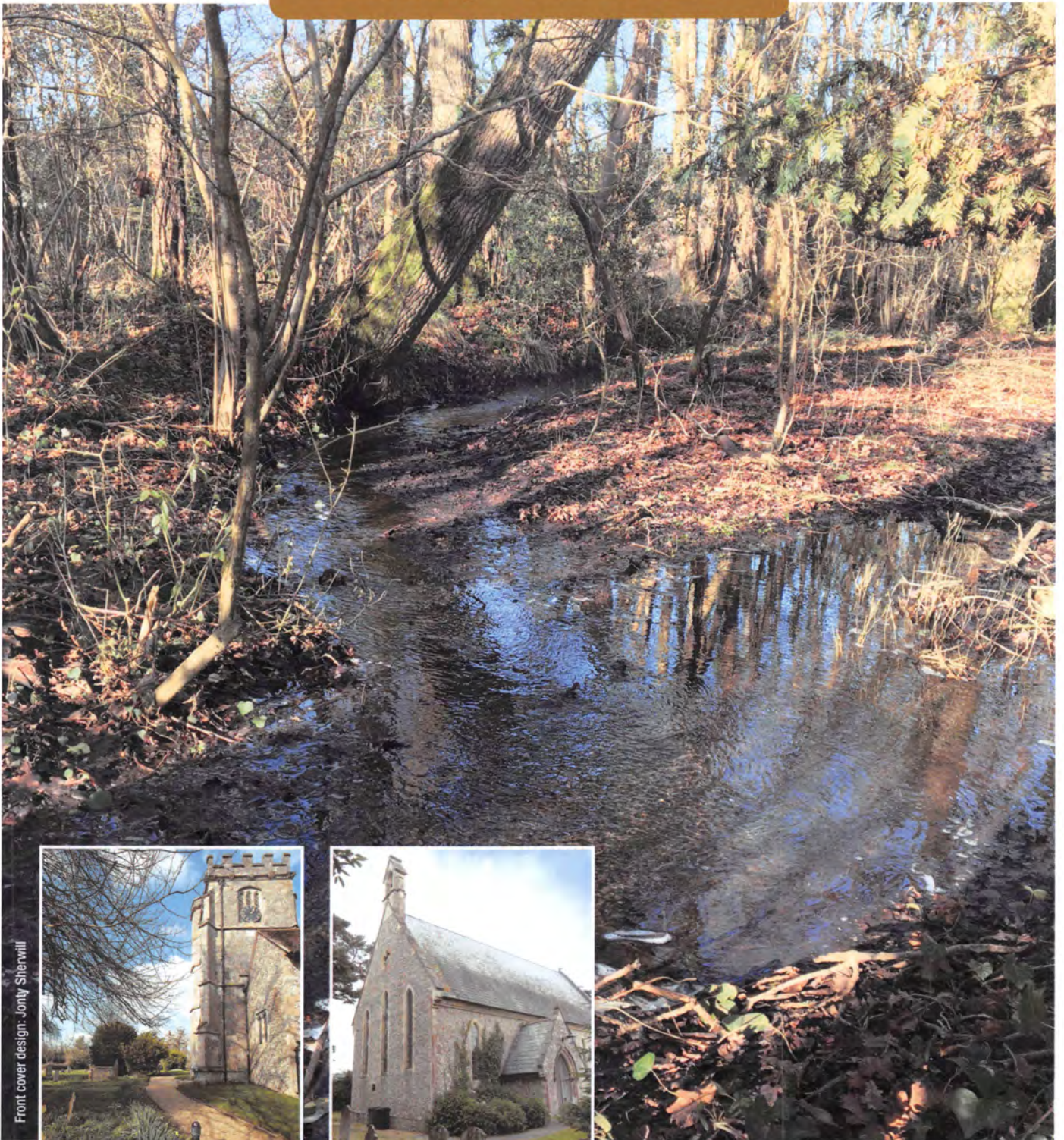


Soberton & Newtown

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

February - March 2021



A tributary of the River Wallington at Hoe Gate
Photo by Vicki Weston

www.sobertonchurch.org.uk www.newtownchurch.org.uk

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

CHURCH SERVICES - suspended

For any enquiries, please contact either

Vicar of Soberton, Newtown and Hambledon

The Reverend David Morgan. The Vicarage, Church Lane, Hambledon. 023 9263 2921.

Email: snhvicar@gmail.com

Licensed Lay Minister (Reader)

Norman Chapman, Meadow Cottage, West Street, Soberton 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 are 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

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Typesetting of advertisements and printing: Solent Design Studio

Front cover design: Jonty Sherwill - www.sherwilldesign.com - 01329 835555

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Editor's note

April / May – bumper edition!

Thanks to everyone who regularly sends in articles for the magazine.

With the lack of events happening due to COVID, there has been some great reading!

Let's make the next edition a 'bumper' edition! Please share any ideas and articles with me – always receptive to a good story and / or new ideas!

Please e-mail copy for the magazine to gill.highcroft@btinternet.com

NEXT COPY DATE - 15th MARCH 2021

Foreword ... The Revd Canon David Isaac

Parish newsletters at this time of year often direct our attention to new beginnings. Even in chilly days, the approach of Spring is already detectable: bulbs risking their shoots above ground, birds being more active, even squirrels overcoming reluctance to get out a bit more. This year, for all of us, new beginnings will even be more welcome than ever.

Few of us could have predicted the year that we've experienced: from surprise and confusion, through anxiety and restraint, living with restrictions and codes of conduct, to the hope of a framework in which to contain the impact of Covid-19. We've learnt a lot of things along the way: about what creates and fractures community; about our reliance on the dedication and sacrifice of those who care for our needs; and about ourselves. By the time you read this we may be moving robustly and gratefully into the delivery of vaccinations. Not the beginning of the end, but still a really important step towards increasing our ability to live a different life.

It's been said that 'the things that don't destroy us, make us stronger'. When we are able to live differently, leaving aside, at least for now, the necessary restrictions on our lives, it would be good to take forward with us the ways in which we think we have become stronger, in ourselves and as communities. What have we learnt, or re-learnt, about the things most important in our lives? What have we found we can do without and leave behind? How do we want to be different?

Parish newsletters at this time of the year often direct our attention, in the church community, to the impending approach of Lent and Easter, which have always been about new beginnings, being and doing differently, leaving bits of us behind and moving on. Who knows? By the time we get to Easter this year, we may even be able to let our hair down in celebration – though by then, without hairdressers, some of us may have quite a lot of it!

As we look to the future, I am very happy to be able to reassure those of you who have asked about Fr. David that he continues to make progress in his recovery. His medical advisers are carefully managing his return to full health and it is his earnest hope to be fully back with you as soon as possible. Both David and Vickie are very appreciative of your understanding in allowing him space and time to recover and I continue to assure them of your prayers and affection. I am grateful too for all the support you are offering to your churchwardens as they manage and steer the parishes through these demanding days of lockdown.

With all good wishes

David

***The Revd Canon David Isaac
Bishops Waltham Area Dean***

Eve Ludbrook – 1924 - 2021

Eve's family would like us all to know that Eve died peacefully on Friday 15th January at Mary Rose Manor Nursing Home in Portsmouth. There will be a private cremation for close members of the family only.

When circumstances allow Eve's family will hold a memorial service where her long and full life, devoted to serving the local community, will be celebrated.



Newtown Church Fete 2021



Realistically, we probably won't be able to host our traditional garden fete again this year on the last Saturday in May as we usually do, but dependent on the guidance at the time, we will try and hold a community event of some kind, so please keep Saturday May 29th, 2021 in your diary.

If you would like to be involved with the planning of this event, we'd love you to join us for a Zoom meeting on Monday February 8th at 7.30pm.

Please drop me an email at johnbarfoot1962@gmail.com if you like to join us and I'll send you a Zoom link.

Stay safe and well and let's look forward to getting together as soon as we can.



PiNS Report

Thank-you to everyone who contributed to the PiNS Christmas Card this year. We have exceeded all expectations and raised £869 with 50 families contributing. As always, this money will be spent on various projects in Newtown and Soberton.

Unfortunately, Liz and Gus Lewis missed the deadline for the tree but have now contributed and wish all their friends a very Happy New Year.

The volunteer bulb planting working party got together again in late October to plant another 100 Daffodil bulbs at two sites, but mainly at the Soberton War Memorial. We will repeat the exercise again next year, probably to include the Lych Gate War Memorial in Newtown.

This year we have been asked again to provide "dog poo bins". I realise that the request comes from residents who have provided a bin of their

own and are obviously happy to empty and clean it. If we can find other generous people, perhaps we could set this up. Volunteers are welcome.

The request for the village halls to share equipment, I think is best dealt with between the two hall management committees so I'll pass the request on to them.

Another request was for an outdoor, lit up, Christmas tree which is a nice idea if anybody can suggest a suitable site that has an electricity supply, please let me know.

I have in the past spoken to South Downs National Park and Hampshire County Council about nicer signage for the villages which was being considered. Perhaps I should chase this again.

You can always contact me with ideas at any time of year at jane.masterman@icloud.com. Thanks again.

St. Peter's Flower Team

(A message from Pauline Walters)

Following Jennie Blackburn's departure from the village in October last year I have been asked to step into the role of heading up the flower team at St. Peter's.

Jennie, along with husband Richard, moved into the village some twenty years ago and they immediately immersed themselves in village life. As well as running the church flower team Jennie was also a keen member of the choir. Richard sat on the PCC holding the position of Treasurer and was very much involved in raising funds for the new church rooms.

For my part, I lived in Swanmore for almost thirty years and first met Jennie at a Pilates Class in Warnford. We met again when I was asked to do flowers for a wedding at St. Peter's and Jennie's name was given to me as being in charge of the Church flowers.

My husband Robin had a strong affiliation with St. Peter's through family connections and friends in the village and when he died in 2018 he was buried there. I did the flowers for his funeral, along with two friends, and shortly afterwards Jennie invited me to join her team. I moved to Webb's Green in Soberton on the 16th October last year.

Jennie is a hard act to follow so I have asked a close friend, Sandra Glen, to work alongside me. Sandra and I met doing the flowers for Droxford Church and have remained firm friends ever since. We have done numerous weddings and events together over the years and she brings with her tremendous artistic flair. I have also asked Jill Williams to join us, who as a long standing resident and member of the flower team has the experience of working alongside Jennie during her time at the helm.

Now with the focus firmly on our new Parish, Sandra and I have some ideas to help share our love of flower arranging and, when life returns to some sense of normality, we hope to put together some demonstrations and workshops.

Due to Covid I haven't been able to meet as many of the flower team as I would have liked but hopefully that can be rectified once restrictions are lifted. In the meantime if anyone reading this would like to join the flower team at St. Peter's, however lacking in confidence or inexperienced you might feel, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

When I took over from Jennie, I could never have imagined that the future would remain so uncertain for so long. Even as I compose this message for the Parish Magazine I have just been told that the church doors are going to be closed with immediate effect and at least until the middle of February. We do hope we may be able to decorate the church for Easter Worship but that remains to be seen.

In the meantime keep safe and stay well.

For further information contact:
Pauline Walters
Half Acre Cottage, Webb's Green, Soberton,
SO32 3PY
Tel: 02394 006500/Mob: 07939 108664

Avian Influenza (Bird Flu)

Unfortunately, since the 14th December 2020 our feathered friends also had to join us in lockdown. To fight Avian Influenza all Bird keepers whether it be 3 back garden hens/ducks or a commercial flock, are now legally required to take preventative measures and they must be housed indoors or in secure pens with netting/tarpaulin to prevent any wild bird access. Keepers need to adhere to strict bio secure measures of foot baths.

The last Avian flu outbreak measures were kept in place until the spring, so it is important that any confinement issues are addressed, to reduce stress, hanging cabbages is a good boredom buster and deep straw can encourage scratching for insects.

We all need to take this seriously as this is not only a legal requirement but also to keep all our birds safe and prevent any unnecessary culling.

Legally if you own more than 50 birds you have to be registered with defra (this is totally free) and will allow them to update you on the current situation. You can also register even if you only have a couple and defra will update you. 03000 200301

Jackie Povey

Breeder of rare breed poultry

Hurricane Farm

SoberNewts at Soberton Heath Pond

With an end to lockdown now hopefully in sight, the Soberton and Newtown Conservation Group task force – the SoberNewts – is starting to plan some restoration work at the pond.



One of the first tasks will be to shore up the eastern bank of the pond after the damage caused by the removal of hedge plants and the installation of a new boundary fence (without consultation) some time during 2020. This task is becoming urgent as the gravelly spoil piled up along the bank is unstable and prone to further erosion.

As soon as Covid regulations permit, we will be arranging a working party to create a revetment – or retaining structure – made from locally sourced hazel poles, backfilled with soil and plant material for reinforcement.

SoberNewts have been looking after the pond since around 2003 on behalf of the Parish Council which is legally responsible for this piece of registered Common Land.

Since then, SoberNewts have carried out regular clearance of pond weed to keep the pond aerated. Without this, the pond would clog up and eventually disappear over time. We have also trimmed back the surrounding vegetation. Both activities require a careful balance between providing habitat for native species and maintaining a relatively tidy appearance.

For example the nationally scarce Red-tipped Clearwing Moth (left) has been recorded at Soberton Heath Pond. This is a day-flying moth which thrives on willows, sallows and osiers to feed its larvae.



The group has also been monitoring the biodiversity of the pond over the past two decades and has been able to report a steady improvement. Many local children have enjoyed helping us with this task during an annual pond

dipping session in May or June each year. We are always happy to share our survey results.

SoberNewts also provides regular maintenance and biodiversity monitoring on Soberton Down – a ten acre conservation site owned by Hampshire County Council and leased to one of our group. In normal times we can be found on the Down most Tuesday mornings between 9am and noon. Again detailed records are available.

New volunteers always receive an enthusiastic welcome on any of our projects.

If you would like to come and see what we do please get in touch via our Facebook Page www.facebook.com/sobernewts/ or take a look at our website soberton.org/sobernewts

Soberton and Newtown Ladies' Group

Despite the restrictions, we have been having our meetings, albeit on Zoom.

In December, under Zoe Phillips' guidance, we all made Christmas gift pots suitable for holding sweets or biscuits from the kits we delivered. It was a fun evening and everyone toasted their successful makes with a glass of their chosen refreshment.

In January we had an enjoyable Bingo evening. Everyone enjoyed seeing the other group members on the cold wet evening without having to go outside!

Next month, on Wednesday 3rd February, we have a speaker. Chris O'Grady will be giving his talk on Zoom entitled 'Keep the sea on your left, remember to turn right at Land's End', about his time walking the entire coast of England and Wales. As he lives in Tewkesbury, it is a good opportunity to get a speaker from further afield that we would not normally hear!

New members are always welcome and a virtual meeting is a good way to join in without having to leave your home.

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact either Liz Whales or me.

Helen Stranks 01489 878270
helen.stranks@btopenworld.com

Liz Whales 01489 877712
lizwhales@aol.com

Newtown Soberton and Meonstoke schools to link up?

A proposal to link Newtown Soberton school in a “federation” with Meonstoke Church of England school is being put to parents and other key stakeholders for their views.

The plan would be for the two infant schools to follow the example of more than 30 others in Hampshire which have federated, leading to benefits from sharing resources such as teaching staff experience, other educational expertise, curriculum plans and events.

But the current governors of both schools have stressed that this is **not** a proposal to create one new school or dispose of any property.

Instead, under the proposals, the two schools would be governed by a new single body, which would appoint one Executive Head Teacher accountable for both.

Existing teaching contracts would be unchanged, and no staff would be made redundant as a result of a federation. But new staff appointed after the formation of the federation could be contracted to work at either school. Children, too, would be able to take part in shared events between the schools, enabling greater social connections, and facilitating their transition to junior school.

Each school would continue to be known by its existing name, and would retain its own legal status, budget allocation, admission arrangements, performance tables and Ofsted inspections.

Claire Hannah-Russell, Chair of Newtown Soberton Infant School governors, says “Creating a federation gives strengthens our opportunities to work together. Whilst maintaining our individual school identities and approaches, we can work together positively, to share expertise, experience, professional development skill sets and resources. We also have an invaluable opportunity to support children through their transition to junior schools in relation to education, social and community development”.

The two Chairs have noted that whilst funding and budgets have not been motivating factors in the proposal, the ability to share expertise and

resources will help protect against the national variation in funding of schools, especially the impact upon small, rural schools.

Parents of children and other key stakeholders at both schools and in the local communities have been asked to give their views on the proposal by midday on 1st February, after which the governing bodies will consider the responses, and decide whether or not to proceed. If the go-ahead is given, the new federation will begin in April.

Soberton & Newtown Local History Society



The History Society is still continuing to meet each month, albeit by Zoom until we are able to meet in person.

The last meeting took place on Thursday 14th January and featured a talk by our very own Jane Salmon entitled “Sad place, New Place, Holy Place” about some of the buildings in Shedfield.

For many of us, Shedfield although right on our doorstep, is a place we drive through on the way to somewhere and we don’t know much about it. From the mysterious, sadly dilapidated bungalow down a side track, to New Place and St John the Baptist Church, Jane threw new light on Shedfield and its connection to the Arden family of Shakespeare fame.

We were also to have had a talk by Robin West “How to keep your head when all about you are losing theirs” which sounded intriguing, but there were technological gremlins somewhere in the system which prevented that talk, but we hope to have Robin back at a later date.

The next talk will be on Thursday 11th Feb by Barbara Furbridge entitled “The History of Underwear” – that should be something a bit different! Followed on Thursday 11th March by “Medieval Idsworth” by Mark Seaman. Most of you will know of, or even visited The Church In The Field at Idsworth, near Rowlands Castle. That should be a really interesting talk.

Do please contact us if you are not a member and would like to attend any of our talks.

OUR RIVER – THE MEON

A Glimpse Under the Surface



Readers will now be aware that our river, the lovely River Meon, is a rarity. There are only 200 chalk streams in the world and we have one in our midst. We need to look after it.

We are all alert to the challenges faced by the world's population explosion and the increasing competition for resources and food it brings. Under the surface of the river a similar battle is being waged. It is savage and unforgiving.

It can be illustrated by the life cycle of one of our Meon's residents – the Brown Trout.

At this time of year the trout are spawning; the hen fish makes a nest (known as a "redd"). She looks for clean gravel with a good flow of oxygenated water. She scrapes an indentation and lays, the eggs are then fertilised by the male who releases his sperm, or milt, over them. They hatch, depending upon water temperature, after about 60 days.

After hatching, these tiny trout, known as alevins, remain attached to the yolk for about 30 days. Survival depends upon finding freely flowing, sheltered and shallow water with good cover.

As the alevins lose the yolk sac and become self-sufficient they are known as parr. Now their diet consists of minute water borne insects, perhaps some algae and, as they grow, other fish. There is competition for this diet with other residents of the river. Without interference from humans the river will support a natural balance between plants, invertebrates, and fish.

At both the alevin and parr stage the little chaps are incredibly vulnerable to predators ranging from fish eating birds to crayfish and larger fish. Predation, some of it quite severe, depending on the local environment, continues throughout their life cycle.

By way of illustration (see below) a hen fish of about a pound in weight will lay nearly 1000 eggs. 50 will survive to produce 15 cms long one year old parr; half will live to become 2 year olds at about 20 cms. After 3 years half will survive to reach 30 cms in length and a fish of 4 years old, at 35 cms, represents the final 6 of the original 1000 eggs. A pretty savage mortality rate!

In summary we have a beautiful river in our midst. It supports a huge variety of life of which the trout is probably the most studied. To help the trout and other residents survive we need to reduce pollution, maintain its flow, prevent the build of harmful silt on its gravel bed and work to retain a natural balance between weed growth, both in the water and along the banks, and cover.

Anthony McEwen

with acknowledgement to the Wild Trout Trust (<https://www.wildtrout.org/content/trout-lifecycle>)



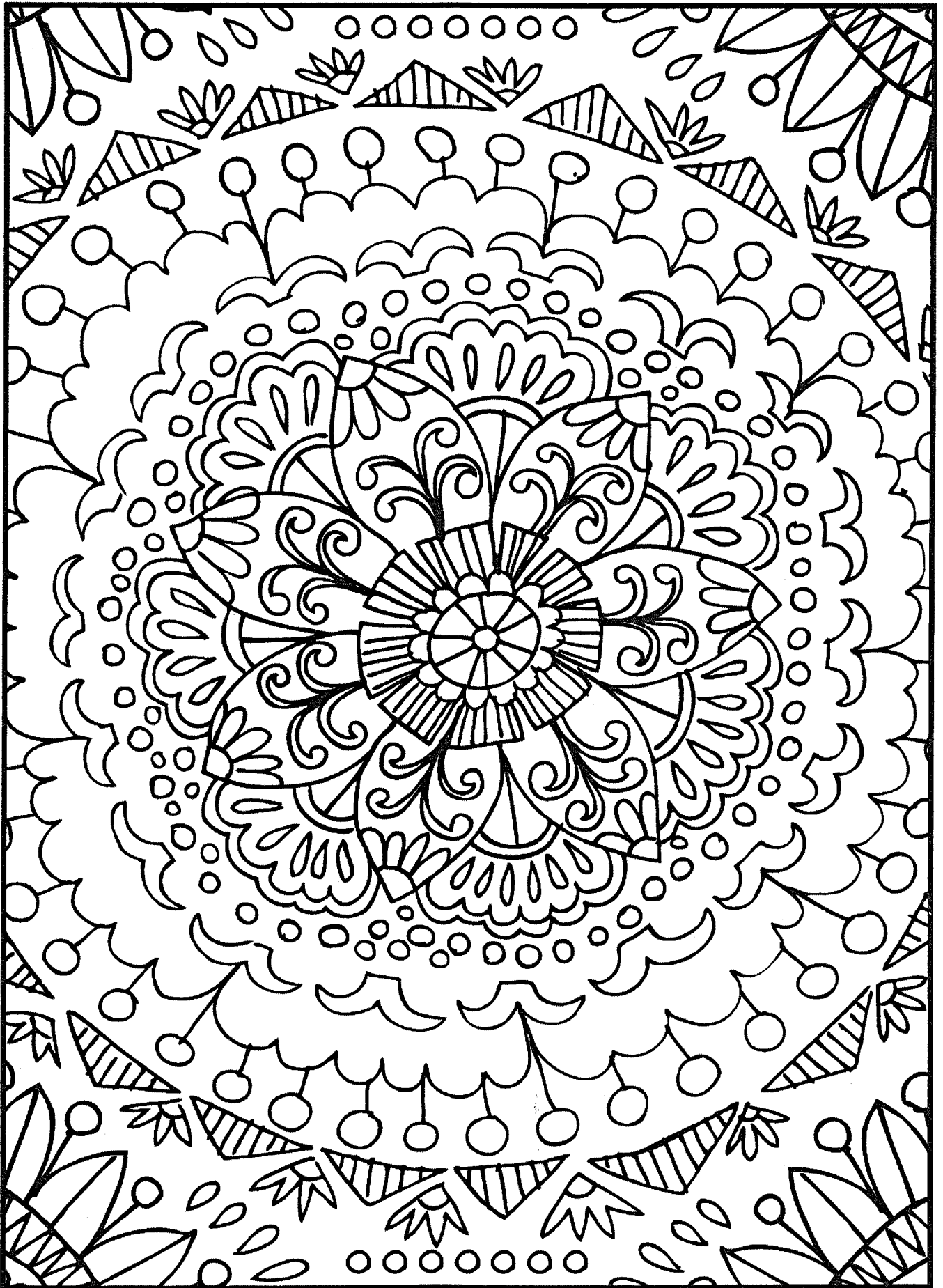
6/1000 – 4 years

12/1000 – 3 years

25/1000 – 2 years

50/1000 – 1 year - PARR

Colouring page



Soberton and Newtown Young Voices

Jokes

What do you call a bear with no teeth?

A gummy bear!

How do oceans say hello to each other?

They wave!

Why did the chicken cross the playground?

To get to the other slide!

Did you know...

Soberton used to have a working mill, using water from the River Meon. Mills were mainly used for grinding grain to make flour for bread. Ordinary people had to make their own!

Rocs Report

On Sunday 6th December, our Rocs regulars got creative making some paper decorations for the Church! They were very popular.

Rocs children and their friends and families participated in our virtual Crib Service. This is available to catch up with on YouTube! Thank you to everyone who participated- you were stars.

Rocs meets during the family service at St Peter's Soberton on the first Sunday of every month. New faces are very welcome when it is safe for us to have you.

Recipe: Yoghurt ices

1. Chop a selection of your favourite sweet treats into small chunks. Think chocolate chip cookies, honeycomb, mini marshmallows, fudge or your favourite chocolate!
2. Sieve 30g icing sugar and mix into 150ml double cream. Whip or whisk the cream until it forms soft peaks.
3. Stir through 500ml natural yoghurt.
4. Gently mix in your chosen sweet chunks to the yoghurt mixture.
5. Spoon into a tub, cover and freeze. After 2 hours, give the mixture a stir and return to the freezer until solid.

Allow to soften for a few minutes before tucking in, with extra toppings!



Diary dates

We can't give you many dates at the moment, but keep your eyes peeled for details of potential Rocs' events in March!

Got a joke or comment to share?
Email them to:
luciejhjones@btinternet.com.

IN-GOLD-FIELD ... local history

Some names can conjure up all manner of questions and explanations and Ingoldfield does just that. About fifty years ago a Newtown school pupil being told they were walking in "Ingoldfield Lane" quite logically enquired which was the gold field. A local resident who overheard the child muttered must be 'Newcomers - Townies'. Not only locals but those who had been taught the name of the lane from locals would have pronounced it 'Ingerfield' or 'Inglefield'. There were no Winchester City Council road name signs in those days and my family rarely refer to it by its proper name.

The name has no romantic connection with gold. It is a corruption of the name Englefield a 14th century owner of the sub-manor of Flexland. In old documents it is often referred to as Inglefield or variants as there was no standard spelling.

William the Conqueror rewarded his followers with property and his Chamberlain received, amongst other property, a manor within the parish of Soberton. The Domesday Survey of 1086 records that Herbert the Chamberlain held the manor and there were 2 villagers and 8 small holders and there was a mill and 2 acres of meadow. The mill is assumed to be Rudley Mill but there is an element of doubt since there are later references linking the Flexland Manor with a meadow at Benested, otherwise St. Clairs.

The early history is difficult to follow but it was split very early when Herbert gave his daughter a portion on her marriage to Robert de Venuz. In the 14th century it came into the hands of Roger de Englefield. Roger is interesting because he definitely had a presence in the parish obtaining permission from the Bishop "to celebrate mass in the oratory of his dwelling house of Flexland"

The manor and its sub manors again slips into obscurity until it is mentioned in the mid-16th century when it has been added to the main Manor of Soberton possibly before it came into the hands of Thomas Wriothesley, 1st Earl of Southampton. However there are two references in the burial registers referring to Ingoldfield:-

- 1573 31st August Walter Franklyn "farmer at Inggildfylds, aged 80 yeres"
- 1620 20th February Roger Bene "farmer at Inglefelds"

Roger's daughter was buried less than a month earlier. The Bean family were present in Soberton records for over two centuries and the Franklyn family almost as long. According to Hampshire Treasures the red brick and flint Ingoldfield farmhouse dates to the 16th C so both families could have lived under its tiled roof.

When the Soberton Manors were sold about 1742 Christopher Reeks was named as the farmer of the 88 acres known as Inglefield Farm with "a good Farmhouse, Orchard, Garden, Backside, Three Barns and a Stable" The Reeks were a Catholics family and are more closely associated with Southend Farm.

Forty years later a new Lord of the Manor, Humphrey Minchin let Ingoldfield to Daniel Parr for a term of 21 years. The details of tenure are quite exact and include a condition that Humphrey Minchin has the use Daniel's best team (of horses) with his carriage and servants four days in every year, except at harvest time. The tenant had to keep things the property in good repair and could not cut down any trees without leave from said Lord.

It would appear Daniel's 21 year lease was not extended but he remained in the village owning and occupying property, doing church warden duties and attending Vestry meetings up to 1828. Soberton Burial Register shows he had been living in Cheriton when he died, aged 79, in 1832.

Francis Hoad was paying tax for Ingoldfield by 1811. A year later it is a Mr. Blackman and documents inform us that there was a walnut tree in the garden. Following the end of the 'Napoleonic' Wars in 1815 farming was in the doldrums and the farm appears to be in a sad state.

By 1840 the Tithe Commutation shows Edward Molden at Ingoldfield, the tenant of Henry J.M.B. Minchin. The Moldens were also of an old Catholic family and had been farming in the parish for years. We are not sure where Edward was in 1831 when there was an arson attack on one of his barns. This was the time of the agricultural riots. There were Moldens at Ingoldfield, Southend, Broom and other farms throughout the rest of the 19th century. When in 1890 Edward Molden's body was buried in Soberton churchyard the rites were performed by a Catholic Priest. Newtown School Log book records the absenteeism for the funeral.

When Major General Minchin, Lord of the Manor of Soberton, sold the remainder of his property off in 1917, Lot 17, Ingoldfield farm, was bought by Reg Watson. The sale notice described the 120 plus acres with its Compact Homestead and a pair of excellent cottages and names the tenant as George Molden.

Lot 17. "Farmhouse: Brick built and tiled, 4 bedrooms, 2 sitting rooms, Kitchen with copper, Dairy, Farm Buildings: 2 Stall Nag Shed, trap house and loose box, 3 division Barn, Carthorse Stable for 3, Cart Horse Stable for 6 with loft over, Granary, Straw and Cattle barn, 2 Cowpens, 3 division piggery, 4 Bay open Cart shed, Granary, Poultry and Wood Shed, Well House and Store House. On the opposite side of the road and at a short distance from homestead are a pair of brick built and tiled cottages, 3 bedrooms".

In the mid-20th century Ingoldfield Lane from its western end to beyond Ingoldfield Farm was still much the same as it had been for centuries, its banks either side abundant with wild flowers and birdsong from the hedgerows.

Watching for Lapwing

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust



IMAGE: LAPWING ©DARIN SMITH

Lapwing, green plover, peewit, tewit – this bird of many names is a spectacular sight in winter. You don't always have to go far to spot lapwings, as in winter their numbers increase in Britain as birds flock in from the colder continent. You can see them on farmland and grassy areas in wetland sites (like estuaries, lakes and reservoirs) at this

time of year, roosting balanced on one leg with their heads tucked away or feeding on invertebrates.

The flight of lapwings is unusual and can be described as 'floppy'. Their large, rounded wings move slowly, feathers spread and showing flashes of the white feathers underneath; the slow wingbeats can make them appear to float and is very recognisable feature of the lapwing. Springtime flocks dart and zigzag, these amazing aerial displays confuse predators as their flight and mixed colouring make each bird hard to focus on.

At first glance their plumage may look dark and dull but look a little closer or watch it catch the light and you will see the iridescent sheen of greens and purples. Both males and females have a crest on their heads, although the male's is longer and showier.

Their other names of peewit and tewit relate to their call. Lapwings often call as they fly, the calls can sound a little robotic. Around 140,000 pairs breed in the UK, some will remain here over winter but many more arrive as their numbers more than quadruple in the winter. As they are not breeding it is a good time to look for lapwing on the coast. They may be joined in their flocks by other wading birds or starlings, taking off together as dusk settles to find a safe place to roost.

Unfortunately, these fascinating birds are declining, and they are now red listed by the RSPB. Changes in farmland practises has been a big factor in their decline as nests fail and food is increasingly scarce. Like other plover species, lapwing next on the ground, meaning their eggs and chicks are particularly vulnerable to predation and disturbance. There are some positive trends however. On nature reserves and other sites that are managed for wildlife there has been recent increases in lapwing populations, as more pairs manage to successfully raise chicks. It is hoped that with careful management of the land they may once again become a common bird of our countryside.



Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust strives to create a better future for wildlife and wild places in our two counties.

Help wildlife where you live.
www.hiwwt.org.uk

SOBERTON COMMUNITY COVID-19 NEIGHBOUR SUPPORT



In the midst of this Global Pandemic, a group of local families and neighbours would like to offer their support should you need it in the coming weeks.

If you; Have existing health conditions, have been told to self isolate, are a parent stuck at home with kids or find yourselves in any way unable to manage your day to day activities, please contact us.

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- CHILD CARE

Please contact using any of the following;

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soberton.community@gmail.com

FACEBOOK GROUP :

"Soberton Support – Covid-19"

TEXT/PHONE: Please use this means of contact only if you cannot contact via email. Phones may not be manned at all hours.

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For more information or to book a lift please contact;

Sue Mussellwhite: 01489 877282 or Philomena Bergin: 02392 632551

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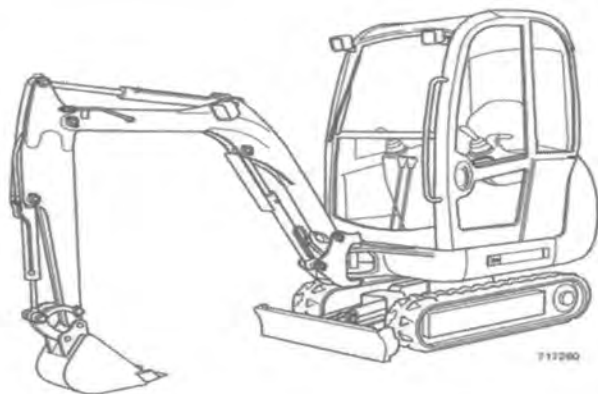
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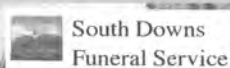
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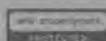
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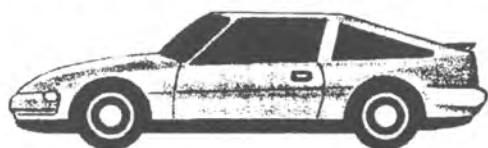
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RBL Droxford & District Branch



HMS CLEOPATRA – AN IMPROVED TYPE 12 (LEANDER CLASS) FRIGATE EQUIPPED WITH TOWED ARRAY SONAR

There are two main types of nuclear submarine: Ballistic Missile (SSBN) and Attack (SSN). Due to their strategic deterrent role, SSBNs are colloquially known as 'Bombers' or 'Boomers' in American parlance. As national deterrents, great secrecy applies to their location, not least by the French. NATO's objective was to monitor all Soviet submarines operating in the North Atlantic using a range of airborne, sub-surface and surface assets. The latter included patrols by frigates equipped with Towed Array Sonar. Meonstoke resident Rear-Admiral Guy Liardet recalls an incident when commanding *HMS Cleopatra*.

A COLD WAR INCIDENT

Retired Service Royal British Legion members in the Meon Valley will mostly have been Cold War Warriors. Nuclear theologians will recall that the avoidance of Armageddon depended upon the second-strike capability of ballistic missile submarines, thus enormous care was taken to preserve their invulnerability.

In 1984 I was in the frigate *Cleopatra* in the North Norwegian Sea, towing the (at that time cutting

edge) acoustic array, a mile of wire and hydrophones capable of detecting Soviet nuclear submarines at three figures of miles.

The estimable Petty Officer Miley comes up from the Sound Room and says, "We've got a funny one here, sir". So, leafing through the data, the radiated spectra, the gearbox ratios, propeller blade count, the basic electrical generation frequency, it all matched up to a French attack nuke. "What's a French attack nuke doing up here?" Another scurry through the data. Same propulsion system? "Golly, it's their bomber!"

A bit of 'bearings only manoeuvre' located the French National Deterrent at about 40 miles. Reported to Fleet Headquarters, Captain Sam Salt (who commanded *Sheffield* in the Falklands War) now the Fleet Operations Officer, was delighted. He had an uneasy relationship with the French Liaison Officer who was all suck and no give. The French were outside the NATO Integrated Military Structure at that time and did not subscribe to Atlantic Waterspace Management, the system of areas, moving havens, depth tunnels that kept submarines – and arrays – from colliding.

"Come along to my office, mon vieux" said Sam, "Want to know where your deterrent is?"

I was told to drop it!

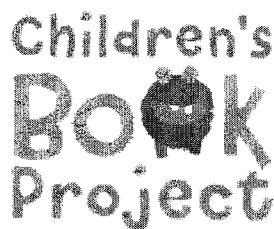
Guy Liardet

The next RBL meeting will be held on Monday 8th March. The talk is entitled "Drones and the Psychology of Remote Warfare" by Dr Peter Lee from the University of Portsmouth and RAF Cranwell. Non-members who would like to join the meeting, please contact robmunroscott@aol.com. Other events are at www.soberton.org/rblweb. Subject to Covid-19 restrictions, talks will either be live or via Zoom.



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.

Children's Book Project



I was introduced to The Children's Book Project last year, a small and efficient charity that gives books to primary schools where there is a high percentage of

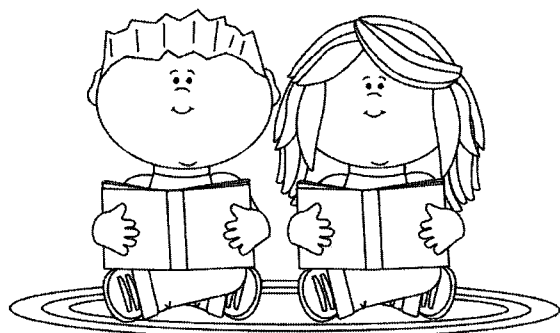
children who get free school meals and a below average reading ability. Last year they gave 121,450 books to 60,000 children in the London area. My sister (who lives in Hambledon) and I wondered if they would like to expand this to the Hampshire area... and they loved the idea. In December we took 1600 books to a school in Portsmouth where 800 children each received 2 books to take home and keep.

We are now collecting for the next school we will be allocated and wonder if you can help. If you are using lockdown to have a clear out, would you bear us in mind? We need picture books, early reader, simple chapter books and those for older readers, up to age 11. We sort them before delivery but need to stress that we're looking for books in good condition, "gently loved" is how the charity puts it - and not too old-fashioned. We are also looking for age appropriate reference books.

We can collect from you or you can drop them off to Waterside Cottage, Cutts Arch, Midlington Road, SO32 3PD. If you'd like us to collect, just email me to arrange.

Thank you so much. These books will make a huge difference to children, many of whom have no books at home. And do have a look at the website childrensbookproject.co.uk if you have time.

Lucy Baring
baringlucy@gmail.com



u3a Meon Valley

Meon Valley U3A is one of the smallest U3As with a membership of over 100 people and has nine interest groups. Membership renewals have been sent out, the cost is £10 for January to September. New members are welcome, if you are interested please contact me for a form on any of the numbers/addresses below.

We are now holding our meetings via Zoom. Members will be sent a link to join the session a few days before, and we look forward to more of you taking part.

Feb 2 nd	The RNLI Brian Masters
Feb 16 th	The Universe is Transient Phillip Charles
Mar 2 nd	Living in Cairo Janet Diamond
Mar 16 th	Ernest Hemmingway and the International Brigade Lyndon Palmer
Apr 6 th	TBA
Apr 20 th	Graffiti All Around You Tony Kippenberger
May 4 th	South Coast from the Air Brian Barrett

Some of our groups have managed to continue by communicating via email - Poetry Circle and Reading. Mike is giving Zoom presentations to the Egyptology group. Strolling had resumed with a limit of groups of up to six people socially distancing but is now suspended again. Others due to their nature of visiting places /meeting in groups – Art Appreciation, Geology and Nostalgia have ceased for the time being.

General enquiries to: Betty Hiscock, Secretary
01489 894807 or 07766522464

email: mvu3asec@yahoo.com

Website: u3asites.org.uk/meon-valley

Meon Valley Baby Bank



Can you sew? If so, the Meon Valley Baby Bank needs your help! To make our packages special, we would like to put the woollen hats, cardigans etc and muslin cloths and bibs into little bags for our families. We would have a bag for knitted items and a bag for bibs/muslin cloths and would pop them in with the clothes and any other items the family might need. They wouldn't need to be too big, just enough to be able to fit in a woollen hat and cardigan in one and bibs and muslin cloths in the other. If you or someone you know has any spare material and loves to sew then we would be very grateful if you would be happy to make a bag! Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any further questions.

Picture shows the sort of bag needed -a range of sizes would be very useful. Some smaller ones of 15cm x 15cm and 20cm x 20cm and some larger ones of 30cm x 30cm and 40x40cm.



The team are at the Stables, Bishops Waltham on the first two Thursdays of each month (between 10:00 - 11:30) or can collect.

Thank you, the MVBB Team

Facebook @meonvalleybabybank
<https://www.meonvalleybabybank.org/>

Village Diary

I am feeling optimistic for brighter days ahead, so am bringing back the village diary.

Let's hope that it will soon be full of the exciting events and activities that bring so much enjoyment and friendship to our villages!

Date	Event	Details
3 rd February	Ladies' Group "Keep the sea on your left ..."	Page 7
8 th February	Newtown Church Fete planning meeting	Page 5
11 th February	Local History Society "History of underwear"	Page 8
11 th March	Local History Society "Medieval Idsworth"	Page 8
29 th May	Newtown Church Fete 2021	TBC



**HOME
START**
Hampshire

December has been a busy month for us at home start

We have offered some families additional support over the Christmas period, in the form of gifts for children and food hampers. We received toys, kindly donated to us through The Wave 105's cash for kids Appeal, along with funding for some food hampers from The Meon Valley Lions. Our team worked hard to collect and distribute these toys/Hampers out to the families, this wouldn't have been possible without their support.

This year we were unable to participate in the Christmas fair but hope to be able to again next year. However we have had some success with raising funds through a Santa Run. Thank you to all those who took part and raised much needed funds to keep us providing emotional and practical support to local families.

Along side our busy Christmas schedule we are pleased to announce we have moved offices to join Home-Start Hampshire's Gosport&Fareham and Havant branches. It will lovely to work alongside our neighbouring branches. Home-Start Meon Valley opened at The Wickham centre in December 1998, We are sad to leave, and Can't thank the staff enough for their support. They will be greatly missed.

Do you or anyone you know need support, or have some spare time to volunteer? Please check get in contact either through our website (<https://home-starthampshire.org.uk>) or using the contact details below

Our new contact details are: Arena Business Centre, Lancaster Court, 8 Barnes Wallis Road, Segensworth, Fareham, PO15 5TU

Phone number: 0330 124 2095 Email: Familysupport@hshants.org.uk/info@hshants.org.uk



Meon Valley Lions Club

Sorry, no Santa this year

Santa runs are usually a large part of Meon Valley Lions Club's fundraising events, but we were out in the villages and really impressed with the number of people who took the time to chat and make a donation, in these really difficult times.

We'd like to thank everyone who supported us in raising over £2,500 which will be used to help needy causes shortly; one of the projects we are currently looking at is providing computers for schools to lend to those who need equipment to help with home schooling.



Spreading some Christmas cheer

Meon Valley Lions Club, following consultation with Age Concern, delivered 19 hampers to local needy residents. Eddy Barringer, President of Meon Valley Lions Club said, 'thanks to the support of the public, it was our great pleasure to give just a little Christmas cheer to the most lonely and financially pressed residents of our area.'

New wheels for a local family

Meon Valley Lions Club came to the rescue of a local family in need of a 'new set of wheels'. Basic tasks like going to the shops or school were a major challenge as the



family were struggling to teach road safety to their 4 year old with autism. Providing the family with a buggy, for an adult child, will help all them get out and about safely and help teach their youngster about the dangers of the road.

Do you or anyone you know need help?

If you, or someone you know, needs help please get in touch on 07443 753780 or go to our website https://www.meonvalleylionsclub.org.uk/_contact.html

If you'd like to donate:

TO GO: Donations - **MEON VALLEY LIONS CLUB (CIO)** (peoplesfundraising.com)

TEXT DONATION: 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.

OUR WEBSITE:

<https://www.meonvalleylionsclub.org.uk/donate.html>

SEND A CHEQUE: If you prefer to donate by cheque, bank transfer or cash please email our Treasurer: treasurer@meonvalleylions.org.uk

PLEASE HELP US SUPPORT OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

As always thank you for your support

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Swanmore Fete 2021 - We'll keep you updated on our website but in the meantime please add next year's date to your diary: Saturday 10th July 2021.

Annual Ford Charity Fishing Festival 2021 – We're sorry to report this has been cancelled for 2021.

SOBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

including Newtown, One Hundred Acres, Hoegate, Soberton Heath, Kingsmead, Brockbridge and Soberton

Lychgate at Holy Trinity Church, Newtown

The work to stabilize the Lychgate structure is complete, the final task is to replace the roof tiles and resecure the gutters and downpipes.

The Village Pond, Chapel Road, Soberton Heath

The Pond has a long history, we believe it was originally excavated to provide water for cattle and sheep who grazed the heath. There is evidence that the Parish Council was given the Pond by the then Lord of the Manor of Soberton in the late 1800s; interestingly there is reference to fishing in the Parish Council minutes from 1926. The PC has either directly or indirectly organised the pond's maintenance for over 100 years as an amenity for the Parish. However, the land itself has remained unregistered in the eyes of H M Land Registry. The Parish Council has taken steps to regularise ownership and has made submissions to Land Registry. There is an article in this magazine by the Soberton and Newtown conservation group which describes their work on the pond (page 7).

The Recreation Ground, Heath Road, Soberton Heath

The Recreation Ground is the home ground for Soberton United. This season only a limited number of games were played ahead of November's lockdown; since then the playing surface has suffered from moles and badgers digging for grubs. Both seem to have moved away and in the spring work will be carried out to recover the playing surface.

Some of the surfaces below some of the equipment in The Children's Play Area play is being replaced as it has become worn, and general maintenance will be carried out on all the equipment in the Spring. The CPA is inspected regularly to make sure the whole area is safe.

The Bank on Soberton High Street

The Parish Council is sponsoring the planting of wildflowers on the bank this Spring and will be looking for a small working party to assist with the

planting. Those interested please contact the Parish Clerk.

Common Land in the Parish of Soberton

There are areas of 'common land' in the Parish, these can be found through Defra's MAGIC map website, www.magic.gov.uk. This land is protected by an Act of Parliament and is in addition covered by the Countryside Roam and Rights of Way Act 2000 which allows free access to walkers. The ultimate authority to approve any changes or enforcement of misuse is the First Secretary of State and where there is no known owner this responsibility is passed to Hampshire County Council, Winchester City Council and to the Parish Council. The Parish Council will act on any breaches of use, boundary transgressions etc. therefore the first point of call with any concerns is the Parish Clerk. Management of the land is in theory via the 'commoners,' where none such exist the PC will work with HCC/WCC to consider policy and implementation of policy.

Traffic Speeding through the Villages

Most of the residential lanes in the villages in the Parish have a 30mph speed limit. There have been many attempts to calm traffic speeds particularly on straight sections of road where traffic exceeds the limits as signed. The Parish Council has selected a number of sites in both Newtown and Soberton where a flashing sign will be installed on a temporary basis, the sign will show your oncoming speed. These signs tend to be successful if they remain for short periods, say two weeks, and are then moved to another location. They are there to remind drivers of the speed limit. That said if they are tripped very regularly a speed camera van may be employed.

New Parish Councillors

We are grateful for all those of you who showed interest in joining the Parish Council, we have held meetings and interviews. Roger Lunn, Kevin Lamport and Sam Marland will take up their responsibilities shortly.

Communications

The Parish Council's main point of communication is the Parish Clerk, Jenny Clarke, her email is clerk@soberton.org. Jenny coordinates all actions coming from the Parish Council and is able to connect with the statutory authorities which provide services to the Parish. She will direct questions and source answers and, when possible, overseeing actions. There is a list of councillors in this magazine identifying their area of interest with contact numbers and emails should you prefer to contact a councillor directly.

Eve Ludbrook

The Parish Council is sad to learn of the death of Eve Ludbrook, she was a stalwart of our community for many years. Eve was Chairman of the Parish Council in the 1970's and 1980's, in fact interviewed and appointed Norman Chapman as Clerk in 1982. Until very recently she always showed a keen interest in the Parish Council's activities. Eve will be remembered with great respect and affection; our condolences go to her family.

John Hyland
Chairman

Planning Applications (correct at time of going to print)

Planning Applications - 15th January 2021

SDNP/20/05763/LDP Little Orchards Farm, Ingoldfield Lane, Soberton
Construction of swimming pool and changing rooms and seating area (pavilion)

20/02662/FUL Hoe Manor Farm, Hoe Street, Hambledon
Change of use from agricultural barn to C3 use with operational development for conversion to a dwelling house, a package treatment works and formation of a domestic garden

SDNP/21/00111/TPO Down House, School Hill, Soberton
Tree preservation order

Decisions – 15th January 2021

20/00758/FUL Land adjacent to the Maples, Church Road, Newtown
To build a new detached two bedroom chalet style bungalow plus a detached double garage with workshop on a vacant paddock. Construction traffic to use existing field access
Application permitted

20/018880/HOU Hone Copse, Heath Road
Proposed single storey rear extension and internal alterations to floor plan
Application permitted

SDNP/20/03654/LIS Soberton House, School Hill, Soberton
Repairs works and partial reroofing
Approved

20/02443/HOU Ingoldfield Farm, Flintwall Cottage, Ingoldfield Lane
Outbuilding for ancillary use to replace static caravan
Permitted

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCILLOR NEWS

(CENTRAL MEON VALLEY)

Vicki Weston

As we start a new year, I thought it might be useful to remind everyone of a few useful links:

- The new garden waste service should be getting under way around the time of publication. If you have not ordered your new bin yet but would like one or it hasn't arrived, go to the Winchester City Council website at www.winchester.gov.uk/waste-recycling/garden-waste-collection-sign-up or call 0300 300 0013. If that doesn't work, let one of us know and we will endeavour to sort it for you.
- If you need a reminder on when your bins are due to be collected and which bins to put out, follow this link and enter your post code - www.winchester.gov.uk/bins
- If your bins aren't collected on the due date, be sure to report it as soon as possible so this can be rectified - this can be done online at www.winchester.gov.uk/waste-recycling or by using the Your Winchester app. Alternatively you can email customerservice@winchester.gov.uk or phone 0300 300 0013. It's important to remember that the Council will only commit to pick up a missed collection if it is reported by midday the day after your usual collection day. So be sure to let them know!
- Please check the Hampshire County Council Web site to book in advance to get a slot at Hampshire County Council's recycling centres in Bishops Waltham and elsewhere - go to www.hants.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/recyclingcentres/book-appointment
- Finally, if you do see any fly tipping blighting our beautiful area, be sure to report it unless you see a large W painted on it. This can be done through the Your Winchester app or online at www.winchester.gov.uk/report or by calling 0300 300 0013. If fly tipping is taking a while to be removed, please do let one of us know and we can follow up on what is happening.

Winchester District Local Plan 2018 – 2038 (Emerging)

An invitation to consultation on the Winchester City Council Strategic Issues and Priorities document will be coming shortly. This next stage is important for the development of the new Local Plan. The decisions made through the Local Plan will be of strategic importance for the

district over the next 15 years and beyond. This document has been prepared in the knowledge that the government has recently consulted on a number of significant changes to the planning system and the outcome of these consultations are not yet fully known. Follow the link <https://www.winchester.gov.uk/planning-policy/> to sign up for updates on the Local Plan

Timing of updating Village Design Statements

Many Parish Councils have now started or are in the process of starting to think about updating their Village Design Statements (VDS) and guidance on matters to include has been published on the web site to help with this process <https://www.winchester.gov.uk/planning-policy/supplementary-planning-documents-spds/guidance-for-producing-vds>. You may wish to bear this in mind when considering any updates or preparation of new design guidance as any adopted between now and 2023 will need to be refreshed to make reference to Local Plan 2038 policies. If you wish to discuss any updates to existing VDS/LADS please get in touch to discuss.

planningpolicy@winchester.gov.uk

MAYOR's AWARDS ... are now open

These awards recognise and celebrate the organisations and individuals who have given outstanding service. The aim is to celebrate the selfless actions that brighten the lives of residents and makes the Winchester district a wonderful place to live.



Citations should be limited to 100 words which will be printed verbatim on the reverse of the certificate.

The closing date for nominations is 19th February 2021

Complete the online form via this link: https://www.winchester.gov.uk/forms/ShowForm.asp?fm_fid=490 or complete and attached your completed nomination form to Mayorssecretary@winchester.gov.uk

Motorbikes update

Many people have commented on how quiet it was when motorbikes with modified exhaust pipes stopped blighting the valley during the first lockdown. And on the contrast when they returned again in the summer. Upper Meon Valley Winchester City Councillor Hugh Lumby has been looking to address the issues of antisocial speeding and noise from motorbikes and other vehicles. He has been working with local group CANS (Communities against noise and speed., -

www.canshampshire.co.uk/community/communities-against-noise-and-speed-15072/home/) on a number of initiatives. A forum has been set up to bring all stakeholders together, including local MPs, the Police, Hampshire County Council and local councillors. A number of Police operations have also been carried out. The overall objective is to discourage the small minority of motorcyclists who ride in an antisocial manner from coming to the area.

Various parishes have acquired what are called speed indicator devices (SIDs). These show the speed vehicles are travelling and have a good success rate at reducing speed, especially if moved around to various locations.

Another initiative which he has been exploring with Winchester City Council is the use of environmental legislation to address the issue, combined with new acoustic cameras which measure vehicle noise. They are currently investigating whether something called a Public Spaces Protection Order could be used here, which could enable bikes with excessively noisy exhausts to be identified and fined. Watch this space!

Reporting any noisy bikes is also important, especially those early on a weekend morning. Either ring 101 or go online.



Rules for using septic tanks and small sewage treatment plants

The Environment Agency have asked me to pass this information to residents to make sure everyone is aware of the new rules that were introduced in 2015.

I have been contacted on a number of occasions recently with concerns that there is raw sewage being discharged and only very recently, I noticed effluent pouring down one of the lanes in our village. Please make sure that your septic tank/cesspit or sewage treatment system is working efficiently and not overflowing, polluting and causing an Environmental Health issue.

If you have a septic tank or small sewage treatment plant, by law you must comply with the 'general binding rules' by ensuring your system is maintained properly and does not cause pollution.

Extra protection is in place in areas designated as environmentally sensitive, where people may need to apply for a permit.

Please see links below to the GOV.UK website which contain all the information regarding General Binding Rules (GBR) and permit requirements for water quality discharges from sewage treatment systems:-

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/discharges-to-surface-water-and-groundwater-environmental-permits>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/general-binding-rules-small-sewage-discharge-to-a-surface-water>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/general-binding-rules-small-sewage-discharge-to-the-ground>



Important information for households and businesses with septic tanks and small sewage treatment plants

Rules for using septic tanks & small sewage treatment plants

In January 2015, new rules were introduced that simplify the way septic tanks and small sewage treatment plants are regulated in England, protecting the environment and improving water quality.

If you have a septic tank or small sewage treatment plant, by law you must comply with the 'general binding rules' by ensuring your system is maintained properly and does not cause pollution. Extra protection is in place in areas designated as environmentally sensitive, where people may need to apply for a permit.

What are septic tanks and small sewage treatment plants?

If your home or business is not connected to the mains sewage system, the waste water from your toilets, baths, showers, sinks and washing machines will drain into one of the following systems:

SEPTIC TANKS are underground tanks where solids sink to the bottom forming sludge and the liquid flows into a drainage field where bacteria treat it as it soaks into the ground. They're not allowed to discharge into a watercourse.

SMALL SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS work in a similar way but use mechanical parts to aerate the bacteria, which makes them more effective at treating waste water and means they can discharge treated sewage into a drainage field or directly into flowing water.

Cesspits/cesspools are different because the raw sewage is stored in a sealed tank, rather than being treated and discharged, which means they are not covered by the general binding rules. They must be emptied when full and must not be allowed to overflow or leak.

Top tips for maintaining your septic tank or small sewage treatment plant

Maintaining your system properly will help prevent pollution, avoid costly repair bills and minimise your energy consumption. Here's how:

- Get the sludge emptied regularly by a registered waste carrier
- Get it serviced regularly by an accredited engineer and fix problems straight away
- Regularly check for signs of pollution such as sewage smells, pools of water, sludge, foam, lush weeds or grey fungus growing in your local stream or river. If you spot any of these issues call a specialist for help
- Don't flush sanitary items, nappies, 'flushable' wipes or similar objects down the toilet as they can block the system
- Don't put fats, oils or chemicals down the drain as they kill the bacteria that break-down the waste
- Use low or no-phosphate detergents, which are kinder to the environment
- Keep maintenance records so you know when to service and empty your system

How to follow the rules and protect your local environment

It's easy to comply with the general binding rules. Here are the main things you need to do:

- Have your system emptied by a registered waste carrier regularly (at least once a year unless the manufacturer says otherwise) to ensure it doesn't cause pollution
- Maintain your system regularly, getting any faults or problems fixed immediately
- You are limited to discharging a maximum of 2,000 litres of treated sewage per day into the ground or 5,000 litres of treated sewage per day to flowing water. If you discharge more you will need a permit. Calculate how much your system is discharging at www.gov.uk/small-sewage-rules
- Speak to the Environment Agency before installing a new system as you may need a permit. Speak to your local council to check your system will meet planning requirements and building regulations. Only install equipment that meets British Standard BS EN 12566
- If you sell your property, inform the buyer in writing that it has a septic tank or small sewage treatment plant

Go to www.gov.uk/small-sewage-rules for more information, if you are unable to follow the rules, are worried your system may be causing pollution or want to check if your system needs a permit.

Who can help?

The Environment Agency:

Email: enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk
Telephone: 03708 506 506 (8am to 6pm, Mon to Fri)
Online: www.gov.uk/small-sewage-rules
Incident hotline: 0800 80 70 60 (24 hours, 7 days a week)

Local wastewater service companies: Find an accredited engineer and further guidance at www.britishwater.co.uk/engineers



Vicki Weston Vweston@winchester.gov.uk



Dear Resident

At the time of writing this newsletter we are in the clasp of yet another national lockdown because of the covid pandemic. Consequently, I have tried in this newsletter to give you website addresses/telephone numbers that you might find helpful. The County Council is doing a great deal to help the elderly and those with families but these are very stressful times for many people. It's not the start to the new year that we had all hoped for so I hope you and your loved ones remain safe and well. Remember, Spring, with the snowdrops and daffodils are on their way and they always help to cheer us up.

Advice for Vulnerable Residents

We know that the new national restrictions are extremely difficult for everyone, but especially so for anyone who is being asked to shield at home. No one needs to tackle these challenges alone and if support is not available from family, friends or neighbours, the County Council can offer a helping hand. This might be help with shopping or prescriptions, signposting to financial advice or having a regular call from a local volunteer for a friendly chat. Anyone adversely impacted by COVID-19 can call the Hampshire Coronavirus Support and Helpline seven days a week to talk to an advisor.

Call the Hampshire Coronavirus Support and Helpline on **0333 370 4000** (local rate charges apply). For the duration of the national lockdown, the helpline is open as follows:

- Monday to Friday: 9.00 am – 5.00 pm
- Weekends: 10.00 am – 3.00 pm

Residents can also request a call-back from the helpline by completing a call-back request form. In recent weeks, since shielding was reintroduced, the Hampshire Coronavirus Support and Helpline has received calls from, and provided support and/or advice to more than 1,150 local residents.

The Connect to Support Hampshire website also features a coronavirus resource page full of useful and links and information –

visit <https://www.connecttosupporthampshire.org.uk/coronavirus>

Helping Communities Affected by COVID-19 - First grants awarded

'connect4communities' comprises a planned programme of measures to support families and individuals facing hardship due to COVID-19. Providing Community Grants is one of these measures. Local community, voluntary and charity organisations are encouraged to apply for a grant to help fund activities in their area that aim to combat food and fuel poverty.

These grants will go toward helping vulnerable children over the winter. Many families are finding they are under extra pressure now because of the pandemic, perhaps because of a job loss, and are struggling to buy the basics like food and fuel. Our 'connect4communities' programme was created to address this need and it is wonderful to see that we can support community groups to provide practical help in their local area.

'connect4communities' is funded by the £2.89 million Covid Winter Grant Scheme allocation awarded to the Authority by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). Its Community Grants are specifically intended to support families in need with food, energy and water bills. They can also be used for essential items such as warm clothing and bedding, as well to supply slow cookers to households who do not have basic cooking facilities. To learn more about the 'connect4communities' projects and to apply for a Community Grant visit [connect4communities.org](https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/connectforcommunities) at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/connectforcommunities>

Family Information and Services Hub

These County Council web pages - <https://fish.hants.gov.uk/kb5/hampshire/directory/home.page> - are designed to help families get help and support, plus information about what is going on in your area, details on how to access services, organisations and activities in

Hampshire, and the advice and support that is available. It includes -

connect4communities - New directory of information

Our new Connect4communities directory has now been launched. This is your one-stop-shop for local help and support for those who may be struggling financially as a result of the impact of COVID-19.

If you are having difficulties in finding appropriate childcare and you are a key worker or a parent/guardian of a vulnerable child, you can complete an online form to request help. You can browse advice, information and local services by category eg

- Childcare and Early Years Education
- Family Support
- Activities, Leisure and Play
- Young People
- Employment, Training and Learning
- connect4communities Directory

Continuation of key services for Hampshire

The County Council has confirmed that all Hampshire household waste recycling centres (HWRCs) will remain open for those who need to use them. Booking slots are available seven days in advance at each of Hampshire's 24 HWRCs, and can be made online at www.hants.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/recyclingcentres/book-appointment or, for those without internet access, by phone on 02380 179 949, between Monday and Friday 9.00 am to 5:30 pm.

Award for championing more electric vehicle charging points

In April 2018 our Property Services team launched the Central Southern Regional Framework for Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure, in partnership with Joju Charging as the installation partner, to lead the way in getting more electric vehicle charging points installed across Hampshire and the south of England.

To date, more than 60 public sector bodies such as local councils and universities have used the framework to install more than 200 charging points across Hampshire, with a further 1,000

charging points already planned for installation over the next year. Our continued work to grow the use of sustainable transport has been recognised with an Electric Vehicle Innovation and Excellence (EVIE) Award for Public Sector Infrastructure Strategy of the Year.

For further information about the Central Southern Regional Framework for Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure, visit www.hants.gov.uk/transport/ev-charging-points Residents who are interested in using an electric vehicle but do not have access to off street parking can also find guidance for electric vehicle charging at www.hants.gov.uk/transport/ev-charging-points/ev-charging-guidance

ChatHealth 0-5

This is a text messaging service to support parents, carers and families of under 5's in Hampshire. It has been launched by the Health Visiting Service of Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust to improve access to health information and support. This service provides a quick and easy way to access information and advice which is particularly important for parents and carers of very young children. They can ask about a variety of topics such as sleep, growth and development, parenting, breast or bottle feeding, diet and nutrition, and behaviour – by accessing this service, in some cases visits to the GP may not be required. For more information visit - <https://www.southernhealth.nhs.uk/.../chathealth-0-5-parents.../>

Emergency Care

If you are caring for someone who needs your help due to a health condition, disability or frailty, you may find it useful to know that Hampshire County Council fund emergency planning for carers. Up to 48 hours free care may be available for the person you care for in the event of an emergency. This is a free service and no adult services assessment is needed. Telephone Freephone 0800 1691577.

Patricia Stallard

Lead Executive Member for Children's Services & Young People
Hampshire County Council
Divisional Member for Winchester Southern Parishes
pgstallard@aol.com / 02392 251484

Meon Valley Community Bus Association

NOTES:-

- For more details and suggested stops please contact:-
John Shorrocks ☎ 01489 877499
✉ john.shorrocks@btinternet.com
- The bus does not run on Christmas Eve, New Year's Eve or Bank Holidays.
- Fares to all destinations are £5 adult return / £2.50 adult single. Free bus passes are accepted. Children under 16 pay half fare and under 5s travel free.
- On Mondays & Wednesdays at 1058 the bus will take passengers at Sainsbury's to Fareham Library and at 1102 from Fareham Library to Sainsbury's.
- Timings for all trips are strict and the bus will not wait after scheduled time.
- When boarding for the return journey, priority will be given to returning passengers over "one way only" passengers.
- Dogs are allowed on the bus under strict control and at the discretion of the driver.
- If you don't live directly on the route, then why not consider "Park & Ride" from Droxford Square, Soberton Village Hall or Rookesbury Hall?
- When not on its scheduled services the bus is available for hire, but it must be driven by a MIDAS trained driver. Persons or Organisations wishing to hire the bus should contact:-
Ken Giles ☎ 01329 830355
✉ hire.mvcb@gmail.com

**Monday and
Wednesday to
Fareham**

**Thursday to
Whiteley Shopping
Centre
or Hedge End Marks &
Spencer**

**Friday to
Winchester,
Waterlooville or
Petersfield**

**See timetable below
for more details**



**The Meon Valley Community Bus
Association runs regular timetabled
services – see below.**

The drivers and organisers of the
Association are all volunteers.

Mondays and Wednesdays to FAREHAM

0900 West Meon Thomas Lord PH
0903 Warnford Village Hall
0908 Exton The Shoe PH
0910 Meonstoke PO & Stores
0914 Meonstoke Pound Cottages
0919 Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE)
0923 Brockbridge The Hurdles
0927 Soberton Village Hall (PARK & RIDE)
0931 Webbs Green War Memorial
0934 Soberton Heath Chapel Road pond
0936 Soberton Heath Bold Forester PH
0938 Newtown Rookesbury Hall (PARK & RIDE)
0943 Hundred Acres
0955 Fareham Library
1000 Fareham Sainsbury's

Return:

1200 Fareham Sainsbury's
1205 Fareham Library

1st & 3rd Thursday Each Month to HEDGE END

0900 West Meon Thomas Lord PH
0903 Warnford Village Hall
0908 Exton The Shoe PH
0910 Meonstoke PO & Stores
0914 Meonstoke Pound Cottages
0919 Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE)
0923 Brockbridge The Hurdles PH
0927 Soberton Village Hall (PARK & RIDE)
0931 Webbs Green War Memorial
0934 Soberton Heath Chapel Road pond
0936 Soberton Heath Bold Forester PH
0938 Newtown Rookesbury Hall (PARK & RIDE)
0943 Hundred Acres
1005 Hedge End Marks & Spencer

Return:

1200 Hedge End Marks & Spencer

2nd & 4th Thursday Each Month to WHITELEY

0900 West Meon Thomas Lord PH
0903 Warnford Village Hall
0908 Exton The Shoe PH
0910 Meonstoke PO & Stores
0914 Meonstoke Pound Cottages
0919 Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE)
0923 Brockbridge The Hurdles
0927 Soberton Village Hall (PARK & RIDE)
0931 Webbs Green War Memorial
0934 Soberton Heath Chapel Road pond
0936 Soberton Heath Bold Forester PH
0938 Newtown Rookesbury Hall (PARK & RIDE)
0943 Hundred Acres
1009 Whiteley Shopping Centre

Return:

1200 Whiteley Shopping Centre

1st & 3rd Friday Each Month to WINCHESTER

0900 Soberton Village Hall (PARK and RIDE)
0904 Brockbridge The Hurdles
0907 Droxford Square (PARK and RIDE)
0913 Meonstoke Pound Cottages
0917 Meonstoke PO & Stores
0919 Exton The Shoe PH
0924 Warnford Village Hall
0944 Winchester Broadway
0951 River Park Leisure Centre

Return:

1155 River Park Leisure Centre
1200 Winchester Broadway

4th Friday Each Month to WATERLOOVILLE

0900 West Meon Thomas Lord PH
0903 Warnford Village Hall
0908 Exton The Shoe PH
0910 Meonstoke PO & Stores
0914 Meonstoke Pound Cottages
0919 Droxford Square (PARK & RIDE)
0923 Brockbridge The Hurdles
0927 Soberton Village Hall (PARK & RIDE)
0931 Webbs Green War Memorial
0934 Soberton Heath Chapel Road pond
0936 Soberton Heath Bold Forester PH
0938 Newtown Rookesbury Hall (PARK & RIDE)
0955 Waterlooville Waitrose
1001 Waterlooville Sainsbury's

Return:

1200 Waterlooville Sainsbury's
1205 Waterlooville Waitrose

2nd & 5th Friday Each Month to PETERSFIELD

0900 Soberton Village Hall (PARK and RIDE)
0904 Brockbridge The Hurdles
0907 Droxford Square (PARK and RIDE)
0913 Meonstoke Pound Cottages
0917 Meonstoke PO & Stores
0919 Exton The Shoe PH
0924 Warnford Village Hall
0945 Petersfield Waitrose

Return:

1200 Petersfield Waitrose

USEFUL INFORMATION

Any additions or changes, please contact the editor

USEFUL NUMBERS			LOCAL CLUBS AND INTEREST GROUPS		
Beat Surgeries (tbc)	Rookesbury Hall	Alternate Fridays 10:00 to 12:00	Brownies & Guides	Caroline Rogers	01489 877430
Doctors Surgeries	Droxford Wickham Denmead Bishops Waltham	01489 877588 01329 833121 02392 239630 01489 892288	Film Club	TBC	
Baby Clinics	Wickham Comm.Centre Waltham Chase Village Hall	1st Wed 2.00-3.00 4th Wed 10 – 11:30	Local History	Duncan Colin-Jones	01489 877237
Social Services Direct		0845 600 4555	Soberton Football	Keith Moran	01329 834897
Hants Carers Helpline		08457 221122	Soberton Players	Susan Hyland	01489 878724
NHS Direct		111	Table Tennis	Pete Woodacre Adrian Hunt	01489 877768 01489 878141
Age Concern	Head Office	0800 328 7154	Ladies Group	Liz Whales	01489 877712
CAB		01489 896376	Good Neighbours Group	Sue Mussellwhite Philomena Bergin	01489 877282 02392 632551
LOCAL FACILITIES			Soberton Lunch Club First Friday of each month	Sandra Henderson Norman Chapman 12.30 - Church Room	01489 877978 01489 877378
Soberton Village Hall Booking	Katie Flannagan	07850 569548	Meon Valley Lions Club	Helpline	07443 753780
<i>sobertonvillagehall@googlemail.com</i> <i>www.sobertonvillagehall.co.uk</i>			COUNCILLORS		
Rookesbury Hall Booking	Jenny Doney	01329 834392	Central Meon Valley Councillors	Frank Pearson Vicki Weston Linda Gemmell	01489 892822 01329 835161 01489 895023
<i>Bookings@rookesburyhall.co.uk</i>			County Councillor	Patricia Stallard	02392 251484
Guide Hut Booking	Mrs. C. Rogers	01489 877430	SOBERTON PARISH COUNCIL <i>www.soberton.org</i>		
CHURCHES			John Hyland Chairman	Northern Ward chair@soberton.org	
Newtown Church Wardens	Fra Wells Barry Rowswell	01329 834130 01329 834671	Jane Masterman Vice-Chairman	Southern Ward vicechair@soberton.org	
Soberton Church Wardens	Louise McEwen Norman Chapman	01489 877448 01489 877378	David Salmon	Southern Ward 01489 878659	
PCC Secretary(N)	(Acting) Barry Rowswell	01329 834671	Bob Stranks	Southern Ward robert.stranks@btopenworld.com	
PCC Secretary(S)	Norman Chapman	01489 877378	Arabella Turner	Southern Ward arabellavturner@gmail.com	
Capt. Of Bells(S)	Noel Evans	01489 877271	Kevin Lampert	Southern Ward Contact through the Clerk	
Churchyard Keeper (S)	John Lester	01489 878557	Sam Marland	Southern Ward Contact through the Clerk	
			Roger Lunn	Southern Ward Contact through the Clerk	
			Neil Findlay	Northern Ward littlemeadsneil@googlemail.com	
			Wendy Prangnell	Northern Ward wprangnell@aol.com	
			Clerk and Proper Officer Jenny Clarke	clerk@soberton.org 01489 877836	

Please e-mail copy for the magazine to gill.highcroft@btinternet.com

NEXT COPY DATE - 15th MARCH 2021

From the Archives.....



Remember when we could all just get together and have fun? Those days will return, but in the meantime two photos to cheer you up, of people just enjoying themselves! **Above** – Soberton Fete 1975. A big draw for youngsters was the chance to ride on an Army Ferret scout car accompanied by a long-suffering soldier! **Below** – Easter 1984 and the Soberton Road Race and Fun Run organised by Soberton Village Hall. 34 runners took part to win trophies donated by Peter & Dee Cope of The White Lion. Fancy Dress runners getting ready for the off outside The White Lion.



(from the Archives of the Soberton & Newtown Local History Society) any additional information is always welcome.
Please Contact duncan.colinjones@btinternet.com or petewoodacre@gmail.com.