



# Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery Community News

Your Local Community Newsletter  
Winter 2018

## **BADGER FARM** **TODDLERS!**

### **Badger Farm Fun for Bouncing Babies and Tiny Toddlers**

It's a typical Thursday afternoon at Badger Farm Community Centre. 1.30pm. The Battery Hall is silent. Spread all around the large space are tables laden with an assortment of fun activities and play equipment! Children's books, toys, jigsaw puzzles, blocks, musical instruments, animals, letter and number play, colouring pens, sticky play, paint sticks, chalk boards, role play, dolls, car mats and cars of all shapes and sizes, play tunnel, kids' pushchairs and trikes.

The door to the hall swings wide open and in steps Kim, along with her mum, Lesley, and

her two boys, Joshua (3) and Henry (2), some of our regulars. Fast forward a few minutes and the room is awash with noise and busy with mums, dads, grandparents, children and babies. The latest Toddler Group session is in full swing!

As you look around the room, you will notice a designated baby area here, filled with an assortment of colourful play equipment specifically for the very small, including a bouncy chair, baby gyms with dangables and shakeables and other sensory equipment. There are also baby weighing scales, and a changing area.

Outside, when weather permits, there's an additional space for the children to explore, often by ride-on toy car, where there is also a popular climbing frame and slide.

Badger Farm Toddler Group offers families an invaluable opportunity, not only giving you and your children an hour and a half of play, but also providing a setting in which to meet and make new friends living locally and having children of a similar age.

The format is simple: the cost is £2 per family. Come along any time between 1.30 and 3pm, Thursday afternoons at the Badger Farm Community Centre (term time




only.) There is plenty of seating available, so grab a chair, relax and/or play with your little ones and/or chat away. The choice is yours. For grown-ups we provide a cup of tea or coffee (decaf available) and for your little ones there is a snack time at 2.30pm.

We hope to see you at a session sometime soon!

**Badger Farm Baby and Toddler Group.**  
**Thursdays 1.30-3pm (term-time only.)**

**£2 per session. Birth to school age  
(0 to age 4.)**

Contact: Catherine  
07990 037467.  
Email [enquiries@bfobrca.org](mailto:enquiries@bfobrca.org)

 Follow us on  
Facebook. Search  
for Badger Farm  
Baby and Toddler  
Group.



## WANT TO ADVERTISE WITH US?

### HAVE A RELEVANT COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION?

#### Get in touch!

BFOBRCA , 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 2019** issue:

**Friday 1st February**

**Editor: Berenice Cottrell**



# I

Thought it was time for a photo change, to something more seasonal! I know it's not something we adults like to think about until the week before, but as Christmas is nearly upon us there are some really helpful things in this issue. You'll find where to get your Christmas cards and things to do over the festive season. More importantly, the Chat Tea Café has started at the Community Centre. It's aimed at combating loneliness which is something that in the winter months can be particularly difficult for those who are alone. Do take a look at the article on page 10, and more importantly spread the word. There's also some helpful advice on how to stay safe this season, so be sure to check it out. Above all, have a brilliant Christmas whatever you are doing, and a happy New Year. See you all in 2019.

## Local Announcements

### Start your Christmas celebrations with an evening of entertainment.

A charity concert is being given by The Winchester Fusion Choir under the direction of Marie O'Brien. Concert will be held at St. Peter's R.C. Church, Jewry Street on Friday 7th December at 7.30 pm. Refreshments available from 6.45 pm. Raffle on the night. Tickets £7.50 available at St. Peter's Parish Centre, Jewry St. Winchester, SO23 8RY or via email: [fusionchoirconcerttickets@gmail.com](mailto:fusionchoirconcerttickets@gmail.com) The ticket sales will support three local charities: Winchester Youth Counselling, Piam Brown Ward - Wessex Children's Cancer Charity and St. Vincent De Paul Society, supporting young vulnerable families.

### Post Box at Elder Close

Announcement regarding the Post Box at Elder Close. Several of us had enquired of Royal Mail and our local councillor, when it suddenly disappeared during building works to the end house. A big thank you to Steve Brine and all who spoke up for us, when it looked like we had lost it for good. There are some very, very happy residents now in the Elder Close/Ridgeway vicinity. Now it is back, please use it, we do not want to lose it again. Thank you, Tricia Bennett.



Running from the 25th October, you can get your Christmas Card's and help local charities too.

Tel: 01962 840500

Address: Winchester Tourist Information Centre, Guildhall, Winchester, SO23 9GH

E-mail: [tourism@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:tourism@winchester.gov.uk)

Website: <https://www.visitwinchester.co.uk/event/charity-christmas-card-shop/>

### Administration Assistant

We are looking for an Administration Assistant for the Community Centre to assist the Booking Secretary. This post initially will be for four hours a week plus cover for holiday and sickness. Please apply by e-mail to Brian Laming at [blaming@btinternet.com](mailto:blaming@btinternet.com) by Friday 14th December.

## **JUST SOME OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ACTIVITIES**

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>DAY</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>	<b>COST</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
Badger Farm Art Group	Thursday	1.30pm – 4.00pm	Sarah Zimmer snippycards@hotmail.co.uk	£7.50 per session	A friendly drop in art group providing a space to paint in a relaxed setting. All abilities welcome.
Badger Farm ACOL Club	Friday	7.15pm – 10.30pm	Roland Richardson 023 8025 1277	£1 visitors £15 annual	Bridge Club.
Badger Farm Bridge Club	Tuesday	7.15pm – 10.30pm	Fred Hotchen 01794 301185 - 07771 854 347 fred.hotchen@btinternet.com	Enquire Direct	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	3/4 years £4.50ph 2 years £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.
Hampshire Wildlife Trust	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month	7.30pm –10.00pm	Loraine Martin 01962 861182	£4 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 per class	A fun and friendly class designed to help keep you fit and toned. Discounts available for multiple classes.
Healing Trust	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month	10.00am-12.30pm	Doreen Rivett 01962 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 & Toddlers	Thursday	1.30pm-3.00pm	Catherine Thomas 07990 037 467	£2 per family per session	All parents, guardians and child minders with children aged new born to 5 years welcome. Just turn up on the day!
Royal British Legion	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday monthly	7.30pm-8.30pm	Stanley Judd 01962 841402		A warm welcome awaits you at your local Royal British Legion group meeting.
Senshi Ryu Karate	Thursday	6.30pm-7.30pm	Phil Aucott senshiryukarate@gmail.com	Enquire direct	Become fitter, more flexible, stronger, more disciplined, focused and confident
Shall We Dance	Wednesday	1.45pm-2.45pm	Sergiy Bondarenko shallwedance2018@gmail.com	£5 per session	A fun and friendly class designed to help keep you fit and toned. Discounts available for multiple classes.
Slimming World	Saturday	9.30am-11.00am	Steve Coombes 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 5.30am-7.30	0845 073 0460	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	6.30-7.45 beginners/intermediates 7.00pm-8.00pm seniors (black belts to 9.00pm)
Yoga	Monday Friday	9.30am-11.00am 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.
(PSC AHED) Gentle Therapeutic Yoga	Tuesday	1.30pm-3.00pm	Christine Giles www.psc.ac.uk/ahed 01962 886166	Enrol online or call Registry 01962 886166	Become fitter, calmer & more relaxed. Improve mobility, strength & stamina using yoga and correct breathing.



## **BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL**

With the dark nights drawing in, our attention turns to matters of safety and security.

Badger Farm is a lovely place to live, but we could all do that little bit more to make it a safer place too.

Firstly, the Parish Council has been made aware of speeding issues on certain roads in the parish, including Badger Farm Road, Ridgeway and Meadow Way. To gain a fuller picture of the scale of the problem (isolated or regular incidents and which roads), it would be very useful for any concerned residents to get in touch with our Clerk. You can write to us care of Badger Farm

Community Centre, by phone on 07463 760801/01425 656010, by email at [clerk@badgerfarm-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@badgerfarm-pc.gov.uk) or via our social media channels. Your comments will be passed to Cllr Harvey Skinner who represents us on all transport related issues. All your comments will be collated and BFPC will assess if further action may be appropriate e.g. speed monitoring or displays. We will then liaise with relevant authorities to help us address the issue.

If you are concerned about bogus door-to-door sales, scam emails, distraction burglaries etc. there are a few basic things you can do to protect yourself. Why not consider setting up a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme for your street? Sandie Vining is the Neighbourhood Watch Representative for Winchester City. You can contact her on 865384 or email [sandievin-ing@btinternet.com](mailto:sandievin-ing@btinternet.com) for further information. She is also happy just to

add you to her distribution list without being part of NW so that you can keep in the loop with all local crime information. You can also contact Carol Wade who is a Neighbourhood Watch volunteer with Hampshire Police. Phone her on 07768 542305 or email [carol.wade@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:carol.wade@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)

If you are concerned about possible fraud you can contact Action Fraud. They are the UK's national fraud and cyber crime reporting centre. Call 0300 123 2040 or visit [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk)

Enjoy the cosy Autumn evenings and do contact us if you have any concerns.

Badger Farm Parish Council meet on the second Monday of each month (except August) at 7.30pm in the Bushfield Room at Badger Farm Community Centre. All residents are welcome to attend.



## **OLIVER'S BATTERY PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Texas Drive Field**

In the last issue of this newsletter I referred to the refusal of Winchester City Council (WCC) to accept our original nomination of the Texas Drive field as an asset of community value (ACV) and the subsequent submission of a new nomination, by the PC, in May 2018. On 21 September 2018, WCC notified our three WCC councillors that the Texas Drive field (known by its Land Registry title as Oliver's Battery, Silkstead Farm, Compton) had been successfully accepted on to the WCC List of Assets of Community Value. The landowner of this property is now legally required to notify WCC if, at any time in the future, they decide to dispose of this land. This will enable the community and the PC to set the second phase of the Community Right to Bid in motion if they so desire.

### **Road Junction Improvements**

During the first two weeks of September the improvements to the Oliver's Battery Road South (OBRS) and Badger Farm Road (BFR) junction were completed. We are grateful to Mr & Mrs Owen at 80 OBRS for their cooperation to enable the footpath outside their house to be widened thus making it easier for pedestrians and those with pushchairs to pass each other. With the small traffic island in the centre of the junction removed and the new white hatched road markings it is now easier for vehicles to turn from BFR into OBRS without mounting the footway at the corner. In addition there is more room for vehicles turning left out of OBRS when other vehicles are

waiting to turn right. The yellow box junction also helps to keep BFR free of queuing traffic, allowing easier access to and exit from OBRS. The PC continues to work with our city and county councillors to press for a reduction in the speed limit on BFR from 40 to 30 mph.

### **Overgrown Hedges**

Residents are reminded of their responsibility to ensure that their hedges and other edging plants do not intrude onto public footways. People passing by should be able to use the footway outside your property, without having to brush past hedging that is either wet or contains brambles or be forced to use the road. This is particularly important for those using mobility scooters or those partially sighted. Your cooperation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

### **Oliver's Battery Plan**

Following adoption of the Plan, the actions identified for the PC are being progressed (see junction and hedges above). Other items include yellow lining near bends and junctions, further improvements at the Recreation Ground, liaison regarding improvements for the local shops/businesses, updating the PC website and more community liaison.

### **Clerk to the Parish Council**

Our Clerk, Elizabeth Billingham, is stepping down from her role in the Spring of 2019. The PC is grateful for her years of dedicated service since her appointment in November 2009. By the time this article has been published, the process of recruiting a new clerk will be under way.

Brian Mitchener - Chair Oliver's Battery Parish Council  
[cldr.mitchener@oliversbattery.info](mailto:cldr.mitchener@oliversbattery.info) - 01962 623585



# OLIVER'S BATTERY COMMUNITY CENTRE

(Registered Charity Number 1173149)

## ....BUT THERE MAY BE A WAY AHEAD!

You may recall from my previous article in the Summer edition that the St Luke's Parochial Church Council has withdrawn from the agreement with OBCC Ltd to lease the land, on which St Mark's church stands, to build a modern community centre. The Management Team is continuing to progress what future options are available to the charity and its members. These include promoting uses of funds within the community or closure.

The issues are complex and involve the Charity Commission rules.

One of the options available is for OBCC Ltd to focus on one of its charitable aims in providing benefit for the community. It could become a 'Residents' Community Association' in all but name initially. This would have the advantage of retaining the funds in the parish. Fund-raising so far has raised a significant amount before commitments are deducted, and this money could be used to provide a focus and support for local activities.

The current directors do not wish to take part in this concern, considering that younger residents should be involved in its management. We are keen, however, to progress it forward. We need volunteers, therefore, to take over the running of the charity.

Whatever is proposed, a Special General Meeting of members of the charity would be convened.

**So, if you would like to help, then please contact me on 01962 854542 or email (see below) as soon as possible.**

Ian Millar

Chairman

On behalf of the directors of OBCC Ltd

Email: [ianmobcc@yahoo.com](mailto:ianmobcc@yahoo.com)

[Website: www.obccentre.org](http://www.obccentre.org)

*OBCC Ltd is a company limited by guarantee (company number 09882906)*

*Registered Office Address: 3 Bournemouth Road, Chandler's Ford SO53 3DA*



What a wonderful summer we have all enjoyed. The glorious sunny weather has lasted well into October but now the Autumn has made a rather sudden arrival with bitterly cold winds from the Antarctic sweeping through and with it

the start of the Oliver's Battery WI's (OBWI) lively programme of talks and social events. September brought 40 or more of us together to listen to a most colourful and interesting talk about Indian saris. Two charming ladies, namely Sandhya and Raj Banerjee arrived with an array of saris to show us. Did you know there are 9 yards in a single sari? The ladies themselves were, of course, beautifully attired and gracefully demonstrated how to put a sari on some very willing WI volunteer models. Also September around 20 members lined the streets of Oliver's Battery as marshalls for the Winchester half marathon. It was great fun and the runners were very appreciative of our encouraging words as they 'ran' up Old Kennels Lane. In October we invited Mr James Haddrow to talk on the 'Life and Loves of a Taxi Driver' providing much light-hearted amusement and entertainment for our large audience as he recalled many funny anecdotes and stories from his personal experiences.

The annual Hampshire WI Carol Service will be held on 12<sup>th</sup> December at St Mary's Church Kingsworthy with the theme of love.

On November 11<sup>th</sup> the nation will be remembering all those who fought in the Great War 100 years ago. Cathy Winter, a past President of OBWI will be laying a wreath on behalf of the

group, during the Service of Remembrance to be held at Winchester Cathedral. (Members have knitted, sewn and crocheted poppies for it). As many members who are able to, will attend the Service.

This year we are also celebrating 100 years of the Women's Institute. This amazing landmark has been acknowledged by many events throughout the year nationwide and indeed the legacy of the WI continues.

As always we warmly invite you to come and join us on the third Monday of the month at St Peter's Primary School at 7.45. (Next meeting is a bit earlier, Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December). There are the regular monthly coffee mornings, craft meetings, Knit and Knatter, Book Club meetings and more. An opportunity to make new friends, get involved with community events and have a say in national campaigns. Try us for free twice!



## **Alzheimer's Society**

Memory Café

1st Monday of every month

2pm—3:30pm

Do you have memory problems? Are you a carer looking after someone with dementia?

The Alzheimer's Society invites you to their memory café on the 1st Monday of every month for tea/coffee, biscuits and home-made cakes, and to meet other people affected by memory problems. It is a social event covering activities, occasional speakers, or just seeing a friendly face for a chat. If advice or help is required, there is always someone there to assist.

Don't be shy - give it a try!



### **Oliver's Battery Primary School**

**Creative, caring and confident learners for life**

The children have settled well into their new classes in this new school year. We have welcomed lots of new families as well as new staff. Our new school is looking very smart after our refurbishment; the builders have worked extremely hard during the last year improving our school.

Our Year 6's attended an exciting three days at Calshot Activities Centre just before half term where they enjoyed skiing on the dry slope, sailing and kayaking amongst many other activities. They had excellent weather and came back full of exciting stories!

On Thursday 11 October we held an Active School Day where the whole school was encouraged to take part in a wide variety of physical activities including yoga, Bollywood dancing and Zumba – a new experience for a lot of the children.

In the morning of the Active Day we had a visit from Serena Vincent, an under-16 European Champion Shot Putter; she gave the children a very interesting and inspiring talk and demonstrated her shot putt skills with an amazingly long throw!

We finished off the day with the parents joining the children for a run around the school field – it was a really enjoyable day.

We have lots of exciting events coming up this term. We have a theatre company visiting the children with Jack and the Beanstalk in November. Our Christmas Fair is taking place on Friday 14 December – 3.30 – 5pm – everyone welcome.

Year R are performing a Nativity Play, KS1 will be putting on a Christmas production and KS2 will be visiting St Luke's Church. The children are looking forward to a busy term.

'A school that is moving from strength to strength' Ofsted March 2016. We still have places available at our school. Please arrange a visit anytime of the year and see the school at work or see our website for our open morning dates. Either telephone 01962 869496 or email: [admin@oliversb.com](mailto:admin@oliversb.com).

# Folk Singing

English and American folks songs beautifully arranged in 3 and 4 part harmony, voices only. 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.

St Mark's Church, Oliver's Battery. Tuesdays in term time, 1pm-2.15pm, FREE first session, no obligation. £4/£5.

To find out more, email Jac on [jac@folkssinging.com](mailto:jac@folkssinging.com), check the website [www.folkssinging.com](http://www.folkssinging.com), or text/phone on 07941 246685.



### We need your expertise.

We are looking for **HR** and **business** experience to join the team of governors at Oliver's Battery.

The role of the governing body is:

- To help set and review the schools strategic direction and agreeing targets for improvement
- To hold the headteacher and school leaders to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- To oversee the financial performance of the school and making sure public money is well spent

If you are dedicated to ensuring all children get a superb education we want to hear from you.

Email [governoradmin@oliversb.com](mailto:governoradmin@oliversb.com)

# MOO MUSIC™

at Badger Farm

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

To book please email [ali@moo-music.co.uk](mailto:ali@moo-music.co.uk) or call 07833 493153

[www.moo-music.co.uk/winchester](http://www.moo-music.co.uk/winchester)



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**Tel: 01962 676676 or 07795254193**

114 Oliver's Battery Road South, Oliver's Battery, Winchester, Hampshire, SO22 4HB



## 46 Harrow Down

As you may be aware, the property is subject to a council EDMO order, which if granted gives the city council power to take over this property. The EDMO was applied for in January this year, but the owner was given time to obtain planning permission to renovate it.

To date he has applied once and was refused and a second application has been received as well as an appeal. The next tribunal hearing is in January. In addition, the council has been asked to serve a section 215 order which requires the owner to tidy the place up to an acceptable standard. If he does not do this, the council will then undertake the work and put a charge on his property.

## Whiteshute Ridge

By the time you are reading this, the cattle will be back on the ridge for the second year. The council has laid down a surface around the gates so that hopefully there will not be some of the muddy problems we had last year.

## Texas Drive

The appeal on the new house has now been placed with the inspector so hopefully we will know the outcome in the next few months.

Works on the **junction of Oliver's Battery Road South** have now been completed which hopefully will have resolved some of the problems. You will have seen that my colleagues and I have come around with a traffic survey. This is so that we can understand people's problems in the area. This is important so if you could fill it in or go online for the Badger Farm survey to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WX9822H>

Oliver's Battery survey to: -

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WN25G5Q>

## Yellow Lines Consultation Badger Farm

Following complaints about obstructive commuter parking, the city council will shortly consult by residents' letter on possible solutions to this problem, including single or double yellow lines on through routes, marked parking bays, or of course, no change.

Cllr Eleanor Bell Tel No 01962 775521 or email [ebell@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:ebell@winchester.gov.uk)

Cllr Brian Laming Tel No 07973265028 or email [blaming@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:blaming@winchester.gov.uk)



## Christmas Crime Menu



*A few tips on how to stop criminals leaving a bitter aftertaste this Christmas*

### Starters

- Car Thief Classic**  
Tasty & Quick, window left open or car left unlocked = car gone.
- Traditional Starter**  
Instant Take Away, Keys left in vehicle = car gone
- Santa Surprise**  
Takes a little longer, Presents left on back seat or on view = stolen.

### Main Course

- House Jackpot**  
Quick to do, windows and doors left unlocked, no alarm set no light timers on = burglary.
- Christmas Parcels**  
Small medium or large, presents left under the tree in view = stolen.
- Tasty Takeaway**  
Instant grab, keys and bags left in sight = id theft, burglary.

### Dessert

- Cycle Surprise**  
Bikes not marked or secure whipped away in a second.
- Shed Delight**  
Quick treat if tools not marked or shed is in secure
- Garage a la Whoops**  
Expensive items left on view or unmarked = taken.

Always lock doors and windows, leave gifts out of sight, park in well lit areas, take personal items with you.

Use light timers, lock doors and windows properly, use a chain when opening the door, keep keys out of sight

Use good fitting locks or alarms on sheds and garages, mark your property.

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[sales@hampshirevaletingservices.co.uk](mailto:sales@hampshirevaletingservices.co.uk)

## Badger Farm Community Chat Tea Café

Starts Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019, 1pm-3pm

Badger Farm Community Centre.

The Chat Tea Café is a new initiative to be launched on the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and thereafter once a month on a Monday. This is an open invitation to those older people, who might be alone, in the community who wish to join us for a free cup of tea and a slice of cake with no obligation other than a warm welcome.

Enjoying and sharing a community feeling is something we can all benefit from and the Chat Tea Café aims to provide just that in a friendly setting with no strings attached.

There are many people who are retired living in every community that would benefit from the opportunity to go out and engage with others. This is the chance for them to meet in a relaxed welcoming atmosphere, enjoy a hot drink and slice of cake with no obligation.

Should anyone in the community be aware of anyone in these circumstances who would benefit from getting out and a free cup of tea and a cake, please spread the word and tell them about the Chat Tea Café and/or contact Badger Farm Community Centre on 01962 868630 or email [enquiries@bfobca.org](mailto:enquiries@bfobca.org) for more information.

Our team of volunteers help bake cakes and make warm drinks ensuring the Chat Tea Café is a popular and free enterprise serving those that might benefit from it in the community.

We wish to reach out and engage with people where we can make a positive difference to their lives, providing a welcoming location to join us once a month. We are confident that the Chat Tea Café will be successful and will develop as positive news spreads around the Community. We are aware that some may need help in accessing the Centre and again please contact us if this is the case so we can look into the feasibility of supporting all those that need it in the future.

Future dates of the Café in 2019 1-3pm Badger Farm Community Centre

28<sup>th</sup> January 2019

25<sup>th</sup> February 2019

25<sup>th</sup> March 2019

22<sup>nd</sup> April 2019

Badger Farm Chat Tea Café

A Beacon of Welcome and Kindness

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[hrrs@hampshirerecordersinfonia.org.uk](mailto:hrrs@hampshirerecordersinfonia.org.uk)

Come and join us on our events this winter to find out more about wildlife far and near including the amazing variety of wildlife found to be found in a Winchester suburban garden and in the countryside around Alresford. We will also be hearing about the current problems faced by watery life in Hampshire's chalk streams. Our indoor meetings are held in the Bushfield Room at Badger Farm Community Centre at the far end of Sainsbury's car park (SO22 4QB). Non-members are always very welcome at all our events.

For further information about the Group please phone Loraine on 01962 861182 or email Anne - [atardill2@gmail.com](mailto:atardill2@gmail.com).

Alternatively you can visit the Trust website at [www.hiwwt.org.uk/events](http://www.hiwwt.org.uk/events)

<p><b>Wed 12 December</b> <b>7.30 – 9.30 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Places and Wildlife</b> Come and share your photos of a wildlife wonder or favourite place far and near that has inspired a love of nature over a glass of mulled wine/soft drink and nibbles or just come along. As last year photographic expertise not required – enthusiasm for the content far more important. Equipment provided. Please contact Anne Ardill beforehand if showing photographs on 01962 881312 or <a href="mailto:atardill2@gmail.com">atardill2@gmail.com</a>. Admission £4 to include a light buffet.</p>
<p><b>Wed 9 January, 7.30 – 9.30 pm</b></p>	<p><b>A Very Local Nature Reserve!</b> Brian Fletcher will share with us the amazing variety of wildlife he has seen in his own garden - butterflies, bees, beetles, birds and even "dragons and damsels"! Watch the fascinating wildlife changes from season to season and at the same time pick up some great tips for your very own nature reserve whether it's a garden or simply a box on your windowsill or balcony. For further information, please contact Loraine on 01962 861182 or Anne on 07804764604 or <a href="mailto:atardill2@gmail.com">atardill2@gmail.com</a>. Admission £4 to include coffee/tea.</p>
<p><b>Sun 20 January</b> <b>10am - approx 2pm</b></p>	<p><b>Alresford Winter Bird Walk</b> Join John Clarke for a guided walk of about 4 miles in the Alresford area to see winter birds. Meet near the bottom of Broad Street near the old fire station (map ref SU588 329, post code SO24 9AS). Parking in the station car park (SU 588 325, post code SO24 9NZ) 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.</p>
<p><b>Wed 13 February,</b> <b>7.30 – 9.30 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Hampshire's Chalk Rivers and Streams</b> Join us as Ben Rushbrook, the Trust's senior ecologist, talks about these iconic and internationally important rivers and streams, home to a rich diversity of plants and animals, and the pressures they now face from invasive species, pollution and much more. Learn about the Trust's recent projects to help protect and improve the headwaters of the Itchen and Test rivers. For further information, please contact Loraine on 01962 861182 or Anne on 07804764604 or <a href="mailto:atardill2@gmail.com">atardill2@gmail.com</a>. Admission £4 to include coffee/tea.</p>
<p><b>Sun 24 February</b> <b>10am - 3pm</b></p>	<p><b>Normandy and Oxey Marshes</b> Join us for a coastal walk to see the marshes and more open waters for winter waders, wildfowl and other birds. Meet in the Bath Road car park near the Royal Lymington Yacht Club (map ref SZ 332 949, post code SO41 3QE); parking charges apply - there are public toilets nearby. Bring a packed lunch. For further information, please phone Mary on 01962 864440. Sorry no dogs. Suggested donation £4.</p>

## WINCHESTER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The Winter season is creeping up on us and the garden has lost its good-weather looks. Time to do some tidying up which will improve its appearance and, more interestingly, to plant more bulbs for a colourful display in the Spring. So, no slacking yet but you may like to take some time off to come to one of our monthly meetings to hear an inspiring talk and exchange ideas with fellow gardeners. This is what our programme has on offer for the next three months:

**December (Wed 12th)** - Our light-hearted Christmas meeting with a musical interlude by the Owslebury Bell Ringers.

**January (Wed 9th)** - John Wood, Head Gardener at Hinton Ampner, will give a talk on "Preparing the Hinton Ampner Gardens for Spring".

**February (Wed 13th)** - Another Spring related but more personal theme when Patricia Elkington will tell us how she prepares her garden, Little Court at Crawley, for the Spring season.

Our monthly meetings are held at the Winchester Club, Churchill Room, Worthy Lane, Winchester SO23 7AB, starting at 7.30pm. Visitors £3. For further information ring 01962-866818 or visit [www.winhortsoc.weebly.com](http://www.winhortsoc.weebly.com)

We look forward to meeting you.

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For more info email: [walkingfootball@winchester.ac.uk](mailto:walkingfootball@winchester.ac.uk)  
Or Walking Football at the University of Winchester



## Badger Farm Art Club

We are coming into Autumn and Winter now, but the group is really back in the swing of producing beautiful artworks, having rested during the summer holiday. Have a look on the Badger Farm Community Centre website for some examples of the work we have done. We continue our work with watercolours, acrylics, drawings and mixed media work, looking at images from photographs or directly from nature. We are currently designing Christmas cards, to get professionally printed in time for the festive season. We have a model available for figure drawing sessions occasionally and I introduce the group to new techniques, styles or artists that I come across. If you are interested in joining us, or know anyone that might be, do come down on a Thursday afternoon, 1.30-4.00. Your first session is free and all abilities and experience is welcome. The 'Badgers', as I affectionately call them, are a friendly and supportive group, and we would welcome new members. We stop for tea and biscuits and a natter, so the session shouldn't be too exhausting!

## Health and Misc. Adverts



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I'd love to hear from you!

*Sara*

Yogabellies Winchester

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Contact Rob Hodgkinson on 07912-174612 / e-mail at [rob@systemamidwessex.co.uk](mailto:rob@systemamidwessex.co.uk)

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## Winchester Bereavement Support

We are 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, confidential, free and the Visitors are given full support from trained Counsellors. We are planning to run a new Training Course from January 2019 to March 2019. We would be very glad to hear from anyone who might be interested in training for this very worthwhile service.

If you would like to be considered as a trainee, please ring: 01962 620010 or email:

[secretary@winchesterbereavementsupport.org.uk](mailto:secretary@winchesterbereavementsupport.org.uk)

## WINCHESTER BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

(W.B.S.)

- 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?

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for Volunteer Bereavement Visitors  
March – May 2015

If you are interested, please phone  
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or email: [help@winchesterbereavementsupport.org.uk](mailto:help@winchesterbereavementsupport.org.uk)

Website: [www.winchesterbereavementsupport.org.uk](http://www.winchesterbereavementsupport.org.uk)



## **From Your MP - Steve Brine**

This year's  
**Budget**,  
delivered last

month, contained good news for the NHS (and mental health in particular), schools, motorists, the military, taxpayers and the environment but I was particularly pleased with extra help for our local shops and businesses which is understandably the cause of concern in Winchester and here in Oliver's Battery/Badger Farm.

Alongside key local figures from Winchester City Council, I have consistently said business rates need a fundamental rethink. That remains the case – and we will go on making it - but I am delighted the Chancellor has responded to lobbying from MPs such as myself with an ambitious, and much-needed, boost for local retailers in this Budget around business rates.

The Chancellor is well aware (because I tell him regularly) that the recent rates revaluation hit us hard in prosperous Hampshire and he agrees we must never have that cliff-edge again. That is why we will move to more regular revaluations

from 2021 but, more immediately, we will spend some £900m to cut business rates by one-third for the next two years. This is for retailers with a rateable value of under £51,000, saving up to 90% of all shops up to £8,000 each year.

This builds on previous help, worth more than £12.5 billion, which includes the Discretionary Rate Relief Scheme I argued for and local councils administer to target help where it is most needed.

I know from talking to our Chancellor, and his Ministers, that they share my desire to help the High Street - as well as local shops we value so much here on the Battery - where there is a determination as set out in the parish plan to protect what are important community assets.

You can see my Budget stories and videos blogs via [www.stevebrine.com/news](http://www.stevebrine.com/news) but do also 'like' my Facebook page at [www.fb.com/SteveBrineMP](http://www.fb.com/SteveBrineMP) which is a great way to stay up-to-date on my work locally and in Westminster.

Secondly, I hope you get the chance to enjoy my latest **Winchester Post newspaper** this month. It should be coming through your door any day now



but please let me know if it does not and, remember, you can download it always at [www.stevebrine.com/publications](http://www.stevebrine.com/publications)

Finally, I am pleased to note that persistent pressure from many of us, has kept the notorious **Badger Farm/Oliver's Battery Road junction** in the frame. Your County Councillor, Jan Warwick, tells me the junction will be assessed again by Hampshire County Council to improve safety standards early in the new year.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas when it comes!

**Steve Brine**  
**MP for Winchester**



## **Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery Parish News**

### **Transport Update**

**Southampton International Airport** is consulting on a draft Masterplan for the next 20 years. The plan aims to extend the existing runway, introduce new routes, increase passenger numbers and improve the passenger terminal.

The airport brings considerable economic benefits and convenient travel to our region. However, it is also important that residents who live close to the flight path have a chance to review and comment on the draft plan. Winchester City Council's Environmental Team is drafting a formal technical response to the consultation on behalf of the residents of the Winchester District.

**Movement Strategy** - Winchester City Council and Hampshire County Council are working on aiming to reduce congestion, improve air quality and enhance all forms of transport including walking and cycling. Residents and businesses will be asked their views on the draft strategy in November with the intention of adopting the final strategy by March 2019. Once

the strategy is adopted, both councils will seek the funding necessary to deliver the necessary infrastructure.

**Buses** - Compared to many areas we are very fortunate that the majority of our bus services run on a commercial basis. We continue to work with all operators to ensure these services have good access to the City bus station and that roadwork disruption takes account of bus services. We have a budget challenge for the few subsidised bus routes in our area. We need to continue to explore innovative ways to work with bus operators to provide vital transport services to local communities who do not have access to commercial buses or cars.

### **Cllr Jan Warwick**

Portfolio Holder for the Environment and Transport  
Winchester City Council  
Hampshire County Councillor  
Winchester Downlands  
[jwarwick@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:jwarwick@winchester.gov.uk) or [jan.warwick@hants.gov.uk](mailto:jan.warwick@hants.gov.uk)  
Tel: 07717104236



# Ann's Computer Corner



As winter approaches, it's a good time to look back and see how well I've stuck to my New Year's Resolutions. Some haven't been great. But "Get more organised" – that's a YES! How? With the help of Trello (trello.com).

In essence a virtual pinboard, in Trello you can organise almost anything. From a simple list of chores at home to a complex Kanban-based project at work, Trello helps you manage information in a clear, visual way. I've used it as a recipe catalogue, a holiday planner and for information sharing on my "Tech tips" board (trello.com/b/L2dnQGvA). Other people have used Trello for lesson planning, product roadmaps, keeping up with friends, job searches, party planning, tracking life goals. There are so many ideas on trello.com/inspiration.

Getting started with Trello is easy: add a board, personalise it with a background picture, add some lists and finally add your cards. Give each card a title, then open them to include more details – notes, checklists, pictures, links, labels, documents and dates. The Getting Started Guide on help.trello.com walks you through everything from adding your first board to using Trello like a pro while

the Trello Features board (trello.com/b/zU1bVDqo) shows many of the features in action. For a step-by-step introduction, watch the Getting Started With Trello video (tinyurl.com/wct-trelloyoutube).

If you have a group of friends or colleagues working together on a project, you can create "teams" to allow them to collaborate on a board. Assign each card to a person and you can easily share information and track progress on everyone's tasks.

Trello has been developed to support a wide range of users and this is reflected in its flexibility. Each board can have its own Power-Up which extends its functionality. While most of these are more useful if you're using Trello at work, some like TreeView, Voting, Calendar or, especially, Custom Fields help you tailor your personal boards to best fit your project. See them all at trello.com/power-ups. Another useful add-on is the Chrome extension (tinyurl.com/wct-trellochome); click this to add any webpage as a Trello card. Trello is also available as a mobile

app (trello.com/platforms) so you can use your boards when you're out and about.

My only complaint is that boards with a few hundred cards warn of slow performance. But given that, even in the free version, you can have unlimited boards it's easy to split your information into smaller boards which can be linked in an overview board. You can easily move cards between boards using the "Move..." button on the back of cards.

If your New Year's Resolution this coming year is "Get more organised", you might want to give Trello a go.

Ann (ann@winchestercomputertutor.co.uk)  
winchestercomputertutor.co.uk/anns-thoughts/getting-organised



## Join

Membership Single: £15pa  
Membership Concession: £10pa  
Sunday: Midday - 9:30pm  
Mon-Thurs: 4:30pm - 11pm  
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# Badger Farm Social Club

## An Update on Whiteshute Ridge

Whiteshute Ridge has been a very busy place over the summer months of 2018.

Between June and July, botanical and pollinator species surveys were conducted on the ridge. In terms of botany, Lady's Bedstraw and Agrimony provided a summery yellow tone to the vegetation, with pinks being added by red clover, an indicator of healthy grassland that has not needed artificial improvement, and a pyramidal orchid (pictured below). Also noted were grasses such as Cocks Foot and False Oat Grass which brought a peaceful calm waving in light breeze.



As well as bringing increasing colour and attractiveness to Whiteshute Ridge, these plant species also attract, and provide a valuable food source to, pollinator species. Among those observed were Marbled White butterflies (pictured below), White-tailed bumblebees and Meadow Brown butterflies. There's nothing like

seeing butterflies fluttering around on a beautiful summer's day to make a site even more of a special place to be.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> July, Winchester City Council, Nik Knight from Hampshire Bat Group, and Colin Stride, a regular visitor to Whiteshute, led a bat and glow worm walk for a group of 17 local residents who left the World Cup at home in favour of more of a 'wild' evening. With Nik's help and kindly provided bat detectors we were very pleased to see Common pipistrelles, Soprano pipistrelles, Serotines and Noctule bats and Colin showed the group the best places to see glow worms, finding many luminous specks in the long grass of path edges.

Maintenance-wise Winchester City Council have contracted Morton:Pattison to undertake improvements to the ridge, fixing and weighting gates, and installing a new handrail to the steps from Sainsbury's, helping to make the ridge more accessible for everyone. Other works that will be completed before winter include applying stone to boggy areas in gateways and on tracks and improving cattle water troughs. Our excellent and invaluable volunteer Colin Dean has also continued his work cutting the ridge's pathways and clearing vegetation away from access points.



Two more new additions to the ridge that will be coming in the following months are the interpretation boards, commissioned by Winchester City Council and designed and drawn by very talented artists Dan and Rosemary Powell, capturing the beauty of Whiteshute Ridge and its wildlife as well as providing information about it. Once installed, these will be found by the main access point at the Sainsbury's end of the ridge, and at the centre gate that splits the ridge into two compartments.

The cattle, owned by Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, will be returning to Whiteshute for grazing over the winter to continue the grassland management to increase biodiversity. They will be arriving between mid-autumn and early winter and Winchester City Council will be putting up posters giving plenty of notice of their arrival. For more details including information on future events like guided walks and volunteering days please keep an eye on our website [www.winchester.gov.uk](http://www.winchester.gov.uk) and for signage on site.



**Saint Mark's**

# Christmas Carols on the Battery

15th December at 5pm

mulled wine | mince pies | children's activities

Saint Mark's Church  
Oliver's Battery

## Winchester

### Tae Kwon-Do Club

It's been a very exciting and successful year for Winchester Tae Kwon-Do! We pride ourselves on being a small club with high quality teaching, and we have seen some brilliant results at this year's gradings. At our most recent coloured belt grading, our students achieved 3/4 of the total A-passes (the highest level of pass) at the grading, despite being one of the smaller clubs in attendance. We've also had five of our black belt students promoted to 2nd Dan at this year's black belt gradings. For each student, this represents at least two years of committed training above and beyond the initial promotion to black belt. Furthermore, our senior instructor, Darren Cooper, has been promoted to 7th Dan World Master. Mr Cooper has been training in

have such an experienced and dedicated instructor.

As members of the TAGB, the world's largest martial arts organisation, we have the opportunity to participate in numerous local and national tournaments each year. A number of our members have taken part in tournaments this year, both as competitors and officials, and every one of them has done the club proud in their various roles. Special mention, however, must go to siblings Luke and Lily Moreto (aged 9 and 11 respectively), who have truly excelled this year, having clearly caught the competing bug! They have entered a total of six tournaments throughout the year and have each come away with a succession of medals and trophies! Most notably, both received medals at the World Championships in Birmingham in July, with Luke becoming World Champion and Lily gaining a bronze medal, in their respective patterns competitions.

infectious enthusiasm and commitment!

We would like to congratulate all of our members on a really successful year - whether it be at gradings, tournaments or for their dedication to training at the club - every member helps to make this an incredibly friendly and supportive club. If you're interested in joining us, then please come along and see what we're all about!



Tae Kwon-Do for over 30 years and we as a club are so proud to celebrate this achievement with him - we are very fortunate to

Another exciting development this year has been the opening of our Tigers class, run by Mrs Aimee Shergold, whom we are delighted to have welcomed from another local club. This class caters specifically for 4-7 year olds, and is growing fast, thanks to Mrs Shergold's

*We train at Badger Farm Community Centre every Monday and Wednesday evening:*

*For 4-7 year olds: Tigers class 5:30-6:15pm.*

*Contact Aimee Shergold: 07909091663 / aimeeshergold@gmail.com*

*For students aged 8+: Junior grades 6:30-7:45pm; senior grades (from blue belt) 7:00-8:30pm.*

*Contact Lucy Scott: 07851 067116 / info@winchestertkd.co.uk*



### A Beacon of Positivity

Positivity is something that can be challenging to maintain, and especially to 'promote' as a potential panacea for

many of life's issues. Championing a positive attitude is a personal 'mission' but I am also realistic, in as much that every person is unique, reacting to the concept differently. Being continuously and instinctively negative can be something that individuals just put up with, not recognising there is an alternative. A subsequent visit to the care home in Birmingham, once again, it was an honour and privilege to engage with people, including, for the seventh time, the 100+ year old former teacher known for her positive attitude, and awesome intellectual prowess! Her eyes light up as she asks questions, listens to my answers and delves ever deeper into the mysteries of life.

Talking with many of the residents is not a 'duty' but a positive vocation. Other residents are instinctively negative, but I will never give up championing positivity.

There is an increasing awareness that focusing on something positive, however seemingly insignificant can make a difference to an individual's perspective and ultimate recognition that positivity is not just a fantasy but a reality.

**Simon Lever**



# Norma's Nature

## Notes

Today, on the 29<sup>th</sup> October, I awoke to sunshine streaming through the curtains; on opening them I was greeted by rooftops glistening white with a hard frost. It has suddenly turned cold over the past few days, a bit of a shock after many balmy days this month. I was planting bulbs this morning when our "tame" robin flitted down silently a few feet away; when I turned up a worm he, ever the opportunist, was on it in a flash. It's time to clean out the bird feeders now and keep them stocked to supplement the diminishing supply of food as winter approaches. I get my supply from the diverse selection at Oliver's Pet Centre.

A few weeks ago, while walking around the golf course early one warm evening of low sun and shadow, we spied what appeared at a distance to be a dark heron hunched up beside the large lake. As we approached, to our surprise, it was a cormorant. Normally a bird of

rocky coasts and estuaries it is, apparently, increasingly seen inland on lakes, gravel pits and reservoirs. So do watch out next time you have a stroll across the right of way, but keep your distance as it is shy and liable to fly away.

I expect the gardeners among you have noticed fewer earthworms during the long dry summer? Earthworms must keep moist so they burrow down to find the right conditions, often as much as three feet but they can go further. Charles Darwin called them the most important animal in the history of the world. They move smoothly through the soil aided by mucus covering their body while the muscles surrounding them contract. As they move, absorbing oxygen through their skin, they eat their way through organic matter which is broken down by their digestive system and discharged as casts which are high in nutrients enabling our plants to grow healthily. Their burrows allow drainage and create spaces for air so the soil can breathe. Earthworms are an important source of food for many mammals such as wood mice, hedgehogs and badgers as well as frogs and toads and several

species of wild bird. Of the twenty-nine UK species you will have found several different ones in your garden including the thin red ones in the compost heap. We are not helping these creatures, essential for our existence, by installing hard landscaping unless it has a porous element. And it's a sad fact that artificial lawns are introducing plastic into the soil with all its harmful consequences.

We recently spent a few days in London and, of all the things to see in that frantic city my greatest pleasure is the London Plane Tree. Apparently it accounts for over half of London's tree population. The bark is remarkably attractive and the tree itself has a magnificent presence with its broad, palmately lobed leaves and clusters of matured fruit hanging like baubles. More about this tree next time...

*Norma Goodwin*

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



The children have settled back in to a new school year at Pre School and are now starting to prepare for Christmas!

We have a very exciting

Christmas period to look forward to at the pre school, including our nativity and a visit from Father Christmas at our annual Christmas party! Our teachers have lots of exciting activities planned for the children, with topics including fireworks, Diwali, minibeasts and of course Christmas.

The pre school's "home corner" changes every few weeks; so far this year it has already been a safari park with stuffed animals and binoculars and will also evolve into a fire engine and magical Christmas castle!

We are very pleased to offer government funded 30 hours childcare (eligibility applies). For more information, please contact our pre school leader, Jackie Johnston, on mobile 07941 796 958 or email [leader@oliversbatterypreschool.co.uk](mailto:leader@oliversbatterypreschool.co.uk) to pop by and see our happy pre school.

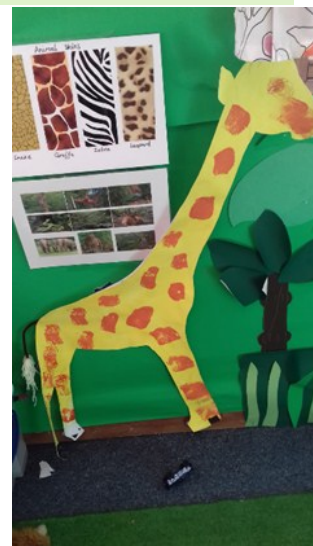
Rated across the board as "good" by Ofsted in November 2016 and where "Children form strong bonds with the staff".

Conveniently located in the beautiful and spacious grounds of Oliver's Battery Primary School.

We accept all children aged two years to school age, regardless of which Primary School they will attend.

All children are funded from the term after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. If eligible, we accept funding for two year olds.

Opening times: Monday to Thursday: 8:45-15:15 and Friday 8:45-12:45 with flexible drop off and pick up times.



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