# Parish News

West Meon & Warnford

January 2022

## What lies ahead for 2022?

It is a pleasure to have been asked to write the first newsletter of 2022. I am the Rev'd Canon Will Hughes. I am the Vicar of Petersfield and Rector of Buriton and also, at the moment, the acting Archdeacon of the Meon. What that means is that until the new bishop appoints someone, I'm helping to lead the diocese of Portsmouth and looking after the churches and clergy in and around Gosport, Fareham, Bishop's Waltham and Petersfield.

What lies ahead for 2022? It's never really been easy to predict the future, but I think we've all discovered how much we took for granted before the changes of the last year or so. I still remember my new year's resolution in 2020, which was to give up social media. Covid turned that resolution upside down and I know things about live streaming and online meetings which I'd never dreamed of then! But there are a number of things I'm hoping for in 2022. I'm hoping, as people have hoped since the dawn of time, for the lengthening of the days, and the warming of the spring. For the reduction of the winter ills and ailments, including the Covid virus, and for the renewed energy which comes as the seasons turn. In March in our household there is a strange ritual. We will take Somnus, our tortoise, out of the fridge where he's been dormant at a steady 6 degrees since November and put him under a heat lamp where, God willing, he'll





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wake up, have breakfast and carry on as if he hasn't missed anything over the intervening 4 or 5 months. I confess that there are times I think Somnus is on to something!

I'm also hoping for the arrival of our new Bishop. Bishop Jonathan is currently Dean of York Minster, but he knows us well, having been bishop of Southampton before, and his leadership will mark a new chapter in the life of Portsmouth Diocese.

I'm hoping for courage. There have been, and will be, times when we are all tired and it is so easy to be short tempered with one another and to stop looking for the opportunities to help and encourage one another when we are tired. I've come to realise that courage is sometimes not what we do in the heat of the moment, as it is shown in superhero movies and war stories, but what we do when we're tired and its raining and we've been doing this for months.

As I hope for these things, I'm intending to make better resolutions in 2022 than I did in 2020 - ones I'll be able to keep and hold to whatever lies ahead this year. I'm coming to appreciate a prayer of Francis Drake:

'O Lord God, when you give to your servants to endeavour any great matter, grant us also to know that it is not the beginning, but the continuing of the same unto the end, until it be thoroughly finished, which yields the true glory; through him who for the finishing of your work laid down his life, our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Amen.'

Rev'd. Canon Will Hughes Vicar of Petersfield and Rector of Buriton Acting Archdeacon of the Meon



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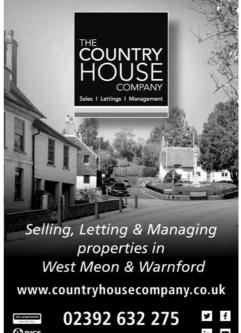
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## Warnford Snowdrops

Depending on any Covid restrictions, we are planning to hold the usual Snowdrop Sundays on the four Sunday afternoons in February. After many years of doing the Duty Roster, Vera Short and Anne Corden have retired. They are very pleased that Angie Trenchard and Theresa Brown have kindly volunteered to take over. So Dear Reader do not be surprised when they, nearer the time, ask you to help! Many thanks to Vera and Anne for all they have done.

Gerry Corden

Editor: We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Gerry very much for all his articles and support over the years, delivered in his quiet, unnassuming and kindly way, and for his work effort on behalf of village and church matters which has always been so greatly appreciated.

Thank you Gerry.



The PCC of Warnford Church is pleased that Andrew and Candi Sellick have kindly agreed that we may hold the Snowdrop Sundays again in Warnford Park on the four Sunday afternoons in February 2022. Accordingly we are looking for stewards (Car Park and Reception) to help, for a shift of 1.5 hours during the period 2-5pm on 6th - 13th - 20th and 27th. February.

If you are able to help please contact Angie Trenchard on 01730 829545 or 07879 408898. Snowdrops herald the start of Spring, so we ask the public to come for a lovely winter walk and a warm welcome in the Church.

Snowdrop Sundays contribute funds to help with the running of Warnford Church which has a small but loyal congregation. We have all endured some testing times over the past months with Covid restrictions so please come and rejoice at the beauty of Warnford Park and the glorious snowdrops. You will be guaranteed a warm welcome, lovely refreshments and a peaceful afternoon. Many thanks to all who help and to our visitors.

Angie Trenchard

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# Do something amazing today and help a family near you!

Home-Start Hampshire is a local charity supporting parents who are going through challenging times. Trained volunteers work alongside families to give compassionate and confidential support, tailored to each family.

At the heart of Home-Start Hampshire is our fantastic network of volunteers and as demand for support continues to increase, we are looking for new volunteers to join our team.

We are running a prep course for new volunteers living in the Meon Valley area starting in January 2022

- Starts- Thursday 13th January
- Once a week for 6 weeks within school hours
  - At Wickham Community Centre

To Register your interest and find out more about volunteer opportunities in your area please visit our website www.home-starthamphre.org.uk/volunteering or email info@hshants.org.uk

Volunteer today because childhood cant wait.



Www.home-starthampshire.org.uk Registered charity number: 1144661

## Winchester Area SuperHomes

Have you been thinking about reducing your home's carbon footprint?

Winchester Action on Climate Change has recently launched Winchester Area SuperHomes, a new project aimed at reducing home energy use across the District.

Energy use in the home is responsible for around 20% of direct carbon emissions. Winchester Area SuperHomes supports homeowners to transform the energy performance of their properties by retrofitting and so reduce their carbon emissions.

Winchester Area SuperHomes can help you to transform the energy performance of your home to reduce your carbon footprint, by retrofitting. Retrofitting means changing your property so that it uses less energy and has lower carbon heating. For example, by improving insulation and installing a heat pump. We will show you what you can do to retrofit your home.

Winchester Area SuperHomes will provide help with some costs for homeowners on low and middle incomes (but is open to homeowners on all income levels) - this will include some of the survey and design costs. But the real benefit is being linked into a project that provides:

- Access to qualified and accredited Retrofit Coordinators and installers
- Technical back up from the National Energy Foundation
- Support to access grants

The first step is for our Project Officer to arrange a home visit or video call to explain exactly how Winchester Area SuperHomes works. We will then put you in touch with a qualified Retrofit



Coordinator who will carry out a survey of your property and produce a Whole House Retrofit Plan. This is a detailed assessment of your property and will include a costed list of all the measures you could take to reduce your home's energy use and carbon footprint.

There are several subsidies available for home energy retrofit – and we can help you apply for them. The Renewable Heat Incentive covers most of the cost of installing a heat

pump and is not means tested. For homeowners on low incomes, the Green Homes Local Authority Delivery scheme can provide grants of up to £10,000.

WinACC is also working with Winchester City Council's Historic Environment team to ensure that that a positive approach is taken towards retrofit in conservation areas or on listed buildings.

To find out more, and register your interest, go to https://superhomes.org.uk/winchester/

Executive Director, Winchester Action on Climate Change Ltd

## West Meon Boules

We have received very encouraging support from the community for the proposed Boules Court with over 60 pledges of interest so far and a further 16 Facebook likes. Constructive discussions were held with the Parish Council on 7th December, with an intention to look in more detail at a couple of issues during December and with the possibility of reaching an agreement this January.

We will report back early in the New Year to provide an update on progress and to let you know the next steps. In the meantime, if you would like to register your interest without obligation in this initiative, please contact us at meonboules@gmail.com.

Mark Hammond

## **Old Railway Nature Station**

West Meon Church, as part of the Climate Week in October, decided to give practical help to our village School by helping to maintain the Nature Station at the old railway station site. We have agreed a plan of work for the winter with the school staff. A great part of the value of the site is the wild nature of the vegetation that encourages small animals and insects to flourish there. However there is clearing of pathways and invasive shrubs (such as buddleia) that needs doing before the children can have an improved space to enjoy in the spring. We will host a working party on Saturday 29th January and all are welcome to join in for work and refreshments. Starting 9.30 am but come when you can. Bring loppers, secateurs, gloves and light saws together with garden rubbish containers to enable the waste to be loaded onto a trailer on site.

For any queries please get in touch with Susan Berry or Louise Clay (829235).



Mark Hammond finishing off the painting of the railings (see P.11). Photo: Michael Johnson



## West Meon C of E Primary School

The Book Fair was a great success and parents ordered their books and paid online this year, which was much more efficient.

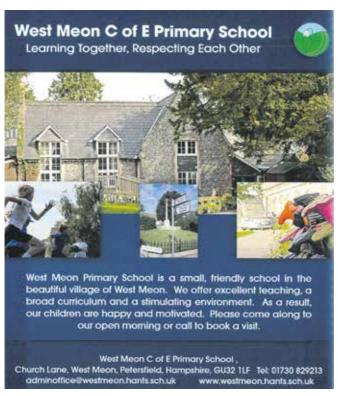
I know there are mixed views about new building in the village, but Metis Homes came in to give us a 'hi vis' vest for each child to wear on trips out to help with our road safety.

The whole school boarded a double decker bus and minibus to travel to the Theatre Royal in Winchester to see Aladdin and the children loved it! So great to be able to go again after last year's break.

The dress rehearsal for the Nativity was brilliant and the children sang their hearts out. Photos taken will be on the website soon, as well as in the local press. The main event is during the last week of term in the church in the evening, supported by our parents in masks with limited tickets.

Christmas dinner and a special visitor are arriving during the last week of term to finish off the festivities. In fact, the only event we have had to postpone was Christingle, as we did not want to mix the adults for the workshop and we will do this for Candlemas in the New Year instead.

A group of staff, parents and governors attended the funeral for Kathryn Davis, our beloved Early Years Assistant and Mary bought crocus bulbs for every child in the school to plant around a tree in the churchyard in memory of Kathryn. We also have a special Christmas Angel bauble, which looks just like her, which we have added to the school Christmas tree.



On a brighter note, we presented Miss Hocquard with a gift in assembly, as she is getting married before the end of term and some of the children will be watching her as she arrives at Exton Church.

We have published an advert in this month's news, as we still have a few places left for September 2022.

Please get in touch if you are interested.

Hope you all have a good rest and a Happy New Year and thankyou to everyone in the community for your support.

Julie Kelly, Headteacher

## **Churchyard Maintenance**

The churchyard maintenance team, led by Paul Willcox, enjoying coffee, bacon butties, mince pies and mulled wine. Many thanks to them for all the work they do during the year to keep the churchyard looking beautiful.

Helena Gomm



Photo: Helena Gomm

## Rainfall Records November/December 2021

We had no rain from the 13th to the 26th of November and 3.3 mms on the 26th and a smattering of snow on the 29th.

The month ended with 13.5mms compared with 89.5mms in 2020. December by contrast has only had two days without rain up to the 15th and this has produced 55.1mms. However it is still mild and very few frosts so far.

Peter Short

## **January 2022 Services**

## Sunday 2nd January

8am HC BCP All Saints, East Meon

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

9am St John's Langrish

Benefice Service of the Word for Epiphany Sunday-Celebrate the coming of the Wise Men with Worship and Carols.

## 10.30am St John's, West Meon.

Benefice Holy Communion for Epiphany with rousing Carols and Worship. Finish off Christmas in style.

10.30am All Saints, East Meon Parish Eucharist

## Sunday 9th January

8am HC BCP All Saints, East Meon

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

## 9am Church of Our Lady, Warnford

Benefice Service of the Word. BCP Sung Mattins. Join in Worship which has been sung for Centuries. Incorporating Plough Sunday.

10.30am All Saints, East Meon

Benefice Eucharist with choir and bells. Celebrate the Baptism of Christ with us.

## Sunday 16th January

8am HC BCP All Saints, East Meon

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

9am St John's Langrish

Benefice Holy Communion with choir and hymns for the 2nd Sunday of Epiphany and Incl. Plough Sunday

## 10.30am St John's, West Meon.

Benefice Service of the Word for Epiphany 2, with hymns, talk, discussion and more.

10.30am All Saints, East Meon Parish Eucharist

12.30pm St John's Langrish Baptism

## Sunday 23rd January

8am HC BCP All Saints, East Meon

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

## 9am Church of Our Lady, Warnford.

Benefice Holy Communion with hymns for the third week of Epiphany. Book of Common Prayer

10.30am All Saint's, East Meon.

Parish Eucharist with choir and bells. Common Worship setting for Epiphany 3.

## Sunday 30th January

8am HC BCP All Saints, East Meon

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

## 11.30am St John's, West Meon

Whole Benefice Service at West Meon with Bring and Share Lunch and Fellowship. Join us!

## Where do butterflies go in winter?



Comma © Amy Lewis

Think of butterflies and usually we associate them with sultry summer days, but have you ever wondered how these delicate insects survive harsh winters in the UK?

Butterflies are ectothermic - or cold-blooded - meaning they cannot regulate their own body temperature and instead rely on external heat sources to warm up. This is why butterflies perch on leaves to bask in the sun or, conversely, seek shaded spots to cool down.

Butterflies struggle when sources of heat become harder to find, hence why British winters pose a problem. To overcome temperate climates, butterflies have adapted in remarkable ways to survive.

The most common way butterflies overwinter in Britain is either as a caterpillar or chrysalis. To protect their soft and vulnerable bodies, caterpillars find refuge at the bottom of plants or bury themselves in leaf litter or soil where they wait, hopefully undisturbed, until spring. This tactic is used by 42 of Britain's 59 butterfly species, including orange-tips and common blue.

Another option, and one of the safest, is to wait it out as an egg. The brown hairstreak is one butterfly that employs this strategy.

Less common is the method chosen by five of the UK's most recognisable butterflies, namely brimstone, comma, peacock, small tortoiseshell and red admiral. These species overwinter in their adult forms and, in late summer or early autumn, will seek out safe and relatively warm spaces, such as inside sheds, garages, log piles or even rabbit holes. They wake when temperatures rise and so are occasionally seen on warmer days in the depths of December and January.

Finally, the humble painted lady butterfly escapes the cold of British winter by making an epic migration to northern Africa in an incredible quest for warmer climes.

Despite these mighty displays of adaption, butterfly numbers in Britain are decreasing rapidly. Formerly common species, like the small tortoiseshell, have fallen by 80% in Southeast England since 1990.

But there are several ways you can help these amazing insects:

- delay cutting back old plants and tidying up leaf litter until spring to provide butterflies with places to overwinter
- leave a wilder area of your garden, with long grasses, ivy, shrubs, weeds and nettles to provides vital butterfly habitat
- plan to plant some nectar-rich plants in your garden or window box for butterflies when they wake up in spring. Pollinator-friendly options include cowslips, rosemary, forgetme-knots, bugle, sweet William or heather
- if you find a butterfly in your home, garage or shed, carefully catch the butterfly and place it in a cool spot. Once the butterfly settles you can gently move it to an unheated room in a shed, porch or garage. Remember to let the butterfly out of the building when it awakens in spring.

Iake Kendall-Ashton Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

## Village Shop

## 200 Club winners

The winners of the December prize draw were as follows: 1st Prize of £200 to Chris Woridge; 2nd Prize of £100 to Gerry Cordon; 3rd Prize of £50 to Richard Sturges; and 4th Prize of £25 to Jim Ulph. Please remember the 200 Club renewal date for your membership is due in January and that £25 secures your place in all 6 draws of the year. If you are not already a member and wish to join, then applications forms are available from the shop, or contact Rachell Barnett at wmvsoffice@gmail.com. It is a great way to support your community shop. The prizes are £40, £20, £10, and £5 in February, June, and October; and £200, £100, £50, and £25 in April, August, and December.

## Late night shopping

Thank you to all that braved the weather and came along to the late-night shopping experience at the shop on the 16th December, the external sellers were very welcome in the shop and they sold a few items much to their delight. We thank them for enhancing the shopping experience with a wider variety of gifts, etc. The raffle tickets sold well, and all proceeds will go towards replacement baskets for the shop. I hope the winner enjoys all those specially selected wines from the West Meon Wine Society.

## Outer delivery round

We are sad to announce the closure of delivering to the 'outer round' which included the Privett and Bramdean area. This was due to bad timing all round - the retirement of Keith, shortly followed by the sudden illness of Dayle's bad back and gout, which left us without a driver. We gamely managed to cover a few weeks with people's kind offers to help with deliveries and Karen's gallant efforts to guide the volunteers to the correct houses, etc. After several weeks of advertising for a replacement, it was apparent that a driving job that starts early in the rain, wind and snow is simply not appealing as a go to job. Reluctantly, therefore, with no applicants materialising, we had no choice but to stop deliveries. Many of the customers from the outer round came to collect their papers, while others felt that the journey was just too far and decided to go elsewhere, which was a shame, as some of our customers have had deliveries for over 45 years. We thank them for all their support over this period and to understand that this was a very hard decision to make. Nigel has kindly agreed to add Warnford to his rounds, he is our very own superhero!! What would we do without him?!

With new Covid restrictions - plan B, we are all having to wear face coverings again, once again we thank you for your cooperation.

## **New Year Shop Opening Hours**

New Year's Eve - Shop open as usual (with deliveries)

New Year's Day - Shop open 8am - 12 midday (with deliveries)

Sunday 2nd  $\,$  January Shop open  $\,$ 8am - 1pm  $\,$ 

Monday 3rd January (Bank Holiday) Shop open 8am – 12 midday (with deliveries)

We hope you continue to shop local and stay safe. Thank you for all your support during 2021 and we wish you all a very **Happy New Year**. Rachell Barnett

## West Meon Wine Society

We were delighted to welcome ninety residents of West Meon and surrounding villages to our inaugural wine tasting event on 26th November. We were grateful to the Board of Exton Hall who kindly made their elegant new building available to us. Kit Ellen, Managing Director of Exton Hall, joined us for the evening and explained the heritage and intent of Exton Hall and the Exton Park wines. Our team went on to invite our guests to try up to 23 different types of wine and fortified wine in immaculate surroundings, where there was plenty of space to enjoy the tasting in the company of large numbers of friends and neighbours. Great fun and enjoyment was had by everyone! The proof of the pudding was the receipt of firm orders for well over 300 bottles of our Wine Society's wines in the three days following the event. The surpluses generated on all our wine sales goes to support the work and plans of our much loved West Meon Village Shop.

If you did not attend the event and would like to try wines from our launch selection, please go online to https://www.westmeonwine.co.uk/, as the wines will all be suitable for your enjoyment through the winter months. Looking forward through 2022, new wine selections will be added to our online portfolio every two to three months and, Covid permitting, we aim to hold sociable tasting events every quarter. We intend our next Tasting Event to be on the evening of Friday 25th March, which will be for members only. Hence, if you are not yet a member, please consider joining and refer to the Membership page on our website for joining instructions. If you are a member, please pencil the date into your diaries.

In choosing our wines our focus is to identify interesting and good value wines that will both encourage and help you to explore the boundaries of your wine comfort zones. All the wines in our online portfolio have been tasted, selected, and recommended by our Wine Society Team (at their own expense!). Because of this collective approach, we believe that our customers can buy our wines with confidence.

On behalf of our Wine Society Team, I wish you a Happy New Year and hope to meet some of you at our tastings in 2022.

Graham Walker – Chair, West Meon Wine Society Team



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## West Meon Parish Council & Warnford Parish Meeting

## Metis Homes Development Progress Report

The groundworks stage of this project are progressing well, on schedule and all main substructure works to the houses are complete. First phase of the groundworks will be completed in early January after which the bricklayers will commence their work. At the same time water and electricity will be connected to the site and BT will undertake their work in the Spring. The site will be shut from Friday, 24th December to Monday, 3rd January inclusive with work recommencing on Tuesday, 4th January.

## 20 is Plenty

Hampshire County Council have announced a review of the evidence for 20-mph zones in residential areas and this will be undertaken by the Environment, Transport and Economy Select Committee in early 2022. Hampshire Constabulary and the Police and Crime Commissioner will be invited to take part.

## West Meon's Celebration of the Queen's Reign

Save the date of Friday, 3rd June 2022 for West Meon's Celebration of Queen Elizabeth II's Reign to be held at the Recreation Ground. See the Parish Council's news page for more details: http://www.westmeonpc.org.uk/community/west-meon-parish-council-13628/news/west-meon-scelebration-of-queen-elizabeth-ii-s-reign-51113

## **High Street Bus Shelter**

As we now have a refurbished bus shelter, WMPC requests that Parishioners do not attach posters to the windows. If you would like to publicise an event please email the Parish Council who will be please to include this in the events section of their website.

## And Finally from West Meon

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

## Warnford Parish Meeting

Information relating to WPM can be found on its website, which also has details of local facilities and services, village news and up and coming events. Please do sign up for e-mail alerts so that you'll be kept informed of forthcoming events, planning applications etc.

## 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 email: westmeonpc2017@gmail.com

## Warnford Parish Meeting

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

Lucy Hutchinson Clerk warnfordclerk@gmail.com 01730 829598

#### Warnford Parish website

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

## Winchester & Hampshire Councillors

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

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

Hampshire County Councillor Hugh Lumby – as above

## Member of Parliament for Meon Valley

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## Sir Harold Hillier Gardens

Situated in Ampfield, just outside Romsey, Sir Harold Hillier Gardens is an arboretum run by Hampshire County Council covering 180 acres and accommodating over 42,000 trees and shrubs - most notably an almost unparalleled collection of oaks, camellia, magnolia and rhododendron. They are open all year, even during the coldest months, and run a series of events so here are some of the January highlights:

**Art in the Garden** (until 9th January) - sculptures and set around the garden and many are available for sale.

Winter Jewels (until 2nd January 10am-4pm) - Wessex group of over 20 jewellers exhibit their work.

New Year's Day Guided Tour 1st January 2pm horticultural expert highlights the Winter Garden and surrounds. £5.

**Seasonal I Spy** Tuesday 4th January to Thursday 31st March - family walk around the garden highlighting berries and early scented flowers. Activity sheet available. 50p.

**Home Education** Wednesdays 11am or 1pm - hands on activities for home educated children. £7.50 per adult (aged 4-11).

**Textile Exhibition Zero Nine** Friday 7th January to Sunday 23rd January 10am to 4pm. Local textile art for sale.

**Small Willow Basket Workshop** Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th January 10am - 4pm. Two day workshop to learn how to weave willow into a small log or kindling basket led by Louise Brown, £150.

**The Secret Life of Plants Art Course** Sundays 23rd January to Sunday 12th June. Six week botanical illustration workshops. £360.

**Art Exhibition Emergence** Tuesday 25th January to Sunday 13th February. 2d3dSouth professional group of artists' paintings, drawings, prints and collages for sale.

**Make Your Own Handmade Turned Wooden Pen** Saturday 29th to Sunday 30th January 10am to 1pm or 1.45 to 4.45pm. This session now sold out but additional dates available 9th to 10th April.





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## **Curtis Museum & Allen Gallery**

OPENING TIMES Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Curtis 10am - 4pm. Allen 10.30 - 3.30pm.

## ALLEN GALLERY EXHIBITIONS

## Martyn Kee - About Faces

Local artist's exhibition of traditional handpainted acrylic portraits. 4th December - 23rd January 2022. In the Café area, FREE

### From Dawn to Dusk

A selection of paintings by W H Allen (after whom the Gallery is



named) which capture the changing light and atmosphere of the rural landscape as the day progresses from sunrise to sunset. 15th January – 19th March. In the Main Exhibition area. FREE

### **TALK**

#### A Parcel of Gold

By Jo Smith, Chairman of The Headley Society.

Mr Smith's talk is based on a series of Nineteenth-Century letters discovered in a bureau. They were written by Ellen Read to her brother, a paper-maker in Headley. Ellen went to Australia to seek a better life away from the poverty of Portsea. She spent most of her life in the gold fields of Bendigo, and her letters give an insight into the (hard) daily life encountered by the Pioneering families. Thursday 10th February 7.30 pm. FREE – donations to the Friends of the Curtis Museum & Allen Gallery most welcome.

#### **CURTIS MUSEUM**

A new issue of Alton Papers is now available (No. 25), price £3. This issue covers topics such as the history of Adlam's/Buck's Bakery, the Early Banks of Alton, and two eye-witness accounts of life at Thedden Grange just before and just after WW2. The first is from a boy of 14 whose family were amongst the Grange staff; the second a letter sent home by a German prisoner-of-war housed in the grounds.

Please see our websites for the most up-to-date news on events www.hampshireculture.org. uk/curtis-museum or www.hampshireculture.org.uk/allen-gallery

Jill Line

## January Diary Dates

Sunday 2nd January

Service 10.30am St John's, West Meon

Sunday 9th January

**Service** 9.00am Church of Our Lady, Warnford

**Tuesday 11th January** 

Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm Village Hall, West Meon. Parishioners are welcome, please contact the clerk. Diane Heppell clerk. westmeon@parish.hants.gov.uk

Sunday 16th January

Service 10.30am St John's, West Meon

Sunday 23rd January

**Service** 9.00am Church of Our Lady, Warnford

Saturday 29th January

Nature Station Working Party 9.30am Old Railway Station

Sunday 30th January

Service 11.30am St John's, West Meon

## Parish Directory Rector:

Vacant

**Associate Rector:** 

The Revd. Philippa Good 07538 595537

Church Wardens for West Meon:

Helena Gomm 829741 Michael Johnson 829105

Church Warden for Warnford:

Andrew Sellick 829161

Verger for Warnford:

Peter Short 829285

## Hampshire Farmers' Market January dates

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

Saturday 8th Alton Sunday 9th Winchester Saturday 15th Emsworth Sunday 16th Southsea Saturday 29th Ringwood Sunday 30th Winchester

www.hampshirefarmersmarkets.co.uk

## 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:

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