

Dear Residents

Elections – As I write this, the BBC is reporting that only 35% turn out for local elections. I hope that this won't be true for our ward as I do want to encourage residents to exercise their votes on Thursday 2nd May, whether or not in favour of those of us who have served the community for the past 12 years and are standing again for election. We would like to see that percentage increase. Your local Conservative councillors, Nigel, Phil and I all live within the communities that we serve whereas some others on the ballot paper do not show their addresses on the paper; not all of them live within the Chilworth, Nursling & Rownhams ward. Our Borough ward has been extended to include parts of Valley Park and Lee but this does not apply to either parish or county council responsibilities.

We stand by our record of supporting our Borough Council's initiatives in investing in those areas which will make a long-term difference to our communities, enabling us to provide for your future, of pursuing those who despoil our area by fly-tipping and of encouraging local initiatives such as those run within our communities by volunteers. You have 3 votes and we hope you will use them all. Of course, we hope you will vote for us (Nigel Anderdon, Phil Bundy and me).

County Council news- Our County Councillor, Roy Perry, serves our interests very well. He is also leader of Hampshire County Council but has indicated that he will stand down from this position this month. This will enable his successor to enjoy two years of being in post before the next county council elections in 2021. At these County elections, Roy will stand down as a county councillor. We have much to thank Roy for over the years, for his dedication to his work for the community both on a county and a parish level. He has also served as an MEP for the south of England.

Chilworth Hall refurbishment – The Hall committee, consisting of volunteers led by Brian Luff, and including Gill Holebrook, Pat Feighrey, Donna Jones, Emily Pain and others, has completed the refurbishment of the Hall, which now looks as "Good as New" throughout. They have ensured that the contractors have done an excellent job. They will be working on the car park next. The Chilworth community is greatly indebted to them for this voluntary work which they have undertaken and for their continuous involvement in running the centre.

Chilworth Hall moviola- As well as attending to the refurbishment of the Hall, the Hall Committee put on films for the enjoyment of the community. They are considering providing films for children and will test the idea out by putting on one on a Sunday afternoon. Here are the dates for all the planned performances:
May's film, on Friday 10th May is *The Keeper*, the true story of Bert Trautmann, a WW2 paratrooper who, after release from POW camp, remained in England and is best remembered as Manchester City's goalkeeper. But the film is not about football or the war; it is an inspiring biographical drama tinged with romance
June's film, on Friday, 7th is *Wild Rose*, about a young Glaswegian woman, played by Jessie Buckley, on a mission to become a country music star. Julie Walters is prominent in the supporting cast.
July's film on Sunday 7th July is *Arctic*. It is a study in stoicism, and does not reflect the 'will they, won't they' undercurrent provided by Kate Winslet and Idris Elba in the earlier movie.
On Sunday 30th June – Mary Poppins Returns as a children's matinee. More details nearer the time.

Chilworth Old Village Fete Sat 8th June – ever-popular event

May dates for your diary:

Thurs, 2nd May – Borough Council elections – cast your vote at Chilworth Hall from 7am until 10pm

Tues, 7th May – 7:30pm Chilworth Gardening Club, Chilworth Manor- Mark Hinsley – Trees in your garden

2nd & 4th Fridays – 10-11:30am, Country Market, Romsey Town Hall

Best wishes, *Alison*

Please contact me at alisonf@btinternet.com to be on the mailing list for more frequent updates about burglaries, utility failures, local news etc, Tel: 023-8076-9987