



The Finchampstead celebrations for the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II were a great success.

A huge thank you to all those who helped with the organisation of the events - from the Picnic at the Memorial Park to the Beacon lighting at St. James' Church to the many street parties and other events which took place across the Parish.



Celebrating Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in Finchampstead with the work of the talented Barkham Hookers Crochet Group





We were delighted to see so many people at our Annual Gathering for Parishioners on 31 May, particularly as it was such a busy week!

You can view the presentations from the meeting here <https://www.finchampstead-pc.gov.uk/meetings/meeting-minutes>

As well as updates on the activities of the Council and it's Committees over the last year, the event included presentations on the Gorse Ride regeneration and on the draft Finchampstead Neighbourhood Development Plan.

The Parish Council's Platinum Jubilee Awards, recognising those who have made a significant contribution to the Finchampstead community, were presented at the event.

The individual award was presented to Jac Pluves. Little Reds, the Woodfired Pizza Company, received the award for an organisation. Congratulations to both award recipients, and to all of those who were nominated for an award.



A further presentation at the event was the award of the **Freedom of the Parish** to Chris Driver who retired from the Parish Council on 31 May.

Councillor Weeks, Chair of the Parish Council, presented the honorary award in recognition of the outstanding contribution Chris has made to the Parish Council and Finchampstead Parish during her 35 years on the Parish Council.

The Freedom of the Parish is a very special award and has only been presented twice previously.

### **Vacancy on the Parish Council**

We now have a vacancy on the Council. Parish Councils and Councillors make a massive difference to local people's quality of life. They are passionate about their communities and seek to make a change to help improve their residents' lives.

If you are interested in joining our busy and enthusiastic team of Councillors please get in touch with Katy Dagnall, Parish Council Clerk, for an informal chat.

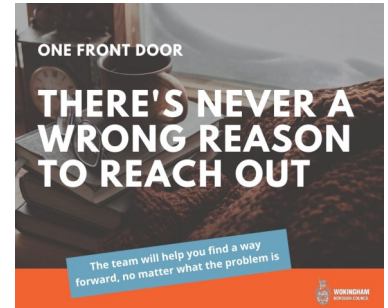
Telephone 118 9088164 or email [clerk@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk)





**One Front Door**, a service led by Citizens Advice Wokingham, can help residents find the support and advice they need on a range of different topics from energy costs to loneliness, mental health to welfare benefits and debt.

Call the team on 0808 278 795 for a confidential chat or use the form on the website [www.citizensadvicewokingham.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvicewokingham.org.uk)



## FBC COMMUNITY DROP-IN

Everyone welcome!



The FBC holds a Community Drop In every Thursday morning between 9am and 12pm in the FBC Café.

**The drop-in is for those who recently moved to the UK and those offering hosting or other support.**

It's a safe and welcoming space for signposting, connection and practical support as well as providing an opportunity to practice conversational English.

**We look forward to welcoming you.**

FBC Centre, Gorse Ride North, Finchampstead RG40 4ES

There is also a **Friendship Table** at the FBC Centre café on Tuesday mornings - anyone is welcome to pop in between 10am and 12 noon for a warm welcome and a friendly chat.



## Living with Covid

**Stay safe and protect yourself** and others by:

- Getting **vaccinated** (Wokingham Library vaccine centre is still open every weekend)
- **Staying home** and avoiding close contact with others if you don't feel well
- Meeting outdoors, or **letting fresh air in** if meeting indoors
- Continuing to **wash your hands** regularly and wear a **face covering** in crowded and enclosed places



Covid-19 infection rates are rising across the UK. Stay safe and protect your self and others.  
<https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/covid-19/covid-19-vaccinations>



## Litter Warden vacancy at the Parish Council

One of our two part time Litter Wardens has left us and we are looking for a replacement. The Litter Wardens collect litter mainly from our roadsides, adding to the litter clearance that the Borough Council undertakes, and helping to keep our Parish even cleaner.

The post involves 15 to 25 hours per month, with the litter picking undertaken at a time to suit the post holder.

If you think you might be interested please get in touch by emailing

[clerk@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk)



Adopt a street

Would you like to keep your street clean and tidy by collecting litter either on a regular or ad-hoc basis.

We will provide litter pickers, hi viz jackets and bags.



As little as half an hour a week could have a significant impact on your neighbourhood.

For more information please contact the **Finchampstead Parish Council**.

Our office is situated in the FBC Centre.

Alternatively email [deputyclerk@finchampstead-pc.co.uk](mailto:deputyclerk@finchampstead-pc.co.uk)

Or call 0118 908 8175



Finchampstead  
Parish Council

## California Country Park paddling pool

The Paddling Pool is now open from 10am to 5.45pm. From Mondays to Fridays up to the 16th July, pool sessions will allow you to stay in the pool from the time you have booked until the pool closes at 5:45pm. At weekends only, 1 hour 45 minute sessions will be in place. From 16th July onwards, 1 hour 45 minute sessions will be in place every day.

The pool will be unmanned on weekdays, manned at weekends up until the 16th July when the pool will be fully staffed every day.

**All sessions need to be booked and paid for online. Visit:**

<https://booking.wokingham.gov.uk/paddling-pool/>







The Parish Council knows that our roadsides are not in great condition and we report lots of issues to the Borough Council, the Highway Authority. You can help by reporting problems too.

## Don't know if you're coming or going?



### Did you know that you can report broken road signs to the Borough Council online?

You can also report missing or dirty signs, and ones obscured by overgrowing vegetation.

By filling out a quick form, your report will go directly to the team responsible for fixing the problem.

You will also receive updates about your report so you can see when it has been fixed.

Add the link below to your favourites, so it's there when you need it.

<https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/report-problems/>

### Citizens Advice Wokingham needs your help

With the cost of living crisis rising - CA helped 24% more people this May than in May 2021.

Since 1977 we've been here for people in our communities, across Wokingham Borough, to help find a way forward with their issues.

Throughout the pandemic, right from the beginning, we stepped up our work to support the huge increase in people who needed help. Last year we helped 126% more people than in 2018, and we helped people find debt solutions at a 538% increase in debt amount.

We have 59 active volunteers in our team, providing a variety of support from providing advice and information to admin support.

Due to the increasing number of people we're helping, we're in need of more volunteers to join our team. You will receive full support and training. To find out more and register your interest visit:

[www.citizensadvicewokingham.org.uk/volunteer](http://www.citizensadvicewokingham.org.uk/volunteer) or email [admin@cawokingham.org.uk](mailto:admin@cawokingham.org.uk)

## Become a volunteer adviser in 2022

Full training and support is available throughout your time volunteering with us.

No experience is necessary to join - we're looking for people who are keen to help and support others and a willingness to learn and develop.

To talk this through more with us please visit the website below or email [admin@cawokingham.org.uk](mailto:admin@cawokingham.org.uk)

**citizens advice Wokingham**

[citizensadvicewokingham.org.uk/volunteer](http://citizensadvicewokingham.org.uk/volunteer)



The Wokingham Volunteer Centre holds details of many volunteering opportunities throughout the Borough with a wide range of local organisations that support our local community. Visit the Volunteer Recruitment Fair to find the perfect role for you!

**Volunteer  
Recruitment  
Fair**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July**  
**11am- 2pm**

**Charity & Community hub, Waterford  
House, Erfstadt Court, Denmark Street,  
Wokingham RG40 2YF**

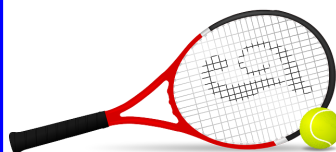
Meet with local charities and find the perfect role for  
you!



  
Wokingham Volunteer  
Centre

Tel: 0118 977 0749  
Email: [volunteer@wok-vol.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@wok-vol.org.uk)  
[www.wokinghamvolunteercentre.org.uk](http://www.wokinghamvolunteercentre.org.uk)  
[www.volunteerwokinghamborough.org.uk](http://www.volunteerwokinghamborough.org.uk)

### **Tennis at the Memorial Park**



There are two outdoor tarmac courts at the Memorial Park which are open from 7.30am to 9.30pm in summer and daylight hours for the rest of the year.

A court costs £5 to book for 1 hour for up to 4 people to play.

Access is via a keypad on the gate to the courts. The booker is sent the code when payment is received.

Courts can be booked by scanning the app or by logging on to <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/finchampsteadpark>

**COURT BOOKINGS  
& Payment ONLINE**



SCAN ME

**Scan the App to book**

For assistance call 07701 701199 or 07887 637789  
Finchampstead Park Management Committee





## **National Meadows Day - 2 July**



National Meadows Day is an annual event which takes place on the first Saturday of July each year to celebrate our meadows and to raise awareness of this vanishing habitat.

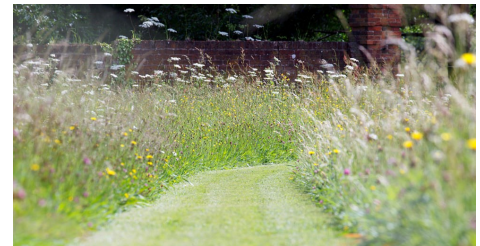
Our borough boasts many magnificent meadows, nature parks and country parks. For example, Charvil Country Park and Charvil Meadows are both designated as Local Wildlife Sites by the Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre.

<https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/countryside-parks-and-conservation/country-parks/new-parks/>

Let's have fun in our countryside at its midsummer best.

For more on National Meadows Day, visit

<https://meadows.plantlife.org.uk/national-meadows-day/>



## **FREE activities for all the family! Heath Week 2022 – Monday 25th to Sunday 31st July 2022 – with the Thames Basin Heaths Partnership**



Kick off the school holidays with a local adventure!

Accept an invitation to join us for Heath Week 2022 and we'll take you on a heathland adventure to discover a local landscape that's rarer than rainforest! There'll be nature walks, fire engines to clamber into, arts & crafts, scavenger hunts, our popular Reptile & Amphibian Roadshows and much more.

### **What's it all about?**

Not far from where you live is a precious heather-clad landscape! Perhaps you already know it, but didn't realise how rare it is? In the last 200 years, we've lost around 84% of the heathland we once had and the remaining fragments are super-special. We'd love you to discover it for yourself, so we're putting on a whole week of free events to celebrate our heaths, their wildlife and their cultural history.

To whet your appetite, there are amazing nocturnal birds that come all the way from Africa to breed here, rare butterflies you won't see elsewhere, native lizards & snakes, and so much more. Heathland is wonderful and precious and we all need to play our part in protecting it. Join us for a free activity and discover how.

Find the full line-up of activities and booking details for bookable events at:

[www.tbhpartnership.org.uk/heath-week/](http://www.tbhpartnership.org.uk/heath-week/)



*A Smooth Snake*



## The Finchampstead Society

The Society was formed in 1974 with the aim of benefiting the people living or working in the Parish of Finchampstead.

Our Aims are:

- Supporting residents' interests
- Opposing undesirable development
- Preserving our past
- Securing our future
- Promoting social events to bring our residents together

The Society consults with the Parish Council and Wokingham Borough Council on planning applications relating to Finchampstead and takes a keen interest in all events that affect Parish life.

We are a very friendly and welcoming group and look to bring residents together to enjoy a wide range of social activities including:

- Organised Walks
- Talks
- Quiz Nights
- A Christmas Event
- Dinners and Barn Dances etc.

The Society also has and maintains a very extensive archive on the history of Finchampstead.

If you would like to know more about the Society, you can find more information at [www.finchampsteadsociety.org](http://www.finchampsteadsociety.org) or by contacting the Secretary by email at: [membership@finchampsteadsociety.org](mailto:membership@finchampsteadsociety.org)

*You will be very welcome!*





## Some of our recent activities

Here are just a few of the things we have been up to over the last month or so. We:

- Held our Annual Meeting on 25 May and agreed Councillor roles and responsibilities for the coming year.
- Held our Annual Gathering for Parishioners on 31 May. Around 80 people were present.
- Held a Main Council meeting and meetings of the Amenities, Planning and Roads & Road Safety Committees. <https://www.finchampstead-pc.gov.uk/meetings/meeting-minutes>
- Attended meetings of the Gorse Ride Steering Group (Cllr Steve Bowers chairs the Group), the Finchampstead Allotment Association Committee (the Clerk attends) and the Finchampstead Park Management Committee (Cllr Simon Weeks is our representative).
- Saw Cllr Roland Cundy elected as Chair of the Berkshire Association of Local Councils.
- Approved our Annual Governance Statement and Accounting Statements and submitted our Annual Governance and Accountability Return to the External Auditor, PKF Littlejohn. You can see the information here <https://www.finchampstead-pc.gov.uk/finance/audit>
- Had a stall at the Finchampstead Village fete on 18 June.
- Organised a first aid / defibrillator training session for 20 October (let us know if you would like to attend).
- Updated our Road Safety Information leaflet.
- Received 15 allotment applications.
- Completed our Annual Report for 2021/22.
- Received two grant applications



The Finchampstead Future Group, made up of Parish Councillors and local volunteers, is currently preparing the final draft of the **Finchampstead Neighbourhood Development Plan**. This will be submitted to the Borough Council for the official Regulation 15 review in due course.



*Staff are now working in our office at the FBC Centre on certain days, while continuing to work from home on other days. If you would like to see a member of staff please get in touch to ensure we will be in the office when you wish to visit.*

## **FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**

PARISH OFFICE, FBC CENTRE, GORSE RIDE NORTH, FINCHAMPSTEAD RG40 4ES  
Tel: 0118 908 8164 email: [clerk@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk) [www.finchampstead-pc.gov.uk](http://www.finchampstead-pc.gov.uk)



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