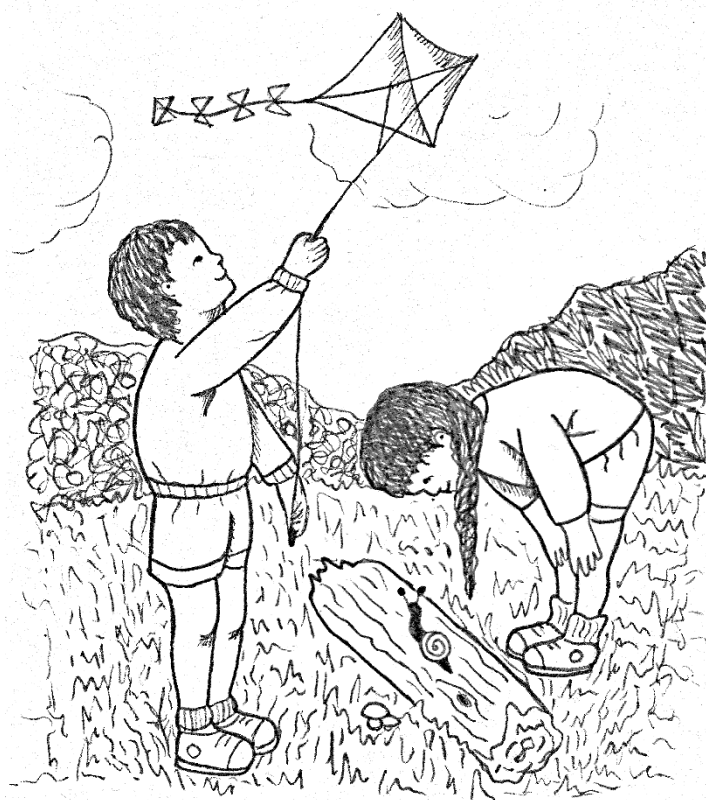


CHIME



ChildHood In Maidenhead Explored

CHIME leaflets are usually seasonal supplements to the **CHIME Family Information and Leisure Guide**. This summer we have deviated from a printed leaflet to an online only newsletter as most of our distribution outlets are closed. The content differs too in these uncertain times, so we have outlined information on local open spaces and parks and highlighted some indoor and outdoor activities. We try to ensure the information is correct but please check to avoid disappointment. Please note that any information contained in this leaflet does not constitute endorsement of any organisation or place by the Childrens Maidenhead Association.

Research for the 16th edition of the **CHIME Family Information and Leisure Guide 2020-2022** has been carried out but due to the Coronavirus pandemic publication has been delayed. If you would like to help compile **CHIME** or have any information you would like included in the **CHIME booklet** or in **CHIME leaflets** please contact Erika Seekings, tel: 07930 601489 or e-mail: chimeresearcher@hotmail.co.uk Our AGM will be held in November. If you would like to attend please contact Erika for confirmation of the date, time and venue.

Let's go outside in Maidenhead and surrounding area

OPEN SPACES AND PARKS BY THE RIVER THAMES AND THE JUBILEE RIVER

BATTLEMEAD COMMON, Lower Cookham Road, Maidenhead, SL6 8YA or from the towpath on the River Thames. 110 acre broadleaved woodland, grassland and wetland site (40% is open to the public) has a network of footpaths including a link to the Thames Path as part of the Millennium Walk (Boulter's Lock to Hurley).

BRIDGE GARDENS, junction of Bath Road and Ray Mead Road, Maidenhead, SL6 8NL.

Colourful flowerbeds at appropriate times of the year, Ada Lewis memorial fountain and two plaques by the bridge, one giving the history of the bridge and the other a reminder of the 1947 flood.

COOKHAM RIVERSIDE WALKS

Towpath walk from Cookham Bridge to Bourne End also footpaths from Cookham to Cookham Weir, Hedsor Wharf and Cookham Lock. Toilets at Cookham Lock.

GUARDS CLUB PARK AND ISLAND, Guards Club Road (vehicle access from Oldacres off Oldfield Road), Maidenhead, SL6 1XH. Open space and conservation area with Boathouse Spire Shelter offers unique views of Brunel's Sounding Arch and Maidenhead Bridge. Open all year. Small car park. The Island can be accessed by footbridge from the park.

RAY MILL ISLAND, access from Ray Mead Road, cross the road bridge at Boulter's Lock, Maidenhead, SL6 8PE, walk past the hotel and across the pedestrian bridge to the Island. Open 7am-dusk. On the island there are three attractive sculptures 'Vintage Boys', 'The Companions' and 'Maiden with Swans', a millstone in the water inlet area at the head of the stream, a little stone bridge and aviary and guinea pig enclosures. A superb view of Boulter's Weir with salmon ladder is at the north end of the island. Taplow Riverside can be accessed from Ray Mill Island by crossing Taplow Bridge, a 40 metre pedestrian footbridge.

REITLINGER OPEN SPACE, accessed off Guards Club Road, Maidenhead, SL6 8DN.

An open space named after Henry Reitlinger, a collector of fine art, has views of the River Thames.

RIVERBANK, River Road, Taplow, SL6 0BG.

Brunel's famous elliptic railway bridge over the River Thames, called The Sounding Arch, provides children with an ideal place to hear echoes as well as somewhere to watch trains. The towpath gives a pleasant walk to Bray Lock.

RIVERSIDE GARDENS, Ray Mead Road, Maidenhead, SL6 8NP.

Car parking.

TAPLOW RIVERSIDE, Mill Lane, Taplow, SL6 0AA or via pedestrian Taplow Bridge from Ray Mill Island to Glen Island leading to a large, landscaped open space between the River Thames and the Jubilee River with footpaths.

THE JUBILEE RIVER

The Jubilee River leaves the River Thames upstream of Boulter's Weir and re-enters downstream of Black Potts Viaduct in Eton. It is an 11 km man-made river with wildlife viewing screens, reed beds and a single-track pathway for wheelchair users, walkers and cyclists. 2 small car parks are accessible from the A4 via Marsh Lane, SL6 0DH and Dorney Wetlands, Lake End Road, SL4 6QT.

OTHER PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

ALFRED MAJOR RECREATION GROUND, Hillcrest Avenue, Cookham, SL6 9NG and High Road.

14 acre open space.

ASHLEY HILL, Burchetts Green, SL6 6RP.

Walks through Ashley Hill Forest with some tarmac paths.

AYSGARTH PARK, Holyport, SL6 2HQ.

Open space.

BISHAM WOODS near Cookham Dean, SL7 1RX.

The wildwood of 'Wind in the Willows' fame.

BOYN GROVE OPEN SPACE (Punt Hill), Courthouse Road, Maidenhead, SL6 6JE.

Large open space and small car park.

BRAYWICK PARK, Braywick Road, Maidenhead, SL6 1BN.

Formal parkland, signposted walking trails, local nature reserve and car park.

View: www.rbwm.gov.uk

COCK MARSH

132 acres of National Trust land north of Cookham towards Bourne End, alongside the south bank of the River Thames. Home to four circular Bronze Age burial mounds. It is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) with flat marshy meadows and steep chalk slope.

COOKHAM DEAN COMMONS

Cookham Dean Common, the Cricket Common, Bigfrith, Hardings Green and Tugwood Common are maintained by the National Trust and make up the commons of Cookham Dean.

COOKHAM MOOR

9 acres of National Trust land stretching west of Cookham from the heart of the village. Car park.

DEERSWOOD MEADOW accessed via footpath from Blackamoor Lane, Maidenhead, SL6 8RH and Deerswood, Maidenhead, SL6 8XF. Wildlife area and home to a large (1500+) urban toad colony.

DESBOROUGH PARK access from The Croft, off Fane Way, Maidenhead, SL6 4BA or Desborough Crescent, Maidenhead, SL6 4BB. Art feature 'Flora's Garden' and a small car park at The Croft.

GRENFELL PARK, Grenfell Road, Maidenhead, SL6 1EX and pedestrian access from South Road.

Decorative fountain/water feature, replica cannon and small car park.

HEYNES GREEN OPEN SPACE, Heynes Green, Cox Green, SL6 3NA.

Open space.

JUBILEE FIELD, The Causeway, Bray, SL6 2AD.

Car parking.

KIDWELLS PARK, Bath Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7DX with pedestrian access from Cookham Road, St Luke's Road and Marlow Road. An open, grassy area with flowerbeds, signposted paths and waterfall feature and World War I Memorial Garden.

LAGGAN FIELD OPEN SPACE, Laggan Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7JY with pedestrian access from Moorside Close. A large open space, with footpath leading to nearby North Town Moor.

LITTLEWICK GREEN, SL6 3RF.

Open space.

MAIDENHEAD THICKET, Henley Road, Pinkneys Green, SL6 3QE.

Large wooded National Trust common with around 5 miles of footpaths including a butterfly trail through broadleaf woodland, rides, tree-lined avenues and the earth banks and ditches of Robin Hood's Arbour; a Scheduled Ancient Monument. Car parking is available on the Henley Road, SL6 6QE, from where a footbridge crosses the A404 (M) and Canon Lane, SL6 4QG.

MAIDENHEAD TOWN MOOR, Blackamoor Lane, Maidenhead, SL6 8RG.

Meadow grassland, trees and paths. Car parking and other pedestrian access points.

NORTH TOWN MOOR, North Town Moor, Maidenhead, SL6 7JR.

Community orchard and a large open space with signposted walks, small pond and car parking.

OAKEN GROVE PARK, access from Courthouse Road, Ashcroft Road or Oaken Grove, Maidenhead, SL6 6HL. Large open space. Sir Nicholas Winton Memorial Garden, ground level apple shaped maze with brick footpaths and car parking. .

OCKWELLS PARK & THRIFT WOOD, Ockwells Road, Cox Green, SL6 3AA.

Jubilee Wood, conservation area, signposted walks and nature trail forming a local nature reserve. Thrift Wood, an 86 acre extension of Ockwells Park can also be accessed from 3 other entrances along the bridleway between Holyport and Cox Green.

PINKNEYS GREEN, Pinkneys Drive, Maidenhead, SL6 6QD is a continuation of Maidenhead Thicket covering 167 acres of National Trust land with footpaths, wildflower meadows and wooded areas. An ideal location for kite flying. Car parking in Pinkneys Drive and Pinkneys Green.

SHURLOCK ROAD NATURE RESERVE southeast of Waltham St Lawrence.

Open space with a pond. Small car park and cycle spaces.

THE BRICK AND TILE WORKS, Malders Lane, Pinkneys Green, SL6 6NJ.

Owned by the National Trust, the kilns were still in use until the middle of the 20th century. It is now a wildlife habitat with pathways forming a natural play trail. Limited parking in Malders Lane.

THE GULLET off Ludlow Road, Maidenhead, SL6 2RS.

Local nature reserve comprising a small woodland area with a wide range of trees, flowering plants and a refuge for wildlife.

WIDBROOK COMMON either side of the A4094, Sutton Road between Maidenhead and Cookham. 65 acres of permanent pasture maintained by the National Trust in two fields in the flood plain of the River Thames. Access via footpaths with Strand Water and White Brook (Widbrook) crisscrossing them to North Town Moor or Cookham.

WINTER HILL

16 acres of National Trust land. Panoramic views overlooking the River Thames towards Marlow.

ACTIVITIES TO DO AT HOME OR OUTSIDE

- Make sure you're stocked up with drawing and painting materials.
- Make play dough! 1 cup plain flour, half cup salt, 2 level teaspoons cream of tartar, 1 tablespoon cooking oil, $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 cup water, food colouring. Mix well in saucepan, boil until thick. Keeps for ages in the refrigerator.
- Make potato prints or use doilies for pretty paintings.
- Have a read-in on a rainy day – acting out stories or do jigsaws.
- Keep a 'Making-Box'. Fill it with old cards, toilet rolls, scraps of used gift wrap and materials, empty spools of thread, empty ribbon reels. Given glue and paints, and safely on newspaper on the kitchen floor, see what works of art develop.
- Keep a scrapbook or diary of the holidays - fun for reading later.
- Visit the local parks and open spaces. On a clear night have a star-gazing session.
- Make cakes together. Mix 50g soft margarine or butter, 50g caster sugar, 50g self-raising flour and 1 egg. Spoon into cake cases and bake at 180C electric or gas Mark 4 for 10 minutes.
- Do some proper cooking or have a 'Bake Off' for older children.
- Play charades - acting out animals, hot, cold, rain, wind, house etc, and more difficult ones for older children.
- Make collages out of biscuits, raisins, coloured paper, cotton wool, eggshells, macaroni, leaves and shells from last summer's holiday.
- Have a picnic on a blanket on the floor.
- Guessing games, I Spy, What's in the Bag or Hunt the Button.
- Just put wellies, raincoats and hats on and go out and enjoy the puddles! Collect sticks, feathers etc to make a collage.
- Have a music and movement session with musical statues, marching, moving quickly/slowly, heavily/lightly, growing tall/small. Make 'instruments' from old tins filled with beans, etc.
- Make puppets from paper bags, or make finger puppets, and give a show.
- Organise a treasure hunt around the house.
- Make a 'den' with old sheets and have a picnic inside, have a virtual competition for the best themed den.
- Set up an obstacle course in one room or all around the house.
- Dry seed heads by hanging them in paper bags somewhere breezy. Put in labelled envelopes when dry and store in a cool dry place. Sow in seed trays and plant out at appropriate times of year.
- Grow an avocado - suspend the base of its stone with 3 toothpicks in a jar of water.
- Dig up or pick vegetables and fruit to encourage children to eat the fruits of their labour.
- Collect leaves to press and make skeleton leaves for decoration. Pick dry ones, place between sheets of blotting or newspaper and press under heavy books for 4 weeks. To preserve leaves and berries, split the stems and stand in 5cm of glycerine and boiling water until they change colour.
- Identify bird and animal footprints in mud, using a bird or animal guide.
- Fill a plastic onion net with peanuts, fruit, breadcrumbs and bacon fat and hang from a tree and observe and identify the visitors.
- Buy a plastic toy windmill and help the children copy the design.
- Take suitable food for feeding ducks, plastic bags for interesting finds, kites and a storybook for any waiting moments.