

# Community News

Your Community Newsletter and Village Voice

Winter 2007 edition

## “WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR”

These are age-old greetings at this time of year and are warmly sent again from the Trustees of the Association to you all. It is to be hoped that we all find time in our busy lives to relax and enjoy the companionship of our friends and families during the Christmas period.

As I predicted at the AGM, the Centre has had a busy autumn with bookings on the increase. More and more people are visiting us and enjoying the facilities on offer. Do remember to call in or telephone if you would like more information on the activities and hires available. Our Bookings Secretary, Jan, would be pleased to talk with you.

You may be interested to know also that we have just made an additional facility available by installing Broadband connections in two of our rooms, which can be hired at our usual rates; there will be no charge for using this access.

In connection with the service we provide, I should like to ask for your help in deciding whether we could provide a mini Internet café on site. We would only be able to have two computer desks as space is at a premium in the Centre. I envisage a booking system, where users could reserve half-hour slots in advance, starting at 10am and finishing at 2pm during week-days. Casual callers would be accommodated where there was available time. The cost would hopefully be competitive! Although the new Winchester Discovery Centre (the old library) in Jewry Street will have some forty computer desks, there is still the problem of journeying into the City centre and parking your car or even in just catching the ‘bus. I believe that having this facility ‘on our doorstep’ would be attractive to some of our residents.

So, I should be grateful if you would kindly let me know whether you support the idea and would be interested in using the facility. It would be helpful if you would complete the slip to be found on page 15 in this edition and return it to the Community Centre either by post or by dropping it off personally; the postal address is printed on the back cover. Residents in Oliver’s Battery are welcome to leave it with me at 6 Mount View Road.

Following the introduction of the smoking ban in public places, members of the Social Club have been enjoying the recently redecorated bar and lounge. The carpets and furniture have also been steam-cleaned to give the club a fresher feel. A completely new club committee has been elected with plans to improve facilities and events for members.

The Association’s annual Fireworks and Bonfire Night was held on 10<sup>th</sup> November at Oliver’s Battery Recreation Ground. Due to the hard work of a small band of volunteers beforehand, the event was again a great success. The weather was fortunately dry and fairly warm, but with only a slight breeze. The event was very well attended by residents of both parishes, who were most appreciative. A bigger than usual bonfire was a wonderful back-drop to the magnificent fireworks display. Our thanks go again to Kevin and Barbara Hitchings and Greg Wood for their hard work in organising the evening.

Once again, we send you seasonal greetings and our best wishes for 2008.

‘And so, as Tiny Tim observed, God Bless Us, Every One!’

Ian Millar  
Chairman

Published by Badger Farm & Oliver’s Battery

Residents’ Community Association

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[www.bfobrca.com](http://www.bfobrca.com)

# WINCHESTER TAE KWON-DO



**Club celebrates 21<sup>st</sup>  
anniversary and a world  
champion!**

## **Did you know there is a World Champion living on Badger Farm?**

Winchester Tae-Kwon Do (TKD) is delighted to let everyone know that we have a World Champion living here! Local resident Arnold Moreto took part in the 8<sup>th</sup> TKD World Championships back in the summer. The Champs were held in the UK this year, so Arnold, along with his daughter Lynne, decided to enter. Both performed their pattern (a set series of movements against an imaginary opponent) for their grade - 4th Kup blue belt. After having to repeat his performance three times in the competition, Arnold was overjoyed to be awarded the gold medal for his grade.

This is very much a 'first' for both Arnold and the club. While club members have had success in the past in both regional and national tournaments no one had reached such heights as Arnold. 'I am very proud of Arnold's gold medal' said Senior Instructor Mr Chris Barrett, 'as I am of all our students'.

Mr Barrett, 5<sup>th</sup> Degree Black belt, has been running Winchester TKD club for 21 years and for most of those years the club has thought of Badger Farm Community Centre as home. From a very small start – just two 8 year old students – the club has gone from strength to strength..

There is a children's class (ages 7-12) which is run by Mr Vic Whitlock, 4<sup>th</sup> Dan, and an adult class. New members are always welcome in both classes. If you are interested you can check out the club website at [www.winchestertkd.co.uk](http://www.winchestertkd.co.uk), call Mr Barrett on 02380 267771, or come along to a training session in the Battery at the Community Centre to meet the crew and watch the action. The club meets on Mondays and Wednesdays. The children's class runs from 6-7pm, while the adults train from 7 to 8.30pm. There is no upper age limit, stresses Mr Barrett, who admits to being 'just a little over 21' himself!

Says Mr Barrett 'It's always a high point for our students when they win at a tournament or pass their grading and achieve something into which they have put a lot of hard work, especially reaching Black Belt'.

Personal development is also encouraged for TAGB Instructors. In advancing from 1st Dan 24 years ago, to 5th Dan now, Mr Barrett was delighted to be awarded trophies as the best Black Belt grading at both 4th Dan in 1994 and then 5th Dan in 2003. He was just as proud when senior student, Darren Cooper, achieved his 5th Dan; and in October 2006 when Vic Whitlock, gained his 4th Dan. Mr Barrett now has good reason to be just as proud of Arnold and his achievement.

During the past 21 years, nearly 40 club students have attained the coveted Black Belt, and many others who have left for other places (some as far away as Australia), have also gained their Black Belt at other clubs. The TAGB (Tae Kwon-Do Association of Great Britain), founders of Tae Kwon-Do International have over 25,000 members in the UK and affiliations to many countries throughout the world – so it's no surprise when students who have been away for many years still pop in to the club and sometimes join in a training session. Some club members have disappeared to university, and reappeared after a few years to continue training.

As Winchester TKD looks forward to the next 21 years we continue to think of Badger Farm as our 'home.' We feel part of the community. For example, our Secretary, Elizabeth, since hanging up her black belt has joined the Community Association Management Committee.

We look forward to meeting new members from the local area. You never know -YOU- may be a future World Champion!

## OLIVER'S BATTERY WOMENS GROUP PROGRAMME WINTER 2007—SPRING 2008

We meet at ST. Mark's church Hall on the 1st and 3rd. Mondays from September to May at 8pm.

December 3rd 2007	Bernard Potter "Basingstoke Canal" Talk and Slides
December 18th 2007	Christmas Lunch Brambridge Garden Centre 12pm for 12.30pm
January 7th 2008	American Supper Entertainment
January 21st 2008	Claire Morgan "Live at Home Scheme" Bring & Buy - Tins, bottles and jars
February 4th 2008	Geoff Cuthbertson Wildlife Liaison Officer (Retired)
February 18th 2008	Nick. R. Thomas Power of Humour Bring & Buy - Toiletries
March 3rd 2008	Stuart Pocock Pocock Roses
March 17th 2008	A Skittles Evening
April 7th 2008	Mrs. Irene Bowron Plants for Shade Bring & Buy - Miscellaneous
April 21st 2008	Mrs. Jessie Biles Coming Home
May 19th 2008	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

For more details contact Marjorie M. Daish on 01962 866577



**Are you a new Mum in need of some adult conversation?**

**Or is a house full of pre-schoolers driving you mad?**

Come and give Badger Farm Parent and Toddlers a try  
Plenty of entertainment for the little ones, with a cuppa and a chat for you  
Thursday afternoons (term-time only), 1.30pm 'til 3pm,  
Badger Farm Community Centre  
Call Liz on 01962 866547 for details, or just turn up on the day -  
the kettle's always on!

## Oliver's Battery Parish Council

I'm delighted to tell you that Councillor Keith Wood, the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport at Winchester City Council, recently approved the final draft of a document called the **Oliver's Battery Village Design Statement**. Producing this document has been a two year effort for a working party of local volunteers, sponsored by Oliver's Battery Parish Council and supported by assistance from Winchester City Council and Hampshire County Council. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved for what they have achieved.

So what is a Village Design Statement? Well, it's a document which gives detailed guidance on how Oliver's Battery should evolve in future. For householders and developers it spells out what kind of building (whether extension or new dwelling) is appropriate in each part of the Parish, and for landowners how the countryside area should be managed and protected. When formally adopted some time in 2008, it will become part of the planning process and must be taken into account when Winchester City Council makes decisions on Planning Applications.

But first, it has to go through a formal consultation period of six weeks. You may have seen notices in the Hampshire Chronicle on November the 8<sup>th</sup> announcing the start of this period. The document is available for inspection at the Winchester City Council offices, and is posted on the Winchester City Council website and the Oliver's Battery Parish Council website at [www.bfobrca.com](http://www.bfobrca.com). Printed copies will be given to those with a direct interest in it or may be requested from Bernard Quartly, Clerk to Oliver's Battery Parish Council, at 9 Shepherds Close. An open exhibition will be held in St Mark's Church Hall on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November. Any member of the public is entitled to comment, and comments should be sent to the Head of Strategic Planning at Winchester City Council.

Over the years, many of you have told me that you love Oliver's Battery just the way it is! But I need hardly say that the Parish is not the same as it was twenty years ago, nor the same as it will be in twenty years from now. Changes happen. We have the opportunity to influence those changes and seek the greatest benefit from them, while preserving those aspects of our parish which we value most. Let's make the most of this opportunity.

By the time you read this, Christmas will be approaching rapidly. I'd like to wish you all a very happy and peaceful time over the festive season and a prosperous new year in 2008.

### Geoff Sharman

Chairman, Oliver's Battery Parish Council

Tel. 867961 e-mail: [geoffrey.sharman@btinternet.com](mailto:geoffrey.sharman@btinternet.com)

## ARE YOU READY FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR?

Think about those party dresses!!



Come along and tone up with

## LEGS, BUMS AND TUMS

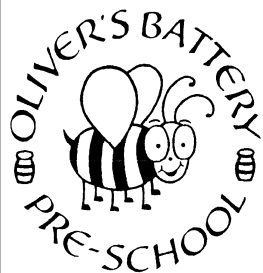


A fun, friendly and enjoyable exercise class designed to shape and tone.

Mondays at 9.30am to 10.30am and Tuesdays at 6.45pm to 7.45 pm

Badger Farm Community Centre

Each session costs £3.50. Call Catherine on 07990 513434 for more information.



## Oliver's Battery Pre School

Monday - Friday mornings 9.00-11.45  
 Monday and Wednesday afternoons for older children: 12.50-3.20  
 Tuesday and Thursday afternoons are also available.  
 Friday lunch club 11.45-12.45

Staff to child ratio : 1-6 over three 1-4 under three

We are situated in the beautiful landscaped grounds of Oliver's Battery Primary School in our own purpose built building and have an all weather outdoor play area with play equipment. Our staff are all qualified in childcare to a high standard and have many years experience of working with children. We have an open door policy and welcome all children regardless of what school they will attend.

We provide a safe and stimulating environment for all children to develop at their own pace and operate a key-worker system. We received an excellent Ofsted report and have achieved accreditation status.

Each child is entitled to five free funded sessions a week from the term after their third birthday. For non funded children our fees are £7 a session.

Please telephone for further information Jackie Johnston on 07941 796958 .

### Winchester Country Market

Solve your Christmas shopping on a Friday morning between 8.30 and 11.30 am. We offer a wide range of delicious cakes and savoury items, together with jams, jellies and chutneys. Orders can be taken for home-made Christmas cakes and puddings. Also available are fresh and dried flowers and a large selection of handmade craft including jewellery, wooden bowls etc, stained glass mirrors, bags and cold porcelaine flower arrangements.

Christmas hampers are available to order as another present idea, and can be delivered all over the country.

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## Le Club Français

# Fun French

**Tuesdays 1.30pm - 2.30pm**  
**Fridays 4.15pm - 5.15pm**  
**Saturdays 9.30am - 12.30pm**

**Nursery & Primary**

It is never too early to learn!

**for children aged 3 - 11**

**At the River Park & Fleming Park Leisure Centres**

Please contact:  
**Elysabeth Sheppard**  
**01962 882655**

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

Our sessions are fun and informal even though we follow a programme carefully developed for the early years by dedicated linguists, teachers and child psychologists.

# COMMUNITY CENTRE ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	DAY	TIME	CONTACT & TEL NO.	COST	DESCRIPTION
Badger Farm Art Group	Thursday	1.30pm - 4pm	Judith Handford 01962 881919	£5 per person	A friendly 'drop in' art group, providing a 'space to paint' in a relaxed setting. All abilities welcome.
Badger Farm Acol Club	Friday	7.15-10.30pm	Roland Richardson 023 8025 1277	£1 visitors £15 annual	Bridge club
Badger Farm Friendly Group	Alternate Thursdays	1.30pm - 4pm	Gwen Hobbis 01962 777404	£2.50 per session	Elderly and/or disabled welcome for afternoon tea, speakers, quizzes, etc.
Badger Farm Pre-School Playgroup	Monday - Friday	9.30am - 12.00pm	Denise Tosdevine 01962 842385	£6.50 per session	For children from 3 years to school age. Great OFSTED results. Afternoons also available - enquiries to Denise.
Badminton	Thursday	8pm - 9pm	Wendy King 01962 861525		Fun and friendly, for any age and ability. All welcome!
Brownies	Thursday	6pm-7.30pm	Mrs E Wald 01962 852644	£15 per term	For girls aged 7 to 10 years
Eucharist (Holy Communion)	Tuesday	10am-11am	Rev. Mike Gardner 01962 865240		Church of England Service. All welcome.
Hampshire Wildlife Trust	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed. of month	7.45pm-9.30pm	Miss L Martin 01962 861182	£2 per meeting	Illustrated talks on wildlife for all. Meetings held September to May
Jo Jingles	Tuesday	9.30am-12.30	Victoria Smith 01489 877278		Music & movement for children from the age of 1 year
Legs, Bums & Tums	Monday Tuesday	9.30am - 10.30am 6.45-7.45pm	Catherine Jones 0799 0513 434	£3.50 per class	A fun and friendly class designed to help keep you fit and toned!
National Federation of Spiritual Healers	1st Saturday of every month	10.00am - 12.30pm	Sylvie Lucas 023 9225 4722	Donation	Come to our group, either for healing or to find out more about healing, our group and training courses
Parents & Tots	Thursday	1.30pm-3pm	Liz Lindsay 01962 866547	£1.50 per family per session	All parents, guardians and childminders with children aged newborn to 5 years are welcome. Just turn up on the day!
Slimming World	Wednesday	6pm—7pm	Jo Mortimore 02380 396889		Fun and friendly slimming club. Call Jo for further details.
Tea Dance	Friday	3.00—4.30pm	Ian and Joan Millar 01962 854542	£4 per session	A chance to practice your Ballroom and Latin American dances on a relaxed and friendly occasion with tea and cakes.
Weight Watchers	Thursday	9.00—11am 6.15—7.45pm	0845 073 0460	Registration is free, sessions are £5.50 each or £4.95 over 60s	Your lifestyle, your choice. With Weight Watchers you choose the weight-loss approach that works best for you.
Wessex Wargames Club	Tuesday	7pm - 11pm	Ian Ackerman 01962 624710	£3 per session (first session is free)	Miniature wargames and role-playing games of all periods and genres played.
Winchester Country Market	Friday	8.30am - 11am	Mrs Tina Sharpe 01962 855977		Fresh produce, cakes and preserves, crafts and plants. All welcome!
Winchester Tae Kwon-Do	Monday Wednesday	6pm - 9pm	Chris Barrett 023 8026 7771	Membership by subscription	Children (6-7pm) Adults (7-9pm) plus Additional times for senior grades
Yoga	Monday Tuesday Friday	9.30am-11am 5.30pm-7pm 1.30pm-3pm	Chris Wyeth 01962 868346	£25 per 5 week sessions	Experience the balancing effect of yoga on mind and body. Stretch and relax into a healthier life.

This table provides details of some of the activities that take place at Badger Farm Community Centre. Other hirers may have chosen not to have their details shown above. If you are looking for any activity and you can't see it above, call the Bookings Secretary on 01962 868630 and ask.

## Why not use the Badger Farm Community Centre for your party?

The **Battery Hall** has a capacity of 200 people and can be used for a wide range of sporting events and dancing, as well as larger-scale parties. It has access to the kitchen and the garden and use of the bar is available via prior arrangement.

The **Bushfield Room** fits up to 75 people, is carpeted and has direct access to the garden. It can be combined with the **Warren** lounge bar to extend to a capacity of 125. It's perfect for wedding receptions, Christening parties and Anniversary celebrations!

The **Whiteshute Room** has space for 50 people and is carpeted with direct access to the kitchen and garden. It's a lovely setting for children's parties and smaller scale events.

The Centre has a wide range of facilities, including bar hire, use of the kitchen and all utensils, two lovely gardens, chairs and tables and presentation equipment, such as the OHP/screen and flip chart.

Whatever occasion you are planning, call the Bookings Secretary on **01962 868630** for prices and availability.

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Easton Lane, Wimal,  
Winchester, SO23 7FA  
01962 866977

# BESTAUTOCENTRES

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



# **Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery Residents' Community Association**



**WILL YOU HELP US?**

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR ANOTHER  
RESIDENT TO JOIN OUR  
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**THE DUTIES ARE NOT ONEROUS AND  
WE MEET ONCE A MONTH ON A  
WEDNESDAY EVENING**

**YOUR ASSOCIATION NEEDS YOU!**

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED  
PLEASE CONTACT:**

**Badger Farm Community Centre  
Badger Farm Road, Winchester,  
Hampshire, SO22 4QB  
(01962) 868630**

**Email: [bfobrca@btinternet.com](mailto:bfobrca@btinternet.com)**

**Registered Charity No. 279592**



## The Parish of St Luke with St Mark, Winchester



Caring for the communities of  
Badger Farm, Oliver's Battery & Stanmore

Revd Mike Gardner, e-mail mike-vic@fish.co.uk Tel 01962 865240

It has been in the shops for weeks now and it will soon be upon us. Those who are or have to be organised will have things all in hand, which I hope gives them time to enjoy and reflect on the events behind the rush of Christmas. The rest of us, in a rush up to the very last minute may miss out on the reflection until later but the feelings we have will not be dissimilar from that first Christmas. When will the baby arrive? Where can we stay? Have we got all we need? What can we do so far from home and neighbours? Will the baby be healthy? What happens next! The minds and bodies of both Mary and Joseph must have been in overdrive with hopes, fears, plans and wishes.

We here at your parish church wish and hope for each one of you a peaceful end to the year and a glorious start to 2008. As the Christ child comes again in a troubled world to bring peace and goodwill to all. You would be most welcome to join us or our friends at St Stephen's, Roman Catholic church over Christmas.

### St Marks C of E, Oliver's Battery Road South.

*Christmas Eve* 4-00pm Crib Service for all ages  
9-30pm Holy Communion  
*Christmas Day* 8-00am Holy Communion

### St Luke's C of E, Mildmay Street, Stanmore.

*Christmas Eve* 5-00pm Crib Service for all ages  
11-30pm Midnight Communion  
*Christmas Day* 9-30am Parish Communion

### St Stephen's R C, Oliver's Battery Road North.

*Christmas Eve* 7-30pm Mass  
5-00pm Christingle Service  
*Christmas Day* 9-15am Mass  
*St Stephen's Day* 10-00am Mass

## Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2007

Carols by Candlelight



at St Luke's Church  
Mildmay Street, Stanmore  
6.30pm

Come and hear the reading of the  
Christmas story and join with the choir  
singing seasonal carols old and new

## Why not start your New Year's resolution early?

Get 2008 off to a good start, don't wait for everyone else - join **WeightWatchers** this week.

Come to Badger Farm Community Centre, Thursday morning, 9.30am.

Contact Sue for details of this or other local meetings, 07922 184883.

We look forward to seeing you soon!!

Free registration, weekly meeting fee applies, £5.50 / £4.95 (over 60)

Monthly pass also available in class, £17.95 per calendar month equivalent to £4.14 per meeting.



## MARTIN ANDREWS ARCHITECTS

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**w w w . m a a r c h i t e c t s . c o . u k**

### City Councillor David Spender writes: **CUTS, CUTS, CUTS!!!**

That's all we seem to be hearing about at the moment.

First the County Council cut its subsidy to the evening and Sunday services of the No 5 bus. The new timetable with reduced services has been in effect since 1<sup>st</sup> November. The County has a problem with overspend on the Adult Services budget and the Environment Department had to find its share of savings – it was told to save £500,000 from its total budget of £60m (itself up £1.5m from the previous year). It chose to make ALL the savings on public transport, resulting in reductions in service right across the county, including the No 5 here in Oliver's Battery and Badger Farm!

Next, the City Council has also found itself in a financial hole and has decided to reduce the hours of use for elderly persons' bus passes. Instead of being able to use them between 9am and midnight, bus pass holders will have to limit their travel times to between 9.30am and 11.00pm. So much for early appointments at the doctor, the dentist or even the bank!

Back to the County again, this time the cut is at the Tower Arts Centre. This local centre has played a vital and vibrant role in Winchester's cultural life for many years. Now the County Council wants to stop its £100,000 annual subsidy to the Tower and hand management over to King's School, losing the evening cultural programme in the process. A packed public meeting in the Guildhall on 1<sup>st</sup> November heard many heartfelt speeches in support of the Tower and some feeble excuses from the County Council. As was pointed out, Hampshire County Council spends more than £4m on publicity (telling us how good it is) but can't find £100,000 to support the Tower.

I will continue to campaign for improving the bus service, maintaining the existing hours for bus passes and for a secure future for the Tower.

On a more positive note, Cllr Brian Collin, Badger Farm Parish Council Chair Keith Taylor and I met with the Head of the Winchester City Council Environment Team on 5<sup>th</sup> November. We were joined by a representative of the Council's Neighbourhood Wardens to discuss ways of tackling graffiti and vandalism. Some new and useful ideas came out of this discussion which should lead to some interesting new initiatives in the spring of 2008.

If you have a problem you think your councillors can help with, please get in touch by phone or e-mail, or come along to our monthly advice surgery at Badger Farm Community Centre on the 2nd Monday of the month between 6.30pm and 7.15pm.

Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year! **David Spender**

Tel: 01962 877767 e-mail: dspender@winchester.gov.uk Web: <http://obbf councill or.blogspot.com>

## BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

I know we are all thinking about Christmas, but I have to start with a rather un-festive subject.

In the last edition of Community News, I responded to a letter about dog fouling in the Parish, and, in particular, on Whiteshute Ridge. We are lucky to have this large open space so close to us, and it is a great benefit both to dog-walkers and also to families who want to enjoy the open space, or take a more interesting route to school or the shops.

Unfortunately these two activities come into conflict when dog owners are not mindful of others by not cleaning up after their dogs. I know that the Ridge is a large area, and it is unreasonable to ask dog-owners to follow their dogs into the undergrowth to clean up after them, but most dogs seem to take the easy option and do it on the path; just where the children run and play. This seems particularly true near the paths up onto the Ridge.

I have had representations from both sides on this issue, and the question of providing more "dog bins" often comes up. We regularly look into the siting of the bins, but they are very expensive to empty and maintain, and they have to be accessible by vehicles for maintenance. We will look into this again, but in the mean time, could dog owners please be mindful of our environment?

Speaking of the environment, this time last year we were preparing to switch to the alternate weekly recycling and rubbish collection scheme. Despite some concerns, this seems to be working satisfactorily, and I find the garden waste collection particularly useful. I know there are some people who cannot be bothered, but most people are mindful of the benefits of recycling. I know Winchester got some bad press on environmental issues recently, but this should make us all the more vigilant.

We continue to suffer from vandalism, particularly on Friday and Saturday evenings, and I have had a long discussion with the police about it. If you see vandalism in progress, you should dial "999" immediately. However, if you see the results of vandalism, dial "101" to report it. Some public-spirited residents have cleared up damage to public property themselves, and I heartily thank them for that.

This article seems to have contained all doom and gloom, and perhaps that is connected with the murky weather and dark evenings at present. However, Christmas will soon be upon us, and as you prepare, please spare a thought for your neighbours, and respect their needs either for a bit of peace and quiet, or conversely even for a bit of company.

Have a wonderful Christmas,

Keith Taylor

Chairman, Badger Farm Parish Council

# Stanmore Primary School

*Working together to achieve high standards through effective teaching in an atmosphere of encouragement and support*

**Help – there's a badger in the classroom!** Visitors to the school could be forgiven for thinking they were in some bizarre parallel universe, where all sorts of wonderful creatures appeared to behave just like ordinary school children. A teacher had turned into a badger, the Librarian a witch, and the headmistress went round dispensing medicine....what was going on....? It was all part of book week, celebrating the theme of enchantment. The event was launched by author Andrew Norriss who spoke to our year 6's about writing stories and shared some of his books with them.

**George Formby – who's he?** Thanks to the enthusiastic support of the Hampshire Music Service, our year 3/4's have been learning to play the ukulele. Whilst George Formby is one of the best known British ukulele players, the instrument has lots of modern day fans. It's small enough for children to manage, it's fun and sounds brilliant.

**We're on the telly!** When looking for a local school to highlight the growing popularity of the ukulele, ITV1 chose us! They filmed 10 of our year 3/4 for the local evening news.

**Remembering Mary** –A bench, bought with money raised by parents, children, staff, governors and members of the local community was dedicated at a moving ceremony to our lovely classroom assistant, Mary Gray, who died earlier this year. Thirty children released very special balloons, each bearing a poignant memory of Mary. "Mrs Gray was a bright lady and she always smiled. Mrs Gray helped you when you were down", "You were intelligent, you were very special, you were a nurse, you were everything", "When I was angry Mrs Gray calmed me down with big hugs. She helped me with my work" The bench has already become a favourite area within the school grounds.

**Harvest Festival** ... The school stage was filled with an abundance of fruit and vegetables when we celebrated our harvest assembly. After the assembly the children shared the produce with local citizens and the Salvation Army.

**Reasons to be cheerful, 1,2,3...** Several pupils won prizes in the "Winchester in Bloom" competition...another pupil won the Big Wild Read reading challenge colouring competition, and no less than 5 children won prizes in the Post Office Travel competition, with Stanmore School getting the 1<sup>st</sup> Prize and two joint 2<sup>nd</sup>'s! Well done everyone.

**Dates for your diary** – Christmas Fair – Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December 07, 11.30 – 1.30pm If you would like to visit the school, please contact the school and we will be happy to assist you. For up to date news and pictures, log on to [www.stanmore.hants.sch.uk](http://www.stanmore.hants.sch.uk)

## Oliver's Battery WI

### **Did you know Oliver's Battery has it's own WI?**

The WI has been meeting in Oliver's Battery for almost eight years now and we have a very happy group who enjoy meeting on the third Tuesday in the month (except August). We meet in St Marks Hall at 7.45 – just after the Brownies.

### **We are not a secret society, any lady is so very welcome to join!**

Over the past year, we have enjoyed speakers covering a wide range of topics; several lovely walks and the pub lunch to follow; we have tried to be crafty; we have also entered several competitions and enjoyed some of the interesting events organised by the County Federation, and of course the year would not be complete without the very popular New Year Stagger – a safari supper. This has the benefit of all houses being in walking distance and a wonderful way to see the New Year in, with friends and good hospitality.

Oliver's Battery WI also belongs to the Winchester Group of WIs and our members have enjoyed a delightful summer lunch; two group meetings with all the eleven WIs represented; an outing to a London theatre and the annual Festival of Carols. This is just a broad outline of what the WI has to offer.

### **Do you like what you read? Would you like to find out more?**

Already next promises to be a bumper year, the speakers are booked; we intend to get craftier with some great new ideas and with more walks to enjoy. We will, undoubtedly enjoy the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations of the Federation as well as involvement in the International Conference being held in Southampton in September 2008.

Why not make a New Year Resolution to attend a meeting to get to know more – see who we are and listen to what is planned in more detail.

**Please put the third Tuesday in your diaries, St Marks Hall, 7.45 pm.**

**We would all like to offer our Seasons Greetings and a happy WI New Year.**

**For more information, please call Sue on 620029 or visit the Hampshire WI page on [www.hampshirewi.org.uk](http://www.hampshirewi.org.uk)**

## County Councillor Charlotte Bailey reports:-

After over a year of rebuild and refurbishment the **Library** in Jewry Street, under the new name of the **Discovery Centre**, is opening on 27 November. I hope you agree that it was worth the wait and the expense, but only time and enthusiastic use will prove if it is value for money. I still think that libraries are mainly about the written word and we are promised 30,000 new books on top of current stock. There will also be special places for children and young people with plenty of computers, study areas and meeting rooms. The **Gallery** upstairs is designed to have national exhibitions and the **City Space** will have frequently changing exhibitions related to Winchester. The **Performance Space** can be used with tiered seating for concerts, film and theatre or left open for dance, workshops and cabaret. The new wing holds not just books, it also has a coffee bar and comfy seating overlooked by Alice Kettle's stunning wallhanging called 'Looking Forwards to the Past'. Many of you will have seen this being created in the Guildhall gallery

It is very sad that at the same time as the Library is opening again, **Tower Arts** is under threat of closure. By the time that you read this I hope that the decision (on December 7<sup>th</sup>) about the management of Tower Arts will have been decided in favour of continuing with the current format or once again have been deferred. The last few months of protests from Winchester people has shown what a cultural gem we have in our midst and how devoted people are to both the building and to what goes on in it. In my County Councillor role I have worked hard to try to change the County's mind and to get them to continue funding it.

In the light of the furore surrounding Tower Arts and its possible closure, it is rather ironic that Hampshire County Council has put out its **Cultural Strategy** for consultation. For your chance to give your views go to: [www.hants.gov.uk/cultural-strategy-consultation](http://www.hants.gov.uk/cultural-strategy-consultation) but hurry because the consultation finishes on December 21<sup>st</sup>.

Clearing the old **vegetation** in my garden this autumn has been a mammoth task and I am convinced that this summer has been a particularly good growing season. Do let me know if there are any footpaths which need clearing or pockets of old leaves which have not been swept up and of course I am happy to be contacted on any other issue too.

**With very best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.**

**Charlotte Bailey**  
4, Grove Road, Shawford, Winchester, SO21 2DD  
01962 713392 or 07711 613560  
[charlotte.bailey@hants.gov.uk](mailto:charlotte.bailey@hants.gov.uk)



OFSTED inspected in 2007 with very favourable results.

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All children are funded from the term after their 3rd birthday.

Ideally situated in the community centre next to Sainsbury's, with a sports hall for physical play and an all-weather outside area with a variety of play equipment. Our staff are highly experienced and qualified and we ensure a high ratio of 1:6, enabling plenty of individual time and attention.

"The pre-school is a welcoming environment that provides excellent and stimulating care and education for the children." Accreditation Nov 2004.

The playgroup operates an open door policy, so please feel free to call in at any time and see us in action, or call the playgroup supervisor Mrs Denise Tosdevine on **01962 842385** out of playgroup hours.



## OLIVER'S BETTERY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome to all our new families throughout the school and welcome back to all our hardworking staff.

Over the summer months the school was busy installing Promethean Interactive Whiteboards in all 9 classes. These have made a real impact on the children's learning, making lessons even more engaging and offering the opportunity to link with the internet for exciting learning opportunities.

Also during the summer, builders extended the wheelchair access to all outside areas of the school, and made some modifications to the bark park.

Our children are very lucky to enjoy extensive grounds at the school. This term a large enthusiastic school grounds team have spent two Saturdays clearing our woodland, laying a new woodland path, removing 2 huge bonfire stacks, clearing the ponds, planting the children's quiet area and sprucing up the flower beds. Thanks to parental links we have been very fortunate to be involved in a community project with Barclay's Bank resulting in some fantastic opportunities for the children, namely the planting of 5 apple and three pear trees, the construction of a greenhouse and creation of an allotment on the school fields.

**Curriculum news:** As part of their study of the Tudors, Years 4/5 and 5/6 visited Hampton Court Palace to investigate how the Tudors lived, looking at the differences between the rich and poor.

A group of year 4/5/6 children had a wonderful day at Covent Garden's Royal Opera House watching the ballet Romeo and Juliet. Those who couldn't make the trip watched Franco Zeffirelli's film version; all to enrich their topic on Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.

Year 3/4 visited the Tutankhamen exhibition at the museum in Dorchester to link in with their study of Egypt. They have also enjoyed bringing the subject alive with an Egyptian fancy dress day and the whole school joined them with a special Egyptian lunch.

Oliver's Battery Primary School currently has 233 children on roll in 9 classes. Please see us at [www.oliversbattery.hants.sch.uk](http://www.oliversbattery.hants.sch.uk) or call 01962 869 496 to arrange a visit.



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## City Council Matters

### Councillor Brian Collin's report on the City and locally

First, the good news.... Well, it's a mixture. I twisted my ankle on one of the slabs in the High Street. I reported it on the on-line web form and was phoned up to ascertain exactly where the difficult area was. And it's now been fixed. But that's by the by... The really good news is that the same person that wanted to know where to fix the defect told me that the Gas Board who've "re-laid" the slabs at the top end of the precinct are due to come back and have another go at making it good again. I wasn't told exactly when, but "soon" was the theme. I hope they succeed.

David and Charlotte have covered most of the local news in their articles. I should add that we're still working to get Neighbourhood Watch re-started in Oliver's Battery, where it was quite strong in the past. In the New Year, we're hoping to canvass Badger Farm to get coordinators there. If anyone's interested, please let me know. Neighbourhood Watch contributes to feelings of safety and security builds more cooperative neighbourhoods and can even save a few percent on your household insurance if there's an active "cell" covering your home. So I think it's a Good Thing.

Another good thing is the prosperity of our local post office and stores. We all benefit by having these shops locally and it was quite a relief to find that our post office isn't on the list for either closure or withdrawal of support. We should all make sure that we patronise our local facilities to keep them trading well. I'm always pleasantly surprised at the keen prices and wide choice available on our doorsteps.

With all my best wishes for the festive season ahead; take care.

Brian Collin  
City Councillor for Oliver's Battery and Badger Farm.  
27 Compton Way, Oliver's Battery, Winchester SO22 4HS  
Tel home 867572, mobile 07753 821770  
Email [bcollin@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:bcollin@winchester.gov.uk) and on Facebook.

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\*\*\*\*\*

MINI INTERNET CAFÉ AT BADGER FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE

I \*agree / disagree that this would be a useful facility for the community.

I \*would / would not be interested in using this facility.

I am a resident of \*Badger Farm / Oliver's Battery.

\*please delete as appropriate

Any other comments

.....

.....

.....

Name (optional) - (in capitals please)

.....

Telephone Number (optional)

.....

Please return to Badger Farm Community Centre by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007.

\*\*\*\*\*

*'The days are short, The sun a spark  
Hung thin between The dark and Dark'  
(John Updike)*

*As I sit at 4.30pm in the afternoon, with the lights on and the curtains drawn, it occurs to me that time is both a friend and an enemy. This summer, despite the house move, we tried to take life easy, especially knowing that come the autumn and the arrival of baby number two, time would be in a premium. We rode on steam trains, both large and small, we went to the park and had picnics, we picked fruit in the garden and we spent time with good friends.*

*But hop forward a couple of months to now and, with the evenings getting darker and darker, our days are full of toddler activities, dog walks, newsletter deadlines and endless coughs and colds. Days are filled to capacity before they've even begun, despite all the apparent labour-saving devices that I have. E-mail, Wi-Fi, scanner, printer, tumble dryer, dish washer, coffee machine.. The list goes on.*

*I am aware that I have a very lucky life. But these gadgets that 'make life easier' seem to suck as much time as previously. They only serve to make me more efficient in filling the time with lots of other jobs and necessities. My To Do list gets longer every day and I am frequently heard exclaiming that I could be on top of everything if only there were two or three more hours in the day. Although to be fair, I'd probably use those extra hours to sleep at the moment, if I could!*

*I know that ultimately how I use time is my choice, but there are indisputable things that need to be done, putting together and editing this newsletter being one of them. And, of course, the ultimate annual time deadline of Christmas is fast approaching. I have tried to be much more organised this year and at least have bought or ordered presents, if not quite wrapped and packaged them. I'm now holding out for the Country Market at the Community Centre to fill in the necessary gaps with cakes, pies and handcrafted goods. And I may well pop to the baby shop in Oliver's Battery to get gifts for the children of friends and family. I feel lucky to be able to get such things locally.*

*With all best wishes for Christmas and the New Year,*

*Jane  
EDITOR*

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EDITORIAL DEADLINE FOR SPRING ISSUE : 15/02/08



**Why not make it a Christmas present to the community to help deliver Community News in your area? We are always looking for volunteers. Wouldn't it give you a warm, cosy feeling inside to know that you're helping out? ☺**

**PLEASE contact  
Barbara Hitchings  
Tel: 01962 623532**

**WHILST EVERY CARE IS TAKEN TO SEE THAT DATES, TIMES AND OTHER DETAILS ARE CORRECTLY STATED, WE CAN TAKE NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY LOSS OR DAMAGE INCURRED FOR WHATEVER REASONS, NOR CAN WE TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PRINTING, OR GOODS AND SERVICES OFFERED WITHIN.**