

Parish News

West Meon & Warnford

May 2022

West Meon Church Fete

It's time to hang out the bunting, dust off the tea urns and start cranking up the tombola wheel... one of the rituals of our village life, the West Meon church fete, is almost here! After months of preparation behind the scenes, everything is coming together for our grand afternoon out and one that we have missed over the past 2 years. It also coincides with the long weekend of our Queen's Jubilee celebrations, so lots of opportunities to come together as a village and have a good time in the midst of these uncertain times.

A recent newspaper article (Guardian 2nd April) suggested that a sense of community cohesion is important to our well-being and survival. Rituals such as the religious practices of sitting and standing (hopefully in unison!), singing and praying trigger our brain's endorphin systems underpinning the bonding of friendships and building of trust. Living in a rural setting as we do, we also see these rituals in the seasons of the year, the sowing and harvesting of crops both in the fields and on our allotments and gardens; the ritual of the school year; the ritual of the festivals throughout the year. A village fete has long been a welcome summer ritual and



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a symbol of a community coming together for a day of fun and laughter, after the crops are in and before the harvest.

And at the heart of West Meon, we have a beautiful church set in wonderful surroundings. The church provides community on many levels from a small friendly bunch of regular worshippers, to a place of refuge and sanctuary to come to when bereaved or facing tough times. It's a place to come to celebrate rites of passage such as births, marriages and deaths, an extra space for our school and a music festival venue. All are welcome to walk and reflect in the beautifully peaceful grounds and it's a welcome stop-off point for walkers as well as a pop-up café in the summer.

However, it is a rather large church for a village this size now and is very costly to upkeep. The church fete is the main annual fundraising event for St John's and we've sorely missed the income over the past 2 years. We're so grateful that people come together, from all faiths or none, to create a wonderful, fun-packed day to be enjoyed by all. It is a lovely day out and we have all the usual attractions: a fantastic raffle, many stalls (bottles, cakes, plants, books, toys, jams etc) as well as lots of games (coconut shy, splat the rat, tombola etc), a bouncy castle, live jazz band, Pimm's tent, cream teas... and more! All that and the amazing venue of West Meon House gardens once again thanks to the generosity of Catherine and Rupert Younger. We look forward to seeing you there!!

Susan Berry

Donations Please

We need donations for the following stalls: Cakes, Plants, Preserves, Books, Bric-a-Brac, Toys, Bottles and Tombola. Help make the fete a success by donating delicious home baked goods, spare potted plants, home made jams, 2nd hand books, unwanted good quality household items, good quality used toys, anything in a bottle and your unwanted gifts for the Tombola.

Please contact the following people to arrange drop off/collection of your items from Saturday 21st May:

Cakes	Zanna Jarrett	01730 829425
Plants	Helena Gomm	01730 829741
Preserves	Helen Ripper	07973 291528
Books	Susan Berry	01730 829014
Bric-a-Brac/Tombola	Emma Barry	01730 829095
Toys	Susie St Ledger	01730 829589
Bottle	Mark Wills	01730 829429
Scones	Jane Waller	01730 829489

Tombola items can be dropped off at the village shop from Saturday 21st May. Mark Wills' team will be happy to collect your kind contributions for the bottle stall on Sunday 22nd May 5-7pm. Please leave your offering on your doorstep if you are not going to be in/drop off at Mark Wills' house. If anyone would like to bake some scones for the cream teas, these would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Jane Waller (see above for details). Raffle Tickets will be on sale on the mornings of the 3 Saturdays preceding the fete on 14th/21st/28th May outside the West Meon Village shop. This is your chance to win some fabulous prizes donated by local businesses. Tickets £2 each/£10 per book of 5 tickets.

Emma Barry

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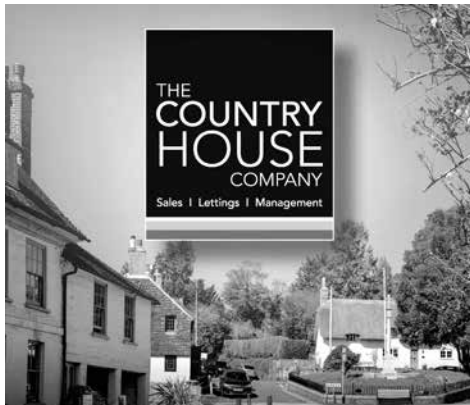
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Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

We have had a fantastic response to the planned celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee which will be held at the Recreation Ground in West Meon on Friday 3rd June 2022 from 3.00pm until late.

The whole event is FREE* and open to everyone.

All we ask is that you complete a very simple registration at the West Meon Village Shop, at <https://forms.gle/qMKspxXtVqnrKo5r5>

or using the QR code to the right,

so we can plan sufficient food etc.

We will have an afternoon of fun and festivities to celebrate this amazing milestone and the updated schedule is:

- “The Restless” youth Heptathlon, open to everyone under 16 to take part
- A Children's Art Competition
- Tea & Cake in the Village Hall
- “Street” Rounders Competition (i.e. Doctor's Lane -v- The Cross)
- “Bring your own” picnic and hopefully enjoy the sunny weather (fingers firmly crossed)
- A local craft market with over 20 stalls selling: Jewellery, sweets, sculptures, cards, paintings, candles, liqueurs, handbags, skincare products and lots more.



And from early evening until late we have:

- A mix of live music into the evening including: “May Contain Nuts” and “The Old Gits”
- A hog roast cooked by the village's master butcher, Damon Buckingham

*There will be a cost for drinks and an optional Hog Roast. A vegetarian option will also be available.

Jane Nicholson

West Meon Wine Society

At the end of March we held our second wine tasting event in the Village Hall. The Iberian Wine Tasting Evening featured a varied selection of interesting wines from Spain, Portugal and beyond. The event was attended by 32 members plus 11 team members and partners. The evening was a light-hearted informative tasting with a selection of traditional Spanish fare to complement the wines of this region. Much fun was had by all. Importantly, we received a total of almost £4000 worth of wine orders.

It is worth remembering that West Meon Wine Society is a not-for-profit organization and every purchase supports the West Meon Village Shop so that it can continue serving our cherished community.

Our next event will be on Friday 3rd June, when we will be working with the Sports Club and the Village Shop to serve snacks and wines by the bottle and glass for all those joining in the Platinum Jubilee celebrations on the Recreation ground. www.westmeonwine.co.uk.

West Meon Wine Society Management Team

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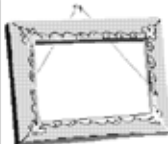
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Parishioners' support for those fleeing Ukraine



At a meeting on Thursday 7th April a group of parishioners from West Meon and Warnford discussed how both communities might provide help and support for Ukrainians who flee the war in their country and come to live with us here. There is already a very active Facebook Group called Meon Valley for Ukraine and parishioners are already involved with this wider group. At some stage in the next few weeks we may find Ukrainians living here with us as guests. We need to think now about how we can support them. What is possible and would be really useful to prepare for? These below are what we have agreed to date:

- The church wardens and PCC have agreed that the side chapel in West Meon Church could be used as a place of worship for Ukrainian Orthodox Christians so that they could hold services at agreed times. Such worshippers from across the Meon valley could also attend.
 - The West Meon School governors have already discussed providing places for refugee children.
 - Henry Clay has approached the West Meon surgery to enquire as to how best the surgery can meet the healthcare needs of any refugees who come to our parishes.
 - Buffy Morris is co-ordinating the drafting of an online Welcome Pack about our communities with JB Garway Templeman and Jane Waller.
 - Angie Trenchard, Chair of WMPC, agreed to co-ordinate a community meal for refugees, when appropriate.
 - Leonore Moritz has agreed to hold a meeting with those interested in being hosts for refugees, to share the experience of visa applications, working with local councils, DBS checks etc.
 - The West Meon Community Shop will try to stock foods and ingredients that Ukrainians may be more familiar with, like buckwheat for example.
 - The Sports Club will consider what games and activities they may be able to organise.
- These are a great start to the planning but we need more. Please let me know if you can help with any of the list below:
- Are there volunteers who could drive a minibus or car to help?
 - Might the Allotment Society provide an allotment space if required?
 - Do you have an old phone or laptop/tablet that is not needed any more?
 - Can you start to put aside good and clean children's and adults' clothes, toys and the like so that we can hold a Chattels and Clothes Sharing Café at an appropriate time?
 - Do you speak Russian or Ukrainian or Polish?
 - Could you provide employment or training?

If you are interested in being involved then look out for more information on We Are West Meon and in the Parish News.

Chris Waller

West Meon Village Shop

200 Club Prize Draw Winners

The winners of the April prize draw were as follows: 1st Prize of £200 to Keith Jacobs; 2nd Prize of £100 to Mike Davies; 3rd Prize of £50 to Mary Edwards; and 4th Prize of £25 to Tony Shorey. If you are not already a member and wish to join, then applications forms are available from the shop. It is a great way to support your community shop. The prizes are £40, £20, £10, and £5 in February, June, and October; and £200, £100, £50 and £25 in April, August and December.

Other Shop News

Mother's Day gifts and flowers were a massive hit this year in the shop with plenty of choice, attractive price points and lots of variety. It was lovely to see so many new faces coming to look at our welcoming displays in the shop. Easter goods also sold very well, with our usual range of slightly different alternatives and not just eggs.

The earrings that Mandie has been making to raise funds for the Ukraine, where 100% of sales income are given to the charity, have sold extremely well. What an amazing thing to do Mandie, so we thank you on behalf of the village for raising such a lot of money, which is still being collected and counted. Moreover, the earrings are so pretty and it's nice to see so many of our customers wearing them around the village.

Although Jacqui Kingham has retired and we are no longer able to purchase our bird food from her anymore, have no fear as we have found another supplier and are bagging up the bird foods ourselves. These can be found in the usual place under the table but this time in brown bags!

We have tried to cut as many costs as we can so far this year, but with rising living costs, minimum wage, electricity, and general maintenance charges rising, it is becoming ever more challenging. That said, we can adapt and overcome and are finding new ways to save on general costs, one of which is the reduction in the size of our Biffa Bins (now half the size) so please do not feel that you can empty the contents of your bins in the shop's bins any longer as we need every little speck of space in the bins now.

Cook Meals have become incredibly popular here at the shop, what a fantastic addition to our ever-increasing range of products. The philosophy underpinning Cook is worth highlighting, namely 'We believe a good meal should be cooked not processed, from great ingredients sourced sustainably, so it's delicious and nutritious and helps nourish our communities'. Libby's sourdough is also such a welcome sight (and aroma) on Tuesdays and Saturdays. We have customers come far and wide for this sourdough so make sure you get up early to secure your loaf. Also please take time to look around the shop while you're here and not just run out of the shop with your bread, as there are lots of tasty additions that would complement the sourdough, such as the Chalkstream Trout pate or even some of our local cheese from The Cheese Stall in Winchester. So please keep on shopping local, support the small businesses in our supply chain, and stay safe.

Rachell Barnett

APC Meeting

St John's West Meon - Sunday 15th May

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 11.45am after the 10.30am service in St John's Church.

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West Meon C of E Primary School

Although sports with other schools has not gone ahead yet, we have our own Sports Afternoon in June and we are also planning a small schools football tournament here when the weather is better. The Y4/5 swimming course was finished despite three postponements and they completed the course brilliantly. Dave, their wonderful main coach, will return to present them with their certificates later in the summer term.




Red Nose Day was great fun and the children also entered the art competition as part of the Queen's Jubilee celebrations in the village. They are currently saving jam jars for our stall at the village fete.

We also welcomed the toddler group from the village to an Easter Egg Hunt run by our parents in the churchyard and although the weather could have been better, they had a lovely time mixing with our YR/1 children and met our new teacher Katriona Pritchard, who has transformed our Early Years /Year 1 class.

Later in the term we will have a fundraiser for Cancer Research in memory of Kathryn Davis, our EYFS Assistant and the children gathered around the crocus bulbs we planted in memory of her. Our fundraiser will also be part of a Jubilee Afternoon Tea that our parents are planning.

Our parents have been amazing, as their group FOWMS, Friends of West Meon School, have continued to plan activities and promote the school, while we managed a couple of weeks of illness to ensure all classes and curriculum activities were covered. Mrs Massey Hocquard is now resting ahead of her maternity leave and Mrs Nikki Blogg has now taken over Y2/3 and

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the children already knew her and the change over has been seamless.

We were sad to lose Mrs Hillier, who after many years supporting the school, has left to do different work, but we wish her good luck for the future. We are also welcoming another ex-pupil, Ella Nellist, who will be taking over the after school club in the summer term. It is so nice to welcome back our former students.

The summer term is always a busy one and as well as normal standard tests resuming, we are looking forward

to our trips to the QE Park and the Hawk Conservancy with Y4, residential at Stubbington with Y5 and residential to Fairthorne Manor with Y6. Foxes and Hedgehogs also have trips planned and we will also be welcoming our new YR children in for taster sessions.

We have also been represented at village meetings to welcome any Ukrainian families who might settle in West Meon, as a respite from the war. We would love to welcome any children who might come and our children are also very excited to be able to invite them into our community. We still have a few places left for September 2022 for Year R and across a couple of year groups.

Julie Kelly, Headteacher

Cake Stall

After a two year break the church fete is back on 4th June and with it the cake stall.

If you fancy dusting down your cake tins and making something wonderful for the cake stall I would be so grateful. It can be anything you fancy, a sponge cake, fruit cake, cup cakes, brownies, flapjacks, bread, a tart or quiche, all would be welcomed!

You can drop them off at my house, or bring them to the stall on the day, or message me and I can collect. Thanks in advance.

Susanna Jarrett 07970 280077

Services in the Upper Meon Benefice

Sunday 1st May

8am HC BCP All Saints, East Meon

A quiet and reflective said service from the Book of Common Prayer.

9am St John's Langrish

Benefice Service of the Word with hymns and music. Come and hear about the enlightenment of Saul, and how Jesus forgives Peter.

10.30am St John's, West Meon.

Benefice Holy Communion with hymns. Common Worship. Come and hear about the enlightenment of Saul, and how Jesus forgives Peter.

10.30am All Saint's, East Meon.

All-Age Parish Service. With hymns.

Sunday 8th May

8am HC BCP All Saints, East Meon

A quiet and reflective said service from the Book of Common Prayer

9am Church of Our Lady, Warnford.

Benefice Service of the Word. BCP Sung Mattins with hymns. Peter heals Tabitha, and Jesus talks about being the Good Shepherd. Guest preacher.

10.30am All Saint's, East Meon.

Benefice Eucharist with organ, hymns and bells. Peter heals Tabitha, and Jesus talks about being the Good Shepherd. Guest preacher.

Sunday 15th May

8am HC BCP All Saints, East Meon

A quiet and reflective said service from the Book of Common Prayer.

9am St John's Langrish

Benefice Holy Communion with organ and hymns. CW

Peter talks about his vision, and Jesus commands us to love one another.

10.30am St John's, West Meon.

Service of the Word with organ and hymns. CW

Peter talks about his vision, and Jesus commands us to love one another.

Sunday 22nd May

8am HC BCP

All Saints, East Meon

A quiet and reflective said service from the Book of Common Prayer

9am Church of Our Lady, Warnford.

Benefice Holy Communion with hymns. BCP. Come and enjoy the traditional service. Paul meets Lydia, and Jesus tells us he will send the Holy Spirit.

10.30am All Saint's, East Meon.

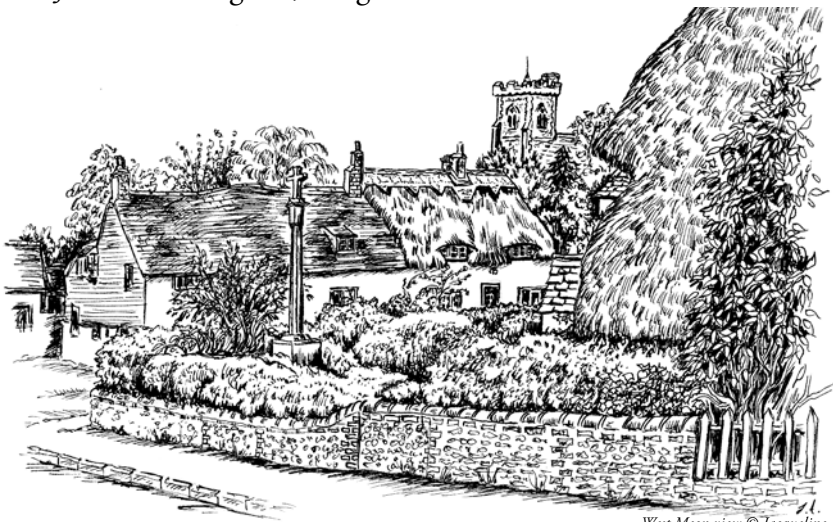
Parish Eucharist with choir and bells. Common Worship setting. Paul meets Lydia, and Jesus tells us he will send the Holy Spirit.

Sunday 29th May

8am HC BCP All Saints, East Meon

A quiet and reflective said service from the Book of Common Prayer.

11.30am Benefice Service with bring and share food. This quarter it will be held at St John the Evangelist, Langrish.



West Meon view © Jacqueline Annabel

Getting Wild About Gardens

The buzz of a bee... the sweet scent of honeysuckle... the splash of a frog hopping into a pond... chattering birds in a hedge. These precious moments are not only delightful to experience in our gardens, they're vital if we're going to protect, restore and reconnect UK wildlife.



A garden wildflower meadow will attract insects and birds © David Kilbey

Since 2013, The Wildlife Trusts have partnered with the Royal Horticultural Society on our Wild About Gardens initiative – encouraging everyone with a garden to provide food and shelter for wildlife. In fact, you don't even need a garden to get involved: window-boxes, a bee brick in your wall, or flower-rich balconies can all make a difference.

Wild About Gardens follows a different theme each year, inspiring gardeners to help a different species. For example, in previous years we've separately championed hedgehogs, bats and butterflies.

So, why is it so important for us to dedicate our own patch to wildlife? Well, almost 90% of UK households have a garden. This equates to over 20 million gardens, which, incredibly, covers a larger area than all 2,300 Wildlife Trust nature reserves combined. With many UK species in decline, using these spaces means we can collectively make a huge difference to our struggling wildlife.

It doesn't even have to involve lots of time and money because letting nature take its own course can often be the best way. Try leaving a patch of grass to grow wild and you'll soon have lots of new visitors, plus it can work wonders for our own wellbeing.

We're dedicating this year's Wild About Gardens to our high-flying summer visitors – swifts, swallows, and house martins. While these amazing migrant birds rarely touch the ground and

only remain in the UK for a few months a year, there are still ways we can help them.

Swifts and house martins were recently added to the UK's Red List for birds, meaning they're seriously threatened, have suffered severe declines, and require urgent action. The simplest thing you can do is let a patch of grass grow long – this will encourage insects in your garden and provide food for birds. You can have a similar effect by planting a colourful, insect-friendly wildflower border. Creating a boggy garden patch will provide mud that swallows and house martins use to build their nests. And to provide a home for a swift, consider installing a swift box or brick.

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust have a team of volunteer Wilder Garden Champions who can offer free personal advice on how to make your spaces wilder to benefit you and nature. For more details, visit hiwwt.org.uk/request-gardening-consultation.

Jake Kendall-Ashton, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust



Garden Club News

On 13th April we held our first talk since the beginning of the Pandemic. Over forty people attended Simon Cooper's Otters' Tale lecture, a perfect complement to his book of the same name. It was a thoroughly entertaining evening. As one of our members commented, "he is so enthusiastic and wears his knowledge very lightly, I much enjoyed hearing the Otters' tale, and look forward to reading about Frankel!" Other attendees said how natural Simon was as a speaker. He certainly is, but achieving such a natural approach obviously requires an impressive amount of preparation! Incidentally Simon has promised to give us a talk on Frankel, the famous British racehorse, at a later date... so watch this space!

On a more garden-related note, our next event will be on Wednesday 18th May at 7:00 pm - our first Annual Bring & Buy Plant Sale and Supper since 2019. It will be held at the George & Falcon pub in Warnford, which is now under new ownership. The plant sale will be outside in the pub garden and the meal, prepared on the premises, will be served inside overlooking the garden. The cost of the supper will be £10 per head, payable in advance. (Exact menu to be determined.)

You don't need to be a member to come to the Plant Sale – all gardeners and non-gardeners are welcome. Remember to bring along any spare plants or seedlings and have fun hunting down the specimen/s you'd love to take home with you. (You'll need bags or trays to transport them.)

For more information and if you'd like to join us for the meal, you will need to book your place. Please contact Clare Swinstead: clareswinstead@gmail.com. *Clare Swinstead*

Marriage entre la Terre et la Mer



An Exhibition by Sylviane Thomas at the Allen Gallery in Alton until 15th May.

Sylviane is an artist living in the local area. In French her name means “from the forest”. Her mother chose her name well as she loves the forest. But Sylviane also has a deep connection to the sea. This has grown through her marriage to a marine biologist who has opened her eyes to it. Which explains why she is drawn by these two elements and why she craves to paint them. This exhibition includes several works on forests, seascapes and animals. Sylviane's works have been created using oils and pastels. The exhibition has free entry.

There are a number of other events at the Allen Gallery and the nearby Curtis Museum in Alton. These include talks such as: Lighting in the times and novels of Jane Austen on Thursday 23rd June at 7.30 pm. Tickets £6.50 from the Gallery. Further details from www.hampshireculture.org.uk/curtis-museum and www.hampshireculture.org.uk/allen-gallery. These are open at 10 or 10:30am until 4:30pm every day except Mondays. *Jill Line*

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West Meon Parish Council & Warnford Parish Meeting

Your Parish Council Needs You. Currently we have 2 vacancies for councillors. If you feel you would like to contribute and support our village by joining the Council, please contact the clerk (details opposite) for further information.

Annual Parish Meeting. This Year's Annual Parish Meeting is Thursday 28th April at the Sports Pavilion. Arrive from 7.00pm to enjoy a drink before the meeting commences at 7.30pm. All Parishioners are welcome.

Lengthsman. The Lengthsman will be in the village during the week beginning 9th May.

Monument at the Cross. This looks amazing since it was cleaned on 12th April.

Commerative Bench. WMParish Council have ordered an inscribed Commerative Bench for the Queens Platinum Jubilee to replace the one at the cross.

Avian Flu. WMPC want to remind residents that from 29th November 2021 all bird keepers (whether they have pet birds, commercial flocks or just a few birds in a backyard flock) are required by law to take a range of biosecurity precautions including keeping their birds indoors except in very specific circumstances. For more information, please refer to: Avian Influenza Prevention Zone Information at www.gov.uk/guidance/avian-influenza-bird-flu.

Homes for Ukraine. Hampshire County Council is working with Winchester City Council, as well as key local partners such as the NHS and Hampshire Constabulary, to prepare for the provision of immediate support and assistance to Ukrainians arriving in Hampshire under the Government's Homes for Ukraine scheme. A dedicated 'Support For Ukraine' webpage (www.hants.gov.uk/ukraine) has been set up and is being regularly updated with the latest information together with signposting to updates from central Government.

And Finally from West Meon. The next WMPC meeting will be on Tuesday 10th May in the Village Hall commencing at 7.30 p.m. and all Parishioners are welcome to attend.

Warnford Parish Meeting. Information relating to WPM can be found on its website (see opposite) which also has details of local facilities and services, village news and events.

Warnford Parish Meeting's AGM will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on 19th May, all parishioners are welcome. Please send any Agenda items to the Clerk. Papers relating to AGM will be posted on the website shortly before 19th May.

Rights of Way in Warnford. If you are aware of any rights of way in Warnford that are becoming overgrown or are otherwise obstructed please e-mail Derek Chapman at: ederekchapman@btinternet.com.

West Meon, Warnford, Winchester City & Hampshire C.C. Contacts

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Neil Wortley
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Environment

Diane Heppell
Clerk to West Meon Parish Council
clerk.westmeon@parish.hants.gov.uk
02392 571720

West Meon Boules

On Friday 27th May the Boules team will be practicing their skills in the village from 6.00pm for a couple of hours. The venue will be announced closer to the time, dependent on numbers. Beverages will be available. If you are interested in joining in, for some or all of this time, please let us know by email to Mark Hammond at meonboules@gmail.com.

Mark Hammond

West Meon Parish Council website

www.westmeonpc.org.uk
email: westmeonpc2017@gmail.com

Warnford Parish Meeting

Mark Rogers
Chairman
chairman@warnfordparish.co.uk
07712 868858

Lucy Hutchinson
Clerk
warnfordclerk@gmail.com
01730 829598

Warnford Parish website

www.hugofox.com/community/warnford-village-7802/about-us

Winchester & Hampshire Councillors

Winchester City Councillors
Laurence Ruffell - 01962 777236
lruffell@winchester.gov.uk

Hugh Lumby – 01489 877444
hlumby@winchester.gov.uk

Hampshire County Councillor
Roger Huxstep – 01329 833884
roger.huxstep@hants.gov.uk

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Flick Drummond
01962 679920 – Constituency Office
flick.drummond.mp@parliament.uk



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W.I. Report

Our President, Berry Preece, attended the Hampshire Federation AGM at Portsmouth Guildhall and reported that the speakers were very good, and in particular our new Hampshire Crime Commissioner, Donna Jones, who gave an excellent presentation. Berry also mentioned that there was to be a new exhibition at the Allen Gallery in Alton on 'Modern Slavery' from the 14th-26th May. Our Spring Outing is to Gilbert White's House and Garden at Selborne on the afternoon of Tuesday 31st May. We will meet at 2pm and we would ask you to make payment at our next meeting.

The speaker at our last meeting was Sophie Fryer whose talk 'Hats Off to Millinery' was full of information on the history and making of couture millinery. We had been encouraged to wear our favourite hats, which was a lot of fun. Sophie was a brilliant speaker and knew her subject inside out! She brought lots of hats and fascinators for us to try on and we were amazed at her beautiful handiwork which is all hand sewn. A few years ago she had a career change and studied under Rose Cory, who is one of the leading milliners in the United Kingdom. Couture millinery is well promoted by the Royal Family, and in particular The Queen, events such as Royal Ascot and by models on the catwalk.

Our next meeting is our AGM which will be held at West Meon Village Hall on Monday 9th May at 1.45 for a 2pm start. We will also have a Quiz which should stimulate the brain cells! We are looking forward to seeing you there.

Sue Kinlochan

Froxfield Choir 50th Anniversary

Tickets are on sale now at One Tree Bookshop on Lavant Street, Petersfield or online through TicketSource at www.ticketsource.co.uk – search for Froxfield Choir.

It is remarkable to think that what started as a small group of friends gathering to sing in Elizabeth Gotto's drawing room in Froxfield in 1972 has endured and is thriving today, 50 years later. We hope it will be a wonderful evening in the stunning setting of Holy Trinity Church, Privett.

And we are delighted to announce there will be a Pre-Concert Sparkling Wine and Canape Reception from 6.30pm hosted by the Choir, generously sponsored by Pain Smith Solicitors in Medstead. This is included in the cost of the ticket.

The Concert itself will begin at 7.30pm and the main event will be Beethoven's Mass in C accompanied by the West Forest Sinfonia and guest soloists. Also, in the repertoire for the evening will be a variety of pieces including a specially commissioned piece by resident composer Michael Orchard and the always popular Zadok the Priest.

Sarah Rush

The poster features a dark blue background with a vibrant image of fireworks exploding in the night sky. The Froxfield Choir logo is in the top left corner. The main title 'Jubilate!' is prominently displayed in white. Below it, the text describes the event: Beethoven's Mass in C, celebrating the choir's 50th anniversary, at Holy Trinity Church, Privett on Saturday 18th June 2022. It also mentions a pre-concert reception and provides ticket information and website links.

Froxfield Choir
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Jubilate!

Beethoven's Mass in C
in celebration of Froxfield Choir's 50th Anniversary

at Holy Trinity, Privett GU34 3PE
on Saturday 18th June 2022

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www.froxfieldchoir.co.uk www.hiowaa.org



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West Meon Attacked

Sir, - I read with interest in "Down Memory Lane" (27th January 1982) a letter from Mr. Blunt which mentioned the time when the German Air Force was attacking railway installations.

I well remember when a lone bomber attacked the railway tunnel at West Meon, on the Meon Valley line, at about 4:45pm one day in the early 1940s.

I was living at West Meon and working for my father's coal business. My late brother Peter and I were unloading coal from a wagon at West Meon station when a German bomber appeared out of low cloud south of the station.

We could see the black crosses as it passed low overhead, following the track to the north. It then turned back and dropped a bomb, hitting the road bridge and exploding just short of the tunnel and hurling sections of the steel rail 50 feet up into the cutting and on to the field alongside.

Luckily the explosion cut the telephone wires causing bells to ring continuously at both Privett and West Meon signal boxes, thus holding up the train at Privett Station. This was, indeed a miracle as the train was full that day, mostly with schoolchildren.

Also the goods sidings at West Meon station were full of ammunition trucks ready to be taken away by the army to dumps hidden in the woods nearby.

I expect many of our readers from the West Meon area will remember this incident.

Noel Stone, letter to Petersfield Post



West Meon School Class II (inc. Lottie Louise Abram) unknown date and photographer (any further information to the Editor)

Rainfall records for March/April

Not much to say as it happens: March ended with 52.2mms (2.05").

April started damp and by the 15th we had 20.4mms.

Peter Short

Diary Dates

Monday 9th May

WIAGM and Quiz. 1.45 for a 2pm start West Meon Village Hall.

Tuesday 19th May

West Meon Parish Council Meeting. 7.30pm Village Hall. All parishioners are welcome.

Sunday 15th May

Annual Parochial Church Meeting. 11.45am after the 10.30am in St John's Church.

Wednesday 18th May

Garden Club Bring & Buy Plant Sale and Supper. 7.00pm George & Falcon, Warnford.

Thursday 19th May

Warnford Parish Meeting's AGM. 7.30pm Village Hall. All parishioners are welcome.

Friday 3rd June

Queen's Jubilee Celebrations. From 3.00pm West Meon Recreation Ground.

Saturday 4th June

West Meon Village Fete. 2.00-4.30pm West Meon House.

Parish Directory

Rector :

Vacant

Associate Rector:

The Revd. Philippa Good 07538 595537

Church Wardens for West Meon:

Helena Gomm 829741

Michael Johnson 829105

Church Warden for Warnford:

Andrew Sellick 829161

Verger for Warnford:

Peter Short 829285

Hampshire Farmers' Market May dates

10am-2pm (except Winchester 9am-2pm, Romsey 10am-1pm)

Sunday 1st Petersfield/Romsey

Saturday 7th Hamble Spring Market

Sunday 8th Winchester

Saturday 14th Alton

Sunday 15th Alresford Watercross
Festival

Saturday 21st Emsworth

Sunday 22nd Southsea

Saturday 28th Ringwood

Sunday 29th Winchester

Care Group Co-ordinators

Nina Byles 829028/07778 679922

Virginia de Cosson 829362

The Parish News is published by the Parochial Church Councils of West Meon & Warnford and delivered free to every home in the parishes.

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Printers: Studio 6, Woodside Court,

Sparkford, Somerset BA22 7LH

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