

Community News

Your Local Community Newsletter

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AN UPDATE ON THE FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF WHITESHUTE RIDGE

Firstly I would like to say thank you to everyone who provided comment at the public engagement event held on 10th October 2016, when we put forward the idea of grazing Whiteshute Ridge. We had 150 people attend the event which was an excellent response and everyone who attended obviously had a passion and interest in Whiteshute Ridge. We gained a lot of information on species found on the site and how people like to access and use the area. A full copy of all comments received can be found at our web site <http://www.winchester.gov.uk/planning/open-spaces/whiteshuteridge/>

The majority of respondents on the night were in favour of the proposal to graze cattle. However, there are some concerns particularly in relation to how well the cattle will mix with people and dogs. Therefore, before we make our final decision on the way forward, the City Council, with support from the Parish Council, will be arranging some 'meet and greet' events where you can meet the British White Cattle and talk to those who look after them. These can be for people with or without dogs and will give you a chance to see how you and/or your dog reacts to the cattle in a safe environment. If you are interested to meet the cattle, please email cjakeman@winchester.gov.uk or ring Claire Jakeman on 01962 848301 and we will get back to you with dates. This may be at Whiteshute Ridge or at another site fairly close by.

A number of you also said you were keen to get involved in the management of the site and we have decided to hold a conservation management day this winter. If you have already left your details with us we will be in contact again shortly. If you would like to help manage the ridge by undertaking activities such as scrub bashing, path and step improvements or simply helping to manage the bonfire please let us know.

Another question which came up on the night was the benefit of grazing over cutting. We have produced a short piece on the benefits of grazing and if you would like a copy either email or ring Claire Jakeman as above.

Finally, some people said they would like to know how the proposals were progressing and we will produce a regular update (possibly monthly or every two months) for those interested in the project. If you would like to receive a copy of this via email please contact Claire. There is still a lot of work to do before we can put this project into action, and we are very grateful for all the support and comments we have received to date.

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

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

Editorial deadline for **Spring 2017** issue: **Friday 3 February 2017**



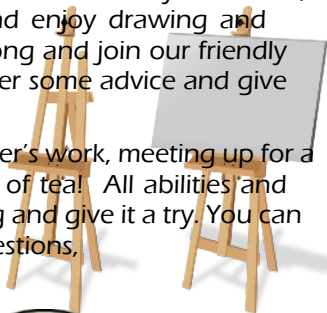


BADGER FARM ART GROUP

There has been an Art Group at Badger Farm for nearly 25 years, with some of the original members still in attendance now. There have been many tutors over the years, but I am very pleased to have been entrusted with the role currently.

We work from photos, paintings and from life, using a wide variety of materials. If you are free on a Thursday afternoon, or know anyone else who is, and enjoy drawing and painting, why don't you come along and join our friendly group? I'll support your ideas, offer some advice and give some technical guidance.

The group enjoys seeing each other's work, meeting up for a chat and of course having a cup of tea! All abilities and experience welcome. Come along and give it a try. You can email Sarah if you have any questions, snippycards@hotmail.co.uk



THE COMMUNITY BOOKCASE AT ST. MARK'S

We will be opening a Community Bookcase at St. Mark's in December. Books will be available to borrow.

If you would like to donate a book there will be a book box inside the Church door.

The Bookcase will be open between 10.30am and 11.15am on Thursdays.

For further information, please contact Rev. Mike on 01962 865240 or email revd.mike@yahoo.co.uk



Winchester City Festival Choir

Winchester City Festival Choir will perform Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle at their annual concert on Saturday 21 January 2017 at Thornden Hall, Chandler's Ford. More details of the programme and performers can be found at www.wcfchoir.org. Tickets are £15 (students £7) from www.thorndenhall.co.uk or 023 8024 6555.



Saturday 3rd December at 7.30pm
A CHRISTMAS FANTASIA with
The Waynflete Singers and English
Chamber Orchestra in

Winchester Cathedral directed by Andrew Lumsden.

Vaughan Williams: FANTASIA ON CHRISTMAS CAROLS;
Poulenc: GLORIA; Finzi: IN TERRA PAX; Carols for choir and
audience. Soloists: Nadine Benjamin - soprano,

Marcus Farnsworth - Baritone.

Tickets £9 - £39 (2 FOR 1 OFFER AVAILABLE on some seats)
from The Cathedral Box Office 01962 857275

www.tickets.winchester-cathedral.org.uk

www.waynfletesingers.org.uk (registered charity No. 285107)

WINCHESTER BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

- Have you ever experienced a major loss in your life?
- Would you have liked to talk to a trained volunteer?
- Would you feel able to offer this help to others?

W.B.S. is running a Training Course for volunteer Bereavement Visitors - March - June 2017. If you are interested, please phone 01962 877102 for further details or email:

help@winchesterbereavementsupport.org.uk

Winchester Bereavement Support is a voluntary organisation offering a service to bereaved individuals in Winchester and the surrounding areas. It is independent, and has no ties with statutory bodies or the churches. Support is normally given through home visits by "Bereavement Visitors" who are carefully selected and must successfully complete a comprehensive training programme. Referrals are made directly by the bereaved person, although this is often on the recommendation of their G.P. The service is confidential, free, and the Visitors are given full support from trained Counsellors.



FOLKS SINGING

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

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

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

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



WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN A LOCAL FRIENDLY SUPPORT GROUP FOR ADULTS WITH LIFE CHANGING ISSUES? ARE YOU FREE TO JOIN US ON ALTERNATE THURSDAYS BETWEEN 10.00am & 12.30pm? WE MEET AT BADGER FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE IN THE WARREN ROOM WHICH IS FULLY ACCESSIBLE AND USER-FRIENDLY FOR DISABLED VISITORS. WE HAVE COFFEE, CHAT AND PLAY BOARD GAMES LIKE BINGO, BEETLE DRIVE, etc. WE ALSO OCCASIONALLY HAVE BBQ'S AND GO OUT FOR MEALS OR ON TRIPS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN US, OR NEED MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE TELEPHONE DI ON 01962 868156 AND LEAVE A MESSAGE. WE WILL GET BACK TO YOU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.



SOME OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	DAY	TIME	CONTACT	COST	DESCRIPTION
Badger Farm Art Group	Thursday	1.30pm - 4.00pm	Sarah Zimmer snippycards@hotmail.co.uk	£7.00 per person	A friendly "drop in" art group providing a "space to paint" in a relaxed setting. All abilities welcome.
Badger Farm ACOL Club	Friday	7.15pm - 10.30pm	Roland Richardson 023 8025 1277	£1 visitors £15 annual	Bridge Club
Brendon Care Badger Farm Friendly Group	Alternate Thursdays	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Sandra Day sday@brendoncare.org.uk	£4.00 per session	Friendship for older people. Quizzes, speakers, outings, afternoon tea. New members and volunteers welcome.
Badger Farm Bridge Club	Tuesday	7.15pm - 10.30pm	Fred Hotchen 01794 301185 07771 854 347 fred.hotchen@btinternet.com		Friendly and relaxed local bridge club. New members and visitors very welcome
Badger Farm Pre-School Playgroup	Monday to Friday	Mon.Tues/Wed 9.15am - 3.00pm Thurs/Fri 9.15am - 12.15pm	Denise Tosdevine 07771 798 474	3/4yrs £4.50ph 2yrs £4.70ph	For children from 3 years to school age. Great OFSTED results. Afternoons also available - enquiries to Denise.
Badminton	Thursday	8.00pm - 9.00pm	Wendy King 01962 861525		Fun and friendly for any age and ability. All welcome!
Eucharist (Holy Communion)	Tuesday	10.00am - 11.00am	Rev. Mike Gardner 01962 865240		Church of England Service. All welcome.
FITSTEPS	Wednesday	2.00pm - 2.45pm	Sergiy Bondarenko Info@bdance.co.uk	£5 per session	A new dance-fitness programme combining simple steps from the most popular Ballroom & Latin dances.
Hampshire Wildlife Trust	2nd Wed. of the month	7.30pm - 9.30pm	Loraine 01962 861182	£4.00 per meeting	Illustrated talks on wildlife for all. Contact Loraine for details.
Legs, Bums & Tums	Monday Tuesday	9.30am - 10.30am 6.45pm - 7.45pm	Catherine Jones 07990 513 434	£5.00 per class	A fun and friendly class designed to help keep you fit and toned! Discounts available for multiple classes.
Healing Trust	2nd Saturday of every month.	10.00am - 12.30pm	Doreen Rivett 01980 862285 Doreenrivett@talktalk.net	Donation	Come to our group either for healing or to find out more about healing, our group and training courses.
Parents & Tots	Thursday	1.30pm - 3.00pm	Catherine Thomas 07990 037 467	£2 per family per session	All parents, guardians and child minders with children aged newborn to 5 years are welcome. Just turn up on the day!
Royal British Legion	3rd Thursday monthly	7.30pm - 9.30pm	Stanley Judd 01962 841402		A warm welcome awaits you at your local Royal British Legion group meeting.
RugbyTots	Friday	1.00pm - 1.30pm 1.35pm - 2.05pm 2.10pm - 2.55pm	Contact Phil Rowles phil@rugbytots.co.uk 007985 788 069	Enquire direct	A fun, active and confidence building class for boys and girls aged 2-7 years. Free trials available. www.rugbytots.co.uk
Senshi Ryuu Karate	Thursday	6.30pm - 7.30pm	Phil Aucott senshiryuuikarate@gmail.com	Enquire direct	Become fitter, more flexible, stronger, more disciplined., focused and confident.
Slimming World	Saturday	9.30am - 11.00am	Steve Coombs 07788 683 077		A warm welcome awaits you in your local group! New members always welcome.
Southern England Karate Federation	Tuesday	4.30pm - 5.30pm Children & Adults	Collin Rudkin 07966 303 585 Collinrudkin@btinternet.com	Enquire direct	Friendly and professional Karate club with high standards set at International level. Affiliated to the English Karate Federation and World Karate Federation.
Weight Watchers	Thursday	9.30am - 10.30am 6.30pm - 7.45pm	07455 968 884	Weekly meeting fee of £6.25	Your lifestyle, your choice. With Weight Watchers you choose the weight loss approach that works best for you.
Wessex Wargames Club	Tuesday	7.00pm - 11.00pm	Ian Ackerman 01962 624710	£3 per session (first session is free)	Minature wargames and role-playing games of all periods and genres played.
Winchester Tae Kwon-Do	Monday Wednesday	6.30pm - 9.00pm	Lucy Scott info@winchestertkd.co.uk	Membership by subscription	6.30pm-7.45pm beginners/intermediates 7pm-8.30pm seniors (black belts to 9pm)
Yoga	Monday Tuesday Friday	9.30am - 11.00am 5.30pm - 7.00pm 1.30pm - 3.00pm	Chris Wyeth 01962 868346	£35 per 5 week sessions	Experience the balancing effect of yoga on mind and body. Stretch and relax into a healthier life.

Here are details of just some of the activities that take place at Badger Farm Community Centre. 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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Oliver's Battery
Winchester





Protecting **wildlife**, inspiring **people**

If you would like to know more about not only our British wildlife but also in the mountains of the Spanish Pyrenees then do come and join us at one of our winter events. Non- members are always very welcome. Indoor meetings are held in the Bushfield Room at Badger Farm Community Centre at the far end of Sainsbury's car park. For further information about the Group please phone Loraine on 01962 861182 or email atardill2@gmail.com. Alternatively visit the Trust website at www.hiwwt.org.uk

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

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

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

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

Wed. 14 Dec. ~ 7.30-9.30pm ~ Winter Social with Wildlife Photos and Anecdotes

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

Wed. 11 Jan. ~ 7.30-9.30pm ~ Hot and Hectic - a Visit to the Spanish Pyrenees

Butterfly expert Brian Fletcher will be showing us a stunning array of the profusion of colourful mountain flowers and butterflies to be found in the Pyrenees. Admission £4 to include coffee/tea.

Sun. 15 Jan. ~ 10am-approx. 2pm ~ Alresford Winter Bird Walk

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

Sun. 5 Feb. ~ 10am-3pm ~ Birding at Blashford Lakes

Join John Clark for a visit to this Trust reserve. Blashford Lakes is 2 miles north of Ringwood on the A338; turn right (east) on to Ellingham Drive. The reserve entrance is on the left after 500 yards. Meet in the main car park near the Tern Hide. Bring lunch. Numbers are limited so **booking is essential**. Sorry, no dogs. For further information and to book your place, please phone Mary on 01962 864440. Suggested donation £4.

Wed. 8 Feb. ~ Walking and Waders!

Join Karima Englefield, Lead Ranger from Bird Aware Solent to hear about the highs and lows of a day in the life of a ranger, aiming to help people enjoy the coast without disturbing the thousands of birds that overwinter here. Admission £4 to include coffee/tea.



Oliver's Battery Primary School

Creative, caring and confident learners for life

The children have returned to school after their summer break eager to start the new school year. Our new Reception Children are settling in well and enjoying "big school".

We held a 'Batty Evening' in our lovely school grounds where parents and children spent the evening looking for bats. Luckily there was quite a lot to see and the evening was a great success.

Our Year 6 children visited Calshot Activities Centre for three days in October where they took part in various activities including skiing, kayaking, climbing and archery. They came back very tired but they all enjoyed the experience very much.

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



Have you seen our BFOBRCA website lately? We have been working really hard to make it more eye catching and user-friendly with new photographs and even some videos! All hirers using Badger Farm Community Centre on a regular basis have their own page on the website and recently have sent us new information and pictures to enhance their space. We also have a Facebook page where you can find up to date news and events. If you have any ideas or suggestions for improvements, we'd love to hear from you!

Building a Hub for our Community



I want to personally thank everyone who has contributed to this project in 2016. We're most grateful for all your contributions and donations. Since my last column, the Oliver's

Battery Community Centre management committee have been hard at work finalising our business plan which will tell us how and when we can build our new centre. As you know, we've set 2021 as the target date - so we can work backwards from that to determine important milestones in the project. One conclusion from these discussions is that we need to move into a higher gear in 2017 - watch this space for more details!

To kick off the process, we held our first fundraising event on Friday 18th November which was a concert performance by "Sing Winchester", our very own local choir. I'm sure all who were there would agree it was a wonderful evening, with refreshments afterwards giving everyone a chance to meet like-minded friends. "Sing Winchester" is a flourishing "A Capella" world music choir founded in 2009 by Jac Gehring who lives in Oliver's Battery.

They perform traditional songs from all over the world - particularly Africa and Eastern Europe - in their original languages, and without any musical accompaniment - just their voices! We hope to hear them again in future.

On a different note, we are now at the point where we need the services of an Honorary Treasurer. No special skills are required other than numeracy and basic computer skills, and training will be given. If you feel you could help our project in this way, please contact me - details below.

By the time you read this, we hope to have seen the opening of the new Thrive Cafe and Well-being centre at the Oliver's Battery shops, which will be a very welcome addition to our community. Do get along there and experience it for yourself.

With Season's Greetings and very best wishes to you all,
Geoff

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

OFSTED inspected in June 2015 with very pleasing results

For children from 2 years to school age.

Limited spaces available for 2 - 3 years.

OPENING TIMES (flexible)

Monday - Tuesday - Wednesday ~ 9.15 - 3.00

Thursday - Friday ~ 9.15 - 12.15

Spaces are now available!

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

Funding available for 2 year olds if applicable

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

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

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

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

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



BADGER FARM PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP - FANTASTIC NEWS!

The Staff and children at Badger Farm Pre-School Playgroup were delighted to learn recently that they had been chosen by Sainsbury's as their Charity of the Year. This has resulted in much excitement as firstly, they arrived with gardening supplies to help tidy up the children's garden and play area. The Playgroup were later presented with a cheque for £300 by Daryl Copper, Store Manager and Jane who is their charity representative. Sainsbury's helped with the obstacle course and also provided the children with cookies and bubbles.

The store will also be getting involved with the Pre-School Christmas activities this year. The children are excitedly looking forward to bread making lessons in Sainsbury's kitchen in the store. If you are shopping in Sainsbury's please be sure to visit the Pre-School display. A very, very big thank you to Sainsbury's.



The children help install new planters and try to guess how many of them can fit into one!



**Tai Chi & Chi Kung
Exercises for all ages
GET FITTER AS YOU GET OLDER!**

Tai chi and Chi Kung have been used for centuries to improve health and longevity. They can be adapted for all ages and abilities and can be seated.

**Monday 9.15-10.15am/Thursday 11.30-12.30
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
- balance & co-ordination
- stronger legs and back
- immune system
- stress levels
- blood pressure
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ENERGY-EFFICIENT COOKING

Changing the way you cook can really reduce the amount of energy you use and cut your energy bills. Did you know that the cost of cooking accounts for about 4% of the average gas and electricity bill? Here are ten tips for energy-efficient cooking.

1. Your oven uses far more electricity than almost any other appliance in your home. The microwave oven is the most energy-efficient so try some of the fabulous recipes for gourmet microwave cooking found online.
2. Try a slow cooker as they use as much energy as a traditional light bulb, and you can leave your food to cook slowly while you get on with other things.
3. Always make toast in your toaster (not on a grill).
4. Cook in batches. This way you make sure all the space and heat in the oven is being used. Freeze the portions of food for easy dinners later on.
5. While cooking keep the oven closed so it doesn't lose heat and need more energy to get back to temperature. Also, try to keep the oven door clean so you check your food rather than opening the door.
6. Pre-boil potatoes before roasting as this reduces the amount of time they take to cook in the oven.
7. Use glass or ceramic dishes as they're the most efficient to use in the oven and reduce the temperature required for cooking.
8. By inserting stainless steel skewers into baked potatoes and joints of meat, you can speed up the cooking process.
9. If you turn off your electric oven ten minutes before the end of cooking time, it will save energy and still keep the same temperature.
10. On the hob, always put lids on pans to keep the heat in and use the right size of pan for the amount of food you are cooking. Turn down the ring or burner once the cooking temperature is reached; simmer food rather than boiling it.

Try making one or two changes at first and slowly introducing another one each week. If you can make these ten changes, you might be pleasantly surprised by the impact on your fuel bill at the end of the quarter. Let us know how you got on by emailing winacc@winacc.org.uk or find us on [facebook.com/winacc](https://www.facebook.com/winacc)

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.



OLIVER'S BATTERY WI

Summer holidays are well and truly over and autumn has arrived with such glorious and stunning colours to regal our road sides and gardens. At Oliver's Battery WI we began the new term in September with a talk on English Traditions, notably the tradition of Morris Dancing expounded with great historical detail and with such alacrity by a keen dancer himself, Mr Hutchinson. We followed this in October with an enlightening and entertaining talk from Mr Mark Watts on Winchester Prison past and present. Did you know that the saying 'money from old rope' comes from the fact that the hangman used to sell bits of the noose rope to interested parties, thus enhancing his paltry salary? There were many more anecdotes where that came from.

Alongside these interesting talks the OB WI involves itself in craft afternoons, coffee mornings, a monthly book club, a newly formed walking club, a knit and natter group, helping with the project Days for Girls (hygiene kits for school girls in Africa) and recently helping to marshal the Winchester Half Marathon. Something for everyone.

November promises Christmas Crafts with Mrs Williams and December our OB WI Christmas social and The Winchester Group Carol Service. Our numbers continue to grow with two new members last month so please do contact our president Katherine Elsmore at Katherine.elsmore@hotmail.co.uk if you are interested. We meet every third Monday of the month at St Peter's Primary School Hall. You will be very welcome indeed.

MOO MUSIC™

at Badger Farm

Award Winning Moo Music sessions for the under 5s starting in January 2017 on a Thursday afternoon in the Community Centre

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

www.moo-music.co.uk/winchester

BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

The newly replaced Davis Play Area has proved a great success and we were very pleased to receive a large number of thank yous. Our attentions are now focused on the Central Play Area. We want to replace the worn out equipment at this site as well. We previously held a meeting to ask for your permission to obtain a loan for this project, and we are now asking you to attend another meeting. We would like to know your ideas on what equipment would be most appealing at this site. So, we will be pleased to see you on the **9th January 2017 at 6.30-7.30pm in THE BUSHFIELD ROOM, BADGER FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE**. In the mean time we are arranging to have some of the play structures refurbished.

A very interesting meeting for the proposed Whiteshute Ridge's new management structure was held in October and attracted nearly 200 people. The very large open space is quite amazing and it is hoped that the area will be even more delightful when the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust use their skills in maintaining the area. They obviously have the means and knowledge to encourage more diversity in both plant and wildlife and we look forward to these results in the future.

Now for some less pleasant items.

Some property owners are unfortunately unaware that the areas protruding onto pavements from their boundary (cartilages) are their responsibility. Please cut back shrubs (brambles & nettles especially) that can attack pedestrians. Let's try and make Badger Farm a tidy and pleasant area with neat and litter free gardens. It has also been noticed that some food is being put out for birds on the playgrounds. Please, please don't as this can attract RATS.

WE ALL WISH YOU A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND SAFE AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

Notice appertaining to planning at Badger Farm.

Remember there is NO PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT on Badger Farm.

Community News Distributor Needed for Oliver's Battery



We are looking for a volunteer to deliver Community News in Oliver's Battery Road South, from the junction with Badger Farm Road to the junction with Old Kennels Lane. Regretfully, unless a volunteer is found, Community News will not be delivered to these properties in future.

Please contact Jan Dawkins, Bookings Secretary, Badger Farm Community Centre - telephone 01962 868630 if you can help.

Thank you.

Bark and Squeak Dog Walking and Pet Service



- VIP walks? This means that every dog is treated like my own and when the walk has ended I make sure they are settled before leaving
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OLIVER'S
BATTERY
PLAN

Our Plan is taking on a life of its own – starting before we thought we had finished!! According to our mentor Steve Lincoln, Winchester City Council's Community Planning Manager, this often happens; some ideas emerge quickly and resulting actions swiftly achieved, often before the actual written Plan is finalised. Other issues are longer term, taking years to resolve. Local residents' fears about the safety of the junction of Oliver's Battery Road South and Badger Farm Road appear to be just such a case. Whilst

we welcome the recent opportunity for the Parish Council to visit Cllr. Humby to talk about local concerns, it is clear that the problems rate low on the Hampshire County Council criteria for funding works.

One event that has started up as a direct result of our Plan is the monthly booking at the South Winchester Golf Club. **It's on a Thursday and the first dates for 2017 will be published early in the New Year.** The 'Oliver's Battery Bar' is an opportunity for Oliver's Battery residents to get together regularly. The fact that we do not have a pub is a disappointment for many, so this arrangement is being trialled as an alternative. Food is available at reasonable prices. **The hours are from 6pm till 9pm and food is available until 8pm. See you there in 2017!**

Film Nights at the Oliver's Battery Primary School (OBPS) are also being explored. The Questionnaire identified that people would like a film club, but around 30 tickets would need to be sold at each showing to make it viable. There's a cinema in Winchester and it's easy to view films at home these days; will enough people want to attend local showings?? Nevertheless, it's certainly worth a try and the first one is planned **on 27 January at 7.30pm in the School Hall, OBPS.** Further details will be provided nearer the time. We have yet to choose the film – all suggestions welcome! Getting residents out to support new ventures is key to developing our sense of community. Demonstrating the actual level of community involvement in local activities and events is essential before committing to long term solutions. The questionnaire results identify that Oliver's Battery is changing – a 25% turnover in the past five years with many more families with younger children reinforces the importance of using current data for establishing future requirements.

One more thing that is proposed as a result of Questionnaire responses is a **monthly news sheet, just for Oliver's Battery.** Our much-praised Oliver's Battery Magazine is not currently in operation, but we hope this will fill a gap for people from all sectors of the community for hard copy news and to find out what's going on. So watch out for the **Oliver's Battery Clarion**, coming to your letterbox in the New Year!

If you have suggestions for activities and events in Oliver's Battery including for our younger families, contact the Oliver's Battery Plan Team at constance@leach154.plus.com



OLIVER'S BATTERY PARISH COUNCIL

Road Junction

The meeting with Councillor Rob Humby, Executive Member for Environment and Transport for Hampshire County Council (HCC),

referred to in my last report, regarding the junction of Oliver's Battery Road South and Badger Farm Road took place on 19 October. The Parish Council (PC) had, prior to the meeting, sent to Councillor Humby data regarding the considerable number of concerns about the junction highlighted in responses to the Parish Plan questionnaire. Councillor Humby explained that funds for highways improvements were limited and had to be prioritised. The accident history for the junction did not make it a high enough priority for major expenditure. However, the PC pointed out that in 2015 they had suggested some changes to the junction that would not involve significant funds and had indicated its willingness to contribute to some of the cost. There had been no response from HCC. At Councillor Humby's request, those suggested changes have been resubmitted to him for consideration by HCC.

The PC also asked for the speed limit for the section of road from Stanmore Lane to the Sainsbury's roundabout to be reduced from 40 mph to 30 mph. The PC were informed that implementing speed limits with signs alone generally only achieves a marginal reduction in speeds and in more recent years HCC have had to apply stricter criteria and have more input from the Police.

Perhaps somewhat perversely, the Police will not support schemes to reduce speed limits if existing mean speeds are not close to the proposed new limit (as was found to be the case on Badger Farm Road) unless traffic calming measures are also provided. Their concern is new speed limits will not be complied with and merely create an enforcement problem. The PC asked, and HCC agreed, for a further review of the current injury-accident data throughout the route from Hockley Link to Pitt roundabout. In addition, further speed surveys along the same route will also be undertaken, including at a new location between Oliver's Battery Road South and Pitt roundabout.

Finally, we requested that the overgrown foliage on the bend in Badger Farm Road opposite the Ridgeway junction be cut back to improve the sightline from Oliver's Battery Road South. These budgets are also limited.

Play equipment for younger children

A project by the PC to upgrade the toddler play equipment in the recreation ground was shortlisted, along with two other projects, for a public vote in Tesco stores to receive funding from the Tesco Bags of Help Initiative. Depending on the outcome of the vote that took place in the first two weeks of November, our project entitled "Vikings and the Saxon Noble King" will receive a grant of £8,000, £10,000 or £12,000.

Car Crime

Finally, we would remind all residents of the need to ensure that their vehicles are kept locked at all times whether parked on drives or on the road.

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

WINCHESTER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

With Winter on the doorstep, activities in the garden are winding down but there is still time to plant more bulbs - how about some daffodils to cheer up the garden in early Spring. There is probably some more tidying up to be done as well, and does your garden shed need reorganising too? In the dark evenings there is time to browse through seed catalogues and to make plans for next year's flower and vegetable beds. But keep the second Wednesday of the month free because you might like to come and join us for a horticultural evening with an interesting talk to listen to and time to chat to friendly fellow gardeners. This is what we have lined up for the next three months:

December (Wed 14th) ~ A relaxed Christmas meeting with a **demonstration** of how to make an attractive wreath for your front door along with seasonal refreshments and Christmas cake.

January (Wed 11th) ~ Thomas Stone will share his expertise on how to **prune roses, fruit trees and soft fruit**. Here is an opportunity for you to find out how and when to get your pruning done.

February (Wed 8th) ~ Horticulturist and garden designer Alan Edmondson will join us to give us what promises to be a very interesting talk on Arthur Bulley and his influence on gardening today.

Our monthly meetings are held at the Winchester Club, Churchill Room, Worthy Lane, Winchester and start at 7.30pm. All welcome. Visitors fee £3. For more details visit our website: www.winhortsoc@weebly.com.

We look forward to meeting you.

AN UPDATE FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS

JUNCTION WITH BADGER FARM ROAD

Concern about the junctions from Oliver's Battery and the Ridgeway with Badger Farm Road is a top issue for local residents. Your District Councillors recently met with Cllr. Rob Humby, Executive Member for the Environment and Transport at Hampshire County Council to discuss key local priorities and potential options to improve both junctions. Hampshire County Council works closely with Hampshire Constabulary to improve road safety so further investigation of accident data and traffic speeds has been requested for the length of Badger Farm Road. We will then work with both Parish Councils to prioritise the issues they have identified to help improve visibility and access.

PARLIAMENTARY BOUNDARY CHANGES

The Chairs of the five Parish Councils in the Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery Ward met with the District Councillors to consider their response following the publication of the Boundary Commission's proposals. The Commission has proposed Colden Common, Twyford, Compton, Otterbourne and Hursley should fall under the Test Valley Constituency. Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery will remain with the Winchester MP although will be part of the same District Ward as Compton, Otterbourne and Hursley under Winchester City Council.

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

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

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

There was general agreement that all these Parishes would like to remain within the Winchester Parliamentary Constituency due to the strong local transport, education and planning links with the City of Winchester and between each Parish.

CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS IN WINCHESTER

Winchester's arrangements for Christmas are well under way with extended operating hours for the Park & Ride and the use of parking marshals to help guide traffic and reduce congestion. There will also be electronic indicators to show the availability of parking spaces across the city. Details of Winchester's Christmas events and activities can be found on the Christmas website

<http://www.christmasinwinchester.co.uk/>

BUSHFIELD CAMP

The agents for the Church Commissioners have recently held an initial meeting with senior officers in the City Council with a view to considering development options for the site. Your Councillors have asked to be kept fully involved about any discussions and plans for this opportunity site. We will clarify the likely nature and extent of any development including protection and public access to the open spaces within the site.

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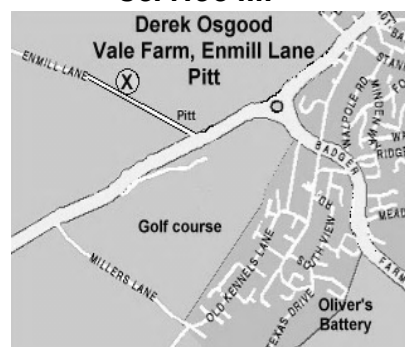
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The Carroll Centre offers a wide variety of regular activities that are aimed at the the local community. Below is a schedule of their weekly programme which features something for everybody. They were delighted and very proud recently when the Head of Centre, Jool Heller-Dixon was recognised by the University of Winchester and Hampshire Chronicle Community Star Award which was presented to her by Chancellor Alan Titchmarsh with Vice-Chancellor Joy Carter and Chronicle editor Ian Murray in attendance. If you would like more information on

events and activities, please contact The Carroll Centre, Somers Close, Stanmore, Winchester, SO22 4EJ, telephone 01962 840022, email c.y.c.@btconnect.com or visit their website www.thecarrollcentre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	Stanmore Community Library
9:15—11:45 Family Learning Working with Children (Level 1)		9:15—11:45 Family Learning Be Confident in YOU Course including confidence building and motivational techniques.	9:30—11:00 Parents and Tots Term time £1 entry Come and enjoy fun activities and light refreshments.	10:30—12:30 EActive Stanmore For Retired or 60+ Develop skills and confidence with IT, make new friends and find common interests.	Hampshire Library now offers a NEW Click & Collect book exchange at the Carroll Centre Monday—Friday 9:00—16:00 
12:00—14:00 Boogie Mites School readiness activities for rising 5s	12:30—14:30 Cook & Doodle For Parents, Carers & Under 5s Develop cooking skills, learn some easy healthy recipes and make new friends.			18:00—19:00 Youth Theatre For 7—11s Coming soon—ask for details	
12:00—14:00 Baby Weighing Every second Monday of the month 					
Poppins Nursery OFSTED & HCC registered Term Time Nursery care For 2, 3 and 4 years old Spaces available Mon— Fri : 9:15– 15:15 Contact Eloisa: 01962 840022 eloisa.broadbent.cyc@btconnect.com 			20:00—22:00 Tooled-Up For 13+ Drop-in sessions for young people aged 13+ Ask questions—get answers.	19:00—21:00 Complete Cook Up For 11—19s Free cooking sessions for 11—19 year olds, with the opportunity to take food and recipes home for the family.	Our Supporters       
Poppins After School Care Ofsted registered provision Spaces available: Sessions run until 18:00 Mon—Fri Pick-ups available from Winchester area schools. Contact Georgie: 01962 840022 georgie.newton.cyc@btconnect.com 					
Organisational Support & Management Services Available for non-profit organisations and services. Finance, book-keeping, payroll, independent auditing and other administrative services. Please contact our Finance department for further information: 01962 840 022 finance.cyc@btconnect.com					



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A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

It has been another very busy, interesting and successful year at Badger Farm Community Centre. During the year we have seen some old favourites, namely Jo Jingles and Club Hampshire, sadly leave us but at the same time we have welcomed new hirers including the 7 Winchester Scouts. No two days are ever the same at the Centre which certainly keeps myself and Merv, the Caretaker on our toes! I would like to thank Merv for all his support and help over the past year. Also the staff from Badger Farm Social Club who are always so willing to lend a hand and help out. You may have read in the Autumn edition of Community News that I shall be setting aside my keyboard and handing over to a new Editor next year. This was not a decision taken lightly but I feel, after being in post for over ten years, it's now time to hand over to new expertise and ideas. When a replacement is found I will of course introduce you but at this point I'd just like to thank all contributors, advertisers and those involved in the background organisation of this publication. I've made some very good friends along the way and I shall still be in my office at the Community Centre so do please call in and say hello. My very best wishes to you all for a peaceful Christmas and prosperous New Year.



Jan Dawkins ~ Editor

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...

And now for the tasting and making.... These are definitely the words you've been waiting to hear when you are taking part in a chocolate workshop! Children in Year 4 had a brilliantly tasty, sticky time earlier this term when Chocolate Crafts came into school to run a workshop all about chocolate as part of their Charlie and the Chocolate Factory topic. Having found out all about how chocolate is made the children set about tasting lots of different chocolate before trying their hand at piping and decorating their own chocolate lolly. Piping chocolate is a lot harder than it looks and requires a steady hand and an eye for layout and design. The children practised their design first and then used white chocolate to pipe it onto their lolly. The finished lollies certainly looked very tempting.....!

Positively prehistoric! Birch Class and Willow Class had a great time when they visited Butser Ancient Farm. It was amazing to step so far back in time and discover just how different life was then. The children took part in a range of activities including wattling, chalk carving and even basic archaeology! Using hazel rods up to 4 metres long, they wove a fence before carving a picture of a lump of chalk with a sharpened flint. Prehistoric people would use these as house gods. One of the most interesting activities was learning the basics of archaeology, digging in pits and then analysing what they had found. It really made their Crazy Caveman topic come to life....

What a difference a day makes..... Our school pond has been looking very sad recently; overgrown, silted up and generally not very enticing to wildlife. However, a team of volunteers from the Winchester Hub, who are based at Winchester University came into school and in a 'Ground Force' style operation began the job of restoring the area so we can begin to use it for science topics once more. They had a big task on their hands but plenty of hard work, some sunshine and a few cups of tea later the whole area had been transformed. This is just phase 1 of the plan of course. In the Spring, the volunteers will return, line the pond and fill it with water and hopefully we will persuade a few frogs to make it their home once more.... The children are all very excited about the prospect of their pond looking wonderful again and we really appreciate all the hard work by the Winchester Hub volunteers.

Phizz-whizzingly whoopsy whiffling! That's what the BFG would have said had he seen all the brilliant Roald Dahl character outfits that everyone wore to the grand finale of our Book Week just before half term. It was a busy inspiring week with visits from two award winning authors, Tom Palmer and Ali Sparkes. The children were intrigued to discover that in spite of being a best-selling author, Tom didn't really like reading until he was in his late teens. After answering LOADS of excellent questions from everyone, Tom shared his football reading game with us. A correct answer to a quiz question meant you could take a penalty and try and win a golden trophy. It was brilliant! The children cheered on each valiant footballer and loved the fact that their teachers were the hapless goalies. However, the teachers had the last laugh when Miss Kingshott managed to save every penalty and so won the trophy for herself!

Ali Sparkes, our lovely Patron of Reading was hugely entertaining as usual. Children in Year 1 and 2 had a blast hearing all about her SWITCH series of books and loved seeing Miss Norris and Miss Shephard changed into an eight eyed spider! And even better, Ali officially opened our lovely new Library. Amidst lots of excited cheering she undid the big red bow and unveiled the winning name. From now on the Library will be called The Treehouse Library. Well done to Jeris, Martha and Harley who came up with the most popular name. Hope you have enjoyed spending your book token!

Our **Christmas Fair will be on Friday 9th December 2016 from 3:30pm – 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

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.



JOIN US AT OUR DEMENTIA CAFE IN WINCHESTER

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

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AN UPDATE FROM STEVE BRINE, MP FOR WINCHESTER

They say the pace of life is picking up speed these days and they're probably right. It beggars belief that Christmas is just around the corner again and what a year it's been – so far!

Given the time lag from me writing this column to it landing on your doormat, I won't even try to cover **Brexit** except to say the notion Parliament is somehow prevented from debating the issue is one of the silliest myths of our time. I will continue to keep constituents up-to-date with my thoughts and actions in this respect via my monthly column for the *Hampshire Chronicle* and on my website but you're welcome to write to me anytime of course.

Life in **Westminster** continues to be really busy and recent work for me – alongside everything Brexit of course - has included taking part in a very special debate on baby loss, various events as part of breast cancer awareness month, supporting the new Homeless Reduction Bill and overseeing some real progress in our long-running campaign to fight nuisance calls. Furthermore, my new Ministerial role at the DWP is keeping me on my toes and I am extremely proud of the new Health & Work Green Paper we launched last month. Check it out and see more on all of this via www.stevebrine.com/westminster



Steve with Cllr. Jan Warwick at the Oliver's Battery Junction with Badger Farm Road

Locally there are few more pressing issues than the **Oliver's Battery junction with Badger Farm Road**. It's something many of us have been concerned about for some time and is one of the top issues raised by local residents in the emerging Oliver's Battery Village Plan consultation and regular correspondence with myself as the MP.

For my money, Cllr. Jan Warwick is building a solid reputation as someone who gets things done and often works cross-party to do just that. I was pleased she was able to arrange an initial meeting on this between local representatives including Oliver's Battery Parish Council, all Ward Councillors and Cllr. Rob Humby, Executive Member for the Environment and Transport at Hampshire County Council. I know the session discussed key local priorities and potential options to improve this junction and further investigations on accident data and traffic speeds in the area are very welcome.

For almost a decade now I have been publishing regularly my constituency newspaper, **The Winchester Post**, and the Winter 2016 edition should be with you during November. You can get it online however and share it via www.stevebrine.com/publications

My ongoing **PMQ ballot** is proving more popular than ever. In addition to **Wednesday 7 December 2016**, I have now added **Wednesday 22 March 2017** so do add your name to the draw via www.stevebrine.com/PMQs or 01962 791110.

Finally, there's a great deal of potential change coming to our local NHS in the years ahead and I remain as committed as ever to seeing we have access to the best services and receive treatment that is world-class. To this end, please look out for another **ASKtheNHS** event from me in early January. See www.stevebrine.com/asktheseries for details as they are made available.

Much more on my work, in Westminster and the constituency, via the website.

Steve Brine MP ~ Winchester, Oliver's Battery & Badger Farm



OLIVER'S BATTERY PRE-SCHOOL

Since September, the staff of the preschool have been busy transforming the 'home corner' into a jungle adventure. The 'home corner' is a purpose built space, which enables the preschool to dramatically change into a different theme every 2-3 weeks. The children have been making animals through paper and texture crafts, as well as painting. The little explorers even had a taste of exotic fruit, such as mangoes. The next theme for this area will be 'Space Rocket, Above and Beyond.' Watch this space!



As the preschool is situated among the wonderful school ground of Oliver's Battery Primary School, there have been plenty of opportunities for the children to explore the natural environment. They have been encouraged to use natural materials which can be found in the surroundings, to create pictures and patterns. This has enabled the children to enhance their creativity and continue to develop an awareness of nature. As an added bonus, the children have been given a new 'Mud Kitchen' to play with in the outside playground. This has been a popular choice for the youngsters. See the photographs!



About our pre-school:

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



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

Dear Residents of Badger Farm,

It has been of concern in the last few months that Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery have become the repeated victims of incidents, particularly incidents involving motor vehicles. As we only have two Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in Badger Farm it means that the Hampshire Alerts communications plus crime prevention warnings and incident reports that I send out regularly do not reach many of you so I have asked our police team to provide some information below which I hope you will find helpful.



There have been reports of 16 incidents of theft from motor vehicles in Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery in the past 4 months (01/07/2016 – 03/11/2016). Some of them are still ongoing but there is no suspect at this moment. Most of the cars were left unlocked and entered by unknown person/s. Most of them had small change taken. The offender/s also took sat navs, dash cams, garden tools and any valuable items they could find.

Advice:

- When leaving your car, close all windows and lock your car.
- Don't leave anything on display in your vehicle.
- Leave the glove box and ashtray open to show there's nothing inside.
- Park your car in an attended car park if possible.
- Look for public car parks approved by the Park Mark scheme.
- When parking at home, use your garage. If you don't have a garage, park in a well-lit area.
- Take all your personal possessions with you.
- Remove sat nav holders and visible sat nav ring marks from windcreens.
- Fit an alarm or immobiliser to your car.
- Record the details of your property on the Immobilise website.
- Do not store your car's documents in the car.
- Secure your wheels using locking wheel nuts.

If you would like to know more about Neighbourhood Watch or receive the communications and regular Alerts please do contact me. Please help to keep Badger Farm a safe and caring community, be vigilant and look out for your neighbour plus of course report anything suspicious as soon as possible to the police by ringing 101. As always though ring 999 in the case of a crime in progress or life is at risk.

Sandie Vining ~ Tel: 01962 865384

Email: Sandievining@btinternet.com

Neighbourhood Watch Representative for Winchester City
Police NPT (Neighbourhood Policing Team)

Dementia Friendly Winchester is run by a group of volunteers who are passionate about raising awareness of dementia. We want to ensure that people with dementia can lead a good life in the city and are met with understanding and support when they are out and about. Many local businesses and organisations have, as a result, committed to becoming dementia friendly and their staff have become Dementia Friends.

We are a very friendly group of people and we meet once a month, usually in central Winchester. We are also looking for more volunteers and need help with PR and marketing (including running a new website and writing newsletters), taking notes at monthly meetings, starting new projects or liaising with businesses.

For further information please email
dementiafriendlywinch@hotmail.com

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The Charity Christmas Card Shop in the Tourist Information Office in Guildhall Winchester has an amazing choice of cards from over 50 different charities. The shop is run wholly by volunteers so all proceeds go back to the member charities. The charities range from small local ones to the big national charities, although nearly all of them have local branches, so you can find cards of every sort, for every taste including many designed by local artists.



**Alzheimer's
Society** | Leading the
fight against
dementia

The countdown to the festive season has begun so come and join us for a magical evening of **Carols by Candlelight**. Taking place in the historic and beautiful location of **Romsey Abbey** on **Wednesday 21 December at 7.30pm** - it promises to be a cheer-filled evening for all the family. The fabulous evening includes festive readings from special guests, plenty of carols to sing along to and delicious winter treats for all the family. There'll be sing-along carols and festive readings from some very special guests. You'll also enjoy some lively musical performances from the Wildern Community Choir, Michelmersh Silver Band and a special performance from our very own Singing for the Brain® group. Plus some delicious winter treats! All proceeds will help transform the lives of people affected by dementia. Tickets cost just £10 for an adult, £5 for a child under 12 and £15 for a combined ticket for a person with dementia and their carer. Tickets are limited so don't miss out on this magnificent evening. We look forward to seeing you in December. For more information about this event please call us on 0330 333 0804 or email regionalcarols@alzheimers.org.uk

Badger Farm Toddlers

Thursdays 13:30 - 15:00

Badger Farm Community Centre

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

All welcome, run by qualified pre-school teachers!

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

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

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

Open term time only!

Info: Catherine 07990037467
or Esther etsouramanis@icloud.com

Could you spare a couple of hours a week to help at Badger Farm Toddlers? They are looking for volunteers to assist in the kitchen making refreshments, washing up and clearing away at the end of the session. It's an ideal opportunity to make new friends and spend a couple of enjoyable hours. Please telephone or email Esther or Catherine or contact Jan at the Community Centre - 01962 868630.

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Email: andy@adhelectrical.com



BADGER FARM SOCIAL CLUB YOUR FAMILY FRIENDLY LOCAL PUB !



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

Opening times:

Sunday: 12noon – 10.30pm

Mon-Thurs: 4.30 – 11pm,

Friday: 4pm – 12am

Saturday: 12noon – 12am

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



Join for a
third of the
price *

Social club teams: **DARTS** – both Men's and Ladies– two teams each.

POOL – the Men's team play Wednesday's and are doing well in the league. We'd like to
recruit new members and also set up a Ladies team! Note – even if you like pool but don't want to
join the team we offer **FREE** pool every Tuesday from 7pm. **CRIBBAGE** - new season has just started
and runs until May, so come and join in! If you are interested in joining us pop in and speak to Mel or anyone at the Club. On
top of the above the Club also runs a weekly meat draw, lottery bonus ball winner and other weekly Promotions. Future
promotions include discount beers for all televised Saints matches as well as future sporting events such as the Autumn
International's (12 Nov to 03 Dec). For Christmas we will have a Children's party with Santa Claus in his Grotto. The Adults
party will include the annual Draw with top prize and will occur a week before Christmas. The New Year's Eve party will
include the usual format of Disco! We have multiple TV screens showing numerous sporting events via Sky and BT
(Football, Rugby, Darts, American Football, etc). We offer numerous lagers, ciders, Guinness and at least 3 quality crafted
real ales as well many other drinks at club prices (Cheaper than pubs !) Do pop in to see what's on offer and ask for a
Membership Form!

*Ends 31 December



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



ANN'S COMPUTER CORNER

A picture can inspire, can calm or can amuse. And if you spend many hours in front of your computer, what better showcase for the pictures you love than your desktop? Fortunately, Windows makes it really easy to create your own exhibition. Here's how!

The first thing to do is create a folder for your chosen pictures. Open File Explorer and navigate to an appropriate place—probably the Pictures folder. Right-click and select *New > Folder*. Give this folder an appropriate name, eg *Desktop pictures*, then close File Explorer. Now right-click anywhere on the Desktop and select *Personalise*. In the dropdown menu underneath *Background*, select *Slideshow*. Click *Browse* under *Choose albums for your slideshow*, navigate to the folder you've just created and then click *Choose this folder*. Choose how often you want to change the picture and then *Choose a fit*—I find *Fill* usually works best. The final tweak I like to make is to click *Colours* on the right-hand side and then tick the box next to *Automatically pick an accent colour from my background*.



Now the folder's ready, it's time to get some photos in there. The obvious thing to do is to use your own photos so you're constantly reminded of that wonderful holiday, that amazing sporting achievement or the cute antics of your cat. Just copy those pictures into the *Desktop pictures* folder you created earlier and sit back and enjoy.

But what if you just want something different, perhaps views of places you've never been? Sites like Pixabay and unsplash.com have an amazing variety of quality-controlled, copyright-free photos submitted by the community that you can download for free and use for whatever you wish. Just be aware that some of these sites include a few sponsored non-free pictures in their search results to help finance themselves.

Personally, I'm currently inspired by the stunning high-resolution images from the Windows 10 lock screen which are so easy to download using the SpotBright app from the App Store. Read more about this on www.windowscentral.com/spotbright-universal-app-download-those-windows-spotlight.

Don't forget that you can ring the changes just by swapping the photos you have in your folder, or by choosing a new folder. Feeling stressed? Immerse yourself in some calming beach scenes (unsplash.com/search/tropical-beach). Feeling artistic? Show off your Prisma creations (prisma-ai.com/). Feeling festive? Get your desktop "beginning to look a lot like Christmas" (pixabay.com/en/photos/?q=christmas).

And on that note, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas. If you didn't get a chance last year, enjoy my advent calendar on winchesteradvent.weebly.com/ with a different festive video every day.

Ann

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



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, 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



Greetings

Most people tell me of this busy time I have coming as if they don't have one as well. There are a few extra services to plan and take but much of my extra busyness is by attending community and school events that you all plan and put on. It has always been a great privilege to serve the people of such an active community.

Please look out for details of the Christmas service in both of our churches, there will be posters up and details on our web site www.stlukeswinchester.org

Two events that I am keen to let you know about - **Sunday 18th December** there is to be another 'party' at St Luke's from 2.00pm till 5.00pm with activities for all ages, making cards and decorations [*for home and church*], icing biscuits, giant colouring frieze of the Christmas story, music and craftwork. Then following on from 5.00pm till 6.00pm we will be lighting the Christmas lights on the tree, with names of loved ones on baubles, Blessing the crib and figures of the Christmas story, sing community carols and listening to the choir as we enter together in the last week before Christmas ... hope to see you there ... ask if you need more information

Mike



NATURE NOTES FROM OLIVER'S BATTERY



Initially I was angry at the wanton destruction. Now I am sad and disappointed. I had planted an oak tree, barely a whip, from Windsor Great Park given to the parish four years ago to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. I sited it beside a footpath away from the paddocks because acorns ingested in excess are toxic to horses. In four years it had grown into a little tree 50cm high, safe within a tube surrounded by another six to prevent accidental damage. Gradually the tubes disappeared but the tree was large enough to survive alone. Recently I found it bent over with the stem partially attached. Thinking it was accidental damage I bound it with cloth secured with soft twine but two days later it was completely broken off and the binding gone. That is vandalism! Who is walking our footpaths? What mind set causes this? This National Emblem of strength and beauty hosts hundreds of insects, a great source of food for birds and is of important value to other wildlife including the stag beetle, now a protected species.

Have you seen any hedgehogs squashed on the roads recently? I haven't and that is of concern. It isn't that people are driving more sensitively; it is due to a huge decline in hedgehog numbers. Their population was estimated at 30 million in the UK in the 1950's declining by the 1990's to 1.5 million with a drastic decline in the past decade said to be in excess of 40%. Why? There are various hypotheses. In rural areas agriculture has intensified with loss of permanent pasture, field margins and hedgerows. In urban and suburban areas gardens are managed differently, many being tightly fenced and offering little shelter. Hedgehogs travel at least a mile every night looking for food, water and a mate. Primarily insectivores they also eat slugs, baby mice, frogs, worms, small snakes, eggs and sometimes fruit.

I have had little response to my request for local hedgehog sightings; none from Oliver's Battery, only Badger Farm. Does this mean you haven't seen one in your garden? One person feeds hers with dried mealworms, suet pellets and sunflower hearts and provides a shallow bowl of fresh water. You can find out more on www.hedgehogstreet.org where non fishy cat/dog food, minced meat, chopped boiled eggs and crushed cat biscuits are also recommended. Never provide milk, it results in diarrhoea! Bread and raisins are harmful. If your garden is like a fortress you can help by making a small hole of 13 centimetres square in or under your fence. Plead with neighbours to do likewise. It is too small for most pets if you want to keep cats out. Check your compost heaps before forking over and any piles of wood or dry leaves before burning because hedgehogs usually hibernate from November to mid-March. I end with sadness. Two hedgehogs were recently run over and killed in Meadow Way. Motorists please slow down!

Norma Goodwin ~ norma.goodwin@btinternet.com

Ed's. Note: Thank you so much Norma for another fascinating and thought-provoking article. I have thoroughly enjoyed reading these since you began to contribute to Community News regularly.



OLIVER'S BATTERY COUNTRYSIDE GROUP

FLOWERS FOR BEES ~ Some of you may have noticed two bare patches of soil on the Battery either side of the Oliver's Battery village sign. Well, keep your eye on them as hopefully by next summer we will have a spectacular display of wild flowers!

Thanks to a kind donation from the Parish Council, the Countryside Group have sown a mixture of native wild flower seeds. Work started in early October when the soil was lifted using a turf cutter and then two weeks later the seeds were sown. Two information signs have been erected to show what you can expect to see growing here next year. Not only will the project create an attractive corner to passers by but it will also provide pollen and nectar rich flowers for our bees and butterflies. So watch this space!

OB WILDLIFE AREA WORK PARTIES ~ The wildlife area (between the recreation area and the bridleway) has matured well since its planting ten years ago. The shrubs need coppicing this winter and you are invited to join in these activities on: **Saturday 3rd December; Saturday 6th January and Saturday 4th February from 10am to midday.**

Beat the Bounds Sunday 22nd January 2016. Beat the (complete) Bounds of Oliver's Battery Parish with Colin Stride as your guide. We will start this long walk from the OB Wildlife Area at 10.30am. For more details of all these events, look at the web site nearer the dates: www.oliversbatterycountysidegroup.org

BADGER FARM & OLIVER'S BATTERY PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

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



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