



THE Rabbiter

Issue 282 October 2021

All the regular features plus

- **HATCH WARREN SCIENTIST HONOURED**
- **THE HOLLY BLUE**
- **LIONS WORLD SIGHT DAY & SWIMATHON**

and much more

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THE Rabbiter

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EDITORIAL

Autumn is upon us. The days are getting shorter and the clocks will be changing at the end of the month (31st October). This is also the date of Halloween and 'Trick or Treat'. Many of us love to see the children dressed up as witches and demons and have a box of chocolates waiting by the door to pass to these young people BUT not everyone enjoys the events. Please respect others' privacy – some find the event frightening and prefer not to answer their door after dark.

It is good to see our Community getting back to normal. Local groups are meeting up again in person rather than on Zoom. Hatch Warren WI and Beggarwood Bookworms are two local groups that have met up regularly on Zoom. The WI is continuing meeting via Zoom and welcome new members – see page 20.

Hatch Warren Community Centre is busy and planning events for the future. Don't forget to book your tickets for the fabulous Fireworks Spectacular planned for 6 November – see 14. This is always a wonderful fireworks display and enjoyed by many – but sadly not by our pets and wildlife.

During lock-down many of us have been de-cluttering. If you have unwanted pairs of glasses, why not donate them – see World Sight Day details on page 5. And if you have other items looking for a new home, why not try the Rabbiter Free Ads page? Just email details to newsdesk@therabbiter.biz by 15th of the month to advertise your goods in the following month's edition.

It is only October but already thoughts are moving towards Christmas. There is a date for the Christmas Market at the Community Centre (28 November), Christmas Food Ordering at Sainsbury (page 10) and Christmas Trees for sale. There are stalls at the Portsmouth Arms Saturday Market offering goodies for sale that will make brilliant presents. There is always plenty of parking and a good variety of stalls. The market opens at 10am.

Congratulations to local resident Dr Kangachandran on receiving an Honorary Fellowship (see page 5) and thank you to local artist David Charsley for his support to St Michael's Hospice (page 12).

The Rabbiter aims to help and support our local community by keeping everyone informed of news and events locally. The Local Councillor update is very useful and highlights an important local issue this month – parking on pavements. Sadly there are never enough parking spaces locally but we ask people to park sensibly and safely – please leave our access roads clear and do not hinder the sight lines.

If you are registered at the Camrose, Gillies and Hackwood Partnership there is an update on page 18 regarding flu jabs and other initiatives at the practice.

The next copy date for The Rabbiter is 15 October – please do let us have your news and views. You can email articles to newsdesk@therabbiter.biz.

Editor

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. Inglewood Drive
- 2. The Cornfields (87 - 141)





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Letter... to the editor

❖ I noticed on my walks around Hatch Warren, Beggarwood and Kempshott that some people are throwing caution to the wind. May I remind them that the virus and possibly variants are still around. We still have to be vigilant and wear masks in closed places, wash hands and keep some distance between us. We have acquired good habits - let us keep them until the all clear is given. We are still not out of the woods and have to protect ourselves and others.

Best regards
Cllr Dan PUTTY JP

THE SWIMATHON IS BACK!

Saturday 30th October – 5.30pm

The Sports Centre, Festival Place

Have fun, raise money for your chosen charity AND help others

For 38 years - apart from the hiatus of 2020! - the Basingstoke Lions Club has staged an annual Swimathon, raising thousands of pounds for those less fortunate in this town.

Open to swimmers of all ages and abilities who form teams of up to 6 people, each swimmer covers 2 lengths of the pool (50 metres) in relay style for half an hour. Completed laps count towards the cumulative team figure. Where a team comprises children, parents are welcome to support their team on the night.

Team start times will be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis on receipt of a completed entry form. So, teams who would prefer a particular start time, should submit their entry forms QUICKLY.

On receipt of a completed entry form the team will be sent an official sponsorship form so they can start to obtain sponsors. Completed forms must be presented to the organisers on arrival at the venue.

On completion of their swim, team members will be presented with individual Certificates of Achievement. So, do YOU have a particular project or charity that you wish to support? Use this event to fundraise for it! All we ask is that half of the total raised be donated to our charity trust fund to support our project.

For entry forms and enquiries, contact tony.bamberger@hotmail.co.uk
01256 85025

WORLD SIGHT DAY 2021

Thursday, 14th October 9am-3pm
Old Basing Mall

43 million people in the world are blind
1.2 billion need glasses to see better

World Sight Day, now in its 9th consecutive year, comes once again to a stand in Old Basing Mall courtesy of The Basingstoke Lions Club.

On a global scale, the aim of this day, on which Lions Clubs around the world conduct various sight-related projects, is to focus attention on the universal issue of avoidable blindness and visual impairment and thus raise awareness about the importance of eye health and the need for quality eye care services for all.

Lions' activities include vision screenings, eye health education programmes, and the donation of assistive devices to those with vision impairment. In this last regard therefore and as in previous years, people are invited to bring their redundant spectacles – prescription, non-prescription and sunglasses – to the Lions stand where they will also find information on sight loss, small items of equipment which can assist with the daily living challenges of visually impaired people and advice on local sources of help.

Around 1/1.30pm the Club's very own "Lennie the Basingstoke Lion" may be spotted 'on the prowl', when he drops in on Leightons, Vision Express and Prime Opticians in the Town Centre to collect the haul of spectacles already donated by their own customers.

An additional facility this year will be a spectacle collection point in Morrisons Supermarket from Monday 11th October for the whole week, thus providing an alternative option for those who might find that preferable.

Spectacles are the most common and least expensive method of correcting refractive errors, the largest cause of vision loss. But globally, more than half of those requiring, for example, near-vision spectacles cannot access them due to factors such as poverty, isolation, poor availability, poor access to eye health facilities and lack of awareness.

So once again the Basingstoke Lions Clubs reaches out to the community to ask that you dig out those old specs and bring them to the Lions' stand or to Morrisons – they will find new homes!

(Note: Please - no spectacle cases)

HATCH WARREN SCIENTIST HONOURED

Dr Kanagasooriyam Kanagachandran (Known as Chad) has been awarded an Honorary Fellowship by Swansea University. This recognition is a tribute to his contribution and leadership in science & technology throughout his career. He has over 20 years of experience in product, technology and service innovation in food, beverage, hygiene, pest control, pharmaceutical & biotech sectors including portfolio management expertise.

Chad was born in Batticaloa, Eastern Sri Lanka and completed his primary and secondary education at one of Sri Lanka's oldest and prestigious institutes, St. Michael's College. He received an undergraduate degree in Applied Biology and his PhD in Industrial Microbiology from the University of Hertfordshire. He also worked as a post-doctoral research scientist at the University of Hull on a European Union funded project prior to his entry into the commercial world.

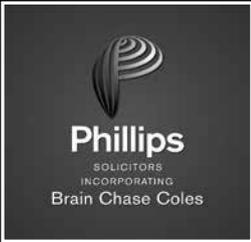
Among his achievements are the invention and patenting of technologies such as the production of omega-3 oils from non-fish sources, the recycling and conversion of brewing industry by-products into biofuel and bio-fertiliser. He has also contributed to the GFSI (Global Food Safety Initiative) Technical Working Group on Chemicals and Food Hygiene to address issues of food safety and loss in the Food Supply Chain.

In pursuit of his passion to use biotechnology as an agent for change for a better future, Chad has numerous publications to his name in reputable international journals on microbiology, biotechnology, and green-process strategies covering waste recovery and food production.

Chad has considerable industrial experience ranging from R&D project conceptualization to product/technology commercialisation and collaboration with colleagues at various global institutions including bio-solution focused activities.

The Swansea University Honorary Fellowships are bestowed annually to individuals in recognition of outstanding achievement and contribution to the society; previous recipients come from various disciplines including science, technology, politics, sports and entertainment. Chad lives in Hatch Warren with his wife and 2 children.





ADVICE ABOUT LPAs REINFORCED THROUGH PERSONAL EXPERIENCE



Lucy Watson

Sadly, a lot of us will lose mental capacity in our latter years but if we face that as a possibility we can at least prepare as best we can for that fate. Failure to do so may cause our families enormous stress and worry, on top of the upsetting emotional impact of seeing a family member cease to be the person they knew and loved.

These are the views of Lucy Watson, who heads the Wills and Probate Team at Phillips Solicitors, which have been reinforced following the death of her parents to COVID19.

"They were both 90 but the loss has been devastating," said Lucy. "Losing a parent is never easy whatever their age and the circumstances of the virus were awful."

Well before the coronavirus pandemic Lucy had encouraged her parents to make Lasting Powers of Attorney (LPAs) for their property and financial affairs and also for their health and welfare.

"While doing so we took the opportunity to have the difficult discussion about life sustaining treatment," said Lucy.

A health and welfare LPA can only be used when the donor has lost mental capacity. Lucy knew her father's capacity was starting to fade when he made his LPAs and could envisage a time she might need to act on it, but doubted that this LPA would be needed for her mother, whose mental capacity was very good.

However, when Lucy's mother was unconscious in hospital and the outlook was very poor, Lucy and her family were sure that their mother didn't want to be 'kept alive' and had to make a difficult decision and refused life sustaining treatment.

"Were we playing God? It was very upsetting, but we felt and still feel sure we did what our mother would have wanted," said Lucy.

"Health and welfare LPAs can be needed in unexpected circumstances and unexpected times. My personal experience has reinforced my advice to clients of the importance of making these LPAs and of using the process to properly think through and discuss your wishes with those close to you."

If you would like to discuss setting up an LPA, please contact Lucy Watson, head of the Wills & Probate Team at Phillips, by calling 01256 854646, emailing lucy.watson@phillips-law.co.uk or by visiting www.phillips-law.co.uk/wills-probate When contacting Phillips, please mention The Rabbiter.

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COUNCILLOR'S UPDATE

OLD DOWN: I have written to the Chief Executive and Leader of the Borough Council raising again the hope that Old Down can be designated a Local Nature Reserve. As the next local plan is under active consideration and will designate which fields should be developed, this seems a good time to state which green assets should be protected as well. People feel very sensitive about Old Down, as some years ago a map showed a potential road into Southern Manydown going across it. The Chief Executive has replied acknowledging that Old Down is valued by residents as an area of open space and agreeing that LNR status is one way in which it might be protected. He says that it is currently being considered for designation as a Local Green Space. My opinion is that this would be helpful but it is not the full status or protection that this important site deserves. More worrying is that he also says that land to be developed in the local plan has not yet been fixed and deciding the various points of access will be part of the next stages of thinking, which to my mind leaves the danger open. Given that the Beggarwood Park across the A30 has LNR status, I believe it would be entirely reasonable to give a matching protection to Old Down and make it clear, better late than never, that this piece of land is off-limits.

DEFIBRILLATORS: the Hatch Warren and Beggarwood Community Association launched a crowd funding appeal to raise money to place a defibrillator on the external wall of the Beggarwood Community Centre. It has attracted great public support and has raised (so far) the better part of a thousand pounds. As a result, the equipment has been ordered. I have agreed to use part of my County Council devolved budget to pay for the installation costs and if there is anything left over, it can be put to moving the existing defibrillator at Hatch Warren Community Centre to the outside of that building as well. That means that both these major areas for sport and recreation will have this potentially life-saving equipment available. The Beggarwood surgery Patient Participation Group has been supportive and is likely to place signs in its windows. There is also a defibrillator at the Holly Blue.

HEALTH MEETING: Maria Miller MP held a meeting in September at the Beggarwood Community Centre to discuss health provision in the area and, in particular, the Beggarwood GP surgery. I delivered a history of the surgery and its past difficulties and how North Hampshire Urgent Care had turned it round. The

Clinical Commissioning Group gave details of how they are going through a selection process for a new operator to take over from NHUC. Thelma Wiseman, Chair of the Patient Participation Group, confirmed that the PPG has been allowed to observe and comment on the potential operators' submissions. She made the interesting point that PPGs should have the right, by law, to be part of the selection processes.

The PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP met in August and received more positive reports about the operation of the practice and feedback from patients. The surgery continues to get calls about the rumour that was started on social media about it closing, which is untrue. As reported above, a new operator is being selected and, importantly, Beggarwood is designated as the local surgery for the new developments at Longacre, the Golf Course and Housome Fields.

WAREHOUSES PLANNING APPLICATION: since my last report, the Borough Council has confirmed that it will re-run the consideration of the planning applications for warehouses near M3 Junction 7. This is in response to objections raised by Dummer Parish Council who pointed to alleged errors in the advice given to Councillors. At the time of writing no date has been announced for the Development Control meeting.

PASS WIDE AND SLOW: as part of a national event organised by the British Horse Society, groups of horse riders were riding in our area on Sunday 19th September. The theme of their ride was 'Pass Wide and Slow' and the objective was to encourage motorists to give horses and their riders a wide berth and consideration on the roads. On average two horses are killed each week on UK roads. The vast majority of incidents occur because cars pass too close to horses or startle them by travelling too fast. I was delighted to join the group and say a few words in support before they set off.

ANAEROBIC DIGESTER MEETING: the AD liaison panel meetings are restarting with a new Chair (County Councillor Juliet Henderson) and revised membership. Biogen, the operator of the Digester, has completed a programme of improvements to address the odour problems that were being reported last year. Members of the panel will monitor the situation and discuss any other options for making the plant a 'good neighbour'. I shall continue to attend because the traffic to the Digester is routed through Hatch Warren.

UNEMPLOYMENT: As County Councillor I receive statistics about unemployment and this is of great interest as the economy starts to recover from the lockdowns. In Hatch Warren and Beggarwood the claimant count in July was 2% (70 men and 50 women). That gives our area the second lowest rate of unemployment for a town ward, after Kempshott.

DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE: in the last month, work to improve drainage on the Kempshott roundabout was completed and, judging from the results after a couple of downpours, it looks as if rainwater is indeed soaking away better than before. Flooding on this roundabout has been a hazard for some time and motorists will be interested to observe how much of an improvement has been achieved.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH: As the darker evenings start to approach, readers may be interested to know that there is an active Neighbourhood Watch scheme in Beggarwood. To join it you can go to www.ourwatch.org.uk, search for your postcode and scroll down to the Beggarwood Area scheme. Click on that and then complete a short form to join. Neighbourhood Watch is an effective way for everyone to keep a lookout for suspicious behaviour and to report it. It also passes on information about crimes in the area.

CARS PARKED ON PAVEMENTS: I have picked up comments that drivers are causing difficulties for users of mobility scooters and wheelchairs by parking their cars on pavements, with one particular hotspot being the Beggarwood area around Whitgift Close. Users of mobility scooters are being forced into the road and that is dangerous as they can't make it quickly back onto the pavement if a car approaches - they have to search for the nearest dropped kerb. I am sure we all want to be considerate when parking near our homes.

HOLLY BLUE OPENING: I was delighted to attend the delayed official opening of the Holly Blue on 14th September. A presentation was given on the history of this family company and the beers they make. COVID made the launch of the pub/restaurant very fragmented, and everyone hopes they are now able to establish themselves as originally intended.

Stephen Reid

County Councillor:

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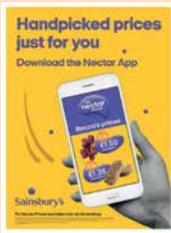
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Christmas Food Ordering Service

Our Christmas 2021 Food Ordering service is now live. We're continuing to reduce the amount of paper associated

with this offer so, won't be publishing a brochure this year.

For the full offer, visit www.sainsburys.co.uk/ChristmasFood



The final date for accepting orders is December 16th. Based on the huge demand from last year, it is best to secure your order as early as possible.

Neighbourly

Following a successful trial, Sainsbury's has partnered with Neighbourly.

The Neighbourly platform works with local charities to help supply any food waste which we would normally send to Aneoribic Digestion, for the community.

As we confirm our charity partners, we'll keep you informed, with the aim that every day a charity partner will be collecting food from the store.



NEW COUNCILLOR GRANT SCHEME LAUNCHED TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Community groups and organisations can now apply for funding support for small-scale items to support local groups and projects following the launch of Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's new Councillor Community Grant Scheme.

Grants of between £250 and £1,000 are available to help groups and not for profit organisations purchase equipment which will make a difference to people's lives and help bring communities together following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each councillor will have a £2,000 pot to support projects in their communities until 31 March 2022.

The grant funding can be used for items that contribute to key priorities set out in Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's Council Plan – strengthening communities, protecting and enhancing our environment, improving safety and planning for the future.

www.basingstoke.gov.uk/cllr-community-grants



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OLD DOWN AND BEGGARWOOD WILDLIFE GROUP

We are well into Autumn now. Sadly the wild flowers and butterflies are now gone. The meadows look a bit sad now and some areas will be (or have already been) mown. You will recall that Spring was pretty chilly and wet and there was thought that butterfly numbers would be badly affected but surprisingly they seem to have been plentiful this year. The little hot spell we had in September kept many species of butterflies around into the Autumn – such as *Speckled Wood*, *Large Whites* and *Peacocks*.

The fortnightly bird count has started up again (there is always a break in the summer months). From mid-September the migrant birds start leaving our shores to go south so this is a good time to bird-watch. An unusual local sighting in September was a *Wheatear* on the Manydown Estate up by Breach Farm Cottages. These birds like open fields and are summer visitors. No doubt it was on the start of its migration to Central Africa for the winter. There are also *Barn Owls* up there – but one has to get up early or be there at twilight to catch a sighting.

The weekly work parties are now in full swing. On both sites it would be nice to have a few more volunteers turning up – you don't have to commit to turning up every week. Due to the lack of maintenance on the sites over the last two years, the dogwood has spread prolifically. Digging up and cutting back the dogwood has been a top priority for the work parties during the last couple of months. If the dogwood is left there is no space for the lovely wildflowers.

Work Parties: For Old Down we meet outside Old Down Hall every Thursday 10-12 noon and for Beggarwood 10-12 noon at the café on the first Tuesday of the month. Please come along. Check the Internet address below for up-dates.



Speckled Wood



Wheatear

<https://sites.google.com/site/olddownbeggarwoodwildlifegroup>
 Email: odandbwd@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/odandbwd



LOCAL ARTIST DONATES PROCEEDS FROM BOOK TO ST. MICHAEL'S

Local artist David Charsley is generously giving all the proceeds from his recently released book to St. Michael's Hospice.

David's book, *Travels with my Sketchbook: holidays, work and Christmas*, features sketches and watercolours that David has produced over the last 50 years and is available online from all major book sellers. Many of the illustrations feature places that will be familiar to Basingstoke residents including snowy scenes of The Golden Lion pub and Alresford High Street.

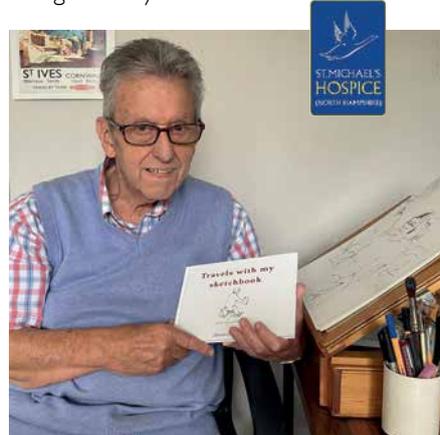
David was involved with the Hospice in its earliest days when he joined as Executive Officer in February 1991 to coordinate the various events and fundraising activities. David stayed in that role for 3 years before moving on to new fundraising challenges. "Whilst I had fundraised previously for both the Lions Club and Rotary, this appointment opened up a whole new career in attracting income for charities. Consequently, this is an opportunity to repay that experience," David told us

The Hospice is delighted that David has chosen to support the Hospice again all these years later. "This is such a wonderful and unique way to support the Hospice

and the book is filled with so many beautiful and touching sketches. We are very grateful to David for his support and although the book has only been out for a few weeks it has already raised over £1,300," said Marketing Manager Jill Livermore.

David remembers the Hospice well in those early days and told us, "We were working in two offices in the maternity unit at the hospital. The team comprised two volunteer secretaries, an ex-Bank Manager, a collection tin volunteer and other Rotarians that Alan Turner had press ganged into giving their time and expertise.

"The whole exercise was completed in three years, so from cutting the first turf to the official opening, the pace was frenetic. The community responded to every facet along the way."



We are so excited to be finally meeting in person this month. Back to Café in the park, we have missed the delicious cake and coffees. We aim to be back in our regular slot of the last Wednesday in the month. As well as being a thriving book group attracting members of all ages we also importantly fundraise for the community centre. The Book group is free to attend we just ask for donations and all profits from the donations, our raffles and the café are poured back into running the community space we all love, whilst having a great evening and meeting fellow book lovers.

This month we will be discussing *Small Pleasures* by Clare Chambers which was long listed for the Woman's prize for fiction. Set in the 1950s a reporter is sent to investigate the tale of a virgin birth with surprising consequences. October sees us delving into Matt Haig's bestselling *The Midnight Library*. We have many plans for the year ahead and are hoping to have some more author visits. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for details, if you would like to come along, please send us a message.

Café in the Park

WE ARE NOW FULLY OPEN!

PLEASE JOIN US

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Community lunch **1st Wednesday every month**
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 Card & A Cuppa with **Pauline @ I Create Craft - every 2nd & 4th Friday (call 07884 303557 for info)**
 Lots of regular events – **please ask at the cafe**

For party bookings please visit:
www.hatchwarren.org

Beggardwood Community Centre,
 Broadmere Road,
 Basingstoke,
 RG22 4AQ.
 Tel: 01256 811262



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SATURDAY 6th NOVEMBER
Gates Open 5.30pm - Display starts 7.30pm prompt

Hatch Warren Community Centre presents...

FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR

DJ Mark Halliday Competitions Children's Rides Hog Roast
Burgers Bacon Baps Hot Dogs Pizza Paella Chilli Sweets
Doughnuts Licensed Bar Music Light-Up Novelty Toys

ADVANCE TICKET ONLY EVENT - TICKETS ON SALE FROM 1st OCTOBER
NO TICKETS AVAILABLE ON THE NIGHT - BUY EARLY AS LIMITED TICKETS ONSALE
TICKET SALES CLOSE AT 12 NOON ON SATURDAY 6TH NOVEMBER

TICKET PRICES FROZEN FROM 2018 - NO TICKETS AVAILABLE ON THE GATE

FAMILY £22 <small>2 adults plus up to 2 children up to age 15</small>	ADULT £10	CHILD / SENIOR £4 <small>Children 0 - 15</small>
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TICKETS ON SALE VIA THE WEBSITE OR IN THE OFFICE.
Payment by cash or internet banking.
A surcharge will be applied if purchasing online. All tickets are non-refundable.

Remember!
Remember!
The 6th of November!

www.hatchwarren.org
www.facebook.com/hatchwarren
Office open 9am-3pm Monday - Friday
Tel: 01256 811262

In association with **Sainsbury's**

Christmas Market

Hatch Warren Community Centre
Sunday 28th November
12 - 4pm
Entry £1 (kids go free)

Pre-loved toy sale Festive games Children's Craft Zone
Refreshments

Meet Father Christmas in his Grotto £3 per child (including gift) bookable slots available via email
office@hatchwarren.org

This is a fundraising event for the Hatch Warren and Beggarwood Community Association Charity No 1161117

We have availability at our After School Club

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01256 811262
www.hatchwarren.org

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 Young Minds text service – 85258

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Qualified Staff / Extensive Free Holiday Programmes / Tel: 842111 / Email: vicky@hatchwarren.org

Follow Us on Facebook @The Warren and Instagram @thewarrenyouthclub

The Warren is open! Booking is essential!

Activities Schedule:

Fridays 6pm -7.45 pm, school years 6, 7 & 8

Friday 1 st October	Quiz Night and Chocolate Fondue
Friday 8 th October	Football Tournament, Mosaic Tiles and Make Your Own Pizza
Friday 15 th October	Laser Tag, Friendship Bracelets and Hotdogs
Friday 22 nd October	Face Painting, Henna Tattoos and Cake Decorating
Friday 29 th October	Halloween Party Night: Food and Games plus don't forget your costumes!!

Wow! Even though COVID tried to stick a spanner in the works, Summer Streetz was still an awesome success! A huge thank you to everyone who helped make it happen and especially to all the young people who attended and helped make it as fun as it was. Nerf wars, decorating our youth worker's hair and tie-dying T-shirts are some of our highlights!

We hope everyone has settled into their new school years. The evenings might be getting dark and chilly, but it never stops us!

For the latest info please keep an eye on our Facebook and Instagram pages or email our Youth Manager Vicky: vicky@hatchwarren.org



The club has continued to run throughout the summer at Hatch Warren. We are now moving into our Autumn programme of activities which will include meals out, hopefully a return to Bowling, swimming, and a trip to McDonalds

on the Leisure Park. As you can imagine this is always a very popular night out.

We have successfully placed two members into jobs which is so important for our young people.

Louisa from the Collective Motion Dance group visited our club and the members had a really lovely evening dancing one of her routines.

Dates for the coming month

Oct 4th Youth Club at Hatch Warren

Oct 11th Meal at the Spruce Goose

Oct 28th Youth Club at Hatch Warren



Older Sessions

Don't forget if you're in year 9 or above we are open 8pm-9.30pm every Friday! If you want to play pool, air hockey or just want somewhere to hang out-come on down. No need to book, just ensure you bring your details to enable us to track and trace and don't forget your face masks! We can also offer you free confidential advice on a range of issues including contraception, drugs and alcohol.

Just a reminder

Our bookings for the 6pm Friday sessions open on Tuesday at 6pm and spaces fill up fast! We will always have a waiting list once we become fully booked.





Hatch Warren
Under Fives Preschool

HATCH WARREN UNDER FIVES

We love the start of a new academic year at Hatch Warren Under Fives – it's lovely to see how much our returning children have grown over the summer holidays and it's always wonderful to meet our new children.

Our first few weeks are always about settling in and helping our children make new friends and get to know staff. All children are individuals, and while some children will adjust fairly easily and quickly to a new environment and new routines, others will take longer to feel comfortable and secure. At Hatch Warren Under Fives we work hard to ensure that all children settle happily.

Our first topic "All About Me" is a great chance for the children to learn all about themselves, their new friends and their families. We use stories, arts, crafts and songs to help our children discover what is unique and special about themselves and each other.

So far we have discovered that dinosaurs, Peppa Pig and Paw Patrol are firm favourites with the children, we've also spent time in the garden and the mud kitchen, water tray and climbing wall are proving very popular garden activities.

As the weather is still good we will be using our outdoor learning environment as much as possible and we have some great activities planned for extending our children's learning outdoors. We'll also be learning about autumn this term and exploring colours, outdoor sounds and hibernating animals. And we'll be holding weekly cooking sessions and weekly science experiments too.

This year we have introduced 'in the moment' planning. This involves us seizing the moments when children show interest and curiosity in something by immediately supporting their next steps. For example, at the end of the summer term children were talking about classrooms and starting school, we seized this opportunity to extend their interest in school life by changing our role-play area into a school. Staff were able to

engage with children by following and supporting their interest and extend their learning experience. One activity was mark making in a register – this can encourage a child who is not usually interested in putting pencil to paper to engage with these activities when their interests are extended 'in the moment'.

We have a few spaces available for the 2021/22 academic year; to enquire about a place, please contact Angela Blomquist, Manager; on 01256 322788, or email preschoolmail@aol.com.

www.hatchwarrenunderfives.co.uk

CANDOVER VALLEY PRE-SCHOOL

Hello from CVP!

We are so pleased that everyone has settled in wonderfully at pre-school this term and we have all been enjoying the last sunny Summer days.

The children have been having so much fun outside in the garden role playing firefighters and using water squirters to put out the fire! Excitement in the water tray, tipping, pouring and using shoots to transport the water all over the garden.

Ice cream playdough inside has been a huge hit with the little ones and smells sooo good! We have lots of budding artists too, as the easel is a firm favourite with all our new little friends.

Owl Babies has been a fantastic story to read during these first few weeks, discussing emotions and helping our little ones understand that although Mummies may have to leave for a while, they always come back.

There is always a lot going on at Candover Valley Pre-school and you are very welcome to visit us at a time that suits you. Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram for all our news and upcoming events!

01256-389008 cvpadmin@btconnect.com

Lisa Collisson

CUCKOO MEADOW PRESCHOOL

Hello from Cuckoo Meadow Pre-School! In July we had a gloriously sunny leaving ceremony for all our Pre-Schoolers starting Reception in September - we wish them lots of love and luck – it has been wonderful

teaching them, mostly since the age of just two. Since then we have been enjoying our six weeks of summer; we hope you all did the same (despite the rather gloomy weather!)

As of Monday September 6th the children have been back and we have enjoyed welcoming the old pupils as well as the new to our newly repainted pavilion and playground fencing. We have our settling in week and then the children will enjoy learning all about the different nursery rhymes. What's more we will be introducing them to Emily, our newest member of the team. For the latest news do visit our Facebook page www.facebook.com/cuckoomeadowpreschool.

With not much to update on given the recent summer holidays, please can we take the opportunity to remind you of the ways you can support us.... Firstly we invite you to take part in the Cuckoo Meadow Pre-School lottery. This lottery has been set up specifically to raise money and make a difference for our children. It's a fantastic way to bring parents, carers, teachers and the wider community together; in partnership with our Pre-School, and at the same time give something back. Visit www.YourSchoolLottery.co.uk and search for: Cuckoo Meadow Pre-School.

Please do consider us on www.smile.amazon.co.uk and www.easyfundraising.org.uk. Allocating 'Cuckoo Meadow Pre-School' as your nominated charity on either of these platforms will mean that shops such as John Lewis, Argos and many more donate a % of your purchase price directly to our Pre-School – and at no extra admin for you!

To find out more please contact Jo or Fiona on 01256 398172.

DANDELIONS PRESCHOOL

It is so good to be back and we have enjoyed welcoming all of the children and parents who joined us this term and our returning families.

During the summer holidays the setting has undergone a complete make-over both internally and externally.



(continued from page 16)

We have transformed the setting making it a more natural environment for the children to play and the garden area has been opened up and revamped offering us much more space to have adventures and explore.

All of the changes have been achievable due to the generosity of local businesses, families and friends during our fund raising events and we cannot thank you all enough for your kindness.

Our aim going forward is to give the children complete choice over their learning experiences, allowing them to explore and experiment during play. The setting is filled with open ended resources and loose parts that will provide the children with the tools to let their imagination flow.

Lastly we would like to say a huge thank you to Morrisons for their kind donation of party food for our leavers graduation in July. We were extremely grateful to Naomi for organising this and it went down a treat!

We have limited spaces available therefore if your child was born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019 please do contact us for a registration form on 01256 818857 or alternatively e-mail info@dandelions-preschool.org.uk

HATCH WARREN INFANT SCHOOL

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AN INFANT SCHOOL PLACE FOR YOUR CHILD FOR SEPTEMBER 2022?

COME AND VISIT OUR FRIENDLY, FUN, SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL VIA A TOUR!

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November 2nd 3rd 10th 16th 17th 24th

The tours last for approximately 1 hour and start at 9.40am or 1.45pm

WE HAVE 3 EVENING TOURS – SCHOOL WILL BE OPEN FROM 6.00-7.00PM ON

14th October, 11th November, 6th January

To book onto a tour please go to:

www.hwis.hants.sch.uk

Click on the 'Parents' balloon and then:
New Year R Parent Tours for Admissions
September 2022

In the meantime, you can also access our 360 degree tour and our Promotional Video by going to the same website page as above and clicking the links provided.

If you have a child with special educational needs please make us aware when booking online so we can arrange to talk to you more specifically.

Please telephone the school if you wish to find out more about us (01256 350313)

We look forward to seeing you!

BASINGSTOKE NEIGHBOURCARE

Basingstoke NeighbourCare were honoured to recently welcome the Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire, Nigel Atkinson Esq. to a special gathering of Basingstoke NeighbourCare volunteers at the Apollo Hotel. At the event, the Lord Lieutenant, together with the Mayor of Basingstoke Cllr Onnalee Cubitt and Sean Keating a former Mayor were in attendance, when Mr Atkinson was able to finally present the Queen's Award in person, after it was awarded during lockdown, in June 2020. The small group present was able to witness receipt of a signed certificate from Her Majesty the Queen, and a crystal award with the QAVS insignia.



**Keen to help neighbours in need?
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BRIGHTON HILL COMMUNITY SCHOOL

At the time of writing this our new Y7s have completed their 1st week of following their timetable.

In this article, I was lucky enough to speak to a year 7 and one of the HUB staff, Miss Heath about how the year 7s are settling in.

A year 7 student: 'This week has been very big and daunting, and I feel a little worried at times, but I have loved the lessons and have made some friends and am excited for the rest of the year. The summer school helped me, so I knew where I was going a bit better and met some teachers. The activities were fun, and I felt more ready for the first day.'

'So, Miss Heath, what worries do Year 6s often have on the transition to Year 7?'

'The BIG worry is getting lost or not making any friends. The summer school

this year has really helped with growing the new Year 7s' confidence and with making friends.'

'They also worry about bullying, but our students here are so lovely that the Year 7s are often surprised at how thoughtful and caring the other years are. Also, the anti-bullying ambassadors, well-being square and our staff, are always on hand to help any student who feels they are being bullied.'

'How do you as HUB staff try to help Year 7s' worries go away?'

'We are always a listening ear and make an effort with getting to know the students who are worrying a lot before they start with us. We will invite them into school before they start to show them around and go through key adults. Ms Thomas, Mrs Richards and the TA team were also around for summer school so that we could get to them before they started.'

'Do you think the transition will be any different due to Coronavirus?'

'It has been different this year due to COVID – we normally like to get into primary schools. The Year 6 taster days could not happen but it was great to have the summer school on this year!'

'Is there anything students from other years can do to help the Year 7s feel more comfortable and welcome?'

'On the whole, our students are great at helping all our new starters. I would say to remember how nervous you felt when you first started and offer to show the Year 7s around. If you see someone on their own, go over check they are ok and see if you can help.'

We welcome all our Y7s to join our amazing school community and are already looking ahead to next year's! Our open evening for Y5s and Y6s is on Monday 4th October – hopefully you were/will be able to attend.

**Anna B, Student
Journalist @ BHCS**



PROBUS CLUB BACK TO NORMAL ACTIVITIES

It was with a sense of demonstrable relief that after twenty months since their last face to face business meeting that life is getting back to normal for the Probust Club of Basingstoke. The Club has continued unabated since its foundation in 1979 and it was time for a much-delayed 41st Annual General Meeting. Covid restrictions delayed the AGM from the traditional June until mid-September and it was held at the Test Valley Golf club, the normal venue for Probust monthly meetings.

Because Covid also made it impossible to hold the AGM in June 2020 the Executive Committee had continued in office for a second year. This time there was a change at the top with David Wickens (a retired engineering sales manager) taking over as President from Richard Wood (a retired Chartered engineer).

The other committee members, who range from a nuclear scientist, a solicitor, a small business owner, a civil engineer and two RAF officers have specific responsibilities and were happy to continue in post for another nine months until June 2022. This ensures that their experiences are paramount in successfully returning to normal operations as a social club for retired Professional and Business managers as per the acronym of the name the Probust Club.

Although Probust Clubs now extend throughout the English-speaking world, with most UK towns having one or two Probust Clubs, the organisation was founded in Caterham, Surrey, in 1965 for retired managers who wanted to remain socially active. With no central office each club sets its own rules while following the basic tenet that likeminded men from all branches of society enjoy meeting for lunch with an attendant interesting speaker. Other opportunities exist to include wives for visits to interesting places throughout the year.

Their October meeting will have as its guest of Honour the Worshipful the Mayor of Basingstoke & Deane BC, Cllr Onnalee Cubitt.

Interested? See www.probusbasingstoke.club for more information.



Richard Wood, on the right, handing over the chain of office to incoming president David Wickens

BEGGARWOOD PUB CELEBRATES FIRST YEAR OF TRADING WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND DIGNITARIES

The Holly Blue in Beggarwood held an exclusive evening of celebration to officially mark the pub's opening with the local community.

Family brewers and owners of the Holly Blue, Hall & Woodhouse, first opened the pub's doors to guests last September following an investment of over £4million. However, due to government restrictions, it hasn't been possible to host an event to introduce the landmark pub to the village.

George Robertson, Business Development Manager of the Holly Blue, said: "It was a fantastic feeling for us to finally bring everyone in the community together, allowing us to officially meet our neighbours and celebrate the opening of our beautiful pub. The event gave our guests an opportunity to experience the Holly Blue's many characterful features that make it a creative, unique and welcoming space.

"We are committed to enriching the lives

of our local communities and as such, we are reflecting on the past year and are thankful for the loyal guests that already view the pub as their home from home."

On the night, guests were treated to a Badger beer and a cheese tasting session with Hall & Woodhouse's Family Director, Mark Woodhouse. There was also the opportunity to learn about the company's reinvestment programme and future vision.

Located on the A30 on the outskirts of Basingstoke, The Holly Blue is the perfect example of a traditional country pub. Built in the style of a Hampshire farmhouse with attached barn, the pub features four key areas for guests to enjoy, including a relaxed 'Badger's Den' complete with cosy nooks and crannies, as well as an informal pantry space for dining.

Please visit www.thehollyblue.co.uk for more information.

CAMROSE, GILLIES AND HACKWOOD (CGH) PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG)

Dear Residents, we hope you will find our latest article helpful :

Flu Vaccines

Invitations for the flu vaccine should have been received by all age 65+ patients, by now. Any problems, contact CGH.

Members of the PPG will be acting as marshalls on vaccination days. Please feel free to have a chat with them about your experiences as patients of CGH.

GP Patient Survey

Patients can explore results of the survey for CGH via <https://www.gp-patient.co.uk>.

Blood Tests

The NHS has guided that the shortage of blood test bottles should be concluded by 17th September. Please keep an eye on the CGH website for up-to-date information.

Breast Pilot Scheme

CGH have been chosen to run a Breast Pilot Scheme for 30+ year olds who are experiencing breast pain or, who have found something unusual, such as a lump. You can contact the surgery and be seen on the same day, and referred directly.

Long Covid

Help for breathing difficulties can be found at meetings of the British Lung Foundation, a non-profit making organisation, at Popley Fields Community Centre on a Monday or Wednesday, £3 a session. Contact 01256 414494, or email office@popleyfields.org.uk

The Aquadrome offer a service with CAWS Inclusive Learning trained staff, for people with Long Covid muscle weakness, putting together a gentle exercise programme to help rebuild strength.

N.B. This may not be suitable for everyone, and has not been tested by the Practice.

BASINGSTOKE CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT FELLOWSHIP

44 members and 2 visitors were welcomed by the Chairman, David Cowling at the meeting on 1st September. The Secretary, Tony Brazier, gave details of the forthcoming trips planned for this year and said that the programme for next year would be available within the next few weeks.

The planned speaker for this meeting was unable to attend but we were fortunate enough to have Alan Jones stand in at short notice. Alan titled his talk "The Roving Reporter" though he said that perhaps after some of the experiences he had endured during his time at BBC Radio Solent it ought to be the "Raving" reporter. He explained the area was very diverse and that he must have conducted over 20,000 interviews throughout the area with differing degrees of success despite a great deal of preparation. This included interviewing a bishop who disliked heights at the top of a cathedral, a Frenchman playing the drums at altitude in a Galaxy aircraft to gain entry into the Guinness Book of Records and a group of naturists raising money for charity. He also had to scale the side of a USA warship to speak to the captain, assist in the milking of a deadly poisonous snake for its venom and cope with many situations where he had to use his initiative to get the interview completed. The scariest occasion was nearly being arrested by MI5 when they did not realise that he had special clearance to speak with those presented to the Queen at a ceremony. He re-enacted this for us using members of the audience.

The group's first outing this year will be the Mystery Trip on Thursday 14th October to be followed on Thursday 18th November by a trip to Haskins Garden Centre for Christmas shopping and then the Christmas lunch at BCOT on Thursday 9th December.

The next meeting is on 6th October when the speaker is Malcolm Nelson speaking about 40 Years of Catching Smugglers. The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Brookvale Village Hall from 10am to 12noon and all retired Civil Servants, their relatives and friends are welcome. Further information can be obtained by contacting csrfbasingstoke@gmail.com.

David Cowling

plato

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SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

Hello! We thought it might be time for a little update on the process of reorganising the two church parishes of Kempshott and Hatch Warren and Beggarwood into one united parish... please be assured that **Immanuel Church is open** for Sunday worship, as well as continuing to be active in the life and work of St Mark's School and the local community- and it is very much the plan that it will remain so!

The legal process of uniting the two parishes is being worked out by Winchester Diocese. Once this is in place Revd Nicola Such (currently Vicar at St Mark's Church) and Revd Kim Robins (currently Curate at St Mark's Church) will be re-licensed to the new parish. In the meantime, while we are still in the consultation phase, the two church communities are beginning to work together, get to know each other and plan together for the future. We are looking forward to the new opportunities that this provides!

Perhaps it would be helpful to introduce ourselves- some of you will know Kim from her time working previously as centre manager and community development worker of Hatch Warren Community Centre- Kim has been Parish Administrator at St Mark's Church for the past few years and this summer was ordained as our curate. She is passionate about working in the local community, particularly with families and children. Nicola has been the Vicar at St Mark's for the past three years, moving there from Swindon, and was previously a primary school teacher. She enjoys anything creative and getting out and about outdoors.

The care of a much larger church parish will be a team effort, and we hope that you will see not just Nicola and Kim, but people from both Immanuel and St Mark's churches working together in and around your community. At our recent shared 'Vision Day' we said that we wanted to be a parish that was caring and compassionate, engaged in our local communities and sharing the love of God. We also hope to be part of the wider conversations around new housing and social provision locally, as well as welcoming new people into this corner of Basingstoke.

Inevitably there may be a few bumps on the way and some changes as we navigate this time of transition- but we are still there for you- do feel free to contact Immanuel Church to discuss weddings, baptisms, funerals or any other needs you may have, and do come and join us for Sunday worship!

Nicola and Kim on behalf of Chris and Primrose, churchwardens at Immanuel Church

Your local parish church in Hatch Warren & Beggarwood



Join us for worship for all-ages every Sunday at 10.00am.

Other activities & services - see website and Facebook page for details

Everyone very welcome

Immanuel Church

St.Mark's School, Danebury Road, Hatch Warren, RG22 4US
Churchwardens Tel: 01256 351862

www.immanuelhwb.co.uk & www.facebook.com/immanuelhwb

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Our Activities Return Enthusiastically (but Carefully) to Normal

Several groups (like our Spanish Group) managed picnic meetings over the summer. We're delighted that most of our groups are taking full advantage of the eased restrictions and are meeting together again properly.

We're seeing renewed interest in our groups. On 8th September, over 200 people flocked to our Meet and Greet Day to find out more about the activities available. For example, indoors there are badminton, music, singing, dancing, lunches, crafts, indoor games, history, languages, bridge groups to join. Outdoors, members are taking part in walking football and netball, croquet, cycling, walking. The organiser of our trips has remained tireless. Before Christmas some of us will have been to Croatia, Whitby, and the Royal Albert Hall!

So, if you're no longer in full time work and would like to join in with us, don't forget all these activities are waiting for you, for just one annual membership fee of £40.

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HATCH WARREN WI

Members of Hatch Warren WI. welcomed Steve Herra via Zoom to our meeting on 2nd September, 'Cunard History and Glamorous Stars'. Steve was a purser on board the Queens until he retired. Samuel Cunard was born in Halifax Nova Scotia, when it would have taken six weeks by sailing ship to cross the Atlantic Ocean. The ships would carry passengers, mail and freight. Cunard shipping line's maiden voyage was from Liverpool to Boston aboard the steam and sailing ship Britannia in 1840 taking just thirteen days to cross. Because Boston harbour froze in winter the ship then transferred to New York. A cow for fresh milk and chickens for fresh eggs were also carried. 1840 saw the first bath tubs and in 1881 electric light. Charles Dickens and his wife sailed in 1842. 1st class passengers dined with the Captain. Steve spoke about the RMS Mauretania, Carpathia and the Lusitania and the different roles these ship played. Some famous people travelled on the Queens, including Marilyn Monroe, Clark Gable, Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor, Bob Hope and Charlie Chaplin to name but a few. Cunard moved its headquarters from Liverpool to Southampton in 1960, Cunard was merged with White Star line and then launched Queen Mary in 1936, QE2 would sail across the Atlantic in summer and cruise to warmer climes in winter. There are 22 dog kennels on the new Queen Mary 2. A new Queen will be launch in late 2022.

We will continue to have our Zoom coffee morning, genealogy group and craft group on-line as these have been a life-line to many members, especially those who are on their own. We are still waiting for confirmation on when we can return to our monthly meetings at Hatch Warren Community Centre on the 1st Thursday of the month. For more up to date information please contact our President Lynette on 07824 535868. Our next scheduled meeting is October 7th at 7.30 pm when we will welcome Val Dubben 'Where to start making a patchwork quilt'.

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RESTAURANT REVIEW

HONESTY CAFÉ IN BASINGSTOKE GARDEN CENTRE

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These days it is known as Basingstoke Garden Centre. It had previously been Dummer Garden Centre and earlier was part of the Wyevale group until bought in August 2019 by Maidenhead Aquatics. It is still on the original site on the A30 while the address today is described as North Waltham whereas for years it was Dummer.

Hopefully, while that should be the end of any confusion, the café is operated by the Honesty group that have made recent inroads into the Basingstoke region with the opening of another Honesty café in the nearby business complex on Dummer Down Farm.

With the usual roving reporter otherwise engaged it fell to Madam and a friend to pop along to see what it was like.

Although there is outside seating, as the weather was not looking too promising, we sat inside. The menu offering was simple – paninis, sandwiches and soup. The lady serving us had started that day, but she took it all in her stride when I said that I was reporting for the Rabbitter magazine.

We both chose a cheese and chutney panini which came with tasty coleslaw and while my friend had hot chocolate and was impressed that it was hot and not lukewarm as in other restaurants, I had a cappuccino. A feature of the Honesty café group is that all products are made by themselves, and this was evident with a range of sough dough breads and cakes on display.

Service was prompt with the lone server coping well even though other customers were filtering in. It was a pleasant experience and the total cost of £16.95 for the two of us ladies I considered to be reasonable.

The position of the café meant that I had the benefit of being able to browse the other retail aspects of this garden centre.



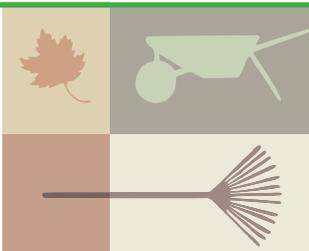
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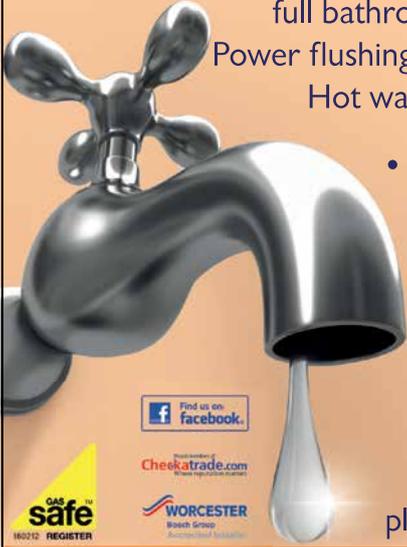


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