



HOLYBROOK

WINTER EDITION

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

This message has to be written several weeks before the newsletter is actually delivered, so at the time of writing, as I walk across Linear Park to the parish office, the leaves on the trees are changing colour, there is a mist along the Holy Brook, and there is a nip in the early morning air. It is a lovely place in which to live.

One of our councillors, Roy Brumpton, resigned in August because of work pressures, but I am pleased that he will continue to be involved in the

Holybrook festival. I should like to publicly thank Roy for his contribution to the work of the council, and also to welcome Akinbiyi Oloko who was co-opted to the council in September. There is now one vacancy in the west ward.

I should also like to welcome Phil Brown, who will take over as Parish Clerk when David Baldock retires on 31 December. We look forward to a long

and happy association. A tribute to David's work appears elsewhere in the newsletter but, on a personal note, I wish to thank him for all that has been achieved during his five years as Clerk to the Council and for a very happy and fruitful working relationship we have enjoyed. I wish David a long and happy retirement, and all parishioners a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Phil Brown, Your New Parish Clerk

I am married with one son and have lived in Theale for the best part of 25 years. Most of my career has been with Barclays in their Financial and Investment Services divisions, both in the UK and in various locations overseas. More recently, I was the office manager of Berkshire Media Group. I am treasurer of Holy Trinity Church in Theale, and would rank country walking and travel among my favourite pursuits.

As with all new jobs, there is initially much to learn. I have however been fortunate to have David Baldock's valuable guidance and I'm looking forward to working closely with the council on your behalf.

As soon as I arrived, a number of people told me that David would be 'a hard act to follow.' When I finally hang up my working boots in favour of retirement I hope the same will be said of me.

David Baldock, Your Retiring Parish Clerk

It is with sadness that the council announces David Baldock's retirement as Parish Clerk.

David joined the council in 2004 and during his tenure has contributed greatly to the development of the council, its projects and community standing.

David's experience and professionalism has been of tremendous benefit to councillors, residents and community groups, always ready to help and provide valuable advice and guidance on a whole range of topics. Not least his involvement in making our annual festival such a wonderful success.

As always, these things are a team effort and we thank Theresa, David's wife for her support and contribution too.

On behalf of the councillors and the whole community, we send David and Theresa our very best wishes for a long and happy retirement and trust that they will not become strangers and visit us once in a while—complete with grandchildren!

DECEMBER 2009

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Page 2:

*The Holybrook
Neighbourhood Action Group
New BMX/Skate Park Plan
Calcot Infant School &
Nursery
Kennet Valley Preschool
Calcot Afternoon Women's
Institute*

Page 3:

*Holybrook Youth Club
The Beansheaf Preschool*



*Holybrook Parish
Office, Beansheaf
Centre, Charrington
Road, Calcot, Reading
RG31 7AW*

*Clerk to the Council:
Mr Phil Brown,*

*Assistant Clerk:
Mrs Rachel Buckingham*

*Open to the public
Monday to Friday
10am-1pm.*

*Viewing of planning
applications by
appointment only.*

Tel: 0118 945 4339

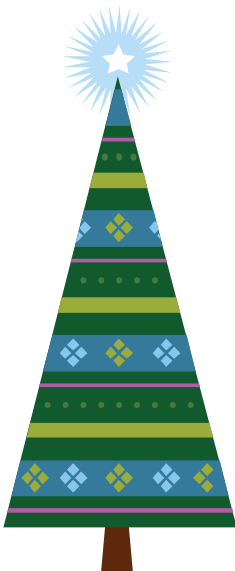
24 hour answerphone.

email: holybrook

council@btconnect.com

www.holybrookparish

council.co.uk



The Holybrook Neighbourhood Action Group

The Holybrook NAG holds its meetings at Pangbourne Police Station—every six weeks on a Thursday morning commencing at 10.00am and finishing about 12.30pm.

The chairman of the parish council chairs the group which consists of members of the public and representatives from local organisations, such as schools, youth reps etc also the neighbourhood wardens, parish and district councillors and police. We discuss issues pertinent to Holybrook and make recommendations for tackling them.

We need someone with a few hours to spare every six weeks to take the minutes, type them up, agree them with the police and distribute them by email to the members of the group.

If you are interested, please contact the parish office.

New BMX/Skate Park Plan

An exciting new facility for young people is being planned by West Berkshire Council with a substantial financial input from the parish council, a government Play Builder grant and hopefully the youth opportunity fund. The proposed BMX/Skate Park is to be built next to the hard surface basketball court adjacent to the Beansheaf Community Centre and is to be built in the next financial year from April 2010. We would like to hear from the young people who will use the park about what equipment they would like to see. Please contact Caroline Booth at WBC email: cbooth@westberks.gov.uk or **01635 519576** or speak to the youth leaders at the garage drop-in alternatively please contact the West Berkshire Neighbourhood Wardens email: westberks.wardens@sovereign.org.uk or **0118 945 5286** or the parish office.

LottoFun at Calcot Infant School & Nursery

Calcot Infant School and Nursery have received a grant from the Awards For All branch of the National Lottery for just under £10,000. It is being used for a Sensory Arts Projects at the school. The money will fund professional artists to come into school and take after school Arts Clubs for 24 weeks throughout the year in Drama, Dance, Music and Art and Design. In the spring and summer, professional artists will lead workshops for children and their parents as well as other interested members of the local community to create sensory areas around the perimeter of the school. Anyone who may be interested in being involved in the project should contact Angela Searle at the school.

email: chrisajsearle@hotmail.com

Kennet Valley Pre-School

Kennet Valley Preschool, based in the Holybrook Centre, Carters Rise, Fords Farm has free places for 3 and 4 year olds. We can offer up to 15 hours per week, taken over 5 days Monday to Friday. You can register your child from the age of 2 years to secure a place from the age of 3. **For more information please ring or text the Preschool on 07884 028715.**

Calcot Afternoon Women's Institute

Calcot Afternoon WI meets at 2.30pm every second Wednesday of the month at Calcot Community Centre, Highview (Off Royal Avenue) RG31 4XD.

We have speakers, quizzes, outings and social events. Our speakers this year have included a Wimbledon Tennis Umpire, the curator of the local Police Museum, a photographer introducing us to the wildlife in Linear Park, a bee-keeper and a poet.

Why not come along and join our friendly group. Your first visit will be free. Everyone is most welcome.

Contact Gilly on 0118 941 2532.

Holybrook Youth Club

The Holybrook Youth Club runs on a fortnightly basis and is run by volunteers. We offer many fun indoor and outdoor facilities for all ages. Sessions run for 8 years from 6pm-7.30pm and 8pm-9.30pm for ages 13+ run by Youth Services on the following dates: **4th December 2009, 1st January (TBC), 15th January, 29th January, 12th February and 26th February 2010.**

If you require more information or would like to become a volunteer **please call Karen Albanese on 07504 956168.**

Report from Mary-Anne Thomas (Eastern Area Youth Team Leader) -

The senior club at Fords Farm (Age 13-19) had a slow start. This was not unexpected as traditionally young people have preferred to meet the youth workers on the streets rather than in a club setting. However with the colder nights, it is envisaged that more young people will avail themselves of the opportunities on offer including hot drinks and food as well as activities on alternate Fridays from 8.00-9.30pm. The detached team together with Caroline Booth from West Berkshire Council's countryside and environment department have been working through the summer building up to a good relationship with a group of young people who wanted a set of football posts re-erected at the Burbidge Close end of Linear Park. We are pleased to say that the posts are due to be set up over the October half term. During the winter the young people will be putting in a bid to the Youth Opportunity Fund for equipment for the area that they feel would be of benefit to the wider audience of young people.

The Garage Drop In is going from strength to strength on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 6.00-8.00pm. A recent graffiti project has seen the interior walls of the drop in get a real face lift and a group of young people are working with the youth workers on a number of exciting projects for the area.

A new session will have started in November for young people not in education, employment or training to help them access opportunities and activities. For further details of this please contact Ronald Burke on **0118 930 2980.**

Some up and coming events—4th December a trip to Alexandra Palace to skate at the famous venue from midnight to 4.00am in the morning!

In the spring there will be another opportunity to try canoeing in the Holybrook. The date is yet to be confirmed, but will most likely be around Easter for further information please phone Ronald or email him on **rburke@westberks.gov.uk**

The Beansheaf Pre-School

The Beansheaf Community Pre-School runs a fun and stimulating environment for the under 5's working alongside the Early Years foundation stage. We offer a team of qualified staff who promote learning through play in a caring and supportive setting. We are now open at the following times:

Monday and Wednesday 9:20am-11:50am and Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:20am-11:50am and 12.00pm-14.30pm (Full day care is also available on these days as well as a very popular lunch club).

For more information please call Karen Albanese on 0118 945 4312 or 07813 875567

From Councillor Karen Albanese: I have lived in Calcot for 18 years and have two children. I am the manager of the Beansheaf Community Preschool and have been working with children for 8 years. I previously worked with Thomson Holidays where I was fortunate enough to see a lot of the world.

I am greatly interested in working with the youth of our community and I am running the Holybrook Youth Club as a volunteer. I am looking forward to being involved in helping to improve our local area and to make it a better place to live.



YOUR HOLYBROOK
COUNCILLORS

BERNARD GILBERT

0118 941 8051

CLAIRE TULL

(VICE CHAIRMAN)

0118 941 8203

MARY BEDWELL

0118 942 0196

VAL BETTERIDGE

0118 941 1265

GLENN DENNIS

0118 941 8720

IAIN PATE

0118 941 4226

CAROL HEDGES

0118 942 7193

CHARLIE CROAL

07855 749876

JERRY CARBON

07988 248624

DAVID SHALLOW

KAREN ALBANESE

07504 956168

IAN SHEPPARD

RICHARD SUMNER

07836 208382

AKINBIYI OLOKO

07793 233075

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

PETER ARGYLE

0118 943 1148

BRIAN BEDWELL

0118 942 0196

MANOHAR LAL GOPAL

Mob: 07900 372323

THE MP FOR READING

WEST: MARTIN SALTER

MP 0118 954 6782

Salterm@parliament.uk

THAMES VALLEY POLICE

0845 8 505 505

A View from West Berkshire Council

STREETCARE

Your councillors receive some emails concerning unresolved issues raised with Streetcare. Every call to Streetcare is logged and can be traced and we use this to investigate a complaint, for example, a resident recently complained that a street lamp had not been repaired despite reporting to Streetcare a good while ago.

The date of the call was established; an officer had attended the next day, identified the fault and asked the appropriate electricity company to deal with it. In the contract, single lamp faults must be repaired within 20 working days, unless there is a safety issue. The fault was corrected within the timescale.

If you have a problem with Streetcare, do let us know—they usually manage to have problems resolved fairly quickly.

PLANNING MATTERS

When a planning application is made for a property near you and you wish to object, in the first instance you must advise Council Officers, however, if you are not satisfied with the response you receive, or wish to know more about your rights and how they may be heard, please contact us. Planning Officers have to meet deadlines in making a decision—it is therefore important not to delay contacting us. Also remember that Holybrook Parish Council receives copies of the plans in the Parish, discusses all applications and puts comments to Planners. The Parish Clerk will be able to tell you when the planning applications are being discussed and can attend and speak.

Brian Bedwell, Peter Argyle and Manohar Gopal

Notes from the Parish Council

The Beansheaf Community Centre is closed on Christmas Eve until Monday 4th January 2010 for redecoration.

The next full council meetings are at 7.30pm in the Beansheaf Centre on 14th December 2009, 18th January, 22nd February and 29th March 2010.

*The Beansheaf Centre is available to hire until 10.30pm Monday to Saturday and until 8pm on Sunday. It is licensed and has the Linear Hall with a capacity of 130 people seated or 260 standing, the Beansheaf Room with a capacity of 55 people seated or 110 standing and the Keep with a capacity of 35 people. The kitchen is available to all hirers and is included in the hire charge. **Please come and visit us.***

These are some of the following activities at the Beansheaf Centre: Preschool, Guides, Yoga, dog training classes, dance classes, scrabble, pilates and martial arts.

If you would like an article or advertising included in the next newsletter please email the parish office.

A parishioner has recently commented that the Beansheaf car park lights are not on at 6.30 in the morning making it dark for dog walkers at this time of year. These lights serve the car park and the community centre and are timed to go off at 11pm when the Centre is closed. They are not left on all night as they are purely car park lights and would be a nuisance to neighbours living in close proximity to the car park.

The Neighbourhood Wardens continue to fulfil their normal duties including patrols of hot-spot areas, litter removal, graffiti clearance and Virtually Stolen. Tel: 0118 945 5286 or email: westberks.wardens@sovereign.org.uk