

THE BRIDGE

April and May 2023

*How much longer must
we put up with this, ask
residents? Page 20*



**THE PARISH MAGAZINE FOR DROXFORD, MEONSTOKE
CORHAMPTON & EXTON**

R.A. Redman Plumbing & Heating Engineers

Family run business | 50 years experience

- New Boilers
- Gas, LPG & Oil Boiler Servicing
- Repairs & Installation
- Central Heating Systems
- Bathrooms & Kitchens
- Under Floor Heating
- Power Flushing
- Disability Installation



'The home of Plumbing and Heating on the South Coast'



For more info or a FREE quote call: **023 80 476 340**

R.A. Redman
Plumbing & Heating Services

Email: contact@raredman.co.uk
Website: www.raredman.co.uk

Meonstoke Post Office & VILLAGE STORES

Tel: 01489 877 374

Fresh Fruit & Vegetables

Local Real Ales, Wines & Spirits

Local Fine Meat

Newspapers & Magazines

Wide Range Of Gluten Free Food

Fresh Local Artisan Breads

Vegan Foods

Handmade Cakes

Local Honey

Sandwiches

Fresh Coffee & Cappuccino

Local Ice Cream

Dry Cleaning & Laundry

Banking & Postal Services

Pet Foods

Logs, Kindling & Coal

Local Plants

Postal Services

Seeds & Compost

Stationery, Cards & Gift Wrap



Please come & have a wander around; we may be small but we are bursting with local & delicious produce, plus what we don't have we will try to source for you.

NEW - MILK STATION

You will be able to ditch all plastic and refill your glass bottles.

Delicious **FRESH MILK** from Meonstoke Dairy Cows, morning, noon & night

(Contactless card payments taken)

OPENING HOURS:

SHOP: Monday - Saturday: 6.00am - 5.30pm

Sunday: 7.00am - 12 midday

POST OFFICE: Mon - Fri: 9.00am - 5.30pm & Sat: 9.00am - 12.30

www.meonstokepostofficeandvillagestores.co.uk



You only get one chance to say goodbye

A. H. Freemantle, providing outstanding services to families throughout Hampshire for 163 years



A.H. FREEMANTLE

Funeral planning specialists, in both prepayments and simple expressions of wishes.

Home appointments throughout the Meon Valley or visit us at our Droxford premises, run by husband and wife team, James and Kate Keen.

Ways to say goodbye...

There is no legal obligation to hold a funeral service at all plus it's not an easy topic of conversation, but most families should have a discussion, at some point, to decide on what sort of funeral they would prefer. It might be a very brief conversation at the pub 'I would rather be buried or cremated'... or even 'I really don't care, I won't be around' but at least it's a start.

Do not underestimate how many times we hear from bereaved families that they have been left no instructions. Funerals, broadly speaking, fall into three categories of religious, less religious and non religious. Whatever your religion, the customs and traditions of a familiar structured service can offer great peace of mind in your place of worship. Non or 'less' religious funerals have edged away from the 'very traditional' emphasising the life of the person. Either service has flexibility to add personal touches such as musical or spoken tributes.

For more information on low cost funerals, Green Funerals, Burials at Sea and advice on the many crematoriums available throughout the South of England please contact us for impartial no obligation advice.

Tel: 01329 842115 or Email: mail@ahfreemantle.co.uk

James Keen

Managing Director
A. H. Freemantle Ltd

Borley 01489 876546 • Titchfield 01329 842115 • Park Gate 01489 885525

www.ahfreemantle.co.uk

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

www.bridgechurches.org.uk

THE BRIDGE TEAM

Editor: Ian Gilchrist 07785 951063
thebridgeeditor@gmail.com

Advertising: David Neale 01489 878541
bridge.advertisingmanager@gmail.com

Advertisement artwork:
i-DEASIGN 07891 149866

Treasurer: Diana Arthur 01489 877390

Proof-reading: James Morrice

Printing: Sarum Graphics 01722 324733

Our wonderful deliverers:

Lorna Allured, Diana Arthur,
Veronica Attrill, Jill Austin, Pauline
Bone, Phil and Chrissie Butler, Liz
Callegari, Hannah Carpenter, Janine
Casey, Steve Clayton, Lesley Daysh,
Jane Dulson, Ian and Josie Dyson,
Karen Ellis, Sally Fithyan, Linda Foot,
Camilla Gardner, Trevor Gear, Val
Gillam, Audrey Hall, Paul and Gerry
Hayles, Jill Hignett, Sheila Hilary,
Mary Hornby-Patterson, June
Kershaw, James Matthisson, Claire
Mellor, Lyn de Mestre, Anne Morrice,
Lottie Murray, Rita Newman, Kate
Osborne, Za Rowe, Margaret
Scriven, Sarah Shepherd, Sue Smith,
Peg Stevens, Ann Symes, Angie
Vear, Jennie Whitemore and Kate
Williams.

**The COPY DEADLINE
for the June/July issue of
The Bridge is
WEDNESDAY
3rd May 2023**

In this issue

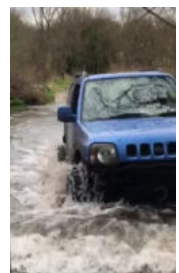
**Former
drug
rehab
centre
to be a
luxury
hotel. Page 15**



**JoJo
Buchanan
fondly
recalled.
Page 17**



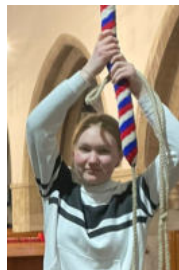
**The Splash
Route:
Locals
demand a
stop to this
'vandalism'
Page 20**



**Pauline
Quarendon
chooses
her Desert
Island
Discs.
Page 18**



**Pollyanna,
14, and
Maxim, 10,
become
official
Coronation
bell ringers.**



Regular items

Bus Timetable 39
Church Services 40
Community Care Group 26
Droxford Village Hall 25
Events Diary 41
Gardening 22

Hugh Lumby's report 28
Local Services 42
Meon Hall Report 21
On Reflection 5
Pop-in 13
Urgent Treatment Centre 26

Our front cover shows 4x4 drivers using the ford at the Droxford mill to splash through at speed as a kind of sport. But local conservationists say it is decimating the river's bank and wildlife, and are demanding it be banned. See report on page 20.

Ian Gilchrist, Editor
07785 951063
Email: thebridgeeditor@gmail.com

THE BRIDGE is delivered at the start of the months of February, April, June, August, October and December. If you are responsible for village activities, diaries and schedules, please send your write-ups to the Editor at the address shown above. Copy in Microsoft word is preferred, rather than PDFs which can sometimes present layout problems.

PARISH CONTACTS

Please note: local telephone numbers have the prefix 01489

RECTOR: The Benefice currently has a vacancy. Please contact the Churchwardens as necessary, until a new incumbent is appointed.

LICENSED LAY MINISTERS: Reader: Cathy Mathews 877804
Reader emeritus: Pauline Quarendon 877392

ASSISTANT CLERGY: Rev'd Canon Anthony Hulbert 878289

DROXFORD

Churchwarden:

Colin Matthissen 877867

Vice Chair: Jeff Hooper 877406

Secretary:

Audrey Dryden-Brownlee 877286

Treasurer & Gift Aid Secretary:

Harry Martineau 877213

Organist: John Martin 877385

Sacristan: Position vacant.

Verger: James Matthissen 877867

Deanery Synod Representative:

John Symes 877643

MEONSTOKE WITH CORHAMPTON

Churchwarden: Angela Peagram 878725

Secretary: (via Churchwarden)

Treasurer: Position vacant.

Gift Aid Secretary: Iain Gammell 878162

Organists:

(Meonstoke): Position vacant.

(Corhampton): John Martin (am) 877385

Sacristan: Karen Ellis 878619

PRESHAW

Coordinator: Position vacant.

EXTON

Churchwarden & Secretary:

Richard Pepys 878035

Treasurer & Gift Aid Secretary:

David Frere-Cook 877838

Organist & Sacristan: Positions vacant.

OTHER DENOMINATIONS

Roman Catholic (Bishop's Waltham): Fr Bruce Barnes 890947

For information about Baptisms and Funerals, please contact the Churchwardens in the first instance.

LIST OF ADVERTISERS

When contacting an advertiser please say you saw it in The Bridge.

AERIAL & TELEVISION SERVICES

Denmead Aerials 38.

ANTIQUES Droxford Antiques 6.

BUILDERS & PROPERTY

MAINTENANCE Charles Henry Property Services 36: Home Building & Property Refurbishments Ltd 31: JT Carpentry & Building 38: R&G Gamblin General Builder 33: TM Construction 37: DLD Refurbishment 14.

CABINETRY Cramer Bespoke 43.

CHIMNEY SWEEP Oliver Chimney Sweep 32.

COMPUTERS Computer Problems Solved 35: Punchedcard 14.

COSMETIC PROCEDURES Lash Extensions by Lizzie B 6: Saddle House Medi-Spa 38.

CURTAINS & BLINDS Curtain Making & Alterations 10.

DOMESTIC APPLIANCE REPAIRS

Shawyer Domestic Appliances 31.

DOMESTIC CLEANING Advanced Clean 12: Nice & Neat 33.

ELECTRICAL SERVICES Ben Tibbetts Electrical 16: Chase Farm Electrical 31.

ESTATE AGENTS The Country House Company 43.

FUNERAL DIRECTORS AH Freemantle Funeral Directors 2: Richard Steel & Partners 8: South Downs Funeral Service 12.

GARDEN, LANDSCAPING & FENCING

Fox Garden Machinery 34: Green Build Landscapes 32: Meon Valley Mowers 33: Pimp My Paddock 44: RJS Fencing 29: The Tudor Gardener 31: TruGreen Lawn Care 38: WGS Tree Services 37.

GLASS & GLAZING Fareham Glass Ltd 14: Leydene Glass & Glazing 37.

HEATING, PLUMBING & OIL

B.Eastman Plumbing & Heating Ltd 8: D&S Oil Tanks 35: G Rixon 44: Mark Oliver Plumbing & Heating 14: R A Redman Plumbing & Heating Co 2.

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION Wallops Wood Cottages 12.

HOME IMPROVEMENTS Droxford Interiors 8: Hampshire Bathroom Design 44: Maintenance Matters 34: Rustics 10: Steve Such Property Maintenance 6.

JEWELLERS Simon Lawson Jewellers 35.

LEGAL & FINANCIAL SERVICES

Chamberlains Solicitors 10: MacDonald Oates Solicitors LLP 36: Nicholas Ridge Tax Expertise 35.

LOGS RL Landscape Maintenance 32: Woodlea Nurseries 6.

MOTOR SERVICES

Autosource 6: Auto Brite Smart Repairs 30: Taylor's Garage 29.

OPTICIANS Saxby's Eye Care 34.

PAINTERS & DECORATORS Mark &

June Mason Decorators 16: Oliver's Painting & Decorating Services 30: Topcoats 35.

PEST CONTROL Amanita 33.

PETS The Dog Room 16.

PICTURE FRAMING Petersfield Framing Studios 38.

PILATES & YOGA Inspire Me Fit Pilates 31: Love Your Yoga 30: Pilates With Aplomb 10: Yoga Belleza 6.

PRINTING & STATIONERY Studio 6 Design & Print 16: Green Dove Paper Art 36.

PUBS & BREWERIES Bowman 36: The Bucks Head 29: The Shoe 14.

RIDING & EQUESTRIAN Merrie Stud Riding School 33: Shedfield Equestrian 34.

SCHOOLS The Valley Preschool 33.

SHOPS & STORES Meonstoke Post Office & Stores 2.

SPORT Hazelholt Indoor Tennis 43.

STORAGE Barn Store 37.

TAXIS & PRIVATE CAR HIRE Gamblin Cars 30: Hambledon Cars 16.

THATCHING E J Goodall Master Thatcher Ltd 37.

TUITION Sally Keighley Music Tuition 16.

VINEYARD SERVICES DS Contracting 10.

WINDOW CLEANING Howe's That 16.

To advertise in The Bridge please contact David Neale: bridge.advertisingmanager@gmail.com 01489 878541

ON REFLECTION



A friend of mine told me recently that whilst he had been born on Palm Sunday, none of his subsequent birthdays over the next 60 odd years had fallen on Palm Sunday.

We all know that Jesus’ birth is celebrated on 25th December every year, but Good Friday, the day we mourn his crucifixion, and Easter Sunday, the day we celebrate his resurrection from the dead, are moveable. Why is this?

The Royal Museums Greenwich website tells us that Easter falls on a Sunday between 22nd March and 25th April, but working out which Sunday exactly requires an astronomical calculation.

The simple standard definition of Easter is that it is the first Sunday after the full Moon that occurs on or after the spring equinox.

If the full Moon falls on a Sunday then Easter is the next Sunday. The website then provides an algorithm with 14 lines of instructions to enable

Why is the Easter date such a moveable Feast?

us to work it out precisely – no surprise here, given that Royal Museums Greenwich includes the Royal Observatory.

This year Palm Sunday falls on 2nd April (with a 10.30am Holy Communion Service at Meonstoke).

Good Friday falls on 7th April (with a 10.30am service at Exton) and Easter Sunday on 9th April (with 8.00am Holy Communion at Exton, 10.30am Holy Communion and Family Services respectively at Droxford and Meonstoke).

Under the heading The Greatest Commandment, Mark’s Gospel tells us how the authorities sought to catch Jesus out in the run up to the

- crucifixion:
28. *One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”*
29. *“The most important one,” Jesus answered, “is this: Hear, O Israel, The Lord our God, the Lord is one.*
30. *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’*
31. *“The second is this: Love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.”*
- Not all of us are Christians. But hopefully all can agree that ‘Love your neighbour as yourself’ is a good principle to follow for those of all faiths and none, and if we did that the world would be a better place.

Colin Matthissen
Churchwarden, Droxford

Historic monument is restored and re-dedicated

A century-old terracotta monument to pottery designer and former Meonstoke resident Dorothy Marshall Lawrence in St Andrew’s churchyard has been brought back to its former glory following painstaking restoration, and re-dedicated.

At a special service at the church the Rev’d Canon Anthony Hulbert kindly stood in, at very short notice, for the Rt Rev’d Dr Jonathan Frost, Bishop of Portsmouth, who was unfortunately not well enough to take the service.

The monument, which features four angels, is a large and complex work by the Arts and Crafts pottery designer Mary Seton Watts, and had suffered severe damage over the years.

Conservation work was carried out by Patricia Jackson, Mick Pinner of West Meon Pottery, and South Coast Memorials, with the support of a number of local volunteers and funding from the family, the Pilgrim Trust/Church Care and other local donors.

Members of the family, who had travelled from Kent and Suffolk, gathered with the conservator and the congregation



to take part in the service and hear a talk by Hilary Calvert, a national expert, about the life and work of the artist, who founded the Compton Potters’ Guild in 1898 with products sold at fashionable retailers such as Liberty.

The talk was followed by a lunch provided by local parishioners. The church was decorated with angels made by the school children of Meonstoke CofE Infant School, and displays of historic photographs of the village and of the Lawrence family.

Angela Peagram (photo by Mike)

STEVE SUCH

Property Maintenance and Repair
Interior and Exterior Decorating

QUALIFIED CARPENTER
GUTTERS CLEARED
NO JOB TOO SMALL
FREE ESTIMATES

Tel: **07725 575 892**

FOR SALE

SEASONED HARDWOOD LOGS
DELIVERED DIRECT TO YOU
Ring John on **07940 357839**



Woodlea Nurseries
Durley

DROXFORD ANTIQUES

Established over 50 years

The High Street, Droxford SO32 3PA

Urgently Wanted
ANTIQUES
of all Descriptions

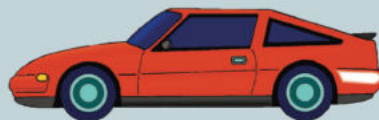
Antique Furniture Repairs

T: 07973 551 519

E: mark@droxfordantiques.co.uk

Please call Mark or Mary

Andrews Autosource
Quality Cars, Carefully Selected...



Low Mileage Cars at Sensible Prices



Trading Standards Approved and Recommended

GOOD CARS BOUGHT FOR CASH

NOW at Bramdean Garage,
Bramdean, Alresford SO24 0JU

Tel: 01962 732995

Mobile: 07811 041 653

www.andrews-autosource.co.uk

New Yoga and Meditation Studio
Open in Corhampton



All levels welcome ■ 1.5 hour class

Private one-to-one tuition available

European retreats also available

Please call Vicky on: 07761 977537

Email vicky@yogabelleza.com for bookings

and information Victoria Bedford DIP FRYOG

Lash Extensions

by Lizzie B

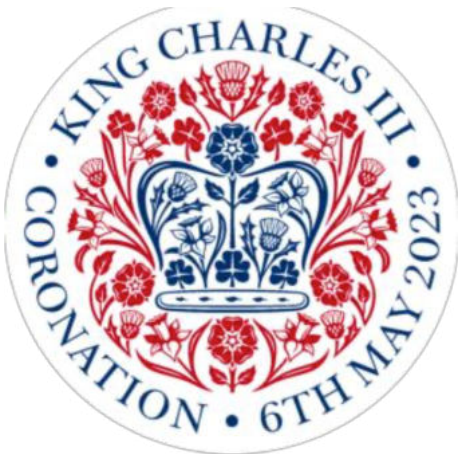


Mobile Lash Technician covering the Meon Valley
Free consultation and patch test

Tel: 07513 311743

@glamorousladiesdroxford

It's time to get the bunting out again!



Coronation street party is planned for Droxford Square

Preparations are underway in Droxford for a Street Party to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III on **Sunday 7th May**.

All Droxford residents will have received a flyer with this edition of *The Bridge* with details of the street party.

Villagers are asked to respond by *10th April* to give the organisers an idea of the likely number.

As *The Bridge* went to press a team of helpers was being recruited to make sandwiches, lay out tables and chairs, put up bunting, arrange flowers, and serve teas and coffees.

Organiser Karen Jordan told *The Bridge*, "We didn't have a party for the Jubilee last year, so I thought it would be nice to have one for the

King's Coronation.

"But we need to know well in advance how many will be attending so we can plan the number of tables and chairs that will be needed, and how many sandwiches to make.

"We also ask that people bring cakes or similar to share around, and we would also appreciate any donations towards the costs.

"Let's hope the rain keeps off, and we can all make it a day to remember!"

We'll ring for the King! Page 23

And there's a picnic and Coronation Exhibition at the Meon Hall

Bring your family to a picnic to the Meon Hall from 12 noon on Sunday 7th May to celebrate the Coronation Weekend and hear stories from those who remember the last Coronation back in 1953!

There will be tea, coffee, soft drinks and cakes on sale in the Small Hall and everybody is welcome to share in this community occasion.

St Mary and All Saints Church Droxford ANNUAL CHURCH MEETINGS 2023

**The Annual Parish Meeting will be held at
11.15am on Sunday 23rd April 2023
in the Church**

This is to elect Churchwardens. Any member of the civil electoral roll or the Church electoral roll may vote for a Churchwarden.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will follow on immediately afterwards.

This is to review the work of the Parish and elect members of The Parochial Church Council. Only members of the Church electoral roll may vote but all are welcome to attend.

Droxford's Book Sale was bound for success

Another successful pre-loved book sale was held in Droxford Village Hall in March.

Thank you to all those who supported it by donating unwanted books or by coming along and supporting us on the day. Each book is sold for 50p, and this time we have raised over £400 for the Village Hall upkeep and sent 800 books back into the circular economy.

This event is about sharing, re-using and recycling. It is also a collaborative community effort hosted by the Village Hall, and with Wilfrid's Café providing Book Sale customers with vouchers for their wonderful coffee.

We will be running another book sale in August, so do bear us in mind if you have any unwanted books at home. We are always happy to collect locally too. For more information, please email me at ailsaduckworth@hotmail.co.uk.

Sorry about the headline, by the way!

Ailsa Duckworth

RICHARD
EST **STEEL** 1860
& PARTNERS

THE FAMILY OWNED
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Incorporating
Nigel Chamberlain
& Partners for
over 30 years



BISHOP'S WALTHAM

The Gate House, Victoria Road,
Bishop's Waltham, SO32 1DJ
01489 892640



WINCHESTER

Alderman House, 12-14 City Road,
Winchester, SO23 8SD
01962 862333



ALRESFORD

58 West Street, Alresford,
Hampshire, SO24 9AU
01962 798789

www.steelsfunerals.co.uk
Available 24 hours

DROXFORD INTERIORS

**KITCHEN & BATHROOM
INSTALLATIONS**

CENTRAL HEATING

CERAMIC TILING

PAINTING & DECORATING

Serving the Meon Valley and beyond

Contact: Jason Toman
Telephone: **01489 877876**
Mobile: **07933 788481**



Email: bretteastman@hotmail.co.uk

- ✓ Oil Specialist, Service, Installations & Maintenance
- ✓ Full Central Heating Installation
- ✓ Boiler Servicing
- ✓ Boiler Changes
- ✓ Gas Hob Installation
- ✓ Fire Installation
- ✓ Landlord Gas Safety's
- ✓ Under Floor Heating
- ✓ Power Flushing
- ✓ Bathroom Installations
- ✓ Cloakroom Installations
- ✓ Above Ground Drainage Pipework
- ✓ Storage Tank Installation
- ✓ Service & Maintenance
- ✓ Air Source Heat Pump with MCS Accreditation



Country Fair raises £4,300

I am thrilled to be able to announce that at the Droxford Country Fair AGM we donated the following:

- Friends of Droxford Church - £750 towards an audio visual system in the church.
- Robert Procter - £200 towards his trip to help build a school in Africa.
- Sing & Tonic - £200 towards funding new microphones.
- Droxford Allotments - £100 towards fencing.
- Friends of Meonstoke School - £300 towards new 'talking pegs' and other sensory resources.
- Droxford Bell Ringers - £300 towards new ropes.*
- Droxford Scouts - £500 towards refurbishment of the hut.
- Droxford Village Hall - £1,200 towards refurbishment of the toilets.
- Friends of Droxford School - £450 towards picnic benches in their

newly created outdoor classroom.

- Droxford Parish Council - £300 towards a celebratory Coronation gift for Droxford children.

Planning for this year's fair has already begun, when we shall be celebrating the 85th anniversary of this wonderful event! Please note the date: Saturday 3rd June.

We are actively seeking more volunteers to help set up and run the event, so please email me with your contact details.

Mary Hornby-Patterson
07815 562424

Mary@droxfordantiques.co.uk

*** Footnote: The £300 awarded to the Bell Ringers was later augmented by a further £444 after Cllr Hugh Lumby arranged a grant from Hampshire County Council.**

'WE NEED A LOGO, CHILDREN!'

The William Collins Trust has launched a competition in Droxford Junior School to design a logo for it.

The local Trust, which helps with funding for educational purposes where there is financial need, are sadly Logo-less.

Creative children have been urged to get their thinking caps on and their pencils ready to go!

Chair Siân Holiday visited the school to talk to the children in assembly about the Trust, and to launch the competition.

Entries will be judged at the end of term, and the lucky winner will be awarded a £20 voucher prize, as well as seeing their logo being used in the future. Entries can be in any media, but must be A5-sized and eye-catching.

Trustees meet three times a year and consider applications in

strictest confidence. The only stipulations are that applicants are under 25, live in Droxford, Meonstoke, Corhampton or Exton.

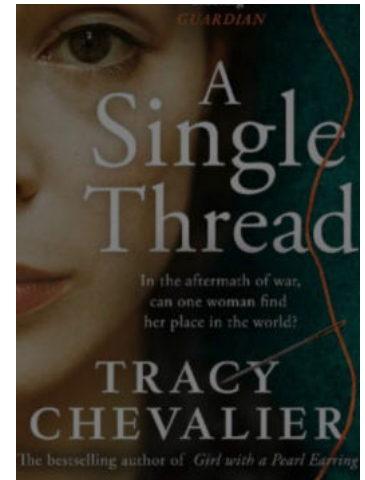
There must be genuine need and the money has to be for a named aspect of their education.

The Trust has recently helped to fund Droxford trips to Calshott, and Swanmore geography field trips, as well as school books, uniform, equipment for college courses, and music lessons.

Application forms can be found on the Meonstoke or Droxford School websites, or the William Collins Trust link at:
www.bridgechurches.org.uk.

The next meeting to discuss applications is on 28th April 2023.

Friends of
Droxford Church
present
an evening with
acclaimed author
Tracy Chevalier



Droxford Church
Friday 21st April
6.30pm

Tracy Chevalier will be talking about her book *A Single Thread* which is set in Hampshire and tells the story of an unmarried woman rebuilding her life in the aftermath of WW1.

Through joining the pew cushion broderers and bell ringers she becomes part of the community, developing long-lasting friendships, beginning with just one stitch.

The evening includes a question and answer session hosted by Chrissie Sturt, as well as a book signing session and an opportunity to purchase some of Tracy's other books, including *Girl With a Pearl Earring*.

Tickets £10 available at Wilfrid's Cafe or
www.jumblebee.co.uk/tracychevaliertalk

BODY CONTROL PILATES CLASSES

running on Wednesdays:

Droxford Village Hall

1.45 - 2.50pm - Mixed Ability

Jubilee Hall, Bishop's Waltham

5.00 - 6.05pm - Mixed Ability

6.15 - 7.20pm - Improvers

7.30 - 8.35pm - Intermediate/Advanced



- Classes with an experienced and fully qualified teacher.
- Classes are limited to a max of 12 students, so booking is essential.
- Online participation available.

droxford@pilateswithaplomb.com

07928 067190

www.pilateswithaplomb.com

Rustics

An eclectic mix of period furniture, pots, planters and the like, plus an interesting range of small items for home and garden.

Antique and rare timbers : Architectural pieces
Solid wood and parquet floors restored/re-sanded
Bespoke tables made to order.

Tel: **07595 082007** or **07760 615581**

Email: **info.rustics@gmail.com**

Website: **www.rustics.biz**

Unit 1a, The Long Barn, Lippen Lane, Warnford SO32 3LE

Opening hours Friday/Saturday 10.00am - 4.00pm
Other days and times by appointment.

CURTAIN MAKING & ALTERATIONS

by Mary at

DROXFORD ANTIQUES

High Street Droxford SO32 3PA

01489 878800

email: mary@droxfordantiques.co.uk

Please telephone Mary or call in for professional help & advice
Beautiful hand sewn curtains, blinds and pelmets made especially for you
Stockist of Kate Forman & Vanessa Arbuthnott Fabrics

CHAMBERLAINS FAMILY SOLICITORS

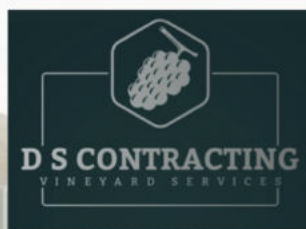
We can help you with a wide range
of legal services including:

**Residential and Commercial
Conveyancing - Probate - Wills
Lasting Powers of Attorney**

Red Lion Street, Bishop's Waltham SO32 1ST

Telephone: **01489 896141**

Email: info@chamberlainslaw.co.uk



**Telephone
0758 125 7329**

www.dscontractorsvineyardservices.com
dscontractorsvineyardservices@gmail.com

**Swanmore Road
Droxford SO32 3PT**



- Spring Tying / Harrowing
- Fertilising • Topping
- Full Vineyard Services
- Groundwork • Paddock Fencing
- Log Splitting • Material Movement

Full Public Liability Insurance

Firefighter Helen: 'An inspiration to women to join the fire service'

Tributes have been paid to Helen Davis, one of Hampshire's first female firefighters and who served at Droxford Fire Station for 21 years.

She was also the first female in Hampshire to drive an appliance on blue lights, and is fondly remembered by the crew as a trailblazer and inspiration to women to join the fire service.

When she joined 30 years ago there were very few women in the fire service. Today the station's current crew includes three female firefighters, one of whom has followed in Helen's footsteps and also become an appliance driver.

Helen lived at Big Tree Cottages, Soberton, and died in January aged 62 after a long battle with cancer.

One of the firefighters she trained at



Firefighters from Droxford and surrounding villages formed a guard of honour at the funeral

Droxford was one-time Meonstoke resident Beth Medway-Aspinall, who is now a crew manager at Southsea fire station.

She said at the funeral, "I had the absolute pleasure of meeting Helen when I joined Droxford Fire Station in 2006, where she became not only my mentor, but my great friend too.

"Being one of the county's first female firefighters she had expectations for those she had paved the way for. She had set an example and a standard, and, needless to say, I wanted to be like her.

"She was respected not only for her strength and knowledge, but also for her ability to help others and explain things in a clear and concise manner. She always had a smile for everyone and infused a sense of fun into even



Helen on a firestation team-building day

the most mundane of tasks.

"The advice and lessons she taught me are the foundation of my role today. I will be forever grateful for her legacy of compassion, kindness and generosity.

"She was determined, competent and a joy to be around. Her laughter was infectious and it makes me smile just to think of all the adventures we had the privilege of attending together in order to protect our community and surrounding county.

"So thank you Helen for all the hours you dedicated to helping your community, and for the support, encouragement and education you gave me and our colleagues.

"Your strength and determination, particularly in the last few years, was unquestionable."

Meon Voices Concert

Meon Voices Spring Concert will be held on Saturday 29th April at 7.30pm at St Peter's Church, Bishops Waltham.

The performance mixes Elgar, Gershwin and Gilbert and Sullivan with modern classics from Queen and Simon and Garfunkel, all sprinkled with favourites including Swing Low Sweet Chariot and Scarborough Fair.

There will be an interval with tea, coffee and biscuits. There is no need to book, and while the concert is free to attend there will be a cash collection, to be divided between the choir and the Church's charities.

If you are interested in joining this friendly, uplifting choir, the Monday evening practices are between 7.30 and 9.30 in Bishops Waltham throughout Autumn and Spring. For more information please contact Phil on 01489 579078.

Or email either coundleypj@yahoo.com or janevose@icloud.com.

Flowers in Droxford Church

A very big thank you to the Village Hall Committee for their very generous gift of the proceeds from their Quiz Night raffle. It is much appreciated by the flower arrangers as it will help them continue making the Church look attractive for festivals, visitors and services.

The Flower Ladies



Introducing Grenville at Wallops Wood

Three detached holiday houses
in the beautiful Hampshire countryside

01489 878888 www.wallopswoodcottages.co.uk/grenville

Advanced Clean

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

'Keep your soft furnishings cleaner for longer by using our high quality services'

- Eco-Friendly Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning
- Rugs, Leather, Mattress & Curtain Cleaning
- Odour & Stain Removal
- Stain Protection Treatment
- Fully Insured

CALL NOW FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

0800 907 8681

www.advanced-carpet-cleaning.co.uk



South Downs Funeral Service

Funeral Directors & Memorial Consultants



**Your Local, Independent & Family Owned Funeral
Homes of Denmead, Wickham & Clanfield**

Our Clanfield Funeral Home

43 Drift Road, Clanfield PO8 0JS

Tel: 02392 570239

clanfield@southdownsfuneralservice.com

Our Denmead Funeral Home

The Old Post Office House, Hambledon Road,

Denmead PO7 6NN | **Tel: 02392 231567**

care@southdownsfuneralservice.com

Our Wickham Funeral Home

13 The Square, Wickham,

Fareham, PO17 5JG | **Tel: 01329 833920**

wickham@southdownsfuneralservice.com

Direct Funeral Services from £995.00

Traditional & Tailored Funeral Services from £1725.00

www.southdownsfuneralservice.com

Golden Charter
Smart Planning for Later Life

Golden Charter Funeral Plans
24 hour, local and personal service
Floristry service | Stonemasonry service
No deposits required
Fully accredited and regulated members of SAIF



Corhampton and Meonstoke Annual Parish Assembly

7.30pm Wednesday 12th April in the Meon Hall

This year our guest speaker at the Annual Parish Assembly will be Stuart Mills, of Winchester Action on Climate Change (WeCAN).

Stuart will suggest some positive things that we as a community can do to make a real difference in the current climate crisis.

All electors of Corhampton and Meonstoke are invited to the meeting in the small hall of the Meon Hall.

The purpose of the meeting is for the Parish Council to ask

questions. The Assembly may, by law, discuss all parish affairs and pass resolutions about them, although these may not be binding on the Parish Council.

Do come along and see how we can best channel our efforts. There will be refreshments available after the event.

Jerry Pett, Chair

The Big Help Out day: Monday May 8th

The parish council is organising a Big Litter Pick Up on Monday May 8th as part of the Coronation weekend celebrations.

Meet at the Meon Hall car park at 11am to join us for a road side litter pick.

Some HighVis waistcoats and pickers will be provided, but do bring your own if you have them, and wear strong gloves for protection.

To give us an idea of likely participants do please sign up on the website: www.candm-pc.gov.uk

We look forward to seeing you at this community volunteer event to help keep our countryside looking beautiful.



Keep popping in!



POP-IN to St Andrew's Church, Meonstoke, for coffee, cake and a chat every first Wednesday of the month, 10am to noon. The next dates are 5th April and 3rd May. Everyone is welcome.

Thank you to Zac Heggie for the lemon drizzle cake at the February Pop-In and the Victoria sandwich for 1st March. They were both delicious!

We welcomed our PCSO (Police Community Support Officer) Owen Reeves and his colleague Steph Slater to our March meeting. It's rare to see an officer walking about the village, so it was good to be able to put a face to the name and have a chat. Thank you to both of them for coming along.

Community Library

A very big thank you also to Sue Marsh (and Blake!) who, with my help, were wonderful in sorting and tidying up all the

books in the Community Library at the back of the church.

All the paperback fiction books are now on the top three rows of shelves in alphabetical order! The lower shelves are hard-back fiction with one shelf of hard-back non-fiction, and there are plenty of lovely jigsaws.

The library is quite full at the present time, so a plea not to donate any more books or jigsaws for a while. Thank you. But do take advantage of this 'library on your doorstep.' There are books to suit all tastes - just remember to return them when finished - there are no fines for taking a long time!

Linda Foot

Exton, Meonstoke and Corhampton Church Fete

SATURDAY 1st JULY

Gates open 12.30

Exton Farm, Exton
SO32 3NW

By kind permission of Mr and Mrs Glynne Benge.

Traditional fun for all the family

The Meon Valley Orchestra
Pony Rides, Stalls,
Barbecue, Ices, Sack Races,
Face Painting, Festival Hair
& Glitter

Afternoon Teas, Fun and Games, Pimms and Beer.

Free Car Parking (entry off Allen's Farm Lane)
Adults £1.00, Under 16s Free



Punchedcard

COMPUTER SUPPORT & WEB DESIGN

Computer Services

- Health check and virus removal
- Software problems and upgrades
- Home / Office / Wireless Networks
- Software Installation and Training

Websites

- Website Design and Hosting
- Domain names and personalised email addresses



Tel: **023 9216 0765** Mobile: **07787 577873**
 Email: charles.cartwright@punchedcard.co.uk
www.punchedcard.co.uk



DLD Refurbishment

Based in Droxford

Our Services include:

Decoration

▲ Carpentry

Kitchens

▲ Restoration

Please contact us to discuss your requirements

Mobile: **0770 99 111 30**
 Email: timdumbrell@yahoo.co.uk
 Website: dldrefurbishment.co.uk



The Shoe

EXTON HAMPSHIRE

0 1 4 8 9 . 8 7 7 5 2 6

A friendly welcome on the South Downs way in the heart of the Meon Valley. We provide excellent food using ingredients from local suppliers, good wine, real ales and excellent coffee made using our own Hampshire Pantry coffee beans. Patrick and Annabel welcome you to their award winning Hampshire riverside pub with open log fires.

Muddy Stiletto's
Hampshire Best Destination Pub
Winner 2022



The Beautiful South Pub of the Year
SILVER Tourism Award
Winner 2022 - 2023



We are open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner
We are a dog friendly pub

Shoe Lane Exton Hampshire SO32 3NT
 Book a table by email at: bookings@theshoeexton.co.uk
www.theshoeexton.co.uk



For all aspects of traditional glass and glazing

WE'VE MOVED!



- Fogged or misted replacement double glazed units
- Emergency repairs to all windows and doors using safety and toughened glass
- Glass for table tops and picture frames
- Mirrors
- Greenhouse glass
- Splashbacks

Now Offering
SPLASHBACKS
 for Bathrooms
 and Kitchens
 Made-to-measure
 coloured glass,
 matched to a variety
 of colours

Same great service from our new premises
Heritage Business Park Unit D1, Gosport PO12 4BG
 FREE Quotations - Supply and Fit - Fully stocked warehouse with click and collect facility and full measure up service for Glass and Upvc works.



NEW!
HIGH LEVEL
UPVC
CLEANING

Call: **023 9260 1110** Monday-Friday 8am-4pm
 E: farehamglass@hotmail.co.uk
www.farehamglass.co.uk







Mark Oliver

PLUMBING & HEATING



INDEPENDENT FAMILY BUSINESS - ESTABLISHED 2002

All Domestic Plumbing Undertaken

Fully insured & Qualified Plumbers
 covering Hampshire area

Solar Hot Water & Air Source Heat Pump Installer

Oil Boiler Heating Specialist

Oil Boiler Installation & Servicing

Approved Grant Boiler Installer

12 Month Guarantee on all Installations

Finance Available - Senior Citizen Discounts
Card Payments Accepted

07743 386 540

01489 876 556 - 01962 435 026

— www.moliverplumbing.co.uk —

email: moliverplumbing34@gmail.com

Phoenix House to become a luxury hotel

The company that has bought the former drug rehabilitation centre Phoenix House in Midlington Road, Droxford, has revealed more about their plans to turn it into a luxury 5-star hotel, and to make its leisure facilities available to local residents.

Grand Hotel Excelsior International Ltd purchased the property three years ago. They told a meeting of the Droxford History Group they plan to build an extension matching the existing frontage in design, to provide a total of 64 bedrooms, together with amenities for banquets, weddings and trade shows.

Guests' leisure facilities, such as an indoor pool, spa and gymnasium, would also be made available for local residents to use.

Work has carried on steadily over the past three years to upgrade the interior whilst retaining as many of its historic features as possible, such as the ornate ceilings, heavy wood panelling and window shutters.

"It's going to be beautiful," the group's Administrative Manager, Helen Hubbard told the meeting.

"We're going to retain all the existing architecture, because as a company we appreciate history. If we acquire an old building we don't knock it down. We like to keep it as many of its original features as we can. Importantly, we wish to revert to its original name of Fairfield House."

But exactly when the hotel will open is uncertain. Although a planning application was submitted 18 months ago, further architectural drawings



... and will make its pool, spa and gym available to local residents

were now required, and she could not at the moment give a date.

The house, with its seven acres of garden, was built in 1909 by Henry Hamilton Bridge, who lived there until 1931. He died in 1935, aged 90.

After further private ownership it was bought by the Government in 1951 as a mental health hospital. In 2005 it became a centre for long-term drug abusers called Alpha House, later renamed Phoenix House.

Until it closed in 2016 residents came from all over the UK. Across a 13-hour day, and under military style rules, they studied for exams,

attended group sessions, and performed chores around the house and garden so they could return into the community better equipped to cope with life.

The regime was certainly tough. The Rev'd Anthony Hulbert told the meeting he had known its founder, Dr Christie.

"He was a man who believed you shouldn't molly-coddle addicts. If anyone stepped out of line they would be punished by the removal of privileges, made to scrub floors and sometimes have to wear a notice around their neck detailing their misdemeanors."

The hotel group is anxious to learn of any living descendants of Henry Hamilton Bridge to invite them to the hotel's opening when the time comes. If you are one, or know of any, please contact Helen Hubbard at admin@aphw.net



Sandy and Ruth Baillie Strong get to work tidying up a monument

Brilliant work by churchyard cleaners

26 villagers gave up their morning to help 'spring clean' the churchyard at St Mary's and All Saints. Spirits were high and a brilliant job was done.

A massive amount of work was completed in a short space of time including the removal of low branches from various trees making it a safer place to walk, tidying up of graves, grass cutting, and the removal of massive amounts of ivy from fences

and borders.

There are too many people to thank individually but special thanks go to Peter Moore for taking away lots of metal work including all the old chairs, and to Wilfrid's Cafe for providing warming cups of coffee, much needed! A brilliant effort, and thank you to all for coming along and helping out.

Bonnie Hamilton

MARK & JUNE MASON

Husband and Wife Painters and Decorators

We work on period and modern properties making each one as individual as you are.



We are members of Dulux Select Decorators

T: 01329 235 847 M: 07973 162397

E: m.jmason@btinternet.com

W: www.masonspaint.co.uk

52 The Causeway, Fareham PO16 8RW

Howe's That! Window Cleaning Service

Based in Droxford

Traditional and pole cleaning
Gutter and soffit cleaning.
Conservatory windows and roof cleaning

For a quote or more information
contact Paul Howe on:

email paulhowe07979@gmail.com
text or phone 07979 913118

DBS (CRB) checked.
Public liability insurance held.

20%
discount
on
second
clean



Ben Tibbetts Electrical

YOUR LOCAL ELECTRICIAN
Domestic - Commercial - Industrial
No job too small. All work certified

City &
Guilds

01489 278792

07828 403185

bte.enquiries@gmail.com



Sally Keighley Tuition

Music Teacher and Academic Tutor

Music Tuition

Adults & Children • Music Theory Piano, Cello, Flute & Recorder

Educational Support

Primary Extra Help - All Subjects • 11+, Common Entrance
Adult Education • Patience Guaranteed

Contact Me

Sally Keighley B.A., Cert.Ed., Dip.Mus.

T: 01489 877983 M: 07342 965955

E: sally.keighley@hotmail.co.uk W: www.sallykeighleytuition.com

HAMBLETON CARS

PRIVATE HIRE SERVICE

Superior Air Conditioned Cars

8 Seater Minibus

Airports, Stations & Cruise Transfers

Theatre, Shopping, Business & Local Travel

Steve & Tracey Eames

Mobile: 07766 027 301

Office: 023 9263 2375

Email: hambledon-cars@hotmail.co.uk

www.hambledoncars.co.uk

STUDIO 6 DESIGN & PRINT

High quality colour print at competitive prices
Professional graphic design
Business & private stationery
Leaflets & flyers • Posters, banners & signage
Booklets & brochures • Books designed & printed

We have new premises!

PLEASE CONTACT US VIA PHONE OR E-MAIL

01329 832933

print@studio-6.co.uk

www.studio-6.co.uk

THE DOG ROOM



- ▶ Bathing, Clipping, Scissoring & Hand Stripping
- ▶ Nails, Ears & Glands
- ▶ Quiet Handling
- ▶ Professionally Trained
- ▶ Microchip Service with National Reg
- ▶ Vet & KC Trained

Tel: 01489 892272 / 07710 622881



DROXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

www.droxfordweb.co.uk

JoJo Buchanan: a life well lived



Joanna Buchanan, known to all as JoJo, who has died aged 83, had lived in Meonstoke for over 50 years.

Born in Hong Kong, she returned to Britain at the outbreak of war.

Aged only 18 she became engaged to Andrew, then an RN Sub Lieutenant, (pictured above with her), and spent many years following wherever he was posted around the world, before they moved to Bell House in Chapel Lane.

Here they both became church wardens, while Jo-jo also sang in the choir, and involved herself in many other village activities including performing with the Riverside Players and being Lady Captain at the golf club.

Her son Jamie said at the funeral, "Her ability to juggle so much gives one an insight into her practical, resourceful and hugely well-organised mind.

"Words such as sparkle, wit, humour and special crop up repeatedly.

"She had an amazingly positive outlook, which she kept up even when all was not well. I think we are duty bound to continue in that vein."

The need to address climate change

A Climate Café was held in Wilfrid's and St Mary and All Saints Church on 25th February which was attended by over 20 local residents.

Following an introduction by Stuart Mills of Winchester Action for Climate Change (WinACC), participants contributed to a variety of related topics.

It is clear that there is concern and enthusiasm to address issues arising from climate change.

As a result, a Working Group is being established that will report to, and be

appropriately supported by, the Parish Council.

The first meeting of this group was held on 30th March. If you missed it it's still not too late to get involved.

Anyone interested in helping to shape our village's approach to these important issues should contact Ailsa, our Parish Clerk, in the first instance: clerk.droxfordpc@gmail.com

Please remove your vehicles from the Square over the Coronation weekend

This year's Coronation provides another opportunity to hang out the flags and bunting for the Coronation on Saturday 6th May and Droxford's Street Party on Sunday 7th May (see page 7).

The clearing of all vehicles from the area will be crucial to the success of this community event and it would be appreciated if residents who regularly park in The Square could remove their vehicles by 6pm on the evening of Saturday 6th May. It is hoped that alternative parking will be made available, and further details will be publicised.

There will be reminders of this request in the lead-up to the party, and full co-operation will greatly assist the smooth-running of the event and enable everyone to enjoy what should be a memorable occasion.

Annual Parish Meeting

This year's Annual Parish Meeting will take place in Droxford Village Hall at **7pm on Thursday 18th May.**

The purpose of the meeting is for the Parish Council to update all Droxford residents on its work of the past year and future projects and priorities, and to hear residents' concerns on

matters that fall within the Council's remit. Our County and District Councillors will also provide reports, and it is an excellent opportunity for electors to state what they think is important within the village.

We hope to see and hear from you on the evening!

The Zip Line is coming back!

And finally, good news for our younger residents is that after careful scrutiny of bids from a number of contractors, an order has been placed to install a new zipline at the Recreation Ground.

We have not yet had a confirmed date for work to be carried out, but hope that it will occur in late April or early May.

Janet Melson, Chair



Desert Island Discs

4. Pauline Quarendon

Aged 93, Pauline Quarendon is one of Meonstoke's longest-standing residents, having arrived here in 1967.

Many will know her as a retired lay reader in the church for many years, and a valued contributor to village life, but may not be aware that she once held an important role in charge of the laundry and catering services at all Hampshire County Council's residential centres.

She and her Naval Captain husband Trevor (pictured right) were married for 65 years, until he sadly died five years ago.

These are some of her favourite pieces of music, along with the memories they evoke.



We'll Gather Lilacs

I was born in 1930, and lived in Stockton-on-Tees until war broke out when, as a nine-year-old, and with my father out patrolling as an ARP, I would often spend nights in a dugout, feeling very scared.

In 1940 I was evacuated to a boarding school in Kendal away from everyone I knew, where I stayed for seven years, seeing my parents during the school holidays. I can remember feeling lonely and totally lost at first, though I have to say the teachers were wonderful.

We'll Gather Lilacs was a famous wartime song promising that everything would come right in the end. 'We'll gather lilacs in the spring again, and walk together down an English lane, until our hearts have learned to sing again, when you come home once more.'

Elgar's Chanson de Matin

At 17 my father suggested I take up a career in catering because he said I'd be good at it. So I went to a domestic science college in Edinburgh for two years, then got a job in Teeside working with the school meals service, only to have to give it up four years later when I married Trevor, the reason being that it was not the done thing then for Navy wives to have jobs!

Trevor and I had known each other all our lives, having lived just two doors from each other as children. We lost contact during the war but one day while I was still in Edinburgh the battleship HMS Anson in which he was serving sailed into the Firth of Forth, and we met up again and gradually fell in love.

I was 21 and he was 23 and we wanted to marry, but because he was under 25 he had to get his Captain's permission and, as was the custom in those days, my father's approval as well. Happily both said yes, and *Chanson de Matin*

was the song we chose to have at our wedding.

Eternal Father Strong to Save

Being a Navy wife wasn't easy. It was a shock to be suddenly transported from my life in the north to HMS Collingwood and a bungalow in Lee on Solent where I knew absolutely no one.

On the very first day my landlady came round and gave me strict instructions on how she wanted the dustbin lined. It had to have three lots of newspaper around the inside and a big wodge at the bottom. She told me severely, "This is how I want it done every week, and I shall expect it to be done like that!"

Trevor stayed in the Navy for 32 years. 'Eternal Father Strong to Save' – which is sometimes referred to as 'For those in Peril on the Sea' – has been adopted as the Navy hymn, and I heard it many

Continued on next page

times at naval functions and church services.

Ladies in Lavender

By 1962 attitudes towards women were slowly changing, but it was still rare for Navy Officers' wives to work. Trevor rather bravely defied the trend by one day by saying to me, 'Why don't you use all your gifts and skills to get a job again?'

That was the best present he ever gave me because when we came to Meonstoke in 1967 I went into social services again and eventually took charge of the catering, laundry and domestic services in all HCC's residential centres, including their childrens' homes and day centres.

I worked full-time for 16 years until I retired at age 60. You weren't allowed to work on past retirement age in those days, which was a pity because I really enjoyed it. I also taught domestic science at Highbury Tech, and *Ladies in Lavender* was the title song of the film I saw at Havant Library during that time.

The Intermezzo from Cavalliera Rusticana

While I was living in Portsmouth my mother came to visit and we took her to see *Cavalliera Rusticana* at The Kings Theatre. Tragically she died in the autumn of that year, aged just 58.

On moving to Meonstoke I became involved with village life: the Mothers' Union, running the Sunday School, and being in the Riverside Players along with people like Paul and Gerry Hayles, Liz Wade, Ian Marlow and Lynn Judge. I vividly remember the old Meon Hut, where the early performances took place, burning down in 1982. That was an awful morning. I watched it from my window opposite, and I was heartbroken.

It was while I was running the Sunday School that the curate suggested I

should become a lay minister. The Rev'd Canon David Henley agreed and arranged for me to undergo three years' training at Portsmouth Cathedral, where I was licensed by Bishop Kenneth Stephenson in 1996.

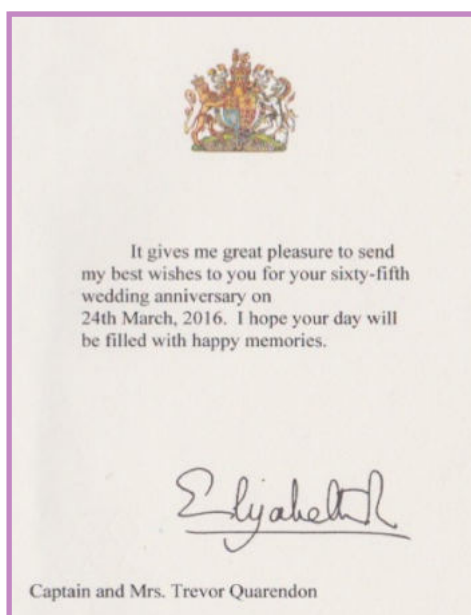
So began my Reader Ministry, my remits being preaching, taking confirmation classes, conducting funerals and following them up with pastoral care. It was virtually a full-time job from 1996 until 2010, when I eased off to look after Trevor who had begun to develop Parkinsons.

I don't go to the main Sunday services now because I find them a bit too much for me physically. But the Rev'd Canon Anthony Hulbert takes me to the midweek communion at Droxford every Thursday. It's only half an hour long and afterwards we all meet for a coffee and a good old chinwag.

I continue to keep a prayer group going at my home every four to six weeks, with around ten people attending, and I do pastoral care as well when I'm asked. I find it rather overpowering when people still ring me and say, "I need to have a chat with someone, can we talk?"

Saint-Saens' Carnival of the Animals

This is for my two great-grandchildren,



Matilda and Georgia, twins now aged six. We all love it because it cheers us up. I sometimes play it in the kitchen to myself and I bounce about to it, hoping no one's passing by or they'll think I've really gone mad.

Matilda asked me the other day how long ago her great-grandpa had died. Her mummy Katherine told her it was about five years.

Matilda looked at me and said, 'That's a long time. Why have you never got married again?' I replied, 'Because I'm a very wobbly old woman now and no man would want to take me on at this stage in my life.' And she said, 'Well I think that's a shame!'

My daughter Janet said to me the other day, 'Look at the things going on in the world today, with Putin and the dreadful earthquakes. Compared to that, what have we got to grumble about?' My younger daughter Anna and I both said together, 'You're right!'

So I enjoy life still. Who wouldn't in the Bridge Parishes, with such wonderful neighbours and friends? God bless you, every one.

How would I cope on the Island?

Terrible. I'm a person who likes people around me. Maybe I could try to learn monkey language and communicate with them instead.

The book I would take: Captain Corelli's Mandolin, because it's set in Greece during the Italian and German occupation. Trevor was one of the Navy's Italian interpreters, so we often travelled through Italy.

My luxury item: A digital radio with an endless supply of batteries, because listening to Classic FM would keep me cheerful.

The one record I would save from the waves: *Cavalliera Rusticana*, as it brings back wonderful memories of my mother.

Residents demand an end to ‘Splash Route vandalism’

For some years now drivers of 4x4 vehicles have been using the 200-metre stretch of river by the Mill at Droxford to splash through at speed, several times a week, as a leisure activity.

Motorcyclists, too, enjoy what they call their “sport” — riding through (pictured) what has become known locally as the Splash Route

But, say local people, it’s a sport which is causing immense damage to the river, its habitat and wildlife, not to mention a considerable noise nuisance to people living nearby who are now demanding an end to it.

They say the bow waves of the vehicles have left the banks of the river – which is one of just 200 such chalk streams in the world, and of which almost a half are in Britain – eroded and undercut.

This in turn has had a drastic effect on the river’s wildlife. While the endangered water vole has successfully been reintroduced to the river, local conservationists have been dismayed to find it has entirely disappeared at this point.

The disturbance of such traffic up and down this stretch has also rendered it unsuitable for the use by margin-nesting waterbirds, they say.

Local conservationist Anthony McEwen, describes this part of the river as “an underwater desert.”

Many species of invertebrates, such as the Freshwater Shrimp, which is the trout’s staple diet, and which are measured in hundreds elsewhere in the river, are now so scarce at this part there is now little or no evidence of their presence at all.

He told *The Bridge*: “The banks and the river itself should offer a haven for an abundance of wildlife ranging from water voles and otters through to bullheads, lampreys and a mass of fly life.

“But not only has the water vole gone,

but the disturbance is destroying potential spawning grounds for trout, and driving away nesting birds such as coots and moorhens. It is sheer vandalism.”

But why is it happening in the first place?

Says Mr McEwen, “Curiously, the practice is not illegal. In the days when there was a working mill there was a ford across the river which allowed carts and horses to cross to what is now the footpath alongside.

“The carts, we believe, then re-entered the river to access the mill. Over time the river became designated as an official road and was even given a number – U189 – which still appears, it is believed erroneously, on some historic maps.

“This designation has never been rescinded, and the 4x4 drivers and the motorcyclists have used this knowledge to pursue their activities.”

Adam Faulkner, who owns The Mill, says the vehicles race up and down the river four or five times a week, usually



at weekends and often late at night.

He says, “It shouldn’t be that difficult for a traffic order to be imposed to stop it happening, but it’s taking some time to convince the relative authorities.

“We have formed a group of around 100 local residents and enthusiasts, and have the support of all three local parish councils, who feel very strongly about this.

“It simply doesn’t make sense to have 4x4s going through it and causing this kind of damage to such a rare, sensitive and precious habitat.”

In November the group wrote to Hampshire County Council asking for the route be de-classified.

The Council replied that the driving of vehicles along the route was currently “a lawful activity with the status of the route clearly established in law.”

They added that they would not, other than in exceptional circumstances, “take action to restrict what were long standing legal highway rights, and



especially as this could be a lengthy and legally-contested process.”

However the Council agreed that in this case the environmental impacts did require further investigation.

Now *The Bridge* can report that on 2nd March a site visit was arranged, attended by Mr Faulkner, Mr McEwen, HCC Councillor Hugh Lumby and Cllr Nick Adams-King, who is the lead member for the HCC's Universal Services Department.

After the meeting Mr Adams-King wrote to Cllr Lumby: “I was pleased to be shown the site. I now better understand the challenge, and I think the group too understands the challenge the County Council faces in implementing a traffic order to close the ford.

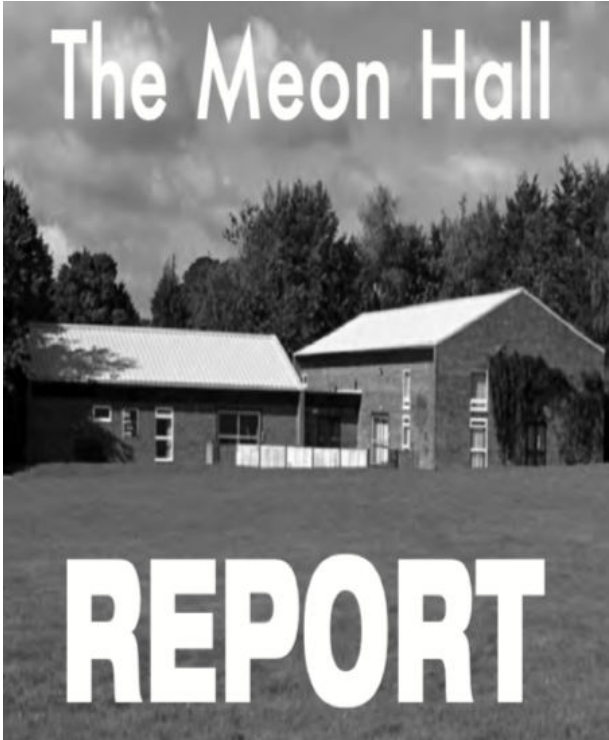
“The HCC is continuing to investigate the matter and to gather evidence, including the commissioning of ecological and environmental reports that will help understand potential impact.

“Inevitably that takes a little time, but I hope that will aid our route to finding a solution.”

Cllr Lumby told *The Bridge*, “I am confident that the County Council now understands the importance of dealing with the problem, and is committed to taking action.

“I know they are considering various solutions. However, I think it will be a few months yet before we see an outcome.”

**200 Club:
your
support
has
helped
raise
£2,400
so far
this year**



A huge thank you to everyone who has joined The Meon Hall's 200 Club since the start of the year. So far 325 tickets have been sold, raising a net sum of £2,400 after the award of prizes.

Even if you don't win one of the cash prizes during the year, by being a 200 Club member you will have helped the Meon Hall Management Committee to keep the hall up to date and well equipped.

With the money raised we have

Winners of the latest draws are:
February: Gerry Robinson
March: John Owen

been successful in demonstrating community support for the hall so that we can apply for grants, arrange for urgent work, and buy new equipment.

If you would like to join the Club to help The Meon Hall committee's work, please contact me.

James Morrice 01489 877916

Thank you, Pauline

Our thanks too to Pauline Quarendon for a most generous donation with Gift Aid in memory of her late husband Captain Trevor Quarendon, RN.

Pauline's donation has been given to help with the cost of smartening up the patio area of the hall by renewing the patio fence, and fitting a new Small Hall patio sliding door - both in need of replacement.

We are hoping that these works will be the start of marking the

Meon Hall's Coronation Project for some much-needed improvements and projects.

These will include the start of the planning and funding of the installation of a large array of Solar Panels on the Main Hall's roof, to generate electricity and help reduce the hall's costs.

Time for the fertiliser!

Spring flowering bulbs bring a welcome splash of colour to our gardens as they emerge from the gloom of winter. In order to sustain this display for future years it is important to feed the plants with high potassium liquid feed such as tomato fertiliser.

This is best done at fortnightly intervals after the bulbs have finished flowering and before the leaves start to turn yellow.

Vegetables – Sow main crop carrots and peas. In May, sow beetroot and continue to sow salad crops and perhaps a second sowing of broad beans. Protect potato foliage from late frosts by earthing up, or at the end of May cover with fleece for a few weeks to reduce the risk of blight.

Fruit – Remove all dead and diseased leaves from strawberry plants, cutting as close as possible to the crown without damaging it.

Feed with general-purpose fertiliser and put down a good layer of mulch. Put a cloche or polytunnel over early fruiting varieties to ensure earliest possible fruits.

Herbaceous border – Divide and replant perennials such as Michaelmas daisies, helianthus and monarda.

Feed and mulch roses. Plant out sweet pea seedlings and sow annual seeds directly into the border. Prune hydrangea paniculata and Buddleia very hard to promote strong new growth this year, remember these

shrubs flower on the current year's growth, so they respond well to this treatment every year.

Cut back old or diseased wood on Forsythia to stimulate new growth, remember flowers will grow next year on wood that ripens this year. Hard prune wall-trained or hedging Pyracantha. In late May, lightly trim back winter flowering heathers.

Lawns - Now is the time to lay or sow new lawns. Existing lawns should be scarified to remove moss and thatch, and then fed with a proprietary lawn feed.

If weeds are a problem in your lawn use a combined lawn weed and feed mixture. If moss is particularly bad it is better to apply moss killer to kill the



moss before scarifying.

In the greenhouse – Cut back overwintered fuchsias by about two thirds when the first buds begin to show and begin to feed and water them.

From mid-April bedding plants and tender vegetables like tomatoes and courgettes can be put outside on mild days to harden them off, but only do so on still days, as wind can damage tender young plants by desiccating the leaves.

Take cuttings of dahlias started in compost earlier in the year. Look out for aphids, particularly on overwintered fuchsias with tender new growth, and eliminate with appropriate pesticide or soapy water.

John Owen

Anne and James Morrice invite you to their
PLANT & CAKE SALE

Proceeds to go to:
*The Valley Preschool, Community Care Group,
Meon Valley Orchestra, Meonstoke Toddler Group*

Saturday 20th May
From 10 am to 12 noon

**In the garden of
BROOK COTTAGE
HIGH STREET, MEONSTOKE**

Donations welcome, please for
*Plants; Cakes; Jams;
Toys; Books; Raffle;
This and That*

Coffee, tea, soft drinks
Free entry to the garden
If wet, still at Brook Cottage - be prepared!



Fancy playing cricket?

**West Meon and
Warnford Cricket Club**
are a village team in
West Meon who play
Sunday friendlies
around the district.

We have a super
ground and facilities
and are looking for new
players and returners
who enjoy traditional
Sunday cricket.

If you are interested in playing for us
please message the club captain, Stuart
Smith at: stuiesmith119@yahoo.com



WE'LL RING FOR THE KING!

Last August my 10-year-old brother Maxim and I started learning what might be the most unexpected but rewarding skill we've ever learnt, after my friend Annabel asked me to start to learn with her.

I thought it would be good 'skill' challenge for my Duke of Edinburgh bronze award, so I gave it a go. A week's crash course later, and Annabel and I had passed our Level One (which our Mum is still trying to do, a few aeons on)!

Soon after we started learning, the Queen died and our local teacher Jeremy, who is the Head Ringer for Westminster Abbey, was called to ring for the state funeral.

Then came the national recruitment campaign! 'Ring for The King' was started by the Central Council of Bell Ringers to train up enough recruits to mark the King's Coronation in May by ringing the bells in as many bell towers as possible across the land. This is because another 8,000 ringers were needed!

By joining Claire Francis's new band of Droxford Bellringers we have now reduced that number, and this Spring we will welcome three more beginners from Droxford.

There isn't an minimum or maximum age but you need to be strong enough to pull on the ropes. I think young people find it easier to learn because they have good core strength and a better memory! Any of you want to give it a go?

What do we particularly like about bell ringing?

Apart from being in control of a tonne of metal hanging above your head, it's about mastering the technique which is NOT easy.

It isn't as simple as just pulling on a rope, which is what we all thought when we started learning. You can do

that, but that's just called chiming.

As soon as the first bell rings, everyone else follows on one after another and this is called 'ringing in rounds'.

More complex are the 'call changes.' This is when the lead ringer calls out for certain bells to swap, and so make a melodious tune or peal. It is hard on the arms - ringing is a free gym workout - but it is worth it when you do it right!

Also, the sense of history is pretty amazing. Villagers who lived before us have heard the very same sound from the same bells over the past 400 years.

Droxford's oldest bell dates from 1606 in the reign of King James - the year after the Gunpowder Plot!

The next two oldest bells of 1679 saw the previous King Charles, the Merry Monarch, on the throne. Our country had just experienced the plague pandemic and The Great Fire of London!

The fourth oldest bell is Victorian and dates from 1899 - the year the Boer War began - and it will have been tolled mournfully when Queen Victoria died in 1901.

During the first and second world wars the bells stayed silent. The newest bell was cast and rung in 1969 - the year of the first moon landing!

The bells were rung right up to 1999 and then stayed silent on Sundays as the village didn't have its own band of ringers, and a band had to be brought in from surrounding villages to ring for special occasions.



Maxim and Pollyanna keep the bells ringing at Droxford church

All this has now changed, the bells have regained their voices, and our new band looks forward to ringing for you - for services, weddings and special occasions.

This May we will peal out for the King's Coronation and at the Droxford Summer Fair in June.

But we have a lot of fundraising to do. We started out this January with £0 in the bell tower pot. Yet to keep the bells ringing we need to buy new ropes (one rope recently broke when my brother Max was ringing and it nearly landed on his head!).

We do hope you will all support us in our fundraising to keep our historic bells alive and ringing.

Pollyanna Selwood (14)
Droxford Bellringers

For further information please email droxfordbellringers@gmail.com

Children discover Droxford's place in the geographical landscape

Droxford's Year 3/4 children have been out and about in the Meon Valley learning the similarities and differences between rural and urban settings, specifically in their own village, and the city of Southampton.

They used atlases, maps, globes and Google Earth to identify where Droxford is in the world. Then they undertook a field trip around the village following an O/S map route and an i-spy trail, practising mapping skills.

They also participated in two traffic surveys – one by the fire station and another by the A32.

Back in school the children drew geographical sketch maps of their walk and labelled them using symbols and a key. They also collated the traffic survey data into graphs and charts.

Finally, they learnt about the differences between Human and Physical geography. They explored the term 'Land Use' – relating it to agriculture: residential, recreational, forestry and industrial spaces.

It's all part of their Geography curriculum, and is important



"I think we must be here." Droxford children use a map to discover more about their village.

because it enables them to make significant observations about their lives, and in broader terms experience life in wider contexts in Hampshire.

They are now in the process of comparing the village, the River Meon and local geography to Southampton.

They will travel to Mayflower Park, where they will observe, first hand, the use of Southampton water (which the rivers Itchen and Test empty into) with its container port, cruise liner berths and Red Funnel Ferry terminal.

They will then conduct a much busier traffic survey to help make comparisons.

From this site they will cross the

road and walk along the old walls before descending down side streets which have fascinating old buildings which help tell the story of Southampton in a historical context.

In the morning the children will have already visited the Southampton City Art Gallery.

Here they will see images related to the history of the city, plus paintings from other industrial landscapes – some by the world famous painter, LS Lowry, who the children studied in Art recently.

They will also participate in two tasks: make self-portrait sculptures using wire followed by a facilitated gallery tour.

Matthew Dampier
Headteacher

DROXFORD VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The last two months have been very busy in the village hall. We have Yoga classes, Pilates and art classes, and Bootcamp has made a welcome return.

The regular monthly film nights are ongoing and our annual Quiz night has returned to its usual slot in February. A good crowd attended the Quiz night, once again ably run by John Martin - where does he get those questions?

Our February film was *Where the Crawdads Sing*, set in the swamps of North Carolina. Many members of the audience had read the book upon which the film was based, but all enjoyed the twist at the end.

However the question I was asked as we were packing up was: What is a crawdad and do they sing?

I turned, as one does, to Google. It turns out that a crawdad is another name for a crayfish but I could not find any reference to them singing!

Be that as it may the film was excellent and we all very much enjoyed it.

Hall looking good

The refurbishment of parts of the hall continues and as well as our new door the hall now sports new fascia boards and guttering all round. It looks very smart!

Repairs to the flat roof round the back of the hall will be done soon

200 Club winners

January: Ros Collins

February: Tony Williams

March: Dave Robbie

and we intend to paint the external walls round the entrance and vestibule in the summer - restoring the original look of the hall as it was in the 1920's. We hope you like it.

The Rudes are back!

The Rude Mechanical Theatre Company are returning this year but earlier than usual, on Thursday 8th June.

Once again we thank Mary and Harry Martineau for allowing us to use their lovely garden at the Old Rectory for the performance.

Tim Crowfoot

Monday 17th April

Village Hall AGM

7.30pm in the Hall

All welcome – come and hear what is going on and have your say.

Droxford History Group

7.20pm Thursday 27th April

Droxford Village Hall

A talk by Dr. Lyndon Palmer:

"Who was the greater, Alfred or his daughter Ethelfleda?"

We all enjoyed the talk by Dr. Palmer on the Anglo Saxons, so I am sure this will be good.

Thursday 25th May

A guided walk around Hambleton, a village so local we think we know all about it, but Andrew Negus will show us so much more. It will be followed by a pub lunch.

Olive Hathaway

Forthcoming films

Wednesday 26th April

Living
(rating 12A)

This is the Oscar-nominated remake of Akira Kurosawa's 1952 film *Ikiru*, with a screenplay by Kazuo Ishiguro.

When Mr Williams, a buttoned-up bureaucrat in 1950s London, is diagnosed as terminally ill, he decides that he would like to achieve something for once, instead of just endlessly pushing paper.

A group of ladies has come into the Public Works office, asking to have a hazardous area in their neighbourhood transformed into



Bill Nighy as Mr Williams

a children's playground.

With nothing to show for his decades of service, the formerly ineffectual Mr Williams makes it his personal mission to push the job through before he dies.

Wednesday 30th May

(film to be decided)

7.30 pm Tickets £6 Licensed bar and refreshments available

Don't lose your right to vote!

New rules say you must have photo ID to vote in the May elections, and at the next general election.

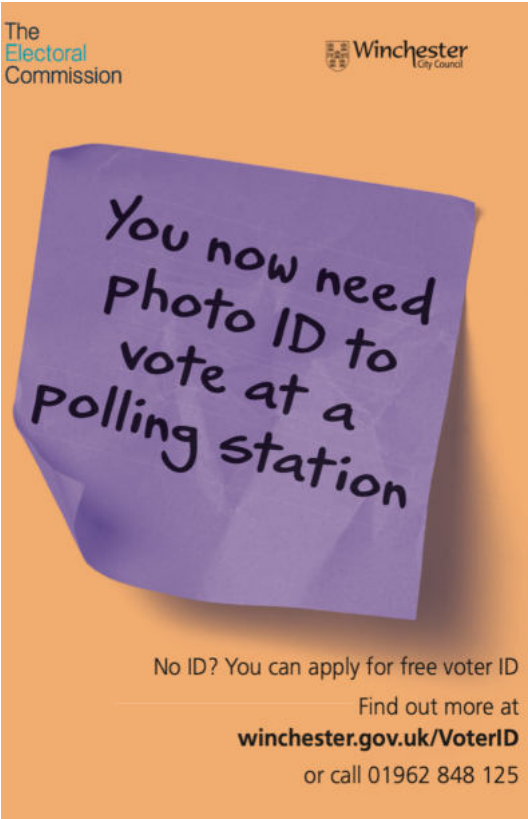
However, you can still use your photo ID if it's out of date, as long as it looks like you.

Otherwise you can use any of the following accepted forms of ID at a polling station:

- Passport issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, a British Overseas Territory, an EEA state or a Commonwealth country
- Driving licence issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, or an EEA state (this includes a provisional driving licence)
- A Blue Badge
- Older Person's Bus Pass
- Disabled Person's Bus Pass
- Oyster 60+ Card
- Freedom Pass
- Senior National Entitlement Card
- 60+ Welsh Concessionary Travel Card
- Disabled Person's Welsh Concessionary Travel Card
- Senior SmartPass issued in

- Northern Ireland
- Registered Blind SmartPass or Blind Person's SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- War Disablement SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- 60+ SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- Half Fare SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- Identity Card bearing the Proof of Age Standards Scheme hologram (a PASS card)
- Biometric immigration document
- Ministry of Defence Form 90 (Defence Identity Card)
- National Identity Card issued by an EEA state
- Electoral Identity Card issued in Northern Ireland
- Voter Authority Certificate
- Anonymous Elector's Document

You will only need to show one form of photo ID. It needs to be the original version and not a photocopy. Visit our website for the most up-to-date information, or what to do if you don't have any of the above ID. Photo ID is not required if you vote by post. Find out more at winchester.gov.uk/VoterID or call 01962 848 125.



Droxford and District Community Care Group

DDCCG is a local community group, linked to the Good Neighbours Network, that provides transport to hospitals, doctors, dentists and other health specialists.

If you are unable to access your medical appointment, we have a team of volunteer drivers who are willing to help.

To access this service please phone one of our Transport Coordinators, who will do their best to find you a driver: **Arthur Brown** 07865 517484 (Meonstoke), or **Rosie Hoile** 07977 096586 (Droxford).

But please note this is NOT an emergency service. To help us arrange a driver, please give as much notice as possible.

For further information, please contact **Za Rowe** on 01489 877732.

Urgent Treatment Centre

The UTC at Petersfield is an alternative to the Emergency Department for both children and adults. It provides treatment for minor injuries and illnesses that are urgent, but not life threatening, and is open between 8am and 8pm every day and all year round.

We can help with problems such as:

- Sprains and strains
- Suspected broken limbs
- Minor head injuries
- Minor scalds and burns
- Skin infections and rashes
- Feverish pain
- Eye problems
- Abdominal pain
- Emergency contraception.

Patients are encouraged to call 111 first before arriving at the UTC as they will be able to take note of your symptoms and advise you on the best service to help you.

If you need to be seen at the UTC, please book an appointment via NHS 111 as this will reduce your waiting time on site.

Patients who go directly to the UTC without calling 111 will be clinically assessed by a triage nurse or other health professional, and will only be prioritised for treatment over booked appointments when clinically necessary.

Petersfield Community Hospital, Swan Street, Petersfield, Hampshire, GU32 3LB
023 8231 9000

Learn how to save a life



Meon Valley Heartstart runs FREE sessions teaching adults and children emergency life saving skills, keeping someone alive and safe until professional help arrives.

We are a local, small, friendly group of volunteers who need a bit of extra help please! Just a handful of hours help a month, day or evening, in any of the following areas would be so welcome:

- Assistants at training sessions; displaying information and welcoming those attending.
- Instructors – people with emergency medical experience.
- Fundraisers to help at occasional events, such as

Fetes, and to promote our free training sessions.

- Marketing – help from home.

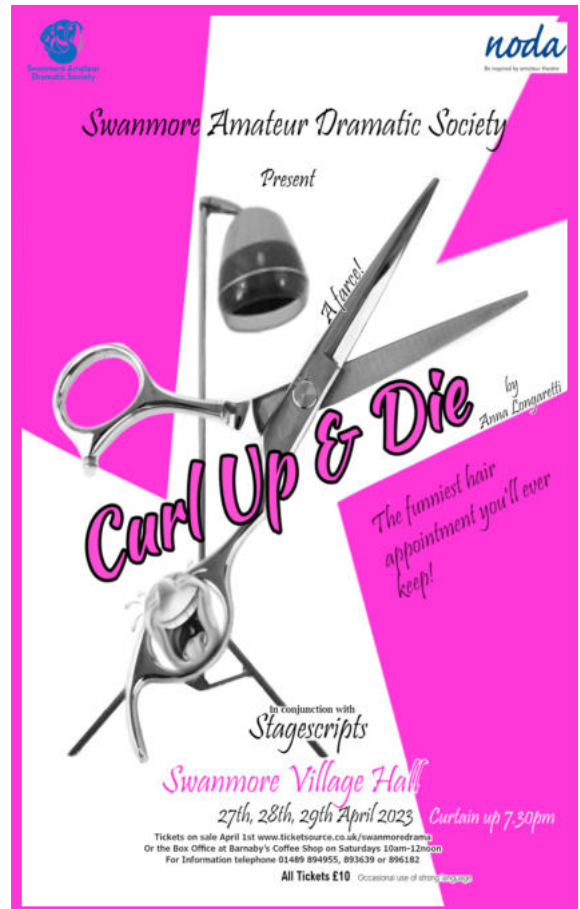
If you can help in any way please contact David for more information on 07730 148920.

Come along to meet us at our next public session on 22nd March at 6.30pm at Green's Close Day Room, Bishop's Waltham SO32 1JT.

Thank you!

Jane Tennent

info@heartstopmeonvalley.co.uk



'China's Dream'

Monday 22nd May
(not 15th as originally published)

7.00 Droxford Village Hall
(cash bar from 6.30)

Rear Admiral Dr Chris Parry CBE PhD will be talking to us about China. The title of his talk will be "Xi's China Dream – how's that going?"

A friend of the branch and regular speaker at our meetings, Chris Parry is an informed and entertaining commentator on world affairs with forthright and thought-provoking views.

He is a keen observer of the inexorable rise of China under President Xi Jinping's leadership, economically, socially and militarily.

The People's Liberation Army (Navy) – PLAN – has expanded by an equivalent size to the Royal Navy every four years and is now the world's largest (if not necessarily the most capable) navy.

With concurrent threats of Russia and China, Western democracies need to be alarmed, and



Chris is guaranteed to dispel any remaining vestiges of complacency we may still harbour!

Although booking is not required for the talk itself, please contact me by Thursday 18th May if you would like to join us for a curry supper afterwards (£15 per head payable in cash on the night).

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 Cdr Rob Scott RN, Secretary, Droxford and District branch

robmunroscott@aol.com or 01489 877800.

HAMPSHIRE AND WINCHESTER COUNCILLOR'S REPORT *Hugh Lumby*



Winchester
City Council

MEON VALLEY DIVISION, CENTRAL AND
UPPER MEON VALLEY WARDS



Time to step down from the City Council

This will be my last report as the local Winchester City Councillor, as the four and a half years since I was last elected for the Upper Meon Valley ward are up; they have shot by alarmingly quickly!

Since being elected to Hampshire County Council in 2021 I have been representing a total of 18 parishes.

The resulting workload has meant that I have not been able to give every issue the attention I wanted and so I have reluctantly decided to focus on HCC work and give someone else a go at Winchester.

I have really enjoyed being a WCC

*...but I'll carry on
representing you
on the HCC*

councillor so it was not an easy decision.

The four years is also up for Vicki Weston, one of the councillors for the Central Meon Valley. Vicki has also decided to stand down as a district councillor in May.

Vicki has been a Winchester City Councillor for 16 years, first

representing Swanmore and Newtown and later Hambledon, Droxford and Waltham Chase as well.

She served on the WCC cabinet and was deputy leader for three different leaders. I am sure everyone joins me in thanking her for all her dedication and insights over the years.

So we will have two new district councillors after the May elections. I will still be here as your Hampshire County Councillor and I'm looking forward to working with them as a new chapter is written.

Fly-tipping and noisy motorbikes: some of issues that still need to be worked on

My main impression after my years on the City Council is how little it impacts on us in the National Park.

District councils in Hampshire are small anyway with activities generally focused around urban areas and planning. So the day-to-day impact on us is generally limited to the weekly bin collection.

WCC also have responsibility for flytipping on verges (but oddly not on roads).

Some progress has been made on fly tipping, especially with the use of cameras, but the condition of verges shows that more needs to be done.

My overriding objective as a city



councillor has been protecting the beautiful countryside in which we live, and the planning regime is critical to this.

The National Park is the planning authority and this does provide a level of protection. However, much of the day to day planning function is carried out by WCC.

Unfortunately, the emasculation of its planning and enforcement services has led to increasing delays in dealing with many applications and seemingly haphazard decisions.

WCC has a laudable council house building programme, with ambitious targets. We need to ensure that this has a rural element, to protect our communities.

The biggest issues locally have been the noisy motorbikes on the A32 and the A272 and the quality of local broadband and mobile phone signals.

WCC was quick to explain that these were outside its remit and it had no power to assist. However, as the imminent arrival of the average speed cameras attest, with determination it is possible to make progress!

The Council does have some great officers and it still does some really good things. However, years of underfunding mean that the current model of multi-layered local government is increasingly under strain.



**Riverside Country Inn with Rooms
On the Meon Valley Trail
Surrounded by South Downs National Park
Dogs Welcome**

5 Letting Rooms Recently Refurbished

48 hour Sourdough Pizzas made on site in
a beautiful indoor oven plus other pub classics

Pizzas available for takeaway 7 days a week
between Noon - 3pm and 6 - 9pm

W. www.thebucksheadmeonstoke.co.uk

E: info@thebucksheadmeonstoke.co.uk

T: **01489 877313**

**RJS
Fencing Contractors**

**AGRICULTURAL, EQUESTRIAN
& DOMESTIC FENCING**

Stock Fence | Deer Fence | Equifence
Post & Rail | Stake & Rail
Permanent | Electric Fencing
Closeboards | Panel Fencing | Trellis
Picket Fencing | Dog Proof Fencing

Call Richard on **07930 229649**
www.rjs-fencng.co.uk




**TAYLORS
GARAGE**
DROXFORD
Hampshire SO32 3QL



Tel: 01489 877433

CARS, MOTORCYCLES & MOTORHOMES MOT'd

Modern and Classic Cars Serviced and Maintained

We are always looking to buy good Modern and Classic Cars

Call us - Finance can be settled

Cars collected and delivered or a loan car supplied (Subject to availability)

Please see our latest range of affordable used cars for sale and the services we offer at:

www.taylorsgarage.co.uk

Auto Brite Smart Repairs **EXPRESS BODYSHOP**

Unit 28, Mitchell Close, Segensworth PO15 5SE

Tel: **01489 578302** or **07850 485663**

www.autobritesmartrepairs.co.uk



PROVIDING AFFORDABLE, CONVENIENT QUALITY CAR BODY REPAIRS SINCE 1994

As a husband and wife team, we offer a pleasant and female friendly service for any vehicle damage. We always treat our customers as we would wish to be treated ourselves, in a clean and safe environment for your car. We are specialists in lighter, cosmetic car body repairs and have for 27 years been repairing anything from hedge scratched paintwork, to split/dented bumpers and panels. We always repair, rather than replace, which is kinder for the environment and your pocket plus it also ensures your car stays as original as possible. We also carry out motorcycle repairs and offer a fast turnaround at our Express Bodyshop.



Love Your Yoga With Yvonne
Come and join us ...

Tuesday 9.15am - 10.30am
Warnford village hall

Tuesday 6pm - 7.15pm
Droxford village hall

For further information contact Yvonne
www.Loveyouryogawithyvonne.com 07788974447

GAMBLIN CARS PRIVATE HIRE

TAXI

For All Your Taxi Requirements

01489 89 33 33

Airport Services to Heathrow & Gatwick

Local & Long Distance

OLIVER'S

PAINTING & DECORATING SERVICES

Specialist in external painting

Over 20 years experience

Work carried out to a high standard and in a clean and efficient manner

Public liability insurance up to £10 million

Specialist in period properties

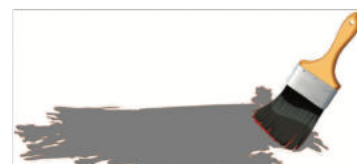
Written estimates always given



t: **023 9278 7967**

e: **info@oliverspainting.co.uk**

w: **www.oliverspainting.co.uk**



ALAN SHAWYER

DOMESTIC APPLIANCE REPAIRS



• Washing Machines



• Tumble Dryers



• Dishwashers

• Cookers & Refrigerators

T: 01489 895165

M: 07815 054077



CLASSICAL PILATES

with

CONTEMPORARY VARIATIONS

from Beginner to Advanced

Pilates Classes in Swanmore

Separate Classes for Beginners and Improvers
Daytime or Evening Sessions



Pilates in Nature - Retreats

Join our one day Pilates Retreats at beautiful locations in Hampshire
or our magical Pilates escapes to Girona, Spain

Contact Debbie for a FREE consultation

Debbie Jones Level 3 Pilates Instructor and Personal Trainer

email: debbie@inspiremeffit.co.uk phone: 07946 301474

For details of our Pilates classes and retreats visit

www.inspiremeffit.co.uk



'Making your house your home'
Christian owned company

All aspects of building works undertaken
Specialists in:

Extensions Conversions Refurbishments

M: 07711 820736 T: 02381 786343

E: admin@homebuildingandproperty.co.uk

W: www.homebuildingandproperty.co.uk

All seasons general garden maintenance.

Specialising in:

- Hedge cutting & shrub shaping
- Garden design
- Fruit tree and rose pruning

Email: tudorgardener@gmail.com Mob: 07763 494 006

@Tudorgardener Tel: 01489 878 598

RHS TRAINED

LOCAL ELECTRICIAN

Please give us a call

MOBILE:

07813 720204

TELEPHONE:

01489 878244



You will receive a clear,
concise quotation.

We will arrive on time,
when we say we will.

Work will be carried out
to the highest standard.

w: www.chasefarmelectrical.co.uk

e: info@chasefarmelectrical.co.uk



**SEASONED
HARDWOOD
LOGS**



**Call Russell on
07512 729512**

OLIVER CHIMNEY SWEEP

Brush'n'Vac, insured up to £5 million.
All types of fires & appliances cleaned.
Accredited certificate issued,
after every sweep.



Please Note

It is important to get your
chimney swept
by an accredited sweep.



Clean, Tidy & Reliable



T: 02392 787967 or 07889 488010

E: info@oliver-chimney-sweeps.co.uk

GARDEN DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION



QUALITY WORK AT COMPETITIVE PRICES

- ▲ Full garden design and build
- ▲ Flintwork, brickwork and restoration
- ▲ Paving and patios
- ▲ Garden buildings and structures
- ▲ Tree planting and box hedging
- ▲ Driveways and cobble work
- ▲ Sleeper walls and fencing
- ▲ Water features and ponds
- ▲ Planting schemes

Find us on
Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters
www.checkatrade.com/trades/GreenbuildLandscapes/



Greenbuild
L a n d s c a p e s

For a free consultation & to view our extensive portfolio

please call Chris Denny on **07833 445 557**

or email: **chris@greenbuildlandscapes.co.uk**

MEON VALLEY Mowers

SERVICE AND REPAIRS

**Specialist in Service & Repairs
for all types of
Mowers and Garden Machinery**

- Service and repairs on site
- Collection and delivery service
- Rotary blades and hedgecutters sharpened on site
- Over 10 years of experience
- Competitive rates

Call James on
07783 937212 / 01489 878085
E. info@meonvalleymowers.co.uk
www.meonvalleymowers.co.uk

R & G GAMBLIN

General Builder

**EXTENSION - ALTERATION - RENOVATION
PLANNING WORK**

Bricklaying	Digger Hire
Civil Engineering	Drainage
UPVC Windows & Doors	Fencing
Plastic Fascias & Soffits	Plastering
Garages	Driveways
Loft Conversions	Plumbing
Roofing - Pitch & Flat	Concreting
Electrics	Carpentry
Conservatories	Decorating

For an estimate please call
Rob on: **01489 891801**



Messy play, crafts, cooking, music, dancing, gardening, phonics, French, sensory and outdoor play..... whatever the weather!

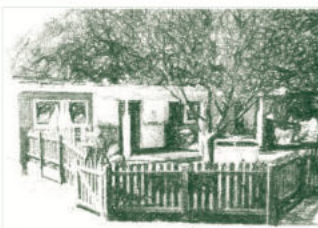
Spacious new building with nature garden, vegetable plot, water-wall and sand-pit.

Wonderful staff creating a friendly, safe and inspiring environment.
Flexible sessions available.

From 2 years old to school age.

Smooth transition to onsite infant school.

FREE taster sessions.



'I could not ask for a more nurturing place for my child' - Davina Christie

LIMITED PLACES REMAINING

Call to arrange a visit and your FREE taster session.

t: **01489 878019**

e: info@thevalleypreschool.org.uk

w: www.thevalleypreschool.org.uk

THE VALLEY PRESCHOOL, MEONSTOKE C of E INFANT SCHOOL, CHAPEL ROAD, MEONSTOKE SO32 3NJ

AMANITA

Wasps
Fleas
Flies

Mice
Rats

PEST CONTROL

01329 832159

Established 23 years



Please call **Gill Ruggles**

on **07889 755334**

or email: gar310791@gmail.com

Based in Droxford



Merrie Stud Riding School

Corhampton, Southampton SO32 3NB

British Horse Society Approved

- Instruction to all levels on well schooled ponies
- Indoor and outdoor schools
- Excellent hacking. One or two hour escorted rides
- Children 6 - 17 years in small groups
- Light weight adults

Mrs J.D.N. Shaw BHSAI

Tel: **01489 877564**

www.merriestud.co.uk

FOX GARDEN MACHINERY

SALES | REPAIRS | SERVICING | HIRE

Garden machinery experts for 60 years

£99 service*

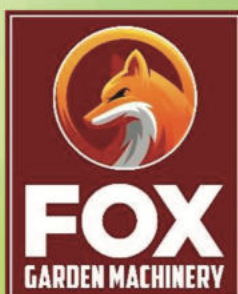
On Honda or Briggs & Stratton
engined pedestrian rotary mowers
Offer valid with quote: Bridge 22/23

More service offers available

FREE collection & delivery

Contact us for details

*T&Cs apply



Telephone: 01489 893311
foxgardenmech@googlemail.com
www.foxgardenmachinery.co.uk



MAINTENANCE MATTERS

Property & Garden Maintenance

We are a small local company able to carry out and help with your Property and Garden Maintenance needs.

General Building ▲ Painting & Decorating

Landscaping ▲ Tiling ▲ Carpentry

Fencing (Garden or Livestock) ▲ Tree Work

07375 664064

rolik79@yahoo.co.uk



Established since 1993, Shedfield Equestrian is a family run business specialising in equestrian supplies, poultry, livestock, small animal feed and bedding.



Shedfield Equestrian Centre
Botley Road
Shedfield
Southampton SO32 2HN

T: 01329 835115

W: www.shedfildquestrian.co.uk



ARIAT



*Your Friendly, Local, Independent Specialist
Committed to Providing Quality Service*

- ◆ Thorough eye examinations using the latest equipment
- ◆ A large selection of spectacles to suit all tastes & pockets
- ◆ Contact Lenses
- ◆ Sun Glasses
- ◆ NHS and Private Examinations

T: 01489 896330

E: info@saxbys-eyecare.co.uk

W: www.saxbys-eyecare.co.uk

2 Houchin Street, Bishop's Waltham SO32 1AR

◆◆ Simon Lawson ◆◆

JEWELLERS

BEAUTIFUL INDIVIDUAL JEWELLERY

GOLD & SILVER MADE TO ORDER
LARGE SELECTION OF DESIGN-LED JEWELLERY
ALSO STONES SUPPLIED
CLOCK AND WATCH REPAIRS

Open: 10.00am - 5.00pm Monday to Saturday

High Street, Bishop's Waltham SO32 1AB

Tel: 01489 895575

Email: simonlawsonjewellers2000@gmail.com

www.simonlawsonjewellers.co.uk

D & S Oil Tanks

OIL TANK REPLACEMENT SPECIALISTS



- ▷ Installation
- ▷ Replacement
- ▷ Removal

FREE Tank Inspection

01903 732732

www.dandsoiltanks.co.uk



Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters

Computer Problems Solved

A qualified & experienced
Computer Engineer
who can efficiently
solve your home and
business computer needs.



For a friendly, no obligation quote call:

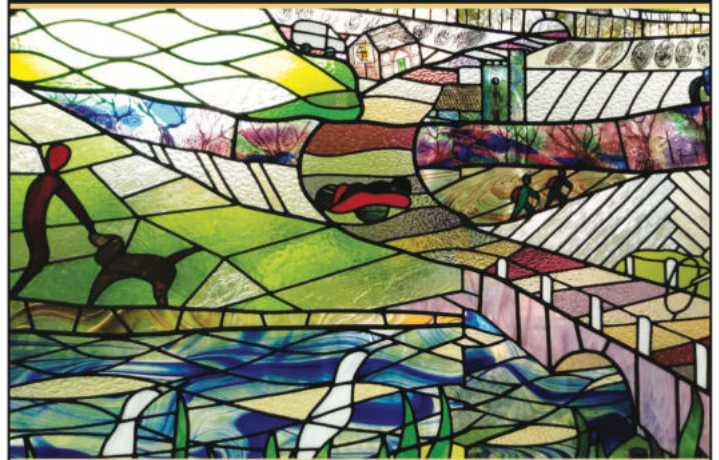
Chris Guénier

01489 890738 / 07962 641796



info@computerproblemssolvedltd.co.uk
www.cps-ltd.org.uk

EXPERT TAX ADVICE WITH A HUMAN FACE FOR THE MEON VALLEY



WATCHING OUT FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Is IHT a factor in making my Will? Is a Family Trust a good idea?

PROPERTY OR WORK OVERSEAS

How does it affect my tax if I live, work or have property abroad?

FOR ENTREPRENEURS

Am I the only one wondering whether it's worth all the aggro?

PERSONAL TAX

What is the best way to order my tax affairs, in full compliance with the law?

SELLING MY BUSINESS

How much tax will I pay? What is my business worth?

Nicholas Ridge
TAX EXPERTISE

Oakleaf, Ludwells Lane, Waltham Chase, Southampton, SO32 2NP
t: 01489 899102 e: nicholas@nicholasridgecta.co.uk
www.nicholasridgecta.co.uk

TOPCOATS

**Painting and Decorating Specialist
with a woman's touch!**

**Reliable, friendly, affordable
and good at what I do!**

*Please call Jane or email
for a free no obligation quotation*

07889 156005

jlglenccross@btinternet.com

Local references available upon request

www.macdonaldoates.co.uk

Litigation and Dispute Resolution

We are here to help you

Commercial
Employment
Litigation
Property
Wills & Probate
Mediation
Family

MacDonald Oates **LLP** SOLICITORS

Property litigation

Commercial Disputes

Professional Negligence Claims

Debt Collection and Enforcement

Contentious Probate

Inheritance Claims

Petersfield

Telephone: 01730 268211

Facsimile: 01730 261232

Midhurst

Telephone: 01730 816711

Facsimile: 01730 816016

MacDonald Oates LLP is authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority. MacDonald Oates LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England & Wales under number OC344357. Our registered office is at Waltham Court, St. Peter's Road, Petersfield, Hampshire, GU32 3HT.



Green Dove
PAPER ART

HANDMADE CARDS & PAPERCRAFTS

Commissions undertaken

jan.angell1@btinternet.com

01489 894835

greendove-paperart.co.uk



**CHARLES
HENRY**
PROPERTY SERVICES

- ▶ **Interior and Exterior Decorating**
- ▶ **Landscaping - Decking, Patios, Raised Beds**
- ▶ **Property Maintenance, Renewal and Repairs**

Call Charles Henry on **07910 286256**

✉ charlie@charleshenryproperty.co.uk

🌐 www.charleshenryproperty.co.uk

Wallops Wood ABV 4.0%

BOWMAN ALES LTD

Swift One Bitter ABV 3.8%

Quiver Bitter ABV 4.5%

FREE DELIVERY
15 MILES FROM BREWERY

Try our Monthly Special now ABV 4.5%

01489 878 110
ORDER ON-LINE
www.bowman-ales.com



Your local friendly glaziers

Call us for ALL your glazing requirements

UPVC Window Frames & Doors, Replacement Double Glazed Units, Greenhouse Glass, Mirrors, Coloured Splashbacks & Shower Screens

T: **01730 233264**

E: **sales@leydeneglassandglazing.co.uk**

W: **www.leydeneglassandglazing.co.uk**



WHEAT REED • WATER REED • LONG STRAW

Free Estimates - All Work Guaranteed - Hampshire, Surrey & Sussex

Website: www.ejgoodall.co.uk Email: info@ejgoodall.co.uk

Hayden Wood Cottage, Hayden Lane, Warnford SO32 3LF

TREE SERVICES

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
HAMPSHIRE & SURROUNDING AREA

FOR MORE INFORMATION
www.wgstreeservices.co.uk

info@wgstreeservices.co.uk

or

CALL 07810 044 420



FAMILY OWNED BUSINESS



FULLY INSURED

W.G.S
TREE SERVICES

BULK BAGS

HARDWOOD | SOFTWOOD | KINDLING
FREE LOCAL DELIVERY

CALL 07810 044420
or

ORDER SECURELY ONLINE
www.wgskindling.co.uk

FOLLOW US



TM Construction
professional building services

At TM Construction, we specialise in home improvements. With over 15 years experience, we pride ourselves on our results.

From extensions to renovations, from new builds to landscape design, please call TM Construction to quote your project.

We primarily work in and around the Hampshire area.

No job is too small.

Telephone: **07580 207218**

Email: **enquiries@tmconstruct.co.uk**

Whatever you want to store...



Whatever your needs, long or short term

...for whatever reason – house sale and purchase not coinciding, travelling, bereavement, house building work, decorating or even 'de-cluttering' to sell your house more quickly – we offer a friendly, flexible and secure facility.

Barn-Store is a ruraly-based, family run business covering the whole of the Meon Valley area. We offer all the features associated with the national chains, from high tech security to hassle-free 24/7 access.

For more information, visit our website:

www.barn-store.co.uk or give us a call on:

023 9238 4888

Offwell Farm, Southwick, Fareham PO17 6DX





DENMEAD AERIALS & SATELLITES

DIGITAL AERIAL INSTALLS FOR FREEVIEW
SATELLITE DISH INSTALLS FOR FREESAT
TV WALL MOUNT INSTALLS
EXTRA TV POINT EXTENSIONS
TELEPHONE & ETHERNET EXTENSIONS
SATELLITE SKY DISH PROBLEMS

A family run business

Tel: **02392 251594**

Mobile: **07738 063510**

Email: **denmeadaerials@hotmail.co.uk**

www.denmeadsataerials.webs.com



All aspects of building work undertaken

Extensions - Alterations
Refurbishments - New Builds
Landscaping

Contact Jay on:

M: 0788 52 83 036 T: 023 92 63 20 37

E: jay.tucker16@yahoo.co.uk

Building Your Vision - Creating Reality



SADDLE HOUSE
MEDI-SPA

SKIN & BEAUTY EXPERTS

Beauty & Massage, Skin Tightening,
Facial Contouring, Rejuvenation Treatments,
Hydrafacial and so much more!

Western Court, Bishop's Sutton,
Alresford, Hampshire, SO24 0AA

Tel: 02380 518558
www.saddlehouse.co.uk

BOOK
YOUR BESPOKE
CONSULTATION
NOW



Petersfield Framing Studios

- ❖ Bespoke picture framing service
- ❖ All types of work undertaken
- ❖ All work completed on the premises
- ❖ Picture restoration service available
- ❖ Over 35 years experience
- ❖ Call today to make an appointment

01730 269926

www.petersfieldframing.co.uk

FREE 14 point lawn analysis



It's the way to a perfect lawn

TruGreen offers a wide range of lawn care services to help make your lawn the central feature of your garden. We'll begin by giving you an in-depth 14 point lawn analysis, completely **free and without obligation**.

- Pest & Disease Control
- Moss & Weed Control
- Fertilisation
- Re-seeding & Turfing
- Aeration
- Scarification

Trugreen Hampshire South
07865 340915 / 01489 890886

www.trugreen.co.uk/hantssouth
hantssouth@trugreen.org.uk

TRUGREEN
Professional Lawn Care



Meon Valley Community Bus Services Timetable

Meon Valley Community Bus Association

An all volunteer service

Mondays, 2nd and 5th Friday to FAREHAM 0900 West Meon Thomas Lord PH 0903 Warnford Village Hall 0908 Exton The Shoe PH 0910 Meonstoke PO & Stores 0914 Meonstoke Pound Cottages 0921 Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE) 0925 Brockbridge The Hurdles 0930 Soberton Village Hall (PARK & RIDE) 0933 Webbs Green War Memorial 0936 Soberton Heath Chapel Road pond 0938 Soberton Heath Bold Forester PH 0940 Newtown Rookesbury Hall (PARK & RIDE) 0945 Hundred Acres 0957 Fareham Library 1002 Fareham Sainsbury's Return: 1200 Fareham Sainsbury's 1205 Fareham Library	3rd Friday Each Month to HEDGE END 0900 West Meon Thomas Lord PH 0903 Warnford Village Hall 0908 Exton The Shoe PH 0910 Meonstoke PO & Stores 0914 Meonstoke Pound Cottages 0921 Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE) 0925 Brockbridge The Hurdles 0929 Soberton Village Hall (PARK & RIDE) 0933 Webbs Green War Memorial 0935 Soberton Heath Chapel Road pond 0938 Soberton Heath Bold Forester PH 0940 Newtown Rookesbury Hall (PARK & RIDE) 0945 Hundred Acres 1007 Hedge End Marks & Spencer Return: 1200 Hedge End Marks & Spencer	4th Friday Each Month to WATERLOOVILLE 0900 West Meon Thomas Lord PH 0903 Warnford Village Hall 0908 Exton The Shoe PH 0910 Meonstoke PO & Stores 0914 Meonstoke Pound Cottages 0921 Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE) 0925 Brockbridge The Hurdles 0929 Soberton Village Hall (PARK & RIDE) 0933 Webbs Green War Memorial 0936 Soberton Heath Chapel Road pond 0938 Soberton Heath Bold Forester PH 0940 Newtown Rookesbury Hall (PARK & RIDE) 0957 WaterlooVille Waitrose 1005 WaterlooVille Sainsbury's Return: 1200 WaterlooVille Sainsbury's 1205 WaterlooVille Waitrose																											
1st Friday Each Month to WINCHESTER 0900 Soberton Village Hall (PARK and RIDE) 0904 Brockbridge The Hurdles 0909 Droxford Square (PARK and RIDE) 0915 Meonstoke Pound Cottages 0919 Meonstoke PO & Stores 0921 Exton The Shoe PH 0926 Warnford Village Hall 0946 Winchester Broadway 0953 River Park Leisure Centre Return: 1155 River Park Leisure Centre 1200 Winchester Broadway	Wednesdays to PETERSFIELD <table><tr><td>Leave</td><td></td><td>Return</td></tr><tr><td>0900</td><td>Soberton Village Hall (PARK and RIDE)</td><td>Petersfield Tesco 1155</td></tr><tr><td>0904</td><td>Brockbridge (The Hurdles)</td><td>Petersfield Sq 1200</td></tr><tr><td>0909</td><td>Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE)</td><td>Warnford George and Falcon 1221*</td></tr><tr><td>0916</td><td>Meonstoke Pound Cottages</td><td>Corhampton 1224*</td></tr><tr><td>0921</td><td>Corhampton</td><td>Pound Cottages 1229*</td></tr><tr><td>0924</td><td>Warnford George and Falcon</td><td>Droxford square 1236*</td></tr><tr><td>0945</td><td>Petersfield Square</td><td>Brockbridge (The Hurdles) 1301*</td></tr><tr><td>0950</td><td>Petersfield Tesco</td><td>Soberton Village Hall 1305*</td></tr></table> <p><i>Note: Includes all request stops up to and including West lodge (Church lane)</i></p>	Leave		Return	0900	Soberton Village Hall (PARK and RIDE)	Petersfield Tesco 1155	0904	Brockbridge (The Hurdles)	Petersfield Sq 1200	0909	Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE)	Warnford George and Falcon 1221*	0916	Meonstoke Pound Cottages	Corhampton 1224*	0921	Corhampton	Pound Cottages 1229*	0924	Warnford George and Falcon	Droxford square 1236*	0945	Petersfield Square	Brockbridge (The Hurdles) 1301*	0950	Petersfield Tesco	Soberton Village Hall 1305*	<p>* Drop off only and approx dependent on passenger numbers.</p>
Leave		Return																											
0900	Soberton Village Hall (PARK and RIDE)	Petersfield Tesco 1155																											
0904	Brockbridge (The Hurdles)	Petersfield Sq 1200																											
0909	Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE)	Warnford George and Falcon 1221*																											
0916	Meonstoke Pound Cottages	Corhampton 1224*																											
0921	Corhampton	Pound Cottages 1229*																											
0924	Warnford George and Falcon	Droxford square 1236*																											
0945	Petersfield Square	Brockbridge (The Hurdles) 1301*																											
0950	Petersfield Tesco	Soberton Village Hall 1305*																											

No service on other days or Public holidays. £5 return, £2.50 single any journey. Bus passes accepted . Under 16 half fare. Under 5 free.
Dogs allowed subject to driver discretion. Timings are strict, bus will not wait after scheduled time. All enquiries to : mvcb1985@gmail.com

Meon Bridge Benefice Services

April

May

Sun 2nd	10.30 Sung Eucharist (CW)	Meonstoke	Thur 4th	10:00 HC	Droxford
Thur 6th	10:00 HC	Droxford	Sun 7th	08.00 HC (BPC)	Droxford
	19.00 HC	Corhampton		10.30 Family Service	Meonstoke
Fri 7th	10.30 Good Friday Devotion	Exton	Thur 11th	10.00 HC	Droxford
Sun 9th	08.00 HC (BPC)	Exton	Sun 14th	10.30 Sung Eucharist (CW)	Droxford
	10.30 Sung Eucharist (CW)	Droxford	Thurs 18th	10.00 HC	Droxford
	10.30 Family Service	Meonstoke	Sun 21st	09.00 HC (BPC)	Exton
Sun 16th	10.30 Sung Eucharist (CW)	Corhampton		10.00 Informal All Age Service	Droxford
Thur 20th	10.00 HC	Droxford		10.30 Mattins	Corhampton
Sun 23rd	10.00 Informal All Age Service	Droxford	Thur 25th	10.00 HC	Droxford
	10.30 Sung Eucharist (CW)	Exton	Sun 30th	10.30 Sung Eucharist (CW)	Exton
Thur 27th	10.00 HC	Droxford			
Sun 30th	10.30 Sung Eucharist (CW)	Corhampton			

We very much hope that we will be able to deliver this schedule, but the availability of priests to take services may make it difficult. Please keep an eye on the Meon Bridge benefice website, www.bridgedchurches.org.uk or the weekly Pew Sheets for the very latest information.



**Saturday 22nd April,
11.00am – 3.00pm**

Taste your way around Bishop's Waltham
with delights from:

**ANY FISH • GIORGIO'S • HOXTON BAKEHOUSE • THE CROWN INN
SWEET CORNER • WALTHAM TANDOORI • NO 60 COFFEE & WINE BAR**

Complemented by samples from the Bishop's Waltham Country Market
Buy your tickets in advance at Sweet Corner or Any Fish

www.lovebishopsaltham.com

Supported by

southern coop

Outdoor Shakespeare

The popular Villagers Open Air Shakespeare Group will be returning to the garden of Hill Farm House, Droxford Road, Swanmore (SO32 2PY) on 22nd July.

This year we are performing Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors*, starting at 7.30pm. As usual bring your own picnic, drinks and chairs for what promises to be an entertaining evening regardless of the weather.



Tickets are unchanged at £12 for adults and £6 for children under 16. All proceeds will go to help the Neonatal intensive care unit at Queen Alexandra Hospital, Portsmouth, to enable them to purchase much-needed equipment.

Last year the evening and related activities resulted in a donation of £3,000 to purchase Apnoea monitors which monitors the respiratory function of new born babies.

For further details and tickets when available contact me on 07803 299973 or 01489 878722.

Jenny Maunder

Events Diary

April

Saturday 1st: Portchester Brownies stay at The Meon Hall.

Monday 3rd: Meon Fit (circuits) 7.30pm outside Meon Hall.

Thursday 6th: Meon Fit 9am outside Meon Hall (lower impact) and 7pm (high intensity interval training).

Monday 10th: Meon Fit (circuits) 7.30pm outside Meon Hall.

Tuesday 11th: Meon Valley Arts Society lecture "Every picture tells a story" Meon Hall 10.40am.

Tuesday 11th: Badminton, Meon Hall 7.30pm.

Wednesday 12th: Pilates Group, 9.15am, Meon Hall.

Wednesday 12th: Corhampton & Meonstoke Annual Parish Assembly, Meon Hall 7.30pm.

Thursday 13th: Meon Fit 9am outside Meon Hall (lower impact) and 7pm (high intensity interval training).

Saturday 15th: Meon Ladies Pig Racing Evening, Meon Hall 7.00pm.

Monday 17th: Meon Fit (circuits) 7.30pm outside Meon Hall.

Monday 17th: Mindfulness Group, Meon Hall 9.30am.

Tuesday 18th: Yoga Group, Meon Hall 9.30am.

Tuesday 18th: Badminton, Meon Hall 7.30pm.

Wednesday 19th: Pilates Group, 9.15am, Meon Hall.

Thursday 20th: Meon Fit 9am outside Meon Hall (lower impact) and 7pm (high intensity interval training).

Thursday 20th: Meonstorks

Baby and Toddler Group, Meon Hall 9.30 to 11.30.

Friday 21st: Winchester Cubs stay at Meon Hall.

Friday 21st: Meet author Tracy Chevalier, 6.30 Droxford Village Hall.

Monday 24th: Meon Fit (circuits) 7.30pm outside Meon Hall.

Tuesday 25th: Yoga group, Meon Hall 9.30am.

Tuesday 25th: MV Arts Society Study Day, Meon Hall 10.00am to 3.30pm.

Tuesday 25th: Badminton, Meon Hall 7.30pm.

Wednesday 26th: Pilates Group, 9.15am, Meon Hall.

Wednesday 26th: Film *Living*, 7.30pm Droxford Village Hall.

Thursday 27th: Meon Fit 9am outside Meon Hall (lower impact) and 7pm (high intensity interval training).

Thursday 27th: Meonstorks Baby and Toddler Group, Meon Hall 9.30 to 11.30.

Thursday 27th: MV Heritage & Archaeology AGM, Meon Hall 7.00pm.

Thursday 27th: Droxford History Group talk: *Who was the greater, Alfred or his daughter Athelfreda?* 7.20pm Droxford Village Hall.

May

Monday 8th: *Big Litter PickUp*, 11am Meon Hall.

Tuesday 2nd: Yoga group, Meon Hall 9.30am.

Wednesday 3rd: Pilates Group, 9.15am, Meon Hall.

Thursday 4th: Local Government Elections, Polling Station Meon Hall

7am to 10pm.

Thursday 4th: Meon Fit 9am outside Meon Hall (lower impact) and 7pm (high intensity interval training).

Saturday 6th: CORONATION DAY.

Sunday 7th: Coronation Street Party, Droxford Square (for Droxford residents only).

Sunday 7th: Coronation Family Picnic, 12 noon, Meon Hall.

Monday 8th: *Coronation Help Out Day*, Meon Hall.

Tuesday 9th: Meon Valley Arts Society lecture "*The Yellow House in Arles*" Meon Hall 10.40am.

Tuesday 9th: Badminton, Meon Hall 7.30pm.

Wednesday 10th: Pilates Group, 9.15am, Meon Hall.

Thursday 11th: Meonstorks Baby and Toddler Group, Meon Hall 9.30 to 11.30.

Thursday 11th: Meon Fit 9am outside Meon Hall (lower impact) and 7pm (high intensity interval training).

Saturday 13th: Bishops Waltham Brownies Sleepover at The Meon Hall.

Monday 15th: Meon Fit (circuits) 7.30pm outside Meon Hall.

Tuesday 16th: Yoga, Meon Hall 9.30am.

Tuesday 16th: Badminton, Meon Hall 7.30pm.

Wednesday 17th: Pilates Group, 9.15am, Meon Hall.

Thursday 18th: Meon Fit 9am outside Meon Hall (lower impact) and 7pm (high intensity interval

training).

Thursday 18th: Droxford Annual Parish Meeting, 7.30 Droxford Village Hall.

Thursday 18th: Meonstorks Baby and Toddler Group, Meon Hall 9.30 to 11.30.

Saturday 20th: Brook Cottage Plant and Cake Sale. 10am to Noon.

Saturday 20th: Bingo Evening Fundraise for The Preschool, Meon Hall 7.00pm.

Monday 22nd: Meon Fit (circuits) 7.30pm outside Meon Hall.

Monday 22nd: Mindfulness Group, Meon Hall 9.30 to Noon.

Monday 22nd: Royal British Legion talk: *Xi's China - how's that going?* 7.30pm Droxford Village Hall.

Monday 22nd: Meon Hall Management Committee meeting, 7.30pm.

Tuesday 23rd: Yoga, Meon Hall 9.30am.

Tuesday 23rd: Badminton, Meon Hall 7.30pm.

Wednesday 24th: Pilates Group 9.15am, Meon Hall.

Wednesday 24th: Corhampton and Meonstoke Parish Council's AGM. 7.30pm Meon Hall crypt.

Thursday 25th: Meon Fit 9am outside Meon Hall (lower impact) and 7pm (high intensity interval training).

Thursday 25th: Meonstorks Baby and Toddler Group, Meon Hall 9.30 to 11.30.

Tuesday 30th: Badminton, Meon Hall 7.30pm (End of Season).

SOME LOCAL SERVICES & USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Please note: local telephone numbers have the prefix 01489

POST OFFICES

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

STORES

Droxford Stores, High Street, Droxford	878811
Corhampton Village Stores	877374
Meringtons Stores, Garrison Hill, Droxford	877284
Droxford Antiques, High Street, Droxford	878800

PUBLIC HOUSES

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

GARAGES

Meringtons, Droxford	877431
Taylors Garage Ltd, Droxford	877433

SCHOOLS

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

LIBRARY

Free Street, Bishops Waltham	0300 555 1387
------------------------------	---------------

CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU

Well House, 2 Brook Street, Bishop's Waltham bishopswaltham@cabnet.org.uk	03444 111306
--	--------------

PARISH COUNCILS

Corhampton & Meonstoke Clerk/RFO: Rosie Hoile clerk@candm-pc.gov.uk	07960 122699
Droxford Clerk/RFO: Ailsa Duckworth	07720 092072
Exton Parish Meeting Secretary: Juliet Reed julietreed@outlook.com	878450

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Central Meon Valley Malcolm Wallace mwallace@winchestergov.uk Frank Pearson fpearson@winchester.gov.uk Vicki Weston vweston@winchester.gov.uk
Upper Meon Valley Neil Bolton nbolton@winchester.gov.uk Hugh Lumby hlumby@winchester.gov.uk

DROXFORD VILLAGE HALL

Bookings: Mrs Terry Crowfoot	877631
------------------------------	--------

THE MEON HALL, MEONSTOKE

Bookings: Position vacant. meonhallbookings2@yahoo.com or if not on email, by phone	877916
For details of charges and general information see www.candm-pc.gov.uk/the-meon-hall	

LOCAL SURGERIES

The Park, Droxford	877588
Doctor's Lane, West Meon	01730 829666
Lower Lane, Bishop's Waltham	892288
Houghton Way, Wickham	01329 833121

COMMUNITY CARE TRANSPORT COORDINATORS

(Please ring only between 9.00 am and 6.00 pm)	
Droxford: Rosie Hoile	07977 096586
Exton, Meonstoke & Corhampton: Arthur Brown.	07865 517484

URGENT TREATMENT CENTRE

Petersfield Community Hospital, Swan Street, Petersfield GU32 3LB.	023 8231 9000
---	---------------

DROXFORD VILLAGE COMMUNITY WEBSITE

Local events and activities:
www.droxfordweb.co.uk

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICES

Adult Services	0300 555 1386
Children's Services	0845 603 5620
The above numbers are open Monday to Thursday 8.30am - 4.30pm	
Out-of-hours number:	0845 600 4555

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - Reporting Crime

ONLY CALL 999 - if a crime is taking place, or has just happened; if you have immediate concern for someone's safety, including a medical emergency; if you see a traffic collision involving injury or danger to other road users, or if you see something suspicious that requires immediate attention. The more information that you can provide, the better.

CALL 101 or, preferably, use www.Hampshire.Police to report crimes that are not in progress, suspicious people or vehicles and non-urgent reporting such as anti-social behaviour, suspected drug use or damage to property.

AFTER contacting one of the above, please ALSO contact any Corhampton & Meonstoke co-ordinator, or any Droxford street co-ordinator, with details of the report. Their numbers are listed below.

CORHAMPTON and MEONSTOKE

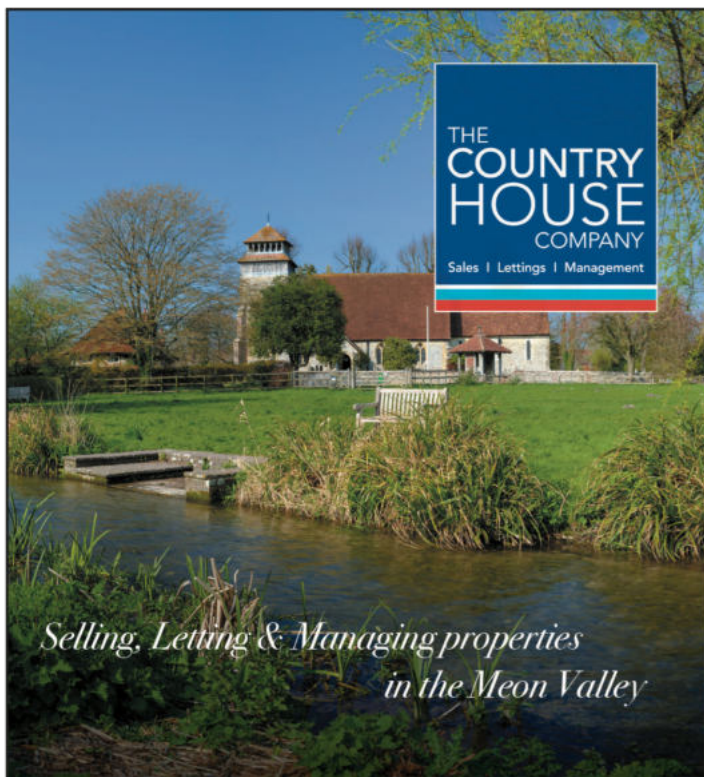
Peter Riley (chair)	07702 863954
Phil Butler	877596
Janine Casey	877561
Lesley Daysh	877327
Sally & Mike Fithyan	07809 516669
Linda Foot	877763
Charlie Fullegar	07876 524457
Frances Keppel	878774
Jenny Liardet	877583
Patrick Monger	877161
Jerry Pett	877633
Annie Ward	877831

EXTON

Sue Robertson	878545
---------------	--------

DROXFORD

High Street	James Matthissen	07914 638082
Sheep Pond Lane	Matt Avison	mattavison@hotmail.com
Dundridge Lane, east	Colin Richardson (chair)	07711 058744
Midlington Hill	Claire Francis	claire.francis1209@gmail.com
Swanmore Road	Ruth Butler	ruthb635@gmail.com 07818 404177
Midlington Road	Louise Hudson	HUDSONLOUISE111@gmail.com
South Hill west	Tony Hoile (dep. chair)	07506 849443
Union Lane	Lynne Dumbrell	lynnedumbrell@yahoo.co.uk
The Park	June Kershaw	07540 238240
The Park	Pennie Brown	878726
Northend Ln	Colin Richardson (chair)	07711 058744
Chestnut Rise	John Whittaker	877788
Mill Lane and South Hill east	Sally Sturt (dep. echair)	07767 301095



THE
COUNTRY
HOUSE
COMPANY
Sales | Lettings | Management

*Selling, Letting & Managing properties
in the Meon Valley*

"The experts you can trust..."

Property Sales | Lettings | Management
www.countryhousecompany.co.uk
02392 632 275

estate propertymark
PROTECTED

RICS

Twitter Facebook LinkedIn YouTube



CRAMER BESPOKE

CABINETRY | KITCHENS | FURNITURE

PHONE: 02392 632222 MOB: 07805 040464
josh@cramerbespoke.com

*Why not read our glowing reviews from some of
the Meon Valley's most fabulous residents ?*

www.cramerbespoke.com



INDOOR TENNIS
HAZELHOLT

Floodlit Tennis All Year Round

PayPal

Based in the heart of the Meon Valley, our single floodlit court is the ideal indoor venue. Tennis all year round, whatever the weather.

- Open 365 days a year
- Umpire high chair
- Tournament approved surface
- Spectator seating area
- Changing & Toilet facilities

- Pre-booked reservations only
- 8am - 11pm (90min time slots)
- Annual block booking available
- Hazelholt Farm, Dundridge Lane
Nr. Bishop's Waltham, SO32 1GA

BOOK ONLINE - WWW.HAZELHOLTINDOORTENNIS.CO.UK

G. RIXON LTD.

ELECTRICAL PLUMBING AND HEATING ENGINEERS



01329 834600

www.g-rixon-ltd.co.uk

enquiries@g-rixon-ltd.co.uk

OIL, LPG AND NATURAL GAS FIRED BOILERS
WORCESTER BOSCH ACCREDITED INSTALLERS
DISABLED BATHROOM SPECIALISTS



PIMP MY PADDOCK

PADDOCK MAINTENANCE

We offer a complete & professional
paddock maintenance service

Located near Bishops Waltham, covering
all surrounding areas.

Paddock, field & garden work is carried out
using a quad bike, ensuring easy access to
small & large areas with no heavy tyre marks.

Paddock
Maintenance

Topping

Fertilising

Spraying

Springtyning

Harrowing

Hedge Cutting

Fencing &
Gate Repairs

Log Splitting
& Chipping

Full Public
Liability
Insurance

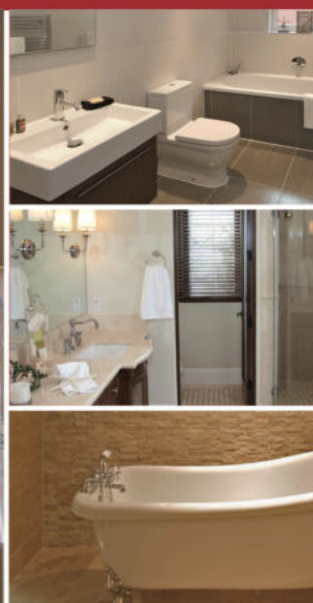
Phil Stratten 07799 118 022

mail@pimpmypaddock.com

www.pimpmypaddock.com



Luxury Wetrooms and Bathrooms



Designed and
Installed by
locally based
professionals
with over 20
years hands on
experience.

Kitchens &
Extension work
also catered
for, as well as
large and small
refurbishment
projects.

HAMPSHIRE
BATHROOM
DESIGN

Tel: 01489 878248 | 07917 358 358

mike@hampshirebathroomdesign.co.uk

www.hampshirebathroomdesign.co.uk

1 Quantock Cottage, North End Lane, Droxford