



# Oliver's Battery News

## October 2023

### Editorial

---

Firstly my thanks to all who have made contributions. I'm trying hard to get all of our community involved, young and old alike, to share stories, issues and commentary on what affects our area. My experience is that unless sometimes we fight or stand up for what we want, things can be overlooked or ignored. I'm hoping some of our many teenagers will put pen to paper. We always need new ideas. This publication is posted on the Parish Council website in colour.

Let me tell you that your parish councillors work hard for this community and they are all unpaid volunteers. It seems to me we have so much to be grateful for in this lovely place which is both safe and well cared for. Behind our team of councillors are many who lead small groups reporting in this newsletter, who do a great job in their specialist areas.

My greatest concern today is our environment and what each of us can do to help. We are seeing the effects of global warming in our world and all of us must play some part, however small, to counteract that and we need to do it now!

*Tony Gaster*

### Parish Council Business

---

#### **Texas Field and Yew Hill Butterfly Reserve - Asset of Community Value (ACV)**

I am delighted to be able to share with you the news that Winchester City Council (WCC) has written to the Parish Council confirming that this land has been accepted onto their Assets of Community Value register. In other words, the Parish Council's re-nomination of the land as an ACV has been successful. You may have already seen this excellent news on the PC's website or Facebook.

This has resulted from a huge team



effort and community effort, led by Councillor Connie Leach, which allowed the submission of a comprehensive evidence bundle, including photographs, testimonials and survey responses from across Oliver's Battery.

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed, particularly Jackie Page, who arranged a survey of people while they were using the land. It's a fantastic outcome. By being available to the community for a wide range of recreational activities, it will continue to be invaluable for physical and mental health and social wellbeing. The decision could be appealed, but, as the landowner's last appeal to the First Tier Tribunal failed, we hope this will not happen and that the land will retain its ACV status for the next 5 years. Although it appears that this land will not be included as a site for development by WCC in their new



Local Plan, the land will continue to be at some risk of development in the future, especially as the landowner is a developer.

### **Events**

The PC continues to support the Events Working Group, the next event is the Scarecrow Competition and then the Christmas Tree Event (more details elsewhere).

### **Recreation Ground:**

Works associated with items identified in the Annual Play Inspection are expected to be undertaken in October. These works include safety surfacing, replacement basket and cradle swings and basketball backboard and ring (see pictures above). The relevant areas will be taken out of use as the works progress.

The new works project is progressing well. A quotation has been received for trees and quotations are being obtained for bins, benches and smaller goalposts (more on this from Connie next).

### **Existing Trees**

The Tree Warden has identified some remedial works (see the dying cherry tree on the Battery pictured) and quotations will be obtained this month.

*David Kirkby*

*Chair Oliver's Battery Parish Council*



**Dying Cherry Tree**

## Tree Planting at the Rec

Thursday 23 and Friday 24 November are the dates to put in your diary.

Eleven new trees will soon be planted at the Rec. They have been funded from money that was raised by a local crowd-funding scheme, organised by ex-Parish Councillor Fab de Liberali. Many thanks to all concerned.

The new trees will include two larger 'memorial trees' an oak, and a copper beech. Both beautiful, native trees.

'Memorial' can be in memory of so many things, of friends and family, lost to age or the pandemic, of Queen Elizabeth, her life and her passing, or in hope for the future with the new King's reign. As these trees grow, flourish and becoming part of our familiar, cherished landscape, we hope that they will provide an inspiration for us and for those to come after. A marker in time - that in this place and on that day, we planted trees, and we thought about the past, the present and the future .

But on to practical matters ... As much as we want our trees to grow strong and tall, they will not survive unless we water them well, during their early years.

To this end, I am asking you for your help - please can you, perhaps with your family, perhaps with your neighbours, join one of our Tree Watering Groups?

We are establishing small groups of people around Oliver's Battery to come out to the field together and water the trees. You can think of it as 'adopting a tree'. You can nominate



which trees you want to have your name against, we want to have small placards by the trees - 'These trees were looked after by the XXX Family' or 'Mount View Road Group looked after these trees.'

The Parish Council will be buying water carrying equipment, to take larger quantities of water across to the far end of the field and down the path towards the play area, rather than carrying individual buckets .

And members of the Handyperson group are beginning to draw up a rota. Springtime 2024 will see the start of the OB Tree Watering Plan. During the winter, the trees will be largely dormant, but once the spring comes round and the sap starts to rise, then it is imperative to look after the newly established trees.

If you are interested and willing to help, just get in touch with me, Cllr Connie Leach, on [cllr.leach@oliversbattery.info](mailto:cllr.leach@oliversbattery.info) or on [constance@leach154.plus.com](mailto:constance@leach154.plus.com). I will contact you with all the necessary information.

Many Thanks - and thanks to all those who have already signed up.

*Cllr Connie Leach*



## Hedgehog update

---

As we head into the autumn, and signs of hedgehogs decrease, we wanted to thank everyone who has informed us of their hedgehog sightings this year.

We have been informed of sightings of hedgehogs at 23 houses around the Battery as well as 6 houses where there have been signs of hedgehog poo. There have been sightings across the length of the Battery, from Old Kennels Close at the bottom, to the top end of Olivers Battery Road North. Very few sightings on the golf club side of the Battery though.

We will continue to map hedgehogs across the Battery as they come out of hibernation in the new year, so please do watch out for our updated posters and fliers next spring and let us know of any sightings of hedgehogs or their poo in 2024. This

### Hedgehog Highways



#### **Do you have hedgehogs in your garden?**

If you have seen hedgehogs, or their poo, in your garden, please email us at:

[obhedgehogs@gmail.com](mailto:obhedgehogs@gmail.com)

Please include your address, and what the sighting was of (hedgehog or poo).

Could you ask or help your neighbours to look as well?

will help us to identify areas where hedgehog highways would be beneficial around the Battery.

As the winter draws in, please also have a look around your garden – try and leave an undisturbed area for wildlife to shelter in and do remember to check for hibernating hedgehogs before lighting bonfires.

Many thanks again for your support, Olivers Battery Hedgehogs

*Claire Morgan*

## Oliver's Battery Community Films

---



Another successful summer season of films for the Olivers Battery Community has passed, culminating in the August Matinee - Matilda. A whole new programme has been selected for the Autumn season with some new additions. This time around we are offering two matinee films. The extra afternoon showing was suggested at our AGM due to the length of the Oppenheimer Film (3 hours), which was a very popular vote amongst our voting public. We thought that a Saturday afternoon showing might make it more accessible and appealing to you, our audience, as a Wednesday evening would mean a very late finish.

As a gesture of goodwill and Christmas cheer Olivers Battery Community Films will be offering **FREE ENTRY** with a







complimentary mince pie and glass of mulled wine (or soft drink) to each member of our audience of 'The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry'. St Marks' Hall has 70 seats and entry will be on a 'first come first serve' basis, so don't leave it too late to get a seat! Avoid being disappointed.

We have randomly generated another film season Golden Ticket from our email audience - the lucky winner can see all 6 of this seasons' films free of charge. If you would like to be amongst the selection then sign up using the QR code above which will take you to the OBCF website or ask a member of the film crew at a film showing - we are there to help.

At every film night, amongst other prizes, there is a raffle prize allowing 'free entry for two people' to the next months' film.

The ticket price remains just £6.00, ice creams £2.00 and 5 raffle tickets £2.00 - a night out for just £10.00 - what excellent value for money!

Do come along - the evening allows time for a chat over an ice cream and there are cushioned seats,

### **Autumn Film Season -**

make a note in your diary /on your calendar.

Evening Viewings - Doors open 7.00

for 7.30 start.

Wed 15 November - Barbie

Wed 20 December - Harold Fry

Plus 2 matinées - Doors open 1.30 for a 2pm start

Sat 11 November - Oppenheimer

Sat 9 December - The Old Oak

*Chris Stride*

## **Olivers Battery WI (OBWI)**

Our new WI year began in September with a very informative talk on Bats. This was followed in October by a dotty, hands-on, craft session - painting pebbles! November's guest speaker, in St Mark's Church Hall - our meeting venue, is our local vicar Marianne and in December we'll be entertained by the Winchester A Capotella.

We don't just gather at meetings, we are also busy in the community. We have already marshalled for runners at the Winchester Half Marathon, entered Wanda for the annual Battery Scarecrow Display and knitted copious poppies for an outside display for St Mark's and Remembrance Sunday.

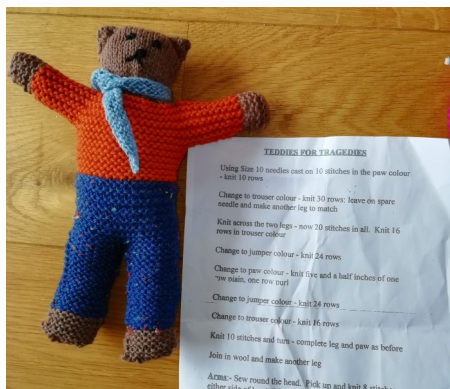
OBWI members, guests and visitors gather from 19:15 for a 19:30 start,



on the third Monday of the month (for 11 sessions) at St Mark's Church Hall.

As well as the meeting programme members can also opt to join a wider programme of monthly activities. These include Craft, Bookclub and Knit & Natter sessions, groups which are hosted by members. Members have also volunteered to hold coffee events, lead 5km walks and organise cinema/theatre outings.

Our meeting offers a chance for a few hours of female company, tasty refreshments together with an opportunity to learn something new. So, if this sounds like something you'd like to investigate further, please come along to a taster session or, to find out more, please contact our Secretary on [oliversbatterysec@hampshirewi.org.uk](mailto:oliversbatterysec@hampshirewi.org.uk). WI membership costs £46 per year, which is now on a pro rata basis for the remainder of the year.



We look forward to meeting you at a future. We can promise a charity raffle (bring cash for tickets £1 each), there's cake and refreshments. There may be occasional talk of preserves but at OBWI you'll have limited renditions of Jerusalem!

*Demelsa Healey*  
OBWI President

**REPAIR  
CAFÉ** Winchester



About this time last year, we sent out a questionnaire asking if you would like to either volunteer or use a Repair Café. Due to the fantastic support of people in and around Oliver's Battery that idea became a reality, and many volunteers came forward. We started our events in April and have run events every month in both Badger Farm and Winnall, with people from the wider community joining us. Thank you for all your support!

Our environmental impact statistics so far are: -

Events: 12  
Participants: 210  
Hours volunteered:  
675

Waste prevented:  
410kg

CO2 emissions  
prevented: 3,187 kg (equivalent to  
driving 26558 km).

### **In case you have not used the Café we mend: -**

Electrical items of all types. Our most  
popular category!

Textiles – all types including clothing,  
tents, ruck sacks and soft toys.

Wooden items.

Computers, phones, and other  
electronic items.

Simple bike repairs.

Other - that do not fit into the above  
categories including mechanical!

Sometimes we have a sharpener  
available.



SCAN ME

We are growing in popularity and other communities are reaching out to us, to learn how to run their own cafés, or to work with us on 'Pop-Up' events. Consequently, we are keen to attract even more volunteers to come and help us. Whatever your skills as a repairer or administrator we would be delighted to hear from you. We are happy to help train you to sharpen up your repair skills so, please do come forward.

Please visit our website <https://www.repaircafewinchester.org/>

*Rebecca Hare*

## **Re.vive**

### **Oliver's Battery Community**

**Café** is for all who appreciate a cup of tea or coffee maybe with some cake and a chat on a Friday morning at St Marks opposite the Post Office. An initiative of St Mark's Church, the Café is staffed by local volunteers and welcomes people of all ages.

We welcome over 60 visitors every Friday and the team want to discover how they can best serve local needs including having a monthly community "spot" where local organisations can share what they're about.

We're really pleased that the Big Macmillan Coffee morning we hosted in September raised well over £300 for their funds. All are welcome at Re.vive Café which hopes to become a real hub for caring in the community. Contact the team at [re.vive1cafe@gmail.com](mailto:re.vive1cafe@gmail.com) for further information or, better still, visit from 9-12 noon on a Friday morning.

*Peter Smith*



## Battery Club

---

This year we have heard some very good speakers on a variety of subjects which Club members have found very enjoyable. At our November meeting we hope to learn how to do floral arrangements for Christmas. The final meeting of the year will be our Christmas lunch which is unbelievably close. Planning is going on at the moment to arrange the Programme for 2024. During the year we have welcomed several new members but there is still room for more. We meet at St Mark's Church Hall on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 2.30 - 4.00 pm.

*Sue Sadler*

## Let's Visit Our Shops

---

### **Ninety-one.**

Q: Hello there, Jess, so what's been going on at Ninety-one, it certainly doesn't look like a cycle shop anymore!??

A: It's definitely a big change since the cycle shop! There was an obviously exciting opportunity with the shop and after a few months of hard work, we have created a beautiful fresh new space with five treatment rooms. The goal was to bring together independent health and beauty professionals to offer their treatments under the same roof. It's the ideal location in Oliver's Battery, with our free parking for clients out the front and our welcoming waiting area to greet clients.



Q: So what do you yourself offer to your clients? What's your speciality, favourite type of treatment....things you most enjoy working on?

A: I am a beautician and nail specialist, offering mostly nail services such as gel nails and manicures, but my favourite thing to do is nail art. I spend most of my time being creative with nails!

Q: So your room is at the front of the shop, with the window in it, but do you work alone?

A: We now have 6 professionals working at Ninety-one, each specialising in different services, and we have space for more people to join the team too! We have another beautician, Sian, who is a waxing specialist and offers a variety of beauty treatments. Jennifer and her business Happy Feet specialise in all things Chiropody. The lovely Siobhan offers fantastic massages and luxury facial treatments. Ellen also offers massage, as well as reflexology, Indian Head massage

and aromatherapy with her business Alma Entera. Finally, PÁVI Medical Aesthetics is Danni's business and Danni is an Aesthetics Nurse offering a variety of treatments such as Skin Boosters and Vitamin Injections.

Q: Tell us about your working life and experience before you came to Ninety-one, have you always worked as a beauty therapist, where did you train?

A: I have been qualified as a beautician for 10 years and after working in





team of independent professionals to support each other and offer our services to clients all in the same place.

**Q:** So what do you think of living in Oliver's Battery, what do you like about it?

**A:** Oliver's Battery has a lovely wholesome community feeling which has been really welcoming and people have been so friendly.

Thank you for having me in the newsletter!

Well, thank you, Jess for telling us a bit more about yourself and what

you've got going on at Ninety-one!

**Contacts:**

[www.ninetyonewinchester.co.uk](http://www.ninetyonewinchester.co.uk) and email

[jess@ninetyonewinchester.co.uk](mailto:jess@ninetyonewinchester.co.uk).

*Cllr Connie Leach*

salons and spas, I became self-employed full-time in April 2021. Luckily it went well so I have built up a very lovely and loyal client base. I went to Peter Symonds to do my A-Levels before training for two years to gain my beauty qualifications, and whilst doing this I studied for my business degree with the University of Chichester. The dream was always to open my own business and support others with theirs!

**Q:** Do you have other plans for developing Ninety-one? What would you recommend as a Pick Me Up for someone who hasn't had much in the way of treatments, what's a good starter treatment in your opinion?

**A:** It's lovely knowing we can offer such a variety of treatments, so there's something for everyone! As only two of us are full-time at Ninety-one, and the others are part-time, we have space for more people to join the team. The goal is to create a full

**Treat yourself!**

**10%  
off**

*any massage or  
facial treatment  
with Siobhan!*

Book in with Little Buds Nurture Hub at 91 and present this voucher to claim the discount!

Call 07973 280986 or visit the website to book.



*Oliver's Battery Christmas Tree Lighting*

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2023

5.30pm – 7.30pm

Enjoy a Mulled Wine and Mince pie

For any enquiries please email  
[oliversbatteryevents@gmail.com](mailto:oliversbatteryevents@gmail.com)



## Updates for Winchester City Council

---

### **New round of grants for community projects**

Applications are currently open for the latest rounds of grant funding. The Town Forum Small Grant scheme and District Small Grant schemes both provide one-off grants of up to £1,000 to local groups and organisations who may need new equipment, start-up assistance or help with events and activities in their communities.

For further information, please contact the Winchester City Council Grants team by emailing :

[grants@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:grants@winchester.gov.uk) or calling 01962 848 269. CLOSING DATE: 29 February 2024 or sooner if fund fully allocated.

### **Local plan revised timetable**

The Cabinet of Winchester City Council has agreed to extend the timetable to produce it's new Local Plan. The revised timetable means that Regulation 19 consultation will take place in Summer/Autumn 2024, with adoption of the plan in 2025.

The Local Plan is a vital document that addresses local housing need, the economy, environmental considerations including the climate emergency, community infrastructure as well as strategic infrastructure needs. The emerging Local Plan is being prepared with the climate emergency at the centre of the council's thinking. Specifically, the Local Plan is a

document produced by Winchester City Council in its role as the local planning authority, to set out what development may be allowed up to 2038.

Given the importance of this document, it's vital to get it right: The Cabinet Committee for the Local plan met on 10th August and agreed to extend the timetable for the new Local Plan, citing the complexity of national nutrient neutrality legislation and the value of first completing ongoing Strategic Transport assessments and studies into the local economy – all factors that could influence the emerging plan.

### **Central Winchester regeneration meet and greets**

Winchester City Council is undertaking a regeneration of a circa four-acre area of the city with a wide-ranging mix of uses including flexible work and creative spaces, food and drink offerings, a hotel and new high-quality public spaces. The proposals also include new homes to suit people of all life-stages, with a range of tenures available including private sale, homes for rent and affordable housing.

The council's Central Winchester Regeneration development partner Jigsaw is hosting a series of one-to-one meet and greets every other Wednesday until 13 December.





The sessions are a chance for Jigsaw to listen to the thoughts and hopes of those interested in the future regeneration of the city and understand opinions ahead of any initial designs being developed. To learn more and to register to attend a session visit. <https://www.winchester.gov.uk/regeneration/engagement-and-consultation>

### **Solar Together Hampshire**

Group buying scheme launched for PV and batteries. WCC is working with Hampshire County Council to promote a group buying scheme – Solar Together - to residents for high-quality solar Photovoltaic (PV) panels and battery storage at a more competitive price. The scheme opened on Monday 28 August. Visit <https://solartogether.co.uk/winchester/home>

### **Alcohol Control zone extended to 2026**

The licensing and regulation committee has supported a 3-year extension of the existing alcohol consumption public spaces protection order (PSPO) to September 2026. The city's PSPO isn't a ban on public drinking but aims to address antisocial behaviour in response to complaints by the public and gives police the power to confiscate alcohol from people drinking in public and to issue a FPN for non-compliance.

*Adrian Brophy*

## **Oliver's Battery Primary & Nursery School**

### **50th Anniversary Celebration**

In September, Oliver's Battery Primary & Nursery School opened its gates to the community to celebrate 50 years since welcoming its first pupils. It is fair to say that the event was - by some margin – the best school fair held this year in Winchester (and probably ever!).



The day dawned fair over a fabulous array of craft stalls, refreshments, and the ever-popular presence of the local fire service. Everyone got involved in the traditional games of skill, which included hoopla, hook-a-duck and a rather epic mini golf. But the undoubted star of the show was the 100ft inflatable assault course, around which hordes of prosecco-quaffing parents gleefully watched their cherubs hurtle their way towards an easy





bedtime. Even the firefighters joined in the fun, racing one another down the course to the delight of the onlooking children.

The stalls featured a mix of local artists and craftspeople, including Wendy Bramall, Nicki Gage and Gina Rees. Many people enjoyed making a beautiful 'Kokedama', or hanging moss ball, with profits going towards the school's edible playground. Special mention goes to the stall run by Pearl Carter from Year 3, who lovingly named and then tagged a mountain of donated teddies for adoption into new homes.

It was fantastic that a number of school alumni (both staff and pupils) were able to come along and see how the school has changed over the years, looking at the old pictures and news clippings on display. The current team loved catching up with them and received many messages of thanks for putting on such a wonderful day.

Our congratulations go to Shona and her PTA team, who worked tirelessly to make the event so fantastic. They were of course supported by a plethora of volunteers, and members of the community and current staff – notably site manager Mike for all his work preparing the grounds and school cook Kira, who prepared over 500 delicious burgers and sausages! As the

current interim Head Mrs Bordoli put it in her own newsletter, 'I felt proud and privileged to be part of the incredible community at Oliver's Battery'. Hear, hear.

*Cllr Stephanie Ironside*

## Our Trees

The parish council is responsible for the Battery and the rec areas. We are fortunate to have many fine trees but often work is needed. In the rec area, some branches overhanging the tennis court must go.



We also have to trim branches on some of the big trees on the Battery. The reason for this is the tree is very lop-sided and if left it might just come down. However with careful professionals on the job, it shouldn't be too noticeable. (see page 15)

*Cllr Tony Gaster*

**OLIVER'S BATTERY ANNUAL  
SCARECROW COMPETITION  
27<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER – 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**



**FAMILY, ADULT AND GROUP CATEGORIES  
ALL ENTRIES TO BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 27<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER  
PLEASE DISPLAY BETWEEN 27<sup>TH</sup> OCT AND 6<sup>TH</sup> NOV**

**TO ENTER VISIT: [SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/25JR93Q](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/25JR93Q)  
OR SCAN QR CODE FOR ALL DETAILS INCLUDING  
MAP OF ENTRANTS NEARER THE TIME**



**FOR ANY FURTHER INFO PLEASE EMAIL  
[OLIVERSBATTERYEVENTS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:OLIVERSBATTERYEVENTS@GMAIL.COM)**







**Pilates classes every Wednesday**

St Mark's Church Hall

Matwork Pilates

Mixed ability - beginners welcome

12.10-1pm & 1.10-2pm

Gentle seated & standing Pilates

For seniors

11.15-12 noon

Pilates can help you whatever your  
age or fitness level.

FREE taster sessions available

Places are limited booking essential

[info@bodyinharmonypilates.com](mailto:info@bodyinharmonypilates.com)

tel 07818 038912



**BODY IN HARMONY**  
*Pilates*

You could advertise here. We offer attractive rates for 6 bi-monthly publications to all homes in Oliver's Battery. The next edition will be published towards end October 2023.

For more information, please contact :

[oliversbatterynews@gmail.com](mailto:oliversbatterynews@gmail.com)

## For your Diary

---

### **Oliver's Battery Parish Council meetings at 7.30pm - St Mark's**

November 7, December 5

### **Oliver's Battery Community Films 7pm for 7.30pm - St Mark's**

Nov 15 - Barbie

Dec 20 - Harold Fry

Plus 2 matinées - Doors open 1.30 for a 2pm start

Nov 11 - Oppenheimer

Dec 9 - The Old Oak

### **Oliver's Battery Social Evenings - Golf Club Thursdays 6pm - 8.30pm**

Nov 9

### **Winchester Gardening Club**

Nov 8 The Winter Garden speaker Mark Porter

Dec 13 Stephen Oakes The Magic of Bird Migration

All Wednesdays, with a 7.30pm start, at St. Mark's Church Hall.

### **Oliver's Battery WI - St Marks 7.15 for 7.30pm start**

Nov 20 Speaker meeting with Rev. Marianne Foster.

Dec 18 Christmas gathering with seasonal quizzes and entertainment from Winchester Acappella.

OBWI group meets 11 times per year, on the third Monday of the month.

### **The Battery Club**

for Senior Citizens meets at St Mark's Hall on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 2.30 pm - 4.00 pm.

Nov 8 Flower Arranging for Christmas

Dec 13 Christmas Lunch

### **Re.vive community cafe**

Friday mornings 9 am - 12 at St Marks

### **Events Working Group**

The 4th Annual Scarecrow Competition will be held between Saturday 27 October and Sunday 6 November. There will again be three Scarecrow Judging Classes (with trophies) - Junior, Open and Group.

Website: [www.oliversbattery.info](http://www.oliversbattery.info); [clerkoliversbattery@gmail.com](mailto:clerkoliversbattery@gmail.com)

This Newsletter: [oliversbatterynews@gmail.com](mailto:oliversbatterynews@gmail.com)

Published by Oliver's Battery Parish Council.

Printed by Copyman Ltd.

