Rabbiter

Issue 267 December-January 2020

All the regular features plus

- SEASONAL EVENTS
- CHRISTMAS BINS & RECYCLING
- SAINSBURY'S CHRISTMAS HOURS

and much more

The Community Newsletter for Hatch Warren, Beggarwood and Kempshott Park

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EDITORIAL

The children of the After School Club at Hatch Warren Community Centre drew the fabulous pictures for our annual December front cover competition. So many lovely drawings it was hard to decide which one to choose. We love this year's picture of robins drawn by Jade Blackwell with runners up Eloise Heaton and Liam Mckenna. A big thank you to Sainsbury's who sponsor our annual cover picture competition.

Christmas is a time for people to come together and celebrate. The Carol Service at the Café in the Park is being held on 19 December at 6.30pm – come along, join in and enjoy a mince pie and mulled wine. Members of the WI will be enjoying their Christmas meal in December and their first meeting will be on 2 January – see page 5. Beggarwood Bookworms will enjoy a meeting in the pub in December and meet at the Café in the Park at the end of January. If you enjoy reading why not join in with this lively group – see page 6. And the Community Lunch on Wednesday 4 December will have a festive touch – come along between 12.15 and 1.15pm to enjoy a jacket potato with beans and cheese or a ploughman's lunch followed by a delicious mince pie and all for only \pounds 4!

Farleigh Wallop Estate Club is holding a Christmas Fun Day on 7 December and all are welcome – see page 22,

Our local council are again organising a Christmas Tree Recycling Scheme – see page 7 for details of Christmas refuse collection and recycling. The Council are currently updating the local plan and residents comments are requested by 1 January – see page 21. The council are currently consulting on improvements to Beggarwood Park and comments are invited by 15 December – see page 22 on how you can contribute.

The Rabbiter does not publish in January so our next issue will be February 2020 – copy date 15 January. We could not continue without the help and support of our contributors, advertisers and our wonderful team of distributors. The Rabbiter would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Editor

Eloise Heaton

Liam Mckenna





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HATCH WARREN WI

Hatch Warren W.I. welcomed Jackie Dimock to our November meeting where we were thoroughly entertained with tales of her life as W.P.C. 22, having served 30years in Hampshire Police service. Humourous happenings in the Police were illustrated on Patchwork Samplers. After training she was stationed on the I.O.W. at Newport for 18 years, then moved to Aldershot, Alton, Fleet and Basingstoke. In 1982 it was a new thing to see a W.P.C. Her uniform was white blouse, blue skirt, stockings and suspenders, so chasing a burglar over a wall called for an illustration on one of her samplers, showing legs and suspenders. Jackie spent most of her time in Child Protection, including a school vandalised by two boys aged 8 and 9. Having talked to children and listening to their tales, this called for more humourous samplers. Having ended her service in P.O.V.A protecting venerable adults which concluded with more funny tales.

October was a very busy month with Lady Carnarvon's talk at our Loddon Group meeting about the history of Highclere Castle, and the involvement of 'Downton Abbey'. Congratulations to Marianne who bake the winning 'Maids of Honour cakes' on our behalf and being presented with the cup at the meeting. The Autumn meeting held at the Anvil saw members enjoy a really inspiring talk by Sally Becker who rescued children from the Bosnian war, Sally was given a standing ovation at the end. The afternoon saw members enjoying a tribute to Neil Diamond and Tom Jones. Again the weather stopped us finishing our heritage walk, but the tea and cake and chat was enjoyable. Two members attended the Archiving event at Eastleigh, to learn how to archive our material and how this is stored at the Winchester Archive.

December we will enjoy our Christmas meal and celebrations at the Wheatsheaf Hotel. We start our new programme on January 2nd at 8 p.m. at Hatch Warren Community Centre. Our speaker will be Rowan Whiffin ' South African Safari', so why not come and join us and be transported to the delights of Africa and forget the cold in January, for more information please contact our President Lynette on 07824 535868.

On behalf of all the members of Hatch Warren W.I. we WISH YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

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

- I. Priest Down and Old Beggarwood Lane
- 2. Breadels Field and Breadels Court
- 3. Camford Close
- 4. Wentworth Crescent; Belfry Square; Turnberry Drive and Gleneagles Close



6. Longacre 7. Inglewood Drive

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COUNCILLOR'S UPDATE

GOLF COURSE PLANNING APPLICATION

The earliest this will go to Basingstoke and Deane's Development Control committee appears to be January next year.

MANYDOWN PLANNING APPLICATION

This has been delayed again. I understand it may come forward in February at the earliest.

NUMBER NINE BUS

Efforts are underway at County level to engage with Stagecoach to avoid the proposed cut to the service. There has also been a petition organised by local residents against the loss of the route.

BEGGARWOOD PARK OPEN SPACE AND PLAY CONSULTATION

The public consultation on the proposed improvements to play areas within the park is open until 15th December. It is available on the following link: https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/beggarwoodpark and also on paper available from the Community Centres.

LONGCROSS LANE

A number of complaints have been received about the stretch of Longcross Lane by the pinch point as you approach the mini roundabout for Wallop Drive close to Constantine and Northgate. The surface has degraded, and issues are being caused by parking along the stretch close to where it becomes one lane. BDBC road engineers have agreed to take a close look, and consider under the next round of funding for double yellow line schemes. HCC have agreed to look at the surface problems.

BEGGARWOOD LANE

I raised with planning officers concerns around the state of Beggarwood Lane close to the Island site, it appeared that mud was not being cleared from the road surface. Following interventions this seems to have improved but will be monitored.

THANK YOU

This is a big thank you in advance for any money raised at the Beggarwood Carol service this month. Immanuel Church and Hatch Warren and Beggarwood Community Association have agreed that the collection will go to the Camrose Day Centre for the Homeless in Basingstoke. A massive thank you on behalf of the Centre to everyone who donates, we are extremely grateful.

THANK YOU AGAIN!

And another massive thank you to St Mark's School and to the Head, Charles Applegate, for offering to donate some of the collection from their Christmas performances to Camrose as well, and thank you very much to everyone who contributes, it really makes a difference to some of the most vulnerable people in our town.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Finally, may I wish everyone who reads this a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Hatch Warren and Beggarwood is a great place to live with a wonderful community and I hope we all share in a lovely festive season.

Cllr Terri Ried





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 editor@therabbiter.biz

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

4 December	Health Walk 10.30am & Community Lunch 12.15pm, Cafe in the Park	
6 December	Christmas Carols All Saints' Church, Southern Road Basingstoke 7:45pm.	
8 December	Mayor's Carol Service 7pm St Michael's Church RG21 7QW	
12 Dec-5 Jan	Aladdin, The Anvil	
17 December	Scrooge – A Christmas Panto, The Discovery Centre 5:30pm to 6:30pm	
19 December	Carols in the Park, Cafe in the Park 6.30-7.30pm	
Future Events		

January 2020 No Rabbiter this month. Editorial submission deadline for the February issue is 15th January

Weekly Yoga Classes in Beggarwood Community Centre. Contact the Centre or debra@dummeryoga.co.uk

Hampshire Farmers Markets

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

REGULAR EVENTS

Hatch Warren W.I., Ist Thursday each month 8.00pm Community Centre (contact Lynnette Ingram 07824 535868) **Basingstoke Knit and Natter,** Every Monday 6.30 – 9pm, Starbucks, Houndmills, All knitters, crocheters and spinners welcome 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., Cliddesen Village Hall, 7.30pm, third Thursday every month (contact Pat Rampton 01256 461034) Old Down & Beggarwood Wildlife Group, Meet every Thursday 10-12noon, Old Down Hall. For Beggarwood – usually 3rd Saturday of each month at the Maze www.olddownandbeggarwood.org.uk email: odandbwd@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, www.laughterhousecomedy.club Hatch Warren Runners, meet Monday and Wednesday at 7.15, Portsmouth Arms and at the Co-op Beggarwood. www.hwrunners.co.uk

SWAG SNIPPETS

Basingstoke Golf Club See planning reference 19/00971/OUT. The Strategic Planning Document (SPD) for the site has now been approved. Revised plans, moving the traveller pitch and retaining few more trees on the site have been submitted. There is also a further pedestrian access from Longwood Copse Lane and a revised layout for the main roundabout access from the A30.

Local Plan Update See https://www. basingstoke.gov.uk/lpu-newsletters to access information on the review of the Local Plan which begins in 2020. In particular look out for the list of new development sites promoted by landowners to be published this month in a revised Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA).

If you would like to join SWAG email southwestactiongroup@gmail.com Follow us on Facebook @ BasingstokeSouthWestActionGroupSWAG





October marked the first birthday of the Bookworms. We all agreed it has been a great year, reading and discussing a wide variety of genres and we thanked Anne- Marie for organising and running the club. Our author visit was definitely a highlight and we hope to arrange another for next year.

Our book this month was 'The Island' by Victoria Hislop. The novel is set in Crete and centres on the real island of Spinalonga where leprosy sufferers were sent to live out the rest of their days in isolation. The story begins in 1939 and features a family whose father is the boatman who delivers patients and supplies to the island regularly. Elina, his wife is diagnosed with leprosy and she sails across to the island knowing she will never see her family again. Imagine the heartbreak of being able to see your village every day from the island but know you can never return. Over the years the lepers on the island develop a successful and busy community. Sadly Elina dies and one of her daughters is then diagnosed and on the eve of her wedding has to leave and sail to the island as well. Happily by 1958 a cure had been found and the patients were allowed to leave the island and return to their families.

All the members enjoyed the book and a couple had even visited Spinalonga on their travels to Crete. When scored 'The Island 'went to the top of the leader board as our favourite read so far. Next month's book is set in Greek mythology 'Circe' by Madeline Miller. Our meeting is 7.30 pm on November 27th at the Cafe in the Park. New members are always welcome. Come along for coffee,cake and plenty of book chat with all donations going to support the community centre.

DON'T HAVE A RUBBISH CHRISTMAS – RECYCLE

'Tis the season for family and presents – and plenty of extra household waste.

Extra recycling can be put in cardboard boxes or clear sacks. Leave the cardboard box or clear sacks filled with recycling and large, flattened cardboard boxes next to your recycling bin. Please remove the polystyrene and plastic packaging.

Remember that **Christmas wrapping paper cannot be recycled** and needs to go into your black waste bin. Christmas cards can be recycled but only if they do not contain glitter, ribbons or bows.

Christmas can mean extra rubbish which can't be recycled, so extra sacks will be collected for the first collection after Christmas only.

Real Christmas trees can be recycled at a number of drop off points from 2-26 January 2020, please visit www. basingstoke.gov.uk/christmas-tree.

For the first time those people signed up to the Garden Waste service will be able to put their real Christmas trees out with their fortnightly garden waste collection. Christmas trees over 6ft need to be cut in half and decorations must be removed from all trees.

This year bin collections will be affected over two weeks and, unless adverse weather affects bin rounds, collections should return to normal from Monday 13 January 2020.

Normal Dates

Monday 23 Dec Tuesday 24 Dec Wednesday 25 Dec Thursday 26 Dec Friday 27 Dec Monday 30 Dec Tuesday 31 Dec Wednesday 1 Jan Thursday 2 Jan Friday 3 Jan Monday 6 Jan Tuesday 7 Jan Wednesday 8 Jan Thursday 9 Jan Friday 10 Jan Check your bin colle

Festive Dates Monday 23 Dec Tuesday 24 Dec Friday 27 Dec Saturday 28 Dec Monday 30 Dec Tuesday 31 Dec Thursday 2 Jan Friday 3 Jan Saturday 4 Jan Monday 6 Jan Tuesday 7 Jan Wednesday 8 Jan Thursday 9 Jan Friday 10 Jan Saturday || |an

Check your bin collection day on the website www.basingstoke.gov.uk/ bincollections or call 01256 844844.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

MILLER & CARTER STEAKHOUSE Down Grange RG22 4ET

Decisions, decisions. Where to eat when time was pressing? We had spent the day going south to Farnham and then north to Reading with no time to have any lunch. By now it was getting close to 4.30 pm and Madam was due out that night to go back to Reading with a friend to see some am-dram production. Dining out seemed like the best option rather than cooking something for the two of us at home. But where to go?

When the Miller & Carter Steakhouse opened in March last year the Rabbiter wrote a positive review but how were things today? Although it was late Friday afternoon I had expected to see more customers and the reception was unattended so Madam went walk about to find someone. We explained that we had to be out of there by 6.00 pm and knowing that time slips away in such surroundings we were somewhat anxious as to whether we would actually get away on time.

Like many establishments today diners are spoilt for choice. In the end we kept it simple. For starters Madam had Salt and Pepper Calamari with black garlic aioli and I had three mini Yorkshire puddings containing shredded beef topped with melted cheddar cheese and with a miniature saucepan of delicious gravy. Then came the American bit; that of a separate salad dish, although it came just before and

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is probably supposed to be consumed with the main dish. At this restaurant chain it consists of a section of an Iceberg lettuce with a dressing of your choice. For mains we both chose the 50 day aged Black Angus Bistro Rump 8oz steak which was completely fat free and came with a small crispy onion loaf, the usual part of a large tomato and a container of fries. And we both had béarnaise sauce in a small ramekin. For drinks we had a glass each of house wine and a tall slender glass of water with ice and a slice of lemon.

We were completely satisfied and didn't need a dessert which was a just as well although our waiter had made sure we were able to leave with ten minutes to spare. The bill came to $\pounds 62.45$ which for the high quality of food was acceptable. What was even better was that Madam had, for some months, kept in her handbag two Miller & Carter $\pounds 20$ gift vouchers which had a real impact on her decision of where we should dine.



BASINGSTOKE BLUES CLUB

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Saturday 14th December

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Future date: Saturday 18th January – Mark Olbrich's Blues Eternity.





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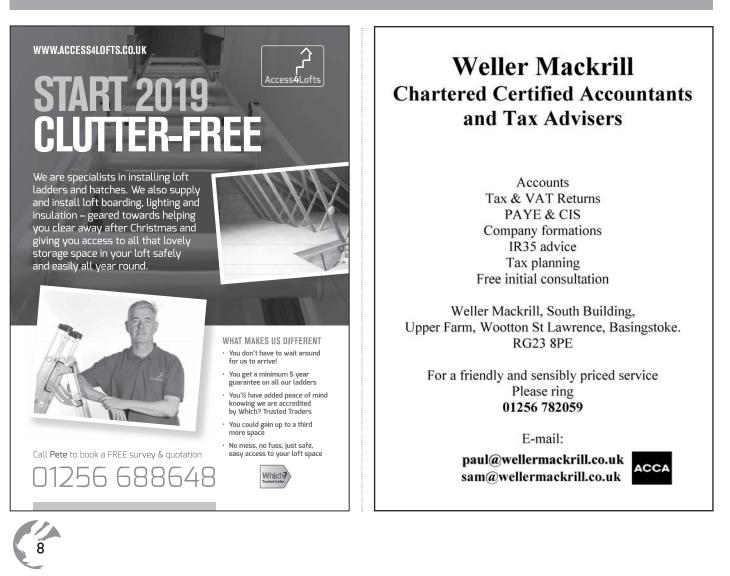


please get in touch to see how we can help.

There are sizable compensation claims to be made when medical negligence has occurred, and although often no sum of money can dull the pain or memories of what happened to you, it can help when families fall on difficult times or are unable to work.

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OLD DOWN AND BEGGARWOOD WILDLIFE GROUP

The work party on Old Down has planted another new rowan tree – that was the last tree in our stock that we had to plant. Rowan berries are particularly good food for birds. Now the group is working on cutting back bramble and dogwood both of which do get out of hand without management.

There was a good bird sighting on Old Down in early November. Four *Hawfinches* were seen together. It is a winter visitor and not that common, so really lovely to see. Another winter visitor which has been seen is the *Redwing*. Over on the Manydown fields groups of *Red-legged Partridges* can often be seen feeding – such a shame that they are only there to be shot for sport and so won't last out the winter. They are such beautifully marked birds.



Hawfinch





5



Red-legged Partridge

The amount of dog poo being left on the two parks is really quite appalling. Not only is the poo being left on the ground but some owners bag it and then throw the bag into the trees – great sight! This is just sheer laziness by some dog owners. If that is how irresponsible and thoughtless some owners are, I fear for their dogs because if this is the way owners behave then obviously they have no care or respect for their pets. Of course, the majority of dog owners are responsible and clear up the poo – but there always has to be a few who spoil things for the many. Both parks are used by children which makes it particularly worrying as dog poo can carry bacteria and parasites which can be transmitted to humans – such as salmonellosis and toxocariasis.

There is a public consultation out in respect of possible improvements on Beggarwood Park. The improvements proposed are to the ball-wall area and BMX area and possible replacement of the maze with a 'wild' play area. If approved, the works could be completed in the next 12 months. Basingstoke Council is proposing substantial modifications and increase in size and facilities to Old Down Hall using planning contributions. But this is very early days for these works.

Work Parties: Please come and join us. For Old Down, we meet outside Old Down Hall every Thursday 10-12 noon. Always check our website just in case there is a cancellation or change. Currently there are no volunteers for work parties on Beggarwood. If anyone is interested in volunteering for Beggarwood please contact the Group to discuss. These work parties can be weekly or monthly and any day of the week.

www.olddownandbeggarwood.org.uk Email: odandbwd@gmail.com







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II ,



PROBUS HEARS ABOUT LIFE IN THE MODERN ARMY

In the last 100 years the British army has moved on from using horses and fairly basic transport to today it has at its disposal great technical as well as mechanical equipment so necessary to defend our way of life and support overseas missions. It also has the benefit of working closely with the RAF and Navy to ensure victory in the field. But what will it be like in twenty or thirty years from now? This is the question posed by Lt Col

Richard C O Grover MBE who told of his experiences as an officer in today's infantry regiments at the latest Probus Club meeting.

In the eighteen years since graduating from the Sandhurst Military Academy he has risen up the ranks and in 2020 takes command of the 2nd Battalion of The Mercian Regiment. Getting to this position has not been easy with exposure to great personal risk and deep sadness from the loss and injuries to his troops on the battlefield.

Richard's first posting was to Northern Ireland where he was stationed in Dungannon. He had great respect for the police force who used water cannons to good effect against rioters of either side but when the shooting started the army had to step in.

On detachment to Afghanistan and the night the England football team were playing a world cup match they determined to keep safe in their compound but the Taliban had other ideas. Thirty insurgents attempted to over run their base. Richard was full of praise for the NCOs, the back bone of the British army, who were able to take the fire fight to the enemy so that despite the action of the Taliban his men suffered no losses. During their time in that country, of his company of 130 men, eleven lost their lives and 30 suffered wounds, some life changing. As a result of his activities Richard Grover, a major at the time, was awarded the MBE.

Iraq proved to be a different experience being involved with the post war clear up of Basra. The vagaries of the British weather he considered to be a plus point in handling some of the climate extremes they encountered. The summer heat reached 50 degrees and without air conditioning was difficult to cope with but the winter was cold. Somalia was different again but this was a small operation engaged in trying to prevent internal conflict and also influence matters so as to keep the Russians at bay.

Recent time spent at the Staff College was very much involved with anticipating changes that will occur with the increasing use of cyber attacks and fake news. It is important to counter Russian influence and that of the Chinese in Syria and Africa.

Equally, the positive interaction between the British population and the military, which mainly becomes clear around Remembrance Day in November, has to be managed carefully. The British tax payer needs to continue to support the army that consumes 25% of the defence budget. And it is reassuring that the British military are apolitical and therefore will always follow the ruling of which shade of government is in power:



Probus President Richard Wood with Lt Col Richard Grover MBE and his father Dr Jeff Grover

BASINGSTOKE GANG SHOW - MEET YOUR LOCAL CAST!!



Basingstoke Gang Show returns to The Haymarket for its 27th stunning, variety show spectacular with a production of classic to contemporary performances showcasing the very best of local talent in the Scout & Guide associations; you can expect to be delighted by magnificent live music & LOL comedy. Basingstoke Gang Show is recognised as the best-selling and longest running 'family variety show' in our region and showcases an extremely talented cast – recognise any of the cast living in your area pictured here?

This best-selling amateur production is not to be missed. The 11 performances, many over February half term week 2020, will entertain audiences as you laugh out loud, tap your toes and sing along to the songs that you love.

Intrigued? Book your tickets early for your family and friends to experience this feel good family show at The Haymarket.

Show dates: Thursday 13th to Saturday 22nd February 2020 (excluding Sunday 16th). Matinee performances on Saturday 15th and 22nd February.

Ticket prices: Adults £20.00, Children £14.00. Last night (Saturday 22nd) all seats £21.

Early Booking Discount (book by 31st December 2019) to save £2.00 off each ticket by quoting code 'BGS2020' for performances on Thursday 13th, Monday 17th,Tuesday 18th February 2020.

Group booking discount of \pounds 1.00 off each ticket for every 10 purchased before 31st January 2020. Discounts not available with online bookings. One discount only, per booking.

Book tickets here: https://www.anvilarts. org.uk/whats-on/event/basingstoke-gangshow-2020

Take a look at the Basingstoke Gang Show website www.basingstokegangshow.com







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Caroline Wallis

Whilst many Christmas presents will be forgotten as soon as they have been unwrapped, there is a festive gift that can make a big difference - leaving a legacy to a charity.

Recent newspaper reports show that in Britain we are certainly a nation of generous givers with £2.85 billion being left to charity last year.

Among the top beneficiaries are Cancer Research UK, the British Heart Foundation and the RNLL

Caroline Wallis, who heads the Wills and Probate team at Phillips said: "Legacies in Wills can make an enormous difference in helping charities to continue their good work and what a wonderful way to ensure that your legacy lives on after you've gone."

"Donations can be as small or as large as you wish, as every gift makes a difference. In fact, a gift made to a UK charity is inheritance tax free."

"An important benefit to consider is that this can reduce the amount of tax paid by the rest of your estate, resulting in your family getting the most of their inheritance." Caroline added: "If you are looking to leave money to a charity you may well consider one or more of our many local charities such as such as Pelican Cancer Foundation, which happens to be Phillips Solicitors' current chosen charity, or the Ark Cancer Centre Charity and St Michael's Hospice."

For help in leaving a charitable legacy, or for any other Wills and Probate issues, please contact Caroline Wallis on 01256 854637 or email her at caroline.wallis@phillips-law.co.uk Information about the wide range of legal services offered by Phillips can be found at www.phillips-law.co.uk

Café in the Par

WHAT'S ON

Friendly Craft Group 'Card 5 Cuppa' Friday morning from 10.30-1.00 on 29th Nov and 13th Dec

Health Walk starting Wed 4th Dec @ 10.30am followed by Community Lunch from 12.15pm

Pop up Play Village Sat 21st Dec 10.00-11.15am

Christmas Quiz Night Fri 13th Dec 7.00pm for 7.30pm start - teams of 4 or 6, £5 entry per person, licensed bar

Carols in the Park, with mince pies and mulled wine, Thur 19th Dec 6.30-7.30pm. All donations to The Camrose Centre.

Beggarwood Bookworms Wed 29th Jan 7.30-9.00pm Book a space via Facebook or email Beggarwood.bookworms@outlook.com

Hall for hire. Soup Friday with Hall for hire. Soup Friday with Stick every Friday E3.50 Beggarwood Community Centre, Broadmere Road, Basingstoke, Hants. RG22 4AQ Hall bookings: (01256) 811262

Kids Parties. Pop-Up Shops. Meetings & Training





Every Friday from 10am - 2pm Join us for board games, craft activities, and a natter!



WE WILL BE CLOSED FROM MONDAY 23RD DEC AND WILL REOPEN AT 10AM THURSDAY 2ND JAN WE WISH ALL OF OUR LOYAL CUSTOMERS A WONDERFUL FESTIVE SEASON



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AVASHELLS:





HATCH WARREN UNDER FIVES

December has arrived, Christmas songs are playing and the glitter is out in abundance at Hatch Warren Under Fives! This is always a magical month at preschool and it's lovely to be practicing with the children for their big Christmas performance. We're also putting the final preparations in place for a little Christmas party, and if the children have been good (which we think they have!), Father Christmas might even pay us a visit at preschool this year...

This month it's all about sparkle on the craft tables – we'll be making lots of glittery winter crafts, and the children will be filling huge envelopes with all of their wonderful creations to take home to their families.

At circle time we'll be hearing lots about presents and what the top present picks are this year, but we'll also be explaining that Christmas isn't just about presents. That it's a time for family and special people and for helping others.

As always, there are still lots of things non-Christmas keeping our children busy. We have recently taken delivery of a wonderful new play kitchen, which was purchased with some of our fundraising money. The children have loved getting in the new kitchen and using their imaginations.

Over the last month we've been exploring

lots about the season of autumn and have celebrated fireworks night and Halloween. One of our favourite autumn activities was hammering golf tees into pumpkins – a great activity to help with children's fine motor skills. We also worked on gross motor skills by walking the plank! We've recently looked at disabilities, so we also walked the plank with restricted sight so the children could experience for themselves how much more challenging it was to have restricted vision.

We've been learning all about people that help us and have had some fantastic visitors coming to preschool to support our topic – the firemen have been in and the children were all given the fantastic opportunity to sit in the fire engine, we've had a paramedic visiting with his ambulance and the lollipop man has been in to talk to the children about how to stay safe when crossing the road.

We are continuing lots of amazing small group work each with Write Dance, a super fun session and a fantastic way to build motor skills and introduce writing skills; yoga, which helps the children with flexibility, strength and coordination and also improves concentration and calmness. The children continue to be amazed each week with our science experiments this week we made rainbows by pouring water over Skittles sweets, the children loved watching the dye dissolve into the water to form a rainbow, and incredibly no sweets were eaten during this experiment! And the children still love our cooking sessions when they make or bake treats to take home each week. Next on the baking table will be some yummy Christmas goodies!

Merry Christmas from all at Hatch Warren Under Fives!

CANDOVER VALLEY PRE-SCHOOL

The children have been busy investigating all the changes Autumn brings at CVP.

The children have created junk model dens and clay animals when exploring hibernation, made leaf hedgehogs, firework splat art and probably the favourite activity was creating our own little fireworks with breadsticks, sweets and sprinkles. We have had pumpkins and conkers to explore with our hands and all the rich language this creates. The children have used golf tees to balance conkers (great for fine motor skills) and used the seeds for counting.

Bonfire Night is always an opportunity for the children to recall their experiences and build up their knowledge and understanding of the world. In our daily letters and sounds activity the children have been using their voices and instruments to represent the sounds of fireworks.

We are excited with the upcoming annual Christmas party which includes a visit from Father Christmas, an opportunity for the parents to listen to their children sing Christmas songs and lots of dancing.

Winchester Round Table is a fantastic group which raises money for many local charities. Candover Valley Pre-School will be supporting their Santa Sleigh Fundraiser by volunteering on 5th December at Kings Barton, Winchester to raise money to buy some new technology for pre-school.

Visitors are very welcome so if you would like to see Pre-School in action come along to one of the open sessions or please contact us to arrange a visit.

Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

Lisa Collisson – Pre-School Head 01256-389008



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.

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

https://twitter.com/BasingstokeDC https://www.facebook.com/BasingstokeDC



We are a group of children from Hatch Warren Junior School (the school councillors) and we really need your help please.

We need new co-opted governors to join our school governors.

Governors are important in school because they make big decisions, check that the school is making good progress and manage the money.

There are different types of governor – a co-opted governor is someone from our community who is not a parent of a child at our school.



Would you like to support our school?

Are you willing to give up your free time for this voluntary role and attend evening meetings?

Are you keen to learn more about education?

Are you free to come into school during the day sometimes and see us at work?

Do you feel you are enthusiastic and committed to being a school governor?

Candidates don't need to have been a governor before as training is provided.

If you are successful, we would need to carry out some safeguarding checks.

Interested and would like to find out more? Please email our Chair of Governors: c.callow@hwjs.hants.sch.uk

If you'd like to know more about us and our school please have a look at our webpage: <u>www.hwjs.hants.sch.uk</u>

BASINGSTOKE CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT FELLOWSHIP

The speaker this month was Pete Lemon from the Blue Lamp Trust's Bobby Scheme which is a registered charity providing a free home safety and security survey to assess the work needed to make a home safe and secure for vulnerable and elderly people. They will, if necessary, fit door and window locks, spy holes, window alarms, door chains and smoke detectors, all free of charge. He explained that the charity is supported from their base in Eastleigh by the emergency services and here in North Hampshire by Motorola Solutions and went on to go through a number of important fire and security points that we should all be aware of. He covered internal and exterior security, the installation of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, telephone scams, cold callers and internet scams. At the end of his talk he gave out leaflets summarising the scheme after which he answered a number of questions. Further information can be found at www.bluelamptrust.org.uk or by calling 0300 777 0157.

The next meeting is on 4 December when we will be having our Christmas buffet with entertainment provided by Simon Williams and his Magic. The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Brookvale Village Hall from 10am to 12noon and all retired Civil Servants, their relatives and friends are welcome. Further details about the group and information about our trips can be obtained by contacting csrfbasingstoke@gmail.com.

David Cowling



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



Our popular fireworks spectacular was another fantastic event and people from all over the area joined us for a night of great fireworks and brilliant entertainment provided by DJ Mark Halliday. The bar service was kindly provided by Farleigh Wallop Estate. All money raised will be ploughed back into the Centre. A massive thank you to all our lovely volunteers, partners, local residents and of course everyone who attended ... we look forward to seeing you again next year!! Huge thanks to Dave Potts Photography for capturing the moment.

HATCH WARREN AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Ofsted Registered EY491834 established 2013

- Home-cooked hot light meal with drink
- Friendly, safe, modern environment
- Varied indoor activities, arts/crafts and games
- Easy access to an outdoor area including large field, enclosed patio and sports courts
- Healthy walking bus from school
- Fully qualified, experienced DBS checked staff
- Price per session £11.95
- Ad-hoc sessions available on request



"Hatch Warren After School Club offers so much more than after school care"

Hatch Warren Community Centre, Longcross Lane, Basingstoke, RG22 4XF T: 01256 811262 www.hatchwarren.org - registered charity #1161117

Registered Charity Number 1161117 find us on | facebook Hatch Warren Community Centre



Looking for that special Christmas present, then why not book one of our London Theatre trips for next year?

- Mary Poppins, Thur 6th Feb 2020, £85pp
- Pretty Woman, Mon 23rd Nov 2020, £65pp

Price includes chaperoned return coach from our car park. Email office@hatchwarren.org to book. Tickets non-refundable.



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

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FRIDAY NIGHT TERM TIME YEARS 6-8 YOUTH CLUB ACTIVITIES (see below)

Programme 6.00 to 7.45pm

6th Dec	Dodgeball, tattoos and smores	
13th Dec	Sumo suits, nail bar and donuts	
20th Dec 6-8pm	Christmas party including Christmas craft and food! All ages welcome.	
The Warren will be closed until 10th Jan 2020		
10th Jan	Movie night, comic book designs, chocolate and marshmallow toasties	
17th Jan	Table tennis competition, straw weaving bracelets and loaded hotdogs	
24th Jan	Mario Kart competition, chalk art and salad bar	
31st Jan	Laser Tag, hama beads and savoury waffles	
EREE ENTRY FOR ALL YOUNG PEOPLE		

FREE ENTRY FOR ALL YOUNG PEOPLE

It might now be even chillier outside, but we never let it stop the fun inside. We have been enjoying Human Hungry Hippos, making our own bandanas and competing in crazy quizzes. We have also been treating ourselves to pizza and chocolate fondue!



Thank you to everyone who came and celebrated Halloween a little bit early with us. We had so much fun apple bobbing and mummy making with you all! We hope you enjoyed it too [©]





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

Health Hub Programme - 8.00 to 9.30pm

We are open Fridays 8pm-9.30pm for school years 9 and above. If you want to play pool, FIFA or just hang out then come on down. We sell food and drinks. We can also offer you free confidential advice on a whole range of issues including contraception and pregnancy testing. We run focused information nights for 13-18 year olds, our next nights are: **6th December: STI awareness**

10th January: Cyber Safety

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

Fireworks

Thank you for all the support we received during HWCA's annual fireworks. We managed to raise £1097!! A big thank you to all the Youth Workers and Gracie, Lara, Charlie, Louise, Debbie and Danielle for volunteering to help Vicky for the evening. We would not have been able to achieve this without you.

Generosity with time and money from our volunteers allows us to offer such incredible sessions for free to the young people in our area. We feel exceptionally lucky to have had so much support throughout 2019 and can't wait to see what 2020 brings us all!

Christmas opening

Our last session and Christmas Party will be on Fri 20th Dec from 6pm-8pm, all ages welcome. Come on down and join us for food, craft, disco and much more!! We then reopen for the first session of a brand new year on Fri 10th Jan 2020 where we look forward to hearing about all the fun you've had during the festive break.



Sainsbury's

Our Values Make us Different

Christmas Opening Hours Petrol Filling Station

retroi riiling station	
Sunday 22nd	10.00 - 16.30
Monday 23rd	06.00 - 22.00
Tuesday 24th	06.00 - 19.00
Wednesday 25th	Closed
Thursday 26th	06.00 - 20.00
Friday 27th	06.00 - 21.30
Saturday 28th	06.00 - 21.30
Sunday 29th	06.00 - 22.00
Monday 30th	06.00 - 22.00
Tuesday 31st	06.00 - 19.30
Wednesday st Jan	08.00 - 19.30
Main Store	
Sunday 22nd	10.00 - 16.00
Monday 23rd	06.00 - 22.00
Tuesday 24th	06.00 - 19.00
Wednesday 25th	Closed
Thursday 26th	09.00 - 18.00
Friday 27th	07.00 - 21.00
Saturday 28th	07.00 - 21.00
Sunday 29th	10.00 - 16.00
Monday 30th	07.00 - 22.00
Tuesday 31st	07.00 - 19.00
Wednesday 1st Jan	09.00 - 19.00
Lloyds Pharmacy	
Tuesday 24th	07.00 - 20.00
Wednesday 25th	Closed
Thursday 26th	09.00 - 17.00
Friday 27th	08.00 - 20.00
Saturday 28th	08.00 - 20.00
Sunday 29th	10.00 - 16.00
Monday 30th	08.00 - 22.00
Tuesday 31st	08.00 - 20.00
Wednesday st Jan	09.00 - 17.00

Grocery Online Orders - www.sainsburys.co.uk

Demand for delivery slots will remain high during December. Customers can reserve their slot for a minimum order value of £40. Customers will then have until 11pm to make amendments and checkout, for deliveries arriving the next working day. Deliveries are being made until Monday 23rd December.

Our Same Day Delivery Service will be available until Thursday 19th December for orders placed no later than midday.

Delivery Slots for our popular Click and Collect Service will be available until Monday 23rd December. Orders can be placed for collection at both the store here in Hatch Warren and, the store in Alton. Customers are politely reminded to ensure they have selected the correct store for collection.

Christmas Food To Order – https://food-to-order.sainsburys. co.uk/christmasfoodbrochure

Last year almost 500 customers collected their Christmas food from the

store at Kempshott. The collection dates are December 22nd, 23rd and 24th during store opening times.

The final date for orders to be placed is December I 6th

Changes at the Store

We've recently increased the number of Self Scan Tills and Smart Shop Tills at the store, due to increased customer demand. The tills have all been upgraded with new software aimed at improving the time to process your shopping. Our Smart Shop customers now account for over 10% of our overall customers. We've had many reports from a wide variety of customers who love the ability to track how much their shop is costing as they shop, rather than waiting to get to the till.

There is no minimum number of items

to purchase to use the Smart Shop. Customers should first download the Smart Shop App, and then scan their Nectar card before beginning their shop.



Nectar – www.nectar.com

Have you downloaded the new Nectar App. Each week you'll receive bonus points based on items you usually shop for. Download the app and give it a try; you'll be pleasantly surprised by the number of points you can quickly add.

Interesting Nectar Fact I - As at November 2019, prior to the Nectar Double-Up Event, close to £52million sat waiting to be claimed on Nectar Cards.

Interesting Nectar Fact 2 – Purchasing something from Lloyds Pharmacy? If you visit the Nectar.com website, there is often an offer to claim Nectar points. Simply add the offer to your card, via the site and, the next time you purchase an item from Lloyds Pharmacy, you'll receive a bonus 500 points.

And finally,

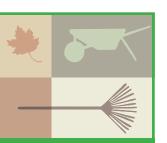
On behalf of all our colleagues at the store, may we wish you a peaceful festive break and Happy New Year.

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DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN - YOUR VIEWS

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council would like to hear your views on its draft Council Plan to ensure the borough continues to be a great place to live over the next four years and budget proposals to support this.

The draft Council Plan for 2020 to 2024 sets the key priorities for the council over the next four years and into the future.

With a focus on putting residents at the heart of everything the council does, four priorities have been developed – strengthening communities, protecting and enhancing our environment, improving safety and planning for the future.

Supporting the council plan, proposals for a balanced budget for 2020 to 2021 aim to protect services that residents value.

To give your views on our Council Plan and budget proposals, please go to www.basingstoke.gov.uk/priorities. Feedback from the consultation, which runs until Wednesday I January at www. basingstoke.gov.uk/priorities, will be considered before final decisions on the Council Plan and budget are taken at a meeting of Council in February.

If you require information in an alternative format, such as paper, please contact the council by emailing customer.service@ basingstoke.gov.uk or by calling 01256 844844.



SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

Advent: Waiting, Preparing, Celebrating

December is a time that marks the beginning of the season of Advent in the church's year. It is a four week period of waiting and preparing for Christmas. You may already be feeling fatigued by the Christmas adverts that are flooding our screens or the Christmas music playing as you shop or the seemingly endless list of things that need to be done before Christmas. But there is so much more to this time of the year than this. And yet I wonder how many of us miss out on this season of Advent because we are so busy. Christians believe that there is so much more to Christmas than just food and presents. It is a time to remember and help people who find themselves homeless, hopeless and alone this Christmas. I pray that they may find refuge in the kindness of a stranger. Christmas is a time of great celebration and surprise, a time when we hear afresh the good news of Jesus' birth.The message given by the angels on that first Christmas night was personal, it was good news and it was for all people everywhere. The message is the same today, it doesn't matter who we are, what we've done, where we've been, or where we're headed — this news is for us. In whatever situation we find ourselves in this Christmas.

Mary was a teenage mum who got pregnant and whose life nearly fell apart but Joseph stood by her. Through the Nativity story we see God getting involved and turning lives upside down. This baby born to bring God's love to all the world was born in an ordinary place with animals where he was laid in a manger, to a poor family. He wasn't born in a beautiful palace as some people had expected he would be. This baby would be called the Son of God, Immanuel, born to rescue us.

On their journey Mary and Joseph would meet many strangers and go to unfamiliar places. They would receive many gifts. I love the fact that a gift is a symbol of love, given without a demand for anything in return. Mary had accepted the gift of God's love that would turn the world upside down. This tiny, vulnerable baby is the greatest Christmas present we could ever have.

Come and join us at Immanuel church this Christmas, see our website and Facebook for more details.

- Blessings,
- **Rev May** 07922 516761
- revmay@immanuelhwb.co.uk
- www.immanuelhwb.co.uk

Immanuel church Christmas services and activities:

- Sat 23 Nov 10-12pm Advent Activity Morning
- Sun 8 Dec 3-4pm Christingle service
- Sun 15 Dec 6:00pm Blue Christmas
- Thurs 19 Dec 6:30pm Carols at Beggarwood Park cafe
- Sun 22 Dec 10-11 am Nativity and Communion
- Sun 22 Dec 6pm Carols by Candlelight
- Tues 24 Dec 3pm Crib service
- Tues 24 Dec 11:30pm Midnight service
- Wed 25 Dec 10am Christmas morning service



FARLEIGH WALLOP ESTATE CLUB

We are hosting a Christmas fun day on Saturday 7th December 12-4pm. Children can make their own Christmas card or Christmas decoration. And what's a Christmas event without a tombola and raffle. Refreshments and licensed bar. Plenty to do. Mulled wine will be sold to get you in the Christmas spirit.

We want to know what functions you'd like to see on at the club from discos to quizzes or even a games night. Please let us know your feedback via our Facebook page - Farleigh Wallop Estate Club or by simply popping in.

Please remember that even though it is a members' club, everyone is welcome. Also, like and follow our Facebook page for more upcoming events. Hall is open if bookings weddings, parties you name it.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

St Michael's Church, Basingstoke RG21 7QW

BASINGSTOKE CONCERT BAND with special guests BASINGSTOKE AREA YOUTH WIND TRAINING ORCHESTRA

Sunday 15 December 2019 at 3:00 pm

Tickets: £UI6 free) available from:Group members (BCB and BAYWTO) Tel: 07503 881241Purchase on the door

Online: https://ticketlab.co.uk/event/id/3978 (£10.70 incl admin fee)

Come along to a sparkling afternoon of traditional carols, modern arrangements and festive favourites. Enjoy a complimentary mince pie and drink during the interval.

GOLF COURSE UPDATE

Bloor Homes - Land at Basingstoke Golf Course

Bloor Homes were delighted to welcome Cllr Dan Putty and Gregg Chapman, Assistant Planning Manager at BDBC, to the golf course site for an update meeting and site walkaround on 28th October.

Cllr Putty had the opportunity to view the proposed site access arrangements, ask questions and further discuss the associated plans with Bloor Homes and members of the project team.

Further details relating to the outline planning application can be found by visiting the Council's website and entering planning application reference numbers: 19/00971/0UT (outline planning application and addendum documents) and 19/02700/FUL (detailed access application). Alternatively, please call freephone: 0800 232 1794, email: info@LandatBasingstokeGolfCourse.co.uk or visit: www.LandatBasingstokeGolfCourse.co.uk.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BEGGARWOOD PARK

Beggarwood Park is set to benefit from over £250,000 of improvements and people are being asked to have their say on what these should be.

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council is asking residents and users of the popular neighbourhood facility and Local Nature Reserve for views on how to improve the existing play facilities, recreational facilities and landscaping.

The responses received from the consultation will shape the final design of the facilities and work is expected to start on site early 2020.

Give your views online at www.basingstoke.gov.uk/beggarwood-park or by filling in a form available from Hatch Warren Community Centre and Beggarwood Community Centre by Sunday 15 December 2019.

For further information please contact: Senior Communications Officer Krissy Lloyd on 01256 845240 or email krissy.lloyd@basingstoke.gov.uk.





COUNCIL MAKES A CLEAN SWEEP OF AUTUMN LEAVES

Borough council crews are out and about sweeping leaves across the borough.

From November 2019 to January 2020, the teams will be targeting different areas each day and this schedule is now available on the council's website www.basingstoke.gov.uk/leafclearance.

Any issues with leaf fall can also be reported by calling the Contact Centre on 01256 844844 or logging on to the council's website.





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CHRISTMAS PRESENTS? Cliddesden, Hatch and Farleigh Wallop by Alison Deveson and Sue Lane, $\pounds 14$. A newly published, well-illustrated history of these three parishes available from the Willis Museum, Basingstoke or the Pottery Painting Studio, Church Lane, Cliddesden.



Chef trained at the prestigious Leith's School of Food and Wine now working locally Event catering

for dinner parties, birthdays, canapés, corporate lunches, funerals and more connie@calicofood.co.uk | 07780 888336 | calicofood.co.uk

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RABBITER CONTACTS

Editor: editor@therabbiter.biz

Advertising Manager: Nick Overton: 01256 880770 advertising@therabbiter.biz

Distribution Manager: 01256-364378 editor@therabbiter.biz

• Health: Doctors' Surgeries

Acorn Health Partnership Western Way - Tel: 479747 Mon-Fri 0800-1830

Broadmere Road Surgery -Tel: 396500

Mon-Fri 0830-1800

(answermessage when closed)

Chemist

Boots Pharmacy Broadmere Road - Tel: 398927 Mon-Fri 0900-1800 Sat/Sun closed Lloyds Pharmacy, Sainsbury's



Health Visitors

Tel: 376483

Child Health Clinic

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

Dentist

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

Kempshott Post Office and Stores 01256 465517 Mon-Fri 0800-17.30 Sat 0900-1500

Basingstoke Neighbourcare

Your Loca Buyer

Need the help of a good neighbour? 01256 423855

Local Police Contacts:

Community Safety Patrol Team 01256 844844 Email: cspo@basingstoke.gov.uk

Hampshire Constabulary 101

Crimestoppers 0800 555111

• Churches:

Immanuel C of E Church (in St. Mark's School, Danebury Road) 10.00 a.m. every Sunday All enquires to: 01256 351862

Hub Community Church Every Sunday at The Apollo Hotel

Contact Dan Wake or Margie Mendelsohn 01256 316010 connect@hubcommunitychurch.org www.hubcommunitychurch.org • Doorstep milk delivery: www.milkandmore.co.uk 01256 321329

• Newspaper Delivery: Kempshott Post Office and Stores 01256 465517

• Representatives:

• Councillors:

County Council:

Stephen Reid, 34 Centurion Way RG22 4TJ 320860 email: Stephen.Reid@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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HATCH WARREN RUNNERS

Basingstoke...HWR embraces you! Anyone who thinks that Basingstoke is simply an ugly, London over spill town riddled with nasty looking 1960s industrial estates could not be more wrong! You can call it what you like: Amazing-stoke, Blazing-smoke, Boring-stoke or *insert your favourite nickname here* but Basingstoke offers a fantastic, challenging and beautifully scenic half marathon opportunity every October. This year there was the introduction of a 10k race too, meaning that even more people took part. Runners descend from all over the country to embrace the route's hilly course including the affectionately named Big Dipper, Tree Tunnel hill and right at the very end of the course, good old Tennis Court hill - best known at Basingstoke parkrun as being a rather irritating incline!

We had 66 Hatch Warren Runners in the half marathon and 21 in the 10k, plus a splendid blue and yellow cheer squad, armed with a boom box for encouraging words and our famous table of refreshments (some of which may or may not have had a little nip of something for a cheeky mid-race speed injection!) Big thanks to our club chair Graham Collins for being the half marathon race's two hour pacer.

We had so many significant personal bests and personal achievements within the club at this year's race. Our top Hatchie half marathon female finishers were Ruth Hayward, Claire Wade and Iona Strachan. Sonia Carimando, Amy Kelly and Karen Patterson were our top three 10k ladies. Our top Hatchie half marathon male finishers were Dave Rawlins, Richard Heath and Denis Cunningham and Phil Gordon, Mark Hartley and Pete Styles topped the bill for the gents in the 10k.

Sam Purnell ran Bournemouth half marathon the same morning; jumped in the car upon finishing, drove back to Basingstoke and then ran Basingstoke half marathon too! Two half marathons in the same morning and all for charity - Sam, this was an astonishing achievement, especially given the start time delay at Bournemouth. You are a true inspiration!

Injury and illness: A shout out to our (currently) non-running members

Being able to run and running with others is a true gift. No runner takes it for granted. It feels like we've had a lot of Hatchie's taking time out to heal their bodies and minds lately due to injury, illness and personal circumstances. Graciously and where able, many have been helping and supporting the club and our members in other ways. This is a big HWR shout out to all our club members who have to take a break at the moment. If you're reading this – please know that you still have the club's full support and when (not if) you're back to running, we will help you the whole way. You are valued and we miss you and whether it's a week, two months or more than a year, please feel assured that even though we see you less often, you are not forgotten!

New runners are always welcomed to the HWR family. If you fancy some company on those dark winter night runs check out our website www.hwrunners.co.uk, our Facebook page or email enquiries@ hwrunners.co.uk for more information.







HATCH WARREN **BEGGARWOOD CYCLING CLUB**



Have you got a new bike for Xmas? or are you looking for a way to get fit in 2020? or are you just interested in meeting new people? One of the best ways to do all of these things is to join a cycling club. So, how would you like to join the friendliest club in Hampshire?

Have you ever thought about joining a cycling club?

Have you thought about getting back on your bike?

There are loads of reasons why you should:

I. Get to know the area : Each month, as well as organising some of the best weather (maybe!), we've also planned some amazing rides around Basingstoke and the surrounding area.

- 2. Get to know new people: We have over 170 members and it's great to get to know people both on the bike and off it at our many coffee & cake stops!
- 3. Get Smiley: HWBCC isn't just about cycling... it's more about the community and the smiles that it brings to its members. Come sun, rain, snow, sleet, wind or whatever the weather throws at us, our members are always smiling.
- 4. Get healthy: As long as you don't eat too much cake, can there be too much cake?, cycling can be beneficial to your health. Some of our members have lost loads of weight and some are probably fitter now in their 40s & 50s than they were in their 20s!
- 5. It's not just for the serious cyclist: We have cyclists of all abilities and our rides vary from distances of 8 miles to 50... so something for everyone.



We pride ourselves on being inclusive to all riders who are over 18 years of age, and we are equally proud of our unofficial club motto which is 'no one gets left behind'. So please don't get left behind and 'Come ride with us' (which is our real motto!)

We'd like to wish our members, and our future members and Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year!

More details can be found on our website www.hwbcc.org or on our facebook page facebook.com/HWBcc. Come ride with us!

KEMPSHOTT CONSERVATION GROUP

Butterflies

It's been a fairly good year for butterflies in Down Grange Meadow. A wet lune followed by a really hot spell in July had



a predictable effect on butterfly numbers. The summer "peak" for meadow species was quite short, with a noticeable collapse by the end of July.

Highlights included the first Small Copper since 2013 and a couple of Brown Argus, a species that was last recorded in 2015. The Small Skippers and Marbled Whites both had their best year since recording started in 2007. While the Small Blue numbers held their own, the Common Blues were very disappointing and well below average. Overall, numbers were the third highest we have recorded. The best year was in 2014

when we counted 835 individual insects, not including day-flying moths.

At the end of July and at the beginning of August a number of Cinnabar moth caterpillars were spotted on Ragwort around the Meadow. These caterpillars are one of the few insect larvae that can cope with the poisons this plant secretes, hence

the distinctive warning colours which say to birds "don't eat me, l taste awful."

It's all change in the Meadow

If you walk in Down Grange Meadow, you may have noticed that last Autumn the Council did a lot of



tree felling along the "Insect Walk" adjacent to the A30. This was for Highways Health & Safety benefit, but some squirrel damaged trees were felled or "monolithed" as well. This picture was taken at the end of March this year and it was pretty sorry sight.

As replacments, the Council will be planting at least six new specimen trees. These will include Oaks, Small Leaved Limes, Wild Service, Hornbeam and Sweet Chestnut.

> Once planted, we will fill in the understory with smaller trees and shrubs stored in our nursery. So by early Spring, the area will be on the road to recovery.

Contact Marion Wolstencroft 01256 470171 kempshott-conservetiscali.co.uk or visit www.

kempshottconservationgroup.org.uk



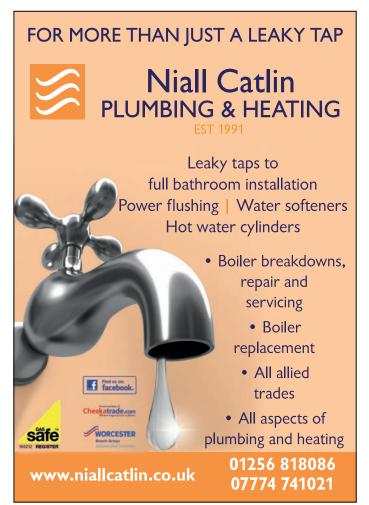
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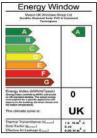


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