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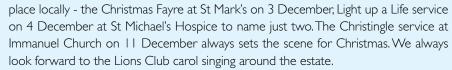


EDITORIAL

Every year we ask the children at the Hatch Warren After School Club to design the December front cover for the Rabbiter. This year there were so many wonderful pictures it was hard to choose. The lovely Reindeer on our cover this month was drawn by Phoebe Fisher who is 6 years old. The Rabbiter Christmas card was drawn by Bhaswati Muratali who is 7 years old. Well done to both these budding artists who will both receive a voucher kindly donated by Sainsbury's.

The Hatch Warren Fireworks display was wonderful again this year – thank you to everyone who helped.

With Christmas just around the corner there are many events taking



Many of us have been busy planning Christmas for months, buying presents, ordering the turkey, making cakes and puddings but sadly not everyone is able to do all of these things but you can help make their Christmas memorable. Why not fill a box with goodies and donate to the Food Box Appeal – see page 14 for details.

With all the wonderful Christmas food around many of us find our clothes just a little tighter in January. Why not go for a walk with the Ramblers – see page 7 for details.

We have started a new column this month - local restaurant reviews. If you have a favourite eatery locally that you would like to share with others, why not send us a review - editor@therabbiter.biz.

The Rabbiter takes a break in January so our next issue will be distributed at the beginning of February – copy date 15 January 2017. Don't forget to send us your news and information on future events.

Finally, The Rabbiter wishes all our contributors, advertisers, distributors and readers a very happy Christmas and a merry New Year!

Jenny, Editor



Keep an eye out for the web symbol — you can find out more on selected articles at www.therabbiter.biz





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SCOUTING THE CAPITAL

After twenty one clues and a nine and a half mile river lined route, the Hatch Warren Scouts surfaced from the Greenwich foot tunnel to the majestic Cutty Sark. It was a fitting end to our nautically themed London Challenge – Naughty-Cal.

The Hatch Warren Scout Troop entered 5 teams comprising of nineteen scouts and five leaders. Setting off with a set clues and a map, we had no idea of the amazing sights we would encounter heading out east on the Southbank. We saw the inspiring Nelson Mandela statue outside the Royal Festival Hall and journeyed passed the National Theatre, the Millennium Bridge, City Hall, Shakespeare's Globe and the station on Blackfriars Bridge. We travelled along-side HMS Belfast, the Great War's convoy escort ship, and briefly paused at the Golden Hind, a full scale replica of Sir Frances Drake's famous vessel. Crossing Tower Bridge we continued our journey east on the north bank and soon found ourselves among the old dockyards of London before stumbling upon the Royal Barge. It was a tired Troop that boarded the rapid Thames Clipper back



to Waterloo for a well-earned snooze on the train home.

Some of the Scouts remained in London and continued the nautical theme by staying on a boat at the Dockland Scout Project. A trip to the Capital on Bonfire Night would not be complete without fireworks, so along with eighty thousand other people, we walked the hill to see the massive display on Blackheath. On Sunday we returned to board the Cutty Sark and made a visit to the Royal Observatory in Greenwich Park.

One of the Hatch Warren Scout Troop teams was declared the winners of the event this week. Congratulations to *Team HMS Bulwalk* for winning and to all the Scouts that took part.

NEWS FROM FARLEIGH CLUB

Christmas is now just around the corner and the shops are full of festive fayre. Here are dates for our festive cheer over the Christmas period.

Friday 16th December

Xmas Raffle with some lovely prizes to be won. Xmas Meat Draw with meat supplied by the butchers at South Ham. Tickets are £1 each and are on sale now.

Christmas Eve

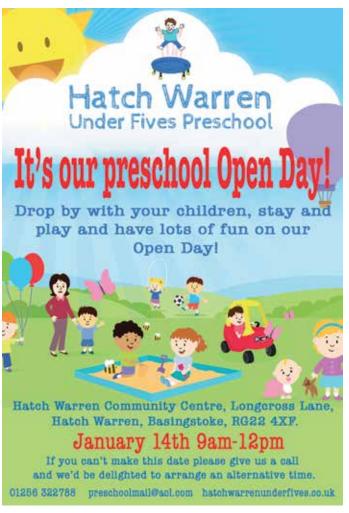
Our popular Quiz is back with refreshments during the interval. £2 per person, no more than 6 in a team please

Boxing Night - To be confirmed **New Year's Eve**

Party! Party! Join us to see in the New Year. All details on FB and our website

We open at 7pm Monday to Saturday and from 2pm on Sunday till 6pm

www.farleighwallopclub.co.uk or on Facebook



Half Day Chalk Paint Beginners Workshop

Have you ever fancied painting or upcycling your own furniture but don't know where to start?

Come along to our introduction paint workshop and we will show you the basic skills, tips and advice on how to apply the paint and wax to give you the courage and inspiration to embark on your own projects at home. It's a hands-on class and there is no need to have any prior experience and you don't have to be in any way artistic to get great results.

Saturday 10th December 9.30-12.30 £45.00 per person which includes:

All materials & tuition, discount voucher for Frenchic products, refreshments & aprons provided. BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL.



For further information or to book your place please contact Tony Tel: 07976 559434

Email: tory@the-eco-workshop.co.uk www.the-eco-workshop.co.uk

Or follow us on Facebook

Shop now open at Dummer Down Farm!!

The Eco workshop is a small independent gifts, homeware and furniture shop based in Dummer near Basingstoke. We take items that may otherwise end up in landfills and in a creative and innovative way Refurbish, Repurpose and Recycle them into unique, sometimes quirky, one of a kind items. We are also proud to be a stockist of the Frenchic range of chalk point, brushes, waxes and other products that you can purchase instore.

THE

ECO WORKSHOP

The Old Stables Dummer Down Farm Basingstoke, RG25 2AR





OLDER PEOPLE SET TO BENEFIT FROM NEW COMMUNITY GRANT

Following on the success of their first community grant award in the summer, a local care at home provider will be giving away a second Community Grant – a sum of money that could benefit one local group in the Basingstoke area working with older people.

The first £250 grant was awarded to the Holistic Action for Health Associates to help provide complementary therapies to older member of the community suffering from multiple long terms conditions. Bluebird Care Hook is making available another £250 to a community group or initiative that works with older people within Basingstoke and Deane Borough or the Hart District. The group that can best demonstrate a need for additional support will be allocated the funds. They are especially interested in groups working in the field of dementia and mental health for older people.

Bluebird Care Hook offers a realistic alternative to residential care by allowing people to stay in their own homes with care and support. Their work can involve one or more short visits a day in order to help with the everyday tasks of life. However, their service doesn't stop there because longer duration visits are also available, including overnight help and live-in care.

The next round for grant applications will be launched on Monday November 14th and will remain open until Friday 16th December. For more details or to request an application form, please email communitygranthook@bluebirdcare.co.uk or telephone Michael Auton on 07862 253514. Copies of the application form can also be picked up from the Bluebird Care office in Acorn House, London Rd, Hook, Hampshire RG27 9DY

For more details about Bluebird Care Hook visit www.bluebirdcare.co.uk/hook

BASINGSTOKE LIONS CLUB

www.basingstokelions.org.uk

We met more frequently than usual this month, but not in happy circumstances. Two of our members lost their partners of many years. Partners are no less important to the Club than the members themselves. It is their support which enables us to do what we do. They are sadly missed by all.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Christmas Collections: We will be collecting at a variety of locations in the run up to Christmas to help support the needy elderly and homeless. So if you see people in yellow and blue tabards looking like they should be the recipients of charity rather than collecting for it, that'll be us. Please give if you can. We need to raise around £3000.

21/01/2017 ABBA SENSATION:

Chase away the winter blues with this fabulous tribute group at QMC. Past experience means that we always leave enough space for dancing/ swaying and, as we all know the words (or think we do) it's a great opportunity to join in. Tickets available from Maurice Hockley tel 01256 421857 or mauricehockley@hotmail.com - John Lincoln jomolincoln@btinternet. com or tel: 01256 325280 – Toucan Travel at Chineham or direct off our website www.basingstokelions.org.uk





at

United Reformed Church London Street Basingstoke

Mon Dec 19th, 2016; 7:30 PM

Admission: Free* (by ticket)

available by contacting

Tel: 01256 768608

or email to

Basingstokemvc@outlook.com

or at our website :

basingstokemvc.org.uk/contact-us

Dawsons Music in Basingstoke

* a retiring collection will be made for charity



WHAT'S ON – DECEMBER

Do you have an event locally that you would like to tell people about. The Rabbiter reaches over 4000 homes locally so is the perfect way to publicise your event. Just email details to newsdesk@therabbiter.biz or rabbitereditor@aol.com Copy date is the 15th of the month preceding publication.

I December Laughter House at Red Lion

- www.laughter-house.vpweb.co.uk - sold out

3 December Christmas Fayre at St Mark's

CoE Primary School, I Iam – 2pm

3 December Trip to Bath Christmas Market – organised by

Hatch Warren Community Centre

4 December Light up a Life service, 6pm St Michael's Hospice

5 December Film Night at St Mark's7 December Defibrillator and CPR Training

- 18.00 Hatch Warren Community Centre

8 December Hatch Warren W.I.

8 Dec – 2 Jan Sleeping Beauty Pantomime

-The Anvil, Basingstoke

9/10 December Christmas Pantomime

 $-\operatorname{Cliddesden}\,\mathsf{Millennium}\,\mathsf{Village}\,\,\mathsf{Hall}$

10 December Chalk Paint Beginners Workshop,

9.30am – 12.30pm Dummer Down Farm

11 December Christingle, Immanuel Church, 3pm

16 December Christmas Market, Top of Town, I I am – 7pm
 16 December Christmas Raffle draw at Farleigh Wallop Club

18 December Carols by Candlelight,

Immanuel Church at 6.30pm

19 December Basingstoke Male Voice Choir Christmas

Concert, United Reform Church, 7.30pm

21 December Winter Solstice

24 December Quiz evening at Farleigh Wallop Club 24 December Crib Service, Immanue churchl, 3pm

24 December Midnight Mass, Immanuel Church, 11.30pm

25 December Christmas Day!

25 December Celebration Christmas Communion,

Immanel Church, 10am

Future Events

I JanuaryNew Year's Day5 JanuaryFilm Night at Immanuel

6 January Epiphany

12 January Laughter House at Red Lion

- www.laughter-house.vpweb.co.uk -

15 January Wedding Fayre at

Hatch Warren Community Centre

21 January Abba Sensation, QMC

- organised by Lions Club. See page 5

25 January Burns' Night
28 January Chinese New Year
8 February Film Night at Immanuel
9 February Trip to Wicked,

Hatch Warren Community Centre

9 February Laughter House at Red Lion

- www.laughter-house.vpweb.co.uk

11 February Race Night, Hatch Warren Community Centre

28 February Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day!!)

I March Ash Wednesday

1 March	St David's Day

9 March
 9 March
 9 March
 Laughter House at Red Lion
 www.laughter-house.vpweb.co.uk

17 March Trip to The Lion King,

Hatch Warren Community Centre

17 March20 MarchSt Patrick's DaySpring Equinox

26 March Clocks go forward – start of daylight saving

26 March Mothering Sunday 4 April Film Night at Immanuel

9 April Palm Sunday

I I April First day of Passover

13 April Laughter House at Red Lion

- www.laughter-house.vpweb.co.uk

14 April Good Friday
16 April Easter Sunday
18 April Last day of Passover
27 April Trip to 'The Girls',

Hatch Warren Community Centre

I May Early May Bank Holiday
I I May Laughter House at Red Lion

- www.laughter-house.vpweb.co.uk

29 May Spring Bank Holiday

REGULAR EVENTS

Hatch Warren W.I., 1st Thursday each month 8.00pm Community Centre (contact Jane Kerry 01256 810255)

Baby Clinic, 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month Community Centre 10.30 – 12.00 (contact Health Visitor 01256 320567)

Basingstoke Knit and Natter,

Every Monday 6.30 – 9pm, Waitrose Café

The Warren Youth Club, Friday evenings at the Warren

attached to the Community Centre

Aldworth Badminton Club,

Thursday evenings 8.30 – 10 Aldworth Science College

Cliddesden W.I., Cliddesen Village Hall, 7.30pm, third Thursday

every month (contact Pat Rampton 01256 461034)

Old Down & Beggarwood Wildlife Group,

www.olddown and beggarwood.org. uk~email:~od and bwd@gmail.com

Hatch Warren Nature Group,

contact Paul Beevers, hatch.nature@gmail.com

Cliddesden, Ellisfield and Farleigh Wallop Horticultural

Society, contact Mrs M Smith (01256 462584) for details)

Laughter House, laughter-housevpweb.co.uk

 $\textbf{Hatch Warren Runners}, meet \ Monday \ and \ Wednesday \ at$

7.15, Portsmouth Arms and at the Co-op Beggarwood.

www.hwrunners.co.uk



DECEMBER IN THE GARDEN

December is the time for pruning and preparation in the garden. Start to winter-prune your Wisteria by cutting back summer side-shoots to two or three buds. Other plants to prune now are your Rose and Japanese Maples. Cut Roses down to an outward facing bud about knee height. This ensures that any cold damage or die back that may happen in the next few months can be cut away again in the spring. Maple or Acer trees need to be pruned now to remove any dead branches along with any shaping you wish to do. This is a good time to prune them whilst the sap in the tree is in its dormant stage.

Ensure that you cut away any older shoots that have been damaged during the summer months and any leaves, or remaining stems that look diseased. Make sure to clear away any fallen leaves from the Roses or Maple to ensure diseases like Rust and Black Spot doesn't spread around the garden in the following year. Leave any Hydrangea heads on the plant for winter interest and to allow the shoots to come in the spring time when you can dead head them.

Move any container planted shrubs or bedding to a more sheltered spot. Grouping them together like this helps protect the root systems from suffering frost damage. You can now also start to lift more tender plants such as Dahlias and Fuchsia and put them in a frost-free environment to protect them. Make sure you check any climbers or new planting for any damage and attend to them where needed.

Now is a good time of year to start to take root cuttings. Root cuttings should be taken from roots that are about a pencils thickness and laid flat in seed trays with a little space between each root. Cover them with a thin layer of soil. This allows the shoots to grow and root. They can then be separated into individual pots in the spring time.

Now is also a good time of year to take hard wood cuttings from plants such as Conifers, Acers, Dahlias, Delphiniums, Cronus and Figs. To take a hard wood cutting select a part of the stem that is from the previous year's growth and cut to a length of roughly 10cm, including a bud at the top and bottom of the steam.

Bundle up 10 to 12 cuttings and place them in a pot so they are facing the way they were growing on the plant, roots down, shoot up. Place the pot in a frame or cool location with moist sand until the spring, when they can be potted on once rooted. Cornus and Laburnum are examples of hardwood cuttings which may take longer to root.

Winter containers can still be planted up with hardy Cyclamen, Ivy, Skimmia and evergreen grasses such as Carex to add colour to your garden. Place them beside entrances and well used paths to enjoy their winter display. Plants such as Sarcococca confuse can add colour and fragrance to your garden now. You can still plant now, provided the ground isn't frozen. In the vegetable garden you can lift the last of your leeks and parsnips before the soil becomes frozen, and heel them in to a trench beside a convenient path. They will keep well for several months like this and can be easily brought indoors when required. Lift and divide established clumps of rhubarb to renew the plant's vigour and place in new locations with plenty of manure or fertilizer to ensure good growth in the following year.

If you like to grow fruit now is the perfect time of year to plant Raspberries and take Strawberry cuttings. Raspberries can either be summer fruiting or autumn fruiting. Autumn fruiting Raspberries are easier to prune and grow well in a pot if necessary, producing large fruits from September onwards. However, they have spikes on the steams so you need to watch out when picking them. They are easy to prune, once fruiting has finished, and once the plant starts to die back cut all the stems down to ground level. Summer fruiting raspberries will also do well growing in a pot. You need to prune these plants right to get a good crop of fruit each year. Choose three stems from each crown to keep and cut the rest away at ground level. As these do not have spikes they are very child friendly to pick the fruit in summer time from late June to September.

Any current strawberries you have that are over three years old should be producing lots of runners. Now is a good time to cut these off and start to propagate new plants to replace them.

You can also plant a Blueberry bush in the ground or in a pot, but make sure that you give them lots of ericaceous soil and feed which will encourage fruiting. They are an attractive addition to the fruit garden, with pretty white flowers, delicious berries and fiery autumn foliage, these acids loving plants provide constant interest.

Happy Gardening

Sarah Bailes

Deputy Horticultural Training Manger, Share Community



The North Hampshire Downs Ramblers group, is part of the Ramblers Association, we walk mostly in Hampshire and the surrounding countryside. In the last few months our group has enjoyed both walks and social activities.

The group walk on both Tuesday and Saturday and cover areas in and around Basingstoke as well as sometimes going further afield.

Along with Woking Ramblers the group have volunteered to assist with checking thirteen circular walks based around the Basingstoke Canal. The original publication is about twenty five years old and some walk descriptions have had to be changed. The booklet will be re-published once all the walks have been completed and are now correct.

Our Tuesday walks are always popular and we can have up to 30 walkers. These walks tend to be around Basingstoke and have included a meander around Old Basing, Ashford Hill, East Stratton and more.

If you are interested in joining the Ramblers we suggest you come along for a couple of walks with the group first to get a taster. Membership details are available from the Ramblers' national website: www.ramblers.org.uk



LAMB BROOKS B

Legal Eye B

FREE LEGAL ADVICE - WHAT'S THE CATCH?

Personal Injury claims have been under the spotlight recently. Newspapers talk of the "Compensation Culture". Claims management companies bombard us with "Where there's blame, there's a claim".

So what really is the deal? What does "No Win - No Fee" mean?

If you speak to a claims management company, they will simply take your claim and refer it to a solicitor for a fee, generally with that solicitor being miles away.

The only people who can offer "No Win – No Fee" agreements are solicitors, so it is better for you to approach the solicitor of your choice directly.

The standard process for an accident claim starts with an interview, after which we can tell you if you have a reasonable chance of winning. At the interview, the whole claims process and "No Win – No Fee" agreement will be explained. The next step is to start the process with a letter or electronic form to the other party – and then your solicitor will follow a protocol which provides a guideline timetable for both solicitors and insurers.

Generally, claims can take anywhere from six months to several years to resolve, depending on the accident circumstances and the severity of your injuries. It is possible for you to contact the other party and/or insurer direct, but recent surveys show that

compensation for such claimants can be anything up to 25% less than those settlements achieved through a solicitor.

At Lamb Brooks, we deal with all range of accident claims, as well as industrial disease and clinical negligence claims on a "no win – no fee" basis.

For further information contact Joanne Soccard, Solicitor on 01256 305529 or email joanne.soccard@lambbrooks.com.



Expert Legal Advice in every issue of the Rabbiter

06.00 - 23.59

Sainsbury's

Christmas Opening Hours Store

21st December

23rd 24th 25th 26th 27th	December January, 2017 January	06.00 - 23.59 06.00 - 18.00 Closed 09.00 - 17.00 09.00 - 18.00 08.00 - 19.00 07.00 - 20.00 07.00 - 20.00 07.00 - 19.00 10.00 - 16.00 09.00 - 19.00	
Petrol Station			
21st 22nd 23rd 24th 25th 26th 27th 28th 29th 30th 31st 1st 2nd	December Jecember Jecember January, 2017 January	06.00 - 23.59 06.00 - 23.59 06.00 - 23.59 05.00 - 18.30 Closed 09.00 - 16.00 06.00 - 23.00 06.00 - 23.00 06.00 - 23.00 05.00 - 19.30 07.00 - 18.30 06.00 - 23.00	

Café

21st	December	07.00 - 20.00		
22nd	December	07.00 - 20.00		
23rd	December	07.00 - 20.00		
24th	December	07.00 - 16.00		
25th	December	Closed		
26th	December	09.00 - 16.00		
27th	December	08.00 - 17.30		
28th	December	08.00 - 19.00		
29th	December	08.00 - 19.00		
30th	December	08.00 - 19.00		
31st	December	07.00 - 19.00		
lst	January, 2017	10.00 - 15.30		
2nd	January	10.00 - 18.00		
Lloyds Pharmacy				

Lloyds Pharmacy			
24th	December	8.00 - 18.00	
25th	December	Closed	
26th	December	09.00 - 17.00	
27th	December	09.00 - 18.00	
28th	December	08.00 - 19.00	
29th	December	07.00 - 20.00	
30th	December	07.00 - 20.00	
31st	December	08.00 - 19.00	
lst	January 2017	10.00 - 16.00	
2nd	January	09.00 - 19.00	

Royal British Legion

A huge thank you to customers and colleagues who donated over £2500 during The Poppy Appeal at the Store.

Our Values make us Different

We visited Bill Sample, Poppy Appeal Organiser for Basingstoke & Overton, who was delighted with the response from Sainsbury's Kempshott.

Collections at the Store During Christmas

Marathon – Naomi House

3rd December – Hospital Radio Basingstoke

4th December – Hatch Warren Scouts

10th December

Worting & St Thomas Scouts

11th December

– Basingstoke Fire Brigade - Choir

17th December – The Pink Place

18th December – The Pink Place

21st December – Immanuel Church

21st December – Immanuel Churc

- Choir 17.30 - 18.30

Christmas is for Sharing

On behalf of all the colleagues at Sainsbury's Kempshott, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and, a peaceful New Year.



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to work with you and your team and we are very grateful for all you've done. 99

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BASINGSTOKE WATER SOFTENERS



This is a very hard water area & unless you already have softened water you will be familiar with scaled up kettles, showers & taps. Unfortunately you don't see the build up on heat exchangers, or inside boilers & washing machines until they break down. As many of you have found out this is an expensive recurring problem.

On top of that there is constant cleaning, money spent on de-scalers & chemicals & many people suffer from dry-skin & eczema aggravated by hard water.

As a local, family business we have been improving the quality of water for people in this area for over 20 years.

To find out what can be done to eliminate hard water problems please call to arrange a demonstration. Lorna will come out to show you our TwinTec softener, tell you what is required to fit one & give you some facts & figures.

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HATCH WARREN & BEGGARWOOD CYCLING CLUB



As we move into the festive period and the year draws to a close, we are reflecting back at what a fantastic year it has been in the life of Hatch Warren Beggarwood Cycling Club.

What started over a couple of pints in the Portsmouth Arms in August 2015, where the founding members discussed the feasibility of forming a cycling club, the club has grown from strength to strength, and we now have over 120 members, who come from all over the Borough.

The club was officially affiliated with British Cycling in January, members started joining up in late March, a group of members arranged and participated in our first away day, where we caught the ferry to the Isle of Wight in early May.

The members of the club, also participated in the Big Wheel, to raise funds for St Michael's Hospice and we had a good turn out with riders taking part. The last day of July was another major milestone in the club, when some of our members

participated in the Ride London event and our 100th member registered via the British Cycling website.

We held a Summer Social in August, with over 30 gathering for a picnic and games on the warm summer afternoon. In early October, 10 of our ride leaders completed the Ride Leadership Award Level I course. We also received the first batch of HWBCC hoodies. We launched a webstore within our website, to allow our members to order their winter kit.

Looking ahead, a number of club members last year completed the Tour of Flanders route and more have expressed an interest in completing it in 2017. As a result, we're offering a limited edition club jersey

especially for the occasion (subject to meeting minimum order numbers). It's a splendid design and will be available for a limited time only.



If your New Year's resolution is to get fit, healthy or to loose weight, why not join us, as we would love to welcome new members in 2017, and at just £7.50 for

membership until the end of March, you're able to ride with a group of friendly, likeminded individuals, who will provide an amazing amount of support, both on and off the bike and you'll get to see the glorious Hampshire countryside that surrounds us. If you're new to cycling or haven't cycled for a while, why not join our monthly introductory Sunday morning rides? The next one is scheduled for Sunday the 8th lanuary at 9am.

Finally Hatch Warren Beggarwood Cycling Club, would like to wish all residents within the Rabbiter distribution area a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

For more information, please see our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ HWBcc/ (Hatch Warren Beggarwood Cycling) or visit our website:

www.hwbcc.org

Come Ride With Us.





Preston Candover CE Primary School

Preston Candover is a forward thinking school with excellent facilities. We aspire for all of our children to become confident, caring individuals who have a love of learning. Our pupils achieve high academic standards within a nurturing environment. There is an outstanding pre-school on site and we are a feeder school for Perins.

We are currently holding tours of the school for new year R parents. We have limited spaces available in some other year groups. For more details or if you would like to visit us please contact the school office. We would be delighted to meet you and show you the school in action.

Please visit our website for more information about our school including our excellent school performance data, class arrangement and curriculum.

Preston Candover, Basingstoke RG25 2EE Telephone: 01256 389278

Email: admin@prestoncandover.hants.sch.uk Website: www.prestoncandover.hants.sch.uk











Fantastic news for the residents of Basingstoke and surrounding areas this Autumn, Basingstoke Art Class will be holding new part-time Art Classes in Basingstoke, starting soon.

The course is 2.5 hours per week for 8 weeks, with a choice of morning or afternoon sessions.

TUTOR INSTRUCTION - STEP-BY-STEP

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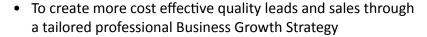
Contact Richard at :-

E:- richard@bgsmail.co.uk T:- 0755 26 25 926

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HATCH WARREN RUNNERS

In this final edition of 2016, we have a change of contributor. Sarah Croft- Smith has handed over the reins to me, Sharon Bryan. I look forward to bringing readers HWR club news and features for 2017 and beyond.

In the meantime, in 'race news', the popular 'Great South Run' took place on Sunday 23rd October, with 38 HWR finishers including our visually impaired runner, Tony Nicholls, who completed his first 10 mile race. There were some great performances on a glorious, sunny day by the sea in Southsea.

During the month of October, runners who have entered the ballot for the London marathon learn whether they have gained a place for the event next April. The anticipation for some waiting for their notification was almost too much to endure! Many were lucky enough to get a place and some who weren't successful are now focussed on achieving their marathon goal in Brighton, just two weeks before London. All now face a winter training programme and the club coaches and group leaders are already supporting them to ensure that they follow a sensible, planned schedule with longer runs being organised at weekends. Other sessions including track, hill-work, intervals are on offer to complement the usual club runs. There's a great sense of camaraderie and support amongst the groups, whose aims are to finish their marathon in times ranging from around 3 to 5 hours.

Finally, we would like to try something new - 'The Hatchie 5 minute Interview' featuring a member who has an unusual or interesting occupation or past-time, beginning with our member, Phil Tickle.

- Q. What's your job title? A. Head Rigger
- **Q.**What does this entail? **A.** I work at height within the entertainment industry (film, TV, rock-n-roll, theatre, exhibitions, conferences, live events etc). I enable the lifting of lighting, sound, video, set and people.
- **Q.** What's the most unusual situation you've encountered in your daily work? **A.** Everything is normal for riggers, although the public would find all of it extraordinary. Possibly being blown off the Verdon Gorge by a helicopter while filming Alain Robert (the French Spider-Man, the world's best climber at the time).

DECEMBER EVENTS AT THE BASINGSTOKE DISCOVERY CENTRE



To book a place, you can order online from https://www.hants.gov.uk/shop/home.php, or visit Basingstoke Discovery Centre in Festival Place, or call 01256 478670. Advance booking is strongly recommended.

To find out more about Basingstoke Discovery Centre and Hampshire Libraries visit www.hants.gov.uk/bsdc

http://www3.hants.gov.uk/library/bsdc.htm https://twitter.com/BasingstokeDC https://www.facebook.com/BasingstokeDC

Please visit www.rabbiter.biz for the full list

- **Q.** What made you join HWR? **A.** I started my own company (Above Ltd) in 2009, and have become increasingly desk and floor bound. The climbing/rigging had kept me fit for 20 years but I looked down and didn't like the beginnings of middle aged spread.
- **Q.** What is your current running goal? **A.** My older brother has been running for years (3:45 London marathon time this year). My goal is to be fit enough to join him for a run of an evening.
- **Q.** If you could run any event, anywhere in the world, what would it be and why? **A.** A marathon. When I was 17, I went on an ice climbing expedition to the Alps. To prove fitness, we had to complete a marathon in hiking boots and carrying full packs (4 stone). My time was 5 and half hours. I'd like to beat that.
- **Q.** What's the most useful piece of advice you could give a new runner? **A.** It's all about the warm up and warm down. Also running with a group is completely different to solo running. I can't do the latter, so if you have tried running and hate it, run with other people.

HWR meet on Monday & Wednesday evenings with runs starting

at various locations in Hatch Warren and Beggarwood. For more details visit www.hwrunners. co.uk, email hwrunners@sky.com or look for Hatch Warren Runners on Facebook.



Phil Tickle the rigger working at height

HATCH WARREN W.I.

Hatch Warren W.I. held their November meeting on 3rd November at Hatch Warren Community Centre at 8 p.m. where our speaker for the evening was Andrew Negus with his very interesting talk on Salisbury.

Our meeting in October our speaker was unable to attend at the last moment, so we had a fun quiz instead. Hampshire Federation held the autumn meeting at the Anvil and we were all entertained with the 'Jersey Boys' which had members all up and dancing in the aisles. This month our film club will watch the film 'Brooklyn'. Well done to our skittles team who did well this year. Next month some members will join Kempshott W.I. on their coach outing to Bath to the Christmas market. We will finish this year with our annual Christmas dinner to be held at the Swan at Sherborne St. John. Some members attended the Loddon Group autumn meeting where the speaker for the afternoon was from Manydown estates and told us all about producing lavender and mint and we were able to sample some lovely mint products.

Watch this space for our new year speakers and perhaps your new year's resolution will to come and join our band of lively ladies.



COUNCILLOR'S UPDATE

Work on the Winchester Road roundabout is well underway and is due to continue until next March. Lane closures should only be in operation off peak, and the changes should include three lanes on the ring road approaches and the installation of traffic lights.

The online consultation on the designation of some areas of Beggarwood Park as a Local Nature Reserve was due to close in October with a decision by the Cabinet member Cllr Ruffell to follow.

An application has come forward for an in fill development at Oceana Crescent of seven new dwellings. Further details can be found on this link: https://planning.basingstoke.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=dates&keyVal=OC5 KL1CRG4100

A revised application for allotments on Beggarwood Park should be coming to committee in the New Year.

The application for a small car park to serve the Beggarwood Community Centre is due to go to the Council's Development Cotrol Committee in December.

The potential application for a Motorway Service Area on the south side of the M3 opposite Beggarwood is still progressing. There is no application registered yet for comment as it is still in its scoping stage but this is likely to be coming forward with a view to a decision by next Autumn. There is now also a proposal in to build a Service area at junction six as well. This would include north and south bound access.

And a heads up that it looks as though there will be an application coming forward soon for the Island site at Beggarwood. I will update everyone as soon as something definite is in the pipeline.

A suggestion has come forward from some residents that we should have a 20mph zone around St Mark's school, at least during school start and finish times. I have contacted the county council who say that we can go on the waiting list for assessment for the next round of 20mph zones. I would be very interested to hear the views of local residents on this which I can then feed forward to HCC.

CIIr Terri Reid

FOOD BOXES FOR BASINGSTOKE 2016

Over the last 3 years Basingstoke Voluntary Action (BVA) have distributed nearly 1000 Christmas food boxes to individuals across the borough who are living with the effects of poverty, social isolation, or vulnerably housed, as well as food and winter equipment for around 75 individual people who are sleeping rough.

The food box appeal has, grown year on year, and become a huge undertaking. This means we need as much help as we can get to ensure 2016 is another successful year.

Basingstoke Irish Society have generously offered us room at Basingstoke Irish Centre to accept donations, and storage space to use as a hub for this year's food drive.

We also need empty photocopy paper boxes, donations of sticky tape, wrapping paper and volunteers to help sort items, wrap, pack and distribute boxes – if you have any free time and would like to join us we would love to hear from you!!

If you would like to make a donation please make cheques payable to Basingstoke Voluntary Action and clearly write on the back Christmas Appeal

For all Food Box related enquiries please email natascha.shepherd@BVAction.org.uk



Letters...

to the editor

Once again, an incredible fireworks display at the Community Centre. Well done to all of those who made the evening such a success.

Sadly, despite all the notices about parking and all the traffic cones we still had people parking right on the junction in Maplehurst Chase making access for residents difficult.

Ok! that is slightly irritating, but to my complete disbelief I watched a car pull up, right on the junction, park and let their female passenger out. She then preceded to go down my neighbours front steps crouch down and have a wee! She emerged adjusting her leggings, waved to her driver and walked off to the firework display. I was so flabbergasted that I didn't make it out my front door in time to say something to her.

I have no problem with people coming to the area to enjoy themselves but this behaviour is totally unacceptable and deeply disrespectful. If she happens to be reading this then I hope she is suitable ashamed.

Name supplied

Like a number of people I am uncertain of the need for a motorway service at the M3 junction 7.

However I am far more concerned about who is pushing developments in this general area.

We can look at Tamar for the AD and now Applegreen for the motorway services but the landlord for these new business I understand is Portsmouth Estates.

In earlier letters to the editor I have expressed my concerns about creeping developments which will require more traffic though residential estates.

To prevent controversy over every new attempt to expand Portsmouths empire it's time for proper access not involving Woodbury Road.

There is a cost for growing business and it should be born by the beneficiary

Name supplied

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

- Breadels Field & Breadels
 Court
- 2. Monarch Close
- 3. Oyster Close, Paxton Close, Harris Hill, Wights Walk, Sandbanks Drive and Vanburgh Gardens







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NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION



By Jane Erlam Wills and Probate

Christmas is a wonderful time for families to spend together and is especially magical for children. Some of us will spend time with elderly parents or other relatives, where it may become apparent that they have grown more vulnerable over the past year.

No doubt thoughts will move on to what is a head in the New Year, where some people may dwell on making their New Year resolutions. This is an excellent time to review the past year and consider plans for the future

It also provides a good opportunity to make a Will if you haven't already done so or update and change your old Will if you feel that is necessary, perhaps due to changed circumstances. It is an important issue and one that many people put off. However, it is worth remembering that the main purpose of making a Will is to make sure your assets are distributed to the right people once you pass away. If you die without making a Will, this is called intestate, where the law dictates who inherits your estate, which could be contrary to your wishes. For those who die without next of kin, their belongings could even be passed to the Government and who wants that?

No one wants to think of a time in the future of Further information can be found by visiting when they are unable to make their own decisions.

It is certainly a difficult subject to broach with an elderly relative, such as a hitherto perfectly capable and able parent. However, it is something that everyone should think about. There may come a time when the best way they can manage their finances will be by organising a Power of Attorney. This is something that needs to be set up by your relative themselves, whist they are still capable of making and understanding their own decisions. If arrangements are not put in place ahead of time, this can lead to all kinds of unnecessary complications.

Fortunately the Wills and Probate Team at Phillips Solicitors are on hand to help. We can put procedures in place to protect individuals and make it easier to deal with issues should the need arise.

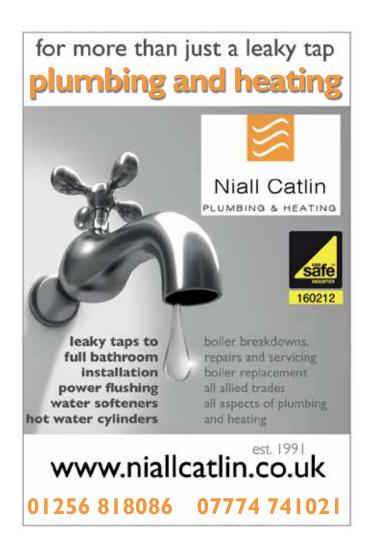
To find out more contact Jane Erlam, who is a member of Solicitors for the Elderly. She is also, along with the head of our Wills and Probate Team Caroline Wallis, a member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP).

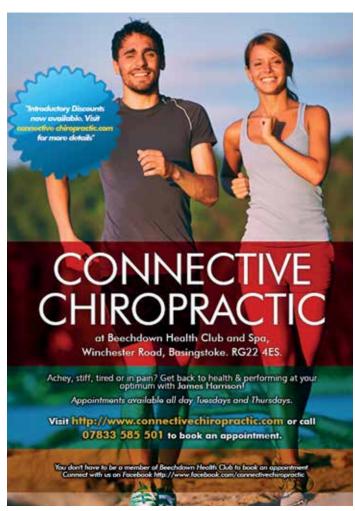
You can call Jane on 01256 854677 and Caroline on 01256 854637 or send them an email, jane.erlam@ phillips-law.co.uk and caroline.wallis@phillips-law. co.uk.

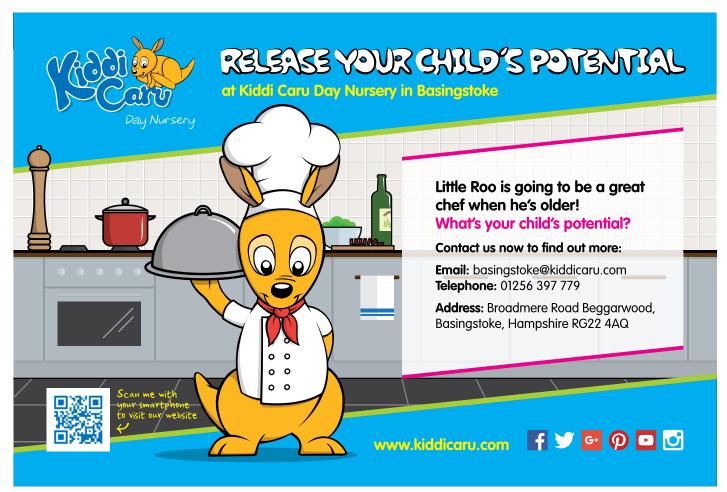
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HATCH WARREN UNDER FIVES

The buzzword for this term at Hatch Warren Under Fives has to be GLITTER! December is a truly fun and magical time at our preschool and it's definitely beginning to look a lot like Christmas everywhere you go... But at Hatch Warren Under Fives we're true believers that you can't ever have too much glitter, so we started our "glitter season" straight after half term with Party Week!

With many of our children celebrating birthdays around now we decided to create our own party theme to explore number recognition with the children. They counted candles on cakes, made birthday badges with their ages and practiced their mark making skills by creating party invitations. Lots of fun was had decorating biscuits and cakes and getting messy with our favourite party food, jelly.

We've had lots of play around traditional fairy tales - planting beans with Jack and the Beanstalk, building houses with the Three Little Pigs, building bridges with the Three Billy Goats Gruff and creating a Goldilocks corner with different sized bears, chairs, spoons and bowls.

The room has been alive with noise and music this term too - the children have moved on to the second phase of their Phase One Phonics programme and have been tuning into the different sounds made with musical instruments. Guitars have been a firm favourite in the preschool and we've been playing matching games with percussion instruments from our sound bag. The children have made their own rain sticks and cup shakers and had great fun experimenting with sounds such as crunching leaves and noisy cereals.

To add to the excitement this term, we also welcomed 12 new children into our Under Three's group. They've settled in beautifully and are having huge amounts of fun making new friends and exploring their new preschool.

December is set to continue in a glittery, sparkly, Christmassy blur of making cards and decorations, singing our favourite Christmas songs and of course,

putting on an amazing Christmas performance for the parents. Our children will be starring in "A Christmas Musical Melody" and will be showing off their new musical skills to full effect!



Christmas at preschool wouldn't be complete without a party, so we'll end our term with a fun-filled Christmas party, maybe with a little visit from the big man himself. Ssshhhhh, don't tell the children!

Our Christmas raffle will be drawn after the Christmas play – there's some amazing prizes to be won including Afternoon Tea for Two at Tylney Hall, a family entry voucher to Finkley Down Farm and a pass for two at Beechdown Health Club. We're a charity run preschool, so fundraising is really important to us. If any readers would like to support our local preschool, please do pop in and purchase tickets. Tickets are £1 each (or a book for £5) – feel free to drop in during school hours and ask for Michelle or Pam.

HWU5s and the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

When we look at the curriculum for our little ones we refer to the EYFS and this sets out what we should be observing a child doing at each stage if they are developing typically for their age. Around the age of 30 to 50 months we observe and encourage the children to join in with dancing games, sing a few familiar songs and tap out repeated rhythms. At this time of year you will hear us singing Jingle Bells... perhaps using bells or Tap Sticks and maybe even dancing around preschool too.

On January 14th we are holding an open day for children starting preschool in 2017. Please join us at the Hatch Warren Community Centre any time between 9am and 12pm to meet our wonderful staff and give your little ones a taster preschool session.

You can find out more about our preschool by visiting our website www. hatchwarrenunderfives.co.uk. For waiting list and registration enquiries please contact Michelle Tejevo, Head of Preschool, on 01256 322788, or email preschoolmail@aol.com.

We also run four friendly baby and toddler drop-in groups each week at Hatch Warren Community Centre. Our PrePlay groups run on Monday and Friday mornings at 9.15am-10.30am and again at 10.45am-midday. Suitable from birth -5 years. £3 per session. No need to book, just turn up and play.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

CANDOVER VALLEY PRE-SCHOOL

Autumn is upon us and we have enjoyed the sensory feel of the inside of pumpkins, playing with and sweeping up the autumn leaves, making collage pictures and playing with leaves, twigs and conkers in one of the sensory trays. It's a wonderful time of year to see the beautiful colours of the trees and to see leaves falling. We have a favourite autumn song about the coloured leaves falling down to the ground and also falling softly on you and me! Making a "baby bonfire" decorated mini cake gave the children an opportunity to recall their experiences of bonfire night. Of course, the noise of the fireworks was far too loud for many young children but they did like the colours.



As we enter the Advent period we will be learning about the Christmas story with the use of our knitted nativity figures, making lots of Christmas decorations to take home and to decorate our preschool room and making a Christmas tree shape from a stack of star biscuits with the smallest star standing up on the top as the star on the top of the tree. We will be learning Christmas songs which the children will be singing to their parents at the end of their Christmas party. I think there will be plenty of excitement up to Christmas. Happy Christmas wishes to you and your family.

Melanie Gill

Pre-school Head





CUCKOO MEADOW PRESCHOOL

Hello from all at Cuckoo Meadow Preschool in North Waltham! We are based in North Waltham village, which is just a 10-minute drive from Hatch Warren along the A30, and is in a beautiful rural setting. The children who attend come from within the village and the surrounding areas including Hatch Warren, Kempshott, Beggarwood and Brighton Hill, and all agree the location and wonderful caring staff mean it is more than worth the short journey. Please contact Jo or Fiona to come and see for yourself!

The children have settled back in after half term and have been doing lots of fun activities relating to the theme of Autumn, including painting some great Bonfire pictures which are currently on display in preschool. They have also been making poppies to mark Remembrance Day and supporting Children In Need by making Pudsey biscuits and getting dressed up on the day!

Of course, the countdown to Christmas is now on. Just to remind you of some important dates - Nativity on Saturday 10 December at 2pm in the Preston Candover Village Hall. This is a lovely event and another opportunity for fund-raising, so we will be asking for donations for raffle prizes nearer the time. Millers Ark will be bringing their nativity scene for the children to see on Friday 9 December, and the preschool Christmas party, which includes a visit from a special guest, will take place on Friday 16 December. Both these events are open to all the children, including those who don't usually attend on Fridays.

Lastly, don't forget there is a 'parent rota' so if you have some time to spare and would like to help out whilst seeing what your little one gets up to at preschool, the staff and children would love to see you for a couple of hours. Please speak to the staff to arrange a date

For any queries about the preschool please contact Jo or Fiona on 01256 398172.

BEACH ARMS

Clerken Green, Oakley, Basingstoke, RG23 7EP

"Let's go somewhere for lunch" was the plea from my partner. But, where? "Let's try the Beach Arms" she said. I knew that it stood just after the railway bridge on the B3400 on the road to Overton. It had been subject to a makeover early in the summer and having passed the place on occasions I had seen the car park was busy which is a good sign.

Arriving at 12.30 pm on a Wednesday we were surprised how busy the place was. Most of the tables in the large restaurant were occupied; in the majority of cases by senior citizens. There is no doubt that these customers have sussed out a good place to eat.

Previously run as a Crown Carvery, it seems that this type of eatery has diminished in popularity and so they have created Stonehouse Pizza Carvery. The clue is in the name – cooked to order pizza and freshly roasted carvery joints with a range of vegetables and salads, and a wide selection of burgers. Complete with an extensive choice of desserts.

That is the theory, but did it hold up in practice? In a word, "yes." Our waitress took our drinks order while we studied the extensive menu. Deciding to forego a starter my partner chose half a roast chicken and vegetables while I selected a pulled pork pizza. I was given a bleeper that advised when my pizza was ready. And it only took about ten minutes. I then had to decide if I wanted a salad or chips to accompany it. The large thin crust pizza was delicious.

Deciding on a dessert was equally problematic but madam had a crème brûlée and I had the American style deep apple pie with vanilla ice cream. Very tasty. Two large filter coffees completed our meal and we were very replete I can tell you.

It's a pleasant place to eat, the staff are happy to oblige, the extensive range of food on offer, while being uncomplicated, has something to suit most tastes and the prices are well within the pocket of most people. Our bill was just over £28.00 which I felt was very good value for the quality we had enjoyed.

Will we return? We have family arriving shortly, with growing up children, and will bring them here, confident they will enjoy the occasion. And it won't cost an arm or leg.

CHRISTMAS CRAFT MARKET

Friday 16 December, 11am to 7pm Market Place and Wote Street, Top of the Town, Basingstoke

There will be plenty of festive gift ideas on offer for family and friends when the Christmas craft market comes to town. Pick up some last minute handmade gifts and decorations you won't find anywhere and enjoy seasonal stalls around the Christmas tree in Market Place. Christmas shoppers can enjoy a full day of festive fun in Basingstoke town centre for just £3 thanks to a parking offer Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's Eastlands and Parklands car parks. From Saturday 26 November 2016 to Sunday I January 2017, these car parks will have reduced car parking charges of £2.50 for up to four hours and just £3 for the whole day. You can also make your journey into Basingstoke town centre even easier this Christmas and jump aboard the Centre Shuttle. Park at the Leisure Park for free and pay £2.30 per person or £3.60 for a group ticket and receive all day travel. For further information visit www.topofthetown.org.

SOUTH HAM LIBRARY

Friday 2nd
Rhymetime I I am
Chatterbooks 4pm



- Children's Craft 10-12noon

Wednesday 7th Storytime 10am Friday 9th Rhymetime 11am



Sci-Fi/ Fantasy Book Group 10-12noon

Wednesday 14th

Christmas Storytime 10am

Friday 16th

Christmas Rhymetime I I am

Christmas Holidays

17th-31st Star Wars 'Treasure Hunt'

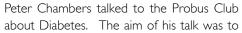
Friday 23rd Christmas Rhymetime I I am

Friday 30th Rhymetime I I am











outline some facts relating to Diabetes in order to raise awareness of this common, life-long health condition. He explained that Diabetes, mainly Type 2, affects some 415,000,000 people worldwide. Moreover, forecasts indicate that by 2040, I in 10 people in the age group 20 to 70 years could be suffering from the condition. This amounts to 640,000,000 people.

In the UK, currently one person in sixteen has Diabetes, i.e. 4,000,000. At least 500,000 may not be aware they have the condition. Potentially these numbers could increase to match the rest of the world's ratios unless those at risk take steps to modify their lifestyle.

Having outlined some global and national statistics, Peter said that over 10,000 people in the North Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group area (the area that covers Basingstoke) are living with Diabetes.

He went on to illustrate the causes of Diabetes, the symptoms and the essential differences between Types I and 2. Look out for the fourTs — Thirst, Toilet, Tiredness and Thinness. An unquenchable thirst that increases toilet usage, feeling very tired and losing weight.

Diabetic treatment costs the NHS £10 billion per annum; 10% of the NHS budget. This can only be reduced if there is a downwards trend in people contracting Diabetes. This is partly in our own hands by taking sensible preventative measures. These are largely self evident and include a healthy diet and lifestyle, exercise and weight control. Early diagnosis is essential.

Finally, he outlined some of the work done by Diabetes UK, the largest charity focused on Diabetes research in the UK which has invested some £60 million in that research in the last 10 years. Peter is an accredited speaker for the charity stressing that he is neither a clinician nor an expert on Diabetes. His purpose is to highlight the scale of the condition in order to raise awareness. A very enthusiastic Diabetes UK local group of volunteers has recently been formed in Basingstoke to, amongst other things, offer support and raise awareness of the condition. Details of this group can be found through the Diabetes UK website.

See www.probusbasingstoke.webs.com for more information about this social club for retired professional and business managers or phone their secretary Paul Flint on 07770 886521 for an informal chat.



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FIREWORKS SUCCESS Our ever popular fireworks spectacular was a sold out event and people from all over the area joined us for a fantastic night of great fireworks, brilliant entertainment from Michelle (Heart FM breakfast show) and lovely food from our food vendors. The bar service was kindly provided by Farleigh Wallop Estate. Everyone enjoyed the funfair especially the dodgems! All money raised will be ploughed back into the Community Centre - watch this space for our newly refurbished toilets! A massive thank you to all our lovely volunteers, partners, local residents and of course everyone who attended for supporting the centre we look forward to seeing you again next year.





Looking for a fantastic Xmas present idea? We still have tickets left for The Girls but hurry they are selling fast!

HATCH WARREN COMMUNITY CENTRE

COACH TRIP TO THE GIRLS

based on the Calendar Girls



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FRIDAY NIGHT TERM TIME YOUTH CLUB ACTIVITIES (see below)

Years 6 to 8 from 6pm—7.45pm

DEC/JAN Programme - 6.00 to 7.45pm

Friday 2nd Dec Temporary tattoos and Wii Olympic

games

Friday 9th Dec Wool craft and pitta pizza

Friday 16th Dec LAST SESSION BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Christmas party food and activities

Friday 6th Jan Open access and chill night

Friday 13th Jan Bandanas and sausage baguettes

Friday 20th Jan Scratch art and hooping

Friday 27th Jan Chinese New Year theme night

FREE ENTRY FOR ALL YOUNG PEOPLE

We hope you all had a safe and enjoyable Halloween and Bonfire night. We certainly did, with our spooky night making lots of Halloween treats and helping out at the Community centre fireworks event which was absolutely fantastic!





We don't know about you, but we can hardly believe it is so close to the Festive season, we have lots coming up for you all in the run up to Christmas as well as our normal fun and games.

Please remember that we are closed on Friday 23rd December and Friday 30th December and reopen on Friday 6th January 2017.



FRIDAY NIGHT TERM TIME OPEN ACCESS & HEALTH HUB

Ages 13+ from 8pm—9.30pm

Health Hub Programme - 8.00 to 9.30pm

Health Hub: We are so happy to see so many of you during our older sessions from 8-9.30pm on Fridays. If you are over 13 you can drop in to these sessions during that time, just come in and hang out and use our facilities, but you can also receive free confidential advice on a whole range of issues including contraception, pregnancy testing and chlamydia screening.

We also run focused information nights, our next nights are:

Sexual Health Workshop Friday 9th Dec Sexual Health Friday 6th January 2017

Please remember we will happily help you with CVs, revision or job applications, all you have to do is speak to one of the team.

Member's Profile

Name: Saskia Wood Age: 12 (Year 7)

Hobbies: Singing, dancing, acting,

netball and football

Favourite things to do at the Warren:

I liked the graffiti art - the spray painting and chalking was fun. I also enjoyed the lip syncing battle and watching everyone taking part.

Why I come to the Warren:

I like coming here as there is always lots to do and the youth workers are lovely and friendly. There are always new activities and fun games.







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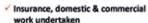
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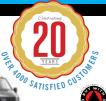
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SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

I can't quite believe it's December and that we're in the lead up to Christmas. Looking back on the year, I am sure none of us would have predicted what a year it will have been; the result of the referendum on Europe and Donald Trump being US president-elect. Across the world and in particular in the US and this country there appears to



be an increasing lack of tolerance for our

neighbour; especially if that neighbour descends from another country. I was reading the following recently:

'A group of about forty young people question me. A girl's voice, fresh and timid, barely audible, says to me: the world of today is so complex, how can we, with our little bit of knowledge, play a part?

My reply: every women and every man, whatever the extent of their knowledge, is granted one living truth, sometimes just a single word. Putting it into practice makes a person able to understand from within the various contemporary trends.

This truth brings us close to everybody — the peoples of China, Cuba, Eastern Europe, the United States — so that we can prepare crossroads where one day those who are now far apart will meet......

Man is created for hope. For him all things are continually being made new. One day, at the heart of our darkness, a living word lights up. Irresistibly, it opens the way to other people.

Christ does not force anyone to follow him. The Gospel is not a system, a vice to hold fast other people's consciences and our own. The Gospel is communion. In Christ, God made himself poor and obscure. A sign of God cannot be an image which overpowers. God does not ask us to work wonders beyond our means; he wants us simply to understand how to love.....' (Br.Roger of Taizé)

At Christmas we celebrate the coming to humanity of God as

man; as a baby — weak and helpless but a sign of the enormity of God's love for us; for each and every one of us and to bring us hope.

In this often dark world, we need so much hope. We look to the Christ-child this Christmas as a sign of that hope knowing that God surrounds us with his love. It doesn't stop us from being human and making mistakes but it is with us always. It is like the bright light from the star that drew the wise men in to an encounter with Jesus — travellers from a foreign land, drawn to discover a baby that was to change the world and to show us how to love each other. It is my prayer that in 2017 peace will overcome violence and hope overcomes hate.

At Immanuel we welcome prepare for Christmas with a number of wonderful services; on Sunday 11th December at 3pm there is the Christingle Service, Sunday 18th at 10.00am our Xplorers and any other young person who'd like to re-enact the Nativity, at 6.30pm on the same day we have Carols by Candlelight followed by mulled wine and mince pies. Then on Christmas Eve at 3pm we have our Crib Service followed at 11.30pm by Midnight Mass to see in Christmas Day with, at 10am on Christmas morning a Celebration Service for all. Everyone is very welcome at Immanuel. Full details are on our website and Facebook page. We'd love to see you.

May the joy and the hope of the Christ-child be with you and all those whom you love this Christmas and in the New Year.

Michael



Fr. Michael

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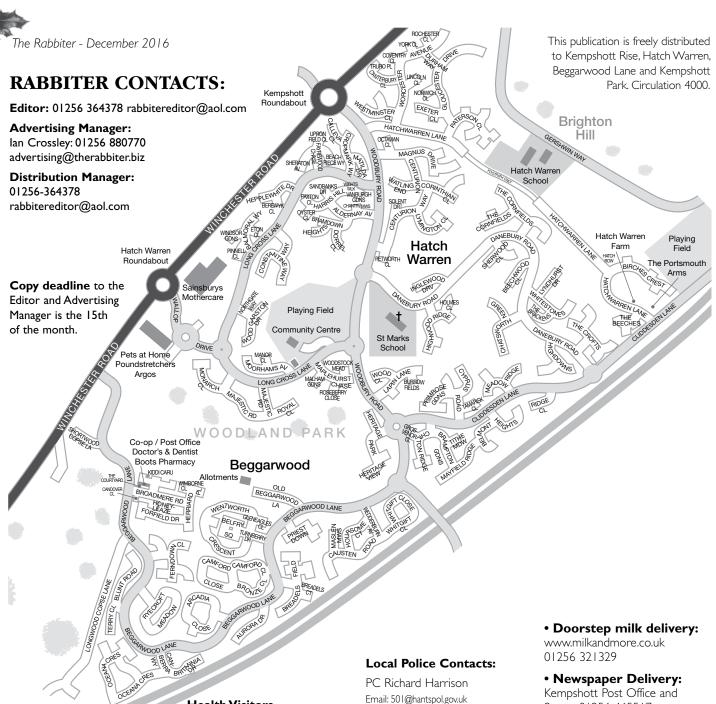
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Broadmere Road Surgery -Tel: 396500

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Chemist

Boots Pharmacy Broadmere Road - Tel: 398927 Mon-Fri 0900-1800 Sat/Sun closed

Health Visitors

Tel: 376483

Child Health Clinic

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

Broadmere Road - Tel: 391391

• Library:

465102 - HCC mobile library every Tuesday evening St. Mark's CE primary school from 4.40pm to 6.40pm.

Post Office

Co-op Broadmere Road: Sun-Sat 0700-2200

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• Basingstoke Neighbourcare

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Hampshire Constabulary 101 Crimestoppers 0800 555111

Churches:

Immanuel Church 10.00am every Sunday at the Church Centre, Rev Michael Smith 07799 730362 St. Mark's School: 472632

South Basingstoke Community Church 10.30 every Sunday at Richard Aldworth School and mid-week in homes

Contact Peter & Celia Saunders, 33 Beechwood Close: 357213

Buses:

See page 32

Stores 01256 465517

• Representatives:

• Councillors:

County Council:

Rita Burgess, 35 Malvern Close RG22 5BH 478167

Email: rita.burgess@hants.gov.uk

Borough Council:

Rebecca Bean, 12 Arcadia Close, RG22 4AJ 07506 570926 email: cllr:Rebecca.Bean@basingstoke.gov.uk

Terri Reid, 34 Centurion Way RG22 4TJ 320860

email: cllr:Terri.Reid@basingstoke.gov.uk

Dan Putty, I Gloucester Drive, RG22 4PH 356650 email:cllr.dan.putty@basingstoke.gov.uk

• Member of Parliament

Hatch Warren: Maria Miller

email: millerm@parliament.uk





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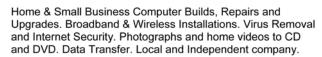
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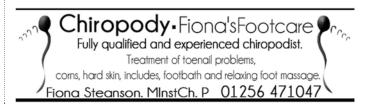
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Saturdays: 0649, 0719, 0749, 0819, 0849, 0909 – then every 15 mins at: 24, 39, 54, 09 mins past the hour until, 1739, 1759, 1819, 1839, 1858, 1923, 1952, 2022, 2122, 2222, 2322

Sundays: 0909, then every hour at 09 until 1809, 1908, 2007, 2107

Buses will return from the Basingstoke Bus Station at the following times: *Monday to Friday:* 0555, 0628, 0641,

706764, 0709, 0724, 0739, 0754, 0809, 0825, 0840, 0855 — then every 15 mins at: 10, 25, 40, 55 mins past the hour until, 1810, 1830, 1855, 1925, 1955, 2055, 2155, 2255

Saturdays: 0650, 0720, 0750, 0820, 0840, 0855 – then every 15 mins at: 25, 40, 55, 10 mins past the hour until, 1710, 1730, 1750, 1810, 1830, 1855, 1925, 1955, 2055, 2155, 2255

Sundays: 0840, then every hour at 40 until 2040

Route 12 – Hatch Warren, Kempshott Park, Brighton Hill, Black Dam, Town Centre

Buses will leave Sainsbury's at the following times: (No Sunday service)

Monday to Friday: 0705, 0745, 0935, 1035, 1135, 1235, 1335, 1435, 1535, 1635, 1735, 1835

Saturdays: 0810, 0935, 1035, 1135, 1235, 1335, 1435, 1535, 1635, 1735, 1835

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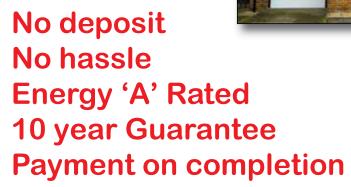
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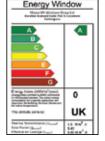
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