

August/September 2023

# *The* **Swanmore** *Link*



A "good" from Ofsted  
Swanmore Open Gardens  
Finding old roads  
The mysterious Argiope

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**Deadline for the October/November issue is  
Wednesday 6th September 2023.**

**Copies will be available to collect at  
The Link from Tuesday 26th September**

*The Swanmore Link* is published by the Parochial Church Council of Swanmore six times a year.

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Front cover: Autumn leaf litter at Exbury Gardens

Back cover: Swanmore Open Gardens and Swanmore Village Fête

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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.

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 £11 p.a. to cover postage. To arrange payment please contact treasurer@stbarnabas.org.uk.

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.

## Swanmore Primary School Vacancies

### Lunchtime Supervisory Assistants

Salary - £10.50 up to £10.60 per hour

Hours of work - 12noon–1.15pm or 12noon–2.30pm Monday to Friday

We currently have vacancies for Lunchtime Supervisory Assistants. Ideally, we are looking for people who can work five days a week but we will also consider even one or two days per week.

We recognise how important this part of the school day is and are looking for calm and caring people to help our children enjoy a positive lunchtime.

For an application pack please call into the school office, phone 01489 894555 or email – adminoffice@swanmore-pri.hants.sch.uk

# How to read the Bible

For about twelve years I taught Readers and Clergy on the Guildford Diocesan Ministry Course to think carefully about how the Bible is to be read, so that they could have confidence that Christian belief is well-founded and can stand scrutiny. Jill Phipps will have done something similar in her training and, in a sceptical and forensic world, it is important that we understand that faith should never be blind.

In the Bible we learn that God is love and that Jesus is of the same substance as God; so that when Jesus died on the cross, God as Son died and God as Father and God as Holy Spirit was/were bereaved. Scripture teaches us that love makes everyone vulnerable, not least God, but that nothing apart from love is worth a candle.

However, to reach this understanding the Bible must be read with Reason. When the Bible is read intelligently it is clear that our understanding of God develops over time – within the lifetime of the scripture and beyond. The Bible was written within specific human cultures and cannot simply “jump the gun”. God has to accommodate it to the world as then developed, otherwise it would be indecipherable.

So, for example, the biblical material is unlikely to commend homosexual activity as “natural” when the understanding of sexuality at the time was so limited: when Genesis was written the scientific knowledge that homosexuality is present across a wide range of animal species was absent – along with any possibility of this playing into a wider cultural understanding. A scientific parallel would be to recognise that the discovery of DNA could not happen in human history ahead of the successful development of X-ray crystallography.



Human slavery is another example of how human reason and Christian love slowly changed our view of something that was generally accepted in New

Testament times. This dialogue has been settled (with the help of people like Wilberforce) but not without a huge fight over many years – vested interests were the primary cause of the delay, but serious debate takes time too. After all, Scripture is God given and human Reason is not infallible.

The third element to contribute to mature Christian thought is Tradition. In Scripture you will find scant support for infant baptism, which is partly why Baptists exist as a separate representation of God's church. But by the third century infant baptism was commonplace across the vast majority of churches. Whilst clearly not a priority for the New Testament gospel or letter writers, once the first congregations had started to grow and whole families had embraced Christianity, it became self-evident to baptise everyone.

The final element to consider in this process of discernment is human Experience. God intended us to work with him by living out Scripture – using it, reasoning with it, and developing through it. In this process we find women who have experienced a call to ordination before it was possible – and homosexuals who desire to be committed to their partners through Christian marriage.

**Scripture, Reason, Tradition, Experience.** It's like a string quartet attempting to play a most beautiful piece of music, and finding that to play it well takes time and loving consultation - everyone playing their part, and no one with an amplifier.

*Revd Canon Nick Whitehead*

**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.**



The following contact details may be useful:  
**Ministry Team:** [ministers@stbarnabas.org.uk](mailto:ministers@stbarnabas.org.uk)  
Nick & Hazel Whitehead on 01489 895327  
**Churchwardens:**  
[churchwardens@stbarnabas.org.uk](mailto:churchwardens@stbarnabas.org.uk)  
**Paterson Centre/Parish Office:**  
[office@stbarnabas.org.uk](mailto:office@stbarnabas.org.uk) or 07857 936023

# Services in August and September



**Sunday 6th August**  
*The Transfiguration*  
8am Holy Communion  
10am Holy Communion

**Sunday 13th August**  
*Tenth after Trinity*  
No 8am  
10am Holy Communion  
*Baptism of Oscar Lewis Tapley*



**Sunday 20th August**  
*Eleventh after Trinity*  
8am Holy Communion  
10am Songs of Praise

## Songs of Praise

Come and join us on 20th August for a summer service of praise and thanksgiving as we sing some of the congregation's favourite hymns and listen to some poems and readings.

**Sunday 27th August**  
*Twelfth after Trinity*  
No 8am  
10am Holy Communion

**Sunday 3rd September**  
*Thirteenth after Trinity*  
8am Holy Communion  
10am Holy Communion

## From the Registers

### Weddings

3rd June – Samuel Oliver Cowley and Anna Roberta Burningham

### Funerals

26th June – Irene Ekless  
30th June – Teresa Silvester

**Sunday 10th September**  
*Fourteenth after Trinity*  
No 8am  
10am Holy Communion

**Saturday 16th September**  
Wedding of Oliver James Wilkinson and Camilla Jane Hamilton Pelly



**Sunday 17th September**  
*Fifteenth after Trinity*  
8am Holy Communion  
10am Café Church on the Parable of the Lost Sheep

**Sunday 24th September**  
*Sixteenth after Trinity*  
No 8am  
10am Holy Communion

**Sunday 1st October**  
*Seventeenth after Trinity*  
8am Holy Communion  
10am All Age Harvest Festival (not Communion)



**Sunday 8th October**  
*Eighteenth after Trinity*  
No 8am  
10am Holy Communion



## 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 in August and September

All services will commence at **10.30am**.

6th August	Rosie Banks – Holy Communion
13th August	Gill Bailey
20th August	David Boswell
27th August	Grace Westerduin

3rd September	Ron Morgan
10th September	Kathy Elvy/Jill Letts – Harvest Festival
17th September	Revd. Phil Griffin – Holy Communion
24th September	Revd. Bob Kitching

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. Meetings are held via Skype and the first Thursday each month in person in the Church. If you would like to join us please contact Jill Letts – 01489 896182; email: [jill.letts@hotmail.com](mailto:jill.letts@hotmail.com)

### Coffee and Company

Weekly on Tuesdays at 10am to 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.

### TLC (Tuesday Ladies' Club)

12th September at 7.30 pm  
Our life in Zambia  
Subscriptions are £25.00 for the year (11 meetings) payable in September or £3.00 per meeting. All ladies welcome.

### Men's Group

Thursday 21 September at 7.30 pm TBA  
All are welcome and there will be light refreshments. For further details contact Martin Letts on 01489 896182

### Wickham Festival 3rd–6th August 2023

Once again, Meon Valley Methodist Circuit has been invited to the Wickham Festival with our ever-popular Elemental Tent so if you are going to the festival drop in and see us!

### 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 or email: [swanmoremclettings@gmail.com](mailto:swanmoremclettings@gmail.com)

## Weedmonth

At this time of year many of the most casual of gardeners wrestle with what are commonly called “weeds”. The Anglo-Saxons called the month of August “Weodmonath” (weed month) and for them the removal of weeds from their cereal crops was a little more urgent than the annoyance that weeds may cause us. We may get backache as we try to discover the root of some bindweed or sore knees as we gingerly tackle some stinging nettles but for many civilisations of the past, weeding was a necessity for a successful harvest.

What exactly is a weed? The OED defines it as “a wild plant growing where it is not wanted”. A wild plant growing in our gardens spoils the view, so we find a trowel, dig it out and throw it in the compost bin, easy! Do we have things growing in our lives that are not wanted? It’s not always quite as straightforward as weeding the flower bed.

In the New Testament Jesus spoke about weeds, thistles and thorns in some of his parables. He said weeds would grow up alongside the good seed and to begin with it would be difficult to see the difference between the two but eventually, unless action was taken, the weeds would choke the desired crop. Jesus went on to explain the parable by saying that some weeds were like the worries of this life. I wonder how often we find worries choking the joy out of our life? Sometimes these worries may seem trivial and for others who struggle to pay the bills and put food on the table these worries are very real. Many sleepless nights are caused by the “worries of this life”. There has also been a steady rise in the need for antidepressants in recent years, especially among young people. The worries of this life are much harder to remove than the odd dandelion or hairy bittercress.

However, “a wild plant growing where it is not wanted” begs the question: “not wanted” by whom? Many of our native wild plants are needed by our diminishing wildlife for their survival. Bees, butterflies and other pollinators need our weeds and we need bees for our survival too. I’m not suggesting that we leave our gardens to the mercy of the weeds though I would encourage you to admire some of these beautiful wild flowers before you pull them out.

There may be many things in our lives that are “not wanted”; things that can cause us to worry and be anxious. How we wish we could simply remove them like the weeds in our gardens. I have no simple answers to offer you but I can leave you with some more words of Jesus from the Gospel of Matthew...“Come unto me all of you who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest...and you will find rest for your souls”.

Mark Chester  
Methodist Circuit Steward



## St Barnabas Social and Fundraising Programme

As I write, the weather forecast is showing a mixture of sun and light showers. We hope and pray that this improves and everyone has a super afternoon at the Teddy Bear’s Picnic on 16th July without needing to move indoors. Events planned for coming months are:

### Saturday 9th September: Film Night with Supper at the Village Hall

We have decided on *West Side Story* – the 2021 Steven Spielberg remake (PG-13). I saw the 1961 original, it was brilliant, and I have been told the remake is even better, so we’ll see. Fancy dress is optional, there will a cash bar and a two-course supper. Doors open 7pm, the film will start at 7:30pm, supper will be served at 8:30pm. Tickets (£12 adults, £6 children) go on sale in August and can be obtained by contacting me at [jsharpe2016@hotmail.com](mailto:jsharpe2016@hotmail.com), 01489 892750, or Rick Ankers 07970 656515, [rick.ankers@gmail.com](mailto:rick.ankers@gmail.com).

### Saturday 7th October Beer and Hymns

This popular event is back at the Paterson Centre featuring our usual mix of hymns and “singalong songs”. Tickets (£10 adults, £5 under-16s) go on sale in September. They can be obtained by contacting me, see above. Supper will be served in the interval and the beer, wine and soft drinks cash bar will be open throughout. Doors and bar open at 7pm and singing starts at 7:30pm.

### Saturday 18th November Oh Heck! Paterson Centre

Our usual format of whist and a fish and chip supper with lots of laughter (this is not a serious evening of cards). If you haven’t played before, it takes a couple of minutes to learn, a bit longer if you have never played cards. If asked, I am happy to run teaching sessions at mutually convenient times.

John Sharpe

Deacon Jill

## Thank you from a newest "Reverend"

A huge thank you to you all – in the village and at St Barnabas – for your cards, good wishes, flowers, fizz, and my white ordination stole that you gave me on my last Sunday at St Barnabas on 11th June. Your wonderful generosity included a monetary gift too - thank you so much for your love and the prayers that have kept me going on this path that I first stepped onto two years ago.

My ordination day at Portsmouth Cathedral on 24th June was wonderful and it was lovely to see Swanmore folk there to share in it. I have now started as the (part-time) curate at the United Benefice Churches of Shedfield and Wickham.

Sadly, one of my first services was the funeral of the Vicar, Canon Jane Isaac, which took place on Friday 7th July. Please keep David, their son Thomas and Jane's family in your prayers, as well as the congregations of both churches.

I am not moving out of Swanmore so I look forward to continuing to meet you all in the shop, on walks with Bonny or in Barnaby's drinking coffee and eating cake!

*Jill Phipps*



*Jill with husband Martin after her ordination.*



## Memorial service at West Hoe

The annual West Hoe Cemetery Memorial Service will be held on Saturday 16th September at 2.30pm.

As usual the service is ecumenical, open to all and provides an ideal opportunity to remember any loved ones interred in the cemetery. This year the service will be taken by Revd Canon Hazel Whitehead.

West Hoe Cemetery is jointly managed by Bishop's Waltham and Swanmore Parish Councils. As well as conventional lawn areas for interments it also includes a natural meadow for ashes and a pet cemetery.

Volunteering  
Can you help support the Lunch Club?



Gentlemen (or ladies) of Swanmore – do you think you could spare some time to help Swanmore Lunch Club with putting the tables and chairs out on Wednesday mornings ready for the helpers to lay for the lunch and then to come and put them away again at the end?

We also need other helpers for vegetable prep, hostessing (i.e. selling eggs, raffle tickets and serving the meal) and washing up. If we get enough volunteers it should only be for a couple of hours once a month. If you feel you could help please get in touch: [ann.warrington@btinternet.com](mailto:ann.warrington@btinternet.com) or 01329 510667 or 07850 100547.

*Ann Warrington*

## Local groups Come and join Swanmore Art Group

We are a small friendly group who meet on Thursdays from 2pm to 4pm in the Paterson Centre. We cater for all abilities in a variety of media. If you have never drawn or painted before just come along and have a go. Lots of help and encouragement will be given. Materials can be ordered and ideas given to get you started.

The whole purpose of the group is to have fun and enjoy what you are doing. It doesn't matter what you produce as long as you have enjoyed the process. Our next term begins on Thursday 21st September. We look forward to seeing you.

For more information please contact me on 01489 893378.

*Julia Wright*

Swanmore Open Gardens

# A great time for all – despite the forecast

Just as in April, the weather forecast for the Open Gardens weekend of 17th/18th June was unduly pessimistic and attendance was well down.

Those that did come had a great time, the gardens were absolutely tip-top and, of course, there were those delicious cakes. Nevertheless, we raised more than £1,000 and, added to our record April weekend, our total for the year was £3,200.

These are much needed funds that are shared between Rowans, St Barnabas and the Paterson Centre.

*John Sharpe*

1. Highfield Farm, Green Lane
2. Dahlia Cottage, Vicarage Lane
3. Hill Farm House, Droxford Road

*Pictures by Bertie Ferrone*



## Murder Mystery

### Home-Start at the Village Hall

Following the success of the “Murder Cruise” mystery evening last year, Home-Start Hampshire is presenting a new Murder Mystery by Martin Letts, titled “A Diplomatic Incident”, at Swanmore Village Hall on Friday 13th October at 7pm. Tickets are £12.50, which will include a light supper. Last year was a sell-out, so if you would like to reserve tickets contact Dinah Weberstadt on 01489 896967.

*Gillian Dirks*

## Swanmore Wellness Week

### Prioritise your well-being

Join us for a week-long series of activities dedicated to nurturing your mind, body and spirit this October.

On Saturday 7th October from 10am to 1pm, we will bring together local wellness experts, speakers, and enthusiasts for a special kick-off event at the Paterson Centre.

Take part in interactive sessions, empowering workshops, and inspiring talks by local wellness experts. Discover wellness services local to you, explore products and connect with like-minded individuals. There will be something for everyone including mindfulness meditation, holistic massage, reflexology, pilates, walking groups, and nutrition advice.

And it doesn't stop there. On the day, you can choose to sign up to a variety of wellness activities taking place across the week. For more information contact Alison Potter at [alison@mindfulbreathstudio.co.uk](mailto:alison@mindfulbreathstudio.co.uk) or Mel Cutriss at [melanie@relaxandretreat.co.uk](mailto:melanie@relaxandretreat.co.uk)

*Alison Potte*

## Hampshire Open Studios

# Landscape paintings on display in Swanmore

Swanmore artist Jerry Smith will again be taking part in this year's Hampshire Open Studios week from Saturday 19th to Monday 28th August. His studio on Vicarage Lane will be open daily from 10am to 5pm. A range of new landscape paintings and drawings will be on show, plus prints, cards, coasters and placemats for sale.

The local Meon Valley and South Downs landscape continues to provide Jerry's inspiration and with longer, sunnier days there's more opportunity to sketch outdoors and soak up the atmosphere. Heading out from Swanmore towards Droxford or Soberton, the River Meon and the old railway line are easily accessible.

Inspiration also comes from the dappled light and shadow along Mayhill Lane, and from the open fields, wide skies and banks of cloud over Cott Street. Over time you can get to know these places well, but the changing seasons will inevitably throw new light on a familiar scene.

Recently, Jerry has been working in charcoal to produce landscape drawings with a variety of expressive marks. Some of these have already been shown at Barnaby's Coffee Shop. He also continues to produce larger paintings in oil and acrylic, including several new River Meon scenes this year.

Jerry does painting demonstrations for local art groups and offers private tuition. He is also looking to start up a new regular evening painting class for a small group in the autumn.

For more information please visit [jerrysmithartist.co.uk](http://jerrysmithartist.co.uk)

*Left: Green Lane, Upper Swanmore (charcoal).*

*Below: River Meon north of Wickham (oil).*



## Swanmore Pre-school Getting ready for "big" school

At Swanmore Pre-school we have linked with "FOSPS" Summer Fair, and we hope it will become an annual event. A big thank you to everyone who came and helped organise our summer fête; once again the weather was perfect, and it was a great success. The total amount raised was £282.20, which will be used towards supporting our provisions and new resources for the children to enjoy.

It is that time of the year when we will be saying goodbye to the children going to school this September. We have been very busy encouraging the children to be confident, independent, active thinkers ready for school. During their last term, the children have enjoyed their visits to their schools and meeting their new teachers. We are very proud of how much everyone has flourished and grown during their time at our Pre-school. We wish all the children the very best with this transition to primary school.

We return on Monday 4th September and are looking forward to welcoming back our children and new families. We are unable to take any further applications as we are full until 2025, so enquires will be added to a waiting list. Please contact me on 07958436396 or [sarah.hiscock@swanmorepreschool.org.uk](mailto:sarah.hiscock@swanmorepreschool.org.uk)

*Sarah Hiscock*



*The Pre-school's summer fête display.*

Diamond weddings

## Congratulations to two Swanmore couples

Reaching a Diamond Wedding Anniversary to celebrate 60 years of marriage is a major achievement for any couple. To have two Swanmore couples celebrating their Diamond Anniversaries in the same year might even be possible.

But to have two couples celebrating not only in the same month but on the same day is certainly one for the record books.

Congratulations to Anne and Frank Pearson of Mayhill Lane and to Jill and David Newberry of Chapel Road who will both be celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversaries on Thursday 17th August this year.



*Above: Anne and Frank Pearson.  
Left: Jill and David Newberry.*



### In Memoriam

## Remembering Valerie Franks

Valerie Franks, a long-term resident of Waltham Chase, Swanmore and Bishop's Waltham, was a survivor. Born prematurely in 1932, she and her twin sister Mignon were not expected to live, so they were wrapped in cotton wool and put to one side in a shoebox. Weighing just a pound each at birth they were alternately fed milk and brandy - allegedly preferring the brandy to the milk. The fact that Val then lived until she was almost 91, enduring some serious medical complications along the way, is a testament to her spirit, resilience, and sheer determination to carry on regardless.

Val was part of a stoical wartime generation that just got on with things. She served in the Women's Royal Air Force, but she met and married a sailor, Pete Franks, who spent considerable time away overseas in Cold War submarines. Val thus endured long periods when she was solely responsible for bringing up their three children - Christine, Angela, and Christopher.

Val cared tirelessly for her family

but also for anyone in the community that needed help – making up fires in the mornings, shopping, and cooking meals for the elderly and infirm when required. She also nursed a great-aunt, who had suffered a terrible stroke, around the clock for three long and arduous years without complaint.

Val's greatest contribution was to serve in the Red Cross for more than 35 years, being awarded numerous commendations along the way and the Voluntary Medical Services Medal in recognition. Many will remember that she looked after the Medical Loan equipment in Swanmore for 20 years, as well.

Val was always a part of the local community, be that within the Mother's Union, the Red Cross, serving for many years in Godwin's the Chemist in Bishop's Waltham, and as a dinner lady and first-aider at Swanmore Primary School. She was always just there, doing her bit to keep the social fabric of the community together.

Val was a dedicated cat lover

throughout her life and a keen gardener. She loved flowers but was also a great cultivator of fruit and vegetables. Latterly Val became a long-term resident of Ridgemedes Rest Home in Bishop's Waltham, where she passed away peacefully in May.

A modest but remarkable woman, Val Franks was a good and kind person who lived a long and meaningful life. Her legacy lives on in the lives of the many people she befriended, helped, and cared for along the way. She will be missed.  
*Vale Val!*

*Angela Franks*



Swanmore Conservation Group

# Plenty of butterflies but far fewer orchids this year

For more years than seems possible we have had the job of painting our "hut" in the Lower Meadow on our list of "jobs to do". This summer two members of our group have successfully painted the hut after having pressure washed it to remove the loose paint from the surface. This was made possible by the generous help of one of the residents of Broad Lane who "donated" the water! Hopefully now that the "hut" has been successfully painted it will last a good few more years.

In May one of our more knowledgeable members took a stroll through the Conservation Area; this is the list of what they saw and/or heard: wood pigeon, magpie, carrion crow, jackdaw, rook, starling, song thrush, blackcap, whitethroat, goldfinch, goldcrest, blue tit, chiffchaff and robin, together with a few speckled wood butterflies. It must be lovely to be able to identify birds by their song; most of us can only identify a few bird songs.

In late June the same member of our group saw the following types of butterflies in the meadows –marbled whites, skippers, meadow browns and ringlets, so perhaps 2023 will be a good year for butterflies.

This year there seem to have been very few common spotted orchids in the two meadows. Perhaps they have been overwhelmed by the tough grasses that have grown so well or perhaps they are there but we couldn't see them. In the upper part of Lower Meadow only 13 were seen and none in the Upper Meadow. This is a huge change over the course of a few years; the upper parts of both meadows had considerable numbers of orchids in recent years.

On the other hand, the marsh orchids have had a wonderful year; they have spread considerably with many more groups of flower spikes. Hopefully this is because over the last two years we have used brush cutters in the winter to reduce the tough

rushes that have spread in the wetter areas of the Upper Meadow. Altogether the wetter weather seems to be changing the growth in the meadows with the more vigorous rushes and grasses taking over.

The arboriculturist employed by the Parish Council has done a survey of the trees in the meadows and Green's Wood and has recommended the removal of several ash trees in the plantation that are suffering from ash dieback. This should mean that no other trees will need to be removed in order to thin out the plantation as had previously been recommended.

In Green's Wood there is still very little plant growth on the woodland floor despite the removal of several dead trees and the cutting back of self-seeded hollies and yews as recommended in previous surveys by an arboriculturist. This year, however, has seen a significant spread of the wild garlic with a few dandelions as well so there is hope at last.

We meet on the second Saturday each month, from 9.45am to 12noon with a break for coffee and biscuits at 11am. All help is welcome.

*Gill Sawyer*  
01489 894206

## St George Foundation

# Sunshine at the garden party

The 2023 Garden Party in Vicarage Lane on Saturday 24th June was a great success, held on such lovely afternoon, with a wonderful array of classic cars, face painting, plant stall, bric-a-brac, tombola, raffle, bouncy castle and games, along with a barbecued lunch and cream tea.

The band, Silver Lining, Serena Lynn, folk singer Olga and guitarist Marvin Naylor 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, a beautiful bouquet of flowers for the raffle from Juliet, vouchers from Josie's and help from so many other volunteers

Another great afternoon, raising

more than £2,700 for the charity, including a generous donation of nearly £200, raised for us by Barnaby's.

*Richard Green-Wilkinson*  
Photographs by Brian Pancott



Swanmore College

# Farewell to Year 11s and a visit from Ofsted

We had a visit from Ofsted inspectors at the end of May and we are very pleased to report that our rating has remained “good”, which in the current climate is not easy to achieve.

There are different standards of “good” and when you read the report it is obvious that we are at the very top end of good. Hence, there are comments such as:

- \* “Pupils’ behaviour in lessons and around the site is excellent.”
- \* “Leaders promote high standards of behaviour, which means that the school is very calm and orderly, consequently, learning is not disrupted.”

Other aspects of the report that we are particularly proud of are:

- \* “Pupils benefit from an impressive programme of enrichment and extra-curricular activities.”

*In fact, the lead inspector told staff and governors verbally that what we offered was “special, really special and rarely seen in a school”.*

- \* “Pupils, including those from disadvantaged backgrounds, produce work of a high standard.”

*This is a statement that sits at the core of what we believe Swanmore College is about. It shouldn’t matter*

*what your background is because all pupils will receive the same opportunities and disruptive-free learning environment so that pupils are extremely well prepared for the future.*

The full report will be published on the Ofsted and college websites very soon!

## Prom

We have now said a fond farewell to our Year 11 cohort. Their GCSE exams ended on 21st June and they celebrated the end of their time here at Swanmore with a Hollywood-themed Prom on 28th June (pictured right)

Our largest canopy was transformed into a movie set for the event, and pupils rocked up looking very glamorous, while enjoying street food and a fun fair. Great fun was had by all pupils and staff.

## Swanfest

Our annual music festival, Swanfest, was held in the Swanmore College grounds on Saturday 17th June, with huge performances from Blazin Squad, Artful Dodger and Toyah Wilcox, among many others. We are pleased to announce that Scouting for



Girls will be headlining next year’s event on Saturday 22nd June 2024. Tickets are already on sale at <https://book.events/swanfest/2024-06-22/42868>

## College productions

It has been a busy term for our Creative Departments. The Music Department staged their summer music concert on Monday 3rd July and our college production of *Chicago* took place on 11th, 12th and 13th July. Pupils and staff worked tirelessly for many weeks to put the production together. There was a large cast of singers, dancers and actors from across the pupil body. A big thank you to everyone involved!

## Swanmore Fête

# A great day out for all

The annual Meon Lions Swanmore Fête on 8th July may have had a very damp start as rain teamed down during the set-up, but as the sun crept gradually out so did the crowds with plenty of people to enjoy such delights as the Swan Samba Drumming Band, the Roynan Dance School display, a dog show full of enthusiastic owners, plenty of stalls with games to play and derlights to buy— as well as the Lions’ ever-popular barbecue. The weather wasn’t good enough for the Spitfire to

fly past but a Hurricane managed to appear instead to delight the crowds.



Above: Queuing for the Lions’ burgers. Left: Happy teacup riders.

Photographs by Peter Mason

Swanmore Society

# Weaving silk and wildlife gardening

In June we welcomed Deborah Wheeler to talk about the history of Whitchurch Silk Mill, which is located on an island in the River Test.

The first building on the site was an iron foundry built in 1813 by Henry Hatton. In 1817, the site was auctioned off and purchased by fabric trader William Maddox, who converted the building into a silk-weaving mill. The Whitchurch area has had a long history of cloth weaving so this was an ideal location for such an enterprise. Maddox inserted an extra floor to the mill to accommodate additional looms. All the machinery was – and still is – water-powered by a waterwheel fed by a mill race from the River Test.

After a succession of owners, the mill is now the responsibility of Hampshire Buildings Trust. This should ensure that it can be preserved as a working unit, using its traditional machinery and employing a number of skilled staff who set up and operate the looms. As an old building, the mill requires regular upkeep, a recent example being the replacement of the main waterwheel bearing that dated back to 1896.

Deborah brought with her numerous wonderful examples of the wide range of colourful fabrics that the mill produces.

*Right: Whitchurch Silk Mill on the River Test. Below; Wildlife garden with pond, hedge and a mix of native plants and cultivars.*



In July we had an excellent talk from Craig Whitelock of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, entitled “Making space for nature in your outdoor space”. He highlighted the urgent need to reverse the widespread and well-documented declines in wildlife species over recent decades before these trends reach a point of no return.

The Wildlife Trusts and similar bodies play a vital part by managing nature reserves where particular plants and animals can thrive; however, it is equally important to have “corridors” allowing these species to spread out and join up with other populations. In the countryside, hedges, field margins and rivers provide these links but in the built environment our own gardens, alongside community open spaces such as churchyards and school grounds, can fulfil this role if managed appropriately.

Craig discussed three approaches

to gardening – traditional, wildlife or rewilding – but clearly favoured the wildlife approach unless you have a very large space. Whichever route you take, there are several key aspects to enhance the value of your garden for wildlife:

- Create different spaces or habitats such as grass, herbaceous border, shrubs and trees.
- Include a pond or wet area, even if it's only small, with a slope or ramp.
- Provide a wide range of plants for pollinators and across all seasons if possible.
- Use native species alongside cultivated varieties.
- Create natural shade.

With the wildlife approach, you are further encouraged to avoid digging, use dense planting, reduce pruning, include areas of both long and short grass, leave seedheads until the following spring, and provide an undisturbed log pile. Craig's main message was: you can do something to encourage and benefit wildlife however small your garden is.

The Society takes a break in August so our next meeting is at 8pm on 13th September, when Andrew Negus will return to deliver the third part in his series on the history of Portsmouth. This instalment will cover the period from 1860 to 1930 during which the dockyard tripled in size and the dung finally disappeared. Our meetings are held in the Paterson Centre and all are welcome.

*Caroline Clapperton (01489 891447)  
and Crawford Wright*



### Community Award Winners

Congratulations to our 2023 Community Service Award winner (Individual) Tony King, nominated for decades of faithful voluntary work in contributing to the musical life of St Barnabas in Swanmore.

Tony has been playing the organ in church for over 20 years. He has proven himself to be calm, reliable and a loyal friend to St Barnabas and its congregation. Wonderfully flexible, supportive, uncomplaining and hardworking, and the musical life of the church would be so much the poorer without him.

Related to that, Tony was the driving force behind the original Village Design Statement and its later revised version. Read that and you are seeing how much Tony cares for the village that has been his home for so many years, not to mention his service as Churchwarden, sidesman, tennis club stalwart and chair of governors of Swanmore Primary School.

Congratulations also to our 2023 Community Service Award Winner (Group) Swanmore Beavers.

This wonderful group offers an incredible range of experiences for young children. It is a fantastically welcoming and inclusive group who have an awful lot of fun whilst learning so much about the wider world and

*Below: Jon Woodman with delighted Beavers and Scout leaders*



*SPC chairman Jon Woodman with Tony King.*

developing their skills in so many areas. Their leaders work tirelessly and give up an incredible amount of their time to ensure that every child has a positive experience. Well done to both Tony and the Beavers, wonderful assets to our community.

### Community Project Award

There was just one winner of this year's Community Project Award. Swanmore Primary School were awarded £2,000 to go towards the costs of running the School minibus, which enables school children to access additional activities they would not otherwise be able to do.



### AutoSpeedWatch Pilot

In July the Parish Council has completed a successful three-month trial of the AutoSpeedWatch device in New Road.

This device captures images of speeding vehicles, replacing the traditional Community Speed Watch volunteers who would stand at the side of the road. The data gathered is automatically sifted, the idea being that the police are only sent details of the most persistent offenders, therefore saving police time and resources.

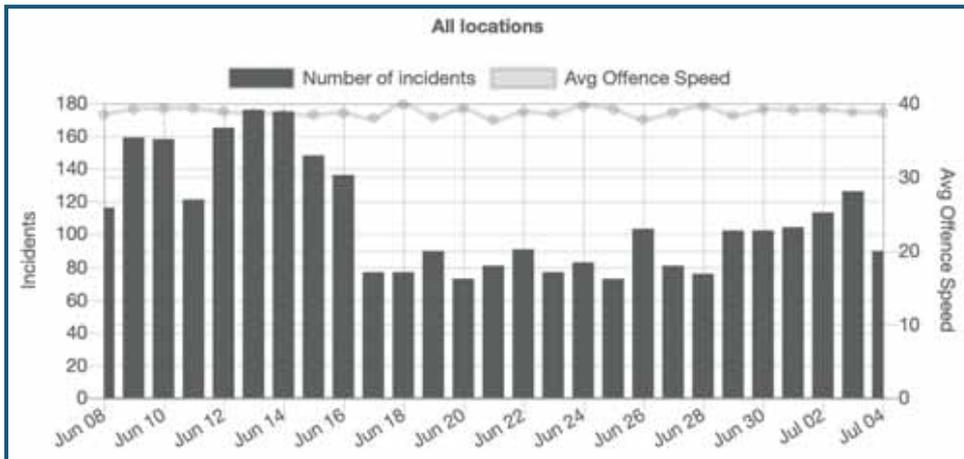
During its installation on New Road, the device captured on average 85 vehicles per day going over 35 mph. The highest recorded speed was 69 mph and the most persistent offender was captured speeding 23 times in a five-week period with a maximum recorded speed of 47 mph. On the opposite page is a snapshot of the data gathered over the last five weeks of the trial.

The data vindicates the concerns long expressed by residents and the Parish Council; we now have clear evidence of excess and persistent speeding on New Road.

### What happens next?

The Parish Council plans to talk to Hampshire Constabulary about that data and how we can work together to use the information. We will consider installing further devices at other





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 Tracey Molloy  
 Executive Officer  
 Hollythorns House, New Road  
 Swanmore, SO32 2NW  
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 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.

For the period shown there have been 2,973 verified speeding incidents, with the maximum speed recorded at 69 mph.

speeding hot spots around the village. For the last three years we have been in discussions with Hampshire Highways about traffic calming measures on New Road. Designs are currently being finalised for two build outs to be installed on the stretch of road from the college towards Forest Road. We will share designs and a timescale for these works when we have this information.

**Litter station**

Following a request from one of our younger residents, we have installed a litter station at New Road Playing Field (pictured right).

Unfortunately, it doesn't prevent the litter bugs, but it does allow our residents and visitors who want to



help keep the area clean to pick up rubbish safely. We are unable to leave out litter pickers/grabbers for safety reasons, so this is the next best

option. You take a bag and use it to grab the rubbish to put in the bin.

**Swanmore's forward vision**  
 Swanmore Parish Council needs your help. Over the years numerous activities have been identified via village surveys and feedback from residents and councillors as areas where the Parish Council should support or provide investment in order to help the wider community.

We now need to prioritise these activities and feed them back into our Forward Plan.

If you have not yet voted, please let us know what matters to you. Please vote for your top two

Please cut out, scan or photocopy the form below and drop it into the office or you can email or phone your vote – or simply call into the office and tell us.

**SPC Meeting Dates**  
 Council meetings are open to the public and are held in the Parish Office, usually starting at 7pm. There are no meetings scheduled in August.  
 12th September – Planning & Highways Committee  
 19th September – Open Spaces & Amenities Committee  
 26th September – Full Council  
 10th October – Planning & Highways Committee  
 17th October – Open Spaces & Amenities Committee  
 31st October – Finance Committee.  
 Please contact the Parish Office if you would like more information.

	<b>Community Centre</b> (invest in the Village Hall to develop it as a more comprehensive community centre)
	<b>Refurbish the Pavilion</b>
	<b>Community Orchard</b> (if space allows)
	<b>Social Housing</b> (Invest in parish council owned social housing)
	<b>Scout/Guide Hut</b>
	<b>Play equipment across the village</b>
	<b>Outdoor gym</b>
	<b>Kiosk at the Skate Park (selling drinks and snacks)</b>
	<b>Other</b> _____

# Tracks, trails and transport

Crawford Wright takes a look at how road developments and changing forms of transport helped shape our village.

Today Swanmore residents take it for granted that journey times to Winchester or Alton can be measured in minutes. This is a comparatively new reality: 150 years ago a journey to Winchester could take a day and to Alton two days.

There wasn't a shortage of suitable tracks and roads – more a lack of any form of transport.

Since there has been human habitation in the Meon Valley for thousands of years some form of north/south trackway would have been used. The South Downs Ridgeway, which ran from Beachy Head to Salisbury Plain, is possibly 5,000 years old and can still be traced across the Meon Valley from Old Winchester Hill down to Warnford, where it crosses the ford of the River Meon, and onto Beacon Hill.

Later, the Romans designed and built the road from Chichester to Winchester; parts can also be traced today especially the sections at North Boarhunt and Morestead. As well as this major road, the Romans would

*Swanmore Road looking uphill towards The Brickmakers in the 1920s.*



*Possible layout of Swanmore's roads in 1551. Dodds Lane is marked Dod(well) Lane; Hoe Lane is Hoo Lane. Gervys Lane is now Hampton Farm Lane. Hampton Hill is Holt Lane. Semans Lane starts as what we now call Vicarage Lane and then becomes Mayhill*



*Lane, while the rest of Vicarage Lane was once Peke Lane. Drove Lane is today's Green Lane. Well Lane was Prantock Lane and Cut Throat Lane was Pyt Lane. Droxford Road was Hylstrete – part of the Royal Road..*  
From "Harold Barstow "1551 Droxford Manor Records", translated and published 1996.

have used trackways along the Meon Valley to access their villas, and other buildings such as the temple and bath house at Exton.

By the Middle Ages there would have been local trackways that can also be traced today, including the original route from Wickham to Droxford, which passed through what is now Swanmore. From Wickham the track ran up Mill Lane, along Frith Lane, over the cross roads on the Bishopswood Road, along a short

section of Mislingford Road, across the Holywell estate to St Claire's Farm and down a bridleway to Midlington. The route then crosses the current A32 towards Soberton but turns left across a footpath to join Mill Lane, which leads to Droxford Mill and on to Brockbridge.

## Swanmore's oldest roads

Among the oldest roads in Swanmore is the route now covered by Hoe Road, Swanmore Road, Church Road and Dodds Lane along to Cott Street, past the Tudor House and onto the old north/south trackway at St Clair's Estate where the farm house is built on the old manor house of Bensted St Clair's. There is an early reference to Bensted in a document dated 956 from King Eadwig (940–959) granting land at Bensted to a Lady Ethelhild. The St Clair family held the manor from about 1160 to 1390.

Hampton Hill – once known as Holt Lane after John Holt who held land alongside it – is also an old trackway, possibly used to bring cattle down to the pond and to graze on the Chase. Green Lane from the top of Vicarage

## DIY pot hole mending

In 1555 Parliament passed The Highways Act making it compulsory for parishes to maintain local roads. On four days – chosen between Easter and Midsummer’s Day – owners of horses and carts were obliged to loan them to those working on the roads. All householders, as well as “every other cottager and labourer free to labour”, was to work (or send a substitute able-bodied labourer) for the four days; failure to do so resulted in a fine of 12d (5p) per day. All labourers were to provide their own equipment and work on the roads for eight hours on the four days.

Lane across to Mayfield Lane and onto Droxford is another ancient trackway. When the hamlet of Swanmore was still within the parish of Droxford these tracks were important “church paths” allowing residents faster routes to the parish church for compulsory Sunday workshop.

The first Turnpike Acts were passed in 1663, allowing groups to fund toll roads. Gates were erected and tolls collected for the upkeep of the roads. These new roads provided some employment: men were paid 1shilling (5p) a day and children 6d (2.5p) to bring loads of stones to be used in the work. Today, one can still see the coaching inns – including *The Hunters Inn* – along the route for changing horses. An old toll house can also still

*The Hunters Inn in c.1930s showing the bowling green that would be replaced by a car park.*



*Chauffeur Albert Wickens stands next to William Myers’ 1912 Darracque.*

be seen on the B2177 opposite Paradise Lane. Non-toll roads remained the responsibility of the parish.

In 1758 the Lords passed an Act “...for repairing and widening the Roads from Chawton Pond in the Parish of Chawton in the County of Southampton, through Rumsdean Bottom, Westmeon, Warnford, Exton, Bishop’s Waltham, and over Sherrill Heath, and through Wickham and Fareham, to the Town of Gosport; and from Exton aforesaid, through Droxford, to the East End of Sherrill Heath”.

A similar Act also authorised a new turnpike road from Bishop’s Waltham to Fishers Pond (now the B2177) and on to Winchester and Stockbridge. This had the advantage of being a level route and avoided the old road via Beeches Hill and St Stephens

Down to Morestead. Another driver for this toll road was that William Cobbett was building a road from Botley to Fishers Pond and Bishop’s Waltham residents thought that they might lose trade to Botley. This road was further improved in 1965 when a new section across the Bishop’s Waltham pond allowed traffic to avoid going into the town.

Whilst new toll roads speeded up traffic for coaches, tradespeople and personal travel, they were not used by all: many poorer people were unlikely to use them since they rarely left their community.

## Developing the A32

In the 1820s the current A32 from Wickham to Droxford was one of the last main roads to be built in the area. The citizens of Wickham wanted a direct route to Wickham Square to ensure that any trade would come to them, rather than taking the direct route which runs past St Nicholas’ church. Needless to say their petition failed and today’s A32 – so designated in 1922 – goes nowhere near Wickham Square.

In 1863 Droxford Highways Board was set up under the chairmanship of Bettsworth Pitt Shearer, who lived at the old Swanmore House. The board was responsible for all roads in the district. During his time the Bishop’s▶



*The Linter family's cycle shop in Chapel Road, pictured in the early 1900s, was started by brothers William and Edward in 1895. The shop survived well into the 1950s. The adjoining house is now known as Suncot.*

Waltham to Swanmore Road was widened to 30 feet.

Later, an Act of Parliament was passed that made trunk roads, which were normally turnpikes, become the responsibility of the county. It was many years later that the roads were macadamised, with drainage and

footpaths provided. Most of this work was carried out prior to the First World War: Stumps Titheridge recalled in his diary that in June 1912 workmen: "Finished tarring Swanmore Hill".

### Changing forms of transport

Perhaps the most significant development to transform the lives of ordinary people was the bicycle, which became more commonly available (and reliable) in the 1880s. By this time bicycles had pedals, a chain drive and later pneumatic tyres.

These simple inventions allowed

ordinary people an affordable means of transport for work or pleasure. It meant that they could seek work much further afield – in Portsmouth or Southampton – so improving job opportunities and standards of living. Swanmore had its own bicycle shop at what is now Flint Cottage in Chapel Road. The company would sell bicycles on easy payment terms, as well as providing spares and a repair service.

The beginning of the twentieth century saw the wider introduction of the motor car – despite its expense: at around £1,000 that would have been 20 years pay for a labourer. If you were rich enough to own a car then you would most probably have your own chauffeur as well. The first car in Swanmore was a Humber, owned by Murray Gladstone who lived at Hampton House in Hampton Hill, while William Myers at Swanmore House had a Daimler. As the twentieth century progressed, council houses were built without garages, since if you were rich enough to own a car then you had no need of state-subsidised housing.

Bus services and coach trips in Swanmore began in the early 1920s using open-topped charabancs with solid tyres; later, pneumatic tyres were introduced which greatly improved the ride. Tutt's ran bus services from Gosport to Bishop's Waltham via Swanmore, while the National Bus Company in the form of Hants & Dorset provided a bus service from Petersfield via Swanmore to Southampton. Coaches ran daily from Gosport to London along the route of the old coaching road, stopping at *The Hunters Inn* to pick up passengers. The National Bus Company was privatised in 1987 and absorbed into Stagecoach.

Today most people have cars and can work outside Swanmore. Such personal transport allows them to commute beyond the village: thus we have become a commuter village, whereas a century ago nearly everyone was employed within the village.

*Crawford Wright*

## Hampshire's first driver

The first documented car to arrive in Britain was on 5th July 1895, delivered to Micheldever Station to the Hon. Evelyn Ellis (1843–1913), who thus became the first to drive a horseless carriage on a public road.

Ellis deliberately flouted the then law that he should be preceded by a man carrying a red flag but was never prosecuted. The law was repealed the following year.

His car was a 4hp Panhard Lavassour sent over from Paris and thence by train to Micheldever Station, where a plaque commemorates the event.

Ellis became one of the first directors of the original Daimler Motor Company in Coventry and was a founder and vice chairman of the RAC. His car is now in the Science Museum.



*Evelyn Ellis in his Panhard Lavassour.*

# Meonstoke to Old Winchester Hill Fort

This is a circular walk from Meonstoke along lanes, restricted byways, over fields and finally to the Nature Reserve of Old Winchester Hill. Both the South Downs Way and the Monarchs Way cross the top of the hill from where you can see for miles in every direction. In summer look out for chalkhill blue and marbled white butterflies.

Distance: 5 miles/8 km. Walking time: 2 hours 15 minutes.

## Terrain

This is an up and down sort of walk, albeit fairly gentle until a steep short uphill climb to the top and trig point of Old Winchester Hill, 648 feet above sea level. There are three stiles, and two fields that occasionally have livestock.

## Directions

Meonstoke is just four miles drive from Swanmore via Droxford along the A32. At Meonstoke turn right to *The Bucks Head*, and then bear left at the sign post. Follow the road round to the right

along Pound Lane until you reach The Meon Hall.

## Start

The walk starts and finishes at The Meon Hall car park. A small donation for the use of the car park may be left in the post box on the wall at the front doors.

### 1. The Meon Hall towards Ponside Farm. (30 minutes)

From the car park turn right along the road to pass houses and bungalows on your left a little way along. At the

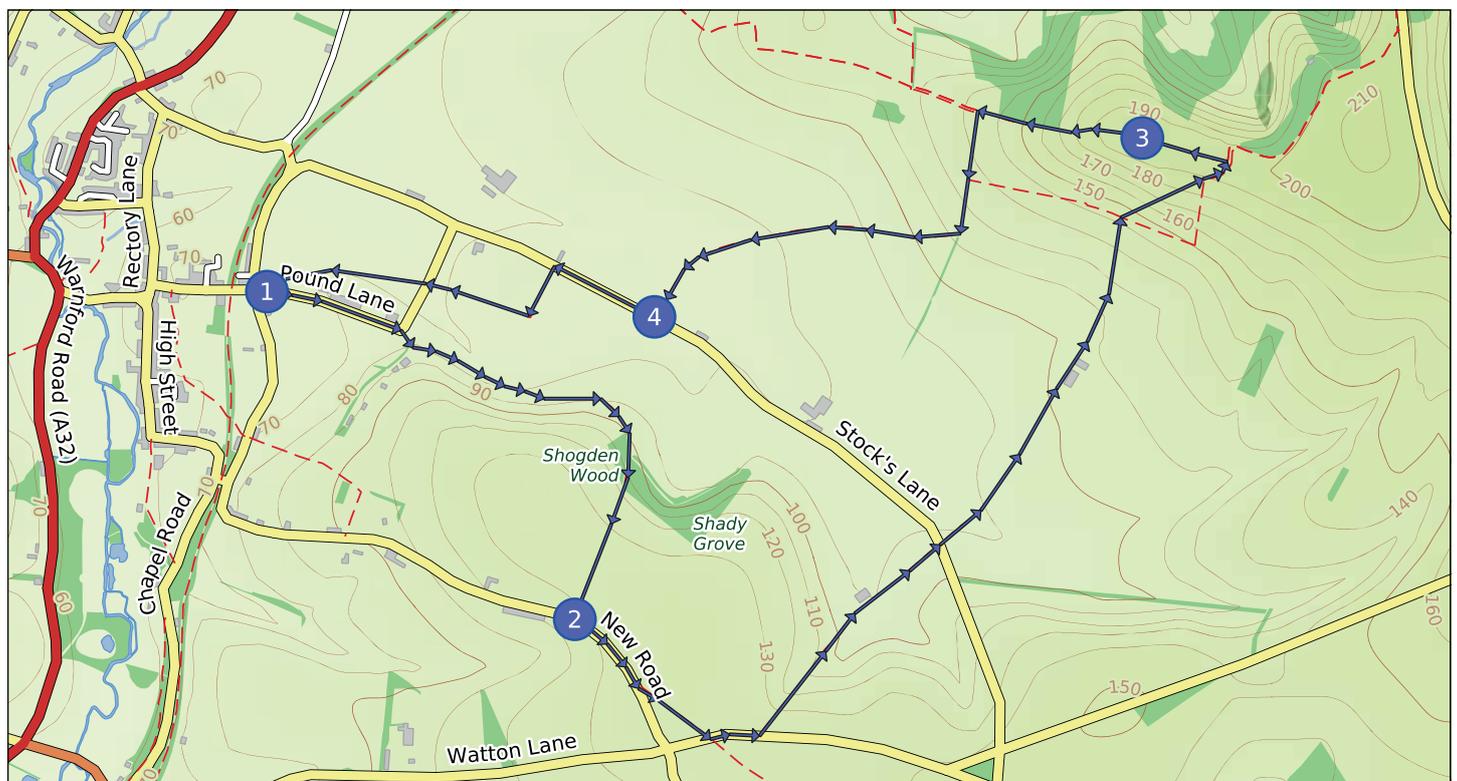
bend go straight ahead onto the wide track and go left onto a smaller enclosed path, finger-posted "Restricted Byway".

The path goes gently downhill to flatten out before it goes uphill again and widens out. This initial stretch of byway can get quite muddy and wet in winter. As you go uphill towards the lane and Ponside Farm, look over to the right and slightly behind you will see Beacon Hill in the distance. In fact it lies opposite Old Winchester Hill across the A32 and can be seen clearly from the hilltop. On reaching the lane turn left towards the BT aerial/mast.

### 2. Ponside Farm to the Old Winchester Hill Fort. (60 minutes)

As you walk along the lane you may spot in the far distance on the right the hills on the Isle of Wight to help orientate yourself before enjoying the more glorious view from the hilltop.

A few steps past the aerial turn▶



#### Map Legend

	A Road		Local Street		Buildings
	B Road		Track		Woodland
	Minor Road		Right of Way		Water

Scan the QR code to download the route as a GPX file, compatible with many navigation apps and GPS devices.

Heights in metres above mean sea level.

Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.





*The trig point at the top of Old Winchester Hill.*

left, checking the footpath direction arrow as you go past the old metal gate to step over the low insulated electric fence. Here the footpath in this open field is not always discernible on the ground so head at a diagonal of two o'clock towards the trees on the right field edge to a low manure pile. Step back over the electric fence, over a stile into a narrow lane where you turn left. Although small, this lane can be quite busy at times.

A short distance along turn left back into the field past the metal gate, back over the insulated electric fence and head off downhill with the hedge on your right towards the farm buildings. Take care here as you will encounter somewhat large badger holes in places. At the end you meet large locked metal field gates but the path goes to your right over a stile and



out onto the lane, which you cross onto the "Restricted Byway" to Stocks Lane Farm. .

During the summer months as you pass by the farm you may catch the fragrant smell of the lime trees on your left. Carrying on you reach the South Downs Way which you cross to go through the Nature Reserve wooden gate. Swing right up the steep climb. Here in summer you may see the pink and purple flowers of the wild thyme often found growing low on the chalky downland.

At the top of the hill, the site of an Iron Age fort and Bronze Age burial ground, turn left between the two mounds and head for the trig point and the orientation map sitting between two further mounds .

With the longest and hardest part of the walk behind you, it is time to take a break as you take in the 360° views before heading off downhill all the way back to the car park. You can see not only the masts on Tennyson

*Left: Restricted byway at Stocks Lane Farm. Below: Heading down hill and back to the car park.*



Down on the Isle of Wight but also the waters of the Solent. In the other direction, Beacon Hill the start of previous walks.

### **3. Hill Fort to Harvestgate farm. (25 minutes)**

Leaving the hilltop mounds behind you, keep straight ahead towards the trees where you go through a metal boundary gate and where the ravages of ash dieback are still to be seen.

Once down the slope through the trees into the open, turn left through the hedge onto the South Downs Way, Keep going downhill leaving the South Downs Way which soon turns to your left. Swing right on the corner, following the bridleway down to the converted barns of Harvestgate Farm where you turn right at the lane.

### **4. Harvestgate to Meonstoke (20 minutes)**

A little way along opposite Harvestgate, a house with solar panels on the roof, turn left over a stile. This large open field sometimes contains livestock.

Head diagonally right at 1 o'clock to the corner of the hedge where you go through a metal gate onto a path enclosed by stock wire fencing on your right. Go through a metal kissing gate onto the lane then straight across through another gate into fields once more to enjoy the lovely views on your right.

Continue on through two more metal kissing gates out onto Stavard Lane where you turn left onto Pound Lane and back into the car park.

*Lin Powell*

## Buglife

# The Argiope mysteries

Low down in patches of long grass in the Swanmore area, such as Marsh's Meadows, lurks *Argiope*. Not the naiad or river nymph of Greek mythology, but a large orb-web spider hanging near-vertically in wait for its next meal. Its full scientific name is *Argiope bruennichi*. The species name *bruennichi* was given in honour of an eminent eighteenth century Danish natural historian, Morten Thrane Brünnich, but the origin of the genus name *Argiope* is less clear. The spider does not appear to have an association with wet habitats, as the name from Greek mythology would suggest. In Latin however, the term means "with a bright face". I doubt the spider's prey would recognise a bright face as they are confronted with their predator, so perhaps it refers to the colourful back of the female as she hangs in her web.

The common name is "wasp spider", as the female has an abdomen of black and yellow/cream stripes, reminiscent of a wasp's warning colouration. The spider

*Right: Female Argiope in web with stabilimentum.*

*Below: Male (left) and recently moulted female Argiope.*

cannot sting however, so may be mimicking wasps to avoid being predated upon. As with all spiders, it does have a venomous bite which it uses to subdue its prey – mainly grasshoppers. There appears to be no evidence of the spider harming humans.

At 11–15mm (0.4–0.6in) long – not including legs – the mature females are usually found in August, with the males, less than half that size, found slightly earlier. Males' lives are rather short, as once they have mated they



tend to get eaten by the female, thereby providing extra sustenance for the development of their future progeny.

The spider was only first recorded in the UK in the twentieth century, but it is a mystery as to how it got here. It may have been on imported goods, or it may have drifted or ballooned here as spiderlings on southerly air currents from the continent. Either way, since the 1990s it has begun to increase its numbers and expand its range within the UK, probably due to climate change.

Another mystery is why the female includes zig-zag lines of extra thickening down the middle of her web, referred to as a stabilimentum. We have a name for it, but not an explanation. *Argiope* - another example of the wonder and mystery of the natural world.

*Marcus Charig*

## Male beautiful demoiselle

Owing to an unfortunate mix-up, the wrong photograph appeared in the June/July issue with a female banded demoiselle wrongly labelled as a male beautiful demoiselle – for which we apologise. For clarification both images are repeated here: 1 Above is the female banded demoiselle and 2 below is a male beautiful demoiselle.

*Editor*



In the hedgerows

# Rediscovering an Anglo-Saxon favourite

You don't often see wood betony (*Betonica officinalis*) growing in our hedgerows (although there is a rather nice clump at West Hoe Cemetery – unless it has been recently mown...) as its name is the giveaway. It's a plant that prefers the cool, dappled shade of woodland where it tends to be moist rather than too dry and is happiest tucked in with other plants. Like many of our native wildflowers it tends to be rather neglected – yet 1,000 years ago it was one of Anglo-Saxon England's most important herbal remedies. The plant takes pride of place as the first herb listed in Old English translations of the *Herbarium of Pseudo-Apuleius* – a fourth century work that was once the most popular herbal in Europe and clearly valued by the Anglo-Saxon monks who produced numerous copies; four of these manuscripts still survive.

Not only is wood betony the first herb in the book, it is also credited with 29 different attributes – plantain, which comes next, managed only 22. Eleventh century uses for betony range from foot disease and loin pain, to sore throats, adder bites, toothache and nosebleeds. It was also said to be helpful “if ones head be broken open” but – most important and first on that list of 29 – wood betony was “for

terrible night goers, and against awesome visions and dreams”.

Hildegard of Bingen certainly agreed with this view recording that “whoever is plagued by wrong dreams should have betony leaves close by when going to sleep, and this person will see and feel fewer bad dreams”. Later herbals reduced this to “for them that be ferful”, advising sufferers to simply carry sprigs of betony in an amulet at all times, while William Turner's herbal of 1551 advises it for “them that are mad”.

## Magical attributes

Like many herbs popular in the past, betony was also credited with various magical properties – as well as strengthening “them that be ferful”: it was believed to be a protective plant warding off evils. It was often planted in churchyards to keep evil spirits away, while Hildegard also recommended it to repel unwanted love spells. Nicholas Culpeper, in 1653, stressed that it “preserves the liver and bodies of men from epidemical diseases and from witchcraft”.

Culpeper's contemporary, William Coles, was an enthusiast for the “doctrine of signatures”, a belief that the appearance of plants provided clues to their actions and efficacy.

Wood betony, he argued, has hairy roots which implied that it would be good for anything

*Top right: Wood betony in an Old English copy of the Herbarium of Pseudo-Apuleius in the Bodleian Library. Left: The plant flowering in a Swanmore garden in July.*



to do with the head (Coles's “signatures” are often a trifle contrived...). So, he writes, if wood betony be “stamped, and applied to the fore-head of them that are frantick or possess with the Devils, it cureth them”. For headaches he recommended a poultice of wood betony with wheat bran applied to the head, or if vervain, horehound, and hyssop in white wine were added to the mix “it cureth the megrim”. Coles also suggests that powdered leaves in syrup will cure coughs while the powder in vinegar will “refresh those which are wearied by travel”.

Wood betony is a member of the mint family producing bright purple flowers in late summer to autumn. It is mainly used these days as a nervine and sedative especially for anxiety. It is also considered specific for headaches, particularly those arising from tension and stress. Other uses include as an anti-catarrhal herb to reduce the discomfort of sinusitis and severe nasal congestion and, as it is slightly bitter, it can also help stimulate digestive function.

While old herbals include a wide assortment of preparations using betony – from decoctions of the root in water or wine to conserves of the flowers, syrups, cooking in broth or smoking like tobacco – the leaves are more usually taken today in infusions or as tincture (alcoholic extract). As a weak tea it makes a very pleasant alternative to the normal cuppa – especially at the end of a stressful day. Betony is also a uterine stimulant so is best avoided in pregnancy although it is a traditional herb for use in labour – or as the old herbals put it mixed with honey it “...causeth an easie and speedy delivery of Women in Child-birth”.



From our district councillors

# Green issues and boundary changes

Welcome to the “lazy, hazy days of summer”. Can’t remember who said this, but I am sure it is not recent.

Since 1988 the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has been charting the effects of greenhouse gas emissions on climate change. Over the years various predictions have forecast an increase in sudden violent rainstorms, regional droughts, and increased migration away from hotter/drier parts of the world towards more temperate climatic areas. Predictions have also covered the melting of polar ice sheets and glaciers, rising sea levels, and woodland fires, with stressed animals and plant life.

Since then many UK local authorities have declared a “climate emergency”. Personally, I am not sure how the word “emergency” was defined, but it has led to much consultation and personal decision making.

More households have invested in wall and roof insulation, double or treble glazing, as well as solar panels on the roof, or “air source” heat pumps. Some have moved from petrol or diesel fuel for their cars to “electric power”. No new petrol or diesel cars will be produced in the UK after 2030.

We have seen the extension of wind turbines at sea and on land across Britain, with solar panels in farmland, water power and increased research into “fusion power” – not to be confused with “fission power”.

The houses being built today are much more energy-efficient, although many have smaller room sizes. Under the policy of “brownfield sites” first, developers are being directed to use marginal land as priority. Your local councillors are insisting on a policy that protects the “local gaps” between the villages – we do not believe that anyone wants Shedfield, Waltham

Chase and Swanmore to be merged into a “new town”.

Arguments are growing into “Where should our priorities be?”. Land for recreation? Land for the protected environment? Land for solar panels? Or land for growing food?

The CPRE (formerly known as Council for the Protection of Rural England) is asking the question: why aren’t solar panels put onto our parking areas, and on all large buildings, before they are put onto farmland? You may have seen articles in the media asking that question.

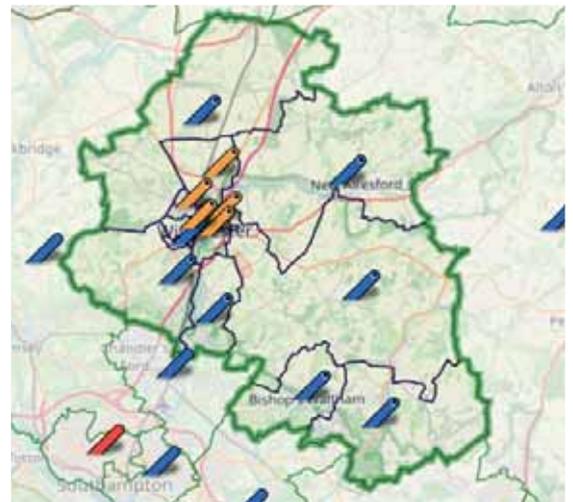
## Changing constituencies

In order to equalise electorate numbers in each constituency, The Electoral Boundary Commission has determined that, as from the end of September 2023, the Meon Valley Constituency will be no more. The electors in the Meon Valley will go in one of four ways:

- Fareham and Waterlooville,
- East Hampshire,
- A new constituency called Hamble Valley, and
- Winchester.

We in the Central Meon Valley, Bishop’s Waltham and Upper Meon Valley will be part of the redrawn Winchester Constituency. Neither the Ward boundaries nor the village boundaries will change. Waltham Chase will be separated from the rest of the Whiteley and Shedfield Ward. We will all feed into Winchester, and to Hampshire County Council.

At the next General Election (sometime between now and January 2025) we will be voting for new MPs. Any of us, together with our County Councillor Hugh Lumby will answer any question you may have. There have been no suggestions to change the Local Authority Boundaries.



Winchester's new boundaries from [www.electoralcalculus.co.uk](http://www.electoralcalculus.co.uk)

Meanwhile, we are all arguing in favour of “greener open spaces”, improved sewerage systems capable of draining the water from sudden downpours, and rapid repairs of emerging potholes on the roads.

The new Local Plan for the SDNP continues to be debated, while that for Winchester will soon reach its Reg 19 stage when the whole document will be debated. Watch the City Council website for further information.

## Our Winchester District Councillors

- Danny Lee 07896 644 504  
dlee@winchester.gov.uk
- Frank Pearson 01489 892822 or 07515 116 647  
fpearson@winchester.gov.uk
- Malcolm Wallace 07739 050224  
mwallace@winchester.gov.uk



Frank Pearson



Malcolm Wallace



Danny Lee

Waltham  
Priory Probus

## Lunch and entertainment



Members enjoyed their monthly meeting on 4th July with guest speaker Roy Stainton talking about "The First Queen Regnant of England".

It was a very interesting historical talk much enjoyed by all and was followed by lunch. On the 21st June members also enjoyed an outing for skittles and lunch at the Crofton Inn, Hill Head. The cup was won by Pete Dobson.

Upcoming meetings include:

- 5th September Geoff Watts on "Lest we forget –The Commonwealth War Graves".
- 3rd October Tony Kippenburger on "Henry VIII's visit to Bishop's Waltham Palace".

Waltham Priory Probus is a mixed club of men and women. We are welcoming, friendly and able to accept some new members at present.

If you would like to start each new month with some fun and entertainment followed by a lunch join us on the first Tuesday morning of every month in Botley. Please contact our secretary on 07542 109821 or janet.gibson1@outlook.com for details.

*Martin Cooke, President*

### Local history

## The story of the Great Pond

The Waltham "Great Pond", along with a series of linked smaller fish rearing ponds, was once a vital mainstay of the Bishop of Winchester's kitchen. The young reared fish were transported to the Bishop's other estates – such as Taunton, Frensham or Wolvesey – as the Bishop travelled between his palaces to ensure a supply of fresh fish for "fasting" holy days.

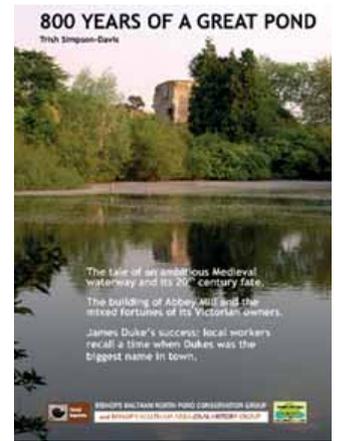
Damming the river Hamble in the late 12th century had created a deep pond covering more than 10 acres that was carefully maintained for 700 years, until the 1960s when the Bishop's Waltham bypass divided it in two.

In "800 years of a Great Pond", Trish Simpson-Davis charts the life of the pond from its early days as a mediaeval fish farm, through the upheavals of Reformation and Civil War, to industrialisation, the building of the water-powered Abbey Mill and the lengthy ownership by the Duke family.

The 28pp booklet is illustrated throughout with a format that will certainly appeal to younger readers. Priced at £5.50 the booklet is published by the BW North Pond Conservation Group and Fossil

Imprints and is on sale at several shops in Bishop's Waltham

or available online at [www.pgwells.co.uk](http://www.pgwells.co.uk). All profits are divided between the conservation group and the BW Oral History Group.



### Meon Voices

## Come and join the community choir

Rehearsals for the Meon Voices community choir will restart in September.

Whether you're shy or outgoing, young or mature, a soloist or prefer to blend your voice with others, our choir is open to everyone. Singing in a choir brings many benefits – including reducing stress, increasing happiness, and improving overall mental health.

Everyone is welcome, and a particular call is for experienced tenor and bass voices. As with many performance arts, we have fewer male than female voices, and would like to improve the balance if at all possible.

In addition to our weekly rehearsals, we have exciting performances at Christmas and in the spring, with a break during the summer months.

If you are interested in joining this friendly, uplifting choir, the Monday night practices in September are from 7.30pm to 9.30pm at the United Free Church in Bishop's Waltham.

Please contact Phil on 01489 579078 or via email [coundleypj@yahoo.com](mailto:coundleypj@yahoo.com), or email Jane on [janevose@icloud.com](mailto:janevose@icloud.com) for more information.

*Lizz Clark*

## Reliving the 1940s

*Southwick's annual "Revival" event, commemorating the D-Day landings, was held in June, with visitors clearly enjoying the chance to dress up, relive the 1940s and ride in vintage buses. The event's main focus is fundraising for local and armed services charities and to date it has generated £182,500 for them. Next year's event will be held on 9th June 2024.*

*Photograph by Berty Ferrone*



Bishop's Waltham Photographic Society

# Out and about in June

Lead by Maggie and Mike Hickish, ten members braved the heat on Sunday 25th June for a visit to Houghton Lodge Gardens, a Grade II listed house on the River Test, nestled in the heart of Stockbridge.

The gardens had much to offer with lots of damsel- and dragonflies and some of us managed to get some decent photographs. Overall, a good get together but maybe a tad too hot.

New in the garden for 2023 is the Oriental Garden with water feature and Japanese acers and a beautiful red Nikko bridge, Torri arch and Moon gate.

For our June talk we were pleased to welcome multi-award winning photographer Tony North who gave a talk on "The Art of Macro Photography" via Zoom. Tony covered the seven key challenges in macro photography and how to overcome them:

- Finding and getting close to the subject.
- Depth of field.
- Camera movement.
- Subject movement.
- Shutter speed/light.
- Composition/bokeh (the blur)

*Right: American Pillar flowering at Houghton Lodge Gardens. Below: the Nikko Bridge at Houghton. Photographs by Mike Hickish*

produced in out-of-focus parts of an image).

■ Post processing.

If reading this inspires you to do more with your camera, why not come along to one of our meetings. We meet at 7.15pm for 7.30pm at St Peter's Church Hall in Free Street. A programme of events is at [bishops-waltham-photosociety.co.uk](http://bishops-waltham-photosociety.co.uk) where you can also find information about joining.

We are currently launching the Society's Junior Photo competition for 2023. There are two age groups – up to 11 years and 12 to 16. Budding photographers from local parishes are invited to email one digital entry each to [competition@bishops-waltham-photosociety.co.uk](mailto:competition@bishops-waltham-photosociety.co.uk).

The closing date for entries is 8th September. Winning images will be displayed at the Society's Annual Exhibition in October.

*Ann Erkut*



## Autumn walks

Organised walks are held by the Waltham Group of the Ramblers on Wednesdays (mornings), Fridays (evenings), and Sundays (usually all-day).

A selection is shown below, with meeting venue and leader's contact number. Newcomers are welcome but please contact the leader beforehand in case there is a change.

- Friday 4th August, Bishop's Waltham via Dundry, 5 miles, Carol 07724 870674. Start: 6.30pm Bishop's Waltham central car park, SO32 1PA.
  - Wednesday 9th August, Swanmore via Dundry and Phrympton Copse, 5 miles, Mike 07762 120754. Start: 10am car park opposite the Paterson Centre, Church Road, Swanmore, SO32 2PA.
  - Friday 11th August, West Meon via Bere Farm, 5 miles, Andy 07449 447247. Start: 6.30pm West Meon village hall car park, GU32 1LH.
  - Wednesday 23rd August, Upham via Green Hill, 5 miles, Pauline 01489 892386. Start: 10am Upham Duck Pond, SO32 1JH.
  - Sunday 3rd September, Hill Head via Chilling, 8.5 miles, Ghill 07709 933057. Start: 10am park in Salterns Road car park (£4 for four hours) or a nearby street. Bring a picnic lunch.
  - Sunday 17th September, Hambledon, 5.0 and 4.7 miles, choose one or both walks, Andy 07449 447247. Start: 10am and 1.15pm. Use the car park at the top of Church Lane, Hambledon. Bring a picnic lunch if doing both walks.
  - Wednesday 27th September, Denmead via Pitt Hill and Hambledon, 5 miles, Gill 07789 768579. Start: 10am car park in Kidmore Lane, Denmead.
- For further information about Waltham Ramblers email me at [michael.hewlins@btinternet.com](mailto:michael.hewlins@btinternet.com).

*Michael Hewlins*

## Bishop's Waltham Rotary Club

# Helping out deserving young people

We ended the Rotary year in June with two incredibly enjoyable and satisfying events, where Rotarians in our local area get together to help run national events for special young people.

In mid-June several of our members helped with National Rotary KidsOut Day. This has been running since 1990 and has turned into the biggest single outing for disadvantaged children in the UK. With more than 30,000 children participating each year, the National Day Out sees more than 10,000 Rotarians volunteer at 100+ venues. Whether they live with critical health issues, in refuge or with a disability, children across the country are taken on a fun day out to the zoo, a theme park or even the seaside, often for the first time in their lives.

The end of June saw us helping to

run a Rotary pop-up canteen at the Young Carers Festival. Every summer, YMCA Fairthorne Manor hosts the largest festival in the world for young people, between the ages of eleven and 16, with a caring responsibility at home. Created in 2000 and run in partnership with The Children's Society, the weekend provides opportunities for young people to enjoy a break from their responsibilities, have fun, make new friends and have their voices heard on issues that affect them. It is such a great event with youngsters coming from all over the country.

The new Rotary year also brings a new President of Bishop's Waltham Rotary: Jason Rule, taking over the reins from outgoing President Sara Walker. Ready in position to take over from Jason next year is President elect Ian Treveil.

*Ian Treveil*



*Outgoing President Sara Walker with new President Jason Rule and President Elect Ian Treveil.*

## Titchfield Festival Theatre

# A chance to see three plays in one

The latest play in Titchfield Festival Theatre's Shakespeare summer season opened on 25th July at the Great Barn and runs until 3rd August. The *Wars of the Roses* is a selection from Shakespeare's three-part Henry VI saga of nationhood and power.

"This is one of those rare times that three of Shakespeare's main historical plays are performed as one," explains director Chris Blatch-Gainey. "The actors themselves give you the anger,

strife and the emotions of a country at war with itself."

*Wars of the Roses* at the Great Barn will be followed by *All's Well That Ends Well*, directed by Emma Bevan, from 15th to 24th August.

Tickets for each play are £12 (£11 concessions) and are available via the theatre's website – <http://titchfieldfestivaltheatre.com> or via the box office on 0333 666 3366.

*Simon Frost*



## West Meon Music Festival

# A chance to hear some rising stars

There'll be some exciting musical experiences to enjoy at this year's West Meon Music Festival (14th to 17th September) with brilliant award-winning young performers joining the festival's founders – the internationally acclaimed Primrose Piano Quartet.

Lovers of song will be treated to a morning of French verse settings by such composers as Fauré, Poulenc, Gounod and Debussy, when British soprano Harriet Burns (pictured above) focusses on the theme of love with her recital "*Les Chemins de l'amour*" (Pathways of Love) on Sunday 17th September. Since graduating from the Guildhall Opera School, Harriet has won a raft of international awards. As one Canadian critic put it: "With her lively presence, Harriet Burns mesmerised the audience – and certainly the jury – with her incomparably rich voice. Her joy in singing on stage was infectious".

Saturday evening 16th September brings the chance to hear another of the country's rising stars when double-bass player Will Duerden will join the Primrose for Schubert's *Trout Quintet*. Will rose to prominence after reaching the Strings Category Final of the 2018 BBC Young Musician Competition.

Completing the festival's trio of "rising stars" is prize-winning pianist Thomas Kelly, who will be playing works by Chopin, Scarlatti and Rachmaninoff on Friday 15th September. Full details of all festival concerts can be found at [www.westmeonmusic.co.uk](http://www.westmeonmusic.co.uk) where tickets (priced from £14) are also available.

# Dates for your diaries

## August

4th August	6.30pm Waltham Ramblers: Bishop's Waltham via Dundridge.
4th– 6th August	7.30pm Summer Music by South Coast Symphonia at Fort Brokenhurst.
9th August	10am Waltham Ramblers: Swanmore via Dundridge and Phrymph Copse.
11th August	6.30pm Waltham Ramblers: West Meon via Bere Farm.
12th August	9.45am–12noon Swanmore Conservation Group work party, Marsh's Meadows.
19th–28th August	Hampshire Open Studios - Jerry Smith's studio open in Vicarage Lane.
23rd August,	10am Waltham Ramblers: Upham via Green Hill

## September

3rd September	10am Waltham Ramblers: Hill Head via Chilling.
5th September	Waltham Priory Probus Club monthly meeting with Geoff Watts on "Lest we forget –The Commonwealth War Graves".
5th September	2pm Wickham Centre, u3a meeting. "Isle of Lewes Chess Pieces" - by Lyndon Palmer.
9th September	9.45am–12noon Swanmore Conservation Group work party, Marsh's Meadows.
9th September	7pm Film Night with Supper at Swanmore Village Hall.
13th September	8pm Paterson Centre, Swanmore Society – "History of Portsmouth Part 3: Harlots, Dung and Glory" by Andrew Negus.
14th–17th September	West Meon Music Festival – St John's Church, West Meon, All Saints' East Meon and Church of Our Lady, Warnford.
16th September	2.30pm West Hoe Cemetery Memorial Service.
17th September	10am and 1.15pm Waltham Ramblers: Hambledon.
19th September	2pm Wickham Centre, u3a meeting."Q-Ships of WWI" by Mike Hollis.
21st September	2pm–4pm Paterson Centre - Swanmore Art Group recommences.
27th September	10am Waltham Ramblers: Denmead via Pitt Hill and Hambledon.

## October

3rd October	Waltham Priory Probus Club monthly meeting with Tony Kippenburger on "Henry VIII's visit to Bishop's Waltham Palace".
3rd October	2pm Wickham Centre, u3a meeting. "Eye Disease" by Jenny Burkett'
6th October	7.30pm "Opera at St Peter's" with London Festival Opera, St Peter's Church Ropley. Details <a href="http://www.stpetersropleyvenue.org.uk">www.stpetersropleyvenue.org.uk</a> .
7th October	10am–1pm Launch of Swanmore Wellness Week, Paterson Centre'
7th October	7pm Beer and Hymns at the Paterson Centre'
7th October	7.30pm Botley Choral Society "Last Night of the Proms" All Saints Church, Botley. Tickets £15 (under-16 free) in aid of their church's organ fund.
11th October:	8pm Paterson Centre, Swanmore Society "Bishop's Waltham Community First Responders" by Andrew Brown'

## Sporting Bishop's Waltham

Bishop's Waltham Museum's celebration of sport, with a wide range of images and artefacts reflecting the area's sporting history, continues until October. The exhibition can be viewed at weekends from 12noon to 4pm on weekends until September and then from 12noon to 2pm at weekends in October.

The photograph, by John Bosworth, shows John Watts, headmaster, in the dumper truck with Mark Weller, a parent, digging out the new swimming pool at Ridgmede School in 1976.



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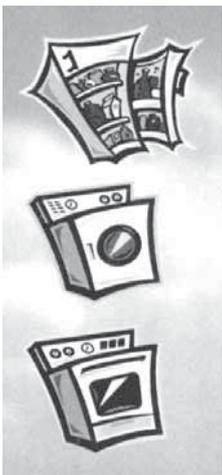
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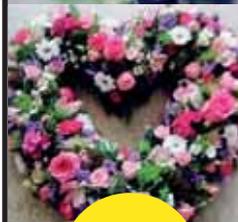
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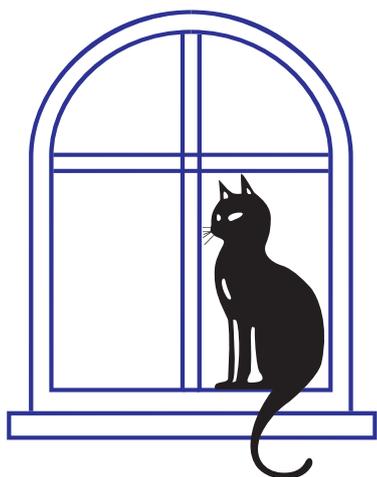


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# Parish and village directory

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### Ministry Team

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Revd Canon Dr Hazel Whitehead 01489 895327  
Funerals & bereavement support  
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Sunday Club Ben Armstrong 07927 933073  
PCC Secretary pccsec@stbarnabas.org.uk  
PCC Treasurer Andrew Wilkinson 01489 895870  
Parish Giving Champion Derrinda Laing 01489 894250  
Safeguarding Officer Caroline Vost 07542 706642  
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Home Groups Co-ordinator Mary Morfill 01489 892823  
Electoral Roll Officer Jenny Sharpe 01489 892750  
Sacristan Vicky Cronin 01489 536483  
Christian Aid Rep Wendy Horn 01489 354045  
Church Cleaning Jen Frampton 01489 891277  
Church Flowers Juliet Helbren 01489 893316  
Captain of the Tower Ed Collis 02392 523650  
Church Clock Roger de Vere 01489 892768  
Data Protection contact Amanda Ankers 01489 893415  
dataprotection@stbarnabas.org.uk  
Parish Administrator Gail Norris  
office@stbarnabas.org.uk  
Website www.stbarnabas.org.uk

### Paterson Centre

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editor@stbarnabas.org.uk  
Village directory Roger de Vere 01489 892768  
deverer2@gmail.com  
Distribution Sue de Vere 01489 892768  
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## Swanmore Methodist Church contacts

Stewards stewards@s-m-c.org.uk 01489 896182  
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Church Notices Jill Sutton 01489 892824

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Winchester City Council 01962 840222  
Hampshire Council of Community Services 01962 854971  
Electoral Registration Office 01962 840222  
County Archivist 01962 863153

## Local Representatives

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Hants County Councillor Hugh Lumby 01489 877444  
Winchester City Frank Pearson 01489 892822  
Councillors Malcolm Wallace 07739 050224  
Danny Lee 07896 644 504

## Swanmore Parish Council

Executive Officer Tracey Molloy 01489 890651  
clerk@swanmorepc.org.uk  
Accredited Community Safety Officer  
Gary McCulloch 07442 156124  
aco@swanmorepc.org.uk or Facebook-Swanmore ACSO  
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Community Programme Chris Loveday 01489 897896

## Swanmore Primary School

Headteacher John Paterson 01489 894555  
Site Manager Scot Murray 07935 699854  
Friends of... (FOSPS) Naomi Thorby 01489 894555

## Village Amenities

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### Village Hall

Chairman Jon Woodman 01489 890582  
Bookings Jon Woodman 07968 646236  
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### Care Group

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Disabled Club	Susan Stephens	01489 877585
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Scout Leader	Jo Fox	01489 894765
Cub Scouts	Julie Goddard	07879 330707
goddard@aol.com		
Beavers	Roisin Smith	07748 113320
Swanmorebeavers@gmail.com		
Rainbows	Sallyann Smith	01489 890802
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Waltham Wolves	Alison Fripp	01489 89913
SwanmoreYouth FC	John Hickey	07539 424674

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jmoss@broadlane2.plus.com		
Lawn Tennis	Mandy White	
sec@swanmoretennis.co.uk		
Swanmore Cricket Club	Oliver Rowe	07816 332324

## Other Organisations

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Children's Society	Vicky Cronin	01489 536483
	Dinah Weberstadt	01489 896967
Hand Bells	Julia Wright	01489 893378
Home-Start Hampshire	Laura Vincent	01329 835936
<i>Support for young families in the home</i>		
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Macmillan Cancer Support	Kathy Weaver	01489 895630
Meon Valley Carers Group	via Andover Mind	01264 332297
enquiries@andovermind.org.uk		
Meon Valley Trefoil Guild	Denise Lord	07747 064455
Royal British Legion	Penny Eliot	01489 890766
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Woodland Trust	Dennis Wheeler	01489 892911

## Utilities Emergencies

Electricity	Emergency	0800 404090
	Power cuts	105
Gas	Emergency/escapes	0800 111999
Portsmouth Water	General enquiries	02392 499888
BT	Directory enquiries	118500

## Other services

Alcoholics Anonymous		01962 869129
Animal Shelter		01329 667541
Bank Scam Service		159
Blood Donors		0800 373701
Citizens' Advice Bureau (CAB)		03444 111306
Community Health Council		01962 860661
Department of Work and Pensions (DWP)		0800 0113797
Family Conciliation Service		02392 660919
Hampshire Library Services		0845 6035631
Housing Office, Winchester		01962 840222
Job Centre, Fareham		01329 231551
Night Shelter, Winchester		01962 878500
Parent Support Link		02380 399764
PDSA	Southampton	02380 773505
	Portsmouth	02392 754429
Registrar of Births, Marriages and Deaths		03005 551392
Relate (Marriage Guidance)		01962 861336
RSPCA, Stubbington		01329 667541
Samaritans	Portsmouth	02392 691313
	Southampton	02380 632888
	Winchester	01962 860633
Social Services	Adult services	0845 6035630
	Child Services	0845 6035620

This directory has been compiled jointly by the Parish Council and churches in Swanmore to help you find contacts within the village for further information.

**Please help us to help you by keeping the information up to date. Amendments or additions should be sent to Roger de Vere at [deverer2@gmail.com](mailto:deverer2@gmail.com), with "Parish magazine" as the subject, at least three days before the deadline for the magazine.**



## Barnaby's Community Coffee Shop

For information about news, events and to check opening times visit [www.barnabys.coffee](http://www.barnabys.coffee)



# Swanmore Open Gardens – 17th–18th June 2023

Photographs by Bert Ferrone

# Lions' Swanmore Fête – 8th July 2023

Photographs by Peter Mason

