

ITCHEN Valley News

Issue 118 November 2023 Avington, Easton, Itchen 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

Would you like to live in a country without defined seasons? I have a friend in Los Angeles and her roses flower all year and the temperature is pretty steady apart from occasional blips. But I really prefer the contrasts of the changing seasons and we are in one of those periods at the moment now that November is here. Much in this edition of the Itchen Valley News centres on the events which the season's shift bring to our beautiful valley at this time of year.

There have been celebrations of the recent harvest in our school and churches and we should surely be grateful for the work of our farmers producing our food. I came across a ploughing competition with vintage tractors whilst walking my dog. Two of these eye-catching machines feature on the front cover and there is a report inside on Page 5. Our fields have gone from gold to brown now and are being prepared for crops to grow over the winter and be ready for Spring.

The children at Itchen Abbas Primary School have lots of news to pass on and were also busy working with the soil as they created a new sensory garden. See Page 26 to read the story. Our wonderful farm shop at West Lea will be stocking all sorts of delicious provisions (many grown locally) to create warming meals and we hear how owner Rachel started her business and the first three years. Although the countryside around us is changing every day, the stunning kingfisher is one bird that we can glimpse any month of the year and we take an in-depth look at this fabulous

bird. The Practical Gardener helps us to get our gardens ready for winter and in our What's On section, there are talks, quizzes, exhibitions and also Hallowe'en and Bonfire Night events to go to. Finally, a local councillor asks whether we lucky residents of this valley are doing enough to help keep our countryside but also the planet in good health.

Do please keep contributing to the News. We love to feature diverse and interesting stories. Please email us at: itchenvalleynews@gmail.com. Next month's editors will be Charlotte Appleby and Brigid McManus.

Catherine Hahn

Itchen Valley News

Chief Editor Mary Hogg

Editors Charlotte Appleby, Verity Coleman, Catherine Hahn, Brigid McManus

Advertising Jenny Sloan

Distribution Lyn Jones IA&A 07899 92221
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

IEB. Copy for the **December 2023 / January 2024** issue should be received **Wednesday 15 November**

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 The Wessex Historic Tractor and Implement Club and other photos are from various contributors.

What's On

Halloween events at Itchen Country Park, Tuesday 31 October 5.30-9pm

For an evening of thrilling entertainment for Halloween night! Fang-tastic fire juggling, hexing hula hoop displays, melting marshmallows and a 'thrilling' dance workshop! Halloween Thrills and Fire show is for adults and children 7+ years.

Bonfire Night at Easton Saturday 4 November 6pm

Enjoy Bonfire Night and Fireworks at the Easton Village Hall and Cricket ground on 4 November from 6pm with hotdogs, popcorn, and drinks at the bar. Show off your creative skills and enter our Best Guy competition to win exciting prizes. Entry by cash in the bucket so please bring some old-fashioned money. See Page 23 for details.

Events at The Yard in November:

Bay Garnet - Tuesday 7 November 7.30pm

Join Yard host Rebecca Fletcher as she chats to fashion expert and thrift queen, Bay Garnett, about her latest book and ultimate accessory *Style and Substance*.

Supper with the Irish Bakery - Thursday 16 November 7.30pm

Do come and listen as Rebecca Fletcher chats to cook Cherie Denham and photographer Andrew Montgomery about their stunning new collaboration, *The Irish Bakery*, which showcases the island's remarkable culinary heritage, shaped by its history and natural surroundings.

Emma Gannon and *The Success Myth* - Monday 20 November 7.30pm

Do you think you'd be happier if you won the lottery? Do you spend your days scrolling, thinking everyone else is living life better than you are? Want to know how to break free? Join Rebecca Fletcher and Emma Gannon as they discuss Emma's latest book.

Tickets for all events are available at <https://www.theyardhampshire.co.uk/events>

Charity Quiz Night in aid of Home-Start Winchester

Friday 10 November, 7.30pm

Itchen Abbas Village Hall
Sponsored by IVC Cars
in aid of Home-Start Winchester and District. Bring a table of up to eight people or join a team on the night. Prizes for the winning team and raffle prizes include a week in an apartment in The Algarve. Tickets £15 which include a delicious ploughman's supper. Wine & soft drinks bar available. For tickets call Sue Barham on 07776 041574 or email info@home-startwinchester.org.uk



Itchen Abbas Village Hall Christmas Fair on Saturday 18 November at 2.30pm.

See Page 27 for details

Martyr Worthy Lecture Series - *The Siege of Loyalty House*. Tuesday 28 November at 6.30 pm

Jessie Childs talks about her new book, a history of the English Civil War. Tickets available online at www.buytickets.at/martyrworthylectures or email Sophie Parry at: martyrworthylectures2023@gmail.com

**Alresford Art Society:
30 November, 7.30pm Bishops
Sutton Village Hall SO24 0AH**

A talk by Melissa Wishart exploring the tradition of oil painting through artists' depictions of light, followed by a glass of mulled wine. Non-members welcome – admission £3. For further information: 01962 732043 or visit www.artsociety.alresford.org.

**Alresford Art Society:
26 January 2024 at 2.30pm
Bishops Sutton Village Hall
SO24 0AH**

A watercolour demonstration by Oliver Pyle of Estuary at Low Tide. Non-members welcome – admission £3. For further information: 01962 732043 or visit www.artsociety.alresford.org.

Itchen Valley Choir Christmas concert.

Wednesday December 6 at 7.30 pm at Itchen Abbas & Avington Village Hall
Tickets £10 on the door include a glass of mulled wine, mince pies and other Christmas fare. Tickets are £10 from IVCS.Secretary@gmail.com. See Page 33 for more details.

**Easton Pantomime - Aladdin .
Wednesday 13 - Saturday 16
December at 7.30pm weekdays
and 2pm and 6pm on Saturday**

See flyer on Page 7 for ticket info.

**Easton Village Hall Supper Club
Saturday February 3rd 2024.**

After a successful first event in October, we are planning our next supper. To book your space at the table, please email: evhsupperclub@gmail.com.
See Page 21 for a report on the first Easton Supper club evening.

Local ploughing competition

One Sunday morning in September, I walked with my dog up to the Northington Road and was surprised to find a ploughing competition in full swing. At first, I had hoped it might be ploughing with heavy horses but, just as attractive in their own way, were the vintage tractors presently making their patterns in the field.



I had no idea this was such a well-loved pastime. Apparently, there are over 250 top ploughmen and women all over the U.K. Some of these were taking part in the competition in front of me which was run by the Wessex Historic Tractor and Implement Club. In competitions, some larger than this one, there can be up to 15 different classes of ploughing: reversible, vintage trailed, conventional and high cut tractor being just some of them. It must be very skilled driving which allows you to keep the tractor straight and make beautiful clean furrows.

The history of ploughing goes back 4,000 years, it is generally agreed. A simple stick, handheld, was used to stir and break the soil surface which allowed nutrients and moisture to penetrate the earth. This progressed to a simple plough drawn by oxen, camels or even elephants and that enabled the land to be tilled more quickly and this method endured for thousands of years. Fast forward to Autumn 2023 and it was rather endearing to watch the concentration on the faces of the tractor drivers and see this gentle “art” being practised in the fields above the Itchen Valley. Club members meet regularly at

Arlebury Park during the winter months and hold an annual ploughing match. It was my good fortune to be able to watch some of the action. If you are interested in learning more, see the website club@whtic.co.uk.



King of the river

Of the many birds that frequent our chalk streams, the brightly-plumed Kingfisher is perhaps the most celebrated. Ours are actually Eurasian Kingfishers – one of over 100 such species worldwide, including Australia's laughing Kookaburra. Our local kingfishers make a high-pitched call when in flight, so keep your eyes peeled if you hear several short whistles. Unlike many of our feathered friends, Kingfishers make their nests by burrowing into riverbanks. The tunnels are barely wider than the birds themselves, but can be 90 centimetres long. After teaming up in February, breeding pairs will raise up to three clutches of eggs through the spring and summer.

A key factor in their formidable fishing ability is the shape of the birds' beaks, the cross-section of which resembles a diamond with curved edges. When they dive, water flows along their beaks instead of being pushed away, allowing for a seamless entry. In fact, this shape is so effective that it inspired the design of the Japanese bullet train! Sadly, our local Kingfishers have to contend with a number of pressures. Flooding can threaten their nests and prevent them from fishing. Disturbance can scare them away from their nests, stopping them from feeding their young. Chemical and nutrient pollution can affect insect, amphibian, and fish numbers, reducing their food supply. One of the best ways to support these beautiful birds is by keeping their homes - our chalk streams - in a healthy condition. To learn more about our chalk streams and their wonderful wildlife, visit www.hiwwt.org.uk/winterbournes.
Photograph taken by Malcolm Brown.





Easton Players
PRESENT

Aladdin

A FAMILY PANTOMIME



Easton
Village Hall
13th, 14th, 15th
December
7.30pm
Sat 16th Dec
2pm & 6pm



TICKETS:

£10 Adults / £5 12s and under

BOX OFFICE:

eastoneventsqwe@gmail.com

Sally Stone 779283



Perfect for any celebration
www.thebarnatavington.co.uk



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



PRINCE'S MEAD

We are hiring

Minibus Drivers

We are looking for term time minibus drivers for morning and/or afternoon school runs, as well as relief drivers to support, with flexibility throughout the term.

If you are interested, please call on 01962 888 000 or email us at recruitment@princesmeadschool.org.uk

Prince's Mead School
Kings Worthy, Winchester



Are you interested in writing? Fancy editing the Itchen Valley News? We are looking for another editor to join our team to help produce the valley magazine.

Please write to www.itchenvalleynews@gmail.com or phone Mary on 07850 524795 if you would like more information.

A hidden gem in the valley which may be lost forever

Worthy Park Tennis Club was formed just over 10 years ago in 2012. The club came into being through a partnership with Prince's Mead School who were building two tennis courts and wanted the community to be involved in the courts

and benefit from them. A group of pioneers in the surrounding community came together and formed the club, with a constitution and a formal agreement with the school. The club gained a club house and membership grew quickly. The club was very lucky to find an experienced and enthusiastic club coach in Rachel Magory who has run club sessions, children's classes, private lessons and tournaments every year. Those tournaments always come with refreshments and much fun and laughter.

Located in an idyllic setting with beautiful courts, a club house, club coach, an LTA provided online website to run membership and court bookings, the club is financially stable and in a good position to run another 10 or 100 years. Annual membership is very affordable with no court fees:

Under 11s: free, Junior: £10, Student: £20, Adult: £30, Family: £60

However, the club membership has reduced over the last 3 years from over 150 members to just over 100



members now. Covid had a significant negative effect on the club, especially due to the school's quite understandably strict and limited access to courts for our members. The committee has also reduced to a level where each committee member is doing multiple roles.

We need some people to help run and re-energise the club and to preserve the opportunity for anyone in the local

area to play tennis at a very low cost for a long time to come.

The current committee is passionate about the club's long term survival.

Sadly, if we don't find enough people to support the Club before the next AGM in January 2024, then we will take the necessary measures to dissolve

it. Once the club ceases to exist, it will not be possible to reform it and the tennis courts currently available to those in the local community will be lost forever.

If you love tennis or even just want to help others to enjoy their tennis, then please step forward and help save the gem that is Worthy Park Tennis Club. Mark Wheeler, Club Chairman.

P.S. We are holding a Worthy Park Tennis Club Quiz at the Cart and Horses on Wednesday 22 November at 7pm for 7.30pm start. We will use this time to welcome potential Committee members and new members but please come along if you just like a quiz!! For more details: coachrachelmagory@gmail.com or jenny@sloan-home.co.uk

Flower of the Month – Pyracantha



This “firebush” makes an excellent hedge. Its berries also provide lots of food for the birds. But it raises an interesting environmental question. Seeds of holly, yew and ivy are spread by birds after they’ve eaten so why doesn’t that work for pyracantha?

Simon and Dorothy Broadley

In Memoriam

Barbara Taylor, wife of John Taylor, then partner of Alan Gilbert, passed away peacefully on 2 August 2023 in Waldenburg Switzerland, aged 80. Loving mother and grandmother, Barbara was a good linguist with her own translation business and was a key figure in organising the annual barn dance. She was a larger than life character, hence the name Big Ma. She will be greatly missed.

Sarah Hunt

The Practical Gardener

October is most often the month for change but this year is different. As I write, many leaves are still green which is lovely but the onslaught will come soon. Sweeping up leaves is a chore which can be lightened by some machinery for large spaces but for most of us, it’s a rake job. I discovered the benefits of leaf mould about 10 years ago. Leaves stored in a simple open wire frame, open because rain helps the rotting process, and left for 1-3 years. The resultant product is just great for putting back on the garden. If you believe in being green, this is a good step to take.

November is probably the time for cutting back. No, I’m not referring to wine, it’s the perennials and shrubs which may need attention. I try to leave some over the winter as this can help the birds which I think is much needed today. I’m careful with woody parts which I put in the brown bin because composting takes too long. That include things like runner bean stems, so I strip off the leaves and junk the rest. The same applies to brassica stems.

There are two things to plant now which are so easy to grow: onion setts and garlic. These crops require a minimum of attention and often produce great results. Just keep an eye out for birds having a go: they won’t eat them but sometimes just pull out the setts. It’s also time for bulb planting. My own preference is to use pots because I can keep these protected (too many squirrels) in my cold frame until growth appears. I plant bulbs much closer together than is advised and it seems to work. My neighbour has a huge walnut tree and the squirrels are trying to store the nuts, which means digging holes all over the garden.

The most time-consuming activity now is

to protect my greenhouses from frost so I can keep more tender plants inside. I have purchased a huge roll of horticultural bubble wrap. I have plenty of clips and annoyingly part of one frame has no means of anchoring so double-sided tape is need. Sorry to say a big negative for Halls. I usually get the pressure washer going first to clean all the surfaces inside and out. The advantage of bubble wrap is the big saving in heating.

Of the roses I bought back in March, all are doing well but "It's a wonderful life" and "Sweet honey" have the most flowers by a long way. And, for the very first time I have grown a vine. It's doing really well on my pergola.

There were seven bunches of grapes and I waited and waited until they were ripe. So I picked the first bunch, very good. Then I went for the rest and all had been devoured that night by birds. Lesson learnt!

For those yet to be convinced about gardening, it keeps you fit (cheaper and better than a gym) and I also get a decent tan in the sunshine. What more could you ask for!

Happy Gardening

Tony Gaster



Itchen Valley Entrepreneurs - Rachel Peppiat, owner of West Lea Farm shop

West Lea Farm Shop is a much-loved hub of the Itchen Valley; a cosy shop, flanked by its own watercress beds, offering the very best of local produce. At the helm of West Lea is Ovington resident Rachel Peppiat, who has just celebrated her third anniversary of running the shop. We popped in to see her and find out more.



Q: How long have you lived here?

A. I have lived here with my family for 16 years, in Ovington, just a mile from the shop.

Q: What led you to take on the shop?

A: My background was in the City, where I worked as a Fund Manager but I had always loved this shop. When the opportunity came in 2020, I leapt at it. I had no experience of running a shop but loved being part of the community and wanted to create a local shop,

selling local produce for local people to buy.

Q: Could you tell us more about your local suppliers?

A: I make sure as much as possible of the stock we sell is from local suppliers. Our cakes and cheese scones are made in Alresford; trout pate in Winchester; flowers from Claudia and B in Abbots Worthy; some veg grown by Dave on his allotment in Kings Worthy and sparkling wine from the Grange, to name a few.

Q: What have been some of the highlights of running the shop?

A: Getting to know local people has truly been a highlight. I don't always know their names but I know their faces and love hearing their life stories. Another highlight was the shop appearing on James Martin's TV programme!

Q: And what have been some of the challenges?

A: There have been so many! Opening during Covid, the cost of electricity and of course the inevitable surprises such as walking in after Christmas to find the electrics had failed and we had melted ice cream all over the floor. Or when the watercress beds are frozen and can't be cut. Right now, we need to find a new watercress grower as our current farmer is retiring - there are always challenges!

Q: Is there anything else your Itchen Valley customers can do to support you?

A: As I say on my website, I believe feedback is a gift and I truly welcome hearing what the community would like to see in the shop. Perhaps a new coffee offering?

Rachel is a key part of our valley

community, not only providing a valuable service to local people looking to buy provisions, but also an essential support to the local growers and producers whose products she stocks. With the ongoing support of the Itchen Valley community, West Lea looks sure to go from strength to strength, so keep popping in and we can look forward to seeing where Rachel takes the shop next.

West Lea Farm Shop, Ladycroft, Itchen Stoke Road, SO24 OQS. Open Mon-Sat inc. 9 - 4.30pm.

www.westleafarmshop.co.uk

Rachel was interviewed by Katherine Earnshaw.

Brew with a View dates

Dates for Brew with a View have changed for the remainder of the year! We are hoping to welcome you for a cuppa, cake and catchup on Wednesday 1 and 22 November, 6 (St Nikolaus!) December and provisionally 20 December, and 3 January (both tbc)! Hope to see you at Easton Village Hall between 3 and 5pm!

Ina and Sally

Tiddler Joke

What do you get when you cross a duck with a firework?

A firequacker!

Saffron (3) and Savannah (5)





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

Harvest-time Service at St Mary's Avington with The Madding Crowd.

There was an Evensong with a difference at Avington on 24 September, and what an entertaining and informative evening it was! To complement the unspoilt 18th century church with its elegant architecture and wonderful box pews, we were treated to an opportunity to imagine a service in the Georgian period. I had no idea what The Madding Crowd would look like - a small group of young people perhaps, - so imagine my surprise when I looked into the church and found the east end filled with bonneted ladies and men in smocks and hats, perfect Hardy-esque outfits. After preliminary tea and cakes in a marquee we all trooped in for a talk on the history of the church by Gill Graham Maw, followed by a talk on the history of music in parish churches by Mike Bailey, conductor of The Madding Crowd, illustrated by the choir and instrumentalists. The church barrel organ was played by a splendidly-clad Vernon Tottle, followed by a shortened 1662 Evensong taken by the rector. Then, while the congregation enjoyed further refreshment outside (drinks and canapés) the musicians entertained us with various pieces. The evening finished with words of thanks from the Rector and a presentation to Gill Graham Maw, who is leaving the village after many years to live in Headbourne Worthy. The residents of Avington should be congratulated on a well-organised event, especially given their small numbers, from decorating the harvest themed window sills to the generous

quantities of food and drink, and not least some splendid entertainment.

Brigid McManus



The Madding Crowd above



Revd Peter with Gill Graham Maw and Helen Wayne above. Vernon Tottle below



**YOU COULD
ADVERTISE HERE**

itchenvalleyadvertising@gmail.com

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



Harvest celebrations in our churches at Itchen Abbas, Easton and Martyr Worthy

Nick Owen writes about the service at Itchen Abbas.

Thanks for cabbages and greens, broccoli and beans is an unusual way to start a church service, even a harvest festival, but this was a meeting of young and old to celebrate a harvest for all people. A dozen families from the school joined us for Harvest all Age Worship on 8 October and played a very active part in the service with a group of children leading us beautifully in the school traditional song, the glorious Harvest Samba. Head Teacher Rob Bogan read the lesson. Mr Bogan who has been at the school for eight years was recently promoted to the headship. The church was beautifully decorated as usual but with a special addition of flower pillars to the entrance porch generously donated by Wild Bunch. We left with the words of the samba chorus echoing around us; *"It's another Harvest Festival when we bring our fruit and vegetables, 'Cause we want to share the best of all the good things that we've been given"* Children from Itchen Abbas Primary School visited us again to sing their Harvest songs to Cameo, our over 65's lunch, below.



Letter from the Rectory: Love your Creation (part 111)

It's been good this autumn to be reflecting in these pages on this theme of 'loving creation'; and even more so, to be celebrating this theme in such beautiful ways around the Valley. Each of our four churches have been decorated so creatively, with amazing displays of fruit and flowers, making these ancient buildings come alive with colour. And they've all played host to some great events: on Page 14, you can read about the Historic Harvest event in Avington and about the (far more contemporary!) Harvest Festival service in Itchen Abbas on this page. In Easton the medieval church (thanks to Judy Bishop and her team) was the setting for a traditional Harvest Supper (the first for 14 years, apparently) which was topped and tailed by some live jazz entertainment brought to us by a group of musicians from Oxford. Those who were there will long remember the sight of two Easton residents dancing at the front during the band's last number 'Oh when the saints...!' And two days later we were in St Mary's Church again, enjoying listening to the choir of Prince's Mead School singing two great songs in the midst of our traditional Harvest Family Service. Meanwhile in Martyr Worthy, in addition to the Harvest Evensong in the church, there was a Saturday Harvest Tea in the Village Hall which brought together over 60 local residents, for, as advertised, 'tea and coffee, wine and beer, sandwiches and cake' (lots of!). It was particularly nice that two new families, who had moved into the area during the summer, were able to come and see the Martyr Worthy community having fun together. A big 'thank you' from me for all those



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

who worked so hard to lay on these community events. And also a big thank you to all of you who contributed towards the donation we will be making towards our three



harvest charities (Trinity Winchester, the Food Bank and Winchester Beacon). Hopefully, at this stage we have raised over £1,000. Those words, 'thank you', are indeed what harvest is all about. When someone makes something for us (for example a lovely meal) we find ourselves, rightly and naturally, saying those two words. How much more if, as Christians believe, we live in a world which has been made or 'created' for us by a loving God: for, as St Paul wrote, 'everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected, provided it is received with thanksgiving'. So let's give thanks for the goodness of creation. And then let's ponder that perhaps the best thing that God has created is ourselves. As the Psalmist says, "I praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:14). When many people seem to struggle with a sense of finding a sense of self-worth, how good it can be to affirm the goodness and wonder of our own existence and creation by God. So indeed 'Love your Creation' - both the beautiful world around us and also the wonder of being given, each one of us, the gift of life. *Rev. Peter*

St Mary's Easton





Wednesday 1 November (All Saints Day)

7.30pm – Service of Prayer and Reflection - St John's, Itchen Abbas

Sunday 5 November

10am – Parish Communion - St Mary's, Easton

4pm – Café Church – Itchen Abbas Village Hall

Sunday 12 November

8.30am - Holy Communion (1662) - St Mary's, Avington

10am Acts of Remembrance - Avington and Martyr Worthy War Memorials

10am - Act of Remembrance and short family service - Itchen Abbas

10.45am - Act of Remembrance at Easton War Memorial
followed by Remembrance Service - St Mary's, Easton

Sunday 19 November

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

6pm - Choral Evensong - St Swithun's, Martyr Worthy

with Father Mark Hogan

Sunday 26 November

8.30am - Holy Communion (1662) - St Swithun's, Martyr Worthy

10am - Valley Worship - St Mary's, Easton

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

Martyr Worthy Harvest Tea



Easton and Martyr Worthy Cricket Club

On Saturday 23 September, 150 junior players, parents and coaches attended the annual EMWCC Juniors Presentation Evening. A fine warm evening enabled everyone to enjoy the BBQ and bar outside around the cricket pitch. Parent coaches have undertaken the Level 1 ECB Cricket Coaching Course. They are supported by the Club's professional coach Ian Stuart. Our Juniors' Manager Rhi Kerr, Fixtures Secretary Laura Skelton and senior parent coach Ben Gillings are all responsible for the huge task of underpinning the day to day management of the activities of parents, providing coaching and games throughout the season.

Our Child Welfare Officer, Bruce Hansen, also holds an essential role for any Club hosting a juniors' section. The Club is planning to take cricket coaching sessions into some of the local primary schools next summer, to give more children in the Itchen Valley the opportunity to experience playing cricket.

EMWCC is very grateful to Judes Ice Cream for providing generous support to the Club for some of the costs of running this Juniors programme. The Awards were presented by Ben Gillings, and Adam Murch introduced the evening. This year, George Mann, an Easton resident, ex player, Cricket Club Vice President and long term supporter of the Club has donated four new Juniors' Awards. They have been exquisitely designed and made by George himself and will be a valued long-term addition to the Club's trophy cabinet. Adam reported. The George Mann Batting Award was presented to

A Service of Prayer and Reflection

- for those recently bereaved

light a candle
join us in prayer

All Saints Day
Wednesday 1 November at 7.30pm
St John's Church, Itchen Abbas

*We hope that the service will be
a fitting tribute to those who are
loved but seen no longer.*



Jonathan Elliot; the Bowling Award to Charlie Wolfe; the Fielding Award to Imogen Wilson; and the Wicket Keeping Award was presented to Alfie Nicholson, who was unable to attend. Eddie Hansen was awarded the Eric Thompson Cup and Casper Wilson the Dave Purse Memorial Cup. The Club's AGM will be held at 5.30pm on Wednesday 22 November.

Linda Gray, Press Officer. EMWCC.

Easton Supper Club

Thank you to everyone who came to our first Supper Club on Friday 13 October. It was a full house. The four of us had a lot of fun planning the evening and hosting it for such a lovely group of people.

We were able to prepare and cook the supper in the kitchen at the Village Hall so a huge thank you to Wayne and Lucy Brown of Red Radish who advised and then ordered and arranged the fitting of a catering hob, oven and fridge creating a truly functioning kitchen.

The next Supper Club is planned for Saturday 3 February.

Naomi, Sue, Sarah and Joanna

**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



EASTON FIREWORKS

SATURDAY 4TH NOV

FROM 6PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL

ENTRY BY CASH DONATION

HOT-DOGS BAR

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 & canapés | Lectures will last an hour starting at 7.15pm

Sponsored by

savills

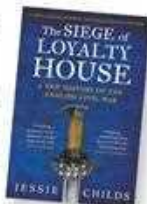


THE SIEGE OF LOYALTY HOUSE

Tuesday 28th
November 2023

JESSIE CHILDS

The award winning author and historian described by Hilary Mantel as a 'brilliant speaker as well as writer', has written a new history of the English Civil War, through the story of Basing House 1643-45.



BEHIND THE SCENES in the Palace of Westminster

Friday 12th January 2024

Lt Gen DAVID LEAKEY CMG CVO CBE

FAME & OBSCURITY

Queen Victoria's two
favourite court artists

Friday 2nd February 2024

DR JOHN DAVIES

A SHOWPLACE ROYAL: guns, bombs & excitements at the Tower

Friday 16th February 2024

DR EDWARD IMPEY



Tickets £25 available online at: www.buytickets.at/martyrworthylectures or scan QR

The Valley Quiz No. 19

1. All but one of the world's seas have at least one land border. What is the exception?

2. Brass and Bronze are both alloys. They are formed by mixing copper with one other ingredient that differentiates the one from the other. What are they and which alloy was discovered first?

3. What is the name of the luxury train that runs between Cape Town and Pretoria?

4. Who was the mother of Queen Elizabeth I?

5. Forties, Cromarty, Forth, Tyne, Dogger and ????? are shipping forecast sea areas. What comes after Dogger?

6. "By the Sleepy Lagoon" by Eric Coates introduces what each week?

7. What is the name of the Armenian enclave within Azerbaijan that has caused so much distress in recent months.

8. Who wrote *The Railway Children*, *Five Children and It* and *The Phoenix and the Carpet*?



9. What common object, found throughout the world, measures 40ft x 8ft x 8.5ft?

10. Until relatively recently, the civil parish of Martyr Worthy had a pub within its boundaries. What was it called and where was it?

Answers on Page 36

Our Wild Valley — changes on the Watercress Line

Since the ash trees were cut back last year the undergrowth on the Watercress Way track has grown up. In summer forget-me-nots and plantains brightened up the edges with occasional small toadflax which caught my eye as it's a small pink snapdragon type flower. In October, see below, the fire weed (rosebay willow herb) really shows up it's name with its wispy seed heads floating up high. It also spreads like wildfire too. One seed head had sprouted green again providing a rather nice hiding place for a ladybird. I don't know if the warm October prompted the plant to sprout again - so much has kept flowering in the hot sunny days as well as plentiful flying red admiral, cabbage white and other butterflies. And even more flies; all sorts of them. We really need these flies as in our dry spring and hot summer last year, experts are suggesting, may well be impacting on fly populations this year. The blue skies of this autumn day were lovely and full of insect life. Enjoy November.

Sophie Rogers



**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

The creation of a school sensory garden

On a bright, crisp Saturday morning in mid October, an enthusiastic band of parents, children and staff arrived at Itchen Abbas Primary School. Laden with tools and machinery suitable for any eventuality, work began on creating the school's first dedicated sensory garden as well as the regeneration of the growing space. Gaining in popularity and becoming a familiar concept, these gardens allow visitors to enjoy a wide variety of sensory experiences, stimulating and engaging the five basic senses in a myriad of ways. The origins of the sensory garden lie in the tradition of physic gardens or apothecaries' gardens, stretching back a number of centuries. Their collections of healing herbs and aromatic plants induced a sense of calm that soothed the spirit.

A 2015 study shows that children who are exposed to greener outside environments are more likely to demonstrate less aggression and mental stress. Outdoor learning environments have shown to enhance children's educational development, their attitude towards nature, behaviour in and out of the classroom and their social development. For



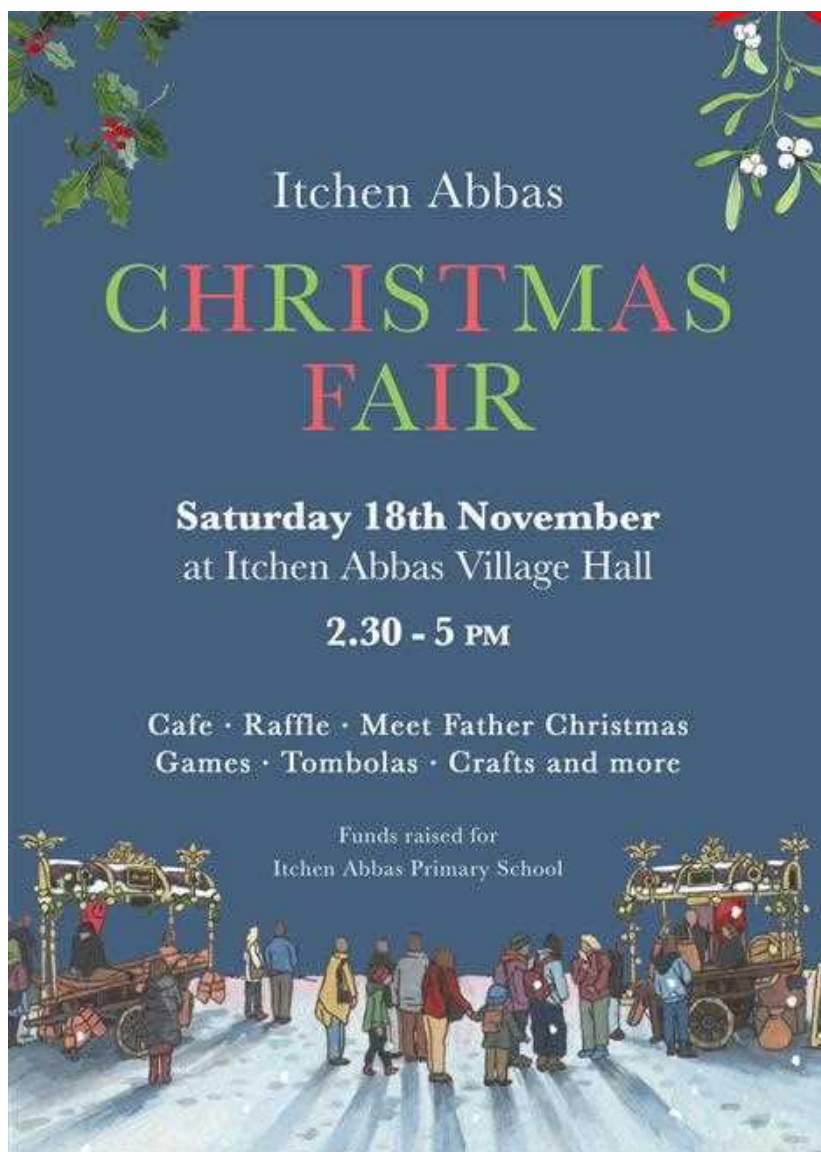
Itchen Abbas School it has also been about providing a space in which to play, explore, learn, relax and encourage that connection with nature. Before long, four raised beds had been filled, painted and, surrounded with woodchip, prepared, ready for planting. Exciting finds were made. A rampant grapevine that had laid claim to much of the flowerbed, thought to be all leaves and tendrils, was found to be filled with small bunches of sweet, dark grapes. A ceramic plaque engraved with William

Blake's 'Auguries of Innocence' was unearthed and given a new home beneath the crab apple tree. Boughs of crimson rose hips were discovered and left in place until after the next frost to make into vibrant, vitamin rich syrup.

Mr Bogan, head teacher at the school, was also present on the day, keeping up morale with bacon rolls and cups of tea.

The beds are now ready to be planted up

with whispering grasses, scented plants, edible herbs and many flowers. The majority of the flowers will be planted in spring and will include blooms that can be used well beyond the growing season for creative projects. Everlasting flowers such as statice and helichrysum with their vibrant, paper like petals, peppermint, lavender, rosemary and sage are all poised for planting. Unlikely bed fellows perhaps, chocolate cosmos, peppermint geranium, curry plants and



plump succulents will all come together to delight and entice the senses.

This is very much a community project and enormous thanks from the school goes to all the parents and children who worked so hard at the volunteer day. We have been deeply touched by the boundless generosity of local

people who have offered and donated plants as well as many local businesses.

If you would like to support the development of the sensory garden in any way, please contact admin@itchenabbas.org.uk
Georgie Davey

From our M.P.

Smoking remains the biggest preventable killer in our country today. We do so much to help people to quit but we need to do more if we're to achieve the 'smoke free' ambition I set while a Health Minister in Theresa May's Government.

Last year, the Government sponsored Khan Review proposed a series of measures aimed at doing just that and Ministers took many of them onboard. One idea, which wasn't embraced at the time, was for England to follow the New Zealand example of changing the law so children turning 14 or younger this year can never buy cigarettes in their lifetime.

Many of us have been pressing Rishi Sunak (and his predecessors) to look again and last month the Prime Minister announced, at the Conservative Party Conference, that he will create a smoke-free generation in England by doing just that. As I said at the time, it is the very embodiment of a long-term decision and save tens of thousands of lives.

Yes, it is 'banning things' but I would argue in a publicly funded, state healthcare system, the state has a right and indeed a responsibility to act on population public health. And if you don't buy that, consider the £21bn a year smoking related illness costs the NHS. You can read a special article I penned on the subject

at stevebrine.com/smokefree

One country where, funnily enough, smoking rates are rather low is Ghana. I travelled to the Gold Coast nation recently as part of the UK delegation (pictured) attending the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Annual Conference in Accra.



Over the course of the week, I connected with fellow parliamentarians from across the Commonwealth on joint campaigns including combating climate change, health and social care and equal representation in Parliament. We also met with Government – and Opposition – Ghanaian politicians to express our concern at the proposed new law which would make homosexuality a criminal offence punishable by imprisonment. They were not easy meetings but friends can talk frankly with each, with respect, and I think we did that. More at: cpahq.org

Finally, I am welcoming the Government's new Advanced British Standard which will transform A-Levels. The new standard will put technical and academic education on an equal footing, ensure pupils study a form of English and maths until 18, increase teaching hours and broaden options for young people. The policy comes alongside a new tax-free bonus of up to £30,000 over the first five years for teachers in key shortage subjects.

Steve Brine

M.P. for Winchester and Itchen Valley

Jackie's Country Corner

It was a warm day when we visited the **Pre-Construct Archaeology (PCA)** archaeology site at the Central Winchester area in October. Every excavation is unique, but like many others, I was fascinated to see the 'dark earth'

layer: a phenomenon which is always seen just above Roman remains. No one knows why it was formed: it's still a mystery.

But it's not a mystery that Hampshire County Council (HCC) has said that without fundamental changes to national policy and increased Government funding it will be forced to make drastic cuts to local services to avoid bankruptcy. Councils are limited by how much they can increase Council tax, and it just doesn't cover the rising costs of care as our population increases and grows older. I know this contains a lot of figures, but I think it's important that readers understand the scale of the problem. This serious situation is fully occupying everyone at HCC right now.

The County budget (excluding funding to run schools) is about £1.1 billion. The expected deficit revenue budget in 2025/26 year is expected to be £132 million. Added to that, there's still £70m worth of annual savings planned for 2021 and 2023 that haven't happened yet.

The Council Cabinet agreed to consider measures to reduce their

budget by a significant sum, but they can't find enough, and it still leaves at least £57million income still to find.

All cost lines have been considered for reduction or rethink, including grants to charities. I am pressing for efficiency changes rather than reduction to services to deliver better quality for residents.

HCC is one of the biggest providers of

social care in the UK. About 240 new requests for help come into the County helpline every week. A new Older Persons Accommodation Strategy is proposed: a new home could be built at Cornerways in Kings Worthy. Please comment on this consultation by going to hants.gov.uk; search 'consultation'. It's online until 12 November or call 0370 779 8102 for a phone conversation or an easy read version.

So, it was good to hear the news that a sum of just under £8m over two years had been granted recently to HCC to implement the 'Bus Improvement Plans Plus'. And there's a lot of potential for improvement! I raised poor bus performance, mainly due to the lack of drivers, especially on 'The Spring'. I have been assured that by HCC that they will take up the matter again. Your stories have given this issue a real human face. The aim of the scheme is to provide good, reliable services which are self-funding even after the county budget is so badly hit in 25/26. School transport is covered by a different budget- this year it cost approx. £50m for 13,500 children, many of whom have special needs.



HCC took over on-street parking in October.

In answer to my question at HCC Council on 28 September, Cllr Adams-King said that introducing charges to park on Alresford's shopping streets, 'wasn't on his current radar', which is good news. Let's hope it stays that way.

Following the changeover from city to county for street parking services, the County Council is now considering all 'yellow lines' requests too. This is welcome because there are hotspots that need lines for better parking etiquette. You can watch all the Council questions: go to www.hants.gov.uk, search 'Your Council', then 'Calendar,' then click on 'Full Council 28 September.'

Libraries are now within Children's Services Department and the service is going well with increased library take up, especially for children. There are also 'Chat-About' sessions at 23 of the 40 libraries for adults who want to talk with someone or meet others. Everyone is welcome, and many events at the libraries are free or low cost, so, with or without children, please use your local library if you can!

Jackie Porter

Cllr Jackie Porter, 07973 696085
email: Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk
website: www.jackieporter.co.uk



News from Itchen Abbas Primary School

It has been a wonderful half term at Itchen Abbas Primary School and we have enjoyed getting to know both our new members of staff and new children - including the wonderful new Reception class!

During the last few weeks, a selection of our Year 5 children led our whole school assembly to introduce the EARA project, which aims to celebrate diversity and increase our understanding of other cultures. Our children have also been working together across the school hall in our new houses - Beech, Oak, Pine and Ash. The children will have lots of opportunities to work together in their houses and have already



produced their own displays representing our value this half term – being reflective.

Our Year 5/6 football team had an amazing start to the season. They enjoyed a 12-5 victory recently and did Mr Robbins and the school proud - showing fantastic respect and teamwork throughout the match. Great work!

We are delighted that the school is taking part in the Wessex Rotary

shoebox appeal this year and all the children are fabulously enthusiastic. It has been amazing to see so many boxes taken already! Thank you to Andrew Castillo from the Alresford Rotary Club for coming to talk to the children about this wonderful project. This term in RE, Foxes (Y5/6) have been learning about the concept of 'peace' in both lessons and our Personalised Learning Time (PLT). The children have been given opportunities to respond creatively as well as explain their own responses to peace. They have produced some wonderful work.

Hedgehogs (Y1/2) enjoyed a great trip to the Winchester Science Centre, where they built on their knowledge about space exploration. The children loved exploring all the other activities around the centre and behaved impeccably.

We are now halfway through our first sessions of Forest School for Year R and Year 6. Being out in the wild and still with the warm weather has allowed us use tools, get creative with Hapa zome (leaf/petal bashing) and



waterproof den making. Popcorn and pitta bread also tasted great on our campfire this week!



Well done to all of those children who managed to cycle their way to School this term – we were very impressed! Staff and parents have both commented at how nice it was to see the bike shelter full! It was a great way to celebrate Cycle to School week!

We also enjoyed visiting St John's Church in Itchen Abbas for our School Harvest Festival Service which was attended by the whole school and parents. Revd Peter gave a talk about harvest and we sang three of our favourite songs that we had been practising. We also had the opportunity for some of our children to attend the church's over 65s lunch and entertain them with our harvest songs. It has been fantastic to take part in so many events in the community and in our school since September!

Rob Bogan, Head Teacher

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 STOKES,
WINCHESTER SO14 8QT

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

From our City Councillor

ACTION NOT JUST WORDS

Antisocial Behaviour issues.

Sadly there has been an escalation of antisocial behaviour which is unacceptable and it appears that the reports are not reaching the correct teams. I have arranged for areas with issues to receive flyers with copies of the contact information listed below. It's important if residents are reporting via 101 (either online or phone) that they copy in the antisocial team as they link with our local police team and also housing. Feel free to copy me in as well so I can help follow up.

Winchester City Council -
Neighbourhood Services and

Community Safety on

01962 848400

nservices@winchester.gov.uk

Winchester City Council online report form either via the Your Winchester app

or www.winchester.gov.uk/report

Hampshire Constabulary non-emergency number 101 – in an emergency please call 999.

Online to Hampshire Constabulary at hampshire.police.uk/contact-us/forms/make-enquiry

No On-Street Parking Charges -

I am pleased to confirm that there are no plans to place on-street charges in Alresford.

Cllr Fiona Isaacs

fisaacs@winchester.gov.uk

01962 808072

Wassail! Carols of Comfort and Joy

***A Christmas concert to kick start your celebrations sung by the
Itchen Valley Choir***

Conductor: Jane Bryant, Accompanist: Lucinda Pillow

WEDNESDAY 6 DECEMBER 2023 at 7.30 pm

ITCHEN ABBAS and AVINGTON VILLAGE HALL



WASSAIL derives from Old Norse “ves heill”, to be in good health. It has accompanied English toast-making since the 12th century. In Old English it means a toast or salutation at festivities which included drinking spiced beer or mulled wine, singing Christmas carols, going from house to house singing, and drinking the health of someone at a wassail celebration.

The Itchen Valley Choir will be singing “Wassail! Carols of Comfort and Joy” arranged by Alexander L'Estrange, a young English composer. These carols are uplifting folk-inspired Christmas songs exploring both sacred and secular aspects of the season

Come along and join in or just enjoy the atmosphere.

Tickets £10 on the door include a glass of mulled wine, mince pies and other Christmas fare to prepare you for more festivities to come.

For tickets please email: IVCS.Secretary@gmail.com.

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

Pictures of the Four Worthys

Capt. C.G. Fryer with daughter Norah, owner of Worthy Park (now Prince's Mead school)



We have been fortunate that for forty or more years the Worthys Local History Group (WLHG) has been quietly researching and preserving the history of the four Worthys. Barry Shurlock, who was our neighbour in Abbots Worthy for many years, has harvested the WLHG resources to put together a selection of photographs to illustrate buildings and lived experience in the four villages. His collaborator Tim Underwood has designed a captivating book, which tells the story of the four villages and the people that lived here.

Churches in Headbourne Worthy and Martyr Worthy were rebuilt in stone by the Normans, and until the dissolution of the monasteries the

villages were largely in the hands of the monastic institutions of Hyde Abbey and the cathedral priory of St Swithun's. More latterly a number of rectors and vicars made significant contributions to the villages (including Thomas Vowler Short who was instrumental in providing schooling in Abbots Worthy, in the building in which we now live).

After the dissolution of the monasteries large estates took over, with traditional common fields and smallholdings eventually enclosed to create large farms. The four Worthys are of course strung along the river Itchen which has always been important to the villages in different ways in different eras.

Although primarily a collection of photographs, there is also knowledgeable and detailed historical information, making a book filled with fascinating stories of our local history.

Verity Coleman

The Four Worthys is available at P & G Wells Bookshop in Winchester; from Janet in Itchen Abbas; at: wlhg.treasurer@gmail.com; Karen in Kings Worthy at: wlhg.chair@gmail.com; or from Springvale Pharmacy, Kings Worthy.

Are we doing enough?

Amidst the welter of information about the climate crisis and the recent political controversy surrounding the speed of the government's response, a couple of statistics should perhaps give us pause:

The amount of carbon dioxide in the world's atmosphere, the key driver of climate change, is still growing. It is currently 418 parts per million, up from 415 just a year ago and 393 ten

years. A safe level is 350. The average carbon emissions from households in the Itchen Valley is double the national average. There is general agreement that the climate crisis is real and urgent. And the changes we need to make are widely understood. But are we doing them? Or are we choosing to ignore the issue, hoping somebody else is addressing it or leaving it all to the government? *Cllr Stephen Percy*

Local monthly information

Itchen Valley area waste collections:

Black and brown garden bins on Fridays 3 and 17 November
Green bins on Fridays 10 and 24 November
Glass boxes on Friday 10 November

Hampshire Farmers' Market in Winchester

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

Full Parish Council Meetings:

The next meeting is on 2 November at 7 pm (IA&AVH)

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 always to be relied on

Quiz Answers

1. The Sargasso Sea, contained within the North Atlantic Ocean and bounded by ocean currents.
2. Brass is made by mixing about 80% Copper and 20% of Zinc. The ingredients for Bronze are 80% copper and 20% tin. Bronze was discovered in about 3500BC whilst Brass first appeared in about 500BC
3. The Blue Train.
4. Anne Boleyn. The second wife of King Henry VIII.
5. Fisher
6. Desert Island Discs
7. Nagorno-Karabakh. There has been a mass exodus of all ethnic Armenians from the enclave in recent weeks.
8. Edith Nesbit
9. A standard 40ft long shipping container. There is also a shorter 20ft long version.
10. Originally called Lunwads Inn, it was renamed Roman Post in the 1990s but was burnt down in April 2004. It was situated on the A33 about 2.8 miles north of the Kingsworthy Cart and Horses junction..

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 0NX



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

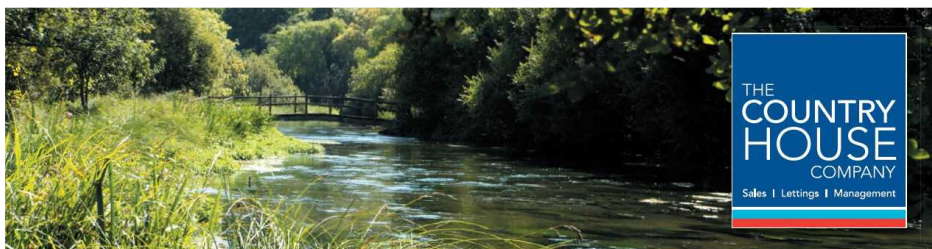
GARDEN
GEORGE CANN
MACHINERY

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



Hellards

*At home
in Hampshire*

Successfully selling and
letting property in
The Itchen Valley
since 1988.



Sales | Property Management | Lettings

11 Broad Street, Alresford | www.hellards.co.uk

01962 736333

alresford@hellards.co.uk