Parish News

West Meon & Warnford

April 2021

Bird's Eye View

When I came for interview in December 2019, Archdeacon Gavin asked me what will you miss about Scotland? I paused to consider and then responded the hills... he responded 'We've got hills!' I will say in my defence that the days of interview had been jam packed with conversations and being ferried from point A to point B and I just hadn't been paying as close attention to the surrounding countryside as I might have done. As many of you know through this Lenten Season I have aimed to walk 5 miles a day. And have managed it, so far that is. I realised when I came up with the hare-brained scheme that it would be a challenge, but it has been a far greater challenge then I imagined. There have been a few moments of total despair, driving rain on the top of Old Winchester Hill being one of them. But there have also been moments of great joy, much of that joy coming from the conversations I have had with those who have decided to join me for a few miles as well as passing conversations. Feelings of joy have also come from learning about the local geography from a somewhat muddy perspective and seeing winter merge into spring. And joy also from the very generous way in which individuals have decided to make donations to support our local Food Banks. So far, prior to publication the donations have just passed the £2,140 mark. Many many thanks... probably more than 40 families have had a weekly shop.

Many of the walks have been carefully planned by those who have walked with me, the walks often starting with the words 'I want to show you my favourite place, my favourite view'. (It must be said that it appears that most of these walks generally include an incline.) Last week, a circular walk was planned starting north of East Meon with the final incline





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being up the hill behind All Saints Parish Church. What a view! What a perspective. At some point over lockdown I had watched David Niven's 1946 film "A Matter of Life or Death". I am sure many of you have seen this tale of an RAF pilot who bales out of his plane over the east coast and eventually fights for his life by facing a heavenly tribunal. I only mention that film because the local doctor has a camera obscura; a device with which he peers down on the life of the village, noting the comings and goings off all who live there. Sitting on the top of what I believe is called "Park Hill", I felt that I was peering down on East Meon in exactly that same way. There it was, laid out in front of me: there were people working in their allotments; someone walking their dogs; being lockdown, boys kicked a football back and forth; and so many others just simply going about the business of their lives. I wonder if there is a visual equivalent to eavesdropping? Well that is what it felt like sitting on the top of a hill peering into people's everyday lives.

There are some days that I actually walked on my own. Over the hour and a half or so that the walks have taken I think about many things and sometimes I even have conversations with myself, but generally not out loud. I have wondered from time to time why my thoughts return to my top of the hill experience. At one level I would say that it was an almost magical experience; it had something of the fairy tale about it, a sense of peering down from a castle wall. But the words magical and fairy tale in some ways do not do the experience justice. It was extraordinary!!! And somehow in my train of thought I remembered the Salvador Dali painting at the Kelvingrove Gallery in Glasgow, "Christ of St John of the Cross". And I remembered the day I sought it out. I walked from down town through some winding back streets passing a synagogue, a mosque and a temple enjoying the city. Eventually when I got to the gallery I went in search of the image. Now, I had seen images of the painting in books many many times and seen other Dali's and so I imagined that it would be huge, but not so. The case is it is actually comparably small being only 80" by 47". The painting depicts Jesus Christ on the cross in a darkened sky, floating over a body of water complete with a boat and fishermen. Although it is a depiction of the crucifixion, it is devoid of nails, blood and a crown of thorns, because, according to Dali, he was convinced by a dream that these features would mar his depiction of Christ. Also, it is said that in a dream, the importance of depicting Christ in the extreme angle evident in the painting was revealed to Dali.

For me setting aside the detail of the sea and fishermen it is about Jesus looking down on the world. The story of the crucifixion, images of Christ crucified, are difficult for us to understand. In some ways it makes little sense that an image of persecution, sacrifice and death can, as we are told, reflect love; it somehow jars with our own experience, our own hopes. Perhaps here it is helpful to remember that sacrifice ultimately can be life enhancing not only to the person who receives but also for the person who sacrifices. It may be difficult to see anything positive in that image however, we only need to look at our own world and what we have experienced this last year to recognise the huge sacrifices that have been made by so many, which have enriched others lives. Much of what goes on in our world is self-focused/self-centered. In Christ and, might I say, in all who have given of themselves over the last year, we have witnessed perhaps new ways of being based in sacrifice and love. Perhaps this Eastertide it is good to imagine God looking down on his world and smiling as so many of his creation have learned a new way of living in the trials of the past months. Happy Easter!

Yours in Christ, Mary

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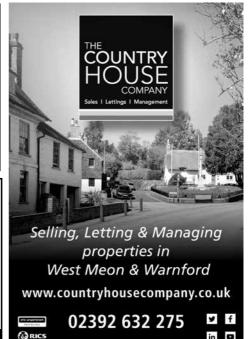
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Thank you and goodbye!

After nine years living centrally in the village it is time for us to move to pastures new. We arrived as two and we leave as four! It has been magic living in this special village amongst the wonderful community for this time. I'm excited for the next chapter but it is also with a heavy heart we leave (Tom has to remind me that we can come back to visit!)

Living central to the village has been a fantastic experience. Thank you to Rachell and the village shop team, how lucky we are to have such a super shop and fab team running it! Thank you Dayle Westwood for your great garden services... you were with us from start to end! Again, we have felt so lucky to have the Docters surgery on our doorstep, thanks to the whole team including Rosemary and Carol for without fail getting my children seen on the same day if there was ever a concern! Becky in the Cafe, Damon and Buckingham's, Clare and the Thomas Lord, we'll miss you and your brilliant services. Importantly we'll miss all the friendly neighbours and the community, it has been a pleasure. I feel this is a rare and special village filled with many great people and my heart is filled with fondness for it.

Thank you and best wishes,

Charlie and Tom Eastwood

Remember Remember the Ninth of October

Fireworkfest returns a little earlier this year in the hope of better weather (it can't be worse than last time?!) To raise funds for our excellent village shop and other good causes in West Meon the firework company is already booked as is an incredible live act... mark your diaries! Let's get back to normal...

Jim Ulph

West Meon Church Fête - Sunday Teas

After weighing up what we know – the Government guidance - and what we don't know – how the pandemic will tail off and how people will feel about resuming activities - we are very disappointed to have made the decision that it is not feasible to hold our usual church fête in June. We are very grateful to the Youngers and all those who have been willing to contribute and we hope we can all look forward to a wonderful occasion next year.

However we are confident in planning to hold our Sunday Teas in the churchyard on the five Sundays of August as we have in the past. Alongside our usual delicious spread we hope to offer one or two of the traditional fête stalls on each occasion. There will be more details as the summer approaches but do please get in touch if you would like to offer cakes or to help out in any other way.

Louise Clay

Warnford Snowdrop Walks

It is particularly unfortunate that the walks had to be cancelled due to Covid as the snowdrops were superb. The weather on each Sunday was lovely with virtually no rain so we would have had a lot of visitors. The first QR code below will take you to a video to let you see what you missed - have a look and enjoy it! Last year, by comparison, the weather was awful – gales forced the cancellation of the walks on two Sundays and we had less than half the usual number of visitors.

Donations from generous visitors to the walks form a vital part of the annual income supporting the work of Warnford Church and the loss of much of this for two years does leave a hole. If you have enjoyed the walks in the past and would like to make a donation it would

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be very gratefully received. The second QR code below takes you to the appropriate "Give a Little" page or cheques Payable to "Church of Our Lady, Warnford" may be sent to Church of Our Lady, Warnford, SO32 3LE.

Warnford PCC sends a very big "Thank you" to everyone who so generously supports the church and we look forward to welcoming you to what will certainly be magnificent snowdrops in 2022!

Photo: Kit Power

Video



Donations



What is a Nature Reserve?

If you've ever visited a nature reserve, you'll know how special they can be. Nature reserves are treasure troves of wildlife wonders, often hosting exciting rarities which have sadly become uncommon in the wider landscape. They enrich our lives, are essential for wildlife, and form part of our natural heritage.

The Wildlife Trusts collectively put a great deal of time and resource into protecting the rich and diverse habitats in our nature reserves – part of our effort to create a thriving natural world. By caring for these unique, ecologically valuable sites we safeguard them and the wildlife that depends on these places, for the future.

The Wildlife Trusts manage around 2,300 nature reserves across the UK, ranging from an entire mountain in Scotland to a single ancient hawthorn tree in Norfolk. Locally, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust manage over 50 nature reserves, including expansive moorlands, ancient forests, stretches of coastline, wildflower meadows and small patches of wildness in urban areas.



Barton Meadows Nature Reserve in flower © Martin de Retuerto

In our nature reserves wildlife is the top priority. You may notice that they differ from your standard country park, in some cases certain areas may be closed to the public, or dogs might not be allowed or have to be kept on leads. Some species are highly sensitive to disturbance – if you see a 'no entry' sign, it could be because ground nesting birds, vulnerable to trampling, are just beyond. If we ask for dogs to be kept on leads, it might be that wetland birds are roosting nearby, or cattle are grazing.

Our Reserves Officers are responsible for looking after the sites in the Trust's care. They are experts in their field, and they manage their reserves sensitively to benefit specific species

or improve habitats. Sometimes, old-fashioned methods like coppicing and hay cutting are employed, or conservation grazing takes place to encourage certain plants. This will often be explained in signage as you enter the nature reserve.

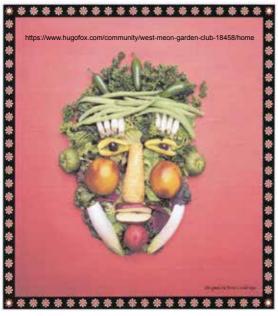
We want all our nature reserves to reach their full potential, so while you're walking in them and enjoying the wildlife, take note of any signs you see, and encourage those you're with to behave responsibly. With the cooperation and support of local communities, our nature reserves can create invaluable opportunities for wildlife, and people, to flourish.

To find out more about our nature reserves visit our website: hiwwt.org.uk/nature-reserves

Claire Thorpe

Garden Club News – April 2021 **WANTED!**

Online competitors for West Meon Garden Club's VIRTUAL PHOTO COMPETITION 2-16 April 2021



After the success of our Virtual Summer Show in July and August last year, we are now launching a Virtual Photo Competition over the Easter holidays: from Friday 2nd April to Friday 16th April.

Contestants are invited to submit photos of items they have created or grown and also photos featuring more general and sometimes deliberately ambiguous themes.

Participants of all ages can take part but for a couple of classes there will be three age groups to encourage younger entrants to compete.

So whether it's an Easter bunny, hand-decorated eggs, a holiday memory, a local snow scene or any other topic, there should be something for everyone.

If you're thinking you may not have the time between now and Easter to take photos, don't

worry! You probably have some stashed away on your computer, phone or other device that you took some time ago. That's absolutely fine – we'll happily accept them.

For full details, please visit the West Meon Garden Club website: https://www.hugofox.com/community/west-meon-garden-club-18458/home

Clare Swinstead

Meon Valley Litter Pick 2021 - Where three villages meet

Huge appreciation for the following dutiful residents who all turned out on the morning of Sunday 21st February to clear litter around the village: Hugh Morris, Tim Main, Tim and Helen Hiscox, Duncan Stewart, Alan Bassil, Tim Wood, Martin Cowell, Jim Brooks-Hill, Simon Telford, Ingolv Urnes and David Jeffers. We also warmly welcomed newcomers; Peter Smith, Ralph and Toby Savage, Sam and Bronwyn Spelling, Chris and Hazel Town, Al and Luke Lacy, Rachel, Arthur, Oscar and Hector Ulph! Having an inexplicable preference not to use a litter-picker, it is amazing how useful it is to have a small child along to get into the furthest reaches!

Due to the plethora of willing participants, all no doubt keen for a little safe-distance variety in their lives, we managed to clear the verges of the A32 from as far as the garage to the north all the way to Sheepbridge in the south. In addition, from Coombe Lane all the way to East Meon is now back as nature intended! Following David Jeffer's suggestion, we arranged for a group of East Meoners to head out from there and meet us halfway. I suspect they were slowed in their work by a surfeit of chat(!), not to mention several years of accumulated trash, but we eventually met with them well beyond Drayton Bridge, just as our 'trainee' litter-pickers (Arthur, Oscar, Hector and Luke, aged 10 to 13) were starting to lose the will.



Photo: West Meets East - Jim Ulph

Notable finds this year include the best part of a strimmer (or 'worst' depending on your perspective), a solitary trainer (lonely indeed), the usual array of empty bottles (vodka in

particular), drinks cans (fewer Redbull, more Fosters), a tin of tuna (very fishy), a fine array of hubcaps (apparently police cars don't have them!), far too many energy gel sachets (cyclists?) and a large plastic plant-pot (became a sieve in the river for the boys), but find of the day was a pristine £5 note, ironically perfectly preserved in its plastic coating!! The indestructible rubbish of the future perhaps?

A final word of additional thanks for Tim and Helen Hiscox, who not only collected all the now infamous empty beer bottles from Station Road recently, but also drove around and scooped up all the bags of other peoples'(!) trash and then booked a slot to take the majority to the tip. I understand their enthusiasm was such that they also ventured out in the afternoon to complete the job south of Sheepbridge to Warnford, where I very much hope one of their signature cocktails was awaiting!

A final thought, we were extremely touched to meet a resident of Riplington Cottages near Drayton Bridge, who was effusive in his gratitude for the clear-up as he walks to East Meon along the road every day to visit his wife's grave. She passed away 11 months ago.

Jim Ulph

Easter Holiday Activity - 'Come Sing and Dance'

Petersfield Youth Theatre's Easter Project is a much-loved event and promises to be great fun this year!

PYT are offering children and young people the opportunity to take part in a fun and creative experience this Easter. It's the perfect opportunity to meet new friends, gain confidence, sing dance, act and be creative.

School year 1 to 7

Monday 12 to Thursday 15 April

10am to 4pm

Bedales, Steep

Each day will have 4 different workshops. Participants will rotate through the sessions experiencing a combination of musical theatre, singing, dancing, drama games and storytelling. Participants will work in their age groups in semi-outdoor spaces to meet COVID guidelines. PYT provides the best possible workshop leaders and are proud to be offering this fun-filled and creative Easter holiday project.

School year 8 to age 21

Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 April

10am to 6pm

Bedales, Steep

Participants will spend two days working with a Director, Musical Director and Choreographer on a number of Musical Theatre sequences. This will be a great opportunity to Sing and Dance alongside your friends whilst learning new skills, and being taught by an experienced creative team.

To take part in either of these activities, please visit www.pyt.org.uk.

This project is support by Bedales and Petersfield Town Council.

Charlotte Godfrey

West Meon Village Shop

Easter in the Shop: As in recent years, through March and into April we stock an impressive selection of Easter fare in the Shop, including Easter eggs and chocolates, cakes and biscuits, along with an extensive range of attractive cards, fresh cut flowers and potted plants, much of which is showcased in our stunning Easter display. The Easter raffle this year generated plenty of interest. The prize was a generous hamper of Easter treats and a bottle of dessert wine donated by the West Meon Wine Society.



Easter in the shop: Mark Hammond

Mother's Day gifts and flowers were in abundance this March and all sold well, hopefully all those mums were happy!!! Ushering in Spring, the potted plants are a welcome feature once again this year, it seems a shame to sell them when they look so pretty outside the shop on the very smart stand. We are delighted that The Cafe will reopen on the 12th of April when customers are permitted to sit socially distanced in the garden area. A big thank you to Michael Johnson and Co for continuing to make the outside of the building smarter with a lick of paint and general tidying up.

Do please check to renew your 200 club raffle if you haven't already done so. Most of you have opted to use the standing order method but those who gave cheques or cash may need to renew soon, please check your statements. (One less job or us to do).

The lending library was a godsend to many during lockdown and it has grown so much we are extending the area with some more shelves to accommodate the growing collection of books and DVDs. The money we collect in donations has contributed to us extending the area so thanks again for your support. Remember anyone is welcome to use this service, including

children and young readers, always great to see some new faces. Anyone with an interest in books and with time on their hands is more than welcome to help us organise the books accordingly!

As always, we continue to supply and deliver to our customers and try our best to support local businesses along the way. If there is ever anything you struggle to find in the shop or would like to see please ask, hopefully we can accommodate. Remember we also deliver milk and papers Monday - Saturday in and around the local area, please ring us on 01730 829310 or email wmvsoffice@gmail.com for details.

The West Meon Village Shop Committee

West Meon Wine Society

Just thought we would share some of the wine highlights from the latest Italian selection of wines. We asked some of the wine team to identify which wines out of the Italian selection they liked the most and why... and this is what they said!



John chose the **Tenuta Casali Valleripa Albana**. 'While the Pehhcora Pecorino has most definitely booked its place in my fridge door, the wine I'll relish most, especially with robust food, is the Tenuta Casali Valleripa Albana, for all sorts of reasons. Albana is little known, in spite of being the first Italian white to be (controversially) granted DOCG status in 1987; it's been around and feted for a very long time, since the fourth century AD in fact; and it's a hugely versatile grape, as rather like Chenin Blanc it can make crisp aperitifs right through to botrytised sweet wines. But most of all this one is super tasty, with colour, structure and character added by the prolonged skin contact to balance the rich almost tropical fruitiness. Certainly one to savour!'

Mark chose the **Pehhcora Pecorino**. 'My favourite was the Pehhcora Pecorino with its refreshing fruity aroma and attractive yellow hue, it is pleasantly crisp and dry making for an excellent aperitif. Looking forward to sampling this wine when we next visit Italy, but until then I will enjoy a glass or two relaxing in the garden.'

Jerry chose the **Begali Valpolicella Ropasso**. 'My favourite was the Begali Valpolicella Ripasso: A smoky aroma followed by dark and summer fruits. Enticing, elegant and long. Enjoy now while spring is in the air'.

Peter chose the **Castello della Rosa Pinot Grigio, Vigneti delle Dolomiti.** 'I chose this as just over a year ago we were having lunch al fresco with friends just opposite the Colosseum in Rome. What could be more appealing a place to sip my favourite Italian wine, Pinot Grigio and this one reminds me of that trip'.

Sue chose the **Pehhcora Pecorino** too and said: 'I think it's the perfect drink to lift the spirits now the days are lengthening and Spring is in the air. Soon we shall be sitting in the garden (perhaps even with friends!) enjoying this lovely fresh, pale greeny/lemony wine. A beautiful hint of pear on the nose, clean and fresh on the palate, with a lovely balance. Delicious on its own or with fish or shellfish, or indeed something veggie! Very good value too at £9.60 - a good example of some of the well priced whites that Italy is now producing'.

Do please visit our website at www.westmeonwine.co.uk where we have carefully assembled a fabulous selection of interesting wines from both the Old World and the New. Prices start from £7.95 and the wines can be collected each Friday from the village shop.

West Meon Wine Society Management Team

West Meon C of E Primary School

We welcomed back into school our extended families on the 8th March and it was so wonderful to hear the buzz of the children's voices and activity around the school once more.



Our keyworker bubble during lockdown were brilliant and so were the staff who ensured planning and support were in place for this group, who ranged from Early Years up to top juniors.

We continue to be so impressed with the resilience of our children and the fantastic support their parents gave them, while keeping their own jobs going at the same time.

Parents' meetings via Microsoft Teams gave them an opportunity to share their thoughts with us about their children's learning and we continue to use See Saw for homework tasks and reading records to limit paperwork going back and forth between home and school. This fantastic partnership will ensure that any recovery programme that needs to be put in place, will be a home/school effort.

The Aspire Team have started football again after school and we have begun to have discussions about when we might open up school run clubs; perhaps in bubbles to start with. Foxes have already started to use the Nature Station again which is great.

Our 'opening up' to activities will coincide with the government's roadmap for the safe opening of society and so the Year 6 unfortunately will not have a residential in May, but will take part in activity days at Fairthorne Manor still.

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 wait to hear the confirmation about this.

Sadly, we are unable to reschedule swimming, but Bikeability outside for Year 5 will go



ahead next term, as well as Time to Shine Cricket Coaching.

As I write, we are preparing to remember Mary Touchet, the founder of our school, as Reverend Mary says a few words outside the church and the children bring flowers to place on her grave. We are very grateful for the support the Touchet Trust continue to give to us as a school and the bright new benches and more outdoor equipment were funded by them and we will also be investing the rest of the funds from them in more Early Years equipment for that area.

We are also holding a Dress As You Please Day for Comic Relief this week, in order to raise a little bit of money for children who are struggling during these difficult times.

> Julie Kelly, Headteacher Photos supplied by Julie Kelly



The Curtis Museum and Allen Gallery, Alton

(01420 82802) And on Facebook.

www.hampshireculture.org.uk/curtis-museum

www.hampshireculture.org.uk/allen-gallery

There is a great deal to browse in the Gallery and the Museum. I hope to include details of our re-opening in the next issue. In the meantime, Culture on Call contains all sorts of information on the Collections, arts, culture and heritage in Hampshire. cultureoncall.com

Downstairs in the Allen Gallery is a set of display drawers housing groups of items such as Delft-ware tiles, wine bottle labels, and these colourful Scent Bottles.

Most of the scent bottles (if not all of them) came as a collection of 60 from Mr M L Horn of Stoke Charity in 1951. Most are made of glass of different colours which has been cut or decorated in various ways. They have screw or hinged tops of silver, plate or pinchbeck with glass stoppers under. The silver ones can be dated by the hallmark and seem to be Victorian. The makers of a few are known but not many. Some have a chain which could be attached to a belt, bar or similar. A few bottles are double ended - perhaps one end for scent and the other for eau de toilette? (Thanks to Jane Hurst for the details.)

Jill Line



February rainfall records

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 rainfall from the 15th to the 23rd, the final five days were dry. The coldest overnight temperature was -5C and that for only two nights.

Peter Short

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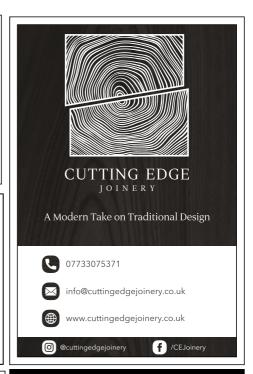
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West Meon Parish Council & Warnford Parish Meeting News

Supporting healthier lifestyles

The County Council is offering free support to residents who are seeking help to lose weight by providing a 12-week programme in partnership with Weight Watchers (WW). The support includes virtual coaching, online workshops, and on-demand fitness classes.

Best Parking and Best Firework and Bonfire Policy

These updated Policies Can be found on the PC's Website www.westmeonpc.org.uk under parish Councils Council Documents.

Village Hall Bins

The Village Hall Committee ask that the big bins by the hall are for the Village Hall and Sports Pavilion use ONLY, and not for general public use.

Start filling in your census now!

Census packs have started to arrive for households. They can be completed in advance of 21 March as long as they reflect your household on that day.

Census Support Centres (CSCs) - Census Support Centres will be opening as soon as possible but need to ensure it is safe and in line with government guidelines to do so. It is likely that the timing of opening will vary between different centres depending on the nature of their regular business and premises. Information on the location of CSCs and their opening hours are available at https://census.gov.uk/help/find-a-census-support-centre.

We will, of course, update you as soon as we have more news.

Speed Limits

In addition to observing all speed limits please keep your speed down when entering the village from East Meon. Also from Lippen Hill past Long Priors to the school.

And Finally from West Meon

The next Parish Council Meetings will be held on Tuesday, 13th April via skype 7.30 p.m. and all Parishioners are welcome to join, please contact the clerk: Diane Heppell at 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 nearer the time. 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

Member of Parliament for Meon Valley

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



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Time for Climate Change in Local Elections?

Winchester Action on Climate Change (WinACC) would like as many people as possible to think about climate change and associated issues in the forthcoming local elections on 6th May. The elections are for the full Hampshire County Council and a third of Winchester City Council.

Obviously councils have limited powers, but there is a lot they can do regarding local transport, and housing and other development issues, amongst others.

The government will publish further guidance on campaigning a month or so before the elections take place.

These are not necessarily party political questions, as the main parties are all committed to addressing climate change, nationally and locally.

Winchester Action on Climate Change (WinACC) suggests that you might ask candidates one or more of the following very important questions, whether this is on the doorstep, by phone, or on line in some way.

Their views on these topics, whether from answering questions or from their leaflets, might help you choose where your vote goes:



- 1. The climate emergency is much more important than party politics. Are you prepared to work together with the other parties on this, regardless of who wins the election?
- 2. What will you do to reduce traffic blight, particularly in the city (cars are bad for trade, our lungs and the climate)? How will you make the city more cyclist and walker friendly? How will you improve rural bus services?
- *Photo: Climate Change Worldwide Universities Network* 3. How will your Council help businesses to create green jobs for instance growing food and green their businesses (supply chain and operations)?
- 4. How will you ensure that all new homes are designed and constructed to net zero emission standards?
- 5. How will you encourage a change from gas heating, both domestic and business, to electric heating (heat pumps perhaps), and installation of solar panels on roofs?
- 6. How is your council going to persuade national government to put its money where its mouth is for instance to shift spending from roads to serious emission reductions, such as green transport and heating?
- 7. As a councillor, what have you been doing, or what actions do you intend to take, to show leadership on climate change issues?

Very many thanks, Brian Shorter, WinACC volunteer





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Nigel Chamberlain & Partners (Est 1892)

The Gate House, Victoria Road, BISHOPS WALTHAM (01489) 892640 (24 hours)

Bob Metcalf MBE

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or e-mail: warnfordvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk

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Diary Dates April Onwards

Church Services

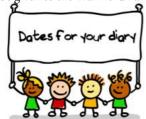
Dates and arrangements will be advertised on Facebook, locally displayed posters and by word of mouth (for further details contact the Rector - see below).

Tuesday 13th April

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Tuesday 4th May

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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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Saturday 10th Alton
Sunday 11th Winchester
Saturday 17th Emsworth
Sunday 18th Southsea
Saturday 24th Ringwood
Sunday 25th 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 helena@helenagomm.co.uk

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