



ROOKSDOWN REPORTER

March 2013 / Issue 7

**FIRSTLY I'D LIKE TO WISH
ALL RESIDENTS A BELATED
BUT HAPPY NEW YEAR AND
HOPE THIS YEAR BRINGS
FURTHER PROGRESS ON
FACILITIES IN THE PARISH
FOR US ALL**

It has been a while since some updates so here we go.

I think from all the feedback we had the RPC first ever fireworks festival in November was a resounding success and thank you everyone in supporting it and a big thanks to the driving forces behind it Cllrs Cordner and Cavalier. RPC has already resolved to hold another one next year where we hope to have additional catering, possibly some small children's fairground rides and following complaints more collection buckets!!!

We have extended our clerks hours enabling him to work on the outstanding actions in a more timely manner. We are already using the benefits of this in administration and you'll see physical differences shortly in the Parish.

Firstly "Welcome to Rooksdwn" signs are about to be installed on the entrances to the Parish and we also have more grit bins being installed.

RPC continues to be active with the current and future builders. There are still some very old actions outstanding with TW but we have been able to make some of those issues conditions of adoption. More recent issues that members of the public have flagged to us have however been addressed.

The pavilions consultations were completed early December and from that TW will shortly be putting plans in for removal with a view to implement in the second quarter (subject to acceptance by B&DBC planning). We will inform residents at RPC meetings of the details and planning committee dates so residents can formally

protest or formally support that application through the planning process.

The shop builds have been delayed due to recent bad weather but as soon as we get updates on expected completion we will announce this at the next available RPC meeting.

RPC is in negotiations the TW and HCA over additional community facilities in the old Park Prewett Hall and this is progressing well. We cannot at this stage provide any further details for confidentiality reasons but hope to make some information available at the February RPC meeting subject to all parties agreeing this.

We are progressing with the transfer of the Peggs Way car parks to RPC but this is subject to obtaining planning consent that is in progress.

The bus gate remains an issue with HCC being the prime offenders in delaying progress however a number plate tracking survey is due to take place shortly to confirm the need. Our County Councillor - Cllr Reid - is very actively supporting our cause on this with HCC.

These are the key highlights but a lot of other issues are dealt with at our monthly meetings including discussions on planning applications. Meetings are last Monday of every month at 7.45PM in the Community Centre.

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GRIT BINS & USE OF

We have had our first heavy snow of the year and the grit bins have been heavily used.

Unfortunately there has been some abuse of the supplies and also some residents have expressed a concern about possible litigation. Therefore below are guidelines from the Governments Snow Code with additional local information.

There are on the estate a varying and confusing collection of salt bins:

LARGE BLUE BINS - 1 tonne when full - provided by Hampshire County Council and are on adopted areas that meet tight guidelines for locations. Guidelines and a phone number to call for replenishment are located inside.

HALF SIZE GREEN BINS - 1 tonne when full - these belong to Rooksdown Parish Council where the salt and bins are funded directly from the residents' parish precept. 10 already exist and 5 new yellow bins are in the process of being put out.

These half size bin are in un-adopted areas with the permission of the landowner. There are in both areas that will get HCC bins, when adopted, and also in adopted areas not meeting the strict HCC guidelines.

These are monitored and replenished by the Parish Council. Updated guidelines are being put in these and labelled as RPC bins. Green is no longer available hence the mixture of colours.

YELLOW BINS - 2 in Watertower Way - these are privately owned and not under RPC or HCC control.

Abuse of salt supplies:

RPC has the same rules as published by the Government and Hampshire County Council and that is the salt/grit is ONLY for use on public highways and pavements.

It is NOT to be used on:

- private driveways
- pavements
- communal parking areas owned privately or by housing

Where abuse is seen then action will be taken including no replenishment of supplies, locking of the bin or even removal.

Residents are duly requested to please respect this and use where it is supposed to be used. Salt is readily available from all hardware stores for private use.

Use of salt supplies:

Don't be put off clearing paths and highways because you are afraid someone will get injured. People walking on snow and ice have a responsibility to be careful themselves.

It's highly unlikely you'll be sued or held legally responsible for any injuries if you have cleared the path carefully and household contents insurance policy should cover this under personal liability clauses anyway.

The legal advice RPC has received is that there have been no cases raised for negligence under the relevant Health & Safety Act 1974.

It's easier to move fresh, loose snow than hard snow packed together. Remove the top layer of snow and cover the path with salt to melt the ice and stop refreezing.

You only need a tablespoon per square metre and no more so please use sparingly.

Please help any neighbours who will have difficulty and offer to help clear snow for their property and roadway in front of their property as well.

As I write this RPC is currently looking at investigating purchasing hand push gritting machines for use on our roads and pavements. The use of these will be down to availability of RPC members and volunteers under the direction and permission of RPC, if bought.

A final thought is that if everyone cleared the small section of road outside their property then Rooksdown would keep moving.

It's a lot more fun as a group than an individual as well.

Our Parish, Our Community. Let's keep it moving.

Colin Statham

Chair Rooksdown Parish Council

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BREAKING NEWS Primary School OPENS SEPTEMBER 2015

After a particularly frustrating couple of months we can now share confirmation from Hampshire County Council that it is their intention to open a primary school in Rooksdown in September 2015.

This fantastic news is probably done best by sharing with you this excerpt from an email:

"14th February 2013

Dear Simon,

I write in response to your e-mail below to Glenn Parkinson, a member of my team. Firstly may I apologise for the lack of detail in the e-mail which you received from Glenn, and the consequent lack of clarity regarding the County Council's position in relation to the proposed new primary school places to serve Rooksdown. It remains the intention of the County Council to secure primary school places, with effect from September 2015, on the site which has been reserved in Rooksdown for this purpose. The reserved site is of the size to accommodate 420 primary school places and discussion has taken place with the developer about the possibility of acquiring further land to accommodate up to 630 places in total should this be required in the future.

What is not clear at this stage is the model of governance for the new primary provision and whether it will be established under the governance of an existing school or as a new school. The County Council will be engaging with schools in March to determine whether the governance of the new primary provision could be undertaken by an existing school. If that proves to be a possibility then the County Council will consult with local schools, their local communities and other interested parties on the two models of governance and a decision will be made in May/June as to which model will be adopted for the new primary provision at Rooksdown.

...I trust the above sets out the position of the County Council clearly...

Chris Holt

Head of School Organisation -
Hampshire County Council"

On behalf of the whole of the Rooksdown community and the RPCT we have expressed our support for the creation of an outstanding primary school provision, no matter what governance model is used.

We are sure that we can all agree this is truly great news for Rooksdown.

Simon & Michelle

Rooksdown Primary School Trust

Community Centre WEEKLY PROGRAMME

Monday

Bokwa Fitness	6.30pm
RDYC - Youth Club	7.00pm
Parish Council (monthly)	7.45pm

Tuesday

Pilates	6.30pm
Yoga	7.30pm

Wednesday

Baby Clinic (monthly)	9.30am
Beavers	6.30pm
RDYC - Youth Club	7.00pm
Freedom-2-Dance (beginners)	7.45pm
Freedom-2-Dance (advanced)	8.45pm

Thursday

Over 55's Coffee Morning	10am - midday
Weight Watchers	7.00pm

Friday

Cubs	6.30pm
Zumba	8.00pm

Saturday

Freedom-2-Dance	9.00am
Bokwa Fitness	9.00am
Kick Boxing	10.30am

Sunday

Basingstoke Eagles Church	10.00am
Messy Church (monthly)	3.00pm

Check the Community Centre diary at
www.rooksdowndownonline.com
for the dates of monthly activities or call

01256 869626

Check out our "Rooksdawn Community Centre"
Group Page on Facebook



Rooksdawn Youth Club HAS BEEN OPEN FOR OVER 12 MONTHS.

**IT HAS BEEN A VERY SUCCESSFUL FIRST YEAR AND WE ARE
LOOKING TO BUILD ON THIS POSITIVE START.**

We are open Monday and Wednesday evenings 7pm - 9.30pm and open to young people aged 11 - 18.

If you know a young person who may be interested in joining, or are an interested young person yourself, please contact us or come along and try one of our sessions.

One of the highlights for 2012 was a trip to Thorpe Park in October. RDYC raised money for the trip through their monthly fundraising car wash as well as selling tuck and candy floss at community events.

We continue to run car washes at the Community Centre to raise money for the next RDYC trip. The price is 5 per car and the car wash runs between 1pm - 4pm on these dates:

Sunday 24th February / Sunday 24th March / Sunday 28th April

Please come along and support our fundraising.

Our next trip is going to an activity centre for the weekend. This will be a good opportunity to experience different and new activities as well as to build positive relationships with each other and the youth worker team.

RDYC is run by 3 youth workers and a team of dedicated volunteers. We are always looking to expand this group, so if you are interested in volunteering at the youth club, or helping out at the car wash, please contact us.

Richard Lee

Senior Youth Worker

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HAMPSHIRE SELF PROTECTION

An exciting new reality based martial arts and self defence club for children and adults has started new classes at Rooksdawn Community Centre on Thursdays.

We are a martial arts club with a big difference! Self Protection is something almost anyone can learn no matter what fitness level or ability they currently have (you will find these attributes improve quickly).

Students will be taught relevant techniques suitable for their age group. We will not only teach you the physical skills you will learn in most martial arts clubs but also, and more importantly, the soft skills to help you to avoid getting into a confrontation in the first place such as avoidance, awareness, dissuasion and, as a last resort, the physical skills to end the situation as swiftly as possible.

Self Protection is about far more than just dealing with assailants however. You will also learn how to translate your skills into everyday life where the self drive and determination you will acquire from the training, will help you overcome the barriers we all face when striving to improve ourselves. We will not only show you how to understand and control the

adrenaline and fear you will feel when expecting, or dealing with, physically confrontational situations but also, as a great by product of this training, you will learn how to deal with and overcome the same feelings when fear of the unknown may try to prevent you from bettering yourself and your life.

Don't just take our word for it though, feel free to check out the testimonials from students on our website (details below)

The instructor, Ian Rand, has over 20 years of experience from a variety of Martial Arts and is offering to teach you the skills he has learnt from some of the best, most respected and experienced martial arts instructors in the world such as Geoff Thompson (polled as the number one self defence instructor in the world by Black Belt Magazine USA), and Geoff's longest serving and most experienced student, Al Peasland, who teaches Ian directly. We are also very privileged that Al has agreed to visit us here in Basingstoke when the club is more established to impart his wealth of knowledge gained from numerous real life violent encounters.

For more information, inspiration, perspiration and fun, come train with us and learn realistic and proven self protection techniques along with methods for handling and controlling your adrenaline and fear to help not only with physical confrontations, but also the various opportunities and challenges of life.

We provide classes for everyone including Adults, Ladies Only, and Juniors 7-16 yrs.

For more information or to book your first FREE no obligation trial lesson, please visit our website at:

www.hampshireselfprotection.co.uk or call 07888 660225.

NOTICE BOARD



Basingstoke
and Deane

RCS Play Services



in conjunction with Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council

March Open Access Play Schemes



Date: Saturday 2nd March 2013

Time: 2pm-3.55pm at

Rooksdown Community Centre



For school children up to the age of 11 years.



50p donation towards drink & biscuit.

Clay modelling, painting, parachute games,
team games, and lots more....

Also

Half term Family Fun Day - Wed 20th Feb

11am - 3pm at The Vyne School, Basingstoke

For parents/carers and children to try new activities together.



Fun days also running at the Hurst Community College, Baughurst and Testbourne Community School, and Whitchurch. See our website for further details.

No booking required - just turn up on the day!

For more information about our play schemes please contact:-

RCS Play Services on 01794 522106

Or visit our website at www.rcsplayservices.org.uk

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Advertise
Your
Business
with US!

Rooksdown
Community Association



Rooksdown
is the
BEST

EASTER WALK

BANK HOLIDAY
MONDAY 1ST APRIL
2PM



EASTER BONNET MAKING COMPETITION FOR THE
CHILDREN, WOODLAND WALK AND REFRESHMENTS.
ROOKSDOWN COMMUNITY CENTRE
FREE