

Parish News

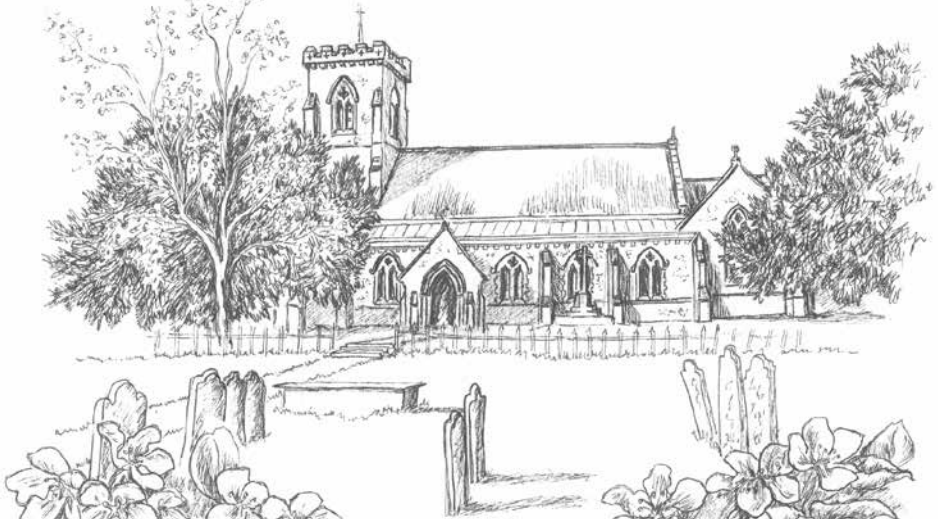
West Meon & Warnford

May 2021

Our Family Memories

What a glorious time of year it is! Yesterday in my wanderings I saw my first bluebells in Warnford churchyard, a promise of what is to come, if ever I saw one. This year Spring, perhaps, has more of a reflective air than usual as we emerge from the pandemic. Basking in the sunshine I am looking forward but I am also considering what has gone before. I suppose it is possible that the death of his Royal Highness Prince Philip is also influencing my thinking. As a vicar I, of course, have taken many funerals. It is a great privilege to be with families as they come to terms with the death of a loved one, to hear the stories of lives well lived but also to help in some small way to help individuals come to terms with all they have experienced and continue to experience. Needless to say we hold the Queen and her family in our thoughts and prayers as, at some level, we are united in their sadness.

The process of mourning is an interesting phenomena. I think we are all aware that, over the years, how individuals go about mourning has changed. The death of Princess Diana was a moment in which the way our nation mourned changed forever, as there was a public outpouring of grief that had never been seen before. Of course in recent months, due to the Covid restrictions, families have had to come to terms with scaled down funerals, funerals where numbers attending have been restricted and hymns have not been sung, which has been very difficult. If anyone had asked me two years ago if I would have thought that our 'Covid funerals' would be acceptable I might have said no. However, I might say that, for some at



West Meon churchyard: Jacqueline Annabel



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least, that they might be preferred as these services are much more intimate in nature, more relaxed, more focused. Within those services there have been an opportunity for those closest to those who have died to come together to truly support one another without worrying about caring for, might I say, those on the fringes of families. I hope in writing this that our Queen and her family will have experienced just that.

It is true that within society many more people choose that their loved ones should be cremated. However this is not necessarily true in the countryside. Since being here, although I have done a number of funerals I have only been to the crematorium twice. The churchyards of our two parish churches, St John the Evangelist and Our Lady, remain the focus of many families mourning. And may I say that they are immaculate, much thanks must be given to not only those who oversee their upkeep but also to those who do the work.

It is at a holiday such as Easter, Christmas and Mothering Sunday that you realise how many people faithfully return to our churchyards to lovingly tend graves. I have had many conversations with individuals who see that our villages represent home, even if their visits are infrequent. Not surprisingly I spend more time in the churchyard than pretty much anyone else. I, along with my Church Wardens and PCC members, have a responsibility for their upkeep and so from time to time, solely with the aim of making sure that they look their best I find that it is necessary to remove flowers and wreaths which have passed their best; last weekend for example weather-beaten Christmas wreaths and artificial flowers which were very dilapidated were removed from graves. I am sorry if anyone feels upset, but our hope is that all who come will realise that our churchyards are well cared for, and that that care reflects the care that we demonstrate to individuals.

In saying all this I recognize that we all hold family traditions. That we, as families, have a way of doing things, ways of mourning, ways of saying that we care for one another. Churchyards, however, are very different from public cemeteries. One thing being that a cemetery does not have a church in the middle of it. Both of our churches although built hundreds of years apart are buildings of significance within our communities and because of this there are Diocesan regulations as to the type of memorials which can be placed in our churchyards which are in keeping with the buildings and the environment. Only the other day standing on the pathway below St John's I had a conversation with someone who spoke of the beauty of the churchyard; the conversation then moved on to the nature of memorials. We did speak about public cemeteries and of their memorials. Towards the end of the conversation she said, "I had never thought about how the memorials need to look right for our churchyard".

Another reason why individuals visit churchyards is because they are researching their family history. Once again in the church yard last week I had another conversation. This time with Graham Walker. He and Christiane Andersen are starting a project to design and implement an online reference resource for West Meon's churchyard. The ultimate intention is to end up with a map of the churchyard with grave locations linked to the text of the respective memorial and, for those families who agree, a further link to relevant family history.

Graham asks, "If anyone in the village has the IT skills – or knows someone who has - to be able to help the team to design and implement such an online resource, please could they let Christiane (c.andersen@hotmail.co.uk) or Graham (gajwalker@sky.com) know. Also, any other interested volunteers will be welcome to join the team."

Rev. Mary Jepp

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FLOWER FESTIVAL

Church of the Holy Rood, Empshott, GU33 6HT

'ALL NATURE IS A GARDEN'

26th & 27th June 2021

Saturday 10am to 5pm, Sunday 10.30am - 5pm

Entry £5 payable at the door, children free

Refreshments and stalls

The festival will celebrate the idyllic rural setting of this charming, ancient church, its natural surroundings and the beauty of an English midsummer. The designers' aim is to bring the countryside into the church, with lavish use of native, seasonal flowers and foliage.

In homage to Gilbert White, whose 300th birthday was in July 2020, the east end of the church will evoke a corner of Gilbert's garden, complete with pet tortoise.

email empshottfestival@gmail.com for
more information
follow us on Instagram @
[empshottflowerfestival](#)

Susanna Jarrett

Holy Rood, Empshott described by Pevsner as "a complete early 13th century church".

Photo: Basher Eyre, Wikimedia Commons



Church Notices

Deaths:

Warnford - Robert "Bob" Curtis

West Meon - Sheila Stone

Ralph Wall

Charity Walks

Mary Jepp has managed to raise £2515 for local foodbanks with her programme of Easter walks.

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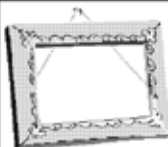
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NAPOLEON - THE LAST FIVE YEARS

A "ZOOM" lecture by

KIT POWER

Thursday 20th May at 7.00pm

£5 in aid of Warnford Church



Napoleon died on the remote Atlantic island of St Helena exactly 200 years ago. Why he was there, what happened while he was there and how his body finished up in Paris is one of the most extraordinary stories of the 19th century.

Kit Power visited the island in 2017 and has made a study of Napoleon's final years which he will describe in this illustrated "Zoom" lecture, supporting Warnford Church.

*To apply for the link, please email:
napoleonlecture@gmail.com
to receive full details*



Curious Cuckoos

One of the most iconic sounds of spring is the call of the male cuckoo, the two notes heralding the changing seasons. Cuckoos will have just started to arrive in Britain after their long migration from Africa where they spend the majority of the year. They have a fascinating life cycle and cuckoos and their chicks and eggs are wonderfully adapted to parasitising the nest of other bird species. Just two of the 54 species of Old World cuckoo can be found in Europe and here we will take a closer look at the common cuckoo.



Cuckoo by Andy Ames

Arrival

In late February cuckoos will slowly begin their 10,000km journey to Britain, leaving the rainforests of central Africa where they have spent our autumn and winter. They will have been feeding up on the insects these forests provide ready for the 50-60 hour Saharan crossing which makes up one of the more perilous legs of their journey. Cuckoos make the crossing in one non-stop night flight and sadly many don't make it to the other side. Cold temperatures, dust storms and high winds could all but bring their migration to a premature end. There are further obstacles for the cuckoos as they navigate their way through hunters in the Mediterranean and possible wet or cold weather on their passage.

The breeding season

Once the cuckoos arrive at their destination (they breed across Europe) the most familiar part of their life cycle begins. Males can be spotted on open perches making their onomatopoeic call, while females have a less-famous bubbling call which they make as they search for a suitable

nest. Each female will be adapted to parasitise the nest of a certain host bird, a trait they pass on to their chicks, forming distinct races. The reed warbler and the meadow pipit are the most common unwitting parents to cuckoos, but over 120 species have been recorded with cuckoo eggs in their nests. Cuckoo eggs have a thick shell so the egg can be quickly laid from above the nest while the parents are gone, and the cuckoo chick has a concave back to help roll other eggs out of the nest. They also have a large gape and loud calls, which trigger the parents to bring food despite the often odd appearance of a giant cuckoo chick squashed into a too-small nest being fed by tiny parents.

But this harbinger of spring is on the decline, on the UK red list of birds. An important factor is the increasingly unpredictable weather, which can play havoc with the cuckoos migration flight and their insect food sources. Cuckoos can be spotted on many of the Trust's nature reserves – find your closest at www.hiwwt.org.uk/nature-reserves

Claire Thorpe



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Sports Club AGM

The Sports Club invites you to their brief Annual General Meeting on Zoom.

Friday 7th May from 7.00 to 7.30 pm. If you would like to attend, please email Hugh Morris - hughfmorris@gmail.com or phone on him 07548 904292 - to request a web-link invitation to attend.

Hugh Morris

Rainfall records for February /March

February was quite a pleasant month. As we reported in the Parish magazine we had a smattering of snow on the 8th which lasted all of two days but other than that relatively mild and not too much rain. Most of the rain fell from the 15th to the 23rd, the final 5 days were dry. The coldest overnight temperature that we measured was - 5C and that for only two nights.

March started dry and apart from 3.5mms on the 3rd it has remained so until the 11th when we had 13.7mms and a small amount on the next 4 days. To the 15th of the month we have had 26.7mms, just over an inch. We have had a few days with cold North Easterly winds blowing but nothing too serious. We even have radishes showing in our raised beds and Sweet Peas in the unheated greenhouse.

Peter Short

Meon Valley Lions

We've lost a good friend...

We are sad to report the passing of Lion John Ormiston. An approachable and generous man he would always be prepared to get involved, help and assist in the work of Meon Valley Lions Club.

John joined the Club in 1975 but took a sabbatical in the mid '80s when his work took him elsewhere in the country but he returned in 1997. Since then, John has been Club President twice and took lead roles in membership, social and fundraising matters. He was also adept at turning burgers and sausages upon demand!

John became Zone Chairman in 2008/09 and 2009/10 and subsequently Lions Club International Foundation Coordinator in 2010/11 and 2011/12.

For his varied contributions to the club and Lions he was awarded the Melvin Jones Fellowship award in 2017.

John will be sadly missed within the Club. He was honest and forthright, speaking out when he felt necessary and rolled up his sleeves with us all.



BBQ in the Park – Saturday 18th September

Sadly due to Covid restrictions we have decided not to hold the annual Swanmore village fete but we are pleased to announce we will be holding a BBQ in the Park on Saturday 18th September. We are working on what we can and can't do so please watch this space for an update or check out our website or social media.

The plan so far is to serve our usual burgers and sausages, we'll ask one of the local pubs to run a bar and play you some music. We're also looking at what is possible as far as children's entertainment is concerned but this will depend on the restrictions at the time.

Helping those who help others...

When we heard about a volunteer for a local charity, having a difficult time themselves: post covid infections and lost jobs due to lockdown, we were only too happy to help. The replacement of a kitchen appliance will hopefully help this family get back on their feet.

The Wickham Pantry

Newly set up and based in the community centre to combat food waste and poverty 'A membership-based scheme provides a sustainable and long term solution to the problem of food poverty in Wickham and surrounding areas. They are open on Tuesdays.

Support has been given by McCarthys and UKHarvest (food poverty and food waste distribution).

For more information check out their website: <http://www.wickhamcommunitycentre.org.uk/82/community-pantry>

Dates for your Diary

Swanmore Fete 2021 – Sadly, due to Covid regulations we have decided to cancel this year's fete.

Annual Ford Charity Fishing Festival 2021 – We're sorry to report this has been cancelled for 2021.

Carole Dash

West Meon W.I. Report

We thought we would give you an update on what West Meon W.I. is doing as 'Lockdown' progresses! Along with everyone else, we cannot wait to all get together and return to our usual format of meeting up once a month, and going forward, it is looking more positive with the very successful vaccine rollout and the fall in the number of Covid cases.

During the last year we have had various initiatives to keep in touch, one of them being a monthly walk with groups of six. Obviously we have had to curtail this since the beginning of the year, but we are now starting again with a walk on Friday 7th May, and Sue Croft is in charge of the arrangements.

Berry Preece, our President, has written to all the members enclosing a Programme of Events for the second half of 2021. Our first meeting will be on 12th July at 2.30pm with tea in the garden at Old Down Farmhouse, East Meon, GU32 1PL. On 9th August we hope to have our first meeting in West Meon Village Hall at 2.15pm and our speaker, Sylvie Dare, will be talking about 'The story of my family and my miraculous survival during the War'.

An Autumn highlight of our programme will be an outing to Hambledon Vineyard, where we will have a tour and a wine tasting, which should be great fun!

If you would like any further information about West Meon W.I., or would like to join us, please contact Berry Preece at berryprece@gmail.com or by telephone 01730 823488.

Sue Kinlochan

West Meon Village Shop

200 Club Prize Draw Winners

The lucky winners of the April prize draw were as follows: 1st Prize of £200 to Paul Andersen; 2nd Prize of £100 to Jo Cousins; 3rd Prize of £50 to Alex Echo; and 4th Prize of £25 to Miranda Swain.

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.



Egg Decoration in Basket for Easter Wallpaper. Photo: HD Nice Wallpapers

Easter was a great success and we were really busy selling out of all the Easter Goodies, not an egg left in sight by the end. The winner of the Easter Hamper raffle, which raised £45 profit for the shop, was Jane Nicholson. We hope you enjoyed all the Easter treats as well as the bottle of dessert wine which was donated by the West Meon Wine Society.

With the weather warming up, and lots of visitors being attracted to the village, don't forget that the café is now open daily and lots of soft drinks, cakes and ice-creams are available from the shop as well. So do please drop by the shop or café and catch up at last with long lost friends and family, and at the same time buy some of the excellent locally sourced goods we are stocking. There is also a great selection of wine, gifts for every occasion and a plentiful array of cards. Finally, do come in and browse our burgeoning lending library which caters for all the family and is especially inviting for all the avid readers amongst our customers.

On Friday through Monday, we stock freshly cut flowers from Flowers on the Bridge.

There is also a wonderful selection of potted plants on our beautifully crafted plant stand at the entrance to the shop.

The West Meon Village Shop Committee

West Meon Wine Society

Just in the hope that we can start to host events in person in the late summer, we have recently organised some on-line wine tastings. Participants have the opportunity to taste six different wines and the feedback from the events has been very positive. The tasting lasts about an hour and you don't need to have any previous experience of tasting wines, as you'll be guided through the whole process. The wine is supplied to you on the day in small bottles along with some printed notes and you meet on-line for the event at a pre-determined time. The groups work well in small numbers to allow everyone the opportunity to air their views and it is an ideal opportunity to taste some of the wines on the West Meon Wine Society list before you purchase them. We can also arrange tastings for a specific group of friends or if you would like to join a tasting, just let us know. If you would prefer to arrange a private tasting, we are happy to meet beforehand to discuss your preferred selection of wines and will be happy to arrange one of our wine team to host your event for you.



As you may remember we mentioned before, all of the wines on the website have been tasted and personally selected by our wine team and one of our objectives is to find unusual and interesting wines at competitive prices. We pick different themes each month and we try to find wines for everyday drinking as well as special occasions. All of our wines are available exclusively on the West Meon Wine Society website www.westmeonwine.co.uk and once ordered can be collected from the village shop from lunchtime on Fridays. If you would like more information on on-line wine tastings, membership, or any wine matters, please e-mail us on westmeonwine@gmail.com.

West Meon Wine Society Management Team



Best Wine Regions of South America. Photo: Chimu Adventures Blog

West Meon C of E Primary School



Photo by permission from school website

Just after all the children returned to school we remembered Mary Touchet, the founder of our school, as Reverend Mary said a few words outside the church and the children brought the most beautiful flowers to place on her grave. Children from each class also said a few words about what they had missed most about not being in school during lockdown.

On Sunday 23rd May there will be a special service for Pentecost, when we will also be celebrating the 175 years since the consecration of the church. We also held a Dress As You Please day for Comic Relief which raised £70 for children who are struggling during these difficult times.

Outdoor learning is featuring heavily at the moment and is important also from a mental health and health and safety point of view. Trips to the Nature Station are happening weekly, with the youngest children starting to walk down in the summer term. My personal favourite day last term was on a glorious spring afternoon and Owls were orienteering around the outside of the church in search of Easter goodies, Hedgehogs were playing in the purpose built early years area and Foxes were up at the Nature Station. An empty school building, but with core subjects completed in the mornings, we continue to make the most of our 'bubble' activities in the afternoons.

This outdoor theme will continue into the summer term and Year 6 are out every day the week beginning 17th May to Fairthorne Manor to abseil, canoe, paddle board and zip wire and we are so glad that they can continue these activities without staying overnight. Year 4 will also not stay overnight in June, but will visit the QE Park and Hawk Conservancy as usual. Year 5 may be able to have a residential in July, but we still wait to hear the confirmation about this. Bikeability outside for Year 5 will be the week beginning 26th April and Time to Shine Cricket Coaching starts weekly for Hedgehogs and Foxes from our first week back. We welcome back Mrs Davies who has been shielding and we continue to work in our class bubbles until we are told it is safe to mix together again.

Julie Kelly, Headteacher

The Stable Gallery – West Meon

The Stable Gallery is a beautiful old building set against the backdrop of the Meon Valley countryside. The gallery, located in West Meon, is run by 24 year-old Evelyn Jacobs. The temporary space was previously used as a stable for horses, but has since been transformed into a one of a kind art gallery. The memories of its previous tenants are still visible but its unique layout is the perfect space to exhibit artwork.

Evie Jacobs' desire to share creativity with the surrounding community was driven,



like so many others, by the inaccessibility of socialising throughout the past year. The upcoming exhibitions run from April to August, hosting a varying degree of interesting artists. It is her aspiration that the artwork exhibited responds to the ancient and authentic nature of the building itself, along with the landscape that surrounds it.

The Stable Gallery may be off the beaten track but it holds the promise of bringing people together to enjoy imagination and innovation once again. As restrictions ease, the gallery is preparing for its opening show. The dates and artists are released via the gallery's social media pages, alongside any other required information. Evelyn has also created

a virtual platform on Instagram to share artists and other creative's processes, studio spaces and pieces, and to involve the audience in methods behind the artwork.

If you are interested in art or architecture (or just need a day out) it is well worth dropping by The Stable Gallery during one of their exhibitions.

Dates are as follows:

Manifest: 29th April – 2nd May

Worldwide: 10th May – Instagram exhibition

Smaller Than A Melon: 18th – 20th June

To-be-forgotten: 24th – 27th June

Summer Exhibition: 14th – 18th July

When Worlds Collide: 19th – 22nd August

Evie Jacobs



The Curtis Museum and Allen Gallery, Alton

Tel. 01420 82802. Websites at www.hampshireculture.org.uk/curtis-museum, www.hampshireculture.org.uk/allen-gallery and on Facebook.

There is a great deal to browse in the Gallery and the Museum, once we are open again. (Hopefully end of May - keep an eye on our website above.) In the meantime, Culture on Call contains all sorts of information on the Collections, arts, culture and heritage in Hampshire. cultureoncall.com



Some of the Delftware at the Allen Gallery: photo provided by Jill Line

At the back of this picture is a Delft apothecary pill slab hand painted in blue and white with the arms of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries and the motto OPIFER QUE PER ORBEM DICOR set within a banner. The octagonal-shaped slab has two holes to the upper edge to enable this to be hung. These were made in Bristol and London. Pill-slabs or pill-tiles were traditionally thought to have been used to roll out pill ingredients, but the elaborate and decorative nature of these plaques suggests that they were more commonly used for display purposes. Also many seem to have very little damage.

The shield depicts Apollo, associated with healing, holding a bow and arrow above a dragon, a symbol of disease. The motto refers to Apollo and translates as 'I am the bringer of help throughout the world'.

With thanks to Jane Hurst, *Jill Line*

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West Meon Parish Council & Warnford Parish Meeting News

COVID-19

Testing without symptoms available for all Hampshire residents

Following the Government's announcement that free rapid tests will be offered to everyone in England from 9th April, local residents are being urged to start collecting their test kits from Friday and get into the habit of regular testing and recording their result the County Council's Director of Public Health, Simon Bryant, said: "As we see the number of positive cases decline, it's tempting to think that COVID may soon be a thing of the past, but the virus transmits so easily from person to person, and if we do not continue to exercise caution and do all we can to minimise spread, we may have to live with some form of restrictions for the foreseeable future. Don't forget that one in three people may have the virus but not experience any symptoms, so alongside the COVID-19 vaccine and following 'hands, face, space', regular testing will continue to be essential to preventing further spread, helping us to get back to a normal way of life. Hampshire residents are urged to take up the offer of free, regular testing – and make Test-Record-Repeat a part of your weekly routine."

Where to get a lateral flow device (LFD) test kit

From 9th April, anyone can access free, rapid Lateral Flow tests for themselves and their families to use twice a week. Collection from community testing sites (enter your postcode in the NHS site map to find your nearest site and opening times). To take a supervised LFD test at a community testing site, drop in on the day or book an appointment online. You must not go to these sites if you have any symptoms.

And Finally from West Meon

The next Parish Council Meetings will be held on Tuesday, 11th May 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall, Parishioners are welcome, please contact the clerk. Diane Heppell clerk.westmeon@parish.hants.gov.uk.

Warnford Parish Meeting

The AGM will be held remotely on Tuesday, 4th May, starting at 7pm. Details of how to join and papers relating to the AGM will be on the Warnford website. Please give any suggestions for Agenda items to the Clerk.

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

West Meon Parish Council

Angie Trenchard
Chair, Planning
chairmanwmpc@gmail.com or
angiewmpc1@gmail.com
01730 829545

Jane Nicholson
Vice Chair, Finance, Communication
janewmpc@gmail.com
01730 829303

Chris Waller
Environment, Planning, Highways
chriswmpc@gmail.com
01730 829489

Cheryl Adams
cherylwmpc@gmail.com
Communication, Community
01730 829346

Graham Silk
grahamwmpc@gmail.com
Environment, Planning
07887 611100

Mac Edwards
macwmpc@gmail.com
Highways, Recreation Ground
07778 775486

Robin Gedye
Robinwmpc@gmail.com
River Flooding, Neighbourhood Watch
07774 698958

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

West Meon Parish Council website
www.westmeonpc.org.uk
e-mail: 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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Confessions of a food waste campaigner



Photo: Inside Waste insidewaste.com.au

Reflecting on a week long campaign as part of the inaugural #FoodWasteActionWeek at the beginning of March, I am amazed at how easy it should be to reduce food waste, especially in the home. It sounds simple enough – measure portions, freeze leftovers/batch cook and the most obvious is to plan your meals so you only buy what you need. This is the advice that I heartily promoted as part of Incredible Edible Winchester’s campaign. So, I am really embarrassed to have to confess that I am the worst when it comes to meal planning, and I rarely take a shopping list when I go shopping.

But does that mean I waste lots of food? No, I don’t. What it does mean, is that for the couple of days before I do my big shop, I simply eat what I have in the fridge and freezer, like a supper meze. Yes, I sometimes have weird combinations or end up eating variations of chilli for 3 days (because I also forgot to freeze it in smaller portions) but that works for me. Meal planning isn’t the only way to reduce food waste.

So, now I’ve made my confession, why am I still so passionate that food waste is taken seriously when it comes to climate change? Food production, when you consider the farming, transport, processing etc, equates to 26% of all CO₂ (equivalent) emissions and uses 50% of the world habitable land (source: <https://ourworldindata.org/environmental-impacts-of-food>) yet almost 30% of food produced is not eaten. There are a variety of reasons why this food is not eaten, but I am going to focus on the bit that we can all change; food waste from the home.



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The average UK family throws away £60 of edible food a month (Source: WRAP Food-surplus-and-waste-in-the-UK key-facts-Jan-2020.pdf) and on a worldwide scale food waste equates to the same amount of emissions as 3 times that of aviation emissions.

Most of you reading this blog are thinking, well I'm really careful, I don't throw away that much food. So, I challenge you to really look at what you do throw away. And do you throw it in the black bin, or are you able to compost it? Could some of the things you throw away, actually be eaten? Do you "complEAT"? Do you peel veg, or do you just give it a good wash, and eat the skin? Think of all the time you'd save and all that extra fibre you'd consume if you didn't peel potatoes, carrots and parsnips, or saved those broccoli stalks for soup. I'd never heard of "complEAT" before the #LoveFoodHateWaste campaign; I just thought I was a time effective cook (aka lazy).

Now I'm on my soapbox, we need to change how we talk about food waste; we need to separate edible food from non-edible food. Non-edible food is those bits that we truly can't eat, and we should look at effective ways to compost this (maybe for a later blog), but edible food should never be called food waste. If we could reduce edible food waste, the United Nation estimates there would be enough food for 2 million people (source: <http://www.fao.org/home/en>). We all sometimes buy too much, plans change or our garden/allotment produces a glut, I would implore you to consider ways to share that surplus with your friends, neighbours or community food hubs. Incredible Edible Winchester is helping promote food sharing apps such as OLIO, neighbourly or TooGoodtoGo, for people to share surplus food, and the Winchester Food Partnership has created a #shareoursurplus directory.

Some of you may say that sharing a few surplus apples from your tree isn't going to fix climate change, and I'm not saying it will. But, changing the way we think will. Food is relatively inexpensive, and we can sometimes forget that sometimes wasting the cheapest things has the biggest environmental impact. Rethinking food, and it's value will contribute to larger behavioural change and will help people take more difficult decisions e.g reducing the amount of meat and dairy, that does have a significant impact on climate change, but I'll leave sustainable food choices for another day.

I hope I've given you some "food for thought" and you'll accept the challenge of looking at what food goes in your bin, and rethinking our necessity to peel everything.

If you'd like to find out more there are lots of local groups working together. Incredible Edible Winchester, Winchester Food Partnership, LEAF Alresford, Smart Living Hampshire, are all looking for people to join, celebrate and promote ways in which we can reduce our environmental footprint and help promote the impact food has when it comes to the #climateemergency

*Sam Watts,
Chair of WinACC's Food Action Group*

Diary Dates May

Church Services

Dates and arrangements will be advertised on Facebook, locally displayed posters and by word of mouth (for further details contact the Rector - see below).

Tuesday 4th May

Warnford Parish Meeting AGM: This will be a remote meeting, commencing at 7pm. Details of how to join and papers relating to the AGM will be on the Warnford website nearer the time. Any matters for the Agenda should be given to the Warnford Parish Clerk.

Friday 7th May

Sports Club AGM: Zoom. Email Hugh Morris - hughfmorris@gmail.com or phone 07548 904292 to request a link.

Tuesday 11th May

West Meon Parish Council Meeting: 7:30pm – 9:00pm, Village Hall

Thursday 20th May

Napoleon - the last five years: Zoom lecture 7pm by Kit Power see page 7.

Parish Directory

Rector :

The Reverend Jane Ball 823221

Associate Rector:

The Reverend Mary Jepp 829670

Church Wardens for West Meon:

Helena Gomm 829741

Michael Johnson 829105

Church Warden for Warnford:

Andrew Sellick 829161

Verger for Warnford:

Peter Short 829285

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Sunday 16th Southsea

Sunday 23rd Alresford Watercress Festival

Saturday 29th Ringwood

Sunday 30th 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.

Contributions by the 15th of the previous month please to:

The Editor: Jacqueline Annabel

Tel: (01730) 829023

westmeonparishnews@gmail.com

Advertising: Questions regarding advertising should be addressed to:

Helena Gomm Tel: (01730) 829741

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