

# ITCHEN Valley News

Issue 36 December 2016 For Awington, Easton, Itchen Abbas and Martyn Worthy





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# WELCOME to the Valley News

Autumn almost over and we look towards the end of the year. Yet we have some happy memories in this edition of Halloween, fireworks and pumpkins. We also have comments from all our elected representatives and we get to learn a little about all the work they do on our behalf. The issues that cause us local concern can be aired in these columns even if Brexit and Trump may be more significant! I was very drawn to Alex's letter from the rectory (p22) and Posada. It seems such a lovely idea and all that can be done to convey what Christmas really means seems to me really important. Details of all the Christmas services are to be found on pages 20 to 21. I also felt I should include the article from the Nightshelter (p29) which does such excellent work for those most in need. On a more light-hearted theme, details of the panto are found on page 16, another wonderful Valley tradition. I never cease to be amazed at the range of events both reported and to come. Of course not everything gets included in IVN and we always welcome new contributors.

Food seems to figure in a lot of our activities. I wonder how many will try to make a gingerbread house (see p23)? I'm always willing to try a new cake but it might be a step too far. Technology is driving us all to want more information and faster. Happily I have good broadband speed yet still an abysmal mobile phone signal. I wonder, in these two critical areas, why such little attention is being given to people who live in the country. This seems

even more critical if all our public phone boxes are to be removed.

We are told this could be a really harsh winter, something we have not seen for many a year. I'm glad to have a wood burning stove and a full wood store as I also worry a little about power cuts. It's therefore a good time to look out for less mobile neighbours and to be prepared! A big thankyou to all who have contributed to this edition and please don't forget to support our advertisers. Our cover shows the Itchen Abbas school fair and next month's editor is Charlotte Appleby.

*Tony Gaster*



## Itchen Valley News

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## What's On

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### **Deck Easton Hall with boughs of holly on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December from 2 to 4:30pm**

Because ...'tis the season to be jolly... with friends and family at the Christmas Fayre, Easton Village Hall featuring wonderful Christmas Gifts, Decorations and festive Homemade Goods. And of course you can relax with a hot drink & a mince pies. Fa la la la la, la la la la!

*Ina Williams*

### **A Christmas Fantasia in Winchester Cathedral Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 7.30pm**

with The Waynflete Singers and English Chamber Orchestra directed by Andrew Lumsden. Vaughan Williams: FANTASIA ON CHRISTMAS CAROLS; Poulenc: GLORIA; Finzi: IN TERRA PAX; Carols for choir and audience. Soloists: Nadine Benjamin – soprano, Marcus Farnsworth – Baritone.

Tickets £9 - £39 (2 FOR 1 OFFER AVAILABLE on some seats) from The Cathedral Box Office 01962 857275 / [www.tickets.winchester-cathedral.org.uk](http://www.tickets.winchester-cathedral.org.uk) / [www.waynfletesingers.org.uk](http://www.waynfletesingers.org.uk)

*Brenda Sims*

### **Judi Dench Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 6.30pm, Guildhall, Winchester**

In Conversation with John Miller  
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*Sue Gentry*

### **Itchen Valley Choral Society Christmas Concert 7.45 pm Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December in Itchen Abbas Village Hall**

This year we are singing two seasonal works. Some excerpts from John Rutter's *When Icicles Hang* and a more recent work by Alan Bullard, *A Light in the Stable*. Written specifically for choirs such as ours, in addition to completely new sections it features re-interpretations of classic carols, with audience participation. Tickets are £10 on the door.

*Vernon Tottle*

### **Carol Singing In Itchen Abbas on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> and Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December.**

There has been a long tradition of carol singing in Itchen Abbas started by the Edmonds family who lived in the Old House. Our chosen charity for this year's carol singing is Barnardos. Please meet at Rodney and Joan Dartnall's home at 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start. A warm welcome awaits you, young and old, friends and families, so please join us. For your Health and Safety we recommend sturdy footwear, warm clothes, torches/ lanterns and a spirit of adventure especially if it is cold !

If you would like us to call, or even if you would prefer us not to call please ring me on 779538.

*Joan Dartnall*

### **Martyr Worthy Children's Christmas Party on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2017 from 3 to 5pm.**

All children aged 3 to 8 who live in or have a family connection with Martyr Worthy are warmly invited to a Children's Christmas Party to be held in the Village Hall. Entertainment will be provided by the ever popular Robbie the Wizard, followed by a party tea. Attendance is free but parents/ grandparents are asked to contribute a plate of food and are, of course, very welcome to stay and enjoy the fun. Please contact Sara Mason (07787

538306 or splmason@hotmail.co.uk)  
for further details and to book your  
place. We look forward to seeing you:  
the more the merrier.  
*Guy Green*

## Avington Pumpkin Challenge 2016

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As night shrugged on its evening cape, covering the landscape in folds of inky black, I could hear the distant sounds of voices and laughter. I breathed in the cool air, shivering as the autumnal wind caressed my cheeks with long, cold, fingers. I closed the garden gate behind me, and joined the straggly crowd of people walking down the lane, and as I glimpsed the heavy bags they carried so carefully, I wondered which contender would take my figurative crown, by winning this year's Avington Pumpkin Challenge.

The contest to grow the largest pumpkin in the village of Avington began almost a quarter of a century ago, in 1993, and proved so popular that in 1996 a pewter beer mug was donated by Dick Hewitt, to be engraved with the winning entrant's details. The village's residents may have changed over the years, but the



Pumpkin Challenge lives on, the tradition faithfully continued from one year to the next. The winner hosts the following year's contest and delivers the seeds from the winning pumpkin to all the residents in the village, in order to produce the crop for the following year's contest.

As soon as spring arrives there is a flurry of activity, as vegetable beds are prepared for the year's crops. Seedlings are transferred from greenhouses and carefully settled in the warming soil. The days grow warmer and the gardeners welcome the budding plants. But the most keenly awaited of all are the pumpkins'

flowers, which - with a bit of luck - eventually cover the ground in a sea of yellow, like glistening trumpets in an orchestra, heralding the promise of tasty orbs to come. While the warmth of summer caresses the village, above it floats a cloud of mystery. During casual conversations over tea and cake, enquiries are made, and responses carefully considered. Rumours swirl like steam over a simmering pot, of pumpkins large, and small. Some residents are happy to show their produce, others just wink,







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with a coy smile. And then there are those that claim indifference, as they “just throw the seeds into the horse manure, and leave them to it!”

But tonight the contest begins, and all will be revealed. I wander down the path to the hosting cottage, past a pair of glowing pumpkin faces, beautifully carved by Helen Clarke, that guard the doorway. After exchanging greetings with my neighbours already present, I am enticed into the kitchen by the aroma of freshly baked pies. Suddenly hungry, I am delighted to see the long wooden table laden with sweet and savoury edibles. Better still, scattered along the sideboard, a wonderful selection of wine bottles glitter like jewels under the glowing kitchen lights. “Pumpkins outside, on the garden table, please,” instructs Penny Russell, our hostess this evening. I nod, and make my way through the throng of people and out into the garden. As I place my rather small offering on the table amongst its competitors, I greet three year old Archie Davies, dressed appropriately in his pumpkin costume, admiring the rather large contents of two wheelbarrows. And to my amusement, nestled amongst the rotund ochre globes, lies an enormous

sea green courgette. I make a mental note to drop my coupon from Specsavers through Ken Thomas’ letterbox in the morning!

Having eaten and drunk our fill, it’s time for the weighing of the pumpkins. Dave Russell and David Kennedy do the honours, and to our astonishment, and having re-weighed both pumpkins thrice, Judy Thomas and Sonia Cragg’s entries come in at exactly the same weight, 18.3 kg! Coincidentally, Judy actually gave her new neighbour the seedling that produced the winning gourd. What was that debate about nature and nurture? And the proverbial loser’s wooden spoon goes to Mike Lane - for a pumpkin so small it didn’t even register on the scale.

As the joint winners enjoy glasses of Prosecco, and admire the beer mug soon to be inscribed with their names, I look at their smiling faces and console myself, in typical British vernacular that it’s all about the fun of competing, and not about winning at all. Then I



wonder, would my other half mind carting a tonne of horse manure to the top of our garden, in the spring?

Joking aside, the Avington Pumpkin Challenge is a way of keeping the friendly spirit of the village alive. Newcomers find it an easy way to meet their neighbours, and the residents use it as an opportunity to catch up with each others' news. Even better, this year, Jacqui Squire suggested we donate all surplus pumpkins to the kitchen of Trinity Winchester, a local charity that provides support to the homeless and vulnerable in our society. More information can be found on [www.trinitywinchester.org.uk](http://www.trinitywinchester.org.uk)

Jacqui informed me that Jerry, the chef at Trinity, was very pleased at the sight of a dozen pumpkins, nestling in a blanket, in the boot of her car. We were delighted to donate produce from a competition which is great fun, and thrilled to be spared the yearly pleasure of eating every conceivable form of pumpkin, over the coming months!

Well done to Judy and Sonia, and good luck for next year to all my fellow Avingtonians.

*Corinne Kozok*

## Our Wild Valley : Frosty mornings

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Jack Frost has already been busy in November, providing sparkly delight for some or cold feet and cold cars for others! Not much is written about Jack himself but I like to think of him as a quick witted and nimble elf-type character. He would be exquisitely dressed in a dark blue tuxedo and a blue bowler hat, to help him blend into the darkness as he spreads his frosty



aura over the earth. His frosted eyebrows would rise upwards, leaving his wide eyes to shower cold drops wherever he looks. Why does he spread the cold, the glitter, the fern fronds, the patterns on cars, on leaves and pavements? Because he can! He loves it when thousands of eyes open in the morning to a new light and marvel at a transient icy world.

Otherwise a condensation process can explain the presence of icy patterns in the morning! When the outside temperature drops below the freezing point of water (named the dew point), the water vapour in the atmosphere (it must be a damp night too) turns into liquid (condensation). This liquid is found as dew and if it gets cold enough, little bits of ice, or hoar frost, form. The 'feathery' variety of hoar frost forms when the surface temperature reaches freezing point before dew begins to form on it. A 'white' frost, composed of more globular ice, occurs when the dew forms first, then subsequently freezes.

Enjoy your sparkly December, if Jack Frost doesn't visit much, keep the sparkle indoors!

*Sophie Miller*



## From our MP

They say the pace of life is picking up speed these days and they're not wrong. It beggars belief that Christmas is just around the corner and what a year it's been in politics – so far!

Given the time lag from me writing this column to it landing on your doormat, I won't even try a Brexit update except to say the notion Parliament is somehow prevented from debating the issue is one of the silliest myths of our time; every day (quite rightly) brings a Brexit inspired debate of some kind. I will of course continue to keep constituents up-to-date with my thoughts and actions in this respect via my monthly column for the Hampshire Chronicle and on my website but you are welcome to write to me anytime. Life in Westminster continues to be really busy and recent work for me, alongside everything Brexit of course, has included taking part in a very special debate on baby loss, various events as part of breast cancer awareness month, supporting the new Homeless Reduction Bill and overseeing some real progress in our long-running campaign to fight nuisance calls. Furthermore, my new Ministerial role at the DWP is keeping me on my toes and I am extremely proud of the new Health & Work Green Paper we launched last month including, as it does, our plans to close the employment gap for people with disabilities and autism.

I receive a fair bit of correspondence from constituents about the refugees Britain is taking and people sometimes ask how they can help. Well, our area is participating in a key Government



programme aimed at housing and supporting unaccompanied children and a number have arrived since July. Now, the team are keen to recruit volunteers to help support these children settle through mentoring and practical help such as accompanying children to appointments and social activities.

Furthermore, here in Winchester we are hosting a number of Syrian families thanks to the generosity of some private landlords giving their properties at well below market rent. If anyone here in the Itchen Valley is a landlord - or has an empty property - they can help us do even more. Please contact me if you think you can help in either of these respects.

Locally, I have launched ambitious plans alongside the University of Winchester, City Council and Chamber of Commerce to develop a Knowledge Park on the current Sir John Moore Barracks site. We are actively exploring how to bring hundreds of new high skilled jobs to the 86-hectare site which the MoD have sadly confirmed it will vacate by 2021. I will



be working with the MoD and our project team to develop the plans and you can stay updated at [www.stevebrine.com/knowledgepark](http://www.stevebrine.com/knowledgepark). Finally, there's a great deal of potential change coming to our local NHS in the years ahead and I remain as committed as ever to seeing we have access to the best services and receive treatment that is world-class. To this end, please look out for another ASKtheNHS event from me in early January 2017. See [www.stevebrine.com/asktheseries](http://www.stevebrine.com/asktheseries) for details as they are made available. I wish all readers a Merry Christmas and a successful New Year.

*Steve Brine, MP for Winchester, Alresford & Itchen Valley*

## Itchen Insight

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With the Easton Pantomime just around the corner, we felt it appropriate to put Easton's Jill Croft centre-stage this month. Jill has been responsible for making costumes for the Panto for more than 20 years. And



that's in addition to contributing to every other event and aspect of Easton Village life!! Thank you Jill.

**Name:** Jill Croft

**Age:** 73

**Occupation:** retired

**How many years you've lived in the Valley:** 21 years.

**Your life in 180 characters:** born in London during an air raid, moved to Surrey when eleven, worked in London until I married David in 1963 had two wonderful children, a girl in 1965 a boy in 1968. Went to live in Asia in 1985: Hong Kong for 4 years, Singapore 2 years and Malaysia for 4 years. Bought a house in Easton in 1987. While living in Asia I joined the Singapore stage club and the Penang players, was only natural for me to get involved with the Easton Panto on my return to Hampshire. I have been making costumes ever since.

**Champagne moment:** flying in a tiger moth with my dad when I was 16.

**Surprising snippet:** I have a masters and engineers Licence to pilot a boat in Hong Kong waters

**Passion:** Theatre, music, painting, cooking, making jam and chutney and I love playing boules on a Monday evening.

**Favourite place in Hampshire:** I just love the Itchen valley.

**Best thing about the Valley:** being able to watch the seasons change from spring through summer, autumn and winter while taking my dog for a walk. And the wonderful community spirit that exists here, and which never ceases to amaze and delight me.

**Worst thing about the Valley:** the smell when the farmers are muck spreading.

**Best one-liner or favourite quote:** every day's a holiday, every

meal's a banquet.

### **What would you like Father Christmas to bring you?**

A special wish for peace and harmony among all nations. A better world for our children and grandchildren to live in. and maybe a bottle of good brandy.

## **Easton Fireworks**

What luck! Well, the fine weather was indeed good luck; there is nothing the organisers can do to create a fine clear evening - and not too cold. Every other aspect of a successful fireworks display is due to hard work; luck plays no part in ensuring that the bonfire lights first go, that the fireworks go off in succession, that there are no accidents and that the huge crowd is fed and watered – well, wined mostly. We invited four friends from



Eddie & Jessica Gloyne, winning guy

the big smoke to join us, and they were impressed by our village event and envious of our good fortune in living in this lovely valley. As regular attenders, we were amazed by the number of people there, it must be one of the biggest turn-outs ever. May thanks to those whose hard work gave us all a lovely evening.

*Charlotte Appleby*

## **A Terrific treat!**



A huge thank you to those residents in the Valley who made Halloween so special. It may have been a cold and dark Monday night but it didn't stop you dressing up your houses, yourselves and providing lots of sweets! Such a huge and generous effort was made and it was much appreciated by all the little (and not so little) monsters.

Thankyou!

*Itchen Valley Trick or Treaters*



## **Jackie's County Corner**

There's just time to respond to these consultations before your Christmas lunch!

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Local Plan Part 2 Modifications- although a city council plan, it covers highways, and will include gypsy and traveller accommodation/site planning: <http://winchester.gov.uk/planning-policy/local-plan-part-2>: deadline 12<sup>th</sup> December.

Education that works for Everyone- covering principles of 100% faith schools, charity status of independents, re-introduction of grammar (and we assume secondary modern) schools and sponsorship by Universities allowing them to increase the already high fees: go to [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) and search 'education that works for everyone': deadline 12<sup>th</sup> December.

County consultation on Statement of Community Involvement: Everyone uses roads, footpaths, schools, waste management services, energy. When these are planned, there is a process by which the community is invited to give an opinion along with other stakeholders. This consultation (online at [hants.gov.uk](http://hants.gov.uk)) is to reflect some of the lessons learned in the years since the last one was adopted, increase consultation deadlines and create more up to date processes as the power of the internet communication strengthens. You are invited to respond online, but it is also available on paper. I urge you all to consider the proposals and respond to this consultation: deadline 19<sup>th</sup> Dec.

Roads, flooding and footways are in our thoughts at this time of year. Itchen Valley Parish Council hosted a useful meeting for parishes using the scheme to discuss how we used the Lengthsman in this area. We compiled a list of issues to be clarified and later I put forward these constructive solutions for a safer and more effective service to the Executive Member at HCC. We now await a timetable of the

agreed suggestions.

I have had queries about a number of footways that are being created or completely resurfaced in the area and why they are being done now when money is tight? These are simply as a result of submissions made over the years, or urgent matters and have come to the top of the list: the works come from a different budget from the roads.



Worthys linked Parishes have been made aware of plans to mitigate 1 in 50 occurrence flooding. The cost effectiveness is good for the Worthys. But so far, nothing more. I am pressing City and County Councils for a programme which is sadly missing from the WCC major projects list on its website. I'll update you as soon as I know more.

Wishing us all a healthy 2017, Adult Social Care is in a well publicised crisis and in this area our wonderful carers are more precious than jewels. I am urging HCC to reconsider their

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options for Cornerways, where the respite care home has been empty for four years now.

Children's Social Care is currently tendering for suppliers to provide respite care for seriously ill and/or disabled children. There are excellent opportunities to work with the respected local charities Sebastian Trust and Naomi House on this. I hope that useful arrangements can be made to offer more opportunities for families affected.

The second attempt at the Sustainability and Transformation Plan for the NHS in this area is expected soon, and we must urge our MP to share the information with us all as users as soon as possible.

Don't forget to recycle all that you can over the Christmas period, but the County is refusing to accept old fridges at recycling centres because the government scheme can't cope. There is no apparent end to this problem, so it could go on for some while.

Meanwhile, please look after your empty fridge carefully: I am urging HCC to create its own stockpile to avoid fly-tipped fridges arriving in your fields before Christmas.



The whole issue of changes at the Cart and Horses junction is called 'Junctiongate' by residents.

I was going to include a junction picture here- but thought you might prefer a decorated Brussel sprout instead? It seems to sum up the logic of the new road layout on the A33 for many of you...

Many of you will use the junction in your daily travel. We discussed your concerns -and fury- when I met with the HCC bosses in October. There are three aspects of frustration: the time it has taken to implement the scheme, the speed of through coming traffic and the uncertainty as to who has priority, leading to confusion and congestion. In view of public concern, I asked again for a record of accidents and a complete re-think.

You can contribute to the petition by going to [change.org](http://change.org) and putting 'cart and horses' into the search box.

Will you be 'taking the air' along the Millennium Walk at Alresford this Christmas? Unfortunately, holes continue to develop along the popular riverside route that many of you will enjoy, but the environmental implications of the work forces the timing of any permanent repairs to be carried out in Autumn next year. I have used some of my councillor allowance to progress this matter.

Finally, a new number to remember: simply call 105 to report a power cut. No other number necessary.

Let's hope we don't need it this year! Merry Christmas!

You can contact me, Cllr Jackie Porter, [jackie@jackieporter.co.uk](mailto:jackie@jackieporter.co.uk), Text 07973 696 085, on Facebook, website [www.jackieporter.co.uk](http://www.jackieporter.co.uk), tel: 01962 791054, or write to me at The Down House, Itchen Abbas, Winchester SO21 1AX, twitter: @JackieLibDem



# Alice in Wonderland

a pantomime by Susan Mosley



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## Easton W I

---

At their November meeting members were treated to an excellent talk, 'From Vine to Wine', by Mark Porter. With some wonderful slides, he illustrated each step along the way, beginning with the planting of some very unpromising-looking twigs right through to tasting his recent white and rosé wines. The intermediate processes include skilled pruning and thinning of leaf cover, tying the vines in to the trellising, picking, pressing, measuring sugar and acid content, adding yeast and managing the fermentation, all the while keeping fingers crossed for ideal weather. We began to appreciate what a time-consuming procedure it is and how much hard work is involved before you can relax with the fruits of your labours. Mark is a real enthusiast for his subject and we very much enjoyed both the talk and the wines he kindly brought along. Look out for his next 'Wine Day' on 3<sup>rd</sup> September next year.

*Janet Green*

## Tiddler Joke

---

What do you  
get if you cross  
a Christmas  
tree with an  
iPad?

A pineapple!

Eddie MacLeod age 7



## Martyr Worthy Water Meadows

---

The water meadows along the river Itchen are part of the river and farming heritage of the Itchen valley. In operation until the 1920/30s little is known of the past history and much of the infrastructure has vanished. One remaining relic is a six-hatch gate on the carrier on Simon Ffennell's stretch of the river. Its purpose was to control a water flow, via an aqueduct, to the Martyr Worthy fields downriver of Easton road bridge.

It is known that the gate was in operation in the 1800s and one expert suspects that the gate may well date back to the 1700s. The only way to find out is to do a dendrochronological analysis, looking at the tree rings. To do so will cost about £350. I have raised £200 thus far and am seeking to raise the rest by a sort of 'crowd funding' approach. If you would be interested in contributing a small amount to help towards a better understanding of the valley's heritage I would like to hear from you by email at [georgemann@gmp.co.uk](mailto:georgemann@gmp.co.uk) or by telephone 779944.

*George Mann*

## From the Parish Council

---

Recently we have had two incidents of fly tipping at the Couch Green King George V playing field in Martyr Worthy. Apart from being an unsightly mess it takes time and effort as well as potentially incurring costs. The Parish Council is left with the responsibility of removing the material that has been dumped and consequently any costs of doing so come out of our council tax. Money that then cannot be spent on other things. It is therefore important



that everybody keeps a vigilant eye to prevent fly tipping taking place in the Valley. If you do witness it please take a note of the registration

number of any vehicle involved and report it to us. Thanks to Paul Moffatt for clearing away the mess on these last two occasions. We are looking at further preventative measures such as TV cameras. In some ways to have them would be a pity but better than having our open spaces turned into a rubbish tip.

On a similar topic, a child was seen dropping litter from a car parked on the verge close to one of the playing fields. The person concerned pointed out to the child's mother what had happened and received an abusive reply from her.

Sadly this was not the ideal way for a parent to behave. If we do not teach our young not to drop litter and fail to set a good example ourselves then we cannot be surprised if we end up with our countryside looking a mess.

While still on the subject of litter, last spring we had a highly successful litter pick under the title of "Clean for the Queen". It was a wonderful community event with over a hundred people from all four villages taking part and ending with tea and cakes being provided by the W.I. in Martyr Worthy Village Hall. We would like to build on this success and hold a similar event in Spring 2017. We just need an organiser to help get

the ball rolling. No previous experience is required, just enthusiasm and a little bit of spare time. Please let me know if you can help.

Last month it was my sad duty to tell you that our lengthsman coordinator Mick Philips had retired. I am pleased to say that Paul Moffatt has agreed to take over the role of preparing work lists for the lengthsman's visits. Again a big thank you to Paul for taking on this task.

Finally all the usual Parish Council tasks like looking at planning applications, maintaining our play equipment and the numerous administrative matters are proceeding as normal. This time of the year is also when we set our budget for the next year. It is always a matter

of compromise and balance to achieve as much as we can without costing the earth.

Priorities have to be decided and it is never possible to please everybody but I hope our efforts will continue to help to preserve this beautiful part of the

country where we live and provide some new things for the future.

*Patrick Appleby, Parish Council Chairman.*



## Comings and Goings

Welcome to Fi & Dominic Hepworth who have moved into the Old School House, Church Lane, Martyr Worthy, with children Clementine (14) Beatrice (13) & Cosmo (9) and also Rebecca and Tom Carter, they are renovating a house in Winchester, meanwhile renting No 1 Cockeys Mead. The family consists of George aged 7, Wild aged 5, Archie aged 3, Emma aged 2.

# Itchen Valley Church Services



## Sunday 4th December

8am	Holy Communion
11am	Matins
4pm	Christingle

Avington  
Martyr Worthy  
Itchen Abbas

## Sunday 11th December

8am	Holy Communion
10am	Parish Communion
6pm	Evensong

Easton  
Itchen Abbas  
Martyr Worthy

## Sunday 18th December

8am	Holy Communion
10am	Parish Communion
4pm	Carol Service

Martyr Worthy  
Easton  
Grain Store at  
Avington Park Farm

## Saturday 24th December Christmas Eve

4pm	Crib and Carols
11.30pm	First Communion of Christmas

Easton  
  
Avington

## Sunday 25th December Christmas Day

8am	Holy Communion
10am	Informal Family Communion
10am	Traditional Communion

Itchen Abbas  
Easton  
Martyr Worthy

## Rector

Rev Amanda Denniss      779832      amandadenniss@gmail.com

## Assistant Priest

Rev Alex Pease      791010      rev@ampease.co.uk

## Curate

Rev Rebecca Fardell      809264      rebecca.itchenvalley@gmail.com

## Licensed Lay Minister

Mr Gerry Stacey      620263      gstacey@easynet.co.uk

**Parish website:** <http://itchenvalleychurches.org.uk/>

## Itchen Valley Churchwardens

Robin Greenwood 779540; Andrew Impey 779645;

Theo Mezger 07775 908014; Vanessa Rosewell 841182



# Catholic Parish of Hampshire Downs

## Advent and Christmas 2016

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### Celebrations for St Peter's and St Stephen's during Advent

Wednesday 14th December      St Peter's School Advent Liturgy, 2.30pm and 7.00pm (St Stephen's)

Saturday 17th December      Family Penitential Service, 3.00pm (St Peter's)  
Confession at 11.30am to 12.30pm and 4.30pm to 5.00pm

Monday 19th December      Parish Penitential Service, 7.30pm (St Peter's)

Tuesday 20th December      Blue Christmas Liturgy, 10.30am (St Peter's)

### Christmas Masses

Saturday, 24th December (Christmas Eve)

5.30pm      First Mass of Christmas (St Peter's, Winchester)

5.30pm      First Mass of Christmas (St Stephen's, Oliver's Battery)

8.00pm      'Midnight Mass', with carols (St Gregory's, Alresford)

10.30pm      'Midnight Mass', with carols from 10.00pm (St Peter's, Winchester)

Sunday, 25th December (Christmas Day)

8.00am      Mass (St Peter's, Winchester)

9.00am      Mass (St Thomas More's, Stockbridge)

9.15am      Mass (St Stephen's, Oliver's Battery)

10.30am      Mass (St Peter's, Winchester)

11.00am      Mass (St Gregory's, Alresford)

No evening prayer and benediction

No evening mass

Monday, 26th December (Feast of St Stephen)

10.00am      Mass (St Stephen's, Oliver's Battery).

No Mass in St. Peter's

Tuesday, 27th December

8.00am      Mass (St. Peter's, Winchester)



## Letter from the Rectory

During the month of December we enter the period of the church's year called Advent. It is a period of looking forward to the world changing event of Jesus' birth which we celebrate at Christmas. It is a time when we remember that 2000 years ago a young engaged, but not married, couple travelled to Bethlehem, her heavily pregnant and him leading her on a donkey. Like many travellers over time, and even in our own day, for whatever reason, they were not welcomed at their destination. Doors were closed, all the rooms in the inns already taken, or perhaps the innkeepers felt that there was something disgraceful about having a couple who were not married, but about to have a child, under their roofs.

In a way, this closing of doors to the mother of the Christ child on the eve of his birth was to presage the way in which Christ would be rejected by so many of his own people when he started his ministry 30 years later. Closed hearts are like closed doors. In Mexico and other Latin American countries, there is a Catholic tradition called Posada. By this tradition, the



figures of Joseph, Mary and a Donkey (from a nativity set) travel around the young families of a parish, being welcomed on each of the days of Advent with a prayer and the lighting of a candle. The idea of Posada is that, in a reversal of the Advent story, the families of a community provide the inns denied to Mary and Joseph on Christmas Eve. The families open the doors of their houses and their hearts to the Christ child.

This year, Posada is coming to Itchen Valley Parish! The figures of Joseph, Mary and a donkey from the Easton nativity set will travel around the Parish (in a wooden box filled with straw) stopping for one night at each of the houses of our young people, involving all those of our young families who wish to take part, to act as innkeepers for the night! The journey will start at one end of the Parish and end in Easton at the Crib service on Christmas Eve. If you want to take part and have not already been contacted by me please let me know! One of the ministry team will start the journey on Advent Sunday with one of the young families and leave Mary and Joseph (perhaps on display in a window) after saying a prayer and having lit an advent candle. Then that family will take the box round to the next family, and so on, until the final family brings them to the Easton Crib service. In this way we hope that many of the families from the four villages who may not know each other will be introduced, if they don't already know them.

For many years as a young Christian but an old adult as I did not become a Christian before I was 40, I just could not see why, when I explained the gospel, the people to whom I was speaking, they just could not get it. Yet



it seemed to make perfect sense to me! Now I realize that whether we get Christianity or not depends upon us, not upon anyone else, or their reasoning or persuasiveness. I now realize that each of us needs to make a decision on whether we are going to open our hearts to Jesus, in the same way that those inn keepers needed to decide whether or not to open their doors to Joseph and Mary 2000 years ago, despite the scandal and other priorities that they might have felt that they had.

Jesus, the Light of the World, is knocking at the door of our hearts – as seen in this famous painting by William Holman Hunt:



When this painting was first displayed, observers said to the artist: 'you have made a mistake...there is no handle on the door..' 'It's no mistake,' Holman Hunt replied, 'the handle is on the

inside....'

Let's use the Advent season to take the opportunity to open the door of our hearts to the gentle knocking of Jesus and make him welcome in our lives and homes. If we do so, our lives will be totally transformed, we will learn why we are here and what we are for...and this Christmas will be unlike any other we have ever experienced.

A Prayer for Posada – say this together as a family!

'There was no place for them in the inn' Luke 2:7

God of stable, stars and surprises  
of light and hope and new life,  
may we make Jesus welcome in our hearts,  
as we welcome these nativity figures  
into our home,  
and may you open our eyes and hearts  
to your presence in the world  
so that we might hear again the song  
of the angels  
and respond with a song in our  
hearts and in our lives

Amen

*Rev. Alex Pease*

## Gingerbread houses

Every year, I make and decorate a gingerbread house with the children for Christmas. It's an excuse for indulging in as many childhood sweets as possible – although the gingerbread is very moreish too. Just don't think about the sugar!

Full instructions would be too long to print, so here's a quick "how to": Make a template in thick card. You can design your own or find one on the internet. Start with a simple design!

Make lots of gingerbread biscuit dough. I use Delia Smith's recipe: it tastes good and it's easy to handle. It's available here: <http://www.deliaonline.com/recipes/collections/biscuits-and-cookies/gingerbread-men>. You need at least double quantities. Maybe triple, to allow for extra gingerbread stars for the Christmas tree...



Bake your pieces on baking parchment or a silicone baking sheet and trim them against the pattern as soon as they come out of the oven. You can cut out holes for doors and windows. Fill them with crushed boiled sweets before baking for a stained glass window effect.

Make a batch of royal icing: 1lb icing sugar, 2 egg whites, ½ teaspoon cream of tartar, 3-4 tsp warm water. Mix ingredients together and then beat on high speed for 10 minutes until it holds a stiff peak. Put in a piping bag (freezer bags with the corner cut off are fine). Assemble the house on a cake board, using lots of piped icing (it sets rock hard very quickly). Use spice jars to help the first piece balance. Leave the roof off if you want to decorate the inside.

Use the remaining icing to stick sweets (or healthier alternatives) all over the

house and around as a garden. Photograph it quickly, before it gets devoured!

*Madeline Quest-Ritson*

## Barn Owl Story

---

"Mummy, mummy, there's an owl on the grass!" shrieked my five year old, trailing mud as she came tearing into the kitchen. 'Oh dear, another injured pigeon' I thought to myself as I rushed outside, nevertheless with a display of enthusiasm to make Mary Poppins proud. There was nothing to be seen. Search as we might, the mystical bird had vanished.

"Are you sure it was an owl? What colour was it?" "Well it was white, with a heart shaped face" was my daughter's answer. Hmmm. Despite the rather specific description, I was still dubious. Townies until just over a year ago, my children's sightings of owls were limited to the pages of books...mind you, mine too I fear! How







Another BOPH patient

would they even recognise such a bird? But I was wrong. After our guests had left, I went out to have another look, thinking it best to go without 5 children under 7 accompanying me, just in case. And there he was, sitting in the grass, bright white, with a beautiful and distinctive heart shaped face.

At the sight of me he scarpered into the hedge and I realised that I needed to call in the pros. A google search brought up details for BOPH (Barn Owl Project Hampshire & Bird of Prey Hospital) a not for profit organisation targeting better care for wild birds of prey, which is based in Ropley. I rang the mobile number and, despite it being a Sunday, Kim Boog-Penman answered straight away and, happening to be in Itchen Abbas at the time, was at my door within a few minutes!

Snowy Sid, as my children have named him, is now in the care of BOPH. He is this year's youngster, only a few months old, in lovely condition but low in weight and hence lacking the

energy to fly. He has put on weight since being with Kim and can now fly. He will most likely remain in the flight aviary until Spring when he will be released to find a mate.

The children and I are so grateful to Kim and those at BOPH for the fantastic work they do. Snowy Sid is a beautiful bird who undoubtedly would have perished had we not been able to rescue him. He will get a better chance than many of the youngsters in the wild - Kim tells me less than 30% of the brood from this year will make it to next Spring. As well as rescuing and running a hospital for birds of prey, Kim has installed a number of boxes in the area, which are actively monitored. She runs talks to all sorts of groups who are interested, bringing along her education owl called Wisdom. The focus for BOPH at the moment is the development of a purpose built hospital shed, to house and maintain the patients as they come through. Currently the acute section is run from the garage, which serves its purpose but is obviously not ideal. All talks, surveys, boxes and visits attract donations towards running costs. Do contact Kim if you would like to hear more about the project



And another!

or make a donation.

*Henrietta Mason, Freefolk House, Martyr Worthy.*

*Barn Owl Project Hampshire & Bird Of Prey Hospital*

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## From our City Councillor

---

I have a vague school memory, all my school memories are vague, about some bloke called Newton and his notion



that every action involves an equal and opposite reaction. I hope he was right because never has there been a greater need for an opposing reaction to the total lack of integrity that characterises politics today. President Elect Trump is not the only person on a stage strewn with implausible and worrying characters stretching from the Philippines to Le Pen but he is probably the biggest ever to find himself in charge of a western democracy. Was it all a PR stunt gone wrong, some ask. What is bewildering is that he can apparently get away with talking nonsense because, it is said, no-one believed him in first place. Well that's all OK then??

Does this impact on the political scene in little ol' Winchester? Well, yes it does. To start, next time I'm campaigning I'll promise eternal sunshine and a case of Meursault to every household that votes for me, delivery FOC. Somewhere in between all the clowning are the promises made as regards the city and its future development. My biggest concern just now is the potential impact on the archaeology beneath Silver Hill and

Station Approach, and the Council's assurance that the sites can be completely developed without causing any damage to what the experts describe as archaeology of potential national significance. The problem, of course, is that when damage is done no-one knows about it as it's underground. Hence the need to continue the battling and the demands for transparent and credible solutions, something Newton would have understood.

I am in the course of setting up a new amenity trust to be called "Winchester HEART" which will promote sensitive development that enriches the city's heritage and culture. There will be more of this anon. In the meantime, the last thing we all need is a world leader who is less plausible than Santa. At least you know Santa will deliver.

*Kim A Gottlieb, Winchester City Councillor  
For Alresford & Itchen Valley  
07795 494919*

## Martyr Worthy Lecture Series

---

Itchen Abbas hall was packed with an enthusiastic crowd for a glass of wine and accompanying canapés, in anticipation of John Lang's talk on the Dutch Golden Age on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November. After a chance to catch up with friends and neighbours, the hall quietened to hear John tell the story of how the northern provinces of the Netherlands overthrew their Spanish rulers and became the most enterprising and successful nation of the 17th century. John guided the audience with clear erudition through





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**Regular bookings** (most finish by 9th December - pantomime!)

Authentic Pilates	Mon	9 am & 6:30 pm	Judy	07774 899909
	Fri	9 am		
Ems Bray Pilates	Tue	8:45 am & 10 am	Emily	07876 033893
	Thur	9 am		
Sally Stanyard	Tue	4 pm - 8:30 pm	Sally	01962 776562
School of Dance	Thur	7 pm, and Fri 4 pm		
	Sat	9 am - 2.30 pm		
Moo Music	Wed	9:15 am, 10.15 am	Denise	01962 779182
Brew with a View	Wed	3 - 5 pm	Ina	01962 779465
Muriele Zumba	Thur and Fri	10.30 am	Muriele	07821 545403
Easton Panto	Wed	7:30 pm	Denise	01962 779182
	Sun	4 pm - 6 pm		

## Martyr Worthy Village Hall

Lucinda Ffennell 779701 or [simon@ffennell.plus.com](mailto:simon@ffennell.plus.com)

Riverbank	Mon - Wed	9am to 1 pm	Babs	01962 621757
Kindergarten	Mon-Tue	9am to 3 pm		
Whist Drive	Thu	7pm	Not 1st	
		10.30-12		

## Itchen Abbas and Avington Village Hall

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Short Mat Bowls	Tues	18.00	Peter	01962 779285
Yoga / Pilates	Wed	09.00 & 18.30	Jo	01962 791095
Ladies Short Tennis	Wed	14.30	Arminel	01962 779611
Choral Society	Wed	19.45	Gabby	07712 112174
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**Itchen Abbas Village Hall**

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the story of how the Dutch built on their established maritime and trading skills to excel in science, medicine, industry and perhaps most of all in the artistic genius of painters such as Rembrandt and Vermeer.

It was an excellent start to the Martyr Worthy lecture series, and the organisers are most grateful to John, who made it possible to raise over £2000 for the Itchen Valley Parish. The series continues with *The World in Conflict* on 26<sup>th</sup> January and *A Tale of Two Cities* (exploring the architecture of Oxford and Cambridge) on 28<sup>th</sup> February. Tickets are £15 each from [martyrworthylectures@gmail.com](mailto:martyrworthylectures@gmail.com).  
*Verity Coleman*

### Christmas at the Nightshelter

Christmas at the Nightshelter begins in the same way as it does in millions of

homes, with a visit from Santa. Instead of the usual 7am wake-up call, the overnight supervisor leaves stockings outside all of the residents' bedrooms. Some open them snuggled up under duvet and blankets, others take them into the communal lounge and enjoy the lights from the Christmas tree and carols on the TV.

Presents for the Nightshelter's 17 residents are donated by local individuals and organisations and the thought and kindness which goes into the choosing and wrapping of gifts is always touching.

Staff have been thinking about items which would be most useful to residents and help them as they prepare to move to independent living. Diaries, notepads, wallets and cheap watches will help residents organise themselves.

Vouchers for coffee shops, clothing



stores or the cinema will provide a real treat: small denominations rather than a single large donation allow us to share gifts in an equitable way.

Toiletries and particularly spray deodorants are always welcome.

Finally there are some personal items that will make life more comfortable for residents when they are out and about away from the Nightshelter: small lightweight rucksacks or daybags, lightweight waterproof jackets and mens' trainers (sizes 10 and 11 are the most commonly needed.)

So we don't really need decorated shoe boxes! There's no need to wrap presents before bringing them to the Nightshelter (we have some lovely volunteers who come in and act as elves!) However if you do wrap, it would be really helpful if you could put a label on the outside saying what the gift is and whether suitable for a man or woman.

Our store cupboards are well stocked following amazingly generous harvest donations. But we can always use fresh fruit and veg – along with chocolate bars, biscuits, coffee and sugar. Our website "most wanted" list is updated monthly so please check because our needs do change.

### **Christmas Volunteers**

Christmas and New Year's Day both fall on a Sunday this year. For the first time we want to try and keep the Nightshelter open on both of those days and the subsequent bank holidays. So if you can spare a few hours on December 25th, 26th, 27th or January 1st and 2nd we would love to hear from you. Full training will be given and you will always be working with experienced staff. For more information please contact our administrator Lisa on 01962 862050 or email [admin@wcns.org.uk](mailto:admin@wcns.org.uk)

Thank you as always for your support in helping make Christmas special for some of the most vulnerable people in our Community.

*Lisa Koronkiewicz, Administrator  
Winchester Churches Nightshelter  
20b Jewry Street, Winchester  
01962 862050 (Office open 08.00 -  
15.00 Monday to Friday)*

Are you stuck for that last minute  
Christmas present?

May I suggest the book **Winnie-the-Pooh Meets the Queen** (they were both 90 this year), published by Egmont and written by Jane Riordan, born and bred in Itchen Abbas.

Joan Dartnall

## **Citizens Advice Winchester District**

Citizens Advice Winchester District (CAWD, and previously known as Winchester District CAB, Citizens Advice Bureau), is an independent registered charity and a member of the national Citizens Advice network of England and Wales.

The charity provides free, independent, confidential and impartial advice to everyone on their rights and responsibilities. It aims to provide the advice local people need for the problems they face and to improve the policies and practices that affect people's lives. It receives no national funding from either central government or the national Citizens Advice service. It values diversity, promotes equality and challenges discrimination. The core service is a team of nearly 100

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## From the Greens – long term residents of Martyr Worthy

---

*Dear Friends and ex neighbours,*  
This is to wish you a very happy Christmas and prosperous new year. We have just had a flying visit of Theo and Judith Mezger on their way to Holland via the channel tunnel. Although it was only a quick visit with a cup of tea and chat, it was so good to see them and hear some of the news of the valley. If there is anyone passing this way via the channel tunnel or Dover docks please feel free to drop in for a cup of tea and a chat. Missing you all with lots of love,  
*Steve and Julia Green*  
20 St Andrews Gardens  
Shepherdwell, Dover, CT15 7LP

## J Dryer

---

When I moved into my cottage in Abbots Worthy nearly 12 years ago I found all kinds of interesting relics of the past. The one that inspired me most was a wall mounted drying rack – useful but rather strange looking. I did a considerable amount of research (it

was designed in 1945), visited a patent lawyer, and began to create a new design. It has taken 18 months working with Hampshire-based Metal Fabricators, Precision Engineers and Finishers, and it is now out into the world! It is simple, stylish, space-saving and has over 3 metres of drying space - and needs no storage as the bars simply lie flat against the wall when not in use. Jdryers (a registered design) can be used inside or out, are very easy to mount, come in two finishes and a



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*Juliet Howland*

### Two wise men

There were two sad deaths on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November, both of wise men intertwined in the life of the Valley in their different ways. Tom Strafford looked after his stretch of the Itchen for many years and was finely tuned to the natural world. John Harris was active in many charitable roles, and shared his traveller's tales through his Bus Stops of the World in the IV News. We hope to publish more detailed memories in the next edition; in the meantime we will miss them both.

## The Practical Gardener

Autumn is a season when many of us like to look out on our gardens from the warmth of our homes. But there is much to do. We have had a marvellous autumn with some stunning colours. Sadly those leaves are now falling, rather later than usual I feel, and they need collecting. I have a variety of tools to do that work but



once again it's my 2-stroke petrol machines which have let me down. I think they are entirely unsuited to occasional use but I have invested in some new fuel called Aspen which does make a difference but is very expensive. I'm also going to get some of the latest battery powered equipment. This technology has moved very fast and the new 36v batteries provide the power needed to compete with petrol driven equivalents. Just picking up the tool and switching on is a pleasure you never get from a 2-stroke!



Leaves do rot but seem to take years. I make my own containers from old fence posts and wire netting (pictured above). I was stupid enough to sustain a head injury from my post thumper making this. However I don't think it's good to leave leaves rotting on flower borders or lawns. My Billy Goat, a

powered leaf sweeper is just wonderful – American made and starts first pull even after 11 months in the shed.

I have to confess I got it all wrong last month about sulphur candles. Thanks



to the EU, these are no longer available so there are alternatives but they are not as effective. I've had 4 goes at my greenhouse (pictured above) and still the odd whitefly is alive.

It's definitely a time to dig up this year's annuals to add to the compost. I'm also cutting back lots of new growth so the shredders are working overtime. On a dry day I am also spreading compost, partly from necessity as I need to empty a bin but also because during the winter, the worms will do their work too. It's all hard work but I think necessary. I'm completely convinced that both organic material such as compost and chemical fertilisers are needed in the garden.

We had a wonderful talk on soil at the Valley Gardeners. So no more double digging! Soil has its layers and in each is a microcosm of this and that which create the right environment for future growth. It's fascinating stuff. It's also clear that for good growth, both organic and inorganic material is needed (that's N, P, K) plus some trace elements. I've had a few bonfires recently and I sift the ash and add that

to the compost heap. There's a lot more to be learnt about soil and nutrition.

In the vegetable garden, I see new season onions and garlic doing well, also many brassicas but these still need protection from the hungry pigeons. I am experimenting with some new varieties of cauliflower, kale and cabbage which should produce a crop in the late spring. I'm not fully convinced and with so many pests around I wonder if it's worth the effort. Watch this space.

*Happy gardening. Tony Gaster*

## Remembrance Sunday

---

The Poppy Appeal has raised £2892 from various collections in our community. Pictured below is the gathering at the Itchen Abbas memorial.



And here is the gathering at Avington before the service in church.



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## Confirmation Service at St Mary's Easton

---

In a packed church on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November, David Williams, Bishop of Basingstoke, confirmed six young people from the parish: George Turner, Francesca Wheatley, Elise Duke, Ellie Rember, Sophie and Emily Jennings. In



his address the bishop spoke about Nicodemus and how much he had been influenced by Jesus. After the service everyone was invited for coffee and home-made cakes.

*Tony Gaster*



## They don't write 'em like that anymore

---

In December every year, people in this country use words they wouldn't

dream of using at any other time. No, not the words said when the turkey comes out of the oven still frozen in the middle or the remarks uttered when that lovely new toy comes without batteries and you forgot to buy spares. No, I'm talking about Christmas Carols, usually those written by our Victorian ancestors, which use words that can fail the spell check on a modern computer.

For example, in the carol *Ding Dong Merrily on High* we come across "verily the sky is riv'n with angels singing" together with "let steeple bells be swungen". I would challenge anyone to tell me that they use "verily", "riv'n" and "swungen" in everyday conversation and correspondence but it is surprising how easily we slip into singing exactly those words. We know what they mean as they are similar to words we use in common parlance but they do feel quite olde wolde.

Then again in the carol *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear* we come across "Still through the cloven skies they came with peaceful wings unfurled". What are "cloven skies"? The obvious answer seems to be the best in that as cattle and sheep have cloven hooves (meaning split) so did the sky split to let the angels come down from heaven. The carol's writer, H E Sears (1810 – 1876) clearly believed that, like birds, angels do need open wings to give them a regulated, safe descent.

*Good King Wenceslas* has a reference to "St Agnes' Fountain". Agnes, who founded a hospital and monastery in 1232 AD, was the sister of Wenceslaus, a King of Bohemia. However the carol is said to be based on St Wenceslas, a Duke of Bohemia who lived much earlier (907-935 AD). Her famous fountain might just have been invented by the Victorian lyricist



John Neale to be a good rhyme for mountain.  
The well-known *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night* has more of these verbal oddities. “All meanly wrapped in swathing bands” for example. What does a swathing band look like? Swathe and swaddle mean very similar things (and are interchangeable in many bible translations) and mean to wrap or to bandage. But “all meanly wrapped in wrapping bands” doesn’t sing as well as the original carol. This use of swathe is obviously not the same meaning as “he cut a swathe through the field of corn” but possibly both are derived from the same Old English word. We will leave aside the potential misunderstanding that occurs in the same carol (the witch, his mother Mary) and end with the word that usually stumps most carol singers. It occurs in the less often sung *Unto Us a Boy is Born*. “While our happy voices rend the jocund air asunder, the jocund air asunder”. What on earth is “jocund”? Meaning happy or light-hearted it derives from the Latin verb “jocare”, to delight. Try casually dropping “jocund” into your conversation sometime today.  
*Vernon Tottle*

**Itchen Abbas Church - an elegy written in a country car park**

---

Christmas is coming and the grass is getting wet.  
Please drive much more slowly or the verges you'll upset.  
Accelerating quickly brings the mud right into view.  
If you can't drive any slower, then God bless you!

**Local monthly information**

---

**Waste collections in December**  
Black bins and green bags on Fridays 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Green bins on Fridays 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> and **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup>**.  
**Cameo**  
On Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December.  
**Farmers' Markets in Winchester**  
Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December (only one this month)  
**Parish Council Full Meeting**  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December 1A

---

**67 Bus** operated by Stagecoach.  
**School term timetable** operates up to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December:  
Weekdays to Winchester:  
07:53 09:23 11:23 13:23 16:23 17:23  
Weekdays to Alresford:  
09:19 11:19 13:19 15:19 17:11 18:09  
**School holiday timetable** operates from Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December although over Christmas a Saturday service may be in operation.  
Weekdays to Winchester:  
07:53 09:23 11:23 13:23 15:23 17:23  
Weekdays to Alresford:  
09:19 11:19 13:19 15:19 17:09 18:09

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**Saturday service** (same for the whole month)  
Towards Winchester:  
08:23 11:23 14:23 17:23  
Towards Alresford:  
09:19 12:19 15:19 18:09  
**No Sunday or bank holiday service**  
All times shown are at Itchen Abbas. Times are 5 minutes later (or earlier) at Easton.



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