



Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery Community News

Your Local Community Newsletter
Autumn 2017 Edition

An update on Whiteshute ridge



**Learn about the House Martins in
the local
area by
reading our
article on
page 14**



**Get involved in our local art
group, meet
new people
and have fun
on page 11**



**WANT TO ADVERTISE WITH US?
HAVE A RELEVANT
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CONTRIBUTION?**

Get in touch!

BFOBRCA , Badger Farm Community
Centre, Badger Farm Road, Winchester,
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Tel. 01962 868630

Email: enquiries@bfobrca.org

Registered Charity No. 279592

www.bfobrca.org

Editorial deadline for **Winter 2017** issue:

Friday 3rd November

Editor: berenice756@gmail.com



W

hat a fantastic set
of contributions

we've had this month!

We've moved away from a list format showing some of the activities on offer at the community centre. Instead we'll be showcasing a couple each issue in more depth. The Badger Farm Community Centre is really an amazing asset and one we should cherish and explore. We're so lucky to have it, that I felt we should emphasise this more. Have you got an event you'd like to tell us about? Or local news you'd like to contribute? Feel free to get in touch! Or perhaps you've got local knowledge that you would love to share? We are a community newspaper, run for the people who live here, and always happy to hear from you!

I can't believe it's the Autumn issue already, soon we'll be prepping for the Winter one, and as the days close in, lets hope it's not a wet one, like the summer has been!

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 on clerk@badgerfarmparishcouncil.gov.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.



PORTRAITS OF POWER

Friday 24th November 2017, 6.30 for 7.30pm
at the Discovery Centre, Jewry Street SO23 8SB

Drinks and canapes followed by a stimulating talk by renowned art historian
HENDRIKA FOSTER

This illustrated talk gives a light-hearted and insightful analysis of how important men use portraiture to promote their power and influence.

Price £16, in aid of Winchester GoLD www.winchestergold.org.uk

Tickets from Discovery Centre Box Office. Tel: 01962 873603

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
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 Ryu Karate	Thursday	6.30pm - 7.30pm	Phil Aucott senshiyuukarate@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.
Southern England Karate Federation	Tuesday	4.30pm - 5.30pm Children & Adults	Collin Rudkin 07966 303 585 Collinrudkin@btinternet.com	Enquire direct	Friendly and professional Karate club with high standards set at International level. Affiliated to the English Karate Federation and World Karate Federation.
Weight Watchers	Thursday	9.30am - 10.30am 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)	Miniature 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.
Wyeth Yoga	Wednesday	1.30pm - 3.00pm	ahedlei- sure@psc.ac.uk		Please contact for more details

Here are details of just some of the activities that take place at Badger Farm Community Centre. 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

Focus on....

Badger Farm Community Centre

A new piece to feature, where each issue we will take a look at some of what goes on at the centre. We are so lucky to have such a diverse location and so let's celebrate it!



What is Rugbytots all about?
Make your child's development more fun!

Our fun, structured play sessions take girls and boys aged 2-7 years on a journey of sporting imagination with engaging and energetic coaches

supporting them every step of the way whilst teaching how to catch, pass, kick, run with the ball and play as part of a team.

Our motto

Our motto is simple; "make it more fun". We do this by delivering our specifically designed programme for each age group with energy, enthusiasm and excitement. This creates an atmosphere in the class that is totally unique and engaging for parents and children alike.



How long has rugbytots been running?

We kicked-off in 2006

Max Webb, a rugby playing parent was trying to find a pre-school rugby class for his 3 sons...but back in 2006 there was nothing of that kind around. It quickly became clear that he was not the only parent looking for a rugby play programme for younger children, and what he spotted was a very exciting gap in the child development sector. Seizing the opportunity to start his own business - and fulfil his wish of involving his boys in rugby at a fun and accessible level - Max founded Rugbytots. Since 2006, we have grown beyond anything we could have imagined. 40,000 children in 16 countries across 5 continents are now part of Rugbytots. Here in the UK, over 500 coaches deliver more than 2500 classes per week....and numbers keep rising



When do you meet at Badger Farm?

We run weekly classes at Badger Farm on a Friday afternoon during term time;

1.00-1.30pm 2-3.5 yrs, 1.35-2.05pm 2-3.5 yrs, 2.10-2.55pm

What do you like about the venue?

Badger Farm Community Centre has been a regular venue for our classes for many years. The main hall is easily accessible, and is a spacious and safe place for the children to enjoy the sessions. Booking the hall is made very easy by all of the hard work that Jan Dawkins puts in. Parking is free for up to 2 hours which is a huge plus for the parents. A perfect venue in so many ways.

Can anyone join?

Anyone can join our classes but we do ask that you book in advance. Please contact Phil, or visit our online booking system at www.rugbytots.co.uk for more information

What, in your opinion, is the best thing about Rugbytots?

Having been involved with Rugbytots for 8 years, the best part of the classes for me is the confidence our sessions give to the children. Many children are nervous when they begin, but given a little time, they relax and learn so much in a fun environment.

Who should people contact if they want to give it a go?

Contact Phil Rowles on 0345 313 3258, or email phil@rugbytots.co.uk website: www.rugbytots.co.uk



For More Information about clubs of Badger Farm

Go to our website on - <http://www.bfobrca.org/activities/>

Email us on - enquiries@bfobrca.org Or call us on - 01962 868630



What is Sports Karate all about?

Sport karate is the competition aspect of karate training. The students train both mentally and physically very hard to compete against other

trained karate-ka. Sport karate will be showcasing at the 2020 Olympic games in Tokyo.

The Southern England Karate Federation (SEKF), of which I am the senior instructor, is one of the most successful federations in the South, supporting many young champions in their pursuit for perfection. We currently, have students which hold both English and British titles.

How long has Sport Karate been running?

Our club has been established for twenty four years, running at the Badger Farm community centre for ten.

When do you meet at Badger Farm?

We run two classes, the first class at 4.30pm-5.30pm is for



beginner children from five years old, the 2nd class 5.30pm-6.30pm is for advanced children and adults.

What do you like about the venue?

Badger Farm is a great venue as there is plenty of parking, good toilet facilities and the hall has lots of space.

Can anyone join?

Absolutely, just get in touch and we're always happy to talk to new members.



What, in your opinion, is the best thing about Sports Karate?

The best thing about Sport Karate is the fact that it gives local people the opportunity to learn an ancient martial art in a friendly karate club which offers a standard up to international competition level.

Who should people contact if they want to give it a go?

Ex England international, Collin Rudkin 6th Dan, is the senior instructor of the Southern England Karate Federation. He can be contacted on 07966 303 585 or at collinrudkin@gmail.com



St Luke & St Mark
Stanmore Oliver's Battery

From the desk of the Revd Mike Gardner.

Vicar of St Luke, Stanmore, Winchester
and St Mark, Oliver's Battery.

Serving the Communities of Badger Farm; Kings;
Oliver's Battery; Stanmore and Winchester Village.

revd.mike@yahoo.co.uk or 01962 865240



St Luke & St Mark
Stanmore Oliver's Battery

Dear Friends

Harvest has always been an important season in the life of the church and countryside. Creation and its care, to bring about a good harvest of food, wildlife and recreation is becoming more important to us all. From window box to national park we need and benefit from open space and growing space.

Your local churches invite you to celebrate with them this years Harvest. on Saturday 30th September we are holding a Harvest Party at St Luke's, and on Sunday 8th October a Family Harvest Event at St Mark's.

A little later in the year all the local uniform groups will be

parading for the Remembrance Sunday Service in St Luke's at 10.15, to include the 11.00 silence.

You would be most welcome at any of these gatherings .. look out for details.

Find us at: www.stlukeswinchester.org

Information on: www.facebook.com/parishofstlukewinchester

Join in on: www.facebook.com/groups/stlukeswinchester/



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 and 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 for 3 and 4 year olds and 1:4 for under 3 year olds 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. You can also see us in action and get more information at the Community Centre website on www.bfobrca.org

Oliver's Battery WI

theWI Group
INSPIRING WOMEN

We are happy to announce the successful election of our OBWI 2017-18 Committee. Our new President is Barbi Colson. Congratulations to all our newly elected committee members and huge thanks to those ladies who are magnanimously staying on for another year and of course gratitude to all the retiring members who have worked so hard to keep the group thriving.

Since our last article, the group have enjoyed a colourful and informative demonstration by Barbi Colson on flower arranging with many members returning home at the end of the evening with very attractive bouquets

offered up as raffle prizes for the evening.

We followed this in July, as is traditional with an evening visit to a Hampshire garden, The Deane House in Sparsholt, where our hosts Richard and Chrissie gave us a potted history of the house and extensive gardens which include a tennis court, croquet lawn and an orchard and are set in three and a half acres of rolling Hampshire landscape. We were invited to roam freely through their beautiful grounds where we could admire stunning colours of the stained glass windows embedded in garden walls, a water sculpture, all whilst enjoying the heady scent and colours of flowers in the extensive herbaceous borders. The evening concluded perfectly with everyone overlooking the panoramic vista of chalk land countryside from the garden patio, enjoying the warm evening sun

and a glass of wine.

So into the season of Autumn with our first meeting on September 18th when Mr Alan Jones will talk on the 'History, Mystery and Therapy of Hypnosis' at St Peter's Primary School at 7.45pm. We then continue with a full programme of talks, Book Club, Knit and Natter, Coffee Mornings, Craft Group and most importantly friendship and support amongst members.

If you are interested in joining us you would be most welcome.

Please contact the President

barbicolson1963@gmail.com



MAKE YOUR CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT MORE FUN!

TRY RUGBYTOTS

Weekly play sessions for girls & boys aged 2-7 yrs. Develops social and physical skills in a fun, positive environment.

0345 313 3258 | phil@rugbytots.co.uk

Badger Farm Community Centre - Friday pm

1.00pm & 1.35pm 2-3.5 yrs | 2.10pm 3.5-5 yrs

Classes also running Tuesday am Itchen Abbas,
Tuesday pm River Park Leisure, Saturday am Winchester



rugbytots.co.uk

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MOO MUSIC™

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Award Winning Moo Music sessions for the under 5's on a Thursday afternoon in the community centre

To book please email ali@moo-music.co.uk or call 07833 493153

www.moo-music.co.uk/winchester

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 - 01962 868630.



Summer fun

It has been another fantastic term at Oliver's Battery school with children achieving many great things and lots of exciting events and opportunities.

Mindfulness at Oliver's Battery

With the pressures of SATs testing and transition to secondary and concerns over the wellbeing of young children, Oliver's Battery Primary School has implemented a course of mindfulness for the current Year 6 children. The course is designed to promote well-being, enable children to understand themselves better, be resilient and resourceful in challenging situations and give them knowledge and skills that will be applicable throughout their school life and beyond. The children learned about different parts of the brain and how those parts react to situations. This helped them to understand how to steady themselves, how to respond rather than just react and how to relate their thinking process to their emotions.

The Fiver Challenge

This term Year 4 (Skylarks Class) have been taking part in the Fiver Challenge, run by Young Enterprise. The class were given £5 and were tasked to make as much profit as possible. The Challenge was part of their Dragon's Den topic; firstly the children watched some clips of the programme to understand the process of the Dragon's Den. They also learnt about setting up a business. In their maths lesson the children carried out some market research about popular board games and collated the results. Then small groups designed and produced their own engaging games. They then used their writing skills to create persuasive sales pitches for the games which they performed to the scary dragons [the class teacher, a teaching support assistant and 2 year 6 pupils]. The Dragons were very impressed and made lots of virtual investments.

To complete the Fiver Challenge the children decided to set up a games café business called Game On! a logo was designed and

produced and posters made to advertise the event. With a bit of help from their parents Skylarks prepared snacks for selling at the café. On the day each of the other classes had an opportunity to come and play the games and buy drinks and snacks. At the end of the day the café was opened up to parents and everyone else. Everyone enjoyed playing the games and Skylarks managed to raise a fantastic £231.12!

Hampshire games

On 29th June, the Year 6 hockey team attended the Hampshire games at Aldershot barracks. The event is organised in order to celebrate sporting talents and has children from all over Hampshire and the Isle of White. The Year 6 team did a fantastic job of representing Oliver's Battery and showed great determination, resilience and sportsmanship. There were lots of great hockey played and some really tough matches; in the end we came second in the plate cup. The team did Oliver's Battery proud and had a great day.

Raising money for NSPCC

Year 6 took on the challenge of raising money for The NSPCC. As part of this, they had to design and set up a big work out. Each group came up with a proposal and the children voted for the one they thought would be the best challenge. The eventual winners did a great job of setting up a muddy and wet course. The children threw themselves into the challenge and especially loved jumping in the paddling pool. Luckily, it was nice and sunny so the children dried very quickly!



The children raised a grand total of 364.55.

Year 6 production

Year 6 children faced their final challenge this week with their production of Treasure Island. Their late evening performance was a huge hit with families and peers. There were even tears with laughter. They showed that they have great talents in singing, dancing, acting and comedic timing! The children blew us away with the maturity they showed in learning lines and developing their characters. They did a great job and I am sure there are a lot of people who will always remember some of the scenes.

Art Gallery in Year 1 and 2

Kandinsky and Van Gogh displayed their art in Badgers and Le Vasseur, Rousseau and



Matisse were displayed in Hedgehogs. The children painted in the style of these artists. The art work was of a very high standard and the visitors were impressed with the paintings.

Volunteers

As a growing school with vast amounts of grounds, we are always looking for people to come in and support us. We are currently looking for help in looking after our grounds including: pond work, clearance, working on the allotments, scrub bashing, coppicing and cutting grass in the wild flower meadow. If you have any interests in these areas, please do get in contact with us. Thank you

For details of all the latest happenings at school, visit our website:

www.oliversbatteryprimary.com

And if you would like to visit the school, please call 01962 869496 to make an appointment. Our Head, Miss Wood would be delighted to show you around.

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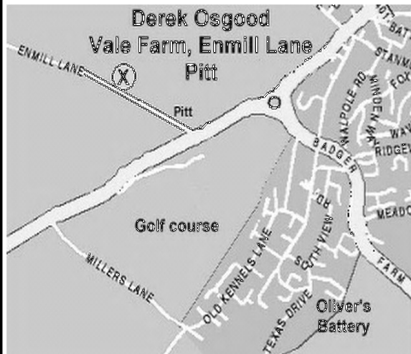
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Stanmore School

"Be the best 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 whilst our lovely new Reception children are discovering the delights of 'big school' Here are a few highlights from last term – it seems ages ago now!

What shall I be...? Our inaugural careers day for Year 6 pupils was a resounding success. The children met professionals from lots of different types of employment and had the chance to quiz everyone about their choice of career and what they liked most about it.

Talks in the classroom in the morning from a care nurse, a librarian, a dance and drama small business and a deep sea diver were followed in the afternoon by a busy careers fair in the school hall. A wide variety of careers were represented; archaeologist, hairdresser, maths teacher, blogger, physiotherapist, river mapper, accountant, speech and language therapist, apprenticeships, works manager, lawyer to name just a few! The hall was a hive of activity as the children went from stall to stall asking questions and finding out just what each choice of job involved in terms of qualifications and most importantly enjoyment.

Thank you so much to all our brilliant stall holders who gave up their time to help us out and were so generous with their expert knowledge. We really appreciate all your help and support and hopefully you have sown a few seeds for potential future employees!

Islands in the sun.... During June, the whole school took part in a writing project based on William Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. Lots of imaginative, fantastic pieces of writing appeared and in a fun activity linked to the project everyone came together on the back field for a shipwrecked banquet. Islands were marked out on the field in flour and children had to stay on their island to eat their picnic before being let loose to 'swim' to the other islands! It was lovely to see the whole school enjoying the lunch break together and fantastic that the weather behaved and we didn't have to experience a real shipwreck scenario....!

The invasion has begun....! Rather alarmingly, a legion of ferocious Roman soldiers appeared in the junior playground one morning. Equipped with elaborate shields and swords, the soldiers were put through their paces by Captain Lilly, marching in time and practicing the Testudo.

This is one of the most famous Roman formations and was used to approach fortifications. We began to wonder what they might be planning.... Fortunately for us they all calmed down and spent the rest of the day making spears and then enjoyed a story telling session around a camp fire. Phew....

Coming soon... As the new term begins, we are looking forward to our annual Book Week which begins on Monday 16th October 2017. This will include a Book Fair, a dressing up day and a visit from Peter Bently. He has written fantastic picture books and is an enormously entertaining speaker. It should be great fun! Our Christmas Fair will be on Friday 15th December 2017 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 or check out our twitter feed @stanmoreprimary.

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.

JOINT BFOBRCA REPORT FOR THE YEAR

As you will all have seen, the work has started on the toilet refurbishments at the Community Centre. This is the first major improvement we have been able to make and is entirely due to the fact that we have carefully managed our finances for the last four years. The Centre has turned from loss-making to running a small profit. This has allowed us to build up funds for the work and we plan to keep this rolling programme of refurbishment into the future. This is very important as the Centre is now 30 years old and work needs to be done to bring it up to modern standards. This year the budget is expecting a loss partly due to the refurbishment and a couple of unexpected items in the current year but it is within manageable levels.

Last year the boiler failed during a particularly cold spell. This was a costly affair and we need to plan for this to be replaced in the near future. The expected cost is quite high and we will take the opportunity to slightly

redesign the boiler configuration so that there is some redundancy built into it. The kitchen will also need to be looked at in detail as this area and the toilets are areas that affect the bookings.

The bi annual floor maintenance in the Battery will start on 14 August and we have also experienced problems with the floor this current year.

During the year we have nearly completed the change-over to LED lighting which we hope you will have noticed. This type of lighting reduces the amount of electricity we use considerably thus reducing our ongoing costs.

Sadly some groups have left us, namely Jo Jingles, Club Hampshire, the National Blood Service and Alzheimer's who have cut their bookings to once a month. However, the good news is that the monthly gaps are being taken over for them by a private company. New hirers include Moo Music and a fitness/dance class on Friday mornings. We

also welcome 7th Winchester Scouts. The Centre continues to be used as a Polling Station on Election Days. Also, the Badger Farm Pre School were chosen by Sainsbury's as their charity of the year. This meant Sainsbury's working with the Pre School on various activities and projects throughout the year and their first mission was to help tidy and supply new planters for the garden. This has provided publicity for the Pre School and the Community Centre. The group were recently presented with a cheque for £1050 from Sainsbury's in connection with fundraising events.

Jan stepped down as Editor of Community News at the beginning of the year. We have welcomed Berenice Kenny to this role. The majority of invoices and correspondence are now being sent to hirers by email which has saved an immense sum on postage. We look forward to another successful and profitable year. **Rachel Skinner, Anne Sole, Brian Laming**



Badger Farm Social Club

Your Family Friendly
Community Club

Membership now half price!

We are a social club for all the family hidden 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 on offer for you to enjoy. So do come in and see what we have to offer!

Support your club team - join our team who compete in league and cup matches. Darts; both Men's and Ladies team's who continue to have had success promotions (League) and Cup wins!

Pool; Join the Men's team who play Wednesday's. We'd like to recruit new members as well as set up a Ladies team.

Nb. We have FREE pool - every

Tuesday from 7pm. All Welcome! Cribbage; if you are interested in joining a team or even want to set up a new team, do come in and ask the Club. We don't bite! We can support our teams with food in home matches and help with transport to other venues.

Each week we run a meat draw with fantastic joints from a local butcher. We have Lottery machines, weekly Lottery Bonus Ball winner and a newly acquired League-Standard Football Table.

Throughout the summer we will be running events for cricket, including country and international matches. Come and support Hampshire! We even have the odd club match, should you fancy trying out.

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Fancy Joining in with a popular local art group?

The Badger Farm Art Group has just had its first Art Exhibition in many years, which was very exciting and well received. The Art Group has now been going for around 25 years, and we have an increasing number of people interested in joining us. We had lots of visitors to the show who were impressed with the quality and variety of work and several of our artists sold their work. We meet on Thursday afternoons, from 1.30 to 4.00 and stop around 3.30 for a cup of tea. If you would like to come and join us, then please come along to a session, which will start again on Thursday 7th Sept or you can email any questions/queries to Sarah, at snippycards@hotmail.co.uk



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Get to know our local House Martins

With Alan Fowler

I live in Plovers Down but house martins are definitely my favourite birds. When we moved to our present house in 1987 house martins were generally not about though odd pairs made nesting attempts on some other houses but not our own. In 1991 I decided to install a couple of artificial nest boxes but house sparrows got in first and it took until 1995 before my first successful brood of four young were fledged. Another single brood was raised the following year in the nest box. Encouraged and delighted to have visiting martins I installed two more boxes and was rewarded with four pairs nesting in 1997.

It was always a source of wonder to me that these small birds could migrate to equatorial Africa, normally believed to be the Congo and return each Spring to the same house in Oliver's Battery. Actually it is normally the males that return whereas the females disperse, presumably to prevent inbreeding. The first arrivals generally appear in mid April though I have seen them as early as the 5th but the main passage occurs towards the end of April to mid May.

A SUCCESSFUL OPEN DAY FOR BADGER FARM ART GROUP



During the weekend of 8th and 9th July this year, the very talented artists from the Badger Farm Art Group held an Open Day at the Community Centre for people to visit and view their work. Fortunately the weather was good and a huge number of people visited making the weekend a resounding success with some of the pieces being sold! Sarah Zimmer who runs this group was very pleased with the weekend and delighted that so many people, visiting Sainsbury's or just passing through, decided to call in. They may well hold another event next year. You can see from the pictures attached taken by Henry Nguyen, one of the group, just how gifted some of these people are! If you'd like to join this group, contact Jan at the Community Centre who will give you details.

Despite a period between 1999-2001 when 2 or 3 pairs built their own mud cup nests, now their preference is to use artificial boxes. At present I have nine boxes and all were occupied this year with the first broods having left. Most pairs are now busy with second clutches of eggs. Nesting activity will largely be over by early September with all birds having set off on their migration by the end of the month.

A number of our neighbours have also installed boxes and I estimate there must be in excess of twenty pairs of martins nesting this year. An average clutch size is 3-5 eggs so we must be raising perhaps as many as 100 young birds to keep up the numbers. This is needed as typical life expectancy is only two years and in the U.K. the house martin is in serious decline due to intensive farming and the lowering of the water table both which impact on insect numbers which is their diet.

Next time you see a house martin nearby and realise it isn't a swallow or swift hopefully it will be one of our local birds visiting us for the Summer before its return to Africa in the Autumn.



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From your MP - Steve Brine (Conservative Party)

strides in the right direction, over 200 deaths every day are still caused by smoking. Though smoking rates among young people and pregnant women have dramatically reduced, 8% of 15 year olds still smoke as do over 10% of pregnant women, with all the attendant risks of miscarriage, premature birth, still birth and neonatal complications.

place as usual during Parliament's recess and actually began this year in Badger Farm and included a rather special supermarket surgery at Sainsbury's. The concept is simple and it's one of the best things I, and many MPs, do each year. You can check out full details via www.stevebrine.com/summertour

First of all, **thank you** to constituents for re-electing me as our MP back on 8th June. I will go on working for, and representing, all residents to the best of my ability and work with anyone for the benefit of Oliver's Battery and Badger Farm.

It was a pleasure to officially cut the ribbon at the opening of the new **children's play area behind Elder Close** in Badger Farm. Many congratulations to the Parish Council for making it happen – and making a difference. My children were with me for the event and I can confirm they gave the zip wire a very thorough test!

One of my responsibilities is in the area of **international health** and that means I work closely across Government with the UK Aid programme. In fact one of my first engagements since being appointed was to deliver a keynote speech at a Family Planning Summit in London, hosted by the UK Government and attended by representatives from around the world.

My work in Parliament has changed somewhat since that election after the Prime Minister asked me to go to the **Department of Health** as a Parliamentary Under Secretary of State. I will be picking up the role of Minister for Public Health, Primary Care and Prevention and am so pleased this will also allow me to also be the Cancer Minister, something which means a great deal to me as regular readers of my column will be aware.

Finally, new dates have been released for my popular **PMQ ticket draw**. If you would like to attend on Wednesday 13th September or 10th January 2018, you are welcome to enter the ballot by calling 01962 791110 or visiting www.stevebrine.com/PMQs

The event is part of efforts to reach our Family Planning 2020 goals and ensure that more women and girls around the world are able to plan their families and their futures. Family planning is a best-buy in global development and very much in all our interests. When women and girls have access to family planning, they are able to complete their education, create or seize better economic opportunities, and fulfil their full potential—in short, entire families, communities and nations benefit. You can see more at www.stevebrine.com/familyplanningsummit

Within the first few weeks in post, I published what we hope will be a landmark strategy in the **fight against cancer**. The Tobacco Control Plan has the ambition to see the first "smoke free generation" because while we have made great

You can find more about my work, locally and in Westminster, via my website.



My work in the constituency remains unchanged. My **Summer Tour** is taking

Badger Farm Parish Council

We are delighted to announce that the Central Kick About play area is now open and being used enthusiastically in all weathers! The contractors worked very hard to make sure that CKA was open in time for the school summer holidays and the children are certainly enjoying it. Please note that the play area is a dog free zone and the zip wire will be locked at night to minimise noise to local residents. New signage reflecting these two points and with updated emergency numbers are on order. The play area was officially opened on 1st August by local resident Ruby Barnes-Bond and our MP Steve Brine. Thank you to all of you who came along to celebrate the official opening of this project.

Our new website is up and running, but is still very much a work in progress. Do get in touch with us if there is anything you would like to see on the website.

<http://www.badgerfarmparishcouncil.gov.uk/>



The parish council is concerned that the Royal Mail does not plan to replace the post box stolen from Elder Close during recent building work. If you feel strongly about losing this local amenity, please contact the Royal Mail sorting office in Winnall to register your complaint. The parish council has been in communication with Royal Mail, but we have been unable to persuade them thus far to replace the post box. Weight of numbers often helps though, so please do take the time to contact them about it!

We hope you had a good summer. Do come and see us at our regular meeting in the Bushfield Room at the Community Centre, 7.30pm on the second Monday of each month (except August).

Come and join us on our events this autumn to find out more about our wonderful British wildlife and unfortunately for some, such as bumblebees, the difficulties they are currently facing. Our indoor meetings are held in the Bushfield Room at Badger Farm Community Centre at the far end of Sainsbury's car park .(SO22 4QB). Non- members are always very welcome. For further information about the Group please phone Loraine on 01962 861182 or email Anne - atardill2@gmail.com. Alternatively you can visit the Trust website at www.hiwwt.org.uk/whats-on

Wed 13 September 7.30 – 9.30 pm	Wildlife, Climate Change and US! Want to find out more - what is happening around us and what can you do about it? Then come and join Clare Shorter, a volunteer from Winchester Action on Climate Change (WinACC), who will present lots of information for us. Admission £4 to include coffee/tea.
Wed 11 October 7.30 – 9.30 pm,	The Plight of the Bumblebee Gill Perkins, the enthusiastic CEO of the Bumblebee Conservation Trust, will give a talk on these very special insects that pollinate our flowers and explain why they have declined so sharply in recent years. Admission £4 to include coffee/tea.
Sun 15 October 10 am – 3 pm	Normandy and Oxey 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 birds and any last migrants. Meet at the 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 3QE, grid reference SZ 332 949); parking charges apply. Bring a packed lunch. For further information, please phone Mary on 01962 864440. Sorry, no dogs. Suggested donation £4.
Wed 8 November 7.30 – 9.30 pm	HART Wildlife Rescue A talk on the rescue, treatment and rehabilitation of sick, injured and orphaned wildlife . The charity's centre in Medstead near Alton also gives advice to people from all over the country. Admission £4 to include coffee/tea.



OLIVER'S BATTERY COMMUNITY CENTRE
(Charity Number 1173149)

CHARITY STATUS GRANTED

In early 2016, we founded Oliver's Battery Community Centre as a Company Limited by Guarantee with charitable purposes. Since then, after more than a year of fund-raising and a lot of hard work, we have had welcome news at the beginning of the summer with the granting of charitable status by the Charity Commission. This recognises our charitable intent by granting us the status of Registered Charity No.1173149. This is a great endorsement of our project to replace St Mark's Church hall with a modern community centre for use by the residents of the parish. St Mark's Parochial Church Council has indicated recently that the current building has only a few more years of useful life remaining, but even this projection could be overtaken by another major roof leak or the failure of the heating system, for which funds are no longer available. The granting of charitable status has had an immediate practical benefit in that we are now able to register with HMRC for Gift Aid tax relief and to reclaim tax on the majority of donations received to-date. Meanwhile, our membership continues to grow steadily.

MORE FUNDS RAISED!

Some of our supporters recently completed the 10 miles Itchen Charity Walk, organised by Chandler's Ford Rotary Club, in aid of the Oliver's Battery project to replace St Mark's Church Hall with a modern community centre. It was a fine day for our walkers as they enjoyed stretching their legs by the Itchen Navigation for several miles to be greeted by the Mayor of Eastleigh at the completion of their efforts. Thanks to our very generous sponsors, we expect to

raise over £400 for our funds.

In addition, one of our directors, Paul Draper, undertook the challenging 'Wantage to Winchester' charity bike ride in July; this is a 52-miles route starting at the birth-place of King Alfred The Great and finishing in his final resting place in Winchester. Paul raised a magnificent £1000 for the project.

FORTHCOMING FUND-RAISING EVENTS

More fund-raising events are being planned for the autumn and beyond:

- 18th November - a Quiz and supper
- 20th December - an evening of community carols with mince pies and wine
- 16th February - the return of the popular 'Little Big Band' playing the arrangements of jazz greats such as Count Basie and Glen Miller including a few novelty numbers as well.

All of these events will be taking place in St Mark's Church hall. Watch out for further details.

We are now looking for additional volunteers to assist with our fund-raising events. If you would like to volunteer and be involved, please contact me.

Ian Millar ~ Vice Chairman

OBCC Ltd

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Whiteshute Ridge Update

During August the new gates will be installed on the Ridge and fencing will be erected during October/November. The vegetation survey and condition assessment of Whiteshute Ridge has now been completed so that the council can accurately judge the improvements to the area in the forthcoming years. This is an important part of this project as the biodiversity of the ridge has been markedly declining.

Play areas

The benefit to Badger Farm residents is that the Ridge will now be closely monitored and assessed so that it can improve the wildlife of this important area and halt the decline. The other major benefit is that it takes the cost of maintenance away from the Parish Council

and resident, enabling the money to be used for other projects such as the new play equipment. Oliver's Battery have now added new equipment to their very popular children's play area with a donation from Tesco's. This is also a very good addition to the local area.

Pitt Vale and Otterbourne development

Everyone will be no doubt be pleased that the appeals against the proposed developments of Pitt Vale and development at Otterbourne have failed so this threat has now been put back, at least at present. Your councillors worked very hard for this outcome and will keep a watching brief going forward.

Badger Farm Road junction

The Junction of Oliver's Battery Road South is still a major problem and whilst the Parish

Council and your ward councillors have repeatedly requested work to make it safer, it appears not to have got any further up the county council's priority list. We have also asked for the speed limit between there and the Sainsbury's roundabout to be reduced to try and make the crossing safer for the school children at the roundabout.

Highways maintenance

You will have noticed the increase in Pot Holes all over the district and we have continued to report these in the hope that Hampshire County Council will take action to repair them, plus remove the along with the weed growing in the gutters.

Cllr Brian Laming

Winchester City Council, Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery Ward



OLIVER'S BATTERY PARISH COUNCIL



Community Events

The Annual Parish Meeting in May, attended by over 60 residents, included an informative and interesting talk on the Saxon Execution Cemetery discovered

on Oliver's Battery. There was also a presentation on the work of the Ramblers and a report on the footpaths in our parish.

In June, a Great Get Together was held at the recreation ground to officially "launch" the new play equipment for younger children and to join with communities around the country in honouring the memory of Jo Cox. Tesco, whose Bags of Help initiative helped finance the cost of the new equipment, supported the event. The name of the ship, Stormchaser, was chosen by children at Oliver's Battery School. Families attending had an enjoyable afternoon picnicking together, whilst the children used the play equipment and played games in the warm sunshine. The monthly film nights at the School and social gatherings at the South Winchester Golf Club have also continued during the last quarter.

The Battery

Work on an interpretation board for the Battery open space has continued although obtaining relevant images to use has been a slow process. A new bench has been installed on the Battery in memory of Valerie Lozelle, a former resident. This was paid for by her family.

Texas Drive

The PC continues to work with our City Councillors and local residents to try to ensure that WCC Planning Enforcement requires the development currently underway at Texas Drive to comply with the original planning consent given in October 2016.

Pitt Vale Development

The PC were pleased to learn that the appeal against the WCC planning refusal for their proposed development on Land at Vale Farm (Pitt Vale) had been withdrawn by Linden Homes.

Footpaths

An Ease of Access Survey was undertaken at the end of April of footpaths within the Oliver's Battery Parish. The survey was carried out in conjunction with the Ramblers and, as reported to the Annual Parish Meeting in May, the Ramblers were pleased to indicate that our current rating would be improved to 100% from the last inspection in 2014 of 86%, once the required waymarking of Parliament Place was complete.

Although not part of our parish, the PC is in discussion with the landowner of Pitt Vale regarding the reinstatement of a permissive footpath over his land as part of the Clarendon Way. This would be a safer alternative to the route along Kilham Lane.

Volunteers from the Ramblers have undertaken some remedial work to improve the safety of the short footpath that runs from the west side of the bridge over Badger Farm Road to the bridleway that comes up from St Cross.

Finally, at its June meeting the PC was pleased to be able to co-opt Rebecca Hare to the Council. Rebecca has a particular interest in environmental issues and has previously worked at Oliver's Battery Primary School. Her appointment brings the Council to its full complement of 7 councillors.

Brian Mitchener - Chair Oliver's Battery Parish Council

cllr.mitchener@oliversbattery.info - 01962 623585

David Kirkby - Vice Chair - cllr.kirkby@oliversbattery.info

Clerk - Elizabeth Billingham - clerkoliversbattery@gmail.com



Ann's Computer Corner



Recently, someone in Jakarta changed the details of my Paypal account. Adaline Alexander from Alabama purchased three songs on my iTunes account. And in a moment of madness, I bought an \$800 Dell laptop for Loretta LeStrange from New York.

Of course, none of these things actually happened. But someone wanted me to believe that they had, to trick me into giving them my details. According to PayPal, "approximately 90% of all email sent worldwide falls into the spoof, phishing, spam, and general junk category." So how do you spot a dodgy email?

Suspicious email address

These emails often seem to come from a genuine organisation, but open the email and you'll see differently. Forward (never Reply to) the email and, in the forwarded text, you'll see something like
From: service@paypal.co.uk [mailto:service7302@ppluk.com]. The address after **mailto:** is the actual sender of the email and is definitely not, in this case, PayPal. Some scammers are more sneaky. In the case above, the address is customer-service@paypal.email.com. The key is at the end: if there's any text between the company name and the .com or .co.uk it's a con.

Generic greeting

A genuine company has your details so will personalise the email, addressing it with something like "Dear Ann". The scammers often don't have this information so will use your email address or a generic term like Valued Customer.

Alarming content



Do they threaten to close your account or cancel your credit card? Or make you think that someone's made a large purchase in your name? These things are designed to scare you into responding. Don't! Instead, go directly to the company's website in your browser; if there really is an issue it should be flagged somewhere obvious.

Click here to ...

A genuine company should never ask you to click a link to enter account details or

passwords or to download a file to resolve an issue. Nor will they ask to verify an account using personal information (name, date of birth or address) or bank account or credit card information (bank name, card number or PIN). Never click a link in a suspicious email; you just don't know where it will take you and it could potentially put malware on your machine.

Poor English

Many scammers aren't native English speakers so poorly worded or even nonsensical phrases aren't uncommon. But do be aware that good English is not always an indicator of an authentic email. Often the scammers will adapt a genuine email from the company giving a very plausible result.

For more tips, take a look at www.which.co.uk/consumer-rights/advice/how-to-spot-an-email-scam.

Stay safe! ~ 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.

A Huge Thank You to Sainsbury's

The staff and children at Badger Farm Pre-School Playgroup were delighted to learn last year that they had been chosen by Sainsbury's



as their Charity of the Year. It's been a very exciting time for the staff and children as Sainsbury's have presented the group with, amongst a myriad of other items, gardening supplies to help tidy up the children's garden and play area, a cheque for £300, assisting with the annual obstacle course and providing cookies and bubbles, getting involved with Christmas activities, inviting the children to bread making lessons in the Sainsbury's kitchen and finally,

visiting the group today to present a cheque for the amazing sum of £1050 from various fundraising events they held. The staff were overwhelmed by this final gesture and Denise Tosdevine, the Pre-School Playgroup Leader has said this will enable them to purchase some large play equipment which they have until now been unable to afford. The staff and children all send a huge thank you to Sainsbury's for their commitment and generosity during the past year. The pictures below show the presentation of the cheque by Matt, Jane and Wendy from Sainsbury's to the Pre-School and some of the children with their Sainsbury's trolleys!

Places are available at this excellent Pre-School from September 2017. For more information please contact Denise Tosdevine at the Community Centre.

Nature Notes from Oliver's Battery

Autumn 2017



In the first week of June I received many emails from residents heartbroken by the early cutting of the fields around Texas Drive while skylarks were still singing above. Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 it is a criminal offence to destroy active skylarks' nests but the Law has no teeth without hard evidence by which I mean photographs of active nests with dates. That is a problem though because nests are well concealed. The concern is that early cutting will happen next year. There has been talk of taking photographs in future but do remember that disturbance could result in the birds abandoning their nests. The land is privately owned and there is no right of way across it. The legal footpaths and bridleways go around the fields where people walked when the land was under cultivation or used for grazing sheep. Unfortunately these Rights of Way have not been maintained by Hampshire County Council for several years so people are forced to walk around the edge of the fields on the private land where there are now well worn paths.

The fields are owned by a development company and since 2015 used by the farmer at Pitt as fallow land. This comes under the EU Basic Payments Scheme whereby a percentage of farm land held

has to be left fallow in order to receive a grant and there are no date restrictions on cutting. It was interesting that the vegetation was cut higher than usual which inclines me to suspect the farmer might be intending to control growth by spraying. Time will tell. The good news is that via a third party I have negotiated a meeting with the farmer and the chairman of Oliver's Battery Countryside Group. The farmer has acknowledged that opening a dialogue will create a better understanding of residents' concerns and farming needs and practices.

Since my last notes we have had Brexit. This is a unique opportunity for Government to respond to the needs of the UK environment. Michael Gove is the new Secretary for the Environment, an unpopular move in many quarters but his eleven page speech on 21 July to the WWF makes interesting reading. Do read it at <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-unfrozen-moment-delivering-a-green-brexite> He begins with Philip Larkin's poem 'Going, Going' written forty five years ago, a profound lament on what had been and would be lost. In Gove's speech, aimed at a 'Green Brexit' covering the whole gamut of environmental problems we face on the land, in the sea, and the air, he says "we must raise our ambitions so we seek to restore nature and reverse decline". Fine words but can those ambitions be achieved given the numerous demands on our taxes? Why not write to him at michael.gove.mp@parliament.uk

Norma Goodwin – norma.goodwin@btinternet.com

Editors Note: For more information about Sky Larks the RSPB has an excellent site with lots of detail on <https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/bird-and-wildlife-guides/bird-a-z/s/skylark/>



Neighbourhood Watch

"Crime cannot flourish in a caring community"

You currently have only two Neighbourhood Watch schemes in Badger Farm but a few more in Oliver's Battery. This means that most of you are not getting the benefit of regular news bulletins, crime incident reports, Hampshire Alert messages and crime prevention advice which I send out to Coordinators across Winchester. In the meantime here is some advice on how, when and who to report a crime to plus some useful links to further information.

Police Emergency: 999

Crime in progress, danger to life, immediate threat etc.

Police Non Emergency: 101

Suspicious person(s) or vehicle or non urgent information.

You can also report criminal damage/theft/theft from a vehicle to the police online:

www.hampshire.police.uk

Crimestoppers: 0800 555111

Non emergency reporting can be anonymous.

www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Action Fraud: 0300 123 2040

Non emergency service. Scams by post phone calls, emails, rogue traders, faulty goods etc. For more information and advice go to www.actionfraud.police.uk

Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline:

0345 4 05 06

Hampshire County Council Trading Standards:

www.hants.gov.uk/tradingstandards

Telephone Preference Service:

Register to cut down the unsolicited calls to your home telephone

0345 0700707 or www.tpsonline.org.uk

Mail Preference Service: Register to help

minimise the unwanted mail.

www.mpsonline.org.uk

The above are just some of the resources Neighbourhood watch has knowledge about. In view of the number of Courier Frauds and scams by mail, at your door or by email, please be aware of any vulnerable neighbours and let them know who to report concerns to. Please report anything suspicious as soon as possible. Neighbourhood Watch can also provide some crime prevention advice literature or point you to further resources.

I hope you find this helpful and if you would like to know more about Neighbourhood Watch, would like some literature or receive my regular communications I send out please do contact me.

Sandie Vining



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