



HOLYBROOK PARISH NEWS

Proudly serving the residents of Holybrook since 2000

February 2023



Residents, February is, to many, considered to be the month of love. With this in mind, I wondered, what about falling in love with where you live? After some internet searching, I came across the term 'Topophilia': The term *topophilia*, according to The National Library of Medicine, was coined by the geographer Yi-Fu Tuan of the University of Wisconsin and is defined as 'the affective bond with one's environment—a person's mental, emotional, and cognitive ties to a place'. So, how can we achieve topophilia? :

- **Get to know the history of where you live** — did you know, for example, that by the 1690's the Bath Road was the busiest coaching route out of London?
- **Explore on foot or bike** — the Linear Park is a beautiful space to explore all year round and it stretches the entirety of the parish.
- **Read the local paper;**
- **Volunteer (or become a Parish Councillor!)** — there are always plenty of volunteering opportunities and this can be a great way to meet new people.
- **Be a regular somewhere** — Take a look at the Kennet Valley Club or the Holybrook and Beansheaf Centres which have an array of groups and classes;
- **Meet the people in your community** — meet your neighbours, say hello as you pass people on the street. Having familiar faces in your community adds to a sense of belonging.

There are also plenty of opportunities, as a resident, to be involved in community through the Parish Council: please do come to the Annual Assembly (Monday 27th March 2023) and have your say on our area — what would you like to see improved? Come to one of our community litter picks or have your say on planning applications or consultations when they arise (there are several consultations affecting our parish in this newsletter). Help improve the environment that you live in by slowing down on our roads and reporting any issues, like broken street furniture or fly-tipping via the West Berkshire Council 'Report a Problem' page: <https://www.westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem>. By understanding and taking pride in the area we live in we can all achieve topophilia.

Claire Tull, Chairman



Friends of Linear Park – Happy New Year

Welcome to 2023 in Linear Park. It may be cold outside but a walk in Linear Park does wonders to lift the winter blues. Whilst some areas of the park are a bit wet and muddy from the rains, the diligent leaf blowing completed by the Friends over the autumn has meant the main paths are clear from too much mud.

Now is the time to look out for the first signs of spring; buds start to emerge on the apparently lifeless branches of trees, clumps of daffodil leaves emerging, promising a great display of daffodils later on - something to look forward to in the coming months. The work of the Friends of Linear Park can be seen in the new tree plantings. In time, these will become tree lined paths and shrubby areas that will provide food and habitat for the wildlife we are lucky enough to enjoy in the park. Don your wellies, hat, scarf and coat, and let us know what you find.

If you have any ideas, queries, or would like to lend a hand, the Friends of Linear Park can be contacted at: – folpcalcot@gmail.com




**THAMES VALLEY
POLICE**

Your Local Police Team

The Pangbourne Neighbourhood team is now located at the Theale Fire Station where we share accommodation with the other emergency services. The team comprises three Officers and six PCSO's. The team Sergeant is Dan Lond. We are responsible for Holybrook Parish along with 23 adjoining parishes in West Berkshire.

Holybrook – Anti-social Behaviour

There has been a marked decrease in reported incidents over the last six months. Just 4 reports received for the period October 28th to December 1st, 2022. Levels of reported crime have shown a similar pattern of reduction.

Keeping In Contact

Pangbourne NHPT meet regularly with the Parish Council and support the Neighbourhood Action Group that meets approximately every six weeks to review matters in your Parish. We also conduct patrols of Fords Farm, Beansheaf and the new Bellway housing developments. We will be repeating our 'Have Your Say' visits to the Beansheaf Centre, Holybrook Centre and the new Bellway Homes development. These events will be pre-advertised on your Facebook: @TVPWestBerkshire or @HolybrookParishCouncil for these dates .

Contact us: Police non-emergency dial **101**. In an emergency, then dial 999.

Or email: PangbourneNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk – this email address should not be used to report crimes or for any urgent matters. There is a facility on the TVP website to submit a web-form report. If you have information about crime in your area but you do not want to speak to the police, please call the Crimestoppers charity on 0800 555111.

Compiled by NHPT Team – Steve Innes C9559

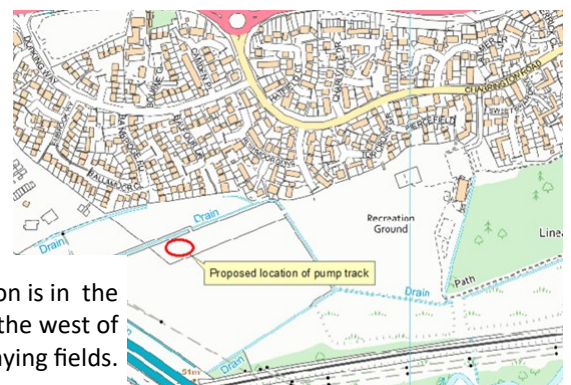
PUMP TRACK COMING TO LINEAR PARK - 2023/24

One of the most common requests received recently from our younger members of the community is for somewhere safe to ride their bikes. In response to this, West Berkshire Council is securing funding to build a pump track in Linear Park in 2023/24.

If you would like more information, please contact groundsmaintenance@westberks.gov.uk



Example track courtesy of
Clark Kent Contractors Ltd



The proposed location is in the narrow meadow to the west of the playing fields.

Albury Gardens play area survey results: West Berkshire Council (WBC) says 'thank you' to everyone who completed the recent survey asking what equipment would be preferred at the Albury Gardens' play site. WBC received nearly 40 responses.

The most popular items were: - A toddler scooter track - Challenging junior climbing equipment - A zip wire

West Berkshire Council is pleased to advise that these items will be included in the tender for the new equipment.

PARISH COUNCILLORS

CLAIRE TULL (Chairman)	0118 941 8203
MARY BEDWELL (Vice Chairman)	0118 942 0196
CHARLIE CROAL	07855 749 876
RICHARD SOMNER	07836 208 382
CLIVE LITTLEWOOD (LLC for AWE) and NAG Chairman	07905 816 846
HARISH MISTRY	0118 945 5830
ANDREW LENAGHAN	0118 945 3714
OLA SALAU	07737 820 017
MAURICE MOORE	0118 941 0027

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

RICHARD SOMNER	07836 208 382
BIYI OLOKO	0118 942 3435



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RECYCLE AND HELP OUR LOCAL SCHOOL

Kennet Valley Primary School has a textile bank where good quality textiles, that still have some life in them, are distributed across Eastern Europe to be loved again. In 2019/2020 Astra Recycling reused 500 tons of clothing collected from textile banks and door-to-door collection service which means 500 tons less textiles going into the ground! Kennet Valley gains a small income from this which is used to enrich the curriculum for all pupils.

WE TAKE: Clothes, shoes, bed linen, accessories (such as belts, hats, gloves, scarves, handbags) as well as soft toys.

WE CAN'T TAKE: Duvets or cushions, offcuts, used underwear or socks, carpet or curtains.

The clothing bank can be found at the front of our offices and is easily accessible during the school day.



G N MAINTENANCE

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Mobile: 07774 103492

Email: gjdanelson@ntlworld.com

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Fences treated
Outdoor tap installed

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Leaking taps
Blocked drains
Most plumbing

24hr call out for burst pipes

For all those jobs you never have time to do
- just ring and ask



Do not forget, the clocks spring forward by one hour on Sunday 26 March 2023

Temporary closure

Calcot Mill railway crossing



Please be aware that for safety, Calcot Mill pedestrian crossing will be closed between **Sunday 19 February** and **Wednesday 5 April 2023**, to enable us to replace the railway track between Theale and Calcot.

During this time we'll remove the crossing's surface to enable our specialist track renewal train to access the area, which unfortunately means we can't provide a safe route across until our work is completed.

We're sorry for any inconvenience this may cause, and want to thank you for your patience as we carry out this important work. We're working hard to bring you safer, more reliable rail services, and we'll re-open the crossing again as soon as safely possible.

Network Rail 24/7 helpline:

03457 11 41 41

www.networkrail.co.uk/communities/contact-us



WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

West Berkshire Council's Local Plan Review is now live for comments until 16:30 on Friday 4th March 2023. Make sure you have your say by visiting: <https://www.westberks.gov.uk/lpr-proposed-submission-consultation>



WEST BERKSHIRE MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

The mobile library travels the West Berkshire area with a constantly changing collection of fiction, non-fiction, large print and spoken word CDs. Details of stops, dates and times can be found on the library website: www.westberks.gov.uk/libraries

West Berkshire At Home Library Service

Do you find it difficult to visit your local or mobile library, possibly because of age, disability or other special circumstance? The At Home service offers a delivery to you in your own home. A member of library staff will visit first and discuss your requirements. A volunteer will then continue to choose and deliver items regularly.

West Berkshire Reminiscence Collection

Bring memories to life with our 36 themed reminiscence boxes, which contain a mixture of printed materials, photos, objects to handle, things to listen to or perhaps smell and other items to bring back vivid memories. Any over 16s with a library membership card can borrow one for three weeks, free of charge.

Phone no: 01635 519827 Email: library@westberks.gov.uk www.westberks.gov.uk/libraries

Parish Council Meetings: All Parish Council meetings are open to the public. Please come to the Beansheaf Centre on the following dates and see how the Council conducts its business (all meetings commence at 19:30 unless otherwise stated):

Monday 13th February: Full Council
Monday 13th March: Full Council

Monday 27th February: Finance Committee
Monday 27th March : Annual Parish Assembly

Agendas and minutes can be found on the Council's website: www.holybrook-pc.gov.uk
Or contact us: clerk@holybrook-pc.gov.uk tel: 0118 9454 339 or 07704 663397