# Parish News

West Meon & Warnford

April 2023

#### Easter Letter

By the time you read this the clocks will have changed and we will be in British Summer Time once again. It doesn't make any difference to the actual number of hours of daylight of course, but somehow it makes us feel brighter, as if summer is just around the corner.

The love of light was of course the reason for pagan midwinter festivals - light in a time of darkness, to lift the spirits, which is why the early Christian Church adopted the same time of year for the celebration of Christmas, the birth of Jesus. We have adopted many customs related to Easter over the years: eggs, chocolate, chickens and lambs, spring flowers, new crops, not to mention the Easter Bunny. What does all that have to do with the true meaning of Easter? These things bring us joy and hope, they help us to feel good, but it's time to think about the light again.

Darkness into light - at Christmas, the beginning on earth of the story of Jesus - Easter is like that too, as we remember the circumstances of his death and resurrection. In that last week in Jerusalem, Jesus and his disciples encountered many dark times, seeing the desecration of a holy place by moneylenders, the disappointment of Judas' betrayal following the Last Supper,





the sense of isolation in the Garden of Gethsemane, culminating with Jesus' death on the cross on Good Friday, the darkest time of all. Why call it Good Friday? Well, either because 'good' was a synonym for 'holy', it is a corruption of 'God's Friday' or because it referred to a day of special religious observance.

The eventual outcome is the same: as we celebrate Easter, we move from that place of darkness into the light of the Resurrection, and the hope and the promise that brings for all of us.

Last year I went to the Passion Play in Oberammergau, which tells the story of Jesus' final days, interspersed with tableaux from related Old Testament themes. Sometimes there were more than a hundred actors, together with live horses and camels, on a massive open air stage, with a wonderful script and fantastic music. But there was also the moment when Jesus overturned the tables in the temple courtyard, knocking over the baskets containing what were destined to be sacrificial doves, and they rose, free, and flew up into the evening sky. Somehow that simple event brought immense reality to the whole. Just as in the Bible, the Resurrection was pretty much left to our imagination, and subsequent stories only hinted at it. You would think that so much would have been made of that overwhelming event, and every story recorded for posterity - but we are given only a few snippets, and we are left to ponder. And it's right that we do, because the Resurrection and how we respond to it, is for each one of us our story, part of our journey of faith.

It was very hard for Jesus' followers at that first Easter time. When he died on the cross, they didn't understand what had happened and their world had turned not only grey, but black. Then on that Easter morning, as the sun rose and they realised that Jesus too had risen, the world was suddenly a blaze of colour. Those feelings would have been the same whatever the actual weather was doing and it is the same for us. If we are feeling low then even a bright

sunny day makes little impact, but when we are happy the sun shines in our hearts and life feels full of colour, even if it is raining outside.

The children's hymn, 'Colours of Day', reminds us of all this: 'The sun still shines on, it never goes down. The light of the world is risen again."

As we journey through Holy Week, the week before Easter, into the sadness of Good Friday, unlike those first disciples, we know for certain that Jesus, the Light of the World, has risen again. So we can all, as another hymn goes, 'walk in the light', and as summer approaches, walk also in the sunshine and enjoy God's creation in the beautiful Meon valley and beyond. That very knowledge adds colour even to a grey and misty day.

Have a blessed Easter.

Revd Linda Robertson (photo above)

#### Good Friday walk Friday 7th April

The walk will start at Warnford. First stop West Meon, then East Meon, ending with a short service and tea at Langrish. Join us for the whole walk or just one bit, dogs welcome. Any questions please email Helena at hgalliano@hotmail.com. We are trying to sort it so we finish at Langrish with tea from 2 and a service at 2.30 pm.

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#### West Meon Village Shop

Easter in the Shop: There is now an enticing selection of Easter fare in the Shop, including Easter eggs and chocolates, cakes and biscuits along with an attractive array of Easter cards, fresh cut flowers and potted plants, much of which is showcased in our stunning Easter display.



**Countryside Alliance Award:** In March the Petersfield Post ran an article about the shop under the heading 'Revived Village Shop in running for Oscar'. This follows the heart-warming announcement that the West Meon Village has been nominated to win a Countryside Alliance Award in the retail category. The shop is one of only four to be shortlisted for the best village shop /post office in the South East region. So, a massive thank you to all our friends and customers who supported our nomination. The winners of each region will go up against fellow winners across the UK and the national champion will be announced in the House of Lords in the national champions reception this May. Fingers crossed that we make it to the final and win! *The West Meon Shop Committee* 





#### Meon Valley Litter-Pick, 2023 - Match Report

On a cold and bright Sunday morning recently, the West Meon litter-pickers (catchy name still required...!), joined forces with the 'Warnford Wombles' and the 'Privett Pickers' to clear the verges of the A32 from Warnford all the way to the turning to Privett, the East Meon road all the way to, well, East Meon, (from where a like-minded group of our neighbours set out), and also Station Road up to Winchester Hill, and indeed along the hill itself, where we even removed some fly-tipping which unpleasantly included a toilet-seat! It is clearly not all particularly appealing, but as one new recruit mentioned, rather than getting frustrated at all the litter, it is much, much more satisfying to do something about it... This year we welcomed the following loyal villagers for the first time; Richard Sturgess, Jo Ringrose-Voase and Jo Mitchell, and the following regulars; Tim Wood, Hugh Morris, Tim Maine, Tim and Helen Hiscox, Jo Gambrill, Dom Duckworth, Tom Warner, Ingolv Urnes, Alan Bassil, Duncan Stewart, Jim Brooks-Hill, David Jeffers and Chris and Hazel Town.



For all those keen to hear of this year's notable finds, in no particular order: a large number of nicotine patch boxes (at least they are trying), several vape canisters (not trying very hard), quite a lot of the front of a truck (seems careless), a full set of coloured allenkeys (now recycled), a hammer (a little more worrying), a cowboy hat (the mind wanders) and a DVD of Bridget Jones' Diary (someone finally saw sense).

Lastly, I would single out Al Wilson for organising the Privett Pickers and also enlisting the assistance of Winchester City Council and the impressively named 'Litter Partnership' in some capacity for further 'events', and Simon Telford (pictured), perhaps our most diligent and tireless picker, who frequently and selflessly clears the village itself, so that we can all enjoy it as it should be.

Jim Ulph

#### West Meon Church Electoral Roll

Each year the church electoral roll is revised in preparation for the annual parochial church meeting. This year the APCM will be on Sunday 23rd April at 11.45 am after the 10.30am service in St John's Church. Once every six years there is a new roll. The next one will be in 2025 so this year it is just a revision. This might include, for example, those who have moved into the villages, would like to join the roll or have reached age 16. The roll will be revised from 20th to 27th March. If you would like to have your name added, please contact Louise Clay (829235). Having your name on the roll gives you a say in the future of the church.

Louise Clay

#### West Meon C of E Primary School

Group 2 swimming is going very well and sports fixtures are getting booked in, including our own Small Schools Y5/6 Football Tournament on the 9th June on the recreation field.

Mrs Blogg, who leads Y2/3, has now returned to school after training at another school for half a term and all the teachers led very successful Parents' Evenings once she had settled back into school. Mrs Massey Hocquard has settled back into school after maternity leave and Miss Hall has settled into Foxes to support a child.



Owls attended the Rainforest Experience and had a wonderful day and Hedgehogs had a great morning exploring the snowdrops at Warnford.

World Book Day saw some very inventive costumes and all the classes mixed up and read with each other, which worked really well. We are just preparing for Comic Relief Day as well as our traditional

egg decorating and rolling day as we head towards the end of term.

After Easter, once places have been accepted, we will start to welcome our new Reception children in for their induction sessions.

You are very welcome to look around the school at any time and we welcome children from outside our catchment area as well. Check out our new website which is under development. *Julie Kelly, Headteacher* 



#### West Meon C of E Primary School A small school with a big heart





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- Spaces still available



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Come and meet Miss Pritchard, our Early Years teacher, look around the school and see for yourself why West Meon is a great school. Call 01730 829213 or email admin@westmeon.hants.sch.uk. www.westmeon.hants.sch.uk

#### The early bird catches the worm

As the frosty veneer of winter melts away and the earth mellows for spring, you may notice little flurries of activity around your garden. Perhaps a robin is collecting leaves, or a song thrush is searching for a suitable place to settle.

A small number of brave garden birds are already preparing for breeding, while others may even have started laying their eggs, flying in the face of their species' normal nesting patterns. Early nesting is a risky move, but every year a daring few throw caution to the wind and get started well ahead of time.

So, why take such a risk? Well, the earlier that birds start to breed, the more offspring they can produce in a season, meaning they can spread their genes far and wide. Typically, it will be older, more mature birds that attempt this tactic, as they have the necessary knowledge and experience to give them a fighting chance of overcoming the challenges it brings (last year's hatchlings still have much to learn).

Some species, however, nest early in the year as a matter of course. Rooks and carrion crows, for example, have eggs in the nest by mid-March. One reason for this is the early bird really does catch the worm; it is much easier to find earth worms in March when the soil is damp than later in the year when the ground becomes warmer and drier. Mistle thrushes adopt a similar strategy, and an added benefit for them is that predatory birds, such as jays, have not yet begun searching for eggs and young birds.



The long-tailed tit is another early breeder. It is essential they get an early start as long-tailed tits are tasked with building what is perhaps the most labourintensive nest in Britain.

These tiny, industrious birds – sometimes called 'flying teaspoons' on account of their distinctive 'lollipop stick' tail that is bigger than their small,

Long tailed tits take three weeks to build their intricate nests (c) Jon Hawkins\_Surrey Hills Phottography

round body – create soft domes from thousands of pieces of moss, which they glue together with strands of sticky cobweb. Lichen fragments are then sprinkled on to create a protective camouflage, before the nest is lined with feathers for warmth. It takes around three weeks to build, but the end result is a comfortable, cosy home - the perfect place to start a family.

The demands of building a nest, laying eggs and rearing young are enormous, and a bird must be in peak physical condition to succeed. You can give local birds a helping hand by providing them with protein-rich food such as dried mealworms. *Jake Kendall-Ashton* 

#### West Meon Wine Society New Zealand Wines

This month our focus turns to New Zealand. Known for its diverse terroir and favourable climate, New Zealand is a premier wine-producing country. Our selection features a range of wines from various regions, each with their unique characteristics and flavour profiles. Explore our handpicked collection and discover what New Zealand has to offer. While Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc massively dominates New Zealand's wine exports, there's so much more to their wine production which is worth seeking out. Our introductory case of New Zealand wines showcases the variety and major strengths of the country.

Whites: Mount Brown Sauvignon Blanc, Waipara, 2021, 13.5% - an elegant and subtle example of Kiwi Sauvignon Blanc; Seifried Old Coach Road Chardonnay, Nelson, 2020, 13.5% - unoaked, creamy and long with good weight; Mount Brown Pinot Gris, Waipara, 2020, 14.5% - a delicious full bodied Pinot Gris, just off dry but beautifully balanced.

**Reds:** Opawa Pinot Noir Marlborough, 2018, 13% - very drinkable both with and without food; Vidal Reserve Syrah, Hawkes Bay, 2019, 13% - richly fruity, peppery wellstructured food wine; Esk Valley Gimblett Gravels Blend, Hawkes Bay, 2019, 14% another food wine with lots of life.



If you'd like to buy our wines, or become a member, please go to www.westmeonwine.co.uk West Meon Wine Society Management Team

#### Rainfall report for February/March



February was remarkably dry, we had rain on only 6 days during the month totalling 8.3mm and the lowest temperature we recorded was -7C on the 7th. By contrast March has been wetter with rain falling on 8 of the first 15 days and amounting to 56.4mms. The 8th and 9th being the two wettest days with 37.9mms.

We had 4 dry Snowdrop Sundays and in consequence raised a new record amount of money for Warnford Church. We also had the biggest number of visitors since we started back in 1971. Thanks to the unstinting help from all our helpers we managed to control the car parking and the numbers of visitors and hopefully everyone enjoyed their day out.

January 139.5mms, February 8.3mms, March to the 15th 56.4mms. Total for the year to 15th March 204.2mms (8.03") and to the same date last year 191.7mms (7.5").

Peter Short

#### Services in the Upper Meon Benefice

#### Sunday 2nd April

8am East Meon. Holy Communion.

9am Warnford. Benefice Mattins.

10.30am East Meon. Benefice Service of the Word - All Age Worship.

#### Monday 3rd April

6pm Warnford. Compline.

#### **Tuesday 4th April**

6pm Langrish. Compline.

#### Wednesday 5th April

6pm East Meon. Compline.

#### Maundy Thursday 6th April

6pm West Meon. Eucharist.

#### Good Friday 7th April

**9 for 9.15am Warnford.** Walk starts. **10 to 10.30am.** Refreshments at West Meon. **11.45am to 12.45pm.** Soup at East Meon, walk to Langrish for 2pm tea. **2.30pm Langrish.** Short Devotional Service.

#### Easter Day Sunday 9th April

8am East Meon. Holy Communion.9am Langrish. Eucharist.10.30am West Meon. Benefice Eucharist.

10.30am East Meon. Eucharist.

#### Sunday 16th April

8am East Meon. Holy Communion.9am Warnford. Benefice Holy Communion.10.30am East Meon. Benefice Eucharist.

#### Sunday 23rd April

8am East Meon. Holy Communion.

10.30am Langrish. Benefice Eucharist.

10.30am West Meon. Benefice Service & Annual Parochial Church Mtg.

#### Fifth Sunday 30th April

8am East Meon. Holy Communion.10.30am West Meon. Rogationtide Eucharist for Benefice.

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#### Moving through pain

Many of us will want to meet the warming months with more outdoor activities. And well we should. Exercise is important for physical and mental health. But if we have pain or injuries we may not enjoy activity as much as we could. Movement is key to maintain our health throughout our lives, which can be summed up in the aphorism "If you don't use it, you lose it." But when we have pain or injuries, it can be difficult to keep up our activities. We might feel that activity will do more damage, or it can just hurt. So how do we keep looking after our bodies, and keeping up our movement, if we do have aches and pains?

First, let's separate pain and injury. Injury is what happens when the forces acting on the body exceed the capacity of the body to deal with those forces. Trip on uneven pavement? The force of your body exceeds the capacity to deal with that force and you get an "ankle sprain." This type of injury is called a traumatic injury because it happens in a single incident. When you have a traumatic injury, initially you might experience pain and swelling. Over time, you might experience instability, tentative movement, reduced range, fear of moving, and compensations in other areas to protect the injured area.

After a trauma, pain symptoms can morph into chronic pain, which is what happens without a trauma or when pain persists after tissue damage has healed. Beyond traumatic injury, pain is poorly correlated to body damage. Plenty of people without pain show abnormalities on medical images, and plenty of people with pain have no damage on scans. Medical imaging is not a great way to find out why people have pain, or what to do about it.

Even with traumatic injury, current research is showing that rest and avoidance are not the best strategies to heal. But that doesn't mean you should go straight back to your normal activities either.

How to handle movement when you have pain?

• Reduce: reduce the range of movement to the joint or the load to the area. Rather than trying to walk on a sprained ankle, you might try moving it a very small amount and without weight. Progress slowly and steadily when you can.

- Cultivate joy and a sense of fun.
- Look for what you can do and build from that.

When we have pain and feel depressed or angry about it, we make it worse. Pain makes us stressed, and stress makes pain worse. Hypervigilance against pain is a stress response which feeds that viscous cycle. Cultivating a different mood can relieve pain symptoms and improve our function over time. That can be a simple as engaging socially, listening to music or having a playful approach to your self. With that attitude, you might be able to explore what you can do. Can you walk to the other room without limping, can you try circling the joint, can you do a short walk? While we might fear getting this wrong, and overdoing, under-doing can also make pain persist.

This doesn't mean that pain is all in your head. But it does mean that how you approach your body, and your pain symptoms can make a huge difference. Feeling safe in your body and environment relieves that stress cycle. Activities that help you feel and connect to your body help turn down the pain alarm system and help us feel safer. Pain might be the body's only way of getting our attention if we never focus on it. If we find ways to pay attention to our body, we might start hearing messages before full on pain. Some techniques for improving how you feel your body are gentle movement, body brushing, tapping or self-massage; intuitive stretches (like a cat waking up); looking around your environment; or having a little wiggle or dance. For many of us, our daily movements are small and predictable, but bigger and more diverse movements can feel great.

Most importantly try not to fear your body. Even with injuries or medical conditions, appropriate and consistent movement in your daily life is likely to improve physical and mental health.

Mollie McClelland Morris Yoga@molliemorris.com

#### Garden Club News April 2023

Our second meeting of the year will be on Thursday 13th April at 7:30 for 7:45 pm in Warnford Village Hall and this month we're entering "The Wind in the Willows" territory. Everyone remembers dear old Ratty. But in fact Ratty wasn't a rat but a water vole. Kenneth Grahame can surely be forgiven for the misnomer but Elaina Whittaker-Slark from the South Downs National Park Authority will be able to clarify matters as she will be talking about their "Water Vole Project". It should be a fascinating evening.

Booking is strongly recommended: clareswinstead@gmail.com; tel. Evenings: 829059.

Any members who have not yet paid their fee for this year (a bargain at just £5 for the whole year!) can pay at this meeting. For visitors, the entry fee is £2. Please bring the exact amount in cash with you on the night. (Only £1 or £2 coins please or a £5 note.)

A programme of our activities for the rest of the year will be available shortly on our website: https://www.hugofox.com/community/west-meon-garden-club-18458/home/

It is now possible to sign up for email alerts on this site: see link on the right of the page.

Clare Swinstead

#### West Meon W.I. Report

Our March meeting was held at West Meon Village Hall on Monday 13th March and was in a slightly different format, inasmuch as it was a meeting for members and their invited guests, who enjoyed a super talk and a lovely special afternoon tea. Our speaker, Frances Carlaw, (who is known as The Pearl Lady and an expert on the subject) has spoken to us on previous occasions, and once again she did not disappoint! The subject of her talk was 'Pearls and the Art Deco' and she gave us a lot of background information on pearls. They come in three categories - Natural Pearls which are rare, highly prized and exceptionally expensive, Cultured Pearls made by a process invented in 1897 by Mikimoto and Faux (simulated) Pearls. She had some fascinating stories to tell about famous pearls bought by Richard Burton for Elizabeth Taylor and the outfits covered in pearls worn by the French dancer Mistinguet, when she performed at the Moulin Rouge.

Our next meeting and AGM is a little later this year due to Easter and will be held at West Meon Village Hall at 2pm on Monday 24th April 2023. Our speaker, Susan Howe, will be talking on 'The Indiscreet Revelations of a Tour Guide' (Subtitled: Dealing with difficult clients and avoiding being eaten by a Tiger!) It sounds like a fascinating subject - not to be missed! We look forward to seeing you all on 24th April.

Sue Kinlochan

#### Festival of Contemporary Music – Cello and Two Choirs

Sunday 23 April 7.30pm, St Lawrence Church, Alton



This Festival '23 links contemporary composition with a unique historical event in Alton. The Death of Colonel Boles is a setting to music of the true story of the murder of Colonel Boles in St Lawrence Church in 1643 during the Battle of Alton in the English Civil War. The work, composed by the late Martin Read who taught music and composition, is scored for double choir, baritone solo (representing Boles), solo cello, recorder ensemble and solo drum. This Cantata was Commissioned as part of Hampshire's Millennium celebrations and premiered in St Lawrence in 2000.

The Martin Read Foundation (MRF) provides support for aspiring young composers with commissioning, expert tuition and workshops, performance and recording opportunities. The festival is the annual culmination of the Foundation's work. This year's alumni all live or study in Hampshire and have been commissioned to write



a short work each for solo cello, the theme for this year being War, past or present.

Musicians: Joseph Spooner solo cello; Paul Sheenan Baritone (ENO) in the role of Boles; with drummer and recorder group. Conductor, David Gibson. The choirs will be from Oxford-based Commotio and members of Winchester-based Southern Voices.

There will be an interval with refreshments available and the concert will end by 9.30pm. Tickets available at the door £10 from 7.00pm or online from www.martinreadfoundation.org.

(Photos © AltonDigitalImage and MRF Festival choir)



#### West Meon Parish Council & Warnford Parish Meeting News

**Local Elections - Photo ID** - You will only need to show one form of photo ID at polling stations to vote on 4th May. It needs to be the original version and not a photocopy. You can still use your photo ID if it's out of date, as long as it looks like you. Photo ID is not required if you vote by post. Visit winchester.gov.uk/VoterID or call 01962 848125 if you require any further information or to find out what to do if you do not have any form of photo ID.

**Hugh Lumby** - Hugh has been one of our Winchester City Councillors for over 4 years and during this time has dedicated himself to serving our community. Sadly, he has decided to stand down from Winchester City Council at the next election, although he will continue to represent our Parish at Hampshire County Council. WMPC would like to thank Hugh for his hard work over the years and look forward to continue working with him in his County Council role.

Adult Gym Equipment - West Meon Parish Council are considering dismantling and selling the outdoor adult gym equipment at the Recreation Ground. Regular use by adult gym enthusiasts has not materialised meaning the equipment is rarely used but still requires maintenance. It's removal and sale will assist the Parish Council to improve the play equipment for children and young people. If you would like to comment on this proposal, please contact the Clerk (details opposite).

**Village Design Statement** - WMPC and a small number of parishioners have been working on the revised Village Design Statement and Environmental Appraisal Survey and this document has been with South Downs National Park since 2018. The final draft is now being completed ready for SDNP to carry out their consultations with parishioners and statutory bodies. This will probably happen during the early summer after WMPC adopt the draft at their April or May meeting.

**WMPC Annual Parish Meeting** - To be held in the Sports Pavilion on Thursday, 27th April - 7.00 for 7.30 p.m.

**And Finally from West Meon** – The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 4th April at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. Parishioners are welcome. Please contact the clerk, Jo Tester at clerk.westmeon@parish.hants.gov.uk if you wish to attend.

**Warnford Parish Meeting** - Information relating to WPM can be found on its website (see opposite) which also has details of local facilities and services, village news and events. Please do sign up for 'Alerts' so you will be informed of forthcoming events, planning applications in the area etc. The Chairman has an email distribution list so that emails can go to parishioners (e.g. relating to Parish Meetings, details of planning applications). If you would like to be added to the list, please email the Clerk.

**Warnford Parish Meeting's AGM** - To be held in the Village Hall on Thursday, 18th May, all parishioners welcome. Please give any agenda items to the Clerk. Papers relating to the AGM will be posted on the website shortly before 18th May.

Details of how Warnford will celebrate the **King's Coronation** on 6th and 7th May are being circulated around the village.

#### West Meon, Warnford, Winchester City & Hampshire C.C. Contacts

#### West Meon Parish Council

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Jo Tester Clerk to West Meon Parish Council clerk.westmeon@parish.hants.gov.uk 02392 632106

West Meon Parish Council website www. westmeonpc.org.uk e-mail: westmeonpc2017@gmail.com

#### Warnford Parish Meeting

Mark Rogers Chairman chairman@warnfordparish.co.uk 07712 868858

Lucy Hutchinson Clerk warnfordclerk@gmail.com 07717 296610

Warnford Parish website www.hugofox.com/community/warnfordvillage-7802/about-us

#### Winchester & Hampshire Councillors

Winchester City Councillors Neil Bolton - 01962 771256 nbolton@winchester.gov.uk

Hugh Lumby – 01489 877444 hlumby@winchester.gov.uk

Hampshire County Councillor Hugh Lumby - 07738 289912 hugh.lumby@hants.gov.uk

#### Member of Parliament for Meon Valley

Flick Drummond 01962 679920 – Constituency Office flick.drummond.mp@parliament.uk



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## Spring Plant Sale



WHERE: Droxford Village Hall Droxford High St. SO32 3PA



WHEN: Saturday May13th at 10.00



**Products:** Plants Vegetables Fruit Home bakes





#### Curtis Museum and Allen Gallery

#### ALLEN GALLERY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

**British Bird Egg Hunt** till 18th April (Curtis Museum and Allen Gallery): Join us for an egg hunt with a twist! We have 8 eggs hidden around the Allen Gallery. Can you use your trail sheet to match them to 8 British bird species. Once completed your spotter sheets can be used to watch birds at home or at your local green space.



**Over the Garden Wall** continues till 23rd April – this year's exhibition of works by W H Allen, RA.

**Borderlands.** In late April/early May we will be hosting an Exhibition by the Borderlands Artists, a group of professional contemporary artists who live on the borders of Surrey, Hampshire and Sussex. This exhibition will showcase each artist's work and is an eclectic mixture of large and small, in a variety of media. More details on the website www.hampshireculture.org.uk/ allen-gallery

#### TALK

Maria Heath Green (nee Curtis) and her designing sons, Romney and William. By Keith Baker. 13th April, 7.30, FREE, donations welcome.

#### CURTIS MUSEUM

British Bird Egg Hunt till 18th April. (Different eggs from the Gallery!)

**Papermaking in Alton.** A small exhibition of items relating to the paper-making industry, which continued in the town for many years, is being shown upstairs. The first known papermaker was Benjamin Godwin (from 1759) and he was followed by several others who met with varying degrees of success. One of the successful ones was William King, who was responsible for creating Kings Pond in order to get a good head of water. Papermaking continued until 1909, at which time the workforce received notice. Some may have been employed subsequently at a new mill in Kent. Hand-made paper was produced for most of Alton Paper Mill's history. The Museum is in contact with a descendant of the Carpenter family, many of whom worked in the mill over the years. Susan Shafrir (granddaughter of Kate Anne Carpenter and grandniece of Grace) is a mixed-media artist and a Member of the Society for Embroidered Work and of the European Textiles Network. As part of the exhibition Susan has given the Museum some material demonstrating the making of hand-made paper. FREE

Jill Line

#### **Diary Dates**

**Saturday 1st April Easter Fair** 10-12 noon West Meon Village Hall

Sunday 23rd April Festival of Contemporary Music 7.30pm, St Lawrence Church, Alton

Monday 24th April WI meeting and AGM 2pm West Meon Village Hall.

Thursday, 27th April WMPC Annual Parish Meeting 7 for 7.30 pm Sports Pavilion.

Thursday 4th May local elections West Meon Village Hall

Saturday 13th May MVGC Spring Plant Sale 10am Droxford Village Hall

**Thursday 18th May Warnford Parish AGM** 7.30pm Warnford Village Hall.

#### **Care Group Co-ordinators**

Nina Byles 829028/07778 679922 Virginia de Cosson 829362

Parish Directory Rector: Vacant

**Churchwarden** for **West Meon:** Michael Johnson 829105 **PCC Secretary** for **West Meon:** Louise Clay 829235

**Churchwarden** for **Warnford:** Andrew Sellick 829161 **Verger** for **Warnford:** Peter Short 829285



Hampshire Farmers' Markets in April Sunday 2nd Petersfield/Romsey Saturday 8th Alton Sunday 9th Winchester Saturday 15th Emsworth Sunday 16th Southsea Sunday 23rd Hamble Spring Market Saturday 29th Ringwood Sunday 30th Winchester

The Parish News is published by the Parochial Church Councils of West Meon & Warnford and delivered free to every home in the parishes.

Contributions by the 15th of the previous month please to:

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