

WHAT'S ON – SEPTEMBER

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.

- 4 September Community Lunch, Café in the Park, see page 14
- 7 September Loddon Vale Indoor Bowling Club OPEN DAY
10am-4pm Basingstoke Leisure Park, see page 12
- 11 September Beggarwood Bookworms
Hatch Warren Community Centre, see page 5
- 23 September Cycle Basingstoke 9.30am Down Grange car park,
see page 10
- 5 October Basingstoke Variety Show 2019 7.30pm The Anvil
- 12 October Basingstoke Ladies' Choir Annual Concert
The Aldworth School, see page 7

Future Events

- 29 September Hatch Warren Runners Farleigh Wallop 10k Trail
Run <http://farleighwallop10k.co.uk/> (see page 12)

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, crocheters 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.hwrrunners.co.uk

BASINGSTOKE HOSPITAL ENTRANCE

Anyone recently visiting Basingstoke hospital will have noticed the restricted road access at the main entrance. This work is involving a complete update of the fracture clinic, which is where patients who have orthopaedic injuries visit for outpatient appointments. This work will increase the space available for patients and clinicians and is very much aimed at improving the patient experience. The changes will also see the plaster room where casts are fitted move to within the fracture clinic. At the same time, a 'self check-in' service will be introduced to speed up the process of letting the team know you have arrived for your appointment.

Because of the safety risks with contractor heavy vehicle movements, for the 8 weeks of planned work, the Trust has revised the access for vehicles dropping people at the main entrance; for those with disabled badges or arriving by foot there is no change, but for the rest, patients can be dropped off either at the side of the hospital near the entrance from the main carpark, or in front of the Sherborne building.

It is hoped that this work will result in the same level of improvement as has been achieved with the changes to the emergency department. These improvements have created significantly more space and a far better environment for patients, especially the paediatric area, which now has child orientated pictures painted on the walls and an abundance of toys. It is very much hoped we can look forward to yet another marked improvement to our local hospital, as it continues to provide the best for the community it serves.

Hampshire Hospitals Foundation Trust

KEMPSHOTT CONSERVATION GROUP

Wildlife Ponds. With dire warnings over climate change and species loss, one has to ask "is there anything I could do"? With the loss of habitat due to the industrialisation of agriculture, the humble garden is becoming more important as a source of food, habitat and shelter for a wide variety of species.

While many people feed the birds, some have planted bee-friendly plants that provide a source of nectar. Some have even gone so far as to provide insect hotels for all kinds of solitary bees, wasps and hoverflies. Having a shady spot supplied with piles of wood can provide shelter for frogs or over-wintering hoverflies.

However, one of the most useful additions the garden, so far as wildlife is concerned, is to build a pond. A wildlife pond is one of the single best features for attracting new wildlife to the garden. It is thought that some amphibians, such as frogs, are now more common in garden ponds than in the countryside.

A garden pond does not have to be large to be effective. A old washing up bowl sunk in the ground can provide a useful habitat. Repurposed old sinks or even half barrel, ceramic or earthenware planters can be used on a patio. But don't forget to use a pond liner to hang on to the water!

For more information about our activities on Down Grange Meadow, please call Marion Wolstencroft on (01256) 470171. Alternatively, send an email to kempshott-serve@tiscali.co.uk or visit us at www.kempshottconservationgroup.org.uk

