

# Parish News

West Meon & Warnford

February 2023

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## Candlemas Bells

As I sit in front of my fire, listening to the storms swirl around about, one small little flower nods its head to me, heralding the welcome arrival of spring. What is this flower, I hear you ask? Why the humble snowdrop!

Many legends surround this wonderful flower and one of my favourites is this ancient German tale;

At the beginning of all things when life was new, the Snow sought to borrow a colour. The flowers were much admired by all the elements but they guarded their colour's jealousy and when the Snow pleaded with them, they turned their backs in contempt for they believed the Snow cold and unpleasant. The tiny humble snowdrops took pity on the Snow for none of the other flowers had shown it any kindness and so they came forth and offered up to the Snow their colour.

The Snow gratefully accepted and became white forevermore, just like the Snowdrops. In its gratitude, the Snow permitted the little pearly flowers the protection to appear in winter, to be impervious to the ice and bitter chill. From then on, the Snow and the Snowdrops coexisted side by side as friends.

But what is the true origin of snowdrops in our countryside as these flowers do not originate in England, coming from southern Europe, and only spread into the wild in the late 18th



*Photo: Edwin Grimshaw*



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Century? It is believed that when the monks came to our country, they brought with them the humble snowdrop.

Why, do I hear you ask? These are one of the very few flowers that appear in early February, and were gathered at Candlemas on the 2nd February to decorate churches in this country before the Reformation. Candlemas is the feast of the purification of the Virgin Mary and snowdrops have long been associated with hope and purity.

But Candlemas long meant something else as well, in practical terms, especially in the Middle Ages: it was the day when everyone in the parish brought their candles to be lit and blessed by the priest. This was so that they could ward off evil spirits. Indeed, imagine how it must have looked in medieval times, with the church a rare blaze of light and decorated with snowdrops.

You too can celebrate the humble snowdrop at Warnford Park this month in this the 50th year of Snowdrop Sundays, with thanks to Andrew and Candi Sellick. Indeed, the park is open every Sunday afternoon in February for your enjoyment.

As you perambulate around the Capability Brown designed pleasure gardens of Warnford Park, through the remains of St Johns House and the woodland belt, past the Memento Mori bridge and return on the formal walk past the Dower House, please rejoice in the beauty of the park and the humble snowdrop.

*Edwin Grimshaw*

\*\* SAVE THE DATE \*\* \*\* SAVE THE DATE \*\*\*\* SAVE THE DATE \*\*

## **West Meon Church Fete Saturday 17th June 2023**

We are delighted that Catherine and Rupert Younger have kindly agreed to once again host our village church fete.

We had a wonderful day last year raising over £6000 for our parish church. This is the church's main fundraiser of the year and we have suffered financially with not being able to have a fete in 2020 or 2021 due to the pandemic.

Running a fete requires a lot of organising and I need help from 2/3 people to plan the day in the coming months and, of course, many volunteers on the actual day to make it a great success once again. I will be emailing previous 'helpers on the day' in the coming weeks but if you are able to give some more time in the next few months to join a small organising group then I would love to hear from you. The more, the merrier!

*Susan Berry susanclareberry@gmail.com 07941096308*

## **Living Advent Calendar 2022**

Many thanks to everyone who took part in the Living Advent events in December last year, especially all the hosts who freely gave their time and energy to be part of this community experience.

Hopefully we will run it again in December 2024.

*Susan Berry*

## **Gallops closed for walkers**

The "gallops" field edge tracks off the Old Road above West Meon will be closed from the 1st March for 2 weeks. Any queries please contact [graham.silk@hotmail.com](mailto:graham.silk@hotmail.com).

*Graham Silk*

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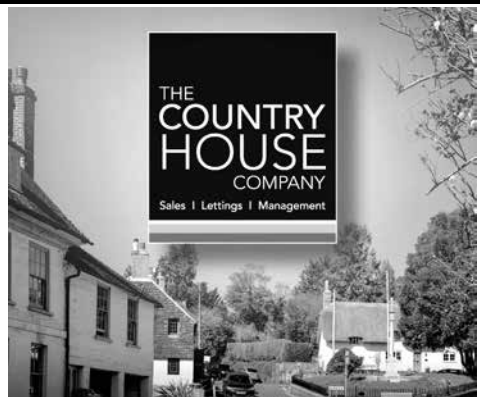
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## West Meon CofE Primary School

The children designed Christmas Cards for a competition at the Village Christmas Fair, as well as singing some of their Nativity songs.

The older pupils led on assemblies during our Safety Week on Road Safety, Online Safety and Anti-Bullying and classes also had Fire Safety lessons from the Fire Brigade.

Our Junior Road Safety Officers walked Church Lane and took photos of signs in place and other ideas to make the journey to school safer. They then sent them to the Parish Council for further discussion and they also led an extra assembly on this and the importance of wearing reflective or bright clothing when it is dark in the mornings and evenings.

Everyone dressed up for Children in Need and raised £75.21 and then on the day Father Christmas visited, they dressed in Christmassy clothes and another £60 was raised for Save the Children.

The Nativity in the church was a wonderful event as usual and we also had a lovely Christingle workshop and service supported by the church team and parents.

Group 1 swimming at Bedales has started and the children got off to a flying start and Bikeability starts for Y5 at the end of January.

Our parents association, FOWMS, are busy planning another Popcorn (Cinema) Club and they funded the coach so we could take the whole school to see the Wizard of Oz Pantomime at the Theatre Royal in Winchester, which was a great show.

If you are able to help with a gardening club at school or if you are a trained minibus driver who could help with trips sometimes, we would love to hear from you. Alternatively, we could train you up to drive the minibus, so you could help us on an ad hoc basis. You would need to be over 25 and obviously all safeguarding checks would need to be carried out.

You are very welcome to look around the school at any time. We now have a Facebook page and we welcome children from outside our catchment area as well.

*Julie Kelly, Headteacher*

## Rainfall December 2022 and Annual Summary

The first proper rains came on 18th December with 33.9mm 1.3" and to the end of the month 139mm (5.5") fell, with only one day with nothing recorded.

In summary 2022 was the driest year in the last decade at 919mm (36.1") and the wettest year was 2014 with 1364mm (53.5"), while the decade annual average was 1028mm (40.4").

Looking back over the records, and this is the 50th year we have been recording, there were only 3 months wetter than November 2022 ( 9.32") 237mm and they were January 2014

305mm (12.0"), October 1987 280mm (11") and November 2000 258mm (10.2").

2023 has so far given us rain on every day with a total of 135.5mm (5.3"), which may go a long way to explaining why the Meon is flowing down the East Meon road at the east end of the village!

*Peter Short*



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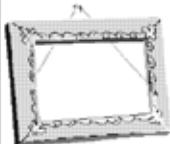
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## Admiral Sir Kenneth Eaton



*Photo courtesy of Caroline Eaton*

One of Warnford's most distinguished residents is sadly no longer with us and in this edition of the Parish News we pay tribute to his life and career.

Admiral Sir Kenneth John Eaton, who died aged 87, was Controller of the Navy – and was, according to his obituary in the Daily Telegraph, 'always in demand for his organisational, administrative and innovative skills.'

Kenneth Eaton married Sheena Buttle in 1959 and they have two sons,

Andrew and Richard, and a daughter Caroline.

Ken was born in Plymouth on 12th August 1934, the son of John and May Eaton. The family moved to Sheerness dockyard in Kent where Ken undertook an apprenticeship as an electrician and his father worked as senior attendant at the surgery. Later he attended Borden Grammar School in Kent and Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, gaining a degree in Mechanical Sciences Tripos.

His first appointment was as flight-deck electrical officer in the carrier Victorious, 1959-61, but he soon became involved in the Navy's operational information systems. In 1965 he returned to sea as action information engineer in the carrier Eagle.

Promoted to commander in 1971, Ken served at the Defence Communications Network Headquarters at RAF Medenham, and as weapons electrical officer in the carrier Ark Royal,



1976–78. He was appointed assistant director of Communications Planning in 1979, assistant director of Command Systems in 1981, Director of Torpedoes in 1983 and Director-General of Underwater Weapons for the Navy in 1985.

Promoted to rear-admiral in 1987 he went on to become Commander of HM Naval Base Portsmouth and, with promotion to vice-admiral, he became Controller of the Navy in 1989.

Controller of the Navy is a role of deep historical significance in Navy command dating back to the 16th century when the postholder was responsible for co-ordinating shipbuilding and weapons acquisition. Working on the Navy Board, and increasingly with the Ministry of Defence Chief of Defence Procurement (CDP), Ken is said to have developed a reputation for quiet, sensible and unemotional advice to solve complex technical, and internationally sensitive issues, for example, with the development of air defence systems with France and Italy to counter missiles such as the French-developed Exocet used against the Royal Navy by Argentina in the Falklands War.

Ken also successfully oversaw the introduction into service of the Vanguard class ballistic missile submarines and the American developed Trident missile system, ensuring their first patrol took place as planned in November 1994.

He was promoted to full Admiral in 1993 retiring later the following year. He was appointed a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath in the 1990 Birthday Honours and advanced to Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire in the 1994 New Year Honours. He was appointed Rear Admiral of the United Kingdom (an honour awarded by the Queen), 2001-07, but he always kept a picture on his desk of a Victorian stoker: this, he explained, was his grandfather, George Eaton, and he did not want to forget where he came from, or how far he had come in life.

In retirement Ken served as Chairman of Guy's & St Thomas' NHS Trust from 1995 to 1999, the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority from 1996 to 2002 and the Mary Rose Trust from 2001 to 2007, taking over when the fate of the recovered hull of the Mary Rose was still in doubt and steering it towards being a major tourist attraction. He was a member of the Society for Nautical Research since 1986, then served as a council member in 2010, chairman in 2011 and finally became President in 2020, a post he remained in until his death.

Ken was chairman of the Warnford Parish Meeting and the Winchester Science Centre & Planetarium. He took up watercolours and went on many painting holidays, and loved opera, supporting the Wessex Glyndebourne Association, West Green Opera and Grange Festival Opera. In 2004, Ken was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Sciences Degree from Aston University.

Sir Kenneth died at home on 20 July 2022, at the age of 87 after a short illness. His funeral service was held at The Church of our Lady of Warnford on Wednesday 17th August 2022.

Amongst the messages of condolence were:

‘In loving memory of a special friend. Ken, the memory of very happy and special times will live on in the hearts of all who love you.’ (Sue Silk, Kate Fisser and Claire Jeannerat)

And

‘With many happy memories of village life.’ (Dennis and Ann Hamant).

*Adrian Annabel*

## A waxwing winter?



*The aptly named Bohemian waxwing can often be found feeding on berry-laden fruit trees in supermarket car parks (c) JonHawkins\_SurreyHillsPhotography*

Waxwings are perhaps one of the most beautiful birds imaginable.

Their buff colouration with flashes of yellow and red on the wings, elegant ‘eyeliner’ and silky large crest really make them stand out from the crowd.

Part of a family of three species, the Bohemian waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*) is the species native to northern Europe. The bird’s English name refers to how they travel in large nomadic groups (bohemian) and the red tips to their secondary wing feathers that look like seal wax droplets (waxwing).

But it’s not all about the looks. Their trilling ‘sirrrr’ call sounds like a small ringing bell – perhaps akin to Santa’s sleigh dashing overhead – as flocks of up to 100 birds move from tree to tree.

Bohemian waxwings breed within the northern parts of Europe’s coniferous belt, often in remote, damp, mossy mature forests nesting high in pines. In winter, they escape the numbing temperatures of north-eastern Europe and western Russia and head west in search of more temperate conditions, feeding on fruit-rich trees including apple, rowan and hawthorn. During winter, a relatively small number of these starling-sized birds travel to UK shores; first seen on the east coast before spreading west and south from there.

Waxwings are referred to as irruptive, which means on occasion large numbers of the birds migrate beyond their typical range. Some years, hundreds of thousands of waxwings will land in the UK, often labelled as a ‘waxwing winter’. But why does this happen?

Waxwings are pushed away from their breeding grounds in search of food, and it's the yield of fruit trees that determines how far afield waxwings must travel. Most fruit trees of the same, and of similar, species bear fruit at the same time. This can result in a bounty of fruits in some years, and practically none in others. During years of bad yields, large numbers of waxwings will migrate large distances. Recent reports of poor berry crops in Finland and Sweden suggest an irruption is possible this year!

In Hampshire, waxwings are not seen every year – they are a rare visitor. However, when they do turn up, it might not be where you'd expect. The ASDA supermarket in Totton and Whiteley shopping centre in Fareham are common hotspots. These commercial areas often feature car parks planted with aesthetically pleasing, berry-laden fruit trees – and these always prove popular with waxwings. The last irruption in Hampshire was in the winter of 2010 when over 2,000 birds arrived.

So, keep your eyes and ears open for these punk rock-looking winter birds over Christmas and New Year and you might just get lucky enough to spot one!

Find out more about local wildlife at Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust's website, [www.hiwwt.org.uk](http://www.hiwwt.org.uk)

*Lewis Hooper  
Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust*

## **West Meon and Warnford Sports Club**

The Sports Club have a long and proud history of providing sport. The Club is looking for new players or 'returners to sport' in all its sports sections. The Club has football, hockey, cricket and tennis sections and a new petanque or boules section is starting this year. Set in the lovely surroundings of the recreation ground, we offer outstanding facilities at the Pavilion, with a full bar and kitchen that can be hired for private events.

- Football is currently played in the Hampshire Premier Football League Division 1 on a Saturday. Contact for the section is the club secretary at [ptj.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:ptj.secretary@gmail.com)
- Womens hockey is played on a pitch at Winchester on a Saturday. The WM hockey side play in Division 1 of South Centre Women's Division 1 Solent. The section contact is Jo Copsey at [jocopsey10@gmail.com](mailto:jocopsey10@gmail.com)
- Cricket has been played in WM since at least 1825. The team play traditional Sunday friendlies at the recreation ground and away at villages across the district. Section contact Stuart Smith at [stuiesmith119@yahoo.com](mailto:stuiesmith119@yahoo.com)
- Tennis is played on the two courts at the recreation ground. There is a vibrant mixed doubles group but many members play singles. The section welcomes members and visitors alike to play social tennis. Section contact is Jane Waller at [janewaller@live.co.uk](mailto:janewaller@live.co.uk)
- Petanque or Boules is being established at WM, with a dedicated court to be built this year, subject to planning consent. The section is already formed and away matches are planned. Section contact is at [gajwalker@sky.com](mailto:gajwalker@sky.com)
- Pavilion hiring for private functions can be arranged through Mary Edwards at [maryandrorry@btinternet.com](mailto:maryandrorry@btinternet.com) or 829689.

*Chris Waller*

# Services in the Upper Meon Benefice

## Sunday 5th February

**8am East Meon.** Holy Communion.

**10.30am East Meon.** Benefice Service of the Word - All Age Worship.

**4pm Warnford.** Snowdrop Service as part of Snowdrop Sunday opening.

## Sunday 12th February

**8am East Meon.** Holy Communion.

**9am Langrish.** Benefice Service of the Word.

**10.30am West Meon.** Benefice Eucharist.

## Sunday 19th February

**8am East Meon.** Holy Communion.

**9am Warnford.** Benefice Holy Communion.

**10.30am East Meon.** Benefice Eucharist.

## Ash Wednesday

### 22nd February

**9am Langrish.** Eucharist.

**6pm East Meon.** Eucharist  
(to be confirmed).

## Sunday 26th February

**8am East Meon.** Holy  
Communion.

**10.30am Langrish.**  
Benefice Eucharist.

**10.30am West Meon.**  
Benefice Service of the Word.



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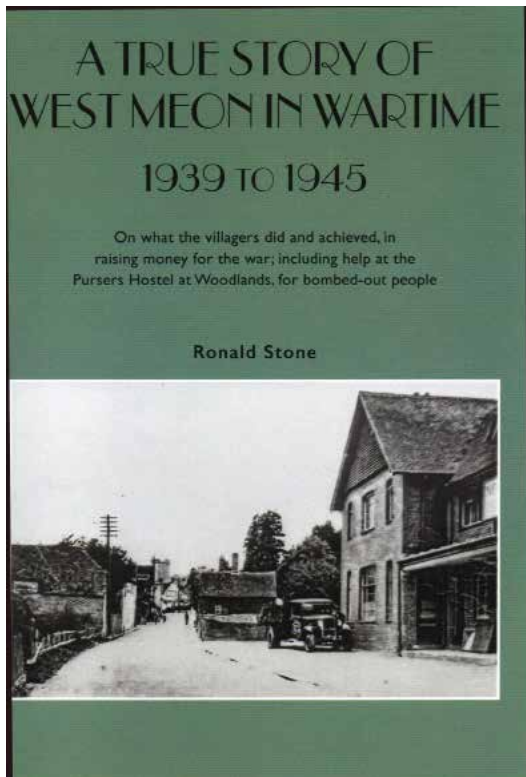
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## A True Story of West Meon in Wartime



Ron Stone has a book of photographs published by Tricorn Books. It combines Ron's memories from 1939 to 1945 with excerpts from his mother Agnes' *Comforts Book* which lists her charity funding activities with Mrs. Hale. He talks about joining the Territorial Army, his two stepbrothers being sent to Dunkirk, soldiers billeted at Warnford Park House and training on Old Winchester Hill, the arrival of evacuee children and the villagers' efforts to grow food and help each other out.

This follows the 1918 publication of *West Meon Remembered* which covers Ron's period at the New Inn (now the Thomas Lord) and famous visitors to Hall Place and visits of Camilla Shand through her relations the Cubitt family.

In addition David Lock has contacted Ron to ask about others who were in the village at the time. David left West Meon in 1942 because of the war after living at 3 Doctors Lane and 1 Lippen Cottages.

"My father was the AA scout at the West Meon Hut prior to the war. I have two brothers who were both born in West Meon: Raymond, who now lives in High Wycombe, and Michael, who lives in Swindon. I am now retired and live in Maidenhead."



"I often wonder about other 'mates' I went to school with and other children who were there at the same time. It was pretty dramatic and during the war!"

"Such names as the following spring to mind: Eric Simpson, Betty Simpson, Mary Gallop, 'Digger' Hunt,





Reg Samways, Joe Appleton, Peter Taylor, Stanley Kimber, Roy Dennis, Ken Dennis, Esmie Dennis, Ray Stone.”

After leaving West Meon David moved to Swindon where he spent two years at Sanford Street Boys before leaving in 1944 and joining the Post Office.

Photos are:

George Lock outside the AA Box opposite the West Meon Hut on the left hand side going towards Alton.

The Lock family going to school.

The West Meon Band in the field of the New Inn (later the Thomas Lord). Those I can remember are Jack Porter, Walter Tully, George Goddard, Frank Hall, Joe Hall, Jack Holloway and the boy is Ray Mudkins.

May Queen from the May Day celebrations outside the New Inn. William Stone’s car is in the background with May Queen Molly Smart plus Gladys Martin, Ruby Small, Jean Appleton and Barbara Lodge.

I hope this will bring back some memories.

*Ron Stone*



## W.I. Report

We held a special meeting on Monday 9th January to decide on which Resolution West Meon W.I. should put forward to Central Office for 2023. The Resolution receiving the most votes was 'Save our Water - Every Drop Counts'. Astra provided us with a lovely sandwich and soup lunch, which was served whilst we discussed the Resolutions shortlist and carried out our voting.

Our speaker for the afternoon was Lt Col Jeremy Prescott, who gave us an excellent talk on Violetta Szabo, GC, Special Operations Executive, who operated as a secret agent behind enemy lines in World War II. She is considered to be one of the bravest women in British history and a posthumous recipient of the George Cross, who was executed at Ravensbruck concentration camp on 5th February 1945. Her life was portrayed in the film 'Carve her Name with Pride'. Jeremy was an excellent and extremely knowledgeable speaker who gave us a superb presentation on Violetta Szabo. Our next speaker is Gordon Small, who will be speaking to us on 'The Flora and Fauna of Hampshire', at our February meeting which will take place on Monday 13th February at West Meon Village Hall at 1.45pm.

We have a special meeting on Monday 13th March when we welcome back Frances Carlow, The Pearl Lady, who has spoken to us before on Pearls and Art Deco jewellery. This will be a ticketed event to include a Special Afternoon Tea with a 1.45pm start. Attendees will have the opportunity to purchase jewellery from Frances after her presentation. At the February W.I. Meeting members will be invited to purchase tickets for the March event at the usual member's rate of £2 - guests of members £10. Any remaining tickets at £10 will go on sale at the Village Shop from 17th February.

*Sue Kinloch*



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## West Meon Parish Council

**Your Village Needs You** - WMPC has vacancies for new councillors. Are you interested in local issues and improving the lives of the people living around you? Are you keen to represent other villagers' interests and ensure West Meon receives the services to which it is entitled? Are you able to attend one meeting per month? If you are interested in representing the Village and becoming a Parish Councillor, please contact the Clerk (details opposite) for further information.

**Speed Survey** - WMPC would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to complete the Speed Survey form and also Tony Dees for collating the responses. Due to the fact that this survey was partially carried out over the Christmas period, it has been decided to extend the period for responses until Tuesday, 28th February. Survey forms are available in the Village Shop.

**Maintenance Issues** - The Lengthsman will be here in February to carry out various maintenance issues. WMPC can also confirm that debris at the A32/High Street junction causing excess water run off along The Cross has now been cleared and, hopefully, the drain at the end of Long Priors will have been repaired by the time this issue is delivered.

**Problems with Blocked Drains & Flooding** - If problems are encountered, please report directly to Hampshire County Council by using their website page which can be found at [www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/flooding](http://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/flooding).

**WMPC Grants Policy** - Just a reminder that small Grants are available to assist in community projects. If you have a community project that needs some extra funding, please see our website ([www.westmeonpc.org.uk/community/west-meon-parish-council-13628/grants](http://www.westmeonpc.org.uk/community/west-meon-parish-council-13628/grants)) for further details. Any applications should be submitted to the Clerk (details opposite) by 28th February 2023 for discussion at the meeting on 7th March.

**Parish Council Website** – Don't forget you can sign up to receive e-mail alerts on our website ([www.westmeonpc.org.uk/community/west-meon-parish-council-13628/home](http://www.westmeonpc.org.uk/community/west-meon-parish-council-13628/home)). The alerts inform you of upcoming events, news items and new planning applications. If you would like any events or local businesses promoted, please e-mail details to the Parish Council, see opposite for e-mail address.

**And Finally from West Meon** – The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 14th February at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. Parishioners are welcome. Please contact the clerk, Jo Tester at [clerk.westmeon@parish.hants.gov.uk](mailto:clerk.westmeon@parish.hants.gov.uk) if you wish to attend.

## Warnford Parish Meeting

**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. The Chairman has an e-mail distribution list so that e-mails can be sent to parishioners (e.g. with details of planning applications). If you would like to be added to this then please e-mail 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](mailto:ederekchapman@btinternet.com).

**The King's Coronation** - If you have any suggestions as to how Warnford might celebrate, then please e-mail the Clerk.

## **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

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

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

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

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

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

Jo Tester  
Clerk to West Meon Parish Council  
clerk.westmeon@parish.hants.gov.uk  
02392 632106

### **West Meon Parish Council website**

[www.westmeonpc.org.uk](http://www.westmeonpc.org.uk)  
email: [westmeonpc2017@gmail.com](mailto:westmeonpc2017@gmail.com)

### **Warnford Parish Meeting**

Mark Rogers  
Chairman  
[chairman@warnfordparish.co.uk](mailto:chairman@warnfordparish.co.uk)  
07712 868858

Lucy Hutchinson  
Clerk  
[warnfordclerk@gmail.com](mailto:warnfordclerk@gmail.com)  
01730 829598

### **Warnford Parish website**

[www.hugofox.com/community/  
warnford-village-7802/about-us](http://www.hugofox.com/community/warnford-village-7802/about-us)

### **Winchester & Hampshire Councillors**

Winchester City Councillors  
Neil Bolton  
[nbolton@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:nbolton@winchester.gov.uk)  
01962 771256

Hugh Lumby  
[hlumby@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:hlumby@winchester.gov.uk)  
01489 877444

Hampshire County Councillor  
Hugh Lumby  
[hugh.lumby@hants.gov.uk](mailto:hugh.lumby@hants.gov.uk)  
07738 289912

### **Member of Parliament for Meon Valley**

Flick Drummond  
[flick.drummond.mp@parliament.uk](http://flick.drummond.mp@parliament.uk)  
01962 679920 – Constituency Office



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# Curtis Museum & Allen Gallery

OPENING TIMES Tuesday to Sunday Curtis 10am – 4.30pm. Allen 10.30 – 4pm  
ALLEN GALLERY EXHIBITIONS

**Doing Time: 175 Years of Winchester Prison** tells the story of Winchester Prison over the last 175 years, shedding light on its history as the county jail for Hampshire and revealing how changing attitudes towards incarceration have led to a focus on rehabilitation and reform. Throughout February. FREE

Coming in March – our annual exhibition of works by **W H Allen RA**, after whom the Gallery is named. This year's exhibition is entitled "Over the Garden Wall", and concentrates on Allen's plant studies. FREE

TALK sponsored by the Friends of the Curtis Museum & Allen Gallery

**How Safe are our Medicines? From Curtis to Covid** by John Taylor. 9th February 2023, 7.30pm FREE, donations welcome.

FEBRUARY HALF-TERM ACTIVITIES

**Gallery Trail: Find the figurines!** All week there will be a trail through the Gallery. Find the figures and win a reward.

**Make and Take** - a playful creative session. Create your own artworks inspired by the Gallery collection. This is a fun and interpretative session for all ages, no experience necessary. Saturday 17th February.

**Together at the Allen.** Join us alone or with company at the Allen Gallery on Tuesday 14th February, 1.30 - 4.00. Make friends over a cup of tea and cake in the cafe, explore the unique Gallery collection and sketch or draw with our free art materials, or take in the peace and quiet of our hidden garden as winter draws to a close. Everyone welcome!



*The Curtis Museum (c) Alton Town Council*

CURTIS MUSEUM

**Nursery Rhyme Trail** – do you remember any nursery rhymes? Come to the Curtis Museum and follow our free trail. All half-term (11th - 19th February)

**Museum by Torchlight** - Tuesday 14th February. 5.30-7pm. Bring a torch and explore The Curtis Museum at night at our popular family-friendly event. Children must be accompanied by an adult. £3 per child (adults free). Last entry 7pm but we will be open until 7.30pm.

*Jill Line*

## Diary Dates

**Sunday 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th February**  
**Snowdrop Sundays** 2-5pm Warnford Park.

**Tuesday 14th February West Meon Parish Council Meeting.** 7.30pm West Meon Village Hall.

**Friday 3rd March The Sound of Musicals Part 2.** 7.30pm West Meon Village Hall.

**Monday 13th March WI Talk Pearls & Art Deco by Frances Carlaw.** 1.45pm West Meon Village Hall.

**Saturday 25th March Meon Valley Garden Club Spring Show** 13.30-16.30 Meon Hall, Meonstoke.

**Thursday 18th May Warnford Parish AGM** 7.30pm Warnford Village Hall.

## Care Group Co-ordinators

Nina Byles 829028/07778 679922  
Virginia de Cosson 829362

## Parish Directory

**Rector:** Vacant

**Churchwarden for West Meon:**

Michael Johnson 829105

**PCC Secretary for West Meon:**

Louise Clay 829235

**Churchwarden for Warnford:**

Andrew Sellick 829161

**Verger for Warnford:**

Peter Short 829285

**Family Days Out in Hampshire this February half term Monday 13th to Sunday 19th February 2023.**

**Allen Gallery & Curtis Museum**, Alton GU34 2BW & GU34 1BA (see p.23)

**Westbury Manor Museum**, 84 West Street, Fareham, Hampshire, PO16 0JJ

**Milestones Museum**, Leisure Park, Churchill Way West, Basingstoke, RG22 6PG

**Winchester City Museum**, The Square, Winchester, SO23 9ES

**Mottisfont Giddy Gallops** National Trust Mottisfont SO51 OLP

**Fort Nelson Super Sleuths**, Portsdown Hill Road, Fareham

**Three Billy Goats Gruff** At New Theatre Royal Portsmouth, 20-24 Guildhall Walk, Portsmouth  
Date: 19th February

**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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**Printers:** Studio 6, Woodside Court, Sparkford, Somerset BA22 7LH  
Tel: 01329 832933. E-mail: print@studio-6.co.uk

**Parish news (Online) ISSN 2755-3299**