# Valley News

Issue 27 March 2016 For Avington, Easton, Itchen Abbas and Martyr Worthy

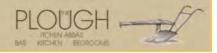




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### WELCOME to the valley news

### Dear Readers

As usual this edition is packed with news about events to enjoy, all kinds of advice from gardening via lightbulbs to books, as well as knowledgeable information about what goes on in the countryside around us. Do for instance consider joining in the initiative to get rid of litter (page 4) - of course it will have to be done again, but there will be a moment when there is not a tin can to be seen (page 16). The WI will be providing refreshments after the litter pick.

On the river the orange fishermen do their job of protecting the trout (page 11) - whilst a short distance upstream one person has recorded the most astonishing variety of different birds around Avington Lake - what a list! (page 16). And we pay tribute to two remarkable women, one the centre of her family life (page 25), the other with the distinction of becoming Mayor of Winchester (page 23).

I have just enjoyed one of the Valley Lent lunches, organised this year by Stephanie Gretton, a chance to share soup and chat. There are more in March - just turn up on the day (page 5).

Walking with or without a dog is perhaps a way in which we have to be tolerant and considerate of each other in order to be good neighbours. There is a thoughtful and well informed article on page 18, from one of the many amongst our readership who volunteer for a great variety of charities. Do contact Ronnie Johns (page 19) if you would like to share your experience of

volunteering. whether for one charity or for several.



Meanwhile we will have a focus outside the Valley in the coming months as we consider the arguments for and against staying in the EU, a complicated issue that we are all going to have to ponder now that it is our responsibility to help to make the decision.

Please keep the wonderful articles coming in - the News is only as good as the content and photographs you

Next month's editor is Tony Gaster. Verity Coleman

Itchen Valley News

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# THE ITCHEN VALLEY CLEAN UP OF MARCH EVERYONE NEEDED

### Meeting points:

Avington: Itchen Abbas Easton: Martyr Worthy: War Memorial Village Hall car park The Cricketers car park War Memorial

Top of Chilland Lane

Please bring with you. Hi-viz jacket or clothing Gloves Friends and family Bin bags will be provided

The Itchen Valley's spick and span, Ma'am Happy 90th Birthday





### What's On

# St Mary's Easton Flower Rota meeting Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 10 am

Don't forget to contact me if you would like to be at the coffee morning (see last month's News)

Penelope Kellie

pkellie@pkworlkwide.com or 779317

### Way of the Cross - Martyr Worthy Good Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 10 am



Every year in Martyr Worthy the Itchen Valley Parish holds an event to which people travel from the surrounding countryside. In *The Way of the Cross* we act out the final hours of Jesus' life as we move up Church Lane, Martyr Worthy, ending up in St Swithun's church. All the actors are amateurs with almost no rehearsal, reading their lines, but the event is



surprisingly moving. Please do join us on Good Friday (25th March) by the River Itchen in Church Lane.

Rev Alex Pease

### Sports Relief Zumba Itchen Abbas & Avington Village Hall Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 6.30 pm and Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 10 am

Zumba Instructor, Sue Russell, will be wearing Flamenco all week! Everyone welcome – just come and enjoy the normal madness!

I usually ask people to sponsor me, but this year I have decided just to leave a bucket by the door - even small donations would obviously be greatly appreciated.

For further information contact me on sue@plays-r-ussell.com or visit www.zumba-around-winchester.com where you can see photos from previous years' fundraising madness!

Sue Russell

### **Itchen Valley Lent lunches**

Lent lunches have been held in homes around the Valley for over 20 years and take the form of simple fare - soup, bread and cheese – with a basket for donations. Everyone is welcome. The charity which we are supporting this year is *Friends of the Family* www.friendsofthefamilywinchester.org A representative of the charity will attend one or two of the lunches. The dates and venues for the lunches in March are:

**4 March**: Penny Flemons, Yew Tree Cottage, Avington, SO211DD Tel 779303

IIMarch: Jackie Porter, The Down House, Itchen Abbas, SO21 IAX Tel 791054

18 March: Zazie Carter, Chillandham Cross, Martyr Worthy, SO211AS Tel 779108

Stephanie Gretton





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### Gold Cup Race Night Twyford Social Club Friday I I<sup>th</sup> March 7 pm onwards

Tickets: £15 including supper from Winchester GoLD , Winchester Discovery Centre, Jewry Street Winchester SO23 8SB

Tel: 01962 873608

### Open Garden and plant sale Little Court, Crawley, Winchester SO21 2PU

(National Garden scheme garden, by kind permission of Mrs Elkington)

### Thursday 28th April 10 am to 1pm



These two events are in aid of Winchester GoLD (Winchester Go Learning Disabilities), the new name for what was Winchester Mencap. We are a small local charity with no funding other than what we can raise. We support vulnerable and often very lonely people right across the Winchester District. For more info see www.winchestergold.org.uk Susie Evershed

# St Swithun's Martyr Worthy DCC AGM Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

immediately after the All Age Service. All members of the Electoral Roll are invited to attend.

Liz Platt, Chairman Martyr Worthy DCC

### Charity Dog Walk for Home-Start Winchester Kilmeston Village Hall, SO24 0NR Thursday 17th March at 10.30 am

(Follow Home-Start signs for parking) Two guided walks of different lengths – 45 minutes and 1½ hours.

Both walks leave promptly at 10.45 am whatever the weather, and will include some stiles. Non-dog walkers welcome Donation £10 per walker (includes soup and a ploughman's lunch)

Book with Sue Barham,

Home-Start Winchester & Districts, Lanterns Children Centre, Bereweeke Road, Winchester SO22 6AJ. Call 01962 851177 or email info@home-startwinchester.org.uk

# For Diabetics: learn about looking after your feet Friday 18th March 11 am - 3.30 pm

A light lunch will be provided. If you have diabetes, or look after someone who has, Diabetes UK invites you to a free event in Winchester The event is aimed at people who have healthy feet and want to learn how to keep them that way.

To book a free place: https://pffwinchester.eventbrite.co.uk Email: south.east@diabetes.ork.uk Tel: Maria Hull 01372 720148 From the Alresford Surgery

# Upper Itchen Valley Society Saturday 9th April at 9.30 am

Keen walkers might like to know that the South Downs Society is organising a 16 mile walk starting from Cheesefoot Head. The route will be Hampage Farm, Itchen Stoke, Ovington, Tichborne, lunch at the Flowerpots in Cheriton and returning via Longwood House at about 4pm. Dave Meyer 07442 164674

### Martyr Worthy Plant Sale Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 10 am - 12 pm



This hugely popular event will be held for the 12<sup>th</sup> time, this year at Chilland House, Martyr Worthy SO21 IEB. There will be plenty of signs on the B3047.

A huge variety of plants (both unusual and old favourites) will be on sale at very good prices, the vast majority of which have been grown by local gardeners. There will be plenty to attract the green-fingered, as well as the not so endowed. Wheelbarrows are on loan so you can select items, wheel them to your car and come back for more!

All proceeds are in aid of the Itchen Valley Parish and St Swithun's Church. Admission is £2 and there will be ample parking as well as refreshments and a Produce Stall.

We look forward to seeing you there. Pauline Tovell

### Save the dates

### Glynde Easton 2016 Saturday 18th June

Our biennial open air opera evening in the lovely grounds of Dymoke House, Church Lane, Easton returns this year in aid of Itchen Valley Churches, performed by Opera Danube. With many thanks to Sara and Frits Janssen. Please make up a party of friends to come. Tickets £30 (sorry for the mistake in last month's News)

Anna Burness

### Avington Fete Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June 12 pm - 4 pm

Judy Thomas

judypower.thomas@gmail.com

### Upper Itchen Valley Society Summer Party Saturday, 9th July at 6 pm

Invitations with further details will be sent to members in May, so if you are a member and don't receive one by the end of that month do let me know. If you are not yet a member, please contact Lucy Collis at lucycollisgd@gmail.com.

Alison Matthews

Upper Itchen Valley Society Committee

### Valley Happenings

### Easton Newcomers Tea

We were thrilled to be introduced to most of the old and new residents of Easton at the Easton newcomers tea party. It was such a thoughtful way of making us feel welcomed into the community. Of course there were a few faces we recognised from our quarter century in Winchester, but getting to know new neighbours was a true delight. We had no idea of all the activities available which make for such a close knit community. The tea was a great success and we hope to be attending, and helping with, many more with the passing years to repay the generosity of spirit which we received from everyone there. Thank you to everyone for making it such a lovely introduction to Easton.

Nada & Geoff Fairris

### Band Night at the Plough

A big thank you to all who attended the recent night with The Band at the Plough. Thanks to your generosity we raised £1,200 for the Night Shelter and The Malinda Hospital. A special thank you to the team at the Plough, who did a great job. We are really sorry we could not accommodate everyone: we will make sure you are top of the list in future. See you next time!

David Parker



In II years of living in the Itchen Abbas, I have never seen The Plough so crammed to the eyeballs on a Friday night as it was on 22<sup>nd</sup> January for Band Night.. Courtesy of David Parker's fabulous local band, we ate, drank. danced and sang with dear friends and neighbours in our local watering hole whilst being entertained by some frankly great talent, including the outstanding lead singers Hattie and Tilly (slightly better than the rather dodgy guest appearances....!). It was the perfect start to the weekend and I know there were a few sore heads the next morning! Huge thank you to Ashley for accommodating way more people than were expected, and to David for once again getting our local community together in song. Next one will be in the summer in the garden! Lara Dunn

### **A WI Experiment**

We have a speaker for some of our meetings, and for some we don't. February's meeting was without a speaker, and was very much enjoyed by those present. After the small talk - complaints about the weather and organising lifts for our Chesil Theatre visit next month - we settled down for our Experiment.

We had been asked to devise, divine or locate a few recipes that could be prepared for 4 people for a pound a head, and we managed to come up with a lot! They were not all vegetarian, and would be really useful for any new or potential students. Kids, how about trying one or two for Mothers Day?

I have not included them here, but if anyone is interested we are going to put them on the Easton WI page, or I can email them to anyone who would like them.

Sarah Robinson d.robinson436@btinternet.com

### Comings and Goings



I would like to welcome newcomers to Easton, so please contact me if you have new neighbours. I missed Donna and Neil moving into Charlock, and Trisha Smith moving into Sweetbriar; more recently Mary and David Purser moved into Hope Cottage from Alresford, and Claire and Paul Nelson moved from Richmond into Wellswood Cottage, where they quickly increased in number with their first daughter, Beatrice. Meanwhile Geoff and Nada Fairris moved from St Giles' Hill to Lone Barn, and Bill and Elaine Loader have moved from there to I Grace's Farm Cottages, Martyr Worthy. Welcome to them all. *Judith Mezger* 

News from the other villages is more ad hoc; if anyone would like to take charge of informing the Editors about comings and goings in Martyr Worthy, Itchen Abbas or Avington that would be very welcome. Ed

### Letters to the Editor

This is a very sad goodbye to all our friends and neighbours in the Valley, we will be very sorry to leave but we aren't getting any younger and the idea is to do it while we still can.

We have been here 37 years end of March, and three of our children went to Itchen Abbas School and on to Henry Beaufort School. I worked in the Dairy Unit at Bridget's Farm for 2I years and like six of my neighbours we bought our cottage when the Ministry sold Bridget's.

We are downsizing to a two bedroom bungalow in the 'Garden of England', about 250 yards from our daughter Tracey in a lovely village,

Shepherdswell, about five miles from Dover. We haven't got a date yet but it could be anytime.

With best wishes to everyone. I'm sure we will be back from time to time. Stephen and Julia Green.

### The Store at Easton

It was with great excitement that Karen took over The Chestnut Horse almost ten years ago. In that time Karen and her team have raised thousands for national and local charities, plus supporting many local groups and schools. December 2013 saw The Store open. Since then the stock and services provided have continued to grow. Amazingly though, we still hear of people who don't know we are here or have never visited us. Not been in for a while, or never? It's not too late to come and see what we can offer you. Besides your everyday needs, we sell greetings cards, stamps, gifts, a good range of Hampshire products, and ready made meals prepared by the chefs at The Chestnut Horse.



Times are hard for all businesses at certain times of year and your local store is no different. If everyone could call in for a few items every week, what a difference it would make to the services and stock we could offer to you and above all our long term security. Would you miss us? We would miss seeing you ...... please support your local shop! We are open everyday except Monday so we look forward to welcoming you. From the gang at The Store, Easton

### Itchen Insight



Name: Sara Janssen

**Age:** 67

Occupation: mother to Willem, Camilla, Laura, and Naomi, granny to 7 (new addition Willa on 15 Feb)

How many years you've lived in the Valley: 15 in Itchen Abbas, 29 in

Easton

Your life in 140 characters: Born in Surrey, then lived in London and worked for a numismatist. Married in 1971 and four children. Skiing, bell ringing, bridge, tennis, boules, churchwarden, verger. Organiser of Glynde Easton every 2 years See Save the Date on Page 8

Champagne moment: Meeting my father when I was 18 for the first time since I was a baby, and discovering that

I had 4 half-siblings

**Surprising snippet:** Climbed to the summit of Mt Toubkal – the highest mountain in North Africa

Passion: Skiing

Favourite place in Hampshire: it

has to be Easton

Best thing about the Valley: the community spirit and beautiful walks Favourite book or film: Downton Abbey – addictive and I am sad it's finished

**Best one-liner or favourite quote:** "You call it nagging, I call it listening to what I said the first time!"

### The Orange Man

You may have spotted this colourful gentleman sitting on the riverbank and wondered why he is lurking under a willow tree a few hundred yards upstream of the Easton road bridge. The reason is that that he, and his brother further up the river, have been manning the river banks over the winter months helping to deter the cormorants.

Cormorants first started appearing in the Itchen Valley during the autumn and winter months about twenty years ago, having migrated from the



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European mainland. The ones in the Valley tend to roost in the trees on an island in the middle of Alresford pond, before making their way down the river, usually in the first hour of daylight, looking for suitable places to fish. Left undisturbed they can have a serious impact on the wild brown trout that are trying to survive in the Upper Itchen.

There are a number of these silent fishermen located up and down the country on many inland waterways, all dressed in orange as surveys carried out by the Angling Trust have found that cormorants are particularly affected by that colour. Fortunately for the livelihood of the river, the cormorants leave the Valley in the spring to nest on the coast, not returning again until the autumn. So both the orange gentlemen will then be able to abandon their posts until the next invasion.

Simon Ffennell

### Jackie's County Corner



Life's doesn't always go to plan does it? The leaked proposals to cut the hours (or even close) our much loved Recycling Centres across **Hampshire** caused such a furore that

the decision to consult the public was pulled at the last minute. So, the

HWRC consultation didn't start on 25th Jan as planned - but it is expected to start soon. I'll tell you as soon as I know when it starts, by publishing the date on my Facebook page and website.

We discovered we had been burgled after a few days away in February. We weren't the only home affected. Cyber security is a problem too. Police & Crime Commissioner Simon Hayes has recently announced a new initiative to tackle cyber crime.

Speed limit changes are being considered across the division:
Micheldever village, Northington, and 30mph has just arrived in Springvale Road in the Worthys. A resident has offered to conduct trials of whether the lit signs really do make us slow down. As I am keen to support pleas for more lit signs in the rural areas, and some communities have started Speedwatch, I welcome this research before we spend more money on them.

By the time you receive this, we will have had the County Council Budget Setting Meeting, and I am expecting that the ruling party will propose up to a 3.99% rise, and cuts to services. A victim of the cuts is a reduction of the staff with a specific remit to oversee the economic case for better train transport in Hampshire. I was therefore pleased that my points were added to the County response in preparation for the new train services tender which will be in place from 2017: to improve late night facilities at the stations, better parking at non-main stations and more (capacity and comfortable) seating for longer journeys, as well as fulfilling the promise to deliver part-time-ticketing. You can see my response in full on my website www.jackieporter.co.uk. One

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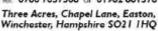
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key aspect of the new tender is to improve train travel for passengers with disabilities. If you find it difficult to travel by train, please let me know. I will arrange for you to join me at the SW Trains conference for disabled travellers in March.

You can contact me by email Jackie@jackieporter.co.uk, by phone 01962 791054, on Facebook, on Twitter @JackieLibDem, by text 07973 696 085 or on What's App - or by letter of course! The Down House, Itchen Abbas SO21 IAX

Jackie Porter, County Councillor, Itchen Valley Division www.jackieporter.co.uk

### From our City Councillor



The story of Silver Hill has now transmuted into an existential issue for the Council. In other words, it's all getting a bit tasty

and the outcome could mean big changes for the Council, and for some of the people who currently run the show.

This is all because of the publication of an independent (and not inexpensive) report the Council commissioned to investigate how the Council conducted itself in relation to the Silver Hill Judicial Review. Experienced in law and in local government, Claer Lloyd-Jones fearlessly delved into all the dark recesses of the Council and emerged to question who is actually running the place. She suggests that it's really the executive, ie. officers rather than elected Councillors, and she highlights

the frequency of elections, the lack of skills, the lack of internal scrutiny and the lack of a challenging opposition as issues which contributed to the failures in management. She has, in effect, suggested that a root and branch review of the whole Council is undertaken.

She confirmed what many councillors already instinctively knew. But rather than welcome Miss Lloyd-Jones's report with open-minds and, perhaps, some overdue humility, the Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council attacked the report, saying it contained "unsubstantiated" allegations. They've not, as far as I can tell, clarified which if any allegations are unsubstantiated but clearly they don't like it.

Where we go from here is not clear, but a worrying sign is that the Chief Executive has presumed to advise the committees (Audit and Overview & Scrutiny) considering the report in which he is part of the subject matter. This, in my view, represents a failure of due process. That these committees, and Cabinet, have allowed this to happen simply confirms the validity of the concerns raised by Miss Lloyd-lones.

In response I have suggested that, given the impact on the Council's resources and reputation caused by the High Court's judgment that the Council had acted unlawfully, the position of those who are chiefly responsible for the Council's conduct – far more so than the Leader of the Council at the time, who did the honourable thing and resigned – can no longer be regarded as tenable.

Kim A Gottlieb

Winchester City Councillor For Itchen Valley 07795 494919

### Birds at Avington Park in 2015

John Cloyne has submitted a wonderfully detailed account of the birds he has seen at Avington during 2015. There is only room for a summary here, but the full article can be obtained from him at john.cloyne@googlemail.com. He would also welcome any additional information readers might have. It is an astonishing record of the remarkable bio-diversity on our doorstep – even the names are magical! (Ed)



Mute swans were seen throughout the year, with a maximum flock of up to 40. Canada geese recorded all year, with flocks in the second half of the year peaking at 124, and occasional Greylag geese. Also Mallard, Gadwall, Teal, Tufted duck, Shelduck, Mandarin duck and Shoveler. Cormorant by the lake or flying over, Grey Heron, Little Egrets, Little Grebes and one Great Crested Grebe. Also Moorhens, Coots a maximum of 64 – and Water Rails (often heard not seen).

Waders were represented by Lapwings, a single Black-tailed Godwit, Green Sandpipers and Snipe (maximum 33). There were 458 Black-headed gulls on one day in February, as well as Mediterranean gulls, Common gulls,

Herring gulls, Lesser black-backed gulls and Great black-backed gulls. Other species recorded regularly include Pheasant, Sparrowhawk, Buzzard, Kestrel, Stock Dove, Woodpigeon, Tawny Owl, Swift, Green Woodpecker, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Magpie, Jay, Jackdaw, Rook, Carrion Crow, Goldcrest, Blue Tit, Great Tit, Coal Tit, Long-tailed Tit, Swallow, House Martin, Chiffchaff, Blackcap, Nuthatch, Wren, Blackbird, Song Thrush, Redwing (maximum 100), Mistlethrush (maximum 14, feeding mainly on mistletoe berries), Robin, Dunnock, Pied Wagtail, Chaffinch, Greenfinch and Goldfinch. Other scarcer sightings were Osprey, Peregrine, Cuckoo, Barn Owl, Kingfisher, Raven, Marsh Tit, Skylark, Sand Martin, Willow Warbler, Treecreeper, Fieldfare on two occasions in flocks of 100 or more, Spotted Flycatcher, Wheatear, Grey Wagtail, Meadow Pipit, Linnet and Yellowhammer.

John Cloyne

### Another view of the countryside



Rubbish from the land adjacent to the layby just before Easton road bridge. Someone had obviously regularly tossed them over the fence onto the river bank -at least 30 beer cans and other delights. See flyer on page 4! Lucinda Ffennell



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### A leading question

Walking through our beautiful valley, with its safe paths and fenced fields, I often wonder why I meet so many people with their dogs on leads. My dog is only on a lead near a road, or if a horse is approaching.

Obviously, there are some dogs with genuine behavioural problems who need to be restrained by a lead. But often I suspect owners just lack the confidence (in themselves and/or their dog) to let the pet express itself naturally and handle its own doggy relationships. I used to be a veterinary nurse and I can count the number of truly aggressive dogs I worked with over many years on the fingers of one hand. Most dogs are sweet natured creatures, eager to please and they only require to be trained and given boundaries of behaviour for them to become the perfect companions to human and other animals alike.

But dogs need real exercise and they need freedom: the freedom to run, sniff, roll and jump and also to meet and greet their doggy pals. None of



these entirely natural activities can take place satisfactorily on a lead. Being "tied" by a lead to your human owner means to a dog that he/she is supposed to protect said owner who is the dog's pack leader. That's why you see so many aggressive dogs on leads - they are both frustrated by and protective of their owners.

Of course it is not a guarantee that all dogs off the lead will get on well but whenever I have enquired if a dog can be let off to play with my dog Holly, all is fine, even though the other dog's owner is often really reticent or anxious about doing this. And of course those feelings are picked up by the dog which makes it all worse! Once off the lead, there is a sizing up procedure, much sniffing, possibly some play growling or even play fighting. But 99% of the time, the dogs sort out their relationships themselves and are much better balanced for having been allowed to do so. Dogs are simple creatures and have basic needs. They need a good diet, good health, a safe and loving home with plenty of companionship from other animals (and that usually means us humans!). But they also need proper exercise and the ability to express normal behaviour. Sadly, I fear many dogs are being denied that basic right; a right which ironically will make them better companions for us. Catherine Hahn

# Valley Volunteer: Catherine Hahn for PDSA

# How long have you been volunteering?

I have been working with PDSA (People's Dispensary for Sick Animals) for a couple of years.

What's your role and what does it



### involve?

I have various roles: helping with administration in the PDSA Volunteer Centre in Winchester but also arranging local fund raising events. We held a lunch last year in Itchen Abbas which raised over £2,000 and there are more events in the pipeline. I am also a "volunteer ambassador" for the charity, attending large PDSA receptions to thank and encourage supporters and I also hope to be part of a new committee of supporters progressing fund raising ideas. On the education side, I will be visiting schools to present PDSA's principles of responsible pet ownership to children of all ages.

# Why did you choose this charity/ how did you get involved?

I have always adored animals and worked as a veterinary nurse at various stages in my life. In 2014 I was invited to a big PDSA event and was so impressed by the people who work for the charity and their commitment to their cause that I wanted to help and so asked what I could do!

PDSA was founded in 1916 by Maria Dickin, who was appalled by the terrible suffering of animals in London. She started a clinic in Whitechapel where pet owners could bring their animals for free treatment. That founding tenant of the charity has not changed in 100 years: PDSA is the "NHS for pets" – the only veterinary charity in the U.K. It treats nearly half a million pets each year in its 52 Pet Hospitals.

What would you say are the main challenges facing charities, and in particular the charity you help with? As with other charities, raising funds is challenging. It takes over £60 million each year to run the Pet Hospitals and this is provided purely by donations and legacies, there is no government help. But an even greater challenge, to my mind, is to educate future pet owners about how to look after their animals well. Sadly, many pets suffer not only from ill health but from ignorance of their needs, so education is vital and recently PDSA has broadened its remit to include and promote this aspect of pet welfare.

What do you get out of volunteering/why do you do it? It's simply that I hope my efforts will help pets (and their owners) have happier and healthier lives.

# What are you working on at the moment?

There are a couple of exciting events in the pipeline and during 2016, PDSA will be taking part in the Avington Fete and the Alresford Show to try and increase awareness of its vital work and of course raise a bit of money too - so look out for us at those events!

Ronnie Johns would love to hear from other volunteers in the Valley - please contact her at purpleronnie I I @hotmail.com and publicise your favourite charity - Ed

### Itchen Valley Church Services

Sunday 6th March Mothering Sunday

8am BCP Holy Communion

10am All Age Service 11am Matins

6pm Lent Course Compline

Avington Itchen Abbas Martyr Worthy Itchen Abbas

Sunday 13th March

8am BCP Holy Communion Easton

10amParish CommunionItchen Abbas6pmLent Course ComplineMartyr Worthy

Sunday 20th March Palm Sunday

8am BCP Holy Communion Martyr Worthy

10amParish CommunionEaston6pmLent Course ComplineAvington

Monday 21st - Wednesday 23rd

8pm Compline Martyr Worthy

Thursday 24th **Maundy Thursday** 

8pm Holy Communion Itchen Abbas

Friday 25th March Good Friday

10amWay of the ĆrossMartyr Worthy2pmLast Hour VigilItchen Abbas

Sunday 27th March Easter Day

8am BCP Holy Communion Itchen Abbas

10am Family Communion Easton

10am Traditional Communion Martyr Worthy
6pm Easter Evensong Avington

Rector

Rev Amanda Denniss 779832 amandadenniss@gmail.com

**Curates** 

Rev Alex Pease 791010 rev@ampease.co.uk

Rev Rebecca Fardell 809264 rebecca.itchenvalley@gmail.com

**Licensed Lay Ministers** 

Mr Tony Gaster 779110 tonygaster@btinternet.com
Mr Gerry Stacey 620263 gstacey@easynet.co.uk

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

**Itchen Valley Churchwardens** 

St Mary's Easton: Anna Burness 779993, Theo Mezger 07775 908014 St John's Itchen Abbas: Charlotte Appleby 779778, Tony Gaster 779110

St Swithun's Martyr Worthy: Andrew Impey 779645, Robin Greenwood 779540

### Easter Services Roman Catholic Parish of Hampshire Downs

St Peter's Winchester, St Gregory's Alresford, St Stephen's Winchester and St Thomas More, Stockbridge

### Monday 21st March

7.30pm Parish Penitential Liturgy (St Peter's)

### Thursday 24th March - Holy Thursday

7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (St Peter's & St Gregory's)

### Friday 25th March - Good Friday

9.45am Stations of the Cross (St Stephen's)9.45am Family Way of the Cross (St Peter's)

10.45am Ecumenical Walk of Witness to the Buttercross (St Peter's)

12.00pm Stations of the Cross (St Peter's)

3.00pm solemn liturgy of the lord's passion (St Peter's & St Gregory's)

### Saturday 26th March - Holy Saturday

9.00am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (St Peter's)
11.30am (until 12.30pm) Sacrament of Reconciliation (St Peter's)
4.30pm (until 5.30pm) Sacrament of Reconciliation (St Peter's)

5.00pm Blessing of Easter Food (St Peter's)

8.00pm Easter Vigil Mass (St Peter's) with Baptism, Confirmation and

Reception of new Catholics

8.00pm Easter Vigil Mass (St Gregory's)

### Sunday 27th March - Easter Sunday

8.00am Mass (St Peter's)

9.00am Mass (St Thomas More)
9.15am Mass (St Stephen's)
10.30am Mass (St Peter's)
11.00am Mass (St Gregory's)
6.00pm Mass (St Peter's)

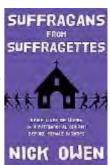
Any other information can be obtained from www.hampshiredowns.org.uk

### Suffragans from Suffragettes

As the title suggests, this is a book about the gradual acceptance of women in senior roles such as the Church of England. It covers a range of lives from Eve up to Margaret Thatcher and looks in a light hearted way at curious things that befell even the most saintly of them and a few less worthy. I have been asked why this has not been written by a woman. Isn't it time for an

alternative and less serious version of

events? This is a personal narrative, not one formally approved by the Church, but while I have copies available, I will donate five pounds of the cover price of £8.99 to the Itchen Valley Parish. Nick Owen 779162



### Letter from the Rectory

I wonder what Easter means for you?



For many of us it's a wonderful chance to eat lots of chocolate. For some it's a welcome break from work. For others it means having

the children home from school and a chance to catch up with extended family and old friends.

Many of us don't really pause to reflect on what the Easter story actually means for us. Somehow Christmas is easier to connect with. The Christmas story is a good one. Jesus is born as a baby. There's the drama of the shepherds and the kings visiting the stable. Angels keep appearing. It's an attractive story and an easy one to share with our children. Easter is not quite so straightforward. We know that lesus was killed on a cross and then somehow rose again from the dead, but many of us struggle to understand why he had to die in the first place.

This is going to be my first Easter in Itchen Valley and I'm really looking forward to it. One of the things that I've heard so much about is the Way of the Cross on Good Friday in Martyr Worthy. This is a dramatisation of the events of Good Friday with local people and children taking the parts of the characters in the Easter story. I think it's such a good idea and I'm really looking forward to it this year. As a child I always wondered why Good Friday was called 'good'. It

seemed to me an odd word to use about the day when we remember that lesus had died on the cross. It was much later that I began to understand why Jesus decided to die. Essentially it was an act of love. Jesus knew that our selfishness and self-centredness forms a barrier between us and God the Father. This barrier stops us getting close to God. Jesus knew that the only way to open up the way for this barrier to be removed and for us to be forgiven was for him to die on the cross. It was a sacrifice that he was prepared to pay so that we could be reconciled to God. That is why Jesus died. Good Friday is called 'good' because the good news is that if we trust in Jesus then we can be forgiven and come into a close relationship with God.

I must admit that I'm looking forward to all the Easter eggs: I do love chocolate. I'm also looking forward to seeing our family over Easter. But at the heart of Easter for me is an opportunity to thank Jesus for dying on the cross for us and to celebrate his resurrection on Easter Sunday. I'd like to encourage you in the midst of chocolate, family and holidays to pause and reflect on the Easter story. It would be great if you could come along on Good Friday to the Way of the Cross at I0am in Church Lane in Martyr Worthy.

Amanda Denniss

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Reliable Nepalese cleaner is looking for 4 hrs cleaning in Easton or Martyr Worthy.

Contact Judith Mezger 07834 831450 on behalf of Narbadhy.

### RIP Pamela Pitt 1918 - 2016



Pamela was born in Hereford to Cyril and Melus Gabell, followed four years later by her sister Janet, and enjoyed a happy childhood. She went to Cheltenham Ladies College, but did not exert herself academically. She was sent to Paris to learn the finer arts of cooking in 1938.

When war broke out she cooked for the young children of women who were evacuated from Birmingham and working in the nearby armament factory. She obviously enjoyed this, and told many tales about it. She biked six days a week to Hereford Cathedral Close, and gave the children their meals with all the complications of rationing. One little chap, who obviously appreciated her efforts, said this grace: "Thank you God, for breakfast, lunch, tea and supper, and any other meal what I might get!" In her desk we found an article taken from the Hereford Times commending Miss Gabell's dedication and caring. Pamela had met Peter in the Scouts in

the '20s; they were married in 1946, eventually settling with their daughter Celia in the Itchen Valley, where Rupert was born. They lived at Robin Hill in Itchen Abbas until 1977, when they moved to The Parsonage in Itchen Stoke.

Pamela was a loving but firm mother, encouraging her children at their school work and in their interests including Celia's in riding — as far as Pamela was concerned "One end bites and the other end kicks!". But she came, she watched, and brought picnics.

She was a very supportive wife to Peter; they loved entertaining and gathering friends and, above all else, family. While the children were at boarding school she pursued her own interests. Who hasn't enjoyed the fruits of her garden, flowers or vegetables? How many had a rousing game of bridge, which she played well into her late eighties? How many churches in the Itchen Valley have a kneeler stitched by her? She even took a course in millinery, and wore one of her creations to her first garden party at Buckingham Palace, representing the WI as chairman of the Hampshire groups. Pamela was public-spirited, and was elected a city councillor in 1977. In 1980 she became Mayor, supporting charities such as Marwell Zoo and Macmillan. She could be outspoken, but very generous too.

Pamela was a terrific grandmother; she took her grandchildren to the Isle of Wight and to MacDonald's: picture this, Peter looking astounded and eating a hamburger with a knife and fork! On the last night of one visit, she found them crying in their room. When asked why they replied: "We don't want to go home!"

Eventually, as a widow she left The Parsonage after 35 years and moved to Abbots Barton where she enjoyed seeing her great-grandchildren. When the staff told her children, 'We'll miss your Mum', Celia replied, "You mean you'll miss that feisty, fiercely independent, little lady? They grinned and said "YES, we will!" Won't we all? Contributed

# Winchester Constituency Update



As a Government MP I am fortunate. while in Westminster, to have everyday access to Ministers and I waste no opportunity to ask questions on behalf of constituents, lobby for our area or pursue the campaigns I am running. From time to time however, I bring the very same Ministers here and last month I was delighted to welcome the Education Secretary to my constituency. We visited Hampshire's first all-through school, The Westgate School in Fulflood, to see what is stunning new provision in the city and Nicky Morgan held one of her Teachers' Direct sessions with local school and college leaders.

The impressive Westgate Head, Paul Nicholson, was joined by sixth form

leaders from the area as well as fellow heads including Dr Rob Sykes from the top-rated Thornden School in Chandler's Ford and Sarah Duck from St Bede. We had a wide-ranging (and often frank) discussion around school funding, the reformed GCSE structure and 16-19 funding among other subjects. It is always good to bring Cabinet members to meet those I represent but it was especially pleasing to be able to introduce him to some of the key people in Winchester who work so hard to keep our schools among some of the most successful in the county.

While here we also dropped in to the University of Winchester where Professor Joy Carter, our energetic Vice Chancellor, arranged for some of the teachers of tomorrow from the highly rated Education Department to chat with the Secretary of State. It was striking to hear their stories and to learn, as is always the case, how an inspiring teacher from their past had encouraged them to teach when they finish their studies. You can read more about the visit, and see pictures, via www.stevebrine.com/nickymorgan In Parliament, it's been full-on for me including a big speech in the House last month on prison reform. It's a subject I have worked on for some years as you may know, and I will possibly devote my next column to the subject, but please take a look if you are interested at www.stevebrine.com/ treasureintheheartofman Finally, I have had a huge response to my message encouraging constituents to make their feelings known about Alresford Library. Its future is not necessarily in doubt (and any change will be a decision for democratically elected local county councillors not MPs) but as a regular

user myself with the kids, I wanted all of you to be aware of a review currently taking place across Hampshire. I have fed all views received into the process about which you can find more at www.stevebrine.com/alresfordlibrary You can find more information about my other work as your local MP, in Winchester and Westminster, via the website or on 01962 791110. Steve Brine

MP for Winchester, Alresford and Itchen Valley www.stevebrine.com

### Coming up Roses!

The Valley Gardeners began their 2016 programme in style on 9th February when over eighty guests attended a talk and demonstration by Ian Limmer, Nursery Manager of world famous Peter Beales Roses. Ian has spent 40 years with the company, best known for its own style of "classic" roses for which it has been awarded 22 Gold Medals at Chelsea.

The session began with a masterclass in pruning, followed by an insight into what is involved in large scale rose production - Peter Beales holds the largest collection of commercially available roses in the UK. The audience then enjoyed a 'virtual' display of just some of the hundreds of roses available. the different cultivars and their properties. It seems there is a rose for every situation and if you do not have room for a Rambling Rector or a



Kiftsgate, a Sanders White can be constrained to a pot with a wigwam of canes. Many other varieties can do well in containers and shrub roses can be trained against a wall or fence or even be pegged down to create a large mound of flowers. There are endless possibilities, and the good news is that with just a little bit of knowledge it is difficult to go wrong with roses!

Cathy Swann

### RIP Jessie Hobbs 1927 – 2015



In some families it might be considered a challenge to speak well of your mother-in-law. I am pleased to say that it is not a problem for me. Tricia and I were married in St. Mary's, Easton during the glorious summer of 1976. A few months before this lessie passed her motherin-law test by giving up a day of holiday to go down to Southampton to exchange our vouchers for Saints' Cup Final tickets. Tricia and I got our tickets, Saints won the Cup and Jessie got her son-in-law!

Jessie was born 88 years ago on a

farm in East Tisted. She spent her early years on various farms where her father worked, finally settling at Alrebury Park in Alresford. It was here that she went to school and later got her first job. It was while working in the Post Office in the Broadway, Winchester that she first met Francis; they were married here in St Mary's in 1949 and they set up their first home together in Easton.

Jessie retained her love of the countryside throughout her life and some of Tricia and Charlie's earliest memories are of being taken on walks through the fields. These walks often involved a picnic, generally involved Charlie falling in water of some sort and always involved coming home by a different route. Whether this was the result of Jessie's sense of adventure or of a poor sense of direction was never certain.

Cricket was also an important part of Jessie's life and she and Francis had a long association with Easton and Martyr Worthy Cricket club. For many years Jessie was the scorer for the team, a job she did really well and with great enjoyment.

She was also very good at planning holidays. Every summer when the children were young they would head off to Devon or Cornwall for two weeks in a caravan. These holidays took a lot of organising and started long before the day with the gradual collection of food tins to take along, not to mention having to persuade family and friends to care for their many pets while they were away. In a time before motorways and bypasses, long traffic jams were inevitable until she discovered they could be avoided if you set off really early in the morning. So it became traditional to leave while everyone else was sleeping, taking a bag

of bacon sandwiches to eaten for breakfast as soon as they could see the sea. She took the opportunities that these holidays offered to indulge another of her interests: gardening. Jessie loved being in the garden and grew a wide variety of flowers that had been bought, or more often 'collected' as cuttings from many of the places she visited. Jessie was proud of her five lively grandchildren and living locally she was able to spend a lot of time during the early years of her retirement with her grandchildren Richard and Peter. Her other three grandchildren were also regular visitors from Bristol. Accommodation in the bungalow in Hazeldene Gardens was always cosy, but we discovered that three small sleeping bags would fit neatly in the space supplied by folding up the dining room table.

These are just a few of the memories we have of Jessie and there are very many more that we could share but I'd like to finish with an observation that many people have made in recent days – Jessie laughed a lot.

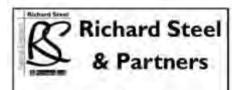
Ron Bull

The Itchen Valley News apologises for the delay in printing this obituary. Ed

### Tiddler Joke



How does a camel protect itself from predators? Camelflage. Luke Rosewell (age 3), Alice Rosewell (age 5)



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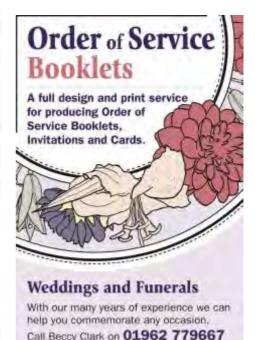
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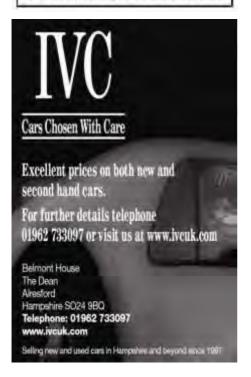
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### Easton Village Hall

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### Regular bookings

MONDAY:

9-10am, 6:30-7:30pm Authentic Pilates (last 14<sup>th</sup>)

**TUESDAY:** 

9-10a m Pilates with Emily

4:15 – 8:30 Sally Stanyard's Dance School

WEDNESDAY

9:45 - 11:15am Moo Music

**THURSDAY** 

9-10am Pilates with Emily

7-8pm S ally Stanyard's Dance School FRIDAY

9-10am Authentic Pilates (last 18<sup>th</sup>) 4-7:30pm Sally's Dance & Drama class

### Other bookings

Thur 3rd 10:00 – 18:00 Sally Stanyard Ballet Exam Day

Tue 8<sup>th</sup> 13:00 – 17:00

CPRE (clubroom)

Thur 10<sup>th</sup> 19:00 – 22:00

WI meeting

Sat 12<sup>2h</sup> 15:00 – 18:00

children's party

Sun 13<sup>2h</sup> 10:15 – 13:15

children's party

Wed 16<sup>th</sup> 18:00 – 22:00

Itchen Valley Gardener lecture

Sun 19<sup>th</sup> 09:00 – 17:00 Community Cycle Day in partnership with South Downs National Park Authority



### Martyr Worthy Village Hall

Lucinda Ffennell 779701 or simon@ffennell.plus.com

### Weekly

Mon – Fri 9am – Ipm

Riverbank School

Mon & Wed 9am – 3pm

(End of term 24th)

Thursdays 7 – 9.30pm Whist Drive

### Other bookings

Wednesday 2nd :7pm Whist Drive Thursday 3rd :

3-4.00 Winchester Wives Fellowship7.00 Parish Council meeting

Friday 25th (Good Friday): 10.00 Way of the Cross

Saturday 26th: pm private party



# Itchen Abbas and Avington Village Hall

Details of bookings and real time availability are now available on our website.

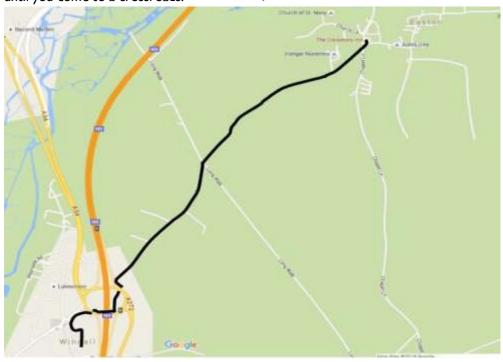
If you would like to book please look at our new web pages on www.iaavillagehall.co.uk or telephone 07969 113630 Hall Manager Jo Rheam manager@iaavillagehall.co.ulk Village hall callbox 01962 791021

### Itchen Ramblings

Going for a walk can often be more enjoyable when it has a purpose, whether it's the satisfaction of multitasking (combining a dog walk with picking up the newspaper), or just a feeling of piety from ditching the car and saving the world from harmful emissions. With that in mind you may want to try this walk to the world of Winnall where oodles of shops await you and your list of errands. Start at the Cricketers pub in Easton. Take the road opposite towards the Village Hall but then turn immediately right up Easton Lane with West Hill house on your right, followed by Malt House Close, also on the right. Leaving Easton, follow the road up the hill, down the hill then up again until you come to a crossroads.

Continue straight ahead in the direction of the dead end sign, and pass The Shoulder of Mutton Farm on the left and then Winnall Cottage Farm on the right. The road then turns in to a track and this track brings you up to the Winnall roundabout; turn left at the end of the track and then right into the underpass. You will emerge on the roundabout just before it crosses the M3. Follow the roundabout pavement in the direction of the traffic lights and dip down to the right to find the second underpass on the left that will bring you out at the Tesco side of the Winnall Trading Estate.

The walk is approx 40 mins each way with a couple of gentle hills. Ensure any dogs are on a lead well before the roundabout, as although it is fenced off there are large gaps in the fence. Lucy Wolfe



### The Practical Gardener

With such a wet winter many of us will have stayed indoors, yet now is the time to really start work if you want a productive year. I have already been sowing in propagators in the greenhouse and it's interesting to see how fast germination happens for most seeds. Experience tells me you can keep some well beyond their sow-by date but not all; I'm always willing to give it a go. Many flowers and vegetables seem really easy to start: the delicate stage is onward planting and watering. I'm determined to have as much as I can ready for the warmer weather.



I'm still amazed at the general poor quality of commercial composts so I always sieve the compost to remove the bits and hard lumps which I don't think should be there. Little electric propagators last a long time and give the controlled conditions needed for germination - a good investment. The greenhouse is looking much better now that I have humidity under control. All the fuchsias are now in bud, one or two still flowering. Because I bubble wrap to conserve heat there is no ventilation other than one window fan, so on sunny days (yes we do have some) the door has to be left open. I recently cut the grass, because the

warm wet weather makes the lawn feel it's already spring. Fortunately I have a light-weight mower which collects wet clippings and is ideal. Everything now is coming to life but, oh dear, a frost soon puts paid to some new growth.



I enjoy the first new potatoes in June so they have to be planted this month. The ground is covered with fleece, and after planting this goes back until frosts are past. The first broad beans are out and more to come. I expect to plant out peas under a plastic cloche by early March. My vegetable garden uses home -constructed raised beds but now some of these have rotted and need replacement. Timber treating is not what it used to be, as we compromise by using less aggressive chemicals but need more frequent replacement. Unless we have a prolonged dry spell I don't see much hope of planting any seeds directly in the ground, which right now is impossible to rake over. The challenge of climate change! Right now the challenge for all gardeners is the unreliability of seasons and working out what to do next. Seems to me guesswork is a good answer, but nature always rebounds.

Happy Gardening Tony Gaster

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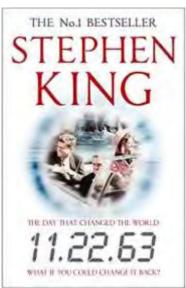
# Time to read a book

If you could change the past by going back in time, what would you amend and what would be the consequences? Having recently read two novels on the same theme, the question is much easier to pose than to answer.

Stephen King's novel 11.22.63 has an acknowledgment in the back of the book

to an earlier story by Jack Finney titled *Time and Again*. Both books are written in the first person, a technique that allows the reader to engage better with the experiences and dilemmas of the protagonist. In 11.22.63 he is an American school teacher based in Maine, whilst Jack Finney's chief

character is an advertising sketch artist in New York. For both novels it helps to have a basic grounding in American history and geography, but as the books are based on actual locations and events. a little Google searching can soon fill in the gaps in a reader's knowledge. Time and Again goes back to 1882, to a period of horses and gas lighting and to a



puzzle concerning an old family heirloom, a partly illegible letter that warns of the end of the world. Why the letter was written, what exactly was supposed to have happened and why it didn't happen are the main plot lines of the novel.

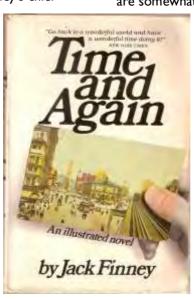
In contrast to that, 11.22.63, as students of recent American history will have already guessed, deals with the killing of President Kennedy. Our hero goes back in time to avert the assassination, only it

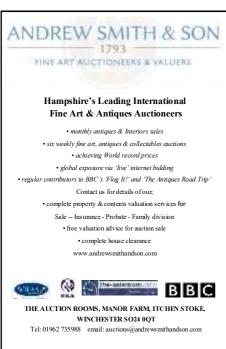
takes a lot of effort when time itself seems to be trying to prevent any changes to a well-known episode in history.

Both stories rely of course on a "device" to allow modern day characters to go back in time and both are somewhat difficult to accept. One

novel uses a statesponsored time portal, with all the red tape that goes along with that, whilst the other has just a door in a restaurant store room, known only to the owner and to his best customer. But once you have decided that the books will only work if time travel can exist, then the story lines flow logically and with tremendous historical atmosphere.

Bibliophile gives both books a score of 4/5.











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# Gala Concert in aid of the Cathedral Appeal

Saturday 12th March 2016 at 7.30pm
The Waynflete Singers
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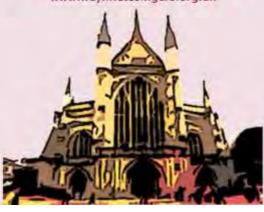
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# Village Hall user profile - CPRE

The Hampshire branch of CPRE, the Campaign to Protect Rural England, regularly holds its planning and policy and Countryside Awards meetings in Easton Village Hall.

For those new to CPRE, the charity fights for a better future for England's unique, essential and precious countryside. From giving parish councils expert advice on planning issues to influencing national and European policies, we work to protect and enhance the countryside for everyone to value and enjoy. Nationally, CPRE has more than 59,000 members and supporters, including parish councils and local groups, together representing thousands more people who care about the countryside.

At the Hampshire branch we have over 2,100 members made up of individuals, parish and town councils and other groups and we will be celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year (2016 is also the national organisation's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary).

Our work in the county spans wideranging countryside and rural issues – from landscapes, hedgerows and dark skies, to housing and planning, farming and food, transport, energy and waste and the rural economy.

To find out more about our campaigns and events, please sign up for our free monthly eNewsletter at www.cprehampshire.org.uk/news and follow us on Twitter and Facebook. The most effective way for you to help protect the countryside is to become a member of CPRE. You can join online by following the 'Join us' link on our website at www.cprehampshire.org.uk Nicola Revolta, Communications Officer

### Boughing before the storm



A huge tree branch came down in the gale on the afternoon of Monday 8 February, bringing down the electricity wires. SSE decided to close the B3047 at Chilland, as they had to put up one new telegraph pole and mend a second. It took until 10 o'clock in the evening before they could reopen the road. *Iudi Harris* 



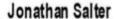
Light Bulbs and the energy debate

We all remember the jokes, but for many of us the old incandescent bulb with a bayonet fitting was all we ever needed. The only decision was perhaps 60 or 100W. But ten years ago things started to change. We were told to save energy and there was a flurry of not-so-good replacement lamps of



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many types. Also at this time recessed ceiling lights became popular, but against the energy-saving trend these consumed much more power. The kitchen of my home ten years back was fitted with 9 lamps, each of 50W! Even those of us with a technical education find today's choices confusing. We have BC, SBC, SES, ES, M16, GU10 and more. Actually it was easy to replace my kitchen lights with LEDs, which in total use less than 40W. But these all have transformers which interfere with digital radio. The latest offering of LEDs is all 230v, no transformer needed and easy to replace. However I was surprised to see the sealed fittings used in my bathroom also need ventilation above. There's been quite a discussion about this and the compromise over good loft insulation, so there is still work to do. The ghastly coiled lamps which take time to warm up are now obsolete. Happily new LED bulbs come as direct replacement, they even look good and are bright enough to replace the old 100W incandescent bulb. I've calculated that where lights are used a lot, the cost of replacement is met in a year with lower electricity use. LED fittings are now available for outside, and work really well.

The sad thing about the energy-saving debate is that on a cold, still winter's night all of the energy needed has to be met by conventional means, and most of that is coal. I just wonder if government has ever seen tides at work. A cubic kilometre of water passes Hurst twice every day! Tony Gaster

### Food Spy

### The Little Kitchen Bistro

Winchester Golf Academy Driving Range on Down Farm Lane, Headbourne Worthy, SO22 6RG.

A new golf driving range? With a good bistro? Food Spy had to investigate. There were feelings of creeping doubt as Food Spy drove up the narrow lane for a mile, away from Headbourne Worthy, and then rumbled and

bumped down a track directed by a modest sign. The track leads under the A34 and pops up to open farmland revealing a smart new building and large car park. It is within this rural setting that the Golf Academy has teamed up with the well established Little Kitchen Company to create "The Little Kitchen Bistro" so that golfers and non golfing visitors can enjoy fresh food onsite, all sourced from local suppliers.

The breakfast menu looked delicious, but on this occasion Food Spy was meeting three friends for a light lunch after smacking a few balls an embarrassingly short distance down the fairway. It was a good job we had booked. The bistro is clearly popular the tables and lounge seats began to fill quickly. We received a very warm welcome and the four of us sat down in the café area to scan the menu. Chalk boards on the rustic wood panelled walls advertised a wholesome children's menu (pesto and parmesan macaroni, fish fingers, soft boiled egg and soldiers...) and a reminder of the Little Kitchen Company's events catering roots - advertising wedding

catering, posh picnics, dinner parties and even fresh and frozen takeaways. Opening hours are 9 am to 7 pm on weekdays and 8 am to 6 pm at weekends to coincide with the golf range opening hours. However the bistro runs an extremely popular Supper Club on selected evenings throughout the year too, offering a four course fine dining experience with the option of a wine pairing menu too. Food Spy awarded The Little Kitchen Bistro \*\*\*\* Four out of five stars

### Energy envoys

Young people are crucial to our energy future – not only in the buildings around them today, but as the energy buyers, users and decision-makers of tomorrow. Will they propel us to a cleaner energy future? Energy Envoys may just make it so. This nationwide Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) volunteering opportunity, new for 2016, enables young people to help their community to use energy more wisely, save money and reduce carbon emissions.

For more information, visit www.energyenvoys.org.uk Gordon Glass National Energy Foundation

### B3047 junction postscript

Good news! The tender for the Cart and Horses junction came in at more money than expected but HCC has now found the extra ££'s. This is going to a formal decision before the end of February. The work can then be commissioned. I'll let you know a start date asap.

Jackie Porter

### Local monthly information

### Waste collections in March

Black bins and green bags on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> and Friday 18<sup>th</sup>. Green bins on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> and Friday 25<sup>th</sup>.

### Library

Visiting on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March. Itchen Abbas 11.15 am Easton 11.45 am

### Cameo

On Tuesday 15th March.

Farmers' Markets in Winchester Sunday 13th and 27th March

67 Bus operated by Stagecoach

**School term timetable** operates from Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> to Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March:

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 Friday 25<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March: 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

All times shown are at Itchen Abbas. Times are 5 minutes later (or earlier) at Easton.



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