



www.rushmoorschoolsplus.org

e-Newsletter – December 2016

Welcome to the 53rd Rushmoor Schools Plus e-Newsletter, with contributions from many organisations working to support local children, young people and families. As ever, we suggest you select the bits of information that are relevant to your own organisation and share these with the people you work with.

The next Rushmoor Schools Plus e-Newsletter will be available in the week beginning 6th February 2017. If you want anything included, please send information to Tony McGovern.

Tony McGovern (Rushmoor Schools Plus Partnership Manager) 01252 398740 or tony.mcGovern@rushmoor.gov.uk



RUSHMOOR SCHOOLS PLUS UPDATE

Rushmoor Schools Plus Signposting

This e-Newsletter is one way that Rushmoor Schools Plus connects its schools, families and communities. Each month there are about 7,000 unique visitors to our website www.rushmoorschoolsplus.org, indicating that our signposting service is still the best you can find for local and national information for children and families, local news, what's on and celebrating good news. Please signpost to it from your own communications, newsletters, websites, etc., so that collectively we can make sure that information reaches the audience it's intended for.

Rushmoor Arts Hub

Rushmoor Schools Plus is pleased to have been involved in an Arts Council England project about raising the aspirations for arts in the borough. The Rushmoor Arts Hub [website](#) has launched recently. As well as news and updates the site will be a place for Rushmoor arts groups, providers and creative professionals to be listed in the directory, and we will soon be adding an events listing. We also have a [Facebook](#) page where we can put your news between the Rushmoor Arts Hub newsletters appearing.

A final Arts Hub network meeting of the year takes place at the West End Centre in Aldershot on Wednesday 14th December. We'll be starting at 7.00pm, with a fun and very interactive social media learning exercise using Twitter. There will be nibbles and drinks (the bar will be open all evening), some quick updates, and mostly a chance to get to know each other better in the most informal way possible. To top off the evening from 9.00-10.00pm we're very excited to have a show by **Lakuta** (<http://lakuta.co.uk/>). With members hailing from Africa, Asia and Europe, Lakuta is a truly global mix of musicians who draw on influences from jazz, funk, soul and world music.

Anyone passionate about the arts in Rushmoor is welcome to come along for some or all of the evening – let us know by emailing tony.mcGovern@rushmoor.gov.uk so we can plan. Partners and friends are very welcome to this meeting with a difference.

WHAT'S ON IN RUSHMOOR

Connaught Leisure Centre Holiday Playscheme

Monday 19th to Friday 23rd December, Tongham Road, Aldershot GU12 4AS. Full day 8.30am to 5.30pm £18.00. Part day 8.30am to 3.30pm £16.00. The scheme is open to children age 4 – 12 years; 4 year olds need to have been in school for one term. Activities include Indoor and outdoor play, Dance, Sports, Arts & Crafts, Parachute games and more. Children will need a packed lunch, non-fizzy drink and comfortable clothing to play in and enjoy themselves. Registered with Ofsted, 507919.

Enrolment can be made in person, by e-mail at connaught.leisure@rushmoor.gov.uk or by telephone on 01252 344438. In each case, a completed booking form and payment is required to confirm a place on the scheme.

Website www.connaughtleisurecentre.co.uk

Princes Hall – Panto Season

Princes Hall, Princes Way, Aldershot, GU11 1NX

Sleeping Beauty – Princes Hall's most spectacular pantomime ever!

Thursday 8th to Saturday 31st December

Tickets: £15.50 - £20.50

www.princeshall.com/pantomime Box office: 01252 329 155

West End Centre

48 Queen's Road, Aldershot GU11 3JD. Box office 01252 330040. www.westendcentre.co.uk

Monday 19th December, 2.30pm, £8. Comedy Club 4 Kids Christmas Cracker!

All the fun of Comedy Club 4 Kids with a Christmas twist! The perfect alternative Christmas treat for the entire family. Starring Comedy Club 4 Kids regular host Ternan Douieb himself, Howard Read of 'Little Howard' and CBBC fame, and a special guest. Expect the finest Christmas Cracker jokes, tinsel tomfoolery, festive funnies and even Santa doing stand-up. Suitable for age 6+ www.comedyclub4kids.co.uk

To book online https://uk.patronbase.com/_WestendCentreEvents/Productions/WS28/Performances

Forever Young Family Workshops: Bird Houses, Saturday 21 January, 10.30am-12.30pm

These Saturday morning sessions provide a fantastic opportunity for families to work together, create something amazing and enjoy some precious quality time decorating your own bird house for the garden birds to live in.

£3 per person, ideal for anyone aged 3+, all children must be accompanied by an adult.

Aldershot Town FC's Community Trust

Holiday football course is taking place **Tuesday 20th - Thursday 22nd December, 10am to 3pm at Oakley Park, Fleet.**

Football coaching for 5 to 15 year olds of all skill levels. Skills development, matches and a chance to win trophies and medals! Courses cost £35 each or £15 per day. To book a place or for more information visit the website

www.aldershottownfitc.co.uk or call 01252 339384.

Connaught School Christmas Fayre

Monday 12th December. 4.30-6.30pm for public access, followed by the Connaught Christmas Cabaret at 6.30pm.

Festive games and activities, food and drink. All proceeds to charity. 50p entry for over 16s

The Connaught School, Tongham Road, Aldershot, GU12 4AS.

Squirrels Holiday Fun Club

Squirrels Educare, Rectory Road Park, Farnborough

Squirrels Holiday Fun Club offer a wide range of fun activities indoors and outside including crafts, games and construction. Drinks and snacks including a light tea are provided. Please bring a packed lunch. Open **Monday 19th to Wednesday 21st December 8am to 6pm** at a cost of £25 per day. Also open February Half Term, 20th to 24th February. Pre-booking is essential. Please contact Squirrels on 01252 378 402 or email office@squirreleducare.co.uk for more details and a booking form.

Rushmoor Gymnastics Academy – Rushmoor Rose Bowl

Pool Road, Aldershot, GU11 3SN. Phone: 01252 320 888 Email: Bernie@rushgym.co.uk

Christmas Playgym

The last session will be Friday 16th December (re-open Thursday 5th January)
Father Christmas is expected to make a surprise visit before the Gym closes!

Junior Activities at Farnborough Leisure Centre and Aldershot Pools

Farnborough Leisure Centre

Westmead, Farnborough GU14 7LD. Telephone 01252 370411. Website www.farnboroughleisurecentre.co.uk.

NEW Fit For Sport Activity Camp 4-12 years

Places for People are pleased to partner with Fit For Sport – the UK's experts in engaging and educating children – to deliver children's activity camps every school holiday. Fit For Sport has been delivering OFSTED registered camps for children aged between 4-12 years old for 25 years and will be working with the existing team to continue the successful Activity Camps at Farnborough. They will be delivering a wide range of activities this Christmas Holiday making sure kids have fun, make friends and keep moving during the holidays. To book your place this Christmas Holiday visit www.fitforsport.co.uk or call 0845 456 3233.

Swim for £1 in the school holidays

For 16 years and under, swim for just £1 during Hampshire school holidays. Visit the website for details.

Family Fun Splash Times

Family Fun Sessions with floats. Monday to Friday 11.00am–12.00noon and 2.00–3.00pm during Christmas Holidays*. Call 01252 370411 or visit www.farnboroughleisurecentre.co.uk for swimming and fun session times.

Children Under 8 Swim FREE – one under 8 free with every full paying adult.

Adventure Reef Soft Play

The soft play centre has an underwater theme. For children under 12 years. Under 5's area with a mini ball pond, wavy slide and soft toy fun. Over 5's area with wavy slides, ball ponds, twisty swings and rope climbs. Height restrictions apply. Socks must be worn and children under 8 must be supervised by an adult at all times.

Junior Gym

11–16 year olds can use the gym between 10.00am–3.00pm every day* during Hampshire school holidays. An induction session is required. Junior Gym session £4.50, Induction Session £16.00.

Crèche

The fully supervised crèche at Farnborough Leisure Centre is for children aged 8 weeks to 5 years 11 months while you use their facilities. Please call 01252 370411 or visit the website for the Centre's opening times or more information.

Christmas at Farnborough Bowl

Look out for Christmas Holiday Bowling Deals. Call 01252 554046 for more information or visit www.farnboroughbowl.co.uk

*Please visit www.farnboroughleisurecentre.co.uk or call 01252 370411 for Christmas Opening Times.

Aldershot Pools

Guildford Road, Aldershot GU12 4BP. Telephone 01252 323482. Website www.aldershotpoolscomplex.co.uk.

Swim for £1 in the school holidays

For 16 years and under, swim for just £1 during Hampshire school holidays. Visit the website for details.

Family Splash Times

Family Fun Sessions with floats. Monday to Friday 3.00pm-4.00pm during Christmas Holidays*. Call or visit the website for swimming and fun session times.

Junior Gym

11–16 year olds can use the gym between 10.00am – 2.00pm on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturdays during Hampshire school holidays*. An induction session is required. Junior Gym session £4.50, Induction Session £16.00.

*Please visit www.aldershotpoolscomplex.co.uk or call 01252 323482 for Christmas Opening Times.

Runway's End Outdoor Centre

1 Forge Lane, Aldershot GU11 2RE. Website www.hants.gov.uk/runwaysend Telephone 01252 344421. Email rwe@hants.gov.uk

School Holiday Adventure Day

Thursday 23rd February 2017, age range 8 to 14 years. Each group will take part in 4 activity sessions per day from a selection of activities such as canoeing, archery, climbing, abseiling, caving, rifle shooting and high ropes. Activities start at 9am and finish at 5pm and children will need to be ready to start on time. The Centre will be open from 8.30am-5.00pm. Children must be collected by 5.30pm. Children will need a complete change of clothes, including footwear and a towel, plus a packed lunch and drinks. £45.00 a day. Additional siblings are offered a reduced rate of £22.50. There are limited spaces available on each date, so please book early to avoid disappointment.

After School Club

Please visit the Runways End website in the New Year for dates commencing in March 2017.

Free Holiday Fun at Wellesley Woodlands

Christmas Wreath Making, **Monday 19th December, 10am**, at the Wellington Statue
Come along and get festive with this FREE wreath making session. Everyone welcome, just turn up! First come, first served. Please wear warm suitable clothing and feel free to bring your own wreath to decorate.
For more information, call the Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership, 01252 334 353 or email blackwater.valley@hants.gov.uk

Basketball Coaching

Fridays 5.00-6.00pm at Samuel Cody Specialist Sports College sports hall. For 14-25 year olds, £1.50 a session pay and play. For more information please call 01252 398 128 or email communitydevelopment@rushmoor.gov.uk

Alpine Snowsports – Christmas Holiday Programme

Gallwey Road, Aldershot GU11 2DD. Website for dates and details of various Ski camp dates and holiday activities is <http://activenation.org.uk/venues/alpine-snowsports-centre-aldershot/school-holidays/>
Email bookings@alpinesnowsports.co.uk Please call to pre-book on 01252 325 889.

£16 - Mini Activity Sessions This 90-minute session is especially for younger supporters, 4-7 years. It includes a 50-minute ski lesson and a 30-minute donut session to finish. All fully supervised and great fun. Parents need to remain on site.

Friday 23rd December 11.30am - 1.00pm

Thursday 29th December 10.30am - 12.00

£30 - Beginner Ski / Snowboard Camps (8-16 years). These camps will teach you the basic skills to start you on the way to practising on your own. Each camp is 3 hours long and all equipment is included - just bring some gloves!

Monday 19 th December	Level 1 Ski	10.15 - 13.15
Monday 19 th December	Level 2 Ski	14.00 - 17.00
Monday 19 th December	Level 1 Snowboard	14.00 - 17.00
Wednesday 21 st December	Level 1 Ski	10.15 - 13.15
Wednesday 21 st December	Level 1 Snowboard	14.15 - 17.15
Friday 23 rd December	Level 1 Ski	10.15 - 13.15
Friday 23 rd December	Level 2 Ski	14.15 - 17.15
Friday 23 rd December	Level 3 Ski	14.15 - 17.15
Wednesday 28 th December	Level 2 Ski	10.15 - 13.15
Wednesday 28 th December	Level 3 Ski	14.15 - 17.15

£35 - 1 Day Activity Camps Starting at 9.30am (drop off from 9am), these camps are a full day of fun filled action! Throughout the day you will experience the thrill of Skiing, Snowboarding, X-Bobs, Donutting and team games. Aimed at children from 8-16 years, and for all abilities from beginner onwards, these camps are a great way to keep children active. Bring gloves and a packed lunch. Camps finish at 5.00pm.

Tuesday 20th, Thursday 22nd, Thursday 29th and Friday 30th December

Tuesday 3rd January 2017

Practice Sessions Open every day so once you have the basics, come along and practice what you've learnt! Juniors can buy a 30-day pass for £28. This includes all the equipment and gives almost unlimited practice use of the slopes. Terms and conditions apply.

Bank Holidays Mon 26th & Tue 27th December (Close at 5pm)

Private/Family Lessons Practice sessions

Donut Sessions All Ages 10:00- 17.00 Please ask for details

To book call 01252 325889 anytime 10.00am – 8.30pm Monday to Friday and 10.30am – 5.30pm on weekends.

Aldershot Community Christmas Festival

The launch of the first-ever Aldershot Community Christmas Festival in Princes Gardens, Aldershot took place on Saturday 3rd December. The festival is open on week days from 1pm to 9pm and on weekends from 10am to 9pm up until Christmas Eve.

As well as a mini skating rink, children's rides and Christmas huts, Princes Gardens will be transformed into a sparkling wonderland, with a Christmas tree and festive lights around the gardens and the bandstand.

There will be a schedule of live music and entertainment every weekend to create a festive atmosphere, while visitors enjoy the skating rink and rides.

There is a Community Carol Service in the bandstand on **Saturday 17th December from 5.30pm**, with a brass band and a gospel choir.

There is a Christmas craft fayres on **Saturday 10th December** in Union Street.

Christmas Activities, Farnborough Town Centre

A Christmas Carol Big Sing takes place at The Meads, Farnborough town centre, **Saturday 17th December, 10.30am to midday**. Get your vocal chords warmed up and get ready to belt out a few Christmas classics at the Christmas carol sing-along with a live band. Just pick up a song sheet and join in the fun!
More information on Christmas activities at The Meads is available from <http://themeadsfarnborough.com/>

The Farnborough town centres craft fayre at Christmas takes place on Saturday 17th December, in Queensmead, supported by Bids and Pieces haberdashery. It welcomes local crafters from across the area who would like to try selling in a town centre environment. <http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/craftfayre> for more information.

Free festive parking

Enjoy free town centre parking in most town centre car parks on the three Sundays before Christmas. To help support our town centres and local traders, you can park for free in most town centre car parks in Aldershot and Farnborough on Sunday 4th, 11th and 18th December.
This covers all council-owned car parks, except for Union Street East and Union Street West car parks beside Farnborough railway station.
Free parking will also be available at The Wellington shopping centre in Aldershot and in the Princes Mead Shopping Centre and Asda car parks. The free parking does not apply to on-street parking.

Parents Action Group for Special Play (PAG)

PAG is a registered charity in Rushmoor which provides after school activities for children and young people with a disability. These activities are open to children and young people living within and outside Rushmoor, all are very welcome. Activities are Drama, Music and Dance (music and movement). All the groups have approximately 12 young people. A qualified tutor and volunteers present during the activity, and parents need to stay on the premises. For ages 4-19 years. A small charge is made to help towards cost of tutor and venue.

Drama 5.30-6.30pm Tuesday at Princes Hall, Aldershot

Music 6.30-7.15 and 7.30 - 8.15pm (4 students only per session, ages 11-19)

Dance 4.45-5.15pm, age 4-7 years (inclusive)
5.30-6.15pm, age 8-19 years

For more information please contact Ann Evans (Chairperson) on 01252 837112 / 07966 434462

pag.specialplay@gmail.com

St Mark's CE Primary School, Farnborough – Festive Singing

Please do come along and enjoy the festive and heart-warming singing of their Junior children at ASDA on **Monday 12th December or Sainsbury's on Wednesday 14th December 2.30pm-3.45pm**. There is simply nothing better to get you in the mood for Christmas! Many customers stop to enjoy the singing and the regular customers comment on how much they look forward to our children's singing every year.

St Mark's are proud to announce an 'Outstanding' outcome in their recent SIAMS inspection. The staff, pupils, governors and parents are all very proud of this fantastic achievement.

All the staff, pupils, parents and governors at St Mark's wish you a very peaceful and happy Christmas!

Cove Parish presents 'Ignite: Carols by Laser Light'

On **Sunday, 11th December at 6.30pm**, Cove Parish presents 'Ignite: Carols by Laser Light' – contemporary carols and worship with the Ignite band and special guests, the internationally acclaimed gospel singers, The Reapers Choir. Also with special guest international speaker Andrew Economides (Director of Soteria Trust). Free parking for all. At Southwood Church, Southwood Community Centre, Links Way, Southwood, Farnborough GU14 0NA.
www.ignitecoveparish.org

Farnborough Half Marathon and 5k Fun Run

Farnborough's first ever half marathon takes place in January. The 13-mile route for the event on **Sunday 22nd January** will follow a route steeped in local aviation history, starting and finishing at the iconic airship hangar on Farnborough Business Park. The route then heads towards Aerospace Boulevard before returning alongside Farnborough Airport, out to Southwood woodland and then to Fleet before returning past the army golf course and back to the hangar. For more information and to enter to the [Farnborough half marathon](http://www.farnboroughhalfmarathon.co.uk) website.

Hart & Rushmoor Young Carers Club

There are places for 8-13 year olds who are young carers at the Hart and Rushmoor Young Carers Club which meets in Farnborough on Wednesday evenings (5.30-7.30pm) and for 10-18 year olds at the Fleet Club on Monday evenings (7.00-9.00pm). More details are available on the Hampshire Young Carers Alliance web-site <http://www.hyca.org.uk/> or by calling Hart Voluntary Action 01252 815652, or e-mailing youngcarers@hartvolaction.org.uk

They would also be interested to hear from anyone who could volunteer their time to transport young carers to and from both clubs through the same contacts.

The Carers Trust **Young Carers in Schools** initiative at <https://youngcarersinschools.com/> provides resources for the early identification of young carers and school awards for good practice in supporting young carers.

WHAT'S ON BEYOND RUSHMOOR

Brightlight Theatre present...The Great Christmas Cracker Heist by Jamie Lakritz

A fun-filled adventure for all the family. Start your festive season with a bang. Brightlight Theatre present this hilarious new comedy by local award-winning playwright, Jamie Lakritz. A comic and imaginative twist on the classic heist movie for all the family. With the office Christmas party and the regular Christmas bonus on the way, life seems good for the staff at DG Crackers. But when things take a turn for the worse, they must take drastic action to get the money they have been banking on...

Saturday 10th December at 7:30pm and Saturday 17th December at both 2.00pm and 7.30pm at St. Peter's Church Hall, Frimley, GU16 7AQ

Tickets £8 (£5 for under-16s and over-60s). Book online at www.brightlight-theatre.co.uk or by calling or texting [07546 737813](tel:07546737813). Suitable for all the family. As with all Brightlight productions, at least 10% of ticket sales will be donated to local cancer charity, [KatCanDo](http://www.katcando.org.uk) in support of the amazing work they do for our community.

Brightlight Theatre, Frimley's amateur dramatics group www.brightlight-theatre.co.uk

Anvil Arts, Basingstoke – Upcoming Shows

Sleeping Beauty, 8th December - 2nd January 2017, The Anvil

Only Fools and Horses' Sue Holderness, CBeebies' Katrina Bryan and Sarah-Jane Buckley (Hollyoaks) star in this dazzling pantomime. Suitable for the whole family. From £16 (includes £2 booking fee)

Telephone 01256 844 244, Website www.anvilarts.org.uk

NEWS FROM PARTNER ORGANISATIONS AND GROUPS

Community Christmas Meal Website

If anybody has elderly clients or knows of anyone needing somewhere to go for a Christmas Meal they can put their post code into this website and it will bring up all the options in their area. Some even include transport!

If you cannot find your area, keep checking as the site is being updated regularly.

<http://communitychristmas.org.uk/map/>

St Peter's Church in Farnborough will be hosting a meal on Christmas Day at 12.30pm, for people who are alone at Christmas. If you would like more information please contact Elizabeth Lowden at St Peter's on (01252) 543081.

Veolia Recycling projects for Rushmoor Schools

Veolia have a whole programme of lessons, assemblies, hands-on experiments and interactive outdoor sessions available to KS1 and KS2 pupils. They would like to visit primary schools in the borough during the next academic year at no cost to schools. Bringing a Veolia Recycling vehicle into the school playground and encouraging the children to look around the vehicle and ask questions is highly effective. This is usually run alongside a Recycling poster competition.

Sample lesson plans and the Recycling poster competition details are available from Robert Noble, Contract Manager, at robert.noble@veolia.com who'll be happy to discuss the needs of individual schools.

School Nursing Team - Keeping Our Children Well / Protecting Vulnerable People From the Flu

The Rushmoor and Hart School nursing team began Flu immunisation sessions in September and have been busy attending local schools to vaccinate children in years 1, 2 and 3. Last year was the first time this national initiative had taken place in this area and data collected shows there was a dramatic reduction in numbers of children suffering flu like symptoms and requiring either GP appointments or hospital admissions. The added bonus of the flu immunisation programme for children is that it reduces the occurrence of the illness in the whole population so adult admissions to hospital and deaths amongst the elderly and young are also decreased.

At the start of every session the importance of hand washing is explained to the children via age appropriate picture posters showing when and how children need to wash their hands. 'Freddie the Flu Virus Dragon' is read to the children which explains why the team are administering the flu vaccine to them. As the session comes to an end the children enjoy demonstrating how they will use tissues to cover their noses and mouths when coughing and sneezing, how they now know the correct way to wash their hands and what a good understanding they have grasped as to how germs are spread.

The School Nursing team welcomes the children's immediate awareness to the importance of the hand hygiene routine and enjoy hearing about all the different things that the children say they have learnt during the visit.

CHAT HEALTH is a new initiative for young people age 11-19 provided by Southern Health School Nursing Service. It provides confidential advice from a ChatHealth nurse on a variety of emotional health and wellbeing issues including relationships, weight, anxiety, depression, smoking, stress, self-harm and more. Young people can contact the service by Texting 07507 332 160

Further information about childhood immunisations and a variety of topics relating to the health of school age children can be found by visiting the website www.southernhealth.nhs.uk/schoolnursing

Bike Start at The Source

Bike Start is The Source's Social Enterprise bike project for Rushmoor, Hart and West Surrey. The Source is a young people's charity that transforms the lives of young people living in Rushmoor, Hart & West Surrey. It helps young people reach their potential through specialist youth work, counselling, mentoring and anger management. Bike Start generates income for The Source through Bike Days, servicing bikes and selling refurbished recycled bikes. Listen to a radio interview about Bike Start at <https://audioboom.com/posts/5310093-bike-start>

With Christmas coming, there are lots of bikes for sale in the Ebay shop http://www.ebay.co.uk/sch/thesourceforyou/m.html?_nkw=&_armrs=1&_ipg=&_from
You can donate a bike by calling the office 01252 333 330 with the details. A volunteer bike start driver will call you regarding collection arrangements.

Experienced and trained bike mechanics can provide competitively priced servicing and repairs for your bike. They can collect your bike if you are within a 10-mile radius of the workshop for a small donation.

Farnborough Rotary Club

Farnborough Rotary Club has an established and growing programme of events and activities for young people with business, vocational and cultural aspects.

The Rotary Annual **National Young Writers Competition** is now under way with the theme of 'Reflection'. This has been very successful in previous years and they hope that you will support the competition again this year. The three stages of the competition are local, district and final heats with entries required by February 2017 for the local heat. However, it would greatly help Rotary to have an early indication of your intent to take part **as soon as possible**. Please contact Mary Madine for information at mary.madine3@gmail.com

Entries have closed for the annual national **Rotary Young Chef Competition** with local heats now taking place. The final will be on 25th February 2017.

Interview Practice and Business Skills: The business expertise that exists within the Club is being put to use within our local community, with members sharing their knowledge to help students understand the many challenges they face in the employment world. Club members have a desire to share their many years of experiences with your students and discuss opportunities to pass on that hard learned experience.

In recent years, the Club has been successfully helping students of all ages in local schools with **Mock Interviews, Enterprise Challenges** and an **Aspiration Week**. These activities are aimed at all ages including primary schools. We can also help to organise **Skills Festivals** where groups can visit about four business stalls for 30 minutes and conduct a task while learning about a job, career or higher education opportunities.

During 2016, Mock Interviews have taken place at Ash Manor, Fernhill, Wavell and All Hallows Schools and at Farnborough Technical College Construction School. The feedback from the schools is extremely positive from both the students and staff.

If you feel that your school could benefit, and you would like some help with these ideas or any other business issues please contact Charlie Fraser-Fleming who would be very happy to organise a visit by club members to discuss possibilities and needs. This can be done at any time in the school year. However, please give as much notice as you can. Contact Charlie Fraser-Fleming at charlie_ff@outlook.com 07714 322 352.

Cove Brook Greenway Group

Cove Brook Greenway Group is an environmental group in Farnborough, Hampshire, which looks after the Cove Brook. Cove Brook drains off the hills west of Aldershot in north east Hampshire and runs north through Cove, Farnborough, to join the River Blackwater on Hawley Meadows, north west of the M3 motorway at Junction 4.

The group, made up of volunteers, seeks to improve the greenway for people and wildlife, and is open to everyone. The group holds conservation working parties and open meetings, and works with Rushmoor Borough Council, Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership, the Environment Agency and other parties.

Work parties take place on the second Saturday of each month for two/three hours, meeting at a different location along the Brook each time. All welcome but children under 16 years of age **MUST** be accompanied by an adult. All equipment is provided and each work party starts with a safety briefing and ends with refreshments!

Cove Brook Greenway Group members are local residents who see the brook as a valuable asset both for people and wildlife (a Kingfisher was spotted recently). Meetings and other events are open to everyone and the group can provide resources for schools. The group supports the council with litter picking events in the spring and winter. They also work with council officers to carry out improvements such as path surfacing. They manage the Birchbrook Reserve off Birchbrook Road as a nature area and also carry out conservation work on Southwood Meadows. The group has a free quarterly newsletter and four open meetings a year with invited speakers. In the summer, they arrange walks and wildlife surveys. A leaflet describing the work of the group is available.

The field centre at Blunden Hall has resources for schools and groups.

The next work party is a litter pick on **Saturday 10th December at 10.00am** meeting at **Blunden Hall** for their **Christmas Sparkle** clean up around the area. Further work parties on 14th January 2017 meeting at Southwood, and 17th February at Birchbrook Reserve meet at Blunden Hall 10.00 am.

***** **SAVE THE DATE Sunday 18th June 2017 – Family Fun Day – Blunden Green** *****

Contact Details: Email covebrookgg@yahoo.co.uk Tel: 07510 881 939 Facebook: Cove Brook

Somme Commemoration Portrait

To commemorate the end of one of the largest and bloodiest battles of the First World War, a large oil painting (4'x3') by Wiltshire based artist Helen Chester was unveiled recently at the Royal Garrison Church of All Saints in Aldershot. It marks the centenary of the cessation of hostilities in the Somme. The painting, entitled 'The Battle of the Somme Portrait', depicts the 53 men from Rushmoor who gave their lives in this brutal five-month long battle. One of the soldiers in the painting is Serjeant Henry Gledhill of the 1st Battalion The Hampshire Regiment who was from the town of Aldershot. Henry was one of the 19,240 British Fourth Army soldiers who died on the 1st July 1916, the first day of the battle of the Somme.

Aldershot Garrison Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Nigel MacGregor had a great deal of involvement behind the idea of the painting. He said, 'What many people don't realise is that the Battle of the Somme was made up of forty-six separate combat engagements. British Army soldiers were awarded 51 Victoria Crosses for valour during those five months. From our perspective, Aldershot was heavily involved in the Somme as many troops were stationed here before the campaign.' Lt Col MacGregor added, 'The left hand side of the painting includes the wooded cross that was constructed after the battle by the Royal Engineers to commemorate those who gave their lives. The actual cross now stands in the porch of Aldershot's Garrison Church of All Saints.'

The painting is now on display at the Cygnets Gallery, 1 Upper Union St, Aldershot GU11 1EG. Artist Helen Chester currently has her 'Everyday Tommy Exhibition' touring around the UK (showing in Portsmouth in January 2017).

Ollie Rastall – School Speaker

Local entrepreneur Ollie Rastall is offering Rushmoor schools the opportunity for FREE speaking engagements in schools as part of his company's commitment to the Community Matters Partnership Project (CMPP). Ollie covers a variety of subjects in his public speaking. Each subject can be tailored to focus on the specific areas that resonate with his audience. Schools find value in Ollie sharing his entrepreneurial journey with students, providing an unconventional perspective on making the next steps in life and business.

- Identifying and making the best of your golden opportunities
- Developing ideas outside of school education
- Recognising your strengths and how to maximise them
- Broadening your horizons
- Unearthing your entrepreneurial flair
- Learning how to fail

His website is [here](#) for more information and to contact him about making a booking with Rushmoor schools.

Fleet Phoenix

Fleet Phoenix, The Point Youth Centre, Harlington Way, Fleet, GU51 4BP. Fleet Phoenix is a youth and community organisation dedicated to the young people of Hart. www.fleetphoenix.co.uk

Open Door. For young people aged 16-25 struggling with something in their lives. Drop in Advice & Guidance sessions, Tuesdays and Fridays 1.30-4.30pm. Contact Karla Reale for more information or to book an appointment karla.reale@fleetphoenix.co.uk

Munchies Youth Café. Saturday nights 8.00-11.00pm at The Point, for young people aged 14-19 years wanting something to do on a Saturday night. Chill and chat, drinks, games, snacks and support. More information from Maddie Brown Maddie.brown@fleetphoenix.co.uk or phone 01252 812308 / 07340 706158.

PEBL Free Money Advice

Are you struggling to make ends meet? Help is available.

Confidential, individual advice in all areas of money management including banking, budgeting and claiming benefits. Regular group sessions on benefit changes, banking options, reducing household bills and dealing with debt, including council tax recovery and bailiffs.

Every Wednesday 10.00am-12noon at the Prospect Community Centre, 201 Mayfield Road, Farnborough GU14 8UB. Call 07468 860450 or email pebl@rushmoorcab.org.uk

Citizens Advice Rushmoor delivers this service on behalf of PEBL.

Hampshire Local Offer web pages

If you are advising families with disabled children or working with disabled young people, the Hampshire Local Offer web pages provide a range of information on services available in Hampshire for children and young people from birth to 25 years who have special education needs and/or disabilities. This includes information about:

- Education and childcare
- Respite and support
- Equipment and therapies
- Health
- Preparation for adulthood
- Leisure and play

There are also sections including jargon busting, hints and tips for parents, along with updates on a range of relevant and targeted information.

The Hampshire Local Offer pages can be accessed at https://www.hantslocaloffer.info/en/Main_Page
Further information is available online at the link provided or by telephone 0300 303 8603.

FUNDING & GRANTS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE

Farnborough Airport Community Environmental Fund

Every year thousands of planes take off and land at Farnborough airport. A levy is charged for each movement, generating around £50,000 a year for the Farnborough airport community environmental fund to support local projects.

Schools in Rushmoor are eligible to apply for a grant for environmental projects. There is no limit on the amount you can apply for (subject to availability) and you will need to meet the conditions of the fund and supply all relevant documents (see website).

Schools who have received a grant have used the funding in various ways, including:

- Outside musical instruments
- Outdoor classrooms
- Development of a pond, wildlife garden and hide for all-weather learning
- Allotment projects
- Music therapy garden
- Playground equipment
- Outdoor adventure trails

Full details of the fund and the application form are on the Rushmoor Borough Council website:

<http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/airportfund>

Community grants

Grants of up to £2,000 are available to voluntary, community, arts and youth groups for projects which benefit local people. The grant can be used for things like one-off projects, equipment, individual events and uniforms. Full details and the application form can be found at: <http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/communitygrants>

Rushmoor Sports Forum grants

Small grants of up to £300 are available to individuals living in Rushmoor and up to £750 for local sports clubs to cover sporting costs such as equipment, coaching qualifications and help to take part in sport at national and international levels. For full details, conditions and application form please visit:

<http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/article/3601/Rushmoor-Sports-Forum-grants>

RBC Uniting Communities Fund

Grants of £50 - £1,000 are available to local groups (voluntary and community groups, schools and churches) who want to develop projects to bring our communities together. Full details and the application form can be found at:

<http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/unitingcommunities>.

PEBL Grants Pots

Individuals or community groups based on the Prospect Estate can apply for a PEBL (Prospect Estate Big Local) grant to help run a new local project which will benefit Prospect Estate residents. Applications can be made for between £100 and £500 (in exceptional circumstances £1,000 may be awarded).

Examples of awards made so far include:

- £100 to Church of the Good Shepherd towards their Prospect Estate gardening project.
- £168 to the Mayfield Community Partnership towards their Sports & Fun festival to buy a pop up Badminton set.
- £500 to the Mayfield Community Partnership towards their English language sight and sound programme to buy a projector and screen.

For further details please email pebl.coordinator@gmail.com

Awards for All

Awards for All offers grants of between £300 and £10,000 for grassroots and community activity that aims to improve life for local people and neighbourhoods. Tower Hill Primary School was recently awarded £10,000 for an outdoor fitness gymnasium.

<https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/global-content/programmes/england/awards-for-all-england>

**Many thanks to all the organisations who contribute
Information to this e-Newsletter**



www.rushmoorschoolsplus.org
www.facebook.com/RushmoorSchoolsPlus