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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

Distribution Manager

Philippa Pellereau 01962 733107
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 5th November All Saints Day

08.00	Ellisfield	Holy Communion BCP
09:30	Wield	Matins
09.45	Cliddesden	Morning Prayer
10:00	Preston Candover	Morning Prayer
11:00	Northington	Holy Communion
11.15	Dummer	Sunday Special

Readings Revelation 7:9-end, 1 John 3:1-3, Matthew 5:1-12
Psalm 34

Sermon “Glorious hope”

_____ ” ” _____

Sunday 12th November 3rd Sunday before Advent

08:30	Bradley	Holy Communion
10:55	Dummer	Remembrance Service
10:55	Brown Candover	Remembrance Service
10:30	Cliddesden	Family Remembrance Service

Readings Amos 5:18-24, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-end,
Matthew 25:1-13 *Psalm 70*

Sermon "Watching and waiting"

_____””_____

Sunday 19th November 2nd Sunday before Advent

9.00	Wield	Holy Communion BCP
9:45	Dummer	Matins
10:00	Preston Candover	Family Service
11.15	Cliddesden	Family Service

Readings Zephaniah 1:7,12-end, 1 Thessalonians, 5:1-11,
Matthew 25:14-30 *Psalm 90*

Sermon "Faithful in little..."

_____””_____

Sunday 26th November Sunday before Advent

8:30	Bradley	Holy Communion CW.
9:45	Dummer	Holy Communion CW
11:00	Brown Candover	Morning Worship
11:15	Ellisfield	Family Holy Communion

Readings Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24 Ephesians 1:15-end,
Matthew 25:31-end *Psalm 95*

Sermon "Final decision"

_____””_____

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Sunday 3rd December Advent Sunday

08.00	Ellisfield	Holy Communion BCP
09:30	Wield	Matins
09.45	Cliddesden	Morning Prayer
4pm	Preston Candover	Christingle
11:00	Northington	Advent Morning Worship
11.15	Dummer	Sunday Special
6pm	Preston Candover	Advent Carols and Readings

Readings *Isaiah 64:1-9 Mark 13:24-27*
Sermon "Jesus is coming"

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Dear Friends

Looking at the growing pile of pallets and materials dropped off on the village bonfire for firework night I hope combustion won't be a problem after the rainy weather.

Our annual bonfires and fireworks bear out the words of the old ditty, "Gunpowder treason and plot, shall n'er be forgot" and on reflection we could rewrite that doggerel in current terms about explosives, attack and stratagem.

A quick read on Wikki shows there are at least thirty-seven types of bombs all of which go off with a bigger bang than a barrel of gunpowder, to devastating effect. On the internet we're able to see battlefield explosions in the war between Ukraine and Russia, and we also see the devastating effects of explosions in Israel and Gaza, and we mourn the tragic loss of life and human suffering that conflict brings.

Meanwhile MI5 have warned that China is plotting to spy on western countries with intent to steal sensitive research and security information and that this is already takes place on an unprecedented scale.


Of course, this is very troubling and we might wonder why we "haven't learned our lesson" from past conflicts and why can't we "live in peace with all".

The Bible is clear about wars, fighting and resulting tragedy coming about because of human sin and that we do fail to love our neighbour as ourselves.

At the end of November in church we prepare for the season of Advent in which we remember that when Jesus came one of his titles is "Prince of Peace". When the peace that comes after turmoil, whether it's after visiting grandchildren have left, or after a serious conflict is resolved, it is always welcome. Jesus came so that we might have peace with God and flowing from that we can learn how to find peace with one another.


In contrast to the gunpowder plotters God brings about change, not with violence, but through the loving gift of himself in Jesus, he brings us forgiveness of sin and the gift of his own peace to us.
Every blessing,

David



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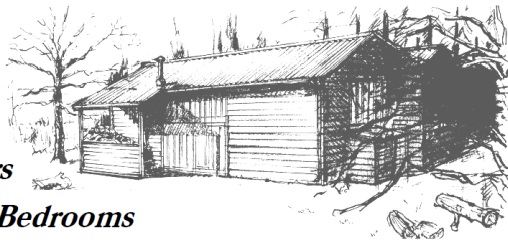
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Remembrance 2023

Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th November

Starting at 1055hrs on Saturday 11th November there will be a short ceremony at the War Memorial in Preston Candover.

Starting at 1055hrs on Sunday 12th November the annual RBL Remembrance Service will be held at St Peter's Church in Brown Candover.

Looking forward to seeing you all as we remember the service and sacrifice of those that have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life.

Please bring cash for donations.

The Candover Valley Club, next to St Peter's, will be open for drinks after the service on the 12th.

Rhys Smith, formerly The Life Guards

Annual 'tidy' at St John's Saturday 4 November



All residents of Swarraton and Northington are asked to help in the annual "tidy" of St John's church inside, but mostly out, at **1000hrs -1200hrs** on Saturday 4 November.

Basic garden implements are useful but not essential – mainly for cutting. Please come even if only for 30 minutes. Thanks in advance.

A LITTLE BIT OF BRADLEY HISTORY

I hope many of you will have noted the arrival of a beautiful, oak Notice Board near the pond. Bradley hopes to provide walkers, cyclists and people passing through from the Valley with some of its interesting history. With grateful thanks to Sebastian Brand for such a beautiful job. Thanks, too, to Adrian Dee for the original design. Denise Findlay provided the printed versions of the history and 1843 village map. A thank you to Linda Butcher, Chair of the Parish Meeting for supporting the project. A huge thanks to The Community Store Committee for their generous grant towards the cost.

We hope to change the information with stories and photographs of Bradley's history, old and new. **If you have anything you would like to add, please contact Bob Wood on 07703 731848.**

Sidesmen and Readers

<u>Church</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Sidesmen</u>	<u>Readers</u>
St John's Northington	5 Nov 11.00am	Emma & Colin La Fontaine Jackson	Emma & Colin La Fontaine Jackson
	3 Dec 11.00am	Rhona and James Hatchley	Rhona and James Hatchley
St Peter's Brown Candover	12 Nov 10.50am	Jonathan Moseley Celia Foote	Members of RBL
	26 Nov 11.00am	Celia Foote	Celia Foote Jonathan Moseley
St Marys Preston Candover	5 November 10.00am	Anne Luneburg	Gunnel Berry
	12 November 10.50am	Remembrance service at Brown Candover	
Christingle	19 Nov 10.00am	Marina Avis	To be advised
	26 Nov	Service at Brown Candover	
	3 Dec 4.00pm	Marina Avis & Jane Laws	To be advised
Advent Carol Service	3 Dec 6.00pm	Anne Luneburg & Gunnel Berry	Various
All Saints Bradley	12 Nov 8.30am	Andrew Don	Andrew Don
St James' Wield	5 Nov 9.30am	Barbara Wells	Barbara Wells Catherine Simons
	19 Nov 9.00am	John Lailey	Philip Geddes Mark Kemp Gee
	3 Dec 9.30am	Alwin Hutchinson	David Cowley Jean Frost



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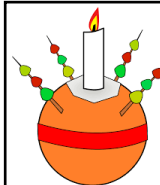
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Church flowers, cleaning and Key Holders

St. John's Church Northington			
St Peter's Church Brown Candover	Flowers	November	Annabel Moseley
All Saints Church Bradley	Key holders	November December	Jonathan Moseley Sue Marriott
St. Mary The Virgin Preston Candover	Flowers and cleaning	November	All helpers for the month of Remembrance
St James' Church Wield	Flowers		
	Cleaner	Permanent	Leanne Griffiths



Advent Sunday December 3rd.

4p.m. Christingle

Collection for The Children's Society

6p.m. Advent Carol Service.

Bradley & The Candoovers welcome you all to St Mary's, Preston Candover for either or both Services.



RBL Poppy Appeal

The Royal British Legion provides lifelong support to serving and ex serving personnel and their families. From providing expert advice & guidance, to recovery & rehabilitation, through to transitioning to civilian life.

In these challenging times, with the cost-of-living crisis bringing greater need to many people, your support is more important than ever.

£5 would pay the travel costs to get a veteran to employment related training.

£15 could pay for a travel card to enable a veteran to attend a job interview.

£30 could pay for food vouchers for a veteran and their family in crisis.

Thank you for your generosity for helping to ensure that the contribution of our Armed Forces and their families' is never forgotten.

There will be poppy collection boxes being brought door to door in some villages and static boxes in the Candover Valley Store & local pubs & businesses. If possible, please remember to get some cash out of the bank. On the unmanned static boxes there will be a QR code to be able to donate through your smart phone. Just open the camera & hover over the code to open.

In 2022 together we raised £47.7 million, please help this year if you are able.

With grateful thanks from the recipients.

Joanna Gibbons Poppy Appeal Organiser Preston Candover
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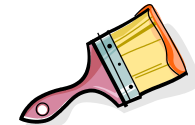
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Dear All

I am writing as we approach the mid-point in Hampshire County Council's ten-week public consultation on proposals to transform the Local Authority's nursing and specialist care provision.

If you have not had an opportunity to provide your views yet, please do consider doing so by following this link to our dedicated web page where you will find further information and the response form.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/social-care-2023>

The consultation closes on 12 November. I would also ask once again for your support in **sharing the consultation** within your local communities to encourage feedback from as many people as possible.

The proposals

To recap, a number of suggested changes have been put forward to the existing older adults service portfolio as part of a planned £173 million capital investment over the next five to six years. If pursued, this would enable us to transform and expand the future of nursing and specialist care accommodation directly provided by the Local Authority for the county's growing older population.

The proposals recommend concentrating on the delivery of specialist nursing care, complex dementia care and short-term support – to either prevent a hospital admission or support a hospital discharge. This would not only meet the needs of a growing number of older people in Hampshire in the longer term but would be care that could be provided more cost effectively by the Local Authority in-house.

Transforming in this way would involve the closure of some of the Authority's existing older care homes and a move away from the provision of long term residential care.

Next steps

No formal decisions will be taken in relation to any changes to the County Council's existing residential and nursing care homes before February 2024. Members of a Working Group established from the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee (HASC), continue to oversee, and are actively engaged in the consultation process, advising on the approach and process.

To date a series of in-person engagement events have been held or have been organised for each of the homes potentially affected, ensuring all those directly connected have, or will have the opportunity to talk to members of our senior management team, care staff and independent advocates to discuss any individual concerns and or issues.

Our Registered Managers and their teams for the homes affected by the formal public consultation, will continue to make themselves available over the coming weeks to answer any questions, concerns and provide any additional information that residents, next of kin or their representatives may require.

With best wishes

Juliet Cllr Juliet Henderson, Candovers Oakley and Overton Division

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Flu & COVID Boosters Autumn/ Winter 2023

We are well underway with co-administering Flu & Covid boosters this Autumn. Invitations have gone out to eligible patients via SMS text message with a simple online booking option and/or an invitation letter. In order to avoid clogging our phone lines please call after 11am.

We have been offering appointments since mid-September & these are pre-bookable appointments & we have availability throughout the week & some Saturdays.

Vaccination clinics will be held here at Alresford Surgery. Both flu and covid vaccinations will be given at the same time and the appointment will be for both vaccines.

Please feel free to share this information.

Thank you, once again, for your support with this vaccination programme.

Child Flu Clinics

We have been busy vaccinating children who are aged 2-3 or aged 4-17 and have a condition which puts them at greater risk if they get flu. Children in years R-7 will be vaccinated in school by Schools Health.

Please wait until you get an invitation letter before contacting the surgery.

Welcome to new staff

We would like to offer a warm welcome to Dr. John Foreman who completed his GP training with us earlier this year & is now staying on as an employed GP at the practice. John will be working Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays.

We would also like to welcome Sheree Villiers who joins us as a registered Nurse Associate & joins our Practice Nurse team. Sheree will be working full time across the week & has previously worked in a similar role but within a community setting.

On the Farm - Julian Gibbons

The first Saturday of October saw us hosting the Basingstoke and District Agricultural Society annual ploughing match. We could not have asked for a more glorious day of weather. We had more ploughmen entered than we had had for several years with probably nearly 70 years between the oldest and youngest ploughman. It was lovely to see lots of spectators come to see the event, which was also well supported by trade stands from our various suppliers. Their presence is an important part of funding the event. Congratulations to Peter White for winning Champion Ploughman.

In addition to the ploughing match, we had the Annual Hay, Corn, and Root show in the barn and new for this year, a produce show. Congratulations to Charlie Tibble for winning the Gin and Tonic Drizzle Cake, which was limited to men only from a set menu. Hopefully his father Jeremy has got over being beaten by his son. My Damson Gin just got a highly commended ("packs a punch"), so will have to work harder next year. We didn't have any success in the hay, corn and root show, but did better at the Alresford Show where we had 3 wins from 3 entries.

Our society's annual farm competitions are drawing to a close. Well done to Moundsmere for winning the Milling Wheat, Oilseed Rape, Beans, Oats. The Foote family won the best Dairy herd. We managed to win best Winter Barley, Peas and Game cover. Congratulations to all the team at Newhouse Farm for winning the best large farmed farm class and being overall Reserve Champions

Our rape wasn't planted until the middle of September, but has generally established well, avoiding the worst ravages of cabbage stem flea beetle; but it still must grow all through the autumn to cover the ground before winter sets in. Most of it we drilled straight into the stubble. Direct drilling without any cultivations before is new to us and we are very much still in a steep learning curve especially with the cereals. What has been hard is keeping on top of the slugs that have been relentless. A wet summer always heralds a problem year for slugs. These aren't the large ones you get in the garden, but much smaller with a voracious appetite for cereals. Fields can disappear very quickly. Our green cover crops, that we planted post-harvest to provide soil cover over winter, have been hit hard in particular. We have a series of trial plots of different seed mixtures, and these give quite a guide to which species are more reliable to establish.

At the end of September, we had our first meeting of the new Candover Cluster Group, where we learnt more about the life and importance of earthworms from a speaker from the Natural History Museum and we looked through examples we had brought, learning to identify them.

Walking with Wildlife, Robert Bryant

On a fine autumn morning of hazy sunshine, we head up to Axford, turning right along Berrydown Lane to find the bridle-path that runs from Wellclose Gate up to Bedlam and beyond. A red admiral butterfly, wings flashing in the sunlight, greets us as we arrive. Setting off, we tread with care among the fallen conkers, pausing to examine the high polish of these gleaming horse chestnuts.

Reaching the wooded slopes of Nutley Down, we find log-piles stacked either side of the valley trail. The aroma of freshly cut timber fills the air. A wren darts around the sawn ends, popping in to hollows, exploring cobwebby clefts and crevices, foraging constantly.

The tree canopy along the woodland edge flickers with shadowy birdlife. Although largely unseen, their calls reveal all manner of tits and finches, plus a chiffchaff, a nuthatch and a tree-creeper. Robins sing their wistful autumn song, while jays shriek. I glimpse an early winter visitor, possibly a siskin, so named apparently by its watch-winding call of 'siskin, siskin'. The Merlin Bird ID app confirms our observations, especially picking up the high-pitched song of a goldcrest.

A comma butterfly rests with raggedy-orange wings outstretched, a trail marker on our upward route. He poses quite unmoved on a leafy hazel hedgebank, guardian of his parish, ready to fly up and challenge any passing butterfly.

There's an intriguing spirit of place in this secluded peaceful dell, where the sequence of sheltered deer lawns running along the winding woodland edge adds an interesting perspective, sometimes revealing the unexpected.

We find some extraordinary fungal growths bulging beneath a solitary wayside oak: three hefty specimens of a particularly bulbous cep. Although slug-scooped and chewed, the pale brown velvety cap, whitish flesh and olive yellow pores indicate that these are most probably the yellow-cracked or suede boletes.

Striding up the grassy slopes of Cowdown, we stroll through the wood overlooking Ellisfield. Sitting on a convenient oak trunk, we sip coffee and nibble shortbread. Before heading back, we discover a patch of woodland floor bobbed with earthball fungi.

Robert Bryant
12 October '23

WEATHERWISE By Simon Bourne

Summary of weather observations taken at Northington Down
in August 2023

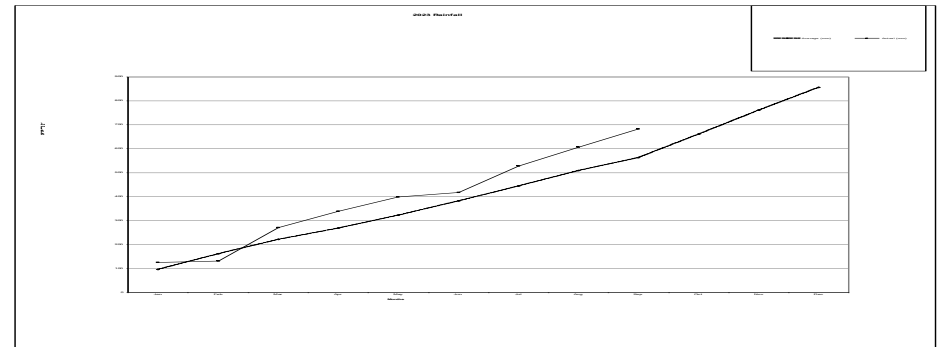
Temperatures (degrees centigrade/Fahrenheit)

Highest	30.5/87	(6 th)
Lowest	3.4/38	(23 rd)
Warmest Night	16.2/61	(11 th)
Coollest Day	17.0/63	(23 rd)
Average maximum temperature	22.4/72	
Average minimum temperature	11.1/52	

Rainfall (millimetres/inches)

Monthly total	77.3/3.04	(average 54.7/2.15)
Annual total	683.2/26.90	(average 567.8/22.35)
Maximum 24hr. rainfall	48.1/1.89	(20 th)
Number of days with rain	12	

Summary High pressure dominated and after rain on the first day there was some fine, sunny weather with daytime temperatures in the mid to high eighties fahrenheit for six consecutive days from the 4th. The maximum of 87°F on the 6th was the warmest September day recorded here and exceeded the highest temperatures from the two preceding summer months. Except for a few unsettled days, the generally fine weather continued through to the middle of the month. Then it became unsettled with showers or longer outbreaks of rain. The second highest 24-hour rainfall total was recorded on the 20th, with 1.89 inches and accompanied by a fresh to strong breeze. There were then sunny spells with the occasional shower and temperatures dropped to around the seasonal norm in the second half of the month. Overall, it was the warmest September since 2006 and rainfall was 141% of the long-term average.





at christmas

We have a wonderful weekend lined up for you in December!

FRI 1st DEC, 7pm: Charity Christmas concert
Songs & Readings in a beautiful candlelit setting, please join us to hear the
lascious close harmony group, Cantores Espscopi.
All raising funds for Sebastian Action Trust.

SAT 2nd DEC, 4-7pm: Christmas Fair with Father Christmas!
A festive evening, free entry, food & craft stalls, all welcome

SUN: 3rd DEC, 9.30-3pm: Christmas Fair with Father Christmas!, pony &
trap rides, craft stalls, delicious festive food & drink, all welcome

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Candover Valley Gardening Club

We had a very interesting talk in September for our first indoor meeting since April. Ben Cross from Crosslands Nursery, which is a fourth-generation nursery, explained how they were able to grow Alstroemerias year-round and he brought some of his flowers for sale which were very popular with members.

In October we welcome Marina Christopher who will be talking about 'seedheads and skeletons'. This will include plants that look good in autumn and winter providing homes and food for insects, birds, and small mammals as well as their aesthetic value for the gardener.

Looking ahead to November 16th, Jacqueline Aviolet will give us a talk entitled 'Brussel Sprouts to Tangerines'. Jacqueline is an informative and light-hearted speaker, covering all things horticultural with humour. She will be bringing general plants for sale.

Our indoor meetings are held at 7.30pm in Preston Candover Village Hall on the third Thursday of the month. 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 on Facebook – Candover Valley Gardening Club

Farleigh Parish Playgroup



Cliddesden Millennium Village Hall

Friday Mornings 11am-12noon Term Time

3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th November

1st and 8th (Christmas Party and visit from Santa) December

0 - 4 year olds and their grown-ups.

A warm welcome awaits you - we look forward to you joining us for a fun and happy time.

Cost: £2 donation per family

Contact:

Melanie (07833-528040) Claire (07757 498653)



Farleigh Parish Playgroup



Cliddesden Millennium Village Hall

Friday Mornings 11am-12noon Term Time

Welcome Back! 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th (Macmillan Coffee & Cake morning) September and

6th, 13th and 20th (closed 27th for half term) October

0 - 4 year olds and their grown-ups.

A warm welcome awaits you - we look forward to you joining us for a fun and happy time.

Cost: £2 donation per family

Contact:

Melanie (07833-528040) Claire (07757 498653)



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.

The Candover Valley Club, Brown Candover, Alresford SO24 9TT

cvchires@gmail.com

Invitation to Inter-generational Tree Planting Day
Friday November 2024 between 10:00 and 15:00.



Following the planting of the oak tree in memory of Lord Sainsbury on January 14, 2023, the wildflower meadows have been sown, the wildlife pond has been dug and we are now ready to plant trees!

Led by an expert team from the Woodland Trust, anyone from the Candover Valley community who wishes to can participate in planting trees! The day is intended to be an intergenerational family event, sharing traditions, passing-on and honouring precious skills and enjoying a community activity to help create Preston Candover's memorial woodland and meadows for the community.


So do sign up with anna.prestonfarms@outlook.com to be part of the creation of the new woodland and participate with your children or grandchildren, or your neighbours and friends and fellow members of the community to plant trees together. The Village Hall will be open from 10:00 for all, and refreshments will be available. We look forward to see you on Friday November 24.

Anya, Lady Sainsbury; Sarah, Julian and Mark Sainsbury



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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

It was a warm day when we visited the archaeology site at the Central Winchester area in October. Every excavation is unique, but like many others, I was fascinated to see the 'dark earth' layer: a phenomenon which is always seen just above Roman remains. No one knows why it was formed: it's still a mystery.



But it's not a mystery that HCC has said that without fundamental changes to national policy and increased Government funding it will be forced to make drastic cuts to local services to avoid bankruptcy. Councils are limited by how much they can increase Council tax, and it just doesn't cover the rising costs of care as our population increases and grows older. I know this contains a lot of figures, but I think it's important that readers understand the scale of the problem. This serious situation is fully occupying everyone at HCC right now.

The County budget (excluding funding to run schools) is about £1.1 billion. The expected deficit revenue budget in 2025/26 year is expected to be £132 million. Added to that, there's still £70m worth of annual savings planned for 2021 and 2023 that haven't happened yet.

The Council Cabinet agreed to consider measures to reduce their budget by a significant sum, but they can't find enough, and it still leaves at least £57 million income still to find.

All cost lines have been considered for reduction or rethink, including grants to charities. I am pressing for efficiency changes rather than reduction to services to deliver better quality for residents.

HCC is one of the biggest providers of social care in the UK. About 240 new requests for help come into the County helpline every week. A new Older Persons Accommodation Strategy is proposed: a new home could be built at Cornerways in Kings Worthy. Please comment on this consultation by going to hants.gov.uk; search 'consultation'. It's online until the 12th of November or call 0370 779 8102 for a phone conversation or an easy read version.

So, it was good to hear the news that a sum of just under £8m over two years had been granted recently to HCC to implement the 'Bus Improvement Plans Plus'. And there's a lot of potential for improvement! I raised poor bus performance, mainly due to the lack of drivers, especially on 'The Spring'. I have been assured that by HCC that they will take up the matter again. Your stories have given this issue a real human face. The aim of the scheme is to provide good, reliable services which are self-funding even after the county budget is so badly hit in 25/26. School



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Sunday
closed

www.cvcs.org.uk

Candover Valley Store, Alresford Road, Preston Candover, RG25 2EE
Tel: 01256 389500

transport is covered by a different budget- this year it cost approx. £50m for 13500 children, many of whom have special needs.

HCC took over on-street parking in October. In answer to my question at HCC Council on the 28th of September, Cllr Adams-King said that introducing charges to park on Alresford's shopping streets, 'wasn't on his current radar', which is good news. Let's hope it stays that way.

Following the changeover from city to county for street parking services, the County Council is now considering all 'yellow lines' requests too. This is welcome because there are hotspots (for example in Micheldever) that need lines for better parking etiquette. You can watch all the Council questions: go to www.hants.gov.uk, search 'Your Council', then 'Calendar,' then click on 'Full Council '28th September.'

Libraries are now within Children's Services Department and the service is going well with increased library take up, especially for children. There are also 'Chat-About' sessions at 23 of the 40 libraries for adults who want to talk with someone or meet others. Everyone is welcome, and many events at the libraries are free or low cost, so, with or without children, please use your local library if you can!

Cllr Jackie Porter, 07973 696085 email: Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk

website www.jackieporter.co.uk



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Sunday 12th November

at 4pm !!!

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(Available on the day at the door)

Richard McVeigh

Assistant Organist

Arundel Cathedral & Romsey Abbey

Please note change of time - now 4.00pm!!!!

AND if you turn up at any time after 3.15pm, Richard will be there to chat with you, to answer any questions you may have about the organ and to do some demonstration playing before the concert itself.

It will be a programme of exciting music, old and new, some of which you may not have heard or seen played on the organ. Richard has a passion for trying new things! Not to be missed!

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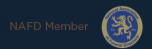
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Swarraton and Northington WI September 2023

GRANNIES CAN DO ANYTHING was the title of a talk given by Tessa Burrows, an inspirational speaker, at our October Meeting. Her opening statement, 'It's never too late to do anything..... Grannies can do anything', together with a jolly blast on her conch shell, had us all sitting up taking notice and ready for adventure! Tessa from Haslemere had attended Bedales school, graduated from Edinburgh university and had 6 grandchildren. Her philosophy was 'Everything you do in life is for the next generation' and so she set out on a life of adventure to climb the highest mountains, reach the North and South Poles and spread messages of peace throughout the World. She spoke of her charity, 'Climb for Tibet', which raised £180,000 to build six schools in rural Tibet. Tessa amazed us with details of the two-year gruelling fitness regime she undertook to prepare to take part in the Amundsen Omega 3 Race to the South Pole. This included walking to Tesco for her shopping dragging at heavy car tyre and bringing the groceries home in the tyre! She also walked the 630 miles of the



Southwest Coast Path, climbed all the mountains over 3,000 feet in Wales, took ice hole swims with the Norwegian military trainers and spent hours in the gym and at 60 felt she was the fittest she had ever been.

The Race to the South Pole started with a flight from Cape Town to the Russian base and she described the physical and mental challenge which she faced reminding herself constantly as she repeated the phrase, 'I will survive'. Tessa had written several books about her adventures which she sells for the Nepalese schools damaged during the earthquake.

We are delighted to have welcomed a number of new members recently and so we took the opportunity to talk about the work of our sewing group, who support Days for Girls, making reusable feminine hygiene packs for girls in Africa and Asia.

Members collected shoeboxes to take home and fill for the Rotary annual Christmas Shoebox appeal. These need to be returned at the next meeting on Tuesday 7th November.

There's plenty to do at WI so do come along! You are sure of a warm welcome and a good tea!

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 7th November at 2pm when our speaker will be James Hill ----Title Deaf Awareness

YAC-tastic!!



If there was one word to sum up this year's YAC dig, it was YAC-tastic.

Not a real word? Watch this space!

Invited back for another season, the Basingstoke Young Archaeologists' (YAC), eagerly put trowel to earth in search of evidence of a bygone age, as they worked alongside Basingstoke Archaeological and Historical Society (BAHS). This year, we were given our own trench (Trench S), and it yielded some very interesting finds.



Situated possibly just outside the walls of a proposed structure, our task was to see what evidence we could find of habitation. After what



seemed ages, we began to come down onto evidence of a domestic building, as we unearthed pottery fragments (some fitted together), Oyster shell (proof of what was being eaten) and even hob nails – from the bottom of someone's shoe! One eagle-eyed YACster, on her first dig with us, spotted some

down, drew on validations from those who had been involved and supported Richard during his time on the School Board of Governors, his role in updating the tennis club and its facilities, his contribution to the sale of land and its consequent creation of affordable housing in the centre of Preston Candover, the Chairmanship of the Preston Candover Allotment Charity (which was the main reason for me appreciating Richard's many talents), and more recently the phenomenal effort he and the CVS Committee put into campaigning for a high quality Village Community Shop.

As we all know each of these roles is of huge importance if we are to retain a true community spirit. The shop has been a massive success and brings together those who previously, at best, just waved to each other as they drove past in opposite directions! The contribution during Covid was evidenced by the queues across the car park.

The shop was, and is, deemed to be a safe place offering not only a great variety and quality of products but also a truly welcoming environment. This was the outcome of a huge team effort spearheaded by Richard and helped enormously by the very generous lease of land by the late Lord John Sainsbury and family, together with subscriptions for shares by many of the local population.

Richard, Annette and I enjoyed a heartwarming presentation ceremony when 7 civilians were awarded the BEM for their contributions to their community. We and Sam Walker then had a very lovely pub lunch because as I said in the nomination, Richard concentrates totally on the job in hand but then relaxes afterwards with a nice glass of wine, and always a "twinkle in his eye"!

Showing again what a stalwart he is Richard attended the ceremony on crutches (all that tennis has taken its toll). He has now had a hip replacement operation and no doubt will be back litter-picking, collecting cheese for the shop and dropping off the Oxdrove for Axford and Nutley! So, at some point in the not too distant future we will arrange an event to congratulate our Medallist. Watch this Space!

Eileen Jamieson



**Richard Walker—
British Empire Medallist**

Here in the Candover Valley we have a King Charles III British Empire Medal winner in our midst!

For all of his numerous contributions of time, enthusiasm and energy from which so many of our Candover Valley community have benefited Richard Walker was, on the 18th September 2023, awarded the British Empire Medal; a medal awarded for Civilian contributions to the Community.

The submission, which I initiated & coordinated during lock-

Roman glass! Such a find may help to point towards the level of status of the complex that we are investigating.

The YACsters all worked incredibly hard throughout the day and were a joy to be around, as their endless chatter and enthusiasm, bubbled around the trench. As well as excavating, the YACsters also got to participate in other archaeological disciplines such as surveying and mapping out of finds, and post excavation finds processing. All of which they took to really quickly and effectively.



A massive thanks goes out to all of our parents for their continued support of their YACsters. Without the lifts and the enthusiasm, your children simply would not get onto site – so thank you for braving the mud and muck!

We must also thank the guys and gals of BAHS, for allowing us to access the site and all of the experiences that it has to offer - thank you Mark, Dave and the team!

And lastly, but by no means least, a massive 'thank you!' to Sue & Charles Marriott, who have once again been kind enough to allow the dig to take place. You simply cannot measure the benefits attached to such an experience.



Roll on next season!

Nikki Read, Co-Leader, Basingstoke YAC Basingstoke Young Archaeologists' Club is part of a network of Young Archaeologists' Clubs in the UK, supported by the Council for British Archaeology.

Basingstoke YAC is for children aged 8-16 years. The club meets on the third Saturday in the month and is run by a team of volunteer adult staff. For further information please email your enquiry to basingstokeyac@hotmail.com.



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The car upside down was part of a Police pursuit after it crashed in Cliddesden, enquiries are continuing



Three day Police operation concentrating in the Candovers and close by.

On the evening of Monday 2 October, officers received a report of a suspicious vehicle near rural farmland in the Micheldever area. A Ford Transit was stopped after driving away at speed and onto the A303. The vehicle had no tax and was seized.

Officers then discovered a stolen vehicle which had no number plates in the Bullington Cross area. The vehicle was seized and enquires are ongoing.

On the evening of Tuesday 3 October, the team received a report of potential hare coursing in the Micheldever area. It was reported that two men with dogs, which were on rope leads, were walking along the A33. Officers deployed to the area and a drone was used to search the surrounding areas, however the men were not located.

Later that night, a proactive stop of a vehicle in Basingstoke found it had no insurance. The driver was later arrested and charged with driving a motor vehicle when level above limit.

Meanwhile, two other vehicles were seized for having no insurance and no tax and the drivers have been reported for the offences.

Just after midnight on 4 October, officers responded to a report of burglary on London Road, Old Basing. A silver BMW was stolen from a driveway and officers deployed to the scene. Our enquiries are ongoing as officers try to locate the vehicle.

Officers would like to urge residents in rural areas to remain vigilant following reports of vehicles being stolen from outside their homes.

The offenders typically take car keys from within the house. They are possibly using an implement to hook the keys if they are near the front door.

They are then able to drive the car away with the keys.

Please keep your keys in a safe and secure place and preferably not next to the front door.



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Hello from CVP!

It has been such a lovely half term with beautiful weather and the little ones have been enjoying exploring the garden. Lots of messy play with water, in the mud area, building obstacle courses and the little ones have especially enjoyed the bikes during the last few weeks.

We have been exploring Autumn through sensory trays and creating natural art. Lots of porridge sensory play as we pretended to be Goldilocks and the Three Bears as well as using this to discuss kindness and emotions with the little ones.

The little ones have had fun creating fruit kebabs after reading The Fruitysaurus. One of our focus nursery rhymes lead us to make Spider biscuits and 'Incy Wincy' Mincemeat tarts which were especially yummy.

DramaTots lessons have been such fun with the children visiting the circus, dinosaurs, exploring Autumn, Harvest and 'off to work'.



Candover Valley Store

community made

We are recruiting! Come and join the team

An energetic and friendly retail assistant (part time) is now sought to join the team that runs the Candover Valley Community Store and post office.

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Retail experience

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If you are over 18 years of age, have excellent customer service skills and a reputation for being reliable, hard-working 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.

AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Candover Valley Community Store Ltd will be held on:

Wednesday 29 November 2023

At 7.30pm (prompt start)

Preston Candover Village Hall

All are most welcome to attend but only shareholders may **VOTE**.