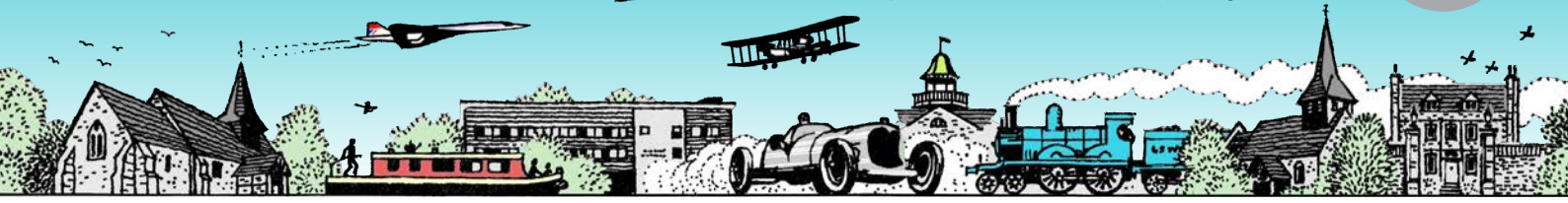


The RESIDENT

JUL 2023
Issue
173



The Newsletter of the Byfleet, West Byfleet & Pyrford Residents' Association

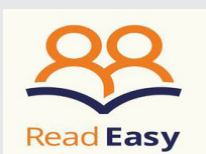
WOKING & DISTRICT MEN'S SHED (W&DMS), IN WEST BYFLEET, IS OPEN TO NEW MEMBERS



See [page 11](#) for more details

featured ARTICLES

Read Easy Charity -
Helping Adults to Read



P10

West Byfleet launches
its Community Fridge



P12

The Byfleet Players are
Back with A Bang!



P20

Coronation
Celebrations



P21

Welcome to the latest issue (Issue 173) of The Resident Newsletter !!!



A special thanks to all the Street Reps for delivering issue 172 of the Newsletter.

This issue will also be available on the RA website: www.the-residents.org.

In this issue there are updates on the Planning Applications, Village and Neighbourhood Forum reports, Health & Wellbeing and West Byfleet Medical Centre. We have articles from Keeble Brown and Higgins on the latest progress with the Botanical Place development. There are articles on Woking and District Men's Shed, Read Easy, The Byfleet Players, West Byfleet Business Group and the West Byfleet Community Choir. There are also some photos from the Coronation celebrations.

Please try and find time to attend the Pyrford & Wisley Village Show on 8th July and the Byfleet Parish Day on 15th July. West Byfleet Annual St John's Fair will have taken place on 24th June

We have a number of vacancies at the RA these include – Treasurer, Village Representative for West Byfleet, Village Membership Officer for West Byfleet. Volunteer Street Representatives in all villages are also being sought. Please contact me if you are interested in any of these positions.

The RA held the Association Annual General Meeting in March at Our Lady Help of Christians Roman Catholic church in Madeira Road, West Byfleet. It was well attended and provided the residents with an update on all the RA activities. There was a very good presentation by Robert Bowtell, Group Sustainability Manager at Retirement Villages Group on the approach RVG are taking on sustainability for the Botanical Place development in the centre of West Byfleet, focussing principally on creating a sustainable community.

Your 2023 subscriptions are now due for those of you who have not yet paid. Thank you to those of you who have already paid.

I am sure that you will enjoy reading Issue 173 of The Resident newsletter; it is the product of our committee and of the residents who give up their time to contribute and support it.

Please check the Residents' Association website for lots of useful information and any breaking

news about our local community, it is updated on a regular basis. www.the-residents.org. Thank you to those people who have posted comments on the RA website or have sent me articles to include within this and future editions.

If you have any comments or suggested articles for future editions, please feel free to email me at editor@the-residents.org.

Robert Munford
Editor and Advertising Manager



Where is this photo?



Byfleet Community Library

Library Event for the children aged 4-11years and a mini challenge for children aged 3.

It's nearly time for the Summer Reading Challenge. This year it will run from 8th July to 23rd September. All you have to do is read six books during this time and there are small rewards along the way for each book read and a medal and certificate at the end. The theme this year is Ready, Set, Read! and it's all about games and sports with fictional characters and animal mascots. Do come along and sign up and see how quickly you can finish this Challenge. It will be fun and there are lots of puzzles too.

Article by Lynden England

WE DON'T WANT OUR LIBRARY TO CLOSE!!!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Everyone loves our library, but we need more helpers please. If you can spare three hours or so each week do come and join us – training given.

Just ask at the desk and we can get you signed up. Please pop into Byfleet Library to speak to us.

Many thanks.



Puzzle Corner

1		3		4	8	7	5	6
4	7		1	5				
8	2			6	7		4	
9		2	8	7	6	4		5
6	3			1	4	2	9	
5			9	2	3	6		7
		1		9			6	
7			4		5			1
	4	9			1		7	3

Welcome to edition 173 of our Newsletter.

Woking Borough Council Elections

In the ward of Byfleet and West Byfleet Councillor Amanda Boote was re-elected. In the ward of Pyrford Gary Elson had decided to stand down. Chris Martin was elected as Councillor. Councillor Martin, amongst other manifesto statements, is focused on returning a Pharmacy and a Post Office to West Byfleet.



So, in the Three Villages we are represented by six Councillors now evenly divided between LibDem, Conservative and Independent. As always we look forward to working with all our Councillors for the good of our Villages with improving infrastructure, social amenities and economic vitality. The RA remains dedicated to its apolitical constitution.

We thank Gary for his many years of service to Woking Borough Council and in particular the ward of Byfleet and West Byfleet and the ward of Pyrford. Gary was a true example of community service irrespective of politics. His voice of balance and reason will be sorely missed in the Chamber.

The membership of the various Committees has now been agreed for the next Council year. Of particular interest to us is the Planning Committee where Councillor Morales remains the Chair and two of our Councillors namely Dorsett and Jordon are members.

Another important and influential Committee is the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and it is good to note that the Executive have followed precedent and agreed the appointment of an "opposition" Councillor as Chair, in this case Councillor Josh Brown.

Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill 2022

This Bill continues its journey through the various stages in Parliament and as I write this it remains at the Committee stage in the House of Lords. There have been so many amendments and New Clauses that I have stopped documenting them and will wait for the Royal Assent.

Botanical Place

This is discussed in some detail elsewhere. Progress is remarkable and while there is some disruption, considering the scale of the development it is modest. WBC have agreed the names of the individual buildings which are Cassia House, Tea Tree House, Juniper House, Copper Pot House and Bergamot House. The developer, RVG, continue their commitment to community engagement with the West Byfleet schools, apprenticeships and recently supported an event at West Byfleet Golf Club in aid of Motor Neurone Disease.

Woking Community Hospital

In Issue 172 I discussed the very welcome news that after many months of discussion the decision to install an important new clinical diagnostic centre at Woking Community Hospital had been announced thus securing its future.

A brief update as to progress:

- The Audiology booth and Dexa have opened as planned.
- As regards other internal work the clinical teams have approved the design for the Cardiac and Respiratory testing areas and completion of this work should happen by the end of October.
- The Clinical lead has approved the design of the new building and the Planning Application will be submitted.
- The work on the new build should start no later than October.
- Recruitment for staffing has been approved and has been initiated.

Once again I wish to thank the NHS Surrey Heartlands, Ashford and St Peter's Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and above all the staff at the Community Hospital. I also wish to express thanks to our MP Jonathan Lord who has been so important in securing this facility for our community.

Annual General Meeting

Our AGM took place on Thursday, 16 March 2023 at Our Lady Help of Christians Roman Catholic church in Madeira Road, West Byfleet. It was well attended with over 80 members. See the article on [page 10](#) for further details.

Prioritisation of Towns - SCC Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee - meeting 8th February 2023. SCC Cabinet Meeting 28th March 2023 - Delivery in Partnership Towns, the next Phase.

With effect from October 2023 "West Byfleet" will be one of five towns to be identified as a "Priority Town". This is part of an ongoing roll out programme. I have put West Byfleet in inverted commas because it is not West Byfleet as we understand it but a fictional creation for the above purposes. "Based on socio-economic oriented research, undertaken on what are broadly defined as 'town areas', identified specifically to understand the 'catchment population', as distinct from resident population for each of our strategic town centres.

These town areas are defined initially using a 25-minute walking catchment area, from an identified central point and using mapping/GIS software (ArcGIS) and travel time analysis, to create isochrones that can be used as a proxy for the town footprint.

In addition, for the purposes of comparability and data analysis, Local Super Output Areas (LSOAs) that intersect with any part of the walking catchment have been included, which in some instances include areas that extend

beyond past the boundary of the walking catchment. From the LSOAs that intersect with the walking catchment, the ones that most realistically represent the town area have been identified using local knowledge to provide a best fit definition.

The research and analysis has been designed to help us understand the practical catchment area for West Byfleet, capturing the number of residents that fall into the catchment area within which engagement with the public and local communities, partnership work and local activity can be undertaken to greatest effect, rather than resident population."

At this time the precise area is not clear and nor are the benefits. Nor do we know the quantum of "inward Investment" and its focus and purpose. Weybridge is already in the programme. The discussions there cover public realm improvement, re-provision of the health centre and localised infrastructure interventions.

Draft Climate Change SPD and Climate Change Strategy at Woking Borough Council

Woking Borough Council has published a draft Climate Change Strategy and a draft Climate Change Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for public consultation between 18 May and 30 June 2023.

The new Climate Change Strategy – Woking Net Zero - will replace the Woking 2050 strategy adopted in 2015.

The RA will be responding to this consultation.

Section 114

WBC has issued a S114 Notice - The Notice is required because the expenditure of the Council is set to exceed the financial resources available, and therefore it can no longer balance its budget for the current financial year nor subsequent years. Extraordinary Council Meeting on 20th June.

Coronation

I am one of those who has a fairly clear recollection of the coronation of our late Queen. It is definitely more enjoyable in colour. It was an occasion (watched we are informed by over 20 million people in this country alone) that successfully combined over 1,000 years of history with a modern and multicultural Britain. We had a Hindu Prime Minister reading from the New Testament. There were many other examples and they seemed very natural.

A theme that continued throughout the duration of the Coronation was that of service.

At a local level we see many examples of service in our Three Villages which we do not take for granted and for which we are immensely grateful.

Thank you and take care.

Stewart Dick
RA Chairman

BYFLEET

Byfleet Village Report

We hope that you are enjoying the days of longer light and at last some warmth! Nature was finally coaxed into emerging - including the stunning copper beech in St Mary's Churchyard.



It was just about warm enough to sit outside in early May for the Coronation weekend and May Bank Holiday. We hope you enjoyed both long weekends, however you spent them.

A Byfleet winter 2023 retrospective

Our village knitters helped us mark our diary dates for St George's Day in April and the Coronation in May with their magnificent post-box toppers.



The children enjoyed an Easter egg colouring competition organised by The Friends of Byfleet Parish Day to find the Parish Day 'Royal Family'. It was hosted by the Byfleet Community Library.

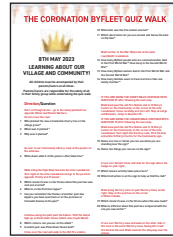
Byfleet Groups, St Mary's Church Community and our Councillors came together to organise two events focussed on the community for Coronation Monday 8th May 2023 as part of the national 'Big Help Out'.

In the morning, volunteers chose from either a litter pick or the annual bramble and hedgerow pruning activity at St Mary's churchyard. 57 volunteers generously joined in. Over 30 bags of litter were collected from 40 Byfleet roads. Many volunteers asked whether the village could repeat the exercise regularly. We hope to arrange a quarterly litter pick with the next likely to be in July. Please see village notice boards and Facebook for exact dates nearer the time.



In the afternoon, a Coronation Quiz Walk took place. Groups of adults and families set off around the centre of the village to answer

questions about buildings and monuments of note. If you missed the quiz and your family is at a loose end one weekend, you can collect your quiz questions sheets and answers from Byfleet Community Library. The quiz is very suitable for families with children of primary school age! Hodders have very kindly printed the quiz sheets. Resident, David Walsh, generously gave his time to design the quiz sheets.



Village Events and Initiatives

The Byfleet Players

The Byfleet Players have a busy programme of entertainment for Byfleet this year. Hot on the heels of Dick Whittington, June saw The Byfleet Players, joined by The Allegro Performers Academy, stage a Variety Night at Byfleet Village Hall. On Saturday 1st July, the Players performed 'Robin Hood' at St Mary's School for their Summer Fair. Please see [page 20](#) for more about the Players and the auditions for the 2024 pantomime.



Byfleet Village Day and Horticultural Show 2023

Parish Day will take place on the 15th of July 2023 on the Recreation Ground. The RA will have a stall and we would love to see you if you have a minute to pop past. The annual Horticultural Show takes place on the same day in the Village Hall. See www.byfleetparishday.info.

St Mary's Church spire renewal fundraising

The team are working hard on raising the approximately £35,000 required to restore this important spire. If you are able to contribute, you can find out more via the St Mary's Church Office or the following link www.justgiving.com/campaign/stmaryschurchsteeple.

The Byfleet Heritage Society chooses RA film for their 20th July film night!

The RA made the 'Our Three Villages' film in 1999 to celebrate the approach of the new millennium. Do come along! - details to follow.



Other items of village interest

Village Hall – Programme of activities

The Village Hall hosts and offers an extensive programme of activities. Pop in to see the timetable on the noticeboard. These include - Yoga, Chair Yoga, Exercise with Viv, Knit & Natter, Fly Tyers Guild, Cardiac Rehabilitation exercise, Cancer exercise, Sama Karate, Sama Kickboxing, Mummas & Beans, Fabulosos Band practice, Julia Sianne Theatre Arts, Zumba, Martial Arts and Allegro Performers Academy.

St Mary's Centre for the Community – Programme of activities

The new Diabetic Eye Clinic service, based on GP referral, is proving efficient and popular. In addition to hairdressing, foot-health appointments and assisted bathing, the Centre hosts or offers a wide programme of services and activities including - Little Steps Music Classes, Parkinson's Dance, Bingo Drop-ins, Pilates Chi Ball, Slimming World, Yoga, Tots Playgroup, Singing for Fun, Ballet, Child Health Clinic and Well Balanced - a gentle exercise class. Or simply pop in for a meal or a coffee at the Art Café.

Community Fridge at West Byfleet – Available to anyone!

The Community Fridge at St John's Church in West Byfleet launched on 22nd April. As the name implies, it is for all the community and is open to Byfleet residents too. Its purpose is to reduce the volumes of edible food going into landfill and composting. Anyone can pop in - it is not means tested. The local Co-ops are keen to supply the Fridge with good quality, perishable food. It is open every Saturday from 10-12.30. Do pop in for a loaf or some fruit or veg.

Fire in Oyster Lane on 18th May 2023

Along with so many residents of Byfleet, the RA was really sorry to see the damage and upset caused to Access Storage, Screwfix and Halfords, their customers and to local residents around Oyster Lane, when the huge fire broke out and burned through the night. We express our gratitude to emergency services for their hours of hard work containing and extinguishing the fire, as well as managing traffic, our safety and our concerns.

Subscriptions and Street Representatives

Thank you for your 2023 subscriptions. If you have not paid yet, your Street Rep would love to receive these from you! Thank you, as ever, for your loyal and invaluable support.

Would you like to join the Street Rep team? Contact: yrb@the-residents.org.

Eleanor Grady and Jean-Pierre Frossard
RA Village Representatives for Byfleet

Pyrford's Local Personal Trainer

Nikki Walker

07970 665719

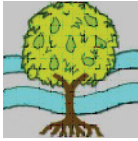
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PYRFORD

Members Subscriptions from Pyrford Households

So far in 2023 just over £3,250 of household membership subscriptions has been collected which is up on this time last year.



Thank you to all our Pyrford members who have paid their subscriptions and to all the Street Reps for collecting their monies and delivering the Newsletters.

Street Representative Vacancies

I am delighted to welcome two new Pyrford Street Reps and would like to thank the two Street Reps who are retiring. They are both long term Street Reps and the RA is grateful for their support over the years.

If you can spare a few hours a year to assist the RA, please do contact me (my details are on [page 27](#)) as there are vacancies in the following roads for Street Representatives:

Ash Close, Broomcroft Close, Broomcroft Drive, Dorin Court, Floyds Lane, Longridge Close, Longs Close, Old Acre, Old Woking Road, Pyrford Road South of Dodds Lane, Pyrian Close, Rosebriar Close, Roughlands, Rowley Close, Warren Farm, Home Park, Warren Lane

Any help would be much appreciated, as I am covering these roads myself as the Pyrford Village Representative.

Parking around Marshall Parade shops

New signs have been erected on the parking bay outside the Co-op Shop limiting parking to two hours with no return within one hour.



Surrey County Council is now responsible for enforcement of the restrictions.

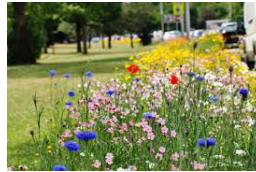
Pyrford Common Open Space Use

Sometimes you might just hear a PA being used on Pyrford Common and wondered what is going on. Well, The Pyrford Saddle Club hire the green area of Pyrford Common from Woking Borough Council three times a year for their dressage events, something they have done for over 30 years. The last event this year is on 3rd September 2023.

Highway Verge Cutting

The responsibility for verge cutting in April this year moved from Woking Council to Surrey County Council. The frequency of cutting will be reduced.

Wondering why our grass is getting longer in some areas?



To help us achieve our mission for a greener future for the residents of Surrey and improve biodiversity, we will be cutting the grass less frequently on our highways verges to benefit insects and encourage wild flowering.

From April 2023, Surrey County Council will take over responsibility for highway grass cutting and weed control across the whole of the county, which has historically been carried out by district and borough councils. Junctions and sightlines will continue to be cut regularly to ensure they are safe for drivers and pedestrians to cross, while other verges will be cut four times a year in urban areas and twice a year in rural locations. There will also be one targeted weed spray taking place each year.

With 41% of insect species in decline and only 3% of wild grassland remaining in the UK, we want to protect Surrey's future for upcoming generations to enjoy. By managing our 3,000 miles of verges and our roundabouts differently we hope to make a significant impact by increasing biodiversity, helping wildlife to thrive and encourage more carbon absorption. We're also supporting the national [Blue Campaign](#) which is all about councils and residents across the UK finding land suitable to let nature take over and grow wildflowers.

How you can get involved - You know your area, so we'd like you to help identify land such as verges or roundabouts which are suitable to be left uncut.

If you'd like to get involved you need to:

- Pick a location where you believe it will be beneficial for the environment for the grass to be left uncut
- Maintain the area by raking or removing annual grass cuttings and picking up litter but only if it's safe to do so
- Make or purchase a blue heart on the Surrey County Council Blue Campaign web page to show your support
- You can also do your bit by not cutting an area of grass in your garden. In return you'll get a healthy garden full of colour and life.

Visit the [Surrey County Council Blue Campaign web page](#) to find out more and to tell us about a site near you or follow the community led initiative, [Surrey's Wildflowering Project UK, on](#)

[Facebook](#) for inspiration.

For more information see www.surreycc.gov.uk/grasscutting.

Planning Applications

A detailed Planning report can be found for all three villages in the Planning Report elsewhere in this Newsletter, on the Residents Association website, attached to the relevant minutes, and just for Pyrford Village, on the Pyrford Forum website.

There are two key Pyrford Planning Inspectorate decisions to single out, both relating to Twisted Stone Golf Club.

The appeal relating to the enforcement notice from Woking Borough Council to remove the containers was dismissed and the appeal on the refusal of Woking Borough Council to change the membership only use of the Clubhouse was upheld.

So hopefully, the containers will now be removed. The Clubhouse now has planning permission to be used for any commercial use and signs on site indicate they are already hiring staff.

*Andy Grimshaw
Pyrford Village Representative*

*Gordon Brierley
Deputy Pyrford Village Representative*



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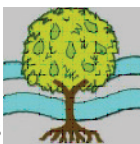
Pyrfords Local Gas & Heating Engineers

PYRFORD

Trees alongside Upshot Lane

You may remember in the national press about the sensitivity of tree felling in places like Sheffield, & Plymouth.

Well, on 6th March 2023, a local resident was concerned to see heavy machinery operating among the trees in Randall's Field (Arbor Centre side of Upshot Lane). These trees are subject to a 2014 Tree Preservation Order, but this Order allows dead trees/deadwood to be removed sensitively and only after approval by the WBC Tree Officer.



Immediate contact was made with the landowner Burhill Estates and the relevant authorities were also informed. Burhill Estates stopped the work immediately.

Inspection indicated that the existing badger setts had been extensively disturbed, including in two cases heavy tracked machinery driving straight over and, apart from the marked dead trees, some live trees, mainly young ones, had also been chopped down or simply driven over.



The Forum is aware that after a tree fell onto Upshot Lane last year, local residents were concerned about the dead trees, mainly elms, falling again onto Upshot Lane and had contacted Surrey County Council.

The Forum is very concerned about the possible medium to long-term damage to the badgers, the healthy trees and habitat lost and the impact on the ecology of the surrounding area and has written to Burhill Estates expressing the Forum's concerns.

Burhill Estates arranged a meeting on the windy afternoon of 13th March which local wildlife experts, Cllr Peter Graves and Pyrford Forum Chair attended. Ironically one of the dead trees

did lose a branch and fall onto Upshot Lane just before the meeting.

The recent PNF Nature Surveys showing the known badger setts in/around Randall's field and Aviary Field were shared with Burhill Estates.

A more ecologically sensitive way forward has been agreed such that they will:

- Move brush away from badger setts to create further habitat for reptiles/insects and ground nesting birds.
- Ensure that any movement or further clearance of dead wood would be done with manual or quiet electrical hand tools.
- Accept an offer for training of their staff from a local badger expert

Burhill have now submitted a Planning Application TREE/2023/8086 | Felling dangerous and dead trees and others in line with Ground control Report. Trees already felled will be restocked with Scots Pine and underplanted. (Works subject to TPO/0009/2014) received on 27th March 2023.

Forum Fundraising

2024 Calendar

Pyrford Forum has decided to continue its fundraising activities. The Forum was pleased with the sales of its 2023 Wildlife Calendar, so, it has decided to create a 2024 wildlife calendar. Copies should be available for sale at the Pyrford Village Show.

2023 CALENDAR



Walk on Wildside - Part 3

The next event will be the third Walk on the Wildside Tea Party planned for October 2023. Last time the limited number of tickets were sold out within days. The date will be announced through the Members Newsletter, so if you are interested, and are not a member, do join via the Pyrford Forum website. A summary of the 2nd event can be found in the October 2022 Newsletter on the Forum website.

Co-op Local Community Fund

Pyrford Forum is delighted to have been selected as one of the local groups being supported by the Co-op Local Community Fund. Co-op Members can support Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum (Cause ID: 74562) as part of the Local Community Fund until 21 October 2023.

You need to sign into your account and select Pyrford Forum as your cause. Then for every £1

members spend on selected Co-op branded products and services, 1p will go directly to our cause but to collect rewards and contribute to our cause, you must swipe or scan your membership card when you shop.

The link to our Cause Profile Page is www.membership.coop.co.uk/causes/74562

The Forum is incredibly grateful to those members who have already chosen the Forum. In 2 months, the amount raised already exceeds £100. If you are not a member you can get a card from Pyrford Coop and join for £1.

Impact of Pyrford Neighbourhood Plan

There are over 200 planning applications per annum in the Forum Area and the Forum does, on occasions, make formal comments.

Due to staffing changes in the Planning Department of Woking Borough Council, delays have occurred in deciding cases, so a number of cases on which the Forum made comments in previous months still remain undecided. When the outcomes are decided, these will be reported on the website.

More detail on these and other planning applications in Pyrford can be found in this Newsletter or at www.pyrfordforum.org/planning-application-news.

To be kept up to date, then why not register **for free** to join the Forum at www.pyrfordforum.org to receive the more regular Newsletter.

The Forum is always happy to welcome new members and is always seeking new Committee members.

Andy Grimshaw

Chairman Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum

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WEST BYFLEET



It has been a quiet time for the Forum since I last wrote a report. We held our AGM which had a good turn out and we updated members on our activities. Construction work on the redevelopment of the village centre continues at great pace. We have regular meetings with the developer to help make progress run smoothly for the community. We know that road closures are a big issue and we discuss how these can be minimised. There are now over 120 people working on the site and in the coming months this will rise to over 250. Most arrive by public transport so not putting too

much additional pressure on our roads. There do seem to be many temporary traffic lights around the area. We cannot do anything about this other than to inform you about them.



New foundations for building which will house West Byfleet Library at Botanical Place

Our grand project is to make improvements to the Recreation Ground. There is no progress to report. We have asked Woking Council to work up plans for us. They have the professional resources to do this. We were due to hear back from them at the end of May but that date has now slipped. Hopefully there will be something significant to report very soon. At a recent meeting with the

Leader of Woking Borough Council there was the opportunity to ensure that she is aware of and supports our aspirations for the Recreation Ground. We would like it to be a space where a wider range of the community can get benefit from it. We will share the plans with you as soon as we can.



New One Way Do you agree that this should be permanent

The Community Gardening Group has been hard at work this Spring. The bulbs planted in previous years came up and gave a colourful show and more have been planted. Other shrubs have been put in and as always there is plenty of weeding to do. The hedge around Birch Green is coming on. It has now been planted up all the way around it. Some of the whips are quite small. The wet April helped them to get established. Planters are planned for the Station platforms. They should be in place by the summer.



We have spent time reviewing planning applications recently. We want to ensure that any development is beneficial to West Byfleet and comply with the Policies in the Forum Plan. We have had meetings with the strategic planning department at Woking Council to try to positively influence future policies.

There has been no progress on the development of the land around West Hall where up to 600 new homes could be built. The timescale for this seems to be slipping further backwards. This is a potential problem



2

Where is this photo?

for Woking Council who had expected these homes to be built by 2027 which now looks unlikely.

The Government has suspended new homes targets but it is the economic environment which is slowing progress not the rules and regulations.

I would like to thank the other members of the Forum Committee on your behalf for all the work they do. They are keen to positively influence the development of West Byfleet.

Fingers crossed that we have some good news on major improvements to the Recreation Ground to share with you in the next report.

*Wade Pollard
Chairman of West Byfleet
Neighbourhood Forum*



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BYFLEET

Byfleet Residents Neighbourhood Forum

Neighbourhood Plan

We have received comments back from Woking BC on our final draft of the plan. We are now in the process of applying the final edit which, once finalised, we will present to the planning officers at a final meeting to ensure all is in order. Following advice, we have strengthened the sections on the conservation area and also on sustainability. Woking BC have also agreed to advise us on the process going forward to achieve adoption of the plan and we expect to receive these details before the end of July.

Community Matters

We held a successful AGM on March 27th, around 15 people attended along with officers of West Byfleet and Pyrford Forums both of whom were able to contribute to questions raised on our plans progress.

Meetings have also been held with Nell Rodriguez, Commander Woking Police and Anne-Marie Barker, new leader of Woking BC.

Woking Police also held an open meeting in Byfleet on 21st April, organised by our Neighbourhood Watch group.

Planning Issues

Objections have been put in for the re-development of the Post Office and adjacent building into six flats, whilst still retaining the Post Office element. Reason is for lack of parking and especially as unit is next to the busy Walton Fencing Unit. We have also submitted an objection to conversion of an old storage facility at the rear of 100-102 High Road, and this application has now been rejected.

Concerns continue over Manor School development, also supported by The Residents Association. We are awaiting further developments from Surrey CC.

There seem to be a plethora of applications in Byfleet for flat conversions. Whilst these demonstrate good use of space and provide much needed additional accommodation, concerns remain over limited parking available within the village. We are aware that the RA have similar concerns and we remain grateful for this support.

The Forum was saddened to hear of the passing of Ernest Amoako, who was so helpful in the

early stages of the formation of the BRNP plan. A note of condolence has been sent to Woking BC to be passed to his family and colleagues.

General

We remain open to new members joining the group and especially from those with younger families and long-term plans to remain in the Village. If you are interested please contact either Andrew Weiss or Amanda Boote and we will talk you through how it all works.

Andrew Weiss

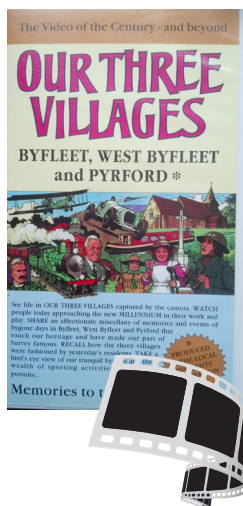
Chairman Byfleet Neighbourhood Forum



'Our Three Villages' Film Night 20th July 2023

Calling all lovers of our villages and of cinema nights!

The Byfleet Heritage Society is screening the RA's 'Our Three Villages' film on Thursday 20th July, starting at 8.15pm in St Mary's Centre for the Community, Stream Close, Byfleet, KT14 7LZ.



We are approaching the 25th anniversary of the making of this film by The Residents' Association. It was researched and made in 1999 to celebrate the approach of the new millennium.

The film charts some of the history of our villages including its status as 'a centre of excellence

in engineering, orthopaedic treatment and communication.' You might just see someone you recognise in the local footage!

Non-members of the Byfleet Heritage Society are welcome. The society has kindly offered free entry to RA members. At only £2, even the normal charge for visitors makes these regular and informative meetings tremendous value.

Article by Eleanor Grady and Jean-Pierre Frossard



Fabulosos Big Band Concert Dates in 2023

Please come along and listen to some great music!!!

Dates for your diary:

Saturday 15th July

2pm - 4pm
Woking Bandstand
(by the Pool in the Park) GU22 9BA

Wednesday 9th August

11am - 12.15pm (doors open 10.30am)
Byfleet Village Hall
Admission Free

Saturday 12th August

2pm - 4pm
Alexandra Gardens Bandstand,
Windsor, SL4 3HU

Saturday 9th December

Christmas Special
2.30pm - 4.30pm (doors open 2pm)
Byfleet Village Hall

Featuring our guest singer Paul Hudson
Admission £10



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Planning applications are discussed by the RA at their monthly meetings. Compliance with Neighbourhood Forum Planning Policies is fundamental. Our preference is, if possible, not to raise major objections.

Any resident who has concerns about a planning application should contact both the RA and their Forum.

Woking Borough Council Planning Department is currently understaffed (unlikely to change) and this, combined with an unusually high volume of Applications, is causing certain delays.

Since the report in Newsletter number 172 the following are of significance:

Byfleet

(a) PLAN/2023/0342 - Allenbuild House Oyster Lane Byfleet. Prior approval under the provisions of Schedule 2, Part 20, Class ZA of The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) for the demolition of existing two storey detached building together with the construction of a replacement four storey building providing x32 flats together with associated works permitted by Part 20, Class ZA. The RA have written a strong letter of objection

(b) PLAN/2023/0092 - 169 High Road Byfleet. Erection of a first-floor extension with proposed increase in ridge height to facilitate additional accommodation in the roof, 5 No. dormer windows and 2 No. side rooflights. REFUSED

(c) PLAN/2022/0758 - 138 High Road and Flat At 136 High Road. Conversion of existing house and maisonette to 6x self-contained flats. New Submission - PLAN/2022/1080. The RA have objected - total lack of relevant information.

(d) PLAN/2022/0686 - 19 High Road - Change of use from retail (Class E) to mixed retail/residential use (Class E/Class C3) including increase in depth of the existing rear dormer, relocation of external staircase and fenestration alterations to create 3 No. flats. REFUSED
New Submission PLAN/2022/1120 - Change of use from retail (Class E) to mixed retail/residential use (Class E/Class C3) including rear balcony, relocation of external staircase and fenestration alterations to create 3 No. flats. The RA wrote with comments objecting. REFUSED

(e) PLAN/2023/0069 - 212 High Road, Byfleet - Erection of a two-storey side extension and a single storey front extension following demolition of the existing garage/lean-to. APPROVED

(f) PLAN/2022/1016 - Boyds Farm - Section 73 to vary Condition 2 (Occupants and 5-year period) of PLAN/2018/0940 (Change of use of land to 2 No. Gypsy / Traveller pitches including 2 No. mobile homes, 2 No. semi-detached dayrooms, 1 No. package treatment plant, 2 No. touring caravans, hardstanding, and associated works) to vary the occupants listed and remove the time period. PENDING CONSIDERATION. The RA have written with a proposal. Still pending

(g) PLAN/2023/0192 - 94 High Road Byfleet - Retention of Existing Commercial unit to front of building. Proposal for a two-storey

rear extension to improve existing 2 No x 1 bed units on first floor level with associated internal changes and designated garden space, cycle storage and refuse storage for each flat unit. (Amended Plans). PENDING The RA have objected.

Pyrford

(h) PLAN/2023/0280 - Milestones Pyrford Road - Erection of a first-floor side extension and single storey rear extension and change of use to a 6x bedroom, 10x person House of Multiple Occupation. The RA have objected.

(i) PLAN/2023/0301 - Pierre Pont House Pyrford Woods - Erection of detached 1.5 storey dwelling with associated vehicular access and landscaping. REFUSED as was the previous application. The RA objected to both.

(j) PLAN/2022/0944 - 154 Old Woking Road - Erection of a two-storey side extension and single storey rear extension. Replacement and repositioning of front porch extension and 3No rear rooflights. APPROVED

(k) PLAN/2022/0393 - Cherrywood Blackdown Avenue. Subdivision of plot of Cherrywood, retention of existing dwelling and erection of new attached dwelling two storey dwelling with accommodation in the roof space with associated parking and amenity space. RA and PNF have objected. Also PLAN/2023/0388. PENDING CONSIDERATION

(l) PLAN/2022/1157 - Blair House, Pyrford Woods - Retrospective planning permission for the erection of a detached car barn and extended fence to side boundary at 2.7m height. REFUSED

(m) PLAN/2023/0160 - Land West of Prospect Cottage Pyrford Road - Erection of agricultural storage building. REFUSED (Green Belt)

(n) PLAN/2022/1174 - Beech Rise Lock Lane Pyrford - New barn to house agricultural machinery following demolition of existing field shelter. REFUSED (Green Belt)

(o) PLAN/2023/0033 - Qaro Pyrford Heath Pyrford - Construction of an additional storey and associated hipped roof and the installation of external insulation, increase in height of

ridge, changes to external materials, changes to fenestration, front porch addition and installation of solar panels. REFUSED. The RA strongly objected.

(p) PLAN/2023/0236 - 2 Lady Place Barns Church Hill Pyrford - Erection of a two-storey rear extension and single storey side extension. PENDING. The RA have written expressing concern.

(q) PLAN/2023/0331- Pyrford Manor Pyrford Road - Erection of a detached dwelling and detached garage following demolition of existing stable block and garage building. The RA have written a strong letter of objection (Green Belt).

West Byfleet

(r) PLAN/2023/0311 - Westby Lodge, 90 Old Woking Road - Erection of four detached, self-build dwellings with garaging and associated works on land to the rear of Westby Lodge, No.90 Old Woking Road. Installation of new vehicular access and cessation of use of existing access. PENDING. The RA have expressed concerns. There are however several letters of support.

(s) PLAN/2023/0128 - 25, 29 And 31 Old Woking Road - Conversion of 6 x existing flats into 7 x flats - creating an additional 1 x unit with a commercial unit at ground floor (Class E), part two storey, part single storey extension to south elevation, 8x dormer windows to replace existing flat roofed dormer windows and associated external alterations (including fenestration alterations) (amended description). As this building is in a conservation area there are certain concerns. The RA is discussing with the Applicant.

(t) PLAN/2022/0254 - Land Adjacent To 6 Old Parvis Road - Change of use from utilities building to Cafe (Class E) and external alterations (Amended red line). REFUSED. Now appealing to the Inspectorate. The RA have again objected.

*Article by Stewart Dick
RA Chairman and Planning Coordinator*



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Read Easy Charity – Helping Adults to Read

Over 5% of adults in Woking can either barely read or cannot read at all. The literacy charity Read Easy has now established a local group, in order to help these adults gain the reading skills they need to fulfil their potential. Reading is a basic requirement of everyday life, and for many of us it is a skill we take for granted. Yet there are 2.4 million adults in England who struggle to read, including 5.4% of the adult population in both Woking and Guildford ([Skills for Life Survey, 2011](#) – latest government figures).

Read Easy UK's trained volunteer Reading Coaches provide free, confidential, one-to-one coaching to adults who want to learn to read. Established in 2011, Read Easy now has 80 affiliated groups across England and 1,400 volunteers.

Giving adults the reading skills and confidence they need to fulfil their potential and live life to the full.



Its newest group was set up in March and covers West Surrey and Northeast Hampshire – including towns such as Woking, Guildford, Farnborough and Fleet.

Kate Kemp is the leader of the new group. She says: "People are surprised when they hear how many adults struggle with their reading, but there are lots of valid reasons why someone may need support. For example, they may have a learning difference such as dyslexia, autism or ADHD. Maybe their need for extra support was not recognised or fulfilled at school, or maybe they are relearning after a brain injury. In some parts of England, up to 10% of working age adults struggle to fill in a job application form, use a cash point, do the food shopping, or read a story to their children. Remarkably, they have often managed to keep their literacy struggles hidden from others. It is amazing how much confidence people can gain from improving their reading. People feel more confident doing everyday important tasks, such as going to the doctor or talking to teachers. They are able to fill in job application forms. They can read to their children. Having improved reading skills hugely increases their self-esteem, often improving their mental health. Reading gives them independence, reduces feelings of isolation, and empowers them to connect with the wider world."

Read Easy West Surrey and NE Hampshire is currently looking for volunteers to become reading coaches, and to identify readers who would benefit from coaching. A reader and their coach meet for half an hour at a time, twice a week, in an approved local reading venue. Online coaching is also possible.

The new group is also seeking a second volunteer coordinator, based in the Woking/Guildford area. Kate says: "Coordinators are absolutely key to the running of each Read Easy group. They are responsible for meeting

Our vision is for all adults in the UK to have the literacy skills they need to realise their potential and live life to the full.



and enrolling adults who want to learn to read, and interviewing volunteer reading coaches. They match new readers with their coaches and provide them with ongoing support and oversight throughout their reading journey. It's a demanding role, but incredibly rewarding."

If you know someone who might benefit from improving their reading skills, please get in touch with Dickon Hutchings on 07810 405519 or email wsnehnetworker@readeasy.org.uk.

If you are interested in becoming a reading coach or our new coordinator, please contact Ashley Nuttall on 07874 020009 email wsnehrecruiter@readeasy.org.uk.

BYFLEET, WEST BYFLEET & PYRFORD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting was held at Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church Hall, West Byfleet on Thursday, 16 March 2023. The requisite notice of the date of the AGM had been given in The Resident Newsletter, on the BWBPRA website and via email.

The meeting was attended by 80 members from across the villages.

The Treasurer presented the accounts for the 12 months to 31 December 2022 together with his report. He noted that the current economic climate had contributed to a decline in advertising revenue and an increase in running expenses. The accounts were agreed and Alan Fairlie, the Examiner, was re-appointed for the following year. The Treasurer, Dharma Sivarajasingham would be standing down and a replacement was needed.

A resolution to approve an increase in the subscription from 1 January 2024 from £5 to £8 was presented and, following a brief discussion, approved. It was noted how much the Newsletter was appreciated by many members and that it was also made available on the [website](#) following the hardcopy distribution.

The Membership Secretary, Isabelle David, reported that overall membership numbers had dropped slightly but had actually risen in West Byfleet with a strong presence now on Broadoaks. She thanked the Village Membership Officers for all their hard work and noted that there was still a vacancy for West Byfleet. Isabelle was standing down from her role and a replacement is still to be found.

The Chairman presented his report summarising the RA's involvement in the key issues which had faced the three villages since the last AGM (see [page 3](#)).

Each of the Neighbourhood Forum Chairs addressed the meeting reporting on activity. Byfleet Forum, having now submitted their plan to WBC for comment, were hoping that it would be adopted by end 2023/beginning 2024. West Byfleet Forum were working on improving the recreation ground and were working with WBC on a community facility for sport and use by local organisations with toilets and possibly a café. Pyrford Forum had successfully raised funds to support its activities, the chief of which was the Heritage Conservation Assessment Project. The Forums continued to monitor building developments in the three villages including Broadoaks and Botanical Place in the centre of West Byfleet.

As required by the constitution, the committee members were elected for the following year. A number of posts remain vacant – Treasurer, Village Representative for West Byfleet, Village Membership Officer for West Byfleet. Volunteer Street Representatives in all villages are also being sought.

The meeting closed with an interesting talk by Robert Bowtell, Group Sustainability Manager at [Retirement Villages Group](#) on the approach RVG were taking on sustainability for the Botanical Place development in the centre of West Byfleet, focussing principally on creating a sustainable community.

Article by Lynette Davies, Secretary and Stewart Dick, Chairman

LCA Fitness & Dance

Come & Join our New Latin & Ballroom Class!
Friday's at 7:15pm

Attend with a dance partner or individually at
The Cornerstone Centre, West Byfleet, KT14 6EH
Daytime Classes include Silver Swans Ballet, Jazz Hands,
Body Conditioning, Gentle Exercise.

New Class at St. Andrews Church Hall
Walton-on-Thames
Latin & Ballroom Tuesday's at 2pm

Please ring Lesley on **07860 610040** for
further details of call classes.

**Fitness, Fun and Friendship at
LCA Fitness & Dance**



Woking & District Men's Shed (W&DMS) is based at West Hall in West Byfleet, having moved from Woking in 2019. W&DMS is one of approximately 700 independent Sheds around the UK. They are a non-profitmaking registered charity.

Many current members travel in from beyond West Byfleet, Byfleet and Pyrford. The trustees and members would love to attract more local members from our three villages. They are pleased to now be in West Byfleet and within walking distance for many potential new members.

Previously based on the Greenfield School site on Old Woking Road, W&DMS were approached by Anchor Care Homes who own the West Hall Care Home, with an offer of space on which to set up the Shed. This offer was enthusiastically accepted. Members worked intensively on the design in mid-2019. The Plan was approved in November 2019. Members ordered, built and equipped the Club House Shed and workshop between March 2020 and October 2021, as restrictions allowed.

The roof design allowed the installation of solar panels. The energy generated supplies W&DMS and any surplus is supplied to the West Hall Care Home. As a result, all the energy needs of the W&DMS are covered with the site being a net positive contributor on the grid. Members have created an allotment garden out of a piece of nearby land. The produce grown is enjoyed at home by members and their families.

The purpose of the Men's Shed movement

Part of impetus for the evolution of Men's Sheds in the UK was a sense that, retiring or finishing work, can leave a gap in men's lives, in terms of time, focus and companionship. The Sheds provide one of the few spaces in which men can meet and learn new skills in a supportive environment. Members arrive with a range of interests and competencies which can be shared. There is a practical project and activity focus to the time spent at the West Byfleet Shed but members see the most valuable tools as being the kettle and coffee machine in the Club House! Members share experience and technical skills. Some come to chat and some to be quiet and to work on a project. All are welcome.



Contributing to the Community

As well as supporting each other, members of the Shed look for opportunities to support residents of the Care Home and the wider community. In common with more than 600 Sheds throughout the UK, W&DMS has developed relationships with and helped local charities and other groups with design and build projects which include:



- ✂ Raised garden beds for West Lodge Care Home
- U A bar in the Lodge for West Hall residents
- 🔧 A solar panel array to supply all Shed needs, with surplus power going to the Care Home
- 🐦 Bird tables and bird boxes for the West Hall residents' Lodge and Bishop David Brown School in Sheerwater
- ✂ Bird and bat boxes for the Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum's stall at the 2023 Pyrford & Wisley Village Show
- 🔍 250 dormouse nesting boxes for the Surrey Dormouse Group
- 🔧 A wooden seed display box for the RA's Free Seed Share Scheme
- ⚙ Shelving for the West Byfleet Community Fridge
- 🔧 Shelving for the Salvation Army Foodbank at Goldsworth Park

If you would like to know more, please see the website: wokingmensshed.org.uk or email wadmsshed@gmail.com or write to:

Woking & District Men's Shed
c/o Anchor West Hall Care Home
Parvis Road
West Byfleet
KT14 6EY

Article by Eleanor Grady
based on an interview with Trustee Roy Westley of W&DMS

How to Report a Pothole

It is that time of year when potholes are becoming a real problem, please see the link below that you will need to use in order to report any potholes that you come across. Highways are maintained by Surrey County Council.



You can also contact your Surrey County Councillor, the contact details are on [page 28](#) of this newsletter.

www.surreycc.gov.uk/do-it-online/report-it-online



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PYRFORD & WISLEY VILLAGE SHOW

76th Pyrford and Wisley Village Show, Saturday 8th July

We are very much looking forward to seeing new and familiar faces throughout the day and evening at the 76th Pyrford and Wisley Village Show from 1pm on Saturday 8th July.

This year's theme is 'Inventions: Past, Present and Future', which we are sure will generate lots of creative entries in our Junior, Domestic & Handicraft and Horticulture sections for you to all enjoy in the marquees. In the Show Arena - [Parkour Action](#) will headline, and also, time permitting, teach those that would like to participate. We are also excited to welcome [Prime Acrobatics](#) back, and we also are delighted that [Julie Sianne Theatre Art](#) and [Victoria Hill Dance School](#) will be performing.

In addition to the arena events and dog show there will be live music throughout the day and into the evening, as well as the usual attractions on the show ground, including a wide range of stalls and refreshments. Our headline act for the evening is the [ABBA Stars tribute act](#).

Following an active recruitment campaign, I am delighted to welcome a number of new committee members, who alongside our long-established members, have enabled us to put on this year's show. There are always opportunities to support the show either on the General Purposes committee or Junior, Domestic & Handicraft and Horticulture sub-committees, or on the day. If you have some time to spare, please contact myself for committee positions, or just sign up on our website for help in setting up, on the day or clearing away on Sunday.

Looking forward to another fantastic show!

John Attrill
Chair, Pyrford & Wisley Village Show
Email: johnattrill@hotmail.com
Telephone: 07900 145783



West Byfleet launches its Community Fridge

West Byfleet is celebrating the launch of its Community Fridge: a venture aimed at reducing the wasted good food going into landfill. This has been made possible thanks to our hosts at St John's Church and a grant from Byfleet United Charities

This is situated in the lobby of the Cornerstone Centre, St John's Church, Camphill Rd. It is open every Saturday morning from 10am – 12.30pm



with surplus good quality food from local businesses, including Co-op stores, for anyone to help themselves.

The aim is for everyone to come and to help themselves to whatever they can use before they go and buy more food. This is not aimed at



those in food poverty, though it will obviously be helpful to many people. We are asking everyone who cares about our planet to come and take what food they can use and help to reduce what will be binned.

Food waste is a big issue in the UK. The average household throws away £730 worth of food every year; the impact of this food waste on our planet is much more significant than

aviation fuel. Most food waste in the UK is avoidable and could have been eaten had it been better managed. The Community Fridge is a space where surplus food is shared for free, to reduce food waste. Everyone is welcome and no vouchers are needed. It differs from a Food Bank in that this is not about food poverty but is for anyone who is keen to reduce the amount of food going to a bin and to play their part in protecting our planet.

In our first 4 weeks there were over 376 visitors who helped stop over 972kgs of good surplus food going into waste bins. One was a little boy who chose an apple, another was someone who took some bread for her freezer and another who chose basil, chillis and leeks to add to the family's supper.

Please come and support West Byfleet's effort to reduce the impact of food waste on climate change. You will be doing the lovely volunteers a huge favour if you do!!!

To find out more about the West Byfleet Community Fridge please

email [wbcommunityfridge@](mailto:wbcommunityfridge@stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk)

[stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk](mailto:wbcommunityfridge@stjohnswestbyfleet.org.uk)

uk, come and visit one Saturday and look on the Facebook page.



*Article by Jo Pritchard
Project Co-Ordinator*



Where is this photo?

**156th BYFLEET PARISH DAY
SATURDAY 15th JULY 2023
12.30pm to 5pm**

BYFLEET RECREATION GROUND,
RECTORY LANE, BYFLEET KT14 7LZ

**FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY AT BYFLEET'S
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**For further details email Nick at
nickandpaula@hotmail.com**



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*Members must be 16+. Joining fee may apply. See website for T&Cs.

Crime in our Communities update May 2023



Antisocial Behaviour (ASB)

At the recent “meet the Police” event in Byfleet there was a lot of concern regarding ASB, particularly in the recreation grounds; and how to report it to the appropriate authority as not all ASB issues are dealt with by the police: some ASB issues are dealt with by the local Council; and some by other agencies e.g. Housing authorities.

What is Antisocial Behaviour

Antisocial behaviour is a range of behaviours that can cause nuisance and annoyance or harm and distress to a person in their home or community. Not all antisocial behaviour is classed as crime but a lot is or can become a crime. It is a wide range of unacceptable activities such as:

- Harassment and intimidation including intimidation through threats or actual violence, abusive behaviour aimed at causing distress or fear to certain people, e.g. elderly or disabled people, verbal abuse
- Noise nuisance including loud music, DIY at unsocial hours
- Household disputes including shouting, swearing and fighting
- Environmental antisocial behaviour including dumping rubbish, animal nuisance, including dog fouling and dogs barking, vandalism and graffiti, antisocial drinking, abandoning cars and arson (secondary fires).

What is not Antisocial Behaviour

Children playing in the street or communal areas— unless they are causing damage; young people gathering socially – unless they are rowdy, inconsiderate and being intimidating to individuals; being unable to park outside your own home.

Reporting ASB

Antisocial behaviour can ruin lives and devastate communities and reporting it early is important not only to prevent it from escalating but to enable the police/relevant authority to identify problem areas and collect the evidence they need to take any necessary action successfully.

If an incident happens regularly, please report

it each time as it helps the police/relevant authority to prioritise and makes it clear that it is not a one-off incident. Don't assume that someone else will report it; and encourage neighbours and others to report incidents that they witness as this helps to identify any persistent problems areas/hot spots.

When reporting, please try to report as soon as possible giving the date and time of the incident; location; description; names if known (helps to identify if it is the same person(s) involved in other incidents); what the person(s) are actually doing.

Reporting to the police

- **If it is an emergency and the crime is still taking place, or someone is at risk, call 999**
- If it is not an emergency, call the non-emergency number 101 or
- Webchat on Surrey Police website [surrey.police.uk](https://www.surrey.police.uk) (bottom right)
- Online via the Surrey Police ‘how to report crime’ [webpage](#) or use the live chat on right at the bottom of the page
- Message via the blue message button on [Woking Beat Facebook](#)
- If you do not wish to leave your name, please call the independent charity [Crimestoppers](#) on **0800 555111**

The local authority, social housing landlords and the police all have powers to deal with antisocial behaviour. The table below sets out the relevant authority for reporting the different ASB issues with links to how to report relevant issues to the local authority.

Park Watch

The Police are keen to develop with Neighbourhood Watch and residents a scheme called ‘Park Watch’: a similar scheme was set up during lockdown around St John's Lye and involved residents and dog walkers who kept an eye on their neighbouring recreation grounds at key times and carried out litter picks.

Neighbourhood Watch

There are two Neighbourhood Watch Facebook groups in the area sending out up to date alerts on community safety; and sharing information on police and crime issues. Anyone can join:

West Byfleet and Pyrford Neighbourhood Watch Facebook group:
www.facebook.com/groups/555297438641547

Byfleet Neighbourhood Watch Facebook group:
www.facebook.com/groups/ByfleetNeighbourhoodWatch/?ref=share

Article by Sheila Carroll,
West Byfleet & Pyrford Neighbourhood
Watch Co-ordinator

ISSUE/ COMPLAINT	RELEVANT REPORTING AUTHORITY
Damage to property, vandalism	Police
Use of violence or threatening behaviour or repeated abusive language	Police
Hate crime/Hate incidents	Police
Drug dealing	Police *DRUG LITTER is managed by the local authority my.woking.gov.uk/service/street_cleaning_and_litter NOTE: If you think the drug litter may present a danger and should be treated as an emergency, please call SERCO immediately on 01483 775422
Noisy neighbours	Local Council authority: www.woking.gov.uk/environmental-services/pollution/noisy-neighbours The Council may allocate to the relevant Housing Agency
Construction site: Noise control	Local authority: www.woking.gov.uk/environmental-services/pollution/construction-site-noise-control#:~:text=Monday
Parking: Nuisance parking	Surrey Council: www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roadworks-and-maintenance/report-a-highway-problem/parking
Environmental: Litter; Fly tipping; Fly posting; Persistent dog fouling; Abandoned car; Graffiti	Local Council authority: www.woking.gov.uk/environmental-services/environmental-problems

Building Your Career at Higgins on the Botanical Place development, West Byfleet

Higgins Partnerships has been appointed by Retirement Villages Group (RVG) for the design and build of Botanical Place in West Byfleet, the flagship integrated retirement community. The development consists of 197 retirement apartments, amenities for the wider community to share, a cinema screening room, and a fully equipped gym and wellness centre, Botanical Place will also offer a new community space and a multi-level public car park.

Higgins Partnerships is pleased with the progress so far. Although the unpredictable weather is always a challenge, we are well underway and on track to complete in December 2024. Like many in West Byfleet, we are looking forward to completing the construction of an exciting retirement community integrated into the heart of West Byfleet with terraced gardens and landscaped green spaces alongside shops, cafés, and restaurants, all anchored around a lively public square.



As part of our role as a community developer we are committed to creating local employment and training opportunities through the Botanical Place project lifecycle. In February 2023 Higgins recruited Sanam, a local resident as a Business Administration Level 3 Apprentice, through our partnership with local apprenticeship training agency CoTrain.

Sanam's journey into the construction industry was fueled by his ambitions to better himself as he understands the construction industry is "very promising and future proof." Since Sanam has joined the project, he has been able to see his personal development and skills progression whether that is through his day-to-day role on

the project and in his personal life. Sanam is originally from Nepal, before moving to the city of Kowloon in Hong Kong in 2012. He then came to the United Kingdom in 2014, where he joined a college studying business, media, and physical education all of which he passed with distinction. While studying hard at college he worked in retail part-time and gained a vast amount of customer service experience before his opportunity in the construction industry. A family friend had previously worked for Higgins and had recommended that Sanam apply for the role.

Sanam enjoys the new challenges that the role enables him to tackle. The site team have allowed Sanam to find his own footing on site, allowing him to develop further essential skills such as problem solving and multi-tasking skills while also having open conversations.

Sanam shared that the "workplace promotes total respect between all members of staff which creates a safe and productive environment to work in and thrive" which he is grateful for. Sanam had no prior experience in the industry and within a short time, he has had the opportunity to develop whilst also broadening his horizons to the possibilities that the industry has to offer. Sanam's duties and responsibilities are slowly becoming more progressive learning and maintaining Higgins business systems and processes while also assisting the Site Managers and Project Managers with a variety of tasks on site. Sanam is looking to progress his career within the industry and is considering pursuing a career as an Assistant Site Manager after finishing and passing his Business Administration Level 3 Apprenticeship.

Higgins Senior Projects Manager Richie Bolton shared "It's fantastic to bring new local talent into the construction industry, the team enjoy mentoring our apprentices and we're proud



to watch them grow and progress during the development."

Higgins will also be recruiting local West Byfleet residents into trade apprenticeship opportunities throughout the development including - Carpentry, Dry Lining, Bricklaying, Plumbing, Electrical and Painting and Decorating. If you are interested in any of these upcoming roles, please enquire now by emailing CSR@higginspartnerships.co.uk.

For more information about Higgins please visit: www.higginspartnerships.co.uk.

Article by Amy Ross
Director of ESG

Higgins
PARTNERSHIPS

A Thriving Community with Wellbeing at its Heart

Shirley Hall, the Head of Care & Wellbeing for Retirement Villages Group (RVG), has written the strategy behind the new health and wellbeing offering. Here, Shirley reflects on the philosophy around the group's brand new Thrive Living collection and how Botanical Place will be forging the path for RVG's future communities to follow.

Thrive Living
by Retirement Villages

Retirement Villages Group (RVG) recently unveiled its innovative concept for a collection of retirement communities that will regenerate and be integrated into urban centres across the UK. The Thrive Living collection will provide an appealing lifestyle choice for older people who want to be active, sociable, and connected. Our commitment is to prioritise the wellbeing of older people by providing them with the support they need to fully embrace the abundant opportunities available to them.

When someone decides to move into Botanical Place, it has the potential to be energising and life-enhancing. Our philosophy for the Thrive Living collection boldly challenges the stereotypes often associated with older age, dispelling notions of inactivity or sporadic, predictable pastimes. Instead, we empower our residents to explore a diverse range of activities and experiences. From invigorating options like Zumba Gold and walking football to the enriching opportunities presented by Dance to Health and bespoke health and wellbeing groups and activities. Moreover, we actively encourage participation in our new volunteer programme, which enables residents to share their invaluable skills and life experiences for the betterment of both our community and the wider West Byfleet community.

Loneliness and isolation can significantly impair wellbeing, but through enhanced social interaction and cognitive stimulation, these effects can be alleviated. Living independently alongside like-minded and positive individuals not only promotes positive ageing but also fosters purposeful living. I spoke to David, from our Lime Tree Village community in Warwickshire, who said that it was the community spirit "which helps to keep me active". People are more likely to get stuck in with activities when their peers are also getting involved. Botanical Place is the flagship of our brand new Thrive Living collection. West Byfleet is an ideal location as community spirit is already ingrained in the village's DNA. We saw this first hand when over a hundred people got involved



in helping us name the buildings, deciding on Bergamot House, Cassia House, Copper Pot House, Juniper House and Tea Tree House, adding a touch of local character of the project.

Our engagement team is already connecting with groups such as the WitKnits and the green-fingered Gardening Group to the practical Men's Shed club. There is plenty to get involved with.

As the Head of Health & Wellbeing, I witness the profound impact of community spirit as it empowers our residents to thrive, reminding us that age should not be a barrier to an active lifestyle. Botanical Place has been designed with amenities and a public square that will be open to all in West Byfleet. We want to enhance the wellbeing not only of our residents but the whole community.

So, keep an eye out for our first wellbeing walk, which will be organised to coincide with

the launch of our marketing suite (coming this summer).

Stay up to date with our marketing and exclusive offers by scanning the QR code, registering your interest at www.botanicalplace.co.uk, or by contacting our expert sales team via email: botanicalplacesales@retirementvillages.co.uk.

Article by Shirley Hall
Head of Care & Wellbeing





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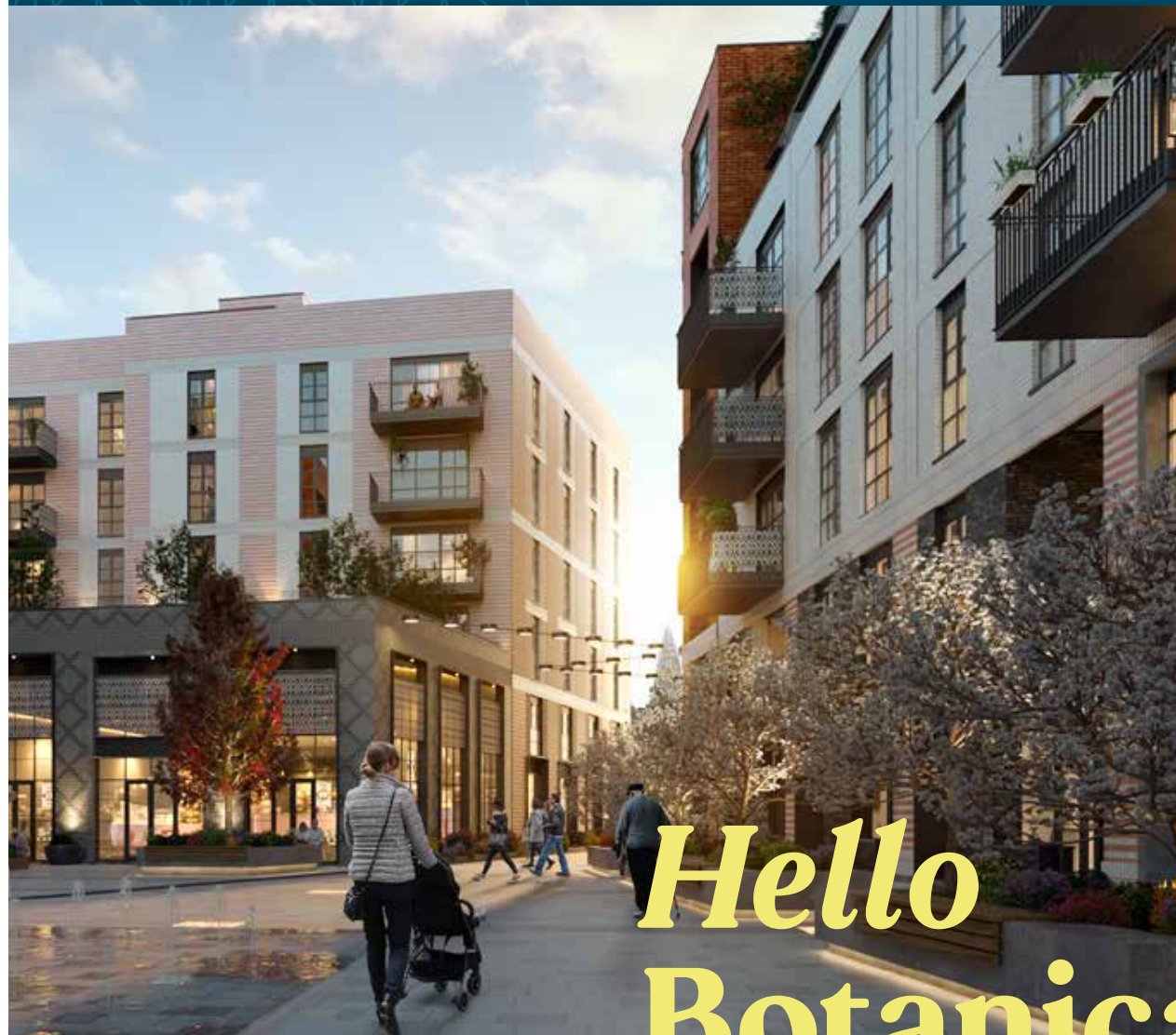
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Launching Summer 2023



Hello Botanical Place.

Join a community that knows how to live in West Byfleet that puts people, culture and wellbeing first.

Thrive Living
by Retirement Villages

botanicalplace.co.uk

Broadoaks Park – Designed with community living in mind

The next phase at Broadoaks Park, Surrey's exclusive country estate by Octagon, has now launched, featuring a collection of new, luxury homes - from two-bedroom apartments through to four and five-bedroom family houses.

Tim Banks, CEO of Octagon comments, "A testament to the popularity of Broadoaks Park, three homes have already been reserved off-plan, one from a client who has just secured his fourth property within the development! This will be one of the last opportunities to buy at our flagship parkland estate, offering beautiful houses with stunning landscaping, all the while encompassing a real community spirit."

The latest launch follows a highly successful string of earlier releases, with all previous phases fully reserved and many residents now moved in.

Work at Broadoaks Park is progressing quickly, with Octagon's site management team working hard to deliver the high-quality homes and extensive landscaping, whilst being mindful of new residents now in occupation, as well as the local residents of West Byfleet.

Recently finished is the picturesque 'village green' to the rear of the Grade II listed Mansion House, a beautifully landscaped area set away from roads and overlooked by detached family homes. Ideal for families, a new children's playground has also just opened in the heart of the development, providing learning opportunities through different types of play.



Designed with community living in mind, Broadoaks Park offers seven acres of open green space with private gardens and large communal lawns – a rare find in modern day residential developments.

New resident, Mr Smith-Bernal, is delighted to be living at Broadoaks Park, and comments "In terms of a large-scale development, there is nothing quite like Broadoaks Park within a 10-15 mile radius. Octagon has created something truly unique - which will be here for decades to come and is a significant part of the redevelopment of West Byfleet."

The new homes are sympathetically designed to complement the 19th Century architecture of the Grade II listed Broadoaks Mansion, where extensive restoration work is currently underway to transform the historical building into 2 spectacular homes, due to launch in 2024. The surrounding listed Coach House and Lodges have already been converted into

contemporary homes, and have all sold, with new Octagon clients having moved in.

Inside, homes are designed with high specification finishes throughout, including a bespoke kitchen designed with high gloss lacquer or matt finished cabinets, a full range of integrated appliances and boiling hot water taps. Detailing includes Octagon bespoke plaster cornices and fitted wardrobes to the master bedrooms, while bathrooms are finished with Villeroy & Boch sanitary ware and polished chrome fittings.

The latest collection of homes in Phase 5 start from £750,000 for a 2-bedroom apartment and £1,150,000 for houses.

www.broadoakspark.co.uk

Article by Kate Geraghty
Octagon's Group Marketing Manager



CGI – Phase 5

Mighty oaks from little acorns grow

It still amazes me how a humble acorn can produce a grand oak tree but I remind myself that this is the case. The oak tree becomes a home for an abundance of wildlife and a cradle for precious ecosystems. What magic this is! And yet we see this all the time; to us it is as usual as a rainy day or birds flying south for the winter. I could talk about plants all day but that's because I'm a gardener and a founding member of our 'acorn to oak', West Byfleet Community Gardening Group (WBCGG).



Tiny acorns: Formed in 2019 WBCGG aims to plant for wildlife and wellbeing in West Byfleet through a proactive group of 20+ gardeners with a spirit of awe and care for nature. In 2019 we adopted West Byfleet Railway Station via a scheme led by Community Rail Network (CRN). Most recent projects include planting 1,000 SWR and CRN donated bulbs as part of The Big Bulb Plant Out and the installation of bird boxes and bug hotels. Several species are spotted and commuters praise efforts for 'colouring their journey' to work. Last week, one commuter bought a round of teas to show their appreciation (a big thank you from us, if they are reading this!)

Diane Cozens, gardening group station lead, hosts a weekly weed/what needs doing, usually on a Tuesday: "We've planted Roses, Sunflowers, Cornus, Snowdrops, Sedum, and more all donated by the community; it's a real mixed bag but somehow it works. It's all great for wildlife, so it's perfect! We are looking forward to planting for the King's Coronation and further planting up the station beds with wildflowers. We also love our station bookcase which invites people passing through to pick up a book, read it, keep it or place it back. Anyone can donate new books by leaving them at the station ticket office or placing them on the bookshelf directly."

Saplings to forests: Though we are a small gardening team, we have a Facebook group of 200+ supporters that continue to be a source for conversation, ideas, and donations of time and plants. Last year we were donated some sunflower seeds which were grown by members of the group and looked beautiful on the station platform last year (the bees liked them, especially).

Other projects involve restoring a native hedge on Birch Green to provide shelter and food for wildlife and adding benches to encourage people to visit the green space. In our central recreation ground we have planted fruit trees to increase tree population and access to publicly available fruit.

Oak trees and new seeds: A main benefit of the group is facilitating conversation and ideas. Recently we discovered a rare Byfleet apple which, apple expert, Jim Arbury, from RHS Wisley, has now taken cuttings to graft and grow more of these trees so that we can

put them back in the area. Our group have also recently viewed old photographs of the local area to possibly bring back some planting. Having local knowledge and a few local history fans in the group is a great asset.

A true community project connected station, gardening group, artist and school. Last year we gained funding from SWR to paint a mural to welcome people to the area. Local mural artist, Natalie Beauvillain Scott, worked with secondary school, Fullbrook School, to design and paint the fantastic mural we have today.



Next we look forward to contacting the developers of West Byfleet centre to assist with a 'bee highway', a 'pitstop' for hungry wildlife inviting insects

to pass through our village via pollinator planting. We also hope to further support wildlife through continued contact with neighbouring Holme Farm.

So, as you can see a community group can bring so much positive change and impact to an area, more perhaps than is first recognised. I would say do join us or setup your own group! Together we can make positive changes... 'Mighty oaks...' well, you know the rest.

Email:

westbyfleetcommunitygardening@gmail.com

Facebook:

[West Byfleet Community Gardening Group](https://www.facebook.com/WestByfleetCommunityGardeningGroup)

Article by Rebecca Bradshaw

Jazz in the sunshine at Byfleet Community Library

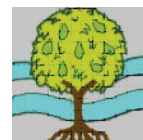
We were fortunate to have a Dixie band led by Simon Phipps play at our library on Saturday 3rd June. They played a set from 11-1 which was greatly enjoyed by the many residents in the audience. Tea, coffee and cake were served and the sun shone. Our youngest jazz connoisseur

was under three and enjoyed his dancing and learning real, old-fashioned 'jazz hands' from his mother!



Please keep an eye on the posters in the library windows for future events and activities.

Article by Lynden England



FREE GARDEN SEEDS! (Including seeds from RHS Wisley's 2022 collection)

AVAILABLE TO COLLECT FROM AND DONATE AT:

- The Byfleet Community Library, Plough Green, Byfleet
- St Mary's Centre for the Community, Stream Close, Byfleet
- The West Byfleet Community Library, Rosemount Parade, West Byfleet

Contact: vrb@the-residents.org

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The Byfleet Players are Back with A Bang!

If you were out and about in Byfleet earlier this year, you probably will have noticed the posters for The Byfleet Players Pantomime, 'Dick Whittington' all around the village. The pantomime, which was held at St Mary's Primary School, saw the return of the Players after a three year hiatus. It was a huge success and every performance sold out.



More recently, the Players have been busy with their Variety Night which took place at Byfleet Village Hall in June. For one night only, the Players were joined by The Allegro Performers Academy to entertain with song, dance, comedy and sketches.

A fun evening was had by all!

There's lots more planned for the coming months. On Saturday 1st July, the Players will be back at St Mary's for the school's Summer Fair, where they will be doing two performances of their mini pantomime 'Robin Hood'.

Then on Saturday 15th July they will be getting up to their usual shenanigans at the Byfleet Parish Day, so please pop along and say hello.

Auditions for the 2024 pantomime, 'Snow White & The Seven Dwarfs', will also take place in July and rehearsals start in September. Snow White will run for four performances, including a Saturday matinee, from the 11th - 13th January 2024 at Byfleet Village Hall...Oh yes, it will!

It's going to be a busy summer for the Byfleet Players, and they couldn't be happier. Director, Sharon Harrison said, "We're back on stage and doing what we love most ...entertaining the people of Byfleet!"

For everything you need to know about The

Byfleet Players, including details of the 'Snow White' auditions, booking tickets, and future events, please take a look at the website: www.thebyfleetplayers.co.uk.

If you are a local business and would like to advertise in the 2024 pantomime programme, then please contact Sharon at kerfuffle121@yahoo.com.



West Byfleet Health Centre

The refurbishment of the three GP practices started a year ago and by the end of June 2023 it should all be completed with Wey Family being the last practice. The disruption has been fairly minimal and we are very pleased with the outcome. Some additional clinical rooms have been added to the second floor but they now house our extended workforce including pharmacists and care coordinators. All three practices are doing their best to absorb additional demand from our increasing population, but space continues to be a challenge.

To this end, I wanted to update our patients on the use of our clinics at the Woking Community Hospital. We have commissioned extra capacity for GP, physio and respiratory appointments

as part of our extended access programme. As a patient, if you are offered an appointment in one of these clinics, please be aware we are not sending you to the Walk-In Centre at the Community Hospital to sit there and wait. The appointment given to you is a timed appointment with a GP who has access to your clinical record and is there to help with any acute problem.



We have also purchased a new Health Kiosk which will be in the reception area once the refurbishment has finished. You will be able to use it for updating your health record with your height, weight and, more importantly, your blood pressure. All information is uploaded to your medical record and if the blood pressure taken is out of range, the practice is advised so they can contact you.


Lastly, I wanted to thank the Wit Knits for their unbelievable effort at decorating the village for the Coronation; all those wonderful soldiers were being sold off to raise money for the Health Centre as part of the 'Friends of West Byfleet Health Centre'.

Liz Reynolds
Wey Family Practice Manager



Where is this photo?

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WBBA WEST BYFLEET Business Association

Update on the West Byfleet Business Association and Local Business

The West Byfleet Business Association – WBBA is a collaboration of businesses serving the West Byfleet area. The WBBA is dedicated to supporting local businesses and providing benefits for the wider community to help our village prosper and grow.

We work alongside various organisations including:

- Woking Borough Council
- Woking Chamber of Commerce
- The Residents' Association
- The West Byfleet Neighbourhood Forum
- The West Byfleet Liaison Group

I became involved with the WBBA when I first stood for election as a Local Ward Councillor



for West Byfleet in 2008; I was introduced to members at one of the early morning business meetings that were held in Corky's Wine Bar in Station Approach. These meetings started at 7.30am as many needed to open their premises ready for the day ahead. They were well attended and members were generally enthusiastic and optimistic. Sheer House was pretty much fully occupied at this time and the business community benefited from the daily footfall of the large numbers of people working there that would visit the shops, cafes and restaurants. In later years, the meeting location moved to The West Byfleet Social Club, and then to Waitrose. The Association was formed many years ago although I have been unable to find out who formed it and when. I believe Richard Smith of Eltons was a founder member followed by various Chairman: Ron Enticott, Pauline Hedges, Neil Butcher and Jane Armitage all were involved with local business and dedicated large amounts of their time for the betterment of the village. Each brought something new to the table and I would like to thank them all for what they have done to support businesses and the community of West Byfleet. I was elected as Chairman in 2019. I would like to make a special mention for Pauline Hedges who, with the support of WBBA members, made 'West Byfleet Live' a reality and such a huge success. Pauline dedicated so much of her time (and her own money) to organising and working on this project which was greatly



appreciated by residents and visitors alike. Unfortunately we have been unable, despite the best efforts of many, to revive this annual event. Let's hope that in the future we may find a way. Pauline was also instrumental in setting up a West Byfleet 'Street Market' that was held once a month along Station Approach, we both used to arrive at 6.30am on Saturday mornings to erect 10 gazebos and organise the traders, no matter what the weather!

In 2017 Pauline who has a background linked with the Chambers of Commerce was deservedly appointed an MBE in recognition of her services to young people, charity and the community.

The West Byfleet business community has seen much change over the past years mainly due to the exit of tenants from Sheer House and the uncertainties surrounding the sale of the site and its future. Thankfully, the emerging Botanical Place when completed will revitalise and reenergise local business with the opportunities it will present.



Unfortunately, our membership and the interest shown by local companies and traders in the WBBA has also

been affected particularly by the loss of many established businesses and the current economic difficulties that are affecting us all. Despite this, we will continue to support our existing members and be there for advice or direction when needed and of course welcome and encourage any new business to our area.

Our plan going forward:

- We will conduct another membership drive and encourage businesses to join the WBBA - we will not ask for any membership fees.
- We will be updating our web and Facebook pages where local companies can promote their business and services without charge.
- We aim to take full advantage of any business support that is free and available from Woking Borough Council or other organisations including the Woking and Surrey Chambers of Commerce.
- We will keep all members updated on local issues and matters that are likely to affect their business e.g. The Botanical Place

development, planning applications and any associated changes to customer parking, road layout or public transport etc.

Information is key in enabling our village and business community to survive and prosper, together with ideas and suggestions from residents and business. With a collaborative approach we can plan and help shape the future of West Byfleet.

If you as a reader have a business or know someone who has and is not already a member, please ask them to register on the 'Join Us' page of our website www.wbba.org.uk or get in contact with me.

Gary Elson, Chairman
West Byfleet Business Association

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Health and Wellbeing

Are you a carer or know someone who is? Did you know 1 in 10 patients at West Byfleet Health Centre (WBHC) GP Practices have registered as carers and there are potentially more who do not realise that they are a carer?

The guide in this article has been developed for new and existing carers. It contains practical information about being a carer such as definitions, how to register at your GP Practice, what your Practice will then do and how to access local support, advice and charities.

You will also find a copy of the guide on the RA website: www.the-residents.org and on your GP Practice website (click on Practice Information, Patient Participation Group, being a Carer buttons)

Article by Carol Leong-Son
RA Health and Wellbeing Officer



Newly Elected Local Councillor – Chris Martin

I've had a varied career thus far and it never gets boring. I've been part of the British rowing squad for six years, worked as a project manager in both construction and market research sectors and have rowed across the Atlantic solo and the North Pacific, with a former Royal Marine, becoming the first to do so. In the last 10 years I've founded ocean rowing events and supported individuals helping others to achieve their dreams. I grew up in Chertsey and learnt to swim at Woking pool when it was in the town centre, but now, I live in Byfleet with my wife and two young boys.



I got into local politics after the Liberal Democrats got vilified after their time in coalition. I felt that I could either become apathetic about politics, shrug my shoulders and give up or step forwards, engage more and be more engaged. I am so excited at having been elected and although there are so many challenges ahead, not least the dire financial situation we face, I'm thrilled and honoured to

be part of the change.

I have a few ideas of things which I'd like to achieve including improving the "Welcome to Pyrford" road signs, having Christmas lights on Marshall Parade, speed restrictions on various residential roads in the ward, improving sight lines of some exits onto Pyrford Road and Pyrford Common Road and reinstating lost footpaths.

More than this though I am proud to be one of Pyrford's three councillors on Woking Borough Council. I want to improve the visibility of what we're doing to help residents and be more easily contacted by residents.

Residents can contact me at:
Email: CllrChris.Martin@woking.gov.uk
Tel: 01483 363224

www.facebook.com/CllrChrisMartinPyrford
www.instagram.com/cllrchrismartin

I will be running surgeries at the same time as Peter Graves:

- 1. The last Friday every month: Church of the Good Shepherd, 9am - 11am.
- 2. The first Tuesday every month: Maybury Community Centre, 9am - 11am.

Being a Carer - A guide for existing and new carers.
What to expect from your WBHC GP Practice and how to access local services and advice

What is the definition of a carer?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anyone who looks after another person• Young carers are 5-18 years old• Young adult carers are 19-24 years old• Adult carers are > 24 years old
Who can register as a carer at WBHC?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Any patient at WBHC (>5 years old) who is a carer.• The cared for person does not have to be a WBHC patient.• You do not need to be a family member of the person you care for.
How do I register as a carer at WBHC?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fill in the Carer's form. It is available via:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GP Practice website. (Click on General Enquiries, then Register a Carer) or,• Request from reception, a link to an on-line form. Print & hand in the completed form to reception.
What information do I need to supply?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Name, address, D.O.B & other contact details for you and the person you care for.• Health conditions of the person you care for (for Carer's Grant application)
Does WBHC have any restrictions on who can be registered as a carer?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No. Registration is taken on trust.• If you are caring for a patient of WBHC, staff may check the health conditions of that patient.
When you have registered as a carer at WBHC, your GP surgery will:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add a 'Carer Flag' to your record• Send you a link to 'Action for Carers'<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Registered charity offering free, independent information and benefits advice• Request on your behalf, the Carer's Grant.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This is a one off payment (£300) for carers from Surrey Independent Living Council (SILC).• Invite you for seasonal vaccinations (eg Flu and CoVid)
What should I do once I have registered as a carer?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Get a Carer's 'In case of Emergency' card.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It lets people know you are a carer and who to contact if you are unable to continue caring. It is available free of charge from Action for Carers or Crossroads Care Surrey (registered charities)• Request access to 'GP On-line Services for Carers'<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To enable you remotely act on behalf of the cared for person. Eg: Book appointments; Order prescriptions; View medical records etc.• Please ask reception if this service is available to you. You will be eligible if you and the 'cared for person' are registered at GP Practices who both use the same clinical records provider and you can show written consent.• Have a signed 'Consent in writing' letter from your cared for person to act on their behalf. Eg. Access to medical records; Attend appointments with them etc.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The letter should also contain your name, address, d.o.b, & signature.• The letter is held on the medical records of the 'cared for' person
What should I do if the person I care for needs to visit / go into hospital?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is advised to have the 'Consent in Writing' letter to show hospital<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carers details are not shared between NHS organisations• Contact Action for Carers to talk with a hospital carer advisor.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carer advisors can help with communication between you and the hospital and support with the discharge process.

What support and advice is available to me as a carer?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You may be entitled to benefits. Check via Action for Carers website• A Carer's Assessment to assess your own support needs. Request the assessment from Surrey County Council via your GP website. Click on Wellbeing, Carers, Carer's Assessment.• Young Carers have an automatic right to a carers assessment. This is triggered when a young carer is referred to Surrey Young Carers charity.• Carer's respite care. You can apply via :<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crossroads Care Surrey (contact details below)• Surrey Independent Living Council via a GP referral. Availability is at the discretion of SILC. Numbers are limited.• WBHC social prescribing team. Referral required from your GP• Charities and local support groups (contact details below)
Should I tell my GP Practice if I have or need a carer?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is no need to tell your GP if you have a carer.• You can however request an alert on your notes if you have a specific need. Eg. Phone conversations to be with your carer, not you.• If you need a carer, WBHC staff will signpost you to social services.
Useful Information	
Registered charities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Action for Carers Surrey.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides information, advice and support for carers of all ages.• Contact: www.actionforcarers.org.uk Phone 0303 0401234, Text 07723 486730, Email CarerSupport@ActionforCarers.org.uk• Surrey Young Carers (part of Action for Carers, Surrey).<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Specialist support for young carers• A parent, teacher or someone working with the family can refer to the charity who will assess the young carer's situation to see if they can provide suitable help.• Contact 01483 568269. Email syc@actionforcarers.org.uk• Surrey Young Adult Carers (part of Action for Carers, Surrey).<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides support and advice including applying for carer support payments.• Contact 01483 568269. Text: 07736 561976 Email yac@actionforcarers.org.uk• Crossroads Care Surrey.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides a range of services and 24 hour support to unpaid carers across Surrey including free of charge respite care (up to 35 hours) and a directory to find local support services and national information.• Contact: crossroadscaresurrey.org.uk Phone: 01372 869970, Email enquiries@crossroadscaresurrey.org.uk
Local support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Woking Borough Council<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carer support and activities can be found at https://www.woking.gov.uk/living-well/staying-independent-home/dementia-and-carers-support/how-we-can-help-carers• Action for Carers 'Drop-In' Hubs<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For information, advice, refreshments and a friendly welcome.• Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday each month between 10:00am - 2:30pm at Addlestone Community Centre, Garfield Road, Addlestone, KT15 2NJ.

TRY OUR COMMUNITY MEALS FOR FREE

"More than just a meal"



Our Community Meals team delivers hundreds of delicious and nutritious affordable meals to residents across the borough every day.

This also means a daily, friendly visit from the Community Meals team to check in on you, offering reassurance for you, your family and friends.

A range of fully flexible options are on offer:

- receive meals only on the days you require them
- frozen meals can be delivered for you to prepare at a time convenient to you
- choose if you would like your meal plated up or left for you to serve yourself
- choose your menu every two weeks.

Order additional items including:

- breakfast
- soups
- sandwiches
- fruit
- cakes
- drinks.

To find out more, and start your free trial, call **01483 743 668**, or email **HealthAndWellbeing@woking.gov.uk**.

*One free trial per household

**To claim your two day
free trial*, quote:**

RB02

[woking.gov.uk/livingwell](https://www.woking.gov.uk/livingwell)



West Byfleet Community Choir Come and Sing with Us!

If you walk past West Byfleet Infant School on a Tuesday evening you may hear the wonderful sound of singing and laughter! It's the sound of West Byfleet Community Choir having fun and singing songs that make them happy!



West Byfleet Community Choir is a friendly, non-audition, inclusive choir who meet every Tuesday at West Byfleet Infant School Hall between 7.50pm and 9.20pm. There are currently about 30 men and women of all ages, and all agree that the choir leaves them feeling uplifted, supported, joyful and with a sense of togetherness. The Choir is run by a small committee who aim to make it a warm and non-judgemental environment, where individuals can feel safe, have fun and enjoy social time together. The first Tuesday of each month involves a get together after choir at the local pub so that members can get to know each other better.

Considering the choir's preferences, the Musical Director brings his own incredible harmonies and a wealth of musical experience, along with the talented pianist who provides beautiful accompaniment.



The Choir has been running since 2016 and charges £6 per session, making it very accessible to all. Anyone is welcome, whether you can read music or not and you don't need

to have any musical background! The repertoire is extensive, singing and performing songs from the shows, traditional songs, classic pop songs and more.

If you would like to join the choir they would love to welcome you with a free taster session. For more information, please contact westbyfleetcc@gmail.com or visit www.wbcc.co.uk. They are also on Facebook under [West Byfleet Community Choir](#).

They are currently rehearsing for their summer concert to be held on July 15th at Fullbrook School, New Haw. Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. The choir is aiming for a relaxed café style summer evening with some light jazz and popular music.

Tickets will be on sale after the bank holiday, please see the website for info www.wbcc.co.uk.



We are a friendly, non audition, inclusive choir that loves to have fun and sing!

Come and sing with us!

Tuesday 7.50-9.20pm
West Byfleet Infant School Hall

please visit- www.wbcc.co.uk
or email westbyfleetcc@gmail.com
f West Byfleet Community Choir

Answers - to 'Where is this?' Photos



Page 2
Brooklands - Clock above the door of the clubhouse for the Brooklands Automobile Racing Club (BARC).

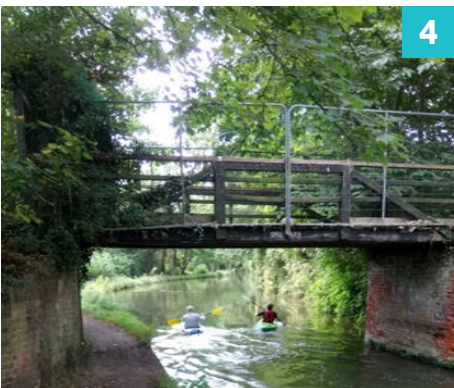


Page 7
The 'Erected AD 1885' plaque is on the Old Fire Station, Byfleet.



Page 12
The Copse at St Mary's Church, Byfleet.

If anyone has any unusual photos of things around the villages please email them to editor@the-residents.org and I will publish in future editions.



Page 20
Murray's Bridge now impassable - accessed via Murray's Lane. West Hall owners used to drive over the bridge in their pony and trap on Sunday mornings to attend church at St Mary's, Byfleet.

RA Committee meetings take place on 3rd Wednesday of each month (except August & December) – check RA website for further details (www.the-residents.org).

Date & Time	Event	Details
Saturday 8th July, 1pm	Pyrford + Wisley Village Show	Pyrford Village Green, Pyrford Cricket Field
Saturday 15th July, 12.30pm	Byfleet Parish Day	Byfleet Recreation Ground
Thursday 20th July, 8.15pm	Byfleet Heritage Society Film Show of the RA's 1999' Our Three Villages'	St. Mary's Centre for the Community, Stream Close, Byfleet. (Non-members £2. RA members free entry)
Saturday 22nd July, 10.30am - 11.30 noon	Quarterly Byfleet Litter Pick	Plough Green, Byfleet
September, date tbc	Sanway-Byfleet Flood Alleviation Scheme community engagement event	
Saturday 21st October, 2pm until 4pm	RA Drop-in Issue 174 (Street Representatives collect Issue 174)	Pyrford Arbor Centre
Sunday 12th November, 10.50m	Remembrance Sunday Service	Byfleet War Memorial, High Road, Byfleet
Saturday 2nd December, 10.30am	Christmas Market	Byfleet (Details TBA in Issue 174)
2024		
Last Saturday in the month	Return of the West Byfleet Farmers Market	Car park of 'Our Lady Help of Christians RC Church', Madeira Road
Saturday 4th December, 10am to 4pm	Christmas gift and decoration stalls	Byfleet Village Christmas Market Plough Green, Byfleet Village
4th – 7th December, 4pm to 8pm	Community Christmas Tree Festival Byfleet Trees decorated by local organisations including RA	St John's Church West Byfleet The Trees are being judged the day before by the Mayor of Woking
Saturday 18th December, 12 noon to 4pm	Farmers Christmas Market A wide variety of produce and gift stalls from local, independent businesses in our community	Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church, Madeira Road, West Byfleet, KT14 6BH

The Committee 2023

Chairman	Stewart Dick	chairman@the-residents.org
Deputy Chairman	Ian Mason	deputychairman@the-residents.org
Treasurer	VACANT	treasurer@the-residents.org
Secretary	Lynette Davies	secretary@the-residents.org
Membership Secretary	VACANT	members@the-residents.org
Planning Coordinator	Stewart Dick	planning@the-residents.org
Rights of Way Officer	VACANT	footpath@the-residents.org
Events Coordinator	Gary Elson	events@the-residents.org
Newsletter Editor	Robert Munford	editor@the-residents.org
Advertising Manager	Robert Munford	advertising@the-residents.org
Website	Anita Flavell	web@the-residents.org
Committee Member	Sheila Carroll, David Bell	
Health & WellBeing Officer	Carol Leong-Son	hwo@the-residents.org
Environment Officer	Helen Orledge	environment@the-residents.org

VILLAGE REPRESENTATIVES (VRs)		
Byfleet VR	Eleanor Grady	vrb@the-residents.org
Deputy	Jean-Pierre Frossard	depvrb@the-residents.org
West Byfleet VR	VACANT	vrwb@the-residents.org
Deputy	Emma Slaymaker/Liz Leese	depvrwb@the-residents.org
Pyrford VR	Andy Grimshaw	vrp@the-residents.org
Deputy	Gordon Brierley	depvrp@the-residents.org
NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM REPRESENTATIVES		
Byfleet	Andrew Weiss	See page 28 for Contact Details
West Byfleet	Wade Pollard	
Pyrford	Andy Grimshaw	

How to pay your subscriptions

The annual subscription remains at £5. If you have not yet paid your annual subscription, there are a number of ways to do so.

1. **The preferred method is to make a direct online payment.** We have a separate bank account for each of the 3 villages, so please can you contact your Village Representative for details on how to pay, as well as confirming your email address to them:

Eleanor Grady,
Byfleet Village Representative
vrb@the-residents.org

Andy Grimshaw,
Pyrford Village Representative
vrp@the-residents.org

2. **Alternatively, you can contact your Street Rep** to provide you with a subscription envelope in which to place your cash/cheque* and return the completed envelope to your Street Rep.

3. Finally, if you don't know who your Street Rep is, or perhaps the position is vacant, you may **send a cheque*** to The Residents' Association c/o Byfleet Village Hall, 54 High Road, Byfleet KT14 7QL.

***CHEQUES SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO "BWBPR".**

WOKING BOROUGH COUNCILLORS					
Ward	Councillor	Party	Phone	Email	Surgeries
Byfleet & West Byfleet	Josh BROWN	Conservative	07340 102891	cllrjosh.brown@woking.gov.uk	Residents can contact Josh to arrange an online or a face-to-face meeting regarding concerns.
	Amanda BOOTE	Independent	01932 344811	cllramanda.boote@woking.gov.uk	Byfleet Library on the 2nd Saturday of every month from 10am to 11am. They are also available to meet any of our residents on a 1:1 basis at all times if they contact us.
	Daryl JORDAN	Independent		cllrDaryl.jordan@woking.gov.uk	
Pyrford	Steve DORSETT	Conservative	07729 829658	cllrsteve.dorsett@woking.gov.uk www.facebook.com/CllrSteveDorsett	1st Saturday of every month 12 noon - 2pm in the Pyrford Social Club
	Chris MARTIN	Liberal Democrat	01483 363224	CllrChris.Martin@woking.gov.uk	Last Friday of every month 9am - 11am
	Peter GRAVES	Liberal Democrat	07398 596895	cllrpeter.graves@woking.gov.uk	Church of the Good Shepherd No appointment necessary.

SURREY COUNTY COUNCILLORS				
Ward	Councillor	Party	Phone	Email
The Byfleets	Amanda BOOTE	Independent	07824 776961	amanda.boote@surreycc.gov.uk
Woking SE	Liz BOWES	Conservative	01483 768257	liz.bowes@surreycc.gov.uk

Further details of elected Councillors can be found at www.woking.gov.uk and www.surreycc.gov.uk.

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER				
Surrey	Lisa TOWNSEND	Conservative	01483 630200	SurreyPCC@surrey.pnn.police.uk

NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUMS			
Contacts	Byfleet	Pyrford	West Byfleet
Chairperson	Andrew Weiss	Andy Grimshaw	Wade Pollard
Secretary	Lynn Cozens	Andy Grimshaw	VACANT
Email	info@ByfleetForum.org	info@pyrfordforum.org	Contact via website
Website	www.ByfleetForum.org	www.pyrfordforum.org	www.wbnf.org
Facebook/Twitter	www.facebook.com/Byfleet Forum	www.facebook.com/Pyrford Forum www.twitter.com/Pyrford Forum	www.facebook.com/groups/2004486373140529
Postal Address	The Secretary, Byfleet Neighbourhood Forum, 32 Magdalen Crescent, Byfleet, KT14 7QL	The Secretary, Pyrford Neighbourhood Forum, Pyrford Village War Memorial Hall, Coldharbour Road, Pyrford, GU22 8SP	N/A

“The Resident” Newsletter

Advertising rates and sizes (effective from Issue 172, February 2023)

RATES		
Size	1 issue (£)	3 issues (£)
SINGLE (50x58mm)	35	95
DOUBLE (either option) (D1 - 50x124mm) (D2 - 85x58mm)	65	165
TREBLE (either option) (T1 - 50x189mm) (T2 - 85x124mm)	90	250
Full page advert	250	700

- Newsletter produced 3 times a year (under normal circumstances)
- 28 page, full colour, A4 publication
- 3200 copies printed
- distributed across three villages using network of volunteer street representatives
- lodged in libraries, health centres, local shops, etc

If interested, contact:
advertising@the-residents.org

Sudoku Puzzle Answers from Page 2

1	9	3	2	4	8	7	5	6
4	7	6	1	5	9	3	8	2
8	2	5	3	6	7	1	4	9
9	1	2	8	7	6	4	3	5
6	3	7	5	1	4	2	9	8
5	8	4	9	2	3	6	1	7
3	5	1	7	9	2	8	6	4
7	6	8	4	3	5	9	2	1
2	4	9	6	8	1	5	7	3