



Serving Yateley, Darby Green & Frogmore



Yateley Town Council
December 2025 Newsletter



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Message from the Mayor

Christmas greetings to the good people of Yateley, Frogmore and Darby Green! It has been my privilege and pleasure to be your Mayor since May 2024. During this period, I have enjoyed connecting with the community and helping wherever possible via my civic duties, such as supporting local shops and businesses, handing out awards and undertaking charitable work. Regarding the last point, the Mayor's charities are Vision 4 Youth (V4Y), Cornerstone Counselling and the Daisy Chain Café (helping support those affected by dementia).

There's always a lot going on in the parish! Events this year have ranged from the May Fayre to Christmas markets; from the solemn commemoration marking the 80th anniversaries of VE and VJ Day and the annual Remembrance Day activities, to the more light-hearted switching on of the Christmas lights at both ends of the parish: Frogmore and Church End Green.

In May this year we staged the Ramble Rally (RR). This was like a Treasure Hunt but on foot, around some little-known places in Yateley, such as the lovely Royal Oak Valley. Apart from collecting money for the mayor's charities, the participants greatly enjoyed themselves, and another RR is being planned for late April/early May 2026!

So, my 'take' on being mayor is not just about the ceremonial duties – for me (ably supported by my fellow Yateley Town Council Councillors and Officers) – it's a position of responsibility where the community always comes first.

On that note, I would like to wish everyone in the parish a very happy Christmas, and a peaceful and prosperous 2026.

Mark Griffin

You can see a video of the Town Mayor switching on the Christmas lights at the Christmas Market on our website:

<https://yateley-tc.gov.uk/news/christmas-lights-2025/>



Dates for Your Diary

25th December 2025

Christmas Lunch at Yateley Industries

24th December 2025

to

2nd January 2026

Yateley Town Council Offices closed for
Christmas

2nd January to 31st January 2026

Christmas Tree Recycling at our offices
and other sites

26th January 2026

Community Climate Forum

<https://yateley-tc.gov.uk/climate-response/community-climate-forum/>





16th March 2026
Annual Town Meeting

19:00-21:00



Yateley United Community Centre

4th May 2026

Save the date- May Fayre

Council Meeting Dates 2026

Full Town Council: 19th January, 2nd
March, 11th May

Finance & Policy: 12th January, 23rd
February, 13th April

Planning & Licencing: 12th & 26th January,
9th & 23rd February, 9th & 23rd March, 13th &
27th April

Environment: 9th February, 23rd March

*Further 2026 dates will be decided in the Full
Town Council meeting on 11th May*





Waste and Recycling Collections

Please note, there will be no garden waste collections from 25th December to 7th January

Normal collection date

Thursday 25 December
Friday 26 December
Monday 29 December
Tuesday 30 December
Wednesday 31 December
Thursday 1 January
Friday 2 January
Monday 5 January
Tuesday 6 January
Wednesday 7 January
Thursday 8 January
Friday 9 January
Monday 12 January
Tuesday 13 January
Wednesday 14 January
Thursday 15 January
Friday 16 January

Festive collection date

Monday 29 December
Tuesday 30 December
Wednesday 31 December
Friday 2 January
Saturday 3 January
Monday 5 January
Tuesday 6 January
Wednesday 7 January
Thursday 8 January
Friday 9 January
Saturday 10 January
Monday 12 January
Tuesday 13 January
Wednesday 14 January
Thursday 15 January
Friday 16 January
Saturday 17 January



Christmas Tree Recycling

2nd to 31st January 2026

Drop Off Points

- Blackwater – Memorial Hall, Hawley Green (in car park at rear)
- Crondall – Bowling Alley (on grass opposite junction with Pankridge Street)
- Edenbrook – Country Park Car Park, The Brambles
- Ewshot – Village Hall, Tadpole Lane
- Fleet – Church Road Car Park
- Hook – Crossway Manor Car Park, Reading Road (opposite the White Hart Pub)
- Odiham – Colt Hill (in lay-by at very end of London Road)
- Yateley – Town Council Offices, Reading Road

For real trees only. Trees over 1.8m must be cut in half. Christmas trees can also be left out with your garden waste bin.





Feature: My Home Made Better

Free and Impartial Home Energy Advice for Hampshire Residents

Want to make your home warmer and cheaper to run, but don't know where to start? Get help with insulation and reducing heat loss, switching to more efficient heating, solar panels and generating electricity. "My Home Made Better" is a free and impartial source of support for specialist advice about retrofitting your home, and is led by the Environment Centre in Southampton with local support provided by Energy Alton.

The service offers a free, 30-minute phone appointment with a specialist adviser. During your appointment, your adviser will ask you about your home and lifestyle before talking you through the changes that could work well for your property, likely impact on energy bills, and any grants and funding streams that might be available. You will then receive a written step-by-step plan, and guidance for finding reputable installers for when you are ready to proceed.

Would you like an in-person appointment with an Energy Alton energy adviser? Hart Voluntary Action is hosting appointments (up to an hour) on Tuesday mornings 13 and 20 January at their Hart Eco Hub in the Hart Shopping Centre in Fleet. Booking link here: hartvolaction.org.uk/events

You can also check out the [My Home Made Better website](#), which provides lots of self-help information and retrofit case studies of other Hampshire residents' homes

Caroline Winchurch, Hart Voluntary Action



Feature: Repair Café Yateley Set for Official Launch

Another exciting community initiative is also ready to take the next step. After months of planning—ranging from constitutional changes and fundraising to sourcing equipment (including a very welcome contribution from Yateley Town Council) and training volunteers—Repair Café Yateley is preparing for its official launch. Following a successful “practice run” in November for residents, staff and volunteers at Yateley Industries, the Repair Café will officially open its doors at Yateley Industries on 14 February. Further details on timings and how to take part will be shared closer to the date.

Repair Café Yateley aims to reduce waste, share skills and bring people together by helping residents repair everyday items rather than throw them away. New volunteer fixers and customers are both welcome—offering everyone the chance to be part of a practical, positive and sustainable community project.

Find out more about us www.yateleysociety.org.uk

Jo Hill, Yateley Society



Brought to you by



Feature: Sustainable Homes and Gardens Event

On Saturday 29 November, Hart District Council's climate change team brought sustainability to life with its Sustainable Homes & Gardens event at Fleet's Hart Shopping Centre. The day was a showcase of practical ways residents across the district can make greener choices at home and in their gardens.

Visitors explored the model retrofit house, learned about low-carbon heating, insulation, energy-saving tips and discovered how to reduce food waste and create wildlife-friendly spaces. Amongst those who joined the team were Hart Voluntary Action, InstaGroup and Fleet Repair Café.





The event wasn't just informative—it was good fun! Families enjoyed interactive nature activities organised by Hart's Countryside Team as well as face painting. There was also the opportunity to get hands-on demonstrations of the thermal imaging camera and try out the interactive aspects of the retrofit house, making sustainability accessible and exciting for all ages.

This event was part of Hart District Councils ongoing commitment to help residents' lower energy bills, cut carbon emissions and protect local biodiversity. Visit [Impact Hart](http://www.impacthart.co.uk) for more information, advice and tips on living more sustainably

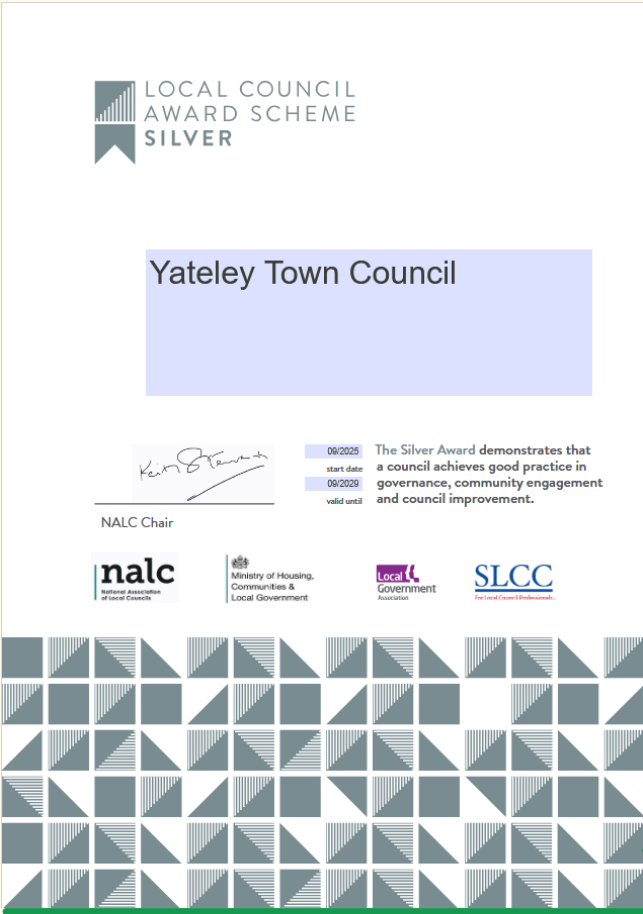




Council News and Events

Local Council Silver Award

In October, we were delighted to be awarded the Local Council Silver Award by the National Association of Local Councils. The Silver Award shows that we have good practices in governance, community engagement, and council improvement and that we go above and beyond our legal obligations, lead our community, and continuously seek opportunities to improve and develop further.



VE Day 80

On 8th May 2025, it was the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe. We held a beacon lighting event on Church End Green in the evening. As usual, thank you to all the groups who made the event possible, including the Yateley and Hawley branch of the Royal British Legion, local schools and uniformed groups, Hart North Police, Yateley and District Lions, Town Mayor Cllr Dr Mark Griffin and all the other Councillors who attended. Please see below for a selection of photos, more can be found on our website: <https://yateley-tc.gov.uk/news/photos-from-ve-day-80-evening/>





Remembrance Day

Remembrance Sunday this year took place on 9th November. There were church services at St Barnabas (in the morning) and St Swithuns, which was followed by the traditional parade and wreath-laying at Yateley War Memorial. We also held a small wreath-laying event on 11th November. Thank you to all the uniformed groups and schools who participated and the Yateley and Hawley branch of the Royal British Legion , Yateley and District Lions, and the churches in Yateley.

You can see more photos and videos of Remembrance Sunday at <https://yateley-tc.gov.uk/news/remembrance-sunday-2025/>. Photos and videos of Remembrance Day itself can be found at <https://yateley-tc.gov.uk/news/armistice-day-11-11-25/>





In Bloom Awards

At Yateley Town Council, we are proud of our ongoing commitment to caring for and enhancing our open spaces. Creating a greener, more welcoming environment for our community is at the heart of what we do.

We're therefore delighted that this work has been recognised in the South & South East in Bloom Awards, part of the RHS Britain in Bloom campaign:

- GOLD for Heathlands Cemetery (Small Cemetery category)
- SILVER for Yateley, Frogmore and Darby Green (Large Town category)

These fantastic results from the RHS In Bloom Competition are a testament to the dedication and high standards of everyone involved.



We extend our sincere thanks to our Grounds Maintenance Contractor, PGSD, whose professionalism, attention to detail, and consistent care have been instrumental in achieving this recognition.

We are also incredibly grateful to our Town Council staff, whose commitment to managing our open spaces has played a vital role in this achievement.

On behalf of Yateley Town Council, thank you all for your support in helping to make Yateley a place we can all be proud of.





Festive Hamper Draw

Many congratulations to our Christmas Hamper winner Emma! Welcome to Yateley and we hope you have a fantastic Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Obviously, the draw is now closed but if you would like to subscribe to our mailing list, please go to:

<https://subscribepage.io/yateleytowncouncil>





WhatsApp Channel

We have launched our very own WhatsApp channel, meaning you have a new, super easy way of keeping up to date with us! You can also message us on WhatsApp. When many people already use WhatsApp to keep in touch with friends and family, we hope this will make contacting us simple and easy, particularly for those who work and/or find making telephone calls during the day difficult.

To follow us on WhatsApp, go to:

<https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029Vb6WAjrBVJlASvguaz31>

To message us on WhatsApp, go to: <https://wa.me/447429413281>

Tree Planting

We've been out planting more trees at the Community Orchard this week: 2 apples, a plum, a pear and a cherry tree. Lovely to chat to residents about the Orchard whilst we were digging!





Christmas Lights in Frogmore

We started the Christmas season off with the switching on of the Christmas lights at Frogmore on Friday 28th November. Thank you to all who helped to organise the evening, including Frogmore Infant & Junior schools, St Barnabas Church, Spring Pre-school, and Girlguiding Frogmore & Darby Green District.

Council News and Events



Yateley Christmas Market

Yateley Christmas Market is organised by the Yateley & District Lions, with many local community groups and businesses holding stalls, including Vision 4 Youth, and local scout groups, among others. The market was held on Saturday 29th November this year. There were also carols and entertainment from various local schools and the lights on the Christmas tree were turned on by our very own Town Mayor! It was a very busy and popular event! A huge thank you to the Lions and everyone who held a stall and provided entertainment.





New Public Toilets

In November, we were very pleased to open the new public toilets on Yateley Green! The facilities are a huge improvement with:

- Three modern, self-contained, unisex toilets
- Baby changing facilities in every unit
- A fully accessible toilet, making Yateley Green more inclusive for everyone

The toilets are open 6:00-18:00 in winter and 6:00-20:00 in summer. This upgrade means cleaner, safer, and more convenient facilities for all visitors. Thank you for your patience during the works – we're proud to deliver a space where everyone can enjoy the Green independently and comfortably.





New Tennis Court Floodlights

In September, the old floodlights were replaced with brand new LEDs. We had not had fully functional floodlights for some time, so this, coupled with the much brighter lights, means the courts are now usable from 5:30-21:00 all year round. The new lights are much more environmentally friendly and cheaper to run. It costs £2 extra per half hour to use the floodlights (£11 per hour for non-members or £4 per hour for members). Evening bookings are likely to be very popular once the weather improves!

In other news, an update to our booking software means that users are now able to book basketball courts online! Please go to our Clubspark minisite to book and for further information:

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/YateleyGreenTennisCourts>



Mayor's Christmas Carolling Pub Crawl

The Mayor's Christmas Carolling took place on Friday 19th December 2025. At the time of writing, over £200 has been raised for the Mayor's Charity, which will be split between Cornerstone Counselling, Vision 4 Youth, and the Daisy Chain Café. If you would like to donate, please go to <https://gofund.me/ea33e6084>





Christmas Day Lunch at Yateley Industries

We are proud to again be supporting the Yateley Community Christmas Lunch held at Yateley Industries for anyone who will be on their own on Christmas Day. Places need to be booked in advance.



Christmas Day Lunch

The Yateley Community Christmas Lunch is for anyone who will be on their own on Christmas Day and takes place at **Yateley Industries**, Mill Lane, Yateley, GU46 7TF.



12.30 PM – 3 PM

LUNCH SERVED AT 1 PM



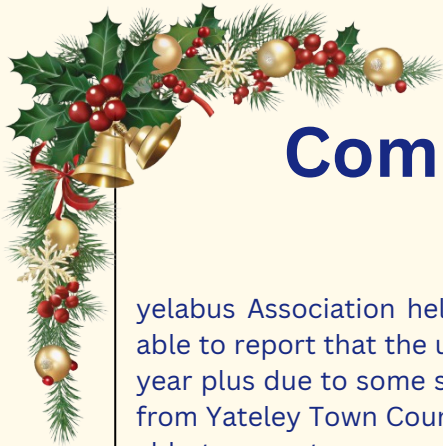
There is no charge for this event but places **MUST BE BOOKED** in advance by contacting **Julie Aylen on 01252 875946 / 07530 460803**
Email: yateleychristmaslunch@gmail.com

in partnership with
Yateley Town Council



Local
transport
available if
required





Community News

Yelabus

yelabus Association held its AGM recently and the Trustees were able to report that the usage has again increased over the previous year plus due to some significant donations, bequests and support from Yateley Town Council and Hampshire County Council we were able to report an excess of income over expenditure for a change allowing us to add money into our new bus fund.

Why do we need a new bus fund? Our VW vehicle is ten years old and in recent months have encountered some larger than normal repair bills to ensure that the tail lift and door steps to enable the easy access arrangements remain in full working order. We suspect that in around two years time other running costs will grow and it will be better for our users to replace the vehicle so work on that acquisition is likely in the near future.

Whilst we have capacity to welcome new hirers or users on our Friday shopper service we also have a real need for some additional local residents to become involved as committee members. Two new faces have joined in the recent past but we have also said farewell to Gill Hennell after many years of involvement and other changes are anticipated. If you could spare some time to assist then please get in touch.

If you want to hire one of our two wheelchair adapted 15 seater minibuses, join one of our regular trips or volunteer to join the committee please contact our Operations Manager either by email operationsmanager@yelabus.org.uk or by telephone on 07719 799263





Vision 4 Youth Holiday Clubs

Vision 4 Youth's school holiday youth club will be returning during the forthcoming holidays! This club is free to those who qualify for Free School Meals, as it is a HAF Club (the government's initiative for Holiday Activities & Food), or you can pay £15 for the whole day all inclusive. The days they will be open are Monday 22nd, Tuesday 23rd and Monday 29th December, 12-5pm. Every day includes a full hot meal provided by local caterer Not Just Baps.

There will be a range of activities on offer including crafts, baking and full use of their youth club facilities, along with some special guests visiting, including a dance lesson from Frogmore Dance School, boxing coaching from G77 Fitness and a Minecraft coding workshop from Jamcoding. You can find the club inside The Tythings youth suite on Yateley green. Booking essential – please visit their website asap to secure your place for as many days as you'd like <https://vision4youth.org.uk/haf/> or get in touch for further information office@vision4youth.org.uk



Daisy Chain Café

The café provides a place for it's members to enjoy the company of others and to be able to feel relaxed, have entertainment and support. Our trained volunteers are always there ready to assist in a friendly and informal way.

You can self refer without any need for diagnosis and can attend whenever it suits you without having to contact us beforehand. We have had many satisfied attendees and relatives and use our mainly locally generated donations to support the service provided.

Should you want further information please contact Julia Wedlock, Chairman and Trustee at DaisychainCafe1@gmail.com or through the Yateley Town Council office on 01252 872198.

We look forward to hearing from you or why not drop by on a Monday afternoon and meet us.

The Daisy Chain Cafe is free to attend for people living with Dementia and their supporter and runs on Mondays 14:00-16:00 at the Darby Green Centre, GU17 0DT





Age Concern Hampshire

Volunteers Needed to Support Older People in Hampshire

As we approach 2026, Age Concern Hampshire is inviting compassionate individuals to volunteer and support older people across the county. With Hampshire's ageing population continuing to grow, the charity is seeking additional volunteers to help maintain and expand its vital services.

Age Concern Hampshire is an independent charity dedicated to improving the well-being of older people through its Care and Wellbeing Centres, Foot Care clinics, Hospital to Home support, and community initiatives. Volunteers are essential to ensuring older residents feel valued, supported, and connected.

Volunteering with Age Concern Hampshire provides an opportunity to build meaningful connections, gain new skills, and contribute to the local community. Whether you can spare an hour a week or more, every contribution helps maintain independence, provide companionship, and enhance quality of life for older people and their carers.



Volunteer opportunities include:

- Trustees – contribute to the strategic direction and governance of the charity.
- Foot Care Receptionists – welcome clients and support smooth clinic operations.
- Administrative Support – assist with office tasks to ensure services run efficiently.
- Support at Care and Wellbeing Centres – help with activities, social interaction, and day care services.
- Social Group Volunteers – Help older people stay connected while enjoying a friendly, rewarding role that brings fun, conversation, and community to your week.
- Hospital Ward Support – Make a real difference to patients' recovery while gaining valuable experience and becoming a supportive, friendly face on local rehab wards at Petersfield, Gosport and Alton.
- Form-Fillers – provide practical support to help older people complete forms, access benefits, and navigate essential services.

To make a difference in 2026 and become part of this work, contact Age Concern Hampshire at 01962 868545 or visit: <https://www.ageconcernhampshire.org.uk/volunteer-hampshire/give-time-by-volunteering/>





Northern Sites

Yateley Common & Castle Bottom Conservation Volunteers

If you are looking to get out in the fresh air, get some exercise and help conserve our local countryside. Why not become a Conservation Volunteer?

A number of important species including Nightjar, Dartford Warbler and Silver-Studded Blue butterfly rely on the open heathland habitat on Yateley Common. We need your help to protect this important habitat and the special plants and animals that live here. Join us every Thursday 10 – 3 (Times are for guidance only, join us for as long as you can) or on the last Sunday of the month 10-1.

Why Volunteer With Us?

- Help protect Hampshire's countryside
- Learn practical conservation skills
- Meet like-minded nature lovers
- Enjoy the fresh air and beautiful surroundings
- Interested?

Open to ages 18+ or younger if accompanied by an adult. No experience needed – just enthusiasm and a love for nature!

To sign up as a volunteer or find out more information contact northern.sites@hants.gov.uk





Oakley Health Patient Participation Group

Would you like to know more about how Oakley Health Group provides their GP services?

The practices' Patient Participation Group is a small group of patients that as a voluntary group receive information from the GP's and managers about their current activity, the NHS's position regarding current advice, the staff at the practice and results from completed surveys regarding patient satisfaction as examples. We as a group, have regular face to face meetings with OHG managerial and health staff. We make comments, ask questions and suggest ideas for improving the service from the patients perspective and feedback information that we have gathered from fellow patients regarding the service.

We comment on the monthly issued newsletter and suggest topics to be covered. These newsletters are available to view at the OHG website as well as being sent to around 2000 patients by email and are available in hard copy at any of the 3 surgery sites.

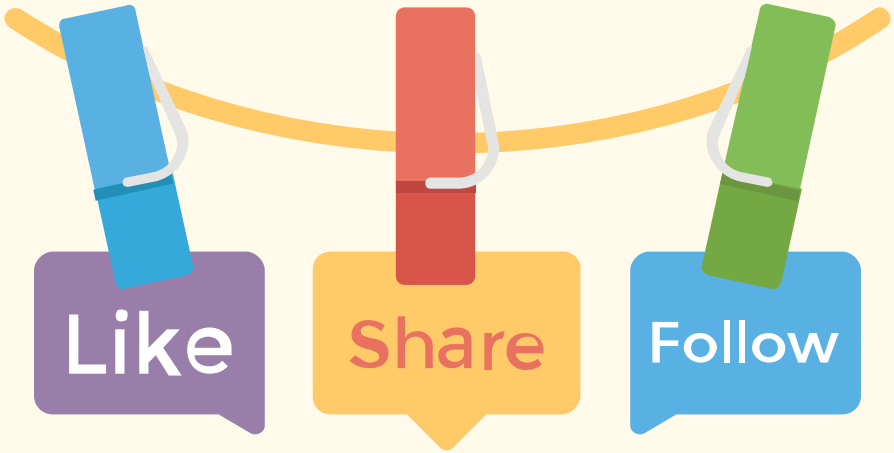
The newsletter is available to all PPG and "Virtual" PPG members only as a personal document because of an NHS ruling. A virtual member has no obligations other than to agree to be registered to be able to receive a newsletter.

If you would like to give the Patient Participation Group (PPG) your feedback, email frimleyicb.ohg.communications@nhs.net & include the title "PPG". We are your voice. If you would like to become a virtual member, you can register through the OHG website, or speak to a receptionist.

Cllr Julia Wedlock, PPG member



OAKLEY HEALTH
GROUP



YateleyTC



yateleytowncouncil



yateleytowncouncil



yateleytowncouncil



Hart Voluntary Action

Hart Voluntary Action – Our Yateley Connections

Thermal Imaging – thanks to the Yateley residents who signed up for thermal imaging visits to their homes this winter. We have already carried out 9 visits and have 4 more (so far) scheduled for 2026. We hope this has helped you identify where you can make your homes more energy efficient and green for the future.

Volunteering – Thermal Imaging volunteer is just one of the roles that Yateley residents have got involved with this year, and our Hart Volunteer Centre received a total of 74 expressions of interest in volunteering from Yateley residents during 2025. We are currently promoting 17 volunteering opportunities in the Yateley area. More details on the Volunteer North Hampshire website: volunteernorthhants.org



Health Walks – the Yateley Health Walk meets outside St Peter’s Church on Wednesday mornings and offers volunteer-led walks of up to an hour to help adults maintain their physical fitness in a social and supportive setting. We always welcome new walkers. No need to book, just come along. The volunteer team provided 50 walks this year – that’s around 120 miles in total!

Royal Oak Wellbeing Hub – thanks to the Oakley Health Group, we are using their Wellbeing Hub as a base for our free to access youth and adult counselling provision (420 sessions offered to 35 clients in 2025). The Wellbeing Hub is also the venue for our Clinical Supervision and Family Counselling training courses. For more information - hartvolaction.org.uk



Directory

Yateley Town Council	www.yateley-tc.gov.uk office@yateley-tc.gov.uk 01252 872198
Age Concern Hampshire	www.ageconcernhampshire.org.uk 01962 868545
Daisy Chain Cafe	daisychaincafe1@gmail.com 07799 031384
Hampshire County Council	www.hants.gov.uk
Hart District Council	www.hart.gov.uk 01252 622122
Hart Voluntary Action	www.hartvolaction.org.uk info@hartvolaction.org.uk 01252 815652
Oakley Health Group	www.oakleyhealth.org 01252 872333 frimleyicb.ohg@nhs.net
Solar Together	https://solartogether.co.uk/hart/home
Vision 4 Youth	www.vision4youth.org.uk office@vision4youth.org.uk 07423 336516



Directory Continued

Yateley Choral Society	www.yateley-choral.org.uk
Yateley & District Lions	www.yateleylions.co.uk enquiries@yateleylions.co.uk 0345 833 9915
Yateley Road Race	www.yateley10kseries.info Yateleyroadraces@gmail.com
Yateley Men's Shed	www.yateleymensshed.wordpress.com/
The Yateley Society	www.yateleysociety.org.uk contact@yateleysociety.org.uk
Yelabus	www.yelabus.org.uk 07719 799263



Serving Yateley, Darby Green & Frogmore





MERRY



Christmas

AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



From all of us at
Yateley Town Council!

