# Toolselevin H. Copertor

Delivered to nearly 2000 homes throughout Rooksdown

Issue 2 July / August 2013

m We hope you enjoyed your first edition of the 'new look' Reporter and are pleased to bring you the next edition.

Thank you to those people who have volunteered to deliver your Reporter. However, we are still in need for more people to come forward.

If you feel you can spare a little time once a month please call Anne on 01256 354282.

Anne & Andy

## <u>PARK PREWETT NORTHERN AREA –</u> THE OLD GOLF COURSE

Following its public exhibitions at Rooksdown Community Centre in March and September 2012, David Wilson Homes has submitted its outline planning application (Ref.: 13/00579/OUT) for the residential development of Park Prewett Northern Area for up to 585 new homes and the provision of open space and landscaping. The application seeks to establish the principle of David Wilson Homes' proposed development on the site, which is allocated for housing in both the current and emerging Local Plan (to 2026). The means of access (the two roundabouts on Park Prewett Road) and the primary access route within the site are also to be determined as part of this application. The detailed layout of the development and the appearance of the homes will be considered in a 'reserved matters' application to be submitted towards the end of 2013, if the outline application is approved by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

To view and comment on this application, you can go to the following website address: <a href="http://planning.basingstoke.gov.uk/online-applications/">http://planning.basingstoke.gov.uk/online-applications/</a> and search for "13/00579/OUT", or you can visit the council offices to inspect the application and plans on the Public Register. David Wilson Homes and the landowner, the Homes and Communities Agency, will be holding a further public consultation between 2.00pm and 9.00pm on Tuesday 25th June 2013 at the Rooksdown Community Centre, where you will be able to talk to us about any queries you may have with the application itself before the deadline for public comments on it, which is currently set by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council for 1st July 2013. We will advise you of the date and time of this further public exhibition in due course, and look forward to seeing you there.

In the meantime, we will be updating our website – www.parkprewettnorth.co.uk – with details of this upcoming public consultation, access to application documents and you can revisit the information we presented at our previous public exhibitions.

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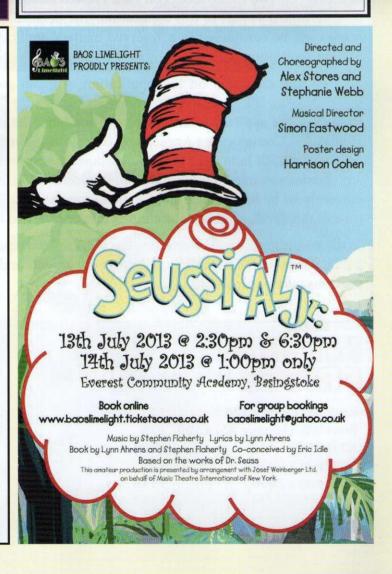
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Tel.: 01256 354282 Address: 138 Coniston Road, Kempshott, Basingstoke, Hampshire. RG22 5HZ

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#### New Disability Signpost Service

Ever found yourself lost in an unfamiliar area, not knowing which way to turn? That feeling of being lost and vulnerable is familiar to many people who are suddenly affected by disability either personally or through friends and family. It is not always easy to find the right place to go for advice and information and many people are often left feeling alone and isolated.

Basingstoke and District Disability Forum is pleased to announce that they are offering a new Disability Signpost Service that will help guide disabled people, their carers, friends and family to the right source of information and advice. Information on a wide range of topics including transport, benefits, housing and volunteering will be available.

The Signpost Service is being provided by the Forum in conjunction with the Basingstoke Discovery Centre and will be available on the first working Tuesday of the month in the Discovery Centre between 10.00 and 13.30. The service will continue to be provided monthly throughout 2013 in Basingstoke.

The Disability Signpost Service is being delivered by Disability Forum volunteers and the Forum's Coordinator. The Disability Forum would like to extend its thanks to the Disability Forum members who inspired this initiative and to the Discovery Centre for their generosity in providing the venue and assistance.

For more information contact Anne Gray, Disability Forum Coordinator on 01256 423869 or email disabilityforum@voluntaryservices.com.

## **Community Innovations**

Are you over 55? Do you have concerns about your health or well-being, or are you finding everyday activities increasingly difficult? Are you an older person who would like to get out more and have the opportunity to attend social events or make new friends? Then your Community Independence Team could help. The team consists of occupational therapists, social workers and support workers who can provide specialist advice on coping with practical tasks, improving your well-being and linking you in with relevant health or community services. You can contact the team via Hants Direct on 0845 603 5630. If you are making a referral on behalf of another person then you must ensure you have their permission to contact us.





### ROOKSDOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

Dear Residents,

So the sun is finally here! I hope our message finds you well and you are enjoying the start of the summer. We are PC James Hope and PCSO Rob Nicklin, your local Police Team.

In our reports we will be discussing local issues, how we intend to solve them and also how you can work with us to continue making Rooksdown a safe and happy place to live. We will also be reporting on lots of other work we will be doing within our community. Not only will we be dealing with crime and disorder but interacting and getting involved with



our community on a personal level. We wish to gain a good rapport and be easily approachable to all members of our community.

If you log on to our website you will see what our current policing priorities are for Rooksdown. We are reviewing these at the end of June and will have 1, 2 or 3 Policing priorities. We base these priorities on issues reported to us by YOU, our residents. Please come and see us at local beat surgeries, when we are out and about to tell us what problems you are having in your area. If you don't tell us, it is likely we won't know about your issue!

A current priority for us is Anti-social-behaviour in the Canadian / Watertower Way area. This priority is aimed at the derelict huts / pavilion where youths congregate, drink and cause damage. Since our last report to you we have received further calls of issues in this area. We will continue to target this area when out and about on patrol to prevent further problems from occurring. I would also like to ask that residents continue to keep an eye on things and report any nuisance through on the 101 number.

Also in the last month, we had been acting on reports of on-going ASB / abusive behaviour in the play parks off and around the Pumphouse Way area. PC Hope has been dealing with a handful of youths in relation to this and one in particular has been disposed by means of a youth referral order.

We have also been receiving noise complaints from a particular address in the Northbrook Crescent area. As stated in last months report. We will deal with individuals who, after warning, continue to cause disruption to our neighbourhood robustly. We all live very different lives, so although being noisy on a Friday night may be convenient for you, it is not for others. Buildings are close together, there are high walls and noise travels. Please, lets all be considerate and neighbourly. Rooksdown is a lovely parish and we intend to keep it that way.

Also at the beginning of June we had a series of mini-moto thefts. PC Hope is currently investigating. These addresses were targeted and it is likely the offender spends a considerable amount of time in Rooksdown to know where these bikes are kept. If you have any information then please let one of us know, alternatively you can contact crime stoppers.

PCSO Nicklin also attended the small fete after the church service on the first Sunday of this month and thank you to all those who came and said hello, especially to the lady who fed me with candy floss. It was a great atmosphere and with the sun shining it made for a lovely community event. I did manage to escape before being escorted to the stools to be drenched by throwing sponges.

That is all for this month, have a nice few weeks and I hope the weather stays as pleasant as it has...

Take care. PC James Hope and PCSO Rob Nicklin





Many of you will be familiar with Usborne Publishing - it's the company that has been publishing award winning children's books for 40 years this year, won Children's Publisher of the Year 2012 and has just been short-listed for 'Best Family Brand' in this year's Lovedbyparents Awards!

But to many of us, the brand is about the hugely successful 'That's Not My' series and literally thousands of other fantastic children's books.

The direct selling branch of Usborne, Usborne Books at Home, enables independent organisers to sell books around their existing schedule, earn money and get lots of free books.

Local Rooksdown mums Zoe Rainbow (Team Leader), Michelle Biggs and Vicky Moran have been building your local Usborne team for just over a year and in that time we have supported lots of local events such as school fêtes and fairs... but we've also been working on something very special - FREE books for schools!

By working closely with a host of schools, pre-schools, nurseries and childcare providers, we've managed to source over £6,500 in free Usborne books for children - books that can inspire and help them to learn.

But we want to do more - so if you know of a school or pre-school that could benefit from FREE books, if you'd like to find out about the free books you could receive by hosting a party, or if this is a subject that you're passionate about, we'd love to hear from you.

You can find out more at the Rooksdown Community Centre, or email us on: BasingstokeBooksatHome@gmail.com



Picture L-R: Michelle Biggs, Zoe Rainbow.

#### HAMPSHIRE CRIMESTOPPERS

Staff that deal with card payments are being warned after a number of attempts at using fraudulent credit cards have happened across the area this month.

The scams happened at supermarkets and other stores where two men tried to buy large amounts of store gifts vouchers. They attempted to use credit cards to make payment that had either been cloned (with someone else's account details on the magnetic strip) or had been stolen.

Police are aware of several incidents where staff have wisely suspected the men and then refused to serve them. However there are likely to be many other offences where no one yet realises a crime has been committed. It may be some weeks before the genuine account holder receives their statement to find 'they' have bought hundreds of pounds of vouchers across the south!

If you work in a shop, or restaurant, or pretty much anywhere where card payments are taken and you offer gift vouchers, please be suspicious if someone attempts to buy hundreds of pounds worth. Obviously not all transactions like this will be fraudulent, but do be cautious – how often would someone ordinarily buy such a large volume of vouchers from you? Are they buying a very generous wedding gift for someone, or simply using you to cash in the fraudulent cards and launder their ill-gotten gains?!

Please also avoid buying 'second hand' gift vouchers. Someone may come up to you and claim that they've been given a particular voucher as a present 'but they never shop there'. To help them out, please would you buy this £50 voucher for, say, £40?! If something's too good to be true, it almost certainly is.

The banks and credit card companies are very good at keeping an eye on unusual transactions on accounts. They may well contact you if your card is suddenly maxed out by buying supermarket vouchers. However, please keep an eye on your transactions and report any suspicious activity or incorrect transactions to your bank as soon as you notice them. Likewise, if your card is unexpectedly rejected when you try to use it, please don't just crack open another one without checking why first.

Remember, Hampshire really is a safe place to live and work. However, we can all do our bit to make it an even better place to be so if you have information about ANY crime, please do not hesitate to give Crimestoppers a call. 0800 555 111 or log on to www.crimestoppers-uk.org to give information online anonymously. For those of you Twittered up, please follow me on @HantsCrimestopp for regular updates.

PC Simon Wright

#### **COMMUNITY CENTRE**

#### **WEEKLY PROGRAMME**

Check the Community Centre diary at www.rooksdownonline.com

for the dates of monthly activities or call 01256 869626

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

#### 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 Kids Karate 6.30pm Weight Watchers 7.00pm

Ladies Self Defence 7.30pm Adults Martial Arts 8.30pm

#### Friday

Yoga 6.30pm Cubs & Scouts 6.30pm Zumba 8.00pm

#### Saturday

Freedom-2-Dance 9.00am Bokwa Fitness 9.00am

#### Sunday

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







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## **USEFUL CONTACTS**

#### **LOCAL SURGERY**

The Rooksdown Practice
Park Prewett Medical Centre
Park Prewett Road
Basingstoke
RG24 9RG
01256 399710

#### **LOCAL DENTAL PRACTICES**

#### **ADP Popley**

Shakespeare House, Shakespeare Road, Popley 328662 Aspire Dental Care Ltd St Andrews Centre, Western Way, RG22 6ER 323777 **Chequers Dental Surgery** 3 Chequers Road, RG21 7PU 321589 **Claremont Surgery** 39 Worting Road, RG21 8TZ 321249 Marshall 32 Cliddesden Road, RG21 3ET 461888 Stratfield Road Dental Practice 102 Stratfield Road, RG21 5SA 326690 Winchester Rd Dental Practice

# WATER LEAK ALERT LINE

322922

0800 028 3299

33 Winchester Road, RG21 8UL

#### **FAULTY STREET LIGHTS**

http://lightsoninhampshire.co.uk/Public/Report-Faults.aspx

# **COMMUNITY POLICING**

Police (In emergency please dial 999)
Police General Enquiries 0845 045 45 45
PCSO 01256 845700
Crimestoppers 0800 555 111

#### **BOROUGH COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Karen Cherrett 01256 331761 or 07917 466904 cllr.karen.cherrett@basingstoke.gov.uk

# **COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Stephen Reid 01256 320860 stephen.reid@hants.gov.uk

# MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Maria Miller Tel 01256 322207

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Email: theeditor@rooksdownreporter.co.uk

#### THE COURT OF PROTECTION AND DEPUTYSHIPS

The Court of Protection makes decisions and can appoint Deputies to act on behalf of people who are unable to make decisions about their personal health, finance or welfare. For example, this will be the case if a Lasting Power of Attorney has not been put into place before a loved one has lost their mental capacity.



A common situation concerns anyone looking after a family member who has Alzheimer's, Dementia or an aged related mental health issue. This can be one of the most challenging tasks and sadly with an aging population, many of us will face this at some point.

In many cases, there comes a time when a loved one can no longer look after themselves and requires residential or nursing care. The average cost of care can be in the region of £1,000 per week. State Assistance is available through your local authority, but they are only obliged to pay the full cost of residual care if your total worth (including your home) is less than £14,250.

Getting access to a loved one's pension(s), bank accounts and other monies is essential in the event that they have to pay for their care. Hopefully they will have a Lasting Power of Attorney in place so that you can deal with their property and financial affairs straight away. Once a person loses their mental capacity they cannot make a Lasting Power of Attorney – you will not be able to make the Power on their behalf!

In these circumstances the only option will be to apply to the Court of Protection to become their Deputy. The Court of Protection has been set up with the sole purpose of dealing with applications for those who have lost mental capacity. The majority of applications to the Court relate to a person's property and financial affairs which can involve running their bank account, selling their home, collecting their pension and ensuring the bills are paid. The Court can also grant orders in respect of that person's health and personal welfare, Statutory Wills and Enduring or Lasting Powers of Attorney.

Applying to the Court can be a difficult and lengthy process as it is laden with many rules and procedures. Please remember that applying to the Court should always be seen as a last option and not a substitute for making a Lasting Power of Attorney.

Ben Holden is a solicitor specialising in Wills & Probate, Elderly Client Issues and Court of Protection procedures at Phillips Solicitors.

Ben can be contacted on 01256 854 618 or bholden@phillips-law.co.uk



# Big Bat Walk - 9pm, 16th July 2013



Rooksdown is one of the best places to watch bats in Basingstoke as we have had many roosts in the old Park Prewett Hospital buildings.

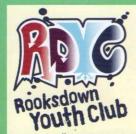
Our Big Bat Walk will give you the chance not only to see these amazing flying mammals and their astonishing aerial acrobatics, but also learn more about them with the walk being led by Katy Hooper, Green Spaces Ranger. We supply bat detectors to help you identify the species that are swooping around and to listen to them 'chattering' as they hunt for food.

We will meet at the Community Centre at 9pm with sunset only 20 minutes away. Adults and children over 8 years are welcome to attend. Children should be accompanied by an adult. Attendance is free.

As this is the first event for the new conservation group Natural Rooksdown you will be given an opportunity to join the group and register for future events.

If you would like to help organise this event then please contact us on <a href="mailto:info@rooksdownonline.com">info@rooksdownonline.com</a> or ring 01256 869626





Rooksdown Youth

RDYC Email: <a href="mailto:yc@rooksdownonline.com">yc@rooksdownonline.com</a> RDYC phone number: <a href="mailto:07435">07435</a> 591538

Rooksdown Community Association, Rooksdown Community Centre, Park Prewett Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire. RG24 9XA

### Basingstoke Foodbank

Every day people in the UK go hungry for reasons ranging from redundancy to receiving an unexpected bill on a low income. In 2011/12 food banks fed 128,687 people nationwide, in 2012/13 we anticipate this number will rise to over 290,000. Rising costs of food and fuel combined with static income, high unemployment and changes and delays to benefits are causing more and more people to come to food banks for help.



In these days of economic cut-backs and austerity, there is no shame when someone falls on hard times through circumstances beyond their control, and it takes courage for them to decide to prioritise keeping their loved ones warm and housed, over putting food on the table. Basingstoke Foodbank is operated by a group of local churches and holds emergency food supplies to help such people for a few days, giving them time to find longer term answers to the situation they find themselves in.

Based at the top of Sarum Hill, the Basingstoke Foodbank is part of the managed process of helping people out of crisis by providing emergency food and support when people need it most. People are referred to us by front line agencies using a pre-authorised voucher system, and the vouchers can be exchanged for three days of food (equivalent to nine meals) for however many people are in the family.

If you know of anyone who is facing such a crisis, do encourage them to make use of this resource. This can be done by contacting one of the support agencies in town who can issue Foodbank vouchers – these include the Citizen's Advice Bureau, Social Services, Money Lifeline (free debt counselling service), and many others, depending on the particular issues involved. Alternatively the Foodbank can be contacted for advice on 07722 673645 during opening hours, which are 10.30am to 2.30pm, Wednesdays and Fridays.

