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Editorial Team

Treasurer & Advert Co-ordinator

Ros Partridge 01420 563 816
Harrow Cottage, Upper Wield
ALRESFORD
SO24 9RW
rospartridge1@gmail.com

Technical Producer

Jean Frost 01420 561 136
5 Pound Close, Upper Wield
ALRESFORD
SO24 9SH
jeanterry@uwclub.net
Philippa Pellereau 01962 733107

Distribution Manager

ppellereau@gmail.com

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

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THE OXDROVE

Church and Community News

Of

The Candover Valley and Wield

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

Benefice administrator – Tricia Knight email address:
beneficeFCW@hotmail.com Phone 07541 463750

Contact preferred by e-mail

Rota for Services

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

The Parishes of Farleigh, The Candover Valley
and Wield

Sunday 2nd July 4th Sunday after Trinity

09:30	Wield	Matins
10:00	Preston Candover	Morning Prayer
11:00	Northington	Holy Communion
11.00	Dummer	Sunday Special
<i>Readings</i>	<i>Genesis 22:1-14, Romans 6:12-end, Matthew 10:40-end</i>	
<i>Sermon</i>	<i>““A prophet’s reward”</i>	
	_____””_____	

Sunday 9th July 5th Sunday after Trinity

10:00 Preston Candover Holy Communion
11:00 Farleigh Wallop Holy Communion
18:00 Wield Evensong
Readings Genesis 24:34-38,42-49, Romans 7:15-25,
Matthew 11:16-19,25-end Psalm 45
Sermon "Is it all just too much?"

_____””_____

Sunday 16th July 6th Sunday after Trinity

9.00 Wield Holy Communion BCP
10:00 Preston Candover Family Service
11:00 Cliddesden Family Service
Readings Genesis 25:19-end, Romans 8:1-11,
Matthew 13:1-9,18-23 Psalm 119
Sermon "You got ears, use them!"

_____””_____

Sunday 23rd July 7th Sunday after Trinity

8:30 Bradley Holy Communion CW
11:00 Brown Candover Morning Worship
11:00 Ellisfield Holy Communion
3.00pm Preston Candover Evening Prayer
with Baptism. Bishop David officiating.
Readings Genesis 28:10-19, Romans 8:12-25,
Matthew 13:24-30,36-43 Psalm 139
Sermon "An enemy has done this"

_____””_____



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Sunday 30th July 8th Sunday after Trinity

09:30 Bradley Holy Communion
11:00 Farleigh Wallop Holy Communion
Readings Genesis 29:15-28, Romans 8:26-end,
Matthew 13:31-33,44-52 Psalm 105
Sermon "The Kingdom of heaven is like..."

Sunday 6th August Transfiguration

11:00 Northington Holy Communion
11.00 Dummer Sunday Special
Readings Daniel 7:9-10,13-14, 2 Peter 1:16-19,
Luke 9:28-36 Psalm 97
Sermon ...when they were fully awake they saw...

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Dear Friends

We are in that season between planting and harvest and whilst enjoying the sunshine farmers are hoping for rain to swell the grain to improve the yield. Here's a little story about plant growth and yield.

A farmer went out to plant her seed. While she was planting, some seed fell by the road, and the birds came and ate it all up. Some seed fell on rocky ground, where there wasn't much soil. That seed grew very fast, because the ground was not deep. But when the sun rose, the plants dried up, because they did not have deep roots. Some other seed fell among thorny weeds, which grew and choked the good plants. Some other seed fell on good ground where it grew and produced a crop. Some plants made a hundred times more, some made sixty times more, and some made thirty times more. Let those with ears use them and listen.


What is the seed that fell by the road? That seed is like the person who hears the message about the kingdom of God but does not understand it. The Evil One comes and takes away what was planted in that person's heart. And what is the seed that fell on rocky ground? That seed is like the person who hears the teaching and quickly accepts it with joy. But she does not let the teaching go deep into her life, so she keeps it only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the teaching she accepted, she quickly gives up.

And what is the seed that fell among the thorny weeds? That seed is like the person who hears the teaching but let worries about this life and the temptation of wealth stop that teaching from growing. So the teaching does not produce fruit in that person's life.



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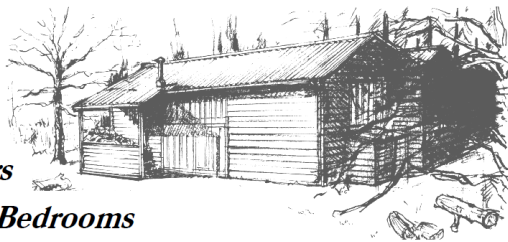
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But what is the seed that fell on the good ground? That seed is like the person who hears the teaching and understands it. That person grows and produces fruit, sometimes a hundred times more, sometimes sixty times more, and sometimes thirty times more. (Matthew's Gospel. New Century Version)

I hope our gardens, allotments and fields crop well this year and so too the yield from God's words planted into our lives.

Blessings

David

Ceremony of remembrance

The short annual ceremony of remembrance will be held at Northington War Memorial at 1215hrs on Sunday 16 July.

The date is chosen as it is closest to the anniversary of the death of the first Parishioner in First World War.

All are very welcome.

Sidesmen and Readers

<u>Church</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Sidesmen</u>	<u>Readers</u>
St John's Northington		Dr Sarah Noble	
St Peter's Brown Candover	23 July 11.00am	Celia Foote	Rhys Smith Ed Daniels
St Mary The Virgin Preston Candover	2 July 10.00am	Anne Luneburg	Jane Laws
	9 July 10.00am	Marina Avis Jane Laws	Marina Avis Celia Foote
	16 July 10.00am	Marina Avis	To be advised
All Saints Bradley		Andrew Don	Andrew Don
St James' Wild	2 July 9.30am	Brian Collins	Barbara Wells Amanda Bromfield
	9 July 6.00pm	Alwin Hutchinson	Philip Geddes Alwin Hutchinson
Coffee	2 July	Amanda Bromfield	
	19 July	Nikky Cowley	



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Church flowers, cleaning and Key Holders

St. John's Church Northington			
St Peter's Church Brown Candover	Key Holders	July August	Sue Marriott Celia Foote
All Saints Church Bradley	Flowers & Cleaning	July	Isla Baring
St. Mary The Virgin Preston Candover	Flowers		
St James' Church Wield	Flowers	July 1 & 8 July 15 & 22	Amanda Bromfield Nicola Robinson
	Cleaner		



Fundraiser Pete Evans

Last month I gave details about my son's fundraising walk from Coast to Coast starting in the west at St Bees and ending in the east at Robin Hood's Bay.

Pete sent details of his walk each day and those on his WhatsApp group enjoyed following closely the ups and downs of his walk. Pete was walking in support for the Not-Forgotten and MacMillan Cancer charities.

In his walk of 192 miles from Cumbria to Yorkshire, Pete tackled the challenge solo, hiking in all weathers with all of his gear in a 12kg pack and wild camping most of the way. His regular updates and photos made it feel almost like we were there with him, minus the sore feet!

Pete raised an incredible £1,500 to be split between the two charities.

Many thanks to all who supported Pete on his walk. Both charities will benefit from his magnificent efforts.

Thank you Pete!

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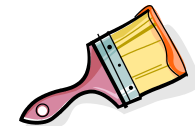
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Water: A Precious But Limited Resource

In England, we're lucky enough that access to clean drinking water requires only a turn of the tap. This incredible natural resource is so readily available, in fact, that we can easily forget about its limitations. But recent summers have painted a worrying picture: increasing demand coupled with insufficient supply.

The UK's population is set to increase by around four million people by 2045. Climate change is shifting our weather towards longer dry spells interspersed with flash flooding. Even in today's conditions, a period of extreme drought would result in a water supply deficit of 500 million litres per day – enough to supply three million people.

This is a problem because our primary water sources – lakes, rivers, reservoirs, and aquifers – have a limited supply. What's more, if too much water is taken then waterbodies can grow overly warm and shallow. Oxygen is lost and pollutants become concentrated. Amazing animals like the mayfly and brown trout can overheat and suffocate.

To address this pressing problem, England's water companies are required to create Water Resources Management Plans. These documents detail how they intend to balance water supply and demand for at least the next 25 years. New plans for 2024 are currently in development, and they will have huge implications for nature.

If you would like to explore your water company's draft Water Resources Management Plan, it will be available somewhere on their website. Southern Water's, for example, can be read at www.southernwater.co.uk/water-resources. Unfortunately, the plans themselves can be lengthy, technical, and difficult to decipher.

To unravel this important but complex topic, we're holding two free online talks this August. Our speakers will explore the context and contents of the 2024 plans, including their potential impact on our rare and precious chalk streams:

The Murky World of Water Resources

Guest speaker – WildFish

10th August, 7-8pm

Southern Water's 2024 Water Resources Management Plan

Guest speaker – Southern Water

22nd August, 7-8pm

To book your tickets for these talks, visit www.hiwwt.org.uk/events. To learn more about our local chalk streams, visit www.hiwwt.org.uk/winterbournes. The Watercress and Winterbournes Landscape Partnership Scheme is supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Walking with Wildlife, Robert Bryant

A swathe of meadow buttercups borders the trail leading across a grassy plain, now crowded with humps of hawthorns. Here at Home Farm, the Woodland Trust's reserve at Burkham Bentworth near Bradley, the hawthorns are in bloom under hazy blue skies. Smothered white with May blossom, they create a spectacular downland display, somewhat offset by their curious scent.

Beyond the gleaming buttercups, patchworks of pink flowers sway among the tall meadow grasses. First the starry fingers of ragged-robin flicker upwards, followed by a zone of the cones and spires of sainfoin or 'holy hay', a forage plant very popular with bees. A constant tapping from the top of a hawthorn dome reveals a handsome bird, smartly turned out with a black crown, white collar, and a russet-orange chest glowing in the sunshine. It's a male stonechat with its pebble-tap call.

A red kite floats overhead as we follow the white chevrons of the way-marked trail looping through the woods. A soundtrack of bird-song plays from the leafy shadows all around: solos from blackbirds and robins; the chant of a chiffchaff, plus a whole chorus of hidden warblers. Speckled wood butterflies guard their sunlit patches, flying up to challenge intruders in their shaft of sunlight. A lone orange-tip wanders through on a quest for garlic mustard and perhaps some female companions.

Emerging at Tickle meadow where the songs of skylarks and pipits mingle and flow from far above, we stride up to the hillside cove where the green permissive path reveals some hidden highlights. Tucked in beneath the trees are the tall stems of white helleborines, growing in the dappled shade. Each bears a spike of egg-shaped cream-white flowers. Often found growing under beeches, these orchids may have spread down from the beech hangar beyond. Tiny butterflies bask on the sunlit path – small heaths that favour dry grassland are well camouflaged. Small blues with their silvery under-wings visit the vetches and trefoils, along with common blues. As we head back, a muntjac buck begins to bark from deep in the woods behind.

Robert Bryant
7th June '23

Goodbye to Dr. Elboray & Dr. Allberry


We say goodbye to Dr. Shereen Elboray on 14th July. Dr. Elboray joined in January, but she is planning on working in a GP Surgery closer to her home.

We thank Dr. Elboray for the work she done in the time she was with us & we wish her all the best with her future role.

Dr. Charlotte Allberry will be going on maternity leave in mid-July (or maybe sooner if the heat continues) we wish her a safe delivery & arrival of her baby & we look forward to welcoming her back after her maternity leave.

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Covid spring booster programme

Over the months of April-June our amazing bank practice nurses vaccinated 1,300 of our patients who were eligible for their covid spring booster.

In addition to this our community nurse team vaccinated any eligible, truly housebound patients.

We would like to thank our amazing staff who have carried out this booster programme in addition to their usual workload, this includes our tremendous Reception team & Management team who are pivotal in the coordination of the programme.

After 30 June, the COVID-19 vaccine will only be offered to those at higher risk of serious infection & these will need to be given via a vaccination hub.

We will update patients as soon as we have been updated by NHS England with regards to if/when there will be an autumn booster program.

Travelling abroad

Immunisations and advice are available through our Travel Service.

Please collect a form from Reception or follow the link on our website to complete the form online, and then make an appointment in our Travel Clinic.

The form should be returned to the surgery prior to your appointment.

You will have a telephone appointment initially to discuss all your travel arrangements, then if required a follow up face to face appointment for the vaccinations.

You should allow **at least 8 weeks** to enable vaccination courses to be completed.

There may be a charge for certain vaccines.

For more information, please visit our website; <https://alresfordsurgery.co.uk/clinics-and-resources/>

On the Farm - Julian Gibbons

May and June have been very dry, and the heavy showers have been hit and miss, but all gratefully received. I am glad we chose peas and not spring beans as our pulse crop as peas generally cope better with dry spells. They have however been plagued by pigeons especially around the edges. Our whirly "Flash Harrys" seemed to act as a landing indicator and I have reluctantly dragged a gas gun out to try and move them on. We have had a couple of guys shooting at weekends who have been quite successful.

We finally have got our winter wild bird strips planted. We had been waiting for enough rain to give us confidence they will go in and grow quickly. The mixtures we are allowed to use under our environmental schemes are quite prescriptive. This is to ensure they have a range of seed sizes and will shed gradually over the winter period. It is no use just have seed for September and October. WE will spray them with a herbicide to make sure they don't become swamped with weeds, but the odd weed can produce a food source even if it is insects not seeds.

We had a visit in early June to a processing plant for Oats. They clean the oats and use colour sorters to take out weed material and bits of Ergot. It uses blasts of air to blow out the foreign material. They also have magnets to remove any small bit of metal. The oats are then dehulled. This involves removing the husk (or outer coating of the seed) to leave the groat. The processed oats are then delivered to a processing and packing plant where they are turned into oat milk. Although I am a big milk drinker and there is little better than it as a complete food, I appreciate some people choose to have something else. British produced oat milk uses locally grown oats has a short supply chain. Oats are a low input crop requiring much less fertiliser and spray inputs and unlike soya there is no dispute on whether it is grown on former rainforest land. Almond milk is controversial, because of the vast amounts of water used to grow Almonds, and the fact that they are grown in areas that are generally low in rainfall doesn't help the local environment.

On the farm there is little more we can do to the current crops except the peas that are only just coming into flower as I write this. Threats to the peas are Pea Moth (lots of them this year) and Pea Aphids (lots of them as well). We still have our oats to move off the farm, but they should go in the first half of July.

As always, please watch out for tractors and trailers and combine harvesters moving on the lanes over harvest and apologies if you get stuck behind one on your journey, we can only pull over if it is safe for you to pass.

Wield Cricket Club Fixtures – June

Matches are played on the ground opposite
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4 June	Howzat	14.30 Home
11 June	President's XI	13.30 Home
18 June	Bournemouth Wanderers	14.30 Home
25 June	Long Sutton	14.30 Away
2 July	East Meon	14.00 Away

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WEATHERWISE By Simon Bourne

Summary of weather observations taken at Northington Down
in May 2023

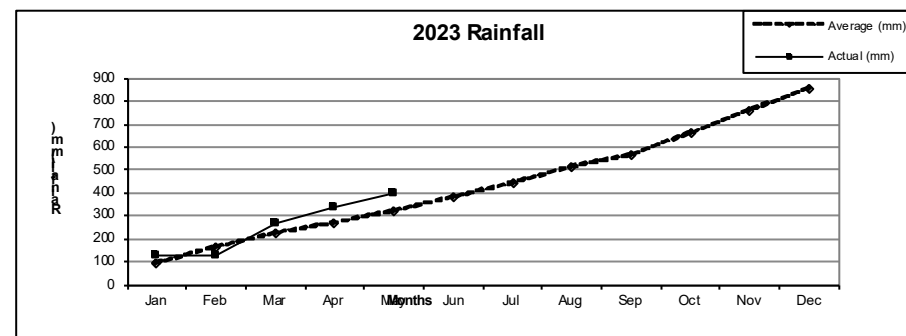
Temperatures (degrees centigrade/Fahrenheit)

Highest	22.5/73	(28 th)
Lowest	2.0/36	(16 th)
Warmest Night	10.6/51	(9 th)
Coollest Day	13.1/56	(8 th)
Average maximum temperature	18.2/65	
Average minimum temperature	6.4/44	

Rainfall (millimetres/inches)

Monthly total	59.2/2.33	(average 54.6/2.15)
Annual total	398.5/15.59	(average 325.8/12.83)
Maximum 24hr. rainfall	21.9/0.86	(9 th)
Number of days with rain	11	

Summary There was an unsettled start to the month with rain on most of the first twelve days, and a thunderstorm with heavy rain and hail on the 9th. High pressure then dominated with settled, sunny conditions and rain on just two occasions. Daytime temperatures were above average in the last two weeks, despite a persistent north/north-easterly breeze. There was unbroken sunshine on several of the last eight days with a cloudless sky at times, and colder overnight temperatures. The overall temperature and rainfall for the month were slightly above the norm. The spring season was slightly cooler than normal, and it was the second wettest, due to the extremely wet March, with 162% of the long term average rainfall.





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A festival with wide appeal - a date for your diary

This year's West Meon Music Festival, from 14th to 17th September, promises a wide range of classical music to appeal to all tastes.

The festival, now in its thirteenth year, opens with the event's founders the Primrose Piano Quartet, performing Brahms' *A major Piano Quartet* as well as duo works by Mozart and Schubert. Friday evening sees a recital by Thomas Kelly – followed by "Who's afraid of Arnold Schoenberg?" an informal late-night concert by the Primrose exploring his work.

On Saturday 16th September the festival spreads out across the Meon Valley: in the morning the strings of the Primrose will perform a version of Bach's *Goldberg Variations* at East Meon's historic All Saints Church while in the afternoon the beautiful twelfth century Church of Our Lady at Warnford hosts the Gonzaga Band performing works from the "Age of Monteverdi".

On Saturday evening the Primrose are back at West Meon Church with Schubert's *Trout Quintet* followed on Sunday by a morning recital of French song with exciting young soprano Harriet Burns. The French theme continues for the "Festival Finale" in the afternoon with works by Fauré, Chopin, Saint-Saëns, Françaix and Bizet.

Full details of all concerts are now available at www.westmeonmusic.co.uk and the box office opens on 1st June. The West Meon Music Festival is a registered charity no. 1185082



Candover Valley Gardening Club

We had a very busy month in May with two very successful plant sales. There were lots of bargains to be had and very satisfied customers went away with a wide variety of flower and vegetable plants all very good value, and all locally grown. Thank you to all of those who provided plants and to those who purchased plants.

On 18th May we had our first garden visit of the year to a member's very local garden in Godsfield. Luckily the forecast rain didn't materialise, and we were able to stroll around a lovely garden which had been five years in the making. Obviously, a lot of hard work had gone into creating the lovely borders and the vegetable area.

We also had the opportunity for an extra garden visit in Armsworth and enjoyed the shrub borders, cutting garden and large fruit and vegetable area. The buttercup meadow was a delight too.

If you would like to join us at any time, guests are very welcome for a small fee and of course we always welcome new members. You can find us at Candover Valley Gardening club on Facebook.

Farleigh Parish Playgroup



Sliddesden Millennium Village Hall

Friday Mornings 11am-12noon Term Time

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Contact:

Melanie (07833-528040) Claire (07757 498653)



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The Choir enjoys a wide repertoire including classical, contemporary, and popular music.

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This is an ideal time to join the choir, as we set out on the new programme for the season ahead.

If you would like to know more 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

07740 871341 - bryantjane50@gmail.com

Rehearsals take place on Thursdays at 7.45

Cllr Jackie Porter

County Councillor for the Itchen Valley Division

Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk

telephone: 07973 696 085

ansaphone 01962 791054

Website: www.jackieporter.co.uk

Water quality is a hot topic, and I was pleased to join Margot Power on a group visit to the water treatment plant at Alresford recently. There, we took the politics out of the conversation, and learned a lot about the science and the way the engineers manage the varying flows in very dry and very wet weather to avoid storm overflows. It is heartening to hear that the site has capacity to take the new developments in the town. We discussed how Southern Water manages the chemicals and other materials that arise from the wastewater, but wherever we live in the division, we can all play our part too. Only put the **three P's*** in the toilet, and please choose cleaning products with the lowest phosphate levels if you can.

The County Council has a budget consultation out until the 23rd July. The link is www.hants.gov.uk/budgetconsultation You can see a commentary before you respond. Can I urge you to take part? Often the low level of responses implies that citizens aren't interested, which I'm sure is far from the truth. Suggestions to reduce costs are cutting school crossing patrols, cutting HWRC costs by over 50%, and not resurfacing roads! But there are implications for social care for children and adults too: services which are already overstretched.

Talking of potholes; I asked three questions at the last HCC meeting, about potholes, recycling, and the cost of travel to special needs education.

My first question related to your complaints about tyre and wheel damage: how many **complaints had HCC received about potholes in the first three months of 2023?** The answer was a staggering 1175, approx. 10 every day, distinctly increasing from the previous year. You can see the answers to all three questions on the HCC County Council recording of the 18th May 2023.

The County Councillor grant scheme is now open for small grants. Each councillor has a total fund of £8000, so you are advised to contact me before applying so that we can discuss your plans. Go to www.hants.gov.uk and search county councillor grants. This fund is open until the money runs out, so please contact me in the next few months to ensure you are not disappointed.




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www.cvcs.org.uk

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Although maybe not in your ward, the Cart and Horses junction is used by most drivers and cyclists. After the fatal accident in the Autumn, the local councillors felt they had no democratic way to voice their concerns to the Exec Member and it was a relief that he was persuaded to meet with Parish and City Councillors.

We discussed every suggestion that you have put to us for short term junction improvements which are now being assessed for feasibility by the traffic engineers. We acknowledged that the time for major change is when building the new junction 9 is and the County will be consulting on options for that new Cart and Horses junction in the summer, probably July- September. I raised this matter too, at the M3 Junction 9 Open Floor Hearing in May. You can see the full (OFH) Open Floor Hearing on the NSIP website; my presentation is also on my website.



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Swarraton and Northington WI June 2023

For our June meeting we had a fascinating and informative talk by Joyce Meader about the history of knitting. Thought to have started in Medieval times, knitting and patterns have a long history. Joyce chose to cover the period from 1800 to 1945, she had some genuine knitted items from the early 1900s plus garments she had replicated from historic patterns. There were many stories and anecdotes especially about the war and most members had not so fond memories of knitted swimsuits! She is obviously a very talented person, and she kept us entertained with her lively talk.

Swarraton and Northington WI has a very varied and interesting programme of speakers booked for 2023 - 2024 and the much-enjoyed Summer Garden Lunch in August where guests are invited so please do come and join us.

We have a large selection of used books donated by members, the collection of used stamps and pennies for charity and any surplus plants or produce. Guests are always welcome for a small charge of £3 per meeting. At the end of the afternoon we always enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, cakes and sandwiches and a chance to chat to other members.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 4th July at 2pm at the Village Hall

The talk is titled Beatrix Potter by Annalie Tallent

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

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

The issue of **water quality** and **combined storm overflows** (CSO's) has shot up the agenda in recent years. As a result, I have worked really hard educate myself - and in-turn I hope constituents when they get in touch - about the subject.

If it were easy CSO's would never have been a thing in the first place so anyone who tells you it's a simple fix is deceiving, you and I think most reasonable people know that. Also, and I find very few people genuinely know this, it's essential to understand why overflows are not simply switched off by Ministerial decree.

It all goes back to a Victorian sewerage system which was never built for this level of development or indeed rainfall.

This Government has done more than any other on the issue of water quality starting with proper monitoring, so we know the extent of the problem. That has given great publicity to the issue but I guess that's the serious business of Government not the luxury of opposition.

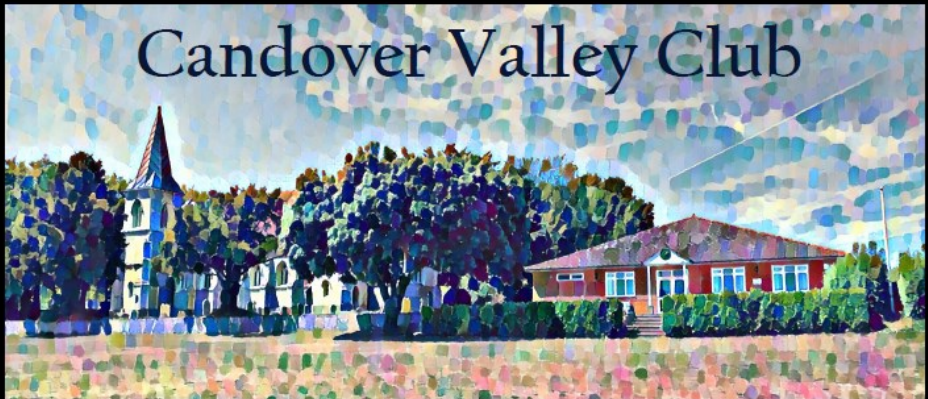
The 'Storm overflow discharge reduction plan', brought about by the Environment Act I voted FOR requires water companies to make their largest infrastructure spend in water company history to increase capacity. It is backed by up to £56 billion capital investment. And we've ringfenced now unlimited fines from water companies so that they don't go to HM Treasury but stay in DEFRA for environmental projects.

Last year I visited Southern Water's water treatment works at Morestead Lane (pictured) to really understand how the waste-water process works. And I visited Thruxton (near Andover) see what how their 'Pathfinder' project is pioneering a way to tackle groundwater infiltration into sewer s systems, which adds to the pressure that triggers a discharge.

I am staying close to Southern Water to understand how they are interpreting the Environment Act and urging them to go further and faster.

No-one is pretending this is easy. Our Victorian sewerage system combines storm / ground water with that produced by toilets, dishwashers and bathtubs. Without a discharge it would literally come back up your loo and plug hole.

(Continued overleaf)



Candover Valley Club

The Candover Valley Club is located in the beautiful village of Brown Candover next to St. Peter's Church, and is fronted by the village cricket field. The Club has a fully licenced bar with kitchen, skittle alley, dart boards, pool table, TV, wifi and a separate function room suitable for large parties. A marquee, tables, chairs, crockery and cutlery are also available to hire.

Please contact cvchires@gmail.com for more information about using these wonderful facilities, or come for a drink on Saturday from 6.30pm.

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=====

More news from the
Pre school after they have
enjoyed a long summer break

Have fun all of you!

From Steve Brine, MP for Winchester, Alresford & Itchen Valley (Cont.)

We want to change that which is why we're facing up to the problem and acting.

That is painstaking work so far from ignoring the situation, the Government and I are taking it extremely seriously and taking action to provide better water quality in this country. You can find more on this, and links to all I've mentioned here, at stevebrine.com/factorfake-waterquality

Finally, I have spoken out against plans by **Winchester City Council** to start charging for **parking after 7pm** in most city centre. Clearly many residents supported this council and the current administration in May – it has a big majority to force it through - but you have to win the argument as well as the vote in my opinion. This is the last thing the city needs right now in terms of the nighttime economy and it's going to be especially unwelcome for residents out in these villages who may have no choice but to drive into Winchester for an evening at a restaurant, bar or such like. Please tell your city councillors what you think, and they can feed that into the leadership.

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