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Residents' Newsletter

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Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead

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Please share with friends, family and neighbours in the borough so they can keep up to date. Sign up here if you've received a forwarded copy.

Weekly bin collections return

Weekly household waste and recycling collections will resume from Monday 17 August.

We have taken this opportunity to review collection routes to make them more efficient and environmentally friendly. For some residents, this means that your bin collection day will change. Letters have been sent to all households in the borough with further information and confirmation of whether or not your collection day is changing.

For the majority of residents, there will be no change to your bin collection day, however the time of your collection may change, so please ensure your bin is out by 7am.

Once weekly collections resume, we will not be collecting excess waste or recycling on collection day and all your rubbish should be in your bin before the crews arrive.

Read the full press release here.

Ray Mill Island, Maidenhead - increased safety measures

Due to reports of visitors entering the water by the weir at Ray Mill Island, Maidenhead, and a significant increase in large gatherings, we are introducing a number of measures to increase the safety of those who visit, live and work on the island or nearby.

There is a risk to life of people entering the weir area. Weirs can be very dangerous and pose a risk to life as they hide strong currents and deep water. The risks are also increased suddenly without warning following rainfall.

The size of these gatherings also contravene COVID-19 restrictions of social distancing and of limiting social gatherings to a maximum of 6 people from different households.

From Saturday 15 August until further notice, we are introducing the following safety measures:

- The Environment Agency has installed additional fences to deter unauthorised access to the weir at the weir end of the island.
- The number of people permitted on the island at any one time will be restricted and our Community Wardens will be monitoring this.
- Closing time will be brought forward to 7pm to ensure everyone is off the island before dark and to aid with the clearing of rubbish and ensuring everybody's safety.
- Only residents of the island or those with a legitimate business need should drive over the bridge to the island. Parking spaces are limited, please respect the parking restrictions in the surrounding area and note that parking enforcement officers will be on patrol.

- If you do visit, please follow all signage and respect social distancing restrictions. **BBQs, alcohol and night fishing are not permitted**, and we ask that you take all your litter home with you. Please be considerate of those living nearby and leave the island quietly, taking all of your belongings and rubbish with you.

We don't want to spoil anyone's fun and want all of our parks to be enjoyed, but our main priority is safety and we hope these measures will create a more pleasant and safe experience for everyone.

Chobham Common fire

We'd like to thank our staff and agency partners for their response and support with the fire which started on Friday 7 August at Chobham Common in Surrey.

Surrey Fire and Rescue were called to the fire just after midday. An estimated 140 acres of heath and scrubland was affected and a number of our residents living in Ascot had to be evacuated from their homes for safety reasons. At its peak more than 40 vehicles including fire engines, specialist units and 4x4s were at the scene and the fire service, along with numerous partners, continued to have a significant presence at the scene dealing with incident.

Our officers have been supporting affected residents and working with the multi-agency major incident response team that includes Thames Valley Police, fire & rescue crews and staff at Surrey County Council, to put in place road closures and manage the evacuations of residents and members of the public in the area.

You can see more detail about the incident on **Surrey County Council's website**.

Family Hub consultation

Have your say on the second stage public consultation on the proposed Family Hub Service in the borough.

We want to hear your views on the proposed Family Hub Service model to transform early help services for children, young people and families across the borough into one-stop family hubs.

The first stage consultation took place from January to March 2020 when we gathered your views on the overall principles behind the model. This second stage asks residents to give their views on what the new model could look like in practice.

The consultation is open and runs until the 17 September 2020.

Read our **press release for details**.

Weekend M4 closure

The M4 will be closed in both directions between junctions 6 (Slough-Windsor) and 8/9 (Maidenhead) from the evening of Friday 14 to the morning of Monday 17 August 2020.

The diversion route for motorway traffic during this weekend will use the A308M, A308, A332 and the A355. This is for construction of the new Lake End Road bridge and removal of the temporary Huntercombe Spur bridge.

The next weekend closure is from 21-24 August 2020, a full weekend closure between junctions 6 and 8/9.

See the **Highways England information page here**, where you can sign up for updates by email.

Berkshire Opportunities

Berkshire Opportunities the one-stop digital service for students and residents wanting to upskill or find out about jobs, apprenticeships, Further Education and Post 16 courses or local career path options, has now launched.

The free online portal will help Berkshire residents to make informed career decisions and will support them through the employment and skills challenges they face. Local job seekers, students, residents and employers will be able to take advantage of a search for local job vacancies, apprenticeships, course data and training opportunities. The portal will also signpost users to Berkshire's key recruiting sectors, highlighting those which are currently in urgent need of workers.

Funded by Thames Valley Berkshire Local Enterprise Partnership in conjunction with the six Berkshire local authorities (Bracknell Forest, Reading, Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead, Slough, West Berkshire and Wokingham), the five Berkshire Further Education Colleges (Berkshire College of Agriculture, Bracknell & Wokingham College, Newbury College, Reading College and The Windsor Forest Colleges Group), The Careers and Enterprise Company and supported by Adviza, the portal will aid local employers in their reach and recruitment of future talent, as well as promoting upskilling and progression opportunities for their existing staff.

Royal Borough libraries

Our library staff are teaming up with seven extraordinary women from the local community to review this year's Women's Prize for Fiction shortlist, and to discuss the previous 24 winners of the prize.

Follow the **Facebook page** to get their take on the books and then decide for yourself which book should win this year's prize.

All the books are available through **Select and Collect (available from 18 locations across the borough) and Select and Deliver**.

Eat Out to Help Out

Eat Out to Help Out runs until 31 August and you can get a 50% discount when you eat-in at restaurants, cafes, bars and pubs that are registered.

The discount will be automatically available to you at participating establishments. Establishments will then claim a reimbursement from the government for the discount they've given you.

You can get a 50% discount on food or non-alcoholic drinks to eat or drink-in (up to a maximum of £10 discount per diner) every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday between 3 and 31 August as many times as you like. You don't need a voucher to use this scheme.

See more on the **Windsor.gov webpage** for a list of participating restaurants. If you're looking for things to do over the summer you can also visit the **Make Maidenhead Facebook page**.

Council meetings this month

Council meetings can be viewed online via our **YouTube channel**.

Forthcoming meetings this month are:

- 19 August Development Management panel
- 27 August Cabinet

See the diary of meetings on our **meetings and agendas page**.

Keep in touch

Keep up to date with news and information from the council by following us on **Twitter** and **Facebook**.

Other accounts you may be interested in:

- Royal Borough official **tourism web page**.
- Libraries on **Facebook** and **Twitter**.
- Windsor & Royal Borough **Museum web page**.
- MyRoyalBorough on **Twitter**, **Facebook** and **Instagram**.

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