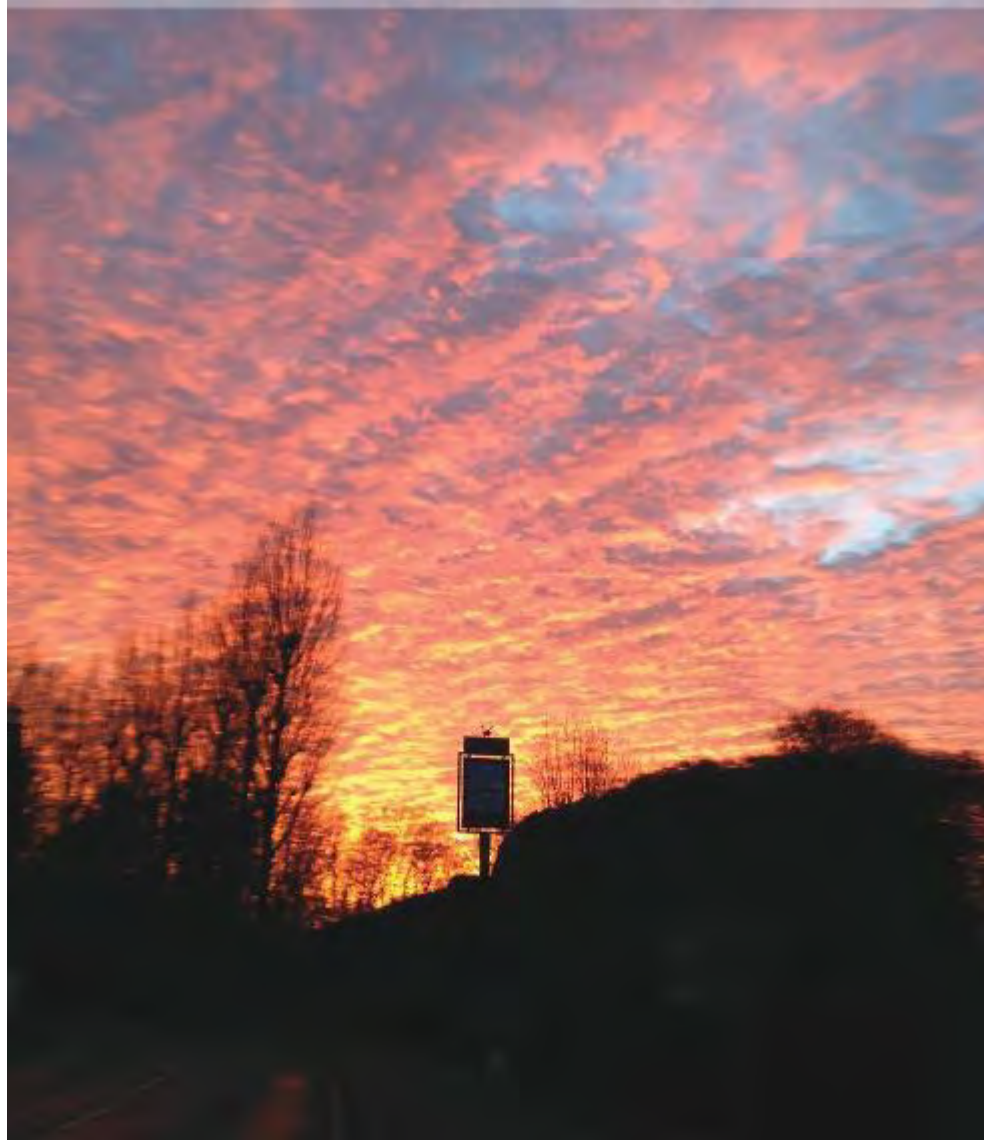


ITCHEN Valley News

Issue 49 January 2018

For Avington, Easton, Ichen Abbas and Martyr Worthy



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WELCOME to the Valley News



Sunset or sunrise? Which do you think the cover picture shows? The ambiguity is appropriate for this January edition since most of you will get it before the week that is the defining feature of December for many people, namely Christmas. So you may take it as both the end of one year and the beginning of a new one, and use the clues in the picture (hint - taken from the B3047) to find out which is right.

In the spirit of the New Year we have put together details of some of the Valley activities in a feature entitled Clubbing in the Valley (pages 4 - 8 and 40, there is so much going on). You might like to try a new hobby or find new friends in 2018. Our thanks to all those organisers who made time to write about their activities for the IVN, or to persuade someone to do it for them!

An innovation is the Christmas Quiz, on the centre pages so you can pull it out. The answers are on page 39, and thanks to Vernon's amazing technical wizardry, are upside down. We now know that there is another Vernon in the village, but at least one of our contributors has a name that is still unique in the community - meet her playing short tennis on Wednesdays. Most of the Christmas activities happen too late for this edition, so you will have to wait for February to read about the Pantomime, the Cameo Christmas lunch, the Carol singing - still time to join in that on 20 and 23 December, see next page for details. I owe special thanks to all the contributors who responded so well

to my plea to fill the magazine; Vernon's article on Who's Who (pages 18 and 19) is a mine of information and we hope that some more of the longer term residents will share their memories of their predecessors. If you would prefer to tell us face to face rather than write, do email or phone one of the editorial team.

If you miss our usual Tiddler joke, there are 12 in the Quiz. Apologies and thanks to those whose contributions are held over for a future edition. It is good to start the year with material in hand.

The IVN team wish you all a happy and healthy Christmas, New Year and 2018. Next month's editors are Lucy and Fi.

Charlotte Appleby

Itchen Valley News

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Please send all contributions for February 2018 by Monday 15th January. All material is published in good faith and the Valley News cannot be held responsible for any information given or views expressed; neither can it be liable for any loss arising from the use of any information or advertisements contained herein. The Editorial Team reserves the right to refuse or amend articles or advertisements submitted for publication. Printed by Greenhouse Graphics of Basingstoke.

Cover photo by Charlotte Appleby; other photos from various contributors.

What's On

Carol Singing In Itchen Abbas

A reminder that our chosen charity for this year's carol singing is Parkinson's UK (Winchester branch). We will be singing on two nights in Itchen Abbas on **Wednesday 20 and Saturday 23 December**. 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 ! For more information please ring Joan. 779538 joandartnall@mac.com

Joan Dartnall

A Christmas Carol

Saturday 6 January in Martyr Worthy Village Hall.

If you haven't done so yet, please don't forget to book your tickets for the Proteus Theatre Company's latest production based on Charles Dickens' famous story, which takes place in Martyr Worthy Village Hall on **Saturday 6 January**.

The show is suitable for all the family aged from 6 upwards. It starts at 6pm and runs for about 90 minutes plus a short interval. Tickets are £6 per adult and £4 per child and are available from Sara Mason on 779169 or splmason@hotmail.co.uk.

Guy Green

Claire Tomalin In Conversation with John Miller

Saturday 13 January, 6pm

In aid of Home-Start Winchester at The Guildhall, Winchester. Sponsored by Dutton Gregory Solicitors. Tickets £12 including booking fee

available online at: www.claire-tomalin-in-conversation.eventbrite.co.uk or call 01962 851177

Sue Gentry

Mahjong Open Afternoon

Tuesday 6 February 2.30 - 4pm.

See page 7 for more information.

Anne Wright

Valley Litter-Pick

Advance notice that this will be held on **Saturday 3 March**. More details in next month's IVN.

Patrick Appleby

Easton & Martyr Worthy Safari Supper 2018

The 2018 Safari Supper will be held on **Saturday 17 March**. Please make a note in your diary. Full details and application form will be included in the February issue of the Itchen Valley News.

Terry and Anna McGowan 779350

Hilary Castle 779572

Clubbing in the Valley

Itchen Valley Choral Society

Do you enjoy singing? If the answer is YES, please come and join us. We are a friendly Choral Society who rehearse weekly on Wednesday evenings at Itchen Abbas Village Hall. We especially would like to hear from Tenor and Soprano voices but welcome anyone who enjoys singing. No audition is required, just come along at 7.45pm. Start the New Year with a resolution you will be happy to keep. First rehearsal Wednesday 3 January 2018. Please contact ivcshub@gmail.com for more information or just turn up on the evening; you'll be made very welcome.

Lynda Denyer

Easton WI

New Year – New Ideas, why not give

your local WI a visit?

At our January meeting we will be learning the History of Cunard and Glamorous Stars, and in February Lucy Tennant will be talking about Trinity Winchester, giving us an introduction into homelessness and the support provided.

We meet every second Thursday of the month in Easton Village Hall at 7.15 and welcome visitors. The Hampshire Federation was formed in May 1918 and has 206 WIs with nearly 9,000 members. Nationally, there are approximately 6,300 branches that take part in a wide variety of activities and campaign on issues that matter to their local communities and the planet. We look forward to welcoming you.

Sallie Peake

Ladies short tennis

Do you enjoy Tennis? The ladies Short Tennis group is looking for new members. We are a friendly female group that meet up in Itchen Abbas Village Hall on

Wednesday afternoons to play Short Tennis from 2.30 – 4.30. Why not come along and join forces with us in the New Year? It's great fun!

Interested? Phone me on 779611 or just turn up on a Wednesday afternoon in the New Year.

Arminel Tottle

Easton Bridge

We gather every month on the first Monday for duplicate bridge. People from Easton and from nearby villages enjoy a friendly but competitive morning's play. The light and spacious



Hall is ideal for bridge. New players of an intermediate standard are welcome to join us. We need to know the numbers in advance to ensure each table has four players so if you are interested please email Maureen at s.m.bohill.smith@gmail.com

CAMEO

CAMEO has just enjoyed its 80th lunch to celebrate Christmas. It is always quite surprising to me that so many people in The Valley still know little of



it. It is an occasion for the over 65s to "Come and Meet Each Other" for a short Communion Service followed by a two course lunch. It is held in St John's Church in Itchen Abbas on the third Tuesday of every month, in a happy, friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

After the refurbishment of Itchen Abbas Church to provide comfortable chairs as well as a modest kitchen, it became possible to use the church for all sorts of activities beyond traditional services. It was then that I came up with the idea of Cameo, with the support of Andrew Micklefield. It has thrived, regularly serving close to forty lunches and more on special days such as Christmas and Easter. There is no charge for lunch and Cameo is financially independent of the church, but generous donations from those attending have enabled Cameo itself to make contributions to Itchen Abbas School, the Itchen Abbas Winter Fuel programme and the improvements to the car park, as well as buying all the tables, crockery and cutlery used as



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well by many other activities. Anyone from the Valley, or with connections to it, who is 65 or over is welcome, whether you are regular a churchgoer or not. We have many attending from all denominations. Cameo could not happen without the fantastic team of volunteers, (mostly also over 65!) who cook, serve and clear the food, much of which they provide without charge. We would love to welcome more guests and particularly a few younger volunteers. That will help Cameo to continue to prosper for both the church and the community.

Lavinia Owen 779162

Curious about Mahjong... ??



Every Tuesday afternoon, Easton Village Hall is the venue for Winchester U3A Mahjong, "The Dragons". Interest

has been shown by prospective players in Easton and the surrounding villages to learn more. This may be from complete beginners, those who may have played many years ago and would like to brush up on the ins and outs of the game, and occasionally from those of you who have a Mahjong set tucked away in the loft and would like to know more about it..... or that you are simply curious...

With all this in mind plus the exciting possibility of new memberships, you are invited to the Club Room at Easton Village Hall to an Open Afternoon on Tuesday, 6 February, 2.30 to 4.00.

Whilst the U3A is for those who are semi retired or retired, there is no defined age for membership. It is about when you have taken that next step in the challenges of life where freedoms from responsibilities associated with

work, and/or bringing up children opens up the door to opportunities to learn and socialise which may not have been possible before. Annual U3A membership is £8.00 which is incredible value for so much on offer.

Anne Wright

Brew with a View!



When it comes to maintaining or making friendships, there can surely be no simpler way than with a cup of tea and a chat and that is what is offered at Easton's Brew with A View. Every Wednesday, between 3.00 and 5.00pm, overlooking the cricket pitch and our lovely countryside, Easton Village Hall is transformed into a welcoming tea room with teas, coffee, cakes and cookies for all comers. It is the brainchild of Ina Williams, who runs it with marvellous efficiency, baking everything herself and astonishing everyone each week with her delicious creations.

Numbers vary but amongst the core group of regulars are villagers, school children on their way home, mums and toddlers, several generations of some families and, for the past year, a very appreciative team of landscape gardeners who've been working in Easton and always stop by at the end of their day. The Brew's reputation has spread too - two ladies recently drove from Petersfield on the recommendation of a friend and walkers and cyclists also occasionally drop in. Everyone is welcome.

In the year and a half since it began, after deducting only the costs of her baking ingredients, Ina's efforts have raised around £2,200, all of it going back into funds for the Hall's users. needs but it was never set up with profit in mind. The Brew was always

only ever intended simply as somewhere for people to meet, a place to catch-up and share some time with others. This is what it has become and it's a great example of what community is all about. Why not pop in?

Mary Hall

Welcome to the Upper Itchen Valley Society

It was established in 1970 to safeguard what is good in the character of the Upper Itchen Valley.

The Society was formed to mitigate the impact of the M3 and to maintain the overall integrity of the valley and its settlements from Abbots Worthy to Itchen Stoke, several of which are Conservation Areas. It now plays an active role in monitoring planning applications submitted to the South Downs National Park Authority and the City Council to ensure that development (which of necessity must be ongoing) is sympathetic, sustainable and justified.

We are consulted on environmental issues and contribute to the development of the local planning policies. The Society was instrumental, after detailed local public consultation, in ensuring that the boundary of the

proposed South Downs National Park was changed to include the whole of the Upper Valley Corridor.

The Society is run by a Committee drawn from the Valley villages and it holds a biennial Summer Party for members in different places around the Valley and occasional events such as guided walks or talks as well as an AGM in November when we have speakers on topics relevant to the Valley.

Since its inception, the Society has contributed to local interest groups, tree planting, the wildflower project and signage as well as making substantial contributions to Itchen Abbas School and to Martyr Worthy, Easton and Itchen Abbas and Avington Village Halls. Our funds derive largely from subscriptions and substantial contributions from Roadchef and the organisers of Creamfields, the predecessor to Boomtown.

In order to carry out our objectives and also raise funds for the benefit of the Valley and its residents, it is essential that we have a sizeable membership. Please join and play your part in helping to secure the character of the Upper Itchen Valley. Life membership of the Society is only a single payment of £20 per household.

To join, please apply to the Membership Secretary: Mrs Lucy Collis, Demelza, Easton, SO21 1EF or to me on ralphandalimatthews@gmail.com or tel: 01962 779632.

Alison Matthews

And even the AGM is fun! The photograph of our lovely river was taken by Rolls Coleman and illustrates some of what the UIVS aims to protect. Ed



Annual Poppy Collection

This year's Itchen Valley Poppy Appeal for the Royal British Legion raised over £3,800; a significant increase on last year. This comprised of some £3,300 from the house to house collections and static points and over £500 from the collection taken during the Remembrance Sunday service at Easton.

Great credit goes to our new Poppy Appeal Organiser, Rob Spriggs who, together with our faithful band of collectors, gave up their time to collect on behalf of the RBL. We are extremely grateful to them all and also to the loyal gang of supporters who counted the money afterwards.

Above all, we thank all those who contributed so much to this year's appeal to enable the RBL to undertake the vital work they do in support of the Armed Forces community.

John Lang (chairman),

John Prince (hon.treasurer),

Richard Seymour (hon.secretary)

Royal British Legion - Itchen Valley branch



Itchen Valley Choral Society Annual Christmas concert

On Wednesday 6 December, near enough to Christmas for the flavour of it but far enough off to have time to spare, we gathered in Itchen Abbas and Avington village hall to hear the Itchen Valley Choral Society celebrate Christmas with an eclectic mix of songs. Some traditional carols, some well-loved Christmassy songs (Let it Snow!) and even some we were allowed to join in with, and all stitched together with readings from Dylan Thomas's wonderfully evocative *A Child's Christmas in Wales*: "Years and years ago, when I was a boy, when there were wolves in Wales, and birds the colour of red-flannel petticoats whisked past the harp-shaped hills ..."

We were welcomed with a glass of wine and the evening was rounded off with tables groaning with lovely Christmassy nibbles, all provided by the members of the Choral Society.

It was a lovely, cheerful event, and we all expressed our admiration for that happy band, not just for the food of course, but for the weeks and months



of practice, practice, practice that must have gone before to make all the words and music flow so delightfully. The conductor Jane Bryant and accompanist Ian Waring-Green received deservedly warm applause for creating an evening of great enjoyment. *Penny Russell*

Auction at Easton for Itchen Valley Churches

On 18 November Easton Village Hall was the venue for an Auction of items and promises to raise funds for our four beautiful historic churches in the Itchen Valley.

The event was the idea of, and was organised by, Vanessa and Leon Rosewell. Members of St Mary's Easton DCC worked with them to provide an attractive, welcoming hall and delicious



supper. The atmosphere was wonderfully warm and friendly and much enjoyed by the 65 guests. Details of the 35 Lots had been circulated on the Itchen List prior to the evening which encouraged a great deal of interest prior to commencement of bidding on the day. The auctioneer, Ian Souter from Southern Counties Auctions displayed expert management of the auction process and was professional,

enthusiastic and fun. There were 35 Lots, all reflecting Itchen Valley ownership, the first being a painting of St Mary's Church by Joan Bickerdike, who has lived in Itchen Abbas for more than 30 years. Bidding for the remaining lots proceeded very swiftly and included a Jill Croft Christmas hamper, Lucy Collis garden design, Pauline Lund flower arrangement, house blessing by Jan Brookshaw, days out in the Solent, ride on a Combine, chance to name David Poole's filly or colt and many, many more.

The lots offering accommodation - in London, Verbier, Cornwall and Bembridge - drew excellent bids and brought the grand total raised to £5,680.

Many thanks to Vanessa and to all the organisers who delivered another very special Itchen Valley event, as well as those who gave the gifts and promises and those who bid for them. We came away having enjoyed a wonderful evening and looking forward to enjoying the lots we purchased.

Frits Janssen

Our Wild Valley: Don't forget to feed the reindeer !

While you're busy sorting out mince pies and a glass of something special for Father Christmas, don't forget to feed the reindeer - reindeer lichen is a favourite in the Arctic countries, and we find some lichen similar to this in our New Forest. However, rather than picking this, I think Rudolf and team would prefer a few carrots and a good drink of water - a dog's bowl is fine! Reindeer lichen looks like a very spaced out sponge with lots of tiny branches. See photo of one species called Reindeer moss (*Cladonia rangiferina*). In the Arctic it can cover



huge areas and forms pasture land for reindeer, moose and caribou. In Scandinavia it has been used in the manufacture of alcohol, but not much as it has a very slow growth rate (3 to 5 mm per year)!

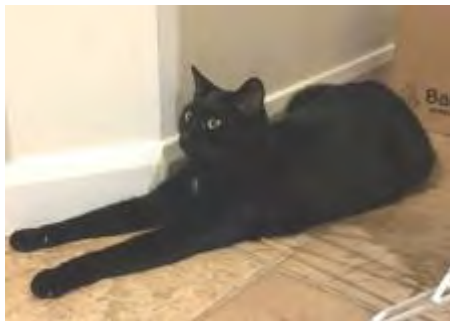
Lichens are crazy things (not one organism but at least 2 or 3) having evolved as fungus which live together as symbiotic partners with algae and/or Cyanobacteria. The algae will make energy from carbon dioxide (by photosynthesis) which it gives to the fungi to live on. Have I lost anyone yet? I'm thinking the fungi must provide a place of shelter and warmth for the algae, so they all live in harmony!

There are expert lichenologists who go out in the field and bring back samples to identify the different chemicals that, depending on the species, can give varying colour results. They are still working on the detail of the relationships between fungi and algae; still lots to study - see the britishlichensociety.org.uk for more detail. The joy is in the detail and that these lifeforms are hugely important as indicator species for air pollution and many other things.

Wishing everyone in the valley a happy harmonious Christmas, like the energy sharing lichen!

Below is not a reindeer but Buster is very special to us and a huge shout out

of thanks to those neighbours and friends further along the road who looked for him; there are so many I can't name you all, but your support lifted my heart up and kept me singing/shouting while we searched. Buster also wishes you a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and some time to put your feet up too!



Sophie Rogers

Local Business News



Most of you are familiar with Mould & Thompson Garage, which has been an established village business owned by Eric & Vera Thompson since the mid 1950's and was handed down to my husband Keith Thompson in 1992. Since his passing in 2008 I have been running the business myself, with the assistance of hardworking loyal employees.

The time has come for me to retire from Mould & Thompson and the business will continue as Easton Garage under the capable management of one of my longstanding employee, Kevin

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Winchester 01962 779319

From our MP

Before we go any further, Happy New Year. I hope 2018 brings you joy and grace in equal measure.



This month I am going to focus exclusively on a subject you'd expect a Member of Parliament to cover in these pages because there have, as you may have read, been significant developments of late around the future provision of local hospital services. What you won't have read is a wholly accurate (or political free) précis of the actual position.

The long-term configuration of acute hospital services (i.e. where we go when we're seriously unwell) has been the subject of many reviews over many years. The Hampshire Hospitals Foundation Trust favours building a new Critical Treatment Hospital at Junction 7 of the M3 between Winchester and Basingstoke to centralise consultant-led specialisms including stroke, cardiology, emergency

surgery and obstetrics.

For me as your MP, even though it would require serious compromise around Winchester Hospital and some very tough decisions, I was prepared to consider such a change. In more than seven years doing my job I have yet to meet a constituent who doesn't want the right care, in the right place, with the best people, when they're acutely unwell. To close myself off to the possibilities in this space would be falling well short of what you expect of someone holding my position.

Last month however, the West Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) finally confirmed it does NOT support a new build. My hunch for some time now has been that this was likely its view and, while hugely frustrating, it at least gives us clarity. No deal with the CCG was always better than a bad deal which would have seen the piecemeal reconfiguration of services away from Winchester. And, as I have consistently said, it's important to understand what Winchester Hospital is now before we get worked up about its future. So, while 'A&E under threat. fits neatly into a lazy headline, it misleads and frightens people. I am clear the RHCH must retain a front door – let's call that an emergency department – but only with safe and sustainable services behind. What goes on inside is far more important to me than what the sign says outside.

We have to maintain a sensible and balanced discussion about the future of acute care and we have to think of the bigger picture. I will be working closely with the Trust and its Commissioners this year to focus on securing the RHCH in the light of the CCG's decision by supporting the local NHS to deliver its local plan and press for

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You can find more about my work, locally and in Westminster, online and my comprehensive health pages sit at www.stevebrine.com/prioritynh Steve Brine

MP for Winchester & Itchen Valley

Letter from the Rectory January 2018

This is my last Letter as Rector of the Itchen Valley Churches for the IVN as I'm leaving the Parish in the middle of January. The last few months have been a time for me of looking back and looking forward. I've been looking back over my three years here as Rector of the church and looking forward to the future of the church in our four villages. I've been reflecting on the question: why is it important for the church to exist in our local community? Or to put it more bluntly: what is the point of the church? Christians believe that our deepest need is to be loved. Soren Kierkegaard, a Danish 19th century philosopher, wrote this: *'Deep within every man, there lies the dread of being alone in the world, forgotten by God, overlooked among the household of millions upon millions'*. We all have a deep need to know we are loved by God and loved by others. The point of the church is to be a community of people who know and experience this love of God for themselves and who passionately want to share this love of God with others. In some ways this is very simple. It's simple to say but not always so simple to do. One of the challenges in our 21st century culture is that many people outside the church community are just not interested in



God or Jesus and seem perfectly happy getting on with their lives without him. Maybe that's what you feel. What is going on?

The Christmas story from the bible can help us understand. We celebrate at Christmas the miracle of God entering our world as a baby in the birth of Jesus. God's plan is to show his love for us through Jesus and to extend his invitation through Jesus to become part of God's family. It's a good story. An unmarried mother is told she is going to have God's son by an angel. She sets out on a journey with her fiancé Joseph to Bethlehem. The baby Jesus is born in a stable. The shepherds are summoned to worship the baby by a host of angels. The wise men come from a distant land to bring costly gifts to the Christ child. What we tend to miss out from our retelling of the story is what happened next, but what happened next can help us understand why so many people are not interested in Jesus.

The Bible tells us that the wise men arrived in Jerusalem and consulted King Herod about where the future King of the Jewish people was to be born. Herod sought the advice of the priests and teachers of the law who told him that Bethlehem was where the scriptures foretold the birth would be. Matthew tells us in his gospel that Herod said this to the wise men, 'Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.. The wise men set off following the star and found Mary with her child. They gave their gifts and bowed down to worship the baby Jesus. Before the wise men left, they were warned by God in a dream not to go back to Herod so they returned to their home by a different route. Meanwhile, an angel also appeared to Joseph in a

dream and told him to flee the country and go to Egypt with Mary and the baby because Herod intended to search for the child and kill him. That's exactly what Joseph did and Herod gave the dreadful order to kill all the baby boys aged two years and under in and around Bethlehem in an attempt to murder the Christ child. Nothing can dull the shock and revulsion of Herod's order. It is horrific. Herod's motive was to extinguish all threats to his power and his way of life. He was deeply threatened by the prospect of the birth of a child who would become king and replace him as King of the Jewish people.

Jesus came as a Light into the world to show people just how much God loved them and invite them into his family for all eternity. Herod tried to extinguish that Light by his order to kill all the infant boys in Bethlehem. Herod didn't succeed. God stepped in to protect his child. Jesus said that his followers were to carry his light into the world by being a community of people who not only experienced God's love for themselves but who passionately want to share this love of God with others. Down the centuries since that time there have been numerous attempts to extinguish the light of Christ that has shone through the church. We see this most obviously in countries where Christians are persecuted and killed for their faith, like the recent attacks on Coptic churches in Egypt. But there are more subtle attempts in our culture to extinguish that light. Mostly they take the form of attitudes that make no room for a loving God who has revealed himself in Jesus. Our culture is characterised by cynicism and a thought world that leaves little room for the supernatural.

I began by reflecting on the question:

why is it important for the church to exist in our local community? The calling of our church is to carry the light of Christ so that everyone has the opportunity to encounter the love of God for themselves. As the church we do this very imperfectly. We get things wrong. We make mistakes. Yet in all sorts of ways we try to be a community that shows the love of Christ for all ages. We have the privilege of being able to offer a range of services with different worship styles ranging from our traditional Sunday services to our informal All Age services and Valley Worship. We also run a thriving group for youth called UTX and children's groups during our normal Sunday services. Everyone is welcome. During the week we run various things for all ages ranging from CAMEO, a monthly informal communion and lunch for the elderly, to Little Rainbows for carers and babies and toddlers.



In all that we do, we want to enable everyone to encounter the love of God for themselves in Jesus. It has been an immense privilege for me to serve God in his church in Itchen Valley over the last three years. As we head into the New Year, my hope and my prayer for the coming year is that more and more people in our local community will experience the joy of encountering God's love through Jesus.

Amanda Denniss



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Who was who in the Itchen Valley

The Heritage Open Days in September gave me a chance to glimpse the contents of the large office safe at Warrens stationers in Winchester. On the shelves of this small room were some copies of the Warrens Directory. This occasional publication was a bit like a telephone directory but without any numbers, merely showing who lived where, grouped into suburbs of the city or outlying villages. I thumbed through the 1953 edition and glanced at the pages for the Itchen Valley. Not totally unexpectedly I could see family names still resident today in the villages along with many others, now long gone, who left their mark on village life at the time.

Clearly class distinction was still rife in those days and the directory only lists those considered suitable for inclusion (or maybe just those residents who did regular business with the shop). Why bother to show names of people who were unlikely to buy the book? Take Avington for example. Out of a population of 198, only 14 families are listed. The owners of Avington Park and Lovington Farm are shown, and two tradesmen (a blacksmith and a painter) make the cut but residents of The Row are conspicuous by their absence. Alas, none of the people in 1953 still reside in the village although Major (subsequently Colonel) Hickson's daughter still lives in Avington Park.

A similar selection process arises in Martyr Worthy. Out of a population of 350, only 31 families are listed. But now you may see a few names you

recognise. Chichester, Ffennell, Gray, Impey, Seymour and Sutcliffe are conspicuous in the list. Yes, some families have been around for longer than you might imagine!

Easton's entry includes a commercial section where we find Mould and Thompson – still going strong. Alas the baker, the grocer and the market gardeners have all gone, along with the police constable. Curry's moved out of Worthy Park many years ago to be replaced by Princes Mead School.

The Burge and Hunt families are still resident in Itchen Abbas but the shop and post office disappeared many years ago. The shop moved from what is now Mulberry House to larger premises that were subsequently demolished to create the entrance to Little Hayes Lane. A surprising omission from the commercial section is the Edmonds Engineering works, now the site of Itchen Abbas & Avington village hall. Perhaps Edmonds bought their stationery from a rival supplier!

Readers with long memories may enjoy spotting some more recent residents who, alas, are no longer with us.

Vernon Tottle

Avington.—4 miles.

(Post Town—Winchester.)

Population, 198.

Andrews, A. H., Avington dairy
Buchanan, Mrs. L., Journeys End
Chinchin, F., Lovington dairy
Fisher, D., Black Farm
Flux, Mrs., Avington Farm house
Hall, Chas. R., Cadena Cottage
Hickson, Major J. B., Avington Park
Hughes, Dr. Audrey M., The Old
School house
Nunn, E., The Lodge
Proud, C. H., blacksmith
Rose, S. W., painter and decorator
Shelley, Sir Percy Bysshe, Lovington
Farm
Whapshare, G., The Old School
Worlock, R. F., Park View

Easton.—3 miles.

(Including houses on main Alresford Road outside the City boundary, which are in parish of Easton.)

(Post Town—Winchester.)

Population, 408.

Early Closing Day—Wednesday.

PRIVATE RESIDENTS.

Archer, Adml. Sir Ernest, The Cottage

Cass, L. V., M.A., North View

Chiddy, Miss E. J., Thatched house

Collins, B. W., The Farmery

Corrall, Major G. E., O.B.E., Cherry Tree Cottage

Cubitt, G. E. S., Bacton Thatch

Cuff, H., The Farm House

Denham, Mrs. A. A., Thornbury

De Stein, Sir E., Fulling Mills

Duffin, E. J. R., Dunstable

Elgee, Major P. E. L., the Old Rect.

Harris, P. E. C., Park Cottage

Harris, Major P., Park Cottage

Harris, Mrs. M. S., Grasmere

Haslam, J. W. M., Green Meadows

Heathcote, Miss E. B., Dymoke

House

Hillier, B., Roseacre

Jarvis, E. J., Lone Barn, Winnall lane

Jelly, Mrs. E. A., Fernleigh

Julian, Mrs., Garth cottage

Maslen, H., Wecke cottage

Molony, Rev. Canon B. C., O.B.E.,

T.D., M.A., The Rectory

Newman, E. F., Easton Farm

Paget, Miss, The Shieling

Pople, Miss, Dalmeny

Porter, J. F., St. Anne's

Powell, Miss, Sunnyside

Puttick, R. W., East View

Ross, B. G. Campbell, Olde Cottage

Rowe, Miss, Trellis Cottage

Searle, A. M., Tudor Thatch

Storey, R. B., Sunset View

Tanner, Mrs. J., The Corner

Taylor, M. P., Yew Tree Cottage

Ward, Mrs. A. Harfield

Warren, J., The Bungalow

Warren, S. E., The Cranny

Wibberley, Mrs. T., The Bungalow,

The Corner

Worlock, Capt. H. T., Bat and Ball

COMMERCIAL.

Cuell, E., market gardener

Cuell, G., market gardener

Currys Ltd., Worthy Park

Hughes, J., police constable

King, the Misses, Manor House and

Farm

Lucas, H. (Cricketers)

Marsh, A., market gardener

Mould & Thompson, garage

Passingham & Standing, bakers

Pink, P. D.

Stokes, C. F. (Chestnut Horse)

Swain, Miss F. M., head school

mistress

Watton, E. L., grocer and baker,

post office

Itchen Abbas.—4½ miles.

(Post Town—Winchester.)

Population, 322.

PRIVATE RESIDENTS.

Ambler, Mrs. M. L., Greenfields

Arnold, W. J., Fishing Lodge

Birrell, Miss V., Uplands

Boissier, Captain N. (R.N.), West-

winds

Boxer, Rear Admiral H. P., Trees

Bruce, Capt. the Hon. J., R.N.,

Itchen Lodge

Bull, Luke, Brydges Acre

Burge, J. H., Itchen Down Farm

Burton, E. S. V., The Lawn

Buxton, Mrs. R. V., Abbey House

Corbett, R. C. U., Itchen Abbas

Cottage

Crutchfield, P., Walton Cottage

Davies, C. W., La Quinta

Earle, P. K., Kinnell

Edmonds, P. J., Old House

Hart, H. J., Merlewood

Harvey, Miss D. M., Courtlands

Hoare, Mrs., Bignell's Cottage

Hodgson, Rev. D. and Miss, Oak-

wood

Holloway, Mrs. C., The Nook

Honer, A. E., Newlands Acre

Howard, Brig.-Gen. T. N. S. M., C.B.,

D.S.O., Little Hayes

Hunt, Rev. O. A., S. Andrews

Hunt, R. H. A., Oakhammer

Hunter, Canon R. M., Hilltop

Leach, G. S., Harefield

Mayne, Dr., Wood End

McMorland, P. R. J., The Warren

Nixon, Mrs. D., Water Wynch

Phillips, S. H., Gorse Cottage

Pitt, P. F., Robin Hill

Rabnett, C. G., Sunny Bank

Rawstorne, Mrs. M. A., Barn Close

Robertson, Dr., Robin Hill

Savile, Mrs. E. G., Down House

Stoney, Mrs. P. S., Greenacre

Tate, S. H., Park View

Titherley, Dr. A. W., The Manor

Titherley, J. L., Dawstone

Utterton, The Misses, Gages Close

Williams, Col. F. Ainslie, O.B.E., T.D.,

Itchen Abbas House

Wilson, Rev. E. Boyd, rector

Wilson, Major W. G., The Elms

void, Old Rectory House

void, Meadowcroft

COMMERCIAL.

Adams, C. R., shopkeeper

Burge & Son, J. R. (farmers)

Harris, L. V. (Plough Inn)

Moon, Miss (Council School)

Parr, Mrs., (Post Office)

Worthy (Martyr)—4 miles.

(Post Town—Winchester.)

Population, 350.

Allen, Major A. W., D.S.O., Lower

Chilland House

Arnold, W. J., Fishing lodge

Blackwood, Miss, Chilland corner

Bull, L., Brydges Acre

Butchart, Mrs. K. E. R., The

Worthys

Chichester, M. B., Chilland Ford

Ferguson, Col. A. H., Burntwood

Stud

Ffennell, Denzil, Martyr Worthy pl.

Fraser, Brig. F. H. and Miss,

Haylands

Freshfield, the Misses, the Manor

House

Glynn, Col. R. H., Burntwood house

Gray, George H., Grace's farm

Hay, W. D., Bridget's farm

Hills, G. A., The Lunways Inn

Impey, L. A., Chilland cottage

Long, P. de Lande, The Meadows

Mackenzie, Mrs. R. A., The Croft,

Chilland

Major, F. S. S., Chillandham Farm

Martin, Miss, Thorn Hayes

Mitchelson, T. K., Hatch End

Moon, V. G., Lanteglos, Chilland

Payne, Rev. M. G. J., M.A., Hon.

C.F., Rector, Martyr Worthy

Rectory

Piper, L. J., Shroner farm

Redfern, Ian H., Freefolk

Roth, D., Hornton cottage

Scott, Col. C. A. M. D. Shroner

Wood

Seymour, Lady Blanche, Upper

Chilland House

Sharpe, E., Thorn, Chilland

Sutcliffe, P. M. B., Burntwood farm

Twiss, Major-Gen. Sir William L. O.,

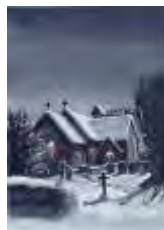
K.C.I.E., C.B., M.C., Chilland Barn

Wrigley, W. C., Little Chilland

We hope that readers will be able to send us their memories of some of the people listed here, and some people who are not listed but are remembered as having lived in one of the four villages. Geoff Dee, a long time Easton

resident, has already provided some interesting snippets and I include this one Mould with Eric Thompson founded the garage in Easton. Mould was also Mrs Cubitt's driver until, in her words "he was inconsiderate enough to die" because it fits nicely with the news on Page 11. Ed

Itchen valley church services



Sunday 7th January

8am	BCP Holy Communion	Avington
10am	All Age Service	Itchen Abbas
11am	Matins	Easton

Sunday 14th January

10am Parish Communion Easton

Amanda's farewell service, please come to say goodbye to her and Oliver as they prepare to move on

Sunday 21st January

8am	BCP Holy Communion	Martyr Worthy
10am	Valley Worship	Easton
6pm	Evensong	Avington

Sunday 28th January

8am	BCP Holy Communion	Itchen Abbas
10am	Parish Communion	Martyr Worthy
6pm	Taize	Easton

Rector

Rev Amanda Denniss 779832 amandadenniss@gmail.com

Assistant Priest

Rev Alex Pease 791010 rev@ampease.co.uk

Licensed Lay Minister

Mr Gerry Stacey 620263 gstacey@easynet.co.uk

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

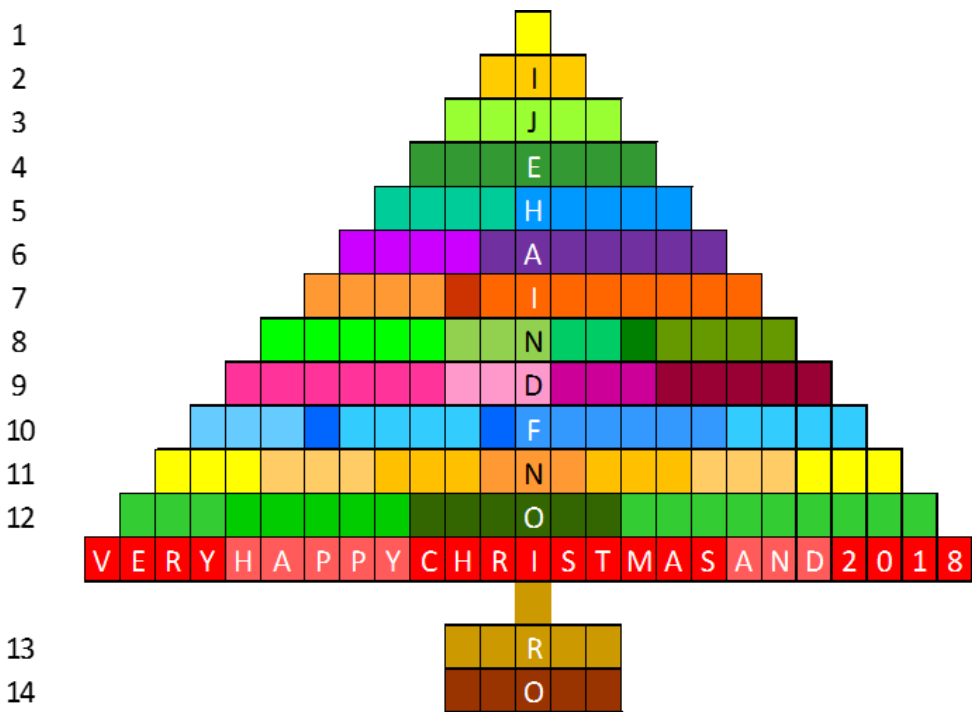
Itchen Valley Churchwardens: Robin Greenwood 779540;

Andrew Impey 779645; Theo Mezger 07775 908014; Vanessa Rosewell 841182;
Tony Gaster 779110;

We will say goodbye to Amanda on 14 January. However Alex and Gerry are still with us, so is Jan Brookshaw. Alex is our assistant priest and will continue to exercise his ministry during the vacancy. Most likely after 14 January the contact phone for the rectory (779832) will not be used. We are making plans for calls to be diverted. The parish office (779845) located in St John's is not open all the time. Please feel free to contact any of the churchwardens in the meantime. We expect to have a definitive plan and contact details in place for February.

Pull-out Christmas Quiz

Clues below



1	The centre of the universe? Or not, for a happy Christmas all round!
2	3.1416 etc etc, or you may like the mince variety
3	The American waiter bids you – so do we
4	You can't choose your family but you can choose these!
5	No time for 18 of them just now, but you might fit in a shorter round.
6	The best comedy sketch ever? 2^2 is a clue
7	Threepence? Not really, but can you remember Tommy Steele?
8	$\{(7 \times 8) + 1\} \div 19$ is just right for a crew
9	Disney's done it again! Two Bs get together happily in the end.
10	I expect we'll hear Maria singing this again on TV this year – it's tuneful!
11	Tous pour un etc – it sounds better in English though Dumas might disagree.
12	Not a creature was stirring
13	How your Christmas is wished to be
14	A Belgian detective's dog, the bookmakers have an interest if Christmas is like this.

A DELECTABLE TASTE OF SEASONAL GOODIES

1. What is the name of the cake traditionally eaten in Italy at Christmas?
2. A classic French dessert, the Bûche de Noël resembles what?
3. In which film does the main character pour maple syrup over a plate of spaghetti?
4. The biggest gingerbread house in the world was built in which U.S. state?
5. Eggnog has eggs in it – true or false?
6. What did Hagrid give Harry Potter for Christmas in his fourth year?
7. What does the Parker family end up eating for Christmas dinner in the 80s film *A Christmas Story*?
8. When carving meat, is it best to cut with or across the grain?
9. A newly enlightened Scrooge has what prize dish delivered to the Cratchit family?

TIDDLER JOKES

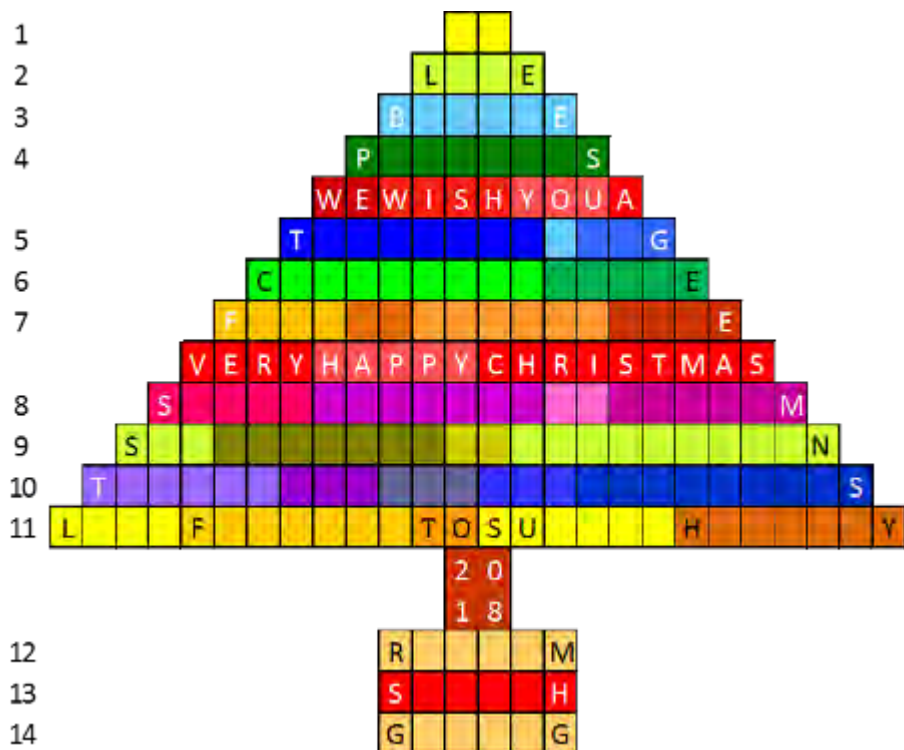
1. Why is a broke drum the best Christmas gift?
2. What do reindeer hang on their Christmas trees?
3. Why are Christmas trees so bad at sewing?
4. Who hides in the bakery at Christmas?
5. What do you get if you cross a bell with a skunk?
6. What does Santa suffer from if he gets stuck in a chimney?
7. Who delivers presents to baby sharks at Christmas?
8. What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?
9. How does Darth Vader like his Christmas turkey?
10. Why doesn't anyone trust Jeremy Corbyn to put up the Christmas tree?
11. Why does Boris like advent calendars?
12. What did Taylor Swift do when she was covered in snow?

CHRISTMAS TRIVIA

1. If you were born on Christmas Day, what's your star sign?
2. The North Pole is located in which ocean?
3. Which of Santa's reindeer shares its name with a mythical god of love?
4. What (metallic) Christmas decoration takes its name from an old French word meaning spark?
5. In literature, which fictional character said it is 'always Winter, but never Christmas'?
6. How many Lords-a-leaping are there in 'The 12 Days of Christmas'?
7. Which classic Christmas performance is based on a dark story by German author ETA Hoffmann?
8. Which act besides the Beatles is the only other act to have three consecutive Christmas number one singles?



Can you identify these Christmas films?
 Dates ranging from 1947 to 2011. There is a
 list on P 39 but you will have to apply titles
 to pictures yourself.



1	All of us
2	All you need is ...
3	A mere something to hang on the tree, round and coloured usually
4	Important things to put under the tree
5	The cost of feeding the birds, not the smallest coin in any sense.
6	Traditional at Christmas dinner, gleaming red but not holly, an integral part of 10 below.
7	Famous Enid Blyton characters updated for modern eating, coeliacs maybe?
8	$(\{3^3 \times 5\} - 3) \div 6$ holding something important and rare up?
9	$(\{3^3 \times 5\} - 3) \div 7$ university qualifications divide us, but we are closer than we think
10	If you are lucky enough to get this we wish you a good digestion. The bird is the centrepiece but the frills are important too
11	If you are blue at this time of year try a long view ahead and plan a trip in warmer times
12	I got it, so no need to hit me with your stick
13	Can you hear the bells as it approaches? Or see Rudolf?
14	Better than receiving – they say!

The Practical Gardener

I'm sure we have reached the time of year when it's just nice to look outside but stay inside. But surprisingly I can find jobs to do even at this time. There are still leaves to gather and my experience shows if you clear flower beds of leaves, you also clear hiding places for slugs. Whilst I do have a collection of noisy machines, the old leaf rake is still a most effective tool, better than an expensive work out in the gym. I'm astonished to see a few plants still in bloom.

This is also a good time for some serious pruning and I have been both surprised and rewarded by my gardener's habit of cutting back hard. The results have been really good. Even a yew hedge that had grown over a path has benefited from having been cut back by a foot or more. I look at this as a time to prune roses because when it gets very windy they start to rock and this has to be bad. I never prune when it's frosty.

And when all the prunings can't go in the green bag, then it's the time a shredder really earns its keep. I always let someone else shred the prickly

stuff! Just recently I had a large cherry tree felled, then the stump ground out. There was a huge pile of material to dispose of yet it's also excellent mulch. At the same time I am lengthening an existing path. Now the new rotavator comes into play and the resultant soil can be sifted to remove roots and

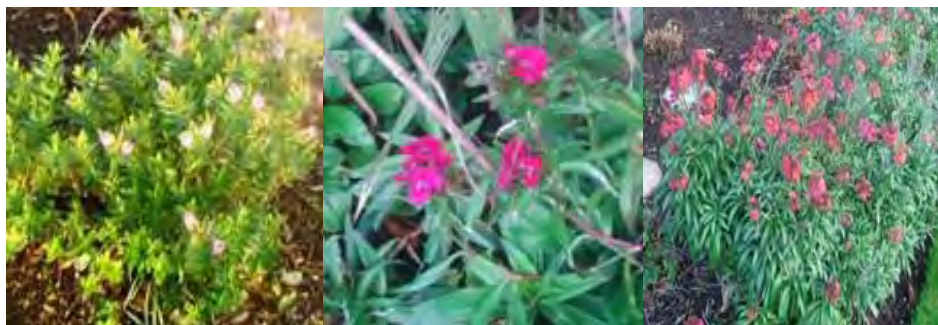
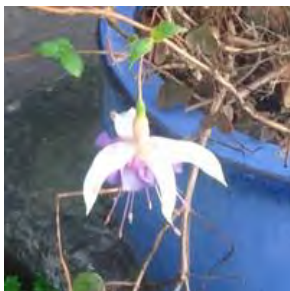
stones. This new path will be an excellent place to dump stones and flints which always appear here and there. So when I weed, I always have a sieve close by.

It seems a great pity not to be able to see into the greenhouse which is full of geraniums and fuchsias in bloom. Recent nights have

seen the frost protection heaters in use. Yet there is a different problem and it's ventilation. I have an electric fan to help with this but the old one had stopped working. I now have a new system and when the temperature goes above 20°C, there is some forced ventilation.

January is the time to consider sowing. Tomatoes, sweet peas, broad beans will all benefit from an early start. So there's an idea for Christmas presents – packets of seeds
Happy Christmas.

Tony Gaster



From a City Councillor

Although the whole Council supports the idea of building a new sports centre at Bar End, unfortunately there are two schools of thought as regards its principal elements. The view held by Cabinet is that, in addition to a 50m pool, the centre should include an 8-court sized sports hall – sports halls are measured by the number of badminton courts. The other view, which I share, is that it should be a 12-court hall. The debate is how big does it need to be to accommodate netball, basketball, badminton, indoor football, korfbal, volley ball, gymnastics and all the other sports that would typically use the hall, often together. The 8-court school says that there is enough space elsewhere in the district and that there are cost issues, whilst the 12-court school says that all the sports clubs want the larger hall and that the cost difference over the lifetime of the centre is nominal. There are several points of contention, such as the reliability of the data being used, much of which, according to the 12-court school, is too theoretical and based on generic modelling rather than on real-life local research.

Another point of contention is whether Full Council will get a vote on what will be built. The Council voted last year to build a 12-court hall, and many think that if that decision is to be reversed then it ought to be made by the 45 members in Full Council, rather than by the 8 members in Cabinet or by the 3 voting members on the Sport and Leisure Committee.

There are good arguments being made by both schools of thought but, to me, even if the larger hall isn't immediately full at peak hours from the outset – many say it will be – it should be obvious that a larger hall would

provide additional flexibility and the capacity to grow over the 40 year lifetime of the centre. Sport is one of the most positive and levelling features of modern society, and has become increasingly important for all people across the social spectrum and of all ages. If we're only going to build the one centre, let's make it the best we possibly can.

Best wishes for 2018

Kim Gottlieb

New arrivals

We welcome Susan Crook and Vernon Legge who have moved into Dymoke Cottage. They have moved from Bramdean. Susan is the owner of the Alresford gift shop.

Jude Mezger

'Opera Stars'

In the early 20th century Caruso and Dame Nellie Melba were household names. Later, John McCormack and Beniamino Gigli were equally famous. In the 1950s, Maria Callas was the sensational soprano discovery who had what she called a 'love affair' with her London audience - she returned to Covent Garden year after year until 1965, meanwhile featuring in the gossip columns during her scandalous relationship with Aristotle Onassis. After that, fast forward to the early 1990s when the Three Tenors brought Pavarotti, Carreras & Domingo to wider recognition - Pavarotti even introduced *Nessun Dorma* (from Puccini's *Turandot*) to the football terraces!

Nowadays, the names of various pop stars spring readily to mind for most people (myself excluded!), but vox pop interviews in Winchester High Street might well encounter people unable to



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name a single contemporary opera star. It would be interesting to speculate why this should be so, but that's not the purpose of this article.

Opera aficionados will flock to hear their favourite singers, whether it be Bryn Terfel, Plácido Domingo or Renée Fleming. More often than one would wish, a member of the house management team will emerge in front of the curtain before the show begins, to announce that Bryn or Renée or whoever is indisposed, and will then name some unfortunate, last-minute, relatively unknown singer to the accompaniment of groans. This is of course insulting to the person who has probably flown several hours at a moment's notice to be the substitute.

Occasionally, as happened with Welsh National Opera in Southampton a few years ago, the reverse happens and it is some relatively unknown performer who is replaced by a star such as Bryn, to the accompaniment of loud cheers - once more insulting to the poor person being substituted! At Covent Garden, there was the famous case of an American soprano due to appear in the name role in *Tosca*, but who was dropped (the rumour goes) because she had become enormously fat. On that occasion, we were delighted to have Angela Gheorghiu as the substitute!

Some opera companies manage perfectly well by ignoring the star system, and casting outstandingly good

singers who are not yet so much in the public eye. Our local company, the Grange Festival, excels in this respect, managing to produce wonderfully accomplished singers on a low budget. Once a company establishes a reputation for this, they have no difficulty in filling the theatre without

star names to draw the crowds. In the recent past Grange Park Opera developed the practice of producing most of their operas as described above, while including one production a year with a star such as Bryn to balance things out - with increased seat prices to match!

Caruso had a reputation for practical jokes. When partnering Dame Nelly in Puccini's *La Bohème*, he started to sing the aria "Your tiny hand is frozen" while slipping a hot sausage into Melba's hand.

Shakespearean actors often play jokes when their back

is turned to the audience, in the hope of causing one of the other players to corpse. Dame Judi Dench is famous for being expert in this practice, as well as loving saucy jokes. Long before the current controversy, she was very appreciative of the help that Harvey Weinstein had given her to establish a new film career. She had a fake tattoo saying 'JD ♥ HW' placed on a usually unseen part of her anatomy, and then exposed this to Weinstein over lunch - perhaps the only woman to have really embarrassed him. But that's another story...

Peter McManus

Family File 8 New Year, New Me

It's that time of year again! When the gym memberships soar. Of course, we all know of stories of those who have paid huge amounts of



money in the first week of January to start some new physical regime, only to have abandoned it by February, as reality sets in. New Year resolutions are the Black Fridays of the fitness industry. I am told that some gyms make more money from their bars than they do from their subscriptions, as if lifting pints is as useful as lifting weights! But here is a different approach to New Year Resolutions: Don't think of what you are going to DO in the New Year but rather WHO you want to be and then decide what you are going to do to about it. But how?

Is it a Chinese proverb or something Mahatma Gandhi said:

*Your thoughts become your words;
your words become your actions;
your actions become your habits;
your habits become your character and
your character becomes your destiny.*

St Paul wrote something similar in Romans 5: 'suffering produces perseverance, perseverance, character and character, hope'.

But whoever said it first, this is the idea that (whatever the personality with which we are born) the path to character is not taken by leaps and bounds, but by thousands of little decisions. The little decision to resolve to be a different person in 2018 could be the beginning of a major character

shift.

So who do you want to be in 2018? I thought that the best approach was to ask someone who loves me for one word to describe the person that Lucy wanted me to be in 2018. She said 'relaxed', which given how much busier I am likely to be in 2018 than I have even been in 2017, may be a tall order. However, I will be working on it!

So then she asked me what one word would describe who I wanted her to be in 2018. I said 'but you are perfect already' 'right answer' she replied, but then we did have a bit of a chat... which I am not going to share with you...

Alex Pease

From the Parish Council

At our December meeting some ideas and dates came up for 2018.

The first is the Spring Litter Pick. This is part of Keep Britain Tidy



and the day for the national event is Saturday 3 March so please put it in your 2018 diary (electronic or otherwise). The more people who turn up the easier the task, and involving the young is a good way to make them aware of the problems caused by those who create litter. We are looking for a Project Co-ordinator for this – anyone interested please let me know.

Another idea which needs thought is whether to join in the lighting of a chain of beacons to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the end of the First World War. Such an event will take some organisation and planning, including finding a suitable location so is only worthwhile if there is sufficient local enthusiasm. Also, since the Armistice was declared on 11

Easton Village Hall Ina Williams 779465 or evh.booking@googlemail.com

Authentic Pilates	Mon	9 am, 6:30 pm	Fri 9am	Judy	07774 899909
Ems Bray Pilates	Tue	8:45 & 10 am	Thu 9am	Emily	07876 033893
Sally Stanyard	Tue	4.15 pm - 7.45 pm		Sally	01962 776562
School of Dance	Thu	6.45 pm and	Fri 4 pm		
	Sat	9 am - 2.30 pm			
Moo Music	Wed	9:15 am		Denise	01962 779182
Brew with a View	Wed	3 - 5 pm		Ina	01962 779465
David Michel Yoga	Fri	1 - 2 pm		David	07790 899890
Dionne Yoga	Tue	8.15 pm;		Dionne	07961 888676
	Fri	10.30 and 11.45 am			
Mahjong / U3A	Tue	2 - 5 pm		Anne	01420 563393

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November, any celebration will be following close on Guy Fawkes night (unless it replaces it for this one year only?). Please let your Parish Councillors know your views.

A longer term activity which may be of interest to those who might wish to join in is the upgrading and upkeep of our footpaths. We are in discussion with the Ramblers Association who are keen to see stiles replaced by kissing gates. If you are interested in helping them with this and other work such as repairing finger posts please get in touch with Chris Jeffes (see our website) who can give you more details.

On the subject of our website, we are preparing a specification for providers to quote. A number of organisations have expressed interest in joining with us and others to provide links to their sites. We have also discussed how we can provide more information on planning applications. This is something we would like to do but getting the information we need is part of the problem, especially when it comes to feedback. This was raised by a number of Town and Parish Councils at a recent meeting of Clerks and Chairmen with Winchester City Council.

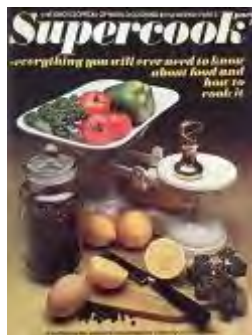
A number of reports have come to us recently about construction work causing mud on the roads, about fly tipping and abandoned cars. Naturally we pass this information on to the responsible authorities. However, in some cases like fly tipping it is quicker if you can do this yourselves, via the City Council website; it helps if road names match those on the O.S. Map and even better with an O.S. grid reference. You can download an App, which has the advantage of recording the exact location of the problem, if you report it when you are there.

Lastly, fencing. When using the right of way between Cowdown and Grey's Lea, please keep close to the wooden fence. There are some thin electric fence posts to guide you, please keep between them and the wooden fence and away from the river. Also, if there are cattle in any field please take the advice on the notices and keep your dog on a lead. You may have seen that some fencing has been installed on the corner of Couch Green. It did result in a resident putting an unfortunate 'rant' (their word) on a media site complaining about this fencing and the fence surrounding the play area at Couch Green. If they had contacted the Parish Council we could have explained that the new fencing was the result of warnings we received about the risk of travellers getting access to the site and the consequent problems and costs of getting them moved. The play area was fenced some time ago following advice from the safety inspector. You might have read about that earlier in the Valley News.

Happy New Year everyone
Patrick Appleby, IVPC Chairman

Almond Crunchies

In an attempt to de-clutter I was about to throw away a tatty once white binder containing my grandmother's copies of *Supercook*, 'the encyclopaedia of world cooking in 112 weekly parts'. As far as I know my grandmother never even boiled an egg, but she must have hoped to





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Bin collections over Christmas - please read this!!

As usual, kerbside collections will be disrupted over the Christmas and New Year.

The green bins due for emptying on Friday 29 December will be collected on Tuesday 2 January.

The black bins due for emptying on Friday 5 January will be collected on Monday 8 January. Please note that there will **not** be a collection of green bags on that day.

The green bins due for emptying on Friday 12 January will be collected on Saturday 13 January.

Normal service will be resumed from Friday 19 January when both green bags AND Christmas trees will be collected. This is the only day when trees will be picked up for recycling.

Editor



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interest someone. Of course, I could not bin it without having a look and now I can't get rid of it until I have read it and shared some of the gems with the IVN. It was published in 1972 and it is interesting to see what has changed, and what has not. The recipes are given in imperial measurements, with liquids also given in cups, but there is a very comprehensive table of equivalents at the front of Part I, as well as translations of English and American ingredients – do you know what Graham flour is in English? – and that Alligator Pear 'is the common name in the US for the Avocado', is it still? I hope that the recipe below will be good for those who have children available to help make them. According to the symbols helpfully provided, this is easy, reasonable cost and takes less than an hour, but note the chilling time, so presumably they mean less than an hour of actual working time. I have updated the recipe by leaving out references to beating with a wooden spoon in a medium-sized mixing bowl.

Almond Crunchies

6oz sugar

8oz softened butter

1 egg yolk

8oz flour, sifted

8oz almonds, blanched and chopped

¼ teaspoon almond essence (about which it says "today ... almond essence ... is generally synthetic")

Cream the butter and sugar and almond essence, beat in the egg yolk, mix in the flour and chopped almonds. Put flour on your hands and pat the dough into a ball, cover and chill in 'fridge for an hour. Line baking sheets with greaseproof paper.

Preheat the oven to Gas mark 4, 180°C (sorry, fan ovens were not invented, in general about 10° cooler I believe)

Take small quantities (makes about 50), roll into small balls and flatten into

rounds – this is where the children are most necessary. Place on baking sheets and bake for 15 to 20 minutes.

Charlotte Appleby

PS: my grandmother did not collect all 112 editions.

44 Empty Pages

Imagine an empty
Itchen Valley News.

44 Pages without
any articles,
without any photos
and without any
adverts. It wouldn't
be that interesting
would it? Turning
the pages would
take longer than
the reading.



That's what the Itchen Valley News would be like if it wasn't for the team of volunteers behind the magazine. So a very big and heartfelt thank you to everyone who does their bit towards publication. The team of editors who collate the contributions and who decide what goes where and how it looks on the page. The advertising team, who persuade potential customers to market their goods and services to the Itchen Valley. The distributing team, who deliver the magazine to your door, month in, month out. And the finance team, who make sure the printer gets paid on time.

A big thank you also to everyone who writes for the magazine. Without your contributions it would indeed be a publication with a lot of blank spaces.

Seasons Greetings to you all.

Vernon Tottle

Editor, Itchen Valley News

Do you keep chickens, ducks, geese...?

Help protect your birds from the risk of **#birdflu**

Did you know?

There is a constant risk of bird flu in the UK from wild birds. As it's highly contagious take action to protect your birds from catching it.



Remember

Any very sick birds, or unexplained deaths, must be assessed by your vet. By law suspicion of bird flu is notifiable and can affect poultry movement and trade.

Tip 1: Cleaning

Clean footwear before and after visiting your birds. Keep areas clean and tidy, and regularly disinfect hard surfaces. Humanely control rats and mice.



Tip 2: Feeding

Place your birds' food and water in fully enclosed areas that are protected from wild birds, and remove any spilled feed regularly.

Tip 3: Fencing

Keep your birds separate from wildlife and wild waterfowl by putting suitable fencing around the outdoor areas they access.



Tip 4: Stay aware

<http://animalhealth.system-message.co.uk>

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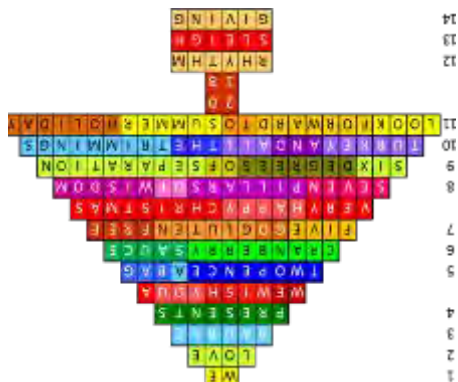
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SEASONAL GOODIES

Answers to pages 22 and 23

Answers to Page 24



Answers to Page 21



TIDDLER JOKEs

1. You just can't beat it!
2. Horn-aments!

9. Turkey

8. Across

7. Peking Duck

6. Chocolate Frogs

5. True

4. Texas

3. Elf

2. Yule log

1. Panettone

2003 Love Actually
Christmas

1993 The Nightmare Before

Carol

1992 The Muppet Christmas

1990 Home Alone

Christmas Vacation

1989 National Lampoon's

1988 Die Hard

1984 Gremlins

1982 The Snowman

Christmas

1966 How the Grinch stole

1965 A Charlie Brown Christmas

1954 White Christmas

1947 Miracle on 34th Street

CHRISTMAS FILMS

8. Spice Girls

7. Nutcracker

6. 10

Witch and the Wardrobe

5. Mr. Tumnus in The Lion, the

4. Tinsel

3. Cupid

2. Arctic

1. Capricorn

CHRISTMAS TRIVIA

12. Shake it off

number 10

11. He gets to open the door to

10. Because it leans to the left

9. On the dark side

8. Frostbite!

7. Santa Jaws

6. Claustrophobia!

5. Jingle Smells!

4. A mince spy!

3. They always drop their needles!

Big works in Itchen Abbas

Those who are regular walkers will have seen the work going on at the site of the New House, near the church in Itchen Abbas. My grandson, aged 3, is fascinated by the excavators. It looks to be a big project when eventually a new house will be built and the old “New House” will be demolished. Watch this space.

Tony Gaster



More Clubbing: Little Rainbows

Little Rainbows is a great way to introduce all pre-school children to church. We meet every Monday throughout the year (except bank holidays) at 10 am in St John’s Church Itchen Abbas. We sing songs, hear a story from the bible and the older children can do a craft. Little ones have a snack and grown ups are fed with the most delicious homemade cakes, biscuits and coffee made by our fantastic congregation.



Little Rainbows welcomes all mummies, daddies, carers, grandparents and nannies with pre school children. We look forward to seeing you.

Claire Hunt

Local monthly information

Waste collections in January

Black bins and green bags on Monday 8th and Friday 19th. Green bins on Tuesday 2nd, Saturday 13th and Friday 26th.

Cameo

On Tuesday 16th January.

Farmers. Market in Winchester

Sundays 14th and 28th.

Parish Council Full Meeting

Thursday 4th January Easton VH

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School term timetable operates from

Thursday 4th January.

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

on Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd January.

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

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

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