



THE Rabbiter



Issue 258 February 2019

All the regular features plus

- **BEGGARWOOD BOOKWORMS**
- **SAINSBURY'S 30TH BIRTHDAY**
- **BEFRIENDING**

and much more

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EDITORIAL

A belated happy new year to all our readers. It looks like 2019 is going to be a very busy year – see page 5 for an update on local issues. Brighton Hill roundabout is scheduled for major work, the building of houses on Hounsme Fields is progressing and more houses are planned between our estate and M3 junction 7 on the golf course. The development of a local plan is important and a meeting is scheduled for early March to start moving this forward.

The local bus timetable has been revised and we have a new service – no. 9 goes into town via the Winchester Road – see the bus timetable on page 24. This is very good news for local residents as parking in town can be difficult and expensive whereas the bus takes 15 minutes. Please note the 8 and 9 services now leave from the Railway Station and not the Bus Station.

Have you visited the Farleigh Club? It is a great place to meet for a drink and a chat – see page 7 for details. There is a dart board and snooker table. The Friday night meat raffle is excellent value (we won the goose at Christmas which was delicious!) The Rabbiter would like to congratulate the steward, Donald, on 40 years of service.

It doesn't seem possible that it is 30 years since Sainsbury's Kempshott opened and we are very grateful for the support the store has given the community over the years.

The Café in the Park continues to provide a brilliant service – the bacon sandwiches served on Saturday and Sunday mornings are delicious. The next Community Lunch is on Wednesday 6th February from 12.30 – 1.45 and is great value; soup and a roll, jacket potato with beans and cheese or a ploughman's with a cup of tea or coffee. There are lots of activities now at the Café and the Rabbiter is pleased to welcome Bookworms to their pages – see page 6. It has become a very popular meeting and is proposing great books to read. The February meeting will discuss 'The Tattooist of Auschwitz'.

Walking is good for the mind and the body and there will be a walk organised locally on the first Wednesday of each month starting in April – please keep the date free and there will be more details in next month's Rabbiter.

There is continuing concern regarding local traffic issues. Please watch your speed as you drive around the estate and ensure that you park in a place that does not impact on other traffic.

If you are looking at minimising your possessions you can advertise and sell your unwanted items free locally in The Rabbiter – just email details to newsdesk@therabbiter.biz.

The Editor



Keep an eye out for the web symbol – you can find out more on these articles and also other articles we unfortunately had no space to feature at www.therabbiter.biz

THE Rabbiter

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COUNCILLOR'S UPDATE

BEGGARWOOD SURGERY

I have been picking up increased concerns and complaints from patients in the last few months which has been exacerbated by the uncertainty over when the running of the surgery will be handed over to another local practice, and who this will be. At the time of writing, there has been no further detail from the CCG. At a meeting at Beggarwood Cafe last month, local patients reported their concerns over the current service and their hopes for the future direction. There may be a Facebook group for patients being set up soon, I will publicise if and when this happens.

GOLF COURSE

The sale of this site to Bloor Homes is apparently going through, and at time of writing I was waiting for confirmation of a meeting being set up for all local councillors to meet with the developer.

Early engagement with the local area is vital, especially with such a huge site, and I will report back when I know more. I will be pressing the need for local people to be consulted fully at every stage.

DIGESTER

The HCC decision date on a permanent increase in HGV traffic to and from the digester through the estate has now been put back to February 13th. The meeting will take place in the morning at the Castle, Winchester and a local delegation will be attending to put the case for traffic to still be monitored

COMMUNITY/ NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FOR HATCH WARREN AND BEGGARWOOD

A public meeting is being planned for either 2nd or 9th March at the Beggarwood Centre to inform residents about the benefits to the community of developing a locally led plan. Please pencil in the dates, one of these will

be confirmed very shortly. It is so important, especially with the pressure of development around us, that the local voice is elevated and given a platform which will enable us to influence policy and spending locally. We will need a steering group of about half a dozen people, but it is not a huge blank cheque on your time, perhaps one to two hours a month to develop the plan. Please come along to hear more and see whether you would like to contribute.

BRIGHTON HILL ROUNDABOUT

As part of the preparations on the design for the new scheme for the Brighton Hill roundabout, anyone using the roundabout overnight in late January will have noticed the coning off of lanes and approaches. This was to enable a radar survey to locate underground utilities equipment.

Many thanks and best wishes

Cllr Terri Ried

SWAG SNIPPETS (South West Action Group)

With the help of Councillors Reid we managed to get the Hampshire County Council committee meeting on the traffic for the **Anaerobic Digester** delayed until 13 February at 10.00 a.m. in the Ashburton Hall, Elizabeth II Court in the County Council offices. SWAG will be addressing the Committee. Planning reference 18/03001/CMA. Make a note in your diary to come along.

Hounsme Fields. Take a look at BDBC 18/02513/RES to see the shape of things to come and SWAG's comments. We want to see better cycle provision, clear plans for connection to the main sewer, better tree and habitat protection and, yet again, a re-examination of the proposed location of the Primary School. We are also contacting the Basingstoke Clean Air Campaign to get their help on this issue.

Basingstoke Golf Club has agreed the sale of the current Course to a developer (we understand this to be Bloor Homes). The existing site is in the Local Plan for a major development of 1,000 houses. We are still pushing for a full Development Brief to be produced before outline permission is sought.

SWAG has submitted comments on Basingstoke and HCC's **Transport Strategy**. Take a look at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/basingstoketransportstrategy>. We have strongly supported the idea of a Mass Transport System (MRT) with segregated and dedicated routes but we want to see this providing through routes, north/south and east/west, not just hub and spoke routes into the town centre; for example routes from the south west that can get to the hospital without changing buses.

We still await the further consultation on a revised traffic and transport plan for **Manydown**. The Project Director has given

us this update: "We have been providing a series of additional clarifications to Hampshire Highways which will culminate in an updated Transport addendum along with a Manydown Movement Strategy which provides a helpful summary of the Manydown vision for movement." You can watch out for these documents under planning reference 17/00818/OUT.

No further news on the **MSA at Junction 6**. The developer and Highways are still in discussion.

Finally there have been some interesting contributions in the Letters pages of the Basingstoke Gazette on the idea of a **Western Bypass** for Basingstoke. SWAG also contributed, pointing out that Traffic Consultants who looked at this decided that there was no justification for such a bypass. We believe that the proposed MRT would be a better solution rather than building still more roads.

If you would like to join SWAG email southwestactiongroup@gmail.com. Follow us on Facebook @BasingstokeSouthWestActionGroupSWAG

CLIDDESSEN LANE

I am contacting you as I would like to remind road users that Cliddesden Lane is a 30 MPH limit. Every day I am intimidated by other drivers driving at high speed behind me.

The Council and Constabulary have been contacted regarding this matter.

Name supplied to editor

WHAT'S ON – FEBRUARY

Do you have an event locally that you would like to tell people about. The Rabbiter reaches over 4000 homes locally so is the perfect way to publicise your event. Just email details to editor@therabbiter.biz
Copy date is the 15th of the month preceding publication.

February Events

- 5 February Chinese New Year
- 6 February Community Lunch
- 7 February Hatch Warren WI (see page 7)
- 13 February Anaerobic Digester meeting (see SWAG report page 5)
- 14 February Valentine's Day
- 14 February Laughter House at Apollo Hotel – see <https://laughterhousecomedy.club/>
- 15 February Mad Hair Day in aid of St Michael's Hospice – see page 20
- 27 February Bookworms at the Café in the Park

Future Events

- 1 March St David's Day
- 2 March Dandelions Open Day – see page 17
- 9 March Community Plan meeting
- 5 March Shrove Tuesday
- 6 March Community Lunch
- 14 March Laughter House at Apollo Hotel – see <https://laughterhousecomedy.club/>
- 15 March Comic Relief
- 17 March St Patrick's Day
- 19-23 March Made in Dagenham at the Haymarket
- 31 March Clocks go forward
- 31 March Mothering Sunday
- 3 April Community Health Walk
- 11 April Laughter House at Apollo Hotel – see <https://laughterhousecomedy.club/>

- 14 April Palm Sunday
- 19 April Good Friday
- 20/21 April Art Exhibition, Sherbourne St John Village Hall
- 21 April Easter Sunday
- 23 April St George's Day
- 27 April Festival Night at Hatch Warren Community Centre – see page 18

Hampshire Farmers Markets

Alton – 2nd Saturday of the month
Winchester – 2nd and last Sunday of the month

REGULAR EVENTS

Hatch Warren W.I., 1st Thursday each month 8.00pm
Community Centre (contact Jane Kerry 01256 810255)

Basingstoke Knit and Natter,
Every Monday 6.30 – 9pm, Waitrose Café, All knitters, crocheter's and spinners welcome

The Warren Youth Club, Friday evenings at the Warren attached to the Community Centre

Aldworth Badminton Club,
Thursday evenings 7.00 – 8.30pm Aldworth Science College

Cliddesden W.I., Cliddesden Village Hall, 7.30pm, third Thursday every month (contact Pat Rampton 01256 461034)

Old Down & Beggarwood Wildlife Group,
Meet every Thursday 10-12noon, Old Down Hall. For Beggarwood – usually 3rd Saturday of each month at the Maze www.olddownandbeggarwood.org.uk email: odandbwd@gmail.com

Hatch Warren Nature Group,
contact Paul Beevers, hatch.nature@gmail.com

Cliddesden, Ellisfield and Farleigh Wallop Horticultural Society, contact Mrs M Smith (01256 462584) for details

Laughter House, www.laughterhousecomedy.club

Hatch Warren Runners, meet Monday and Wednesday at 7.15, Portsmouth Arms and at the Co-op Beggarwood. www.hwrunners.co.uk

BEGGARWOOD BOOKWORMS

Anne Marie and I decided to launch the Beggarwood Bookworms in October from our love of a good book and a natter. We are both trustees of the Hatch Warren and Beggarwood community association and are passionate about the new centre that has opened in Beggarwood.

We knew there were enough groups for young families and children, but we were keen to have some low cost and commitment adult groups and thought that a book group fitted that bill. The centre in Beggarwood is the perfect space, and we can have a glass of prosecco or a lovely coffee whilst we meet and chat about the book.

Our first meeting was a huge success and we have had so many bookworms join

us. We had a glass of celebratory fizz and created our book leaderboard à la strictly come dancing complete with a lot of glitter! The bookworms are very informal and it doesn't matter if you haven't read the book or can't finish it. We have a Facebook group where bookworms can suggest new books and swap the ones from the reading list. We have joined on the libraries group lending scheme and have been fortunate enough to have some publishers send us some proof copies straight from the authors.

Our first book was 'Eleanor Oliphant is completely fine' which is a novel about loneliness and one young woman's struggle. It's a book which we all enjoyed and promoted a great discussion amongst the group.

Our second book was more of a challenge and not one which many would have chosen to read. 'A Gentleman in Moscow' tells the story of a count in Russia who is put under house arrest in the Hotel Metropole in Moscow. This is what the bookworms is all about, trying a different book.

Our book for February is the 'Tattooist of Auschwitz' so you have time to get reading and enjoy a book that you may not have considered reading.

We tend to meet on the last Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm and would love some new bookworms to come and join us!

Hannah Cuff

CÔTE BRASSERIE

01256 591616
basingstoke@cote.co.uk

Encouraged by a friend, who had been there three times since its recent opening, Madam and I went there on a Saturday prior to Christmas. Madam frequents Côte Brasserie on her visits to Reading so knew what to expect, whereas I was a complete newcomer to this expanding chain of French style restaurants.

It is positioned partly inside Festival Place but the entrance is outside in the area containing several restaurants facing the Vue cinema. The interior design clearly conforms to their pleasant standard style with a range of tables, booths and banquettes for larger parties. There is something to suit most requirements.

Staff are obliging and extremely attentive. We were presented with several alternative menu cards which I thought led to some confusion. One had Monday to Friday offers but these could not be considered as it was Saturday and today's card had a reduced list of four main courses. Then there were extra side dishes and sweets to consider. As if this wasn't enough there was the large full menu containing everything they could offer.



We decided to go with the Christmas Lunch set menu on which the choice was to have two courses for £18.95 or three courses for £22.95. This worked out £1 less than if the two course version had been selected and then adding a sweet.

We both had French onion soup which came in a small pot with a cheese encrusted crouton. It really was excellent. Madam had pan roasted salmon and I had the 8oz rib eye steak, both coming with water cress and fries. Madam had crème caramel, of the highest quality, and I had Pain Perdu which is brioche bread and butter pudding complete with a scoop of vanilla ice cream. Without doubt one of the most flavoursome I have tasted.

Drinks consisted of slim line tonic with ice and slice and I had a large glass of Chemin Merlot. A nice touch was the complimentary stone carafe of water.

Including the "discretionary" 12.5% service charge, which we were assured all go to the staff, the total of the addition was £62.66.

Will we go again? Without doubt. Côte Brasserie succeeds in meeting the needs of customers who are prepared to pay more for an enhanced dining experience.

NEWS FROM FARLEIGH CLUB www.farleighwallopclub.co.uk

The Christmas and New Year festivities went down well this year, the quiz on Christmas Eve was well attended although Boxing Night could have been busier, perhaps everyone over indulged the day before. New Year's Eve was just brilliant, the band 13 Lies were on top form and everyone had a really great night.

The club has been open since 1934 and this month Donald will have been the steward for 40 years. I'm not sure if he is the longest serving steward in the country but he can't be far off. Donald came to the club in February 1979 when he was just 26, he has seen many changes although in some respects the club remains the same as it was when first opened maybe not as busy but a warm welcome still awaits everyone who comes through the door. I'm sure you will join me in congratulating him on this amazing anniversary.

Memberships are now due so please come in and fill in the renewal form, pop your fee

(£10 single or £15 family) in the envelope provided and give to Donald or a member of the committee. We have introduced a two-tier pricing system now so if you're NOT a paid-up member your drinks and snacks will be charged at a high price than if you are a member. Membership cards will be issued soon which you will need to carry with you so the discount can be applied. If you wish to join the club please fill out the appropriate form which can be found on the bookcase.

Thrift club has started again so if you wish to save the £££s for next Christmas then come along on a Friday evening and start saving and while you're here stay and buy some tickets for the Friday night meat draw. If your ticket is drawn there is always a table of great meat packs to choose from.

We are no longer open on Wednesday evenings

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HATCH WARREN W.I.

Fantastic start to 2019 for the ladies of Hatch Warren W.I. Sue Woodd's 'Introduction to Tai Chi' saw us all go home feeling really energised. Sue started with a talk and slide show on Tai Chi. The ancient art of Tai Chi comes from China and has been practised for thousands of years. There are different levels of the body, how energy affects us and the food we eat in different season. Afterwards we did exercises in couples to see how this would effect us. Sue has written books and also teaches Tai Chi to people with Parkinson's disease as this can help them, as well as taking classes in our area.

Our thanks goes to the staff at the 'Miller and Carter' for a wonderful evening we had for our Christmas meal. Two lovely Christmas hampers were provided by the committee and raffled for funds. Members who made Christmas wreaths at our craft group brought them along to show us all, before they are put away for another year. Next month we will have a 'fish and chip' supper and vote on the best twelve W.I. photos from 2018 to be included in the W.I. photographic competition.

We welcomed five new members to our W.I. and wish them a very enjoyable programme for 2019. We are hoping to have an outing in March and some of us will be attending the Spring Annual Meeting at Portsmouth where the speaker will be the redoubtable Pam Ayres.

Next meeting - Thursday 7th February at 8pm Hatch Warren Community Centre. For more information contact our President Jane on 07798 842487.



5 GOLDEN RULES FOR PROTECTING YOUR CHILDREN DURING YOUR SEPARATION

If you are going through a separation or divorce you are probably worried about the effect it will have on your children.

Research has demonstrated that divorce can contribute to depression, anxiety, anger and difficulty in school and social situations. But the good news is that research also shows that children can cope with separation and big changes in their family dynamics and come out the other side just fine.

Here are some 'golden rules' when it comes to parenting throughout a separation:

1. Avoid Fighting & Be Co-Operative

It may sound very obvious, but it can be difficult to always remain calm when emotions are heightened. It will take control and maturity, but it is in your children's best interests not to be witnesses to any anger or negativity. When parents continue to co-parent during and after a separation the child fares much better. You are likely to have disagreements but as long as both parents remain flexible and act to resolve issues fairly the children should adapt much better to the changes.

2. Reassurance is Key

Often children will feel responsible for a break-up. Make sure you enforce that this situation is not their fault. Whilst there is a lot of animosity in the atmosphere it is important for children to still feel loved and to be reassured that the parent leaving the family home is not leaving the children.

3. Let Them Express Their Feelings

It is completely normal for your child to feel sad, worried, frightened or angry about big changes to their lives. Equally don't be too alarmed if your child shows next to no emotions - this is also normal, sometimes children show a delayed reaction or are genuinely not as affected as you thought they would be - children are very resilient!

4. Maintain 'Normality' and Be Consistent

As much as possible, try to keep family routines and rituals operating as normal throughout your separation. Divorce can be a huge transition, it is vital that both houses share the same routines, rules and parenting styles.

5. Help is at Hand

Don't struggle through a separation on your

own - use your network of friends and family to help support you through the transition and use professionals when needed who can offer advice and guidance. There are many supportive websites and groups that you can turn to for support, whether it is reading a blog from someone you can relate to or attending a divorce recovery workshop. If your children are suffering or struggling to adapt it may be worth speaking to their school and seeing if some additional support can be put in place.

Whether you are considering divorce, at the early stages of a separation or already legally divorced, the Family Law Team at Lamb Brooks Solicitors are here to help support you. We offer a full spectrum of family services from children arrangements, mediation, collaborative process, separation agreements and divorce / civil partnership dissolution.

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30th Birthday

We welcomed Lord John Sainsbury and our Group Chief Executive, Mike Coupe to our store on November 30th to celebrate our 30th Birthday.

Eight of our colleagues also celebrated this milestone during the year, and we took the opportunity to thank them all for their loyalty.

Sue Hetherington – Pamela Wells – Nicolina Cocchiarella – Diane Dollin – Diane Smith – Heather Butler – Rajeshwari Amin – Wendy Lambden



Christmas 2018

Whilst it may seem a little odd to be talking about last Christmas, here are some Christmas numbers for you.

We processed 497 Christmas collections for our customers in the last three days leading to Christmas Eve. Just two of those customers didn't collect their orders for Christmas.

Huge thanks for the patience of all as our colleagues rushed to collect all these orders. The Christmas Orders service is always popular and, this year, we finished 4th in the UK for the collections.

Our Online Delivery team saw an uplift of over 6%, year on year with deliveries extending as far as Fleet, Alresford, West Meon and Colden Common.

On the final day of delivery – 23rd December – over 30,000 items were picked from the shelves for delivery, representing close to 350 orders.

Comic Relief – March 15th

By the time you read this you will have no doubt started to see that The Red Noses are back.

There are 11 to collect this year with two special noses – Happy Hooter (just 10,000) and Transforminos (just 1000).



Keep an eye out for in store activities in the lead up to Red Nose Day. Who knows what our colleagues will be getting up to??

Night Light Winter Shelter

A huge thank you to customers who continue to support The Night Light Winter Shelter. Donations are being accepted until the end of February.

HATCH WARREN RUNNERS

Happy New Year from the Hatchies!

A huge Hatch Warren Runners Happy New Year to you all! What better time to make a running resolution than the beautiful month of January. If you've ever thought about joining a running club, but never had the confidence to try, Hatch Warren Runners could be the one for you!

Do not be put-off by our name, we welcome everyone across Basingstoke and our runs start from various locations.

Running as part of a group is a motivating and safe way to run. We offer club runs (Monday and Wednesday evenings) for a range of abilities. Other runs are posted on our member's Facebook page throughout the week by club members, including targeted training for people trying to improve speed and/or endurance. Runs are volunteer led and you can join as many or few as you like. Our key message is pace, age or gender do not matter; don those running shoes and hit the road (or the trails) with us!

BE WARNED! You might take up running more regularly and catch the running bug! A running resolution can be for life, not just for Christmas!

If you are thinking of taking up running for the first time; you are not currently running regularly or you are not feeling too confident about running at the moment, HWR's next Couch to 5k (C25K) eight-week course will begin in May (start date to be confirmed). Our course graduation, celebration and of course consumption of copious amounts of cake will be at Basingstoke parkrun.

For more details on joining the club, signing up to our C25K course or to try a club taster run, please visit www.hwrunners.co.uk, our Facebook page or email enquiries@hwrunners.co.uk.



Not just a running club!

At January's 'Run and Talk', a time when once a month all club members of all abilities gather to run together; the club raised £65 for Mind. These runs will continue each month to raise awareness of mental health issues and raise money for mental health charities.

As part of new committee ideas, the club has introduced a challenge for members each month; these are fun and frivolous all-encompassing tasks. December's was an 'elevation' challenge where members used the combined elevation of their runs across the month to virtually 'climb' various well-known mountains, from Ben Nevis to Kilimanjaro. January's has been 'Strava Art'. Strava is a popular app with runners that maps and shows the outline of your run. Members are being encouraged to embrace their inner Tony Hart/Neil Buchanan with their running route pics. Prizes will be awarded at the HWR AGM in February for those voted most creative. Running can be fun; we're definitely not always chasing Personal Bests and racing our Lycra shorts off you know!



It's January and training commences in earnest

December does tend to be a quieter month on the running front. Motivation can wane; excuses creep in for a few weeks or people are simply having a well-deserved break from everything. However, too many mince pies later and everyone is back up and running again. Spring marathon and half marathon training has begun...Farnborough Winter Half Marathon and 5km Fun Run later in January will see a big Hatchie turnout for certain! Watch this space for more fantastic Hatchie achievements!



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OLD DOWN AND BEGGARWOOD WILDLIFE GROUP

The start of 2019 has been fairly mild but perhaps by the time you read this some snow and frost may have arrived. *Snowdrops* will soon be appearing and the hazel are already festooned with *Catkins* (the flower clusters/spikes of the hazel) giving a lovely haze to the tree lines.

Unfortunately bird numbers on Old Down and Beggarwood are generally down from previous years. But there is always something to spot like the

graceful *Red Kite* overhead and busy *Rooks*, *Jackdaws* and *Crows* on the meadows. Spotted on Old Down was a small number of *Meadow Pipits* feeding off grass seeds on the meadow. These are not a common sight on either park. January brought several sightings of *Waxwing* in Hampshire with a couple seen in Eastrop Park but sadly not in our parks. A rare visitor to the New Forest was the *White Tailed Eagle* and this visitor caused great excitement to bird watchers. It was a juvenile and perhaps had become disorientated as they are usually much further north.

Work parties: For Old Down, we meet outside Old Down Hall every Thursday 10-12 noon. But always check our website just in case there is a cancellation or change. At the moment no work parties are happening on Beggarwood as we do not have enough interest. If anyone is interested in volunteering and perhaps leading a work party on Beggarwood then please contact the Group to discuss.

www.olddownandbeggarwood.org.uk
odandbwd@gmail.com



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Café in the Park

What's On?

Card & A Cuppa	Feb 1st
Community Lunch	Feb 6th
Kid's Story Time	Feb 7th
Cafe 1st Birthday Fun Day!	Feb 9th
Pots 2 Paint	Feb 10th
Card & A Cuppa	Feb 15th
Pop Up Play Village	Feb 16th
Beggarwood Bookworms	Feb 27th
Community Lunch	Mar 6th

**New early opening from
8:30 AM on Saturday!
Starts Feb 2nd!**

Wed 10 - 2
Thu 10 - 2
Fri 10 - 2
Sat 8.30 - 2
Sun 10 - 2

Hot Food From Just £2!

Beggarwood Community Centre,
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**MILLENNIALS
- IT'S TIME TO
MAKE A WILL**



Caroline Wallis

www.phillips-law.co.uk

It is estimated that only 12% of people aged under 34 have made a Will.

However, many of these so called Millennials, people born between 1981 and 1996, share a property with their partner or are already married. Many will have started a family or are planning to start one.

These life events represent significant changes in their personal lives. Making a Will may be something they have never considered, perhaps because they think this is not something they need to worry about at the moment.

Talking about death can make people feel uncomfortable, but if someone dies without a Will this can cause problems for their loved ones.

A Will is a very important legal document that directs how your 'estate' will be divided.

Almost everyone, whatever their age has their own 'estate'. This can include anything from the house you own, money, shares, cars, jewellery and even furniture. It can also include your digital assets like Facebook and email accounts.

For those with children making a Will could be one of the most important things you can do to protect

their future should the unimaginable happen.

Without a Will your loved one's financial future could be at risk as the law will decide who gets what. This could mean members of your family could receive less than you or they expected.

For example, if you are unmarried your partner is not automatically entitled to anything as unless you own your assets jointly, they might be disinherited under Intestacy rules. In the worst case this could mean your partner not being able to stay in the family home or not having enough money to bring up your children.

Our Wills and Probate team can help you make the right decisions in relation to your Will, to ensure it reflects your wishes and provides appropriately for those you care about most.

For more information call Caroline Wallis on 01256 854637 or email caroline.wallis@phillips-law.co.uk

Additional information about our Wills and Probate services can be found at www.phillips-law.co.uk/wills-probate



PROBUS HEARS ABOUT NATO

Just about everyone has heard of NATO (the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) but very few recall that it was founded in 1948 and enlarged in 1949 to a total of 12 countries bordering the North Atlantic. It was formed because of the perceived threat from Russia following their land blockade of West Berlin which caused the airlift to operate for eight months to ensure the western sector of the city could be supplied with everything necessary to sustain life.



The key criterion of NATO membership was that any armed attack on any member country in Europe and North America would constitute an attack on them all.



All this and much more was explained by Probus member and Basingstoke borough councillor Paul Miller who outlined his personal involvement in this international defence structure over four decades which included the cold war and then the Bosnian and Kosovo difficulties and several

other campaigns. As an officer in the RAF and then latterly as a civilian he rose within NATO eventually based at their headquarters in Belgium.



Member countries agree to assign assets in the form of military hardware and personnel to NATO and are managed in all operational roles by NATO staff. As such they have been involved in many conflict zones and incidents during this time many of which have not been reported in the free press.



With the fall of the Berlin wall in 1989 there was great excitement as other former communist countries threw off the yoke of the old USSR and embraced social change and democracy. However this brought up several concerns – would a unified Germany remain neutral and what would happen to the nuclear weapons held in

the old communist countries. It also brought up the question of whether there still existed a future need of NATO but other events only served to confirm that it was indeed still needed.

In fact today the membership has grown to 29 countries. Many newer members of NATO were originally eastern bloc countries that formed the basis of the Warsaw Pact organisation set up by Russia in response to West Germany joining NATO in 1955.

The Balkans crisis starting in 1989 which included the Bosnian and Kosovo campaigns were only as successful as they were due to the cooperation of the former communist countries of the Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary who allowed their airfields to be used by NATO forces. In return they hoped that it would create a favourable climate to their subsequent applications to join the EC.

It was complicated by the fact that the old Yugoslavia was a member of Eurocontrol which coordinated civilian air traffic which had increased considerably in recent years with tourist expansion on the Dalmation coast. The NATO air forces needed to have surveillance and operational access to this airspace and eventually ran an air campaign over 78 days involving 38,000 sorties which allowed in a multinational peacekeeping force which brought an end to ethnic cleansing.

Today NATO has become a Crisis Management organisation as its forces continue to lead the way in Kosovo, Afghanistan, in the Mediterranean and several other places including Iraq where it is carrying out training of national forces. It is also helping the African Union and in the Gulf of Aden guarding against Somali pirates. NATO is carrying out work on the European migrant crisis and has 20,000 troops in action around Europe and elsewhere.

The United Nations does not recognise NATO, only nation states, but fully appreciates the role played by this military cooperative of North American and European countries in striving to maintain peace in this troublesome world. It does however involve its organisation UNHCR, based in Geneva, to become incorporated with NATO actions in various humanitarian projects.

For more information about the Probus Club of Basingstoke see www.probusbasingstoke.wordpress.com or phone their secretary Paul Flint on 07770 886521 for an informal chat.

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BEFRIENDING

"Becoming a Befriender for NeighbourCare has certainly been one of the most rewarding things I've done in my life."

The words of volunteer Lisa Lewis, who has been visiting her client Bob Allen since November 2016 and two years on, continues to do so on a weekly basis; they've formed a lovely friendship

Our Befrienders are volunteers who are matched carefully with clients who are in need of company or help with reading or form filling. An hour a week to share a cup of tea, a chat about the weather; latest news or whatever may pop up. This makes such a difference to these people's lives and will relieve the loneliness they may often be feeling.

Befriending is a totally free service so the funding received from Basingstoke and Deane will maintain this service to the community.

"I always look forward to seeing Bob" says Lisa. "He is the most inspiring person I have met; fiercely independent - regardless of the fact that he has severe visual impairment - extremely intelligent and very funny. We have wonderful conversations and I have learned such a lot from him."

Basingstoke NeighbourCare's Befrienders are people just like Lisa – and like you. If you have a spare hour or so every week please contact NeighbourCare on 01256 423855 (or email us at info@neighbourcare.com) and find out how you can also take part in this incredibly rewarding service.

Finally, what does Bob think of the value of NeighbourCare's Befriending service? Mr Allen says: "This has transformed my life. Lisa helps me with my post as I cannot see very well and I know she is coming every week. It is the best thing that has happened to me in recent years."

Thank you - we'd be delighted to hear from you.





HATCH WARREN UNDER FIVES PRESCHOOL



A belated Happy New Year from Hatch Warren Under Fives!

We've had a great start to 2019, we've welcomed lots of new children to our preschool and we've heard so much about Christmas, who the children spent time with, where they visited and what presents Father Christmas delivered. The Department for Education's "Early Year's Outcomes" says that a typical child aged 30-50 months should be able to "remember and talk about significant events in their own experiences" and "recognise and describe special times or events for family or friends".

Our January topic was winter and the seasons. We've looked at animals that hibernate and have also explored the colder weather, which included making marshmallow snowmen! We also continue to encourage the children's growing independence in the colder months by practicing putting on scarves, hats, gloves and wellies before going out in the garden.

The children settled back to the preschool routine well and are enjoying their weekly science experiments and their weekly cooking and baking. We've also introduced play dough gym into our weekly activities, a super fun activity that helps children develop the core muscles they need for writing. Makaton is also used every week at Hatch Warren Under Fives with our rhyme of the week. Using Makaton can help children gain a sense of importance and boost their self-confidence alongside their language and communication skills. Children love to use signs and share these with others during activities, especially singing.

It's a fun February coming up - we have Valentine's Day, Chinese New Year and Pancake Day to look forward to...

Pancakes will be a delicious treat for the snack table (and of course we'll have some pancake races too!). Valentine's Week is

always a great opportunity to get creative with reds, pinks, hearts and flowers. 2019 is the year of the Pig, we'll be celebrating Chinese New Year and there will be more food to sample when we try some Chinese treats.

Our annual Valentine's Family Disco takes place on Saturday February 9th. As a charity-run preschool we organise a number of fundraising events throughout the year - our Valentine's Disco is a fun afternoon for all the family featuring face painting, a selfie station, glitter tattoos, glow sticks and of course lots and lots of disco dancing! This event is open to the community so if you'd like to join us please get in touch for tickets.

To enquire about our waiting list at Hatch Warren Under Fives, please contact Pam Jones, Manager, on 01256 322788, or email preschoolmail@aol.com.

We also manage a sister preschool, Kempshott Under Fives, located a short distance away at St. Mark's Church in Kempshott. Kempshott Under Fives has a few spaces remaining for immediate starts.

Read more about our preschools at www.hatchwarrenunderfives.co.uk

CUCKOO MEADOW PRESCHOOL

Hello and Happy New Year from all at Cuckoo Meadow Preschool in North Waltham!

We are based in North Waltham village, which is less than 10 minutes' drive from Hatch Warren, and is in a beautiful rural setting. The children who attend come from within the village and the surrounding areas including Oakley, Dummer, Hatch Warren, Kempshott and Beggarwood and all agree the location and wonderful caring staff mean it is more than worth the short journey. Please contact Jo or Fiona to come and see for yourself.

In the run up to Christmas the children were kept busy preparing for their nativity. It's safe to say there was not a dry eye in the house at the packed performance at the end of term! The children all played their parts wonderfully and sung some Christmas tunes with great gusto. Given the young age of some of the children, this was a real achievement so well done

to all involved. The big man himself made a wonderful entrance after the performance, arriving in a horse drawn carriage with his elves. The children were awe struck and all behaved beautifully when receiving their gifts. Such a lovely way to end the term.

The new term is now upon us with some new starters and plenty of enthusiasm. I know the team have lots of spring themed ideas for the children to enjoy including a visit from the Easter bunny.

There are still spaces available at the Ofsted Outstanding ranked pre-school. To arrange your visit, please call Jo or Fiona on 01256 398172.

Alice Crocker

CANDOVER VALLEY PRE-SCHOOL

Hello from CVP!

The children had a busy Christmas time at Pre-School. They created cards, decorations, paper chains, helped decorate the Christmas tree and had fun in the Winter themed den. The children were so enthusiastic to write their names for cards and we shared a wonderful home link as many also enjoyed writing Christmas cards at home and posting them in the pre-school post box. Now it's time to write those thank you letters!

The Christmas Party was a huge success and Father Christmas appeared in his grotto where the children all received a gift and Mrs Claus also made a special appearance at the party to entertain the children.

We have come back to pre-school and are talking about our experiences over the holidays and we will be carrying out activities that look at the weather.

The children spend a lot of time outside at CVP rain or shine with access to the



outside. We aim to get the children out of pre-school every day either on the school playground or up on the field. We are so excited that our new woodland area is now ready for use and we will be making our way up there for some OWLS (outdoor woodland learning sessions) every week this term.

Visitors are always welcome at pre-school if you would like to see CVP in action. 01256-389008

Lisa Collisson

DANDELIONS

The last weeks of the Christmas term were a very busy and exciting time at Dandelions. The children made lots of lovely crafts and some surprise gifts. They all worked really hard learning the songs and actions for our Christmas Presentations which were excellent and thoroughly enjoyed by all of their proud parents.

Starting back in January we welcomed our new children, who are settling in nicely. We have a lively and fun-packed term ahead. We will be looking at the signs of winter. We will be experimenting with ice to see how it freezes and what makes it melt. We will be continuing to encourage the children to explore our loose parts corner and learn about different textures.

Dandelions will be holding a sponsored read event on 4th February. The money raised will go towards new dressing up clothes. We will be asking the children to bring in their favourite book for us to read together.

We will be inviting parents to join us on the 6th February between 9.00 and 10.30 to read with the children and also the children can dress up as their favourite character from a special book.

We are holding an Open Day on Saturday 2nd March between 12.00 & 2.00

If your child was born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017

To Start between September 2019 and April 2020

Please do come and have a look around our welcoming Pre school or you can call Jane on 01256 818857 or e-mail info@dandelions-preschool.org.uk



Here at Hatch Warren Infants we have started the New Year with Gusto. Year R have introduced their first Fab Funky Friday, starting with a wintry theme. One class made icy pictures with printing and collage. Another was full of messy play with fake snow, foam and ice. In the third one there was a STEM challenge; building a snowman out of fruit, find out all about balance and pressure. In the following weeks they will be exploring many different traditional tales becoming story tellers themselves. The children will be involved in lots of fun activities that tie in with the stories, using porridge in lots of different imaginative ways! We go out for a walk to find out all the different building materials used in the wide variety of buildings around Hatch Warren. They hope to use this knowledge to design and build a wolf proof house back at school.



What an exciting half term Year 2 are planning. The children are researching and learning about the Great Fire of London. At the start they learnt how the fire started and were able to take part in drama workshops to really understand the events. The children learnt that the fire started in the bakery on Pudding Lane. The children followed this up by baking their own bread. During art sessions the children make their own piece of commemorative art by actually making felt from Merino wool, using traditional techniques. The children love learning these hands on messy skill! At the end of the topic on a Great Fire of London day they use DT skills to each create a house from cardboard. These are placed on the field producing our own mini London and set alight. This demonstrates to the children how quickly fire can spread and why so much of London was destroyed in 1666.



COUNCILLOR DAN PUTTY RETIRES AS MAGISTRATE

I am humbled to receive the Magistrates Association Certificate and the Balmoral Glass Chalice from The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Magistrates.





We are a registered charity run by volunteers – working to make Hatch Warren & Beggarwood a great place to live!

HATCH WARREN COMMUNITY CENTRE COACH TRIP TO



THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
THE BRILLIANT ORIGINAL
AT HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE

WEDNESDAY 15TH MAY - 7.30PM
Fantastic Stall Seats (rows C-K)

Coach departs at 4.30pm from our car park
Tickets cost £67.50 per person (includes return coach)

Deposit £47.50 per person due by 28th Jan
Balance £20 per person due by 28th Feb

This trip is open to all members of the public
All tickets are non refundable

To book your place email office@hatchwarren.org
or call 01256 811262

*40 seats must be sold for trip to go ahead
This event is being held as a fundraising event for Hatch Warren & Beggarwood Community Association

HATCH WARREN COMMUNITY CENTRE COACH TRIP TO

A NEW WEST END PRODUCTION



JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT
LYRICS BY TIM RICE MUSIC BY ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

AT THE LONDON PALLADIUM
SUMMER 2019

THURSDAY 29TH AUGUST 2019 - 7.30PM
Stall Seats

Coach departs at 4.30pm from our car park
Tickets cost £65 per person (includes coach)

Deposit £45 per person due by 25th Jan 2019
Balance £20 per person due by 22nd Feb 2019

This trip is open to all members of the public
All tickets are non refundable

To book your place email office@hatchwarren.org
or call 01256 811262

40 seats must be sold for trip to go ahead
This event is being held as a fundraising event for Hatch Warren & Beggarwood Community Association

Hatch Warren Community Centre

FESTIVAL NIGHT

Saturday 27th April
7-11pm - adults only

Join us for a great night of Rhythm and Blues live music



licensed bar & hot food available

Tickets
£6
£3 (members)

For more info go to www.hatchwarren.org

This event is being held as a fundraising event for Hatch Warren & Beggarwood Community Association
Charity No 1161117

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Festival Night, Sat 27th April, 7-11pm

AGM, Wed 12th June, 7-8pm

Summer Festival, Sat 13th July, 12-4pm

Fireworks Spectacular, Sat 2nd Nov, 5.30pm

Westfield Shopping Trip, Sat 23rd Nov, 8am

Christmas Fayre, Sun 24th Nov, 1-4pm

Bath Xmas Markets, Sat 30th Nov, 8am

Carols in the Park, Thur 19th Dec, 6-7pm



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FRIDAY NIGHT TERM TIME YEARS 6-8
YOUTH CLUB ACTIVITIES (see below)

FRIDAY NIGHT TERM TIME AGES 13+
OPEN ACCESS & HEALTH HUB

FEB/MAR 2018 Programme 6.00 to 7.45pm

1st Feb	Five aside football, temporary tattoos plus sausage and chips
8th Feb	Singstar, basketball and bacon sandwiches
15th Feb	Bingo and button craft with chocolate toasties
Thur 21st Feb	Make your own bandanas
22nd Feb	Laser Tag, crafts and biscuit decorating
1st Mar	Wii Sports and safety pin craft with nachos
8th Mar	Cyber safety quiz, laser tag and waffles

FREE ENTRY FOR ALL YOUNG PEOPLE

Health Hub Programme - 8.00 to 9.30pm

We are open Fridays 8.00-9.30pm for school years 9 and above. If you want to play pool, FIFA or just hang out come on down. We sell food and drinks (including tea and hot chocolate) and we can also offer you free confidential advice on a whole range of issues including contraception and pregnancy testing.

We run focused information nights for 13-18 year olds, our next nights are:

1st February - LGBT Awareness
1st March Eating - Disorders Awareness

If parents have questions about the topics we discuss please feel free to contact us.

Happy New Year! We hope you have all had a great Christmas and a good start to 2019.

We have all been blowing away the January blues with slime making, Mario Kart and hot dogs as well as planning lots of fun for the next few months.

Here at The Warren in addition to craft, games, sports and food we are also passionate about helping educate our young people in ways that are entertaining as well as informative. We were very pleased with our older group's reactions to the first Health Hub of 2019, *Alcohol Awareness*, particularly with our 'Beer Goggle' challenges.



We hope our future Health Hubs, for the older group, go as well as this one did 😊

Follow us!! Want to hear the latest news? Then be sure to follow us on The Warren Facebook page and Instagram: @thewarrenyouthclub for all the updates

February Half Term

We are pleased to be able to say that, thanks to extra funding we have received from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, we are able to open an additional evening during February half term! Come down and see us on Thursday 21st February 6pm and make your own bandanas!

Table football!!

Yes you read right, we now have table football! So if it's too wet or icy on the courts to play footie outside, or there is a queue for FIFA, you can still get your football fix!

The Warren would like to thank **Rona Cleary** who kindly donated it to us.

Car Park Safety

At the beginning and end of our younger session the community centre car park can get very busy with cars and young people, particularly in winter when it's dark. We try to ensure the young people remember their road safety knowledge, but please can we request that anyone dropping off or collecting young people ensure they park safely and courteously in the spaces provided - thank you.

HAVE FUN ON MAD HAIR DAY!

St. Michael's Hospice is delighted to announce their fun campaign Mad Hair Day which will take place once again and in 2019 it is on Friday 15th February to raise much needed funds for the Hospice. The local community are encouraged to wear crazy wigs and style their hair in weird and wacky ways.

'Mad Hair Day' is the perfect excuse to go wild and have fun with your hair', says Lynne Grimshaw, Community Campaigns Co-ordinator at the Hospice. 'Maybe you have always wondered what your hair would look like pink, permed or in a beehive, or perhaps ladies, you have always wanted to be brave enough to have your head shaved, or gentlemen your legs or chest waxed. Well Friday 15th February is the day to give it a try! You can have great fun and really help your local Hospice at the same time by

getting sponsored too.' In the past, the Hospice has had wonderful support from schools and hairdressers but individuals and businesses are always welcome to join in too.

St. Michael's is the local Hospice for North Hampshire, providing care and support through the In-Patient Unit, Day Service and Hospice at Home services. All services are completely free of charge to people with life-limiting illnesses. The running costs of the Hospice last year were £3.9 million of which only around 20% is funded by the North Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group. The support of the local community in campaigns such as Mad Hair Day really does make a huge difference to our fundraising.

For more information about supporting Mad Hair Day or holding an event, please call Lynne in the Fundraising Department on 01256 848845 or email lynne.grimshaw@stmichaelsospice.org.uk for a fundraising pack.



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••••• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

Happy New Year everyone!

So, how are the New Year Resolutions going? Don't worry if they're out of the window already, I never make any New Year resolutions because, as soon as I break one, I feel a failure. Not that there's anything wrong in feeling a failure – we all feel like that from time to time. What matters is how we deal with our failings. "The person who never made a mistake never made anything." (I read that somewhere and I've never forgotten it.) So be consoled if you feel you are failing. We learn from mistakes and can go on to change and make things work out better than we imagined. I have a picture of the first verse of the Serenity Prayer on my bedroom wall which encourages me every day. I hope it will encourage you too:

"God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, Courage to change the things I can; and the wisdom to know the difference."

The second verse is not quoted so often, but is worth reading:

"Living one day at a time; Enjoying one moment at a time; Accepting hardships as a pathway to peace; taking as He did This sinful world as it is, not as I would have it; Trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His Will; That I may be reasonably happy in this life And supremely happy with Him in the next." (Reinhold Niebuhr 1892-1971)

'Christmas' decorations are now packed away in the loft so what's the next thing we can look forward to? Well, it's Valentine's Day on 14th February. St. Valentine is the patron saint of lovers. He is thought to be a Bishop during the reign of Emperor Claudius. Claudius was trying to recruit single young men for his army. He believed that single men fought harder than married men and so banned marriage. However, Valentine secretly married young

couples in the Christian church. He was caught and tortured and later beheaded. One of his judges, Asterius, had a daughter who was blind. Valentine prayed with her and the girl was healed, at which Asterius became a Christian. The story says that as his final act, Valentine sent Asterius' daughter a note 'from your Valentine'. The rest, as they say, is history.

On Facebook the other day, I read of a young woman who wrote 24 letters to her boyfriend that he was to open on the appropriate occasion. She had labelled the envelopes "For when you are feeling unloved", "For when you are feeling sad", and "For when you've forgotten how strong you are" – get the idea? I thought this was a lovely thing to do. All of us, at some time or other, know what it's like to feel unloved, sad, unappreciated, full of grief, or just feeling down. If you have no-one to send you letters such as those mentioned above, there is one place you will find the consolation you need – in the bible. As a Christians, the bible teaches us how much God loves us. God is our Father – and yours! Here are some verses that might help you in times of trouble or need. You can look them up in a Bible or online.

- When you feel unloved: John 3:16 and Proverbs 17:17
- When you feel no-one cares: Matthew 6:26
- When you feel rejected: Psalm 139:1-6
- When you feel a failure: Hebrews 10:35-36

"Dear Friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is Love." (1st letter of St. John 4:7)

All of us at Immanuel Church wish you every blessing for the year ahead.

May it be a happy and successful year for you all.

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DIGESTER TRAFFIC

Those of you who walk your children to and from school and cross Woodbury Road, and those of you who use Woodbury Road generally, will be aware of the huge lorries and tankers that use the road to and from the anaerobic digester. You will possibly have seen the cameras down past the Danebury Road mini roundabout, that were installed after a huge amount of pressure by residents, to monitor the lorries, and which confirmed how they frequently flouted the rules on timing and routing - rules that were imposed in an attempt to protect the safety and amenity of residents. The evidence provided by the cameras was very helpful in forcing the digester operators to put pressure on the hauliers to abide by the rules.

You may therefore be interested to know that the cameras are no longer being monitored by the County Council. The Council officers have decided that the use of the cameras is "disproportionate, and cannot be justified on planning grounds, particularly as there have been no reports of accidents".

The digester operators and hauliers are fully aware that the cameras are not being monitored, and that they are therefore pretty much at liberty to ignore the rules if they choose to do so, as there will no longer be accessible independent evidence of what they do.

We might as well give up, let them do whatever they want, aided and abetted by the County Council.

Sam Weller

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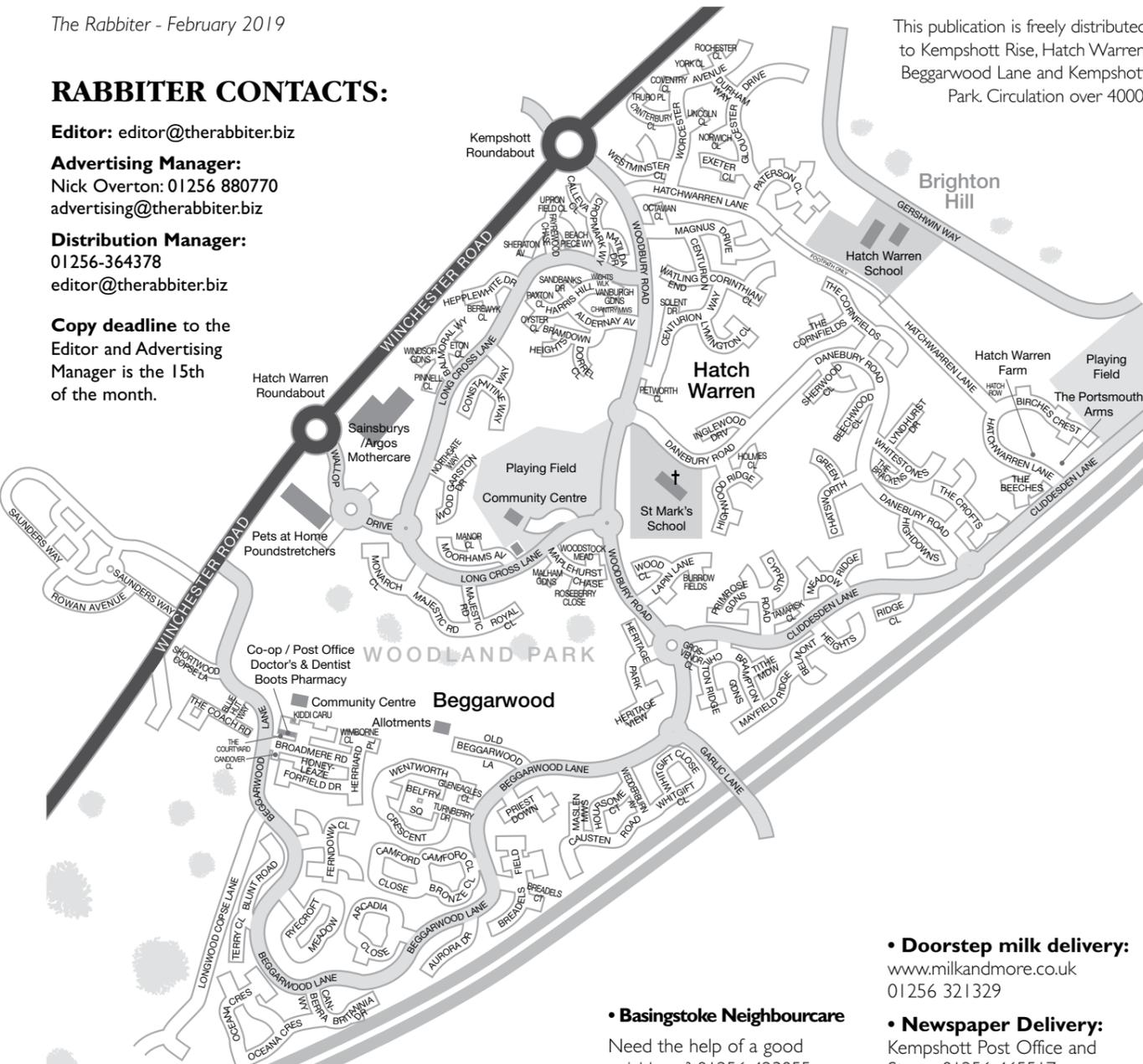
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St. Mark's School: 472632

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• Buses:

See page 24

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The Great Daffodil Day is the major fundraising event for the year. If you have an hour or more to spare in February / March please call Sally or Sophie on 023 8026 3123 or go to the link below to register <https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/get-involved/collecting>

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Saturdays: 0645, 0715, 0730, 0745, 0800, 0810, 0820, 0830, 0840, 0850, 0900, 0910, 0920, 0930, 0940, 0950, 1000, 1010, 1020, 1030, 1040, 1050, 1100, 1110, 1120, 1130, 1140, 1150, 1200, 1210, 1220, 1230, 1240, 1250, 1300, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1340, 1350, 1400, 1410, 1420, 1430, 1440, 1450, 1500, 1510, 1520, 1530, 1540, 1550, 1600, 1610, 1620, 1630, 1640, 1650, 1700, 1710, 1720,

1730, 1745, 1800, 1815, 1830, 1845, 1900, 1915, 1930, 1945, 2015, 2045, 2115, 2145, 2215, 2245, 2315
Sundays: 0815, 0845, 0915, 0945, 1015, 1045, 1115, 1145, 1215, 1245, 1315, 1345, 1415, 1445, 1515, 1545, 1615, 1645, 1715, 1815, 1915, 2015, 2115

Buses will leave Sainsbury's
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Saturdays: 0649, 0709, 0739, 0746, 0809, 0816, 0834, 0836, 0854, 0856, 0914, 0916, 0934, 0936, 0954, 0956, 1014, 1016, 1034, 1036, 1054, 1056, 1114, 1116, 1134, 1136,

1154, 1156, 1214, 1216, 1234, 1236, 1254, 1256, 1314, 1316, 1334, 1336, 1354, 1356, 1414, 1416, 1434, 1436, 1454, 1456, 1514, 1516, 1534, 1536, 1554, 1556, 1614, 1616, 1634, 1636, 1654, 1656, 1714, 1716, 1734, 1736, 1754, 1801, 1824, 1831, 1854, 1901, 1924, 1931, 1954, 2001, 2039, 2101, 2139, 2201, 2239, 2301, 2339.

Sundays: 0831, 0909, 0931, 1009, 1031, 1109, 1131, 1209, 1231, 1309, 1331, 1409, 1431, 1509, 1531, 1609, 1631, 1709, 1741, 1841, 1941, 2041, 2141

No. 12 Service – via Brighton Hill) (No Sunday service)

Buses will leave Bus Station:
Monday to Friday: 0710, 0920, 1020, 1120, 1220, 1320, 1420, 1520, 1620, 1725, 1815, 1915

Saturdays: 0750, 0920, 1020, 1120, 1220, 1320, 1420, 1520, 1620, 1725, 1815, 1915

Buses will leave Sainsbury's:
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OFSTED CHIEF INSPECTOR AMANDA SPIELMAN VISITS BCOT'S 'OUTSTANDING' NURSERY

Keen to see an 'Outstanding' college nursery in action, the head of Ofsted, Amanda Spielman paid a visit to Basingstoke College of Technology (BCoT) this week. With a particular interest in the impact the nursery can make to the college curriculum and students, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector spent time meeting with, and talking to, both nursery children and the staff who have successfully achieved an 'Outstanding' rating for three consecutive inspections.

Hosted by BCoT Principal Anthony Bravo and meeting with Nursery Manager Rebecca Pickles and Fiona Dicks, Course Director for Health Care and Early Years, Ms Spielman said: "It's always a pleasure to see the providers that Ofsted inspects in action, especially when, like this one, they are doing really well for their children. The enthusiasm and dedication of staff is plain to see, and it's clear that the nursery has really high aspirations for all of its children. It also provides a hugely valuable service to the young adults attending the college, allowing them to continue their own education."

Not only does the BCoT Nursery offer exceptional care and outcomes, it also plays a pivotal role in the Early Years and Health and Social Care curriculum. Students

studying on these courses have the opportunity to do both work placements and work experience in the setting, spending time and undertaking activities with children across the nursery age range. Students from other colleges and a number of universities including the University of Reading, Kingston University and the University of Winchester, also seek to complete their placements at the nursery.

Commenting on the significance of the visit and the role the nursery plays at BCoT, Principal Anthony Bravo said: "We are very proud that Ms Spielman selected our college to explore her interest in the wider benefits an outstanding nursery can bring to both the children in its care and the students studying here at BCoT. The nursery is not a stand-alone provision on the periphery of the college, it is very much integrated within our community and the successful delivery of key aspects of our curriculum."

Providing the perfect backdrop some Early Years lessons are held within a classroom in the nursery and there is also the opportunity for students to practice their observations and implement lesson plans with the children. Drawing on the expertise

of the team running the nursery, the staff also provide practical sessions and talks. New for 2019 will be the opportunity for specialist provision students to run art classes and work with some of the able and older children.

The BCoT Nursery offers full and part-time care for children aged 3 months to pre-school. It's open to BCoT staff and students as well as the general public with 70% of children in its care come from the local community.

For more information on the BCoT Nursery visit bcotnursery.co.uk or call 01256 306213. For details on our Health and Early Years courses, apprenticeships and Higher Education courses which include the Foundation Degree in Children's Development and Learning plus the Level 5 Cache Diploma in Leadership and Management for Residential Childcare, visit bcot.ac.uk.



HWB HATCH WARREN BEGGARWOOD CYCLING CLUB

As we enter the New Year many of us have started thinking about our health. Over the last few weeks the members of HWBCC have all been talking about their cycling achievements during last year, either on social media or at one of the events that we have organised during the festive period.

I've had many conversations about how targets were set, ones that at the start of the year felt challenging but had to be increased midyear because people had already exceeded them and were then still over achieved. It's been great to see how much success people have had and to hear about their cycling adventures during 2018 and into 2019.

Three and a half years ago the original motivation that inspired us meet up at the Portsmouth Arms and plan how to start a cycling club was to bring people together around a common interest to help build a better community spirit within the Hatch Warren and Beggarwood area.

One of the things that makes me most proud of our club is how well it has achieved that goal. On one of our Breakfast rides recently I was happy to hear the banter and conversation that always goes on between our riders. People are not just discussing

training trips and dreaming about the bike they would like to own. They also chat about what's been going on in their lives and any other topic that you could imagine. We are lucky that cycling is such a social sport, you can spend enjoyable periods of time cruising and enjoying a conversation with your friends, whilst also having a great workout!

The cold reality of a New Year means that we all start back at 0, and this gives us the opportunity to make new promises to ourselves and set new targets to achieve for 2019.

If your goal is to get fit and start a new exercise routine and you have considered cycling as an option, or even if you haven't considered cycling but are intrigued then please join us for a ride. Personally I feel targets are easier to reach if you share the journey with others. A club can offer you guidance, support and I feel more importantly friendship and comradery. Knowing that I have told others that I will be there is sometimes the motivation I need to get out of the house and ride, plus cycling with friends usually means we end up in a coffee shop for a chat and a low-calorie cake!

If you are worried that you are not fit enough yet to ride with the club then



please consider that during the winter our entry ride is a 15-mile route at around 10 miles per hour, and no one gets left behind, we always ride with every riders' capabilities in mind and everyone over the age of 18 is welcome. During spring we will reintroduce our social rides that are shorter still and the pace is never a consideration. Lastly you don't have to be a member to come along, we are happy for you to come as a guest for the first three rides. Look forward to seeing you.

More details can be found on our web site www.hwbcc.org or on our facebook page facebook.com/HWBcc.

Come ride with us!
Chris Healey
HWBCC Chairman

LOCAL DOG LOVERS' SOLUTION TO MODERN DAY LONELINESS

Volunteer dog cuddling is being offered by Barking Mad Basingstoke as an antidote to the problem of loneliness in modern society. For those who are retired or work from home and are spending large chunks of time alone, caring for a waggy-tailed companion on a temporary basis and meeting other likeminded dog lovers could really help to overcome feelings of isolation.

The perception of loneliness as mainly an issue for the older generation is now proving inaccurate, as a study from the Office for National Statistics suggests that young adults are more likely to feel lonely than older age groups. Due to huge advances in technology, the number of freelancers and remote workers is rising, with an article in Business Leader claiming that a 'third of business owners think that workforce will work remotely by 2020.'



Sam Walker of Barking Mad Basingstoke said,

"Whilst remote working has obvious advantages, working alone under pressure and not having the physical presence of a team to support you can lead to loneliness that can't be fixed by any kind of app. Caring for a friendly dog not only provides canine cuddles (far better than any virtual hug) but also the motivation to go and take a walk at lunchtime, increasing the likelihood of adhering to New Year fitness resolutions."

The community of Barking Mad host families mainly consists of active retired people and those who either work from home, or have extended periods away from work. It offers the opportunity to care for dogs in your own home, while their owners are away on holiday. Hosts experience all the benefits of dog companionship without any of the emotional or financial responsibilities of full time pet ownership.

To find out more about becoming a Barking Mad host, you can call Sam Walker on 01256 830705 or visit <https://www.barkingmad.uk.com/local/hampshire/basingstoke>

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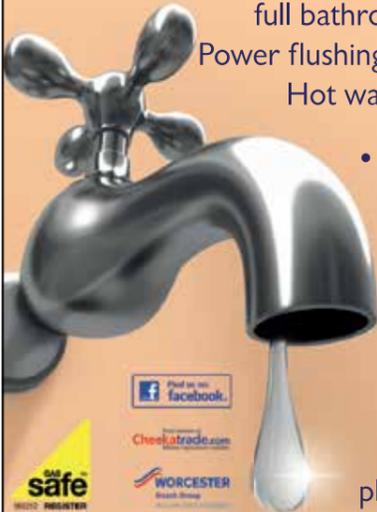


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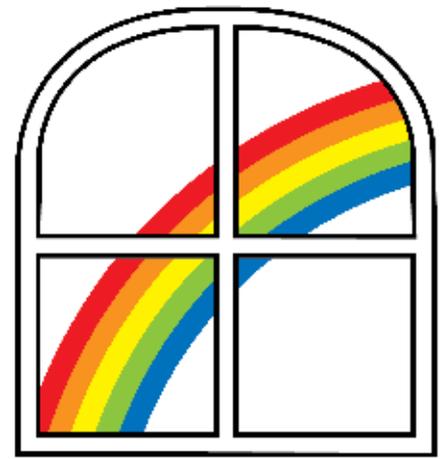
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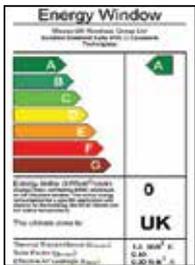


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