

Community News

Your Community Newsletter and Village Voice
Autumn 2013 Edition

BFOBRCA CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

Another challenging but ultimately successful year for the Association. Once again we have had some significant financial outlays but that is only to be expected with the Centre now well into its middle age. I have chosen not to stand for election as Chair or as a Trustee for the forthcoming year. I wish to express my thanks to the Trustees for their support and help in my time as a member of this body. Above all though I thank, on behalf of us all, our wonderful hard-working staff in the Centre, Jan, the Bookings Secretary, and Mervyn, the Caretaker; they put so much into ensuring that the day-to-day running of the Centre is seamless and that our Users get the best out of what we can offer. I also welcome Barbara Angel as our new Treasurer. We had many excellent applications and the decision process was not easy but I know that we made the correct choice. Barbara has handled the transition and made a number of valuable suggestions to allow us to improve how we run the Association.

To overview the year just gone:

We had another flood into the Battery in early October which meant that the floor had to be repaired again. As a result we carried out improvement of the drainage in the area between the Battery and the surgery. There has been no repeat of the problem and I hope that this will be the end of this. Work has been done to improve the access to the Centre. Specifically a ramp has been provided via Sainsbury's car park to the garden. The gates that provide access to the Battery via the play area have also been replaced.

There was a break-in at the centre in September. Little damage was caused, thankfully, and the culprit was subsequently dealt with by the court.

There was a failure of the boiler in early January. This required immediate and expensive work. The boiler will need to be replaced in the foreseeable future and this is something that all members of the CA need to be aware of, given the obvious financial requirement.

We received a contribution from Hampshire County Council towards the improvement in lighting for the Bushfield Room. I thank Councillor Charlotte Bailey for obtaining this. The work will be done in August. Additionally the necessary program of redecoration of the Centre will start.

My thanks to both BF and OB Parish Council's for their contributions to the costs of producing Community News. My thanks also to Jan for her work in editing our magazine.

Again, I thank all that I have worked with during my time as a Trustee and Chair. I will remember this time with great pleasure.

Will Hawthorne



STEVE BRINE VISITS BADGER FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE

We were delighted to welcome Steve Brine to the Community Centre on Wednesday 31st July for an impromptu tour and to meet the team following his very successful surgery in Sainsbury's. Although it being out of term time and the Centre was rather quiet, Steve was still very impressed by what we have to offer, in particular our building, accommodation and the social club. It was good for us to get to meet our local MP in person and I'm sure Steve enjoyed his visit, if brief, to the Community Centre. We are hoping to invite him back later in the year when we are our usual hive of activity and fully re-decorated.

Steve Brine with, from L-R ~ Rachel Skinner (Trustee), Jan Dawkins (Bookings Secretary), Richard Butler (Chairman of the Social Club), Merv Hall (Caretaker), Will Hawthorne (ex-Chairman), Cllr. Brian Laming (Trustee) and Mel Andrews (Social Club Bar Manager).

BF & OB RCA, Badger Farm Community Centre, Badger Farm Road, Winchester, SO22 4QB
Tel. 01962 868630 ~ Email: bfobrca@btinternet.com ~ Registered Charity No. 279592

Editorial deadline for Winter 2013 issue: **Friday 8th November 2013**



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Badger Farm Toddlers

Thursdays 13:30 – 15:00

Badger Farm Community Centre

 For latest information,
follow us @ToddlersBF

2013 Dates

Feb	07 14 28
Mar	07 14 21 28
Apr	18 25
May	02 09 16 23
Jun	06 13 20 27
Jul	04 11 18

Are you a new Mum or Dad in need
of some adult conversation?

Is a house full of pre-schoolers
driving you mad?

Grandchildren need some entertainment?

2013 Dates

Sep	05 12 19 26
Oct	03 10 17 24
Nov	07 14 21 28
Dec	05 12 19

Come and give Badger Farm Parent and Toddlers a try!

Call Liz on 01962 866547 for details, or just turn up on the day – the
kettle's always on

Self-service baby weighing

When you just want to keep an eye on baby's weight, and either can't seem to get to a baby clinic, or
big brother or sister get too bored to wait around - come to us and weigh while they play!

PLENTY OF FUN FOR THE LITTLE ONES - A CUPPA AND A CHAT FOR YOU



COMMUNITY CENTRE ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	DAY	TIME	CONTACT	COST	DESCRIPTION
Badger Farm Art Group	Thursday	1.30pm - 4.00pm	Elizabeth Weir 01962 856689 lizbethweir@gmail.com	£5 per person	A friendly "drop in" art group providing a "space to paint" in a relaxed setting. All abilities welcome.
Badger Farm ACOL Club	Friday	7.15pm - 10.30pm	Roland Richardson 023 8025 1277	£1 visitors £15 annual	Bridge Club
Brendon Care Badger Farm Friendly Group	Alternate Thursdays	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Catherine Fellingham 01962 877772	£3.00 per session	Friendship for older people. Quizzes, speakers, outings, afternoon tea. New members and volunteers welcome.
Badger Farm Pre-School Playgroup	Monday to Friday	Mon.Tues/Wed 9.15am - 3.00pm Thurs/Fri 9.15am - 12.15pm	Denise Tosdevine 07771 798 474	£4.15 per hour	For children from 3 years to school age. Great OFSTED results. Afternoons also available - enquiries to Denise.
Badminton	Thursday	8.00pm - 9.00pm	Wendy King 01962 861525		Fun and friendly for any age and ability. All welcome!
Brownies	Thursday	6.15pm - 7.45pm During Term Time	To register an interest visit: www.girlguiding.org.uk/ interested	£35 per Term	For girls aged 7 to 10 years. 07708 217 957 11.wincity.brownies@gmail.com
Eucharist (Holy Communion)	Tuesday	10.00am - 11.00am	Rev. Mike Gardner 01962 865240		Church of England Service. All welcome.
Hampshire Wildlife Trust	2nd Wed. of the month	7.30pm - 9.30pm	Loraine Martin 01962 861182	£2.50 per meeting	Illustrated talks on wildlife for all. Contact Loraine for details.
Jo Jingles	Tuesday	9.45am - 10.30am 10.45am - 11.30am	Victoria Smith 01489 877278		Music & Movement for children from the age of 1 year.
Legs, Bums & Tums	Monday Tuesday	9.30am - 10.30am 6.45pm - 7.45pm	Catherine Jones 07990 513 434	£4.00 per class	A fun and friendly class designed to help keep you fit and toned!
National Federation of Spiritual Healers	2nd Saturday of every month.	10.00am - 12.30pm	Doreen Rivett 01980 862285 Doreenrivett@talktalk.net	Donation	Come to our group either for healing or to find out more about healing, our group and training courses.
Parents & Tots	Thursday	1.30pm - 3.00pm	Liz Lindsay 01962 866547	£2 per family per session	All parents, guardians and child minders with children aged newborn to 5 years are welcome. Just turn up on the day!
Royal British Legion	3rd Thursday monthly	7.30pm - 9.30pm	Stanley Judd 01962 869889		A warm welcome awaits you at your local Royal British Legion group meeting.
Slimming World	Saturday	9.30am - 11.00am	Steve Coombs 07788 683 077		A warm welcome awaits you in your local group! New members always welcome.
Tea Dance	Friday	3.00pm - 4.30pm	Ian & Joan Millar 01962 854542	£4 per session	A chance to practice your Ballroom and Latin American dances in a relaxed and friendly occasion with tea and cakes.
Weight Watchers	Thursday	9.00am - 11.00am 6.15pm - 7.45pm	0845 073 0460	Weekly meeting fee of £5.99	Your lifestyle, your choice. With Weight Watchers you choose the weight loss approach that works best for you.
Wessex Wargames Club	Tuesday	7.00pm - 11.00pm	Ian Ackerman 01962 624710	£3 per session (first session is free)	Miniature wargames and role-playing games of all periods and genres played.
Winchester Country Market	Friday	8.30am - 11.00am	Mrs Tina Sharpe 01962 855977		Fresh produce, cakes and preserves, crafts and plants. All welcome!
Winchester Tae Kwon-Do	Monday Wednesday	6.30pm - 9.00pm	Chris Barrett info@winchestertkd.co.uk	Membership by subscription	6.30pm-7.45pm beginners/intermediates 7pm-8.30pm seniors (black belts to 9pm)
Yoga	Monday Tuesday Friday	9.30am - 11.00am 5.30pm - 7.00pm 1.30pm - 3.00pm	Chris Wyeth 01962 868346	£35 per 5 week sessions	Experience the balancing effect of yoga on mind and body. Stretch and relax into a healthier life.
ZUMBA	Wednesday	1.30pm - 2.30pm	Debbie Woodley 07724 136 428 debbie.woodley@ talk21.com	£5 per session	Effective and exhilarating way to tone the body with exercise to lively Latin rhythms using easy to follow steps.

This table provides details of some of the activities that take place at Badger Farm Community Centre. Other hirers may have chosen not to have their details shown above. If you are looking for an activity and you can't see it here, please call Jan, the Bookings Secretary on 01962 868630.



HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT WILDLIFE TRUST WINCHESTER DISTRICT

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Indoor meetings are held at Badger Farm Community Centre, Winchester, SO22 4QB at 7.30pm in the Bushfield Room unless otherwise stated. Parking is available at the far end of Sainsbury's car park. Entry is £2.50 per person and includes coffee/tea. For further information telephone Loraine on 01962 861182 or Anne on 01962 881312. For outdoor meetings contact Mary on 01962 864440. Future indoor and outdoor meetings are listed below.

Wed. 11 Sept. 7.30pm at Badger Farm Community Centre ~ Mammals in the New Forest. Retired Chief Keeper of the New Forest, Martin Noble, will give an insight into the lives of some of the mammals to be found in these beautiful woodlands. Further details from Loraine or Anne.

Wed. 9 Oct. 7.30pm at Badger Farm Community Centre ~ Talk on "The Picos de Europa". Join wildlife photographer Gordon Small to explore the spectacular scenery and wildlife in the mountains of northern Spain ranging from Egyptian Vultures to Man Orchids. Further details from Loraine or Anne.

Sun. 27 Oct. 2pm-5pm Fungus Foray near Bishops Waltham. Join Phil Budd for a hunt for fungi at a private site. Numbers are limited so booking is essential. For further details and to book your place contact Mary. Joining instructions will be given when booking. Sorry, no dogs. Suggested donation £3.00.

Sun. 3 Nov. 10am-12.30pm Wildlife Walk at Testwood Lakes plus optional extension. Join Martin Keys for a morning walk at the Trust's Testwood Lakes Reserve to see the birds and other wildlife. Afterwards there is the option to join us for a snack in the cafe at Eling Wharf and an afternoon walk to look for wading birds. Meet at Testwood Lakes Centre car park. Further details from Mary (as above) or Martin on 01962 842610. Sorry, no dogs. Suggested donation £2.50.

Wed. 13 Nov. 7.30pm at Badger Farm Community Centre ~ Amazing Watery Invertebrates. Dr Richard Osmond will bring a living display of small creatures which will be projected onto a large screen and talk about the diversity of life that can be found in your garden pond and local chalk streams including fly life useful for anglers. Further details from Loraine or Anne.

Sun. 24 Nov. 10am-3pm Birds at Titchfield Haven. Join John Clark for a winter bird walk at this Hampshire County Council reserve. Meet in the Yacht Club car park, Cliff Road, Hill Head. Park in the car park or by the sea wall. Entry charges to the reserve apply. Bring a packed lunch as the cafe can be busy. Suggested donation £2.50. Sorry, no dogs. Further details from Mary.

Wed. 11 Dec. 7.30pm at Badger Farm Community Centre ~ Quiz Evening and Christmas Social. Join us for a glass of mulled wine/non-alcoholic drinks and mince pies and take part in a light-hearted wildlife quiz followed by a mini-auction on a seasonal theme. All welcome - just come and join a team on the night. Further details from Loraine or Anne.



Bridge Tea
on
Thursday 3rd October 2013
at
The White House, Main Road,
Littleton, Winchester SO22 6QS
at 2-5pm



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Course starts on Friday 11th October at 7.30 pm and continues on Friday 18th, 25th October and 8th November at Badger Farm Community Centre.

Booking is essential. Book on line at www.capmoneycourse.org. To find out more (or book) you can telephone 01962 868770 or email: cap@winbap.org.uk

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TWO WINCHESTER HOMELESSNESS CHARITIES ENLIST THE SUPPORT OF THE MAYOR TO LAUNCH MAJOR FUNDRAISING EVENT IN THE CITY



Two of the city's leading charities have joined forces to stage a major fundraising event in Winchester to raise money and awareness for the city's homeless and vulnerably housed people.

'The Big SleepOut' is being organised by Trinity Winchester in association with Winchester Churches Nightshelter. It is hoped that 500 people will take part in the event at Winchester Cathedral on Friday 20th September 2013 by sleeping under the stars in return for sponsorship. Pictured here, launching the event while getting a taste of sleeping on the streets of Winchester, are the Mayor of Winchester, Cllr Ernie Jeffs (centre), Michelle Gardner (right), Director of Strategy & Fundraising at Trinity Winchester and Michele Price (left), Manager at Winchester Churches Nightshelter.



Michelle Gardner said: "It is shocking that there are so many people regularly sleeping rough on the streets of Winchester. There are many stereotypes about how and why some people end up homeless or vulnerably housed, but we work hard to dispel the myths. We also support these people and help get them back on their feet by providing services including daytime shelter, training, medical care, counselling, debt management, social and communication skills." Michele Price added: "At the Nightshelter we provide practical and emotional support every night of the year, advice, advocacy and the skills to assist people on the pathway into more permanent accommodation. No one ever chooses to be homeless, and this event will give people a taste of what it's like to suddenly lose all your creature comforts. The event takes place in a stunning setting and is a chance to raise money, quite literally, with your eyes closed."

Cllr Ernie Jeffs said: "I sincerely hope that the people of Winchester will pull out all the stops to support this important event by taking part, providing sponsorship or volunteering their time – it will help these two excellent charities raise much-needed money as well as bring the issues of homelessness to the top of the agenda. I will help them in any way I can."

For further information or to register, please visit www.sleepoutwinchester.co.uk. Alternatively you can email the event organiser at Jessica@trinitywinchester.org.uk, or call Jessica Wheale on 01962 842827.

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WINCHESTER COUNTRY MARKET

Why not let us take the chore out of your cooking. The weather has been so hot and many have not wanted to cook. We can supply you with fresh vegetables, salads and fruit. We also supply cakes for special occasions and everyday cakes and cookies plus sponges. There are delicious homemade chutneys to have with your cold meat and salads along with gluten and wheat free items to order. Problems with your cakes? Fruit sinking to the bottom or splitting on the top? Come and see us! We can help you to sort the problems out.

Winchester Country Market is held weekly on a Friday at Badger Farm Community Centre from 8.30am to 11.00am. Why not pay a visit to find out more? If you would like more information please telephone 01962 866340.

Dates for your diary:

Winchester Country Market
Special Late Summer Fayre
Saturday 12 October from 9.00am-3.00pm
Autumn Fayre
Saturday 9 November from 10.00am-midday
Lots to see and buy plus
art & craft demonstrations



COME DANCING STRICTLY FOR BEGINNERS New Adult Ballroom & Latin American Class



Commencing on
Tuesday 24 September 2013
7.30pm - 8.30pm
Oliver's Battery Primary School
Winchester, SO22 4HP
For further information and enrolment
please telephone
Ian & Joan Millar ~ 01962 854542
Email ~ millardancing@yahoo.co.uk

WINCHESTER FIBROMYALGIA SUPPORT GROUP



The Winchester Fibromyalgia Support Group meet monthly on Mondays at Badger Farm Community Centre from 10.30am to 1.30pm. This is a friendly support group open to sufferers of FM/CFS and their partners, family and carers. For more information please call 0845 3452678. Meeting dates for the remainder of 2013 are as follows:

21 October ~ 18 November ~ 16 December



BRENDONCARE SOCIAL CLUBS

Come and join us at our friendly club in Badger Farm. We meet on alternate Thursdays from 2 - 4 p.m. at the Badger Farm Community Centre, Winchester, SO22 4QB. New members always welcome.

- Sept 5th** Bingo + Talk from local charity.
Sept 19th We are invited to Brendoncare Park Road for tea, cakes and entertainment.
Oct 3rd Tim Austin - Songs and Jokes.
Oct 17th Seated Tai Chi with Sue Kelly.
Oct 31st David Dickinson plays guitar.
Nov 14th Carol Watson Talk and Slide Show.
Nov 28th Christmas Flower Arranging.
Dec 12th Christmas Meal.

£4 for the afternoon including refreshments.
Transport can be arranged at low cost for those that need it.

For more information please call
Catherine Fellingham
07522-596793 or 01962-857099

Warm Up Winchester

**Free or reduced cost
boilers
in Winchester District**



No such thing as a free boiler? There might be! Wise people will tell you that you never get something for nothing. There are many "too good to be true" offers around and sometimes it is hard to know who to trust.

Warm up Winchester is a new project in Winchester District this autumn and winter. Every home owner can get a reduced price boiler (one of those super-efficient ones that saves you money). Some people even qualify for a completely free one. Private tenants can also benefit from Warm Up Winchester, provided their landlord agrees. All you need to do is ring the free phone number 0800 952 0037 and say "Warm Up Winchester" to get onto the scheme and save energy, save money and stay warm.

How do you know you can trust this project? Three good reasons:

1. The boilers, assessors and installers are all guaranteed and certified to the highest standards
2. YES Energy Solutions who arrange the works are a not-for-profit company which ran "Insulate Hampshire" for the Council in 2012.
3. Warm Up Winchester is supported by Winchester City Council, Hampshire County Council.

So you have nothing to lose (apart from that old gas guzzler of a boiler that's wasting you money).

Jan Davies

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BEGINNER CLASSES

September 2013

WINCHESTER

Wednesdays 5 - 6pm and 7.20 - 8.20pm

St Paul's Church Parish Rooms, St Paul's Church,

St Pauls Hill, Winchester - starting 18th September

Regular Classes also held on Wednesdays 1 - 2pm

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NEW MEMBERS WELCOME**

The Royal British Legion was formed by Earl Haig in 1921 for the benefit of Ex-Servicemen and Women. They have 7 homes and 3 convenience homes which are now known as "Poppy Breaks." In 1970 the Queen, in recognition of the work they do, granted them the "Royal" seal of approval.

Local meetings are held in Badger Farm Community Centre every third Thursday at 7.30pm in The Whiteshute Room from January to November. Anybody wishing to attend would get a very warm welcome.

Anyone can join the Legion - whether or not you have a connection with the Armed Forces. As well as providing financial, social and emotional support to millions who have served or are currently serving in the Armed Forces, and their dependants, the Royal British Legion is one of the country's largest membership organisations with over 400,000 members nationwide and overseas.

For further information please contact:
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Say goodbye, say hello!

Another busy summer term has come to a close at Oliver's Battery Pre-school, rounding off an activity-packed year for the children and their families. Whether it's been the annual trip (this year it was to Hillier's Arboretum for pond dipping and learning about the natural environment) or the pre-school's first ever sports day (a great success!), the children have hugely enjoyed discovering new things and playing together.

Of course, the end of the year means we have to say goodbye to some of our children as they move on to start school in September. And so, our teddy bears' picnic was the perfect way for everyone to come together to celebrate the past year. With glorious sunshine, great food and 'intrepid explorers' playing in the school woods, it was a great way to finish the term. But as we say goodbye to some, we also say a very warm hello to those children due to join us for the first time in September. At Oliver's Battery Pre-school, we pride ourselves on ensuring each child settles in to their new environment in their own time. Our dedicated staff are always ready with a friendly welcome, lots of encouragement and reassurance to make the start of pre-school as stress-free as possible for both child and parents!

If you are interested in finding out more about what Oliver's Battery Pre-school has to offer, please do visit our website at www.oliversbatterypreschool.org.uk.

Oliver's Battery Pre-school ~ Opening times:

Monday to Wednesday: 9.00am to 3.15pm

Thursday and Friday: 9.00am to 12.30pm

Various drop off and pick up times are available and children can attend morning, afternoon or all-day sessions.

Staff to child ratios are:

1:4 for children aged under three years 1:6 for children aged three years and over

Situated in the grounds of Oliver's Battery School in Winchester, our pre-school provides a secure, engaging and friendly environment for children aged two years and six months to five years old. Achieving 'outstanding' at our last Ofsted inspection in 2009 and staffed by caring and experienced practitioners, our pre-school offers children in the community a wonderful setting in which to play, learn and develop.

For more information or to make an appointment to take a look around, please contact

Jackie Johnston, Pre-school Leader, on mobile 07941 796 958

or email oliversbatterypreschool@gmail.com



WINCHESTER ROTARY TEAMS UP WITH THE CYCLE FEST!

Winchester Rotary used the CycleFest on Sunday 23rd June to teach 8-14 year olds the Six Keys to Safe Cycling Savvy!

1. **Helmet:** must always be worn; must not be tipped backwards; close fit all round; three fingers fit under chin strap;— strap fits under ears.
2. **Visibility:** wear high visibility clothing; use reflective details on bike and clothes; bright lighting forward & back; never be distracted by headphones/mobiles; always look closely at drivers' eyes if you can - don't trust them unless you can see that they see you.
3. **Handlebars:** both hands at all times; finger tips over brakes; RHS is front, LHS is back brake; use both brakes together and never just front break.
4. **Mechanicals:** check brakes; keep chain and gears clear from clothing or bags; keep clean and oil.
5. **Tyres:** pressure should be hard to touch; pressures are usually stated on side of tyre e.g. 45psi; get a pump with a gauge; check surface for sharp pieces burrowing into the tyre tread.
6. **Saddle:** when sitting on your saddle both balls of your feet should touch the ground.

The 80 children who completed the training were rewarded with a token medal and a free ice cream cornet sponsored by Jude's of Twyford. Rotary's Marcus Swalwell organised the training which was funded by sale of WI cakes and tea with help from the folks at the Badger Farm Community Centre.

Rotarian Dr Caroline Ruben teaches the six points of safer cycling to youngsters at CycleFest



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Our website www.wehnw.org.uk has maps, information, lots of advice and links. Did you know that **Badger Farm** only has 2 NW schemes - i.e. in Silverwood Close and Wheatland Close? **Oliver's Battery** has more schemes but still has many roads not covered – do you have one in your area?

As a member scheme you could receive:

- *Weekly crime incident reports
- *Crime prevention advice on many wide ranging topics
- *Alerts from Trading Standards
- *Special seasonal tips and posters
- *Invitations to meetings
- *Updates about the latest scams

If you would like the latest August 2013 bulletin please get in touch. Some insurance companies reduce your home insurance rate if you are a member of a NW scheme.

If you would like to know more or have any queries please do contact me. Remember if you see or hear anything out of the ordinary that appears suspicious, report the details on 101 or 999 in an emergency.

Sandie Vining ~ Neighbourhood Watch Area Representative for Winchester Citygate Police Team

Tel: 01962 865384 ~ Email: Sandievining@btinternet.com

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-Registration starts from 9:45am-

-@ Winchester Rugby Football Club-

-First session back is Sunday 1st September 2013-

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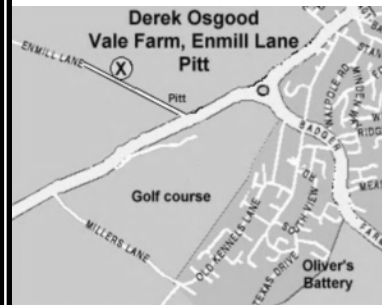
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THE PARISH OF ST LUKE WITH ST MARK WINCHESTER

Caring for the Communities of

Badger Farm, Oliver's Battery & Stanmore



From the desk of Rev'd Mike Gardner, Vicar of St Luke's Stanmore with St Mark's Oliver's Battery

Even with all the best laid plans and preparation you can't leave anyone in charge of your greenhouse without it suffering a little: too much and/or too little water at the wrong time, the plants need talking to in the right way and care to detail with knowledge is often in short supply. But I have to do it every year or we would never get a break away. So I feel I have just an insight into how God sees and copes with the mess we have made of his perfect creation, so it is just as well that we have a harvest festival each year to give thanks for the generosity of God and his creation.

This year Harvest Festival at St Luke's is on Sunday 22nd September at 10.00am
and you would be most welcome to join with us

Yours, toiling in God's garden ... Rev'd Mike

P.S. Advanced notice of an open house weekend at St Luke's with a display of Christmas Crib sets from across the City and on the Saturday the Advent Fair ~ Saturday 30th November and Sunday 1st December ~ please keep it clear.

BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

Well the weather certainly did change. What a wonderful summer we are having. I have not heard of any water restrictions yet, but the current few rainy days we have had are sometimes welcome. Because of last winter's rain and the present sunshine there is a tremendous amount of growth. This has resulted in the hedges and trees getting rather overgrown at the moment. Please be careful of brambles while we wait for paths to be cleared. The removals of various trees have made our area a lot more light and airy. I know some people objected, but I think it was a job that had to be done, especially where the trees were far too close to properties.

The central play area continues to be vandalized. There have also been a lot of bikes reported as having been stolen in Winchester and also some other items from garages. Please, if anyone is aware of any trouble call 101. I hope you all enjoy the rest of the good weather and we all have a good autumn. And don't forget there is plenty of space up on the Ridge and a picnic table to use.

Date: 7 September 2013

Time: Registration from 10am / Walks start at 11am

Place: North Walls Recreation Ground, Winchester

Alzheimer's Society is calling on Winchester residents to sign up for Memory Walk, the charity's annual fundraising event in partnership with Bupa Care Homes. The walk is taking place in the beautiful surroundings of North Walls Recreation Ground. The money raised will help support people with dementia and their carers.

Memory Walk is a day for communities, family and friends to come together to enjoy a day to remember, raise money for the Alzheimer's Society and raise awareness of dementia. Take part in either our 1 mile walk around the park which is disabled and pushchair friendly or our 6 mile walk taking in historic sights of Winchester which include: Winchester Cathedral, Wolvesey Castle, the Water Meadows and The Great Hall. Throughout the day there will be a variety of entertainment including a Zumba warm up, gardening demonstrations, performances from Southampton Ukele Jam and local musicians and much more. Why not make it a day to remember, take part in fun family games, and enjoy home made cakes and other tasty treats. A special 'Memory Tree' will be at the event to give walkers the opportunity to write down their personal memories - the reasons why they are walking or who they are walking for if they wish.

Together, Alzheimer's Society and Bupa aim to support more people living with dementia through the vital funds that are raised. To find out more information about the event or to sign up visit memorywalk.org.uk/Winchester or call 0845 306 0898.



AN UPDATE FROM STEVE BRINE, MP FOR WINCHESTER

Parliament doesn't sit during August which must mean (according to the BBC at least) I've spent much of the past month on the beach! While it is true I have been buried in the sand by my kids (a Dad job if ever there was one) that was only part of the story and we spent a glorious and much-needed family week in Devon. Much of the rest has been about my *Summer Tour* which takes place each July and August during Parliament's Summer recess. Previous tours have been really well received by constituents as a great way for me to meet even more of the people I represent and this year's programme was certainly ambitious.



Steve with the Store Manager Richard Morris and Team during his special supermarket surgery in Sainsbury's, Badger Farm.

Spanning the real length of my constituency it took in street surgeries, door-to-door activity and for the first time this year, a special supermarket surgery at your own Sainsbury's in Badger Farm. The in-store team could not have made me more welcome and I had constituents wanting to chat continuously for the full two hours. We will definitely do this again – probably before Christmas - and will let residents know.

It was great also while there to meet Will Hawthorne, the outgoing Chairman of the Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery Residents' Community Association, to visit the Community Centre next door and meet the whole team, including Cllr Brian Laming. They were able to update me on a number of issues at the Community Centre which was really useful. Not for the first time in my constituency I find a community with so many people willing to do their bit. We always want more of course and we must strive to find them which, for the record, was all the

Prime Minister ever really meant by his 'big society' and that seems a positive thing to me. The web-page for all the seasonal fun I call Summer Tour is at www.stevebrine.com/summertour if you want to see part of what MP's really get to while Parliament takes a break.

Residents will be well aware that the Pitt Manor development received outline planning permission last year – meaning it will go ahead - and the detailed planning application is now upon us. With that in mind I recently chaired a crunch meeting with City and County Councillors, senior council officers from both authorities, representatives from Turley Associates and Orchard Homes as well as St Peter's School. In addition to the developer outlining their detailed plans, lengthy discussion was held around the road changes that will accompany the homes, including the new Pitt Manor access off the main road and the soon to be re-designed junction of Stanmore Lane and Romsey Road. More on this can be found at www.stevebrine.com/pittmanor

I know many residents in OB&BF, like me, enjoy cycling and it's been a real Summer of cycling here in Winchester. From the *Cyclefest* family fun-day in June to the thrilling Criterium road race in August, Winchester has really stepped up its commitment to life on two wheels. You can see more and download the landmark report, 'Get Britain Cycling', from the all-party group in Parliament of which I am vice-chair at www.stevebrine.com/cycling

Finally, I have now launched, with Jenny Murray from Radio 4's Woman's Hour, my inquiry into older people and breast cancer which has caused a huge splash nationally. I can't possibly cover it in these pages but you can catch up on this and all my Westminster work on your behalf via www.stevebrine.com/westminster

I wish you all the best for the new term as my favourite season – Autumn – approaches and remind you I am available as your MP if you ever need my help or just want to have your say on the issue of the day instead of shouting at the TV. You can email me steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk or call 01962 791110 anytime.

OLIVER'S BATTERY PARISH COUNCIL



The official opening of the tennis court and multi-use games area took place in May with the Mayor Cllr Ernie Jeffs and Mayoress of Winchester in attendance to cut the ribbon. Around 250 residents attended and we all enjoyed a barbeque and a chat with friends in the sunshine. Additionally the Oliver's Battery Countryside group conducted tours of the conservation area. It is looking really beautiful and enables a wonderful view of the surrounding countryside from the new bench. You can access it from the Recreation Ground near the far end of the football pitch.

The Mayor, Cllr Ernie Jeffs, at the official opening of the tennis court and multi-use games area.

Next steps for the Recreation Ground

The Parish Council is currently planning to upgrade the younger children's playground area with some new play equipment, which we hope to have in place later in the year. If you have any suggestions or ideas for this please do contact Councillor David Kirkby at cllr.kirkby@oliversbattery.info

This year the mix of showers and sunshine has really increased the foliage. Please do consider the footpaths and those walking past by ensuring that your hedges are not overgrown.

We are keen that the Oliver's Battery website is used as a forum for you to access information and share activities and events. We have just launched a photo page to share photographs taken in Oliver's Battery. Please do take a look and contribute - www.oliverbattey.info You will also find out about our two new parish Councillors, Brian Mitchener and David Kirkby.

A date for your diary ~ Oliver's Battery Fete ~ 7th June 2014

Best wishes for a pleasant Autumn and please feel free to contact me at chairoliversbattery@gmail.com

Sara Outlaw

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We are a small, friendly group of people who meet every Wednesday at Badger Farm Community Centre during term time to study intermediate level Spanish. We are very keen to welcome new members to our informal classes so, if you are interested, please email Pam Holland on pozzie_pam@hotmail.com or contact Jan at the Community Centre on 01962 868630.



BADGER FARM ART GROUP

Do you enjoy drawing and painting? Why not join our friendly art group on Thursday afternoons at Badger Farm Community Centre? All levels of skill and experience welcome. Sessions run by professional artist. Further details from Liz Weir Tel. 01962 856689 ~ Mobile 07783 695 220 or Email lizabethweir@gmail.com

BADGER FARM PRE-SCHOOL HAS ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR!



As another year draws to a close it is with mixed emotions that we say goodbye to a group of children as they leave us for the next step on their learning journey through life. I hope that as a group we have given these children every opportunity to develop and socialise in order to make that step just a little easier.

Badger Farm Pre-School Playgroup is a thriving hive of activity and fun. The children this year have been involved with an abundance of activities: we have painted, stuck and glued to produce fantastic art work, built and constructed rockets, houses, castles, pirate ships in fact anything that a child's imagination allows and plenty more...

Here at Badger Farm Community Centre we are at the heart of the community. The children join in with other user groups e.g. celebrating our Caretakers 65th Birthday, singing to the local Country Market and visiting Sainsbury's. The visit from an old London bus was one of the highlights. The children enjoyed looking at the differences between old and new and perhaps beginning to understand a little about time and history and how things change. The staff enjoyed reminiscing about the old days as well.

All children are welcome at our group regardless of which school they might attend and this definitely gives a true community spirit. If you would like to find out more about our group then please feel free to pop in and see us in action or contact us on the number in the advertisement below. We look forward to welcoming the new families to our group in September when we resume for another year of FUN!!!



Any more fares please! Badger Farm Pre-School children enjoying the arrival of an old London Bus.



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Thursday – Friday ~ 9.15 – 12.15

Spaces are now available!

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Ideally situated in the Community Centre next to Sainsbury's, with a sports hall for physical play and an all-weather outside area with a variety of play equipment. Our staff are highly experienced and qualified and we ensure a high ratio of 1:6 enabling plenty of individual time and attention.

“Children benefit from a range of highly stimulating activities and show exceptional motivation to participate and learn, creating an atmosphere full of excitement, fun and purposeful play.”

The playgroup operates an open door policy so please feel free to call in at any time and see us in action or call the playgroup supervisor Mrs Denise Tosdevine on 07771 798 474 out of playgroup hours.

CITY COUNCILLORS BRIAN LAMING & LYNDA BANISTER REPORT.....

The Oliver's Battery tennis courts and multi-use games area was officially opened by the Mayor of Winchester, Councillor Ernie Jeffs, on the 8th June at a Community Picnic and Barbeque organised by the Parish Council. The event was well timed as the weather was lovely and a good time was had by all. The recreation ground is being well used and thanks are due to the Parish Council for having the energy and commitment to complete the project.

The planning application to build houses behind the shops at Oliver's Battery has been rejected for a variety of reasons including over-development of the site, failure to consider environmental issues and lack of affordable housing in the proposals. Local residents who have expressed a view largely favour accommodation specifically for older people as this is not available in the area. Brian sends out e-mail updates on planning developments in the Oliver's Battery area and if you would like to be added to the list please e-mail a request to us.

After receiving a number of complaints about obstructions on the public footway in front of the Oliver's Battery shops, we have asked a Hampshire County Council Highways officer to visit. He has assured us that he will take whatever action is necessary to enforce the law.

At this time of the year all the footpaths become more difficult to walk along as the vegetation has been very quick to grow once the good weather arrived. The Council is doing its best to ensure it is cut back as fast as possible but please let us know where there are particular problems.

It is quite noticeable that there is still quite a lot of dog poo on areas of Whiteshute Ridge near Badger Farm. Whilst most responsible owners do clear up after their dogs, it is still a problem. In the summer holidays many more children use this prime area so it is important to keep it as clean as possible. Badger Farm Parish Council has provided additional dog bins in recent years so please use them! This also applies to the other recreational areas and footpaths in both parishes. If the Ridge was free of this contamination it might be possible to make hay which would help the Parish Council reduce the cost of maintenance and allow it to spend the extra money on other much needed projects. It would also encourage wild flowers and wild life.

As we write this, the Community Centre is having some of its lighting upgraded to a modern low energy system which will save a lot of money as well as being much better for the environment. This has been made possible by a grant from Hampshire County Council with the help of former County Councillor Charlotte Bailey. We would like to thank the management committee and staff for all the work they do to keep the Centre running during these upgrades and redecoration.

City Cllr Brian Laming 0797 3265 028 blaming@winchester.gov.uk
City Cllr Lynda Banister 01962 853791 lynda@winchester.gov.uk

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Winchester Live At Home Scheme

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Keeping Older People In Touch With Your Community

Volunteer drivers and Befrienders are being sought to offer help and support to older people in Winchester. The Winchester Live at Home Scheme (WLAHS), which provides volunteer based support and friendship to older people in Winchester who still live in their own homes, needs people to help provide transport for its members or drive a community minibus as well as Volunteers to visit Members in their own homes as Befrienders. The vast majority of our members are aged 80 and over, so we need drivers to transport members to clubs and outings. They are also required for one-off visits to doctors, hospitals and other appointments. Volunteer drivers can use their own cars and claim a mileage allowance from the WLAHS or receive MiDAS driving training to allow them to drive a community minibus. We have an increasing number of Members who are in need of someone to visit them at home to help reduce isolation. Befrienders are Volunteers who regularly visit members in their own homes. Hours are flexible to suit the individual; this can be anything from weekly to monthly visits, each visit lasting a minimum of one hour. Your help and time would be greatly appreciated. Relevant training will be provided and all expenses will be paid. If you are able to help, contact the WLAHS office on 01962 890995 or email office@wlahs.org.

Perfect fit - Winchester Charity Offers Volunteers Chance to Stay Healthy

Volunteers are being offered the chance to get fit and help a Winchester charity with its weekly exercise classes. The Winchester Live at Home Scheme (WLAHS), which supports the town's older people, runs several exercise sessions each week. They range from exercises in the home to walking groups to fitness classes. The charity is appealing for volunteers to keep the sessions going and have a bit of fitness fun into the bargain. Claire Morgan, manager of the WLAHS, said: "Summer is finally on its way and what better way to enjoy the warmer weather than to enjoy a bit of exercise and help our members? Our classes are very popular and really help our members with mobility, recoveries from falls and their general well-being."

Volunteers are being sought for:

- * The Monday Walking Group, held every Monday from 10.30am
- * Fit for Life Exercise Plus class, held every Thursday from 2.30-3.30pm at St Marks Church in Oliver's Battery
- * Fit for Life Exercise Plus class, held every Tuesday from 2.30-3.30pm at Makins Court, Windsor Road, Alresford
- * Fit for Life Exercise Plus classes, held every Tuesday at 10.30-11.30am and 11.45am-12.45pm at the United Church in Winchester

If you are able to help with any of the classes, contact the WLAHS office on 01962 890995 or email office@wlahs.org. Winchester Live at Home Scheme (WLAHS) was established in 2000 by a local committee keen to identify the needs of older people living in Winchester. The Scheme aims to provide support and friendship to older people, living in their own homes in the Winchester area, to help maintain independence, improve well-being and reduce isolation. The WLAHS is part of the nationwide Live at Home initiative, run by MHA. For more information on the WLAHS, visit www.wlahs.org. For further information on the MHA, visit www.mha.org.uk.

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WINCHESTER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



After a glorious spell of sunny weather it is hard to think of Autumn approaching but inevitably it will and hopefully a good harvest in the vegetable garden and plenty of Autumn colour in the borders will compensate to some extent for the loss of long warm days. There will still be jobs to be done in the garden but on some evenings we will be taking time off to attend our monthly meetings. Why don't you come and join us if you can spare the time? There is no admittance fee. These are some of the interesting talks on offer:

September 2013 ~ (Wed 11th) John Baker, whose garden has featured on Gardener's World, will share his passion for "Heavenly Hostas".

October 2013 ~ (Wed 9th) John Wood, head gardener at Hinton Ampner, will be discussing and demonstrating methods of "Propagating and Perpetuating Plants in the Garden".

November 2013 ~ (Wed 13th) Under the heading of "Trees and Shrubs for Smaller Gardens" David Stuart will be sharing his ideas for creating structure in smaller gardens.

Our monthly meetings are held at the Winchester Club, Churchill Room, Worthy Lane, Winchester and start at 7.30pm.

Visitors are free. You can find out more about us on our website:

<http://www.winchesterhorticulturalsociety.hampshire.org.uk/>



A warm welcome awaits you in your local group. New members are always welcome so, come along and join! The group meets at Badger Farm Community Centre, Badger Farm Road (next to Sainsbury's) every Saturday morning at 9.30am.

If you would like more information, please telephone

Steve on 07788 683 077

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NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME OPEN GARDEN IN OLIVER'S BATTERY

THANK YOU so much for supporting our fund raising open garden at the end of July. With your help we raised a whopping £2,368.29, not bad for the first year. Thank you also to all our volunteers (you know who you are), without your help the opening would have been much harder that's for sure. In my last message to you I said "Let's hope for rain at night, warm sunny daylight hours and lots of lovely colour." We were lucky on all fronts, phew! The sun shone, tea and coffee flowed, the cake was consumed and wow we were lucky with the weather. My husband Patrick set my expectations so low for the Sat's (first day) opening as we'd had no rain up in Oliver's Battery for weeks and the weather man forecasted a big storm right in the middle of our opening. So, up went the gazebos in anticipation, and then it turned out to be the hottest day of all the openings. The next day's challenge was the wind, which gusted around, however not dampening the biggest turnout of near 150 visitors. Then we had a couple of days to reflect and take stock for the last days opening on the Wednesday, which was well attended making our total just over 350 visitors. A summary and set of pictures of the event: http://www.summersgd.co.uk/NGS_Summers.php Any further questions do get in touch: susan@summersgd.co.uk or call on 01962 877389 If you are inspired to open your garden on the National Garden Scheme, do get in touch with Patricia Elkington on 01962 776365 or email on elkslc@tiscali.co.uk our area co-ordinator. That leaves me to say enjoy the rest of the summer and keep visiting gardens to help raise money for worthwhile organisations.

Susan



OLIVER'S BATTERY WI

The recent months have been so busy for Oliver's Battery WI members. An outing to Weymouth, an evening at the Whitchurch Silk Mill and involvement in events run by the Hampshire Federation too. Now is the time to settle into the Autumn programme and we are all looking forward to learning how to put a capsule wardrobe together for the winter; a chance to indulge in some aromatherapy as well as enjoying a bread making evening with a twist - fancy breads being on the menu. Oliver's Battery WI welcomes all women who would like to make new friends and open their horizons. We meet on the third Tuesday evening of the month - 7.45pm in St Mark's Church, Oliver's Battery. Please contact Cathy Winter for further information on 01962 620250.

Stanmore Primary School

Be the best that you can be...

It's the start of a new school year here at Stanmore and the children are adjusting to their new classes and teachers and our reception children are getting used to being at 'big' school. Here are just a few of the highlights from last term – those boiling hot summer days seem a long time ago now...

It's the Mayor! Stanmore School had some very special visitors when the Mayor and Mayoress of Winchester came to open the brand new playhouse for our Reception children. Arriving in his official limousine complete with flag, the Mayor was a striking figure in his ceremonial robes and chain of office and created an excited buzz around the school. Miss Clark welcomed the Mayor and Mayoress to Stanmore and explained that the lovely new outside area was the results of lots of hard work by many different people, including the Friends of Stanmore School who had collected over £5,000 through lots of different fund raising events. Mr Jeffs, the Mayor cut the green ribbon and declared the Playhouse officially open to excited cheering and clapping! The children all sang a jolly song to say thank you and just when it seemed that everything was all over, who should leap over the fencing but Spiderman....! It seems he had heard about our new playhouse and was keen to check it out for himself...! The Mayor and Spiderman were very happy to meet each other and had a look around the new house together. All in all it was a very exciting morning and the Mayor enjoyed himself so much that he came back to present our junior children with their medals on Sports Day. Hurray!

Fe Fi Fo Fum.... ...you've got a smelly.....! Using his thunderbox to create a loud booming voice, story teller Mike O'Leary had the infants rolling around laughing with his cheeky reworking of the famous words of the Jack and the Beanstalk giant. Moments later however, he had them totally enthralled as he conjured up a murky, chilly dark pool and used the box to create the alarming atmosphere just before a large hungry dragon rises to the surface of the pool in search of his next meal. Mr O'Leary was in school for the day as part of the Winchester Festival and delighted all ages with his tales of brave knights, cunning crocodiles and wicked step mothers. Using props and instruments from his colourful story box Mr O'Leary held the children spellbound. The surrounding area came to life as he re-counted the legend of Sleepers Hill and told us of King Arthur and his round table. Thank you to the Festival organisers for our inspiring day!

Did you see him? Our decorated Rhino was in the Southampton Library as part of the Marwell Wildlife Go! Rhinos public art project. Designed by Zofia Laskowski, a Year 6 pupil in Elm Class, her beautiful forest scene was brought to life by her fellow pupils using acrylic paints and lots of hard work.

A credit to the school Madison Fryer, Matthew de Lara, Ciara Corr, Jessica Carter Dalglish and Amelie de Lara wowed the Hampshire ICT Conference at The Castle last term. Invited to present how Stanmore use ICT in school to over 100 delegates in Ashburton Hall, the children rose to the challenge magnificently, speaking confidently and with a sure grasp of their subject. They explained how we use ipads in the classroom to help with research for projects and use the software on them to create animations, ebooks and pamphlets. Amelie was also chosen by one of the other presenters to demonstrate a new Microsoft product that allows mass video-conferencing - she was fantastic and a real credit to the school.

Coming soon... Our annual Book Week begins on Monday 21st October 2013 with a visit from award winning author, Ali Sparkes and poet Peter Dixon. And our Christmas Fair will be on Friday 6th December 2013 from 3:30pm – 5:30pm. Put the date in your diary now – it'll be here before you know it!

For details of all the latest happenings at school and to view lots of photos, check out our website at: www.stanmore.hants.sch.uk If you would like to visit us, please call 01962 852941 to make an appointment. Our Head, Mrs Justine Brooks would be delighted to show you round.



WINCHESTER SUPPORT GROUP

The National Osteoporosis Society offers support to people with osteoporosis and their families and carers through a range of detailed information booklets and leaflets, a national telephone helpline and a network of regional support groups. The Winchester Support Group meetings are held in a friendly atmosphere for support, advice and information. Members are welcome to bring family and friends as guests. Meetings take place on alternate months at their **NEW VENUE** - St. Peter's Pastoral Centre (opposite the Library Discovery Centre,) Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8RY. Support group contacts are

Liz on 01962 861918 and Pam on 01962 866152. The programme for the remainder of 2013 is below:

Thursday 3 October at 7.00pm ~ "Bone Density Scan - Osteo DXA" ~ Speaker, Dr Gill Pearson (Southampton University Hospital Trust.) Osteoporosis update and DXA. This meeting will include the Winchester Group AGM.

Thursday 5 December at 12.30pm ~ Christmas bring and share festive lunch. Demonstration of table decorations.

The National Telephone Helpline number is 0845 450 0230 and is staffed by osteoporosis nurse advisors. It is open from 9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday. Contact the National Osteoporosis Society, Camerton, Bath, BA2 0PJ, telephone 01761 471771 or 0845 1303076 ~ www.nos.org.uk ~ email info@nos.org.uk



Registered charity no. 264859

Choir Open Evening

Wednesday 11th September 2013

At 7.45 pm in Littleton Millennium Memorial Hall

If you are interested in developing your vocal talents then we would love to hear from you. Our choir has a talented young conductor who is extending our choir's musical abilities and repertoire. We perform two main concerts each year and this September we will start rehearsals for the February concert, which will include pieces by Mozart, Bruckner, Gabrieli and Pergolesi.

Rehearsals normally take place every Wednesday evening at 7.45pm in Littleton Millennium Memorial Hall, The Hall Way, Littleton, Winchester, SO22 6QL.

**All prospective members, and especially Bass & Tenor singers, are welcome.
Please come along and give us a try!**

**Alternatively, for more information contact the secretary:
Annie Woodward on 01962 713236 or: wafc_sec@hotmail.com**

www.wafc.hampshire.org.uk

County Councillor Phil Bailey reports on Local Matters:-

In connection with the progress of the Bushfield Camp Village Green application, which has passed another hurdle on its way through the legal process Phil says, "I'm pleased that a High Court Judge has decided that there was "no unfairness" in allowing the application to proceed even though mistakes in the original application were only corrected outside of the statutory five-year grace period." Mr Justice Collins said that the landowners were notified that an application had been made within the statutory time period, but had failed to press Hampshire County Council to sort out the application's shortcomings within a reasonable time. "I do not think they can now complain that the long period before the application was put in order was unreasonable. If they had pressed the (council) and the applicant had, as a result, been given shorter periods to act, different considerations would apply," he said.

There has been a lot of concern raised recently about proposals to start drilling for shale gas (fracking) in the south of England. At a recent Hampshire County Council meeting, Liberal Democrat Councillors put forward a motion opposing fracking on County Council land and in Hampshire generally. I have stated that we are particularly concerned about the greenhouse effect of methane leakage, the risk to our vulnerable water supplies and the proposals to flare gas during the exploration phase. With regard to licenses, my understanding is that 8 oil and gas licenses have been issued, according to a report that can be found at; -

<http://www.dailyecho.co.uk/news/10441537.Gas_companies_get_licences_for_fracking_in_Hampshire/

Any matters can be raised by writing to me at 3 Heathcote Place, Hursley, Winchester, SO21 2LH or phoning me on 01962 775275.

Phil Bailey



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HAMPSHIRE
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COUNTRYSIDE SAFETY.

Countryside Fires:

Countryside fires can cause many thousands of pounds worth of damage and kill our precious wildlife. Many such fires are caused by the carelessness of people using the countryside. Just ten seconds of carelessness can cause fires that take ten hours to put out and ten years to re-grow.

Heathland Fire Risk:

After a prolonged dry spell, fires on any heathland, particularly The New Forest, can grow and spread rapidly posing a serious threat to lives and property, that is why there is a need to understand the danger and help prevent such disastrous incidents.

Help us to help the countryside:

- Do not discard cigarettes carelessly; dispose of smoking materials properly ensuring they are completely extinguished.
- Clear away bottles, glasses and any broken glass to avoid them magnifying the sun's heat and starting a fire.
- Only light fires or barbecues in designated areas using the facilities provided.
- Don't leave camp fires or barbecues unattended.

If You Discover A Fire:

- Phone the Fire & Rescue Service - dial 999.
- Don't attempt to tackle fires that can't be put out with a bucket of water.
- Give a map reference if possible, otherwise give a landmark such as a farm or pub to help locate the fire.
- Estimate the size of the area that's burning.
- Describe the type of terrain (grass, bracken, forest, open moorland etc).

Report any information about illegal fire setting activities and those responsible (anonymously) to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

Useful contact points and further information:

You can download a copy of our home fire safety leaflet at: www.hantsfire.gov.uk/homesafetyinformation.pdf

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service homepage: www.hantsfire.gov.uk ~ Community Fire Safety Department: 02380 626809 ~ Email: community.firesafety@hantsfire.gov.uk



NATURE NOTES FROM OLIVER'S BATTERY



After some disappointing summers at last we are having the weather we expect. The heat wave and yellowing grass remind me of the 1976 summer when, for three weeks, temperatures soared to 80° F every day reaching 96°F on 28 June in

Southampton. Unlike now, when we have suffered a wet winter and spring, then we had a drought due to a long dry period and there was a severe shortage of water. I remember using all the washing up water on my vegetable patch and syphoning bathwater through a hose to a wheelbarrow then running with it to the flower borders and lawn.

These long hot evenings with doors and windows thrown open have encouraged moths into the house. Hopefully not the sort that secrete themselves into our wardrobes and drawers to lay eggs that will munch through our clothing but a variety of several shapes, sizes and colours. There are over 2400 species in the UK, unlike butterflies of which there are fifty nine. Have you seen an unusual moth which is white, T shaped and resembling a primitive aeroplane? Searching on the Internet I found it to be a Plume Moth whose larvae's main source of food is bindweed, a plant that continues to invade the garden despite all our efforts!

Our wildlife is so dependent on the weather for survival and, this year although we had an abundance of frog spawn it was totally destroyed by the severe frosts. I do not encourage people to transfer plants or wildlife from one pond to another as disease and pond weeds can spread this way but a friend did take some of our spawn for an old sink in her garden but that did not survive either.

Nature never ceases to leave me in wonder. Recently, on a grassy footpath I came across two snails in a slimy embrace moving in circles in slow harmony then turning over and over. They were connected by a long white glutinous substance that appeared to be transferring from one to the other. This continued for a long time and, although fearing another walker might come that way and step on them, I did not have the heart to disturb their ritual. I have since learned that during mating snails will fire "love darts" into each other. It's a complicated business too much to explain here, but if you have a computer you can see videos of this and read more about it.

If you are looking for some peace and tranquillity and hopeful of seeing some wildlife in action do visit the conservation area to rest on the newly installed bench and feel free to write your observations on the blackboard.

Norma Goodwin

PS ~ Amongst other events Oliver's Battery Countryside Group often holds moth evenings on the conservation area. This is a popular event especially with children, so if you are interested do contact the secretary at chairperson@oliversbatterycountysidegroup.org.uk and ask to go on the mailing list to be contacted when an event is arranged.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Below are details of some of the events coming up at Badger Farm Community Centre. For more information, please contact the organiser direct. If you would like to include an event you are holding in this section, it does not have to be at the Community Centre, contact the Editor, Jan Dawkins on 01962 868630 or email bfobrca@btinternet.com

Saturday 5th October - Auction - Contact 01962 734941.

Sunday 6th October - Stamp & Postcard Fair - Contact 01795 478175.

Saturday 12th October - Winchester Country Market Special Late Summer Fair - 9.00am to 3.00pm. Contact 01962 866340.

Saturday 2nd November - Auction - contact 01962 734941.

Saturday 9th November - Winchester Country Market Autumn Fair - 10.00am to Midday. Contact 01962 866340.

BADGER FARM & OLIVER'S BATTERY PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Badger Farm Parish Council meet on the 2nd Monday of each month (except August) in the Bushfield Room at Badger Farm Community Centre at 7.30pm. Contact the Clerk Martin Macpherson on clerkbfpc@aol.com for information.

Oliver's Battery Parish Council meet on the 1st Tuesday of each month at St Mark's Church Hall, Oliver's Battery Road South at 7.30pm. Contact the Clerk Elizabeth Billingham on clerkoliversbattery@gmail.com for information.

Please note that whilst every care is taken to see that dates, times and other details are correctly stated, we can take no responsibility for any loss or damage incurred for whatever reasons, nor can we take responsibility for the printing or goods and services offered within.



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