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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

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## THE OXDROVE

**Church and Community News**

*Of*

**The Candover Valley and Wield**

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Tel: 01256 389 474 Email: [davidchattell172@btinternet.com](mailto:davidchattell172@btinternet.com)

**Benefice administrator** – Tricia Knight email address:  
[beneficeFCW@hotmail.com](mailto: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 4<sup>th</sup> June Trinity Sunday**

08.00	Ellisfield	Holy Communion BCP
09:30	Wield	Matins
09.45	Cliddesden	Morning Prayer
11:00	Northington	Holy Communion
11.15	Dummer	Sunday Special
6.00	Chilton Candover	Evensong at the

**Buried Church with Bishop David**

*Readings: Isaiah 40:12-17, 27-end, 2 Corinthians 13:11-end, Matthew 28:16-end Psalm 8*  
*Sermon Make disciples, baptise and teach...*

””

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June**      **First Sunday after Trinity**

08:00      Dummer      Holy Communion

09:45      Ellisfield      Morning Prayer

10:00      Preston Candover      Holy Communion

11:15      Cliddesden      Family Holy Communion

18:00      Wield      Evensong

*Readings:*      *Genesis 12:1-9, Romans 4:13-end, Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26*      *Psalms 33*

*Sermon:*      *Who needs a doctor?*

—————””—————

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June**      **Second Sunday after Trinity**

9.00      Wield      Holy Communion BCP

9:45      Dummer      Morning Prayer

10:00      Preston Candover      Family Service

11.15      Cliddesden      Family Service

*Readings:*      *Genesis 18:1-15, Romans 5:1-8, Matthew 9:35-10:8*      *Psalms 116*

*Sermon:*      *The harvest is plentiful*

—————””—————

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June**      **Third Sunday after Trinity**

8:30      Bradley      Holy Communion CW.

9:45      Dummer      Holy Communion CW

**Preacher:**      **Dean of Winchester Cathedral**  
**Rev Catherine Ogle**

11:00      Brown Candover      Pet Service

11:15      Ellisfield      Family Holy Communion

**Preacher:**      **Dean of Winchester Cathedral**

*Readings:*      *Genesis 21:8-21, Romans 6:1-11, Matthew 10:24-39*      *Psalms 86*

*Sermon:*      *Find your life*

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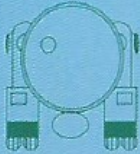
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Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Fourth Sunday after Trinity
09:30	Wield Matins
10:00	Preston Candover Morning Prayer
11:00	Northington Holy Communion
11.15	Dummer Fellowship Month: Sunday Special
<i>Readings:</i>	<i>Genesis 22:1-14, Romans 6:12-end, Matthew 10:40-end Psalm 13</i>
<i>Sermon:</i>	<i>A prophet's reward</i>
	—————””—————

**Thank you Bradley!**

Thanks to the generous support of the residents of Bradley we have been able to send £202.50 to Hampshire Air Ambulance from the profits of the Bradley Jubilee Commemorative Calendar 2023.

From the collection at Bradley Carol's Evening, £112.25 was sent to the Camrose Centre to support the homeless of Basingstoke.

Thank you so much to all involved,  
Jane

## Dear Friends

June is a busy month for appointees to new posts as resignations are tendered and preparation made for a new job, school, position, rank, or role. After the Coronation some senior military personnel we saw on screen, closely involved in planning the day, are moving on to new things in natural career progression. Moving on is part of life.

The first and sad story of relocation in the bible tells of Adam and Eve leaving Eden's paradise, sadly and reluctantly leaving perfection and harmony for lives in which new experiences of guilt, shame, threat, and harm which would be theirs. Ever since then humankind have wanted to get 'back to the garden' with an innate sense of longing and searching for life at its most harmonious.

We naturally want to be 'at home' wherever we are, no-one enjoys living or working in a toxic environment.

A researcher looking at why people left a certain organisation was told by an ex-member "if a window falls out of a building you ask what was wrong with the window, but when four windows fall out you ask what is wrong with the building?" If the replacement windows also fall out, clearly there is something fundamentally wrong and when 'four' windows become over forty, well...!

The Bible has many stories of journeys and of course about Jesus, who made the most dramatic journey as a baby into a manger at Christmas and then a journey to the Cross. Because of the journey of God coming to meet us in his son He invites all people to make a move to come 'home', be family and belong, and paradise regained is about entry not exit, making a move to be 'in' not 'out'.

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There is a welcome in our churches from congregations for all and most importantly there is a welcome from God!  
Do join us if you can for our annual 'Buried Church' Evensong service with Bishop David on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 6pm in Chilton Candover in an idyllic setting close to the 'The Yard'.

Blessings  
David

### **Buried Church Service at St. Nicholas, Chilton Candover**

**The Annual outdoor service of Evensong** will be held on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm. This service has taken place on an evening in May or June for last fifty years. We are delighted that the Bishop of Basingstoke will be preaching.

### **Annual service for our pets.**

We all love our pets whether large or small, young or old, and they are friends to us throughout their lives. For this service, we meet in the

### **PRESTON CANDOVER VILLAGE HALL**

By kind permission of Lady Sainsbury and Preston Farms the **GRAND SUMMER FETE** and celebrations to mark the Centenary of the Village Hall, postponed from 2022, will be held on the field next door to the hall on Sunday, 2nd July.

Please keep the date and watch out for details on posters and social media. We hope to see you there!

## Sidesmen and Readers

<u>Church</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Sidesmen</u>	<u>Readers</u>
<b>St John's Northington</b>	4 June 11.00am	Jan Bryant	Jane Bryant
<b>St Peter's Brown Candover</b>	28 May 11.00	Celia Foote	Ed Danielle Rhys Smith
	4 June 6.00pm Buried Church	Ed Marriott Paul Curtis Hayward Sue Marriott	Ed Marriott Celia Foote
<b>St Mary The Virgin Preston Candover</b>	11 June 10.00am	Anny Luneburg Gunnel Berry	Anne Luneburg Celia Foote
	18 June 10.00am	Marina Avis	To be advised
	2 July 10.00	Anne Luneburg	Jane Laws
<b>All Saints Bradley</b>	25 June 8.30am	Andrew Don	Andrew Don
<b>St James' Wield</b>	4 June 9.30am	Brian Collins	Paul Markillie Catherine Simons
	11 June 6.00pm	Alwin Hutchinson	Jean Frost Alwin Hutchinson
	18 June 9.00am	Catherine Simons	Catherine Simons Mark Kemp Gee (TBC)
	2 July 9.00am	Brian Collins	Barbara Wells Amanda Bromfield



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## Church flowers, cleaning and Key Holders

<b>St. John's Church</b> <b>Northington</b>			
<b>St Peter's Church</b> <b>Brown Candover</b>			
	Key Holders	June	Jonathan Moseley
<b>All Saints Church</b> <b>Bradley</b>	Flowers & Cleaning	June	Debbie Peters
<b>St. Mary The Virgin</b> <b>Preston Candover</b>	Flowers		
<b>St James' Church</b> <b>Wield</b>	Flowers	June 3 & 10 June 17 & 22	Nikki Cowley Jenny Furguson
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**The Rev. Canon Charles Rycroft, (Rvc) Smith (1946-2023)**  
**A Tribute**


Ryc Smith, who was Rector of the original Candover Valley Benefice, died recently. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him. He came to the Candover Valley with a sense of vocation which had grown over many years and with experience in several different fields. From an early age he was particularly influenced by a Franciscan Community in Cerne Abbas. After Agricultural College he worked briefly in Switzerland as a hotel porter. He joined the Army serving in the Horse Guards (Blues) for a short time. His sense of vocation grew and in 1976, with the strong and loving support of Pauline, whom he had married in 1969, he began to train for the Priesthood. He was ordained in 1978. He served as a Curate in parishes in Hereford and Maybush. Then in 1983 he became the first Rector of the newly created Candover Valley Benefice. He was with us until 1999 and for the last 9 years was also Rural Dean. In 1999 he moved from the Candover Valley to a Parish in Guernsey until 2007 when he became Priest in Charge at Beau-lieu. He was made an Honorary Canon of Winchester Cathedral in 2014, shortly before he retired.

With his commanding presence, outgoing personality and ability to persuade, Ryc made a big impression on the Benefice, and, in various ways, he has left a lasting legacy. He started the tradition of the Good Friday walk, which has taken place annually ever since, save for the 'lock-down' years. He included Northington in the rota for Remembrance Day Services, even though, at that time, there was no War Memorial at which to conduct the final part of the Service. Ryc simply created a temporary War Memorial with a Cross of Poppies outside the West Door. With only four Parishes in the original Benefice Ryc was able to make home visits and managed to visit every single home, making a lasting impression on one contributor. A sermon led another contributor to become a regular Churchgoer. A third, who attended many Wedding Rehearsals, was struck by the care with which Ryc explained the significance and importance of the critical parts of the Service. Ryc encouraged Sunday Schools and services for children, which were specifically aimed at involving and interesting those attending and encouraging them to participate. He served as an ex-officio governor of Preston Candover Church of England School. The fact that he was often called "Ryc the Vic" was an indication of the respect and affection in which he was held by the whole community.

I am grateful to all those who contributed.

There will be a Memorial Service at Hereford Cathedral on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023.

Michael Brodrick



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## The Alresford Surgery (cont.)

Our patient care coordinator is working through a mighty list of eligible patients, but if you think you should have been offered an NHS Health check & haven't, then please do get in contact with us to book in for one.

### Retirement of Dr Jane Stebbing


Dr. Jane Stebbing will be retiring at the end of June.

Jane joined the Surgery as a trainee in 1987 & in 1990 became a Partner at the practice. Jane enjoyed a career break from the practice after the arrival of her second son but then re-joined us part time as a salaried GP after that. Jane has been a massive part of our clinical team here at the surgery over the last 30 plus years!

We are going to miss her dreadfully, as her patients will too but wish her all the best with what retirement holds for her.

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## Coast to Coast walk for Charity

My son, Peter, will be taking the Coast to Coast track and walking the length of it for charity.

The two charities to benefit will be Macmillan Nurses (Peter's Stepmother died of cancer recently) and the Not Forgotten. Peter's Stepfather (Terry Frost) raises money for the NFG with the Wield Glenn Miller Tribute Band. Peter will start walking on 23 May and plans to finish on 7 June.

He will be walking in Wainwright's footsteps, starting at St Bees and ending at Robin Hood Bay. The total length of the walk is approximately 190 Miles which is about 12 miles a day. The longest stretch is 16 Miles and the shortest 9 miles.

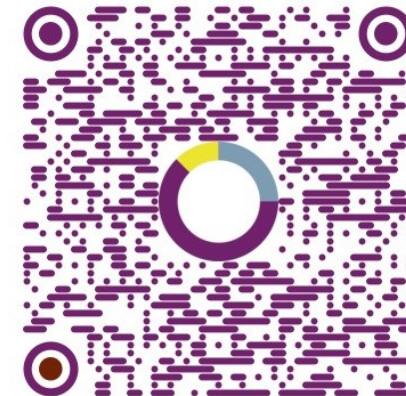
Peter has been planning the walk for the past 10 months and has recently spent a weekend walking in the Lake District to try out his kit. He will be carrying a tent, mat, sleeping bag, clothes, waterproofs, a cooking kit for tea, coffee and some breakfasts and food for about two days. He says there are lots of shops and pubs on the way so he won't starve! His kit weighs 11kg and he is carrying a water filter so that he can collect water from streams and lakes along the way.

It is a tradition to dip your boots in the Irish Sea at the start and collect pebbles for loved ones, carrying them the whole way and throwing them into the North Sea at the end.

Peter says that the first five days are the hardest as it is through the Lake District and the hills are tough. Later on he will pass through the Yorkshire dales and the York Moors.

**Please sponsor Peter on his walk for these two worthy causes. You can use the QR code below to make your donation.**

Many thanks, Jean Frost



## Walking with Wildlife, Robert Bryant

We were squelching along the bridlepath through Preston Oak Hills on a fine Sunday afternoon. These impressive oakwoods near Bradley have splendid displays of bluebells in early May. Blackbirds were chortling from somewhere high in the canopy now flushing yellow green with clusters of leaves and tufts of catkins.

The shady wayside verges first reveal a delightful array of native plants. There are the elegant arching stems of Solomon's seal, the sprawling white spangles of greater stitchwort, plus the glimmer and glow of yellow archangel. Tucked in at the edges of the path are the tidy trefoils of wood-sorrel. The puddles along the track seem devoid of life until we find one rippling with tadpoles, evidently a spawning pool for woodland frogs.

Beneath the oak trees, drifts of bluebells sweep away lit up by dappled sunlight, so creating a wonderful illusion of a mauve mist swirling across the woodland floor. Sitting on a log in a sunlit spot, we pause, immersed in the scent of bluebells. A peacock butterfly clearly the guardian of the glade flashes about, eyespots glaring. Looking up we see a red kite soaring above the trees, plus a great white sailplane gliding over from the Lasham airfield.

Although once in decline, cowslips have surged back in recent years with notable displays on chalk downlands, in wildlife gardens and along grassy verges. Apparently, Cowslip Sunday was once a feature of rural life in early May. Certainly, the wildlife charity, Butterfly Conservation, have created impressive cowslip meadows on their reserve at Magdalen Hill Down near Winchester.

On an earlier spring-time ramble, we were treated to a delightful vignette of three roe deer bounding through the cowslips with larks singing high overhead.

Pausing by the front gate at the end of an eventful spring day, I glance up to find a pair of swallows perching on the power line, their rich red throats and foreheads aglow in the light of the setting sun. Three house martins suddenly appear, flickering across the evening sky beyond – all back to their summer haunts.

Robert Bryant  
9th May '23

✔ Contact your GP if you begin to feel unwell or develop a circular red skin rash, often described as a bull's-eye rash, and remember to tell them that you were bitten by a tick.  
See NHS Choices for more information on signs, symptoms and treatments for Lyme disease. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/lyme-disease/>

### The Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (CPCS)

NHS England and NHS Improvement have developed a new service called The Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (CPCS).

The service is helping to alleviate pressure on GP appointments and emergency departments, in addition to harnessing the skills and medicines knowledge of pharmacists.

If you phone us with a minor condition, you may be referred to the local Pharmacy for a face-to-face consultation with the Pharmacist.

Our reception team will listen to your symptoms, assess if you are suitable from a list of criteria and then refer you to a community pharmacy, where you can go along for a face-to-face consultation with the Pharmacist.

Some of the things that form part of the scheme are:

- Bites and stings
- Colds
- Congestion
- Ear and eye problems
- Gastric and Bowel issues including indigestion and constipation.
- Hayfever
- Pain or swelling
- Skin problems such as eczema, warts, verrucas and athlete's foot.
- Mouth and throat problems

Once the Pharmacist has assessed you, they will recommend a suitable treatment.

Should the Pharmacist not be able to help you or your ailment needs to be escalated or referred to an alternative service, the pharmacist can then arrange this.

### Have you had your NHS Health Check?

The NHS Health Check is a check-up for adults in England aged 40 to 74. It can help spot early signs of stroke, kidney disease, heart disease, type 2 diabetes or dementia.

An NHS Health Check is repeated every 5 years between the ages of 40 to 74 years, but the checks were paused during the Covid pandemic.



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### **Be tick aware!**

Watch out there are ticks about! It's the perfect conditions for these mini beasts.

Here's a helpful reminder of some simple 'tick tips' if you're out walking.

These tiny insects, which can transmit bacteria such as Lyme disease, can be found throughout the year but are most active between spring and autumn.

They are typically found in woodland, grassland, moorland or heathland but are also found in urban parks and gardens. When out walking, remember to keep to footpaths, avoiding long grass.

'Tick tips' for walkers include:

- ✔ Wear appropriate clothing (long-sleeve shirt and trousers tucked into your socks);
- ✔ Use an insect repellent.
- ✔ Wear light coloured fabrics that may help you spot a tick on your clothes;
- ✔ Inspect your skin for ticks, particularly at the end of the day, including your head, neck and skin folds (armpits, groin and waistband)
- ✔ Check your children's head and neck areas, including their scalp (skin on top of their head)
- ✔ Check that pets do not bring ticks into your home in their fur.

If you do get bitten by a tick, removing it quickly and correctly can help to reduce any potential risk. The only safe way to remove a tick is to use a pair of fine-tipped tweezers, or an easy-to-use device which can be purchased from pharmacies or vets.

Then:

- ✔ Grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible. Pull upwards slowly and firmly, as mouthparts left in the skin can cause a local infection.
- ✔ Once removed, apply antiseptic to the bite area and keep an eye on it for several weeks for any changes

## On the Farm—Julian Gibbons

May has been a hive of activity on the farm. The last of the spring crops went in at the beginning of May. This was actually a re-seeding of the first small field of spring barley we put in at the end of February. Although the barley was very good it was full of blackgrass, so the decision was taken to spray it with RoundUp and drill 2 days later with more spring barley without further cultivations. This emerged in 6 days. Drilling with our new drill is better now we have become more used to it. The last 2 fields were direct drilled into last year's bean stubble, hoping not to disturb too much ground thereby encouraging weeds to grow. They emerged really evenly, and we will see how they do.

As I write this, I am halfway through the main fungicide on the wheat. We are aiming to protect the top2 leaves from disease. The wet spring has meant there is more disease around than usual so we have had to increase rates slightly from where we would like to be. We have also added some foliar nitrogen to finish off the crop nutrition. This adds 7kg/ha of Nitrogen, and we use this to replace the last 40Kg/ha of solid nitrogen. We have used this approach for the 2 previous seasons, and it is backed up by independent research. It makes a significant reduction in our carbon footprint.

May has finally seen the spring malting barley and the last of the wheat move off the farm, both destined for the docks. The spring barley has gone to Portsmouth docks and the wheat to Southampton. We have very few local homes for our grain now, so these two ports are our most local homes.

With a lot of the news focusing on food inflation I thought I would update what has happened to grain prices.

The May 2023 wheat futures prices on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021 was £171.45; by the beginning of January 2022 it had climbed to £195.80. We then had the invasion of Ukraine and by May 23 it peaked at £355.60. From that high a year ago, it fell to £252 by the end of the year and has fallen steadily since then to £183/tonne when the contract closed, £12/tonne higher than its opening price. Unfortunately, our other costs have risen by around 50% in the last 2 years.

Robyn and I recently went to a farm visit and agronomy update where the expert advisors were telling us the thresholds for Cabbage seed weevil in flowering rape. Interestingly not one farmer said they would spray an insecticide on a flowering rape crop, regardless of pest thresholds. I certainly can't remember the last time we did, certainly not in the last 20 years.



## Wield Cricket Club Fixtures – June

Matches are played on the ground opposite  
the Yew Tree Inn, Lower Wield

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

If you are interested in playing a senior game, please contact:

Ben Robinson (captain) 07903 513196,  
Paul Johnson (chairman) 07720 349497  
Andrew Yorke (president) 07885 19345

For teas and social matters, please contact Nicola (social secretary) at  
ndes@kingsfarm.co.uk/ 07767 238874

## WEATHERWISE By Simon Bourne

Summary of weather observations taken at Northington Down  
in April 2023

### Temperatures (degrees centigrade/Fahrenheit)

Highest	19.5/67	(29 <sup>th</sup> )
Lowest	-2.8/27	(3 <sup>rd</sup> )
Warmest Night	8.7/48	(14 <sup>th</sup> )
Coollest Day	8.7/48	(14 <sup>th</sup> )
Average maximum temperature	13.6/56	
Average minimum temperature	2.9/37	

Number of air frosts 6

### Rainfall (millimetres/inches)

Monthly total	69.0/2.72	(average 47.1/1.85)
Annual total	339.3/13.36	(average 271.1/10.67)
Maximum 24hr. rainfall	12.9/0.51	(11 <sup>th</sup> )
Number of days with rain	15	

**Summary** There was a wet start to the month and more rain towards the end of the first week but with a reasonable amount of sun during this time. It was breezy with heavy showers including hail on the 10<sup>th</sup> which was the start of a week of wet weather with 1½ inches of rain, and fresh to strong breeze on the 12<sup>th</sup>. A few dry days followed with a cool north-easterly breeze before more showers. The last week was generally unsettled with further rain and sunny spells. Daytime temperatures were mostly below the seasonal norm with the warmest at 67°F on the 29<sup>th</sup>. The overall temperature for the month was below, and rainfall almost 50% above the long-term average.

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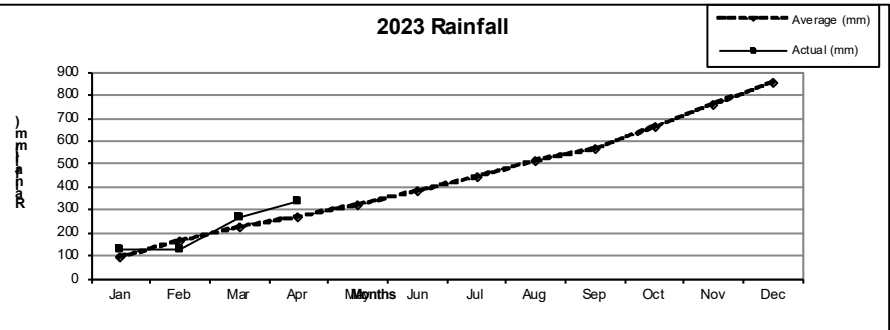
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2023 Rainfall





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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](http://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

In April we welcomed Chris Bird, lecturer and garden designer from Sparsholt College. Chris gave an interesting talk about the exhibit the college had prepared for the RHS Chelsea Flower Show which was based on Gilbert White's Garden over time.

He explained how Gilbert White spent many hours in his garden observing the changing of the seasons and making copious notes. His book 'The Natural History of Selborne' was published in 1789 and is one of the few books that has never been out of print.

**On 18<sup>th</sup> May we begin the summer of garden visits with a visit to an interesting local garden in Alresford.**

If you would like to join us, new members are always welcome for an annual fee of £12. Guests are also very welcome for a small fee.

If you would like to contact us, please find us on Facebook. We look forward to seeing you soon.

## Farleigh Parish Playgroup



## Sliddesden Millennium Village Hall

### Friday Mornings 11am-12noon Term Time

Open on 9<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> June but closed on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Open on 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> July (end of term party)

0 - 4 year olds and their grown-ups.

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

Cost: £2 donation per family

Contact:

Melanie (07833-528040) Claire (07757 498653)



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**VIVALDI's GLORIA**  
and pieces by Faure, Whitacre, and others!

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](mailto:juliang.jones@btinternet.com)

or

Jane Bryant, Music Director  
07740 871341 - [bryantjane50@gmail.com](mailto:bryantjane50@gmail.com)

Rehearsals take place on Thursdays at 7.45

**From Steve Brine, MP for Winchester, Alresford & Itchen Valley**  
0207 219 7189 (House of Commons) Email: [steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk)

Good news. Extra funding recently announced by the Government means **schools in Winchester** will get extra funding as part of an additional £2 billion investment announced in the Budget.

Each primary school will receive approximately an extra £35,000, and £200,000 for a secondary school. The Institute for Fiscal Studies says this uplift will mean 2024–25 will be the highest spending year in history for our schools which means funding is set to rise faster than forecast inflation in each of the next two years.

Schools received their first payment in May and will be able to choose how best to invest the extra funding, including to pay for teacher salary uplifts and teaching assistants. The remainder of the £2 billion will be used to increase Pupil Premium funding rates which supports disadvantaged pupils, local authorities' high needs budgets, and special schools, making sure every child with special educational needs and disabilities receives the support and high-quality education they deserve.

I am committed to delivering on one of my local priorities, including investing in a high-quality school to support young people to reach their full potential, particularly those who face challenges or who need extra support. No-one is pretending school budgets won't remain under pressure – and I know the issue of falling school rolls is a real challenge for some – but this is welcome news.

Secondly this time, and sticking with education, I recently visited Peter Symonds College to meet up with the Principal and to understand planned future changes between **BTEC and T-Levels**. The impact this could have on my constituents is stark given, from 2025, many BTEC courses will no longer be funded. The sector claims this will greatly limit choice and I think they have a point, especially outside of London where, for instance, media and other arts courses will struggle to secure the appropriate work placement needed to satisfy T-Level requirements.

I am now working with PSC and the Sixth Form Colleges Association and am seeking a debate in the Commons on the subject. I think there's a real issue with the Government pulling back from BTEC's, in favour of T-Level's, especially where there is no equivalent in the new qualification.

My Symonds time also included the official opening recently of the new Carville Building which will house the business, economics, and criminology classes. The building is a result of a successful bid for funding from the Department of Education which I supported.

Finally, I am launching a new series of constituency groups visiting the Houses of Parliament. We arrange a tour and time to have Q&A with me about the life of an MP. If you are part of, or maybe run, a local group and would like to be part of this in the coming months, just email [steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk) or call Alice Hammond in my office on 0207 219 7189.



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(Preston Candover)





## Jackie's County Corner for May

### Social tariffs

Social tariffs for utilities are special discounted deals available to certain low-income customers. Many people are not aware that this applies to Broadband too. They're generally cheaper than standard broadband tariffs, starting at just £12 a month. They also usually aren't subject to price rises or exit fees.

Whether you're eligible depends on your broadband provider. Some offer social tariffs to recipients of the following benefits: universal credit, pension credit (guarantee credit), income support, income-based jobseeker's allowance and income-based employment and support allowance. Some providers include other benefits, too. The account holder must be the person receiving the benefit to be eligible. Think this might apply to you?

Are you wondering how to apply for other utilities social tariffs?

More details are on my website [www.jackieporter.co.uk](http://www.jackieporter.co.uk)

### How will your children get to school in September?

Will your child need school transport organised by or subsidised by the local authority? If you are worried about the cost of travel for *your* children between yr R and yr 13, please get in touch with the School Transport team at HCC as early as you can, even if you are not yet sure where your child is going to school or college.

The cost of SEND transport for yrs 12 and 13 is rising in September by a massive 27% to reflect the increased costs of the service, so you may want consider appealing for your family.

The School Transport team are there all through the summer but receive up to 600 calls a day!! So, it's best to get in touch as soon as possible.

Details are on the [www.hants.gov.uk](http://www.hants.gov.uk) website

### Please don't forget that both Hampshire and Winchester Councils have asked Citizens

**Advice** to help distribute Household Support packages money to those who need help too. The County diverts some of this money to the Community Pantries in the County (there is one at Unit 12, Wnnall) to enable any resident to obtain £15 worth of food for just £5. You can self-refer to a food bank too. At this point, I'd also like to thank our pantry and food bank volunteers who make all this possible. Contact Citizens Advice by phone, in person or online.

### Volunteer to help next time?

As memories of May fades, can I say again, 'thank you' to the organisers, helpers of the Coronation Street parties and big lunches? Whether a Royalist or not, if you enjoyed meeting up with your neighbours, please think how you can do the same again- maybe this year, maybe next. Could you help organise your local event? The next 'Big Lunch' will be in May 2024!

Councillor Jackie Porter, [Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk](mailto:Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk) tel: 01962 791054 or 07973 696 085

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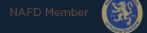
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## Visit the new Winery at The Grange – Burges Field vineyard?

If you would like to come and explore the vineyard and look around the Winery, we have several events over the coming months where Zam Baring Managing Partner or our Wine Maker Harry Pickering who will lead you in a tour of the vineyard and the winery, then give you a taste of the award-winning Wines the vineyard produces.

### Daytime Tours:

Starting at 11am and finishing about 12.30pm, limited to 12 people.

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June    Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June    Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June  
Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July    Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July  
Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August    Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September    Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

### Evening Tour with Canapes:

For up to 25 people, this tasting is made all the more fascinating by the addition of mouth-wateringly yummy canapés, created specifically to complement our wines, by The Grange's own Becka Cooper.

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June 6.30 – 8pm  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September 5.30 – 7pm

To book go online [www.thegrangewine.co.uk/vineyard](http://www.thegrangewine.co.uk/vineyard)  
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**Any questions email [claire@thegrangehampshire.co.uk](mailto:claire@thegrangehampshire.co.uk)**



## Preston Candover Tennis Club Coronation Tournament

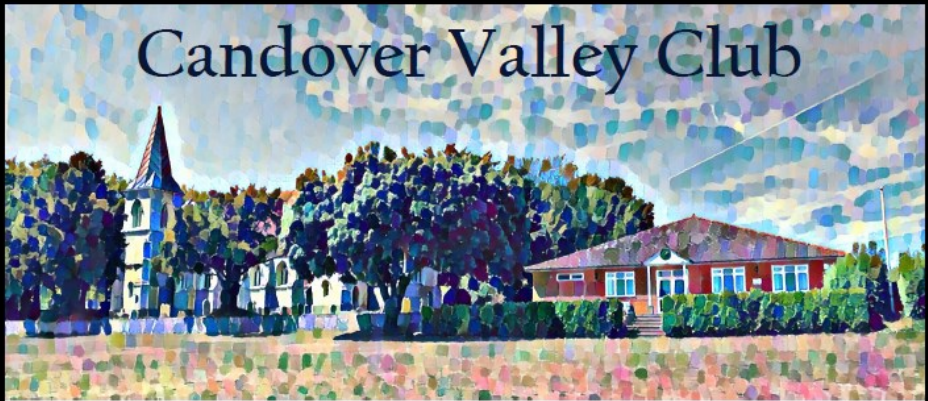
On May Day, the Preston Candover Tennis Club celebrated the Coronation with a mixed doubles tournament, open to all its members. There were no hawk eyes, pressed 'whites' or low light calls - tho rain did temporarily stop play - it was an entirely fun and informal event, reflecting the spirit of the club. 24 players registered to play, and families and dogs came down to cheer them on.

Players ranged in age from 12 to 70, and in standard from A-Team to 'rusty', but with Coach Catherine's winning formula everyone had a chance of chalking a respectable score. Each participant played 6 matches of 4 games, with different partners each time. Players tallied the individual games they won. The logic of who played who and the score tallying got trickier as the fizz flowed, but the overall winners emerged triumphant. Congratulations to Tim Blockley and Lizzie Ball for being the highest scoring players after a nail biting final versus Sarah Blockley and Leo L-P Leo deserves a special mention for being the youngest player, age 12, and definitely talent to watch!

The event was a huge success; everyone enjoyed participating, watching, and sharing each others' picnics. The club will be arranging another mixed doubles tournament soon which will be advertised through member emails and social media. For membership enquiries please go to [www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/PrestonCandoverLawnTennisClub](http://www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/PrestonCandoverLawnTennisClub)

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# 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](mailto:cvchires@gmail.com) for more information about using these wonderful facilities, or come for a drink on Saturday from 6.30pm.

The Candover Valley Club, Brown Candover, Alresford SO24 9TT [cvchires@gmail.com](mailto:cvchires@gmail.com)

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Ros  
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# REWILDING SURVEY

Have your say on how we manage nature in Hampshire.

Take part in this survey as part of a research project looking at rewilding in Hampshire. Everyone deserves a say in how we manage the landscape so by completing this survey you will be able to voice your opinions. Scan the QR code below to complete the 10- minute survey.



[tinyurl.com/RewildingHants](https://tinyurl.com/RewildingHants)





Arthur Robinson and Sophie Woods, Crowned Wield King and Queen of the Wield Coronation Celebrations.



## Candover Valley Pre-School (within Preston Candover Primary School)

Tel: 01256-389008

Email: [cvpadmin@btconnect.com](mailto:cvpadmin@btconnect.com)

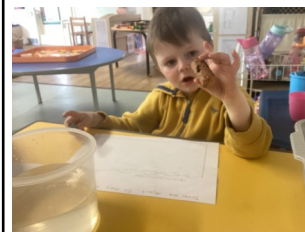
Website: <https://www.candovervalleypreschool.co.uk/>

Opening times: Mon - Thurs 8.30am - 3.15pm Fri 8.30 - 11.45pm

There has been so much fun playing in the garden over the last few weeks. The weather has been perfect with rain and sunshine for creating big, soggy, muddy puddles! Lots of jumping, laughing and not to mention dirty clothes...whoops!

The little ones have also been fascinated to discover many mini beasts hiding in the garden and up at the Forest Schools. Worms, ants, and slugs, they took good care of the little creatures and made sure to find them a safe place to live. The children have also been eagerly watching their very own caterpillars develop every day and it is nearly time for them to emerge and be set free. Such an amazing experience for them to watch and learn about growth and life cycles.

One of our leaver activities this term with the older children has been investigating objects that sink or float and confidently predicting the answers by drawing pictures. All the little ones have been so confident with their mark making, copying the adults to sign registers, and showing such an interest in phonic sounds to explore writing some words of interest.



Forest School at the farm and meeting the lambs has been such a special treat for some little ones along with swinging in the nest swing or hammocks. Coming up soon is more fun



## Swarraton and Northington WI

Our meeting in May was scheduled as the AGM and Resolutions for our group and this coincided with the celebrations for the Coronation. After the formal business was concluded we had a much enjoyed version of Call My Bluff with intriguing words with weird definitions some with a royal connection! The Committee had organised a wonderful cake, sandwiches and a glass of pink 'fizz' to toast our new King and Queen. It was lovely to see so many members enjoying the occasion and it made the meeting very special.

If you have never tried WI please come along and join us, we are a small, friendly group and would welcome new members. We support local charities and have an ongoing project called Days for Girls, a very worthwhile cause. We hold lunches in January and August where guests are invited, usually an annual trip and have a programme of varied and interesting speakers.

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 6th June at 2pm at the Village Hall**

**The talk is titled HISTORIC KNITTING by Joyce Meader**



All set for the grand family picnic on Wield Village Green



## Coronation fun at Brown Candover

Brown & Chilton Candover came together to celebrate the Coronation on the Sunday just as the clouds cleared and the sun came out!

Over 30, young and not so young, donned their cricket whites and played "pairs" cricket for over 3 hours in a tightly fought Upstream vs Downstream match. The boozing umpires (no names mentioned!) were kept in check by Team Dodson on the scoreboard and much fun was had by all. Rafferty Smith and Fergus Rooney, respective team captains, are to be congratulated on their enthusiasm to recruit and lead their sides for this memorable celebration.

The highlight of the afternoon was our Coronation Tea where over 100 villagers sat on one long table and devoured a most sumptuous tea. Edmund Willmott on his electric banjo & "Chuff" got us in the mood as the sun streamed down.

Next up was the Tug O' War - again Upstream vs Downstream with nearly everybody having a go - best of three pulls with the winner being.....



# HAMPSHIRE HUNT KENNELS OPEN DAY



SATURDAY 24th JUNE 2023

FAMILY DOG SHOW | TERRIER RACING | DOG AGILITY  
HOUND PARADE | KENNEL TOURS | TEA TENT | BBQ |  
LICENCED BAR

Entry via  
Petersfield Road, SO24 0EG  
W3W [flasks.freed.twit](https://www.flasks.freed.twit)

Entry fee by donation  
Gates open - 12 Noon  
Showing starts - 12.30 pm

All enquiries please call Simon on 07930 993 264



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**Lady Sainsbury cuts the Coronation Cake at Preston Candover**