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

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

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**Cover Photograph:** taken by Norman Bell - Sandbanks floating bridge.

This is the Sandbanks to Studland floating bridge/chain ferry that crosses the entrance to Poole Harbour. Using the floating bridge saves motorists what would otherwise be a 25 mile round trip.

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**You Are Invited**  
to  
**A VILLAGE PARTY**  
on  
**SATURDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER at 3.00pm**  
**at Droxford Recreation Ground**  
Bring a chair/blanket (and picnic if you wish)

**All Ages Welcome, Young & Old, Including Friends, Family & Neighbours**  
**Afternoon Tea and Cake available, Music, Bar, Games, Raffle**  
**and the Announcement of the Winner of Droxford's first 'Scarecrow Festival'**

(See page 5 for information about the Scarecrow Festival)

**All Proceeds to 'Raise for the Rec'**

**The COPY DEADLINE for the next issue of THE BRIDGE is:  
FRIDAY 8th SEPTEMBER**

## From the RECTOR



**A**T A TIME OF YEAR WHEN THE CHURCH REMEMBERS MANY OF ITS SAINTS SUCH AS ST PETER, ST PAUL, AND ENGLAND'S St Alban, we are reminded of its life for over 2000 years. During those years there have been many episodes of persecution, in-fighting and even schism – yet by God's grace, it survives and even grows. It is also a time of year when many members of the clergy's thoughts turn to the anniversary of their ordination; in days gone by, it was often around Trinity Sunday and more recently at Petertide<sup>1</sup>.

This year we were treated to seeing Droxford Church filled with almost 300 people to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of our dear colleague and special friend, Anthony Hulbert. Those 300 people came from every parish in which he had served in those 50 years as a priest to give thanks to God for his priestly ministry. We also thank both Anthony and Nicola themselves for their love and commitment to all the people they encounter.

Despite what we read in the press, the church is alive and kicking and new vocations to ministry reflect that. We have not just celebrated ancient saints and golden jubilees, we have also celebrated the ordination of new deacons and priests in the diocese and one of those brand-new deacons, Mother Samantha Martell, will 'serve her title' in the Meon Bridge Benefice. She joins us as our Curate for about three years, and it is with pleasure that I give over the remainder of this edition's From the Rector to her.

*Tony*

<sup>1</sup> *Petertide: Also known as St Peter's Tide, refers to the Sunday nearest to St Peter's Day on June 29th and to the period around that day. In the Anglican Church, Petertide is the major one of two traditional periods for the ordination of new priests (the other being Michaelmas, around September 29th).*

## From the CURATE



**I**'M SURE WE'VE ALL HAD DAYS WHEN WE CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY WE GET FUNNY LOOKS. UNTIL WE REALISE WE'VE PUT ON ODD SOCKS OR THAT OUR HAIR LOOKS MAD OR A SHIRT IS ON BACK TO FRONT.

I've had plenty of funny looks this week, and that's all because of the little white plastic slip around my neck; my clerical dog collar. I feel like I've got a big sign around my neck saying, "I'm in The Clergy".

It is going to be interesting finding out whether people get used to me in my clericals. I'd certainly like to know why. Is it because I'm, well, me? I don't exactly fit the stereotypical vicar – but then again, I've never met a vicar who does. Is it a shock that a woman has been ordained? Well, the Church of England has been ordaining women deacons for 30 years.

Perhaps I'd better get used to it. After all, I had plenty of raised eyebrows when I told people how I earned my living before, as a pig farmer and butcher.

What I'm also never going to get used to is the huge privilege and the huge responsibility I feel to serve God and all of you in this wonderful part of the countryside. Our diocese has never placed a curate into rural ministry before, so I am doubly blessed.

What do I want from the next few years? To continue to find out what God wants from me, how I can best serve him and how I can best serve you all. That is not something to undertake alone. I must pray and ask for God's guidance. I must crave your indulgence as I, and my family, adjust to our new life, adjust to serving God in a new context and

adjust to serving you all.

This is an exciting, challenging and progressive time for the Church worldwide and within our benefice. Together we can grow, laugh, cry, love and rejoice; and with the help of God, we will!

*Samantha*



**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**

# 50 YEARS ON!

IT IS MARVELLOUS FOR ALL OF US TO BE ABLE TO WELCOME SAMANTHA, AS SHE BEGINS HER MINISTRY IN THE MEON BRIDGE parishes. Tony has asked me to write a short reflection not, I hope from the point of view of an ending, but hopefully from a point of view of experience and maturity. Some of this was marked on 18th June, and both Nicola and I would like to thank all those who supported and helped facilitate the Eucharist at Droxford church on that day.

In the days following the anniversary of my ordination, I have pondered T.S. Eliot's famous words in the Rock: 'Look not I say to the harvest but to the sowing.' Professional ministers will never know what, under God, may or may not have been achieved, but as a way of life, despite many ups and downs, there has been immense fulfilment not least in the untold privilege of being part of the lives of so many, many different people in so many varying contexts. The remarkable way in which God seems to both appear and disappear, to be present and to be absent is the constant mystery which teases the struggle to be faithful, and I have often been left in retrospect saying with Jacob: 'Surely the Lord was in this place, and I knew it not'.

My years as a parish priest in different communities has been immensely enriching, and despite the difficulties of the post-Christian culture which has emerged over my

time, I am convinced of the importance of the Anglican parish church and its life and witness. Anglicanism has always been open-ended, and never a membership church. People come and people go. The witness is a witness of presence and service, and our buildings, for all the fabric demands, are places of holiness, beauty, and availability. Of course they need adapting to be fit for purpose but they are a resource from history to be treasured and used.

At its best, the life of the parish church offers a sense of community and belonging, an access route to the spiritual world beyond the secular and mundane, a cohesive force for binding the common life, a place that takes everyone, whoever they are, seriously, and is compassionate for need and suffering. Music and worship have a vital part to play, and so does the social and involvement part to the local church's interface with the town or village.

There is a great focus today on Mission Action plans, evangelistic programmes, Alpha and other courses, and I lived and worked through the Decade of Evangelism. No doubt seeds are sown in all these ways. Nonetheless, for me, the work has been trying to enable and teach the local Christian worshipping community to be generous and out-going, welcoming and inclusive, prayerful and full of fun, enjoying being together, setting up exciting happenings for all ages, diligent about the needs of others in prayer and love, trying to make use of all the talents and skills so that everyone has a part. I hope I have been an enabler of that vision. Where it happens new Christians are always drawn in. I certainly thank God for my years of ministry, and so much of it (if not quite all!) would be so lovely to have all over again!

*Rev Canon Anthony Hulbert*

## Thank you

THANK YOU TO ALL THE LADIES AND GENTLEMEN WHO TOOK PART IN THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL CHURCH SPRING CLEAN AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH PLUS A HUGE THANK YOU FOR CLEANING throughout the year.



# THE DROXFORD HISTORY GROUP

**T**HE HISTORY GROUP HAS BEEN GOING JUST OVER A YEAR NOW AND IN THAT TIME WE HAVE ENJOYED SOME VERY INTERESTING talks. Some have been about houses in the village, others about places of interest in the locality. We also had a very entertaining walk, in the rain, around Portsmouth's Historic Dockyard. It's a tribute to how interested everyone was that we all remained listening whilst the rain kept coming.

We have had very good attendance at our meetings so far

and now we enter our second year. We have a good programme of talks and outings arranged for you. If you are a member already I hope you attended the AGM and signed up for another year. If not yet a member, please come along to a meeting, as a visitor for £2, or to join.

Our first meeting will be on 28th September, with Tony Kippenburger talking about Bishops Waltham.

*Olive Hathaway*  
Secretary



## Are you looking for a way to support your local community?

**W**E ARE URGENTLY SEEKING TO RECRUIT AND DEVELOP PROFESSIONAL ON-CALL FIREFIGHTERS AT DROXFORD.

Response time to the fire station has been increased to six minutes. This now includes most surrounding villages.

It is important that you are enthusiastic and can meet certain essential requirements. One such requirement is that you must be able to reach the fire station quickly and safely after being alerted by the pager that Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service provides to all its retained duty system firefighters. This role can be physically demanding and therefore physical fitness is of the utmost importance. You will also be required to attend a training session on Tuesday evening for three hours each week.

Retained duty system firefighters do not only fight fires, they are involved in a wide variety of situations ranging from community safety, flooding, co-responding, road accidents and chemical spills to retrieving animals from awkward situations.

We are especially keen to hear from people who are available to respond from their home or workplace during weekdays. Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service is a welcoming and inclusive organisation. Whatever your background, gender, ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation you'll be treated with equal respect.

Please visit [www.newjob.org.uk](http://www.newjob.org.uk) to apply or for further information please contact;

*Phil Foxton* Watch Manager 07918 887516

**Droxford's First Ever .....**

## **Scarecrow Festival**

**9th - 23rd September 2017**

Join us and create your own Scarecrow and display in your front garden or business forecourt. There is no theme (your scarecrow could represent your job/business, hobby, current affairs or your home) – just enjoy making!

The festival finishes with **A Village Party at the Rec on Saturday 23rd September** at 3pm where the winners will be announced.

Get your £5 kit, (straw, frame & sack) from Debbie (Tel: 07875 499709 or email: [dc.foster@virgin.net](mailto:dc.foster@virgin.net)) – no obligation, you can source your own if you wish. Get the children/grandchildren to make it in their summer holidays .



# 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!**  
**August: 2nd & 16th**  
**September: 6th & 20th**

## BOOK-OUT!

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

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

*Lorna Allured* - 01489 877718

## Mindfulness Hampshire



Do you feel too busy, always rushing, perhaps a little anxious or downhearted?  
If you answer yes to any of these then come and find out how mindfulness can help.

Eight-week training courses, drop in sessions, monthly groups, and day workshops run by highly qualified and experienced local teacher, Ali Lambie

at The Meon Hall, Meonstoke

[www.mindfulnesshampshire.co.uk](http://www.mindfulnesshampshire.co.uk)  
email: [info@mindfulnesshampshire.co.uk](mailto:info@mindfulnesshampshire.co.uk)  
tel: 0771 224 9594

## 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.

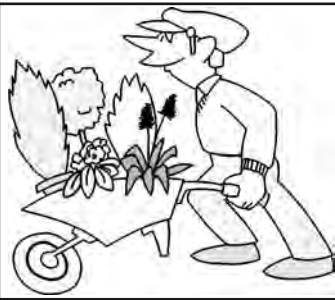
**We meet on the 2nd Tuesday each month  
at The MEON HALL at 7.30pm**

**No Meeting in August  
Tuesday 12th September**

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

# IN THE GARDEN

August  
& September



**I**N LIGHT OF THIS YEAR'S RECORD BREAKING SUMMER (AT THE TIME OF WRITING) IT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE TO OFFER SOME suggestions about making best use of water in the garden.

1. Use wastewater and water from butts for shrubs, perennial borders and lawns rather than in the greenhouse and on young plants and seedlings. This is because the presence of chemical detergents and, in the case of water butts, the potential presence of fungal disease could be harmful to vulnerable plants.
2. Plan the garden so that there is less need for watering. For example, reduce the number of hanging baskets, and plant containers with more drought tolerant plants such as pelargoniums. Incorporate proprietary water-retentive materials into the compost of containers at planting time.
3. When planting new shrubs and perennials, put plenty of water into the planting hole; anything up to two gallons for large shrubs. After planting apply mulch and no further watering should be necessary for some time.
4. If watering does become necessary give the ground a good soaking. A light sprinkling does more harm than good as it attracts roots to the surface, which rapidly dries out.
5. Water late in the evening to minimise loss by

evaporation and ensure that water is directed to the base of the plants.

6. Established herbaceous and mixed borders with established root systems do not need watering; even if plants look a bit stressed, they will recover.
7. Lawns should not be watered (except newly sown or turfed), as they will recover from dry conditions.
8. New raised beds should have plenty of well-rotted manure incorporated (a good 15cm depth) and then thoroughly soaked with water before filling with topsoil. This will create a moist sump beneath the soil that should sustain crops in very dry conditions.

**Vegetables:** Lift potatoes and onions to avoid unnecessary pest damage. Keep runner beans watered. Last sowings of radish, rocket, carrots and lettuce can be made in early August.

**Fruit:** Cut out summer raspberry canes that have fruited to allow next year's canes to develop.

**Herbaceous border:** Continue dead heading and cut out tall or weak stems from plants that have finished flowering. Feed and deadhead dahlias and look out for aphids and blackfly and treat with soapy water or proprietary pesticide. Make sure tall asters and Michaelmas daisies are well supported. As lavender flowers fade, cut back stems to new pairs of shoots using secateurs.

**In the greenhouse:** Reduce watering and feeding of tomatoes as the fruits start to ripen, but make sure the soil remains moist. If it dries out and you then over-water the fruit will split. Be watchful for red spider mite and whitefly on cucumbers and spray as necessary or use sticky whitefly traps if pests are present.

*John Owen*



**S**UMMER IS WELL AND TRULY HERE AS I WRITE THIS. THIS WAS NOT SO ON THE ANNUAL COACH TRIP IN JUNE TO ARUNDEL Castle and Gardens. As members waited for the coach it rained, the coach was late everyone got wet!

When they arrived in Arundel they breathed a sigh of relief as the rain stopped and it was all good from there on. The castle was impressive, the gardens were stunning and inspirational, the chapel was delightful with its own white garden and finally the food in the restaurant was delicious. If you have not been it is well and truly worth a visit.

We also had a talk in June from John Colley on Heavenly

Hostas, a man who is passionate about this plant. He has a small but packed garden with hundreds of Hostas. He gave us many tips on how to rid your garden of slugs and snails, which love to feed on these plants including using garlic juice, diluted ammonia and feeding them with Epsom salts.

Our Autumn plant sale is in October and seems a long way away but it will not be long before plants are split and cuttings are taken. If you can spare some extras, please bring them along on Saturday 7th, all contributions will be welcomed.

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

*Caroline Harris*, Secretary

For more information about future club events, look under Clubs and Leisure at [www.droxfordweb.co.uk](http://www.droxfordweb.co.uk) or go to our website at:

[www.meon-valley-garden-club.co.uk](http://www.meon-valley-garden-club.co.uk)



experienced local volunteers who turn up quickly to a 999 medical emergency. Our aim is to raise £500 from our recycling in 2017 to help with their ability to respond to 999 calls.

#### **Mindfulness Classes at Meon Hall**

The autumn term sees the continuation of Ali Lambie's Mindfulness Hampshire classes at The Meon Hall. Ali lives in Meonstoke, and her classes in the Small Hall will be restarting after the summer holidays in September. Details of her mindfulness and self-compassion training are at [www.mindfulnesshampshire.co.uk](http://www.mindfulnesshampshire.co.uk). Congratulations to Ali for recently being awarded her degree qualification at Bangor University.

#### **Planning a family party this summer...?**

Order those extra tables, chairs, china, wine and champagne glasses, and cutlery for your entertaining from the Meon Hall. Please 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's 200 Club Monthly Draws:**

The winners of the 2017 £25 monthly prize draws for June and July were:

June: Chris Joyce, and for July: Chris Maxse

The winner of the 2017 Mid-Summer £50 prize was Jill Heathorn.

#### **Recycling:**

Please keep recycling your unwanted clothes, shoes, and textiles in the Yellow Bin at the Meon Hall, which raises money for our Hampshire First Responders – trained and

## **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





# West Meon Music Festival

**L**EADING THE LINE UP OF SPECIAL GUEST PERFORMERS AT THIS YEAR'S WEST MEON MUSIC FESTIVAL, TO BE HELD FROM FRIDAY 15th to Sunday 17th September, will be world famous clarinettist Michael Collins, who will perform the Brahms Clarinet Quintet with members of the Primrose Piano Quartet:

Susanne Stanzeleit - Violin, Dorothea Vogel - Viola  
Andrew Fuller - Cello, John Thwaites - Piano



“We are delighted that Michael will be performing with us again this year,” says Andrew Fuller, the Festival’s musical director. “He enjoyed himself so much last year, when we played the Mozart Clarinet Quintet together, that he made it very clear he wanted to make a return visit.”

This year the Primrose, who founded the festival in 2011, have invited more of their well-known musical friends to join them. Mezzo-soprano Louise Winter, a celebrated soloist with the Royal Opera and Glyndebourne Festival, will be performing songs by both Robert and Clara Schumann and Brahms in the Festival’s final concert – which will also include Schumann’s exciting Op.47 Piano Quartet – while the award winning Vickers-Bovey Guitar Duo will be taking the stage on Saturday afternoon (16th

September) at the nearby Church of Our Lady in Warnford.

While the Primrose Quartet is regarded as one of the country’s leading ensembles, its individual members are all well-established musicians and at the Coffee Concert on Sunday morning (17th September) will each be demonstrating their skills. Pianist John Thwaites will be playing a Brahms Intermezzo as well as accompanying violist Dorothea Vogel in Schubert’s Arpeggione Sonata, Andrew Fuller in Shostakovich’s Sonata for Cello and Piano, and violinist Susanne Stanzeleit in Enescu’s scintillating Romanian Rhapsody No. 1, arranged for violin and piano by Isaac Stern.

As in previous years, the festival’s opening candlelit concert focuses on Viennese favourites and this year includes Brahms’ G minor Piano Quartet, a recording of which by the Primrose has featured on Radio 3’s Building a Library programme. There will be the usual children’s concert on Saturday morning with a Witches and Wizards theme that will also be raising funds for the festival’s chosen charity, The Rosemary Foundation, which provides a hospice at home service in Hampshire.

Full details of all the festival programme can be found at [www.westmeonmusic.co.uk](http://www.westmeonmusic.co.uk). Last year the concerts on Saturday evening with Michael Collins and Saturday afternoon at Warnford were completely sold out, so would be concert goers are advised to book early to avoid disappointment. Ticket prices start from £12, with generous discounts for accompanied children and students and festival pass options offering further savings. The box office is open with tickets available online at the website or by post from the Box Office, Walnut Cottage, Hampton Hill, Swanmore SO32 2QN.

## Forthcoming Events at Droxford Village Hall



Wednesday 27th September

# FILM NIGHT

*Film TBA*

**Look out for posters around the village**

7.30pm (doors open at 7.00pm)

Tickets £5

*Licensed bar and refreshments available*

**TICKETS FROM THE POST OFFICE**

## Meon Valley Garden Club

# Autumn Plant Sale

**Saturday 7th October**

**Droxford Village Hall**

**10.00am**

**All sorts of plants at very good prices**



## DROXFORD VILLAGE HALL NEWS

**T**HE DRY WEATHER EXPERIENCED OVER MANY RECENT WEEKS IN OUR PART OF THE SOUTH GAVE US PARCHED LAWNS AND faded roses. Whilst this might have upset the many gardeners who saw their flower beds and vegetable plots suffer from lack of rain, the dryness and warmth offered the perfect evening for outdoor theatre in The Old Rectory garden.

This year's performance of *The Commercial Traveller* by The Rude Mechanical Theatre company delighted the audience. Perhaps most people knew what to expect from the fourteenth production hosted by Droxford in the best of settings. Pete Talbot's scripts have become familiar to many, and this particular one was straightforward and a delight to watch. There is no doubting the talent of all those involved, interchanging roles with a fast and furious costume or wig change. We saw the daylight fade and the musical end arrive to enthusiastic applause from the assembled crowd of people. There are certainly more ideas in Pete's head for it all to happen again next year.

July will have seen the last showing of the Spring film season, with *La La Land*, and we look forward to choosing our autumn season's films, starting at the end of September, which have now been released by Moviola. For those who can access the Website, please make your choices known, then we can feel more secure that what you see is what you want.

There will be a quiet time for events through the autumn months, until the time approaches to prepare for the Christmas Fair. Meanwhile, please keep a lookout for the advertised films, month by month, and come along for your usual comfortable and inexpensive film showing, with all refreshments on offer as usual.

The recent 200 Club winners were:

June: Matt Avison

July: Liz Holdsworth

For forthcoming events see Page 9

*Jackie Hibbert*  
Secretary

## DROXFORD COUNTRY FAIR



### REVIEW.....

**A** RECORD NUMBER OF PEOPLE CAME TO THE FAIR, OUR LARGEST COMMUNITY EVENT, TO ENJOY AN AFTERNOON 'DOWN on the farm'.

Officially opened by the Reverend Tony Forrest, everyone was greeted by a fabulous display of tractors and cars. They were entertained throughout the afternoon by a variety of farm themed attractions, the Mill Farm Experience was a particular highlight. In addition we had alpacas, llamas, birds of prey, maypole demonstrations, archery sessions, spinners, pony rides and our ever popular dog show.

On the stage Ferdie's Friends, Sing & Tonic, and the Meonstoke Infant School Drummers provided the entertaining music.

Children and adults alike were kept busy with all the games and activities. Ample stalls were selling a huge variety of goodies, from fresh produce and preserves to crafts and beautiful artisan creations.

Everyone was very well catered for with the delicious barbeque, afternoon teas, ice creams and strawberry and cream desserts. The ever popular Pimms and Bowman's ale bar was kept busy all afternoon.

Our gross sales on the day were in excess of £20,000!! A triumph! The fair committee raised £3900, the church raised £2500, the other charitable organisations around £3000 and all the commercial stallholders had a very successful day.

Our AGM will be held in The Bakers Arms on Saturday, 9th December at 10.30am. Any local organisation can come along and apply for a donation.

We are so grateful to everyone who generously gave their time and effort to help set up, clear away, and run a stall, all the stallholders and sponsors, and to everyone who came along on the day and had a fabulous afternoon. In particular, we are very grateful to Mrs Denham and her family and to Mr and Mrs Martineau: without their gardens the fair wouldn't be so special and unique

We are already full of enthusiasm and ideas for next year, which will be held, as usual on the first Saturday in June 2nd. We would welcome new committee members, so do contact me if you would like to get involved.

*Mary Hornby-Patterson*  
and all the Fair Committee  
01489 878800



## MEON VALLEY CARERS GROUP NEWS

### **Promoting a positive way of living with dementia**

**T**HE CARERS GROUP HAS ENJOYED THE LOVELY SUMMER WEATHER IN THESE LAST WEEKS' CULMINATING IN AN ENJOYABLE day out to The Wheelhouse last month. It was just perfect being by the sea for a day at Hillhead and for many of the members, the only day each year that they manage to breath in the beautiful sea air.

Most volunteers assisted with Carers Week at Sainsburys, Hedge End from 12 June until 18 June and felt that we had reached out to people and explained about the benefits available to them by joining the Meon Valley Carers Group. Imagine being the carer of a loved one living with dementia, the days are so continuously busy with the heavy loads of washing that have to be dealt with, day in, day out. If their loved one is fairly calm and is not restless or inclined to wander away needing constant watching, there may be a chance to rest for a moment. However, there is the constant concern that their partner is not turning the gas on in the kitchen or letting the wash basin overflow in the bathroom, not to be destructive but because they are not aware of the dangers – this is dementia! This is sometimes the pattern of the days with dementia and the wonderful carers somehow keep their patience throughout it all.

As a Group, we are determined to do our utmost to reach out to many of these people in the Meon Valley area and bring them into our group, allowing them to relax for a time whilst their cared for are being looked after by the volunteers, who have so much knowledge of people living with dementia. Talking to a person in a similar situation as themselves can boost spirits so much! Within the group, friendships are formed over a cup of tea and biscuit – always very popular towards the end of the meeting.

We endeavour to have a varied programme so if you wish to learn more about the Meon Valley Carers Group, please contact us using the contact details below and look on our Website at [www.meonvalleycarersgroup.org](http://www.meonvalleycarersgroup.org). We meet on the second Tuesday of the month for a pub lunch at The Forge, Shedfield and on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Paterson Centre, Swanmore, for a group meeting, where there is always an opportunity for carers to voice

their concerns to one of the volunteers. For those unable to transport themselves, the Meon Valley Lions Club generously provide their minibus to collect members and their cared for to go to the meetings and return them safely to their homes afterwards. This is my last day as the coordinator for the group, so thank you for reading the articles and I can assure you that there are caring, competent people who will be writing this article in future.

### **August Programme**

#### **Tuesday 8 August**

Pub Lunch

*The Old Forge, Shedfield - 12noon*

#### **Tuesday 22 August**

Visit - Hill Place, 2.00pm - 4.00pm

*Transport from the Paterson Centre, Swanmore*

Leaving at 1.45pm

Please remember if you are Caring for a loved one who is living with dementia, join us at the Meon Valley Carers Group where you will find friendship, information and a time for relaxation.

Telephone: 01489 895444 (Answerphone)

Office Hours: Mon. 9.15am – 1.15pm

### **St. Peter & St. Paul Church, Exton**



## **AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY CHURCH SALE**

**Monday 28th August**

**at Exton Churchyard**

*(in church if wet)*

**10am – 12pm & 2pm – 4pm**

Coffees & Teas

Cakes, Flapjacks & Cream Teas

Produce Stall & Plant Stall

Car Parking in field nearby.

(By kind permission of C & C Martin)

*All proceeds to St Peter and St Paul, Exton*

# The Royal British Legion

*Droxford & District Branch* [www.droxfordweb.co.uk](http://www.droxfordweb.co.uk)



**In August 1942 Operation Pedestal was launched to escort a convoy carrying vital supplies to the island of Malta. 14 merchant ships, protected by 4 aircraft carriers, 2 battleships, 7 light cruisers and 32 destroyers, fought their way through a succession of raids by Axis (Italian and German) land-based bombers, submarines and surface forces. Although only 5 merchant ships eventually made it to Malta, SS Ohio (seen here entering Grand Harbour, Valetta on 15th August) brought vital supplies of aviation fuel. This enabled a tactical British defeat to be turned to a strategic advantage, enabling Malta to break the Axis blockade and remain a hub for Allied offensive operations in the Mediterranean. The Pedestal convoy lost 1 aircraft carrier, 2 cruisers, 1 destroyer, 9 merchant ships and over 500 men. Malta had already been awarded the George Cross (GC) on 15th April for the courage shown by her people.**

**T**HE ANNIVERSARY OF OPERATION PEDESTAL IS A FITTING PRECURSOR TO MERCHANT NAVY DAY ON SUNDAY, 3RD SEPTEMBER, a date that also marks 78 years since the outbreak of the 2nd World War. Although not a 'navy' as such, the enormous contribution and sacrifices made by merchant sailors during the Great War led King George V to declare that this otherwise loose association of British-flagged shipping lines should henceforth be known as the Merchant Navy. Many other nations have since followed suit.

In the first hostile action of the 2nd World War, a German U-boat (U30) torpedoed SS Athenia just 9 hours after war was declared with the loss of 128 passengers and crew. Subsequent losses were to total 4,786 ships and some 30,000 lives, compared with 2,479 ships and nearly 15,000 fatalities during 1914-18. Post 1945, the Merchant Navy continues to support the Royal Navy on operations, notably during the Falklands War in 1982 when MV Atlantic Conveyor and RFA Sir Galahad were sunk, and RFAs Sir Tristram and Sir Lancelot damaged. The latter 3 were Landing Ships Logistics (LSLs) of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary (RFA) - Ministry of Defence owned support vessels manned by Merchant Navy personnel. Of 255 British fatalities in the

South Atlantic, 16 were from the Merchant Navy. Although not part of the armed forces, the Royal British Legion also supports Merchant Navy personnel involved in combat operations and they are represented at various festivals of remembrance and on war memorials.

To mark Merchant Navy Day, the Red Ensign will be flown from the tower of St Peter's Church, Soberton and at other locations. The Red Ensign was the senior of 3 ensigns flown by the Royal Navy until 1864; thereafter the 'Red Duster', as it is affectionately known, became the official ensign of all British registered merchant ships and yachts. The White Ensign became exclusive to the Royal Navy and the Royal Yacht Squadron, and the Blue Ensign became the preserve of government owned vessels and certain yacht clubs - usually with an appropriate defacement (badge, crest, etc). An undefaced Blue Ensign can be flown by Retired Royal Navy or Royal Naval Reserve officers in command of merchant vessels.

Our next meeting will now be on Monday 18th September in Droxford Village Hall at 1900 when Superintendent Fiona McCormack of the Metropolitan Police will talk to us on "Homicide, terrorism and hostage negotiation - policing London". Non-members will be very welcome to join us.

**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.**



Two of the cast of Ye-Ha

# SUPER SUMMER

**I**T'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT THE SUMMER TERM IS ALREADY OVER.

In spite of the heatwave, we still managed a successful Wimbledon themed sports day. In teams, children took part in a range of sporting activities. They were cheered on by family and friends who came along to support them. Delicious refreshments were provided by Friends of Droxford School (FODS).

One of the highlights of this term was Year 3 Camp. After a packed evening of team building activities, a nature scavenger hunt and some delicious hot chocolate, the children spent the night in tents on the school field. The next morning they emerged, bleary-eyed at first light and fuelled by a cooked breakfast, they set off for a nature walk

on the Downs. We were blessed with fine weather and a fun time was had by all.

Years 5 and 6 have been donning their Stetsons and cowboy boots this term in preparation for the Year 6 leavers' production 'Ye-ha'. Set in the Wild West town of Splodge City, it told the story of a mild-mannered cook who saved the town from Mad Dog and his gang. The children sang and danced brilliantly as well as pulling off American accents - worthy of the West End I would say!

It's been an amazing and fun year. We are immensely proud of all our children and we wish Year 6 every success as they move on up to secondary school.

*Sarah Jacobs*  
Deputy Head Teacher

# Meonstoke Football Club

(Established 1908)



## AGM REPORT

### REVIEW OF LAST SEASON:

THE SEASON BEGAN WITH THE DIFFICULTY OF NOT HAVING A PITCH BECAUSE OF THE NEW TENNIS COURT BEING CREATED ON the recreation ground. It meant that we played all our games away from home but we paid for the pitches as if it was a home match. The poor results and score lines in the early part of the season did not reflect the good strong team spirit. We ended the season strongly in mid-table, in two cup finals and with several new local players.

### PREVIEW OF THE COMING SEASON:

The Meon Valley FA are running two leagues next season and Meonstoke are in the 1st division. Ashley Fooks is due to resume his joint managerial position with Andrew; they are a strong management team. It was agreed that the current system for washing kit worked very well last season and does not need any changes. The kit was always in good order and none was lost. The club is well supplied with kit and only requires a new set of socks which are being donated.

### RECRUITING NEW PLAYERS:

We have a good nucleus of strong and loyal players who are keen to play and it is encouraging that some younger players are coming forward.

### TRAINING & PRACTICE MATCHES:

It was agreed to start training on Wednesday nights beginning on the 19th of July. This would give time for players to be signed on before the practice matches. We will try to arrange three practice matches. The dates suggested for the practice matches are the 6th, 13th, and 20th of August and the first match of the season will be on 3rd of September.



## FRIENDS OF MEONSTOKE SCHOOL

AS THE SCHOOL YEAR DRAWS TO A CLOSE AND THE CHILDREN HEAD OFF FOR A WELL-DESERVED BREAK, THE FOMS TEAM have been reflecting on the events of the year and keeping our fingers crossed for our final fundraising total.

We are delighted to say that with the continued support of the Meonstoke teachers, parents, and community we have significantly improved our fundraising total from the prior year. In a climate of budget cuts for schools it feels a great relief to be able to fund all those 'little extras' that help to make the time in infant school so special.

This year we have been able to contribute towards the funding of iPads for each classroom, school trips, theatre and nature workshops, African drumming lessons, gazebos for outside learning and play and much, much more.

We aren't putting our feet up though! The committee is already looking ahead and is excited to announce a brand new fundraising event – the FOMS Proms from 2.30pm – 5.00pm on Sunday 1st October in The Meon Hall.

So forget the Albert Hall – this year a family-friendly 'Last Night of the Proms' is being brought to Meonstoke by FOMS and the Meon Valley Orchestra! The programme, specifically planned with the audience age in mind, will include some favourite film scores as well as the well known Proms favourites: Rule Britannia, Jerusalem, the National Anthem, and Auld Lang Syne.

There will be plenty of opportunity for flag-waving too! Tickets are £5 each and will be available from the school office and Meonstoke Post Office.

For more information about our future fundraising events, useful school information, and all our news, you can follow us on our Facebook page – just search for FOMS Meonstoke. Many thanks for your continued and much appreciated support.

*The FOMS Committee*

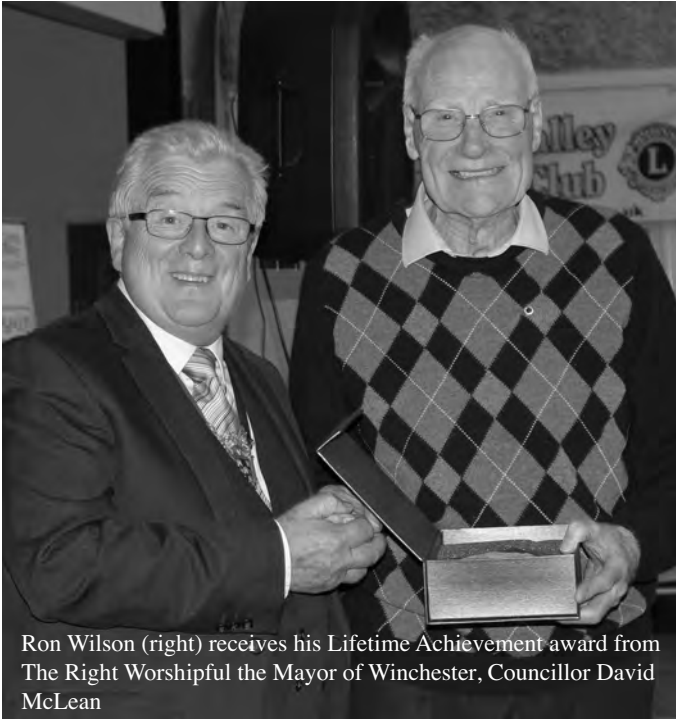


THE ALLOTMENTS IN ST ANDREWS GREEN WERE HANDED OVER TO THE ALLOTMENT HOLDERS ON THE 1ST MARCH THIS YEAR and the allotments scheme has been a great success and the picture below shows how well they are all doing. All the plots have been taken up, and everyone is growing lots of vegetables very successfully.

This village project has taken a long time to come to fruition, and we can now see its success every time we visit the Meonstoke Post Office and Shop.



# Meon Valley Lions Club



Ron Wilson (right) receives his Lifetime Achievement award from The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Winchester, Councillor David McLean

## RECOGNITION FOR RON

**L**IONS CLUBS EXIST TO SERVE THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITIES, SO IT'S GREAT WHEN WE RECEIVE RECOGNITION AND THANKS from those communities for the work we do. Recently, we supported Wickham Parish Council by attending their annual Parish Assembly and were delighted when during the Community Awards, Lion Ron Wilson, was called forward to accept a "Lifetime achievement award for service to the community".

Ron is a long-standing servant to the Wickham area community, through his work with Meon Valley Lions Club. He joined the Lions in 1982 and at the age of 86 is now our longest-serving active member. He has recently been awarded the Melvin Jones Fellowship (the highest form of recognition for Lions members) and has always played a central and active role in all aspects of our operation. Currently our almoner and responsible for Lion members' welfare, he has previously held office as club treasurer, as well as leading on our youth programme, acting as the interface for our work with local schools, youth clubs, and groups like Scouts and Guides. Ron also runs the SpekTrek programme for the Lions in the Meon Valley area, collecting unwanted, used spectacles from local optometrists and feeding them into the Lions' national SpekTrek network scheme, which grades, repairs, and reprocesses the glasses for distribution in developing countries. Each year Meon Valley Lions donate over 500 pairs of specs through Ron's personal efforts.

Ron also liaises with local doctors' surgeries to ensure they have adequate supplies of Lions' 'Message in a Bottle'. These devices are used by individuals with specific medical conditions or drugs regimes, to alert medical service personnel of their condition, in the event of service personnel arriving at someone's home in an emergency.

Councillor Angela Clear read Ron's nomination prior to him receiving his award from The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Winchester, Councillor David McLean, to loud applause from his colleagues and Wickham residents alike.

**Ian Adams**  
Publicity Officer

## PROSTATE CANCER SCREENING

**For men aged between 45 & 75**

 **PCaSO, your local Prostate Cancer Support Organisation, in association with Meon Valley Lions is offering a** 

**Free PSA\* Blood Test**  
At Priory Park Hall on  
**Saturday 12th August, 10-3pm**  
**Bishops Waltham, SO32 1SQ**

We recommend that every man over 50 (or over 45 if he has a family history of prostate cancer) knows his PSA\*

**A man dies every hour from prostate cancer in the UK, DON'T BE ONE OF THEM...**

**Know your PSA, know where it's going...  
...to book an appointment, phone:  
01489 895300**

\*Prostate Specific Antigen - an indicator of prostate health - A small blood sample is taken from a vein in the arm, and will be sent to a laboratory. You will be informed of the result in 7-10 days time by post or email.

www.pcaso.org Charitable Incorporated Organisation No. 1095439

# WINCHESTER CITY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT



## AFFORDABLE HOUSING

**W**INCHESTER CITY COUNCIL HAS ANNOUNCED PLANS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF AFFORDABLE HOMES available in rural areas. Finding affordable accommodation in rural areas is particularly challenging. As a partner in the Housing Alliance for Rural Affordable Housing (HARAH) the council is committed to providing new affordable housing: 152 new homes in the district have been completed since 2005 and another 55 new homes are scheduled in 2017/18.

In addition, we have our own rural homes programme which has already completed 9 family houses on sites in the Itchen Valley, Swanmore and Otterbourne. A further 18 new homes will be completed over the next 12 - 18 months at Knowle and Alresford. As part of the major development area at Whiteley, the council has negotiated the provision of both new homes on site and £17.5M of contributions to fund off-site provision.

This funding will help the development of over 500 new homes in the district and council members are meeting next week to explore how the provision of rural affordable homes can be accelerated.

## WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL 100% SUCCESS RATE IN FLY TIPPING PROSECUTIONS

The Neighbour Services team at the city council works in partnership with Hampshire County Council and other authorities to deter fly tipping. The increase in prosecutions is part of a countywide fly tip strategy, which both encourages the deployment of enforcement groups and works with local magistrates to encourage greater use of the maximum available penalties.

To date, those found guilty of the anti-social offence have been ordered to pay a total of £26,606.84 in fines and costs and in one case a 12 month custodial sentence was imposed. The council has made a commitment to supporting the efforts to prevent fly tipping by hiring a neighbourhood services enforcement officer – a role that actively pursues fly tipping perpetrators. Our record of success in prosecutions of this nature is impressive and is the direct result of the hard work and collaborative effort of our own staff, and our partners.

Those who continue to engage in this anti-social activity should know that Winchester City Council will seek the harshest penalties from the courts. Residents in the district can help the city council maintain the high success rate in fly-tip prosecution by observing the following:

- 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 want to check what progress is being made.
- Wait for the council to remove the fly-tipped material – allow at least 24 hours for the area to be visited and a further 48 hours for removal (once a yellow W has been put on the waste and subject to case load). Please note that if an initial inspection of the fly-tip reveals a hazardous substance, such as asbestos – removal may be delayed so that specialist contractors can be engaged

Note that for fly-tipping on private land, the council will offer a visit to the site and, if evidence is collected, will pursue prosecution as appropriate. However, site clearance costs will be the responsibility of the landowner.

Neighbourhood service officers can also offer advice about steps to reduce the risks of fly tipping. For more information and advice on fly tipping, go to the city council website at [www.winchester.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/flytipping](http://www.winchester.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/flytipping)

## BUS STATION WINCHESTER

The bus station will undergo modernization that will see a dilapidated building removed and safety improvements introduced. Planning permission has been granted for the demolition of the old bus maintenance workshop within the bus station and the reconfiguration of the bus bays. The area is also set to benefit from the decision to allow the use of existing frontages that could see pop up shops, start up businesses, and creative hubs benefit from the high foot-fall around the station. The works to the bus station will enable safer bus movement.

During this phase of work there will be some temporary changes to use of on street parking in The Broadway to cater for displaced buses. The bus station will be closed during modernization and all bus operations will move to The Broadway and the following changes will take place during this period:

- All pay and display parking spaces will be suspended;
- The parking bays in the middle of The Broadway will be used for extra buses;
- Taxi ranks will be relocated to either side of the bus station but the taxi feeder rank in The Broadway will remain;
- 3 bus stops will be temporarily located in front of the Guildhall;
- An extra bus stop will be added opposite King Alfred Statue (northern side of The Broadway);

Disabled parking in The Broadway will remain. The bus station improvements are planned to bring real benefits to the 65,000 local people who use Winchester's bus services each week. Real-time traffic information will be introduced and better safety for pedestrians. We are ensuring that we are investing in our public transport, which has benefits for the environment as well as the community.



## WINCHESTER CITY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT *Continued*

### **BUS RE-ROUTING FROM THE HIGH STREET AFTER SEPTEMBER**

When the bus station reopens, buses will no longer use the High Street but travel through the bus station in a northerly direction along Friarsgate and/or Tanner St and Silver Hill and use the bus stops behind Marks & Spencer. To enable safe bus movement, loading rights along Tanner Street and the feeder taxi rank in Tanner Street will be removed.

These changes will enable the council, in agreement with Hampshire County Council, to consider possible future improvements to the High Street. These changes will not prevent further consideration of bus provision and routes in the town centre as part of work being undertaken by architects JTP, Hampshire County Council's Transport Study or the Central Winchester regeneration Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

### **PUBLICATION OF TRAVELLER PLAN FOR CONSULTATION**

The council is required to plan for the needs of gypsies and travellers in accordance with government guidance. Last week the council agreed to publish the draft plan for consultation. The draft plan seeks to identify sites in the district that will provide for the identified need of 15 gypsy

and traveller pitches and 24 travelling show-person's plots.

The draft plan takes a positive approach to existing sites within the district by proposing that these sites are retained; those with a temporary planning permission are granted a permanent consent where appropriate and for the more complex sites, bespoke policies are proposed to ensure the necessary requirements are met. This will give the council stronger control over traveller development on other sites that are not proposed to be allocated in the plan.

The consultation period commenced on Monday 10th July. For all the relevant documents and how to comment go to: [www.winchester.gov.uk/planning-policy/gypsy-and-traveller-development-plan](http://www.winchester.gov.uk/planning-policy/gypsy-and-traveller-development-plan). Documents can also be inspected at the council's offices and in local libraries. The consultation period ends on 4th September, after which the council will assess any responses received before amending the draft plan and submitting it to the planning inspectorate for examination during 2018.

*Vicki Weston*

Tel: 01329 835161

E-mail: [vweston@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:vweston@winchester.gov.uk)

### **DROXFORD VILLAGE**

## *Harvest Supper*

**Theme: VICTORIAN FARM**

*Fancy Dress Optional*

&

Entertainment by the

**Pompey Pluckers Ukele Band**

**SATURDAY 7th OCTOBER**

**7.00 - 7.30pm**

**DROXFORD VILLAGE HALL**

**TICKETS: £15.00 each**

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

**AVAILABLE FROM EARLY SEPTEMBER**

**AT THE POST OFFICE**

**(Minimum Age of Attendance is 16 Years)**

*Organised by: Robin & Judit Appel, Peter & Janet Melson*

### **Soirées on the Bridge**

## **CONCERT**

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

**Thursday 28th September at 7.30pm**

## **JENTLE - JAZZ**

will perform

an evening of classics,  
including some favourites  
and some rediscoveries

*Entrance is free, with a retiring collection  
in aid of St Andrew's Church.*

*Wine and canapés served at the end of the concert.*

## 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 3.00pm

Next Meetings:

**August: No Meetings**  
**September 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](http://www.singandtonic.org.uk) and fill in a contact form.



# .....the first six months



**A**TENNIS COURT WAS PROVIDED BY MEONSTOKE TENNIS CLUB ON THE RECREATION GROUND IN MEONSTOKE last December. This is not a private court; it's for any family in the local community, but they have to become members. The charge to join is only £25 per family per year. So far 53 families in the local villages have joined and 170 residents are registered to play. Why not join them! Go to [www.meonstoketennisclub](http://www.meonstoketennisclub) for more details. This summer the club is offering taster courses for children from the local area and you don't have to be a member to come along

We have planned these activities for Monday 7th August and Thursday 10th August. These dates will be linked but it is not necessary for children to attend both, so please feel free to choose. The sessions will be as follows:

- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>9am - 10am</b>    | <b>5 - 8 year olds</b>   |
| <b>10am - 11am</b>   | <b>8 - 11 year olds</b>  |
| <b>11am - 12noon</b> | <b>11 - 14 year olds</b> |

We appreciate the age ranges overlap but think we need to let the parents decide which is most suitable according to their child's physical development.

You don't have to book any of these sessions but we would like to know if your child wants to attend to get some idea of numbers. We will try to accommodate everyone but it may mean we need to offer additional support to the coach if numbers are on the high side. Please indicate your intention to attend by emailing either [katecook5@btinternet.com](mailto:katecook5@btinternet.com) or [katecook60@btinternet.com](mailto:katecook60@btinternet.com)

The charge will be £2 a session and we will expect a responsible adult to attend as required. These courses are partly supported by a grant from Winchester City Council.

## CHARITY CRICKET MATCH

**Droxford**

**v**

**The Hampshire Legends**

The Legends will be captained by  
Adi Aymes former Hampshire Wicket-keeper

**Sunday 27th August**

at

**Droxford Cricket Ground**

**Match begins at 2.00pm**

Cash Bar Burger Van with Tea & Coffee  
Parking available next to the cricket ground

*All proceeds to*

**FRIENDS OF DROXFORD CHURCH**

## SOME LOCAL SERVICES & USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### POST OFFICES

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

### STORES

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

### PUBLIC HOUSES

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

### GARAGES

Meringtons, Droxford 877431  
 Taylors Garage Ltd, Droxford 877433

### SCHOOLS

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

### LIBRARY (Bishop's Waltham)

Free Street, Bishops Waltham 0300 555 1387

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

Well House, 2 Brook Street 03444 111306  
 CAB email: [bishopswaltham@cabnet.org.uk](mailto:bishopswaltham@cabnet.org.uk)

### PARISH COUNCILS

Corhampton & Meonstoke. Clerk: Mrs R Hoile 07720 092072  
 Website: [www.candm-pc.gov.uk](http://www.candm-pc.gov.uk)  
 Droxford. Clerk: Mrs R Hoile 07720 092072  
 Website: [www.droxfordweb.co.uk](http://www.droxfordweb.co.uk)

Exton Parish Meeting:  
 Honorary Secretary: Position vacant –

### WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

email: [lgemmell@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:lgemmell@winchester.gov.uk)  
 email: [fpearson@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:fpearson@winchester.gov.uk)  
 email: [vweston@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:vweston@winchester.gov.uk)  
 email: [lruffell@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:lruffell@winchester.gov.uk)  
 email: [athacker@winchester.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto:meonhallbookings@yahoo.co.uk) or by phone at 878284  
 Go to [www.candm-pc.gov.uk/the-meon-hall](http://www.candm-pc.gov.uk/the-meon-hall) for details of  
 charges and general information

### LOCAL SURGERIES

Droxford 877588  
 Wickham 01329 833121  
 West Meon 01730 829666

### COMMUNITY CARE TRANSPORT COORDINATORS:

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

### DROXFORD VILLAGE COMMUNITY WEBSITE:

[www.droxfordweb.co.uk](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. 8.30am - 4.30pm  
 The out-of-hours number is 0845 600 4555

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

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

### Corhampton & Meonstoke

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

### Droxford

Gordon Hope 877751

### Exton

Joan Starkie 878698

### POLICE (non-emergency calls)

101

### NHS 111 (for fast help but not 999 emergency)

Call 111

For help on community safety and to report anti-social behaviour, etc,

Ring 101

## WILLIAMS COLLINS 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

### AUGUST 2017

**Tue. 1** Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH 10.30–12.00  
1st Portchester Brownies staying at The Meon Hall

**Wed. 2** Morning Prayer, Meonstoke 8.30am  
Look-in for coffee and chat, 10.00–12.00  
St Andrew's Church, Meonstoke

**Thu. 3** Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00am

**Sunday 4 - Trinity Eight**

4th Waterlooville Brownies staying at The Meon Hall

**Tue. 8** Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH 10.30–12.00

**Wed. 9** Morning Prayer, Meonstoke 8.30am

**Thu. 10** Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00am

**Sat. 12** 6th Portsmouth Brownies staying at The Meon Hall

**Sunday 11 - Trinity Nine**

**Tue. 15** Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH 10.30–12.00

**Wed. 16** Morning Prayer, Meonstoke 8.30am  
Look-in for coffee and chat, 10.00–12.00  
St Andrew's Church, Meonstoke

**Thu. 17** Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00am  
MV Garden Club, Visit to Hambledon House 5.30pm  
Meet in Droxford Square

**Sat. 19** Until Thu. 24 The Meon Hall is closed for annual floor cleaning and maintenance

**Sunday 20 - Trinity Ten**

**Tue. 22** Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH 10.30–12.00

**Wed. 23** Morning prayer, Meonstoke 8.30am

**Thu. 24** Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00am

Soirées on The Bridge Concert 7.30pm

'The Meon String Quartet,' St Andrew's Church

**Fri. 25** until Mon. 28 Folk Camp Society staying at The Meon Hall and camping on the Recreation Ground

**Sunday 27 - Trinity Eleven**

Charity Cricket Match: 2.00pm

at the Droxford Recreation Ground

**Mon. 28** Exton Church Sale 10.00 - 12.00noon

at Exton Churchyard (*see page 11*) & 2.00 - 4.00pm

**Tue. 29** Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH 10.30–12.00

**Wed. 30** Morning Prayer, Meonstoke 8.30am

**Thu. 31** Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00am



### SUNDAY SERVICES FOR AUGUST

Date	Time	Service	Church
<b>6th</b> Trinity 8	10.30am	Family Eucharist (CW)	Meonstoke
<b>13th</b> Trinity 9	10.30am	Family Eucharist (CW)	Droxford
<b>20th</b> Trinity 10	10.30am	Family Eucharist (CW)	Corhampton
<b>27th</b> Trinity 11	10.30am	Family Eucharist (CW)	Exton

## DISTRICT DIARY

### SEPTEMBER 2017

Fri. 1 Singing for Fun, The Stables, Bishop's Waltham 2.00pm

**Sunday 3 - Trinity Twelve**

Mon. 4 Mindfulness courses resume (*see page 6*) 9.45am

Tue. 5 Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH 10.30–12.00

Wed. 6 Morning prayer, Meonstoke 8.30am  
 Look-in for coffee and chat, 10.00–12.00  
 St Andrew's Church, Meonstoke  
 MV Garden Club: Hampshire Garden Trust - 7.30pm  
 'What we do and why we do it.' Droxford Village Hall

Thu. 7 Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00am

**Fri. 8 Last copy date for Oct - Nov issue of The Bridge**

Sat. 9 Droxford Scarecrow Festival begins today (*see page 5*)

**Sunday 10 - Trinity Thirteen**

Mon. 11 RBL: 'Homicide, terrorism and hostage negotiation.' 7.00pm  
 Talk by Supt. Fiona McCormack, Met. Police Service

Tue. 12 Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH 10.30–12.00  
 MV Arts Society: 'Inspired by Stonehenge' 10.40am  
 in The Meon Hall  
 Play-Reading Group: The Meon Hall 7.30pm

Wed. 13 Morning prayer, Meonstoke 8.30am  
 Corhampton & Meonstoke Parish Council 7.30pm  
 meeting in The Meon Hall

Thu. 14 Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00am

Fri. 15 Singing for Fun, The Stables, Bishop's Waltham 2.00pm

**Sunday 17 - Trinity Fourteen**

Tue. 19 Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH 10.30–12.00

Wed. 20 Morning Prayer, Meonstoke 8.30am  
 Look-in for coffee and chat, 10.00–12.00  
 St Andrew's Church, Meonstoke

Thu. 21 Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00am  
 MV Garden Club: 'White Gardens Throughout the Year' – Chris Bird of Sparsholt in The Meon Hall 7.30pm  
 Droxford Parish Council Meeting, in the Droxford Village Hall 7.30pm

Sat. 23 A Village Party: Droxford Recreation ground 3.00pm  
 (*see page 2*)

**Sunday 24 - Trinity Fifteen**

Mon. 25 Meon Hall Management Committee at The Meon Hall 7.30pm

Tue. 26 Drop-in coffee morning, Droxford VH 10.30–12.00

Wed. 27 Morning prayer, Meonstoke 8.30am  
 Film Night: TBA 7.30pm  
 Droxford Village Hall (*see page 10 for details*)

Thu. 28 Holy Communion, Droxford 10.00am  
 Soirées Concert: St Andrew's Church, Meonstoke 7.30pm

**OCTOBER**

**Sunday 1 - Trinity Sixteen**

Meonstoke Harvest Festival: Lunch in the church Noon

FOMS Prom concert: The Meon Hall (*see page 8*) 2.30pm



### SUNDAY SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER

Date	Time	Service	Church
<b>3rd</b> Trinity 12	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Family Eucharist (CW) Evensong	Droxford Meonstoke Exton
<b>10th</b> Trinity 13	8.00am 10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Family Eucharist (CW) Evensong	Meonstoke Droxford Corhampton
<b>17th</b> Trinity 14	8.00am 10.00am 10.30am 3.30pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Informal All-Age Service Matins Harvest Festival	Exton Droxford Corhampton Exton
<b>24th</b> Trinity 15	8.00am 9.30am 10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP) 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

## 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.



## WHERE DO THE GARDEN BIRDS GO TO?



I KNOW A LOT OF PEOPLE IN THIS AREA ARE INTERESTED IN FEEDING THE BIRDS THAT FREQUENT OUR GARDENS AND I WONDER IF anyone has any ideas on a subject that has long puzzled me: why do the birds suddenly diminish in numbers for a period and where do they go to?

I have known my numbers to decrease down to perhaps ten percent of the usual visitors, all the more surprising because these are mixed flocks of finches, tits, and other

birds. This is not just happening in the nesting season or at times when natural food is plentiful; it can happen in the middle of winter. Where are they? They have got to eat. They clearly enjoy the food I supply in the feeders, and they will be back in due course, but from where?

If anyone has any ideas on this mystery, please send me an email: [terrycrowfoot@btinternet.com](mailto:terrycrowfoot@btinternet.com)  
I would be most interested to know.

## From the Registers

### Weddings

Meonstoke 8th July -  
Elizabeth Whittaker and Craig White  
15th July -  
Kelsie Marklew and Daniel Short

### Baptisms

Meonstoke 2nd July -  
Edward Alexander Blakeway  
Meonstoke 11th June -  
Henry George Venn  
Droxford 10th June -  
Ottilie Astrid Minnie Profit  
Cosima Elvira Oona Profit  
Lily Chloe Anais Cribier  
Isabella Constance Dorsey Mackay  
James David Charles Bowyer

## From the Registers

### Funerals

Meonstoke 12th June -  
Lady Elizabeth Ann Stewart Archdale, age 87

## We welcome to our Parishes.....

**Jill Baker**, who has come back to Meonstoke from Ringmer, with Sofia and Simi, to 24 Pound Cottages, Pound Lane, Meonstoke.

## 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:

**CATERING** Clementine Catering 36:

**COMPUTERS & INTERNET** Punchedcard Ltd 29:  
Chris Guenier (inside back cover):

**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):

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Chimney Sweep Christian Oliver 34: Cynthia Tester Curtains & Blinds 36:  
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Barn Store for Storage 39:

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BBS Electrical Services Southern 33: Ben Tibbetts Electrical 35:  
Ray Burbidge 37: Assure Electrical Ltd (inside front cover):  
G Rixon Ltd (back cover):

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**FUNERAL DIRECTORS & MEMORIALS** Nigel Chamberlain (inside front cover):  
South Downs Funeral Services 36:

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Andrews Autosource 27:

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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):

**PRINTING & STATIONERY** Studio 6 (inside front cover): The Printroom 29:

**PUBLIC HOUSES** The Roebuck 38: The Shoe Inn 40:

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**SCHOOLS; EDUCATION & LEARNING** Valley Pre-School 25:

**SHOPS & STORES** Meonstoke PO & Stores 28:  
Christina's Shop-in-the-Square 32: Chapelle Chic 40:

**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.