

CommunityNEWS

Your Community Newsletter and Village Voice
Summer 2008 Edition

HOW FORTUNATE WE ARE!

I hope you will enjoy reading this summer edition of your Community News. It contains articles about our two parishes and activities taking place in and around the district.

The trustees and staff of the Association and user groups in the Centre have been working hard in readiness for our **Open Day 2008**, which is taking place on **Sunday 22nd June** at **the Community Centre**. We are all looking forward to a great day, which starts at 11.00am with many activities: demonstrations, free bouncy castle, balloon race, magician, face-painting, information stands, raffle, country market stall and refreshments. The New Forest Dixieland Jazz Band will be livening up the occasion and at lunch-time there will be a BBQ and hog roast in the garden. The Social Club bar will also be open to all. And we are delighted that the mayor of Winchester will be paying us a visit at 11.30am. For full details please see the programme on pages 10 and 11 inside. We will have everything on hand for an enjoyable family day out. So, do come along and have some fun!

We are again approaching the time of year for our AGM in July and the election of the Residents' Association Executive Committee for 2008/2009. Once more we are looking for additional trustees and would welcome new members for the coming year. The duties are not onerous with meetings being held once a month. It is essential that we have as wide a cross-section of the community as possible on the Committee reflecting a variety of skills and life experiences. I would be happy to discuss the matter with you – my home telephone is 01962 854542.

In the previous edition, I asked for a volunteer to continue to manage the annual fireworks and bonfire night. So far, no one has come forward. If you feel you could help, please do contact me. It would be a shame if this enjoyable evening could no longer be held.

We are fortunate indeed to live in such a beautiful area with the countryside on our doorsteps. We are also fortunate to have Winchester as our city with its ancient heritage and fine buildings, for which visitors come from overseas in large numbers every year. We should all take some time in our busy lives to appreciate what we have around us in this beautiful part of Hampshire!

I wish you an enjoyable summer.

See you on the 22nd June!

Ian Millar
Chairman

Published by Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery Residents' Community Association
Email: bfobrca@btinternet.com
Tel. 01962 868630 ~ www.bfobrca.com



**SUMMER IS COMING!
TIME TO GET IN SHAPE!
PLEASE COME ALONG AND TONE UP AT
LEGS, BUMS AND TUMS**

**A FUN, FRIENDLY AND ENJOYABLE CLASS DESIGNED TO SHAPE AND TONE
MONDAYS – 9.30AM TO 10.30AM ~ TUESDAYS – 6.45AM TO 7.45PM
AT BADGER FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE
CONTACT CATHERINE ON 07990 513 434 FOR DETAILS**



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 and 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 have recently been inspected by OFSTED (December 2007) who judged us "Outstanding." To view the whole OFSTED report visit the website www.ofsted.gov.uk or collect a copy from the Pre School.

"Children greatly benefit from exceptionally well planned, purposeful play which is well presented and related to their individual stages of development."

"The quality and standards of care are outstanding."

"The quality and standards of nursery education are outstanding."

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 £7.50 a session. Please telephone Jackie Johnston for further information on 07941 796958.

NATIONAL SAVE OUR BUTTERFLIES WEEK



On Wednesday 23 July the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Branch of Butterfly Conservation is leading a walk to Yew Tree Hill. A gentle stroll at one of the best times of year to see butterflies. The leader is Ivan Arnold. Meet at 10.30am at the end of Old Kennels Lane at the junction with Port Lane and Millers Lane. The event marks

National Save Our Butterflies week (19 – 27 July) and you can get information on more events locally by visiting www.hantsiow-butterflies or for national details visit www.butterfly-conservation.com

COMMUNITY CENTRE ACTIVITIES

Activity	Day	Time	Contact	Cost	Description
Badger Farm Art Group	Thursday	1.30pm – 4.00pm	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	7.15pm – 10.30pm	Roland Richardson 023 8025 1277	£1 visitors £15 annual	Bridge Club
Badger Farm Friendly Group	Alternate Thursdays	1.45pm – 4.00pm	Gwen Hobbis 01962 777404	£2.50 per session	Friendship for older people. Quizzes, speakers, outings, afternoon tea. New members and volunteers welcome.
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	8.00pm – 9.00pm	Wendy King 01962 861525		Fun and friendly for any age and ability. All welcome!
Brownies	Thursday	6.00pm – 7.30pm	Mrs E Wald 01962 852644	£20 per term	For girls aged 7 to 10 years.
Eucharist (Holy Communion)	Tuesday	10.00am – 11.00am	Rev. Mike Gardner 01962 865240		Church of England Service All welcome.
Hampshire Wildlife Trust	2 nd 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 – 11.30am	Victoria Smith 01489 877278		Music & Movement for children from the age of 1 year.
Legs, Bums & Tums	Monday Tuesday	9.30am – 10.30am 6.45pm – 7.45pm	Catherine Jones 07990 513 434	£3.50 per class	A fun and friendly class designed to help keep you fit and toned!
National Federation of Spiritual Healers	1 st Sat. 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 – 3.00pm	Liz Lindsay 01962 866547	£2 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	6.00pm – 7.00pm	Jo Mortimore 023 8039 6889		Fun and friendly slimming club. Call Jo for further details.
Tea Dance	Friday	3.00pm – 4.30pm	Ian & 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	9.00am – 11.00am 6.15pm – 7.45pm	0845 073 0460	Registration is free. Sessions are £5.50 each or £4.95 over 60's	Your lifestyle, your choice. With Weight Watchers you choose the weight-loss approach that works best for you.
Wessex Wargames Club	Tuesday	7.00pm – 11.00pm	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 – 11.00am	Mrs Tina Sharpe 01962 855977		Fresh produce, cakes and preserves, crafts and plants. All welcome!
Winchester Tae Kwon-Do	Monday Wednesday	6.00pm – 9.00pm	Chris Barrett 023 8026 7771	Membership by subscription	Children (6pm-7.00pm) Adults (7pm-9pm) plus additional times for senior grades.
Yoga	Monday Tuesday Friday	9.30am – 11.00am 5.30pm – 7.00pm 1.30pm – 3.00pm	Chris Wyeth 01962 868346	£32.50 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 for more information



Fun French

Children learn while playing !

Le Club Français

Nursery & Primary

**Mondays
Tuesdays
Saturdays**

*At the River Park
& Fleming Park
Leisure Centres*

**for children
aged 3 - 11**

Games Drama Songs

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.



**Please contact:
Elysa^beth Sheppard
01962 882655
www.europalingua.org.uk**



BADGER FARM PARISH COUNCIL

Perhaps the only surprise in the recent local elections was that the Green Party beat the Labour Party in our ward. Although this was not totally unexpected, it perhaps shows that many of us are thinking more about the environment.

Although there are lots of issues about whether it is too late, or pointless to try to reduce our use of fossil fuels, there really can be no excuse for wasting energy by leaving lights burning when they are not needed, or leaving a tap running needlessly. More contentious is the use of air conditioning in cars, flying on foreign holidays, and eating foreign produce. Where should we draw the line? I am all in favour of making people more aware of environmental issues, but we cannot become complacent just by changing a few lightbulbs.

A different sort of environmental issue is dog fouling in the streets and on the Ridge. The Parish Council is looking at providing another bin for dog waste, but we need owners to use them. It is unacceptable to not clean up after your dog on the pavements and footpaths; as far as the Ridge is concerned, please be mindful of other users. In particular, don't bag it up and then throw it in the bushes as some people do.

We have recently planted a row of shrubs to try to protect the wall to the south side of the Central Kickabout area. There has been a lot of vandalism near here, and the garage roofs could present a safety hazard if children try to climb over the wall. If you see anyone in the process of uprooting shrubs, or damaging the wall, call the police immediately.

As I write this, the weather is hot and sunny, and I am reminded of the summer problem of open windows and noise getting in and out through them. Please be mindful of your neighbours and keep the volume turned down on your radio or TV, and keep the noise from your outdoor party down after dark.

This article seems to be all doom and gloom, I know there are problems, but we are very lucky to live where we do and to be close to both the countryside and to the city. People come thousands of miles to visit Winchester, and yet most of us can walk or cycle there. We have a good bus and train service, quick access to the M3 (usually), and a low rate of crime. Winchester has some of the top schools in the area, and lots of public amenities. We are really very lucky!

Enjoy the Summer.

Keith Taylor
Chairman, Badger Farm Parish Council

NOTICE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**OF THE BADGER FARM & OLIVER'S BATTERY
RESIDENTS' COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

WEDNESDAY 16 JULY 2008

**AT THE BADGER FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE
STARTING AT 8.00pm**

All local residents are invited to attend

**Come along and have your say about how the
Association is run**

**All matters for discussion, motions and
nominations for the Officers of the Association
should be submitted to the Secretary of the
Executive Committee no later than two weeks
prior to the meeting**

**Forms for nominations can be obtained from the
Bookings Secretary at the Community Centre**

**The Executive Committee Secretary can be
contacted via the Community Centre or by email at
bfobrca@btinternet.com**



**BEGINNERS PILATES
AT BADGER FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Get stronger, more flexible and unwind

On Wednesdays - 18.15 – 19.15

And at King's School on Wednesdays – 19.30 – 20.30

Contact Jo on 07775 854581 or glopilates@googlemail.com to register.

Don't just think about it,  for it!

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8 Fallow Field Badger Farm Winchester SO22 4LY

CAN YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Contact the Elderly are setting up a new group in Winchester and we are looking for people who have a little bit of time to spare to make a difference to the lives of elderly people in the area. A national charity which began in 1965, Contact the Elderly now has numerous small groups around the U.K. For over forty years Contact the Elderly has been helping to relieve the loneliness and isolation so often felt by older people living alone. We are looking for volunteers with cars who, once a month, could collect one or two elderly people from their homes and drive them to the host's home. Once there, guests and their volunteer drivers can enjoy a few hours of company before the drivers return the guests safely to their own homes. We also need volunteer hosts who would be happy, on just one or two occasions during the year, to welcome a small group of elderly guests and their volunteer drivers into their home. All it takes is a warm heart, a large teapot and a downstairs loo!



If you feel that you can spare just a little bit of time to make a difference to the lives of elderly people in the Winchester area, then please call Beverley Christie on 01962 852895. Alternatively call Contact the Elderly on their national (Freephone) number: 0800 716 543 or visit www.contact-the-elderly.org

Stanmore Primary School

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

We just called to say thank you! Our Y6 girls would like to say a massive THANK YOU to everyone who brought in an old mobile 'phone for our recycling appeal. Our target was to collect 200 'phones and in the end we exceeded our total by 18! Everyone's valiant efforts means that the school will receive £500 cash to spend on much needed resources

School of the week! Stanmore had the honour of being School of the week on Hampshire radio, 107.8FM. Several KS2 pupils were selected to represent Stanmore and were interviewed. Some talked about themselves and others offered clues for Radio Hampshire's popular 'What is it?' phone challenge. It's not easy staying calm and remembering what you want to say when there's a large microphone in front of your face, but all our radio stars excelled themselves with not a single re-take in the whole session.

Science Fair and Board Games

It's been all go at Stanmore with a Science Fair and a board games bonanza being two delights on offer to visiting parents. Y3/4 had been designing original board games with information about how we should be protecting and conserving our fragile planet, following a plea from an international charity asking for our help. The children put a lot of thought and effort into their games and they looked great – however were they fun to play? Were they as entertaining and informative as they looked? On a lovely sunny afternoon, lots of parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters came in to 'play the game' and see for themselves! Later in the School Hall, that day, visitors could be forgiven for thinking they had strayed into the Science Museum. Large brightly coloured display boards explained different scientific principles and Y5/6 children were on hand to demonstrate science in action; looks like a trip to Intech earlier in the term had proved to be a great source of ideas and inspiration!

Fund raising news

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to our non-uniform day and cake sale appeal in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support nurses. We raised an amazing £406. Later on in the term the front field became a mini athletics track as every child in the school tried their best to raise money for the Sports Relief Charity; in the end we raised £148. Well done everyone!

Dates for your diary: Summer fair Saturday 13th June 2008 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



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To book your Domestic Services

PCaSO

Prostate Cancer Network

Invites you to come and enjoy this lovely garden situated alongside the River Itchen in the glorious Itchen Valley Supporting *PCaSO*
Discover the facts about Prostate Cancer on

Father's Day
Sunday 15th June 2008
2.00 to 4.00pm

At The Down House, Main Road, Itchen Abbas, SO21 1AX
*Adults £2, children free, teas available, Jazz band, parking,
links to the footpath network*

The Down House is 2 miles from Kings Worthy on the B3047
connecting the A33 and the A31, north of Winchester

All proceeds will go to help the work of *PCaSO* the charity supporting research into Prostate Cancer treatment and providing information to those affected
PCaSO is a registered charity 1095439

Help Line 0845 650 2555

DAVID SPENDER'S UPDATE

I'd like to start this report by thanking everyone who supported me in the local elections on 1st May. I feel it was a ringing endorsement of all the work Brian, Charlotte and I have been doing here and I promise we'll all be aiming to live up to it. For those who voted for someone else or who didn't vote at all, can I just say that we are here to serve the whole community. Your politics are your business, we're here to work for everyone in Oliver's Battery and Badger Farm. Brian and I hold a monthly Surgery and Advice Centre at Badger Farm Community Centre (next door to Sainsbury's) on the second Monday of the month from 6:30 pm to 7:15 pm, all are welcome – no appointment required.

Clearly the number one issue at the moment is strategic planning. The Issues and Options paper produced for the Local Development Framework has raised some "Step Change" possibilities which are of great concern to many local residents. Oliver's Battery has a character of its own which would be changed forever if either options 3 or 4 of the "Step Change" were to go ahead. Building at Pitt (Option 3) or on Compton Down and Texas (Option 4) would mean the end of Oliver's Battery as we know it and I happen to believe that would be a bad thing. Both Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery residents would be heavily affected if new developments added even more traffic to the Badger Farm and Romsey Roads. Brian and I will continue to keep residents informed and involved as these matters move towards decision.

We're now at the time of year when green things grow quickly. We've been working with the City Council's Environment team to try to ensure that Badger Farm gets regular shrub and tree maintenance along its footpaths and roads. If you spot areas where the foliage is getting out of control and blocking paths please let me know so we can get action taken.

I've been asked to repeat a request I made in "Community News" a couple of years ago and I'm happy to do so – Please try and get your wheelie bin off of the pavement, or other shared areas, as soon possible after the bin men have been. If "as soon as possible" means when you get home from work in the evening, that's fine too. A number of residents have told me that negotiating bins that sit on the pavement for days is a problem for them, so try and be a "good neighbour"!

Have a happy, peaceful and, hopefully, sunny summer.

David

David Spender

29 Old Kennels Lane, Oliver's Battery

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



Pre-School Learning
Alliance accredited

OFSTED inspected in 2007 with very favourable results.

For children from 3 years to school age.

Limited spaces available for 2 years to 9 months.

Mornings 9.30 -12.00 (mixed ages)

Afternoons 12.30-3.00 (older children)

Sessions cost £7.00

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 November 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.

**OPEN DAY AT
BADGER FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE
22 JUNE 2008**

Programme of Events & Activities

The Battery (Main Hall)

- All Day Face Painting - The Pre-School Playgroup
Craft & Activities - The Brownies
- 11.30am Tae Kwon-Do - Juniors' Demonstration followed by a chance to join in
Chris Barrett
- 12.00pm Legs, Bums & Tums - Group Demonstration then join in the fun!
Catherine Jones
- 12.30pm Nutrition Chewition - A short talk
Amanda Turner
- 1.30pm Latin American Dancing
Join in and dance to the exciting rhythm of The Merengue!
Ian and Joan Millar
- 2.00pm Legs, Bums & Tums - Group Demonstration then join in the fun!
Catherine Jones
- 2.30pm Tae Kwon-Do - Adults' Demonstration followed by a chance to join in
Chris Barrett
- 3.00pm Draw for Raffle
- 3.15pm Release of Balloons!

The Battery Courtyard

- All Day Bouncy Castle (free - for children only)
Nee Nee's Play Zone
- Balloon Race - see how far your balloon will fly and win a prize!
(Release at 3.15pm)

The Whiteshute

- All Day Refreshments and Light Snacks
Nee Nee's Play Zone - (Richard and Denise Gough)

The Whiteshute

All Day Badger Farm Scribes - try your hand at Italic Handwriting
Winchester Action on Climate Change
Learn more about what we can all do to be carbon friendly!

The Bushfield and The Warren

All Day Information Stands and Activities by the following Community Centre Groups:

Winchester Country Market with cakes, craft and jewellery for sale.
Gluten and wheat free products also available
Hampshire Children's Information Service
Winchester Horticultural Society with flower arranging
Legs, Bums and Tums
Basics for Birth
Nutrition Chewition
New Bridge (Prison Befriending Service)
Spiritual Healing
Tae Kwon-Do - video
Hampshire Wildlife Trust
Winchester Probus
The Social Club Bar - Open to All

The Sett

All Day The Social Club Bar - Enjoy a quiet drink!

In the Garden

11.00am - 12.00pm and 1.00pm - 2.00pm
The New Forest Dixieland Jazz Band

From 12.00pm
Hog Roast and BBQ - Anglo Igloo Food Fusion

The Mayor of Winchester will visit at 11.30am

Look out for The Strolling Magician from
Winchester Magical Society

Raffle with a top prize of a Portable TV!

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freely adapted for the 21st Century by Chester House Productions

In aid of Naomi House Children's Hospice

An evening of theatre with supper in the historic Brethren Hall,

St Cross Hospital, Winchester

Friday 11 July, 7pm

Tickets £15 including supper

Tel. 07786 048167 / 07872 945162

**The Miller's
Tale**

**The Wife
of Bath's
Tale**

Tickets available in advance at the Porter's Lodge



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) from 1.30pm 'till 3.00pm

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

Recently, we had an opportunity to report on Parish Council activities and other matters affecting local residents at our Annual Parish Meeting. Top of the list - as so often in the past - was planning, so it was good to have Steve Opacic, Head of Strategic Planning at Winchester City Council along for a lively debate. He is the man in charge of developing Winchester's Local Development Framework - a long term plan for the way the district should evolve over the next twenty years. Steve explained that planners are under great pressure from the government to accommodate new housing and they have to respond constructively or face having their function overridden. Although Winchester District is a very large area, extending from near Basingstoke in the north to the borders of Portsmouth in the south, it's difficult to achieve the government's housing targets without making some unpalatable decisions. One of these is the requirement for over 4,000 houses in central Hampshire which have to go somewhere. 2,000 of these can be accommodated at Barton Farm on the northern side of Winchester which has already been allocated and will almost certainly be released within the next 20 years. But should the rest be built within the existing boundary of Winchester or on greenfield sites? Steve showed us four possible sites which have been identified and explained what criteria would be used to reach a decision. He also added that Winchester has a "vociferous bunch of residents"! During the recent consultation, his department received more letters and questionnaires than expected - including a good many from Oliver's Battery - and is still processing them.

Our own Village Design Statement will become one of the documents within the portfolio making up the Local Development Framework, giving it an official status which ensures it must be consulted when planning applications are decided. [This has already happened, for example in relation to discussion of the planning application for redevelopment of 82-84 Old Kennels Lane, which is the largest we have seen in recent years.] I'm glad to say that we are now in the home straight and the final VDS should be approved this summer.

We don't want our green fields to be developed - but why does it matter to us so much? I believe it's because we care about both our environment and our community. This is a strength but, nevertheless, there is more we can do. We need to continue to build our community institutions including voluntary groups such as Neighbourhood Watch and the Greening Campaign, church and local school. As just one example, Dean Buckland, Head Teacher of Oliver's Battery School, told me recently of his strong desire to build a network of volunteers who could bring their practical, academic or business skills into the classroom when needed. Please contact him if you think you could help.

I'm also pleased to report that we've had a good number of entries for our Village Sign competition, some of which are surprisingly original. Hopefully, this will lead to a permanent and visible symbol of our community which we can be proud of. The next step is to convene the judging panel, which will include local archaeologists, to choose the winning design and decide exactly what should be built.

A few other news items before I close. The Compton Way improvements are finally complete and seem to be working well. Hopefully they will make this route much safer for pedestrians and provide an easy walk to the Recreation Ground over the summer. Due to a recent windfall, we also now have significant funds - held by Winchester City Council and ourselves - which can be used to improve local sport and recreation facilities. So please let me have your ideas on what things are needed, and help us develop our plans. And, finally, you will be glad to hear that - despite the gloomy financial news of recent months - there will be no increase this year in that part of your Council Tax set by the Parish Council.

With best wishes for a pleasant summer.

Geoff Sharman
Chairman, Oliver's Battery Parish Council
Tel. 867961 ~ e-mail: geoffrey.sharman@btinternet.com

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1 Plovers Down, Oliver's Battery, Winchester, Hants SO22 4HH

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Anne Richardson
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Please call any time to discuss your requirements



Summer evenings are the perfect time for a gentle and leisurely walk around our lovely locality. You could deliver Community News at the same time! We are always looking for volunteers. Please telephone Rachel Skinner on 01962 868653 who would be delighted to hear from you!

BRIAN COLLIN REPORTS ON HAPPENINGS IN THE CITY COUNCIL AND IN BADGER FARM AND OLIVER'S BATTERY

I'm writing this piece at the start of the new Municipal Year in the City Council. I'm looking forward to serving on the Principal Scrutiny Committee and on the Personnel Committee.

Nearly everything the City Council does is done by its people. They're therefore the most important resource and I've always taken a keen interest in their lot, having also been Chair of the Personnel Committee for 3 years in the past. I like to ensure we get the best people and pay reasonably and to make sure that the management system rewards hard work and good productivity.

The Principal Scrutiny Committee is the main Committee that holds the administration to account. We look at what is being planned and done on behalf of residents and try to make sure it's the right thing to do and done at the right time in the right way. It's one of the Committees where a good knowledge of and experience in the workings of the Council helps.

In mid May, we're basking in warm summer sunshine, and thinking that the water but is getting low and we could do with a shower to refill it. Our local shops are well suited to supplying all the things you need for the garden and you can treat yourself to special meat for the bar-b-q. Perhaps you want a rabbit instead of a lawn mower - either is available!

By the time you read this, I hope to have all the Neighbourhood Watch locations filled in Oliver's Battery and will be thinking how we can introduce the scheme to Badger Farm. Membership of an active Neighbourhood Watch scheme makes us all feel safer when we're looking out for each other. It can build more inclusive communities and many insurance companies also give a discount on home insurance! Watch out for further news.

I attended the Oliver's Battery Greening meeting inaugural event at OB School in mid May. I am very hopeful that this movement will be helpful in allowing us all to contribute to reversing climate change and reducing our carbon footprint.

Cllr Brian Collin

City Councillor for Oliver's Battery and Badger Farm

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Have you considered using Badger Farm Community Centre for your party or function? The Centre has a warm and welcoming atmosphere and all rooms are bright, airy and good sizes. The four rooms available for hire provide an excellent venue and good value for money.

The Battery main hall holds up to 200 people and is suitable for wedding receptions, parties or sporting activities. **The Social Club bar** can also be hired with the hall.

The Bushfield will hold up to 75 people and is suitable for business meetings and parties.

The Whiteshute will hold up to 50 people and is suitable for children's parties and meetings.

The Warren is a small room holding up to 40 people and suitable for meetings.

All rooms hired include the use of a fully equipped kitchen. We are also able to offer Internet access in our Bushfield and Whiteshute Rooms. If you would like more details on prices and availability, please contact Jan the Bookings Secretary on 01962 868630 or call in and see us.

Oliver's Battery Primary School currently has 232 children on roll in 9 classes. You can find out more about us at www.oliversbattery.hants.sch.uk



We will soon be holding a series of open afternoons for prospective parents of reception age children, as well as an open day to all families new to the school. Please contact the school office on 01962 869 496 if you would like details of these dates, or if you would like to come and have a visit; we will be happy to help you.

Below is some information about the school's activities since Easter...

Event Saints Healthy eating awards

The KS2 children were recently asked to design a meal plan for a Saints player, including detailing the nutritional benefits of each food. The school's top 10 entries were then sent to Saints with 2000 other entries. Out of our entries, 2 got into the final top 5 winners! We scooped the first and second prizes overall and are hugely proud of our winners who won tickets to a fantastic game for the whole class.



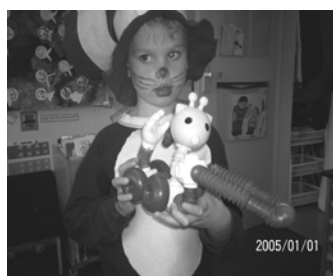
School Trips

For one week in April, our year 5 children stayed at the Stubbington Study Centre in Fareham, learning about the environment and wildlife; setting up mammal traps to study the creatures (which were released afterwards); badger, fox and deer watching; pond dipping; taking part in adventure games and much more. They really enjoyed the experience which was, for some, their first stay away from home.

The forthcoming year 6 residential visit for our Year 6 pupils will be to the Avon Tyrrell Activity Centre in the New Forest. The Centre provides a wide range of outdoor activities, such as canoeing or kayaking, archery, raft building, abseiling, climbing and low ropes. A key objective of the trip is to offer the children the experience of coping with change and independence by being away from home and family, as they prepare for the transition to secondary school.

This term Years 3 and 4 are studying Victorians and to enhance the children's understanding of this era they have a visit to Manor Farm near Fareham. During the day the children will learn about domestic life of Victorians including making beds and washing; life at school; and life on a farm. They will also have the opportunity to meet the animals.

Our reception class will visit Finkley Down Farm Park in the Summer where they will meet animals, have a picnic lunch and enjoy the adventure playground.



School grounds

Our grounds are extensive and a great asset for the children and their learning environment. Our Grounds Improvement team have now finished the third allotment bed and put the potatoes in. All classes have the opportunity to grow seeds for the allotment and there are plans to apply for a "super allotment" bid from the lottery.



Workshops for parents

The school has been running maths workshops for parents to better understand the methods used in school. So far we have held addition, subtraction and multiplication workshops. There has also been an Anti-bullying workshop focussing how we can support all children in the school and wider community with this issue.

Clubs

The school runs many clubs for children such as: tag rugby; rounders; football netball; French; friendship club; knitting. Furthermore, in an attempt to involve more fathers, and other male members of the family in the life of the school, we now run a regular friendly Dad's 5-a-side football match.

Cycle Training

After half term we will be holding a cycle training course for year 5 and year 6 children. The programme aims to develop the responsibility and safety of the children when cycling eg developing road safety awareness and performing basic cycle manoeuvres with full control.



THE PARISH OF ST LUKE WITH ST MARK WINCHESTER

**Caring for the communities of
Badger Farm, Oliver's Battery & Stanmore
Revd Mike Gardner**

email mike-vic@fish.co.uk ~ Tel 01962 865240



Dear Readers

The Summer brings much excitement and celebration to us all at St Luke's and St Mark's. On the 28th of June we host, at St Luke's, an Ordination Service at which the Bishop of Winchester will Ordain Priest, four people from the Winchester area, including Marcus Bagg who has been Deacon here with us for the last 12 months. Marcus will preside at his first Eucharist on Sunday 29th June, at the 11-00am Service at St Luke's, followed by a Parish Lunch, all are most welcome.

Then on Sunday 20th July we celebrate the 47th Anniversary of the forming of the parish, the church has been active in the area for many more years than this but the new parish area was not formed until 1961.

Over the Summer we are planning a Holiday Club, but not for children but for the "senior" members of our community. With all sorts of actives, lunch and tea, visitors and a trip out, it should be a great week's "holiday at home" - look out for details.

To end the Summer we have our now traditional Teddy Bears Parachute Jump, from the top of the church, and Fun Day on August Bank Holiday Monday from 12-00 to 4-00pm. An event for all ages - do please come along with your bears and their soft toy friends.

Hoping to see you soon.

Mike Gardner ~ Vicar of St Luke and St Mark, Winchester

County Councillor Charlotte Bailey reports:-

I am thrilled that at long last we have a crossing lady to help the children across the road at the Sainsbury's roundabout. It is now up to us not to frighten her away by inconsiderate driving! In the autumn of 2005 I reported in Community News that we were still looking for someone and although it has been a long wait, the Road Safety Team have never given up. I hope this will mean that more children will walk to school, improving their fitness and reducing the parking problem at the school gates at the same time.

Last time I let you know about the footpath claim which had gone in for Bushfield Down. Officers from the County Council have been taking evidence of use from local people and it seems that people have in fact been using the land more as a Village Green by flying kites, walking dogs, blackberrying, exploring with their children and even tobogganing. The supporters group is putting in an application for Village Green status to establish continuous use over the last 20 years 'as of right'. The application must be in by the end of June so if you want to help in any way please contact villagegreen@bushfielddown.co.uk.

I usually mention potholes somewhere in my report and this time is no exception. It has been very frustrating that so often when potholes have been filled they break up quickly and need further maintenance. The County has appointed a new road maintenance contractor called Amey and I hope the new contract lives up to its promise of 'right first time'.

Winchester is now a Fairtrade City and we have a Fairtrade University too. I was pleased to be at the presentation of certificates to commemorate this but of course this is just the beginning. We are all much more aware that we can no longer live at the expense of poorer countries so the Winchester City Fairtrade Network aims to raise awareness and increase the availability of products.

Good luck to a very local initiative which is the *Greening Oliver's Battery* project. By the time this is printed I hope that it will have been launched and that Oliver's Battery will be enthusiastically reducing its carbon footprint so they can "tread lightly". I know that people from Badger Farm have been involved so the movement may spread in your direction too.

I am always available to discuss these or any other issues.

Charlotte Bailey

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01962 713392 or 07711 613560 ~ charlotte.bailey@hants.gov.uk

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INTRODUCING.....



I would like to introduce myself to you. I am Jan Dawkins and I work as the Bookings Secretary at Badger Farm Community Centre. I joined the Association in January 2007 and am extremely happy in my role. Some readers may have already met me but, to those who have not, I am in the office every day from 9.30am to 2.00pm and am always happy to see new faces. I recently took over the editorship of Community News from Jane Fielding. I'm sure you will agree that Jane did a wonderful job and produced a very informative and interesting newsletter. I hope that you like the new look to Community News and I would very much welcome your comments and, even better, any articles you would like to include in future editions. This is your newsletter for your local community so make the most of it and let others know if you have a special event coming up or would like to advertise your business.

I hope you have enjoyed reading this issue of Community News and very much look forward to hearing from you. Contact details are on the back page.

Jan Dawkins
Editor

BADGER FARM & OLIVER'S BATTERY SOCIAL CLUB

NEW & OLD MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME



NEW STEWARD
NEW COMMITTEE
NEW FUTURE



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OPEN DAY 2008!



AT BADGER FARM
COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON SUNDAY 22ND JUNE 2008
11am - 4pm

The Centre will be open to all.
Come along for a family day out
and see what goes on in your local
Community Centre!

The day will include:
User group activities
Interactive Information Stands
Demonstrations
Public Participation Sessions
Live Music ~ Bouncy Castle
Face Painting ~ Balloon Race
Refreshments ~ Hog Roast ~ Grand Raffle
Social Club Bar open to all
Come and join us for a fun day out!

Registered Charity No. 279592

BF & OB RCA, Badger Farm Community Centre
Badger Farm Road, Winchester, SO22 4QB
Tel. 01962 868630 ~ Email: bfobrca@btinternet.com
Registered Charity No. 279592
Editorial deadline for AUTUMN 2008 issue: Friday 15 August.



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