



# Oliver's Battery News

## December 2024

### Happy Christmas



#### Editorial

---

There are a lot of interesting articles in this edition and as ever, I am grateful to all who contribute.

Parish councillors in particular, and those who do so much in this community, help to provide background and information. We need a voice. I fear more than ever that change is on the way with decisions imposed on us from afar. In the short time I have lived here, I see traffic volumes increasing all the time. It must make running a bus service a nightmare.

We are part of Winchester, yet sufficiently apart to be our own community and that is something to be treasured and protected. Those who are younger will need to remember that.

I've tried to make this newsletter have a wider interest and involve all age groups. But I have had to recognise my goals are not shared and that's why I am stopping. I am more than willing to help anyone who feels they can take over as editor. There are challenges but not many!

Tony Gaster

#### Parish Council Business

---

##### Parish Clerk Vacancy

It is with sadness that I have to inform you that Brendan has submitted his resignation as Clerk.

Brendan has been working with the PC for the benefit of the community of Oliver's Battery since July 2022.

Brendan has been such an important part of our team and his guidance and support have been invaluable and he will be greatly missed.

He's not leaving just yet but when he does, we wish him all the best on his new adventure – **retirement!**

As a result, the PC are seeking to appoint a motivated proactive person to the position of Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO). This is a part time role of 12 hours per week.

The PC has seven councillors that meets once a month, with the exception of August (when there is no meeting).

The new Clerk/RFO will be required to work primarily from home and the PC will provide a laptop, printer for the sole use of the Clerk/RFO



and a subscription to Microsoft 365.

This post includes overall administration, support and advice for all of the PC's activities, including managing the PC's financial affairs (in due course a Job Description and Person Specification will be available).

While there are separate specific requirements for Clerk and RFO, Brendan has carried out both these roles, and the PC are seeking someone who can continue this arrangement.

The salary will be based on qualifications, skills and experience.

Training is available, if required.

If you are interested in this role, please feel free to contact me (07825 642732 or [cllr.kirkby@oliversbattery.info](mailto:cllr.kirkby@oliversbattery.info)).

### **Cyber and Cyber Fraud Awareness (Scams)**

The cyber and cyber fraud (colloquially described as scams) awareness session held at St Marks Hall on Wednesday 6 November was well received.

However, the session was not well attended despite the publicity. This begs the question whether further presentations intended for the benefit of local residents are worthwhile.

### **Remedial works to new football pitch goalmouth areas**



The Heras fencing needed to protect the strips of new turf around the artificial grass was removed on 10 December.

Despite the disruption, the contractor reported receiving a positive response from users and the local children are already using the new surfaces.

### **Local Plan**

Winchester City Council (WCC) submitted the draft Local Plan to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government for examination. The Local Plan sets out the city council's vision and objectives for the future development of the district outside of the South Downs National Park (which has its own Local Plan) – Winchester city, the market towns, villages and countryside.

The Local Plan making process started in 2018 and it has undergone four separate stages of public consultation: Launch of the Local Plan (2018), Strategic Issues and Priorities (2021), Regulation 18 Local Plan (2022) and



the Regulation 19 Proposed Submission Local Plan (2024).

The Local Plan contains key themes including addressing climate change and cutting carbon, new and robust approaches to providing affordable housing, ensuring we use brownfield sites first, measures to protect chalk streams and rivers and natural environment and ensuring we get the infrastructure we need.

Now that the plan has been submitted, a planning inspector will be appointed to review and assess it.

They will consider whether the plan has met the legal requirements; whether it has been positively prepared and is justified, effective and consistent with national policy; and if the council has engaged and worked effectively with the local community, neighbouring authorities and statutory bodies.

Once appointed, the Planning Inspector will set out the next steps in the examination process, which will be published on the dedicated Local Plan website.

### **South Winchester Golf Course**

There have been a number of sitings of surveying taking place around the South Winchester Golf Course (SWGC) recently and the developer is continuing to promote the site. Cllr Blundell sought clarification from Adrian Fox, the Strategic Planning Manager at Winchester City Council, bearing in mind the Local Plan has recently been submitted (see above).

The questions and replies can be seen on the PC website at <https://www.oliversbattery.info/planning/south-winchester-golf-course/>

*Cllr David Kirkby*

## **From our MP**

### **Looking out for our neighbours this winter**



As the nights get longer and the air colder, it's important this winter for us to look out for our friends, family and neighbours. The storms have been challenging for communities across the area with many of you experiencing power cuts and blocked roads. I've been in frequent contact with the power companies and County Council to get assurances they are doing everything they can to get power back online and roads cleared.

Winter is also the toughest time for homeless people and the charities that support them like Emmaus and the Winchester Beacon. I recently visited Trinity Winchester who are working with StreetVet to support the homeless and their pets. They've helped many people off the streets and back on their feet. I've also been really proud of our Liberal Democrat councillors. Thanks to their campaigning, the County Council scrapped its plans to cut homelessness services and the City Council is working hard to ensure no child in





Winchester has to spend Christmas in a B&B.

In parliament, the big focus has been on the Assisted Dying Bill. I've heard from many of you on this important question and it's truly been inspiring to see the civility with which this issue has been debated from all sides. It was a difficult decision but ultimately I voted for the bill to progress. It can now be scrutinised and debated further before a final decision is made.

While activity in Westminster will lessen over this festive period, I'll be continuing my work across Winchester and the Meon Valley listening to the concerns of local people and businesses. I just had to pay a visit to our posties at Royal Mail Winchester who are currently hard at work helping to deliver Christmas. We really couldn't celebrate this festive season the same way without them, so they have my thanks!

After a whirlwind few months, I am very much looking forward to not spending quite so much time on the train to Waterloo. I will be enjoying this Christmas with my partner, Emma, and going on many walks along the River Itchen with our two lovely dogs – Frank and Moose. I

*Danny Chambers MP*  
danny.chambers.mp@parliament.uk

## How “green” is your home?

Is your home friendly to our natural environment? How energy efficient is it? Most homes in Olly B burn gas and release carbon dioxide, which we know causes climate change. But did you know that a few of our neighbours are really savvy about energy? At least one has reduced his energy bills by generating all his electricity from solar panels? Another pays hardly anything to heat his lovely warm home, thanks to an air source heat pump, solar panels and really thick insulation. If you are paying thousands of pounds for energy, maybe it's time to get your home checked for efficiency?

Over thirty locals have benefited so far from the free thermal survey offered by volunteers who use thermal imaging cameras bought by the parish and city councils. Why don't you have a survey done? It is painless. Feedback shows that every householder found the survey “helpful” and started them thinking about how they could improve the warmth of their home.





Quite a few installed new, where it was missing, or thicker insulation and stopped draughts from their loft hatches, doors, letter boxes. Others will fit new doors etc in the future when they can afford it. They have made a plan to improve their home. Have you?

However, lots of people have realised that they have not really thought about how they could make their home warmer yet burn no gas at all. There are new materials and new technologies such as air source heat pumps. Although there is a lot of useful information about ASHP available on the internet, often people remember negative anecdotes, which are hardly reliable sources of information.

Look out for Sustainable Oliver's Battery's GREEN HOMES event in early 2025. Then you will be able to find out for yourself from our local pioneers about heat pumps, benefits of retrofitting their homes, and other smart energy saving technologies. As - sadly, this is probably the final edition of the parish newsletter - you will need to look for posters or email [OBSustainability@gmail.com](mailto:OBSustainability@gmail.com) to find out more and to arrange a thermal survey.

## Oliver's Battery Community Films

---

For those of you who ventured out on a cold Wednesday November night to watch, as a community, Prima Facie - our groundbreaking first showing of a National Theatre Live (NTL) - you will not have left St Mark's Hall disappointed. It was a sell out. Jodi Comer was a Tour de Force - enough said. Expect more. Our next

season embraces an NTL production of Oscar Wilde's, The Importance of Being Earnest - watch the trailer - it will draw you in.

David Higgins introduced the NTL evening by giving a little historical background regarding the start of our Community Film Group. We have been running since 2017. Our first film, Far From the Madding Crowd (Carey Mulligan and Matthias Schoenaerts) was shown at the local primary school and was not without serious IT challenges I seem to recall but the team got around every hiccup and we pleased an eager audience of 65 people. In total we have shown 79 films and a further 19 during the covid19 lockdowns.

This year has been particularly significant because we are now official partners with NTL as well as Moviola. We have Debbie Burrows to thank for driving this through with such enthusiasm and leadership - nothing 'just happens' - there was and continues to be a huge number of hurdles to negotiate, Ts to cross and Is to dot. Huge thanks to Debbie.

David Higgins, Robin Burrows and Colin Stride have given a lot of their time over recent months and their expertise to enhance the experience of our film viewing audience. Together, St Marks Church and OBCF have paid for the purchase and the installation of new, superior quality speakers.

These speakers are a community asset - there for the use of the community. In partnership with Moviola and NTL we have a new and exciting Winter/Spring 2025 Programme for you - details of titles/dates are on the back of this

newsletter - please make a note in your diary.

More importantly than ever, please make a note of the film dates for the entire coming year (every 3rd Wednesday night of a calendar month - 7pm for a 7.30pm start) because this may well be the last OB newsletter. If you'd like an email reminder of each forthcoming film then please sign up via our website [www.obcfilm.co.uk](http://www.obcfilm.co.uk). You'll receive just 2 emails and also be able to join in the film selection for each new season.

We are a team of 12. Every single person helps to make the group



work successfully. We are delighted when we have a full hall - watching a film together has a magical quality - if you haven't experienced it then do come along. The ticket price has remained at £6.00 for 8 years and we have had to decide, in order to help Moviola survive these economically trying times to raise it to £7.00 from January 2025. However, ice cream and raffle

prices (an optional purchase) remain the same so a really 'enjoyable' night out is still only going to cost £11.00 (card or cash).

The team look forward to greeting you on Wednesday 18th December for:

The Fall Guy - Emily Blunt and Ryan Gosling - action/comedy/romance - certificate 12A. We are offering some Christmas Cheer with complimentary mince pies and mulled wine at the showing.

*Chris Stride, OBCommunityfilms*

## From our Hampshire County Councillor

---



### Local Plan for Winchester District

The local plan for strategic housing and employment sites across the Winchester District has been submitted to the planning inspectorate for examination in public in early 2025. The most significant development site within the Badger Farm and Oliver's Battery ward is the Bushfield Camp site off Badger Farm Road. I will continue to represent residents' views on this as there are significant highways implications. However, the new government has announced an increased target for house building numbers.

This means the number of homes required to be built in the Winchester District will go up from 676 to 1099 per year, a 62%

increase. We therefore anticipate several more sites will be put forward by developers locally as the council will be required to start the plan revision process for the uplift in dwelling numbers as soon as the current proposals are adopted. I will keep you updated as I hear more. The traffic and transport infrastructure impact of more development in our area cannot be underestimated.

You can find more details on the current local plan timeline at [www.localplan.winchester.gov.uk](http://www.localplan.winchester.gov.uk)

### Services for the future

With the future of some Hampshire local services in the spotlight, the County Council's Leader and Cabinet have ensured we will protect Household Waste Recycling Centres, School Crossing Patrols, and homelessness support services across Hampshire. This decision follows careful consideration of the public consultation feedback on a wide range of proposals and as we continue to reduce our own costs and focus on core services for our residents.

Council leader, Cllr Adams-King has written to the chancellor asking for government to repeal outdated legislation to enable local councils to be more innovative, efficient and commercial. This will help improve our financial position, as the demand and cost of delivering vital social care for our older population and number of vulnerable children continues to rise.

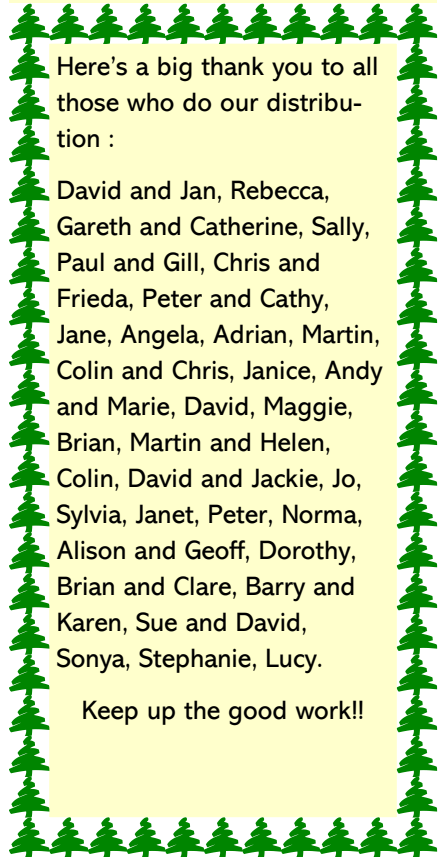
### New Police and Crime plan

Police and Crime Commissioner, Donna Jones has launched her new Police and Crime plan for the next four years with increased police

visibility and engagement, tackling shoplifting, combatting rural crime (including theft of farm machinery and illegal hare coursing), addressing serious violence and its root causes, road safety, and tackling anti-social behaviour are all top of her list.

You can find the contact details of our 'local Bobby' for your area at [www.hampshire-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.hampshire-pcc.gov.uk)

*Cllr Jan Warwick*  
*Deputy Leader*  
*Hampshire County Council*  
*Jan.warwick@hants.gov.uk*  
*Tel: 07717 104236*



Here's a big thank you to all those who do our distribution :

David and Jan, Rebecca, Gareth and Catherine, Sally, Paul and Gill, Chris and Frieda, Peter and Cathy, Jane, Angela, Adrian, Martin, Colin and Chris, Janice, Andy and Marie, David, Maggie, Brian, Martin and Helen, Colin, David and Jackie, Jo, Sylvia, Janet, Peter, Norma, Alison and Geoff, Dorothy, Brian and Clare, Barry and Karen, Sue and David, Sonya, Stephanie, Lucy.

Keep up the good work!!

## Oliver's Battery Monthly Evening 'Socials at our Locals'



We will be continuing in 2025 with the alternation between the Queen Inn at St Cross with The Dolphin PH at Hursley, this alternation has proved very successful to date and we have now booked through to Christmas 2025 (!) - The 'Socials' are held on the second Thursday of every month

Both our Locals have Good Food (The new Dolphin menu has received the collective thumbs up from everyone present) and we share our 'Good Company' on modest sized tables. If you haven't been recently (or never) give it a try in 2025.

The arrangements we have with both our Locals is that we have a block booking of tables from 6pm onwards (and the tables will then be relet to others at 6.30pm if not required).

Our Locals now know us and we can turn up 'on the night' without prior booking. Please lift share if you can.

And confirming that for those on the email list, a reminder will be sent out about a week before each event & if you are not on the email reminder list yet and would like to be, please email [oliversbatteryevents@gmail.com](mailto:oliversbatteryevents@gmail.com) and we will add you onto it!

*Colin Stride*

## Oliver's Battery WI (OBWI)

Members have been busy with our regular WI events as well as getting involved in community activities. Recently members were in the Hall



kitchen at St Mark's serving up warmed mulled wine and mince pies for the unusual indoor Christmas tree and carols. In September they were on the pavements marshalling the OB leg of the Winchester Half Marathon and this autumn they had fun creating a WI scarecrow on the topical theme of accessing NHS dentist care.

As a group we continue to meet on the 3rd Monday of the month at St Mark's Church, Oliver's Battery Road South, SO22 4ET. Doors open 19:15 for 19.30 start, till around 21:00. With 56 members there's always someone new to meet over a cuppa and cake (GF available). Come along to a couple of meetings to see if we are the right group for you.\*

The group also offers a range of voluntary 'extra curricular' sessions including Craft, Book Group, Lunch





club, Walking, Knit & Natter.

As with all WIs we are run by the members for the members. Everyone is encouraged to get involved, be it on the committee, helping with refreshments, offering the vote of thanks and/or growing plants for our annual early May plant sale.

If you would like further information please contact our Secretary on [oliversbatterysec@hampshirewi.org.uk](mailto:oliversbatterysec@hampshirewi.org.uk)

*Demelsa Healey*

# 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 are welcoming an increasing number of visitors and would be delighted to see you! It was a delight to have a choir from Oliver's Battery

Primary School singing, old and new, Christmas Carols and Songs in early December – a great start to Christmas and celebration of the amazing birth of Jesus. The Re.vive team want to discover how the Café can best serve local needs including supporting local organisations and becoming a real hub for caring in the community.

We look forward to seeing you on a Friday morning from 9-12 noon at St Marks or please contact us at [re.viveIcafe@gmail.com](mailto:re.viveIcafe@gmail.com) for further information.

*Peter Smith*

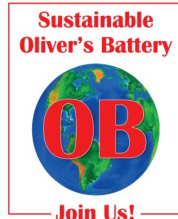
## Reuse, Reduce and Recycle news from Sustainable Oliver's Battery



Thank you to those of you who came to our first Swish event, although numbers were smaller than we'd hoped, the feedback was more than positive, and we hope to run another swish soon.

It's Global Recycling Day in March, with this in mind we are hoping to organise a few events during the month that involve reusing, recycling, and reducing. Our popular BIG Outdoor SWAP will be back in March. For those who haven't had the experience of an outdoor SWAP yet, the idea is you place your preloved items outside your home where they will not obstruct the pavement then take a walk around OB and see what treasures you can find, for free!

We are very lucky in Oliver's Battery as we have easy access to the Winchester repair cafe which comes to Badger Farm community centre every month.



The repair cafe prevents items going to landfill, extends their life and saves on raw materials needed to make new items. All this helps in the reduction of emissions of CO2 and ultimately helps with reducing climate change. For more info or to book a repair visit their website:

[www.repaircafewinchester.org](http://www.repaircafewinchester.org)

Look out for our posters on lampposts around Oliver's Battery and on the community notice boards for more information about upcoming events.

Lastly, I wanted to say big thank you to everyone who has supported Sustainable Oliver's Battery this year, your help is really appreciated!

For more information, please contact us via: [obsustainability@gmail.com](mailto:obsustainability@gmail.com)

*Eve Almond, Sustainable Oliver's Battery.*

## 3rd Winchester City

### Rainbows and Brownies

The Rainbows and Brownies have had fun preparing for Christmas. We visited 1<sup>st</sup> Harestock Brownies and enjoyed meeting new people and learning some camp songs. We've made tree decorations out of old books for the Hursley Tree Festival at All Saints and designed our own baubles for the Oli B tree. At time of writing these have been unable to be hung, however look out for them on



the community tree in the near future. Rev. Marianne also asked the girls to choose the decorations for the tree at St Mark's.

Next term we are welcoming some visiting speakers from Oliver's Battery on an international topic or two. This will be our theme for next half term so we may be learning a different language, understanding how life is different in other countries and trying some new foods. We've been given some cake tins that are now in the Church kitchen so perhaps we will be baking again too! Thankyou to the generous Freecycle community for keeping us supplied with resources.





22<sup>nd</sup> February is Thinking Day for Girlguiding, so this is a great way to broaden our knowledge of the wider community. There will be a box in the church to collect donations for Northbrook Ward at the RHCH. The children's ward always need baby and toddler food pouches, individually wrapped snacks (especially gluten free), new baby and toddler spoons, baby beakers, baby wipes, sanitary products, baby socks in a variety of sizes, new pants for age 3,4 ,5 and 6 years, stationery and reward stickers. If you see anything on offer over the christmas or sale period and feel you would like to donate then please do place items in the box. Alternatively you may have new items at home that your children have now grown out of before they could be used. The collection will be regularly monitored and hopefully a hamper of gifts can be

delivered around the 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Thank you in advance for supporting this.

Visit <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/> if you'd like to register a potential Rainbow, Brownie or volunteer to help run the sessions. Those living on Olivers Battery do get priority for spaces.

All at 3<sup>rd</sup> Winchester City would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Kate Fletcher*

*3rdwincitybrownies@gmail.com*

## Fresh thinking for fresher air



The Winchester district is a comparatively green, clean and healthy part of the county but poor air quality is an invisible problem that's still affecting the health of residents. Thanks to new technologies and targeted policies, we've seen air quality improving over years, but there are still areas of real concern. Cleaner air is still not clean enough: air pollution is the most significant environmental threat to public health in the UK (causing an estimated 29,000 to 43,000 premature deaths each year).

Almost all of us, whether inside or out, are breathing in air which exceeds World Health Organisation guidelines for pollutants. While we're all affected, the impact falls most heavily on vulnerable groups including older people, children and

those with cardiovascular or respiratory conditions like asthma. And while Oliver's Battery is blessed with lovely rural views and walks, we're also living near to one of the city's air quality hotspots - the Romsey Road, where traffic and congestion levels are creating some of the highest levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>x</sub>).

Thankfully, Winchester City Council is committed to improving air quality across the district to take on specific challenges like this through its Air Quality Strategy. The new draft strategy - available at <https://tinyurl.com/3swna62e> - aims to take on sources of pollution, track changes over time and ultimately go above and beyond national targets. As well as taking action on road traffic emissions, it also looks at the emissions from domestic and business heating and burning.

At the council's Health & Environmental Protection committee, we recently received a briefing on air quality challenges. I was really struck by the degree that everyday actions like idling your car engine when waiting to collect the kids, enjoying a log fire or burning leaves on a bonfire is having a massive impact on the air we all breathe. Sources of combustion contributes 45% of PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions - a particularly dangerous class of particulate matter or microscopic particles, which are fine enough to enter our blood and organs. Burning wood, which also has a significant impact on indoor air quality for the homeowner, produces a further 11% of the district's PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions.

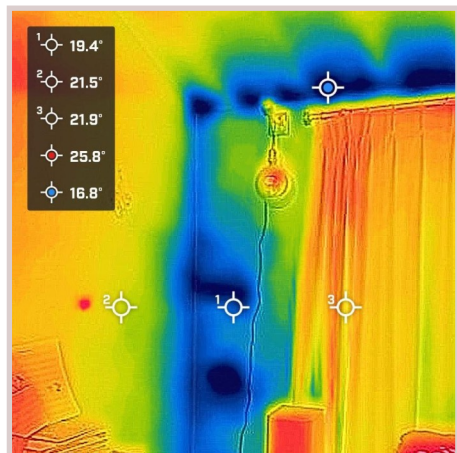
Some subjects get more worrying the more you learn. However, with air quality, even a little bit of knowledge

reveals that we can all play our part. Immediate opportunities to improve our air and reduce our exposure to pollution range from considering our journeys and methods of transport, to thinking about how we can heat our homes using cleaner, well-serviced heating appliances, or limiting wood burning. A big problem we can all solve? That's a breath of fresh air.

*Adrian Brophy city councillor*

## Thermal Imaging for you

In the last newsletter, I read the article from Sustainable OB offering home thermal imaging surveys. I registered my interest for a free home survey, and I wasn't disappointed. Firstly, guidance was provided ahead of the survey and included useful links to energy saving improvements. Then, on the day of the survey, two friendly local volunteer Energy Champions performed Thermal Imaging both outside and inside the property, explaining areas of potential cold spots in walls, floors, and ceiling (see example image). They also checked my energy consumption, gave advice





on energy saving, and even answered my questions on potential alternatives to replacing my gas boiler. We are lucky to have volunteer Energy Champions living in our community, and happy to recommend other households.

To register your interest email [obsustainability@gmail.com](mailto:obsustainability@gmail.com) for a free Thermal Imaging survey.

Kevin K, 11 Seldon Close, Olivers Battery.

## A Call for help

---

My daughter, Chloe, set herself an ambitious fundraising challenge for 2024: to run one half marathon every month. Motivated by her incredible godmother Karen, who is currently fighting a battle against cancer and in loving memory of lost loved ones.

Just starting out in running, this was no small feat— Chloe embraced this challenge with her usual exuberance and positivity!!

Watching Chloe push through, especially on the tougher days & when the weathers not been so kind, has been nothing short of remarkable. Chloe has shown immense courage, strength, and perseverance, travelling all around the UK to take part, and funding the marathons herself.

Chloe's goal is to raise as much as possible for Cancer Research UK, an incredibly worthy cause that impacts so many. Every year, nearly 400,000 people in the UK are diagnosed with cancer, making Chloe's effort even more impactful.

In December, Chloe will be triumphantly crossing the finish line, having proudly completed her ambitious 2024 fundraising challenge, her family will all be right behind her

cheering her on! If you'd like to contribute, we'd be incredibly grateful, please just click the link below to donate.

<http://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/chloes-giving-page-8571>

Emma Tilling 07751 208306

## Thoughts about the future

---

Well not all my fellow councillors have been able to contribute this month so I get to fill the space. I get lots of time to reflect on how things are or how they might be. When I came to Winchester in 1979, certainly things were different. I watched the high street grow with lots of small shops. Nearly all have gone, I suppose because the rents are so high, about three times what they are in other places.



I used to have a business in Winnall and saw the various businesses grow and develop. But today no Currys, Halfords or Homebase. There are those who argue that everyone shops on line, which is fine for simple things where no advice is needed.

It appears we can spend £100 billion on HS2 yet the A34, which is the main north-south link highway remains unchanged and almost every week now traffic is diverted and



comes past us in Oliver's Battery. The other day it took 30 minutes to get to the M3. I'm told that's progress. I'm told there is no money to make road improvements, so if some of the developments that we learn about: Bushfield Camp, the Barracks and South Winchester Golf Course, things might get really bad for us.

Our Parish Council cares about using energy and you will have seen articles to support that. Yet we use our cars without limit and all that on-line shopping needs an army of white vans. Those two seem to me to be in conflict. People in the know, tell me we have just 10 years to change



things.

I'm not at all convinced by the arguments for clean power. We are being told to go electric. But we can't always produce the power we need and in some areas the distribution grid is insufficient. As I write, looking out of my window, I see the local power lines. If we all change in my road from using 30 amps to 60, will all the overhead cables need changing? And if they do, guess who will pay. We were the world leader in nuclear power which gave us a

guaranteed base load, not any more. Our local roads have been disrupted by the need for new gas mains which must have cost a lot. So surely we are going to go on using gas? The other disruption was from Gigabyte. They called here recently to ask if I was interested in connecting. Ah, you will have to lay a cable across your garden (50m) at your expense!

I am sure most of us are looking forward to the festive season, parties and carols and presents. It's a time when I do a lot of singing and most of it is fun. I do wish you all a Happy Christmas.

Pictured below is what might have been and I understand more than a few hiccups. Well storm Darragh put a hold on getting the tree up on the Battery but our thanks to all involved who make this look so good.

Tony Gaster



## Help needed to continue the publication of this Newsletter ...

Tony Gaster, who currently puts out the OB News, is stepping down from the post of Editor at the end of this year. We thank him for all his work in growing the publication and successfully developing it into what we have today.

Unless we can find a person, or a group of people to take on this role, the last edition will be in December. The Parish Council is looking for help in this. We are looking for people who might have desk top publishing experience to work on the layout and people who can gather stories from the community. If you have any time or experience of this kind of activity we would be very pleased to hear from you.

Our plans on how to take the newsletter forward are currently fluid, in relation to size and format. It depends on discovering who might be out there in our community who would be willing to help in any way.

If you are interested in having a conversation as to the future of our local publication and your possible contribution to it, then please contact Cllr Connie Leach on [cllr.leach@oliversbattery.info](mailto:cllr.leach@oliversbattery.info) or please give me a ring on 01962 865883/07784 287 778.

Save the Date! Easter Sunday  
20th April 2025 - EEH25!

Yes it will only be a few weeks until the Supermarkets will have switched their seasonable shelf stock to Easter Eggs

**Easter Egg Hunt '25  
is on the OB  
Event Calendar again -  
what will be NEW in  
2025?**



## 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@bodyinharmoniypilates.com](mailto:info@bodyinharmoniypilates.com)

tel 07818 038912



BODY IN HARMONY  
*Pilates*

## For your Diary

---

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

Tuesdays: January 14

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

Wednesday January 15 - The Holdovers (15) - Comedy/Drama

Wednesday February 19 - The Outrun (15) - Drama

Wednesday March 13 - The Importance of being Earnest (15) - National Theatre Live - Comedy

Wednesday April 16 - Conclave (12A) - Drama/Thriller

& every third Wednesday of the month through to December 2025

### **Oliver's Battery Social Evenings at our locals 6pm - 8.30pm**

Thursday January 9 - Queen Inn, Kingsgate Road, Winchester (01962 853898)

Thursday February 13 - The Dolphin, Hursley (01962 896243)

Thursday March 13 - Queen Inn, Kingsgate Road, Winchester (01962 853898)

Thursday April 10 - The Dolphin, Hursley (01962 896243)

### **Winchester Gardening Club 7.30pm start, at St. Mark's Hall**

8 January 2025 - Beauty and the Beasts, speakers Jane and Steve Page

12 February 2025 - Kingston Lacy gardens, speaker Steve Candy

12 March 2025 - Big ideas for small spaces, Martyn Cox

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

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.**

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

Friday mornings 9 am - 12 at St Mark's Hall

### **Repair Café Winchester—Saturdays**

Second Saturday of each month either at Badger Farm Community Centre (10-12.30pm) or Winnall Primary School (2-4.30pm).

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 Copy man Ltd.

