
A LETTER FROM THE ARCHDEACON

A CORD OF THREE STRANDS?

The writer to Ecclesiastes has left us some pithy but profound wisdom. In Chapter four we read: “Two are better than one...If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no-one to help him up!” How true that is. He goes further: “Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not easily broken.” (Eccl 4:9ff)



Friendship he says brings increased return for one’s labours, support in times of difficulty, warmth, strength and freedom from a sense of isolation. And if that is true about friendships between people it is equally true of friendships between parishes.

Over a number of years it has been encouraging to see a developing sense of friendship between parishes in different parts of the diocese, which in some areas has led to the formation of clusters or groups. It is therefore not surprising, and indeed very encouraging, to see the way in which the existing friendship between the parishes of Shedfield, Swanmore and Wickham is being developed through the creation of a new united benefice and group ministry. This scheme is out for consultation at the moment, but the responses to date from the Deanery Synod, Pastoral Committee and PCCs involved are very positive. The plan is to create a new united benefice between St Nicholas Wickham and St John the Baptist Shedfield and then for these two parishes to join with St Barnabas Swanmore to create a new group ministry.

The first stage in implementing this is the appointment of Revd Liz Groves to the House for Duty post at Wickham and for Revd Shirley Henderson to be licensed as priest-in charge of both Wickham and Shedfield. Bishop Kenneth has written to say that he is absolutely delighted that Liz and Shirley have accepted his invitation to take up these new positions and that he is looking forward to the formation of the new group ministry. This will include the induction of Shirley as rector of Wickham and vicar of Shedfield and Revd Peter Kelly as vicar of Swanmore (currently he is priest- in-charge). The Bishop writes “I have no doubt that there will be some big jamboree, later on, and I will do my best to make it if I possibly can.”

These new pastoral arrangements are both challenging and exciting. They open up new possibilities for mission and new ways to develop existing friendship. Clearly there is much to pray about and celebrate together. The licensing of Liz and Shirley will be on May 8th at St Nicholas Wickham. Do book that date now and once the paperwork is in place we should have a “jamboree” to look forward to as well.

“A cord of three strands is not easily broken”

Venerable Peter Hancock
Archdeacon of the Meon

Wickham
 **usic**
 **eeek**

An English Season

19th April to 23rd April 2006

Church of St Nicholas, Wickham

Concerts at 7:30pm

Wednesday 19th Across Europe to England

Rob Marson: Songs from Russia and Germany meet English folk song settings.

Thursday 20th Southern Eclectic

Five voices and piano with a programme of opera, show, religious and part songs.

Friday 21st String Recital

A showcase for musicians, some from the Hampshire Youth Orchestra, playing violin, viola, flute and piano, to include the Bach Double Violin Concerto.

Saturday 22nd Wessex Brass Quintet

English Sounds: Chamber music for brass, featuring the St Nicholas' church organ.

Sunday 23rd Clarinet & Piano

David King and Pat Caruana: St George's Day music for clarinet and piano.

For more information visit: www.stnicholaswickham.org.uk

Ticket prices

Prices include a glass of wine (or soft drink) for the interval:

Season ticket for all 5 concerts £25

Individual concerts £6.50

Please send requests for tickets and cheques made payable to 'PCC Wickham' to:

The Parish Administrator, 3 Cases Bakery Close, Wickham, PO17 5QH.

Please enclose an SAE if you would like the tickets posted to you.

Tickets are also available from:

- Sue Wassall Opticians, Wickham Square
- Hayes Music, Chesapeake Mill, Wickham
- Churchwarden: 01329 834335

With financial support from the Winchester City Council Community Chest Fund and Southern Co-operatives Ltd

PARK PLACE PERSPECTIVES



The Friends of Park Place
The Life of Christ
An Open Air Play at Wintershall.

The Friends are organising a visit, on Thursday 29th June 2006, to see this outstanding and moving play, now in its sixth season. The play's action moves between three separate parts of the grounds of the Wintershall Estate, near Guildford, starting at 10.15am, with the Annunciation, and ending at 4.00pm, on the road to Emmaus.

A coach will leave Park Place at 8.45am returning by about 6.30pm. The total cost (entrance and coach) is £25.00 per person. Our last visit was very popular so please book early. Places are limited to 40. Take your own seating, lunch, stout shoes and raincoat - it has never rained before! To book please return the slip below to Derek Black, Park Place Pastoral Centre, Wickham, Fareham, Hants. PO17 5HA.

< _____

Please reserve _____ places for the 'Life of Christ' on the 29th of June at £25 each. I enclose a cheque, for £ _____, made payable to 'The Friends of Park Place Pilgrimage Account'.

Name(s) _____ Phone no. _____

Address _____

_____ Post Code _____



News from Park Place

Among the many fond memories brought back from Assisi by those who went on the Friends' pilgrimages in 1999 or 2003, was the visit made on each occasion to the Carceri - a little Friary tucked away in the fold of a ravine on the hillside above the town. It is just about within walking distance, but is uphill all the way, so is more popularly arrived at by taxi from the town. The Friary buildings and Chapel are little gems in their own right, but the particularly memorable feature is the walk along a rough footpath through the trees on the far side of the ravine that ends in an area with a simple altar and rough-hewn seating for contemplation amid the simple beauty of nature.

The memory of this place has prompted the idea that the Friends of Park Place could replicate its simple beauty by making a similar path through the trees and bushes along the south side of the space in front of the house. A working party has been set up, and some clearance has already been carried out by some dedicated and hardy Friends, who have braved the extremely cold weather of these past few Sunday mornings. It will take

some years to come to fruition, but the intention is that it will eventually become a haven for wild flowers and birds of all kinds, and a restful contemplative area for everyone who chooses to walk through it.

As it takes shape, further ideas to enhance the area will be put forward so that suitable plants and shrubs are in flower throughout the year, to ensure that it is attractive in every season. A more detailed report on the concept and on progress and future plans will be written and submitted shortly.

David Smith

FROM THE METHODIST MINISTER

Our culture seems obsessed with youth. In the 1970's the protest singer Joan Baez popularised the Dylan song 'Forever young'. We have been trying to emulate the sentiment ever since. The author Robert Bly labelled our culture as The Sibling Society, a society where people are not encouraged to graduate to maturity, but rather to stay as immature adolescents throughout their lives. From plastic surgery, to botox injections to the youth obsessed media, examples of an immature culture abound. Exemplified perhaps by the ageing rock stars of the 60's who still strut there stuff on stage as if they were just out of their teens. The aspiration to be 'forever young' is a prominent feature of our times.

I wouldn't want to suggest that our preoccupation with youth is entirely bad. There is much to be said for trying to retain our youthfulness. On the other hand, there are some serious side effects of not graduating to maturity, including a failure to take responsibility, a reluctance to consider profound issues and shallowness in relationships. There are good reasons to think that the cult of youth is not a particularly healthy development. In spiritual terms this is especially the case. While the New Testament rejoices in the idea that believers are children of God, it constantly encourages them to grow up and to become mature in faith. In 1 Corinthians 14 for example, Paul tells his readers to stop behaving like children and start thinking like adults. Then again, in Ephesians 4 the author argues that the whole point of God's work is that believers 'will in all things grow up'. There is not the slightest hint that we are meant to live the Christian life as first we discovered it. From being children in the faith the constant refrain is grow and mature.

Growing up into adulthood can be challenging and difficult whether we are thinking of it in general or in spiritual terms. The season of Lent that occupies most of March this year is at least meant to help us with the latter. It offers us a special space to reflect and to do. So let's make the most of the opportunity. Do something spiritually significant this Lent and grow in faith.

Stephen Wright

KNOWLE VILLAGE CHURCH

EASTER SERVICES

Palm Sunday 9th April at 10am
Maundy Thursday 13th April at 7.30pm
Communion Service
Good Friday 14th April at 9.30am
Fareham Churches Together Walk of Witness
9.30am at Fareham Leisure Centre
to Fareham Shopping Centre
Easter Sunday 16th April at 10am Family Service
All church services are held in the community centre at Knowle Village.

Everybody is welcome.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Rev Mike Pye on 01329 280380.

Thank you

Deborah Casper

THE MOTHERS' UNION



The speaker at our March meeting was Mrs Beryl Stevenson who spoke on her memories of being a magistrate. After a brief explanatory history of how magistrates came into being, we learnt how they operate, and what are their responsibilities. This was illustrated with examples of cases that Mrs Stevenson had met during her considerable term of office and gave us a most interesting afternoon.

The branch agreed to give the proceeds of our fund raising lunch towards the work of the Mothers' Union Overseas. These funds are particularly low at the moment due to the needs arising from various recent disasters around the world. By giving to this, we can be confident that the money will be used wisely, as it is administered by our own members. A large proportion of the overseas money is used for the salaries of Mothers' Union workers.

The day following our meeting some members were privileged to attend the monthly mid-day

Holy Communion in the cathedral which is organised on behalf of the Mothers' Union by each deanery in turn. Incidentally the display of crocuses outside the cathedral was quite breathtaking and worth a visit on its own. Apart from a huge mass of orange crocuses there were various designs picked out in mauve and white flowers.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday April 11th at 2, Coldharbour Close. The speaker will be Sheila Hindmarsh on 'A special marriage in India'.

Margaret Edgworth

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

13TH ~ 21ST MAY 2006

something for YOU to do!

Have YOU booked the date of the **Deanery Christian Aid walk**? If not, don't delay, DO IT TODAY



**SUNDAY 14th.MAY 2.00pm from
BOTLEY Church.**

The ten-mile circular walk will explore the countryside between Durley Mill and the River Hamble; but there will be a shorter walk of about 4 miles for those who are unable to do the full distance.

Last year over 100 walkers took part in the enjoyable walk from Soberton, but sadly the money raised was down by £1,500; undoubtedly the Tsunami had its washback here too! So please do your bit to get back at least to our normal £5,000.

If 100 walkers could raise £60 each, we could break that elusive £6,000 mark:

**SO HELP US TO BE RECORD BREAKERS
FOR THE WORLD'S POOR AND NEEDY**

Sponsor forms and posters will be delivered to each Church before Easter. We hope to see you on Sunday 14th May with FULL sponsor forms!

Hugh Spendlove

Seeking 'Beverley Babes'

(those born at Beverley, Wickham during the war)

for St. Nicholas Church and Village Fete
on
Saturday 10th June 2006

Please contact
Karen Lipscombe 01329 834126

Bishop's Waltham Deanery

**Calling children who are between five
and eleven years**

Join us at The Study Centre, Shedfield
On Saturday 13th May 2006
at 9.30am until 1pm



for

Kre_8



music and drama workshop

MARDI GRAS

Whilst visiting my sister and brother-in-law, Pat and Neale Fray, I had the pleasure to be invited to the Mardi Gras evening which was held in the Church Room on Saturday 25th February. It was such a fun evening with the tables beautifully decorated and a real sense of community spirit.



Once we were all settled, the evening started with a competition for the best mask, this was won by a fantastic handmade Fox mask, judging must have been difficult as there were so many great masks! Next some lovely



ladies dished out a feast of sausages, jacket potatoes and beans followed by delicious pancakes expertly made and tossed by Mark. This was followed with a quiz hosted by Eric which was a lot harder than the weekly quiz I do in Grantham, but far more fun!!! and we even managed to come a joint second. A raffle was held for an assortment of prizes and I think everyone had a splendid time.

Thank you to all the ladies and men whose hard work made this a most memorable evening for me and, I hope, everyone else. It is so nice to see local community spirit is still alive and thriving.

Kathy McNally, Grantham, Lincs

VILLAGE NEWS

WICKHAM FIRE STATION



HAMPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Since our last update, we've had two Road Traffic Collisions, one on the Botley Road in the rush hour which caused some chaos but luckily no-one was hurt; two Automatic Fire Alarms – one in Fareham, whilst their Fire Engines were on another call. We also attended a very severe thatch fire in Corhampton. This resulted in ten Fire Engines being called to the scene and saw one of our newly qualified Breathing Apparatus (BA) wearers, Cliff, wearing BA for the first time. Along with one of our more senior Firefighters, Mark Hilton, he played a very important part in this incident, trying to extinguish the fire and salvage as many belongings as he could. We were also called to a fire in the Co-Op which, thankfully turned out to be nothing more than leaking refrigeration gas, so we've been a little busier than last month!!

Finally, our new Fire Engine has arrived!! A very nice machine it is too, and, a Fire Engine that will serve us well for many years. It has some new and different equipment on it which, I am sure, will all prove very useful in time.

So, until the next time, remember, in the event of a fire

Get Out! Get the Fire Brigade Out! Stay Out!

Nigel Blackman

THE GOOD NEWS TRAVELLING LIBRARY

The next visit of the GNTL is
at the Paterson Centre,
Church Road, Swanmore,
on 11th April 2006
at 10.30 am ~ 12.15 pm

There are books, CDs, videos and audio cassettes, to borrow and greetings cards and notelets to buy at very reasonable prices.

Everyone is welcome - refreshments served.

MEON VALLEY POLICE STATION



UPDATE FROM MEON VALLEY POLICE STATION

CRIME PREVENTION ADVICE

You may be aware that there have been some burglaries occurring in the Meon Valley area recently so can we remind you to keep your property secure. Please think about the security of your home even when you are in it. Keep doors and windows locked in rooms you are not in. If your house is large are there some internal doors that can be locked to prevent access to other parts of the house? Keep your valuables in a secure place where they are not easily accessed if your home is entered. Remember to secure your sheds and do not leave tools or garden implements lying around as they could be used to gain access to your property.

Please be aware too that saddlestones and coping stones are being taken from properties around the Meon Valley.

CHANGES TO LOCAL POLICING

Further decisions have now been made regarding the organisation of the Winchester Rural area:

- Your neighbourhood police officers as from 1st April will continue to be PC Geri Blunden and he will be joined by PC Ian Freeth. They will cover the Wickham and Whiteley areas.
- Sergeant Chris Stanton will continue to be the Neighbourhood Police Sergeant responsible for the southern part of the Meon Valley area.

Inspector Moore will be based at Meon Valley Police Station and will be responsible for policing of the areas covered by Meon Valley, Alresford and Twyford police stations.

Inspector Shaun Moore

AGE CONCERN HAMPSHIRE

MEON VALLEY DAY CARE CENTRE

OPEN DAY

On Tuesday 16 May

Meon Valley Day Care Centre will be holding an Open Day

in the Portal Room, Swanmore Village Hall.

Visitors welcome from 10.30 - 12.30 and 1.30 - 2.45.

Refreshments served.

Solent Fuchsia Club

April 4th Brian Kidd
Patio and container growing

May 2nd Sid Garcia
from Windsor Fuchsias
My way of showing fuchsias

at

Fareham United Reform Church,
Lower Osborn Road, Fareham

Doors Open 7pm

Meeting Starts 7.30pm

Non-members 50p Admission
All Welcome

**BRITISH CACTUS &
SUCCULENT SOCIETY
PORTSMOUTH & DISTRICT
BRANCH**

**SUMMER CACTUS SHOW –
SATURDAY 27TH MAY**

Open 11am – 4 pm

WICKHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

Admission 50p (OAPs/Children – 25p)

Plant Sales

Refreshments

**Bishops Waltham Deanery
Youth**

B.O.T.B. Present...

Fame4Famine

**Featuring live bands and
solo performances**

Bishops Waltham Jubilee Hall

April 29th 2006

Doors 7pm

Tickets £3

www.fame4famine.co.uk

GREYSTONES GIFTS & CRAFTS

for

Handmade & Unusual Gifts

at

Greystones, Titchfield Lane,
Wickham

Tel: 01329 836646

Open: Sat. & Sun. 8th & 9th April
Sat. & Sun. 15th & 16th April

From 09.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

CUSHIONS	WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHS
THROWS	STAINED GLASS
WOVEN RUGS	MOHAIR GARMENTS
CAKES & PRESERVES	JEWELLERY & HANDBAGS
WOVEN HANGINGS	GIFTS & CARDS
MOHAIR PRODUCTS	& MUCH MORE

On the road between Titchfield and Wickham
– not far from the Ostrich Farm –
look for the signs

LESS FOR THE YOUNG

Fort Widley on Portsdown hill is the home to an Equestrian centre, founded by Peter Ashley, particularly aimed at disabled and young people. Young able-bodied people volunteer their time to assist staff at the riding school in exchange for their own lesson. The fort contains a host of equipment to cater for people with a wide range of special needs and the staff are very open-minded. What an asset for our area.



The centre is now threatened with closure due to the Lib-Dem council who have withdrawn the annual grant that allows this unique facility to subsidise riding lessons for everyone. This allows hard pushed parents to give kids and disabled people the chance to enjoy this wonderful hobby.

The grant, £32,200 does not seem vast but it makes a big difference when the budget is already stretched to the max. I feel councils should be giving more to invest in such deserving, educational and confidence building activities.



A petition has been raised to lobby Portsmouth City councillors. Thank you to all who have signed. This will be presented at the Guildhall offices on Mon 20th March 4pm, hopefully with media support. If you are able to attend with the staff and riders they would be more than happy to see you there.

Speaking as Dad of two boys (one has special needs) who have been riding regularly for the past two years I have seen the invaluable work and team building amongst young groups first hand. I feel there is no alternative to this great place within an historic monument that they also upkeep.

Fort Widley Equestrian Centre can offer indoor and outdoor group or private lessons, summer walk-outs, lunging etc. If this interests you please contact them on 02392 324553. Please support this truly unique venture.

Nigel Franklin

socatots

SOCATOTS® LAUNCH DAY!

Welcome to **SOCATOTS®**, the world's first soccer specific play-scheme for pre-school children. **SOCATOTS®** provides classes for boys and girls of any age below five! We offer a positive, fun introduction to soccer and education. Our popular classes offer physical and educational development through soccer, as well as developing key areas such as balance, numeracy, literacy, agility, social skills and confidence!!

We are launching **SOCATOTS®** at Swanmore Community College and we would love you to come to our **SOCATOTS® LAUNCH DAY on April 8th, from 11:00 - 14:00.**

You will get a chance to meet the team of Socatots instructors, see a Socatots session take place, find out how Socatots plans to progress in the area and the opportunity to have your photo taken with **SOCATOT the MASCOT!**



So come on Mums, Dads, Guardians, Grans, Nans, Grandad, Aunt Sarah and Uncle Steve - come and see how **SOCATOTS®** can give your child a head start in life!

For more information call Chris or Zoe on 01483 416002!

THE BOWEN TECHNIQUE

The Bowen Technique is a system of bodyworking, primarily used as a remedial therapy, but also used more and more as a preventative to injury and strain especially amongst sports men and women. Bowen Therapy can be used to treat all manner of conditions including back pain, frozen shoulder, migraine, sports injuries, RSI, asthma, sciatica, chronic fatigue syndrome, MS...the list is endless!

The Technique was developed by Mr Tom Bowen, a labourer in Geelong, Australia in 1915. Mr Bowen discovered that by making small moves over precise points he could help his work colleagues with their ailments and muscular problems. Tom Bowen began treating people from his home, but before long, word had spread and he was soon treating up to 13000 people per year. Amongst Tom Bowen's clients were greyhounds and racehorses. The Technique was brought to the UK in the 1990s by Mr Julian Baker, the founder of the European College of Bowen Studies.

I have lived in the Wickham area and my horses have been stabled there for 20 years now. In November 2003 I began my training through the ECBS to enable me to treat both people and horses with the Bowen Technique. I qualified to practise on people in August 2004 and for the equine side in February 2005. In March 2005 I set up my company, Meon Valley Bowen, with the aim of making the Bowen Technique available to people and horses in and around the Meon Valley area.

Since qualifying I have treated a wide range of people from teenagers to pensioners, all with different presenting problems or conditions including asthma, back problems, sports injuries, migraine, frozen shoulder, MS, arthritis and more. It should be noted though that Bowen is an holistic therapy which treats the body as a whole without reference to any specific condition.



I have also had access to some wonderful horses from 'happy hackers' to dressage horses to eventers, all of which have responded really well to the treatments they have been given. The training for Equine Bowen Therapy is very rigorous and has a totally holistic approach, therefore a thorough knowledge of saddling issues, shoeing and foot balance, nutrition and rider imbalance is essential along with detailed anatomical analysis of the horse in question to ascertain where the problem or strain

is originating from and why. Issues I have covered whilst treating horses include sore backs, cold backs, muscle atrophy, pelvic imbalances, napping, bucking, biting, and one particular case where I treated a horse with a serious wire injury to his leg. This horse was not given much chance of survival after intensive veterinary treatment. However, after receiving Bowen therapy, he went on to make a full recovery and is now happily hacking out again.

Being based in Wickham means that I have easy access both north to the Meon Valley and south toward Fareham and Portsmouth. Wickham community centre also regularly hosts 'Health and Pamper' days, events which I have attended and through these I have met lots of fellow therapists and also members of the public who can and have benefited from receiving Bowen therapy. It is also an area with a high population of equines, many of whom benefit from regular sessions of Bowen therapy to keep them fit and well.

Rachel Evans

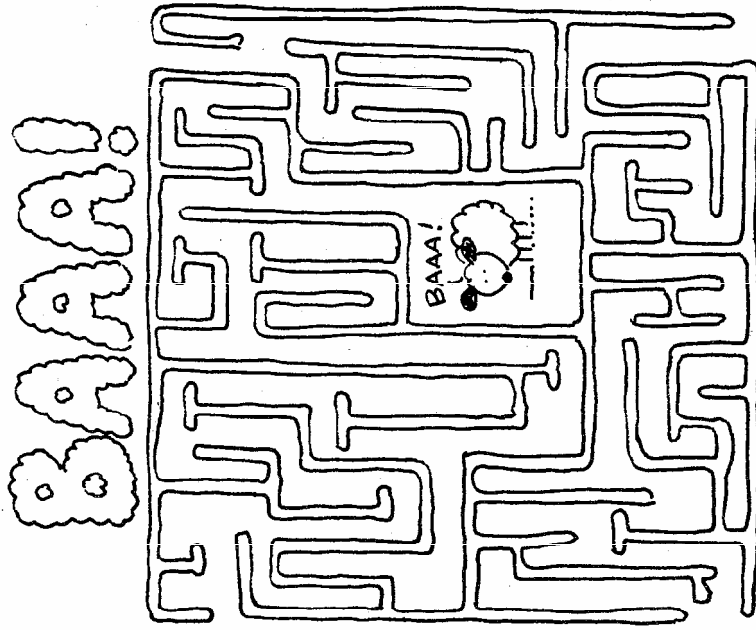
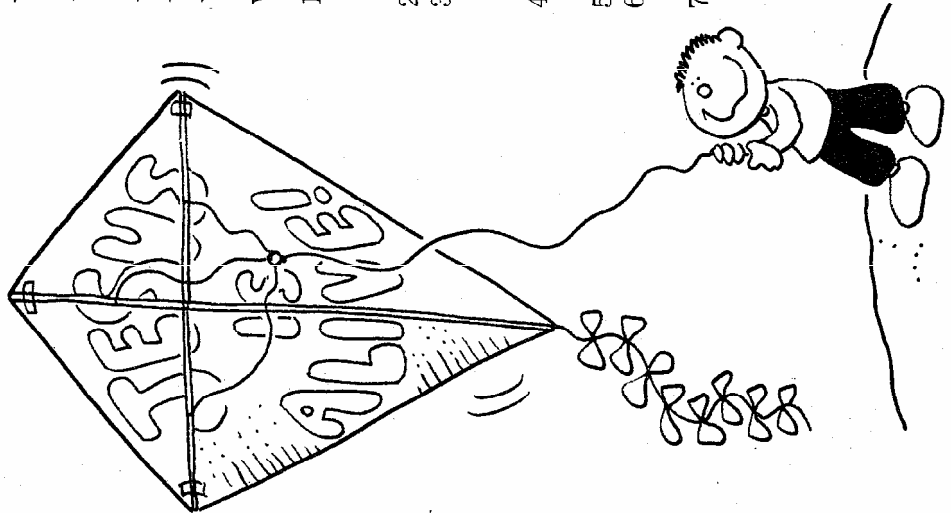
CROSSWORD, ETC

Make an EASTER KITE

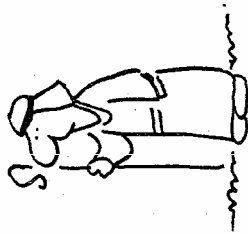
- You will need:**
- ★ polythene (cut from a carrier bag)
 - ★ 2 thin garden canes
 - ★ one curtain ring
 - ★ thin string

What to do:

1. Make sure you cut the kite EXACTLY the same shape each side of the centre.
2. Fix canes with tape.
3. Tie a piece of string to the cross piece, threading it through the ring.
4. Tie a short string from the upright cane to the ring.
5. Tie the kite string to ring.
6. Cut tail pieces from polythene and tie on.
7. Decorate and fly proudly!



HELP THE SHEPHERD FIND HIS LOST SHEEP?



Read
Matthew 18:10-14
or Luke 15:3-7

WORD SEARCH

'Boys' names from the Bible'

- | | |
|----------|---------|
| ADAM | MARK |
| ANDREW | MATTHEW |
| BENJAMIN | PAUL |
| DANIEL | PETER |
| DAVID | PHILIP |
| JAMES | SIMON |
| JASON | STEPHEN |
| JOHN | THOMAS |
| JONATHAN | TIMOTHY |

A	J	B	C	N	E	H	P	E	T	S	T
D	A	B	P	E	H	L	I	H	P	H	O
F	M	G	E	H	L	E	I	N	A	D	O
J	E	A	T	N	K	L	M	N	O	K	M
W	S	D	E	R	J	Q	N	R	S	A	A
E	T	A	R	U	V	A	W	A	X	Y	S
H	L	M	J	O	H	N	M	Z	S	A	B
T	C	U	D	T	E	F	D	I	V	A	D
T	G	H	A	J	K	L	M	N	N	O	O
A	P	N	Q	P	R	O	N	O	S	A	J
M	O	S	T	A	N	D	R	E	W	U	V
J	W	X	Y	B	Y	H	T	O	M	I	T

WICKHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

The children in the Reception class have been talking about and drawing pictures of their Mummies. Here are some of their ideas and drawings.



“My Mummy tucks me in at night time and gives me a goodnight kiss”.

“It makes me happy when my Mummy tells me that she loves me”.

“On Mothering Sunday my Mummy can have a rest”.

“My Mummy is special because she cooks me lots of lovely food”.

“I like it when my Mummy reads books to me”.

“I love it when my Mummy plays with me”.

Mrs Finch, Class Teacher



POEM

MICKEY MOUSE'S PSYCHOLOGICAL ADVICE TO NEWLY WEDS

Laugh together, especially in bed
Have fun! Remember, you're a long time dead!

Becoming one flesh leaves no space between.
Leave room and love becomes an evergreen.

Do some things together: some things apart.
That way you will always stay in good heart.

"Love is a spirit free as any bird."
Old Chaucer never spoke a truer word!

Cage love: and it flies straight through bars. Beware!
Too much possessiveness can be a snare.

Keep talking. Don't hide your deep desires.
Bring them into light: fan them into fires.

Banish fear. It's a bully and a lout.
For what you fear will often come about.

Debt's a real pain. Money enough is fine.
Sort it! And what's yours isn't always mine.

Playing games is just not worth the candle.
It simply makes you too hot to handle.

Too much sacrifice makes the heart a stone,
Breeds resentment. May make you start to moan.

Mothers-in-law, more often boon than bane
Can be such treasures, should not be a pain.

Don't nag. Instead make a no strings request.
You are likely to find that works out best.

Don't pick holes. Don't try to change each other.
You won't win, so it's not worth the bother.

But some adjustments do have to be made
To ensure love endures and does not fade.

The piste of true love never did run smooth
Ski over lumps and bumps and love will soothe.

Children and marriage are such damned hard work,
But can be worth the effort not to shirk.

Between you both a rainbow arch will span,
Where children play and thrive and say, "I can!"

Let the kiln of love become just so hot
That cooling leaves behind the lasting pot.

Laugh together, especially in bed.
Have fun! Remember you're a long time dead!

Tony Johnson

APRIL 2006 DIARY

APRIL

Sun	2	THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT	Jeremiah 31: 31-34 Hebrews 5: 5-10 John 12: 20-33
		08:00 Holy Communion: Canon Brian Phillips	
		09:45 Family Communion to include Holy Baptism of Leah Nash: Rev Dr Maureen Capel-Edwards	
		16:00-17:30 Lent Course, Church Room	
		18:00 Choral Evensong: Lady Chapel	
Mon	3	19:30 Circle Dancing, Church Room	
Tues	4	09:30 Poppins Play Group, Church Room	
		12:30 Health Visiting Team, Church Room	
		19:30 Wickham History Society, Church Room	
		19:30 Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre	
Wed	5	12:00 Lunch Club, Church Room	
Thur	6	09:30 Poppins Play Group, Church Room	
Fri	7	12:30 Last Lent Lunch, Church Room	
		19:30 Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre	
Sun	9	PALM SUNDAY	Isaiah 50: 4-9a Phillipians 2: 5-11 Mark 11: 1-11
		08:00 Holy Communion: Rev Harvey Griffiths	
		09:45 Parish Communion : Rev Canon Norman Chatfield	
Mon	10	19:30 Circle Dancing, Church Room	
Tue	11	09:30 Poppins Play Group, Church Room	
		12:30 Health Visiting Team, Church Room	
		14:15 Mothers' Union Meeting at 2 Coldharbour Close	
		19:30 Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre	
Wed	12	12:00 Lunch Club, Church Room	
		19:45 Wickham Wives, Church Room	
Thur	13	09:30 Poppins Play Group, Church Room	
		MAUNDY THURSDAY	
		18:00 Choral Eucharist of the Last Supper	
Fri	14	GOOD FRIDAY	
		10:00 Service of the Cross, The Square: Rev: Peter Kelly	
		14:00 Good Friday Vigil, St John the Baptist, Shedfield	
		19:30 Fuchsia Society, Church Room	
		19:30 Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre	
Sun	16	EASTER DAY	Isaiah 25: 6-9 Acts 10: 34-43 Mark 16: 1-8
		08:00 Holy Communion: Canon Brian Phillips	
		10:00 Parish Communion for all the family. Rev Dr Maureen Capel-Edwards	
Tue	18	09:30 Poppins Play Group, Church Room	
		12:30 Health Visiting Team, Church Room	
		19:30 Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre	
Wed	19	12:00 Lunch Club, Church Room	
		19:30 Model Engineers Society, Church Room	
		WICKHAM MUSIC WEEK BEGINS in the Church with	
		19:30 Songs from Russia and Germany meet English Folk Song Settings	
		Rob Marson	
Thur	20	09:30 Poppins Play Group, Church Room	
		19:30 Southern Eclectic: 5 voices & piano in a programme of opera, show, religious and part songs	
Fri	21	19:30 String Recital: Musicians from Hampshire Youth Orchestra playing	
		Violin, Viola, flute and piano	
		19:30 Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre	
Sat	22	LAST DAY FOR COPY FOR MAY MAGAZINE	

**19:30 Wessex Brass Quintet: Chamber Music for Brass featuring
St Nicholas Church Organ**

Sun 23	THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	Acts 4: 32-35
	08:00 Holy Communion: Rev Shirley Henderson	1 John 1: 1-2.2
	09:45 Parish Communion: Rev David Howes	John 20: 19-end
	Followed by Annual Parish Church Meeting	

WICKHAM MUSIC WEEK

**19:30 Clarinet and Piano: David King and Pat Caruana playing
St George's Day Music**

Mon 24	19:30	Circle Dancing, Church Room
Tue 25	09:30	Poppins Play Group, Church Room
	12:30	Health Visiting Team, Church Room
	19:30	Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre
Thur 27	09:30	Poppins Play Group, Church Room
	19:30	Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre
Sat 29	14:00	Dystonia Society, Church Room

Sun 30	THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	Acts 3: 12-19
	08:00 Holy Communion: Rev Peter Kelly	1 John 3: 1-7
	09:45 Choral Matins	Luke 24: 36b-48

MAY

Mon 1	19:30	Circle Dancing, Church Room
Tue 2	09:30	Poppins Play Group, Church Room
	12:30	Health Visiting Team, Church Room
	19:30	Wickham History Society A.G.M., Church Room
Wed 3	12:00	Lunch Club, Church Room
Thur 4	09:30	Poppins Play Group, Church Room
Fri 5	14:00	Magazine Distributors' Meeting, Church Room
	19:30	Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre

Sun 7	THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Acts 4: 5-12
	08:00 Holy Communion: Canon Brian Phillips	1 John 3: 16-end
	09:45 Family Communion, Rev Dr Maureen Capel-Edwards	John 10: 11-18
	18:00 Choral Evensong	

***LAST DAY FOR COPY MAY MAGAZINE
SATURDAY 22ND APRIL***

Holy Baptism

Zachary Brotherton 19/03/2006

10th Wedding Anniversary Blessing

Samantha & Morny Anderson 18/03/2006

Rest in Peace

Robert Gordon 89 years 27/01/2006

David Miles 80 years 28/02/2006

Reginald Samways 03/03/2006

Betty Bultitude 82 years 28/03/2006

Letters to:

Neale Fray, 22 Manor Close, Wickham,
Fareham, Hampshire, PO17 5BZ
Telephone 01329 832751
E-mail: neale@fray.me.uk

Letters may be submitted by e-mail, but please include a postal address. If you do not want your email address published, please say so. Letters may be edited for reasons of space.

ASHLEY MANOR NURSING HOME

When Trevor Streten contacted me some weeks ago about advertising in the magazine, he also invited me to visit Ashley Manor to see the recently opened new wing. I enjoyed my visit and was very impressed with everything Trevor showed me.



Trevor Streten and his brother Andrew, who originate from Sri Lanka, came to this country twenty five years ago and have jointly owned the Nursing Home for the past two and a half years. The home operates under the management of their Manager/Matron, Ros Heath RN, who has been there for eight years, and has over 20 years experience in health care. The Deputy Manager, Keren Murphy has been there for 5 years; both ladies have good health care and management qualifications.

With the new extension the home has gone from 30 to 45 beds. These are mainly in single rooms and a few doubles, all of course are en suite. All rooms are spacious, well decorated and attractively furnished. I was very impressed with the facilities of the home and saw their main lounge, a pleasantly spacious room, various bedrooms, bathrooms with very modern baths for easy access for the elderly, the kitchen (spotless of course), the laundry (very busy), the hairdressing salon, a new conservatory which will give residents easy access to the gardens in the summer.

Ros Heath and her staff of around 40, nursing, caring and domestic staff, were all extremely friendly, two I spoke to had been at the home for fourteen and fifteen years respectively, which indicates it must be a happy environment in which to work and with this goes the loyalty of their staff.

Trevor assured me his main aim was to provide a home from home environment and the residents' comfort and happiness is paramount. They are given the opportunity to exercise their choice in relation



to Food, Routine of Daily Living, Personal & Social Relationships and Religious Observance. All meals are freshly cooked on the premises, with special diets catered for, liquidised meals are provided when required and are attractive in terms of texture, flavour and appearance. The home provides regular entertainment and residents can have visitors at anytime.

Ashley Manor is situated just outside Wickham on the Winchester Road in the parish of Shedfield.

Sue Leatham

CURDRIDGE AMATEUR DRAMA GROUP

By the time you are reading this edition of the magazine, our spring production will just have closed. To rave reviews we hope!

We have had a wonderful year with some new faces and great plays, but it only works because of our enthusiastic and loyal audience. Thank you all.

Already, a play for November will be chosen and the process beginning again, but in the meantime, we will be holding our Annual General Meeting on Monday 8th May. This is an occasion when we review the past year's performances and think about the future, followed by a sociable get together. This is an ideal time for new members, and anyone interested in becoming a member, to come along and meet everyone, relaxing with some wine and nibbles, without the frenetic pressures of rehearsal nights.

Remember, it's not just about acting, it's about set designing and building, publicity, lighting, props, costume, make-up, front of house, ticket sales etc. etc., the list goes on. It's great fun and if you are interested in joining, please call Chris Pond on 01489 895844. Or come along to the AGM at 8pm in the Reading Rooms, Curdridge on May 8th.

Glenda Willis

WICKHAM ORGANISATIONS

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION (WICKHAM)



Yes!! Your branch needs new members. As of last year you do not have to be ex-services to be a full member as long as you believe in the aims of the Legion. There must be many people who live in Wickham and have served in the armed forces – male and female.

As a branch we find ourselves in a difficult situation. With a declining membership we are now short of some branch officers namely a secretary and treasurer. We have been given a few months grace to fill these posts. If we cannot the branch will close and probably amalgamate with another branch. I feel this will be a shame for Wickham when you see from our records what a large number of members we had in past times. You only have to look at photographs of the 1948 remembrance parade to appreciate this fact.

If any one would like information on the Royal British Legion, or enquiries about membership, they can contact me at 30 Wykeham Field or 'phone me on 01329 833927.



Eric Bright, Chairman

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



This was a very different meeting today. It was our Birthday Meeting: in fact our 86th birthday. To think that there has been a W.I. in our small village for all those years. Just imagine, it is one meeting every month for 86 years. The W.I. has changed over those years, but traditions still remain and we still play an important part in both village life and national issues: and we will survive, there will always be future members. There are always newcomers to the village.

After our usual business was completed, and we wished our Skittles Team 'Good Luck' for their semi-final in Waterlooville later tonight, we welcomed two new members hoping they will enjoy our meetings as much as we do.

We were entertained by Mr & Mrs Marrett to Monologues, so amusing, Country and Western type songs and a John Denver song: All very enjoyable and amusing. This was rounded off by an excellent tea at which our entertainers also joined in. Gwyneth Burch gave a much appreciated vote of thanks.

Our next meeting is Wednesday 12th April at 2 pm in the Scout Hut. The talk will be "Conan Doyle in Portsmouth" and the speaker Mr B Barrett.

Competition - An Easter Bonnet

All visitors welcome, with or without the Easter Bonnet!!!

GFW

WICKHAM WIVES

Those of us, members and guests, who attended our March meeting, experienced an occasion which we will never forget.

Philip Dean from Swanmore was invited to tell us about the St. George's Foundation he has set up in Freetown, Sierra Leone to give a 'new life' to some, regrettably too few, of the street children living an existence of abuse, homelessness and hunger in the city.

His aim was to get children of 11 and 12 years of age off the streets before they became involved with gangs and drugs etc. To everyone's surprise and delight Philip brought two of his first rescued children, a 13 year old girl Sabiatu and a 14 year old boy Abdulia, along with their social worker Justina to our meeting.



Philip introduced his talk by telling us how he was in Sierra Leone in March 2004 with the charity Hope and Homes for Children; this is an excellent charity to give hope and a home for orphaned street children. He was very aware of the contrast between the children living in the orphanage and those clambering outside the gates living a life of hopelessness and homelessness. After much persuasion he was given a lean-to on the side of the orphanage and with his own money he set up facilities to give some of those children 2 meals, disciplined activities and worship for 6 hours each day; what troubled Philip was that he had to turn those children back on the street every evening; word got round and soon Philip had to turn children away as his money was running out.

Being a committed Christian and a member of St. Barnabas Church in Swanmore, he realised to do something for these street children was what he was destined to do, but he had to raise money to accomplish it. Through the church he began his fund raising; he returned to Sierra Leone to look for a property to rent which enabled him to take 70 children off the street. They



were given regular food, organised tuition, play, worship, singing and dancing. The neighbours viewed with horror the idea of 70 'wild children' living next door, but soon the discipline was the priority, with volunteers helping the children and other charities helping with funds. The aim for these children was to attain a disciplinary standard, to be given a school uniform, shoes, books etc. and attend school – all paid for by the St. George's Foundation. An opportunity they never dreamed they would have. Sabiata and Abdulia, being two of the original rescued children were wonderful ambassadors for the devoted work of Philip, his staff and volunteers.

The second aim of the Foundation is to return the children back to their families or foster homes, with close supervision for them to continue their education, still funded by the Foundation – thus enabling more children to be taken into the home and given this chance in life; the total is now over 100 in these three years. We were not expecting a cabaret act, but Sabiatu and Abdulia sang a song and danced for us, which delighted us all.

Philip has now bought a piece of land to build a second home some 5 miles out of Freetown.

We had a collection after the talk, the money specifically being given towards a 'Mattress Fund'. Over £140 was collected, but further donations have swelled it to over £250. This will buy at least 15 double foam mattresses; 4 children share a mattress, so that will give up to 60 children a safe and comfortable nights' rest.

Thank you everyone, I am overwhelmed by your generosity, but to give children the opportunity to experience the love, care and education provided by the Foundation will be a 'foundation' upon which they can build for their future, and hopefully the future of the many abandoned children around them.

April 12th is our next meeting in the Church room 7:30 for 7:45pm, when Dr. Morgan O'Connell's talk will be entitled 'Experience in Peace and War'.

Margaret Gwynn

NSPCC



On Thursday 9th March, we had a Pub Quiz and delicious three course supper at Green's with 78 participants. Carol and Frank Duckworth set hard questions to keep our grey cells stretched to the limit. At half-time the leading team were feeling cock-a-hoop, but sadly lost their lead to another table, namely: ANTI CRECIAN 2000 (All to do with the colour of their hair!).

It was all very jolly, and a Raffle Draw completed the evening. The NSPCC Committee wish to thank everyone who supported the event. The total profit was £531-76.



Alison Hall

WICKHAM SOCIETY

The Wickham Society held its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday the 14th March 2006 and this was followed by a visit to the church where Lucy Marson gave us an insight into the work entailed in collating all the fixtures and fittings in a comprehensive audit. It was a very demanding task undertaken by a team of volunteers to strict criteria set by the Church Commission. Fortunately they were able to call upon assistance by designated experts in areas of expertise such as heraldry, not something the average villager would have at their fingertips! For those interested a copy of this inventory is held in the church.

In the course of the Chairman's coverage of the years events Michael Carter touched upon planning issues such as the planning application for a narrow thoroughfare at the Head of Holts Close, allowing the development of 5 properties in the land beyond, the development of the Veterinary Site and the completion of the affordable housing in the village. The Society continues to be active in any area of change, and in particular the proposed SEERA plans for housing development in and around Wickham.

The Society's funds were in a healthy state, but with increasing costs it was felt appropriate to review the rate of annual membership subscriptions to £4 a head with family membership being free only to children up to the age of eighteen. Members are enjoined to contact Fay Wilson to pay their annual subscriptions which are now due.

A full programme of events is offered for the coming year as follows:

SUMMER PROGRAMME

Tuesday 6th June 'Visit to the lost village of Hook'

Mid-late June 'Summer cruise to the Solent Waters and Forts'

Tuesday 4th July 'A Waterside stroll taking in Netley Abbey and Victoria Park'

Saturday 5th August 'A visit to Boxgrove Priory and Tangmere Aviation Museum'

WINTER PROGRAMME

Tuesday 14th October 'A talk by Mr John Glen, Hampshire County Councillor, on SEERA and development in the South'

Tuesday 14th November 'Christmas Quiz'

Tuesday 5th December 'Joint meeting with the History Society'

Tuesday 13th February 'A talk by Mr Barry Duffin on Wickham Common and its historic heathland landscape'

Tuesday 13th March 'Annual General Meeting followed by a talk by Mrs Sue Fitzgerald about Wickham First Responders'

Anyone member interested in events on the summer programme should contact Brian Barrett on 833384 to book a place, being aware that a small charge will be made for each event. We are very grateful to Brian for compiling the Summer Programme which is available to members of both the Wickham Society and the History Society.

John Woodland

WICKHAM HISTORY SOCIETY

On March 7th, George Watts, local historian, came to speak to us on “Enclosure and Market Gardening in South Hants.”

He began his talk, which was illustrated by maps, graphs and photographs via an overhead projector, with an analysis of the 18th Century enclosure movement of the open field system. By this means, medium to large farms would be established at the cost of the peasant class who could only turn to labouring for their more fortunate neighbours.

Enclosure came later to South Hants, taking place in the early to mid nineteenth century. Thus, 4,000 acres were enclosed in the Forest of Bere in 1810 and areas of Titchfield were enclosed in 1859. It was fortuitous that the types of soil prevalent in South Hants were better for growing fruit and vegetables than they had been for corn in earlier times. Hence quite small enclosed plots on local gravelly soils devoted to soft fruit growing – especially strawberries – provided a good living for a family. Initially, the proximity of urban markets in Portsmouth and Southampton was significant, but by using the railways markets were established throughout Great Britain. This was evidenced by maps of market locations and pictures of the strawberry carts queueing for Swanwick station.

The speaker’s fascinating talk was well-researched and enhanced by personal reminiscences of his grandfather’s strawberry – growing business. This was a most interesting presentation of an industry of particular significance in our local area.

Our next meeting, on April 4th, comprises a talk on “The Brunels – another Portsmouth Bicentenary” by Professor Tony Pointon of Portsmouth University.

Doreen Barrett

WICKHAM TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Our A.G.M. clashed with a History Society speaker, so numbers were down to 14, but the news was positive. The treasurer reported record profits from fundraising events and the chairman reminded us of those events, from the last visit of our Villersois during which we joined in the V.E. Day celebrations, to our most recent 'Murder Dinner', when 98 guests from well beyond the bounds of the membership enjoyed the ham acting of 'Cloak and Dagger' during the three-course meal. Ann quoted from the original charter of 1978, when we undertook 'to foster and develop mutual understanding and respect between the people of Wickham and the people of Villers sur Mer. She felt that the Association had for some time now been 'a firm foundation' for many, many friendships with people in Villers.

Carrying on this tradition, 31 people are travelling from Portsmouth to Caen for a long weekend in France on 28th April. We are lucky this time with a very good deal from Brittany Ferries.

The election of officers was a simple affair, as all the current committee members agreed to stay. They are: Ann Johnson (chair), Caroline Fribbance (secretary), Jean Gibbs (treasurer), Eric Bright, Gerald Cooper, Andrew Burgess, Tony Johnson, Margaret Knight and Annie Skipwith. We thank Caroline Jezeph, who has moved out of the village, for all her support as a committee member in the past. We shall keep a contact.

TALL SHIPS were the topic of our speakers Glenn and Maureen Middleton, who sail with 'Lord Nelson' and 'Tenacious', the tall ships built to give both disabled and able bodied people the experience of their lives. We are invited for a tour of 'Tenacious' when she comes in to Southampton on 20th May. Please contact us if you would like to come too.

Finally, we have two offers from Villers of flats sleeping 4/6 people at £150.00 out of season and £250.00 in season. Please phone us if you are interested.

Ann Johnson 01329 833400

WICKHAM CRICKET CLUB

Net practice started in February and has been very well supported this year. The sessions are every Tuesday evening from 9.00pm till 10.00pm at the Hampshire Rose Bowl. There are still a few sessions left – last one is on 11 April.

The programme of fixtures for the coming season is complete and the fixture cards are now at the printers. If you would like a copy and are not a member, please contact the secretary (phone number at the back of this magazine). The first match this year is on Sunday 23rd April, away to Chawton, with a home match the following Sunday (30th) against Park Sports.

The first Hampshire League match is on Saturday 8th May, when we will play Fairhaven at home. The first Winchester & District Evening League match is on Tuesday 2nd May, at home to Longparish.

We are still waiting for planning permission – hopefully it won't be too much longer now, but the pavilion sub-committee are keeping busy in the meantime, with planning meetings, site meetings and liaising with Winchester City Council. There should be more news in next month's edition.

If anyone is interested in getting involved in the Club – as a player (of any standard), scorer or umpire, please contact Malc on 01329 834398.



Lesley Wilde

1ST WICKHAM SCOUT GROUP

WANTED 6-8 YEAR BOYS AND GIRLS. We have spaces in our Beaver Colony. If your son or daughter would like to make friends, likes games, craft, the outside and having fun!!!! Why not let them come to Beaver Scouts? Please 'phone 01329 832739 for more details.

May Day Fayre

The Scouts May Day Fayre is on Monday 1st May on the recreation ground. If you would like a stall or pitch, please phone 01329 832739.

All of the Scouts, Cub and Beavers have been very busy this month. Some of the things we have done include hikes, cooking (pancakes cooked on tins are great), card making, etc. and of course games, games and more games. Plans are now being made for outings and camps for the summer. If your son or daughter would like to join us please telephone the number above.



Have a good Easter.

Chris Samways, Cub Scout Leader



Wickham Parish Council Citizen of the Year Award



Awards to be presented at the Annual Parish Assembly, Thursday 25th May 2006, nominations need not be for volunteers but should be for people working or volunteering in the Wickham community, which of course, includes Knowle.

Categories:

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Customer service community award for a local business making a significant contribution to the community.

Offers of sponsorship from local businesses would be welcome.

Nominations for the awards to be made to the Parish Council by end of April 2006

Groups and individuals making nominations are invited to make a short presentation at the Annual Parish Assembly. If you would like to make a video documentary or a photographic presentation, the Parish Council may be able to help with funding for equipment.

Parish Council Chairman and Vice Chairman and Chairman of the General Purposes Committee will judge awards.

Names will be recorded on a roll of honour that will be on permanent display.

Nicki Oliver, Parish Clerk

OTHER LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

HOME-START MEON VALLEY



In the 8 years that Home-Start has been in the Meon Valley our volunteers have helped more than 275 families. Sometimes our help is only needed for a few weeks; for example a pregnant mum with a broken leg needed help with her toddler and on shopping trips until she was mobile again. Usually we are needed for longer; perhaps to play with the children of a mum with a debilitating illness or to be an extra pair of hands on outings to the park or shops with a mum who has several under 5's. Often, volunteers provide much needed companionship to mums who are isolated, and moral support to inexperienced parents who find themselves in the overwhelming and sometimes baffling world of child rearing.

The friendship, support and practical help offered by each volunteer who visits the family they have been matched with for a couple of hours each week, is greatly appreciated and valued by the family. 'It really feels like I'm doing something worthwhile and making a difference to the mother and the children' says Anne, a Home-Start volunteer who recently received a certificate to recognise her 3 years service with Home-Start Meon Valley. 'I look forward to seeing my "adopted" family as much as they look forward to seeing me.'

We are now recruiting additional volunteers to join the Home-Start team and continue providing this much needed support to families in the Meon Valley. If you are a parent or grandparent, have a few hours a week to spare and would be interested in taking up this rewarding voluntary work, please give us a call and have a chat with us. Training will be provided and all out of pocket expenses will be reimbursed. The next training course to prepare new volunteers starts on 3rd May.

Gloria Russell 01329 835936

RED CROSS MEDICAL LOAN AT SWANMORE

From April 1st Medical Loan will not be issued from Swanmore, the centre is closing. If you are registered with Wickham or Bishops Waltham Surgery; Medical Loan, except wheelchairs, can be ordered by the Surgery from J.E.S., this will be delivered to your home.

There are Medical Loan depots at Fareham, Denmead and Eastleigh, the main depot is at Winchester.

If you wish to return items, or need advice on obtaining a wheelchair, telephone Winchester 01962 877732. Do telephone me if you need any more information. It has been so nice to meet so many of you over the past thirty eight years and helping you has been most rewarding.

Evelyn Ludbrook 023 9263 2532

MEON VALLEY U3A Programme 2005/06 Theme: "Pathways of Discovery & Change"

Apr 4 2pm **"The Angel of the North & the Spinnaker Tower – spot the difference...."**
illustrated talk by **Liz Weston** Director of "Alternative Arts" London.
Wickham Community Centre Guests welcome

25 2pm **"Community Service - Does it Work?"** Talk by **John Davies**,
Area Manager, Hampshire & Isle of Wight – Probation Community Service
Wickham Community Centre Guests welcome

May 2 2pm **READING GROUP:** Ring (01489) 878503 for title & venue
Social Event to end the 2005/2006 session

May 9 2pm **Presentation of Tai Chi** by **Danae: British Female Traditional Tai Chi Champion**
Wickham Community Centre Guests welcome



On May 9, the Meon Valley U3A will celebrate the end of its 15th year of meetings with a session explaining the art and traditions of Tai Chi.

Danae, who has recently won the title of **British Female Traditional Tai Chi Champion** will lead the demonstration. She travels annually to Beijing to learn more of the mental and physical benefits of the art from renowned Masters.

The Meeting, on **Tuesday, 9th May at 2pm**, at Wickham Community Centre, is an end-of-programme open social event with an opportunity to learn about an ancient Chinese tradition.

The new "academic" year, with the theme **"Travellers' Tales"**, will start on Tuesday 19th September 2006. The first presentation will be "Mozart's Travels – a Celebration of the 250th Anniversary of Mozart's Birth".

MEON VALLEY CARERS TOGETHER – MEMORY MATTERS

A Soapy Issue

All viewers of ITV Coronation Street will be aware that it currently features a lead actor being diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. It is hoped that this will contribute to greater community understanding of the problems with this illness, and of course if you need more information please ask us for help and advice. We can arrange talks for interested groups.

During commercial breaks, the Alzheimer's Society will run 60 second fund raising Direct Response adverts. Meon Valley Carers Together supports the Alzheimer's Society by our individual membership and by direct liaison with local branches and the national office. However, please understand that contributions made to these adverts do not benefit Meon Valley Carers Together nor do they benefit the local Alzheimer's branch in Winchester. We remain the only group supplying support services for Alzheimer's disease and other dementias in this area and depend upon your local donations to keep us going.

Road Show comes to Bishops Waltham

From Country Parks to buses, occupational therapy to mobile libraries – there are many services out there which we all use, but it can often be confusing to know who provides what and who to contact to find out about them.

This road show will be specifically aimed at older residents, so if you're an OAP yourself or have an older friend or relative and have any queries at all about services in the area, we'll have lots of information to hand as well as ideas on how to stay healthy and active.

The road show will be taking place on **7th April 2006, 10 am – 4 pm at Jubilee Hall, Little Shore Lane, Bishops Waltham**. For any queries about this event, please call the Hampshire County Council Information Centre on 0800 028 0888.

A free energy-saving light bulb will be available for every visitor.

West Hampshire NHS Out of Hours Service

Are you aware that this new service is now operating to provide Out of Hours medical help when your Doctors Surgery is closed? It links the existing Ambulance Service, and Out of Hours Doctors, with other services including Inter Care, and Out of Hours Home Care. Personal experience suggests that the scheme is working as intended and is an improvement worth having.

This service does not replace the 999 call for critical or life threatening situations, but in any serious situation which cannot wait for your Surgery to open, or which cannot be resolved by calling NHS Direct.

At present, the service does not provide specialist Elderly Mental Health help or Dentistry. These may in due course be included following pilot projects.

If you need this service call 0844 811 3060

Forthcoming Meetings:

Tue 11 April	Pub Lunch – The Old Forge, Shedfield – 12 noon
Thur 20 April	Tea Dance with Tony Blackford– Paterson Centre, Swanmore- 2 pm
Tue 25 April	Support Group Meeting, Paterson Centre, Swanmore – 2 pm - Dementia explained
Tue 9 May	Pub Lunch – The Old Forge, Shedfield – 12 noon
Thur 18 May	Paterson Centre, Swanmore 2 pm – Modelling with Vegetables!

Meon Valley Carers Together provides essential support and guidance for people with dementia and their carers.

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED.

To find out more about us and our activities contact:

Bill Drake on 01489 895706, email billdrake@onetel.net
or Cheryl Tucker on 01489 892845, email cheryltucker@dsl.pipex.com

Alternatively, you are always welcome to join us at our one of our get-togethers.

MEON VALLEY CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU

Q. I have recently had a haircut and it is really terrible – not what I asked for at all. When I asked for my money back the hairdresser refused. What can I do about this? How can I stop it from happening again?

A. Unfortunately hairdressing is totally unregulated. Anyone is free to practice as a hairdresser without registration, without qualification and without training. Some hairdressers are registered with the hairdressing council, which means they are qualified to practice hairdressing. Find out if your hairdresser is registered, if he/she is not you should consider going to a registered and therefore qualified hairdresser.

If you get a haircut and it is not what you asked for you should speak to the salon proprietor, manager or senior stylist about your grievance. Tell them that you are very dissatisfied and explain clearly and calmly what is wrong, and ask how they can sort the problem out. The salon does not have to refund you, but it is responsible for putting things right. Once you have discussed the problem agree a definite outcome. If everyone gets too upset ask for the address of the salon and say that you will write to the owner. If the salon demands payment, you could 'pay under protest' which gives you the right to claim payment back later. If you are unable to resolve the matters by discussion, you will need to decide whether you wish to take the matter further.

The hairdressing council can be contacted on **020 8771 6205** or at www.haircouncil.org.uk

You can get more detailed information and advice on workplace rights, or any other problem, by contacting your local **CAB** at The Library, Bank Street, **Bishop's Waltham**, SO32 1AN, Tel. No. (01489) **896376** open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. If this is not convenient, please note our **Thursday evening appointments only** session (**from 4 to 7 p.m.**) We also take appointments (through the Bishop's Waltham Bureau) for our CAB Outreach at the Wickham Community Centre, Mill Lane, Wickham, which is held on Thursdays from 10.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., or you can go to the Citizens Advice website www.adviceguide.org.uk

We are currently recruiting volunteers to train as Advisors. If you are interested in becoming a CAB volunteer please contact us as above.

BRITISH CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY PORTSMOUTH & DISTRICT BRANCH



It is almost time for our Summer Show. The Show is once again to be held in the Community Centre. This will be our fourth Show at this venue. We normally aim for the first Saturday in June, but this year the event is a week earlier and takes place on **Saturday 27th May**.

At this time of year Cacti are at their best and should be flowering well. When walking around, especially in rural areas, you can see many Cactus plants on peoples' windowsills, or in covered porches. So there are a lot of potential customers.

The competitive sections are:

1. "Cacti" - Unlimited size (as big as you can carry!)
2. "Cacti" - Limited pot sizes
3. "Other Succulents" - Unlimited
4. "Other Succulents" - Limited Pot sizes
5. Novices
6. Junior
7. Novelty
8. Photographic

(For full details, ring our Show Manager Dr B Plunkett, 02392 486982)

In case anyone is unaware of the difference, "Cacti" are just one family of Succulents. In other words, All Cacti are Succulents, but not all Succulents are Cacti!

SOLENT FUCHSIA CLUB

Activities for 2006

April 4th	Patio and container growing with Brian Kidd
May 2nd	My way of showing fuchsias with Sid Garcia from Windsor Fuchsias
June 6th	His special way of growing fuchsias and dealing with pests and diseases with Terry Peters of Reading Fuchsias
July 8th	Saturday 2-5pm Demonstration of Fuchsia Bonsai cultivation. Dog agility display, followed by a picnic. A visit to Peter & Carol Lewis
July 22nd & 23rd	Annual Show at Titchfield Community Centre Judge: Carol Gubler
August	No meeting
September 5th	Presentation of trophies. Over wintering fuchsias. Delights of Dubai with Andy Daws
October 3 rd	Inter Club quiz. Solent, Bournemouth & New Forest
November 7th	A.G.M.
December 5th	Borneo Safari with Julie Bedford. Also an American Supper



Mary Knight, Chairman 01329 832323

NEWS FROM WHITCHURCH SILK MILL

We are currently undertaking documentary, architectural and dendrochronological research together with gathering oral histories. This year we plan to piece together all these findings and provide our visitors with a much better understanding of Whitchurch Silk Mill's past. This work is so necessary because our archives were destroyed in the 1950's. There are already some fascinating anecdotes arising from the oral history study and we hope that there will be many more people coming forward to share their memories. If you would like to share your memories please complete the form at the end of this article and return it to Whitchurch Silk Mill and we will then contact you.

We are weaving on a number of prestigious conservation projects including Knole and Hampton Court. Not only do we weave but organise a large programme of exhibitions, talks and workshops for adults and children. Our talks range from a hot air balloon talk by the Chairman of the British Balloon Museum & Library, and inflation (weather permitting) on Wednesday 29th March to a talk "Parasols, Petticoats and Pelisses in Pursuit of Fashionable Dress in Jane Austen's Hampshire" presented by Alison Carter Senior Keeper of Costumes at HCC Museums Services.

For those of you who haven't been to the Mill for sometime you will find that we offer those visitors who decide to gift aid their admission a free annual subscription in exchange, which will allow you to make return visits to the Mill as many times as you wish in a year.

2006 is going to be a very busy year. For further information on any of the Mill's activities please telephone 01256 892065 or visit our website www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk.

If you bring this parish magazine with you when you visit the Mill you will be allowed entry for two people for the price of one until 31 March 2007. I am afraid that photocopies will not be accepted and this offer does not apply to those attending as part of a pre-booked party.

All the staff at the Mill look forward to welcoming you.

Stephen Bryer, General Manager

Whitchurch Silk Mill's Activities for April 2006

Until April 30	"Silk in the Sky" balloon exhibition
April 4	Balloon basket weaving
April 5	Easter cards
April 6	Box weaving
April 11	Corn dollies
April 12	Balloon basket weaving
April 13	Ribbon fir cones

For further details contact Whitchurch Silk Mill Tuesday to Sunday 10.30-5.00pm on 01256 892065

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Oral History Project, Whitchurch Silk Mill, 28 Winchester Street,
Whitchurch, Hants, RG28 7AL

Name	
Address	
Telephone number	

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

APRIL 2006



Titchfield Lane/ Fontley Road Speed Limit

I have approved the plans for a 40 mph speed limit on Titchfield Lane and Fontley Road so that they can go forward to formal consultation with the public, police and local authorities. I believe there is strong support for this move and look forward to seeing the measures in place this year. The speed limit will run the currently unrestricted length of Titchfield Lane from its junction with the A334 until it becomes Fontley Road and then down to that part of the road that is currently subject to a speed limit.

Highways Programmes

At the Winchester Transport and Access Panel meeting on March 15 the following items were confirmed:

Fontley Road Footpath (£200,000) is now in the detailed design stage and negotiation continues with affected landowners. It is hoped to carry out the scheme in the summer.

This will run from the M27 over-bridge and the junction with Segensworth Road where pedestrians have to walk on the road.

Knowle Village to Funtley Footpath (£40,000). This is an existing right of way and runs down the east side of the railway line and cuts across farmland until it reaches Funtley. The improvements include a new surface of limestone scalplings, new kissing gates, and trimming back of vegetation where it has become overgrown. By agreement with the landowner the works are expected to start in the summer.

The closure of Springles Lane to through traffic is nearing completion now that agreements have been reached with landowners that are affected.

A32 at Wickham. A 30 mph speed limit extension is under review.

A32/B2177 junction – pedestrian safety issues are being investigated.

Community Safety Initiative. The programme for 2005-6 was completed including work at

Elizabeth Close and School Road. Bids for the 2006-7 programme includes work at Garnier Park, Fareham Road, Wykeham Field, and Hoads Hill. A decision on which bids are successful is expected on 21 March.

School Admissions

Of the 14,236 children in Hampshire who sought admission to a secondary school for September 2006, 95% were able to gain their first preference. Of the remaining 710, most were able to gain their second preference.

The county is reviewing the admission procedure and will be consulting parents on whether there should be changes to the method of assigning children to secondary school.

Local Area Agreement

Hampshire County Council has completed work on the Local Area Agreement for the county and sent its conclusions to the Deputy Prime Minister for his consideration.

The LAA is drawn up in consultation with partners such as the police, health authorities and business to identify progress that can be made in relation to children and young people, healthy communities, safer and stronger communities and economic development. Extra grants are available for those counties achieving their targets.

New Whiteley School

A great deal of my time has been taken up with the issue of how to provide a new primary school for Whiteley. Following extensive consultation in the community the County Council Cabinet is due to consider this matter on March 20 with a preference for a new school alongside the Meadowside Leisure Centre. Winchester City Council's Cabinet is due to consider a different idea put forward by its officers for a school on the recreation ground with the football and cricket pitches being relocated to Leafy Lane.

*Frederick Allgood,
County Councillor
Winchester Southern
Parishes*



WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL REPORT

APRIL 2006

Winchester City Councillors representing Wickham, Knowle and Curbridge:

Philip Clohosey 1, The Glebe, Wickham
tel: 832736
email: pclohosey@winchester.gov.uk

Thérèse Evans Woodlands, Bishopswood Rd,
Mislingford, Wickham tel: 832700
email: tevans@winchester.gov.uk

WHAT ARE WE UP TO AS YOUR COUNCILLORS?

If you want to know what we get up to and what activities we are involved in as your local councillors then you can access our activity reports on the City Council website:

www.winchester.gov.uk

Click on **Your Council** and then under **Representation** click on **City Councillors List** and then on our individual names. You will find there what committees we sit on, our responsibilities on the council, information about us and our activity statements up until February this year. This is updated every quarter. For those without web access we send round an annual report to every home.

COUNCIL TAX 06/07

The City Council tax has been set for the next municipal year at £113 for Band D which is the average District property size. This represents an increase of 4.9% which equals 10p per week. This increase will allow the council to carry on with the alternate weekly collection scheme which will increase recycling—more details below, mobile wardens to help communities, free bus passes for the over 60s and help for community transport groups as well as improving all the other work of the Council such as environmental health, housing and planning services and community facilities. A reminder that the bulk of your Council tax which is collected by the City Council goes to the County Council and the other precepting authorities Fire and Rescue, the Police and Wickham Parish Council. In Wickham and Knowle the most common Council tax band is Band C. The breakdown for Band C Annual Council Tax is as follows:

Winchester City Council £100.56
Hampshire County Council £809.44
Police Authority £106.16
Fire and Rescue £47.68
Wickham Parish Council £42.73

SWANMORE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

The City Council has invested in over three quarters of a million pounds in improving community sporting facilities in partnership with the College and Hampshire County Council. These facilities are for community hire outside school hours and weekends by contacting the College.

BUS PASSES

Following government requirements all WCC residents over 60 will be entitled to a free bus pass allowing them free bus travel from 9am until the last bus throughout Hampshire. The City Council will also provide subsidy to care groups who used to accept the bus token scheme.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS AND BETTER RECYCLING FACILITIES

After a trial period the Council will adopt a better recycling scheme after May. Knowle will come under Phase 2 of this scheme and information will be sent to you as from November 06 with the new arrangements starting in April 07. Recycling and waste will be collected on alternate weeks. You will be able to exchange small 140 litre recycling bins or 120 litre refuse bins for larger 240 litre bins free of charge and be given a free reusable sack for the collection of garden waste direct from their homes. Advantages to the environment of the scheme are a significant reduction in the amount of waste that needs to be land-filled or incinerated, a slowing down in the number of facilities that need to be built to deal with Hampshire's waste and a reduction in methane from landfill sites which accounts for 25% of green house gases emitted to the atmosphere. Reducing the amount of green house gases emitted will help slow down and reduce the effects of global warming. We will give you further details over the coming months.



NEXT COUNCILLOR SURGERIES:

We are available for you to come and talk to us about any matter in person and come alternately to Knowle and Wickham. No appointment necessary. We are happy to try and help on all local matters.

Knowle Village Hall Wednesday 26th April 7-8pm

Happy Easter holidays!

Thérèse and Phil



Wickham Parish Council
News
April 2006

Annual Parish Assembly 2006
Thursday 25th May 7pm at the
Community Centre

Everyone warmly invited to our
Annual Parish Assembly!

This year the Parish Council will be making its first Citizen of the Year awards – see page 22

The Youth Club is preparing a ten minute entertainment session, Wickham Primary School has also been invited to perform.

Local councillors will be available to answer your questions on local issues.

Fantastic buffet will be provided as usual.

Not to be missed!

Wickham Folk Festival

The Parish Council has cautiously supported a proposal for a Folk Festival in Wickham, the event will take place at the Community Centre from Thursday 3rd until Monday 6th August.

Folk Festivals are family affairs, parking and camping is planned on the outskirts of the village. To book tickets see the website: www.wickhamfestival.co.uk.

Youth Club Battle of the Bands
Event

The Parish Council would like to congratulate the Youth Club for organising such a successful event.

New Play Equipment

The Parish Council is planning to replace ageing play equipment on the recreation ground and to provide additional new equipment.

A new play area for The Circle will also be completed this year.

There are also plans for teenage equipment near the skatepark at the Community Centre. The Parish Council is grateful to the Community Association for allowing the use of more of their land.

Looking to use public transport?

Try this online planner

www.traveline.org.uk tel 0870 608 2608

Continental Market in The Square

Dates for 2006

Sunday 18th June, 17th September and
17th December – 10am to 4pm

Meetings

Next Full Council

7.15pm Monday 24th April
Wickham Community Centre
Visit by WCC Head of Strategic Planning, Steve Opacic to talk about new planning regulations and the role of village design statements.

Planning Committee

6.30pm Monday 24th April
Wickham Community Centre

Check the notice boards or website for details of other meetings.

www.wickham.parish.hants.gov.uk

hants.gov.uk

Everyone welcome to attend meetings!

Parish Clerk Nicki Oliver

Heatherdene,

Turkey Island,

Shedfield,

Southampton

SO32 2JE

Tel 01329 835019

email: wickhamparishcouncil@msn.com