

The background of the cover is a photograph of a lush landscape. A large, mature weeping willow tree with long, green, drooping branches dominates the left side of the frame. Its reflection is visible in the calm water of a river or stream that flows through the center. To the right of the willow, other trees with green and some autumnal orange foliage are visible. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

ITCHEN Valley News

Issue 116 September 2023 Avington, Easton, Iken Abbas, Martyr Worthy and Abbots Worthy

**1 to 1 Home
Support
for Apple Macs,
iPads, iPhones
& Windows**

Helping you to make the most of
your Macs, Windows laptops and
PCs. Wi-Fi, printer and email
troubleshooting

07392 552 592


andy@misternmac.co.uk
misternmac.co.uk

STN·MILL

HEALTH & FITNESS
—ALRESFORD—

GYM | BARRE | YOGA | PILATES | CYCLING | MEDICAL

FIRST CLASS DEPARTS HERE

**FREE PASS
AVAILABLE**

-Gym session
-Class pass

CONTACT US

info@stationmill.co.uk
01962 735110
Station Mill, Station Road
Alresford, SO24 9JQ

GES
DIGITAL LTD

Your local
Electrical Specialist

Design, Specification, Guidance and Choice
Lighting. Power. Shading. Openings. Heating.
Cooling. PV. EV. Wi-Fi. CCTV. Security.
Access control. Smart services. Intelligent
buildings. Audio Visual. Cinema. TV. Controls.



01962 877160

www.gesdigital.co.uk

WELCOME to the Valley

News



Was it the Lionesses inspiring the Easton U11 girls team or vice versa?!

We would have loved to see the World Cup coming home, but see page 12 for details of the young cricketers' excellent season. It has been marvellous to see everyone enjoying their favourite sport and making it such a success – it was a hockey tour that took Harry Gaster to South Africa for an eye opening opportunity (page 16), and of course the Martyr Worthy boules team are covered in glory (page 10)!

Back at home we bring you a number of reviews, from Food Spy's visit to the newly refurbished Cart and Horses to Bookworm's book review, from *Oppenheimer* to *Barbie*, both at the Everyman cinema, or a day out at Twyford Waterworks. This month What's On is bulging with a wide variety of options for the Autumn. Whilst enjoying all the local opportunities, do consider making time for filling in the survey about that on going issue the Cart and Horses junction (page 18) – now is the moment for our views.

The Rector has written about Creation, and we can all agree on the beauty of all that surrounds us here. Some delights are more obvious than others: some people will notice the bats (page 24), but perhaps fewer are aware of the Stone Curlew (page 25), and I don't think many of us understand what a nature reserve the Junction 9 roundabout has become – thanks to the Broadleys for identifying and explaining the wonderfully named Ploughman's Spikenard (page 21)!

I have been enjoying two apps on my phone this summer, Merlin for birds and Seek for plants and more (kids love an app!)

Finally if you are older or very young don't forget to book your flu and Covid jabs!

Thank you to everyone who has taken the trouble to send in articles for this edition - as ever it is much appreciated. Next month Nathalie and James Paterson will be editing - sadly for the last time.

Verity Coleman

Itchen Valley News

Chief Editor Mary Hogg

Editors Charlotte Appleby, Verity Coleman, Catherine Hahn, Brigid McManus, James Paterson, Nathalie Paterson

Advertising Jenny Sloan

Distribution Lyn Jones IA&A 07899 922221
Gilly Greenwood E&MW 779540

Treasurer Michael Smith

For editorial enquiries, articles, letters or comments, please email:

itchenvalleynews@gmail.com.

For advertising enquiries, please email:

itchenvalleyadvertising@gmail.com

Postal address: Itchen Valley News, Chilland Cottage, Chilland Lane, Martyr Worthy, SO21

1EB. Copy for the **October 2023** issue should be received **Friday 15 September 2023**.

All material is published in good faith and the Valley News cannot be held responsible for any information given or views expressed; neither can it be liable for any loss arising from the use of any information or advertisements contained herein. The Editorial Team reserves the right to refuse or amend articles or advertisements submitted for publication. Printed by Greenhouse Graphics of Basingstoke. Cover photo taken by Rolls Coleman and other photos from various contributors.

What's On

Georgia O'Keeffe: Memories of Drawings

26 August - 15 November

The Gallery in The Arc, Winchester. The exhibition celebrates pioneering American artist Georgia O'Keeffe. It is a Hayward Gallery Touring exhibition presenting a remarkable collection of O'Keeffe's work. The exhibition showcases 21 photogravures of drawings produced by the artist between 1915 and 1963, reflecting the period in which she established herself as a major figure in American Modernism. With no artworks by O'Keeffe held in UK public collections, this exhibition is a rare chance to see her work in person outside the United States. www.arcwinchester.org.uk/event/georgia-okeeffe.

Twyford Waterworks Open Days

3 September and 1 October

www.twyfordwaterworks.co.uk/opendays See report page 34.

Cart and Horses junction exhibition

5 September 3 pm - 7.30 pm

Winchester Rugby Club, North Walls Park (off Nuns Rd) SO23 7EF

The team will be present to discuss and answer questions.

17 September deadline to complete the online survey at

www.hants.gov.uk/transport/transportchemes/cart-and-horses-junction-improvements

Further information on page 18.

Events at the Yard

6 September 7-10 pm

Sam's Eats

Sam Way launching his new cookbook with a demonstration, supper included.

20 September 7- 8.30 pm

Justine Picardie on Coco Chanel

Justine Picardie has spent over 20 years exploring the truth about the mystery that was Coco Chanel. Join Justine and The Yard's host Rebecca Fletcher as they discuss the world of Coco Chanel. Chanel is synonymous with elegance and beauty – yet what lay beneath the surface is far darker.

27 September 7.30-9 pm

Beth O'Leary and Kara Gnodde

Rebecca Fletcher will be chatting to romcom queen Beth O'Leary and debut novelist Kara Gnodde as they share the inspiration behind their latest novels, *The Wake-Up Call* and *The Theory of (Not Quite) Everything*.

Tickets for all events are available at www.theyardhampshire.co.uk/events

Itchen Valley Choir

6 September 7.45-9.30 pm

A reminder to turn up if you would like to join in. No audition necessary. Come and try us out!

[Jacqui Squire IVCS.Secretary@gmail.com](mailto:Jacqui.Squire@IVCS.Secretary@gmail.com)

Alice Loxton: Uproar!

Thursday 7 September 7.15 pm

Winchester College

A talk by Alice Loxton: 'Uproar!: Satire, Scandal and Printmakers in Georgian London'. Fundraising event for Hampshire History Trust.

Tickets £15 and £30.

hampshirehistorytrust.com/uproar-alice-loxton-talk-fundraising-event/

Martyr Worthy Lecture Series 2023/4

in aid of the four churches of the Itchen Valley Parish

at Itchen Abbas and Avington Village Hall, SO21 1BQ

6.30pm for drinks and canapés

Lectures will last an hour starting at 7.15pm

THE SIEGE OF LOYALTY HOUSE



JESSIE CHILDS

Award winning author & historian
discusses one of the longest sieges
of the English Civil War

Tuesday 28th November 2023

BEHIND THE SCENES

in the Palace of
Westminster



Lieutenant General

DAVID LEAKEY CMG CVO CBE

Black Rod 2011-2017

Friday 12th January 2024

FAME & OBSCURITY

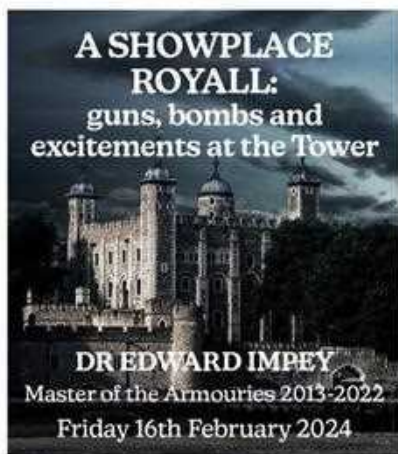
Queen Victoria's two
favourite court artists



DR JOHN DAVIES

Friday 2nd February 2024

**A SHOWPLACE
ROYALL:**
guns, bombs and
excitements at the Tower



DR EDWARD IMPEY

Master of the Armouries 2013-2022

Friday 16th February 2024



Tickets: £25 ~ available soon

Please register your interest below

Email Sophie Parry at

martyrworthylectures2023@gmail.com



Winchester Heritage Open Days

Friday 8 - Sunday 17 September

The eighth annual Winchester Heritage Open Days festival's theme is 'Creativity Unwrapped', celebrating the colourful history and heritage of Winchester and the surrounding areas of Hampshire. Whether you are keen to gain historical insights, interested in local artists or are looking to enjoy a fun family day out, there is something for everyone. There are over 100 events taking place during the ten day festival including tours, talks and workshops, so come along and unwrap your own creativity! For more details and to view the full programme of events please visit the website:

www.winchesterheritageopendays.org

Eve Gillies

West Meon Music Festival

Friday 14 - Sunday 17 September

There are exciting musical experiences to enjoy at this year's West Meon Music Festival, now in its 13th year, with brilliant award-winning young performers and a dramatic renaissance band joining the Festival's founders, the internationally acclaimed Primrose Piano Quartet. The evening concerts are candlelit and include a glass of wine. The morning concerts include coffee and biscuits and the afternoon concerts tea and cake.

www.westmeonmusic.co.uk

Sue Scholes Sue@Millbarrow.com

'The Devastation and Restoration of England's Chalk Streams'

Thursday 21 September 7- 8pm

Our chalk streams are some of nature's greatest gems, but just how natural are they? Join us to explore how these precious habitats have been altered throughout history, and how

restoration is returning them to health today. Free online talk

www.hiwwt.org.uk/events.

Bridge Tea

Thursday 12 October 2 - 5 pm

The Manor House, Preshaw, Nr Upham. Supporting Winchester Go LD Come and join us for a friendly competition and a gorgeous homemade tea. Ticket £80 per table from johanna.tyler@btinternet.com

Easton Supper Club

Friday 13 October

Easton Village Hall

Back in February there was a discussion on social and fund-raising events that could be enjoyed in the community. A Supper Club at Easton Village Hall was suggested, so four of us got together and we will each cook canapes, puddings and the same main course recipe for a maximum of 12 people. Everyone is welcome but initially we can only cater for 48. We hope this will take place three times a year. Please see the flyer opposite.

Naomi Ellis, Sue Kennedy, Joanna Smith and Sarah Smith

National Garden Scheme Hampshire

The NGS has renewed its partnership with ABF, the Soldier's Charity, for the next three years committing to donate £240,000 to their invaluable work. Our garden visitors, along with our garden owners are vital to the important work the National Garden Scheme charity carries out.

Wheatley House, Wheatley Lane Kingsley, Bordon, GU35 9PA

Sunday 1 October 2-5 pm

Admission: £5.00, children free.

Cashless payments and refreshments available.



SUPPER CLUB

AT

EASTON VILLAGE HALL

FRIDAY 13TH OCTOBER

7PM

TICKETS £20, TO INCLUDE:

A GLASS OF PROSECCO ON ARRIVAL

CANAPÉS

MAIN COURSE

SELECTION OF PUDDINGS

PAY BAR

TO BOOK YOUR SPACE AT THE TABLE, PLEASE EMAIL
EVHSUPPERCLUB@GMAIL.COM.

TICKETS ARE LIMITED SO PLEASE BOOK BEFORE FRIDAY 7TH OCTOBER.

PLEASE ADVISE REGARDING ANY DIETARY REQUIREMENTS.

ANY PROFIT RAISED WILL GO TOWARDS THE MUCH-NEEDED UPGRADE
OF THE EASTON VILLAGE HALL KITCHEN.

REG. CHARITY NUMBER: 301809



**THE BARN
AT AVINGTON**



Perfect for any celebration
www.thebarnatavington.co.uk



**AVINGTON PARK
GOLF COURSE**



Your local 9 hole course
www.avingtongolf.co.uk



PRINCE'S MEAD

Where happiness reigns

*Open Morning
6 October 2023*



Independent co-educational school
for children aged 3-11 years

princesmeadschool.org.uk
Worthy Park House, Winchester



**We
are
hiring**



**PRINCE'S
MEAD**

Part-time Cleaners
4 hours per day
Monday - Friday, 4pm - 8pm

*Find out
more*



Call 01962 888000 princesmeadschool.org.uk

**YOU COULD
ADVERTISE HERE**

itchenvalleyadvertising@gmail.com

The garden is on a rural hilltop with panoramic views over Alice Holt Forest and the South Downs. The owner admits to being much more of an artist than a plantswoman, and has had great fun creating this 1½ acre garden full of interesting and unusual planting combinations. The sweeping mixed borders and shrubs are spectacular with colour throughout the season, particularly in late summer. The black and white border, now with bright red accents, is very popular with visitors. This is a stunning garden for all seasons.

Pat Beagley pat.beagley@ngs.org.uk

Trinity Annual Charity Gala

Friday 20 October 6.30 pm

New Hall, Winchester College
Supporting people out of homelessness.
Drinks reception, three course meal,
auction, raffle and live entertainment.
Tickets £85 from

Kirsty@trinitywinchester.org.uk

Michael Lunt's Nautical musical comedy

Saturday 21 October at 6 pm

St Mary's Church Easton
In aid of the St Mary's Fabric Fund
followed by drinks and canapes.
Don't forget to apply for your tickets,
£25.00 from Penelope Kellie
pkellie@pworldwide.com

Boomtown

Boomtown happens once a year and for many residents that seems to be enough! I have been contacted by various members of the Upper Itchen Valley Society expressing dismay at some aspects of the festival. Of course there are those who live locally and attend and enjoy the event but it does cause a lot of disruption for many others living nearby.

The noise level was a big problem for those affected and lasted this year until 4 am on both Friday and Saturday. Although this is within the Licensing conditions, it was very difficult to cope with. Light pollution and particularly the use of huge strobe lights within the Dark Skies area of the National Park was also a significant concern, as was the amount of litter left on the site especially after the event.

The other big frustration expressed was that of traffic. It was absolute gridlock in Winchester and surrounding roads including the B3047 on the Monday as festival goers left the site in huge numbers all at the same time. This was seriously inconvenient to residents going to work or to appointments, and the traffic congestion lasted for almost the whole day.

Elaine Labram

Chair, Upper Itchen Valley Society

Boomtown: I was there!

Going to Boomtown was an incredible experience for me. I was told by many people how exhilarating it is but to feel the energy myself was really something special. Four of us decided to buy our tickets three months before the event, so we cleared our calendars, and started preparing.

When the day finally arrived, I was so excited to be going to this massive attraction in my home city, where the next five days turned into an entire lifestyle. We had two tents for the four of us and we created a cosy environment. The noise levels were never too high and overall we slept pretty well.

The main attraction is the 'city', where you discover the streets and the hidden rooms and start to unravel

parts of the storyline. The atmosphere was always electric especially at night when you have the lights around you. I would say it is very worth going to experience as each day would be another day of finding more; it sometimes felt never ending.

There were so many artists that made my top favourite performances including 'Girls don't sync', 'Nia Archives' and 'Chase and Status' and there weren't any performances that were added to my bad list. I mostly enjoyed the main stage called 'origin' because of the lights, and the stage set list was full of artists I know.

Everything was very precise and thought out; however my favourite area was called 'old town' because I loved the design and the hidden features.

Overall, I think Boomtown is a wonderful experience and I will definitely attend it in 2024. I highly recommend.

Rosie Mason

Boules League

The 2023 Valley boules league competition has now been completed. Round 1 was held on 30 May between Easton and Martyr Worthy and they were equal on 2 points each. The second round took place on 2 July, with Avington at home against Martyr Worthy. It was a nice sunny evening. Both villages were hoping for an early lead. Avington won one game but then Martyr Worthy levelled the score to make it 1-1 at half time. It may have looked as though this would be another round of balanced scores, but not so. After the break the two Martyr Worthy teams played strongly and forged ahead winning both the



The winning Martyr Worthy team:
Guy Green, Sue Savage, Scot Johnston, John Prince (captain), Simon Ffennell, Richard Mason

remaining games, producing a 3-1 win for Martyr Worthy.

So at the end of the second round the cumulative score was Avington and Martyr Worthy equal on 3 points each and Easton on 2. Avington had played all their matches whereas both Easton and Martyr Worthy had one more to play - against each other.

That challenge was held on 1 August. This was the third and final round and Easton were at home. With only one point dividing the two villages, either could win. There were four games to play and four points to be allocated. If Easton were to win 3-1, the trophy would be theirs, but Martyr Worthy needed only to draw 2-2.

Refreshments were plentiful, the weather was cool and the threat of rain was looming. When play started Easton tried hard but in both the first two games Martyr Worthy pushed ahead relentlessly, winning 13-6 and 13-5 bringing the score to 2-0 at half-

time. This brought the overall cumulative score for the season to Martyr Worthy on 5 points, Easton on 2 with only two games left to play. With an unbeatable lead (and with the rain starting), Martyr Worthy were declared the winners for 2023 and were duly presented with the Dick Hewitt Cup.

Ralph Matthews

Boules: When East met West

Villagers from Easton enjoyed another evening of friendly boules competition this month, but this time the other team came from the far side of our new Parliamentary constituency. So, East met West, but which was which? Villagers from Easton were in the West and the visitors from West Meon were from the East.

We have long had an association with the village of Collingbourne Ducis in Wiltshire but this year the old arrangement seems finally to have fizzled out. So we sought new partners, and with great success. Fifteen players from the Meon Valley came to play boules, enjoying fine weather and an Easton buffet while exchanging stories. Over 20 players from Easton got at least one game, whatever their skills or experience. We were grateful again to Judy Bishop for her kind hospitality. It was good to see complete strangers hitting it off so well and we have been invited for a return match, hopefully to be held in West Meon before the end of the autumn.

It is 25 years since people in Easton took up boules on an organised basis so we had a bit of a head start on our opponents who have just taken it up. They have plans for more training and



a professional pitch so we will see whether we can keep up with them in future.

Simon Broadley

Easton and Martyr Worthy Cricket Club

The David Roth grounds are looking fantastic after all the rain – and now the sun - further improved by our new boundary rope.

The U11s Girls and Men's 2nd XI teams have both enjoyed particularly successful seasons.

Easton U11 Girls have had an incredible season, emerging as the Hampshire League Champions, winning the Skills Team Challenge at the Ageas Bowl and ending with the most exciting, nail-biting Cup Final against St Cross.

Easton girls comfortably cruised through their early stage League and Cup matches, defeating all their opponents with convincing wins against Hursley Park, Sparsholt, Compton & Chandlers Ford, Alton, Ropley, and Trojans and ended the season as League Champions.

On 23 June they entered the U11 Skills Team Challenge at the Ageas Bowl, in front of the crowds before the men's Hampshire T20 match. They won the competition, allowing them to become the Guard of Honour for the Hampshire Hawks at the start of their



match in front of a packed stadium. EMWCC hosted the U11 Girls' Cup Final on the evening of Thursday 6 July when the team was pitched against St Cross, who fielded a strong team of older players, all in the year above the Easton side. What a match it was! The League sent two uniformed umpires and a League official to oversee the game. There was a good crowd of supporters on a hot balmy summer evening. The Club had a BBQ running for the match and the atmosphere was fabulous. Easton batted first against tight fielding from St Cross and achieved a score of 191 runs for 4 wickets in their 20 over innings. In the second innings St Cross neared the Easton score and it was an exciting and desperate all-out battle for Easton to secure wickets and keep the St Cross girls at bay. The men's team members had gathered on the balcony

after their training in support of our girls and the cheers from the supporters all around the ground was loud and electric.

In a nail-biting finish to the Cup Final the St Cross girls also secured 191 runs. A dead tie! There was much suspense as both teams waited while the umpires, scorers and match officials huddled around the cricket rule book trying to find guidance on who would be declared the winners. The rules dictated that in the event of a tie on runs then the winning team is the team who lost the least number of wickets: Easton girls were declared the winners having lost 4 wickets compared to St Cross losing 6. An amazing and well-fought match by both sides and a fitting way for the Easton U11 Girls to end their season - both Cup winners and winners of the 2023 League, despite being the youngest



The Finest in Outdoor Living

Winchester's best kept secret! Come and visit our large showrooms just outside the city and explore an Aladdin's cave of indoor and outdoor brands you won't find on the high street.

Ample free parking right outside



Kingsworthy
Foundry

London Road, Kingsworthy, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 7QG
Tel: (01962) 883776, Email: info@kingsworthyfoundry.co.uk
www.kingsworthyfoundry.co.uk

side in their League.

Congratulations and well done Girls!

The U11 Girls' squad consists of players from Years 5 and 6: Imogen Wilson, Scarlett Hunter, Rosie Vincent, Lulu Sanders, Jessica Gloyn, Bea Gillett, Eva Raftery, Sienna Mirahmadi, Melita Timmis, Louisa McCowen, Lana O'Dell, Ellie Beresford and Sophia de Naray.

Winter training for the team will take place from January and we welcome new players.

U11s Team Manager Charlie Gloyn

Men's 2nd XI: The middle of the season has been marred by the weather but nevertheless the Easton Men's 2nd team has had a very strong year. We have won 9 out of 11 games and promotion is in our hands, as we enter the final matches of the season. There have been some landmark performances throughout the season, with Adi Mandrekar taking 5 wickets for only 7 runs in the season opener against Knowle Village. A trip to Sarisbury followed, where Aaron Burton recorded the League's top score so far this season, with an incredible 163 runs off only 98 balls, including 19 fours and 7 sixes. Trevor Yeates still thought the 'man of the match award' was up for grabs and duly took 6 wickets for 9 runs to secure another victory for the team. The following week, both George Marshall-James (108) and Oscar Hunwick (127*) scored their maiden centuries for the club. Their partnership of 253 runs was a joy to behold and is still the League's leading batting partnership. Convincing wins followed against Eastleigh and Tichborne Park, before we faced a tricky visit to Hythe and Dibden. A great team performance saw us

secure a 6 wicket win, including some very important contributions from members of our 3rd Team.

Despite the stellar performances mentioned earlier, it has been a team effort so far with vital contributions from squad members. Jon Scowen has been a revelation opening the batting and leads the team in runs. The opening bowling partnership has also been formidable with Fred Trinder and Jack Whiting taking 19 wickets between them, with an economy rate of 2.5 runs per over. With lots still to play for, it promises to be a thrilling end to the season for the team.

2nd XI Captain Nick Trinder



The Club will celebrate the end of its season on Saturday 2 September, with a mixed inter club game, BBQ and drinks followed by the season's Club Awards.

Charlie Gloyn's successful summer continues as the Ladies W10 Softball Captain. Her team has progressed to the quarter finals of the League Cup. The match against Cadnam CC will be played at Easton on Sunday 3 September with a 4 pm start.

Lynda Gray www.emwcc.com

OCEAN ROOFING

Gutter Maintenance

Roofing repair

New Flat Roofing

Chimney Repair

www.oceanroofing.co.uk

DSPike360@gmail.com

01962 779690

PETER G FISHER

GAS SAFE registered 219242

Plumbing, Heating and Gas Engineer

33 Victena Road, Fair Oak, SO50 7FY

Phone 02380 600834

Mobile 07860 401304

Credit and debit cards accepted

Contemporary Catholic Co-educational 3-13 Day & Boarding

"Exceptionally well-adjusted and kind children"

Tatler Schools Guide



FARLEIGH

Flexible school bus service, covering Winchester
Current pick-up from Headbourne Worthy (SO23 7LD)

For further information, please contact the Registrar, Sarah O'Rorke

E: admissions@farleighschool.com T: 01264 712838 to book or to arrange a tour

ALRESFORD PILATES

Classes held at Station Mill
and also Online

Close supervision and
individual support

Further details -
www.alresfordpilates.co.uk

Call/text Sally Hogg - 07771 522665

ALRESFORD FINANCIAL

MORTGAGES · PENSIONS · INVESTMENTS
WEALTH MANAGEMENT · EQUITY RELEASE

01962 798166
www.alresfordfinancial.com



My experience of South Africa



This summer I embarked on a two-week sports tour to South Africa with my school, King Edward VI Southampton. I played six hockey matches during the trip, which was hosted by various schools on our journey along the south coast from East London to Cape Town. The stunning nature of the African landscape and the kindness and



friendliness that its people showed made this trip an unforgettable experience. My arrival in East London set the tone for the trip.

The exotic beaches and flame-red sun showed the natural beauty the country possessed, untouched by mankind. I came across amazing animals, including elephants, lions, and giraffes, on my trip to Kariega Game Reserve. I felt honoured to witness the astounding biodiversity that South Africa has to



offer.

The history of the nation was brought to mind when I visited Robben Island and stood in Nelson Mandela's cell. I had a moment of reflection during which I felt incredibly grateful for my own situation.

South Africa's range of beauty, combined with the warm-hearted people, made this journey an experience of a lifetime. It was a great mix of adventure, sport, and friendship. I returned home with unforgettable memories and a deep respect for the country. *Harry Gaster (16)*



CALOR
Autogas

FREE COLLECTION
COURTESY CARS

NEW FARM MOTOR SERVICES LTD

New Farm Road, Alresford SO24 9QE

01962 732338

M.O.T. Testing Centre
Class 7 Vans from 3000 to 3500 kg
Class 4 Cars and vans up to 3000 kg
All makes cars & vans serviced and repaired
Horseboxes, lorries and campers up to 7500 kg
serviced and prepared for plating tests



L.P.G.A. Approved
Autogas conversions
www.amsautogas.com

**CERTIFICATED ENGINEERS
RECOVERY AVAILABLE**

Mulberry Tree Services

Problem Trees?

Fully Qualified Certified Tree
Surgeon with 25 years experience

**Fully Insured
Very Competitive Prices**

- Removal of Dangerous Trees
- Pruning • Shaping • Thinning
- Stump Removal • Hedge Cutting
- Fencing Specialist

Tel: 01962 88 68 66

Mob: 07974 761183

www.mulberrytreeservices.co.uk



**PRESTIGE
CARS
of
ALRESFORD**

Private Hire Available For Airports,
Cruise Terminals and Train Stations
Longer Journeys undertaken as well

01962 865602

07752 570787

www.prestigecarsalresford.co.uk
kevin.mitchell202@btinternet.com

Garden Maintenance

Paul Moffatt

Mob: 07860 107175

Lawn Treatments
Mowing / Strimming
Moss / Weeds
Scarifying / Aerating
Chafer Bugs
Fertilising

Hedge Cutting
Light Chainsaw work
Garden Shed Maintenance
Patio Cleaning

**One-off or repeat work
Weekly, fortnightly, monthly
Fully insured**

**YOU COULD
ADVERTISE HERE**

itchenvalleyadvertising@gmail.com

Cart and Horses Junction

The dangers of the Cart and Horses junction have been an issue of concern for a long time. As reported in the August issue of the IVN, after considerable effort progress is being made. There is now a stop sign and continuous white line, giving clear indication that cars already on the A33

have priority over those exiting the B3047 from Kingsworthy. Unfortunately, there has already been (at the time of writing) one incident caused by a driver ignoring it. Consultations are in progress on a more substantial solution. Two potential designs have been proposed – a pair of mini roundabouts and traffic lights. These can be seen in more detail

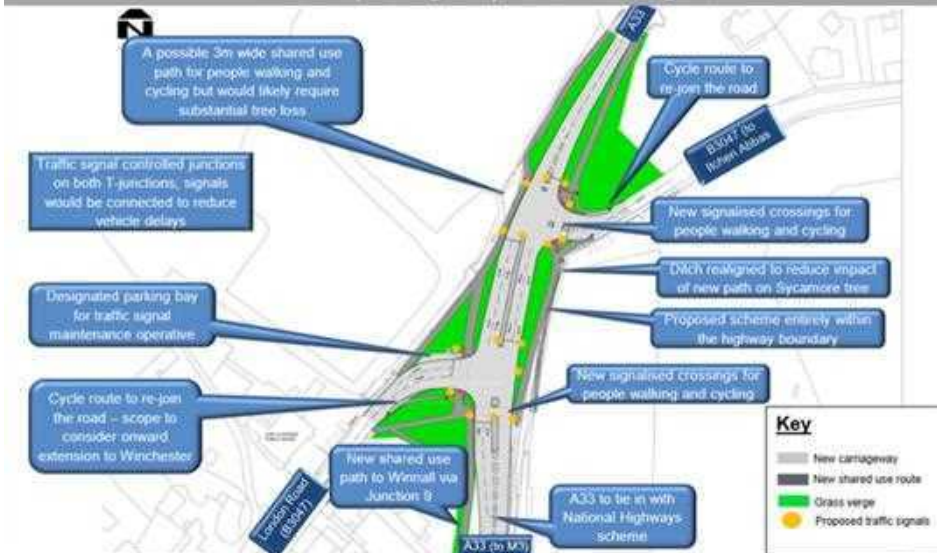
6. Option 1 Double Roundabout – Concept Design



7. Option 1 Double Roundabout, Concept Design – artist illustration



10. Concept Design - Option 2 Traffic Signals



11. Option 2 Traffic Signals, Concept Design – artist illustration



at www.hants.gov.uk and there will be an exhibition on **5 September** (see What's On page 4). I have a hard copy if you wish to look at it. There is an on-line survey (link address on page 4) with a deadline of **17 September**. It is important that everyone who uses this junction completes the survey: numbers matter. Whether you have a

preference for one scheme or the other or do not like either and wish to put forward other ideas, giving succinct reasons (there is the opportunity to do so), please make your views known. This really is a case of expressing your views now 'or else hereafter for ever hold your peace'. *Patrick Appleby IVC*
Chairman and Highways Representative.

Food Spy: The Cart and Horses, Kings Worthy

It was one of those evenings when the chef du jour here at home just wanted a night off so we decided to try the recently refurbished Cart and Horses pub on the infamous junction at Kings Worthy. As you will know, over £1 million has gone into the transformation of the place and although it was only the second day of opening, the pub was full to bursting. We decided against eating in the newly created “al fresco” area, delightful though it looked, as the rain sheeted down in what had become a typical July 2023 evening. The interior has been tastefully decorated and is very welcoming but if you do choose to sit outside, there is a central glass enclosed fire to keep you warm and the gardens are newly landscaped. The menu is a little different from many of the pubs hereabouts which is an encouraging innovation in my opinion. Of course, there are some standard dishes but also lots of new ideas. You can choose from six different “Stix” as a starter, which I assumed were a kind of tapas plate



but as the next two sections on the menu are billed as “small plates” and “perfect for sharing”, I was a bit confused. But there is certainly plenty of choice

and interestingly, the calorific value of each dish is noted in brackets after the description. Some may find this off-putting but it does make you reflect whilst choosing your meal!

We only had a main course but my dressed Cromer crab, boiled egg (chopped and mixed in) and truffle mayonnaise was absolutely huge, as well as delicious and accompanied by “historic” (to quote the late Michael Winner’s restaurant reviews) rosemary salted fries. My husband had chicken, ham hock and leek pie with charred hispi (another word for sweetheart cabbage), confit garlic mash and parsley sauce. Despite sounding like a mish-mash of flavours to me, he pronounced it very good.

The young lady looking after us was very pleasant and efficient and despite there being the inevitable delay in bringing the card reader, I would say the staff did a super job, especially it being only the second day of service. There is an Executive Chef in charge of



the kitchen now and, as it says on the blurb “Our menus are written to celebrate provenance and showcase the best of British farms”, which has to be good. There is a no-gluten menu, a kids’ menu, and a Sunday menu, so really something for everyone. The Cart and Horses at Kings Worthy has certainly taken a step up on the ladder of good pub dining locally and I would recommend readers to give it a try.

Plant of the Month: Ploughman’s Spikenard

Each month the world of nature reveals an obscure bit of information which we will never see or need again. We hadn’t spotted this flower before. Identifying it as Ploughman’s Spikenard, we wondered what this meant. Mark 14:3 mentions the woman at Bethany with “a small bottle of very costly perfume, pure oil of nard”. A spike is a flower. From the root of this weed country healers once got the poor ploughman’s version for use in folk



medicine. Real nard comes from Asia so it’s unlikely the perfume from this one “might have been sold for thirty pounds and the money given to the poor”.

It’s a native of stony disturbed ground, another resident of (from a wildflower point of view) the much-underrated Junction 9 roundabout.

Simon and Dorothy Broadley

Letter from the Rectory: Love your Creation

I hope you have all been having a good summer, able to get a break from routine or enjoying some extra time with family and friends. Last year after the extended heat-wave I caught myself feeling almost resentful that now we all had to let go of summer, to relinquish it and accept the arrival of autumn. Paradoxically, this year, after so much rain, I feel more relaxed, though I was not so pleased to have that distinctive but hard-to-explain ‘first smell of autumn’ so early on - way back on 13 August!

Autumn, within the Church’s year, is a natural time to consider the goodness of creation. So one of our themes over the coming months, as we celebrate the harvest season,



will be “Love your Creation” - an opportunity to be grateful for all the beauty and wonder of the natural world that surrounds us here in the Valley day by day. It is indeed, in the words of Louis Armstrong, “a wonderful world!”.

I sensed that in a special way when



standing outside the church in Martyr Worthy with the Revd Sarah Tillett on the first Sunday in July. Sarah had just been preaching at the St Swithun's Patronal Festival Evensong. As one of the first Christian leaders and thinkers to develop a strong commitment to environmental issues (later involved in founding something called 'Eco-Church'), Sarah had been speaking on the topic of Caring for Creation. And her sermon, littered with quotations from so many sources, had struck a deep chord in many of us as we realised afresh the privilege of living in this beautiful Valley.

So now, as she came out of the church and looked across to the fields on the opposite side of the River Itchen, shimmering in the evening light, it was perhaps only natural that she should find herself commenting in words such

as these: "what a beautiful sight - such a sign of God's handiwork!" Her words made me look up myself, to see what she was looking at, and then to see the Valley through the lens which she was looking through - a lens of wonder and gratitude.

At the end of September and into the first weeks of October, in each of our four villages there will be a Harvest Festival church service (and hopefully too, some local 'harvest hospitality' of some kind: more details to follow). It would be lovely if you were able to join us at one of these Harvest celebrations and, with us, to experience what it can mean to look out on our world with a lens of wonder and gratitude.

With best wishes and prayers,
Revd Peter



Sunday 3 September

10am - Parish Communion - St Mary's, Easton
4pm - Café Church - Itchen Abbas Village Hall

Sunday 10 September

8.30am - Holy Communion (said) - St John's, Itchen Abbas
10am - All Age Worship - St John's, Itchen Abbas
6pm - Evensong - St Swithun's, Martyr Worthy

Sunday 17 September

10am - Parish Communion - St Swithun's, Martyr Worthy

Sunday 24 September

8.30am - Holy Communion (1662) - St Swithun's, Martyr Worthy
10am - Valley Worship - St Mary's, Easton
4-6pm - 'Historic Harvest' - St Mary's, Avington
see below for more information

Church 250 years ago - Sunday 24 September

An afternoon led by 'The Madding Crowd' singers in their period costumes, giving us all an opportunity to hear the barrel organ, to imagine church services in the Georgian period, and then to celebrate in the garden in 18th century style.

Everyone welcome

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

www.itchenvalleychurches.org

Going Batty

As dusk falls over a Hampshire chalk stream, those looking skyward may see strange shadows flit into view.

Charismatic and enigmatic in equal measure, bats are some of the UK's most fascinating animals. Our county's chalk streams – each humming with insect life – make it an attractive place for these winged wonders.

Many different bat species frequent our waterways, from the high-flying noctule to the diminutive soprano pipistrelle.

The Daubenton's bat is even called the "water bat" for its love of ponds, lakes, and rivers. When the sun goes down, this aerial expert can be seen close to the water in search of a tasty meal.

Every bat species has its favourite food, but all feast on various types of insects. Chalk stream residents like mayflies and caddisflies are on the menu, as are mosquitoes, moths, and beetles. The tiny size of their prey means that bats spend a lot of time hunting – the common pipistrelle can eat 3,000 insects in one night!

While their abundant insect life makes them great places for feeding, our chalk streams have more to offer. Bankside trees supply temporary shelter, while bridges provide potential roosting spaces. Female bats roost together in the summer, when they have their babies, and all bats hibernate in roosts during the winter.

Sadly, like many wildlife species, the UK's bats are struggling to thrive. Loss of habitat, shrinking insect populations, disease, and pollution have caused their numbers to decline in recent years. Luckily there are local volunteers, like those of Hampshire Bat Group, who are supporting these amazing animals.

Among the group's many projects is



Photo: Chris Damant

the installation of 65 bat boxes in the Alresford and Overton areas. The project, which received two Watercress and Winterbournes Community Grants, aims to provide roosting spaces near the River Arle and Upper Test. The boxes will be checked twice a year for signs of use. If you'd like to support our local bats, there are many ways to help. You could hang a bat box on a tree or a wall of your home. You could also turn your garden into a bat haven – try adding a pond, reducing artificial light, and planting night-scented flowers. The Bat Conservation Trust website has lots of good advice.

Sophie Evingar Watercress and Winterbournes Communications and Events Officer

Sophie.Evingar@hiwwt.org.uk

Bat count

According to the latest bat survey, St Swithun's Church in Martyr Worthy is home to 18 common pipistrelles, two soprano pipistrelles and one serotine bat.

Sara Mason

Bird of the Month: Stone Curlew

The stone curlew was once widespread in the UK and was even kept as a pet in some houses! Its other names were the goggle-eyed plover and the wailing heath chicken. The stone curlew was reduced to about 170 pairs in the 1980s due to changing farming habits.

Since the 1980s however there has been a concentrated effort by the RSPB and others to protect nests and increase the population. Today there are about 150 pairs in Hampshire and Wiltshire and the same number in parts of Norfolk and Suffolk.

I had thought I would have to go to Salisbury Plain to see these birds and even then have virtually no chance of seeing one. I was therefore amazed to join a walk last week at a farm not 15 miles from the Valley and to see 22 birds in a stubbly stony field. They are incredibly well camouflaged as you can see from the photo. Their big eyes are due to their nocturnal habits and they have a prehistoric appearance.

These are such special birds and it was a privilege to be able to see them and also to meet the people who work so hard to help them.

Elaine Labram (photo: Keith Betton)

Ticks: Protect your pooch and our rivers

Do you know that a dip in the river could reduce dog's flea and tick protection? Many spot-on treatments wash off in water. These treatments can also do serious harm to a river's wildlife. Because they are insecticides, they can kill the larvae of species like mayflies, damselflies, and dragonflies. As a food source for fish, bats, and birds, these insects are crucial to the health of our rivers. If you have a dog, ask your vet about flea treatment tablets, which don't wash off in water.

It might be time for a new approach to flea and tick treatment. A recent paper from Imperial College London notes that some ingredients have been banned in farming, and highlights the risk of parasites becoming immune to their effects. One of the paper's authors, Veterinary Surgeon Dr Andrew Prentis, suggests asking your vet "what is best for your pet, what is safe for the environment, and whether such regular preventative treatments are needed. In the same way that we only take antibiotics when we're ill - not every month - we may need to apply the same principle to parasite treatments for our pets."

Helen Skelton-Smith,



**Daren George -
your local pest
controller from
Alresford**



tpc | Traditional
Pest
Control

- Wasps • Rats • Squirrels
- Moles • Rabbits • Insects • Mice

Fully insured - Discreet service assured

Tel: 07778 141505

traditionalpestcontrol@gmail.com

www.traditionalpestcontrol.co.uk

Checktrade.com

Where reputation matters



**JOIN
tennis
in the
itchen
valley**

Beautiful courts and
clubhouse

Recreational tennis for
all ages

Club coach available

Club competitions
for all standards

**Membership
now available!**

Contact: Mark Wheeler on
mark.wheeler@gmail.com
www.worthyparktennis.com



IVC

Cars Chosen With Care

Excellent prices on both new and
second hand cars.

For further details telephone
01962 733097 or visit us at www.ivcuk.com

Belmont House
The Dean
Alresford
Hampshire SO24 9BQ
Telephone: 01962 733097
www.ivcuk.com

Selling new and used cars in Hampshire and beyond since 1987

Computer, Mac or Tablet Problems?



- Home Visits
- PC, Laptop, Pads, iPhones
- Systems / Software / Tools
- Fix Windows 7/8/10, Mac OS
- Virus cleans, Security
- Tune Ups, Health Checks
- Broadband & Data / Printer Sharing
- Upgrades & Hardware
- Cracked Screens
- Data Recovery
- Impartial Advice



Laptops, PCs, Macs, iPads Phones

C&S Computers

Call Colin Nicholson :

01962 713890

Mob:

07727 481220

Qualified engineer



10% discount on labour with Magazine if over 1 hour

Oppenheimer at the Everyman

The critics have raved about the film *Oppenheimer*. It is indeed impressive, with drama, excitement, tension and moral dilemma. There are also politics, and although the film deals with the successful development of the atomic bomb through the Manhattan Project in the New Mexico desert, its real concern is the contemporary American attitude to Communism. Oppenheimer was a brilliant physicist, but with his left-wing sympathies and suspected links to the Communist Party, should he have been allowed to manage the Manhattan Project and did he pass on nuclear secrets to the Russians? The film vividly brings home the trust that was invested in him and the distrust he endured. A hero for inventing the weapon that brought WW2 to an end, a villain for mastering the science which could destroy mankind, and possibly a traitor to the American nation. President Truman dismissed Oppenheimer's later expressions of guilt, insisting that he would be the one to be held accountable for the dropping of the bomb and no one would remember the scientists. He could not have been more wrong. Oppenheimer's name will always be associated with Hiroshima and the bomb.

The film follows Oppenheimer's rise to the pinnacle of his career as a scientist with the detonation of the bomb, through to the destruction of his reputation at the hands of the House Un-American Activities Committee in 1954. Even in a film of over three hours much has to be left out. There was little in the film to exemplify Oppenheimer's brilliance as a physicist and a leader and to justify his being given the leading role in the Manhattan

Project. His achievements in the post-war years when he assembled a team of outstanding scientists at Princeton, overseeing work on quantum physics which led to a Nobel prize, are completely ignored.

Cillian Murphy is outstanding as Oppenheimer and the camera uses his haunted eyes to great effect. Matt Damon, as the army general who is given the task of providing Oppenheimer with the resources he needs and imposing practicality and discipline on his problematic physicists, is impressive and believable. Less so is the largely fictional introduction of Albert Einstein (Tom Conti) as Oppenheimer's mentor, in an outfit which one critic suggested would come last in a fancy-dress competition. The tension among the physicists was clearly brought out. No one had achieved nuclear fission. No one knew once a chain reaction had been initiated where it would stop. Would it set fire to the atmosphere? And for the politicians, would the bomb work at all? With all the knowledge of hindsight, one still wondered what would happen when they pressed the button.

You would expect the soundtrack of a film which includes a nuclear explosion to be loud, and so it was. However, in other parts of the film I thought it got in the way, particularly the thumping crescendo that built up every time Oppenheimer became stressed. At other times the dialogue was so unclear I found it difficult to distinguish the words. But overall the film is a major achievement; impressive, entertaining, dramatic and food for thought.

I like the Everyman. With its sofas and table service it has a comfortable and friendly ambiance. What started as a cinema and progressed to a cinema

with a bar has now become a cinema in a restaurant. It's surprising how many of the audience choose to eat, at least at evening performances. Eating and talking at a symphony concert would be utterly condemned - although it has to be admitted that Beethoven and Mozart both performed in front of similarly occupied audiences. In the cinema it's acceptable providing people have finished eating (and talking) before the main feature starts. I find sitting through the trailers and the adverts a tiresome thing and welcome the distractions of the café atmosphere.

Michael Smith

Relative values: *Barbie* at the Everyman

Mum: Growing up, I was always more of a Cindy girl, although I did seriously covet Barbie's caravanette. But I do like Margot Robbie (excellent in *I, Tonya*) and who doesn't like Ryan Gosling? Plus it was showing at The Everyman which is always a treat. I liked the fresh take on the Barbie brand and its development into a story, although this was of course somewhat contrived. The film features real life Barbies and Kens living in Barbie World which is a very happy, very pink place, governed and led by the myriad Barbie characters one can buy in the shops, who embody all the roles young girls might aspire to IRL (Diplomat Barbie, Pulitzer Barbie, Mermaid Barbie. There's even a Weird Barbie thrown in to provide some sort of nuance)... The Kens are just eye candy. Ryan Gosling's Ken is "Beach". He doesn't surf. He can't even swim. He just gets to stand on the beach looking like a handsome guy and be besotted by Barbie. His particular Barbie is the one played by Margot

Robbie. She's kind of an it-girl Barbie. The prettiest, the most popular, not necessarily the brightest, but she rules the school, in a nice way. It's when she gets an inkling that Barbie World might not be all there is to it that things start to go awry and we have the evolving storyline...

There are some other very good actors in this film such as Will Ferrell and three British actors who starred in the brilliant *Sex Education*. The film starts off well, provides lots to look at and I did laugh out loud a few times. Near the end comes the central speech in the film, made by the character Gloria. Gloria is the reason Barbie crosses into the real world: she works for Barbie HQ in a PA kind of role (all the board are 'of course' men) and her teenaged daughter is playing up. She's struggling and her dark thoughts have telepathically affected Robbie's Barbie character. I've seen the speech called an "inspiring monologue". It's all about how it is "literally impossible" to be a woman because we tie ourselves in knots trying to please everyone (mainly the terrible men out there) and meet the requirements of 'the system' (also run by these men). Cut to Gosling's newly created "Ken World" and we see what lessons 'our' world has taught Beach: that men used to be in charge, that they ride stallions and smoke Camels. That they used to have this great thing called the 'patriarchy' (and apparently still do, but it's hush-hush). So there we have the nub of the movie: Barbie was doing really well in a girl's world where Ken was kept down. When Ken saw the real world he interpreted it as an old-fashioned patriarchy and went about supplanting Barbie with this new (old) masculine ideal where all the Barbies now act like bimbos. Cue: feminist cheers among the

**YOU COULD
ADVERTISE HERE**

itchenvalleyadvertising@gmail.com

SHAUN BARNEY
Professional
Painter & Decorator
Local Tradesman with
20 years experience
Quality Work
Competitive Rates
Fully Insured
01962 864033
07928 027618

A H SERVICES

**Central Heating
Plumbing & property
maintenance.**



Gas Safe registered Engineers
NVQ qualified & certificated plumbers
All aspects of plumbing & heating
Installations/Service/Repairs
Electrical/Property maintenance.
Emergency call outs. Landlord
management.

Bathroom & kitchen refurbishment/
Power flushing, hot water cylinders, gas
fires, cookers, drains, water softeners,
tilling, lead work.

Tel: 07533 776 406 or 07847 144 092

Dave Giles of Giles Tiles

Floor and wall tiling

Kitchen & bathroom refits

Friendly service & free quotes

dave@gilestiles.co.uk

07513 941962 01962 854184

JOIN US IN OUR FLOWER FIELD FOR A SERIES OF FLORAL AND ART WORKSHOPS



MAY

14th. Floral meadow-box arrangement

20th. Watercolour painting with artist Becki Clark

JULY

8th. Ceramic tile making with potter Sarah Pearson

15th. Hand-tie bouquet arrangement

JUNE

10th. Bowl arrangement with florist Louise

Bradshaw

17th. Floral photography with Simon Bray

SEPTEMBER

10th. Painting with artist Jenny Muncaster

16th. Hand-tie bouquet arrangement

For more information and to book www.stemandgreen.co.uk

Mums in the audience. Cue: ... what ... among the many youngsters watching?

I came away from *The Everyman* feeling annoyed. What was bugging me given that it was funny and 'just a film'? It was its broken-record, whiney, old school feminist messaging of 'woe is me' conveyed in the context of a production in which there is not one redeeming male character. I was glad my teenaged son hadn't seen the film. He needs positive male role models, which are pretty scarce these days for boys, not these cartoon, baddy 1970s throwbacks. Sure, the characters were hammed up. And for sure there is a long way to go for females in the West (and let's not get started on those in other parts of the world) but here and now I think we can do better. We need a new brand of feminism. A positive message which is also sensitive and generous to men and more contextual for our boys. Not this kind of crass and infantile messaging. And as my daughter commented in the car on the way home, if they truly wanted to encourage girls to be free from the old-fashioned constraints imposed upon them by the 'male gaze', and not keep having to 'be pretty', why were Barbie and her pals so genuinely upset when she started to get cellulite?

17 year old daughter: Driving back from *The Everyman*, I remember trying to be positive about the movie, taking it at surface value and enjoying the eye catching visuals Gerwig has created. However, for a movie which claims to portray a serious message, it was difficult to reconcile against the blatant simplification of complex societal issues. There are humorous moments, memorably Ken's "I do beach" and "You don't do patriarchy here?" but at times it felt as though I

was sitting through an almost two hour long marketing stunt staged by Mattel. With Margot Robbie as their model, the movie has served as a modern day revival of the doll that, according to Sasha, "We haven't played with... since we were, like, five years old" who've "been making women feel bad about themselves since [they] were invented." Whilst there are nuances to the script, with men's mental health getting a look in and a portrayal of the patriarchy as being detrimental to both men and women, it did feel at times that sexism had been reduced to a men vs women battle in which the matriarchy prevailed. It is important that women's suffering under the patriarchy of the "real world" is addressed, even if it feels like pointing out the obvious, but I felt that this message was undermined by the irony of Mattel's motives. Indeed it feels as though the struggles of patriarchal sexism have themselves become commodified to be wielded in a capitalist enterprise. Barbie, reclothed as the emblem of women's empowerment, is rolling off of Mattel's shelves.

Natalie and Antonia Paterson

Comings and goings

Welcome to Sascha and Joanna Muldoon who have moved into Holm Oak, Martyr Worthy with their sons Hugo (3yrs) and Angus (9 months).

Lucinda Ffennell

Ring-a-Ding: Avington Calling

Over the course of a couple of weeks in July a small group of Avington residents have carefully refurbished their local listed community K6 phone box, thought to date from about 1945-

53, and designed by the eminent architect Sir George Gilbert Scott. Recognising the importance of keeping this iconic landmark fit for purpose, and in keeping with their desire to keep their surroundings in good order, the phone box was stripped back to its cast iron shell. Each individual pane of glass, of which there are 72, were carefully removed and replaced with new glass. A few of the original panes, which are still intact, have been saved for future repairs.

After long days of scraping, cleaning, priming, and painting, and with much good-humoured debate over the best way to tackle each task, fortified with coffee, sandwiches, biscuits and cake provided by the locals - and the encouraging conversation of walkers passing by - the task was finally complete. Currently still operational, albeit with a credit card only, this iconic British design once again stands proudly in its distinctive red coat, its gold King George VI crowns on the domed roof gleaming in the sunshine, ready to connect a small neighbourhood to the larger outside world should mobile phones fail.



This complete refurbishment of the phone box by a group of volunteers is a testament to the strong community spirit that shines brightly in this small village in the Itchen Valley. Thank you to Christopher Langford, Chris Cawte, Mike Lane, Tony Wright, Jon Parry and Noel Edmonds for their stellar efforts in returning this beloved historical monument to its original glory.

Corinne Kozok

The Valley Quiz: No.17

1. If you walked from one end of the Vasari Corridor to the other, where are you and what is the name of the river you would cross?
2. Many nations in the world have names that end in "tan." (E.g. Uzbekistan). China borders on six of them. How many can you name?
3. If you are of average height and standing on a beach looking out to sea with water lapping your toes, how far off is the horizon?
4. What is the profession of a SRN?
5. What inaugural event, lasting about 2½ hours, occurred on the morning of 25 August 1919? It carried Devonshire cream, newspapers, mail and a reporter from the Evening Standard.
6. Whereabouts in Europe will you find the "Accursed Mountains?"
7. 1.Le4e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nge7 4.NMjc3 Ng6 describes what?
8. What is the UK's largest National Park?
9. Who couldn't put Humpty Dumpty together again?
10. What is the name of the airfield seven miles north of Itchen Abbas?

John Lang

Itchen Entrepreneur: Iain Gordon of GES Digital Ltd

I am Iain, and with my team at GES Digital I have been making electricity work for the last 26 years. From an additional socket to a fully furnished Dolby Atmos theatre, my local business has been consistently delivering solutions tailored for every client. Locally, we have delivered new homes in Itchen Abbas and Avington and carried out modifications and updates to properties throughout the Itchen Valley.

You will also see me behind the lighting desk at the Easton Pantomime every Christmas. "He's behind you...."!

Do you end up with an array of controls, switches and remotes to work the various aspects of your home or business? That's complicated for anyone. Or do you simply forget what does what and can't find the instructions? If you have PV, has anyone explained about utilising it efficiently and to its best ability? Are you struggling with wifi, or perhaps considering CCTV, or intercom at your door or gates? We can help your home to work in harmony, making the most of what you have and, more importantly, advising on what to update or upgrade and how best you can benefit from your choices.

We work on all sorts of properties,



with all sorts of technologies, from boilers or heat pumps, air conditioning, underfloor heating, space heating, radiant walls and ceilings, solar shading and overheat control, ventilation, lighting design and sourcing, smart controls, multi room music and cinema, app based interfaces, PV, EV - in fact, every conceivable type of item and some you will not have even heard of!

We are electricians at our core, but experienced and trained in all aspects of cabled and wireless work. If you have an upcoming project and can get us involved early we can work with you, your architect or designers prior to drawings and budgets, to make sure you have full knowledge and can make informed choices. Making choices in advance will always make for a better result. Or if you are struggling to get your home to work, get in touch and we will do our best to resolve your issues.

We look forward to hearing from you and can't wait to see you all at Aladdin in December!

Iain Gordon GES Digital Ltd.

01962 877160

From the City Councillor

Fair Bin Policy Campaign: Many residents know that I have been fighting for a fair bin policy. It's not right that there is no plan in place to replace older



black and green bins. These were originally provided free of charge and nothing lasts forever. If bins are broken because they are old this is not the fault of the resident. Help me fight for this fair bin policy. Please contact me below to register your support

Closure of Lloyds bank: following a meeting with Steve Brine, LINK and myself about access to cash in Alresford, I have submitted the relevant forms to start the review by LINK with regard to access to cash within the town. This will take approximately 12 weeks to complete.

Cllr Fiona Isaacs 01962 808072

fisaacs@winchester.gov.uk

From the Parish Council.

Apart from emergencies the Parish Council does not have full Council Meetings in August. Due to that and as much space has been



taken up with issue of The Cart and Horses Junction (please see pages 4 and 18), this report will be brief.

Work still goes on and our Planning Committee has met to look at, and comment where deemed necessary,

on current planning applications. We are also continuing to pursue cases where it is believed there has been a breach of planning, but getting a response is generally a slow process. With the administrative items following re election and co-option of councillors mainly over, catching up on past issues and looking to future ideas will be on our agenda for meetings this autumn. We still need to collect more signatures to change to a single ward council. We will be looking to see if we can produce a Cycling, Riding and Walking Infrastructure Plan for the Valley and what we can do to continue to help mitigate climate change as well as promoting green issues. Control of speeding in the Valley and what can be done to help improve security especially in parking areas will continue to be looked at; as will be the best use of our open spaces. If you have ideas on these or other topics please let us know.

Patrick Appleby

The Practical Gardener

This is the first time I have started my article from a hospital bed! I have been reflecting on the most crucial issue of our day, the environment and climate change. Mercifully, the UK is less affected than other parts of our world but it seems to me a topic that we must all take seriously now. So I wonder how this will impact on our gardens and how we look after them. Many in the Valley will be using powered tools and contractors with more powerful tools. I don't see we can do much in this area. Grass and hedges need to be cut. But there are some areas where we can make a

difference. For example use less bagged compost – make your own – and use less chemical fertiliser and sprays for this and that. All very well but haven't we all been inundated by ants this year? We can attract more bees by growing the right flowers and make sure there are refuges for other friendly creatures like frogs and hedgehogs.



I am a great lover of trees and have planted 11 in my new home. I continue to reduce the lawn area to provide more space for growing, especially for food. Gardening is an experiment, so the experts who have done it all before several times, then say sometimes it doesn't work. Seed germination is still my biggest headache. Buying plugs is the answer in some cases but can lead to more air miles.

Growing fruit and vegetables is not that difficult, so of my 11 trees, five are for fruit. It will take time, maybe even ten years, but it is a good investment. Beans have proved to be a valuable crop this year. Five canes in a circle, tied at the top, will produce about ten meals and the space required is small. Lettuces are another must and your own leaves will actually have some taste.



Blackberries grow well on chalk and good varieties produce perfect juicy fruit which also freezes well with almost no work! Raspberries often need protection which is a cost and sometimes a barrier in picking (good job for children!).

When weeding areas with lots of small weeds, use a sieve. Throw everything into the sieve to separate the soil and weeds, which can then be composted. I continue to have a sieve to remove stones. Don't forget to water anything recently planted. Whilst the soil is now wet, new growth needs encouragement. And finally don't forget the lounge – an essential piece of garden furniture.

Happy Gardening
Tony Gaster.

Twyford Waterworks Open Days

Twyford Waterworks is an early pumping station preserved as a museum. Originally built for the South Hampshire Water Company in 1898 to supply water to Winchester and Southampton, it drew five million gallons of water everyday and used steam power to pump it to a reservoir. The pumping station is an

early example of an integrated process, offering both water extraction and a complete softening



treatment plant. Chalk for the lime kilns was quarried on site and roasted in five bottle kilns. The softening plant operated the Clark (lime) process, the water came from the wells, and only coal had to be brought to the site. Power for lime mixing and for the narrow-gauge railway which delivered the coal was produced by water hydraulic engines. Almost all the plant has been restored



by the Twyford Waterworks Trust and can be seen working on the Open Days. Great names abound from the days when British engineering led the world. There are Babcock and Wilcox boilers, a 1914 Hawthorn Davey triple expansion engine (shown)), Ruston and Lister diesels and a Crossley gas engine. The 2ft gauge railway is operated by Lister powered locomotives.

In addition to seeing everything working up close, the museum is packed with information boards and dotted with helpful volunteers to explain everything around you, and there is a continuous video presentation describing the entire process. Twyford husbands man the barbeque offering hot dogs and burgers while their partners provide tea and cakes in the tearoom.

Families are well provided for and in addition to games and puzzles there is a "spot the answers" sheet for children to fill in.

Outside there is a rewarding nature trail which features bird watching and pond dipping.



There is also a display of classic cars, tractors and motorcycles together with vintage diesel-powered industrial and agricultural equipment.

The remaining Open Days are on 3 September and 1 October. It's a grand day out.

Michael Smith

Worthy Heating & Plumbing Services Ltd

- Free Boiler Estimates
- Power Flushing
- Landlord Gas Safety Checks
- Gas / Oil / LPG
- Boiler Servicing / Installations / Repairs
- Hot Water Cylinders
- Central Heating Systems
- Plumbing work undertaken
- Forth Generation Family Business

Tel: 01962 776321

enquiries@worthyheatingservices.co.uk



nosh

catering

Sensibly priced, bespoke catering using local produce.

For all enquiries contact Jude Ower:

Mobile: 07729 473795

Home: 01420 568179

www.noshcafebar.com

noshcafebar@gmail.com

nosh

café | bar

Lymington Bottom Road

Next to Reads Butchers

Open 8-5 Mon/Sat

ALSO AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE HIRE

Itchen Valley Montessori



Itchen Abbas

9.00 am - 2.45 pm

Monday

9.00 am - 1.00 pm

Tuesday to Friday

The Montessori Method in a prepared classroom

Activities include Art & Craft, Music & Movement, Cooking, French and Drama

Call 01730 829377

manager@itchenvalleymontessori.co.uk

ANDREW SMITH & SON

1793

FINE ART AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS

Hampshire's Leading International Fine Art & Antiques Auctioneers

- monthly antiques & interiors sales
 - 20 weekly fine art, antiques & collectables auctions
 - achieving World record prices
 - global exposure via 'live' internet bidding
 - regular contributors to BBC's 'Flag It' and 'The Antiques Road Trip'
 - Contacts us for details of our:
 - complete property & contents valuation services for Sale — Insurance — Probate — Family division
 - free valuation advice for auction sale
 - complete house clearance
- www.andrewsmithandson.com



THE AUCTION ROOMS, MANOR FARM, ITCHEN STONE,
WINCHESTER SO24 8QT

Tel: 01962 73 5988 email: auctions@andrewsmithandson.com

The Valley Gardeners in Stockbridge

In August, we usually stay fairly close to home as many members are away but we had a super turnout of 36 members and guests for our 8 August trip to Houghton Lodge and the Longstock Water gardens.

The day wasn't so great weather wise but undeterred we toured the beautiful grounds of Houghton Lodge. The house is England's finest example of a Cottage Ornee and was built in the 1790s probably as a fishing lodge. The emerald lawns all around it fall away down the slope to the calm waters of the river Test. This must be a



fisherman's nirvana and sitting by the silken waters was very restorative. Features to explore included a peacock garden with (I think) nine peacocks residing within - but I could only find five. As the yew which forms these birds is being allowed to grow this season perhaps that is what hid the remaining four from view. The Oriental garden is a new venture and it boasts a beautiful red Nikko bridge, Torri arch and Moon gate as well as planting which echoes that you would find in the Far East.



After a delicious sandwich and sweet treat lunch we made our way to the Leckford Water Gardens run by The John Lewis Partnership. This garden was immaculate and a haven of tranquility. The area was originally dug out to make a lake and the gravel was used to make roads on the estate of owner Mr. Joshua East in 1870. Fast forward to 1945 and John Spedan Lewis bought the estate and developed the water gardens into a tranquil paradise and an escape from the frenzy of running a chain of department stores in London. Today, the garden is home to over 100 different trees and 70 water lily species. The choice of tree was critical, chosen to attract rare birds which come to raise their families there. John Speden Lewis was a keen naturalist and knew that the vegetation planted in the garden would allow all wildlife to thrive. He was a canny man, not least because he left provision in his will to ensure the Longstock Water garden would continue to thrive in perpetuity and, most interestingly that this future would be the personal responsibility of future Chairs of The John Lewis Partnership.

Catherine Hahn

Memorials
Building Stonework Restoration
BLACKWELL & MOODY Ltd
Stone Masons for five generations
Magdalen Masonry Works
Alresford Road Winchester SO21 1HE
Tel 01962 852476
blackwellandmoody@gmail.com



Can't get the hang of
your computer?

One-to-one tuition by
qualified trainer - DBS checked
COVID safe sessions or remote available
Call Christine for details on

01962 735359

hair by **Louise**
MOBILE HAIRDRESSER
Previous experience in top
West End and Winchester salons
01264 712037 07788 248378

Alresford Motor Services

New Farm Road

All makes serviced and repaired
MOT test station
Volkswagen, Audi, Saab
and Volvo specialist
01962 733 888

RICHARD
EST **STEEL** 1860
& PARTNERS

THE FAMILY OWNED FUNERAL DIRECTORS



The Steel family
have proudly served
the communities of
Winchester, Alresford
and the Itchen Valley
since 1860.



OFFICES IN WINCHESTER, ALRESFORD & BISHOP'S WALTHAM

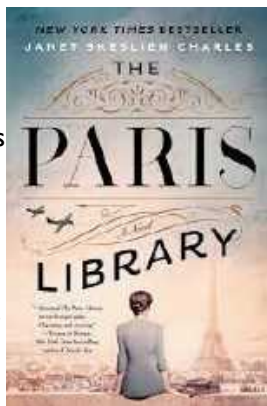
www.steelsfunerals.co.uk | 01962 862333 | 24 hours

The Paris Library by Janet S Charles

The cover describes this book as 'charming and moving' and this seems apt. The interlocking stories both move along at pace. They are both about girls growing up, learning about friendship, sex, food and the need for self-control, but in very different times and places. The historical section is interesting, set in Paris before and during the Occupation and (like so many American books and films) telling how the Americans routed the Nazis, liberated Paris and won the war.

However, from the Itchen Valley perspective life in a small American Roman Catholic town in the early 80s seems almost foreign. Although the moralising is a bit heavy in places – the life lessons are hammered home “don’t be afraid to be different”; “love isn’t rationed” – they are valid lessons. Our two heroines are on the whole likeable but for all the agonising over past failures and mistakes they indulge in, the author appears to miss the importance, even the existence, of the major cruelty which, as a parent and a daughter (there is a clue for you), I find impossible to understand.

The author thanks a long list of people at her publishers and I do slightly get the sense that the book was extensively reworked and revised. The interleaved stories and time shifts are



fashionable but, like most fashions, need restraint. I enjoyed the book, in part because of the game of spotting the symbols (the belt buckle for example), even though some of these did seem to be somewhat contrived, but I warmed to the characters as it progressed, always a good sign.

Bookworm

Preserving the wrinkles

Its jam season!

Our intrepid reporter interviewed Jill the Jam for top jamming tips, and found out it is 'All About the Wrinkle!'

Apparently once the (top quality, slightly under-ripe) fruit and sugar has reached setting temperature (104-105))it is then all about the mysterious pectin which sets the jam. Some fruits have lots of it (plums, apricots, citrus, apples) although the amount varies year by year, and some have none (raspberries, strawberries) so need extra. It's essential. You will already have used jam sugar, which contains pectin, and have added some lemon juice. Now you need to test your jam. Chill a saucer in the freezer, then turn the jam saucepan off and put a blob of mixture on the cold saucer. Put it in the fridge for five minutes; take it out and give it a little push with your finger. If it wrinkles, you are all set. If not, add lemon juice and/or liquid pectin and boil again for another five minutes, then retake the test.

Time to pick all that lovely fruit and preserve your wrinkles! Alternatively, turn to Jill for good advice or to buy some of her ready made jams and chutneys, with all the proceeds going to charity.

Tintin was interviewing Jill Croft
01962 779453

Tiddler Joke

Why are pirates called pirates? Because they arrrrrr... Dasia, aged 4.



Local monthly information

Itchen Valley area waste collections:

Black and brown garden bins on Fridays 8 and 22 Sept
Green bins on Saturday 2 Sept and Fridays 15 and 29 Sept
Glass boxes on Friday 15 Sept

Hampshire Farmers' Market in Winchester

Second and last Sundays of every month, 9am - 2pm.

Full Parish Council Meetings:

The next meeting is on 5 October (Easton Village Hall)

Bus information



67 Bus operated by Stagecoach.

To Winchester:

Monday to Friday

Sch 8:20 NSch 8:23

9:23 12:43 15:43 17:23

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

To Alresford:

Monday to Friday

10:39 13:39 15:19 17:14 18:09

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

No Sunday or bank holiday service.

Key: Sch School days only

NSch School holidays only

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

The information on the bus stops is not to be relied on

Quiz Answers

1. You are in Florence, Italy. Built in 1564, it is the secret corridor that links the Pitti Palace on the south side of the River Arno with the Uffizi on the north side. It occupies part of the Ponte Vecchio.
2. Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Bhutan
3. 4.8 kms or 2.9 miles
4. Nursing. (State Registered Nurse.)
5. The world's first ever commercial flight took place. The aircraft was a converted twin engine Handley-Page bomber flying from London to Paris with a cargo of the items listed in the question. The reporter was the sole passenger!
6. Albania
7. The opening moves in a game of chess
8. The Cairngorms
9. All the king's horses and all the king's men
10. Popham

worthy PEST CONTROL



Worthy Pest Control are your local pest control experts based in Kings Worthy. We can assist with all your pest control needs.



- Rats • Mice
- Wasps • Harnets
- Cluster Flies
- Fleas • Moths
- Moles • Squirrels
- Birds



Fast, professional, pest control service to keep you, your home and your business safe from pests.



Please call Dave on

01962 435000
or 07989 582117

10 Fraser Road, Kings Worthy, Winchester SO23 7PR
david@worthypestcontrol.co.uk

Tom Fisher Tree Care

Fully qualified and insured specialists in tree care, hedge trimming, stump grinding and garden reclamation

01794 389214 / 07725 835715

www.fishertreecare.co.uk

STORAGE made easy

- 24/7 access
- Sizes to suit your needs
- Short or long term
- Easy to find, easy to use
- On your doorstep

01962 771993
www.barn-store.co.uk



Holden Farm Cheriton SO24 ONX



Weekly Yoga Classes • Martyr Worthy • £8
 - You-Time Yin Yoga on Sundays 19:00-20:00
 - Fluid Flow Yoga on Mondays 17:30-18:30

Moan Yoga Workshops • Wickham • £25

Yoga Retreat Days • Easton • £70
 including yoga, lunch and nature walk

Sacred Yoga Retreat Weekends
 New Forest • £320-£610



www.sherinshe.com/yoga
sherinshefik@gmail.com • 07976606696

BESPOKE CURTAINS,
 BLINDS & CUSHIONS
 INDEPENDENT BRITISH
 DESIGNER FABRICS
 TRACKS & POLES

COUDRE
 INTERIOR FURNISHINGS
 WORKROOM

3B SCYLLA IND. ESTATE
 WINCHESTER SO23 0LD
 BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
07411 711 168
www.coudre.co.uk

Maid Marian
 PROFESSIONAL DOMESTIC SERVICES



High quality domestic services Guaranteed



One less thing to think about.

We can help.

- Regular cleaning and end of tenancy cleaning
- One off spring cleans
- Washing and Ironing
- Carpet cleaning
- Building maintenance including painting and decorating
- Shopping
- Man with a van



telephone: 01962 736713
email: enquiries@maidmariancleaners.co.uk
web: www.maidmariancleaners.co.uk



Jemma Giles your local
 Advanced Clinical Massage Therapist.

Treating clients who suffer from:-

***Back and neck issues * Headaches**
***Frozen shoulder *Tight muscles**
***Low energy *Tennis elbow**

Call Jemma to arrange your treatment on
07752 623234 or 01962 854184
jemma@massagetherapywinchester.co.uk
www.massagetherapywinchester.co.uk
 Mansard House, Easton, Winchester, SO21 1DQ

Showroom

Workshop

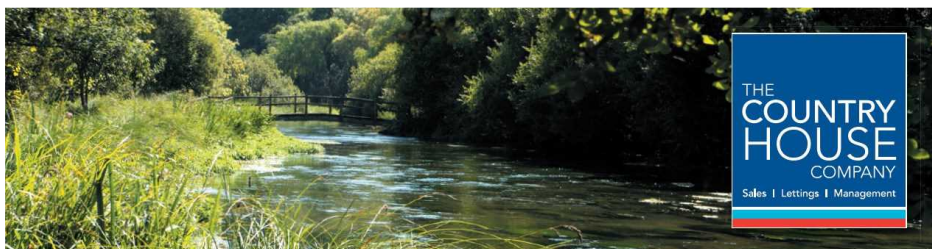
GARDEN
GEORGE CANN
MACHINERY

TEL 01962 771800

TEL 01962 771800

LACEYS FARM, BRAMDEAN, ALRESFORD SO24 0JT

www.georgecanngardenmachinery.co.uk



THE
COUNTRY
HOUSE
COMPANY
Sales | Lettings | Management

Selling, Letting & Managing properties in the Itchen Valley

02392 632 275 countryhousecompany.co.uk



BLINDS AWNINGS SHUTTERS

We offer an expert measuring, manufacturing and installation service with a
FULL 5 YEAR GUARANTEE

Our other services include awning
and canopy restoration,
including re-covering,
and blind servicing and repair.

Call us for a
FREE
no obligation
quote



WINCHESTER
BLINDS & SHUTTERS

Tel: 01962 736 836 or 07711 007 079

info@winchesterblinds.com www.winchesterblinds.com

A TRADITIONAL FIRM WITH A MODERN APPROACH



BUSINESS & COMMERCIAL EMPLOYMENT FAMILY LAW PROPERTY
WILLS TRUST & PROBATE LITIGATION & DISPUTE RESOLUTION

CONTACT US

Please contact us for further information on the services we offer.

WINCHESTER 1-2 City Business Centre, Hyde St., Winchester, SO23 7TA 01962 84 10 41

ALRESFORD First Floor Offices, 11 Broad St., Alresford, SO24 9AR 01962 735 705

SUNNINGDALE 61 Chobham Road, Sunningdale, Berkshire, SL5 0DT 01344 63 79 60

LONDON 19 Eastbourne Terrace, Paddington, London, W2 6LH 0203 457 0301

taylorfordyce.co.uk