

Community News



Your Community Newsletter and Village Voice
Spring 2014 Edition

NEWS FROM BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

It is with regret that our long standing Clerk is leaving us soon. He has been with us at Badger Farm's Parish Council for many years, and is very well thought of by all of us. We shall all miss his humour and the ease with which he conducted the business on our behalf. We are, therefore, looking to employ a new Clerk to start in the Spring. The position would be a flexible 8 hour week. If anyone has, or knows of anyone who has the relevant experience, please do not hesitate to contact our Chairman at johnrgodbold@hotmail.com.

We will all be glad when the better weather starts. The winds have damaged quite a number of fences, trees and shrubs, and the rain has caused some problems with water penetration on walls. We are lucky though, that we live on a hill; my thoughts are with all the people affected by the floods this Winter.

The police have informed us that there have been some strangers asking for money in exchange for odd jobs. We are advised not to employ people who cannot be verified as being established workers. There has also been some trouble with Charity bags. Some are not by recognised organisations; others are not being collected, or are being picked up by the wrong people. It is probably advisable to put charity items into collection bins, or to take them directly to charity shops.

There is a proposal to enforce a 20m.p.h. speed limit on some City Central roads in the near future. What difference this will make to our journey into the City we will have to wait and see. We still do not know when the scheduled road works at Badger Farm are going to start, but they will be sometime within this year.

While on the subject of roads, some cars and vans are being parked on, or half on, pavements. This can be very inconvenient for pushchairs and disabled vehicles, etc. Another road problem is parking near, or opposite junctions. This leads to difficulties for passing, or turning traffic as visibility is affected by the parked vehicles.

Let's all hope that we have a lovely Spring, and plenty of days when we can make full use of all of our open spaces, and have picnics on the ridge.

Happy New Year

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

Editorial deadline for Summer 2014 issue: **Friday 9th May 2014**





Ollie Bee's Brilliant Bake-Off!

Saturday 10 May 2014 10am-1pm

In aid of Oliver's Battery Pre-school

Get your aprons on and your favourite recipes out!



On Saturday 10 May at the Badger Farm Community Centre, Oliver's Battery Pre-school is holding a fantastic bake-off competition to raise money for our proposed new building. If you fancy yourself to be a star baker, then come and enter our prize-winning competition! There will also be stalls and children's activities, so if you prefer to eat cakes rather than make them, there is still plenty to tempt you.

The bake-off categories are:

- Victoria sponge – judged by our local WI group
- Large decorated cake
- Junior cupcake baker (for ages 11 and under; only four cupcakes per entry)

Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each category and we will then be auctioning off these wonderful bakes to the highest bidder! Entry to the bake-off is just £1, on the day. Simply drop off your cake at 9.30am with your entry fee.

Raffle Prizes Galore!

Incredible prizes up for grabs in our special raffle.

All proceeds will be going towards the fund for a new building for Oliver's Battery Pre-school.

JustTextGiving

If you would like to support the pre-school and donate to our fund, simply text OBPS14 followed by the amount you would like to donate to 70070 (donations of £1, £2, £5, £10 only accepted). For more information about Ollie Bee's Brilliant Bake-Off, please email Kate Fletcher, Committee Chair, at oliversbatterypreschool@gmail.com



'Strictly' comes to Winchester!

For all "Strictly" fans who would love to dance (but don't have, or don't want, a partner) and want to keep fit at the same time, FITSTEPS is for you!

This *NEW* dance-fitness programme, created by 2 of the professional dancers from the TV show, combines simple steps from the most popular Ballroom and Latin dances with proven fitness techniques to create a **fun**, energetic and **effective** workout. Suitable for all ages and abilities.

Mon 6:15 – 7:00 pm (from 24th February)

St. Peter's Catholic Primary School

Tues 1:30 – 2:15 pm (from 4th March)

Badger Farm Community Centre

Pay as you go, £5.00 per session. Plus! **Loyalty card scheme.**

To register your interest or for further information, call **Debbie** on **07724136428**

or email: debbie.woodley@talk21.com



SOME OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	DAY	TIME	CONTACT	COST	DESCRIPTION
Badger Farm Art Group	Thursday	1.30pm - 4.00pm	Elizabeth Weir 01962 856689 lizbethweir@gmail.com	£6.50 per person	A friendly "drop in" art group providing a "space to paint" in a relaxed setting. All abilities welcome.
Badger Farm ACOL Club	Friday	7.15pm - 10.30pm	Roland Richardson 023 8025 1277	£1 visitors £15 annual	Bridge Club
Brendon Care Badger Farm Friendly Group	Alternate Thursdays	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Catherine Fellingham 01962 857099	£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@ arqiva.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	£4.15 per hour	For children from 3 years to school age. Great OFSTED results. Afternoons also available - enquiries to Denise.
Badminton	Thursday	8.00pm - 9.00pm	Wendy King 01962 861525		Fun and friendly for any age and ability. All welcome!
Brownies	Thursday	6.15pm - 7.45pm During Term Time	For enquiries, visit: www.girlguiding.org.uk/ interested	£35 per Term	For girls aged 7 to 10 years. 07708 217 957 11.wincity.brownies@gmail.com
Eucharist (Holy Communion)	Tuesday	10.00am - 11.00am	Rev. Mike Gardner 01962 865240		Church of England Service. All welcome.
Hampshire Wildlife Trust	2nd Wed. of the month	7.30pm - 9.30pm	Loraine Martin 01962 861182	£2.50 per meeting	Illustrated talks on wildlife for all. Contact Loraine for details.
Jo Jingles	Tuesday	9.45am - 10.30am 10.45am - 11.30am	Victoria Smith 01489 877278		Music & Movement for children from the age of 1 year.
Legs, Bums & Tums	Monday Tuesday	9.30am - 10.30am 6.45pm - 7.45pm	Catherine Jones 07990 513 434	£4.00 per class	A fun and friendly class designed to help keep you fit and toned!
National Federation of Spiritual Healers	2nd Saturday of every month.	10.00am - 12.30pm	Doreen Rivett 01980 862285 Doreenrivett@talktalk.net	Donation	Come to our group either for healing or to find out more about healing, our group and training courses.
Parents & Tots	Thursday	1.30pm - 3.00pm	Liz Lindsay 01962 866547	£2 per family per session	All parents, guardians and child minders with children aged newborn to 5 years are welcome. Just turn up on the day!
Royal British Legion	3rd Thursday monthly	7.30pm - 9.30pm	Stanley Judd 01962 869889		A warm welcome awaits you at your local Royal British Legion group meeting.
Slimming World	Saturday	9.30am - 11.00am	Steve Coombs 07788 683 077		A warm welcome awaits you in your local group! New members always welcome.
Weight Watchers	Thursday	9.00am - 11.00am 6.15pm - 7.45pm	0845 073 0460	Weekly meeting fee of £5.99	Your lifestyle, your choice. With Weight Watchers you choose the weight loss approach that works best for you.
Wessex Wargames Club	Tuesday	7.00pm - 11.00pm	Ian Ackerman 01962 624710	£3 per session (first session is free)	Minature wargames and role-playing games of all periods and genres played.
Winchester Country Market	Friday	8.30am - 11.00am	Mrs Tina Sharpe 01962 855977		Fresh produce, cakes and preserves, crafts and plants. All welcome!
Winchester Tae Kwon-Do	Monday Wednesday	6.30pm - 9.00pm	Chris Barrett info@winchestertkd.co.uk	Membership by subscription	6.30pm-7.45pm beginners/intermediates 7pm-8.30pm seniors (black belts to 9pm)
Yoga	Monday Tuesday Friday	9.30am - 11.00am 5.30pm - 7.00pm 1.30pm - 3.00pm	Chris Wyeth 01962 868346	£35 per 5 week sessions	Experience the balancing effect of yoga on mind and body. Stretch and relax into a healthier life.
ZUMBA	Wednesday	1.30pm - 2.30pm	Debbie Woodley 07724 136 428 debbie.woodley@ talk21.com	£5 per session	Effective and exhilarating way to tone the body with exercise to lively Latin rhythms using easy to follow steps.

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. If you are looking for an activity and you can't see it here, please call Jan, the Bookings Secretary on 01962 868630.



Are you a girl aged 7 to 10?
Would you like to have a fun time with other girls of your age?
If so, join us at Brownies.

We meet every Thursday evening in the Badger Farm Community Centre. Our leaders are always helping us to find fun things to do:

Activities – We do lots of activities, often with a theme. Sometimes we go out of doors to lay trails for each other or explore the countryside. We also learn a skill, like ballroom dancing or circus skills. A favourite activity is cooking – making gooey chocolate brownies (of course) or decorating biscuits and cakes.

Arts and Crafts – We love making things from cool fridge magnets to recycled paper. Sometimes we make puppets for a puppet show. At Christmas we make decorations.

Earning Badges – We are always working towards interest badges. We are working on our first aid badge, which involved making fake wounds to treat. For our cooks badge we cooked pizzas for our tea – yummy!

Special Events and Day Trips – A day out is always fun. Marwell Zoo and Paultons Park are always popular places. Recently we went to the Science Museum in London.

Activity Holidays and Sleepovers – Even better is the chance to go away for a few days. Our holidays and camps have included an activity holiday in the Isle of White, camping in the New Forest, a summer holiday in France, and a sleepover in London.

If you know a girl who would like to join us, or are an adult looking to be a unit helper, please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested. Alternatively, email Liz at 11.wincity.brownies@gmail.com or 'phone 07708 217957 for more information.



Hampshire & Isle of Wight

HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT WILDLIFE TRUST

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

Wed. 12 Mar. 7.30pm ~ A Year of Birds. Photographer and writer Gerald Ponting shares his entertaining experiences from a year-long project to photograph birds at different locations in the British Isles each month. At Badger Farm Community Centre, as above. Further information from Loraine. Admission £2.50 including refreshments.

Sun. 23 Mar. 10am-2pm ~ Valley of Fields. Join Martin Keys for this circular walk of 6 miles along the Itchen Navigation and around St. Cross and Compton. Meet at Shawford Down car park near Shawford Station. Bring a packed lunch. Sorry, no dogs. Further details from Martin on 01962 842610 or Mary. Suggested donation £2.50.

Sun. 6 Apr. 9.30am-1.30pm ~ Birding around Cheriton. Join John Clark for a walk of about 4 miles in the Cheriton area to see spring birds and other wildlife. Meet on Cheriton green near the church. Bring a snack and flask for brief stop. Further details from Mary. Suggested donation £3.

Wed. 9 Apr. 7.30pm ~ Marine Conservation in Hampshire & Isle of Wight - Opening the Can of Worms! For nearly three decades Tim Ferrero, the Trust's Head of Marine Conservation, has researched one of the most important groups of marine animals on the planet, the nematode worms. Come and find out about his discoveries. A brief Annual Meeting will be prior to the talk. At Badger Farm Community Centre. Further information from Loraine. Admission £2.50 including refreshments.

Fri. 9 May 7.30pm ~ Skittles & Supper. Come and join us for a traditional skittles evening at The Northbrook Arms, East Stratton Village. Booking essential. Contact Helen and Martin Keys for more details on 01962 842610 and to book by Friday 25 April at the latest. Admission £15 including choice of supper.

Sat. 31 May 10.30am-4.00pm ~ Butterflies & Flowers at Old Winchester Hill. Join Brian Fletcher for a summer walk at this chalk downland National Nature Reserve. Bring a packed lunch. Joint event with Butterfly Conservation. Meet in the main reserve car park on the minor road south east of Warnford. Further details from Mary. Suggested donation £3.

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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Oliver's Battery, Winchester.



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OLIVER'S BATTERY PARISH COUNCIL

FETE ~ 7TH JUNE 2014 ~ 1pm ~ 5pm

Planning is underway for the fete and will include all the popular events; fun dog show, children's games, live music, miniature steam train, crafts, bric-a-brac, books and entertainment. Teas and cakes will be provided by the W.I. from Oliver's Battery and the hall will contain a display on 'Oliver's Battery during W.W.1' to coincide with this year's commemoration.

Please see www.oliversbattery.info for more information and please do offer to help on the day if you are able. Even just an hour, will make all the difference. Thanks to those of you that have already offered help and we look forward to a lovely afternoon.

Recreation Ground Plans

The next edition of the Oliver's Battery magazine will be delivered to you at the end of March and it's looking to be a bumper edition, with lots of articles and reports on various activities taking place. These include further works to the Recreation Ground as we upgrade the children's play equipment over the next few months.

Please do make contact if you have any comments or questions.

Regards

Sara Outlaw ~ Chair ~ Oliver's Battery Parish Council
chairoliversbattery@gmail.com ~ Tel: 01962 622422



Badger Farm Toddlers

Thursdays 13:30 – 15:00

Badger Farm Community Centre

Dates 2014

Feb	06 13 27
Mar	06 13 20 27
Apr	03 24
May	01 08 15 22
Jun	05 12 19 26
Jul	03 10 17

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

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

Grandchildren need some entertainment?

Come and give Badger Farm Parent and Toddlers a try!

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

 For latest information,
follow us @ToddlersBF

Self-service baby weighing

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

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Whether you are financially well-off or not, self-employed, on benefits or in debt, no matter what your financial situation is, the CAP Money Course will benefit you.

**Course starts on
Wednesday 19 March at 7.30pm**
and lasts for four weeks at the
Badger Farm Community Centre.

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

CAP is a national charity (Reg No. 1097217) passionate about lifting people out of debt and poverty.

**WINCHESTER
SUPPORT GROUP**



The National Osteoporosis Society offers support to people with osteoporosis and their families and carers through a range of detailed information booklets and leaflets, a national telephone helpline and a network of regional support groups. The Winchester Support Group meetings are held in a friendly atmosphere for support, advice and information. Members are welcome to bring family and friends as guests. Meetings take place on alternate months at St. Peter's Pastoral Centre (opposite the Library Discovery Centre,) Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8RY. Support group contacts are Anne on 01962 864410 and Pam on 01962 866152. The programme for the first part of 2014 is below:

Thursday 3 April at 7.00pm ~ "Physiotherapy & Exercise" ~ Speaker, Gill Driver, Specialist Sports Physiotherapist from Winchester Leisure Centre.

Thursday 5 June at 7.00pm ~ FUNDRAISING "BRING & BUY TEA". All donations welcome, especially any cuttings, etc. from the garden. Help from Cranial Osteopathy. Speaker, Laurent Heib, Cranial Osteopath from Point of Health, Chandlers Ford.

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



**Winchester Live
At Home Scheme**

For further information, contact Claire Morgan
Phone: 01962 890995 ~ Email: office@wlahs.org

Over 60? Want to get fit?

Join one of the Winchester Live at Home Schemes
Exercise Plus Classes

Your nearest class is held at St Mark's Church,
Oliver's Battery Road South, every Thursday
2.30pm - 3.30pm. Classes taught by Postural Stability
Instructors and are designed to help maintain and improve
posture, strength, balance & stamina

Come along for free trial!

Please contact the office for further details:
The Winchester Live at Home Scheme
The United Church, Jewry Street,
Winchester, SO23 8RZ



**PoppyRed Market
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**Saturday 12 April ~ 10am ~ 1.30pm
At
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County Council and 3-5 Yrs. & Childcare Unit

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Oliver's Battery Pre-school - Good rating from Ofsted

As a result of our recent Ofsted inspection, we are very pleased to announce that overall, the quality and standards of the early years provision at Oliver's Battery Pre-school has been rated good, and in particular, how well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend was rated 'outstanding'.

This is great confirmation of how the pre-school continues to provide an engaging, safe and welcoming setting for children.

Key comments from the inspection report include:

- Children make excellent progress with their learning as a result of thorough and accurate ongoing assessment of their learning needs.
- Staff treat children with respect and act as good role models. Consequently, children have positive relationships with others and behave well.
- Staff are very kind and caring and work hard to enable all children to have positive learning experiences.

Two-year olds now welcome

We are now registered to accept children from two years of age for morning sessions only. Places are subject to availability, but if you would like more information, please do get in touch.

Oliver's Battery Pre-school ~ Opening times:

Monday to Wednesday: 9.00am to 3.15pm

Thursday and Friday: 9.00am to 12.30pm

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

Staff to child ratios are:

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

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

For more information or to make an appointment to take a look around, please contact Jackie Johnston, Pre-school Leader, on mobile 07941 796 958 or email oliversbatterypreschool@gmail.com



Would you like to join a Club for older people in Badger Farm?

The Badger Farm Friendly Club meets at the Badger Farm Community Centre on alternate Thursday afternoons from 2-4pm.

Members enjoy spending time together and take part in a range of activities. Here's a preview of what's coming up.

- Feb 20th The Brendoncare "Cooking for One" team. Recipes/tasters
- Mar 6th Les Grafton and his "Memory Treasure Chest"
- Mar 20th Ryan Bishop ~ "Rat Pack Singer"
- Apr 3rd Better Balance exercise session with Sophie from HCC
- Apr 17th Carol Watson talk with slide show

The cost is £4 per visit and low cost transport can also be arranged. If you would like to know more about joining as a member or volunteer please call:

Catherine Fellingham on 07522-596793 or Brendoncare Club Hampshire on 01962 857099 or visit www.brendoncare.org.uk

**WHY DO WE NEED DEMENTIA FRIENDLY
COMMUNITIES IN HAMPSHIRE?**



Dementia is a fast growing problem and Hampshire is one county that is particularly affected. In Hampshire alone there are around 18,500 people with dementia (although it is likely to be many more than this since it is estimated that more than half of dementia cases are undiagnosed). Here, a 30% increase in diagnosed cases to 24,000 people is expected by 2020. Whilst the condition is closely associated with age, it can also affect young people and nobody, anywhere in the world knows if they are going to get dementia.

A dementia friendly community is one where the community at large is inclusive of people with dementia and understands how to help them. In action, this means creating a community which has the confidence to engage with people who have dementia and the skills to interact in a useful way – with understanding and patience. This approach has the potential to transform many lives. It will enable the greatest number of people to live a good life, as independently as possible as part of their community, and safe in the knowledge that they will receive understanding and support when needed. With the Hampshire community's support, people with dementia can feel safe, confident and find their way around. They will be able to carry on doing the things they enjoy, and need, to do, keep in touch with friends and family and find people who feel the same. Dementia Friendly Hampshire is an initiative launched by Hampshire County Council, the five NHS clinical commissioning groups and Andover Mind, one of the County's leading mental health and wellbeing charities. Right across Hampshire, we are:

- Developing a Hampshire Dementia Action Alliance, where organisations sign up to the National Dementia Declaration and create bespoke action plans.
- Creating dementia friendly high streets, where people with dementia and their carers can feel safe and understood.
- Helping to set up peer support groups, where there are gaps, to enable community engagement at every level.
- Raising awareness throughout the county to help those affected by, or interested in, dementia to gain the knowledge they need to make a difference.
- Establishing a network of Dementia Ambassadors who support the campaign in many ways and inspire others to get involved.

If you would like to get involved and support this very important work, please do get in touch. If you are an individual, why not find out more, volunteer to support the work of Dementia Friendly Hampshire or become a Dementia Friend? Any time that you can give will go a long way to helping to achieve a sustainable impact in Hampshire. If you are a business or organisation, why not sign up to the Hampshire Dementia Action Alliance? The HDAA is made up of organisations and individuals committed to making a positive difference to the quality of life for people with dementia and their carers. It's free and easy to pledge your support and, although it will deliver tangible business benefits, signing-up is unlikely to be a big commitment in terms of time and cost and we will help you every step of the way. To find out more or help to make your Community Dementia friendly, please contact your Local Area Co-ordinator for Winchester Vessi Wharton: vessi.wharton@andovermind.org.uk or 07827 318032



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



If you don't have (or are not sure if you have) a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in your street and would like to know more about the benefits that Neighbourhood Watch can bring do contact me for further information. Do look at our website www.wehnw.org.uk to find lots of crime prevention advice, maps of where schemes are in the Winchester and updates on the police priorities for your area. Some insurance companies give discounts for members of Neighbourhood Watch. If you see or hear something suspicious please report it to the police on Tel: 101 giving as much detail as possible and as soon as possible. Whilst the police are very busy and cannot always attend or get in touch, the information will be part of intelligence gathering, helping them to piece together patterns and hot spots which will help them target areas. Senior police, local police teams, the Police and Crime Commissioner as well as partner agencies all respect the work of Neighbourhood Watch and together we all want to make our communities a safer place to live and work. Please contact me if you would like any further information : Sandie Vining – Area Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator for the Winchester City and Winchester Citygate Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams. Tel: 01962 865384 Email: Sandievining@btinternet.com Web: www.wehnw.org.uk Thank you.

BADGER FARM SOCIAL CLUB



We are situated in the Community Centre and welcome anyone from the community to pop in and see what we have to offer. We are open Sunday 12noon - 10.30pm, Mon to Thurs 5pm - 11pm, Friday 4pm - 12am and Saturday 12noon - 12am. Membership is available for residents of Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery and surrounding areas for only £25 for a family, £20 for a single and £10 for a concession. We have men's and ladies darts teams, pool teams, a football team and a crib team. The pool team have had a successful season. They have been promoted as they have won the league. If you are interested in joining any of the teams, pop in and speak to Mel at the Club. We have two screens showing a range of sports and free Wi-Fi. We have 4 real ales and many other drinks available. Why not pop in to see what we are up to. We hope to see you soon.

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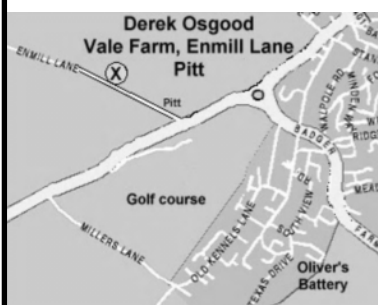
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UPDATE FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS

We have had the wettest winter anyone can remember and there have been a number of trees blown down. The Council must be congratulated on the speed of removal of these considering the amount of work they have had with weather-related problems. Many paths are still very dirty with leaves and mud and leaves are blocking drains leading to areas of flooding. We have been pressurising the officers to get more areas cleared, especially where children walk to school, with some success, although there is a lot more to do. The underpass across Badger Farm Road has finally been cleaned, after several phone calls. We would be pleased to hear from regular users about its condition throughout the year.

Over the last few months we have been very active asking questions about the plans to replace the River Park Leisure Centre. There seems to be a lot of mystery surrounding the way the Council is conducting the consultation process and considerable public concern about what has been done so far. We have tried to encourage the Council to set up a cross party committee to consider all the evidence before any decision is made. We are now pleased to report that the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee has set up an Informal Scrutiny Group (ISG) to examine all the options for a new leisure centre. The group will be working intensively over the next couple of months, reporting back to the Cabinet with recommendations as to the way forward.

The O+S committee will then scrutinise the cabinet's response and all the Councillors will make the final decision. Of course this will increase the time until a conclusion is reached but it is very important that the decision is based on sound evidence. We would welcome any comments and would particularly like to know if you do not use River Park but use another centre, which one and why. This information is useful when looking at the possible locations.

There are still problems of dog fouling across the ward. It is illegal to allow a pet to foul pavements and paths and the Council will take action against offenders if they have evidence to prosecute them. New notices will be going up and the Council will be working with the neighbourhood wardens to monitor the situation. The Council is prepared to act on information provided by residents.

Please let us know if you think we can help in any way.

County Cllr Phil Bailey 01962 775275 phil.bailey@hants.gov.uk
City Cllr Brian Laming 0797 3265 028 blaming@winchester.gov.uk
City Cllr Lynda Banister 01962 853791 lbanister@winchester.gov.uk



THE PARISH OF ST LUKE WITH ST MARK WINCHESTER



Caring for the Communities of
Badger Farm, Oliver's Battery & Stanmore

From the desk of Rev'd. Mike Gardner, Vicar of St Luke's Stanmore with St Mark's Oliver's Battery
St Luke's Vicarage, Mildmay Street, Winchester SO22 4BX.
Tel. 01962 865240 ~ rev'd. mike@yahoo.co.uk

Dear Friends

It seems a little early to tell you of our Easter Services, as Easter falls a little later this year on 20th April, so please look out for posters and details around the Parish. This means that Lent starts at the beginning of March with Ash Wednesday on the 5th, like most C of E Churches across the diocese we will be looking at a study course aimed to help us understand the fresh direction that Bishop Tim of Winchester wants us to go as we 'live the mission of Jesus'. If you would like to join us or are interested in any part of this do please get in contact with me.

Most people think Lent is about giving up something that would bring benefit to yourself and others, like chocolate and giving the saved monies to charity. But Lent is more about a discipline of taking on something and to do this you might have to find more time thus give something up. It should offer you a better or deeper understand of yourself and your place in this world, a time of study and or reflection. As the dryer and warmer days come along I hope you can find time to reflect on your place and the times you find yourself.

Reflectively Rev'd. Mike

Patient Involvement Day

Has your GP referred you for further treatment or care? Did you know you can choose which hospital you attend? Join us and tell us about your experience of the referral process. It's your chance to get involved and shape the future of health services. Drop in at any point during the day and share your views.

Friday 27 February 2014

9am - 5pm

Holiday Inn, Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9PG

If you have any queries please email:

info@westhampshireccg.nhs.uk

Or telephone 028 3062 2802

www.westhampshireccg.nhs.uk

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE WINCHESTER COUNTRY MARKET!

We're looking forward to the Spring - well, it's not that far away! We have a large choice of Spring bulbs and plants to make you feel good and cheer you up. There is also home-made soup and bread to keep you warm; home-made cakes, jams and chutneys; fresh trout; eggs and vegetables in season and fresh flowers to give to friends or family. We have home-made crafts and cards for all occasions and also do gift parcels and deliver them for you. There are special cakes for that special day as well! Something for everybody! We look forward to meeting you all throughout 2014! We know you will not be disappointed with what WE have to offer. See you soon.

Date for your diary:
Saturday 29 March 2014
Easter Fayre
10.00am - 2.00pm
Admission Free

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



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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.

With over 40 members, Oliver's Battery is doing very well. The new year has plenty to look forward to - a good programme of speakers at the regular meetings, which should please most tastes. There will be visits to the theatre to see War Horse in the near future; a coach visit to Bletchley Park in March; snowdrops at Welford Park near Newbury as well as Federation events to entice. As well as the other planned events, there will be a visit to Swanage in early July by coach, repeating the very successful visit to Weymouth last year.

Just after Christmas, 33 members enjoyed a superb dinner at the Golden Lion in Alresford Road. So, if you are new to the area or just want some "me" time, why not pop along to one of our meetings, which are held in St Mark's Church on the third Tuesday of the month at 7.45. You will be assured of a warm welcome and will soon be amongst new friends. This WI is part of the Hampshire Federation of 200 WI's across the county and enjoys many extras to the monthly meeting.

For more information, please visit the Hampshire Federation website at www.hampshirewi.org.uk and go to the Oliver's Battery WI page or phone Cathy Winter, Oliver's Battery President on 01962 620250.



We hope you like hearing about what the children have been learning in some of our classes ...



Class in Focus ... we are Squirrel class ...

23 children and 5 adults make squirrel Class and, even though we are the youngest and smallest people in the school, we think we must be amongst the busiest! Since Christmas we have been learning about different traditional stories and have had lots of fun along the way. We were amazed to discover an enormous seed packet on our visit to the school allotment! We have since received a letter from a friendly giant telling us that the seeds belong to him and for us to plant the seeds ... we are keeping a close eye on them as we are not sure what they will grow into! We have also made porridge for the three bears and have been building bridges for a scary looking troll.

Since September, we have been learning to be expert writers. We have been learning all our letter sounds and now we are practicing putting the sounds together to write words – if you visit our classroom you will see just how clever we are. Our teachers are very proud of how well we are doing! This term we have started joining the rest of the school for play-times on the big playground and have started coming along to the whole-school assemblies. Next Wednesday is our first ever class assembly for Mums and Dads, which we are very excited about – we hope they will enjoy it!



Hedgehog Class

On Tuesday 4th February our Hedgehogs Class (Year 2) went out into the local area. We are currently learning about transport and wanted to complete a traffic survey to see what the most common and least common vehicles are. We walked to Sainsbury's bridge and made a tally chart as the vehicles went by below us. We saw cars, bikes, buses, lorries, and even an ambulance! Thank you if you saw us and gave us a wave - we had a really enjoyable time.

Skylark Class

This term we have been mastering multiplication in maths and applying our newly acquired skills in problems involving shape. In literacy we have been reading the Beast Quest novels and are looking forward to self-publishing our own stories using Amazon!

Frog Class

After the recent storm damage, Frogs went on a walk around our beautiful school grounds to find that an enormous old tree had fallen on top of the new polytunnel. They are happy to report that although the tree had to be removed, the polytunnel was unscathed. Frog class are growing winter kale and spinach.



Oliver's Battery Primary School has 221 pupils on roll and offers children a happy, safe environment for your child's learning and socialising. If you would like to see what we have on offer, please call the school office on 01962 869 496 and we can arrange to show you around.

Please have a look at our website at www.olibattery.hants.sch.uk

BADGER FARM GROUP

*Just come out of hospital?
Nothing to do?
Why not join our group?*

At Badger Farm Community Centre every other Thursday morning. We were supported by Social Services but now run the group ourselves. We are looking to increase our membership and support helpers in the coming year. We are made up of long and short-term disabled persons and we use Winchester's Dial-a-Ride (tel. 01962 852602) for transport. We have lunch out about every six weeks and play various games and quizzes, etc. at other times. If you are interested and would like more information, please ring Helen on 01962 855465.

MANAGING HEARING LOSS



Do you have a hearing loss? Do you have difficulty following what people say? Do you sometimes feel frustrated and convinced that most people don't understand your problem? If you answer YES to any of the above, why not come along and try one of our LIP READING classes? Classes are run during school terms. They are friendly and informal and you can meet others who understand what hearing loss is all about. We meet at Badger Farm Community Centre every Wednesday afternoon.

For further details, contact Jan in the office at the Community Centre (01962-868630) or text Yvonne John, Lip Reading Tutor, on 07789 915 040

Email: ycjohn14@hotmail.com



FREE TO A GOOD HOME!

We have 24 white tea cups and a large number of saucers available at the Community Centre, free to a good home. They are surplus to requirements and just require a bit of a clean. If you are interested, please contact Jan in the office on 01962 868630.



WINCHESTER MENCAP FORTHCOMING EVENT

March 21st 2014 ~ A stimulating talk by professor Rachel Mills from the Oceanography Centre at Southampton. Please telephone 01962 873608 for more info.
Do come along and support us ~ we'd be delighted to see you!

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NEWS FROM ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Here at St Peter's we like to make education active and interesting. We capture the children's interest with special events, visitors to school and trips out.



The visits don't have to be far away in order to teach the children something new. Our Year 1/2 children have been out and about on our school road; looking at that road with their safety heads on. They have been learning how to cross the road safely, a very important skill. However they have also been thinking about the traffic on the road. They created some informative posters for parents and drivers about how to keep us all safe, and we were happy to publish some of their work in the school newsletter, so that there was a real life purpose for their writing.

Just slightly further afield, our year 3 and 4 children have been finding out about the Anglo Saxons in Winchester. So off they went down to the centre of town on a double-decker bus. For some children that was a learning experience as they had never ridden on a double-decker before, great for getting a bird's eye view of your locality! On arrival, by the King Alfred statue, they made their way to the Cathedral, and again for some it was the first time they had been inside that wonderful building. They found out about the two churches that had been built previously on the site, looked at the archaeological remains and found out lots about the history of the Cathedral from our excellent guide, Cheryl, the Cathedral Education Officer.

The learning continued during a workshop, where the children were 'monks' finding out about life in Anglo-Saxon times, even trying their hand at illuminated letters with 'gold' paint. It's a small world; our knowledgeable, volunteer guide for the workshop was one of our school neighbours, Barbara.

The day finished with another first for many; a visit to the museum, where it was hands-on, exploring, drawing and dressing up as they discovered more about the past. As they arrived back at school, tired but full of new knowledge we reflected on how fortunate we are to live and learn in such a fantastic city.



AN UPDATE FROM STEVE BRINE, MP FOR WINCHESTER

2014 has started at pace for me; Parliament returned very early in the New Year and I have been initiating some major projects in the constituency. Few are larger than my *Health Check Survey* which is producing many returns, both in hard copy and online. The survey covers general health policy, hospital as well as primary care and asks for views about the future of hospital services in our area as some pretty major changes are discussed. If for some reason you haven't seen a copy yet or there are other members of your family who'd like to take part, please either call my office on 01962 791110 or go to www.stevebrine.com/surveys

Sticking with health and I never pass up an opportunity to champion our hospital, especially when important new investment is being made by the Trust. In the past year I have opened the impressive new Outpatients Department, the state-of-the-art new scanning department and last month, the new birthing rooms in Florence Portal House. The two suites, named Water Meadow and Willow, are lovely and since coming online have seen an increase in the rate of normal births in Winchester. Mothers who have given birth at the RHCH were invited to help create the home from home feel to the birthing suites. They helped on the detailed planning; chose the colours of the rooms and advised on the furniture and equipment they wanted to be available.



Steve visiting the new birthing unit at the RHCH with Trust Chairman Liz Padmore and his son William (3) who is himself a product of that unit

One thing I have access to as your Member of Parliament is tickets to the weekly joust that is Prime Ministers' Questions. Like all MP's I get allocated a small number of tickets each year and I hold a ballot among interested constituents to ensure it is fair to all. If you want to be entered into the draw – for 19th March, 25th June or 26th November – please get in touch by phone or email, or visit www.stevebrine.com/pmqs

The Winchester Basics Bank is now ten years old and we marked the occasion at the brilliant Unity Service in Winchester Cathedral last month which also saluted the work of our Street Pastors. My office at No. 9 Stockbridge Road is an official collection point for WBB so if you have foodstuffs or clothes you can spare and are ever passing, please stop. I've posted links about both of these brilliant organisations on my website.

From current to (a long time) past and I'm sure you all read with great interest the news recently about the search for Alfred the Great. I was present at the press conference last month when the team from Winchester University outlined their evidence, and while it's not as conclusively Alfred as we'd have liked, it's still a significant development in the search for the final resting place of the man who did so much to usher in the English nation we cherish today. As I told my kids when this all came up; Alfred is legend but he was real and his defeat of the Vikings was a major moment in our history. At this point three year-old William said; "Like Mike the Knight"? Parents (or grandparents) with small children will know he's technically right and how there's really no answer to that!

Finally, it's goodbye to Steve from *Steve's Barbers* in Oliver's Battery who is heading to Tasmania for a few years. I've worked closely with Steve as he got this business up and running in recent years and while it's sad to see him go, the barber shop continues as normal under the youthful command of Simon and Phil.

You can catch-up on much more of my work via www.stevebrine.com or by calling my office on 01962 791110.

Steve Brine ~ MP for Winchester ~ steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk

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WINCHESTER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



The calendar tells us that Spring has arrived and I'm sure we are all more than ready to welcome it. It's time to get out into the garden more often, to do some general tidying up after the Winter months, to plant out the first potatoes and to prepare the soil for sowing seeds, to name just a few of the many jobs that will need to be done. When you feel like having a break and it happens to be a Wednesday evening



- the second Wednesday of the month to be precise - why don't you come along to one of our monthly meetings and spend a couple of hours socialising with other horticulturally-minded people and listening to interesting talks. This is what we have in store for you:

March 2014 (Wednesday 12th) ~ Having got our AGM swiftly out of the way, we will enjoy a talk by Elizabeth Proudman on "**The Gardens of Tuscany**".

April 2014 (Wednesday 9th) ~ Rosina Brandham will tell us about the life and work of Joseph Paxton, of Crystal Palace fame, under the title "**From Gardener to Grandee**".

May 2014 (Wednesday 14th) ~ Join us for a talk on "**The Beth Chatto Gardens: The Plants and I**". Steve Austin who worked in her garden will share his experiences with us and also advise on what to plant in difficult areas of our gardens.

Our meetings are held at the Winchester Club, Churchill Room, Worthy Lane, Winchester, SO23 7AB, starting at 7.30pm. Visitors are free. Find out more about us on our website:

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

Advance Notice!

Our annual Plant Sale will take place on **Saturday 10th May** at the Brooks Shopping Centre, 9.30am-2.30pm. Not to be missed!

Stanmore Primary School

Be the best that you can be...

No umbrellas required! – In a winter awash with torrential rain and flooding, our Year 5 children managed to pick the one week in January where the sun shone and the rain stopped for their residential week at the Out of Town Centre in Beaulieu. During an action packed few days, the children fed and mucked out the animals, built survival shelters in the forest, had a close encounter with a huge owl, made rafts whilst studying the speed and flow of a river, found out that Victorian children were 'seen but not heard,' and of course discovered that they could cope living away from home for a whole week. A great time was had by all....!

I'm the best Queen! - Children in Years 2 - 6 have been spending every Thursday after school perfecting their dancing, singing and acting skills as they work on their performance for Rock Challenge. Competing against other primary schools in the South, the children will present their Alice in Wonderland inspired 'Battle of the Queens' at Southampton Guildhall on Friday 7th March 2014. This is the first time Stanmore has taken part in this competition and we are determined to put on a great show! Do come along and cheer us on if you can – tickets are available online from Southampton Guildhall.

Nice to see you... - Our tadpoles and newts have always been very active each Spring in our school pond but it has become increasingly difficult to see what they are getting up to as the pond's surround has become overgrown and slippery. Now thanks to the hard work of the Friends and the generosity of our parents, the whole area is to be given a make-over and a new viewing platform will allow the children not only to watch the tadpoles develop but also use the pond for practical science experiments once more. Roll on those sunny afternoons!

Counting chickens - New life of a fluffier variety was closely observed in Mrs Reed's classroom when she took delivery of a clutch of eggs in early February. Kept in a specially heated clear tank, the children were able to keep a keen eye on each egg and watched in amazement as small cracks gave way to broken shells and chicks emerging..!

Dates for your diary - Our Summer Fair will be on Friday 20th June from 3:20pm until 5:15pm. Make a note of the date now.

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



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NATURE NOTES FROM OLIVER'S BATTERY



If you took part in the Big Garden Bird Watch over the weekend of 25th/26th January, I hope your results were better than mine. I was visiting Slimbridge on the Saturday, a lovely day of weather but on Sunday I saw not one bird

land in the garden. I have heard many people say they have fewer birds than normal in their gardens this winter and I am wondering if it has something to do with the mild weather. There were very few Bewick Swans at Slimbridge; apparently on their migration here from Western Siberia they have stayed in Germany due to the mild temperature on the continent but once this drops a large influx is expected as it will be warmer here. Birds move around for food and you can see flocks of mixed finches in the Oliver's Battery countryside where there is plenty to eat. Even my neighbour's holly tree remains full of berries which usually by now have been consumed by hungry redwings. By the time you read this the situation may be quite different as cold weather should drive the garden birds back to your feeders.

Birds need to feel safe when feeding and I am sure the decline in my garden has much to do with the removal of two old trees. We installed a bird feeder on a pole to compensate but the containers continue hanging there with the seeds and peanuts rotting. I am sure this is because the birds have nowhere to land and look around them before feeding and nowhere nearby for escape if neighbours' cats visit the garden. A tree also gives refuge from birds of prey such as the sparrowhawk.

Although we might have cold weather to come there is spring to look forward to when we can enjoy the return of our migrant birds. Birds give us such a wealth of sensory experience with a variety of colour, texture, shape, form, flight and song. Then there are their marvellous eggs. Many boys of my father's generation went bird nesting which taught them a lot about nature. When I was growing up bird books tended to have illustrations of eggs but the last one I have seen is dated 1968. Quite rightly, it has been illegal to take the eggs of most wild birds since the Protection of Birds' Act 1954 and it is illegal to possess or control any wild birds' eggs since then under the Wildlife and Countryside Act of 1981.

I recently learnt that the shell of all eggs begins white then the colour and markings form through a biochemical process during development. There isn't space here but I hope to say more another time.

Norma Goodwin

I welcome your observations for inclusion in my nature notes. Please email me at norma.goodwin@btinternet.com If you don't have a computer I am sure Jan at the Community Centre (01962-868630) will take messages if you leave your telephone number for me to make contact.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

Saturday 15th March - Auction - Contact 01962 734941.

Saturday 29th March - Winchester Country Market Spring Fair - 10.00am to 12.30pm. Contact 01962 866340.

Saturday 12th April - PoppyRed Art & Craft Market at Badger Farm Community Centre - 10am-1.30pm.

Sunday 20th April - Stamp & Postcard Fair - Contact 01795 478175.

Saturday 10th May - Ollie Bee's Brilliant Bake-Off - Contact Kate Fletcher on oliversbatterypreschool@gmail.com

BADGER FARM & OLIVER'S BATTERY PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

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



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