

Wokingham Town



Official Guide

2008-2009



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Town Council**
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Welcome to Wokingham



This guide is specially produced for visitors and long time residents of Wokingham, providing interesting and useful information about our market town.

The position of Mayor in Wokingham dates back to 1885 and each year a different Mayor is elected.

It is a great privilege and honour to be elected Mayor of Wokingham and serve the local community. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible during my term.

Wokingham is twinned with Viry-Chatillon in France and Erfstadt in Germany, and as Mayor I represent the Town during official visits to foster closer friendship and cultural links.

Wokingham provides a wide variety of leisure activities. Children are catered for by a large number of parks with a wide variety of play equipment. We also have a sports centre, swimming pool and a thriving theatre.

A market is held on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday of each week and a special Farmers' market is held on the first Thursday of every month. There is also a continental market on the third Sunday of every month.

Throughout the year a programme of



**Councillor Brian Willis
Town Mayor 2007/2008**

special events are held including the May Fayre and food festivals, musical entertainment in the Market Place during the summer and the Winter Carnival, culminating with the switching on of the Christmas lights.

Wokingham Town Council value the views of its residents so please contact me with your views on anything that would be of benefit to Wokingham.

Cllr Brian Willis
Town Mayor, Mayor's Parlour
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WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

We need local homes for local children. That's the message from Wokingham Borough Council as the campaign continues to recruit more foster carers in the borough.

Full training and support is given and generous fostering allowances up to £450 paid per week per child. All foster carers are subject to criminal record bureau checks.

Suzanne Fallon, head of specialist services, said: "We want to hear from anyone who thinks they have got what it takes to be a foster carer.

"We are looking for special people to become foster carers. It's challenging but rewarding in every sense of the word and you would make a real difference to a child's life. We need local families for our local looked-after children. Their lives can be significantly improved if they are able to be cared for closer to their family home. They are able to stay at the same school and maintain the continuity of their education and friendships."

FOSTERING - IT'S REALLY WORTH IT!

Emmbrook North

UllaKarin Clark	195 Reading Road, Wokingham RG41 1LJ	978 6538
Philip Mirfin	135 Old Wooshehill Lane, Wokingham, RG41 3HR	979 0107
Sanjay Odedra	39 Emmbrook Road, Wokingham, RG41 2HG	978 5883

Emmbrook South

Barbara Bench	15 Poppy Place, Wokingham, RG40 1DL	375 0345
Dennis Carver	59 Arthur Road, Wokingham, RG41 2SS	901 9986
Michael Hughes	196a Reading Road, Wokingham RG41 1LH	977 0330

Evendons East

Chris Bowring	'Oberlil', Bearwood Path, Winnersh, RG41 5EZ	978 9793
Phil Houldsworth	Birches Gorse Ride South, Wokingham, RG40 4ES	973 4020
Ian Milne	12 Village Close, Wokingham RG41 1FZ	07812 762 572

Evendons West

Mike Beech	27 Tiffany Close, Wokingham, RG41 3BN	977 5850
Phil Hudson	4 Sapphire Close, Wokingham RG41 3DU	979 1870
Elsie Hudson	4 Sapphire Close, Wokingham RG41 3DU	979 1870
Dianne King	1 Winkfield Close, Wokingham RG41 2EZ	977 2397
David Lee	14 Chestnut Avenue, Wokingham RG41 3HX	977 4465

Norreys East

Lee Gordon-Walker	2 Hawkins Way, Wokingham RG40 1UW	989 2560
Robin Smith	396 London Road, Wokingham RG40 1RE	977 0046
Brian Willis	50 Sarum Crescent, Wokingham, RG40 1XF	978 4002

Norreys West

Christine Chessell	8 Acorn Drive, Wokingham, RG40 1EQ	977 5484
Danny Miller	'Clover', Wokingham Road, Hurst, RG10 0RU	934 0902
Kirsten Miller	'Clover', Wokingham Road, Hurst, RG10 0RU	934 0902

Sandy Bottom

Peter Lucey	1 Twycross Road, Wokingham, RG40 5PE	979 0379
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Wescott East

Christopher Facey	22 Luckley Wood, Wokingham, RG41 2EW	978 4900
Julian McGhee-Summer	41 Tattersall Close, Wokingham, RG40 2LP	978 9766

Wescott West

Linda Barnes	3 Erica Drive, Wokingham, RG40 2DU	978 2128
Bob Wyatt	33 Sturges Road, Wokingham, RG40 2HG	978 0325



In action

COUNCIL

Wokingham Town Council is made up of twenty-five councillors representing the four wards of the town: Emmbrook, Evendons, Norreys and Wescott. The Town Councillors are elected every four years and each year all twenty-five Councillors elect one Town Councillor to be the Town's Mayor and Chairman of Council.

The Council has many responsibilities and opportunities to make a difference to the town.



MEETINGS

The Town Council is the first point of contact for many residents. The full Town Council meets at least six times a year and there are other committee meetings throughout the year which are open to the public. There is an Annual Town Meeting held every March where members of the public are invited to come and ask questions to the Mayor and chairmen of the main committees. Details of all the Town Council's meetings are published on the notice boards outside the Town Hall, and for further information members of the public can telephone the Town Council on 0118 978 3185 or view agendas and minutes online at www.wokingham-tc.gov.uk.



PARKS

Wokingham is very fortunate in having large areas of open space either in the form of parks or open land for people to enjoy. The Council is responsible for maintaining these areas which include Joel Park, King George V Playing Fields, Langborough Recreation Ground, Howard Palmer Gardens, Viking Field, Leslie Sears Playing Field and Redlands Farm Park.

MARKET

The Town Council runs the market that takes place outside the Town Hall and trades on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Wokingham is a medieval chartered

market town and the Town Council proudly keeps this tradition alive.

Other areas of responsibility include the running of the Town's **allotment sites**, maintaining the

Civic and other events in the town

March

Civic Awards Ceremony - The Town Council acknowledges individuals who do community work in the town

Annual Town Meeting - Presentation of the Council's annual report and public question time

May

Mayor Making - New Mayor installed

Fun Day - Free children's attractions in Howard Palmer Park

May Fayre - Organised by Wokingham Lions with sponsorship from the Town Council

June

Civic Sunday - Civic Parade with Voluntary Organisations

June, July and August

Sunny Saturdays - Free entertainment in the Market Place

September

Heritage Day - Town Hall open to the public with guided tours and talks on the town's silver

November

Remembrance Parade - Organised by the Royal British Legion

Mayor's Market - Free stalls for Voluntary Organisations

November/December

Winter Carnival/Switching on of Christmas Lights in the town centre



community hall in Wooshell and providing some **bus shelters**. It also owns the **Emmbrook Village Hall** which is administered as a charity by a local management committee. The

Town Council gives **grants** to the Wokingham Mobility Scheme, the Citizens Advice Bureau, youth street workers and many others.

The Town Council sponsors the annual

May Fayre and organises a children's **Fun Day** every May in Howard Palmer Gardens. The majority of the costs associated with the **Christmas lighting** in the town is borne by the Town Council.

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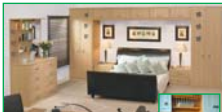
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New Town Centre Manager Brian Newman



Brian joined us in December 2006 bringing with him a wealth of experience as operations director for Euromarkets GB Ltd – organisers of continental and specialist markets for local authorities – as well as four years experience as Markets Manager for Newbury Town Council. Brian brings a new focus and energy to activities in the Town Centre.

While getting to know traders and familiarising himself with the opportunities available to Wokingham, one of Brian's first tasks was arranging an impromptu French market, which brought Gallic goods to the Town just in time for Christmas.

Brian is hoping to increase market activities further with a monthly Continental Market on a Sunday for those who cannot go during the week.

Brian also performs a vital liaison role, bringing together the views of everyone involved in the Town Centre, and he has set up a retailers' forum to debate ideas for improvement. He also works with other Council teams for the benefit of the Town Centre, for instance linking up with the Street Scene Team to ensure that Wokingham is kept clean and green.

"I look forward to meeting many more of you over the coming months," said Brian. "If you think there is something I could help with, please give me a call on (0118) 9740889 or E mail: tcm@wokingham-tc.gov.uk."


WOKINGHAM MARKET

As a market town, Wokingham is proud of its friendly, varied market around the Town Hall which trades on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. The Town Council also organises the Farmers' Market which takes place on the first Thursday of every month.

Enquiries on stalls should be directed to Rob Vincent, Market Superintendent on 07847 602186 or email marketsup@wokingham-tc.gov.uk




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Phones don't help you drive. Switch it off.



WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL



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WOKINGHAM

Information Centre

Don't know what to do in Wokingham? Look no further than the Information Centre in the Town Hall!



The centre provides extensive information on local events and has leaflets and posters on places to visit. Bus and train timetables for the Wokingham area are available too. The staff help local charities advertise their events and sell tickets. Local publications/DVDs on Wokingham including Ken Goatley's 'Bygone Days' and Jim Bell's 'Mayors of Wokingham' are also stocked.



ROOMS FOR HIRE

Bookings can be made for the hire of rooms for meetings or functions at the Town Hall and also at Woosehill Community Centre by contacting the Information Centre. Rooms of varying sizes are available throughout the day at very reasonable rates and there are catering facilities at both locations.

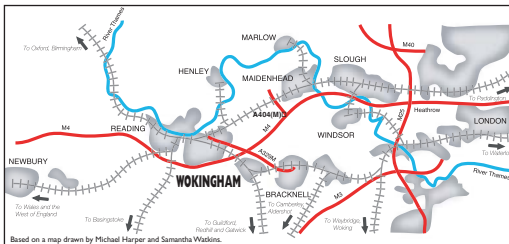
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Monday to Friday:
9.00am until 4.30pm
Saturday: 10.00am until 2.00pm
Telephone 0118 978 3185
E: info@wokingham-tc.co.uk

Weddings / special events

The Town Hall's Victorian cross-beamed Main Hall is a spectacular venue for wedding ceremonies and is also licensed to hold civil ceremonies. The Hall is equally suitable for a small, intimate event but can also accommodate up to 120 people if required. Call us for details of our reasonable rates, personal service and to arrange a viewing.





Based on a map drawn by Michael Harper and Samantha Watkins.

Introducing Historic Wokingham Town

Once a busy market town in Windsor Forest, the historic town of Wokingham is now a lively centre for business and light industry. It owes its recent growth to its strategic position in the prosperous Thames Valley and easy access to road, rail and air services.

The town is served by the A329 London to Reading road and by the M4 and M3. Bus and rail services link it to Reading, Bracknell and Camberley. There are good rail connections through Reading to all parts of the country and Wokingham has direct services to London Waterloo, Guildford and Gatwick Airport. Heathrow Airport is within easy reach via the M4.

Few towns of Wokingham's size enjoy such excellent communications as well as being set in beautiful countryside, with numerous

historic centres close by and the coast accessible for day trips.

The Market Place and its Victorian Town Hall are at the heart of the town which is an attractive mix of old houses and inns with modern shops, businesses and offices. Wokingham offers a pleasant living and working environment, which is well served with shops, churches, schools, community, health and leisure services.



Good Schools for All Children

By whatever standards they are judged, including position in the Government League Tables, secondary schools in Wokingham perform at consistently high levels. Also there is a choice of mixed or single sex education, an important factor for many parents.

Local primary schools offer a thorough grounding in the national curriculum and, in an interesting and supportive environment, encourage all children to achieve their potential. There are a number of good quality independent schools in the locality for pupils at secondary and primary level.

A choice of under-5s provision

For children under statutory school age, parents can choose from a variety of good nursery provision including pre-school learning groups.

Opportunities for Adults

There are a variety of interesting courses for school leavers and adults at local colleges and centres, including Reading University,

with high quality services

Thames Valley University (TVU) and Bracknell and Wokingham College.

Support for the Elderly

Older residents have an important place in Wokingham's community life and the active contribution that many make to associations in the town is much valued. The Wokingham and District Day Centre for the Elderly (WADE) offers day care and meals and there are also some high quality residential and nursing homes.

Excellent Health Care

Well-equipped GP surgeries have their own practice nurses and offer all modern facilities and services. The Town is served by the Royal Berkshire Hospital in Reading, where there is an Accident and Emergency Unit.

Wokingham Community Hospital is home to a variety of clinics, including

physiotherapy, family planning, chiropody and baby care. In the grounds are the Macmillan House Cancer Care Day Centre, the Child and Adolescent Unit and Crossroads, which cares for the carers.

The Mental Health Unit at Wallis House, 27 Broad Street (0118 989 0707) offers counselling and day care between 9.00am and 9.00pm. This is a joint service between Social Services and the NHS. There is also a range of information and counselling services that are listed in the ABC of Information in this Guide including MIND and ARC (Youth Counselling and Information Services) 0118 977 6710.

The Town is well served by dentists, chiropodists, physiotherapists and other ancillary care specialists.



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for business and industry



The rural atmosphere around the Town of Wokingham is evidence of its agricultural past. Although open spaces and farming still survive, the area has taken on a new mantle of modern technology and successful industrial enterprise.

With the modernising of our strategically placed business parks; Molly Millars Trading Estate, the Mulberry and Oaklands Business Parks, many national and multinational businesses are attracted to the area.

Wokingham's situation in the Thames Valley, where large corporate companies predominate, enables us to act as both a shopping and service centre for the surrounding areas. This has created a unique opportunity for both the small business sector and the larger multiple stores to prosper.

Good Prospects for Wokingham

Fortunately, Wokingham has retained much of its original charm as a Market Town that makes it attractive for

those who wish to live and work within its confines. Many parts of the town are being modernised and re-developed in a manner which will enhance the ambience.

A Thriving Town Centre

In and around Wokingham's Town Centre, history and modern technology live happily together.

The Town Hall dominates the bustling Market Place that is alive with new businesses, specialist shops and restaurants, all of which are known for giving first class customer service. The busy market takes place four times a week and an excellent farmers' market fills the Market Place on the first Thursday of every month.

Within walking distance is the Plaza with a leisure club, restaurant and bar. The Courtyard, located on the east side of Denmark Street, is like stepping back in time, and Rose Street still retains the attraction of its many medieval houses.



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An Agricultural Economy

Until the 20th century, most people in the town earned their living directly or indirectly from agriculture. Early industries such as producing and weaving wool, tanning leather and making leather goods such as shoes and gloves depended on pastoral farming for the supply of raw materials.

New Industries Grow

In the 14th century a bell foundry was established in Broad Street and for three hundred years Wokingham became well-known for the bells cast and supplied to churches across southern England.

In the 17th century hand-knitted silk stockings were made and machine knitting was introduced in the early 18th century. The silk industry continued until 1831.

Wokingham in the Civil War

Wokingham was badly affected in the Civil War in the 17th century. The district was subject to foraging raids by both Roundheads and Cavaliers. The latter were recorded as raiding the town on two occasions, setting fire to houses when inhabitants failed to supply them with enough food.

The First Schools

After the Restoration a group of Puritan ministers settled in Wokingham and opened small schools. As the town grew more schools were established. These included a school in Montague House in the 1790s and again in the 1920s, a day school in 1840 at the Baptist Sunday School, the National School in 1825, now Palmer

School, and one in the Tudor House in the early 1900s.

How Wokingham began

People have lived in the Wokingham area since Iron Age times, but the town itself probably began as a tiny Saxon settlement occupied by the Woccingas tribe from Woking. It is known that there was a Saxon chapel on the site of All Saints' Church. The name of Wokingham relates to these early settlers. It has been spelt in many different ways, but the modern spelling is the oldest and correct version.

The Original Town Layout

Wokingham was once part of the manor of Sonning, owned by the Bishop of Salisbury. In 1219 the Bishop purchased a charter from Henry III which allowed him to hold a market every Tuesday. The layout of the new town was then settled and divided between the Bishop and Dean of Salisbury. Most original street names have changed little. Le Shete is now Shute End, Le Rothe Strete became Rose Street, Le Peche Strete became Peach Street and Le Don Strete was Down Street before being renamed Denmark Street in the 19th century, following the marriage of Princess Alexandra of Denmark to Edward, Prince of Wales.



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All Saints' Parish Church

All Saints' Parish Church occupies a site used for worship since Saxon times. Except for the bases of the 12th century nave pillars, the church is largely of the 14th and 15th centuries. Having fallen into disrepair, it was heavily restored in the 19th century. Of historical interest are the tower, the oak-beamed roof and chalk pillars in the nave, the font and the Royal Arms of Queen Elizabeth I painted on wood.

Tudor House

The Tudor House at the end of Broad Street was built in the 16th century. Some windows retain original 17th century ironwork. In the 1920's a coating of stucco was removed to reveal the timber frame and the front was altered using some timbers from Billingbear Mansion, Binfield. Once a school, it is now a doctors' surgery.



The Terrace

The Terrace is the most striking group of old and new buildings in Wokingham. It has many restored timber-framed houses, one of which dates from the 14th century and is the oldest house in Wokingham. In the 13th century, the Terrace was known as "Le Shete", an early example of Franglais, meaning "the land that stands out". Both sides of the road are now called Shute End.

Lucas Hospital

Lucas Hospital was founded in 1665 to accommodate and provide pensions for men from Berkshire and Surrey. The building is a fine example of Restoration architecture and the only Grade I listed building in Wokingham. The almshouses were originally administered by the Drapers Company as trustees, but now the building is privately owned.



Victorian buildings

St Paul's Church

St Paul's Church was built in 1863-64 and endowed by the third John Walter of Bearwood whose family founded the national Times newspaper. It is an example of prosperous High Victorian work in the decorated style. The tower with pinnacled spire, which soars to 150 feet, is a local landmark. Of note is the font, an unusual item of Caen stone decorated in the art nouveau manner.



Victorian buildings



The Town Hall

The Town Hall in Wokingham's Market Place was opened in 1860 as a combined County Police Station, Magistrates Court and Town Hall to replace the Guildhall, which had by then become severely dilapidated. It was designed by Poulton and Woodman of Reading in the Gothic style, and the building includes a courtyard (now a restaurant), police cells, a Main Hall with War Memorial, Council Chamber and offices.



Wokingham Hospital

Wokingham Hospital opened in 1850 as the Union Workhouse to aid the poor and needy in local parishes. Over the years it has been transformed and has now become a wonderful asset to the town. It boasts a variety of clinics and a physiotherapy unit.

The Clock House

The Clock House with its tower was erected in 1893 by John Walter to provide schools and a parish room associated with St Paul's Church. The buildings were later enlarged by Arthur F Walter and in 1911 bought for the parish by Thomas E Ellison of The Elms. Originally used by St Paul's School, business offices now occupy the Clock House.



Town Twinning

In 2007 Wokingham Town celebrated 30 years of twinning with Erfstadt, which is near to Cologne, in Germany. In 1988 we extended our links to France and signed a charter with Viry-Chatillon, a suburb just 12 miles south of Paris.

Twinning is a special relationship between communities which helps to strengthen peace and understanding. It is not just for officials and councillors but for local residents of all ages, interests and walks of life to meet each other across national frontiers and to share ideas and experiences.

The Town Twinning Association organises a programme to encourage exchanges and various other activities between the three towns.

The Wokingham Society is the local civic trust organisation which works to protect the town's past, present and future. It undertakes initiatives to this end, holds both public and member events and provides grants to projects which are deemed to benefit the town and its residents. A series of blue plaques are placed at points of interest throughout the town.

Membership is invited to participate in these endeavours. Details available at the Information Centre and on the website www.wokinghamsociety.org.uk or call 978 6459

The Granting of The Arms

The Arms were granted to the former Borough of Wokingham in 1953, Coronation Year. At a special court held at Windsor Castle on 16 April 1975, Queen Elizabeth II authorised by Order of Council, that the Armorial Bearings were to be "lawfully borne and used" by Wokingham Town Council.

The Arms consist of:

- A field of acorns on a gold shield representing Wokingham as a forest town.
- An ermine chevron indicative of the Royal House.
- A Tudor rose, which is part of the badge of Queen Elizabeth I and our present Queen.
- The crest as a Saxon crown representing the Saxon origin of the district.
- A Berkshire stag supporting a bishop's crozier referring to the ownership of most of the town by the Bishop of Salisbury until 1574, when it became a Royal town.

Proper Heraldic Description

"Blazon or Semeé of Acorns Vertt, a Chevron Ermine thereon a Tudor Rose barbed and seeded proper and for the Crest, Issuant from a Saxon Crown Or, a demi-stag at gaze proper supporting a Crozier Or."

Wokingham Motto

E Glante Quercus --from the acorn, the oak."

Wokingham Song

*"E Glante Quercus"
From the acorn grows the oak, around our forest town;
Once king and bishop hunted here with crozier and crown.
But loosed of service ties, by Charter from the King;
The burghesses and alderman their freedom welcoming.
The chevron and the rose, the Berkshire stag so rare,
All make the arms of Wokingham a badge we proudly share.
So children of the town join with the common folk,
And through "E Glante Quercus" sing "from acorn grows the oak".*



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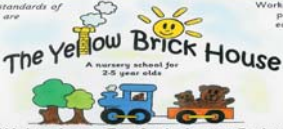


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- Family Learning
- Health Services
- Leisure
- Support Groups

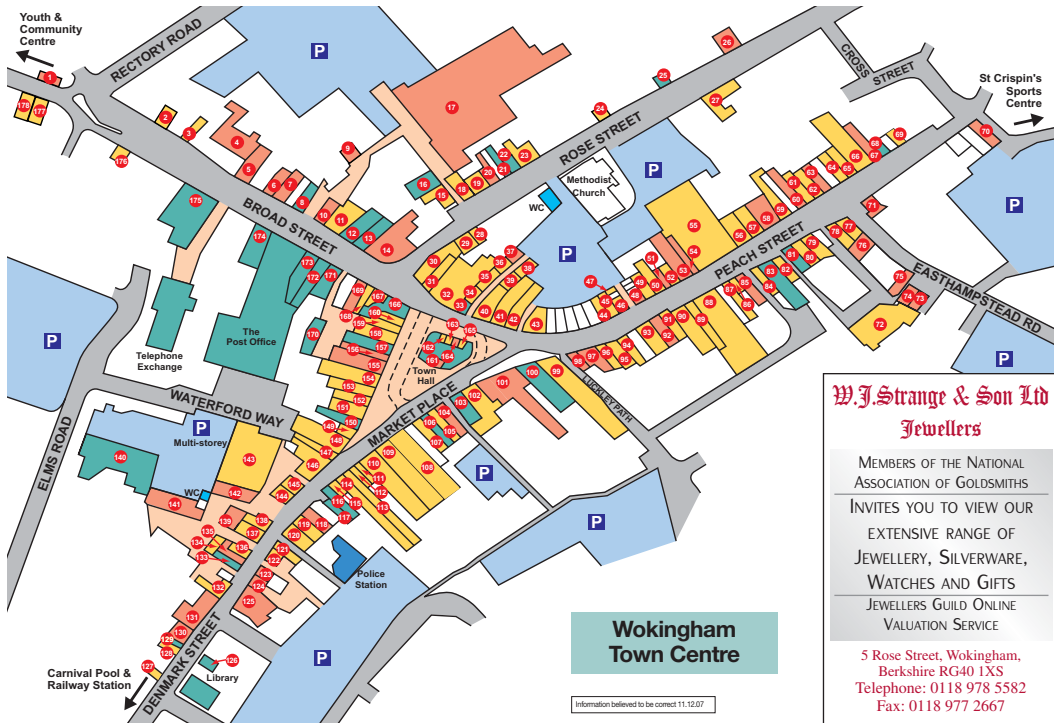
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103	Abbey Bank	157	Halfax Bank	8	Newbury Building Society
21	Alexander Worth Financial Advisers	173	Hamptons International	68	Northwood Letting Agents
100	Barclays Bank	166	HSBC Bank	83	Prospect Estate Agent
16	Batemans Opticians	25	David Taylor Estate Agents	22	Richard Worth Estate Agent
81	Blue Arrow Employment Agency	129	L.A. Property Management	106	Romans Estate Agent
172	Bradford & Bingley Bank	93	Leightons Opticians	78	Russell Caulton Opticians
117	Bucks & Berks Recruitment	174	Lloyds TSB Bank	153	Specsavers
33	Carsons Estate Agents	13	Martin & Pole Estate Agent	150	Thomas Cook
175	Clifton Ingram Solicitor	10	Michael Hardy Estate Agent	140	Virgin Active Health Club
126	Connexions	170	Michael Hardy Estate Agent	133	Wise Employment Agency
12	Equity Insurance	171	Nationwide Building Society		
116	Eton Travel	14	NatWest Bank		

NON-FOOD RETAIL

No. Premises	Advert on Page	No. Premises	Advert on Page	No. Premises	Advert on Page
65	Adam & Eve Hairdressing	143	Argos	82	Barrett Dry Cleaners
19	Alexandra Ulysses, Nail & Beauty	132	Bang & Olufsen	137	Berkshire Windows
27	Anthony Blay Menswear	35	Barbara Easton	2	Bliss Therapy Centre

NON-FOOD RETAIL (continued)

No. Premises	Advert on Page	No. Premises	Advert on Page	No. Premises	Advert on Page
16	Batemans Opticians	113	Country Dry Cleaners	47	Hairy Pop-Ins, Hairdressers
66	Blockbuster Video Rental	49	Crazy Discount Stores	59	Henry Bowyers & Sons Pet Shop
44	Bookends Cards	146	Designs for Living	144	Hudson Bay Clothing
95	Bookends Books	38	DK UK Snowsports	120	Inspirations Hair & Beauty
32	Boots The Chemists	108	Edinburgh Woolen Mill	89	in-to Kitchens
29	Boots Opticians	145	Fame Dancewear	111	Jad'or Jewellery
46	Bronz	151	Fat Face	52	JAG
154	Burton/Dorothy Perkins	50	Fineweave Carpets	147	Jay Printers
159	Cancer Research UK	69	Fireplace Gallery, The	119	John Bell Carpets
148	Carpenter's Cargo Home Shop	11	Flower Corner	31	John Wood Sports
160	Carphone Warehouse	114	Fullers Florist	50	152 Johnsons Dry Cleaning
36	Chil	80	Futurehome	121	Kaarnaama Jewellers
30	Clarks	72	Gala Clubs Bingo	134	Kerry Roberts Barbers
43	Clinton Cards	94	George Bowcock Shoes	87	Ladbrokes
128	Complementary Therapy Clinic	115	Gibbons Furniture	107	Ladbrokes
176	Computer Doctor	177	Grainings Barber Shop	55	
112	Country Cobbler & Keysmith	18	HFO Hairdresser		

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34

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No.	Premises	Advert on Page	No.	Premises	Advert on Page	No.	Premises	Advert on Page
93	Lightons Opticians		136	Retreat Hair & Beauty, The		105	Wellington & Son Jewellers	
99	M&Co		109	Robert Dyas The Ironmongers		178	Westends Hairdresser	55
55	Marks & Spencer		34	Rococo		102	WH Smith	
56	Martins Newsagents		78	Russell Cauton Opticians		168	Wild Card, The	
162	Mary Brooks Fashions		86	Sally Hair & Beauty		28	W. J. Strange & Son Jewellers	31
15	Mayther Cards & Books		64	Sam Johnson Bookmakers		61	Wokingham Décor	
84	Millets		79	Samsung		3	Wokingham Pharmacy	
24	Mimis Hair Salon		39	See-Saw Swimwear		122	Wokingham Photographic	
45	Mobile Phones Direct		96	Snappy Snaps/ Snappy Studio	34/35	88	Woolworths	
158	New Look		153	Specsavers Opticians	32	62	Yes Chef Cookware	
57	Oxfam		42	Stead & Simpson Shoes		90	Zappas Hairdressers	
110	Peacocks		138	Sue Ryder Charity Shop				
149	Pictures & Frames		41	Superdrug				
40	Principles		77	TG Art Gallery				
167	Printaprint Print & Photocopying		165	Townsend's Shoe Repairs				
163	R & I Supplies		23	WADE Charity Shop				
127	Retreat, The							

FOOD & DRINK RETAIL

No.	Premises	Advert on Page	No.	Premises	Advert on Page	No.	Premises	Advert on Page
9	Anglo's Deli		4	Immo		155	Square Public House	
48	Appleby's Café		91	Julian Graves Health Food		98	Subway	
58	Baranda Restaurant		125	Lord Raglan Public House		156	Sultan Bath House	40
85	Beijing Chinese Takeaway		28	Metropolitan Public House		135	Taj Mahal Restaurant	
5	Broad Street Tavern		101	New Rose Public House		60	Tamarind Tree	
139	Brown Bag Café		74	Papa John's Pizza Takeaway		71	Teak House Restaurant	
123	Café 26		164	Piazza Caffè		7	Thresher Wine Shop	
97	Caffe Nero		6	Pizza Express		76	Victoria Arms Public House	
161	Courtyard Restaurant, The		63	Pizza Hut Takeaway	42	51	Vitality Health Foods	
130	Crispin Public House		142	Prezzo Restaurant		17	Waltrose	6
37	Domino's Pizza Takeaway		104	Red Lion Public House		92	West Cornwall Pasty Company	
131	Don Beni Restaurant		53	Redan Public House		124	Wokingham Tandoori Takeaway	
141	Gig Public House, The		118	Rossini Italian Restaurant				
1	Giggling Spring Coffee Bar, The		67	Royal India Restaurant				
169	Greggs Bakery		20	Ruchetta Restaurant				
54	Haka Chinese Takeaway		75	Shanghai Takeaway				
73	Holistic Health		70	Sorrentos Restaurant	42			

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Recreation and Leisure

Wokingham Town has ample opportunities for recreation and leisure. Amenities are provided by the Town and Borough Councils as well as local associations and private enterprise.

Parks and Open Spaces

Parks and open spaces are to be found throughout the town. They include Langborough Recreation Ground, King George V Playing Field, Redlands Farm Park, Joel Park, Howard Palmer Gardens, Leslie Sears Playing Field and Viking Field, all of which are maintained by the Town Council. Most of the parks have safe and attractive play facilities for children.

Open spaces like Wooseshill Meadows and Riverside Walk along the Emm Brook provide pleasant walking. There are many leaflets describing

walks and cycle routes in and around the town, available free from the Wokingham Town Hall Information Centre, Borough Council Offices and local libraries.

Recreation Grounds

In the centre of the town at Elms Field there is a children's play area and special events such as fun fairs and carnivals also take place here.

To the north of the town, Cantley Park offers facilities for a variety of activities including cricket, tennis, hockey and football (grass and synthetic) (0118 974 6256).

Football pitches at Langborough Recreation Ground and King George V Playing Field can be hired through the Town Council (0118 978 3185).

Sports

Badminton

Badminton courts are available at the Emmbrook School Sports Hall (0118 978 4406) and the Holt



School Sports Hall (0118 978 0165). Local badminton clubs can be contacted on 0118 973 2695 (Ashridge) or 0118 978 6158 (Wokingham Badminton Club).

Bowling - Flat Green

Flat Green bowling is a popular sport in the area. The Wokingham Flat Green Bowling Club is located off the Reading Road near the Youth and Community Centre. Contact the Club Secretary (0118 927 2277).

Bowling - Ten Pin

The Big Apple ten pin bowling facility in Wellington Road has other features on offer such as children's parties. (0118 978 4147).



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Cricket

Cricket clubs are located in and around Wokingham. They are as follows:

- Wokingham Cricket Club (0118 962 9715)
- Emmbrook and Bearwood Cricket Club (0118 978 9221)
- Finchampstead Cricket Club (0118 978 5949)

Football

Wokingham Wanderers Football Club plays its matches at Cantley Park, Wokingham.

Football can be played at a variety of other venues in Wokingham. The Town Council hires out two football pitches at King George V Playing Fields and at Langborough Recreation Ground. For details of times and hire charges phone 0118 978 3185.

- Other football clubs are:
- Pinewood Football Club

(01344 761 439)

- Finchampstead Football Club (01256 810 222).

Golf

Golf can be enjoyed at the many courses in the area. Listed below are some within the Wokingham area.

- Bearwood, Mole Road, Sindlesham (0118 976 0060)
- Downshire Golf Course, Easthampstead Park – pay and play (01344 302 030)
- Hennerton Golf Club Wargrave (0118 940 1000)
- Sand Martins, Finchampstead Road (0118 979 2711)
- Billingbear, Straight Mile, Hurst – pay and play (01344 869 259)
- Hurst Golf Course, Sandford Lane, Hurst pay and play (0118 934 4355)

Swimming

The Carnival Pool in Wellington Road, with its 25 metre 6-lane pool, learner pool and mini-leisure pool as well as sauna and jacuzzi, was opened in 1993 by the Borough Council. Sessions of all kinds are organised throughout the week including aqua-aerobics, family fun, swim schools and swimming in retirement (0118 977 0007).

Table Tennis

Wokingham Table Tennis Club meets and plays at Pinewood Leisure Centre, Crowthorne (0118 979 0670).

Sports Centres

St Crispin's Sports Centre, which adjoins the Secondary School on the London Road, offers a wide range of sporting activities (0118 979 1066). In the grounds there are two skateboard ramps established by the Town Council (0118 978 3185).

(Please see the ABC of Information at the end of this book for these and other sports venues.)

Youth & Community Centre

This facility in Reading Road provides a venue for young people to enjoy a variety of leisure and cultural pursuits (0118 978 3610 or 0118 977 2824).

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Horticulture

The Wokingham Horticultural Association is a popular focus for gardening in Wokingham (0118 978 5532). A store is opened for members at the Ormonde Road allotments site most Saturday and Sunday mornings between February and November (excluding August). Talks and other activities are organised and four shows are held each year.

Allotments are available for rent from the Town Council at the following sites: Ormonde Road, Latimer Road, Gipsy Lane and St Paul's Gate. Contact (0118 978 3185) for further details. There is currently a waiting list of approximately 1 year.

Gardening Competition

The Town Council organises an annual Gardening Competition for Wokingham residents. Entry forms can be obtained from the Town Council and should be sent in by the beginning of June. The gardens are judged in July with the presentation of prizes by the Mayor in September.

Arts

Music

Wokingham is alive with music! There are numerous choirs, bands and groups to join. Many give performances of their talents locally. Every summer the Town Council organises 'Sunny Saturdays' - a programme of events performed in the Market Place during June, July and August. Music is played for the delight and appreciation of passing shoppers.

Music groups include

- All Saints' Church Choir (0118 978 1990)
- Berkshire Young Musicians Trust (01344 360036)
- Cameo Singers (Secretary 01252 876178)
- South Berkshire Singers (0118 978 0581)
- St Paul's Church Choir (0118 977 5325)

- St Sebastians Band (0118 981 2294)
- Trinity Concert Band (0118 969 7670)
- Wokingham Choral Society (0118 978 1260)
- Woodley Concert Band (0118 978 2330)
- West Forest Sinfonia (0118 933 2435)

Theatre

The Wokingham Theatre is located at Cantley Park, Twyford Road. This lively amateur theatre group presents a varied programme throughout the year and is very popular with local theatre-goers. Early bookings are advisable. Please contact the Box Office (0118 978 5363) for tickets and membership enquiries.

Art Literature and History

Each year Wokingham and District Arts Group hold exhibitions of the work of local artists in St Paul's



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Parish Rooms. Local art groups also display their works in The Mall at Wokingham Borough Council offices on an ad hoc basis.

Wokingham Literary Society meets fortnightly through the winter months. Talks and discussions cover a wide variety of authors and topics (contact 0118 978 0809)

Wokingham History Group meets on the second Monday of each month except August in the Methodist Centre, Rose Street – 7.30 for 8.00pm (contact 01344 775920 or 0118 979 1612).

**Additional Information
about Leisure Activities**

- The Information Centre in the Town Hall has details of local events and clubs in the area.
- Wokingham Library, where free internet access is also available (0118 978 1368)
- Updated information regarding this list can be found on the Wokingham Borough Council web-site: www.wokingham.gov.uk
- Local weekly newspapers – The Wokingham Times and the Wokingham News

Other Entertainment

Other entertainment in the town include:

- Bingo at the Gala Bingo Hall, Easthampstead Road (0118 979 2971)
- Chameleon Night Club,

Wellington Road (0118 978 4147)

Eating Places and Pubs

Wokingham boasts 'one can be spoiled for choice' when it comes to choosing restaurants or public houses. The Information Centre also has lists of local eating places and pubs.

**Halls
for Hire**

There are halls and rooms in many places in the town which are available for social and community use. Contact the Information Centre for details (0118 978 3185).

The Town Hall has four rooms available for hire and there are three rooms available at Woosehill Community Hall. These rooms can be booked by contacting (0118 978 3185).

Emmbrook Village Hall is available for hire from the Village Hall Management Committee (07799 060597).

Wokingham Winter Carnival

The other main annual event in Wokingham is the Winter Carnival which takes place in late November/early December. This brings people from near and far to join in the festivities of the season. Street entertainment, craft, gift, charity stalls and food stalls are in abundance. Enjoy the Carnival procession through the streets and meet at the Christmas tree in the Market Place for carol singing and switching on of the Christmas lights. Father Christmas is always present at the Winter Carnival waiting to greet the children in his grotto.

Fun Day and May Fayre

Every year the Wokingham Town Council organises a Fun Day for the children in Howard Palmer Gardens. This is held on the Saturday before the first May Bank Holiday. The fun filled programme offers free entertainment and other attractions for children.

The May Fayre is now a permanent fixture in Wokingham's diary. This main event (organised by the Lions Club and with sponsorship by the Town Council) presents entertainment and a range of stalls (mostly in aid of a charity) throughout the town centre, on the May Bank Holiday Monday.

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Wokingham Town Shopmobility
0118 977 0332

Advice and Counselling

ARC Young People's Information and Counselling (24 hours)
0118 977 6710

Citizen's Advice Bureau
0118 989 0389

Childline 0800 1111

Berkshire Friends of Childline 01344 776 058

Cruse - Bereavement Care
01344 411 919

Daisy's Dream children and family support for death in the family 0118 934 2604

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RELATE Marriage and couple relationships 0118 989 3100

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01344 390 566

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Also a Farmers' Market is held on the first Thursday of each month 0118 978 3185

Car Parks

(see town centre plan)
There are a number of car parks around the town.
Free car parking is available on Saturdays only at Wokingham Borough Council offices at Shute End and Wellington Road

Centres for Visiting

Wokingham Town is an excellent base from which to plan days out. Within a 30 mile radius you will find:

- **Ascot Heath**, Ascot
- **Basildon Park**, Lower Basildon
- **Beale Park**, Pangbourne
- **Cliveden** near Taplow
- **California Country Park**
- **Dinton Pastures**, Hurst
- **Finchampstead Ridges**
- **Greys Court**, Henley on Thames
- **Henley on Thames**
- **Holme Grange** Craft Village
- **Mapledurham House**
- **Mid-Hants Railway (Watercress Line)**, Alresford
- **Museum of Berkshire Aviation**, Reading
- **Museum of English Rural Life**, Reading University
- **REME Museum of Technology**
- **River & Rowing Museum**, Henley on Thames
- **Savill Garden**, Englefield Green,

- **Swallowfield Park**, Swallowfield
- **The Look Out**, Bracknell,
- **Valley Gardens**, Windsor
- **Wellington Country Park**
- **Windsor**

Details of these venues can be found in the Information Centre at the Town Hall.

Churches and Chapels

- All Saints', CofE**, Wiltshire Road 0118 979 2999
- Baptist Church**, Milton Road 0118 978 7174
- Corpus Christi RC**, Sturges Road 0118 978 0348
- Jehovah's Witnesses**, Stanley Road
- Kings Church**, Reading Road 0118 978 7270
- Methodist Church**, Rose Street 0118 978 1756
- Norreys Evangelical**, Norreys Avenue 0118 961 9821
- St Nicholas CofE**, Emmbrook Village Hall, 0118 978 0034
- St Paul's' CofE**, Reading Road 0118 978 0629
- Salvation Army**, Sturges Road 0118 978 4231
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 Emergency Duty Team
 01344 786 543
 Visual Impairment Team
 0118 974 6896
 Deaf Services Team
 0118 944 5420
 Minicom: 0118 927 2202
 Community Mental Health Team 0118 989 0707
 Homelessness and Housing Advice 0118 974 6760
 Children's Information Service 0118 935 2255

Dentists
Adentec 0118 979 5559
Ashwater Dental Practice 0118 979 1000
Bean Oak Dental Surgery 0118 977 0869
Beechcroft Dental Surgery 0118 978 3815
Dentalign Orthodontist 0118 977 5121
Denton Road Dental Practice 0118 978 6083
Nine Mile Ride Dental Practice 0118 973 3907
Peach Street Dental Practice 0118 989 4160
Robinspool Dental Practice 0118 978 6703

I Roussos 0118 978 0009
Wokingham Dental Clinic 0118 979 1551

Disability Services

Information for Disability based at Wokingham CAB 0118 989 0389

Westmead Support Group 0118 989 4032

Wokingham Resource & Opportunities Centre 0118 979 2588

Doctors' Surgeries

Burma Hills Surgery Ashridge Road 0118 978 5854

Rectory Road Surgery, 0118 978 4566

Tudor House Surgery, Broad Street 0118 978 3544

Woosehill Surgery 0118 978 8266

Education

Wokingham Borough Council Education and Cultural Services 0118 974 6105

Further Education

Bracknell & Wokingham College 0118 902 9151

TVU 0800 371 434

University of Reading 0118 987 5132

Emergency Services

Fire, Police, Ambulance emergency 999

Royal Berkshire Ambulance 0118 936 5500

Wokingham Fire Station 0118 945 2888

Wokingham Police Station 08458 505 505

British Red Cross 0118 978 9008

St John Ambulance 0118 933 5500

Employment

Wokingham Adult Guidance 0118 978 6845

Wokingham Job Support 0118 977 0517

Ex-Services Associations

Royal Air Force Association 0208 286 6667

Royal British Legion 0118 978 2582

Women's Section 0118 978 0840

SSAFA 0207 403 8783

Health

Family Planning - Wokingham Hospital 0118 949 5000

Heatherwood Hospital (minor injuries only) 01344 623 333

Royal Berkshire Hospital (Accident & Emergency) 0118 987 5111

Housing

Homelessness and housing advice Wokingham Borough Council 0118 974 6754

Housing Benefit, Wokingham Borough Council 0118 974 6622

Library

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01344 456611**Reading Evening Post**
0118 918 3000**Opticians****Boots** 0118 978 1085**Horstmann's**
0118 978 0937**Leighton's** 0118 978 6744**Russell Caulton**
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Reading Road
0118 978 2514**Senior Citizens****OAP No. 1 Branch**

0118 979 2929

WADE (Wokingham District
Association for the Elderly)
0118 978 7025**Age Concern**

0118 959 4242

Social Services

See Community Services

Local Information**Information Centre,**
Town Hall, Market Place
0118 978 3185**Trading Standards****Trading Standards, Woking-**
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National Women's Register
01603 406 767

National Childbirth Trust
07005 801 205

Townswomen's Guild -
Afternoon - 0118 942 1192
Evening - 0118 978 5265

West Forest Ladies Circle -
0118 978 2267

Women's Institute -
0118 933 3448

Youth Services

Air Training Corps
0118 977 2690

Army Cadets
0118 957 3908

Boys Brigade -
0118 961 6828

Girls Brigade -
01235 510 426

Berkshire Guide Association
0118 961 9771

Scout Association, District Commissioner -
0118 901 9232

Sea Cadets 01628 623 089

Youth & Community Centre,
Reading Road -
0118 978 3610

For further information about local Organisations and Services, see:
Wokingham Borough Official Guide
Leisure and Community Directory
Available from Wokingham Borough Council offices

0118 974 6000, the Town Hall Information Centre
0118 978 3185 and Wokingham Library
0118 978 1368

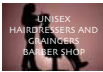
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Community access to policing or community safety team through a named point of contact



PC Mark Powell demonstrates the CCTV van

Neighbourhood Policing aims to put community needs, issues and priorities at the heart of local policing. It's work complements all of the other aspects of policing

Crime Solvers
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INFLUENCE

Community influence over community safety priorities in their neighbourhood



Tony McHally visits the Woodsey Street Art Walk

Consultation with the community establishes the quality of life priorities. Contact your Neighbourhood Team to find out how to make your voice heard

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INTERVENTION

Community, police and partners in joint action to problem solve "quality of life" issues



MP John Forwood works in partnership with the Wokingham Town Neighbourhood Action Group

Community well being is at the heart of Neighbourhood Policing. Neighbourhood Action Groups such as the Wokingham Town Centre NAG work to improve the quality of life

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ANSWERS

Community ownership of answers that are sustainable solutions to problems



Flyers, posters and newsletters used by the NAGs

Neighbourhood Action Groups are dependant on community participation. For more information and to see your Neighbourhood Team, log on to the Thames Valley Police website

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