

Soberton & Newtown

PARISH MAGAZINE For all the community, delivered FREE to over 700 households

August - September 2017



An English country garden - photo by Jonty Sherwill

www.sobertonchurch.org.uk

www.newtownchurch.org.uk

SERVICES

at

St. Peter's, Soberton and Holy Trinity, Newtown.

SUNDAY SERVICES: Please refer to the inside pages

Interim Priest-in-Charge: The Reverend Canon Nick Fennemore

(Sunday & Friday)

07919 547508 e-mail: canonfennemore@btinternet.com

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Licensed Lay Mr. Norman Chapman, Meadow Cottage, West Street, Soberton
Minister (Reader) 01489 877378 e-mail: norman@soberton.org.uk

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ALL WEDDING & BAPTISM ENQUIRIES

Please contact Canon Nick Fennemore 07919 547508

e-mail: canonfennemore@btinternet.com

or Norman Chapman 01489 877378 e-mail: norman@soberton.org.uk

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Our Lady Queen of the Apostles, Roman Catholic Church, St. Martin's Street,

Bishop's Waltham, SO32 1DN. **Canon Alan Griffiths**

(frgriffiths@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) 02380 273882

6.00 pm. Saturday (First Mass of Sunday)

9.30 am. Sunday

There are Sunday evening services in Winchester and in Fareham.

For further information contact Anthony McEwen 01489 877448

The Methodist Circuit. Services in the area as follows:-

Shirrell Heath 10.30 am & 6.00 pm

Waltham Chase 10.30 am

Bishops Waltham 10.30 am

Swanmore 10.30 am & 6.00 pm

Hambledon 11.00 am & 6.00 pm

MAGAZINE.

Editor: Penny Rowlinson 01489 877830 **Chairman: Perry Abbott 02392 632338**

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I can't believe we have arrived at the holiday month of August. It is a time when many people take a well-earned break and get away from the day to day treadmill of work.

Holidays are an important part of life's rhythm. Originally they were 'Holy Days'. The year was centred around our religious festivals which shaped people's lives. Many of us save up and put a lot of thought and planning into having a good holiday in the hope that we will return refreshed and relaxed ready to get back into the swing of things in September when everything starts up again – children return to school, or go back to college or university. Church life in our parishes begins again and the evenings begin to draw in.

Holidays, and time off from our usual pattern of life, give us the opportunity to reflect upon what is important in our lives – particularly our spiritual lives. We need a reminder from time to time to help us live a balanced life. We need to decide what the essential elements of life are, and how we are going to give them proper attention. The Bishop of Winchester is encouraging all people to have a Rule of Life – that is a good idea – a Rule of Life helps us keep our balance amid all the demands made upon us. It, perhaps, reminds us that prayer is the foundation of the whole of our life, it is our relationship with God in action. So our commitment to God is worked out in the way we live, how we treat our neighbour and how we treat ourselves. Paying attention to our need for rest and relaxation will make us more available to others, especially our families and friends.

I encourage you all to make a Rule of Life – it must not be a burden, but a framework which frees you to grow in love. Rooted in paying attention to God we learn to make connections, and live every part of our lives to God's praise and glory.

If you would like to know more about creating your own Rule of Life, please do speak with me and we can work something out that will be appropriate for you. Remember, a Rule of Life is not a 'straightjacket' but a guide, your guide.

If you are about to go on holiday, have a wonderful time!

With my best wishes,

Nick



Helping Local People at Crisis Point

The Food Bank is a project led by local churches, bringing the community together to help support people who are at financial crisis point in the Meon Valley. Our passion is to reflect the love and grace of Jesus through giving food to those who are really struggling to get by.

As at July 2017 we have helped 974 people since we opened in February 2015.

This figure at first glance may seem large but it is made up of Adults and Children. A family of 5 for example means we have fed five people and they can be referred four times a year or more if the agency confirms. We also cover a very wide area. Bishops Waltham alone has a population of approximately 7500 and we cover the whole of the Meon Valley.

We are open every Tuesday in the Bishops Waltham Youth Hall from 10-3. Support comes in the form of tins, packets, boxed food, and money. Food donations are kindly given by local churches (we now have 20 churches across the denominations supporting us), shops, charities and people who pop in on a Tuesday. Items needed are posted on our website www.meonvalleyfoodbank.co.uk as are the food drop off points. All those we help come via our referral agencies that can effectively identify those in need of food. Many of our clients are having to choose between eating which, is a basic human need, or paying the bills

Why is this, you may ask?

Sadly the list of reasons does seem to be endless. They may lose their job due to ill health, employer no longer needs them, self-employed waiting for payment, just started a new job or they have an unexpected outlay to make (boiler may need replacing) etc,

Do they not have savings? Is a question often asked.

Most of our clients are on low incomes and do not have the resources to save or have no savings left. In some cases this can lead to debt, compounding their difficulties even more. Money Management Advice from Bishops Waltham Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) or Christians Against Poverty (CAP) is always offered where appropriate.

The Food Bank is run by volunteers, looked after by our Managers Sue and Jane. They are all such a blessing, helping every Tuesday to sort, collect, deliver the food and even with general D.I.Y. jobs. They are always on hand to offer a cup of tea and a chat whilst the clients' food parcel is being prepared. Sometimes being able to chat in a friendly/confidential environment is just as helpful as receiving the food. Prayer is always available when appropriate. If a client is unable to get to us, thankfully the Meon Valley Lions are always on hand to deliver. We are becoming a real social hub and are very happy to serve our local community.

We are always looking for new volunteers to join our friendly team so if you feel this is something you would like to be a part of please do not hesitate to contact us (see our website details below)

We host open evenings for various young groups (brownies, cubs etc) and will be speaking to the Bishops Waltham Women's Institute later this year. We are always happy to share what we do. We now have a website and twitter feed - please see www.meonvalleyfoodbank.co.uk to follow or join

Meanwhile Looking Ahead!

Due to a Planning Application for the Bishops Waltham Youth Hall we have to find either temporary or permanent premises whilst the new Youth Hall is being built. We shall need somewhere from about June next year at the earliest. If anyone can help with this PLEASE contact Sue Pardon on 07956 375447.

Finally, a 'Big Thank You' goes out to all our supporters because without them and God's Grace none of this would be possible.

With Every Blessing,
The Meon Valley Food Bank Team

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

Eric Thomas Alexander Thompson 23rd July 2017 at Soberton

Service of Thanksgiving

Alistair James Blackburn 26th May 2017 at Soberton

Interment of Ashes

Lisa Ann Kwiatkowski 3rd July 2017 at Soberton

Irene Marjorie Joyner 20th July 2017 at Soberton

The Great Get-Together Picnic

The weather was perfect, warm and sunny, for the Great Get-together 'Bring your own Picnic' on the afternoon of Sunday 18th June. The Church Green in Soberton was an ideal venue as there was plenty of room for the children to play and space for us to enjoy our picnics, some in the shade. About 70 people of all ages met up to share the event, the brainchild of Jenny van Schaick and Helen Stranks, which was organised as part of the Great Get-togethers in memory of Jo Cox.



50
YEARS

SOBERTON VILLAGE HALL

Celebration Day

Saturday 16th September 2017

Please come and join us for the
afternoon and evening to Celebrate
the 50th Anniversary of Soberton Village Hall

Please join us to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of Soberton Village Hall. Keep Saturday 16th September free in your diaries as it promises to be a fun-packed day.

The afternoon will start at **2pm** with many of the groups that use the hall giving demonstrations. They will include the Keep-Fit Team, the Pilates Group, Folk Association of South Hampshire and you may have the chance to try your hand at Table Tennis. Children will be able to take part in the outdoor games and there will be the very popular face painting. There will be displays from local artists and an illustrated history of the hall. If you have any photographs of the hall being constructed, please contact us via our email address: sobertonvillagehall@googlemail.com to find out how they may be included in a display of the history of the hall. Refreshments and cakes will be on sale throughout the afternoon and music will be provided by the Meon Valley Orchestra.

From **7pm** the evening entertainment will feature Sing and Tonic (Meon Valley Community Choir), Soberton Strummers and members of Soberton Players. They will perform a mixture of sketches, tunes and songs. The evening will climax with "Disco Steve" playing tracks from the previous 50 years, so don't forget your dancing shoes.

There will be a fully licensed bar in the evening and a Hog Roast. The entertainment is free, but tickets for the Hog Roast are £5.00.

They must be purchased in advance, before 3rd September.

To reserve your tickets either telephone 01489 877256 or email sobertonvillagehall@googlemail.com.

www.sobertonvillagehall.co.uk for the latest information.

50
YEARS

SOBERTON VILLAGE HALL

Celebration Day

Join us for a day of fun
from 2pm on Saturday 16th September

The afternoon will include demonstrations from some of the many groups who use the hall, including:

Soberton Table Tennis Club, Pilates Class,
and The Folk Association of South Hampshire

Displays from many local societies, including the history of SVH

Face Painting and Games for Children

Music will be provided by the Meon Valley Orchestra

Drinks and cakes will be on sale

Evening entertainment with a **hog roast** from 7pm
featuring sketches and music through the decades, from:

The Soberton Players

Sing and Tonic Community Choir

Soberton Strummers

Followed By Dancing To "Disco Steve"

A Fully Licensed Bar will be available

Hog-Roast Tickets **£5.00** each - only available in advance and
must be purchased **before** 3rd September

☎ 01489 877256 or ✉ sobertonvillagehall@googlemail.com

More details at www.sobertonvillagehall.co.uk

Soberton's Old Public Meeting Rooms

Soberton's first 'village hall' was on the bank in the High Street in the former school room. A new school had been built in 1875 in Upper Street, (now School Hill), to accommodate the increase in pupil numbers after the passing of the 1870 Education Act which sought to impose compulsory education. The old school room was redundant. It is believed it was used as a barn for a time but the Rev. Morley had other ideas for it.

This was at a time when the Temperance Movement was very strong and several clergy in the neighbourhood were establishing Reading Rooms or Working Men's Institutes. Places where men could meet as an alternative to the public house, the latter seen as the cause of many evils. It also furthered the Victorian ethos of industriousness and self-improvement.

Rev. Morley had some difficulty in getting the building's lease handed over to the Parish, as a letter in the county records office shows, but evidently a solution was reached and in the spring of 1882 the Coffee and Reading Room was officially opened. It had been estimated that roughly £50 would be needed to the 'putting into order' of the flint building with its thatched roof, plus another £10 would be needed for the soft furnishings and three oil lamps. Money must have been raised because it was reported that a Temperance Meeting held the on the first evening raised fifty-one shillings towards the outstanding debt of 12 guineas.

An insight into its activities can be seen from a report in the Hampshire Chronicle of September 19th 1914, informing readers that the Reading Room would not be re-opened after the summer break unless there was "an unexpected return of Soberton lads from the Front or of Territorial duty for home defence" The report continues "For several years the Reading room was [pioneer] to many surrounding villages with dancing classes, socials, lectures and whist league teams having 2 or 3 cups on view during one season from football and whist. Now there is no football team, scarcely any rifle club team and only 3 available members of last years Reading Room".

Newtown Reading Room and Institute was set up in 1891 for men over seventeen who could afford an annual membership fee of four shillings. It was not exactly going to appeal to the agricultural labourers whose average weekly wage was only thirteen shillings and sixpence . Apart from newspapers and donated books, members were able to play cards and other games. A bagatelle board was bought although the cues were too long for the room and had to be shortened. Was this the point when an additional rule was added to the original thirty-three that "No bad language, indecent talk, rough skylarking of any description is allowed"?

Although additional rooms had been added to the Reading Room and Institute (Hawthorn Cottage), Rookesbury Hall was built just prior to World War One. This had a hall and stage suitable to hold concerts and dances and a separate Billiard Room.

World War Two saw both the Reading Room and Rookesbury Hall used for the war effort. The former held emergency stores and the latter was used by the Home Guard for lectures and drills, both Women's Institutes used the hall for talks and jam making but perhaps more importantly the hall hosted dances, whist drives and concerts.

During the 20th century and prior to the building of Soberton Village Hall fifty years ago there were several other venues for social activities within the village. The Station Hotel had an annexe which could be used for dances, parties and Girl Guides performances. Soberton W.I. sometimes used the barn at Meon Place. Never the less the rather spartan Reading Room on the bank was still used for meetings up until the new hall opened.

LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The Local History Society's next meeting is on Thursday 14th September
at 7.30 in St. Peter's Church Room.

Dr. Lyndon Palmer will be speaking about 'King Canute and the Anglo Saxons'

THE FRIENDS OF ST PETERS SOBERTON presents:

An Evening of Song



A Hampshire Vocal Quintet



7.30 pm on Wednesday 9th August
St Peter's Church, Soberton

*Featuring the music of Byrd, Tallis and
lighter modern repertoire*

Tickets (£10, £8) to include a glass of wine

Available at: 01489 877378

Evening to include a raffle

KEEP FIT CLASSES

Every Wednesday in Soberton Village Hall from 10.00 till 11.00am

Further information from Jo Chapman on 01489 877378

AUGUST 2017

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Friday 4 th | 12.30 | Lunch Club | Church Room |
| Sunday 6th Trinity 8 | 1000 | Joint Service, Children's Week Celebration | St Peter's |
| Wednesday 9 th | 1930 | An Evening of Song | St. Peter's |
| Sunday 13th Trinity 9 | 1000 | Joint Service | Holy Trinity |
| Thursday 17 th | 1730 | MV Garden Club visit | Droxford Square |
| Saturday 19 th | 1000 | MV Flower Club | Hambledon Church |
| Sunday 20th Trinity10 | 1000 | Joint Service | St Peter's |
| Tuesday 22 nd | 1345 | MV Flower Club | Hambledon Hall |
| Sunday 27th Trinity 11 | 1000 | Joint Service | Holy Trinity |

SEPTEMBER 2017

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Sunday 3rd Trinity 12 | 1000 | Joint Service & Rocs | St Peter's |
| Wednesday 6 th | 2000 | Ladies Group | The Bowery |
| Wednesday 6 th | 1930 | MV Garden Club | Droxford Hall |
| Friday 12 th | 1230 | Lunch Club | Church Room |
| Sunday 10th Trinity 13 | 0930 1100 | Parish Communion Matins | Holy Trinity St Peter's |
| Tuesday 12 th | 1930 | MV Play Reading Group | Meon Hall |
| Thursday 14 th | 1930 | Local History Society | Church Room |
| Saturday 16 th | 1400 | Soberton Village Hall Celebration | SVH |

SEPTEMBER (Continued)

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Sunday 17th Trinity 14 | 1000 | Joint Service | Holy Trinity |
| Monday 18th | 1800 | <u>Magazine Copy Date</u> | |
| Monday 18 th | 1900 | RBL | Droxford Hall |
| Tuesday 19 th | 1900 | Water Meadows public meeting | Blakes's Room |
| Thursday 21 st | 1930 | MV Garden Club | Meon Hall |
| Sunday 24th Trinity 15 | 0930 1100 | Parish Communion Parish Communion | Holy Trinity St Peter's |
| Tuesday 26 th | 1345 | MV Flower Club | Hambledon Hall |

OCTOBER 2017

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Sunday 1st Trinity 16 | 1100 | Joint Service – Harvest Festival & Rocs Followed by Harvest Lunch | St Peter's |
| Sunday 1 st | 1430 | FOMS Proms | Meon Hall |
| Wednesday 4 th | 2000 | Ladies Group | West Down Cottage |
| Friday 6 th | 1230 | Lunch Club | Church Room |
| Saturday 7 th | 1930 | Private Henry Tandey VC | SVH |
| Saturday 7 th | 1000 | MV Garden Club Plant Sale | Droxford Hall |
| Saturday 7 th | 1400 | Jumble Sale | Rookesbury |
| Sunday 8th Trinity 17 | 0930 1100 | Parish Communion Matins | Holy Trinity St Peter's |
| Sunday 15th Trinity 18 | 1000 | Joint Service | Holy Trinity |
| Sunday 22nd Trinity 19 | 0930 1100 | Parish Communion Parish Communion | Holy Trinity St Peter's |
| Sunday 29th Trinity 20 | 1000 | Joint Service 5th Sunday Bible Sunday | St Peter's |

Aug-Sept
Update

Newtown & Soberton

30



COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH



NUMBER NEWS

From the verge!

NEWTOWN & SOBERTON CSW has now been fully operational for over a year. Since we began monitoring traffic speed and volume in May last year we have:

Conducted - 101 roadside sessions

Monitored- approximately 3,865 vehicles

Recorded - 689 speeding vehicles* (*35mph+)

Recorded - 57 mph highest speed

In May/June this year the Police sent:

First letters to 50 drivers

Second letters to 4 drivers

AND took "escalated" action in 1 case.

Escalated action can be taken where a driver has exceeded the limit more than twice; a driver's speed has been excessive; a driver's behaviour has given rise for concern.

Data Collection Achieved

Data collection has been vital in proving that we have:

- A consistently high volume of traffic
 - A significant speeding problem
 - A significant number of 40+mph drivers
 - Additional problems caused by road closures
 - Heavier volumes at peak times
 - Speeding is a problem at ALL times
 - Speeders take little account of community facilities (school, village hall etc.)
 - Drivers slow down when they see the CSW team BUT drivers who slow down for us do not always observe the speed limit at other times.
- Speeders include:
- Local residents
 - Road maintenance (Council) employees
 - Employees of businesses based in our villages.

We are pleased to announce that the CSW Team has been able to repay the Parish Council loan that enabled the purchase of our speed monitor and other equipment.

Supported by:
Soberton & Newtown Parish Council
& Hampshire Police

You can make the difference for everyone:

- by not exceeding the 30mph limit
- by using your car's speed limiter (if fitted)
- by setting an example to others by slowing down and driving more carefully

Next Steps:

- Hampshire Police to conduct extended data collection
- Consultation with interested parties about possible Traffic Calming measures
- Review of road changes in neighbouring villages - permanent speed indicators, "persuasive" village signing/gates, chicanes etc. If you have experience of or views on traffic calming methods please get in touch.

Team News - we have 6 new volunteers ready to train and join the team. They will be valued replacements for those who have other commitments or have moved away. We always have room for more!

For more information or to sign up to be part of the team please email your name, address and telephone number to one of our local Community Speedwatch coordinators:

John Haskins:

haskins230@btinternet.com

Rob Brown:

wickhouse5@yahoo.co.uk

Graham Smart:

grahamgs@hotmail.co.uk

**SPREAD THE WORD
SLOW DOWN NOW!**

30

Artwork: Jonty Sherwill

The Story of How One Single Shot Could Have Prevented World War Two!

Private Henry Tandey VC or 'Henry & Hitler', a show written by a local man, is about to start a 12-date tour of the South. The incredible story is of a humble British Private, who was the most decorated soldier in World War One, but is remembered for something he didn't do as opposed to something he did. It is the story of Private Henry Tandey who was awarded the Victoria Cross, the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM), the Military Medal (MM) and several others and was also mentioned in despatches on 5 occasions. He was badly wounded on 3 occasions.

However, Henry's place in history is tarnished by an incident that happened on the 28th September 1918. On that day he had an injured German soldier in his gun sights, but because of his sense of humanity and fair play he didn't pull the trigger. That young German infantryman turned out to be none other than Adolf Hitler! Therefore Henry played an unwelcome part in the course of world history.

The story is told in both words and music and stars local men Ben Bracken as Henry Tandey VC and John Rowlinson as Brigadier Sir John Smyth VC. Three musicians provide the music through voice, violin, guitar and bass.

Local resident Mike Grogan has written the script and the music to commemorate Henry's life and to dramatise the Hitler incident.

The 12-date tour, which starts at **Soberton Village Hall on Saturday 7th October** at 7.30 (01329 834176) and ends on the 11th November at the Shaftesbury Arts Centre, takes in the Ashcroft Arts Centre in Fareham (November 3rd), The Groundlings Theatre in Portsmouth (October 20th), Forest Arts Centre in the New Forest (October 27th), Hanger Farm Southampton (October 28th), Spring Arts & Heritage Centre Havant (November 7th) and several other theatres in the south.

For ticket details and full tour itinerary please refer to www.henrytandey.co.uk or www.mikegrogan.co.uk



MEON VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Autumn Plant Sale

Saturday 7th October

Droxford Village Hall 10.00am

All sorts of plants at very good prices.

See Droxford Village website.

Soberton & Newtown Ladies Group

After much discussion at the AGM it was decided, by a good majority, to change the name of Wives group to Soberton & Newtown Ladies Group.

The Progressive Supper, in June, was a great success and thanks are due to the hosts and those who contributed desserts.

Our visit in July was a guided walk of lesser known areas of Winchester. This was appreciated by all, even those who thought they knew Winchester well!

Our first meeting of the new programme is on 6th September at 8pm and takes place at the Bowery, Station Rd, Soberton, home of Sue Houlding.

Mandy Cleeve will follow her previous entertaining talk about rodent control with a 'Guide to insects in the Home'.

Our group is open to all ladies in the villages and new members are always welcome.

For more information please contact me:

Liz Whales (Secretary) (01489) 877712 lizwhales@aol.com



Meon Valley

The 2017-18 programme begins on Tuesday 5th September and will continue roughly fortnightly (i.e. first and third Tuesdays) until May 2018. Details of the first four meetings are listed below. Members will be sent full details of the programme by e-mail, or by post if no e-mail address, around the beginning August, together with membership renewal/subscription form which should be paid at or before the first meeting. New members are welcome, visitors may attend our meetings, cost £2. As ever, meetings will be held at:

Wickham Centre, Mill Lane; Tuesdays, at 2.00pm

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 5th September | The Great Lakes – Origin and Utility | Dennis Boylan | Local Author |
| 19th September | Costa Rica – Garden of Eden | Alan Martin | Horticulturalist |
| 3rd October | Crossing America by Model T | Peter Yeomans | Traveller |
| 17th October | River Itchen – Source to Sea | Jill Daniels | Local Speaker |

The committee looks forward to seeing members again after the summer break and hopes that the new programme will prove as appealing as last season's was, judging from the high attendance. Over the summer three outings have, or will be taking place: a visit to Whitchurch Silk Mill and the Bombay Sapphire Distillery at Laverstoke; a guided walk around Bishop's Waltham; and a visit to the Houses of Parliament. Also, the other important part of our activities, the Small/Special Interest Groups, have mostly continued to meet through the summer. Most meet monthly in members' homes. Current groups include Geology, Egyptology, Reading, Poetry, Art appreciation, Classical Music appreciation, Bridge, Strolling and World Faiths.

Enquiries to: Betty Hiscock 01489 894807. Website: u3asites.org.uk/meon-valley

Soberton Parish Council

**Public Meeting: 7.00pm to 7.30pm 19th September 2017
in the Blake's Room of Soberton Village Hall**

St Clair's Water Meadows

**Guest Speaker: John Durnell, Estates Director
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (HIWWT)**

The HIWWT are proposing to purchase and manage the St. Clair's Water Meadows from the Clarendon Estate, who placed the land on the open market in the summer of 2016. John Durnell will update the meeting on the progress of the purchase and explain the HIWWT's proposals to manage the water meadows and fishing rights. Funding for this purchase is from a 'landfill tax' grant which will cover about 80% of the purchase cost; the remainder, about sixty thousand pounds is 'match' funding to be raised from the local community.

The Parish Council support the HIWWT in its proposals to purchase and manage the water meadows, as it is felt they will be the best and most responsible owner. The Parish Council has been concerned that a new owner could sub-divide the fields for horses or create a Long Road situation which would destroy the unique landscape character and degrade the wildlife value of the water meadows.

Villagers have enjoyed access to walk through the land, this could be extinguished by a new owner whereas the HIWWT are happy to allow access using the current routes. The fencing has become dilapidated and requires replacing which is something the HIWWT will action. There will be conservation projects where both the South Downs National Park and SoberNewts volunteer working parties can be involved.

The intention of the meeting is for residents of the Parish to listen to and comment on the proposals. I hope you are able to come along.

John Hyland
Chairman Soberton Parish Council

DONATIONS

At the time of writing this article about half of the sixty thousand pounds 'match' has been donated by some generous villagers.

Please help if you can by donating now, for this proposal to come to fruition.

For Information on how to donate follow: <http://www.soberton.org/watermeadows>

For further information contact the Parish Council via Norman@soberton.org.uk
Contact numbers for Parish Councillors are listed at the back of this magazine

Well Done Soberton !

24 June 2017



Each year Soberton mobilizes into action. Houses see their spare rooms, garages and hallways stacked with toys, china and glass, bric a brac and books. Cakes are baked and plants and jewellery painstakingly priced and sorted. The Committee attach posters to anything that does not move, and donated bottles are collected from each house in the village.

On the morning of the Fete, an early morning 'army' of lifters and shifters spring into action moving tables and chairs like a well oiled machine. The stallholders prepare their stalls and skilfully display their goods.

It was fitting that the Fete this year should be opened by the local postie, Martin, who has served many of us so well for years. The village community comes together for the Fete and they have fun, laugh, renew acquaintances and meet new friends. Many a friendship has been forged over a washing up bowl at the teas; selling plants or pulling a rope at the tug of war. Children squeal with excitement at the fun and games and quantities of sweet goodies to eat and win.

Each year we pat ourselves on the back for the money we make. This year we achieved a wonderful £13,500 for the church, and should be rightly proud. But what was achieved with far greater significance was the knowledge that this is a village with heart and community – this is Soberton – well done all of you!

*With thanks from all the Fete Committee - and see
you 30 June 2018!*

Rotary Club of Fareham

There were many surprised and happy faces amongst Rotary Club of Fareham members when their name was called at the annual awards ceremony. Immediate Past President Norman Chapman did the honours and selected those he felt should be recognised for having gone the extra mile this year.

The top awards went to Rotarian George Cantrill who received 'Sapphire Paul Harris Fellow' recognition, along with fellow Rotarians Gerry Ayres and Mike Bazeley who were made 'Paul Harris Fellows'. This special honour acknowledges exceptional service within our Club. The evening continued with Long Service Certificates. Then specific awards went to Keith Miskin, who received the President's Salver for his work as Treasurer of the Club and Pam Marsden was presented with the Jim Burrell trophy. The Mike Swinburne Cup was awarded to Dick Taylor.

Newly installed President Bob Marshall said: "It is also important to acknowledge that all our Rotarians provide excellent service on a continuing basis". Rotary is all about Service Above Self and the Rotary Club of Fareham continues to provide charity and community support in this area and further afield.

The enjoyable evening concluded with a fascinating account of the visit to India of Past President Bob Musselwhite and his wife Sue. They were among an international group of Rotarians who took part in three days administering polio vaccine to all under fives. This major event in India is part of the efforts by Rotary International, supported by the Bill Gates Foundation, to eradicate polio from the entire world. We're nearly there!

Surgery Signposter – coming to a GP surgery near you!

A Surgery Signposter will soon start work at Wickham and Bishops Waltham GP surgeries. His name is Greg, and he will begin working (part-time) at the end of the summer holidays.

The Surgery Signposter's role is to support patients to access the social, emotional and practical support that could help them to live healthier and happier lives.

Patients can contact Greg for a confidential discussion about all sorts of social, emotional or practical problems. For example:

- Information after a medical diagnosis
- Help to manage a long term condition or pain
- Coping with depression, loneliness or anxiety
- Relationship worries
- Parenting challenges
- Money or debt problems
- Housing or benefit worries
- Feeling a bit lost after a change in circumstances

The Surgery Signposter will not provide any medical advice, but is able to spend time really listening to you. He can then help you navigate your way through the maze of services to find the right support for you.

Patients will be able to book an appointment with Greg by contacting the GP surgery receptionists, or by dropping into the surgery.

Surgery Signposting has been provided in Gosport, Havant and Portsmouth for some time. This is the first time that it has been tried in a rural area.

The Surgery Signposter is employed by Action Hampshire (a Winchester based charity) in partnership with West Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group. The service is funded by Winchester City Council until end March 2018.

PiNS Report

With so many new people having moved into the parish in recent years, you may not know the origin or the meaning of PiNS which stands for Pride in Newtown and Soberton.

This group was started by my late husband Eric Masterman in the early 90's as a way to raise residents' awareness of the area that we live in and by means of the now, well known Christmas card in the parish magazine, raise money for various projects in the parish, mainly the repair and maintenance of the iconic cast iron fingerposts but also the purchase of bulbs and benches.

Each year a figure in excess of £500 is raised and this year we have spent £440 on cleaning and repainting several of the Fingerposts that were in the worst state. Also with the aid of Google Earth we have been able to identify the wording on the now missing Fingerpost that was at the bottom of Kiln Hill, opposite Liberty Road. Hopefully, with your support this Christmas we will be able to raise enough money to be able to get a new sign cast and erected on this spot again.

At the risk of wishing the summer away, please look out for the Christmas card notice in October's parish magazine.

Jane Masterman

Good Neighbours Group – Soberton and Newtown

The Good Neighbours group is a voluntary service covering Soberton and Newtown to assist people who live in our villages who need transport to the following:

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Swanmore, Droxford - £3.50; Wickham, Bishops Waltham - £4.50; Denmead - £5.50; Fareham, QA Hospital - £7.00; Fareham Community Hospital - £10.00; St Marys Hospital, Winchester or Southampton Hospital - £13.50. All plus parking costs if charged. For longer appointments we may need to book a second driver to collect you.

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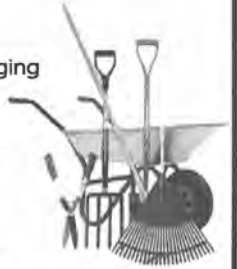
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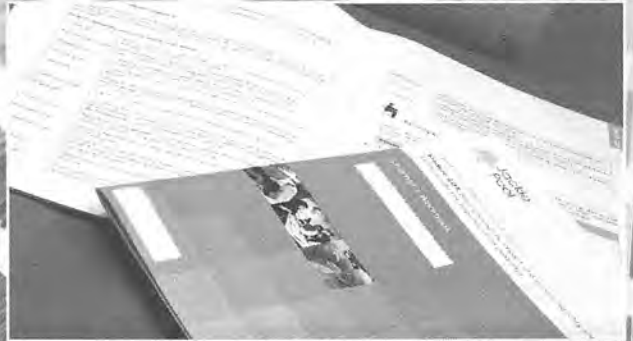
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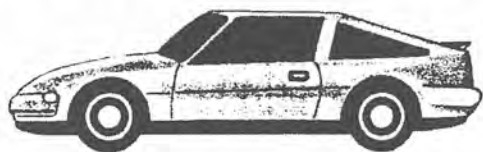
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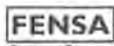


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RBL Droxford & District Branch



75 years ago...



....in August 1942 Operation *Pedestal* was launched to escort a convoy carrying vital supplies to the island of Malta. 14 merchant ships, protected by 4 aircraft carriers, 2 battleships, 7 light cruisers and 32 destroyers, fought their way through a succession of raids by Axis (Italian and German) land-based bombers, submarines and surface forces. Although only 5 merchant ships eventually made it to Malta, *SS Ohio* (seen here entering Grand Harbour, Valetta on 15th August) brought vital supplies of aviation fuel. This enabled a tactical British defeat to be turned to a strategic advantage, enabling Malta to break the Axis blockade and remain a hub for Allied offensive operations in the Mediterranean. The *Pedestal* convoy lost 1 aircraft carrier, 2 cruisers, 1 destroyer, 9 merchant ships and over 500 men. Malta had already been awarded the George Cross (GC) on 15th April for the courage shown by her people.

The anniversary of Operation *Pedestal* is a fitting precursor to **Merchant Navy Day on Sunday 3rd September 2017**, a date that also marks 78 years since the outbreak of the 2nd World War. Although not a 'navy' as such, the enormous contribution and sacrifices made by merchant sailors during the Great War led King George V to declare that this otherwise loose association of British-flagged shipping lines should henceforth be known as the Merchant Navy. Many other nations have since followed suit.

In the first hostile action of the 2nd World War, a German U-boat (U30) torpedoed *SS Athenia* just 9 hours after war was declared with the loss of 128 passengers and crew. Subsequent losses were to total 4,786 ships and some 30,000 lives, compared with 2,479 ships and nearly 15,000 fatalities during 1914-18. Post 1945, the Merchant Navy continues to support the Royal Navy on operations, notably during the Falklands War in 1982 when *MV Atlantic Conveyor* and *RFA Sir Galahad* were sunk, and *RFA Sir Tristram* and *Sir Lancelot* damaged. The latter 3 were Landing Ships Logistics (LSLs) of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary (RFA) - Ministry of Defence owned support vessels manned by Merchant Navy personnel. Of 255 British fatalities in the South Atlantic, 16 were from the Merchant Navy. Although not part of the armed forces, the Royal British Legion also supports Merchant Navy personnel involved in combat operations and they are represented at various festivals of remembrance and on war memorials.

To mark Merchant Navy Day, the Red Ensign will be flown from the tower of St Peter's Church, Soberton and at other locations. The Red Ensign was the senior of 3 ensigns flown by the Royal Navy until 1864; thereafter the 'Red Duster', as it is affectionately known, became the official ensign of all British registered merchant ships and yachts. The White Ensign became exclusive to the Royal Navy and the Royal Yacht Squadron, and the Blue Ensign became the preserve of government owned vessels and certain yacht clubs - usually with an appropriate defacement (badge, crest, etc). An undefaced Blue Ensign can be flown by Retired Royal Navy or Royal Naval Reserve officers in command of merchant vessels.

Our next meeting will now be on Monday 18th September in Droxford Village Hall at 1900 when Superintendent Fiona McCormack of the Metropolitan Police will talk to us on "Homicide, terrorism and hostage negotiation – policing London". Non-members will be very welcome to join us.



The RBL Droxford & District Branch is always looking for new members, both Service and civilian, to help keep remembrance alive and support our Servicemen and women, veterans and their families. For more information or to join us, please contact the Secretary – Cdr Rob Scott RN at robmunroscott@aol.com or 01489 877800. www.soberton.org/rblweb.

Dear Resident

Since writing my previous report to you I have been out and about in the community and met lots of residents at both the Newtown and the Soberton Summer Fetes. I had a great time, so did my family who also came along to support, and we were very impressed by the variety of stalls and activities. Something for everyone of whatever age! I should like to offer my sincere thanks to the organisers of these events, for I know that months and months of hard work and preparation went into their success.



Tough Decisions

Since 2008, when national austerity began, the County Council has had to reduce spending by £340 million but our biggest challenge is yet to come, with a forecast gap in our budget of a further £140 million, by April 2020. Our finances remain under immense pressure as demand continues to grow for County Council services – particularly social care for increasing numbers of older and more vulnerable adults, and vulnerable children. The picture is worsened by the fact that central Government revenue support grant funding to Hampshire will cease altogether in 2019/20. As a result, we will have to make some very tough decisions and are seeking residents' views in order to sustain vital public services for the future.

All Hampshire Residents are urged to complete the Consultation on this matter which runs from midday on 3rd July 2017, and closes at 11.59 pm on 21st August 2017. Please note that responses received after this time will not be included in the findings report.

Paper copies may be requested by emailing insight@hants.gov.uk or calling 0300 555 1375. Calls are charged at the local rate. Please return paper response forms in the Freepost envelope provided. If you do not have a Freepost envelope, please post your response to: **Freepost HAMPSHIRE**. A link to the consultation, which can be completed online, can be found at - <https://www.hants.gov.uk/news/jul03balancingbudget>

Fully Charged

There are now more than two million electric cars in the world, and in May this year a record 4.4% of new cars sold in the UK were hybrid or electric models. Hampshire County Council is driving forward plans to expand the number of electric vehicle charging points across the County, and converting its small vehicle fleet from diesel to electric as part of a £2.7 million investment in energy saving technology.

After saving £29.9 million in energy costs and cutting carbon emissions by 35.8% since 2010, the County Council recently published plans to invest £2.7 million into the next phase of its Energy and Carbon Management Programme which includes:

- Installation of approximately 40 new electric vehicle charging points at sites to be finalised, in addition to the 14 already owned by the County Council
- Investigating the feasibility of converting its 156 small vehicle fleet and 23 staff pool cars from diesel to electric on a phased basis
- Replacing up to 75% of existing inefficient light fittings with LED lights in the County Council's corporate buildings

Stubbington Bypass

Plans for the Stubbington Bypass are set to move forward another step as Hampshire County Council has been asked to give the go ahead for work behind the scenes to begin. The proposed Stubbington Bypass comprises of a 3.5 kilometre road to the south of Fareham and the north-west of Stubbington, designed to alleviate local traffic problems and support long-term plans for regeneration and economic development. It will provide a connection from the B3334 Titchfield Road to Gosport Road with additional improvements to the existing sections at Titchfield Road at its northern end and Gosport Road at the southern end of the alignment.

Help for Young People - Traineeships

Do you know a young person who lacks confidence and skills, is not yet ready to do an apprenticeship, but does want to get on the career ladder? Traineeships are supportive programmes that provide training in core skills such as maths and English, together with an extended period of well-planned work experience, and support with career-building skills, such as CV-writing and interview techniques. Traineeships often lead directly to apprenticeships.

Hampshire County Council offers traineeships in many of its services, led by highly-skilled tutors in a supportive environment. A traineeship is also a great option for someone who has dropped out of sixth form or college, and is unsure where to turn next.

Many of Hampshire County Council's trainees go on to get an apprenticeship or a full-time job at the County Council. Find out more about traineeships by visiting <https://www.hants.gov.uk/traineeshipplus>

Obesity

Almost 7 in 10 of Hampshire adults are overweight or obese and the cost to the NHS in Hampshire in managing diseases related to obesity is estimated at almost £340 million per year! The County Council has commissioned a new self-referral service for people aged 18 years and over. If you are a resident in the administrative county of Hampshire, or are registered with a Hampshire GP and have a Body Mass Index [BMI] of 30+, or don't know what your BMI is but think you might qualify for this **free service**, call 0345 602 7068. People who qualify will be offered a free tailored service and will aim to lose not less than 5% of their body weight.

Shingles Vaccination for Older People

Public Health at HCC are reminding residents of the shingles vaccination for older people. Who's eligible? Residents who are aged 70 years, plus anyone in their 70s who was born after 1 September 1942 and has not yet had the vaccine. Protect yourself from the pain of shingles – speak to your GP surgery about having your vaccine today!

Dementia - Tracker

A personal safety device with a GPS tracker is being offered to people with a diagnosis of dementia who are in the middle stages of living with the condition, but who still want to remain living independently in their own homes. The device, an Oysta Pearl, helps family or loved ones locate a person quickly, if they are prone to wandering or getting lost while out and about. The scheme is being led by Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Constabulary and the PA Consulting Group-led Argenti Care Technology Partnership.

Every year, Police Officers are asked to search for approximately 120 of Hampshire's most vulnerable adults who are reported missing. Many are elderly, living with some form of dementia, and get lost unintentionally. The tracker device is linked to the internet, which enables a person's movements to be tracked. An alert can also be set to trigger an alarm if the person leaves their pre-set 'safe zone'.

The scheme is available to people living in the Hampshire County Council area who are at risk of going missing as a result of living with dementia or other memory loss illnesses. It was launched widely in January 2016, following a successful pilot scheme.

For further information about equipment, adaptations and Telecare, telephone 0300 555 1386 or visit the website – <https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/adultsocialcare/equipment>

Grants

A reminder that I have a budget which I can allocate to help community projects in Soberton and Newtown. Any organisation can apply, but it must have a Treasurer and a Constitution/Terms of Reference. To find out more visit <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/grants/county-councillor-grants.htm>. If you think your organisation would benefit, please contact me and discuss before submitting your online application.

Patricia Stallard
Hampshire County Councillor
Winchester Southern Parishes
pgstallard@aol.com 02392 251484

Winchester City Councillors' Summer Report

Rural affordable housing

Winchester City Council has announced plans to increase the number of affordable homes available in rural areas. Finding affordable accommodation in rural areas is particularly challenging but as a partner in the Housing Alliance for Rural Affordable Housing (HARAH) the Council is committed to providing new affordable housing. 152 new homes in the District has been completed since 2005 with a further 55 new homes are scheduled in 2017/18. In addition we have our own rural homes programme which has already completed 9 family houses on sites in the Itchen Valley, Swanmore and Otterbourne. A further 18 new homes will be completed over the next 12 - 18 months at Knowle and Alresford." As part of the Major Development Area at Whiteley the Council has negotiated the provision of both new homes on site and £17.5M of contributions to fund off-site provision. This funding will help the development of over 500 new homes in the District.

Tenants' Customer satisfaction with Winchester City Council has increased, with 91% of tenants surveyed saying they are happy with the service they receive (compared to 89% when the survey was completed 2 years ago).

Winchester City Council has achieved 100% success rate in fly tip prosecutions

The Neighbour Services team, at the City Council work in partnership with Hampshire County Council and other authorities to deter fly tipping. The increase in prosecutions is part of a countywide fly tip strategy, which both encourages the deployment of enforcement groups and works with local magistrates to encourage greater use of the maximum available penalties. To date, those found guilty of the anti-social offence have been ordered to pay a total of £26,606.84 in fines and costs. In one case, a 12 month custodial sentence was imposed as a result of the partnership working across local authorities and gathering of evidence. The Council has made a commitment to supporting the robust processes in place to tackle environmental crime by hiring a neighbourhood Services Enforcement Officer – a role that actively pursues fly tip perpetrators. Our record for success in prosecutions of this nature is impressive and is the direct result of the hard work and collaborative effort of our own staff, and our partners. Those who continue to engage in this anti-social activity can be assured that

Winchester City Council will seek the harshest penalties from the Courts. Residents of the district can help the City Council maintain the high success rate in fly-tip prosecution by following this advice:

- Do not remove anything - all evidence is vital to identify perpetrators.
- Report it on-line or via the telephone system.
- Make a note of the logging number if you wish to check what progress is being made.
- Wait for the Council to remove the fly-tip material – allow at least 24 hours for the area to be visited and a further 48 hours for removal (once a yellow W has been put on the waste and subject to case load). Please note that if an initial inspection of the fly-tip reveals a hazardous substance, such as asbestos – removal may be delayed whilst specialist contractors are engaged.

For fly-tipping on private land, the Council will offer a visit to the site and if evidence is collected, will pursue for prosecution as appropriate, however site clearance costs will be the responsibility of the landowner.

Neighbourhood Service Officers can also offer advice about remedial action in order to reduce the risks of fly tip.

For more information and advice on Fly Tipping, visit the City Council website:

<http://www.winchester.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/flytipping/>

Report Fly Tipping on line <http://www.winchester.gov.uk/report>

Central Winchester Regeneration

At the time of writing this article the meeting on the 4th July has not happened but this will be an opportunity to hear feedback from the consultation sessions for central Winchester. An overarching vision, created by balancing the varied requirements of the community has been developed by Master Planners, JTP, following extensive engagement that has been happening over the last few months. This will feed into a Supplementary Planning Document for the area. Over 1,500 local

people and businesses got involved and helped to shape the vision for Central Winchester Regeneration Area earlier this year. The rolling programme began with a 'Starting Again' event on 10 March, followed by road-shows across the District community, including events in Alresford and Bishop's Waltham. The Community Planning weekend, held in the Guildhall on 24 and 25 March saw 700 people attend while street surveys were used to reach those aged between 25 and 50, and over 150 students from local schools, colleges and universities were also involved and shared their views. The business and creative communities were engaged through BID, Chamber of Commerce and an Enterprising and Creative Economy Workshop.

The Central Winchester Regeneration project is all about creating a city centre, which delivers for residents, business, the local economy and visitors.

The whole approach of this project has been inclusive and collaborative, with many local people being involved in shaping the vision, which JTP will present to on 4 July.

Bus Station Winchester

The bus station will undergo a series of modernisations that will see a dilapidated building removed and safety improvements introduced. Planning permission has been granted to for the demolition of the former bus maintenance workshop building within the bus station and the reconfiguration of the bus bays. The area is also set to benefit from the decision to allow the 'meanwhile use' of existing frontages that could see pop up shops, start up businesses and creative hubs benefit from the high footfall around the station. The works to the bus station enable safer bus movement. During this phase of work there will be some temporary changes to use of on street parking in The Broadway to cater for displaced buses. When the bus station reopens post the modernization, buses will no longer use the High Street but travel through the bus station in a northerly direction along Friarsgate and/or Tanner St and Silver Hill and use the bus stops behind Marks & Spencer.

Traveller Plan for Consultation

Winchester City Council Cabinet has published a draft plan which addresses the needs of Gypsies and Travellers. The plan opened for consultation on Monday 10 July and has been developed in accordance with Central Government guidance to Local Authorities. The consultation will close on 4 September, after which the Council will assess any responses received before amending the draft plan and submitting to the Planning Inspectorate for examination during 2018. The draft plan adopts a proactive approach, proposing that existing sites are retained, where appropriate those with a temporary planning permission are granted a permanent consent - and for the more complex sites bespoke policies are proposed to ensure that necessary requirements are met. Identifying sites across the Winchester District, the plan outlines the provision for the identified need of 15 Gypsy and Traveller pitches and 24 Travelling Showpersons' plots. This approach will give the Council stronger control over traveller development on sites which are not proposed to be allocated in the plan.

All documents including the online consultation form, can be viewed at <http://www.winchester.gov.uk/planning-policy/gypsy-and-traveller-development-plan/>

Your Winchester City Councillors

Linda Gemmell e-mail: lgemmell@winchester.gov.uk

Frank R. Pearson e-mail: fpearson@winchester.gov.uk

Vicki Weston e-mail: vweston@winchester.gov.uk

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Just a fun evening, reading a different play at each meeting.

A charge of £3 pays for rent, coffee, etc.

We meet on 2nd Tuesday each month at 7.30pm in the Meon Hall

No meeting in August and the **September date will be 12th.**

More details? 'Phone Paul or Gerry Hayles – 01489 878489



Your **Village Agent** for Soberton & Newtown is **David**

Village Agents are volunteers supported by Age Concern Hampshire to help older people to find information and services in their local community such as getting out and about; help around the home and on money matters.

There is a range of benefits and entitlements that carers may be able to apply for, such as Carer's Allowance and Carer's Credit.

Carer's Allowance

This benefit is for anyone who spends the majority of the week caring for a friend or relative who is ill or disabled, subject to various criteria:

- You need to be 16+ and living in Great Britain
- You are not in full-time education and are caring for the individual a minimum of 35 hours per week
- Earning less than £116 per week
- Caring for someone who receives the higher or middle rate care component of Disability Living Allowance (DLA), either rate of Personal Independence Payment (PIP) daily living component or any rate of Attendance Allowance (AA)

Did you know?

- It is £62.70 per week and is not-contributory but is still taxable
- You need to apply for Carer's Allowance by filling in a D5700 form. Contact the Carer's Unit on 0345 608 4321 for a form. For full details see www.gov.uk/carers-allowance/overview

Carer's Credit

This is a credit applied to your National Insurance record if you are under State Pension age and caring for someone else for at least 20 hours. If you are unable to work and make NI payments, this credit helps build your entitlement to the basic pension by making sure there are no gaps in your NI record, subject to various criteria:

- Aged 16+ or under State Pension age
- Looking after one or more people for at least 20 hours a week
- Caring for someone who received Disability Living Allowance (DLA) care component at the middle or highest rate, Personal Independence Payment (PIP) – daily living component, at the standard or enhanced rate, Attendance Allowance (AA) or Constant Attendance Allowance (CAA)

Did you know?

- You can still get Carer's Credit if you have breaks from caring (up to 12 weeks in a row), for example, if you take a short holiday or someone you look after goes into hospital
- You don't need to apply for Carer's Credit if you get Carer's Allowance – you'll automatically get credits
- You need to apply by contacting the Carer's Allowance Unit on 0845 608 4321

Further Information

If you would like to find out more benefits and allowances that you may be entitled to, call Age Concern Hampshire's Information and Advice line free on 0800 328 7154. You can also contact the Citizens Advice Bureau for a full assessment of benefit entitlement: 03444 111 306. Please also see www.gov.uk/browse/benefits/disability If you would like to receive information regarding a **Carer's Assessment**, please call Age Concern Hampshire's free advice line on **0800 328 7154**.

Your Village Agent David can also point you in the right direction to local services and organisations that may be able to help with other needs, such as help in the home, gardening services, finding a local activity club or group, and a wider range of other topics. Give him a call today to find out how they can help you on **(01329) 835122**

JUMBLE SALE

At
ROOKESBURY HALL

SATURDAY, 7TH OCTOBER 2017
AT 2.00 PM

Entrance: 25p

Donations will be greatly appreciated and can be brought to the Hall on Friday morning, 6th October or on the morning of the sale.

Further information or enquiries to Jenny Thomson on 01329 835275 or Sue Miles 01329 832157.

Meon Valley Flower Club Meetings.

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday August 22nd** -a demonstration by Jilly Griffin titled " Off The Wall "

On **September 26th** there will be a talk by Niki Roberts titled " Running a Cut Flower Business. "Also at this meeting we will have Carole Norman who is our Area Trading Officer for Wessex & Jersey area of NAFAS. Carole will be bringing all her NAFAS sales produce to sell.

These meetings will take place in Hambledon Village Hall 1.45pm for 2.00pm. Plenty of parking.

Visitors very welcome. Sales Table of floral sundries. Refreshments.

SAVE THE DATE " ALL FLOWER AND NON- FLOWER ARRANGERS."

Saturday August 19th 2017 in St Peter's and Saint Paul's Church in Hambledon

A demonstration " How to Create an Altar Pedestal Arrangement " by Lettice Palmer.

Lettice has been involved with many Flower Festivals including 'A Symphony Of Flowers' in Winchester Cathedral and in local churches. This demonstration would be invaluable to all church flower arrangers who lack the confidence on to arrange an altar pedestal.

The Demonstration will take place 10am for 10.30am until 12.30pm.Refreshments will be available. We would be grateful for a donation towards this event. Please tell your friends to come along.

For further info: please contact Alison Bartlett [alisonbartlett48@btinternet.com]



Family Friendly FOMS Proms

comes to Meonstoke this October!

The school year may be drawing to a close, but the Friends of Meonstoke School (FOMS) Committee and the Meon Valley Orchestra are already looking ahead to the new school year. FOMS are excited to announce a brand-new fundraising event –
the “FOMS Proms” from 2.30pm – 5pm on Sunday 1st October at the Meon Hall.

The Orchestra, which rehearses at Soberton Villiage Hall on Thursday mornings, is under Musical Director Lorraine Masson and leader Bryan Lant. It attracts players from a wide geographical area and performs at village and church events in the Meon Valley. It has given a number of public concerts in Fareham as well as providing the festive background to the annual FOMS Christmas Fair. The orchestra currently has 42 members but would welcome new players, particularly upper strings and oboe.

So, forget the Albert Hall – this year a family-friendly ‘Last Night of the Proms’ is being brought to Meonstoke! The Programme, specifically planned with the audience age in mind, will include some favourite film scores as well as the Proms favourites: Rule Britannia, Jerusalem, The National Anthem and Auld Lang Syne and there will be plenty of opportunity for flag-waving too!

Tickets are £5 each, available from the School Office (term time) and Meonstoke Village Shop.

For more information about the Meon Valley Orchestra contact Annabel Armstrong, Orchestra Administrator: Tel: 01489 877130 e-mail: annabelarmstrong@btinternet.com

Meon Valley Garden Club

Summer is well and truly here as I write this. This was not so on the annual coach trip in June to Arundel Castle and Gardens. As members waited for the coach it rained, the coach was late, they got wet!

When they arrived in Arundel they breathed a sigh of relief as the rain stopped; it was all up from there. The Castle was impressive, the gardens were stunning and inspirational, the chapel was delightful with its own white garden and finally the food in the restaurant was delicious. If you have not been it is well and truly worth a visit.

We also had a talk in June from John Colley on Heavenly Hostas, a man who is passionate about this plant. He has a small but packed garden with hundreds of Hostas. He gave us many tips on how to rid your garden of slugs and snails, which love to feed on these plants including using garlic juice, diluted ammonia and feeding them with Epsom salts.

Our Autumn plant sale is in October which seems a long way away but it will not be long before plants are split and cuttings are taken. If you can spare some extras please bring them along on Saturday 7th, all contributions will be welcomed.

If you would wish to join the club, please contact our Membership secretary Phil Butler on 01489 877596 or philipbutler831@btinternet.com

Caroline Harris, Secretary

More information on Droxford Village web site

Diary for August/September

Thursday 17th August Visit to Hambledon House Meet Droxford Square at 5.30pm

Wednesday 6th September Hampshire Garden Trust –What we do and why we do it.
Droxford Hall 7.30pm

Thursday 21th September White Gardens Throughout the Year – Chris Bird of Sparsholt
Meon Hall 7.30pm



Advance Planner 2017

October

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 4 th | Ladies Group | West Down Cottage |
| 7 th | Private Henry Tandey VC | SVH |
| 7 th | MV Garden Club Plant Sale | Droxford Hall |
| 7 th | Jumble Sale | Rookesbury |
| 19 th | Film Club | Church Room |

November

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------|----------|
| 1 st | Ladies Group | Downland |
| 20 th | Magazine Copy Date | |

December

| | | |
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| 6 th | Ladies Group | Church Room |
| 13 th | Film Club | Church Room |

January (2018)

| | | |
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| 15 th | Magazine Copy Date | |
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March

| | | |
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| 9 th | Magazine Copy Date | |
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May

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| 21 st | Magazine Copy Date | |
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Photo by Georgina Erskine

Meon Valley Community Bus Association

Mondays to FAREHAM

0920 West Meon, Long Priors
0923 West Meon, Thomas Lord PH
0924 West Meon, Doctor's Lane
0928 West Meon, Meonwara
0933 Warnford Village Hall
0940 Meonstoke PO & Stores
0942 Meonstoke, Pound Cottages
0945 Meonstoke Triangle
0950 Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE)
0954 Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH
0957 Soberton Village Hall (PARK & RIDE)
1001 Webbs Green, War Memorial
1005 Soberton Heath, Chapel Road pond
1007 Soberton Heath, Bold Forester PH
1009 Sob' Heath, Liberty Rd / Heath Rd post box
1025 Fareham Library
1030 Sainsbury's, Fareham

Return:

1230 Sainsbury's, Fareham
1235 Fareham Library

Wednesdays to FAREHAM

0940 Meonstoke PO & Stores
0942 Meonstoke, Pound Cottages
0945 Meonstoke Triangle
0950 Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE)
0954 Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH
0957 Soberton Village Hall (PARK & RIDE)
1001 Webbs Green, War Memorial
1005 Soberton Heath, Chapel Road pond
1007 Soberton Heath, Bold Forester PH
1009 Sob' Heath, Liberty Rd / Heath Rd post box
1025 Fareham Library
1030 Sainsbury's, Fareham

Return:

1230 Sainsbury's, Fareham
1235 Fareham Library

Thursday to FAREHAM

0920 West Meon, Long Priors
0923 West Meon, Thomas Lord PH
0924 West Meon, Doctor's Lane
0928 West Meon, Meonwara
0933 Warnford Village Hall
0937 Exton, The Shoe PH
0940 Meonstoke PO & Stores
0942 Meonstoke, Pound Cottages
0945 Meonstoke, Oxendown
0949 Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH
0952 Soberton Village Hall (PARK & RIDE)
0956 Webbs Green, War Memorial
1001 Newtown, Liberty Road
1004 Newtown, Rookesbury Hall (PARK & RIDE)
1008 Hundred Acres
1025 Fareham Library
1030 Sainsbury's, Fareham

Return:

1230 Sainsbury's, Fareham
1235 Fareham Library

1st & 3rd Friday each Month to WINCHESTER

0900 Soberton Village Hall (PARK and RIDE)

0903 Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH
0907 Droxford Square (PARK and RIDE)
0912 Meonstoke Triangle
0914 Meonstoke Pound Cottages
0917 Meonstoke PO & Stores
0919 Exton The Shoe PH
0923 Warnford Village Hall
0928 West Meon, Long Priors
0931 West Meon, Thomas Lord PH
0933 West Meon, Doctor's Lane
0936 West Meon, Meonwara
0955 Winchester Broadway
1000 River Park Leisure Centre

Return:

1155 River Park Leisure Centre
1200 Winchester Broadway

2nd Friday each Month to WATERLOOVILLE

0920 West Meon, Long Priors
0923 West Meon, Thomas Lord PH
0924 West Meon, Doctor's Lane
0928 West Meon, Meonwara
0933 Warnford Village Hall
0937 Exton, The Shoe PH
0940 Meonstoke PO & Stores
0942 Meonstoke, Pound Cottages
0945 Meonstoke Triangle
0950 Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE)
0954 Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH
0957 Soberton Village Hall (PARK & RIDE)
1001 Webbs Green, War Memorial
1006 Newtown, Liberty Road
1009 Newtown, Rookesbury Hall (PARK & RIDE)
1025 Waterloooville Waitrose
1030 Waterloooville Sainsbury's

Return:

1230 Waterloooville Sainsbury's
1235 Waterloooville Waitrose

4th Friday each Month to PETERSFIELD

0900 Soberton Village Hall (PARK and RIDE)
0903 Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH
0907 Droxford Square (PARK and RIDE)
0912 Meonstoke Triangle
0914 Meonstoke Pound Cottages
0917 Meonstoke PO & Stores
0921 Exton The Shoe PH
0925 Warnford Village Hall
0945 Petersfield Waitrose

Return:

1200 Petersfield Waitrose

NOTES:

1. The bus does not run on Christmas Eve, New Years Eve or Bank Holidays.
2. Fares to all destinations are £5 adult return / £2.50 adult single. Concessionary passes accepted. Children under 16 pay half fare and under 5s free.
3. Request halt operates at Station Road lay-by between Brockbridge, The Hurdles PH and Soberton Village Hall.
4. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 1128 the bus will take passengers at Sainsbury's to Fareham Library and at 1132 from Fareham Library to Sainsbury's.
5. Timings for all trips are strict and the bus will not wait after scheduled time.
6. For the return journey, priority will be given to returning passengers over "one way only" passengers.

Local Information

| | | |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| POLICE | EMERGENCY | 999 |
| | Non-emergency | 101 |
| Beat Surgeries | Rookesbury Hall | Alternate Fridays 10:00 to 12:00 |
| DOCTORS' SURGERIES | Droxford | 01489 877588 |
| | Wickham | 01329 833121 |
| | Denmead | 02392 239630 |
| Good Neighbours Group Co-ordinators | Mrs Sue. Mussellwhite | 01489 877282 |
| | M/s Philomena Bergin | 02392 632551 |
| Baby Clinics | Wickham Comm.Centre | 1st Wed 2.00-3.00 |
| | Waltham Chase Village Hall | 4th Wed 10.-11.30 |
| N.H.S. Direct | | 111 |
| Social Services Direct | | 0845 600 4555 |
| Hants Carers | | 08457 221122 |
| Helpline | | |
| Soberton Hall Booking | Mrs.Rosemary Taylor | 01489 877256 |
| <i>sobertonvillagehall@googlemail.com</i> | | |
| Rookesbury Hall Booking | Mrs. Jenny Doney | 01329 834392 |
| <i>Bookings@rookesburyhall.co.uk</i> | | |
| Guide Hut Booking | Mrs. C. Rogers | 01489 877430 |
| CHURCHES | | |
| Church Wardens (N) | Mr. Fra Wells | 01329 834130 |
| | Mr.Barry Rowswell | 01329 834671 |
| Church Wardens (S) | Mrs. Louise McEwen | 01489 877448 |
| | Prof. Duncan Colin-Jones | 01489 877237 |
| PCC Minutes Secretary(N) | | |
| PCC Secretary(S) | Mr Norman Chapman | 01489 877378 |
| Capt. Of Bells(S) | Mr.Noel Evans | 01489 877271 |
| Churchyard Keeper (Sob) | Mr John Lester | 01489 878557 |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| District Councillors(N) | Mr.Frank Pearson | 01489 892822 |
| | Ms.Vicki Weston | 01329 835 161 |
| District Councillor(S) | Ms Linda Gemmell | 01489 895023 |
| County Councillor | Mrs Patricia Stallard | 02392 251484 |
| Brownie & Guide Leader | Mrs. Caroline Rogers | 01489 877430 |
| CAB | | 01489 896376 |
| Village Agent Age Concern | Mr. David Smith Head Office | 01329 835122 0800 328 7154 |
| Film Club | Dr Lyndon Palmer | 01489 877174 |
| Local History Chairman | Prof. Duncan Colin-Jones | 01489 877237 |
| Soberton Football | Mr. Keith Moran | 01329 834 897 |
| Soberton Players | Mrs. Susan Hyland | 01489 878724 |
| Soberton Hall Secretary | Mrs Jane Salmon | 01489 878659 |
| Table Tennis Club | Mr Pete Woodacre | 01489 877768 |
| | Mr Adrian Hunt | 01489 878141 |
| Ladies Group | Mrs. Liz Whales | 01489 877712 |
| Meon Valley Lions Club | Mr Ian Adams | 0845 833 7812 |
| SOBERTON PARISH COUNCIL <i>www.soberton.org</i> | | |
| Chairman | Vice- John Hyland | 01489 878724 |
| Chairman | Vicki Weston | 01329 835161 |
| Finance | Tim Pickford | 01489 877602 |
| Planning | Tim Pickford | 01489 877602 |
| Open Spaces | Debbie Thomas | 01329 832502 |
| | Barry Henderson | 01329 832043 |
| Roads & Footpath & Transport | David Salmon | 01489 878659 |
| | Robert Stranks | 01489 878270 |
| Grant Applications | Graham Smart | 01329 609742 |
| Flood Action Group | Graham Smart (N) Robert Stranks (S) | 01239 609742 01489 878270 |
| Signposts and Wayfinding | Jane Masterman | 01489 878580 |
| Clerk & Proper Officer | Norman Chapman | 01489 877378 |

Please e-mail copy for the Magazine to
Penny Rowlinson [john.rowlinson@theyoustrust.org.uk]
For copy date, see Calendar pages

From the Archives.....



Above - Soberton Village Hall shortly after being built in 1967. Note the farm buildings, now demolished, to the right of the hall.

In April 1965 an Open Meeting was held in the Village Reading Room in the High Street in order 'to investigate the possibility of erecting a new Village Hall'. A fund-raising committee was formed with Captain Tony Evans as its Chairman. As plans progressed other Committees (Building, Management etc) were formed. The purchase of a site beside the Big Tree was negotiated with the County Council, who also agreed to buy the Reading Room for £3,000 and a grant (50% of the whole scheme) was made by the Dept. of Education and Science.

During 1966 various alternative designs ranging between pre-fabricated and a brick building were considered. Finally a contract for a brick Hall was placed with Messrs. Tuttiett who tendered a price of £8,795! The Hall was completed in 1967.

This is just a small taster of the Village Hall history - lots more will be on display at the 50th Anniversary Celebration at the Hall on Saturday 16th September. Details inside the Magazine!

Below - Commemorative stone situated in the wall near the main door of the Hall.

