

August/September 2021

The **Swanmore** *Link*



Harvest time
Swanmore open gardens
Reopening continues
Art exhibitions

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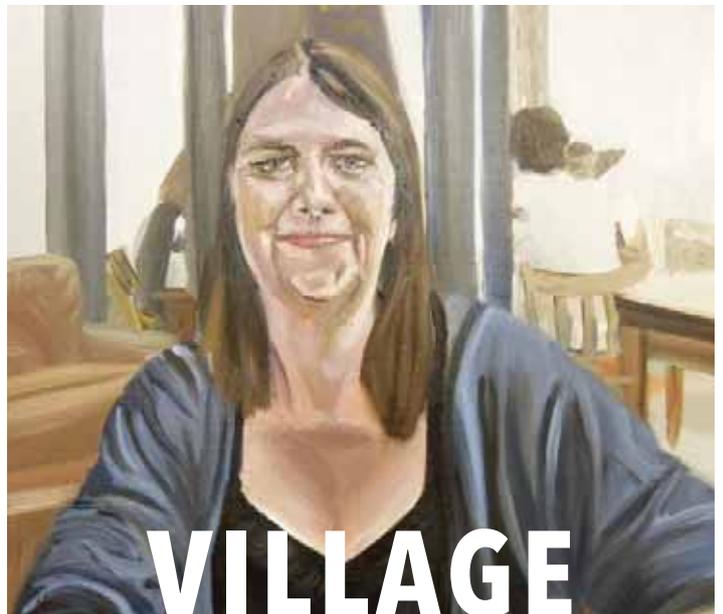
The Swanmore Link

The magazine is free of charge to all residents. It can be collected from The Link (between St Barnabas' Church and the Paterson Centre) whenever the church is open.

If you are housebound or otherwise unable to collect the magazine, then a very limited delivery service is available or if you prefer to have the magazine posted to you, there is a charge of £10 p.a. to cover postage costs.

Please contact Sue de Vere on
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for details.

The October/November magazine can be collected from Tuesday 28th September.



VILLAGE HEROES

AN ART EXHIBITION OF PORTRAITS
CREATED BY RESIDENTS AND ARTISTS
TO CELEBRATE OUR LOCAL HEROES.

PATERSON CENTRE, SWANMORE

10 - 12 SEPTEMBER



I am not a great football fan but I have been following Gareth Southgate and his team as they progressed through the Euro 2020 Championships, and shared in the nation's huge disappointment in the final.

A few days after the Wembley match,

I was listening to a programme on the radio where people were invited to ring in and share something that had been a huge disappointment or setback in their lives. It was incredibly moving. People shared disappointments in relationships, in being unable to go to university as the family needed an income, in not being able to have children, of constant rejection from job applications, and in receiving terminal diagnoses. And due to the covid pandemic, we have all shared in the disappointment of cancelled holidays, or exams, or postponed weddings or birthday celebrations.

I remember my disappointment when I didn't pass my driving test at 18 and later failed my final exams for physiotherapy at 21, which to me, then, was absolutely the "end of the world". Of course life carried on, and I passed on future attempts but looking back I wasn't ready to be "let loose", either on the road or on patients, so the failures were a blessing!

One thing that has not been a disappointment is my decision to train as a Lay Minister in the Portsmouth Diocese, based at St Barnabas.

After three years of part time training, I was licensed by the Bishop in the Cathedral in 2016 and re-licensed this month for a further five years, to work alongside the ordained clergy, leading and preaching at services,

taking funerals, and sharing the message of God's love and care for all of us.

How to cope with disappointments? Suggestions from those who rang in to the programme included listening to your feelings and writing them down, giving yourself time to "grieve", talking to



others, and looking for support through therapy. Sometimes action is needed – maybe a change of direction – and sometimes no action is needed. It reminds me of the prayer written by the American Theologian Reinhold Niebuhr:

*"God grant me the courage to change the things I can change,
The serenity to accept the things I can't change,
And the wisdom to know the difference."*

God is always ready to listen to us; he doesn't mind if we shout at him, he can take our anger, hurt and disappointment. And nothing that happens to us is ever wasted, energy poured into something that doesn't work out as we expected or hoped – God can use it.

The church is open daily from 9am to 5pm and you are always welcome to pop in for a few minutes quiet, or come along to a service. If you would like a listening ear, contact one of us on the Ministry team.

At least the school summer holidays haven't been cancelled! Wishing all teachers, children and families- and anyone off for a break - a very restful, relaxing and refreshing holiday time.

*Jill Phipps
Lay Minister*

The following contact details may be useful:

Ministry Team: ministers@stbarnabas.org.uk

Nick & Hazel Whitehead on 01489 895327

Jill Phipps on 01489 891117

Parochial Church Council:

pccsecretary@stbarnabas.org.uk or 01489 891117

Churchwardens:

churchwardens@stbarnabas.org.uk

Paterson Centre/Parish Office:

office@stbarnabas.org.uk or 07857 936023

As part of the recruitment process for a new Vicar of Swanmore, the PCC is preparing a **Parish Profile**, which will describe us as a church, our vision and what is important to us, and it must be done by September.

Amanda Ankers, Janet Chant and Derrinda Laing are the writing group. We have started the process and want to hear from you. All of us can have an input so what are your thoughts on "What is your vision for St Barnabas Church?"

Please reply to vision@stbarnabas.org.uk if you want to have your say.

Remembrance Sunday

More poppy knitters needed

We had several villagers who enjoyed making knitted or crocheted poppies to display at St Barnabas church in 2019. Would you like to put your creative skills to work again this summer?

We are seeking an assortment of knitted/crocheted poppies to hang in a tree (or two if we have many) to commemorate Remembrance Day.

You can be as creative as you want but they need to be about 4 inches wide and have two woollen ties at the back please of at least 5–6 inches long. They will be placed in the churchyard about a week before so that you'll be able to view them.

A collection box will be in the Link at the church from September onwards for any to be dropped off. We will continue to collect any finished poppies until the end of October.

There are many free patterns online but we have added a knitted one to share with you to use if you wish.

We look forward to seeing your contributions!

Wendy and Derrinda – St Barnabas Church 01489 878220

Ribbed poppy pattern

Colour A – 1 ball red yarn (this will make a lot of poppies)
Colour B – A scrap of black yarn or a black button

Body of poppy

Using Colour A cast on 60 stitches
Rows 1-10: K2, P2 across a whole row (for a slightly smaller poppy do 8 rows of rib)

Row 11: Knit 2 stitches together across the row to make 30 stitches

Row 12: Slip 1 stitch, Knit 2 stitches together then pass the slip stitch over. Repeat across the whole row to make 10 stitches.

Break off the yarn with a long tail and thread back through the remaining stitches and pull tight. Join the edges with mattress stitch,

Centre of poppy

Using Colour B, cast on 16 stitches. Cast off.

Coil into a tight spiral and sew base in the centre of poppy.

Alternatively use a black or green button with 4 holes and sew to centre of poppy.



Knitted and crocheted poppies at the lych gate in 2019. Photographs by Berty Ferrone.



Classic cars at Barnaby's

In partnership with Pete Yeoman of www.yeomansyearbook.org.uk, we are pleased to confirm new dates for the Classic Cars @ Barnaby's event.

Those dates are:

- ◆ Saturday 21st August (10am to 1pm)
- ◆ Saturday 25th September (10am to 1pm)

All cars pre-1985 are welcome! No need to pre-register. Just turn up.

With more than 50 cars now expected at each event, we'll be in the village centre car park opposite Barnaby's. If you are attending, you may arrive any time from 9.30am, when a marshal will show you to a space where you can display your car.

The event will be supported by Barnaby's famous "pop-up" coffee shop (cash only), serving coffee, tea and yummy homemade cakes made by our friends at Bishop's Waltham Country Market.

We are delighted to be able to host these glorious cars at Barnaby's following the success of our smaller event in June, and look forward to seeing everyone again. Fingers crossed for the weather!

Alastair Walton

Baptisms

Thomas James Peter Fisher (son of Lucy and Anthony) was baptised on Sunday 18th July at St Barnabas. If you are thinking about having your child baptised, we are open for enquiries. Talk to Nick or Hazel Whitehead.



Confirmation

Calling all potential Confirmation candidates: if you are in Year 7 or above or are an adult and would like to think about being confirmed, we will be running some preparation sessions leading to a Confirmation Service on Saturday 20th November at the Cathedral. Please contact Nick or Hazel Whitehead (01489 895327).

Mothers' Union

Enjoying our get togethers

Well, here we are in August already. Where has this year gone? At least we have managed to all meet up again in the Paterson Centre. It was lovely last month to actually meet all our MU friends, face to face and not via a telephone or computer. We had a good old catch up and cake too. What's not to like? I am sure, like me, we have all missed this.

This month we have our annual afternoon tea in one of our member's gardens on 17th August at 2.30pm.

Although we normally welcome any friends or partners to this gathering, this year due to covid restrictions we will need to keep this event for members only. If the weather is wet, this will allow our members to meet inside so there will be no room this time for extras. I do hope you understand.

Our meeting in September on the 21st at 2.30pm will see us back in the Paterson Centre. We will begin with a shortened AGM followed by "What I have hanging on my wall". Members can bring along something from their walls and tell us the story, e.g. a picture, photo, plate, anything. I am sure we all have a treasured item to bring. Or maybe one with a funny story.

Anyone who is not a member is very welcome to come along and bring their "item". They will not be allowed to vote if there are any resolutions, but apart from that, they can fully take part. If you are interested, give me a call on the number below so I can expect you.

Take care everyone and God bless.

*Allison Gurry MU Secretary
01489 895188*

From the parish registers

Weddings

Paul Eathorne and Claire Lloyd – 11th August

Hollie Branson and Sam Firth – 20th August

Jamie Faulds and Sarah Martin – 28th October

Baptisms

Freddie Swales – 19th September



Sunday Club restarts

It's been a long time coming, but all being well, Sunday Club returns on Sunday 12th September at 10am in the Paterson Centre.

We have crèche facilities for our under-threes Bible stories, music, prayer and craft for those aged three to ten years old and we hope to launch Youth Alpha in Barnaby's coffee shop for our elevens to 14s

If you would like to join us please come along – it will be great to see you!

For more details please contact me on 07927 933073 or through the St.Barnabas website

*Ben Armstrong
St.Barnabas Sunday Club*

Church services at St Barnabas

Sunday 1st August

9th Sunday after Trinity
8am Holy Communion
10am Holy Communion

Sunday 8th August

10th Sunday after Trinity
10am Canon Anthony Rustell will preach and preside

Sunday 15th August

11th Sunday after Trinity
8am Holy Communion
10am Holy Communion

Sunday 22nd August

12th Sunday after Trinity
10am Canon David Isaac, Area Dean, will preach and preside

Sunday 29th August

13th Sunday after Trinity
8am Holy Communion.
10am Revd Dr Richard Wyld will preside and Jill Phipps will preach.

Sunday 5th September

14th Sunday after Trinity
10am All Age Holy Communion service to mark the beginning of the academic year.

Sunday 12th September

15th Sunday after Trinity
10am Rt Revd Ian Brackley, former Bishop of Dorking and Commissary Bishop of Portsmouth will preach and preside.

Sunday 19th September

16th Sunday after Trinity
10am all-age, interactive service.

Sunday 26th September

17th Sunday after Trinity
8am Holy Communion
10am Holy Communion



Celebrating the harvest

Sunday 3rd October

Harvest Praise at

St Barnabas Church

4pm tea in the Paterson

Centre

5pm service in church

All welcome



It's all in the mind...

Apologies to anyone looking for something light-hearted this month. I've been signed off work recently due to low mood and depression, I have no idea what the difference is, largely as an effect of isolation during covid. I live with my wife and our two children so you would imagine it is hard to feel isolated but not so.

Due to the current pandemic my last 15 months have been split between working from home and being on furlough. My job is to support and help the local Methodist Churches reach out and get involved in their local communities, something you can imagine has been difficult with lockdowns.

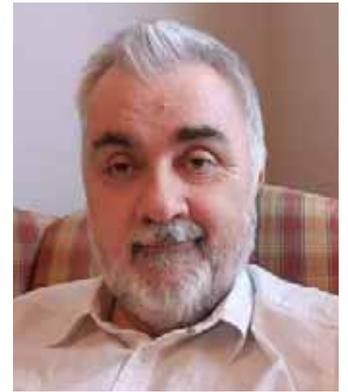
Church services have been online and Zoom meetings have been few and far between because nothing is happening. At home my wife works for the NHS and has been working 60-plus hours a week all this time in her role safeguarding the mental and emotional well-being of the staff of three hospitals from her office in our bedroom. My two children have been working and schooling from home mostly and, as happens with teenagers, they live online in their bedrooms and only venture out to hunt for food. So I have been living in a house with three people I barely see.

Even the most introverted of us require community and deprived of that it can have a very poor effect on our mental health. Thousands of years have taught us that we are stronger together, that we all need someone to lean on. Covid has been incredibly tough on the mental health of many people, beyond the NHS staff dealing with it on the front line every day.

Even if no one you know has had covid, a tiny group at this point, the deaths, the effects of the illness and the possibility of long covid are all a cause for worry for the rest of us. That worry makes us not want to be around others, makes us isolate ourselves above and beyond what is necessary or puts us into isolation because everyone we know is choosing to isolate.

Mental health has taken a real battering over the last 15 months. Instances of depression and stress have greatly increased in all ages but particularly the young and access to mental health support has become more difficult for many. Carers, particularly, have suffered as they have struggled to get even the minimal support that they had before the pandemic.

My story is not unusual. We probably all know someone whose mental health has been affected by covid even if we are not aware. Poor mental health has a massive impact on our lives and it is something we need to be aware of. If you are concerned about someone make sure you stay in contact with them. If you have concerns about yourself reach out to your GP or visit hubofhope.co.uk to find out about help available near you. Don't ignore it.



Pete Bangs

*Pete Bangs
Methodist Pioneer Missioner*

Changing places

Change is the one certain thing in life and our local Methodist churches are no exception to change. In September we will welcome a new Minister and a new Superintendent Minister. Our new minister is Revd Phil Griffin and our new Superintendent is Revd John Hughes. Phil will be living within our circuit and John will be overseeing both the Southampton and Meon Valley Methodist Circuits, comprising some 12 churches and chapels.

Reverend Phil was born in North Birmingham and received a call to ministry aged 15, which he says he reluctantly accepted! He met his wife Catherine when at university in Plymouth and later trained at the Queen's Foundation, an ecumenical theological college in Birmingham. Phil then went on to Tavistock for his first appointment. Phil and Catherine have two young daughters – Annaliese and Louisa. He says he is looking forward to exploring Hampshire and seeing

what work God has in store for him and for us here.

Superintendent Minister John was born in Chester but grew up in Flint, North Wales. John is married to Christine, a local preacher. After a career in the civil service and local government he also trained for the Methodist Ministry at the Queen's Foundation in Birmingham and was ordained at Wesley's Chapel, London. Following a five-year period in Bridlington on the East Yorkshire Coast he served as Superintendent Minister of the Bangor and Holyhead Methodist Circuit and as a member of the University Chaplaincy Team.

So change is happening and has always happened in church life. Ever since the small beginnings of the Christian Church in the Middle East there have been



Martin Letts

missionaries bringing the word of God to different areas. Paul, the writer of several New Testament letters, travelled widely visiting Rome, Athens, Cyprus, Turkey and many other locations. He was shipwrecked, beaten, stuck in prison and occasionally thrown out of town, but continually spread his faith and the good news of Jesus.

In England and more directly in our Meon Valley, St Wilfrid, Bishop of York, came down from the north to bring Christianity to us here sometime during the seventh century as well as to Sussex and the Isle of Wight. Much later the Wesley brothers, John and Charles, travelled around Britain bringing Methodism to many of the people. (Apparently John visited Wales more than 50 times.) So there has been much change

in Christian leadership in Britain. This tradition continues with the movement of Methodist ministers around the country after occupying a post at a church, or a circuit of churches or chapels for a few years. So – we look forward to hearing from both our new Ministers. Their welcome service will be on 12th September at Waltham Chase Methodist Church. And let's remember – change is here to stay. We are looking forward to their leadership and the work that God is sending them to do here in the Meon Valley.
God bless.

Martin Letts
Meon Valley Methodist Circuit Steward

Swanmore Methodist Church

Chapel Road, Swanmore. SO32 2QB



Minister: Revd. Phil Griffin
Tel. 01329 833518
Email: ministerjt@outlook.com

Loving God

Loving our community

Making disciples for Jesus

Sunday Services August and September

All services will commence at 10.30am unless stated otherwise.

| | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| 1st August | Kathy Elvy |
| 8th August | Peter Castle |
| 15th August | Val Jenkins (tbc) |
| 22nd August | David Boswell |
| 29th August | Ron Morgan |

| | |
|----------------|--|
| 5th September | Kathy Elvy |
| 12th September | Grace Westerduin |
| 12th September | 6.30pm Welcome Service for Revd. Phil Griffin at Waltham Chase |
| 19th September | Revd. Phil Griffin – Holy Communion |
| 26th September | Mark Chester |

At the time of writing the government had announced the lifting of covid restrictions on the 19th July. We will be following Methodist Church guidance in relation to the easing of the restrictions. There will be a warm welcome for all who wish to join us for these services if you would like to but want to check if any restrictions remain, please email stewards@s-m-c.org.uk or see our Facebook page. Church members will be updated regularly.

In need of prayer?

Place your prayer request in the post box on the wall next to the Chapel entrance, add your contact details if you would like a visit and we'll be in touch.

TLC (Tuesday Ladies' Club) – 14th September at 7.30pm.

Together Again – a social evening to celebrate friendship and freedom. All ladies welcome.

Thursday Fellowship

We hold a Fellowship meeting via Skype every Thursday 2.30pm–3.30pm – an opportunity to meet with fellow Christians for prayer, Bible reading and discussion – and, if you want to, join in with singing at home!

If you would like to join us please contact Jill Letts – 01489 896182 email: jill.letts@hotmail.com

Welcome to Revd. Philip Griffin

Our new Minister Revd. Philip Griffin will be joining from the 1st of September an official welcome service for Phil will be held on the 12th September at 6.30pm in Waltham Chase Methodist Church.

Website:

<http://www.swanmoremethodistchurch.org.uk>

Find us on 

Swanmore Primary School

Staying overnight – even in lockdown

We are so pleased that the children have been able to participate in some of the school's residential programme this year. With centres closed, in what has been a challenging year for us all, the staff have ensured we have been able to have:

- ◆ Year 3 camp out on the field over night.
- ◆ Year 5 visit Fairthorne's adventurous pursuits experiences.
- ◆ Year 6 spend a week in the Brecon Beacons with Hampshire's Mountain Centre.
- ◆ Year 6 build their own bivvies and stay overnight in Captain Phillimore's woods.

Swanmore's families have been incredibly supportive in helping events take place by working with the school and the government's guidance to enable such wonderful opportunities for the children to still take place. It was so generous when parents came following the camp to help take tents down and pack them away, ready for next year's children. This kind of selflessness is what makes our community so special.

The Year 3 camp is a fantastic opportunity for the children to spend a night away from home – especially if they have not had the chance to do this already. It helps the children build their confidence and resilience for the two nights away in Minstead when

they are in Year 4. Needless to say, the children had a great time and were so excited about being in a tent with their friends.

Our Year 4 children go to the Study Centre in Minstead and get to stay in their eco-lodge. From there they have the opportunity to explore the forest and learn about the fauna and flora in the area. As you can imagine, bunkbeds in dorms are of equal excitement to the children!

Year 5 would normally have spent most of the week in Swanage, exploring the coast and the physical geography associated with that, whilst Year 6 venture to Wales. A truly amazing week, out with instructors in the Beacons, hiking, river walking and caving – all just stunning places to experience. When we meet adults (often at Firework's Night!) who have been years ago, Wales is more often than not, a memory they share.



*Above:
Year 3
camp
overnight
in the field.
Left: Year
6 admire
the Brecon
Beacons.*



We value our residential programme so much, not only because the children see places of great beauty but in supporting the curriculum, the children are also learning life skills. They all appreciate the importance of the natural world and the role we play in preserving that, as well as growing in confidence and resilience through overcoming such challenges.

John Paterson

Swanmore Pre-school Learning all about nature and Euros

The children at Swanmore Pre-school have been developing their awe and wonder for nature during the summer term. They have been carefully tending the vegetable plot and wildflowers and observing their growth.

The children also enjoyed watching the caterpillar eggs go through the life cycle and merge into beautiful butterflies. They were released, as soon as they were able to fly, into our nature garden.

The Euros has also sparked a keen interest in learning about other countries' flags, creating our own, and developing our football skills.

We would like to wish all of the children and families a safe summer, we look forward to welcoming all the new families in September, and wish all the children that are going to Year Reception all the best.

Please contact the Pre-school for information if you wish to reserve a place for your child in the future. Tel: 01489 893779 or 07958 436396 or email: sarah.hiscock@swanmorepreschool.org.uk

Sarah Hiscock



Peter Mason

Swanmore Care Group and Lunch Club

Volunteers drivers urgently needed – please help

Over the past year, for various reasons, the number of Care Group drivers has diminished. So now we need replacements – to take people to surgery, hospital or dental appointments and to pick up various prescriptions.

Demand is not high, but help is important to those who are unable to go by themselves or where infrequent bus services limit travel options.

If you would be willing to help us continue this worthwhile service, mostly for older members of our community, even on an occasional basis, please contact me on the number below.

We also need more volunteer drivers for the Lunch Club.

After more than a year's covid break, it is planned to restart Lunch Club at the beginning of September.

The club caters for older members of the community, meets at the Paterson Centre on Wednesdays and provides an opportunity for them to enjoy a freshly-cooked meal and important social time.

We always need drivers to take the members to and from Lunch Club. Pick-up times are 11.45am and 1.15pm.

If you would be able to help, even once or twice a month please contact me.

Thank you.

Pam Manson – 01489 892374

Paterson Centre

Quiz on again

Well, Boris scuppered the last attempt so we are trying again for our "Grand Re-opening Quiz" at the Paterson Centre on Saturday 25th September. This time we have left plenty of time for things to settle down post-lockdown and we hope there will be few residual concerns over covid.

Numbers may be curtailed so don't delay reserving your tickets. We will not be catering and you are invited to bring your own refreshments. This will be a family friendly quiz. Tables will be for six to eight people and cost £5 per adult and £3 for under 16 year olds.

Doors open at 7pm, there will be an interval and the quiz is expected to finish at around 10pm. To reserve tickets or for more information contact John Sharpe (01489 892750 or 07848 839407) or email me at: jsharpe2016@hotmail.com.

John Sharpe

Swanmore Guides

Having lots of fun again

With the covid restrictions lifting at the end of March we were allowed to meet as a Guide group face to face for the first time in a year!

We met outside every week in all weathers lighting fires, geocaching, hiking and tracking. We made mini rafts which we floated in the stream in the woods, went paddle boarding in a lake and, together with the Rainbows and Brownies, planted "pots of kindness" (sunflowers) that we gave away to friends and neighbours.



Some girls are doing their bronze or silver Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition this summer and we are looking forward to being able to go camping and have sleepovers again.

Here's what some of the Guides have to say about it:

- ◆ "I have really enjoyed all the activities at Guides this year, especially cooking on campfires at Sandy Acres, paddle boarding and geocaching. Thanks to all the leaders and helpers who have made this all possible" (Amelia, 12).
- ◆ "I really enjoyed doing outdoor cooking, it's a fun and different experience, and you get to eat some yummy food!" (Emma, 13).
- ◆ "My favourite thing this term has been making food on a camp fire at Sandy Acres because it was interesting to see what woods burnt best and what food was easier to cook. Me and my friends made an Italian feast with pizza, pasta and pancakes. Another thing I enjoyed doing this term was paddle boarding because I got to say my promise and jump off the paddle board. I really enjoy going to guides and it is



Left and above: Swanmore Guides learning new skills.

always one of the highlights of my week" (Safiya, 10).

- ◆ "I really enjoy guides, we get to do so many fun things there.
- ◆ I have enjoyed fire lighting, cooking and paddle boarding the most since joining. Everyone there is kind and you get to do lots of fun adventure" (Lily, 10).

Guiding is thriving in Swanmore. If any girls or adults would like to get involved please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved

Sarah Woodman

Swanmore Open Gardens

Glorious weather for glorious gardens

Swanmore Open Gardens on 17th and 18th July were an enormous success this year with a total of 237 visitors – despite taking place just a few hours before Boris's declared ending of legal restrictions related to covid.

In the run-up to the openings ten gardeners had been slaving away to get their gardens at a peak of beauty, ready for the rush. The weather gods had been propitiated and that dratted jet stream wandered back north of the UK, so the weather

was splendid. Indeed it was too hot, with the result that for the first time Sunday was less popular than Saturday.

The heavy rain that deluged us all on Monday 12th, as well as several prior weeks of wind, heavy rain and little sun caused many of the gardens to suffer significant damage to delicate blooms and plants with many last minute recovery efforts

Left Tony & Marlene King's front garden full of daisies. Below: Dena Denham and Helen Dyer busy selling tickets. Below: Roger & Mary Morfill's colourful garden. Right: Three colourful corners at Michael and Jenny Maunder's garden.

All garden photographs this page and the next by Berty Ferrone.





needed. But it was not just the gardeners working hard as we approached the weekend, many bakers were busy making their wonderful homemade cakes and scones in time for the opening. Posters and signs were prepared and distributed and the Lions

washed and vacuumed their minibus. All this so that as many people as possible could come and enjoy themselves, as well as raising much needed funds for St Barnabas and Rowans Hospice. My thanks to all of you: public,

Above left: Phil and Molly Gomer's garden complete with fish pond. Above: Julia and Crawford Wright's garden with visitors.

gardeners, bakers, Lions, the publicity staff of Rowans, the St Barnabas tea team, ticket sellers.
John Sharpe

Swanmore Society

Meetings resume – we hope!

Making plans for the weeks and months ahead is a particularly tricky business at the moment but here at the Swanmore Society we are still hoping to restart our regular monthly activities from September, as previously announced.

The first meeting will be held on Wednesday September 8th, in the Methodist Church Hall as usual, starting at 8pm. However, in a change from what was initially mooted, it will be a normal speaker meeting, while the reduced AGM will now be incorporated into the next meeting on October 13th.

Subsequent dates for your diaries are November 10th and December 8th. Visitors are most welcome at all our meetings.

For our September meeting, Duncan Colin-Jones will join us to talk about the remarkable life and legacy of Admiral Sir George Anson, Baron Soberton (1697-1762).

Anson made both his name and his wealth by capturing a Spanish treasure ship in the Pacific in 1743, buying the Manor of Soberton out of his prize money. In 1747 he led a fleet that soundly defeated the French, becoming a national hero and First Lord of the Admiralty. In that role, Anson had a huge influence on the Royal Navy, which contributed to its later successes and to much improved health of the sailors.



Sir George Anson by Joshua Reynolds, 1755.

In October we will welcome Tim Mason to present the story of polio from the mid-18th century to the present day. His narrative promises to give insights into “concepts in the transmission and control of infectious diseases”, which should have some interesting parallels with our current global situation. As mentioned above, this meeting will also include a short-form AGM. We will provide more details at the September meeting and in the next issue of *The Swanmore Link*.

As the Prime Minister regularly reminds us, covid-19 is still very much with us, and we may have to replace a speaker or even cancel a meeting at short notice in the coming months. If that should happen, we will endeavour to get information out to members and via posters in the village, but we ask you to have patience and bear with us as we all negotiate these difficult times.

For now, stay safe and well. We hope you all enjoy the summer and look forward to welcoming both members and friends back in the autumn.

Caroline Clapperton
Secretary: 01489 891447

Swanmore College

Learning how others cope

Charity weeks

Year 9 Charity Week coincided with Schools Diversity Week in June. Their chosen charities were Just Like Us and Naomi House. Various fundraising events took, with a Grand Finale on the Friday.

Pupils enjoyed activities such as chalk rainbows, karaoke, world music, dance and a visit from an ice cream van. The celebrations ended with a Diversity Week Parade on the field. Year 9 raised a total of £506.

It was Year 8 Charity Week at the end of May which saw pupils, staff and their families supporting The British Heart Foundation. They hosted an online raffle and a plant and pot sale. Year 8 raised a whopping £1,024.

Schools' diversity weeks

Year 10 used newspapers and magazines to create their own

thoughtful messages as part of a Blackout Poetry/The Power of Words session in English, to fit with the diversity theme of the week.

Year 8 have been investigating Rotational Symmetry within Islamic Art as part of Diversity Week. In art, pupils learnt about artists who have overcome physical disability. They were tasked to create their work without using their hands.

In mathematics, pupils looked at the results of a 2017 government LGBT+ survey and selected ways to present and analyse the data. This helped enormously with their skills in representation and interpretation.

In May, Year 9 pupils had the opportunity to hear from a variety of young professionals regarding their careers and the pathways they took to get to where they are today.

Over the course of the week we



Left: Chalk rainbows were popular during Year 9's Charity Week.

Below: Year 8 pupils were tasked to produce artwork without using their hands, as part of Diversity Week.



were visited (virtually) by a trainee solicitor, a junior doctor, a musician and a nurse/health visitor.

Pupils spent time during the previous week preparing questions for our visitors and it was wonderful for them to have such honest, direct feedback from experts in such competitive fields.

Swanfest returns in 2022

We shall have missed two years of Swanfest when we return on Saturday 18 June 2022.

To compensate, we plan to have two headline acts next year and hope this will make up for lost time. Early bird tickets are on sale on our website www.swanmorecollege.co.uk

Site improvements

We have various improvements happening on site throughout the summer.

A recent update was a lovely replacement canopy from Aura Canopies www.auracanopies.co.uk The colour is wonderful.

Our amazing site team continue to produce high quality wooden benches which are dotted around the site for pupils to use at lunch and break.

These are available for sale to the general public via enquiries@ swanmore-sec.hants.sch.uk or 01489 892256.

Hampshire Open Studios

Swanmore artists and local craftsmen to show their work

As part of Hampshire's annual Open Studios event three venues will be open in Swanmore in August showing work by local artists.

Four artists will be showing work at Eagles Nest, Lower Chase Road They are:

- * Margaret Ferrone, an exponent of vibrant watercolours and mixed media landscapes,
- * Sue Halloway, whose eclectic work covers a range of genres,
- * Don Richardson, who combines sensitive oil paintings with personal and inventive pen drawings, and
- * Simmi Whish who makes strong use of colour in her still life and flower paintings.

There will be an opportunity to buy original works, prints and cards at the show.

Jerry Smith will be exhibiting work in his studio at 3 The Fortunes, Vicarage Lane. Landscape paintings and drawings of the Meon Valley, prints and greetings cards will be available. You can find out more at jerrysmith.co.uk

Both these venues will be open from 10am to 5pm from Saturday 21st to Monday 30th August.

At the Paterson Centre will

be eight artists from the Wessex Guild of Craftsmen who will be showcasing a unique selection of their work including textiles, woodturning, stained glass, pottery, digital art, acrylic art, and basket making.

This exhibition runs from the Friday 27th to Monday 30th August from 10am to 5pm each day.

All venues will be following the current government covid guidance.

Full details and location maps can be found at:

www.hampshireopenstudios.org.uk

Margaret Ferrone



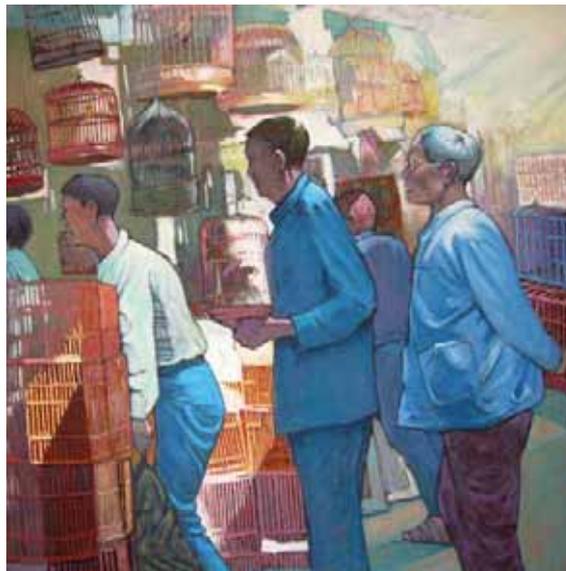
Village heroes go on display

There will be an opportunity to celebrate all our local heroes in September when more than 40 portraits – drawn, painted, or stitched as part of the “Village Heroes community art project” – will be on display at the Paterson Centre.

The project, founded and co-ordinated by Alison Potter, matched local artists (amateur, professional and aspiring of all ages) to nominated individuals to create a portrait of the village heroes who supported our community during the worst of the covid pandemic.

Pictured above is “Paul from the shop” by Sue Halloway.

The exhibition runs from Friday 10th to Sunday 12th September.



*Above right: Hong Kong bird market by Don Richards,
Right: Top of Dean Lane near Bishop's Waltham by Jerry Smith .*



Swanmore Art Group restarts meetings

We shall be back in operation on Thursday 23rd September in the Paterson Centre from 2–4pm.

Please bring with you some examples of any lockdown work or experiments you have been doing.

We welcome new members – just come along and meet us and enjoy a couple of hours of relaxation and good company.

For any further information please contact me on 01489 893378.

Julia Wright

Swanmore Primary School

Clearing the pond – with help

Being a rural Primary School, we are extremely fortunate to have extensive school grounds for the children to enjoy during the break time and in their outdoor learning lessons. In recent years we have developed a pollination garden and a fabulous vegetable patch. We have also been gifted a stunning greenhouse by some local residents, which is always full of seedlings ready to be planted out.

Last academic year the whole school participated in a tree planting project with 60 free native trees and 60m of native hedgerow to divide it from the playing field, all donated by the Woodland Trust. The grass in our woodland copse is left to grow to encourage the wildlife to enjoy the area. We also have a fire-pit for the children to enjoy toasting marshmallows and experience the joy of sitting around a campfire.

Looking to the future

We are hoping to develop our outdoor learning provision further so that all our children can benefit from discovering about the changing seasons and learn how we can have a positive impact on and cherish our small part of the world.

However, our school pond was badly in need of some tender loving care and so, I chanced my luck, and nonchalantly asked my neighbour Mike Taylor who co-ordinates the Saturday team of volunteers from the

Swanmore Conservation Group if they ever happen to be twiddling their thumbs on a Saturday morning. Given that they manage the four sites of Green's Woods, both Marsh's Meadows and the Swanmore Pond, I thought it was unlikely that they would have a spare couple of hours.

However, Mike sprang into action and rallied his troops; and on Saturday 5th June seven willing volunteers, armed with an impressive array of tools and equipment, spent a couple of hours tackling the extremely overgrown and inaccessible pond.

Wildlife discovered

Pete, whose grandsons are in Year R and Year 2 attacked the brambles with a brush cutter – it was noisy but very effective. Mike donned his waders and, using a scrub basher, managed to get rid of three quarters of the reeds and iris which had swamped the pond. He discovered a good foot of roots and debris at the bottom of the pond which will need dredging in the autumn. In all, they removed six barrowloads of plants and roots which



Above: The “before” and “after” images of the pond and its pathway. Below: The team hard at work. Opposite page – above: Mike in the pond and below: Plenty of cutting back needed.

Photographs by Peter Mason.



were deposited under the tree and will rot down quickly.

The remaining workers, Carol, Mike V, Chris, Gill and John wielded loppers, saws, clippers and rakes to cut back a pathway around the pond; and reveal not only the long lost edge of the pond but also a bird table, a toy car and a Thomas the Tank Engine tanker truck. On the plus side not much litter was found which shows how our children take care of their school environment.

Given that the pond was extremely over-crowded by plants there was very little space for creatures, however, a friendly frog popped up to say hello and there were a few empty



dragonfly skins on the reeds and irises. There was cow-parsley, some purple loosestrife, stitchwort and yellow flag iris, along with bull rushes.

I am so grateful to the team for their help and I cannot wait to see the children enjoying the pond and hopefully spotting some wildlife enjoying the open water.

Help needed please

I would love to hear from anyone who is interested in helping to maintain the pond all year round, or helping out with gardening and grounds maintenance.

You could either work with small groups of children or with other adult volunteers either during school time or after school hours.

Anyone interested in helping please ring the school office and leave a message for for me on 01489 894555.

Jo Hughes

Swanmore Conservation Group

Waiting for wildflowers

In June the Conservation Group was asked to help tidy up around the Primary School's pond. The fenced area around the pond had become very overgrown with rushes covering a large proportion of the pond and weeds, brambles and shrubs filling the area around it. Although it was hard work it was very rewarding to see the area transformed into a safe accessible school resource. We received a very nice thank you from the school so if they need us again we'll be happy to help.

The plantation in the Upper Meadow was planted about 20 years ago and until now nearly all the trees have done well. There are now whole rows of ash trees suffering with ash dieback and these will have to be removed. At the last work party we cleared away many of the lower branches in order to lift the canopy and cleared many saplings and brambles to allow light to reach the ground beneath the trees to encourage smaller woodland plants.

The wildflower meadow being established in the Lower Meadow by a contractor for the Parish Council was looking really pretty with many cornflowers some weeks ago but as many people have noticed there are now more flowers elsewhere in the Upper and Lower Meadows.

The Parish Council has been told by the contractor that flowers take longer to get established than grasses and that the really wet weather we have had has favoured the growth of the grasses. The flower seeds that



have been sown are mainly perennials and they take time to get established. Wildflower meadows should have many more flowers in their second year and as yellow rattle becomes established it will weaken the grasses. Let's hope next spring will be drier which would help the flowers too!

Two of our most regular hard working volunteers are leaving us this August and moving to Australia. We are very grateful for all their hard work and wish them well in their new home.

Our July work party was cancelled as it was so wet underfoot but hopefully our next work party on Saturday 14th August will be possible. The following two work parties will be on Saturday 11th September and Saturday 9th October 2021.

All work parties run from 9.45am to 12noon with a break for coffee at 11.00am. We meet at the hut by the kissing gate in Broad Lane, do come along if you can spare some time, you will be very welcome.

Gill Sawyer 01489 894206

Above: The wildflower meadow.

Left :Hard at work.

Photographs by Peter Mason.



Things to do in the holidays

With school over, Sarah Chase has some ideas to occupy the coming weeks.

Hopefully now the sun will be out and stay out for a while! During the summer holidays we can make the most of having a bit more time to enjoy our surroundings, spend time with family and friends and maybe have a few day-trips to local attractions.

There is so much to do around Swanmore, lovely walks and cycle rides, woods to explore, and parks to visit.

Maybe you will go to the beach at some point, build some sandcastles, paddle in the sea, have a picnic and enjoy an ice cream or two!

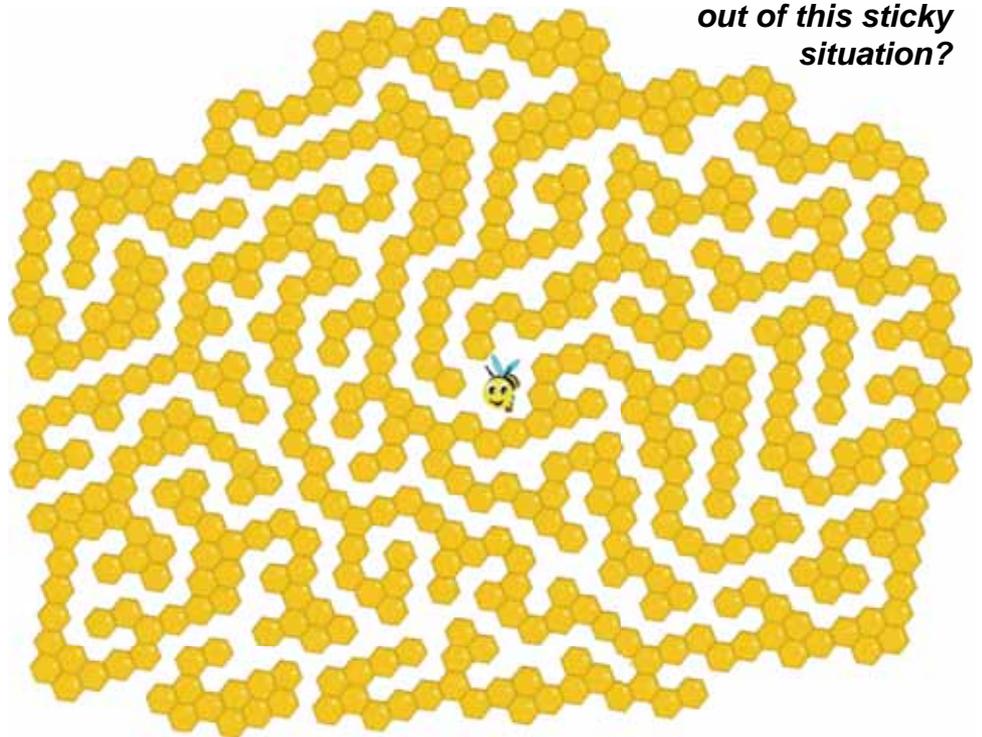


You will need something for that picnic though, why not have a go at making your own snacks or lollies? How about chocolate

dipped frozen bananas, lots of fun to make and they will taste delicious! Or perhaps a healthy smoothie? You will find lots of recipes for these online.



Can you help the bee find her way out of this sticky situation?



Make everyone laugh with these

Which animal makes the best pet?

A cat – because it's purrfect!

What is black and white and red all over?

A sunburnt zebra!

What goes tick tock bow wow tick tock bow wow?

A watch dog!

What time is it when a lion walks into the room?

Time to leave!

Why are fish so smart?

Because they live in schools!

You can astound people with your amazing knowledge with these facts about summer

- * The first modern Olympic Games were held in the summer in 1896 in Athens, Greece.
- * Watermelon is one of summer's best treats. Did you know it belongs to the cucumber family that includes courgettes, pumpkins and loofahs.
- * The Eiffel Tower actually grows in the heat of the summer. Due to the iron expanding, the tower grows about 6in/15cm every summer.
- * Mosquitoes are most prevalent during summer months. They have been on earth for more than 30 million years.
- * More thunderstorms occur during summer than any other time of year. They are also take place more commonly in the south east of England.



New speed limit reminder

Our new smiley speed sign is up and running. We now have three speed limit reminders rotating around ten locations in the village, which gives Swanmore one of the most comprehensive schemes in the area.



Nominations must be received by Friday 31st December 2021. You can also send your nomination by post. Awards will be presented at the Annual Parish Assembly in March 2022.

Community Projects Award

Every year Swanmore Parish Council allocates £2,000 for Community Project Awards. Local groups, clubs, organisations and charities are invited to apply for part, or all, of this allocation.



Once applications are in we then ask the parish to vote for which community organisations should receive an award.

To apply, or for further information, please contact the Parish Office; completed applications need to be returned to by Friday 31st December 2021. Once the parish has voted, awards will be presented at the Annual Parish Assembly in March 2022.

Community Service Awards

So far 2021 has been another challenging year. The village continues to pull together through the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, while also trying to get back to some sort of normality.

Now is your chance to recognise and say thank you to those groups or individuals whom you believe have made a difference to your life or the village as whole over the year.

We welcome nominations for the following three categories:

- 1) Adult.
- 2) Young Person (under 18 years).
- 3) Group.

Anyone can enter: to nominate a person or group you simply need to email clerk@swanmore.gov.uk with the following details:

- ◆ The nomination category.
- ◆ The name and contact details of the person(s) or group being nominated.
- ◆ The reason(s) for the nomination



Swanmore Parish Council Meeting Dates

- 14th September Planning & Highways
- 21st September Open Spaces & Amenities
- 28th September Full Council

Meetings generally start at 7pm and are currently held either in the Village Hall or the Parish Office with the agenda posted on the village noticeboards and Parish Council website a few days beforehand. All meetings are open to members of the public.

Please email Tracey Molloy at clerk@swanmorepc.org.uk if you need more information about attending.

Parish Council Office

Tracey Molloy,
Executive Officer
Hollythorns House, New Road
Swanmore, SO32 2NW
Tel: 01489 890651
Email: clerk@swanmorepc.org.uk
Web: www.swanmorepc.org.uk

PUBLIC OPENING TIMES WEEKDAYS 10am-2pm

Please contact us by email, letter or phone or visit us at the office.

Hedge maintenance

Please could we ask everyone to check that their hedges do not overhang onto the pavement or road.

Any hedges or vegetation need to be cut back to the boundary of your property and now is a good time to do this job. as we're at the end of the bird nesting season.

Do you own land that has a watercourse or drainage ditch on or adjacent to it?

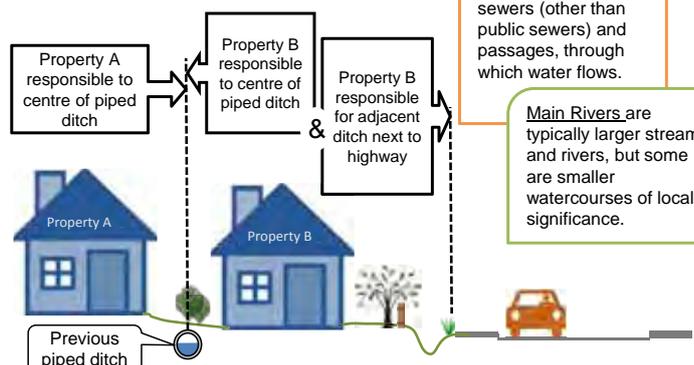
Answer: Yes – You are therefore a '**riparian landowner**' and you are responsible for maintaining those watercourses

What is a watercourse?

Watercourses are any natural or artificial channel above or below ground through which water flows. Watercourses are classified as either 'Ordinary Watercourse' or 'Main River'.

Ordinary Watercourses are watercourses that are not part of a main river and include streams, ditches, drains, cuts, culverts, dykes, sluices, sewers (other than public sewers) and passages, through which water flows.

Main Rivers are typically larger streams and rivers, but some are smaller watercourses of local significance.



What can land and properties owners do to reduce the risk of flooding?

- ❖ Identify your ordinary watercourses/ditches/piped watercourses – check deeds if required
- ❖ Check whether they are clear from debris and vegetation and if not clear them

As a landowner you have a right to protect your property from flooding – consider how you might do this and prepare a plan.



More information:

www.hants.gov.uk/watercourses

National Flood Forum provides information on preparing for a flood:

www.nationalfloodforum.org.uk/at-risk-of-flooding-2/

Ronald Paterson was Vicar of Swanmore for more than 20 years but, as Crawford Wright recounts, his life before ordination had been even more challenging,

Swanmore's most notable vicar

The Revd Gordon Ronald Paterson MBE was the Vicar of Swanmore from 1962 to 1985. Ron was born in Clonaslee in County Laois, in what is now the Irish Republic. His father was the village schoolmaster, serving in the same school for 40 years.

Ron was born in 1916 the youngest of six children – four boys and two girls – and he remembered the civil war between the Irish Free State and the IRA. He was sent to the King's Hospital Boarding School in Dublin but when his father retired in 1932, and could no longer afford the fees, Ron left school and followed his elder brother into the Royal Navy.

After his initial training he joined *HMS Hood*, the pride of the British navy and the largest battleship in the world, which was subsequently sunk by the *Bismarck* early on in the war. Fortunately, by this time Ron had moved on to further training at a number of naval establishments.

First naval engagements

He was involved with the rescue of British citizens from Valencia, during the Spanish Civil War and was promoted to sub-lieutenant and then to lieutenant in 1938 at the age of just 22. After service in the far-east during the conflict between Japan and China he returned to Europe.

During the Second World War Ron was involved in convoy escort duties in the Mediterranean, Atlantic and on the notorious Russian convoys to

Murmansk. In November 1942 he was part of the allied naval forces in Operation Torch, the allied invasion of North Africa.

In between his numerous naval duties he met Joan McCoy and the couple were married in 1943 at Holy Trinity church, Rathmines in Dublin.

On the D-Day beaches

Ron then became part of the naval team to start planning for D-Day. At the Normandy landings on the 6th June 1944 Ron landed with the Canadians on Green Beach at Courcelles-sur-Mer and became a beach master for the Juno sector. He lived in a former German pillbox on the beach for many weeks organising the supply chain for the army.

Following the allies successful campaign in Europe he was transferred to the Pacific, serving with the American 7th fleet. This involved fierce fighting in the retaking of the Philippines. Whilst there his duties involved working with newly-released prisoners of the Japanese. Those that had survived the appalling conditions were in a dreadful state. It was witnessing these events first hand that motivated Ron to devote his future life to peace and a better world. He was appointed MBE in 1955 for his services to the nation.

Following the war Ron would have liked to have gone on to be ordained as a minister, but with a wife and four young children to support, this was not



Lieutenant Ron Paterson RN in 1938.

possible. It was therefore not until 1958, aged 42 that he could retire from the navy as a Lieutenant Commander and train for the clergy at Ripon Hall, Oxford.

Arriving in Swanmore

After ordination in 1959 Ron served three years as a curate in Emsworth and was appointed the Vicar of Swanmore in 1962, moving with his family into the large Victorian vicarage – now known as the “Old Vicarage”.

As well as his church duties he fully participated in the wider village community bringing new life to the scouts, cricket club (where he was a life member), tennis club and building up a youth club for the young people of the village. He led the campaign to rebuild the Church Aided Primary School, including organising the fund raising – the three phases being completed in 1964, 1969 and 1973. Ron was a people person and could remember the names of many of the people in the village including the children at the school. He was Rural Dean from 1979 to 1984 for the Bishop's Waltham Deanery.

Ron Paterson revitalised the parish

A Dublin wedding on 20th November 1943 to Joan McCoy.



magazine and was its editor for 17 years. He served on the parish council, including time as vice-chairman, and was also a governor at the secondary school where he encouraged reunions of Old Swanmorian who had earlier attended the village school.

His other social abilities were Scottish dancing, participating in village events, including donkey cart racing and carnivals. Many people will remember him shortly before his retirement at the age of 69, climbing the 90 foot ladder with the golden cockerel supported on his shoulder to replace it on top of the church spire, an event that was recorded in the media.

Family tragedies

Joan Paterson died in 1975 after a prolonged illness but Ron found renewed happiness when he married Robin Mason in 1977, tragically to be followed in 1983 by the loss of his youngest son Andrew, who had been a heart transplant patient at only 25 years of age. Then in 1985 there was to be further sadness in his life when, shortly after they had bought their retirement home together at Eastways in Bishop's Waltham Robin died. The whole parish wept with its Vicar.

After his retirement in 1985, and living in Bishop's Waltham, a new church hall was to be built for St Barnabas. To help towards the building cost, Ron led a series of sponsored pilgrimages and other

events which raised £36,000. The foundation stone was laid by the Bishop of Portsmouth on 20th of December 1991, and the hall opened in January 1993.

Today the Paterson Centre, which links the church with the old school room, stands as a tribute to Ron and his family and in gratitude for his contribution to the life of the people of Swanmore.

Active retirement

On retirement Ron remained very active, preaching at St Peter's church, Bishop's Waltham until he was 90, and enjoying golf, tennis, gardening on his allotment and bridge.

Ron was a founding member and National Chairman of the D-Day and Normandy Fellowship for many years. He continued as chaplain of a number of Royal Navy organisations, including *HMS Ganges*, the Algerines Association (minesweepers), the Coastal Forces Veterans Association, the *HMS Hood* Association, on whose behalf he was invited in 1997 by the Danish Navy to take a service on board *HMS Triton* over the site where the *Hood* had gone down. He was astounded by the luxurious conditions of life on a modern day frigate compared with his experiences as a sailor.

As a veteran he volunteered at the



Top: Marriage to Robin Mason in 1977. Above: Opening the Paterson Centre: Bishop Timothy, Ron, Revd Michael Welsh, 25th January 1993.

D-Day Museum in Portsmouth and was in demand on the 50th anniversary of D-Day giving interviews on Radio Solent and as part of BBC's *Songs of Praise* from Portsmouth Cathedral.

Few people in their life will experience the frontline horrors of war as Ron did, nor the difficult personal losses that he suffered, and yet be there for others when they needed him. Ron died on the 16th of December 2009 at the age of 93.

His service of thanksgiving was held in St Peter's on 23rd December 2009, attended by a packed congregation. Naval standards were presented and the Last Post and Reveille were sounded. Ron is buried in Swanmore churchyard as are his wives Joan and Robin and son Andrew.

Ron showed the heights that a person can rise to through faith, justice and a true love of their fellow humans. Today he remains in the hearts of many.

Left: Building work starts at the Primary School in 1963.



Swanmore's footpaths

Walks for lazy summer days

A circular walk through meadows to West Hoe

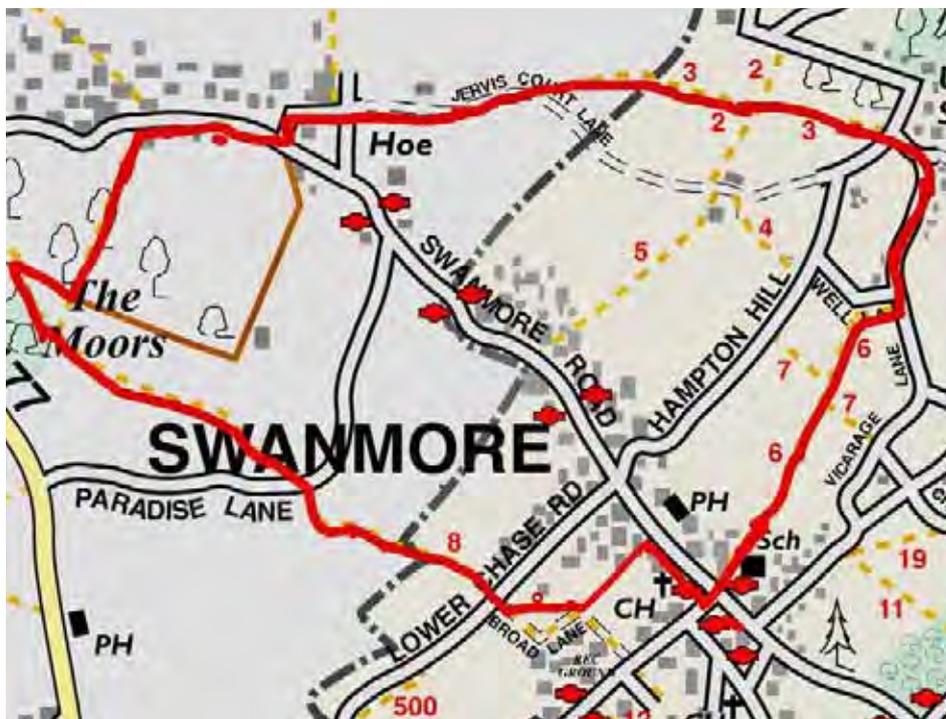
5.45 kms/ 3.4 miles

approx. 1 hour 20 minutes

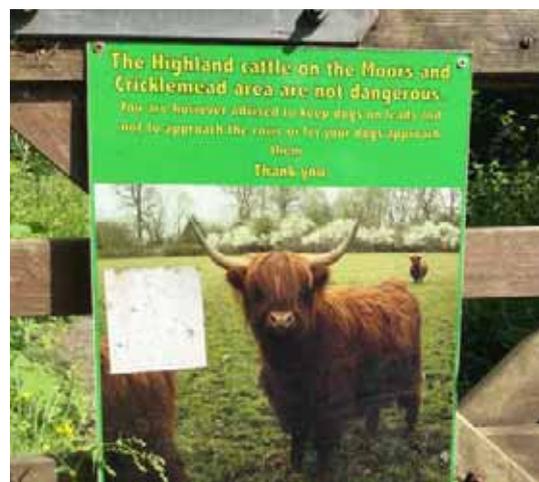
A walk which meanders through lovely meadows, woods and fields. Particularly delightful in June when the grasses are long but a good walk anytime ...until the paths get muddy in winter.

Start

- ◆ From the village centre, go left pass Barnaby's café towards Bishop's Waltham. Pass three houses to take the enclosed footpath on the left to go through Green's Wood. Going through the exit gate turn immediately right to Marsh's Meadows. Turn left on entering the first meadow and through the open gate into the second meadow. Walking diagonally to the corner, exit into Broad Lane and turn right to Lower Chase Road.
- ◆ Go straight over into the small lane ahead, along the path and through the wood to reach Paradise Lane. Veer slightly to the left when crossing the lane where the path goes over a small stream into the woods, (often obscured by parked farm vehicles).
- ◆ Continue through the hazel coppice through the wooden gate with the cattle sign, and on through a metal gate to go directly across a narrow meadow where you can often see the Long Horn Shetland cattle grazing. At the end of the straight path stretching ahead go through two wooden gates, ignoring the path on the right, and enter into the Moors Meadow.
- ◆ Passing the wooden seat in the middle, head straight on to the corner under the trees where you turn right to follow the meadow edge. Go through two more wooden gates to turn left into another open meadow. Keeping to the right hand side go through this to the next one which is signed Hoe Road Memorial Meadow again keeping towards the right. Just prior to exiting is a wooden bench to enjoy the meadow



- and a half-way break. Go through the gate in the right corner onto the footpath to Swanmore Road.
- ◆ Turning right along the road you will soon see the entrance to West Hoe Cemetery on the other side of the road. A little further along cross over the road into West Hoe Road (approx. one or two minutes). Keep on this road to pass a large house on your left aptly named Meadow View. Here the narrow road becomes more of a winding track, Jervis Court Lane where you will next pass a farmyard and barns on your right.
- ◆ Continue on and after five minutes take the footpath on the left across an arable field. Follow the diagonal path to the field edge turning left for a further one or two minutes before turning right into another arable field with a pleasant countryside view to your right. Reaching the metal wicket gate in the corner go straight ahead along the stock wire fence to two more metal wicket gates. Take the gate through the hedge where you will see a sturdy wooden stile



- ahead of you and a tennis court to your right.
- ◆ Pass over this stile and head for the house in front of you, taking care going over a final stile and two steep steps down on to Park Lane. Go straight across into Vicarage Lane bending round to the right passing Dahlia Cottage and Yew Tree Cottages on your left.
- ◆ At the next junction to Well Lane, pass through the metal wicket gate ahead into a large field, which you go straight across to the footpath running alongside the school and back to the church.

Lin Powell

A circular walk via Holywell, Soberton Mill and Soberton

6.3 miles/10.5km
approx. 3hours

A walk along lanes, Holywell estate road, the Meon Valley Trail and footpaths across fields.

1. Start

- ◆ From the village car park opposite the Paterson Centre, go through the churchyard and across into Chapel Road.
- ◆ Follow it to Hillpound and cross into Mislingford Road. Where the pavement ends, go left into the track and immediately left again onto the permissive footpath around the edge of the field.
- ◆ Follow the yellow footpath signs into an enclosed part of the path until you reach Cott Street. Turn right past Tudor Cottage and, when the hedgerow ends on the right, bear left through a gap in the hedge into a large arable field and follow Cott Street on a permissive bridleway.
- ◆ Just before the end of the path, turn right across Cott Street into the Holywell estate road.

2. Holywell

- ◆ Walk along the estate road to a gate and cattle grid. Go through the side gate on the right and follow the yellow waymarks past the stables and Holywell House to another gate (side gate on the left) at the A32. The sight line left is short, so listen for traffic. Make room on the other side for people behind to get off the road. Follow the path beside the river Meon and cross the bridge to Soberton Mill.

3. Meon Valley Trail (MVT)

- ◆ Walk up the road from Soberton Mill a short distance and turn left onto a track signed footpath. Follow the path through a field gate.
- ◆ The path runs through two fields and woods near the river until it climbs diagonally across a field towards the MVT. Go through a gate and down steps, turning left at the bottom. (Alternatively, there is access to the MVT from a bridge further up the road from Soberton Mill.)
- ◆ Follow the MVT for a mile. The trail goes over the road near St Clair's Farm. Continue until you reach a bridge at West Street, Soberton. Before the bridge, go down the

steps to the river and turn left beside it.

- ◆ Follow the path across the river bridge up to the A32. (Just over half way along the MVT, there are steps down to St Clair's Nature Reserve and a pleasant alternative walk by the river to the river bridge leading to the A32.)

4. Across the fields

- ◆ Cross the A32 and follow the path steeply up to meet Green Lane. Stop to admire the view back across the valley.
- ◆ Continue across a large field until you get to a wood. Turn right away from the wood across the field to another wood. Go through the wood and bear left on a grass path following the line of trees (the side of the former apple orchards).
- ◆ Follow the waymarks through another small wood and across a field to a hedge by Cott Street. Follow the path to the right through a gap in the fence, across an access track and parallel with Cott Street to Tudor Cottage.

5. Back to the village

- ◆ Turn right onto Cott Street and right again into Hill Grove Lane. Cross Droxford Road, up steps and into the orchard (avoid a queue in the road to get up the steps).
- Follow the footpath signs through the orchard, across the fields to Vicarage Lane.
- Turn left into Vicarage Lane and right into Church Road.

David Street



Buglife

Prepare for cabbage white combat

Brassica-growers delight! The “cabbage whites” appear to be having a poor year – so far. There is, however, still time for numbers to take an upward turn, with a second generation and migration from the continent both good possibilities.

Before gearing up for potential “cabbage white” caterpillar combat, know your enemy. Cabbage whites are actually two species – the small white (*Pieris rapae*) and the large white (*Pieris brassicae*). Distinguishing between them is much easier when they are not in flight. Despite their names, one way to tell them apart is not by size, as they both vary considerably, but by the tips of the forewings.

Small whites have a small black smudge, whereas large whites have a more extensive curved, almost right-angled black mark. Even the number of forewing spots is not a reliable guide to telling them apart, as these also vary.

To avoid confusion with other white species in the Swanmore area, the less-frequently seen, and gardener-friendly, green-veined white (*Pieris*

rapae) has wide, soft-green veins, especially on the underside of the hindwing, while the female orange tip (*Anthocharis cardamines*) has obvious green patches in the same place.



Female brimstones (*Gonepteryx rhamni*) should not be confused with “cabbage whites” either – they are greenish-white, have no black markings, and pointed tips to the forewings.

You may be fortunate to find marbled white butterflies (*Melanargia galathea*) in your garden, but these are actually in the “brown” family.

1. Small white.
2. Marbled white.
3. Large white.
4. Female brimstone.
5. Green veined white



In the hedgerows

Plenty of useful plants

At this time of year the hedgerows can take on a distinctly yellow hue. Plenty of ragwort (*Jacobaea vulgaris*), for example – highly toxic to livestock and horses but much loved by butterflies.

There is also lots of common nipplewort (*Lapsana communis*) – an enthusiastic self-seeder and regarded as an invasive weed in some geographies



Nipplewort

It is so called because the closed flower buds were thought to resemble human nipples. Under the “doctrine of signatures” – a belief that God in his wisdom had provided us with clues as the usefulness of any plant – it was therefore once used for breast problems. Foragers may, however, have a feast as the leaves can be used in salads or wilted like spinach. They have a sharp, slightly acidic taste which could certainly enliven a bowl of lettuce.

Occasionally one also sees clumps of St John’s wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) in our hedgerows. This is an important medicinal plant widely prescribed by German medics for mild depression or it can be macerated in oil to create a salve that is anti-inflammatory and also helps wound healing.

The name reputedly comes from the Knights of St John of Jerusalem who used the remedy during the Crusades, although others suggest it has more to do with the flowers first appearing on St John’s Day (24th June) although in this part of the world mid-July seems the earliest time that they will flower. St John’s wort is one of the herbs to be avoided when taking certain types of prescription medicine so – like all medicinal plants – one to be treated with caution and respect.

Then there are the tall lower spikes of agrimony (*Agrimonia eupatorium*) which aptly revelled in the old common name of “church steeples”.

The plant has been used since ancient times to treat various ills. Writing in the 2nd century AD, Dioscorides recommended it for for dysentery. Like its fellow members of the rose family, it is strongly astringent so was also popular to stop bleeding. The Saxons used it as

If you do need to apply pest control, please use netting, caterpillar squashing or biological control methods rather than insecticides, as the latter are likely to harm other insect species, including the cabbage white predators (various wasps and parasites) that you might depend on to get the caterpillars you miss!

Marcus Charig



a wound-herb and by the 15th century it was the prime ingredient of arquebade water – a battlefield remedy for early gunshot wounds.

It is still used today for diarrhoea and is suitably gentle for children and babies – nursing mothers can drink agrimony tea as a means of dosing their babies via breast milk.

Agrimony



Meon Valley Bowls

Encouraging newcomers

"I thoroughly enjoyed my afternoon's bowling with you; it was very instructional, well-organised and good fun". So reads one of the many testimonials we received following our Open day on Saturday 29th May 2021.

It was indeed a fantastic day during which we received 34 visitors who were keen to have a go at bowls. Due to covid-19 restrictions it was necessary for us to maintain a high level of cleanliness throughout our whole site to ensure that we provided a safe environment for everyone to enjoy their time with us.

Our bowling green looked magnificent and the glorious sunshine provided a wonderful setting for us to present all the attributes that playing bowls and being a member of our proactive and friendly bowling club affords.

Having tried their hand at bowling on the green our visitors were shown round our pavilion and given a short guide to the various activities that they might enjoy should they choose to become members.

In addition 30 of the participants signed up for our successful Beginners Course. As a result we've run several of the courses since then.

Our coaches have introduced three new sets of woods purchased with a generous grant from Winchester City Council. We understand that we are one of a few clubs in the UK that possess the new small size woods introduced last year and have been designed for bowlers with smaller hands. These proved to be very popular and are a useful addition to our coaching

Above right: Coaches show off their new woods.
Right: Lesson one "This is how you hold a wood".

resources. With the relaxation of some of the pandemic restrictions it is pleasing to report that both the Southampton and District Men's and Ladies Bowling Association's leagues are now being contested enabling our teams to visit other clubs in our area and allowing us to host both league and friendly matches.

Results to date have been mixed but with only a few games played we can be encouraged by our teams' performances even though perhaps after a year without competitive games there is bound to be room for improvement.

To discover more about our club's activities please visit our website which has a new address <https://meonvalleybowlingclub.chessck.co.uk/>

John Gray

Publicity Correspondent



From our district councillors

Focussing on the environment

Who would have thought back in March 2020 that the covid-19 pandemic would still be impacting our lives in July 2021?

The news of 19th July was welcome to us all but nonetheless we still have “personal responsibility” to take care. Face coverings, while not (as we write) compulsory, they are still, we would suggest, a wise precaution when going into a crowded environment. Personally, I suspect that covid-19 will be with us for quite some time – like flu!

We have had the local elections 2021 with no change within the City Council. Cllr Lucille Thompson is the Leader of Council, with Cllr Viv Atwell as the 822nd Mayor of Winchester. Further details may be found on the City Council website at www.winchester.gov.uk.

Persimmon Homes

You may have heard that the Persimmon Homes development, opposite the College, on New Road was given permission to go ahead. It may be the new year before we see any action on that site. Before then there is a the requirement that no parking (double yellow lines) will be extended in the vicinity of the development along New Road and there will also be an additional uncontrolled crossing point outside the College.

July illustrated well what can happen when there is “uncontrolled parking” along New Road. Chaos was the mildest comment that we heard! Event organisers generally provide parking, on-site; the new housing development will also have its own parking.

Coping with climate change

The Health and Environment Committee received an update on the Council’s Climate Emergency actions. This report is on the Council website, but the key points included:

- The continuation of the “upgrade” to Council buildings e.g. the Guildhall.
- The fact that the new Winchester

Sport and Leisure Centre is a much more energy efficient building (with its solar panels on the roof etc) than the old River Park Leisure Centre.

- More effort is being spent on landscaping, not just the 800 trees on Council land, but also on development sites.
- Council homes are gradually being retrofitted with extra insulation, double glazing and draught proofing. This work started several years ago, but a further £1.5 million is budgeted for this work.
- A new “Green” Energy Contract has been signed by the City Council. Some of this involves Carbon Offsetting.
- Attempts are being made to reduce the amount of nitrate/ phosphate that is leached out of the soil. When this gets into the streams, rivers, and the Solent it encourages the growth of river and sea plants. Natural England has laid down a requirement that nitrates from people’s home should also be “captured” before it gets into the sea., You will have heard, or read that Southern Water has received a huge fine for allowing nitrate/phosphate rich sewerage to go into the sea.
- The City Council is also investing in recreating “wetlands” along some of our rivers e.g. the Dever, and the Meon. This permits rivers to use the “flood plains” once again.

Combatting pollution...

It must be noted by those who still burn waste products in the garden that there is emerging legislation that might include fines for the “guilty”. These “bonfires” produce dangerous fine particulates (PM2.5 and PM10) that are now increasingly deemed to be a “contributory factor” in making chest complaints worse. The first part of that came on 1st May 2021. The emerging Environment Bill has a whole section on climate change and air quality legislation.

...and managing waste

The Council has introduced a 100% brown bin discount for those on Universal Credit. The “battle against fly tipping” continues as does the “zero tolerant” attitude adopted by both the WCC and HCC; the Council has also introduced CCTV cameras in the countryside to combat fly-tipping.

While the move to e-vehicles is on-going, but slowly – only 10.7% of vehicles sold in 2020 were some form of e-vehicle (either hybrid or battery) – the move out of diesel cars continues. Unfortunately, this move is often towards larger petrol fuelled vehicle, which produce both carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide via their exhausts which are both global warming gases. We have also seen a huge increase in delivery vans. All also produce PM2.5 and PM10s from the tyres and brakes.

Note another application for a “solar farm” to the south of the Botley Road, and no news yet about the Sand Quarry on the B2177 south of the Chase.

Our district councillors:

- ◆ Linda Gemmell 01489 895023 – lgdemmell@winchester.gov.uk;
- ◆ Frank Pearson 01489 892822 – fpearson@winchester.gov.uk;
- ◆ Vicki Weston 01329 835161 – vweston@winchester.gov.uk



100% discounts on brown garden waste bins are available for those on Universal Credit.

Waltham Chase Flower Club

Starting again in September

At long last we can look forward to some positive news regarding the Flower Club meetings. Unless we have different news from the government, we can plan for meetings from September onwards.

We hope the planned demonstrators are still willing to come. This still has to be checked but at present we have a demonstrator for our September meeting on September 22nd. We are planning a DIY meeting on October 27th when we ask all our members to have a go at doing an arrangement suitable for Autumn.

Don't worry if your arrangements are not up to demonstrator standard. All we ask is that you "have a go" to arrange flowers to your satisfaction with size up to 24 square inches

(Your Leader still works in feet and inches!)

In November we are planning our big pre-Christmas meeting on the 24th. More about that later but book the date. For December we are having the members' AGM (later than usual) followed by a pre-Christmas party. Again, more about that nearer the time. As before, the meetings are at Waltham Chase Village Hall, starting at 2.15 pm.

In the meantime, many thanks to those who have offered to help with moving chairs and tables around, also help with the refreshments. These offers are much appreciated.
Jill Sutton (Leader)



Bishop's Waltham Museum Focussing on maps and conservation

Bishop's Waltham Museum has an exhibition of maps running until October. Displays include several where you can find Swanmore (or Swanmere). The museum is located within the Palace Grounds and is open at weekends from 12 noon to 5pm, Entry is free.

The museum will also be open on Friday, 6th August when English Heritage is running "Conservation in

Swanmore and surrounding areas from John Norden's map of Hampshire in 1607. From: <https://oldhampshiremapped.org.uk/>

Action!" at the Palace when there will be a chance to meet the team repairing the walls and watch the stone masons at work with additional displays and hands-on activities such as wood carving and masonry, and even an opportunity for a scaffolding tour.

Members of U3A plan to meet at around 3pm at the site in that day for a get together. "We thought if members brought their own picnic and a chair we could all gather together for a natter and hopefully a slice of 're-convening' cake." says

U3A vice-chair, Jan Ernest. "It is all free and all we have to do is hope for a nice day. I think we deserve that after the restrictions we've had to cope with over the last 18 months."



Bishop's Waltham WI Come and join us!

Sadly, Swanmore doesn't have a WI any more so why not come along to the Bishop's Waltham branch? We meet on the third Tuesday of the month, at 7.30pm in St Peter's Church Hall in Free Street, next to the library. There is plenty of free parking.

If you are new to the area, would like a new interest, or perhaps have always wondered what belonging to the WI means, why not give it a try? You have nothing to lose and lots to gain. We normally have trips, picnics etc and we have some excellent speakers.

Hopefully, by the time this magazine is printed and collected, we can meet back in the hall. Over the last year we have still been meeting every month, but on Zoom. Who knew we were all so clever!

At our August meeting on the 17th, we will be having a talk on auctioneering and our September meeting on the 21st, we will be having a talk on Mercy Ships, which do outstanding work saving lives.

We are collecting items for the Women's Refuge in Fareham. These women are the victims of domestic abuse and unfortunately, their numbers have risen during the last 18 months during the pandemic. They often have nowhere else to go and therefore, need some basic items such as non-perishable food (packets and tins), toiletries etc. If you feel you have anything to donate, then please get in touch with me on the number below.

If Covid restrictions are back in place, we will revert to our Zoom meetings.

Why not come along and make some new friends? You can always just come to check us out and see what fun we have?

*Allison Gurry, President
01489 895188*

Bishop's Waltham Photographic Society

Challenges, competitions and photographic art

The varied and excellent programme of speakers that have been booked for BWPS this year continued in July with the photographic art of Steven Le Prevost (www.stevenleprevost.com) with a talk entitled "A feeling of Impressionism"

Steve is an internationally acclaimed photographic artist who specialises in creating artworks that portray mood, atmosphere and emotion. His interest in photography and composition started with a holiday to Lanzarote (of all places!) where he realised that he would get excited by creating a pleasing composition by working out what elements to include or exclude in an image. He went on to enrol at night school and learnt how to add texture to an image in the darkroom and how to make a soft focus image by changing focus mid-exposure. These became the basis for what he does today – albeit digitally with hand-made textures and Photoshop.

He consciously tries to break the rules with characters going out of the frame and softening edges of subjects that will have been sharp on taking - even using the warp tool to "bend" the roof of buildings or the lay of a

landscape. His aim when creating a picture is to blur the edges of photography, remove clinical sharpness and create mood and atmosphere. A different but thoroughly enjoyable evening showing how art and photography can come together to



From the "Photograph a subject that's only partly in the frame" challenge are (below left) "Imogen's best side" by Michael White and (above) "Part time" by John Coote.

produce stunning creations.

Photographic Challenges are still keeping members occupied with the recent topics including "Photograph a subject that's only partly in the frame" and "Green". "Partly in the frame" attracted a wide range of interpretations from portraits, abstract and creative images to amusing studies of pets and other animals. "Green" also brought many varied subjects such as abstract leaves of different sorts, still-life creations and a snake plus – a green version of St Peters' chancel door.

Our next members' next challenge was "Make a Symmetrical Image using Reflections". The 3rd round in the Competition year takes place in August and planning begins for the Society's Annual Exhibition on 14th to 16th October.

The annual Junior Photographic Competition will be taking place too. There are two age categories: up to 11 years old and 12 –16 years old on 25th September 2021 – which is the closing date for the competition. To enter send one digital image of any subject to: competition@bishopswalthamphotosociety.co.uk

The email should give the entrant's name and age, title of the image, as well as contact details of a parent or guardian. The winners will be announced in October and will be displayed locally.

For more information about the society please visit www.bishopswalthamphotosociety.co.uk

Dawn Blight



Meon Valley Lions

Preparing for the barbecue

Sadly due to covid restrictions we decided not to hold the annual village fete in Swanmore but plans are full steam ahead for a "BBQ in the Park" on Saturday 11th September at Swanmore Recreation Ground from 12noon to 3pm

We are working out what we can and can't do so please look for updates on our website or social media.

The plan so far is to serve our usual burgers and sausages, we've asked one of the local pubs to run a bar and we'll play you some music.

We're also looking at what is possible as far as children's entertainment is concerned but this will depend on the restrictions in force at the time.

If you, or someone you know, needs help please get in touch on 07443 753780 or go to our website www.meonvalleylionsclub.org.uk

Carole Dash



Heating oil

Support for tank maintenance

The Environment Agency, Portsmouth Water and OFTEC are encouraging people in parts of Hampshire and West Sussex to check and replace failing domestic heating oil tanks.

As an incentive, Portsmouth Water is offering a free inspection and 50% grant towards a replacement tank.

Dawn O'Neill, Environment Agency Groundwater Technical Specialist, is part of the campaign: "Oil pollution is one of the most common incidents I deal with. Over the last three years the EA recorded 395 pollution incidents in England caused by leaking or spilt heating oil from people's homes. These can have a major impact on our rivers and streams, harming fish, birds and aquatic life.

"Heating oil leaks can be expensive for householders – who are often not covered by their insurance. If the oil enters the ground or a local river, stream or lake, clean-up costs are regularly more than £20,000. If groundwater or drinking water is affected, these costs can quickly escalate to six figures, and involve some of their property being dug up to find and remove the oil before it causes too much pollution".

All this is much more likely to happen if your tank is more than 20 years old, in poor condition, "single skinned", or has deteriorating pipework.

Three easy steps to protect your heating oil and home:

1. Find out if your tank and pipes are safe at www.oilcare.org.uk or watch <https://youtu.be/igk6JbKbV3M>.
2. Check your tank regularly and every time before you place an order to make sure it isn't damaged or leaking, and get a competent person to check it annually, preferably at the same time as your annual boiler www.oftec.org.uk/Consumers/FindTechnician.
3. Check your home insurance. Ask your insurer what cover you actually have for cleaning up an oil spill or leak. You need to be covered for a "gradual environmental spill" not just "sudden, accidental loss". Search for an insurance policy that covers you properly if your insurer doesn't. Find out more about the local grant

scheme, including a downloadable leaflet, at www.portsmouthwater.co.uk/about-us/water-quality/heating-oil/.

Contact Portsmouth Water to find out if you are eligible: E-mail catchment.management@portsmouthwater.co.uk or call 07872 108992

Always report an oil spill or leak to the Environment Agency's 24-hour emergency hotline on 0800 80 70 60

Dr Kristina J Smith

Defra Operational and Local Communications



Environment Agency officer using oil absorbents to clear a spill in a river. (Source: Environment Agency)

U3A

Meetings start again

Plans are going ahead to restart our twice monthly meetings at the Wickham Centre in September, the first being on the 7th, with the AGM on the 28th.

Memberships will recommence from September and renewal forms and Committee proposal forms will be sent out later in the summer. New members are always welcome.

Several Committee members have served for many years and so we would welcome new proposals for the Committee. Brian is always looking for speakers, so if you have heard a good one or can offer a talk please let us know.

General enquiries to: Betty Hiscock, Secretary 01489 894807, email: mvu3asec@yahoo.com, website: u3asites.org.uk/meon-valley



Go LD

Tea-time bridge

Winchester Go LD – which helps young adults with learning difficulties – was delighted with the response to its Garden and Craft Fair on 23rd June which attracted some 500 people and we made more than £10,000. It was a splendid result and a significant addition to the charity's funding .

Our next fund-raising event is a Bridge Tea on Wednesday 29th September. This is always a popular event – partly because of the scrumptious tea we provide!

It will be held at The Manor House, Preshaw, Southampton SO24 0PF from 2pm to 5pm so do come and join us for a friendly competition

To book a table (£80 per table), or to make a donation, please contact: Jo Tyler, telephone 01962 736490, 07747607539 or email: johanna.tyler@btinternet.com

Elisabeth Colquhoun

Age Concern Hampshire

Claiming Attendance Allowance

Attendance Allowance helps with extra costs if you have a disability severe enough, that you need someone to help look after you. You do not need to have someone caring for you already in order to claim.

You could be eligible if you...

- ◆Have reached State Pension age.
- ◆Have a physical disability, mental disability or both.
- ◆Need help with personal care, such as getting washed, or someone to supervise you, for your own or somebody else's safety.
- ◆Have needed this help for at least six months (unless diagnosed with a terminal illness, in which case, you can claim straight away)

There are two different rates (rates for April 2021–March 2022):

- ◆£60.00 per week if you need help in the day or night
- ◆£89.60 per week if you need help in the day and at night

It is not means tested, it is tax

free and it won't reduce any other income received.

It may entitle you to, or increase, other benefits such as Pension Credit, Housing Benefit or Council Tax support.

You are not obliged to spend the benefit on a carer or other care. You may wish to spend the money on other services that assist you in day-to-day living.

To obtain a claim form, contact the Attendance Allowance helpline on: 0800 731 0122 or text to: 0800 731 0317. You can find out more: www.gov.uk/attendance-allowance

If you need any help in applying then Lorna, your local volunteer for Age Concern Hampshire can check if you are likely to be eligible and help you complete the form – over the phone or during a home visit, if needed. Call 07790 845944 or email info@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk

Lorna Neill

Waltham Chase Methodists R-Men Repair Café

Waltham Chase Methodists are opening a Repair Café called "R-Men" to recycle and repair portable domestic equipment – so bring along that broken item.

They plan to open the first Saturday morning in the month from 10 am–12 noon starting Saturday 4th September at Waltham Chase Methodist Church.

Volunteers of all ages are welcome to help or just go along for coffee and chat with the guys.

They aim to reduce waste, cut carbon and help with climate change. And it really helps people to understand their equipment better.

For further details contact R-Men at admin@r-men.org.uk. There is a website www.r-men.org.uk and facebook page: www.facebook.com/R-Men-108934084118752

The R-Men Repair Café is supported by Hampshire County Council.

Dennis Gamblin

BW Oral History Group

Helping to record our living history

Do you have elderly neighbours with childhood stories of the Second World War? Did you or your parents rock around the clock in the '50s or become flower children of the '60s? Were you an incomer to Swanmore in the '70s?

We would like to talk to people who remember everyday life in any of the local villages, particularly anyone with Second World War stories not so far recorded. For example, the Auxiliary Home Guard was active in this area, so if your family members were recruited, we would be most interested to record what you know.

Our group of experienced oral history interviewers volunteered for several years at Bishop's Waltham Museum. Our passion is to record personal stories of local life, which together make up a community memory, to be preserved for the future.

We are now working to benefit all our neighbouring villages and small

settlements by gathering information from a wider area. We will be working alongside the Swanmore Society, Botley and Wickham History Societies and our old friends at Bishop's Waltham Museum and Hampshire Record Office to produce and share our unique local heritage.

As well as finding participants, we could also do with more help from volunteers in several ways.

All our recordings are typed up into a transcript ready for analysis. This takes about 20 hours per interview, but for competent typists interested in local history, it is an engrossing and rewarding task, flexible enough to fit round other home commitments and working at your own pace.

We are also happy to welcome new

interviewers, sound technicians, editors and researchers.

We'd love to hear from you. Email trish.simpson-davis@outlook.com. Tel 01489 893261.

Trish Simpson-Davis

St Barnabas Sunday School outing to Bognor, August 1948 with Revd McCaig... Do you remember it? From "Swanmore in Pictures 1870-1970 Revisited".



West Meon Music Festival Lottery grant funds free concerts

Thanks to generous funding from the National Lottery Community Fund, this year's West Meon Music Festival will be running a free "Music for All" programme alongside a series of festival events.

"Music for All" will include a family concert, late night programme, master classes for young local musicians and local band – "Rehab Blues" – at the Thomas Lord pub.

Extending the free events across the Meon Valley will be a recital by 2018 BBC Young Musician of the Year finalist, cellist Maxim Calver at Warnford's Church of our Lady. Two "virtual" concerts complete the Lottery-funded programme: these feature both the Primrose Piano Quartet and Roman Kosyakov, winner of the Hastings International Piano Competition. They will be recorded on the eve of the festival and be available to all after the event.

"The Lottery's Community Fund aims to support communities that have been affected by covid-19," says Susanne Stanzeleit, the Primrose's violinist, "They were especially enthusiastic about our planned family concert, which may introduce children to the world of classical music for the first time, while our masterclasses will support the fund's aim of helping our young musicians achieve their potential."

Details of all festival events can be found at www.westmeonmusic.co.uk.



Maxim Calver at the "BBC Young Musician" finals in 2018.

Dates for your diaries

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Now until October | 12noon to 5pm at weekends, map exhibition at Bishop's Waltham Museum. |
| 2nd–6th August | 10.30am to 12.30pm Bishop's Waltham. Community Swimming Pool opening. |
| 5th–8th August | Wickham Festival. |
| 6th August | 11am to 4pm English Heritage Conservation in Action Day, Bishop's Waltham Palace. |
| 12th August | Swanmore College results day. |
| 14th August | 9.45am Conservation Group work party. |
| 17th August | 2.30pm Mothers' Union tea, Swanmore. |
| 17th August | 7.30pm St Peter's Hall, Bishop's Waltham WI restarts, talk on auctioneering. |
| 21st August | 10am to 1pm Barnaby's Classic Cars, village centre car park. |
| 21st–30th August | 10am to 5pm Swanmore Studio openings (p.11). |
| 27th–30th August | 10am to 5pm Paterson Centre, Wessex Guild of Craftsmen. |
| 28th August | 12noon to 4pm "Give and Take", St George's Square Bishop's Waltham. |
| 4th September | 10am to 12noon R-men Repair Café, Waltham Chase Methodist Church. |
| 7th September | U3A Meon Valley restarts, Wickham Centre. |
| 8th September | 8pm Swanmore Society restarts, Methodist Church Hall – talk on Adml Sir George Anson. |
| 9th–12th September | West Meon Chamber Music Festival, West Meon, East Meon and Warnford churches. |
| 10th–12th September | Art Project Celebrating our Village Heroes Exhibition, Paterson Centre. |
| 11th September | 9.45am Conservation Group work party |
| 11th September | 12noon to 3pm Meon Valley Lions "BBQ in the Park", Swanmore Recreation Ground. |
| 12th September | 10am Paterson Centre Sunday Club restarts. |
| 21st September | 2.30pm Mothers' Union, Paterson Centre |
| 21st September | 7.30pm St Peter's Hall, Bishop's Waltham WI talk on mercy Ships |
| 22nd September | 2.15pm Waltham Chase Flower Club restarts. Waltham Chase Village Hall. |
| 23rd September | 2-4pm Art Group, Paterson Centre restarts |
| 25th September | 12noon to 4pm "Give and Take, St George's Square Bishop's Waltham - Arts & Crafts |
| 25th September | Closing date BW Photographic Society Junior Competition |
| 25th September | 7pm to 10pm Paterson Centre – Reopening Quiz |
| 28th September | U3A Meon Valley AGM, Wickham Centre |
| 29th September | 2pm-5pm Tea-Time Bridge in aid of Go LD, Preshaw House. |
| 3rd October | 4pm tea, 5pm service – Harvest Praise, St Barnabas and Paterson Centre. |

Diary Dates

Please send any diary dates for the October/November issue of the magazine by Wednesday 8th September to Allison Gurry at: allisongurry@btinternet.com

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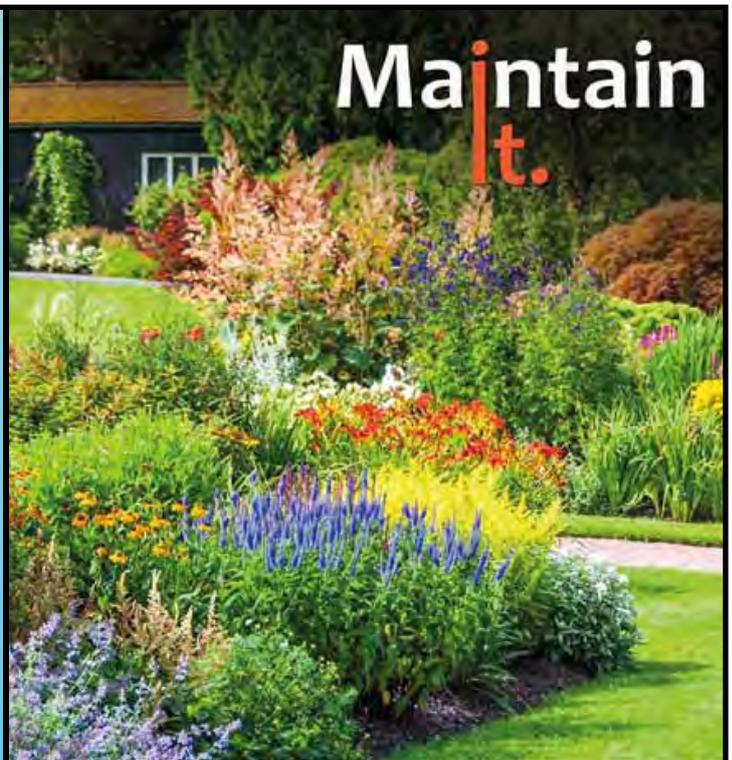
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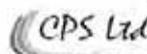
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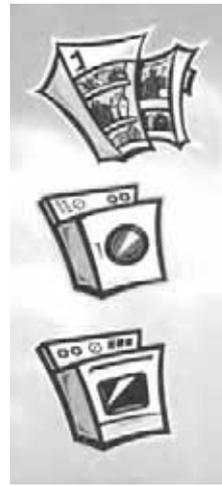
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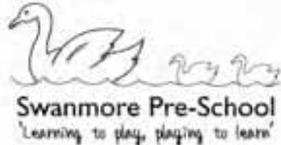
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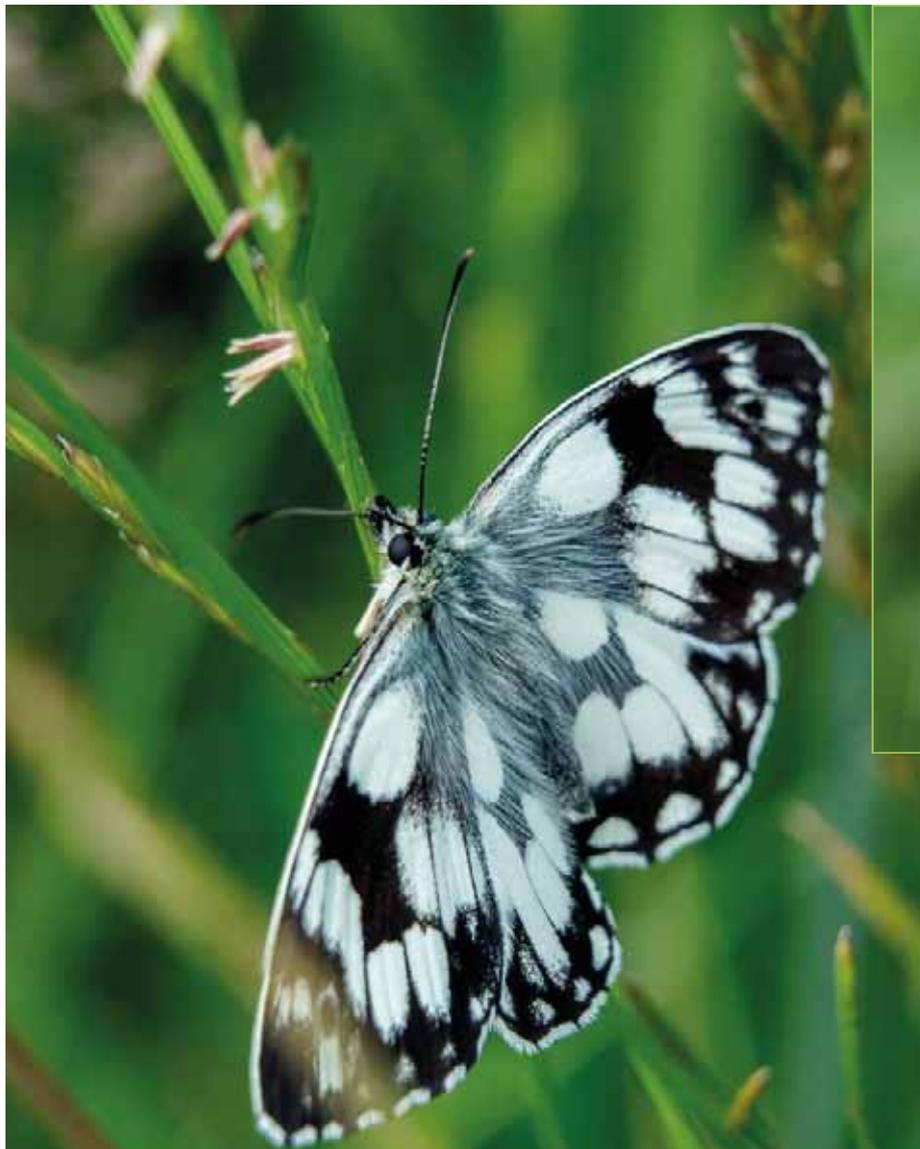
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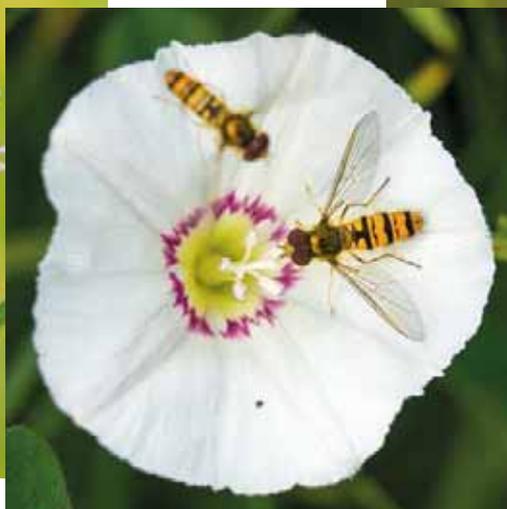
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