



HOLYBROOK PARISH NEWS

Proudly serving the residents of Holybrook since 2000

October 2024



Dear Holybrook Residents

As the leaves turn brilliant red and gold, and the crisp autumn air settles in, I wanted to extend my warmest wishes to each of you. This time of year brings reflection and gratitude, and I hope you are finding joy in the season's beauty, perhaps enjoying walks through the Green Flag awarded Linear Park. Congratulations to West Berkshire Council and the Friends of Linear Park for their dedication to keeping the Park beautiful.

Autumn is a time of harvest and renewal, and here in our parish, it's an opportunity to appreciate the strength and unity of our community. The changing season reminds us of the importance of coming together, supporting one another, and celebrating the moments that make our parish special.

We've already had a busy year with events like D-Day 80, community litter picks, the MacMillan Big Coffee Morning, and 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' trail. Upcoming events include more litter picks, Community Speed Watch, and our Spring Bulb Planting Event. Events, big and small, strengthen our community ties, and I thank you for your continued involvement. Your participation is the heart of our parish.

As autumn progresses, let's embrace the season's spirit of change and reflection. Enjoy the natural beauty around us, participate in upcoming events, or try a class at our local community facilities: Beansheaf Community Centre, Holybrook Centre/Kennet Valley Club, or Kennet Valley Free Church, and connect with your neighbours.

Claire Tull, Chairman



Buy your poppies from the Parish Office

ON SALE FROM 28TH OCTOBER 2024 MON-FRI 10:00 - 13:00

To contact your new local MP: Olivia Bailey MP

Olivia Bailey
Member of Parliament for Reading West and Mid Berkshire
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Instagram: obaileymp
Facebook: OliviaBailey4RWMB

Email: olivia.bailey.casework@parliament.uk.

www.holybrook-pc.gov.uk

Clerk: clerk@holybrook-pc.gov.uk.

General Enquiries: admin@holybrook-pc.gov.uk

Or, call the Parish Office on 0118 945 4339 or 07704 663397

Follow us on Facebook: @HolybrookParishCouncil



Don't Forget.....

The clocks go back by one hour at 2.00am on Sunday 27th October 2024

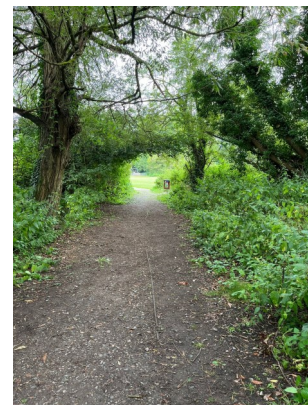


Friends of Linear Park – Autumn’s on its Way

As the season changes to autumn, it is a busy time for the Friends of Linear Park, repairing the all-weather footpaths and clearing them of falling leaves and debris ready for winter. Trees and branches have been cleared where they have been storm damaged over the last few weeks, particularly along the main paths and access routes into the park; did you know, there are 32 entrances into the park! The culvert at the back of the Beansheaf Centre has been cleared of fallen branches and logs accumulated because of the heavy rains. The Sensory Garden has had an autumn makeover, and the willow arch has had its annual ‘haircut’.

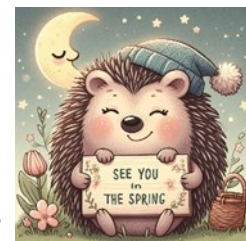
Have you seen the Children’s Corner on our Website? We are hoping to have a Halloween Theme soon, so pop on to our website: www.folp.uk for child friendly walks, colouring activity sheets, how to build a plant pot bug hotel and much more.

To join us on our Tuesday morning workdays, or contact us, our email address is: hello@folp.uk.



Hedgehogs & Hibernation

Hedgehogs, which are in decline in the UK, usually hibernate from around October/November until March/April. Hibernation is crucial for hedgehogs to survive cold winter months. Autumn sees hedgehogs enter a phase of increased feeding, known as hyperphagia; consuming a high-calorie diet building up essential fat reserves. Fat is crucial to sustain them through hibernation.



Hedgehogs may move nesting sites during hibernation, they can also wake to eat. If you spot one it may just need food, water, or it might be looking for a new nesting site. Hedgehogs can build a nest anywhere, be mindful in your garden, if you discover a hedgehog cover it back up and contact your local rescue for advice. **DO NOT TOUCH OR MOVE THE HOG.**

Hedgehogs can give birth as late as September, therefore, support feeding, to ensure hoglets gain enough weight to survive hibernation/winter, is crucial.

It’s vital to continue to provide a food source for hedgehogs through winter when natural food sources might be low. Kitten biscuits, with meat as its first ingredient, are ideal.

Hedgehogs out during daytime MAY need a rescue centre. If you see a hedgehog during daylight, observe from a distance, take pictures/videos, contact your nearest rescue for advice ASAP.

Useful links

hedgehogstreet.org

Rescues: helpwildlife.co.uk



Meet Bette (photo and article with thanks to Karen Wilkinson-Flood)

Look at the Parish Council Facebook Page & Website to find out how you can help monitor hedgehogs within the Parish.

KENNET VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Foundation Stage Admissions 2025

Is your child going to be 4 years old on or before 31 August 2025?

If so, they can start school in September 2025.

Come and join us to meet the Headteacher at:

Wednesday 23rd October at 1.30pm

or

Tuesday 12th November at 9am

To book a place please ring 01189 414410 or email office@kennetvalley.w-berks.sch.uk

We look forward to meeting you!



Beansheaf Community Pre-School

Beansheaf Community Centre, Linear Park, Charrington Road, Calcot RG31 7AW

A safe and nurturing environment where children's individuality is respected and valued.



For more information please visit: www.beansheafpreschool.co.uk

Calcot Infant and Junior School

Children have returned to school excited to learn and ready for a new term. We are looking forward to some exciting school trips, winter school productions and community events including singing at the Triangle in Tilehurst as part of the Remembrance Day event.

Calcot Junior School has a textile bank where quality pre-loved textiles are distributed across Eastern Europe to be loved again. Calcot schools PTFA gains a small income from this which is used to enrich the curriculum for all pupils. **WE TAKE:** clothes, shoes, bed linen, accessories and soft toys. **WE CAN'T TAKE:** Duvets or cushions, offcuts, used underwear or socks, carpet or curtains. The clothing bank is located at the front of our Junior School Office and is easily accessible 24/7.



Community Litter Pick

Thank you to our councillors and residents who turned up on a sunny, but chilly, morning on Saturday 14th September for our Community Litter Pick in Beansheaf. Lots of rubbish was collected but, of concern, was the volume of fly-tipping. It is an offense to fly-tip! Instead, make the short 10-minute drive to your local Recycling Centre, Padworth. It takes just a few moments to book your slot: <https://www.westberks.gov.uk/article/37215/Book-an-Appointment-to-Visit-a-Recycling-Centre>. Most items can be recycled for free.



Family Hub: Coming up this autumn



Introduction to First Aid with Daisy First Aid: 14th October. 10:00—12:00. £24.00 per person

Sleep Workshop (for parents with babies & toddlers over 6 mths): 25th October. 13:00-14:30. £2.70 per person

Baby PEEP (discover ways to encourage your baby's learning & development): Starts 6th November. £1 per session

Baby Massage: Starts 15th November. £30 for 4 sessions

Twins and Multiples Group: 2nd Monday of the month.

You can book onto any of our groups and courses online: <https://westberkshire.council.bookingbug.com>. Or, scan the Family Hubs QR code for more information.



SPRING BULB PLANTING EVENT

Saturday 19th October, 2024

Meet: **10:00 @ Beansheaf Centre** for local planting



Saturday 26th October, 2024
Meet: **10:00 @ Low Lane/Deerhurst Close Bus Terminus** for path clearance & bulb planting

Get involved in your community, meet new people, and make a difference.

To participate
Contact Cllr Claire Tull
07779 279 633

IMPORTANT

M4 junction 12

Theale Interchange bridge repairs

Full weekend closures:

West side:

9pm Friday 11 October to 6am
Monday 14 October

East side:

9pm Friday 31 January to 6am
Monday 3 February



Community Litter Pick

Join us:

Kennet Valley Free Church
Saturday 2nd November
10:00am—12:00 mid-day

Community Soup Lunches



Every other Thursday starting 3rd October
12pm-1:30pm. Pop in for soup and a chat!
At Kennet Valley Free Church, Carters Rise, Fords Farm
Suggested donation £1.50



DADS &
KIDS

FUN &
GAMES

GIVE MUM
SOME TIME OFF

BACON
BUTTIES

1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
9:30AM-11AM AT KENNET VALLEY FREE CHURCH
NO CHARGE



Catching the F21 to
Reading FC?

Why not pop in to the
Kennet Valley Club for a
drink before the game?

MON: 19:00 - 22:00
TUE: 19:00 - 23:00
WED: 19:00 - 23:00
THUR: 19:00 - 23:00
FRI: 17:00 - 23:30
SAT: 12:00 - 23:30
SUN: 12:00 - 23:00

Please contact us for membership prices