

# Community News

Your Community Newsletter and Village Voice  
Seasons Greetings Winter 2015 Edition Seasons Greetings



## OLIVER'S BATTERY PRE-SCHOOL CELEBRATES A STAFF GRADUATION!



Oliver's Battery Pre-school, situated in the grounds of Oliver's Battery Primary school, has had great cause to celebrate recently as three members of staff have achieved qualifications in childcare. Fiona Beaumont, the pre-school's Deputy Leader, has gained a Level 5 Foundation Degree in Childcare and got to don the cap and gown for a graduation ceremony in the beautiful setting of St. Cross Hospital in September.

Fiona, Nikki and Kelicler celebrate their successes

Jackie Johnston, the pre-school leader who has over 20 years of experience, said: "Having this level of qualification means that Fiona is confident and knowledgeable in the running of the pre-school and of safeguarding. All the members of staff have different strengths and together they help to provide a safe, secure and stimulating pre-school where children can progress and develop. It is great to see each member grow in confidence and work so well together." Two other staff members, Nikki Gage and Kelicler Toldeo-Brown, have both achieved a Children and Young People's Workforce Level 3 Diploma and along with Louise Taft and Leanne Robertson form the strong and dedicated staff team.

**Fundraising** is an important part of the running of the pre-school as they seek to improve the setting further with a modern, modular building with improved facilities. On 26<sup>th</sup> September Richard Barton, a parent and pre-school Trustee and his Father in Law, Alex McWhirter, completed a sponsored bicycle ride around the New Forest. The sporting pair completed the 50 mile route which finished at the pre-school and raised almost £300 for the new building.



Richard and Alex taking a well-earned break



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

Editorial deadline for **Spring 2016** issue:

**Friday 5 February 2016**



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## THE PARISH OF ST LUKE WITH ST MARK WINCHESTER

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**Badger Farm, Oliver's Battery & Stanmore**

From the desk of Rev'd. Mike, Vicar of St Luke's and St Mark's  
St Luke's Vicarage, Mildmay Street, SO22 4BX.

Serving the people of Stanmore; Oliver's Battery; Badger Farm and Winchester Village

Tel. 01962 865240 ~ [revd.mike@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:revd.mike@yahoo.co.uk)



Christmas will soon be upon us, with all the bright lights, noise and rush. Why not take the opportunity to step back from all the clamour and connect with the original events of Christmas.

**Carols by Candlelight at St Luke's on Sunday 20th December at 6.30pm**

**Family Crib Service on the Eve of Christmas at 5.00pm**

**Our main Service on Christmas Day at 9.30am**

Christmas is not a story or some film script but true events recorded in History. Come along and relive them for today's world. St Mark's has Carols on Sunday, 20th December at 10.30 in the morning and their Community Crib Service on the Eve of Christmas at 5.00pm followed later in the evening at 9.30pm with a Eucharist Service and Christmas Morning Service at 8.00am.

From all at St Luke and St Mark Christmas Blessings  
to you and all your loved ones

### PLEASE REMEMBER!

Please remember that our old email address, [bfobrca@binternet.com](mailto:bfobrca@binternet.com) is now obsolete and no longer in use. The new email address is [enquiries@bfobrca.org](mailto:enquiries@bfobrca.org). Make sure you use this when getting in touch!



Take a look at our Facebook page and give us a "like" and "share". Our website will be looking very festive from December. Full of information and events and an Advent Calendar! It's well worth a visit and we can publicise any event you may be holding at the Centre there - [www.bfobrca.org](http://www.bfobrca.org)

# 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 lizabehweir@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@btinternet.com		Friendly and relaxed local bridge club. New members and visitors very welcome
Badger Farm Pre-School Playgroup	Monday to Friday	Mon.Tues/Wed 9.15am - 3.00pm Thurs/Fri 9.15am - 12.15pm	Denise Tosdevine 07771 798 474	£4.25 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!
Eucharist (Holy Communion)	Tuesday	10.00am - 11.00am	Rev. Mike Gardner 01962 865240		Church of England Service. All welcome.
FITSTEPS	Wednesday	2.00pm - 2.45pm	Debbie Woodley 07724 136 428 debbie.woodley@talk21.com	£5 per session	A new dance-fitness programme combining simple steps from the most popular Ballroom & Latin dances.
Hampshire Wildlife Trust	2nd Wed. of the month	7.30pm - 9.30pm	Loraine 01962 861182	£3.00 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	£5.00 per class	A fun and friendly class designed to help keep you fit and toned! Discounts available for multiple classes.
Healing Trust	2nd Saturday of every month.	10.00am - 12.30pm	Doreen Rivett 01980 862285 Doreenrivett@talktalk.net	Donation	Come to our group either for healing or to find out more about healing, our group and training courses.
Parents & Tots	Thursday	1.30pm - 3.00pm	Catherine Thomas 07990 037 467	£2 per family per session	All parents, guardians and child minders with children aged newborn to 5 years are welcome. Just turn up on the day!
Royal British Legion	3rd Thursday monthly	7.30pm - 9.30pm	Stanley Judd 01962 841402		A warm welcome awaits you at your local Royal British Legion group meeting.
Slimming World	Saturday	9.30am - 11.00am	Steve Coombs 07788 683 077		A warm welcome awaits you in your local group! New members always welcome.
Weight Watchers	Thursday	9.30am - 11.00am 6.30pm - 7.45pm	07455 968 884	Weekly meeting fee of £6.25	Your lifestyle, your choice. With Weight Watchers you choose the weight loss approach that works best for you.
Wessex Wargames Club	Tuesday	7.00pm - 11.00pm	Ian Ackerman 01962 624710	£3 per session (first session is free)	Minature wargames and role-playing games of all periods and genres played.
Winchester 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.

Here are details of just some of the activities that take place at Badger Farm Community Centre. Other hirers may have chosen not to have their details shown. Please contact the organiser direct for more information.

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

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## BRENDONCARE BADGER FARM CLUB

**Fun afternoons for Badger Farm  
Friendly Group members**

On alternate Thursday afternoons one of the most welcoming groups of older people you could meet get together at the Community Centre. The Badger Farm Friendly Group benefits from a varied programme of activities that means the 'main event' is different each time they meet. From enjoying a range of entertainers and speakers on varying topics, board games from their younger days, regular Cooking For One demonstrations (including tastings!) and an occasional outing, the club offers something for everyone. There is also the opportunity to talk with friends new and old. Club meetings are held between 2-4pm and new members are always welcome.

The Badger Farm Friendly Group is run by Brendoncare Clubs, part of the Winchester-based charity The Brendoncare Foundation. Like all of the 84 clubs in the service, Badger Farm Friendly Group is run by a group of wonderful volunteers who organise it all. They are looking for a local person to be the team coordinator, an ideal role for anyone interested in supporting local older people.

To find out more about the club, joining it either as a member or volunteer, speak to Sandra on 01962 857099.

## WINCHESTER EXECUTIVE TRAVEL

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## The Great Waste - What's it all about?

Winchester City Council is working in partnership with Winchester Action on Climate Change (WinACC) to deliver the Great Waste project which will run until March 2016. The Great Waste aims to challenge the way people see waste, encourage people to reduce their waste and encourage people to recycle more.







### The objectives are to:

- support waste reduction by local residents with a programme of information, education and encouragement
- support recycling by local residents with a programme of information, education and encouragement
- extend the range of recyclables which are collected at the kerbside

### By the end of the initiative the aim is to:

- increase the proportion of waste that is recycled
- increase the amount of waste which is recycled
- decrease the amount of "residual" waste that isn't recycled

### What's been happening so far?

<p><b>Trash to Treasure Exhibition</b></p>  <p>The Trash to Treasure exhibition held in Winchester Discovery Centre saw nearly 5,000 visitors. The exhibition objects were all made from waste glass, metal, paper, plastic and textiles</p>	<p><b>Love Food Hate Waste</b></p>  <p>This sell out evening saw 100 people take part in activities and games. The River Cottage chefs provided delicious canapés made from left over food.</p>	<p><b>Trash to Toy Workshops</b></p>  <p>The workshop held in Winchester Discovery Centre in May saw children creating bottle top robots and lucky ladybirds</p>
<p><b>Roundabout floral display</b></p>  <p>Visitors and residents arriving in the city of Winchester via the M3 slip road roundabout at Bar End are treated to the floral display of the Great Waste logo.</p>	<p><b>Hat Fair Yarnbombing</b></p>  <p>The Hat Fair artists amazed visitors with this display of woven plastic bags. Transportable to a tree near you!</p>	<p><b>Schools visit</b></p>  <p>40 school children from across the District came to meet the Mayor of Winchester Cllr Angela Clear, took a tour of the Guildhall and participated in a debate on recycling and waste in the King Alfred debating chamber.</p>

In October the Great Waste team launched the **Re:Design Challenge**. The competition is looking for designers of all ages to take discarded materials and create a useful product or piece of clothing. The aim is to find new ways to reduce the amount of waste we discard. Designers can make a piece of clothing, a new textile or a useful object. Most importantly they will provide clear instructions so other people can replicate their designs. Applications are welcomed from groups as well as individuals of all ages.

[www.thegreatwaste.org/what-s-going-on/re-design-challenge/](http://www.thegreatwaste.org/what-s-going-on/re-design-challenge/)

### What can you do at home?

Sort your waste – If the wrong materials go into your bin, waste collectors may be unable to take away your waste.

#### Materials for your recycling bin:

- paper (not shredded paper), newspapers, magazines, brochures, cardboard (not take-away pizza boxes due to food debris) yellow pages and telephone directories
- cans and tins (clean food and drink cans but please don't squash them)
- plastic bottles (clean and no lids, please) must be bottle shape. Any other plastic container has to go into the refuse bin.
- domestic empty aerosols (without the skull and crossbones or the black cross symbols, not lids)
- greetings cards

Please keep your recycling items loose in the bin, there's no need to 'bag' them. Unfortunately crews will be unable to empty your bin if it contains recycling in carrier bags. If you don't have an individual recycling bin please put your items in a clear plastic sack.

#### Materials for your household refuse bin:

- plastics - plastic bags, hard plastics, yoghurt pots, margarine and butter tubs, food trays, plastic wrappers
- shredded or tissue paper – Unfortunately our recycling facility is unable to accept shredded paper
- polystyrene
- drinks cartons such as tetra-paks
- wrapping paper
- cooked food waste (peelings, raw vegetables, fruit and salad items can be composted) [www.recyclenow.com/reduce/home-composting](http://www.recyclenow.com/reduce/home-composting)

**Use the Household Waste Recycling Centres** [www3.hants.gov.uk/waste-recycling/recyclingcentres.htm](http://www3.hants.gov.uk/waste-recycling/recyclingcentres.htm) The list of items you can take includes:

- green garden waste
- clothing and textiles
- cardboard, newspapers, magazines, telephone directories
- glass bottles and jars. Pyrex and window glass is not recyclable and should be placed in the household waste container.
- waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)
- fridges, freezers, televisions, computer monitors and small items such as mobile phones and hairdryers are accepted at HWRCs.
- household batteries
- foil

**Re-use** – Instead of throwing away a broken object, consider getting it repaired. You will find list of Winchester District repairers on the Great Waste web page [www.thegreatwaste.org/what-s-going-on/repair-cafe/winchester-repairers/](http://www.thegreatwaste.org/what-s-going-on/repair-cafe/winchester-repairers/) You can get in touch with the Hampshire Furniture Re-use Network for furniture you no longer want - [www3.hants.gov.uk/adult-services/carechoice/payingforcare/furniturenetwork.htm](http://www3.hants.gov.uk/adult-services/carechoice/payingforcare/furniturenetwork.htm) Winchester City Council is working with its waste collections contractor to review what other waste

materials could be added to the kerbside collections. For more information on your waste and what to do with it please visit [www.winchester.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/](http://www.winchester.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/)

Details of the Great Waste project can be found on the website [www.thegreatwaste.org/](http://www.thegreatwaste.org/)



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## OLIVER'S BATTERY WI

In the Centenary Year of the WI, Oliver's Battery has not only celebrated with Tea at Buckingham Palace; the Annual Meeting at the Royal Albert Hall in the presence of HM The Queen and seeing the streaming if not lucky to go to the live event; a wonderful evening picnic with an Abba Tribute Band as well as celebration lunches. The main benefit has been the vibrancy of the membership with more women wanting to join us. They are coming from not only Oliver's Battery and Badger Farm but from all directions outside Winchester - we just think we must be getting it right!! It is very cosy as St Marks is very full at times!

So what is happening now? There are the regular monthly meetings with good speakers, please see the Oliver's Battery page on the Hampshire WI website at [www.hampshirewi.org.uk](http://www.hampshirewi.org.uk) Between meetings we can be found discussing a popular book at the Book Club - held in a member's home and the Knit and Natter group has started up again after a summer break. There are also occasional workshops to learn a new craft or to just have a go. At the recent Knit and Natter Group we were discussing why people joined the WI - a workplace WI for some and a chance to meet local people. We discussed the recent film Suffragette as well as catching up on family news. Overall it was decided that staying as a member was very different as you discover so much about the depth there is, especially the campaigning side and the many facets of the WI.

We are looking forward to Carols for Christmas at St Stephen's Church in Oliver's Battery Road North and a seasonal meeting on 15th December. The programme for next year is full of good speakers and outings, plus the Plant Sale on the first Bank Holiday Monday in May at St Mark's - we are already propagating and preparing cuttings!

If this all sounds enticing, please contact President, Katherine Elsmore on [katherine.elsmore@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:katherine.elsmore@hotmail.co.uk) or come along as a visitor to any of the meetings, held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7.45 in St Marks Church, you will be very welcome.



**CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR:** It's been another eventful, busy and ultimately successful year at Badger Farm Community Centre. Whilst we have seen some long-term hirers sadly leave us, at the same time we have new faces and groups to welcome. I always say no two days are the same at the Centre and this is so true. I have enjoyed making new friends and helping so many people this past year. We are looking forward to 2016 when we plan some exciting improvements to the facilities on offer and also celebrating our 30 year

Anniversary along with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. It is hoped another successful Open Day will be held sometime during August 2016. More details to come! It just remains for me to say a huge thank you to the Trustees for their support during the year, Merv the Caretaker who is always on hand to make my coffee/tea and without whom I don't think the day to day running of the Centre would be the same and finally the Social Club, Mel Andrews in particular, who never finds anything too much trouble, is cheerful and always willing to help when asked. We would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year. Come and see us during 2016.

Jan Dawkins - Editor



## WINCHESTER LOCAL GROUP - HAMPSHIRE AND IOW WILDLIFE TRUST

If you would like to know more about Hampshire's wild flowers and butterflies, then do come and join us on one of our events. **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 £3 per person and includes coffee/tea and biscuits. Non-members are very welcome at any of our meetings. For further information telephone Loraine on 01962 861182 or email Anne on [anneardill@hotmail.com](mailto:anneardill@hotmail.com). For **outdoor meetings** contact Mary on 01962 864440. For information on local reserves and other Trust events see the Trust's website at [www.hiwwt.org.uk](http://www.hiwwt.org.uk) - phone 01489 774400. There is lots of information on local wildlife and how you can get involved. Future indoor and outdoor meetings are listed below.

### Wed. 9 December ~ 7.30 ~ 9.30pm ~ Christmas Social with Wildlife Photos and Anecdotes

Come and share your own favourite top ten wildlife photos and/or sightings over a glass of mulled wine or soft drink and mince pies etc. Photographic expertise not required – enthusiasm for the subject far more important! Equipment provided. Held in the Bushfield Room at Badger Farm Community Centre, Winchester, SO22 4QB at the far end of Sainsbury's car park. Admission £3 including coffee/tea. Please contact Anne Ardill beforehand on 01962 881312 or [anneardill@hotmail.com](mailto:anneardill@hotmail.com) to discuss arrangements if showing your photos or for further information.

### Sun. 17 January ~ 10am ~ 2pm ~ A Winter Bird Walk

Join John Clark for a guided walk of about 4 miles in the Arlesford area to see winter birds. Bring a snack for a coffee stop. Meet at the bottom of Broad Street near the Old Fire Station. Parking in the station car park or nearby streets. For further information, phone Mary on 01962 864440. Sorry, no dogs. Suggested donation £4.

### Mon. 25 January ~ 7.30 ~ 9.30pm ~ An Alphabet of Flowering Plants

Brian Fletcher will take us on an illustrated tour through the alphabet in flowers and explain how different insects use flowering plants in a variety of ways. Meet in St Barnabas Church Hall, Fromond Road, Weeke, Winchester SO22 6DS. Parking at the hall and in Fromond Road. Admission £3 to include refreshments. For further information please contact Anne Ardill on 01962 881312 or [anneardill@hotmail.com](mailto:anneardill@hotmail.com). This is a joint meeting with Butterfly Conservation.

### Sun. 7 February ~ 10am ~ 3.30pm ~ Birding at Blashford Lakes

Join John Clark for a visit to this Wildlife Trust reserve. Numbers are limited so booking is essential. Please phone Mary on 01962 864440 for further information and to book a place. Meet in the main car park near the Tern hide at Blashford Lakes, Ellingham Drive, Ringwood BH 24 3PG. Sorry, no dogs. Suggested donation £4

### Wed. 10 February ~ 7.30 ~ 9.30pm ~ We are Working with Farmers

Alison Cross, the Trust's Head of Conservation for NE Hants and Strategy Lead for Agriculture will be explaining the very valuable work the Trust undertakes with farmers and landowners. She will also give an overview of the Trust's own farm and grazing enterprise. Held in the Bushfield Room at Badger Farm Community Centre, Winchester, SO22 4QB at the far end of Sainsbury's car park. For further information, phone Anne Ardill on 01962 881312, or [anneardill@hotmail.com](mailto:anneardill@hotmail.com). Admission £3 including coffee/tea.

### Sat. 13 February ~ 10am ~ 2.30pm ~ Bird Walk at Farlington Marshes

Join the Winchester group for a 3 mile walk to see over-wintering wildfowl, waders, grebes and divers at the Trust's Farlington Marshes reserve. Bring binoculars and a packed lunch. Meet in the reserve car park near the entrance gate off Eastern Road roundabout (A27/A2030) near Portsmouth. For further information, phone Mary on 01962 864440. Sorry, no dogs. Suggested donation £4.

We would particularly welcome help at our evening talks.



## Oliver's Battery Primary School

Creative, caring and confident learners for life

Oliver's Battery Primary School were pleased to welcome Lianne Evans, Warrant Officer First Class Weapons Engineer on HMS Defender as part of our focus on British Values. She met with our Reception children and talked about being on a ship. They gave her a teddy to take with her. Teddy will then be emailing the children about experiences on board ship. Lianne also met with the Year 5 and Year 6 children to talk about life on board and her role in the Royal Navy.

Our Year 6 children attended Calshot Activity Centre for a residential course in October where they took part in skiing, kayaking, climbing and archery. Many children had new experiences and new challenges which they all enjoyed.

We have been fortunate in having Helen Adlam, a local author, who has been working with some of our children on a writing project and we have a "Meet the Author Event" where A F Harrold will be visiting in November to talk to our KS2 children. A Maths morning also took place last half term where parents were invited to complete investigations in class. This gave parents the opportunity to see how their children learn maths in school.

We have places available at our school and visits to the school are most welcome, please phone the office on 01962 869496 if you wish to arrange a tour.

Fey Wood ~ Headteacher

Don't forget to use our new email address if you want to contact us - [enquiries@bfobrca.org](mailto:enquiries@bfobrca.org) ~ You can also catch up with the latest news on our website - [www.bfobrca.org](http://www.bfobrca.org) or follow and "like" us on Facebook



## BADGER FARM SOCIAL CLUB – YOUR FRIENDLY LOCAL COMMUNITY PUB !



We are situated in the Community Centre and welcome anyone from the community to pop in and see what we have to offer.

Open Sunday 12noon-10.30pm / Monday to Thursday 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 £30 for a family, £20 for a single and £10 for a concession. We have men's and ladies darts teams. Our men's A-team were recently promoted in the league. Our men's pool team continue to make strides and would appreciate some new recruits. If you are interested in joining us, pop in and speak to Mel at the Club.

We have a weekly meat draw and other activities and also run special member events on Bank Holidays and Christmas/New Year. We have multiple screens showing numerous sporting events via Sky and BT (Football and Rugby Premiership). We offer lagers, ciders and 4 real ales as well many other drinks at club prices. We look forward to welcoming you!



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## Stanmore Primary School

Be the best that you can be.

It's been a busy term so far – here are just a few of the highlights....

**Full of beans!...** Twenty children in Years 1 and 2 had a real treat earlier in the term when they were invited to Pilgrims School to see Chloe Inkpen in action. Chloe is the daughter of award winning author and illustrator Mick Inkpen, creator of the brilliant Kipper, Wibbly Pig, Threadbear and Penguin Small. Chloe now collaborates with her father on their picture book series about a little girl called Zoe and her big scruffy dog called Beans. Chloe's talk about her books was very entertaining with lots of audience participation, hand actions, helping with drawings and making interesting noises! Afterwards she invited the children to enter her competition to Design their own Pet and write a short story about it. To our delight, Zahra Rahman, in Juniper Class won with her story about Fred the Frog and she is now the proud owner of a signed copy of Chloe's latest book 'I Will Love You Anyway'

**Jai Ho!** Year 4's 'Spend your rupees' topic came to a colourful conclusion in the school hall just before half term. Invited parents were shown to their seats on the stage and when the curtains opened they revealed bejewelled tinkling dancers, floating chiffon scarves and enthusiastic drummers. Re-creating the dance from the final scene of 'Slumdog Millionaire' the children transformed the hall into a sea of colour and music giving watching parents a taste of India. As the music from Jai Ho faded, pupils shared their knowledge of India and asked parents to help them raise funds for Wells for India to help radically change the lives of those less fortunate than us. A tempting selection of hand-crafted goodies were soon snapped up in brisk trading. When added to the funds the children have already collected via their sponsored events, Year 4 have raised a magnificent £758.63 for Wells for India – fantastic!

**Bwark Bwark!** I'm addicted to chicken! Our annual Book Week kicked off in style with a visit from fabulous award winning poet Joshua Seigal. Performing to all the children in two separate assemblies he had them chanting poetry in a rap style, making noises like a chicken, listening intently to his bedroom description, smiling in a very knowing way at his 'I don't like poetry' poem and rolling around the floor laughing at his anguish over his missing bottom! It was great fun! Later in writing workshops in Years 2 and 3 Joshua showed the children just how easily they could write their own original poems, creating an explosive firework selection with Year 3 and alarming monster poems with Year 2. His simple ideas and enthusiasm for words and their different sounds and meanings really inspired both year groups. Later in the week our Patron of Reading the sparkling Ali Sparkes paid us her first visit of the year. In writing workshops with Years 4 and 6 she passed on her tips for creating a piece of writing that really hooks the reader and draws them into the story. In Year 6 it was X Factor time as the children voted on the covers, blurb and opening paragraphs of four of Ali's books and were then tasked with coming up with their own ideas all of which were put to the vote. What a wide range of fantastic stories emerged! It was really tricky to decide which one vote for...

**Coming soon....** Our Christmas Fair will be on Friday 4th December 2015, from 3:20pm until 5:30pm. There will be lots of festive stalls, delicious food and Father Christmas will be in his grotto waiting for children to pay him a visit - do come along if you can!

For details of all the latest happenings at school and to view lots of photos, check out our website at:

[www.stanmore.hants.sch.uk](http://www.stanmore.hants.sch.uk)

If you would like to visit us, please call 01962 852941 to make an appointment. Our Head, Mrs Justine Brooks would be delighted to show you round.

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WINCHESTER SWIM 2016 – Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2016

Register your team at:

[www.winchesterrotary.org.uk/swim](http://www.winchesterrotary.org.uk/swim)

Winchester Rotary Trust Fund is registered as a charity - number: 283632



## OLIVER'S BATTERY PARISH COUNCIL

There have been forecasts that this winter will be a particularly cold one. Please remember that, if we do get any significant amounts of snow this winter, the Parish Council do have several snow shovels available for

residents to borrow. Please contact the Parish Clerk (clerk@oliversbattery.info or 07443 622513 if you need one.) I should also remind residents that the grit in the roadside bins provided by the City Council is for use on the roads and pavements and not residents' driveways.

Instances of Japanese Knotweed have been found to be growing locally and there is some confusion about how to deal with this invasive plant. It is regulated by the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Management of this plant is the responsibility of the owner of the site. If you see it growing on footpaths or in open spaces please report it to your Parish or City Council. If you have the plant on your land it is your responsibility and you must ensure it does not spread outside your boundaries. You are permitted to treat it yourself with a bioactive herbicide such as Round Up Biactive or Glyphos Biactive. You can also contact a specialist company to deal with the plant if you do not feel confident about working with herbicides.

All Japanese Knotweed leaves, branches, roots and rhizomes can be put in your Winchester City garden waste bag. Because of the heat generated at the recycling plant used by the City Council, there is no issue with Japanese Knotweed or other invasive species contaminating the resulting compost. If you fly tip or dispose of Japanese Knotweed in some other way you may be liable to prosecution – the penalties include an unlimited fine and/or a prison sentence. Please deal with Japanese Knotweed responsibly.

A number of residents have recently expressed concern to the Parish Council about the dental practice seeking to reserve certain car parking spaces at the shops for the sole benefit of users of the dental surgery. The dental practice have also sought to designate reserve parking at the rear of the shops causing problems and difficulties for those living in the flats above the shops and for delivery lorries to the shops.

The Parish Council is working with the owners of the three shop units not owned by the dental practice to try and get these parking restrictions removed so that the car park can continue to be used as it has been for the last 30 or more years. Please remember that there is a one-hour maximum for parking at the shops.

Finally, winter can be a particularly difficult time for our older residents. Please keep a watchful eye on your elderly neighbours and be ready to provide help to them when necessary.

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



## OLIVER'S BATTERY PLAN

### OLIVER'S BATTERY PLAN WILL ADD TO YOUR CHRISTMAS CHEER .....

Christmas seems to be starting earlier and earlier each year. We have just had Bonfire Night and yet the supermarkets are stacking up on crackers, mince pies and Christmas puddings. Out goes the orange and black of Halloween and in comes the green and red and gold and silver of the Festive Season. And for us here at Oliver's Battery Plan, this is causing us something of a dilemma – the

**Questionnaire** is just about ready to send to the printers, the distributors are chosen and the publicity banners are ordered. – **but** will people have time to fill in our Questionnaire when they are so busy preparing for Christmas?? Will it get lost amongst the Christmas cards, envelopes and wrapping paper? Or maybe it will just disappear in the general excitement of the pre-Christmas build up and the enormous piles of waste paper after the presents are opened and the crackers pulled???

**So** - to solve our dilemma and to give you all one less thing to do in November or December, we have decided to send it out **AFTER** the Christmas Holiday, rather than **BEFORE!!** Throw out the tree, eat the last mince pie and finish off that turkey risotto, welcome in the New Year, send the kids back to school, clear the decks - all ready for **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January** - which is when we are going to send out **The Oliver's Battery Plan Questionnaire to every household in Oliver's Battery.**

Getting a **high response rate** is so important; we are aiming for 500 out of the 650 or so we distribute. Then we can say that the results really do reflect the views of the whole community. If lots of people don't bother to fill it in, then we don't have a clear picture of public opinion. (Can we do better than South Wonston – apparently their response rate was over 80%. Could we get 90% return for Oliver's Battery??) We are offering a £50 prize as an incentive – return your Questionnaire to be included in the Draw!

We are making every effort to **collect the questionnaires from individual houses** - more than 30 people have signed up to help deliver and collect – we've split Oliver's Battery up into 29 separate 'rounds' so that the collector gets to know who lives in their round and who might need a bit of help in getting it back. If you don't give your questionnaire to your collector, you can instead drop yours off at Barlow's the butchers, or at any of the houses where you see the 'Return your Questionnaire Here' signs around Oliver's Battery.

So let's look forward to the New Year; the Oliver's Battery Plan will be making significant progress in 2016. And I'd like to take this opportunity of thanking everyone who has taken part or become involved in the Plan; working together to learn more about our community and how it can improve is immensely rewarding. Let's see what we can achieve together in the coming months.

Constance Leach

# Come and Celebrate Christmas on Oliver's Battery "Sing Winchester"

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 8pm**

Come and hear Christmas songs from around the world.

With mulled fruit punch and mince pies afterwards.

Free tickets. Donations to the Church.

For tickets:- jac@singwinchester.com tel 07941 246685

**Oliver's Battery Community Carol Singing**

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December 5-6.30pm**

Meet at St Mark's, singing on The Battery with mince pies and hot drinks in St Mark's Church afterwards.

**DO COME AND JOIN US IN OUR FAMILY SERVICES:**

**Service of Christmas Readings & Carols**

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am**

**Crib Service for all the family**

**Christmas Eve - Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December 5pm and Eucharist 9.30pm**

**Eucharist Christmas Day 8am**



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Exercises for all ages  
GET FITTER AS YOU GET OLDER!**

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**Monday 9.15-10.15am**

**St Mark's Church, Oliver's Battery**

**Thursday 3.45-4.45pm**

**St Faiths Village Hall, St. Cross**

Benefits include improvements in

- ❑ mobility & joint flexibility
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## AN UPDATE FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS

As all ways, it has been a busy few months in Oliver's Battery and Badger Farm, with all sorts going on all around the area.

### Buses

We were very pleased to see the reintroduction of evening buses along the number 5 route recently, something we have campaigned for over the last few months since the County Council funding was cut. Route 5 buses now leave the bus station at 19.00, 19.30, 20.05, 21.35 and 22.05 on weekdays. Route 5A buses leave the bus station at 22.40 and 23.40 on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. For those going in the opposite direction into the city these buses arrive in Badger Farm at (or shortly after depending on which stop you use), 19.16, 19.46, 20.18, 20.48, 21.18, 21.48 and 22.18 on weekdays. As well as 22.54 and 23.54 on the 5A service. Stagecoach have also introduced a new 'Night Rider' ticket costing £2, which allows unlimited travel after 7pm. We of course also continue to campaign for the reintroduction of more buses to Oliver's Battery. We know many older residents are unable to make it up to Badger Farm Road to catch the 5, so will carry on working to try and get the 2 back. We are doing this as part of a city wide study into bus routes and what residents want, and would like to thank those of you who took part in the recent bus survey.

### Pitt Vale

We are continuing to fight against this development. We now expect it to come before the Council's Planning Committee early in the New Year.

We believe this development would cause more problems on local roads and is inappropriate for its site. Thanks to everyone who has already sent in their comments on it over the summer.

### Estate management

Once again we are working hard to make sure roads get swept and paths cleared this winter, please let us know if a specific spot gets missed and we will try to get any issues resolved as quickly as possible. We are also assured that the gritters are ready for when the weather gets colder. The main gritter lorries cover the main roads through our area and into the city, so please also let us know if an area is missed with this.

### Permitted Development

Many of you will have seen our comments in the last Community News around permitted development and on Badger Farm will have received the Parish Council's flyer on the subject. We would just like to reiterate that on Badger Farm this means that planning permission is needed for conservatories, extensions, loft conversions, sheds and in some cases walls/fences. There are also strict rules on what development is allowed in Oliver's Battery, so if you're not sure, please always check with the Council's Planning Department.

If you would like to talk to us about any issues, please feel free to contact us:

Cllr Brian Laming - 07973 265 028 - [blaming@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:blaming@winchester.gov.uk)

Cllr Patrick Fancett - 07757 508 608 - [pfancett@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:pfancett@winchester.gov.uk)



## Badger Farm Toddlers

Thursdays 13:30 - 15:00

Badger Farm Community Centre

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

All welcome, run by qualified pre-school teachers!

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

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

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

Open term time only!

Info: Catherine 07990037467  
or Esther [etsouramanis@icloud.com](mailto:etsouramanis@icloud.com)



# Winchester wildlife Tots

Fun discovery activities and games in the outdoors for pre-school children and their parents or carers.

**Sessions run 9.30am - 11am**

**10th December - Stick Man**

**14th January - The Gruffalo**

**11th February - The Smartest**

**Giant in Town**

**10th March - Tree-Tastic**

Suggested donation £3 per child

All children must be accompanied by an adult

We usually meet at Winnall Moors

Nature Reserve, Durngate Place, Winchester

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Visit Bark and Squeak's Facebook:

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Phone number : 01962 862487

Email : [barkandsqueak@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:barkandsqueak@hotmail.co.uk)



## THE WINCHESTER COUNTRY MARKET



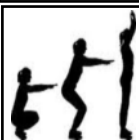
Autumn has arrived with the changing leaves and crisp breeze, cooler days and darker nights. Winter is just around the corner with all the Christmas festivities about to be enjoyed! This is the time to start

thinking about your Winter garden or patio; making the Christmas cake or planning the coming festivities. It is a good time to visit the Country Market (at the Badger Farm Community Centre) and take a look at our lovely range of Autumn and Winter plants; plus indulge in some of our fresh homemade cakes, cookies, jams, and pickles to go with your Autumn picnic or approaching Christmas parties or even to put in an order for a Christmas hamper for family or friends. We take orders for Christmas cakes too.

We have weekly fresh produce including eggs. Why not take a look at our beautiful, creative range of cards for Christmas and all other occasions. You may find that special card you want to send or a beautiful item of glassware, jewellery or a wood turned gift. We have some lovely knitwear, cushions, bags, scarves plus baby wear too! It is a great place to get that last minute gift. Everything we do is homemade, home-grown and handcrafted. We are open on Friday mornings from 8.30am to 11.00am at the Badger Farm Community Centre (next to Sainsbury's Superstore).

Please come and have a look! A warm welcome always awaits you. Free mince pies and coffee will be served throughout the month of December.

If you should be interested in joining the market as a producer, we would love to see you. Please telephone Pauline on 01962 866340.



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



# TRACY'S FEEL-GOOD TIPS

## FESTIVE CHEER ~ TREAT YOURSELF TOO!



The festive season can be an uplifting time of year - stooping in the loft and extracting boxes of decorations, climbing ladders and carrying extra loads. As well as last minute garden cleanups, tree pruning, planting and bedding down for the winter. Christmas shopping entails carrying heavy bags and plenty of getting in and out of cars. The joints are unusually challenged during times like these and muscles can switch off on long distance car journeys.

It is really helpful to have the right kind of flexibility, strength and know-how to distribute loads. This is important because our body functions as a single unit and joints that have to cope with 2-3 times our body weight during normal daily activity can have a domino effect throughout the body. Defense against these stresses can be easy to achieve by joining a fun and energising class which focuses on movement patterns that support bending, sitting, reaching, lifting and walking.

You will be amazed at what a difference it makes to your joints when you give your body this kind of attention and the rewards you receive in return. This is Christmas, a time of giving to others, remember to take care of yourself too.

Tracy Frost is a personal trainer qualified to work with GP referred conditions. She run's Fit4Fun exercise classes and Feel-Good Body Workshops focused on joint health in Oliver's Battery. For her website go to:

<http://www.bwellthy.blogspot.co.uk> and Amazon Kindle for her book Feel-Good Joints and Muscles. The author can be contacted directly for printed copies on 07896 120 099.



IEW has been promoting community food growing In Winchester for only a short time but you may have seen our four new planters at the station. They produced salads, herbs, flowers and vegetables all summer long and well into the autumn. (Yes, you can eat some flowers!) We are a small group of enthusiastic gardeners, cooks and composters who love eating seasonal food and hate waste. We are keen to encourage

other people to join in our fun and share the social, health and environmental benefits that growing plants provides. We all learn from each other about how to grow interesting and unusual food plants and then we share recipes. Would you like to join us? We are keen to increase our activities and we are currently looking for a couple of people who work in central Winchester and who would like to tend a new planter in Abbey Gardens. Incredible Edible Winchester would like to demonstrate the simple pleasures of growing and eating salads and herbs to the families who use the playground there. Interested? Please contact Clare on 852136 or [Susie.phillips@winacc.org.uk](mailto:Susie.phillips@winacc.org.uk).

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## AN UPDATE FROM STEVE BRINE, MP FOR WINCHESTER

After a busy post-election period, followed by the party conference season, Parliament is in full swing for the new season and a seemingly changed political landscape.

The new Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn is someone I know well, having served with him on the Justice Select Committee for the majority of the last Parliament. We travelled together a number of times and I enjoyed getting to know him. We may not agree on many things and I suspect the next five years will be more political than the last but he is a gentleman, someone I respect and he believes passionately in public service.

Whatever happens in the years ahead I predict two things; British politics will be anything but the straight predictable curve many commentators would have us believe and my ballot for PMQ tickets will be busier than ever! If you'd like to come on Wednesday 6th January 2016, please enter via [www.stevebrine.com/PMQs](http://www.stevebrine.com/PMQs)

May's General Election seems like a long time ago but it's worth remembering it was only five months since the Government was elected. Our approach since then has been rather old-fashioned; to set about delivering the manifesto upon which we were elected.

One focus for me in this Parliament is set to be prison reform. Prison is a service that all too often fails. Half of all criminals reoffend within a year of being released while as many go into prison with no qualifications and come out little better. Prison is a service run by the state that all too often fails and locks in poverty as a result. Half of all criminals reoffend within a year of being released while as many go into prison with no qualifications and come out little better. Furthermore, all the problems that may have led them to that life – drug addiction, mental health issues, family breakdown – remain unchanged.

My view; we simply cannot go on with this level of state failure and we can't afford to either. Let's remember, Britain has the highest level of incarceration in Europe and it's costing you and me some £30,000 a year per prisoner. As the Prime Minister said in his conference speech; "we have got to get away from the sterile lock-em-up or let-em-out debate, and get smart about this." Yes!

Regular readers will know I served on the powerful Justice Select Committee for much of the last Parliament and it was there my interest in this subject was fuelled. And it was a trip with that committee to Texas, in 2013, which showed there is a smarter way. I wrote about it at the time in my column.



Steve with colleagues during his trip to Texas in 2013

Of course I believe if you've committed a crime, punishment must follow and when it's serious enough, that must mean prison. However, my trip to the States taught me we should not confuse the 30% of offenders we are scared of with the 70% we are mad at. If we invest in rehabilitation more than punishment alone we will reduce recidivism rates in this country as they have dramatically in Texas.

It's not about letting them out, throwing open the prison doors, but it is about slowing down the rate they are coming in. I believe it's the right thing to do, it's the smart thing to do and it will save us a fortune. I predict this is going to be a big area of social reform in the next five years and am actively discussing ideas with Justice Secretary, Michael Gove so watch this space. You can read more via; [www.stevebrine.com/texas](http://www.stevebrine.com/texas)

Finally, my work in Parliament on the troubling issue of 'legal highs' came to fruition recently when I spoke in a landmark debate on the new Psychoactive Substances Bill. I also served on the Committee scrutinising the legislation and was able to use my experience of Winchester Prison (and others I have visited around the country) to move an amendment that makes their possession in custody a serious offence. These lethal substances are causing huge harm in society as well as in prison and I am pleased we're finally acting. You can see much more via [www.stevebrine.com/legalhighs](http://www.stevebrine.com/legalhighs)

You can find more information about my continuing work as your local MP, in Winchester and Westminster, via the website or on 01962 791110. May I wish all readers a Happy Christmas and a very successful 2016.

Steve Brine MP for Winchester ~ [steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk) ~ [www.stevebrine.com](http://www.stevebrine.com)



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



A warm welcome awaits you in your local group. New members are always welcome so, come along and join! The group meets at Badger Farm Community Centre, Badger Farm Road (next to Sainsbury's) every Saturday morning at 9.30am. If you would like more information, please telephone Steve on 07788 683 077.



### BADGER FARM 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](mailto:lizabethweir@gmail.com)

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No partner required! This "FAB-U-LOUS" dance-fitness programme, created by 2 of the professional dancers from "Strictly Come Dancing", combines simple steps from the most popular Ballroom and Latin dances with proven fitness techniques to create a fun, energetic and effective workout. If you're ready to bring out your inner dancer, join us!

**Mondays 6:15 – 7:00 pm ~ St. Peter's Catholic Primary School**

**Wednesdays 2:00 – 2:45 pm ~ Badger Farm Community Centre**

Pay as you go, £5.00 per session.

For further information, call Debbie on 07724136428 or email: [debbie.woodley@talk21.com](mailto:debbie.woodley@talk21.com)

## BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

Your council has been very busy over the last few months with much of our time taken up with planning issues. As you will probably be aware now there are No Permitted Development rights anywhere on Badger Farm. Although the Government has tried reducing planning red tape in some areas this does NOT apply to Badger Farm. Your Parish Councillors and City Councillors had a meeting with Winchester City Council Planning officials to confirm this position and check our facts. We were assured that the Planning Department take these matters very seriously and will enforce the local regulations. If you are told by a prospective builder that you do not need planning permission for a conservatory or extension to your home they are incorrect, you need planning permission for all such work. If you are unsure whether building works in your area have permission you can find out on the WCC Planning Portal or simply contact a Parish Councillor. The safest way to proceed is to check with WCC before you engage a builder or start any work.

We have received many complaints regarding dog fouling. Can you please clear up after your dogs, especially if you let them run free on the play areas at night. It should not be a case of 'out of sight out of mind'. Dog faeces can cause blindness, especially in children. There have been several cases of 'Staffy type' dogs attacking other animals. This is totally unacceptable. If you see a dog without a collar or behaving in an antisocial manner, please contact the Dog Warden or a Parish Councillor. Pictures can help identify the culprit at a later date.

Planning for the replacement of the two play areas is progressing well with priority being given to the Davis Kick Around followed by the Central Kick Around. The Whiteshute Ridge Project is making slow progress; we will hopefully have some updates early next year.

If you have a grit bin near your house, can you please check its contents so we can arrange a refill before it is actually needed.

Hoping you have a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year ~ John Godbold ~ Chairman BFPC



### St George's Tutors

Care Inspire Achieve

[www.stgeorgestutors.com](http://www.stgeorgestutors.com)

[office@stgeorgestutors.com](mailto:office@stgeorgestutors.com) 07960 321 951

**Holiday Courses February half-term at the Badger Farm Community Hall**

*An opportunity to open to foreign cultures & to stimulate curiosity & understanding of the world. Fun activities, games to explore practical everyday vocabulary, in speech & in writing.*

**Tuesday 16/02 Spanish 'Un día en España'**

9.45am to 12.15pm

**Wednesday 17/02 French 'Un jour en France'**

1.15pm to 3.45pm

**Thursday 18/02 Italian 'Una giornata in Italia'**

1.15pm to 3.45pm

More courses on website: Maths, English, Performing Arts at the Hilt Chandlers Ford

**Limited places early registration recommended**

Experienced tutors and teachers / DBS checked



**Pre Christmas Mind Spa**

£14

**Includes Tea/Coffee & Mince Pie**

Give your mind a pre-Christmas gift of calm relaxation to take you through Christmas and beyond! Start with a deep recharge letting go of tension and stress. Learn how to tap into your inner peace. Find out how to stay calm through the Christmas chaos.

**THURSDAY 3rd DECEMBER ~ 12 ~ 2pm  
AT BADGER FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Call Shirley now on 07881453861 to book your place!

**Counsellor and Psychotherapist**



Talk to  
**Shirley**

# VHN DECORATING

## Female Decorator

Interior & Exterior Painting & Decorating Services



Free no obligation quotes  
Competitive prices  
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Contact: Vicky Nash  
07966 919 965  
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Oliver's Battery  
Winchester



### OLIVER'S BATTERY PRE-SCHOOL NEWS



The children have had a rich and full autumn term of learning with topics on harvest, Bonfire night and Diwali. The children are encouraged to find out about the world around them at every opportunity and this includes finding out what jobs their parents or carers do. This term they have had a talk by a Dispensing Optician, learning about keeping eyes healthy, and a chance to join in some signing with a mum who runs a local choir.

It is always a time of excitement when the Nativity costume box appears after half term although probably more so for the parents and carers. At the beginning of December they get to see their little ones dressed as super-cute shepherds or cheeky cherubs in the pre-school's traditional Nativity play. The children's excitement comes in force for the end of term Christmas party when, after feasting on party food and playing games, they are treated to a visit by Father Christmas and get to take home all their sparkling, glitter-laden Christmas craft creations.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM OLIVER'S BATTERY PRE-SCHOOL

About our pre-school

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

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

### 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, remember it does not have to be at the Community Centre, contact the Editor, Jan Dawkins on 01962 868630, email [enquiries@bfobrca.org](mailto:enquiries@bfobrca.org) or visit our website [www.bfobrca.org](http://www.bfobrca.org)

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February & Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2016 - Auction - Contact 01962 734941

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January & Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2016 - Stamp & Postcard Fair - Contact 01795 478175

# **BEST AUTOCENTRES**

**£20 OFF MOT OR SERVICING  
£40 OFF MOT & SERVICE COMBINED**

**WITH THIS VOUCHER**

**CHICKENHALL LANE, EASTLEIGH - 02380 620200  
WINCHESTER TRADE PARK (next to Tesco) - 01962 866977**

**[www.bestautocentres.co.uk](http://www.bestautocentres.co.uk)**

**CARS COLLECTED FROM YOUR HOME IF REQUIRED**

***PLUS GREAT DEALS ON TYRES, EXHAUSTS  
BRAKES CLUTCHES & ALLOY WHEELS***



OFSTED inspected in June 2015 with very pleasing results

For children from 2 years to school age.

Limited spaces available for 2 – 3 years.

OPENING TIMES (flexible)

Monday – Tuesday – Wednesday ~ 9.15 – 3.00

Thursday – Friday ~ 9.15 – 12.15

Spaces are now available!

All children are funded from the term after their 3<sup>rd</sup> Birthday

Funding available for 2 year olds if applicable

Ideally situated in the Community Centre next to Sainsbury's, with a sports hall for physical play and an all-weather outside area with a variety of play equipment.

Our staff are highly experienced and qualified and we ensure a high ratio of 1:6 enabling plenty of individual time and attention.

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

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

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



CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARDS ARE ON SALE FROM THE CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARD SHOP IN THE "EIGHTEEN 71" CAFE IN THE WINCHESTER GUILDHALL RIGHT NOW!

ALL PROCEEDS TO CHARITY



## ANN'S COMPUTER CORNER

As the nights draw in, I love curling up with a good book. While I'm still a big fan of a physical book I've also come to really appreciate ebooks. So light and convenient ... and I can read them under the covers with the lights out!



I don't have a dedicated ereader like a Kindle or a Kobo. These do have the advantages of longer battery life and easy-to-read screens, but I find an ereader app on my tablet and smartphone is good enough. Because most of the books I download are in Amazon format, my current app of choice is Kindle Reader. Available on multiple platforms, it synchronises my library across all my devices. Send to Kindle ([amazon.com/gp/sendtokindle](http://amazon.com/gp/sendtokindle)) helps me to include in my library books from sources other than Amazon and also adds a Send to Kindle option to any Print menu, allowing me to save, for example, web pages, PDF files, Word documents to my library too. I can't, however, add books in the other main ebook format, epub. For those, two alternatives are Moon+ Reader, which supports both formats but doesn't synchronise across devices and is ad-supported, and Overdrive, the reader used by Hampshire County Libraries.

I tend to buy my physical books "pre-loved"—in other words, cheap! Could similar bargains be found for digital books, I wondered. And was very pleased to find a myriad of not just cheap but free books available.

For contemporary reads my first stop is [bookbub.com](http://bookbub.com). Create an account, select the genres you're interested in and each day you'll receive an email with around half-a-dozen books that are heavily reduced, or free, from major vendors including Amazon, Google Play and Apple iBooks. Yes, these are promotional offers to encourage you to buy more from an author, but my tablet is virtually groaning under the weight of books I've found.

For a really interesting selection, you should try Project Gutenberg ([gutenberg.org](http://gutenberg.org)). Created in 1971—no, that's not a typo—the site today has over 50,000 high-quality free ebooks. The books are public domain, meaning they were published before 1923 and the copyright has expired. The old physical books are converted to digital form (often by the Internet Archive—[archive.org](http://archive.org)), proofread and published as ebooks by volunteers ([pgdp.net](http://pgdp.net)). What's great about Gutenberg is the sheer variety: from "Aunt Friendly's Picture Book" ([goo.gl/3NbwbL](http://goo.gl/3NbwbL)) through "The Pilgrims' Way from Winchester to Canterbury" ([goo.gl/iAS1Xj](http://goo.gl/iAS1Xj)) to Isaac Newton's "Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica" ([goo.gl/Wlfr8Y](http://goo.gl/Wlfr8Y)). The downside of this choice is that sometimes it's hard to know where to start looking (hint: use the Bookshelves—[www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Category:Bookshelf](http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Category:Bookshelf)).

Happy Reading!

Ann Jury

PS: There are free, public domain audio books available on [librivox.org](http://librivox.org). Again, these are older books and are read by volunteers, and the selection is eclectic, but you might find a gem up there

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

### Winchester

[www.winchestergold.org.uk](http://www.winchestergold.org.uk)

Charity No. 1156536

#### Annual Quiz Night

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2016

7.00pm for 7.15pm

Twyford Village Hall, Hazeley Road,

Twyford SO21 1NH

Austrian Meal & Cash Bar

Tickets £16 p.p., table of 8 for £128

Tickets available through local contact or

Juliet Hawkes

01962 808554, 07887946830,

[julietahawkes@aol.com](mailto:julietahawkes@aol.com)



### Winchester

[www.winchestergold.org.uk](http://www.winchestergold.org.uk)

Charity No. 1156536

#### GOLD CUP RACE NIGHT (a fun evening for all the family)

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016

Twyford Social Club ~ 7.00 pm onwards

Tickets: £15 including supper

From:

Winchester GoLD, Winchester Discovery Centre,

Jewry Street, Winchester SO23 8SB

Tel: 01962 873608

Or <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/date/206215>

In aid of Winchester GoLD charity number 1156536



Alzheimer's  
Society

Leading the  
fight against  
dementia

#### JOIN US AT OUR DEMENTIA CAFE IN WINCHESTER

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

Visit our website for further information at [alzheimers.org.uk](http://alzheimers.org.uk)

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



## NATURE NOTES FROM OLIVER'S BATTERY



Farming is now agribusiness, the large fields of monoculture providing little room for wildlife, and increasing planning applications for new housing on green field sites is worrying. However, there are two significant areas important for biodiversity and we have both in our two parishes, a network of hedgerows and a patchwork of domestic gardens.

Since 1945 there has been a drastic loss of hedgerows nationally due to grubbing out to increase field size, through mismanagement and neglect. According to the Joint Nature Conservation Committee "Hedgerows are the most significant wildlife habitat over large stretches of lowland UK and are an essential refuge for a great many woodland and farmland plants and animals." The English Hedgerow Trust \*, a national charity based in Alton was established in 2008 to make some contribution towards redressing the loss of this significant ecosystem which supports over 600 plant species, 1500 insects, 65 birds and 20 mammals at one time or another. In a 20 metre length of hedgerow as many as 100 invertebrates have been found. In fact hedgerows are the principal habitat for around 50 species of conservation concern.

A few years ago an electricity company felled a whole length of hedge on Whiteshute Ridge because neglect had caused it to reach the height of the overhead wires. However a new hedge with a diverse range of native species was commissioned by the Parish Council and that is now well established providing food and shelter for wildlife. However, if it is not managed it will eventually need felling again. Oliver's Battery has a network of old hedgerows but these too are suffering from neglect and many of the shrubs have grown into trees becoming so heavily clad with ivy that they have been blown down in high winds resulting in a reduction of variety. Nevertheless they offer important food, shelter and wildlife corridors for many species.

According to The Wildlife Gardening Forum \*\*, UK gardens cover approximately 4,330 kilometres of land. Although they cannot provide specialised habitats, these valuable areas support and provide breeding opportunities for birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and insects many of which are in decline including the song thrush, frogs and hedgehogs. Gardens are a safe environment for children to make contact with nature; they help control flooding with natural drainage of water and filter out harmful chemicals in the environment. Unfortunately this land is frequently being diminished by hard landscaping and infilling. Whatever space you have it is possible to be a wildlife gardener and there are many websites that give advice. Growing a variety of flowering shrubs to provide nectar and pollen for bees and butterflies, creating a pond or small shallow container with fresh water, keeping pesticides to a minimum to protect beneficial insects, creating log piles and leaving a small corner wild are just a few of the things you can do.

\* [www.hedgerows.co.uk](http://www.hedgerows.co.uk) \*\* [www.wlqf.org](http://www.wlqf.org)

Norma Goodwin ~ [norma.goodwin@btinternet.com](mailto:norma.goodwin@btinternet.com)

*Ed's. Note. Many thanks to Norma for this very interesting and informative section to Community News. I'm sure I speak for many readers when I say how much I enjoy this article. Looking forward to more in 2016!*



## WINCHESTER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Autumn has drawn to a close and Winter will soon be upon us. The garden needs less attention now but there are still jobs to be done. Have you been meaning to rake up the leaves, to wash the last of the empty flower pots before storing them away in the shed and, more creatively, have you planted out all the bulbs you bought in the Autumn? As a reward for your labours you may take some time off and join us for one of our monthly meetings which are always enjoyable and informative. Here is what we have in store for you during the coming months:



**December** (Wed 9th): **IN SEARCH OF THE NORTHERN LIGHTS** - Gerald Ponting will be taking us on an exciting journey in the Arctic regions. There will also be seasonal refreshments during the interval.

**January** (Wed 13th): **SEE THE WOOD FOR THE TREES** - Mary South, a long-term volunteer with The Woodland Trust, will tell us about the useful work the Trust carries out.

**February** (Wed 10th): **PLANNING AND PLANTING A BORDER** - Geoff Hawkins will give us lots of advice on how to design beds and borders to fit into our own garden schemes.

Our monthly meetings are held at the Winchester Club, Churchill Room, Worthy Lane, Winchester and start at 7.30pm. Visitors are free. For more details visit our website: [www.winhortsoc@weebly.com](http://www.winhortsoc@weebly.com)

We look forward to meeting you!

## BADGER FARM & OLIVER'S BATTERY PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

**Badger Farm Parish Council** meet on the 2nd Monday of each month (except August) in the Bushfield Room at Badger Farm Community Centre at 7.30pm. Contact the Clerk Viv Brooks on [viv@bcl-construction.co.uk](mailto:viv@bcl-construction.co.uk) for information.

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



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