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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

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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 Candover Valley and Wield

Sunday 1st January 2023

10.30 Preston Candover

Readings Numbers 6.22-end Galatians 4.4-7 Luke 2.15-21

Sermon In the fullness of time

_____””_____

Sunday 8 January Epiphany

08.00 Dummer Holy Communion BCP

09.45 Ellisfield Morning Prayer

10.00 Preston Candover Morning Worship CW

11.15 Cliddesden Family Communion CW

6.00pm Wield Evensong BCP

Readings Isaiah 60.1-6 Ephesians 3.1-12 Matthew 2.1-12

Psalm 72.1-9,10-15

Sermon We are all included

Sunday 15 January 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

09.00	Wield	Holy Communion BCP
09.45	Dummer	Holy Communion
10.00	Preston Candover	Holy Communion
11.15	Cliddesden	Family Service

Readings Isaiah 49:1-7, 1 Corinthians 1:1-9, John 1:29-42
Psalm 49.1-12

Sermon Come and see!

_____””_____

Sunday 22 January 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

9.45	Dummer	Holy Communion CW
11:00	Brown Candover	Morning Prayer
11.15	Ellisfield	Family Holy Communion

Readings Isaiah 9:1-4, 1 Corinthians 1:10-18, Matthew 4:12-23
Psalm 27

Sermon The message of the Kingdom

_____””_____

Sunday 29 January 4th Sunday of Epiphany

09:30	Bradley	Holy Communion
11:00	Farleigh Wallop	Holy Communion

Readings Malachi 3:1-5, Hebrews 2:14-end, Luke 2:22-40
Psalm 24

Sermon Jesus; merciful and faithful high priest

_____””_____

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Sunday 5 February 3rd Sunday before Lent

08.00	Ellisfield	Holy Communion BCP
09.45	Cliddesden	Morning Prayer
11:00	Northington	Holy Communion
11.15	Dummer	Sunday Special

Readings Isaiah 58:1-9, 1 Corinthians 2:1-12, Matthew 5:13-20
Psalm 112.1-9

Sermon The wisdom of God

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Launch Concert for the Organ Conservation and Restoration Project

Vox Lucis

Sunday 20th November 2022 saw the launch concert of the organ restoration project for St John's Church, Northington. This was a splendid Advent concert presented by our wonderful local

capella group, Vox Lucis, who were in their usual excellent voice. The mix of motets and hymns, each selected to represent the themes associated with Advent – hope, peace, joy and love – attracted a large and enthusiastic audience. One hundred or so voices joined in the glorious hymns, accompanied by renowned organist, Christopher Burton, who also provided two superb and interesting solo pieces on the organ. The concert was successful in exceeding its target and raised £750 towards the restoration fund appeal. We wish to extend many thanks not only to Vox Lucis but also to all those who came to and contributed to this special Advent evening of reflection and celebration with some excellent hymn-singing. And we very much look forward to the next Vox Lucis concert in St John's in the near future.

St John's Organ Project Steering Group

Sidesmen and Readers

<u>Church</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Sidesmen</u>	<u>Readers</u>
St John's Northington		Mark Ashburton	Mark Ashburton
St Peter's Brown Candover	21 Jan 11.00am	Sue Marriott	Celia Foote
St Mary The Virgin Preston Candover	1 Jan 10.30am	Anne Luneburg	Anne Luneburg
	8 Jan 10.00am	Gunnel Berry	Sue Marriott & Gunnel Berry
	15 Jan	Marina Avis	To be advised
	5 Feb 10.00am	Marina Avis	Jane Laws
All Saints Bradley			
St James' Wield			



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Dear Friends

Happy New Year!

I smiled when I heard a Big Issue seller announcing to passers-by that all proceeds would go toward 'Putin's funeral' and coming soon after Jeremy Clarkson's newspaper column about Meghan Markle, I reflected on humour and what makes one person laugh and another angry. Dark humour is found in the armed forces, police and other public services, even Clergy have 'in jokes' about serious things! Humour helps us cope with life, not having a laugh about something, taking things too seriously, is it an indication that maybe we lack perspective?

An organisation I know with a peculiarly high staff turnover once had a new and very able professional join and was surprised that a number of staff were leaving that year. "O yes", came the reply, "that's usual, it will be your turn next year!" Sadly, though said in jest that happened and joking about the revolving door was both funny and a way of coping with the dysfunctional working environment.


There is something about the human spirit that needs laughter, fun and to be joyful, look at all the TV and radio programs designed around comedy! Joyous living is celebrated in the Bible when the Psalms make references to singing, dancing, and sheer enjoyment of this gift of life in all its fullness, for God's people to enjoy peace and harmony all with an abundance of blessings.

Sadly, we know there are many things that steal our joy and happiness from the natural causes such as sickness and bereavements to human sin through abuse of power, crime and relationship breakdown when instead of thriving we are robbed of joy in the workplace and in the home.

A quote I like to give to our wedding couples is from Dr Elaine Storkey, sometime speaker on Thought for the Day, "It is often in the times of disappointments and even failure that they discover there are some things more important than the tidiness of a self-organised existence...marriage takes two individual human beings and moulds then into one union...perhaps one of the clearest indications that there is a God...not any old God but one of humour...who sees through the ridiculousness of our human idiosyncrasies and invites us to taste community"

Laughing at ourselves shows self-awareness and we glimpse in ourselves what is obvious to others! The gift of laughter brings bonding, nurtures group activity, breaks down inhibitions and is a wonderful gift in facilitating closer community. So, a very happy new year to you and why not explore the 'joy-giver' the God of Christian faith who gave us the gift of humour and laughter?




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David




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St John's Northington

Launch of Organ Conservation and Restoration Project

News update: December 2022

The PCC of St John's Church Northington is pleased to announce the formal launch of its Organ Conservation and Restoration Project. The PCC was delighted and grateful to have received a National Lottery Heritage Fund grant towards this exciting heritage project. Made possible by money raised by National Lottery players, and with additional support through a successful fundraising campaign including a grant from the Hampshire and the Island Historic Churches Trust and generous private donors, this will not only ensure the conservation of our heritage instrument, but it will also deliver an associated inspiring and creative education and community programme.

The project, which will run until the end of January 2024 (although the Organ itself will be back in use by early May 2023), was launched during November with a community event in Northington Village Hall, and a concert in St John's by local choir, Vox Lucis. The education and community programme will be facilitated by music amateur, Neil Valentine. This dynamic role will help to highlight the heritage of the church and its organ through, amongst other things, workshops for children, organ and choir concerts and participatory community music events working with a range of partners including Hampshire Music Service and the Grange Festival. At the heart of the education involvement is an innovative approach which will see students from Perins School, Alresford, working on a cross curricular English, History, Film, and Creative Arts programme, resulting in a new, young people-led, digital guide to the heritage of the church.

We will keep you in touch with progress and events via the Oxdrove, Hill and Dale, and via our new website which the Lottery grant will also enable us to create.

Work on the organ itself will start from the New Year.

**For further information - do contact Jane Bryant, St John's PCC
Organ Project Lead (bryantjane50@gmail.com), or any other
member of
St John's PCC.**

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		February	Celia Foote
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RBL Poppy Appeal 2022

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I would like to say a huge thank you on behalf of the Poppy Appeal and RBL for such fantastic support from our collecting volunteers and "homes" of the static boxes this year.

Despite the difficult economic crisis that we are experiencing, the public generosity has been amazing.

A heartfelt thanks from all our recipients to all of you who gave so generously.

The grand total from the church service and collecting boxes in the valley raised £4684.62 plus gift aid.

Many thanks to all involved.

Joanna Gibbons
Poppy Appeal Organiser SBA13 Preston Candover

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The new urgent care maternity app is now live across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. The new service which provides consistent advice for pregnant people 24 hours a day 7 days a week, was launched on Monday 28 November 2022.

Pregnant people are being encouraged to download the Healthier Together app, which already provides help and advice for parents regarding their children and they can log any maternity concerns they may encounter during their pregnancy.

The app will ask the user to assess their symptoms and it will then decide if they fall into a red, amber or green category. The outcomes of those categories are:

Red: These issues will be classed as an emergency and will require the user to call 999.

Amber: The user will be advised to call the maternity triage line if the concern is maternity related or will be advised to contact their GP surgery or 111 if out of hours.

For both the red and amber categories the user can press a button on the app and they will automatically be connected to the service that has been recommended.

Green: The user will be directed to information to self-care at home.

If the user is directed to call the maternity triage line, they will be connected to a midwife either at South Central Ambulance Services (SCAS) in Otterbourne or at the Isle of Wight ambulance station. They will be triaged by the midwives and, if required, advised to attend their local Maternity Day Assessment Unit (MDAU) for further assessment.

Travel vaccinations

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

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

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

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

Healthier Together:

It can be extremely stressful when your child is unwell. We know that there is a huge amount of information available at your fingertips but finding something that provides clear and accurate information is not always easy! The resources on the Healthier Together website have been developed in partnership between parents and healthcare professionals from across Dorset, Hampshire, and the Isle of Wight. You'll find clear information on common childhood illnesses, including advice on what 'red-flag' signs to look out for, where to seek help if required, what you should do to keep your child comfortable and how long your child's symptoms are likely to last. <https://what0-18.nhs.uk/> they also have a whole section on Covid, Strep A & Scarlet Fever.

Pneumonia vaccinations

The pneumonia vaccination is a one-off vaccination for patients who are 65 or over.

You will be invited for this vaccination once you pass your 65th birthday & we can offer the vaccination at the surgery.

We have several pneumonia vaccination clinics planned for January; eligible patients will be contacted over the coming weeks to book into these.

New urgent care maternity app

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

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

Happy New Year! There is no question, 2023 will have its' moments but we've much to be grateful for and I know those of us living in the beautiful Itchen Valley know that more than most.

Parliament always has its' moments of course but constituents will forgive me for hoping the next 12-months is a little more boring than the last. As ever, I will be getting on with my job and whether it be around education, my ongoing Green Winchester work or my role as Chair of the Health & Social Care Select Committee, there's no rest.

I will be doing some work in the early part of this year on electric vehicles which seems pertinent given the Government's ambition to end the sale of all petrol and diesel cars by the end of the decade. It's an ambition I support but, right now, I am struggling to see how we get to 2030.

Matters arising centre around charging points, connection to the grid via home charging solar panels and, above all, the availability and cost of EV's. I'm sure we're not the only ones who want to make the switch but find the cost prohibitive and the (sometimes) 18-month wait, often because of production delays in China, beyond frustrating.

If you have an experience in this area and would like to input into my work, I'd be really grateful to hear from you; steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk

Turning to education, I was very pleased to see a positive response from the Chancellor in his Autumn Statement on school funding which received an uplift. But there are cost of living issues, national pay awards and the huge challenge of rising (low-level) mental health issues, which are putting school budgets under significant pressure. The cost of school meals, as the cost of ingredients soar, is a little reported story but it's one we cannot overlook as the synergy between eating (and learning) well is obvious.

As Ministers return to aspects within the Schools White Paper – first published two Prime Minister's ago – issues including academisation and special educational needs reform will come to the fore and I want to make sure the voice of Winchester is heard as always. We have direct access to those in power and we are going to use it.

Finally, those of us with young children (or grandchildren) must stay on our guard as internet use amongst children continues to rise while unregulated social media has presented risks for too long. We must (and we are) therefore take action to make the internet safer for young people.

Walking with Wildlife, Robert Bryant

In the half-light of a cold grey winter's day, two jays flush from the long grass at the lake's edge. There's just a glimpse of pink plumage, a flash of white rumps and a goblin screech or two, before they dive headfirst into the mistletoe that festoons the lakeside lime trees here.

We are taking a brisk stroll around the parkland at Avington, a central countryside site overlooking Avington Lake. A cormorant stands, bolt upright, slim and black, on the far bank. Behind him a vast flock of coots, jet black, bobble the lawns of Avington House, their bright white foreheads dipping up and down. A raft of black-headed gulls drift across the lake, while mallard and yet more coots dabble through the shallows.

Heading upwards we cross the cattle grid to leave the park, following the wooded lane over Beech Hill. To our right the woodland edge has been well churned up by a pair of charming pigs: Wessex Saddlebacks, according to a farming journalist who we met on a previous visit. We find them down by the Easton Lodge end of their enclosure; one is brown and white, her companion black and white. Hardy and quite docile, these large sturdy pigs are busily engaged in conservation truffling, snouts down in the rich soil, ears flapping over their eyes.

Emerging from the trees, we turn right to follow the footpath across the wetland pastures of the valley bottom. All is quiet apart from the trickling rivulets of the Itchen. Flickering shadows of blue tits and robins forage through the wayside hedges.

The wooded backdrop of the valley hillside reveals a wintry skyline of trees, their bare canopies bulging with globes of mistletoe. The scent of distant woodsmoke drifts across on the cool air. Reaching the bridge at Chilland Ford, we scan for wildlife along the banks of the surging river and spot some strange mallard dabbling at the edge by Chilland Mill. Emerald green with an iridescent sheen, these are known as Cayuga, a North American breed of duck.

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WEATHERWISE By Simon Bourne
 Summary of weather observations taken at Northington Down
 in November 2022

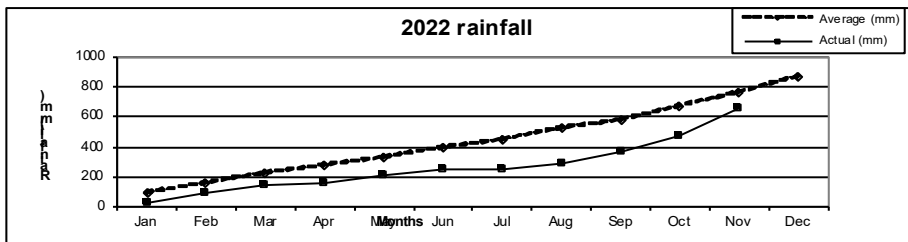
Temperatures (degrees centigrade/Fahrenheit)

Highest	18.3/65	(12 th)
Lowest	-0.6/31	(22 nd)
Warmest Night	11.5/53	(11 th)
Coollest Day	5.8/42	(29 th)
Average maximum temperature	12.8/55	
Average minimum temperature	5.3/42	
Number of air frosts	1	

Rainfall (millimetres/inches)

Monthly total	174.2/6.86	(average 99.0/3.90)
Annual total	651.5/25.65	(average 760.9/29.96)
Maximum 24hr. fall	36.3/1.43	(2 nd)
Number of days with rain	20	

Summary The unsettled weather from the previous month continued into November with a blustery shower and thunderstorm on the 1st. There was continuous rain the following afternoon with a strengthening breeze, and persistent overnight rain resulted in almost 1½ inches. High pressure in the latter half of the second week brought dry and slightly brighter weather and the warmest November day at 65°F was recorded on the 12th. The unsettled conditions then resumed and lasted through to the end of the month. Overall, temperatures were almost 3°F above the norm and the autumn was also mild. It was the third wettest November over the past two decades with 176% of the normal rainfall and the wettest autumn since 2006.



Swarraton and Northington WI

At our December meeting we welcomed back Debbie Towlson teacher, caterer, and accomplished chef to show us how to make tasty canapes for our Christmas parties.

Debbie then introduced herself explaining how the Covid pandemic changed her catering business overnight. She had to cancel all her events and rethink what she would do. A call from NFWI changed everything and she spent months demonstrating her recipes on Zoom and enjoyed the fact that she travelled to WI's all around the country without leaving her dining room. She is now back to teaching and provides a wonderful range of hampers and meals for parties and family events.

She explained that the term canape comes from the French meaning couch and recommended serving 3 or 4 per person as a starter or 8 to 10 for a drinks party.

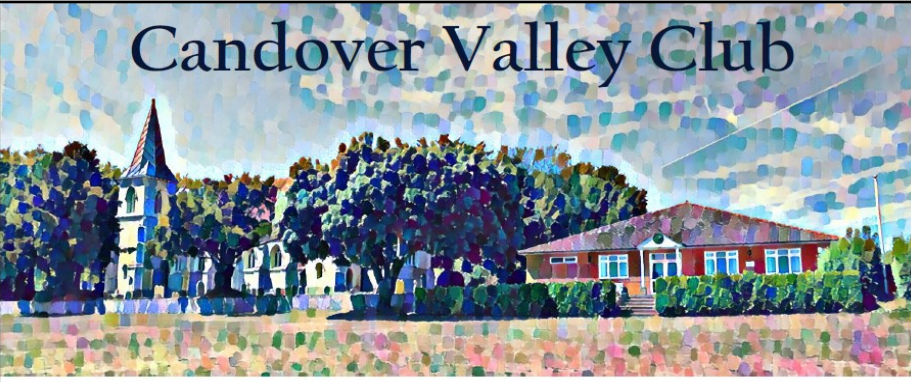
She made gruyere and Dijon soufflé tarts and goats' cheese and thyme biscotti and decorated the canapes with beetroot and orange chutney or sweet chillies to add to the festive appearance. As she worked, she gave many useful tips and ideas. There was a very enjoyable tasting session before Jill Dickens gave the vote of thanks and members enjoyed tea, mince pies, Christmas cake and time to chat.

Our January get together will be our annual **Lasagne Lunch on Tuesday 10th 12 noon for 12.30**. This is always a very popular event. Members and guests are very welcomed and as well as the homemade lasagnes there will be a delicious variety of WI made puddings to enjoy. Don't miss out!



We wish you all a healthy and happy 2023!

Candover Valley Club



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

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

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Candover Valley Gardening Club

In November our members enjoyed a very interesting and lively talk by Paolo Arrigo of Franchi Seeds who grow their own seeds in Italy. He wheeled in a tall rack of their seeds, picked out various packets and told us where in Italy they were from, how to grow them and ideas of how to cook them. He told us the majority of UK seed companies source their seeds from hot countries, so we ought to be supporting the few who still supply heritage seeds and regional varieties.

We are commencing our New Year programme on Thursday 19th January at 7:30pm at Preston Candover Village Hall with a talk by Gillian Taylor entitled "For the Love of Roses". She is an enthusiastic gardener with a passion for roses and grows over 200 varieties in her own garden. She will cover the different types of roses available, how to grow them and the perennial companions to grow with them. This sounds very interesting and should start us off well for the gardening year ahead. If your New Year Resolution is to grow more in your garden, you are most welcome to join us for £3:00 for the evening meetings. We have very knowledgeable speakers covering a wide range of topics and in the summer, we enjoy visits to local gardens. Our contact details are as follows: Candover Valley Gardening Club on Facebook or our website at <http://candovervalley.org/2021/04candover-valley-gardening-club-2> We look forward to meeting you.

Farleigh Parish Playgroup



Cliddesden Millennium Village Hub

Friday Mornings 11am-12noon Term Time

2nd, 4th December (Christmas party and a visit from FC) and 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th January

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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CANDOVER VALLEY CHOIR

New Year Resolution?

Want to do something new?

New Year, new beginning?

Good time to join a choir!

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

The Candover Valley Choir

is always interested in hearing from potential new singers interested in joining.

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

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

Julian Jones, Choir Chairman, on: juliang.jones@btinternet.com

or

Jane Bryant, Music Director

bryantjane50@gmail.com

Rehearsals take place on Thursdays at 7.45

Candover Valley Store

community made

Happy New Year to all our customers!

We hope to welcome you to the store very soon. Don't forget January is "Marmalade-making Month" and the Seville oranges will be arriving any day!

We begin 2023 with another in our occasional series which focuses on a member of our wonderful band of volunteers ... and this time it's the turn of one of our youngest, Evie James.

Evie, who was 15 when she began volunteering at the store as part of the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award scheme, lives in the valley and goes to school in Alton. Evie says: "Once I had gained my D of E award, I realised that I enjoyed being at the store so much that I wanted to continue volunteering." Since then, Evie has become a paid youth worker, taking shifts at the weekend and during school holidays which can often be the more difficult slots for the store rota manager to fill. She adds, "Earning my own money is helping me to learn how to budget and is definitely developing my work ethic."

Meeting new people and interacting with them in a safe and supportive environment has strengthened Evie's social skills and she says that she now also feels more connected with the wider, valley community. She particularly enjoys using the till, serving customers with cake and coffee and helping them to find things around the store. From a business point of view, her work has given Evie the opportunity to see how a shop functions and how much hard work goes on behind the scenes to make it successful. The fact that ours is a community store and therefore run on a different model from a normal shop, gives youth workers like Evie additional insight into its particular benefits. And challenges! As she points out, the store provides a welcoming and useful "hub" for everyone in our rural community and a valuable opportunity for young people to have a taste of the world of work, in an area where part-time jobs are scarce. "To be a part of this team continues to be a particularly rewarding experience. I am learning real-world skills that are likely to help me in the future. I think young people having a job here is a really good idea and the opportunity to learn about business is very important."

On the Farm - Ben Robinson

Generally, I like frosty weather in winter. It dries out the land, allows field work without poaching and usually brings a bit of sunshine which is good for the soul. However, we are now on the seventh day on the bounce without the temperature rising above freezing and defrosting water is getting a little tedious. The water to the main sheds has been kept running by heaping up cow muck around any exposed pipes. The manure creates its own warmth, allowing the water to keep flowing. However, the pipe to the calf housing goes on an exposed and lengthy aerial route from the main cattle shed and freezes up fairly easily. Bucketed water has been the order of the day for the calves. Hopefully one day I will be able to justify digging up the concrete and relaying the water pipe underground. At least lows of -9°C at night have meant we have been able to get on with hedge cutting even on the heaviest clay fields and around the newly sown grass ley fields. It seems ironic that only in late November we clipped the backs of the store cattle to prevent them sweating in the sheds!

This Autumn arable farmers locally have taken to cover crops in a big way. Though most are principally soil conditioning mixes including plants such as buckwheat, vetch, phacelia and spring beans many neighbouring arable growers are keen to have sheep to graze their cover crops off. It is a learning curve as to what the plants are capable of and whether ewes or lambs do best on them. Communication is the key. I am learning that different arable managers have quite different views and expectations of what they want from sheep grazing.

I also have sheep grazing a local dairy farm. Grazing sheep on dairy ground in the winter encourages the grass to tiller (grow more side shoots) which leads to a more resilient crop of grass and higher yields of silage in the Spring and Summer. As it has been a slightly quieter time of year on our largely beef and sheep farm myself and my colleague have been undertaking some relief work on dairy farms. Dairy farming never stops and the need for people with good levels of experience with cattle in the sector is constant.

May I take this opportunity to wish all Oxdrove readers a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

The Wonders of Chalk Streams in Wintertime

The weather may be grey at this time of year, but our precious chalk streams are still great places for a stroll. Visit in the early morning, and you might be treated to the sight of mist rising gently from the water's surface. This happens because the streams, which are fed by an underground aquifer, can actually be warmer than the air on cold days – as the two meet, a truly atmospheric effect occurs!



Up on the stream banks, the ground may have gained a smattering of snowdrops. Native to mainland Europe, these delicate blooms were introduced in the 16th century and now thrive along our waterways. But it's not just flowers that benefit wildlife – the hollow stems of dead plants can be an ideal hibernation spot for insects. So if you're tempted to have a tidy up, do wait until the springtime.

Unlike the raucous chorus of the breeding seasons, birds are often quieter in the winter. As the hunt for food takes centre stage, many species become less territorial and gather in larger numbers. Listen for not only chalk stream icons like kingfishers and Cetti's warblers, but also jays, wrens, goldcrests, little egrets, and woodpeckers. Use free apps like Merlin or BirdNET to identify

their calls.

Though leaves and flowers are in short supply, look for clues to the identity of streamside trees. The size of buds, the texture of bark, and the presence of sap can all aid your quest. For example: alders and weeping willows both love damp ground (alder wood is actually more durable when wet) so are often found next to water. But the willow's catkins are golden, while the alders are tinged purple.

Winter is also a great time to see where animals are travelling, as mud, frost, and snow make their footprints more visible. Deer, foxes, badgers, water voles, or even otters could have passed by; with some detective work, you'll soon know. You can also look for things like nibbled tree bark, empty nut shells, and piles of droppings – there are lots of online guides with pictures of these 'signs'.

Want to learn more about chalk streams? Explore the Watercress and Winterbournes scheme, which is made possible by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, at www.hiwwt.org.uk/winterbournes.

Free online talks – book at www.hiwwt.org.uk/events

Chalk Stream Habitat Restoration – 12th January 7-8pm

Hear about our recent improvements on the Test and Itchen headwaters, why they were needed, and possible futures for these special spaces.

Septic Tanks and the Environment – 26th January 7-8pm

Hear how private 'off-mains' sewage systems can impact our chalk streams, and how to avoid this by keeping your system safe and effective.

Picture courtesy Alan Price

A close-down shift, when the last-minute rush is over, is one of Evie's favourite times to be in the store. She loves to see everything checked, tidy and clean in readiness for the next day.

We do too Evie! Thank you so much for being such a fabulous addition to our team!

If this has inspired you to volunteer, we would love to hear from you! Speak to the store duty manager next time you visit or go to the website cvcs.org.uk

Evie shows the gift area to a customer visiting from Sussex





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