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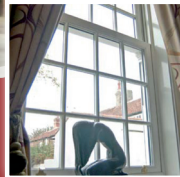


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December
2015

Dear Readers,

Mulled wine, mince pies and Christmas carols, friends and family gathered around the table... The festive season is upon us, and the local area is alive with activity.

Whether you're keen to gain a glimpse of the Coca-Cola truck, making its maiden visit to Winchester, or want to pick your own tree from a local farm, we've got Christmas covered in your packed December edition.

Avoid a last-minute dash down the High Street with our Christmas gift guide, featuring plenty of present ideas, all available locally, and check out our what's on guide for events and activities perfect for all the family.

Hampshire Farmers' Markets will be serving up plenty of fine local fare across the county this month, and we have a wonderful hamper packed with local festive produce to give away to one lucky winner.

As always, our directories are packed with brilliant local businesses, and hidden in amongst them is our very own Barney – find him and you could be in with a chance of winning £50!

Lastly, a quick introduction from me – as Communications Manager at TDG, I will be looking to strengthen our ties between the company, customers and community, through local news, features and advertorials both inside the directories and across our website and social media. Feel free to get in touch about all things TDG.

However you plan to celebrate Christmas and see in the New Year, have a wonderful time and we'll see you in 2016.

Henry Ascoli
Communications Manager



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November's Competition Winners

Find Barney

Freda Kerslake

Nuggets of Knowledge

Peter Pearson

Hudl

Mrs. Margaret Smith

Crossword

Mrs. Enid Walters

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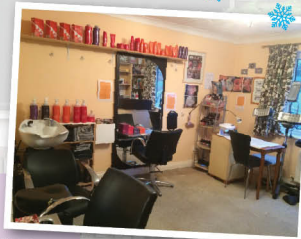
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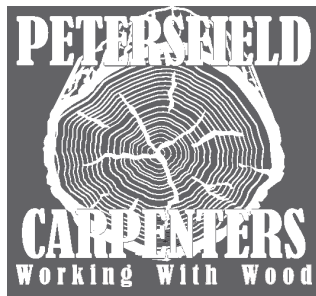
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come, celebrate with us and indulge in what Italy really has to offer.

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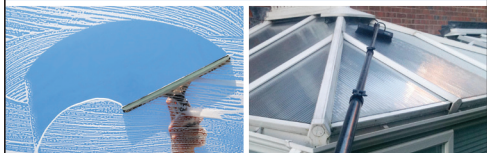
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Calling All Sewing Enthusiasts!

Are you a sewing fanatic? Or maybe you'd like to learn? Whether you're an absolute beginner looking to acquire a new hobby or a confident sewer, you can release your creativity with Sew Creative, an exciting new fabric & haberdashery shop with sewing and textile studios opening on Lavant Street in Petersfield on 18th October.

Sew Creative stock a wide range of fine fabrics from Liberty, Gutermann, Makower, Rowan and Art Gallery by wonderful designers such as Kaffe Fassett, Pat Bravo, Philip Jacobs and Vivienne Westwood. These on-trend fabrics will inspire your quilting, home-making and dress-making projects. Other lines include quality haberdashery from Prym, funky craft kits, buttons, ribbons and other sewing essentials.

An Open Day will take place on Saturday 18th October where celebrity guests Tamara Melvin and David Dawson, from this year's Great British Sewing Bee, will be joining business owners Jo & Steven Watts for the grand opening! Tamara and David will be giving a short presentation and answering questions from 2pm, so pop along with anything you'd like to ask, and don't forget your camera!



David Dawson



Tamara Melvin

There will also be free mini workshops throughout the day – which you will need to pre-book via the new website:

www.sewcreative.org.uk. These sessions are suitable for adults and children and include Textile Painting, Needle Felting and more - places are going fast so book your space early!



Opening 18th October

The open day will also give you the chance to find out more about Sew Creative's two exciting studios: The Sewing Studio and The Creative Studio. From these a variety of workshops take place led by experienced tutors, enhancing your skills and releasing your creativity in a fun filled session. There will also be a 'Crafternoon' Tea session twice monthly where you will make something 'Afternoon Tea' inspired, like a vintage tea cup pin cushion and also enjoy a cup of tea and cake!. So if that sounds like "your cup of tea" then please book your place!



Jo Watts

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Upcoming Workshops:

- 21st Oct** Patchwork Cushion - sewing for the beginner
- 24th Oct** Lino Printing on fabric
- 25th Oct** Easy Quilting
- Half Term Workshops – to keep Kids and Adults busy**
- 28th Oct** Sewing Bunting (children)
- 31st Oct** Lino Printing (children)
Applique Cushion (adult)
- 3rd Nov** Poppy Making from felt– for Remembrance Day
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If you can't wait until the open day, pop along to Lavant Street Market on 5th October where you can meet the team, find out more about Sew Creative and browse the gorgeous range of fine fabrics and exciting craft kits.

For more details call **01730 858020** or email info@sewcreative.org.uk.

Alternatively, you can, 'like' **Sew Creative** on Facebook:

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Building For the Future

The Rowans Hospice is building for the future of care with the creation of a new centre to support independence and wellbeing.

Marking the start of construction work to build The Living Well Centre on a site next door to The Rowans Hospice, on Purbrook Heath Road, The Mayor of Winchester Angela Clear and honorary chairman of trustees Ian Young recently performed a ground-breaking ceremony, with a blessing by spiritual care chaplain Carol Gully.

Left to right: Carol Gully, spiritual care chaplain; Peter Clear, consort; Cllr Angela Clear, Mayor of Winchester; Ian Young, honorary chairman of trustees and Ruth White, chief executive of The Rowans Hospice.



Guests took part in a minute's silence at 11am to honour the lives of the victims of the terror attacks in Paris.

The cost of the building project is being met through a Department of Health grant, as well as several other smaller grants and private

donations. A larger opening ceremony will take place in a year's time when the centre is completed.

The Living Well Centre will provide a place where people affected by life-limiting illness can walk in to access information, engage in compassionate conversations and receive

"We hope our Living Well Centre will be an inspiring place in which to work, visit, socialise and find comfort."

therapies. It represents the development of community-engaged hospice care, and is not only for those who are older, but for all living with progressive and life-shortening illnesses, to include younger adults who may have previously been supported by children's services. It is hoped that the centre will form an 'oasis' for patients, their families and community groups within the wider community.

Ruth White, chief executive at The Rowans Hospice, said: "We hope our Living Well Centre will be an inspiring place in which to work, visit, socialise and find comfort. It will be a physical expression of the care we provide and reflect another significant contribution from The Rowans Hospice to the provision of palliative care services locally. The centre will also allow us to build even stronger ties with our community, as we work together to shape the future of hospice care."

The Living Well Centre should be completed by August 2016. The Rowans Hospice provides specialist hospice care and support to patients with life-shortening illnesses resident in Portsmouth and south east Hampshire, their relatives and carers. All the care given is without charge.

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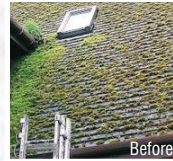


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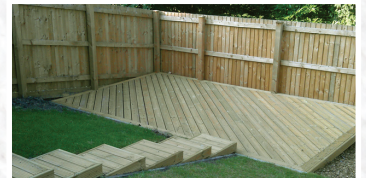
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Join the festive spirit at Winchester's Christmas Market

Always a magical experience, the festive season in Winchester will be truly memorable this year, with the iconic Coca Cola Christmas truck set to take centre stage for one night only at the heart of the city.

For the first time ever, the Coca Cola truck and choir will be visiting the city centre on its 45-stop tour of the UK, arriving in Winchester High Street on Thursday 17th December, with activities from 12 noon to 8pm.

This year marks the 10th Cathedral Christmas market and ice rink and, in an effort to offer more family fun, the Visit Winchester team will be hosting a Father Christmas grotto, based on artwork in the children's picture book 'The Night Before Christmas' by internationally-renowned children's illustrator Christian Birmingham.

Pre-bookable tickets, priced at £5 per person, are available between 10am and 1.15pm, and from 1.15pm to 4.30pm the grotto will be operating on a first-come first-served basis.



Founded in 2006, Winchester's Christmas Market is inspired by traditional German Christmas markets and attracts more than 350,000 visitors each year. The pretty wooden chalets are situated in the Cathedral's historic close surrounding an open-air real ice rink. All exhibitors are hand-picked for their interesting, high-quality and unique products - many of which can't be bought on the high street.

The Christmas market will be running from Thursday 19th November to Tuesday 22nd December, open every day from 10am-6pm (Sunday to Wednesday) and 10am-7.30pm from Thursday to Saturday.

Meanwhile, the Tourist Information Centre is hosting the Winchester Charity Christmas Card volunteers for the second year.

More park and ride services will also be available throughout the festive season.



**For further information and booking details: Call 01962 840500
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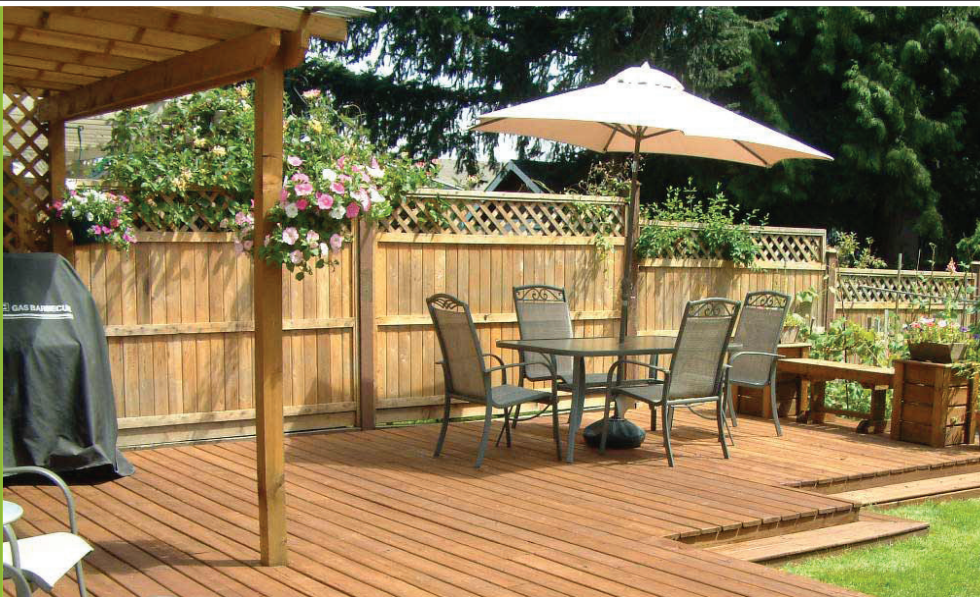
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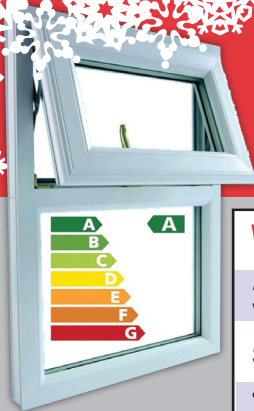


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- Prepare for extra food and drink by clearing out kitchen cupboards or garage space to use. BBQ tools and salad bowls can go in the attic until Spring
- Start adding one or two non perishable Christmas food/drink items to each supermarket shop to help budget the cost:- Stuffing, crackers, napkins etc
- Prepare and freeze in advance any meals/canapes you can
- Ensure you book a food delivery slot close to Christmas
- Use local markets and butchers to beat the queues at the Supermarkets on Christmas Eve
- Prepare for guests - ensure guest bedroom has fresh towels and bedding and I always put miniature toiletries in a basket next to the bed
- Don't have a spare bedroom? - ensure you have airbeds or camping mats and spare bedding for overnight guests to use or better still ask them to bring their own
- Start wrapping a few presents at a time early so it is not a panic on Christmas Eve

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Giant Christmas Market

A Giant indoor Christmas Charity Market comes to Petersfield Festival Hall on Saturday December 5th with over 70 stalls. The traditional family-run event is in aid of Portsmouth Hospitals Rocky Appeal for digital keyhole operating theatres of the future.

Other charities trying to raise cash at the event will include the Rosemary Foundation, a co-operative support group for Palestine, the Cat and Rabbit Rescue Centre at Sidlesham and Petersfield Musical Festival.

There will be plenty of trade and craft stands too, with jewellery, collectables, Christmas gifts, toys, books, cakes, marmalade, mince pies and jams. A stall specialising in candles will be set up on the stage and a bargain-priced household



goods and stationery stall together with a vintage and antique stall will be in the main hall. Hand-crafted cards and photography will also feature.

The popular knitted gifts stall returns to the Rose Room, where there will also be lunches and refreshments. A Rocky Appeal raffle is to be held in the foyer. Admission to the market is free and is open 9.30am to 3pm. For stall bookings phone 01730 264802.



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RESTAURANT REVIEW

The Hawkley Inn

THE INN OF HAPPINESS

The Hawkley Inn is well known by real-ale enthusiasts, but it's also now becoming renowned for the quality of its food.

Nestled in a leafy lane in the secluded village of Hawkley, in the heart of the beautiful South Downs National Park, the inn will soon celebrate the first anniversary of ownership by Simon Emberley.

We were greeted upon our arrival for lunch by the popular Nikki, who handles the front-of-house role with some aplomb. And, even at lunchtime, a quick look at the menu showed us we were spoiled for choice.

We decided to start with a Mediterranean vegetable and goat's cheese tart (£7) and seared scallops with a parsnip puree and chorizo (£9). Not surprisingly, the food was well presented with generous portion sizes.

We asked Nikki to recommend main courses for us and, after being advised that all the food is sourced and produced locally and all the fish delivered fresh on a daily basis, we decided on the Cumberland sausages with mash and



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FOR

vegetables (£12) and a steak-and-kidney pie with roast potatoes and vegetables (£13).

The food again came in generous portions sizes – but this isn't all about quantity over quality. No, the food was amazing. Having said that, I admit we declined dessert as we were full! I would certainly recommend it to anyone who was looking for a good place to go and eat in the countryside.

With seven different ales on at any one time, £9 steak-and-chips nights on Mondays, and five AA four-star B&B rooms – from just £69 per night complete with delicious home-cooked breakfast – it's no wonder that what was a well-kept secret is fast becoming a must-visit venue.

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The hedgehog population has dropped from 36 million in 1950 to just one million today as the species faces the same rapid decline as the tiger.

The reasons are many, from changes in countryside farming practices, changes in land usage – for example expanding urbanisation – to much tidier gardens, which are often enclosed so nothing can get in or out.

Even simple things like the removal of leaf litter is detrimental, as a simple leaf pile offers refuge and an insect larder. However, we can take action with direct benefit to hedgehogs and many other animals, and more than 30,000 have pledged to do so via www.hedgehogstreet.org, run by the British Hedgehog Preservation Society.



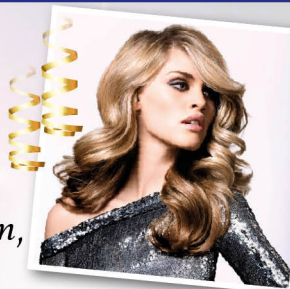
Photo: British Hedgehog Preservation Society.

Hayling Island Hedgehog Rescue takes in sick, injured and orphaned hogs. With the help of many generous donations and funding, it offers an emergency service, experienced medical care, intensive rearing of young, orphaned hoglets, advice and talks.

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Cooking



Festive Winter Pudding

INGREDIENTS

- 1kg cranberries
- 3 pears peeled, cored and chopped
- 200g soft brown sugar
- Grated zest of an orange
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 12 slices of fresh white bread



METHOD

- 1 Put all ingredients except bread in a pan and bring slowly to the boil until sugar dissolves.
- 2 Strain through a sieve and reserve liquid.
- 3 Cut crusts off bread and dip slices in juice quickly and then use to line a 1 litre pudding basin.
- 4 Remove cinnamon stick from pudding basin and pour mixture into lined basin.
- 5 Place final bread slices over top (after dipping in juice) and cover with cling-film and a plate. Place weights on top and refrigerate overnight.
- 6 Turn out and serve with thick Jersey cream or ice cream.

Recipe by
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BEAR NECESSITIES



A giant timber brown bear will be the focal point for festive selfies at Wylds Farm in Liss this Christmas.

The new mascot at the family-run farm has been created by talented local sculptor Quincy Rabôt, and Wylds Farm is running a competition to name the bear and win a Christmas tree.

To enter, visitors need to pose by the bear and upload their selfie to the Wylds Farm Facebook page, along with a suggested name.

Wylds Farm, run by Nick and Sophia Rook-Blackstone, is a small acreage farm committed to growing quality and sustainably farmed Christmas trees.

After taking a bumpy tractor and trailer ride across the farm, you can pick either

a Nordman Fir or Blue Spruce and watch as it's felled.

A log cabin, bar, beautiful gifts and wreath-making workshops are sure to prove popular, offering a perfect day out for local families keen to get into the festive spirit.

Wylds Farm (Warren Road, Liss, GU33 7DF) is open seven days a week until Wednesday 23rd December, from 9am to 5pm.



Photos: Sarah Sheldrake

To find out more, go to

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FESTIVE FARE FOR ALL

Fine local fare will be in plentiful supply this Christmas at festive farmers' markets across the county.

Local producers are gearing up for forthcoming Hampshire Farmers' Markets (HFM) at Romsey, Alton, Ringwood, Southsea, Petersfield and Emsworth - with twice monthly markets at Winchester now located in the High Street.

The Petersfield and Emsworth markets will also be part of special Christmas Festivals, Petersfield on Sunday 6 December and Emsworth on Saturday 19 December.

The HFM Winchester market has recently moved into Winchester's historic High Street and is held on the second and last Sunday of each month.



Festive seasonal favourites and other food on offer at the Hampshire Farmers' Markets include meat, game, poultry, cheeses, pies, quiches, pastries, chocolates, fudge, wine, cider, beer, pickles, preserves, fresh and smoked fish, fruit, vegetables, mushrooms, watercress products, garlic, eggs, baked goods, cakes including Christmas cakes, puddings, pies and a wide selection of artisan breads. More unusual meats on offer include water buffalo, goat, charcuterie and biltong made with Hampshire beef.

There will also be a wide range of food to go options, including breakfast baps, hot soup, bubble and squeak, water buffalo burgers and hog roast, along with interesting food gift options and other local produce that make ideal gifts.

"Our local producers love the festive season as it also draws in new customers, who then become regular customers," explained HFM business manager Alex Handford. "They have discovered how affordable the produce is and have enjoyed the vibrant market atmosphere, sampling and buying food that is fully traceable and locally produced. Many also appreciate meeting and talking to the producers and buying local produce, knowing that they are helping to protect the environment, rural jobs and the rural economy."



To find out more about HFM, call 01420 588671
or go to www.hampshirefarmersmarkets.co.uk



**Markets in:
December**

**Sunday 6th Petersfield
Christmas Festival - Romsey**

Saturday 12th Alton

Sunday 13th Winchester

**Saturday 19th Christmas
Festival - Emsworth**

Sunday 20th Southsea

Organised by:

Hampshire Farmers' Markets Ltd

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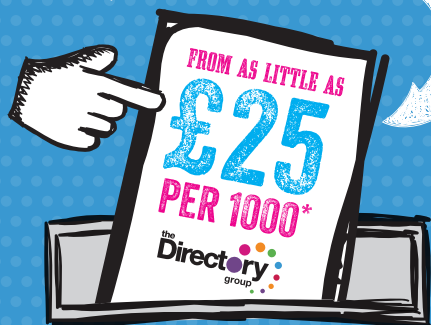
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WHAT'S ON & WHERE

Wednesdays 8.30pm. South Hants Volleyball Club is looking for new members, ALL WELCOME. Purbrook Park School, in the Sports Hall. **Details: Bev Cooper, hantssecretary@gmail.com**

Saturdays and Sundays until 22nd December at Staunton Country Park Join us for a magical Christmas experience! Make a Christmas craft in the Elves' Workshop, follow the trail, then enjoy a festive donkey cart ride to meet Santa in his grotto and receive a gift. This is an outdoor experience and only children will be able to ride on the donkey cart. Cost: £10 per child. **Telephone: 023 9245 3405.**

Saturdays and Sundays until 22nd December at Queen Elizabeth Country Park. Father Christmas is back in his grotto with gifts, a festive nature trail, tractor ride and children's craft session. This is a two hour session and booking is essential. There will also be Christmas gifts available in the shop, and Christmas trees for sale. Cost: £12 per child.

Saturday 5th December. Christmas Fair from 1.30 - 4.30pm the Church of the Sacred Heart & St Peter the Apostle in London Road, Waterlooville Christmas Fair on and Santa will be in his grotto to greet the children. They will all receive a present if they have been good this year.

Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th December Local Christmas Market Aspex Gallery, Portsmouth 11am - 4pm An Etsy-supported indoor market from the Portsmouth and Southsea Consortium; 30 of the best local artists, makers & vintage sellers will be coming together to sell a range of high quality handmade and vintage goods. Free entry. **www.portsconsort.com**

Saturday 5th December A Giant indoor Christmas Charity Market comes to Petersfield Festival Hall The popular knitted gifts stall returns to the Rose Room, where there will also be lunches and refreshments. A Rocky Appeal raffle is to be held in the foyer. Admission to the market is free and is open 9.30am to 3pm. **For stall bookings 'phone 01730 264802.**

Saturday 5th December Christmas Fair at the Church of the Sacred Heart and St Peter the Apostle, London Road, Waterlooville, PO7 7SR

Saturday 5th December 10am to 1pm Rowlands Castle Craft Fayre Parish Hall, Links Lane, Rowlands Castle PO9 6AD. Free admission. Approx. 24 stalls. Car park & on-road parking close by, 5 min





walk from rail station, 1 min walk from bus-stop. Disabled access. If you would like to be considered for a stall **please contact:** rowlandscastlecraftfayre@gmail.com

Wednesday 9th December at 7pm at St. Georges Church, Waterloooville. Naomi House Children's Hospice 'Light Up A Life' Christmas service. All welcome, join us and enjoy a complimentary drink and mince pie.

Wednesday 9th December, 1.30pm-4pm Flower Workshop Hayling Island community centre Christmas Door garland and table arrangement all flowers included £20 per person **Call 02392460630 for more info and to reserve your space**

Friday 11th December At St. Mary's Church, Church Road, Hayling Island at 7.30pm a concert performed by The Renaissance Choir "The Wonder of Christmas". Tickets £8 adults and £2 for students and children, proceeds for the Community Room Appeal. Refreshments will be served during the interval. **For tickets or more info ring 023 93113011 or call at Morris Dibben Estate Agents, Mengham also for tickets.**

Saturday 12th – 24th December Santa's Grotto in Waterloooville Library Entry is just £2 per child (babies free). Each child gets a wrapped toy, chocolate and visit to the Grotto. Will be opened at 10 am Saturday 12th December by the Mayor of Havant. Opening times Saturday 12/12 & Saturday 19/12 10 am to 2 pm Monday

14/12 to Friday 18/12 10 am to Noon, Monday 21/12 to Friday 24/12 10 am to 2 pm

Saturday 12th December 2015 The Horndean Band will present a Christmas Concert at St. Georges Church Waterloooville. Tickets will be available at the door for £5.00. Doors will open at 1900hrs for a 1930hrs start. hopefully you will come and enjoy this wonderful start to Christmas.

Saturday 19th December 10:00-1:00 Southbourne Lions & Friends of Emsworth Community Health Christmas Fair and Santas Grotto Emsworth Cottage Hospital North Street Meet Father Christmas (FREE) Stalls Hot Food Entertainment **fete@southbournelions.org.uk 01243 431183**

Saturday 19th December – Film Night "Mr Holmes" School Lane, at 7.30pm. Tickets £5. For more details **call 02392 256132 or visit www.denmeadca.com**

Sunday 20th December, Christmas Concert at Portsmouth Guildhall, doors open at 7.00 p.m. A seasonal musical celebration presented by community choirs, Achoired Taste and Art of Dance and Fitness with the Royal Marine Association Big Band. An evening of uplifting toe tapping music to put you in a festive mood. Tickets £10.95 (Concessions £8.50) available from the Guildhall Box Office.



TO ADVERTISE YOUR EVENT...

FOR FREE Send a brief description of your event including location and date **VIA EMAIL:** whatson@thedirectorygroup.co.uk **OR VIA POST** to: What's On, The Directory Group, Unit 1 Viceroy Court, Bedford Road, Petersfield, Hampshire, GU32 3LJ. We cannot guarantee all adverts will be published, but if you don't see yours here it will be on our website! **Closing date for the next edition is 11.12.15**





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- Customer in Hayling Island, 23 July 2015

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‘Santa Specials’ train journeys will be taking place throughout December, offering a truly magical experience for children and adults alike.

As you travel along the historic Mid Hants Railway in a festive traditional train carriage, Santa and his jolly helpers visit you in your seat with a special gift.

White wine and mince pies will be available for adults, with soft drinks on offer for the children.

The ‘Santa Specials’ are a one-hour round trip, departing from either Alresford or Alton, on 5th, 6th, 12th, 13th and 19th-24th December. Tickets are priced at £18 per person, and £19 on 24 December.



Plus, on Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th December, there's a chance to experience the atmosphere of a World War Two Christmas at ‘Christmas Leave’. Join civilian and military re-enactors and witness the relief and joy of returning home from war, with song, dance, steam and seasonal merriment.

Tickets for Christmas Leave are £17 for adults, £9 for children (two to 16) and free for children under two.

To book tickets for either event, and for further details of departure times, visit watercressline.co.uk

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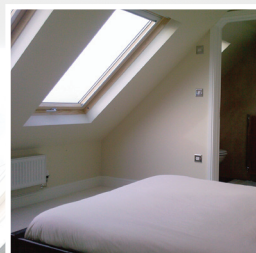
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A Fabulous Open Morning

The sun shone as record numbers from across the region visited us on our recent Open Morning. Almost half of our students gave up several hours of their weekend to show off our school.

Visitors enjoyed listening to our Wind Band, Jazz Band and Ska Band playing in the band stand, and in the Studio were treated to a preview of the latest Rock Challenge performance. French and Spanish food was on offer in the MFL department, and there was a raft of exciting experiments to get involved in throughout the Science department.



Following the Private View earlier in the week, the Visual Arts and Design Technology departments showcased some fabulous work and encouraged visitors to participate in photo booth photography and model making. Sporty youngsters joined in football skills on the astro and tried their hand at archery, badminton,



gymnastics and table tennis. The Outdoor Education department displayed the range of opportunities including surfing, sailing, scuba diving, gorge walking, horse riding and Duke of Edinburgh Award.

The STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) group invited visitors to help build a "London Eye" out of paper tubes, which was completed by lunchtime just before the end of the Open Morning.

Nigel Poole, the Principal, addressed a packed hall three times during the morning, outlining the many opportunities available at TPS to children across the south.

The deadline for Year 6 applications is 31 October, but there is plenty of time for Year 5 parents to come and see us.

Mr Poole said, *"It was a pleasure to welcome so many visitors and we hope to meet you again next September."*



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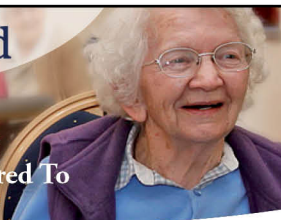
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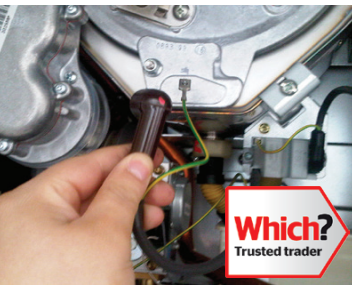
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MAKING A DIFFERENCE

The King's Arms is an innovative youth project based in the heart of Petersfield, helping young people to reach their full potential.

The charity runs a range of youth clubs, including after school clubs, groups for young people in East Hampshire with special needs including those on the autistic spectrum, and support for young carers who look after members of their family. It provides adult mentors for young people who are struggling and support those who are struggling in school or who are currently not attending school, with inclusion programmes at Bohunt School in Liphook and The Petersfield School.

The King's Arms runs three different club nights for young carers each month, where

their support, and all companies and individuals are invited to get involved and donate, helping to bring Christmas cheer to local young people.

"The feeling of being nurtured and being able to have an evening where they can be children without worries, is extremely valuable."

Denise Lloyd, managing director of The Directory Group, said: "As a local business, it's really important that we contribute to the community and do our best to help others when we can. The King's Arms does some fantastic work for young people across East Hampshire, and we're proud to be supporting such a valuable local cause."

Mandy May, Young Carers project leader at The King's Arms, commented: "The money donated for the young carers Christmas parties will mean that we can provide all of our young carers with an evening full of festive fun and festive treats, something many of them never experience at home. The feeling of being nurtured and being able to have an evening where they can be children without worries, is extremely valuable."

To find out more about The King's Arms and volunteer or donate, call them direct on 01730 231292 or contact us at The Directory Group on 01730 260746.



young people come along to have time out from caring for their loved ones, offering them the opportunity to be children, through fun activities and games. They also have the chance to chat to experienced youth workers and be supported by other young people in the same situation as themselves. For the second successive year, as part of our commitment to the community, The Directory Group will be helping The King's Arms at Christmas, donating food and prizes for parties for its young carers, aged between 8 and 19. The Salvation Army has stepped forward to donate Christmas presents for the three young carers groups. Local business owners have also pledged







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