

THE Rabbiter



Issue 272 June 2020

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- **GUINNESS WORLD RECORD**
- **PINK PLACE NEWS**
- **BASINGSTOKE VOLUNTARY ACTION**

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THE Rabbiter

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EDITORIAL

How is everyone getting on? There is lots of walking and cycling, children enjoying home schooling and we have all discovered 'zoom'. Family quiz night is becoming an important way to keep in touch and entertained. The Rabbiter is pleased to congratulate the manager of the Portsmouth Arms, Richard Curtis, on continuing to run his very successful quiz, raising over £40,000 for charity and breaking the Guinness World Record for the longest marathon as a quiz master (see page 8 for more details). Well done Richard!

Sadly the Café in the Park is still closed and we are missing their wonderful home baked cakes. A particular favourite is the Lemon Drizzle Cake – and we are pleased to feature the recipe for this on page 10. We are expecting a run on lemons in the local shops and would love to see pictures of your bakes – please send your pictures to newsdesk@therabbiter.biz and we will feature them on our website, www.therabbiter.biz. Sainsbury's continue to provide an amazing service to local residents with over 400 orders being delivered locally every day (see page 14 for news from Sainsbury's).

Although our Community Centre doors are now closed, the Association AGM will still take place on Wednesday 10 June 2020 at 7pm. All members are encouraged to attend via 'zoom' – see page 16 for details. Without your support we will lose this amazing facility.

I am enjoying my daily walk and particularly enjoy walking across Old Down. The cowslips have been stunning this year – thank you to all the hard work by the Old Down and Beggarwood Wildlife Group for their continuing work maintaining our open spaces (see page 18).

A big thank you to the members of Beggarwood Bookworms Community for all their help and support over the past couple of months. New friendships have developed as shopping has been organised for those isolated at home and prescriptions collected. A special thank you to the member who runs a 'treasure hunt list' to find all those items that shops keep running out of – flour and yeast just to mention one thing she manages to source and then deliver – an amazing lady. New members always welcome to our bookclub – see page 15.

Did you celebrate VE day? We had a great time in our road. Bunting was made and displayed, tables and chairs laid in front gardens loaded with scones, cakes, tea and Prosecco. Music from the 1940s was played. Social Distancing rules were respected by everyone and we all had a splendid time catching up with friends and neighbours from a respectable distance.

Unfortunately we are still unable to deliver the Rabbiter door to door but hope to be back to normal in September. Meanwhile copies are available from Sainsbury's, the Co-op and Poundstretcher. The Rabbiter have a website where you can read the current edition and access previous editions. We are also on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/therabbiter.biz/> and here you can post pictures of your cakes and all your local news.

With all the talk about cake, we may need to do some extra exercise. Beechdown are now running FREE online classes to help us stay fit and well – see page 13. The current emergency is going to have an impact on a lot of small businesses so please do support our advertisers whenever possible.

If you are spending some time having a good spring clean, remember that the Rabbiter has a page for free ads or you could advertise your items on our facebook page.

Stay safe and well everyone.

The Editor

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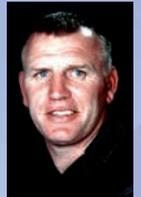

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COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS WORKING HARD TO SUPPORT VULNERABLE RESIDENTS

The Basingstoke and Deane Community Hub has taken over 1,200 calls from vulnerable borough residents following the launch of a new coronavirus helpline.

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council is working in partnership with Hampshire County Council, Basingstoke Voluntary Action (BVA) and community and voluntary groups to ensure that those most at risk can stay inside their homes and receive deliveries of food and prescribed medication during the COVID-19 outbreak.

The Coronavirus Hampshire Helpline has been set up for residents who are at higher risk from the virus, are self-isolating and do not have access to any help from family and friends to register for support. The helpline is available seven days a week, from 9am to 5pm by calling 0333 370 4000.

Basingstoke and Deane Community Hub, through a wide range of community and voluntary groups and volunteers across the borough, has been able to purchase and deliver food packages, collect medical prescriptions from local pharmacies and signpost residents in need to other support available.

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Communities, Culture and Partnerships Cllr Simon Bound said: "These figures show how important this vital work is to provide urgent support to vulnerable residents across our borough and I would like to thank the hundreds of volunteers working hard to support residents most in need.

"We have received some great feedback from people who have been helped by volunteers and we are pleased to have been able to provide financial assistance to keep this support running during this pandemic.

"If you need support, or know anyone who is vulnerable and has no other access to help, please call the Coronavirus Hampshire Helpline to register for this service so we can ensure you get the supplies you need."

For more information about the Basingstoke and Deane Community Hub visit www.basingstoke.gov.uk/covid-19-community-hub and for more information about the support available in your area, please visit www.bvaction.org.uk/basingstoke-deane-community-hubs

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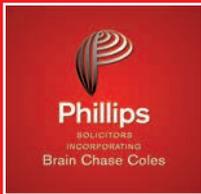
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WRITING YOUR WILL DURING THE CORONAVIRUS LOCKDOWN



Lucy Watson

A Will might well be the most important legal document you ever sign as it protects your most important asset – your family.

Understandably, the current situation with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has caused people a great deal of worry, especially the elderly and those with underlying health conditions, as to whether it is possible to create or update their Will.

The Service we offer

Here at Phillips Solicitors incorporating Brain Chase Coles, our Wills and Probate team is coming up with solutions to help you get your affairs in order while keeping to the social distancing rules. We are still on hand to answer your questions and give you the advice you need and ensure that your Will is up-to-date.

We can arrange an in-depth telephone conversation to understand your requirements, or potentially use video conferencing if that is something that you feel would suit you.

We will then draft your Will and send it by post or email accompanied by an explanatory letter.

Having your Will signed and witnessed

Once you are happy with the Will we will post it to you with clear instructions on how to have it signed and witnessed to ensure its validity.

Even in these unprecedented times, under current rules, two adults must witness the signing of a Will. However, they must be independent and cannot be beneficiaries or be married to a beneficiary.

The witnesses, who for example could be your neighbours, also need to sign the Will so you need to place it in a convenient spot visible to everyone and move two metres away. Everyone must see everyone else sign.

Both witnesses should separately approach and sign the Will, taking the necessary precautions, such as using their own pens, making no physical contact, wearing gloves and conducting the process quickly as well as adhering to strict handwashing measures afterwards.

To find out more please contact Lucy Watson, who is the head of the Wills and Probate team at Phillips Solicitors incorporating Brain Chase Coles on 01256 854646, by emailing lucy.watson@phillipslaw.co.uk or via our website www.phillips-law.co.uk

THE PORTSMOUTH ARMS BREAKS WORLD RECORD IN AID OF LOCAL CHARITY

Richard Curtis, General Manager of the Portsmouth Arms pub in Basingstoke, has broken the Guinness World Record for the world's longest marathon as a quiz master.

Following a 34-hour and 11-minute virtual quiz, Richard raised more than £21,000 for The Pink Place Cancer Charity in Basingstoke. Thousands of people joined the live stream quiz on the pub's Facebook page to support the chosen charity.

Richard's record-breaking charity quiz marathon comfortably beat the previous world record holder, Jason Hinkledire from the USA. Jason broke the record on April 12, 2014 following a 33-hour and eight-minute quiz in Pennsylvania.

Richard explained: "I am so grateful for everyone who took the time to support our cause and help us raise an incredible amount of money for The Pink Place Cancer Charity, while breaking a record attempt in the process."

Richard has hosted daily virtual pub quizzes since the Government-enforced lockdown began and has raised over £40,000 to date for many local charities including St. Michael's Hospice, Basingstoke Foodbank and Hampshire Medical Fund.



Richard added: "From what started out as an idea to create a virtual pub quiz to help people stay in and stay connected, I am incredibly humbled by the continuous support I have received and how it has grown. Without the support of my local community and people's generosity from across the globe, I wouldn't have been able to give back to these amazing local causes."

The Portsmouth Arms is part of the Hall & Woodhouse family, an independent family company that brews award-winning Badger ales and runs a collection of around 180 beautiful pubs and inns across the south of England.

Anthony Woodhouse, Chairman of Hall & Woodhouse, said: "Our purpose as a company is to make people's day and serve the communities in which we operate. What Richard has been doing

delivers that in spades: providing hours of quiz entertainment for locals and people from around the globe, whilst raising tens of thousands of pounds for great local causes. His world record was an extraordinary achievement, great fun and indeed a privilege to be part of."

Please visit www.facebook.com/portsmoutharms to take part in the daily pub quizzes.

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FAVOURITE RECIPES FROM CAFÉ IN THE PARK

Lemon Drizzle Traybake

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Ingredients

For the shortbread

225g/8oz butter or baking spread at room temperature, plus extra for greasing

225g/8oz caster sugar

275g/10oz self-raising flour

2 level tsp baking powder

4 free-range eggs

4 tbsp milk

2 unwaxed lemons, finely grated zest only

1 heaped tbsp very finely chopped lemon verbena (optional)

For the glaze

175g/6oz granulated sugar

2 lemons, juice only

Method

Preheat the oven to 180C/160C Fan/Gas
4. Grease the tin with butter and line the base with baking paper.

2 Measure all the ingredients into a large bowl and beat for 2 minutes, or until well blended. Turn the mixture into the prepared tin and level the top.

3 Bake for 35–40 minutes, until the cake has shrunk a little from the sides of the tin and springs back when lightly touched with a fingertip in the centre of the cake.

4 Meanwhile, make the glaze. Mix the sugar with the lemon juice and stir to a runny consistency.

5 Leave the cake to cool for 5 minutes in the tin, then lift out, with the lining paper still attached, and place on wire rack set over a tray.

6 Brush the glaze all over the surface of the warm cake and leave to set. Remove the lining paper and cut into slices to serve.



Recipe Tips

Tip 1: It is important to spoon the glaze on to the cake while it's still warm so the lemon juice soaks in properly.

Tip 2: Lemon balm works well as an alternative for lemon verbena if you can't get hold of any, or you could use finely chopped lemon thyme leaves.

Tip 3: This traybake can be stored in an airtight container for 3–4 days and frozen for up to a month.



MY FIRST MEETING AT THE PROBUS CLUB



Jeff Grover describes his first meeting

I arrived at the meeting venue in good time so as not to make a poor impression had I been late. Fortunately my host was waiting for me in the bar (where else?) and introduced me to a number of members standing close by.

I was a little nervous at first not really knowing what to expect but everyone was very friendly and welcoming. All were wearing a club tie and lapel pin in their jackets. Oh yes dress code. As it was mid morning and not evening I did not have to wonder if it was a black tie occasion (because I was unsure if my dinner suit would still fit me since my retirement) or, would a lounge suit or jacket and tie be sufficient? I was reassured that my smart jacket and tie seemed to suit the occasion admirably.

After a while we were called into the dining room which had several large tables. Oh where do I sit? Anywhere and everywhere was the answer. Wherever there's a spare seat; after all Probud does not encourage cliques but wants a clear mix of members

from one month to another to allow everyone to know each other better.

After a short introduction there followed a talk by an outside speaker. On the first occasion the topic was about the Oregon Trail in the USA. Subsequent talks have been about cycling the length of the USA, life observations by someone who naturally enough always saw the funny side of life (and was indeed very funny) and the life and times of a BBC radio reporter. The talks are varied, informative, humorous and always well received.

Lunch followed. A traditional English meal was served followed by a dessert. I had chosen the biscuits and cheese as an alternative to the dessert. Conversation flowed and the noise increased with laughter and chatter all around me. I discovered that members were retired having followed a wide variety of careers including bomb disposal, bank note forgery, nuclear science, paper manufacture, motor heads and many other occupations. In turn upon retirement members had devoted

their spare time to cruising, holidays, bird watching, playing golf, politics and so on. What an eclectic bunch.

After lunch, the President, resplendent in his chain of office, made various announcements of interest to the assembled members including what many considered the most important decision of the meeting – what to eat at the next lunch meeting!

Other announcements followed including details of various trips being organised that would be of interest to members and their partners as well as less formal meetings at various pubs and restaurants being held throughout the year.

I made my way home in the early afternoon thinking what great value for money I had enjoyed. For a modest outlay of £25 annual subscription plus £13 a month for the cost of the meal I wondered about the people I had met, the conversations that followed and the interesting and fascinating lives of those around me.

For more information about the Probud Club of Basingstoke see www.probudbasingstoke.club

COUNCILLOR'S UPDATE

Lockdown information: Given that the lockdown is still with us, though the emphasis is changing, I thought it would be useful to repeat the links and numbers through which you can seek help or information.

- Hampshire County Council webpages are at <https://hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/coronavirus>
- Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council information is at <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/coronavirus>
- Basingstoke Voluntary Action have a lot of useful local information at <https://www.bvaction.org.uk/covid-19/>
- The latest government information is at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
- NHS information is at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-10>

A helpline exists for frail or vulnerable residents who do not have support from families, friends or their local community, and who need urgent assistance with essential food or household supplies, collection of medication, or who are at risk of loneliness.

- The Coronavirus Hampshire Helpline – Hantshelp4vulnerable - can be contacted on 0333 370 4000. It is available seven days a week, from 9am-5pm.

Refuse Collection: There is no indication at the time of writing as to the

Borough Council's intended timescales for reintroducing the weekly grey bin collections. We therefore need to continue putting out our green bins on the normal recycling days, and the grey bins the following week. The Council advises wiping bin handles each time they are moved.

Household Waste Recycling Centre: the HWRC has re-opened specifically for people who cannot safely store their waste materials at home. Capacity has been reduced by new social distancing measures. Queues to get in were long in the first week, and it may be advisable to delay journeys there until the initial rush is over.

Anaerobic Digester: the Environment Agency is not taking further action regarding odour pollution at this time. The operators of the Digester are making changes to the plant in line with the EA's instructions but progress has been slowed due to the lockdown. This is deeply frustrating for local residents who continue to report problems and, locked in their homes, can't do anything to get away from it.

Biogen have been concerned about pedestrians using the plant's haul road. It is not a public right of way and takes some heavy lorries. New signs are being planned but, please, don't use the haul road for recreational purposes.

Hounsme Fields: the developers issued advance notice of their intention to start tree felling and this raised concerns about nesting birds and other ecological

issues. It appears that the agreed method of operating is for an ecologist to observe the site and identify any trees that are hosting nests, requiring these to be left until the chicks have fledged.

There is a question about the licence to fell in relation to dormice: at the time of writing this was being checked and, if a new licence is required, it will be sought. The developers have agreed to set up the protective fencing in readiness for felling but not to start until all issues have been resolved.

Domestic Abuse: One of our concerns, as Councillors, is that the lock-down will result in increased levels of domestic abuse. This may be suffered not only by adults but also by children, and it can be physical or emotional. Please be vigilant: if you think someone may be at risk, let the Police know.

Virtual Meetings: To end on a positive note, Hampshire's Cabinet held a formal meeting online in May with all Members and Officers joining via the internet. This saved many miles of travelling and it means that the Council's decision-making can continue in these difficult times. I hope this facility will become part of 'new normal'.

Stephen Reid

County Councillor:
Basingstoke South West
07976 310206

BASINGSTOKE DEANE ROTARY

ROTARY IN LOCKDOWN

Zoom and other on-line communication tools have become essential parts of our lives over recent months. With embargoes on live meetings our Rotary Club, led by our younger members, embraced this modern technology and whilst at first somewhat tentative, we are now running our weekly club meetings and also a Saturday coffee morning on Zoom, as well as Board Meetings. This has meant that we have been able to carry on with all that Rotary does in supporting our charities. The unexpected bonus of this is that it has enabled us to keep our club fellowship and camaraderie, a very important part of being a Rotarian. We have maintained our

friendships with our meetings, as ever, full of fun and humour along with the serious business.

Being a member of a Rotary Club has been a life line for us in these times.

We still have guest speakers and members have organised Desert Island Discs and Room 101 sessions, it's amazing what we've learnt about each other. Rotarian Julian Ricketts has been entertaining us each Saturday evening with his Cocktail Master Classes on Facebook. Unfortunately you can't sample them but you can follow the class and make your own – and no need to worry about driving home!

BASINGSTOKE FESTIVAL OF TRANSPORT

RESCHEDULED for 13th SEPTEMBER 2020 in the Memorial Park 11.00am until 4.00pm.

This is a free outdoor event & we are crossing our fingers and hoping that this great celebration of British life and engineering will give us all the lift we need as life returns to normality.

Check our Website and Social media for updates

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A JOB IN THE COMMUNITY (PART 2)

Hatch Warren resident, Simon Wright, gives a further insight into his role as a Registrar

Who built the Tower of London? Which King was executed in 1649? Where does haggis come from? I am confident on one of three, but may need to give some hard thought, and guessing, to the other two. These are three questions from last year's Citizenship test.

As I wrote last month, I am a Ceremonies Registration Officer; or Deputy Superintendent Registrar, based here in Basingstoke. In addition to conducting wedding and civil partnership ceremonies, one of my other main roles is to carry out Citizenship Ceremonies. The event marks the end of a very long road for people who have applied to become British Citizens, and it can be a very emotional occasion as they are finally able to apply for their British passports.

One of the tasks the applicants need to do before they get anywhere near the final ceremony is to undertake a written test on the subject of the United Kingdom. It takes a considerable amount of work to prepare for the exam, and even those of us who have been here since birth would need to do some serious thinking to come up with the correct answers.

Who led the team of scientists who split the atom for the first time? When did the Emancipation Act abolish slavery throughout the British Empire? I'm still not doing too well...

Participants are invited to attend the ceremony in the Registration Office in Basingstoke, which are held twice a month. There are around twenty applicants, together with their families, so it can be quite a big event! There are usually fifteen or so different nationalities, so a very diverse group of people from around the world.

During the ceremony, everyone must swear allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen, and to obey the laws of the United Kingdom. Everyone is also required to sing the first two verses of the National Anthem – probably the only time in their lives that they will ever have to sing any of the additional verses (there are six, by the way!).

As part of the ceremony, each person will receive their naturalisation certificate, which is the official legal document, and a commemorative certificate and pen (or teddy bear if you are a bit younger). These are presented by a civic dignitary – The High Sheriff, Lord Lieutenant, the Deputy Lieutenants and the Mayor all take turns to

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Simon Wright with the mayor Cllr Diane Taylor and her consort Dr Andy Taylor

attend. A County Councillor representing one of the Basingstoke wards also attends, and there is opportunity to have an official photograph taken.

It is a very special day for everyone, and it is wonderful to see the vast array of clothing and bright colours. For many, this ceremony is even more of an event than a wedding and they go on to celebrate accordingly!

It is possible to have a Group Citizenship ceremony with other applicants, or an individual one on your own. Bear in mind you still need to sing the National Anthem whichever option you choose, and so you may have to work on your harmonies if it is just the two of us!

By the way, the answers are William the Conqueror, Charles I, Scotland, Ernest Rutherford and 1833.

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HATCH WARREN UNDER FIVES

Hatch Warren Under Fives, along with all schools and preschools, has had its most unusual year ever. We have stayed open to support our key worker families but for the majority of children, we have had to stay in touch via our online means of Tapestry, email and Facebook. We have missed the children so much!

Over the last few weeks we have been remotely supporting our children and families with school readiness activities and ideas for outdoor learning to enjoy the weather. We have also been busy in preschool putting in lots of preparations for when we can safely reopen our doors.

We are really looking forward to welcoming our children back again, and will be working hard to keep things as fun and normal as possible with the different routines and safety measures that will be implemented.



We recently posted a video on our Facebook page of a tour around preschool – we had lots of lovely messages to say how much the children loved seeing inside their preschool again! So if you are looking for a preschool place for the next academic year, please head over to our Facebook page @ Hatch Warren Under 5s Preschool, and take a look at our virtual tour. We are open Monday to Friday 8.30am-3pm during term times and we have two wonderful rooms and a big garden. We take children from 2 years old until they start primary school and have spaces available from September 2020.

If you would like to apply for a space, or if you'd just like to learn a bit more, you are welcome to contact our Manager, Angela, on 01256 322788 during preschool hours or email us at preschoolmail@aol.com. We will send you an application form to register, and will invite you for a viewing in person when we are fully open.

www.hatchwarrenunderfives.co.uk



Sainsbury's

Our Values Make us Different

Sainsbury's in the Community

Sainsbury's continues to assist across our communities within the Borough.

We're working closely with the team at Basingstoke Voluntary Action (BVA), to assist the food hubs which have been set up. Together with our Retail Events Team, we're able to source bulk orders for the hubs.

This has helped to reduce the number of trips being made by volunteers across all supermarkets, in the search for food.

Colleagues at our Depot in Houndmills, are also regularly donating food to BVA, for distribution to the food hubs.

Feeding the Nation

Our operations at the store and online, continue to develop and improve every day.

As at the time of writing – 15th May – our Online Delivery service has doubled, within the last four weeks.

We're close to delivering 400 orders every day from the store at Kempshott, including doubling the number of available delivery slots and collection slots for our Click and Collect Service in the car park.

Indeed, we are now offering the Click and Collect food collection at our store in Tadley.

Smart Shop

Our Smart Shop offer for customers has seen a huge increase in participation. The ability for our customers to shop with minimal touching of the product and, then paying quickly is a safer way to conduct your shopping.

Argos

Collections from Argos are welcome, when you're also combining your collection with your essential food shop. Click and Collect and Home Delivery options are available, which has seen huge growth during the last few weeks.

As prefaced above, the easiest way to keep up to date with all news for Covid-19 at Sainsburys, is via our website – www.sainsburys.co.uk

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APRIL MEETING

April saw our second meeting via Zoom with many members joining in and enjoying a catch up. We were even lucky enough to be joined by the newborn baby of one of our members which certainly lifted everyone's spirits.

Our chosen read was 'The Beekeeper of Aleppo' by Christy Lefteri. Members who could not join the Zoom meeting

were able to vote online and this book scored 8.09 making it number 3 in our top ten books. Everyone agreed it was a compelling and fascinating read giving us a real insight into the plight of refugees, the rich lives they have to leave behind and the hardships they face on their long and arduous journeys to safety. Unfortunately it was a difficult time in all our lives to be reading this book, however it did serve to remind us how very lucky we are in the safety of our own homes. It did shine a light on the mental health of refugees who have to come to terms with the terrible sights they have seen and the fact

that some may suffer terribly from PTSD. Interestingly in the same week as our meeting, Ryad Alsous was interviewed by BBC Countryfile. Ryad was a Professor of Agriculture before he fled for his life from Syria and settled in Yorkshire becoming a beekeeper and inspiring members of his new community to join in his interest. It was good to hear of his success.

Next month's read is a psychological legal thriller 'Blood Orange' by Harriet Tyce. Feel free to read along with us and join in with your comments on our Facebook page.

PINK PLACE NEWS

Coming up Virtually for our guests via ZOOM App.

Open to ladies newly diagnosed, going through treatment or afterwards. Don't go through this alone - we are stronger together!

Contact us for links to join any of the sessions - all provided FREE by The Pink Place.

Coffee and Chat: 11am - 12 noon Mon, Weds & Fri

A chance to chat with other ladies going through cancer, get support, information, enjoy guest speakers, get inspired and have a few laughs together.

Examples of talks recently:

Barbara Parry - NHS Dietician, Harry on Volunteering in St Lucia, Tracy from Macmillan, Peter from Pennybridge Alpaca Farm, Alice from The Iron Works & Sculpture Park, Steve singing from his mountain lodge in Switzerland. And our not-to-be-missed Flamingo Bingo!

Mindfulness & Tips for dealing with Stress & Anxiety with Lynda Cant.

Mondays 2pm - 3pm.

Learn strategies to help you still your mind, and make the most of your situation. Meditations and tips.

Newcomers session

Tuesday 11am - 12noon:

For ladies new to The Pink Place or new to Zoom sessions. A quieter session to allow you to get to know what we can provide and how our sessions work. A chance to ask questions in a relaxed session.

Pink Place Xtra Group

Tuesdays 1pm:

For ladies who have secondaries Stage 4 or have incurable cancer. A chance to chat, get support and even have a few laughs with others who are in a similar situation.

Coffee in the Snug: (NEW)

Thursdays 1pm - 1:40pm.

A quieter session with max of 4 guests for a more relaxed time to chat, share or ask questions.

Craft Together:

Alternate Thursdays. 2pm - 4pm:

Come along, bring a coffee/tea and whatever creative project you are working on. Or just turn up and watch and get inspired. Always new ideas to try, any ability welcome. Very relaxed craft and chat session.

Blue Space Catch Up (NEW)

Weds: 3:30-4pm.

For men who have had a cancer diagnosis, are going through treatment, or up to 3 years afterwards. Come along to chat to other men for information, and support.

Contact us for the Zoom link for all the above sessions email: info@thepinkplace.org.uk

SUPPORT DURING COVID-19

During this period of lockdown and in accordance with government advice, we have suspended all services at our usual locations and replaced them with the following new virtual services;

ALL the following services are provided free of charge by The Pink Place - though donations are always greatly appreciated.

SUPPORT LINE:

Monday - Friday 9am - 3pm:

Call/text/whatsapp to - 07899 970 841

Counselling:

1-2-1 sessions available on phone by appointment.

How your donations help!

The Pink Place depends on donations and fundraising events to pay for the services it provides for adults affected by cancer. Due to COVID-19 we have had to cancel our programme of fundraising events, including our 10th Anniversary Celebrations. So although our premises has been closed, we still have rent, utility bills & insurance costs etc.

Our staff are busier than ever adapting to working virtually to support our guests, liaising with NHS staff and now running 9 regular support sessions per week.

If you can spare the cost of a coffee, glass of wine or beer & donate to us, we would appreciate it. Monies raised will allow us to continue to keep our guests connected, informed and supported.

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Each time you shop at Amazon, please log into your account via Smile.Amazon.co.uk & choose The Pink Place as your chosen charity.

You will not need to set up a separate account; all your previous Amazon history will still be available in Smile.amazon.co.uk. Amazon will then donate 0.5% of your purchase to our charity.

It's a great way to raise funds for us whilst shopping.





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



NOTICE of AGM Meeting via ZOOM 7:00pm Wednesday 10th June 2020

With the exciting news that this years AGM will be held via Zoom to enable the whole community to be involved in these difficult times. You are invited to attend a short meeting to support the trustees of Hatch Warren & Beggarwood Community Association. The charity exists to provide, run and manage Hatch Warren & Beggarwood Community Centres and to provide social and educational facilities to improve the conditions of life for the residents of the community of post-codes RG22 and RG23. An update of our achievements and our plans for the future of HWBCA will be reviewed.

HWBCA are now responsible for 2 community facilities and we have a lot of dedicated people who have given up their time, but we still need all of you to continue to support your centre. We need a minimum of 25 HWBCA members to achieve quorum, to vote on the night to keep us going for another year, don't assume someone else will turn up on the night. We can't survive without YOU! Membership renewal is easy and costs £10 per year per family.

Below is the registration details for the event. You will need to register in advanced to receive the meeting invitation.

You are invited to a Zoom meeting. When: Jun 10, 2020 07:00 PM

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7ZUdO-hqjwG9GIGu_tf4ndVlz-aa6Ev..

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting

WE ARE A REGISTERED CHARITY, run by people like you, from your community!

Without the continual support from you, our valuable services may be at risk



AGM

Annual General Meeting

Registered Charity Number 1161117
find us on | facebook
Hatch Warren Community Centre

Hatch Warren Community Centre
Long Cross Lane, Hatch Warren
Basingstoke, RG22 4XF
Tel: 01256 811262 Web: www.hatchwarren.org
Email: office@hatchwarren.org Follow us on Twitter @hatchwarren

Summer Festival



It is with heavy hearts that we have to announce the cancellation of Hatch Warren's Summer Festival on 11th July 2020.

This decision hasn't been taken lightly and we have tried our hardest to make it work, but given the most recent directives from the Government, it is simply impossible; the safety of the traders, staff and the public is paramount and we will not risk this.

We thank you for bearing with us and we appreciate your patience whilst we've been working through this unprecedented situation. We will be back next July for an even bigger and better community event.

Please check out www.hatchwarren.org for details on all our fundraising events

HWBCA Charity Number 1161117

Registration is open for September places at our After School Club



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Registered Charity Number 1161117
find us on | facebook
Hatch Warren Community Centre

Tel: 01256 811262
Email: office@hatchwarren.org
Web: www.hatchwarren.org
Following us on Twitter @hatchwarren

Events are still planned but obviously are subject to government restrictions being lifted & The Warren reopening

Programme 6.00 to 7.45pm

5th June	Tile Painting and Refreshing Mocktails
12th June	NERF Fight, Henna and Churros
19th June	Human hungry hippos, relationships quiz and build a burger
26th June	FUNDRAISING NIGHT- Zorbs, Sumo suits and more!!
3rd July	Table Tennis, Bingo, chocolate bar milkshakes
10th July	Football tournament, Just Dance and waffles
17th July	Laser tag, tile painting and ice cream sundaes
24th July	Manhunt and Hair Chalks
31st July	Dodgeball, stress Ball making and Donuts

FREE ENTRY FOR ALL YOUNG PEOPLE

We welcome the sunshine whilst we are all locked down, in these uncertain times. We understand life is not how it should be and this may cause additional worries.



For any support needed by the young people while the youth club is closed, we can signpost you to <https://www.themix.org.uk/> or <https://youngminds.org.uk/> in particular if support with anxiety or mental health is needed.

Reach out and remember the good times at The Warren. Stay active and stay safe! And more importantly, Stay at home

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 then come on down. We sell food and drinks. 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:

Friday 15th June - Eating Disorders Awareness

Friday 3rd July - Healthy Relationships

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

Fundraiser Reminder

You may remember that Storm Ciara took her temper out on our lovely gazebo. This wasn't just any gazebo! It was a metal structure that is used year-round and



helps us allow more young people into the centre, without giving up any of the fantastic crafts we offer.

We are holding a fundraiser towards buying a new one for our young people on Friday 26th June. There will be Zorb Balls and Sumo Suits for a donation of £1 a turn, as well as Tattoos and Nail Painting at £1 each. We are also going to be holding a Cake Sale that night with many delicious cakes.

A **big thank you** to everyone who has donated towards replacing the gazebo already. We are overwhelmed by people's generosity.





OLD DOWN AND BEGGARWOOD WILDLIFE GROUP

This report is being written when we are still in lockdown but hopefully by the time you read it some restrictions will have been lifted. But it is unlikely that everyone will be back to school, college or work so there will still be many of you taking your daily walk across Old Down and Beggarwood and enjoying the early summer species. There seems to be a good number of the usual species of butterflies around – brimstone, small heath, red admiral, large white, speckled wood – to name just a few. Old Down is a recognized site for the small blue, generally around from late May, so do look out for these pretty butterflies. In May a couple of the Group members spotted a few green hairstreak flitting about on the dogwood on Beggarwood. This is not a common butterfly so is a really lovely and exciting sighting. It is not that easy to spot when it is resting as of course being green it blends in with the leaves.

Although butterfly species seem to be around in reasonable numbers, this has not been so for moths this year. This spring there has been a significant drop in all moth

species. This may be due to the heavy rain early on in the year and the floods at the end of last year, washing away caterpillars and pupa becoming waterlogged in the ground. One of the moth species that we know is found on Old Down is the elephant hawk-moth. This is a very pretty pink moth which lives around and feeds upon rose-bay willow herb. Many people think that all moths are dull brown but this is not so - many species are quite colourful and most have the most intricate patterns on their wings. There are only 59 species of butterflies in the UK but there are just over 2,500 species of moths. Another misconception is that moths eat clothes – only two species do this.



Green hairstreak



Elephant hawk-moth

PLEASE PLEASE carry on the good practice of picking up your dog's poo and disposing of it in the bins provided. Also please keep an eye on your dog so that you are aware of what he/she is doing. And further, please do not drop your litter, take it home or put it in the bins provided.

Work Parties – sadly still none at the moment but hopefully they could be re-starting very soon so please check our website and Facebook page (Old Down and Beggarwood Wildlife Group) for information on when that might be. Please also look at our Facebook page for regular photos of the sites and their wildlife.

www.olddownandbeggarwood.org.uk
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THANK YOU BRILLIANT BASINGSTOKE & DEANE!

As the membership body for the Voluntary and Community Sector, we continue to be blown away by the fantastic levels of volunteering and neighbourhood support happening right across the Borough.

A number of volunteer led community hubs continue to work tirelessly to support residents in their communities for example by doing shopping and collecting prescriptions for people who are unable to get out.

COMMUNITY LOTTERY UPDATE

At the beginning of this year we were gearing up for a May launch of the Basingstoke and Deane (BanD) Community Lottery.

Set up to support community projects in the local area, the Basingstoke Community Lottery will operate on the principle of raising money within the community for the community. It will empower local good causes to raise money in a fun and effective way.

Dozens of local charities have already signed up to take part, and we believe that when it is launched it will become a focal point for publicity for the local voluntary sector as well as a useful source of funds in a climate that may well be difficult. <https://www.bvaction.org.uk/bva-projects-and-groups/bva-community-lottery/>.

HERE TO HELP YOU

If you need specific support right now then we are still available to offer assistance as we have and will continue to operate during the lockdown. You may contact us on our normal number 01256 423816 or email contact@bvaction.org.uk. Once lockdown is over, we will be happy to arrange meetings with our Voluntary Sector Support Officers should you need our assistance or advice.

CURRENT CAMPAIGNS

Our voluntary sector plays a truly unique role. Providing invaluable services not just through this crisis but ones that will continue to be essential as our country moves forward. Here at BVA we are taking a moment during our COVID-19 related activities to try and catch up with all of our members to see if there is anything that we can do to help support you, both during the current circumstances, and into the future, as we all come out of lockdown and the new "normality" resumes. Our findings will form the launch of the #NeverMoreNeeded campaign here in Basingstoke. Please keep an eye out for further details!

COVID Grants

If you are doing things to support the community during the COVID crisis, you may want to check out the range of grants at <https://www.bvaction.org.uk/sections/featured-grants/>.

Volunteering

The Volunteer Centre <https://www.volunteernorthhants.org/> who have been working hard to match volunteers to the Emergency Hubs, will be looking to help where organisations have problems in getting back up to strength after an extended period of little or no activity.

Community in Action

Does your group have a good news story it would like to share? Why not contact us about featuring in the Community in Action page of the Basingstoke Gazette. From more details visit <https://www.bvaction.org.uk/community-in-action/>.

All the best and Keep Safe!

••••• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •••••

• New experiences •

• Jesus' friends the disciples found a refuge, a haven in an upper room. I wonder where is ours when we need some much needed time out, time to process the day or reflect on the big decisions, issues that we may be facing. I often joked with my husband about getting him a man shed where he could go to get away from it all, a space that he could make his own and relax in. Since moving to Basingstoke it seems his man shed has become his greenhouse. It is a space that is just for him. Let's spare a thought this week for all those amazing key workers who are in need of a haven at the end of a stressful day.

• For me it is spending time alone in the garden where I feel connected with God. I value having the time to take in all the beauty, sights, sounds and smells. It reminds me of God's infinite love and care not just for me but in the design of the flowers, the array of birds in the garden, the feast of colours at this time of the year. At the vicarage we are attempting for the first time to grow some of our own fruit and veg. I now have a new appreciation of the joy of eating salad leaves that you have grown from seed. It takes time and patience and lots of love and care to nurture seeds into something you can eat, but the satisfaction makes it all worthwhile. One of my dogs has taken a fancy to salad leaves, who knew dogs would even eat these. I haven't had the opportunity before to really appreciate the small changes in the garden over a period of time, I have just taken it for granted. It is certainly something that helps to sustain us as a family at the moment.

• As time goes on and the desire for some sense of normality overcomes us. We are called to continue to be patient and to trust. Being patient and trusting is something that I have experienced a lot in my own life. In these times I have never lost sight of God and the way that he is calling me to go. My journey to being a vicar was not always straightforward but I am so thankful for where he has called me to be at this time. It is a privilege to be able to journey with people in the good times and in the difficult and sad times. The church building may be closed but I am still here praying for you all, taking funerals and here if I can help in any way. You can see our Sunday services on Facebook and the church website.

• In her speech on VE day the Queen said, "our streets are not empty, they are filled with the love and care we have for each other." I have heard many stories of people in this community demonstrating love and care to those around them. May we in the coming weeks continue to be those who love and care those in our community.

• Blessings,

• **Rev May** 07922 516761

• revmay@immanuelhwb.co.uk www.immanuelhwb.co.uk

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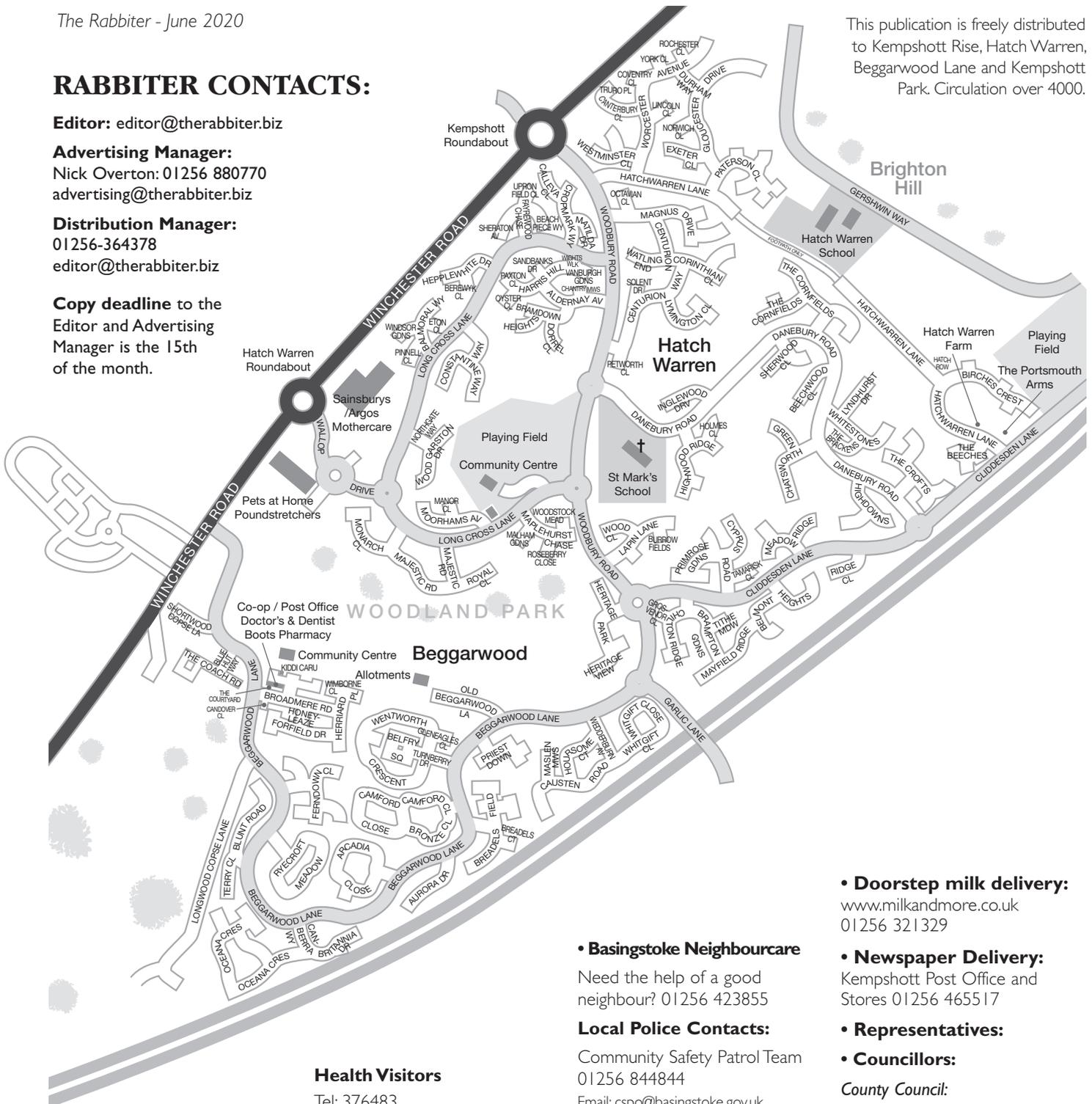
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Broadmere Road Surgery -
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Road - Tel: 398927 Mon-Fri
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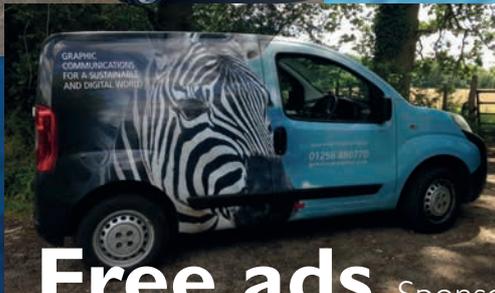
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Hampshire Constabulary 101
Crimestoppers 0800 555111
• Churches:
Immanuel C of E Church (in St.
Mark's School, Danebury Road)
10.00 a.m. every Sunday
All enquires to: 01256 351862
Hub Community Church
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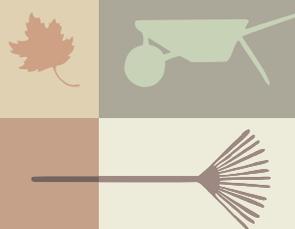
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KEMPSHOTT CONSERVATION GROUP

Spring in Lockdown

A Coronavirus does not stop Spring progressing. For those who can get out for a walk locally there are number of things to be thankful for. One is the silence, with fewer cars about, you are more aware of the sounds of nature. Bird song is always a joy, no more so than now.

With a wet winter, some of the woodland flower species have done well, none more so than the Wood Anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*). On a walk in very early April, some early Bluebells were spotted in local woods. Also when scouring the roadsides and hedgerows looking for spring flowers, a number of domestic "throwouts" have been spotted thriving. One example was a white Fritillary, pictured left. It was a "cultivar", as the native flower is mix of brown and mauve and is restricted to damp meadows. This example was spotted on a bank in a lane lined with houses on the outskirts of Oakley.



From a conservation perspective, these "cultivars", or introductions, are to be discouraged. They generally provide little in the way of nectar for early insects, big Daffodils and Spanish Bluebells being a case in point. In Down Grange Meadow, however, there is a clump of Honesty (*Lunaria annua*), pictured right, in the woodland belt by the walk-through from the rugby pitches. Honesty is the flower that produces the large transparent seed pods in autumn, beloved of flower arrangers. This patch has struggled over the years, but the wet winter has perked it up no end, both in terms of numbers and condition of the flowers. Honesty is a member of the cabbage family, so it was no surprise to see an Orange-tip butterfly nectaring on these flowers.

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

We need helpers to distribute the Rabbiter. This takes about half an hour a month. Sadly we can't offer any financial reward save the satisfaction of helping our community. The following rounds need a deliverer:

1. Priest Down and Old Beggarwood Lane
2. Camford Close
3. Wentworth Crescent; Belfry Square; Turnberry Drive and Gleneagles Close
4. Whitgift Close
5. Maplehurst Close; Woodstock Mead; Malham Gardens and Roseberry Close



HATCH WARREN BEGGARWOOD CYCLING CLUB

Hatch Warren Beggarwood Cycling Club is a community club that prides itself on being inclusive to all riders who are over the age of 18. We aren't a racing club; we are a community of people who enjoy cycling and the very occasional cake.

2020 is the club's 5th anniversary and we are proud that we have been, and continue to be, part of our local community over the last few years.

We are equally proud of the support that our members offer each other and other cyclists both new and old.

It's great that we see more and more cyclists getting on their bikes and we'd like to say we are here, please feel free to say hello!

Our Facebook pages, which can be found by following the links at www.hwbcc.org, are full of interesting information, routes, and by far our most important element and that's our members. They are there to offer advice, general chit chat, enthusiasm, and support to get you out and about enjoying the lovely Hampshire countryside.

Cycling has many health benefits, but the biggest benefit a lot of people see is psychological - people generally feel better when they've been for a bike ride. It's great exercise but seeing the world from the saddle really lifts the spirits and clears the mind. Do you remember when you used to cycle down a hill as a kid? Not a care in the world? Just freewheeling... Well a lot of people are taking this opportunity to do just that.

Our club motto is usually 'Come ride with us' - and we hope when the current situation is over that you will come along for a ride - but for now our motto is 'Enjoy the ride, we'll see you soon'.

We hope to be back out riding in the not too distant future and will provide updates as and when we have them.

More details can be found on our website www.hwbcc.org or on our facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/HWBcc/>



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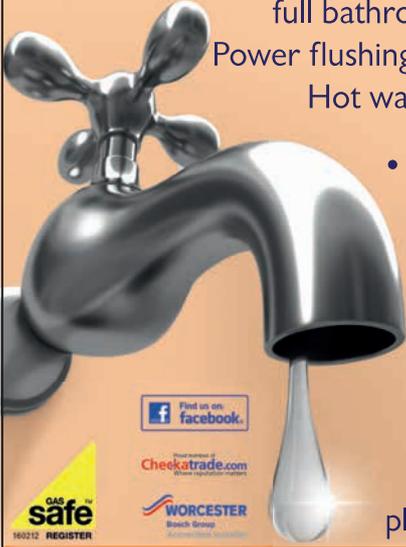


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