

Community News

Your Community Newsletter and Village Voice
Summer 2013 Edition



THANK YOU MERV!

Now for many more years.....



You cannot have used or visited the Community Centre without being helped by our Caretaker, Mervyn Hall. Amazingly, in April he celebrated his 65th Birthday. Retirement? What, no more Merv?? No, thankfully Merv has agreed to stay on to continue his 17+-year service to us. On April 19th the Trustees presented Merv with an engraved tankard and other mementos to express our gratitude for his work at the Centre and his contribution to our community. I would also like to add my thanks; when I first moved to Badger Farm in late-1998 Merv was one of the first people I met. He proved and, continues to be, a great neighbour. He was there when the cats needed feeding and I had to travel with my job, there to have a laugh and a smile, but also he appreciated my privacy.

And that is what a Community is. Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery are communities. I think we will all agree that they have separate identities but similar goals and expectations. The aim of this Association is to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parishes and to provide facilities in the interest of social welfare for creation and leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants. Laudable words, but how can the Residents' Community Association do this for you? We welcome your input to help us achieve our stated goal. Please let us know what you think of the Community Centre and the Community Association. In particular we would very much welcome your comments on the format, content, layout and general appearance of Community News. Are there any improvements that could be made? Are there any regular features that you would like to see? Do you find the content interesting and informative? Please contact Jan on any of the mediums below. Your input would be very much appreciated as we are always looking for ways to improve.

But back to my major point - all at the Association and all of our Members, Users and Hirers say as one:

"Cheers Merv and Thank You!"

Will Hawthorne, Chair of BFOBRCA



The children from Badger Farm Pre-School Playgroup wishing Merv a very Happy Birthday! (Left)

The Chairman of the Community Association presenting Merv with an engraved tankard in recognition of his Birthday and many year's service to the community. (Right)



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 Autumn 2013 issue:

PLEASE NOTE EARLIER COPY DEADLINE!

Friday 9th August 2013



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County Councillor Phil Bailey reports on Local Matters:-

I am delighted to have been elected as your new County Councillor. I have a list of issues that people have raised with me, face to face, before the election and through the surveys I carried out in Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery. So I will be tackling these first and will update you on matters soon. I will be carrying on what seems to be a bit of an unbroken tradition of 'Baileys' representing you since 1985! I will be able to report more next time when I have settled my responsibilities at the County. I look forward to hearing from you.

I will be issued with a Hampshire County Council email address soon and will publish this shortly, in the meantime any matters can be raised by writing to me at 3 Heathcote Place, Hursley, Winchester, SO21 2LH or phoning me on 01962 775275.

Phil Bailey

A FINAL WORD FROM CHARLOTTE BAILEY

I have thoroughly enjoyed the last 8 years. It has been hard work but also very satisfying. Thank you to Cllrs. Banister and Laming, to the Parish Councils and mostly to you all for allowing me to represent you. I leave you in excellent hands and know that Phil will serve you well.

Charlotte Bailey



From left to right we have Ann Bailey (1985 - 2005), Charlotte Bailey (2005 - 2013) and me.

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.

COMMUNITY CENTRE ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	DAY	TIME	CONTACT	COST	DESCRIPTION
Badger Farm Art Group	Thursday	1.30pm - 4.00pm	Elizabeth Weir 01962 856689 lizbethweir@gmail.com	£5 per person	A friendly "drop in" art group providing a "space to paint" in a relaxed setting. All abilities welcome.
Badger Farm ACOL Club	Friday	7.15pm - 10.30pm	Roland Richardson 023 8025 1277	£1 visitors £15 annual	Bridge Club
Brendon Care Badger Farm Friendly Group	Alternate Thursdays	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Catherine Fellingham 01962 877772	£3.00 per session	Friendship for older people. Quizzes, speakers, outings, afternoon tea. New members and volunteers welcome.
Badger Farm Pre-School Playgroup	Monday to Friday	Mon.Tues/Wed 9.15am - 3.00pm Thurs/Fri 9.15am - 12.15pm	Denise Tosdevine 07771 798 474	£3.95 per hour	For children from 3 years to school age. Great OFSTED results. Afternoons also available - enquiries to Denise.
Badminton	Thursday	8.00pm - 9.00pm	Wendy King 01962 861525		Fun and friendly for any age and ability. All welcome!
Brownies	Thursday	6.15pm - 7.45pm During Term Time	To register an interest visit: www.girlguiding.org.uk/ interested	£35 per Term	For girls aged 7 to 10 years. 07708 217 957 11.wincity.brownies@gmail.com
Eucharist (Holy Communion)	Tuesday	10.00am - 11.00am	Rev. Mike Gardner 01962 865240		Church of England Service. All welcome.
Hampshire Wildlife Trust	2nd Wed. of the month	7.30pm - 9.30pm	Loraine Martin 01962 861182	£2.50 per meeting	Illustrated talks on wildlife for all. Contact Loraine for details.
Jo Jingles	Tuesday	9.45am - 10.30am 10.45am - 11.30am	Victoria Smith 01489 877278		Music & Movement for children from the age of 1 year.
Legs, Bums & Tums	Monday Tuesday	9.30am - 10.30am 6.45pm - 7.45pm	Catherine Jones 07990 513 434	£4.00 per class	A fun and friendly class designed to help keep you fit and toned!
National Federation of Spiritual Healers	2nd Saturday of every month.	10.00am - 12.30pm	Doreen Rivett 01980 862285 Doreenrivett@talktalk.net	Donation	Come to our group either for healing or to find out more about healing, our group and training courses.
Parents & Tots	Thursday	1.30pm - 3.00pm	Liz Lindsay 01962 866547	£2 per family per session	All parents, guardians and child minders with children aged newborn to 5 years are welcome. Just turn up on the day!
Royal British Legion	3rd Thursday monthly	7.30pm - 9.30pm	Stanley Judd 01962 869889		A warm welcome awaits you at your local Royal British Legion group meeting.
Slimming World	Saturday	9.30am - 11.00am	Steve Coombs 07788 683 077		A warm welcome awaits you in your local group! New members always welcome.
Tea Dance	Friday	3.00pm - 4.30pm	Ian & Joan Millar 01962 854542	£4 per session	A chance to practice your Ballroom and Latin American dances in a relaxed and friendly occasion with tea and cakes.
Weight Watchers	Thursday	9.00am - 11.00am 6.15pm - 7.45pm	0845 073 0460	Weekly meeting fee of £5.99	Your lifestyle, your choice. With Weight Watchers you choose the weight loss approach that works best for you.
Wessex Wargames Club	Tuesday	7.00pm - 11.00pm	Ian Ackerman 01962 624710	£3 per session (first session is free)	Miniature wargames and role-playing games of all periods and genres played.
Winchester Country Market	Friday	8.30am - 11.00am	Mrs Tina Sharpe 01962 855977		Fresh produce, cakes and preserves, crafts and plants. All welcome!
Winchester Tae Kwon-Do	Monday Wednesday	6.30pm - 9.00pm	Chris Barrett info@winchestertkd.co.uk	Membership by subscription	6.30pm-7.45pm beginners/intermediates 7pm-8.30pm seniors (black belts to 9pm)
Yoga	Monday Tuesday Friday	9.30am - 11.00am 5.30pm - 7.00pm 1.30pm - 3.00pm	Chris Wyeth 01962 868346	£35 per 5 week sessions	Experience the balancing effect of yoga on mind and body. Stretch and relax into a healthier life.
ZUMBA	Wednesday	1.30pm - 2.30pm	Debbie Woodley 07724 136 428 debbie.woodley@ talk21.com	£5 per session	Effective and exhilarating way to tone the body with exercise to lively Latin rhythms using easy to follow steps.

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

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NOTICE

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BADGER FARM & OLIVER'S BATTERY RESIDENTS' COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

WILL TAKE PLACE ON

**WEDNESDAY 17 JULY 2013 IN THE BUSHFIELD ROOM
AT BADGER FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE STARTING AT 8.00pm**

All local residents are invited to attend.

Come along and have your say about how the Association is run.

All matters for discussion, motions and nominations for the Officers of the Association should be submitted to the Secretary of the Executive Committee no later than two weeks prior to the meeting.

Forms for nominations can be obtained from the Bookings Secretary at the Community Centre.

The Executive Committee Secretary can be contacted via the Community Centre on 01962 868630 or by email at bfobrca@btinternet.com



OLIVER'S BATTERY WI

Oliver's Battery WI held their annual Plant and Cake sale on May Bank Holiday Monday. This year the weather was kind to us and the sun shone, allowing us to hold the plant sale outside amongst the bunting and cherry blossom, with a sale of homemade cakes and refreshments in the Church. For those interested there was also our programme for the coming year available and our scrap book showing what Oliver's Battery WI have been doing during the past few months. Despite the really cold Spring holding back the plants for so long, members came up trumps and produced lots of plants for sale. Non-gardeners made cakes galore which were quickly snapped up. A fantastic morning with lots of visitors.

Our members have enjoyed a variety of speakers this year, from Trading Standards' tips on doorstep crime to how to keep goats, with secret gardens of Hampshire and astronomy in between.

Our programme for June – September is as follows:

- 18 June 2013** ~ "Ferrets for Fun" ~ Mr Gordon Lewis
- 16 July 2013** ~ Members' visit to Whitchurch Silk Mill
- August 2013** ~ No meeting
- 17 September 2013** ~ Capsule Wardrobe ~ Nicola Davis

Oliver's Battery WI meet on the third Tuesday evening of the month – 7.45pm in St Mark's Church, Oliver's Battery. Please contact Cathy Winter for further information on 01962 620250.



HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT WILDLIFE TRUST

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

Wed. 29 May. 10.30am and 2.00pm ~ Butterflies and other wildlife at Martin Down. Join Brian Fletcher for a walk on this National Nature Reserve. Full day (bring lunch) or just the morning or afternoon. This walk is joint with Butterfly Conservation. Further details from Mary.

Sun. 14 Jul. 2.00pm-5.00pm ~ Downland Treasures at Broughton Down. Join Mike Allen, South Downs Reserves Officer, for a visit to the Trust's Broughton Down Reserve to see the flowers and butterflies and learn about the Trust's management of this wonderful piece of chalk downland. Further details from Mary.

Sat. 10 Aug. 10.30am and 2.00pm ~ Butterflies and Flowers at Stockbridge Down. Join Brian Fletcher for a walk on this National Trust Reserve. You can join us for the full day or just the morning or afternoon. Further details from Mary.

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

Stanmore Primary School

Be the best that you can be...

To infinity and beyondor to the National Space Centre at Leicester at the very least!

Our Year 3/4 children had a treat earlier this term when they became the first pupils to use our brand new video conferencing facilities. After booking a slot with the National Space Centre the children gathered in Oak Class for a live presentation and question and answer session with one of their education specialists. Pupils had a guided tour of the solar system and discovered the properties of all the different planets, including our own. It was very exciting hearing from an expert – pupils even heard a few words from astronaut Charlie Duke who was the 10th person to walk on the surface of the moon.... The National Space Centre were very impressed with our knowledge of space and in a quiz at the end of the session we got nearly all the questions right. An excellent result - we are obviously extremely good listeners!

Appearing through the trees..... Unusually for a primary school, Stanmore has extensive, mature school grounds with many large trees, a pond, an outdoor classroom, raised planting beds and spacious open fields and playgrounds. This is a fantastic asset for all our pupils – plenty of room to run about and play, take part in sports, stage outdoor productions and of course observe wildlife and the environment. Plans are now afoot to improve this recreational and educational space. The Reception play area has already had a major spring clean - new surfaces and fences have been installed and the children are looking forward to the arrival of a new play house.

Students from Sparsholt College came into school in March and cleared the frontage so that the school can now be seen through the trees. The students were assessed for their studies as they carried out the work and many parents have commented on how nice it is to see our lovely old school building through the spring leaves. Following that, some seriously enthusiastic and committed parent and staff volunteers came into school at the weekend in a 'Ground Force' style operation to clear the quad, the outdoor classroom, adventure playgrounds and help with clearing the frontage. It was a superbly mammoth effort in appalling weather and serious amounts of mud! At the peak on Saturday we had nearly 40 adults and children digging, dragging branches, cutting, sweeping, wheeling barrows, making teas, cooking hot dogs and dishing out cakes. A BIG thank you to everyone who came along – it has made a huge difference already.....

Welcome to Stanmore! Mrs Justine Brooks took over the role of Head teacher at Stanmore at the start of the summer term and we are delighted to welcome her to our school. Mrs Brooks was previously Head at a school in Bournemouth and is looking forward enormously to her new job and getting to know all the children, staff and parents. She commented that 'the atmosphere around the school is fantastic and there is a real focus on learning. I am excited to be taking our school on the next stage of our journey and will be consulting with staff, parents and children over the next few weeks to identify areas for development'

Dates for your diary – Our Summer Fair will be on Friday June 21st from 3:20pm until 5pm. 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 Headteacher, Mrs Justine Brooks would be delighted to show you round.



St. Peter's Catholic Primary School Summer Fete

June 15th ~ 12-4pm

Bouncy Castle, BBQ and Beer and many other attractions including dance performances, live music and fantastic raffle prizes.

Everyone Welcome

Entry £1 per adult and kids free!

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WINCHESTER SUPPORT GROUP

The National Osteoporosis Society offers support to people with osteoporosis and their families and carers through a range of detailed information booklets and leaflets, a national telephone helpline and a network of regional support groups. The Winchester Support Group meetings are held in a friendly atmosphere for support, advice and information. Members are welcome to bring family and friends as guests. Meetings take place on alternate months at their **NEW VENUE** - St. Peter's Pastoral Centre (opposite the Library Discovery Centre,) Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8RY. Support group contacts are Liz on 01962 861918 and Pam on 01962 866152. The programme for the remainder of 2013 is below:

- Thursday 6 June at 2.30pm** (for preparation of food) ~ "Fundraising Strawberry Tea" ~ 3.30pm to share scones, strawberries and cream and cups of tea with friends and family.
- Thursday 1 August at 7.00pm** ~ "Coeliac - what is it? An overview of diet and how to control it." Speaker, Barbara Beinbridge (local organiser Wessex Local Support Group Coeliac UK.)
- Thursday 3 October at 7.00pm** ~ "Bone Density Scan - Osteo DXA" ~ Speaker, Dr Gill Pearson (Southampton University Hospital Trust.) Osteoporosis update and DXA. This meeting will include the Winchester Group AGM.
- Thursday 5 December at 12.30pm** ~ Christmas bring and share festive lunch. Demonstration of table decorations.

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

WINCHESTER COUNTRY MARKET

Yes, it's that time of year again, although a little later than usual. We are all looking forward to planting out our gardens, hanging baskets and window boxes along with vegetable plants and salads. Why not come in and see our good selection and **GOOD PRICES?! All home grown by our producers.** Any questions you may have on your garden or plants, we will be happy to give advice and help where we can. TIP for the greenhouse - line shelves and trays with newspaper then just roll it up with the rubbish, throw away and put fresh down again.

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

Date for your diary:

Winchester Country Market
Summer Fayre
Saturday 6 July from 10.00am
Lots to see and buy plus
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THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WINCHESTER & DISTRICT BRANCH NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

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

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

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

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THE PARISH OF ST LUKE WITH ST MARK WINCHESTER

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



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

Greetings to you in 'ordinary time'.

The great festivals of the Christian year come to an end with Pentecost and Trinity Sunday and we settle into 'ordinary time' until we get within shouting distance of Christmas on All Saints Day. What is ordinary about it then (*I hear you ask?*) Well it runs week by week for up to 21 weeks, following the same pattern and routine like clockwork. A Blessing for some as they know what to expect while others look for a bit more variety. Each of our 'ordinary times' may get a break with a community or family event, a holiday or visitors staying over and we must make the most of these special times. We here at St Luke's and St Mark's hope to celebrate similar times with baptisms and weddings, social and fund raising events. Much excitement is building up over the 'Seniors Holiday' week (*19th to 23rd plus Sunday 25th August.*) Who might return again, new faces joining us, the mix of programme, menu for food, transport arrangements, has it become the event of the Summer? It brings the extra-ordinary into dozens of 'ordinary' lives and an outpouring of friendship, laughter and enjoyment.

May you have opportunity to turn your 'ordinary time' into extra-ordinary time.

With every Blessing for these Summer months.

Rev'd Mike



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 5pm - 12am and Saturday 12noon - 12am.

Membership is available for residents of Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery and surrounding areas for only £20 for a family, £16 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 ladies darts teams have had a successful season. The A team won the league and the B team won the captain/vice-captain cup. We are looking to recruit new players for our 6 a side football team for the new season in September. 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. We are planning several events for members over the Summer. Why not pop in to see what we are up to. We hope to see you soon.

twitter @bfscorguk



http://bfsc.org.uk



email info@bfsc.org.uk



ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

We had a musical flavour to the end of the Spring Term. We are very proud of our wonderful music teacher who organises and runs an excellent school band. Put away those

thoughts of squeaky recorders and out of tune violins. The St Peter's School Band is very professional with a wide ranging repertoire from hymns for school masses to the theme tune from James Bond! We enjoyed listening to them in school and also at an evening concert for parents, where musically talented children performed some solo pieces alongside ensemble pieces from the band. In order to inspire and encourage more children to participate we invited our peripatetic music teachers and the Kings' School band to come and talk to the children about their work, with some fantastic musical demonstrations as well.

As always our curriculum is well supported with visits out, visitors in and special themed days. The most recent include year 5/6 geography trip to Hengistbury Head, with some fantastic follow up work using computer animation to show how Durdle Dor was formed, and how stacks would be created from further erosion. Year 3 and 4 had a visit to Westlands Farm, where they were treated to an explanation of lambing at the farm. They got to see lambs at all stages of development and got to hold the lambs as well as seeing 2 who had been born the morning of the visit. The day finished with a climb up Winchester Hill, for a panoramic view of the South Downs, as part of their Geography topic on the National Parks. Reception children also got to see the lambs and name one (Sally) during their visit to Manor Farm at Bursledon. They also had a tour of the Victorian House and got a taste of school life as experienced by Victorian children, agreeing that St Peter's school in 2013 is a much nicer experience than the Victorian schoolroom

Sporting opportunities abound, as we try to offer opportunities to all our children. Recently children have been involved in netball and football tournaments at Westgate and Kings'. Some Year 5/6 children were involved in a Tag rugby tournament, at which we were very proud to receive the 'Fair Play' award. Swimming lessons have started for all our Year 3 children and will continue for the whole of this term. Year 3/4 children also went to Kingsworthy school for a tag rugby match and we look forward to welcoming them back to St Peter's for the return game. Cookery Club came to the end of its run, with a final flourish of proper, made with gelatine leaves, jelly, swiftly followed by the start of Grounds Club, where the children will be creating hanging baskets to go outside each classroom and tending their salad crops throughout the Summer Term.



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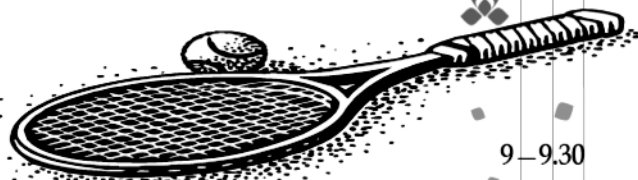
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AMERICAN TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Friday 21 June 2013

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Winchester Citygate Police
Safer Neighbourhood Team

Partners and Community Together (PACT)

OPEN MEETING

Come and meet your local police team and partners,
get updates and have your say

Tuesday 2nd July 2013

7.15pm
at

Kings School, Romsey Road
(Sports Centre Community Room)

A meeting to discuss your concerns and priorities for your area

Areas discussed will be:

St. Cross, Stanmore, Oliver's Battery, Badger Farm,
Plus surrounding areas

We hope to see you there!



To report anti-social behaviour
and neighbourhood issues, call 101.



In an emergency, dial 999.



OLIVER'S BATTERY PARISH COUNCIL

I'd like to begin by thanking Terry Morris for all his hard work as Chair of Oliver's Battery Parish Council for the past three years and the 17 years prior to this as a Parish Councillor. Norma Goodwin has also concluded her time as a Parish Councillor following 11 years service. I do hope you will all join me in thanking them.

The Parish Council is made up of community members who are keen to represent Oliver's Battery and take that voluntary role very seriously. We believe we are very fortunate to live in a beautiful area and want to ensure we can maintain and bring about improvements where possible that reflect the makeup of the community. The development of the recreation ground to provide facilities for older children and adults is an example of this and we are keen to start replacing the younger children's play equipment over time. If you have any ideas please let one of us know.

On the 8th June we will be holding a barbeque and picnic to celebrate the formal opening of the tennis court and Multi-Use Games Area from 2-5pm. The Mayor will attend and you will have an opportunity to be shown around the conservation area by the very knowledgeable members of the Oliver's Battery Conservation Group. Overall its aim is to bring the community together and enjoy an informal occasion to meet your neighbours, visit the conservation area and enjoy the environment. There will be burgers and hot dogs for sale or you can bring your own to have cooked for you.

There are numerous beautiful walks around Oliver's Battery and we are keen to enable you to explore them.

We plan to produce a board located by the Recreation Ground to show the rights of way and walks in a pictorial way, as represented by a local artist.

You may be interested in the following from Switch Hampshire;

Hampshire County Council in partnership with all Hampshire Local Authorities (including Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils) have launched the Switch Hampshire collective energy switching scheme. This scheme invites Hampshire residents to join forces to use their combined purchasing power to secure a better deal on their gas and electricity bills. Registration is free and residents are under no obligation to switch supplier. The more people who register for the scheme the greater our negotiating power with the energy companies will be. The website includes a generic article on the Switch Hampshire scheme. Registration for the scheme closes on the 3rd June. Further details and registration are available from the Switch Hampshire website at: www.hants.gov.uk/switch or on 01962 856828.

Best wishes

Sara Outlaw ~ Chairoliversbattery@gmail.com or 622422



Welcome to "Letters to the Editor"

This is a new section we are hoping to include on a regular basis in Community News. It's a platform for you to express your views on local matters, offer tips and advice, promote a local event or just let off steam! Anything is considered! Please do get in touch at any of the contact details on the front page. Here's the first letter to start us off:

Dear Editor

I would like to express my thanks to Charlotte Bailey who, for the past eight years as County Councillor has worked so hard for her local community. If you wanted something done you only had to ask Charlotte and she would be onto it straight away. Charlotte was diligent about regularly attending parish council meetings to report on important local issues and to answer questions. Her approachable manner and graciousness will be much missed and I wish her well for the future, a sentiment that I am sure is shared by a great many people.

Norma Goodwin ~ Oliver's Battery

Oliver's Battery
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BARBEQUE**

**AT THE RECREATION
GROUND**

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2 - 5pm**

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WE provide the BBQ!**
Or
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A chance to:-

- be shown around the conservation area by the
OB Countryside Group
- (2-3pm) Meet the Mayor for the formal opening of
the new tennis court & Multi Use Games Area


Your COMMUNITY CELEBRATION
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AN UPDATE FROM STEVE BRINE, MP FOR WINCHESTER

Another column for Community News and another new business in Oliver’s Battery to report!

The micro-business community on Oliver’s Battery Road South seems to be thriving so it was a pleasure to drop-in recently and open Simplements next door to Steve’s Barbers. This new Sports Nutrition shop aims to tackle the complexities around sports nutrition, and as well as striving to drive down the costs of products, is seeking to open up the market to both a male and female audience.



Steve drops in at Simplements.

Any constituents who have seen me around will know this is not a world I know well but as I have seen Simplements come together in recent months – usually while having my hair cut next door - it has been fascinating to learn more about a sector which I think is widely misunderstood. Owner Phil and his team really know their stuff and provide excellent, responsible advice to people locally who are looking to improve their health and fitness. The key thing I have learnt is that anything Simplements can help with goes hand in hand with sheer hard work to get fit and train or it is of little use. The team can help with all of that and I wish them all the best.

Now, you don’t hear too much about the ‘Big Society’ these days but in my opinion it is stronger than ever. One great example locally is a new group I have been helping, set-up to act as a forum for local parents with children on the autistic spectrum. The Winchester Autism Group (or W.A.G for short) is doing good things and providing support for a growing number of my constituents. I joined them recently for coffee to meet members and hear of their experiences with the education system and other public services. If you think W.A.G can help you, please get in touch with them via www.facebook.com/WinchesterAutismGroup

In Westminster we have now received our work for the next session courtesy of the Queen’s Speech. My view is, at this stage in any Parliament (especially given this country has in my humble opinion too many laws already) it is tempting to ask Her Majesty to simply say ‘My Government will ... just get on with it’ but I guess I remain just a hopeless romantic. What we have is not a large legislative programme but some important Bills to consider.

This Queen’s Speech is all about backing people who work hard and want to get on in life. Highlights for me; we will introduce further reforms to control and reduce immigration, deterring those who would abuse our system and we will finally cap care costs and extend the means test threshold for financial assistance to ensure that no-one has to sell their home in their lifetime to pay for residential care. As a member of the influential Justice Select Committee I expect also to have quite a bit of work around the proposals for the rehabilitation of offenders and reform of the probation service. All issues will be much discussed and reported in coming months.

Finally for this time, I am currently chairing a big Parliamentary inquiry into breast cancer, its causes and effects as well as the way older women are handled when they develop the condition via my role as Chair of the All-Party Breast Cancer Group. You may be interested to take a look at my special web-page www.stevebrine.com/breastcancer and we launch the report on 17th July in Parliament with Radio 4’s Jenny Murray.

Lots more going on - in Winchester and Westminster – which you can catch via www.stevebrine.com.

Steve Brine ~ MP for Winchester & Chandler’s Ford

01962 791110 (constituency) ~ 0207 219 7189 (House of Commons)

Email: steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk ~ Website: www.stevebrine.com ~ Steve Brine TV: www.stevebrine.tv



BRENDONCARE SOCIAL CLUBS COME AND JOIN US FOR FUN AND FRIENDSHIP IN BADGER FARM

The Badger Farm Friendly Club meets on alternate Thursdays from 2.00pm to 4.00pm at the Badger Farm Community Centre, Winchester, SO22 4QB. The programme of events and activities for the coming months is below:

30 th May	Terri Robinson ~ Talk on canal history and painting demonstration
13 th June	David Higgins ~ “Cooking for One” with tasters and recipes
27 th June	Carol Watson ~ Talk and slide show on Winchester through the seasons
11 th July	Liz Kavanagh from Open Sight
25 th July	Lora entertains with popular songs

Meetings cost £4 for the afternoon which includes refreshments.

Transport can be arranged at low cost for those that need it.

For more information please call Catherine Fellingham on

07522 596 793 or 01962 857099

Congratulations to four of our students - John Eagling, John Scott, Bea Golley and Josh Wallace (pictured) - who have been promoted to 1st Dan Black Belts following their Grading at the Bristol Academy in April. They all joined us as complete beginners, and have each trained hard for at least four-and-a-half years, showing the commitment and determination necessary to reach this level. We are proud of them all and wish them well in their training as Black Belts - there is still much to learn!



If you would like to be fitter but get bored with the gym, or you are interested in martial arts but don't know how to start, then why not give us a try? We are a mix of all ages, fitness levels and abilities. Our info pack costs only £6 and includes two lessons.

MONDAYS and WEDNESDAYS at Badger Farm Community Centre
6.30pm-7.45pm beginners & intermediates
7.00pm-8.30pm seniors (black belts to 9pm)

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OPENING TIMES (flexible)

Monday – Tuesday – Wednesday ~ 9.15 – 3.00

Thursday – Friday ~ 9.15 – 12.15

Cost ~ £3.95 per hour

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

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

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

The playgroup operates an open door policy so please feel free to call in at any time and see us in action or call the playgroup supervisor

Mrs Denise Tosdevine on 07771 798 474 out of playgroup hours.

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

Brian and Lynda are very pleased to welcome Phil Bailey as the new County Councillor for Downlands division and look forward to working with him. We would also like to thank Charlotte Bailey for all the help and support she has given to us locally and to wish her a happy 'retirement'.

The tree management scheme for Badger Farm is now coming to the end of the current programme. However, we are both aware that there is a lot of other landscape work still to be done. Your Councillors will be asking a WCC officer to come up to look at areas that you have already told them need attention. We are particularly keen to get vegetation cut back near paths and steps where it is a real nuisance.

The consultation about proposals for new homes and facilities in Stanmore has now ended. The responses are now being considered and we will report back to you when there is any further information. We are aware that many residents in our ward use the facilities at the Carroll Centre and are members of the Scout group.

In Oliver's Battery we have heard nothing more recently about a possible planning application for the land to the south of the settlement. If you would like to join Brian's e-mailing list to ensure that you are among the first to hear about any developments please contact Brian at the email address below. We hope to meet many of you at the Oliver's Battery Community Picnic and Barbeque on June 8th at the recreation ground from 2-5 p.m.

We are still hearing about problems with dog fouling in both parts of the ward. It seems to be a perennial problem to which there is no easy solution. Some residents have put up notices or chalked around 'deposits' to appeal to dog owner's sense of responsibility. We can only hope that this will have the desired effect!

With best wishes and hoping for a better summer this year,

City Cllr Brian Laming 0797 3265 028 blaming@winchester.gov.uk

City Cllr Lynda Banister 01962 853791 ibanister@winchester.gov.uk



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



BADGER FARM ART GROUP

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

A huge welcome to all our new families who have started with us this term, and we look forward to welcoming our new Year R families during our induction events which start on **Wednesday 5th June**. We are continuing to grow in numbers with currently 231 on roll in nine classes.

Trips and events that have helped to support learning and have given the children different experiences: Our years 1 and 2 took part in an "outdoor adventurous activity" festival at Kings' School where they learnt new skills and engaged with other local Hampshire schools. There will be a racket skills day at Kings' for our Year 3 and 4's soon.

Year 6 will be having a camp-out in the summer with games, team-building challenges and water fights, along with a magical storytime around a campfire at dusk. The class always enjoy this memorable weekend and for many it will be the first time they have slept under the stars!

Geography Skills – one of our Year 5 classes went on a fieldwork trip around Oliver's Battery to learn and practice new mapwork skills and to clarify their understanding of geographical language.



Marwell Zoo – This term, Frogs' and Badgers' classes will be visiting Marwell Zoo to support their topic "Africa" using an explorers pack before heading to the education centre for a hands-on workshop. They will also get the chance to meet some of the zoo's residents up close!

The Calshot Residential Trip will soon be upon the Year 5 and 6 children where they will be able to enjoy many exciting and challenging activities, such as canoeing, archery, raft building, climbing and low ropes.. A key objective of the trip is to offer the children the experience of coping with change and independence by being away from home and family, as they prepare for the transition to secondary school.



We would like to thank our sponsors Denplan and Badger Farm Parish Council who have generously donated funding to this trip.

Other news ... our Olly B Football Team have gone from strength to strength and have had a string of winning matches as well as coming third in the Hampshire Schools Football Tournament recently. Well done!



We are justly very proud of our heavily used school grounds. The allotments are now turned over and each class has started planting; the poly-tunnel is nearly complete and ready for use; the lookout hill is being used for lessons in geography (with great views over the whole of Winchester); the orienteering trails are buzzing with wildlife. We would like to publicly thank our small team of dedicated volunteers who make all of this possible.

This term every child in the school will be planting a sunflower, our school logo, so we look forward to them flowering this Summer. If anyone from the wider community would like to become involved in helping with the school grounds, we would welcome you warmly. Please see the school website for dates and times of grounds days.

Oliver's Battery Primary School is a happy school with staff dedicated to ensuring your child is happy and learning to the best of their ability. If you would like to come and visit us please call the office on 01962 869 496 to arrange a viewing. We would love to show you around.

Our Summer Fair is on Saturday 13th July ~ Please come and join us!

Visit us on www.oliversbattery.hants.sch.uk



**A BIG
THANK
YOU!**

As most of you who know me are aware, I am a man of few words! However, I would just like to take the opportunity of using this small space in Community News to say thank you to everybody who sent me cards and gifts for my Birthday recently. I was completely overwhelmed by your generosity and kindness. My wife Jennifer had recently decided to re-vamp our garden so the garden centre vouchers will come in very useful for that! I am pleased to say that I will not be retiring just yet and look forward to spending a few more years working at the Community Centre and seeing you all when you visit.

My sincere thanks once again.

Merv Hall ~ Caretaker



NATIONAL GARDEN
SCHEME OPEN GARDEN IN
OLIVER'S BATTERY

On 27th, 28th and 31st July one of our local residential gardens opens for the first time on the National Garden Scheme (NGS) for charity. Not only will it prove to be a fun visit, there will be the usual tea/cake and plants for sale and you will also get the opportunity to meet its owner Susan Summers of Summers Garden Designs. Susan is passionate about plants and looks forward to meeting you and sharing her garden at 30 Compton Way, Oliver's Battery.

Many thanks to those who have already donated much needed items. For further information get in touch with Susan on 01962 877389 or susan@summersgd.co.uk. Don't forget to pick up your NGS Hampshire open guide from Cromwell's Cafe or your local garden centre to visit other gardens open in your area this Summer. Susan very much looks forward to sharing her garden with you.



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WINCHESTER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



Will we - won't we - have a proper Summer this year? Time will tell but either way we need to plan ahead to minimise the effects of too much heat or too much rain or anything in between. Quite a challenge to us gardeners. For light relief we would like to invite you to come and join us at one of our monthly meetings to share your horticultural joys and frustrations with some of our members and to listen to any of the following talks:

June (Wed. 12th) ~ Victoria Ennions will give a talk entitled "A SUCCESSION OF COLOUR FILLING THE GAPS" which will include ideas for successive planting and colour for the herbaceous border.

July (Wed. 10th) ~ The main topic of the evening will be VICTORIAN GARDENING. Elizabeth Proudman will tell us how the Victorian era changed the art of gardening.

August (Wed. 14th) ~ Kevin Hobbs, Director of Hilliers Nurseries, will be speaking about THE SEARCH FOR, SELECTION AND INTRODUCTION OF RARE AND UNUSUAL PLANTS and will no doubt have many interesting tales to tell.

Also in **August (Sat. 17th)** we will be holding our ANNUAL AUTUMN SHOW at Badger Farm Community Centre from 2pm-4pm. It is an Open Show which non-members can enter - just ring up and ask for a schedule. Take part or come and see what we have managed to produce in our gardens because of, or despite, the Summer weather!

Our monthly meetings are held at the Winchester Club, Churchill Room, Worthy Lane, Winchester and start at 7.30pm. Visitors are free. You can find out more about us on our website: <http://www.winchesterhorticulturalsociety.hampshire.org.uk/>



Winchester Live At Home Scheme

For further information, contact Claire Morgan

Phone: 01962 890995

Email: office@wlahs.org

BUDGET BOOST FOR WINCHESTER CHARITY AS VOLUNTEER DRIVERS SOUGHT

A Winchester charity is appealing for volunteer drivers to help transport older people to its new exercise class. Charities, including the Winchester Live at Home Scheme (WLAHS), have been among the hardest hit by escalating petrol prices. So the Chancellor's recent Budget announcement that fuel duty will be frozen until next year has come as a timely boost as the WLAHS seeks volunteers to transport its members to the Exercise Plus class in Alresford.

Claire Morgan, manager of the WLAHS, said: "Our volunteer drivers are crucial to help us transport our members, most of whom are aged 80 and over, to classes and outings. But, like everyone, the cost of petrol has affected us and our drivers, so it is a boost for us to hear fuel duty is being frozen. A number of our regular drivers are also no longer available and, coupled with an increase in our membership, we are now in urgent need of volunteers to help with transport to the new Alresford class."

The Exercise Plus session is held every Tuesday at Makins Court on Windsor Road from 2.30-3.30pm and is specifically designed for older people who are recovering from a fall. Volunteer drivers can use their own cars and claim a mileage allowance from the WLAHS or receive MiDAS driving training to allow them to drive a community minibus. If you are able to help, contact the WLAHS office on 01962 890995 or email office@wlahs.org.

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

Supported by:



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BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

Well Spring did come at last, and I think everyone was very pleased to see it. Whether it was because of the late season or just because I noticed things more this year, the birds seemed to be especially busy collecting building materials for their nests. It is a shame about the abundance of slugs and snails although, of course, the birds will appreciate them.

I am writing this late April and Badger Farm is very pretty with all the primroses, violets, tree blossoms, garden flowers. It also seems to be a lot tidier and lighter, with a lot of the oversized trees having been felled. Hopefully we will continue to see an improvement in the overall maintenance of the area.

Recently I met the Road Maintenance inspector who was compiling his report for the Hampshire CC. Perhaps we can expect that various roads and footpaths will be included in a repair programme.

We are still having trouble of vandalism at top play ground. If anyone notices anything suspicious please report the matter to the police on 101.

We are looking into the possibility of introducing Highland cattle onto designated (and controlled) areas of the Ridge during the winter months. This will much reduce our maintenance costs. Similar cattle were introduced to Shawford Down some time ago, and their grazing has been very successful with the grass cutting. They also encourage the re-establishment of wild flowers and therefore butterflies, etc. More details of this idea will be forthcoming in the next few months. I do hope that the Summer months will be fine; let's all enjoy the sunshine.

John Godbold ~ Chairman, Badger Farm Parish Council ~ johnrgodbold@hotmail.com

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Contact Lara on **01962 862487**
 Email: **barkandsqueak@hotmail.co.uk**



Badger Farm Toddlers

Thursdays 13:30 – 15:00

Badger Farm Community Centre

For latest information, follow us @ToddlersBF

2013 Dates

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

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

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

Grandchildren need some entertainment?

2013 Dates

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

Come and give Badger Farm Parent and Toddlers a try!

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

Self-service baby weighing

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

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Summer fun at Oliver's Battery Pre-school

At last the sun has begun to shine, so children and staff at Oliver's Battery Pre-school have really been making the most of it. Whether it's been learning about growth by planting their own sunflowers and runner beans or taking part in a fun sponsored obstacle course, the children have all enjoyed learning about the world around us and being out and about.

And later on in June, our annual Summer trip for the first time will be to Sir Harold Hillier's Gardens near Romsey, where the children will explore colour, textures and nature through a range of very exciting activities.

Life at pre-school is always busy and not just for the children who enjoy a wonderful range of engaging and creative activities to help them develop their skills and build confidence. At Oliver's Battery Pre-school, parents play a very active role in fundraising and supporting this valuable community resource. That is why, by the time you read this, you will probably have seen us all singing our hearts out in Winchester high street during the Bank Holiday weekend. And if you did, hopefully you parted with some of your hard-earned change to support a very good cause! We are always on the lookout for great fundraising ideas, so if you want to get involved please do email us at olliversbatterypreschool@gmail.com.

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 olliversbatterypreschool@gmail.com**



NATURE NOTES FROM OLIVER'S BATTERY



Great News! A cuckoo was heard calling from a copse in Oliver's Battery on 1st May; no further reports yet. It was a hard time for the birds during the prolonged cold period; redwings and fieldfares were feeding on the paddocks weeks longer than expected and I heard my first chiff-chaff on Whiteshute Ridge on 11 April, three weeks later than usual. This bird can now be heard in both parishes along with its cousins the blackcap and whitethroat. Take a walk and you may see and hear some of the forty or so species of our resident and migrant birds and even a red kite easily identified by the forked tail as it twists and turns in its soaring flight.

We have several species of wild mammals but there is one rarely seen whose hidden presence is obvious and that is the mole. Molehills are everywhere in our fields and the soil thrown up is a fine tilth. I have only ever seen a dead mole and was amazed at the size of its feet compared to the small body, no doubt developed to tackle the hard work of digging twenty metres of tunnels a day. They have evolved a sixth digit which grows from the wrist and helps to propel them along. Their lives are mostly spent underground and the tunnel network has no entrance or exit. Molehills are the waste of digging the tunnels pushed up via a vertical shaft. Within the tunnels are large chambers lined with dry grass and used during periods of rest and for nesting. There is one litter a year between February and June usually of three to four young who mature at five weeks and live between two to five years. Their main diet is the earthworm which is stored in a larder after the mole has bitten off its head. Contrary to popular belief the mole is not totally blind but its main senses are of touch and smell around the nose and the tail.

At the time of writing yellow is the colour in our countryside. See cowslips in Yew Hill and a profusion in the wildlife area seeded three years ago from seeds locally sourced. Elsewhere dandelions, the French 'dent-de-lion' or 'lion's teeth', grow in bright displays; their leaves, rich in vitamin A are traditionally used in tea as a diuretic. On sunny days spot brimstone butterflies fluttering past, the yellow of the male commonly believed to be the source of the word butterfly from its butter colour. Look out for the handsome and increasingly rare yellowhammer atop a tree at Yew Hill singing its "little-bit-of-bread-and-no-cheese" ditty while somewhere nearby its nest is hidden on the ground.

Norma Goodwin



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, contact the Editor, Jan Dawkins on 01962 868630 or email bfovrca@btinternet.com

Saturday 8th June - Auction - Contact 01962-734941

Saturday 6th July - Winchester Country Market Summer Fair - Contact 01962 866340

Wednesday 17th July - BFOBRCA Annual General Meeting at the Community Centre - Bushfield Room at 8.00pm.

Sunday 21st July - Stamp & Postcard Fair - Contact Chris Rapley on 01795 478175

Tuesdays 6th, 13th & 27th August - Summer Stay & Play with The Carroll Centre & Action for Children - Contact 01962 840022

Friday 16th August - National Blood Service - 023 8029 6700

Saturday 17th August - Winchester Horticultural Society Annual Show - Contact Jan at the Community Centre for details - 01962 868630

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.



Published by Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery Residents' Community Association
Email ~ bfovrca@btinternet.com ~ Tel. 01962 868630 ~ Registered Charity No. 279592