

## NINE FOR NINE [BUT ONE ALREADY MISSING]

The parish council elections in May were of note in Chineham for only one reason; there were only as many candidates as there were vacancies and thus all those validly nominated automatically became councillors. Now and then residents feel they have things to complain about. Very few of the topics aired fall within the orbit of a parish council, but the Chineham Parish Council does at least have some good connections with the appropriate authorities. If you feel you would like to see things done better, why not stand for the next vacancy and see if you can make your contribution to positive change.

It just so happens that.....

### NOW IT'S NEIN (NO) TO NINE.

ALISON NADER – who has served on Chineham Parish Council since its formation in 1985 – has moved with her family to Reading. Not only does she leave a gap as Vice-Chairman, but also as a committee member and Tree Warden. Amongst her many contributions over the years was her organisation of our most recent Clean Up Chineham Week. Thank you for all you have done Alison .....we look forward to a cleaner Reading.

Meanwhile, here's a real chance for somebody who likes a challenge; try to be a worthy replacement for Alison!! Contact the Electoral Registration Office, the Parish Clerk or any councillor for further details.

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## KEEP IT ALIVE KORNER



Discarded **SPECTACLES** for use in "Third World" countries are being collected by Mr G Twine. A clearly marked box in the borough Planning Department reception awaits your rejects (or leave them at 68 Fennel Close).

Items for shipment to **ROMANIA** may be left with Councillor Roger Bennett at 73 Reading Road.

**TINFOIL** and **USED POSTAGE STAMPS** are being collected by The Guide Dog For The Blind Association and may be left with Jackie Weeks at 7 Meadowlands (Tel. 816564).

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Jane Cooper, tel. (0256) 763649

## snippets

**THE CHINEHAM ARMS** will again hold "birthday" celebrations on Saturday 10 August 1991. Residents wishing to attend can start planning, as can those who wish to be far away at the time.

**SOUTHERN ELECTRIC** are not planning to build their "Thyme Close" sub-station for at least ten years although that might be by 1992. Despite efforts by the local action group to obtain clarification, nobody has yet provided clear answers to questions such as "if" and "when".

**THE CHINEHAM INCINERATOR** on current thinking is no longer destined to be replaced by a "bigger and better" alternative. It seems that when EC regulations deem it illegal (as well as unhealthy) in the mid 90's, county councillors are minded to use the site as a waste collection and transfer station.

**SURVEYS GALORE** are currently being conducted throughout Chineham to assess local needs and wishes. Comedia – a leisure services consultancy retained by the borough council – is looking at housing and community needs. The youth club has been carrying out a survey of youth needs and the Four Lanes Community Centre is launching a questionnaire on the needs of local groups and societies. If you feel you have something to say on any of these topics and have not been approached, feel free to contact either Helen Overton on 810499, or any member of the SPOTLIGHT Team.

**SCHOOL GOVERNORS** are now – almost as a matter of form – being sought by both Four Lanes schools. If you are interested in joining either body, why not contact one of the Clerks. Chris Roberts (463546) is the contact at the Infant School whilst Joy Wake (477645) is the one to noble for the Junior School. If you wish to know more about what the job entails, just buttonhole one of the existing governors.

**CHINEHAM PARISH COUNCIL** will – for a trial period of 6 months – be inviting members of the public to address the council at 20.45 (or immediately after the "Finance" agenda item, if that is later). All residents are entitled to contribute although there will only be 15 minutes set aside for this purpose.

Council meetings take place every second Monday in the month at 19.45 in the Chineham Village Hall Committee Room.

**NEW WARDING** arrangements for Chineham and the rest of the borough are not progressing too well. Speculation revolves around the proposals either fighting for survival in the civil service quagmire or being on informal "hold" due the current nationwide review of local government.

**THE HIGHWAY WORKS PROGRAMMES** Annual Meeting held earlier this year saw county council proposals of expenditure of £19m on dualling the A33 (Major Schemes) and £700,000 contribution to a rail station at Chineham (Public Transport Assistance).

**KALINKA** is a music song and dance group from Voronez, Russia. They will be performing together with Basingstoke Male Voice Choir at 1930 on Saturday 31 August in Park Prewett, main hall. Tickets £4, (concessions £3) from Roger Bennett on Basingstoke 29511.

## SPOTLIGHT Team

Parish Councillor Martin Biermann, 68 Fennel Close, Chineham.	Tel 52434
Parish Councillor Stephen Wood, 48 Fennel Close, Chineham.	Tel 479658
Jenni Naylor, 31 King's Pightle, Chineham.	Tel 469842
Chris Rogers, 31 King's Pightle, Chineham.	Tel 469842
Helen Wood, 48 Fennel Close, Chineham.	Tel 479658

# SPOTLIGHT

Issue no. 2.8  
Edited by: Martin Biermann

## on CHINEHAM

SUMMER 1991



## The Future of CHINEHAM?!?

On 14 June the borough council published the Draft Basingstoke Area Local Plan for a six week period of public consultation. The plan which will cover the period up to 2001, sets out the borough council's land use proposals and policies for the eastern part of the borough. In launching the plan, the borough council states, it is needed in order "To meet the requirements of Hampshire County Council's North East Hampshire Structure Plan Second Alteration 1989". This Structure Plan sets out the overall development strategy. The role of the Local Plan is to translate the provisions of the Structure Plan into detailed, site specific development proposals and policies. Chineham Parish Council formally responded in relation to our parish, as follows: -

1. **Railway Station.** This parish council was probably the original promoter of the rail station concept. This remains strongly the case. However, we even more strongly object to the location indicated on the published draft plan. This is for two principal reasons: (a) The proposed location would be an outrageous intrusion upon many residents in Ajax and Achilles Close. (b) This location would not only require the removal of a hard-fought-for children's play area, but also eliminate much valuable public open space.

A location primarily in the industrial area is much more suited to a facility of this type. Either way, it would be better located somewhat further north.

2. **Access to Crockford Lane Industrial Areas.** The existing main access point is totally inadequate. Consequently, the emergency exit on to Hanmore Road is extensively used as an access point, with the result that commercial traffic through Chineham has grown rapidly, and is excessive at peak hours. As utilization of the industrial areas increases, so will diversion through Chineham, with consequent congestion and traffic danger to residents. Thus, a "by-pass" linking with the A33 is sought, preferably passing along the southern perimeter of Bramley MOD Camp. Meanwhile, substantial upgrading of the "Carpenters Down" access point is urgently required.

3. **Strategic Gap.** This parish council supports the strategic gap policy outlined in the draft plan. Existing social infrastructure - especially educational - is already overloaded, and thus additional housing on Taylor's Farm would be inappropriate.

4. **Cycleways and Greenways.** The proposed provision of Greenways and new cycleways is greatly welcomed. However, clarification of existence and linkage with existing cycleway routes is sought.

5. **"Unallocated" Land.** Land previously so designated has dwindled (without conversion) over the last 6 years. One "trade-off" was understood to include the former "allotment" land in the Maybrook/Hanmore Road triangle whereby it was to become available for a Baden Powell group hall. This should be clearly shown on the plan.

6. **Sports Barn.** The proposed sports barn is marked right at the edge of the parish and is more accessible from Lychpit and Old Basing than from Chineham. We should like to see the sports barn moved to the east side of Binfields development brief, parcel 11, and the housing displaced by this being located at the originally proposed site of the sports barn. This would contribute to the centralisation of facilities in the village with no loss of housing. It seems likely that the school planned for Binfields, near the original proposed sports barn site, would have sports facilities so that siting the sports barn near it would amount to duplication. Also, future facilities which may be developed at Loddon Valley Open Space may be reduced because of the close proximity of the sports barn.

7. **Playing Field.** With the virtual emasculation of sports facilities at Loddon Valley Open Space, we seek some provision of sports fields north/west of the A33.

8. **Dualling of the A33.** The proposal and route in our locality are welcomed. However, enhanced pedestrian crossing facilities are urgently required at Long Lane.

The Parish Council also commented on some minor inaccuracies and sought clarification on other points.

It is not too late for you to make representations to the borough council on the Draft Plan either direct to the civic offices (where copies are available for inspection) or through the parish council. The formal closing date was 26 July 1991, so don't delay!

*We apologise for the somewhat "heavy" presentation of this item, but we wished to adhere as closely as possible to the wording used by both borough and parish. We shall return to several of the above items in future issues of SPOTLIGHT.*

STOP PRESS STOP... Chineham Playscheme 5-9 August,  
at Village Hall. Contact Julie Cook (478165) for details

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# SPOTLIGHT *Letters*

## KEEP THE COUNTIES

With reference to your request for comments on local government reorganisation in Spotlight, it is my belief that the Government is proposing to abolish county councils in order to consolidate still further central power at Westminster. However, whatever the outcome I think it is most important that the old historic counties are reinstated whether or not they form a basis for local government. The changes made by bureaucratic fiat without popular mandate have never been accepted by the people affected.

Incidentally not everyone reviled the poll tax. I am looking forward with some trepidation to the reintroduction of a property tax.

Eric Carr, Minden Close.

## Chineham Enterprise -

A Platform for Local Groups and Small Business

### TELEPHONE TECHNOLOGY TODAY

The humble telephone, love it or hate it, has been taken for granted for too long! It is now poised to take advantage of recent advances in technology, and become a sophisticated and powerful communications tool in today's modern offices and homes.

Along with the government's recent abolition of the duopoly between BT and Mercury, the advances, in manufacturing fully digital systems, open up future possibilities of 'Video Phones' and the ability to choose the most economical network to send your call through, as well as to present facilities such as the display of the incoming call's telephone number before you decide to answer, and electronic music on hold (proper Mozart or even a subtle advertisement for a company and its product).

Chineham's own telecommunications company, Southern Communications, has set up a Help Line (0256 844651) and Managing Director, Norman Hargraves, is inviting the local business community to discuss their communications needs and what the changes will mean to them personally.

Are you involved in an unusual or interesting enterprise based in Chineham or nearby? Why not submit an article? - Ed.

## L'école MATERNELLE & Le Goûter

(French language play and primary groups) would be pleased to welcome adult helpers wishing to practice French.

For further information please 'phone Chansopha Biermann on 52434.

## GREAT GARDENS

Hardly believable, but the Chineham Gardening Competition has been entered and judged already. Again only a modest number of entries this year, but winners were as follows: -

FIRST Mr W C Parsons of 21 Longstock Close. SECOND, Mr Danes of 5 Ashfield Close. Joint THIRD, Mr C Marston of 1 Petersfield Close and Mr & Mrs B McKenzie of 16 Cibbon's Road. Highly Commended were Mr & Mrs Loveridge of 17 Farm View Drive.

This year's winner will be asked to step down next year and become part of the judging team for 1992. Why not start planning your entry now?



## MIND WHERE YOU STEP

The borough council has appointed a dog warden and proposes to appoint a second one in 1992. This is partly as a result of new government regulations on cleanliness. Apart from catching strays - which will be kept for one week and then be disposed of if unclaimed - the wardens will be seeking to enforce new fouling bylaws. Primary areas to be protected by proposed by-laws are play areas, pedestrian areas, pavements and school grounds. Prosecutions of offenders are expected at an early stage.

Chineham Parish Council has invited action in the parish and highlighted filthy areas such as Cufaude Lane, around the school and near several of the bridges over Petty's Brook.

### A QUESTION

How many readers have ever seen a "poop scoop" being used in Chineham?

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## BEYOND CHINEHAM - A personal view.

Well, we've now had the chance to reflect on the "successes" of the Gulf War. Is the world a safer place? Is even the Middle East safer? What progress on other UN resolutions that have yet to be complied with by Israel? The only VICTORS so far appear to be the undertakers and - yes - the arms manufacturers. The biggest favour Britain could do the world is to stop providing massive government support to arms sales and lead by example. Clearly this would demand some industrial reconstruction, but that is no more than we are asking of the East European countries. Instead of preaching to them about how to run an economy properly, perhaps we could apply all this incredible expertise to solving our own housing, employment, management/industrial and economic problems.

MB

To help deliver SPOTLIGHT, please 'phone 52434

## THWART THE THOUGHTLESS

Damage and nuisance by "visitors" continue as ever down at the Four Lanes Schools. SCHOOL WATCH was recently launched and will mean - as a minimum - increased surveillance of non-school activities. Parents and local residents are all invited to participate.

In launching the "watch", Crime Prevention Officer PC Gardner emphasized that a vigilante group was NOT what was being sought. He was asking particularly that the public be the eyes and ears on behalf of the school and police authorities.

Clearly it is important that any obvious crime (eg vandalism) being committed out of school hours is reported to the police immediately. Where no illegality is obvious, but there are grounds for suspicion, a note of time, any description of persons involved and any vehicle registration details might be noted and handed in to the Community Centre. Information of this type can also be left at any time on the answerphone operative on 810499.

For the benefit of any schoolwatchers or potential offenders, we list below the activities which have specifically been banned by governors:

1. No golf practice.
2. No adults/older children using the playing fields without permission.
3. No dogs.
4. No unauthorised persons on school premises during hours of darkness.

It goes without saying that vandalism and other common crimes are also not acceptable. Further restrictions are - sadly - also under consideration by governors and any observations from Spotlight readers would also be most welcome. Steve Wood is Chairman of the buildings and grounds working party and can be contacted on 479658.

The "INCIDENT REPORT" form printed in the next column can be cut out and used, as necessary. IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, PLEASE DIAL 999. otherwise, please use the form and hand it in to the Four Lanes Community Centre.

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## Hospital Outrage

So the management at our much beloved local hospital has dreamt up the great wheeze for making sure that we know that unbridled capitalism is the flavour of the decade. It is said that they propose adding to the agony of hospital visits by applying charges for car parking. There could be an excuse for this nonsense if there were sensible public transport available to visitors, but as things are - or ever likely to be.....!

Councillor Roger Bennett feels enough is enough and is interested in hearing from other Chineham residents who are of a like mind. He can be contacted on 29511.

To advertise in SPOTLIGHT 'phone 469658

**HOUSE for SALE:** 4-bed detached, large kitchen, study, utility, double garage, double glazed, ('Deane' style). Much reduced to £139,950 for quick sale. Tel: 52434.

## INCIDENT REPORT

If you see or hear anything suspicious or think a crime is being committed - this is the kind of information which will be useful to the police.

An exact description of what you have seen

The time and date

The place

A description of the people involved

Male/female

Age (approx)

Height (approx)

Hair (colour, length etc)

Build (tall, thin, stocky etc)

Clothing

Other distinguishing features

A description of any vehicle involved

Make and model (if known)

Colour

Type (saloon, estate etc)

Registration number (even a part of this may help)

The direction of travel

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