

# THE Rabbiter



Issue 31 | September 2024

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# THE Rabbiter

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Printed by Greenhouse Graphics Ltd  
www.greenhousegraphics.co.uk

This publication is freely distributed to  
Kempshott Rise, Hatch Warren, Beggarwood  
Lane and Kempshott Park. Circulation over 4000.

## EDITORIAL

The Rabbiter hopes that all our readers have had a great summer. Now holidays are over, its back to school and the days are getting shorter. It has been a great summer. The garden has bloomed and the allotment has kept us supplied with soft fruit and now with an awful lot of courgettes!! This month's recipe features one of the ways we use these abundant vegetables. Do you enjoy gardening? The Rabbiter would welcome a regular contribution from an enthusiastic gardener on what to plant and when etc.

The General Election in early July has resulted in a change of our Member of Parliament. We have said goodbye to Dame Maria Miller who represented Basingstoke since 2005 and welcome Luke Murphy – see page 14 for our recent chat with Luke.

It is hard to believe that Christmas events are now being planned. Have you thought about holding your event at Beechdown? Themed Party Nights for the whole office or just the family.

If you want to remember a loved one or raise money for your local hospice there is the Moonlight Walk on 28 September (see page 14). Crafters are invited to join a friendly group at the Beggarwood Café – see page 17 for further details. If you like reading, there is a pre-loved book sale on Saturday 21 September in the Station Mall – see page 18. Do you have an event coming up? Or do you belong to a group locally? Please let The Rabbiter have details – we are here to help publicise your event. The Rabbiter is delivered free to every home on Hatch Warren, Beggarwood and Kempshott Rise.

The proposal to open a Macdonald's on the estate is causing a lot of concern to local residents. Our Councillors are working hard to ensure that this has no impact on local residents and the return of the car meets in the car park. There continues to be a lot of speeding around the estate and we would remind people that there is a speed limit – should we be asking for '20 is plenty' notices on Woodbury Road and Longcross Lane? And would local residents please park considerately. Parking on the main access roads – especially on a bend – is very hazardous.

Following the announcement last month that we were urgently looking for a new editor and delivery manager, we are pleased that we now have a volunteer to take on the task of writing the editorial and overwriting the content of our newsletter. If you would like to help too, please get in touch. We are still searching for a delivery manager. This task involves keeping track of who delivers which road and the delivery of the boxes to deliverers across the estate. Please can you help? Contact us at newsdesk@therabbiter.

**Editor**

## GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS:

Electorate across the constituency – 78,487, Turnout 62.8%

| Candidate             | Party                  | Votes         | Elected        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Michael Howard Sorell | Green Party            | 3,568         |                |
| Maria Miller          | Conservative Party     | 14,438        |                |
| <b>Luke Murphy</b>    | <b>Labour Party</b>    | <b>20,922</b> | <b>Elected</b> |
| Ray Saint,            | Reform UK              | 6,314         |                |
| Alan Stone,           | Hampshire Independents | 571           |                |
| Mark Whelan           | Liberal Democrats      | 3,176         |                |



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<https://cghppg.weebly.com>

### **Patient Participation Group Update National GP Ballot/Industrial Action**

GP partners have voted in a national ballot to take collective action which may affect services.

The British Medical Association (BMA) has explained the cause of the action "Of the entire NHS budget, general practices get only 6% of guaranteed funding. The BMA's GPC England Committee believes this needs to gradually increase by 1% year on year, to 15% - all the while protecting existing funding across the wider system."

BMA continues "GPs have now reached a desperate point but will not be shutting their doors." The NHS has produced a leaflet explaining how collective action may affect you as a patient, linked here <https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/gp-collective-action-patient-information/>

CGHB Explanatory Note: This ballot was about funding for GP practices only. The funding allocation is provided to practices on a per patient basis and used to pay for all GP practice costs. GP partners (those doctors financially responsible for running GP practices, are saying this is not enough to provide sufficient resources for patients.

Each individual practice will decide on the way in which they will act locally from a list of options. We are awaiting a statement from our practice to explain how this will impact Camrose, Gillies, Hackwood and Beggarwood (CGHB) patients. The full BMA press release is linked so patients can find out more about GPs concerns. <https://www.bma.org.uk/bma-media-centre/gps-prepare-to-take-collective-action-after-overwhelming-ballot-result>

### **National NHS IT Outage**

As you may be aware the NHS and many other institutions suffered a major IT problem unfortunately caused by a trusted IT supplier. This had severe consequences across the globe. Within our surgery this manifested itself in that nobody within the practice could view or update any patient records causing major delays and problems. We are told that all the IT services are now back up and working and although there may still be some "catching up" to be done things should now be operating as normal.

### **Health Focus**

#### **British Heart Foundation - RevivR**

Many of us will witness a cardiac arrest in our lifetime but may not know how to help. RevivR is a free, interactive, online Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training course. In just 15 minutes, you can learn how to save a life and receive your very own CPR certificate. It couldn't be simpler – you just need your mobile phone or tablet and a cushion to practise on. Start the training now or save it for later and get it sent straight to your inbox, ready when you are. <https://www.bhf.org.uk/how-you-can-help/how-to-save-a-life/how-to-do-cpr/learn-cpr-in-15-minutes>

#### **Oakley Stitchers**

A group of around 200 volunteers use their skills and hobbies to help others by producing textile products for patients, most are free of charge from their website and running craft clubs and courses. <http://www.oakleystitchers.org.uk/> Some of their offerings include:-

- Dementia activity products
- Lap blankets for seats or wheelchair
- Drain bags (After surgery, you may find yourself with 'drains') The bags provide a disguise for the draining fluid and allow mobility.
- Knitted Knockers - for use after a mastectomy.
- Pressure Relief Pillow or tablet/iPad support to help cope with challenges after heart surgery, mastectomy or other surgeries.
- Zip2PICC Hoodies -Oakley Stitchers provide hoodies that have been adapted to allow access for PICC line and gastric treatments, such as dialysis and chemotherapy. These items are provided at cost.

Oakley Stitchers have 9 stitcher and craft groups that meet across the Basingstoke and Deane area to encourage learning, social interactions and enable like-minded people to meet each other and forge new friendships. They also run sewing machine workshop sessions

### **Dementia Support**

1/3 of the population will get dementia in their lifetime. When we ran our recent carer support events it was apparent many people were unaware of the wide variety of support available, ranging from local advice and support phone lines to regular groups running activity sessions and equipment.

We have collated the information on our website, (Search Dementia) examples include:

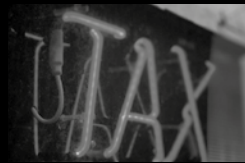
- Contacts details for clubs, organisations and carers meetings.
- How to access an online radio station playing dementia friendly music.
- Library resources including reminiscence resources and home delivery services.
- The Herbert Protocol - a form to assist authorities find people who get lost.
- A check list of symptoms to help discuss symptoms with a GP before diagnosis.
- What is an Admiral Nurse, and how to contact them?
- Dementia Dictionary to help interpret the non-verbal language of dementia.
- Free security and Fire safety home visits and a free lockable cooker isolation valves.
- Care Technology and equipment.

### **Comments, Feedback & Complaints**

The surgery welcomes feedback from patients. If you do have reason to complain about a service or anything related to the surgery this matter is completely confidential. It will not impact your relationship with the surgery. For CGHB complaints, please visit the CGHB web site to register your dissatisfaction. The web address is :- <https://cghpartnership.co.uk/about-us/comments-and-complaints/>. CGHB employ a full time Patient Experience Manager and so you should get a speedy response and certainly an acknowledgement within 3 working days. If you are not satisfied you can contact the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman to review your case on 0345 015 4033 or via their website: [www.ombudsman.org.uk](http://www.ombudsman.org.uk).

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Latest figures from HMRC show that inheritance tax receipts have risen by 7.2% since last year. By taking advantage of available tax reliefs and planning carefully, families can make sure their loved ones pay the smallest tax bill possible and get the most out of what they inherit.

The Association of Lifetime Lawyers represents a community of the most qualified legal professionals in the UK supporting vulnerable and older people with expert advice and support.

Sian Lias, Legal Director at Phillips Law member of The Association of Lifetime Lawyers says there are precautionary steps to take if you plan for family members to inherit part, or all of your estate upon your passing. Sian said: "With more estates than ever liable for IHT, it's crucial to plan ahead to avoid a large tax bill for your loved ones. If the value of your estate is below the current nil rate band allowance of £325,000, no inheritance tax (IHT) is owed, provided the allowance hasn't been reduced by relevant lifetime gifts.

"For married couples or civil partners who leave their entire estate to each other, HMRC permits the full transfer of the nil rate band to the surviving partner, effectively doubling the allowance to

£650,000. Even if only a part of the estate goes to the spouse, the unused portion of the nil rate band can still be transferred upon the death of the second spouse.

"If your estate includes a business or related assets, at present, additional reliefs currently apply at rates of either 50% or 100%. Likewise, certain agricultural properties, such as land used for rearing animals or growing crops, can pass free of IHT, provided specific criteria are met."

"Creating a will is essential to ensure your assets are distributed to your chosen beneficiaries. Without a valid will, your estate will be divided according to the intestacy rules, which may result in your family not receiving what you intended. Research from The Association of Lifetime Lawyers shows nearly half of UK adults (49%) do not have a will. It's important to consult a legal professional to help you draft a will.

"Given the recent change in government, we'd recommend keeping an eye out for any potential policy changes and speak with a Lifetime Lawyer to help minimise your tax bill."

If you would like to speak to one of our Wills, Trusts and Probate lawyers please email legal@phillips-law.co.uk or call us on 01256 460830.

## COUNCILLOR DAN PUTTY

I am delighted to inform the residents of Hatch Warren and Beggarwood that Beggarwood Park has once again gained the Keep Britain Tidy Green Flag award. I am proud to have played my part in securing this park for the people.

It joins War Memorial Park and Eastrop Park in the Borough achieving this success. These parks are the safest and greenest biodiversity parks with great facilities for the enjoyment of the residents of our Borough.

I hope that residents take advantage of these resources especially our Beggarwood Park. As Mayor I congratulate all involved in these brilliant achievements. I am proud of these achievements for the people, communities and everyone to enjoy these.

**Cllr Dan Putty JP  
MAYOR OF BDBC**

## HATCH WARREN WI

In August we met for our Summer Social. This year we booked an afternoon trip with John Pinkerton Canal Cruises along the Basingstoke Canal from Odiham Wharf to Odiham Castle where we were able to get off and stretch our legs.

Around 40 of us had a great afternoon with plenty of time to chat and catch up with our friends. We also enjoyed tea, scones, and cake. The scones and cake were kindly made by the daughter of one of our members.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 4th September at 7.30pm when our speaker will be Ian Margetts from Summerdown Mint, he will also be selling some of their products.

If you would like to join us visitors are always welcome and for more information please contact our President Shirley on 07979 217220.



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## COUNCILLOR'S UPDATE

**DIGESTER LIAISON MEETING:** I went to the Anaerobic Digester liaison panel at the beginning of August to talk about two important subjects. At the top of the agenda were continuing reports of odour pollution. Though these are less frequent than they used to be, and the operators are anxious to eliminate them completely, they still impact local homes. The problem is experienced most on days when wind speeds are low - the days when people are most likely to want to be in their gardens. The operators will be making further checks into why the problem persists. I also had questions about the proposed introduction of food waste collections, which could have a serious impact on Hatch Warren and Beggarwood.

**DOMESTIC FOOD WASTE COLLECTIONS:** I raised my concerns about the food waste collections at the Borough Council's cabinet meeting where they took the decision to introduce them. I want to know whether the waste that is collected from next year onwards will be brought to the Farleigh digester for processing. If that is a possibility (and it is), a series of questions then need to be answered: will the refuse lorries drive directly to the Digester (causing potentially more trips along Woodbury Road), or will there be a transit station at which the food waste will be assembled and loaded onto a larger vehicle? Will some of the long distance food waste lorries that currently go to the digester be displaced? I was told that the contracts are likely to be decided by tender, and Biogen will be interested in taking part in that process. I have asked for a meeting with the Leader of the County Council to discuss the implications.

**MCDONALD'S 24/7 APPLICATION:** although the summer holidays can be a quiet period in terms of Council meetings, big issues can still be progressing. One of them was the licence application from McDonald's for 24 x 7 operation of their new outlet at the Hatch Warren Retail Park. I have objected to the application because of the impact it could have on the security of the site. I don't want to see car meets returning there. I believe that public safety will be put at risk if security in the car park is relaxed, crime and disorder will be allowed to return and a public nuisance will be created if unauthorised car meets are able to start using the site again. The Hatch Warren Retail Park is a vulnerable location, having been used in the recent past for unauthorised car meets. Activities included 'donutting', revving of engines and loud exhaust noises in a location that abuts a residential area and Beggarwood Park. These caused a danger to life and a nuisance to thousands of residents. The car meets are also associated with cars using local roads as a race track, dangerous driving and at least one documented loss of control. Because of these events, I had previously asked for a meeting with the management company and persuading it to lock the gates to the car park at 10.30pm each night. After that, the misuse stopped. To have the gates re-opened at night will invite the criminal misuse, the dangers and the nuisance to return. If that happens, the situation will be more serious than before, because now illegal activities will mix with the legitimate traffic of customers attending the fast-food outlet. Lives will be put at risk.

**MITIGATION MEASURES:** if the Borough Council's licencing committee feels that it cannot refuse the McDonald's application, I have thought about measures that could be taken to protect the public. I have recommended that no permission be granted until a review has been taken of the safety of the site and an agreed mitigation plan put in place. Mitigations to the dangers I have described could include:

- No 'eating in' after 10pm at night.
- Gates to stop entry and exit on the 'Lidl' side of the car park, which is where the 'donutting' took place. These to be locked at 1030pm each evening.
- Extra traffic calming measures to reduce the risk of dangerous driving on the 'McDonald's' side of the car park.
- The introduction of car parking regulations allowing a maximum stay of (say) fifteen minutes after 10.30 pm. This would allow customers to obtain their takeaway food, but would not allow 'car meet' activities.
- The installation of Automatic Number Plate Recognition cameras to record and automatically issue penalties to vehicles remaining longer

than allowed after 10.30pm. This discipline has been implemented across the road at the Sainsbury's car park to allow access to the cashpoint machine only.

There may be more options for curtailing the danger of car meets returning but I offered these ideas as a start to discussions. The better decision would be to refuse the application outright.

**CAR MEETS:** To illustrate the fact the car meets remain a serious problem, Basingstoke's Police Inspector authorised a Section 35 dispersal order over the summer to help control this anti-social behaviour. The order granted Officers additional powers to require a person to leave the area and rendered anyone failing to comply as committing a criminal offence, putting them at risk of arrest. This illustrates why the Hatch Warren Retail Park continues to need defending. Whilst I welcome the tougher line, I believe the problem lies not just with dispersing the meets, but also stopping and arresting drivers who then go on to use our local roads as a race track. The noise is intrusive and one day their irresponsible behaviour will cause an accident.

**WAREHOUSES APPLICATION:** I am concerned about the impact that could be caused if the latest application for warehouses near junction 7 is approved. I wrote to the Borough Council urging it to turn it down. My concerns centre round the impact on the road system, especially if changes take place to the motorway junction, and the impact the development would have on the neighbouring conservation area. I believe that the proposals would offer a poor gateway into Basingstoke, and that there is already a surplus of unfilled warehousing jobs in the area. I believe a science park would be a better option for the site.

**INDUSTRIAL ACTION AT GP SURGERIES:** In its newsletter, the Patient Participation group has written that GP partners have voted in a national ballot to take collective action which may affect services. Each individual practice will decide on the way in which it will act locally from a list of options. The PPG is waiting for a statement from the Camrose, Gillies, Hackwood and Beggarwood practice to explain how this industrial action will impact patients in Hatch Warren and Beggarwood.

**ROAD SURFACE BREAKING DOWN:** I have reported that part of the road surface on the brick section of Danebury Road, near St Mark's School, Basingstoke is breaking down and looks hazardous, especially for cyclists. The problem is around a drain cover and extra care is recommended.

**A30:** the white lining has been completed on the section of the A30 that recently received its surface dressing. In the middle of August there were diversions in place to cater for overnight remedial works on the Brighton Hill roundabout.

**BROADMERE ROAD ADOPTIONS:** I remain frustrated and angry that the roads are still not adopted. I have received reports that street lights have been replaced, correcting a problem where many of them were out. That is positive. Apparently some problems remain regarding access to drainage, and I am chasing for answers on these.

**THEFTS FROM CARS:** Local Police are warning of an increase in reports of unknown person(s) trying car door handles and in some cases gaining entry to vehicles and removing items. These type of incidents are often opportunistic. The offenders hope to find vehicles that have been left unlocked. Police advice is for us to be extra vigilant and to ensure that vehicles are always left secure and locked with no valuables left inside.

**HATCH WARREN SUMMER FESTIVAL:** I offer my thanks and congratulations to the Community Association for its very successful Summer Festival held on the Community Centre Field. The weather was perfect, right up to closing time, when Hatch Warren was hit by a torrential downpour. Some 4,000 people attended. Thank you to everyone involved in organising the day, which is one of the events that helps to enrich our area.

**BLOG:** You can find more details on these issues, and others, on my blog ReidAboutBasingstoke. Here is a QR code that may help:



**Stephen Reid**

County Councillor: Basingstoke South West 07976 310206



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# Pets Corner

Send your photos to  
editor@therabbiter.biz



## ANNUAL SUMMER PUB LUNCH FOR PROBUS CLUB

Introduced back in 1996 by the then president, David Carwardine, as a means of bringing the ladies into a social event for this men only club, the tradition has continued without break in the ensuing twenty-eight years. This year involved a group visit to the Bolton Arms in Old Basing.

A mixture of members and wives/lady friends totalling thirty-three dined in this fifteenth century, Grade II listed building that was reopened early this year after going through a significant refurbishment programme. This has brought this hostelry very much into the modern era providing an extensive food offering to suit all tastes and pockets.

Probus Club President Stephen Thair and wife Margaret hosted the event which was held in a private room that just about coped with the numbers. Probably room could have been achieved for the two people missing the lunch due to Covid.

Of the ladies present, four were members of the Ladies' Probus Club of Basingstoke while it was announced that two new members had joined the men's club this month. This is a good sign that the club has an attraction for like-minded men.

For more information about the Probus Club of Basingstoke see their web site [www.probusbasingstoke.club](http://www.probusbasingstoke.club) or contact their secretary, Andrew Barton on 07814 937202 for an informal chat.



Hudson & Starla enjoying their veggies! – Courtney



Chester, a rescue enjoying Beggarwood – Richard



Shelly & Coco, Has it stopped raining yet? – Noel



Cosmo being a cool cat 😎 – Billiejo



Baby tortoises Bill Ben Weed and Farmer – Gill



Jasmine and Scarlett on a country walk – Gill



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

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I. Causton Road

## OLD DOWN WILDLIFE GROUP

Here we are at the end of summer with autumn almost upon us. Have you, or are you, making use of nature's harvest? Fruits and nuts abound. There seems to be a really bumper crop of blackberries this year – think blackberry jam, blackberry wine, blackberry and apple pie or crumble. Many species of birds feast on blackberries, such as blackbirds, finches, thrushes and robins and small birds often nest within large clumps of bramble. Mammals will also eat blackberries such as squirrels, hedgehogs and dormice. Prior to use, soak the blackberries in a weak mix of water and vinegar for about 20 mins and then rinse with water. Blackberries freeze really well and are a good source of fibre and vitamins C and K. There are also sloes (fruit of the blackthorn) to pick. Best use for sloes is surely sloe gin for Christmas! Sloes can also be used to make jam and jelly but need lots of sugar as not sweet like blackberries. And there are hazel nuts to pick. But please always leave enough for the animals to enjoy!

The wildflower meadow on Old Down has been wonderful again with some flowers being particularly abundant like Oxeye Daisy, Kidney Vetch, Wild Carrot and the several species of orchids on site have really spread this year.

Old Down Wildlife Group is desperately in need of more members. In addition to work party support the Group needs help with administrative tasks such as research, transects, species surveys and identification, event planning, website and social media. So please consider joining us – supporting Old Down is not just about work parties.

**Work Parties:** We meet outside Old Down Hall every Thursday 10-12noon (but not in the rain!). There will also be some weekend dates starting late September. Please do come and join us – we really do need new members and support. Check the website for further information.

Old Down & Beggarwood Wildlife Group (google.com)  
Email: old.down.wildlife@gmail.com



Sloe



**SOCIAL GROUP**  
*Volunteers Needed*



Please call us on  
**01962 868545**  
to find out more

SCAN TO  
FIND OUT MORE



induction  
PROGRAMME  
and full  
TRAINING  
provided

We are looking for volunteers to help make a difference to the older community. Our Social Groups aim to provide a friendly, comfortable and welcoming safe place for older people.

No experience necessary but we would like our volunteers to be:

- Friendly and helpful
- Adaptable and open to change
- Able to work as part of a team
- Able to recognise the needs of older people and the challenges and difficulties they face

A mileage allowance can be paid for travel to and from the activity centre plus DBS checks will be carried out.

**Buckingham Court**  
Basingstoke RG22 8NY

Every Monday, 10am - 12pm

**Harvey's Field**  
Overton, Basingstoke RG25 3BZ

Every Thursday, 10am - 12pm

**John Eddie Court**  
St Michaels Road, Basingstoke, RG22 6SY

Every Tuesday 11am - 1.00pm

**Seeviours Court**  
Bell Street, Whitchurch RG28 7EA

Every Wednesday, 10am - 12pm

**Townsend Court**  
Basingstoke RG21 8AY

Every Thursday, 10am - 12pm

Volunteer in your  
COMMUNITY

Call: **01962 868545** or email: [enquiries@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk)  
[www.ageconcernhampshire.org.uk](http://www.ageconcernhampshire.org.uk) Reg Charity No. 290874

# Café in the Park

**PLEASE JOIN US**

**WEDNESDAY – SUNDAY 10am – 2pm**

Beggarwood Bookworms – To enquire email [office@hatchwarren.org](mailto:office@hatchwarren.org)

Community lunch 1st Wednesday every month  
Quiche Wednesday meal deal every Wednesday

Free hot drink with 10 stars collected using our loyalty card  
Card & A Cuppa with Pauline @ I Create Craft – 6th Sept  
(call Pauline on 07884 303557 for info)

Health Walk – 1st Wednesday every month

Lots of regular events – please ask at the café

For party bookings please visit: [www.hatchwarren.org](http://www.hatchwarren.org)

Beggarwood  
Community Centre,  
Broadmere Road,  
Basingstoke,  
RG22 4AQ.  
Tel: 01256 811262

**Friendship Friday is  
RELAUNCHING  
in September!**

## Café in the Park FRIENDSHIP FRIDAY



Join us for our Friendship Friday's Activities, Chatter and Natter Table, Card and a Cuppa, The Oakley Stitches, Puzzles, Computer help plus many more activities to be announced. Starting September 2024

We look forward to seeing you!

**New to Café in the Park  
Quiche Wednesday  
meal deals**

## Café in the Park Quiche Wednesday



**MEAL DEAL  
FRESHLY BAKED  
QUICHE &  
CAFETIERE COFFEE  
OR POT OF TEA  
£4.50**



IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
DASHWOOD MANAGER

LIMITED SUPPLY

HOT DRINK





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

**HATCH WARREN COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
**COACH TRIP TO**  
**MJ THE MUSICAL**



**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7.30PM**  
**Prince Edward, LONDON**  
**Good Stall seats**

Tickets cost £97 per person  
(INCLUDES RETURN COACH)

Coach will depart at 4pm 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](mailto:OFFICE@HATCHWARREN.ORG)  
 or call 01256 811262

\*38 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

**SATURDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER**  
 Gates Open 5.30pm - Display starts 7.30pm prompt

Hatch Warren Community Centre presents...  
**FIREWORKS**  
**SPECTACULAR**

DJ Mark Halliday \* Music \* Competitions \* Festival Hair & Tattoos  
 Light up novelty glow toys \* Prize every time stalls \* Burgers \* Chips  
 Hot Dogs \* Hog Roast \* Street Food \* Waffle Wagon \* Licenced Bar

**TICKETS ON SALE TO MEMBERS 1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER & GENERAL SALE 1<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER**  
**NO TICKETS AVAILABLE ON THE NIGHT - BUY EARLY AS LIMITED TICKETS ONSALE**  
**TICKET SALES CLOSE AT 12 NOON ON SATURDAY 2ND NOVEMBER**

**ADVANCED TICKET EVENT ONLY - NO TICKETS AVAILABLE ON THE GATE**

|   |                            |  |
|---|----------------------------|--|
| <b>FAMILY</b><br><b>£26</b><br><small>2 adults plus up to 2 children up to age 15</small> | <b>ADULT</b><br><b>£13</b> | <b>CHILD / SENIOR</b><br><b>£6</b><br><small>Children 0 - 15</small> |
|---|----------------------------|--|

**TICKETS ON SALE VIA THE WEBSITE OR IN THE OFFICE.**  
 Payment by cash or internet banking.  
 A surcharge will be applied if purchasing online. All tickets are non-refundable.



Remember!  
 Remember!  
 The 2nd of  
 November!

[www.hatchwarren.org](http://www.hatchwarren.org)  
[www.facebook.com/hatchwarren](https://www.facebook.com/hatchwarren)  
 Office open 9am-3pm Monday - Friday  
 Tel: 01256 811262

In association with  
**Sainsbury's**

We are looking for volunteers to help with our upcoming events, please email [office@hatchwarren.org](mailto:office@hatchwarren.org) for further information.

**HATCH WARREN COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
**BATH CHRISTMAS MARKET**  
**COACH TRIP**



**SATURDAY 30<sup>th</sup> November**  
**£29.00 PER PERSON**

**COACH DEPARTS AT 8AM FROM OUR CAR PARK**  
**AND DEPARTS FROM BATH AT 5PM**

- Let us take the strain out of your Christmas shopping.
- Over 140 traditional wooden chalets adorn the streets
- Unique, handmade and unusual gifts, decorations and food items
- The 'Christmas Capital of the West' is famous for its market and quality independent and favourite high street stores.

**THIS TRIP IS OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**  
**\*40 seats must be sold for trip to go ahead\***

To book your place email [office@hatchwarren.org](mailto:office@hatchwarren.org) or  
 call 01256 811262

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

**HATCH WARREN COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
**COACH TRIP TO**  
**THE LION KING**



**Disney**  
**THE**  
**LION**  
**KING**

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY at 7.30PM**  
**LYCEUM THEATRE, LONDON**  
**Good Stall Seats**

Tickets cost £75 per person  
(INCLUDES RETURN COACH)

Coach will depart at 4pm 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](mailto:OFFICE@HATCHWARREN.ORG)  
 or call 01256 811262

\*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



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: Warrenhatchwarren.org




THE WARREN

# Late mates

**Free entry**

Pool - Music - Xbox - Table Tennis  
 Hot Food  
 Fridays  
 Year groups 9-11  
 8-9:30pm



Email: Warrenhatchwarren.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

Provide experiences to promote Resilience and self esteem

Boost confidence and support for independent travel

Maintain and develop our access to work programme.



Supported by  
 Hampshire County Council



# Recipe

## COURGETTE SPANAKOPITA

Every year we get very excited when the first courgette arrives – but before long we are at a loss to know what to do with them before they turn into monsters! This recipe is one way of dealing with a courgette glut. This recipe can be amended to available vegetables. Add spinach, chard or whatever is available. It's cheap and easy.

- Pkt of filo pastry
- 1 large onion, sliced
- 2 cloves of garlic, crushed
- 3-4 medium courgette, sliced
- 200gm feta cheese
- Dried oregano
- Butter
- Olive oil
- Salt and pepper

Heat olive oil in pan and add onion. Cook gently till they are starting to get soft. Add garlic and then the courgettes. Cook till softening – add more oil if necessary. Add dried oregano to taste and season with salt and pepper.

Unwrap filo pastry and spread out one sheet onto baking tray. Brush with melted butter and place another sheet on top. Brush with the butter and top with third sheet of pastry. Spread courgette mixture on top leaving border around the edge. Break up feta cheese and sprinkle over the top. Repeat layers of filo. Fold edges up to keep stuffing in place, Brush with melted butter and place in oven at 180 degrees C. Cook for about 20-30 mins. Cool slightly and serve with salad.

**St Michael's Hospice**

**Moonlight Walk 2023**

Scan the QR code to sign up!

**Moonlight Walk**

**Saturday 28 September 2024**

Arrival at 8PM starts at 9PM in Festival Place, Basingstoke, RG21 7BA

Join our 10K glitter and glow celebration, and help us light up Basingstoke in memory of our loved ones!

Sign Up. Shine Bright. Support your local Hospice.

For further information visit [stmichaelsospice.org.uk](http://stmichaelsospice.org.uk)

Charity Reg No (England and Wales): 1002856 | Tel: 01256 848848  
St. Michael's Hospice, Basil de Ferranti House, Aldermaston Road, Basingstoke, RG24 9NB

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## LUKE MURPHY MP



The 4th July 2024 was a date of change across the country and Basingstoke was part of that change. We woke up on 5th July to a new representative in Parliament. Welcome to Luke Murphy MP, Labour Member of Parliament for the Basingstoke Constituency. So, who is Luke Murphy? There was a lot written about the policies of his party both during and since the election but little about the man himself. The Rabbiter recently went to meet him to find out what makes him tick. He made me a very good cup of tea and we settled down for a chat.

Luke is from London and now living in central Basingstoke with his partner. Previously he worked in the charity sector and was a councillor on Lambeth Borough Council representing Gipsy Hill. When not working Luke enjoys cold water swimming, running and hiking. He is a supporter of Basingstoke Football Club and of Chelsea. Holidays – beach bum or culture vulture? Luke replied a bit of both - he needs time to relax but also enjoys getting out and about. He is currently looking forward to a holiday in Ireland with his partner.

The Rabbiter asked Luke to imagine he was on Desert Island Disks – which of his chosen records would he rush to save? After some thought he thought 'Dancing in the Dark' by Bruce Springsteen. His book to take with him would be 'Lyndon Johnson' by Robert Caro (four long volumes with excellent reviews so will keep him occupied for quite a while!) Finally, his luxury would be pen and paper so he can record his thoughts and experiences on the island.

So why Basingstoke? He believes that this is a place where he can make a difference. He would like to see a place where people had a good life, a home and there was no longer a need for food banks.

Luke is holding regular surgeries where you can talk to him about your issues. He has an office at the top of town, email: [luke.murphy.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:luke.murphy.mp@parliament.uk), [www.lukemurphy.org.uk](http://www.lukemurphy.org.uk) Instagram [lukemurphy6025](https://www.instagram.com/lukemurphy6025). FB: Luke Murphy MP X: [@LukeMLabour](https://twitter.com/LukeMLabour)

**REVIVE+THRIVE**  
HEALTH + WELLBEING SHOW

**HAMPSHIRE COURT HOTEL Basingstoke**

**SUN 8 SEPT 2024 10AM-2PM**

Register for free tickets

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FOR DETAILS GO TO [REVIVEANDTHRIVESHOW.CO.UK](http://REVIVEANDTHRIVESHOW.CO.UK)



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## HATCH WARREN UNDER FIVES

Welcome to a new academic year at Hatch Warren Under Fives! We are excited to be back and to meet our new children and see how much our older children have grown over the summer.

For some young children the start of a brand new term can be a difficult time and the first few weeks of settling into a new environment is of crucial importance to a child's later happiness within preschool. Our first few weeks are always about getting to know our children, helping them make new friends and helping them to feel comfortable and secure with our staff and the setting. At Hatch Warren Under Fives we work hard to ensure that all children settle happily.

Our first topic "All About Me" is a great chance for the children to learn all about themselves, their new friends and their families. We use stories, arts, crafts and songs to help our children discover what is unique and special about themselves and each other.

We love spending time outside with the children, and as summer draws to a close we will start learning all about autumn and look at colours, patterns and lots of other changes that we see outside as the seasons change. We will soon be collecting lots of natural resources to use in preschool, such as pine cones, conkers and leaves – all great for our creative projects. We will also think about animals that hibernate as part of our autumn topic.

The children will also be enjoying story times, dough gym, makaton signing and weekly cooking sessions and science experiments too.

We are trialling a new room this academic year, and are introducing a dedicated Caterpillars room for our two year olds. We have lots of younger children joining and this will give them a more gentle introduction into the preschool environment while they grow their confidence.

We have limited spaces available for the 2024/25 academic year, so come and have a look around our preschool or to enquire

about a place at Hatch Warren Under Fives, please contact Siobhan on 01256 322788, or email [preschoolmail@aol.com](mailto:preschoolmail@aol.com).

Read more about our preschools at [www.hatchwarrenunderfives.co.uk](http://www.hatchwarrenunderfives.co.uk)

## CANDOVER VALLEY PRE-SCHOOL

Hello from CVP!



As the academic year ended, we reflected on the incredible journey our preschoolers have taken. It has been a year filled with discovery, growth, and countless moments of joy. From learning to share and play together to exploring the wonders of letters, numbers and the world around them, our young learners blossomed in ways that are truly inspiring. Our

dedicated teachers nurtured each child's curiosity and creativity, guiding them with patience and love. The bonds formed, both among children and with their teachers has created a strong foundation for their future learning. As we said goodbye to the school year, we celebrated the achievements of every child during our Graduation ceremony. Thank you to our wonderful families for your support and involvement – together we made a year to remember. Here's to a bright and joyful future for all our little ones!

As we embark on a new preschool academic year, we're excited to embrace a journey guided by the curious minds and natural interests of our children. Our child-led teaching philosophy puts the children at the centre of their learning, allowing them to explore, question and discover at their own pace. In our classroom, children are encouraged to follow their interests, whether that means exploring nature, diving into imaginative play, or creating their own stories through art and movement. Our dedicated teachers act as guides and facilitators, providing a rich environment full of opportunities for exploration while supporting each child's unique learning path. This year, we look forward to partnering with our families to create a community where each child's voice is heard and celebrated, and where learning is a joyful adventure.

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 for Autumn 2025.

## GO GREENER WITH THE GREEN TEAM

Hi, my name's Claire and I'm a Sustainability Advisor from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council. I'm part of The Green Team, a small team set up to help residents make sustainable changes in their lives. We provide free advice on saving energy, helping wildlife, sustainable travel and reducing waste. We also have two free surveys for you to take advantage of!

Firstly, you could improve your home and save energy, you can book a free home energy survey with us. We use thermal imaging cameras to see if your central heating is running efficiently, and spot any issues in your water-filled radiators. We will see if you can upgrade your home's insulation, talk you through your eligibility for any grants that could help pay for the work, and highlight useful tips to help you save energy. And we can also explore renewable energy with you, if you're interested in heat pumps and solar panels!

Secondly, if you're interested in making your garden more wildlife friendly, then we can look at what resources you already provide ideas for what you might like to add. We have lots of helpful tips for attracting specific creatures that you want to see more of in your garden, such as butterflies or hedgehogs!

Both our free surveys come with reports, and we're here to support you if you have any questions afterwards. So, if you'd like to book in a survey, or would just like some advice, please call the team on 01256 845777 or email [GreenTeam@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:GreenTeam@basingstoke.gov.uk).



## AN EVENING OF BIG BAND SWING

On Saturday 12th October, at 7.30 pm, the Clive Fortune Big Band will be performing "An Evening of Big Band Swing" at Queen Mary's College (Cliddesden Road, Basingstoke, RG21 3HF) in aid of Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance.

In what promises to be an exciting event in support of an extremely deserving cause, the audience will be treated to a range of songs and sounds of the big band genre, plus performances from special guests The Tonyx, female barbershop quartet. Representatives from the Air Ambulance service will also be in attendance to highlight the amazing work they do and there will even be a helicopter flight simulator for the audience to try!

Tickets are £12 (under 16s free) and audience members are welcome to bring their own drinks and nibbles.

Tickets can be obtained on line by visiting - <https://ticketlab.co.uk/event/id/24024#/>

**Oakley Stitchers**  
**OPEN STITCHER AND CRAFTERS GROUP @** *You're Invited!*  
**BEGGARWOOD**  
 Broadmere Lane Beggarwood  
 Community Centre, Basingstoke  
 RG22 4AQ  
**Come and join in our friendly PAYG open groups**

**NEW GROUP** starting fortnightly from the 13th September 24 10-12

**£2.50 to join us with or without your own project/ coffee and a chat**  
 +  
**£6.50 kit price to take part in our monthly Activity (optional)**

Whether your a knitter, sewer, crochetter, crafter, painter...  
 This group's for you. Come and enjoy a cuppa and enjoy your or our project, in the company of other like minded people.

for the latest dates and activities visit  
[www.oakleystitchers.org.uk](http://www.oakleystitchers.org.uk)

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## KEMPSHOTT CONSERVATION GROUP

### It's time to restock

We are now wild flower seed collecting on selected conservation sites across Basingstoke. The seed is collected from individual species when the conditions are right. This complements the work of the Council's Green Ranger Team who mechanically harvest mixed seed on meadows across the borough. While this is a useful technique there are many instances where more selective manual harvesting is necessary. We had been doing this for over five years then COVID struck and forced us to stop.

Wild flower seed has a limited germination life. We took the opportunity to use most of the old accumulated seed stock on sites in Kempshott immediately post-COVID, but now stocks are very low and need replenishing.

As individual species are collected, it's a great way to broaden knowledge of wild flowers. Once collected, we also need help cleaning and processing the seed. This can be done by anybody anywhere with only a little training. We have some volunteers at Kempshott village hall coffee morning hubs who have offered to help. Additional recruits are very welcome at the hall or at home.

If you are interested in seed collecting or processing, please contact Marion on [marionwolstencroft@googlemail.com](mailto:marionwolstencroft@googlemail.com) or on Basingstoke 470171.

### It's alright for some

Despite the poor weather, this year has been a fantastic one for orchids. In Down Grange Meadow it was the best year for Common Spotted Orchids, not just in numbers but in new locations. Unfortunately, our main clump of Pyramidal Orchids was overshadowed by Rose-bay Willow herb. This clump of around a hundred orchids is located underneath the Willow herb.

In a normal year the Orchids are out just before the Willow herb canopy closes over them. Due to the wet winter, this year has seen the Willow herb get into growth earlier and more vigorously, so hiding the orchids. However, Pyramidal Orchids have been popping up in new locations as well. This is a shot taken on 26th June of a single plant in the middle of one of our triangles scraped and seeded ten years ago.



Marion Wolstencroft (01256) 470171.

[kempshott-serve@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:kempshott-serve@tiscali.co.uk)

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

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### Basingstoke Concert Band

Keep a note of our future 2024 events

|                   |                     |   |
|-------------------|---------------------|---|
| <b>Sat 12 Oct</b> | <b>7.00-9.30pm</b>  | Old Basing Village Hall<br>Concert with Basing Singers                            |
| <b>Sun 8 Dec</b>  | <b>3.00-5.00pm</b>  | Christ Church, Chineham<br>Annual Christmas concert                               |
| <b>Wed 11 Dec</b> | <b>7.45-9.15pm</b>  | Sherfield-on-Loddon Village Hall<br>Community Christmas concert                   |
| <b>Sat 14 Dec</b> | <b>10.00-4.00pm</b> | The Meadows, Camberley<br>Charity carol playing (collecting for Breast Cancer UK) |

Visit: <http://www.bcband.org.uk>  
 or email [info@bcband.org.uk](mailto:info@bcband.org.uk)

## AGE CONCERN HAMPSHIRE CALLS FOR VOLUNTEERS TO SUPPORT LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Age Concern Hampshire, a leading charity dedicated to supporting older individuals across Hampshire, is actively seeking volunteers to join their efforts in providing essential services and support to elderly residents.

Currently, Age Concern Hampshire is seeing increased demand for its services, making the call for volunteers more urgent than ever. Volunteers will be instrumental in enhancing the quality of life for older people by engaging directly with them and offering invaluable assistance across a variety of roles.

Volunteer positions are currently available across Age Concern Hampshire's various services including support roles at social groups in the Basingstoke area, opportunities at Care and Wellbeing Centres in Dibden, Yateley, Locks Heath, and New Milton, as well as community assistance with their Community Information Service, Form-Filling and Foot Care Clinics.

These services play a crucial role in maintaining interpersonal relationships, which help preserve cognitive function. Age Concern Hampshire reports that the innovative activities offered at these groups provide a sense of purpose for older adults and lead to positive physical and emotional health outcomes through social interaction.

To express interest in volunteering or to find out more information about the available roles, please contact Age Concern Hampshire by calling 01962 868545 or by visiting their website: <https://www.ageconcernhampshire.org.uk/volunteer-hampshire/give-time-by-volunteering/>

## KNOW YOUR RIGHTS: APPEALING A PARKING TICKET

Citizens Advice Basingstoke is a charity providing free and confidential advice on a wide range of issues including benefit eligibility, homelessness, employment and energy enquiries.

Here, we are looking at rights around appealing a parking ticket. You can appeal a ticket if you think you were parked correctly. For example, if a parking attendant thinks you stayed too long when you were in fact within the time limit.

By law, a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) or Excess Charge Notice (ECN) from the council – issued on public land, such as a high street – must be cancelled if you didn't break the parking rules. You can check these rules on GOV.UK or on signs near where you parked.

When you park on private land, such as a supermarket car park, the parking rules (the terms and conditions of using the car park) should be made clear on nearby signs. If you're given a Parking Charge Notice and can prove you stuck to these rules, your ticket should be cancelled. This is because the parking company can't argue that you didn't stick to their terms and conditions.

For more information on appealing a parking ticket, please go to [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/law-and-courts/parking-tickets/appealing-a-parking-ticket/](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/law-and-courts/parking-tickets/appealing-a-parking-ticket/)

If you would like to speak to an adviser, please call the Citizens Advice Basingstoke Adviceline free on 0808 278 7829, Monday to Friday, 9-5pm. We are here to help.



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SUNDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2024

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## BOROUGH COUNCILLOR NEWS

I'm now entering my fourth month as your Borough Councillor, and I want to remind everyone that I send out a monthly e-newsletter for Hatch Warren and Beggarwood residents. This is where you can best keep up to date with all the latest news and events from me and is the most convenient way of being in the loop. I urge you to sign up on the QR code below to receive this email and promise not to spam your inbox!

The last couple of months has been a busy juggling act with learning my new role, meetings starting up again and my kids being off school. One of the things I've been doing is working hard to meet and build relationships with key people and I was glad to arrange visits with all three schools in the ward over the last month. I'd like to thank the brilliant Headteachers of St. Mark's and Hatch Warren Infants and Juniors Schools for their time; I was bowled over by how lovely, welcoming and well-run their schools all are. I was also privileged to be invited to a fabulous family tennis fundraising event at QMC organised and run by the students, who raised over £200 for The Warren Youth Group! And I was delighted to speak to so many residents at my Meet Your Councillor stand at the Hatch Warren Summer Fair, which was a roaring success for the ninth year in a row thanks to the excellent organising team. Do get in touch with any ideas for next year's tenth edition which I know they want to make extra special!

In Council news, many of you will have seen my posts on the licensing application for the McDonald's 24/7 opening hours and dozens of people contacted me to say they wrote in to comment. I met with CAGE to discuss a response to the Oakdown warehouse appeal and will be submitting a response as soon as their experts have reported back on the best lines of argument. I have also been asked by Luke Murphy, our new MP, to consult on a joint meeting with Councillors and police on proactively combating the ongoing car meet issue. We'll know more on all these things shortly and I will keep you posted on my monthly newsletter.

You may also have seen news on the new weekly food waste collection which the Council is putting in place to get ahead of new Government legislation, meet our green commitments, and keep waste disposal costs affordable. I'm firmly behind the changes which we need to tick all these vital boxes but understand that some residents may have concerns and I urge you to get in touch with any feedback that I can relay to assist in this transition.

My next Ask Me Anything Councillor Surgery is on Monday 30th September at The Portsmouth Arms from 6:30pm to 8:30pm, so do drop by with any local concerns or ideas!

**Stacy Hart**

Email: [cllr.stacy.hart@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.stacy.hart@basingstoke.gov.uk)

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## ••••• SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING •••••

• Hope, guidance and community—Can religion, faith and spirituality have a positive impact?

• Recently on social media I came across a message from someone asking for advice about whether religion could help them. This is a big question with a multifaceted answer.

• Many people don't feel religion is for them, they find solace in other things, and they question how religious or spiritual beliefs could add anything to their life.

• Research from, amongst others, Harvard University, notes that participation in a spiritual community can improve physical and mental health, extending life and decreasing suicide rates. A belief system can aid a sense of meaning and hope with community support and healthy coping mechanisms.

• Religion typically refers to an organised system of beliefs and traditions handed down through generations, encompassing specific moral codes and narratives about the nature of existence. To have faith means to trust and believe in something beyond the immediate and the tangible. Faith shapes our identities, relationships, and experiences. Spirituality is an inner path enabling a person to discover the essence of their being and the deepest values by which they live.

• Sadly, some experience authority figures misusing their power. Teachings on sin and morality can deeply impact sense of self causing guilt and shame. War and violence can occur when extremist individuals or groups perpetuate intolerance and discrimination claiming their harmful behaviours are motivated by religion. Unfortunately, the actions of a few can perpetuate misunderstanding. It is important to acknowledge distress occurs and seek to foster healthier, more inclusive religious environments and support those who have been adversely affected.

• People often search for 'something' in times of need, perhaps when experiencing a health crisis, when troubled by difficulties in relationships or moving through life transitions.

• When searching for meaning and purpose, organised religions can provide a framework with teachings about the purpose of human existence, it can guide our attitudes and how we choose to live. Some people explore their inner selves and their connection to the universe, leading to a personalised sense of meaning that resonates deeply with their unique experiences. When searching for meaning and purpose religion and spirituality are not mutually exclusive.

• When looking for a source of comfort or hope, religion can help provide stability with specific practices such as prayer, worship, and sacraments. A belief in an afterlife or a higher power can alleviate pain and suffering. Practices like meditation, mindfulness, and connecting with nature can help foster a deep sense of peace and well-being. Sharing community activities with others who share your beliefs can build strong bonds, providing social support and a sense of belonging. Sharing a mutual quest for growth can be deeply meaningful, no matter what the specific belief.

• My personal answer to the original question went as follows: "As a Christian, it helps me to follow Jesus' teachings and to have a personal relationship with God, I know he's always there for me. I appreciate the community to which I belong, it helps me adhere to my values, for example radical non-judgmental acceptance." For me, spirituality, faith and religion all intertwine and are vital for overall health.



## BEGGARWOOD BOOKWORMS

Author Event with Claire Fuller come along and meet her.

We are pleased to announce we have another Bestselling Author coming to visit our book group. The amazing Claire Fuller will be visiting us on the 18th September 7.30pm at Café in the Park. Claire will be joining us to talk about her new book *The Memory of Animals*. Clearly inspired by lockdown *The Memory of Animals* is a thought-provoking gripping page turner. "The Memory of Animals is a taut and emotionally charged novel about freedom and captivity, survival and sacrifice and whether you can save anyone before you save yourself."

The Bookworms will be reading the book over the summer and coming up with questions to ask Claire about her writing. Her previous books include The Costa prize winning and Women's prize for fiction shortlisted *Unsettled Ground*, *Bitter Orange*, *Swimming Lessons* and *Our Endless Numbered Days*. Claire is local living in the countryside of Hampshire. A keen champion of all things literacy with support for The Winchester Book Festival and she is also Patron of the Winchester Branch of Read Easy a UK charity which helps adults learn to read. She is also keen to raise the profile of other authors. Follow her Instagram page or website to see suggestions for brilliant book picks. [www.Clairefuller.co.uk](http://www.Clairefuller.co.uk)

If you have never come along to an author event but are curious pick up a copy, enjoy, come along and meet Claire. It's always fascinating to hear how the author came up with the idea. How many drafts they go through, the publishing process. It really brings the book to life. Just pop along to [www.ticketsource.co.uk](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk) and search Beggarwood Bookworms to purchase a ticket. All new booklovers welcome. Our next meeting after that will be on the 9th October and we will be discussing *Weyward* by Emilia Hart.

## LOCAL CHARITY CELEBRATES 20TH YEAR WITH BIRTHDAY PARTY AND FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Home-Start Basingstoke & Deane proudly celebrated its 20th anniversary at its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 19th July. The event marked two decades of dedicated service to vulnerable families with young children and celebrated the exceptional contributions of its volunteers with long service awards.

The gathering at Rucstall Community Centre was attended by Mayor Dan Putty, Councillor Arun Mummalaneni, and Luke Murphy MP, who joined in with staff, volunteers and supporters in celebrating the significant milestone. After completion of the AGM lead by the charity's Chair of Trustees Janette Hewitt, guests were treated to a delicious birthday spread supplied by Home-Start volunteers and supported with refreshments by Lavazza UK. Representatives from Caversham Masonic Lodge generously donated a cheque for £500.

If you'd like to support the charity with a fundraising event, please contact Jools Anderson [jools@hsbd.org.uk](mailto:jools@hsbd.org.uk). For local businesses looking to support, please visit <https://homestart-basingstokedeane.org.uk/corporate-sponsors-2024-25/>



## BASINGSTOKE CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT FELLOWSHIP



There were 51 members at the final meeting of the group held on 7th August. After giving apologies and wishing 'Happy Birthday' to those members with birthdays this month the Chairman, David Cowling, said how sad it was that this would be the last meeting. The Secretary, Tony Brazier, re-iterated this and wished everyone well for the future. The Welfare Officer, Christine Broadbent, said what a privilege it had been to help so many members during the past few years and then went on to issue Certificates of Merit from the Head Office of the CSRFF to Tony Brazier, June Brazier and David Cowling. On behalf of the committee she then gave a gift to those members who had helped in a number of ways at the monthly meetings. Tributes were paid to all present and past members of the committee and thanks given to those who had supported us over the years. This included Tesco and Stork who had donated raffle prizes; all of the many speakers we had covering a wide range of subjects; Mervyn's Coaches who had taken us on a variety of trips and Brookvale Village Hall where we had held our meetings. Thanks were also extended to BCoT and the Conservative Club who had hosted many of our meals and afternoon teas, and the local press and community magazines who had printed reports of our monthly meetings.

Our speaker this month was Tony Strafford who gave a talk titled 'The Sex Lives of Kings'. He started with Edward the Confessor who came to the throne in 1042 and then went through the sometimes very colourful, and at times very dark history, of royalty right up to current times. He gave accounts of the many intrigues, illicit relationships, murders and triumphs which occurred through the ages not only to the Kings but sometimes the Queens as well. It all added up to a fascinating insight into the history of our royal families.

Following the meeting members attended a farewell lunch at the Conservative club.

**David Cowling**



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## RESTAURANT REVIEW

### THE BOLTON ARMS

The Street, Old Basing RG24 7DA 01256 643636

After being closed for some time during which refurbishments took place this hostelry reopened early this year and what a pleasant ambiance exists in this ancient building. Built in the fifteenth century this Grade II listed building is owned by the Bolton family estate and has gone through several regenerations and now presents itself as a welcoming gastro pub.

Madam and I visited along with some friends and from a wide array of selections from light bites, buffet and extensive main courses it took some time to make decisions. Madam had an omelette with ham and mushroom, so large it must have used four eggs, which came with a salad garnish and a side plate of fries. My choice was deep fried scampi which again came with some salad leaves, tomato and peppers and fries that were so hot that they had obviously been tipped from the fryer to my plate.

Mr friend also had the same scampi dish while his wife had the oriental crispy duck salad which arrived in a dish so deep the impracticality of trying to use a knife and fork in such a yawning vessel made it necessary to empty the contents on to a plate.

Desserts were crème brulee for Madam and my friend while his wife had ice cream, and my selection was treacle tart with ice cream.

Coffee to follow and our pre lunch drinks had been a zero lager for me and Madam had her usual slim line tonic with ice and a slice.

Our bill came to £56.00 which we thought to be good value taking into consideration the quality of the food and portion sizes.

## NEWS FROM CAGE

### 'What's happening about the warehouse plans at Dummer?'

Keeping up to date isn't easy as so much is happening but we want you to know what's going on, to write again to BDBC restating why you object to the warehouse plans, and to ask you to attend the forthcoming Planning Meeting (September or October - date as yet unknown).

It is SO IMPORTANT that the BDBC planners and Planning Committee (DCC) members know YOUR views.

#### So here is a summary of where 'things' are now.

- It's becoming clear that traffic and its management is a key issue
- Still relevant is the Impact on the landscape (the reason HM Inspector turned down the previous plan)
- HCC has asked Newlands the developers to address items in their traffic assessment
- The lighting proposed in the Southwood Farm area will change the countryside environment forever
- The traffic plans as we understand are potentially unenforceable given experience elsewhere.
- The occupiers of the 8 warehouses are still unknown. Two smaller warehouses may not use HGVs but smaller local delivery vans.

For more material to use in your letter of objection, please check out our website ([www.cleanairgreenenvironment.org](http://www.cleanairgreenenvironment.org)).

**Christine Northam**




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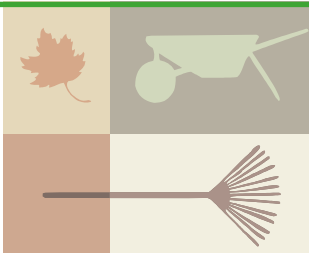
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