

Parish News

West Meon & Warnford

April 2020

Living in Strange Times

Everything seems to be changing so quickly at the moment that it seems hard to imagine what might be going on when you are reading this letter. In January my son returned to his teaching job in Macau and we watched anxiously as his school closed for Chinese New Year and then didn't reopen. His wife (a Chinese citizen), waiting for a visa to be with him in Macau, ended up back in China. In February Michael came home with his nearly 2-year-old son, leaving Juliet in China. He is now back in Macau, Juliet is still in China still unable to get into Macau and Freddie is with us for an undefined amount of time. We thought this seemed complicated enough until everything started to get a bit more serious here. Physical distancing, self-isolation, no church services or gatherings, supermarkets looking like they've been ransacked, school closures and probably more to come – it all seems unimaginable and a bit apocalyptic.

But life has a way of carrying on and a new 'normal' starts to assert itself. In the middle of all this the church is journeying through the 40 days of Lent towards a triumphant entry into Jerusalem, a special meal with friends, betrayal, crucifixion and resurrection. We have just passed the spring equinox; the days are lengthening and a sense of spring is in the air. It's no accident



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that the church's story of death and new life is matched by what we see around us and it is in this that I feel a small glimmer of hope.

When Jesus entered Jerusalem in a blaze of glory I wonder if any of his followers understood just how dark and difficult life was going to become? I'm reasonably sure that for us, too, life is going to get more difficult; we don't know how many people will be ill, or die, or what further restrictions we might face and as the saying goes, it's always darkest before the dawn. But the dawn will come and just like the coming of spring, there will be small signs of that new life. It might be very early days yet but the many ways in which our community is coming together to provide care and support for those who need it is something very special, something that I hope we don't lose when the coronavirus is just a chapter in a history book.

The church might not be able to hold public services at the moment, but the church is not closed. The work of the church – to pray, to provide pastoral and spiritual care, to provide practical help and support – has not stopped. Our church is still open and anyone is welcome to come and pray or find a moment of quiet. And the church will still journey through Christ's passion, death and resurrection.

On Easter Day I will visit each of the churches in our Benefice – in Warnford, West Meon, East Meon and Langrish – to light the Paschal candle and to proclaim that Christ is risen. We will still celebrate the triumph of light over darkness and the victory of hope over fear, life over death, love over hate.

Wishing you every blessing, Rev'd Jane Ball

Stories and Photos wanted

As more and more village events are cancelled we welcome, more than ever, your memories, stories and photos of things that have happened, people and events celebrating the good times in our community. Please submit any material by email to westmeonparishnews@gmail.com.

Warnford Snowdrops

We have not enjoyed a good season, due to the weather. In 48 years, only one afternoon has been cancelled. This year, because of storms Ciara and Dennis, we lost two afternoons. In order to recoup a little, we opened also on 1st March. The total result was that about 650 visitors contributed £2,340 (less than half of the usual).

Our thanks go to Andrew and Candi Sellick for allowing the Park to be opened on those afternoons and for all they did personally, and to all those who came to help. We appreciate the time given by the Car Parkers, the Welcomers, the Organists, the Tea Ladies, and the Sellers in the shop and of snowdrops – 65 of them. We are indeed grateful to them all and to the visitors for contributing to this important source of funds for our Church.

Many thanks to everyone.

Gerry Corden

Save the date!

Saturday June 27th Cheriton Singers' Summer Concert in St Michael's Church, Cheriton. The programme will include music from several well-loved shows, including West Side Story, Les Miserables and The Greatest Showman.

Evelyn Ellis

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Prayers carry on...

I will be continuing a daily pattern of prayer in our churches and even though I am not able to invite anyone to join me, it is important that you know this is continuing. I will, where possible, ring the bell so that you know I am there and praying for you and the needs of our communities and the world of which we are a part. If there is anything or anyone you would particularly like me to remember by name please do email, phone or leave a note in church and I will do so.

On Sundays I will visit each church during the morning and will let you know what time I will be there so that you can join me by praying at the same time in your homes. In one church I will hold a short said Eucharist. On each Sunday evening I will end the day by saying Compline (night prayer) at 7pm in All Saints'.

I hadn't anticipated how hard it was going to be for people to be prevented from joining in worship at church, or how hard I would find it to be in church on my own but then I remind myself that God is not limited to a building, prayer is not limited to church and love is not limited at all.

Sunday 17th May – Licencing of Rev'd Mary Jepp

10.30am in West Meon

Easter Lilies

If you would like to dedicate a lily in remembrance of a loved one, there is a suggested donation of £5. The names of those remembered will be displayed in the churches.

Please send your £5 per lily and the name of the dedicatees to: Anne Corden (829277) for Warnford; Louise Clay (829235) Buffy Morris for West Meon, please see Rev'd Jane or Philippa Tyrwhitt-Drake for East Meon and Langrish.

By Wednesday 1st April please.

APCM's and Electoral Rolls

All of our churches are due to have have their Annual Parochial Church Meetings in April, in the run up to this we will be updating the electoral roll, if you are not currently on the roll could you please phone or email me or a Church Warden.

Thank you, Rev'd Jane

Please note that the Meon Valley Community Bus Service has been suspended until further notice.

***John Shorrocks
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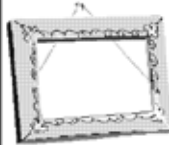
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West Meon Village Shop

Easter in the Shop: There is now an extensive selection of Easter fare in the Shop, including Easter eggs and chocolates, cakes and biscuits along with attractive Easter cards, fresh cut flowers and potted plants, much of which is showcased in our stunning Easter display. New in are canvas bags and tea towels beautifully designed by Alison Butler, owner of Blooming Designs, Meon Springs.



200 Club: Most 200 club entries are in, but we are still chasing some renewals and as always we welcome new members to the club. The next '200 Club' draw is for 'THE BIG ONE' at the beginning of April with cash prizes of £200, £100, £50 and £25. Obvious but true, you've got to be in it to win it! If you are not already a member, then do join now with a £25 subscription for the next six draws. It is a great way to support your shop with the added thrill of the draw. The prizes are £200, £100, £50 and £25 in April, August and December; and £40, £20, £10 and £5 in February, June and October. If you are interested, applications forms are available from the shop.

New Chiller Units: Firstly we whole heartedly thank Luke and Tony Prowse for dismantling and removing the enormous old chiller at the back of the shop. The two new chiller units look amazing and hold a wide variety of stock. In addition, they are also much more energy efficient, and quieter, than the old chiller. We are also incredibly grateful for the financial support from West Meon Parish Council, Winchester City Council and Hampshire County Council all of whom have provided funding for the new chillers through the Shop's Grant Applications.

West Meon Wine Society: We continue to make good progress on the launch of the Wine Society, which we hope will go live this April. The primary goal is to generate money for the shop and we will do this by building a community of people living in and around the Meon Valley who like to explore new wines. During the year we will stage several wine tasting events and each month will promote a small group of new and interesting wines. For more information please contact us at: wmeonwinesociety@gmail.com.

Home Delivery: We are able to deliver any goods from West Meon village shop to the elderly and the vulnerable during the Coronavirus pandemic. If you know anyone who would benefit from this service, do please contact the shop on 01730 829310.

The West Meon Shop Committee

Searching for a pot of gold....

The team took on the gardens at the Rainbow Centre, Fareham, and despite the horrid weather did a brilliant job tidying things up. They did manage to capture a rainbow in the photo but sadly there was no pot of gold at the end (and you can't see it in black and white!)

The Rainbow Centre was created over 30 years ago this year and provides neurorehabilitation using Conductive Education that takes a holistic approach to helping both children and adults achieve their maximum potential, regardless of their starting point. It is this positive and inclusive attitude that is at the heart of making the Rainbow Centre a special place and the Meon Valley Lions Club are always happy to help where we can.

Carole Dash



Litter Picker Knickers

The annual West-Meon litter-pick took place, between showers, on the morning of Sunday 23rd February. Huge appreciation to Hugh Morris, Tim Main, Simon Telford, Simon and Emma Barry, Philip Jarrett, Martin and Penny Cowell, David Jeffers, Ingolv Urnes and Jim Brooks-Hill, several of whom were joining this merry band of like-minded, high-vis-villagers for the first time. Sorry not to see our Founder, Conrad Jenkin (and Jenny) out on the Southern stretch, but the inclement conditions gave them the perfect excuse to take a rain-check (or is that rain-cheque - never did make sense to me!)

Fewer notable finds this year, and indeed a little less waste, although it is good to see that Scotch Eggs are still being eaten, not so good to see how much Redbull is still required, surprising to see that someone snapped off the chrome encased tax-disc from their motorbike, sad to see a decapitated plastic dinosaur, and finally, bemusing to see a discarded pair of frilly black ladies undies (thank goodness for long litter-pickers!) ...

Last mention must go to Emma for outclassing us all with matching pink high-vis jacket and bobble-hat, although sadly no sign of the wellies to match... *Jim Ulph*

Poppy Appeal Organiser Needed

The Royal British Legion are looking for an organised individual, a group, club or business to organise and coordinate the Poppy Appeal in West Meon.

Duties include:

Publicise, promote and organise the Poppy Appeal in your area in conjunction with your local Community Fundraiser (CFR)..

Arrange ordering (through the online system), storage and distribution of poppies and other fundraising materials for the appeal

Organise the recruitment, briefing and deployment of Volunteer Poppy Collectors

Safeguard and accurately account all monies taken during the Appeal, bank donations promptly and provide timely and accurate info to the Poppy Appeal head office.

Carry out an annual review of the Poppy Appeal in your area in conjunction with your CFR.

Keep up to date with and implement any changes to policies or procedures.

They are looking for someone who is committed to the Legion's mission and values, someone who enjoys working in a community fundraising environment, and has the following skills;

Experience of planning and coordinating materials and people; able to build proactive relationships with others, both within and outside the Legion; confident when dealing with and accounting for money; able to communicate clearly verbally and in writing; ability to use computers and the internet; able to organise own workload; committed to equality and diversity; use of a vehicle with appropriate insurance is preferable.

They will require two references before confirming your place in this role. The minimum age for this role is 18. Full induction and training will be given.

While the Poppy appeal takes place in the last two weeks of October and the first two weeks of November, in order for this role to be a rewarding experience for you and the Legion, they ask that you give a regular amount of time preceding and following the appeal.

Application form and further information on West Meon Parish Council website.

Home Start Hampshire in the Meon Valley

Our Meon Valley branch have had a busy December and January with lots fund raising and events.

In December a few members of the Local Action team set up a stall at the Wickham community center for the Christmas fair. They sold secondhand toys and some lovely homemade items. Their hard work payed off raising £146.48.

Also, during December we Held a Christmas party for the families we currently support. There was a good turn out and the children enjoyed the entertainment and visit from Santa. We can't thank the Meon Valley Lions enough for their support, along with Argos hedge end for

allowing us to be their chosen charity for the Christmas toy appeal. And of course, a massive thank you to all the kind people who donated such lovely gifts that were handed out by Santa at the party.

The Meon Valley Lions didn't only support us with the Christmas party they also supplied food hampers for Home-Start to distribute to some of the families currently being supported. This act of kindness really made those families Christmases and they were all very grateful.

January saw more fund raising with Bishop Waltham Junior school's yearly Film night raising funds of £133.05 to donate to Home-Start. We are extremely thankful that the school has chosen to donate to our charity again this year.

January also saw One of our lovely Volunteers take on the challenge of arranging the annual Bridge event and ensuring it runs smoothly. This one of our more popular events which always sells out very quickly. The table sales and raffle resulted in them Raising a massive £1410.70.

We can to continue offering emotional and practical support when families need us the most, due our hardworking volunteers and local community. Without them it would be impossible for us to continue, and we are truly grateful.

We estimate it costs £1300 to support a family for a year. Could you participate in an activity or organise an event for us to help raise much needed funds? Why not make 2020 the year you do something unusual, fun, crazy or just different to benefit our LOCAL family support charity. We would love to hear your ideas.



*Thank you,
Avril Dalrymple*

VE Day – Share your stories

This year is the 75th anniversary of VE Day – the day the guns fell silent at the end of WWII in Europe. Although our planned face-to-face celebrations in early May are on hold, we don't want to lose the opportunity to remember those who showed such sacrifice, courage and determination during the dark days of WWII. In these uncertain times, and while social contact is more limited than we are used to – perhaps giving us time to sit a moment and reflect and remember – we wanted to take this opportunity to make sure the stories of this period were not lost forever.

Many of us will recall what our parents or grandparents or uncles and aunts told us about life in the war years 1939 – 1945. We want to hear them, gather them, share them – to keep these memories alive and to celebrate the arrival of peace as people did so joyously 75 years ago. If you have a story to share, please make a note of it and place it in the Memories Collection Box in the West Meon Village Shop or email it to Chris Waller and Pippa Griffin.

It doesn't have to be tales of gallant tank commandoes in Normandy or tail gunners in Lancaster Bombers. We want to hear about everyday life for ordinary people, wherever they lived – what they did, saw and heard. It does not have to be about West Meon or the nearby local area – it could be that you are a West Meon parishioner and you have a story from your family that you'd like to share. It doesn't have to be long either. A sentence. A paragraph. More if you want to. Tell as many stories as you like. There's no limit per person! If you'd rather talk your stories through with someone, leave your contact details in the box and we'll keep these private and follow up with you directly. If you have any pictures to go with your story, we'd love to see those too. Don't give us any originals, but perhaps take a picture of your picture and include it with your story for the timebeing. We'd love to be able to collate and share these stories with others in the community in future. You can drop your story off at the shop or email: chris.westmeon@gmail.com and pippa@peevo.co.uk.

South Downs' Tenth Birthday

March 31st, 2020 will mark exactly a decade since the South Downs National Park was created – a day when 1,600km² of England's most-cherished lowland landscape was designated for the enjoyment of the nation as a special place for natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage.

Ten years on and significant strides have been made to conserve and enhance the National Park, promote opportunities for people to enjoy its special qualities, and to foster the social and economic wellbeing of local communities in the National Park.

As it reaches the milestone, the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) is reflecting on 10 key achievements, while now looking forward to the next chapter of the National Park's story.

1. Nature recovery on a landscape scale.
2. Working with farmers and other custodians.
3. International Dark Sky Reserve.
4. Improved access.
5. Discovering and sharing our cultural heritage.
6. Young people.
7. Championing the National Park.
8. Supporting our communities.
9. Planning that delivers on our purposes and duty.
10. Engaging volunteers.

The South Downs National Park Authority will be unveiling its new Partnership Management Plan, which sets out the priorities and goals for the next five years, on 31 March.

For more information about the anniversary, visiting and volunteering check the South Downs National Park website at www.southdowns.gov.uk.

WARNFORD – 100 YEARS AGO

Chapter One

This is a first hand account of life in Warnford by a girl who grew up there soon after the First World War.

‘Although I only spent 11 of my 58 years in Warnford, it still means “home” to me. My family moved to the village when I was seven years of age. It must have been hard for my mother, as both my parents were London born and bred, to have to cope with an open range for cooking and heating, oil lamps and a pump situated in the scullery from which to obtain all our water.

We were considered very lucky to have a pump to get our water from, as a large number of the villagers obtained their water, for all purposes, from a stream which ran opposite the cottages, by the side of the road. Even as a child this seemed very unhygienic, as twice a day the cows walked through the stream to and from the milking sheds. Also the horses were taken night and morning to be watered in the same stream.

When we moved to Warnford there was one shop, on the right-hand corner of the road as you entered the village from West Meon. Shortly afterwards the Chapel by the side of the George Hotel was converted into a bungalow with a shop at the front. This was also a sub-Post Office, so we no longer had to go to West Meon for stamps etc. Soon after Mr Hayward retired from the corner shop and it was pulled down. He went to live in Hayden Lane.

The school was closed before we moved into Warnford so all the children had to walk to West Meon. There were no school buses, school dinners or free milk then. We had to carry supplies for the day in satchels on our backs. In the winter the road often flooded, so attendance was never very good.

Practically the whole of the village and the surrounding countryside was owned by Col. Woods who lived in Warnford Park, a very large house with lovely lawns.



He was a very large gentleman, weighing about 20 stones, who travelled around the farms in a bright yellow and black open Ford car. He was much feared by his employees but I rather think his bark was worse than his bite.

His wife was rather eccentric as right up to her death in about 1933 she always dressed in the Victorian style, wasp waist, bustle and high-necked bodices. She was always accompanied by a bulldog. She ran the Sunday-school which I attended and which was held each Sunday afternoon in the front-room of Chestnut Cottage. The estate blacksmith lived there, and his wife was the Sunday-school teacher.

Every summer Mrs Woods gave a party at her house for all the children and their mothers. We would have tea, the children would all play on the lawns and then books were given out as prizes for attendance at the Sunday-school. At Christmas there was always a party held at the house opposite the George Hotel. This was then run as the private laundry for the Woods family. The rooms were very large and there would always be a big Christmas tree with presents for every child on the estate which Mrs Woods personally presented after tea.

When she died, her son Mr Charles Woods, donated the organ now in Warnford Church, and which occupies the site of the family pew where Mrs Woods sat every Sunday the family were in residence. It had high panelled walls round it and only Mrs Woods' head could be seen when she stood up.

My parents lived 17 years in the village, but during that time there was absolutely no change; we still used an oil lamp, cooked by open range and pumped our water. The only improvement was we had the telephone. I had to leave home at 18 to get a job as there was little employment for girls in or near Warnford. I still went home at weekends and holidays.

I have been through Warnford several times since and notice that the house at Warnford Park has disappeared, the main road has been widened and several other alterations, but it still seems basically the same. Our London relatives used to think it heaven to come and visit us for holidays, but I don't think they would have withstood the life permanently as really it was very hard.'

Andrew Sellick



Photos Warnford Park: Parks & Gardens UK

**Church of our Lady, Warnford and St John the Evangelist,
West Meon
HOLY WEEK AND EASTER**

We are very sorry to have to announce that in accordance with directives from the church authorities, all regular church services are cancelled until further notice.

However, the church itself remains open and you are very welcome to visit for private prayer. Please follow the current guidelines for hand washing and keeping your distance from others.

West Meon PCC



Warnford Parish Church: hugofox.com

Pop Up Flowers

Thank you to all of you who turned up to our flower demo at the pop up cafe last month. It was very popular and great fun. We showed you how to make a pedestal, using biodegrade floral foam, another using chicken wire and how to create a hand tied arrangement for a vase. It can be daunting when faced with doing flowers in church as they are on a larger scale than most of us are used to and we wanted to try and give some guidance and reassurance that it is not as challenging as it might seem.

For anyone who felt inspired by the demonstration and would like to volunteer to be part of the West Meon church flower rota please contact Linda Davis minnerd@gmail.com. We are always looking for people to help us make our church look beautiful and it is a fun way to be involved. We all take it in turns so you are only committing to two weeks a year. We also all meet up at Easter and Christmas to decorate the church together.

If you missed the demo, or would like to find out a bit more, come and join us on Saturday 11th April from 9.00am when we will be decorating the church for Easter.

Also we would always welcome donations of flowers and in particular foliage, especially at Easter and Christmas.

We look forward to seeing some of you at Easter.

*Many thanks,
Susanna Jarrett*



Tea and chat

Our monthly tea party and company will have a break over Easter so we will not meet in April. After cancelling our March meeting because of health advice, we would hope to get together in May but will wait to see, depending on restrictions at the time. We very much hope our new Rector, Rev'd Mary Jepp will join us for an afternoon as soon as she can.

Penny and Louise

Rainfall Records for February and March

February was a very wet month with 201mms (7.9") of rain with only two days during the month with no rain at all. March has only proved marginally better with 54.4mm (2.1") to the 15th of the month.

So far in March we have only had one day on which we have not recorded rain. Once again we have seen pictures on our TV screens of awful flooding in parts of the country.

Having done some research we find that we have recorded over 200mms (7.8") in a month on 7 occasions since we started in 1974. The highest month ever in that time was January 2014 when we recorded 305.1ms (12").

Peter Short

The Curtis Museum and Allen Gallery, Alton

Hampshire Cultural Trust has announced the closure of all its venues until April 5th at the earliest. Normal hours Tues-Sat Gallery 10.30-4.30/Museum 10-5

ALLEN GALLERY TALKS

The Social History of the English Civil War Soldier. A talk by well-known Military Historian Alan Turton. Arranged by the Friends of the Curtis Museum & Allen Gallery. Thursday April 9th, 7.30. FREE

(Don't miss the Re-enactment of the Battle of Alton during the weekend of the Bank Holiday 23rd/25th May.)

Scratching the Surface: Discovering Historical Graffiti in Hampshire. With Karen Wardley, Hampshire Field Club. Findings made by the Hampshire Medieval Graffiti Project provide an insight into the lives of people in the past who are otherwise unrecorded. Thursday April 23rd, 7.30. Tickets £5 from the Allen Gallery.

EXHIBITION

Paws for Thought April 4th-25th

An adventurous series of artworks by Sara Armstrong, full of hazardous landscapes seen through the eyes of Billy the Cat. FREE

EASTER Chicken & Egg Fun Trail

4th – 18th April. Explore the Gallery with our Easter-themed trail. Suitable for all the family. FREE

Felt Decoration Workshop

Wednesday 29th April 12pm – 4pm.

Join artist Judith Venn to learn how to

make a decorative hanging with a felt bird and pom-pom. All materials supplied, no experience necessary. Refreshment provided. £25 per person. Please book in advance at the Gallery.

CURTIS MUSEUM

EASTER FUN

Make & Take Eggheads. Thursday 9th April 10.30 -12.30. Pop along and take part in our Easter make & take. Drop in, no need to book. £3 per child. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Easter Trail 4th -18th April. Explore the Museum and see if you can find everything in our games-themed trail. Suitable for all the family. FREE

Jill Line

Soberton Players - Ladies Down Under Held Over!

This April's 2020 production has been postponed until Thursday 25rd to Saturday 27th March 2021, 7.30 pm Soberton Village Hall.

Three years on since we bought you the adventures of Pearl, Jan, Shelley and Linda in Amanda Whittington's 'Ladies Day'. Soberton Players latest production follows the adventures of our four funny, loveable, fish-packing friends after their half-million pound success at Ascot races as they celebrate their windfall with the trip of a lifetime to Australia.

As with Ladies Day, the foursome experience much fun and frolics with their journey with some live changing encounters along the way.

Box Office for any queries with regard to tickets: 01489 878 184 / 07866 931 487 tickets@sobertonplayers.co.uk

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West Meon Parish Council & Warnford Parish Meeting News

Parish Council Vacancies

As in February edition.

Green Behind Long Priors

A polite reminder that this green is not an area for children to play on, also please clean up behind your dogs in this vicinity.

West Meon Parish Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 7th April 2020 in the Small Hall at the Village hall. 7.30pm all parishioners are welcome to attend.

Should there be any advice from Government regarding the attendance at meetings due to the Coronavirus posts will be put on the Parish Council website and the Parish notice board.

Warnford Parish Meeting

Warnford Parish Meeting (AGM) will be held on Thursday 21st May 2020 at Warnford Village Hall, 7.15pm for 7.30pm. Papers relating to the AGM will be posted shortly before the 21st May on the website. Any change to the above e.g. covid19/Coronavirus will be published on the Warnford website.

Christian Aid Sponsored Walk 2020

Fighting Poverty Step By Step on Sunday 10th May co-ordinated by All Saints Church Botley has now been cancelled. But there are still lots of ways to donate to Christian Aid which is the official relief and development agency of 41 Christian churches in the UK and Ireland, and works to support sustainable development, eradicate poverty, support civil society and provide disaster relief in South America, the Caribbean, Africa and Asia. Visit christianaid.org.uk. Any queries or concerns contact Anna Sketchley anna.sketchley@gmail.com.

Both Village Church Fetes Cancelled

The Church Fêtes for both West Meon on 6th June and Warnford on 27th June will not take place this year. The organisers are very sorry and appreciate all the offers of help given so far. They hope it will prove possible to organise a joint event in the autumn.

Louise Clay

W.I. Report - March 2020

Our meeting was held on Monday 9th March at West Meon Village Hall and we had a very good attendance despite the threat of Coronavirus! Our Chairperson, Sue Filer, outlined a number of events, but in view of the changing situation, to date since the meeting they have been either cancelled or postponed.

Our speaker for the afternoon was Malcolm Farrow and the subject of his talk was "How well do you know your National Flag?" He explained why flags are important to a nation and showed us some examples from around the world. He gave us the history of our flag in great detail and said how important it was to get the colours and shape right. It is a primary symbol of our National unity and has flown worldwide for over 400 years.

Unfortunately our meeting for 6th April, where the subject of the talk was scheduled to be about Millinery, has today been cancelled.

Let's hope for better news next month.

Sue Kinlochan

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www.westmeonpc.org.uk
e-mail: westmeonpc2017@gmail.com

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07712 868858

Lucy Hutchinson
Clerk
warnfordclerk@gmail.com
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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

Member of Parliament for Meon Valley

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



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West Meon CE Primary School

Our first swimming group made amazing progress at Bedales and the second group have got off to a flying start.

The Time to Shine Cricket coaching for Y1/2 developed their skills and the coach really enjoyed his time with the children.

Bikeability for Y5 started in freezing temperatures, but they all did well and again the instructor praised the respect and courage of our children.

Flick Drummond, our new local MP, sent us a letter congratulating us on our attainment last year – 100% age related expectations across the board in every subject at the end of Y6. She wants to visit the school and she has also invited pupils to visit the Houses of Parliament.

Our Parents' Information Meetings to discuss the topics and activities for next term were well attended and parents' evenings were a great way to finish a successful half term.

The weather has affected several sports events this term, but the small schools football team battled wind and rain to practice on our village fields, ready for a match at Langrish in March.

Next half term there is a cricket festival for Y1/2 and a Netball tournament, which our enthusiastic netball club members will enjoy.

All our clubs have been well attended and art is so popular that we had an infant and junior club on the same night, as well as chess. That, combined with our after school club, means most children take part in extra-curricular activities on a Monday.

French club on Tuesday lunchtimes is very popular and Aspire coaching during lessons and after school continues to inspire the children.

Our music activities are culminating in a

day coming up when most children in the school with either take part in the Barnaby Bear Musical in Basingstoke or the Joseph Musical with Waltham Chase School.

We currently have a waiting list for some year groups, as we have reached our pupil admission number.

Our very supportive parent team running our FOWMS group provided a sweet Valentine's treat as we broke up for half term – now back to healthy eating! The popular Cinema Club has been renamed the Popcorn Club and they start again after half term.

Please feel free to join us at our Ash Wednesday service at 10 a.m. on 26th February in the church.

Please look at our website to see photos of everything we are doing. *Julie Kelly*

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Marie-Odette Jackson

We would like to thank all our West Meon friends, for the letters and cards of condolence, and to those who came to my mothers funeral.

It meant a lot to have such support at this very sad time.

My mother first came to live with us in West Meon seven years ago and she loved living here.

Although she was severely disabled, she liked to be pushed into the village in her wheelchair on sunny days, often saying "what a lovely village and such kind people".

We were so lucky to have our wonderful carer Wendy who helped look after Odette at home, to whom we are truly grateful, and to the care staff at Stroud House where she spent the last year of her life.

Viviane and Bernard Pearson

Long Priors Vandalism

No 4 garage behind the bungalows Long Priors was vandalised, whilst left open to dry out, the other afternoon. Pink paint was used, causing the resident a lot of unnecessary upset.

This type of behaviour is anti-social, and will not be tolerated in our village.

Someone must know who is responsible for this.

Cheryl Adams

East Meon Cinema

The April film screenings in East Meon Village Hall have had to be cancelled in line with other events.

All being well the East Meon Village Hall screenings will resume with a new season in September and we will have details nearer the time.

Lucy Hollis

Saint Peter & Saint Paul Exton

**The Choral Evensong with
Froxfield Choir
on Sunday April 5th 2020
at 6:30pm has been cancelled.**

www.froxfieldchoir.co.uk



Garden Club News:

8th April meeting cancelled

In March Hazel Fotheringham gave us a very interesting talk about the work of the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust. She encouraged us all to become members of the Trust in order to help preserve and protect our endangered species, however small they may be. We learned that there are several nature reserves on our doorstep that we knew nothing about and we are considering organising visits to them.

Sadly only 8 people attended the talk, 6 of them Committee members. This was doubtless due to concerns about the spread of the Coronavirus. Consequently, and in view of the increasing severity of the pandemic and probable stricter government measures and recommendations, we have cancelled our April meeting, which was due to take place on Wednesday 8th April in West Meon Village Hall.

We will provide an update on the Club's future events and lectures in the May issue of this magazine and on the Parish Council website.

Clare Swinstead

Diary Dates April

(Correct at time of going to press but may be subject to late cancellation - check with organiser)

Tuesdays

10.30am Gentle Keep Fit - West Meon Village Hall

Wednesdays

10 - 11.30am Baby and Toddler Group - West Meon Village Hall

Thursdays

10.30am Gentle Keep Fit - West Meon Village Hall

Tuesday 7 April

7.30pm West Meon Parish Meeting - Small Hall at the West Meon Village hall

Monday 20th April

Indoor Bowls 1.30-3pm West Meon Village Hall

Saturday 16th May

Pop In Café and Table Top Sale 10-12pm West Meon Village Hall

Monday 18th May

Indoor Bowls 1.30-3pm West Meon Village Hall

Parish Directory

Rector :

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Curate:

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Church Wardens for West Meon:

Helena Gomm 829741

Michael Johnson 829105

Church Wardens for Warnford:

Peter Short 829285;

Andrew Sellick 829161

Hampshire Farmers' Markets

April

Sunday 5th Petersfield/Romsey

Saturday 11th Alton

Sunday 12th Winchester

Saturday 18th Emsworth

Sunday 19th Southsea

Saturday 25th Ringwood

Sunday 26th Winchester

May

Saturday 2nd Hamble Spring Market

Sunday 3rd Petersfield/Romsey

Care Group

Co-ordinators: West Meon: Nina Byles 829028/07778 679922; Vicki Fathers 829217; Warnford: Vera Short 829285.

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, Wallops Wood Farm
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