

# THE BRIDGE

October – November 2016



The Parish Magazine for  
Droxford, Exton, Meonstoke & Corhampton

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

THE BRIDGE CHURCHES WEBSITE is at: [www.bridgechurches.org.uk](http://www.bridgechurches.org.uk)

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	Note: The Rector's day off is usually Monday		
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Reader	Cathy Mathews	877804	
<b>CHURCH SUPPLIES</b>	Anne Wilkinson	877488	

## DROXFORD

Churchwardens:	Ann Symes	877643
	Sheila Matthissen	877867
Secretary:	—	—
Treasurer & Gift		
Aid secretary:	Christine Rogers	—
Organist:	John Martin	877385
Sacristan:	Laura Jerosch	01329 231956
Verger:	Norman Bell	877230
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday Services:	Ros Collins	877782

## EXTON

Churchwardens:	Hugh Parry	878860
	Richard Pepys	878035
Secretary	—	—
Treasurer & Gift		
Aid secretary:	David Frere-Cook	877838
Organists:		
(Morning)	Sarah Page	02392 257723
(Evening)	Dr Alan Hibbert OBE	878564
Sacristan:	Jill Cassels	877469
Verger:	Bob Miles	—

## OTHER DENOMINATIONS

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

## METHODIST & UNITED FREE CHURCH

(Bishop's Waltham)  
The Reverend David Moss MA 01329 833518

## MEONSTOKE WITH CORHAMPTON

Churchwarden	Za Rowe	877732
Secretary:	Sarah Page	02392 257723
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 picture

### Prebends Bridge in Durham by Michael Collins

The Prebends Bridge crosses the River Wear close to Durham Cathedral. It was built between 1772 and 1778, and is Grade 1 listed. This is probably Durham's most visited bridge, thanks to the views it offers of the cathedral and wooded riverbanks. It is just one of the historic bridges in Durham, a World Heritage Site

**THE BRIDGE** is delivered at the start of the months of February, April, June, August, October, and December. Ideally, copy should be sent by e-mail to *The Bridge* editor at the address shown above, preferably attached as an MS Word document. The page set-up (with 10 or 10.5 pt font size) should be defined as an A4 page – with 1.5 cm left and right margins. Typed or handwritten hardcopy is also acceptable. If you are responsible for village activities, diaries, and schedules, please note that material received late (after the copy date – see page 4) may not be included.

## CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP

MAKE YOUR OWN FESTIVE WREATH

Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December

9.30 am to 12.30 pm

Droxford Village Hall

£20

(Includes all basic materials & refreshments)  
*In aid of St Mary's & All Saints Church  
Droxford*

To reserve your place contact  
pauline.walters11@btinternet.com or  
sandra.glen@yahoo.co.uk  
telephone number 01489 877001 or 877708

## DROXFORD DROP-IN

Everyone is welcome at the  
Village Hall 'Drop In',

**Every Tuesday morning  
between 10.30 am and noon**

Come for a hot drink and biscuits and a chat.  
Come for a few minutes or the whole time.

A particular welcome is extended to the  
hearing-impaired. It is appreciated that  
acoustics in the Hall make hearing difficult,  
but we keep background noise to a minimum –  
and we have a silent kettle!

## Meonstoke Toddler Group

We would like to welcome you to this community-run  
stay-and-play group for babies, toddlers and pre-  
schoolers with their parents, grandparents or carers.

We have a range of indoor and outdoor toys, craft  
activities, musical instruments and more as well as  
drinks/snacks for both adults and children!

If you're new to the area, or not been before, then  
why not give it a try? And if you've been a few times,  
why not join our rota of volunteers to help out on a  
Thursday? Even if you don't have pre-school age  
children, but some free time, we would be really  
pleased to welcome you onto our rota!

Please contact Nicky Clark at  
toddlers@nicolabruton.co.uk with any questions.

Held at **The Meon Hall, Pound Lane, Meonstoke**  
**every other Thursday during term time**  
**from 9.30 to 11.30 am**

October 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>

November 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>

December 1<sup>st</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>

£2 per family, including refreshments for all.



## MEON VOICES CHOIR

Our new session begins on 12<sup>th</sup> September when we  
will know the music we will be singing at our Christmas  
concerts in December. We will be working under the  
direction of our new choir master, Solveig Harris with  
Joe Hallam accompanying us on the piano. Practice  
night is Monday evening 7.30-9.30 at the United Free  
Church in Basingwell Street, Bishop's Waltham.

We usually sing in 4-part harmony (SATB) and we have  
vacancies in all voices, so we are inviting anyone who  
likes to sing to come along and join us. There is no  
audition and you do not need to be able to read music.  
Each part is learnt at practice nights, supplemented with  
the use of CD's and an online player, which we can use  
to practice at home. We are a friendly, social fun-loving  
group of singers, but we do take our singing seriously  
and aim for a good level of presentation at the concerts

If you are interested in joining us or would like any more  
information, please contact Phil Coundley on 01489  
579078, email at coundleypj@yahoo.com or Maureen  
Buckland at alan@agbuckland.plus.com or on 01489  
890335; or simply come on any Monday evening at 7.30  
Meon Voices is included in the British Choirs at  
[www.choirs.org.uk](http://www.choirs.org.uk) and at [www.bigbigsing.org](http://www.bigbigsing.org), the Big  
Big Sing Web site and we hope to have our own Web  
site before the end of this year.

We look forward to seeing you and welcoming you to  
join us.

Maureen Buckland

## 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 10.00 am and midday.

**All are welcome – the more the merrier!**

**October: 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>**

**November: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>**

## Book-out !

Please feel free to borrow books (fiction and non-  
fiction, thrillers and all other genres), jigsaws and  
CDs 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

**Latest copy date for the  
December - January 2017 Bridge is  
Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> November**

## From the Rector

Leaving the still warm sunny days and dewy mornings of September behind, we enter into October when day-light hours are reducing and stunning changes in nature are evident. It is our time of Harvest Thanksgiving and then much more. As I have written before, the Church's year enriches us with the rhythm of its own seasons, punctuated by special days on which we celebrate or reflect. It reminds us of a biblical understanding of season and place, complemented by our scientific understanding of time and space.

The Church says farewell to September with the celebration of the Feast of St Michael and All Angels (Michaelmas). Michael, Gabriel, Raphael and Uriel are the four named biblical angels, depicted as the beloved messengers of God – indeed the -el at the end of their names relates to God in Hebrew; for example, the name Gabriel means the strength of God.

October opens with three commemorations all on 1<sup>st</sup> October (Gregory – Apostle of Armenia; Remigius – Apostle to the Franks; and Anthony Ashley Cooper); then the commemoration of George Bell (born on Hayling island), the wartime Bishop of Chichester, ecumenist and peacemaker on 3<sup>rd</sup> October; followed by feast day of the much loved St Francis on 4<sup>th</sup> October.

Anthony Ashley Cooper, better known as the Earl of Shaftesbury, was the great 19<sup>th</sup> century social reformer, who developed a deep sympathy with the suffering of poor and unwanted children. His deep faith drove him to seek the path of serving suffering humanity rather than pursuing personal pleasure, which was more usual for the aristocracy of his time. He believed that "Christianity is not a state of opinion and speculation. Christianity is essentially practical."

In 1851 he entered the House of Lords, where he was an early driving force for reform, being responsible for legislation aiding factory workers; women and children in coal mines; the insane; chimney sweeps; and poor children. He took the trouble to find out for himself about the conditions of the poor, visiting slums and factories, going down mines and visiting asylums and schools. Beyond Parliament, he was unrelenting in his support of good causes, being involved in the Ragged School Union, the British and Foreign Bible Society, the NSPCC, the London City Mission, and the Church Pastoral-Aid Society, to name but a few. All this activity underpinned what he described as the single object of his life: "the advancement of God's ever blessed name, and the temporal and eternal welfare of all mankind".

Perhaps he seems distant to us as the epitome of the Victorian Christian philanthropist, yet good men and women, like him, who work within the political system to redress social ills are as necessary today as they were in the nineteenth century.

Later in October, we celebrate the *Bible* itself and commemorate many people, among them: William Tyndale, translator of the scriptures and martyr; Wilfrid of Ripon, bishop, missionary, with a special connection

## There's more to autumn than Trick or Treat!

to the Meon Valley; Elizabeth Fry, another reformer; Edith Cavell, nurse, shot in the First World war, the Centenary of which we are remembering now; St Luke the Evangelist and patron of doctors; Alfred the Great, King of the West Saxons and scholar, whose capital was in Winchester; Simon and Jude, apostles; Martin Luther, reformer; and, Meonstoke Church's Patron, St Andrew.

November is a time of bringing to mind those who have gone before us, with All Saints' Day, the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day) and of course Remembrance Sunday; it is also a time of reflection and anticipation as we enter the season of Advent on 27<sup>th</sup> November.

The Church has recognised from its earliest days the ordinary people who have done extraordinary things empowered by their faith. These people have excited and influenced us; each is an example to us, sometimes even after many centuries. In theological terms, the saints remind us that there is a communion between the Church on earth and the Church in heaven, and so we celebrate All Saints' Day on 1<sup>st</sup> November or on the nearest Sunday.

All Souls, complements All Saints; where All Saints is a triumphant and joyful celebration of the communion of all the saints, All Souls is more reflective and a personal remembering of those whom we love but see no longer. It recognises continuing bereavement and loss. It gives us the opportunity, gathered together in the presence of God, to express our continuing bonds of love and affection.

October and November offer such a varied *banquet*, so do please join us along the way, there will be something for everyone. These key months in the Church's year help us spread out the 'immeasurable riches of God's mystery', so that we can be fed by each part of the story without losing sight of the whole.

Tony

### St Mary & All Saints Droxford Harvest Festival Service and Lunch Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> October

All welcome

**10.30 am** Harvest Festival Service in Church

**12.00** Harvest Bring & Share Lunch in

Droxford Village Hall

No tickets needed just turn up with a  
plate of finger-food

All contributions to Church Restoration Fund

For details of Meonstoke's Harvest Festival, see  
page five.

## Droxford Church Community Hub and Heritage project

### Restoration

Our contractor, R J Smith has completed the first phase of the restoration, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Friends of Droxford Church. The exterior of the tower has been restored (and the clock and weather vane re-furbished). The south roof has been re-tiled and the dormer windows repaired. Many visitors have commented on how well the outside of the church now looks – if you haven't already, take a walk around the south side and see for yourselves. The second phase of the R J Smith contract has commenced and involves the repair of the tower floors, the east wall of the church, and some drainage improvements.

The restoration work is expected to be completed in October, following which the glazing and conversion of the north chapel will commence in order to create the space for a Community Room and Café. An open meeting on Thursday, 6th October (at 7.00 pm in the church) will provide an update on the current works and plans for the Community Hub project.

### Heritage

The Heritage group coordinated by Michael Chandler has made an application to South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) for additional heritage funding and has considered submissions from three potential suppliers and made their recommendations to the PCC. Their proposals include the creation of interpretation panels and signage, and potentially the use of electronic

equipment, to facilitate heritage-related displays and presentations. The SDNPA decision on funding is expected by the end of September, and subject to the PCC decision, a further consultation in November, and the granting of necessary permissions by the Diocese and Historic England, the implementation of the heritage programme could start in early 2017.

If you have any questions or comments in relation to the heritage activities please contact Michael Chandler on 01489 878741 or email him at [mjchand110@gmail.com](mailto:mjchand110@gmail.com).

### Church Community Hub

Fund-raising is continuing for the Community Hub extension to house the kitchen, toilets, storage and administration, which is an essential condition of the Heritage Lottery Fund grant. As we reported in the last issue our grant application to the Hampshire County Council was successful and we were awarded 27% of the building costs up to a maximum of £75,000.

For more information, please come to the Community Hub Open Meeting on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00 pm in the church, and visit our Web sites at:

[www.bridgechurches.org.uk](http://www.bridgechurches.org.uk)

[www.friendsofdroxfordchurch.org.uk](http://www.friendsofdroxfordchurch.org.uk)

John Symes – for the Project Management Committee

## St Mary & All Saints Church, Droxford

### presents **Angelic Carols**

*Featuring the boy choristers of the  
award winning*

**St John's Chapel Choir, Southsea**



**Thursday, 1st December  
at 7.00 pm**

**in Droxford Church**

*a concert of traditional Christmas music  
sung by the choir with audience  
participation.*

*Tickets will be available from Droxford Post Office  
in late October*



## An Autumn Evening Concert

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October  
7.30 pm**

**St Peter's Church, Soberton**

Robert Blanken	Clarinet
Cathy Mathews	Violin
Jane Ingamells	Violin
Ruth McGibben	Viola
Mikhail Lezdkan	Cello

**Clarinet Quintet**

**Mozart**

**Clarinet Quintet**

**Gordon Jacob**

Tickets £12 (includes a glass of wine)

Children of school age £1

Available from Norman Chapman on 877378

Carol Colin-Jones on 877237

**Proceeds in aid of the Friends of St Peter's**

An event for all Meonstoke & Corhampton Diaries

## Carols in the Barn

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

**Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> December  
starting at 5.15 pm**

Caroline and Richard Thynne and their families

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.

## ST. ANDREW'S CHURCHYARD CLEAR-UP SATURDAY

OCTOBER 8<sup>th</sup> from 10.00 am  
until TIDY!

The churchwarden and PCC will be very grateful for any help.

Please bring your own garden tools, saws, tree loppers, strimmers, etc.

Refreshments Provided

Residents of Allen's Lane and neighbours are warned there will be BONFIRES on this date

St Andrews, Meonstoke  
Harvest Festival Service

**Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October  
at 10.30 am**

The Service will be followed by refreshments and we hope that many of the community will come and celebrate the harvest.

## The Meon Valley Pilgrimage Trail

This 28-mile walk up the Meon valley was planned as a suggested route that might have been taken by St Wilfrid, Bishop of York in the late 7<sup>th</sup> century, as he travelled through the lands of the Meonwara tribe, preaching Christianity. The trail starts at Titchfield Haven and in six annual stages averaging five miles follows the length of the river to East Meon.

Walkers from the Meon Valley villages have gathered each year on the Saturday nearest to St Wilfrid's Day to walk a section of the trail. This year we will follow the route from Droxford to Exton, a short section which takes in four particularly interesting churches and passes by some striking rural architecture.

Please join us on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 9.45 am at St Mary's church, Droxford. After a chance to look round the church we will set off at 10.00. We will call in at St Andrew's, Meonstoke and at the ancient church of Corhampton before arriving at St Peter & St Paul, Exton at 11.45. We will be welcomed with a short service, after which we will disperse, either to return home or to honour the old English tradition and continue for another couple of hundred yards to arrive at The Shoe inn at opening time!

As this is a linear walk you may wish to consider car-sharing; but the route is only about 2½ miles, and after refreshment at The Shoe a return walk may seem feasible.

For more information please contact me on 01329 832915.

Robert Goulson

## Droxford Church Children's Corner

The Diocesan Mission money has been spent on exclusive storage for our toys, books and stationery. We send a very big "thank you" to Duncan Brown for his wonderful workmanship. We also thank Droxford school for the smart benches and table and carpet pieces and also the family who gave the dolls' house. The flower ladies donated £60, which has paid for some dolls' house furniture and other toys. Lego and vehicles have been given and various other toys including a giant puzzle. Over the years a variety of books have been donated. We are very grateful for all of these gifts.

When in church, please use the corner either by taking books and toys to your pew or by letting the children stay quietly in the corner at work or play.

Our next move is to work out a comfortable carpet area. Any ideas welcome.

Ros Collins

## Care of Droxford Churchyard

Until week-ending 9<sup>th</sup> September, there was a contractor's safety fence around the South porch of Droxford Church, erected because of the extensive renovation work in progress. Because it was impossible to tend the small area of grass within the fenced-off area, the grass has grown very high and straggly. But to me, it is a stark reminder of what our whole churchyard would surely look like were it not for our wonderful team of workers who keep it looking so beautifully neat throughout the year. Both grass and shrubs are so well tended. So it's a big "Thank you" to the team: Stuart Attrill, Hilary Dean-Hughes, Michael Chandler, Derek Hart, Chris Holland and David Neale. Your sterling efforts make the churchyard look so attractive not just to people walking to and from the church, but also to what must be the hundreds of visitors walking from the Square down to the river.

Terry Crowfoot .

## Alton Abbey

14th Annual Lecture

**Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 7.00 pm**

*Modern Christian Pilgrimage*

by Revd Canon John Draper

Tickets £25 to include supper with wine in the Refectory after the Lecture

Tickets for all events are available from "Tickets", Friends of Alton Abbey, Alton Abbey, Abbey Road, Alton, GU34 4AP (or Tel: 01420 562145)

## Droxford Church

Some events for your diary

### Church Open Meeting

**Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> October  
in the church**

**7.00 pm**

**Come along to the meeting to find out the latest news on all the work on the church.**

The PCC, with the Friends of Droxford Church, will present an update on the current works to date and would like to consult members of the whole community on the future plans.

### Annual Churchyard Clean-up

**Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> November  
at 10.00 am**

Please bring your own tools

Light lunch is provided afterwards

In

**Droxford Village Hall.**

**All welcome.**

### Clearing the North Chapel

**Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> November**

**10.00 am**

**until 4.00 pm**

Please come and help clear the North Chapel & vestry area ready for the new floor and and to prepare the Heritage/Community space and for the installation of glass screens in the archways.

## Hackney and Bishop's Waltham Deaneries Link

*Up and down the City Road,  
In and out The Eagle,  
That's the way the money goes  
Pop goes the weasel.*

Well, not quite, except perhaps for the third line. A good many readers will know about the link between the deaneries of Bishop's Waltham (the Anglican parishes between Botley and Hambledon) and the Hackney deanery, which has been going for nearly thirty years. There have been a lot of changes in both places over that time, but three things have remained stable: personal friendships; continuing prayer; and the gifts of money from Bishop's Waltham to Hackney. The gifts come from contributions from parishes and personal donations. One Saturday in August, fourteen people from our deanery parishes travelled by minibus to visit Hackney to meet our friends. We took with us some donations from our deanery for a variety of projects in their churches.

In the course of a happy day, we walked from St Saviour's Priory in Dalston via St Michael's, London Fields, and St Mark's Dalston to St James, Lower Clapton. On the way there were stops for prayer and to read the account in Luke chapter 24 of the disciples walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus.

We met several people from the churches that our money gifts have helped over the years and saw how they are given very practical use for people in need by the commitment of churches in Hackney. So, these are some of *the ways the money goes*:

- St Saviour's Priory runs the Dunloe Centre, providing a hot meal and clothes for a group of men and women including a good many addicts.
- St Mark's (Dalston), St James' (Clapton), and St Olave's (Woodberry Down) each run schemes providing meals for the homeless.

They're all hands-on programmes run by church people. For instance, the St Olave's scheme began a few years ago when their vicar, Canon Tunde Roberts, was in Soho with his wife one evening. They were shocked by the number of homeless people they met. Tunde said he remembered the words of Jesus: "I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me drink". That week, they started cooking a meal for twenty people in the vicarage kitchen which they took down in the evening to Trafalgar Square. It has been continued by their church members every week since then and the numbers of meals have doubled. St Paul's West Hackney has a club for young children and their parents, called Buds and Bees, helping them grow seeds into food they can eat. St John's (Hoxton) has a charity called Streetlevel for teenagers in Hoxton. St John's Brownsod Park has a summer pilgrimage and holiday for teenagers. As well, as these we support the Hackney winter night shelter for the homeless

called Open Doors. So you see our gifts are widely spread. None of the sums we give are large compared to the need, but what our friends told us is how much they appreciated the fact that Christians in Hampshire cared enough to take an interest in what they are doing. We have very warm letters of thanks. For us it was inspiring to see these examples of faith in action.

The proposed arrangements for our Christmas collection of clothes and food this year are that we are again collecting **food** and **clothes** to take up to Hackney for used by St Saviour's Priory, St James' Clapton, and the Hackney Winter Night Shelter. Collection boxes will be in all our churches, to be delivered to Swanmore village hall no later than **11.00 am on Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December.**

Food items are the same as for our local Food Bank; the most needed clothes are socks, underpants, tee shirts and warm casual clothes. Shoes of all sizes, especially trainers. Toiletry items are also needed: disposable razors (not Bic), shaving cream, tooth brushes and paste, shower gel and shampoo (small bottles). Most of the beneficiaries are men, but there are some women. Bedding of all kinds is needed and also sleeping bags.

Gifts of money are very welcome and cheques should be made payable to Bishop's Waltham Deanery Synod. The synod is not eligible for Gift Aid but if you wish to make a donation using Gift Aid we can advise you how payment can be made directly to one of the churches or the Night Shelter (some people have done this with their Winter Fuel Allowance).

Norman Chatfield 01489 891995  
chat.field@btinternet.com

## Droxford History Society

**Invites you to**

A talk by Mike Hollis about

***Henry Lutterloh - Spy of  
Wickham***

in

**Droxford Village Hall**

at

**7.30 pm**

on

**Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> November**

This is the last meeting for 2016 –  
meetings resume on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2017.



## In the garden

October & November

**T**here have been many reports of potato and tomato blight this year, so if your plants have succumbed, make sure that all the affected plants and their leaves have been burned to avoid contaminating the soil. In the last few weeks the seed catalogues have been coming in the mail and now is the time to think about what to grow in the garden next year. It is also a good time to carry out maintenance on fences and conifer hedges at the back of borders before bulbs begin to appear. Use small boards to stand on while working in the borders to spread your weight, thus minimising soil compaction



**Vegetables:** Plant winter and spring lettuce and spring cabbage as well as autumn-sown broad beans and onions. Ensure that weeds and any debris is cleared from winter vegetables such as sprouts, leeks, cabbage, and sprouting broccoli as they create hiding places for pests. Any vacant beds or plots can be covered with weed control fabric such as MYPEX; this will prevent weed growth, retain moisture and improve the rate at which the soil warms up next 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 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:** Divide and replant clumps of perennials such as solidago, perennial sunflowers, rudbeckia, and phlox. Clean up rose beds, and in particular remove all fallen leaves, which may harbour black spot spores. If you have dahlias that are becoming congested then some might be lifted, dried and stored over winter in peat or multipurpose compost. A dusting of yellow sulphur over the tubers will help to prevent them rotting while in storage. The tubers can be carefully divided in spring and potted up to give a new set of healthy plants.



**Trees and Shrubs:** Plant bare-rooted specimens of roses, trees, and shrubs in November or even later, remembering to soak the roots for a couple of hours before planting.



**Bulbs:** Plant spring flowering bulbs, remembering to plant them deep enough to protect against frost, mice and squirrels. Do not worry about planting

## Meon Valley Garden Club

In the summer months the Garden Club visits local gardens and our trip in August was to the lovely gardens at West Dean. They have the most wonderful walled garden, which grows fruit trees that have been trained into amazing shapes; also in this area are the neatest greenhouses and vegetable gardens I have ever seen, everything perfectly spaced and healthy. Something to aspire to, if only we had the time and the patience of the West Dean gardeners! There was a woodland walk and colourful herbaceous bed to explore if you needed still more. In addition to being open for visits, West Dean holds many gardening-related festivals, and Apple Affair is the next one on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> October, a real family day out for a celebration of the best of the British autumn harvest, including the impressive apple harvest from West Dean's own orchards

Rymans in Sussex was our September visit and we were blessed with a beautiful sunny day. Rymans is a 15<sup>th</sup> century house surrounded by a garden created by the owner over many years (she would not tell us how many). The garden was full of dahlias, sedums, late roses, unusual trees and shrubs, and the paths in the front garden were lined with Japanese anemones looking beautiful in the sunshine. It was a garden full of surprises. Many of our members said it was one of the most romantic gardens they had been to. The afternoon tea was good too!

Caroline Harris, Secretary

[www.meon-valley-garden-club.co.uk](http://www.meon-valley-garden-club.co.uk)  
and under Clubs and Leisure on  
Droxford Village Community Web site

bulbs too deeply, experience has shown that they always come up regardless.



**Lawns:** In these times of mild winters, grass continues to grow for many more weeks than normal. This means that mowing may well be necessary until well into November, but don't forget to raise the level of the mower blades.



**In the greenhouse:** Clear out all the plants such as tomato and cucumber. Wash the inside with a dilute solution of Jeyes Fluid or other proprietary cleaner and ensure that the glass is thoroughly cleaned. Bring in plants that need protection over the winter such as fuchsias (even hardy ones that are in containers, because they can be given an early start the following year).

John Owen



## The MEON HALL

**The 200 Club:** The winners of the 2016 monthly prize draws were:

**August:** Yvonne Ward

**September:** Isaac Hall

**Looking ahead:** The Meon Hall's 'Social Event of the Year', the 200 Club annual Beetle Drive, is on Saturday 26 November at 7.30pm, with the Draw for 2016's 200 Club big prizes (see below). Please put this event 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](mailto:jamesmorrice99@gmail.com) – 200 Club members go free, non-members £6.50 each.

**The new Roofs:** *Work has finished !!!* We are very grateful to Scorpion Engineering Ltd of Marlborough for their work this summer to remove the old corrugated asbestos roofing, which was failing, and to fit The Meon Hall with its new Kingspan insulated roof and new gutters, all coloured goosewing grey. The Meon Hall looks really smart now, and weathertight. The Meon Hall committee has sent grateful thanks for grants to help with the cost to: Corhampton and Meonstoke Parish Council; Exton Parish Meeting; Meon Valley DFAS members; Winchester City Council; and Hampshire County Council. The Meon Hall 200 Club's

demonstration of community support in 2016 for the Meon Hall with 326 members was a key factor in our successful grant applications. And the *Run for the Roof* trail-run event in May raised over £8,000 to help with this important re-roofing work. Thank you everyone so much for all your help and support to our village hall.

**Thank you:** To Brian Cowin of Droxford for his work in August with renewing lots of the woodwork facings around the Meon Hall's gutters to tie in with the new roofs; and also 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 2016 to help fund this important service. (It is the same Yellow Bin which was used to raise money for the Air Ambulance until July, but the dedication has been changed recently by the Yellow Bin scheme managers).

**Planning a family party?** Order those extra tables, chairs, china, wine and champagne 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](mailto:meonhallbookings@yahoo.co.uk)  
to discuss how we can help to meet your hiring needs.

James Morrice

### The Meon Hall 200 Club

INVITE YOU TO THEIR ANNUAL

## BEETLE DRIVE

in The MEON HALL

**SATURDAY, 26<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**  
at 7.30 pm

**DRAW FOR THE £300, £150, AND £100 PRIZES**

RAFFLE - SUPPER - PRIZE DRAW  
BEETLE DRIVE

Members free Tickets: James Morrice 878505 or  
[jamesmorrice99@gmail.com](mailto:jamesmorrice99@gmail.com)

Non-Members: £6.50 by Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup>  
November, please, for catering

### Digital Detox!

Local sessions for only £2 each!  
It's ACTUAL reality!

ENJOY – interacting others directly  
TALK – to people, not a microphone  
VIEW – a page, not a screen

All this can be yours on

**Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> October**  
& **Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December**

**The MEON HALL at 7.30 pm**

where your local **Play-reading Group** is ready  
to welcome you to its ranks.

Plus, free autumn bonus!  
Come along and help with the forthcoming revue  
*Sketches, Songs and Stuff* (see page 10)

Need more details? Contact Paul or  
Gerry Hayles on 01489 878589

## The MEON HALL

Meonstoke

Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> to Saturday  
12<sup>th</sup> November at 8.00 pm

**M**eon  
Mad Hoc Theatre

presents

**Sketches, Songs & Stuff**

Tickets: £8 at the door



Profits to

**Alzheimer's  
Research  
UK**



**Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Droxford Village Hall**  
**10.30 am to 3.00 pm**

Come along and browse our interesting range of stalls, there's something for everyone.

Refreshments available throughout the day, including home-made soup and mince pies. Definitely not to be missed, so mark the date in your diary now.

If you would like to have a stall at this popular event, contact Louise Withers on 01489 877595 for details.

All proceeds are to help maintain our excellent village hall.

## Meon Ladies

**Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> October**

at **7:30 pm** in

**The Meon Hall**

Entry: £1

***Magistrates in the Community***

David James JP presents a

*Magistrates in the Community* project

A general talk on the work of the magistrates and the magistrates court, including time for questions.

Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> November 2016

at **7:30 pm** in

**The Meon Hall**

Entry: £2

Christmas all wrapped up by  
Occasional Papercrafts

We are very pleased that Rosie Minors will be joining us on this occasion. She will show us and help us make some simple but pretty and festive cards and packages.

Rosie will also display some other Christmas items, including some lovely table decorations.

All materials will be provided but scissors might be useful!

**All Welcome!**

**Meon Men as well as  
Meon Ladies!**

**Contact [sarah.snowdon@live.com](mailto:sarah.snowdon@live.com)  
or Libby Soar on 878704  
for more details**

**Parochial Church Council (PCCs)  
Special October Meetings**

These special meetings with the theme **Parish Mission Action Planning** for each of our three parishes will be held on the following dates:

Monday, **17<sup>th</sup> October** in **Meonstoke Church**

Tuesday, **18<sup>th</sup> October** in **Exton Church**

Tuesday, **25<sup>th</sup> October** in **Droxford Church**

## Droxford Village Hall News



As I write it is now mid-September and the extraordinary temperatures expected in the south for the second time this month will undoubtedly cheer us as the days become shorter and we begin to experience the more usual autumn weather of October and November. Autumn's bounty of trees heavy with fruit, and vegetables in gardens, of hedgerows of rose-hips and hawthorn berries and the turning leaves on the trees, make a welcome sight after the lush green of summer, and the seasonal passing of many wild flowers adorning our countryside.

The autumn evenings bring more entertainments and events to our village hall, although the hall was the venue for craftspeople to showcase their wares at the end of August, as part of the Hampshire Open Studios. Beyond that, the hall is much in demand as a venue for wedding receptions and parties. We are pleased that so many hirers appreciate what the hall has to offer.

After the quieter summer months, the activities and meetings in the hall are once more in full

swing, and a glance at *The Bridge* magazine will provide information on all of these. We like to think that the hall provides the venue to cater for most people's needs on a social or exercise level.

Our film season will continue as usual with showings on the last Wednesday of each month, starting with *Golden Years* in September, to be followed by *Florence Foster Jenkins* in October and *Absolutely Fabulous* in November. We hope these will provide a good evening's entertainment and suit our audience's tastes. Advance notice also comes for our Christmas Fair on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> November. This will be the ideal time to think about present buying, and Christmas provisions.

The 200 Club winners for the last two months were:

**August:** Evelyn Moore

**September:** David Giles

Jackie Hibbert,  
secretary

### Forthcoming events at Droxford Village Hall

Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> October

#### ***Florence Foster Jenkins***

Rated PG

A significant patron of the arts in New York during World War II, Florence Foster Jenkins provided musical instruments for underprivileged children and set up The Verdi Club where she produced, directed, and starred in shows for select members of high society. But she always wanted to sing opera, despite her distinct lack of talent.

Stephen Frears brings the story to the big screen with three performances of quality: Simon Helberg as FFJ's exasperated accompanist; Hugh Grant as her attentive husband; and of course the wonderful Meryl Streep in the title role. "In Streep's inspired hands, Florence never becomes the expected figure of fun, but someone whose unattainable aspirations you fully understand. One can only imagine how much coaching the Mamma Mia! star needed to be able to sing badly! Streep's purity in the face of Florence's limitations and her complete lack of cynicism towards the character are totally charming. She gives poignancy to how the real Florence summed up her life: "People may say I can't sing, but no one can say I didn't sing". Fabulous!



Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> November

#### ***Absolutely Fabulous – the Movie***

Rated 12A

For a post-Brexit Britain looking for something to cheer it up, this film is a shot in the arm. It could be argued that its heroine Edina Monsoon (Jennifer Saunders) is the perfect symbol for her teetering country as it wrestles with its identity. With her domineering behaviour and delusions of grandeur, she's the guest everyone wants to avoid at parties.

Ab Fab has a double-edged relationship with mindless celebrity culture. It satirises the vacuous narcissism of the supermodels, designers, and Euro-trash jet set. At the same time, the film flatters these celebs and delights in their lifestyle - one reason why they're all so keen to appear in it.

There are moments here that make you groan and remind you of other half-baked big spin-offs from TV comedies (for example, Morecambe and Wise vehicle *That Riviera Touch*). Thankfully, Saunders and Lumley bring such zest to the film that its clunkier moments are easily overlooked.

**For both films:** 7.30 pm doors open at 7 pm and tickets are £5. Licensed bar & refreshments available.

## The Meon Valley – Our Digital Future Peter O’Sullivan from Meonstoke

### Invitation to businesses, societies and residents to a meeting in The Meon Hall Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> November 6:30 pm (beginning with coffee)

Our Meon Valley villages are looking forward in 2017 to the long-awaited arrival of super-fast broadband. What will this mean for us?

I recently attended a conference hosted by Southampton Solent University on Digital Futures. This gave me an insight into what this might, and might not, mean for our community.

I was offered the opportunity by key players to meet with us to share their, and our, thoughts, aspirations and frustrations.

Please let me know if you would like to participate in this meeting. Our guests (details below) will be:

- **Stuart Fenton** - Hampshire County Council’s Invest in Hampshire team. **Stuart** will be accompanied by colleagues from Hampshire and Winchester Councils and will include an update of the broadband plan for the Meon Valley
- **Chris Cooper** – Chairman of Digital South Action Group
- **Alex Templeton** - founder of the Community Infrastructure Group
- **Stephen Lugg** – chief executive of Hampshire Association of Local Councils

Following short presentations from our guests we will have the opportunity to explore with them:

- How our villages will be able to benefit from improved broadband
- Is this good enough? What are the future opportunities and how do we best prepare for them?
- What other improvements we need, such as public transport, roads, shops & parking, facilities for young and elderly people
- How do we position our community to be at the heart of Hampshire & Winchester’s rural development strategy, to be more engaged, and not an after-thought?

Please contact me if you wish to participate and/or let me know of any questions or suggestions you have for this meeting.

**RSVP:** Peter O’Sullivan from Meonstoke  
TPeterOSullivan@hotmail.com / 07710035722

**Stuart Fenton**, has a responsibility for economic development including the contribution of small

businesses in rural Hampshire. He is also digital sector growth manager, working with businesses and communities, with the aim of creating jobs and growing the digital sectors. His team supports local businesses, identifying barriers for growth, and how local government can help tackle these. Stuart has a commercial technology background with Barclays, Vodafone Global Enterprise, and EE.

**Chris Cooper** is the chair of Digital South which is also the digital voice for Hampshire Chamber. Chris lives in the Meon Valley and leads on improving the economic benefit of digital technology for the region, making it a better place to work, live and play. Digital South’s mission is to support the foundations of digital tech connectivity for residents and businesses, recognising particularly the opportunity and importance for rural communities, for business and economic growth, innovation and sustainable communities.

**Alex Templeton** is the founder of the **Community Infrastructure Group**, a social enterprise set up to help communities take greater control over their own infrastructure to improve service, reduce costs, and optimise utility systems for sustainability. Alex will offer ideas on how our communities might achieve this.

**Stephen Lugg** is chief executive of the Hampshire Association of Local Councils which supports parish councils in their engagement with statutory authorities. Stephen will offer examples of parish councils influencing policies and practice for the benefit of their communities.



Regular events for the active in retirement include:

- Exercise Class
- IT learning classes
- Spanish Lessons
- Table Tennis
- Scrabble for Fun
- Tai Chi, and
- New Age Kurling.

There are also separate pub lunches each month for ladies and gentlemen.

For details of times and places for all events, go to the association Web pages at:

<http://mvara.btck.co.uk/Activities>

## The Royal British Legion

Droxford & District Branch

THE ROYAL BRITISH  
LEGION



Commodore Inga Kennedy of Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service (QARNNS) gave an excellent talk on *The*

*Evolution of Naval Nursing, Crimea to Afghanistan – and beyond*, on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September. Although nursing at sea can be traced back as far as the 12<sup>th</sup> Century, it was not until the Crimean War that military and naval nursing became established on a formal basis. In 1902, Queen Alexandra agreed to become patron of a newly formed Royal Naval Nursing Service that still bears her name. From an initial establishment of 66 nursing sisters, the QARNNS reached its pinnacle in World War II with 900 sisters serving 93,000 patients in hospitals ashore and 11 hospital ships. The service continues to thrive and has recently played an active role in Afghanistan (2002-14) and in Sierra Leone in 2014 combating the Ebola epidemic based in the Primary Casualty Receiving Ship *RFA Argus*.

After the annual dinner at Corhampton Golf Club on 31<sup>st</sup> October, the next focus for the branch will

### 100 years ago . . .

The Battle of the Ancre (13<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> November 1916) was the last major engagement of the Somme campaign. Preceded by a seven day artillery bombardment, five divisions from the Fifth (Reserve) Army, comprising British and Canadian troops from II and V Corps attacked astride the River Ancre between Thiepval and Beaumont Hamel. Sailors and marines of the 63<sup>rd</sup> (Royal Naval) Division captured Beaucourt and soldiers of the 51<sup>st</sup> Division captured Beaumont Hamel. There were over 23,000 British Empire and 45,000 German casualties, and 7,000 German prisoners were taken. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Godfrey Twynham of the 11<sup>th</sup> Bn Border Regt, formerly of Soberton House, was killed in action at Beaumont Hamel on 18<sup>th</sup>. Both sides having suffered nearly a million casualties on the Somme, hostilities now reverted to attritional trench warfare exacerbated by the deprivations of a harsh winter.

be Remembrance Sunday on 13<sup>th</sup> November. The main RBL service will be at St Peter's Church Soberton, starting at 1050. Other services in the area on that day will be:

- 0800 Holy Communion (BCP) at Meonstoke
- 0930 Family Remembrance at Meonstoke
- 1050 Bridge Benefice Remembrance at Droxford
- 1530 Village Act of Remembrance at Exton
- 1830 Remembrance Evensong at Corhampton

Rob Scott

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](mailto:robmunroscott@aol.com) or 01489 877800

### A Message from Toffee the Pound Lane Terrier

My Mum says that most dog owners in this village are very responsible and clear up when my canine friends mess somewhere around the village. But there are obviously some owners who do not. A few days ago, a child from the Lane came home with dog poo on her bicycle and also on her school bag. This was VERY upsetting for the child and even more so for her mother. My Mum and I have also spotted some dog mess on the bank next door to where I live and my Mum has cleared some up from in the Recreation Ground, which is really NOT acceptable. My Mum said: Let's hope from now on we can have a clean village - there are bins around - and remember to have bags in one's pocket. (My Mum buys them in Wilkinson's at 50 pence a packet and our village shop has loads!! Thank you.

Toffee

### OCCASIONAL PAPERCRAFTS

You Are Invited to My 2016  
Catalogue Launch Party!

Goody Bag, Raffle, Display, Demonstrations,  
Make-&-take Projects, Home-made Cake, &  
My Huge Bogof Sale  
(Buy One, Get One Free)

(No charge for the event, but bring your  
diary... and your purse!)

Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> November  
10.30–12.30 pm

The MEON HALL

RSVP: by 1<sup>st</sup> November please to :

Rosie Minors

[rosie@occasionalpapercrafts.co.uk](mailto:rosie@occasionalpapercrafts.co.uk)

07881 027800



## .. and another school year starts!

It's been lovely to welcome the children back to Droxford once again this September, as well as getting to know our new intake of year 3s. Our new children never cease to amaze me in how well they cope with settling into a new school with new routines so quickly. I could describe how they're finding their first term at Droxford, but I thought it would be nice to hear from them! I asked some Year 3 children about their experiences.

### How are you finding your first term at Droxford Junior School?

*"I'm finding it fun and excellent because I really like the reading activities we have done".*

*"I'm finding it really excellent because I enjoy learning about all the different topics".*

*"It's great because I really like the work. It's challenging".*

### What have you enjoyed the most?

*"I really like the art. I liked it when we did colour mixing using powder paints".*

*"Maths is great, I really like doing the challenges".*

*"Meeting new friends because everyone is kind and friendly".*

*"We like being able to buy healthy tuck at break times with our own money".*

### What are you looking forward to for the rest of the year?

*"I'm looking forward to challenging myself I want to earn my pen licence".*

*"I'm looking forward to getting used to the school and getting more confident".*

*"I want to get to know some of the older children".*

*"I can't wait to go on our trip to Butser Hill Ancient Farm to learn about the Iron Age."*

### Can you sum up Droxford Junior School in 3 words?

*"Amazing!"*

*"Incredible!"*

*"Cool!"*

So there you have it – couldn't have put it better myself!

Sarah Jacobs  
Deputy head teacher



Some year 3 Children enjoying their first English project based on the book *Something Else*.



At the end of July, we said good bye to some of our Preschool children, whom we were very proud of when they delighted us by performing beautifully at our leavers service. We wish them all good luck at Meonstoke Infant school.

The autumn term saw the return of a lot of familiar little faces, along with many new ones. We eased back into the term with our topic *Camping and Holidays*. This was well supported by the parents who sent us postcards from their holiday destinations, during the summer break. Working in partnership with parents is essential to the children's development, as it gives us plenty of opportunities to prompt the children in conversations, help them in recalling past events and share experiences, and we in turn provide time for the children to talk and, most importantly, be listened to.

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

We would like to welcome back our 'gardening ladies', Liz and Jenny, who did a brilliant job last year, despite the dismal weather conditions. The children got to learn about growth and decay, as well as looking after the environment. The hanging flowers pots along the fence looked beautiful, the garlic bulbs were delicious, and the tomato plants took off over the summer, giving us plenty of cherry tomatoes for snack time.

The Valley Preschool AGM was held on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> September. We would like to thank our previous committee members, who gave their time, and much appreciated efforts, to the Preschool, and say welcome to our new committee. We are looking forward to some exciting ventures and fund-raising projects ahead. With last years fund-raised money we purchased a new messy play kitchen (which replaces our old mud kitchen), and various maths and literacy games to enhance the children's learning.

To find out about future fundraising events, you can follow us on Facebook, or check our Web page at: [www.info@thevalleypreschool.org.uk](http://www.info@thevalleypreschool.org.uk)

You can contact us by email; our address is: [thevalleypreschool@btconnect.com](mailto:thevalleypreschool@btconnect.com)

Sarah Winter-Page  
01489 878019



## Friends of Meonstoke School

It was cowboy hats, straw bales and dosey-dos aplenty at the FOMS Family Barn Dance on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> September. The torrential rain didn't stop everyone from having a great time. Special thanks must go to Jack Martin from Exton for manning the hog roast and cooking the most delicious pork (see photograph on page 15).

The farming-themed auction conducted by Martin Rolfe raised far in excess of the £500 target that the committee had cautiously hoped for. Auction fever took over as some of the more competitive guests battled each other for the opportunity to unleash their inner farmer and indulge in a spot of combine harvesting, power harrowing, and calf feeding.

As well as the fun of the barn dance, the children have had the excitement of starting a new academic year at school. The teachers have

planned a variety of trips this term, which are being funded by FOMS. These include visits to the Royal Navy Submarine Museum, the Watercress Line Station, and the Solent Sky Museum.

And finally, our next event will be on:

**Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December:**

**A Christmas Fair**

**at The Meon Hall**

I'd like to thank all the members of the FOMS committee for their tremendous hard work, energy and enthusiasm over the past year and look forward to another successful school year.

Philippa Clarke,  
chair, Friends of Meonstoke School



## Meon Valley Carers Group News

*Promoting a positive way of living with dementia*

**Are you, or someone you know, caring for a person suffering from memory difficulties? Have they been newly diagnosed with Dementia and is the previously secure way of life suddenly filled with fear of the unknown?** Meon Valley Carers Group is a voluntary organisation supporting the carers and their families. The pub lunch at the Forge, Shedfield, on the second Tuesday each month, provides all carers with an opportunity to relax and socialise. We have a team of qualified drivers who will collect and return members to and from their homes in the mini-bus thanks to the generosity of The Lions Club. The group meeting is held at The Paterson Centre, Church Road, Swanmore on the fourth Tuesday of each month. On a regular basis, carers are able to mix with people in a similar situation, whilst their cared for are able to be with them and are encouraged by volunteers to take part in stimulating activities. We endeavour to find a programme that will provide interesting speakers and include two to three outings a year. We are

also aiming to build craft, art, and musical events into the programme as it progresses through the year.

The volunteers attend the meetings and pub lunches and always provide a warm welcome to any new comers. Please do come and see for yourself how this extremely friendly relaxed group of people will lighten your worries and help you in any way they can. Our Web site is at:

[www.meonvalleycarersgroup.org.uk](http://www.meonvalleycarersgroup.org.uk)

If you think our group is just what you are looking for, or need more information, please do contact us on 01489 895444. Our office is open on Monday mornings from 9.15 am until 1.15 pm apart from Bank Holidays, at:

**The Paterson Centre,  
Church Road, Swanmore, SO32 2PA.**

There is a clear sign and a bell at the entrance to the centre. The answer phone is switched on so please feel free to leave a message should you require assistance. Messages are always acted upon and emails always answered. Our e-mail address is: [meon-valley@btconnect.com](mailto:meon-valley@btconnect.com)



### The Meon Valley

Our first meeting of the season in September got us off to a flying start by celebrating the 25th anniversary of our Meon Valley U3A. To begin with, Jenny Mallett (treasurer) was kept very busy taking in subscriptions from about 30 Members to add to the 69 who had paid in advance. So membership numbers are already booming – as was total attendance at this first meeting. Denis May, as the founding father of our group, gave us a fascinating insight into its beginnings and could even tell us the topics of the very first three meetings! Appropriately, given the name of our group, Brian Barrett then talked us through the 22 mile course of the Meon River itself, from source to sea. He noted that the Meon Valley is actually a very narrow valley, making the point that this means quite a high proportion of today's members actually live outside the named catchment area (even if we like to think of ourselves as living in it!). Brian also entertained us with a slide show featuring houses, churches, and scenes along the river, which we all enjoyed. Time then for Denis to cut the splendid anniversary cake and for us all to adjourn to savour it along with tea and chat.

Details of the next five meetings are given below, Note that there will be three meetings in November because

there will only be one in December. As ever, meetings will be held at the:

**Wickham Centre, Mill Lane;  
Tuesdays, at 2.00pm**

- 4<sup>th</sup> October:** *From New Forest to Salt Lake City*, by Gill Southwell
- 18<sup>th</sup> October:** *The Pilgrim Fathers*, by Dennis Boylan
- 1<sup>st</sup> November** *John Bunyan's Bedfordshire*, by Beryl Pyecroft
- 15<sup>th</sup> November** *World Faiths*, by Jennifer Burkett
- 29<sup>th</sup> November** *Going to the Flicks*, by Tony Johnson

Members pay £1 per talk for 'outside' speakers (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of the above); free when the speaker is also a member. Guests/ visitors are most welcome - £2 per talk.

Don't forget the other important part of our activities, the Small/Special Interest Groups. Most meet monthly in members' homes, so there are inevitably limits to numbers that can be accepted. Current groups include Geology, Egyptology, Reading, Poetry, Art appreciation, Classical Music appreciation, Bridge and Strolling.

**Membership and other enquiries to:**

**Julia Field, Tel. 01489 891353**

**Web site: [u3asites.org.uk/meon-valley](http://u3asites.org.uk/meon-valley)**



## Meon Valley Lions Club

### Food for thought!

The Meon Valley Lions were out in force for this year's Taste of Wickham Food Festival. Now in its third year, this grand, comestible celebration benefited from an outbreak of glorious, late-summer weather, attracting a record crowd of around 6,500 people to Wickham Square. There was something of interest for everyone. As well as cookery demonstrations and workshops with top chefs, the festival provided a showcase for many excellent local suppliers of food and drink, offering everything from goat meat to real ale.

The Lions BBQ once again teamed up with Tull's the local Wickham butcher, setting up stall right outside the shop. Being adjacent to the butcher's cold store proved a blessing, because over the space of about five hours we served hundreds of portions of sausages and burgers. At one point, we had four chefs working two full-sized gas barbeques and could still barely keep pace with demand. Averaged over the day, we were cooking and selling more than two servings per minute, which is quite remarkable. The good news is that, thanks to Tull's support and the patronage of the hundreds of hungry customers, our charity account is going to benefit to the tune of over £1,400, so thank you everyone!

We also donated the services of the Meon Valley Lions' minibus for the day, providing a shuttle-bus service between the off-site car park and the square. So thanks go to all the Lions and other volunteer drivers for giving up their time and working some long and arduous shifts throughout the day.

A word of praise must also go to the Taste of Wickham organising team for doing such a great job in pulling this fabulous event together. From a standing start, the festival has grown in three years to be a real feature on the Hampshire foodie-event calendar. Look out for the Lions' BBQ arriving back in Wickham next month for the Wickham Charity Beer Festival on Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> October.

### In the swim!

In September, we were pleased to donate a sum of money in support of Naomi House and Jack's Place, through sponsorship of Kate Steels-Fryatt's plucky, cross-channel swim. Kate, who lives in Bishops Waltham, has undertaken years of training in preparation for this challenge. She has

participated in several foreign swimming endurance events, including one in the Arctic Circle, on top of regular seven-hour weekend practice swims in pools and rivers, plus a complete circuit of Hayling Island and a ten-hour swim up the Solent!

All this hard work paid off on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> September, when Kate undertook the swim, starting at 2.00 am and completing the crossing in 13 hours and 5 minutes! The conditions were 'lumpy' and Kate had to endure the diverse dangers of jellyfish and cross-channel ferries along the way. She has, however, raised around £1,800 for Naomi House through her sponsorship and is now only £200 short of her £2,000 fund-raising target. If you would like to help her achieve that, go to the Virgin Money Giving Web site and search for Kate Steels-Fryatt to access her page and donate.



Michael White (left) & Roger Morfill (right) on the BBQ



Kate at the end of her epic swim

## District councillor's column

### Central Meon Valley

#### HCC to introduce charges for 'DIY' waste from 1st October:

Hampshire's Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) will be introducing a charge for soil and rubble, plasterboard and asbestos from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016.

To dump soil and rubble, which includes construction and demolition materials such as stone, rubble, clay, concrete, bricks, blocks, sand, tiles, paving slabs, and ceramic bathroom suites, that are created from alteration or repair of homes and gardens, will be charged at £2.50 per part or whole of a 30 litre bag, or per item. There will be no charge for crockery or terracotta flower pots. The limit of six bags of soil and rubble per household per month will be lifted. The county council will also be implementing a charge for plasterboard and cement-bonded asbestos. Plasterboard, which is accepted at all sites, will be charged at £10 per sheet, or £6 per 30 litre bag. Cement-bonded asbestos, which will continue to be accepted only at Andover, Basingstoke, Efford, Netley and Portsmouth HWRCs will be charged at £12 per sheet. No other type of asbestos is permitted. Cash and card payment options will be available at each centre.

Fly tipping is a huge drain on public sector resources, and councils across Hampshire are collectively giving out the message that fly tipping in Hampshire will not be tolerated.

Everyone has a legal duty of care to ensure that any waste from their household or business is disposed of correctly, reducing the risk of rubbish being dumped illegally. Failure to do this could result in a fine of up to £5,000, if waste ends up fly tipped.

From 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016, Hampshire's Household Waste Recycling Centres will accept waste from small businesses on a chargeable basis, providing a facility of 24 sites around the county which were not previously open to commercial companies.

#### Administration change at WCC:

Our chief executive Simon Eden is leaving his role after 13 years. The recruitment process has started to find a replacement. The new corporate director (professional services) for Winchester City Council is Mr Joseph Holmes who joined the council in July.

#### Major Projects in the pipe-line: Station Approach

The redevelopment of station approach was first proposed as part of the *Winchester District Local Plan Part 1* in March 2013. A design competition was set up and the outcomes of the competition and the options available were taken to cabinet and at a meeting of the full council on 21st July the decision was taken to not make an appointment to the highest scoring bidder in the design competition

and the council is now considering how the development should be progressed.

#### Silver Hill

Cabinet has set up a central Winchester regeneration informal policy group to produce a supplementary planning document (SPD) and devise and implement a programme of engagement with all sectors of the community, including the Winchester Town Forum, to generate options and ideas for the SPD. Cllr Weston has been asked to chair this group.

#### Chesil Extra Care

Work on the scheme that will provide 52 flats, with a mix of one and two bedrooms, has started. Essential drainage works on the site involve partially closing Chesil Street to install the foul water connection for the scheme. Manned 3-way traffic lights will be in place at the junction of Chesil Street and Barfield Close junction (near Quick Fit) daily from 9.30 to 15.30. The multi-storey car park can be accessed via Barfield Close, which will reopen before the drainage work start on Chesil St. Once complete, the scheme will include communal facilities, a lounge area, laundry, sitting areas. and a day care facility will be managed on site by Hampshire County Council.

<http://www.winchester.gov.uk/planning/major-sites/leisure-centre-project/background/>

Vicki Weston, 01329 892822  
vweston@winchester.gov.uk

## OCCASIONAL PAPER CRAFTS

WHAT is Card Club? Make four adorable projects, suitable for a variety of occasions each month. A chance for you to stamp, relax, unwind, enjoy chatting with other Stampers, drink tea, and eat biscuits. All materials, including glue, are provided. This is an ongoing monthly club and time and dates are:

Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> October  
Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> October  
Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> October  
Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> November  
Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> November  
Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> November  
Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> December

#### All start at 7.30 pm until 9.30 pm

These classes take place in my home in Pound Lane, Meonstoke, and cost £ 10.00, or are free with a £ 25.00 order placed on the night. There is no commitment to attend every month; you can attend as regularly as you wish but due to limited places, booking is essential. For more details, call me, **Rosie Minors** on: 07881 027800

**Meon Valley Community Bus Association**  
**Timetables for 2016**

**Fares (all destinations): Adult:** £5.00 return.

**Children:** Under 16: ½ fare: Under 5 free

All concessionary bus passes accepted

For private hire, ring **Richard Blackburn:** 877391

**Mondays to FAREHAM**

- 0940 Meonstoke PO & Stores
- 0942 Meonstoke, Pound Cottages
- 0945 Meonstoke Triangle
- 0950 Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE)
- 0954 Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH

**Wednesdays to FAREHAM**

- 0940 Meonstoke PO & Stores
- 0942 Meonstoke, Pound Cottages
- 0945 Meonstoke Triangle
- 0950 Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE)
- 0954 Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH

**Thursdays to FAREHAM**

- 0937 Exton, The Shoe PH
- 0940 Meonstoke PO & Stores
- 0942 Meonstoke, Pound Cottages
- 0945 Meonstoke, Oxendown
- 0949 Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH

**Note: All Fareham trips return from:**

- 1230 Sainsbury's, Fareham
- 1235 Fareham Library

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month to WINCHESTER**

- 0903 Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH
- 0907 Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE)
- 0912 Meonstoke Triangle
- 0914 Meonstoke Pound Cottages
- 0917 Meonstoke PO & Stores
- 0919 Exton, The Shoe PH

**Return from:**

- 1155 River Park Leisure Centre
- 1200 Winchester Broadway

**2<sup>nd</sup> Friday each month to WATERLOOVILLE**

- 0937 Exton, The Shoe PH
- 0940 Meonstoke PO & Stores
- 0942 Meonstoke, Pound Cottages
- 0945 Meonstoke Triangle
- 0950 Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE)
- 0954 Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH

**Return from:**

- 1230 Waterloooville Sainsbury's
- 1235 Waterloooville Waitrose

**4<sup>th</sup> Friday each Month to PETERSFIELD**

- 0903 Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH
- 0907 Droxford Square (PARK and RIDE)
- 0912 Meonstoke Triangle
- 0914 Meonstoke Pound Cottages
- 0917 Meonstoke PO & Stores
- 0921 Exton The Shoe PH

**Return from:**

- 1200 Waitrose, Petersfield



## Singing For Fun

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

**The Stables,  
Free Street  
Bishops Waltham**

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays:  
2.00 to 3.30 pm**

Next dates are:  
None in August  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> September

Ages 50's to 90's, people with disabilities especially welcome.

**Cost:** £1 a session: Includes refreshments.

More 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm.

For information about joining, please go to our Web site at [www.singandtonic.org.uk](http://www.singandtonic.org.uk) and fill in a contact form.

## Some local services & useful telephone numbers

### POST OFFICES

Droxford – High Street	878811
Meonstoke – Allens Lane, Corhampton	877374

### STORES

Droxford Stores, High Street	878811
The Village Stores, Allens Lane, 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 e-mail: <a href="mailto:bishopswaltham@cabnet.org.uk">bishopswaltham@cabnet.org.uk</a>	

### PARISH COUNCILS

Corhampton & Meonstoke.	
Clerk: Mrs R Hoile	07720 092072
Droxford. Clerk: Mrs R Hoile	07720 092072
Exton Parish Meeting:	
Honorary Secretary: Position vacant	-

### WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

#### DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Droxford	Vicki Weston	01329 835161
Exton, Corhampton & Meonstoke	Lawrence Ruffell	01962 777236

### DROXFORD VILLAGE HALL

Bookings: Mrs Terry Crowfoot	877631
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### THE MEON HALL, Meonstoke

Bookings: Mrs Anna Rolfe by e-mail at: <a href="mailto:meonhallbookings@yahoo.co.uk">meonhallbookings@yahoo.co.uk</a> or by phone at 878284	
Go to <a href="http://www.candm-pc.gov.uk/the-meon-hall">www.candm-pc.gov.uk/the-meon-hall</a> 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 WEB SITE:

[www.droxfordweb.co.uk](http://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. 8.30 am - 4.30 pm	
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	Jenny Creese 877219
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

<b>Droxford</b>	Gordon Hope	877751
<b>Exton</b>	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

### William 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, travel etc. 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 16th October to make awards. Please send in your applications before this date.

## District Diary

### October

Sat. 1 MV Garden Club Autumn Plant Sale in 10.00 am  
Droxford Village Hall

#### Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Trinity 19

Mon. 3 The Meon Hall management 7.30 pm  
committee meeting (in the hall)

Tue. 4 Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH 10.30–12.00  
U3A: Talk: *From New Forest to Salt Lake* 2.00 pm  
*City*, by Gill Southwell: The Wickham Centre

Wed 5 Morning prayer, Meonstoke 8.30 am  
Look-in for coffee and chat, 10.00–12.00  
St Andrew's Church, Meonstoke

Thu. 6 Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00 am  
Droxford Church Open Meeting in the 7.00 pm  
church; see page 6 for details

Fri. 7 Singing for Fun, The Stables, B/Waltham 2.00 pm

Sat. 8 St Andrew's Meonstoke churchyard 10.00 am  
clear-up. See page 5 for details

#### Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> – Trinity 20

Sun. 9 Droxford Harvest Bring & Share Lunch in 12 noon  
Droxford Village Hall. See page 3 for details.

Tue.11 Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH 10.30–12.00  
MVDFAS: Talk, *Thomas Heatherwick, a* 10.40 am  
*modern Leonardo da Vinci* The Meon Hall  
Play-reading Group: The Meon Hall 7.30 pm

Wed.12 Morning Prayer, Meonstoke 8.30 am  
Sing and Tonic, Droxford Village Hall 7.30 pm

Thu.13 Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00 am

Sat. 15 Meon Valley Pilgrimage Trail walk, starting 9.45 am  
at Droxford Church; see page 5 for details  
Waterlooville Cubs sleep-over The Meon Hall  
to Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>

Mon.17 Occasional Paper Crafts w/shop: See p18 7.30 pm

#### Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> – Trinity 21

Tue. 18 Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH 10.30–12.00  
MV Flower Club: Meeting at the Meon Hall 2.00 pm  
U3A: Talk : *The Pilgrim Fathers*, by 2.00 pm  
Dennis Boylan: The Wickham Centre

Wed 19 Morning prayer, Meonstoke 8.30 am  
Look-in for coffee and chat, 10.00–12.00  
St Andrew's Church, Meonstoke

MV Garden Club: Talk: Autumn gardening 7.30 pm  
by John Owen; Droxford Village Hall

Sing and Tonic, in Droxford Church 7.30 pm  
Occasional Paper Crafts w/shop: See p18 7.30 pm

Thu.20 Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00 am  
Meon Ladies: Talk: by David James 7.30 pm  
*Magistrates in the Community*; The Meon Hall

String Quintet Concert, St Peter's Soberton 7.30 pm

Droxford Parish Council mtg. Droxford V H 7.30 pm

Fri. 21 Singing for Fun, The Stables, B/Waltham 2.00 pm

#### Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> – Trinity 22

Mon.25 Occasional Paper Crafts w/shop: See p18 7.30 pm

Tue.25 Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH 10.30–12.00

Wed.26 Morning Prayer, Meonstoke 8.30 am

Film Night: Droxford VH: *Florence Foster* 7.30 pm  
*Jenkins*

The Meon Hall management 7.30 pm  
committee AGM (in the hall)

Thu.27 Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00 am

Sat. 29 Cadence Marching Band stay at The Meon  
Hall to Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>

#### Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> – Fourth before Advent

Mon.31 RBL Annual Dinner: Corhampton Golf Club 7.00 pm

### SUNDAY SERVICES IN OCTOBER

Date	Time	Service	Church
2 <sup>nd</sup> Trinity 19 St Francis of Assisi	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Droxford
	10.30 am	Harvest Festival	Meonstoke
	6.30 pm	Evensong	Exton
9 <sup>th</sup> Trinity 20 St Wilfrid	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Meonstoke (BCP)
	10.30 am	Harvest Festival	Droxford (CW)
	6.30 pm	Evensong	Corhampton
16 <sup>th</sup> Trinity 21 St Luke	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Exton
	9.45 am	Informal All-Age Service	Droxford
	10.30 am	Matins	Corhampton
	6.30 pm	Taizé	Meonstoke
23 <sup>rd</sup> Trinity 22 Bible Sunday	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Corhampton
	9.30 am	All-Age Service	Meonstoke
	10.30 am	Family Communion (CW)	Exton
30 <sup>th</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> Before Advent All Saints	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Meonstoke
	10:30 am	Patronal Festival Eucharist	Droxford

**November**

- Tue. 1 Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH 10.30–12.00  
U3A: talk: *John Bunyan's Bedfordshire*: 2.00 pm  
by Beryl Pyecroft: The Wickham Centre
- Wed 2 Morning prayer, Meonstoke 8.30 am  
Look-in for coffee and chat, 10.00–12.00  
St Andrew's Church, Meonstoke  
MV Garden Club AGM: The Meon Hall 7.30 pm
- Thu. 3 Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00 am
- Fri. 4 Singing for Fun, The Stables, B/Waltham 2.00 pm
- Sat. 5 Droxford Church: Annual churchyard 10.00 am  
clean-up. See page 6 for details
- Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup>** – Third before Advent
- Sun. 6 MV Marathon & Half Marathon races: using  
The Meon Hall all day  
Clearing the Droxford church north chapel 10.00 am  
ready for new floor and other changes
- Tue. 8 Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH 10.30–12.00  
MVDFAS: *Embroidery Techniques through history*. The Meon Hall 10.40 am  
Digital Futures & The Meon Valley 6.30 pm  
conference; The Meon Hall See page 12
- Wed. 9 Morning Prayer, Meonstoke 8.30 am  
Corhampton & Meonstoke Parish Council 7.30 pm  
The Meon Hall  
Sing and Tonic, Droxford Village Hall 7.30 pm
- Thu. 10 Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00 am  
Riverside Players: Revue: The Meon Hall 7.30 pm
- Fri. 11 Riverside Players: Revue: The Meon Hall 7.30 pm
- Sat. 12 Occasional Papercrafts catalogue launch 10.30 am  
The Meon Hall  
Riverside Players: Revue: The Meon Hall 7.30 pm
- Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup>** – Second before Advent & Remembrance Sunday

- Mon. 14 **Latest copy date for December-January Bridge**  
RBL: AGM Droxford Village Hall 7.00 pm
- Tue. 15 Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH 10.30–12.00  
MV Flower Club: Meeting, The Meon Hall 2.00 pm  
U3A: Talk: *World Faiths*, by Angela Clear 2.00 pm  
The Wickham Centre
- Wed. 16 Morning Prayer, Meonstoke 8.30 am  
Look-in for coffee and chat, 10.00–12.00  
St Andrew's Church, Meonstoke  
Sing and Tonic, Droxford Village Hall 7.30 pm
- Thu. 17 Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00 am  
Meon Ladies: *Occasional Papercrafts* 7.30 pm  
demonstrations. The Meon Hall  
Droxford Parish Council mtg. Droxford V H 7.30 pm
- Fri. 18 Singing for Fun, The Stables, B/Waltham 2.00 pm
- Sat. 19 Cadence Marching Band stay at The Meon  
Hall to Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>  
Droxford Christmas Market, Droxford V H 10.30 am
- Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup>** – Next Before Advent
- Mon. 21 Meon Hall Management C'tee meeting 7.30 pm  
The Meon Hall
- Tue. 22 Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH 10.30–12.00
- Wed 23 Morning prayer, Meonstoke 8.30 am  
MV Garden Club: Talk: *Unusual plants for the garden*, by Roger Hirons; Droxford V H 7.30 pm
- Thu. 24 Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00 am  
Droxford History Society: Talk: *Henry Lotterloh – The Spy of Wickham* 7.30 pm
- Sat. 26 Meon Hall 200 Club: Annual Beetle Drive 7.30 pm  
The Meon Hall
- Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup>** – Advent Sunday
- Wed. 30 Film Night: *Absolutely Fabulous - The Movie* 7.30 pm  
Droxford Village Hall

SUNDAY SERVICES for NOVEMBER

Date	Time	Service	Church
6 <sup>th</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Before Advent All Souls	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Droxford
	10.30 am	Family Eucharist (CW)	Meonstoke
	3.30 pm	All Souls Commemoration	Exton
13 <sup>th</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Before Advent Remembrance Sunday	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Meonstoke
	9.30 am	Village Family Remembrance Service	Meonstoke
	10.50 am	Benefice Remembrance Requiem	Droxford (CW)
	3.30 pm	Village Act of Remembrance	Exton
20 <sup>th</sup> Christ the King Next Before Advent	6.30 pm	Remembrance Evensong	Corhampton
	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Exton
	9.45 am	Informal All-Age Service	Droxford
	11.00 am	Matins (BCP)	Corhampton
27 <sup>th</sup> Advent Sunday	6.30 pm	Taizé	Meonstoke
	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Corhampton
	9.30 am	All-Age Service	Meonstoke
	11.00 am	Family Communion (CW)	Exton
	6.30 pm	Service of Light, Words & Music	Meonstoke

## 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 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, 877564  
Chairman

### MINOR INJURIES UNIT

Petersfield Hospital, Swan Street

Petersfield, GU32 3LB ☎ 01730 263221

Open 8.00 am to 6.00 pm 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 9.00 am to midday. Waiting times vary, but most patients are seen, treated and discharged within an hour.

### BW Deanery Christian Aid Walk 2016

*Christian Aid – fighting poverty step by step!*

A big "thank you" to all who joined us in May for the walks from Southwick, and especially to your sponsors. This year you have helped us raise **£4900** (plus Gift Aid). We really appreciate the generosity of all involved in supporting the good work being done by Christian Aid in Africa and around the world. It was very heartening once more to have significant participation from parishes in neighbouring deaneries. I would also like to thank Southwick, our hosting parish, and all those who helped in the planning and organisation of the walk.

This has been my last walk, since by the time you read this we will have moved to Bridport, and so I would like to add a special *thank you* to the organizing team and the staff at the Southampton office, all of whom have supported me superbly (and put up with me!) over the years.

The good news is that Anna Sketchley has kindly offered to take over the planning of the walk, and that next year's walk will be from Titchfield in the adjoining Fareham Deanery.

Robin Boston,  
for Bishop's Waltham Deanery

## Hampshire Countryside Award Winners

The 10th annual CPRE Hampshire Countryside Awards were presented on 15<sup>th</sup> September. In the East Hampshire and Winchester District area, the winner in the Rural Enterprise category was the Taste of Wickham Festival. The citation said:

The Taste of Wickham Festival is a creative one-day event that showcases the offerings of Wickham's local businesses, organisations, and charities. The aim is to encourage locals and visitors alike to discover everything that makes this market town so special.

Matt Gilks of Dutton Gregory Solicitors said: "The Taste of Wickham Festival is the result of an exceptionally productive partnership between local business leaders of the Wickham Chamber of Trade and Winchester City Council.

By promoting Wickham as a countryside market town, the event demonstrates that local people can shop sustainably and don't have to travel for their shopping. This helps local countryside enterprises and the local environment. The reach of this event is shown by an attendance of over 5,000 people to this annual event."

## We welcome. . .

Stephen Bending, who has come from Southampton to Grove Cottage, South Hill Droxford.

Lesley(Jo) Barker and Julian Robins, who have come from Petersfield, with two dogs, Hannah and Tia, and their cat Alfie, to live at Homeland, High Street, Droxford.

Lucy and Anthony Wakefield, who have come with Oscar aged 22 months and Lara who is 4½ years, from Surbiton to The Garden House, Chapel Road, Meonstoke.

## From the registers

### Weddings

Corhampton 15<sup>th</sup> September Claire Bell &  
Joshua Thompson

### Baptisms

Meonstoke 4<sup>th</sup> September Thomas Christian Brooke  
Kane

4<sup>th</sup> September Ella Alice Kane

4<sup>th</sup> September Benjamin Frederick  
Gunvald Kane

### Funerals

Wessex Vale 5<sup>th</sup> September Alan Heathcote, age 88

5<sup>th</sup> September Norah Heathcote, age 88

### Interment of Ashes

Droxford 5<sup>th</sup> August Harry Ralph Cornell

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