



SPC Newsletter Sept 2023

Shinfield Parish Council are delighted to have installed two new and much anticipated picnic benches at Deardon Orchard.

Deardon Orchard Restorative Work - Volunteer Day on Saturday 14th October

We are seeking volunteers to help with restorative work at Deardon Orchard, Shinfield.

Would you like to get involved?

What to expect on the day..

- Arboriculturist on hand to help coordinate the work and advise and answer any questions on trees/wildlife
- Type of work, pruning, mulching and staking of trees
- Teas coffee and refreshments supplied by SPC - bring a pack lunch and make a day of it.
- Use our new picnic tables.

- It will all be outside so bring suitable clothing.

Get in touch to let us know you're coming, e-mail info@shinfieldparish.gov.uk or call 0118 988 8220 option 2



Want to help your local environment?



Making data work for nature

The National Biodiversity Network (NBN Trust) provides vital evidence for nature's recovery. We build partnerships to meet the needs of those who require biodiversity evidence – for policies, planning, research and conservation – and to connect people and communities with nature.

Visit <https://nbnatlas.org/> for more information on how you can get involved and to check out what's already been recorded in your area and/or to add your own findings.

Friday Funday was a huge success, we loved seeing all the children have lot's of fun!

Lot's of fun was had at our **Friday Funday** sessions which took place last Friday in July and every Friday during August. This is the first time Shinfield Parish Council has put on such an event and were very pleased that so many members of our community utilised the soft play and arts & crafts! Thank you to www.artistsharvest.co.uk for providing the amazing, clean, excellent quality soft-play equipment.

Due to this being such a huge success, we will be running further activities on a Friday in October half-term with the aim of doing so every Friday within the school holidays, keep an eye on our website for updates nearer the time. www.shinfieldparish.gov.uk/what's-on







My Journey Wokingham - Electric Cargo Bike comes to School Green Centre

Shinfield Parish Council have received an electric cargo bike on loan for the next month or so from Wokingham Borough Council.

We are using it to help us get between our buildings and sites around the parish instead of a car, to reduce cost and reduce air pollution. It is very easy to ride and can take up to 150kg in the Cargo hold!

If you work for a business within Shinfield Parish and think that a Cargo bike could be useful, or you simply just want to find out more about it please contact Paul Gudge the Facilities Manager on 0118 988 8220.

And give him a wave if you see him cycling around the parish!



Spencers Wood Carnival is back! 16th Sept 2023



The Spencers Wood Carnival will be held once again this year at Recreation Ground, Clares Green Road, Spencers Wood

Starting at 12 noon, come and join in the fun, with John Coneley's Funfair, Licensed Bar, Hands-on Art, Circus Skills, Clown Shows, Magic, Displays, Stalls, Side Shows, Live Music and lots more...[Click here for Website](#)

Shinfield Parish Council sponsors this event and will have a stand, so come and say hello or find out about SHINE, we will have games and activities to keep the little ones (or adults) entertained too...

Sign up to our newsletter on the day, we will give the first 500 a keyring torch!

Art Exhibition for 2024 - Survey closing soon



Playing a part in art?

SPC are actively looking at options for hosting an art exhibition within the parish in 2024 and would like your help to gauge interest in such an event and decide on how it may look.

While we hope to make this an annual event, for the first exhibition we would like to make use of the School Green Centre during a school holiday period as we know these are periods where the building tends to be a lot quieter.

Please complete the short survey here to give us your thoughts on this idea.

[Click here to take the survey](#)

Parish Litter Bins - we need your help!



See below for Wokingham Borough Councils consultation on bins and cutting more services, please complete before 10th Sept....

Wokingham's proposed changes to street cleaning and grounds maintenance services..

WBC: Your chance to shape these services' future

Due to unprecedented financial pressures including the triple threat of high inflation, continuously low funding from central government and increasing needs in the community, we will no longer be able to continue street cleaning and grounds maintenance services as they currently are.

Please read the information <https://engage.wokingham.gov.uk/en-GB/projects/proposed-changes-to-street-cleaning-and-grounds-maintenance-services?fbclid=IwAR0aVVmHvX8cqGiK23zqCamcl7E9o9PUBhUbGbWEckpOAPSQbEKrgp9Wwd0> and then give your feedback by taking the survey at the bottom of the page.

The survey is open until Sunday 10 September.

Note: there is an interactive map

<https://wokingham.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=6e2dfdec9bcb448780c5a3cb12d49df2> where you can see what litter bins they are proposing to keep and remove

Get cost of living help - WBC

Help and support is available to help you cope with the rising cost of living. We want to make sure that you are not missing out on help. The Hardship Alliance's latest [cost of living survey](#) told us that rising costs continue to impact more and more people locally. The biggest concerns include:

- Energy costs
- Rising food costs
- Rising mortgage and rent costs
- Rising use of credit cards, loans and overdrafts to pay for essentials

[Visit the cost of living help hub](#) for the latest support options. **Guide for your situation** Winter is well on its way. Back to school costs are kicking in. Food costs remain high and many have seen a rise in their rents or mortgages. Last year all households got £400 off their bills from the Government via their energy suppliers, but this year there's not any support for everyone. Many who are getting help are having to do so for the first time in their life. It means you might not know where to start. So we've created guides for the best cost of living help for you depending on your situation. They set out step by step your best support options for you:

- [Help for people with children](#)
- [Help if you're a pensioner](#)
- [Help for single people](#)
- [Help if you're in an emergency](#)

£100 grants to help with rising costs The [Household Support Fund](#) is still open for grant applications from any resident. It's open to anyone, you don't need to receive benefits. You can apply through Citizens Advice Wokingham or Age UK Berkshire to access funding to pay for food, energy bills or other costs. There's specific support from First Days Children's Charity for your family if your child receives means-tested free school meals. [Apply via the council's website](#). **Feeding thousands, cutting waste** SHARE provides food to about 2,500 residents across the borough each week, for free, to help reduce food waste and support those struggling with the cost of living. All the stock is surplus or end of day items from local supermarkets (Waitrose, M&S, Tesco, Morrisons and Lidl) and food suppliers which would otherwise go to waste. [View the food map](#) to see locations and opening times. There are two sites in Shinfield, as well as more than a dozen others across the wider area.

GET MONEY TO HELP **YOU** WITH COST OF LIVING

Can help with:

- Food
- Bills
- Energy costs
- Other daily essentials

Apply now



www.wokingham.gov.uk/cost-of-living/household-support-fund

The Household Support Fund is funded by the UK Government

More support options are available. Visit
www.wokingham.gov.uk/cost-of-living



CARING MORE. WASTING LESS

We offer a range of fresh produce including bread and vegetables which are either surplus stock or end of day items from local supermarkets.

No referral needed just pop along to these locations on the following days:

MONDAYS

12.30-2.00pm - Shinfield Baptist Church, 1 Fairmead Road, Shinfield, RG2 9DL. check online

3.30pm- 5.00pm Emmanuel Church Centre, Southlake Crescent, Woodley RG5 3QW

TUESDAY

10.00am - 12.00pm FBC Centre, Gorse Ride North, Finchampstead, Wokingham, RG40 4ES

WEDNESDAY

1.30pm - 3.00pm Rainbow Centre, Rainbow Park, Winnersh, Wokingham RG41 5SG

FRIDAY

12-30pm - 2.30pm - Norreys Church, Norreys Avenue, Wokingham, RG40 1UU

1.00pm - 3.00pm St Andrews Church, Priestwood Court Road Bracknell, RG42 1TU

Follow us on Facebook for regular updates
@ShareWokingham @ShareBracknell
Email - enquiries@sharewokingham.co.uk
www.sharewokingham.co.uk

Registered Charity - 1195620



Local Bus Service over a century old!



Our bus service is over a century old!

It may surprise many local residents to learn that the daily bus service many use is virtually 110 years old, having commenced in October 1915, when the fledgling British Automobile Traction Company received a request from the Military Authorities at Arborfield Remount Depot for such a connection to Reading. That operator duly became the Thames Valley Company, though the service has in more recent times had several other owners up to the current Reading Buses Service 3 with Leopard branding.

Local author Paul Lacey of Wokingham has researched the Bus and coach operators of the Thames Valley are over a period of 50 years, publishing 20 books in the process.

Each has been thoroughly researched and is fully illustrated with many historic photographs, along with full details of the operators and backgrounds, routes operated, as well as premises and the vehicles they used.

Full details of all available titles can be found on his website paullaceytransportbooks.co.uk, many on offer direct from him at bargain prices, so please check it out.

Paul also undertakes illustrated talks on various aspects of Local Road Transport History, already having delivered over 150 to varied local groups from history groups to the WI, and for details please contact him by email on paul.lacey17@btinternet.com or call him on 0118 979 4097 (answerphone).

Photo caption – The first bus departure to Wokingham stands in St. Marys Butts Reading in October 1915, alongside the bus

on the existing Swallowfield route (Paul Lacey Collection)

Shinfield Volunteer Group Footpath Report - Aug 2023



Hello readers, we are back already, this time with our August footpath report.

We had reports during August that footpath 7 between Oatlands Road and Cutbush Lane was difficult to walk along due mainly to brambles. We quickly resolved that and to make matters easier, some of the Heras fencing has been removed by the construction company building the new houses. We have been given to understand that the uneven surface will in time be levelled out so the footpath should be much easier to use.

We also had a report that footpath 28 between Hollow Lane and Leyland Gardens was difficult to use due to stinging nettles and overhanging foliage. Again we were able to clear this quite quickly.

Footpath 16 which runs along the ridge to Hyde End Lane near Oakbank School was reported to Reading University because the foliage was out of hand. This was quickly cut and we visited after and trimmed some side foliage that was causing a pinch point for walkers and cyclists. One of our team reminded the parish council the map board needed moving back now that the path was wider. This was quickly realigned and the way mark post and sign was also moved back. A good result and much safer for the students.

Footpath 17 which runs from the above mentioned footpath 16 down to Church Lane had recently had some barbed wire fencing removed from the top 80 odd metres. This meant that this section of footpath could easily be incorporated into Deardon Fields. We decided to trim the rough foliage and had a stroke of luck while we were there because the contractor mowing the field agreed to run

down the path for us. He said he would continue to do as it only takes a few seconds and we can now forget about this section in the future. There are a couple of photos attached for your interest.

We have two more foliage tasks to complete before we close for the season. We just need to wait for the blackberry season to finish and then I will invite our volunteers who have indicated they can help to join us.

The cross field paths in Grazeley continue to be an issue in that the landowner has ploughed out the fields but failed to reinstate the path lines with a wide wheeled vehicle. This means much rougher surfaces to walk on than they should be. These have been raised with WBC.

Please do continue to report any issues you find with the public rights of way network. We do respond. Please remember that you can report footpath issues online via the WBC website and tell us you have done so or of course Elaine and I are always happy to hear from you on our contact numbers below.

Ray Sharp on 07761 251217 or ramblerray@gmail.com

Elaine on 0118 988 2771

Up & Coming Roadworks Sept 23



We have been informed that a company installing high speed fibre optic cabling within the parish will be installing a main junction box on Church Lane shortly (9th Sept). This will require 2-way traffic lights for the duration of the works which will take 2-3 weeks. Although this is the main work element there will be other temporary roadworks around the parish as the work progresses. Please check on our website for any updates that we are made aware of and other works taking place within the Parish.

[Road Works Notifications - Shinfield Parish Council](#)

What's on in the Parish and School Green Centre

Regular Classes at the School Green Centre and Spencers Wood Pavilion		
Hirer	Activity	Day of session
School Green Centre		
Adult sessions		
Bumps and Beyond	Postnatal fitness class	Monday morning
Sally Podzemney	Pregnancy yoga	Tuesday evening
Angela O'Brien	Pilates* / Ballet**	Tuesday*, Wednesday*, Thursday* & Friday** morning
Shinfield History Group	Education	2nd Tuesday of each month
Zumba Gold Class - Emma Rogers	Zumba Gold Class	Wednesday morning
Pound Green Shinfield WI	Meeting	3rd Wednesday of each month
ELS Fitness	Fitness - Zumba	Wednesday evening
Activate Training and Sports Therapy	Pilates and Lattes	Wednesday evenings & Thursday morning
West Coast Swing Reading	Dance Class	Thursday evening
Titantium Pilates	Pilates	Thursday evening
Micka's Training	Fitness Class	Friday evening
Food for all UK	Community	Saturday evening
Shiamak London	Dance Class (Bollywood)	Sunday morning and afternoon
Age UK	Dementia Café	Monthly
Younger people		
Worker Bees	Activities	Monday morning
Starlet Dance	Dance	Monday evening
Baby Sense & Toddler Sense	Mother & baby	Tuesday morning
Flexx Gymnastics	Fitness	Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday afternoon
Art Club	Art	Wednesday afternoon
Diddi Dance	Dance	Thursday morning
Rangers	Girl Guides	Thursday evening
Bloom Toddler Classes	Mother & baby	Friday morning
Libby Putney Strictly Street	Dance	Friday afternoon(Term time only)
Shimak London	Dance Class (Bollywood)	Sunday morning (Term time only)
Moon Tuition	Education	Saturday & Sunday morning/afternoon
Kaizen Shotokan, Karate Academy	Karate	Saturday morning
S-Cube Shinfield	Education	Wednesday evening & Saturday morning
SLA First Class Learning	Education	Saturday afternoon
Tutu Olonko	Education	Sunday morning
Spencers Wood Pavilion		
Adult sessions		
Senior Citizens Coffee morning - Shinfield Volunteers Group	Community	Thursday morning
Spencers Wood History Group	Education	3rd Tuesday of the month
Younger people		
Dance Sensation	Dance	Tuesday & Thursday afternoon & evening
Youth Club	Community	Wednesday evening
Diddi Dance	Dance	Friday afternoon

Art Club

**Fun Art lessons for 5-8 year olds.
Sessions run by experienced teacher of 15 years
and artist, Eli Devos**

**Wednesdays 3.30pm-4.30pm
From 13th September
School Green Centre**

**£12 per session (including materials)
Collection from Shinfield Infant
School available**



**To book:
elannadevos@gmail.com
077083 83652**

Gateways
café

At St Mary's Church, Shinfield,
RG2 9BY

**Come and join us for some
fresh coffee and delicious
home made cake, everyone
very welcome ☺**

Week Days
Monday – Friday
10.00am – 12.00

A member of the
Friendship
Alliance
'Friendship Café'

Children's
toys &
colouring
available

**Dog
friendly**

BABIES & TODDLERS



EVERY FRIDAY
(TERM TIME ONLY)
9.30-11.30AM



ALL PARENTS AND CARERS WELCOME

Volunteers are needed for St Mary's Baby and Toddler group that meets at St Mary's Church Hall, Shinfield, RG2 9BY. If you are interested in volunteering for just a few hours a week on a Friday, please contact Jean Leslie on jf.leslie@btinternet.com



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Fun, Social &
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Activate Training &
Sports Therapy

Info.activatetraining@gmail.com
07739 350941

At Shinfield
Community Centre
at School Green

45mins Pilates class followed by a coffee
with your classmates. £10 per class
including your hot drink

www.activatetrainingandsportstherapy.com

PREGNANCY YOGA



Booking essential

07930356671



**CYCLE
SEPTEMBER**

1-30 SEPTEMBER 2023

>>> Ride anywhere, any time >>> Win prizes for riding a bike
>>> Everybody is welcome >>> Join the movement to get more people riding and smiling

Register for FREE at lovetoride.net/wokingham



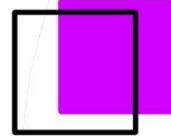
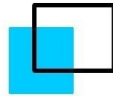
LOVE TO RIDE



WEST COAST SWING READING

From 7th September 9pm - 10pm
School Green Centre, Shinfield

5 Week Foundations Course



Email-

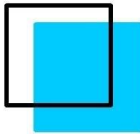
Westcoastswingreading@gmail.com

Taster Session
No need to bring a
partner.
£10 on the door, cash/
card or book in
advance.

Followed by a 4 week
course - £40
Can't make week 1?
No problem - we can
catch you up in week 2.
See email for payment
options.

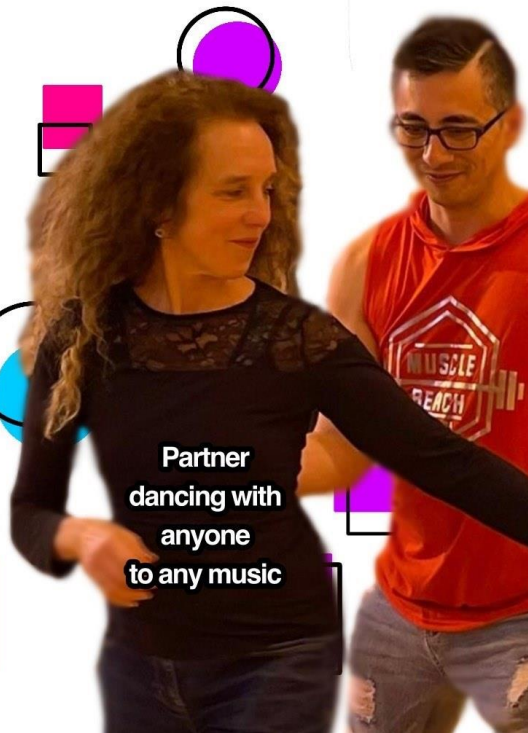
Partner
dancing with
anyone
to any music

For more info, visit-



@westcoastswingreading

Poster by @mitchell_2407





PILATES WITH NIKKI

THURSDAYS 6.10 – 7.00PM

SHINFIELD – SCHOOL GREEN CENTRE

**IMPROVE YOUR MOBILITY AND CORE
STRENGTH AT A FUN, MIXED ABILITY CLASS**

BEGINNERS WELCOME

£12 EACH SESSION OR 6 FOR £60

To get in touch or find out more:

Email: nikkititanumpilates@gmail.com

Website: <https://titanumpilates.co.uk>

Facebook: Titanium pilates



For more information visit <https://www.facebook.com/ShinfieldBC>



Spencers Wood Repair Cafe 17th Sept 10-1pm



The talented volunteers look forward to welcoming you with any broken household or garden items that need repairing. We have a wide range of skills and for a full list please visit our website:
www.spencerswoodrepaircafe.co.uk

If you have any questions or can volunteer one morning a month to help run the café, front desk or help with repairs please contact Billie@spencerswoodvillagehall.co.uk

All repairs are free but donations to help towards our running costs are gratefully accepted. We encourage visitors to help with the repairs but we also have a Café where you can just chill and wait if you prefer.

We run on the 3rd Sunday of the month 10am-1pm)

Dates for the rest of this year:

- 17th September
- 15th October
- 19th November
- 17th December

[For more details of What's On in Shinfield Parish click here for our webpage](#)

Got an upcoming event?

advertise with us

on our;

SCHOOL GREEN CENTRE DISPLAY SCREENS

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

NEWSLETTERS

WEBSITE

SEND YOUR FLVRS TO
INFO@SHINFELDPARISH.GOV.UK





Shinfield Parish Council

School Green Centre, Shinfield, RG2 9EH

0118 988 8220

www.shinfieldparish.gov.ukwww.shinfieldparish.gov.uk

info@shinfieldparish.gov.uk

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