

October/November 2022

The **Swanmore** *Link*



**A time of Remembrance
Proclaiming King Charles III
Flourishing allotments
Football in Swanmore**

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**Deadline for the December/January issue is
Wednesday 9th November 2022.**

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The Swanmore Link

The Swanmore Link – which is free of charge to all residents – can be collected from The Link (between the church and the Paterson Centre) whenever it is open – generally between 9am and 5pm each day.

You are welcome to take additional copies for new neighbours or any in the village you know who may have difficulty collecting copies themselves.

Please do not deliver copies on a random basis to houses in your street unless specifically asked to do so. Several people have complained about having a second copy thrust through their letter boxes when they have already collected the magazine. Others may have no interest in receiving it.

If you are housebound or disabled and unable to collect your magazine then please contact Sue de Vere who can arrange delivery.

The magazine can also be posted to you at a cost of £10 a year to cover postage.

Alternatively, the magazine is available to read online at the St Barnabas website (<https://stbarnabas.org.uk/information-hub>). Please contact Gail Norris at the Parish Office (office@stbarnabas.org.uk) if you would like to be alerted by email when the online version is available.



**This year Remembrance Sunday is on
November 13th**

God save the King! Long live the King!

We all guessed it wouldn't be long before we were saying those words but, nevertheless, the death of Queen Elizabeth came as something of a shock. Only 48 hours earlier, she'd been shaking hands with the new Prime Minister so the news that her health was "giving grave cause for concern" was unexpected. We will all remember exactly where we were on 8th September as the events unfolded.

Nick and I were (and still are, at the time of writing) on holiday in a gite in Normandy. We turned the TV on expecting to find little more than *Midsomer Murders* in French (not to be recommended) but found instead a full menu of BBC programmes and the familiar face of Huw Edwards. His voice, black tie and commentary on the arrival of various members of the royal family at Balmoral left nothing to the imagination.

By the time this goes to print, we will all have experienced ten days of mourning, tracked the Queen's journey south and watched the state funeral. Some of you may even have been to London in person to pay your respects or stand shoulder to shoulder with others. There is little to say about the late Queen that has not been said by so many others in public and private. Her life of service, her sense of humour, her observant attention to detail and her commitment to her people



December/January magazine distribution

The Parochial Church Council has decided to deliver the December/January edition of *The Swanmore Link* to all households in the parish, along with its Christmas Card. You will not need to collect your copy of the magazine for this issue only. If the magazine is usually delivered or posted you will receive it as usual.

St Barnabas Ministry Team

and her family – all this is well rehearsed.

The strength of her Christian belief comes across continually. It's not a polite, dutiful nod to the institution but a personal and real faith which has sustained her throughout her life.



Our new King has spoken already of his faith, his commitment to the Church of England and his prayer that Almighty God will support and help him as he takes on the mantle of authority. That's really struck me these last couple of days: even the most privileged, rich and powerful people recognise their insignificance and powerlessness in the face of the divine being.

What's also noticeable is the way in which a death brings people together. In the Carteret tourist office, the adviser offered his condolences. "She was our Queen, too" he said. Really? Even after Brexit? Several flags (and the French do like their flags) were flying at half-mast on buildings, boats and memorials. Members of the royal family who have not been the best of friends during recent months have come together, reaching out – perhaps realising that life is too short to bear grudges.

So, what about you, then? Is this the time to think about allowing God to sustain you? The time to build bridges with friends and family you haven't seen for a while? The end of a reign and the beginning of a new one might act as a catalyst to all of us to take stock as, together, we cry "God save the King! Long live the King!"

Hazel Whitehead

- ◆ Thanks are due to all those who played their part in the days following the death of the Queen: bell ringers, flag flyers, the Parish Council, Jill Phipps who set up the book of condolence and approved photos in the church... to name but a few.

We encourage everybody to continue to pray for the people of Ukraine, for those who have power to work for peace, for those made homeless in the conflict and for all those who are suffering and living in fear.



Services in October and November

Sunday 2nd October

Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion.

10am Harvest All Age Communion

Sunday 9th October

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

No 8am

10am Bishop Ian Brackley comes to preach and preside at Holy Communion. Sunday Club meets.

Saturday 15th October

Wedding of Hannah Clarkson and Adam Shone



Sunday 16th October

Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

8am Holy Communion.

10am Café Church

Sunday 23rd October

Last Sunday after Trinity

No 8am

10am Canon Angela Tilby comes to preach and preside at Holy Communion.

Sunday Club meets

Saturday 29th October

4pm–6pm Light Party for children aged from three to ten years old.

Sunday 30th October

All Saints Day

8am Holy Communion

10am Holy Communion

5pm Annual Memorial Service of Thanksgiving. Tea is served at 4pm before the service.

Sunday 6th November

Third Sunday before Advent

No 8am

10am Holy Communion

Sunday 13th November

Second Sunday before Advent and Remembrance Sunday

8am Holy Communion

10am service of Remembrance in church and at 10.50am by the War Memorial.

Sunday 20th November

Christ the King

8am Holy Communion

10 am Café Church

Sunday 27th November

Advent Sunday

No 8am

10am Holy Communion

Sunday 4th December

First Sunday of Advent

No 8am

10am Holy Communion

Sunday 11th December

Second Sunday of Advent

8am Holy Communion

10am Holy Communion. Canon Peter Hall, diocesan director of vocations and ordinands, will preside and preach about vocation i.e. whether God is calling you to a new kind of ministry.



St Barnabas Christmas saxophones

The BLOW Saxophone Ensemble will be back on Friday 9th December at St Barnabas to get the Christmas festivities off to a flying start and this year, unlike last, you won't be asked to mask up and take all those dreary covid precautions.

Other arrangements will be much as before: doors open at 7pm, concert starts at 7:45pm, tea and coffee will be available in the interval and the bar (beer, wine and soft drinks) will be open throughout; drinks can be taken into the church during the concert.

In the first half the music will merely nod to Christmas but the second half

will be full-on Christmas and you will be invited to sing along with the band.

Tickets £10 (under 16s free) go on sale in November at Barnaby's and the Paterson Centre after 10am services on Sundays. They will also

be available online from Eventbrite.

For earlier reservations contact jsharpe2016@hotmail.com or 01489 892750.

John Sharpe

Below: BLOW Saxophones in 2021 –





Barnaby's Still time – just – to join the “biggest coffee morning”

More than £10million has been raised through “The World’s Biggest Coffee Morning” over the years, all in support of Macmillan’s drive to raise vital funds for people living with cancer.

Barnaby’s Coffee Shop is delighted that we’ll be getting involved again in 2022, on Friday 30th September.

Doors will open at 9am, so pop in for coffee and a slice of home-made cake after you’ve dropped the children off at school, after your morning run, or after you’ve walked the dog, or during your bike ride, or whenever you like. Bring a friend, bring someone you have not chatted to for a while, or just come on your own. We don’t mind, and it all helps.

You can donate to Macmillan now

at thyg.uk/BUS007479915, you can give cash on the day, or you can use our quick “Tap n’Go” payment facility. Everything we raise will go straight to Macmillan.

If you fancy baking a cake for “The World’s Biggest Coffee Morning” then please drop off your creation at Barnaby’s between 4pm and 5pm on Thursday 29th September.

Last year, the cakes you made at home helped Barnaby’s towards a donation total of more than £400 to the charity, so this is a great way to get involved.

◆ Last of this year’s “Classic Cars at Barnaby’s” will be held on 22nd October.

Alastair Walton

St Barnabas events

◆ Harvest All Age Communion

service 2nd October at 10am. We will be collecting tinned and dried goods and cereals which we will be taking to the Meon Valley foodbank which covers a wide area.

◆ Annual Memorial and

Thanksgiving service on Sunday 30th October. Tea at 4pm followed by the service at 5pm. If you would like a name read out, please email office@stbarnabas.org.uk or put a note in the box in the Link.

◆ Remembrance Day 13th November.

Service in church at 10am and

around the war memorial at 10.50. All welcome.

From the registers

Baptisms

7th August – Harry Stephen Rodney and Oliver Ronald Hobbs

21st August – Reuben James Simpson-Riggs and Arthur Harry Briney

18th September – Amelia Anne and Benjamin Robin Goldsmith

Weddings

16th September – Nicola Grove and William Wood

St Barnabas Sunday Club

Sunday Club is for ages three and over (crèche facilities are available for children under three years) and meets at 10am in the Paterson Centre unless stated otherwise. The club now includes SC7+ for our young people in year 7 and above. Come and enjoy stories, songs, craft, games and prayer and discover the truth through discussion, hot chocolate and cookies.

Dates for Sunday Club and the 3rd@10 – Café Church, our new style of service for the whole family with bacon rolls and croissants on arrival are:

2nd October – Harvest – All Age Communion

9th October – Sunday Club and Youth Alpha

16th October – The 3rd@10 – Café Church

23rd October – Sunday Club and Youth Alpha

Saturday 29th October – 4pm–6pm.

The Light Party for children aged three to ten years. Games,

Singing, Craft, Music & Food (hot tea provided).

Come in fancy dress as your favourite TV or film character. Entry is free but numbers are limited so you need to reserve

your tickets by emailing office@stbarnabas.org.uk

30th October – No Sunday Club or Youth Alpha

6th November – No Sunday Club or Youth Alpha

13th November – Service of Remembrance. Sunday Club will meet for craft before joining the congregation at 10.50am at the War Memorial.

20th November – The 3rd@10 – Café Church

27th November – Sunday Club and Youth Alpha



Ben Armstrong

Swanmore Methodist Church

Chapel Road, Swanmore, SO32 2QB



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

Loving God

Loving our community

Making disciples for Jesus

Sunday Services October and November All services will commence at 10.30am

October

2nd Jordan Cousins
9th Mark Chester
16th Gill Bailey
23rd Tom and Rosie Banks – Holy Communion
30th Peter Castle

November

6th Richard Cole
13th Kathy Elvy and Jill Letts – Remembrance Sunday
20th Ron Morgan – Safeguarding Sunday
27th Revd Phil Griffin – Holy Communion – Advent Sunday

There will be a warm welcome for all who wish to join us for these services and please stay for tea and coffee afterwards.

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; or visit our website.

Thursday Fellowship

We hold a Fellowship meeting every Thursday 2.30pm–3.30pm – an opportunity to meet with fellow Christians for prayer, Bible reading and discussion. At the time of writing the format is being finalised.

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

TLC (Tuesday Ladies Club)

11th October at 7.30pm
Trinity Winchester – Work amongst the homeless



8th November at 7.30pm
Quiz night and pack rucksacks for the homeless
All ladies welcome – non-members £3 per meeting

Coffee, Craft & Company

Weekly on Tuesday at 10am–12 noon
Enjoy company, coffee, tea and biscuits/craft, if you would like to bring knitting /sewing etc. or just come along for a chat we will be pleased to see you.

Men's Group

The Men's Group re-started in September Thursday 20th October at 7.30pm
Marcus Charig will be talking on Bugs and other local wildlife.
Thursday 17th November at 7.30pm
Dr John McGrath who will be speaking on "Images of Ukraine".
All are welcome and there will be light refreshments.
For further details contact Martin Letts on 01489 896182.

Looking for somewhere to hold an event?

Our premises are now available for hire please visit the 'Use our venue' page on the church website for details

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



Trust and truth

We are constantly asked to trust people and things. But it is much easier to place that trust in some things than others. A frequent comment about politicians is that many of them do not seem to be trustworthy. Friends, assistance animals and pets might be most readily trusted; then family, then acquaintances and finally strangers. So what makes somebody trustworthy? It seems to me that a large part is that a person does what they promise. That is to say, their trust is found to be rooted in truth.

Having got in late with this article, I have the dubious privilege of writing this on the evening of the death of Queen Elizabeth II. What was going to be a light-hearted reflection feels like it ought to have much more weight about it now. I think that when people reflect on her life over the coming weeks, months and years, the repeating refrain will surface that she was deeply faithful. She was utterly faithful to Prince Philip, to the nation and Commonwealth, and to her God. Her trust in God remained resolute through all the many trials that she faced throughout her long life and reign. She was committed to her role as Defender of the Faith, believing in the truth of the Christianity she tirelessly professed. Her enduring legacy will be as the self-professed "Servant Queen".

Allow me to move briefly from the sublime to the ridiculous. Towards the end of the summer, my family took possession of two gorgeous balls of fluff named Cookie and Donut. Cookie and Donut are very nimble rabbits. It was something of a rude awakening to us

when they didn't want to have cuddles and strokes at first – in fact it was as much as we could do to have a cautious sniff from them. Over the weeks since, they have become more willing to have some fuss and cuddles. But what, you may (justifiably) ask, is the connection between our former monarch and my new furry friends? Well, while it's a fact that we would never do anything to hurt these new bunnies – indeed, they have quickly carved out a large place in our hearts – as far as they were concerned, we may well have still turned out to be big, hairless death-monsters. In other words, the truth wasn't backed up by trust. And here we have it: truth and trust.



For Christians, the two elements of truth and trust come together in the person of Jesus. He claimed to not only *have* the truth, but to *be* the truth, and his followers are called to trust Him. We are told in the pages of the Bible that God is endlessly faithful towards those who put their trust in Him. This could be lampooned as a call to the ignorant to believe a fairy tale. But for the faithful, there is ample evidence to believe in. Naturally, we all think that what we believe is true. Like Cookie and Donut, we need to test our beliefs to see if they are rooted in truth – if they are trustworthy. Like Queen Elizabeth, we need to cling relentlessly to what is true as we navigate the calms and storms of life. I hope that you find the joy and peace that comes with finding that your trust is grounded in truth, well-placed and life-enhancing.

Revd Phil Griffin, Minister

Will you be a bit lonely on Christmas Day?

Or do you know someone in Swanmore who may be?

Come and join us for a traditional Christmas Lunch with all the trimmings at Swanmore Methodist Church Hall. We will warmly welcome anyone from Swanmore and surrounding areas who may be on their own at Christmas, together with carers and those who they care for.

If you or someone you know in the area might like to join us, please complete and cut out the form and call Kathleen (01489 896366) to have it collected or for further information. We are also happy to organise transport if you need it.

Please let us know before Saturday 26th November – thank you.

I would like to come to the Christmas Lunch at Swanmore Methodist Hall on 25th December 2022

My name:

Tel:.....

My address:

.....

.....

I have special dietary needs:

.....

.....

Please let Kathleen (01489 896366) or Helen (07775 988104) know before 26th November – thank you



Methodist Church

Enjoying a sunny "Picnic in the Park"

On one of the last sunny days in August, Swanmore Methodists had a "Picnic in the Park" on the Swanmore Recreation Ground field. The event, organised by Mavis Daniels, was mainly for children but this didn't stop all generations joining in the fun, food and games.

Events started with an interactive drama of the Parable of the Sower, with the children scattering seeds on rocky ground, thorny ground and good ground. After a snack, a hunt for "alphabetical bugs and living nature items" was led by Marcus Charig. Children had to find living items from A to Z. Marcus did say there were certain spiders beginning with the letters X and Z, but we didn't manage to find these. Ants and trees certainly counted!

Lunch was hot dogs and mandarins with the possible addition of chocolate bars. Action songs and games followed with Vanessa Pearce and Marcus Charig leading the happy noise with their guitars, until finally the blessing was led by our minister Rev Phil Griffin.

Everyone went home suitably tired and pleased we had all had a good time. Many thanks to Tracey at the Parish Council for allowing us to use the Pavilion for our snacks.

Martin Letts



Above: The all-age singalong.

Right: Playing "oranges and lemons".

Below: Sam, Marcus, Vanessa and Martin leading the singing.



Catholic church services

The local Roman Catholic church is Our Lady Queen of Apostles in Martin Street, Bishop's Waltham.

Mass times are Wednesday 9.30am, Thursday 12 noon, Friday 9.30am, Saturday 6pm (Vigil Mass), Sunday 9.30am (also live streamed). Confessions on Saturday 10am–10.45am or by appointment.

Contact: Fr Bruce Barnes, 01489 890947 or website: www.stswithunwellsparish.org.uk.



Swanmore rights of way

Respect the Countryside Code

All the Swanmore rights of way are currently open and mostly clear of vegetation. The dry summer has meant that they are easily walkable with no mud anywhere. Even the permissive paths are relatively clear thanks to the landowners.

Many of the paths provide excellent views of the local countryside and are well worth a visit. Several routes have been described in detail in past issues of this magazine. These can still be viewed on the St Barnabas website; just go to: stbarnabas.org.uk/information-hub/online-editions-of-the-magazine.

If you do walk in the countryside, please remember the Countryside Code. In particular, keep to the designated paths and keep dogs on a lead when near livestock.

Hill Farm Orchards were taken over several years ago by Hillier Nurseries. All the old apple trees were removed and young trees planted. A deer-proof fence has been erected around the whole site. Gates have been erected in the fence to allow

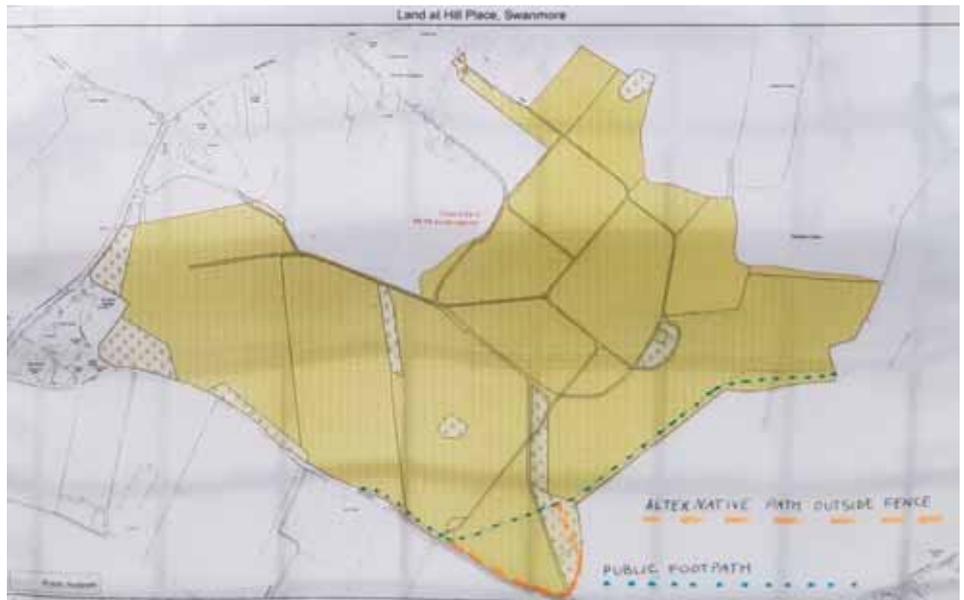
walkers to use the footpath from Cott Street through the area. Hillier Nurseries has also created a permissive path outside the fence alongside Cott Street and through the wood beside the fence to a gate onto the right of way. A map has been put on the first gate to show where the paths are. Unfortunately, Hillier Nurseries has now found it necessary

to put up a notice asking people to keep to these footpaths. Maybe previous owners of the orchards allowed people to trespass on their land in the past. I am told that some people have continued to do so but this is not acceptable to the new owners.

Please abide by the Countryside Code and, if you have been used to roaming in the orchards, keep to the designated paths in future.

David Street

Parish volunteer footpath warden



St George Foundation

A highly successful garden party

More than 300 people enjoyed a lovely afternoon at the St George Foundation Garden Party in Vicarage Lane on Saturday 25th June, with face painting, plant stall, bric-à-brac, tin can alley, tombola, cake stall, tattoos, ferret racing, games, and plenty of time to have a barbecued lunch and cream tea. Mr Bean's mini was there along with a large array of excellent classic cars.

The jazz band, "Vera Lynn" and a Winchester busking guitarist all helped to create a relaxing atmosphere. Huge thanks to all those who helped make it such a success, including Owtons who supplied the barbecue meat, Mike, Pete, Jess, Paul, Jim, Ian, Iona, Jonathon, Brian, Janet, Jen and many more.

A great afternoon, raising more than £3,000 for the charity, including a very generous donation of funds raised for us from Barnaby's.

Richard Green-Wilkinson



Volunteering

Our village needs you!



Appeals for volunteers earlier this year were successful in filling some vital “people gaps” – but more help is still needed by many of our village organisations.

Swanmore Poppy Appeal co-ordinator needed

As many know, every October/November we have volunteers who call at our homes to collect for those who want to give to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. We now need someone to co-ordinate the collecting tins, wreaths for the church and admin etc.

The work is not difficult; it just needs a bit of time to make the arrangements in October/November. I will be covering the campaign this year but am seeking someone to “buddy” with me with a view to taking this on.

If you feel this is something you could do or you just want to have a chat to find out more please do get in touch.

Wendy Horn 07821 236480

Temporary Admin, The Poppy Appeal

Fancy some international travel with the Guides?

Girlguiding is thriving in the Meon Valley and in particular we have a large number of girls of Guide age (10–14) waiting for a space and the opportunity to join a local unit. In fact we have enough Guides to make a brand new unit!

We are seeking a small team of volunteers who would be willing to be part of a team to run Guides locally. No experience is necessary as all training and support will be provided. Girlguiding is flexible to fit around work and family life and more hands make less work!

We are also really keen to extend the Girlguiding experience and reopen our Ranger unit. Rangers are 14 to 18 years old and organise what they do themselves, but they still need adult volunteers to help them co-ordinate

and facilitate their activities.

There are many benefits and opportunities for adult volunteers too: international travel, Duke of Edinburgh Award, outdoor activity qualifications, a sense of belonging, purpose and pride to name a few! You could find yourself white water rafting, training guiding leaders overseas, celebrating LGBTQ+ inclusion in a Pride parade or singing along with 10,000 girls at Wembley Arena.

To find out more about volunteering with the Guides or Rangers please contact swanmore-guides@hotmail.com or meonvalleydivcommis@gmail.com or have a look here: <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/why-volunteer/>

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sarah Woodman

Village Centre Working Party

This small group of volunteers meets about once a month for about two hours to sweep pavements and gutters and keep hedges and the foliage around the shops' car park under control.

We aim to manage Church Road from the main car park to the entrance into the shops, New Road to the lychgate, the car parks and footpath to the Pre-school.

Equipment is provided by the Parish Council and Conservation Group. If you like to see a tidy village centre, please consider joining the group. We especially need people to help with sweeping, hedge trimming and gardening.

If you would like to volunteer please contact me on 01489 896331 or email at david@streetfamily.org.uk. Thank you in anticipation!

David Street

Helping Hooves needs your help

Since 2014, local charity Helping Hooves has supported people along their treatment journey, many facing life changes. Helping Hooves believes everyone has the right to accessible, enjoyable activities and to socialise during periods of incapacity in a safe, non-medical setting. Their gentle veteran horses – kept in a field on Park Lane – allow people the time they need to forget their health priorities, relax, reflect and start to grow again.

Very sadly, a therapy pony called Ember was hit by a car on Dodds Lane recently. Both the pony and her rider were injured. The driver did not stop. More than £3,000 is needed to cover the resulting vet's bills. If you can help, please contact Abi directly at helpinghoovesuk@gmail.com.

On Saturday 10th September, Barnaby's Coffee Shop in Swanmore hosted two ponies (pictured below) from Helping Hooves, helping to raise awareness and funds. While her ponies were being brushed and loved by Barnaby's visitors, Abi said: “As well as raising money to help support Ember in her recovery, I am keen to raise a good bit of awareness around road safety for horses, riders, pedestrians etc. within the village. It is important that we all learn to share the village we live in safely and respectfully”.

Find out more about Helping Hooves at <https://helpinghoovesuk.org>

Alastair Walton



Swanmore fête

Spitfire overhead!

In case you missed it, photographer Rob Day captured the Spitfire – and the pilot waving on the last of his three passes – at Swanmore’s fête in July.

As Rob also adds: “Spitfire Mk II P7350 is the only airworthy example of its type that actually flew and fought in the Battle of Britain in 1940”.



SADS

Preparing for the panto “Puss”

Rehearsals are underway for Swanmore Amateur Dramatic Society’s pantomime “Puss in Boots” by tlc Creative. It’s a tale of a cat who can talk and overcomes the villain and his henchmen, a dame who maybe isn’t, and our hero Jack. Will Jack overcome the evil Lord Roger and gain the hand of the Princess Alice? Thereby hangs a tale, or should we say “tail”?

It’s a colourful family show and curtain-up will be 7.30pm at Swanmore Village Hall on Thursday 1st, Friday 2nd and Saturday 3rd December, with a Saturday matinee at 2pm.

Tickets go on sale 4th November from www.ticketsource.co.uk/swanmoredrama or are available every Saturday morning during November from 10am to 12noon at Barnaby’s Coffee shop.

Ticket prices are £10 adults, £5 children and all Saturday evening tickets are £10. It’s a fantastic,



traditional way to start the Christmas celebrations so don’t forget to book your tickets .early to avoid missing out. For further information telephone 01489 894955, 01489 893639 or 01489 896182.

Gail Norris

Swanmore Pre-school

A travelling bear and plenty of mud

We have welcomed many new families and children during the Autumn term. We have been busy with a lot of activities linked to child interests, including cooking, craft and exploring the changing environment around us.

We have also introduced our new travelling bear, Fudge, who has already been on a few adventures. During the summer we replaced the outside mud pit for a mud kitchen house and enhanced the small world area inside.

Our first fundraising event will be a family photo shoot day on Saturday 15th October; please call for more details if you are interested.

We are currently full for this academic year. Please call to arrange a visit if you are interested in having a place here for your child in the future to avoid disappointment.

Clockwise from below: Fudge, the “small world” and the mud kitchen.



Sarah Hiscock
01489893779 or 07958 436396
sarah.hiscock@swanmorepreschool.org.uk

HM Queen Elizabeth II

Swanmore marks this historical event

Proclamation for the new sovereign

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God to call to His Mercy our late Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth the Second of Blessed and Glorious Memory, by whose Decease the Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is solely and rightfully come to The Prince Charles Philip Arthur George: We, therefore, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal of this Realm and Members of the House of Commons, together with other members of Her late Majesty's Privy Council and representatives of the Realms and Territories, Aldermen and Citizens of London, and others, do now hereby with one voice and Consent of Tongue and Heart publish and proclaim that The Prince Charles Philip Arthur George is now, by the Death of our late Sovereign of Happy Memory, become our only lawful and rightful Liege Lord Charles the Third, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of His other Realms and Territories, King, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, to whom we do acknowledge all Faith and Obedience with humble Affection; beseeching God by whom Kings and Queens do reign to bless His Majesty with long and happy Years to reign over us.

Given at St. James's Palace this tenth day of September in the year of Our Lord twenty thousand and twenty-two.

GOD SAVE THE KING

In June the village celebrated Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee with street parties, treasure hunts, souvenir mugs and plenty of bunting throughout the village. Three months later we were marking a very different occasion following the Queen's death on 8th September.

As the nation mourned the passing of a very special monarch, Swanmore followed the guidelines laid down in the long-planned "Operation London Bridge", which specified in minute detail what precisely should be done and when.

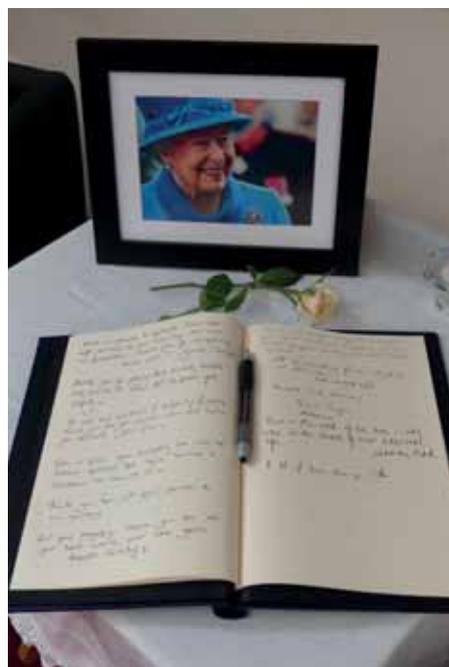
The Union Flag was lowered to half-mast – only to be raised again briefly on Proclamation Day. Books of Condolence were opened in both the Parish Council office and St Barnabas with candles lit in the church, and on Sunday 11th September Swanmore assembled at the war memorial – as they did in towns and villages across the country – to hear the official proclamation of Prince Charles as our new king.

In Swanmore at 2.45pm, Parish Council Chairman Jon Woodman read the official proclamation watched by a large crowd, eager to witness this historic event and give a rousing three cheers for King Charles III.

The vast majority of us will have never before experienced the death of a monarch or the complex protocols involved – although many grandparents will certainly remember the Queen's Coronation in 1953.

We shall all also have our own memories of Queen Elizabeth II – you may have met her once or maybe only saw her from a distance – but we shall probably never quite forget where we were when we heard the news of her death. Just as those many children assembled to hear the proclamation may one day recall this memorable event to their own grandchildren.

◆ Many thanks to Berty Ferrone and Peter Mason for photographing these momentous events.



*Photographs show:
The Book of Condolence in the Link.
The Union Flag at both half-mast
and raised for the proclamation.
Jon Woodman reading the
proclamation.
The watching crowd – and a day
that the cubs and scouts will
remember.*



Swanmore Football Club

When Swanmore won the League

Swanmore's football team was once a key performer in local leagues – perhaps it could be again?

In the early 1900s a number of villages in the Meon Valley had football teams playing friendly games. The first recorded organised football match in Swanmore was played on the Broad Lane Recreation Ground on 27th December 1902.

Four years later a meeting at the *White Horse Inn* in Droxford led to the formation of the Meon Valley League, with founder members West Meon, Soberton, Hambledon, Bishop's Waltham, Swanmore and Wickham. Other clubs would later join the League including Shedfield, Droxford and Meonstoke.

In the first season (1906/7) the villages agreed to play for a Challenge Shield and in the inaugural year this was won by Wickham. Swanmore went on to win the League in 1907/8 as well as the Gladstone Cup knock-out competition, with the cup presented by Miss Florence Gladstone. Florence and her sister Catherine, who lived in Hampton Hill House, had previously funded the original pavilion erected on the Swanmore Recreation Ground in 1903.

With the outbreak of the First World War in 1914, many players and

support staff were called up. This caused a temporary halt to playing and the League books and assets were passed over to the Vicar of Swanmore, the Revd John H Hodgson, for safe keeping. Some players never returned from the front, including the Godwins and Arthur Emery whose names are on the village war memorial.

In 1919 Meon Valley League was re-formed at a meeting in *The White Swan* in Bishop's Waltham. More teams joined the League including Funtley, Durley and Hedge End. However, the depression of 1933/34 reduced the League to one division, although the second was restored for the following season.

After the outbreak of war in 1939 the League was again suspended as members were called up for military service once more and, again, some did not return, including Robert Vincent.

Post-war success

The League was restored in 1946 with Swanmore as one of the key teams and the second division was restored in 1947. In the 1948/9 season Swanmore won the Hampshire Junior

"A" Cup. Nearly 200 supporters travelled to Niton on the Isle of Wight to see the Swans win 4–1. The final was played at

Hampshire Senior Cup Presentation in Portsmouth Football Club Boardroom at Fratton Park in 1949. Jack Tubbs is holding the trophy after Swanmore beat RAF Hamble 2–1.

Fratton Park (Portsmouth's Ground) and Swanmore, cheered on by its supporters, went on to beat the favourites RAF Hamble 2–1.

The Swanmore team's headquarters were in the old British Legion Club, which was close to where the Village Hall now stands. The club committee met there on Monday evenings for team selection for the two Meon Valley Leagues for the following Saturday. The team selections were posted up each week and displayed on the door of the shop on the corner of Chapel Road and New Road. Later the committee meetings were held in *The New Inn* where the landlord Cyril Perks was a keen supporter and club president for 20 years. In the 1949/50 season Swanmore had a successful team, winning the League, and both the Pink and Nicholson Cups.

More wins

In the 1958/59 season the Swanmore Swans won again, with their first and second teams winning both the league and Pink Cup (against Fontley) and the Nicholson Cup (against Durley). The cup finals that season were played at Botley with more than a 1,000 fans watching. The team achieved further success playing in the Hampshire League. For a time Swanmore had four teams, with two playing on Saturday and two in the Sunday leagues.

There was a real need for a new pavilion with shower and changing rooms to replace the much-vandalised old wooden one. This requirement was debated by the Parish Council over a number of years, particularly the issue of funding. Since many of the football team members were in the building trade they played a significant part in the construction and fitting out of the new pavilion, which has proved to be a real village asset. New drainage schemes were carried out which improved the playing surface for both football and cricket.

The football team also played a large part in the social life of the village, with dinner-dances for up to



160 held in the Village Hall. Representatives at county level and from Portsmouth and Southampton football clubs (including Ted Bates the Southampton Manager) were among the guests. The local press frequently ran articles and photographs of club events and teams, which were well-managed with good cash reserves.

Difficult times

Problems began in the 1990s with arguments over the football club's contribution to maintenance of the Recreation Ground and its use of the Pavilion at a time when the Parish Council was eager to widen use of the ground to more people in the village. As well as the football and cricket clubs, the space was also needed for children's play equipment.

The football club believed that their needs could have been accommodated without interfering with the cricket ground, but the original agreement from the Charity Commission gifting the ground to the village stated only cricket as an acceptable sport. This is not surprising since the Recreation Ground was given under the 1855 Enclosure Act, when cricket was a significant sport in the Meon Valley and club football was in its infancy. Things came to a head in September 1996 when the Parish Council gave notice to the Football Club at a time when extensive drainage work at the ground would also limit its use.

A local petition was signed by 400 people and, at a well-attended Parish



*Winners of the Meon Valley League and Gladstone Cup 1907/8.
Back row: J. Terry (captain), A. Watson and H. Thorne.
Middle row: W. Terry, F. Thorne, A. Carpenter and W. Ashley.
Front row: H. Tilling, F. Knight, J. Hazzard and W. Holford.*

Council meeting on 7th April 1997, the vote was initially drawn on whether to allow the football club to continue playing at the ground; but the casting vote of May Fullegar, the chair, confirmed eviction. With so much uncertainty as to the future of the club the best players left to join other clubs.

The end of the road

There were efforts to seek an alternative site for the football club but none of these came to fruition. So,

after nearly 100 successful years, this well-supported and much-loved club came to an end. It is possible a new Swanmore football club could arise in the future, providing there were sufficient interest and a suitable location for a ground could be found and funded. With the recent success of the Lionesses winning the European Cup there might be a Swanmore Ladies team as well.

I would like to express my thanks to Malcolm Chapman and Ron Harvey who both played for Swanmore. Malcolm went on to be the manager for many years with Ron as secretary, treasurer and chairperson.

Crawford Wright



*Left: The successful 1948/9 team.
Back row: L. Cook, J. Trivett, T. Adams, J. Tubbs, F. Compton, W. Hopkins and W. Harris.
Middle row: M. Parsons, E. Reeves, A. Emery, C. Marsh, R. Adams, D. Watson, F. Terry, R. Silvester, C. Pearce, E. Whitbourne, P. Dyer and S. Stratton.
Front row: J. Feast, H. Burford, R. Bailey, N. Trivett, R. Moore, J. Moore, M. Titheridge, J. Mills and D. Tubbs.*

Swanmore Conservation Group

Plenty of wild flowers – but too much dog mess

The summer is drawing to an end as I write this, but the promised rain hasn't arrived in useful amounts. The meadows in the Conservation Area are a little greener but it isn't time to get the wellies out.

Our group has, however, been trying to weatherproof the site in as far as we can. The boardwalk in the upper meadow has been finished; it is slightly wider than the old version and the non-slip surface means there is no need for the metal netting that tore and ruckled. In August we cleared the drainage ditch that runs through Green's Wood; hopefully this will help to reduce the chances of the footpath flooding where the ditch runs under the path and into the pond. Leaves and wood always collect in the grille here and members of our group who walk this way most days end up clearing the ditch during periods of heavy rain, something we haven't done in a while.

Meanwhile, the plants in the pond are taking over and three islands have formed, meaning there is no longer the recommended amount of open water. We hope that with professional advice we can reduce the vegetation during the autumn and winter and get help to reduce the ever-increasing goldfish population.



We plan to sow more yellow rattle seeds in the wildflower meadow area as last year's seeds germinated so well. We will also sow areas of native annual red poppies and hopefully these will both seed themselves in the future. This year there have been bigger areas of red bartsia in the lower meadow, which is encouraging because it is semi-parasitic on grass roots although perhaps not as effective or as well known as yellow rattle.

Two members of our group have been interested to see a cudweed growing at the edge of a particularly damp path through the meadows. We've never seen this here before; it's an annual and enjoys damp soils of low fertility. It has grey leaves with insignificant flowers but it's interesting that it arrived seemingly from nowhere. Perhaps the seeds have lain dormant in the soil for years or it arrived on the feet of a bird; maybe it will reappear next year.

It is disappointing that after some months without any vandalism in the Conservation Area there has been damage to a rail of one of the kissing gates. Another ongoing problem is the amount of dog faeces in the meadows and woodland. This is an area where many people walk, not just dog walkers but other residents including children. There are bins for dog waste in the meadows and others around the village, all provided by the Parish Council, so it is disappointing that people fail to use them.

We meet on the second Saturday of each month at 9.45am; we break for coffee at 11am and finish at 12noon. We meet by the shed in the Upper Meadow where we choose our jobs from those on offer. Do join us if you are interested; you can just turn up if you have time but if it rains we go home!

Gil Sawyer
01489 894206

Left: The repaired boardwalk.



Gravel Hill junction

For the last few years we have been in constant contact with Hampshire County Council and the police about the number of accidents and near misses at the Gravel Hill/Forest Road/Bishop's Wood Road junction.

Both the County Council and police have been very supportive and Hampshire's Highways team has come up with a package of measures which are now being implemented. These include dragon's teeth markings and speed reminder roundels painted on the road, additional speed limit repeater signs and the installation of three vehicle-activated flashing warning signs (as pictured above and top right opposite), on Gravel Hill and on the Bishop's Wood Road approach.

We will continue to keep a close eye on this junction.

Swanmore Parish Council Meeting Dates

| | |
|----------|-------------------------|
| 11th Oct | Planning & Highways |
| 18th Oct | Open Spaces & Amenities |
| 25th Oct | Full Council |
| 8th Nov | Planning & Highways |
| 15th Nov | Open Spaces & Amenities |
| 22nd Nov | Finance |

Council meetings generally start at 7pm and all meetings are open to members of the public.

Please contact the Parish Office if you would like more information.



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.

Swanmore Allotments

After a long and challenging journey, phase 1 of Swanmore Allotments finally opened in May 2022, handing the plots over to some very patient residents who were keen to get going. Due to the nature of the site, we were not expecting to see much "growing" this year...however, we're extremely pleased to be proven wrong, as you can see from the photos below – the plots are bursting with produce.



Community Projects Award

Swanmore Parish Council has £2,500 to give away for this year's Community Projects Award.

Local groups, clubs, organisations and charities are invited to apply for part, or all of this funding.

Once the applications are in we then ask the parish to vote for the Community Project Award winners.

To apply for an award please email clerk@swanmorepc.org.uk for an application form. Completed forms to be received by 20th December.

Awards will be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting in March 2023.

Community Service Awards

Its that time of year again when we ask you to think about the individuals and groups in the village whom you believe have made a difference to your life or the village as a whole this year.

We welcome nominations for the following three categories:

- ◆ Adult
- ◆ Young Person
- ◆ Group

Anyone can enter, to nominate a person or group you simply need to email clerk@swanmorepc.org.uk with the name of the person or group you would like to nominate and why.

We know there are lots of village heroes out there so please do take the time to send us a nomination.

Nominations must be received by Tuesday 20th December.

Awards will be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting in March 2023.

Save the date

**Christmas Lights Switch on
 Friday 2nd December**



In the hedgerows

The bumble bee's favourite – but not a toad in sight

Autumn is not a good time to look for hedgerow flowers – especially not this year with the summer's drought starving the wild plants of moisture just as it did in our own gardens. The rain in early September did, however, bring a delayed flowering to the toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*) that grows along Hampton Hill.

These bright yellow snapdragon-like blooms are much loved by bumble bees, which are suitably heavy to push down the flower's lower petal and access the delights within. It is estimated that a busy bumblebee can take the nectar from ten toadflax flowers a minute so they will have had a welcome treat in recent weeks.

The plant is named toadflax supposedly because the flowers resemble little toads, although the seventeenth century herbalist, William Coles, maintained that the name is due to the fact that "toads will sometimes shelter themselves amongst the branches of it". Other common names for it include butter-

and-eggs, devils' ribbon, buttered haycocks, pedlar's basket or calves' snout.

Toadflax is usually gathered just before flowering and like many other yellow-flowered plants is a traditional remedy for jaundice. Under the Doctrine of Signatures – which maintained that God in his wisdom had given us clues to the properties of plants – yellow was supposed to suggest that it would be good for treating ailments that gave the skin a yellowish-hue. It has also been widely used for skin disorders associated with poor liver function as well as piles and constipation.

Typically a tea would be made with a teaspoon of the dried plant to a cup of boiling water, infused for ten minutes and taken three times a day.

A rather different application was to infuse the flowers in milk and then use this to poison flies, and the flowers make a good yellow dye as well.

Also enjoying a late flowering after the dry summer has been its cousin ivy-leaved toadflax (*Cymbalaria muralis*), which can often be found growing in old walls. It is said to have arrived in the

UK by accident in the seventeenth century in a shipment of sculptures from Italy where it is native and known as the "plant of the Madonna", but it soon made itself at home and is now thoroughly naturalised.

Although little used medicinally it is a useful forage plant and is said to be anti-scorbutic (i.e. prevents scurvy) so presumably is a source of vitamin C. It is eaten as a salad in southern Europe although the taste can be rather bitter. The trick is to only pick it when it grows in the shade which reduces the bitterness somewhat although, as the plant has a tendency to move towards the sun, finding shady clumps of it is not always easy – the flowers look pretty in salads too.



Above: Ivy-leaved toadflax. Left: A bumble bee enjoying nectar by pushing down the flower's lower petal. Far left: A field of toadflax.

Buglife

Looking for late red dragons

There may have been red dragons in your garden this year, particularly if you live not too far from a pond, stream or other water body.

Common darter dragonflies (*Sympetrum striolatum*) can be seen from early summer, and can still be flying into November and December if the weather remains amenable. The males appear like flying shortened red pencils, about 4cm long with a distinctive red abdomen, along with big brown eyes, yellow face, and variously-coloured thorax. Females are less conspicuous, their abdomens being ochre turning to olive-brown in colour with age.

The name “darter” refers to their habit of darting from a hovering position to catch passing insect prey, then returning to a favoured perch to consume it. Their perches include vegetation, human artefacts such as



fence posts and barbed wire, and even on sunny patches of ground. They are quite fidgety dragons, but if approached cautiously when perched

the details of their highly adapted bodies can be appreciated. The latticework of the heavily veined wings can be observed, with a small red or brown bar, called a pterostigma, located towards each front tip. All four wings are kept open and pointing slightly forwards in readiness for take-off.

They should not be confused with large red damselflies (*Pyrrhosoma nymphula*) which are shorter and thinner, hold their wings parallel to their bodies and are rather weak fliers. You may be fortunate to spot a less commonly seen migrant ruddy darter (*Sympetrum sanguineum*) instead, with a waisted, bright red abdomen in the male, and all-black legs.

Mating common darters are still around in September, while dragon larvae can still be seen on plant stems as late as October, emerging from their watery lairs to metamorphose into adults.

They may not be the kind of dragons that reduce the fuel bills by warming our houses this winter, but keeping ponds maintained and topped up in dry weather may bring a streak of energetic colour to our gardens late in the year.

Marcus Charig



1. Common darters mating.
2. Male common darter.
3. Female common darter.

Swanmore Society

Georgian dining secrets and tales from the archives

By the time you read this, the Swanmore Society's autumn programme will have kicked off with David Rymill's talk on Highclere Castle. More on that next time – though if you are a fan of *Downton Abbey*, I hope you didn't miss it! But for now, let's look forward to our upcoming meetings.

On 12th October Dr Bob France, who is a National Trust volunteer at both Petworth and Uppark, will entertain us with his intriguingly titled presentation "What the Butler Saw", as he takes on the guise of Stedman, Petworth's Georgian butler – complete with a table laid out for a typical dinner in that period.

He will share his experiences and some things that he probably should not have seen! We will explore the secrets of his wine cellar and the eccentricities of drinking and dining etiquette during Georgian times. From the deceptions of make-up and mouse skin eyebrows, to promiscuous seating and chamber pots, nothing will be concealed. Bob promises that his account will be "irreverent and highly entertaining" but entirely true!

At the following meeting on 9th November, we will welcome archives expert Barry Shurlock, who has long



held an interest in local history in many parts of our county and regularly contributes to local newspapers. As Barry says, anyone who gets involved with local history soon discovers that the past is full of fascinating stories.

These are not only a "good read" in themselves but generally tell us a good deal about how people lived their lives, built up their businesses, were kind and unkind to each other – and broke the law. In his illustrated talk, Barry will show how such stories can be found in the archives, researched and written up to illuminate many aspects of life in Hampshire in the past.

The Swanmore Society's meetings start at 8pm and are being held in the Paterson Centre on Church Road until further notice. Visitors are always very welcome.

Caroline Clapperton 01489 891447

Below: Petworth House – scene of Georgian revels.



Meon Valley Carers Support when needed

Do you look after somebody with dementia? Would you like to join our friendly Carers Support Group where you can meet and talk to other carers in similar situations? The group is hosted by Judy (carer support worker) and Gary (dementia advisor) who are happy to offer advice and information.

We also have a committed group of volunteers who offer support and, most importantly, provide a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit!

We welcome carers and the cared for, giving you the opportunity to meet new friends, play along in a quiz and other activities and discover new interests with the occasional guest speaker. We have had a successful last six months and now look forward to the next half of the year.

In August we were joined by Kayte from The Memory Box Foundation who got everybody talking with her objects from the 60s and 70s.

The activities for October to December (from 2pm to 4pm) are:

- ◆ 25th October – Joyful jams
- ◆ 22nd November – Cream tea at Haskins Garden Centre, West End
- ◆ December – Christmas celebrations (date tbc).

If you would like to join us please contact our central team for more information on 01264 332297 or email enquiries@andovermind.org.uk

Judy Beaunier

Below: Opening the Memory Box.



Village walks

Circular Walk from Bishop's Waltham to Upham and back

This walk from Bishop's Waltham goes to the Church of the Blessed Mary and *The Brushmakers Arms* in Upham before returning via Street End.

Distance: 6.2miles/10km.

Time: 2 hours 20 minutes at a fairly leisurely pace.

Terrain

This route is pleasant, easy walking through open fields and returning along quiet country lanes and tracks, making it a good all-year-round walk. There are a couple of dips and rises and one slightly steeper grass slope. There are, however, quite a few stiles to clamber over. The fields are predominantly open pasture or crop and there are a couple where cows may be occasionally found so do remember to keep dogs on leads around any livestock. There is a variation for those who wish to avoid cows completely.

You may be content to just enjoy the surrounding countryside but on this walk a small pair of binoculars may help to pick out those distant landmarks. Refreshments are available in Bishop's Waltham and in Upham at *The Brushmakers Arms* (food is from 12noon to 2pm Wednesday to Sunday).

Directions

The walk starts and finishes in Ponside Lane, opposite the

Sainsbury's garage in Bishop's Waltham not far from the large roundabout on the Winchester Road (B2177). Buses – Stagecoach 69 and Xelabus X9 – run to and from Swanmore to Bishop's Waltham, hourly on weekdays but they vary on Saturdays with no buses on Sunday.

Start

1. To Ashton Lane

Walk along Ponside Lane, keeping straight ahead over a small green to meet a road. Cross over, bearing slightly right to continue along the lane which now becomes a wide grassy bridleway. Continue past the houses on your left and then turn left at the electricity pole going under the wires with an enclosed meadow on your right. At the end bear left to the large wooden gate and through the wicket gate with the Hampshire CC green sign into Claylands conservation area. Follow the path round to the left into a slight dip (which can get muddy).

Turn left in front of the wooden gates, along the gravel path ahead, ignoring the path on your left and up and round the bends until you reach and go through a metal gate on your right. Go straight ahead through the field, keeping the hedge on your right and go over

the stile straight ahead. Carry on through and over a couple more fields and stiles down into Ashton Lane

2. Towards Park Farm

Go straight across to Park Farm. (There are usually delicious jams, eggs and seasonal fruit for sale at the entrance).

3. Across the fields

In the left corner of the farm drive go through a small metal gate onto an enclosed footpath then through another metal gate at the end onto more fields. Hopefully the work for the pipeline carrying high-pressure aviation fuel from Fawley to Heathrow will have been completed, but can be skirted around easily enough if not. Carry on until you meet a gravel track, which you cross on a bend to go into a field (do not be lulled into following the track).

Keep straight on with the hedge on your right, through a boundary hedge and two more fields (with a whole hedgerow of sloe bushes), right into the corner and through a black metal gate. At this stage the path goes through the edges of a garden. Go through the lines of rustling poplar trees, straight ahead over the lake to the hedge and turn left. After two minutes exit through another metal gate and turn right to cross Stakes Lane. Go through the wooden gate opposite into the fields.

Here the route joins the Hampshire Pilgrims' Trail and Allan King Way, which you will follow into Upham. Go straight ahead across the field to the trees, on the sometimes overgrown path. Pass an overgrown metal kissing gate in the hedgerow on your left, follow the boundary trees for approx 100 metres and take the footpath through them on your right around another overgrown metal kissing gate.

Part of this next narrow field can get a bit overgrown too in summer but is quite passable, so carry on across, bearing left at the field's edge. Go along for about 100 metres and be careful not to miss an unsigned path on the right going into the wood. Go



The pipeline route with its deep trenches.

Around the district

through the trees until you reach a metal field gate where you again turn right onto a wide track. Over to your left, unseen behind trees and hedges, is the short, grass, private airfield at Lower Upham so don't be surprised to see light aircraft quite close by!

4. Church of the Blessed Mary

Follow this farm track a short way and go through the metal field gate directly ahead, crossing the corner of the field, over a stile and back onto the track. If cows are in this field just keep on the track to avoid them. Follow the track as it stretches ahead to a metal wicket gate (between metal field gates), ignoring the footpath going to the right. Continue along this enclosed narrower footpath, go under a lovely walnut tree just before the exit gate, past the houses on your left and out into Oak Close. Turn right along the road, going right past the sign to Bishop's Waltham, passing cottages on your way to the Church of the Blessed Mary. This is a lovely place to visit and

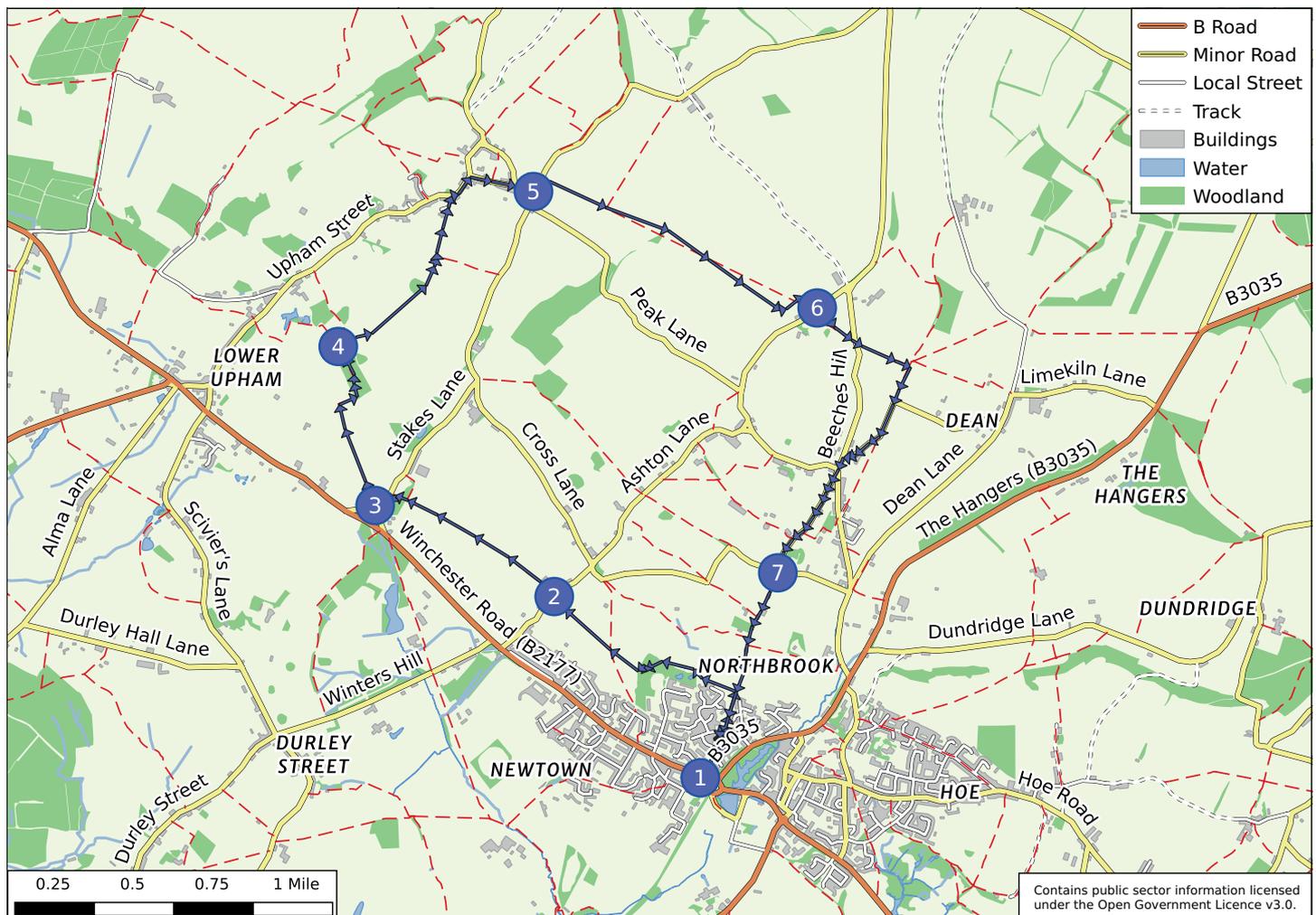
The Brushmakers Arms.

sit for a break. A church has existed here since the time of the Domesday Book and parts of the church date from the thirteenth century, although it was extensively remodelled in the nineteenth century by the fashionable architect George Street (who designed The Old Bailey).

While sitting under the trees and looking across to the Solent and the Isle of Wight you may notice the liquidambar tree – also known as the American sweetgum (just smell a scrunched up leaf) – on the left by the gate. (although it's hard to miss those beautiful colours in autumn). The graveyard also contains some fine Celtic crosses. Carrying on along the



road there is another enjoyable resting place, *The Brushmakers Arms* in Shoe Lane. This delightful village pub has undergone many changes in its 600-year history. At one time or another the inn has been a factory, a school, and doubled up as a dentist's and a private house. It is so-called because, way back in history, it catered for the needs of the travelling brushmakers who used the Vale of Upham as their base when not touring the countryside selling the brooms made from hazel



sticks from the green hedges of Hampshire.

The return journey continues along Church Street, past the telephone box the village pond and the seat around the chestnut tree on the green.

5. Across the Monarch's Way

Take the road to the left to Cheriton and Alresford (Bigpath Lane), along the flint stone wall for a few metres and then cross the road to go around a green metal barrier gate. The route now joins another long-distance path, the Monarch's Way, to Street End Farm.

Turn right to go off across the open fields leaving the old animal pens behind on your right. Ignore the unmarked path to the left to Bigpath Farm and carry on down the dip and through a wooden gate, straight up the steep grass slope to the tree line ahead. This is where you might encounter cows but they will be easily spotted on the open slope. Go through



the gate at the top to pass through more large crop fields, down a dip and cross once again the route of the aviation fuel pipeline. Here you will see the fields for the bird seed sold at the farm, millet being a prominent crop this year. On reaching the corner before the farm buildings, turn to see the view far across to the Solent, to Fawley oil refinery, the white top stands of the Ageas cricket ground and even the cranes at Southampton docks. In the next few fields be ready for more splendid views across towards the Solent and the Isle of Wight, not to mention the beautiful Hampshire downland all around. It is possible cows could be in the following fields. *See variation below to avoid them if they are there.*

6. Heading for Beeches Hill

On leaving the farm go across the road to the footpath opposite alongside a garden, over a stile into a small pasture, keeping right along the fence. Go over another stile, keeping alongside the overhead wires across the corner of the field, over a stile and onto a road. Go straight across to go up steps over yet another stile to the next field, which ends with a pair of stiles to go down three steps to turn right onto a narrow bridlepath. Follow this to Little Ashton Lane, continue straight ahead to a road, Beeches Hill, and turn left. Walk for a minute and, taking great care here, cross the road into Shipcote Lane which is immediately adjacent to Ashton Lane on the right. Follow the lane to the end (approx. 10 minutes), to meet another lane, Vernon Hill.

7. Passing the vineyard

Go straight across to the wide bridlepath opposite, which is the other end of Pondsides Lane. Along this

Really wild bird food at Street End Farm with millet growing in the surrounding fields.



Crossing the Monarch's Way.

track as it narrows you will pass Northbrook Vineyard on your left, which now grows the champagne grapes of chardonnay, pinot noir and pinot meunier. This area has good conditions for growing these grapes in terms of soil (sharing the same chalk belt as the Champagne region of France), and when combined with a cool climate can produce a sparkling wine similar to Champagne (and hopefully ready here next year). Just follow the track, keeping straight ahead until you pick up the earlier outwards route and return back to Sainsbury's garage (about 15 minutes).

To avoid all possibility of cows

If you wish to miss the chance of cows there is a not-so-interesting, quite dull alternative between hedgerows. If the cows are on the sloping pasture going up the hill, after Upham, take the unmarked path to Bigpath Farm. Go past the houses and turn right onto a track. This becomes a narrow chalk bridlepath which rises up between hedgerows and can be slippery when wet. Turn left at the end onto the road junction and go straight ahead to the unmarked bridlepath on the right, by the "SLOW" road markings. Continue on this narrow bridlepath ignoring paths off to the left, to join the route onto Little Ashton Lane. If there are cows in the pasture after exiting Street End Farm (rarely so), backtrack to the lane and turn right to the road junction and follow as above.

Lin Powell



From our district councillors

Local Plan heading for the consultation stage

To some degree this article is going to be a “catch-up” of some of the happenings that are from the past. Hopefully they will be of interest to those of you who have suddenly found an empty house after your children have gone off to school, college or University. Like you, many officers and District Councillors have taken a break from “work”. Nonetheless, while there have been few meetings, there has been a great deal of activity online. We will try to bring you up to date.

Local Plan work continues

Work on the Winchester Local Plan has continued under a sub-heading of Regulation 18. Much of this is to be found on the City Council website at winchester.gov.uk.

When you read this article your District Councillors will have been permitted to read the 400-plus pages of these new Planning Policies – all of which must comply with the National Planning Framework. This information will have to go through Scrutiny (22nd

September), then to Cabinet on 19th October and will be open to public consultation for six weeks from 2nd November to 14th December.

Unfortunately, even at this late stage we do not yet know what housing numbers are going to be required by the PFSH Authorities; or at least members have not yet been told!

So far, based on the information we have received, all three of your District Councillors are moderately pleased about the Environmental (Countryside) policies.

Hospitals update

Another briefing for members has been about the proposed new Trauma Hospital to be located close by the A303/M3 junction.

While this is being planned, the Royal Hampshire County Hospital has opened its new Hospice (£4.4million) and is about to build a “new” pharmacy (£4million) in an extension to the Burrell wing.

Basingstoke Hospital, we are told, needs to remove asbestos from its buildings, and to repair its windows and its lifts – all of which need major “care and attention”.

It is expected that work on the new hospital will start in 2025, to be completed in 2030. It is assumed that a major revamp of the bus services is planned to enable better access to that area, along with needed changes in the Ambulance Services.

Coping with water shortages

Southern Water has also been speaking to us. You may recall that Southern removes waste water from our area while Portsmouth Water Company provides us with fresh water.

Of increasing concern to us all is that while we continue to build housing in Hampshire, our water supply system, and our foul water disposal systems seem unable to “keep up”.

We need major investment not only

into our sewerage farms to reduce (stop?) the outflow from these units every time we have a major downpour; but we also need “new sources” of water. Presently most of our water comes from artesian bores, with some from the rivers Test and Itchen. The water companies also have a licence to take water from the Meon!

Plans are being drawn up for an aqueduct from a new reservoir near Abingdon (Southern Water), while Portsmouth Water is planning to build a new reservoir just north of Havant.

Southern Water is apparently working on an aqueduct from Otterbourne down to another reservoir close by Rowlands Castle. This latter one may be for either recycled water, or water from some form of desalination system. Comments on this can be found on the Southern Water website under “Water for Life”.

The CPRE (Campaign for Rural England) Planning Policy group, of which Frank is a member, has expressed concerns about various aspects of these plans. Again, details are to be found on its website.

Please minimise the bangs

Finally, may we plead once again about fireworks, especially related to 5th November and other events. Yes, they are spectacular, and the events are great fun as well as being an opportunity to chat with friends and neighbours.

We are still a small settlement and the countryside and its animals, as well as our own pets generally do not like loud noises and flashes of light. Many cats, dogs, horses, cattle and sheep have hysterics as a result. So, while most are kept indoors it is still not fun for them.

Please have some consideration for these animals.



Our Winchester District Councillors

◆ Frank Pearson 01489 892822 – fpearson@winchester.gov.uk

◆ Malcolm Wallace 07739 050224 mwallace@winchester.gov.uk

◆ Vicki Weston 01329 835161 – vweston@winchester.gov.uk



Frank Pearson



Malcolm Wallace



Vicki Weston

Bishop's Waltham WI

Dressed up for a "royal tea party" despite the weather

We had a lovely "royal tea party" in August. It did rain, but we were nice and dry under our gazebos. Everyone dressed up and we had a marvellous selection of hats, fascinators and even one tiara! There was a magnificent spread of sandwiches, scones with jam, cream and fresh strawberries, beautiful cakes, and we all had a lovely chat.

In September we had a tutorial from Sarah Zimmer on how to draw leaves. Great fun. I find the autumn a lovely time of year and particularly enjoy all the beautiful colours of the leaves. Trees have changed earlier this year too due to the long, hot summer. On 30th September our team will take part in our area quiz final – I wonder if we will win.

Our meeting on 18th October will be a talk entitled "From Utah to the New

Forest" given by Gill Southwell. Also in October, some of our members will be attending the Area Study Day on the 11th, learning how to make an autumnal wreath.

At our next meeting on 15th November we shall have the son of one of our committee members, James Freemantle, telling us all about probate and powers of attorney. I'm sure a lot of our ladies will be very interested in how to cut through some of the red tape and help to fill in the application forms.

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? New members are always welcome. We meet on the third Tuesday of each month, at 7.30pm in St Peter's Church Hall, Free Street, next to the library. There is plenty of free parking.

*Allison Gurry,
President
Tel. 01489 895188*



Left: Stylish hats enjoying the "royal tea party".



Meon Valley Lions Roaring on ...

In early September Meon Valley Lions took its barbecue to the Taste of Wickham festival (above). We had a fantastic day, starting with bacon butties and then sausages and burgers.

While the barbecue was a great success, our minibus was in constant use running a shuttle service to the parking fields. Thank you to all who gave so generously .

We also went to the Knowle Village party in the park to run a "Play your cards right" game for both adults and children. The afternoon was a great success with so many smiling faces.

Carole Dash

U3A

All sorts of talks

Meon Valley U3A meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month in the afternoon at 2pm in the Houghton Room at the Wickham Centre, Wickham. Meetings with member speakers are free to members and £1 for guest speakers. Visitors are welcome for £2 per meeting.

There may be times when the advertised speaker is unable to attend and a different talk given. Tea and biscuits are available after the talks.

Each talk is usually 45 minutes to an hour long. The book table for books, DVDs and puzzles to be exchanged is available (20p per item).

- Forthcoming talks are:
- 4th October – Walking in the Canaries by Jim Busby
 - 18th October – Titanic Southampton by Geoff Watts
 - 1st November – The Eden Project by Jill Daniels
 - 15th November – Wildflower Hotspots by Carol Watson
 - 6th December - Winchester part.4 by Andrew Negus
- New members are very welcome,

particularly those who have an interest they are willing to share with other members in a small group. Currently the groups are Egyptology, Strolling and three reading groups, which have spaces.

We are also seeking a new Treasurer and Secretary. If you are interested, please let me know. You can assist this year to learn what it involves before taking it on after the AGM in May 2023.

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

BW Photographic Society

Heading to the annual show

At the beginning of August, the third round of competition took place in St Peter's Hall – the first physical judging of prints since March 2020 and the first lockdown. Although members were out of practice in getting prints ready and mounts cut, the number of entries was encouraging – 30 in all. This round had a set theme which was "Motion" – an image that conveys movement or a sense of movement.

Providing the critique for this themed round was Caroline Preece LRPS, from Chichester Camera Club. Caroline's feedback was much appreciated by members. Congratulations to those who gained places and thanks to everyone for taking part. Winner of the Intermediate League was Gabor Kovacs with "Going Underground" and in the Advanced League was Helen Otton with "Take Off".

The Society will be holding its annual photographic exhibition from 6th to 8th October in the United Free Church, Basingwell Street, Bishop's Waltham from 9.30am to 5pm each day. The print exhibition will be accompanied by a projected audio-



"Going Underground" by Gabor Kovacs. winner of the Intermediate League.

visual show of further images for visitors to watch. There will be cards and prints for sale. Do come along, meet the photographers and vote for your favourite. The Mayor of Winchester will be opening the exhibition at a special preview evening for members and will also present prizes to the winners of our Junior Photo Competition.

New members are always welcome at BWPS. For more information about the Society, visit www.bishopswalthamphotosociety.co.uk.

The Society's junior section meets on the first Thursday of the month at 4.30pm. Please contact Peter Mason for more information: junior@bishopswalthamphotosociety.co.uk

Dawn Blight



Learning how to save a life

Meon Valley Heartstart is running free sessions on learning CPR (Cardiopulmonary resuscitation), how to use a defibrillator and other life-saving techniques.

Session dates are:

- ◆ Wednesday 5th October at 6.30pm at Wickham Surgery or
- ◆ Wednesday 26th October at 7pm at Denmead War Memorial Hall.

Please book online at www.heartstartmeonvalley.co.uk or phone David on 07730 148920.

MWARA

Keeping active in retirement

Groups are returning to normal at the Meon Valley Active Retirement Association after many were reluctant to join in activities during the pandemic. Activities include:

- ◆ Mondays: Exercise classes, French course, and ladies lunch.
- ◆ Tuesdays: French conversation and Italian course.
- ◆ Wednesdays: T'ai chi
- ◆ Thursdays: Spanish course
- ◆ Fridays: Members' lunch

Some activities are weekly, others take place once or twice a month. For full details visit www.MVARA.co.uk

Kenrick Fell, Secretary
<https://mvara.co.uk/contact/>



Botley Choral Society Celebrating 100 years of singing

Botley Choral Society will be celebrating its centennial with a special concert on Saturday 19th November at 7.30pm at All Saints Church, Botley.

The programme includes some of Handel's Coronation Anthems and Mozart's Coronation Mass.

Tickets are £14 (£12 concessions) with under-16s free.

Contact: 07387 274446 or enquiries@botleychoral.co.uk

Jane Goulson

Waltham Ramblers



Rambling in October

Organised walks are held by the Waltham Group of the Ramblers on Wednesday mornings and Sundays (usually all-day). A selection is shown below, with meeting venue and leader's contact number. Newcomers are welcome.

- ◆ Wednesday 5th October, Swanmore, The Four Woodlands Walk, 5 miles. Chris and Lynda 01489 892043. Start: 10am – car park opposite Paterson Centre, Church Road.
- ◆ Wednesday 12th October, Upham Rowhay Lane and Woodlocks Down Farm, 5 miles. Pauline 01489 892386. Start: 10am – Upham Duck Pond, Church Street.
- ◆ Sunday 30th October, Swanmore via Nature Reserve and Soberton, 7.5 miles. Gill and Ian 01329 835219. Start: 10am – car park opposite Paterson Centre, Church Road. Park near the rear of the car park. Bring a packed lunch.

For further information about Waltham Ramblers email michael.hewlins@btinternet.com.

Michael Hewlins

Winchester GOLD
Playing bridge in style at tea time

The annual "Bridge Tea" in aid of Winchester GOLD, which supports people with learning difficulties, will be held on Thursday 6th October from 2pm to 5pm at The Manor House, Preshaw, SO24 0PB.

Would-be players are encouraged to "come and join us for a friendly competition and a gorgeous homemade tea".

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

250th anniversary

The cradle of cricket

Following Crawford Wright's excellent article "How the Meon Valley Shaped Cricket" (*The Swanmore Link*, June/ July) as we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the first recognised first-class cricket match, another match was played this year at Broadhalfpenny Down, Hambledon – known as the cradle of cricket – on 14th July under the 1744 laws. This involved four balls an over, underarm bowling, and only two stumps and a bail at each end, such that the ball could pass between the stumps without the batter being out! Many of the players were appropriately dressed for the occasion. Thunderbolts played Sparks – team names taken from the first verse of the excellent "*The Cricketers of Hambledon*" by Bruce Blunt – sung after the match.

*I'll make a song of Hambledon and sing it at the George
Of balls that flew from Beldham's bat like Sparks from Fennex' Forge
The centuries of Aylwood and a thousand guineas bet
And Sueter keeping wicket to the Thunderbolts of Brett*

The match result was unimportant, but on a glorious sunny evening Sparks, who scored 95, beat Thunderbolts (94) with ten overs to spare. One of the Thunderbolts team, Peter Hildrew from Swanmore, made a replica 1744 bat, which played very



well. Maybe this should join the original in *The Bat and Ball*.

Match proceeds were split between Broadhalfpenny Down Preservation Trust and St George Foundation.

Richard Green-Wilkinson

Above: Peter Hildrew's replica bat with its modern successor. Below left: Defending the two-stump wicket. Below: Tossing the coin.



Bishop's Waltham Rotary

Getting ready for Christmas – and helping when disaster strikes

As I write this, plans for this year's Rotary Christmas activities are already underway, most notably getting things in place for the annual shoebox scheme which we hope this year will bring some Christmas cheer to the young children of Romania, Moldova, Montenegro and Albania. The many displaced children from Ukraine in Romania and Moldova will also benefit and some boxes will be going direct to Ukraine with the help of Rotary in Romania.

The major change for this year is that we are able to supply boxes produced specifically for this project. It has been increasingly difficult to obtain shoeboxes from shops and the variation in sizes has given us logistical problems, but we will still accept your own standard shoebox.

The suggested donation per box has also increased to £2.00, which covers the cost of the box and transportation, which has unfortunately increased over the last year. We do not yet have the confirmed date for when the shoeboxes need to be returned but we normally work on having them in for the October school half term.

If you would like to support us this year please contact paul.chesterman@bishopsalthamrotary.org.uk, who will be able to supply boxes.

Pakistan Disaster Appeal

Since June 2022, floods caused by heavier than usual monsoon rains, following a severe heatwave, have now killed at least 1,400 people in Pakistan and displaced many millions more.

The Rotary in Great Britain and Ireland Disaster Recovery Trust has launched a Pakistan Disaster Appeal to help affected communities in Pakistan, once the waters have receded.

In response to this appeal, Bishop's Waltham Rotary Club has, so far, sent £1,000.

Moshchun Village

Moshchun village in Ukraine has been largely destroyed by Russian forces and, with the approaching winter, shelter is critical for survivors. Rotary in Great Britain and Ireland has sent out an urgent call to action to provide

Below; Happy shoebox recipients in 2021.



new homes for residents.

Working with the local Ivano-Frankivsk and Kyiv-City Rotary Clubs, the plan is to start rebuilding the village, which became a battleground for Russian soldiers forcing their way into Kyiv, destroying 80% of the village. Each temporary home, complete with essentials such as a fridge, beds, heaters and tables, will cost approximately £10,000.

In response to this appeal, our Past District Governor Allan Smith set our local district the challenge of raising £10,000 to build one property. Bishop's Waltham Rotary Club responded with a donation of £1,000 and to date as a district we now have enough money to build two properties, which has been an incredible effort in response to such desperate need.

Date for your diary

Calling all golf enthusiasts: we will be holding a Charity Golf event on Thursday 27th April 2023 at East Horton Golf Club. There will be 18 teams of four, early start with bacon (or similar) rolls in the morning, followed by lunch and "Stableford" in the afternoon.

The event has been kindly sponsored by Doyle & Palmer Wealth Management, and for more information either visit our website, keep an eye out for updates on Facebook or, if you want to enter a team email sara.walker@bishopsalthamrotary.org.uk.

Ian Treveil

Waltham Chase WI All sorts of jumble

Waltham Chase WI will be holding a Jumble Sale on Saturday 15th October at 12.30pm at Waltham Chase Village Hall.

There will be clothing, bric-à-brac, toys, and puzzles on sale as well as a tombola. Lunches, tea and coffee will be available from Ria's cafe.

Any surplus items will be collected by the British Heart Foundation and used by them to raise funds. Entrance is 50p.

Enquiries to 01329 833148.

Dates for your diaries

September

- 26th Sept–1st Oct 2.30pm/7.30pm “Sitting Pretty”, Acorn Theatre, Titchfield.
30th September 9am Barnaby’s “World’s biggest coffee morning”.
30th Sept–2nd Oct 10am to 5pm until 4pm on Sunday, The Garden Show at Broadlands Estate, Romsey.

October

- 1st October 7pm “Harvest Beer and Hymns”, Paterson Centre. Plenty of singing, with beer and supper provided tickets £8 & £4.
2nd October 10am harvest All age communions, St Barnabas.
4th October 2pm U3A , Wickham Centre, “Walking in the Canaries” with Jim Busby.
5th October 10am Wickham Ramblers, Swanmore, The Four Woodlands Walk
5th October 6.30pm, Wickham Surgery, Heartstart CPR training, free session
5th–7th October 9.30am–5pm Bishop’s Waltham Photographic Society Annual Exhibition, United Free Church, Bishop’s Waltham.
5th–15th October 7.30p, “Machinal”, Oak Theatre, Titchfield.
6th October 2pm–5pm Bridge Tea, The Manor House, Preshaw, SO24 0PB.
12th October 10am Wickham Ramblers, Upham Rowhay Lane and Woodlocks Down Farm.
12th October 8pm, Paterson Centre, Swanmore Society “What the Butler Saw” by Dr Bob France.
14th October 7pm “Murder Cruise” in aid of Home-Start Hampshire and Meon Valley Lions, Swanmore Village Hall.
15th October 12.30pm Waltham Chase Village Hall, WI Jumble Sale.
15th October Family photo-shoot day, Swanmore Pre-school.
18th October 2pm U3A , Wickham Centre, “Titanic Southampton” by Geoff Watts.
18th October 7.30pm, St Peter’s Church Hall, Bishop’s Waltham WI “From Utah to the New Forest” by Gill Southwell.
25th October 2pm–4pm, Meon Valley Carers, Paterson Centre – Joyful jams.
26th October 7pm Denmead War Memorial Hall, Heartstart CPR training, free session.
29th October Light Party at St Barnabas 4-6pm ages 3-10years.
30th October 10am Wickham Ramblers, Swanmore via Nature Reserve and Soberton,.
30th October 4pm tea and 5pm Annual Memorial and Thanksgiving service, St Barnabas.

November

- 1st November 2pm U3A , Wickham Centre, “The Eden Project” by Jill Daniels.
9th November 8pm, Paterson Centre, Swanmore Society, “Hampshire Stories from the Archives” by Barry Shurlock.
13th November 10am St Barnabas, Remembrance Sunday followed by 10.50am at the war memorial.
15th November 2pm U3A , Wickham Centre, “Wildflower Hotspots” by Carol Watson.
15th November 7.30pm, St Peter’s Church Hall, Bishop’s Waltham WI “Probate and powers of attorney” by James Freemantle.
19th November 7.30pm All Saints Church, Botley, Centennial Concert.
22nd November 2pm–4pm, Meon Valley Carers, Cream tea at Haskins Garden Centre, West End.

December/January

- 6th December 2pm U3A , Wickham Centre, “Winchester part.4” by Andrew Negus.
9th December 7pm St Barnabas, BLOW Saxophone Ensemble, tickets £10 (under-16s free).
28th January 7.30pm A capella music and readings on the theme of love with Peter, Susie and Rosie Fellows, and friends at St Barnabas.

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*Jewel lillies (Nerine sarniensis) at
Exbury Gardens.*

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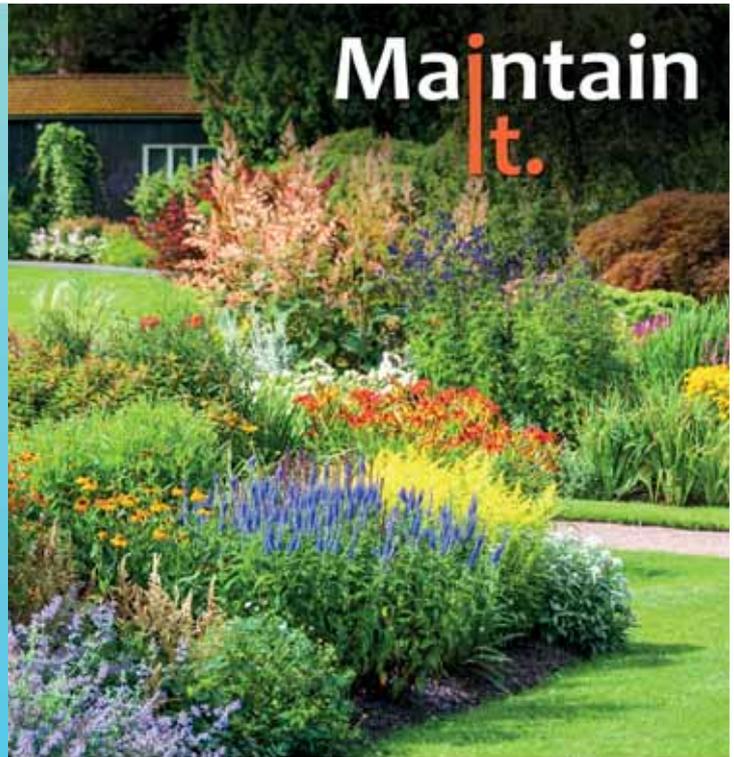
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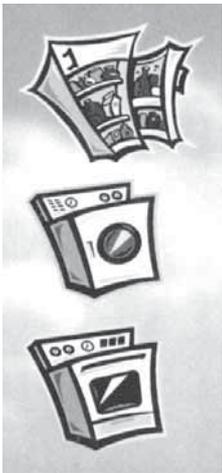
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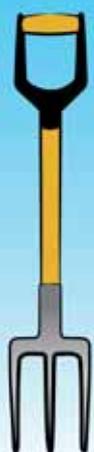


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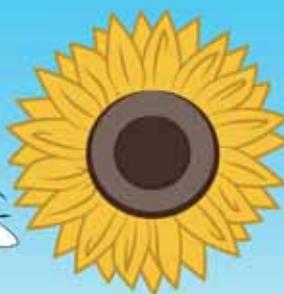
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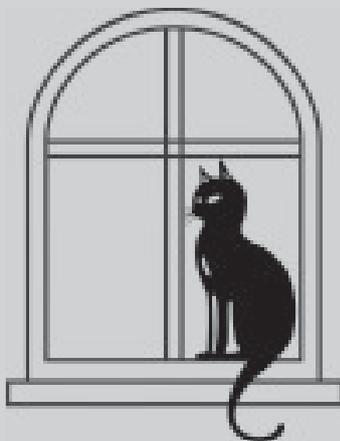
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