



EXTRA NEWS

AUTUMN / WINTER 2016

Message from Romsey Extra Parish Council Chairman Chris Wesson



If I were asked the question 'What is the Parish Council all about?', my answer would be 'It is all about the community'.

Sometimes a parish council has to lead, and sometimes it has to listen to the community; to their wants, needs and suggestions to improve their area.

A good example of the parish council and local community working together was on a Saturday morning back in the spring when a litter pick took place in Woodley Close, Ganger Road as well as parts of Braishfield Road and Abbotswood.

Test Valley Borough Council, in the form of local community officer Marianne Piggin, organised the event, planning our routes and providing hi-viz jackets, litter-pickers and plastic sacks.

Some 35 volunteer pickers took part – Parish and Borough Councillors, members of the Woodley and Ganger Community Forum, local residents, Abbotswood Court

staff as well as the 10th Romsey Scouts who also provided bacon butties to keep us going.

Over an hour or so 15+ sacks were filled with all types of rubbish and all participants felt that they had not only done a good job for the community but they had actually enjoyed themselves in the process.

There is talk of holding another event in the March/April 2017, but in the meantime what is there to stop you, as a resident, participating in litter picking on a daily basis in your own area? Why not keep a plastic bag in your pocket and when you go out for a walk and if you see some litter, pick it up, pop it in the bag. When you get home, put it in the dust bin. Become a good citizen by doing your bit.

'The Hedge' at the entrance to Woodley Close, which has been an eyesore for years, has now been removed by removed by HCC. Spring bulbs, paid for by Romsey Extra PC, have been planted at the entrance of the close and around the open space. They should make an impressive splash of colour next spring.

Repairs and wood treatment is being carried out to fence around the Romsey FC and hedge 'whips,' which grow to eventually screen the site, are being planted. This work is being jointly funded by Romsey Extra PC and The Romsey &

District Society as a 'Community Improvement Project'.

Romsey Extra PC are also continuing to look at other areas of the parish which need tidying up and improving. Ideas from residents are welcomed.

Returning to another topic, work on improving the frontage of Woodley Village Hall has now been finished. Funded by the parish council, the whole front of the hall can now be seen after having been largely screened for many years. Benches have been provided on a paved area for those who may wish just sit and soak up some sun, or even take a break during an exercise class. Hampshire County Council kindly agreed to carry out new asphaltting and grass seeding where their land meets the hall boundary. Our parish clerk has even been promised a new notice board!

On the civic side, I was pleased to be invited in the summer to attend a performance of 'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat' at Stroud School. This 'end of year event' included every pupil from the top years of the school and was absolutely superb. One also has to remember those who also contributed in the background by making props, sewing costumes etc. All in all a very good evening was had by all.

Meeting Dates 2017:

January 12th

February 9th

March 16th

April 6th (19th Annual Parish Assembly)

May 11th

June 8th

July 13th

August 10th

September 14th

October 12th

November 9th

December 14th

BOUNDARIES - AN UPDATE

"There will be no changes to the boundaries of Test Valley Borough Council's Romsey Extra Ward and no change to the Romsey Extra Parish Council boundary"

In the Spring edition of the Romsey Extra Council Newsletter an article entitled "Boundaries" drew attention to proposed boundary changes for the Hampshire County Council (HCC) Divisions which were expected to affect the Romsey Extra parish Council area.

On 6th September the Local Government Boundary Commission for England completed its electoral review of Hampshire. The Commission has adjusted the boundaries of the County Councillor Divisions so that each Councillor represents more or less the same number of electors. The average in Hampshire will be 13,846 electors per County Councillor by the year 2021.

The current Romsey Town Division is below the average number. The Commission has, after a long period of consultation, decided to add the following roads, which are currently in the Romsey Extra Division, to the Romsey Town Division.

Woodley Close

Ganger Farm Lane / Ganger Road and roads off

Hunters Crescent and roads off

School Road and roads off

Campion Drive and roads off

Grange Mews

The change comes into effect at the next local elections in May 2017. There will also be a change to the name of the Romsey Extra County Division. It will be known as the Romsey Rural Division.

The proposed inclusion of Crampmoor within Romsey Town Division will **not** be taking place. Crampmoor will remain within Romsey Extra Division, that is, the new Romsey Rural Division. At the same time the Romsey Rural County Division will gain Mottisfont from Central Test Valley.

Please note these changes apply to the County Council Divisions only. There will be no changes to the boundaries of Test Valley Borough Council's Romsey Extra Ward and no change to the Romsey Extra Parish Council boundary.

However, from the 2019 Parish Council elections, the parish of Romsey Extra will be "warded". At present your 7 Parish Councillors all represent the entire Parish Council area. After 2019 there will be 2 wards within Romsey Extra Parish Council which will have 4 and 3 Councillor representatives respectively.

Keep Your Homes Safe and Secure

A series of burglaries have taken place in Romsey recently. Keep your homes safe and secure with the following tips:



- Check your insurance documents for any specific security requirements or upgrades.
- Ensure side gates are locked to prevent access to the rear of the property.
- Ensure rear fencing is in good repair.
- Lock all windows and doors, remembering to double lock UPVC doors (lift handle and turn key)
- Keep all keys out of reach and sight from the letterbox (remember a device could be used to hook keys through letterbox).
- Do not leave ladders and garden tools in your garden, lock them away in your shed.
- Improve natural surveillance at the front of your property i.e. trim high hedges.
- Consider fitting security lighting and a burglar alarm.
- Mark your property with postcode and house number and register your property for free with www.immobilise.com
- Make use of timer switches to make the property appear occupied.
- Get a trusted neighbour to keep an eye on your property.
- Consider joining or forming a Neighbourhood Watch scheme.
- Remove valuables from view of ground floor windows.
- Store any high value items (i.e. jewellery, passports) in a properly secured safe or bank vault.

DEFIBRILLATOR - WOODLEY VILLAGE HALL

Earlier this year the Parish Council funded the public access defibrillator located on the front wall of Woodley Village Hall (pictured opposite).

On 29 November a number of users of the Hall along with some members of the Parish Council attended a training session on first aid and how to use a defibrillator.



“Defibrillators are easy to use. The machine gives clear spoken instructions. You do not need training to use one”.

“It maybe you that one day saves a life”

RIDGE & THE NEW CREMATORIUM AT RANVILLES - Phoebe Merrick

Few people have ever been along Ridge Lane and probably even less have walked along the footpath from Cutters Barn which was the old route across Pauncefoot Hill that precedes the modern dual-carriageway known as the A3090.

Ridge Lane is marked by a signpost just before the road drops down to the Ower roundabout. My first memories of it stem from an autumn day when I was picking blackberries in the hedgerow and came across some wild plums there too.

After leaving the main road, Ridge Lane runs east for about a quarter of a mile passing the disused quarry entrance on the left. It then meets the footpath and turns south past Ridge Farm and the former chapel and school building.

Although most recently, the area to the north of the lane has been a quarry and a landfill site, now restored to fields, it

has a long and interesting history. Before the First World War (and after) it was farmed by Alfred Frampton of Ranvilles Farm, a tenant farmer of Broadlands. During the War, Mr Frampton's farm land was taken over by the War Office so he had to give up his cattle. The land was used as the Remount Depot where thousands of horses were trained for military service.

In about 1831, Lord Palmerston acquired the Ridge area from Peter Serle. It had been part of the manor of Little Testwood and manorial records have survived. In 1866, the Broadlands estate spent £580 on 'drainage, grubbing and clearing land' and other drainage works which improved the quality of the land for the tenant farmer.

Before the drainage works, much of the level plateau had been common land and the

manorial records of the area show the fines paid by tenants for the right to graze animals on the open or common land there.

That Ridge and the neighbouring Pauncefoot area were important grazing areas is shown by the survival of an old document, probably drawn up early in the 14th century, which says who can graze beasts of 'the common of Stanbridge Ranville'. The Lord of Ranvilles was required to maintain all the gates to this common and provide shelter for pigs there.

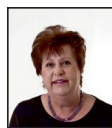
Now a new use is being found for the restored quarry land and soon Romsey will have its own crematorium in a rural setting and many more of us will have reasons to turn into Ridge Lane, albeit not the carefree ones of blackberry picking.



The Military Band of the Remount Depot outside one of the huts



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County Councillor:

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roy.perry@hants.gov.uk

Member of Parliament:

Caroline Nokes 01794 521155 or
caroline.nokes.mp@parliament.uk

Carers Forum & Carers Club:
www.romseycarers.org.uk

Diabetes Aware: 01794 515126

Moped Loan Scheme: 01425 482773

NOMADS: amateur dramatics - 01794 513860

Police: Safer Neighbourhood Team: 101

Romsey Citizens Advice: 01794 516378

Romsey Dial-A-Ride: 01264 356808

Romsey Sea Cadets: 01794 514387

Romsey Twinning: 01794 514880

Test Valley Community Services: 01794 519998

Romsey District Scouts:
www.romseyscouts.org

Woodley Village Hall Booking:
Mrs Garland wvha_1@hotmail.co.uk

Youth in Romsey: 01794 500581

Community News

Will your child be 4 years old between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017?

Starting School in September 2017
APPLYING FOR A SCHOOL PLACE
From 1 November 2016, Hampshire residents can apply:
• online at www.hants.gov.uk/admissions where you will also find information about schools in Hampshire; OR
• using a paper application form available from any Hampshire infant or primary school.
Schools make individual arrangements for open events in the autumn term. You are encouraged to make use of these opportunities to gather information before making an application.
Application deadline is **Sunday 15 January 2017**.
Please visit any Hampshire infant or primary school or Children's Centre for help with the application process, or call the Admissions Team on 0300 555 1377.

Hampshire County Council www.hants.gov.uk

Romsey Pegasus Badminton Club

are Welcoming New Members

Why not give our friendly club a try?
Badminton is a great way to get fit and have fun

We play every Monday from 8pm-10pm
at Mountbatten School Sports Hall

Contact: romseypegasus@gmail.com
For more information see our website
romseypegasusbadmintonclub.wordpress.com

Woodley & Crampmoor Friendship Club

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| January 4th | Members Afternoon & Social Event |
| January 18th | David Otley HMS Alliance & Submarine Museum |
| February 1st | Annual General Meeting & Closure |

It is hoped that as many members as possible will be able to attend the AGM for the final meeting of the club following 26 successful years