

# *Colnbrook with Poyle*

PARISH COUNCIL

Newsletter



## Winter 2017

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# Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council

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**Vacant Position**

**Vacant Position**

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For more information about the Parish Council, please go to our website,

**[www.colnbrookwithpoyle-pc.gov.uk](http://www.colnbrookwithpoyle-pc.gov.uk)**



You can also follow us on Facebook

**Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council**

# Winter 2017 Newsletter



## Your Chair's Report

Chairs of the Parish Council have their challenges, ups and downs like any role, but to be able to serve the community continues to be an honour.

All Councillors have busy lives and other commitments, so it's not always possible for them to attend scheduled meetings or events. We would like to thank them all for their continued support and dedication.

*Scott Bryant*

Councillor Scott Bryant  
Chair

*Puja Bedi*

Councillor Puja Bedi  
Vice-Chair



## Councillors Attendance

Parish Councillors lead busy lives like everybody else and so with other commitments, it's not always possible for them to attend scheduled meetings or events. However we are often asked for meeting figures. Please see below the figures for 2017:

2017 May-Nov		Parish Meeting				Services Committee				Finance and Policy Committee				Total			
Puja	Bedi	6	out of	6	100.0%	6	out of	6	100.0%	6	out of	6	100.0%	18	out of	18	100.0%
Arnold	Richardson	6	out of	6	100.0%	6	out of	6	100.0%	6	out of	6	100.0%	18	out of	18	100.0%
Mick	Kinane	5	out of	6	83.3%	6	out of	6	100.0%	6	out of	6	100.0%	17	out of	18	94.4%
Scott	Bryant	6	out of	6	100.0%	5	out of	6	83.3%	5	out of	6	83.3%	16	out of	18	88.9%
Eddy	Elum-Smith	4	out of	6	66.7%	6	out of	6	100.0%	6	out of	6	100.0%	16	out of	18	88.9%
Raymond	Jackson	6	out of	6	100.0%	5	out of	6	83.3%	5	out of	6	83.3%	16	out of	18	88.9%
Dexter	Smith	6	out of	6	100.0%	5	out of	6	83.3%	5	out of	6	83.3%	16	out of	18	88.9%
Jagjit	Grewal	5	out of	6	83.3%	5	out of	6	83.3%	5	out of	6	83.3%	15	out of	18	83.3%
Ray	Angell	4	out of	5	80.0%	3	out of	4	75.0%	3	out of	4	75.0%	10	out of	13	76.9%
Paul	Brooks	5	out of	6	83.3%	3	out of	6	50.0%	3	out of	6	50.0%	11	out of	18	61.1%
Peter	Hood	4	out of	5	80.0%	1	out of	4	25.0%	1	out of	4	25.0%	6	out of	13	46.2%

*The Parish Council meets monthly on the first Tuesday of the month. Meetings are normally held at the Colnbrook Village Hall and commence at 7.30pm.  
(unless stated differently)*

*There is a Parish 'Drop In Session' on the last Saturday of the month normally in Room 1 of the Village Hall 10.30am until 12.00  
(unless stated differently)*



# Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council

## A Sad Loss

This year in August, we sadly lost a dear friend and colleague.



Kishore 'K' Laxman, respected highly in this community, believed in bringing people together. For 32 years, he ran the Pharmacy in the High Street. His customers knew how important he was, as did the CRA and the Parish Council. He was the inspiration to most of the very successful events we have had in the Village.

"K" was a past winner of the National award for Community Pharmacy of the year, he was also a past winner of the Colnbrook Community Cup and in May 2014 he was made an Honorary Freeman of the Parish. He will be much missed.

The community are hoping to see a memorial service arranged in Colnbrook early next year once the weather cheers up and a memorial bench in his honour, will be placed in the village. A collection page has been setup in "K"'s honour to raise funds for Cancer Research UK; if you wish to contribute please go to

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/klaxman>

## Parish Council Update

Over the last 6 months the Parish Council have been working on the following projects;

### Village Clean Up



Working in conjunction with SBC, Community Groups and residents over the weekend of 9th and 10th September, a total 50 bags of non-recyclable litter and 39 bags of recyclable litter were collected.



## Best Wishes

Resignations were received from both Peter Hood and Ray Angell, two of the original members of the Parish Council set up in 1995. After playing instrumental roles in a number of projects and community events, they decided to bring their 23 years service to an end. Their parting will be a huge loss to the Parish but we wish them all the best for the future.



During 23 years' service, Peter Hood held the title of Chair for 12 of those years, which is no mean feat. In the 2003/04 electoral year Peter was made Honorary Freeman of the Parish along with Geoff Preece.



Ray spent 16 years as Vice Chair, 9 years with Laurie Tucker and 7 years with Peter. In the 2013/14 electoral year Ray was made Honorary Freeman of the Parish along with the late "K" Laxman.

We wish them well for the future.

# Winter 2017 Newsletter

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We would like to thank the Colnbrook Scout Group for their support and the number of Scouts, Cubs and Beavers that turned out over the weekend. With that in mind the Parish Council agreed to make a donation of £500 to the group.

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## Medical Centre

Sadly this has gone quiet. The Parish Council has been working with a potential GP, but to date there has been no further advancement with the GP gaining any additional partners. This will not stop the Parish Council in continuing to finding a GP to come to our village and bring in a very much needed Doctors Surgery.

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## Fly Tipping

A thorn in everyone's side and an ongoing project. Working with the Colnbrook Community Association (CCA) we have been tackling and reporting fly tipping to Slough Borough Council.

There are a number of Hot Spots, such as the car park off Cherwell Close and Tweed Road, the shops along Coleridge Crescent to name just two. We will continue to fight this issue with your support.



If you do see any areas where fly tipping has taken place, please report it to the Parish Council and CCA; together we will aim to keep our village clean.



## CCTV

Yes it's true, the Parish Council are working with our Ward Councillors to bring in more CCTV camera's to the community. The process is taking some time to finalise but once this has been completed these cameras will belong to the Parish and will be placed in Hot Spot areas upon consultation from the residents. We do hope to get these in place early 2018.

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## PCSO

The Parish Council are in talks with Thames Valley Police about the possibility of an additional PCSO, to be funded by the Parish Council. We can confirm we are at the early stages of negotiations and again we will keep you all updated of the progress.

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## War Memorial

Following the destruction of the memorial plaque on the Village Clock a number of residents asked the Parish Council for a more substantial monument to show our respect to those that lost their lives fighting. The Parish Council carried out a survey to find out how the residents felt; unfortunately we did not receive enough responses to take this further. This project has been noted to be reviewed again in the New Year.

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## Festive Season

Let us join together in celebrating our village, our families and our friends and make Colnbrook really stand out this Christmas. Consider putting festive lights in your front windows or adorning the front of your property (please make sure it's safe to do so). Wherever you are in the village, let's light it up and add the colours of joy. As the streets are lit up and the trees stand tall, let us remember those who fell for us, rejoice those who stand by us and hold the hands of those who need us, especially at this time of year.

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## Newly elected Parish Councillors

We would like to welcome the three newly elected Parish Councillors who will be joining us in the New Year. We look forward to working with them on future projects.

The Parish Council would like to wish all our residents and followers a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

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## Your Councillor's Update

### Public Footpaths

**Councillor Arnold Richardson**



The length of the footpath along the Colne Valley Way was approximately 3.6 miles, starting from the car park at the Village Hall. As my colleague Mike Nye and myself walk along Mill Street up the McArdle Way, and across the car park of Riverside Cafe, taking care to keep to the right hand side and

exiting onto the A4. After crossing the A4, at the traffic island, east of the bridge over the Colne Brook, and entering the field at the gate on the western side of the bridge.

The Colne Valley Way then continues to follow the Colne Brook up to the metalled road, Old Slade Lane and the entrance to the Thames Water Treatment Site. At this point there was clear evidence of fly tipping. This foot path links Colnbrook with Richings Park and Iver. From this bridle way a conventional bridle way runs along a line parallel to the M4 motorway, skirts around the boundary of Old Wood and across the centre of the field back to the gated entrance of the bridleway. A small insignificant foot path leaves the bridleway at a point about 400 metres south of Old Wood path and travels South/West for 260 metres to meet with the A4 opposite McArdle Way.

The Colne Valley Way is a connected system of foot paths/bridle ways that stretch North to South of the Colne Valley Park, connecting Chorley Wood/Rickmansworth in the North to Staines Moor and the river Thames in the south. It enters our parish at the crossing point over the M4 (Old Slade Lane), tracks the Colne Brook, follows a route from the by pass alongside Riverside Cafe car park across McArdle Way and down Mill Street. At Colnbrook High Street, it turns right and follows the road down to the Splash where it turns left into Drift Way leaving our parish at the commencement of Horton No4 footpath, which runs between the Horton Brook Quarry on the right and Berkyn Manor Farm to the left.

Two other foot paths, on the Biffa landfill site, one leaving the A4 and heading North to stop at the M4 motorway, and the other linking the M4 opposite the flats development (Colne-henge) at the entrance to

Colnbrook, to come out on Sutton Lane close to the entrance to the Biffa site.

The footpaths serving the parish are mainly contained within the triangle formed by the M25, M4 and the A4 Colnbrook By-pass. Only one connected route links the A4, where the majority of public transport services are to be found, to the south of Colnbrook where most of the community reside. With the proposed expansion of Heathrow Airport the foot paths to the north of the A4 could be lost.

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### Neighbourhood Plan

**Councillor Eddy Ellum-Smith**



I have been involved in a lot of projects, committee and sub-committee, but my next project is setting up a Neighbourhood Plan, which a letter has been sent to Slough Borough Council under the Localism Act 2011.

Neighbourhood Plan (sometimes called a Neighbourhood Development Plan) is a way of helping local communities to influence the planning of the area in which they live and work. It can be used to:

- Develop a shared vision for your neighbourhood.
- Choose where new homes, shops, offices and other development should be built
- Identify and protect important local green spaces.
- Influence what new buildings should look like.

In areas that are dominated by business interests, so for example a trading estate, a Business Neighbourhood Plan could be developed. It will follow the same process as a normal Neighbourhood Plan but in that area two referenda will be held as businesses, as well as any residents, will have a right to vote.

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## CCTV

### Councillor Dexter Smith



One good initiative to come out of Slough Borough Council is that all ward councillors, like me, have been allocated a budget of £25,000pa to spend on capital projects in their wards. Believe me it is not as easy to do as to say! I have chosen to spend the

bulk of my allocation on additional CCTV coverage in Colnbrook, which I hope we will get before the Spring.

Presently, Colnbrook has one permanent CCTV camera installation outside Ye Olde George pub, and we can bid for the temporary use of some mobile/re-deployable CCTV cameras that are shared around the whole of Slough. The main thrust of what I have asked for is two state-of-the-art digital long-look permanent CCTV camera installations at either end of the traffic calmed area in the middle of Colnbrook.

Together with the permanent camera we already have we should get coverage of the entire length of the traffic calmed area, plus a big improvement in community safety and enforcement. The new cameras should also be able to look down part of Horton Road and London Road towards Colne-henge, so the almost daily traffic congestion there can be monitored; and they will be able to look down the northern end of Poyle Road, and along the Old Bath Road past the Holiday Inn, so we can monitor how much HGV traffic there is, for example.

### M25 Junction 15

I am pleased to report that the yellow hatched give-way box that I and others have been asking for to prevent gridlock for traffic leaving Poyle through the Junction 15 roundabout has now be painted onto the road. Combined with some re-phasing of the Junction 15 traffic lights, there has been a noticeable reduction in backed-up traffic that used to extend all the way onto Poyle Road.

### Doctors' Surgery

Though there is little to report, I am asking a doctor in another part of Slough who recently announced he was having to close his surgery, because he could find a suitable site for it in its present locality, to explore the possibility of moving it to Colnbrook.

## Working for Colnbrook

### Councillor Paul Brooks



Having recently joined Colnbrook Residents Association, I have an understanding of its involvements and such as;

- being involved in coordinating social events,
- negotiating sponsorship,
- supporting upcoming events
- supporting in the Christmas Lunch which is organised by the residents association
- carol singing in December

Representing Colnbrook with Poyle Borough Council at the meeting with Grundons, this will involve various environmental issues

Working with the Environmental Working Group;

- In negotiations for sponsorship for our Village Christmas tree.
- Negotiate with Slough Council to try and minimise dog pollution.

Continue my engagement with the residents either through the Parish Drop In Sessions and walking through the village talking to residents, along with other Councillors.

Will continue to be part of negotiations to pursue general sponsorship from local businesses, as well as encourage closer communication with them.

Still in discussions with Slough Borough Council and Highways, to work with them in monitoring and easing congestion in the Brands Hill Area.

I will continue to strive to make Colnbrook a better place for as all to live.

## Colnbrook Church of England Primary School

[www.colnbrookprimary.com](http://www.colnbrookprimary.com)

Some highlights of our term so far...



Firefighters visited Year 2 at the start of the Winter term. They showed the children all the equipment that they use and the children had an opportunity to sit in the fire engine.



We supported the national 'MacMillan Coffee Morning' by holding a cake sale. Parents and staff donated cakes for us all to buy and we raised

**£249.91!**



Another Attendance Reward for Year 3! – Summer term 2017 winners. The class made Halloween treats at the Hilton Hotel and we would like to extend our thanks to all the staff for making it such an enjoyable morning!



Year 3's won the Attendance Award for the whole of 2016/17, so Jelly Kelly, a very funny Magician visited and performed lots of tricks with the children!

'Buttercup' the Cow visited Colnbrook to teach us all about where our milk comes from. All the children got an opportunity to milk 'Buttercup'!



Our 'Pop-up Prayer Space' was a wonderful opportunity for children of all faiths and those who follow no specific religion to share some quiet time reflecting on four areas; their worries, forgiveness, family and questions.

Years 3 and 4 enjoyed a trip to the Reading Museum to learn about the Romans. The museum has many artifacts from the nearby Roman town of Silchester. The children had the opportunity to sketch items on display and take part in a wonderful workshop which taught them about life in Roman Britain.



### Daily Mile

We are proud to be working with Slough Borough Council and the Slough School Sport network in this groundbreaking initiative. Each morning all our children jog or walk around the field in their classes to improve their fitness and well-being. So far, the results have been very positive.

### Parent Open Morning: 19/10/17

*"A very interactive lesson. I felt the teacher explained well and had good control of the class."*

*"These Parent Open Mornings are a great way for parents to see how the children learn. I really enjoyed that I could get involved with my child's maths."*

*"Today was great! I could see how the teacher explained the math's and what language was used to help the children understand math's better. I can use it to help my daughter with learning at home."*

We are now looking forward to our Christmas schedule! I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

**Susan Marsh,**  
Head teacher





# Winter 2017 Newsletter

## Colnbrook Community Association

[colnbrookcommunityassociation.org.uk](http://colnbrookcommunityassociation.org.uk)



The past six months in Colnbrook have been eventful with the Slough Plan reaching its final stages; various building development problems; road and air traffic issues; major changes within the Parish Council; turmoil within the Slough Labour Party; an absent MP; and so much more.

The CCA continues to inform residents via its website, Facebook and Twitter pages on all matters as they arise and know that residents find our posts useful as follower and friend numbers continue to increase dramatically each month.

A year or so ago we began an occasional series of "Colnbrook History" posts on our Facebook page and have over that time been having meetings with long term residents of our three communities to get together a 'Peoples History' concentrating on the human element; the personalities and individuals that helped the communities to develop to where we are today.



A year or so ago we began an occasional series of "Colnbrook History" posts on our Facebook page and have over that time been having meetings with long term residents of our three communities to get together a 'Peoples History' concentrating on the human element; the personalities and individuals that helped the communities to develop to where we are today.

We will shortly be launching a new 'Colnbrook History' page that we will populate with photos of the old and new, and opportunities for residents to add their memories, comments, recollections and photos. The long-term aim will be to develop this into a website once we have collated the individual recollections, anecdotes, family histories, photos and more.



Looking forward, we will continue to work with the Parish Council, Slough BC and other agencies to improve our communities, and with other groups to publicise their events and achievements.

The resignations of two leading councillors, and the passing away of a third and much valued member, has given the communities the opportunity for a fresh start, and for the Parish Council and its largely new, unencumbered membership (except for the political appointees!) the opportunity to go back to basics as to what a Parish Council is there for. Essential focus should remain on key issues such as fly-tipping, traffic issues, clean parks, cleared hedgerows, anti-social behaviour matters; crime issues; and cleared drains and ditches. These are simple basic issues that affect residents directly and indeed issues that the CCA deal with daily. If we could increase the level of cooperation with Councillors, a joint approach is a much better way forward for all concerned.

Having said that, we must concede that Slough BC is probably the best of the local area authorities in dealing with these issues, as our relationships with neighbouring communities in South Bucks and RBWM quite clearly demonstrate.

Happy Christmas and best wishes for a fruitful New Year to all Colnbrook with Poyle residents, and our friends elsewhere.

*Vicki Brenner & Charles Burke*

Chair and Secretary of the Colnbrook Community Association

# Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council



The Colnbrook Community Partnership (CCP) is a charitable working group formed in 2006 with the remit to bring funding into the community for the improvement of or provision of facilities that benefit our residents (See our listing on the Charities Commission website against our registration 1115166), the project funding coming from the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF). We have been active in areas associated with our local green spaces, areas that are important to our community fulfilling several important criteria, safe places for our children to play, sports facilities and green corridors to attract without containing wildlife. Pippins Park to the east of the parish at Poyle and the Recreation Ground in the centre of the parish, both sites have benefitted from investment brought in by the partnership, and we will continue to seek upgrades to play equipment and environmental improvements.

This last year we concentrated upon nature sites in our area, Albany Park where planting of further Cox's apple trees, new fencing around the flood relief channel and improvements to the entrance path from Old Bath Road have been delivered. New custom benches and the creation of wild flower beds at the northern end adjacent to the County Ditch have been provided. In order to improve site security, a new gate and two telescopic rhino bollards will be installed to replace the damaged gate along the western boundary, following the latest incursion onto the site. This site is owned by SBC and provides the function of flood relief, space for recreational use and dog walking coupled with a varied natural habitat to attract wildlife.

Crown Meadow, opposite our Recreation Ground, is the site we wish to bring some regenerative activity to bring it back toward the status of a Local Wildlife Site (LWS). There is a proposed management plan for the site, prepared by Groundwork Thames Valley, to cover the period from 2012 until 2022, although the plan has not become adopted, it provides a good basis to move improvements forward towards the goal of a LWS (Classification lost about 2009). We have achieved a funding source to carry out improvements to the south western corner, in order to open a nature trail through a dense wooded area and open the pond to natural light, which will bring benefit



to biodiversity. We will be working with Slough Borough Council, site owners, to achieve a level of site management that will enhance for both wildlife and visitors. Footpath clearance including scrub maintenance, meadow cutting. A successful mowing regime to avoid creating uniform areas of grassland and removal of cuttings which reduces the build up of a litter layer is essential. Leaving areas of long grass and rotating areas of grassland to be cut each year allows for a population of invertebrates to remain, recover and hopefully thrive; different height areas of grassland to benefit different invertebrate species; provide varied pockets of food sources and retain plants not ready to seed at the time of mowing. Taller vegetation and tussocks allow larger insects to complete their lifecycles and overwinter.

This type of mowing regime benefits a wide variety of species. Sustaining a meadow's invertebrate population supports insect eaters such as bats, reptiles, amphibians and insect eating birds, alongside a range of birds, such as yellowhammers, goldfinches and greenfinches, which feed on grass and flower seeds throughout the year. Leaving uncut margins and corners in mown fields to extend the availability of seeds will create habitat for small mammals, providing prey for owls and kestrels.

Crown Meadow could become a rich source for educating our children about the importance of caring for nature, but we also need to encourage volunteers from our community to become engaged with supervised tasks of managing the site. Ultimately to form a Friends of Crown Meadow group which could become self-sufficient in time, to carry out the necessary tasks.

*Mike Nye*

Treasurer & Trustee



## Colnbrook Flood Action Group

The C-FA group called an emergency meeting in October this year with the Environment Agency, SBC, RBW&M, Thames Water supported by the National Flood Forum.

This was called after the Clean Up Colnbrook weekend took place in early September this year, where we found major ditches and areas of the village blocked, full of debris, shrubbery and more concerning fly tipped items such as fridges, beds, bikes...

The waterways and ditches are a priority to be maintained and kept clean, we do not want a repeat of February 2014.

The team met and discussed ways forward and a clean-up of areas highlighted took place over the following weeks, and will continue.

The NAG will pick up some of the actions and continue to work with the multi agency team as discussed above.

We are looking for volunteers to do walkabouts and observations on a weekly basis, if you would like to get involved contact us through our Facebook page.

Many thanks

***Puja Bedi***

Chair  
Colnbrook Flood Action Group



## Colnbrook Neighbour Action Group

The NAG was re-launched this year with the support of TVP, SBC, L&Q housing and you the residents.... concerns such as fly tipping, crime, parking and anti social behaviour are what we are working closely on and will continue to do so.

A meeting was held with the Inspector for Thames Valley Policing Neil Misselbrook early in November, who has committed to working with the NAG.

We are always looking for new members to support us, we meet every last Wednesday of the month at 6pm at the Village Hall in Colnbrook.

Come along and let us know what are the things that you would like to see change and work with us in trying to best achieve results.

Its also a great way to meet other residents and make new friends!

We ask all to be vigilant and report anything they feel could help.

If you would like to get involved contact us through our Facebook page.

Wishing you all a peaceful and prosperous festive season.

***Puja Bedi***

Acting Chair  
Colnbrook Neighbourhood Action Group



## Don't stamp on it – stamp it out!

### Clean up after your dog

It takes less than a minute to clean up after your dog.  
It takes years for infectious dog waste to become harmless.





Prevention  
Best form of control is regular worming of dogs, especially puppies.



Parasite eggs in dog waste can reach 100,000 eggs per gramme.



Parasite eggs remain dormant for around three weeks, after which they become infectious. Pick up waste promptly.



Infectious parasite eggs can survive for years. When dog waste disintegrates, the surrounding soil gets contaminated too.





Prevention  
Regular hand washing.

Children between 2-4 years old are most at risk. Infection can cause fever, respiratory problems, pallor, skin lesions, heart problems and blindness.

[www.slough.gov.uk](http://www.slough.gov.uk)  
**Slough**  
Borough Council

### Why report dog fouling?

- Dog waste is an eyesore and a health hazard
- A few irresponsible dog owners are spoiling the quality of life for the majority

### How to report dog fouling

- Ring **01753 875255** and give the following information:
  - location of the incident
  - description of the dog (in as much detail as possible, so remember to have a good look at the dog)
  - time of the day (if the dog walker is regular, please mention this)
- Use the following link  
[www.slough.gov.uk/report-it/](http://www.slough.gov.uk/report-it/)

### What happens next?

Based on the information given the neighbourhood enforcement team will visit the location. If they witness the fouling the owner will be issued with an £80 fixed penalty.

*Don't stamp on it...stamp it out!*

CC/5 109/05-08-14

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# Winter 2017 Newsletter



## Colnbrook Residents' Association



**Serving Residents and Community since 1947**  
**coreas1947@gmail.com**

Following encouragement from the CRA the day started with a series of Street Coffee Mornings with residents bringing together the people in their own streets. We received reports of numerous successful events. We were also told of a lady that because she wasn't able to host such an event she made some cakes and delivered them to her neighbours. This was a great idea that met with the whole idea of interacting with your neighbours and improving community cohesion.

Colnbrook and Poyle Reform Church ran their coffee morning in conjunction with a very interesting history display of old photographs, maps and associated documents. The display remained open all day.



Around lunchtime focus moved to the centre of the village. A horse drawn carriage provided an opportunity for residents to get aboard and take a relaxing ride along Vicarage Way and the High St. It made a very pleasant change from the normal weekday bedlam caused by motor vehicles rat-running through the village. The whole pace of life seems to slow down when you are seated high up in the open air on a sunny day, making slow but steady progress, listening to the clip clop of horse's hooves on the road surface in front of you.

The rides wouldn't have been possible without the generous support of **Charles Kendall Packing** who kindly sponsored the full cost involved. All monies raised from the ticket sales were donated to St Thomas' and The Reform churches.

Whilst the rides were being taken the Garden Party in St Thomas' Church got underway and at the same time Ye Olde George staged their own events in the pub and its garden.

St Thomas' were very generous in allowing anybody that wished to attend to come into the church and its grounds where delicious food and drinks were freely available for all.



The Lady Mayor of Slough attended and cut The Residents Associations 70th Anniversary Cake before taking a ride in the carriage together with her brother as escort and the Vice Chair of the Parish Council. Along the route they all took time to see the Photographic display of "Bygone Colnbrook" in The Colnbrook and Poyle Reform Church and partake of a refreshing cold drink on this rather warm day. The Mayor was overwhelmed by the amount of history that was on display. She also commented on how different Colnbrook was from the rest of Slough and that it needs to be cherished. After returning from the ride she visited the quiet garden at the rear of the church to see children taking part in the treasure hunt.

Meanwhile all the attendees were being well fed and entertained by live music from duo, Parallel Lines.





# Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council

The Children's entertainer Dustbin Man was making everybody laugh with his antics, some of which were very challenging.

The ladies of the Church ran a "bring and buy" stall which interested a lot of people.



When the garden party finished and things were tidied up by the volunteers many had to rush home to get ready for the evening event, A Barn Dance in the village hall.



The Hall was decked out with bales of straw and gingham table cloths and a caller was on hand to direct people through the moves. Although some were initially a bit shy we found that after a glass of wine or beer and watching others perform nearly everybody joined in. A bit muddled by the changes in step and direction at first but things soon improved and by the time the fantastic, delicious and very plentiful supper prepared by Colnbrook Scouts was ready we had some competent dancers. After the supper break it was back to the dancing and then after some clearing up, finally home.



## Christmas Celebrations

When you receive this letter the CRA's annual Community Christmas Lunch will be behind us. However you should be reading this before the date of the other now annual Christmas event The Colnbrook Christmas Carol Sing-along. The time and date to put in your diary is 7.00 pm Friday 15th December. Join us next to the tree by the Jubilee Clock outside Ye Olde George in the High St.

## Colnbrook History Society

In the last couple of years the CRA have arranged two very interesting and informative History Talks in the Village, one in the Village Hall and the other in St Thomas' Church. For some time the Colnbrook Community Partnership has been keen to get a history project underway together with interested residents.

The CCP have set aside a small budget to get the project underway and a group of local residents/historians have now held two meetings to help develop the way forward. Brenda Pettit a resident of King Johns Palace and Secretary of the CRA is working with others to bring information together and arrange a public event in March of next year. The intent is to hold the event in the Village Hall where there will be an exhibition and guest speaker followed by a fish & chip supper. It's hoped that we can have someone on each table that has a depth of knowledge about some of the history of Colnbrook. The aim is to encourage discussion and for everybody attending to learn more. Attendees will be asked to bring along any easily transported historical pictures, maps, documents or artefacts they have relating to Colnbrook and we would like to list these on an index of historical items of interest and who the owner or custodian is.

The ultimate aim is to establish a Colnbrook Museum or display building.

## Other events to look out for in early 2018

- Children's' Easter Egg Hunt
- Race Night

Thank you

*Sean Kelly*

Chair  
Colnbrook Residents' Association  
**07986 850052**



## Colnbrook Village Hall Trust

[www.colnbrookvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.colnbrookvillagehall.org.uk)



## Colnbrook Village Hall at the Heart of the Community

As well as providing a venue for a number of regular community activities, the hall and meeting rooms are available for hire both by individuals and by commercial organisations.

There is an event/information notice board at the Village Hall that has the contact numbers for all the groups that hold events/activities in the hall that are open to the public.

Please note that we do NOT accept 16th, 18th or 21st birthday party bookings under any circumstances.

For Hall availability, please call Chris Darbon our Bookings Secretary on

**07598 126809**

or

**[bookings@colnbrookvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:bookings@colnbrookvillagehall.org.uk)**

Please check out our website at  
**[www.colnbrookvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.colnbrookvillagehall.org.uk)**

The web site has the current diary of users and the times that they use the hall, the list of trustees and details of the hall and meeting rooms.



Colnbrook Village Hall is managed on behalf of the community by Colnbrook Village Hall Trust, a registered charity (Reg. No. 1003725). The objects of the trust are:

“TO PROVIDE AND MAINTAIN A VILLAGE HALL FOR THE USE OF THE INHABITANTS OF COLNBROOK AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD, INCLUDING USE FOR MEETINGS, LECTURES, CLASSES AND OTHER FORMS OF RECREATION AND LEISURE-TIME OCCUPATION.”

(full details can be obtained from the Charity Commission)



**[www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission)**

The trustees comprise of a mix of representatives from established hall users and community groups, and a number of elected members.

Our AGM for 2016 – 2017 was held in September 2017

If you feel that you can make a contribution to the running of the hall please come along and put your name forward for election to join this band of hard working of people.

***Ray Angell***

Chair to the Colnbrook Village Hall Trust (CVHT)

# Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council



[www.pippins.slough.sch.uk](http://www.pippins.slough.sch.uk)

## Together we grow, Together we achieve.

Welcome to this term's update on what has been happening in Pippins School, and all the exciting events to come!

We said our final farewell's to an exciting group of Year 6 children, who left with wonderful memories made at Pippins! These were made even memorable with the great week of activities they undertook at Longridge. They have all settled in well at their secondary schools, and enjoying the next stage of their learning.

In the same vein, a very warm welcome to the new children we have taken in nursery. All the children have settled in well, especially enjoying their outdoor learning, under our new canopy! A very warm welcome to the new parents.

### Art Week

This year, art is a key focus for us at Pippins, as we have already spent a week, as a whole school, exploring different artists! Each class took an artist, and all their wonderful creations are now on display in the school hall!

The project will be continued into the Spring term, when we will be hosting an art exhibition. All classes will be participating, and the key focus will be an exploration of a variety of art mediums. We will be inviting the local community to come and visit the exhibition.

### Trips

It has been a very busy start to the school year for a number of classes, as they have already been out and about, stretching their learning beyond the classroom. Our Year 3 and Year 4 classes visited the Iver Nature Centre on the 3rd and 4th October, with a particular focus on healthy eating, with particular emphasis on vegetables and herbs which grow in the allotment. All the children had a great learning experience, and certainly discovered the art of growing vegetables and herbs in their gardens! We do heavily encourage as many of you as possible, to visit and support the Iver Nature Centre, as it really is an optimum learning centre for children (and adults alike).

### Remembrance Sunday

On Friday, 10th November, the children of Years 2 – 6 walked to St Thomas' Church in Colnbrook for our annual Remembrance Service.

The memorials from both WWI and 2 are within the church and the WWI memorial will be the focus of the service taken by the children. We will again welcomed Mr Merrill to play 'The Last Post' at our service, on the bugle.

### Interfaith Week (13-17th November)

This is a great opportunity for us to share and appreciate the diversity of our school community and wider community. To recognise and celebrate our differences and how our lives are enriched by learning about and understanding other cultures and religions.

In preparation for Interfaith Week, we have had the opportunity to work closely with Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, in Slough. To celebrate the work we have been doing, there will be a special art exhibition of the children's work on the theme of Love, Peace and Harmony, alongside the Qur'an. The Christians will also be making a visit towards the end of the Winter Term to talk about Christmas.

We always welcome visitors to our school, and should you wish to visit, please contact the school office.

*Tracy Ball*

Head Teacher

# Winter 2017 Newsletter

## St. Thomas' Church

[www.achurchnearyou.com/colnbrook-st-thomas](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/colnbrook-st-thomas)

A very big thank you to everyone who came to our Harvest Fish and Chip supper and quiz. Thanks to your generosity we were able to send donations of £75 to the Alexander Devine Children's Hospice and £75 to The Dementia Society. The questions were a bit hard this year but everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and have a good evening.

## Things for Families To Do

At St Thomas' Colnbrook we are committed to supporting families.



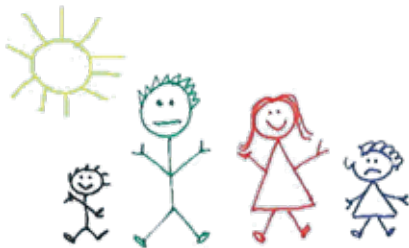
As such we would like to encourage you to come along to our Toddler Group.

This is great place for children to play and for parents, child minders or carers to socialise.

The time together starts at 10am on Fridays in the church and includes songs, stories, toys, tea and coffee, snack time for children and much more.

All for a donation of £1 per visit. Come down and give us a try.

**Also if you're looking for a fun way to spend your Sunday morning as a family once a month...**



Nothing could be better than spending 45 minutes together as a family, playing games, singing, crafting and worshipping God followed by refreshments.

This is one church service the kids will drag you to.

All welcome.

We meet 3rd Sunday of the month at 9.30am at St Thomas' Church. Look forward to seeing you soon.

## Our Services

*Everyone is Welcome*

**Friday**

**Mornings at 8-30am**

There is a short said communion service

**Sunday**

**Services some variations of timing.**

Please check out our website and notice boards



## Dates for our Christmas Services and Events

10th Dec 3:30pm Christingle



13th Dec 1:45pm Pippins Primary School Service



14th Dec 2:15pm Colnbrook C. of E. Primary School Service



15th Dec 7:00pm Carol Singing around the Clock and Refreshments



24th Dec 4:00pm Crib Service and Refreshments



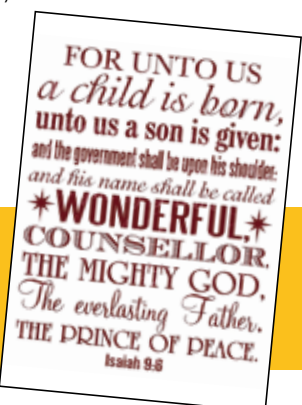
24th Dec 11:30pm Midnight Mass



25th Dec 11:00am Holly Communion

*Peter Wyard*

Vicar



## Fun On Sunday Morning

For more information contact John Collins on [stthomasfamilies@hotmail.com](mailto:stthomasfamilies@hotmail.com) or check out our website [www.achurchnearyou.com/colnbrook-st-thomas](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/colnbrook-st-thomas)



# *Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council*

## **From Colnbrook to Aru or how God called us to put words into action!**

### **A Found Farewell by Peter Wyard**

At the end of January, I will step down as Vicar of Colnbrook and Datchet after 12 years. That's quite a big chunk of my life. There have been some wonderful highlights, some struggles, and the reward of ministering in these two parishes and being there for everyone. That is what St. Thomas' will continue to do. Our vision, as you can read when you enter by the church porch, is to be a place of worship and celebration before God, and to serve the community.

So it will be a real wrench to leave, as I am realising more clearly as the time for departure approaches. But I'm definitely not retiring! In fact my wife Patricia and I are setting out on a big adventure to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). We have committed ourselves to three years: Patricia will work as a doctor, supporting and teaching local nurses and doctors, and continuing her speciality of palliative medicine, where Aru is something of a pioneering place in the DRC. I will work as a theological educator and supporter of the local clergy. I hope to visit ministers in their rural parishes (some deep in the bush), which should be interesting and exciting.

In the last year or so we made two short visits to Uganda and the DRC, to explore possible opportunities for a few years hence, as we thought at the time. But after we returned from our second visit in March this year, things seem to fast forward, and we felt that we were being called to this service now, while we still have a reasonable amount of energy, and our family circumstances are as good as they could be.

Of all the places we visited, it was Aru that really struck a chord. Aru is in the far north-east of Congo, close to the border with South Sudan and Uganda. It is fairly remote and very rural. Although Aru is the capital of the (Anglican) diocese, it feels more like an overgrown village. It's a peaceful place where we received a very warm welcome and immediately began to form friendships.

We had a strong sense of three things calling us to Aru: the size of the need (DRC is the third poorest country in the world), the combination of skills and gifts that God has given us as a couple, and the strength of the invitation from the Diocese. Bishop Ande had emphasised to both of us his vision for raising standards in everything the church does: both in its medical and theological work.

After much prayer our call was put to the test during a two day selection conference with Church Mission Society in their Oxford offices, at the end of which we were selected to train as "mission partners".

It's a big challenge, and feels quite daunting at times. "Chucking everything in" and starting a completely new life isn't easy. We think we can cope with the physical hardships: no running water, no proper electricity, no domestic appliances, very poor mobile signal and internet, dirt roads, the heat. We will be living in a simple bungalow, but still much better than the dwellings of most of the local people. Doing everything in French, especially teaching theology, will be a particular challenge for me. For both of us, making the adjustment to a working environment which is very poor in material resources (e.g. theological books and medical equipment) while trying to raise standards, will also be a big challenge.

But it's also a great adventure and a wonderful opportunity. We are very grateful to God, to our children who have been extraordinarily supportive, and to the many friends and parishioners who have encouraged us with their interest and support.

The people we met were extraordinarily grateful for the interest we took in them as brothers and sisters in Christ and we hope we can be fruitful in that way. Sharing in Christian fellowship and solidarity with the local people is at least as important as any professional help we can offer.

Are we living on cloud nine all of the time now? There are a lot of practicalities to be sorted out, Tropical Medicine to be studied by Patricia (exam in April!), French to be improved for both of us, finding out how to teach theology in a relevant and contextual way to young African Christian leaders-to-be, and lots of goodbyes to be said our friends in and outside the church. We also want to ensure that our son Henry is well supported as he will still be in the middle of his university studies when we leave. We know we can trust our daughters Maria and Catherine to keep an eye out for him, not on him! We are very grateful to the friends who have expressed a particular concern for our young adult children; and have offered very practical help: thank you!

We also have to raise the money for our budget as set by CMS. We are fortunate enough to be able to self-sponsor ourselves for about half of the cost, and will be approaching churches and individuals to make up the difference. It is one of these practicalities we are not used to, but it is good to think in terms of seeking support for the work we will be doing, rather than for ourselves.

Please pray for us now and if you want to receive our regular updates and link letters, you will find information below.

Please support us in our call and thank you for all the love and care we already have experienced.

**<https://www.churchmissionsociety.org/people-in-mission/patricia-and-peter-wyard>**

If you want further info or would like to receive our Link Letter please email Patricia:  
**[patricia.wyard@btinternet.com](mailto:patricia.wyard@btinternet.com)**



## Thames Valley Police

[www.police.uk/thames-valley/N460/](http://www.police.uk/thames-valley/N460/)

Thames Valley Police has had some internal structural changes occur in how we form our teams to deal with the work we have. As a member of the public requiring assistance you should not see a change. You will still have the police deal according to the type of crime and vulnerability identified.

The Emergency Response Team and the Investigation Hub both work a pattern covering the 24h day. The way the neighbourhood policing team is structured has also seen some changes. The team covering Colnbrook and Poyle is now slightly broader and are responsible for Colnbrook Poyle and Foxborough.

That means the officers originally from each area now have a shared responsibility for the whole area. This geographic team are who you will see and are the outward facing face of the police in your community, responsible for the on-going community engagement. This team is slightly smaller.

However, we have a Problem Solving Team (PST) who will work to target specific issues to reduce demand on the Police across the East Sector, thereby freeing up more time to deal with other issues.

The team is now made up of myself;

- Inspector 4940 Neil Misselbrook (East Sector Inspector)
- Sergeant 442 Tom O'Brien (East Sector Geographic Sergeant)

Specific to Colnbrook, Poyle and Foxborough

- PC 5468 Rob Ashcroft
- PCSO 9521 Terrie Parker-James
- PCSO 6944 Reece Sylvester,
- PCSO 7130 Mansel Jackson
- PCSO 9553 Kurt Henney

The East Sector PST of four PC's is led by PS 6358 Johnny White, the work of this team will be directed to specific issues as and when they arise.

Members of the community are involved in shaping the priorities to which the police are working to on a neighbourhood level.

The next Colnbrook, Poyle and Foxborough community forum is being held in November to shape this. This will

result in the priorities being set and reported on quarterly.

The Colnbrook and Poyle Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) remains in place and assists in the local responsibilities in working in partnership to resolve issues.

This work is key, as is the work completed with the Parish Council in order to increase the community resilience and the ability to contribute to preventing and detecting crime.

As an overview of the crime figures for the year to date (01/04/2017 – 14/04/2017) compared to the same period in 2016 all crime is down by 3% (841 offences recorded, 26 fewer than last year). Crimes against society are down by 4%, but more significantly burglary dwelling offences are down 23% (40 offences this YTD) and violence with injury is down 40% (48 offences this YTD).

Information on the work and also crime prevention advice and more can be found on the Thames Valley Police website, <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/>, this also has links through to the crime maps/figures for your area.

We would also urge all members of the community to sign up to Thames Valley Alert <https://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk/> to receive messages of information, crime alerts or witness appeals local to the area in which you live or work by email, text or telephone.

With Christmas fast approaching and the associated valuable items you may have in your possession I would direct people to Immobilise <https://www.immobilise.com/> a national property register approved by secure by design. By registering your details you can then record all your property with serial numbers and pictures (i.e. bikes, phones, computers, cameras, jewellery etc.) and increase your chances of getting them back if they are stolen.



If you need to contact your local neighbourhood team then you can call 101 or email

**[ColnbrookPoyleFoxboroughNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ColnbrookPoyleFoxboroughNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)**

Regards

*Neil Misselbrook*

Inspector Neil Misselbrook  
Slough East Neighbourhood Team



# The Colnbrook Christmas Carol Sing Along

Join us all at the Village Clock outside Ye Olde George to start the Christmas festivities

The event will move to St. Thomas Church if the weather turns bad!



Friday December 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

Hot Mince Pies  
Mulled Wine  
Tea  
Coffee  
Squash

Organised by the following Community Groups



All monies collected will be distributed