



# THE Rabbiter

Issue 253 July 2018

All the regular features plus

- **GROWING FOR CHARITY**
- **SWAG MEETING**
- **W.I. 25 YEARS**

*and much more*

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## EDITORIAL

It is the start of summer and the sun has come out! Now we want rain to help make the gardens grow and produce lovely crops such as the tomatoes on the front cover of this month's Rabbiter. Big congratulations to Daniel who grew tomato plants and sold them for charity (see page 8). We look forward to seeing pictures of the tomatoes and hope they are as stunning as those on our cover!

As many of you will have heard, planning has been granted for a pub, care home and dentist on the Island Site by the traffic lights on Beggarwood. It is always difficult when open space is used for building and a similar proposal for a pub on this site was made a few years ago. With our aging population, facilities for the elderly are increasingly needed but are often far too expensive for many people so we need to campaign that the proposed care home is affordable and priority is given to local residents. A local dentist is vital to our community as it is important to look after your teeth. However all of these proposals together with development on land the other side of the main road will mean even more traffic travelling on the Winchester Road.

Sunday 12 August is a date that is firmly written in my diary as it will be when we say goodbye to Father Michael (see pages 10/21). He has been a great asset to our community and will be a very hard act to follow. He has worked tirelessly to build our community, started the Cycling Club, Film Club and has become a great barista at the Café in the Park. His new parish in Bournemouth are very lucky to have him joining them.

The Summer Festival organised by the Community Association is on Saturday 14 July. This is a great and very popular event. Go along and enjoy food, activities, music and much more – you are guaranteed to have a good time.

Is it really possible that the Hatch Warren WI have just celebrated their 25th birthday (see page 12). I remember that first meeting when we sat in a crowded meeting room at the community centre and made friends that have lasted to this day. Our WI meets every month and has some wonderful speakers and activities – it is much more than 'jam and Jerusalem'!

The Café in the Park is going from strength to strength. There is the community lunch on the first Wednesday of each month, bacon sandwiches on Saturday and Sunday mornings, lots of activities for children and now card making and a cuppa (see What's on page).

If you are having a clear out over the summer, please remember that you can advertise items in our Free Ads and reach over 4,000 homes. Just send an email to [newsdesk@therabbiter.biz](mailto:newsdesk@therabbiter.biz) to have your items included in our free ads listing.

The Rabbiter takes a break in August so our next edition will be coming through your letterbox at the beginning of September. Copy date for September issue is 15 August

Have a great summer everyone!

**The Editor**



Keep an eye out for the web symbol – you can find out more on these articles and also other articles we unfortunately had no space to feature at:

[www.therabbiter.biz](http://www.therabbiter.biz)

# THE Rabbiter

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 5 HATCH WARREN SCOUT GROUP  
THE SUN INN  
SPECIAL SOLUTION TO LONELINESS  
WITH MAN'S BEST FRIEND
- 6 WHAT'S ON  
DUMMER VILLAGE FETE 5K TRAIL RUN  
SWAG MEETING
- 7 PROBUS HEARS ABOUT COLDITZ  
CASTLE POW CAMP
- 8 LAMB BROOKS LEGAL EYE  
COUNCILLOR UPDATE  
GROWING TOMATO PLANTS  
FOR CHARITY
- 10 FAREWELL TO HATCH WARREN  
AND BEGGARWOOD  
THE BIG LITTERPICK  
"RICH LOCAL COLOUR"  
PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION
- 12 CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT  
FELLOWSHIP  
HATCH WARREN W.I. IS 25 YEARS OLD
- 14 PHILLIPS SOLICITORS
- 16 CHILDRENS' CORNER
- 17 SEA CADETS
- 18 COMMUNITY CENTRE
- 19 THE WARREN
- 20 ST MICHAEL'S HOSPICE STORE  
SORTING CENTRE
- 21 SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING  
HATCH WARREN BEGGARWOOD  
CYCLING CLUB
- 22 RABBITER CONTACTS
- 24 CLASSIFIED ADS  
DISCOVERY CENTRE  
SOUTH HAM LIBRARY  
BUS TIMETABLE
- 25 FREE ADS  
BASINGSTOKE NEIGHBOUR CARE
- 26 HATCH WARREN RUNNERS

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## HATCH WARREN SCOUT GROUP

**BEAVERS** Busy busy busy Beavers this month! We had an outing to Tidal Bay crazy-golf, which the Beavers absolutely loved. Unfortunately it rained on the evening Chinook colony were meant to be going, but they thoroughly enjoyed bowling as an alternative.

We spent an evening in the hall pitching tents to ensure everyone can get their Outdoor Challenge badge. Great fun was had by all!

We spent an evening reviewing our progress towards our book reader badges – the Beavers have read six books each – and played some book related games.

**CUBS** There has been lots of badge work this month. The Cubs have been looking after their parsley and onion plants at home as part of work towards their Gardener badges, and we've also completed some work towards our Navigator badges.

We've held a volleyball evening in the hall as well as playing hockey at Down Grange. Both evenings were a lot of fun as well as introducing many of the Cubs to sports that they had not played before.

As I write this, some of the older Cubs are at District Camp. More on what they got up to in the next edition.

**SCOUTS** Along with a couple of meetings at the hall, we have spent much of our time out and about over the last month.

Our night at Middle Copse included a challenge for the Scouts to build a fire up as fast as they could, the challenge being to get it big enough to burst a balloon of water hanging over the fire. Of course, there were hot dogs and s'mores to enjoy around the fire before the end of the night.

With half the troop at the hall taking on a series of personal and group challenges, the other half headed to the Basingstoke Canal for the first of our Canoeing weeks. After some time getting used to paddling we headed up along the canal to explore. On our way back we used the winding hole to play a few games on the water. Only one Scout ended up in the water without meaning to and a couple of others had a controlled capsize at the end. We'll swap in a few weeks and the other half of the troop will get their chance to go canoeing.

## SPECIAL SOLUTION TO LONELINESS WITH MAN'S BEST FRIEND

'Barking Mad hosts have a furry companion to stay for a weekend break or longer'.



Have you always wanted a dog but worried you couldn't look after it full time? A company in Basingstoke is giving people the chance to dog-sit whilst their owners are on holiday.

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Contact Samantha on 01256 830705, email [sam.walker@barkingmad.uk.com](mailto:sam.walker@barkingmad.uk.com) or visit the website [www.barkingmad.uk.com](http://www.barkingmad.uk.com)

## THE SUN INN

I thought that we should again stay local for our next outing so chose the Sun Inn on the A30 at Dummer. Describing itself as an award winning gastropub and bar the idea of having Sunday lunch had an appeal so I booked a table for two.

The car park was full; always a good sign. We were ushered into the restaurant room to the right of the entrance where our table was ready. A wooden floor was topped with modern square wooden tables capable of having no more than twenty or so covers and was set off with vertically striped wallpaper which created a café type of environment. On enquiring it appears that several rooms to the left of the entrance had customers also partaking off the menu selection. So there is nothing special about the restaurant offerings then.

I had a pint of Stella lager and madam ordered a large G&T which arrived with one rapidly melting piece of ice so it was sent back for more and a slice of lemon, if you please. Being Sunday it had to be roast beef and Yorkshire pudding and many of the other diners seemed to have the same in mind. Nicely presented on a square plate it appeared to be a substantial amount of meat but disappointingly it was covering a mound of red cabbage amply dosed in dark tasty gravy, or jus as the menu described.

Unfortunately the beef was thinly sliced and was rare. I prefer it medium to well but we were not offered a choice. The Yorkshire pudding stood in a corner, all dry, so it was necessary to cut a piece and push it through some of the jus. The roast potatoes were fine but the mashed swede and sliced green beans needed seasoning. Salt and pepper had to be summoned as well as some horse radish sauce.

The sweet menu had insufficient variety and we enquired if the cheese selection was sufficient for sharing but apparently not. I had the carrot cake and madam the cheese board which was beautifully presented on a round wooden platter covered with a glass dome. Definitely A for presentation. However there was enough for two people to share although the four thinly sliced miniature pieces of bread were insufficient for the amount of cheese. Some butter would have helped too. I ate the Cheddar, Madam the blue and two pieces came home with us.

The carrot cake was a misnomer in my book. It was a shallow rectangular piece of orange coloured sponge with a few pieces of nuts on the top with a small scoop of vanilla sorbet. No creamy cheese topping in sight.

Not including a tip for the waiting staff, this lunch cost £56.10 which I felt was a tad expensive in view of the problems we had experienced. Perhaps on another occasion, selecting something from the menu that needed to be freshly cooked may prove to be a better idea.



A30 Wichester Road, Dummer RG25 2DJ 01256 397234



## WHAT'S ON – JULY

Do you have an event locally that you would like to tell people about. The Rabbitter reaches over 4000 homes locally so is the perfect way to publicise your event. Just email details to [editor@therabbitter.biz](mailto:editor@therabbitter.biz)

Copy date is the 15th of the month preceding publication.

### July Events

- 1 July Baptism Service at St Mark's
- 4 July Coach Trip to Strictly Ballroom organised by Hatch Warren Community Centre
- 4 July Lunch at the Café in the Park 12.30-2pm - Soup or a Ploughmans
- 5 July Film Night at Immanuel – 'Finding your feet'
- 5 July Hatch Warren WI – A life under German Rule in Guernsey
- 6 July Quiz Night at Beggarwood Community Centre
- 7 July The Big Litterpick – 10am at Beggarwood Community Centre
- 14 July Summer Festival, Hatch Warren Community Centre
- 14 July Dummer Village 5k Trail Run – see page 6
- 19 July Card & Cuppa at Café in the Park – 1pm-3pm
- 26 July Make a beautiful card & have a regular drink £5 – contact 07884 303557

### Future Events

- 12 August Father Michael's last service here and bbq – see page 21
- 1-15 September Basingstoke Camera Club Annual Exhibition – see page 10
- 6 September An introduction to silk painting workshop
- 8 September Beer Festival, Hatch Warren Community Centre
- 13 September Coach trip – Chicago (Book at Hatch Warren Community Centre)
- 23 September Farleigh Wallop Trail Race – see HW Runners article on page 26
- 4 October Motorway thrills and spills and funny bits
- 31 October Halloween
- 1 November Jane Austen
- 3 November Fireworks Spectacular, Hatch Warren Community Centre
- 7 November Dwali
- 22 November Thanksgiving in USA
- 24 November Trip to Bluewater (Book at Hatch Warren Community Centre)
- 25 November Christmas Fayre, 1.00-4.00 pm Hatch Warren Community Centre
- 1 December Trip to Bath Christmas Market (Book at Hatch Warren Community Centre)
- 20 December Carols & Mulled Wine, Community Café in the park

### Hampshire Farmers Markets

- Alton – 2nd Saturday of the month
- Winchester – 2nd and last Sunday of the month

## DUMMER VILLAGE FETE 5K TRAIL RUN

14 July 2018, 1:30PM

Mark your diaries and plan to join us for the first ever Dummer Village Fete 5K Trail Run. The multi-terrain course begins and ends at Dummer Down Farm and runs through the woods and trails surrounding. There will be custom finisher medals for all participants and awards will be presented to the top 3 male and female overall and to the fastest men and women over age 40.

But you don't have to be fast. The course offers a beautiful trail and walkers are welcome! There will also be a t-shirt and goody bag for all who register in timely fashion and your registration gets you into the Fete afterwards.

All proceeds will benefit the Village of Dummer and All Saints Church; come for the cause and get a bit of exercise before enjoying all that the Fete has to offer.

We also need volunteers to help marshal the course and work the finish line. Ring Tim Hartigan @ 07399 565789 or Email [thartigan@att.net](mailto:thartigan@att.net) for info or to volunteer.

More information available on Dummer Facebook page. Register online: [runbritain.com/races](http://runbritain.com/races) Search by date (July 2018), County (Hampshire), & distance (5K).

## SWAG MEETING

On 31st May almost 200 local residents attended the South West Action Group (SWAG) meeting, where Councillors, council officers, developers and health care professionals answered questions about some of the future developments that will affect south-west Basingstoke. It became clear the major concerns were; 1. Traffic. 2. Gipsy/traveller provision. 3. Healthcare. 4. Motorway Services. 5. Schools.

Please see [www.rabbitter.biz](http://www.rabbitter.biz) for the full article

**Sam Weller**



### REGULAR EVENTS

- Hatch Warren W.I.**, 1st Thursday each month 8.00pm Community Centre (contact Jane Kerry 01256 810255)
- 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 7.00 – 8.30pm Aldworth Science College
- Cliddesden W.I.**, Cliddesden Village Hall, 7.30pm, third Thursday every month (contact Pat Rampton 01256 461034)
- Old Down & Beggarwood Wildlife Group**, [www.olddownandbeggarwood.org.uk](http://www.olddownandbeggarwood.org.uk) email: [odandbwd@gmail.com](mailto:odandbwd@gmail.com)
- Hatch Warren Nature Group**, contact Paul Beevers, [hatch.nature@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://laughter-housevpweb.co.uk)
- Hatch Warren Runners**, meet Monday and Wednesday at 7.15, Portsmouth Arms and at the Co-op Beggarwood. [www.hwrrunners.co.uk](http://www.hwrrunners.co.uk)

## **PROBUS HEARS ABOUT COLDITZ CASTLE POW CAMP**

Built in 1014 as a hunting lodge for the King of Saxony and today a hotel and Youth Hostel, its most famous face was that as a Prisoner of War camp for allied officers in WW2. Hermann Goering, Hitler's deputy, in 1939 described the castle as escape proof.

Colditz Castle became the most famous PoW camp during the war as it became the last ditch place that persistent escapees from other PoW camps were sent. It was the destination that the father of the speaker at the last meeting of the Probust Club of Basingstoke, the social club for retired professional and business managers, found himself in 1940. Peter Storie-Pugh (later full Colonel CBE MC TD DL) had been captured at a battle near Douthens and had escaped twice before ending up in Colditz Castle the place that ensconced officers from Britain, France and Poland.

His son, also a Colonel, Piers Storie-Pugh, who has a particularly impressive army CV, told of the experiences his father endured during five years of captivity. This started with a march from the station across the Adolf Hitler bridge towards the foreboding castle. There were 400 seasoned troops back from the eastern front set to keep control of 800 prisoners. Despite this ratio and with due respect for the actual position of the castle on a promontory there were 300 attempts to escape of which 130 were successful. There were 33 "home runs" where British officers made it back to UK.

Capt Pat Reid was the initial British Escape Officer who maintained that things ran on strict military lines. He escaped in 1942 with three others to Switzerland subsequently became the consultant to the film *The Colditz Story*. It was important that British escape plans did not interfere with any from the French or Polish prisoners. It took up to nine months from the inception of a plan to fulfilment during



which time it was necessary to create the circumstances to give the escapee the best chance of success. This could include creating suitable clothing to match German military uniforms or ladies' skirts and blouses as well as forging the necessary documents. They carved tunnels, hid in the laundry, climbed over precipitously high roofs, vaulted over high fences and, of course, made the famous glider. This had been constructed in a supposedly locked loft room made from bed sheets and planks from the stage. It had been calculated that it would fly up to 1000 feet and was kept in reserve in case problems occurred with German troops inside the castle.

Peter Storie-Pugh was involved in assisting 21 escapes. Some were not successful in that the escapees were recaptured and kept in solitary confinement and fed on bread and water. The first successful escapee was Airey Neave, dressed as a German corporal. He became a barrister, worked for MI9, was elected as a Conservative MP and murdered during the Irish troubles in 1979 when his car was blown up on the ramp from the car park in the House of Commons.

Many rowdy games were played in the castle court yard as well as putting on stage shows that held the attention of the guards and covered up potentially noisy escape workings. In the meantime moral was boosted by a secret radio giving the football scores courtesy of the BBC and receiving coded letters from home and postcards from successful escapees. Peter Storie-Pugh also carried out a correspondence course with Cambridge University and gained a BA while still a prisoner.

This multinational mix of prisoners drawn from all three services from 2/Lt to General cooperated in escapes, shared cold, starvation and frustration, but seldom boredom as they tried every method of escape. But they kept German guards away from fighting against our troops. Colditz Castle was liberated by the US Army on 15th April 1945 but the first person to enter the Castle by Jeep was a delightful young female war correspondent. A very welcome sight for the men of Colditz who should not be compared to today's lightweight celebrities but were true role models who exhibited the finest personal qualities against a back drop of a world war.

More information about the Probust Club of Basingstoke can be seen on their web site [www.probusbasingstoke.wordpress.com](http://www.probusbasingstoke.wordpress.com) or phone their Secretary, Paul Flint on 07770 886521 for an informal chat.

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## DIVORCE GOES VIRTUAL

A new online service should cut the stress of applying for a divorce according to the Ministry of Justice, but family law professionals warn it's likely to benefit only those with simple finances who are pursuing the DIY route.

The Ministry of Justice announcement of the nationwide scheme for online divorce applications follows a successful pilot earlier this year. While rejections average around 40% for paper applications, because forms have not been completed correctly or documents are missing, only 0.6% were rejected in the online submission pilot.

The move is one of the latest initiatives in a £1bn modernisation programme for the department, which will also see a reduction in the numbers employed

in the courts. And while professionals have welcomed any simplification to the process, they stress the importance of always remembering to put in place a financial clean break alongside the divorce.

As Rob Parker, specialist family law solicitor at Lamb Brooks explains, 'whilst the divorce achieves legal separation, it is the clean break order which actually severs any financial ties, enabling the parties to the marriage to have complete financial independence from one another. Given recent legal authorities which have demonstrated that financial claims can still be pursued many years after the final decree of divorce has been pronounced, it is more important than ever to seek specialist

legal advice about putting in place a clean break order to make sure that neither party is left vulnerable to a financial claim in the future.'

Financial matters are so often at the centre of separations and divorces and these are among the issues that most are keen to resolve. We work with you to understand and identify the full financial picture – incomes, property, pensions, etc. before advising on your next steps.

For further information on separation, divorce or any other family law matters please contact Rob Parker, Associate Solicitor on 01256 305530 or email [rob.parker@lambbrooks.com](mailto:rob.parker@lambbrooks.com)

Expert Legal Advice in every issue of the Rabbiter

## COUNCILLOR UPDATE

**SWAG MEETING:** The public meeting was held at the end of May and was, as always, very well attended. I think it is worth going on record to thank everyone involved in the organisation and running of the meeting, especially Heather Rainbow, Stafford Napier, Geoff Burns, Julian Jones and all the volunteers and helpers.

**PLANNING ISSUES:** Many of you will have heard by now that the planning application for development of the Island Site at Beggarwood was approved by the Development Committee at BDBC on 13th June. The application will bring forward various accommodations for older people including an extra care facility. There will also be a family pub/restaurant to be operated by Hall and Wodehouse who run the Portsmouth Arms, and a new, larger dental surgery. I asked that, if the committee approved the application, a number of conditions should be imposed including an improved and enhanced landscaping and screening scheme to mitigate the height of the buildings as they adjoin the A30 but especially to protect the view from Beggarwood Park. I also requested that conditions be placed and imposed against builders using the car

park serving the shops and surgeries at Broadmere Avenue as this has been a constant problem during the construction of the development opposite the centre.

**ROADS:** At time of writing councillors were awaiting a briefing from Hampshire County Council on their proposals for improvements to the Brighton Hill roundabout. I understand that these proposals are likely to go out to public consultation later this year.

**BROADBAND:** I've been contacted by a number of residents locally who have reported some rather familiar problems with broadband locally; slower than expected speeds, dropouts etc. If anyone is concerned about this please let me know, if enough of us are able to demonstrate the same difficulties then we may be able to get the attention of the providers.

**LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE:** Some local residents have reported to me concerns over the maintenance of grass or shrubs in their locality. If anyone feels that their area has been missed, or is not happy with the service, please let me know, the grounds team at BDBC are usually very quick to respond once informed and I am happy to report to them on behalf of residents.  
**Clr Terri Reid**

## GROWING TOMATO PLANTS FOR CHARITY

My name is Daniel, I'm 12yrs old and I go to Brighton Hill Community School. At the beginning of the year I decided to grow a crop of tomato plants from seeds that I could sell to people on my street. 80% of the profits would go to the Guide Dogs for the Blind Charity and the rest would be re-invested for next years crop.

A few weeks ago I set up my table top outside my house to sell my plants, not only did I sell to neighbours I also had a few passing customers. At the end of the day I had sold all the plants and was able to donate £50 to the Charity.

I'm hoping to do the same next year and will donate to a different charity.

**Daniel Cleave**



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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.

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## FAREWELL TO HATCH WARREN AND BEGGARWOOD

Sunday 12th August, my last Sunday here, we have a 10am service followed by a community barbecue at midday

(Please let us know via our Facebook page whether you are coming to help with catering!). Immanuel welcomes everyone, without exception. We'd love to see you.



**Fr Michael Smith**

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/immanuelhwb](http://www.facebook.com/immanuelhwb)

## THE BIG LITTERPICK

### Let's clean up Hatch Warren and Beggarwood

Get together with your neighbours - Litterpick your road and surrounding area and send a picture of the rubbish you collect to the Rabbiter ([newsdesk@therabbiter.biz](mailto:newsdesk@therabbiter.biz)).

The Café in the Park will be open from 10am for coffee and bacon sandwiches. Come along and tell us about your Litterpick!

## “RICH LOCAL COLOUR” PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

The Basingstoke Camera Club Annual Exhibition comprises a collection of photographs from the UK and abroad taken by members of Club. Images range from wildlife through to landscapes. Running from 1st-15th September, this free exhibition is a must see for everyone in Basingstoke interested in photography. Basingstoke Camera Club welcomes photographers whether novices or advanced. The club meets every Thursday at Oakridge



West Community Centre. For further information visit [www.basingstokecameraclub.co.uk](http://www.basingstokecameraclub.co.uk)

Robin White, Publicity Officer, Basingstoke Camera Club

Pheasant by Paul Crane



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This month's speaker was Paul Whittle who gave a very comprehensive and interesting account of a cruise on the Fred Olsen's line Black Watch which traced the history of the Venetian Empire from when it was founded in 421 AD. That was when people from mainland Italy first started to arrive and inhabit the group of 118 small islands that are separated by canals and linked by over 400 bridges. He illustrated his talk with a number of photographs and facts about the turbulent times Venice has gone through, including 2 outbreaks of the plague, so bringing about in the 14th Century the practice of quarantine where ships arriving from infected ports were required to sit at anchor for 40 days before landing. He also spoke about its influence in other Mediterranean countries, the setting up of a ghetto for the Jews, the invasion by Napoleon, the impact of WW2 and finally brought us right up to date with modern day rules of the canal, the restriction on cruise liners and the new flood defences which are all measures being introduced to try and protect the city from flooding.



The next meeting is on 4th July when the speaker will be Cmdr Mike Hill on "Life Aboard Britannia". The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Brookvale Village Hall from 10 am to 12 noon and all retired Civil Servants and their partners are welcome. Further details about meetings and outings can be obtained from the Secretary Tony Brazier on 01256 418770 (Answerphone)

David Cowling

  
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**Guest speaker topics:**  
**5 June: Healthwatch representing your views on health and social care, and Citizens Advice service information & hate crime reporting**  
**3 July: Mindfulness for wellbeing workshop**  
**7 August: Seated Tai Chi for all, followed by Universal Credits information**  
**4 September: instructions on how to use a defibrillator**

**All welcome, no booking needed.**

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## IT'S A SILVER CELEBRATION !

### HATCH WARREN WI IS 25 YEARS OLD



Is it really 25 years ago that I went along to the recently built Community Centre to see what belonging to a new WI would be like? With my young son about to start school, it seemed a good time to investigate. There were at least 40 other women there, and my main memory is being asked to help make tea for everyone with only one pint of milk! (That's what happens when you know the lady, who had invited the WI lady from Winchester to tell us all about it.)

To cut a long story short there was a lot of interest, more than enough people prepared to form a committee and the WI was started. Our first official meeting was held in May 1993.

#### 1994 - 1st Birthday



Joining the largest women's organisation in the country, it soon became clear what an amazing organisation we had become part of.

Over 25 years, our membership has evolved, with each individual bringing their own qualities to the group. Previous reports in the Rabbiter have publicised our activities, giving a flavour of the type of WI we have created. Small, friendly and full of fun, with the options of participating in local competitions, attending national AGMs and contributing to influential WI resolutions.

Two of our members recently attended this year's national AGM held in Cardiff, where they were told that 30,000 new members joined in 2017, with 86 new WIs being established. So far in 2018 a further 19,000 members have joined, with the formation of 63 new WIs.

The National Chair mentioned the many successful campaigns run by the WI, and the media interest in all that we do. You may not be aware but the WI's resolutions lead to many famous campaigns, which started in 1918 with "Support for State Aided Housing". A few of many others include "Women serving on Juries", "Banning Smoking", "Equal Pay", "Keep Britain Tidy", "Breast Cancer Screening", "Fairtrade", and "Plastic Soup". (There is a whole book on WI campaigns if you are interested). She said it was clear that the WI movement had great influencing power on society and Government.

The Hampshire County WI started 100 years ago, with many celebratory events happening this year. Our own quarter of a century makes us feel young in comparison, and there are still 2 founder members (who shared that pint of milk with all those



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others so long ago). 25 years of hosting parties has seen the best of our members' creative talents, and it is the most enjoyable part of the Hatch Warren WI year. This year's theme was obvious, as 25 is silver. Wear something silver, decorate the room in silver; bring something silver for the competition - easy. Our "Party Planners" were given a rest this year, and entertainment was provided by a repeat visit from a popular jazz band. As usual, members were joined by guests from other WIs in the Loddon Group, along with a former County Chairman and previous WI Adviser, Sue Attrill. Sadly missed, was our founding WI Adviser Jean Johnson, who often attended the meetings, but passed away suddenly last year.

Now half way through 2018, there are still many activities to look forward to. We have a craft group which meets regularly

at a member's home, and another travel group organises trips out and about.

We have had a variety of different speakers at our monthly meetings; and learned a lot over the years! Here is our Programme for the rest of 2018:

**5th July – A Life Under German Rule in Guernsey**

**2nd August – Summer Social Evening (held in a member's garden)**

**6th September – An introduction to silk painting workshop**

(Material cost £1.50 per member)

**4th October – Motorway thrills and spills and funny bits!**

**1st November – Jane Austen**

WI Meetings are held at the Hatch Warren Community Centre, Long Cross Lane, Basingstoke RG22 4XF at 8:00pm usually on the 1st Thursday of each month. If you would like to come along and try us out, a warm and friendly welcome awaits. Just turn up on the night, or for more information visit our website or contact

**Jane on  
07798 842487**



**THANK YOU LETTER**

This is a special letter to Jenny the Editor, to say "Thank you for publishing all the WI's reports in The Rabbiter during the last 25 years." Your encouragement (and occasional chiding!) has helped me to create an additional record of meetings and events, more interesting than our standard committee meeting minutes. More photos were also taken as my journalistic tendencies developed.

The publicity that our link has provided, has been appreciated far and wide, even reaching the National WIs Chairman, back in 2004. Her subsequent visit to our first big birthday meeting, was the highlight of my years as President, impressing our VIPs in Winchester.

As my articles and publicity reached the highest echelons in the WI, The Rabbiter has also become an award winning, professionally produced local newsletter, admired by many.

My "Rabbiter Reports" have all been kept and are currently being filed (well I did used to be a librarian!). Looking back at them after all these years makes me proud of both our achievements, but I still think you should have brought at least 2 pints of milk to that first WI start up meeting!

**Sandra Christie**



### HELP TO BUY SCHEME



Zoe Baxter

[www.phillips-law.co.uk](http://www.phillips-law.co.uk)

### It can be a real challenge to get onto the property ladder. However there is help on hand with the Help to Buy scheme.

There are two parts to the scheme – the Help to Buy equity loan and the Help to Buy ISA which the Governments tops up by 25% when you come to buy your house.

#### The Help to Buy equity loan

This scheme is only available on new-build properties that have a purchase price of up to £600,000. It is available to both first time buyers and existing home owners, but the property you buy must be your only residence and is not available to buy to let investors.

You only need a 5% deposit and the government will lend you up to 20%. You will need to apply for a mortgage from a commercial lender for the remaining 75%.

For the first five years you will pay no interest, but after that it will cost 1.75% of the outstanding balance each following year.

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A Help to Buy Individual Savings Account (ISA) is a high-interest savings account available for people buying their first property and is available at most high street banks and building societies.

You can earn up to 2.53% interest tax-free and then the Government will add 25% free cash on top of what you save providing you and the property you purchase meet the qualifying criteria

You will need to make an initial deposit of £1,000. After that you can deposit a maximum of £200 a month.

The ISA can be used for a property with a full market value of up to £250,000 or up to £450,000 in London.

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## HATCH WARREN UNDER FIVES PRESCHOOL



After a busy and fun filled year at Hatch Warren Under Fives, it's almost time to say goodbye to our older children leaving for school. We've loved watching each and every one of them grow and gain confidence and we know they are all excited and ready for their next adventures.

We've still got lots more to squeeze into our last few weeks – a mini Olympics in July, which will be a fun opportunity for our children to bring in PE kits and get changed, a perfect practice run for PE at school! We'll be celebrating American Independence Day on July 4th and we'll also be hosting our second drop-in play session for future preschoolers on July 10th. If you can't make our play session, why not pop down to the Hatch Warren Community Centre Summer fair on 14th July? You can visit us here to explore slime, decorate biscuits, try out some tattoos and meet some of our fabulous staff.

On the last day of term we will be spending the morning at Beggarwood Park, playing and eating ice creams before heading back to preschool to enjoy afternoon tea with families and friends ahead of the grand finale - our sing-along and graduation ceremony to say goodbye to our leavers.

When we look back over the year we realise that we have so many people and organisations to thank, our community put so much into our preschool and really help to enhance the children's' learning experiences. We'd like to thank Sainsburys for all of their amazing food donations to our fundraising events; Len the St Mark's lollipop man, who helped bring the magic of Father Christmas into preschool at Christmas, Tom Perkins for a completely fantastic day of tennis coaching; the wonderful Kate from Drama Tots, who engaged the children with an afternoon of imaginative play; St Kitts Veterinary Group, who made a fantastic visit to us recently

to talk about what we do at the vets, they even brought along Dudley the lifelike dog, who was expertly bandaged and given fluids and medicine by the children who were of course appropriately dressed in surgical hats and masks!

Our committee deserve a big thank you too – they've put on some brilliant events for parents and children this year including a fab preschool disco, a Christmas raffle, Easter egg hunts, Teddy Bears picnics, Mother's Day afternoon teas, Father's Day bacon butty afternoons and sponsored obstacle courses. And a really big thank you to our parents too for their support and involvement – and of course our fantastic children!

### TRANSITION

Over the last few weeks many of the children have been making visits to their new "big" schools. We've heard lots of stories about the classrooms and teachers and there's been lots of playing "schools" in role-play. It's exciting times but we should remember that change is difficult for us all. At Hatch Warren Under Fives we do our best to support the children and help them through the transitions into new schools. Research suggests that transitions are central to young children's development and emotional well being, and the way in which the first transitions are handled could have a significant impact on the child's capacity to cope with change in the short and long term. At Hatch Warren Under Fives we support the transition process in a range of ways. We help to prepare a child for school by liaising closely with the schools, working with our families, taking the views of the child into account and providing 'school-like' experiences. If you have any concerns or worries about your little one starting school please speak to any member of our team. What is very important to remember is that **TRANSITION IS A PROCESS NOT A SINGLE EVENT.**

We wish all of our children leaving us this summer lots of luck and every success at school. And we hope you ALL have a great summer.

For preschool registration enquiries please contact Michelle Tejevo, Area Manager, on 01256 322788 or email [preschoolmail@aol.com](mailto:preschoolmail@aol.com).

If you'd like to join us for our FREE parent and toddler play session please join us in the Conservatory at HWCC on Tuesday 10th July, 9.30am-10.45am. No need to book, just turn up and play.

We'd also love to see you at the Hatch Warren Community Centre Summer Festival on July 14th – we'll be there with lots of fun activities for little ones from 12pm-4pm.

[www.hatchwarrenunderfives.co.uk](http://www.hatchwarrenunderfives.co.uk)

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## CANDOVER VALLEY PRESCHOOL

The Summer term is upon us and we are enjoying plenty of outdoors learning. The children and their parents/carers enjoyed a morning at the local kitchen gardens, planting sunflowers, potatoes and a vegetable treasure hunt. At pre-school the children have been working hard weeding the veg patch and planting carrots and onions. The children love making potions in the garden with coloured water and natural resources from the garden as well as using the "mud kitchen" at pre-school which is an area of soil situated under a shady tree and with pots and pans to use. Providing children with the "mud kitchen" gives them opportunities to work alone or work with friends, discuss how to make their mud and who has which saucepan. An open-ended activity such as this offers children to make choices, to follow their own ideas and how to work successfully with others as well as involving lots of fantastic communication and maths.

For the children leaving us to go to school in September, we plan some adult led activities and we help them to practise writing their names. We also ask them to bring in a PE bag so that they can practice changing their clothes ready for a PE lesson. There is a skill in keeping their clothes in one place so they can find them easily after the PE lesson! These are all helpful tips for going to school.

I hope you enjoy the Summer days as much as we do at CVP.

If you are interested in joining a wonderful, nurturing team as Bank Staff (hours between 9-3) please call or email [cvpadmin@btconnect.com](mailto:cvpadmin@btconnect.com) 01256-389008

## CUCKOO MEADOW PRESCHOOL

We are based in North Waltham village, which is less than 10 minutes' drive from Hatch Warren, and is in a beautiful rural setting. The children who attend come from within the village and the surrounding areas including Oakley, Dummer, Hatch Warren, Kempshott and Beggarwood 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.

As the summer term draws to a close, attention turns to saying goodbye to those children leaving the pre-school for big school. There will be a bumper crop this year heading to schools in North Waltham, Hatch Warren and beyond. To celebrate, a class photo has just been taken as a memento and a leavers party and ceremony will be held at the end of term with family members invited to attend. Watch for more information from Fiona and Jo if your child attends the pre-school. Children from the pre-school are well-positioned for big school, having gained invaluable skills such as listening and cooperation as well as independence in dressing and personal hygiene. The regular "show and tell" slot is a particular aspect referenced as giving the little ones lots of confidence in speaking in front of others. In September there will be a fresh intake of new recruits with many quite young children starting. That should keep the team busy!

Remember, there are still spaces available for this September at the Ofsted Outstanding ranked pre-school, to arrange your visit, please contact Jo or Fiona on 01256 398172.

## SEA CADETS – BRING A FRIEND – ALL WELCOME ABOARD THIS SUMMER

TS Mary Rose Basingstoke & Deane Sea Cadets is encouraging young people (12-17 years) to bring a friend and come aboard to enjoy fun activities both ashore and on the water.

The Sea Cadets, who meet at Sycamore Halls, Winklebury on Monday and Friday evenings, are welcoming new recruits. For young people and their friends who want to have a go at sailing, power boating, kayaking, rowing and windsurfing, these are on offer with the Sea Cadets. For those who want a challenge, adventure training is also very popular and includes learning how to pitch a tent, cook and survive outdoors.

Darren Rust, Commanding Officer, said: "Sea Cadets offers so many opportunities. It's a great place to make new friends, have fun and learn new skills. In Basingstoke we are one of the few organisations which can get young people out onto the water to enjoy a range of activities. Also we are linked to the Mary Rose Trust at Portsmouth, meaning we are invited to support their events from time to time."

Juniors aged between 10 -12 years old are welcome too – there are lots of activities they can join in with, including swimming and sailing.

All activities are led by well qualified instructors and everyone gets a chance to learn other useful skills such as First Aid, catering, seamanship and communication.

To find out more, email: [tsmaryrosescc@btconnect.com](mailto:tsmaryrosescc@btconnect.com), call 01256 335893 or visit our website [www.sea-cadets.org/basingstoke](http://www.sea-cadets.org/basingstoke)

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# Summer Festival

**Hatch Warren Community Centre Playing Fields**

**Saturday 14th July 12-4pm**

**Free Entry Family Community Event**

We are very excited to announce that our hugely popular Summer Festival is happening again this year. It will take place on the fields of the Community Centre (weather permitting) or indoors (if not!). We have pulled out all the stops to put on a great "Summer Fun, Family Day" for the Community with, we believe, something for everyone. This is our third year running the Summer Festival and we have again increased the offering from the 65+ activities and delights on offer last year, to around 80 this year.

So if you have an hour to spare, or maybe even the whole afternoon, please walk down to the Community Centre and prepare to have lots of fun! Here is a taster of what we have on offer for you to see, experience and enjoy.....

#### RETAIL THERAPY

Over 25 stalls of fabulous crafts and food and local charities

#### EAT & DRINK

Hot Food  
Cakes and teas/coffees  
Licensed Bar  
Candy Floss/donuts  
Tuck Shop

#### WATCH

Some fabulous local groups in the Main Arena and even sign up to join them!  
Entertainment from DJ Mark Halliday throughout the day!

#### HAVE FUN

Tombola / Children's Lucky Dip  
All the fun of the fair  
Children's activities and taster sessions  
Fire engines/tanks/vintage vehicles  
Zorbing football  
Pitch and Putt  
Face painting/glitter tattoos/hair braiding  
The fantastic Storm Trooper is back!

**We can't wait to see you again and welcome you to our Festival, for what we hope will be another wonderful day!**

This is a fundraising event for HWBCA Charity Number 1161117

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www.hatchwarren.org/ www.facebook.com/Cafe-in-the-Park-193251579993075/

# BEER Festival

**Saturday 8th September**  
**7-11pm - Adults Only**

wine, cider and prosecco also available!

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

## COACH TRIPS

- Chicago, Phoenix Theatre London, Thur 13th Sept 7.30pm, £60pp
- Bluewater shopping trip, Sat 24th Nov 8am-5pm, £20pp
- Bath Christmas Markets, Sat 1st Dec 8am-5pm, £20pp

To book please email [office@hatchwarren.org](mailto:office@hatchwarren.org)  
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**FRIDAY NIGHT TERM TIME YEARS 6-8  
YOUTH CLUB ACTIVITIES (see below)**

**JUL/AUG 2018 Programme 6.00 to 8.00pm**

24th July	Water fight!!
25th July	Sumo suits
26th July	Nail bar and temp tattoos
27th July	Circus skills
31st July	Manhunt
1st Aug	Dodgeball
2nd Aug	Graffiti art
3rd Aug	Street dance with Happy Feet
7th Aug	DJ decks
8th Aug	Tie dye t-shirts
9th Aug	Rugby with Basingstoke Rugby Club
10th Aug	Football coaching and tournament with Burghclere Football Club
14th Aug	Pamper night
15th Aug	Space hopper races
16th Aug	Nerf gun fight
17th Aug	Basketball with Reading Rockets
21st Aug	Zorb balls
22nd Aug	Rounders
23rd Aug	Sand art and face painting
24th Aug	End of Streetz : barbecue night
31st Aug	Movie night The Greatest Showman (bring your singing voices!)

**FREE ENTRY FOR ALL YOUNG PEOPLE**

**Summer Streetz is here!!** Our hours will be 6-8pm for ages 10-17. For the first time we are so excited to be able to continue our older sessions throughout Summer Streetz. We will be open 8-9pm Fridays for our young people aged 13 and over. **Any current year fives who will be in year 6 Sept 2018 are welcome from the start of Summer Streetz.** We can't wait to meet you all!!

**FRIDAY NIGHT TERM TIME AGES 13+  
OPEN ACCESS & HEALTH HUB**

**Health Hub Programme - 8.00 to 9.00pm**

We are open Fridays 8.00-9.00pm for school years 9 and above during Summer Streetz. If you want to play pool, FIFA or just hang out come on down. We sell food and drinks (including tea and hot chocolate) and we can also offer you free confidential advice on a whole range of issues including contraception and pregnancy testing. In addition to all this we will happily help you with CVs, revision and even job applications. We run focused information nights for 13-18 year olds, our next nights are:

- 6th July - Smoking; why is it bad?**
- 3rd Aug - Career and employment skills, learn how to apply for jobs, write a CV and make professional phone calls**

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

**New Pool Cues**

We would like to thank our volunteer Nat for our shiny new pool cues. Our pool table is very important to us due to the youth work we do involving it, as well as how much our young people like to use it.

We are really grateful for donations towards the upkeep. Pool tournament coming soon!!



Huge thanks to Chantal from Champs Academy for coming in and running a brilliant Bully Proof session with a group of young people...they really enjoyed it!!

For more information:

Email: [Chantal.champsacademy@gmail.com](mailto:Chantal.champsacademy@gmail.com)  
<http://www.champs-academy.co.uk/chantal-dawson/>  
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## ST MICHAEL'S HOSPICE STORE SORTING CENTRE

Our Sorting and Distribution Centre has been open for a few weeks now and is proving to be a real success.



Volunteers and staff are enjoying working there and the stores are delighted with how much it helps them, giving them more time to make the shop look great and to talk to and help our customers.

We are looking for some more lovely volunteers to join us to help us to sort items such as clothing, jewellery, books and bric and brac etc. ready to be sent on to our stores to help raise funds for St. Michael's Hospice.

We also have a few vacancies for drivers and drivers' mates to help us deliver the items to our shops across North Hampshire. More details about the volunteer roles available are on our website or by calling Laura Williams on 01256 848882.

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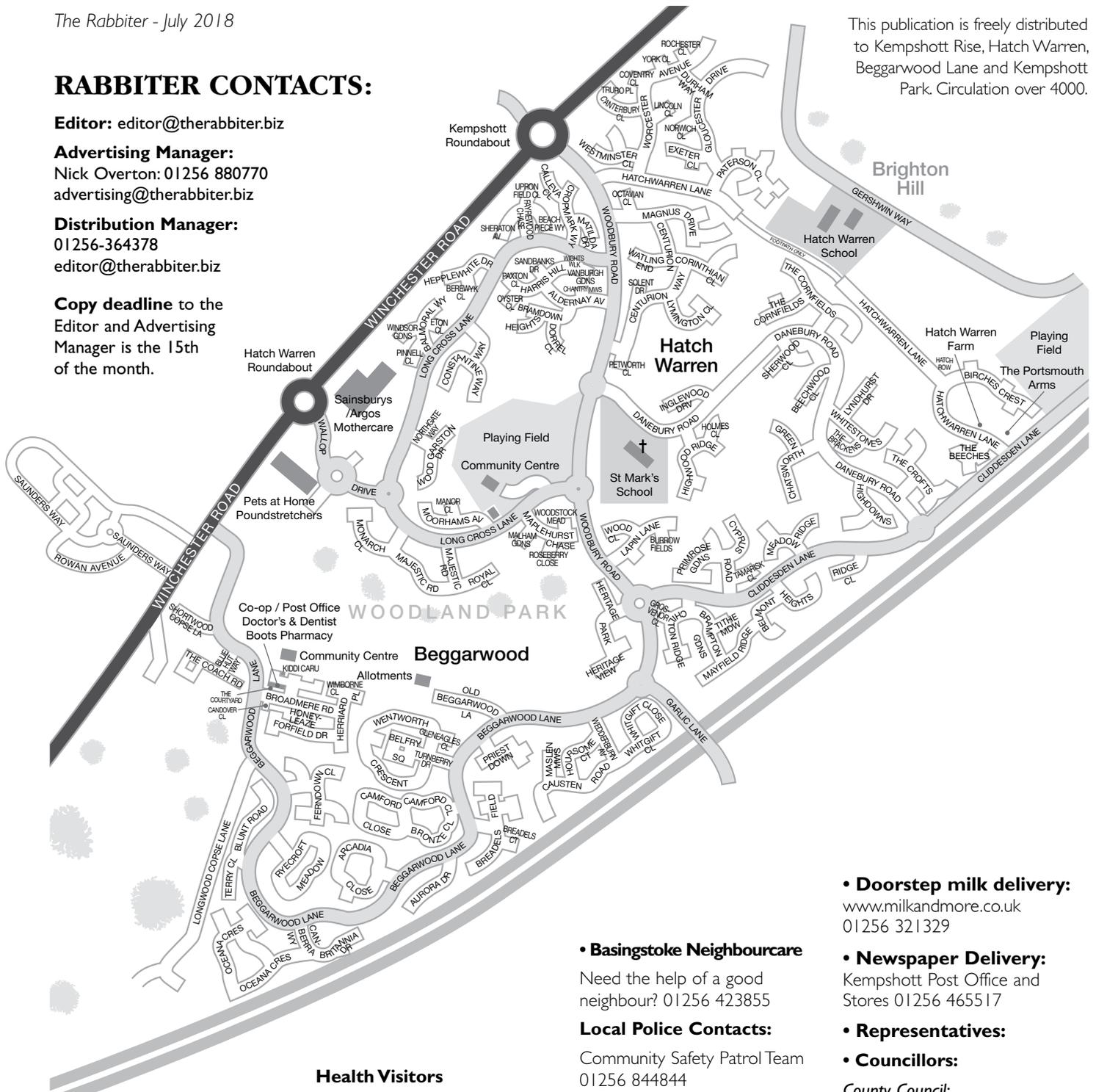
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01256-364378  
editor@therabbiter.biz

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

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See page 24

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**Saturdays:** 0649, then every 30 minutes until 0849, 0909, then every 15 minutes until 1739, then every 20 minutes until 1839, 1858, 1923, 1952, 2022, 2122, 2222, 2322

**Sundays:** 0909, then hourly until 1809, 1908, 2007, 2107

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**Saturdays:** 0650, 0720, 0750, 0820, then every 15 mins at 40, 55, 10, 25 until 1710, 1750, 1810, 1830, 1855, 1925, 1955, 2055, 2155, 2255

**Sundays:** 0840 then at these times every hour 40 until 2040

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**No. 12 Buses will leave Bus Station:**

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As is often the case, demand for such services continues to outstrip supply so we're in great need of additional volunteer drivers and befrienders. If you feel that you could contribute in either of these areas, then please pick up the phone and call us on 01256 423855 or drop us an email at [info@neighbourcare.com](mailto:info@neighbourcare.com).

We'd be delighted to hear from you.





## HATCH WARREN RUNNERS

This must be the busiest month I have ever reported on, and covers nearly every distance the runners do from 1 mile, 5k, 10k, 5 miles, 10 miles, half marathons and marathons, so an extremely busy month for the club!

Firstly, I must shout out to the Brighton Marathon and 10k runners who ran back in April. Another shout out goes to the runners that went to Salzburg for Sue Kemp's 50th birthday celebrations to take part in races and those who ran Dinton Pastures 5k (first in series); there was just not enough space last month to mention all of these.

On 12 May Rebecca Vincent was the first lady home in the Silchester 5 miles with a fab time of 24.57 – well done!

On 13 May a good percentage of the club were out racing, which included Festival Place 5k (a run around the town, Basing View and Eastrop Park on a Sunday morning), Appleshaw 5k (where Rory Horseman took the top spot by coming in 1st overall, after having taken 4th place in

the morning at Festival Place 5k - amazing), Alton 10 miles, Henley on Thames Trail Half Marathon and the inaugural British Airways Gatwick Half Marathon.

On Wed 16 May no runs were planned as the club supported St Michael's Hospice in their 5k and 10k runs, something the club takes part in every year. Not only did the club have 29 running the 5k and 21 running the 10k, they also had many of the hatchies marshalling, or testing the course before the races, so a very busy, rewarding charity evening for HWR.

On 16 May we had a runner take part in the Decathlon Sports Series 5k in Reading.

On 20 May there were a number of events the club had runners in, including Stockly Park 10k and Green Park 10k, which saw Darrel May take 9th place out of 1556 runners in a time of 36.17; well done Darrel!) The club also had



runners in the Hook 10 miles, Worcester Half Marathon and Liverpool Rock 'n' Roll Marathon and Half Marathon. A number of the runners took part in the Liverpool running weekend taking in the rock/pop history of Liverpool. Finally, on 20 May, Simon Parker ran a half marathon on Santa Monica Beach in Los Angeles – lovely!

A trip into London on 27 May saw members run the Westminster Mile and the London Vitality 10k; some of the runners even managed a close up of Mo Farah at the event. On 27 May there were also runners in the Newbury 10k and the Sarsen Neolithic Marathon.

May came to a close on 31st with members running in the Cowdray Park 10k trail run.

Don't forget our own Farleigh Wallop Trail Race on Sunday 23 September. Places are selling fast - secure your place at [www.fullonsport.com](http://www.fullonsport.com).

HWR meet on Monday & Wednesday evenings with runs starting at various locations in Hatch Warren & Beggarwood. For more details visit [www.hwrunners.co.uk](http://www.hwrunners.co.uk), email [hwrunners@sky.com](mailto:hwrunners@sky.com), or look for Hatch Warren Runners on Facebook.

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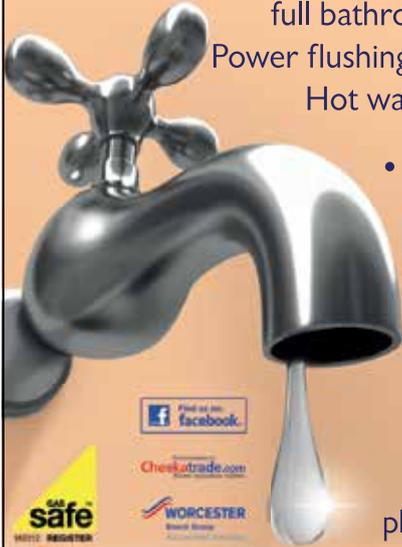
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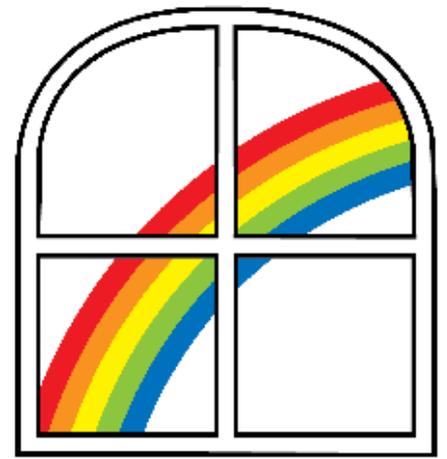


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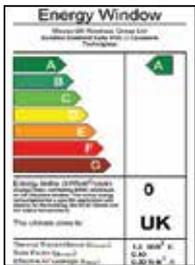
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