# ROOKSDOWN REPORTER

Issue 2

### Spring 2009



Brought to you by Rooksdown Parish Council

### **EDITORIAL**

### ROOKSDOWN PARISH COUNCIL

Welcome to the second edition of the Rooksdown Reporter

Do you have any issues or stories you would like to be covered in the next Rooksdown Reporter?

If so, please get in touch:

Email: editor@rooksdown.org.uk

Contact us on the above email address if you would like to help, or advertise in the next issue

As well as the Rooksdown Reporter, there are a number of ways to find out what is happening in Rooksdown:

There are a number of noticeboards around Rooksdown,

- By the telephone box Gillies Drive,
- On the side of the Community Hut next to Mill Road Park,
- Park Prewett Road next to the Medical Centre
- Mill Road.

Rooksdown is going to have some benches.

Where would you like them to be placed?

Please email us on Rooks-down.community@hotmail.co.uk
Or you can drop a note into the
Rooksdown Community Hut next
to the play park in Mill Road.
by 31 March

### Rooksdown Parish Council Meetings

SaxonWood School at 7.30 Monday 23 March Monday 27 April Monday 1 June Monday 29 June Monday 27 July

Come along and meet your Parish Council At the 2009 Annual Parish Meeting

Annual Meeting of the Parish Council Monday 1st June at SaxonWood School 7.30pm

#### **DISCLAIMER**

The views expressed in the Rooksdown Reporter are not necessarily those of the group. We do not accept liability nor warrant any product or service advertised in the Rooksdown Reporter.

**NEXT ISSUE: SUMMER 2009** 

### ROOKSDOWN EVENTS

For more info or tickets contact Rooksdown Community Association-

Quiz Night	(Weybrook Golf Club)	Fri 20 March at 7.30	
Woodland Walk	Mill Road Green	Sat 9 May	2-4pm
Summer Fayre	Mill Road Green	Sat 18 July	2-4pm
Story Time	Mill Road Green	Fri 7 August	12-12.30
Quiz Night	Weybrook Golf Club	September	
Skittles Night	Bowls Club	Sat 25 April	7.30pm

**Mobile Library** every other Thursday at 3.45 to 4.15 by the telephone box Gillies Drive.

### Community Wardens—Wednesday Workout

3.30 to 4.30 pm

Football Field by Nightingale Gardens opposite telephone box
Easter Holidays Wed 8 & 15 April
Whitsun Holidays Wed 27 May
Summer Holidays Wed 29 July
5 & 12 & 19 & 26 August

### Mobile Play Schemes by the Big Lottery & Basingstoke Play Ltd

Mobile Play Scheme Thursday 28th May 10am until 12 noon, On Mill Road Green (dates to be arranged during the Summer Holidays.)

### **Rooksdown Community Association Meeting**

SaxonWood School at 7.30pm 3 March, 31 March, 6 May, 9 June, 7 July Everyone is welcome. Help and ideas are always needed. Come along and meet the Community Association.

We also have regular Rooksdown News Articles in the Basingstoke Gazette on Thursdays and there is also a website www.rooksdown.org.uk

### ROOKSDOWN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Rooksdown Community Association is a small, friendly group of people and are always on the lookout for more volunteers and would be very interested to hear of anything you think we should be doing or could be doing in Rooksdown.

### email: rooksdown.community@hotmail.co.uk

With the new year now underway, the Community Association has already started scheduling dates and planning events for 2009. The Woodland Walk and Summer Fayre are proving increasingly popular so these will be going ahead, again along with the Quiz Nights. As the number of residents within Rooksdown is still growing, hopefully we will have an even bigger turn out this year. All we need now is the sun!

We cannot make these events happen without volunteers so if anyone can spare some time no matter how little, either on the day or to help with preparations beforehand, please do contact the Community Association.

### **CALLING ALL PARENTS OF SMALL CHILDREN**

The number of residents that have young children and babies in Rooksdown is rapidly growing and one thing that our community is really lacking is a toddler group or somewhere for mums and babies to meet for coffee. Hopefully once the community centre is built there will be opportunity to set up something for families, but in the meantime I would like to let everyone know about the new Surestart centres. The Honeycomb children's centre will be open from 21st February, Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm and alternate Saturday mornings. The centre is located behind Chiltern Primary School and serves the local areas of Buckskin, Winklebury and Rooksdown. The facility will have play rooms for people to drop in and meet whilst children can play, and a variety of themed sessions for children under 5. For more details you can contact them on 01256 331574.

We have also arranged Diana from the library to come and do Storytime on the green again during the summer holidays so make sure you put Friday 7 August at 12pm in your diary!

Sue Lussenden—Committee Member

### COUNCILLORS PAGE Cllr Karen Cherrett

Rooksdown continues to grow in spite of the economic downturn. Parts of Limes Park seem to have ground to a halt but progress in other schemes means that there is still a lot of work going on. This is a positive sign for those working here and for people needing homes.

The time it is taking to complete the whole of Rooksdown remains frustrating. Many of us moved into the area more than a decade ago with the promise of a new community with its own shops, school, surgery and community centre. Continued interruptions to the build schedule, caused by past issues over land release or the current economy means that we are still waiting. Rest assured that I am on the case. The Council has few if any, formal powers to force progress, but informally I have been pressing the developers and council officers to meet regularly and discuss how different phases of the community can be finished or at least brought up to a reasonable state. The support of residents (through the Community Association and the Parish Council), and of our County Councillor, Stephen Reid, has really helped to raise the profile of Rooksdown as a community with a growing voice that cannot be ignored.

### Together we have succeeded in:

- getting as far as design stage for the new community facility community consultation on the designs will start in the spring
- encouraging the PCT to consider bringing forward its plans for a permanent surgery in Rooksdown
- persuading the developers to listen to concerns re the amount of advertising distracting motorists on Rooksdown Avenue
- enabling enforcement action on the land owners to lop and trim trees in the Spinney
- secured road adoptions in Mill Road through to Vespasian Gardens and Balsan Close (outstanding for nearly a decade)
- encouraged the developers to complete street lighting ring mains in stages at Limes Park so that lighting can be provided ahead of completion (when it was planned)

I am increasingly aware of just how long it can take to get seemingly simple things done – confusion over land ownership and split of responsibilities in the area is the main cause – but tackling the issues as a community certainly helps.

### COUNCILLORS PAGE Cllr Karen Cherrett

The community is still growing - Limes Park is less than half built and the hospital accommodation is also expanding – but we are one community. I would encourage anyone who wants to get involved in local activities or with views on local topics to contact me or any of my Parish and Community Association colleagues. Getting involved can really make a difference.

Finally I have had many comments about the rat running through the estate as a result of the A340 road-works. With the works scheduled to complete very shortly it is hoped the rat running will lessen. Conversations are continuing between the developers, hospital, Police and Hampshire County Council to find a solution — proposals to impose daytime road closures raised as many complaints as comments of support. It is difficult to know how to resolve this in everyone's best interests — so can I ask everyone to be patient. In the meantime please keep your speed down on the roads and be courteous to other road users. That way we can at least go someway to minimising risk of accidents.

E-mail – cllr.karen.cherrett@basingstoke.gov.uk

### **OLDER DRIVERS**

Older drivers have a wealth of experience, confidence and tolerance. However sight, hearing, reaction time and judgement of speed and distance will not be as sharp as it once was.

People who have been driving for a number of years and who want to update their driving skills or to gain confidence, might be interested to know there is an scheme available from the persons home using their own car.

Road Safety Officers managed the scheme dprovided by Approved Driving Instructors who have a good understanding of the needs of the older driver.

For further information please contact:

Road Safety Office on 01962 874600 or email: road.safety@hants.gov.uk

## HEADWAY Brain Injury Association

Action for Brain Injury Week - 11-17 May 2009 - This year cyclists of all ages will be encouraged to wear helmets as part of this awareness-raising week. Join in the fun by wearing a hat for Headway on Friday 17 May.

"Tee off" with Headway - Thursday 18 June 2009 - Charity Golf Day hosted by Snooker Legend Willie Thorne. Kilworth Springs, a par 72 championship course measuring 6718 yards, is situated in rural Leicestershire. Get your team of four together and come and join us!

London to Paris Cycle Rides - 3-7 June, 1-5 July, 9-13 September 2009. Connect two of the world's most chic capital cities as you embark on the challenge of a lifetime for Headway.

Telephone: 01256 314969 email: office.@headwaybasingstoke.fsnet.co.uk

### CALLING ROOKSDOWN 11—18 YEAR OLDS

After waiting over 10 years, the long awaited Community facilities are now in the process of being drawn up. The plans are to include some provision for 11-18 year olds including a possible all weather flood lit area for football, tennis, basketball etc as well as some sort of indoor facility and a possible expansion of the football area near Nightingale Gardens. However Rooksdown Community Association and Rooksdown Parish Council want these to be YOUR facilities with YOU, the youth of Rooksdown, playing a major part in deciding what facilities are provided for you and future generations

We plan to hold an exciting event for YOU, the 11-18 year olds, and apart from having some fun you can give us some ideas. Also we will be looking for a few of you to join the Youth Working Group to really drive these ideas forward and take part in the process with the Borough Council to get the facilities YOU want.

If you are interested in please contact either Colin Statham colin.statham1@ntlworld.com or Ron Darley rooksdownclerk@thedarleys.co.uk

### COMMUNITY WARDENS Steve & Chris

### Hello again

This is a great time of year to enjoy the fact that Rooksdown is situated on the edge of some beautiful countryside, and to get out and about enjoying the fresh air!

With this in mind, we'll be involved in running a series of health walks over the coming months. These are a great way to get out and enjoy the better weather and meet new people, please contact us if you'd like to get involved.

Also on the theme of the outdoors, we'll be holding the first of this year's Wednesday Workout events on the field at the end of Nightingale Gardens on Wednesday 15 April at 3:30pm. These events will also take place during the Whitsun break, and throughout the summer holidays, so do come along if you're at a loose end. There will be a range of sporting activities to get involved in.

We are aware of the issues of street lighting around Rooksdown and we hope to see some progress soon. Most of the issues are due to many of the roads not having yet been adopted. This is a complex process but hopefully now that it's been highlighted things will move along as quickly as possible.

The issue of anti-social behaviour taking place in the pavilions in the evenings has also been highlighted to us. We are trying to increase patrols around these areas in the evenings, but if you see these pavilions being misused please call us on 01256 845508 or dial 101.

We're trying to get to know more of you in the Rooksdown area, so please feel free to say hi if you see us out and about, or call 01256 845508 or e-mail us at community.wardens@basingstoke.gov.uk.

#### Regards

Stephen Bate and Chris Burke Community Wardens for Rooksdown & Winklebury

### ROOKSDOWN BEAT PC 2521 Ian Hoile

There have been far fewer reported incidents regarding the use of Mini-Moto's on the Old Golf Course (Park Prewett). Whilst the weather certainly has been a factor there has been an increased presence from both Private Security and Police. All persons found on the site have been spoken to and their details taken. When details of vehicles parked in Rooksdown Lane have been obtained, warning letters have been sent to the registered keepers advising them accordingly. I would urge residents to continue to report any future incidents via 0845 0454545 or 101 with as much information as possible. I wish to add my thanks to those people who have passed information to me in the past.

There were a spate of Thefts from Motor Vehicles in Rooksdown prior to Christmas but these have subsided. I would urge residents to continue to be vigilant and to note the security advice which is provided on the Rooksdown Parish Council website. There are quite a few Neighbourhood Watch Schemes that are now up and running in Rooksdown. If you are interested in joining or starting up a scheme then please contact me.

I held Beat Surgeries in October and December of 2008 but neither of them were attended. I have not planned any future surgeries as Hampshire Police are soon to be introducing a new "Scheduling Policy" that will influence the format of Beat Surgeries. If people have any preference as to where and when future Surgeries should be held, then please contact me via 0845 0454545.

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

Several Neighbourhood Watch Schemes have been set up in Rooksdown and it is hoped that more schemes will follow. If you wish to join a scheme or set one up then please contact Paul Green on 0845 0454545 or email via the link below: <a href="https://www.hampshire.police.uk">www.hampshire.police.uk</a>

It is important that we all work together, and if you do notice anything suspicious please report it immediately by ringing 999. For non-emergency calls, you can call 101 which puts you through to the Police control room.

PLEASE DON'T LEAVE IT TO SOMEONE ELSE TO CALL.

### COUNCILLORS' PAGE Cllr Stephen Reid

Together with Borough Councillor Karen Cherrett, I have been pressing for the adoption of the four roads in the Trenchmead / Balsan / English Wood / Highpath area. I am informed that we are just days away from success on this one, so hopefully by the time you read this it will have happened. The problem is that developers are now completing their work so slowly that they are not bringing the roads through to completion in what you and I would consider sensible timescales. I fear this problem will get worse as the housing market is so slow these days: I want the County Council to keep the pressure on the developers.

Together with your Parish Councillors we are working on ensuring that street light inspections are carried out and then acted on. There was a bad patch during this winter, made worse by the slow adoption of the roads, and I want to see this problem sorted.

The potential developers of the Aldermaston Road triangle have lodged an appeal against the Borough Council's refusal to grant planning permission for that site.

I was pleased to use part of my Councillor's devolved budget to help the hospital radio project: they have moved into a new office and needed new steps and landscaping work.

### **COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council is working with the Rooksdown Community Association, Rooksdown Parish Council and local residents on the development and management of the new community facility at Rooksdown. This will compliment the proposals being put forward by the Wessex Christian Fellowship to convert the former Park Prewett main hall into a church and community facility.

An architect has now been appointed and consultation will take place in the spring on the design, internal layout and elevations for the new building. Watch out for further information on local noticeboards. If you would like further information, please contact Sandy Pearcey, Community Support Officer, Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council on 01256 845666 or email sandy.pearcey@basingstoke.gov.uk.

### HISTORY OF ROOKSDOWN Tim Botten

The parish of Rooksdown came into being on 1st April 2004, but it has a history stretching back many years before that. The local area was occupied from at least Iron Age times at the nearby Winklebury Hill Fort. The site would have formed part of a wider occupation encompassing a number of archaeological sites, including an ancient Roman villa close to the A339 where the extension to Roman Road passes through the parish, as part of the original Winchester to Silchester route.

The parish was originally part of Sherbourne St. John, in lands acquired by Hugh de Port, a Norman noble from Port-en-Bessin who became Sheriff of Hampshire following the Norman Conquest. This area later became part of the Vyne estate. The Vyne was built for Lord Sandy, Henry VIII's Lord Chamberlain. The house was then owned by the Chute family for over 300 years (1653 to 1956) when it was passed to The National Trust.

The key feature of Rooksdown is of course, the former Park Prewett Mental Hospital and Farm, and this has some history of its own.

'Park Prevet' as it was then known was created by a grant from Edward I (Longshanks) to John de St John prior to 1302. Park Prewett Farm is clearly shown in 1877 and would probably have been built or rebuilt following the enclosure acts of 1845, when much of the parish was improved by the then owner of the Vyne, William Lyde Wiggett.

The farm was acquired in 1899 for the purpose of building the hospital, although work on the building did not start until 1912. This was well advanced by 1914 when war broke out. The building was then used by the Canadians as a military hospital. The mental hospital finally opened in 1921 and by 1936 catered for 1400 patients. It returned to military use again in World War II. The hospital was then used by Sir Harold Gillies, the pioneering plastic surgeon, to further his research. The institution reverted to a mental hospital in 1946 and remained in use until 1997.

For further information, please visit http://www.rooksdown.org.uk/history.html, and if you have any information that would be useful to the site, please send it to me at tim\_botten@email.com.

### LOCAL LIBRARY INFORMATION Diana Barnes

### **Credit Crunch Reading**

Your local library is a treasure trove of information and creative ways to spend some leisure time: books for all ages and interests, DVDs for a week's loan, and if you're trying to economise, remember that much of it is FREE!

It's free to join the library, and free to borrow books, but there is a small charge for other media. Browsing among our events posters is free, and use of the PCs is free, though we do charge for printing. If you return books late, there are fines, but not on children's tickets, so make sure their books are on their own tickets. If you are worried that your children might damage the books, don't worry there is no charge for any damage done by the under 5's.

You can always telephone to renew your family's books, or even renew online. You can request books online for a small charge- 50p to read the latest bestseller is not bad, though you may have to wait a little while if it's something really popular.

Children aged 18 months to about 3 may collect their Bookstart bag from the library. It contains 2 books, crayons and a crayoning book, and lots of useful information about libraries and using books with children.

Libraries also administer the baby Bookstart bag delivered via Health Visitors at a health check, and the Treasure Chest that teachers give to children just starting school- do ask for more details if you feel that your child has missed any of these.

Libraries run story-times and rhyme-times; check our website www.hants.gov.uk/library, or ask for details.

Diana, the Children's Librarian, will be on Mill Road Green Friday 7 August 12 until 12.30 this summer with some stories to tell to under fives—why not bring a teddy and a picnic.

### WANTED Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator

If anyone is interested in being the Rooksdown Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator, please contact either PC Ian Hoile or Paul Green. Tel: 0845 0454545 or Email: Paul.green@basingstoke.gov.uk

### FIRE BRIGADE Officer Ryan Thurman

### Get a Smoke Alarm. Push the button, Not your luck!

#### Positioning/ Siting

- The minimum recommended number of smoke alarms is one per floor.
- Smoke alarms shouldn't be situated in or near bathrooms and kitchens as the steam and cooking fumes sets it off.
- Where possible they should always be mounted on the ceiling not the walls as they don't work as effectively on the walls.
- Smoke alarms should be fitted at least 12 inches from walls, corners or light fittings.

### **Testing and Maintenance**

- You should test your alarms once a week by pressing and holding the test button until the alarm beeps for aprox 2-3 seconds.
- Once every six months when vacuuming use the nozzle to clean in and around the detector to remove dust and insects.
- If the smoke alarm beeps intermittently this means that there is either a fault or the battery needs replacing. (Refer to the manufacturers manual)
- You should change the battery every year. Pick a date that is easy to remember, ie an anniversary or birthday.

Useful contact points and further information: Community Fire Safety Department: 02380 626809 Email: community.firesafety@hants.gov.uk Hampshire Fire & Rescue Services www.hantsfire.gov.uk

### **ICE** (In Case of Emergency)

### MESSAGE FROM THE AMBULANCE SERVICE

We all carry our mobile phones with names and numbers stored in its memory. If we were to be involved in an accident or were taken ill, the people attending us would have our mobile phone but wouldn't know who to call. All you need to do is store the names of a contact person or persons under the name ICE, or even ICE1, ICE2 etc.

### ROOKSDOWN ADVERTISING

#### **INDOOR BOWLS**

Try it! You'll like it!

Few sports can match Bowls
a lifetime sport from 10 years old
to the top of the range.
Play for fun, with friends or in
teams and competitions.
Men & woman can play in the same
teams, youngsters can play with
parents and grandparents
It's friendly, it's fun – it's modern

Open 7 days a week from 10am to 10pm. So the weather doesn't matter and there's a time and place for you – whatever you do in the rest of your life.

So why not give it a try. Coaching is free and bowls are supplied. Lots to gain, nothing to lose.

Call us and we'll give you all the information and help you need.

Loddon Vale INDOOR bowls Leisure Park Churchill Way West Basingstoke RG22 6PG

Tel: 01256 356507 www.loddonvaleibc.co.uk Email info@loddonvaleibc.co.uk

#### **MH AUTOS**

Unit 11 Vickers Business Centre Priestly Road Rooksdown

Servicing, MOTs and Pre MOT Free collection & delivery For a friendly and professional service call Mark 01256 467707 or 07879 638650

### **MILKMAN**

Dairy Crest will deliver your milk, juice, potatoes, eggs and even your Basingstoke Gazette. Why not give them a call on 01256 321329

#### **GREENWAYS NEWSAGENTS**

We deliver newspapers direct to your home. We deliver 7 days of the week. Why not have that extra time cuddled up in bed and let us do the running around for you.

Winklebury Centre, Basingstoke,
Tel: 01256 328840
and ask for Barry or Jackie

#### **ANNIE**

For embroidery of all types Names & pictures Telephone: 07745625160

### **PHOTOGRAPHER**

Camillo Agro Tel: 07858 586030

### ROOKSDOWN ADVERTISING

### ROOKSDOWN MEDICAL CENTRE

Park Prewett Road Rooksdown Basingstoke, RG24 9RG

#### **DOCTORS SURGERY**

Tel:01256 399710

### **OPENING HOURS:**

Mondays 7.30am until 7.30pm Tuesday to Fridays 8.00 until 6pm

#### **ROOKSDOWN PHARMACY**

Tel: 01256 320303 **OPENING HOURS**:

Mondays 7.30am until 7.30pm Tuesday to Fridays 8.00 until 6pm Saturdays 9.00am until 12.00

Rooksdown Pharmacy is a family run business, a husband and wife team that provide a friendly, efficient service to the local community with a personal touch. Some of the services provided are:

- Blood Pressure screening
  - · Diabetes screening
  - · Cholesterol screening
  - Stop Smoking Clinic

For info on NHS Dentists in this area phone NHS Direct 0845 4647

### **BASINGSTOKE PLAY LTD**

Basingstoke Play Ltd (The Play Council) offer after school and holiday care for school age children
For more information ring:
01256 844847

### **BEAVERS, CUBS & SCOUTS**

4th Basingstoke—Winklebury At the Sycamore Centre (open to girls and boys)

**Beavers** Tuesdays 6-7.15pm Age 6 to 8yrs Martin Potts 07948 730192

**Cubs** Wednesdays 6.30-8pm Age 8 to 10 1/2 years Ian Aherne 07867 988777

Scouts Tuesdays 7.30-9.30pm
Age 10 1/2 to 14 years
Julie Gray 07833 926231
If you are interested in becoming
a leader please contact:
Sam Martin 07763 675637
Acting Group Scout Leader

### **SAXONWOOD SCHOOL**

**QUIZ NIGHT** Fri 20 March 7.30pm Teams of 6-8 people £6.00 per person Includes a Ploughmans & Pudding

### ST MICHAELS HOSPICE Sarah Evans—Community Fundraiser

At St. Michael's Hospice we care for local people with a life-limiting illness through our In-Patient Unit, Day Care facilities and Community Nursing Service. The Hospice also has a growing range of Out-Patient services including the Therapeutic Clinic, Complementary Therapy and Medical Consultation to ensure that patients are supported in the best possible way. All of St. Michael's services are provided to patients and their families free of charge.

Each year it costs £2.3 million to run the Hospice and provide these services and we need to raise £1.6 million through Fundraising and Retail activities. The Hospice has a large calendar of events which are really important to Hospice fundraising activities and are great way for the local community to get involved with fundraising for their local Hospice. Some of the forthcoming events include:

### **Support your Local Hospice**

**Stepping Out on** 19<sup>th</sup> April 2009 is the Hospice annual sponsored walk which takes place in the grounds of Lord Portsmouth's Estate in Farleigh Wallop. The walk has a choice of three enjoyable routes and is open to all ages including dogs.

**Tea at 3** The Hospice encourages the community of North Hampshire to hold afternoon tea parties throughout June. Why not hold a 'Mad Hatters Tea Party', have lots of fun and raise funds for St. Michael's Hospice.

**Big Wheel on**  $26^{th}$  July 2009 is the Hospice's  $15^{th}$  Big Wheel bike ride with three exciting 'new' courses to take cyclists through the North Hampshire countryside. Riders start and finish at Down Grange where there will be refreshments and entertainment on offer for both participants and supporters.

**Midnight Walk on** 5<sup>th</sup> September 2009 is a new event in St. Michael's Fundraising calendar. Walkers will set off at Midnight and beat the bounds of Basingstoke in a 12 mile walk, get sponsored and raise money for the Hospice.

### HAMPSHIRE AIR AMBULANCE Over 1200 Missions and Counting

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance needs £3,000 a day to keep its Helicopter and highly trained crew in the air. As a charity, the service relies solely on the generosity of individuals and organisations to help it continue its life-saving work. Airborne within three minutes of a 999 call, the Air Ambulance can reach most of its operational area within fifteen minutes. It needs an area only an area half the size of a tennis court to be able to land. It can transport patients to the appropriate hospital for their needs - being able to do this will make the difference between life and death for many patients.

You can help this vital service and raise money for the charity by recycling your unwanted mobile phones. It is easy to recycle your mobile phone, just place it in an envelope and send by Freepost to Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance, Freepost London 16281, London, WC1N 3BR - no stamps needed! Each recycled phone has a value, however some newer models are worth much more. For example, a Nokia 6230i is worth £15 to the charity.

You can also recycle your textiles - for more information on your nearest textile bank and how to help the Air Ambulance visit www.bagitup.org.uk. For more information about the Air Ambulance, see www.hampshireandiowairambulance.org.uk or call 01962 892626

### ROOKSDOWN CHURCH

They say, "Rome was not built in a day!" It also seems that community centers take some time to build! It has been a long time since we first got involved with the purchase of the Park Hall building, but we are still making progress! We have had many meetings, and we believe we are slowly moving towards legal completions. The time frame, which of course, is a moving feast, is to be on site late summer to start the work on the building, with a completion within the first six months of 2010. We will continue to work in partnership with Rooksdown so that, together,

We will continue to work in partnership with Rooksdown so that, together, we can deliver the best services Basingstoke has seen. Together we will cover all the requirements of the community and serve people of all ages, from a crèche to a senior citizens luncheon club.

Pastor Bob Smith, Wessex Christian Fellowship

### USEFUL ROOKSDOWN CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Council www.rooksdown.org.uk

Email: council@rooksdown.org.uk or rooksdownclerk@the darleys.co.uk Tel: 01256 356701 Ron Parish Clerk

Community Association www.rooksdown.org.uk/community

Tel: 0771 7599819

Borough Councillor Karen Cherrett

Email: cllr.karen.cherrett@basingstoke.gov.uk

County Councillor Stephen Reid

Email: Stephen.reid@hants.gov.uk

Tel: 01256 320860

Police Ian Hoile Tel: 0845 045 4545

Neighbourhood Watch Paul Green

Email: paul.green@basingstoke.gov.uk

Rooksdown Reporter Editor@rooksdown.org.uk

Graffiti & Fly Tipping Tel: 01256 844844

(Please email Parish Council & Karen Cherrett if possible)

Member of Parliament Maria Miller Tel: 02072 195749

Hampshire County Council Tel: 01962 841841 Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council Tel: 01256 844844 Trading Standards Rapid Response Tel: 01962 946232 Bus Enquiries (Basingstoke) Tel: 01256 464501 North Hampshire Hospital Tel: 01256 473202 Electricity Emergency Tel: 0845 770 8090 Gas Emergency Tel: 0800 111 999 Water Emergency Tel: 0845 602 1724 Castle Hill Junior School Tel: 01256 473777 Winklebury Junior School Tel: 01256 323244 Library Van Information Tel: 01256 844844

### ROOKSDOWN

