

# THE Rabbiter



Issue 297 April 2023

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The Community Newsletter for

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Beggarwood and Kempshott Park**





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# THE Rabbiter

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## EDITORIAL

Welcome to the April edition of the Rabbiter, and how lovely that Spring is springing up everywhere as we look forward to Easter.

Looking even further forward to the Summer, the Community Association page includes dates for the Lager Festival in June and the Summer Festival in July.

We have some gorgeous photos for Pets Corner, please keep sending them in for inclusion over the coming months.

There is also a small snippet of news about an honour for Father Michael, who many of us remember fondly for his time here at Immanuel with St Mark's Church and for his leadership and support of the local community. Among his many other achievements Michael was a driving force behind the opening of Café in the Park, which recently celebrated its fifth birthday.

The May local elections are coming up fast. The law has changed and if you are planning to vote in person you must now take photo ID with you. The Borough Council website has a complete list of acceptable ID, if you do not have any of the listed documents you can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate before Tuesday 25th April, full details are on this webpage: <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/voter-id>

Don't forget that you can advertise your unwanted items for inclusion in our Freeads – no payment needed, just send us the details. It's a great opportunity to clear up some space if you are having a spring clean.

The Rabbiter is a local free newspaper run by the local community for the local community, so if you feel that there is a new feature we should include, please let us know.

**Editor**

## HINDU FESTIVALS

Dear Readers, with folded hands, I would like to greet you all with Namaste which means "The Divine within me bows to the same Divine within you"

In this month's article, I introduce to you two important festival days in the Hindu calendar that are celebrated during the months of March and April.

### Appearance of Lord Ramachandra - Sri Rama Navami (30th March)

The birth of Lord Rama is celebrated as Rama Navami. Ram Navami is a very famous festival celebrated throughout India and worldwide by all the devotees of Lord Shri Ramchandra.

Lord Rama is a powerful incarnation of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, manifesting as an ideal King. He appeared more than two million years ago. During His activities while on Earth, Lord Rama demonstrated high moral values and acted as the perfect son, student, brother, husband,

and King. His extraordinary adventure is marvellously depicted in the famous epic called The Ramayana.

### Appearance of Srimati Sita Devi – Sri Sita Navami (29th April)


Sita Navami marks is the Divine Appearance Day of Srimati Sita Devi, the eternal consort of Lord Ramachandra.

Srimati Sita Devi, is a manifestation of the goddess of fortune, and is a central figure of the Ramayana. Therefore, the Ramayana is also known as Sitayan as it is the past times of Sita Devi equally as it is of Sri Ram in which she gives many lessons of life with beautiful past times. Goddess

Sita Devi represents chastity, service attitude, commitment, humility, spiritual strength, and unlimited beauty.

We finish by offering a well-known prayer or song on the glories of the divine couple:

Shree Ram Jaya Ram Jaya Jaya Ram,  
Sita Ram Sita Ram



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## CGHB PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

### CGHB News

During a recent meeting with CGHB/Operose, it was agreed that a second Meet the Patients meeting with Maria Miller MP, would take place during the summer 2023. Maria Miller has confirmed she will be facilitating this meeting. Date to be confirmed. Future Operose newsletters are scheduled to include details on issues in respect of DriQ training videos, and an explanation of the Team of Teams initiative for patient awareness.

Call wait times are starting to improve, and work continues in this area. There are general staff recruitment problems, with the national shortage of GPs causing difficulties. In line with NHS policy, CGHB proactively recruit other clinical roles, such as Advanced Nurse Practitioners, pharmacists and paramedics to provide a multi-disciplinary clinical team giving as many appointments as possible for patients. CGHB also use the NHS ARRS scheme, which provides funding for additional clinical roles, and draws on central support teams, i.e. pharmacists, to support their practices.

If a health matter is causing concern, and patients have difficulty contacting the surgery for an appointment, the 111 service is allocated a limited number of appointment spaces at CGHB and, depending on urgency, are able to contact the surgery to arrange a telephone appointment the same day.

### PPG News

Contact us by email [cghb.surgeryppg@btinternet.com](mailto:cghb.surgeryppg@btinternet.com) with any surgery issues or concerns. We continue in our endeavours to identify and resolve ongoing patient service problems with CGHB and Operose.

### Items of Interest/Information

**Open Sight:** A Sight Loss Information and Equipment day is being held at St. Andrews Church Hall, Western Way, RG22 6ER, from 1000 to 1500 on the 20th March, with free entry and refreshments. This is an opportunity to try a range of aids and equipment for the visually impaired, and find out information in your local area. Contact Open Sight on 02380646380 or, email [Pam.Bateman@opensight.org.uk](mailto:Pam.Bateman@opensight.org.uk).

**Dementia Support:** Basingstoke Discovery Centre hold social afternoons every Monday from 1330 to 1530, to help dementia sufferers using Arts and Crafts, Reminiscence, Cognitive Stimulation Games, Quizzes and Conversation. Full details can be found at: [www.mydementiasupport.org](http://www.mydementiasupport.org)

**Basingstoke and District Disability Forum:** A free magazine created and distributed by BDDF has an online version available at: [www.bddf.org.uk](http://www.bddf.org.uk). The magazine covers a wide range of subjects including physical and mental health, pain management, financial wellbeing, transport, and more.

**Prescription Review Dates:** we recommend that patients check the review date on their repeat prescriptions, and contact CGHB where necessary to ensure medication requirements are as up-to-date as possible.

**Eating Disorders in Men:** Beat Eating Disorders recently launched the UK's biggest survey on men's experiences with eating disorders, to better understand these complex mental illnesses. Results suggest around 1 in 4 of those with an eating disorder are male, and around 1 in 5 had never spoken about their struggles. If you, or anyone you know, needs help, contact: 08088010677 or, email: [help@beateatingdisorders.org.uk](mailto:help@beateatingdisorders.org.uk)

**Caroline Atkinson**

## HATCH WARREN & BEGGARWOOD LOCAL ELECTIONS HUSTINGS

**YOUR CHANCE TO POSE QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES FOR HATCH WARREN & BEGGARWOOD AHEAD OF THE ELECTION**

Saturday 15th April

3pm - 4:30pm

Hatch Warren Community Centre

To book a free place or ask questions:



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<https://ticketlab.co.uk/event/id/15273#>



# Phillips Law

## CAN I TAKE MY CHILD ON HOLIDAY IF THE OTHER PARENT OBJECTS?

This is a question we are often asked when holiday plans are being made for the summer. The issue for taking a child abroad for a holiday can often be a cause of conflict between separated parents.

If the "Lives With" Order is in your favour then you can take your child abroad for up to 28 days as long as there are no other court orders prohibiting this.

### What if the holiday has been booked and paid for?

For parents who have previously been able to agree on matters among themselves without requiring legal intervention, the other parent would still have a right of veto over a holiday abroad. This is even if the holiday has been booked and paid for.

In practice, the Court will consider what is in the best interest of the child if parents cannot agree and can make an order about whether they can or cannot go on a particular holiday. If the holiday is soon you would have to seek an urgent hearing and this is not always simple.



The Court will take into consideration issues such as the wishes and feelings of the child concerned and their educational and emotional needs.

Under normal circumstances, the Court will take a view that a holiday for a child is a good thing to be enjoyed.

### We are here to help you

At Phillips, we will listen to your concerns and discuss your options, letting you know what your rights are, as well as those of your former partner.

For more information please contact our Family Law team by calling 01256 460830 or by visiting [www.phillips-law.co.uk/family](http://www.phillips-law.co.uk/family)

Disclaimer - This article is current at the date of publication set out above and is for reference purposes only. It does not constitute legal advice and should not be relied on as such. Specific legal advice about your specific circumstances should always be sought separately before taking any action.




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1. Whitgift Close
2. Wedderburn Avenue, Maslen Mews and Hoursome Court



**RABBITER DISTRIBUTORS NEEDED**

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*The Whispering Pines*

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April**

Tickets are:- Members    £5    including a filled jacket potato  
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## COUNCILLOR'S UPDATE

*There has been a lot of activity this last month relating to roads in the area.*

**OVERNIGHT NOISE:** On 7th March households reported being kept awake by an unexplained noise. Investigations revealed that it was caused by resurfacing works in the Sainsbury supermarket site, improving the entrance road that leads down past the petrol station. I visited the store and spoke with the Duty Manager. Apparently, the works were not planned by the supermarket itself, but by external managers. The supermarket staff were simply told to expect two nights of resurfacing work and to plan their deliveries accordingly. The Duty Manager asked me to pass on Sainsbury's apologies for the disturbance caused. I think this could have been better handled: explanatory letters to neighbours, or even just a social media posting could have helped.

**DEFECTIVE STREETWORKS:** I have received confirmation from Hampshire Highways that they have raised defect notices against the utility contractor who carried out work in the footpaths in the Beggarwood Lane area. As soon as the contractors left, I reported the incorrect replacement of security barriers and poor infilling of the trenches that they had dug. They have been requested to return and rectify the defects. The streetworks inspector is in contact with them and is liaising to get the issues resolved.

**BRIGHTON HILL ROUNDABOUT:** The resurfacing work on the roundabout has made rapid progress but not without some significant disruption to normal traffic flows. For nearly two weeks, it was not possible to travel all the way round the roundabout, with diversions in place to the Kempshott and Winchester Road roundabouts. This was followed by night-time working which caused the closure of some of the exits and entrances, albeit planned for two nights only. I was able to walk round the site in March, and the good news is that the project is on schedule, with significant progress being visually apparent as the new road takes shape. More details are on my blog at <https://reidaboutbasingstoke.co.uk>

**BROADMERE ROAD ADOPTIONS:** with the problem of access to a soakaway now resolved, Officers have been inspecting the area with a view to agreeing the improvements that the developers need to complete. I joined them on one of the walk-rounds and am sad to report that there are still legal problems to overcome. I will continue to monitor.

*And other subjects ...*

**LLOYDS PHARMACY** in Sainsbury's has been telling customers that it will close on April 22nd. This is one day earlier than I was told by one of the staff working there. If you have your prescriptions sent to Lloyds, you have three weeks left in which to choose and nominate a replacement pharmacy. The nearest alternatives are at Beggarwood, Brighton Hill shopping centre or St Andrews Road, South Ham. or one of the delivery services might be appropriate for you. The loss of this facility is a disappointing event for Hatch Warren and Beggarwood: we used to have a separate pharmacy next to Sainsbury's; then it was incorporated into the expanded supermarket and now it is closing completely.

**SAINSBURY'S INTENTIONS:** some people have speculated that a replacement pharmacy will come to Sainsbury's. I understand that is NOT the case. According to the person to whom I spoke, Sainsbury's intend to install shelving and incorporate the space into their normal operations.

**NUMBER 8 BUS SERVICE:** I attended a briefing meeting at which Stagecoach informed us of timetable changes that will come into effect on 16th April. An important change for Hatch Warren and Beggarwood is that the Number 8 bus service will run every 20 minutes instead of every 30 minutes as at present. I have put full details of the changes on my blog.

**VANDALISM:** Hatch Warren Community Centre was, sadly, victim to vandalism again last month. The centre managers have posted pictures on social media of the damage taking place (with the culprits' faces blurred out) but have supplied the original, very clear, pictures to the Police. The Community Association is a charity and will have to cover the costs of the repairs itself.

**COUNCIL BUDGET MEETINGS:** Both Hampshire and Basingstoke and Deane have held their budget meetings. Hampshire's Council Tax will be going up by 5% but the Borough is pegging its share at the same level as last year. I spoke at Hampshire about the need to crack down on utility companies who dig up the roads and refill them badly, leading to what I call 'ribbon potholes'. We have enough problems with our roads already without tolerating shoddy workmanship on top.

**HOUNSOME FIELDS SCHOOL:** One of the items in Hampshire's capital programme is the funding for the new two-form entry primary school at Hounsome Fields. The planning application has been submitted and will now be validated. It is expected to go before Hampshire's Regulatory Committee in May. This school will primarily serve the Hounsome Fields and Golf Course developments.

**COUNCILLOR GRANTS:** In my opinion, one of the best innovations at the County Council has been the 'Devolved Budgets' scheme, which allows each Member to approve grants for deserving causes. This year the limit was £8,000 per Councillor and I was pleased to use all of mine. I am grateful to all the paid staff and volunteers who help to run the organisations. They enrich our whole society, and directly improve the quality of life of tens of thousands of people. The grant scheme will restart in June.

**PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP:** I continue to observe the meetings of the Patient Participation Group, which is working hard to engage with Operose to help address the problems that the local surgeries are experiencing. One initiative being discussed is holding another public meeting at which patients can speak, to enable some direct communications with the operators.

**CONTACT ME:** please feel free to contact me on [sreid17786@aol.com](mailto:sreid17786@aol.com) if you have items of news to report.

**Stephen Reid**

County Councillor, Basingstoke South West 07976 310206





## OLD DOWN & BEGGARWOOD WILDLIFE GROUP

Last time – promise! It is the Group's AGM on Thursday 27 April, 8 pm at Old Down Hall. Please do come along to join us (we will be there from 7:45). There will be up-dates on what is happening or has happened on the two sites, a chance to natter, a presentation of local wildlife photos and refreshments (with homemade cakes!). We really are in need of more members so please consider becoming a member and perhaps joining the committee or work parties.

The Group has kindly been awarded a small grant organised by Cllr Putty. The intention is to use this money for purchasing a trolley to make it easier for work parties to move

tools around the sites and for purchasing native wildflower seeds. We particularly want to plant more *Horseshoe Vetch*. As you may be aware we have good numbers of *Small Blue* butterflies on the sites (Old Down in particular) but we hope we can increase numbers of *Chalkhill Blue* butterflies by planting their food source, the *Horseshoe Vetch*. There isn't much *Horseshoe Vetch* on either site. The *Small Blue* butterfly feeds on *Kidney Vetch*. Thus the two butterfly species would not be vying for the same food source.

Don't forget that our hedgehogs will be awaking from their hibernation now so please would you consider placing food

out for them and also fresh water. Bread and milk is a no – no for hedgehogs but cat food and dry cat biscuits (not fish-based) go down well.

**Work Parties:** For Old Down we meet outside Old Down Hall every Thursday 10-12noon (but not in the rain!) and for Beggarwood at the café on the first Tuesday of the month 9-12noon. Please do come and join us. Check the website for further information. And please do look at the Group's Facebook page for interest.

<https://sites.google.com/site/olddownbeggarwoodwildlifegroup>  
 Email: [odandbwd@gmail.com](mailto:odandbwd@gmail.com)  
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*Horseshoe Vetch*



*Kidney Vetch*



*Chalkhill Blue*

# Café in the Park

**PLEASE JOIN US**

**WEDNESDAY – SUNDAY 10am – 2pm**

Beggarwood Bookworms – 3<sup>rd</sup> May. To enquire email [office@hatchwarren.org](mailto:office@hatchwarren.org)

Community lunch 1<sup>st</sup> 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

(call 07884 303557 for info)

Health Walk – 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday every month

Lots of regular events – please ask at the cafe

For party bookings please visit:

[www.hatchwarren.org](http://www.hatchwarren.org)

**WEEKEND BAPS**



**TOASTED PANINIS AND SANDWICHES**



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# Pets Corner

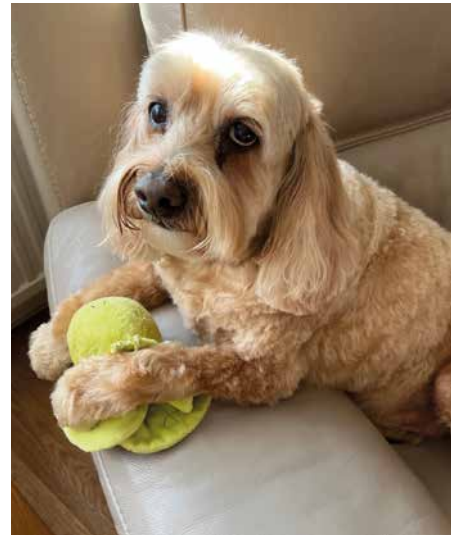
Send your photos to [editor@therabbiter.biz](mailto:editor@therabbiter.biz) and we will show as many as possible each month.



Alfie looking his best – Christine



Charlie our cheeky chappy – Christine



Harry with his favourite toy – Christine



Doug at Beggarwood Park – Alex and Jess



Our much loved Golden retriever Otto – Kathryn



North American great danes Silver and Kylo Ren – Tracey



Lola the studios dog



Sheldon the tortoise – Sue

**Your pet photos could include animals such as Cats, Dogs, Birds, Fish, Hampsters, Rabbits, Gerbils, Guinea Pigs, Reptiles, etc.**







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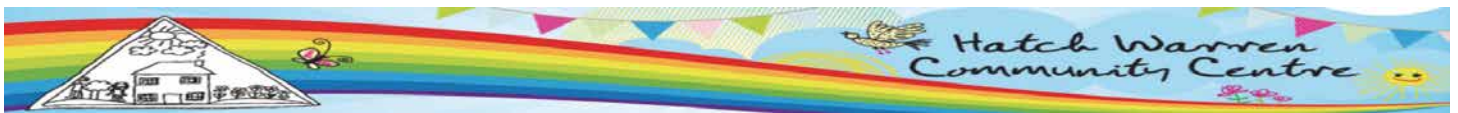
## VISIT OUR SHOWROOM

📍 Greenacres, Aldermaston  
Road, RG26 3AF

## READ OUR REVIEWS

Checkatrade





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



## Event Volunteers Required

Did you know, you can become a member of the Hatch Warren and Beggarwood Community Association, and receive discounts on hall hire and guaranteed, reduced price fireworks tickets?

Membership costs £10 per year, per household.

Sign up to be an **EVENT VOLUNTEER NOW** for **FREE** membership

You can gain charity experience, learn new skills and become part of an exciting, caring, friendly community that makes a real difference.

To host our fundraising events, we **NEED** event volunteers, otherwise valuable community services, ongoing sustainability of the centre and the following events may be cancelled;

- Quiz nights at Cafe in the Park
- Lager Festival
- Summer Festival
- Fireworks Extravaganza
- Christmas Market with Father Christmas
- Coach Chaperone for our London theatre trips

To sign up TODAY, please email  
[office@hatchwarren.org](mailto:office@hatchwarren.org)  
 or call 01256 811262



## HATCH WARREN COMMUNITY CENTRE COACH TRIP TO MATILDA THE MUSICAL



20<sup>TH</sup> April 7.30PM

Cambridge Theatre, LONDON

Good Stall Seats

Tickets cost £69.50 per person

(INCLUDES RETURN COACH)

Coach will depart at 4.30pm from our car park

This trip is open to all members of the public

Tickets are non refundable

To book your place email [OFFICE@HATCHWARREN.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@HATCHWARREN.ORG)  
 or call 01256 811262

Event supported by Scott Morland Bespoke Estate Agent



\*40 seats must be sold for trip to go ahead\*

This event is being held as a fundraising event for Hatch Warren & Beggarwood Community Association  
 Charity number 1161117

## Dates for the diary AGM - 7th June and Summer Festival - 15th July

Hatch Warren Community Centre

# LAGER Festival

Prosecco,  
Wine, Ale &  
Cider too!!

Hot Food  
by El Bigote  
- Mexican  
Street Food

Saturday  
17th June  
7-11pm

Tickets  
£6  
£3 members  
(on production of  
valid card and  
limited to 2 per  
family)

To book  
tickets see  
our website



Event supported by Scott Morland Bespoke Estate Agent



[www.hatchwarren.org](http://www.hatchwarren.org) / 01256 811262

This event is being held as a fundraising event for Hatch Warren & Beggarwood Community Association  
 Charity No 1161117. Tickets non-refundable

## HATCH WARREN COMMUNITY CENTRE COACH TRIP TO Aspects Of Love – running for 12 weeks ONLY

MICHAEL BALL

# ASPECTS OF LOVE

OPENS MAY 2023 LYRIC THEATRE

21<sup>st</sup> June 7.30PM

Lyric Theatre, LONDON

Good Stall Seats

Tickets cost £73.00 per person

(INCLUDES RETURN COACH)

Coach will depart at 4.30pm from our car park

This trip is open to all members of the public

Tickets are non refundable

To book your place email [OFFICE@HATCHWARREN.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@HATCHWARREN.ORG)  
 or call 01256 811262

Event supported by Scott Morland Bespoke Estate Agent



\*40 seats must be sold for trip to go ahead\*

This event is being held as a fundraising event for Hatch Warren & Beggarwood Community Association  
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Registered Charity Number 1161117

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Hatch Warren Community Centre

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## The Warren is open! Booking is essential!

**Activities Schedule:** Fridays 6pm -7.45 pm, years 6, 7 &

Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> April	EASTER EGG HUNT!!
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Rounders, bag decorating and fruit kebas.
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	Capture the flag, slime making and loaded nachos.
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Hockey, Henna tattoos and milkshakes.
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Manhunt, mindfulness colouring and

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone that donated to our Justgiving page, we raised an incredible £1080 which is going to support us greatly.

We have been fortunate enough to receive a donation from Councillor Stephen Reid. This meant we were able to purchase a brand new tennis table. This has been a huge success with the young people as well as the youth workers. Lots of tournaments have taken place and amazingly we haven't lost any balls!

Last month our young people have also enjoyed indoor football, human hungry hippos and lots of lovely craft activities. We finished off the month with an end of term party which was a huge hit!

**Please note we will be closed on Good Friday and there won't be late session running on 6<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> April.**

Thank you to everyone that continues to support us and Happy Easter!



The members attending the Cooking Confidence course at BCOT have now finished their sessions. The participants have a gained confidence in the kitchen and have been able to take the recipes home so they can cook for their families.

We have temporarily moved our football coaching to Brighton Hill Soccer Club due to a failure with the lighting on the courts behind the Warren. The group have loved this experience however, we hope that as the evenings start to get lighter, we can move back to Hatch Warren Community centre.

We have started a cinema club for our members which will involve smaller groups to go out with their friends. One very successful evening was spent at the Vue and then a snack in Festival Place. Parents have planned and organised the groups and have been on hand to support.

Dates for April

4<sup>th</sup> Easter Pantomime at the Anvil

17<sup>th</sup> Hatch Warren Community Centre with our football coach.

24<sup>th</sup> Bowling followed by McDonald's and KFC

Other activities will be arranged throughout the Easter holiday however, this will be with smaller groups.



### 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, X-Box or just want somewhere to hang out come on down. The older session also receives FREE food and hot drinks.

Our youth workers are trained to be able to offer relationship and sex advice to our older session attendants.

For the latest info please keep an eye on our Facebook page or Email our Youth Manager at Emily@hatchwarren.org



# LOCAL HISTORY SNIPPETS



Roman Mansio reconstruction



Beaker: Wessex Archaeology

## ANCIENT ANCESTORS

Hatch Warren and Beggarwood and the wider area around us are littered with ancient sites. Plenty of evidence for Iron age settlements has been found locally as well as later Romano-British artefacts, and part of the Hatch Warren estate was built on the site of a medieval farm and church. But there are a couple of particularly interesting local finds.

In 2000, as Beggarwood was being built, an excavation uncovered two "Beaker Burial" sites, one in what is now Wentworth Crescent, and one in Camford Close. Pottery fragments were found in both. In one grave the remains of a male skeleton were uncovered, and in the other the remains of a

female. It was estimated that the bones were from around 2300 to 2100 BCE.

A major Roman Road ran from Silchester to Winchester; the line of the A30 and the A33 follows some of its course. When the M3 was being constructed, Hampshire Museum Service and the local Archaeological Group conducted some digs close to The Wheatsheaf near North Waltham, which was already known to be a Roman site. The finds unearthed included coins, jewellery and writing styluses. As the site is practically equidistant between the important towns of Silchester (Calleva Atrebatum) and Winchester (Venta Belgarum) it would have made a good staging post, so it was suggested that the

Romans had constructed a Mansio there, a stopping place for travellers or the Roman equivalent of a hotel or travel lodge. There may also have been a temple close by for visiting travellers or officials.

### Acknowledgements:

Hampshire Field Club:

[https://www.hantsfieldclub.org.uk/publications/hampshirstudies/digital/2010s/Vol\\_67ii/Teague.pdf](https://www.hantsfieldclub.org.uk/publications/hampshirstudies/digital/2010s/Vol_67ii/Teague.pdf)

Basingstoke Archaeological and Historical Society/Barbara Applin:

[http://www.bahsoc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/BAHS\\_85\\_November\\_1984.pdf#page=9](http://www.bahsoc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/BAHS_85_November_1984.pdf#page=9)

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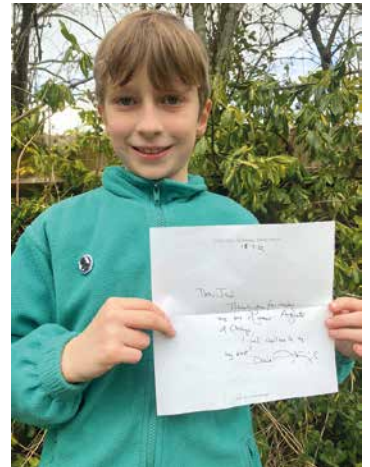






## DAVID ATTENBOROUGH IS KNIGHTED A ST MARK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL 'AGENT OF CHANGE'

Year 4 pupil from St Mark's Primary School receives a personal reply from Sir David Attenborough after sending him an 'Agents of Change' badge. Sir Attenborough is thought to receive up to 100 letters each day so getting a response was very exciting.



Dear Sir Attenborough,

My name is Jack and I am 9 years old. At my school we have a thing called 'Agents of Change'. The aim is to make the world a better place. We need to look

after the world because we only have this one planet. I became an agent by litter picking with my best friend Liam and his sisters. I think you are an amazing Agent of Change, so I am sending you a badge. Thank you.

**Sir Attenborough's reply:**

Dear Jack

Thank you for making me one of your Agents of Change. I will continue to do my best!

David Attenborough



theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

### HATCH WARREN WI

At our March meeting we welcomed our speaker Sarah Delves, an expert on Bags of Glamour. Sarah, who's very knowledgeable and passionate about her subject, collects bags; they don't all have a high monetary value but they're all precious to her. Her insight into the history of bags was quite illuminating. We learned that Henry VIII kept his jewellery in his (oversized) codpiece – hence the phrase "his crown jewels".

She brought along some of her extensive collection of bags through the ages to illustrate her fascinating talk. These included a Victorian bag, and a Lucite bag from the 1970s – which triggered her interest in bags.

Our next meeting is on April 6th when speaker Susan Howe will entertain us with her talk of the mishaps and unforeseen dramas associated with running a hotel. She also cooked for the rich and famous aboard a luxury yacht.

Visitors are always welcome, for more information please contact our President Shirley on 07979 217220.

Charles Applegate Headteacher: At St Mark's CoFE Primary School, we believe it's crucial that our children see themselves as those who make a positive impact on our world. We help them to see themselves as "Agents of Change", making our world a better place through their simple actions. We have to be the change to see the change!

This may start at school- for example, in the classroom, on the playground, bringing a smile, sharing resources, or playing together.

It also impacts our local community -for example doing a litter pick, writing a letter/email to cheer someone up, leaving surprise flowers at residents doorsteps, raising money for St Michael's Hospice, or sending cards to local residential homes.

We also look wider afield. We write to companies to encourage more environmentally friendly ways of working, and raise money for special charities like RSPCA and Great Ormond Street Hospital. We also support The Mud House Children's Foundation, our partner charity in Tanzania.



## HATCH WARREN UNDER FIVES

We have enjoyed our spring term at Hatch Warren Under Fives. Amongst our usual activities, there has been sunshine, snow, books, pancakes, Mother's Day and we are now in the countdown to Easter.

We recently celebrated Mother's Day and the children made beautiful cards and welcomed Mummies and Nannies into preschool to play.

We have also had fun this term celebrating Pancake Day, we flipped pancakes and we ate a lot too.

Holi Hindi is one of our annual celebrations; this colourful ancient Hindu festival welcomes the arrival of spring and celebrates the end of winter. Ironically this year it brought lots of snow with it! We had a great time playing in the snow and the children enjoyed splatting lots of bright paint.

We celebrated World Book Day in March and dressed up as our favourite book characters. We had lots of lovely costumes and characters in preschool. We also really enjoyed reading the children's favourite books with them.

We have recently been reading "Dear Zoo" as our book of the week. This book has inspired lots of interest in animals. We have spoken a lot about our pets at home and how to look after them and we have opened our very own vets in the role-play corner.

At this time of year we get busy in the garden too, the children have given us ideas of what they'd like to grow so we'll soon be busy planting vegetables and flowers.

We are now in the lead up to Easter and enjoying lots of Easter arts and crafts, we also have an Easter egg trail in the garden with chocolate eggs to find!

Our older children will be learning which primary school they are going to over the Easter holidays, so we are eagerly awaiting to hear the big news when we get back to preschool after the holidays. Next term we begin our preparations for the transition to big school. We will start by giving the children lots of mark making opportunities and activities that strengthen little hands for handwriting.

## Hatch Warren Under Fives and the EYFS

Here at Hatch Warren Under Fives we love to make marks. This can be using pens, paper, paintbrushes, chalks, pens or even using our fingers to make marks in soil, jam or flour.

Why is Mark Making Important? Mark making gives children the opportunity to explore imaginatively, physically and creatively, to test their ideas and extend their play. Writing begins long before a child can physically hold and control a pencil or crayon effectively, the journey to becoming a confident writer begins at birth and mark making is the foundation that underpins a child's ability to write. Remember children learn that marks have meaning by watching adults writing. Encourage your child to 'write' with you e.g. shopping lists, phone messages, memos and greeting cards.

The EYFS states that we can expect to see a child sometimes giving meaning to marks as they draw and paint and ascribe meanings to marks that they see in different places. Let your little one enjoy lots of mark making opportunities to build on their writing skills!

We are now enrolling for our next academic year in September 2023. Why not book a visit to look around and meet the team? If you'd like to learn more, please contact us on 01256 322788, or email [preschoolmail@aol.com](mailto:preschoolmail@aol.com).

We also manage another lovely preschool, Kempshott Under Fives, located a short distance away at St. Mark's Church in Kempshott.

Read more about our preschools at [www.hatchwarrenunderfives.co.uk](http://www.hatchwarrenunderfives.co.uk)

## DANDELIONS

We have been overwhelmed recently by the number of enquiries and registrations we have received. Our sessions for September 2023, are very nearly full so if you are interested in a space please do contact us as soon as possible. We are now also taking registrations for 2024. If you are considering Dandelions for your child's early years, please do contact us as soon as possible. Tel No: 01256 818857 or alternatively e-mail [info@dandelions-preschool.org.uk](mailto:info@dandelions-preschool.org.uk)

Everyone has had a wonderful time over the last few weeks. One of the highlights was having Mummies or someone special in our lives for a little treat to show them just how much we really do appreciate them.

The children had a wonderful time creating cards and flowers as well as a special keyring. It was lovely to see everyone spending time together and sharing stories and playtime.

We celebrated World Book Day this month so for a whole week so that everybody had the chance to come in dressed up and enjoy sharing their love of books. We saw some wonderful costumes on both the children and staff.



As we have entered Spring the children have started to observe changes in the environment. We have enhanced their learning by providing a range of planting activities. We are looking forward to seeing and hearing all about how the children have cared for their plants at home and how much they have grown.

We are all looking forward to the Easter break and would like to wish everyone a very Happy Easter and we look forward to coming back and continuing the fun!!

## CUCKOO MEADOW PRE-SCHOOL

Entering spring and it was only fitting to start to learn about baby animals. The children loved this, and all had a chance to make and colour in their very own pictures, including the names for each baby animal and then telling their parents all about what they have learnt.

The season has also allowed them to get out and see the new colourful flowers starting to appear and the colours changing around the field and the preschool.

Mother's Day has been the focus for the crafting for the first half of the month, which as always has really engaged the children's creativity and crafting skills.

And of course, there has been an abundance of playing, dressing up and impromptu dancing (even the big children joined in here) as well as outside games whenever possible, making the most of the new outdoor learning equipment. .

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



## PROBUS CLUB HEARS ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THE TITANIC WENT DOWN

April 15th this year is the 111th anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic. Even after so long there remains worldwide interest into this worst civilian marine disaster in history with the loss of 1500 lives.

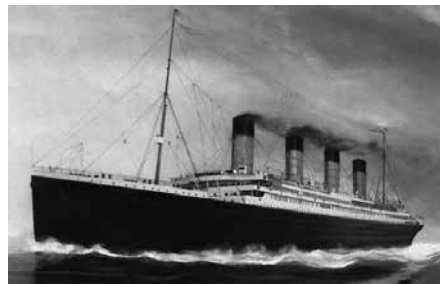
Ian Porter, the speaker at the latest meeting of the Probus Club of Basingstoke, is a journalist, author and historian, has particular interest in what happened after the unsinkable ship went down only 2 hours 40 minutes after that fateful collision with an iceberg.



The captain of the Titanic, Edward Smith, was on record of saying a few years earlier that ships were unlikely to sink because of modern shipbuilding methods. At that time ships above 10,000 tons were required to have 10 lifeboats as it was considered that lifeboats would be used to ferry passengers to awaiting rescue ships and would make such journeys several times. The Titanic was the largest passenger liner in the world at 45,000 tons and had twenty lifeboats and other safety systems well above the minimum requirements.

What happened in the lifeboats, containing mainly women and children from first and second-class, most of which had spare capacity to take many men? They were larger versions of rowing boats and had none or insufficient provisions to sustain life and protection for periods at sea.

Would the vessels on the North Atlantic at the time of this disaster have rescued more if they had responded differently?



One stopped in an ice field to await day light, one ship's radio operator ignored the distress call from the Titanic because he had a backlog of messages from passengers to transmit, another ship's radio operator had gone off duty and another ship ignored white distress rockets thinking that they were celebratory flares of the White Star Line.

There were confusing distress signals with the Titanic using CQD (seek you-distress) and then tried SOS which had yet to become the standard Morse code distress signal of three dots, three dashes and three dots.

The Cunard ship, Carpathia, picked up the survivors, keeping them within their three classes, provided many with spare clothes. A fund was set up on board raising \$1,500 to provide funds for survivors' onward travel from when they arrived in New York. It is reported that survivor, Lady Astor, perhaps the richest lady in the world, refused to contribute.

The White Star Line stopped the pay of any crew that had perished from the time the ship went down and charged surviving crew full fare to be brought back to England. A fund was set up in England that raised £15,000,000 with an elite committee of the great and good of the day set up to distribute compensation

to the families of lost passengers. In strict observance of social standing the wealthiest received up to £175,000 down to only £25 to the poorest. Pensions were set up, again subject to the recipient's social standing with seven levels ranging from 12/6p – 7/6p per week. This fund was only wound up in 1959 with much of the money unallocated.

Two inquiries followed the disaster with one in New York and a longer one in London held by the Board of Trade. Both concluded that the specification of the Titanic was well above established standards and that best naval practice had been followed that fateful night.

But changes were made to marine regulations implementing new safety measures. Wireless operations had to be manned 24 hours, and red rockets for distress flares. There was much discussion about the quality of rivets to be used in ship building, bulkheads had to be extended to make sections watertight and ships were modified to have double skinned hulls.

Perhaps the one thing that gives comfort to today's cruise passengers is the design and number of life boats and that crews are constantly trained in their use and that passengers have life vests and attend muster station drills. What a difference there might have been to survival rates if the crew had received training, but there had been none, as many of the crew had boarded the Titanic in Southampton only hours before departure.

See [www.probusbasingstoke.club](http://www.probusbasingstoke.club) for more information about this social club for retired professional and business managers.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO REVD ANDREW MICKLEFIELD AND REVD MICHAEL SMITH

Many congratulations to Revd Andrew Micklefield and Revd Michael Smith, who have both been appointed to the role of Honorary Canon at Winchester Cathedral. This is in recognition of their dedicated service to the Cathedral, the Diocese and the wider church. Appointments are made by the Bishop of Winchester in consultation with the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral.

Andrew was a big of part of St Mark's Church before he started ordination training and is now Vicar of the Parish



Revd Andrew Micklefield



Revd Michael Smith

of the Resurrection in Alton. Andrew also is Chair of the House of Clergy in

Winchester Diocese and a member of the Church of England's General Synod.

Michael led Immanuel Church from 2015 to 2018 and also served as the Assistant Area Dean for Basingstoke. He is now Rector of the Parish of Winton, Moordown and Charminster in Bournemouth and Area Dean of Bournemouth.

Andrew was installed at Evensong on Sunday 12th March and Michael will be installed at Evensong, 5.30pm on Saturday 22nd April Winchester Cathedral.

# RABBITER CONTACTS:

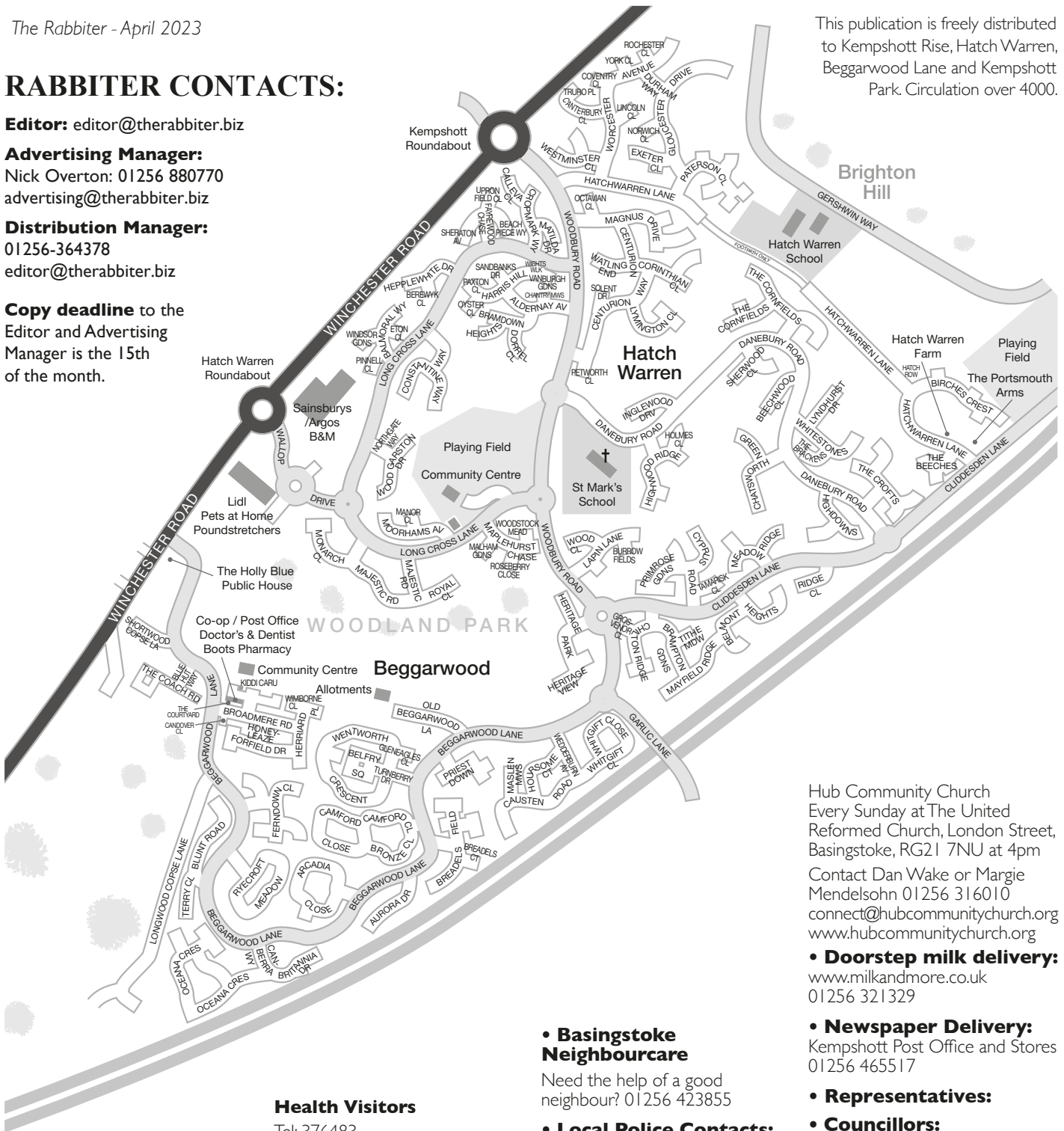
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**Copy deadline** to the Editor and Advertising Manager is the 15th of the month.

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The Community Centre – every  
Wednesday 10.30 – noon.  
All Welcome.

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Hampshire Constabulary 101  
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**• Churches:**

Immanuel Church - Holy  
Communion - 9am every  
Sunday at St Mark's School,  
Danebury Road.

St Mark's Church - Sunday Service  
with children's groups - 10.30am  
every Sunday at St Mark's,  
Homesteads Road, Kempshott.  
For more details contact - The  
Parish of Basingstoke Down  
(01256) 840502 or office@  
parishofbasingstokedown.org.uk

Hub Community Church  
Every Sunday at The United  
Reformed Church, London Street,  
Basingstoke, RG21 7NU at 4pm  
Contact Dan Wake or Margie  
Mendelsohn 01256 316010  
connect@hubcommunitychurch.org  
www.hubcommunitychurch.org

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cllr.Rebecca.Bean@basingstoke.gov.uk

**Samir Kotecha**, 18 Hollins  
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cllr.samir.kotecha@basingstoke.gov.uk

**Dan Putty**, 1 Gloucester Drive,  
RG22 4PH 356650  
cllr.dan.putty@basingstoke.gov.uk

**• Member of Parliament  
Hatch Warren:  
Maria Miller**  
millerm@parliament.uk



## BASINGSTOKE CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT FELLOWSHIP



There were 42 members at the monthly meeting held on Wednesday 1st March when the Group held their Annual General Meeting. In giving his report the Chairman mentioned all the members of the committee and others who have helped throughout the year. The Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary and Welfare Officer then gave their reports and the committee members for the coming year were appointed as follows:-

**Chairman** - David Cowlng **Vice-Chairman** - David Dance,  
**Secretary** - Tony Brazier **Treasurer** - June Brazier,  
**Membership Secretary** - Sonia Waite  
**Welfare Officer** - Christine Broadbent,  
**Speaker Secretary** - Maggie Hatton **Raffle Organiser** - Pam Bowen.

We then had a presentation by Chris Cook of Able Community Care who gave us a flavour of what they do to assist people who need some form of care but wish to remain living in their own home. As a nationwide company they provide Respite Care, Home from Hospital Care, Long Term Living-in Care and Holiday Companion Care. Their aim is to match carers to clients depending on needs and personality. If you would like further information please either phone 01603 764567 or go to their website at [www.ablecommunitycare.com](http://www.ablecommunitycare.com).



The next group outing is to the Houses of Parliament on Monday 20th March with the coach leaving Oakley at 7.15 and the Leisure Centre at 7.30. The price of the trip is £28 and £30 for non-members. On Thursday 27th April there is Afternoon Tea at BCOT which includes sandwiches, cakes and of course tea all for £11.

Then on Thursday 18th May the trip is to the Swindon Steam Museum and Designer Outlet. The coach will leave Oakley at 9.15 and the Leisure Centre at 9.30 so that we arrive at about 11.00. We aim to leave at 16.00 so there will be plenty of time to visit the attractions and do some shopping. The cost is £34 (£36 for non members) which includes entry to the museum.

The next meeting will be on 5th April when the speaker will be Jackie Dimmock with a talk titled "30 years in Hampshire Constabulary". At the meeting on 3rd May Colin Pawson will give a talk titled "The Tootler" and we will celebrate the upcoming coronation of King Charles III.

The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the BrookVale Village Hall from 10 am to 12 noon and all retired Civil Servants, their relatives and friends are welcome. Further details about the group and information about our meetings and trips can be obtained by contacting [csrfbasingstoke@gmail.com](mailto:csrfbasingstoke@gmail.com)

**Margaret Atkinson**



Find a warm welcome at your local parish church...

## Immanuel Church

St Mark's School,  
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part of the Parish of Basingstoke Down

for info on services and events...

[www.parishofbasingstokedown.org.uk](http://www.parishofbasingstokedown.org.uk)  
Parish Office- 01256 840502  
find us on Facebook!



## ••••• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •••••

### ••••• Who are our spiritual ancestors? •••••

••••• Just a few weeks ago I received a small gift in the post, with  
 ••••• no accompanying letter, just a postcode on the back of  
 ••••• the package offering a clue of its sender from Northern  
 ••••• Ireland. Imagine my reaction on opening the first page to  
 ••••• instantly recognise my long-deceased father's distinctive  
 ••••• handwriting; **To Mum from John 1944 Jerusalem**. It  
 ••••• was a miniature Bible titled: 'New Testament of our Lord and  
 ••••• Saviour Jesus Christ'. This family heirloom that I was totally  
 ••••• unaware of arrived, assuming from an older cousin, or his  
 ••••• family who I had a brief Ancestry link to Belfast many years  
 ••••• ago. As there was no further information, we returned a  
 ••••• card of thanks and alternative contact details to a postcode  
 ••••• we hoped might connect back to these thoughtful relatives.

••••• I have no idea if they are Christians, have little or no faith,  
 ••••• but what I hope they come to know is the significance in  
 ••••• their act of kindness. It was as a 16-year-old that I had to ask  
 ••••• my father to finally leave the family home, then in Somerset.  
 ••••• He had endeavoured, but without success to overcome a  
 ••••• serious drinking problem, and within six months he passed  
 ••••• away aged just 52. There is much I regret, but so much more  
 ••••• I would want to thank him for now had he still been alive.  
 ••••• This newly acquired precious New Testament symbolises a  
 ••••• priceless gift he gave me as a small boy, when he came to  
 ••••• my bedroom and taught me the Lord's Prayer. I would also  
 ••••• want to thank him for his courage. Another clue in the  
 ••••• reference to 1944 illuminates' wartime service in North  
 ••••• Africa, the Middle East and Europe receiving a Distinguished  
 ••••• Flying Medal, having survived over a hundred sorties as an  
 ••••• RAF Air Gunner / Wireless Operator.

••••• As I pondered further on this unusual heirloom, I began  
 ••••• to also be thankful for my spiritual ancestors. The Mum  
 ••••• referred to earlier, my grandmother, apparently had a very  
 ••••• strong faith and I was aware that she often prayed for me  
 ••••• even though we met only in my youth. For someone I hardly  
 ••••• knew she always remained a spiritual anchor whose prayers  
 ••••• sustained me through my largely unchurched faith into early  
 ••••• adult life. Little did she know that her same son signed and  
 ••••• gifted me a Bible, which I kissed before every foot patrol  
 ••••• while serving as a Royal Marine in South Armagh in the  
 ••••• early seventies.

••••• Finally, reflecting on the last entry Jerusalem then in Palestine,  
 ••••• I was reminded of another, but unique spiritual ancestor. Two  
 ••••• thousand years ago at Golgotha, a skull-shaped hill in ancient  
 ••••• Jerusalem, Jesus Christ was nailed to a wooden cross. Slowly  
 ••••• and painfully, he died for you and me, for every evil thought  
 ••••• and sin we have, and will ever commit. To hear more of that  
 ••••• remarkable life, death and His saving grace, why not join us  
 ••••• this Easter and celebrate God's greatest gift to humankind,  
 ••••• that of His only son Jesus Christ.

••••• **Hilary Nickell** A Personal Reflection



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### GCSE MATHS TUTOR - Ingrid Berry (PGCE, QTS, DBS).

References available. Contact Ingrid.e.berry@gmail.com.

## ROTARY HELPING TURKEY & SYRIA

### SHELTERBOX

Saturday 18th February saw Rotarians in Basingstoke and friends of Rotary in Festival Place collecting to help Turkey and Syria after the devastating earthquake. Thanks to Festival Place Management team who gave us a wonderful site and the generosity of the people of Basingstoke we were able to collect over £3400 to go to Shelterbox and Rotary Disaster Recovery, SHELTERBOX, Rotary's global partner for Disaster Relief is a UK-based international charity. SHELTERBOX was founded by the Rotary Club of Helston, Cornwall. Working alongside UNICEF & other international charities, it provides emergency shelter & survival kits to 1000s of families who have lost everything through natural disasters such as the earthquake in Turkey & Syria.

A full Shelterbox provides a robust tent and the basic essentials for sleeping, cooking and water purification for a family of 10 to survive for 6 months. There will also be small toys and books and pencils for children. SHELTER KITS, and SHELTER TOOL KITS used to build and repair are also needed. The contents of these kits are tailored to the need in the area and may include tarpaulin, ropes, tie wire, handsaw, nails, hammer, axes & other items such as water filters

Shelterbox highly trained response teams have been working tirelessly in both Turkey and Syria to deliver aid to the regions affected by the earthquake. The team in Turkey met with Rotarians colleagues in Istanbul to discuss the logistical challenges of accessing the affected areas.

[www.rcbd.org.uk](http://www.rcbd.org.uk)

F: @RotaryBasingstokeDeane T: @RBstokeDeane



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## PEA AND MINT SOUP

(vegan and vegetarian option – do not add the cream)

Time – 30 minutes

Cost £2.50 – 50p per portion

Makes 5 good portions

### Ingredients

1 bunch spring onions, trimmed and roughly chopped

1 medium potato, peeled and diced

1 garlic clove, crushed

850ml vegetable or chicken stock

900gm young peas in the pod (to give about 250gm/9oz shelled peas)

4 tbsp chopped fresh mint

large pinch caster sugar

1 tbsp fresh lemon or lime juice

15ml buttermilk or soured cream

### Method

Put the spring onions into a large pan with the potato, garlic and stock. Bring to the

boil, turn down the heat and simmer for 15 minutes or until the potato is very soft. For the garnish, blanch 3 tbsp of the shelled peas in boiling water for 2-3 minutes, drain, put in a bowl of cold water and set aside. Add the remaining peas to the soup base and simmer for 5 minutes - no longer or you will lose the lovely fresh flavour of the peas.

Stir in the mint, sugar and lemon or lime juice, cool slightly then pour into a food processor or liquidiser and whizz until as smooth as you like. Stir in half the buttermilk or soured cream, taste and season with salt and pepper.

To serve the soup cold, cool quickly, then chill - you may need to add more stock to the soup before serving as it will thicken as it cools. To serve hot, return the soup to the rinsed-out pan and reheat without boiling (to prevent the buttermilk or soured cream from curdling).

Serve the soup in bowls, garnished with the remaining buttermilk and the drained peas

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### RAPUNZEL – Easter Panto

Tue 4 Apr (2pm & 6pm) The Anvil  
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### VINCENT SIMONE

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Tue 4 Apr, 7.30pm The Haymarket  
Tickets: £40, £34. VIP upgrade £74  
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### SPECTACULAR SCIENCE SHOW

Sun 16 Apr, 2pm The Haymarket  
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### ELKIE BROOKS

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Fri 21 Apr, 7.45pm The Anvil  
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## RESTAURANT REVIEW

### GABARDINE BAR

27 London Street, Basingstoke RG21 7NT Tel: 01256 331882  
 Email: info@gabardinebar.co.uk www.gabardinebar.com

This place is far from being ordinary – in fact it is quite extraordinary. It creates a sense of being on holiday, yet it is at the Top of the Town at the east end of London Street in a building that was the original Thomas Burberry showroom. And, as we all know, Thomas Burberry, a famous son of Basingstoke, invented the waterproof fabric called gabardine.

The décor creates the ambiance with stripped wooden flooring, tables for six having banquettes and there is a large living wall which claims to help in cleaning the air. The menu, described as Cheese & Charcuterie is rustic in style with simple affordable offerings. There are breakfast alternatives to suit everyone, Breaky-Bites, baked potatoes, paninis, sandwiches, wraps & bagels, tapas plates and six sharing dishes. There is a traditional style children's menu.

Madam and I decided we would have a sharing dish and chose the Mexican Tapas Platter (£16.00). It was delicious. It had a dish of chilli beef, taco slides, mixed cheese quesadillas, a stuffed pepper with rice, sour cream, salsa and Pico de Gallo.

A large glass of wine each went down very well. Madam had a Chilean Rosé, and I had an Italian Merlot. This place doesn't do desserts although we could have had cake or chocolate covered caramel flapjack which are more suited accompanying morning coffee or a cup of tea in the afternoon. Instead, we each had a flat white coffee.

Bearing in mind that our wine was a similar cost to our lunch yet the bill was only £35.00. This was not a large lunch but was perfectly sized for our needs. It was top quality and great value. We shall certainly return to try the other tempting offerings.



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