

Parish News

West Meon & Warnford

November 2020

Curiosity Is In The Air

Much to my surprise, on returning from being out and about this morning, I found on my doormat a hand written envelope post marked Torteval Guernsey. I was, to say the least, curious as I ripped open the envelope. The enclosed letter was making an enquiry regarding a mid-air collision which took place on 30th August 1943 between two Boeing B17s known as Flying Fortresses. The accident occurred north of Portsmouth. Both planes survived the incident with one landing somewhere nearby... "13 miles north of Portsmouth". The correspondent is hoping that someone from the locality may know where 42-29962 landed. If, by chance, you have any information regarding this incident please be in touch and I will give you the contact details.

I have no idea what connection the gentleman that wrote had to this incident and I do wonder what his interest is. I'm curious. Curiosity, that strong desire to know about something or someone, is an interesting phenomena as it is, for most of us at some point in our lives, a driving force. Think for a moment of something that has sparked your curiosity. Living in the Rectory on Doctor's Lane, for example, the resident bird population have caused me to be curious, bird book in hand I now attempt to categorize the local avian population.

Sometimes however, our curiosity leads us into considering or reflecting on particular aspects of our life. Perhaps it is the very nature of November, with the nights drawing in,



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curtains closed and fires lit, that we become more reflective. November, is I think, a time for both remembering and story telling. For many, enquiries into family history have become very popular in recent years. These explorations may be spurred on by programmes such as 'Who Do You Think You Are?' Perhaps there is a hope when an individual begins their quest that there will be connections to royalty or people of means, but I expect for most of us our ancestors are just ordinary people who lived their lives at a particular time in history dealing with the events of the day. Many of us hold stories of the Second World War, perhaps told to us by parents or grandparents. If, however, you come from a family of story tellers then the stories may go back much further. The stories we remember and pass on are important as they define who we are and how we react to the situations in which we find ourselves. For example I hold stories of a maiden aunt, Geraldine Carlton, who in the September of 1918 travelled to Boston Massachusetts to begin her nurses training. In October of that year the Spanish Flu epidemic began and, as remarkable as it may sound, in that same September my dad began his medical training at McGill University in Montreal. Times not very different from the situation in which we find ourselves.

I think that, in a bizarre way, stories of crises may actually sometimes give us hope. It is true that not every individual survived in past crises but generally the human race continues simply to trudge on. The telling of stories has gone on for centuries, with some of the oldest stories which inform our lives, being recorded in the Old Testament. It is thought that those stories were begun to have been recorded around 1200 BC but that they tell of much earlier civilizations. Truthfully, the Old Testament in parts is pretty grim reading with, in some books, page after page speaking of murder, death and destruction. I suppose the question might be asked, "why do we read this stuff? Perhaps the answer lies in the notion that stories have outcomes, that there is hope and that even in the worst of times there are good people who help others and create communities and uphold family values. And I believe that God accompanies his people.

In so many ways November, culturally, is our remembering month. We begin with the Feasts of All Saints on the 1st where the church remembers "saints and martyrs, known and unknown", and on the 2nd the Feast of All Souls where we remember all those who have died. Around the world many cultures celebrate these feasts. In Mexico it is a great festival called el Dia de los Muertos or the Day of the Dead. In that culture death is truly seen as a continuation of life, only in a different place and so during that festival the deceased are remembered, prayed for and welcomed into family homes in tangible ways. In recent years in the UK it has become commonplace for services to be held in parish churches that give individuals the opportunity to light a candle in memory of a loved one and to take the time to remember and pray. Unfortunately this year that will not be possible. However, we will hold a service of Evening Prayer at 4pm at West Meon Parish Church on Sunday the 1st of November. At that service the names of those who have died over the past 5 years will be read out and they and those who mourn will be remembered in prayer.

Remembrance Sunday on the 8th is normally a service which is very well attended. We have decided that, due to our current number restrictions, all of that service will take place out of doors this year at the war memorial in front of West Meon Parish Church, St John the Evangelist.

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That service will begin at 10.45am. Prior to that service a service of Holy Communion will take place at The Church of Our Lady, Warnford at 9am.

As they say we live in difficult times, but here we must remain hopeful, knowing that this too will pass.

Mary Jepp,

Assistant Rector

West Meon and Warnford November Church Services

Sunday 1st November

9am Holy Communion at Warnford, followed by APCM

4pm Evensong to celebrate All Souls at West Meon.

During this service we will remember those who have died.

8th November Remembrance Sunday

9am Holy Communion at Warnford

10.45am Service of Remembrance at West Meon. This service will take place entirely outdoors.



Oh dear!

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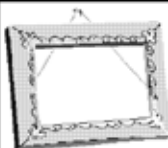
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Harvest Festival Generosity

An enormous thank you to everyone who contributed goods to the church's harvest festival collection for the Petersfield food bank. There was an unprecedented response to this year's request for donations and we were able to deliver an entire carload of bags full to the brim with groceries. The volunteers at the food bank were delighted and amazed by the amount we brought them. The church received the following message in an email from Terry Doubleday, Chair of the PACT (Petersfield Area Churches Together) food bank:

'Thank you and all your parishioners for the marvellous Harvest Festival donations you delivered to the PACT Food Bank last week. It is most appreciated as the number of packs we are currently distributing is still high in comparison to the beginning of the year. Our stocks were greatly depleted during the Covid-19 lockdown when the volumes increased four-fold and we were open five days a week.'

We have decided to continue to make our church a drop-off point for food bank donations. Donations may be left in the plastic container in the kitchen area. They will be delivered to the food bank every couple of weeks or so.

The food bank can accept tins and packaged goods, but not fresh food. Their website (www.pact.org.uk/pact_food_store.asp) has information about the items they are short of at any particular time, which often include things like shampoo, soap and toothpaste, as well as specific types of food. Packs of food and other supplies are given to people in need in our area. In the first six months of this year, the Petersfield food bank distributed 534 packs to 868 adults and 468 children. The equivalent figure for last year was 160 packs to 236 adults and 90 children, so you can see that the need is particularly great at the moment.

Recipients have to be referred to the food bank by authorised organisations, which include churches, GP surgeries and council services, and the website also has information about who to contact if you need a referral.

Helena Gomm



Meon Valley Lions – adapting to the new normal

Macmillan Coffee Morning Appeal

Ever looking for imaginative ways to fundraise, Meon Valley Lions Club had fun supporting the Macmillan Coffee Morning Appeal by giving Club members and friends a chance to enter a competition to guess the number of sprinkles adorning Colin the Caterpillar. Everyone joined in the fun to give their guesses and raised £125 in donations and the winner donated the price of the cake. This was gratefully received by Macmillan Cancer Relief Fund and will help to fund a Macmillan nurse for a day.



Santa and his Elves

Under the current Government rules Santa and his Elves won't be able to go out to the villages this year. However, he is hopeful and has a plan, should things change nearer the time, that he may be able to do his usual evening runs.



Christmas collections

Santa runs are large part of Meon Valley Lions Club's fundraising events

**WE ARE
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CANCER SUPPORT**



so we are doing everything we can to make it easy for those who want to support us, support our local community.

We will be out and about in the villages and town centres doing static collections so please look out for us. At the moment we have been given permission to collect:

- Denmead
- Wickham
- Swanmore
- Bishop's Waltham

Keep an eye open for our next newsletter or check out our website for dates and locations <https://www.meonvalleylionsclub.org.uk/santa.html>

We are also asking local shops and other businesses to help us with collection boxes.



Charity Donations

Keeping in line with other charities, we are looking at other ways people can donate i.e. via credit card, SMS and web-based payment as well as good old fashioned cash. Keep an eye on our website and follow us on Twitter/Facebook as we further develop our plans for this most unusual Christmas period.

If you would like to make a donation an easy way to do this is simply text:

LIONS to 70490 to donate £3

OR if you would like to donate between £1 and £20 text LIONS followed by your donation amount e.g. to donate £5 text LIONS 5 or to donate £10 text LIONS 10.

Texts cost your chosen donation amount plus one standard network rate message.

This is also a great way to donate and it won't cost you a penny! If like many of us, you are using Amazon to do your shopping, you can help us raise money by simply changing your settings and Amazon will donate every time you make a purchase through your account. Go onto <https://smile.amazon.co.uk> and select Meon valley Lions Club.

Contact us through our website: www.meonvalleylionsclub.org.uk.

Carole Dash



Rainfall records for September to Mid-October

We had a couple of days with rain in the first 3 days of September and then a really dry spell up to the 22nd and in the last 9 days we had 39.3mms giving a total for the month of 42.5mms (1.7").

October was a complete contrast with 99.2mms in the first 3 days and by mid-month we had 139.3mms (5.48").

Parts of the British Isles had their wettest day since records began. Fortunately South East Hampshire, although very wet, didn't break any records. However we have had almost 5.5" by mid-month.

Still mild for mid-October.

Peter Short

West Meon Pub (The Hut) New Winter Menus

Open for food and drinks, inside and/or in the garden. We have plenty of space and are following guidelines. To guarantee your table book by phone directly on 01730 829534. www.westmeonpub.co.uk. **Takeaway Services: available including the following:**

Burger Bar (served in sesame seed bun with lettuce & tomato & Chips)

BBQ Ranch Burger (Beef Burger topped Bacon, Cheddar, BBQ sauce) Reg £7.50 XL £9.50

Hunters Chicken Burger (chicken breast topped Bacon, Cheddar, BBQ sauce) Reg £7.50 XL £9.50

Hickory BBQ Pulled Pork topped Beef Burger Reg £8 XL £10

Hawaiian Gammon Burger (5oz gammon, pineapple, tomato & cheese) Reg £7.50 XL £9.50

Red Pepper & Halloumi Burger (grilled red pepper, grilled halloumi and sweet thai chilli sauce) Reg £7.50 XL £9.50

Beef Burger Reg £6 XL £8

Chicken Goujon Burger Reg £6 XL £8

Vegan Soya Burger Reg £6 XL £8

Extra Toppers: Cheddar Cheese, Bacon, Pineapple or BBQ Sauce 50p each

Curries (Served with Rice, Naan bread & Poppadum)

Chicken Korma, Beef Madras or Chicken Tikka £6

Keralan Cauliflower & Red Pepper (vegan when served without naan bread) £7

Grills

8oz Sirloin Steak, half tomato, peas & chips £9.50

12 oz Mixed Grill, Lamb Chop, pork sausage, steak, Gammon, half tomato, peas, fried egg & chips £11

Indian Selection (4 veg samosas, 4 chicken samosas & 4 Onion Bhajis) £6

10oz Gammon topped fried egg & pineapple, chips & peas £8

Fish Shop and Other Meals (Served with Chips or Mash)

Battered Cod & Chips £7, Steak & Ale Pie £6, Scampi & Chips £6, Ham Hock & Pea Pie £6, Fish Selection (½ battered Cod, Scampi & Salt, Pepper Squid Bites) & Chips £10, Spiced Cauliflower, Spinach & Lentil Pie £6, Pork or Quorn Sausages £6, Cajun Salmon Fillet & Chips £9.50, Chicken Selection (Grilled Chicken breast, chicken wings, chicken goujons) & chips £11, Salmon & Creamy Spinach Tart with a lemon crumb topping & Chips £8, Add Mushy or Garden Peas or Tartare Sauce 50p each or Add Baked Beans 50p

Kids Meals (served with chips or waffles)

Chicken dippers, Fish fingers, Sausages (pork or quorn) £3.00

Sides

Breaded Mushrooms £2, Onion Rings £2, Halloumi Fries £3, Sweet Potato fries £2.50, Peppercorn Sauce £1.60

Desserts (served cold)

Chocolate Fudge Cake £3, Blueberry Muffin cake with pink lemonade mousse centre and topped with shortcake £3, Apple Pie £3, Banoffee Pie £3, Chocolate Brownie £2.50

Sunday Roast (Sundays between 12 and 2pm – order on Saturday)

Roast Beef or Roast Chicken Or Both, Roast Potatoes, Broccoli, Carrots, Cauliflower cheese, Peas, Green Beans, Yorkshire Pudding, Stuffing and Gravy Adults £8.95 and Kids £5.25

West Meon Village Shop

We are beginning to make preparations for Christmas and are already stocking an excellent selection of Christmas cards, all of which contribute to a variety of charities, as well as an enticing range of festive gifts and seasonal fare. There is also an abundance of local produce, including fresh vegetables and fruit, bread, eggs, cheese, cider, chocolate and much, much more. So why not shop locally for local produce when there is no need to venture any further.

Apologies are in order for the missed deliveries and wrong deliveries during Nigel's absence. The good news is that he is feeling much better now and extend our thanks to you all for your concerns. Our old blue delivery van has finally given up the ghost and has been replaced with a small 4 x 4, which will facilitate the delivery of goods to those living off the beaten track and also when the weather turns more inclement. The shop is more than happy to carry on with deliveries to those who are unable to venture out during these trying times.

Finally, we wish to extend a massive thankyou to all those who have given us continued support in recent months. The shop really thrived during lockdown with more villagers using the shop than they would normally. As things went back to the new normal at the end of the summer, we were a little saddened to see people using us less.

200 Club Prize Draw Winners

The winners of the October prize draw were the following: 1st Prize of £40 to Nigel Ford; 2nd Prize of £20 to Nina Byles; 3rd Prize of £10 to Tom Warner; and 4th Prize of £5 to Michael Major. Next month's draw is the 'Big One' and you only have a chance to win it if you are in it. So, if you are not already a member of the 200 Club, then do please sign up soon to take your place in the next draw. Applications forms are available from the shop. The prizes are £200, £100, £50 and £25 in April, August and December, and £40, £20, £10 and £5 in February, June and October. It is a great way to support your shop. Another way to help the shop is through participation in the West Meon Wine Society.

West Meon Wine Society

Thinking back to the end of last year, few of us had heard of phrases like Coronavirus, COVID and furlough. Moreover, whoever would have thought we would be living our lives by the 'Rule of Six'. We are disappointed that we have been unable to host any wine tasting events as yet. Still, through the chaos, there is opportunity. At the time of writing, the current rules for this part of England suggest that we can meet up with friends in our houses and so our thoughts turned to the possibility of sharing food with friends. As the nights draw in, there is an abundance of delicious food available locally and we thought it would be fun to pair wines, alongside some favourite autumn dishes. The village shop is the first stop for a great selection



of vegetables and they also stock cheese from Lyburn Farm in Winchester, and a good selection of British cheeses from the Winchester Cheese Stall. Buckingham's Artisan Butchery also has an impressive range of cheeses on their deli counter. Have you tried Blue Murder, Montagnolo or Baron Bigud? These are proving to be favourites with the wine society team. Damon and Billy are continuing to present a great selection of meats and mentioned that beef, game and venison are very popular autumnal fare. The following is a taster of some wine and food pairings, for a full helping please visit the website: www.westmeonwine.co.uk.

Vegetarian Dishes

Penne Napolitaine Rocca - Negroamaro, Salento

Cheese Soufflé Domaine Fontanel - Côtes du Roussillon rouge

Asparagus Risotto - Apaltagua Reserva Pinot Gris

Pepper/Aubergine/Sweet Potato Bake - Domaine Begude, Chardonnay, L'Etoile Limoux

Fish Dishes

Baked Cod - Badenhorst Secateurs White Chenin Blanc

Baked Mackerel - Aba de Trasmis, Albariño

Sea Bass with Lemon and Anchovy - Creysse Picpoul de Pinet

Grilled Mussels with Thyme - Consentido, Macabeo

Chicken, Poultry and Game

Roast Chicken - Las Colinas del Abro, Garnatxa blanca, Terra Alta

Braised Duck Legs - Chateau Beauséjour Fronsac

Tarragon Chicken - Domaines des Forges, Anjou blanc L'Audace

Game - Grand Arc Corbières

Pork

Ribs - Piekenierskloof Cinsault

Pork Tenderloin - Piekenierskloof Grenache Blanc

Beef and Lamb

Roast Beef - Chateau Barrejat Madiran

Beef Casserole - Great Expectations Shiraz

Lamb Chops - Mas d'Amile Montpeyroux, Languedoc

Osso Bucco Carinae - Cuvée Philippe, Malbec

We hope these ideas give some food (and wine) for thought. We've had fun in trying to find some interesting wines, but we'd love to hear your thoughts, so do please visit the WMWS website. As a not for profit organisation any surpluses go back to the West Meon Village Shop so it can continue to help serve our community.

The West Meon Shop Committee and West Meon Wine Society Management Team

West Meon CE Primary School



Our new Year R and new children in other year groups have settled in well and despite having missed last term, all the children have settled back into school very well. They have adjusted to restrictions quickly, although we still would rather not have to teach them in rows all the time.

Our focus has been the health and well - being of the children and staff, but as we approach half term, we are preparing for

virtual parents' meetings and discussions about where possible gaps might be and how we are ensuring there is a catch up curriculum in place.





The staggered start and finish times to allow for social distancing are working well, but we are missing the face to face interaction with parents and virtual meetings are not the same.

Before and after school club, Aspire coaching and music lessons continue and we have not had to close any 'bubbles' and long may it last!

We are keeping our curriculum broad and balanced and there is a whole school focus on Art and DT at the moment, with the

older classes focussing on Monet and the youngest children making puppets.

Flick Drummond MP visited the school and her article in the local papers talked about our 'can do' attitude, as we endeavour to make school life as normal as possible for the children. She was impressed with our covid procedures and she and a music peripatetic teacher said how safe they felt, as we introduced masks in communal areas for



staff and visitors at the beginning of term. Jack and Alex Hollands also showed her their comprehensive files of work they completed during lockdown, following work set by teachers online.

Harvest worked well with bubbles socially distanced in the church and Reverend Mary and Reverend Jane led the service. Rachell Barnett from the village shop, kindly distributed the food gifts that the children brought in around the village. We had just started to prepare similarly 'socially distanced' Remembrance and Nativity events, but have now been told by the Diocese that the church is not allowing events in the church because of the rise in covid cases. This is a real shame. However, Mary and Jane continue to come in weekly to visit classes and lead Collective Worship and we will discuss how we can celebrate these events in an alternative way.

Julie Kelly, Headteacher (photos supplied by Julie Kelly)

The Curtis Museum and Allen Gallery, Alton (Tel: 01420 82802)

www.hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk

CURTIS MUSEUM

The Museum is open from 10:00am - 4:00pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Please see our website to book your visit at www.hampshireculture.org.uk/curtis-museum.

The latest Alton Papers booklet, No 24, is now available from the Museum. This issue contains, amongst other things, an article on the impact of the Boer War on the Alton district, Part 1 of The Early Banks of Alton, and a piece on Alton's WW1 anti-tank devices which were moved during the recent works at Butts Bridge.

Alton Papers 24 is £3. Earlier issues are also available.

ALLEN GALLERY

The Gallery hours are currently 10.30 am - 3.30pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Please see our website to book your visit at www.hampshireculture.org.uk/allen-gallery.

Our next Exhibition is **Meta[!]morphism** by **David Pattenden** of Midhurst Art Society.

David is fascinated with the passage of time, the transience of things, the slow, inexorable metamorphosis of one thing into another and the joy of existence in the world.

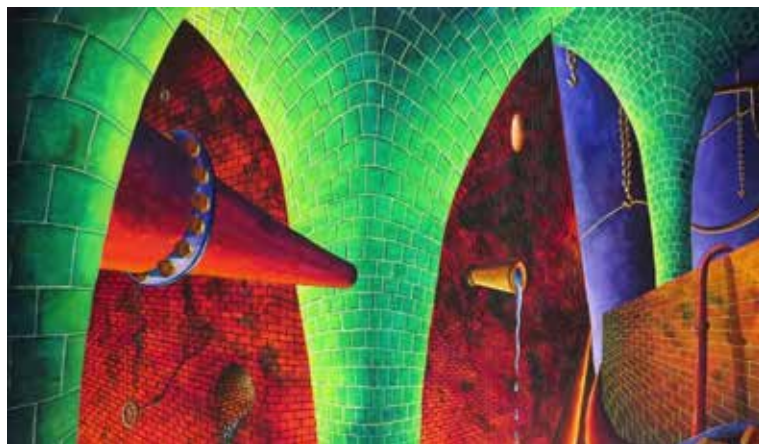
He finds real beauty in abandoned things - items that were once needed, designed, coveted, that have been discarded and now live in quiet melancholy as they slowly fade away, all the energy that we put into them now gone.

David also loves butterflies and moths, their extraordinary metamorphosis from one form to another, and their exquisite colours and patterns which we only ever see in brief, fleeting moments.

The paintings and drawings try to reflect these ideas and feelings, the fact that we are all part of the world, all travel through it in time, and, like the butterfly, find and give joy by just existing.

Till 5th December. FREE

The Allen Gallery Café is now open indoors again with table service only and a choice of disposable cups/plates or crockery and our delicious cakes! Why not drop in for a cuppa and perhaps a stroll round our lovely garden.



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Jill Line

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West Meon Parish Council & Warnford Parish Meeting News

West Meon has 2 vacancies for councillors. If you would like to be considered for co-option onto the Parish Council please email the Clerk, Diane Heppell, at clerk.westmeon@parish.hants.gov.uk with a copy to the Chairman at angiewmpc@gmail.com. Please include brief details as to why you would like to join the Parish Council and what skills you offer together with full contact information.

WMPC Grants Policy. Just a reminder that small Grants are available to assist in community projects. If you have a community project that needs some extra funding, please see our website (westmeonpc.org.uk – Parish Council, Grant Applications) for further details. Closing date for applications during the current financial year is 28th February 2021.

Autumn events and observances. To ensure that Hampshire residents are prepared to mark celebratory events and observances over the coming months in a Covid-safe way, the County Council continues to communicate the key messages outlined below. The Director of Public Health, Simon Bryant, has written to all District/Borough Council Chief Executives outlining current public health advice and the communications approach that the Authority will take in the coming months. In addition, a press release will be published containing advice for residents on events over the autumn and winter, and targeted social media campaigns will be launched. The specific advice for this season's upcoming events is as follows:

Halloween - Trick or Treating. The practice of door knocking is not recommended because of difficulties adhering to social distancing guidelines, risks associated with potential contact, mixing of multiple households and spread of the virus through contact with shared surfaces, including shared buckets of treats. Government guidance applies to any social gatherings of people of all ages both in and outdoors. This includes meeting in groups of six people or less when seeing friends and family and the need to following social distancing rules. Residents are encouraged to celebrate within their own household and to find alternative and creative ways of doing so.

Bonfire Night. Large events to celebrate Bonfire night are strongly discouraged because of the potential for mixing of large numbers of people, the risk of infection spreading from other areas of the community, and the potential for required support from emergency services. Private events must adhere to government guidance around gathering and social distancing, with people encouraged to watch firework displays virtually wherever possible. Hampshire County Council will be working with the Fire Service to ensure appropriate messaging around safety, including the requirement to be Covid safe.

Remembrance Day. Hampshire County Council will work with its partners to ensure that any events taking place are able to go ahead safely and are planned in accordance with government guidelines. Where events do take place, strict social distancing must apply with public attendance carefully managed by the event organisers. Parades are strongly discouraged because of the potential for mixing of large numbers of people and the risk of infection spreading from other areas of the community. The County Council will work with the faith community to provide continued support, particularly with regards to special ceremonies and support for our armed forces and veterans. Overall, wherever possible, private moments of remembrance and reflection are encouraged.

West Meon Parish Council and Warnford Parish Meetings in Diary Dates (see rear cover).

West Meon, Warnford, Winchester City & Hampshire C.C. Contacts

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07774 698958

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023 9257 1720

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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West Meon's Pavilion Makes Progress

At a time when we use our public spaces less it's perhaps a good time to reflect on how some of our facilities came into being and the hard work (and fun) of our villagers in making them happen. This is an extract from an archive newspaper article originally published locally in 1981.

'Over the past few years a number of villages have taken in hand enterprises which, in the event, have proved to be considerably more costly than had been visualised. West Meon, having embarked on the construction of a new pavilion on the Recreation Ground, is no exception, and, particularly during the past twelve months, the Sports Club has had some anxious moments as costs have continued to outreach the available funds.

However a lot of ingenuity and a great deal of perseverance on the part of a relatively few dedicated people point to a reward. The sum outstanding at the present time is still considerable but, by virtue of interest-free loans and a number of small but cumulatively effective fund-raising events, it seems likely that before the cricket season opens, West Meon will have a fine a pavilion as any village could wish for.



An hour of great fun on Sunday morning brought a further £130 to the club. At 11 o'clock a portion of the High Street outside the "Thomas Lord" was marked with flags and empty oil drums to form a track over which a series of pancake races were run. With David Edwards and David Hoppe acting as the marshals, motorists showed great tolerance in permitting themselves to be held up whilst each race was in progress. Some 50 competitors lined up for six events and, in all, about 150 spectators were there to cheer them on.

The race for children under five was won by Rachael Kaleta. Astria De Cosson won the five to ten years old; and the girls' ascendancy was continued when Sarah Brock came in first in

Continued p.23



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(from p.21) the 15 years old class. In the men's 15-50 years bracket Lawrence Beazley won for the men, and Caroline Broadhurst for the women. Nobody seemed to know the age qualification for the geriatrics' race but, eventually, anybody who "felt old" was accepted, and Lindsay Pirie was first past the post.

There followed an unscheduled event for those who sported a beard. Although possessing no more than a moustache, Police Constable Burrett, being off duty, was persuaded that this was a mere technicality and everyone was delighted when he won his race in fine style. PC Burrett only came to the village within the past few weeks to replace PC Wall-Palmer. Mr Burrett's early involvement is much appreciated in a village which has traditionally enjoyed very good relations with its policemen.

Lawrence Beazley became the overall winner in the "race of the winners" and they shared in a variety of prizes all of which had been donated. They ranged from sweets and games for the children, to more appropriate rewards for the grown-ups - which included half a bottle of vodka for PC Burrett!

Mrs Nina Byles and Mrs Caroline Broadhurst provided the pancakes. "They were good quality pancakes when we started," said Mrs Byles, "but they were decidedly the worse for wear by the time the racing was over." None had escaped several encounters with the ground as competitors failed in their attempts to toss them as they ran; and one particular puddle claimed more than its fair share of casualties. However, the morning stayed dry and a lot of people had a lot of fun. Similarly, Mrs Byles' chickens appreciated whatever remained of the pancakes.

The "Thomas Lord" having been the starting point, it was appropriate that at the end of the morning, Derek Gibson, the landlord and for a long time the club's Chairman, should be mine host to a full house. At the bar a challenge was put down by the football team to the ladies' hockey team and was promptly accepted. After a rainless morning, the afternoon sky opened up in most uncooperative fashion but, although wet through, the ladies came away in the knowledge that, although on the losing side by the narrowest of margins, their odd-goal defeat had shown why this recently formed section of the Sports Club was not wanting for support.'

Ford Archive circa 1981



Diary Dates November 2020

Church Services

Sunday 1st November

9am Holy Communion Warnford, followed by APCM

4pm Evensong to celebrate All Souls West Meon. During this service we will remember those who have died.

Sunday 8th November

Remembrance Sunday 9am Holy Communion Warnford

10.45am Service of Remembrance West Meon. This service will take place entirely outdoors.

Tuesday 10th November

West Meon Parish Council Meeting 7.30 p.m, via skype, all Parishioners are welcome to join in, if you would like to be present please contact the West Meon Parish Council Clerk.

Thursday 12th November

Warnford Parish Meeting - Autumn Meeting: 'remote', details of how to join will be on the village website nearer the time. Any matters for the Agenda should be emailed to the Warnford Parish Clerk.

Parish Directory

Rector :

The Reverend Jane Ball 823221

Assistant Rector:

The Reverend Mary Jepp

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' Markets

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Please note: To maintain social distancing you maybe asked to queue before entering a market.

1st November 2020 (and 6th December)

Petersfield 10am - 2pm

The Square, Petersfield GU32 3HQ

1st November 2020

Romsey 10am - 1pm

Alma Road Car Park (opposite Waitrose),
Romsey, SO51 8ED

Care Group Co-ordinators

West Meon:

Nina Byles 829028/07778 679922

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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