

# Cress company digs deep for festive campaign

# WATER WAY TO HELP

# ECHO'S TOY APPEAL

**WATERCRESS** is full of nutritional benefits, but now growers have shared extra goodness with their donation to the Echo Christmas Toy Appeal.

The Watercress Company, at Waddock Cross, Dorchester, has ensured that needy children across the county will receive a present this Christmas thanks to their £100 donation.

Managing director Tom Amery said: "The Watercress Company is delighted to be able to help support such a special appeal again.

"We would like to thank all of the volunteers helping this year."

BY **SAMANTHA HARMAN**

With little more than a fortnight left until the big day, this donation will top up the funds raised and ensure that every child who has signed up receives a present this Christmas.

Toy bins across Dorset have collected hundreds of presents ready to be opened by excited children on Christmas Day.

The donation will top up funds raised and presents collected to ensure that every child will get a treat on December 25.

Tom added: "Most of all we would like to wish a very happy Christmas to all the children who will be receiving a present from the appeal."

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**SALAD DAYS:** The Watercress Company at Waddock Cross has donated £100 to our toy appeal, pictured are James Harper and Julie Jopp

Picture: JOHN GURD/JG7124

## Good try from players

A GROUP of young rugby players have given to the Echo Christmas Toy Appeal so that other children can share the festive spirit.

Weymouth Rugby Football Club's under-nines team originally organised a sponsored charity rugby run and bake sale for Children in Need.

But after raising more than £800 they decided to donate some of that to the Toy Appeal.

Team member Toby Diment-Aylott, eight, said: "It's sad for other children

of many charity events organised by the youngsters.

For last year's Children in Need, the boys skateboarded six miles to raise £350.

Toby's mother Lyndsey said: "The team are all lucky boys who are going to get brilliant presents and have a great time this Christmas.

"They thought it would be nice to give a donation to those children in the local area who aren't as lucky at this time of the year."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Ferry launches its summer rota

**WEYMOUTH:** Condor Ferries has launched its schedule for next summer when thousands of additional visitors will be in the area for the 2012 Olympics. Passengers sailing from Weymouth will be able to travel to France and the Channel Islands, with connecting services available to St Malo in Brittany.

Fast services to the Channel Islands will also continue to run.

### Open air carols held in gardens

**DORCHESTER:** Join in an open air carol service tonight in the borough gardens.

The event will start at 6.30pm. Everyone is welcome to join in and the event is free.

There will be hot drinks, gloves and carols led by the Durnovaria Silver Band and local group Encore.

### New counselling service for free

**PORTLAND:** Island Community Action is launching a new free counselling service for adults.

For more information and to book an appointment call 01305 823789 or email: [islandcommunityaction@btconnect.com](mailto:islandcommunityaction@btconnect.com)

### Volunteers get scheme started

**WEYMOUTH:** The town's Community Volunteers are launching a new Community Transport Scheme for the elderly on January 4, 2012.

It is in association with Dorset Partnership for Older People Programmes (POPP).

People can use the scheme to take them to hospital appointments, day centres or other appointments by calling



ON THE BALL: John Burton, Harry Baker, Sam Burton, Toby Diment-Aylott, eight, and other members of the Weymouth Rugby Football Club's under-nines team.