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## THOUGHTS FROM THE RECTOR

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### *'A very special time of year'*

December sunshine, bright and brittle, shone through the classroom window and lit up the Vicar. His sparse sandy hair shone like gold, his small black eyes sparkled and his cheeks shone as if they had recently been scrubbed. 'This is a very special time of year, children', he said jovially, addressing the infants who stared up at him with open mouths. 'Can anyone tell me what it is?'

'Christmas', volunteered a small wiry boy with a feathery fringe, who began waving his hand in the air like a daffodil in a strong wind. 'It's Christmas'. 'It is indeed', agreed the Vicar, smiling beatifically. 'It's Christmas, and a very, very special time of year'.

'I'm gerrin a bike', the boy told him. 'I'm gerrin a doll what can wet 'er nappies an' talk', added a large girl with a round face and hair in untidy bunches. This was the signal for all the children to shout out presents they were hoping to receive from Father Christmas. 'I'm gerrin a remote-controlled car'. 'I'm gerrin a train set'.

'Children! Children!', exclaimed the Vicar, raising a hand like a crossing patrol warden stopping cars. 'Christmas is not just about presents, you know. It's really a celebration of a birthday. It's about the birth of a very special baby'.

'I know what it was called', said the small wiry boy. The Vicar interlaced his long fingers just beneath his chin in an attitude of a child praying and smiled. 'I'm very glad to hear it', he said in that solicitous and kindly tone often possessed by men of the cloth.

'It were called Wayne', the child told him. 'Wayne? Certainly not! What a thought!', cried the Vicar in mock horror. 'It were!' cried the boy, undeterred. 'Baby were called Wayne'. 'No, it wasn't called Wayne', said the Vicar, his jaw tightening and his voice quavering a little. He bit his lip momentarily. The poor man had imagined that speaking to a group of small children about Christmas would be an easy enough task but he was now regretting he had ever agreed to visit the school that morning. 'The baby was called Jesus', the Vicar told him, slowly and deliberately.

'It were Wayne', persisted the child, nodding vigorously. 'Jesus!' snapped the Vicar. 'Wayne', repeated the child. 'I know, 'cos we all sang about it in assembly: 'A Wayne in a manger, no crib for a bed'.

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The moral of the story is that really hearing and understanding the Christmas story can come a long time after the singing of carols! I wish us all a really special Christmas and that we all understand a bit more of Christ's story as a result of our celebrations.

Your friend and rector,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Gervase Phinn'.

'A very special time of year' from 'A WAYNE IN A MANGER' by Gervase Phinn (publisher Penguin Books Ltd), is reproduced by kind permission of the author.



## **WICKHAM COMMUNITY LAND TRUST AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN WICKHAM**

**A call to action! Please read and respond....**

### What did the Housing Needs Survey report in September 2007?

28 households had someone who had had to move from Wickham in the last five years and 5 people were unable to take up a job here because of the cost of housing

At least 37 households in Wickham needed to move in the foreseeable future but would need either to rent affordable housing or buy a property through shared equity/shared ownership schemes to be able to stay in the village.

The report, accepted by the Parish Council, confirmed a demand for up to 30 affordable homes, 8 of which could be developed through a Community Land Trust.

### What has happened since then ?

The Wickham Community Land Trust (Wickham CLT) has been created to work in the interests of local people and the sustainability of the village.

In June this year the Parish Council accepted a report identifying a site as potentially suitable for a development of affordable homes. Based on views expressed in the 2007 Needs Survey the site is likely to receive strong support from residents.

### What is happening now - and will happen next?

The landowner of the site, the CLT and Hyde Housing Association are working on an outline development plan to present to the Parish and City Councils. If acceptable, a public consultation will take place before applying for planning permission. The current assumption is that some of the homes would be rented through a Housing Association, while others would be provided by the CLT. The whole process will take some time to conclude but we are hopeful that we will shortly see tangible progress.

### **What we are asking YOU to do NOW, PLEASE**

**To satisfy planners and funders, we have to confirm the demand for the houses. Please let us know if you, or others in your family, are interested in the possibility of moving into one of the homes and under what sort of tenancy. A form is included in this magazine for you to complete and return. Or, please call us on 01329 834335, leave your details and we will contact you.**

**As Brucie might say, "Now is the moment of truth!" for this ambitious local project in which our community stands to be the winner. As he might also say "We need all the help you can give us".**

*Nic Holladay, Chairman, Wickham Community Land Trust*

The above has been published with the support of Wickham Parish Council

**THIS FREE ISSUE OF THE PARISH MAGAZINE IS SPONSORED BY  
WICKHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

If you would like to subscribe to a monthly delivery of the Wickham Parish magazine  
at £4.00 per year please contact

**Robert Goulson on 01329 833299**



# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, SHEDFIELD

## MUSIC MARATHON



Saturday 6th DECEMBER from 9am to 9pm

### -PROGRAMME FOR THE DAY-

- 9:00 Advent hymns – come and start the day off by singing a selection of hymns for the Advent season
- 9:30 Julia and David Burgess
- 10:00 Organ – Adrian Jordan
- 10:30 Instrumental solos
- 11:15 Uniformed Organisations

*Enjoy the music while you shop at the Advent Market from 12 - 2!*

- 12:00 Methodist Band Quartet
- 1:00 Piano - Daryl Franklin
- 1:30 St. John the Baptist Primary School
- 2:00 Upham Recorder Orchestra
- 3:00 Organ – Julia Burgess
- 4:00 Solos – The Treveil family
- 4:30 Organ – Julia Burgess
- 5:00 Organ – David Burgess
- 6:00 Handbells
- 6:20 Organ – David Burgess
- 6:30 Bell-ringers
- 7:00 CONCERT – Shedfield Music Group and Choir, Wickham Choir and solo items.

*During the day you may come and go as you wish (leaving a donation as you leave!). The Concert is admission by ticket (£3), available from Julia Burgess prior to the day, or just come along and pay at the door.*

*We look forward to seeing you!*

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## NEWS FROM PARK PLACE

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During November our Sisters from Park Place, with Father Andrew, visited the Holy Land. The trip was to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Sister Frances' Profession as a sister in the community of the Franciscan Sisters of St Mary of the Angels. They came back inspired and uplifted by the experience. We all wish Sister Frances our congratulations and love on her anniversary.

At the end of October we had the evening with **Cantores Michaelis Peregrinus**, mentioned in last month's edition. This was a really wonderful experience. Here are the impressions of one who was there.

"From the moment the austere beautiful sound of Gregorian Chant could be heard as the blue robed choristers filed into the chapel it was obvious that this was to be a special evening. Eight young men and women from Cantores Michaelis, with their founder and Director Keith Davis, were at Park Place to sing a capella music for All Saints and All Souls.

Liturgical pieces from the rich polyphony of 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century Europe alternated with Gregorian Chant to provide a timely antidote to the less edifying 'goings on' of Halloween. We heard music by Palestrina, Byrd, Vittoria and other great composers of the period. As an Anglican, I was especially moved by the settings of the Burial Sentences composed by William Croft, which incorporate a verse set to music by Purcell. "Thou knowest Lord." Is a poignant reminder that music Purcell composed for the funeral service of Queen Mary in 1695 was played for him, after his own untimely death, before the year ended.

All the singers had strong, pure voices and the interweaving threads of melody were satisfying to the ear and refreshing to the mind. It is good to know that this legacy of spiritually uplifting music lives on through groups like Cantores Michaelis. It was a rewarding evening in every way. "... and the welcome glass of wine in the interval added to the warm glow of enjoyment. Thank you for inviting me." *Peggy Hill*

This will be the last opportunity we have to wish all our friends in Wickham a really Happy and Holy Christmas and a New Year which will be filled with peace, both here and throughout the world. God bless you all.

*Leila Smith*

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## THE MOTHERS' UNION

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We welcomed Revd. Jane Beloe from Upham to our November meeting who talked to us about Relate which is the new name for what used to be called the Marriage Guidance Council. The change was made to cover all kinds of relationships needing assistance. Those seeking this are able to contact Relate by phone, or the internet or there can be face to face counselling. There are very many reasons for the break down in relationships such as violence, abuse, drugs, unemployment, infidelity and sexual problems. Repercussions following the break up of relationships are varied and sometimes the cost can be high, to the country as well as to children, families and friends. Jane illustrated her talk by giving an example of a couple she had counselled, using pseudonyms of course, which helped us to see that the main aim of Relate was to work for a positive outcome to their future lives despite the past. A very lively discussion followed.

At the meeting a MU leaflet was distributed giving information of work being undertaken in our Diocese. This included making Neo Natal clothes and cot covers for babies in intensive care, sending Christmas and birthday cards to every prisoner in Hampshire, providing volunteers at the Roberts Child Contact Centre where children meet up with relatives they rarely see, and giving a holiday to about 50 needy children and their parents (called Away from it all). These annual holidays cost in excess of £10,000 so a lot of fund raising is required.

Our meeting in December will be at 7, Tanfield Park, and in January at 3, Glebe Corner.

*Anne Marshall*

### IMPORTANT DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

**SATURDAY JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup> 2009**

**ST NICHOLAS CHURCH &  
WICKHAM VILLAGE FETE**

This is the date for our next Fete. We hope all of you who have helped us before will be kind enough to support us again in 2009 but we really need some more volunteers so please keep the day free and watch out for more information in the parish magazine next year.

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## FRIENDS OF ST NICHOLAS

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Wickham is beginning to look very festive. There is something very nice about walking through the Square in the evening. It will start to look even nicer on 3rd December with the

switching on of the lights, which are being put up as I write. We have a lot of historic buildings in the village, which of course give it the great character it has. Walking down Bridge Street towards the Church you can imagine being transported to an earlier era. We have a lot to be grateful for in our Village.

I think I can be forgiven for mentioning Christmas, this magazine being the December issue, but it is a time when we think of going to church. Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve is a delight, which very many Wickham Villagers enjoy. Whether or not you are a church-goer, if you value the historic position of our church in the village why not give a special present to the church building by becoming a Friend? We are entirely non-denominational and are completely independent of the Parochial Church Council. Our purpose is only to provide assistance in safeguarding the fabric and furniture of the church of St Nicholas.

I'm delighted to say that more people are joining us, so in the New Year we can begin collecting some subscriptions. I am appending a form to this article which you can fill in and put through my letter box, or email me the information. Now is the time to join us and become a founder-member.

*John Landaw*

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Name .....

Address .....

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Telephone number .....

Email .....

John Landaw,  
1, Church View, School Road,  
Wickham, PO17 5PF  
01329 830088  
[John.landaw1@btopenworld.com](mailto:John.landaw1@btopenworld.com)

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## CHURCHES TOGETHER

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### January Quiet Half Hour

Get 2009 off to a good start by spending just half an hour in the company of other Christians at St Barnabas Church, Swanmore, on Tuesday, January 27th from 7.30 to 8.00 pm.

This will be the first Quiet Half Hour of the year when we will pray quietly for the coming months and perhaps give thanks for the year just gone.

This time will be followed by a meeting at 8.00 pm of the Churches Together in Bishops Waltham Area Committee when future plans will be discussed. This meeting will be in the Paterson Centre.

*Jill Sutton*

A date for your 2009 Diary:

## Come and Sing Handel

Saturday 7th February 2009

Church of St. Nicholas, Wickham

### Handel's Coronation Anthems

**Conductor: David Burgess**

**Organist: Mark Dancer**

Registration and score hire from 3.30pm  
Rehearsal from 4.00pm

Public Performance at 7.00pm  
Audience welcome

Singers: £6  
Score hire: £1  
Audience: £4

To register, contact: 01329 833655  
or

[events@stnicholaswickham.org.uk](mailto:events@stnicholaswickham.org.uk)

For more details:

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

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# LOCAL NEWS

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## WICKHAM COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS

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Since we operate as a group entirely of volunteers, it is not surprising that our members find occasionally that other commitments mean that they must reluctantly stand down from First Responders. These decisions are never lightly reached, and in some cases members have been able to re-join when they have found an opportunity. So it is that we have recently lost four of our team, but this is partly offset by a new member who should be active shortly, once formalities have been completed.

We have been concerned over the dichotomy of being able to operate only as subordinates of the ambulance service, and not as First Aiders, a role which has sometimes been expected of us. As a result, we plan to pay for one of our members to attend a course to acquire a formal First Aid qualification. Our newly-joined member already holds this qualification, and we hope in future to be able to provide cover at most community events.

The onset of dark winter hours is a suitable time to draw attention to the difficulties sometimes experienced in finding the right address in the event of a call-out. Whether or not your house should be easily recognisable by day, vital time can be wasted in trying to find it in the dark. If you call out any emergency services, please think about making your house stand out, perhaps by switching on all the lights and asking someone to wait outside to flag down the response vehicle.

In recent months we have responded to emergency calls:

September – 11  
October – 13  
Nov (to date) – 7

We meet in the church room at 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of the month: please come along to see us if you are interested in joining.


**YOUR COMMUNITY (STILL) NEEDS YOU**  
For details contact Allyson Thomas on 07725 023043 or [allysonthomas@me.com](mailto:allysonthomas@me.com)

*Robert Goulson*

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## The Stan Woodford Photographic Competition 2008

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**WICKHAM AMATEUR  
PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION**

open to all residents of Wickham and Knowle.

**Life in  
Wickham Parish, 2008**


A trophy and cash prize will be awarded to the best entry in each of the three categories:

**ADULT  
18 & UNDER  
13 & UNDER**

Closing date for entries: **31st December, 2008**  
Judging will take place by 31st January 2009

Application forms available from:  
**Studio 6, The Square, Wickham**  
or e-mail: [print@studio-6.co.uk](mailto:print@studio-6.co.uk)  
If you want one e-mailed to you.

The annual competition is dedicated to the memory of Stan Woodford, a life-long resident of Wickham, who had a passion for photography and the area in which he was born.



May I remind everyone living in Wickham and Knowle that the closing date for this year's competition is December 31st. Entry forms for the Competition are available from Studio 6, The Square, Wickham.

You will probably remember that the competition encourages people to record one or more of the many activities that go on in the Parish throughout the year and which make it such a happy place in which to live. Photographs of family events or group activities all have a place in the Competition.



Cups and small cash prizes are awarded to the best entries by adults, youngsters up to 18 and juniors. We look forward to seeing your entry.

*Michael Carter*

## WICKHAM YOUTH CLUB

will hold a  
**DISCO**

**on Saturday  
December 13**

**at the Community Centre**

**7.30 to 11.00**

**Tuck shop**

**Bring your own beverages**

## MEMORY LANE FAYRES

ANTIQUE & COLLECTORS FAYRE

**SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

**&**

**SUNDAY 11<sup>th</sup> JANUARY**

10.30am until 3.30pm

**WICKHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE  
MILL LANE, WICKHAM**

New Stall Holders always welcome

Phone Enquiries: **023 8086 9058** after 6pm

Mobile: Dave **07717 853 910**

Email: [memorylanefayres@ntlworld.com](mailto:memorylanefayres@ntlworld.com)

## MEMORY LANE FAYRES

## HELP THE AGED FAREHAM WANTED

Ladies' and men's clothes,  
bric-a-brac, shoes,  
books, toys, etc.

Please 'phone Donna on  
01329 822767 for collection,  
or bring into our shop at  
96 West Street, Fareham

## THE GOOD NEWS TRAVELLING LIBRARY

*will be at the Paterson Centre*

*Tuesday 9th December*

*and 13th January*

*10.30 am - 12.15 pm*

*to borrow books, CDs, DVDs, videos*

*and audio tapes*

*and/or*

*to buy greetings cards and notelets*

*- all at very reasonable prices*

*- could save you ££s*

*... and stay for a cup of coffee or tea.*



## CHRISTMAS CRAFTS & GIFTS

Handmade & Unusual Gifts

GREYSTONES, TITCHFIELD LANE,  
WICKHAM TEL 01329 836646

Every Saturday and Sunday from

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2008**

until

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2008**

From 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

POTTERY TEXTILE ART DICHROIC JEWELLERY  
WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHS WATER COLOURS  
CARDS STAINED GLASS MOHAIR SPINNING  
WOVEN RUGS CAKES PRESERVES HAND SEWN  
ARTISTS BEARS MOHAIR GARMENTS & MORE

On the road between Wickham and Titchfield - 1 mile  
south of Wickham Park Golf Club - look for the signs

## Wickham Afternoon Tea

Your Safer Neighbourhood Team will be  
at Wickham and ready to talk to you.  
Please feel free to come along and have a  
cup of tea and a chat with us.

## WICKHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

**LAST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH**

**1.00pm - 3.00pm**

See you there!

**Next Afternoon Tea will be on  
Wednesday 28th January**



**Home-Start Is The UK's Leading Family Support Organisation**

Home-Start volunteers are matched with families who have young children and who need a little support to help them through a stressful time. Volunteers are asked to visit "their" family once or twice a week for a couple of hours offering friendship, support and practical help.

**If you have a few hours a week to spare and you have parenting experience, give us a call to find out more.**

Training is given - the next course will be starting in Feb 2009 at Wickham Community Centre

Out of pocket expenses will be reimbursed. This voluntary work is unpaid but is highly rewarding.

**YOU can make a difference to someone's life.**

**Wickham Community Centre  
Mill Lane, Wickham, Hants PO17 5AL  
01329 835936 and ask for Claire or Louise  
E: [organiser@homestart-meonvalley.org.uk](mailto:organiser@homestart-meonvalley.org.uk)  
W: [www.homestart-meonvalley.org.uk](http://www.homestart-meonvalley.org.uk)**

***In Aid of  
The Mayor of Winchester's  
Charities***

Registered Charity No. 1093428

Cllr Michael Read of Denmead, the Mayor of Winchester, has chosen the following charities for his year:

- The Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance Service,
- The Rowans Hospice
- The Scout Association

***Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2008 from  
10am till 3.30pm***

***Christmas Market***

*Saxon Suite, Winchester Guildhall  
Craft and Charity Stalls  
To book a stall see below*

***Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2009***

***Burns Supper &  
Ceilidh***

***Winchester Guildhall  
Tickets £50 each\****

***28<sup>th</sup> February 2009***

***Celebrate St David's Day***

with the

***Pontypridd Male Voice Choir***

***Winchester Guildhall  
Tickets £10 each***

***Features to come in 2009***

***Coffee Morning talks in Abbey House:*  
St Cross a Hospital with a difference 28<sup>th</sup> Jan  
Prisons Independent Monitoring Board 25<sup>th</sup> Feb  
Discovering the Past  
with Electronic Wizardry 25<sup>th</sup> Mar  
Diamonds are a Girls' Best Friend 29<sup>th</sup> Apr**

**Tickets £5 each talk**

***To purchase tickets in advance phone:***

**Mrs Janet Read 02392 257565  
Email: [readm@btinternet.com](mailto:readm@btinternet.com)**

**\*Mrs Anne Pearson 01489 8892822  
Email: [annepearson1@msn.com](mailto:annepearson1@msn.com)**



# WICKHAM

## COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Wickham Community Centre, Mill Lane, Wickham, Hants. PO17 5AL  
Telephone: 01329 833688 Email: [wickhamcentre@btconnect.com](mailto:wickhamcentre@btconnect.com)  
Website: [www.wickhamcommunitycentre.org.uk](http://www.wickhamcommunitycentre.org.uk)

### December 2008 ~ January 2009

Are you looking to book a party or reception in 2009?

#### Have you seen the Woodford Suite?

Located on the first floor, the Woodford Suite has a large permanent licensed bar and dance floor perfect for weddings and parties. It is also ideal for meetings, conferences and talks. An overhead projector and screen is available for presentations.



*Photograph by Naomi Stannard*

The room will accommodate 80 people for a sit down meal and 120 for a buffet. There are some kitchen facilities as we now have a fridge/freezer, dishwasher, microwave and a table top cooker.

Recent refurbishment and a new lift to the first floor makes the room even more attractive for events.

For more information see our website  
[www.wickhamcommunitycentre.org.uk](http://www.wickhamcommunitycentre.org.uk)

Charity Commission Reg. No. 1090544  
Companies House Reg. No. 4329669  
VAT Reg. No. 787 4273 82

#### What is happening at the Community Centre in December?

**Weight Watchers** every Monday evening  
7.00pm

**Slimming World** every Wednesday 7.00pm  
(Except 23rd & 30th Dec which are on a Tuesday)

1st December **Teadance** 1.30pm - 4pm

9th December **U3A** 2pm

14th December **Memory Lane Fayres**

15<sup>th</sup> December **Parish Council meeting**  
7.15pm all welcome

21st December **Childrens' Christmas Party**  
12noon -2pm

27th December **Stamp & Postcard Fair**

28th December **Athena Fayre**

31st December **Rock & Roll**

**Citizens Advice** every Thursday 10.30am -  
2.00pm (Except Thursday 11th)

These are just some of the many activities and events happening in your village.

There are leaflets at the Centre giving more details of the many organisations and clubs on your doorstep.

We look forward to seeing you!



Merry Christmas from staff  
and trustees

Supported by  
Hampshire County Council



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# PETS AND PEOPLE PORTRAITS

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I have always sketched mainly animals and sometimes people. My mother was a brilliant watercolourist specialising in landscapes. I didn't think beyond water colour painting which was not a medium I wanted to use! However a chance encounter with pastels and then velour paper meant colour and texture was open to me. Then I tried graphite, professional coloured pencils and acrylics and now work in all of these depending on the subject and the client's preference.



I joined an art group at Marwell Zoological Park, mainly to get close to the animals, and found encouragement to develop my skills. Then to College to a weekly class which later moved out of the College and set up in Titchfield Community Centre as the group had developed and wanted to stay together after the classes finished. This was a great as everyone was so supportive. We now have a fantastic studio at Brown's Fine Art & Printing, Locks Heath Centre, where Helen holds art classes and her husband, Graham, does framing, mounting and printing.



Whitley Art Society was formed over three years ago out of a need for an art group that embraced all artistic subjects and forms. The Society puts on an annual exhibition and has monthly meetings, demonstrations and workshops by well known artists. I enrolled immediately the membership was open and have exhibited paintings at all three exhibitions.

I then decided I needed to gain some qualifications in art. I have worked in pharmacy and education all my working life, gaining a BA (Hons) in Educations to go with my pharmacy qualifications, so that I could teach pharmacy subjects at Highbury College of Technology. The logical Course was a Diploma in Pet Portraiture, which I have just completed with the London Art College. I gained a Distinction and am now starting a Certificate in Portraiture so that I can extend my skills in portraying people.

For the past four years I have organised and run the October 'Big Draw – Campaign for Drawing' in Wickham. The event encourages everyone to draw and some splendid work has resulted with people of all ages taking part.



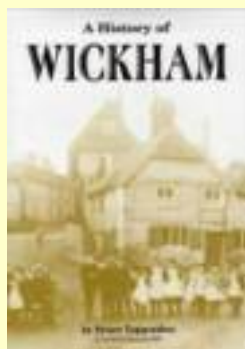
Finding art so relaxing and rewarding I charge very reasonable prices. I can work from good photographs, however I do like to see and make notes and sketches of the subject from life whenever possible. Details that are not always obvious in photos are very important, such as exact eye colour, skin, hair, or fur and feathers! Also the emotion and attitude are vital too.

I have access to an excellent framer, who will mount and frame professionally at half the cost of 'High Street' prices. I would never sell a picture unless the buyer is 100% happy with the picture. My website is: [www.fray.me.uk](http://www.fray.me.uk)

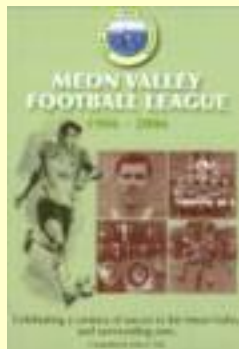
You can contact me on my email: [patricia@fray.me.uk](mailto:patricia@fray.me.uk) or on my home phone number 01329 832751 between 09.00 and 21.00 – which has answer phone facility.

*Patricia Fray*

## Local Books for Christmas Presents



***The History of Wickham*** is the definitive history of the Village.  
Written by Bruce Tappenden in 1996 and revised in 2005 by Wickham History Society. It is now available from Pages News-agents and the Chesapeake Mill at £9.99 (£8 from the History Society to its members)



***MEON VALLEY FOOTBALL LEAGUE*** is a celebration of a century of soccer in the Meon Valley and surrounding area (1906 – 2006).  
It was compiled by John Tull and recently published in October 2008. It is now available from Pages News-agents, Waltham Chase village store and other local bookshops at £7.50

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## ***TIM'S TIPS***

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This is a new feature in the magazine starting this month. After a chat with Neale we came up with the uninspiring name ***COOK'S CORNER***. However it has been renamed ***TIM'S TIPS***.

The idea that I had was to do a topical cooking slot each month. I am really not into recipes and instructions so please forgive the informal way I might put ideas across.

Anyway who am I to tell people how to cook? I have been associated with the catering trade for the best part of 35 years now and have picked up a few ideas of my own in that time. So perhaps you would like to hear some of them.

So topical? This month the on going affects of the credit crunch (a meal in itself) and Christmas. We all need to think about our budgets these days. At home I make a good hearty soup very simply using an onion chopped or sliced with a vegetable like parsnip, pumpkin or butternut squash about a ½ kilo. Sweat this down for a bit in an oil and butter mix. Add a tablespoon of flour and a teaspoon of curry powder more or less as you like and stir. Add some stock a pint will do, stir well cover and simmer till everything is really soft and mushy. Use a wizzy stick or a liquidiser and turn the whole lot into a puree. You can cool this and stick in the fridge for 4 –5 days or portion up and freeze. To finish the soup thin the puree with milk, check the seasoning and reheat. Great on a cold dark evening with some bread and cheese.

Now Christmas. I really think it is mad to pay the prices I have seen this and last year for fresh turkey and goose. Good quality frozen turkeys are out there at less than ½ the price of fresh birds. Please do not buy a small turkey of any type anything much less than 5 kilo is a waste, all bone and little meat. My family will be having a piece of turkey breast covered with streaky bacon served with chipolatas and homemade stuffing. Best value for money and no waste. As long as the roast is not over cooked. No sherry for me then!

Have a really happy and safe Christmas.

The last thought for this month is about beetroot. A really lovely vegetable. I have just peeled a bunch and did not use gloves - red hands for the next week!!

*Tim Mead*

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## ***FAIRLANDS NURSERY SCHOOL***

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A big thank you to everyone for making us feel so welcome in the village of Shedfield, especially to the Trustees. We picked up the keys on August 21st and after a hectic 2 weeks we proudly opened our gates on September 8th and welcomed all our children and parents to the new '**Fairlands Nursery School**'. We have kept the old traditional values, whilst also bringing in a few new ideas.

Fairlands now has a fabulous vegetable garden, where the children are able to practise their gardening skills and are looking forward to reaping their rewards at snack time as long as they beat the rabbits to it! We offer a fun and varied curriculum which covers the 6 key areas of learning.

The Lower School is for children aged 2 to 3 and the Upper School is for children aged from 3 to compulsory school age.

Please 'phone if you would like to come and meet us or even just have a look around our school. We look forward to meeting you.

*Jo Skinner and Carol Plumpton*

**The New Proud Owners and Head Teachers of 'Fairlands Nursery School'**

Church Road, Shedfield, Hants, SO32 2HY

Tel: 01329 834848

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



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## WICKHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

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# Year 6 sing for Prince Charles!

The children in Year 6 at Wickham Church of England Primary School were invited to the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden to a concert in celebration of The Prince of Wales 60<sup>th</sup> birthday on Friday, 14th November. Wickham was one of only six schools in the country to be invited; they also sang Happy Birthday to Prince Charles. It was a huge privilege for the school and the children. The governors are immensely proud of them as ambassadors for the school. I am sure that we shall hear much more of day and all it held for the children. In the meantime here are some pictures. The school awaits the official photo taken with Prince Charles.

*Revd Elizabeth Groves*



Over the last two years, the school has been involved in a Music Project, run by the Prince's Foundation for Children and the Arts. We have had visits from world class classical, folk and jazz musicians who have carried out workshops with children in all year groups and performed concerts for us at the Turner Sims Concert Hall in Southampton and at school. This has given Music a very high profile in the school, bringing much enjoyment to the children and enrichment to the curriculum.

As a result of being involved in this Project, early in September, we were very pleased to receive an invitation for our Year 6 children to take part in a 'special' concert to be held at The Covent Garden Opera House on 14th November, with transport provided. This was an exciting opportunity for the children, as many of them had never visited London, so we instantly said 'Yes!' A few weeks later we were very surprised to hear that we would be joining five other schools to sing 'All Through the Night' and 'Happy Birthday' to HRH Prince Charles at his 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Concert.

In preparation for this, the week before the trip we received visits from a music coach, to talk about the music the children would be hearing, and Owain Arwel-Hughes, Conductor of The Philharmonia Orchestra, who practised singing with them and explained the format of the day.

When the big day arrived we set off early for London, arriving at 10.15 am, with much excitement from the children as we drove past well-known landmarks. On arrival at the Opera House, the children joined pupils from the five other schools to practise their singing before the Concert finally began at 12.15 pm, lasting for an hour. We all enjoyed the beautiful surroundings, wonderful music and the children's singing.

Throughout the day, the children's behaviour was exemplary and we were very proud of them all. Although very excited they showed patience, maturity, good humour and a great deal of confidence when they spoke to HRH The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall at the end of the Concert.

We all had a lovely day with a variety of different experiences, but the staff agreed that the most special thing we will always remember is the wonder on the children's faces. Emma-Jayne's letter to Prince Charles certainly captures some of this. Thank you, Year 6, for representing our School and community so wonderfully at this very special celebration which we will remember for many years to come.

*Carol Burton, Head Teacher*

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# WICKHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

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## Retirement Celebrations



On 24th October, we said a fond farewell to Mrs Rosemary O'Leary, who has been Admin Officer at Wickham C.E. Primary School for the last sixteen years. At a special Leaving Assembly each of our seven classes presented Mrs O'Leary with leaving cards, and children thanked her for the ways she had helped them when unwell, contacted parents for forgotten swimming kit and resolved many of their problems. Year 6 children gave her the following poem, showing their appreciation for the many roles she has played in the school over such a long period.

Who is Mrs O'Leary?

She is our .....

Manager of medical mishaps, our  
Running around reliable receptionist, our  
Super dooper secretary, our

One and only administrator, our  
Letter-typing leading lady, our  
Energy-efficient eager beaver, our  
Awsome Admin Officer, our  
Ready for anything, remarkable, Mrs. O'Leary!  
You will be greatly missed!

Dear Prince Charles,

I am writing to you, to tell you how much I enjoyed Friday 14th November at the Royal Opera House. I was really excited when our teacher, Mrs Gadd told us we were going to sing to you! It would be a moment to stay in my heart forever.

I had never been to London before and I couldn't believe my eyes. I had never been to the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, before as well. I saw a lot of beautiful sights especially, the London Eye and the Houses of Parliament. I am very grateful!

When I could see the Royal Opera House from the coach, I started to get more excited than ever. Just then we saw you pass us in the car - we were shouting in pure excitement.

When I walked in the 'Royal Opera House', I started to get sort of nervous. We all walked up to a different room to have some refreshments. Then we got called down to rehearse with the Orchestra. I was sitting nervously as I waited for you and the Duchess of Cornwall to arrive.

Then suddenly I heard a drum roll and silence. We waited for a short period of time before you and the Duchess of Cornwall came and sat down. I started to feel very nervous and excited all at the same time.

I really enjoyed listening to the Royal Harpist, Claire Jones, who played 'Goddess of the Woods'. I thought Claire Jones was very good, and is obviously devoted to playing the harp.

The piece of music I most enjoyed was the 'Hungarian Dances' by Johannes Brahms because I thought it was very imaginative and lively. I also liked 'Jupiter' as well.

I was very grateful for the opportunity to come your special 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration. It was a brilliant experience, and I had a wonderful time. I enjoyed singing to you with the other schools. It was an absolutely magnificent day.

Having somebody like you there, made it that little bit special and magical.

Yours sincerely

Emma Jayne-Mears  
Year 6

A large suitcase was the gift presented to Rosemary, from children and parents, and we hope that she, and her husband, enjoy many happy holidays together.

We also held an after-school tea party to celebrate Rosemary's retirement to which present and previous staff, Governors and friends were invited as well as her family. All recognised her considerable contribution to school life and she was presented with a digital photo frame from staff and friends, and vouchers from Governors.

In addition, she received a 'Retirement Pampering Kit' from staff who joined together to sing a special rendition of 'The Office Queen', a specially modified and choreographed version of the Abba hit.

Thanks were also given to Mr Mike O'Leary who, for many years, has carried out relief caretaking duties for the school. We wish Rosemary, and her family, happiness in the future and all have very fond memories of her time with us

*Carol Burton, Head Teacher*

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## ROOKESBURY PARK SCHOOL

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Each Monday lunch time, pupils at Rookesbury Park School in Wickham, have been discarding their shoes and socks, in preparation for their weekly Yoga lessons. Headmistress, Pippa Harris-Burland, is passionate about the well-being of each child, and she has introduced Yoga as a means of focussing on the mind and body as one.

Yoga teacher, Karen Pinckney, who is based in Southsea, loves working with children. She creates an atmosphere of calm, of tranquillity and security, where each child feels safe and centred.

She uses the Ashtanga method, taking the children on a journey of discovery, through the stories she uses and also an exploration of themselves. From children in the Pre-Prep to pupils in Year 8, they love the opportunity to relax and learn the true art of breath-work and balance.



Pippa Harris-Burland says, 'During a busy day at school, Yoga provides us all with the opportunity to focus on ourselves through relaxation techniques, putting the whole work - life balance into perspective. If we start with ourselves, by working on what happens inside our bodies as well as on the outside, then our bodies and minds will work in unison. The ability to concentrate and focus on our studies becomes that much easier and is a positive and enjoyable experience.'

One girl in Year 5 said, 'I love Yoga, it gives me a chance to unwind and to concentrate on something other than school work. It makes me feel free and I feel so calm afterwards.'

For more information on this strengths-based prep school, please call Diana Todd on 01329 833 108 or visit the website: [www.rookesburyparkschool.co.uk](http://www.rookesburyparkschool.co.uk) . Pippa Harris-Burland, Headmistress would be very happy to show you around.

*Pippa Harris-Burland, Headmistress*

### **Wickham C. E. Primary School**

**We would like to invite you and your child to**

**"Stay and Play"**

**a group for all under 5's and their parents.**

**Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> December**

**Next term we will be meeting every Tuesday afternoon**

**Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> January**

**2.00-3.00pm in the School Hall**

**Do join us!**

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## *POEM AND MUSING*

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### **MALLARD DUCK**

I simply need to find some feed  
Beneath this surface where there's weed,  
So wedge my bottom in the air.  
I do so wish you wouldn't stare!

I know you think my waddle's daft,  
But my smile's a smirk that's full of craft,  
For who can resist my jewelled head?  
No need to beg for your best bread.

Then quack, quack, quack off I toddle  
On flipper feet in comic waddle.  
Now! Watch this grace and flashing flair  
As I arrowhead the whooshing air.

*Tony Johnson*

[“The Iron Wolf” by Ted Hughes (Faber and Faber 1995)  
has loads of brilliant animal verses for children of all ages.  
He left out Duck and Rabbit from that volume. Is there  
anyone out there who wants to write about a rabbit or  
other animal? I bet you can do better than this duck poem.]

### ***A CHRISTMAS MYSTERY (UNSOLVED)***

“Gra'ma,” asks the lovely little lad, “where does Santa live?”  
“Lapland,” says the Missus, busy at the sink.  
“Why?” says the little lad, (he's at the “why” stage).  
“Ask Granddad”, says the Missus, (she's at the delegating stage).  
“Why?” the lad asks of me.  
“Why what?” says I, lifting my nose out of the paper.  
“Why does Santa live in Lapand?”  
“For the benefit of his **elf**,” says I, smugly.  
(Scornful look from the Missus).  
“Why?” says the kid, again.  
“Well, it's a kind of **gnome from gnome** for him,” says I.  
(Tut-tut goes the Missus).  
“Why?” says the irritating child predictably.  
“Because Lapland is a **fairy** nice place,” says I.  
(Low moan from the Missus).  
“And because it's out of the **rain, dear**,” says I with a flash of inspiration.  
“But WHY,” asks the annoying little beast.  
“Ask Grandma,” says I.

*Mike Hollis*

## DECEMBER 2008 ~ JANUARY 2009 DIARY

### DECEMBER 2008

Mon	1	11:00	Spinners and Weavers, Church Room
		19:30	Circle Dancing, Church Room
<b>Tue</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10:00</b>	<b>Holy Communion, Normandy Court</b>
		14:00	Deanery Mothers' Union Advent Service at St Barnabas, Swanmore
		16:45	Brownies, Church Room
		19:45	Wickham History Society, Church Room
		19:30	Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre
Wed	3	12:00	Lunch Club, Church Room
		<b>18:30</b>	<b>Christmas light switch on in the Square</b>
Thur	4	09:30	Poppins Play Group, Church Room
Fri	5	13:00	Health Visiting Team, Church Room
		19:30	Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre
Sat	6	08:00	Men's Breakfast Club, Lilly's Tea House

Sun	7	<b>ST NICHOLAS PATRONAL FESTIVAL</b>		
		<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>		
		08:00	Holy Communion	2 Peter 3: 8-15a Mark 1: 1-8
		<b>10:00</b>	<b>Joint Parish Communion at St John the Baptist Shedfield</b>	
		<b>18:00</b>	<b>Patronal Festival Service at St Nicholas</b>	

Mon	8	11:00	Spinners and Weavers, Church Room
		19:30	Circle Dancing, Church Room
Tues	9	14:15	The Mothers' Union at 7, Tanfield Lane
		16:45	Brownies, Church Room
		19:30	Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre
Wed	10	12:00	Lunch Club, Church Room
		19:45	Wickham Wives, Church Room
Thur	11	09:30	Poppins Play Group, Church Room
Fri	12	13:00	Health Visiting Team, Church Room
		19:30	Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre

Sun	14	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>		
		08:00	Holy Communion	1 Thess 5: 16-24
		09:45	Parish Communion	John 1: 6-8, 19-28

Mon	15	11:00	Spinners and Weavers, Church Room
		19:30	Light Railways Association, Church Room
Tue	16	16:45	Brownies, Church Room
		19:30	Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre
Wed	17	12:00	Lunch Club, Church Room
		19:30	Model Engineers Society, Church Room
Thur	18	09:30	Poppins Play Group, Church Room
		<b>18:30</b>	<b>Carols in the Square</b>
Fri	19	13:00	Health Visiting Team, Church Room
		19:30	Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre

Sun	21	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>		
		08:00	Holy Communion	Romans 16: 25-end
		09:45	Parish Communion	Luke 1: 26-38
		<b>18:00</b>	<b>Nine Lessons and Carols Service</b>	

Mon	22	11:00	Spinners and Weavers, Church Room
		19:30	Circle Dancing, Church Room
Tue	23	16:45	Brownies, Church Room
		19:30	Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre

Wed	24	<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>		
		<b>18:00</b>	<b>Crib Nativity Service</b>	Hebrews 1: 1-4
		<b>11:30</b>	<b>Midnight Mass</b>	John 1: 1-14

Thur	25	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> 08:00 Holy Communion 09:45 Family Service with Carols	Titus 2: 11-14 Luke 2: 1-20
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Sun	28	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS</b> 08:00 Holy Communion 09:45 Service of Poetry and Carols	1 Cor. 1: 26-29 Matthew 2: 13-18
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Mon 29 11:00 Spinners and Weavers, Church Room  
19:30 Circle Dancing, Church Room  
Tue 30 16:45 Brownies, Church Room

**JANUARY 2009**

Fri 2 13:00 Health Visiting Team, Church Room  
19:30 Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre  
Sat 3 08:00 Men's Breakfast Club, Church Room

Sun	4	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS</b> 08:00 Holy Communion 09:45 Family Service 18:00 Choral Eucharist
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Mon 5 11:00 Spinners and Weavers, Church Room  
19:30 Circle Dancing, Church Room  
Tues 6 **10:00 Holy Communion, Normandy Court**  
16:45 Brownies, Church Room  
19:30 Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre  
Wed 7 12:00 Lunch Club, Church Room  
Thur 8 09:30 Poppins Play Group, Church Room  
Fri 9 13:00 Health Visiting Team, Church Room  
19:30 Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre

Sun	11	<b>BAPTISM OF CHRIST</b> 08:00 Holy Communion 09:45 Parish Communion
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Mon 12 11:00 Spinners and Weavers, Church Room  
19:30 Circle Dancing, Church Room  
Tue 13 14:15 The Mothers' Union at 3 Glebe Corner  
16:45 Brownies, Church Room  
19:30 Wickham Society, Church Room  
19:30 Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre  
Wed 14 12:00 Lunch Club, Church Room  
19:30 Wickham Wives, Church Room  
Thur 15 09:30 Poppins Play Group, Church Room  
Fri 16 13:00 Health Visiting Team, Church Room  
19:30 Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre  
Sat 17 **LAST DAY FOR COPY FEBRUARY 2009 PARISH MAGAZINE**

Sun	18	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY</b> 08:00 Holy Communion 09:45 Parish Communion 18:00 Choral Evensong
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Mon 19 11:00 Spinners and Weavers, Church Room  
19:30 Light Railways Association, Church Room  
Tue 20 16:45 Brownies, Church Room  
19:15 First Responders, Church Room  
19:30 Wickham Indoor Bowling, Community Centre  
Wed 21 12:00 Lunch Club, Church Room  
19:30 Model Engineers Association, Church Room  
Fri 23 13:00 Health Visiting Team, Church Room

Sun 25 **THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY**

08:00 Holy Communion

09:45 Parish Communion

Mon 26 11:00 Spinners and Weavers, Church Room

19:30 Circle Dancing, Church Room

Tue 27 16:45 Brownies, Church Room

Wed 28 12:00 Lunch Club, Church Room

Fri 30 13:00 Health Visiting Team, Church Room

**FEBRUARY**

Mon 2 11:00 Spinners and Weavers, Church Room

19:30 Circle Dancing, Church Room

Tue 3 16:45 Brownies, Church Room

19:30 History Society, Church Room

Wed 4 12:00 Lunch Club, Church Room

Thur 5 09:30 Poppins Play Group, Church Room

Fri 6 13:00 Health Visiting Team, Church Room

Sat 7 08:00 Men's Breakfast Club, Church Room

***LAST DAY FOR COPY FEBRUARY 2009 MAGAZINE  
SATURDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY***

*From the registers*

*Rest in Peace*

George Shannon	89 years	4/11/2008
Alan Spicer	67 years	21/11/2008
Isabel Rog	87 years	26/11/2008
George Quilter	81 years	28/11/2008
James Lambley	88 years	1/12/2008

***The Coachman's Tale***

"Senior Coachman" Sam said to himself for at least the hundredth time as he sat high up on the driving seat, waiting to take his passenger home from the palace.

"Don't forget the yard closes at midnight" the boss had shouted after him as he steered the grand golden coach, with its six magnificent white horses out of the stable yard. "So be back here by then or your out."

It had all happened so fast, only this morning he didn't know where he would find the extra money to feed his growing family. If only the wife had not presented him with seven children.

Perhaps this promotion would be the beginning of a change of fortune, after all a smart new uniform and new riding boots all suggested he was finally on his way to better things.

The day had started with a real challenge. After watching with admiration, as the old coachman had taken the reins and casually drove around the large stable yard, he had then passed the reins to Sam and said, "Right off you go young man, lets see how you get on.

At first he thought he would never get the hang of it but after a couple of nervous circuits, he grew in confidence. By the end of the lesson he had taken the coach on the open road into the town and back.

His thoughts were suddenly interrupted by the sound of trumpets as, to his relief, the double-doors opened.

People started to emerge when suddenly; there she was; running down the stairs, losing a shoe in her haste.

As the bells in the clock tower began the first of twelve rings to signal midnight he shouted, "Please don't stop for the shoe miss OR I WILL LOSE MY JOB."

*P V Frances-Medland*

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# LETTERS

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**From Nicki Oliver**

Dear Editor,

Congratulations to the Parish Magazine Team on winning the **Hampshire Community Magazine of the Year Award**.

The Award is richly deserved, the Editor and Team work so hard to produce and deliver an excellent magazine throughout the year.

The judges liked the fact that the magazine is 'packed with content' with contributions from lots of different groups and organisations.

The judges noted that the community 'owed a debt of gratitude to all those involved in the design, production and management' of the magazine.

How true!

Thank you.

*Nicki Oliver,  
Wickham Parish Clerk*

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**From Nicki Oliver**

Dear Editor,

## **Lighting up Wickham for Christmas**

Everyone enjoys the festive atmosphere in Wickham Square, the Christmas tree and buildings decorated with fairy lights.

The tree seemingly appears by magic, a telephone call to the Gwynn family at AE Roberts is all that is needed. The Parish Council pays for the tree but it is chosen, delivered and put up with the generous help of John and David Gwynn and their team. Thank you to everyone that helps.

The lights take somewhat longer...

This year twelve volunteers helped put up the lights, ably lead by Neale Fray -thank you to Trevor, Brian, Robert, Stuart, Steve, David, Louise, Angie, Paul, Roger and Chris, your time and energy is appreciated by everyone.

Thanks to some very efficient improvements in storage last year and new clear instruction diagrams, Neale's work again, the whole process was pretty speedy.

Community involvement widens on the evening of the switch on, more volunteers help steward the event, the Youth Club, Scouts, Choirs and local groups make the event even more fun. Thank you to Dick Warwick for allowing the use of his garage and electricity.

This year the Co-op has agreed to donate festive fare and Mr Azizur Rahman, Director of Koh Thai has very kindly donated £250 towards the cost of Father Christmas' sleigh. The support of our local businesses is very welcome and much appreciated.

Thank you to Barry and Mel at Horse Drawn Promotions as they always give us priority and to Father Christmas, Roy Buckner.

Finally thank you in anticipation to our volunteers who help take down the lights and to Dick Warwick and David Roger-Jones who provide year round storage. Not just for the lights but for lots of other community events equipment as well.

What a great community to provide the opportunity for so many thank yous!

Best wishes to everyone for a Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

*Nicki Oliver  
Wickham Parish Clerk*

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### **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.*



**'The Madding Crowd'**  
**CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Singers and Instrumentalists  
dressed in period costume  
**FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER 2008**  
**20.00 HOURS**  
**SOUTHWICK CHURCH**  
(Off B2177)

**TICKETS £9-50 in advance or £10 on door**  
Includes refreshments. **BOOK EARLY!**  
SAE to Revd. R.L. Green, The White House,  
High Street, Southwick, Hampshire, PO17 6EB  
Cheque payable to The Rowans Hospice.  
Please mark your envelope 'M. Crowd'

**PLEASE DO COME ALONG AND**  
**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL HOSPICE**

# *Crossword, etc*

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# WICKHAM ORGANISATIONS

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## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our President Sylvia Wells welcomed members to the November meeting. Jerusalem was sung. Jocelyn Lovett gave a report on the open meeting that eight members attended at Waltham Chase, a most entertaining evening with Jenny Raiment, an expert in quilting and design and a great comedienne from Emsworth.



As this was our AGM our Secretary Molly Haydock gave a report on all the activities we had taken part in during the year. The President thanked the committee for their hard work. One member had retired from the committee and June Brown had agreed to take her place, the rest of the committee and officers were re-elected en bloc, proposed by Joan Smith and seconded by Jocelyn Lovett.



Joyce Cleife

### Competitions

The cup for the winner of the most competitions during the year was presented to Joyce Cleife.

The spoon for the most flower competitions was awarded to Barbara Mullett.

The winners for this month are:

- Winner of Competition - Joan Smith
- Flower of the month Winner - Yvone Case



Barbara Mullett

The meeting on December 10th is our Christmas Party, the speaker will be Mrs Pat Matthews on “Verse and Worse”!! Guests are welcome.

January will be our annual lunch instead of the normal meeting.

*Joan D Smith*

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## WICKHAM WIVES

On Wednesday 12th November, we welcomed Barbara Selby who had kindly stepped into the breach at short notice as unfortunately her sister, Madeleine, was unable to give us a talk on the History of Southwick. Barbara gave us a very interesting talk on “**The Early Days of Haslar Hospital**”.

Barbara's introduction was to remind us of the life and conditions sailors experienced on board ship over 300 years ago, before any provision was made for their welfare. Most of the crew were press-ganged into the service or taken straight from courts or prisons. Appalling conditions existed on board, overcrowding with the only ventilation coming from hatches and gun ports, inadequate food, their diet of salt beef or pork, oatmeal biscuits that became infested with weevils, some butter and cheese that soon became rancid, and beer.

Below decks, their sleeping quarters were equally appalling. Their bedding was always wet and the stench from the bilges from decaying matter created an environment for sickness and disease. Any voyage lasting over 6 weeks caused scurvy to develop because of their filthy clothes and conditions and the infestation of body lice, typhus (or sail fever as it was called) was rife, and tuberculosis also spread rapidly in this environment.

With so many seamen deserting or dying it was apparent that something had to be done.

A few facilities were made but they were totally inadequate. Early in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century a fund called the Chatham Chest was set up; parishes were asked to contribute to this fund. Sailors were also asked to contribute and fines collected from courts martial, etc. were added, but the fund failed due to corrupt management.

Eventually it was agreed that a Naval Hospital should be located in the Portsmouth area. Converting Portchester Castle or Carisbrook Castle was suggested, but turned down. Finally, with the intervention of the King, the Admiralty and even Samuel Pepys, the Admiralty purchased a site of 95 acres at Haselhorne Point, known locally at Haslar Farm. Permission was given for the hospital to be built at a cost of £38,000, with enough beds to treat 1,500 patients.

Two architects were appointed and they came up with a design of buildings on four sides surrounding a central courtyard – though only 3 sides were completed. The foundation stone was laid in 1746 using local clay for the bricks, timber from the New Forest and stone from the Isle of Wight. On completion in 1753 it was the largest brick building in Europe. Access to the hospital from Portsmouth was by rowing boat ferries and a series of bridges.

Among many surgeons appointed to the hospital was a James Lind. He had discovered that a diet containing citrus fruit and fresh vegetables treated and cured scurvy, though it was only after his death that a French Doctor published this fact and received an award. James Lind also realised that typhus flourished in the filthy conditions the sailors were living in and was spread by lice. So he organised that all the recruits (mostly press-ganged or from prison) should undergo a thorough decontamination procedure and be given clean clothes, and that all the infested clothes and bedding be destroyed. Lind emphasised cleanliness, and gave the sailors soap and encouraged them to wash their hands, and insisted on wider spaces between beds in the hospital. It was his suggestion that sailors should have a uniform and badges to give them identity and prestige. He was a remarkable man. These simple changes reaped great improvements for everyone in the navy.

The nursing care at this time left much to be desired. Nurses were appointed – many were widows or wives of serving sailors. They had no training and were poorly paid; many were corrupt and their morals doubtful. Male sick berth attendants were employed, but it was nearly 100 years before trained nurses from the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing at St Thomas's Hospital in London arrived in Haslar.

In 1902, Queen Alexandra's Nursing Service was founded. In 1948 the NHS took over the hospital. Although it was still a Naval Hospital, civilian patients admitted. Mentally ill patients had been treated at Haslar but in 1960 all were transferred to Netley Hospital for specialist care.

As we all know, Haslar's history does not stop here. This outstanding hospital looks as though it is going to be a source of passionate challenges over the coming years, so let us hope it can triumph over bureaucracy and carry on its long reputation of excellence.

Our thanks to Barbara for informing us of the interesting origins of Haslar, situated so near and of which most of us know very little.

**Wednesday 10th December 2008** will be our Christmas Party and our first speaker of the New Year will be Dr. Denise Stone who will tell us about her time as a Medical Missionary in Africa. Venue – Church Room, 7.30 for 7.45 on Wednesday 14th January 2009.

*Margaret Gwynn*

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## ***FORESTERS FRIENDLY SOCIETY***



### **CAROLCADE**

On Sunday 14th December at 2.30pm we will be holding our 19th Carolcade. As last year, by kind permission of the P.C.C. we will again be in St Nicholas Church. The singing will be led by the Denmead Brass Band. After the Carolcade, mince pies and sausage rolls will be served in the Church Room.

Admission to the Carolcade is free. A collection will be taken in aid of Fort Cancer Charity during the singing. This will be an afternoon not to miss. Please come along to support us while enjoying the singing and music.

*John Pratt*

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## **ROYAL BRITISH LEGION – WICKHAM BRANCH**



The Branch members, well supported by the Guides, Brownies, Scouts & Cubs, marched with their respective Standards from the Square to St Nicholas' Church for the Remembrance Service on Sunday 9th November. "The Last Post" was sounded by Ted Fitzgerald, followed by the two minutes silence. The church was at near capacity for the Service and all listened with great interest to the Rev Elizabeth's poignant sermon on the importance of the service and the reasons for maintaining the memory of the service men and women lost during the two World Wars and in other worldwide conflicts. The Parish Council was represented by the Chairman, Mrs Angela Clear, who laid a wreath at the War Memorial. The members of Hampshire Fire & Rescue Services present laid a wreath in memory of fallen comrades. Once again all were very grateful for the safe guidance of the marchers at the busy crossroads by the Hampshire Constabulary and we thank them for their attendance.



In the Square at 11.00am on the 11th November, "The Last Post" was again rendered by Ted Fitzgerald, with kind permission, from the steps of Lilly's Tea Rooms, followed by the two minutes silence, most traffic in The Square showing respect for silent remembrance. The Royal British Legion standard was present, carried by the branch Standard Bearer Ian McDougal, the number of branch members present being strengthened by other friends attending for the tribute.

**At the time of printing our total collection stands at £4,666.72.  
I would like to thank everyone who either collected or donated. Sheena Bright**

Christmas Dinner & Draw      6th December 2008      Shedfield Reading Rooms      19.30 hrs

*Mick Kerley*

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## **MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP**

### **THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY**

It was at 8.00am on the 1st December last year that a group of 16 came together in the church room, having little idea of what a Men's Breakfast might entail. By the time we had been treated to a glass or two of Kir Royale, a memorable breakfast, and what was to prove the first of a succession of excellent talks, we knew we had struck the right chord.

We took a summer break in September, and returned in October to enjoy the fascinating results of Dennis Boylan's research into an obscure campaign which took place on Lake Tanganyika during the First World War. We knew that Adrian Groves had delighted the Mothers' Union with his talk on beekeeping, and so were glad also of the opportunity in November to learn a little of the joys and misfortunes of the art, most engagingly and enthusiastically expounded.



*MV Graf von Goetzen*

On Saturday 6th December we will be celebrating our first birthday. In honour of the occasion we will give our cooks a break and repair to Lilly's. We will also not invite a speaker, but two unfortunate losers of a draw will be asked to talk for a few minutes. Our guest speakers of the past year, and two good fairies of the kitchen, have been sent no-strings invitations.

By dint of good housekeeping we have inadvertently amassed a modest surplus of funds over the year. We intend to share this between our fledgling offspring, the Friends of St Nicholas, and a Services charity. 'Normal service will be resumed' when we return to the church room on 3rd January. We would be delighted, as ever, to see new faces. Telephone 01329 832915.

*Robert Goulson*

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## **WICKHAM TWINNING ASSOCIATION**

- Looking for a new interest?
- Want to be a French person for the weekend?
- Want to brush up your GCSE level French? (or even 'O'level!)?
- Want to help your child improve its French/knowledge of another culture?
- Want to make new friendships?
- Want a cheap weekend in France - French style with all the trimmings?
- Want to see some France from the inside?



30 years ago some folk from Wickham decided along with their counterparts in Villers sur Mer (a seaside village 25 minutes from the Caen ferry port) to achieve all these by forming their joint Twinning Associations ('Jumelage'). A pact was made between the villages that an annual visit would be made one way or the other to attempt to share the joys of living on either side of the Channel. The tradition lives on but newcomers are needed to keep it ongoing!!

A typical visit there begins with the Friday evening ferry. We are met by a coach at the port before being transported to Villers to be distributed amongst the families of the town for the weekend. Saturday usually involves a joint visit to a place of interest which is followed in the evening by a joint banquet somewhere in the town. Sunday morning is free time before a magnificent Sunday lunch with your family prior to the return journey in the evening. All this for about £30/person for the weekend!

No French necessary but all attempts welcomed by them!  
 Alternate years we do the hosting with a similar programme. Costs to hosts are kept down with the aid of funding from some of our many fun fundraising events which include a Plant sale, a Garden Party, a Quiz, a Wine Tasting to name but a few.

To ensure updates on events, priority bookings, newsletters and reminders - **JOIN TODAY!!**  
 Phone Ann Johnson 833400 for more information or cut off slip below and send to:  
 The Membership Secretary WTA, Margaret Knight, Silver Tops, Hoads Hill Wickham PO17 5 BU

Annual membership is only £5 per family or £30 for ten years!  
 Cheques payable to '**Wickham Twinning Association**' please.

*Caroline Fribbance*

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I/We ..... would like to join the Wickham Twinning Association

Address/email .....

Phone ..... Enclosed £ ..... for one/ten years

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## ***WICKHAM HISTORY SOCIETY***

At our meeting on November 4th we had a talk followed by a Power Point presentation by Clifford Ward, archaeologist, on the development of the Heritage Centre at Otford in Kent.

Otford lies about 20 miles S.E. of London in one of the five gaps through the North Downs between Dover and Salisbury Plain. The History Group at Otford started in 1960 and the Heritage Centre was set up by its enthusiastic members with an interest in the abundance of local archaeological artefacts.

The first settlement in the area can be dated from 2000 BC, a Bronze Age burial having been found together with pottery of a similar age. There was a religious settlement in the area belonging to the Archbishop of Canterbury from 821 BC. Although the railway was brought in 1861, there was no station at Otford until 1882. However, situated as it is, in the triangle between the three motorways M20, M25 and M26, there are good links with London.

The Centre, which is closely linked to the Parish Council and extensively financed by various local organisations, now has charitable status and should soon become an accredited museum. The pictures of the Heritage Centre were of particular interest and gave us an insight into how such a centre can be developed.

Our next meeting on 2nd December will be a joint meeting with the Wickham Society. Following a talk on "Palmerston's Follies" by Cdr. Bruce Nicholls, there will be Christmas Fare of mulled wine and nibbles. Members are invited to bring small amounts of suitable food to share with others on this festive occasion.

*Doreen Barrett*

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## ***THE WICKHAM SOCIETY***

George Terry, Head of Plastering at Highbury College and a member of 'The City of London Worshipful Company of Plaisterers' was our guest speaker this month. George explained that from the 1920's through to the late 1960's plasterwork training was very comprehensive and covered the full range of the plasterer's craft including restoration and conservation techniques. With the post-war housing boom and the advent of new materials the plasterers' training went into decline, as it was possible 'train on the job'. It was disasters such as the fires at Uppark House and Windsor Castle which brought about the realisation that many important trade skills had been lost. Nowadays, specialist courses provide the full range of plasterwork skills required for the preservation and restoration of traditional buildings. George then described the various stages of construction for wattle and daub walls, lime plastering, running cornices and the production of fibrous mouldings.



It was a very enjoyable and informative evening and those of us with older properties acquired some very useful free advice from an expert in his field.

### **Programme 2008-2009**

- Tues 2nd Dec: 'Palmerston's Follies' Cdr. Bruce Nicholls, Vexillographer.  
Joint meeting with WHS
- Tues 13th Jan: 'Portsmouth Harbour and Spithead – World Heritage Site Proposal'  
Dr Celia Clark, Portsmouth Society
- Tues 10th Feb: 'Hampshire Songs: George Gardiner and the traditional songs of Hampshire'.  
Bob Askew. With musical accompaniment by Schiehallion
- Tues 10th Mar: 'Conservation of Paintings – in particular Wickham Church Paintings'  
Ann Sadler-Forster
- Tues 14th Apr: 'AGM' followed by 'Quiz Evening'

### **Summer Visits in conjunction with Wickham History Society**

- Tues 2nd Jun: The Porter's Garden, Portsmouth
- Tues 7th Jul: Fort Nelson
- Summer Cruise and further details to be announced at a later date

## WINCHESTER LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK - UPDATE

At the beginning of the year, we notified all the residents of Wickham about the workshop on the 'Local Development Framework' (LDF) held by Winchester City Council (WCC) in the Community Centre. More than 360 attended this meeting and many of you responded to the Issues and Options questionnaire. WCC have now produced detailed summary of both of these and they are available by downloading the file 'Detailed notes from Wickham' at <http://www.winchester.gov.uk/General.asp?nc=P07N&id=18881>.

On 17th September, representatives of the Parish Council and the Wickham Society Committee attended a 'Stakeholders' meeting held by WCC. Below is a list of the key points that WCC have produced from that meeting:

- Wickham Parish Council accept Key Hub status, but in recognition that Wickham is the smallest settlement with this status maintain that limited growth is appropriate, with the minimum number of houses – perhaps 100, concentrated in one area with some infill. They do however have concern about existing social imbalance due to the high proportion of social housing and wish to redress this with more 2, 3 and 4 bedroom houses to create a better balanced community.
- The Parish Council wish that due to the existing high levels of social housing Wickham should be treated differently in terms of the 40% affordable housing requirement for new residential development.
- With regard to infrastructure, there is concern that with more infill there is greater pressure on the existing drainage system and it should be recognised that any development in Wickham will have to address this. However, there is significant capacity at the primary school with 50% unfilled places, which needs to be addressed. Any new development should create new walkways and cycleways.
- Wickham should remain a village in its own right and should not be absorbed into Fareham. A significant Green Gap must be maintained between Wickham and the Fareham SDA. However it was acknowledged that the Fareham SDA offers an opportunity to Wickham residents to access wider employment opportunities. Wickham will be more sustainable close to this source of employment but it will need to attract the right balance of people/housing mix.
- In terms of traffic generation there is concern about the amount of traffic that will be generated by the Fareham SDA and the impact on the village of 10,000 new houses just a couple of miles down the road, particularly in terms of the capacity of the A32 and B2177 to absorb additional HGV traffic.

The proposed timetable for the next stages of the LDF is as follows:

Preferred Options (Regulation 25 informal consultation)	March/April 2009
Statutory Consultation (Regulation 27, 28, 29 consultation)	December 2009
Submission stage (notification Regulation 30)	Mid 2010

The Wickham Society Committee will continue to keep you informed of the progress of the LDF and in particular of your opportunity to comment on the 'Preferred Options' document.

*Maggie Smith*

## **WICKHAM AND DISTRICT RIFLE CLUB**

### **AIR GUN SECTION**

The Wickham Rifle Club air section is open to every one over 10 years old. We meet each Saturday in the Community Centre long room. We have a selection of air guns you can use or you can bring your own. We supply pellets and various types of targets, and 6 yard, 10 metre and 25 yard ranges. We have qualified instructors who can teach safety and accuracy in a safely controlled environment. An ideal place for 'dads and lads' bonding sessions.

Saturday mornings, 10.00 till 12.00 £3.50 per person  
Telephone Norman 01329 833601 or Eric 01489 892903

*Norman Beckett*

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## **WICKHAM YOUTH CLUB**

### **NEW DRAMA GROUP**

The Youth Club will be closed for 3 weeks during the Christmas period, from December 24th to January 8th inclusive. It will re-open on January 14th when it is hoped to start a Drama Group, using one of the Community Centre rooms, from 6.30 to 8.00 pm each Wednesday evening. There will be drama and music tuition. More details to be announced nearer the time.

**The winner of the Youth 100Club draw for November was Number 48**

*Barrie Marson*

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## **1<sup>ST</sup> WICKHAM SCOUT GROUP**

We have had an eventful month since I last wrote the report for the magazine. Scouts: The Ice Skating was a challenge for quite a few of the Scouts and many found they were skating on their backsides more than they were up on their feet!!!! Another challenge was to get them to write and draw with their mouths and feet. Oh, how hard did they find this!!!

The Cubs have been concentrating on the decorations for the Doctors' surgery. The Beavers have started crafting for Christmas.



Again, the Royal British Legion invited us to the Remembrance Day Parade. We were very pleased at how smart and well-behaved the children were.

How unlucky could we be!!! Two weekends, one event, and we still had to cancel our Bonfire and Firework evening. The field was so wet, and to even to get in the gate you had to wade through 4 inches of water!!! BUT all is not lost! We are planning to hold an evening of Fireworks and Hotdogs on New Years Eve at the rear of the Community Centre, starting at 6pm. Look out for posters in December.

### **Wickham Scout Group Christmas Post**

Once again we will be delivering Christmas cards around the village  
***The postbox and map of our delivery area will be in Pages Newsagent***  
From Monday 1st December until Saturday 20th December  
Price still only 15p per envelope

At this time of year we get extra post. Please can we have your postage stamps: they can be given to any of our members, or telephone me for details of where they can be delivered to.

I am so pleased to announce that the Parish Council and the Scout Group have agreed to a new joint building on the recreation ground. We hope to give you a lot more information on this new project in the New Year.

As from January the SCOUTS, CUBS and BEAVERS will be moving back to Wickham. We are going to be using the Meon Room in the Community Centre. Thanks to the centre for being able to accommodate us on our usual nights.

If you have a son or daughter age 6-14 who would like to join our happy family of Scouting please telephone 01329 832739 for details.

May I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

*Chris Samways, Cub Scout Leader*

**PS I am pleased to announce that Ashley (our Assistant Scout Leader) and Laura had a baby girl on 22nd of November. We send them all our good wishes.**

## WICKHAM CRICKET CLUB



On Saturday 18th October a fund-raising night took place at Rookesbury Park School, in aid of the school, a charity in Africa and Wickham Cricket Club. Entertainment on the night was provided by local band Timewarp, featuring our own Malc Burt on vocals. It was a great night and many boys from the club came along to support the event. The final figure raised has not yet been announced.



Local Band Timewarp with Malc Burt on vocals

The club held their AGM on Monday 17th November, in Greens, Wickham. Unfortunately Chairman Frank Duckworth was away on holiday so Vice-chairman John Gwynn stepped up to the table to conduct the meeting. There was a good attendance, with 17 members coming along to discuss the usual varied agenda items. As usual, trophies were presented to the winners and runners up of the league and overall best batting and bowling, as follows:



Harold Davis presenting Bob Hayward with his awards

League	batting winner	Bob Hayward
	batting runner-up	James Martin
	bowling winner	Bob Hayward
	bowling runner-up	Steve Judge
Overall	batting winner	Bob Hayward
	batting runner-up	James Martin
	bowling winner	Andy Gwynn
	bowling runner-up	Bob Hayward

Many congratulations to all the winners and runners-up and especially Bob Hayward – the photo shows Bob receiving his multiple awards!

Indoor net practice has been arranged again for early Spring, starting on 10th February. If anyone needs more details, please just give us a call.

And finally, a word on the progress of the Fareham Indoor League from shy and retiring captain Robert Higgins:

*'Wickham Cricket Club enters its third year playing indoor cricket at Fareham Leisure Centre. Led by its veteran captain, Robert Higgins, the team has won one, lost one and drawn one. Pundits thought that the introduction of younger players would strengthen the squad, However, W. G. Kirby and Donald Judge are making their presence heard; while apprentices Chris Martin and all-rounder Sam Ryan are, or would like to be, scoring heavily.'*

If you are interested in joining the club, either as a player, scorer or umpire, please give Malc Burt a call on 01329 834398.

*Lesley Wilde, Secretary*

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## OTHER LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

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### MEON VALLEY LIONS

#### CHRISTMAS – A TIME FOR GIVING



no administrative costs devaluing your contribution. Please help us again this year – no matter how small your donation, Father Christmas really appreciates it and every little helps.

Lion Ian Cresdee has given Santa's sleigh a fresh lick of gold paint in time for our annual Christmas collection which will run throughout December, the length and breadth of the Meon Valley. Even though times are tough, we are hoping the people of the Meon Valley will provide their usual great support and help us beat last year's record collection of £4,400. 80% of our charitable activity is ring-fenced to support local needs and our volunteer code means that all the money you give is channelled into the charity, with

Straight after Christmas, we will be back into action concluding arrangements for the Annual Fishing Festival on Weston Shore, Southampton. This year the tides dictate that the competition will take place between 9am and 2pm on Sunday 25th January, so dig out your rod from the loft. Unbelievably this event is now in its 34<sup>th</sup> year and we will be working with Ford's Sports and Social Sea Angling Club to ensure another successful competition and at the same time raise a pile of cash for the Naomi House charity, Winchester. The Ford branch of the Transport and General Workers Union has always been a great supporter, providing sponsorship of prizes (top prize this year is £600) which not surprisingly attracts over 250 eager anglers each year. Our aim is to clear £2,000 for Naomi House, taking the total to around £27,000 since the event began.

So keep an ear open for Santa's Christmas music when his sleigh comes down your street and have a peaceful and happy Christmas period.

*Ian Adams*

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### HOME-START MEON VALLEY

#### RUNAWAY SUCCESS OF HOME-START MEON VALLEY FASHION SHOW



Over 150 people attended the top fashion show hosted by Home-Start Meon Valley on Thursday, 13 November 2008 at Wickham Community Centre, Mill Lane, Wickham, PO17 5AL. There were queues to try on the clothes after the models had strutted their stuff.

Home-Start Meon Valley hopes to have raised at least £1,000 to help continue their work supporting children and their families in the Meon Valley.

Mandy Tegg, Chair of the Fund Raising Committee and a Home-Start Trustee, says "***We were thrilled that so many people supported the fashion show. We are dependent on the generosity of local people to keep our charity going***"



For further information, contact Tracy Micklethwaite on 01329 835936

*Niki Cartwright*

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## MEON VALLEY U3A



The 2008/2009 theme “**Our Coast and Countryside**” includes illustrated talks on conservation areas, maritime history and local lands and life. The 2008/2009 season of activities, lectures and talks will be led by the Chairman Brian Barrett. Meetings are held at Wickham Community Centre in Mill Lane, Wickham.

Two meetings of the Music Appreciation Group are planned for the 2008/09 session.

### Programme 2008/2009

### Theme: “Our Coast and Countryside”

2008

Dec 9 2pm “**Grottoes, Bathing Houses and Plunge Pools**” presentation by Vivien Rolf country house and parks enthusiast.

Wickham Community Centre Guests welcome

2009

Jan 6 2pm “**Pressures on Hampshire’s Coasts**” – illustrated talk by **Alan Inder** former Coastal Manager, Hampshire County Council

Wickham Community Centre Guests welcome

20 2pm “**Lifeboats Around Our Coasts**” presentation by **Barrie Marson** - lifeboat enthusiast

Wickham Community Centre Guests welcome

27 2pm **READING GROUPS:** telephone (01329) 833384 for details

*Edna Housecroft*

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## MEON VALLEY CITIZENS’ ADVICE BUREAU

**Q. My flatmates are refusing to pay their share of a debt. Am I liable for their share as well as my own?**

**A.** For a credit agreement, only the person whose name is on it is liable, so if an agreement is in more than one name all parties are liable for the entire amount of the debt as long as they have signed it. In this situation the creditor has the right to try to get the full payment from any one or all of the people responsible.

The situation is slightly different for utilities and household bills. For water bills, the occupier is liable, so if the person named on the bill does not pay, other adult occupiers could be pursued for payment. For Council Tax, certain properties and certain individuals are exempt, but generally where you have two adult healthy working individuals who have the same right to occupy the property, they will both be liable, even if the bill is only in one of their names.

The liability for electricity and gas hasn’t really been tested in the courts yet so it is somewhat unclear whether the liability rests with whoever requested the supply (and whose name is on the bill) or those who can be described as ‘beneficial users’ and have benefited from the fuel.

All requests for payment should be checked to make sure they have been sent to the right person. If there are any doubts, the creditor should be asked to produce details of the goods or service provided or, if appropriate, a copy of the credit agreement.

For more information and advice on debt problems contact your local **CAB** at Well House, 2 Brook Street, **Bishop’s Waltham**, SO32 1AX, Tel. No. (01489) **896376** open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. We also run an advice surgery at Wickham Community Centre, Mill Lane, Wickham on Thursdays from 10.30 am to 1.30 pm. If this is not convenient, please note our **Thursday evening appointments only** session (**from 4 to 7 p.m.**) at the Bishop’s Waltham Bureau. You can also e-mail us on [bishopswaltham@cabnet.org.uk](mailto:bishopswaltham@cabnet.org.uk) with your problem. You can also go to our local website [www.bishopswalthamcab.org.uk](http://www.bishopswalthamcab.org.uk) or you can go to the national Citizens Advice website [www.adviceguide.org.uk](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk)

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## **MEON VALLEY CARERS TOGETHER – MEMORY MATTERS**

**I need you  
You need me  
He/She needs us  
We need them  
You need them  
They need us**



### **COME AND JOIN US AND TAKE PART IN THE MAJOR COMMUNITY EVENT IN THE MEON VALLEY IN 2009**

No doubt most readers are now aware that best-selling author Terry Pratchett has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's, the most common of the illnesses labelled as forms of "Dementia". Terry is now actively supporting the Alzheimer's Society personally as an "Ambassador", and also financially in supporting Dementia Research, which has been woefully neglected. Terry recently stated that he had now experienced the "stigma" associated with mental illness, and Dementia in particular. If that can happen to such a high profile figure who at this stage of his illness is very lucid in his work, then it is clearly high time that we all sat up and took notice. Stigma is largely created by ignorance; ignorance breeds fear, discrimination, prejudice and social exclusion of both dementia patients and their carers. In a so-called advanced and socially responsible society such attitude is utterly unacceptable, but it can be rectified with your help and in fact by quite simple actions we can all not only ease the burden on those affected, but actually save tax money by reducing the need for crisis management. The numbers of people with a form of Dementia is calculated to increase by 46% by 2025, and on that assumption most families will have a member or know someone suffering from this problem. It could be any of us. We need to take action now! All this and more will be explained, with positive examples, at the event taking place in the Jubilee Hall on 7th January 2009. Please do now book your place for this all-day event by leaving your name, address and phone number on 01489 895444, or by writing to Meon Valley Carers Together, Carer Link, Paterson Centre, Swanmore, Southampton, SO32 2PA, or contact any trustee as listed below.

This month I missed attending our meetings. Instead I flew to New Zealand for a once in a lifetime visit and reunion with my sister. My friend "*Murphy*" took charge very quickly when I recognised the clear signs of Dementia, and over the next 14 days I assisted and supported the nearest family members in obtaining a full diagnosis and practical support. Something of a busman's holiday, great to be back in England! I hesitate to suggest that the visit and events were predestined, but it does clearly show the extent of the problem being created by Dementia.

We regret to announce the resignation of Janet Chierchia MBE as our Secretary due to the pressure of her personal life and other full-time tasks. Janet was a great help in setting up MVCT, in giving us advice from her vast experience, and in keeping things running during a period of change. We owe her a great vote of thanks. Janet's place will be taken by Janice Romer who is experienced and well known in the community, and is already acting as our Minutes Secretary.

In our October meeting we had an interesting reminiscence session, and the carers had an informative talk by the CAB. Linda Batcheldor from Hampshire Adult Services, and Kim Upstill, organiser of Carers Active Support Sitting Service were in attendance.

Our meeting in December will be an opportunity for anybody having to cope with the issues of Dementia to come along to meet us and join our Christmas party. Not only will there be a festive tea but the children of Swanmore Primary School will be singing carols and hand bell ringers will entertain us, which will be fun!

27th January is our AGM and visitors will be very welcome. The short meeting will be followed by a music therapy session with Andrew Knights. Andrew's enthusiasm produces wonderful and enjoyable results and it is a treat to see the effect on our cared-for. Please join us.

Our group exists to offer support and friendship to carers of those with Dementia, and our meetings are an enjoyable occasion for the carers and cared-for. We are always keen to welcome new volunteers, so if you feel that you might like to help in our structured activities please do come along and see how it all works. The meetings are at the Paterson Centre and the dates are always in the Parish Magazine.

#### **Diary Dates:**

2 Dec	Pub Lunch - 12 noon at The Forge, Waltham Chase
16 Dec	Hand Bells, Children's Choir from Ridgemede School, Christmas Party - 2 pm at the Paterson Centre
13 Jan 09	Pub Lunch - 12 noon at The Roebuck on the A32 between Wickham & Droxford
27 Jan	AGM - 2 pm at the Paterson Centre

If you would like transport to any of the above meetings please ring Geoff Matthews on 01489 890843

## MEON VALLEY CARERS TOGETHER PROVIDES ESSENTIAL SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE FOR PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA AND THEIR CARERS

### For more information contact:

Bill Drake on 01489 895706 - email: [billdrake@talktalk.net](mailto:billdrake@talktalk.net)  
Janice Romer on 01489 894662 - email: [janiceromer@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:janiceromer@hotmail.co.uk)  
Sue Musselwhite on 01489 877282 - email: [sue@poppyhill.net](mailto:sue@poppyhill.net)  
MVCT Carerlink Centre - 01489 895444 (message service)

## DIET? DISCOVER THE SLIMMING WORLD DIFFERENCE IT'S NOT JUST FOR CHRISTMAS!!



As the credit crunch bites, food prices spiral and Christmas is just around the corner, smart slimmer Carole Harris has decided to share her success as a member and is now embarking on a new journey becoming a Slimming World consultant. She will be opening a group on Wednesday nights in Wickham. She has not only found a new confidence in her slimmer self but also a way to eat more healthily, save ££££s, and lose weight into the bargain! As a Slimming World member she found that healthy family eating needn't cost more. "In fact, with great budget saving tips from Slimming World you can feed the whole family healthily, eat to satisfy your appetite and still lose weight says Carole Harris. "Food Optimising is a practical healthy balanced diet that doesn't break the bank and lets you eat the food you want on whatever your budget." Now Carole buys more fresh fruit, vegetables and finds she is cooking new recipes from scratch and eating fewer sugary and fatty foods. Her favorite recipe is red lentil and butternut squash curry, and homemade onion bhajis rather than spending on take-away meals is one of Carole's favourite meals.

Slimming World help hundreds of members in the country to manage their weight and support them at every level, helping to influence whole families to live healthier lifestyles. With 39 years of experience, we know at Slimming World that you do not have to starve yourself to lose weight! Deprivation and skipping meals or cutting certain foods out altogether is not a healthy way to lose weight and is not sustainable in the long term. Our famous Free Food lists contain hundreds of everyday, healthy, satisfying foods that are completely unlimited – eat as much as you want, when you want, to satisfy your appetite! Our successful approach lies in the unique group support we provide, where members share their experiences and are empowered to change their lifestyle through warmth, empathy and respect.

Slimming World has made a big difference to Carole. She knows how it feels to be overweight and unhappy with herself and now wants to help others improve their health and their lives just like she has.

With Christmas just around the corner what better present can you give yourself. If you have a burning desire to lose weight between now and Christmas you could lose half a stone or much more, giving you a head start on the New Year approaching fast. You're worth it. Why not come and join in the pre-Christmas fun and give yourself the best present you could ask for - a fabulous weight loss.

Opening night is Wednesday 19th November, 7pm at Wickham Community Centre. If this story inspires you to take action and you have any questions please call Carole on 07776 005221 or just come and see for yourself at our new group. No one pays or weighs till the end as we want you to feel 100% happy before you join. We also have many opening offers! Hope to see you there.

love your Friday night curry

love your Slimming World

WICKHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE  
NEW GROUP STARTING  
WEDS 19<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER @ 7PM

CALL CAROLE ON 07776 005221  
OR JUST COME ALONG

MONEY BACK guarantee!  
SAVE up to £5 JOIN NOW!

0844 897 8000  
www.slimmingworld.com

discover the amazing you

Carole Harris

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# Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust



**Hampshire & Isle of Wight**

## Seasonal Fruits and Seeds

At this time of the year the hedges are bright with fruits, which will provide birds with food to keep them nourished over the winter. Most berries are red or black, which enables them to be easily spotted by birds. This is important for the plant as it means that the seeds within the berries are distributed over a wide area.



Hawthorn berries are a favourite with many birds, including blackbirds and winter visitors like fieldfares and redwings, which all eat the fleshy outside. Finches prefer the kernel inside, and with their specialised beaks also extract the stones from sloes and cherries. Wood mice also enjoy the haw kernels. Crab apples provide food for blackbirds and fieldfares.

Elder berries, much prized by birds, are nutritious for us as well and can be added to fruit pies or made into wine, but should not be eaten raw.

Rosehips, high in Vitamin C (which can be added to e.g. apple jelly) are eaten by wood mice, which climb up the stems to attain their prize.

The bramble or blackberry fruit is well known for its culinary uses but it can also be used for making a natural dye. There is a legend telling that when the devil was cast out of paradise by St Michael, he fell into a blackberry bush, whereupon he cursed it and is now said to spit upon the fruit on the anniversary of his fall i.e. on old St Michaelmas Day which is October 11th and therefore they should not be eaten after this date. This was probably an explanation of why the taste diminishes at the end of the season!

Holly berries will stay red until well after Christmas. Male and female flowers grow on different plants, so only the female plants produce berries. Mistle thrushes are particularly attracted to these.

The wayfaring tree and guelder rose both produce attractive berries, but the most delightful of all the hedgerow trees is the spindle. The small inconspicuous green flowers produced in the spring, develop in autumn into pink lobed fruits, which open to reveal a bright orange berry in each. In addition, the leaves frequently turn a red-orange colour. The wood is particularly hard and used to be used for making spindles.

Hedgehogs, badgers, squirrels and foxes all make use of the berry harvest, but nuts also provide important food for animals during the winter. Acorns and beech mast are eaten by squirrels, pheasants, mice, wood pigeons and chaffinches. Hazel nuts and sweet chestnuts provide food for pheasants, squirrels and pigeons as well as the rare dormouse.

Not all trees rely on animals for seed dispersal - some make use of the wind and produce seeds with wings which will be carried some distance from the parent tree – examples being the field maple, sycamore and lime.

If you would like to see all this in action for yourself, why not visit a Wildlife Trust reserve near you. For a full list please see our website [www.hwt.org.uk](http://www.hwt.org.uk)

*Jill Edmunds*

## Standing Up for Wildlife

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust is a charity that relies on the support of our members. By joining us you can make a real difference in helping to protect local wildlife and the countryside. You'll receive a comprehensive membership pack that includes your membership card, a copy of our latest Natural World magazine, and our Wildlife Diary, packed with guided walks, talks and activities. You'll also find the Guide Book of all our reserves within Hampshire and the Isle of Wight a valuable resource.

Membership options are available to individuals, couples and families.

Full details can be found on our website [www.hwt.org.uk](http://www.hwt.org.uk)

Your support gives us vital funds to continue our conservation work and stand up for our local wildlife and wild places. Our membership of over 27,000 people ensures that our voice is heard by government and local authorities and that our influence in protecting wildlife grows.

If you would like to join us, please contact the Wildlife Trust on 01489 774400, by email at [feedback@hwt.org.uk](mailto:feedback@hwt.org.uk) or by writing to The Membership Team, Beechcroft House, Vicarage Lane, Curdridge, Hampshire, SO32 2DP.

Your support is really appreciated.

## Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust events in December and January

### December

**Mon 8 Titchfield Haven and Hamble Reserves** 7.30pm. Barry Duffin, Reserves Manager, will give a talk on the conservation interests, opportunities and problems of these interesting wildlife sites. Meet at Holy Trinity Church Hall, West Street, Fareham. Ample parking in Trinity Street. For further details, please contact Peter Adams on 01329 287653. Admission £2.

**Sun 14 Winter Wildlife and Festive Fun** 10.30am-3.30pm. Drop in any time during the session to find out how to help the wildlife in your garden get through the winter and get ready for the festive season by making wildlife themed presents and crafts. An event for families. Meet at Swanwick Lakes Wildlife Reserve, Sopwith Way, Swanwick (Map ref. SU 505 098). Booking is essential, so for further details and to book your place, please contact Jo Trotter or Jess Daish-Miller on 01489 570240. Suggested donation £2.50.

**Mon 15 Christmas Quiz and Raffle** 7.30pm for 7.45pm start. Ten short rounds of easy questions, some prizes and much fun. Teams of 6 required. Please come along for what is always a very enjoyable event. Meet at St Peter's Church Hall, Free Street, Bishops Waltham. For further details, please contact Phil Jeffs on 01489 896280. Team entries £9 (£1.50 per person, and if you can only muster 4 or 5, that's fine). Generous points allowances for younger teams, points docked for challenging the quiz master! Refreshments available.

**Tue 16 Footprints in the Snow** 10.30am-12noon. It's winter at Swanwick Lakes Wildlife Reserve. Which creatures are still out and about at this time of year? How do we know? Come along and find out all about looking after our winter wildlife. An event for pre-school children. Warm coats and wellies essential. Meet at Swanwick Lakes Wildlife Reserve, Sopwith Way, Swanwick (Map ref. SU 505 098). Booking is essential, so for further details and to book your place, please contact Jo Trotter or Jess Daish-Miller on 01489 570240. Suggested donation £2.50 per child.

### January

**Thu 8 Blow Away the Cobwebs** 10.30am-12noon. Join Reserve Staff for a short walk looking for signs of life during the winter months. Meet at Swanwick Lakes Wildlife Reserve, Sopwith Way, Swanwick (Map ref. SU 505 098). For further details and to book your place, please contact Jo Trotter or Jess Daish-Miller on 01489 570240. Suggested donation £1.50. Please wear stout shoes or boots.

**Sun 11 Birch Bashing Work Party** 10.30-12.30pm and 1-3pm or stay all day. Come along and join reserve staff in our ongoing battle with the birch trees encroaching into our meadow. Meet and park at Swanwick Lakes Wildlife Reserve, Sopwith Way, Swanwick (Map ref. SU 505 098). For further details and to book your place, please contact Jo Trotter or Jess Daish-Miller on 01489 570240. Please wear old clothes and stout shoes or work boots and bring work gloves if you have them. Coffee and tea is provided, but please bring a packed lunch if you would like to stay all day.

**Mon 12 Dragonflies** 7.30pm. Peter Allen, archivist of the British Dragonfly Association will talk on dragonfly's beauty and life cycle, illustrated with his own superb photographs. Meet at Holy Trinity Church Hall, West Street, Fareham. Ample parking in Trinity Street. For further details, please contact Peter Adams on 01329 287653. Admission £2.

**Tue 20 Tigress** 10.30am-12noon. Twigs with whiskers? A tree with a tail? Or is it a tigress hiding? Are you ready for some true tiger magic? Come and explore camouflage with the help of a beautiful tiger story. An event for pre-school children. Meet at Swanwick Lakes Wildlife Reserve, Sopwith Way, Swanwick (Map ref. SU 505 098). Booking essential, so for further details and to book your place, please contact Jo Trotter or Jess Daish-Miller on 01489 570240. Suggested donation £2.50 per child. Please bring warm coats and wellies.

*Peter Hutchings, Senior Marketing Officer*

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## Over 1,053 missions and counting

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance, needs £2,500 a day to keep its helicopter and highly trained crew in the air. As a charity, the service relies on the generosity of individuals and organisations to help it continue its life-saving work.



### It's your call

But now you can also raise money for the charity by recycling your unwanted mobile phones. It is easy to recycle your mobile phone, just place it in an envelope and send by Freepost to Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance, Freepost London 16281, London, WC1N 3BR- No stamps needed! Each phone received is worth an average of £6 and some are worth much more!

You can also recycle your textiles. For more information on your nearest textile bank and how to help the Air Ambulance visit [www.bagitup.org.uk](http://www.bagitup.org.uk). For more information about the air ambulance, see [www.hampshireandiowairambulance.org.uk](http://www.hampshireandiowairambulance.org.uk) or call 01962 892626.



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# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

## DECEMBER 2008 ~ JANUARY 2009

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### **Community Equipment Service**

Hampshire has opened an Integrated Community Equipment Service building to supply aids to independent living and medical aids for the county's frail and elderly. The service has been running for several years and provides 53,000 items such as walking sticks, commodes and more complex equipment such as ceiling track hoists. The service can now be extended from the new building in Basingstoke which has warehouse facilities, areas for maintenance and repair and training rooms.

Anyone wanting to know what is available can contact the centre at 01256 476800.

### **County achieves efficiencies**

The county council has exceeded the efficiency target set by the government. The county was challenged to find savings of £44 million in a three year period and has in fact found savings of £51 million. Its target for the current year is to find another £20 million of savings.

The council is looking at how technology can reduce costs and improve services, how savings can be achieved by sharing services with other local authorities and business and how services can be adapted to changing needs. The council aims to maintain its position as having the lowest council tax levied by a county council in the South East.

### **Maintaining rural footpaths**

The county council has given its Countryside Service a boost by increasing its budget by £50,000 to improve the county's networks of footpaths in the countryside. Farmers are being encouraged with funds to replace stiles with gates which are easier for many people to use. The council wants to ensure that the paths are well signposted and kept clear.

Local improvements include path widening in Wickham.

### **Climate Change and Adult Care**

Hampshire's Commission in Climate Change is planning to look at how elderly people are affected by changes in the climate and what additional help they need.

The commission was set up last year to examine how changing patterns of climate are affecting the county's services and what the county needs to do to protect its residents from the impact of these changes. The council has looked at adapting its buildings to cope with wetter winters and hotter and drier summers, the impact of this on farming and on sea levels at the coast.

It will next look at the possible impact on elderly residents who are often vulnerable to changes in temperature and extreme weather events.

The council is also reviewing emergency plans to ensure they are able to cope with risk of flooding and extreme heatwaves.

### **Healthy Schools**

Ninety-eight percent of Hampshire schools have achieved or are on the point of achieving "Enhanced Healthy School Status", requiring the school to provide healthy eating, physical activity, and talks on health.

To assist the schools Hampshire Catering Services is improving the school lunches on offer. These will include fish from sustainable stocks in order to protect the oceans for generations to come. The food includes pollock fishcakes and additive-free fish goujons.

### **Improvements at Recycling Centres**

Hampshire has introduced new technology at its household waste recycling centres, including the use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition. This will help to identify traders who deposit waste at centres intended for household waste.

The centres will benefit from the new technology by providing valuable traffic count data so that traffic flows can be analysed and the service improved. It is important to identify peak periods of usage so that the correct staffing levels can be maintained.

The equipment only identifies vehicle registrations and cannot record images of site users or what waste is being deposited.

### **Go Ahead for More Children's Centres**

The county has given the go ahead for the final phase of the children's centre programme being developed under the Sure Start scheme. At the end of the final phase all children will be able to benefit from these centres.

In the final phase there will be an additional 25 centres created in Hampshire, including one to serve Denmead, Southwick, Hambleton and Droxford.

Children's centres are one-stop shops for families with children, offering a range of services from information about childcare, to health services, parental outreach and employment advice for parents with young children.

So far the county has created 60 children's centres. This final phase will ensure that all 72,570 children under 5 will be served by a centre by March 2010.

Planning will now go ahead of where the centres will be located.

*Frederick Allgood  
County Councillor  
for Wickham*



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# **WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL REPORT**

## **DECEMBER 2008 ~ JANUARY 2009**

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### **Winchester City Councillors representing Wickham, Knowle and Curbridge:**

**Thérèse Evans** 3, Copperwood, Holt Close,  
Wickham, Fareham,  
Hampshire. PO17 5EY

**tel:** 832700 **email:** tevens@winchester.gov.uk

**Angela Clear** 14 Manor Close,  
Wickham, Fareham,  
Hampshire. PO17 5BZ

**tel:** 832923 **email:** aclear@winchester.gov.uk

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#### ***DOUBLE YELLOW LINES IN WICKHAM***

New plans have been drawn up for these and the Parish Council, local councillors and the Police are now being consulted. The roads where yellow lines are proposed are parts of: Buddens Rd, Manor Close, Mayles Lane, Mill Lane, Springfield Close, Station Rd, Tanfield Park, Tanfield Lane and Wickham Croft. The double yellow lines are mostly where agreed with local residents. Also proposed is to increase the parking time in Warwick Way from 40 minutes to 1 hour to allow time for carers and family to visit. We have a set of plans if you have any queries. The next step will be to formally advertise these for decision by a Cabinet Parking Committee.

#### ***WICKHAM SQUARE PARKING PERMITS***

The Council has written to all residents who currently have parking permits for the Square. The Council proposes to take over the issuing of these permits from Warwick's and to introduce an annual charge of £10 for first and second permits and £30 for the third. There will be a maximum of 3 permits per household to named vehicles but visitor permits at £5 for 10 can be purchased. These charges will go towards the cost of enforcement and towards refurbishment of the Square.

#### ***KNOWLE COMMUNITY BUILDING***

Before building work commences on this and the associated car park on the Village Green there are still ongoing legal agreements to be completed between the Wickham Parish Council, the City Council and Berkeley Homes. The City Council is investing £400,000 in this facility. The Parish Council will take over the ownership of the building and the recreation facilities. The Knowle Community Buildings Association will take over the management of the Community Building from the Parish Council.

#### ***KNOWLE PHASE 3:***

##### ***PLANNING APPLICATION***

There has been a resubmission of this phase to alter the mix of housing and consequently the type of buildings. There have been a large number of objections to this application. We have requested the matter to come to Planning

Committee if the officers' recommendation is approval but at the time of going to press this still has to be determined.

#### ***KNOWLE PHASE 6:***

##### ***SUE FITZGERALD TO BE REMEMBERED***

These 3 new housing blocks have the approved names of:

##### ***Chestnut House***

**Mackeith Court** (Professor Mackeith was the Head of the Psychiatric unit at Knowle hospital.)

**Fitzgerald Court** (In memory of former councillor Sue Fitzgerald who died so suddenly last year. Sue and her husband Ted have done much work in the Knowle Cemetery Restoration project.)

#### ***SOUTH EAST PLAN PUBLIC ENQUIRY***

The Inspector did not increase the number of houses to be built in this but the provision of gaps such as those we want to see around Knowle and Wickham will now have to be written into each Local Authority's Core Strategy. Winchester is currently preparing this document.

#### ***LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK AND HOUSING OPTIONS***

The City Council is currently considering the responses to the earlier consultations on Issues and Options for housing in the PUSH (Partnership for urban south Hampshire) area. You will remember that one of the options was to build up to 1,000 extra houses in both Knowle and Wickham. Although recommendations have to be made by the LDF committee to Cabinet for consideration at Full Council, the current recommendation is **not** to opt for large scale housing numbers in Wickham and Knowle. This recommendation was based on the overwhelming opposition responses to the 1,000 houses options and also because the area already will have substantial housing with the large SDA north of Fareham of up to 10,000 houses. All of these issues are quite complex to explain in a short article. However Therese always attends the LDF meetings where possible and speaks on behalf of the ward when necessary. We are happy to explain these issues in more detail individually if you have queries.

**NEXT COUNCILLOR SURGERY**

December and January always seem to be busy months for meetings so our next surgery will be:

**Knowle Village Hall - February 8th 7-8pm**

No appointment needed - just come along. Please contact us if you need help before this.

**BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**

The City Council along with Hampshire County Council gives an annual grant to the Theatre Royal in Winchester which allows this small 400-seat theatre to survive and provide excellent live theatre and education outreach work. There is a regular programme of performances throughout the year but the Theatre Royal pantomimes are always good value family entertainment at its best. This year's production is Beauty and the Beast.

Happy Christmas to you all and a Happy and Healthy New Year!!



*Thérèse and Angela*



**Volunteers needed for Wickham area**

Theatre Royal Winchester is keen to hear from any volunteers in the Wickham area who could spare a few hours a month to help distribute our seasonal brochure, show posters and leaflets to shops and local businesses.

Please call 01962 844600 leaving your contact details.

Alternatively, email Emma Stafford at [marketing@theatre-royal-winchester.co.uk](mailto:marketing@theatre-royal-winchester.co.uk)

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*Beauty and the Beast*  
The pantomime

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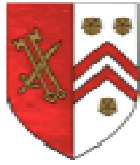
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**(CRUISE INCLUDES A CONTRIBUTION TO THE ROWANS HOSPICE)**



## Wickham Parish Council

### News

December 2008 ~ January 2009

#### Christmas light switch on 6.30pm Wednesday 3rd December



The Parish Council is organising the switch-on event again this year with the assistance of volunteers.

Father Christmas and his elves will be arriving on a horse drawn sleigh to light up The Square.

Many thanks to the volunteers who helped put up the lights and tree.

If you would like to help with this event next year please let the Clerk know!

#### Plans for yellow lines in Wickham

Winchester City Council has updated and revised the plans for yellow lines – at last!

Plans will be available to view on the Parish Council website when the formal consultation period begins.

#### A new home for Wickham Scouts



The Parish Council and Scouts have agreed to work together to provide a community building to serve Scouts, sports teams and the local community. Plans are currently being prepared for discussion.

#### A new tourism guide for Wickham



The Parish Council has worked with Winchester City Council and local businesses to produce a new tourism guide funded by Winchester City Council.

The Co-Op has sponsored the circulation of a copy to all residents with the Parish Magazine, there are also plenty of copies in shops around the village if you would like more.

Many thanks to Carol Duckworth for her extensive input and Neale Fray for providing lots of the photographs for the guide.

#### Travel Information Guide

Also in the Parish Magazine is a copy of a travel Information Guide for our parish.

This has been produced by HCC in partnership with Swanmore, Shedfield and Wickham Parish Councils to make travel information more accessible.



Please pass the Guide to your family members particularly older people and teenagers for future reference. Further copies available on request.

Thank you to the Parish Magazine Team for delivering the two leaflets with this edition.



### **A review of Wickham Square**

The Parish Council is working with Winchester City Council and Hampshire County Council to see if the current layout of The Square can be improved for car parking, pedestrians and cyclists. There will be extensive consultation in due course.

### **Stan Woodford Photographic Competition 2008**

Have you entered? Trophies and cash prizes for winners. The subject is **Life in Wickham 2008.**

Closing date 31st December. Open to residents of Wickham and Knowle.



### **Diary date for 2009**

Annual Parish Assembly  
7pm Wednesday 22nd April  
Wickham Community Centre

### **Parish Council budgets for 2009/10**

The Parish Council is aware that the current financial situation is causing hardship for some of our residents. We will be looking particularly carefully at all our budgets for the coming year to ensure that value for money is being provided for the whole community.

### **Parish Council Meetings**

Held at Wickham Community Centre, all welcome to attend.

#### **Full Council**

7.15pm Monday 15th December  
7.15pm Monday 19th January

#### **Planning Committee**

6pm Monday 15th December (if required)  
7pm Monday 26th January

#### **Finance Committee**

8pm Monday 26th January

Please see notice boards for dates and times of other meetings.

## **Wickham Parish Council**

### **Contact details**

#### **Chairman**

**Angela Clear**, 14 Manor Close, Wickham, PO17 5BZ tel 01329 832923  
(Chairman of Finance and Cemetery Committees and Highways and Street lighting representative)

#### **Vice-Chairman**

**Sue Roger-Jones**, Moonrakers, Fareham Road, Wickham, PO17 5BY tel 01329 833165  
(Recreation Committee and Water Meadows Trust Chairman, Community Association representative)

#### **Councillors**

**Trevor Astbury** 9 The Circle, Meon Park, Wickham PO17 5HW tel 07787 356488  
(Wickham Youth Club representative)

**Mike Bennett**, 9 Coldharbour Close, Wickham PO17 5PT tel 01329 835205

**Mike Carter**, Hart House, Mayles Lane, Wickham, PO17 5ND tel 01329 832928  
(Rights of Way and Wickham Youth Club representative)

**Thérèse Evans**, 3 Copperwood, Holt Close, Wickham PO17 5EY tel 01329 832700  
(GP Committee Chairman)

**Di Frost**, The Laurels, Mayles Lane, Wickham PO17 5ND tel 01329 832633

**Justin Gamblin**, Niagara, Tanfield Lane, Wickham PO17 5NW tel 01329 832076

**Jenny Hollis**, 12 Buddens Road, Wickham PO17 5HQ tel 01329 835243  
(Planning Committee Chairman)

**Colin Roke**, 27 Knowle Avenue, Knowle, PO17 5LG tel 07720 548989

**Michael Sadler-Forster**, Blanton House, Bridge Street, Wickham PO17 5JJ tel 01329 833598  
(Forward Planning Committee Chairman)

#### **Parish Clerk**

**Nicki Oliver**, Heatherdene, Turkey Island Shedfield, Southampton Hants, S032 2JE

Tel 01329 835019

Email [wickhamparishcouncil@msn.com](mailto:wickhamparishcouncil@msn.com)

Web [www.wickham.parish.hants.gov.uk](http://www.wickham.parish.hants.gov.uk)



Best wishes for  
a very Happy  
Christmas from  
Wickham Parish  
Council

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