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| THIS MONTH             | Page |                             | Page  |
|------------------------|------|-----------------------------|-------|
| Cover Story            | 2    | Tennis Club                 | 12    |
| Prayer Corner          | 2    | Testbourne Community Centre | 13    |
| Vicar's Letter         | 3    | Parish Hall                 | 13    |
| Church Services        | 4    | Rising Fives                | 14    |
| Parish Registers       | 5    | Planning Applications       | 15    |
| Primary School         | 6    | Around the Parish News      | 16–21 |
| Silk Mill              | 7    | Regular Events              | 22    |
| Whitchurch Association | 8    | What's On                   | 23    |
| Festival Association   | 9    | Contacts                    | 24    |
| Gill Nethercott Centre | 9-10 |                             |       |
| Library                | 11   |                             |       |

Please submit items for the April issue to The Old Paper Shop on The Square, or by email to [news@whitchurchhampshire.org.uk](mailto:news@whitchurchhampshire.org.uk). **Deadline: Friday 17 March.**

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THIS MONTH'S EDITORS: Catherine Geddes, Sarah Owen, Simon Coomber

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## This Light Angelic Mill

Whitchurch Silk Mill sits on an island in the River Test, one of the finest trout streams in the world. It is the oldest silk mill in the UK still working in its original building, and in its own right a jewel in England's crown. Like the river that still powers its winding and warping machinery, the mill might be old but it is also vibrant, ever-changing and full of life and colour. The silks woven on historic looms by highly skilled weavers and tacklers are featured in period costume dramas and adorn many historic houses. The silks are all new, recently created from the Silk Mill's still-beating heart.

*Words and photo by Noel Privett*



As we enter the season of Lent, be with us as we prepare.  
Open our eyes so we can see the way,  
As we prepare for the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Open our ears to hear your word  
As we prepare for examinations and new schools and colleges.  
Open our minds to change  
As we prepare for new growth and new politics.  
Open our hearts to love our neighbour.

*Amen*

**live happy!**  
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**Slimming World**

The place to come to lose weight  
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Most parishioners know by now that we are on the move. I shall take my last service in the parish on the morning of June 25 and the removal van will arrive not long afterwards. After 13 happy years in Whitchurch, the Inglis family will be moving to Salisbury, where I shall take up a new post as Rector of the city centre parish of St Thomas and St Edmund.



Since I became Vicar of Whitchurch in June 2004, I have baptized 286 (but only one in the River Test), I have officiated at around 120 weddings, and have undertaken nearly 300 funerals. There have been a fair few other services including 13 Christingles (but only one with a pantomime camel). Now and again I find myself in someone's home, remembering that I have been there before visiting altogether different people. I have learned lots of names and forgotten rather a lot of names too, all in a rather random way, so if you are in the first category, I am pleased and if you are in the second, I am sorry.

Several people have asked me how Church of England clergy are moved around. The answer is that nowadays we are rather similar to many other working people. Jobs are advertised in the Church Times and there are person and role specifications. After short-listing, candidates are invited to meet all sorts of people in the parish before undergoing an interview process. The difference is that the church is seeking to discern not just the candidate's suitability but also God's will for the parish.

As I vacate the vicarage in June, the parish will enter a period known as an interregnum (which oddly means 'between the reigns'). All parish life will go on. Regular services, and baptisms, weddings and funerals, will continue with the help of visiting ministers. Any enquiries should be directed to the parish administrator.

The parochial church council meanwhile will begin the process of drawing up a person and role specification. They will advertise the post, and pray for the right candidate to come forward; someone whose calling to the parish is God's will, and who will bring talents and ideas to enable them to lead the Anglican presence and serve the people of this lively community and vibrant church.

--Kelvin Inglis

Photo © Andrew Morris



## CHURCH SERVICES

### **Wednesday 1 March**

All Hallows 7.30pm

### **Ash Wednesday**

Service of Penitence

### **Sunday 5 March**

Tufton 8.45am

All Hallows 10am

Litchfield 10am

### **Lent 1**

Sung Communion

Parish Communion

Holy Communion (BCP)

### **Sunday 12 March**

All Hallows 8am

All Hallows 10am

### **Lent 2**

Holy Communion

Praise Communion with One Accord

### **Sunday 19 March**

Tufton 8.45am

All Hallows 10am

### **Lent 3**

Sung Communion

Parish Communion

### **Sunday 26 March**

All Hallows 8am

All Hallows 10am

Litchfield 10am

### **Mothering Sunday**

Holy Communion

Parish Communion

Matins (BCP)

### **Sunday 2 April**

Tufton 8.45am

All Hallows 10am

Litchfield 10am

### **Lent 5**

Sung Communion

Parish Communion

Matins (BCP)

Sunday morning worship at the **Baptist Church**, Newbury Hill is at 10.30am and at the **Methodist Church**, Winchester Street also at 10.30am. Sunday Mass at St John Fisher **Roman Catholic Church**, Bell Street is at 9am. At All Hallows, Evening Prayer is said from the Book of Common Prayer every Sunday at 6pm unless another evening service is shown above. Holy Communion is celebrated every Wednesday at 9.30am.



### **Whitchurch Methodist Church News and Activities for March**

As well as the regular Whitchurch Methodist Church services and events shown elsewhere in this magazine the service on 19 March will be a united service held at Whitchurch Baptist Church. 'Xpect' café church will be on Thursday 2 March at 7.30pm at Whitchurch Methodist Church.

The Saturday coffee mornings in January raised a total of £158 for the Whitchurch Toy Library. The March coffee mornings will be in aid of Rising Fives, so do come along and support them.

Whenever you see the 'Church open' sign outside the Methodist church, please feel free to come in for a look and to enjoy some quiet space.



## Baptisms

19 February

Kylo Teddy Jones

**We welcome him  
into the church family**

## Funerals

31 January at All Hallows

Delphine Margaret Alexander of Seeviours Court

13 February at Basingstoke

Linda Mary Lambourne of Andover

**May they rest in peace**



### Rest in Peace

Families are welcome and encouraged to provide brief biographical details of those with local connections who have died recently. We extend sympathy to the family and friends of:

**Peggy Alexander** who died on January 19 aged 93. Peggy was born in Surrey in 1923, the second of nine children, and was brought up in Berkshire. She went into service aged 14, and in 1942 married Ken Alexander at Wash Common. Ken served with the RAF in the Far East for much of the war before becoming a signalman for nearly thirty years. There were four daughters: Margaret, Shirley and Mary, and Daphne who died in infancy. Peggy was small in stature but big in character. She lived with the family for many happy years in Chatter Lane and made many friends through her varied interests in town and church life. Devoted to her family, she lived to see her first great great grandchild.



## Church Services during Lent

During Lent, the season of preparation leading up to Easter Day, the churches in Whitchurch will take turns hosting worship in their own tradition to which all are welcome. This will start with a service of penitence on Ash Wednesday at All Hallows to include the traditional ashing ceremony, when the people are signed with ash as a reminder of their mortality. The full list of services is thus:

March 1 (Ash Wednesday) at All Hallows (Church of England)

March 8 at Whitchurch Baptist Church

March 15 at St John Fisher RC Church

March 22 at Whitchurch Methodist Church

March 29 at Whitchurch Town Hall

April 5 at St Mary Tufton (Church of England)

All services will begin at 7.30pm.



At Whitchurch CE Primary we love to share the children's learning with our community of family and friends. This week the Year 5 parents joined us for the Italian café and Tigers class (year 4) led their class worship on courage which was attended by their family and friends.

### Thursday Worship

This term the Year 3 and 4 classes have taken turns to lead the Thursday worship. Our theme has been our value of courage and the children have prepared Bible stories, related the value to their own experience and written prayers and drama sketches. The children are always delighted to share their class worship with their families and are always excited when the actual day arrives. I am always amazed how in just a few days, the children can prepare and present such a polished performance.

### Riverbird and Dove's Wings Cafés

This term Kingfishers and Doves Classes (Year 5) have enjoyed a topic called 'Masterchef' which was concluded by a café in the hall. Kingfishers called theirs 'Riverbird Café' and Doves – 'Dove's Wings'. All day long the school smelled of bread-making as the children prepared their pizzas. They had already researched the most popular toppings and had planned how to make their pizza appetising. The atmosphere was buzzing as the children worked collaboratively to prepare the food. Thankfully they had discussed food hygiene and made and displayed brightly coloured posters to remind us all too! Pizza was followed by dainty fruit-tarts. The children learned to make pastry, which was a new experience for many of them. They also wrote menus and questionnaires which they shared with their families. So, there was a long queue of parents waiting at the hall door to enter the 'Dove's Wings Café' and the 'Riverbird Café'. The Italian music was playing and the smell of pizza filled the air. The children served their parents the pizza and then the fruit tarts...Surprisingly good was the verdict!

-- *Kate Steven*, Head Teacher



### Newbury Spring Festival 2017

Newbury is just 20 minutes from Whitchurch and each year hosts an amazing two-week music festival with all types of musical events suitable for all ages, which this year takes place 6–20 May. Concerts and shows take place at different venues in West Berkshire, with many in Newbury, including at the Corn Exchange. Some performances are even free for children, and a Young Festival Critics scheme encourages those aged 15–30 to register to attend a show free of charge and write a review. From the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra to the musical Betty Blue Eyes, from a Sinatra-inspired show to Ghanaian drummers, from the Young Artists Lunchtime Recitals to a puppet show, from Kathryn Tickell & The Side to Bollywood Brass Band, there is something for everyone. Check out the full programme on-line.

**Contact:** [www.newburyspringfestival.org.uk](http://www.newburyspringfestival.org.uk)



## 'Whitchurch Voices' Oral History Project

The Silk Mill is holding its first 'sharing memories' café on Sunday 12 March, 2pm–3.30pm in the Mill Café. Do you remember the Silk Mill when it was a full-time working factory? Have you got a story to tell about life in Whitchurch from times gone by? As part of our Heritage Lottery-funded Preserving the Fabric project, we are collecting stories and photographs which will help us build a picture of the Silk Mill's history and its connection to the life of the town. Did you or a family member work at the Mill? Do you have any interesting photographs of the Mill or the town? What weaving skills could you pass on to the next generation? If you'd like to share your memories and reminisce with other people, please drop in to the first 'Whitchurch Voices' sharing memories café. You'll receive a warm welcome. If you'd be willing to let us visit you to record an oral history interview, or if you'd like to volunteer to help us collect stories for the project, please contact Emma Golby-Kirk, Visitor Experience Manager.



Joan, a former silk worker, 1979  
Photo reproduced with kind permission of Roger Phillips

**Contact:** Emma Golby-Kirk, Visitor Experience Manager – 892065 – [emma.golby-kirk@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk](mailto:emma.golby-kirk@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk)

## The Clock Stopped – But NOT Never to Go Again

Time stood still – literally – when our 1815 Handley and Moore striking clock stopped at the end of January. An old repair to a tiny tooth on the clock's escape wheel had given way, but thanks to the expert skills of one of our volunteers it was going again in no time at all. Our volunteers have many and varied skills and we couldn't do without them.

## Collaboration with Winchester School of Art

We recently welcomed nine 'Weave' students from Winchester School of Art for a special tour of the Mill, including VIP entry to the weaving shed. The students have been set the task of designing a weave to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Jane Austen's death, and the one with the winning design will hand weave fabric for us which will be used to make unique gift items for sale in our shop, from June onwards. We can't wait to judge the students' designs. Such a talented bunch!

## Forthcoming Events

- Colour for Design Workshop by Claire Gaudion – Monday 6 March 2017, 10.30am–3.30pm
- Sylvania Families Annual Summer Shopping Weekend – Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 June 2017, 10am–4pm

**Contact:** [info@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk](mailto:info@whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk) – 892065 – [www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk](http://www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk)



The Whitchurch Association (WA) is a local charity for the benefit of people living in or in the immediate vicinity of the town. It works on, and provides input to, a wide range of local issues, working together with other groups in the town.

### **Gill Nethercott Centre – Julia Trinder Appointed**

We are very pleased to announce that Julia Trinder has been appointed as the new GNC Manager, and we wish her success in her new position. Julia's role will cover both the administration of the centre, and the organisation of events. Our great thanks go once again to Sarah Castle, who stood down from the role at the end of February after 8 years of excellent work in developing the GNC as a community resource.

### **New Members Welcome**

Membership of the WA costs just £2.50 per year (family membership £5) and members benefit from being able to book the GNC, for functions or events of all kinds, at a discounted rate.

**Contact:** Brian Bent – 892926

### **Walkers Are Welcome (WAW)**

The descriptions of circular walks in and around Whitchurch, which are available to download and print off from the town website, have now been enhanced to include maps as well as clear written descriptions. Why not have a look and try out some of the suggested routes?

Our footpath volunteers now have a good supply of tools to help with clearing paths around the town. The tools were purchased with the aid of a grant from Hampshire County Council, and a grant from the Town Council has paid for a storage cabinet for the tools. Further work on the footpaths will take place over the coming months.

The 2017 volunteer litter-picking season is now underway. If you would like to volunteer to help with either litter-picking or path clearances, then please register your interest at the Gill Nethercott Centre and we will get in touch. You can also now follow us on Facebook - just search for Walkers are Welcome Whitchurch Hampshire.

### **Defibrillators**

Further news and updates on this project will be published on the town website: [www.whitchurch.org.uk](http://www.whitchurch.org.uk) <http://www.whitchurch.org.uk>

*--Barry Carter*



**May Day Celebrations**

Although 2017 has got off to a chilly start, the snowdrops are in full bloom so, hopefully, spring weather must be around the corner. The annual May Day celebrations are set for Monday 1 May in the lovely grounds of the Silk Mill where we are looking forward to choosing the May Queen and judging the May Day fancy dress. Dancing around the may pole will be encouraged and live music is being organised together with the usual barbeque and bar. The Silk Mill café will be open for tea, coffee and cake etc. We are always delighted to see local crafts/produce displayed at this event, and will be very pleased for you to contact us if you wish to man a stall.

**Pub Race**

The Great Whitchurch Pub Race is planned for Sunday 28 May, more information will be available in next month's issue of the Parish Magazine.

**Contact:** Rob or Cindy – 893513

*-- Cindy Dunlop*



**Phil Beer in Concert – Saturday 11 March, 8pm**

Phil is one of the most popular ambassadors for acoustic roots music. A dazzling instrumentalist, he is perhaps best known as a top-flight fiddler and plays in the all-star line-up, Feast of Fiddles. He also plays slide, Spanish and tenor guitar, mandocello, viola, mandolin and South American cuatro, not to mention contributing rich vocals. Doors open 7.30pm. We will have a wine and real ale bar. Tickets cost £14 available from GNC, Library or online at [www.wegotickets.com](http://www.wegotickets.com).

**Faustus – In Concert Sunday 2 April**

The pioneering 'bloke folk' power trio present their new EP 'Slaves' and third release Death and Other Animals (Westpark Music), produced by Rupert Christie (Lou Reed, Jessie J, Fisherman's Friends, Bellowhead). Faustus brings to the stage three of the leading lights of their generation – Benji Kirkpatrick and Paul Sartin (Bellowhead) and Saul Rose (War Horse). There will be a real ale bar for you to enjoy too. Doors open at 7.30pm with the music starting at 8.00pm. Tickets cost £13 each and are available from the GNC, the Library or online at [www.wegotickets.com](http://www.wegotickets.com).

**Coach Trip to Uppark House and Gardens and Petersfield – Thursday 23 March**

High on the South Downs ridge, Uppark commands views as far south as the English Channel. Outside, the intimate gardens are being gradually restored to

their original 18th-century design. Uppark's Georgian interiors illustrate the comfort of life 'upstairs', in contrast with the 'downstairs' world of the servants. A highlight of the collection is one of the best examples of a 17th century doll's house in the country.

There will also be time for wander around the beautiful Norman market town of Petersfield with its interesting small shops and cafes. At its centre stands the magnificent equestrian statue of King William III. The Church of St. Peter dates back to 1120 and retains many original features.

The coach leaves the GNC at 9.30am and returns around 6pm. Tickets cost £16 for National Trust members or £26 for non-members. Booking is essential at the GNC or at the Library.

### **Coach trip to Cerney House Garden and Broadway 27 April**

Cerney House Gardens is a romantic, secret place in the Cotswolds. Set around a Victorian walled garden, it is described by Country Living as 'what most people aspire to in their gardens – and few achieve'. Herbaceous borders are packed with old-fashioned favourites and surrounded by roses and companion climbers. There is a working Kitchen Garden that supplies family and friends. We will be served tea here in the garden. Then it's onwards for a pretty drive through countryside to the beautiful and historic Cotswold village of Broadway, 'Jewel of the Cotswolds' with a mixture of period houses and picturesque honey coloured Cotswold stone cottages and interesting independent shops, galleries and eateries.

The coach leaves Whitchurch at 9.30am and arrives home around 6pm. Please note Cerney House is accessed by a steep five minute uphill walk. Tickets cost £25 which includes entrance and tea at Cerney House, and are available from the GNC or Library.

### **Vintage Soul Sounds present – Motown & Soul Party Night – Saturday 22 April 8pm – 12am**

DJs Christine & James Rowley, known as Vintage Soul Sounds, bring you the best of Motown, Soul & Club Classics played on vinyl from their collection of music kept, cherished and now shared with their audiences. They feature up-tempo Motown Sounds from the 60s & 70s with a little bit of well-known Northern Soul and usually include some of the great Atlantic & Stax Artists, the Philadelphia Sounds from the 70s and a bit of disco. Tickets are £6 and can be purchased at the GNC, Library or email [info@southernclub.com](mailto:info@southernclub.com).

### **Gill Nethercott Centre Website relaunch**

We delighted to announce that our website has been redesigned and now contains lots of information on one-off events and regular classes and activities at the Centre. I would encourage everyone to take a look and see what's on offer.

**Contact:** 896270 – [www.gillnethercottcentre.org.uk](http://www.gillnethercottcentre.org.uk) – [gillnethercottcentre@btconnect.com](mailto:gillnethercottcentre@btconnect.com)

-- Sarah Castle, Community Centre Manager

## Spring on down to the Library to see what you can find!

With Mother's Day coming, why not make a home made gift or a scrumptious meal to celebrate? We have arts and crafts books and a cookery section that can help you find the perfect idea. We've plenty of gardening books to enthuse you now that the days are lighter and hobbies books if you're looking for something new.

Don't forget our fun children's activities, and help us decorate our Tree which is getting ready for spring. You can follow us on Facebook too so you never miss out on the fun. Spring down to Whitchurch Library where the team are ready to say hello!

**Contact:** [www.hants.gov.uk/library](http://www.hants.gov.uk/library)

*Pip Baxendale, Library Team Manager*



### Letters to the Editor

#### Parish Nurse Drop in

*Dorrie Bilson writes:*

I have been Parish Nurse with All Hallows since 2013. I am offering a drop in clinic on one Wednesday each month between 10-11am at The Church Rooms at All Hallows. In March this will take place on Wednesday 22 March. You may have a health concern that you would find helpful to talk about with a health professional, or just want to have your blood pressure checked. This is in no way intended as a replacement for a visit to the GP surgery as I do not have access to anyone's medical notes or history, but if you think I could help please do just turn up. For further details see the Parish Nurse page under Activities on the church website.

**Contact:** Dorrie Bilson – 07795 841524 – [parishnursing@ahwhitchurch.org.uk](mailto:parishnursing@ahwhitchurch.org.uk) – [www.allhallowswitchurch.org.uk/Activities](http://www.allhallowswitchurch.org.uk/Activities)



### Jaribio Quiz

The Jaribio Quiz to raise funds for Testbourne School's Mityana 2017 trip will take place on Saturday 18 March at 7.30pm at All Hallows Church Rooms. It will be a fun quiz for all ages with ploughman's supper. Tickets are £10 per adult and £7 for children.

**Contact:** Jane – 07825 213394 or Jenni – [jennis\\_box@yahoo.com](mailto:jennis_box@yahoo.com)



### Parish Magazine Subscriptions

Magazine subscriptions are due this month for the coming year (April 2017 to March 2018). The price to subscribe for the whole year is £10, and your local distributor will come round to collect the money. If you wish to pay by cheque, please make it payable to Whitchurch Parish Magazine.



## **Quiz Night**

For all those who want to stretch a brain cell or two, the Club will be running a fun Quiz Night at the Parish Hall on Saturday 4 March, starting at 7pm. Open to everyone, this is a chance to get a group of friends together, in teams of 6 to 8 please, with a unique name, or if a smaller group we can match you with others.

A fish and chip or sausage and chip supper is included in the advance ticket price of £10, and the bar will offer wine and soft drinks at reasonable prices. There will also be a raffle and a lottery! To book your team please contact our Membership Secretary Lynda Frith.

## **AGM**

The AGM will be held at The White Hart at 8pm on Thursday 23 March. All are welcome to attend, to look back at the tennis and social events of 2016, and forward to the club's plans for the coming year.

## **Spring Clean**

The AGM is preceded by a Spring Clean morning on Saturday 18 March. Any and all members are welcome between 10am and 12pm for this annual tidy-up session, with tennis to follow on afterwards. Please bring along gloves, old paintbrushes and weed sprayers!

## **Club Nights**

The first club night will be on Tuesday 4 April when play hosted by a committee member will begin at 6pm and continue until dusk. Club nights are on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with weekend tennis continuing on Saturday afternoons (please ask for details). For those who need a bit of encouragement, there will be a Rusty Racquets afternoon between 2pm and 4pm on Saturday 8 April. Come along for a game, bring friends/family who have not played or are a bit rusty to have a go. This is an open social event with refreshments.

Ours is a friendly club, always looking to welcome new members whether they are beginners, or experienced and hoping to play matches, or just want to get back into tennis. There is also the opportunity to join as a social member only, for those who do not want, or have little time, to play tennis. Details can be found on our website, [www.whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk](http://www.whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk).

**Contact:** Membership Secretary Lynda Frith – [membership@whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk](mailto:membership@whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk) or Secretary Wendy Helsby – [secretary@whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk](mailto:secretary@whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk)



We would like to thank Community Kick Start, supported by the Breeze FM, nominated by the Grand Judge Christine for supporting our February half-term programme.

We would also like to thank the Whitchurch Welfare Trust for kindly supporting us in purchasing an AED. This will be housed on the external wall of the Fitness gym and will be available to the public 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year. We will be arranging some community AED training for use in an emergency cardiac situation. Please keep your eye open for training events.

We would also like to encourage you to access our new website for the latest community activities and events: [www.community.testbourne.school/](http://www.community.testbourne.school/)

We hope you find it useful and that it will help to keep you aware of what we have on offer.

--Paul Bushell, Community Centre Manager



The latest edition to equipment available to the hirers of the hall is a new PA system with radio mics. This enhances the projector, sound system and stage lighting equipment already available to the hirer.

### **Movies at the Parish Hall**

Films starts at 7.30pm (doors open at 7pm). Tickets cost £5 and are available at the door. Soft drinks/wine available.

### **A Streetcat Named Bob (12A) – Wednesday 8 March**

Based on the international bestseller. The true feel-good story of how James Bowen, a busker and recovering drug addict, had his life transformed when he met a stray ginger cat. Stars Luke Treadaway and Joanne Froggatt.

### **Allied (15) – Wednesday 22 March**

In 1942, an intelligence officer in North Africa encounters a female French Resistance fighter on a deadly mission behind enemy lines. When they reunite in London, their relationship is tested by the pressures of war. Directed by Robert Zemeckis and starring Brad Pitt and Marion Cotillard.

**Contact:** 07787 056580 – [whitchurchparishhall@outlook.com](mailto:whitchurchparishhall@outlook.com) – [www.whitchurchparishhall.co.uk](http://www.whitchurchparishhall.co.uk)

--Rod Clarke

### **RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch**

The children really enjoyed taking part in the Bird Watch at Rising Fives. They were very interested in the wildlife around Rising Fives and enjoyed making their bird feeders and a range of bird themed crafts.

### **Sainsbury's Active Vouchers**

We are collecting Sainsbury's Active Vouchers once again. Please ask your family and friends to collect vouchers for Rising Fives to enable us to gain new play resources for the children.

### **Little Explorers**

Now that our new starters are settled in look out for our Little Explorers out and about in Whitchurch. Recent expeditions include visiting the park to enable the children to practice their climbing skills and negotiate larger spaces and a trip to Whitchurch Primary School to use their Outside Area, where the children met their old friends who have moved onto school and discovered a bit more about school life themselves. We are also planning another trip to visit our friends at Seeviours Court.



### **Bags to School**

If you're planning a Spring clear out why not help raise some money for your local preschool? We are planning a Bags for School collection on Monday 6th March. If you have any clothes, soft toys, bags or hats please deliver to Rising Fives by Friday 3rd March or contact us ahead of this date and we might be able to collect. Every bag we fill will raise money for new toys and resources for the children at the preschool and will be much appreciated.

### **Methodist church coffee mornings**

The Methodist Church are very kindly donating money raised from their Saturday coffee mornings in March to Rising Fives. Please do go along to support the volunteers and raise funds for Rising Fives by drinking good coffee and eating lots of biscuits!

**Contact:** Sarah Hawkins, Manager – 01256 893708 – [risingfives.co.uk](http://risingfives.co.uk) – [rising.fives@btinternet.com](mailto:rising.fives@btinternet.com)



### **Basingstoke Festival**

'Born in the Borough' has been announced as the theme of the sixth Basingstoke Festival, which is set to be the best yet. Attracting international artists and big name acts to perform in the borough is part of the planning work now underway for the Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council-run festival from Friday 16 June to Sunday 9 July. Put the date in your diary and follow the festival on Facebook for more information.

**Contact:** [facebook.com/basingstokefestival](https://facebook.com/basingstokefestival)



Below are planning application registrations and decisions taken between 14 January and 10 February inclusive. Unless otherwise stated, locations are in the parish of Whitchurch, applications are for full planning permission and the date shown is the registration date:

## Registrations

- Erection of single storey rear extension. Installation of 1 window to side elevation: **16 Pound Meadow** (17/00476/HSE, 09 Feb 2017)
- Loft conversion and construction of 3 rear dormer windows: **35 Test Road** (17/00410/HSE, 03 Feb 2017)
- Erection of 2 dwellings with associated landscaping: **Land To Rear Of The Harroway Evingar Road** (17/00352/FUL, 31 Jan 2017)
- Erection of two storey rear extension following demolition of workshop and store : **4 Newbury Street** (17/00256/HSE, 23 Jan 2017)
- Outline planning application, with all matters reserved (except for access) for the erection of up to 112 dwellings, together with car parking, open space (including formal playspace), landscaping, SuDS attenuation and new vehicular and pedestrian access from Blosswood Lane: **Land South Of Manor Farm Blosswood Lane** (17/00148/OUT, 16 Jan 2017)

## Decisions

- Erection of a single storey rear extension (permitted development notification): **80 Winchester Road** (16/04669/GPDE, 19 Dec 2016) *Granted*
- New AC units and relocation of AC unit : **1 Bell Street** (16/04644/FUL, 15 Dec 2016) *Granted*
- Erection of first floor extension : **99 Winchester Road** (16/04583/HSE, 09 Dec 2016) *Granted*
- T1 and T2 Yew - Fell and replace with similar species: **The Cottage 5 Fairclose** (T/00499/16/TPO, 29 Nov 2016) *Refused*
- Tree works : **Oak House Lynch Hill Park** (T/00498/16/TPO, 28 Nov 2016) *Granted*
- Tree works: **4 Lynch Hill Park** (T/00478/16/TPO, 23 Nov 2016) *Granted*
- Erection of single storey side and rear extensions, infill extension, construction of chimney, rooflights, alterations to porch, raised decking and application of external rendered finish to all external walls: **35 Lynch Hill Park** (16/04215/HSE, 11 Nov 2016) *Granted*

Source: [www.basingstoke.gov.uk](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk)



### Overton Choral Society

OCS has been invited to join singing friends in Alençon in May. First they have a workshop on Saturday 25 March in St Mary's Hall, where they will be learning Stainer's Crucifixion and other Sacred works, and will be performing these on Monday 10 April in St Mary's Church at 7pm. Amidst all this they are also learning Mendelssohn's St Paul - a very busy time indeed.

OCS always welcome new members and loves to see those who have had a 'sabbatical' through work or personal pressures return. They meet on Mondays in St Mary's Hall at 7.45pm. For more information or if you would like to participate in the workshop please contact Lyn Hardy.

**Contact:** Lyn Hardy – lyn\_hardy@hotmail.com – 01256 397507

### Overton Black Arrows

13 members shot at the New Year's Eve club shoot. The weather was kind, the cake good and the tea very welcome for keeping the hands warm – as pictured.

At the club AGM Les Soper-Dyer was awarded the 'President's Medal' for all the voluntary work he does in maintaining the shooting range at Laverstoke to such a high standard.



Congratulations to William (Bill) Jones of the Black Arrows, ranked 1st in Hampshire for Gentleman's Barebow (shooting without sight or stabilisation rods) and 11th in England, and 21st in the UK. This is for field archery which is shooting at targets at a variety of distances around an undulating, sometimes woody, course. It's rather like going around a golf course.

You may have seen some archers out in the frosty archery range some Saturdays. They are shooting in a postal league, aptly called 'Frostbite Round'. In November Black Arrows beat Dunstable Bowmen and were successful again in December against Bowmen of Wadebridge, both times scoring 790.

Other recent wins have been at the Berkshire Open Indoor Championships where Alex Allam won Gold in the U18 Gents Recurve category, Richard Buckner won Silver in the Gents Recurve category, and his daughter Jodie was 6th in the Under 14s Ladies Recurve category. Eight other club members also shot extremely well in their respective classes. Richard Buckner has been placed 7th in the Hampshire Archery Association County target shooting rankings for 2016.



## Tea & Tots

Tea & Tots is an informal group for babies, toddlers and families to meet, chat and play. Refreshments and toys are provided, bring your own snacks. Admission is £1.50 per family. Tea & Tots takes place every Thursday 9.30–11.30am at All Hallows Church, Church Street, Whitchurch, RG28 7AS. Come along and make friends!

**Contact:** tea.tot17@gmail.com



## Whitchurch WI

Whitchurch WI has been delighted to welcome more new members in recent months who are discovering how good it is to make new friends and enjoy the different speakers and events. There's always room for more members, so do go along and join them. The first meeting is free – give it a try with no obligation.



The WI meets on the third Thursday of the month at the Gill Nethercott Centre at 7.15pm. There's always tea/coffee and a chat before the main event of the evening, plus a monthly competition and raffle. At the January meeting they enjoyed a presentation from Hampshire and IOW Wildlife Trust.

The next three meetings are:

- **Thursday 16 March – Treloar's** – Set up in 1907 by Sir William Purdie Treloar, this has become one of the country's leading providers of education, care, therapy, medical support and independent training for disabled young people. Claire Kercher is coming along to tell all.
- **Thursday 20 April – Nocks and Quivers** – Historically, archery was used for hunting and combat but in modern times has become a competitive sport and recreational activity. Hear all about it from Eric Dunlop.
- **Thursday 18 May – AGM and Quiz** – A look back at all that has gone on during the past year and then to the future, electing the committee for the coming year. The evening is rounded off with the traditional annual quiz. Who will be the winner?

**Contact:** Judy Hopkins (WI Secretary) – 892286 – secretary@whitchurchwi.org.uk



## Whitchurch Townswomen's Guild

At the February meeting, members found the talk given by Mr Ian Blacksmith entitled 'Tax, Care and Toy boys', very interesting and thought provoking. The next meeting of the Guild will be held on Thursday 9 March commencing at 10am in the Parish Hall. As this will be the AGM, there will be no speaker this month, or sales table. A raffle will be held as usual.

**Contact:** Vivienne Morris – 892140 – brivimor@talktalk.net brivimor@talktalk.net



## Overton & District U3A



This month's U3A meeting will take place on Wednesday 15 March at 10am in St Mary's Hall, Overton. There will be a talk by John Pilkington on 'Russia & Europe: what next?'

April's U3A talk will take place on Monday 3 April and will be a talk by Simon Moore on 'The effect of the Aesthetic and Arts & Crafts Periods on British Spoons'. This will take place at 2pm in St Mary's Hall, Overton. Visitors are welcome at a cost of £3.

**Contact:** 01256 771602 – [www.overtonu3a.org.uk](http://www.overtonu3a.org.uk) – [stevens\\_rg25@btinternet.com](mailto:stevens_rg25@btinternet.com)



## Tour and Tea Events at Winchester Cathedral

This year marks the 200th anniversary of the death of Jane Austen who died in Winchester and is buried in Winchester Cathedral. As well as there being a permanent exhibition to her (installed in 2010), this year Jane Austen 'Tour and Tea' events take place at the Cathedral on the first Saturday of the month from February to November 2017, with the first being on Saturday 4 February at 10am and 11am and lasting approximately one hour. This tour offers visitors an intimate and often amusing insight into her life and connections with the Cathedral. The tour will include a walk through the Cathedral's historic Inner Close to the house on College Street where Jane stayed during her time in Winchester. Tickets are £12.50 and include tea or coffee and cake in the Cathedral Refectory after the tour, available online or by phone.

**Contact:** 01962 857275 – [www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk](http://www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk)



## Chapel Renovation

The old Methodist chapel on London Street is currently undergoing a massive renovation, a project taken on by Austen Miller. The chapel had been left derelict and falling to ruin, but it is set to become a state-of-the-art design studio. The building required an enormous amount of structural work to reinforce its foundations and protect it from the dangerously close water table. Following this was the complete refurbishment of the roof, flooring, windows, and electrics. A mezzanine floor has been constructed and extensions have been added to the rear of the building, opening up the space dramatically.



Much attention has been given to the choice of all materials and fittings used, particularly the windows, lighting and the plan for the round stained glass window. The chapel will house a number of meeting rooms, offices and design studios when complete. Builders Phil, Ian, George and Will are more than happy to chat about the plans and progress. There is also a blog following the progress of the build with lots of interesting images and videos that you can check out at [www.3formdesignchapel.com](http://www.3formdesignchapel.com).



### Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge

One of the parish magazine editors, Gill Knappett, has had another book on the royal family published recently. Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge is a fully illustrated Royal Souvenir which charts her life from her childhood in Berkshire to her role as wife and mother of two future Kings of England. Published by Pitkin Publishing/The History Press, it is available through on-line book sellers, to order from bookshops (ISBN 978-1-84165-759-2), at various tourist outlets in London and the UK, or direct from the publisher.



**Contact:** [www.thehistorypress.co.uk](http://www.thehistorypress.co.uk) – 01453 883300 – [sales@thehistorypress.co.uk](mailto:sales@thehistorypress.co.uk)



### Friday Lunch Club at Testbourne

Testbourne Community Centre on Fridays in term time is the place to be to enjoy a delicious two-course lunch, preceded by time to chat and have coffee/tea and biscuits before lunch is served by a trusty team of volunteers. Transport is included in the price so you can be picked up and delivered back to your own front door. All this, including travel, for just £5.50! Everyone is welcome. Please get in touch to book your place and for transport to be arranged. There are six lunch clubs before the Easter break:

- 3 March
- 10 March
- 17 March
- 24 March
- 31 March
- 7 April

**Contact:** Paul Bushell – 892261 – [p.bushell@testbourne.hants.sch.uk](mailto:p.bushell@testbourne.hants.sch.uk)



### Actors, musicians and backstage crew wanted for a saucy time with WADS

WADS is gearing up for its summer production, which will be a series of saucy, romantic moral stories. It's going to have music. And it's going to be outdoors.



WADS will be auditioning on Tuesday club nights at the Parish Hall at the beginning of March. As well as looking for on-stage speaking parts, there are a number of non-speaking roles where the only requirement is enthusiasm and a sense of humour. And, of course, here is a need for supporters – stage hands, prompt, props manager, and wardrobe. There is also a need for musicians – woodwind (especially recorder), violin or any other portable acoustic instruments.

If you'd like more information please contact Claire Isbester or just drop in to the Parish Hall on a Tuesday at 8pm.

**Contact:** Claire Isbester – 892514 – [claireisbester@yahoo.com](mailto:claireisbester@yahoo.com) – [wads.website](http://wads.website) – [facebook.com/WADSwEB](https://facebook.com/WADSwEB).



## Clinical navigators – an announcement from Two Rivers Medical Partnership

From 13 March Two Rivers Medical Partnership has reorganised the team to be able to triage peoples' requests for a same day urgent appointment. They have successfully piloted telephone triage for same day urgent appointments over the previous few weeks.

Patients who are unwell or feel they need to be seen urgently are advised to call at 8am each morning as before to either Derrydown Clinic or Whitchurch Surgery telephone numbers. Please note that there will no longer be a walk-in service at the Derrydown site.

The real benefits for patients are quicker access to a clinician to help direct them to either advice on the phone or to the right clinician in the appropriate time frame. The team of clinicians will benefit from being better equipped to prioritise patients with the greatest need. The patient group has already finalised a patient survey but will again of course be seeking feedback from patients on this improvement project.

**Contact:** Two Rivers Medical Partnership – [www.tworiversmedicalpartnership.co.uk](http://www.tworiversmedicalpartnership.co.uk)



## Cats Protection

Cats Protection has two fund raising events coming up this month. On the weekend of 10-12 March they will be at Pets at Home in Andover with a soft toy tombola.

The shop will also be raising money by asking customers to round up to the nearest pound at the till and donations of food will be gratefully received. From 31 March, for three weeks, Cats Protection will be occupying the Whitchurch Charity shop.



Dotty, last month's cat, has found a home. Nala is a pretty brindle tortie about 4 years old. She has had several litters of kittens before coming into care and is now looking for her new home. She would benefit from living in a quiet environment, maybe with older children. She is used to spending lots of time outside so a safe garden is essential.

**Contact:** Homing enquiries 0345 260 1501 or [andovercats.org.uk](http://andovercats.org.uk); fund raising and volunteers 07733 242196 or [coord@andovercats.org.uk](mailto:coord@andovercats.org.uk); items for resale 892773



## History Society in March

The next meeting of the History Society will take place on Tuesday 7 March in the Gill Nethercott Centre at 7.30pm. The talk on the 'History of the Cinema' will be given by Wendy Helsby, one of our members. Everyone welcome. Members free, visitors £2.

**Contact:** John Mariner 893437



## **Whitchurch During the First World War: March 2017**

**THREE BROTHERS KILLED:** We are saddened to hear that Mr and Mrs George Rumbold, of Lower Lodge, Newbury Street, have received for the third time, official news from the Records Office, this time conveying to them information that their youngest son, Ernest Frederick, Army Service Corps, was killed accidentally in the Mesopotamian Campaign on the 7th inst. This young man, who was 22 years of age, joined up immediately after the first recruiting meeting held in the town about September 1914, prior to which he worked for Mr Thomas Waters, Bell Street. Sergeant Alfred Birch, Army Service Corps, Mesopotamia, has been good enough to send along a few details about Driver Rumbold: 'Ernest was very well-liked. He was a good worker and a very pleasant companion. I have been with him now since this unit was formed at Port Said. I did not have the luck to be in the same unit as he was at Gallipoli, as I came overland from France to the Peninsular, and was with quite a different unit. It was a pity he should have been killed so near to the place we had been struggling so long – he was killed by that awful explosion on the 7th – as we marched into Baghdad on the 11th.' Driver Rumbold's brothers, Alfred and Arthur, who have also made the supreme sacrifice, were in the 1st and 2nd Hants respectively. Two others are still serving in France, Jessie and Sidney, both in the ASC. Much sympathy has been expressed to the family in their triple sorrow, and we should like to add the condolences of the whole of our Whitchurch readers. The realities of warfare of present day dimensions have been forcibly brought home to this small town.

*Compiled by Craig Fisher*

*Notes:* Ernest Rumbold was attached as a driver to 40th Field Ambulance at the time of his death. That unit's war diary records that on 7 March 1917, there was an explosion on a limber belonging to the ammunition column of 134th Brigade Royal Field Artillery (RFA), just as the two units were drawing parallel. The explosion killed a driver from the ASC – Ernest Rumbold – and 35 members of the Indian Mule Corps. Two members of the RFA and two Indian troops were also killed, while a number of other men were wounded. The RFA war diary records that the explosion was caused when a British aeroplane mistakenly dropped a bomb on the column.



## **Kingfisher Trust Part-time Vacancy**

The Kingfisher Trust (Charity no.1159152), was formed in 1984 to provide care, rehabilitation, social interaction for clients and much deserved respite for carers in the Whitchurch, St Mary Bourne and Overton areas.

Based in Laverstoke The Kingfisher Trust has a vacancy for a paid part time Care Assistant on Wednesdays and Thursdays, for 7 hours a day. The role is varied and interesting, consisting of caring for the elderly, bus escorting and cooking, with full training given. You must have a warm and friendly nature, be happy to work towards a NVQ Level 3 if you haven't got one and undergo a DBS check. For more information and full job description please contact the Trust.

**Contact:** 893333

## regular events

|            |               |   |
|------------|---------------|---|
| Mondays    | 9.30–11.30am  | Teapot Baby and Toddler Group, drop-in play sessions with toys, crafts and singing, Testbourne Community Centre |
| 2nd & 4th  | 3–5pm         | Scrabble Club, Library  |
|            | 10am–12noon   | BRAS (Breast-feeding social group), All Hallows Church Rooms  |
|            | 2pm           | Silver Threads, Parish Hall   |
|            | 7.30pm        | Bellringers' practice, All Hallows bell tower   |
| Tuesdays   | 7.30pm        | Town Council meetings: 1st Monday: Full council; 2nd & 4th: Development; 3rd: Leisure & Environment             |
|            | 7–10pm        | Duplicate Bridge, Gill Nethercott Centre  |
|            | 8.35pm        | Casual badminton, Testbourne (bookable)   |
|            | 2.30–4pm      | Ladies Fellowship, Baptist Church   |
|            | 7.30–10pm     | Youth group (ages 14–19) Youth Suite, Testbourne Centre   |
| Wednesdays | 8pm           | WADS Club night, Parish Hall  |
|            | 9.30am        | Holy Communion, All Hallows   |
|            | 9.45am        | Walking for Health, Gill Nethercott Centre  |
|            | 10am–12noon   | Coffee morning, Baptist Church hall   |
| 3rd        | 10am–11.30am  | Toy Library, Methodist Hall (term time)   |
|            | 2.30–4.30pm   | Scrabble Club, Library  |
|            | 5.30pm        | Reading Group, Library  |
|            | 6pm           | Casual badminton, Testbourne (bookable)   |
|            | 7.30pm        | 'Singing for Fun' rehearsals, Methodist Church  |
| Thursdays  | 10am–12noon   | Coffee morning, Methodist Church  |
|            | 9.30–11.30am  | Tea and Tots, All Hallows Church Room   |
|            | 2.30pm        | Ladies Fellowship, Methodist Church   |
|            | 7.30pm        | Choir practice, All Hallows   |
| 3rd        | 7.15pm        | WI, Gill Nethercott Centre  |
| Fridays    | 9.15am        | Prayer time, Methodist Small Hall   |
|            | 10–11.30am    | Country Market, Gill Nethercott Centre  |
|            | 2.30–3pm      | Story Time, Library   |
|            | 7.30–10pm     | 'Freedom' youth group (ages 14–19), Youth Suite, Methodist Church   |
|            | 7.30–10pm     | 'Y@H' youth group (ages 10–14), Gill Nethercott Centre  |
| Saturdays  | 10am–12noon   | Coffee morning, Methodist Church  |
|            | 10.30–11.30am | SCRAWL (craft and stories), Library   |
|            | 9.30–11.30am  | Casual badminton, Testbourne (bookable)   |

**WEEK 9**

|   |          |            |  |    |
|---|----------|------------|--|----|
| 2 | Thursday | 7.30pm     | Xpect café-style church, Methodist Church      | 4  |
| 4 | Saturday | 10am, 11am | Jane Austin Tour and Tea, Winchester Cathedral |    |
| 4 | Saturday | 7pm        | Tennis Club Quiz, Parish Hall                  | 12 |

**WEEK 10**

|    |           |                |   |    |
|----|-----------|----------------|---|----|
| 6  | Monday    | 10.30am-3.30pm | Colour for Design workshop, Silk Mill         | 7  |
| 7  | Tuesday   | 7.30pm         | History Society, 'History of the Cinema', GNC | 20 |
| 8  | Wednesday | 7.30pm         | Film, 'A Streetcat Named Bob', Parish Hall    | 13 |
| 9  | Thursday  | 10am           | Townswomen's Guild AGM, Parish Hall           | 17 |
| 11 | Saturday  | 8pm            | Phil Beer in Concert, GNC                     | 9  |

**WEEK 11**

|    |           |             |  |    |
|----|-----------|-------------|--|----|
| 12 | Sunday    | 2-3.30pm    | 'Whitchurch Voices', Silk Mill                                     | 7  |
| 15 | Wednesday | 10am        | U3A, 'Russia and Europe: What Next?' talk, St Mary's Hall, Overton | 18 |
| 16 | Thursday  | 7.15pm      | Whitchurch WI, 'Treloar's', GNC                                    | 17 |
| 18 | Saturday  | 10am-12noon | Tennis Club Spring Clean   | 12 |
| 18 | Saturday  | 7.30pm      | Jaribio Quiz, All Hallows Church Rooms                             | 11 |

**WEEK 12**

|    |           |            |   |    |
|----|-----------|------------|---|----|
| 22 | Wednesday | 10-11am    | Parish Nurse Drop In, All Hallows Church Rooms  | 11 |
| 22 | Wednesday | 7.30pm     | Film, 'Allied', Parish Hall                     | 13 |
| 23 | Thursday  | 9.30am-6pm | Coach Trip to Uppark House and Petersfield, GNC | 9  |
| 23 | Thursday  | 8pm        | Tennis Club AGM, White Hart                     | 12 |
| 25 | Saturday  |            | OCS Workshop, St Mary's Hall, Overton           | 16 |



**January's weather**

The total rainfall for January 2017 was 114mm (4.48ins), with rain on 11 days, considerably drier than last year when rainfall for the same month was 155 mm (6.1ins). Being January, these are also the figures for the year to date. The maximum temperature was 11C (52F) on 8 January and the minimum temperature was a chilly -7C (20F) on 21 January.

|                     |                                       |  |                             |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Citizens Advice     | Town Hall ground flr                  | Tuesdays 9.30am – 12.30pm  |                             |
| Dentists            | Whitchurch Smiles Ltd<br>893968       | Mondays – Fridays 9am – 1pm; 2 – 5pm<br>Private patients only                    |                             |
|                     | Dental Concepts<br>893517             | Mondays – Fridays 9am – 1pm; 2 – 5pm   |                             |
| Doctors             | 01256<br>212311 /<br>0844 477<br>2547 | Mondays – Fridays 8am – 6.30pm   |                             |
| Library             | 0300 555<br>1387*                     | Mondays 1 – 5pm; Wednesdays 1 – 7pm;<br>Fridays 10am – 5pm; Saturdays 10am – 1pm |                             |
| Neighbourcare       | 892791<br>892140                      | Helen Knight<br>Vivienne Morris  | Mondays – Fridays 8am – 8pm |
| Parish Off.         | 893573                                | parishadmin@ahwhitchurch.org.uk  |                             |
| Post Office         | 892108                                | Mondays to Fridays 9am – 5.30pm<br>Saturdays 9am – 12.30pm                       |                             |
| Station Ticket Off. |                                       | Mondays – Fridays 6.00am – 11.15am   |                             |
| Town Hall           | 892107                                | Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri 9.30 – 11.30am   |                             |

\* Calls handled by Hantsdirect

## THE PARISH OF WHITCHURCH WITH TUFTON AND LITCHFIELD

**Vicar:** The Revd Kelvin Inglis

The Vicarage, Church Street, Whitchurch, Hampshire RG28 7AS

email: kelvin.inglis@tiscali.co.uk. (Fridays: urgent calls only) 01256 892535

Parish Administrator (works Monday mornings)

email: parishadmin@ahwhitchurch.org.uk 01256 893573

At Litchfield The Revd Mark Christian 01256 896888

Churchwardens Lynda Frith 01256 895556

Andrew Cope 01256 892189

Treasurer John Wall 01256 892461

Verger Hilary Gould 01256 893851

### **RECYCLE BIN COLLECTION DATES FOR WHITCHURCH**

*Paper, card, plastic bottles, food and drinks cans and glass recycling*

Friday 10 and 24

*Garden waste*

Wednesday 8 and 22

Source: www.basingstoke.gov.uk