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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).

Disclaimer

The Editorial team takes no responsibility for any information given or views expressed in the Oxdrove and will not be held liable for any direct, indirect or consequential loss arising from the use of information and advertisements in this publication.

THE OXDROVE

Church and Community News

Of

The Candover Valley and Wield

Rector: David Chattell, The Rectory, Preston Candover
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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 6 February

9.30	Wield	Matins
10.00	Preston Candover	Morning Prayer
11.00	Northington	Holy Communion CW with Baptism
<i>Readings</i>	<i>Isaiah 6:1-8, 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Luke 5:1-11</i>	
		<i>Psalm 138</i>

Sermon *That moment when you see it*

””

Sunday 13 February

10.00	Preston Candover	Holy Communion CW
6.00	Wield	Evensong BCP
<i>Readings</i>	<i>Jeremiah 17:5-10, 1 Corinthians 15:12-20, Luke 6:17-26</i>	
		<i>Psalm 1</i>

Sermon Blessed are you

””

Sunday 20 February

Second Sunday before Lent

9.00	Wield	Holy Communion BCP
10.00	Preston Candover	Morning Worship
<i>Readings</i>	<i>Genesis 2:4-9,15-end, Revelation 4, Luke 8:22-25</i>	
		<i>Psalm 65</i>

Sermon *In the boat with Jesus, in jeopardy*

Sunday 27 February **Last Sunday before Lent**

8.00 Bradley Holy Communion
 11.00 Brown Candover Morning Worship
 Readings *Exodus 34: 29-end, 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2, Luke 9:28-36*

Psalm 99

Sermon *Sore afraid*

Tuesday 1 March **Shrove Tuesday**

Wednesday 2 March **Ash Wednesday**

Sunday 6 March. First Sunday of Lent

9.30 Wield Matins BCP
 10.00 Preston Candover Morning Worship CW
 11.00 Northington Holy Communion CW
 Readings *Deuteronomy 26:1-11, Romans 10:8-13, Luke 4:1-13*

Psalm 91

Sermon *Tempted for forty days in the Wilderness*

Farleigh Parish

Sunday 2 January

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

Sunday 9 January

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

Sunday 16 January

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

Saturday 22 January

6.00 Cliddesden Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 23 January

9.45 Dummer Holy Communion CW
 11.15 Ellisfield Morning Praise LL

Sunday 30 January

11.00 Farleigh Wallop Holy Communion CW

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As featured in the Health section of Darling Magazine

On my first visit to Nicola it was obvious that she had great insight. She immediately saw a side of me that over the years I had kept well hidden - A lack of self belief and confidence that only she and I knew about. I always look forward to seeing her and learning about the tools i can use to create a deeper understanding of myself and how I can move forward. i am very grateful.

Diana B

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Sunday 6 February

8.00	Ellisfield	Holy Communion BCP
9.45	Cliddesden	Morning Praise LL
11.15	Dummer	Family Service / Sunday Special LL

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

Baptisms

Northington

6th February 2022 *Delilah ECKERSLERY*

Weddings

Farleigh Wallop

18th December 2021 *Oliver CURRY & Viola HAYDEN*

Funerals

Dummer

4th January 2022 *Nigel ELWES, aged 80* (Basingstoke Crematorium)

Preston Candover

10th January 2022 *Adrian HOUSE, aged 93*

Cliddesden

20th January 2022 *Robert William John KEW, aged 93*

Northington

6th January 2022 *Sonia HALE, aged 78*

Advance notice

During Lent the Thursday Morning Bible Study group will be looking at a book by Andrew Ollerton who wrote the brilliant Bible Course- that many of us enjoyed.

It is called **The Bible: A Story That Makes Sense of Life**

Here is an explanation of the book;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lrx9gNF2xig>

It approaches the Bible through themes; exile, origins, hope and relates it to our lives. Andrew will make a weekly video which will guide our discussion.

(The book is available on Amazon/ other websites & we can get a group reduction if we order together. Each person would need their own copy and would need to read a bit before each session for it to make most sense. The videos will be available on the web- so if you wanted to catch up on a missed session that would be easy to do.)

We will begin on March 3rd (Thursday) for the 6 weeks of Lent. Meeting in Preston Candover- at The Rectory at 9.15am. (if we are more than 9 people we will use Village Hall/ Church)

Everyone is welcome – do please email ruthchattell@btinternet.com if you would like to come, know more, join the group or order a book to get ready.

David will also be offering an evening Lent Course, for the Benefice, as normal, based on different material; details to be distributed soon.

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Sidesmen and Readers


<u>Church</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Sidesmen</u>	<u>Readers</u>
St John's Northington	Feb	Beth & Peter Lamb	Beth & Peter Lamb
	March	Emma & Colin La Fontaine Jackson	Emma & Colin La Fontaine Jackson
St Peter's Brown Candover	27 Feb 11.00	Celia Foote	Jonathan Moseley & Charles Marriott
St Mary The Virgin Preston Candover	6 Feb 10.00	Anne Luneburg	Celia Foote
	13 Feb 10.00	Marina Avis & Gunnel Berry	Anne Luneburg & Marina Avis
	20 Feb 10.00	Marina Avis	To be advised
	6 March 10.00	Anne Luneburg	Sue Marriott
	27 Feb 8.00	Chris Swan	Chris Swan
St James' Wield	6 Feb 9.30	Brian Collins	Mark Kemp Gee & Eileen Collins
	13 Feb 6.00pm	Barbara Wells	Barbara Wells & Alwin Hutchinson
	20 Feb 9.00	Brian Collins	Selina Geddes & Godfrey Rydon
	6 March 9.30	John Lailey	Jean Frost & Max Konig



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Church flowers, cleaning and Key Holders

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	Key Holders	February	Sue Marriott (01256 389 385)
		March	Geoff & Alison Ellett (01256 389417)
All Saints Church Bradley	Cleaners & Flowers		
St. Mary The Virgin Preston Candover			
St James' Church Wield	Flowers		
	Cleaner	Permanent	Michelle Kuhn

Dear Friends

Each year a friend who visited this area some years ago writes to me and recalls how delighted she was to see the displays of snowdrops in our parishes.

Annually the snowdrop arises early in the year from its earthy bed to herald the oncoming Spring and we look forward to the white and green carpet on lawns and in churchyards, but knowing that within a month they will be over as warmer weather welcomes in the coming daffodils and other early spring flowers.

An abridged Wordsworth poem, 'To a Snowdrop'
Lone Flower, hemmed in with snows and white...once more I see thee bend, thy forehead, as if fearful to offend,
Like an unbidden guest. Yet art thou welcome, welcome as a friend
Whose zeal outruns his promise! Blue-eyed May
Shall soon behold this border thickly set
With bright jonquils, their odours lavishing
On the soft west-wind and his frolic peers;
Nor will I then thy modest grace forget,
Chaste Snowdrop, venturous harbinger of Spring,
And pensive monitor of fleeting years!

That last line, "pensive monitor of fleeting years!" is of similar sentiment to Psalm 103 by King David who wrote, "Our days are like grass, as a flower of the field we flourish, the wind passes over it and it is gone", life is so short.

Christian hope for life after death is given by the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Some of us will have heard the following words recently at the start of funeral services:

"Jesus said, I am the resurrection and the life," "Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

"God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life."
We have said goodbye to several people in the last month in our parishes and they are mourned as we accustom to living without them. We lifted our hearts in thanksgiving for lives well lived, families loved and blessed, for communities supported, for all that was good in their lives and the memories we treasure.



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One of the prayers in the funeral service includes this petition, “Give us the wisdom and grace to use aright the time that is left to us here on earth, to turn to Christ and follow in his steps in the way that leads to everlasting life”

May God grant us faith in his Son, Jesus Christ, give us knowledge of his pardon and presence and “sure and certain hope of resurrection to eternal life”. Then we can say with St Paul, “Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. So we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.”

Blessings
David



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Oxdrove subscriptions

Many thanks if you have already paid your subs for the Oxdrove for the coming year.

Many apologies to those who were disappointed to learn that the cost of the Oxdrove has raised from £7.00 to £10.00 per year.

The cover charge for the Oxdrove has not risen for at least five years and is, of course, delivered free by our wonderful team of volunteers.

At £1.00 per copy with two free issues a year, this is still great value and a brilliant way of keeping in touch with our community.

You may find it interesting to know that the cost of printing the Oxdrove is now £1.01 per copy and that does not include any of the other costs involved in producing the magazine. We are lucky enough to have a strong advertiser base but over the last few months of 2021 the magazine has lost a fair number which, at present, have not been replaced.

The decision to raise the price was not taken lightly but to keep our parish magazine in a strong position, a long overdue increase was considered our only option.

I hope you continue to enjoy the Oxdrove and would encourage all residents of the valley to consider contributing.

You can send a monthly contribution, or an occasional item, title and content of your choice. Details about where to send your contributions can be found on the last white page of any month's magazine. Pictures are very welcome and it would be really good to hear from some children.

I look forward to hearing from some of you with your contributions.

Jean & Ros

Walking with Wildlife, Robert Bryant

A robin sings in the half-light of a frosty dawn. Tucked away in the shadowy tree-tops, a song thrush similarly inspired, practices a few phrases, pausing briefly as though in rehearsal, preparing for a concert later in the spring.

A throng of rooks fly over from their roost in the far woods. They crowd into the upper galleries of two landmark ash trees, huddling into their black coats in the chill air. A jolly party of jackdaws drops down to join them. Tremendous characters with their raucous chatter and engaging ways, I presume breakfast is on their minds. With a clamour of wing-beats, all the birds take off, heading for the nearby fields and feeding grounds.

On this rare morning of blue skies and blazing sunshine, we head up to the hamlet of Axford, turning right along Berrydown lane. Parking near Bermondspit House, we set off for a brisk tramp, following the bridle path that leads up through a delightful wooded valley to Bedlam Bottom, below Farleigh Wallop.

Fortunately the trail is not as soggy or boggy as some we have trekked this winter, merging farther on into a well-surfaced estate track. A row of conifers on the skyline of Nutley Down immediately catches our eye. Bright green in the morning sunlight, they seem adorned with large numbers of a strange fruit. Plump and oval in shape, delicately pink and mauve in hue, we study them through binoculars. They are roosting wood-pigeons, a vast flock, well puffed up and warming themselves after a particularly cold night. They perch quite motionless as we walk on, now scanning the skies for raptors, soaring on the rising downland thermals.

Quite by chance, the familiar profile of a red kite drifts over the treetops. As it passes the pigeons, they all take off in a flap and flurry of wing-beats before diving down into the shelter of the woods.

The kite blithely continues its morning patrol, cruising high overhead and now joined by two soaring buzzards, as we stride away on our winter walk.

Len Stockley

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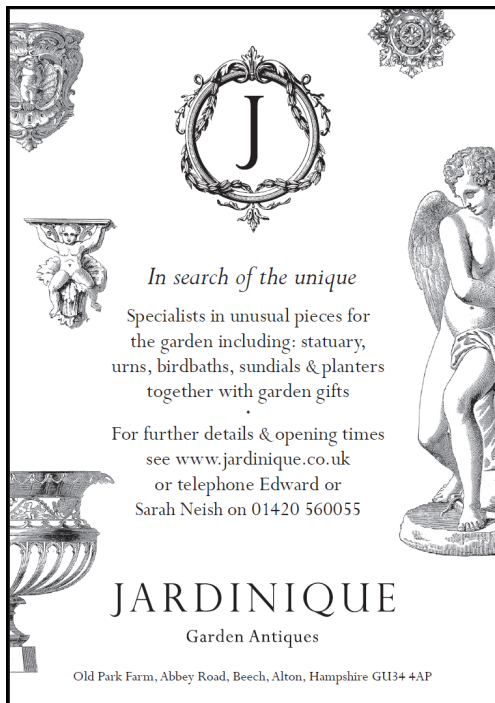
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On the Farm - Julian Gibbons

After a dry November, the rain in December certainly wetted the ground thoroughly. There is a chance we might be able to drill some spring barley and Spring Beans in February, but realistically we will plan for March. We do need the ground to dry out a bit so we can spray off the cover crops. Where the cover has grown well it should have mopped up some nitrogen in the soil, however we have to get them killed off well before spring planting to allow the air to get to the soil and start drying out. Otherwise there is a danger that they hold too much water in the soil, delaying drilling. If we had a run of cold weather some of the less hardy constituents of the cover crop blend would be killed off, but as I write this they are still looking pretty green and healthy.

January saw the annual dinner and presentation of cups for the Basingstoke and District Agricultural society.

Congratulations to Andy Bason and his team at Newhouse Farm who won the best large farmed farm and also won best arable in that class. A credit to the whole team. They also came 2nd in Feed Wheat and 3rd in Beans, drilled field and cover crop classes.

Preston Farms were 3rd in the best large farmed farm and won the prize for best Conservation in that class. They were judged to have the best looking autumn drilled field, They were also 2nd in the cover crop class and 4th in the feed wheat class.

Moundsmere were 2nd in Poppies, Oilseed rape, Winter barley and in the best autumn drilled field.

M.Gibbons and Sons were 1st in field of Oats, 2nd in Peas, Milling wheat and game-cover, 3rd in winter barley.

It was really good to have the competitions running last year having had to cancel them in 2020. However If you think they get dominated by big farms, for the past two years the smallest farm in the competition run by a young husband and wife team on a County Council tenancy have scooped all the top prizes.

We are all pouring over the new Sustainable farming initiative that has been launched and will be open to applications later this spring. This is targeted initially at measures to protect soils and will be at a basic and intermediate level first followed by an advance level later. We will be getting policy announcements pretty frequently over the next few years as all farm support, in the way it has previously been administered, is removed over the next 7 years. We will have to spend quite sometime evaluating the rules and the benefits. On the plus side payment rates for existing environmental management schemes have in many cases increased to improve farmer uptake.

At Christmas we received the output report for the solar farm from the operator and 2021 was below average for output due to the dull summer, backing up our own harvest results.

where to seek help if required, what you should do to keep your child comfortable and how long your child's symptoms are likely to last. <https://what0-18.nhs.uk/> they also have a whole section on Covid-19.

COVID-19 Vaccination update

We are still offering covid boosters to patients who require them & for the time being is being offer at The Holiday Inn, Winchester. More information on the COVID-19 vaccination programme can be found here: <https://hampshiresouthamptonandisleofwightccg.nhs.uk/your-health/latest-information-on-covid-19/covid-19-vaccination-programme>

Welcome to new staff

We are excited to announce the arrival of Dr. Hannah Haring who joined us as a salaried GP at the end of January, her working days will be Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday.

We also have Claire Elliott, a new Practice Nurse joining the team in early February as well as Julie Walther who has been working in the Community Nursing Team, but will be joining us in early February as a Nurse Associate.

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The Alresford Surgery

Station Road
ALRESFORD
Hampshire

Out of hours telephone number
111

Surgery telephone number 01962 732345 SO24 9JL

Blood Test appointments - Hampshire hospitals

The Phlebotomy Service at Hampshire Hospitals is an appointment only service & has been for some time.

We would like to encourage Patients to sign up to online booking system by using the following:

winchester.sangixcloud.com

basingstoke.sangixcloud.com

andover.sangixcloud.com

or by searching blood tests on hampshirehospitals.nhs.uk

Patients will need to click on SIGN UP to create an account before they can login to book a blood test.

Patients are still able to access the telephone booking line by calling 01256 314751 between 9.00am – 4.30pm Monday to Friday.

We would like to remind you that the phlebotomy department **does not** provide a walk-in service.

If a patient requires an urgent blood test, we would ask that the patient calls our telephone booking line to arrange an appointment.

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.

Healthier Together:

It can be extremely stressful when your child is unwell. We know that there is a huge amount of information available at your fingertips, but finding something that provides clear and accurate information is not always easy!

The resources on the Healthier Together website have been developed in partnership between parents and healthcare professionals from across Dorset, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. You'll find clear information on common childhood illnesses, including advice on what 'red-flag' signs to look out for,

Alresford Deanery

Farm Church



"Sow the Seeds"

Saturday 5th February

3.00—4.00 p.m.

at Upper Farm, Bradley, SO24 9SA
what3words: scored.beam.tangible

All welcome

to explore the **Farm Machinery**

It may be cold, wet or muddy so please wear boots
and bring a warm and waterproof coat.

For further details contact Gillian Gray Knight gilliangrayknight@btinternet.com

Christmas at The Winchester Beacon

Christmas can be a particularly challenging time to be experiencing homelessness. However, thanks to the kindness and generosity of our supporters, our residents were reminded that there are so many people who care about them.

All our residents had gifts to open from our local community on Christmas Day. Residents staying in our move on houses received a box of gifts thoughtfully donated by St Peter's Catholic Church in Winchester (pictured above with our support worker Debby). Food hampers were delivered by Clevertouch Marketing to our move on houses so that residents could cook up a festive feast to enjoy together.

Former residents were invited to come and collect Christmas lunch from The Winchester Beacon which had been prepared and donated by The Salvation Army. We also gave them gifts to take away and we delivered presents to former residents unable to visit us. Meanwhile, volunteers cooked and served a delicious Christmas lunch for our residents at Jewry Street.

We would like to thank you and your parishioners for your support, your good wishes and prayers this Christmas. Thanks to the love and thoughtfulness of our local community it felt like a special time with our residents moved by people's generosity.

On behalf of everyone at The Winchester Beacon, I would like to wish you all the best for 2022.

Michèle Price
Chief Executive

Opening a Door of Hope

Over the festive period we were pleased to be able to welcome three residents to our newest four-bedroom house. We now operate three move on houses, they provide an invaluable opportunity for our residents to live more independently whilst still receiving regular tailored support from our staff until they are ready and able to move to their own accommodation.

Three people are currently living at the house until we are able to complete renovations later this year to make it suitable for four residents. When the final resident moves in we will be able to accommodate 22 people across our four sites which we hope will help to meet the demand for our services.

Dean Catherine Appointed as New Patron

We are excited to announce the Very Revd Catherine Ogle, Dean of Winchester, as our new Patron. Dean Catherine is taking over the role from Bishop Tim on his retirement. Dean Catherine visited The Winchester



THE YARD

Come & visit our beautiful, light-filled café in the heart of the Candover Valley! We serve the best Moonroast coffee, pastries, cakes & simple, delicious breakfast & lunch.

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www.theyardhampshire.co.uk

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WEATHERWISE By Simon Bourne

Summary of weather observations taken at Northington Down in December 2021

Temperatures (degrees centigrade/Fahrenheit)

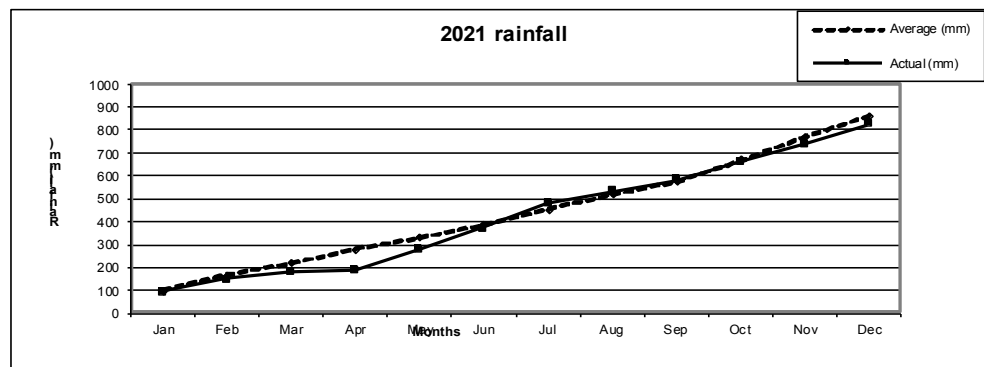
Highest	14.0/57	(29 th)
Lowest	-4.4/24	(22 nd)
Warmest Night	10.3/51	(31 st)
Coollest Day	5.2/51	(5 th)
Average maximum temperature	9.4/49	
Average minimum temperature	3.6/38	
Number of air frosts	6	

Rainfall (millimetres/inches)

Monthly & annual total	8.3/3.48	(average 94.0/3.70)
Annual total	733.1/32.34	(average 860.1/33.86)
Maximum 24hr. fall	15.2/0.60	(25 th)
Number of days with rain	20	

Summary

The first two weeks were somewhat unsettled with rain on most days and a few sunny days in between. High pressure dominated the middle of the month and brought dry and dull weather as it trapped-in low cloud. The wet weather returned on the 23rd with drizzle or rain on all but one day thereafter. The temperatures were well above average in the middle and end of the month and on four occasions the overnight figure was higher than the normal daytime temperature for early winter. Warm air from the south west brought the mildest recorded New Years' Eve temperatures here, and 62°F was recorded elsewhere in the UK which was the highest recorded since records began in 1854. Overall, the month was mild and slightly drier than normal.



Beacon just before Christmas to meet with staff, residents and the board. We really look forward to working together over coming months.

Read more: <https://wens.org.uk/news/dean-of-winchester-appointed-as-new-patron-for-the-winchester-beacon/>

Jewry Street Refurbishments

Just before Christmas we began the first phase of the refurbishments at our main site on Jewry Street. The aim is to move away from a communal bathroom to individual washing pods which we hope will reduce risks during the pandemic and also allow our residents more privacy.

The first two bathrooms have been completed. Costs permitting, we hope to be able to install eight more in the coming months.

“You really feel like there is support here”

Elliot, age 24, came to The Winchester Beacon after being made redundant from his job in hospitality. After a series of arguments with friends, a break up and various debts Elliot found himself sleeping on sofas each night with no stable residence.

Read more: https://wens.org.uk/blog/sofa_surfing_in-hampshire/
Thank you for your ongoing support.



Farleigh Parish Playgroup

Gliddesden Millennium Village Hub

Friday Mornings 11am-12noon Term Time

4th, 11th, 18th February (not 25th as half term) and 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th March

We are following government guidelines for Covid with mask wearing & asking for contact numbers for Test & Trace

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 (01256-477197)





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bex.yoga@gmail.com

Candover Valley Store
community made

Welcome to the newest member of our CVS family!

Congratulations to Emma, the store's assistant manager and her husband Ian, on the safe arrival of baby Beatrix on 30 December. She was born at 7.55am, weighing 7lbs 7ozs (2778g). Big sisters Phoebe and Violet are thrilled with their tiny, future playmate! We send all the Simpson family our good wishes.

Raffle winners

Richard and Annette Walker were the lucky winners of the hamper of delicious goodies, raffled in the store just before Christmas. Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance was the organisation nominated by store manager, Garry, to benefit from the £136.15 collected. The total included some additional donations.

Valentine's Day is nearly here ...

This saint's day was fixed on 14 February way back in AD496, so there is no excuse for not getting organised to mark it in 2022! There will be extra bouquets and tied bunches of flowers in stock, as well as chocolates, non-sweet treats, wines and other lovely gifts. And don't forget a card while you're choosing what to buy to spoil your special person!

Food bank donations

Last month we were helping to collect donations for the Basingstoke Foodbank. Anne Luneburg liaised with the store and St Mary's Church and took all the donated items to the foodbank where they are collated for distribution. Thank you to everyone who generously put extra items into their baskets for those who are in need in our area.

Community Projects Fund

NOW is the time for funding applications to be submitted! If your club or society could benefit from a funds boost, you are invited to fill in the forms for consideration by the CVCS committee this month. More information and application forms are available from Jocelyn Rogerson on 01256 389661 or download them from the website: www.cvcs.org.uk

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or email
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Police update

Theft from vehicle remains on the increase within the rural areas in general. Previous advice from Police was not to leave anything of value in your car and certainly not on display when leaving your vehicle unattended.

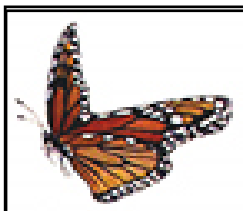
We are seeing a new trend and that is criminals are smashing rear boot windows and lifting up the Parcel shelf to have a quick search for items which may be of value or interest to them.

Local Police have reviewed the advice and suggest if practical to consider the removal of your parcel shelf when leaving the vehicle in rural locations. The thought behind this is that if criminals can see the whole of the car is empty the hope is that they won't even bother targeting the car.

The Police understand this not ideal and we are working behind the scenes to tackle this increase.

Your local Beat Officer is always willing to chat whether this be online via TEAMS, in person or over the phone. Please feel free to get in touch direct if this is something you would like.

Andrew.jones.13301@hampshire.police.uk



Candover Valley Gardening Club

How delightful it is to see the Spring bulbs appearing in our gardens.

At the point of writing we are eagerly awaiting our talk on Soil Management which I will report on next month.

On Thursday 17th February at 7:30pm at Preston Candover Village Hall, we have a talk on Summer Bulbs by Tim Woodland, from Direct Bulbs Winchester. He will cover the wide range of bulbs we can plant for the summer and brings a selection of interesting varieties for sale which are always very popular with members.

If you would like to find out more about the greater choice of Summer bulbs you could be growing in your garden you are very welcome to join us as a guest for a fee of £3:00 for the evening.

For more information about our club our contact details are as follows: Candover Valley Gardening Club on Facebook or our website at <http://candover-valley.org/2021/04candover-valley-gardening-club-2/>

We look forward to seeing you soon.



Swarraton and Northington WI

Our WI New Year began with the very sad news that Ann Leonard had died.

Ann was our President from 1984 to 1988 and returned to lead the team again from 1993 to 1995. She continued to serve on the committee with enthusiasm and became our very efficient secretary. As treasurer of the Alresford Group of WIs Ann was a vital member of the WI tent team at the Alresford Show.

The accounts were always clear and accurate and promptly shared with all six WIs. Her energy, good humour and practical solutions to planning events and her support and willingness to take part whole heartedly reflected her total commitment to the WI. Ann leaves us with the most wonderful memories and will be greatly missed.

We continue to support a number of charities and money raised from our Christmas Bring and Buy Sale in December will be used for our Days for Girls project making reusable feminine hygiene kits.

Please continue to save used postage stamps for the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance. Our next batch will be dispatched at the beginning of March.

We are looking forward to our **next meeting on Tuesday 1st February** when Ian Margetts will tell us all about a very special local business SUMMERDOWN MINTS. It promises to be both interesting and delicious!

On the 1st March we welcome back Sarah Delves to talk about 'LIPSTICK, POWDER AND PAINT'.

Members and guests are invited to bring along old powder compacts for Sarah to value and tell us more about them.

Guests are most welcome at all our meetings which take place on the first Tuesday of the month at 2pm in Swarraton Village Hall.

The Hard Yard: Sat 26th Feb Chilton Manor Farm in association with Blended Trails

Last summer Blended Trails organised a very successful half marathon trail race, The Hattingley Half.

Next up on their race calendar is The Hard Yard a 10 mile trail race through the Candovers.

Partnering with Chilton Manor Farm, home to The Yard café and Moonroast Coffee, this will be an inclusive race open to all runners. The 10 mile trail race starts from the farmyard and finishes with a long home straight down the yew avenue.

The farm will provide the perfect spot for an enjoyable and inclusive event with registration, chip timing pods, event assistance, event catering for runners & spectators together with the menu of The Yard café.

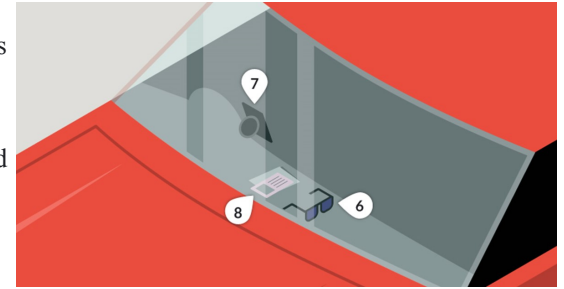
Appearing on the running scene in March 2020, Blended Trails is a running community specialising in Pop Up trail routes in the countryside. Founder Ollie Steele-Perkins is no stranger to trail running and competition, and has seen the community grow from strength to strength.

Ollie explains “I set up Blended Trails during the first lockdown in 2020 as a way of helping people discover public access trails in our local area and to encourage them to explore with confidence by marking trails with distinctive black and orange temporary waymarkers. We offered various distances from 5k to 15k for 9 days at a time before removing signage as a part of our ‘leave no trace’ ethos.

The Pop Ups, as they are known, became popular not just with runners, but walkers and families looking to add interest to their daily exercise and they are a regular feature of the Blended Trails activity, with on average one a month taking place.”

All details for The Hard Yard event and free Pop Ups can be found on the Blended Trails website where you can join the Community for free.
www.blendedtrails.co.uk

Leaving sat nav mounts, suction cup marks on windows or cables on view gives it away that you have left a Sat Nav, smartphone or other device in your car. Even if they can't see the Sat Nav or iPad they might still break in to see if it's stored in the car, out of sight.



8. Tool theft from vans

Vans are often targeted by thieves for the tools stored inside. If you have to leave tools in a van overnight, it's a good idea to mark them clearly with your name / company name and address using paint pens and seal with a clear lacquer spray. Alternatively, you can use a variety of other property marking systems. Items that are clearly marked are less desirable and more difficult to sell on.

Consider using a lockable cabinet within your van to store tools – a number of security rated products are available. Small cameras are also designed to record inside vehicles. Visit Secured by Design for more details.

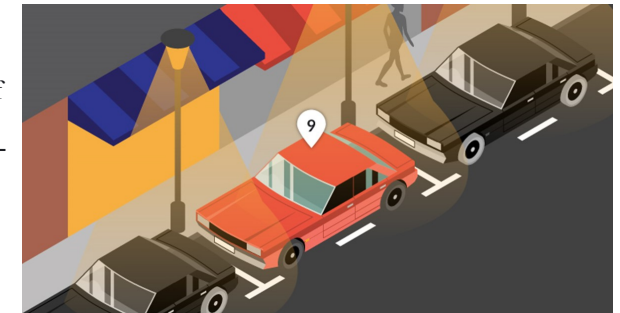
You can also take photographs of items of value, make a note of the serial numbers and consider registering them online at a property register site.

9. Park in well-lit and busier areas

It can take less than 30 seconds to break into a vehicle. Parking in well-lit areas and busy streets increases the chances of a thief being seen, so they'll probably steer clear.

10. Take your documents with you

Having a vehicle's registration and insurance documents could let a thief pretend to be the owner. Which means they could sell it on quite easily. So, never leave any documents in the vehicle.



11. Choose your car park wisely

If possible, always try to park in well-lit and staffed car parks or those with a Park Mark safer parking award. To find one, simply check out Park Mark.

Catalytic converter theft

The precious metal in catalytic converters has led to an increase in their theft. Find out what catalytic converter theft is and what you can do about it.

Theft from Vehicles is on the increase in general. Basingstoke Rural South have reported 15 over the last 3 months. The opinion of the police is that many thefts from vehicles that have occurred have not been reported to them, hence they are not getting a true figure.

Your local Officer remains keen to hear of vehicles that might be deemed as suspicious and possibly out of place for whatever reason and happy to receive emails andrew.jones.13301@hampshire.police.uk

Prevent theft from a vehicle

Having your car broken into and losing your things to thieves can be very distressing. Here are a few simple steps you can take to keep your vehicle, and what's in it, safe.

1. Always lock it

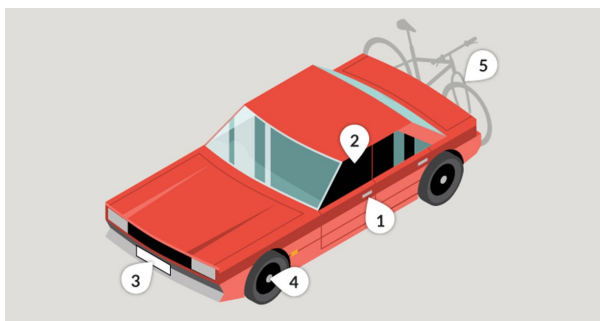
Fuelling up or popping back into your house to get something are perfect examples of how easy it is to turn your back for a moment and forget your vehicle is unsecured. So get into the habit of locking your vehicle even if you're only going to be away from it for a moment. If your vehicle has wing mirrors that fold in automatically when locked, make sure you lock it properly. Criminal gangs are looking for vehicles like these where the wing mirrors are still out because it is clear to them that the vehicle has been left unlocked.

2. Close windows and the sun roof to prevent 'fishing'

Leaving windows and the sunroof open invites fishing for items through the gap by hand or with, say, a bent coat hanger, which could also be used to unlock a door for them to get in. Thieves can be ingenious. Don't give them the opportunity.

3. Secure your number plates with tamper-resistant screws

The easiest way to change the identity of a stolen vehicle or avoid speeding tickets and parking tickets is to fit stolen number plates. Using security screws to attach your vehicle's number plates makes it harder for thieves to get your number.



4. Fit locking, anti-tamper wheel nuts to secure alloy wheels

Stolen wheels are valuable, either as parts or for their scrap value. Using locking wheel nuts reduces the risk of your vehicle's wheels being stolen.

5. Secure anything that's on the outside of your vehicle

Anything left on roof-racks, tailgate racks, holiday top boxes or in tool chests are easily stolen when the vehicle is parked. The use of cable locks, padlocks and self-locking tools chests, which are secured to the vehicle, makes them more secure, but still, don't leave things in them if you can avoid it.

For further information and advice, visit [Sold Secure](#).

6. Take it with you or hide it

Your mobile phone, coins for the car park, sunglasses, packs of medication or other items that can earn quick cash are irresistible to the opportunist thief. Remember, the cost of replacing a window is often much more than that of what's stolen. And it should go without saying that wallets, handbags, purses and credit cards should never be left in an unattended vehicle.

7. Hide electrical items and leave no clues

CANDOVER VALLEY CHOIR

**NEW YEAR RESOLUTION?
WANT TO DO SOMETHING NEW?
NEW YEAR NEW BEGINNING?**

GOOD TIME TO JOIN A CHOIR!

Singing is good for you – it is creative, has great health benefits, is very rewarding, and is hugely enjoyable!

**The Candover Valley Choir
is always interested in hearing from potential new singers
interested in joining.**

**The Choir performs a wide repertoire including classical,
contemporary, and popular music**

This is an ideal time to join the choir, as we set out on the new programme for 2022. If you would like to know more about the **Candover Valley Choir** or would like to come and try us out (there are no auditions), **do contact:**

Julian Jones, Choir Chairman, on:

juliang.jones@btinternet.com

or

Jane Bryant, Music Director

bryantjane50@gmail.com

REHEARSALS TAKE PLACE ON THURSDAYS AT 7.45

Cllr Jackie Porter

County Councillor for the Itchen Valley Division

Jackie Porter, Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk, text 07973 696 085

So what on earth is an LCWIP?

The joint HCC/WCC consultation on the Winchester Movement Strategy, including consultation on HCC's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP).

The consultation is open until Friday 11th February. Please respond if you can.

The LCWIP consultation is within the consultation. You may wish to respond to this even if not to the whole of the WMS. For a paper copy, please call 0300 555 1388

The link is www.hants.gov.uk/transport/transportchemes/winchester-movement-strategy

There is also a consultation on **Home to School transport**. It should come to a 'parent-mail' near you!

Are you (or someone you know) struggling to pay for food, rent and fuel?

The County has a fund to combat the effects of Covid-19 to help families, and now it includes help for adults of all ages. There are a variety of ways in which you can *get* help, and there are grants to *help others* too. Search 'Connect4Communities' on www.hants.gov.uk website for the details.

If you need help and don't know where to turn, call Winchester Citizens Advice on 0808 278 7861 or call the County on 0300 555 1384, or email connect4communities@hants.gov.uk

You will have heard a lot about **child protection, and some terrible failures in care** in other parts of the country. Please remember that you can report concerns about an adult or child: this will be quickly investigated by the Multi Agency Team, and then assessed if necessary by a social worker for ongoing work with that family.

For children's services call 0300 555 1388 (Out of hours: call 0300 555 1373)

For an adult, 0300 555 1386, or the Police on 101, or in an emergency, call 999.

At HCC, the Directors write an occasional blog on the website. I was particularly struck by the Children's Services Director's blog just before Christmas. When politics turns nasty, and we argue there's not enough money to keep open our libraries, mend road pot holes, cut hedges etc, it is humbling to realise that every day HCC Social services and many other services are trying to protect even the youngest of us with a commitment that defines true 'Public Service'. If you are involved in this: thank you.

If you'd like to explore fostering a child, please go to www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/fostering

In March there is another scrutiny of the Gigabit broadband scheme's Community Fibre Partnerships. BDUK responses (a branch of the DCMS) have been extremely slow and frustrating, and we fear that despite communities working so hard on this, they will be disappointed by the process and the result.

mains for a mixed use site with high quality new employment space part of the solution. Winchester City Council need to show some real ambition here.

Finally, I have written a lot about **Green Winchester** and events leading to – and since – COP26 in Glasgow. Our focus now shifts to holding Ministers to their promises made and delivering our Net Zero Plan published in the Autumn. Further to this, I will be holding a very special *AskTheMinister* event in Winchester early in the New Year with COP President Alok Sharma MP. Look out for details of that and sign-up to receive my GW updates at www.greenwinchester.com

Much more on my work, in Westminster and Winchester, at stevebrine.com but instant updates (including when I speak in the House of Commons) by liking my page at fb.com/SteveBrineMP

Steve Brine

MP for Winchester & Itchen Valley



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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

First up this month, as 2022 continues to have a very familiar feel to 2021, Covid-19 ...

Readers will know, I have been pressing Ministers and local NHS leaders since the launch of the “Get Boosted Now” campaign to bring some **walk-in vaccination** capacity to Winchester. This is to supplement, not replace, the good work our local GP surgeries and pharmacies are doing to get us fully vaccinated and it is needed because it’s really important that we have a multi-channel offer for my constituents in places which are easy to access.

The pop-ups, at Badger Farm and the Park & Ride South site near junction 11, reported brisk jabbing early on which is very good to see. We do largely now have a pandemic of the unvaccinated but must remember not everyone in this category is vaccine hesitant or refusers. There are still a number of people who cannot have their next vaccination because of a recent infection and there are, of course, those who are unable to take the vaccine in its’ current form because of a health condition.

I have rightly pressed the Prime Minister in Parliament for a long term plan to truly learn to live with Covid – which sets out how we will avoid a damaging panic when the next variant comes along – but am clear that must include how we will support the unvaccinated to do the right thing for themselves and the common good. In my experience, as a former Public Health Minister, people with poor health outcomes often have complex challenges and are excluded from good health in many ways so it’s not unsurprising the Covid vaccine is the latest evidence of that. We need to understand a little more and condemn a lot less because compulsion will only work against us in the end. You can watch back all my contributions in Parliament at stevebrine.com/news.

Secondly, I continue to engage with my colleagues at the Ministry of Defence around the future of **Sir John Moore Barracks** and play my part in the strategic group planning its’ future use which met again last month. With the news, revealed in a letter to me from the Minister late last year, its’ disposal is now delayed until 2026 we have time to consider even more carefully what it will be transformed into and to make sure our plan for a 25 hectare space nature reserve at Flowerdown becomes a reality. My strong preference re-

The Wellhouse Lane railway bridge is going to be closed to everyone for 14 weeks until the 15th April.

Life will be complicated for many of us until this work (conducted by Cala) ends. But when it does, there will be traffic lights, with push buttons to stop traffic so pedestrians can use the marked paths under the bridge, cyclists too. At off peak times, the traffic lights will be red both sides until someone wants to go through- this will slow speeds into the village. A path will lead from the west side of the bridge to link to Kings Barton cycle path on the development.

Many people ask me how the refugee families are being welcomed here. HCC arranges accommodation, social events, school places, language, culture and driving lessons as well as upgrading skills to UK standards. Over 27 refugee families have been hosted to date by Hampshire, but you may have seen that some prefer to move on ‘out of County’ because they have family elsewhere in the UK. Well over 300 Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children are also in the County Council’s care.

Cllr Jackie Porter

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A Return to Stanchester

In August 2021, the Basingstoke Archaeological and Historical Society (BAHS) returned to the Roman site at Stanchester for a week's long excavation. Covid had kept us away for a year and the break gave us time to reflect on our findings and to compare our site plans with aerial photographs. The outcome was that we decided to investigate a new area adjacent to our previous excavations with the aim of finding a building. The original plan was to have a very long trench across the area of interest, with socially distanced trowelling in mind. However, the opportunity arose to do a geophysical survey in July and the results, as shown in the plot in Figure 1, seemed to indicate the remains of a long building with a possible corridor along one of the long sides and with a potential wing at one end. This justified a change of plan to put in two trenches, trench L to straddle the front and back of the structure and trench M to start in the middle and to extend over an area where there was suspected wing.

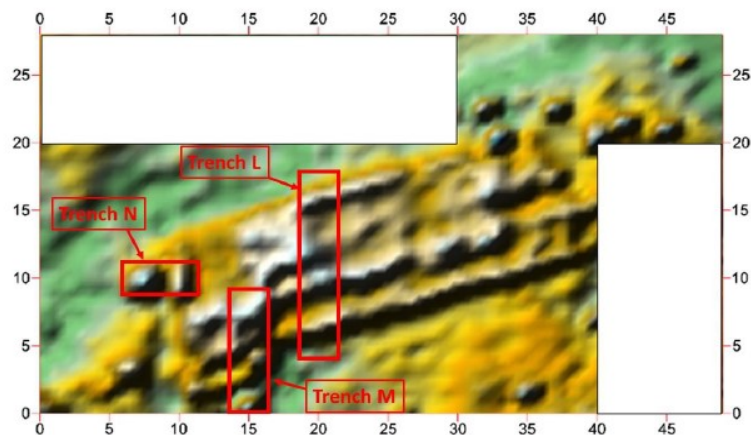


Figure 1 - Trench locations super-imposed over the geophysical plot.

Our investigations revealed that there was evidence of a structure still in place, with the remains of two parallel outer walls still in situ above the chalk bed rock to a depth of about 30 cm, enough for two to three courses of flints laid in mortar to be visible. Inside the structure we found the remains of interior walls of a similar construction with rammed chalk areas in between – see Figure 2 for a plan view of the contents of the two trenches.

Our finds included the usual range of Roman pottery and tile. However, whilst working on the interior of the building in both trenches, we were excited to find pieces of painted wall plaster, most of which was a greenish yellow colour, but some of which was of different colours suggesting a frieze. We photographed the plaster fragments in situ before lifting them for further analysis, see Figure 3 for a photograph of some of the plaster fragments in place.

The investigations in the area where there could have been a wing uncovered a lightly mortared band of smaller flints that formed a “dog-leg” across the trench. We think that this is more suggestive of a garden wall than a load bearing structure.

CVC 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!

CVC www.candovervalleyclub.co.uk



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The working hours (12 – 16hrs per week) can be negotiated depending on the applicant's availability but will include occasional half day Saturday, Sunday morning or Bank Holiday working.

If you are over 18 yrs of age, have excellent customer service skills and a reputation for being reliable, hardworking and good at working in a team then we want to hear from you.

Download the job description from the website www.cvcs.org.uk or call Jane Laws on 01256 389491 for further details.



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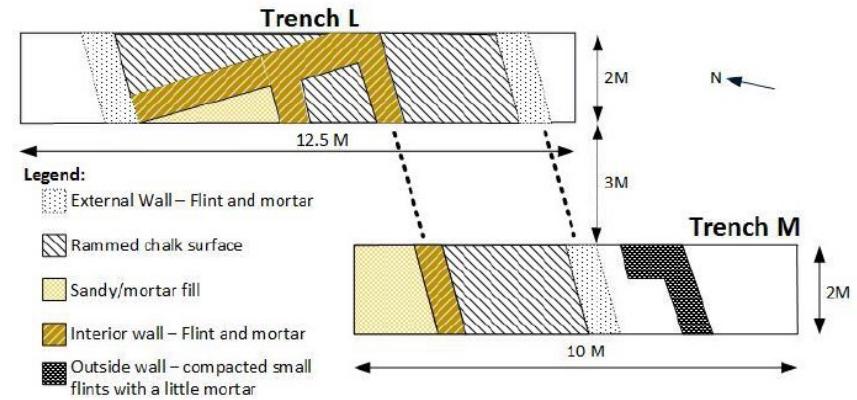


Figure 2- Plan for trenches L and M showing exterior and interior walls and surfaces

During the course of the week, we started trench N to investigate another area shown up in the geophysics plot as a dark "blob" at one extreme of the building. This turned out to be a complicated jumble of Roman tiles that was going to be difficult to record, so with an eye on the remaining time we decided to leave it in situ for another season. However, as you can see in Figure 4, at the top of the pile was a complete Tegula with a maker's mark which we were able to date to the 3rd Century AD.



Figure 3 - Painted plaster from trench M



Figure 4- The jumble of Roman tile in trench N

It was a relief to be working in the field again, the team had a very enjoyable and productive week and the indications are that we have found the remains of a domestic building with several interior rooms. We plan to return in 2022 to do some more geophysical surveys and carry out more work to piece together a plan of the structure.

Our thanks go to Mr and Mrs Marriott for allowing us access to the site and for supporting our investigations.

Mark Peryer – BAHS Chair

How graceful!

Newly arrived visitors to the pond at Chilton Candover.
Swans mate for life. The male swan is a Cobb with the female a Pen, although hardly distinguishable at a glance. Cygnets soon!?



Fund Raising for Macmillan Cancer Support

Hi there, my name is Sebastian Brand and I grew up in the Candover Valley.

I have taken on a big challenge this year; in May I will be taking part in the Jurassic Coast Ultra Marathon, running 100km of the Dorset coast line in one hit. I'd like to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support, who provide great care and support for people who have been affected by cancer. Like many people, I have friends and family who have battled with cancer, and wanted to do my bit to raise money for one of the amazing charities who look after these people.

In their words - 'At Macmillan, we give people with cancer everything we've got. If you're diagnosed, your worries are our worries. We're doing whatever it takes. But without your help we can't support everyone who needs us.'

If you could spare some time and money, any donations to this amazing charity would be appreciated. Please use the link below to find my fund raising page. Please feel free to contact me via my email or phone number if you have any questions about my challenge and the charity, or if you have any issues donating. Thank you for taking time to read this.

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