



Summer events

- **Summer Fayre and Cream Tea - 20 July**
Sue Ryder Wokingham Day Hospice is holding this event on 20 July from 11am to 2pm. Cream teas, a plant sale and much more. The hospice is in the grounds of Wokingham Hospital RG41 2RE. Call 0118 9550434 or email abi.hurst@suerydercare.org
- **St James' Church Tower open - 21 July**
On Sunday 21 July the St. James' Church Tower will be open from 2pm to 5pm. This is a once a year opportunity to climb the tower steps and enjoy the awesome views. Please note only those 8 years old or over can climb the tower. Cream teas will be available and a few games and stalls.
- **It's a Flowery Thing - 22 July**
Finchampstead Flower Club will be meeting on 22 July for a demonstration entitled 'It's a Flowery Thing'. All are welcome at the California Ratepayers Hall at 7.30pm for 8pm.
- **Community and Emergency Services Fun Day - 7 August**
This popular event will be held on the playing fields behind the FBC Centre from 10am to 2pm on 7 August.
- **Thames Valley Police Open Day - 10 August**
The annual Thames Valley Police Open Day will take place at the Training Centre in Sulhamstead on 10 August from 10am to 4pm. Different Police Units will be present as well as over 50 exhibitors. There will be displays from the dogs section, opportunities to see the force helicopter, a fancy dress competition, talks and a chance to visit the museum. Entry is free and parking is available on site. Thames Valley Police Training Centre, Sulhamstead, Reading RG7 4DX.
- **The Swallowfield Show - 25 & 26 August**
A Country Show for all ages at Swallowfield Park, Swallowfield RG7 1TH. For more information and to book tickets visit www.swallowfieldshow.co.uk
- **Arborfield Green Summer Fete - 31 August**
The Fete will be at Arborfield Green Community Centre, Sheerlands Road, Arborfield RG2 9ND and runs from 3pm to 9pm. Contact community@arborfieldgreen.co.uk
- **Charity Funday with Boutique Shopping - 1 September**
This event is on Sunday 1 September from 12 noon to 4pm at Warbrook House, Eversley RG27 0PL. There will be over 60 boutiques and lots of entertainment. Entry £2 or free for children. All proceeds will be donated to the Frimley Park Neonatal Unit.

Regular events

- **Friendly Finches**
This Group is for anyone who would like a cup of tea, a chat and to meet local people. The Group meets on the third Thursday of each month from 2.30pm - 4pm at the Finchampstead Memorial Hall and the theme this year is 'Beautiful Flowers of the World'. For further information contact Bev on 0118 9731833 or Kate on 0118 9733144 or call in to the Village Shop / Post Office for a chat.
- **Finchampstead Society Local History Archive**
The Archive is open on the first Thursday of every month from 2 - 4pm at the FBC Centre Library. Find out about the early history of Finchampstead and its people, browse old maps and photographs or research family history. Telephone 0118 9736569 for more information.



Finchampstead Water Network Improvements



The South East Water project to revamp the water network around Finchampstead begins on 24 July. The project involves installing 3 km of water main between the Finchampstead Road and the junction of Nine Mile Ride and Park Lane. You can find the details at <http://corporate.southeastwater.co.uk/finchampstead>

The first phase of work affects Gorse Ride South, Billing Avenue and Finchampstead Road. Finchampstead Road will be closed between its junctions with Barkham Ride and Nine Mile Ride from 24 July to 30 August 2019.

The second phase of work affects Nine Mile Ride which will be closed between its junctions with Gorse Ride South and Park Lane from 1 September 2019 to 17 July 2020.

Diversions will be in place. For more information visit www.wokingham.gov.uk and search for roadworks.

Arborfield Garrison Strategic Development Location (SDL)

The Legal & General Homes Visitor Centre is now open at Finchwood Park, located on Sheerlands Road (just off Reading Road, A327), Finchampstead RG40 4QY. The first homes are expected to be available from September or October 2019.

Main construction works on the Arborfield Cross Relief Road have now started, and work to improve the Barkham Bridge is also underway.

The interactive maps at the following link give a useful overview of how the development is moving forward. www.wokingham.gov.uk/major-developments/arborfield-garrison/

California Country Park improvements

The paddling pool is now open between 10am and 6pm every day for the summer period. The cost to anyone entering the water is £2.50.

The improvements to the car park will be completed very soon, and the outdoor space around the café has been improved with new pergolas to provide an all weather sun shade or rain cover.

Parking charges apply, with all income going towards the maintenance of the Park. You can get a season ticket if you are regular visitor. Visit www.wokingham.gov.uk and search for California Country Park. Remember that you can walk or cycle to the Park on the greenway running between the FBC Centre and Arborfield Green.

Recycling update

A new batch of peat-free re3grow compost made from your recycled garden waste is now available at the recycling centres (Smallmead in Reading or Longshot Lane in Bracknell). It is peat free, certified and made from 90% recycled garden waste. The cost is £3.50 for 40 litres or £10 for 3 bags. Note that payment can only be made by card.

Terracycle is Eliminating the Idea of Waste by recycling the 'non recyclable' such as coffee pods, pens from a school or plastic gloves. Visit www.terracycle.com to find out more.



Sad news

We regret that Roger Long, our former Litter Warden, sadly passed away earlier this month. Roger worked for the Council for 15 years until March 2018, keeping our roadsides clean and tidy, and was a well known character in the Parish.

Consultation on local policing

The Police and Crime Commissioner want to know your views about policing where you live. Please spare a few moments to complete the short survey and tell him what you think is going well and what can be done better. Visit www.matthewbarber.co.uk/haveyoursay

Are you interested in trees?

We are thinking about starting an 'adopt a tree' scheme where residents could volunteer to water existing newly planted trees on streets and in other areas to make sure they stay healthy, and to identify new areas where we could plant trees which residents could help look after. Please let us know if you would be interested in this and / or if you have any other comments. Email clerk@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk

Library news

The **Summer Reading Challenge 2019** is called Space Chase, an out-of-this-world adventure inspired by the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing. Children can sign up to the free challenge at any Library from 1 July to 1 September. Just read six library books and collect a poster and sticker as you go.

There is also a **Teen Reading Challenge** - borrow 6 books across the summer holidays and if you complete the challenge you will be entered in to a prize draw for some fantastic book related prizes.

Activities for adults continue at Finchampstead Library - including book group, free computer workshops, crochet group, social bridge and other sessions.

Family learning activities will be running throughout the summer as well as regular activities such as Rhymetime and Storytime. There are also bookable activities for children including a 'Handwriting Zoo' on 2 August and 'Space Chase with Fred in the Shed' on 9 August.

Contact the Finchampstead Library on 0118 908 8176 for more details.

Why not search our online catalogue from the comfort of your own home to see what's on offer: <http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/libraries>

Don't forget that you can access a selection of eBooks, eAudio and eMagazines with your library card free of charge. There is also a free home library service for the homebound and those with mobility issues, delivering books to your home. Visit www.wokingham.gov.uk/libraries

FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

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Advice from Thames Valley Police

How to prevent your home being hot property this summer

Whether you are staying at home, or going away on holiday, here's a reminder of our top tips to protect your home against burglary this summer:

At Home

- Fit window opening restrictors to all ground floor and other easily accessible windows. This will allow ventilation while restricting access.
- Close and lock all windows and doors, even if just out in the garden.
- Remove window and door keys from the locks, store out of reach and away from your letterbox.
- Keep valuables out of sight, along with any visible signs including charging cables.
- Hide the keys to your vehicle, and if you have a keyless entry, store the fob in a RFID pouch to block the signal.

Going Away

- Lock all windows and doors.
- Check side gates, sheds and garages are locked and tools and ladders are not accessible to break into your home.
- Store all keys out of sight and away from your letterbox, doors and windows.
- Use a RFID pouch to store fobs for keyless entry vehicles.
- Make your home look occupied by using a timer switch to turn on lights at night.
- Ask a trusted friend to look after your home while you are away.
- Invite a neighbour to park their vehicle on your drive while you are away.
- Don't post details about your holiday on social media until you return home.

For more tips to protect your home, download your free Home Security Guide from the Thames Valley Police website here:

<https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/SysSiteAssets/media/downloads/thames-valley/advice/home-security-guide.pdf>

By working together we can build community resilience to deter burglars from targeting homes within the area.

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