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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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**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 3<sup>rd</sup> September**  
**Trinity**

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 Exodus 3:1-15, Romans 12:9-end, Matthew 16:21*

*-end*

*Psalms 105*

*Sermon “Mindful of the things of God?”*

\_\_\_\_\_””\_\_\_\_\_

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September Fourteenth 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 Exodus 12:1-14, Romans 13:8-end,  
Matthew 18:15-20 Psalm 149*

*Sermon "Talk it over"*  
\_\_\_\_\_””\_\_\_\_\_

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**

9.00 Wield Holy Communion BCP  
9:45 Dummer Morning Prayer  
10:00 Preston Family Service  
11.15 Cliddesden Harvest Thanksgiving  
Family Service

*Readings Exodus 14:19-end, Romans 14:1-12,  
Matthew 18:21-35 Psalm 114*

*Sermon "Too big dept to forgive"*  
\_\_\_\_\_””\_\_\_\_\_

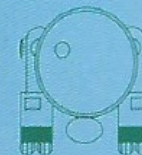
**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity**

8:30 Bradley Holy Communion CW.  
9:45 Dummer Harvest Thanksgiving  
4pm Brown Candover Harvest Thanksgiving  
and Tea!

11:15 Ellisfield Harvest Thanksgiving  
*Readings Exodus 16:2-15, Philippians 1:21-end,  
Matthew 20:1-16 Psalm 105*

*Sermon "Is grace unfair?"*

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**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity**

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

*Readings* Exodus 17:1-7, Philippians 2: 1-13,  
Matthew 21:23-32 Psalm 78

*Sermon* "Who is the greatest among you?"

-----"-----

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## Dear Friends

“Between life and death there is a library, and within that library, the shelves go on forever. Every book provides a chance to try another life you could have lived. To see how things would be if you had made other choices... Would you have done anything different, if you had the chance to undo your regrets?”

That’s the plot in the best seller, *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig.

A woman is depressed and at the point of giving back the gift of life she finds herself in a library and is able to access any option of a life she might wished she had pursued. As she tastes various new lives, denied by choices taken earlier in her life, she finds surprises, the man she fell in love with turned out to be boring and quite different to how she remembered him, the band in which she was lead singer and left did become a success and she enjoyed considerable fame and fortune!

After sampling many options of alternative lives the woman realises that it is easy to mourn the lives we *aren't* living, wishing we had other talents, accepted offers, loved more and worked harder and realises that actually regret is the issue with which she struggles. This life is the one we live now and whilst we might fantasise about any number of alternatives, we can only live what we have!

But of course, the lives we have now are the real ones and with all their joys and pains, complexities and frustrations exuberances and achievements do they still leave us looking for something more?

The book is not religious nor concerned with faith, God doesn't get a look in...

But there is another book with a discussion on final endings! It speaks of eternal life, eternal joy and of a future when all the sadness and ills of this world will be over. God promised that



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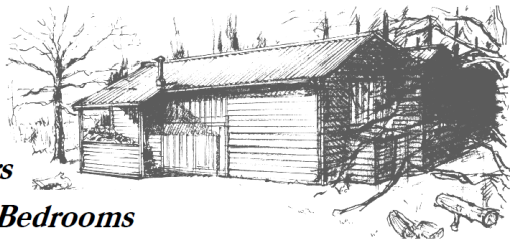
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through the real lived life, death and resurrection of Jesus to 'make all things new' and so Christians look forward to eternal life where regrets are no more, the causes of death and sorrow are gone forever.

Jesus (I paraphrase) said come to me all who are tired out with the regrets and cares of life, drink water that will quench you soul and eat bread that will satisfy your deepest appetite. That's God's invite to us in this life now and comes with an RSVP!

Blessings  
David



## Harvest Festival for The Candovers with Bradley

As congregations in our churches have been dwindling recently, the PCC of the Parish of the Candovers with Bradley has decided we would have just one, hopefully big, Harvest Festival service this year.

The service will be held in St Peter's, Brown Candover, at 4.00pm.

The service will be followed with tea at the Club, and Celia Foote would welcome help with organising and serving tea.

We really hope all our parishioners will join us for the service and tea afterwards.

Both All Saints and St Mary's will have seasonal floral decorations.

There will be a collection of gifts for harvest, biscuits, tins, packets of food etc during the service and these gifts will be added to those collected at Preston Candover and donated to Alresford Food Bank.

Your generous support is much appreciated, and a list of what is currently needed will be on the board. Harvest is such an important time for rural communities, and it is good that we can give thanks for all we have and think of those less fortunate.

## Sidesmen and Readers

<u>Church</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Sidesmen</u>	<u>Readers</u>
<b>St John's Northington</b>	3 September	Matthew Pellereau	Matthew Pellereau
<b>St Peter's Brown Candover</b>	17 4.00pm	Celia Foote	To be advised
	24 Sept 11.00am	Sue Marriott	Ed Danielle Rhys Smith
<b>St Marys Preston Candover</b>	3 September 10.00am	Anne Luneburg	Jane Laws
	10 Sept 10.00	Gunnel Berry	Marina Avis Gunnel Berry
<b>Harvest Festival</b>	17 Sept 4.00pm (at St Peter's)		
	1 Oct 10.00am	Anne Luneburg	Celia Foote
<b>All Saints Bradley</b>	24 Sept 8.30am	Julian Gibbons	Julian Gibbons
<b>St James' Wield</b>	3 Sept 9.30am	Brian Collins	Joanna nelson Jonathan Enderby
	10 Sept 6.00pm	Robert Grande	Philip Geddes Catherine Simons
	17 Sept 9.00am	Catherine Simons	Jean Frost Mark Kemp Gee
	1 Oct 9.30am	Alwin Hutchinson	Paul Markillie Ben Robinson



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**Church flowers, cleaning and Key Holders**

<b>St. John's Church Northington</b>			
<b>St Peter's Church Brown Candover</b>	Flowers	September	All helpers please for Harvest Festival on Sept 17 <sup>th</sup>
	Key holders	September October	Edwina Curtis Hayward  Rhys Smith
<b>All Saints Church Bradley</b>	Flowers and cleaning	September	Joanna Gibbons and Family
<b>St. Mary The Virgin Preston Candover</b>	Flowers	September	Di Irons
<b>St James' Church Wield</b>	Flowers	September 2, 9, & 16  September 23 & 30	Annie-Lou Gibbs  Jean Frost
	Cleaner	Permanent	Leanne Griffiths



## Report on Organ Restoration and Recitals

Two delightful organ recitals were held in St John's, Northington on 26 June and 9 July by Philip Berg, Master of Music at the King's Chapel of the Savoy and Claudia Grinnell, Sub organist at Winchester Cathedral respectfully.

Both were to celebrate the restoration of the Charles Martin organ in the church by Walkers and Sons, the selected organ restorers. The restoration was made possible by grants from the National Heritage Lottery Fund, the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Historic Churches Trust, the Leathersellers Foundation, and generous individual donors.

These two events initiated a series of concerts as part of the Organ Restoration Project; the next is a choral event on 24 Sep with the Candover Valley Choir and Vox Lucis, our local semi-professional choir.

The Organ project has a large educational element which has mostly involved Perins school, as well as initiatives to spread the word about the church's fantastic culture and heritage.

The church is a veritable treasure trove of cultural artefacts which all together make a stunning church set in a beautiful location.

Do check it out at: [www.stjohnsnorthington.org](http://www.stjohnsnorthington.org) or at [www.achurchnearyou.com/church/18213/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/18213/)

## Parish Council Vacancy

*Your community needs you!*

Preston Candover & Nutley Parish Council currently has two vacant Councillors positions. If you love living in this wonderful community and would like to get involved with local issues including the children's play area, flood prevention, highways and speeding issues and so much more, then please come along to our September meeting in the Preston Candover Village Hall.

Candovers Parish Council also has one vacancy for Chilton Candover. If you would like to get involved with local issues, please come along to our September meeting in the Candover Valley Club, Brown Candover.

*Whether you have lived here for years or are new to the area, everyone has something to contribute, please come and get involved.*

Wendy Simson  
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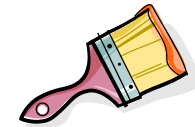
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## Farleigh Parish Playgroup



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## Walking with Wildlife, Robert Bryant

A startled grey squirrel races over the lawn, takes a flying leap across our little pond and comes down with a splash on the far side. Undaunted, it bounces out and away, its fur cloaked bright green with blobs of duckweed. Apart from the lure of bird-feeders, the local squirrels enjoy raiding our bumper crop of hazelnuts. In a fine summer for fruit and nut crops, it's also show-time for the lime trees along the Candover valley. They appear to be festooned with pale green tickets – the oblong papery bracts of their flower clusters.

On St.Swithin's Day, we avoid the ominous blustery showers with a ramble through Micheldever Woods. We explore the secluded perimeter trail that runs along the woodland edge, overlooking a tract of farmland known as Old Mill. Butterflies abound: with every step we seem to chance upon another favourite. Red admirals in particular are having an astonishing year – we meet six of them spaced out neatly in a row along the path. In a clearing where clumps of brambles are in flower, we discover not only comma butterflies with their raggedy wing outlines, but three splendid silver-washed fritillaries. With deep orange wings wide-spread, these large spectacular butterflies were apparently resting.

There's a Forestry Commission woodland that lies along the lane leading up to Woodmancott from East Stratton. Known as Embley Wood, it's not an obvious choice for a quiet stroll because of the background roar of the motorway. Nevertheless it seems quite popular with dog walkers and trail bikers. On a recent Sunday morning visit, we were pleased to find a fine display of butterflies, some fourteen different species, including a sighting of my first small copper of the season. A southern hawker dragonfly cruised the shady main ride, while a damselfly, the beautiful demoiselle, perched high on a hazel. Birdsong though is quite a challenge in this wood, apart from a black-cap that managed to make itself heard. The bird identification app, Merlin, has proved to be very useful to distinguish calls from dense cover – in quieter parts of the countryside.

Robert Bryant  
31 July '23

knowledge and experience they have already have to gain the particular skills of a GP.

We are very pleased to introduce our new cohort of trainee GPs, Dr Alia Qaisar & Dr Ayobami Owonifari.

We also congratulate Dr. John Foreman on completing his GP training with us & he joins us permanently from mid/late August as a salaried GP working every, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday.

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### Flu vaccines and COVID Boosters Autumn/ Winter 2023

We are preparing now for the delivery of 2 vaccination programmes, which will be co-administered & will commence in October 2023 (Seasonal influenza and the COVID autumn booster).

#### Eligibility

- Those aged 65 years and over
- Those aged 6 months to 64 years in clinical risk groups
- All children aged 2 to 13 on 31 August 2022 (i.e. up to school Year 9)
- Those in long-stay residential care homes
- Carers
- Close contacts of immunocompromised individuals aged 5+
- Frontline healthcare workers, social care workers and care home workers

For more information visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/flu-influenza-vaccine/>

We will be in contact with official invitations. You will receive either an SMS text message with a simple online booking option and/or an invitation letter.

### Child Flu Clinics

We will also be contacting parents whose children 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 text/letter before contacting the surgery.***

### Welcome to our new GP trainees

As many of you will know, we are a training practice which means we regularly host doctors who are undergoing their specialist GP training. Prior to starting the GP Specialist Training Programme a doctor will usually have worked in a number of different hospital departments gaining skills, knowledge and experience. The GP training programme takes 3 years and during the first two years of this a GP trainee will undertake placements in a number of different medical specialties including a six month placement in a GP surgery. The final year of the training programme takes place in a different practice where the trainee (or Registrar as they are known) will use the

## On the Farm - Julian Gibbons

Writing this on the 18<sup>th</sup> August after a wet July and then a wet August I cannot with any confidence say that by the time you read this we will have cleaned the combine off and put it away for another year.

We managed to actually start harvest on the 10<sup>th</sup> July with our Maris Otter Winter Malting Barley. This was, for the first time, under budget in yield, but the price was set this time last year so will more than make up for the reduced yields. More importantly the quality is good; if it failed to make the grade the price would halve.

I picked up a polypin of Triple F Brewery's beer from Four Marks back June and they have switched entirely to using Maris Otter malt.

We then had a long wait until our oilseed rape was ready to harvest. This was better than budget. The spring malting barley we have cut appears to be of reasonably good quality, but we still have more to cut. All the wheat we have cut is feed quality only. The reduction in applied nitrogen doesn't appear to have effected yield, but although it has done wonders for our carbon footprint it does mean none has enough protein even for bag flour. Yields for the spring sown barley and winter wheat appear to be all over the place; I had always said that I thought harvest was a going to be a bit of a "curate's egg" and yields confirm it.

We are trying to be careful at what moistures we cut to avoid excessive drying costs. For long term storage rapeseed must be below 9%, malting barley contractually must be below 14.5% and wheat below 15% moisture. We have to make calculations based on the value of the crop, loss of any premiums due to the weather and field losses due to the crop going flat or in the case of rapeseed, falling out. Cutting rapeseed at 14% and incurring a £25 drying charge is easier as the crop is worth £360/t plus bonuses for oil content. That same charge for wheat is harder with wheat at £173/t.

Going forward we have cover crops to put in where we have spring planted crops planned for next year. The aim is to keep a growing crop over the autumn and winter period. These will then be killed off before planting the spring planted crop. This should reduce nutrient loss over winter and help build up organic matter.

On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October we are hosting the Basingstoke and District Agricultural Society Ploughing Match at Upper Farm. Everything happens in the morning and there are refreshments available. There will be tractors of all sizes and age and we are lucky to have the support of many of our agricultural machinery dealers who will have stands on the day. Also on the day in one of our barns is the Hay, Corn and Root show and new for this year is a small produce competition.

## Wield Cricket Club Fixtures – August

30 July	Dummer	14.30 Home
6 August	Gnomeads	14.00 Home
20 August	St James Casuals	14.00 Home
27 August	Hursley Park	13.30 Home
3 September	Rioteers	13.30 Home

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  
 Nicola Robinson (social secretary) ndes@kingsfarm.co.uk

Or visit [www.wieldcricketclub.co.uk](http://www.wieldcricketclub.co.uk)

We welcome new players, regular or occasional

## WEATHERWISE By Simon Bourne

Summary of weather observations taken at Northington Down in July 2023

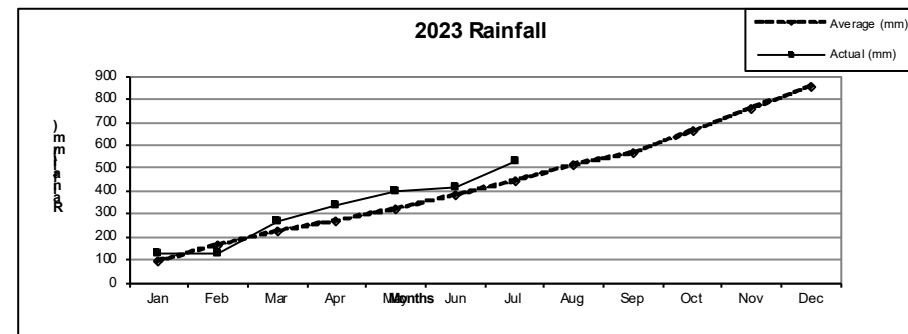
### Temperatures (degrees centigrade/Fahrenheit)

Highest	27.6/82	(7 <sup>th</sup> )
Lowest	6.4/44	(21 <sup>st</sup> )
Warmest Night	14.8/59	(8 <sup>th</sup> )
Coollest Day	17.2/63	(4 <sup>th</sup> )
Average maximum temperature	20.7/69	
Average minimum temperature	10.8/51	

### Rainfall (millimetres/inches)

Monthly total	111.1/4.37	(average 64.5/2.54)
Annual total	528.0/20.79	(average 447.6/17.62)
Maximum 24hr. rainfall	37.9/1.49	(4 <sup>th</sup> )
Number of days with rain	18	

**Summary** The weather often felt rather autumnal as through the month, a succession of frontal systems made regular west-to-east progress across the UK. An inch and a half of rain fell on the 4<sup>th</sup> following showers the previous day. The first week was otherwise reasonably sunny, but with below average temperatures and breezy at times. It was significantly warmer by the end of the week with the warmest day at 82°F on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Cooler weather then returned, and temperatures mostly remained below the seasonal norm. There were sunny periods with showers, accompanied by a strong breeze on the 15<sup>th</sup>, and longer outbreaks of rain for the remainder of July. The monthly rainfall was almost 175% of the long-term average. The overall temperature was below average, which contrasted with a report from the World Meteorological Organisation that the global average temperature for July 2023 was the highest on record for any month.





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& add your name to our mailing list to receive our monthly newsletters.

Follow us on Instagram @theyard\_hampshire



### **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 July, 40 members and guests enjoyed our annual BBQ. Although showers were predicted, the weather was kind to us, and we were able to enjoy the BBQ food plus an excellent selection of salads and delicious desserts courtesy of the committee and members.

Many of us also joined our friends at Cliddesden, Farleigh Wallop and Ellisfield Horticultural Society on a visit to Hardy's cottage garden plants in Freefolk. Rosie Hardy runs an amazing nursery and has won countless medals at Chelsea and Hampton Court. Needless to say, temptation was great and most of us came away with some excellent plants even if we had no immediate idea where to fit them in our gardens!

In August we have our last visit of the year to Old Thatch, near Hook. This is a 5-acre garden alongside the Basingstoke Canal with an abundance of perennials, annuals, and donkeys to provide the fertilizer! 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**

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

6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> (closed 27<sup>th</sup> 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)



### King of the River (photo courtesy Malcolm Brown)



Of the many birds that frequent our chalk streams, the brightly plumed kingfisher is perhaps the most celebrated. Ours are actually Eurasian kingfishers – one of over 100 such species worldwide, including Australia's laughing kookaburra. Our local kingfishers make a high-pitched call when in flight, so keep your eyes peeled if you hear several short whistles.

Unlike many of our feathered friends, kingfishers make their nests by burrowing into riverbanks. The tunnels are barely wider than the birds themselves

but can be 90 centimetres long. After teaming up in February, breeding pairs will raise up to three clutches of eggs through the spring and summer. Of the two, you can spot the female by the reddish patch on her beak.

Though stocky, kingfishers are surprisingly small, weighing a mere 40 grams on average. Despite this, they earn their name with their impressive fishing skills. While they mostly eat sticklebacks and minnows, they will snack on insects, freshwater shrimp, and tadpoles. You may see them perched on low-hanging branches, waiting for their next meal to swim by.

Once their prey has been spotted, they will assess its depth before taking the plunge. A third eyelid draws shut when they enter the water, so the catch itself is done almost blindly. But if their aim is true, they return to their perch and deliver the final blow. Since they must eat their body weight in food each day, they will soon be back in the water.

A key factor in this formidable fishing ability is the shape of the birds' beaks, the cross-section of which resembles a diamond with curved edges. When they dive, water flows along their beaks instead of being pushed away, allowing for a seamless entry. In fact, this shape is so effective that it inspired the design of the Japanese bullet train!

Sadly, our local kingfishers must contend with a number of pressures. Flooding can threaten their nests and prevent them from fishing. Disturbance can scare them away from their nests, stopping them from feeding their young. Chemical and nutrient pollution can affect insect, amphibian, and fish numbers, reducing their food supply.

One of the best ways to support these beautiful birds is by keeping their homes in a healthy condition. To learn more about our chalk streams and their wonderful wildlife, visit [www.hiwwt.org.uk/winterbournes](http://www.hiwwt.org.uk/winterbournes). The Watercress and Winterbournes Landscape Partnership Scheme is supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Free Online Talk – 'The Devastation and Restoration of England's Chalk Streams' 21<sup>st</sup> September 7-8pm

# Candover Valley Store

*community made*

## Good luck!

September's arrival means a new start for school pupils and pre-school children as well as students leaving for college and university. We wish you all a good term ahead. For parents whose nests are suddenly empty of offspring whatever the age, we are on hand with soothing coffee and cake!

## Please consider becoming a store volunteer

Our store needs a surprisingly large bank of volunteers to enable it to open for the number of hours that it does, every day of the week. Traditional holiday months bring special challenges as multiple volunteers may need to be off at the same time. We are seeking to spread the load by being able to call on a broader base of people who are willing to be added to the rota. If you use and appreciate the shop, please consider giving some time each week to join with other volunteers and the team of paid staff, to keep it ticking over efficiently. It is so rewarding to give something back and it is a really enjoyable way to spend a couple of hours. As well as checking stock, serving customers at the till and keeping things clean and tidy (all of which you will be trained to do and is really easy!) there are all sorts of other ways to help, like collecting products from local suppliers or joining the maintenance team. You can offer anything from two hours a week to suit your home commitments and we guarantee you a warm and friendly welcome. Please give it a try! Have a chat with us next time you visit.

## It's a wrap

Pretty printed kraft bags in various sizes and a new palette of coloured tissue paper has recently arrived to boost the choice of gift wrapping available from the store. You'll find them near Hannah's gift table which always has a lovely selection of

## St John's Organ Restoration Project and its Education and Community Programme

### Progress report (August 2023) and concerts and events ahead!

Following the completion of the conservation work on the organ of St John's Northington and the 2 inaugural organ concerts launching the newly restored instrument, we are now looking forward to a 6-month programme of education/community events, concerts, and activities.

Look out for these on our website and in the Oxdrove. The following give a taste of the delights ahead:

- **Saturday 9 September:** Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust - Ride and Stride event in St John's - <https://hihct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/>
- **Wednesday and Thursday 13/14 September:** Heritage Tours of St John's: <https://www.winchesterheritageopendays.org/>
- **Sunday 24 September at 6:30pm:** Choral concert (including Vivaldi's Gloria) with the Candover Valley Choir and Vox Lucis (see flyer in the Oxdrove)
- **Saturday 21st October (evening):** Choral concert with London-based Chamber Choir: Vox Cordis
- **Thursday 26th October at 11 am** (time tbc): Family Concert and Workshop in partnership with Hampshire Music Service
- **Sunday 12th November at 5pm:** Organ recital by Richard McVeigh
- **Saturday 18th November (times tbc):** Sound and Light event - Sonic Cradle!
- **Saturday 2nd December at 5pm:** Community Sing with Grange Festival

Fuller details will be available nearer the time – along with a range of further events - keep checking our website: [www.stjohnsnorthington.org](http://www.stjohnsnorthington.org)

All has been made possible by generous grants from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Hampshire & the Islands Historic Churches Trust, the Leathersellers' Company, and other kind individual donors.



**Cllr Jackie Porter**

County Councillor for the Itchen Valley Division  
[Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk](mailto:Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk) telephone: 07973 696 085  
ansaphone 01962 791054 Website: [www.jackieporter.co.uk](http://www.jackieporter.co.uk)

What is that black bud? For the answer -see below!

The Cart and Horses junction consultation continues until the 17<sup>th</sup> September and there is an in-person exhibition at the Winchester Rugby Club in Winchester on the 5<sup>th</sup> September from 3 to 7pm.  
You can also see the plans and reply online if you prefer on [www.hants.gov.uk](http://www.hants.gov.uk), search 'Cart and Horses junction improvements'  
The two alternatives proposed are traffic lights or a roundabout. We should know the outcome of the consultation by December .



Meanwhile, I have attended and spoken at several 'Issue Specific Hearings' (ISH) for the M3 Junction 9 Development Consent Order application. Issues have included the C&H junction, the impact of the diversions on local traffic during the construction period, predicted journey time improvements, air quality, the carbon footprint of the site /greenhouse gases emitted during construction and operation, and the impact of the landscape changes on the National Park. You can see more and listen to the hearings on the NSIP website <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/m3-junction-9-improvement/>

As you read this, Alresford's Millennium path should be closed for full repairs. This will last for about five weeks, and so the path is closed for a while. I hope the resultant path will give an even surface which will last another hundred years,.

From time to time, Hampshire County Council seeks your view on general county wide matters- this month the subject is the Climate Change website. Called 'Hampshire Perspectives', you can see more and sign up on this link:- <https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/hampshire-perspectives>

Whether you are a frequent or occasional rail user, please don't forget to complete the Railway ticket office consultation! It is open to 26<sup>th</sup> September




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Saturday  
9:00am - 12:30pm

Sunday  
closed

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after public outcry. To respond by phone, call 0300 123 2350 or go online:  
[www.transportfocus.org.uk/ticket-office-consultation/](http://www.transportfocus.org.uk/ticket-office-consultation/)

Are you going to be an 'empty nester' this Autumn? Have you considered fostering a child?

Hampshire has over 1000 children who need loving homes. The foster families are linked so you can learn from others who are more experienced, receive training and get a break now and then. See more by searching '[fostering with Hampshire County Council](#)'.

So, lastly, the 'black bud' picks up sounds of Boomtown far away from the site. 'Receptor sites' monitors sound levels from Boomtown at properties all across the area. If you have one, I'd be interested to hear your feedback and indeed on the impact of Car Fest for neighbours there too.

Hopefully the festivals will have dry weather this year, but I know many of you have standing water near your home after recent massive rainstorms. Please let me know if it comes into your home so I can arrange urgent action.

County Councillor Jackie Porter

tel/text: 07973 696 085, email: [Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk](mailto:Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk) website:  
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## WINCHESTER HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

It's fun, fabulous and FREE!  
Friday 8 - Sunday 17 September 2023

The eighth annual Winchester Heritage Open Days festival is back from 8 - 17 September 2023! This year's theme is "Creativity Unwrapped", celebrating the colourful history and heritage of Winchester and the surrounding areas of Hampshire. Unwrapping creativity can take many forms - from art, architecture, dance, drama and literature to music and much more!

Whether you are keen to gain historical insights, interested in local artists or are looking to enjoy a fun family day-out, there is something for everyone. We have over 100 brilliant events taking place during the ten day festival including tours, talks and workshops, so come along and unwrap your own creativity!

Here are some of this year's festival highlights...

Winchester College: Talks, Tours & Quiristers Open Choir Rehearsal | Hyde 900: Displays & Medieval Tile-Making Workshop | Courtlye Musick Concert | A Celebration of Winchester by its Young Artists | Royal Logistic Corps Museum | Abbey House Open Day | Talbot House History | Hampshire Chronicle Open Day | The Story Desk at P&G Wells | Winchester Military Museums: The Big Day Out | The Great Hall: Open Day & Tours | Hampshire Regency Dancers | University of Winchester Talks & Tours | The Princess and the Oil Magnate's Daughter | Chesil Theatre Open Day | Whitchurch Silk Mill Food Festival | Sandham Memorial Chapel | Uppark House & Gardens | Tours of The Grange & St John the Evangelist, Northington | Gilbert White's House | The Gregg School | Theatre Royal Tours | Lepe Country Park | Classic & Sports Car Display & Parade | Mini Steins Fishy Fun | Romsey Signal Box | The Brickworks Museum | Winchester Muse Poetry | Westgate Museum | Winchester City Museum | The Wyne | King Alfred Buses | Southampton Vaults | Winchester City Mill



For more details and to view the full programme of events please visit the website: [www.winchesterheritageopendays.org](http://www.winchesterheritageopendays.org) or scan the QR code.

Hampshire History Trust, which coordinates the Winchester Heritage Open Days programme of free events, is grateful to its lead sponsor Winchester College, and also to Hampshire County Council, Winchester City Council and Winchester BID for their support.

### Fundraising Event for Hampshire History Trust

Thurs 7 Sept - a talk by Alice Loxton: 'UPROAR!: Satire, Scandal and Printmakers in Georgian London' at Winchester College. Tickets £15 & £30 available via the website.

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[Info@pcvh.org.uk](mailto:Info@pcvh.org.uk)

[www.pcvh.org.uk](http://www.pcvh.org.uk)



## Swarraton and Northington WI July 2023

In place of our regular August meeting, we had a Summer Garden Lunch and this year it was held in the stunning garden at Avington Lodge. Forty members and guests enjoyed a glass of pink fizz, a delicious lunch prepared by the Committee and a selection of wonderful desserts that were made by other members. With some help from Alresford Pigs and Alresford Wine Circle it was a truly special event in a beautiful location.

New members are always welcome, we have a large selection of used books, the collection of used stamps and pennies for charity and any surplus plants or produce. We also have an ongoing project for a really worthwhile charity called Days for Girls which involves sewing sessions held in Old Alresford Village Hall. Guests are always welcome at any meeting for a small charge of £3. 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 5th September at 2pm**

**at the Village Hall**

**The talk is titled "Indiscreet Revelations of a Tour Guide"**

**by Susan Howe**



# Have you seen this insect?

## ASIAN HORNET

*Vespa velutina*

### What is it?

An invasive non-native hornet originally from Asia. Asian hornet is a highly aggressive predator of native insects and poses a significant threat to honey bees and other pollinators. In 2004 it was accidentally introduced to France where it has spread rapidly and into neighbouring countries. Since 2016 a number of sightings have been recorded in the UK.

**Suspected sightings should be reported immediately using the details provided at the bottom of this poster.**



### Where might I see it?

May be seen on flowering plants, around beehives, around rotting / fermenting fruit and protein, and at street markets attracted by sweet fruit and fish stalls.

Active from February to November across England and Wales.

### What does it look like?

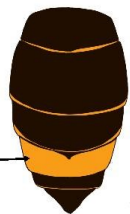
- Slightly smaller than native hornet
- Dark abdomen, 4th segment yellow / orange
- Bright yellow tips to legs (native hornet dark)
- Entirely brown or black thorax (native hornet more orange)

Asian hornet nest

'Hawks' outside honey bee colonies



Asian hornet abdomen Native hornet abdomen



### **DANGER!**

This hornet stings.  
Do not disturb an active nest.  
Seek advice using the details below.

Report any sightings of this species:

with the free iPhone and Android recording app: **Asian Hornet Watch**  
online at: [www.nonnativespecies.org/alerts/asianhornet](http://www.nonnativespecies.org/alerts/asianhornet)  
by email: [alrtnonnative@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:alrtnonnative@ceh.ac.uk)

[www.nonnativespecies.org](http://www.nonnativespecies.org)

# 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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plus

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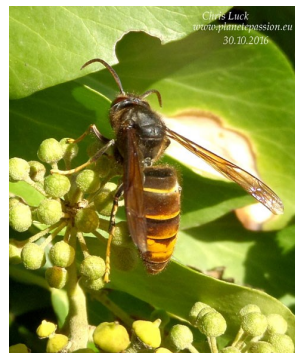
In partnership with the University of  
Winchester Music Centre



To find out more go to:  
[www.stjohnsnorthington.org](http://www.stjohnsnorthington.org)



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## The Asian Hornet

At this time of year queen hornets are emerging and being mated ready to establish new nests next spring.

It is vitally important to keep this invasive, non-native insect out of the UK.

Local beekeepers have established ‘sentinel’ hives at all ports of entry to the UK, but it can be carried accidentally across the channel on vehicles, in camping gear and anything else that travels across the sea from France and Europe.

In France and in other parts of Europe it has had a marked impact on the biodiversity of the country.

The hornet predates on honey bees and can clear a hive in a day. It also predates on the insects that gather round fallen fruit, so it is important to clear fallen fruit as soon as possible.

Government and other agencies such as RSPB, and DEFRA have strategies to combat incursions, but they can only enact these strategies once Asian hornets have been reported to them. It is, therefore, very important that any and all sightings of the insect are reported as soon as possible.

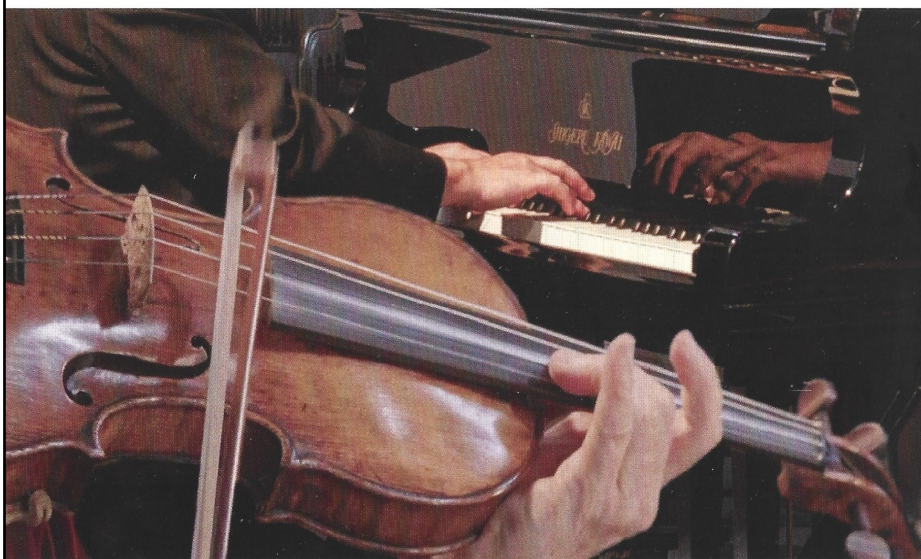
If you see a suspect insect take a photo and use the app on your phone to identify it. **Asian Hornet Watch.**

You can report sightings of the hornet:  
Online at [nonnativespecies.org/alerts/asianhornet](http://nonnativespecies.org/alerts/asianhornet)  
Or by email at [alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk)

**Please help keep this invasive insect out of the UK**



# West Meon Music Festival 14th–17th September 2023



## The Primrose Piano Quartet and Guests

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

Registered Charity: 1185082

# West Meon Music Festival 2023

**Thursday 14th September, 7:30pm. St John the Evangelist, West Meon**

## **OPENING CONCERT**

**Mozart** Duo for Violin & Viola, **Schubert** "Arpeggione" Sonata, Cello & Piano  
**Brahms** Piano Quartet in A major, Op.26 The Primrose Piano Quartet

**Friday 15th September, 7:30pm. St John the Evangelist, West Meon**

## **THOMAS KELLY, PIANO RECITAL**

Prizewinner at Leeds and Hastings international piano competitions  
Programme to include **Rachmaninoff** Sonata No.1, Op.28

**Friday 15th September, 9pm. St John the Evangelist, West Meon (45mins)**

## **WHO'S AFRAID OF ARNOLD SCHOENBERG?**

**Mahler** Piano Quartet, **Schoenberg** String Trio The Primrose Piano Quartet  
give an informal and humorous introduction to the men and their music

**Saturday 16th September, 11:30am. All Saints, East Meon**

## **BACH GOLDBERG VARIATIONS**

Bach's epic masterpiece arranged for string trio by Dmitri Sitkovetsky  
The Primrose String Trio

**Saturday 16th September, 3pm. Church of our Lady, Warnford**

## **THE GONZAGA BAND "Songs and Duets from the time of Monteverdi"**

Jamie Savan, Cornet Faye Newton, Soprano Steven Devine, Chamber Organ  
Programme to include music by **Monteverdi** and his contemporaries

**Saturday 16th September, 7:30pm. St John the Evangelist, West Meon**

## **THE TROUT QUINTET**

**Brahms** Viola Sonata in E flat, Op.120, **Mendelssohn** Piano Trio in D minor,  
Op.49, **Schubert** Piano Quintet "The Trout"  
The Primrose Piano Quartet & Will Duerden Double Bass

**Sunday 17th September, 11:30am. St John the Evangelist, West Meon**

## **FRENCH SONG RECITAL**

Songs by **Fauré, Poulenc, Gounod & Debussy**  
Harriet Burns, Soprano John Thwaites, Piano

**Sunday 17th September, 3pm. St John the Evangelist, West Meon**

## **FRENCH FINALE**

**Saint-Saëns** Barcarolle, **Bizet/Sarasate** Carmen Fantasy, **Chopin** Nocturne  
Op.9, No.1, **Jean Françaix** String Trio, **Fauré** Piano Quartet in G minor

WMMF is fundraising for the Elizabeth Foundation, helping pre-school deaf children



For full details and Box Office, visit:

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

