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*Owing to pressure of copy space we regret it may be necessary to abridge any  
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#### Disclaimer

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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**

**Associate Rector: Stephen Mourant, The Rectory, Church Lane  
Ellisfield.**

**Tel: 01256 381 217. Email: stevemourant@btinternet.com**

<http://www.farleighcandoverandwield.org.uk>

## Rotā for Services

*BCP = Book of Common Prayer CW = Common Worship*

### The Parishes of Candover Valley and Wield

*BCP = Book of Common Prayer CW = Common Worship*

**Sunday 7 February Second Sunday before Lent**

*Readings Proverbs 8:1,22-31 Colossians 1:15-20, John 1:1-14  
Psalm 104:26-end*

*Sermon: Are you "Walking in the Light"?*

**Sunday 14 February Last Sunday before  
Lent**

*Readings 2 Kings 2:1-12, 2 Corinthians 4:3-6, Mark 9:2-9  
Psalm 50:1-6*

*Sermon: Did you ever see anything like this?*

**Tuesday 16 February Shrove Tuesday**

## Ash Wednesday 17 February

\_\_\_\_\_””\_\_\_\_\_

**Sunday 21 February First Sunday of Lent**  
*Readings* Genesis 9:8-17, 1 Peter 3:18-end, Mark 1:9-15  
Psalm 25:1-9  
*Sermon:* *Have you recognised signs of the Kingdom?*

\_\_\_\_\_””\_\_\_\_\_

**Sunday 28 February Second Sunday of Lent**  
*Readings* Genesis 17:1-7,15-16, Romans 4:13-end,  
Mark 8:31-end Psalm 22:23-end  
*Sermon* *Self-denial, not self-fulfilment is the way to life*

\_\_\_\_\_””\_\_\_\_\_

**Sunday 7 March Third Sunday in Lent**  
*Readings* Exodus 20:1-17, 1 Corinthians 1:18-25,  
John 2:13-22 Psalm 19  
*Sermon:* *I am a fool for Christ: whose fool are you?*

\_\_\_\_\_””\_\_\_\_\_

### Farleigh Parish

**Sunday 7 February** Second Sunday before Lent  
**Sunday 14 February** Last before Lent  
**Wednesday 17 February** Ash Wednesday  
**Sunday 21 February** First Sunday in Lent  
**Sunday 28 February** Second Sunday of Lent  
**Sunday 7 March** Third Sunday of Lent



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Dear Friends

As spring is in the air, and snowdrops are bursting out, hopes rise for a better year ahead after so much trauma and fear.

As we look forward to each new day as a gift of God (remember God's present is God presence with us now), it is time to look away from what is thrown at us hour after hour in the media, and start looking up to the Lord who loves us and is with us. A colleague shared that last year when the epidemic was rising so fast, as he left to go on a prayer walk in the city where he lives, his first overwhelming experience was a wave of fear. Then, as he paused, he said he heard as distinctly as he had ever heard, the voice of God speaking quietly to him: "Where is your faith? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life?" (Luke 8:25, Matthew 6:27). Or, The Message "why can't you trust me?"

This virus has brought an attack on our minds as well as our bodies: listening to the media can condition us into thinking that God doesn't care; but He does. If we believe that God exists, that He rewards those who earnestly seek him (Hebrews 11:6), and that He loves us and is in us because we invited him, why would we choose fear instead of faith? Either we do trust Him or we don't; if we do, we will look into His glorious face, marvel at His promises to us, and relax and choose to trust that He is with us through this storm. And even if we succumb to this or to any other illness that befalls us, we have our citizenship in heaven, which is our destination, so why spend hours worrying about what may not happen, and knowing where we are headed?

A word for this time I think is "**endurance**": many of us have had to endure all sorts of things in life's journey, and Jesus has been with us all the time, whether we recognise Him or not. When our lives are undergirded with His Word and His promises, we are called to persevere. Enduring hardship is part of life: we have a Saviour who endured the cross, who was raised from the dead who lives now and is in us; and the Holy Spirit within us gives us the power to keep going, to keep looking up, and to choose faith not fear.

Sometimes I have found myself assailed at night in my dreams or sleeping lightly, and had doubts coming at me like arrows; I have learned to praise the Lord, and worship him, even in those semi-conscious moments, and as time has passed, as soon as those attacks arise, it is easier to praise Him because that is my "default" – and the peace comes. That has been so particularly in these last 12 months, but the secret is always, to set my mind on things that are above, where Christ is seated, at the right hand of God. We all have choices to make – choosing faith, not fear, and realising this is a long haul, but an hour at a time, where we can sink or choose to rise above the "slough of despond" as John Bunyan put it in "Pilgrim's Progress," through trusting Jesus.

The next few weeks, we will continue to have our Sunday worship online, until the situation improves and we are able to meet together to worship – we have published



our February worship rota without the service times, but at least you all have the Sunday Bible readings and possible sermon titles; and should the miracle happen and the virus die away – as they do – the usual pattern will re-commence and we will get the information to you quickly.

Lent is almost upon us, and elsewhere we are publishing what we are going to do online for you all – we hope a lot of you will join in on “Zoom.” Do not worry... do not fear... God is with us.

Blessings in Jesus,  
Stephen

## Exploring faith course Spring 2021

What is the meaning of life? What proof is there for the existence of God? Can God be known personally? Can a person experience the presence of Jesus in their lives today? Are there questions that you’ve always wanted to ask but been afraid to admit you don’t know the answers?

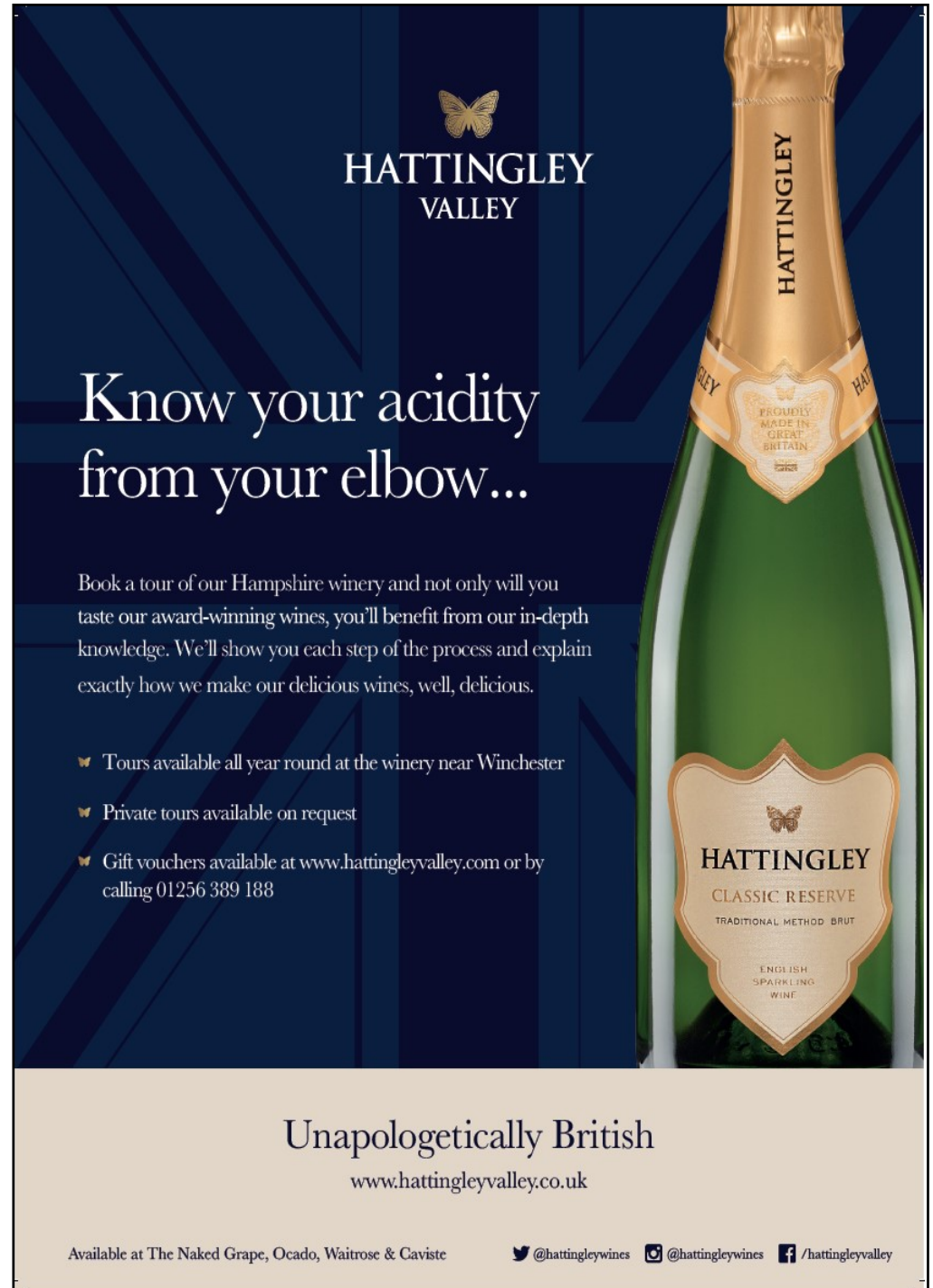
Our next course is now booking, and due to start in early February on Zoom – both daytime and evenings are possible depending on numbers and availability.

There’ll be some homework to do – for anyone seriously interested, doing a little research and reading always helps hugely.

Please let me know if you want to come and see: email me please at: [stevemourant@btinternet.com](mailto:stevemourant@btinternet.com)

May God bless you who seek, that you may also find.

*Stephen Mourant*  
Associate Rector.



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<u>Church</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Sidesmen</u>	<u>Readers</u>
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<b>online</b>	<b>until</b>	<b>further</b>	<b>notice</b>
<b>David or</b>	<b>Stephen</b>	<b>will send</b>	<b>email</b>
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## Wield Christmas Carols

Around 30 people met on the Village Green on a rather damp 23<sup>rd</sup> of December evening to sing in Christmas.



Despite the weather and socially-distanced restrictions, it was still a good way to kick-start the festive period. Several families took it in turns to choose a carol and lead the singing.

£129.85 was raised for the Murray Parish Trust's important work to benefit sick children and their families at Southampton General Hospital. Huge thanks to Phil Pullinger for organising lights, tree and logistics, to Alwin Hutchinson for publicising the event and to Jean Frost who spear-headed efforts to ensure the time-honoured Wield carolling evening would go ahead in 2020, whatever the restrictions.

Here's to more normal and socially non-distanced carolling in December 2021.



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At Christmas we watched video clips from a Royal Ballet production of The Nutcracker whilst a member of their orchestra treated us to a unique glimpse of how things worked backstage.

On February 17th we will be learning about **Fakes and Forgeries: The Art of Deception** from a former specialist police detective.

Or if you prefer to learn about a topic in more detail we have a Study Day on February 24th from Peter Medhurst entitled **Paintings inspired by Music and Music inspired by Painting** who will discuss and analyse a range of magnificent paintings as well as giving us a live recital. Lectures cost £5 and Study Days cost £15 for non-members

For more information on these and future lectures and to register for either of these events visit:  
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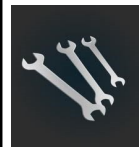
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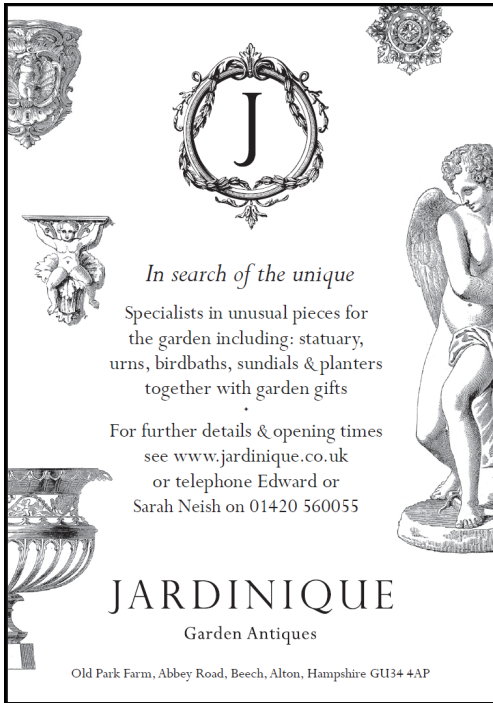
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John said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Hampshire (part of the Walking in England suite of websites ([www.walkinginengland.co.uk](http://www.walkinginengland.co.uk)) – one for each county in England) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris  
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## Jackie's County Corner

### Nothing from Jackie this month

Here is how you can contact her if you have issues you would like to discuss.

County Councillor Jackie Porter

[www.jackieporter.co.uk](http://www.jackieporter.co.uk)

07973 696 085

[Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk](mailto:Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk)

There is national vaccination programme being held at mass vaccination centres across the country, this is running alongside our local programme.

If you are in a priority group 1-4 & are willing to travel to one of the mass vaccination centres, then please visit; <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/> to organise a booking via the National programme.

We are doing this in priority order ONLY - See below :

T1. Residents in care home for older adults  
Staff working in care homes for older adults.

2. All those 80 years and over.

Frontline Health and social care workers.

3. All those 75 years of age and over.

4. All those 70 years and over.

Clinically extremely vulnerable individuals (not including pregnant women and those less than 16 years of age)

5. All those 65 years of age and over.

6. Adults age 16 to 65 years of age in an at risk group.

7. Adults age 55 years of age and over.

8. All those 50 years and over.

**Please do not call us** – we have strict guidelines for eligibility & we are already overwhelmed.

This will be a long process taking many months but we are delighted to have made a start.

To keep you as informed as possible, we will update these messages frequently as we become aware of more information from NHS England:

Some hospitals have now received the Pfizer/BioNTech Covid vaccine and are starting to invite patients in for their vaccine

Some GP practices have received the Pfizer/BioNTech Covid vaccine and are inviting patients in for their vaccine.

We will let you know the specific local Covid vaccination plans as soon as we can.

We will contact you individually if and when you are invited to have a vaccine and will keep this website updated.

The vaccine will be given in order of priority to those at highest risk first.

Please act on your invitation when it comes, and make sure you attend your appointments.

Please continue to abide by all the social distancing and hand hygiene guidance, which will still save lives.

Meanwhile, we all need to keep to the advice of hand-washing, face masks and social distancing but we all look forward to the time when we will return to life as normal.

Thank you for your patience from GP Partners of Alresford Surgery.



## The Alresford Surgery

Station Road  
ALRESFORD  
Hampshire

Out of hours telephone number  
**111**

Surgery telephone number 01962 732345 SO24 9JL

### **Before attending the surgery:**

The surgery is extremely busy with an increased workload & additional pressures.

We are unable to lock our doors like we did previously so please do consider carefully how vital your visit to us is.

Our dispensary has been constantly busy throughout Covid and due to social distancing measures are working in smaller teams.

Prescriptions take 72 hours to be processed, please do not call, email or attend the dispensary asking for your prescription before the 72 hours has passed, as it will not be ready early!

When attending the Surgery, if the waiting area appears busy & social distancing difficult, then please wait outside until more space is available.

Please do not come into the surgery if you have any of the following;

- A high temperature or fever
- A new continuous cough
- Loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

Please stay at home and use the following website for further help.  
[111.nhs.uk/covid-19](https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19)

You need to be wearing a face covering/mask before entering the building, even if collecting a prescription.

To ensure there are as few patients in the building as possible,

- Do not attend more than 5 minutes before your appointment time.

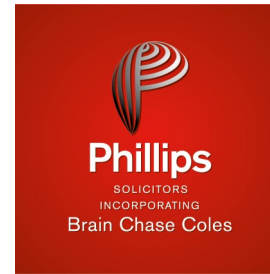
- You should attend the surgery alone, unless you need an essential carer or parent/guardian to accompany you.

Any enquiries relating to appointments, repeat medications or otherwise please telephone (01962 732345) rather than attending the reception desk.

### **Covid 19 Vaccinations:**

In addition to routine work, we are heavily involved in the Covid vaccination programme we are required to call patients by a priority list, starting with the patients who are most at risk.

You will be invited when it is your turn and when we have received adequate supply. We have attempted to contact & offer all our over 80 year old patients & those contacted will have been offered their vaccination.



## **.Are you thinking of divorce?**

It goes without saying that 2020 was a very difficult year for most of us.

Indeed, the pressures of being forced to spend time together because of lockdowns and social distancing measures, job worries, financial strains and the inability to access support from family and friends have contributed to a very tough year with many people re-evaluating their lives and relationships.

ships.

Sadly, for many the coronavirus pandemic has proved to be the catalyst for couples to go their separate ways and file for divorce with perhaps Christmas arguments being the last straw.

If you are thinking about separating from your partner your first port of call should be to get some legal advice from one of our Family Law solicitors. They are on hand to offer you support and get you through the divorce process.

At Phillips, we know only too well that it can be a deeply emotional, upsetting and difficult time.

We are here to give advice that you can trust, particularly when it comes to your children, home and sorting out your finances.

Our solicitors will listen to your concerns and discuss your options, letting you know what your rights are, as well as those of your former partner.

We can also assist you through family mediation if you prefer, through Haymarket Family Mediation which is part of Phillips.

For many people, mediation is a quicker and cheaper option for resolving family difficulties about children or finances than going to court. It empowers separating couples to make their own decisions together.

Our objective is to help you as quickly and effectively as possible with the best outcomes for you and your family.

Whatever the issue you face this New Year, we can help you and your family find a way forward.

To find out more about our Divorce or Separation legal services please call Hayley Eachus on 01256 854633, email [hayley.eachus@phillips-law.co.uk](mailto:hayley.eachus@phillips-law.co.uk) or visit [www.phillips-law.co.uk/family](http://www.phillips-law.co.uk/family)



## Walking with Wildlife

Winter walks on chilly mornings following a night of freezing fog can be quite exhilarating. Waking up to find silver birches transformed into elegant artworks was delightful - every twig delicately rimed with frosty filigrees. Heading over to Kites Hill, Totford for a brisk ramble, the row of beech trees lining the roadside were white with layers of hoar frost, while the valley below was completely cloaked by fog.

The lone yew trees of Totford Down, sentinels of the upper hillside, were just shadows in the mist as we set off, well wrapped up, along the Wayfarer's Walk towards Brown Candover.

The familiar trail was now a frozen world of frosty hedgerows, here and there aglow with rose hips. Ice sculptures of hogweed decorated the verges. Foraging parties of redwings roamed the treetops, while blackbirds clattered from the hedge depths. From the distant fogbanks came the constant chatter of fieldfares and the croaking of rooks. Woodpigeons sat in well-spaced rows along the power lines. A red kite floated effortlessly over the sheep pastures of the valley bottom. Rows of fresh molehills criss-crossed the grasslands as the males begin their search for springtime mates.

The Candover Brook, steaming in the chill air, ran fast and clear, a winter-bourne now in full spate. Pairs of mallard ducks, wings beating frantically, headed down the mist filled valley.

Reaching the junction with Bryces or Duck Lane, we turned left into Copse Lane, a tree-lined trackway that leads up to the intriguingly named Burnt House Copse. The chalky banks of this hillside byway were riddled with rabbit burrows. Wrens flickered through the hedge bottoms, while dunnocks broke cover to fly ahead of us. Dense thickets of dogwood stems, red as dying embers, stood out in the misty half-light.

From the top of this path there are usually fine views over the valley, but on this morning all was shrouded in a haze of drifting fog. As we tramped back retracing our path, the frost abruptly vanished, leaving sparkling ice crystals to patter down from the trees.

Robert Bryant  
12 January '21

fell from 5 to 2, the lowest recorded since 2014. Interestingly as assaults increased from 21 in 2019 to 31 in 2020, most were of a domestic nature.

Crimes such as Harassment, Blackmail etc. are deemed as 'Other Crimes'. Those involving theft of/from vehicles are recorded as Vehicle Crime – (VC). The breakdown shows that seven parishes saw an increase in reported crime; eleven saw a decrease and four had the same number in both years.

Two parishes had no reported crime at all.

Parish	20 19	20 20	Crimes Reported
Preston Candover	48	21	1 x Burglary Dwelling, 6 x NDB, 10 x CD, 2 x Theft, 2 x Assault
Brown Candover	7	2	1 x Criminal Damage, 1 x Other Crime
Chilton Candover	5	7	1 x NDB, 2 x CD, 3 x VC 1 x Theft
Bradley	4	1	1 x Vehicle Crime
Axford	3	1	1 x Burglary Dwelling
Nutley	0	0	No Reported Crime

NDB = Non Dwelling Burglary; CD = Criminal Damage;  
DR = Drugs Possession, VC = Vehicle crime

Finally I have had a further reported incident of sheep worrying, this time at Winslade. A dog, off the lead, was found chasing sheep and bit into several causing one 10-month-old lamb a considerable wound requiring treatment.

Further action is underway against the owner and person in charge of the dog at the time. May I yet again warn **all owners** of dogs to please keep your dog under proper control and ideally on a lead when near farm livestock.

With the current lock down in place people are walking more with their dogs which is good, but yet again and this is the third time I have had to deal with a sheep worrying incident in also as many months, keep your dog under control. Please keep to designated footpaths, enjoy the countryside but follow the Countryside Code. Please also remember if a dog is found worrying livestock on agricultural land the farmers do have a lawful right to shoot that dog, please do not put you, your dog or the farmers in that position.





## Police Report

**Andrew Reid, Police Constable Rural Beat Officer  
3746 [andrew.reid@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:andrew.reid@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)**

**Information should be passed to: 101;  
Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111;**

**OR give me a call on 07768 776 844 or 01256 389 050**

Dear residents

As is customary I will update you with the state of crime reported in each of the parishes in the area of this magazine for 2020, however before doing so I wish to update you on a series of crimes that have taken place in the nearby parish of Herriard.

On January 7 2021 at lunchtime a white Ford Transit tipper registration MK08 OUH was seen in Bagmore Lane where the driver was seen to call on houses asking about scrap metal. Along with having a good look at houses, he also asked who owned a van parked nearby and about local wood yard premises. Later that morning at 3 am a vehicle was heard near the same cottages, when disturbed by a resident the vehicle made off, however later that day (8<sup>th</sup>) I had a report that outbuildings had been broken into at two premises in that area.

In addition, on the 7<sup>th</sup> a resident of Tunworth heard someone on his driveway and he looked and challenged two men who ran off. From my enquiries, I have established that a silver Honda CRV vehicle registration BD51 CWK was seen in the area at that time. Two hours later Police chased it from the scene of a farm burglary at Selbourne, Alton. I continue to urge all residents to remain vigilant and keep your property secured. It is vital that you report any suspicious incidents.

If you see either of these vehicles listed above, please let me know immediately.

The area in which I write is that of my former area, which covered twenty-two parishes and is of 75 sq miles, you may recall that as of 2014 my area increased considerably to cover as far as the Andover border. Now, back to 2020 where generally crime fell across the area, this was due to COVID and the initial lock down; we know this as prior to March crime was rising in every month on the same period in 2019. The highest reported crime of 2020 was that of criminal damage (CD) which was mainly fields of growing crops and farm property damaged by poachers. Of burglary offences we had 62 sheds, garages and other outbuildings (Non Dwelling Burglaries – NDB), broken into, a reduction of 17 on the 2019 figures. House burglary, incidents



## 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](mailto:cvchires@gmail.com) - No booking is too large or too small.

*We look forward to seeing you soon!*



[www.candovervalleyclub.co.uk](http://www.candovervalleyclub.co.uk)



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



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





**Monthly Column— 2021**

**RANIL JAYAWARDENA, M.P**

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*The contents of this column are correct as of 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021.*

None of us wanted to be here. This new strain of COVID-19 is spreading rapidly across all parts of the country though and – following scientific advice – HM Government took the difficult decision that it is safer to close down schools until it is under control.

My wife and I – like many of you – are juggling home schooling my two daughters whilst keeping up our usual work schedules – so I wholeheartedly understand the challenges this decision presents parents with.

Throughout the pandemic, children’s education has been a key priority for me. As part of the government’s commitment that no child is left behind, I am pleased to confirm that a million laptops and tablets will be delivered to schools across the country, for those who need them. To date, over 560,000 devices have been delivered to councils in England, with our students here in Hampshire benefitting from well over 1,500 devices. This – backed up by the distribution of over 54,000 4G Wi-Fi routers and updated remote education requirements for schools – means children should now be benefitting from hours of high-quality remote learning a day.

This crisis is unprecedented, as is the vaccination programme we are seeing rolled out across the United Kingdom. It is the largest our country has ever seen and the Prime Minister’s announcement that 15 million people – the over-70s, healthcare workers and those required to shield – should have been offered a vaccination by mid-February shows the vast scale to which our NHS is working. So far, we have vaccinated more people in the Britain than in any other European country.

We are beating this deadly virus back and we will get there before long. We have all sacrificed so much so far – but the day is darkest before the dawn.

As ever, if I can help you, please drop me a line to: [email@ranil.uk](mailto:email@ranil.uk)

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## WEATHERWISE

Summary of weather observations taken at Northington Down in December 2020

By Simon Bourne

### Temperatures (degrees centigrade/Fahrenheit)

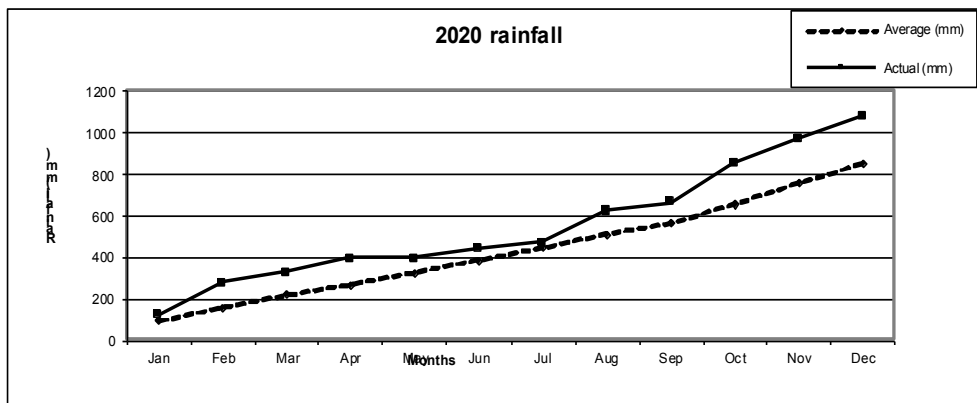
Highest	12.8/55	(21 <sup>st</sup> )
Lowest	-4.8/23	(31 <sup>st</sup> )
Warmest Night	8.4/47	(23 <sup>rd</sup> )
Coollest Day	0.0/32	(21 <sup>st</sup> )
Average maximum temperature	7.7/46	
Average minimum temperature	1.7/35	
Number of air frosts	12	

### Rainfall (millimetres/inches)

Monthly total	109.5/4.31	(average 94.3/3.71)
Annual total	1074.4/42.30	(average 862.0/33.94)
Maximum 24hr. fall	16.5/0.65	(18 <sup>th</sup> )
Number of days with rain	21	

### Summary

Cloud thickened to give dull conditions after fine weather on the first day of the month, with spells of rain and increasingly cold temperatures. The unsettled weather continued though it was milder for two weeks from the 10<sup>th</sup>, with predominantly south to south-westerly winds which brought showers and longer outbreaks of rain. The temperatures dropped in the last eight days with unbroken sunshine on the 25<sup>th</sup> before wet and windy weather overnight on 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> as Storm Bella passed through. There was a light snow shower on the 29<sup>th</sup>. It remained at or below freezing on the last day of the year with fog descending and the coldest night at 23°F. Overall, the month was cooler and wetter than normal.



Lesley Rose, Advice Services Manager for Citizens Advice Winchester District, shares her advice on how to manage debt.

**I've fallen behind on my bills and the debts are building up, especially after Christmas. I don't know where to start?**

You've already taken a great first step by asking for help, and it's important to know you don't need to face this alone. Your local Citizens Advice can help you make a plan to manage your debt but in the meantime here are four steps you can take to get started:

- 1. Work out how much you owe** - Make a list of whom you owe money to and add up how much you need to pay each month. If you don't have your most recent statements, contact your creditor to find out what you owe. Some creditors will have special arrangements for people with Covid-related arrears.
- 2. Prioritise your debts** - Your rent or mortgage, energy and council tax are called priority debts as there can be serious consequences if you don't pay them. Separate these and work out how much you owe. Again, you can ask the companies or council what support might be available during the pandemic.
- 3. Work out how much you can pay** - Create a budget by adding up your essential living costs, such as food and housing, and taking these away from your income. Citizens Advice has a budgeting tool that can help ([www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)).
- 4.** Any money you have spare can be put towards your debts, starting with the priority debts first. If you have any money left after paying priority debts, but not enough to make your usual payments on other debts, consider getting advice on the best way for you to start getting on top of them.
- 5. If you can't pay your debts** - If you've got little or no money spare to pay your priority debts or if you're struggling to pay for basics like food, seek advice from Citizens Advice straight away.

We know it can feel very daunting to deal with debt, but having a plan really helps and our team will be here to help you each step of the way.

Contact Citizens Advice Winchester District on 0808 278 7861 or email them at [advice@cawinchesterdistrict.org.uk](mailto:advice@cawinchesterdistrict.org.uk)



## Swarraton and Northington WI



The GOOD NEWS is that many of our members have had their vaccinations and we hope the remainder will soon join them!

Although unable to meet because of lockdown members have been busy in their homes and here are some of the things they have made.



(Thank you to the Candover Valley Shop for the excellent Seville Oranges)  
.....And for our Days for Girls Project these colourful Travel bags made from PUL.



## Dream Cake Fantasy

Are you looking for a cake to make that upcoming lockdown birthday or celebration just a bit more special? No need to look any further than Lower Wield. Aniko Kiss, owner and cake making extraordinaire of Dream Cake Fantasy, has been a part of the Candover Valley community since early 2019. She has been baking special cakes for friends and family for years but decided to go public with her talents last year. Her business, Dream Cake Fantasy, might be the best thing to come out of the 2020 lockdowns.

Starting at £35 for a one tier creation, Aniko's imaginative and delicious cakes are sure to spread joy at gatherings small and large in 2021 and beyond. Flower petals, Princesses or Paw Patrol, each Dream Cake Fantasy cake is completely bespoke and customisable to your requirements. From flavour to decoration, Aniko can make a cake that is completely your own.

Dream Cake Fantasy can deliver cakes within a 10 mile radius of Lower Wield. Cakes can also be collected, COVID safe of course. Aniko's ultimate mission with Dream Cake Fantasy is to spread happiness through her fondant and buttercream masterpieces. To find out more, or place your order today please call 07474 158650. LIKE Dream Cake Fantasy on Facebook and Instagram to stay updated on her latest bakes and special offers.



# To advertise in this space

## Please contact

### Ros

### At

## [rospartridge1@gmail.com](mailto:rospartridge1@gmail.com)

est. 2019

# Candover Valley Store

*community made*

### **The Covid challenge continues – but the store is open for you!**

Thanks to everyone involved with keeping the store and post office operating through yet more difficult times. Our mission has been to stay open to serve our valley communities and we are glad to have been doing so throughout the pandemic but it is only because our staff and volunteers are prepared to carry on doing their jobs and volunteering, that this has been possible. The CVCS management committee follows all the official guidelines to keep everyone as safe as possible during their visits to the store and this depends on staff and customers doing their utmost to comply with what is currently necessary. Thank you for continuing to adhere to the “Hands. Face. Space.” initiative by carrying on using the hand sanitiser, wearing masks and maintaining a two-metre distance while in the store or waiting outside. Keeping the store running is a huge community effort and responsibility and the benefits are appreciated by all. For now, whether you are a customer or whether you work in the store, please keep doing what you are doing and remember: One day this WILL be over!

### **Do you need some help?**

If you are vulnerable or self-isolating and need assistance with getting your essential groceries, we will do our best to help. Please stay at home, contact Rebecca Jackson by calling 01256 389197 and let her know what you need. You will be asked to provide payment and contact details. As a community store, an important part of our ethos is to support local people and every effort will be made to help anyone who finds themselves in a crisis.

### **Look out for fun lockdown activity ideas**

Always stocked with everyday essentials, the store will be adding a few new items to its usual ranges in a bid to keep you and your family busy at home with something new to do or make. Look out for a new idea each week. Following on from last month’s suggestion to make a batch of Seville orange marmalade, there will be recipes for easy-bake cakes, vegan meals, maybe instructions on how to create a delicious breakfast granola and some crafty schemes using kits of pens and paper that will be available in the store. More next month!

### **Valentine’s Day**

This month (but not exclusively) love is in the air! There will be cards and gifts of all sorts for you to choose from to bestow on your beloved - or to give to yourself! A well-earned treat is just what you deserve, so come in and choose something deliciously indulgent.

Keeping in touch via the newsletter and phone calls, we have voted for the proposed 2021 Resolutions which will eventually be discussed at the Annual meeting in the Royal Albert Hall on June 9<sup>th</sup>.

HCFWI continue to organise ZOOM events and Denman have a number of on line courses planned so do visit their web sites to see if there is something of interest for you. You do not have to be a member to take part. [denman.org.uk/what's on](http://denman.org.uk/what's_on)

HCFWI have organised a new zoom event for Thursday 21 June at 7:30pm – A portrait of Antarctica.

This will be hosted by Jonathan Walton who is an excellent Speaker. He will give a personal story of his adventures and experiences – not to be missed. [hampshirewi.org.uk](http://hampshirewi.org.uk)

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## On the Farm—Julian Gibbons

The cold weather at the beginning of the year has hopefully killed some insects off. We are being told that climate change will mean that we are less likely to see long periods of cold in the future. The cold is our most useful tool and insects, crop diseases and frost susceptible weeds haven't become resistant to it yet. The spring beans that have come up in the succeeding wheat, do not look quite as health as they did before the frosts. Just a few more frost should hopefully kill them off

There has been quite a bit in the papers about the government allowing the now banned neonicotinoid seed dressings to be allowed, under certain circumstances, in this year's sugar beet crop.

Sugar beet is susceptible to an aphid spread disease called Beet Virus Yellows. We no longer have any control method, because the aphids that spread it are resistant to the limited sprays we have left. The harvest that has been lifted this autumn/winter is down by 25% due to Virus Yellows, and some growers have seen their harvest drop by us much as 75%. This isn't a problem just for the UK. In France the yield drop has been much greater and having been the first country in Europe to ban Neonicotinoids, they have already stated that they will allow their use to try and save their crop.

In the UK their use will be determined by independent forecasting from aphid trapping and the subsequent analysis for the virus. Use will be determined by actual threat.

Sugar Beet is an incredibly important crop in the areas where it is grown and particularly for small family arable farms.

Just before Christmas we got sent the results for the past 12 months for the solar array on the farm.

It generated: 10,264 MWh against a target of 9597MWh

On typical domestic consumption this equivalent to powering: 3110 households  
Tonnes of CO2 saved: 4413.

Unfortunately I cannot use these figures when calculating our farm carbon footprint. We are trying to produce our farm figures so that we can start to look at what we can do to reduce it in-line with the NFU pledge to be carbon neutral by 2040. This isn't that all farms will be carbon neutral by then, some will struggle and some will do better than neutral, but the industry will be neutral.

We have to go through all our fuel use, fertiliser use (type and quantity), pesticides, machinery used, energy embedded in our buildings (after 10 years they are deemed to have covered it) just to name a few. We can then start to compare ours against others to see what we can do to improve it. I think the first year is going to be a bit of a slog collating the data, but it should get better in subsequent years.

It will get interesting comparing the carbon merits of building a new grain store on your farm, to sending it to the co-operative store at Micheldever, which involves extra transport. Generally when one looks at carbon in the food chain, transport accounts for the smallest part.

All the spring seed arrived on the farm last month, all we need now are some cold, dry easterly winds to dry the ground ready for planting that could begin to start later this month on the lighter land.



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## CANDOVER VALLEY CHOIR

### Monthly Newsletter – February 2021

As I write this article in January 2021, the Candover Valley Choir has not yet resumed its ZOOM rehearsals. But a good number of singers have agreed that, even though meeting by Zoom is a very different experience for a Choir, they would nevertheless like to reconvene – which we will be doing at the beginning of February.

We are not quite sure at what point we might begin to consider singing together face to face, but in the meantime, we will use Zoom to keep the choir community active as well as ensure our voices remain in good form, and we will enjoy having a read through of some Bach and Mendelssohn, but also have fun with some lighter, popular material

Why is that we all enjoy singing so much? An article published last year 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 - although this may feel a strange time to join the choir, if you would like to know more about the **Candover Valley Choir** or would like to come and join us on ZOOM, **do contact me**. I would be very happy to talk things through with you.

**Rehearsals take place on Thursdays at 7.45**

**For more information do contact:**  
bryantjane50@gmail.com

**www.candovervalleychoir.co.uk**

**Jane Bryant**  
**Music Director**



## Candover Valley Gardening Club

How especially lovely it is this year to see the very welcome signs of spring appearing and to hear the Woodpeckers drumming in the nearby trees. Unfortunately we are still unable to re-commence our meetings. We planned to have a talk on Summer Bulbs by Tim Woodland of Direct Bulbs. They are always very inspiring and knowledgeable and bring along a wonderful array of seasonal bulbs for sale so sadly our members will miss that opportunity this year but they have kindly re-scheduled for next February which is good news.

We are all hoping that it will not be too long before our members can once again meet up and enjoy wandering around together at one of the beautiful local gardens we have been invited to visit. If that appeals to you and you are interested in joining us, **please see our website [www.cvgc.btck.co.uk](http://www.cvgc.btck.co.uk) for up to date information and how to get in touch.**



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**Contact:**

**Melanie (07833-528040) Claire (01256-477197)**




**NEWS FROM THE YARD**

We turned our coffee machine for most of January, and closed our doors. It was very quiet as a result! Despite being technically allowed to offer takeaway coffee during lockdown #3, we felt it better to close & support the stay-at-home messaging from government, particularly with the new Covid strain starting to spread. But we plan to open up again, Fri-Sat-Sun 9am-3pm during February. Our booking system will be in place so we can restrict numbers for safety, so do please visit our website, or social media pages to choose a time, then you'll be welcome to swing by if you're local, and visiting us for the purpose of exercise, dog walking or cycling, and fancy a takeaway coffee, toastie or crepe.

We've been using the downtime to get busy on the cycling front, with the launch of a new Strava club, and our 1<sup>st</sup> edition Yard cycling jersey currently in production! The deadline for pre-orders has been & gone, but don't worry, there'll also be a chance to buy in early March when the jerseys arrive on our doorstep.

We've also been working in conjunction with some favourite local businesses to bring you a unique take-home Valentine hamper, designed to bring you the best breakfast-in-bed or a delicious stay-at-home evening meal-for-two. See our website, insta or facebook for more details!

We look forward to seeing you soon!

**www.theyardhampshire.co.uk**

Follow us on Instagram @theyard\_hampshire  
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## From Winchester's MP

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

Website: [www.stevebrine.com](http://www.stevebrine.com) Steve Brine TV: [www.stevebrine.tv](http://www.stevebrine.tv) [www.fb.com/SteveBrineMP](https://www.facebook.com/SteveBrineMP)

As you read this, February edition of **Oxdrove**, we remain in lockdown and 2021 is starting to look at lot like 2020.

The difference, and the reason I could support lockdown #3 in the House, is we finally have the ultimate escape from the deadly cycle of lockdown and release in the form of a **COVID vaccine**. I have spoken regularly in Parliament on the subject and am liaising with Ministers to help our area play its part and support the national effort. Furthermore, I have been doing my bit locally to help in a more practical way so when it's your turn to jab for victory keep your eyes peeled for a friendly and familiar face.

While this is good news it remains my strong belief that these odious restrictions on our lives must not be in place a day longer than required. Alongside the published vaccine delivery plan – and daily figures on how we're getting covid done – we must give the public hope.

Around 88% of those likely to get seriously unwell (and sadly die) reside within the top four priority vaccine groups. Given the only metric that really counts, and the reason why public support for lockdown is so high is the desire to prevent the NHS from being overwhelmed, logic would dictate that once that threat has gone away we can start to lift restrictions.

We need clear heads if we want to do that. Covid-19 is not a conspiracy and it is not a hoax. We were right to take it seriously last spring, and since, but we are equally right to demand a plan that dismantles the most draconian of laws in lock-step with the vaccination programme.

The plan commits Government to vaccinate the top four group by 15<sup>th</sup> February so this really is a game-changer. My old colleague, Chris Whitty, grimly reminds us that we expect between 7,000 and 10,000 deaths from flu each in an average year and the most cautious reading would suggest the vaccination programme should take Covid deaths well below this level.

So when we have vaccinated the highest risk groups, what will we do? And when we've completed phase one by vaccinating all those with above-average risk in late March, what will we do then?

These are important questions and ones I and my colleagues will be asking. It won't happen unless we do, of that I am very certain.

We do not lock society down for common colds, seasonal flu and we cannot (no matter how awful it can be) for the little understood condition that is Long Covid. The many other economic, health and societal impacts of this pandemic are already serious enough so we need a roadmap out of this the public can believe in or this year is going to make the last look tame by comparison.

Much more, and daily updates, via [www.fb.com/SteveBrineMP](https://www.facebook.com/SteveBrineMP)