

THE Rabbiter



Issue 319
June 2025

The Community Magazine for Kempshott Rise, Hatch Warren, Beggarwood and Kempshott Park



All the regular features plus

- **NEW MAYOR**
- **RIDING FOR THE DISABLED**
- **NEW WORLD RECORD**

and much more

FROM THE EDITOR

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EDITORIAL

It is a theme of mine that I make no apology for repeating: in every community there is a comparatively small group of people who help run the huge variety of activities that add to everyone's quality of life.

We are privileged to have David Levy as one of those people. David not only supports local nature groups but also takes the most wonderful photographs of wildlife. This month's front cover is one of them, which I hope you find as stunning as I do.

David takes many of his pictures on Old Down and Beggarwood Park.. Beggarwood Park has the protection of being a Local Nature Reserve, but Old Down does not. It should.

Among our regular features, this issue contains important news from our Patient Participation Group, and details of a world record by a local runner. I hope you enjoy reading it..

Editor

Cover photograph courtesy of David Levy – Green Hairstreak Butterfly.



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THE Rabbit

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CAMROSE, GILLIES, HACKWOOD AND BEGGARWOOD SURGERIES

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP UPDATE

The PPG Website www.cghppg.weebly.com has the online version of this news with more information and web links. There is also a 'Self Help A-Z' of Health and Wellbeing, fast track treatment options, support signposting and local contacts. Our Email is: cghb.surgeryppg@btinternet.com

Phone and Continuity of Care Improvements

From Monday 12th May 2025, the practice is improving its phone system to cut waiting times and improve continuity of care. When phoning the practice on the CGH or Beggarwood phone numbers, you will be able to choose options to reach the right team. Every patient will be contacted through Medical Apps, text or a letter and be told who their named GP is and which team they work in. Please make a note this. Use this information to select the option for your personal admin team when you next call the practice. Where possible, appointments will be made with your named GP or one of their team. Patients have the right to ask for an appointment with a specific GP, but it is likely to be quicker accepting an available appointment within the team.

You will hear 8 options when you call:

1. Prescription queries
2. Medical referrals
3. Medical reports
4. To let us know a patient has passed away
5. St Andrews / Yellow Team

6. Essex House / Orange Team
7. Beggarwood / Pink Team
8. Gillies / Blue, Green, or Purple Team

For options 5–8 (appointments), you'll then choose

- Press 1 – Urgent appointment
- Press 2 – Routine appointment
- Press 3 – General enquiries

Don't worry if you make a mistake which is likely to happen as we all get used to the new system. The person you speak to will help get you to the right team

Detecting Bowel Cancer early can save your life!

Dr Christine Glew, who works at Gillies Health Centre and also for the Wessex Cancer Alliance says:

"I'm working on a new project to help people access their bowel screening kits. Did you know if you have bowel cancer and it is picked up at screening, it is much more likely to be at the earlier stages and therefore more easily treated with much better outcomes and survival rates."

If you are aged between 50 and 74 you'll be invited to take part in bowel cancer screening every 2 years. Test Kits are sent to your home, for you to provide a small sample of your poo for testing. If you have not returned a sample or think your test is due and haven't received a kit simply ring 0800 707 6060 to request that a new kit is sent to you.

Disability Awareness Day

Basingstoke & Disability Forum will be hosting **Disability Awareness Day (DAD)** on **27th June 2025, from 9am to 4pm** at

The Malls Shopping Centre, Basingstoke.

Information, support and advice on disability related subjects will be available from local organisations, businesses and government departments.

Come along to find out about services and opportunities for people affected by any type of disability, and how you can get involved.

Volunteers needed for Viables Memory Club.

Fridays 10am - 12:30 or 12:30-3pm at the Viables Community Centre. The memory club is looking for volunteers to assist in helping members engage in and access planned activities. All members have memory loss, dementia or other cognitive impairment so the volunteer will need to be patient, able to communicate clearly and effectively and treat others with compassion and kindness. For more information please email beth@viables.org.uk

Carers Support

There will be an unpaid carers support 'drop in' at St Andrews Surgery between 10am and 2 pm, on Tuesday 24th June 25.

It is open to all and some patients will also receive text invites from the practice. PPG advisors and Princess Royal Trust for Carers staff will be present to provide information and discuss individual issues.

The Practice complaints process

See the practice website or send a letter to The Manager at Gillies Health Centre or email: hiowicb-hsi.cghpartnership.complaints@nhs.net

Registered GPs and Teams

Green Team	Blue Team	Purple Team	Yellow Team	Orange Team	Pink Team
Dr Dixon	Dr Franklin	Dr S Longley	Dr Scammell	Dr Ambrose	Dr M Longley
Dr Gray	Dr Carnegie	Dr Robertson	Dr Ezech	Dr Berkelaar	Dr Hubbard
Dr Walker	Dr Webster	Dr Lizinde	Dr Parker	Dr Radhakrishnan	Dr Radha
Dr Glew	Dr Budhathoki	Dr Carney	Dr Wilson	Dr N Evans	Dr Amin
		Dr Mukadam	Dr S St George		Dr Sudhaker

HATCH WARREN WI

At the beginning of May we held our AGM during which our President thanked everyone for their help and support throughout the past year. This year it was time for us to elect a new President and member Liz Janes will be taking over this role. We all wished her the best of luck.

During May our walking group visited one of our Bluebell woods and held our usual craft fair group as well as meeting up at the Cafe in the Park for tea, coffee and cake.

Our next meeting will be our 32nd Birthday party on Thursday 5th June. Our speaker will be Terri Reid talking to us about Jane Austen as part of the

celebrations of the 250th anniversary of Jane's birth.

If you would like to join us at a meeting, visitors are always welcome, for more information please contact our President Liz Janes on 07710 804675.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

COUNCILLOR UPDATES

Stephen Reid

County Councillor: Basingstoke
South West 07976 310206
stephen.reid@hants.gov.uk

RECYCLING FACILITY: A new state-of-the-art recycling facility for Hampshire has been given the go-ahead. It will be built in Eastleigh, and is expected to be operational by the end of 2027. The facility will allow us to recycle a wider range of household materials in our green bins, including more plastics, such as pots, tubs, trays, cartons and soft plastic film, as well as glass, metal, paper and cardboard. This addresses one of the requests that I pick up frequently: residents are keen to do more, but are frustrated by the current rules. The £50.5m project is a joint venture with Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils. The new approach aligns with the Government's Simpler Recycling guidance on residential kerbside recycling, which aims to reduce contamination by separating dry materials from other waste. This move will be important for us as the Borough Council plans to move onto fortnightly collections of our black bins.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR: I have received comments about ASB on the tennis courts at the Community Centre, and I contacted the local police to see if they were aware. As is usually the case, they were. Our new PCSO has been given this issue to manage and is working with the local youth club and the neighbourhood watch co-ordinator. He is also planning on holding an ASB workshop at Brighton Hill school to stress the importance of behaving acceptably. The officers are conducting regular patrols and monitoring the situation. There are further steps that could be taken, but it is in everyone's interests for this to be sorted amicably.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, MECHANISED: Sadly, the season of car and motorcycle meets is on us, and the A30 past Hatch Warren and Beggarwood is again being used as a race track. I have received correspondence from a resident who spotted people sitting at the side of the road taking pictures of the racers. Make no mistake, this is not a group of young people who should know better. This is organised and people travel miles to take part in, and watch, the irresponsible behaviour. I am taking this up again with the Police and

Crime Commissioner and will be asking if we can have speed cameras installed or, even better, speed and noise cameras.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT SURGERY PHONE WAITS: Having received some very adverse comments, I brought up at the Patient Participation Group complaints about phone wait times at the local surgeries. The management team was aware of need for improvement and reported that it was planning to introduce new procedures.

NEW SURGERY RECEPTION PROCEDURES: the start date for new procedures at Camrose, Gillies, Hackwood and Beggarwood surgeries was Monday 12th May, avoiding the Easter weekend and associated staff holidays. A communication exercise was implemented involving text messages to patients explaining the new processes. Patients have been assigned to colour-coded teams and the hope is that this will enable them to be routed to the most appropriate NHS professionals as quickly as possible. Please let me know your opinions on how it is working so that I can pass them on.

BUS SHELTERS: I have written to the Chief Executive of the Borough Council asking whether an anomaly can be corrected regarding bus shelters in this area. In Brighton Hill, Hatch Warren and Beggarwood we have shelters that are not used, because Stagecoach changed the routes of their services. Ironically, buses run on the other sides of the roads, where there are no shelters! I think there is room to move some of the shelters to locations where they could be useful. As always, the first task is to find who owns the problem and then to press for something to be done.

DOWN GRANGE: the Borough Council is planning to displace the pitch and putt facility from the Leisure Park to Down Grange. At first, people assumed that meant putting it on the Pack Lane side of the sports complex, but that is not the case. The field that the Council is minded to use is the one in front of the steak house, alongside the Winchester Road. Many people from Hatch Warren and Beggarwood use that green space for running, sports events, dog walking and simply enjoying nature. A considerable campaign is mounting against the idea, and a petition has been started.

A30 CLOSURES: recent accidents and closures of the A30 have shown how vulnerable our local roads are to anything

happening that is out of the ordinary. With 18,000 homes being planned for the west of Basingstoke. I have serious doubts about the existing roads' ability to cope with the traffic that will be generated. I have written to the County Officers referring to the recent accidents between the Brighton Hill and Kempshott roundabouts. The turning out of Beech Down is very difficult, with drivers wanting to turn right sometimes taking their lives in their hands. I fear that it will be totally unsuitable for increased volumes of traffic unless upgraded, and more traffic seems inevitable if the Borough Council goes ahead with proposals for siting the new golf facility there.

BUCKSKIN AND SOUTH HAM REGENERATION: I took part in a TV interview about the proposed regeneration of Buckskin and South Ham, which I believe has been badly handled to date. In my opinion, Sovereign Network Group has gone far too fast in publishing illustrative maps, without first answering many important questions. The maps make people fear that their homes may be demolished, or blighted for decades. For Hatch Warren and Beggarwood, I want to know how much extra traffic will be generated on the A30 and Brighton Hill roundabout, and how much additional pressure will be placed on the local doctors' surgeries. With other Councillors, I attended a meeting with Sovereign to air these matters, and a follow-up discussion is planned for 3rd June. when I hope to learn how (or if) they will respond to the points we made.

OLD DOWN WILDLIFE GROUP: I attended the annual meeting of this wildlife group, and thanked the volunteers for the work they do to maintain this important open space. Once again the question was raised about why Old Down does not have the protection of being a Local Nature Reserve, which I believe it should have. Beggarwood Park, opposite Old Down, has LNR status but the Borough Council repeatedly refuses to grant it to Old Down. This is a campaign that I will continue to support.

KEMPSHOTT LANE: I have been chasing Thames Water about the new drains they want to lay along Kempshott Lane. Their announcement of this project stopped Hampshire from proceeding with its planned resurfacing work last year - it would be futile to resurface the road only

for it to be dug up again a few months later. As far as I can make out, there is nothing scheduled by Thames Water yet, which is very frustrating. However, a second person told me that the project is with contractors for pricing, and once that is agreed, the work can be programmed. The time between quotation and work starting is anything from six to eight months.

BROADMERE ROAD ADOPTIONS: I have been chasing for progress on getting these roads adopted. The holdup now is getting a document signed by a local landowner, agreeing to allow the County Council access to a soakaway that lies on its land. A Hampshire officer was assured that the matter was with the landowner's legal team, but at the time of writing she has not heard anything back, nor has she been informed that a signed agreement has been returned. I am frustrated that this important adoption, for which we have waited for so long, is being held up for months waiting for a single document to be signed.

NEW NURSERY: the new children's nursery on the 'Island' site at Beggarwood has opened. This location was originally intended for a new dental surgery, but, sadly, negotiations faltered. That is what I would have preferred to see. Nevertheless, the nursery will be an asset to the community as spaces are at a premium.

BLOG: I write about these issues, and others, on my blog at reidaboutbasingstoke.co.uk



Stacy Hart

Borough Councillor:

cll:stacy.hart@basingstoke.gov.uk

Facebook, Twitter and Instagram:

@BasingstokeEquality e-newsletter:
basingstokeequality.org.uk

I hope you've all had a lovely month and enjoyed your bank holidays and sunshine!

I'd like to thank all the residents who attended our event at the Hatch Warren Community Centre in April; it was a huge success! We'd like to hold more social events in future for residents to come along to so do sign up for mailing list updates below if you'd like to know more about future dates.

This last month has seen a number of writing campaigns that we've helped to promote and gotten residents involved in.

It's so important to have your say when changes are proposed to local services, or services are removed entirely, or planning applications are reviewed, and so on. I've always lived by what I was told when I was young – that if you didn't use your vote, you couldn't complain about the outcome – and I think that also applies to public consultations. Recent ones were the Motorway Service Station application at Junction 6, which would be horrendous for the environment, and the Hampshire County Council Future Services Consultation which included the proposed loss of the Newman Court elderly day care service. An unfortunate feature of cuts such as these is that they often have an unequal impact. Women are more likely to suffer with dementia and also to provide unpaid care for loved ones, and cuts to already inadequate social care services often overwhelmingly impact women, minoritised communities and the poorest and most vulnerable residents the hardest.

I was delighted to organise and attend a joint working party with residents and Housing Association staff to spruce up the Candover Court residents' garden. I have been talking to residents for some time now about how the area could be utilised and brightened up, so it was a pleasure to bring everyone together to make a good start on what I hope will be a cooperative initiative everyone can enjoy over the coming months and years.

I was delighted to visit the Council's Green Team drop in at Beggarwood Café and see the brilliant tips and advice available. I grabbed a handy sticker which can detect toilet leaks and a small egg timer for the shower which certain members of my family definitely need! Even small changes to everyday habits can conserve energy and save you money. The team will be at the Hatch Warren Summer Fair on 21st June, so do catch them then if you missed the Beggarwood Café date. I'll be at the Fair too, of course, and am looking forward to seeing lots of you there, so do pop over for a chat! I'm hoping that some of the Repair Café team will be able to make it along – our venture has continued to build and we only have a couple of management committee roles left to fill. We were pleased to pass on last month's Repair Café donations to the Mencap group who were sadly robbed of their tools and equipment last month.

I'm also looking forward to the Greener Basingstoke walk through town on Saturday 7th June, which goes from the train station at 3pm and finishes with a picnic in War Memorial Park – do look up the event on Facebook and come along if you're free. It's always a joyous and fun demonstration of people's interest in the environment, and a good way of showing public commitment to the issue to their elected officials.

Last week I sat on my first Licensing Sub-Committee hearing, which was a very interesting experience. If you ever want to understand more about how the process works when a licence of any kind is applied for, do drop me a line; I know it doesn't sound like the most interesting thing in the world but these things do impact people's lives, as is evidenced by the public submissions and interest they sometimes provoke!

I also have begun canvassing again now that our group is fully registered and toured Watling End and the surrounding houses last month to ensure that all residents were fully aware of the playpark consultation that was underway, and had opportunity to get involved. Having received letters from the Council on it, many residents had already taken part, but some were not aware – no communication method is foolproof! – so it was a good use of time to check in and make sure they got chance to have a say.

Finally, on communication, I celebrated my first year as your Councillor with a video round up of the things I did in year one. It was a good way to take stock of everything but, if you didn't see it, it's also a good overview of the sorts of things I'm here to help you with – you may be surprised at some of them! You can see it on our YouTube channel and Facebook feed, so do get in touch if it inspires you to reach out with an issue or an idea for our local area.

Do pop in to my next 'Ask Me Anything' Councillor Surgery with your questions, issues and ideas: I will be at the Holly Blue on Monday 9th June from 7-9pm. Take care until next time – Stacy

CLLR COLIN PHILLIMORE ELECTED AS MAYOR FOR 2025/26

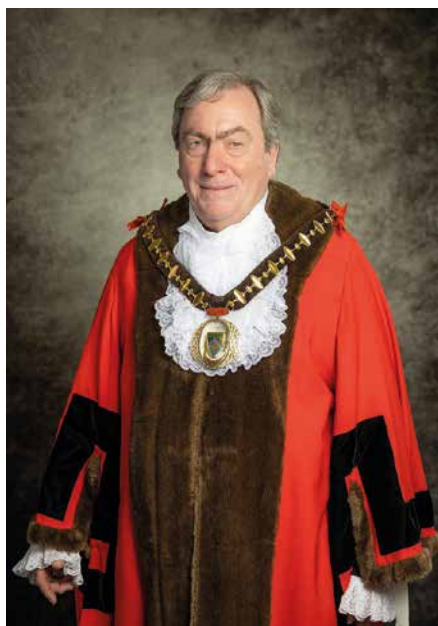
Cllr Colin Phillimore is the new Mayor of Basingstoke and Deane following a Mayor Making ceremony at the Civic Offices last night (Thursday 8 May).

Cllr Phillimore was first elected as a borough councillor in 2015, representing the Overton, Laverstoke and Freefolk ward which later became Whitchurch, Overton and Laverstoke.

He will represent the borough at events during the year while promoting his charity appeal which will be supporting the Whitchurch Community Swimming Pool and St Michael's Hospice.

Cllr Phillimore said: "I am really pleased to be the Mayor of Basingstoke and Deane for 2025/26. It is a serious role, steeped in history and I am honoured to be chosen to serve.

"Having lived in the area all of my life I have witnessed great changes, but my focus is, and always will be, the people in the communities that we serve. I am looking forward to getting out around the borough and meeting as many of them as possible during the year."



Cllr Phillimore has lived in the borough of Basingstoke and Deane all his life, either in Overton or Whitchurch and can trace his family history back to 1600 in Steventon.

He attended Overton C of E Primary School and later Queen Mary's Grammar

School in Basingstoke. After leaving school he had several local jobs, before settling on a career in accountancy. He has worked as an accountant in the motor trade for the last 40 years.

Cllr Phillimore's charity appeal for 2025/26 will support two local charities that are very close to his heart.

The Whitchurch Community Swimming Pool, which aims to bring the pool located at Testbourne School back into operational use for the community.

St. Michael's Hospice which supports local people with a life-limiting illness, facing the end-of-life, or experiencing bereavement by providing free, compassionate, palliative support and specialist care to patients either at the hospice or at home.

The Deputy Mayor for Basingstoke and Deane during 2025 to 2026 is Cllr Jacky Tustain.

More information on the Mayor of Basingstoke and Deane is on the council's website www.basingstoke.gov.uk/mayor

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RIDING FOR THE DISABLED RECEIVES DONATION FROM ROYAL ARCH MASONS

A donation of £500 was made by the Oakley Chapter of Royal Arch Masons to the Riding For the Disabled at their premises in Dummer.

The cheque was presented by Grant Chivers, the recent head of this section of local Freemasons founded in Basingstoke in 1861, that operate from the Masonic Centre in Victoria Street, at the Top of Town.

Keith Hall, a trustee of this local branch of RDA, with its full name of Wellington & Dummer Riding for the Disabled, commented:

"This contribution will be used to help meet our running costs, mostly feed for the ponies. We also need to replace some wood on the ramp used by wheelchairs. We do not have fixed fees for our riders. Our funding comes from voluntary contributions, fundraising activities, and we are grateful for donations, such as this one from Freemasons."

He added, "It would be good to see some more volunteers as we need as much

support as we can get to help with our lessons or helping with stable activities."

The stables at Wellington Riding are used on Thursdays for some activities while most are carried out at Dummer where the ponies are stabled on the land and facilities that are provided by owner Trish Willats.

The group champions Hippotherapy sessions at Dummer. This is a form of physical therapy that uses the natural gait and movement of a horse to provide riders with motor and sensory input thereby strengthening and stretching muscles and improving balance.



NEW WORLD RECORD

As previewed in our April edition, local runner Rebecca Reid succeeded in her attempt to set a new world record for running a marathon whilst fitted with a Subcutaneous Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (SICD). This is a medical device implanted under the skin to monitor for and treat dangerously fast or abnormal heart rhythms.

Two years ago, Rebecca collapsed on a training run, and her heart rate reached 283 beats per minute, which is life-threatening. This was her second heart-related issue, and a doctor told her that her running days were over.

However, after an eight-hour procedure under general anaesthetic at the Royal Brompton hospital, and the fitting of the defibrillator, she took specialists' advice and resolved to get back into training, with this year's London marathon as her goal.

"I have had to change my whole approach to running", Rebecca reports. "I now keep a constant watch on my heart rate. This means I had to do even more training, to get myself as fit as I could. The objective was that the extra fitness would allow me to run whilst keeping my heart rate within what we call 'Zone 2'."



This year's London Marathon was run on a very hot day, and after 18 miles, Rebecca made the conscious decision to slow down as her heart rate was rising. Even so, she was able to finish in 3 hours and 37 minutes, which was 23 minutes faster than the previous world marathon record. Her achievement was confirmed by the Guinness Book of Records.

KEMPSHOTT CONSERVATION GROUP

Dates for your diary

We will be holding one of our ever popular Kids' Bug Hunts in Down Grange Meadow on Sunday, 15th June from 10.00 until 12.30. Accompanied children can come at anytime and stay as long they like. The meeting point is the Meadow entrance in Homesteads Road near St. Mark's Church.

The Bug Hunt will be repeated on Saturday, 26th July from 10.00 until 12.30, but this time in the Old Orchard near Kendal Gardens. There's plenty of parking in nearby Stratton Park. If you wish, why not come to both? We would be delighted to see you.

For more information about our activities on Down Grange Meadow, please call Marion Wolstencroft on (01256) 470171. Alternatively, send an email to kempshott-serve@tiscali.co.uk or visit us at www.kempshottconservationgroup.org.uk

OLD DOWN WILDLIFE GROUP

Old Down Wildlife Group



It's that time of year when Old Down meadow looks truly amazing – so many different wildflowers, so many different colours. You may not realize how many different species of wild flowers are on the meadow. The Cowslip and Meadow Saxifrage show first and then come many other species such as the following: Oxeye

Daisy; Kidney Vetch; Common Vetch; Horseshoe Vetch; Wild Carrot; Orchids; Clustered Bellflower; Ragged Robin; Vipers Bugloss; Yellow Rattle; Bird's Foot Trefoil; Marjoram; Mallow; Field Scabious; Harebell; Meadow Cranesbill; Knappweed; Buttercup; Centaury; Salad Burnett; Mignonette. There is a wonderful plethora of species on the meadow making it a most wonderful and special area which we must all ensure is coveted and protected.

The work parties have started working through the meadow removing unwanted and spreading shrubs such as hawthorn and dogwood. These shrubs can spread so easily and overwhelm the wildflowers so do need to be removed. This year they seem to have really thrived and suckers have popped up all over the meadow, so

there is quite a task ahead. It is good for insects, especially butterflies, to have some shrub dotted here and there but this year there is just too much.

Work Parties: We meet outside Old Down Hall every Thursday 10-12noon (but not in the rain!). We really do need new members and support – this is the way to keep Old Down as a beautiful green space for wildlife and people. You do not have to come every week. Check our website and Facebook for further information and/or contact us by email.

Email: old.down.wildlife@gmail.com

Website: Old Down Wildlife Group

Facebook: Old Down Wildlife Group



Birds' Foot Trefoil



Clustered Bellflower



Field Scabious

We are open from
Wednesday to Sunday
10am-2pm

Café in the Park

We look forward to
seeing you!

Café in the Park
What's on June

Weekly

Wednesday Quiche Wednesday Community Meal Deal 12-2pm	Thursday Beggardwood Bumps to Babies 11.30-12.30	Friday Friendship Friday Chatty cafe 10.30-11.30
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Wednesday 4th June
Community Lunch -12-1.15,
8VA Wellbeing Walk - 11am

Hatch Warren and Beggardwood Association Annual AGM-7pm - We Need You!

You are invited to attend a short meeting held by the Trustees of HWABCA. We need a minimum of 25 members to meet Quorum. Refreshments will be available

Friday 6th June
The Oakley Stitches 10-12

Wednesday 12th June
The Beggardwood Bookworms 7.30-9pm

Friday 13th June
Card & Cuppa craft group

Friday 20th June
HWBCA - Fundraising Quiz -7pm Onwards

The Oakley Stitches 10-12

Saturday 21st June -
10th Anniversary of Hatch Warren Summer Festival
Hatch Warren Community Centre Playing Fields
12-4 pm Free Parking, Craft Stalls, Dog show, climbing walls, Dj, Food stalls, Bar, Inflatables - join us for summer fun

Friday 27th June
Beggardwood Bookworms Day Time 11.30

LOOKING FOR THAT PERFECT PARTY VENUE?
LOOK NO FURTHER, AS
HATCH WARREN
OR
BEGGARWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE
ARE HERE TO HELP!

Our halls are suitable for children's parties and we offer morning and afternoon slots on Saturday and Sundays.

Use of our kitchen facilities and hire of tables and chairs are included.

We accept bouncy castles/soft plays and discos in our halls.

To discuss your party further, please email
office@hatchwarren.org

Hatch Warren Community Centre
Beggardwood Community Centre
Broadmere Road, Basingstoke,
RG22 4AQ

Café in the Park
Quiche Wednesday

COMMUNITY MEAL DEAL
FRESHLY BAKED QUICHE & AMERICANO COFFEE OR POT OF TEA
£4.70

IN ASSOCIATION WITH DASHWOOD MANOR

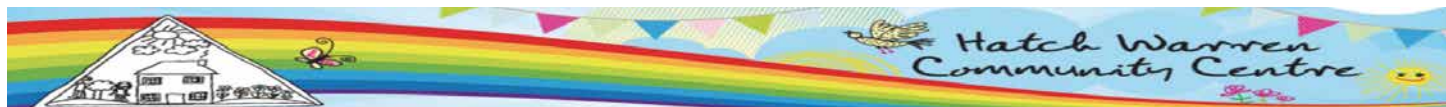
WEDNESDAY 12-1PM LIMITED SUPPLY

CAFE IN THE PARK
BROADMERE ROAD,
BASINGSTOKE, RG22 4AQ

DELICIOUS QUICHE

HOT DRINK





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



NOTICE of HWBCA AGM at Beggarwood Community Centre.
Wednesday 9th JULY @ 7PM - with refreshments.

Members are welcome from 6:30pm
Please book via Ticketsource (no fee)

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/hwca/t-pqrkvo>

Membership costs £10 per year to support HWBCA

We are excited to announce that this year's AGM will be held at Beggarwood Community Centre. **You are invited to attend a short meeting** to support the trustees of Hatch Warren & Beggarwood Community Association. The charity exists to provide, run and manage Hatch Warren & Beggarwood Community Centres and to provide social and educational facilities to improve the conditions of life for the residents of the community of postcodes RG22 and RG23. An update of our achievements and our plans for the future of HWBCA will be reviewed.

HWBCA are responsible for 2 community facilities and we have a lot of dedicated people who have given up their time, but we still need all of you to continue to support your centre. **We need a minimum of 25 HWBCA members** to achieve quorum, to vote on the night to keep us going for another year, please don't assume someone else will turn up on the night. **We can't survive without YOU!** Membership renewal is easy and costs £10 per year per family.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting

WE ARE A REGISTERED CHARITY,
run by people like you, from your community!

Without the continual support from you, our valuable community services may be at risk



AGM
Annual General Meeting

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

Hatch Warren Community Centre
Long Cross Lane, Hatch Warren
Basingstoke, RG22 4DF
Tel: 01256 811262 Web: www.hatchwarren.org
Email: office@hatchwarren.org Follow us on Twitter @hatchwarren

FREE ENTRY FAMILY FUN DAY
SUMMER FESTIVAL
10th ANNIVERSARY
SATURDAY 21st JUNE

HATCH WARREN COMMUNITY CENTRE
PLAYING FIELDS 12-4pm

FREE PARKING ON SITE - INSIDE & OUTSIDE SEATING

ST KITTS VETERINARY PRACTICE FUN DOG SHOW
HW SCOUT GROUP ACTIVITY ZONE & CLIMBING WALL
SUPERB 'BOUNCE4FUN' EVENT INFLATABLES
BERKSHIRE BIRDS OF PREY
STORM IN A TEACUP CIRCUS & BUBBLES WORKSHOP
VINTAGE BUSES ON DISPLAY

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With over 100 things to see & enjoy -
It's going to be our Biggest and Best Festival yet!

WWW.HATCHWARREN.ORG
THIS IS A FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR HWBCA CHARITY #1161117

Bring you dogs and join in with St Kitts fun dog show

HATCH WARREN COMMUNITY CENTRE
COACH TRIP

MINECRAFT EXPERIENCE
VILLAGER RESCUE
AN IMMERSIVE ADVENTURE

CORNER CORNER
CANADA WATER, LONDON

MINECRAFTEXPERIENCE.COM

SATURDAY 5TH JULY 2025 at 2PM
CORNER CORNER, LONDON, SE16 7LL

Tickets cost £40 per child or adult
(INCLUDES RETURN COACH)

Villager Rescue is an epic interactive experience where the most popular elements of Minecraft are brought to life before your eyes!

Coach will depart at 9:30am from our car park and the coach will depart from London at 4pm.

To book your place email OFFICE@HATCHWARREN.ORG
or call 01256 811262

This event is supported by

40 seats must be sold for trip to go ahead

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

HATCH WARREN COMMUNITY CENTRE
COACH TRIP TO
MATILDA THE MUSICAL

RSC
'NOTHING MATCHES IT'
NEW YORK TIMES
ROALD DAHL
Matilda
THE MUSICAL

18th September 7PM
Cambridge Theatre, LONDON
Good Stall Seats
Tickets cost £75 per person
(INCLUDES RETURN COACH)

Coach will depart at 3.45pm from our car park

This trip is open to all members of the public
Tickets are non refundable

To book your place email OFFICE@HATCHWARREN.ORG
or call 01256 811262
Payment plans available This event is supported by

40 seats must be sold for trip to go ahead

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

Registered Charity Number 1161117

find us on | facebook

Hatch Warren Community Centre

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



Children & Young People's support lines

Childline - 0800 1111 - Samaritans - 116 123

Young Minds text service – 85258

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

Qualified Staff / Extensive Free Holiday Programmes/ Email: warren@hatchwarren.org Follow Us on Facebook @The Warren and Instagram @thewarrenyouthclub



FREE ENTRY

10-13 year olds

THE WARREN

EVERY FRIDAY

6-7:45PM

We are proud to be the only youth facility in the area offering a wide range of activities every week. Young people can enjoy socialising with their friends, tuck shop, games, sports and crafts.

Find us on Facebook to book a space!

HATCH WARREN COMMUNITY CENTRE
LONG CROSS LN, BASINGSTOKE RG22 4XF
CHARITY NUMBER: 1161117
email: Warren@hatchwarren.org



THE WARREN

Late mates

Free entry

Pool - Music - Xbox - Table Tennis

Hot Food

Fridays
Year groups 8-11
8-9:30pm

Email: Warren@hatchwarren.org Hatch Warren Community Centre
Charity number: 1161117 Long Cross Ln, Basingstoke RG22 4XF

Monday night is Link2 Club Night

6pm-8.15pm



WE HAVE SUCH FUN!

Manager - Dilys Buchan 07939532667

LINK2, supported by Hatch Warren & Beggarwood Community Association, is a family orientated group for young adults (16-30) who may need a little support. LINK2 is run by experienced staff who aim to develop a relationship with all members with learning disabilities and their families to get the best outcomes for their future. We support them on a path to growing independence, as they move into adult life.

Improve general Life skills and finding their full potential through sports opportunities

Boost confidence and support for independent travel

Provide experiences to promote Resilience and self esteem

Maintain and develop our access to work programme



Supported by
 Hampshire County Council

BEGGARWOOD BOOKWORMS

We had really good attendance for our April meeting. It seemed everyone agreed that the chosen book 'The Women' by Kristin Hannah was such a good choice that they were keen to discuss the novel with friends. The story follows young wealthy Frankie who decides to enlist as a nurse and serve in the Vietnam war. It follows her journey through often horrific events and living conditions. The most shocking part however was the reception she received on return to USA where her cries for help and support were totally ignored as it was said that no women served there. The book received high scores from our group and went straight to the top of our chart.

Next month's choice is 'The List of Suspicious Things' by Jennie Godfrey set in the time of the Yorkshire Ripper and follows Miv a twelve year old girl who aims to make Yorkshire safe again.

Read along with us, follow us on Facebook or join us for book chat in The Cafe in the Park. Contact the community centre office for further details



Join our friendly group and chat about this month's book with us



Wednesday 11th June

Go as a River Shelley Read Modern fiction coming of age tale. Teenager Victoria is the only woman in a family running a peach farm in Colorado. GO AS A RIVER is the powerful and emotional Sunday Times bestselling novel which you'll never forget.



Wednesday 9th July

Get to know your fellow bookworms at our social picnic swap tips and books for the summer

7.30-9pm

Tickets £3.00

Via [Ticketsource.co.uk](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk)

Follow us on social media for news

#beggardwoodbookworms

email Community@beggardwood.org



Café in the Park



We need helpers to distribute the Rabbits. 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 round needs a deliverer:

Longwood Copse Lane

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DISTRIBUTORS
NEEDED**



**Does your cat hate catteries?
If so why not let them enjoy a staycation at home?**

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**Welcome to King's Church
Basingstoke**

You are invited to join us at
10:15 when we start with Tea
and Coffee and the warmest
of welcomes.

A church that is:

- Faithful to God
- Caring for each other
- Committed to those around us

Every Sunday Morning
(except the first Sunday of the month)

10:15am in the main hall at
Manor Field Junior School
Haydn Road, Brighton Hill

www.kingschurchbasingstoke.com Tel: 07741 856437



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LADIES ENTERTAINED BY PROBUS CLUB

The annual Spring Ladies 'Lunch' is one of several occasions during the year that the men of the Probus Club have lunch with the ladies in their lives.

This May it took place at the Test Valley Golf Club and had as their guest of honour, Janet Fagg, the President of Basingstoke's Ladies' Probus Club. She was in the company of friends as, like herself being the partner of a Probus member, several wives present are also members of the Ladies' Probus Club which has been in continuous operation for nearly thirty-two years.



Speaking after lunch, Janet remarked of the convenience living with a member of the men's Probus Club as it gave an insight into their speaker programme that enabled those suitable for a female audience to be identified. They had enjoyed a visit to a Japanese garden in Fleet and in the summer will be having an afternoon tea.

In the meantime, the men, together with any of their ladies who may be interested, in June are going to visit the grand house Kingston Lacy in Dorset. Other activities during the summer include a trip on the Basingstoke canal as well as their traditional summer pub lunch.

Retired men interested in finding out more about the Probus Club should see their web site www.probusbasingstoke.club or phone 07814 937202 for a chat with their secretary, Andrew Barton.

BASINGSTOKE DEANE ROTARY

BASINGSTOKE FESTIVAL OF TRANSPORT 2025 WOW! WHAT A GREAT DAY!

A huge thank you to all who attended the event. Also thanks go to all the exhibitors with their amazing vehicles, the stall holders, the food concessions as well as the motor dealers who all contributed to our fundraising. In doing so they allow us to make it free for people to attend whilst still making money for the charities we support. We could not put on the event without our wonderful band of volunteers who freely give their time to help us set up and manage the event and the invaluable support given by our brilliant partners Hants and Berks 4X4 club.

Yes we do make a modest charge for all car parking but again all this money does go to charity.

What are we fundraising for? HAMPSHIRE HOSPITALS CHARITY

Whilst we will continue to support numerous local charities our focus charity this year is Hampshire Hospitals Charity and we have launched a fundraising campaign to raise £38,000, to fund the purchase of a state-of-the-art camera system and an additional thoracoscope for the respiratory team at Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital. While this equipment is available within the wider Hampshire Hospitals Trust, it falls outside the scope of NHS funding.

By investing in this technology, patients in north Hampshire will benefit from receiving care closer to home. This not only reduces the need for travel but also alleviates the burden on hospitals while improving patient outcomes overall.

To donate, or see Basingstoke Deane Rotary website
<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/rotaryrespiratoryproject>

IT'S ABOUT MAKING A GENUINE DIFFERENCE

It's not all about fundraising. It's also about supporting charities to fundraise.

We are supporting St Michael's Hospice in their own fundraising events, be it car parking for the Woodland Walk or deserved refreshments at the end of the Moonlight Walk when the tired but elated participants are glad to be rewarded with hot chocolate and biscuits

St Michael's Hospice Future Events SAVE THE DATES

THE BIG WHEEL, Sunday 1st June
SUMMER MEMORIES, Sunday 13th July
GOLF DAY, Friday 12th September
MOONLIGHT WALK, Saturday 27th September
REINDEER RUN, Sunday 30th November

It can be, having fun while giving back!

St Michael's Hospice, like many local charities, needs constant fundraising to support the special work that they do. You can support them by participating and getting sponsorship. To fundraise for their events, see their web site or join our support team at one of the events, contacts Paul Temple tempaul45@gmail.com, Alf McCarthy alf.mccarthy@btinternet.com

Basingstoke Deane Rotary is a group of 27 men & women from a wide variety of backgrounds. All live locally in the borough but some commute to work outside Basingstoke. Most joined Rotary to help others less fortunate, and they find Basingstoke Deane Rotary adds another extremely enjoyable dimension to their lives.

Facebook: @RotaryBasingstokeDeane Twitter: @RBstokeDeane

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TEL: 01256 355356 or 07876 495657

BASINGSTOKE CHORAL SOCIETY

A SUMMER EVENING OF MOZART
REQUIEM AND SOLEMN VESPERSSaturday July 5th. 2025 at 7.00pm.
All Saints Church Odiham RG29 1LZ**Basingstoke Choral Society****Organist George Castle**
Conductor Ben Cooper**Soloists:**
Maddy Morris
Tim Carleston
Simon Irwin**Wine or soft drink served with
fresh strawberries from 6pm.**Tickets including refreshments: Adult £20,
12 - 18 yrs. £10. Accompanied children under 12 free.
Buy 4 or more tickets get 1 free.

BCS is a registered CIO: No. 1202484

**KEMPSHOTT PANTOMIME GROUP**

IS HOLDING

AUDITIONS

For

BABES IN THE WOOD13th July 2025

2pm

OAKLEY VILLAGE HALL

Andover Road, RG23 7HA

For more information email

[sylvia f roberts@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sylvia_f_roberts@yahoo.co.uk)**L TITCOMBE & FAMILY****Independent Funeral Directors
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4 Elmwood Parade, Basingstoke RG23 8LL Tel 01256 476 366

8 Swan Street, Kingsclere RG50 5PJ Tel: 01635 299 900

www.tmfunerals.co.uk**Could you volunteer and
become a school governor?**

At Hatch Warren Infant School we are looking for a co-opted governor to join our governing body. As a governor you will be a volunteer who makes a vital contribution to the success of the school.

School governors have three main roles.

- **Governors ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.**
The governing body helps to set long-term plans for the school, decide where improvements need to be made and how to make them.
- **Governors hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and the effective and efficient performance management of staff.**
The governing body looks at the quality of education being offered and ensures the head is doing everything possible to improve results.
- **Governors oversee the financial performance of the school and make sure its money is well spent.**
Governors examine budgets and spending proposals to monitor whether the school is getting value for money and ensure the money is spent in the right areas.

This role may be particularly of interest if you have skills in finance/accounting, human resources, data or education but we invite applications from anyone who is interested in helping the school be the best it can be. Full training is available and governors are encouraged to attend regular training sessions, either in person or online.

We are looking for someone who can attend approximately six full governing body meetings per year. Meetings are held in school, usually on Thursday evenings from around 5.30pm to 7.30pm. Governors also spend time in school during the day (around two visits per term).

If you would like to find out more, please email parent.mail@hws.hants.sch.uk to arrange an informal chat with one of our governors.

ANVIL ARTS 01256 844244 anvilarts.org.uk
(Tickets include £4 booking fee)

PEGGY SEEGER – 90th Birthday Farewell Tour

with Neill & Calum MacColl

Thu 5 June, 7.30pm, The Haymarket, Tickets: £25

Peggy Seeger, the grande dame of American and British folk music, embarks on her last ever concert tour alongside her sons, Neill and Calum MacColl, in celebration of her 90th birthday.

ORCHESTRA OF THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT

Friday 6 June, 7.30pm, The Anvil,

Tickets: £45, £40, £34, £25, £17. Under 25s and f/t students £12

Dinis Sousa conducts the OAE in a concert of Elgar's finest pieces. The concert begins with *In the South*, a vivid evocation of an Italian holiday. Joining the orchestra is mezzo-soprano Frances Gregory.

Ballet Cymru presents

GISELLE

Sat 7 June, 7.30pm, The Haymarket,

Tickets: £22.50. Under 25s, over 65s, and f/t students £20.50

Award-winning Ballet Cymru presents *Giselle*, an unforgettable journey filled with passion, betrayal, and forgiveness. This brand-new interpretation of the ghost-filled ballet tells the tragic, romantic story of a young Welsh girl named Giselle, who falls in love but dies of heartbreak.

Apollo Theatre presents

CARRY ON LADIES

Valerie Leon and Jacki Piper in *Conversation with Robert Ross*

Sun 15 June, 2.30pm, The Haymarket, Tickets: £28

The *Carry On* films are the most successful and prolific comedy franchise in British entertainment history. Since 1958, they have delighted, amused, and titillated the entire world. In this brand-new theatre celebration, two of its leading ladies, Valerie Leon and Jacki Piper, share their memories and stories, curated by the official *Carry On* historian, Robert Ross.

THE SEARCHERS - 'Thank You' Tour 2025

Fri 20 June, 7.30pm, The Anvil, Tickets: £33.50

Retirement does not come easy for The Searchers. Thus far, they have completed no less than three 'final' tours. That was to be it, no more. But, 'never say never' has been their motto, and officially named in 2023 as the 'longest serving pop group in British history', they are touring again to say a last fond farewell, with songs such as *Needles & Pins*, *What Have They Done to the Rain?*, *Don't Throw Your Love Away*, and so many more.



WiFi WARS - 10th Anniversary Tour

Sat 21 June, 3.15pm & 7pm, The Forge, Tickets: £19

Suitable for: ages 6 and over

WiFi Wars returns with an entirely new show to celebrate their 10th anniversary. It's the live comedy game show where you all play along. Log in with your smartphone or tablet and compete in a range of games, puzzles, and quizzes to win the show and prizes. Hosted by comedian Steve McNeil.

ANTON & GIOVANNI - Together Again

Sat 21 June, 7.30pm, The Anvil, Tickets: £66, £59, £55, £48, £46

Suitable for: ages 8 and over

Favourite dance double act Anton du Beke and Giovanni Pernice are *Together Again* in a brand-new show with more fun, more dance, more song, and even more entertainment than ever before!

JOHN WILSON & SINFONIA OF LONDON

with special guest soloists Louise Dearman, Nathaniel Hackmann & Scarlett Strallen

Tue 24 June, 7pm, The Anvil, Tickets: £56, £51, £45, £40

John Wilson and Sinfonia of London bring the music of Rodgers & Hammerstein to life in a spectacular concert, featuring songs from some of the greatest musicals of all time, including *South Pacific*, *The Sound of Music*, *Oklahoma!*, *Carousel*, and *The King and I*. Under the masterful direction of John Wilson, renowned for his passion and expertise in interpreting Golden Age Hollywood music, the Sinfonia of London will ensure each note resonates with magic and emotion.

Come along and enjoy a delightful afternoon as we perform
our outside summer concert

**Basingstoke Concert Band
SUMMER CONCERT**

Sat 12 July 25 at 3.00pm

Sherfield-on-Loddon Village Hall Garden

Tickets cost £12 (U16 free) available from band members,
at the door or online at

<https://ticketlab.co.uk/event/id/31562#>

EarlyBird offer £10 - available until 31 May

Cream tea served during the interval
- included in your ticket!



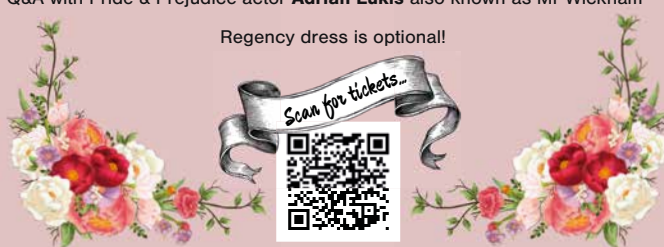
**Jane Austen Regency Country Fair
Pump Field, Steventon, Sunday 6th July 2025 10am - 4pm**

A fair with Regency dancers, demonstrations of country arts and crafts,
talks, performers, games, food, drinks and stalls

Talks and book signings from historian, author and TV presenter
Lucy Worsley OBE

Q&A with *Pride & Prejudice* actor **Adrian Lukis** also known as Mr Wickham

Regency dress is optional!



Free Parking. Only assistance dogs allowed

YOUR LOCAL CATS PROTECTION BRANCH NEEDS YOU!!

Basingstoke Cats Protection is currently inundated with cats on our waiting list who we so desperately want to help... but with all our current foster homes full of felines there is little we can do.

We are looking for fosterers in the Basingstoke area, either indoor or in an outdoor enclosure which is provided by Cats Protection (approximate size 13ft x 4ft or 4m x 1.2m). Full training will be provided and all expenses are covered by Cats Protection – food, litter, bedding and electricity.

Fostering is an incredible experience guaranteed to give you an extreme sense of joy, achievement and pride. The days spent in a loving foster home make the world of difference for our cats and kittens, setting them up for a lifetime of happiness.

PLEASE consider opening your home and heart to a cat in need; if you cannot foster, please spread the word to anyone who may be able to help us.

If you're interested in finding out more, please contact Lynne at welfareteamleader@basingstoke.cats.org.uk or call our enquiries line on 01256 584544.



Notes from the kitchen



What do you cook on holiday?



The sun is shining, the days are getting longer and summer holidays beckon. With the rise of Airbnb and holiday cottages for rent I suspect more and more of us are choosing a self catering holiday. Going out to eat every day is expensive so what do you cook on holiday every day? We recently had a lovely week in a beautiful apartment on the island of Madeira. There was a hob and a very swish microwave – but no instructions as to how to make use of all its function. So what did we eat? Breakfast was usually toast, eggs and croissants. French toast (also known as eggy bread) was served a couple of mornings – simply soak slices of bread in beaten egg and a dollop of milk and fry – we used olive oil – and serve with bacon, smoked salmon or just as it is. Another easy breakfast or lunch was toast with mashed avocado topped with a poached egg and some tomatoes – yummy! Pasta carbonara is another easy meal. Basically pasta served with half cooked scrambled eggs (the heat of the pasta finishes off the cooking but you do want a creamy sauce) with some ham added. In desperation to clear the fridge I have even added mushrooms that I've sautéed in butter. Chicken breasts sliced in half, beaten flat, dipped in melted butter and then breadcrumbs fried in butter or oil and served with a big salad are good. Breadcrumbs – try grating some sliced bread on one of those basic graters that are always part of the standard kitchen equipment. It takes a while but is very satisfying when done! A new addition to my holiday menu is an easy recipe from the wonderful Stanley Tucci Cook Book – spaghetti with a tomato and tuna sauce. Gently cook a roughly chopped onion in a little olive oil. Add a tin of chopped tomatoes and season with salt and pepper. Add a few leaves of basil. Cover and simmer for about 20 minutes. Drain most of the olive oil from a tin of tuna and add the tuna to the tomato sauce. Return to the hob to heat the tuna. Meanwhile cook the spaghetti, drain and then toss into the sauce. Serve. Quick, easy and delicious. I use the best canned tuna I can find – Ortiz is expensive but very good. Similarly I find good quality tinned tomatoes are important, the Mutti brand is my favourite.

So what do you cook when you are away? We are off for a self catering break in the New Forest soon and any ideas would be gratefully received. Our holiday accommodation is equipped with an air fryer which opens up a host of ideas for easy meals – but more about that next month!



Summer Memories

Sunday 13 July 2025, 2pm – 4.30pm
Worthing House, Basingstoke, RG23 8PY

Celebrate your loved ones and support your local hospice.

Butterfly Installation | Remembrance Service at 3.30pm | **FREE ENTRY**
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RESTAURANT REVIEW

THE FLIGHT DECK CAFÉ

Lasham Clubhouse, Lasham Gliding Society, The Avenue,
Alton GU34 5SS

Tel: 01256 384900 (N.B. phone on restaurant section is inoperable)

Following redevelopment this place was reopened last November so it was time we revisited as it was over two years since we were last here. The Flight Deck Café at the Lasham Gliding Society, which claims to be the largest gliding club in the world, although a members' club, is open to the public and has outside playground equipment for children.

Arriving at 12.45 pm the place was busy although we had a table for two with great vistas of the open airfield but being a windy and cloudy day there was not much activity with only one glider being winched into the air during our time here.

The menu is adequate for this relaxed dining establishment. It is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner seven days a week. We both chose scampi, skin on fries and salad which came with half a lemon and a small pot of tartare sauce. Madam opted for a Sanpellegrino Limonade, while I had a diet coke. There is a bar area tucked away but it was not in use during our visit.

They do not do desserts, so it was either cake or ice cream, with two Magnums being chosen. The total cost of £42 was acceptable, especially considering that on a more pleasant day there would be plenty of flying activity to see.

No doubt, during the summer, the large patio area with all new picnic tables equipped with large umbrellas will be very popular as gliders will be constantly being launched and landing. For the bravehearted it is possible to buy a flying experience which makes a different sort of birthday present.

Typical, isn't it that we had enjoyed plenty of days of sunshine recently, but, dear reader, this was the only day we had available before the final copy date for the Rabbiter magazine.

**IT WAS THIRTY YEARS AGO TODAY**

The eighth edition of the Rabbiter, dated September 1993, led on Meridian TV coming to the Community Centre to cover the making of its stained-glass window. Local residents were shown helping to create the new feature, which depicted the Community Association logo. It was designed by Steve Clark of Rainbow Stained Glass, based at the Viables Craft Centre.

A new planning application had been submitted to expand parking at the Doctors' Surgery, which was then based in Moorhams Avenue. Many people liked that location, in the heart of the community and close to the Community Centre.

There was an article introducing WPC Michaela Whatmore and WPC Sarah Ridler as the area beat officers for Hatch Warren and Brighton Hill. Having local officers was an approach that worked. It was sadly dropped but has been reintroduced recently.

An article by the then County Councillor, Brian Gurden, focussed on the opening of Children's World, with the hope that the planning row about a possible Blockbuster's Store was now at an end. He was concerned that Hatch Warren was still short of neighbourhood shops, and in need of a genuine Post Office and a public house.

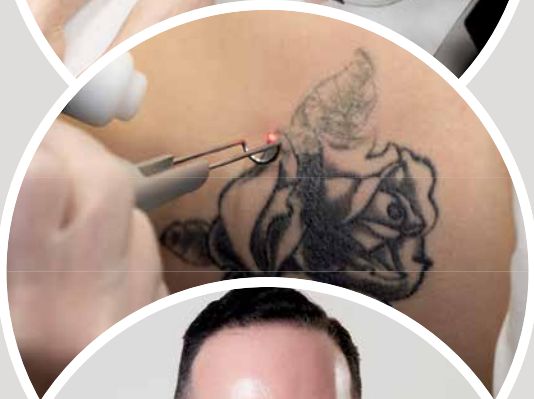
Brian thought it was amazing (in a bad way) that a development of 1,900 houses with another 700 being planned could be built on a green field site without such important community assets. Brian's comments still resonate today, as more and more developments outstrip the infrastructure.

The then Local Plan had sites designated for a convenience store (that became the Co-op at Beggarwood), a sports barn (which never happened) and a place of worship (which also never happened – St Mark's School was used to host Immanuel Church instead). It seems that it is no trouble to plan and build houses, but not so easy to deliver planned facilities for the people who will live in them. The latest example is the intended dental surgery on the 'Island' site that never happened. A children's nursery has just opened there instead.

On 25th September, Immanuel with St Mark's Church (which was then using the community centre) was celebrating Harvest with a barn dance and supper. It was also saying goodbye to Marian Carter, the Parish Deacon, whom many people will remember with affection.

And finally ... the Community Association was planning its first birthday celebrations and thanked everyone associated with it. The major anniversary event – Fun for All the Family – was a Fete on 4th September. It was to be opened by "Cllr and Mrs Reid, accompanied by Mr. Blobby". Ah, memories!

Stephen Reid



WELCOME!

Ha Laser Studio is an independent clinic in Basingstoke, founded by Hayley, who has 20 years of experience in the industry. She began her career with a renowned company, gaining expertise at Harley Street alongside top industry professionals. The clinic specialises in a range of advanced laser treatments, including laser hair removal, skin resurfacing, tattoo removal, vascular treatments, and photo facials for conditions like pigmentation, rosacea, and acne. With a focus on expert knowledge and using the best global technology, Cynosure, Quanta & Lynton.

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SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

Growing up I often heard adults in the older generation talking about 'Whitsuntide' at this time of year, and I had no idea what they meant by it! However, it was within their lifetime that this long-standing public holiday for Pentecost was effectively lost- which is why they talked about it.

One understanding of the word 'Whit' is that it was derived from the wearing of white garments for baptisms which often took place at Pentecost. Another is that it comes from the Anglo-Saxon word 'wit' meaning 'understanding' and reflects the belief that at Pentecost the Holy Spirit brought wisdom to the apostles as they began to share the good news of God's love seen through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

But what is wisdom? And where do we find it? Because I'm certain that we still need it...

We often equate wisdom with experience, which can be a good measure. But is wisdom the same as knowledge or learning? Who might we describe as wise? What does a wisely lived life look like?

In the Old Testament, wisdom is personified as a woman, most prominently in the book of Proverbs. Wisdom is described as a hidden treasure 'more precious than rubies' to those who choose to live good lives and to help those in need. Wisdom speaks for herself in Chapter 8: 'Blessed are those who listen to me, watching daily at my doors, waiting at my doorway. For those who find me find life.' As we continue through the Bible, wisdom is made human in Jesus and then offered to each of us through the Holy Spirit... which brings us full circle back to Pentecost.

I imagine that we'll each have our own places to turn to find wisdom. For me, the example and advice of others, the guidance of scripture, reasoned thinking and my own past experience all play their part. I also trust God. I trust that God's loving presence is with me- not controlling me like a robot, but enabling me to make wise, loving choices, even when things are not going as I would like.

We so need wisdom in the world... and we especially need wise leaders. We hear a lot of waffle and spin and see a lot of grandstanding from world political leaders reported in the news, though I'm sure it's not the whole picture. I reflect on the fact that when God's presence became available to all people at Pentecost it was a message of love and hope that was to be shared with the world. Though it's true that the Church as an institution has messed things up sometimes and made it hard to see, it is still the same message of love and hope even now- for everyone, everywhere.

Whether you understand everything about faith or church or have questions about it all, why not join us to celebrate Pentecost on 8th June. For more info on our services or events check www.parishofbasingstokedown.org.uk

Rev'd Nicola Such

(Vicar)



Pets Corner



Send your photos to editor@therabbiter.biz



Some previous photographs

St Michael's Hospice

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Parish Office- 01256 840502
find us on Facebook and Instagram!

LOCAL HISTORY SNIPPETS



SOLSTICE AND MIDSUMMER

This month marks both the Summer Solstice and Midsummer Day. The summer Solstice on 21st June is the moment of the longest day, when the sun briefly appears to stand still – from the Latin sol for sun and sistere to stand still. Midsummer day is June 24th.

Both dates have been traditionally celebrated throughout Hampshire. A belief held that the veil between the worlds is thin at this time, so people were especially keen to protect themselves against the activities of the fairy folk. Bonfires were thought to protect against mischief, and jumping over them brought good fortune; a particularly high jump would predict the height of a good harvest to come. Flowers would be gathered and worn also as protection and celebration. The ashes of the midsummer bonfire were considered lucky and if scattered over the ground would promote good crops.

Professor Ronald Hutton, and acknowledged expert of folklore states:

"Midsummer was seen as a time when the normal laws of nature or divinity could be suspended, when spirits and fairies could contact humans, when humans could exceed the usual limitations of their world"

Midsummer was the time to collect herbs which would work especially well for healing. St John's Wort picked on the day would protect against fairy mischief, while a red rose also picked at midsummer could stay fresh until Christmas if stored in paper, and would act as a love charm.

Terri Reid MA FRSA

Terrielizabethreid.com

CRIME PREVENTION UPDATE

Mobile phone theft and links to fraud

There has been an increase of reports of mobile phone theft, where offenders use distraction techniques to either see your passcode or gain access to your phone whilst unlocked. Offenders may work in groups or alone and often target people on a night out. The key element is to access the handset whilst active or observe the passcode being entered.

- Set strong screen-lock passwords or pin codes.
- Secure high-value apps like wallets and banking apps with separate passwords and enable biometric authentication.
- Remove password auto-fill for high value apps.
- Ensure manufacturer security updates are installed promptly and anti-theft features activated.
- Be aware of surroundings when using your phone in public.
- Don't hand over your phone to people you don't know.

Rise in QR Code 'Quishing' scams

Action Fraud received 1,386 reports of people scammed after using a fake QR code compared to just 100 in 2019. Contactless payment hotspots – like parking meters and restaurant menus – are common targets for criminals who replace a genuine QR code with a malicious one, which links to their 'fake website'. Fraudulent codes have also been spotted on parcels, in emails and on television. QR codes can be very useful, both online and in person. If you need to scan a QR code in person check for signs it has been tampered with, if online look out for phishing emails or rogue social media posts with QR codes. Check to preview address and if you are unsure do not visit the site. It may be safer to visit the genuine website using your browser.

British Transport Police text service

The 61016 text service offers the travelling public a means to contact BTP directly and discreetly, in order to report non-emergency crime when using the rail network, you can report:

- An incident that has already happened
- Issues affecting your rail journey or your local station

www.hampshire.police.uk





HATCH WARREN UNDER FIVES

We are loving the sunshine this term at Hatch Warren Under Fives. The children are spending lots of time outdoors and are enjoying all of the areas in our garden.

We have a discovery den with all of the equipment needed to hunt and identify mini beasts from the garden. The children also have lots of opportunities to express themselves creatively in the garden and to use their fine and gross motor skills in our outdoor chalking and mark making area. We have a diggerland area and a construction area where the children put on high vis jackets and get to work building walls. We also bring our love of reading outdoors and have a cosy reading area to enjoy stories in the sunshine. And of course, a preschool garden would not be complete without a mud kitchen to make sticky mud pies and cakes.

We are putting lots of work into school readiness for our older children and each day we are having fun with activities to promote number recognition, personal and social skills, listening and understanding, health and self-care. We are also doing lots of small group activities to help with focus and turn taking.

For sensory we have had rice, shaving foam, sand, jelly and water play and we have used natural resources on the messy tray to create our own nature pizzas.

We had a very crafty week for VE day and made medals and war planes and decorated bunting and flags – the children then raced their war paper aeroplanes against each other.

WE ARE ENROLLING NOW FOR SEPTEMBER 2025. Why not book a visit to look around and meet the team? If you'd like to learn more, please contact us on 01256 322788, or email preschoolmail@aol.com.

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

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

CUCKOO MEADOW PRE-SCHOOL

It's been great to enjoy some nice weather following our Easter break. We have been on a lovely Spring walk to see the fluffy ducklings at the pond and celebrated Mrs Harman's birthday with some yummy cake! There has been lots of outdoor play at the park and with the parachute in the playground.



We've been focussing on Jack and the Beanstalk and created a huge beanstalk on the wall. We're also growing our own magic beans – do check them out on the window if you're passing by!

Georgia Hawken

Cuckoo Meadow Pre-School Secretary

CANDOVER VALLEY PRE-SCHOOL

Hello from CVP!

Nature is not just a back drop for play – it is a dynamic classroom that stimulates curiosity, fosters creativity, and nurtures emotional and physical wellbeing. Our forest space offers the preschool children open-ended, hands-on learning experiences. Creating woven artwork from natural resources deepens a child's connection to the environment. It teaches resourcefulness, mindfulness and respect for nature – all while fostering fine motor skills and self-expression.



We recently enjoyed a visit from Suzanne at Hampshire Healthy Families, providing our children with learning opportunities around physical health, nutrition and oral hygiene. The early years of a child's life are a critical window for shaping lifelong habits, and this includes health practices. Our preschool children enjoyed cleaning giant teeth with toothpaste and brushes whilst discussing the importance of oral hygiene practices, as well as feeding Alan the cheeky food monster some healthy food choices, offering opportunity to discuss different food groups.

Candover Valley Preschool is a vibrant and nurturing learning environment. Please contact us if you would like to enquire about a place for your child. Places are currently available from Autumn 2025.

01256-389008 cvpadmin@btconnect.com

DANDELIONS PRE-SCHOOL

This half term we have continued to encourage the children to learn about plants and insects.

We all went on a bug hunt and built dens for the bugs to live in. With the weather being so glorious we planted flowers and put in our vegetable seeds in the greenhouse. The children have been learning all about the lifecycle of plants and looking at real flowers, examining the petals and stems and talking about the importance of looking after them.

Everyone took home their own bean and we have loved seeing pictures of how big they are getting.



We have been having so much fun in the sun having a water fight, think the adults came off worse!! and everyone got a chance to put out the fire using water shooters. Boogie Mites have popped in to see us. We explored different animals using sounds, stuffed toy animals and our own bodies. We danced to music and made noises with our bodies using our hands and feet. We played drums with sticks and made thunder and rain noises alongside some music.

On VE Day we celebrated by having a Street Party themed lunch picnic which was such fun. The children baked cakes which we delivered to Dashwood Manor for all of the residents together with a special commemorative VE Day Pin Badge.

The children have been bringing in pictures of their families, pets, places they like to visit and their homes. It has been lovely to hear the children share their family stories and talk about where they live.

To develop this further we have discussed the local area and people who help us in the community. We talked about the different types of jobs that they might do and the children got dressed up in their favourite outfits telling us what job they might like to do when they are older

Our older children have recently found out which schools they will be going to in September. To prepare for school readiness we have been taking small key groups and focusing on tasks such as self care and name recognition. Plans are in place for transition meetings within the local Schools.

If you are considering Dandelions for your child's early years, please contact us for a registration form or to arrange a visit on Tel No: 01256 818857 or alternatively email: info@dandelions-preschool.org.uk Our waiting lists for 2026/2027 are now open.



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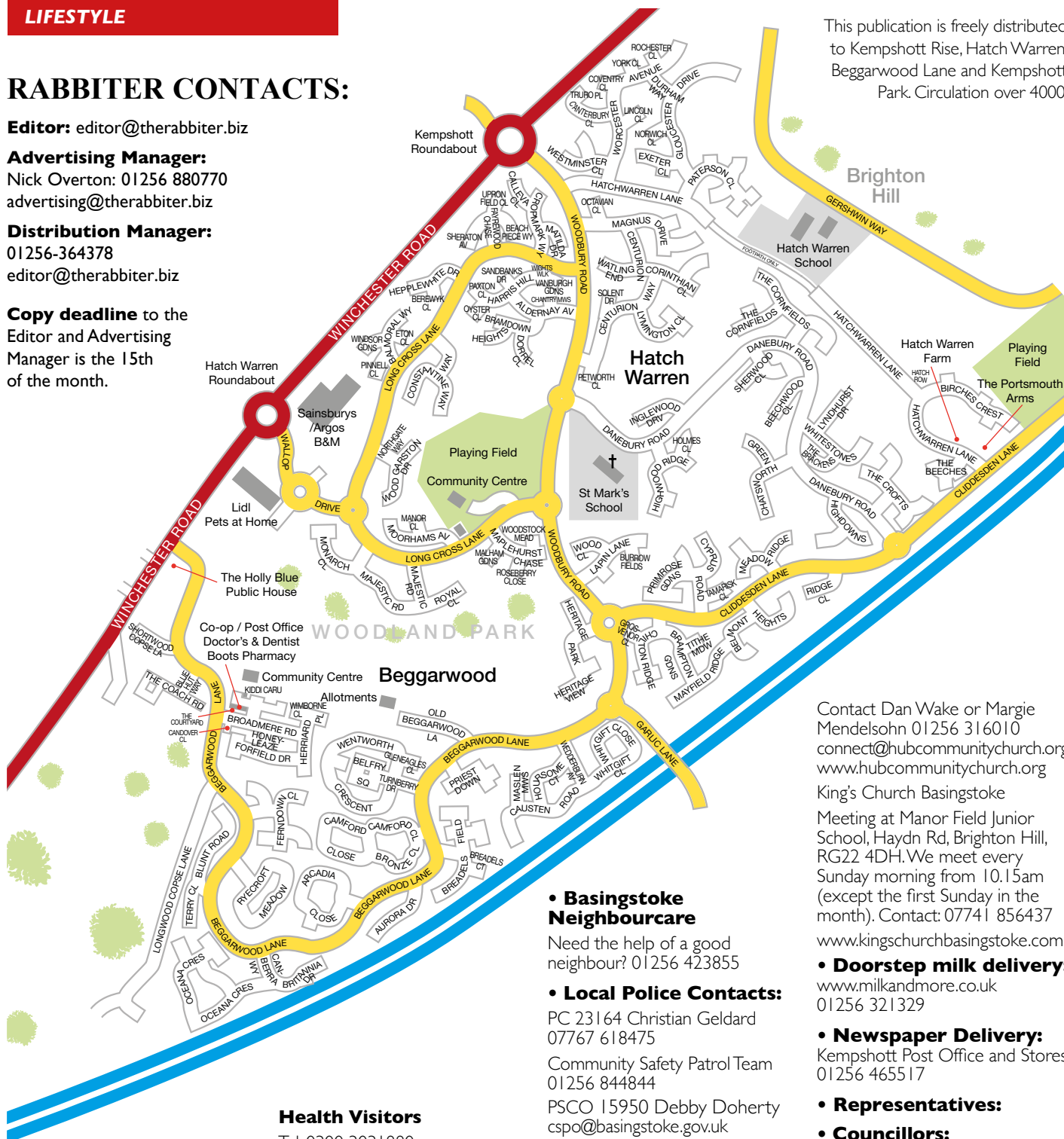
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07767 618475

Community Safety Patrol Team
01256 844844

PSCO 15950 Debby Doherty
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Hampshire Constabulary 101
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• Churches:

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

St Mark's Church - Sunday Service with children's groups - 10.30am every Sunday at St Mark's, Homesteads Road, Kempshott. For more details contact - The Parish of Basingstoke Down (01256) 840502 or office@parishofbasingstokedown.org.uk
Hub Community Church Every Sunday at The United Reformed Church, London Street, Basingstoke, RG21 7NU at 4pm

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• Library:

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Contact Dan Wake or Margie Mendelsohn 01256 316010
connect@hubcommunitychurch.org
www.hubcommunitychurch.org

King's Church Basingstoke

Meeting at Manor Field Junior School, Haydn Rd, Brighton Hill, RG22 4DH. We meet every Sunday morning from 10.15am (except the first Sunday in the month). Contact: 07741 856437

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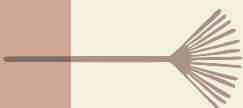
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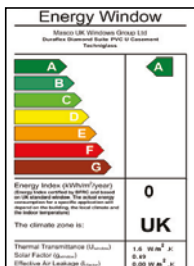
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