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pcvhtreasurr@gmail.com
(financial enquiries)

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Owing to pressure of copy space we regret it may be necessary to abridge any article. (E-mail copy much appreciated).

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THE OXDROVE

Church and Community News

Of

The Candover Valley and Wield

Rector: David Chattell, The Rectory, Preston Candover
Tel: 01256 389 474 Email: davidchattell172@btinternet.com

Benefice administrator – Tricia Knight email address:

beneficeFCW@hotmail.com Phone 07541 463750

Contact preferred by e-mail

David does not work on Friday, but messages can be left for him at any time.
He may not, however, respond until the following day unless it is urgent.

Rota for Services

BCP = Book of Common Prayer CW = Common Worship LL = Lay led

The Parishes of Candover Valley and Wield

Sunday 3 April

9.30

Wield

10.00

Preston Candover

11.00

Northington

Readings

Isaiah 43:16-21, Philippians 3:4b-14, John 12:1-8

Sermon

Price or Value?

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Matins BCP

Morning Worship CW

Holy Communion CW

Psalm 126

Sunday 10 April

10.00

Preston Candover

6.00

Wield

Readings
23

Isaiah 50:4-9a, Philippians 2:5-11, Luke 22:14-end of

Sermon

A New Covenant

Psalm 31

Thursday 14 April

7.30pm

Bradley

Readings

*Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26,
John 13:1-17, 31b-35*

Psalm 116

Sermon

If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them

””

Friday 15 April

10:00

Northington to Bradley

Good Friday

Walk of Witness

””

Sunday 17 April

9.30

Wield

11.00

Preston Candover

11:00

Brown Candover

11:00

Northington

Readings

*Acts 10:34-43, 1 Corinthians 15:19-26, John 20:1-18
Psalm 118*

Sermon

An end to weeping

””

Sunday 24 April

8.30

Bradley

11.00

Brown Candover

Readings

Acts 5:27-32, Revelation 1:4-8, John 20:19-end

Psalm 118

Sermon

Blessed are you...who have believed

””

Maundy Thursday

Holy Communion CW

*Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26,
John 13:1-17, 31b-35*

Psalm 116

If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them

””

Good Friday

Walk of Witness

””

Easter Sunday

Holy Communion BCP

Holy Communion

Holy Communion

Holy Communion

*Acts 10:34-43, 1 Corinthians 15:19-26, John 20:1-18
Psalm 118*

An end to weeping

””

Second Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion

Morning Worship

Acts 5:27-32, Revelation 1:4-8, John 20:19-end

Psalm 118

Blessed are you...who have believed

””

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Sunday 1 May

9.30 Wield
10.00 Preston Candover
11.00 Northington

Readings

Acts 9:1-6, Revelation 5:11-end, John 21:1-19

Sermon

Jesus shows himself to his disciples

Third Sunday of Easter

Matins BCP
Morning Worship CW
Holy Communion CW

Psalm 30

Farleigh Parish

Sunday 3 April 5th Sunday of Lent

08.00 Ellisfield Holy Communion BCP
09.45 Cliddesden Morning Prayer
11.15 Dummer Sunday Special
Chaplaincy to Hampshire Police Officers

Sunday 10 April Psalm Sunday

8.00 Dummer Holy Communion BCP
9.45 Ellisfield Morning Prayer
11.15 Cliddesden Family Communion CW

Friday 15 April Good Friday

2.00 Dummer An Hour at the Cross

Sunday 17 April Easter Sunday

9.45 Dummer Holy Communion
11.15 Cliddesden Family Holy Communion
11:15 Ellisfield Family Holy Communion

Saturday 23 April

6.00 Cliddesden Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 24 April 2nd Sunday of Easter

9.45 Dummer Holy Communion CW
11.15 Ellisfield Family Holy Communion

Sunday 1 May 3rd Sunday of Easter

08.00 Ellisfield Holy Communion BCP
09.45 Cliddesden Morning Prayer
11.15 Dummer Sunday Special

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Sidesmen and Readers


<u>Church</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Sidesmen</u>	<u>Readers</u>
St John's Northington	April	Rhona Hatchley	
	May	Mark Ashburton	
St Peter's Brown Candover	17 Apr 11.00	Celia Foote	Celia Foote & Rees Smith
	24 Apr 11.00	Sue Marriott	Edwina Curtis Hay- ward
St Mary The Virgin Preston Candover	3 Apr 10.00	Anne Luneburg	Celia Foote
	10 Apr 10.00	Jane Laws	Julian Gibbons & Jane Laws
	17 Apr 11.00	Marina Avis & Gunnel Berry	Anne Luneburg & Marina Avis
	1 May	Anne Luneburg	Jane Laws
All Saints Bradley	14 Apr 7.30pm	Robyn Gibbons	Robyn Gibbons
	24 Apr 8.30	Andrew Don	Andrew Don
St James' Wield	3 Apr 9.30	Barbara Wells	Barbara Wells & Nicola Robinson
	10 Apr 6.00pm	Brian Collins	Catherine Simons & Eileen Collins
	17 Apr 9.00	Brian Collins John Lailey	Ben Robinson & Philip Geddes
	1 May 9.30	Alwin Hutchinson	Annie-Lou Gibbs & Alwin Hutchinson



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St Peter's Church Brown Candover	Flowers		
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All Saints Church Bradley	Cleaners & Flowers	April	Isla and helpers for Easter.
St. Mary The Virgin Preston Candover			
St James' Church Wield	Flowers	April	Helpers for Easter Flowers
	Cleaner	Permanent	Michelle Kuhn

**Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals Farleigh and
Candover Valley & Wild
Funerals**

Preston Candover

23rd March 2022 Graham RUSSELL aged 87

Dear Friends

In April Christians will be thinking about the profound nature of God who served in acts of service and sacrifice, the deep disappointment of the first Christians on Good Friday leading to great joy on Easter Sunday.

On Palm Sunday we remember Jesus riding on a donkey into Jerusalem, the crowd welcoming and cheering Jesus yet deeply criticised by those who failed to understand what was happening. What king comes to his capital city on a donkey? Cue the mockery and laughter.

Palm Sunday starts Holy Week, and on the Thursday evening many Christians meet to remember the last meal Jesus had with his friends. One of the concerns of some disciples was about which of them was the greatest, who was most prestigious, after Jesus of course, and who could cosy up and get the most reflected glory! Human nature hasn't changed, think about our celebrity culture! At that meal normal protocols were not followed and the disciples sat at table with dirty feet until Jesus, their leader, took a towel and a basin and redefined greatness. He taught them that the greatest thing we can do for others is to care about them and serve their needs.

Leaders who lead for the wellbeing of others inspire loyalty and love and this brings human flourishing. Leaders who are harsh and abusive cannot achieve that, their bullying is stifling and instead of producing human flourishing an organisation is stunted, underachieves and under-realises its purposes.

Jesus said, "If I then your Lord and teacher have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet... I have given you an example that you should do as I have done to you"

Those who understand Jesus' teaching will know that looking out for the wellbeing of others in acts of service is a key part of following him.

We don't need foot washing in our culture, or do we? What acts of service can we do for others, that are unpaid, not coerced, to do a job that needs do-



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ing, even facing up to an unpleasant task, prompted into action for the well-being of others?

Jesus cleaning his disciples' feet was a practical illustration of what he would do on the cross in order to clean his people from the taint of their sins. Our sin makes us messy and in the wonder of Christian belief we understand that Jesus gave himself for us on the cross, he died, was buried and rose again to bring forgiveness of sins, to "cleanse us from all unrighteousness" to make peace with God and the joy of his presence.

Please do join us if you can for any of our services this month.
Happy Easter and many Blessings

David

The Good Friday Walk 15th April

Whether this will be your first time or you have join us many times in the past
Come and join us for the return of the Good Friday Walk 15th April 2022

Approximate timings

10.00am	Northington
11.15am	Brown Candover
12.00pm	Chilton Manor Farm for Lunch
1.15pm	Preston Candover
2.30pm	Bradley
3.45pm	Wield

At every church we have a reading, a hymn and prayers. Some walk the whole route and some join us for part. We have our picnic lunches at Chilton Manor farm.

All are welcome on the walk, children especially for whom there is an egg hunt at journeys end – St. James's Wield along with refreshments for all.

Dogs welcome
Spend the day in good company
Fresh spring air
Wonderful countryside

Advance Notice

The Annual Buried Church Service at St. Nicholas, Chilton Candover will take place on Sunday 19th June at 6 pm.



Wield Cricket Club AGM

In the Yew Tree, Thursday 17th March 8.00 pm

Please support your local cricket club and come along to the AGM; there will be a chance to have a few beers with the regulars after the business part of the evening.

Dates for your Calendar:

AGM – 17th March in the Yew Tree

Ladies Social – Thursday 7th April, Supper in the Yew Tree

Junior Coaching Starts – TBA

Senior Season begins – 8th May

For further information about any aspect of the club, please contact:

Paul Johnson – chairman on 07720 349497

Ben Robinson – captain on 07903 513196

Neil Hewitson – secretary: Neil.Hewitson@KPMG.co.uk

Nicola Robinson – social/teas on 07767 238874 or ndes@kingsfarm.co.uk



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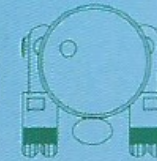
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The Blue Lamp Trust

The Blue Lamp Trust is a Hampshire based registered charity (charity number 1137786). It is a unique partnership between Hampshire Police, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, business and the community.

The Trust promotes community safety and security in Hampshire through two schemes

The Bobby Scheme and the Cyber Bobby Scheme:



The Bobby Scheme

The Bobby Scheme operates throughout Hampshire. It provides practical help with home safety and security to those over 65, vulnerable due to circumstance, disabled (over 18) and victims of burglary and domestic abuse.

A full crime prevention and fire safety survey is carried out by one of our trained, police-vetted fitters. They will provide both general and specific crime and fire prevention advice to improve home safety. When appropriate our fitters will fit such items as locks, spy-holes, door chains and smoke alarms, etc. This service is completely free.

The Trust can also supply and fit the Supra C500 Key Safe, an ACPO Police Accredited Key Safe. The cost to supply and fit is £75 Inc. VAT.

The Cyber Bobby Scheme

One of our police checked and trained Cyber advisors will visit the client in their own home and give advice and guidance on basic IT security and how to avoid being affected by a cybercrime or a cyber enabled crime. The service is open to those over 65, disabled (over 18) and victims of cyber crime. They will cover such things as; what is cybercrime, cyber and scam prevention advice, how to check privacy settings, signposting to other advice and resources, how to report issues and how to recognise scam emails and text messages. As with the Bobby Scheme the service is completely free.

As well as visits the team can do talks about both schemes to local community and social groups.

If you would like visit for either scheme or to arrange a talk, either go to our website <https://www.bluelamptrust.org.uk/bobby-scheme-choice/> email the team at info@bluelamptrust.org.uk or call 0300 777 0157

Walking with Wildlife, Robert Bryant

In the clear cold twilight of early dawn, a song-thrush starts to call. Just a few notes at first to warm up: a gentle wake-up to rouse the sleepy-heads before the breakfast concert begins. For two hours or so he sings his favourite phrases over and again, as if to announce winter's passing and its show-time for spring. Look around, he seems to say, note the rooks busy with their sticks, nesting high in the beech trees; view the sombre winter hedges now wash-day white with blackthorn blossom; spot those huge brown hares lolloping around the fields, and smile as the lambs play in their nursery pastures.

The song thrush is one of many, each well-spaced across their downland estates, bounded only by song. Even a tawny owl is moved to hoot from deep within its ivy-clad oaken retreat on the far side of the field. A great spotted woodpecker begins to drum, adding some percussion as it beats out its territorial call from the high branch of a storm-battered ash.

Heading up to Micheldever Woods on St. Valentine's Day after a night of rain, I find the muddy hollows, ruts and furrows on the woodland floor are now ankle-splash pools and puddles. Visiting a well-ridged ride where the flooded ruts form a shadowy wetland, all mirror smooth, I chance upon one bobbed with clumps of frogspawn. Common frogs hike up here year after year to breed. In previous years I've also found smooth newts nearby. As the snowdrops fade and the daffodils begin to bloom, the floral theme of St. David's Day is picked up by the pale yellow of primroses on sunny banks, the golden gleam of lesser celandines sprawling in damp shady verges, and perhaps the sunlit flash of a yellowhammer hedgehopping across the lanes.

At Abbotstone Down, the winter work parties have cleared a swathe of hazel from the southern slopes of the reserve to reveal the full extent of the grassy hummocks of the yellow meadow ant – an extraordinary metropolis of mounds and domes.

Robert Bryant
8 March '22

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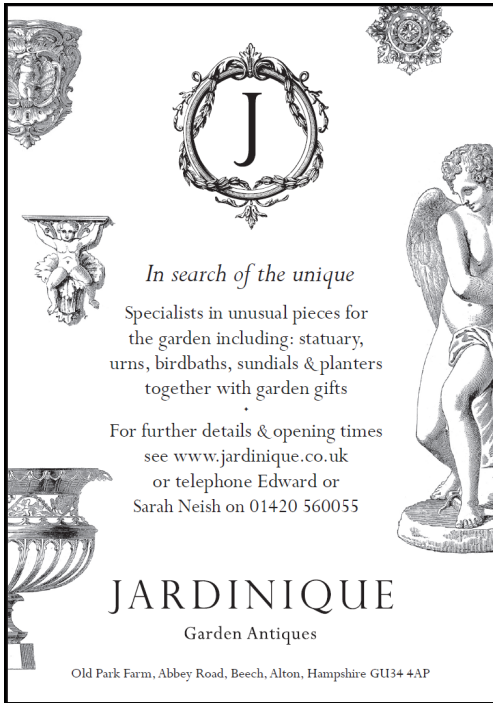


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On the Farm - Julian Gibbons

Two events recently have put worries about costs and sourcing of inputs, commodity prices and the weather in prospective.

At the NFU Annual Conference in February we had an address by the President of the World Farmers' Organisation, Theo De Jager. Theo farms on the boundaries of the Kruger National Park where he grows Macadamia nuts, Avocados and Mangoes. He originally farmed in Zimbabwe, but lost his farm to the land confiscation by the Mugabe regime. Here we rightly get concerned about hare and deer coursing. Theo and his neighbouring farmers in their valley have to employ security patrols to ensure the safety of their staff, themselves and their property from mob attacks.

I have attended over 14 conferences, but I have rarely seen a speaker captivate the audience of over 1200 quite like he managed. He eloquently put the case for farming and how we need to improve our management of soils. He advocated for productive agriculture to protect the wild areas of the planet and he strongly argued against the support of well-meaning NGO's who encourage subsistence farming in sub-Saharan Africa, because it meant keeping communities in poverty. He stated all farmers need to make a profit to be able to better themselves, to educate their families and to invest in their businesses. He also spoke passionately about policy and farmers need to be driven by science and that we as farmers must accept that might mean change.

His whole speech can be found on the NFU YouTube channel.

Obviously the second event is the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the knock on effects for the whole food chain and beyond. Suddenly the price and availability of wheat has hit the main news pages and TV news headlines. This is a shock to the grain trade not seen since the Russian grain grab of the early 1970's. I spoke to an Irish friend the other day who farms arable crops and conventional and organic chicken supplying a major processor in Northern Ireland. The province is a large importer of grains and they do buy organic wheat and sunflowers from Ukraine out of Black sea ports. He said that a 50000t vessel was sunk and that no more is being shipped, so it will be near impossible to source the organic grain they need. That will all need to come from somewhere else. The big impact will be for North Africa, they source the biggest proportion of their grains from Black Sea ports.

We currently cannot get a price for Diesel when we order, delivery will take 7 days and suppliers are reluctant to give a price on order that might have risen strongly by delivery date.

The gas price has blown any possibility of recovery in the fertiliser market, price or supply. We are planning on the possibility of not being able to source all we would need next year, so are planning this year's applications accordingly. The planned reductions will result in a lower yield potential, but that ultimately will be driven by the weather.

We were due to have some fallow ground, but with commodity prices as they are for new crop we cannot justify it. So we will probably plant spring sown oilseed rape.



Out of hours telephone number
111

The Alresford Surgery

Station Road
ALRESFORD
Hampshire

REMINDER: Please continue to wear face masks when attending our Surgery

Please continue to wear a face mask when attending our surgeries, remembering also to wash your hands, and make space: hands, face, space. This is so we can continue to protect our most vulnerable patients, as well as each other.

Thank you.

Retirements

After a combined total of fifty-six years, Ann Lowman and Susie Wright will be retiring from the Practice in May of this year.

Recruitment will be underway over the coming weeks.

We wish them both well in their retirement.

Welcome to new staff

We offered a warm welcome to our new Care Co-Ordinator Sarah King who will be working full time with us supporting & leading our Reception team.

We have also been lucky enough to recruit two new Receptionists to our team who started training with us in February & March.

Claire & Beth will be working alongside our already well established reception team.

Good Friday & Easter Monday closure

Please make sure you have sufficient supplies of your usual medications to last over the bank holiday period which you can order in a number of ways;

- In person at the surgery
- By post
- Via the NHS APP or Patient Access

The surgery will be closed on Friday 15 April and Monday 18 April. If you need urgent medical care you can access the Out of Hours service for advice, a face to face appointment or, if it is necessary, a home visit & the number to call is **111**.



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Your tickets with above Ref. will be waiting at the door

Donations also very welcome if unable or do not wish to attend - with ref: 'Ukraine' please

in aid of **Medical Supplies for Ukraine**

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СЛАВА УКРАЇНІ



Candover Valley Gardening Club

At our February meeting, despite it being the eve of storm Eunice we had a very good attendance for an interesting presentation on Summer Bulbs by Tim Woodland from Direct Bulbs of Winchester, Tim showed colourful slides of summer blooms including Cannas, Lilies and Nerines and brought along a wide selection of bulbs for sale to tempt us to stock up on more Summer colour for our pots and borders.

On 21st April at 7:30pm at Preston Candover Village Hall, local nursery owner Marina Christopher will be giving us a masterclass on propagation, including cuttings, collecting seed and successful sowing, which will be very useful to help us to increase our favourite plants for free.

She will bring along plants, and other gardening items for sale. If this sounds of interest, you are most welcome to join us as a guest for £3.00 for the evening, however since this is the first meeting of our Gardening Club year and the start of our new programme you may wish to become a member for £12.00 which will cover interesting talks and garden visits through to March 2023. For more information or to get in touch our contact details are as follows: Candover Valley Gardening Club on Facebook or our website at <http://candovervalley.org/2021/04candover-valley-gardening-club-2/>

Farleigh Parish Playgroup



Sliddesden Millennium Village Hall

Friday Mornings 11am-12noon Term Time

1st, 8th (Easter end of term party) 29th April and 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th May

0 - 4 year olds and their grown-ups.

A warm welcome awaits you - we look forward to you joining us.

Cost: £2 donation per family

Contact:

Melanie (07833-528040) Claire (07757 498653)



WEATHERWISE By Simon Bourne

Summary of weather observations taken at Northington Down in February 2022

Temperatures (degrees centigrade/Fahrenheit)

Highest	13.7/57	(16 th)
Lowest	-4.1/25	(11 th)

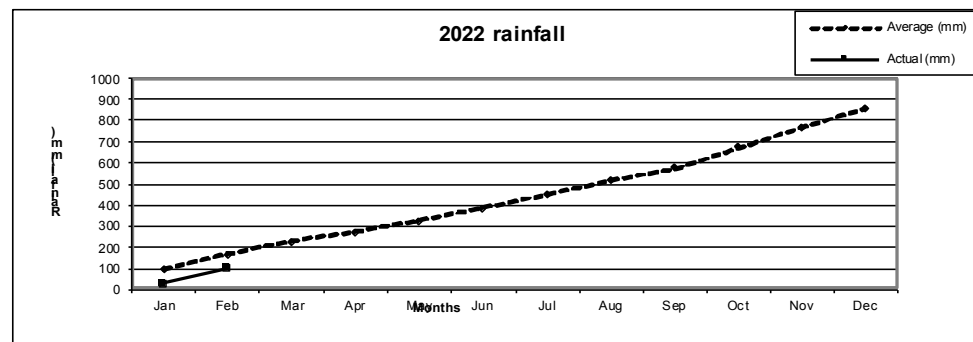
Warmest Night	6.3/43	(18 th)
Coollest Day	7.0/45	(24 th)

Average maximum temperature	10.5/51
Average minimum temperature	2.1/36
Number of air frosts	7

Rainfall (millimetres/inches)

Monthly total	70.4/2.77	(average 67.7/2.67)
Annual total	92.9/3.66	(average 161.7/6.37)
Maximum 24hr. fall	25.9/1.02	(13 th)
Number of days with rain	18	

Summary The weather at the beginning of the month was quite settled and mild with rain mainly falling overnight and it was breezy on the 6th. Worse was to come, with a succession of depressions bringing over an inch of rain on the 13th and three storms between the 16th and 21st, the second named Eunice on the 18th was the most severe. There were fallen trees and structural damage to properties, power outages and travel disruption as strong winds swept across the UK. Temperatures were mild throughout and there was three days of all but unbroken sunshine from the 25th which brought a welcome relief spoilt only by the dull, wet weather on the last day of the month. Rainfall for February was about average and the winter months were mild and dry with about 3/4 of the normal rainfall.



Candover Valley Club

The Candover Valley Club is located in a beautiful spot next to the church and fronted by the cricket pitch in the middle of the quiet village of Brown Candover. We are conveniently situated on the B3046 between Alresford and Basingstoke.

Both the clubroom and the back hall have recently been renovated and have never looked so inviting. Club night is Saturday from 6.30pm to 10pm if you fancy a drink, a game of darts or pool and a chat with the locals. Food is also served between 7pm and 9pm.

Our magnificent Skittle Alley is also available to hire – great for fun evenings with groups of people and parties!

The club and/or hall are both available to hire at very reasonable rates. We have a fully licensed bar, fully fitted kitchen and large spaces for wedding receptions and parties. Please contact Alison at cvchires@gmail.com - No booking is too large or too small.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

 www.candovervalleyclub.co.uk



[facebook.com/candovervalleyclub](https://www.facebook.com/candovervalleyclub)



[@CandoverClub](https://twitter.com/CandoverClub)

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Swarraton and Northington WI

At our March meeting we welcomed Sarah Delves, a V&A expert lecturer who brought along a wonderful collection of antique and vintage compacts. Sarah reminded us of the three main historic purposes for makeup; to attract, to hide and for war. Cleopatra's dark eye make up was made from coal and used to protect her eyes from the sun, a sort of ancient alternative to sunglasses. In the seventeenth century it was the fashion to place celestial fabric patches on the face to hide blemishes. In earlier times crushed beetles, charcoal, lead based foundations and even dung was used as makeup. It was normal for the nobility to apply their makeup in full public view to impress and put on a show.

However, all that changed in Victorian times. Queen Victoria frowned upon makeup considering it only to be worn by loose women and strumpets. It all changed again from 1901 and gained momentum during the First World War once women had started to earn their own money.

The early 20th century powder compacts were tiny but during the 20's and 30's they became bigger and with more style and creativity. Foil decorations and real butterfly wings were used for decoration. World War 2 compacts were often decorated with a regimental badge and popularly given as gifts to sweethearts. Sarah showed us examples crafted to look like envelopes, cameras, belts, parcels, suitcases and even a grand piano. All were very compact and skilfully engineered and the 1950's was the fun decade for powder compacts.

Paper, card papier-mâché, silver & gold was all used in the manufacture but from the 1960's plastic took over.

Stratton was one of the leading companies right up until the 1990's. We all agreed that a return to those refillable beautiful compacts would be a great idea in our eco-friendlier approach today.

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE on Tuesday 5th April at 2pm when we will hear members' Reminiscences and have afternoon tea. Do join



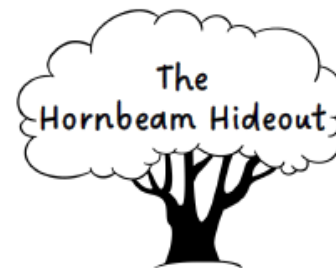
Steve Brine - ASKtheMinister meeting

In his parish column, Steve Brine, MP for Winchester, mentioned on the evening of **Thursday 7th April** he will be bringing the current COP President to Winchester for the latest in his ASKtheMINISTER series. It will start at 7pm and be at a venue in Winchester.

See www.stevebrine.com/news/cop-president-visit-winchester

Send an email to register at steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk

The meeting is for all constituents in Winchester & Chandler's Ford, not just those living in the City.



Come and join us at The Hornbeam Hideout for family fun in the woods. Explore, play and learn in our woodland setting with a forest school ethos.

Children of all ages welcome and perfect for home educators. A session will run every Friday from 10:30am to 12:30pm.

Term time only - first session Friday 29th April.

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thehornbeamhideout@gmail.com

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From Steve Brine, MP for Winchester, Alresford & Itchen Valley

0207 219 7189 (House of Commons) Email: steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk

Website: www.stevebrine.com Steve Brine TV: www.stevebrine.tv www.fb.com/SteveBrineMP

No sooner had Covid moved off the front pages, as we transition from pandemic to endemic, the world was plunged into another crisis with President Putin's war against **Ukraine**.

We simply do not know what changed world this event will lead us to but I suspect it will be far-reaching and shape our lives in one way or another for many years to come. Like all of you, I feel a sense of helplessness too but as an MP I can vote to impose the toughest suite of sanctions in our history against Russian and I have done so. More will come and not just from the state as companies and individuals vote with their feet.

I can also speak up about the humanitarian crisis and Britain's role in that; which I have done no matter how hard it was for Ministers to hear. There is always more we can do, and there are many things we are doing which Government Ministers simply cannot shout about on the ten o'clock news, but I often reminded our Western alliance is a team effort with many countries doing their bit. You can stay updated on what I say in the House on this, and the various ways you can help, at stevebrine.com/news

Since my last column for the *West Dever News*, I have presented to Parliament a Bill on a subject very close to my heart – **breast cancer**.

Its purpose is to increase uptake of NHS Breast Screening Programme appointments, especially in groups currently less likely to take up the offer, and to extend eligibility to people at an increased risk of breast cancer because of their family history. My hope is to influence the debate, and the ongoing Health & Care Bill, because we potentially have a looming crisis in this area as a result of Covid and the need to drive up early detection. You can find out more about my Bill at stevebrine.com/breastcancer

Tackling **addiction** (both drug and alcohol) is a real passion of mine and something I have returned to time again; both in Government and from the backbenches. I recently visited two organisations that help in this field; the AA, who hold groups in Winchester every day of the week, and a really interesting new organisation called *Help Me Stop*.

The AA invited the Mayor, The Dean and myself to mark their 70th birthday recently and we were reminded this is an organisation that is truly a beacon of light and continues to do so much to help us battle one of the major addictions which blights so many lives. If this is your battle, or someone you love, see aadarknessintolight.org.uk

Finally, the work of our **armed forces** are never far away in a place like Winchester (and wider Hampshire of course) but I cannot tell you how much I am learning through my time as a member of the current Armed Forces Parliamentary Scheme. In short, we visit army facilities all over the country to help us better understand their work, their challenges and inform debate in Parliament.

In recent months we've been to Helicopter Command (at RAF Odiham), Sandhurst, Army Medical Services and the Specialist Weapons School near Westbury where we saw our potent anti-tank weapons systems. It was a timely visit as they very soon after were in active use by our Ukrainian friends. We often say the British Army are the best of the best. We're not wrong. More at stevebrine.com but instant updates at fb.com/SteveBrineMP



EMPLOYMENT LAW TIPS FOR START-UP BUSINESSES

Starting a new business is an exciting time, but if you are planning to take on an employee, there are various laws, rules and regulations of which you should be aware.

Before recruiting it is important to make sure your business premises are safe and fit for purpose and that you are adequately insured for public liability and also for employer's liability.

An employment contract exists as soon as an applicant accepts your offer of employment even if the contract is only verbal.

It is a must to have a written employment contract at the start of employment to ensure that both you and the employee are clear about what you expect of each other.

There are legal obligations placed on all employers including notice periods, the right to be paid the minimum or living wage, rights in respect of holiday pay and sick pay, breaks, pension provision and rights to time off. Checking the employee's right to work in the UK before the employee starts work is also a strict legal obligation.

The rights to time off include such statutory rights as flexible working, parental leave, dependant leave, maternity, paternity, adoptive and shared parental leave. As an employer you must familiarise yourself with these matters which protect the rights of the employee as well as your obligations in respect of pay during these absences.

You will also need to consider policies and procedures that you will wish to rely on later such as grievance, capability and disciplinary procedures.

If hiring self-employed people initially you also need to be aware that if they are not employees but are workers, then they will still have certain rights including an obligation for you to pay them holiday pay and in some cases sick pay. Even workers hired through an agency acquire the right to be treated in some respects the same as employees after 12 weeks in the business.

Employment law is complex and is constantly changing, with many potentially expensive pitfalls for the unsuspecting. It is imperative that you seek the advice of an Employment law specialist, such as Gill Brown, Jacqueline Kendal or Anna Burdett at a very early stage so that you do things correctly from the outset.

Contact details

Gill Brown on **01256 854605** or gill.brown@phillips-law.co.uk
Jacqueline Kendal on **01256 854626** or jacqueline.kendal@phillips-law.co.uk
Anna Burdett on **01256 854603** or anna.burdett@phillips-law.co.uk



CANDOVER VALLEY CHOIR
Monthly Newsletter – April 2022

It was delightful to have the opportunity in December last year to sing at one of the traditional Nine Lessons and Carols services in St Peter's, Brown Candover. Alas due to the then newly emerging omicron variant of Covid 19, the Nine Lessons and Carols service at St John's Northington was moved outdoors. The weather was kind though, and a good choral time was had by all who attended, choir and congregation alike.

Candover Valley Choir has now resumed rehearsals. These take place on Thursdays at 7.45, usually in St John's Northington. **We would be delighted to welcome new singers** - do drop me or our Chairman, Julian Jones, an email if you'd like to know more. There are no auditions.

This season we are working on some pieces specially composed to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, plus the beautiful 'The Seal's Lullaby', by Eric Whitacre, a Ukrainian Folk Song, and some pieces by Chilcott, Rutter, Elgar, and Schubert. Plus, we will be having fun with some lighter material including for instance, 'The Rhythm of Life' from Sweet Charity, and some New Zealand folk songs.

Why is that we all enjoy singing so much? An article published recently by Making Music states: 'Making music is fun, uses different skills to those you need to employ in the rest of your life, is relaxing and stress-busting, and makes you feel better about yourself. There is now a growing body of research which shows that this can amount to better physical and mental health: making music really is good for you.'

So - if you would like to know more about the **Candover Valley Choir** or would like to come and join us **do contact one of us listed below**. We would be very happy to talk things through with you.

For more information do contact:

Julian Jones, Choir Chairman, on:
juliang.jones@btinternet.com

or

Jane Bryant, Music Director
bryantjane50@gmail.com

Jane Bryant
Music Director

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Cllr Jackie Porter County Corner - March 2022

County Councillor for the Itchen Valley Division **Jackie Porter**,
Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk, text 07973 696 085

I was pleased and humbled to be a part of the 'Stand With Ukraine Vigil' arranged with City of Sanctuary, Southampton and Winchester Visitors Group (who support refugees

day to day) and Winchester City Council on Monday 1st March at Abbey Gardens. We notified the public through social media and despite the terribly wet weather, between 300-400 people attended to stand with the Ukrainian people. Please make donations via www.dec.org.uk who work with many other charities too. There are links to more ways to help on www.hants.gov.uk

The storms of late February brought home the fragility of our services. This month, I am looking especially at the services that we need for our education, homes and businesses to function.

Emergency planning: I met with HCC regarding their emergency planning when trees come down, blocking roads. It was an unprecedented event, but I'd really like to see HCC man the phones at the weekend instead of having to make a call to 101 when we know there is a weather event on the way. The best way to report a fallen tree remains online (plus picture if you can) or email roads@hants.gov.uk. In the light of the effects of the storms, will you be amending/updating your personal emergency plan? I had a chance to speak to some of the tree surgeons and electricians. They deserve our thanks, working in such dreadful conditions.

Electricity: many of you endured power cuts in the recent Dudley, Eunice and Franklin storms. Some residents are trying to beat electrical dependency by installing Solar Panels and Back Up batteries, **using an HCC sponsored scheme last year**. With just 25 home projects completed, and 271 cancelled out of over 1500 requests, it is clear that the supply chain isn't as resilient as hoped. Many people have paid significant deposits. I have raised this with the Leader, Cllr Mans, so if you know someone who committed to this scheme, please ask them to contact me. Thank you.

The Community Fibre Partnership Organisers and I were disappointed that the Gigabit broadband meeting with BDUK and Openreach was postponed until April: another delay to our hopes for a faster service. I'll report more in May

Residents needing help with fuel food or heating should contact their children's school, WCC (01962 840222) or Citizens Advice (0808 2787861) for assistance. Grants can be given to families or any adult over 60.

The County Council is cutting the street light levels again by 65%. This time, it is all through the evening, not just late at night. But they can set higher light levels

according to area, so if you think this will affect your safety, please let me know, and we'll make a plea for your journey to home or work to be better lit.

If you have a site on which you'd like HCC to plant a tree, please search 'tree planting on www.hants.gov.uk or go to <https://hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/tree-planting>

Good news: Hampshire's new Local Transport Plan LTP4 is out for a twelve-week consultation now. It is a large document, but with good ambitions and lots of detail, and worth reading. Go to www.hants.gov.uk & search 'LTP4'.

Cart and Horses: Another month, another accident as commuting traffic grows again. The traffic engineers made changes to speed, light levels and added CCTV following the fatality and subsequent accidents pre lockdown.

HCC argue that the junction has been safer since then. I disagree that this is a typical year- the traffic has been so much quieter. I have seen the CCTV footage of two recent accidents: it is distressing to watch, and a pattern is emerging. I have asked for consideration of stop signs *as a temporary measure* until Junction 9 is complete, but I believe we need to show strength of opinion to National Highways, as they finalise their road scheme for junction 9, right up to the Cart & Horses. I have shared a petition on Facebook, and it is on my website too. www.winld.org.uk/SafeCH



**New Northington Showroom
Open for Winter Season.**

Email us in advance for an appointment to view our wide range of affordable, stylish kit for 3 – 83 years. Sorry no 'preloved' accepted due to space constraints. We are happy to sell at schools & fundraising events; please contact us to discuss.

Webshop coming soon!

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www.polarexchange.co.uk
M 07783 538389/07767 238874

Candover Valley Store

community made

Easter and Early May Bank Holiday changes to opening hours

Please be sure to make a note of changes to opening times at both the store and the post office for the forthcoming Bank Holidays.

Good Friday 15 April – store open 8.00am to 4.00pm. Post office closed.

Easter Saturday 16 April – store open 8.30am to 5.00pm.
Post office open 9.00am to 12.30pm.

Easter Sunday 17 April – store open 8.30am to 12.30pm. Post office closed.

Easter Monday 18 April – store open 8.30am to 12.30pm. Post office closed.

Early May Bank Holiday 2 May – store open 8.30am to 12.30pm.
Post office closed.

Golden rabbits, chocolate eggs, hot cross buns – we have them all!

With fuel prices now at such a high point, it makes more sense than ever to shop local. The store has a range of Easter treats, sweet or savoury, for all ages. Delicious, pillowy hot cross buns from the Good Taste Bakery are in stock now, priced at £2.39 for four and proving to be very popular. They are available to order if you want to be absolutely sure of having plenty for your traditional Good Friday teatime.

Floral abundance

As spring advances, we will see the return of Medstead Flower Shack posies and hand-tied bouquets filled with tulips and other early blooms grown just a handful of miles away from our store. The range of plants from the Hairy Pot Company is widening too. Let's celebrate and support these two amazing local businesses!

Thank you to all our Queen's Platinum Jubilee year snowdrop planters! By the end of March, 7000 snowdrops will have been distributed up and down the valley. We are most grateful to Carolyn Dawnay and Jane Ballard for masterminding this community initiative to make the Candover Valley even more beautiful and we look forward to seeing the results next year in the early spring.