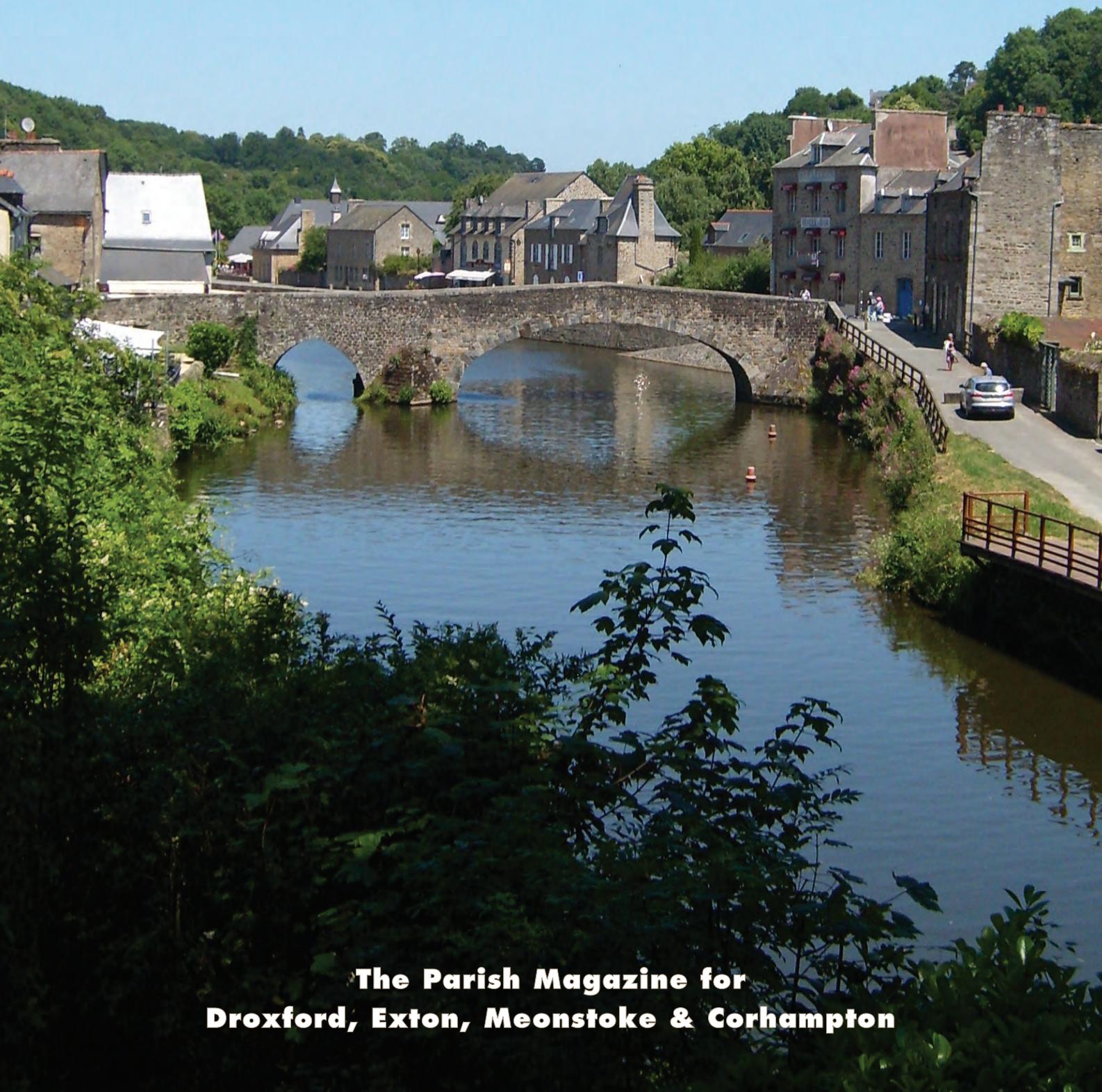


THE BRIDGE

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2017



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



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

THE BRIDGE CHURCHES WEBSITE: www.bridgechurches.org.uk

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(Note: The rector's usual rest day is Monday)

ASSISTANT CURATE: The Rev'd Samantha Martell 01489 232041
Email: RevSamantha@alpha-omega.me (Note: The Curate's usual rest day is Friday)

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Reader: Cathy Mathews 877804
Reader emeritus: Pauline Quarendon 877392

ASSISTANT CLERGY: The Rev'd Canon Anthony Hulbert 01489 878289

CHURCH SUPPLIES: Anne Wilkinson 877488

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For information about weddings, please contact the weddings administrator:

Sue Wells 01329 834130 Email: sjwells@meonwood.co.uk

DROXFORD

Churchwardens:	Ann Symes	877643
	Sheila Matthissen	877867
Secretary:	Jill Edmunds	877705
Treasurer:	Richard Baxter	877227
Gift Aid Secretary:		
Organist:	John Martin	877385
Sacristan:	Laura Jerosch	01329 231956
Verger:	Norman Bell	877230
3rd Sunday Services:	Ros Collins	877782

EXTON

Churchwardens:	Hugh Parry	878860
	Richard Pepys	878035
Secretary:	Richard Pepys	878035
Treasurer & Gift Aid Secretary:		
	David Frere-Cook	877838
Organists: (Morning)	Sarah Page	02392 257723
(Evening)	Dr Alan Hibbert OBE	878564
Sacristan:		
Verger:	Bob Miles	

OTHER DENOMINATIONS

Roman Catholic Church (Bishop's Waltham)
Canon Alan Griffiths 07760 220346

Methodist & United Free Church (Bishop's Waltham)
The Rev'd David Moss MA 01329 833518

MEONSTOKE WITH CORHAMPTON

Churchwardens:	Angela Peagram	878725
	Ruth Shipley	878436
Secretary:	(via Churchwardens)	
Treasurer:	Elizabeth Ridge	899102
Gift Aid Secretary:	Iain Gammell	878162
Organists: (Meonstoke)	Dr Alan Hibbert OBE	878564
(Corhampton)	John Martin (am)	877385
Sacristan & Verger:	Joanna Buchanan	877737

PRESHAW

Coordinator: Position Vacant

THE BRIDGE MAGAZINE

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Cover Photograph: taken by Peggy Stevens - Showing the Le Pont Gothique over the River Rance in Dinan, Brittany.

For many years, this bridge was the most northerly crossing point on the river, but the tidal power station at the mouth of the estuary, constructed in 1960's downstream from Dinan, incorporates a 750 metre long tidal barrage which doubles as a crossing point nearer to the sea.

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RETURNING BY POPULAR DEMAND...

DROXFORD VILLAGE HARVEST SUPPER

Theme: VICTORIAN FARM, FANCY DRESS OPTIONAL

and

Entertainment by: POMPEY PLUCKERS UKULELE BAND

SATURDAY 7th OCTOBER 2017

7.00 for 7.30pm START, DROXFORD VILLAGE HALL

Tickets: £15.00 each

(Includes: All Food, Wines, Beers and Soft Drinks)

MINIMUM AGE OF ATTENDANCE 16 YEARS

Tickets: Available from early September at the Post Office
PROCEEDS TO THE 'DROXFORD RECREATION GROUND APPEAL'

Organised by: Robin and Judit Appel, Peter and Janet Nelson

**The COPY DEADLINE for the next issue of THE BRIDGE is:
WEDNESDAY 8th NOVEMBER**

From the RECTOR



THREE VERY DIFFERENT, BUT EQUALLY IMPORTANT, FOCAL POINTS IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER IN THE BENEFICE: in October, we celebrate Harvest; in November, our thoughts turn to remembering on Remembrance Sunday and at All Souls; and along the way there are some special saints' days (Wilfrid for our local area generally, All Saints at Droxford and St Andrew at Meonstoke).

Our Agricultural Focus

In the Church, we believe that scripture expresses, among other things, the creative power of God. It is therefore natural for us in rural parishes to reflect the agricultural year in our patterns of worship and prayer during the year.

The ancient societies in the Old Testament lived close to the land, and it is no surprise that many ancient Jewish festivals, including Passover, have agrarian roots. The Christian tradition has agricultural festivals bound up with the need to provide food to sustain human life. We stand before God, as the source of all things, with thanks for his goodness, and recognising our responsibility for good stewardship of the resources of the earth.

For many years, our parishes celebrated **Plough Sunday**, on the first Sunday of Epiphany, harking back to Victorian times, but with echoes of a much older observance, associated with the first working day after the twelve days of Christmas. This January-observance looked forward to the time of sowing with the promise of a harvest to come. Let's see what we can do on 7th January 2018, remembering that a plough was often kept in church in mediaeval times!

For the last couple of years, we have re-instated (on the weekend of the Sixth Sunday of Easter) the celebration of **Rogationtide**. We have kept the tradition of using processional litanies for the blessing of the land. So, come and join us next year on 6th May.

Our open-air **Lammas** celebration on the Sunday nearest 1st August, with its Anglo-Saxon origins, was held as a thanksgiving for the first fruits of the wheat harvest. It has given us the opportunity to thank God for the beauty of the Meon Valley, and for our pets and gardens too. We maintained the tradition of sharing a newly baked loaf from the wheat harvest within the service.

Now autumn brings our Harvest Thanksgivings

Harvest Thanksgiving, although a more modern addition to the church calendar (1862), is firmly part of our local way of life. This year, we have a Harvest afternoon service at Exton followed by a delicious tea; at Meonstoke the school Harvest Festival and the Church thanksgiving (10.30 on 1st October) with a talk by Tearfund (www.tearfund.org) followed by delicious treats including the Curate's sausages; and at Droxford the village can celebrate the

harvest at the village Harvest Supper (7th Oct 2017) and the Church thanksgiving (10.30 on 8th Oct 2017) again followed by delicious treats including the Curate's sausages and savouries from Christina.

Then shall the earth bring forth her increase, and God, our own God, will bless us. (Psalm 67.6)

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious, for his steadfast love endures for ever. (Psalm 107.1)

Remembrance

Not least because of the many service connections in the benefice and the centenary of the First World War, it is right that each village, with the local branch of the Royal British Legion (www.britishlegion.org.uk), holds an act of Remembrance each year. Remembrance is often a private matter, but it is right that it is also experienced together. While always personal, it can be corporate and binding.

As a former Bishop to Her Majesty's Forces reminded us, for much of the twentieth century a significant proportion of people had personal memories of the Second World War and even the First. Thus, 11th November and the nearest Sunday were times of national remembrance observed by a huge number of people who, in silence, remembered those of their families and friends who had died in those two costly conflicts, or indeed their own experiences of war.

As time marches on, fewer people have had first-hand experience of either of the two World Wars. However, there has only been one year since the end of World War II in which no sailor, soldier or member of the Royal Air Force has not been killed on active service.

More recent events, also, make real the cost of continuing conflict. Our desire to pay tribute, to remember, and to pray for peace, has not diminished and must not diminish. The fragility of the peace that we enjoy from day to day, even here, can be shattered by the tragedy arising from unwise human passion. The violent loss of human life is sometimes all too close, drawing us near to those who died and to those who grieve. Remembrance helps us to express our solidarity with them and to hold them in mind. Remembering the past must help us build a better future.

God is our refuge and strength; a very present help in trouble. (Psalm 46.1)

Tony

Droxford Church Community Hub and Heritage Project

Restoration and interior works

THE RESTORATION PHASE OF THE COMMUNITY HUB PROJECT FUNDED BY THE HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND AND THE Friends of Droxford Church (FODC) was completed late last year, including the tower renovation and new south roof. The second phase, installation of glass screens in the North Chapel, was completed in March. These have met with universal acclaim and if you have not already done so, please visit the church and see for yourselves. We are looking forward to progress the Community Hub and the Heritage project in this area (see below), but the full use of this space requires the support of kitchen and toilet facilities planned in an extension to the North Aisle.

Progress on this third and final phase of building the extension continues, but less visibly while we complete the planning procedures. As St Mary and All Saints Church is a grade-1 listed building these are necessarily protracted, and involve several different authorities: Historic England, South Downs National Park/Winchester City Planning, the Portsmouth Diocesan Advisory Committee, and recently the Church Buildings Council – the Church of England's national body for advice on ancient churches. Recently achieved milestones include:

- The planning application for the extension was submitted to SDNPA/WCC and no objections were raised. Historic England wrote to confirm their support on heritage grounds. Full planning approval has now been granted (SDNP/17/00903/FUL/DECISION).
- The 28-day church notice period for the granting of an ecclesiastical faculty was completed with no objections raised.
- The model of the proposed extension was displayed at the Country Fair in June, and over 200 visitors signed a statement of support (98% of those asked)
- Visit of the Church Buildings Council on 11th July: Christina Emerson and Matthew Saunders (CBC member) visited the church for a review of the extension proposals. The dean, archdeacon and secretary of the DAC were in attendance.
- Following the CBC meeting (above) an Options Appraisal and Impact statement were submitted to the CBC, which has now confirmed its support for the location of the proposed extension.
- The chancellor (the authority in the Diocese of Portsmouth for granting a faculty to build the extension), accompanied by the registrar, visited the church on 11th August and informed us he will make his determination by early November.

Heritage

The Heritage group, coordinated by Michael Chandler, held

a public consultation meeting in late March. Activities have paused while the planning process for the extension is completed, but we expect to restart this month. For more information concerning the heritage activities, please contact Michael Chandler on 01489 878741 or email: mjchand110@gmail.com.

Community Hub Extension

Fund-raising to complete the extension project (approx. 60% funded to date including £75,000 from Hampshire County Council) is ongoing and we are looking at several grant opportunities to help complete the funding.

Charity Cricket Match at Droxford Recreation Field

A charity cricket match of Hampshire Legends vs Droxford Cricket Club (Saints vs Sinners!) was held on Sunday 27th August. On a glorious summer day a good time was had by all, and £4,000 was raised for the extension. Very many thanks to Jeff and Clare Hooper for organising the event and to their many helpers both from the village and outside.

For more detailed information, please visit our websites at: www.friendsofdroxfordchurch.org.uk or www.bridgechurches.org.uk

Droxford Church Community Hub Project
September 2017

Carols in the Square

DROXFORD

Tuesday 19th December

at

7.00pm

With mince pies & mulled wine

*Don't miss this
popular annual event!*



Excavation produces exciting results

MVAHG VOLUNTEERS WERE REWARDED FOR THEIR HARD WORK EXCAVATING THE SITE AT Exton with some tremendous finds. This is the second year of a joint project between Winchester University and the MVAHG, led by Professor Tony King. Our volunteers, who excavated for four weeks in July, played a significant part in unearthing many special finds. These included a second century dea nutrix figurine, an almost complete late Iron Age/early Roman pot and a significant amount of painted plaster forming part of a classical mythological scene.

The site contains the foundations of what is believed to be a hexagonal Roman temple, one of only four in the country. This year we extended the courtyard area and the bath house and continued digging in the centre of the hexagon. One of our volunteers discovered a pit in the courtyard area which contained dozens of oyster shells, numerous animal bones and teeth in addition to large amounts of coarse ware pottery and some finer shards of decorative pottery. Close to this area, there was huge excitement when an almost complete pot was found, also by one of our volunteers. This was identified as late Iron Age/early Roman in origin and most probably hadn't seen the light of day for more than 2000 years!

Further important finds were discovered in the bath house adjacent to the temple area. These included curved plaster decorated with red and white stripes, an abundance of flue tiles and most importantly pieces of colourful painted plaster depicting a mythological scene. These featured parts of the human form, possibly Venus and Mars and will be pieced together in the archaeological department of Winchester University.

We were extremely pleased that so many people were able to view the site in action on our open day. In addition to the talk and tours given by Professor King, there was also an opportunity to view the more important finds made to date. Many thanks to everyone who came and also to visiting representatives of other organisations:

The Association for Roman Archaeology (ARA); Council

for British Archaeology (CBA); Hampshire County Council (HCC); Hampshire Cultural Trust (HCT); Heritage England (HE); Hampshire Field Club (HFC); and South Downs National Park (SDNP)

We were also delighted to welcome Year 1 pupils from Meonstoke School to the site, with teacher Mrs Pople and head teacher Mrs Coumbe. The children toured the site, ably assisted in some cleaning of finds and dug deep to find ceramic building material (CBM) and flints in our buckets of soil.

We would like to thank all our volunteers and metal detectorists for their dedication, enthusiasm and hard work over the four weeks. Sincere thanks also to the Martins for giving their kind permission for us to excavate.

Read more about the excavation on our website at: www.saxonsinthemeonvalley.org.uk

Take Part in our Autumn/Winter Geophysical survey programme

We hope to return to the site in Exton next summer for a third year of excavation. The archaeological potential of this site was discovered by the MVAHG in 2015 through a geophysical survey. In the meantime, we will be exploring new sites throughout the Meon Valley by undertaking surveys over the following weekends:

October : Sunday 1st, Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th
November: Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th

If you have an interest in local history and would like to know more or to take part, then please go online and visit our website at www.saxonsinthemeonvalley.org.uk or email: alisonm.smalley@virgin.net. No experience of surveying is necessary and it is free to take part.

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!

October: 4th & 18th

November: 1st & 15th



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

Do Something Different this Autumn!

**Enjoy the 'C' words, including Creativity,
Co-operation, Complicity and Confidence.**

- Come along to 6 workshop sessions, led by a former director of SCAT Theatre Company, and based on the courses he devised for Eastleigh Adult Education and Ashcroft Arts Centre.
- While these sessions include various theatre games and exercises, this is NOT an Acting Course, so no plays to read, or public performances!
- No experience necessary. It's for 16-86 year olds if you can move and speak, you can join in. A key focus will be the 'F' word — FUN!
- Workshops to be held every Sunday afternoon (2.30 - 4.30 pm) from October 8th to November 12th at Droxford Village Hall. Just £3 per session, with no commitment to attend every week; just come and give it a try.

Questions? Contact Paul Hayles 01489 878589

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.

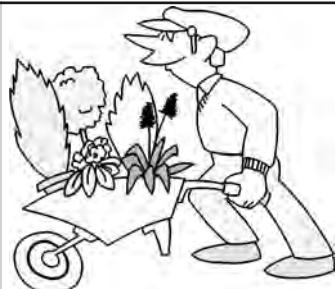
**We meet on the 2nd Tuesday each month
at The MEON HALL at 7.30pm**

**Tuesday 10th October
Tuesday 14th November**

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

IN THE GARDEN

October & November



AS AUTUMN ARRIVES SO TOO DOES THE NEED TO PERFORM MANY MAINTENANCE JOBS. THESE INCLUDE ATTENTION TO fences and hedges at the back of borders; lifting and dividing perennials; removal of fallen leaves; preparing vegetable plots for spring. When working in the borders it is important to remember that many spring bulbs will be starting to develop just below the surface, so to minimise the risk of damaging them it is advisable to use small boards to stand on to spread one's weight and this also reduces compaction of the soil.

Vegetables: Plant winter and spring lettuce and spring cabbage as well as autumn sown broad beans and onions. Clear and dig over vacant ground in the vegetable plot and incorporate some well-rotted horse manure to improve the texture of the soil. Clear weeds and any debris from winter vegetables such as sprouts, leeks, cabbage, and sprouting broccoli as they create hiding places for pests. In small gardens, areas that are to be left vacant until spring can be covered with weed control such as Mypex. This prevents weeds and has the additional benefit of warming the soil up quickly in the spring.

Fruit: In November plant bare-rooted raspberry canes and soft fruit bushes, ensuring that plenty of well-rotted manure is incorporated under the roots, and that the roots are well soaked before planting. Start winter pruning of fruit trees

but do not prune cherries, peaches, nectarines, plums, or damsons, because the wounds heal slowly and lay the trees open to fungal disease such as 'silver leaf'. Do not be tempted to cut back autumn raspberries even when they have finished fruiting; leave this until February.

Herbaceous Border: A busy time ahead. Lift dahlias and gladioli before the first frosts, let them dry out in a cool dry location and dust the crowns of the dahlias with sulphur to avoid them rotting. Alternatively, dahlias may be left in the ground if they have been planted deep enough. Divide and replant clumps of perennials such as Michaelmas daisies, phlox, border campanulas, lysimachia, etc. In November, cut out unwanted or damaged stems of roses to minimise wind rock.

Trees and Shrubs: Plant bare-rooted specimens of trees and shrubs in November or even later, remembering to soak the roots for about an hour before planting. Lightly prune shrubs, including roses so that there are no straggly branches showing.

Bulbs: Plant spring flowering bulbs, remembering to plant them deep enough to protect against frost, mice, and squirrels.

Lawns: Most lawns are recovering from the dry weather of early summer, but it is always a good idea to scarify lawns at this time to get rid of thatch and moss before applying top dressing and re-seeding any areas that have not recovered from the summer.

In the Greenhouse: Clear out all the plants such as tomato and cucumber. Wash the inside with a dilute solution of Jeyes Fluid and ensure that the glass is thoroughly cleaned. Bring in plants that need protection over the winter. As a precaution against vine weevil grubs in pots, it might be worth investing in a proprietary vine weevil pesticide or nematode product that should provide protection until spring.

John Owen

Club committee.

The club had an evening outing to Hambleton House with Dee Hart Dyke (of current television fame). It is a lovely garden with a wealth of interesting plants and is beautifully laid out. It was a fine evening and ended with very good tea and cake.

Our autumn plant sale is in October. If you can spare some plants please bring them along on Saturday, 7th; all contributions will be welcomed. If you do not have enough plants please come along and buy some as there are always some interesting buys.

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.



THE GARDEN CLUB'S SHOW, HELD ON SUNDAY 23RD JULY WAS A SUCCESS WITH THE MEON HALL LOOKING LOVELY. WE HAD more entries than in previous years with a lot from new members and entrants. Sadly the weather was not kind to us as in previous years and this meant that attendance was down and consequently our income was affected. For those who did come we had a feast of live music with the Meon Valley Orchestra and the Ukulele Band, who played inside to keep dry and had the kitchen staff singing along. I am sure those who came enjoyed the afternoon, thanks to the hard work of the show secretaries and the Garden

The Meon Hall



REPORT

The Meon Hall's 200 Club Monthly Draws:

The winners of the recent £25 monthly prize draws were:
August: Vanessa Purchase, September: Heather Parry

Looking ahead:

The Meon Hall's Social Event of the Year, the 200 Club's annual Beetle Drive, is on Saturday, 25th November at 7.30pm, with the draw for the 2017 200 Club big prizes. Please put this date in your diary, and start practising the speed of your dice-rolling and honing your 'neat beetle' drawing skills! There is a prize for the best dressed Beetler who enters into the fun and pre-Christmas spirit of the evening. Sign up for the Beetle Drive with James Morrice on 878505 or jamesmorrice99@gmail.com – 200 Club members go free, non-members £6.50 each.

The New Roofs

It does seem rather strange that it is now well over a year ago that we could say Work has finished! The Meon Hall looks really smart now, and the new roofs have proved to be weathertight and effective; less heat was used last winter because of all the added insulation. Thank you all so much for your help and support to our village hall with this really successful project.

Thank you to:

John Dobby, and to Brian Cowin of Droxford for their work with repairs and resealing to all the external woodwork soffits around the roof gutters, and to Karl Fenton of The Handy Hero at Swanmore for his recent work at the Meon Hall with general maintenance items.

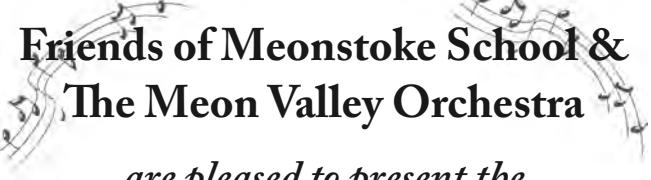
Recycling:

Please recycle your unwanted clothes, shoes, and textiles in the Yellow Bin at the Meon Hall which raises money for our Hampshire First Responders, trained and experienced local volunteers who turn up quickly to a 999 medical emergency. Our aim is still to raise at least £500 from our recycling in 2017 to help fund this important service.

Planning a family party...?

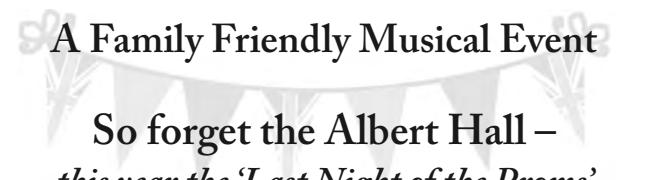
Order those extra tables, chairs, china, champagne and wine glasses, and cutlery for your entertaining from the Meon Hall. Contact the Meon Hall Bookings Secretary, Anna Rolfe, by email at meonhallbookings@yahoo.co.uk to discuss how we can help to meet your hiring needs.

James Morrice


**Friends of Meonstoke School &
The Meon Valley Orchestra**

are pleased to present the

FOMS PROMS


A Family Friendly Musical Event

*So forget the Albert Hall –
this year the 'Last Night of the Proms'
is coming to the Meon Hall!*

Sunday 1st October

2.30pm – 5.00pm

The Meon Hall

Tickets: £5 each

Available at the School or Meonstoke Post Office

Refreshments ☆ Flags for sale ☆ Raffle

THE MEON HALL'S 200 CLUB

INVITE YOU TO THEIR ANNUAL

BEETLE DRIVE

**in THE MEON HALL
SATURDAY, 25th NOVEMBER
at 7.30pm**

DRAW for the £300, £150, and £100 PRIZES

**RAFFLE ◆ SUPPER
PRIZE DRAW ◆ BEETLE DRIVE**

Members Free

Tickets: James Morrice 01489 878505

or email: jamesmorrice99@gmail.com

Non-Members £6.50

by Wednesday 22nd November, please, for catering



DROXFORD VILLAGE HALL NEWS

AS WE APPROACH MID-SEPTEMBER, THE NEWS REPORTS FROM ACROSS THE ATLANTIC ARE A SEASONAL REMINDER OF what other countries expect and anticipate at this time of year. Although it seems that hurricanes and storms of such intensity are not the norm.

Whilst our weather is often influenced by such storms, we can count ourselves lucky here in our part of southern England that autumn has arrived in much the same fashion as it always does. Noticeable, of course, is the increasing lack of daylight hours, when on dreary, sunless days lights inside are on ever earlier. Mixed weather fortunes in the last two months have provided an excessive bounty of fruits and vegetables, both in the gardens and the hedgerows. Harvest festival decorations and other needs will benefit from all that we see and have around us. Garden and wild flowers are fading and the birds seem to be less tempted by food delights. Maybe the seed heads all around provide for their needs.

Now that the summer entertainments are over, the village hall activities and meetings are in full swing. The Bridge magazine provides more information on these, whilst regular participants know exactly when to be there. Our autumn film season will continue as usual with showings on the last Wednesday of each month.

Choices have been decided by taking into account the suggestions and wishes of the many film night regulars. The October film is Their Finest, and in November we have Churchill.

Our Christmas Fair this year is on Saturday, November 25th when a lunch of soup and bread can be purchased, along with tea, coffee, and mince pies. Previous years' fairs have raised a substantial amount for our funds and we are hoping that lots of buyers will come to buy presents and provisions for Christmas!

After last year's success with the Forest Forge pantomime, we have booked them to entertain us again on Saturday, 9th December. Whilst Christmas time is a busy time for everyone, we hope there will be time on your calendar for this event, and hope that a Saturday evening performance will be more appropriate for the younger audience.

As we approach the end of the year, the annual subscriptions for the 200 Club will be due. We now have well over 200 members, and many pay by standing order; those who pay by cash or cheque will be approached in December for their subscription. If there are newcomers to the village who have not been approached, we ask for £12 for 12 months, with a chance to win £40 each month. We hope this seems a good investment.

The recent 200 Club winners were:

August: Helen Thomson
September: Janet Searle

Jackie Hibbert
Secretary

Forthcoming Events at Droxford Village Hall



Wednesday 25th October

THEIR FINEST

Film Rating 12a

A British film crew attempts to boost morale during World War II by making a propaganda film after the Blitzkrieg. Starring Gemma Arterton and Bill Nighy, and directed by Lone Scherfig.

7.30pm (doors open at 7.00pm)

Tickets £5

Licensed bar and refreshments available

Wednesday 29th November

CHURCHILL

Film Rating PG

A ticking-clock thriller following Winston Churchill in the 96 hours before D-Day. Starring Brian Cox and Miranda Richardson.

A must for Droxford of course!

7.30pm (doors open at 7.00pm)

Tickets £5

Licensed bar and refreshments available

Saturday 9th December

CHRISTMAS PANTO

The Frog Prince

from

forestforge & Bumblefly theatre company

7.00pm

Licensed bar and refreshments available

TICKETS FROM THE POST OFFICE



DRONES

THREE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL LOCAL COMPLAINTS ABOUT DRONE ACTIVITY RECENTLY. THIS MIRRORS THE SITUATION nationally as last year there were 10 complaints a day compared with under 300 for the whole of 2014. While further legislation is expected soon the following should help to clarify rights and responsibilities for drone owners and others.

The regulations for recreational drone flights are contained within the Air Navigation Order 2016.

However, in respect of small drones with a mass of 20kg or less, a set of specific, simpler, regulations apply.

In simple terms, these regulations state that drone operators:

- Are responsible for flying their drones in a safe manner - at least 150 feet from buildings or 500feet from built up or crowded areas
- Must not endanger anyone, or anything with their drones,

including any articles that are dropped from them.

- Must keep their drones in direct sight at all times while it is flying, so that they can ensure that it does not collide with anything, especially other aircraft. However, you also should recognise that keeping the drone in sight is only half the story as you may not be aware of the effect the drone is having on the ground. Live stock in particular, are panicked by drone activity.

If your drone weighs more than 7kg, additional rules apply if you fly in certain types of airspace and you must not fly above 400ft above the surface

If your drone is fitted with a camera, there are also additional limitations surrounding where you can fly it, and how close you can fly it to other uninvolved people or objects. In order to be able to fly within these areas, or closer than the minimum distances that are in the regulations, you must obtain prior permission from the Civil Aviation Authority to do so. Note that flying over gardens etc can upset people.

Drone pilots are legally responsible for any damage caused to people or property (including livestock) both in civil and criminal law.

Anyone concerned by drone activities should contact the police who will investigate.

The following link provides a simple guide to help: dronesafe.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Dronecode.pdf

DROXFORD HISTORY GROUP

invites you to

A talk by Geoff Philpotts

(Chairman of the Wickham History Society)

about

'Bridge Street, Wickham'

on

Thursday 30th November

at

The Droxford Village Hall

at 7.30pm

*This is the last meeting for 2017 –
Meetings resume on 25th January 2018
with a talk about
Droxford Shops, by Anthony Gibson.*

St Mary & All Saints Droxford **Harvest Festival**

**Sunday 8th October
10.30am Family Eucharist**

Followed by Harvest Lunch in the new Community Room from 12o'clock

Please bring a plate of food to share
Revd Tony Forrest and Revd Samantha Martell
look forward to welcoming everyone

Christmas Fair

at Exton Parish Church

**Saturday 25th November
10.30am – 12.30pm**

*Refreshments
Cakes and Preserves - Bric a brac
Christmas ideas (Presents, Decorations, etc.)
Bring and Buy*



Meon Valley Active Retirement Association *Regular events for the active in retirement*

Programme October and November 2017

Exercise Class -

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

First Monday of the month
October 2nd - 12:30 for 12:45pm
Organiser Linda Jones 01489 895599
November 6th - 12:15 for 12:30pm
Organiser Chriszena Strachan 01489 893719
Contact Organiser by the previous Monday for venue and to book a place. Please note that there may be a waiting list

Gentlemen's Pub Lunch -

The Barleycorn, Bishops Waltham.
Third Thursday of the month: June 15th and July 20th
12:00 for 12:30pm, Fixed price menu
Just turn up – new attendees very welcome!

IT Learning Classes -

The Silver Room, Jubilee Hall,
Tuesdays mornings. IT sessions are now under way. There are still some places available, so if you are interested please contact the Organiser Ian Wynne-Powell on 01329 833254 or by email: Wynnepowell@btinternet.com

Touchtennis -

Tuesday mornings from 11:00 to 12:30pm. Active Academy Tennis introduces sessions based on the philosophy of touchtennis with smaller courts, net, racquets and a slower ball enabling easier movement to reach it. Each session, with an LTA coach, has a gentle warm up, small coaching theme and little matches. This is a fun, social and informal session and everyone is welcome no matter the ability. All equipment is provided – just wear flat trainers and comfortable clothing.
Contact: Sam on 07759 811194

Table Tennis -

Priory Park Clubhouse, Elizabeth Way, Bishop's Waltham.
Wednesday afternoons from 2pm to 5pm
These sessions are now closed to non-members (other than a taster session) due to demand.
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. Cost per individual session £4.00 for members; £5.50 for non-members
Contact: Cherry Wynne-Powell on 01329 833254

New Age Kurling -

Jubilee Hall, Ruby Room.
Third Thursday of the month: October 19th and November 16th
Sessions run from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. Cost per individual session: members £3.00, non-members £3.50.
Contact: Geoff Matthews on 01489 890434

Spanish Lessons -

Organiser Linda Jones 01489 895599 Classes held on Friday mornings at The Stables, Free Street, Bishops Waltham.
Spanish I for Beginners: a new class will start on October 6th, from 09:15 to 10:15am. Spanish II will restart on October 6th and will run 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 to 4pm.
Cost £2.00 per session. 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*

www.mvara.btck.co.uk/Activities



St Andrew's Church, Meonstoke Harvest Festival Service & Lunch Sunday 1st October

All Welcome

10.30am - Harvest Festival Service

12.00noon - Harvest Lunch in the church

Meon Valley Garden Club Autumn Plant Sale

**Saturday 7th October
in Droxford Village Hall
10.00am**

**All sorts of plants at very good prices
See Droxford Village Website**

The Royal British Legion

Droxford & District Branch www.droxfordweb.co.uk



75 years ago....

On 11th November 1942, the British 8th Army commanded by Lieutenant-General Sir Bernard Montgomery (left) finally defeated the DeutschItalienische Panzerarmee under Generalfeldmarschall Erwin Rommel at what became known as the Second Battle of El Alamein. This decisive victory ended the Axis (German and Italian) threat to Egypt, the Suez Canal and the vital Middle Eastern and Persian oilfields. It also marked a turning point in the 2nd World War. Indeed, Prime Minister Winston Churchill said: "Before Alamein we never had a victory; after Alamein, we never had a defeat". It was, of course, not without cost with 13,560 Allied casualties (4,810 killed) and 24,000 Axis casualties (9,000 killed). Allied forces included men from the UK, India, Palestine, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, France and USA.

ROMMEL HAD ABOUT 116,000 MEN AND 550 TANKS COMPARED TO 195,000 MEN AND 1,000 TANKS OF THE 8TH ARMY. HE KNEW that an attack was inevitable and had prepared comprehensive defences, protecting his force behind a deep and complex minefield – 500,000 mines (some British!). These were covered by lightly held forward posts and backed by strong anti-tank gun positions. Seven German and Italian infantry divisions manned the front line with four armoured divisions in the rear and another two in reserve to the north. Rommel had returned to Germany on sick leave on 23rd September, leaving his deputy (General der Panzertruppe Georg Stumme – recently transferred from the Russian front) in command.

Montgomery planned a set-piece attack in two main phases. The first, Operation Lightfoot, would be preceded by a heavy artillery bombardment and the entire operation would be supported by the powerful Desert Air Force. The infantry divisions of XXX Corps (Lt Gen Oliver Leese) would then attack in the north with those of XIII Corps (Lt Gen Brian Horrocks) in the south. This would open gaps in the minefield through which the armoured divisions of X Corps (Lt Gen Herbert Lumsden) would pass. With armour protection, the infantry would widen the minefield gaps and eliminate enemy infantry positions; this was a process Montgomery called 'crumbling'.

The bombardment commenced on the night of 23rd-24th October with 1,000 guns firing 529,000 shells. Although the

sheer depth of the Axis positions absorbed much of the impact, its sheer ferocity helped inspire the attackers and discourage the defenders. Gen Stumme died, probably from a heart attack, while on his way forward and Rommel eventually resumed command on 25th October. The crumbling process proved more difficult than had been expected and there was very heavy fighting in the heart of the Axis positions as the 8th Army advanced on the night of 1st-2nd November, the second phase of the attack.

Operation Supercharge was launched with the armoured divisions breaking through the last lines of defence. Even now it was no easy business and, on 3rd November, the 9th Armoured Brigade lost 102 of its 128 tanks. Surviving elements of Rommel's mobile forces escaped but the bulk of the Axis infantry, some 35,000 men, were taken prisoner.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

QUIZ NIGHT

on
Saturday 28th October at 7.00pm
in Droxford Village Hall
Further details will be announced.

RBL Remembrance Day Service

will be held at
St Mary and All Saints, Droxford,
on Sunday 12th November at 10.50am

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.



Some of the friendlier dragons that visited Droxford Junior School this term!

IT SEEMS LIKE ONLY 5 MINUTES SINCE I WAS WRITING ABOUT THE END OF THE SUMMER TERM AT DROXFORD! THE NEW TERM HAS got off to a splendid start with all the new children and staff settling in well.

During the first few weeks of term, Years 5 and 6 have been busy looking at moral choices through their work on Michael Morpurgo's brilliant book *The Eagle in the Snow*. This has led to some interesting discussions and debates. They have also fully embraced their topic of Precious Places, which includes making the most of our beautiful surroundings on the edge of the South Downs National Park.

The first Topic for years 3 and 4 was based around the book *The Trouble with Dragons* by Debbie Gliori. This beautifully illustrated book, gives a powerful message

about how we need to care for our planet. The children produced booklets with poems, stories, letters, and mathematical investigations based around the story. For their homework, they even made the most of household waste by using it to make some amazing dragon models.

One child said, "I love this book because I love dragons. I think that we are the dragons and we should stop ruining our world."

There's still plenty more to look forward to this term including Cool Planet Week and the Year 6 residential to Calshot. A busy term ahead – but I for one can't wait! If you are interested in visiting our school – especially as we have places available – then contact our school office on 01489 877537

Sarah Jacobs
Deputy Head Teacher



Interested in School Governorship?



Meonstoke School would like to hear from anyone who is interested in ensuring the continued success of our lovely village school.

If you can spare a few hours during each term in helping the school to maintain its high standards for the benefit of all the children then we would love to hear from you.

Training and support will be available to help you develop into the role.

This will include in-house mentoring and support as well as access to external governor training.

For more information, please contact Suzanne Tickner on 01489 877568 or email: s.tickner@meonstoke.hants.sch.uk or just call in for a chat!



IT HAS BEEN LOVELY TO WELCOME THE CHILDREN BACK TO THE VALLEY PRESCHOOL ONCE AGAIN THIS SEPTEMBER, AS WELL AS getting to know our new starters. Our new children never cease to amaze me in how well they cope with settling into a new environment and new routines so quickly.

The Preschool team has been hard at work getting to know the children, and providing individual opportunities for learning and development. Regular PE sessions are already taking place, along with our daily circle time, and 'sticky kids' music and movement.

At the end of July, we said farewell to some of our Preschool children, whom we were proud of. They all delighted us by performing so beautifully at our end of term leavers' service; we wish them good luck at Meonstoke Infant school.

This terms topic is All about Me, where the focus is to help children learn about each other and each others' families. This theme will help the children to understand that every person is unique and special; every child's thoughts and ideas are important and no one person is more or less important than another.

The children have also been looking at seasonal changes when partaking in our weekly Norwegian woodland sessions. Whatever the weather, the children access our surrounding countryside and den building, scavenger hunts, and building bug hotels are just a few of the activities on offer.

Last term, we were lucky enough to receive some funding for tennis lessons on the new courts at the Meon Hall and this is something we are hoping to continue in the coming months.

Lastly, with harvest time fast approaching, the children are extremely excited at the prospect of a school trip to Hylands Farm in Clanfield. There they will learn about how to care for the animals, and how food arrives on their plates.

Keep your eyes peeled for The Valley's Three Little Pigs; the children have worked tirelessly making their scarecrows to enter into Droxford's first Scarecrow Festival.

Lynette Davis
01489 878019

One of the Scarecrows built by the children for Droxford's first Scarecrow Festival



Love and Respect

OUTSTANDING PRACTICE IN THE MEON VALLEY

WILL YOUR CHILD BE STARTING MEONSTOKE INFANT SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2018/2019?

Did you know the Infant School has a Preschool set in their grounds?

The Valley Preschool offers a warm, secure, and welcoming environment with excellent transition to the Infant School.

We offer an exciting range of activities everyday: messy play, crafts, cooking, music, dancing, gardening, phonics, sensory and outdoor play, whatever the weather!

The Valley Preschool is registered for up to 24 children aged 2 to rising 5 (per session).

For full details visit the preschools website at:

www.thevalleypreschool.org.uk

or contact the preschool supervisor,

Lynette Davis

Tel. 01489 878019

or email: **thevalleypreschool@btconnect.com**



Meon Valley Lions Club



15 MINUTES THAT COULD SAVE A LIFE!

DURING AUGUST, THE MEON VALLEY LIONS CLUB WORKED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH A LOCAL BRANCH OF THE SPECIALIST cancer charity PCaSO, (Prostate Cancer Support Organisation), to operate a PSA testing clinic in Bishops Waltham. The PSA test is a simple blood test for men, that measures the amount of prostate specific antigen (PSA) in the blood and provides a useful indicator of the presence of prostate cancer.

The Lions had a great response following an extensive advertising campaign on posters, in parish magazines, and through social media. In all, 147 men turned up from all over the Meon Valley, for the Saturday morning PSA test sessions at Prior Park Hall, Bishops Waltham. Thanks go to Lion Pete Meadows, who organised the event and also to the PCaSO team of Phlebotomists, who worked tirelessly for over five hours to collect and process the blood samples.

Prostate cancer mainly affects men over 50, and the risk increases with age. The average age for men to be diagnosed with prostate cancer is between 65 and 69 years, so the clinic targeted men specifically within the critical age range of 50 to 75.

PSA is a protein produced by normal cells in the prostate, but also by prostate cancer cells. It's normal for men to have a small amount of PSA in their blood and the amount rises with age and the prostate gets bigger. Although a raised PSA level suggests a problem with the prostate, it may not necessarily be cancer. The test should therefore only be taken as an indicator of a possible cancer, alerting the individual to the heightened risk and prompting further investigations, normally undertaken by a GP.

The club was delighted by the success of the day, not only for the response and turnout, but also because a number of those attending expressed an interest in the Lions movement and wanted to find out more about becoming a member.

We have no immediate plans for further PSA clinics in the area, so if you have concerns and wish to take a test, you should contact your GP.



Lion Andrew Brown submits to the PSA test

Summer BBQs

It's been a busy BBQ summer for the Meon Valley Lions Club with our blazing griddles in action on a number of occasions. The Shirrell Heath Holiday Club is one event we particularly love to support. The Methodist Group in Shirrell Heath run an entire week of activities in a holiday club for young children, culminating in a Friday night party at which we were delighted to lay on the catering for both the children and parents.

The food for kids was free, because this was less about fundraising and more about fulfilling our goal of supporting the communities in which our members live and operate.

Another popular BBQ event for our members is the late-August Morris dance shindig at the Hampshire Bowman. We've supported the event for a number of years, usually with a huge complement of staff who for some reason are attracted to this splendid ale emporium. Monies raised went to the pub's nominated charity, MacMillan Cancer.

Look out for our Barbecue again soon at The Wickham Beer Festival in October

Ian Adams
Publicity Officer

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT



Winchester
City Council

THE WINCHESTER MOBILE PHONE APP

A WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES CAN BE REPORTED ANYTIME USING A SMART PHONE OR TABLET DEVICE. THIS COVERS an abandoned vehicle, fly tipping, missed bin collection, a problem in the car park, reporting benefit fraud, or pot-holes in the road.

Live Help on the Council Web pages – It is possible to chat to an online advisor via text by clicking the blue Live Help button on the right side of the page between 9.00am and 4.00pm Monday to Friday; outside of these hours a message can be left and someone will respond during office hours. Textphone and minicom users can dial 18001 in front of any of our full telephone numbers to access council services via the British Telecom Text Relay service.

Some Useful Telephone Numbers

Guildhall Winchester	01962 840820
River Park Leisure Centre	01962 848700
Tourist Information Centre	01962 840500
Magdalen Hill Cemetery	01962 854135
Archives (Hampshire Record Office)	01962 846154

NEW WINCHESTER BUS ROUTES IN OPERATION

Buses are taking a new route in Winchester as the new bus station opens for business.

- Buses no longer exit the bus station onto the Broadway and move on to the lower High Street and Middle Brook Street
- Buses instead enter the bus station from the Broadway and exit onto Friarsgate, then turn into Tanner Street and continue onto St Georges Street
- A new bus stop has been put into St Georges Street, outside M&S, to replace the existing bus stop in Middle Brook Street which will be removed once the new route is in operation

Middle Brook Street will become a cycle only zone at all times and the high street will become a cycle only zone between 10am and 4pm

Winchester City Council has updated the site of the old bus station, demolishing a disused building to allow buses a more straightforward route through the site. The changes have allowed re-routing of the buses off the high street making the area safer for pedestrians.

SUCCESSFUL ARCHITECTURE FIRM ANNOUNCED FOR STATION APPROACH

Winchester City Council has announced the appointment of Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands as the architects to take forward the Station Approach development.

The development of Station Approach is important for Winchester's development and will allow us to offer much needed Grade A office space to the business community. The

area creates that all-important first impression for many people who come to the city and serves thousands of commuters every month. The appointment of Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands is our first step in regenerating the area to make it attractive to residents, businesses, and visitors alike. The next step is to develop concept designs and initially Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands will consider the mix and balance of different uses across the Carfax and Cattlemarket sites.

COUNCIL IMPROVES TRANSPARENCY WITH NEW STYLE REPORTING

Winchester City Council (WCC) has published the first in a series of new quarterly reports that set out the council's progress against budget. Key performance and project measures will be presented to a cross-party committee that will monitor delivery. This new measure reflects the council's commitment to providing greater transparency, giving residents and local organisations a better oversight of its key activities in a single document. The move also aims to demonstrate that the organisation is monitoring this information, building on the recommendations of the Corporate Peer Challenge that the Council requested earlier in the year. Cllr Guy Ashton reported that our current financial position is strong; we are making positive progress on delivering our key strategy objectives and our major projects are all progressing well. We know that we face many challenges and this report helps to ensure that we can track how we are delivering against these in a consistent manner.

FLY TIPPING

What is Winchester City Council doing about it?

The council actively pursues fly tip perpetrators who blight our localities. To help us, WCC has employed a specialist enforcement officer to undertake investigation. Once the investigation process has been undertaken and providing there is sufficient evidence the council will pursue a prosecution against anyone identified as an offender, whether they are individuals or a company.

What should you do if you find a fly-tip?

- Do not remove anything - all evidence is vital to identify perpetrators.
- Report it on-line or via the telephone system.
- Make a note of the logging number if you wish to check what progress is being made.
- Wait for the Council to remove the fly-tip materials - they need to be allowed at least 24 hours notice to visit with intention of waste removal within 48 hours (once a yellow W has been put on the waste and subject to case load)
- For fly-tipping on private land, we will offer a visit to the site and if evidence is collected we will pursue prosecution as appropriate. However, site clearance costs

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Continued

- will be the responsibility of the landowner.
- Neighbourhood Service Officers can also offer advice about remedial action in order to reduce the risks of fly tip.

RECYCLE RIGHT

Please help to increase the recycling rate for Winchester and make sure that you put the right items into your green bins. Too much of green bin collection can't be recycled and is wasted. More and more contamination is being reported so please make sure you throw the correct items into your green bin.

For more information, go to www.winchester.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/recycling-collection

YOUR WINCHESTER CITY COUNCILLORS

Vicki Weston email: vweston@winchester.gov.uk

Frank Pearson email: fpearson@winchester.gov.uk

Linda Gemmell email: lgemmell@winchester.gov.uk

An event for all Meonstoke & Corhampton Diaries

CAROLS IN THE BARN

**Sunday 10th December
starting at 5.15pm**

**As part of the run-up to Christmas,
there will be the usual recipe of
carols and wine in the barn at Hill House**

All Meonstoke and Corhampton residents
are welcome, particularly children.

(for whom there will be soft drinks)

Please bring your neighbours if they have not come before.

Make a note in your diary now, and we look forward
to seeing as many of you as possible on the night.

Caroline and Richard Thynne and their families

Soirées on the Bridge

CONCERT

**in St Andrew's Church,
Meonstoke**

Thursday 26th October at 7.30pm

An Organ Recital

by Richard Martin

Thursday 23rd November at 7.30pm

Anemos Trio

(Piano, Oboe & Bassoon)

Everyone welcome, Entry is FREE

*Retiring collection and donations in aid of
St Andrew's Church, Meonstoke*

Wine and canapés served at the end of the concert



**Saturday 25th November
Droxford Village Hall
10.30am to 3.00pm**

**Do come and browse our wide range of stalls, there's a
Christmas present for everyone, or just treat yourself!**

**It's a real community event, with home-made soup, mince
pies, coffee, tea and biscuits available throughout the day.**

*An occasion not to be missed,
so do mark the date in your diary.*

**If you would like to have a stall,
please contact Louise Withers on 01489 877595
or email: louisewithers79@gmail.com.**

All proceeds are to help maintain the Village Hall.

Meon Valley Community Bus Association Timetables for 2017

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:
October 4th & 18th
November 1st & 15th**

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!



We have bloomed.....

Our community choir for the Meon Valley is now over a year old and we regularly have 40 enthusiastic 'locals' of all ages and levels of experience singing their hearts out in Droxford Village Hall on the 2nd and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm. (*but check the district diary for variations*)

For information about joining, please go to our website at www.singandtonic.org.uk and fill in a contact form.

The Cracked Water Pot



A WATER BEARER IN INDIA HAD TWO POTS, EACH HUNG ON THE ENDS OF A POLE THAT HE CARRIED ACROSS HIS NECK. One of the pots had a crack in it, while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water. At the end of a long walk from the stream to the house, the cracked pot arrived only half full. For a full two years, this went on daily with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots full of water for the house.

Of course the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, perfect for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfections and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do.

After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself and I want to apologize to you. I have been able to deliver only half of my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all this work and you do not get full value from your efforts", the pot said.

The bearer said to the pot: "Did you notice that there were flowers on your side of the path but none on the other pot's side? That is because I have always known about your flaw and I planted flower seeds on your side of the path! Every day while we walked back, you have watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table. Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to grace the house".

'SUPERFAST BROADBAND' is coming to Droxford, Meonstoke, Corhampton and Exton from October 2017

BT-Openreach's 'Superfast' fibre solution is planned for most (not all) homes & businesses.

This is how to find out if, when & how you will get this broadband solution.

1. Register interest at Hampshire BDUK - www.hampshiresuperfastbroadband.com

If you are not sure whether you have already done this, do it now to be sure.

The BDUK team plan to let us know when 'superfast' is available to those who have registered.

2. You can also track progress on Openreach's website

www.homeandwork.openreach.co.uk/when-can-i-get-fibre.aspx; end-point is '**Superfast accepting orders'**

3. A number of suppliers will then be able to offer 'Superfast' broadband over the Openreach fibre.

To receive it, you need to upgrade, or replace, your current broadband contract.

So then, contact your current service supplier (they may contact you) & check Ofcom's approved price-comparison website to find & compare other suppliers - www.broadbandchoices.co.uk



An alternative WIRELESS solution is being developed by local company 'Meon Valley Internet'

To find out about this 'lightning quick' solution go to <http://meonvalleyinternet.co.uk>

To ask whether & when this solution will be available to you, email team@meonvalleyinternet.co.uk



**meon valley
INTERNET**



To be added to our local mailing list (for more details & updates) send an email to Peter O'Sullivan – TPeterOSullivan@hotmail.com

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
Taylor's 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
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CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU (Bishop's Waltham)

Well House, 2 Brook Street	03444 111306
CAB email: bishopswaltham@cabinet.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
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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 0845 603 5630
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
High Street	Janet Dobby
Bucks Head Hill	Carol Jones
Oxendown	Ian Gilchrist
Warnford Road	Mike Camp
Corhampton Lane	Charles Hall
Pound Lane, West	Patrick Monger
Pound Lane, East	Linda Foot
Chapel Road & Fry's Lane	07876 524457
New Road	Charlie Fullegar
Allen's Lane and St Andrew's Green	877583
	Jenny Liardet
	Leslie Daysh
Stocks Lane	877327
Brockbridge Road	Peter Riley
Millside	Frances Keppel
	878774
	Phil Butler
	877596

Droxford

Gordon Hope	877751
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Exton

Joan Starkie	878698
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POLICE (non-emergency calls)

101

NHS 111 (for fast help but not 999 emergency)

For help on community safety and to report anti-social behaviour, etc,	Call 111
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Ring 101

WILLIAMS COLLINS CHARITY

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 on the

19th October to make awards.

Please send in your applications before this date.

DISTRICT DIARY**OCTOBER 2017****Sunday 1st - Trinity 16**

Harvest lunch in the church at St Andrew's	12.00noon
The FOMS Proms concert, The Meon Hall	2.30pm
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 and chat, St Andrew's Church, Meonstoke	10.00–12.00
Evening Prayer, Droxford	5.00pm
Thu. 5 Holy Communion, Droxford	10.00am
Fri. 6 Singing for Fun, The Stables, Bishops Waltham	2.00pm
Sat. 7 MV Garden Club: Autumn Plant Sale, Droxford VH	10.00am
Droxford Village Harvest Supper, Droxford V. Hall	7.00pm

Sunday 8 - Trinity Seventeen

Harvest lunch in the church at St Mary's	12.00noon
Mon 9 RBL Annual Dinner, Corhampton Golf Club	7.00pm
Tue. 10 Morning Prayer, Exton	8.30 am
Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford Village Hall	10.30–12.00
MV Arts Society: talk: ' <i>Arts in crime, prison, and re-offending,</i> ' The Meon Hall	10.40am
Play-reading Group, The Meon Hall	7.30pm
Wed. 11 Morning Prayer, Meonstoke	8.30am
Thu. 12 Holy Communion, Droxford	10.00am

Sunday 15 - Trinity Eighteen

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

Wed. 18 Morning Prayer, Meonstoke	8.30am
Look-in for coffee and chat, St Andrew's Church, Meonstoke	10.00–12.00
Evening Prayer, Droxford	5.00pm
Meon Hall Man. C'tee AGM, The Meon Hall	7.30pm
Thu. 19 Holy Communion, Droxford	10.00am
Droxford Parish Council meeting, Droxford VH	7.30pm
Fri. 20 Singing for Fun, The Stables, Bishops Waltham	2.00pm
Sat. 21 Cadence Marching Band 2-day stay	
The Meon Hall all weekend	
MV Garden Club: Visit to Exbury Gardens; meet in Droxford Village Square	10.00am

Sunday 22 - Trinity Nineteen**End of British Summer Time at 2.00am**

Tue. 24 Morning Prayer, Exton	8.30am
Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH	10.30–12.00
Wed. 25 Morning Prayer, Meonstoke	8.30am
Evening Prayer, Droxford	5.00pm
Film Night: ' <i>Their Finest</i> ' Droxford VH	7.30pm
Thu. 26 Holy Communion, Droxford	10.00 am
Organ Recital, Meonstoke church (see p.17)	7.30pm

Sunday 29 - Last Sunday after Trinity**SUNDAY SERVICES FOR OCTOBER**

Date	Time	Service	Church
1st Trinity 16	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Harvest Family Eucharist (CW) Evensong	Droxford Meonstoke Exton
8th Trinity 17	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Harvest Family Eucharist (CW) Reflections: Prayer and Meditation	Meonstoke Droxford Corhampton
15th Trinity 18	8.00am 10.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Informal All-age Service Matins Healing & Taizé: Luke the Evangelist	Exton Droxford Corhampton Meonstoke
22nd Trinity 19	8.00am 9.30am 10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) Informal All-age Service Holy Communion (CW)	Corhampton Meonstoke Exton
29th Last after Trinity & Bible Sunday	8.00am 10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) Holy Communion (CW)	Corhampton Droxford

DISTRICT DIARY

NOVEMBER 2017

Wed.	1	Morning Prayer, Meonstoke Look in for coffee & chat, Meonstoke Church	8.30am 10.00–12.00
		Evening Prayer, Droxford	5.00pm
Thu.	2	Holy Communion, Droxford MV Garden Club: AGM, Droxford Village Hall	10.00am 7.30pm
Fri.	3	Singing for Fun, The Stables, Bishops Waltham	2.00pm
Sunday 5 - Fourth Sunday before Advent			
		MV Half Marathon, The Meon Hall	All day
Tue.	7	Morning Prayer, Exton Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH	8.30am 10.30–12.00
Wed.	8	Last copy date for Oct - Nov issue of The Bridge	
Wed.	8	Morning prayer, Meonstoke Evening Prayer, Droxford C'hampton & M'stoke Parish Council Meeting, In the Meon Hall	8.30am 5.00pm 7.30pm
Thu.	9	Holy Communion, Droxford	10.00am
Sunday 12 - Third Sunday before Advent & Remembrance Sunday			
Mon.	13	RBL: AGM, Droxford Village Hall	7.00pm
Tue.	14	Morning Prayer, Exton Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford Village Hall MV Arts Society: 'David Hockney at 80' In The Meon Hall Play-reading Group, The Meon Hall	8.30am 10.30–12.00 10.40am 7.30pm
Wed.	15	Morning prayer, Meonstoke Look in for coffee & chat, Meonstoke Church Evening Prayer, Droxford	8.30am 10.00–12.00 5.00pm
Thu.	16	Holy Communion, Droxford Droxford Parish Council meeting, Droxford VH	10.00am 7.30pm
Fri.	17	Singing for Fun, The Stables, Bishop's Waltham	2.00pm
Sunday 19 - Second Sunday before Advent			
Mon.	20	The Meon Hall Management Committee Meeting in The Meon Hall	7.30pm
Tue.	21	Morning Prayer, Exton Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH	8.30am 10.30–12.00
Wed.	22	Morning Prayer, Meonstoke Evening Prayer, Droxford MV Garden Club: 'Bewitching Alpines,' by Janice Bennetts, The Meon Hall	8.30am 5.00pm 7.30pm
Thu.	23	Holy Communion, Droxford Anemos Trio Concert Meonstoke Church (see p.17)	10.00am 7.30pm
Sat.	25	Droxford Christmas Market, Droxford VH (see p.17) Christmas Fair, Exton Parish Church (see p.10) The Meon Hall 200 Club annual Beetle Drive, The Meon Hall. (see p.8)	10.30am 10.30am 7.30pm
Sunday 26 - Christ the King			
Tue.	28	Morning Prayer, Exton Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH	8.30am 10.30–12.00
Wed.	29	Morning prayer, Meonstoke Evening Prayer, Droxford Film Night: 'Churchill,' Droxford Village Hall	8.30am 5.00pm 7.30pm
Thu.	30	Holy Communion, Droxford Droxford History Group: 'Bridge Street Wickham' a talk by Geoff Philpotts, Droxford Village Hall	10.00am 7.30pm



SUNDAY SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER

Date	Time	Service	Church
5th 4th before Advent	8.00am 10.30am 3.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Family Eucharist (CW) Evensong for All Souls	Droxford Meonstoke Exton
12th 3rd before Advent Remembrance Sunday	8.00am 8.00am 9.30am 10.50am 6.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Village Act of Remembrance <i>RBL: Remembrance Service</i> Village Act of Remembrance Remembrance Evensong	Meonstoke Meonstoke Droxford Exton Corhampton
19th 2nd before Advent	8.00am 10.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Informal All-Age Service Matins Healing & Taizé: Luke the Evangelist	Exton Droxford Corhampton Meonstoke
26th Christ the King	8.00am 9.30am 10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) Informal All-age Service Holy Communion (CW)	Corhampton Meonstoke Exton

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: 877564

Thank You Nancy!

From all the residents of Droxford in appreciation for the years you have devoted to serving us in the Village Post Office Stores.
We will miss the smiles and friendly chatter when shopping or simply picking up our papers.
Enjoy your retirement.

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.

Droxford Country Fair AGM

Saturday 9th December

at 10.30am

in The Bakers Arms

Do come along for a review of this year's highly successful Country Fair and the distribution of the proceeds. Remember, any local organization can apply for a donation.

From the Registers

Weddings

Meonstoke	23rd August - Ian Whitear and Linda Creese
Droxford	26th August - Joseph Dewhurst and Jessica Weeks
Exton	5th August - William Easterbrook and Bridget Miles

Blessing of Marriage

Droxford	2nd September - Tom Fleming & Charlotte Symes
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Funerals

Droxford	5th July - Rosemary Florence Field, age 96
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Thanksgiving Services

Exton	11th August - Dick Manwaring, age 95
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We welcome to our Parishes.....

Jane and Henry Morgan, who have come with Bailey (4 years) and Maisie (5mths), from Droxford to No.15 Bridgemead.

Jo and Gareth Jones, who have come from Chidden, with Declan (7 years) and Spencer (3 years) to No.8 Bridgemead.

Anna Cook and Paul Batchelor, who have come from Alresford, with Lucy (10 years) and Leo (7 years), to No.14 Bridgemead.

Alex Daly and Jason Butler, who have come from Leigh Park with Albie (2 years) and Phoebe (4 months), to No.17 Bridgemead.

LIST OF ADVERTISERS

ACCOMMODATION & EVENTS	French Holiday Cottage 27: Wallops Wood Cottages 28: Hill Place Events 35:
ACCOUNTANTS & TAX ADVISERS	Nicholas Ridge 37:
ANTIQUES	Droxford Antiques 31:
ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES	Engineering Architecture Ltd 33:
BUILDERS & BUILDING MATERIALS	Steve Such (Property Maintenance) 26: R & G Gamblin 27: JT Carpentry & Building 29: Steven Hurdle 30: KJN Home Improvements 30: Hillman Building Services 34: Frontwood Ltd 37: Peter Garber 38: E J Goodall (Thatcher) 40:
CARPENTERS & WOOD PRODUCTS	JT Carpentry & Building 29: Hardwood Logs 34:
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DECORATORS, PAINTERS, & TILERS	Droxford Interiors & Tiling 25: M & J Mason 30: Oliver's Painting & Decorating 32: Ray Gent 37: Top Marks 39:
DOMESTIC APPLIANCES, HEATING, & PLUMBING	EAS 28: Mark Oliver 29: R A Redman 30: D & S Oil Tanks 33: Hampshire Cooker Conversions 33: Hardwood Logs 34: Harpers of South Boarhunt 36: Adept Plumbing Services 40: Alan Shawyer (inside back cover): G Rixon Ltd (back cover):
DOMESTIC SERVICES	PestOFF Pest Control 26: Curtains by Mary 33: Chimney Sweep Christian Oliver 34: Cynthia Tester Curtains & Blinds 36: Grange Upholstery 37: Advanced Clean (Carpet & Upholstery) 39: Barn Store for Storage 39:
ELECTRICIANS & ELECTRICAL SERVICES	Derek Pilcher 30: BBS Electrical Services Southern 33; Ben Tibbets Electrical 35: Ray Burbidge 37: Assure Electrical Ltd (inside front cover): G Rixon Ltd (back cover):
ESTATE AGENTS	The Country House Company 35:
FUNERAL DIRECTORS & MEMORIALS	Nigel Chamberlain (inside front cover): South Downs Funeral Services 36:
GARAGES (SERVICING) & CAR SALES	Taylors Garage 25: Andrews Autosource 27:
GARDEN & LANDSCAPING	Judit Appel Plantswoman & Gardener 33: Meon Valley Mowers 35: Anita Foy Garden Design 39: Chapelle Chic 40: Greenbuild Design & Construction (inside back cover):
GLASS & GLAZING	Fareham Glass 34: Leydene Glass & Glazing 39:
HAIRDRESSERS	The Bubble 26: Gaudion's Hairdressing 32:
HEALTH , WELL-BEING, & OPTICIANS	Foot Care (Ann-Marie Elliott) 25: Damson Hill Pilates & Woodland Workout 27: Saxby's Eyecare 28: Foot Health Practitioner (Karen Jordan) 30: Chiropodist (Graham Howes) 35: Damson Hill Pilates & Woodland Workout 27:
HOME IMPROVEMENTS	KJN 30:
JEWELLERS	Simon Lawson 37:
LETTINGS & LAND MANAGEMENT	Pimp My Paddock (back cover):
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RIDING & EQUESTRIAN	Merrie Stud Riding School 26:
SCHOOLS; EDUCATION & LEARNING	Valley Pre-School 25:
SHOPS & STORES	Meonstoke PO & Stores 28: Christina's Shop-in-the-Square 32:
SOLICITORS	MacDonald Oates 26: Biscoes 35: Chamberlains 36: Blake Morgan (back cover):
SPORT	Hazelholt Floodlit Indoor Tennis Court 31:
TAXIS	Hambledon Cars (inside front cover): Gamblin Cars 38:
VETS & PETS	The Dog Room (inside front cover): The Village Cattery 29: Shield Veterinary Centre 40:

If you would like to put a trade advertisement in *The Bridge* then please contact the Advertising Manager, see page 1 for details.