being Rachmaninov's 2nd Piano Concerto. Despite such a tiny collection of LPs (most of our recorded music was on 78s in those days) our home was always full of music thanks to the BBC Third Programme, and me playing the piano or cello! We were also fortunate to have a local library a few miles away on the edge of Epping Forest and East London where we used the excellent classical record section on a regular

basis. These days we are fortunate to have not only BBC Radio 3, but also Classic FM as well as Magic Classical (formerly Scala Radio, launched in 2019). Of course, some people also 'stream' classical music and there are several of these platforms, some offering very high-quality recordings. In my own case I have my own 'streaming' facility which enables me to listen to any of my numerous CDs at the touch of a button. We are so lucky these days to have such easy access to classical music - so different from my childhood where the Third Programme was considered very 'highbrow' or exclusive and not particularly popular with many folk!

In the local area around Wokingham, we are blessed with many musical groups who offer us live performances of a variety of genres and formats including choral music, wind bands and orchestras. We are so very fortunate. The Berkshire Music Trust based in Reading, (formerly known as Berkshire Maestros) offers a marvellous array of musical experiences for children and young people. One of my own granddaughters is learning the trumpet with the Trust and we recently went to one of their concerts in Reading where she enjoyed playing with her wind band and we were delighted to listen to lots of other young children performing in groups or as soloists - a large choir of children who were probably no more than 5 years old was an absolute joy, singing about the Gingerbread Man!

Organisations which offer musical activities for older people include the U3A which has groups of various kinds such as choirs, chamber groups, recorder groups, jazz groups as well as 'music appreciation' groups. For those who are not familiar with the U3A - it is an organisation aimed at retired and semi-retired folk to encourage them to get involved in all sorts of locally run interest groups - learning for fun, sharing ideas, skills and activities. There is a 'Music Makers' group for Wokingham and Bracknell U3A members which meets twice a month in Bracknell. We play all sorts of music for pleasure and welcome players of all abilities including beginners or people getting back to playing after a long break - a very different experience from CSO but still lots of fun. If you haven't previously heard of the U3A there is a lot of information on their website.

Crowthorne Symphony Orchestra has more than 60 regular members and we are a friendly bunch of all ages and backgrounds, rehearsing weekly on Mondays in term



CROWTHORNE
Symphony
ORCHESTRA
CONDUCTOR ROBERT ROSCOE | LEADER MIKE JESSOP

SATURDAY
JULY 4th 7.30pm
ALL SAINTS CHURCH
WILTSHIRE ROAD
WOKINGHAM RG40 1TN

BEETHOVEN PIANO CONCERTO NO.4
SOLOIST TOM HICKS

BERLIOZ
SYMPHONIE FANTASTIQUE

ARNOLD
OVERTURE TAM O'SHANTER

 **TICKETS £17** | Aged 18 & under free | Book on our website
EARLYBIRD! SAVE £3 when booked by May 17th 2026
crowthorneorchestra.com
THE CROWTHORNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA IS A REGISTERED CHARITY (796311/001)

WOKINGHAM
CHORAL
SOCIETY
PRESENTS

wcs

"Saturday night at the movies"

Director: George de Voil
Mezzo Soprano: Lydia Shariff
Accompanist: Ben Giddens



Saturday 20 June 2026
7.30pm

All Saints Church
Wiltshire Rd
Wokingham
RG40 1JN

Tickets £15,
£5 under 18s and students
Scan barcode for tickets



www.wokingham-choral-society.org.uk

registered charity 274853

time from 7:45-10pm at St Crispin's School, Wokingham. If you are a competent player (even if you haven't played for a while and would like to get back to it) and would like to join us, do get in touch. Competent string players are always welcome and other players depending on vacancies.

Our website has information about concerts, past and future, so do sign up for the orchestra's e-Newsletter if you don't already receive it, as you will find more about us, our concert programmes and workshops, as well as special offers on tickets. Our concerts are very popular, and tickets often sell out quickly. The link to buy tickets is on the main page : www.crowthorneorchestra.com

Chris Gadsby



If you are a regular reader of this magazine you are likely to have seen the articles in earlier issues about one of our residents, Pam Stubbs (pictured below), and her involvement in the Post Office Scandal.



Her story has been turned into a play entitled *Glitch!* by the Reading-based Rabble Theatre. It has been touring the country over the past few months. Last month I went to one of the performances in Reading and found it to be excellent.

Pam was played by Joanne Howarth, seen below on the phone.



Amazingly there are still victims who have yet to be compensated and nobody from the Post Office or Fujitsu, who supplied the Horizon system, has been prosecuted. Indeed, within the past year the Post Office renewed a valuable support contract to Fujitsu.

BVRA COMMITTEE



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chairman@barkham.org.uk



Cathy Whittington
Treasurer
treasurer@barkham.org.uk



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newsletter@barkham.org.uk



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Social Team
Liaises with Barkham Village Hall



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Louise Goldring
Distribution Admin
membership@barkham.org.uk

Newsletter Contributions

We welcome contributions to this newsletter either on a one-off basis, occasional or regular. We are keen to publicise any charity or events that may be of interest to Barkham residents. Please send them to the Newsletter Editor at newsletter@barkham.org.uk by the deadlines shown below.

Issue	Deadline	Distribution
Spring	13 th February	early March
Summer	8 th May	early June
Autumn	14 th August	early September
Winter	13 th November	early December

These are the second Fridays in February, May, August and November

Advertising

The newsletter is produced quarterly. The Spring issue is sent to 800+ households in Barkham, and the other three to the households who are paid-up BVRA members, which is currently 500+.

We offer four sizes of adverts which are shown in mm. The prices below are cover a whole year's advertising in our four issues.

Format	Advert size	Internal Pages	Back Page
Credit Card	60 x 50	£20.00	£30.00
Quarter Page	124 x 104	£50.00	£75.00
Half Page	190 x 130	£100.00	£150.00
Full Page	190 x 270	£200.00	£300.00

Please contact the Newsletter Editor to discuss your needs and supply your copy to newsletter@barkham.org.uk by the deadlines above.

Membership

Membership of the BVRA costs £3 per year and entitles you to receive four issues of this magazine.

To join please make your payment using one of the following ways:

1. By Direct Debit: set up using the link below
<https://barkham.org.uk/bvra/bvra-membership>



All direct debits are fully covered under the UK Direct Debit scheme.

2. By Bank Transfer: email us at membership@barkham.org.uk for details.
3. By cash, drop off your payment at one of our collection points around the village. Contact us at membership@barkham.org.uk for details.

Website



BVRA EVENTS

Skittles Evening - 9th May

Quiz Night - 24th October

Carols in the Park - 11th December

USEFUL CONTACTS

Barkham Parish Council

2nd Tuesday @ 19:30, no meeting in August
Held at Arborfield Green Community Centre
clerk@barkhamparish.gov.uk
<https://barkhamparish.gov.uk>

St James Church, Barkham

<https://www.abch.org.uk>

Arborfield Gardening Association

Jan Heard
janaheard@btinternet.com

Bearwood Primary School

<https://www.bearwood-pri.wokingham.sch.uk/web/>

The Bull at Barkham

Closed again!

The Coombes CE Primary School

<https://www.thecoombes.com>

Crowthorne Orchestra

<https://www.crowthorneorchestra.com/>
secretary@crowthorneorchestra.com

Finchampstead Flower Club

Fourth Monday @ 20:00
Held at California Ratepayers Hall
<https://bbandoflowers.org.uk/clubs/finchampstead/>

Loddon Valley Ramblers

Walks on Sundays, Tuesdays & Thursdays
<https://www.lvra.org.uk/>

Sing for your Self (term time)

Tuesdays @ 13:00
Arborfield Village Hall
www.singforyourself.co.uk

Trinity Concert Band

<https://www.trinityband.co.uk>

Please contact the editor to add or change the information on this page newsletter@barkham.org.uk

The **BVRA Privacy Policy** can be viewed at the foot of the Home page of the website, www.barkham.org.uk. Email addresses provided by members will be used only for BVRA communications or to provide a receipt of their annual subscription.

Contact the Webmaster to view the details we hold, to amend them, or opt out at any time. Email: webmaster@barkham.org.uk

The views expressed in this Newsletter, unless signed by a BVRA committee member, are not necessarily those of the Barkham Village Residents' Association.

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BARKHAM VILLAGE HALL

Bookings <https://hallbookingonline.com/barkham>

Art Class

Wednesdays @ 19:30
Kay Young - kaycatlady65@gmail.com
Jean Kidwell - jean.kidwell@outlook.com
0118 9629076, 07952 416383

Barkham Ladies Social Club

1st Wednesday @ 19:30
Shirley Warner 0118 978 9124
shirleyannwarner@gmail.com

Bonsai Club

2nd Wednesday @ 19:30
www.berkshirebonsai.co.uk

Brownies

Wednesdays @ 17:00 (term time)

CWC - Coombes Woodland Committee

clerk@barkhamparish.gov.uk

Dinton Walking Group Social

2nd Tuesday @ 19:30 (not June or December)
dintonwalkinggrp@yahoo.co.uk

Dog Training

Mondays @ 18:30
Lesley Slade 07885 899073

Home Educational Teens

Tuesday @ 14:00 - 16:00
Paul Bagley
Paulbagley@rocketmail.com

Martial Arts Class

Thursdays @ 19:00
Combat Academy UK
Andy Holmes 07783 206737
<https://facebook.com/CombatAcademyUKBarkham>

Pilates Class

Mondays @ 10:00 and
Thursdays @ 18:00
Vicky's Pilates 07729 783240

Beginners Pilates Class

Tuesday & Thursday @ 9:30 & 10:45
<https://www.pawprintspilatescake.co.uk>
hello@pawprintspilatescake.co.uk
Trudy 07503 746253

Rainbows

Tuesdays @ 16:30 (term time)

Simply Fit

Saturdays @ 08:30
Melissa Buckle
melissa@simplyfitberkshire.co.uk

The Sun Room Band

1st, 3rd & 4th Tuesdays @ 20:00
Keith 07771 974796
keith.hayden.uk@ntlworld.com
www.lemonrock.com/thesunroomband

Sunday Club

Sundays @ 09:00
Julian Bidgood
office@abch.org.uk

U3A Music Groups

Group 1: 2nd & 4th Mondays @ 14:30
Group 2: 1st & 3rd Mondays @ 13:30

Youth Club

Fridays @ 19:00
Rev Iain Lingwood
iain.lingwood@abch.org.uk

Arborfield Tree Care

The Tree Company Others Look ^{Up} To



office@arborfieldtreecare.org 0118 976 1000

Arborfield Log Supplies

The Household Name For Firewood



info@arborfieldlogsupplies.co.uk 0118 976 1156



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for contact details & to find out more about our sessions, follow us online:

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