



Raising Voices for festive concert
A GROUP of Wokingham-based musicians will perform at the concert with the Wokingham Gossip Girls.

There's laughter and tears in Alice's wacky Wonderland

Your **BEST** local leisure guide

Dazzling decorations

Schoolchildren decorate Wokingham's tree **Page 5**

Christmas Extravaganza

Woodley festivities as lights switch on **Pages 8, 9 & 20**



THE WOKINGHAM TIMES

UNRIVALLED COVERAGE OF THE BOROUGH. INCORPORATING CROWTHORNE, WOODLEY AND TWYFORD NEWS

Est 1903 No 2,722 www.getwokingham.co.uk

EDF Energy London and the South of England Media Awards 2011
Weekly Newspaper of the Year (Free)



Wednesday, December 5, 2012

60p where sold

Girls show the power of gossip

WOMEN who usually meet in cyber space got together at a Wokingham pub to raise more than £1,000 for the Ollie Young Foundation.

More than 120 members of online social group Wokingham Gossip Girls held their Christmas party at The Duke's Head on Saturday, raising more than £1,800.

The Denmark Street pub donated the disco and a hog roast, flowers were donated by Tania Williams, and Danielle Allwood made a tower of cupcakes in the blue and yellow colours of the foundation.

Germaine Kelly, from The Purple Butterfly Boutique, organised a raffle, while Thelma Reeves, from Mishyboo Boutique, and Nicki McGlynn, of Nicki's Organic Balms, jointly provided goody bags.



Wokingham Gossip Girls at their Christmas party on Saturday. *bk20125007.* Picture by Steve Smyth.

Organiser Lauren Drewery said: "I have four children, and I could not read about the Ollie Young Foundation without crying, so I decided to hold the party to raise money."

Claire Saul, Sarah Jacques and Louise Cripps represented the foundation at the party.

Mrs Saul said: "I was able to announce on the night that the foundation has now raised £30,000 in a matter of months and we are about to spend £2,000 of that

hard-earned cash on a hoist for the Helen and Douglas House Hospice.

"I told them that we know that 'thank you' are two little words, but they mean so much and it comes from so deep down on behalf of Sarah and Simon, Ollie's parents."

The foundation was set up earlier this year to fund research into brain tumours after the death of Ollie, who lived with his family in Woosehill, the day before his sixth birthday.