

Whitchurch Update

Spring 2009

Whitchurch Festival

Festival 2009 should be even better than last year's. The outline programme is:

Festival Queen selection	11 April
Festival Queen Coronation	2 May
Pubs Race	24 May
Carnival Procession	
Meadow Fun Day	
Party Evening	20 June

Full details of these events will be on-line at www.whitchchurchfestival.org.uk

Parish Hall

The Hall is back in use with a vengeance. Bill Judge has been collecting funds from many different sources and some of the costs of ongoing improvements are now covered.

This month has seen the use of its key feature, the stage, and revamped lighting, on 2 occasions. WADS used it for its 50th Anniversary Celebrations and a local group had the first of what is hoped to be many music sessions.

The size of the high roofed main hall with its stage and proximity to the Town's centre make this the ideal location for many events such as children's parties, wedding receptions (in fact any form of family celebration), sales events and entertainments. It is also suitable for some indoor sports such as table tennis or short mat bowls.

There's lots more about the Hall on the its web pages at www.whitchchurchparishhall.org.uk.

For bookings ring Ruth Wigmore on 893512.

The Hall needs more funds if it is to move forward and provide event better facilities for the Town. You can make regular donation by standing order with the form on the website or give a one off donation at the Handbag Shop, 5 Church Street.

Festival Funds

As a result of the Festival Activities this summer, the Beer Race, the Carnival and the Fun Day, the Committee had £1,000 to give to local groups. It decided to keep the give a reasonable amount to a relatively small number of groups rather than give all the applicants a small amount.

Those who missed out this time will be top of the list for a share of this year's funds

The groups which benefited are: Cat Protection League, Gill Nethercott Hall, Millennium Green, Noah's Ark, Rising Fives, WADS, Whitchurch Arts, Whitchurch Cubs, Whitchurch Parish Hall and Yallah Belly Dancers,

Up to date information can be found on the website www.whitchchurchfestival.org.uk

Hello...

From your Community Wardens Richard and Lucy



Our role is to reduce the fear of crime by high visibility patrolling, meeting with local residents, planning and organising community events, and contributing to environmental improvements.

Netball Club at Whitchurch Primary

We started an after school netball club at Whitchurch Primary School in January, offering both boys and girls the opportunity to learn more about netball whilst also getting fit and having fun.

The club has seen around 15 to 20 children attending each week.

On Monday 10 March the children are attending their first tournament at Testbourne School which will see them competing against other local schools.

If any other children would like to join the club please contact us or speak to Mr Price at the school.

Vulnerable cars and properties

As part of our work with the Safer Neighbourhoods Team we are working to identify vulnerable vehicles and property which may be at risk of crime.

You may see us checking cars regularly in both Whitchurch and Overton. We are not issuing you with a ticket but checking to see whether you have left any valuable items on display. This could include satellite navigation systems, mobile phones or laptops. You will then get a letter from the police advising you not to leave valuable items on display.

You would be surprised how many cars we find with very valuable items left clearly visible!

Super Street Sports Event

We held the first Super Street Sports Event during the February half term at Testbourne School, giving young people between the ages of 8 and 14 the opportunity to participate in a range of free activities including Street hockey, netball, football and dodge ball. The event was a real success with over 50 young people attending the event.

The day was also supported by Kingfisher Housing Association and Hampshire Constabulary who sent a number of staff along to the event.

AND FINALLY...

We hope to see as many of you as possible whilst on patrol around Whitchurch and Overton, but if you don't manage to see us, but would like to talk to us about any issues you may have, please contact us on 01256 845 508 or community.wardens@basingstoke.gov.uk

Support your local shops - They are here to serve you

Dennett's Butchers

9 Winchester Street (892772)
Top Quality Meat, Sausages, Pies,
Eggs

The Egg Shop

Arnolds Farm
Free range eggs
Farmgate sales 9.30-11.30 Mon-Fri

Flower Power

31 Winchester Street (896686)
Flowers for all occasions

The Handbag Shop

5 Church Street (893500)
Handbags, Shoes & Accessories

Glass-Foolery

3 Newbury Street (895615)
*Fused glass & Bead jewellery &
Gifts*

G Dowling & Sons

12/14 Bell Street (893551)
All types of footwear & repairs

House 'n Home

1b Church Street (896446)
*Household, Gardening & Pet
supplies*

Pauline Forster

3 Church Street (895670)
Bridalwear designer & Dressmaker

Lloyds Pharmacy

7 Newbury Street (892058)
Dispensing pharmacy, Cosmetics

The Old Paper Shop

5 Winchester Street (892285)
Newspapers, Greetings Cards

Somerfield Stores

1 - 3 Bell Street (892404)
Your local Supermarket

The Silk Mill Shop

28 Winchester Street (892065)
Silk gifts & other Accessories

Burnaby Stores

81 Winchester Road (892148)
Off licence, Newsagent & Groceries

Whitchurch Filling Station

9-13 Church Street (895335)
7 days a week 7am to 8pm

The Village Bakery

The Market Place (892431)
*Fresh bread, cakes, sandwiches
and filled rolls, tea & coffee to take
away*

The Whitchurch Welfare Trust welcomes applications for financial help from individuals and local organisations. It also welcomes applications from students entering further education or training courses. The Trust is a registered charity, no. 204378, which was set up in 1968, 'to relieve hardship or distress within the ancient parish of Whitchurch'. Applications should be made in writing, to The Whitchurch Welfare Trust c/o The Town Hall, Newbury Street.

Festival Queen

The search is on for the 2009 Festival Queen, Princess and 2 attendants.

The competition will take place in the Longmeadow Sports and Social Club on 11th April starting at 7pm. There will be a disco before and during the competition so there will be plenty for all.

To be Festival Queen for a year you need to be between 12 and 17 on 11th April, the Princess under 12 but at least 8 and attendants 5, 6 or 7 years old.

Entry forms will be available for downloading from the festival website www.whitchurchfestival.org.uk and 1 Winchester Street.



The coronations are scheduled for May 2 on the Millennium Meadow at 12noon as part of the Maypole Dancing celebrations. Following that the Queen, Princess and attendants will take part in the Carnival on 20th June and other events around the Town for the remainder of their year's reign.

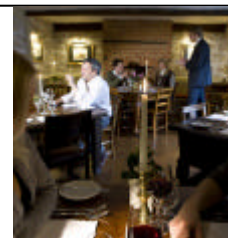
Community Arts Project

The entries for the competition to find the piece of community art that will be constructed are now on show in the Library until 21st March. Many thanks to Barry Meehan and Wendy Sperry for arranging this.

You can vote for your favourite which you think will make Whitchurch more attractive to residents and visitors. There is up to £6,000 to be spent on the chosen entry, but to justify the spending of the funds, what is needed is something that will involve the community, provide education and make us prouder of Whitchurch when it is installed - and if it will get the Town in the papers, on the TV or radio, that's even better.

There's a vacancy for a Visitor Services Assistant to work in the Silk Mill shop on Fridays 10-5pm. Would any one be able to help modernise the Silk Mill's website? For further details contact the Mill on 01256 892065

The Red House, based on London Street has recently been refurbished and has a new team at the helm. So far, new owner Sandra Bryant and Gareth McAinsh are off to a good start, with Head Chef Anthony Daude pledged to look to the future and create menus that will catch the imagination of a discerning and mobile public.



A delicious menu using local produce has been created, and includes a fabulous homemade stew and dumplings, daily fresh fish from Cornwall and our signature dish; home cooked salt beef served with potato salad and crusty bread, all complimented with a range of traditional ales and delicious wines.

Full details of the menu, wine list and specials are featured on the new Red House Whitchurch web site, which can be found at www.theredhousewhitchurch.com. The site also features the innovative "Chef's Corner", which can be used to communicate directly with Head Chef Anthony Daude.

So if you have not visited the Red House for a while, why not pop in for a guaranteed warm welcome and friendly atmosphere. If you would like to book a table, please call us on 01256 895558.

Town Centre Improvements Update

By now you will have seen that work in Bell Street Car Park is well under way, as is the refurbishment of the Town Hall forecourt.

The final touches to the car park will include an extra notice board on the toilet block, new lighting, new low maintenance planting in the beds around the area. It had been hoped to plant full sized trees alongside the entrance road from Bell Street, but the discovery of a gas main just below the surface has prevented this. The new screening around the recycling area and the extra parking places should add to the utility and appearance.

There is still money available for the redecoration of the frontages of buildings in the conservation area that front on to London Road/Street, Winchester Road/Street, Newbury Road/Street, Church Street and Bell Street. Denyse Cole has taken on responsibility for this project, you can contact her on 893010.

The project has only 6 months to run and there's still a lot to be done, if you know Whitchurch and have project management skills call 07825 112677, we need your help - the work will be paid.

WADS needs young men

Now in its 51st year, WADS, which puts on 2 stage performances each year plus smaller events, needs more younger members, particularly young men. So if you're sixth form age or over please contact the group.

Everything you need to know about WADS is on its website at www.wadsweb.org.uk

Pubs Race

Following on from last year's highly successful event, the race this year will again cover the Town's pubs and start from the Prince Regent finishing at the Longmeadow Sports and Social Club.

Teams of up to 6 can enter, fancy dress is compulsory (no shrinking violets please - unless you want to dress up as them) and the race will begin at 5pm on Bank Holiday Sunday 24th May. There's a £5 per team member entry fee and they will each have to consume a ½ pint drink at each pub before proceeding. Teams are encouraged to collect money (by peaceful means) during their journey.

There'll be prizes for the best dressed team, the team collecting the most money and the one covering the course in the shortest time

Entry forms will be available for downloading from the festival website www.whitchurchfestival.org.uk and 1 Winchester Street. Entries close on 17th May.



Have you thought about stopping Smoking?



Hampshire Stop Smoking Service

Does spending lots of money smoking worry you?

Quit4Life, the Hampshire-wide NHS stop smoking service currently runs sessions locally at the Whitchurch Surgery on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 until 7:30 pm. Sarah, the adviser at the Surgery, will be able to offer you free, friendly support and advice, discuss with you the available medications, and be able to supply with a one-off prescription fee (if you normally pay for prescriptions), NRT patches, gums, lozenges or the inhalator. The service is also able to offer Champix, a drug therapy, through prescription requests to your GP (prescription charges will apply). She will also be there to support you through your quit attempt and be able to offer advice about how to keep any cravings you have under control. You're four times more likely to quit with our support than on your own.

Don't forget it's national No Smoking Day on Wednesday 11 March - so go on, take your first step!

For further information please call Quit4Life on 0845 602 4663, text QUIT to 60123 or visit the new website: www.quit4life.nhs.uk

Local Services supporting the local community

Barker Son & Isherwood LLP, Solicitors

2 Newbury Street (896262)
Full range of legal services

Brockenhurst Estate Agents
2 Winchester Street (892222)

Residential sales & lettings

Clacy's Garage

London Road (892099)

Car servicing & repairs & MOT

Eternal Images

(892655 / 07834 128563)

Wedding, portraiture, commercial and automotive photography

Focus on Hair

3 Church Street (893787)

Unisex hairdressing

Garden Assist

Nigel and Helen Woodcock

(895147)

Reliable and expert garden services

Foxcotte Veterinary Group

33 Winchester Street (892067) or

main surgery (01264 358808)

Looking after your pets

Dan Glead EP Cert MCIM

(893776 or 07793 838679)

Will writing & Estate planning

Headquarters Unisex Hair Salon

38 London Street (892072)

Ladies, gents & children's hair

HSBC Bank

Town Hall (0845 7404404)

Full banking

Mon, Thu & Fri

Kingsley Financial Management

1 Church Street (896203)

Independent financial advisers

David Manning & Co

1 Winchester Street (896633)

Specialist Property lawyer & conveyancing

Paynes Printers & Stationers

1A Church Street (892471)

For all your Printing & Stationery needs

Whitchurch Barbers

51 London Street (892671)

Gents & boys hairdressing

Mon Closed,

Tue 9.30am - 1pm

Wed 4pm - 8pm

Thu 9.30am - 5pm

Fri 9.30am - 6pm

Sat 9am - 3pm

York Associates

(892748)

Architectural design services, planning applications, applications for Listed Building Consent and Building Regulations submissions

www.thewhitchurchweb.org for the latest news and events

Earth Hour 8.30 – 9.30pm 28th March



What's it all about?

At 8:30pm on Saturday the 28th of March 2009, people all over the world will be turning off their electric lights for sixty minutes for Earth Hour.

Earth Hour started in Australia in 2007 and became a global event last year. There are high hopes of getting a billion people to participate this year to demonstrate their concern over global warming and the urgent need for positive action to create a more sustainable future.

What can I do?

This year the people of Whitchurch are invited to take part in Earth Hour. It's up to you how you do this, but here are a few suggestions:

Simply use candles instead of electric lights at home for the hour

Invite friends and family over for a candlelit party

Treat yourself to a candlelit dinner at the Red House (call 895558) or Blue Ginger (895858)

Come along to a spectacular community event organised by Whitchurch Arts at the Gill Nethercott Centre

How do I find out more?

For more information please visit www.whitchurchearthhour.org.uk

If you have any questions or ideas please contact beth@whitchurchearthhour.org.uk

Keep a look out for recycled Earth Hour posters around the town, indicating that households and businesses pledge to turn their lights out for Earth Hour. You can sign up yourself on the town hall forecourt between 9am and 12 noon on either Saturday the 14th or the 21st of March.

Let's see how many people we can get involved!

Carnival

This year's carnival will take place on Saturday 20 June and (subject to consent from the Council and Police) will include a procession starting from Evingar Industrial Estate at 1pm Travelling down Evingar Road, Bell Street and Winchester Street/Road to the Millennium Meadow



There's space in the procession for floats built on vehicles and groups or individuals walking, running, dancing or cycling. There'll be prizes for commercial, vehicle borne and non-vehicle borne floats and groups and individuals. Last year was fun this year will be even better!

If you have a vehicle that a group could use we would love to hear from you, Test Valley Freight has again very kindly offered its vehicles.

The procession will end at the Meadow where there'll be games, food, drink and any other stall we can find, or you can provide. From 7.30pm there'll be music and food in Longmeadow Sports and Social Club.

Entry forms and rules for the procession and requests for a stall on the Meadow will be available for downloading from the festival website www.whitchurchfestival.org.uk and 1 Winchester Street.

Community Group News

If you have anything that you would like publicised, as the Whitchurch Festival, Quit Smoking, the Neighbourhood Wardens, the Whitchurch Welfare Trust, The Silk Mill and the Parish Hall Committee have done in this edition of Update, please call 896548 or email update@thewhitchurchweb.org and it's completely free.

Update is delivered, 4 times a year, to all households in Whitchurch and copies are also available in Whitchurch's shops, surgeries and the library.

Enjoy Eating and Drinking in Whitchurch

The Bell

24/26 Bell Street (893120)
Traditional pub & good food

The Blue Ginger

Bell Street (895700)
Indian & Bengali restaurant & take away

The Blue Rickshaw

9 London Road (892953)
Chinese take away & fish & chips

The Harvest Home

Winchester Road (892217)
Traditional pub & food specials

The Hot Spice

10 London Street (895485)
Tandoori food to take away

The Kings Arms

10 Church Street (893489)
Town centre local + regular music

The Prince Regent

104 London Road (895525)
A drinking man's pub

The Red House

21 London Street (895558)
Restaurant and pub

The Royal Pizza & Kebab

3d Church Street (895533)
Pizza to collect or have delivered

The Railway Hotel

Station Road (895246)
A good local & accommodation

The White Hart

London Street (892900)
Good Food, Real Ale & Accommodation

Longmeadow Sports & Social Club

Winchester Road (892493)
Club membership & function rooms for hire

The businesses mentioned in Update are ensuring its publication. Please support them - why travel outside Whitchurch when there is so much here?

Update is produced and published by Working 4 Whitchurch

Phil Cooper 896548
update@thewhitchurchweb.org

Printing by John Dollin 892969

www.thewhitchurchweb.org for the latest news and events