

Community News

Your Local Community Newsletter



Autumn 2016 Edition

WHITESHUTE RIDGE - THE FUTURE

You are no doubt aware of the wonderful area known as Whiteshute Ridge, which as it's name suggests is on the hill to the south of Badger Farm. This site is one of the few remaining areas of chalk downland in Hampshire. It is a haven for wildlife and a popular place for people to enjoy, with spectacular views of the city of Winchester. It is bordered to the south by Clarendon Way – part of an old road connecting the Cathedral cities across southern England.

Owned by Winchester City Council (WCC), the site is currently managed by the Parish Council, who ensure the grassland is cut annually and undertake essential tree works. However, the site is gradually declining in terms of it's wildlife value, as cutting the grass is changing the number and type of wild flowers and grasses in the area. Also, the scrub around the edge is gradually encroaching into the grassland, reducing the area that can be used for recreation. Finally, the cost of undertaking this work is significant and the Parish Council considers this management to be unsustainable for the people of Badger Farm.

The Parish Council and WCC have been discussing how best to manage the site going forward. Whiteshute Ridge has been used as grazing land for hundreds of years and often served as a last overnight camp for herdsmen before driving their stock into the City markets. Not only is it historically important but grazing is still the best way to manage areas such as this, as it encourages the finer flowers and grasses, whilst discouraging the less desirable plants and scrub. It is also the most sustainable way of managing grassland, as once the initial capital works such as fencing and installing water have been undertaken, the management costs are considerably less than cutting. Therefore, if we were able to graze this site, the City Council is prepared to take the land back into it's management to help secure the site for future generations. WCC will then employ the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (HIWWT) to carry out the management.

HIWWT are very experienced in this type of habitat management, and it is considered sensible to have them involved with this grazing scheme to utilise their expertise and facilities. If we are to enhance this area via cattle grazing and scrub control it will become part of an important network of fragments of species-rich chalk grassland that landowners and conservationists are gradually linking across the region. However, we recognise some people may have concerns about our proposals and we want to give everyone an opportunity to find out more, to talk to the people who will be managing the cattle and to see for yourself what this means. We are therefore holding an informal event on 10th October between 3pm and 7.30pm at Badger Farm Community Centre in the Bushfield Room where you can find out more.

There will still be complete access to the site. The British White stock that HIWWT use are wonderful, docile creatures and they will only be on the site in small numbers and at limited times of the year. There will be gates and access points across the site to allow everyone to continue to walk dogs and go for runs. We are also hoping to encourage the local schools to visit the site for educational purposes, and encourage local 'lookers' i.e. people who keep an eye on the stock on behalf of the Wildlife Trust, so that future generations value this gem on their doorstep.

The Landscape and Open Spaces Team and members of the Parish Council look forward to meeting you on 10th October. In the meantime, if you need to talk to anyone about this please contact Richard Smith, Ecologist on rsmith@winchester.gov.uk or 01962 848532.

Susan Croker ~ Head of Landscape and Open Spaces ~ Winchester City Council

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

Editorial deadline for **Winter 2016 issue: Friday 4 November 2016**





SITUATION VACANT~EDITOR FOR COMMUNITY NEWS

After 10 years in post as our hard working Editor of this popular publication, Jan has decided to step down. We are now looking for a suitable replacement. Interested applicants must have full experience in desk top publishing, be motivated, have the ability to work under their own initiative and to copy deadlines and have excellent administration skills. This is not an office based position and the successful applicant would be expected to work from home. Full training will be given. Further details and a job description are available from Badger Farm Community Centre on enquiries@bfobrca.org or telephone 01962-868630. Closing date for receipt of applications is Friday 30 September 2016.

In addition to the above, we are also looking for somebody to take on the voluntary role of main Collector/Distributor of the Community News. This involves collecting the publication from the printers and distributing the relevant number of copies to each of the main distributors for the area. We are also, as always, in need of reserve distributors. These are important and necessary roles as we could not ensure this publication reaches its audience without such dedicated people. Contact details as above.



JOINT BFOBRCA CHAIR REPORT FOR THE YEAR

The Community Centre has had a good year to date with us being able to start looking at making some major improvements. We have been able to do this as the Centre is being used more each year which helps us.

This year we have been able redecorate the Whiteshute Room as this is one of the most heavily used rooms in the Centre. Carpet mats have been inset into the carpets in both the Bushfield and Bar Rooms. We have completed the drain improvements in the play area to help eliminate the flooding rise which caused the flooding in the Battery on more than one occasion. You will also notice that we have changed the hob in the kitchen which we hope will be an improvement.

We have now converted 90% of the lighting to LED based which will help reduce our running costs, especially when you consider the number of strip tubes there are in the building. This included the main Bar Room.

During the year we were sad to have to say good bye to some groups that have been with us for a long time, namely the County Market and Jo Jingles. However, we are pleased to say welcome to 7th Winchester Scout Group who will be joining us in September.

During the year we have improved our website which now has many hits and also added Facebook to the social media. Again this is working well. Don't forget to pay us a "virtual visit."

You will see that the Centre is being decorated outside this year with some minor work being carried out on the top gable as part of the ongoing maintenance of the building.

In the coming year we have many new and exciting projects to work on. We have put back the refurbishment of the toilets until next August. The main reason for this is as the Pre-School Playgroup is looking at their requirements, it is now a possibility that we can get a large grant for major improvements to expand the Centre with additional rooms. As we will be required to have capital available for this, the project will now include the toilet refurbishment. There is also a small possibility that we can also include the kitchen arrangements but at this time cannot guarantee this. During the forthcoming months we will be building our case for a grant. If anyone has specialist knowledge on grant applications and is willing to help, please let us know. To that end we have asked our County Councillors for a small grant to cover our costs.

Sainsbury's are looking at their energy security and we have asked that the Badger Farm store be included so that they would be able to link the Centre and the Surgery to this exciting project. This will be looked at to see if the branch is suitable to be upgraded in the next year. This could be of a major benefit to everyone.

The Community News is being widely read and we will continue to produce it but need volunteers to help deliver it both on Oliver's Battery and Badger Farm. It does not take much time, being published 4 times a year and benefits the community, so please contact Jan Dawkins if you can help us.

Rachel Skinner, Anne Sole & Brian Laming



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with Babies

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SOME OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	DAY	TIME	CONTACT	COST	DESCRIPTION
Badger Farm Art Group	Thursday	1.30pm - 4.00pm	Sarah Zimmer snippycards@hotmail.co.uk	£7.00 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	Sandra Day sday@brendoncare.org.uk	£4.00 per session	Friendship for older people. Quizzes, speakers, outings, afternoon tea. New members and volunteers welcome.
Badger Farm Bridge Club	Tuesday	7.15pm - 10.30pm	Fred Hotchen 01794 301185 07771 854 347 fred.hotchen@btinternet.com		Friendly and relaxed local bridge club. New members and visitors very 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	3/4yrs £4.50ph 2yrs £4.70ph	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!
Eucharist (Holy Communion)	Tuesday	10.00am - 11.00am	Rev. Mike Gardner 01962 865240		Church of England Service. All welcome.
FITSTEPS	Wednesday	2.00pm - 2.45pm	Sergiy Bondarenko Info@bdance.co.uk	£5 per session	A new dance-fitness programme combining simple steps from the most popular Ballroom & Latin dances.
Hampshire Wildlife Trust	2nd Wed. of the month	7.30pm - 9.30pm	Loraine 01962 861182	£4.00 per meeting	Illustrated talks on wildlife for all. Contact Loraine for details.
Legs, Bums & Tums	Monday Tuesday	9.30am - 10.30am 6.45pm - 7.45pm	Catherine Jones 07990 513 434	£5.00 per class	A fun and friendly class designed to help keep you fit and toned! Discounts available for multiple classes.
Healing Trust	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	Catherine Thomas 07990 037 467	£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 841402		A warm welcome awaits you at your local Royal British Legion group meeting.
RugbyTots	Friday	1.00pm - 1.30pm 1.35pm - 2.05pm 2.10pm - 2.55pm	Contact Phil Rowles phil@rugbytots.co.uk 007985 788 069	Enquire direct	A fun, active and confidence building class for boys and girls aged 2-7 years. Free trials available. www.rugbytots.co.uk
Senshi Ryuu Karate	Thursday	6.30pm - 7.30pm	Phil Aucott senshiryuukarate@gmail.com	Enquire direct	Become fitter, more flexible, stronger, more disciplined., focused and confident.
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.
Weight Watchers	Thursday	9.30am - 11.00am 6.30pm - 7.45pm	07455 968 884	Weekly meeting fee of £6.25	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)	Minature wargames and role-playing games of all periods and genres played.
Winchester Tae Kwon-Do	Monday Wednesday	6.30pm - 9.00pm	Lucy Scott 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.

Here are details of just some of the activities that take place at Badger Farm Community Centre. Other hirers may have chosen not to have their details shown. Please contact the organiser direct for more information. If you are looking for an activity and you can't see it here, please call Jan, the Bookings Secretary on 01962 868630 or email enquiries@bfobrca.org

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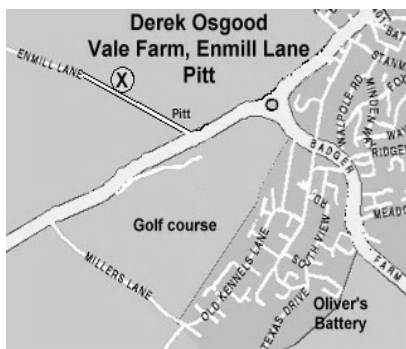
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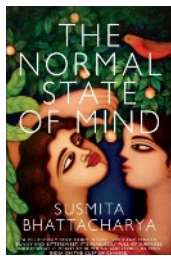
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CREATIVE WRITING AT BADGER FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE

Always wanted to write the story of your life? Is there a memory or experience you would like to preserve through writing? Join author and winner of the Winchester Writers' Festival Memoir Prize 2016, Susmita Bhattacharya, for a creative writing workshop at the Badger Farm Community Centre. In this two-hour workshop, you will have the opportunity to do some life writing and have your work critiqued by Susmita. There will be writing exercises, exploration of ideas, discussion and resources shared. Only 15 places available, beginners and experienced writers welcome.

Susmita has had several short stories and non-fiction published in the UK and internationally, and been broadcast on BBC Radio 4. Her novel, *The Normal State of Mind*, was published by Parthian in 2015. She has been teaching creative writing for ten years.

When: Saturday 24 September 2016 ~ Time: 10.30-12.30

Badger Farm Community Centre ~ £10.00 for a two hour session.

Booking essential. Please contact Susmita on susmita.writer@gmail.com or phone 07722 504 101
susmita-bhattacharya.blogspot.co.uk

**Hampshire &
Isle of Wight
Wildlife Trust**



Winchester Local Group Hampshire and IOW Wildlife Trust

If you would like to know more about not only our British wildlife but also the human forces that shaped local meadows plus the international work with critically endangered vultures then do come and join us on one of our Autumn events. Non-members are always very welcome. For further information about the Group please telephone Loraine on 01962 861182 or email atardill2@gmail.com. Alternatively see the Trust website at www.hiwwt.org.uk

Wed. 14 Sept. ~ 7:30-9:30pm ~ Blashford Lakes – it's not all birds

Join Bob Chapman, the reserve manager for the New Forest and Avon Valley, for an illustrated talk on the great variety of wildlife found in the woods and around the lakes of this beautiful Trust reserve close to Ringwood. Held in the Bushfield Room at the Badger Farm Community Centre, Winchester, SO22 4QB at the far end of Sainsbury's car park. Admission £4 to include coffee/tea.

Wed. 12 Oct. ~ 7:30-9:30pm ~ Birds of Prey: Conservation and Recent Research

Do join us for an illustrated talk by the Hawk Conservancy Trust from Weyhill, near Andover to discover the work being carried out in their bird of prey hospital, with the raptor nest box scheme and other research projects including international work with critically endangered vultures. Held in the Bushfield Room at the Badger Farm Community Centre, Winchester, SO22 4QB at the far end of Sainsbury's car park. Admission £4 to include coffee/tea.

Wed. 9 Nov. ~ 7:30-9:30pm ~ Explaining the Humps and Bumps in St Cross Meadows

Techer Jones from WARG (Winchester Society for Archaeology and Local History) will give us a fascinating insight into the hospital of St Cross in medieval times including a lost paradise Garden, a Brewhouse and a house demolished to give the warden a better view! Held in the Bushfield Room at the Badger Farm Community Centre, Winchester, SO22 4QB at the far end of Sainsbury's car park. Admission £4 to include coffee/tea.

Sun. 13 Nov. ~ 10-3pm ~ Normandy and Oxe Marshes

Join the Winchester group for a coastal walk to see the marshes and more open waters for waders, wildfowl and other birds both wintering and any last migrants. Meet at the large ornate cast-iron gas standard to the right of the Yacht Club – there is seating and public toilets nearby in the Bath Road car park near the Royal Lymington Yacht Club (post code SO41 3SE); parking charges apply. Bring a packed lunch. For further information and to book your place, please telephone Mary on 01962 864440. Sorry no dogs. Suggested donation £4.

Sun. 27 Nov. ~ 10am-1pm ~ Working Water Meadows on the Itchenlue

Join Roger Harrison and John Clark for a walk along a hidden bit of the River Itchen to see some working water meadows which Roger and Victoria Harrison are managing for their conservation value. Meet at Itchen Stoke Mill, Ovington (near Alresford), where there is parking on the day. Numbers are limited so booking is essential. For further information and to book your place, please telephone Mary on 01962 864440. Wellington boots essential. No dogs please. Suggested donation £4.

Sun. 4 Dec. ~ 10am-3pm ~ Birding at Titchfield Haven

Join John Clark for a winter bird walk at this Hampshire County Council reserve. Park in the Yacht Club car park or by the sea wall and meet in the Yacht Club car park, Cliff Road, Hill Head. We will go in as a group – entry charges to the reserve apply and we should get a group rate for entry. Refreshments are available in the café but this can be busy so bring a packed lunch. For further information telephone Mary on 01962 864440. Sorry no dogs. Suggested donation £4.

Wed. 14 Dec. ~ 7:30-9:30pm ~ Winter Social with Wildlife Photos and Anecdotes

Come and share your own favourite top ten wildlife photos and/or sightings once again over a glass of mulled wine/soft drink and nibbles. As last year photographic expertise not required – enthusiasm for the content far more important. Equipment provided. Please contact Anne Ardill beforehand on 01962 881312 or atardill2@gmail.com to discuss arrangements if showing your photos. Admission £4 to include light buffet.

Building a Hub for our Community



Saturday 23rd July was a gloriously sunny day, and a very happy occasion, as we celebrated the 60th anniversary of St Mark's Church. It was lovely to see so many families, young and

older, on the Oliver's Battery open space, joining in the activities - including the bouncy cathedral and a giant tug of war - thoroughly enjoying themselves and carrying on the splendid tradition of previous village fetes. We are very fortunate to have such a beautiful place. Of course, it's really not possible to run an event like this without the supporting services provided by the building itself: electricity, water, furniture, a place to sit down, and the essential cups of tea. Sad, then, that the Church building is showing signs of advancing age and may be forced to close within the next few years. That's why we need to invest in the future of our community - both for ourselves and for those to come.

We founded the Oliver's Battery Community Centre charity for everyone who wants this community spirit to continue and grow; to see current activities and groups flourish and new ones established. For that, a new building is essential and that is our sole purpose: to create and run a new centre fit for our community in the 21st Century.

In seven months operation we have laid much of the groundwork, made a good start in raising funds, and we are planning a concert in November.

On many occasions, you have expressed your desire for a better facility and, in the recent Parish Plan survey, have shown a clear desire for a new meeting room. Our charity is the only group which is ready and able to undertake the task of providing that - and the important point is that we should get on with it! We've set ourselves the goal of rebuilding in 2021 but we need your help.

Why not come and join us in what will be one of the most exciting projects ever in Oliver's Battery? We need volunteers for many different roles and we need your donations - especially regular donations: £10 a month would make all the difference. You can find out more from our new web site at www.obccentre.org. Together, we can do this!

With best wishes to you all, Geoff

Geoff Sharman, Chairman, OBCC ~ 01962 867961
geoffrey.sharman@btinternet.com



As the **Oliver's Battery Plan** team conclude the analysis of the data they will start developing the first draft of the Action Plan. This will detail the proposals for how

our community develops over the next ten years. These proposals will come from residents' needs and opinions. We have gathered these from our consultations with people in Oliver's Battery, from both the early findings from our original Focus Groups, subsequent informal consultations and from the formal Questionnaire which gave us the stunning response rate of 73%. All this gives us a robust and up-to-date collection of data upon which to draw.

So what have all our consultations revealed so far about the people who live in Oliver's Battery and the kind of place they want it to be? People like living here - they think it's a good place, safe and generally friendly. They love the access to the countryside, the views and the sense of peace and quiet. They appreciate the local shops and the Recreation Ground and they are pleased when they improve. Equally, they appreciate the access to Winchester, though the quality of the bus service through Oliver's Battery produced some strongly negative responses.

We discovered that the population of Oliver's Battery is changing - for example we now have as many people working as people who are retired, and there are more young children who go to a number of different primary schools, pre-schools and nurseries. In fact, around 25% of residents arrived within the past five years - that's quite a turnover! Engaging with young families will be high on our agenda, as well as doing more to welcome our new residents to Oliver's Battery. And, relatively speaking, we still have a considerable number of elderly people, many of whom live alone. We need to develop ways of combating potential loneliness and isolation, improving transport arrangements and other support. There were two issues that provoked the most intense response - the threat of development on green field sites and the issues associated with the junction to Badger Farm Road. Whilst in

our question on planning for future community facilities, the need for parking was ranked number 1 in the 'Very Important' category.

Lots of people liked the idea of more 'events', and indeed, the 60th Birthday Party on the Battery for St Mark's Church was very popular in July. These informal gatherings can make a positive contribution to developing our shared sense of community. So here's another date for your diary - on 8th October, we can celebrate the 60th Birthday of our civil parish - with a Birthday Barn Dance at Kings' School. Let's hope it is as well attended as the one that was held for our 50th Birthday celebration! Our draft Action Plan will be sent out to all residents and we'll be looking for feedback from the community at another public meeting at the Primary School before Christmas. We'll be sending round more information before the Barn Dance in October.



Oliver's Battery 60th Anniversary

A THOROUGHLY GOOD EVENING!
(a light hearted knees up to
traditional lively music)



Community Barn Dance

Saturday 8th October 7:30pm - 11pm

Kings' School Hall

Caller John Turner with his band

All tickets £6 - this is a not for profit event
BYO food & drinks

There will also be some Real Ale from a
local brewery, wine and soft drinks
available for purchase.

ID will be required from those
fortunate to look 21 or under
on the night!



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Badger Farm Community Centre

Tuesdays 3.30-4.30pm

Fridays 10.30-11.30am & 11.30am-12.30pm

St. Luke's Church Hall, Stanmore

Thursdays 6.00-7.00pm

To book your place, contact **Karen Reay**

Mobile 07460 974677 - email: karen@reay.me



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An hour of creative movement & dance for over 60's. No experience necessary, singles or pairs welcome.

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Or call Winchester Live at Home Scheme on 01962 890995

For more information contact: Anna Miles, Assistant Manager,

Winchester Live at Home Scheme -

01962 890995 - www.wlahs.org



Oliver's Battery Primary School

Creative, caring and confident learners for life

Our school continued to have many exciting events this term with Sports Day, the Summer Fair, various musical concerts and school trips. Year 6 had a good send off - they camped in the wonderful school grounds and also performed in their end of term school production. We wish them well in their new schools and look forward to welcoming our new Reception children in September.

The children, staff and visitors had a wonderful picnic this term to celebrate getting to good. We all had picnic bags and sandwiches on the field followed by the children playing with their friends. We were really lucky that the sun came out as this made the day more special. Thank you to all of those who came to spend lunch with us.

There have been many sporting activities this term and the children qualified for the Hampshire Games, representing North Winchester and Eastleigh. Sports being played at the games included Hockey, Football, Basketball, Rugby, Netball and Golf. Also competitions in Gymnastics and Swimming were taking place. Oliver's Battery School were also awarded Silver in the Hampshire and IOW School Games Mark Award. This was achieved for commitment, engagement and participation within school sport.

"A school that's moving from strength to strength." Ofsted March 2016. We have places available at our school. Please arrange a visit anytime of the year and see the school at work. Either Telephone: 01962 869496 or Email: admin@oliversb.com ~ Fey Wood ~ Headteacher

Open Days this year are taking place on the following dates, everyone is welcome:

Friday 23 September 2016 ~ 0930 – 1100

Friday 18 November 2016 ~ 0930 – 1100



JOIN US AT OUR DEMENTIA CAFE IN WINCHESTER

If you have dementia or are caring for someone with dementia, come along to your local cafe. The venue is Badger Farm Community Centre, Badger Farm Road, Winchester on the first Monday of each month from 2pm to 3.30pm. For more information, contact the local Alzheimer's Society by email on winchester@alzheimers.org.uk or by telephone on 01256 363393. We very much look forward to seeing you. Visit our website for further information at alzheimers.org.uk

Alzheimer's Society operates in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.
Registered charity number 296645.



OLIVER'S BATTERY WI

So, the Oliver's Battery WI Cake Sale 2016 was a resounding success again thanks to the efforts and time of its members and it is a pleasing thought that the flora of Oliver's Battery and Badger Farm gardens is in some small way influenced by the sale of these plants. Certainly I can vouch for that in mine.

Our programme of meetings and speakers always aims to entertain and educate our members and June found us listening to the tale of Binky Bear. A cheeky bear who features in a series of 3 photographic books set in real places, the first being in Alresford, north of Winchester. We listened to Liz Nankivell reveal the joys and challenges she and her co-author Moira Blackwell encountered along their journey story writing, starting with Binky's inception to his publication. Fascinating and very heart warming.

Before the Summer break during the month of August, Oliver's Battery WI aim to arrange a July evening meeting outside of the Parish to a garden as well as a day trip to somewhere. This year's trip was to Mapledurham House in Oxfordshire, a Grade 1 listed building. Our party of ladies and gents travelled by coach and enjoyed an informative guided tour around the historic building, followed by a blissful boat trip down the Thames in the beautiful English sunshine spotting herons, grebes and Kingfishers along the way whilst Red Kites glided majestically overhead. A successful day out for all.

Our July meeting found us in the quintessentially English Master's Garden of the Hospital of St Crosse in Winchester on the most perfect of warm Summer evenings, where we stood absorbing the tranquillity and beauty of the immaculate lawns and the elegant lily strewn pond. We admired a most spectacular specimen of the Tulip Tree (Liriodendron), planted in the centre of the Compton Garden to commemorate a visit from The Queen Mother in 1986. It is full of buds ready to burst into magnificent yellow tulip blooms in just a few weeks time and is surrounded by gloriously colourful borders featuring the stunning red of Crocosmia Lucifer, and the spectacular huge white heads of the Hydrangea, amongst so many other plants besides. Our host for the evening was one of the 25 resident brothers, namely Brother George, who regaled us with the tales and history of St Cross Church and its Alms Houses, adding his own special personal anecdotes of famous people he has met over the years including Dame Judi Dench and Benedict Cumberbatch! It is a well used location for film sets apparently.

The Autumn term has more excitement in store with talks on Englishness and Traditions, Winchester Prison and, of course, Christmas Crafts..... if this has caught your interest then please do contact Katherine Elsmore (President) Katherine.elsmore@hotmail.co.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.

BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

Just before finishing this report, the fantastic new Playground at Davis was completed. There is now a fenced in area with a slide, various swings, climbing equipments etc. The whole area is bright and cheerful and is very popular with children and parents alike. Our thoughts are now focused on redeveloping the Central Play area. A public meeting was held in August to ascertain your needs, and opinions on funding for this. The meeting was very well attended and there was a unanimous decision to borrow funds for its development. We are therefore hoping that completion of this second play area will be completed next Summer.

It has been noticed recently that parking in congested areas is sometimes an issue. It would be appreciated if care is taken not to park in unsuitable places such as opposite bus stops, near junctions etc. which would make access impossible by ambulances, fire engines etc. Also, parking on pavements makes it very difficult for pushchairs and mobility scooters.

We have been informed by the police of an increasingly large number of thefts from cars in Winchester. Sometimes entry to vehicles is very easy because windows and doors have been left unlocked. It is a good idea to physically check a door while leaving. Further to the subject of safety, please keep bank cards safe, and be very aware of any suspicious telephone calls or dodgy emails.

We have decided to place a notice in the Community News appertaining to planning at Badger Farm. Remember there is NO PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT on Badger Farm.

For some time now we have been hoping that the Hampshire Wild Life Trust will take over the responsibility for Whiteshute Ridge. This plan seems to be progressing well, and more information will, we hope, be available in the near future.

Have a lovely Autumn.



Annual Bridge Tea

Thursday 13th October 2016 ~ 2pm – 5pm

Once again we are delighted to announce our annual Bridge Tea on Thursday 13th October 2016 to be held from 2pm until 5pm at:

The White House, Main Road, Littleton, Winchester, SO22 6QS.

Come and join us for a friendly competition and a gorgeous homemade tea. To book a table (£50 per table), or to make a donation, please contact: Gimma Macpherson, Springfield Cottage, Bedfield Lane, Headbourne Worthy, Winchester, SO23 7JQ. Or for more information contact Gimma at: gimmamacp@aol.com or telephone 01962 884098.

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www.wessexmaturedancers.co.uk

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FITSTEPS AT BADGER FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE

Want to get get fit, have fun and learn some of your favourite moves from Strictly Come Dancing?

Come along to BDance Academy's new class Fitsteps on Wednesdays at 2pm at Badger Farm Community Centre, run by Sergei, a professional dancer and Ballroom Champion.

Fitsteps is a dance workout that combines the steps of Ballroom and Latin to create a really fun, exciting and effective way to keep fit. A class for all abilities and is 'so much fun, you don't even realize you're getting fit!'

First class is absolutely **FREE!**

For more info about Fitsteps and other dance classes, please visit www.bdance.co.uk or contact:

info@bdance.co.uk
07903364852 / 07481204152





OLIVER'S BATTERY PARISH COUNCIL

The makeup of the Parish Council (PC) has changed in the past few months. In my last report, I indicated that both Maggie Collin and Jane Gagel were stepping down as Councillors. At our June

council meeting it was agreed to co-opt John Furlong, Rob Ducker and Fabrizio de Liberali to the council bringing our number up to a full compliment of seven Councillors.

Road Junction

Following yet another accident at the junction of Oliver's Battery Road South and Badger Farm Road, a meeting is being arranged for the PC to meet with Councillor Rob Humby, Executive Member for Highways and the Environment for Hampshire County Council (HCC), together with the WCC and HCC Councillors for the area, to discuss likely options, costs, accident data and constraints for this junction. The PC will take the opportunity at this meeting to raise the considerable number of concerns regarding the junction that residents highlighted in their responses to the Parish Plan questionnaire.

Anti-social Behaviour at the Recreation Ground (Rec)

Recent weeks have seen increased incidents of anti-social behaviour. Initially it took the form of lighting fires, leaving litter and other questionable items around one of the benches, removing a bollard and damaging the tap. However, there have also been several more serious incidents with green bottles being deliberately smashed and the broken glass left

at the Multi Use Games Area and the children's play equipment. What is truly horrifying is that broken glass appears to have been deliberately left on slides and areas of the wooden play equipment. Only the prompt action of residents and members of the PC, in clearing away the broken glass each time, has prevented children using the play equipment from being seriously injured. Each incident has been reported to the police on 101 and we would ask any user of the Rec to take care generally, follow the Rules and Regulations set out on the new sign at the entrance and to report any suspicious behaviour to the police on 101. The local PCSO team will be making more visits to the Rec.

Speed Limit Reminder Sign

The PC have recently purchased a Speed Limit Reminder (SLR) sign and, initially, this has been attached to a lamppost in Oliver's Battery Road South. The sign lights up when passing traffic exceeds the 30 mph limit and tells drivers to slow down. It records data regarding passing traffic that will enable the PC to monitor traffic flows and speeds. The sign will be moved to other areas of Oliver's Battery, where traffic speed is a problem, in due course.

Barn Dance

Finally, a reminder that the Parish Council is marking it's 60th year with a community organised Barn Dance. This will be held on Saturday 8th October at Kings' School in Romsey Road. Please look out for adverts and notices giving further details and support this fun community event.

Brian Mitchener - Chair Oliver's Battery Parish Council
cllr.mitchener@oliversbattery.info - 01962 623585

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AN UPDATE FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS

You will be pleased to hear the Whiteshute enhancement project continues to progress well. We have therefore organised a public information event for the 10th October. This will be held at the Badger Farm Community Centre from 3pm until 7.30pm and is organised by the Badger Farm Parish Council, Winchester City Council and the Hampshire Wildlife Trust. You are all welcome to attend and understand what measures are being proposed to enhance the ecology of this area. We already know some of the grassland is under threat with the decline in species. The plan is to enhance the natural environment to help increase the species of wild flowers, insects and birds to help create a wildlife corridor close to the City.

St Mark's organised a community day on the Battery which was well organised and very well attended to help bring the community together. Thank you - it was a great day.

Councillors are aware of the poor quality of verges and grass cutting in open spaces in both Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery. Once again this year we are not satisfied with the quality of work, although the frequency of cuts has improved in some areas. We recently had a site meeting with Council officers and contractors so hopefully everyone will see an improvement.

We are pleased to report the replacement Leisure Centre Project has moved onto the next phase. The centre was discussed at a recent Council Meeting where we agreed Winchester should have a 12 court sports hall, a hydrotherapy centre suitable for disabled adults and children and a 50-metre community swimming pool. This pool is adaptable as it has a moveable floor and boom so can be subdivided into two 25-metre pools for maximum efficiency. This flexibility will ensure that everyone from learn to swim, school and club swimmers as well as the more mature of us will be assured of a swim when they want one. We aim to work in partnership with the University and Hampshire County Council to build a facility to help encourage sport for everyone.

The Pitt Vale planning application for 350 houses by Linden Homes was turned down by the City Council Planning Control Committee because it was outside the residential boundary and outside Winchester's Local Plan for housing. This development would have caused additional traffic issues as well as overburdening the infrastructure. Whilst your Councillors support new affordable housing in the District this must be led by proper planning policy in agreed sites.

We hope you all enjoy a wonderful Summer break.

Cllr Brian Laming ~ 01962 862487 ~ blaming@winchester.gov.uk ~ 07973 265028

Cllr Eleanor Bell ~ 01962 775521 ~ ebell@winchester.gov.uk

Cllr Jan Warwick ~ 07717 104236 ~ jwarwick@winchester.gov.uk

WINCHESTER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



Summer has come and gone - several times this year - which has tended to make life difficult for us gardeners. Now Autumn is irrevocably on its way and despite the fickleness of the Summer weather we are hoping for a season of plenty and fruitfulness in the orchard and vegetable patch. Harvesting can be a mixed pleasure but a pleasure nonetheless even if not all the vegetables have performed well! Late flowering plants continue to add colour to the borders and the foliage of some of the trees and shrubs add more shades to the Autumn palette. There are still jobs to be done but when the date of one of our monthly meetings arrives we abandon the practical side of gardening and head for our meeting place to be entertained and inspired. Would you like to come and join us on one of the following evenings?

Wednesday, 14 September 2016 - Plant specialist Roger Hiron will give a talk about UNUSUAL PLANTS, offering guidance and advice.

Wednesday, 12 October 2016 - The inimitable Chris Bird, horticultural lecturer at Sparsholt College, will bring samples of different kinds of APPLES for us to taste and learn about.

Wednesday, 9 November 2016 - Steve Austin has chosen the topic of PLANTING FOR WINTER INTEREST which is bound to be interesting and useful.

Our monthly meetings are held at the Winchester Club, Churchill Room, Worthy Lane, Winchester, SO23 7AB and start at 7.30pm. For more information visit on our website: www.winhortsoc@weebly.com



Latin Line ~ New Beginners' Class

Come along and have some fun with Latin dance rhythms! New class commencing

Tuesday 20th September ~ 8.30-9.30pm

Oliver's Battery Primary School, Austen Avenue, Oliver's Battery, Winchester, SO22 4HP

No partner needed - gentle exercise

For further details and enrolment, please telephone Ian and Joan Millar on Winchester (01962) 854542 or Email: millardancing@yahoo.co.uk



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OLIVER'S BATTERY PRE-SCHOOL

Our Pre-school year has been packed with events and fun, creating many opportunities for developing skills and abilities. Families have been able to experience life at Pre-school with our Welcome Walk in September, Nativity entertainment at Christmas, Easter Egg Hunt, Spring Fayre, Obstacle Course, Sports Day and trip to Adventure Wonderland last month. The staff and committee were lucky enough to win a Mayor's Community Award this year, which recognised the incredible work which goes on 'behind the scenes'.

We have enjoyed another successful year of fundraising and thank everyone who has helped to raise funds through our Spring Fayre, Sponsored Obstacle Course and art work donations. Some of this money subsidised the end of year trip to Adventure Wonderland, others to general play resources and the majority to the fund for our ongoing development.

Our annual end of term Teddy Bear's Picnic welcomed children due to start with us in September, celebrated the year with our existing children. We also said goodbye to 12 children leaving us to start their adventures at school (John Keble School in Hursley, Stanmore Primary School, St Peter's Roman Catholic School and Oliver's Battery Primary School.)

About our pre-school

- Rated overall as 'good' by Ofsted, Oliver's Battery Pre-school achieved 'outstanding' for how well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend.
- Conveniently located in the spacious grounds of Oliver's Battery Primary School, we provide a safe, engaging and friendly environment for children aged two years to school age.
- We accept all children, regardless of which school they will be going to
- All children are funded from the term after their 3rd birthday.
- If eligible, we accept funding for two-year olds.
- Opening times: 9am-3.15pm Mon-Weds 9am-12.30pm Thurs-Fri

For more information or to pop in and take a look around, please contact Jackie Johnston, Pre-school Leader on mobile 07941 796 958 or email oliversbatterypreschool@gmail.com ~ Take a look at our new Website: www.oliversbatterypreschool.org.uk



WINCHESTER SUPPORT GROUP

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 at St. Peter's Pastoral Centre (opposite the Library Discovery Centre,) Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8RY. For more information telephone

01962 866152. The next meeting is on **Wednesday 19 October ~ 7pm** ~ How the Helpline advise people who telephone the Charity. Speaker: Suzanne Chedburn, Helpline Nurse, National Osteoporosis Society. Raffle and refreshments at each meeting. £2 donation appreciated to cover expenses. All welcome.

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 busy re-adjusting to school life and their classes and new teachers. Here are a few highlights from last term – it seems ages ago now!

Bunnynapped! Children in Year 5 arrived in their classroom one morning to discover that their beloved class rabbits were missing! In their place was a note from an anonymous member of staff who said the rabbits made too much mess and would only be returned if the children worked hard to meet their Year 5 targets. Determined to discover who had stolen their pets, the children turned detectives and set about interviewing suspects, collating evidence, studying CCTV and cracking a series of coded messages. The discovery of a map with marked co-ordinates led them to the Ridgeway where they found Mrs Horkan and the bunnies – phew! Both rabbits seemed remarkably unscathed by their kidnap ordeal and are hopping happily around the classroom once more.

A taste of France..... Year 3 were visited by the manager of Winchester's French restaurant, Brasserie Blanc during the Summer term. He talked to the children about his restaurant, French food and drinks, and French culture. He then challenged them to create a French café of their own, and invited them all down to Brasserie Blanc for a French experience. It was a brilliant way to gather ideas and find out all about French cooking. The children used the Brasserie menu to compose their own menus and saw all round the restaurant kitchen, including seeing the giant dishwasher in operation and trying to see if they could all fit in the enormous fridge! After that, it was time to try their hand at piping meringues and take the ultimate French taste test – snails cooked in garlic..... Later in the term one of our parents who is a chef showed the children how to make sticky toffee pudding. Thanks to him and the friendly Brasserie Blanc staff our parents and carers enjoyed a delicious taste of France when the Year 3 café opened for business at the end of term!

Happy Birthday Your Majesty! The traditional British Summer meant that we had to hastily re-locate our picnic for the Queen's 90th birthday from the playground to the school hall but that didn't seem to dampen the enthusiasm of our street party guests. Hand-made bunting decorated the walls and many of the children arrived wearing crowns or tabards and waving brightly coloured flags. As the sounds of the National Anthem and Land of Hope and Glory rang out around the Hall the children tucked into a specially prepared Royal Picnic including chicken goujons, pizza slice, ham, cheese or egg roll and princess chocolate pudding with a crown biscuit. Judging by the smiling faces, a jolly good time was had by all.....

Meanwhile in the potting shed.... Inspired by their visit to the Sir Harold Hillier Gardens, Year 2 have been transforming the area outside their classroom into a small allotment. They are about to harvest their first crop of onions, peas and runner beans and the brightly coloured flowers have made the whole area look really cheerful and welcoming. We are always on the look-out for child sized gardening tools so if you have any small trowels or garden forks that are surplus to requirements we'd be delighted to take them off your hands!

Coming soon... As the new term begins, we are looking forward to our annual Book Week which begins on Monday 20th October 2015. This will include a Book Fair, a dressing up day, a visit from Tom Palmer, author of brilliant football stories and the official opening of our lovely new Library by our patron of Reading, Ali Sparkes – an action packed week! Our Christmas Fair will be on Friday 9th December 2016 from 3:30pm – 5:30pm. Put the date in your diary now – the time will whizz in as usual!

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.

Oliver's Battery Fireworks

Saturday 12th November | Gates open 5.30 for 7.00 display

Oliver's Battery Primary School Grounds

Refreshments will be available | Fairground rides

Prices in advance – tickets available from the school and Post Office

£2 per child [under 16] | £4 per adult | £10 for family [2 adults & up to 3 children]

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Email: friendsofoliversbattery@gmail.com

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AN UPDATE FROM STEVE BRINE, MP FOR WINCHESTER

Let's start with some good news! Winchester City Council planners, in my opinion, did the right thing recently in throwing out a proposal by Linden Homes to build 350 houses at PITT VALE. The plans were originally submitted when the Winchester Village site at Pitt Manor was still being built and I haven't heard such a united community rejection of a proposed new development in a long time. In the end, the Planning Committee voted 7-1 against the development. Well done to all those who wrote and especially to our Ward Councillors Jan, Brian and Eleanor who worked their socks off to ensure this areas' voice was heard. They are already gearing up for the inevitable appeal and will continue to have my full support. And if you're thinking, it's all very well for Steve to be pleased at this news, please don't misunderstand me. Winchester needs new homes and it is getting them, including new council houses under the city's ground-breaking New Homes Programme. I will always continue to make the case for planned new homes because it's the right thing to do and we need them.



Steve talking live to BBC South Today at the Pitt Vale site

However, the Winchester District has a signed off Local Plan (in stark contrast to the debacle next door at Eastleigh) that makes provision for more than 12,000 new homes over the period - exactly what we in Government want it to do. For me, it's not about saying NO to ALL development, it's about taking our fair share and deciding in a planned way where they should go and the services which will support growth. Winchester has done that and speculative developers should be very aware we will defend that plan led approach at every opportunity.

Secondly, constituents will know I have campaigned for a long time on the issue of RAIL SERVICES from our area and this Summer saw the publication of the Invitation to Tender for the new South Western Franchise operator, currently Stagecoach/South West Trains. It contains some important wins around peak time capacity, plus improved fares and ticketing experience, including introducing smart ticketing for commuters who work part-time. Lots more; www.stevebrine.com/trains

Brexit continues to be the big story in Westminster and there has been a degree of scoffing at Theresa May's assertion that "BREXIT MEANS BREXIT". I fail to see why as it's a simple statement of the fact that this Government respects the result and Britain WILL, rightly, leave the political structures of the European Union. There is no room here to even begin but let me assure constituents, I will be keeping a cool-head as always, pressing Ministers on key areas of negotiation as we seek, not only a soft landing on the other side of Brexit, but a new deal for our country that makes a great success of it.

And contrary to what you may read, there are other things going on at the same time. For example, we finally had the outcome of NHS England's review into CHILDREN'S HEART SURGERY, a cause I have worked on for many years. The result is good news for Southampton which will retain its specialism in this area. More; www.stevebrine.com/childrenshearturgery

Well done again to everyone at OLIVER'S BATTERY PRIMARY SCHOOL for their recent Ofsted "Good". I am so proud of what Fey Wood and her team have done. And good luck to Mrs Nmalarajan at the revamped OLIVER'S BATTERY POST OFFICE. It was an honour to open the store, with a little help from the children, back in May.

Finally, I have announced the date of my next PMQ ballot which is for Wednesday 7th December. If you want to be entered please go to www.stevebrine.com/PMQs or call 01962 791110.

Much more of my work and news via www.stevebrine.com ~ Steve Brine MP ~ Winchester, Oliver's Battery & Badger Farm



BADGER FARM SOCIAL CLUB YOUR FAMILY FRIENDLY LOCAL PUB !



We are a family club operating within the Badger Farm Community Centre, run for the Community, by the Community. We always welcome new members from the local area and have lots for you to enjoy! So do come in and see what we have to offer!

Opening times:

Sunday: 12noon – 10.30pm
Mon-Thurs: 4.30 – 11pm,
Friday: 4pm – 12am
Saturday: 12noon – 12am

Membership (residents of Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery & surrounding areas for only:
Family = £30; Single = £20; Concession = £10.

Social Club Teams:

Men's darts and Ladies darts – two teams each.

Men's pool team – recently won the cup! We always welcome new recruits and would love to set up a Ladies team too! Even if you don't want to join a team we offer FREE pool on Tuesday evenings (7pm).

Cribbage team – Now recruiting for next season which runs from September to May.

If you like Poker then we have a monthly evening of fun on the last Tuesday evening of every month!

If you are interested in joining us pop in and speak to Mel at the Club. We have a weekly meat draw, lottery bonus ball winner and other weekly promotions. This August Bank Holiday we have a "Summer Fun" BBQ for all the family, from 3-5pm on Saturday 27th.

There are Children's Halloween & Christmas parties as well as an adult's Christmas/New Year Party. We have multiple TV screens showing numerous sporting events via Sky and BT (Football and Rugby Premiership). New football season starts 5th August. (Championship) and 13th August (Premiership). New Rugby Premiership starts on 2nd September. We offer lagers, ciders and at least 3 quality crafted real ales as well many other drinks at club prices.

Why not pop in to see what we are up to. We hope to see you soon.

twitter @bfscorguk
<http://bfsc.org.uk> email
info@bfsc.org.uk



Badger Farm Toddlers

Thursdays 13:30 - 15:00

Badger Farm Community Centre

Come and join Esther and Catherine at this friendly drop-in group!

All welcome, run by qualified pre-school teachers!

Bikes, puzzles, Play-dough, books and much more for toddlers!

And for new mums and babies a well stocked and comfortable baby mat area. (We also provide baby scales and a baby changing area in the room!)

We offer a cuppa and a chat for you, fun and a snack for the little ones!

Open term time only!

Info: Catherine 07990037467
or Esther etsouramanis@icloud.com

Could you spare a couple of hours a week to help at Badger Farm Toddlers? They are looking for volunteers to assist in the kitchen making refreshments, washing up and clearing away at the end of the session. It's an ideal opportunity to make new friends and spend a couple of enjoyable hours. Please telephone or email Esther or Catherine or contact Jan at the Community Centre.

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BADGER FARM PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP END OF TERM CELEBRATIONS

It's been another busy and highly successful year yet again for Badger Farm Pre-School Playgroup. We have ended the term with some exciting events starting with our annual outing to Moors Valley Country Park. We had two buses full of excited children and adults. A full day of fun was had by all including walking and climbing on the wooden play trail, a ride on the train, playing in the sand pits and play areas and a picnic lunch by the lake. We all returned very tired but happy!

Next up was our sports day. Children, parents and staff enjoyed a picnic lunch followed by traditional races of running and egg-and-spoon along with balance races and throwing the javelin. The afternoon was completed with the children cheering on their Mummy's and Daddy's in their races. Medals and lollipops were awarded to all the budding athletes. An exciting afternoon and the weather was kind for once!

Lastly we held our end of term parties for all the children. The younger ones enjoyed traditional party games and food along with the parachute. The afternoon saw our leavers arrive in wonderful fancy dress to enjoy bubbles in the garden and be entertained with magic tricks, party food and then performing for their parents. The goodbyes were celebrated with each child receiving their "special folders". Tears and tissues in abundance.

We hope you like the selection of photographs below showing the fun.



Lots of fun on the outing to Moors Valley Country Park!



Fancy Dress & Fun at the end of term party!



Getting ready for the races!



On your marks, get set, go!



The Staff declare it a tie for first place!



The children inspect with excited interest the building of a new play area on Badger Farm.



AN EMOTIONAL FAREWELL TO JO JINGLES AND VICTORIA



It was a sad but lovely end to an era at Badger Farm Community Centre on Tuesday 12 July when we said farewell to Victoria Smith and Jo Jingles. Victoria has been with us since the early days and was a permanent fixture on Tuesday mornings with her beautiful voice and songs for the children. However, all good things come to an end



and we wish Victoria a long, peaceful and happy retirement. The children from the Pre-School visited to sing and wish her well and you can see in the pictures Victoria sharing her special goodbye cake with them as well as proudly showing flowers she received. Happy memories!

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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OFSTED inspected in June 2015 with very pleasing results

For children from 2 years to school age.

Limited spaces available for 2 – 3 years.

OPENING TIMES (flexible)

Monday – Tuesday – Wednesday ~ 9.15 – 3.00

Thursday – Friday ~ 9.15 – 12.15

Spaces are now available!

All children are funded from the term after their 3rd Birthday

Funding available for 2 year olds if applicable

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.

“Staff place a high priority on helping children develop very good skills in listening, speaking, investigation and discovery. As a result children become confident communicators who enjoy learning and have the necessary skills for their future learning and school.”

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.



Legs, Bums and Tums Come along and enjoy our friendly and effective classes. The classes combine cardio and conditioning work and are suitable for all abilities. Improve your body shape and improve your fitness levels. Monday mornings 9.30-10.30 (term time only) and Tuesday evenings 6.45-7.45 at Badger Farm Community Centre.. Other daytime classes available at different venues. Cost of class £5.00 per session. Any enquiries to Catherine Jones 07990 513434 or cathjones@talktalk.net Fully qualified Aerobics Instructor and member of REPS Register Of Exercise Professionals.



ANN'S COMPUTER CORNER *Quiz: Are you a shortcut ninja?*

What do the following key combinations do?

1. Ctrl+Z
2. Ctrl+Home
3. F1
4. Windows Logo key
5. Alt+F4
6. Ctrl+Shift+t

- Answer:**
1. Undo last action
 2. Go to the start of the page/document
 3. Help key: most applications open a help screen when this key is pressed.
 4. Open or close the start menu
 5. Close the current window
 6. In a browser, open the tab you've just closed

If you know most of these, well done; you're a shortcut ninja. But if, like most people, you look at them and think "What?????", let me introduce you to the world of keyboard shortcuts.

"A keyboard shortcut is a combination of keys that, when pressed simultaneously, perform some task that ordinarily requires use of a mouse or other input device and may take longer to do." (whatis.techtarget.com)

Like computer super-users, who spend a lot of time with their hands on the keyboard and much less using a mouse, you can greatly increase your efficiency by using keyboard shortcuts. These shortcuts are also of great help to users with disabilities; for example, people with motor impairments find them much easier than using a mouse.

Using one shortcut is handy, but using them in combination is when you'll see the real benefit. One sequence I often use is: CTRL+A (select a block of text) > CTRL+C (copy it) > ALT+TAB (switch to the application I want to paste into) > CTRL+V (paste the text). You can also use keyboard shortcuts in combination with mouse shortcuts: double-clicking selects a word and triple-clicking selects a whole paragraph.

Menus in many applications have shortcuts too. Press the ALT key and you'll either see letters appear next to the menu items or a character in the menu item name will be underlined. Press the corresponding key: that's the equivalent of clicking on that menu item. My favourite combination is ALT+F+S, a quick way to save your file without having to pause from your typing.

Yes, shortcuts can be hard to learn, but the great thing is that they use muscle-memory rather than brain-power. Challenge yourself to learn, say, one a week. Once you've trained your hands, your fingers will start to fly!

I can only mention here a handful of the many shortcuts available. So how can you find out more? To start, have a look at a good list, such as Microsoft's one on support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/12445/windows-keyboard-shortcuts.

I'm also starting to put together a comprehensive list on my website:

www.winchestercomputertutor.co.uk/shortcuts.html.

Happy shortcutting ☺ (or :) in shortcut terms!)

Ann

Ann is the founder of Winchester Computer Tutor (www.winchestercomputertutor.co.uk), offering good-value, friendly 1-to-1 tuition for less-confident computer users.



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Dear Friends

We had a wonderful weekend of celebration for the 60th Birthday of St Mark's Church and look forward later in the year to the 60th Anniversary of the forming of the Oliver's Battery Parish Council.

Part of our celebration was looking back and inviting back past curates and members to join with us, part was enjoying a fun afternoon with the wider community of Oliver's Battery and part looking forward. This last part was a mixture of sadness and excitement as we have to accept that the building is fast becoming 'not fit for purpose' and accepting that it would cost far too much to keep it in good order even without improving it. The excitement came with the growing support for the 'Oliver's Battery Community Centre' charity's plans to build a new building on the site which would continue to serve both the Church and Community activities. This is a repeat of what must have happened 60 years ago and that foresight and hard work was firmly part of our thanks giving as is the hard work and commitment to build a new facility for all to benefit from over the next 60 years.

We may not see the present St Mark's building reach 65 years of service but through loss we can find new life and opportunities.

Yours .. Past .. Present .. and Future .. Rev'd Mike



NATURE NOTES FROM OLIVER'S BATTERY



I have just returned from walking my dog in the rain; that light drizzle that soaks you more than you realise if you get caught without an umbrella. A man from the Electricity Board armed with a clipboard was surveying trees along footpath 7 behind the houses that back onto the fields. Several trees require pruning before they touch the electric cables and a rampant Russian Vine is overwhelming the telegraph pole at the end of the footpath from Broadview Lane. It has been a summer of rapid growth keeping us busy cutting back our domestic trees and hedges although there are many instances where these are overgrowing pavements making it difficult for mothers with pushchairs and people in wheelchairs to pass safely. Have you checked yours? It is the same on our local footpaths where I have been carrying secateurs cutting back the worst of the brambles. Hampshire County Council Countryside Department does not have the staff to do regular cutting and although contractors are commissioned, there has been no work done in Oliver's Battery so far this year. The lengthsman does his best but he works for a number of Hampshire parishes and there is a limit to what can be done in the 3 days every quarter when he comes to us. In these times of ever decreasing public services it would be a great community venture to have a band of local volunteers led by the parish council doing the occasional cut back while enjoying fresh air meeting new people. Are you interested?

In complete contrast was the cutting of the fields either side of Texas Drive all the way up to Yew Hill. This set aside land has to be cut annually and this year the farmer cut it earlier than ever before on 6th July at a time when skylarks were still singing which may indicate there were chicks on the nest. Marbled white butterflies which fly in July had just started to emerge. These attractive black and white checkered butterflies need long grass for roosting and purple flowers such as knapweed and thistles on which to feed. Although there are still a few specimens to be seen feeding on clover the field is a wilderness and the skylarks long departed. The hedge separating the fields so drastically cut by the Electricity Board last year may look green and healthy but the hawthorn bore no flowers so there will be no berries for the wild birds this winter.

On a more cheerful note an Oliver's Battery resident has heard a couple of tawny owls calling in trees near her house. I was beginning to think that only Badger Farm was lucky enough to have them and I am hopeful that you will tell me if you hear owls. I promise to keep the locations a secret. I would also very much like to hear from you if you have a hedgehog in your garden.

Norma Goodwin ~ norma.goodwin@btinternet.com



FOLKS SINGING

There is a **NEW** singing group opening in Badger Farm Community Centre,

starting on September 20th, Tuesdays in term time, 1.30pm-2.45pm. **FREE** first session, no obligation! £5 a week thereafter.

Learn folk songs, mainly from the '60s and '70s, beautifully arranged in 3 and 4 part harmony, voices only. With songs by Donovan, Dylan, Peter Paul & Mary, The Seekers, Crosby, Stills & Nash, Simon & Garfunkel, Bob Marley, Woody Guthrie, Joan Baez and many more.

No experience necessary; all welcome, from shower singers to seasoned choir goers! There's no need to read music as all songs are taught by ear. To find out more you can email Jac on jac@folkssinging.com, check the website www.folkssinging.com, or text/phone on 07941 246685.



Oliver's Battery Post Office Use it or Lose it.

Residents of both parishes will be aware that responsibility for the post office in the Oliver's Battery Stores has changed from being under the ownership of the Post Office to the owner of the shop. Without your custom there is a real danger that we will lose this facility. The wages of those involved are funded directly from the post office income – no income, no post office.

So please consider using the shop for your postal needs in future.

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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 Viv Brooks on viv@bcl-construction.co.uk 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.



Published by Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery Residents' Community Association
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