

ITCHEN Valley News

Issue 103 July 2022

Avington, Easton, Itchen Abbas, Martyr Worthy and Abbots Worthy



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WELCOME to the Valley News

¡Hola! Hello! OK! and welcome to the Jubilee Issue and... to SUMMER! June was a positively bumper month in terms of Valley events, not least the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations which entertained all four corners of the Parish across all four days. We hope you managed to join in with the fun but if you didn't, or if you just want a reminder, you can read all about it here. Be sure to turn to the centre pages to see your faces, flags, crowns, cupcakes and red, white and blue. How wonderful to be able to congregate again in our communities without masks and without fear.

As usual, numerous community-minded people stepped up to organise, bake, decorate, set up and clean up, some of whom are mentioned in later articles. I'm sure we speak on behalf of the Itchen Valley when we say thank you to all those who helped, most notably Nic Roach of Avington Park who laid on an incredible day of fun and frolics for us all to enjoy. Lots of people wrote in buzzing from it all. Our favourite quote, which just about sums it up, is "Sue Humphrey had 600 cupcakes!"

As we write this, the excitement and anticipation surrounding the Flower Festival is reaching fever pitch (like the temperatures), and by all accounts the three day extravaganza has already got off to a fantastic start, but you'll have to wait until the next edition, edited by Verity Coleman, to get a full report.

Alongside the jollity, we report on moments of reflection and emotion, with two poignant obituaries and an update from Gerry Stacey on the Ukranian families who have moved to the Valley. We hope they are settling in well.

To all those who have responded to

our request and made donations recently to the News, whether

sending money to our Treasurer, Henry Labram, using the pre-addressed envelopes, or paying online, we thank you. The positive response from our readers is both essential for our continued financial health and is very much appreciated (sorry we cannot thank you individually).

A quiz, a joke, a bird, a flower and some celebrity gossip awaits - enjoy!

Best wishes

Nathalie and James Paterson



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Cover photo by Henry Labram and other photos from various contributors.

What's On

Avington Park Farm Open Day

Saturday 2 July 2022 2pm - 5pm Park Farm, Avington, SO21 1BZ. Hosted by Winchester Downs Cluster.

Come and meet the experts and ask your questions: Tractor and Trailer tours at 2pm, 2.30pm, 3pm and 3.30pm. Tea and coffee available.

This is your chance to learn about your local area, how the crops are grown and how we are working with wildlife. Come and meet the Winchester Downs Cluster, a group of farmers who work collectively to enhance wildlife whilst producing food.

Ukraine Fundraiser

Saturday 2 July. A concert by the excellent choir, Index Cantorum, in St Nicholas Church, Bishop's Sutton to raise emergency funds for local refugee families from Ukraine. Drinks from 5.30pm, the short concert will begin at 6.30pm. Tickets £12.50 payable on the door. Tickets limited - reserve in advance stnbconcerts@gmail.com.

Much Ado About Nothing by William Shakespeare

Sunday 3 July, 3pm and 7pm, The Quarry at Avington. Pack a picnic, bring the whole family and enjoy one of Shakespeare's funniest masterpieces in the open air where it belongs. Tickets: thepantaloon.co.uk/much-ado/

Winchester Hat Fair

Friday 1 to Sunday 3 July. This year there are two ways to enjoy Winchester's extraordinary Outdoor Arts festival: Friday & Saturday: free to attend (no booking required). Outdoor theatre, dance, comedy, music and of course our specially

invited Hatters perform throughout the City Centre.

Sunday: Ticketed event (day ticket required). Exclusive brand new shows, outdoor immersive game adventures and explosive gig theatre not featured elsewhere during the festival. A relaxed, family friendly funday combining entertainment, food and drink in an enclosed environment at North Walls Recreation Ground. Play To The Crowd are also looking for Hat Fair volunteers - go to hatfair.co.uk/info/volunteer, as well as participants in John Hicks' 'The Visionary' (expressions of interest by 29 June) - go to playmakers.org.uk

National Garden Scheme - Open Garden

Sunday 3 July 2pm to 4pm Bramdean House, Bramdean, SO24 0JU. Pre-booking available. Admission: £7.50, children free, Refreshments: Home-made teas. <https://findagarden.ngs.org.uk/garden/3145/bramdean-house>

A beautiful 5 acre garden best known for its mirror image herbaceous borders. Also a large and unusual collection of plants and shrubs giving year-round interest. 1 acre walled garden featuring prize-winning vegetables, fruit and flowers.



EMWCC Annual Tug of War and BBQ (and a Juniors' game)

Thursday 21 July evening and

EMWCC Sixes Tournament

Friday 22 July all day

All are welcome to join in at one or both of these events, to celebrate cricket in the Itchen Valley this summer.

Boules Match report

Each village started its own social evenings in April or May. The weather was not especially kind in the first few weeks, and players felt rather short of practice by the time it came to the first round of the League competition.

This took place on Tuesday 31 May. Easton were at home against Itchen Abbas. In one of the opening games, Itchen Abbas won convincingly but then things started to swing in favour of Easton and they ended the evening winning three games to Itchen Abbas' one.

It was rather similar at the other location where Martyr Worthy were hosts to Avington. The home team took a quick lead as the first game went strongly their way. However the remaining games were evenly balanced. All reached 11-11 at one point and eventually it was Avington that pulled ahead at the last minute to take all three.

So the scores at the end of round one are Easton and Avington each on 3 points and Itchen Abbas and Martyr Worthy on 1 point. The second round is scheduled for Tuesday 12 July.

Before then, there is the Triples, where all 4 villages compete in a knock-out tournament, on 21 June.

Ralph Matthews Photo: Martyr Worthy v. Avington (Ralph Matthews)

Boules 2022

The 2022 Boules season has begun. but sadly we are lacking players.

Boules ... *pétanque* ... you'd like to play
But where to go, I hear you say?

Tuesday nights, we start at six.

We can teach you all sorts of tricks

To shoot & point, it's always fun.

We do so hope you can come.

Find our pistes at IAA Hall

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We'll try to teach you if you wish to be told!

If you're brilliant - that's great, if you're not - no matter!

We're a friendly bunch and like to natter!

Pop along and have a go,

All you need is a forward throw!

A glass of wine or maybe a beer

Is all that's needed to add good cheer
But there's also nibbles and other great food,

A veritable feast to create a good mood.

Come and see us for a chat

We'd love you to join us ...

IT'S AS SIMPLE AS THAT!

For more info, please contact
jenny@sloan-home.co.uk or call 07815 770810. We look forward to seeing lots of new faces of any age on Tuesday evenings throughout the summer.

Jenny Sloan



Calling local alternative health practitioners!

I am collating information about alternative / natural / complimentary health practitioners in the Valley for a future article. If you would like to be included please email me before 20 July: Victoria.waring@mac.com
Victoria Waring

Comings and Goings

We welcome the Srikantha family who have moved from Kingsworthy to The Nest, Malthouse Close, Easton: Nish and Eve with sons Shayan aged 11 and Thiyan aged 7.

Celebs in our midst!

Driving along the B3047 through Itchen Stoke lately you might have noticed some pink signs. It appears that the Valley is playing host to some A-list celebrities, including Kristin Scott-Thomas, Scarlett Johansson and Sienna Miller, who are filming Scott-Thomas' directorial debut 'My Mother's Wedding' in Itchen Stoke as well as other locations. The film is based on Elizabeth Jane Howard's novel *The Sea Change*, which was first published in 1959, and is the third film in which Scott-Thomas and Johansson appear in a mother-daughter relationship. *Ed*

Worthy Park Tennis - 10th Anniversary Competition

Some of you may be aware of the bright yellow sign at the entrance to Princes Mead School. This is where you will find Worthy Park Tennis Club. We recently celebrated our 10th anniversary with an afternoon's tournament, the pairs

created from the 20 people attending. Matches of 4 games allowed everyone to have a service game and sudden death deuces kept things moving! It was lovely to see the courts busy once more and everyone socialising whilst waiting for their games. Other games like Kubb also kept the more active busy! Our thanks to our excellent coach, Rachel Magory, for organising us so well!

After some very hard fought games, the final winners were Caroline and Zoe Kierans (pictured below with Rachel Magory) with the runners up Abigail Woodcock and Josh White. The plate winners were Penelope Kellie and Simon Woodcock with the runners up Sara Janssen and Felicity Woodcock. Congratulations to them and to all who



took part. The atmosphere was lovely as was the BBQ that followed, rounding off a most enjoyable afternoon! Our thanks to Mark Wheeler for yet again producing delicious food!

The Committee would like to thank everyone for coming and also thank anyone who assisted with the setting up and the clearing up at the end. It was very much appreciated.

Jenny Sloan

Ed Note: Kubb is a family garden game with wooden blocks.

Easton and Martyr Worthy Cricket Club News

Fortunately, our busy summer schedule did not suffer any disruption from the heavy showers in early June and our Junior and Senior members have been enjoying practising and playing cricket in some lovely conditions so far. We have been pleased to welcome many new members across all sections of the Club.

Seniors

On 11 June our 1st team captain (Ben Stanbrook) achieved excellent bowling figures vs Portsmouth CC 2nds, 4 runs off 10 overs, which included 8 maidens; Ben also scored 52 runs. EMWCC won the match by seven wickets. Two of our young players put in encouraging performances; 17 year old Isaac Lowe took 6 for 16 off 10 overs and 17 year old Monty Randle scored 25 runs in the game.

The 2nd team won against Littleton and West Hill CC, chasing 203 runs. EMWCC won by one wicket. The pick of the batting was Seb Byers' 68 and Adi Mandrekar's 35. Adi and 16 year old Fred Trinder each took three wickets in our bowling.

Our 3rd team has had a more tricky start to the season and lost against top of the table Burr ridge CC.

EMWCC is committed to enabling young players to develop and progress through the age groups and then within the Seniors' set up. We often see dads playing in the same team as their sons. Earlier in June our 1st team played top of the league Old Basing CC at Home. Nick Boulton was playing with his sons, Olly aged 15 and Sam aged 13. Olly's bowling figures of 3 for 24 off 10 overs and Sam's 2 for 10 off 5 overs were very impressive contributions. Chasing

down a modest total of 129 runs EMWCC won by two wickets.

Fred Trinder is 16 years old and has been playing in the same team as his dad, Nick, who is now the 2nd Team Captain (see pic). Fred was named after England's talismanic all-rounder Freddie Flintoff and was born in 2005, days after England's memorable Ashes win. Fred is an opening bowler and has nipped out many an opening batsman with his away swing, a skill honed in the nets, bowling to his dad. So far this season, Fred is the leading wicket taker for the 2nds and is hoping to continue this good form for the remainder of the summer.

Bruce Hanson, our Club Welfare Officer, plays in the 3rd team with his son Eddie, an U14s player, who is also now the 3rds regular wicket keeper. Ben Gillings, an U13s boys' coach, also plays in the 3rds with his son Noah. Noah bats and bowls and continues to impress with his cricketing development.

Colts, Girls & Ladies

Matches continue to be played for all of the above and we will update on their progress in the next issue.

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Remembering David Croft

David Croft passed on 11 April at Winchester Hospice, after a long battle with ill health, at the age of 81. Born in south London in 1940, he was evacuated to Derbyshire during the war, spending much of his childhood there. As a young man he was a keen sportsman and kept wicket for the village of Stanwell near Heathrow. He was also wicket keeper for the London Stock Exchange, where he was a successful broker for 20 years with Laurence Prust, specialising in SE Asian markets, tin, palm oil and rubber. He then embarked on a career defining move to Hong Kong with wife Jill, where he worked for Barclays deZoete Wedd and later Smith New Court. His successful career took him onto Singapore for a two year stint before a final stop in Penang, Malaysia, where Jill and he stayed for a further five very happy years. After taking early retirement at the age of 55, David and Jill settled at Winnall Cottage Farm in Easton, living there happily for a further



20 years, running a bed and breakfast before downsizing and moving into the village. A keen gardener, David spent 10 years as treasurer for the Itchen Valley Flower Show and involved himself with many aspects of Easton village life.

He leaves his wife Jill, two grown up children James and Nicky and seven grandchildren. *James Croft*

John Stevenette

Some readers will remember John Stevenette, who was the first Rector of



the combined Itchen Valley Benefice from 1993 to his retirement in 1999. He and Angela, who died in 2009, were much loved in the Valley. He once said that the inevitable slight disagreements between the four villages were as nothing to the ill feeling between the villages in his former parish, where one village a few miles inland would have nothing to do with one on the coast. When John asked why he was told "Well Vicar, they didn't warn us that the Danes were coming". Many will remember him as someone who was an encourager of people who loved a good conversation be it about life, faith, gardening or his beloved jazz. He died peacefully in the nursing home to which he had gone in May 2021. *Charlotte Appleby*

The Valley Gardeners' adventures in May and June

Our May and June garden visits were fabulous and vastly contrasting. May took us to RHS Wisley which we haven't visited as a Club for about eight to nine years. I have never seen Wisley looking

better, both in terms of planting and the beautiful way the site is managed and kept looking pristine. Huge credit should go to the young and enthusiastic curator Matthew Pottage and his team of gardeners. Our tour of the garden with extremely knowledgeable and entertaining volunteers was terrific, as was our lunch in a private room which gave us the chance to relax and chat with our fellow Valley Gardeners' members.

The major new installation at Wisley is called RHS Hilltop. Around the state of the art building there, which is the UK's first dedicated horticultural scientific centre of excellence, are three new gardens: the World Food garden, the Wellbeing garden and the Wildlife garden. They were designed by Ann-Marie Powell who came and presented to The Valley Gardeners in Itchen Abbas last November. I particularly loved the World Food garden with its perfect beds of luscious vegetables and fruit. Seating and walking areas weave



in and out of the garden so the public can wander and sit at leisure and enjoy the bountiful produce which celebrates the diversity of food we can grow in the UK, including those more exotic crops which are loved, grown and cooked by our multicultural population. Elsewhere at Wisley, the rock garden was truly spectacular and the field of blue cammassias an

absolute picture. We were fortunate to see a couple of rare "handkerchief" trees (*Davidia involucrata*) which only flower for a couple of weeks in May. We are so lucky to have this iconic garden almost on our doorsteps.

In June, we explored the fascinating and beautiful Loseley Park, near Guildford. As a gardening club, we seldom visit the houses on the estate in question but Loseley is just too enticing to miss. Built in the 16th century by the More family, Loseley Park's greatest claim to fame is that it was a favourite of Queen Elizabeth 1st and she visited many times. The prospect of a royal visit in those times caused much consternation and huge financial outlay by the owners, and resulted in many beautiful and expensive features being added, just to please the monarch. There is



even a sort of moat in the gardens constructed just so Elizabeth could walk along the promenade above it! The house has been lived in continuously for 500 years and most of the original features remain, such as the

fireplace in the drawing room, carved from a single piece of chalk – or “clunch” as it is known – to a design by Holbein. Some of the original counterpanes adorn the hand carved four poster beds and the family’s sport of hunting boar (also a favourite of the Queen’s) is depicted on the pelmet in the drawing room. The Great Hall is so like that at Hatfield House that this could only be a Tudor house and the portraits of every family member hang on the walls, telling a compelling and intimate story of their history.

The walled garden is 2.5 acres and divided into “rooms”, one of which houses over 1,000 old English rose bushes which is indeed a sight (and scent) to behold. The vegetable garden is pristine and now run on the traditional organic methods used by gardeners there throughout previous centuries. We enjoyed coffee and pastries, followed later by a delicious lunch and a glass of wine in the stunning setting of a converted barn, complete with terrace on which to bask in the glorious sunshine. What better day out could there be?

Catherine Hahn

Local Menopause Talk

At long last, discussions about the menopause are becoming more open allowing women to make better-informed choices about the right pathway for them through these years. The Secret Garden Skin Clinic, on the outskirts of Easton, and Winchester GP hosted over 40 women at an event designed to support women in feeling their best during the menopause, both inside and out. As Consultant Pharmacist of the Clinic, I’m really passionate about restoring my clients’ confidence through my treatments and

shared my expertise in medical grade skincare and aesthetic procedures. Consultant gynaecologist Dr Jacqui Tuckey, who leads the menopause support team at Winchester GP, shared her 30 years of knowledge of HRT and its role in managing the myriad symptoms that can profoundly affect women’s quality of life. Go to our website to find out more and if you have any questions for Jacqui or me specifically related to the menopause, skin health or other concerns, do get in touch:

info@thesecretgardenwinchester.co.uk
Sharron Gordon



Pub Spy

The Peat Spade Inn, Stockbridge, is a favourite of fly fishing visitors to the Test with good reason - even the drive there is a delight, crossing the many channels of the river. The dining room is full of light and space and there is the option to sit in the courtyard outside. Our family of four ate at 6pm mid week. The service was good and the food arrived quickly. We had main courses and puddings. All were excellent ranging from traditional fish and chips, and burgers, to good vegetarian dishes and several delicious fish of the day options. Main courses cost £13-22 and puddings £6-8. We had a lovely dinner and will be returning soon. *Pub Spy*

Bird of the Month

This very common water bird has a white featherless shield on its head which gave rise to the expression 'bald as a coot' a very old saying from as early as 1430. Some birds, especially robins and blue tits, nest in strange places but this coot chose an old boat in the middle of a city! *Elaine Labram*



Look out for them on Avington Lake - Ed

Return of the Bee Orchid

After 40 years' absence, a clump of bee orchids is now well established uphill from Easton. To quote Jonathan Tulloch who wrote in *The Times* on 4 July 2020 about Britain's most beautiful and mysterious plant "they look like foraging psychedelic bees". This mimicry is all part of a wonderful deception: to lure male bees. Seeing the orchid, the bee mistakes it for a female and zeros in to mate. The plant is soon pollinated! The orchid's trickery is so thorough that it also emits an exact reproduction of the female bee's scent.

Geraldine Haig-Haddow



Saltyco

May marked the second anniversary of starting our fledgling startup, Saltyco. Saltyco makes planet-positive textiles by connecting regenerative agriculture to material production through a technology we have developed to turn wetland plants into valuable fibres for the fashion industry.

The startup world is fast-paced and there's always too much to do. However if you have an idea and a good team around you, it can also be incredibly rewarding! One way to litmus test your ideas is through the multitude of competitions that now surround early-stage companies and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), especially in the world of sustainability. Everything from the Postcode Lottery's Green Challenge to Prince Charles' Terra Carta, can be great indications that you're moving in the right direction, and can also help provide early stage funding!

Saltyco has recently won the Global Change Award, run by the H&M Foundation, for their first product



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Gordon Ellis-Brown



From Our MP

The majority of those living in the Itchen Valley are fortunate to be on the property ladder but this is not the reality everywhere, which is why the government recently set out plans to turn Generation Rent into Generation Buy, supporting more people to achieve their dream of home ownership. The challenge facing first-time buyers today is far greater than anything we have seen before. It was only 20 years ago that a home cost on average four and a half times average incomes. Today that multiple has risen to nine times average incomes or more. Reforms in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill (beginning its passage through Parliament) should support home ownership over decades to come. Yet it is not enough just to build more homes, something we are already doing in the Winchester District.

Action is now needed to unlock home ownership for more constituents, so there is to be a review into the mortgage market along with measures to support people to save for a deposit, no matter their financial situation. The review will report back by Autumn and set out a blueprint for how to widen the availability of the low-cost, low-deposit mortgages many of us relied on in the past to buy our first home.

There is also a generation of renters

locked out of home ownership because of where they currently live. Close to two million council homes have been bought by families using their Right to Buy. We made long-standing commitments to deliver the same rights to the 2.5 million households living in homes belonging to housing associations, but they remain trapped. They cannot buy, they don't have the security of ownership, they cannot treat their home as an asset, or make the improvements they want.

So we are righting that wrong. Over the coming months, this Government will work with the Housing Association sector to bring forward a new Right to Buy scheme. It will work for tenants, giving millions more the chance to own their home by 2024. There will be one-for-one replacement of each social housing property sold to learn the lessons of the past.

Finally, in other news, I am working with my colleague Pauline Latham MP and 'whispering' Bob Harris (pictured) on a new health charity; the Aortic Dissection Trust. It's a complex heart condition which took Pauline's son suddenly at just 44 years of age and we are determined to raise awareness of the often fatal condition when undiagnosed. You can see more at: aorticdissectioncharitabletrust.org. More at stevebrine.com but instant updates at fb.com/SteveBrineMP.

Steve Brine, MP for Winchester & Itchen Valley



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Upper Itchen Valley Society Drinks Party

On Thursday 26 May after an enforced break of over two years, caused by the COVID pandemic, the Upper Itchen Valley Society drinks was held by kind permission of Alison and Nick Karren-Smith in their beautiful garden at Martyr Worthy Place.



The rain held off and the turnout was very good, consisting of members old and new including past Chairpersons. Simon Broadley managed the bar with great aplomb and Elaine Labram's excellent organisation ensured that the contributions of canapés were plentiful and delicious.

To top the evening off we were able to enjoy the beautiful gardens which the Karren-Smiths have created, as well as Simon Ffennell's iconic walled garden,



where he grows his wonderful agapanthus: a magical and peaceful spot. Thank you to Simon for guiding us round. It was a really lovely event. Thank you to all who made the evening so special, and particularly to the Karren-Smiths for hosting.
Sally and Scot Johnston



The Upper Itchen Valley Society was set up for the preservation and safeguarding of what is good in the character of the Upper Itchen Valley, the protection of the area from actions which may be detrimental to the amenities and scenic beauty of its rural character, the discouragement of undesirable destruction and disturbance of wildlife and the encouragement of the preservation of historic buildings of special interest. It is a group that is well worth joining if you have not done so already.



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New from Itchen Abbas Primary School

As the school enters the final half term of the year it is lovely to reflect on some of the highlights from the last few weeks.

The school planned an early Platinum Jubilee celebration so that all children and parents could be present ahead of the planned residential trip. Although the weather did not start very promisingly whilst the children were inside doing jubilee related crafts, by the afternoon when the parents arrived the sun had come out and they were able to grab picnic blankets and enjoy an afternoon tea outside.



The children worked together on collages of the Queen's head during our celebrations. The purpose of this was to work with other children across the school, something which has been so restricted in recent years. The children worked beautifully with each other, the older children demonstrating leadership and compassion for the younger ones. The heads are now on display in the hall, and it is interesting to see how different they are and how carefully many of the groups have thought about their designs.

The children were all presented with Jubilee Mugs and the school planted trees to commemorate the Jubilee

which we hope will flourish over years to come. Another part of school life that it is great to see return is the annual residential trip for Otters and Foxes classes. This year they went to Minstead Study Centre in the New Forest for a residential week, learning about sustainability and caring for the environment.



It was lovely that so many parents could attend and enjoy the Jubilee celebrations after so long not being able to come together and at the time of writing, the school is hugely looking forward to their next big, whole school event which will be sport's day.

Beccy Clark, Vice-chair of Governors



Celebrating Jubilee: celebrating Community

As we look back, in years to come, to the month of June 2022, we will always remember it as the time of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. As seen in the photos and articles elsewhere in this edition, honouring the Queen gave us all in the Valley a wonderful opportunity to come out and celebrate. After two years of COVID-induced isolation, now at last the barriers of social distancing could be broken down.

Now at last we could freely interact with one another and 'bump' into people. It was also a great opportunity for those (such as Georgie and myself)

- this 'once in a millennium' event. I am grateful to all those who helped to make this such a special occasion. I'm especially grateful to John Lang for his words in the Second Address that detailed so many of the Queen's 'crowning achievements' - which, in the perspective of some of those listening, seemed to be the evident outworking of the Queen's personal faith in Christ about which I had spoken in the First Address.

If you were unable to join us on that day, there is a recording of the service available here: <https://youtu.be/tRLxKbPsfkQ>. After the service we were also able to give those attending a 60-page colour booklet, entitled *Our Faithful Queen: 70 years of faith and service*. We still have a few remaining



who have moved into the Valley during the pandemic, to be able to feel more connected. How good it was to meet new people as well as, for those who've lived in the Valley for many years, to reconnect with friends not seen for far too long.

It was also good (on the first day of the four day-weekend) to be able to meet in St Mary's, Easton, and hold a service of Celebration and Thanksgiving to mark this milestone in our national life

copies available from the church office in St John's, Itchen Abbas. So, if you would like one of these, do please drop by or contact Beccy Clark on admin@itchenvalleychurches.org. Let's hope this is the start of a wonderful few months of summer in the Valley.

With best wishes and prayers,
Rev'd Peter

Itchen Valley Churches

Sunday 3 July

8am - BCP Communion - St Swithun's, Martyr Worthy
10am - Morning Worship - St John's, Itchen Abbas

Sunday 10 July

10.00am Parish Communion - St John's, Itchen Abbas
The Ark is at Itchen Abbas Village Hall starting at 9.50am
6pm Patronal Evensong - St Swithun's, Martyr Worthy

Sunday 17 July

8am BCP Holy Communion - St John's, Itchen Abbas
10am Valley Worship - St Mary's, Easton

Sunday 24 July

10am Parish Communion - St Swithun's, Martyr Worthy
The Ark is at Martyr Worthy Village Hall starting at 9.50am

Sunday 31 July

8am BCP Holy Communion - St Mary's, Avington
10am Parish Communion - St Mary's, Easton

Summer Time In the Itchen Valley

We intend to simplify our service plan during the summer holidays with no evening services and our informal services will take place in gardens with the chance to socialise afterwards. Please look out for further information on our website about this.

Rector - Revd. Peter Walker

revd.peter@itchenvalleychurches.org 01962 588313

LLM - Mr Gerry Stacey

gerry.stacey@biblesociety.org.uk 01962 620263

Parish Administrator - Beccy Clark

admin@itchenvalleychurches.org 01962 779845

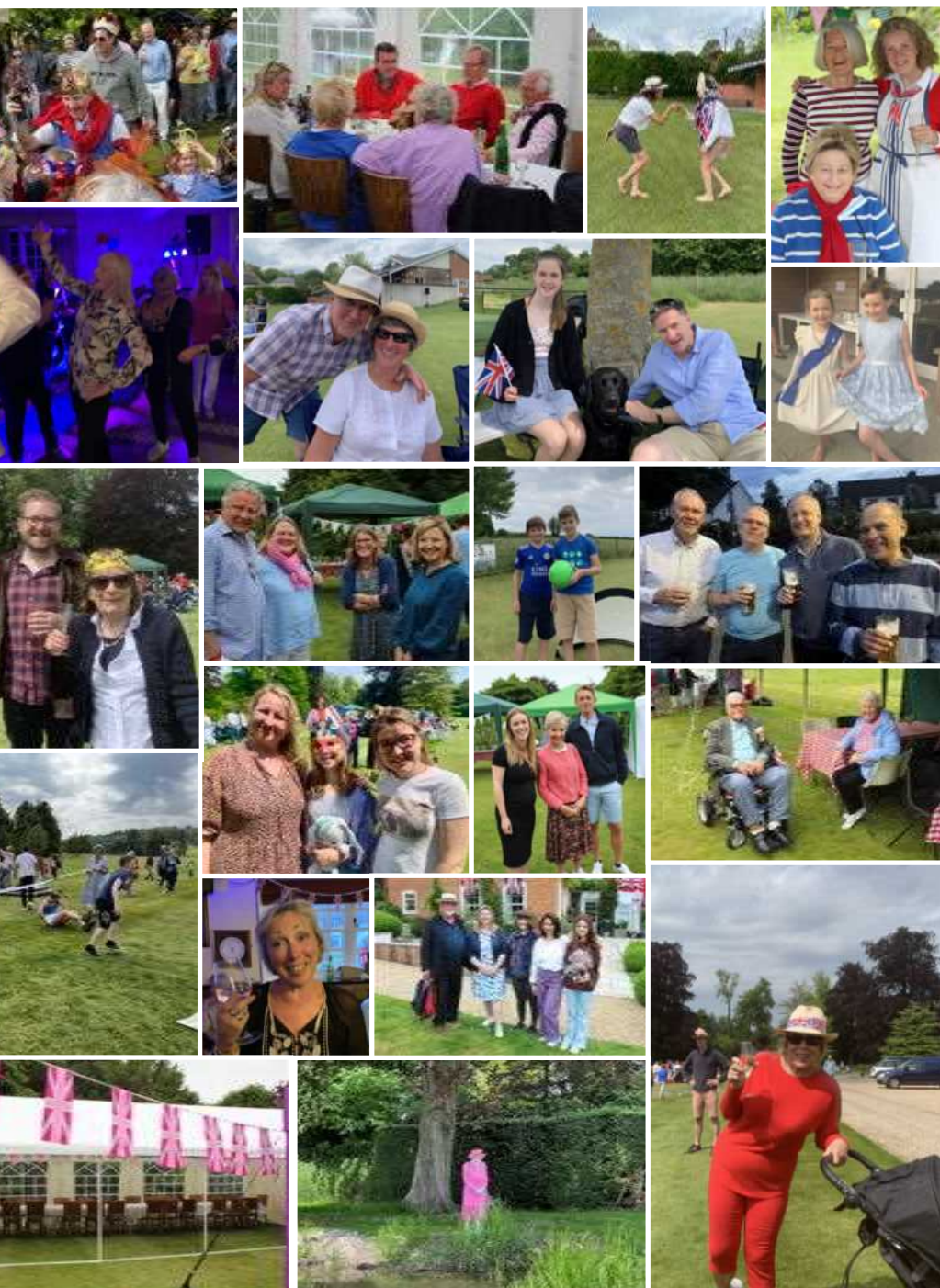
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Jubilee Diary of Social Events

Thursday: The Queen's Green Canopy



The party to reward all those who agreed to plant a tree to help build up the Queen's Green Canopy was held at IA&AVH on the first day of the Jubilee Bank Holiday in balmy sunshine. Our virtue was rewarded with fizz and canapés made and served by the Parish Councillors, and we were honoured by the attendance of Deputy Lieutenant, Amelia Ashton, who made a perfectly judged speech emphasising the importance not only of trees but also



of the sense of community which events such as this foster. She ceremonially planted an attractive whitebeam in the Village Hall car park,

to join the 350 trees planted around the Parish. Keep your eyes open as you walk in the Valley and see how many of them you can spot.

Charlotte Appleby

Friday: Easton celebrates

The Easton Jubilee Picnic saw dozens of friends and families gathering at the Easton Cricket Ground on Bank



Holiday Friday, loaded down with picnic baskets. Many of the younger members of the village came decked out in red, white and blue or dressed in regal finery, giving us their best royal waves.

Costumes and 'regality' were judged in a surprise visit from the "Queen" while the village ate, drank and made merry for the rest of the afternoon, enjoying the sunshine, a lively game of all-age rounders and raising a glass to Her Majesty's marvellous 70 years.

Sarah Freethy

Easton festivities spilled over late into the evening with a hog roast at The Cricketers and music from the fabulous "I Am Robot" that kept the dance floor heaving. It was wonderful to see all generations of Eastoners chatting, dancing and having fun.

Huge thanks go to Clare Davies, Lyn Russell and Helena Martin for masterminding these fantastic events.

Editors

Saturday: Avington Jubilee Party

Saturday 4 June was another memorable day for the multitude of picnickers from all over the Valley who enjoyed the Jubilee celebrations in the grounds of Avington Park. It was a fitting tribute from us all to add to the many in our Valley and across the country and the television screens. Her Majesty has been a beacon of light to all of us.

Our celebrations here began with a modest prompt that Itchen Abbas had fallen behind the other villages and had nothing planned. A volunteer committee was quickly formed and we heard that Avington Park could well be available and keen to host a community event for the whole Valley. Our initial expectation of 100 people in the Village Hall soon grew and grew, ending up with about 600, greeted with historic scrolls and a quiz followed by games and music, adding to the colourful jubilee crowns and decorations, all fuelled by an extremely busy bar and pulled together by Barry as compère in his union flag outfit.

Entry was free but it was bring your own picnic and we did. Lunch over, we laughed at the struggles to get the duck race going and moved on to a fanfare

and the loyal toast with free champagne and jubilee cupcakes, but that was not the end. When I left soon after 5pm there were still impromptu children's games being organised. People who arrived for the toast stayed till dusk and I heard one girl saying to another "there will never be another occasion like this". The sun was still shining and Her Majesty had been truly celebrated after a lot of hard work by a committee who deserve enormous thanks.

And that brings me to our host: Nic Roach bought Avington Park in 2020. Sarah and Mike Bullen and her parents had lovingly preserved the historic Grade I house and park for more than 70 years. They worked their socks off and hosted paying events, flat tenancies and anything that would help to pay for the upkeep. Avington needed an owner who could afford to repair and restore the house to its former glory. This Nic has done triumphantly. The Jubilee celebration was the first sign of wider community involvement to come. It saw a highly successful businessman involved in a hands-on role in everything that happened on this special day. We owe him a very big cheer. *Nick Owen*



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Saturday: Abbots Worthy's turn!

The residents of Abbots Worthy have over the past few years taken it in turns to have a village lunch - either Mill Lane or Old Rectory Gardens. But of course due to COVID that has not been possible. So what better excuse than the Queen's Platinum Jubilee for a get together.

We have had quite a few new families move into the village and given the layout of Abbots Worthy it's not always easy to bump into other residents. So our village lunch provides a great opportunity for old and new to meet and new friendships to be created. It was wonderful to see so many turn out with a great provision of delicious food and despite a couple of showers whilst setting up, we had a glorious afternoon in Old Rectory Gardens accompanied by a delightful impromptu performance from Juliet Howland.

Helen Ellis-Brown

next few days. We were completely covered by canvas by the time all the volunteers had finished on Friday. The Admiral organised his very complicated tent systematically, as one would expect, and the rest of us followed instructions.

But we need not have worried! The weather, if not fantastic, was fine. It's possibly as much fun putting the tents up and making the preparations and taking them down as it is the day itself, as you get to meet many people that you have never met before. 'Oh, how long have you lived in Martyr Worthy?' 'About 15 years' was a common refrain!

Martyr Worthy Manor garden was looking superb, a product of the hard work of Dave and the team, even sporting a union flag cut in the grass. Talking of flags did you know that an 'ensign' is not at all the same thing as 'an ensign' and that they are pronounced entirely differently. One



Sunday: Party time at Martyr Worthy

Would it rain or not? We were pretty comfortable that most of the Jubilee celebrations would be bathed in sunshine but as for the Sunday, when the Martyr Worthy village jubilee party was scheduled, the committee were sceptical. The call went out for gazebos and tents and they trickled in over the

flies from the stern of a ship and the other is a junior army officer. These are things you learn if you have responsibility for hanging flags out of windows to give an appropriately patriotic look to the environment. And speaking of patriotism, what could be more patriotic than the 70 photos of HM Queen over her reign which the



fiendish quizmaster Will Parry got us to match to a list of locations where they were taken. A delicious hog roast provided by Paul, ably assisted by Quentin James, with salads, cakes and other treats provided by many in the village, wonderfully masterminded by Lucinda Ffennell. Games and sack races were organised for the children by the Hunts.

Thanks so much to the fantastic committee led by Guy Green who put so much work into it all and to the Barbers for generously letting us tramp across their beautiful garden.

The flag was lowered to a hummed last post on a truly delightful and enjoyable day; the tents came down and the rain eventually fell!

Alex and Lucy Pease

The Jubilee Trifle

Vernon Tottle and Linda Gaunt have had a go at making the competition-winning lemon Swiss roll and amaretti trifle.

"Delicious but time consuming" according to Linda, here is Vernon's account, which has some very good tips for simplifying the process!

I made the trifle soon after the recipe was made public in May. It is a very good recipe but I think some variations

would make it even better. The trifle as suggested takes a long time to prepare. But it has sensibly been designed so it can also be made using shop-bought ingredients and that is what I did.

I bought the lemon Swiss roll, avoiding the need to make the sponge, and used Hartley's lemon jelly for the lemon curd but did add the juice of three oranges when making it up to a pint.

I bought the amaretti biscuits and made Birds custard rather than a proper egg version. I did make the jewelled white chocolate bark as instructed but thought it looked so awful that I ground it up in the food processor and just sprinkled the crumbs on the trifle for an excellent alternative topping.

Using all these short cuts, it only took an hour in total to prepare, plus cooling and setting time.

The trifle as given has no alcohol in it; I will add some limoncello next time I make it. Linda told me she did much the same as I did but she added amaretto liqueur to her sponge base.

Vernon Tottle



Welcoming Ukrainian families to the Valley

We are delighted to be able to say that we currently have four families from Ukraine in the valley. They are settling in well. We have arranged English lessons for them all which they are thoroughly enjoying and progressing well. We are also delighted that school places have been found for all the children. You may well have met some of them at the various Jubilee events. Winchester Council have just launched a Ukraine Support Hub to offer support and guidance to Ukrainian guests and their hosts. Whilst our news is good we need to remember that all of these guests will have family, often husbands and fathers, back in Ukraine and be living daily with the stress and concern for their welfare. If anyone feels they can help in any way or is still considering becoming a host please get in touch on ukraine@itchenvalleychurches.org
Gerry Stacey

The Practical Gardener



Gardening continues to be a break from other chores, a welcome form of exercise and time spent in fresh air - what could be better! I've been keen to grow vegetables for a long time. I come with some experience. However, sadly some things don't go to plan. My early

potatoes were true to form and I started lifting at the beginning of June, so far an excellent crop and very little work. The disappointment is broad beans. My crop was attacked by black fly and I obeyed the experts and did not spray. The result is I have lost the entire crop. I won't delay spraying next year! Right next to the beans are early peas, heavily cropping and in great shape. I can't explain why they have not been attacked. Garden grown peas have a flavour all to themselves. I know many Valley residents who take great care over wine yet eat frozen peas... priorities? Since I have netted an area over the brassicas, all is well and there will be broccoli to harvest by the end of June.

In past weeks, I waited for a wet week and bought some new turf. Already it's growing strongly, so proof that watering is essential. The areas that I seeded are growing lots of weeds - that's life. Experts today are suggesting we should leave areas of lawn uncut. It seems a great idea except that lawn covers most of my garden where I need access. The idea of wading through knee high grass does not appeal. On the other hand I do feel any garden might have a wild area and potentially a place to grow wildflowers. I have a verge at the front of my garden and I'm hoping it won't be cut by the council.

It's a great time to take photos of your garden and especially if like me, you plan changes. I have a number of perennials in the wrong place and during the winter I propose some replanting. It's always good to have a photographic record.

July is often the month to look out for bargains in the garden centres. It can be useful to buy seeds. Many flowering perennials can be sown now, particularly sweet william and



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Martyr Worthy Village Hall [Lucinda Ffennell martyrworthyvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:Lucinda.Ffennell@martyrworthyvillagehall@gmail.com)

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wallflowers. But it's also the best time to enjoy the garden and have a rest in the sun!

Tony Gaster.

From the Parish Council

Jubilee Celebrations in the Valley were a great success and thank you to all who organised, provided venues, helped and participated. For the Parish Council it's time to press on with both routine work and new projects. In May and June time has to be given to various statutory requirements. For those who wish to know more, details can be found on our website and the requisite notices can be seen on our main notice board opposite Itchen Abbas and Avington Village Hall.

Warm summer weather has now led to an increase in growth of vegetation. Extra days have been booked with the lengthsman to help keep as many paths open as possible. Volunteers are also welcome so please let us know if you are willing to help. The volunteers who cleared the footpath on the south side of the vineyard in Itchen Abbas and Itchen Stoke (it has never been so well cleared) and also removed a fallen tree from the path across that end of the Valley deserve a very big thank you.

Two items that need everyone's participation: first, our Environmental Working Group are asking you to complete a survey they have prepared. Please see below for more details of this. Secondly is the need to correct a leftover anomaly when it comes to electing Parish Councillors. At present the Valley is divided into two wards on an east /west basis. Not only is this no longer representative of the population distribution, it can cause difficulties when it comes to finding residents willing to be elected as Parish

Councillors. A good example of this is where at an election one ward had one too many candidates and the other had too few. As the candidates have to be resident in their respective wards, a simple swap was not allowed. There either had to be an election in the ward with an excess of candidates, which would have caused unnecessary expenditure, or one candidate had to stand down and subsequently be co-opted. This is despite the fact that overall there were only just enough candidates to make up a full council. Unfortunately, although that is workable, it does result in other restrictions. The solution therefore is to make the Itchen Valley a single ward for Parish Council elections.

To achieve this we need a petition to be signed by at least 250 residents who are on the electoral register. The ten members of the Parish Council are therefore being tasked over the next month or so to collect a minimum of twenty five signatures each requesting this change. The wording has already been agreed with Winchester City Council, and forms for collecting signatures have been approved. As the four-yearly election for Parish Councillors takes place next year we need to get this changed before then. So when approached by one of your Parish Councillors, please sign up and support us!

Patrick Appleby (IVPC Chairman)

Environmental Survey

The Parish Council will be launching an environmental survey in July. The purpose is to explore attitudes of residents in the Itchen Valley to the climate crisis and to discover what actions we, as a community, are taking to address the challenges. The anonymous survey, which will take around five minutes to complete, will

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be online, with paper copies available. We aim to ensure that enough residents complete the survey in order for it to be representative of local opinion and actions. The findings are expected to be reported in September's News. Details to follow.
Cllr Stephen Percy

Jackie's County Corner

I've been campaigning for better broadband in my County division for about ten years now. As government services started to transfer online by 2005, getting any functioning broadband at all was the first problem. Many of us still subscribe to Gigabeam. The challenge is now for services delivering a much faster speeds direct to every home... Despite the promises, each improvement in internet speed proudly announced by Government only reaches around 95% of our homes; this leaves one in 20 homes lagging far behind. If you live in an area with fast speeds, the 'rolling circle' on your TV will be a distant memory, but to many of us, this still happens!

The Community Fibre Partnership (CFP) scheme was designed to enable communities to sort out their own service direct with providers registered by the Dept of Culture Media and Sport, the DCMS. This is not ideal, because if services are to be truly universal, it should be exactly that - available to everyone. From the start I have argued that we wouldn't want to live in a home where water just dripped slowly out of the taps, so why would we want to live in an area of poor internet connectivity?

In June, at my request, HCC Scrutiny took a second look at the extremely slow roll out of the Government-led

CFP scheme. The Government's Broadband Delivery UK, BDUK, were unable to attend. In the face of increasing uncertainty that the last 5% of homes will benefit from the commercial rollout, I have urged the County to extend their budget for these schemes for another year, which could help them become a reality in our rural communities.

Thank you to everyone who hosted, helped and/or attended events to make the Jubilee celebrations so special for us all.

Please don't forget:

- If you are hosting a Ukrainian family, why not go along to the WCC Support Hub at The Guildhall on Tuesday morning from 10 to 12 noon. All guests and hosts welcome, refreshments provided.

- Hampshire County Council is asking for your views on proposed changes for local and community transport. The consultation closes on the 24 July. Go to www.hants.gov.uk/passenger-transport-consultation or phone 0300 555 1388 for a paper copy.

I really hope that you can enjoy these precious summer months! But if you need help, details are below.

Cllr Jackie Porter,
tel/text 07973 696 085, email:
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The Valley Quiz

No. 4

1. Even the smallest airport has at least two runways. Each one has a two-digit designation (e.g. 27 at one end and 09 the other). The numerals are marked on the threshold. The difference between them is always 18. What do they mean?

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2. Who said “The quality of mercy is not strained: it droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven?”

3. “The lustre is generated by the reflection of light through the layers of nacre built up around a bit of grit”. What am I talking about?

4. The port of Classis, built by Augustus, lay close to the then capital of one of history’s greatest empires. What was the capital and what sea did the port face?

5. The A5 is one of Britain’s traditional trunk roads. London is at one end, what is the name of the town at the other?

6. What are the three primary colours, and if you combine them together in identical amounts, what is the resultant colour?

7. How many states are there in the USA? Only one of them does not have at least one straight border. What State is it?

8. If you put Sam on Noble Yeats in April, what was the result?

9. What tradition, first introduced in medieval times, still takes place in Winchester every evening at 8pm. And what was its function?

10. What is the main ingredient of WD40? And what do the letters WD mean?

A final Coronation Memory

Seventy years ago, I was outside Westminster Abbey with my friend Ken Brett. We were boy soldiers representing The Boys Squadron Royal Armoured Corps. We were 16 years old and proudly on parade dressed in SD uniforms and peaked caps, which sat straight down the forehead (known as slashed Peak.) . We were waiting for

the Coronation Carriage to pass, with the newly crowned Queen and Prince Phillip waving to the crowds of well-wishers. We had been at our allocated position since early morning.

I thought back on the year when as a 15 year old I had enlisted in the Service of King George VI on the 4 February 1952. Two days later the King died and I found I was now a soldier of the Queen for the next 14 years. Ken and I had won our place on the parade after we had gained top marks in a Tank Gunnery competition at our Barracks at Lulworth and Bovington in Dorset.

As Ken came from London we stayed with his parents, they kept an eye on us and also ensured we were well fed, as we were still under rationing then, and were always hungry! We enjoyed our time at the big event but all too soon it was back to camp and routine.

Edward Budgen

Tiddler Joke

Why don’t prawns share?

Because they’re shellfish.

Georgina Maxted-Gammie, aged 6



Local monthly information

Black bins and brown garden bins on Fridays and 15 July

Green bins on Fridays 8 and 22 July

Glass boxes on Friday 22 July

Local monthly information

Hampshire Farmers' Market in Winchester

Sundays 10 and 31 July 9 am—2 pm

Parish Council Meetings:

7 July @ 7 pm (Martyr Worthy Village Hall)

Brew with a View:

13 and 27 July

Bus information

67 Bus operated by Stagecoach.

To Winchester:

Monday and Thursday

(Sch) 8:20 9:23 13:53 16:23 17:23

(NSch) 8:23 15:23;

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

(Sch) 8:20 09:23 11:53 13:53 16:23 17:23

(NSch) 8:23 9:23 11:53 13:23 15:23 17:23

Saturday 08:23 11:23 14:23 17:23

To Alresford:

Monday and Thursday

(Coll) 11:49 15:19 17:11 18:09

(NColl) 11:49 15:19 17:09 18:09

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

(Coll) 09:49 11:49 13:19 15:19 17:11 18:09

(NColl) 09:49 11:49 13:19 15:19 17:09 18:09

Saturday: 09:19 12:19 15:19 18:09

Key: **Sch** School days only; **NSch** School holidays only; **Coll** College days only; **NColl** College holidays only

No Sunday or bank holiday service.

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

Quiz Answers
The magnetic azimuth or magnetic compass heading of the runway. Eg. 09 means the runway direction is 090° or East. The number at the other end is 27 or 270° or West.
2. Portia in Shakespeare's "The Merchant of Venice."
3. A pearl.
4. Ravenna in Italy was the capital of the Western Roman Empire in the 5th Century and Classic faced the Adriatic Sea.
5. Holyhead.
6. Red, blue and yellow. Mixed together you get white.
7. There are 50 States and the only one not to have a straight border is Hawaii.
8. The winner of the 2022 Grand National. The rider was the amateur jockey Sam Waley-Cohen riding the outsider Noble Yeats at 50:1.
9. The Curfew bell in Winchester's High Street is still rung at 8pm. It was traditionally used to tell people to cover or dampen their fires. The word curfew stems from the French couvre-feu meaning cover fire.
10. WD40 is a unique blend of several lubricants but is 50-60% naphtha (petroleum). WD means



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