

THE BRIDGE

APRIL - MAY 2018



**The Parish Magazine for
Droxford, Exton, Meonstoke & Corhampton**

The Magazine for the Meon Bridge Benefice of Droxford, Exton, Meonstoke & Corhampton (& Preshaw)

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Cover Photograph: Taken on Friday 16th March by the editor, from the top of Droxford church tower looking north over the village.

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Christian Aid Sponsored Walk 2018 on Sunday 20th May

THE WALK WILL BEGIN AT ST NICHOLAS CHURCH HALL, SOUTHWICK ROAD, WICKHAM PO17 6HP. CAR PARKING WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH CAR PARK 100 yards on the left beyond the church or alternatively in and around the village.

Choice of walks:- 10 miles, 5 miles and Family Walk. Dogs on leads are welcome.

All walks will start at 1.45pm. Registration will be from 1.00pm. No picnic is planned this year but there will be complimentary tea and cake at the end of the walk.

Point of contact for information or concerns is Anna Sketchley on 01329 847095 or email: anna.sketchley@gmail.com

PLEASE SUPPORT THIS IMPORTANT EVENT



Christian Aid Walk support by *The Bridge* parishes

Christian Aid is a joint effort by almost all the British and Irish churches to help people worldwide in desperate need or poverty, whether they have a faith or not. Christian Aid Week runs from the 13th to the 19th May and its particular focus this year is on re-housing victims of natural disasters and other internally displaced people.

Over the last six years we have raised a team from among us, to represent our parishes on the Christian Aid Deanery Walk, which sets off this year from Wickham on 20th May.

We ask all of you who live in these villages to sponsor our team and for people throughout the benefice, particularly in Meonstoke and Corhampton, who would hold a sponsorship list and collect sponsors whether by going round the village or by asking people after a church service. If you cannot walk you can sponsor, and even better you can do both!

Further details will appear in our Pew News sheets.

There will be a special Christian Aid Service in Droxford Church on Sunday 13th May at 10.30am.

We hope to hear from you.

Mary and Harry Martineau

The Old Rectory, Droxford SO32 3RB Tel: 01489 877213 or email: martineau.mary@googlemail.com

**The COPY DEADLINE for the next issue of THE BRIDGE is:
MONDAY 7th MAY**

From the RECTOR



EASTERTIDE - 2018

ALLELUIA! HAPPY EASTER TO ALL OUR READERS! LET'S CELEBRATE THE GREAT FIFTY DAYS! ALLELUIA!

In my last letter I wrote about the forty days of Lent, with Christians praying, fasting, and giving alms. This culminated in our commemoration of the dramatic three days of Christ's suffering (his Passion), his dying and his triumphant rising. We very much hope that you can join us at least at some point during Easter to celebrate with us.

Now the church delights in the fifty days of rejoicing, feasting and giving witness! The season of Easter is fifty days long. It is a time of unbridled joy and exuberant rejoicing.

The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost (Whitsun) are celebrated in joyful exultation as if it were one great Sunday. These days above all others are days for the singing of the 'Alleluia' – a word that has not been used in church since Ash Wednesday. As we sing or say it for the first few times on Easter Day, we will ring bells and even let off party poppers!

But why is Eastertide fifty days? The ancient cultures, including those of Biblical times, attached great respect and significance to numbers. They believed that numbers contained hints about God and the meaning of life. The number seven was a sign of fullness: There are seven days in the week, according to God's ordering of time in Genesis, for example. So, if you multiply 7 times 7, you have 'fullness times fullness'.

' $7 \times 7 = 49$ ', I hear you shout at your copy of The Bridge!

But remember, with God, there is always more—more than we can ever imagine. So, our holy season of Easter is even more than 'fullness times fullness'. It is 'fullness times fullness' and then some: $7 \times 7 + 1$.

That is what God's love is like: more than we can ever imagine. That's what heaven is going to be like: more than we can ever imagine.

The fifty days are days for looking for the risen Lord among us, for hearing in each other's stories of 'rising' from the stresses of earthly pressures and demands, and days filled with hope and joy when we experience something of Christ's triumphs.

Historically, baptisms all used to take place on Easter Day – the day of new life – and many still do. So, we can look towards the newly baptized, robed in bright new clothes and oily with gladness: at Easter. They die (to the temptations of the world) and emerge from waters of baptism to rise with Christ! Now they take their places with millions of others, who have been baptized before them. Together, like the apostles who were so full of the Spirit that people thought they were drunk, we rush about with good and giddy news: Death is not the last word! Life and love are forever! And slowly, painstakingly, we work together, together with Jesus, to change this world into the world to come. Join us and sing Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Happy Easter, all fifty days of it in its 'fullness of fullness and some', to you all and all those that you love.

Tony



EASTER COLLECTIONS



AS IS CUSTOMARY, CHURCH COLLECTIONS ON EASTER DAY THIS YEAR WILL BE GIVEN TO ST LUKE'S HEALTHCARE FOR THE CLERGY AND THE CLERGY PENSION FUND. ST LUKE'S HAS HONORARY CONSULTANTS WHO HELP TO ENSURE THAT CLERGY FALLING SICK return to their duties as soon as possible. The shortage of clergy in Portsmouth (one-third of parishes are vacant), makes this all the more essential. St Luke's also assists the growing number of clergy suffering from stress.

The Clergy Pension Fund is meeting commitments but, like many other such funds, is having to overcome a deficit. Information on the two organisations on the internet is recommended reading.

To read more about St Luke's Healthcare for the Clergy, go to: www.stlukeshealthcare.org.uk/about

To read more about the clergy pensions fund go to: www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre

On this page, enter in the search box "Pensions report and accounts" and from the results of the search choose the most recent report, which is for 2016. There are several reports available in downloadable form.

Droxford Church Community Hub and Heritage Project



AS REPORTED IN JANUARY, WE HAVE BEEN GRANTED PERMISSION TO BUILD AN EXTENSION ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE church to house the kitchen, an office, and toilets. These are the standard facilities expected to support a public building and church in the 21st century. They will enable us to make full use of the rest of the church building as a community and volunteer café – which we are calling Wilfrid's Café.

Look out for the elegant logo, shown opposite, designed by a local artist, and learn more about this exciting community project at Wilfrid's coffee morning in the church on Wednesday 9th May.



Wilfrid's – the Café on the Meon

An information leaflet describing the plans is being distributed with this issue of The Bridge. In it you will also find contact details and suggestions about how you can contribute by volunteering or donating to the building fund.

Meanwhile please let us know your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions for fundraising by emailing: info@friendsofdroxfordchurch.org.uk.

We would love to hear from you.

John Symes

Chairman, Friends of Droxford Church



Bring and Buy Coffee Morning

in Droxford Church

on Wednesday 9th May from 10.00am - 1.00pm

- Share a coffee with friends -

Volunteers to help on the day please contact - Ann Symes, Tel: 01489 877643

All proceeds in aid of the *Droxford Community Hub Building Fund*

WHERE TO FIND COMMUNITY

COME FROM A ONCE RURAL VILLAGE THAT IS SLOWLY BEING SWALLOWED UP BY SOUTHAMPTON'S SUBURBS AND THE NEED for more housing. I understand that need but, at 53, I'm starting to sound like my parents and grandparents before them. You hit an age, eventually, where you begin to look backwards more than forwards and bemoan the fact that "it's not like the good old days." My mother looks back on the times of rationing, rickets and smallpox, through rose coloured lenses and can be heard saying to anyone who will listen: "You had a real sense of community then". We think community is gone and lost. The good news is, it isn't. It just moved house and started wearing new clothes. So let me tell you a story about community. It's 11am on a Saturday morning in January. According to my phone, the temperature is 4c with a real feel of 2c due to wind chill factor. I have got four layers of clothes on and I am still feeling the cold. I'm stood on the side of a football pitch and I am here as the chaplain to a local football team, Chase Kings. I am watching community in action.

The dictionary offers a variety of definitions of community but they are all variations on this: "the condition of sharing or having certain attitudes and interests in common". For many older people, that builds around the place they live and refers back to a time many years ago when everyone knew everyone else and their business. Community was built around an interest in common which was their neighbourhood. At that time, most people still lived and worked relatively locally, most holidayed in this country if they went on holiday at all. Forty years or more on and like most of my peers I can't afford to buy a house in the village; upwards of 50% of the homes belong to people who commute to work in far off places or have bought the houses as holiday homes. Yet community still exists. The world has changed greatly and people are no longer tied to an area in the way they were born so community is based around a different set of common interests and attitudes. Communities are built around slimming groups, mothers and toddlers groups, amateur theatrical groups, church groups and charitable organisations, which brings me back to a cold Saturday morning in January.

A common interest does not make you a community, it makes you part of a group. Sharing certain attitudes is what makes you a community. The players on the team would probably be slightly embarrassed to realise they represent the best type of community, one based around mutual encouragement and support. A typical conversation on the day went like this, after a poor pass. The player who made the pass 'Sorry guys, thought you were further up.' 'That's alright mate, next time!' From the player who raced to intercept the pass but got beaten out. They share a common attitude that everyone on the team makes a valuable contribution, that the team aim is to play the best they can

with an eye towards winning and that support and encouragement makes people try harder. The team is built around bringing out the best in each other and not picking out faults and failings, they're not perfect and occasionally they slip but not often, not often at all. They treat each other with respect.

There are many small communities like this and they are built from a set of shared attitudes on a foundation of a shared interest, chances are you belong to one yourself, whether it's ladies who lunch, the school gate on the school run, or a bunch of mates meeting in the pub. Community isn't dead but you may have to look for it somewhere new.

Jesus tells us the second greatest commandment, after loving God is "to love your neighbour as yourself". The Bible was written in Greek and there are four different words that translate into English as "love". The one used in this instance defines love as being selfless and unconditional and that's what I'm seeing on this cold, muddy playing field. The places we live are often too big and too diverse to make that community we all so desperately want but opportunities for community that meet are out there. All you have to do is open your eyes and look a little more widely.

Peter Bangs

Pioneer Missioner for the Meon Valley Methodist Circuit

Exton, Meonstoke and Corhampton

CHURCH FETE

SATURDAY 16th JUNE

Gates open at 12.30pm

Exton Cottage, Exton SO32 3NW

By kind permission of Mr & Mrs David Frere-Cook

Traditional fun for all the family

The Meon Valley Orchestra

Pony Rides ♦ Stalls

Barbecue ♦ Ices ♦ Duck Races

Afternoon Teas, Fun and Games,

Pimms and Beer

Pet Show

Bring your pets and enter the following class
'The pet the judge would most like to take home!'

DROXFORD DROP-IN

Everyone is welcome at the
Village Hall 'Drop In',
Every Tuesday morning
between 10.30am and noon

Come for a hot drink, biscuits and a chat.
Come for a few minutes or the whole ninety minutes.
A particular welcome is extended
to the hearing-impaired.
It is appreciated that acoustics in the Hall make
hearing difficult, but we do keep background
noise to a minimum and we have a silent kettle!

LOOK-IN!

Look-in for a chat and refreshment in the
spacious area in Meonstoke Church. You are
very welcome on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday
of each month between 10.00am and midday.

All are welcome – the more the merrier!
April: 4th & 18th
May: 2nd & 16th

BOOK-OUT!

Please feel free to borrow books (fiction and non-fiction, thrillers and all other genres), jigsaws and CD's and return them when you have finished with them. There is no charge.

The library in Meonstoke church is available to everyone whenever the church is open, which is from early morning until early evening. Do come and have a browse in the peaceful surroundings.

Lorna Allured - 01489 877718



The Meonstoke Baby & Toddler Group

Alternate Thursdays in term time, **9:30-11:30am**
at **The Meon Hall, Pound Lane, Meonstoke, SO32 3NP**

Parents, grandparents and carers from across the valley and beyond all warmly welcomed with their under 5's for a fun time. Adult tea/coffee & biscuits and Toddler drinks/snacks provided. £2 per family.

Summer Term 2018 dates:

April 26th

May 10th & 24th

June 7th & 21st

July 5th & 19th



For all dates, activities and more follow us at:

Meonstoke Toddler Group (@meontoddlers)



Meon Valley Playreading Group

"It's like being in a radio play"

- ◆ No lines to learn
- ◆ No acting on stage
- ◆ No commitment to attend each meeting
- ◆ You don't need to be the 'right age' for the characters you're reading (or even the same gender!)

Just a fun evening, reading a different play at each meeting.

A charge of £3 pays for rent, coffee, etc.

**We meet on the 2nd Tuesday each month
at The MEON HALL at 7.30pm**

Tuesday 10th April

Tuesday 8th May

For more details please contact:
Paul or Gerry Hayles on 01489 878589

IN THE GARDEN

April
& May



to produce strong new growth this year; remember these shrubs flower on the current year's growth, so they respond well to this treatment every year. Cut back dogwoods grown for their colourful stems, for example, *Cornus Alba*. During April hard prune sage and evergreen shrubs. Hard prune wall-trained or hedging pyracantha. After flowering in late May, lightly trim back winter flowering heathers. Thin out mature bushes of deciduous berberis and cotoneaster by about one third.



Bulbs: Remember snowdrops and crocus need feeding, and now is the time to give them a feed with tomato or rose fertiliser. In April or May when the flowers on narcissi and tulips have finished, feed them too in the same way. Remember to remove flower heads when they are over so that no energy is wasted in producing seed, and to leave the foliage intact for at least six weeks so that the bulbs build up energy to produce flowers next year.

Lawns. Now is the time to lay or sow new lawns. Existing lawns should be scarified to remove moss and thatch, and then fed with a proprietary lawn feed. If weeds are a problem in your lawn, use a combined lawn weed-and-feed mixture.

In the Greenhouse: Cut back over-wintered fuchsias by about two thirds when the first buds begin to show and begin to feed and water them. From mid-April, bedding plants and tender vegetables like tomatoes and courgettes can be put outside on mild days to harden them off, but only do so on still days, as wind can damage tender young plants.

John Owen

DESPITE THE EARLIER COLD SPELLS, GARDENS ARE WELL ADVANCED NOW AND MANY LAWNS HAVE HAD THEIR FIRST CUT. The wet weather has also encouraged slugs and snails, so use whatever controls best suit your needs. As the weather warms up, be patient and harden off properly all tender plants and seedlings before planting them out. Be particularly wary of exposing them to windy conditions as tender leaves can easily become desiccated and set back the plants by weeks

Vegetables: Leeks can be sown into trays or directly into a prepared bed. Sow maincrop carrots and peas and plant out onion sets. In May, sow beetroot and continue to sow salad crops of lettuce, spring onion, radish and rocket.. Protect potato foliage from late frosts by earthing up or covering with fleece. Also in May, plant out savoy and primo cabbage, cauliflower, and sprouts.

Fruit: Remove all dead and diseased leaves from strawberry plants, cutting as close as possible to the crown without damaging it. Feed with general purpose fertiliser and put down a good layer of mulch. Put a cloche or polytunnel over early fruiting varieties to ensure earliest possible fruits. Spray apples when buds break to prevent apple scab.

Herbaceous Border: Feed and mulch roses. Plant out sweet pea seedlings and sow annual seeds directly into the border. Prune buddleia and hydrangea paniculata very hard



OUR FIRST TALK OF THE NEW YEAR WAS ENTITLED DELIGHTFUL DAHLIAS. THE TALK COVERED ALL WAYS OF CULTIVATING and caring for this versatile plant, which has become increasingly popular for adding late colour to herbaceous borders. A number of slides showed the enormous variety of dahlias that can be cultivated.

In February, we had a short history of the seed from early settlers, through the wars up to the present day. We now

know that most of our seeds have been introduced from around the world. We then learned about Italy from Seed to Plate (the title of the talk). It was obvious that Paolo, the speaker from Franchi seeds, is very passionate about flavour. His message is if you make the effort to grow vegetables they should taste great. Many members went away with a little taste of Italy in their hands. We await the results with interest!

It is our Spring Plant Sale soon (see notice on page 19) so do come along to buy plants for those spaces in your borders or to cheer up that neglected pot.

If you would wish to join the club, please contact our membership secretary Phil Butler on 01489 877596 or email: philipbutler831@btinternet.com

Caroline Harris,
Secretary

More information can be found on the Droxford Village website.



200 Club Prize Draw:

Winners of the recent monthly £25 prize draws were:

February: Nick Ridout **March:** Susanne Marlow

A huge 'Thank you'

To everyone who has joined The Meon Hall 200 Club in 2018 – at the time of going to press 309 people have joined. This is a tremendous annual membership number for the 200 Club, which was started some 39 years ago to raise money for The Meon Hall! You may win one of the cash prizes during the year, but just as importantly, by joining the 200 Club you are helping the Meon Hall Management Committee to keep things up to date, and well equipped. With £3090 raised so far this year we have been really successful in demonstrating community support for The Meon Hall so that we can press on with making grant applications for urgent work and purchases of new equipment.

Gardening work around the Meon Hall:

Many thanks to Barry Heard for bush trimming and grass cutting (Barry has been doing this for over 20 years!); to Michelle Kempster (similar timescale!) for her heroic work of clearing the autumn leaf fall from the 67 trees off the car park and MUGA tarmac surfaces; and to the ISS contract workers who recently removed a truck full of the bush cuttings and leaves from around the hall and the car park banks.

The Meon Valley FLOWER CLUB



Welcome Back to The Meon Valley Flower Club:

After a year or three at Hambledon Village hall, the MV Flower Club decided to return to The Meon Hall, beginning in March. The club meets on the 4th Tuesday of most months at 1.45pm for a 2.00pm start, with a varied programme of demonstrations, workshops, and speakers on flower arranging. Meeting dates and times are in the District Diary. Please contact the Chairman, Margaret Wallace, 878349 if you would like to join.

James Morrice



CORHAMPTON & MEONSTOKE Annual Parish Assembly

Thursday 11th April at 7.30pm

in the Meon Hall

Chaired by

Patrick Rowe

Chairman of Corhampton & Meonstoke Parish Council

All welcome

Refreshments

**James and Anne Morrice
invite you to their annual**

PLANT & CAKE SALE

**In the garden of
Brook Cottage, High Street, Meonstoke
on Saturday 12th May**

Start time: 10.00am

Proceeds to go to:
**Toddler Group, the Valley Preschool,
& Community Care Group**



Donations welcome please for
Plants ● Cakes ● Jams
Toys ● Books ● Raffle
'This and That'



Coffee, tea and soft drinks available

Free entry to the garden, if wet, in The Meon Hall



DROXFORD VILLAGE HALL NEWS

THE WEATHER FORECASTERS WARNED OF THE IMPENDING DELUGE OF SNOW WHICH WAS TO HIT THE WHOLE OF THE UK AT THE END OF February, but did we really anticipate how that would affect so many countryside or our local communities? Maybe not, but there was a distinct sense in these parts for those hardy enough to brave “the Beast from the East” that all around help was given to those who needed extra care. Everything passed, weather conditions returned to normal in our village, the gardens recovered, and the birds were once more able to find the garden grubs and worms which they depend on, whether or not the garden feeders are full.

We were lucky that our Quiz Night on February 10th was not affected by the weather, and the committee was busy, as ever, preparing the hall and food for the quizzers. There are always winners, but those not taking the prizes always go away having enjoyed themselves in the crowded hall, with the sense of fun and entertainment being the objective.

Another evening of fund-raising and activity was organised for Saturday, March 3rd, a skittles evening. With snow still around there were fewer people in the hall than last time, but those present had fun, especially those whose bowling prowess outshone that of several others.

Our film evenings this season end with the April showing of Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool. Further film choices are not sent to us in time for this edition of The Bridge. Those members who like to choose, please submit your preferences to Tim Crowfoot when they become available. For others, the usual posters will appear around the village.

The 200 Club flourished once more this year, thanks to much hard work by Ian Withers. Ian thanks all those who have maintained their support by standing orders or bank transfers, which helps to ease the collection of the annual subscription. It is through the income of the 200 Club that the village hall committee has been able to maintain the high standards of the hall, and in particular, recently, to have all our chairs refurbished. If you wish to participate in our monthly draw, please contact Ian Withers on 877595.

The draw for January and February was made at the Quiz Night and the winners were:

January: Jackie Hibbert February: Terry Crowfoot.

If you are able to come along, we would like to see you at our AGM in the hall at 7.30 pm on Monday, 23rd April. Bring some new ideas, offer opinions, and enjoy a glass of wine with friends.

Jackie Hibbert Secretary

Forthcoming Events at Droxford Village Hall



Monday 23rd April

The Village Hall Annual General Meeting

Come along to the AGM and have your say about the running of the hall and the events we put on for the village.

at 7.30pm (Doors open at 7.00pm)

Wednesday 25th April

FILM STARS DON'T DIE IN LIVERPOOL

A film Rated 15

The story is based on the memoir by British actor Peter Turner and follows the playful but passionate relationship between Turner (Jamie Bell) and the eccentric Academy Award-winning actress Gloria Grahame (Annette Bening). First meeting in theatrical digs in London, the legendary femme fatale and her young lover share a passionate relationship for a time but then drift apart. Years later she collapses while on tour in the North of England, and turns to her one-time lover for help and support. He takes her home to Liverpool to his parents (Julie Walters and Kenneth Cranham) to be looked after.

Starring Jamie Bell and Annette Bening.

at 7.30pm (Doors open at 7.00pm)

Tickets - £5

Licensed bar and refreshments available

Wednesday 30th May

FILM NIGHT (TBD)

The film will be chosen after the date of publication of The Bridge. Watch out for the posters advertising the event which will go up in early May

at 7.30pm (Doors open at 7.00pm)

Tickets - £5

Licensed bar and refreshments available

TICKETS FOR ALL EVENTS FROM THE POST OFFICE

The Royal British Legion

Droxford & District Branch www.droxfordweb.co.uk



Depth charge attack by a Royal Navy destroyer

75 years ago....

On 24th May 1943 the tide at last turned in favour of Britain and her allies in the battle against the unterseebooten or U-boat.

The Battle of the Atlantic was the longest, hardest, and most vital campaign ever fought by this nation, beginning just after war was declared on 3rd September 1939 and ending 68 months later on 7th May 1945. 5,000 merchant vessels and 175 Allied warships were lost, and 757 U-boats destroyed. 30,000 merchant seamen, 36,000 Allied sailors and airmen, and 28,000 U-boat crew lost their lives.

The 'battlefield' comprised 41 million square miles of ocean (20% of the earth's surface) with some 75,000 ships sailing in 2,200 convoys.

Weather conditions were often appalling, battering friend and foe alike. Winston Churchill wrote: "The Battle of the Atlantic was the dominating factor all through the war. Never for one moment could we forget that everything happening elsewhere depended ultimately on its outcome."

The Droxford & District Branch was formed in 1920 as Comrades of the Great War, merging with other charities in 1921 to form the British Legion – now the Royal British Legion (RBL). The RBL has two principal aims: to remember those who died in conflict and to support living members of the armed forces, veterans, and their families. Whilst championing regular remembrance activities, support ranges from debt counselling to the provision of residential nursing care. To do this, the RBL needs to raise just over £150 million every year for which the annual Poppy Appeal contributes 31%. Your local branch assists in fundraising via the Poppy Appeal and other events, including an annual dinner, summer drinks party, Grand National draw, and pub-style quiz, plus the annual Remembrance Sunday service. We also hold 4 meetings a year at which visiting speakers talk on a range of interesting subjects; non-members are encouraged to attend.

The next such meeting will be at 7.00pm on Monday 14th May at Droxford Village Hall when Rear-Admiral David Snelson, CB will talk about 'UK maritime trade, ports and Brexit.'

UNLIKE SEA BATTLES OF THE PAST, THE BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC WAS NOT CONFINED TO THE FIGHTING NAVIES AND the role played by the Merchant Navy cannot be overstated. This loose federation of commercial shipping companies endured all the risks, deprivations, and sacrifices of the Royal Navy, Royal Canadian Navy and Allied navies without the glamour or much recognition. In 1939, 33% of the world's merchant shipping was British – 22 million tons or 7,000 vessels – whereas today only 3% is British flagged. Although now 30 million tons or 500 vessels are UK registered, the largest merchant fleets sail under flags of convenience – for example, Liberia and Panama. Many of these (a further 30 million tons) also help to serve UK's interests as 95% of our trade is still carried by sea, including 45% of our food requirements; as in 1939-45, this represents about a million tons of cargo a week. Second World War convoys typically comprised some 60 ships with cargo capacities of between 5,000 and 15,000

tons – a total of about 500,000 tons. The shortest route, from Liverpool to Halifax in Canada, is 2,500 nautical miles and, steaming at 6-8 knots, this took over 2 weeks using evasive routing to avoid U-boat concentrations or 'Wolfpacks'. Today a single large container ship or supertanker can carry up to 500,000 tons whilst travelling at 15 knots or more.

Although commercially advantageous, such huge ships are vulnerable to enemy action with torpedoes, bombs, or anti-ship missiles capable of depriving UK of the virtual cargo capacity of an entire Second World War convoy at a single stroke. Potential adversaries, such as Russia and China, have the capacity to interdict Britain's trade in this manner and some smaller nations operate submarines, aircraft and missile systems that could do so at critical choke points – such as the Straits of Hormuz at the mouth of the Persian Gulf.

The RBL Droxford & District Branch is always looking for new members, both Service and civilian, to help keep remembrance alive and support our Servicemen and women, veterans and their families. For more information or to join us, please contact the Secretary: Cdr Rob Scott RN at robmunroscott@aol.com or 01489 877800.



Droxford Junior School Report

Greek Geezers Invade Droxford School



Ancient Greece comes to Droxford

DROXFORD JUNIOR SCHOOL HAS JUST HAD A GREEK DAY! YEAR 5 AND 6 PUPILS HAVE BEEN LUCKY ENOUGH TO PARTICIPATE in and experience what life would have been like in Ancient Greece. To enhance the event, they all dressed up as Greeks of their choice.

In the morning, they did three activities: making a Greek salad; taking part in a role play of how trading was carried out thousands of years ago; and learning about the influence that their democracy had on modern day voting and court. When we asked one of the children what they thought of the morning, they said: 'I enjoyed the trading because I like drama and looking from the perspective of someone with a very different lifestyle from mine.' Another quoted that they found fun in the democracy

lesson because it was 'very informative.'

In the afternoon, the children took part in a mock Olympic Games. There were seven events that varied from five laps of the school field (a mini marathon) to tongue twisting! These events may not have been lifelike but the pupils had a blast. One person said, 'My favourite bit was the horse race. It was hilarious and great fun to be involved in.' The children have learned a lot about the topic and everyone agreed it was a successful day!

Written by two Year 5 pupils.

If you are interested in visiting our school – especially as we have places available – please contact our school office on 01489 877537.



SPRING IS DEFINITELY IN THE AIR HERE AT THE VALLEY PRESCHOOL, AS WE HAVE BEEN PREPARING THE VEGETABLE GARDEN for planting. Children love earth and are fascinated by the secrets it hides and the miracles it produces; creepy crawlies, wriggling worms, woodlice, scurrying millipedes, sticks and stones. This provision of earth in the outdoor environment is the first step towards giving children Living World experiences and providing learning opportunities.

Once our produce has grown the children will use our harvest to create some culinary delights, such as lavender shortbread and courgette muffins. Cooking is a fantastic activity to do with young children: they can learn and practise a wide range of skills, and it provides the opportunity to understand where food comes from. During the summer term we will be revisiting Hyden Farm to look at the changes in season and will visit Tesco's, to participate in their farm to fork challenge.

This leads onto recycling and food waste, where the children will use Rocky from Paw Patrol's recycling station to sort through our waste. All of which provides opportunities to discuss how we can protect our planet and re-use materials.

With the summer term nearly upon us, our thoughts turn to supporting our older children's transition onto Infant school. We are very lucky to be able to offer children a seamless transition since we are situated on the school site. This therefore means the children are already familiar with the teachers, pupils, and school grounds. During this final term our 'Frogs', who are ready to jump over the fence, will share the morning break time with the infant school children, and receive frequent visits from the teachers, preparing them for the next stage of their education.

The Valley Preschool is run by highly qualified, motivated, and caring staff, with many years' experience in early years and teaching. We have a few limited spaces available for children to start in September this year. We welcome children from age 2 to rising 5. Please contact Lynette Davis on 01489 878019

Our much anticipated **BINGO NIGHT** is to be held on Saturday 12th May in Droxford Village Hall. Tickets are now available, and prizes are plentiful.

Lynette Davis



The Valley Preschool children preparing the garden



FRIENDS OF MEONSTOKE SCHOOL

IT DIDN'T FEEL MUCH LIKE THE SPRING TERM WHEN THE SNOW CAME, BUT NOTHING CAN DAMPEN THE SPIRITS OF THE MEONSTOKE Infant School children and the school continues to fill with wonderful examples of their work and creativity, and it's not just the children who have been busy this term

Thank you to all those parents who volunteered their time (and green fingers) to help at the Gardening Day on the 9th March – we chopped, trimmed, and raked all morning and certainly made good progress towards getting the garden spring-ready.

The children seemed thrilled to be able to make more use of the areas we were able to clear, and we look forward to opening up even more of the overgrown parts for them to enjoy in the summer term.

FOMS have also been excited to fund a number of raised beds in the garden for the children to plant and watch grow. They are even hoping to sell the fruits of their labour outside of the school when they are ready to harvest!

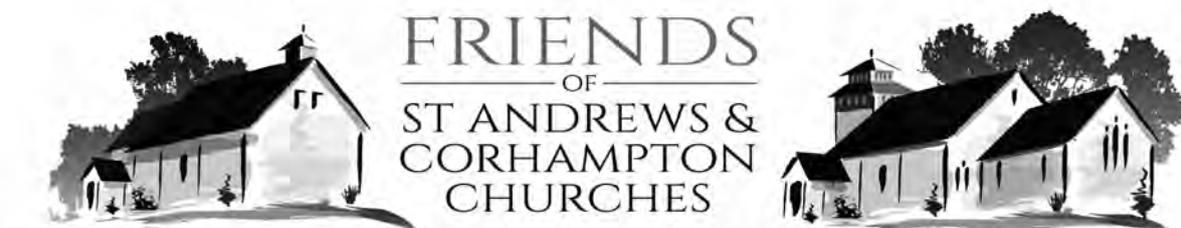
What with the movie night held before half-term and the school disco on the 22nd March it has been a fun filled start to spring.

FOMS are busy gearing up for our annual Quiz Night which will be held at 7.30pm in the Bakers Arms, Droxford, on the 22nd April so remember to pop the event into your diary. Tickets will be available shortly, from the school and from Meonstoke Post Office at £6 each, including a cheeseboard.

For more information about our future fundraising events, useful school information, and all our news you can follow us on our Facebook page. Just search for 'FOMS Meonstoke'.

Many thanks for your continued and much-appreciated support.

The FOMS Committee 2018



Annual General Meeting (FOSACC)

Tuesday 24th April at 7.00pm at St. Andrew's Church, Meonstoke

Refreshments will be served

WITH SPRING NOW UPON US, WE HAVE EMERGED FROM HIBERNATION AND ARE NO DOUBT CONTEMPLATING THE YEAR AHEAD. AT OUR ANNUAL MEETING OF FRIENDS ON APRIL 24TH, WE WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONSIDER NEW WAYS THAT WE CAN FULFIL OUR FOSACC objectives.

The primary purpose remains the preservation of our two beautiful and historic churches and their churchyards. When FOSACC was created two years ago to help look after both churches, we updated the original FOCC Constitution, and community engagement was added as an additional Purpose. There are any number of ways that we can increase our level of community participation, from helping to make the Church Green more accessible and welcoming, to organising community events, obtaining grants for specific purposes as we have done in the past, helping those in the villages that need it, and many more.

Your contributions help to make these things possible, and so does your involvement. While our churches appear to be on a reasonably sound footing for now, we have an opportunity to turn our efforts towards thinking about and helping to foster the kind of community that we want to live in. Please come along to the AGM with your ideas, and if you have a friend who is not yet a Friend but would like to become one please bring them too.

I will be stepping down as Chairman this year, and I am very pleased to say that Gregor Logan has agreed to take over. It has been a pleasure getting to know so many of you; I plan to remain involved with FOSACC and helping Gregor and everyone else to push things along.

I look forward to seeing you on 24th April.

Chris Ellis Chairman



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 10th April 2018 at 7.00pm
at Meon Hall, Pound Lane, Meonstoke SO32 3NP

PRESENTATION BY PROFESSOR TONY KING, WHO WILL BE REVIEWING THE 2016/17 EXCAVATIONS AND LOOKING AHEAD TO THE EXCAVATIONS THIS SUMMER. ALL ARE VERY WELCOME. (YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A MEMBER OF MVAHG TO COME ALONG)

We have had a very successful year, thanks to the hard work of a team of volunteers supporting our geophysical surveys of the Iron Age to Roman Landscape Project and a second year of excavations at Exton. We were also featured in the BBC4 Programme 'Digging for Britain' last November.

-- SUMMER EXCAVATION --

We are very pleased to announce that the dig at Exton will continue for a third Summer.

Provisional dates are **Tuesday 3rd July – Friday 27th July**, with dig days taking place from Tuesdays to Saturdays. More details and information on how to take part will follow in the next issue of The Bridge.

A bingo board for 'The Valley Preschool'. The board is a 5x5 grid of 25 numbered balls. The numbers are: Row 1: 22, 78, 19, 15, 36, 1, 21, 89; Row 2: 14, 6, 10, 20, 41; Row 3: 82, 30, 18, 56, 25; Row 4: 55, 27, 78, 35, 58; Row 5: 86, 65, 35, 58, 74; Row 6: 1, 32, 2, 5, 3, 7, 23, 12, 54.

The Valley Preschool

BINGO

Saturday 12th May

Doors open 7pm for a 7.30pm start
Droxford Village Hall, Droxford

Great prizes and raffle!
£5 for ten games

Bring your own alcoholic drinks
Hot and soft drinks will be available to purchase

Tickets: £8 in advance
Includes cheese board supper

For Tickets: Contact the Valley Preschool
on 01489 878019 or 07956 683295.
They are also available from
Droxford Post Office or The Shoe in Exton.

A logo for 'Friends of Meonstoke School' featuring the name in a stylized, cursive font with a small crest above the 'S'.

Friends of Meonstoke School
present a:

Quiz Night

at The Bakers Arms

Sunday 22nd April
Doors open 7.30pm

Tickets £6 each (tables of 6 or 8)
including a cheeseboard

For sale at the School or Meonstoke Post Office

Bring your drinks
Bar service/tea & coffee also available

Droxford Recreation Ground Pavilion

NEWS



EXCITING TIMES LIE AHEAD FOR THE DROXFORD PAVILION. THE PARISH COUNCIL HAS COMMITTED, AS SET OUT IN the Parish Plan (May 2015), to refurbish and extend its use. In extending the use, it is understood this is a village asset offering outdoor space, complementary to the village hall. The parish council's agreed 5 year refurbishment plan was outlined to a group of enthusiastic parishioners who welcomed the improvements. The plan will ensure the building is structurally sound and watertight with improved ventilation and upgraded interior facilities.

The parish council drew a clear distinction between its responsibility for the building funded through the precept, and additional 'extras' outside their remit, but were happy to lead a fundraising initiative. So, with a great deal of help Pimp Our Pavilion (POP) was formed. POP will raise funds to achieve aesthetic features not covered by the parish council's costings. Alongside representation from the parish council, Droxford Cricket Club have representation to ensure that suggested changes meet their needs, and assist in fundraising.

Fundraising will take the form of events that we hope you will all support. Following the success of the community events of 2017 POP will be supporting the following events to raise funds in 2018:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 19th May | - <i>Scarecrow Royal Wedding</i> |
| 25th May | - <i>Pavilion Pop-up-Pub</i> |
| 8th - 22nd September | - <i>Scarecrow Festival</i> |
| 3rd November | - <i>Fireworks Party</i> |

Due to the 2017 successful Scarecrow Festival, Fireworks Party and sales of scarecrow calendars there is already over £3,000 raised towards the work that POP will undertake. We will begin by acquiring picnic benches to make the area more welcoming. POP wishes to create a community asset enjoyed by the whole community; these transformations follow on from the improvements made to the parking and sporting facilities over the last couple of years and will widen the use of the entire Recreation Ground.

We would love to see this under-used asset reach its full potential, so please use the contact details below if you

would like to join POP, volunteer to help at one of the events, have proposals for events that you would like to see held at this venue, or if you have a local group or society that would be interested in hiring the pavilion, for example; astronomy club and walking groups.

To join or volunteer, go to: www.pimp-our-pavilion.co.uk
To find out about the parish council go to the Droxford Parish Website at: www.droxfordweb.co.uk

Groups interested in using the venue, please send an email to: clerk.droxfordpc@gmail.com

DROXFORD HISTORY GROUP

Invites members & visitors
to join them on
Thursday 31st May

For a conducted walk around
Nelson's Last Walk in Old Portsmouth
Led by Julian Malec

To join the walk, please meet in
The Grand Square, Old Portsmouth,
opposite the cathedral, at 10.30am

There will be a £2 fee
for non-members for this visit.

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT



LATEST NEWS

FLY TIPPING:

The city council has achieved 100% success rate in fly tip prosecutions. WCC has been actively looking to reduce fly tipping in the district and its success demonstrates its zero tolerance approach to fly tipping.

AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN FOR THE CITY CENTRE:

This plan has nine high impact core actions aimed at improving air quality and working towards meeting the relevant air quality objectives within Winchester district.

SAFER COMMUNITIES – A PARTNERSHIP APPROACH:

Winchester City Council's Community Safety and Neighbourhood Services Team works side-by-side with the police, council teams and others as part of the community safety partnership to deliver a range of actions that reduce crime and disorder.

LOCAL PLAN FOR THE WINCHESTER DISTRICT:

After its successful examination in public and the incorporation of modifications, the Winchester District Local Plan Part 2 - Development Management and Site Allocations (LPP2) has been adopted by the Council.

GOVERNMENT HOUSING PLANS:

WCC's ambitious plan to double the number of homes it is building in the next three years has received a welcome boost from the latest Government announcements.

NEW BUSINESS SUPPORT SERVICE:

Winchester City Council invited bids from organisations or individuals for a new business support service for the Winchester district for a two-year period from 1st June 2017. The business support service will provide training, networking, one-to-one advice sessions and mentoring tailored to the needs of businesses located in the Winchester area.

COUNCIL SCOOPS GOLD STANDARD AWARD FOR LOCAL HOMELESSNESS SERVICES:

Winchester City Council has become the first council in Hampshire and only the fifth in England to receive the Government's prestigious Gold Standard award in recognition of its work in preventing and tackling all forms of homelessness.

FRIARSGATE CAR PARK RE-OPENS

COUNCIL INVESTS £1M ON DISABLED ADAPTATIONS:

WCC has agreed to double its spending on adapting residents homes to help them to remain independent and in many cases making sure they can return home from hospital more quickly.

TENANT SATISFACTION RISES BY 3%:

Tenant satisfaction with WCC has gone up, with 91 per cent of tenants surveyed saying they are happy with the service they receive (compared to 89% when the survey was completed 2 years ago).

COUNCIL CONSULTS LOCAL BUSINESSES ON RATE RELIEF:

Following central government changes, the city council has been awarded £900,000 from central government to help local businesses struggling with changes in their business rates bill.

WCC CABINET MEETINGS TAKE TO THE ROAD:

Alternate cabinet meeting will be held in a different location around the district for the rest of the municipal year, which runs until May.

A NEW LOOK FOR WCC WEBSITE:

Makes it more user friendly and easier to navigate and access a service at www.winchester.gov.uk.

£15M ADDED TO STRATEGIC ASSET FUND:

When members ratified a plan to increase the city council's ability to invest in strategic assets that can be used to boost the organisation's income and support local services.

WINCHESTER'S RESIDENTS HELP TO KEEP AIR AMBULANCE FLYING:

They have helped to raise a staggering £24,000 for Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance by using council clothing recycling points around the district to turn their unwanted clothing, shoes, and textiles into cash.

KERBSIDE GLASS COLLECTION:

Councillors are considering introducing kerbside glass collection.

TRAVELLER DEVELOPMENT:

WCC has reached a key stage with publication of its Traveller Development Planning Document.

PARK AND RIDE BUS:

Extra buses for peak hours to be introduced

YOUR WINCHESTER CITY COUNCILLORS

Linda Gemmell email: lgermell@winchester.gov.uk

Frank R. Pearson email: fpearson@winchester.gov.uk

Vicki Weston email: vweston@winchester.gov.uk

Laurence Ruffell email: lruffell@winchester.gov.uk

Amber Thacker email: athacker@winchester.gov.uk

The A32 – TRAFFIC CRIME AND RELATED NUISANCE

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL HAS A PANEL OF ELECTED MEMBERS IN PLACE SPECIFICALLY TO SCRUTINISE AND support the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). Meetings of this Hampshire Police and Crime panel (PCP) focus on particular areas of concern to them. Last summer it sought the views of parish councils and others on matters of traffic crime and related nuisance.

Acting collectively with others in the Meon Valley, the three civil parishes (Droxford PC, Corhampton and Meonstoke PC, and Exton parish meeting) submitted evidence on the perennial problem of motor cycle noise on the A32. Specifically, this concerned the lack of effective enforcement measures taken by the traffic police and the perceived lack of engagement on this issue by the PCC himself. Most recently, this has resulted in the public meeting held at West Meon in January where the frustration of residents along the length of the valley was again vented. A communities against noise and speed (CANS) group has since been formally constituted to act as a pressure group (details on the C&M PC Website).

Jerry Pett (Vice-Chairman of C&M PC) was invited to represent the valley parishes and give evidence to a public scrutiny session of the PCP last October, where our concerns were given a good hearing alongside those representing traffic issues in the New Forest, and the perceived lack of support given to village community speed watch initiatives. Evidence was also taken from the senior officer of the joint Hampshire and Thames Valley

Police traffic division and the Hampshire highways department. The PCC himself chose not to attend the session but was represented by the chief executive of his office.

The eventual output was a letter from the chairman of the PCP to the PCC in February 2018.

(www3.hants.gov.uk/hampshire-pcp/pcc-proactivescrutiny.htm#trafficcrime and on the C&M PC Website)

This summarised the evidence and made recommendations to the commissioner. In essence, the panel recognised that while there may be good reasons why enforcement has been less than effective so far, none of these is irresolvable, particularly given the willingness of parish councils to engage actively with the police and other agencies.

One of its recommendations to the PCC is worth noting: "In particular, following the public meeting (in December 2016) regarding concerns over road safety and noise disturbance on the A32, the PCC and his office should take a lead in supporting relevant partners to devise a fully coherent action plan, ensuring that any actions agreed are addressed by those partners in a timely manner".

The wording in this is about as strong as we could have hoped for. The Parish Councils, and the PCP, now await the Commissioner's formal response and, we trust, action.

Jerry Pett

Vice-chairman, C&M Parish Council

You are cordially invited to celebrate

The Royal Wedding

on **Saturday 19th May**

3.00pm onwards for **Afternoon Tea and Prosecco** at our beautiful recreation ground

£15.00 per ticket or £30.00 for a family

To include sandwiches, cake, Prosecco, tea and coffee.

Tickets available at the Post Office or 1 Union Lane

Bar and TV screen (for football fans) plus live music

ALL PROCEEDS TO GO TO THE RESTORATION OF THE PAVILION



Meon Valley Lions Club



SADLY, THERE HAS BEEN A LOT OF CONTROVERSIAL PRESS RECENTLY ABOUT international charitable aid organisations. Lions fall loosely into that category in that we provide aid, are registered as a charity, and work internationally, but that's where comparisons stop. Meon Valley Lions, are members of Lions Clubs International, a global network of 1.4 million volunteers and we work through this international network of clubs to make a real difference. When a humanitarian crisis strikes, Lions Clubs International Foundation mobilise cash and resources but work with, and are guided by, their own Lions members who are ordinary, local people present on the ground.

As the world's largest voluntary, non-governmental organisation (NGO), our volunteers fundraise and serve their own local communities, with every penny raised being used to help those in need. We don't spend money on fancy fundraising campaigns and all our administration and marketing costs are funded by members' subs. It can prove challenging providing aid this way, but we are committed not to waste the money entrusted to Lions by the public and ensuring it can genuinely help victims of a disaster. Lions Clubs of the British Isles are very grateful for public support, which enables us to commit to solving long term problems through our presence in local communities throughout the world.

Meon Valley Lions Club has a policy of dedicating a minimum of 80% of its fund-raising activities to local good causes and projects, with the balance going to national and international relief causes. One of our most recent projects was the purchase of a specially adapted duet-bike for Ella, who lives in Shirrell Heath. Ella is 10 years old and suffers from Rett Syndrome, a rare neurological disorder resulting in severe mental and physical disability. Lions contributed a shade under £3,000 towards the cost of this specially adapted bike, so now she is able to join the whole family on cycle rides in this beautiful corner of Hampshire. A great investment!

As a club, we are open and transparent about our fundraising and where we spend the money. If you visit the About us pages of our website, there is an accounts page

Aid Delivered where it's needed, with No Overheads!



Ella on her special duet-bike, out with the family

containing a full breakdown. If you would like to get involved and help our charitable work, you can contact us via the website, or you can simply make a donation on the home page.

Meon Trail Charity Walk

On Saturday, 12th May, Meon Valley Lions Club is organising a sponsored walk along the old Meon Valley railway line (The Meon Valley Trail) from Wickham to West Meon. We are partnering with a number of charities on this event, including Homestart – Meon Valley, Fareham Rainbow Centre, Rose Road Association, Rowans Hospice and Prostate Cancer. Walkers can choose a number of route and distance options, to suit adults and children and then channel their sponsorship to one of these listed charities via the charities' own Just Giving pages.

Transport will be available to ferry participants between the various start and finish points. Entry costs just £3 for adults and £1 for children under 12, to include transport, water at start/finish and check points, first aid and maps. Entry fee can be paid on the day.

For full details and to download a sponsorship form, go to the dedicated page on the Events section of our website at: www.meonvalleylionsclub.org.uk

Ian Adams Publicity Officer



SPRING PLANT SALE

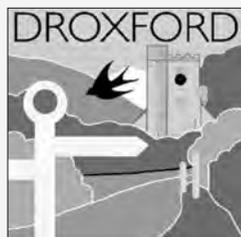


Saturday 5th May
Droxford Village Hall
at 10.00am



All sorts of plants at very good prices

For all club events, go to
www.droxfordweb.co.uk
(under *Clubs and Leisure link*)



DROXFORD ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

Thursday 19th April 2018
in Droxford Village Hall
at 7.30pm

Chaired by
Barbara Chandler, *Chair of Droxford Parish Council*

Join members of the council to hear and ask questions following annual reports from the county and district councillors, the police and your parish councillors. Hear about activities and achievements from local clubs and organizations in 2017 and fundraising events planned for the forthcoming year.

Welcome drink - 7.15pm



Meon Valley Active Retirement Association

Regular events for the active in retirement

Programme - April & May 2018

Exercise Class -

St. Peter's Church Hall, Bishop's Waltham.
Every Monday from 10:00 to 11:15am

NB: No class on April 2nd, May 7th nor May 28th

Cost per individual session: members £2.00, non-members £2.50

Please note there is a waiting list for this class.

Contact: Chee Price 01489 893140

Ladies' Pub Lunch -

Mondays – lunch on April 9th and May 14th

Contact Chriszena Strachan 01489 893719 by the previous Monday for venue and to book a place. Please note there may be a waiting list.

Advanced French Conversation -

Meetings held on second and fourth Tuesday afternoon of the month from 2:00pm in the home of a member. Please note that these sessions are now full.

Contact organiser Lyndon Palmer on 01489 896862 to join the waiting list.

Table Tennis -

Priory Park Clubhouse, Elizabeth Way, Bishop's Waltham.

Wednesday afternoons from 2pm to 5pm

Please note a waiting list has now been opened with a view to holding an extra session.

Cost per session £3.00 for members, £4.50 for non-members.

Contact: John Moorhouse on 01489 896366

Tai Chi -

Jubilee Hall, Gold Room. Wednesday mornings.

There are two sessions: Beginners/less experienced: 9 to 10am.

Experienced: 10.15 to 11.15am. An intermediate class will be

held in April on Wednesday mornings from 11:30 to 12:30. This

may continue subject to demand. Cost per individual session

£4.00 for members; £5.50 for non-members

Contact: Cherry Wynne-Powell on 01329 833254

Spanish Lessons -

Classes held on Friday mornings at The Stables, Free Street, Bishops Waltham.

NB: No sessions on April 6th, May 11th nor May 18th

Cost £3.50 per session. Spanish I for Beginners runs from 09:15

to 10:15am. Spanish II runs from 10:45 to 11:45am.

Call John Moorhouse on 01489 896366 to discuss.

Scrabble for Fun -

Sessions on Friday afternoons in the small room at The Paterson Centre, Swanmore (next to the church) from 2.00 to 4.00pm.

Cost £2.00 per session. Beginners very welcome Please be prompt!

Contact: Lena Frost on 01489 894828

Theatre/Cinema Visits -

Visits are organised throughout the year.

For information on theatre/cinema visits please

Contact Kay Corke 01489 890727



MEON VALLEY CARERS GROUP NEWS

Promoting a positive way of living with dementia

THE MEON VALLEY CARERS GROUP IS A VOLUNTARY GROUP SUPPORTING CARERS AND FAMILIES DEALING WITH DEMENTIA.

An informal pub lunch is held on the second Tuesday of each month and this provides the carers with the opportunity to relax and socialize. On the fourth Tuesday of the month a group meeting is held at the Paterson Centre in Swanmore and this provides members with enjoyable events in which to participate. It also provides an opportunity to hear a variety of talks on relevant themes, and volunteers provide activities for the cared-for to allow their carers a little time off. Thanks to the generosity of the Meon Valley Lions Club, which owns a minibus, we are able to offer transport for members living in the Meon Valley who do not drive and would otherwise be unable to join us.

If you would be interested in seeing more of what we do, please contact the office and a programme can be posted to you.

Spring is finally springing and our members are looking forward an afternoon at Brambridge Garden Centre, always a lovely place to visit especially when the afternoon is finished off with a cream tea. Being able to share outings with others in a similar situation can be rewarding and beneficial; many friendships have been formed within the group as a result of sharing and caring, and the volunteers are always on hand to help with the cared for where required.

If you would like any more information regarding the group then please contact the office

April and May Programme

10th April

Pub Lunch

at *The Black Dog, Waltham Chase* - 12 noon

24th April

Outing to Brambridge Garden Centre with a cream tea, 2pm - 4pm.

Cost £5.50. If transport is required the minibus will leave the Paterson Centre at 1.30pm.

8th May

Pub Lunch

at *The Black Dog, Waltham Chase* - 12 noon

22nd May

Group Meeting

at *the Paterson Centre, Swanmore* - 2.00pm
Cycling across the USA, a talk by Doug Pattison

Meon Valley Carers Group, at the Paterson Centre, Church Road, Swanmore. Mon 9.15 am - 1.15pm
Tel: **01489 895444** email: meon-valley@btconnect.com



The Meon Valley FLOWER CLUB

The flower club is a member of the Wessex & Jersey Branch of the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies (NAFAS).



We will be delighted to meet visitors and potential members to our meetings held at 2.00pm on the Fourth Tuesday of the month at The Meon Hall, Meonstoke.

Our next meetings are:

Tuesday 24th April

A Plant Sale and Talk: *'Who Needs a Camera'* by Steve Ingham.

Tuesday 22nd May

A Demonstration: *'Wedding Day'* by Sue Swaby from East Cowes.

Enquiries please to Margaret Wallace, the Chairman, on 01489 878349

Meon Valley Community Bus Association TIMETABLE

Fares (all destinations): **Adult:** £5.00 return.
Children Under 16: ½ fare: **Under 5's** - Free
All concessionary bus passes accepted
For private hire please call Richard Blackburn: Tel: 877391

Mondays to FAREHAM

09:40 Meonstoke PO & Stores
09:42 Meonstoke, Pound Cottages
09:45 Meonstoke Triangle
09:50 Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE)
09:54 Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH

Wednesdays to FAREHAM

09:40 Meonstoke PO & Stores
09:42 Meonstoke, Pound Cottages
09:45 Meonstoke Triangle
09:50 Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE)
09:54 Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH

Thursdays to FAREHAM

09:37 Exton, The Shoe PH
09:40 Meonstoke PO & Stores
09:42 Meonstoke, Pound Cottages
09:45 Meonstoke, Oxendown
09:49 Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH
Note: All Fareham trips return from:
12:30 Sainsbury's, Fareham
12:35 Fareham Library

1st & 3rd Friday of each month to WINCHESTER

09:03 Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH
09:07 Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE)
09:12 Meonstoke Triangle
09:14 Meonstoke Pound Cottages
09:17 Meonstoke PO & Stores
09:19 Exton, The Shoe PH

Return from:

11:55 River Park Leisure Centre
12:00 Winchester Broadway

2nd Friday each month to WATERLOOVILLE

09:37 Exton, The Shoe PH
09:40 Meonstoke PO & Stores
09:42 Meonstoke, Pound Cottages
09:45 Meonstoke Triangle
09:50 Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE)
09:54 Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH

Return from:

12:30 Waterlooville Sainsbury's
12:35 Waterlooville Waitrose

4th Friday each Month to PETERSFIELD

09:03 Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH
09:07 Droxford Square (PARK and RIDE)
09:12 Meonstoke Triangle
09:14 Meonstoke Pound Cottages
09:17 Meonstoke PO & Stores
09:21 Exton The Shoe PH

Return from:

12:00 Waitrose, Petersfield



Singing for Fun

Come and sing your favourite songs and learn some new ones.
No talent required.

**The Stables, Maypole Green,
Free Street, Bishop's Waltham SO32 1PW
from 2.00 to 3.30pm**

Next Meetings:

April - 6th & 20th

May - 4th & 18th

Ages 40's to 90's, people with disabilities especially welcome.

**Cost: £1.00 a session
includes refreshments**

Further information from Annabel
on 01489 877130 or 07732 329792.

or – just turn up!



Midweek Stress Buster

If you like singing and meeting lovely people you are most welcome to join us. We meet on the 2nd and 3rd Wednesday of each month at Droxford Village Hall at 7.30pm. We are very much a community choir and explore the lighter side of the repertoire. We range from experienced singers to those who have never sung in a choir before. To find out more go to our website at: **www.singandtonic.org.uk**

SOME LOCAL SERVICES & USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

POST OFFICES

Droxford – High Street 878811
 Meonstoke Post Office Warnford Road, Corhampton 877374

STORES

Droxford Stores, High Street 878811
 Meonstoke Village Stores, Warnford Road, Corhampton 877374
 Meringtons Stores, Garrison Hill, Droxford 878043
 Droxford Antiques, High Street, Droxford 878800

PUBLIC HOUSES

The Baker's Arms, Droxford 877533
 The Bucks Head, Meonstoke 877313
 The Hurdles, Droxford 877451
 The Shoe, Exton 877526
 The White Horse, Droxford 877490

GARAGES

Meringtons, Droxford 877431
 Taylors Garage Ltd, Droxford 877433

SCHOOLS

Droxford Junior School, Secretary 877537
 Meonstoke School, Secretary 877568
 Valley Pre-school 878019
 Swanmore College of Technology 892256

LIBRARY (Bishop's Waltham)

Free Street, Bishops Waltham 0300 555 1387

CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU (Bishop's Waltham)

Well House, 2 Brook Street 03444 111306
 CAB email: bishopswaltham@cabnet.org.uk

PARISH COUNCILS

Corhampton & Meonstoke. Clerk: Mrs R Hoile 07720 092072
 Website: www.candm-pc.gov.uk
 Droxford. Clerk: Mrs R Hoile 07720 092072
 Website: www.droxfordweb.co.uk

Exton Parish Meeting:
 Honorary Secretary: Position vacant –

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

email: lgemmell@winchester.gov.uk
 email: fpearson@winchester.gov.uk
 email: vweston@winchester.gov.uk
 email: lruffell@winchester.gov.uk
 email: athacker@winchester.gov.uk

DROXFORD VILLAGE HALL

Bookings: Mrs Terry Crowfoot 877631

THE MEON HALL, MEONSTOKE

Bookings: Mrs Anna Rolfe by
 email: meonhallbookings@yahoo.co.uk or by phone at 878284
 Go to www.candm-pc.gov.uk/the-meon-hall for details of
 charges and general information

LOCAL SURGERIES

Droxford 877588
 Wickham 01329 833121
 West Meon 01730 829666

COMMUNITY CARE TRANSPORT COORDINATORS:

(Please ring only between 9.0 am and 6.00 pm)
 Droxford: 07977 096586
 Exton, Meonstoke & Corhampton: 07795 928065

DROXFORD VILLAGE COMMUNITY WEBSITE:

www.droxfordweb.co.uk
 for more information on local events and activities

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICES

Adult Services 0300 555 1386
 Children's Services 0845 603 5620
 The above numbers are open Mon. to Thurs. 8.30am - 4.30pm
 The out-of-hours number is 0845 600 4555

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

If you see anything suspicious that requires immediate police attendance, ring the emergency number 999. If it is important to report it, but not urgent, ring 101.

Corhampton & Meonstoke

Ian Gilchrist (chairman)	877238
Rectory Lane Norah Burrage	878708
High Street Janet Dobby	878657
Bucks Head Hill Carol Jones	878560
Oxendown Ian Gilchrist	877238
Warnford Road Mike Camp	877180
Corhampton Lane Charles Hall	877506
Pound Lane, West Patrick Monger	877161
Pound Lane, East Linda Foot	877763
Chapel Road & Fry's Lane	
Charlie Fullegar	07876 524457
New Road Jenny Liardet	877583
Allen's Lane and St Andrew's Green	
Leslie Daysh	877327
Stocks Lane Peter Riley	877494
Brockbridge Road Frances Keppel	878774
Millside Phil Butler	877596

Droxford Gordon Hope 877751

Exton Joan Starkie 878698

POLICE (non-emergency calls) 101

NHS 111 (for fast help but not 999 emergency) Call 111
 For help on community safety and to report anti-social behaviour, etc, Ring 101

WILLIAMS COLLINS TRUST

Can we help you? Our charity was set up to assist children and students from The Bridge parishes requiring financial help for educational purposes including residential school trips, books, and travel. Call one of our trustees in confidence to request a form:

Corhampton: *Monika Thwaites*, 877939
Droxford: *Ann Symes*, 877643 & *Julia Keitley*, 877414
Exton: *Diana Arthur*, 877390
Meonstoke: *Sian Holiday*, 07966 487762

The trustees will meet next in October on a date still to be decided, to make awards. Please send in your applications before this date.

DISTRICT DIARY

APRIL

Sunday 1 – Easter Sunday

- Tue. 3** Morning Prayer, Exton 8.30am
Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford Village Hall 10.30–12.00
- Wed. 4** Morning Prayer, Meonstoke 8.30am
Look in for coffee & chat, Meonstoke Church 10.00–12.00
Evening Prayer, Droxford 5.00pm
- Thu. 5** Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00am
Exton APCM, in Exton church 7.30pm
- Fri. 6** Singing for Fun, The Stables, Bishops Waltham 2.00pm
- Sat. 7** MV Garden Club: Coffee Morning at Highfield & Pylewell, Swanmore Rd, Droxford 10.30am

Sunday 8 – Easter 2

- Tue. 10** Morning Prayer, Exton 8.30am
Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford Village Hall 10.30–12.00
MV Arts Society: talk: '*Taj Mahal*,' The Meon Hall 10.40am
MV Archaeology Group AGM, Meon Hall 6.00pm
Play-reading Group, The Meon Hall 7.30pm
- Wed. 11** Morning Prayer, Meonstoke 8.30am
Evening Prayer, Droxford 5.00pm
Corhampton & Meonstoke Parish Council:
Annual Parish Assembly, The Meon Hall 7.30pm
- Thu. 12** Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00am
Droxford Parish Council meeting, Droxford VH 7.30pm

Sunday 15 – Easter 3

- Tue. 17** Morning Prayer, Exton 8.30am
Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford Village Hall 10.30–12.00

- Wed. 18** Morning Prayer, Meonstoke 8.30am
Look in for coffee & chat, Meonstoke Church 10.00–12.00
Evening Prayer, Droxford 5.00pm
- Thu. 19** Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00am
Droxford Parish Council: Annual Parish Assembly in Droxford Village Hall 7.30pm
- Fri. 20** Singing for Fun, The Stables, Bishops Waltham 2.00pm

Sunday 22 – Easter 4

- Sun. 22** FOMS Quiz Night : The Bakers Arms 7.30pm
- Mon. 23** Droxford Village Hall Annual General Meeting in VH 7.30pm
Meonstoke & Corhampton APCM, Meonstoke Church 7.30pm
- Tue. 24** Morning Prayer, Exton 8.30am
Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford Village Hall 10.30–12.00
MV Flower Club: Plant Sale & Talk: '*Who Needs a Camera*' by Steve Ingham. The Meon Hall 1.45pm
Friends of St. Andrews & Corhampton Churches (FOSACC) AGM: in St Andrew's Church 7.00pm
Droxford APCM, Droxford Village Hall 7.30pm
- Wed. 25** Morning Prayer, Meonstoke 8.30am
Evening Prayer, Droxford 5.00pm
Film Night: '*Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool*' 7.30pm
Droxford Village Hall (Doors open at 7.00 pm)
- Thu. 26** Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00am
M/stoke Toddler Group; The Meon Hall 9.30–11.30

Sunday 29 – Easter 5

SUNDAY SERVICES FOR APRIL

Date	Time	Service	Church
1st Easter Day	6.00am	Blessing the Paschal Candles	Meonstoke
	6.15am	Bringing in the Light & First Easter Eucharist	Corhampton
	7.30am	Easter Breakfast	Meonstoke
	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Exton
	10.30am	Family Eucharist (CW)	Droxford
	10.30am	Family Eucharist (CW)	Meonstoke
8th Easter 2	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Meonstoke
	10.30am	Holy Communion (CW)	Droxford
	6.30pm	Songs of Praise (<i>RAF Centenary</i>)	Meonstoke
15th Easter 3	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Exton
	10.00am	Informal All-age Service - <i>Singing in Praise</i>	Droxford
	10.30am	Matins	Corhampton
22nd Easter 4	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Corhampton
	10.30am	Family Service followed by <i>Holy Communion Celebration of St George</i>	Exton
29th Easter 5	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Meonstoke
	10.30am	Holy Communion (CW)	Droxford

DISTRICT DIARY

MAY

- Tue. 1** Morning Prayer, Exton 8.30am
Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford Village Hall 10.30–12.00
- Wed. 2** Morning Prayer, Meonstoke 8.30am
Look in for coffee & chat, Meonstoke Church 10.00–12.00
Evening Prayer, Droxford 5.00pm
- Thu. 3** Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00am
Messy Church for Meonstoke & Droxford School in Meonstoke School 3.30-5.30pm
Local Govt. Elections: The Meon Hall & Droxford VH All day
- Fri. 4** Singing for Fun, The Stables, Bishops Waltham 2.00pm
3rd Stubbington Brownies: Staying in The Meon Hall until Monday 7th
- Sat. 5** MV Garden Club: Spring Plant Sale; Droxford VH 10.00am

Sunday 6 – Easter 6 (Rogation Sunday) Beating the Bounds**Mon. 7 Last copy date for June - July issue of The Bridge**

- Tue. 8** Morning Prayer, Exton 8.30am
Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford Village Hall 10.30–12.00
MV Arts Society: Talk: 'The Medici's', The Meon Hall 10.40am
Play-reading Group, The Meon Hall 7.30pm
- Wed 9** Morning Prayer, Meonstoke 8.30am
Bring & Buy coffee morning, Droxford Church 10.00-1.00
Evening Prayer, Droxford 5.00pm
C'hampton & M'stoke Parish Council mtg: Meon Hall 7.30pm
- Thu. 10** Ascension Day Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00am
M/stoke Toddler Group; The Meon Hall 9.30–11.30
Special Deanery Sung Eucharist 7.30pm
(with Deanery Choir) at St Andrew's, Meonstoke
- Sat. 12** Plant & Cake Sale, Meonstoke (see page 8) 10.00 am

Sunday 13 – Easter 7

- Mon. 14** RBL meeting & talk: 'UK Maritime trade, ports & Brexit' 7.00pm
Rear Adm. David Snelson: Droxford Village Hall,

- Tue. 15** Morning Prayer, Exton 8.30am
Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford Village Hall 10.30–12.00
- Wed. 16** Morning Prayer, Meonstoke 8.30am
Look in for coffee & chat, Meonstoke Church 10.00–12.00
Evening Prayer, Droxford 5.00pm
- Thu. 17** Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00am
MV Garden Club: Talk: 'Gilbert White', The Meon Hall 7.30pm
Droxford Parish Council: Annual meeting followed by normal meeting: Droxford VH 7.30pm
- Fri. 18** Singing for Fun, The Stables, Bishops Waltham 2.00pm

Sunday 20 – Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

- Christian Aid Sponsored Walk, Wickham 1.00pm
- Mon. 21** The Meon Hall Management C'tee mtg; The M.Hall 7.30pm
- Tue. 22** Morning Prayer, Exton 8.30am
Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford Village Hall 10.30–12.00
MV Flower Club meeting: The Meon Hall 1.45pm
- Wed. 23** Morning Prayer, Meonstoke 8.30am
Evening Prayer, Droxford 5.00pm
- Thu. 24** M/stoke Toddler Group; The Meon Hall 9.30–11.30
Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00am
- Fri. 25** Folk Music Camp: The Meon Hall & Recreation Ground until Tuesday 29th

Sunday 27 – Trinity Sunday

- Tue. 29** Morning Prayer, Exton 8.30am
Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford Village Hall 10.30–12.00
- Wed. 30** Morning Prayer, Meonstoke 8.30am
Evening Prayer, Droxford 5.00pm
Film night: Droxford VH (Door opens at 7.00pm) 7.30pm
- Thu. 31** Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00am
Droxford History Group: 'Nelson's Last Walk', 10.30am
A Guided tour by Julian Malec
Special Eucharist for Corpus Christi, M/stoke Church 7.30pm



SUNDAY SERVICES FOR MAY

Date	Time	Service	Church
6th Easter 6 (& Rogation Sunday)	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Holy Communion (CW) Rogation Evensong	Droxford Meonstoke Exton
13th Easter 7	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Holy Communion (CW) Fire Service Songs prayers & readings	Meonstoke Droxford Meonstoke
20th Pentecost (Whit Sunday)	8.00am 10.00am 10.30am 1.00pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Informal All-age service - Favourites Holy Communion (CW) Christian Aid Walks (see page 2)	Exton Droxford Corhampton Wickham
27th Trinity Sunday	8.00am 9.30am 10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) Bridging the Gap - <i>Informal inter-generational service</i> Holy Communion (CW)	Corhampton Meonstoke Exton

....Date for your diary!....



Le French Picnic!

**on the Church Green, Meonstoke
Saturday 14th July 2018
from 2.30pm**

Entertainment for all the family

Details in the next Bridge magazine

**A Meon Ladies event to raise funds
for 'St Andrew's Church'.**

ALTON ABBEY

OPEN DAY

at Alton Abbey GU34 4AP

**Saturday and Sunday
9th and 10th June**

from 12 noon - 5.00pm

Admission - £3 Tea and Cake - £3

Plants for Sale

Lace-making and Display of work

Beautiful Stationary

Second-hand Books

Hadeel Palestinian Fair Trade products for sale

FRIENDS OF ALTON ABBEY



The Rude Mechanical Theatre Company

'Outdoor theatre in Droxford with Oberon's Cure'

THE VERY POPULAR RUDE MECHANICAL THEATRE COMPANY WILL BE BACK AT THE OLD RECTORY, DROXFORD, THIS SUMMER ON SATURDAY, 30TH JUNE. IT WILL BE THEIR 20TH YEAR OF TOURING AND MANY OF THOSE TOURS HAVE BEEN TO DROXFORD. OBERON'S CURE FIRST toured as The Fairy Queen in 2005, is based on Titania's accusation in A Midsummer Night's Dream that her husband Oberon has had an affair with 'this bouncing Amazon', Hippolyta, and is therefore an imagined prequel to Shakespeare's play.

It is basically about an old man who is not capable of resisting a beautiful young woman. Now when hasn't that been in the news recently! But he is made to look ridiculous by his inadequacy and the foolish lack of self-awareness makes him into a sad, pathetic individual. But there is forgiveness, too, as Titania teaches him a lesson and appeals to him to grow old gracefully. But do we want to grow old gracefully? It is an old story, which people will recognize and laugh at because of its familiarity. There are things to admire too: Hippolyta's wiliness as she wraps Oberon round her little finger and Briony's child-like, innocent, but tough, determination to work out the confusion of life and emerge as a young woman.



The play starts at 7.30 pm as usual, but you can get there from 6.00pm with your picnics. Bring your own low-backed chairs and warm clothes! Tickets are available online from the Rudes' Website at www.therudemechanicaltheatre.co.uk - or locally from the Post Office. You won't want to miss this funny, romantic, and rather poetic offering from the Rudes.

NEW BOOK by Droxford Author

800 DAYS IN DOHA

by Penelope Gordon



WHEN DROXFORD RESIDENT DR PENELOPE GORDON WAS HEADHUNTED TO GO AND WORK IN DOHA, QATAR, HER SOLE experience of the Middle East had been a brief luxury break in Dubai. However neither she or her husband Lionel Jarvis, a much-travelled naval officer, were quite prepared for the experience that followed.

Penelope left her NHS job as a Consultant Radiologist and Director of Education at QA Hospital in Portsmouth to head up medical leadership and education in a set of hospitals in Qatar.

In her memoir 800 Days in Doha, published by Gosport publisher Chaplin Books, she relates how she turned what could have been a daunting experience into an adventure. In this captivating and amusing memoir, Penelope shows how she managed to find the humour in dealing with a culture that was often baffling and opaque.

Penelope is donating her royalties from the book to charity: the Order of St John in England and its charities, including St John Ambulance, will benefit from every copy sold.

If you would like a copy of the book please go online to: www.chaplinbooks.co.uk or telephone: 023 9252 9020.

The Art of Guitar: Virtuoso Classics

Bach
Albeniz
Tarrega
Rodrigo

Mark Jennings

Saturday 5th May 2018
at St Nicholas Church, Wickham
Commencing at 7.00pm

Tickets: £10
Call: 01329 833299
Refreshments available

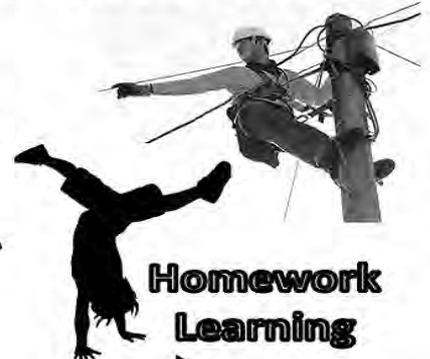


“Superfast” (Fibre) Broadband is here Wake up to the benefits Tell friends & neighbours

Online Shopping



Home safety
& security



Homework
Learning

Community



Business & Jobs
growth

Travel
Planning



Health
Care



Connecting
with family
& friends



Netflix
Live Streaming
Entertainment

How to find out about “Superfast”

Type your landline or postcode into www.openreach.co.uk
and/or email TPeterOSullivan@hotmail.com
or write to Peter O’Sullivan, Meonstoke, SO32 3NN

Droxford & District Community Care Group

We aim to support our local community by:

- Providing transport for visits to hospital, dentists, doctors and other health specialists: for these visits, contact our transport coordinators on the following telephone numbers: Droxford Area:- 07977 096586; Corhampton, Meonstoke & Exton Areas:- 07795 928065
- Giving assistance with completion of forms and documents on a confidential basis
- Resolving both internal and external problems with land line telephones of the elderly when they are not working properly. BT Openreach must repair all external faults within two working days.
- Helping to register frail and elderly persons whose telephone is an absolute lifeline – especially those with an emergency alarm connected to their telephone for the priority repair scheme. (Note: A form must be signed by the person's GP.)
- Providing a service to new arrivals in the Droxford, Meonstoke, Corhampton, and Exton areas with a welcome note and later a visit to assist them in settling in. If you have recently arrived in one of the local villages and we have not been in touch, please make contact with the new arrivals coordinator, Za Rowe on 01489 877732.

New volunteer drivers needed

- To help support the local community
- With a very flexible commitment – you decide when you drive
- To provide private transport for essential purposes such as hospital, dentist and doctor appointments
- Your mileage costs are covered at 40p per mile
- Over 50 local people have been taken to various hospitals, doctors' surgeries, dentists etc, in the past two years.
- If you are willing to give a little time and volunteer as a driver, please contact our transport coordinators or the community care group chairman.

John Shaw Chairman. Tel: 01489 877564

Petersfield Hospital

Swan Street, Petersfield GU32 3LB
Tel: 01730 263221

MINOR INJURIES UNIT

Open 8.00am to 6.00pm 365 days a year

As a dedicated Minor Injuries Team, we can treat many minor injuries for all ages including:

Cuts & Abrasions

Burns

Ear & nose injuries

Eye injuries

Foreign bodies

Head Injuries

Minor Fractures

Nose bleeds

Splinters, Sprains & Strains

If we cannot treat your injury, we will refer you to another member of our multi-disciplinary team.

These can include:

Accident & Emergency Department

● **Dentist**

● **Fracture Clinic**

● **General Practitioner**

● **Ophthalmic Optician**

We have X-ray facilities Monday to Friday from 9.00am to midday. Waiting times vary, but most patients are seen, treated and discharged within an hour.



Community First Responders are required to help respond to medical emergencies in the Meon Valley area.

No previous experience necessary; full training provided in life support techniques, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and use of automatic external defibrillator (AED).

Applicants must be aged 18 or over, hold a full UK driving licence and have use of vehicle.

You choose times you can cover (days, evenings, weekends).

Contact Rob Scott, MCVFR Coordinator at robmunroscott@aol.com
or Community Responder Administrator at cfr@scas.nhs.uk (0800 5870207)

and maybe, **HELP SAVE A LIFE!**

From the Registers

Funerals

Meonstoke 2nd February -
Heather Clive Buxton, age 78

Baptisms

Droxford 11th February
Arthur Crutchfield

We welcome to our Parishes.....

Beth and Alan Jones, who have moved from Warnford, to No. 4 Bridgemoor, Shavards Lane, Meonstoke.

Glynne and Sarah Benge who have moved from Wickham to Exton Farm.

We welcome to our Parishes.....

Hanka and Tim Dobby, who have moved with Dani (11) and Matthew (6) from Denmead, to 1 Frys Cottage, Frys Lane, Meonstoke.

David and Janice Hooley from Heaton Moor, Stockport, Greater Manchester, who have moved to 6 Millside, Corhampton.

David and Natasha Garner from Bentley, who have moved to 16 Millside, Corhampton.

Matt and Janet Eason, who have moved with Beatrice from Funtley, to No.3 Oxendown, High Street, Meonstoke.

Mary Curry, who has moved from Winchester, to 3 Pound Cottages, Pound Lane, Meonstoke.

LIST OF ADVERTISERS

ACCOMMODATION & EVENTS	Wallops Wood Cottages 32: The Mill at Droxford 37: Hill Place Events 39:	GARAGES (SERVICING) & CAR SALES	Taylor's Garage 29: Andrews Autosource 31:
ACCOUNTANTS & TAX ADVISERS	Nicholas Ridge 41:	GARDEN & LANDSCAPING	Lister Trees 31: Judith Appel Plantswoman & Gardener 37: Hedge Cutting 38: Meon Valley Mowers 39: Anita Foy Garden Design 43: Greenbuild Design & Construction (inside back cover):
ANTIQUES	Droxford Antiques 35:	GLASS & GLAZING	Fareham Glass 38: Leydene Glass & Glazing 43:
BUILDERS & BUILDING MATERIALS	R & G Gamblin 31: JT Carpentry & Building 33: Steve Such (Property Maintenance) 34: KJN Home Improvements 34: Hillman Building Services 38: Frontwood Ltd 41: Peter Garber 42: E J Goodall (Thatcher) 44:	HAIRDRESSERS	Gaudion's Hairdressing 36:
CARPENTERS & WOOD PRODUCTS	JT Carpentry & Building 33: Hardwood Logs 38:	HEALTH, WELL-BEING, & OPTICIANS	Foot Care (Ann-Marie Elliott) 29: Mindfulness Hampshire 30: Saxby's Eyecare 32: Foot Health Practitioner (Karen Jordan) 34: Chiroprapist (Graham Howes) 39:
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DOMESTIC APPLIANCES, HEATING, & PLUMBING	EAS 32: Mark Oliver 33: R A Redman 34: D & S Oil Tanks 37: Hardwood Logs 38: Harpers of South Boarhunt 40: Adept Plumbing Services 44: Alan Shawyer (inside back cover): G Rixon Ltd (back cover):	MUSIC TEACHER	Sally Keighley Tuition 44:
DOMESTIC SERVICES	PestOFF Pest Control 30: Cleaner Chimneys Chimney Sweeps 34: Curtains by Mary 37: Chimney Sweep Christian Oliver 38: Cynthia Tester Curtains & Blinds 40: Grange Upholstery 41: Advanced Clean (Carpet & Upholstery) 43: Barn Store for Storage 43:	PRINTING & STATIONERY	Studio 6 (inside front cover): The Printroom 33:
ELECTRICIANS & ELECTRICAL SERVICES	Chase Farm Electrical 37: Ben Tibbetts Electrical 39: Ray Burbidge 41: Assure Electrical Ltd (inside back cover): G Rixon Ltd (back cover):	PUBLIC HOUSES	The Roebuck 42: The Shoe Inn 44:
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		SOLICITORS	MacDonald Oates 30: Biscoes 39: Chamberlains 40: Blake Morgan (back cover):
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		TAXIS	Hambledon Cars (inside front cover): Gamblin Cars 42:
		VETS & PETS	The Dog Room (inside front cover) The Village Cattery 33: Shield Veterinary Centre 44:
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If you would like to put a trade advertisement in *The Bridge* then please contact the Advertising Manager, see page 1 for details.