

THE Rabbiter

Issue 284 December 2021–January 2022

MERRY

CHRISTMAS

From
Santa

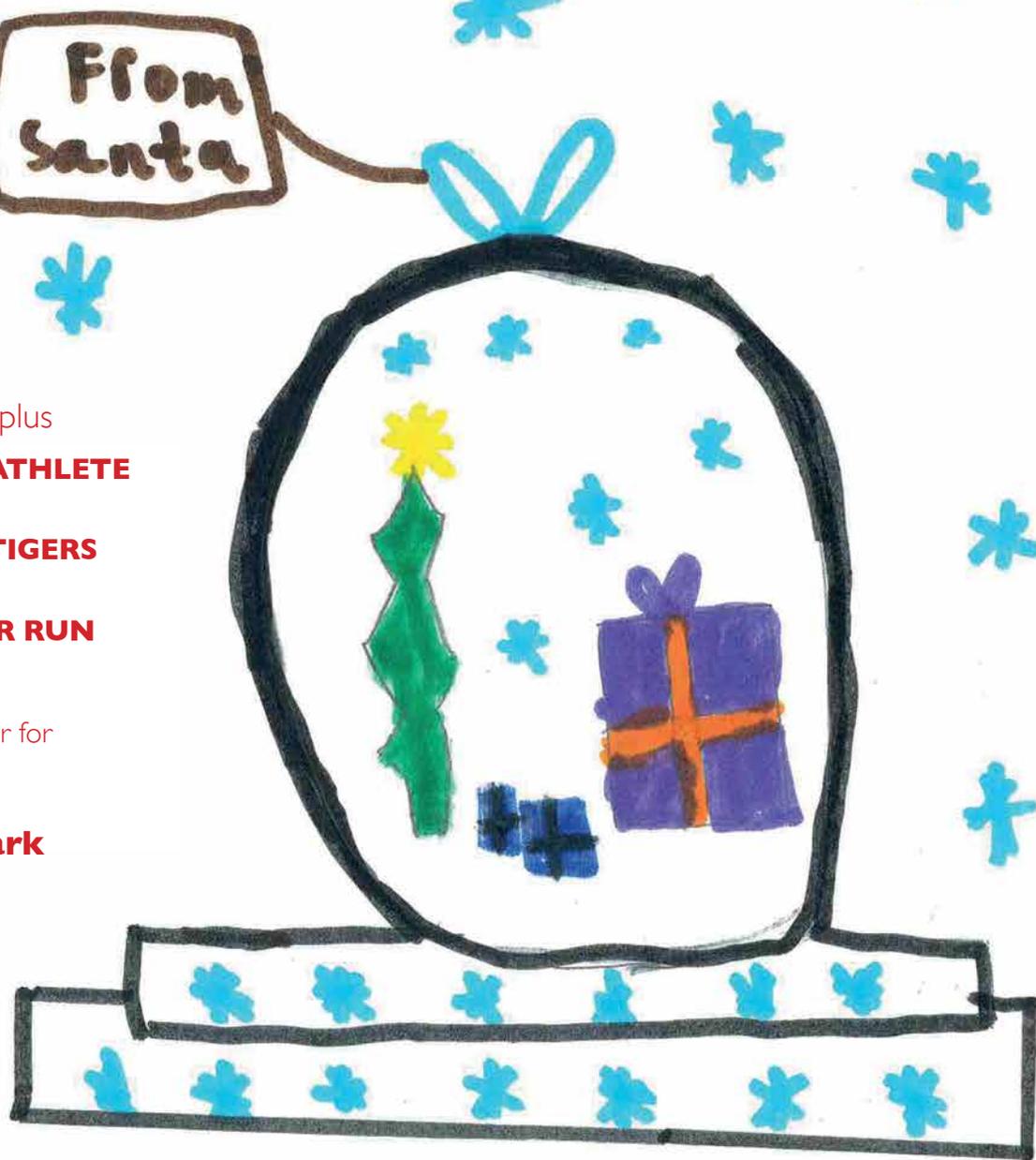


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- **HATCH WARREN ATHLETE WINS GOLD**
- **HATCH WARREN TIGERS NETBALL CLUB**
- **HOSPICE REINDEER RUN**

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THE Rabbiter

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EDITORIAL

December is such a lovely time of the year. The smell of cinnamon, mince pies, Christmas lights, wrapping presents and Christmas music create such a wonderful atmosphere at this time of year. The popular Portsmouth Arms market will be open on Thursday evenings (as well as the usual Saturday morning) giving everyone the opportunity to buy special gifts and support independent sellers. There will be traditional Christmas services at both St Mark's Church and Immanuel – see page 19 for details. The Christingle Service is always magical and a lovely way to remind us of why we celebrate – 4pm on Christmas Eve at St Mark's Church.

Our cover competition this year was won by Iremide Akinola (cover image) from the Hatch Warren After School Club. Runners up were Grace Burrows and Ella Sheen. It was difficult to decide the winner as there were so many lovely drawings. A big thank you to Sainsbury's for donating the prizes.

Have you ordered your Christmas food yet? Remember that Sainsbury's orders need to be made by 16 December – see page 5. When you are shopping, please consider adding a couple of items to your basket for the Basingstoke Foodbank. If you are planning to go out over the holiday, remember to fill up your car with petrol and buy your essentials as both Sainsbury's store and Petrol Station will be closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

Receiving a book in your stocking is always welcome. If you are not sure which book, why not select one being read by Beggarwood Bookworms and then join the group to talk about it – see page 11.

New Year is a time for deciding on resolutions for the year ahead. Why not choose to support the local Befriending initiative – see page 5 for details.

The Rabbiter wants to keep local residents informed of local events and information – see page 8 for an update on local planning and other issues. We are pleased to note that the planning application for a warehouse development at Junction 7 has now been refused. However, an appeal has been lodged by the developers – see page 17.

The Rabbiter takes a holiday in January so our next edition will be published at the beginning of February 2022. Don't forget to let us have your news and views by 15 January – email newsdesk@therabbiter.biz. A big thank you to all our advertisers – thank you for your continuing support. The Rabbiter is eternally grateful to all our deliverers who ensure that you receive your copy each month.

Happy Christmas and a Merry New Year to everyone – have a great time and see you next year.

Editor

Runners up –
Grace Burrows (Left)
Ella Sheen (Right)





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Car Parking at Kempshott

Following recent anti-social behaviour in the car park, a new parking restriction has been launched.

There is now a 3 hour limit to your stay, allowing plenty of time to complete your shopping at Sainsbury's, B&M and American Golf.

Number Plate recognition is now in force to help with the management of your stay.

Poppy Appeal

A huge thank you to colleagues and customers at Kempshott, for their support during the recent Poppy Appeal.

Once we have a final total of the amount raised, we'll let you know.

Brighten A Million Christmases 1st – 24th December

Our charity partners for this popular campaign are Basingstoke Foodbank and Inspiro.

Both organisations will display items which will help continue their service during the Christmas period. Your donation is welcome whatever the item, small or large.

We'll also be collecting donations from colleagues and customers at all our check outs, Smart Shop and Self Checkouts. These funds will be distributed to the charity partners once the campaign ends.

Christmas Food to Order

This service continues to exceed our expectations so, if you haven't already

booked your selections, please do so quickly. Our range can be found by visiting the link below and, closes on December 16th, with collections from the store available between 22nd – 24th December.

<https://food-to-ordersainsburys.co.uk/>

Watch out for...

New food speciality bays have been created in our Fresh Foods Department. Keep your eyes peeled for the Charcuterie, Fish and Cheese bays being launched before Christmas.

Argos

The Christmas Argos catalogue is now available. Packed with the latest Christmas present ideas and 2 Christmas Wish lists, it's going to be as popular as ever.

Why not pay our Argos colleagues a visit to get the latest tips for ordering and collecting your Christmas purchases?

Opening Hours

We'll update you with the store opening times once they've been confirmed, so watch out for the posters and announcements in store.

However, one change from last year, will see our store and petrol station, **CLOSED** on Boxing Day – Sunday 26th as well as Christmas Day. Get your extra milk early!

Finally, on behalf of our colleagues at Sainsbury's Kempshott, please enjoy your festive break.

HATCH WARREN WI

The ever resourceful ladies of Hatch Warren W.I. held their November meeting on 4th. Although some members were unable to attend in person a Zoom call was set up for them to enjoy the meeting. Unfortunately our speaker was unable to attend at the last minute, as the theme was interpretation of dreams, members related their own dreams, which turned out to be very amusing.

Ten members enjoyed a trip to London with lunch and a matinee of 'Only Fools and Horses'. We have met for coffee at Gaberdines and held a lunch at The Fox, Oakley as well as our Zoom coffee and chat. Genealogy group has also met on Zoom. Our craft group met this month in person to learn about Christmas card making.

HCFWI had a walk through Petersfield Town Centre and Heath Pond which some members joined. There is a Pom

Pom wreath making work shop and Christmas coffee morning at W.I. House in Eastleigh. Reverend Kate Botley will be the guest speaker at the AGM to be held in Portsmouth March 2022.

December will see a virtual wine tasting with Waitrose hosting the event, members will be able to taste six different wines.

As we finish the year we will have our Christmas lunch on 9th December at 'The Fox' in Oakley, where members will exchange secret santa presents and cards.

Although 2021 has had it up and down members have rallied together to make everyone feel included and welcome. We now look forward to starting a new W.I. year on 6th January 2022 for more information please call our President Lynette on 07824 535868.

On behalf of all our members we would like to wish all our readers a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and a VERY HAPPY HEALTHY 2022.

CLLR DAN PUTTY

We are undergoing fairly a trying time currently. People are feeling that life is making them feel lonely, isolated and full of stress. We have to manage these feelings by extending our hands to neighbours and friends. We have to fight these feelings by smiles and small talks with whoever wants to listen and interact.

Feeling "down in the dump" is such an abstract feeling that we have to pick up ourselves and smile and make ourselves happy again by conquering the gloomy feelings that set in us.

We have groups who are helpful in the community centres and we should force ourselves to join them and bring ourselves out of the abyss we find ourselves.

SMILE BE HAPPY AND ENJOY LIFE.

As your councillor I am always here to help.

Stay safe

CLLR DAN PUTTY JP

WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Could you be a 'Befriender'?

What will I be doing?

As a Volunteer Befriender your role will be to provide social companionship to patients who have a chronic or life limiting illness and who are isolated or lonely. Visiting patients in their own homes, you will help them to feel more supported and help to improve their emotional well-being and confidence.

How much time do I need to commit?

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What support will I be given?

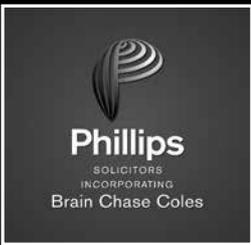
All relevant training will be given, as well as regular and on-going support and supervision.

Interested?

For further information contact Caroline Nash, Befriending Manager on: 01264 835293

Email: Caroline.Nash@hhft.nhs.uk

Interested volunteers will be invited to an informal interview and the role is subject to references, simple health checks and DBS clearance.



SIX TIPS WHEN CONSIDERING DIVORCE



Elizabeth Taylor

Dealing with a divorce is never easy but Elizabeth Taylor, a family law solicitor and mediator at Phillips Solicitors offers six tips to help make the process as smooth and amicable as possible.

1. Try relationship counselling

Consider Relationship Counselling to see if there is anything you can do to make your relationship work, as after all, starting divorce proceedings or entering into a separation agreement is a life-changing decision which should not be made quickly.

2. Get legal advice

It is important to have a full understanding of your legal rights and responsibilities. Having an idea of what the divorce process involves will help you feel much more in control and less anxious. Write a list of questions to take to your first appointment; no question is trivial or irrelevant.

3. Gather your financial information

You and your spouse will need to share financial information with each other. If possible, work together to gather details about your income, property valuations, mortgages, savings, pensions and debts. If you cannot do this together, write

down what you can recall about the financial arrangements during the marriage.

4. Keep communicating with each other

This will be a very difficult time but maintaining open channels for communication can make planning your futures much easier. Make a written note of what you have talked about to remind you both.

5. Mediation is often helpful

For many people, mediation is a quicker and cheaper option for resolving family difficulties about children or finances than going to court. It empowers separating couples to make their own decisions together.

We can refer you to a local mediation service or you can choose to come directly to Haymarket Family Mediation, which is part of Phillips Solicitors instead if you prefer.

6. Update your personal details and entitlements

You should check to see whether you are making the right claims for benefits including Child Benefit, the council tax reduction if you are living separately and Universal Credit.

If you are considering divorce, please contact Elizabeth by calling by calling 01256 854628, emailing elizabeth.taylor@phillips-law.co.uk or by visiting www.phillips-law.co.uk/family
When contacting Phillips, please mention The Rabbiter.

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COUNCILLOR'S UPDATE

ROAD CLOSURES: There are two separate sets of road closures being planned for the A30 and I think some confusion may have crept in between them. The first set will affect the A30 between the motorway and the Saunders Way junction (the entrance to Longacre). This closure is to allow for resurfacing. Though the order is for three months, the works are expected to take five nights only, between the hours of 8pm and 8am. The second set of works is being planned by South East Water between the Kempshott and Hatch Warren roundabouts and will start in January for 16 weeks, so that they can install a new water main. They are planning to use temporary traffic lights to control traffic, which I fear is bound to increase the use of the Hatch Warren estate roads to avoid delays. There will be a public information session in December. I am trying to find out which developments the new pipe will serve and whether there are alternative routes that could have been considered. I also want to find out whether other utilities have plans for digging up the roads and if so, whether they could be done at the same time.

GOLF COURSE DEVELOPMENT: Bloor Homes have issued a newsletter confirming that work is starting on the Golf Course housing development. Working hours will be 7.30 am to 6pm, Mondays to Fridays and 8am to 1pm on Saturdays. There will be no activity on Sundays and public holidays. Arrangements have been made for staff parking on site. The existing clubhouse will be demolished by the end of November and the first of the 227 homes in Phase 1 will be available for occupation in Spring / Summer 2022. Usefully, Bloor have provided details for contacting the project team should their work cause difficulties.

GRIT BIN: With the season of frosts and ice on the road approaching, I have been chasing for a date for installing a grit bin at the top of Gloucester Drive. I have been advised that it should be fitted by the end of the year.

COUNCILLOR GRANTS: the County Council has been running a Councillor devolved budget scheme for many years, and the Borough Council has now launched a similar initiative. Community groups and organisations are able to apply for funding for small-scale items to support local groups and projects. Grants of between £250 and £1,000 are available to help groups and not-for-profit organisations purchase equipment that will make a difference to people's lives

and help bring communities together following the COVID-19 pandemic. Each Borough Councillor has a £2,000 'pot' so the three Hatch Warren and Beggarwood Councillors have £6,000 between them. That is in addition to the £8,000 that I have as a County Councillor, although that has to cover Hatch Warren, Beggarwood and Kempshott.

CAR MEETS: I attended a meeting at Sainsbury's to discuss potential measures to address the problems caused by car meets in the car park. Also there were the Store Manager, Mitie (Sainsbury's agents) and the Police. Mitie have agreed to bring in a mobile Automatic Number Plate Recognition facility to identify cars and their owners. Signs will be erected warning drivers that the car park will be closed for non-users of the shops and cashpoint machines. It is hoped that the ANPR will act as a deterrent. If the problem returns when the mobile ANPR is not present, the business case could then be made for a permanent facility. I went to the meeting hoping to propose some physical measures to deter the antisocial behaviour, but was told that the car park is too large; Mitie felt that it would be difficult to secure the whole of it in this way.

BEGGARWOOD SURGERY: At the time of writing, there is still no announcement regarding the new operators at the Beggarwood surgery, but it is believed to be imminent. The Patient Participation Group meeting that was scheduled for November was postponed and it will be called again when the decision is known.

WAREHOUSE APPLICATION: as has been well reported, the second consideration of the planning application for a warehouse near Junction 7 of the M3 resulted in a refusal. Dummer Parish Council and the pressure group CAGE won a remarkable victory in persuading Councillors to overturn the original decision of the Development Control committee. So what next? The applicants have already lodged an appeal against the refusal of the outline planning permission for the site so it is entirely predictable that they will appeal against this decision as well. One of the reasons for the refusal was the need to protect the (mainly) oak trees at the entrance to the site and it may be relevant that temporary tree preservation orders have now been placed on them, confirming that the community was right to stress their importance. Other arguments that could be deployed in resisting an appeal are that the proposed site is outside the current Settlement Policy Boundary for Basingstoke and opposite a potential

site for a new hospital. I believe cogent arguments can be made to support the Borough Council's decision.

OLD DOWN ACTION: At a meeting called by Maria Miller MP residents discussed the future status of Old Down. Originally it was planned to designate this important green area as a Local Nature Reserve at the same time as Beggarwood Park, many years ago. Then access arrangements to Manydown South were considered and consultants identified Old Down as a potential route for a road. As a result, Beggarwood Park received LNR status but Old Down did not. Now, however, the situation has changed. The Borough Council has published its thoughts on development in the South West of Basingstoke, and access to Manydown can be achieved from nearer to the motorway as well as through Hounsome Fields. In my opinion this enables us to re-open the idea of designating Old Down as a Local Nature Reserve. I wrote to the Chief Executive at the Borough Council asking for this to be considered. He replied saying that the Borough is considering Local Green Space status, which sounds to me to be a lesser recognition of the importance of the site.

SUPERB FIREWORKS DISPLAY: A big 'thank you' to Hatch Warren Community Association who, on November 6th, delivered one of the best fireworks displays I have seen, and to a sell-out crowd. The atmosphere on the night was joyous, almost as if everyone was determined to make the most of simply being there. DJ Mark Halliday encouraged the feel-good atmosphere and the weather co-operated by being clear, dry and not-too-cold. Surrounded by my extended family, it felt as if everyone was coming together to put the last Covid-impacted year behind us and simply have a good time as a community. My thanks go to everyone who helped.

AND FINALLY ... Merry Christmas! I think this will be the last Rabbiter before the festive season. We are looking forward to a much better celebration than was possible last year, with the lockdowns well and truly behind us. I am looking forward to seeing the Christmas lights and decorations around the estates. I wish you and your families a most enjoyable time.

Regards

Stephen Reid

County Councillor:

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HATCH WARREN TIGERS NETBALL CLUB



In May 2021, a new local sports club, the Hatch Warren Tigers Junior Netball Club was formed! We have two squads of players – the under 13s and under 16s. Currently, we have 104 members across the club, including the Sabers, Wildcats and Cubs teams who have already played in fixtures in the Basingstoke Division 3 league. We train every week at Brighton Hill Community School in our distinctive bright orange kit!

Our main coach and founder is Carla Paterson who is accompanied by Simone, Grace, Becky, Elisha, Shannon and Amanda. We also have a young leader programme running for girls over 14 who aspire to become coaches. It is a chance for them to give it a go and learn the required skills. The club is also supporting members who wish to learn how to be an umpire.

We have all improved so much from when we started thanks to weekly training and holiday camps. The training includes not only defending and attacking, but also teamwork and communication skills, which are vital to becoming good netballers.

Some of our members have told us....

MS: 'It's really fun and you get to improve on your netball skills.'

BH: 'It is fun, and I feel like I learn a lot from being there, about netball.'

AW: 'My experience at HWT has been great! The coaches are lovely and dedicated to ensure we all do our best.'

EE: 'HWT is a great group to be a part of. Each week I look forward to Thursdays. It's fab.'

FM: 'I love it! It's taught me some good netball skills and I've made some great friends.'

The club has also received very positive feedback from parents and opposing teams.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Anna B, Junior Editor, Hatch Warren Tigers Junior Netball Club



St. Michael's Hospice
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Please note: All cash donations will be used to buy presents

This appeal has been running for 6 years, help us make a child happy again this Christmas, your gifts are always truly appreciated.

Contacts: Julie (Tesco) 07514 408482 Brita (Caritas) 07464 925699 Jo (Hook) 07795 420222

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October Meeting

This month's book choice was 'The Midnight Library' written by Matt Haig. Nora Seed in her mid thirties is caught up in a life full of regret and what ifs. She decides to end her life. In fact she ends up at midnight in the never ending midnight library where by choosing a book she is able to experience the many different routes her life might have taken had she made different choices.



The author has been very vocal about his struggles with mental health and this is apparent in his writing and understanding of the feelings of Nora. The group had differing feelings about this, some finding it very inspiring, uplifting a great read but others finding it a little slow in parts. We have previously read his 'How to Stop Time' and that also had divided opinions from the group. The book did score a healthy 7.5 from us.

One thing we all agree on is that the group encourages us to read a wide variety of genres that we would probably not choose to read ourselves which promotes lively discussions.

Next month we celebrate Christmas with our Secret Santa book swap when we pass on a book we have read and really enjoyed. We have chosen 'Black Widows' by Cate Quinn as the one to read. This is a real whodunnit, hard to put down mystery, set in the lives of Mormons in Salt Lake City.

In January we hope to welcome a local author Kathryn Croft to talk about her writing and her new book 'The Other Husband' followed by 'The Vanishing Half' by Brit Bennett.



OLD DOWN AND BEGGARWOOD WILDLIFE GROUP



The Autumn colours and leaf fall came late this year. October and November were very mild with few frosts (which cause the leaves to drop) and in mid-November green leaves were still in abundance. The woodland belt at the top of Old Down is always beautiful when the leaves start to fall. It is of course so much easier to spot the birds when the trees are bare – such as the charming robin.

There is a rich variety of trees on both Beggarwood and Old Down but both sites could accommodate more numbers. Beggarwood in particular has some very mature tall trees such as oak and beech. The Group has planted several saplings and whips on Old Down such as rowan and hawthorn (the berries are so good for many bird species). More trees could and should be planted and the Group hopes to achieve this. Sadly, our local authorities are not very

supportive of tree planting – but very keen on felling.

It is such good news that the Gateway Development has been refused by the Development Control Committee thus saving the beautiful avenue of mature oak trees. Of course there will be an appeal by the developer. In this time of rapid climate change and the dire consequences we need to keep our mature trees and woodland.

There is a proposal being made to the Council to give protection to Old Down as a wildlife park/area. Beggarwood has Local Nature Reserve status but not Old Down which leaves it vulnerable during any planning process. Local councillors support this so hopefully it will be progressed.

Hopefully, unlike last year, we will be able to enjoy the Christmas celebrations and gatherings of family and friends. The Group wishes you all a really wonderful Christmas and a happy and prosperous 2022.

Work Parties: For Old Down we meet outside Old Down Hall every Thursday 10-12 noon and for Beggarwood at the café on the first Tuesday of the month 9-12. No meetings over Christmas and New Year period. Check the Internet address below for up-dates.

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



Old Down woodland



HATCH WARREN ATHLETE WINS GOLD

Local athlete Neil Barton has been crowned European Masters champion after being upgraded to the gold medal, two years after being awarded the silver.

Barton, a member of Basingstoke & Mid Hants Athletics Club, was competing for only the second time for Great Britain at the 2019 European Masters Championships in Jesolo, Italy, where he finished second in the over-35 men's long jump.

Two years later Barton received some unexpected news that the German athlete who'd won gold has been disqualified following a doping violation. This meant that Barton was upgraded to the gold medal position.

"While I would have loved to have heard the British national anthem played at the medal ceremony, I can't complain" said Barton. "To say that I'm shocked and over the moon is an understatement!"

Café in the Park

WE ARE NOW FULLY OPEN!

PLEASE JOIN US

WEDNESDAY – SUNDAY 10am – 2pm

Community lunch **1st Wednesday every month**
Free hot drink with **10 stars** collected using our loyalty card
Sunday offers from **1.30pm onwards**
Midweek deals - **coffee and cake only £4**
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

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



WEEKEND BAPS



TOASTED PANINIS AND SANDWICHES



HOT & COLD DRINKS

We look forward to seeing you soon!



FRESH HOMEMADE CAKES



THE PERFECT PRESENT THIS CHRISTMAS

Treat a loved one to a relaxing
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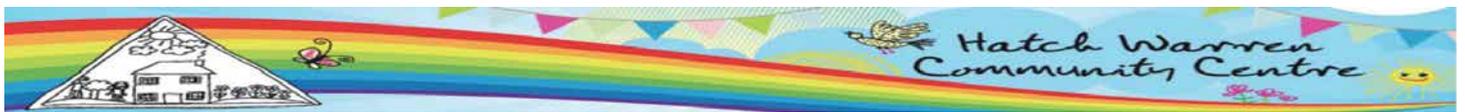
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We are a registered charity run by volunteers - working to make Hatch Warren and Beggarwood a great place to live!

WARREN TOTS



Location: In the Lounge

Date & Time: Wednesday 10:00 – 11:30 am

Price: £3.50 per family

(adult plus 2 children – additional child £1)

- Informal and friendly drop in session - come along, grab a coffee and make new friends, a chance to be sociable and have fun in a relaxed and stress free environment
- Suitable from birth to 4 years
- Crazy craft, Messy play, Sensory toys – enjoy a juice & snack, all sessions finish with 'song time'
- Our qualified and dedicated staff, led by Louise, have a wealth of childcare experience and bring lots of passion and enthusiasm to the group



Please email office@hatchwarren.org for more info or give us a call on 01256 811262

RSVP



Looking for that perfect party venue?

Our main hall is suitable for children's parties and is bookable Saturday and Sunday from 2.30-5.30pm. Use of our kitchen facilities and hire of tables and chairs included. Smaller bouncy castles/soft play can be accommodated.

We also offer a catering package for your party consisting of sandwiches, pom bears, capri sun and a cupcake. We will try to accommodate themes and colours where possible.

Our hall can also be used for business meetings and various catering options are available.

To discuss your requirements and to arrange a visit to view our facilities give us a call on T: 811262

Café in the Park

Beggarwood Community Centre
Broadmere Road, Basingstoke,
RG22 4AQ

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odette@hatchwarren.org

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www.hatchwarren.org

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Hatch Warren Community Centre

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



Children & Young People's support lines
 Childline - 0800 1111 - Samaritans - 116 123
 Young Minds text service – 85258

The only Youth Club with Open Access and a Health Hub serving Hatch Warren and Beggarwood

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 and 8

Friday 3 rd December	Winter Olympics, Deluxe Hot Chocolate and Confidence Building Session.
Friday 10 th December	Football Tournament, slime making and Waffles
Friday 17 th December	CHRISTMAS PARTY!! The Warren Closes for Christmas Break.
Friday 24 th December	The Warren Closed. Merry Christmas from everyone at The Warren
Friday 31 st December	The Warren Closed. Happy New Year from everyone at The Warren
Friday 7 th January	Laser Tag, Ceramics and Online Safety session.
Friday 14 th January	Quiz Night, Make Your Own Key Ring and Pitta Pizzas.
Friday 21 st January	Table Tennis Competition, Face Painting and Slushies
Friday 28 th January	Hockey, Henna Tattoos and Chicken Nuggets

Christmas is coming!! We love Christmas at The Warren and always make sure we end the year with a party! We are so happy after not being able to celebrate with everyone last year we are able to this year!

When we come back in 2022, we kick off the year right with one of our favourite activities; Laser Tag!

We want to thank all the young people who took part in our confidence building session and helped make it such a good session! Whilst we are here for fun we are also here to help and part of this is holding our wellness sessions for you all. Please let us know if there is anything you think we should cover.

Fireworks Volunteers.

A big thank you to all our staff and young people who volunteered at the Fireworks event to help us sell tuck and glow sticks to raise money for The Warren. And a big thank you to everyone who bought all our glow products and tuck! We were so busy we sold out of the glow sticks. All the profits go towards making sure we can keep doing all the work we do and keep having all the fun we have!



The club would like to thank ASDA for their financial help with our late Autumn BBQ, the weather was good and we all wrapped up warm as we ate in the court yard outside the Warren.

We had a very scary Halloween youth club and the members dressed to scare.

On 15th November we had a visit from POST 16 Dove House School Academy to present The Duke Of Edinburgh awards to some of our members who achieved this certificate while studying at Post 16.

Looking ahead to the busy Christmas period, we have the following outings planned.

December 6th meal and disco at The Portsmouth Arms

December 16th trip to The Anvil for the Pantomime

Game Warehouse have employed four of our members for the Christmas rush and they are all now settled into their jobs. This support is invaluable to our members as it gives them work experience and it's a valuable addition to a CV.

We have also been in conversation with KIWI Education and hopefully we will be supporting some of our young people



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 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, pregnancy testing, drugs and alcohol. We are now able to offer focused Emotional Wellness and Issue based sessions again.

January 7th: CV Writing and Interview Skills.





Hatch Warren
Under Fives Preschool

HATCH WARREN UNDER FIVES

We are now in our magical term of glitter and sparkle at Hatch Warren Under Fives Preschool where we are having fun with all things Christmas.

Plans are underway to finish the year with a lovely Christmas party for the children where we'll also have a special visitor popping in to visit our Christmas grotto.

This half term we've been exploring the season of autumn and have spent lots of time on outdoor walks in the woods looking at autumn colours, listening to autumn sounds and collecting lovely natural resources to use in preschool.

November was full of fun and colour – we started off with fireworks and Diwali. The children made clay Diwali tea light holders and we used lots of colour and textures to create some wonderful firework pictures, we also made edible sparklers using breadsticks, melted chocolate and sprinkles – yum!

The children made beautiful poppy prints and they learnt all about the meaning of Remembrance Day, they also joined in with a two-minute silence and did an incredible job.

We helped raise some money for Children in Need in November, and we had a lovely week in preschool doing lots of Pudsey inspired activities with the children. We also invited everyone to dress up through the



week in their favourite fun clothes and the staff came to preschool dressed in pyjamas, yellow and red.

We also celebrated road safety week and had a visit from a road safety professional who told us all about crossing the road safely. And for anti bullying week, we invited everyone to wear odd socks for group time. Wearing odd socks shows we are all unique and it is OK to be different in a positive and fun way.

We are continuing with our small group work each week with Write Dance, a super fun session and a fantastic way to build motor skills and introduce writing skills; we are still having fun with our science experiments and makaton signing. And next week on the baking table we will be making some yummy Christmas goodies.

You can see weekly updates from Hatch Warren Under Fives on our Facebook page "Hatch Warren Under 5s Preschool", where you will see lots of photos and learn our Makaton signs of the week.

Don't forget - applications are now open for Year R spaces for September 2022. You must apply to Hampshire County Council and the deadline for all applications is 15th January 2022. For more information, or to apply, visit: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions>

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

We still have a few spaces remaining for this academic year; to enquire about a preschool place at Hatch Warren Under Fives, please contact Angela Blomquist, Manager, on 01256 322788, or email preschoolmail@aol.com.

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

CANDOVER VALLEY PRE-SCHOOL

Just a reminder that we currently offer:

FOREST SCHOOL, FRENCH and DRAMATOTS, 8.30 am STARTS, 15 and 30 HOUR FUNDED PLACES, SHOW-ROUNDS, SETTLING-IN SESSIONS and HOME VISITS, AD HOC SESSIONS

The little ones are having so much fun with the Christmas activities this year. They have been so busy making Christmas cards for their families, decorating the Christmas tree with our homemade decorations, making Christmas lists, ice-cream cone Christmas trees with icing and sprinkles as well as



listening to and role playing the story of The Nativity.

We are ending the term with a fabulous Christmas party with lots of great treats to eat and fun games. Father Christmas will be visiting again this year and he will be leaving a present for all the little ones.

Our new welcome video and prospectus are both up on our website, please have a look! Visitors are always very welcome so if you would like to see Pre-School please contact us to arrange a visit.

01256-389008 cvpadmin@btconnect.com

Lisa Collisson

CUCKOO MEADOW PRESCHOOL

Hello from Cuckoo Meadow Pre-School! The Autumn term is in full swing with the children going out on beautifully colourful nature walks around the meadow (often adding in a quick yoga session!) and heading over to see the ducks. When we return from our adventures we use the leaves and twigs to make artwork – our latest being sweet little hedgehogs. Continuing the animal theme last week there was huge excitement as Mrs Andrews brought in Amber the Syrian hamster who came out to play as well as Lolly the Black Rock chicken who was very patient as the children fed her and walked around with her in the playground.

When the weather has not been behaving we have continued to enjoy our spruced up pavilion – learning about a different nursery rhyme every week. Whether it's Hickory Dickory Dock or Incy Wincy Spider we have all loved a good sing song. We have also been lucky enough to have visits from Caterpillar Music with Emma, and all the children have adored bringing items in from home again for Show and Tell. Of course October would not be the same without pumpkins, and the children loved planting their very own seeds to take home as well as creating pumpkin art with apple stamps.

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



DANDELIONS PRESCHOOL

What a busy but fun term we have had. We have been continuing our water play in the garden and playing with sand. To celebrate Bonfire night we added a little bit of sparkle and created lots of amazing pictures with bright paints and glitter and using chalk to create firework explosions on the patio area.



Our sponsored event went well and we had wonderful time exploring the school grounds and finding Autumn treasures. The children enjoyed walking through the rustling leaves and collecting things along the way which we brought back to Pre-School to enhance our natural resources.

Special thanks to St Mark's for allowing us to enter the playground and wooded area.



As always we have supported Children in Need. The children were able to come into Pre-School dressed in their pyjamas or anything Pudsey related to help raise money for this amazing cause.

Christmas is always a magical time in Pre-School and we have lots of fun filled activities planned for the children to enjoy before we break up and enjoy the festivities with our families and friends.



We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our children and their families a wonderful Christmas and to thank you all for your kindness and generosity throughout the year. We look forward to seeing you and our new starters in the 2022

Spaces are filling up fast and we are building our waiting lists for the next two years so please do contact us for a registration form if you would like to consider Dandelions for your child's early years on 01256 818857 or alternatively e-mail info@dandelions-preschool.org.uk



CAGE UPDATE

CAGE (cleanairgreenenvironment.org) was delighted that Basingstoke Council's Planning Committee turned down the application to build a gigantic warehouse on J7 M3 at their meeting on the 27th October. Our local councillors Diane Taylor and Hannah Golding, both worked hard to stop the warehouse development.

However, an appeal has been lodged by the developer, Newlands, for outline planning permission for all 4 warehouses on the site and there may be one in the pipeline for the refused warehouse. The CAGE campaign will carry on, so continued interest and support will be much appreciated.

CAGE is very pleased that Tree Preservation Orders on the Oakdown Oaks have now been lodged which should mean that the importance of the trees and the priority habitat has been acknowledged. The SaveOakdownOaks petition has now reached almost 104,000 signatures.

Visit: cleanairgreenenvironment.org for the latest information.



DEEP LEARNING DAY BHCS

Three times a year, Brighton Hill Community School have Deep Learning Days. These are designed to teach us more about different areas of life around the topics of 'Respect and Equality', 'Keeping Healthy and Safe' and 'Careers'. We cover these topics in our My World lessons but having a day off our normal timetables means we can learn about these topics in more depth. Years 7-10 participate in these days and have 3 sessions as well as their normal tutor sessions; in this article, we have perspectives from students from Years 7, 8 and 9 who tell us about the 'Respect and Tolerance' Deep learning Day we had in the Autumn Term.

Jeremie from Year 7 said, "Deep Learning Day for Y7 was intriguing. We learnt how women in the past fought for their rights and went as far as arson and putting bombs everywhere to attract attention and get what they want. These were the Suffragettes, the women that were violent. The other group was the Suffragists, who

fought for their freedom peacefully. We also learnt about the association BHCS has with The King's Kids, a children's home in Uganda for children that don't have parents or can't be looked after. In our last session, we learnt how people with disabilities were treated back in the 1600s and how we have changed our attitudes since then. We even played some sports disabled people might play - seated volleyball, seated table tennis and blindfolded goalball."



Zoe from Year 8 said, "On Deep Learning Day we did all of our lessons off-timetable to learn about some important things that we will need to understand in life. We went around into different classrooms in our tutor groups and the topics that we learnt about were: 'Black History Month', 'Barriers for People with Disabilities' and 'Gender Inequality Around the World'. I think that it's necessary to have a day in school when we can look at these topics as we learn



essential matters that may affect us or others during the course of our lives."

Anna from Year 9 said, "On Deep Learning Day, Year 9 were looking at three main topics - 'Discrimination in Sport', 'Sex Discrimination' and 'Human Rights: Refugees coming to the UK'. I think it was interesting to look at the plain reality of the kind of things that are happening in our everyday lives and what causes them. We are always encouraged to accept and respect everyone, no matter how different they are to us."

We hope you all have a peaceful and safe Christmas break when it arrives, from everyone at BHCS.

Jeremie, Zoe and Anna. Student Journalists @ BHCS



PROBUS CIVIC AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Remembrance Sunday saw Probus Club of Basingstoke's President, David Wickens, parade with others to and from the War Memorial where he laid a poppy wreath on behalf of members. "Not surprisingly, with RAF Odiham close by, we have several members who are Royal Air Force retired career personnel. Currently we have a Wing Commander, two Squadron Leaders and a Flight Sergeant and in past years two Group Captains."

Later in November a group of eighteen consisting of members and guests, visited the Brooklands Transport Museum which can be seen regularly late at night on the Yesterday television channel.

This proved to be a visit thoroughly enjoyed, even by the ladies, where many recollections were shared about cars owned by families over the years. And having a Concorde on site brought fond memories from two members who had personal experience of being a passenger in this iconic aeroplane flying across the Atlantic.

December will see the Christmas lunch, again for members, spouses and families taking place at the Test Valley Golf club. Missing last year due to Covid restrictions, the decision was made to change from evening to lunchtime, but this should be no detriment to festivities including music and entertainment.

The New Year will see further trips to places of interest as well as the monthly lunch meetings with guest speakers and social pub lunches which include wives and partners.

The Probus Club of Basingstoke, which has been in continuous existence for over forty years is open to retired men who have had at least some supervisory or management experience during their working lives. It is a welcoming, social, club where members enjoy pleasant exchange of views and share experiences while enjoying social occasions together.

www.probusbasingstoke.club

BASINGSTOKE CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT FELLOWSHIP

There were 58 members at the meeting held on 3rd November who, after the usual tea, coffee and biscuits, were welcomed by the Chairman, David Cowling. The Secretary, Tony Brazier, then gave details of the trip on Thursday 18th November to Haskins Garden Centre for Christmas shopping and then the Christmas lunch at BCOT on Thursday 9th December. He also went on to outline some of the outings planned for next year which included a guided tour of Dorney Court, a day at the races, Hatfield House, Hever Castle and a Thames cruise.

The group's full programme of speakers and trips for next year can be obtained by contacting the secretary at csrfbasingstoke@gmail.com.

The speaker this month was Bridget Britten from the Royal National Lifeboat Institution who, with the aid of slides, videos and some amusing anecdotes, gave a history of the organisation from its inception in 1824. There had been some sort of lifeboat services in a few locations since the late 18th century but once the RNLI was formed coverage improved. In 1854 lifebelts were introduced; 1884 saw the distinctive flag designed; 1890 saw the first steam powered lifeboat and in 1905 the first motor powered one went into



service. Service throughout the two world wars and the regular introduction of the most up-to-date boats and equipment along with the introduction of river and beach patrols has all meant over 100,000 lives being saved during the last nearly 200 years. In 1891 the RNLI was the first charity to have a public collection and as a voluntary organisation has to continually actively fundraise so to help Bridget brought a selection of items for sale.

The next meeting is on 1st December when we are having a "Story Tale Christmas" from Fiona Birchall along with a Christmas buffet. The first meeting of 2022 will be on 5th January when Barbara Cummins will be telling us about her "Cycling in Different Counties".

The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Brookvale Village Hall from 10am to 12 noon and all retired Civil Servants, their relatives and friends are welcome.

David Cowling

MAKING THE MOST OF THE AUTUMN

www.basingstokeu3a.org

facebook.com/Basingstokeu3a

Groups now meeting in person



Our Walkers enjoyed beautiful countryside on their walk from Ecchinswell. Our Walks with camera group enjoyed taking photographs near Silchester. Our Excursions group have been on holiday to Croatia and Whitby and been to see the ballet at the Royal Albert Hall. We have restarted face-to-face Monthly Meetings, with a very entertaining and informative talk from "Winston Churchill!"

Our singers are in full voice; creative members are enjoying painting, sewing, flower arranging, etc. Members are coming together to play Bridge, Scrabble, Rummikub etc. Study groups are learning languages, philosophy, science and literature.

Playing Skittles

A new skittles group is about to start on 29th November.

We are looking to start new groups

We are looking for experienced musicians (on lead/ rhythm electric guitar, keyboard or drums) and singers to get together to make some good quality 60s/70s music.

We're also looking for people, who would like to learn:

- to take better photographs and videos on a Smartphone
- how to construct their own website
- what Facebook has to offer.

If you are interested in any of the above, we would love to hear from you.

There's plenty to choose from and trips and holidays are being planned as well.

Don't forget that for just one annual membership fee, currently £40, you can join as many groups as you can fit into your week!

basingstokeu3aenquiries@gmail.com

07787 520 281



READ EASY

Read Easy Basingstoke set up in August 2019 as a **FREE** service to help adults who struggle with reading. We were delighted to have received a very generous Grant from Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council recently. This will provide funding for the cost of training Volunteer Coaches and paying for reading manuals and books for our phonics-based programme. At least 7,000 adults in Basingstoke alone have reading or writing skills below that expected of an 11 year old.

How can **Read Easy** help those adults? By providing free 1-1 tuition from a trained Reading Coach with half hour sessions twice a week, on a confidential, non-judgemental basis. Coaches help Readers for as long as it takes to become confident in their reading ability - our Readers can generally learn to read fluently in 9 months to 2 years.

Here is a quote from a Reader who learnt with Read Easy:

"I didn't think that I would ever be able to read a book, but when I heard about Read Easy I thought I would give it a go. My confidence has grown thanks to an amazing and patient teacher. It's really changed my life."

Please get in touch if we can help you or anyone you know by calling 07592 450789

••••• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •••••

• Parish Church of Immanuel in Hatch Warren and Beggarwood •

- At the time of writing this, the shops have been full of Christmas goods for over a month and by the time you read this, you will be left in no doubt that the Christmas season is coming. Some of you may have already bought and wrapped your presents, written your cards and ordered the turkey!
- And where you might wonder, does the season of Advent fit into this world of shopping and spending? This year the Advent season starts on 28 November and ends on 24 December. The word advent means "coming" and there are, in fact, three meanings of this word that Christians describe in advent. The first and most thought of, happened about an event which took place over 2000 years ago when Jesus came into the world as a baby to live as a man and die for us. The second can happen now as Jesus wants to come into our daily lives. The third will happen sometime in the future when Jesus comes back to the world as King and Judge not a baby.
- The four weeks of Advent each have a specific theme or focus. The purpose of each theme is to spend time reflecting on the true meaning of this season – the life of Jesus Christ. To help the observation of these four weeks, many churches will have advent readings which reflect the theme of each week. These are: Hope, Preparation, Joy and Love and are marked by the lighting of four separate candles.
- Following the uncertainty of the last 21 months what sort of Christmas will it be for all of us this year? This time last year we were looking forward to celebrating Christmas with our families and friends, only to have our hopes dashed at the last minute by government restrictions due to Covid 19. We very much hope this will not be repeated this year and you are able to enjoy the company of your loved ones.
- We were delighted to celebrate our first joint services on 7th November at both Immanuel and St. Mark's Kempshott as the first step towards the unification of our two parishes. We have set out below our Christmas services in both churches and are delighted to say that these will be led by the Ministry team from St. Mark's. We would be delighted to welcome you to any of these as well as our normal Sunday morning services.
- May the joy and the hope of the newborn baby Jesus be with you and all those whom you love this Christmas and in the New Year.
- Chris and Primrose – Churchwardens at Immanuel Church
Churchwardens@immanuelhwb.co.uk
www.immanuelhwb.co.uk
- **Christmas Services at Immanuel and St. Mark's Churches**
- Sunday 5th 3.00pm - Christingle at Immanuel
- Sunday 12th 10.30am – Nativity for all ages at St. Mark's
6.00pm – Carols by Candlelight at Immanuel
- Sunday 19th 6.00pm – Carol service at St. Mark's
- Friday 24th 3.00pm – Crib service at Immanuel
4.00 pm – Christingle at St. Mark's
11.30pm – Midnight communion at Immanuel
- Christmas Day 9.30am – All age communion at St. Mark's

BASINGSTOKE DEANE ROTARY

SAVE THE DATE!

HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL MARINES AT THE ANVIL

Sunday 30 January 2022, 3:00pm

The majestic full concert Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines, the Corps of Drums and everyone's favourites, our special guests, The Chelsea Pensioners, will again make this a very special event.

Tickets on sale from Anvil Box Office

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Your local parish church in Hatch Warren & Beggarwood



Join us for worship for all-ages every Sunday at 9.00am.

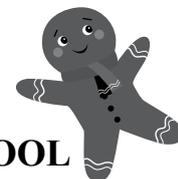
Other activities & services - see website and Facebook page for details

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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HATCH WARREN INFANT SCHOOL

It has been a busy term so far for us all here at Hatch Warren Infants. Our new Year R children having been getting to know their classrooms, teachers and new friends.

Our Year 1s have been all at sea learning about pirates and the Titanic whilst our Year 2s have been exploring the rainforests and all the amazing creatures who live there.

We have been busy raising money and donations for several local and national charities. Back at the end of September we enjoyed a coffee and cake afternoon, much to the teachers' delight, to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer alongside raising money for our memorial garden to a much missed, much-loved member of staff.

We love being part of our fantastic community here in Hatch Warren, so we always like to support the Basingstoke Foodbank during our annual Harvest festival. On the day, the children brought in donations for the foodbank then they shared a harvest breakfast together and talked about all the things they were thankful for.

We also supported 'Hello Yellow' day for the Young Minds charity. The children came in dressed in yellow and made a donation to the charity which supports children and their mental health issues. A great cause which is so very relevant in the current climate.

Taking part in all these events are a great way to broaden our children's minds; to see the world can be different to the one they know, to encourage their compassion and empathy and sometimes show them they are not alone, that others have the same problems as them. A valuable part of growing up to be an inclusive and thoughtful member of society.

Up next for us will be CHRISTMAS!! We will have plenty of glittery fun with a visit for Father Christmas, enjoying a Christmas lunch and as well as the much-anticipated Christmas parties. We will finish our festivities with our Wish for the World assembly where the school comes together to hear each class make a wish that they would like to come true for the whole world and light a candle in reflection of this. It is a very special assembly and ends our term on a beautifully reflective note to take us into the new year. Fingers crossed for a happy and healthy 2022 for us all!

Is your little one due to start school in September 2022? If so, we would love to show you around our friendly, caring, nurturing and inclusive Infant school where developing the whole child is at the centre of all we do. Please contact the school office to visit or to book onto our 6th January open evening (subject to any COVID19 restrictions that maybe in place). More information and tour dates are available on our website.

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I suppose that because of lock down restrictions it must be some considerable time since I drove to Overton passing the old Deane Gate Inn that stood forlornly in the dip of the road gathering road grime.

Today it could be likened to the way an ugly chrysalis evolves into a beautiful butterfly the way the Palm Brasserie has been created into such an attractive being. Goodness knows what it cost to transform this place but all credit to the owners who have created a unique dining experience within this newly developed, modern style, expanded old pub.

We had Sunday lunch there and what a pleasant experience it was. The main dining area was designed for family dining, and there were several with young children, while we were placed quietly in an adjacent area that suited us well.

Decision making was difficult due to such an extensive menu with many vegetarian and vegan options. Madam chose the traditional Sunday roast beef while I took time to select lamb rump slices cooked freshly pink with crispy fat with some Asian style touches. Madam could not praise her choice highly enough, especially the properly cooked vegetables.

Having foregone a starter in favour of a dessert Madam had panna cotta with biscotti and I had the lemon tart with raspberry coulis and vanilla ice cream. Two coffees followed to complete a delicious lunch. With the gin and tonics, bottle of water and a glass each of a Malbec the bill, including service, came to £89.65.

Was it worth the money? Absolutely. Will we be back? Of course.



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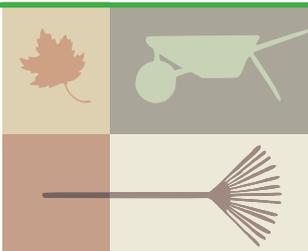
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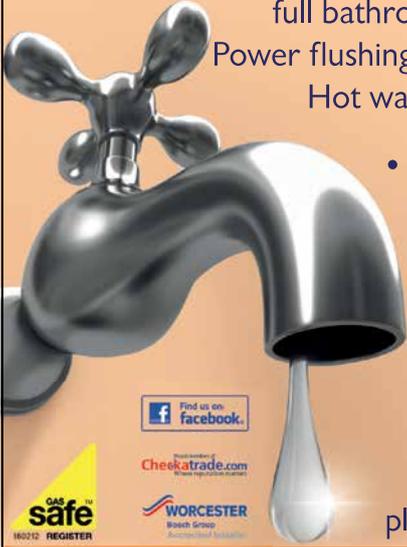


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