



Swallowfield Parish

Newsletter

Summer 2024

An Update on the Croudace Homes Application and Appeal

Most residents of Swallowfield Parish, and certainly those of Swallowfield Village, are painfully aware of the threat to our community from the application by Croudace Homes to build 81 houses on the land west of Trowes Lane and north of Charlton Lane, commonly known as the 'mint' field. If allowed, this application could open the floodgates to further development on other land not currently allocated in the local plan for housing development by WBC. Around twelve such plots of land between Swallowfield and Riseley have been offered up by landowners as being available for potential development in response to a call for sites by WBC. Such unplanned development without associated local infrastructure would irreversibly damage the character of our

villages, our green spaces and our lifestyle.

In January, the Croudace Homes planning application was refused by WBC's Planning Committee on the grounds (inter alia) of 'unsustainability'. In late March, Croudace Homes lodged an appeal with the Planning Inspectorate against WBC's decision.

WBC has confirmed that to support its defence against this appeal, it has instructed a barrister, Matt Lewin, to act on its behalf. Last year this barrister successfully acted on its behalf in a similar appeal against WBC's refusal of an application for a development of 200 homes in Hurst, which was dismissed by the Inspector. On the current appeal, WBC has also appointed a planning consultant familiar with WBC

planning policies and a landscape witness to assist in the preparation and presentation of its case.

The Parish Council initially applied to the Planning Inspectorate for Rule 6 status which would have accorded it equal standing to the other main parties (appellant and WBC). However, further dialogue with the Inspectorate and others established that it would not be possible to meet the criteria and deadlines for documenting and presenting its own case.

A highly motivated group of Swallowfield residents, the Swallowfield Community Action Group (SCAG), concluded that the priority was to gather vital, verifiable evidence of the unsustainability of further large-scale development in our village.

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Bins and waste on parish land

Let me say right up front that I understand that our open spaces are used by people from outside our villages, and also that most users are considerate, and we all appreciate your efforts to keep our open areas clean, tidy and attractive. In this article I can only address the audience of this parish newsletter.

Residents are rightly concerned about litter and waste (including dog waste) in the parish. The Parish Council provides and/or services 24 waste bins on parish land. These bins are well used, and in some cases misused. Bins are provided in:

Farley Hill King George V Playing Field (these bins are actually owned by Wokingham BC, but our Parish Warden empties them).

Foxes Run, Swallowfield

Nutbean Lane burial ground (serviced)

Riseley Recreation Ground

Riseley Village Green (serviced)
Swallowfield Meadow

Swallowfield Recreation Ground and Parish Hall grounds

Most of the bins are unlidded (and unfortunately suitable lids are not available for them). This means anything in them gets wet, slimy, and horrible if it rains.

There are three lidded bins designated for dog waste (one on Swallowfield Rec, one on Swallowfield Meadow and one on Riseley Rec) and we have recently replaced these with new bright red bins which are 50% larger, but, with the increase in dog ownership over

the last few years, most of the other bins are also now used for dog waste as well (which is acceptable but not preferred).

The designated dog waste bins and the bin on Foxes Run are emptied fortnightly by a contractor, at a cost of approx. £900 a year. Other bins are emptied by our Parish Warden. So, the cost of emptying these bins runs to several thousand pounds a year. As you can imagine it is a messy and unpleasant job.

All these bins are intended for incidental waste, not for household waste. As such people should not bring waste to the bins from elsewhere. Recent examples have been: carrier bags full of used dog poo bags; carrier bags of cat litter; carrier bags of bottles and cans; a jar of pickled beetroot! We ask you to only use the bins for their intended purpose.

If the bin is full, please let us know (clerk@swallowfieldpc.gov.uk), and if possible don't add to it.

Note that dog waste can be disposed of in your normal bins at home, and this will still be the case with WBC's revised waste policy to be introduced this summer.

Many thanks for your consideration and support.

Cllr Simon Taylor



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Welcome

Welcome to the summer edition of the Parish Newsletter. The Annual Parish Council Meeting in May is the time when the council elects its Chair, Vice Chair and the Chair of its Planning Committee for the coming year. I was pleased to be re-elected as Chair. I will be known to many having been a resident of Swallowfield for over 30 years and a Swallowfield Parish Councillor since 2010. I now have the dubious privilege of being the second longest serving Parish Councillor, second only to Margaret McDonald.

It is with regret that Ian Fullerton resigned from the council in April. Ian was our Chair of Planning and championed our speed watch initiative. His commitment and enthusiasm will be greatly missed. Simon Taylor is our newly elected Chair of Planning. Following Ian's resignation, a councillor vacancy exists and as there hasn't been a call for an election this can now be filled by co-option. The council hopes to co-opt at its June meeting.

The council has elected Paul Shultz to be Vice Chair. The Vice Chair stands in for the Chair when he is unavailable.

The parish caretaker, Derek Norris, has announced his intention to retire and the recruitment of his successor has commenced.

Another significant change relates to our Borough Council representation. Swallowfield is now part of a larger ward – Spencers Wood and Swallowfield. The ward includes the western half of Shinfield Parish and extends from Spencers Wood up into Three Mile Cross and Grazeley. The new ward is represented by three ward councillors – Cllr Stuart Munro who formerly represented our ward, Cllr Dave Edmonds and Cllr Catherine Glover. I have invited our newly elected councillors to the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) on 19th June so that they can introduce themselves to residents. All three live in the former Swallowfield ward.

The APM is on a later date than usual because of the Local Council elections. It is not a formal council meeting but rather an opportunity to report to residents on work undertaken during the year, to present and discuss topics of interest and be a forum to talk with residents informally over drinks and refreshments.

This year we have just one main topic – the planning appeal lodged by Croudace Homes against WBC's refusal of their planning application for 81 homes on land west of Trowes Lane and north of Charlton Lane. The Parish Council objected strongly to this application and was delighted at the decision by WBC's Planning Committee to refuse the application. If this application is allowed to go ahead on appeal, there is little doubt that it will open the floodgates to many other opportunistic applications on agricultural land in the parish.

Looking ahead, here are some events to go into your diary: the Church Fete 8th June; Annual Parish Meeting 19th June; Farley Hall Horse Trials 21st – 23rd June; and the Swallowfield Show 25th – 26th August.

After the wet and unsettled weather this spring, I hope we can all look forward to a warm and pleasant summer.

**Cllr John Anderson
Chairman**

john.anderson@swallowfieldpc.gov.uk



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Accordingly, the Parish Council has opted to support the SCAG as "Interested Parties" which will (at the discretion of the Inspector) be able to speak at the inquiry. There are limited opportunities to speak and be cross-examined at the inquiry so this should be coordinated with the Parish Council and the group to ensure this is managed to best effect.

The SCAG has been working to defend our parish from inappropriate development ever since the draft "Local Plan Update" was announced in 2022. Thanks to their prompting, over 400 consultation responses of opposition were submitted to WBC following

the initial planning application and some 300 parishioners highlighted the strength of local opposition by attending the Planning Committee meeting in January. Following the lodging of the appeal, additional responses have been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.

The appeal will be heard at Shute End, Wokingham, starting at 10am on Wednesday 26th June and lasting 5 days. Residents opposed to the development should make every effort to attend the appeal hearing on the opening day and thereafter if possible.

Through a further leaflet drop, the SCAG has encouraged residents to attend at least one session of the

appeal hearing. In addition, all the households in Swallowfield Village were asked to respond to a survey aimed at providing irrefutable evidence of the sustainability challenges we all face. Thank you to everyone who completed the survey.

The Parish Council has assisted this initiative through provision of technical support and council resources, and by facilitating contact with key personnel at WBC.

A further update will be provided at the Annual Parish Meeting on 19th June. Please come along to show your concern and learn how you can continue to support Swallowfield at the appeal hearing.

Rubbish & Recycling

Wokingham Borough Council currently recycle 55% of our household waste (up from 34% in 2016) but need to do better to meet the Governments expectations and its own climate emergency goals.

62% of the average blue bag were recyclable materials. If everyone recycled all they could the recycling rate would be 70%.

The next page shows how you can achieve this.

CHANGES MID AUG 2024

Your collection day won't change but general waste will be collected one week and recycling the next.

Black Bins will be delivered over the next few weeks, it will hold 180 litres (two full blue bags' worth of rubbish). Only one bin will be emptied

Do not use them until mid-august, a calendar showing which of your collections fall in each week will be delivered to each household before then.

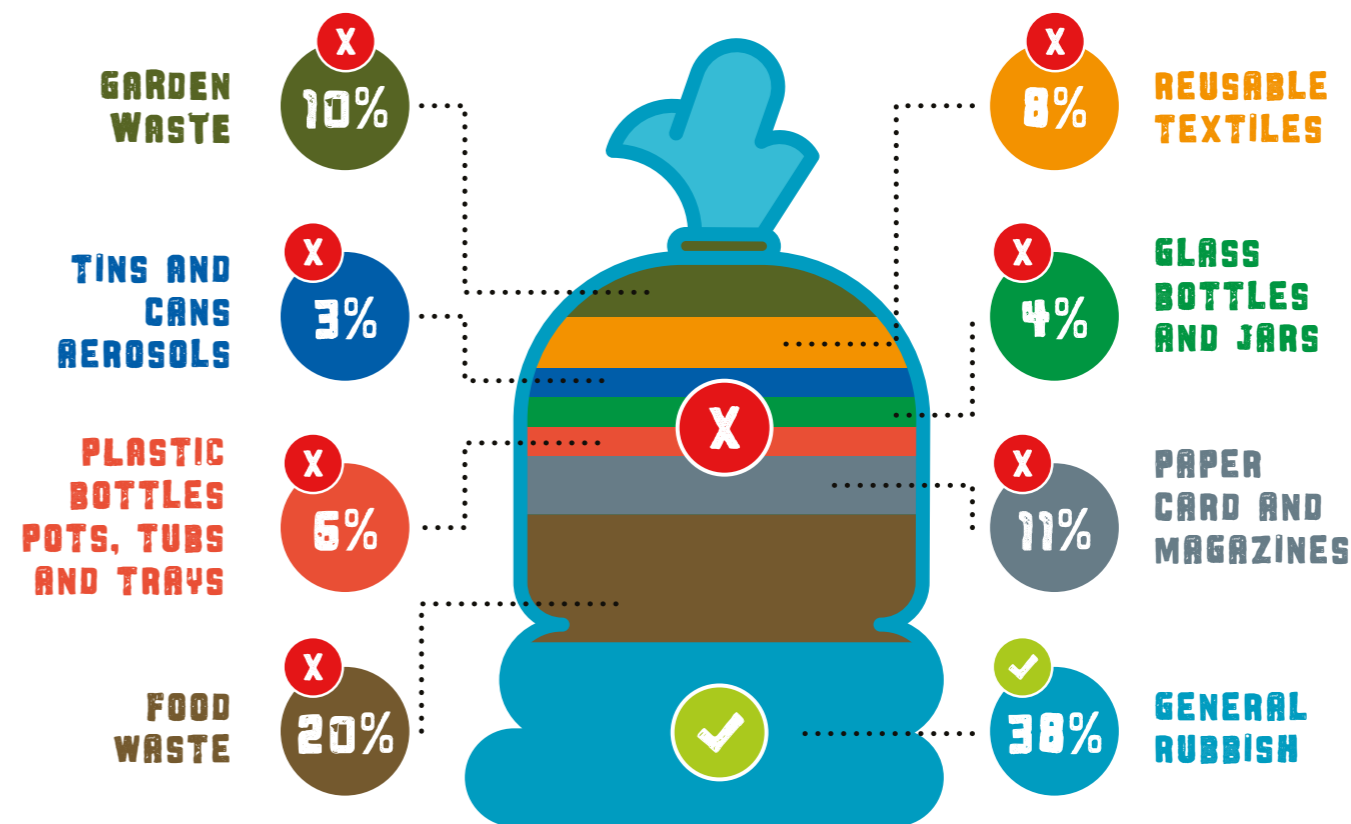


Example collection schedule (from August 2024)

Container (contents)	Week 1*	Week 2*	Week 3*	Week 4*
Black wheeled bin (General Waste)	Collected	Not collected	Collected	Not collected
Green bag(s) (Recycling)	Not collected	Collected	Not collected	Collected
Food bin (Food Waste)	Collected	Collected	Collected	Collected
Brown wheeled bin Sacks (Garden Waste)	Collected	Not collected	Collected	Not collected

*NB: Your collections maybe the reverse of the example above, i.e. General & Food waste collected Weeks 2 & 4 and Recycling & Food waste collected 1 & 3. The leaflet you receive will explain.

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF BLUE BAGS



WHERE SHOULD IT HAVE GONE INSTEAD?

Garden waste	Brown wheeled bins or approved paper sacks (chargeable)	Subscribe or purchase at WBC or take to your local recycling centre**
Paper and card		
Tins, cans & aerosols	Green recycling bags (unlimited)	Pick up more at the Parish Office
Plastic bottles, posts, tubs & trays		
Foodwaste	Food bins (unlimited)	Pick up more at the Parish Office
General waste	Black bin	Equivalent 2 full blue bags
Bulky items	£66 For up to 5 items (Could be shared with a neighbour)	Contact WBC***

LOCAL COLLECTION POINTS OR RE3 RECYLING CENTRES**

Glass Bottles & Jars	Bottle Bank	Car Parks at Swallowfield Parish Hall & Riseley Memorial Hall
Reusable Textiles	Clothes Bank	
Soft Plastics	Many Supermarkets	Co-op (Shinfield & Arborfield) Morrisons (Reading & Woosehill)

*Book a slot at the re3 Recycling Centres in Reading & Bracknell – bookings.bookinglab.co.uk/re3/services
 **www.wokingham.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/large-items-we-can-collect

Local clubs and groups



SWALLOWFIELD ART GROUP

Over the last few months we have painted a variety of subjects, some in watercolour and some in acrylic. Each subject is chosen to either introduce us to new skills or to practise the techniques we already know.

We painted a cityscape in acrylics and a rainy street scene in watercolours. The styles of the paintings were quite different but, in both, we needed to depict buildings and reflections. Different media sometimes have opposing qualities that require additional skills, or the subject may demand a very different treatment. As an example, painting a portrait of a child requires much more emphasis on light and subtle tonal values because, compared to an adult face with its lines, wrinkles and shadows, there is a lot less detail to help create a likeness.

As amateur artists, working in class gives the opportunity to improve our range of techniques and step outside our comfort zones. Through new experiences, we find out what media we enjoy working in, what papers we prefer (it's truly amazing the difference that the quality of paper makes), what styles we are good at and what subjects we enjoy.

If you are a beginner or have some experience and maybe interested in joining us, we meet at Swallowfield Parish Hall on Mondays from 2pm to 4pm (during term times). A warm welcome awaits.

Patricia Taylor



Contact: Jenny Boddington
t: 0118 988 5804



SWALLOWFIELD PARISH ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

The weather is finally starting to pick up and it is full steam ahead down at the Calico Field. Our tender plants are looking green and healthy, and we have had two very successful working parties in the last couple of months to trim the hedges and verges, spread wood chip and tidy the raised beds, followed by well-deserved tea and cake. We had a productive evening building a fence around our new pond and are looking forward to seeing the biodiversity it attracts.

Our big news is that for the first time this year we will have opened the allotments on 2nd June in support of the National Garden Scheme. At the time of writing, this is only a week away and we have all been working hard at our plots to make sure they are shipshape for our visitors. I'm sure it will be an inspiring day.

Looking ahead, we are planning a Harvest Festival on 21st September

to showcase the bounty we are growing and to raise essential funds to keep the site in order, so please do come and visit us then.

June will signal the end of Spring and the beginning of Summer, and as the month progresses, our plants are enjoying a steadily increasing amount of sunlight. There are some top tasks to be getting on with at this time of year:

- Harvest new season early potatoes, peas, broad beans and summer salads.
- Sow seeds for vegetables, salads and herbs to be picked later in the summer and autumn.
- Seedlings can be planted out with confidence now the risk of frost has passed.
- Peas, brassicas and fruit bushes may need to be netted to protect them against hungry birds.
- Weeding will need to be done regularly, along with watering

to give young plants a good chance to thrive.

- Keep an eye out for slugs, snails, blackly, cabbage white caterpillars and other harmful insects.
- Marigolds, nasturtiums, and sunflowers are cheerful companions to your vegetable plot, and will help to attract pollinators.

If you would like to know more about the allotments, take a look at our website or contact the SPAA

Happy gardening!

Jane Scuffell, Plotholder



Contact: Linda Bradley, SPAA Secretary
e: secretary@swallowfieldpaa.org **w:** www.swallowfieldallotment.org



SWALLOWFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Planning is now in full swing for the 2024 Swallowfield Show which is taking place on Sunday 25th and Monday 26th August in Swallowfield Park.

Our two-day community event is run by volunteer members and supporters of the Society with two main aims in mind – to provide quality entertainment for all the family and to raise funds for selected local charities.

Our horticultural competition is now a traditional and very popular feature of the Show, where visitors get to admire all the vegetables, fruit, flowers and pot plants competing against each other. There's also a wide variety of homemade produce from the cookery competition, as well as displays of the art, crafts and photography competition entries to enjoy.

Competition Entries: We have over 250 competition classes available to enter this year, including several for children of all ages and abilities. It doesn't cost anything to take part so why not have a go?

A full Schedule of competition classes are on the website: www.swallowfieldshow.co.uk

Contact: Graham Stanley **e:** chairman@swallowfieldshow.co.uk
w: www.swallowfieldshow.co.uk
Become a member: secretary@swallowfieldshow.co.uk

The website also provides details of all the entertainment and activities we've got lined up for this year's show for which we are pleased to announce that the "Vander Wheel of Death", a mesmerising aerial stunt team who performed at the Queen's Diamond Jubilee will be a main attraction. We also have the hugely popular and entertaining dog display team "Paws for Thought", back by popular demand.

With hundreds of trade, craft and artisan food stalls to browse, over 150 classic vehicles and machinery on display, the popular horse and dog shows (you can enter or just watch), plus a host of live music acts and performers to enjoy, we do hope that you'll join us for this year's Show!

Photos courtesy of Tim Pritchard at Siren Craft Brew

SAVE THE DATE Swallowfield Show 2024

25th & 26th August Bank Holiday
Sunday & Monday

If you are interested in getting involved with this unique community event, please contact us.

SWALLOWFIELD FETE

Saturday, 8th June 2pm to 5pm

SEE YOU ON SATURDAY!

I hope you are reading this in time for a final reminder of the Swallowfield church Fete this Saturday, 8th June. It's always the second Saturday in June, so it's as early as it can be this year.

We have been planning it for months, aiming to give you a good community event and to raise some much-needed funds at the same time. I am very grateful to a few extra volunteers who really have made a big difference – thank you!

The Yateley Morris Men are back; Micka will work his magic with the kids games again – of course with one's face well painted! We tried to ring the changes on sideshows so come along to see this year's offerings. Relax with our traditional afternoon teas, now supplemented by Pimms, beer and lager; or, glass in hand, you can relive the old days in our classic cars display, most are locally owned and are truly impressive. (Join us at the Swallowfield Show in August, where there will be over 100 classic cars).

When you've bought Your Davey's Bread, David's local honey, and ice cream courtesy of Swallowfield Stores, you can continue to peruse the stalls which include Bric à Brac, Gifts, Toys, Plants (always popular), Health & Beauty products and Glass Art.



SWALLOWFIELD BADMINTON CLUB



Social badminton is a great way to keep fit through low impact exercise and a great way to make new friends. We are a friendly group and attract members from the villages of Swallowfield, Riseley, Farley Hill, Spencers Wood and Shinfield. We are also a non-league club (so no pressure), and our playing standards are quite varied. Whatever level you are or aspire to be, you will find us a friendly and accommodating group. Our season runs from September to the end of July, so why not come along to a free 'taster' evening! We hope to see you soon.

We are three separate groups who meet at the Swallowfield Parish Hall. These are as follows:

MONDAY NIGHT

Mondays from 8pm to 10pm

Contact: Daphne **t:** 07745 180108
e: daphne_seamark@hotmail.com

THURSDAY NIGHT

Thursdays from 8pm to 10pm

Contact: Malcolm **t:** 0118 988 2736

SOCIAL BADMINTON, ALL WELCOME

Thursdays from 2pm to 4pm (except August)

Contact: Val Payne **t:** 0118 988 3594
e: valg.payne@btinternet.com

RISELEY TENNIS CLUB

Well, we have bounced into spring with our new subscription year which started in April – We have had lots of new people joining and taking advantage of our adult, junior and family memberships.

Special Offer: Adult trial membership – Only £20 per month – Refer to the membership section of our website.

We have lots of social events coming up this year, where we look forward to seeing you all, so please keep a constant watch on our website for details.

Michael, our head coach is once again organising summer camps for the children, please see the website.

Debbie and Karen run a “cafe at the club” on Saturday mornings from 9.30am to 11.30am, please feel free to pop in, even if you’re not a member of the club – They sell delicious bacon butties and amazing cakes.

Finally, don’t forget our Thursday night social tennis where everyone is very welcome to come along and join in. It’s a great way to experience the tennis aspect of our club. Especially if you are thinking of joining us.

We look forward to seeing you on court.

Thanks Sandy Wyles



Contact:

w: clubspark.lta.org.uk/RiseleyTennisClub **f:** www.facebook.com/groups/riseleytennis



SWALLOWFIELD VELO CLUB

The hour change has happened, and the SVC is pleased to announce its summer schedule. With longer summer days we move to the earlier start time of 8am to allow for some slightly longer rides and still be home for lunch. So, if you haven’t been out for a while why not dust

down the bike, pull on the Lycra and join us.

Our rides normally depart from School Green, Shinfield every Sunday. Summer rides are typically 50 to 70 miles, with a coffee stop in the middle. We run in 3 social

groups based on your preferred speed and distance.

Ride details can be found on “Ride With GPS” and are published weekly on our Facebook page.

June	July	August	September
2nd June–Coombe Gibbet	7th July–Benson	4th August–Watlington	1st September–Windsor
16th June–Velolife	14th July–Greenham	11th August–Saddleback	
23rd June–Andover	21st July–Cliveden	18th August–New Alresford	
30th June–Bucklebury	28th July–Farnham	25th August–Stegosaurus	



Contact: Paul Schulz

e: paul.schulz@mail.com **w:** www.swallowfieldvelo.club

f: www.facebook.com/groups/svcmembers



SWALLOWFIELD SEATED EXERCISE CLASS EVERY THURSDAY



MUSICAL MOVEMENT

- All abilities, dementia and wheelchair friendly
- 11am – 12:15pm with tea, biscuits and time for a chat
- Just turn up!
- Alternatively call Coral on 07765 681797

A voluntary donation of £3 would be nice but not essential as this is subsidised.

(The Riseley, Swallowfield & Farley Hill Charitable Trust and Swallowfield Parish Council).

SWALLOWFIELD WALKING GROUP EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY

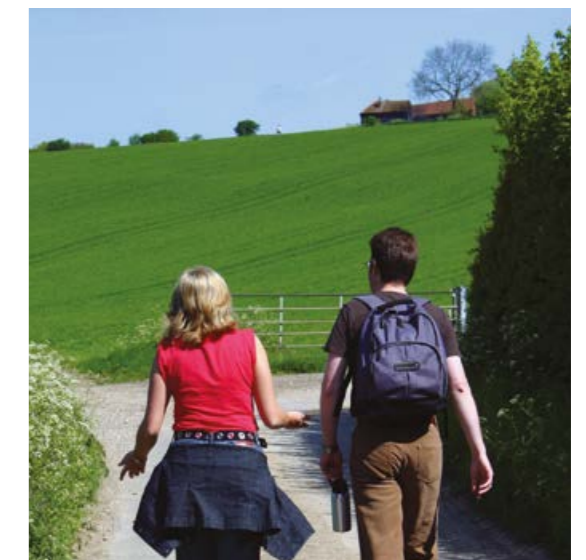
Meeting at 10.30am

So simple, very powerful and scientifically proven to transform your health, body and mind.

Mixed groups of locals, very welcoming!

- New group, come and join us!
- A typical walk will be around 3 miles
- Optional tea / coffee at the parish hall afterwards.
- Meeting Point: Normally Swallowfield Parish Hall

If you would like to join us, we will add you to the WhatsApp group – text Sarah Firth 07973307721



FUTURE DATES

June: 19th
 July: 3rd and 17th and 31st
 Aug: 14th and 28th
 Sept: 11th and 25th



LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

We have had two meetings so far this year with two different but fascinating talks.

Thursday 18th April 2024.

A HISTORY OF HUNTLEY & PALMERS

Presented by Anne Garrison
(Museum of English Rural Life (MERL))

The company was formed by Joseph Huntley in 1822. It became one of the world's first global brands (chiefly led by George Palmer who joined in 1841). It was at one time the world's largest biscuit factory, making over 200 different types of biscuit which were sold in elaborately decorated biscuit tins. By 1900, the company's products were sold in 172 different countries and their global reach saw advertising posters featuring scenes from around the world. Over the years, the company was also known as "J. Huntley & Son" and "Huntley & Palmer". Biscuit production in Reading ceased in 1976.

Since 2008, the Huntley and Palmers name has been owned by the Freeman family, with three generations in the biscuit business. Their aim is to bring the name of Huntley and Palmers back into the mainstream, with a range of products targeting different market sectors, and including, once again, biscuit tins.

The talk was well received by an appreciative audience; several questions were asked and expertly answered by Anne.

Contact: Mike Round
e: slhscoc@yahoo.co.uk **w:** www.slhsoc.org.uk



Thursday 16th May 2024.

GRAFFITI FOUND IN BERKSHIRE CHURCHES

Presented by James Peddle

James introduced us to the fascinating story of what and why graffiti can be found in our churches. It was a fascinating insight into the people who left the graffiti and their motivation, this is now seen as a comment and reflection on what was happening in their lives at the time. James is member of a Project team "Berkshire Medieval Graffiti Survey" commissioned by the Berkshire Archaeological Society. This will create opportunities for church communities and residents to learn more about graffiti in general and more specifically, the graffiti in their local church. It is hoped that documenting the location, types and interpretation of the graffiti will stimulate a new area of interest in the churches. It is also anticipated that this new knowledge and interest will build a lasting appreciation of the existence, and preservation of the graffiti, and contribute to and extend the interest in the local history of the villages, through the discovery of names, dates, initials and pictures (amongst other things).

FUTURE DATES

- Every third Thursday in the month – Rose Room, Parish Hall, Swallowfield @ 7.30 pm
- If you would like to be added to our mailing list and receive information about the Society, please contact: Maggie Uttley on 0118 988 2954 or by email: kcuttley@aol.com
- Alternatively, simply come along to our meetings you will be most welcome.



RUSSELL PLAYERS

DEATH BY DETECTIVE

by David Pemberton.

Russell Players once again hosted an entertaining evening consisting of a tasty light supper and a play that captivated the audience's attention across three nights. 'Death by Detective (Corpsed by a Copper)' by David Pemberton was directed by Mitch Mitchell and demonstrated the talents of the Russell Players' actors and backstage crew.

Clever casting enabled the characters of the play to shine to the best of their ability. Harriet Brush (Sheila Partington), a Doctor of Psychology helped narrate the story together with Donald Bucket (Trish Harris), a detective who would give Sherlock Holmes a run for his money. Alongside these characters, you had Helen Stoner (Lisa Johnston), a young woman in distress who expertly retold the story leading up to her sister's murder involving seamless costume and scene changes. Hawkins, a newspaper seller, and Bob, a handyman, (Henry Finney) were characters that commanded the stage with their strong accents, stage presence and kept the play moving. Mrs. Dobson and Julia Stoner were both characterised well by Louisa Nozay, especially when Julia met her death and Mrs. Dobson suffered from a fir tree allergy. Dr Grimsby Deadwood was skilfully portrayed by Glyn Marshall who adopted a convincing intimidating persona. His untimely death was celebrated (albeit quietly) by all.

The hard work that had been put into producing this play was evident. The costumes were a delight, the lighting and sound operation and scene changes were excellent throughout. Well done to all involved and to Mitch Mitchell for directing an enjoyable play.

Sarah M

Further details will follow on our website and our Facebook page.



Contact: Juliet Devon if you would like to join the Russell Players
e: russellplayers@gmail.com **w:** www.russellplayers.co.uk



NEXT PRODUCTION OCTOBER:

October 19th
October 20th
October 23rd





SWALLOWFIELD PITT BRIDGE LODGE

When our Lodge was established in 2019, we felt that there was a need to bring Masonry back to its roots. All of the early Lodges started life in inns and taverns and were very much part of the fabric of local communities. Fortunately, we have an excellent local venue, The Mill

House Hotel, on our doorstep so we were able to do just that.

We have exceeded our wildest expectations, and our membership continues to grow. We support local ventures and at our last meeting it was proposed that we donate to well known and very worthy local community group. This will be voted on at our next meeting. But the most important thing is that we give great pleasure and fulfilment to our members, enabling them to face the pressures of modern living with renewed vigour and enthusiasm.

What a great and glorious undertaking.

The Lodge meets four times a year in the Marquee at the Mill House Hotel, Basingstoke Road, Swallowfield. Meetings are on the first Monday in February (Installation), September and November, and the second Monday in May. If you are interested in being initiated into the Fraternity, or you are a local Mason who would like to join us, please contact Tim Double for further information. We offer a fascinating experience in our excellent local venue with warm fellowship and good food.

Contact: Tim Double, Secretary
e: timpac5261@live.co.uk **t:** 07703 254 350
w: berkspgl.org.uk/craft-lodges/19970

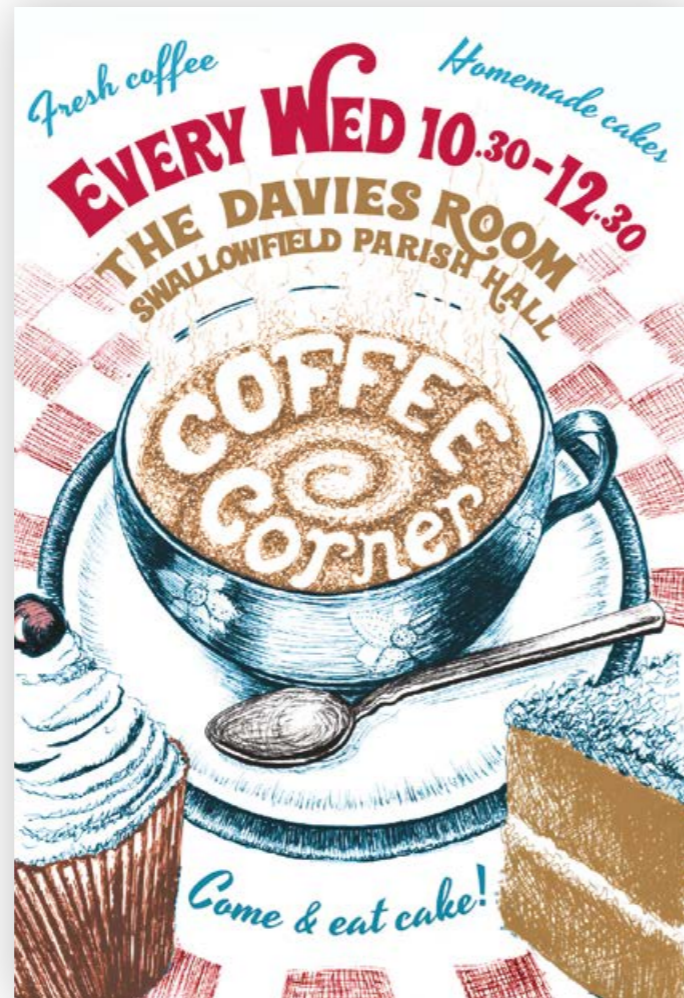
FARLEY SINGERS

A concert of music by Charles Villiers Stanford and his pupils

All Saints Church Swallowfield
Sunday 21 July 2024 at 7pm
Admission free

Retiring collection on behalf of the Motor Neurone Disease Association and All Saints Swallowfield

Refreshments (wine and nibbles) will be served in the interval



Your Local Borough Councillor Update

Members of Wokingham Borough Council representing the ward of Spencers Wood and Swallowfield.



Dave Edmonds
dave.edmonds@wokingham.gov.uk

Thank you to everyone who supported me in the recent election. I will do everything in my power to make sure this ward and our Community get the best possible deal from the Council for all our families.

Some of you will know, I am the Managing Director of a local accountancy firm based in the ward, helping local people and businesses thrive.

I have recently been appointed Shadow Executive Lead Member for Finance so I look forward to scrutinising how your hard earned money is spent and if there is any waste or inefficiencies I can promise you I will be holding the Council to account.

If you need my help please do not hesitate to contact me, that is what I am here for.



Catherine Glover
catherine.glover@wokingham.gov.uk

Thank you to everyone who voted in the recent Borough elections, whoever you voted for, it's important to participate in the democratic process.

Having lived in Spencers Wood for over 12 years it was my pleasure to serve as the Borough Councillor for Shinfield South from 2023 to 2024.

Since the elections, I have been appointed Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Management Committee, Chair of Climate Emergency O&S, and will serve on the Children's Services O&S and the Corporate Parenting Board.

Both Swallowfield and Shinfield parishes are confronted with the challenge of unanticipated development in areas lacking suitable infrastructure, a situation that will necessitate our collective effort and collaboration to resolve.

I'm excited to represent the ward I live in, and hope to be able to work with you, the residents, Swallowfield PC, and WBC to improve life in the Parish.



Stuart Munro
stuart.munro@wokingham.gov.uk

Thank you to everyone who voted for me to return to serve as one of the ward's Borough Councillors in the new ward of Spencers Wood and Swallowfield.

Many will already know that I live in Swallowfield with my wife and family and have done so for nearly 40 years.

It has been my pleasure to have served as the Member for Swallowfield ward at Wokingham Borough Council since February 2005. I have served on many committees and outside bodies within and outside the council, recently as an Executive Member for Business and Economic Development and Regeneration.

I will continue to support our residents and the Parish Councils in defending unwelcome unsustainable housing along with any other aspects or issues that may arise with any department of WBC.

Local Services and Support

SWALLOWFIELD MEDICAL PRACTICE

HOW TO COPE IN THE HOT WEATHER

As we move into the summer months, most of us are glad for some warmer weather. However, the hot weather can cause some health risks. During a heatwave, the main risks are:

- Not drinking enough water (dehydration)
- Overheating, which can make symptoms worse for people who already have problems with their heart or breathing.
- Heat exhaustion and heatstroke.

Those most at risk are the elderly, those that live on their own or in a care home, those with long-term illnesses, those on multiple medicines and those that find it difficult to keep cool such as babies and young children.



w: swallowfieldmedicalpractice.co.uk

THE CALICO TRUST

We are a local charity which helps people in need.

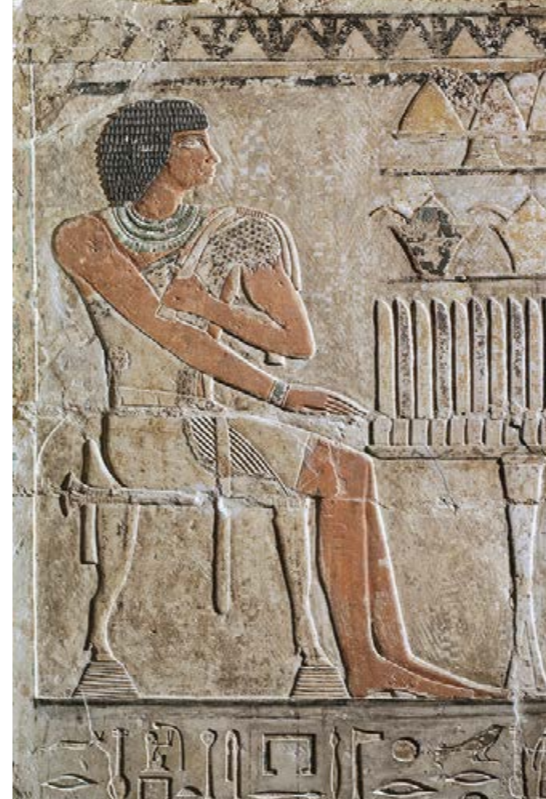
If you or someone you know needs financial assistance please let us know.

Contact: Celia Adams
t: 07946 654 424
e: celia8844@gmail.com

Contact: Ros Riddell
t: 0118 988 2014
e: ros.riddell@btinternet.com

USEFUL TIPS

1. Keep out of the heat if you can.
2. If you must go outside, stay in the shade especially between 11am and 3pm, wear sunscreen, a hat and light clothes, and avoid exercise or activity that makes you hotter.
3. Cool yourself down. Have cold food and drinks, avoid alcohol, caffeine and hot drinks, and have a cool shower or put cool water on your skin or clothes.
4. Keep your living space cool. Close windows during the day and open them at night when the temperature outside has gone down. Electric fans can help if the temperature is below 35 degrees. Check the temperature of rooms, especially where people at high risk live and sleep



SHINFIELD VOLUNTARY CAR SERVICE

Annual General Meeting
 Friday 14th June 2024 at 7:30p.m.

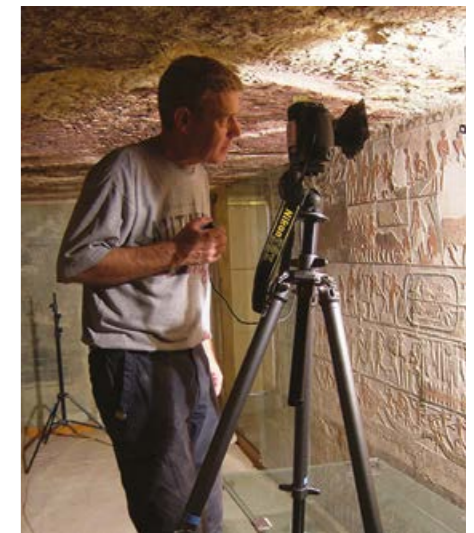
Egypt: A Rescue Project to Record Endangered Antiquities

Presented by Paolo Scremin

Followed by drinks and nibbles

Admission is Free

Please indicate by email if you are planning to attend.



Shinfield Parish Office, School Green, Shinfield RG2 9EH
e: shinvol@gmail.com

RISELEY VILLAGE TEA ROOM

As the anniversary of our first year approaches, we are going from strength to strength, for which we thank Sally, Kerry and all our wonderful friends who help us.

We would not be in such a position were it not for the continued support of the community joining us on a regular basis for our Afternoon Tea and of course the Parish Council for their unwavering support.

Opening in the mornings and being part of the Tennis club on a Saturday morning has been amazing, making lots of new friends (mostly under 10), which is great – The bacon and egg rolls are a definite attraction!

In addition to the support from the local people of Riseley and surrounding villages we are now attracting cyclists from all over the

country who call-in as they travel along the King Alfred way.

In the past month we hosted a cheese and wine evening for 45 guests with the support of Village Maid to launch the selling of their cheeses in the Tea Room (which we are now using in the savoury scones)!

15th June – Our 1st birthday

Come along and celebrate with us, accompanied by a Swing Jazz Band – Cream teas only, but with delicious cakes and plenty of bubbles! We hope you can join us inside or out and if the weather is kind to us, why not bring your own picnic and enjoy the music? Plus, in order to provide a space for dancing, we will be limiting the number of tables inside.

16th June – Father's Day

You can look forward to Lawrie Wright playing the piano

throughout the afternoon to accompany your celebrations – Please book early to avoid disappointment.

A big, big thank you once again, to one and all for your continued support.

Best wishes, Debbie and Karen



RISELEY VILLAGE TEA ROOM

Contact: Debbie & Karen

e: theriseleyvillagetearoom@gmail.com **t:** 0118 996 7375

w: www.riseleyvillagetearoom.co.uk

f: www.facebook.com/RiseleyVillageTeaRoom

SPENCERS WOOD LIBRARY

Local Community Library Volunteering

Would you like the chance to volunteer at a library and undertake library tasking?

WBC libraries are currently recruiting volunteers for Spencer's Wood Library. To apply you must be at least 21 years of age. This role may involve the opening and closing of the library, carrying out health and safety checklists on a daily basis, shelving books, keeping the library tidy and of course providing a friendly and helpful service to

our customers. As part of a "volunteer team", we will require a commitment to a certain number of hours per month. However, the role is flexible in that the hours you volunteer for can be weekly, fortnightly, or monthly. As part of the volunteer recruitment process you will be required to complete compulsory WBC training and a basic DBS check. You will of course be fully supported by the extended WBC libraries team.

For more information, please email volunteer@wokingham.gov.uk

Contact: Heather Dyson, Libraries Stock and Outreach Manager: Community and Partnerships, Wokingham Borough Council
e: heather.dyson@wokingham.gov.uk
w: www.wokingham.gov.uk/libraries
t: 0118 2378386



ALL SAINTS CHURCH SWALLOWFIELD

The wild flower season is drawing to a close and I know many of you have enjoyed the beauty of our churchyard, from the white snowdrops, through the yellows and blues of primroses, daffodils and forget-me-not, to the current red campion and herb Robert. There's just time to catch the final flowering before we do the summer cut!

There are services at 10.30am every Sunday and all are warmly invited. We joined with St Mary's, Shinfield, for children's activities on Good Friday and welcomed an especially good congregation on Easter Sunday for a celebratory family service. Thirty Cubs and Young Leaders enjoyed a lively bell ringing session in May, interspersed with a church-familiarisation scavenger quiz.

The next big event is the return of the Farley Singers, whose charity concert will mark the centenary of Charles Villers Stanford, whose contribution to English music, and in particular church music, is substantial. You are all warmly invited to hear wonderful singing and will be supporting the Motor Neuron Disease Association.

Contact: Barbara Stanley **w:** 0118 988 5923
e: office@loddonreach.org.uk **w:** www.loddonreach.org.uk/all-saints



LOCAL CONTACTS

All Saints' Church, Swallowfield and Nutbean Cemetery
0118 988 5923 or email office@loddonreach.org.uk

Citizens Advice (Wokingham) 0808 278 7958

Emergency Services 999

Farley Hill Primary School 0118 973 2148

Gas (Emergency) 0800 111 999

Keep Mobile 0345 544 0850

Lambs Lane School 0118 988 3820

Medical (Non-emergency) 111

Police (Non-emergency) 101

Reading Buses 0118 959 4000

Readibus 0118 931 0000

Riseley Village Tea Room 0118 99 67375

Royal Berkshire Hospital 0118 322 5111

SSE Electricity (Emergency) 0800 783 8866

Shinfield Voluntary Car Service 0118 9883400

Spencers Wood Library 0118 988 4771

Swallowfield Community Responders
0118 988 4384

Swallowfield Calico Trust 0118 988 4661
or 0118 988 2014

Swallowfield Parish Stores 0118 988 5138

Swallowfield Medical Practice

0118 988 3134 (general) or
0118 988 3473 (appointments)

Thames Water (Emergency) 0800 714 614

Wokingham Borough Council 0118 974 6000

Wokingham Hospital 0118 949 5000

24hr Floodline Service 0845 988 1188

DID YOU KNOW?

Our redesigned newsletter will result in a saving of up to 32,000 sheets of paper annually.

Facilities for hire

The Main Hall, Davies Room and Rose Room at Swallowfield Parish Hall are available for weddings, parties, clubs/groups, meetings and other events. Please call 0118 9885 444 or email finance_officer@swallowfieldpc.gov.uk

For information on hiring Victory Hall in Farley Hill, please call 0118 324 6600 or email hire@victoryhalltrust.com

CONTACTING THE PARISH COUNCIL

Councillors can be contacted through Liz Halson, the Parish Clerk.

0118 988 5929

clerk@swallowfieldpc.gov.uk
www.swallowfieldpc.gov.uk

Your Parish Councillors are: John Anderson (Chair), Mark Binns, Catherine Drew, Laura Edmonds, John McDermott, Margaret McDonald, Paul Schulz (Vice Chair) and Simon Taylor (Chair, Planning).





RISELEY, SWALLOWFIELD, FARLEY HILL CHARITABLE TRUST

Parish Charity Jumble Sales

Riseley, Swallowfield & Farley Hill Charitable Trust are hugely grateful to the community for your support at our early March Jumble Sale; many thanks for all your wonderful donations and for coming along to support us. Once again, we had a fabulous group of local helpers, to whom we would like to say a great big thank you.

We raised a very healthy amount which we are using to continue helping local people who are in need. In addition, we managed to recycle more than ever before those items that were left with us at the end of the day, which is always hugely satisfying.



Social: www.facebook.com/RSFCharitableTrust/

RESERVE THE DATE

Saturday 12th October 2024 will be our next charity Jumble Sale and will be held in Swallowfield Parish Hall RG7 1QX, so please make a note and get ready for a post-summer clear out.

Look out for details on how to donate items on our Facebook page and other local Facebook pages.

Swallowfield Church

Fete

SATURDAY 8th JUNE

2.00pm to 5.00pm

Swallowfield RG7 1QX
Stalls - Children's Activities - Teas

Swallowfield Recreation Ground, next to the Parish Hall



Citizens Advice will be at:

Swallowfield Parish Hall

**Tuesday 16th July
between 10am AND 12:00pm**

**with our Mobile Advice Unit.
Providing free, confidential
advice, information and support.**

