



ARBORFIELD GARRISON STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT LOCATION (SDL)

Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) has introduced new interactive maps on its SDL web pages - these clearly show progress on the various parts of the SDL and are worth a look.

<http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/major-developments/arbordfield-progress-map/>

Local events and information

- **Christmas carol concerts**

Saturday 24 December - **Christmas Eve Community Carols** from 4-5pm and 6-7pm at the FBC Centre, Gorse Ride North. www.finchampstead.com/christmas

Saturday 24 December - **Christmas Eve Carols in the Park**. 6.30pm at the Finchampstead Sports Club, the Memorial Park, The Village. With St James' Church Choir. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served.

- **Christmas and New Year waste collection and recycling**

Changes to collections are given overleaf. You can recycle many items from your Christmas tree to Christmas cards. The Re3 recycling centres at Smallmead, Reading and Longshot Lane, Bracknell are open as usual except for Bank Holidays, and early closing at 4pm on 24 December. For more information and advice visit www.wokingham.gov.uk and search for rubbish and recycling.

- **Local road works**

For live information on local roadworks, incidents and traffic jams see www.roadworks.org Wellingtonia Avenue resurfacing is underway with completion expected at the end of January. Following a few delays the new Shinfield Eastern Relief Road will finally be opening in January 2017 - exact date to be advised.

WBC has started to replace street light lanterns across the Parish with energy efficient LED lanterns. Some older street lights will also be replaced over the next year.

- **Thames Valley Police information for motorway users**

Drivers using motorway services stations, particularly those along the M4 in Berkshire, are being warned that thieves could be using technology to prevent people locking their vehicles and then steal from them.

Thames Valley Police officers are warning people to make a manual check that doors are locked before leaving their vehicles. This advice follows a spate of 14 thefts from vehicles at motorway services in Berkshire. In many of the cases there was no obvious sign of a break in and no damage was caused to the vehicles as items were stolen from them.

To register for Thames Valley Police alerts visit www.thamesvalley.police.uk/

- **Plans for the California Country Park**

WBC has submitted a planning application for work at the California Country Park. This includes improvements to access for vehicles and pedestrians, a much larger parking area with marked out bays, and changes to the café area including outdoor seating and new features. The application number is 163385 and plans will be available for comment on www.wokingham.gov.uk very soon. The Parish Council will be commenting on the application, we welcome improvements but are keen to ensure the Park retains its Country Park character for the benefit of Parish residents and also local wildlife.



Christmas and New Year recycling and waste collections

| Household waste, recycling and garden waste collections | | | | |
|---|----------------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|
| Normal collection day | Will be collected on | Delay | | |
| Monday | December 19 | Monday | December 19 | No change |
| Tuesday | December 20 | Tuesday | December 20 | No change |
| Wednesday | December 21 | Wednesday | December 21 | No change |
| Thursday | December 22 | Thursday | December 22 | No change |
| Friday | December 23 | Friday | December 23 | No change |
| Monday | December 26 | Tuesday | December 27 | 1 day |
| Tuesday | December 27 | Wednesday | December 28 | 1 day |
| Wednesday | December 28 | Thursday | December 29 | 1 day |
| Thursday | December 29 | Friday | December 30 | 1 day |
| Friday | December 30 | Saturday | December 31 | 1 day |
| Monday | January 2, 2017 | Monday | January 2, 2017 | No change |

Seasonal advice from the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service

- Make sure candles are secured in a proper holder, on a stable surface, and away from materials that may catch fire - such as curtains.
- Children and pets should never be left alone with lit candles.
- Never leave a lit candle unattended. Put candles out whenever you leave the room, and make sure they're put out completely at night.
- Keep the wax pool clear of wick trimmings, matches and debris at all times.
- Burn candles in a well-ventilated room, but avoid draughts, vents or air currents. This will help prevent rapid or uneven burning, sooting, and excessive dripping.
- Trim the wick to ¼ inch each time before burning. Long or crooked wicks can cause uneven burning, dripping or flaring.
- Don't move candles once they are lit.
- Follow the manufacturer's recommendations on burn time and proper use.
- Always put scented candles in a heat resistant holder, as these candles are designed to liquify when heated, to maximise fragrance.
- Do not burn several candles close together as this might cause the flame to flare.
- Use a snuffer or a spoon to put out candles. It's safer than blowing them out which may cause sparks.

If you haven't got a smoke alarm please get one, and if you have - test it!

FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

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