

# Parish News

West Meon & Warnford

April 2025

## **Eastertime: A Sense of the Season**

The keeping of the forty days of Lent took us through most of March and has now delivered us into April. We may still be refraining from something we otherwise enjoy, or perhaps even still praying and doing good works. In April the noticeably lengthening days remind us that *lencten*, the old word for lengthening, is the origin of the season's name. The longer, brighter days might be lifting our spirits after the colder, shorter days around Ash Wednesday, making us cheerful, even joyful, like the crowds exuberantly cheering Jesus as he entered Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday, shouting:

“Hosanna to the Son of David, the King of Israel.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.”

We celebrate Palm Sunday on 13th April this year. We too shall gather in Warnford Churchyard at 9.30am and Commemorate the Lord's entry into Jerusalem with Palm fronds and crosses and singing joyfully. We shall then make our way, equally joyfully, to West Meon for our service at 10.30am. Just as the mood of the crowd changed, so too will the tone of the Liturgy, changing from triumph to hearing St Luke's account of Jesus' Passion – his mental suffering after the Last Supper, his arrest and verbal and physical abuse at the hands of the Temple authorities and the Romans and his Crucifixion.



*Bluebells in Inholmes Wood: photo © A Annabel*

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We mark the Last Supper and the events of Gethsemane together at East Meon on Maundy Thursday (6pm on 17th April). The next day, Good Friday, we walk again in witness from Warnford to Langrish, where we shall spend an hour until 3pm reflecting on the Cross and hearing the words of St John's account of the Passion. We leave the church in silence at 3pm and keep watch until the joyful news of the resurrection, which we shall celebrate in all four of our group's churches on Easter morning. But Christians must remember that the death and resurrection of Jesus cannot be separated. The meaning of these days is distorted when we imagine that all we are doing is recalling the final events in the life of Jesus in a sort of historical review. We miss the point in that case. The mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection is a present reality; the boundaries of time, and the boundaries of death, have no power for us in Jesus.

So, after the three days of Christ's passion, dying and rising, we can truly delight in the remainder of April and into May for fifty days, with rejoicing, feasting and giving witness! The season of Easter is fifty days long. It is a time of unbridled joy, of exuberant rejoicing. The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost should be celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better as one 'great Sunday.' These, above all others, are days for the singing of 'Alleluia'.

Why fifty days?

The ancient cultures that gave us the Bible had great respect for numbers. They believed that numbers contained hints about God and the meaning of life. The number seven was thought to contain fullness: there are seven days in the week, according to God's original way of ordering time, creating all that there is and resting. So if you multiply 7 times 7, you have a 'fullness of fullness'.

But wait,  $7 \times 7$  is 49! With God, there is always more - more than we can ever imagine. So our holy season of Easter is even more than a fullness of fullness. It is a fullness of fullness and then some more. That's what God's love is like - more than we can ever imagine. That's what heaven is going to be like - more than we can ever imagine.

The fifty days are days for looking for the risen Lord among us. Together, like the apostles who were so full of the Spirit that people thought they were drunk, we rush about with good and giddy news - Death is not the last word! Life and love are forever! And slowly, painstakingly, we work together, together with Christ, to change this world into the world to come. Sing 'Alleluia!' or better still 'Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!'

May the path of this April build ever greater joy in your hearts and may you be blest by the Good News of the Risen Christ and be sustained by the Spirit he sent into the world.

*Fr. Tony*



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## Jum and Jane

You may be aware that Jum died in January, following Jane's death in December 2020.

We are planning a Service of Thanksgiving for them both, as Covid interrupted any plans for Jane's, at midday on 4th April in the Church. They have been residents of the village since 1967 and hence many locals may wish to attend.

*Christopher Daniel*

## Easter lilies for West Meon and Warnford

If you would like to dedicate a lily in memory of loved ones then please sponsor a lily for £5 each. These will then be used as part of the beautiful floral decoration of our churches at Easter. Please send your £5 per lily, and the name of the dedicatees, to Penny Power for Warnford ([kitandpenny@jpower.co.uk](mailto:kitandpenny@jpower.co.uk) tel: 829751) by Monday 7th April or to Louise Clay for West Meon ([lpclay13@gmail.com](mailto:lpclay13@gmail.com) tel: 829235) by Friday 11th April.

Thank you for your support,

*Louise Clay*



Service of Thanksgiving celebrating the lives of

## Jum and Jane Daniel



Friday 4 April 2025

12:00pm

**at St John the Evangelist**

Church Lane, West Meon, Petersfield, Hants, GU32 1LF

*and afterwards for light buffet lunch at*

West Meon Village Hall

Headon View, West Meon, Petersfield, GU32 1LH

Parking at the church is very limited, so we encourage those who are able, to park at the village hall car park, which is a short walk across the recreation field to the Church.

[To help with planning and catering, please click here to RSVP](#)

Please do still attend, even if you are unable to use the link.

**We hope you can join us.**

**Toff, Nikki and Kate**

## Rainfall February to March

In spite of the old adage of 'February fill dyke' the month of February started remarkably dry and up to the 15th of the month we had only had 13.7mms (0.53"). However from the 19th to the 26th we had a really wet period and in those 8 days we had another 77.6mms ( 3.1" so that February ended with 92.1mms (3.6").

March has seen very little rain and up to the 13th we have only measured 1.3mms. In the year to mid-March we have had 253.8mms (10"). This compares with 331.9mms (13.06") in 2024.

*Peter Short*



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## West Meon & Warnford Cricket Club

West Meon and Warnford Cricket Club are looking for new players for the upcoming season.

We play matches on Sunday afternoons and we only play friendly matches so ability is most definitely not a requirement. Our players range from 14 to very late 70s so no one is too old.

If you would like to join a friendly bunch who enjoy their cricket and also enjoy socialising after the game then please contact Stuart on [stuiesmith119@yahoo.com](mailto:stuiesmith119@yahoo.com) or 07490 298309.

Home matches are played at West Meon Recreation Ground with the bar open from 4pm.

*StuartSmith*

## Cricket Fixtures

### April

- 13th Stanstead (A)
- 20th Steep (A)
- 27th Milburys (A)

### May

- 4th Bedhampton (A)
- 11th Swanmore (H)
- 18th Raquetteers (H)
- 25th Shirrel Heath (H)

### June

- 1st Temple Sheen (H)
- 8th Lavant (H)
- 15th Hayling Island (A)
- 22nd Bishops Waltham (A)
- 29th Bedhampton (H)

### July

- 6th The Moles (H)
- 13th Stansted Park (H)
- 20th Tichborne (A)
- 27th Cypos (H)

### August

- 3rd Lynchmere (H)
- 10th Oundle Ramblers (H)
- 17th Tulls (tbc)
- 24th Broken Wanderers (H)
- 31st Lavant (A)

### September

- 6th Fernhurst (A)
- 14th Newport Inn (A)
- 21st Boxgrove (A)



## The Touchet Trust Charity for West Meon and Warnford

Barbara Shaw will be stepping down this year from her role as Admin Officer for the Charity. The Trust would like to sincerely thank Barbara for all her hard work over many years in overseeing all that this involves.

Jane Waller now takes up this role so please refer any correspondence to:  
[janewaller54@gmail.com](mailto:janewaller54@gmail.com).

*Jane Waller*

## The “Gallop” to reopen

The edge path around the field north of the West Meon recreation ground will be open to walkers again from the 1st April and thanks everyone for your patience.

*G Silk*

## The Great West Meon Litter Pick 2025



I am sure there has been a great deal of anticipation for the 'match-report' following this year's 'Great West Meon Litter Pick' on Sunday 2nd March, but quite aside from the complication of processing the horde of brimming binbags, which we have established are not welcome at the tip (?!), I am pleased to report a sense that there was less litter on our verges than we have seen in the past. The usual suspects remain energy-drink cans, fast-food packaging and car-parts, but going straight in at the top of the 'most surprising' finds this year was the packaging from a fairly large sex-toy (unpictured)?! It was found in a completely different area to the ladies' underwear of a previous year (and now of folklore), but perhaps second on our list was a pair of girl's sandals found in the bushes up Station Road, which is where the rest of the apparent outfit was discovered in the past. Also reclaimed was yet another driving licence, a mercifully unopened Ginsters pasty and a hastily removed pheasant tie (pictured).

Due to a beautiful morning and more volunteers, we were able to clear from Warnford to West Meon, up Station Road, all along Winchester Hill, from West

Meon to Drayton Bridge, up and over the hill to Loomies, and even a section of the A272 heading towards Petersfield. We welcomed new recruits Andrew and Jo Mitchell (pictured in their gleaming high-vis ready to go several days before) as well as Bernice and Dan Ost, fairly new villagers Stewart and Jenny Roberts, Mark and Serena Hammond, Jo Ringrose-Voase, Zanna and Philip Jarrett, Richard Sturgess, Tom Warner, Duncan Stewart, Jim Brooks-Hill, Tim Main, Hugh Morris, Tim and H Hiscox, Al and Melissa Lacey, Ingolv Urnes, David Jeffers and Peter Smith.

Clearly, there is always more to be done, but it makes a huge difference to our beautiful corner of the Meon Valley, and with any luck next year, with more volunteers, we can venture further afield.

Next up, Fireworkfest on Saturday 4th October...

*Jim Ulph*







# **The loss of the R101**

an illustrated lecture by  
**Kit Power**

**Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 6.00 for 6.30pm,  
Meon Hall, Meonstoke, SO32 3NP**

(In aid of Winchester and District Young Carers. Charity no 1155854)

Tickets £12.50 (includes a £10 donation to the charity and a drink) from:

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or send a cheque to: Lecture, Blackbee House, Warnford, SO32 3LE and ticket(s)  
will be posted (SAE appreciated)

A hundred years ago many people thought the future of long distance air travel lay not with aeroplanes but with airships – huge aircraft lifted by hydrogen. The British Government embarked on a very expensive programme to build airships which would link the furthest corners of the Empire. The first to be completed made a successful return maiden flight to Canada in 1930, but the second, the R101, attempted a similar flight to India a few weeks later and crashed with the loss of almost everyone on board.

Kit will describe the reasons for what has been called “a terrible, predictable and totally unnecessary catastrophe”. The loss of the R101 was a national disaster and dealt a severe blow to Britain’s prestige and respect for its technical ability. The incident put a stop to all airship development in Britain, but the airship would have had no place in World War II and perhaps the release of resources was fortuitous.



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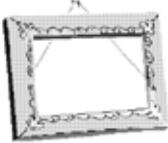
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## Music at Bramdean presents the Korros Ensemble

Saturday 26th April 6:30-7:30pm An enchanting evening of classical music performed by the Korros Ensemble (flute, clarinet and harp) at St Simon & St Jude Church, Bramdean

Join us for a delightful evening of music at St Simon & St Jude Parish Church, Bramdean

Tickets £20 adults, £5 children (including 20% donation to church roof fundraiser)

Described by Katie Derham, BBC Radio 3 as "Impish and Gorgeous", the Korros Ensemble - comprising the beautiful and unusual combination of flute, clarinet & harp - has been performing together since its formation in 2001 during the musicians' studies at the Royal Academy of Music.

Led by Woodlands resident Nick Ellis, the Ensemble will captivate you with a programme of music including works by Piazzolla, Bizet and Debussy.

Mark your calendars for an unforgettable evening filled with music and joy!



The Korros Ensemble are: Eliza Marshall - Flute, Nick Ellis - Clarinet and Camilla Pay - Harp. They have been performing together since its formation in 2001 during the musicians' studies at the Royal Academy of Music.

With a strong vision of introducing something new and original to the chamber music world, Korros continues to cleverly rework its favourite repertoire - creating an exciting and fresh way of listening to beloved orchestral, chamber and solo works. The group performs with dynamism and flair, and the sound world they produce is lush and mesmerising.

Collectively, Camilla, Nick and Eliza are highly experienced and in demand artists, having individually performed with all major UK orchestras, including Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Britten Sinfonia, Royal Opera House (on stage soloist), BBC Concert Orchestra and London Sinfonietta. They have also toured with Elton John, Peter Gabriel, Andrea Bocelli, Karl Jenkins, Bryn Terfel, and recorded with Paul McCartney, Stevie Wonder and Katherine Jenkins, and on numerous Hollywood blockbuster soundtracks for Hans Zimmer, Danny Elfman and Ennio Morricone. No strangers to Theatreland, The Korros musicians have appeared at the RSC, National Theatre, on all major West End Shows, and Eliza currently holds the flute chair for The Lion King at London's Lyceum Theatre.

For further information and booking see QR code.

*Simon Tarrant*



# **Spring Plant Sale**

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# Services in Upper Meon Benefice

## **Sunday 6th April**

8am Holy Communion - East Meon  
9am Benefice Mattins - Warnford  
10.30am Benefice Eucharist - East Meon

## **Palm Sunday 13th April**

8am Holy Communion - East Meon  
9.30am gather at Warnford to walk to:  
10.30am Benefice Eucharist with passion reading - West Meon  
10.30am gather at Langrish village green for:  
Liturgy of the Palms

## **Holy Week**

### **Monday 14th April**

9am Morning Prayer - Langrish  
6pm Compline - Warnford

### **Tuesday 15th April**

9am Morning Prayer - West Meon  
6pm Compline - Langrish

### **Wednesday 16th April**

9am Morning Prayer - East Meon  
6pm Compline - West Meon

### **Maundy Thursday 17th April**

6pm followed by 7pm vigil and 10.45pm Compline - East Meon

## **Easter Day Sunday 20th April**

8am Holy Communion - East Meon  
9am Benefice Holy Communion - Warnford  
10.30am Benefice Eucharist - Langrish  
10.30am Eucharist for Easter - West Meon

## **Sunday 27th April**

8am Holy Communion - East Meon  
10.30am Benefice Eucharist - Langrish  
10.30am Benefice Service of the Word  
followed at 11.45am by annual parochial church meeting - West Meon



# The Charming Chaffinch



*Chaffinch © Amy Lewis*

As the seasons shift, the countryside and gardens across Hampshire are alive with birds searching for food and a mate. Among them is one of the UK's most familiar and striking finches - the chaffinch. The chaffinch is one of the UK's most common birds, with an estimated population of over 6 million breeding pairs in summer.

Throughout winter, chaffinches gather in large flocks, often made up of birds that have migrated from Continental Europe, arriving from late October onwards. Those seen alone or in small groups within suburban gardens are more likely to be year-round residents.

As early spring approaches, these winter gatherings break apart as males establish territories and search for a mate. Males put on a lively courtship display, singing to attract a female while performing fluttering flights and spreading their tails to show off their vibrant plumage. Once paired, they remain monogamous for the season, the female will build a well-hidden nest using moss, grass, and spider silk.

The males are especially striking, with pinkish underparts, blue-grey caps, and rich chestnut backs. Females are more subtly coloured in shades of brown, giving them excellent camouflage. Male chaffinches learn their songs rather than being born with them, and different regions have distinct 'dialects.' Their song, a rapid, descending 'rain of notes', becomes more prominent as spring approaches.

The species' latin name, *Fringilla coelebs*, means 'bachelor finch'. This name was given by

the famous Swedish naturalist Carl Linnaeus, who noticed that male chaffinches in Scandinavia migrated south for the winter, while many females stayed behind.

Chaffinches can be seen in woodland and hedgerows, and prefer a mix of dense trees and open areas, perfect for searching for seeds. They often forage beneath trees using their strong beaks to crack open fallen seeds.

One of the best Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust nature reserves to see them at is Blashford Lakes Nature Reserve. With well-positioned hides and feeding stations, visitors have an excellent chance of spotting these birds up close.

While chaffinches are primarily seed-eaters in winter, they shift their diet in spring and summer, feeding on insects to nourish their young. If you'd like to encourage chaffinches into your garden, sunflower seeds and mixed seed blends are ideal, especially in winter when natural food sources are scarce. Although they will happily visit bird tables, they do not feed openly on feeders, preferring to hop about on the ground and under hedges instead.

Find out more information on the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust website: [hiwwt.org.uk/wildlife-explorer/birds/finches-and-buntings/chaffinch](http://hiwwt.org.uk/wildlife-explorer/birds/finches-and-buntings/chaffinch)

*Helen Skelton-Smith*

## Garden Club News

On 13th March we came together to listen to a talk on the Art & Skills of Wildlife Photography, given by the Hampshire nature photographer Mike Read.

Throughout the evening Mike gave us some good tips and tricks and showed us a wonderful array of images from the garden and from Hampshire and beyond, including gold finches in his garden, to coastal flowers, to bugs, butterflies and waders through to atmospheric misty mountain views. There was something for everyone to try themselves, depending on where you can access some wildlife.



Our next talk, "Bats: Superheroes of the Night", will be on Thursday 10th April at 7:30 for 7:45 pm in Warnford Village Hall. Our speaker will be Nik Knight, Chair of the Hampshire Bat Group and the Hampshire Bat Recorder. Nik will describe the amazing world of bats and the threats they face in Hampshire today. Bats need our help due to loss of habitat, loss of roost sites, light pollution and decline in nocturnal insects. Learn what you can do!

At the April meeting we will also be taking bookings for our Plant Sale & Supper which will be held at Warnford Village Hall on Thursday 8th May at 6:30pm for the Plant Sale, followed by Supper at 7:00 pm with catering provided by Becky from the Cuppacheeno Café.

*Edwin Grimshaw*

## West Meon CE Primary School

This half term has flown by and we appear to have reached our Easter break very quickly. That said, the amount of learning the children have done this term, at our school, is incredible. It has been argued that education encompasses the acquisition of knowledge, skills and the development of character, through formal and informal experiences. The wide and varied curriculum offered to children at West Meon Primary is designed to support the development of well-rounded individuals through formal and informal experiences. Reading is always a focus in primary education, and at West Meon we made the most of World Book Day by making it an event that lasted the week. Having fun while reading and enjoying books is at the centre of the National Curriculum's 'Reading for Pleasure' objective and our pupils were enthusiastic when they took a field trip to the local Petersfield Library. There the children took part in activities to improve their knowledge of the library and were able to sign up for library cards.

It will not be a surprise to hear that children and young people who enjoy reading have a significantly higher average reading score (Annual Literacy Survey 2024). What is more, the same survey shows a higher average score in children and young people who read daily. When we invited parents in during Book Week to read with their children, we had a great response which supported the love of sharing a good book. We are also blessed with a number of dedicated members of the West Meon village who regularly join us to listen to individual readers; our thanks to you all. Our 'Extreme Reading Challenge' was a great success and we had some super photos of children reading in most unusual places.



Our year 1 & 2 learners recently took a trip to Fort Nelson as part of their educational experience. They have been learning about significant people in history and have investigated Florence Nightingale's impact on the treatment of soldiers and her contribution to modern day nursing. The children had an amazing time, the activities they took part in were designed to engage the learners - especially the tour by Florence Nightingale herself!

With support from the Touchett Trust, we are able to encourage children at our school to learn musical instruments. We are endeavouring to put together a musical evening before the end of term, to share the enjoyment of music and singing and to give these young people a chance to perform. We also have an Annual Egg Rolling event on the last day of term which we are very much looking forward to.



If you have an interest, you may have already read our Ofsted report which states 'pupils are happy at this caring village school'. It cites our ambitious curriculum and our offer of 'a wide range of opportunities to develop pupils' talents and interests positively'. As part of their evaluation process, the inspectors judge the way the curriculum and the school's wider activities support pupils to be confident, resilient and independent, and to develop strength of character. This reflects our understanding of education and we are pleased to have been reported as Good in our determination to educate our young people.

*Julie Slamaker, Headteacher*



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# **West Meon Parish Council**

## **A reminder for the Parish Council Hub**

Drop-in, support your community and have your say.

Location: Cuppacheeno, The Village Shop, West Meon

Time: 9am-10am

Date: Saturday, 5th April 2025

It's a casual opportunity to ask questions and meet some of your Councillors. Whilst you're visiting the wonderful amenities of the village, please pop in for a chat.

## **A big thank you**

for Jim Ulph and the litter picking teams from West Meon & Warnford for helping to make our village look neat and tidy.

## **Annual Parish Meeting**

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Thursday, 24th April, at 7:00 pm, with drinks served on arrival, followed by the meeting at 7:30 pm. The event will be held at the Sports Pavilion.

## **April Parish Council Meeting**

Originally scheduled for 1st April, has been postponed by one week to allow for the completion of the financial year-end reconciliation. The meeting will now take place on 8th April.

## **West Meon Contacts**

### **West Meon Parish Council**

Bernice Gibson-Ost, Clerk to WMPC, [clerk@westmeon-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@westmeon-pc.gov.uk)

Hannah Davies, Chair WMPC

Virginia Burke, Vice Chair WMPC

Robin Gedye, WMPC

Graham Silk, WMPC

Tim Main, WMPC

Stephen Hickmore, WMPC

Sue Fowler, WMPC

Jacqueline Humphreys, WMPC

Parish website [www.westmeon-pc.gov.uk](http://www.westmeon-pc.gov.uk)



## Warnford Parish Meeting

Information relating to WPM can be found on its website which also has details of local facilities and services, village news and events. Please do sign up for 'Alerts' so you will be informed of forthcoming events, planning applications in the area etc.

WPM has an email distribution list so that emails can go to parishioners (eg. relating to Parish Meetings, details of planning applications etc.) If you would like to be added to the list, please email the Clerk.

The AGM will be on 15th May 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall with drinks beforehand. All parishioners welcome. Papers relating to the AGM will be posted on the Warnford website in advance.



## Warnford, Winchester City and Hampshire CC Contacts

### Warnford Parish Meeting

Chair: Vacancy, [warnfordchair@gmail.com](mailto:warnfordchair@gmail.com)

Lucy Hutchinson, Clerk,  
[warnfordclerk@gmail.com](mailto:warnfordclerk@gmail.com), 07717 296610

Parish website [www.warnfordparish.gov.uk](http://www.warnfordparish.gov.uk)

### Winchester City Councillors

Neil Bolton, [nbolton@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:nbolton@winchester.gov.uk),  
01962 771256

Jerry Pett, [jpett@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:jpett@winchester.gov.uk), 01489  
877633

### Hampshire County Councillor

Malcolm Wallace, [malcolm.wallace@hants.gov.uk](mailto:malcolm.wallace@hants.gov.uk), 07739 050224

### Member of Parliament for Winchester

Dr Danny Chambers, [danny.chambers.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:danny.chambers.mp@parliament.uk), 01962 868586

## Meon Valley Active Retirement Association (MVARA) Keep Fit

MVARA firmly believes that an active lifestyle is key to enjoying good health during retirement age. We aim to provide regular opportunities to get out and about and keep fit.

Offering opportunities for members to be physically active can be challenging, both because there is already a significant number of established local groups in existence and because members' enthusiasm and drive need always to be tempered by the activities being responsibly and safely managed. Consequently, MVARA offers: Tai Chi at three levels led by a very experienced, qualified instructor; Table Tennis, an activity noted for being a sport which involves no physical contact and no high impact movement which can damage joints, emphasising, as it does movement, stretching, hand-eye co-ordination and quick reflexes.

MVARA believes that proper, safe physical activity should be for the benefit of the participants and not for the benefit of physiotherapists who often have to come along and repair any damage done when groups are not well regulated.

Fitting firmly in with this is the very popular weekly Keep Fit Class, which is run expertly by Chee Price in St Peter's Church Hall on Monday mornings. The Group has been running for a number of years and is frequently so popular that it has to operate with a waiting list – membership being kept at an agreed level in order to ensure that there is appropriate instruction and supervision so that exercises are completed properly and safely.

Exercises involve:

- Strengthening – to help to maintain lean muscle mass, bone density and to improve mobility and heart health;

- Balance – to help to prevent falls, by improving, stability, co-ordination and posture - a basic component of all other physical activities;

- Stretching – to help to maintain muscle and tendon elasticity, thus keeping tissues supple and resilient, and reducing the risk of injury;

- Core Stability – to reinforce the benefits of the other activities: a strong core helps to maintain balance; prevent falls; improve posture; ease movement; reduce the likelihood of back pain;

- Paired Circuits – to finish off, with participants working together and supporting each other.

But, of course, the circuits are not really where the session 'finishes off'. The true finish is provided by tea, coffee and a chat and let us not underestimate the importance of this finish. Experts will talk about the importance of relaxation after exercise in order to: repair microscopic muscle damage; to replenish glycogen; to reduce fatigue. It does all those things, but probably more importantly it offers the opportunity to catch up and interact with friends and this brings together the physical and the mental aspects of a healthy active lifestyle.

*Roger Wingrove*



## West Meon Community Cinema April 2025

Our film this month on Friday 4th April is the thought provoking papal drama “Conclave”. You have the option of enjoying an Italian-themed meal prior to the screening.

Tickets £17 for film and supper – doors open at 6.45pm

£7 film only – screening at 7.45pm

Tickets available in the village shop (cash only)

On Friday 9th May we will be hosting a special evening to commemorate the

### 80th ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY

The ticket price includes a celebratory supper followed by a screening of the 2015 film “A Royal Night Out”, a romantic comedy- drama set on VE Day in 1945 when Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret are allowed out of the palace to join the celebrations. It is a night full of excitement, danger and the first flutters of romance. There is great period detail in the sets, costumes and make-up plus a soundtrack which also captures the times brilliantly.

Tickets £18, to include supper and film, will be on sale at Conclave and then in the village shop and on Ticketsource.

Doors open at 6.45pm with our normal bar in operation.

Dress for the occasion – prizes for the best dressed lady and gentleman.

*Rosemary Morrish*

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## WHY NOT JOIN US?

If you'd like to join the Meon Valley Lions Club, drop us a line via our website: Meon Valley Lions Club (CIO) - <https://www.meonvalleylionsclub.org.uk/index.html>

Feedback welcome. It's not all work, we have plenty of fun too, organised by our social committee.

If you'd like to help us run our minibus, you'll be able to transport local people to all sorts of events.

## DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

5.4.25 Wickham Charity Beer Festival

11.5.25 Bishops Waltham Charity Garden

Fair

7.6.25 Droxford Country Fair

14.6.25 Bishops Waltham Carnival

12.7.25 Swanmore Fete



# The Curtis Museum and Allen Gallery

OPENING TIMES Tuesday to Sunday Curtis 10am–4.30pm. Allen 10.30am–4pm.  
[www.hampshireculture.org.uk/curtis-museum](http://www.hampshireculture.org.uk/curtis-museum), [www.hampshireculture.org.uk/allen-gallery](http://www.hampshireculture.org.uk/allen-gallery)

## EXHIBITION

**Consuo Textile Art.** Consuo is a group of professional Textile artists, including previous exhibitors from our popular Echoes of Iceland shows - Jennifer Jones, Tara Kennedy, Annette Mills and Delia Salter. This group of exhibiting textile artists create 2D and 3D artworks using a variety of processes, techniques and materials, including fabric manipulation, dyeing, weaving, knitting, stitching, printing, basketry and mixed media. Taking their name from the Latin for 'to sew together', Consuo Textile Art comprises alumni from textile courses at the University for the Creative Arts, Farnham. Thursday 17th April - Sunday 25th May. FREE entry. Website link <https://www.consuoart.co.uk/>



Photo:

*Fire Within and Tapestries of Time by Consuo Textile Artist Elena Sparke*

## TALK

### Technical Aspects of the Dam Busters'

**Raid by Arthur Kearse.** Thursday 10th April 7.30 pm. This talk is sponsored by the Friends of the Curtis Museum and Allen Gallery, and entry is FREE. Donation welcome.

## WORKSHOPS

**Family Clay Workshop** Tuesday 8th April 11am. Our popular clay workshops give the whole family a chance to enjoy an hour of making, using air-dry clay. In this loosely-guided session, you will learn how to make a small pot or other creation, following a general theme. £6 per person. Book by email at [allen.gallery@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk](mailto:allen.gallery@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk). Easter Trails include an Easter Birds Egg Hunt and a new Dodo Natural History Hunt. 1st to 29th April.

## JANE AUSTEN 250

This year is the 250th Anniversary of her birth, and the Museum and Gallery will be joining other organisations in Alton - and Chawton - to celebrate. There will be Austen themed events in both venues between 20th May and 1st July. These will include a Regency Pastimes/Tea and Conversation afternoon, the latter hopefully in the Gallery garden, together with free Gallery tours. We will also have a stand in the Barn as part of Chawton House's JA250 Anniversary celebrations. (Last 2 weeks of May). Why not come and have a chat with the volunteers. Various suitably-themed trails will be available for children in the Museum and the Gallery. As usual, details of these and many other events will be available on our website.

*Jill Line*





**Wednesday 2nd**  
**- Saturday 5th April**  
**7.30pm Cheriton**

**Players** - Cheriton Village Hall, "The Hound of the Baskervilles".

**Monday 7th April Warnford Village Hall**  
**AGM 7pm** - Warnford Village Hall. The hall is held in trust for the benefit of Warnford and West Meon Parish, please come along and have your say.

**Thursday 10th April 7.30 for 7.45pm**  
**Garden Club** - Warnford Village Hall, "Bats: Superheroes of the Night" with Nik Knight.

**Thursday 10th to Saturday 12th April**  
**West Meon Youth Theatre** - West Meon Village Hall, "The Pied Piper".

**Saturday 26th April 6.30pm Korros**  
**Ensemble** - St Simon & St Jude Church, Bramdean

## Care Group Co-ordinator

Nina Byles 829028/07778 679922  
Virginia de Cosson 829362

## Parish Directory

**Rector:** Fr. Tony Forrest  
The Vicarage, Church Street, East Meon  
642 115 (usual working Sun to Wed)

**Vergar for West Meon:**

Michael Johnson 829 105

**PCC Secretary for West Meon:**

Louise Clay 829 235

**Churchwarden for Warnford:**

Andrew Sellick 07973 344 906

Stephen Short 829 261

**Vergar for Warnford:**

Peter Short 829 285



## Farmers' Markets

Petersfield - Sunday 6th  
Romsey - Sunday 6th  
Alton - Saturday 12th  
Winchester - Sunday 13th  
Emsworth - Saturday 19th

Alresford - Sunday 20th  
Southsea - Sunday 20th  
Ringwood - Saturday 26th  
Winchester - Sunday 27th

## Festival Dates

Hamble Spring Festival - Saturday 3rd May  
Alresford Watercress Festival - Sunday 18th May  
Emsworth Summer Festival - Saturday 21st June  
Southsea Food Festival - Saturday 5th July  
Hamble Harvest Festival - Saturday 4th October

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**The Editor:** Jacqueline Annabel  
Tel: (01730) 829023

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**Advertising:** Questions regarding  
advertising should be addressed to:

Helena Gomm

Tel: 07899 780830

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