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Owing to pressure of copy space we regret it may be necessary to abridge any article. (E-mail copy much appreciated).

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THE OXDROVE

Church and Community News

Of

The Candover Valley and Wield

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Tel: 01256 381 217. Email: stevemourant@btinternet.com

<http://www.farleighcandoverandwield.org.uk>

Rota for Services

BCP = Book of Common Prayer CW = Common Worship

The Parishes of Candover Valley and Wield

BCP = Book of Common Prayer CW = Common Worship

Sunday 3 January Second Sunday of Christmas

Readings: Jeremiah 31:7-14, Ephesians 1:3-14, John 1:10-18

Psalm 147:13-end

Sermon: What does receiving Jesus mean?

9.30	Wield	Matins BCP
10.00	Preston Candover	Morning Worship CW
11.00	Northington	Holy Communion CW

”””

Sunday 10 January First Sunday of Epiphany

Readings: Genesis 1:1-5, Acts 19:1-7, Mark 1:4-11 Psalm 29

Sermon: Being baptised with the Holy Spirit

8.30	Bradley	Holy Communion CW
10.00	Preston Candover	Family Service
6.00	Wield	Evensong BCP

”””

Sunday 17 January Second Sunday of Epiphany

Readings: 1 Samuel 3:1-10, Revelation 5:1-10, John 1:43-end

Psalm 139:1-5, 12-18

Sermon: Can anything good come out of...?

9.00	Wield	Holy Communion BCP
10.00	Preston Candover	Holy Communion CW

”””

Sunday 24 January Third Sunday of Epiphany

Readings: Genesis 14:17-30, Revelation 19:6-10, John 2:1-11
Psalm 128

Sermon: Don't you just love a wedding?

10.00 Preston Candover Family Service
11.00 Brown Candover Morning Worship CW

**Sunday 31 January Fourth Sunday of Epiphany
Second before Lent
(Candlemas)**

(offerings today for our Lango link in Uganda)

Readings: Deuteronomy 18:15-20, Revelation 12:1-5, Mark 1:21-28
Psalm 111

Sermon: deliverance is still needed today

11.00 Bradley Benefice Communion

Sunday 7 February Second Sunday before Lent

Readings: Proverbs 8:1,22-31 Colossians 1:15-20, John 1:1-14
Psalm 104:26-end

Sermon: Are you "Walking in the Light"?

9.30 Wield Matins BCP
10.00 Preston Candover Morning Worship CW
11.00 Northington Holy Communion CW

Farleigh Parish

Sunday 3 January 2nd Sunday of Christmas
8.00 Ellisfield Holy Communion BCP
9.45 Cliddesden Holy Communion CW
11.15 Dummer Family Service /Sunday Special

Sunday 10 January 1st Sunday of Epiphany
8.00 Dummer Holy Communion BCP
9.45 Ellisfield Holy Communion CW
11.15 Cliddesden Family Communion CW

Sunday 17 January 2nd Sunday of Epiphany
8.00 Ellisfield Holy Communion BCP
9.45 Dummer Morning Prayer CW
11.15 Cliddesden Family Service

Saturday 23 January



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6.00 Cliddesden Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 24 January 3rd Sunday of Epiphany
9.45 Dummer Holy Communion CW
11.15 Ellisfield Family Morning Praise

Sunday 31 January 4th Sunday of Epiphany, second before Lent
11.00 St. Andrew's Farleigh Wallop Holy Communion CW

Sunday 7 February Last Sunday before Lent
8.00 Ellisfield Holy Communion BCP

9.45 Cliddesden Holy Communion CW
11.15 Dummer Family Service /Sunday Special

Dear Friends

I know many were pleased to see the end of last year as the chapter of 2020 closed but of course nothing really changes just because the earth has completed another orbit around the sun! Our hope is that COVID-19 will be controlled through the new vaccine as the vaccination program is rolled out over the next months and that we can enjoy unrestricted lives again.

As we marked 2020's end, reflecting on the extraordinary year our nation and indeed our world has had, we may have wondered how things can recover in the future? Perhaps we pondered the passing of time as lockdown changed our lives and philosophised on the bigger questions of life about purpose and meaning as we faced futility and frustrations? We measure out our lives allotting time to our work obligations in years, for income's sake, in days when planning a holiday and seconds if we are heating food in a microwave.

The digital world in phones and computers runs on clocks which divide the second into billionths and in each billionth of a second something happens in a computer's microprocessor. But however we measure time it still passes and we have less of it and with the passing of time regrets often come following on.

As Rob Parsons of Care for the Family (great website) asks this question, "If the two thieves of joy are a hankering after a perfect past and a yearning for a change of some kind in the future, what have they stolen from us?"

He answers, they steal our only opportunity to find fulfilment, happiness and peace – they steal today."

Someone said, “Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, and today is a gift—that is why it is called the present.”

One of the prayers that we sometimes use in a funeral service says, “You are tender towards your children and your mercy is over all your works. Heal the memories of hurt and failure.

Give us the wisdom and grace to use aright the time that is left to us on earth, to turn to Christ and follow in his steps in the way that leads to everlasting life.”

Let’s not live with regret but live with the one who gives eternal life. Only days ago we sang carols of One called the Light of the World so that those who ‘sit in darkness’, of any kind, might receive illuminating, focus giving light. So, what might we see in this light?

We see the glory of God in Jesus Christ, love, compassion, justice and mercy, we see that in God there is the greatest clarity about life and that despite the past, in God, there is hope for our future.

But with the announcement of Jesus as light, came an observation that people deliberately rejected the light as “their deeds were evil”. Perhaps we sympathise with that as who wants every thought, word and deed exposed? But God shines his light for health reasons! Jesus came to make it possible for change within the human heart, there is power in prayer in his name that God answers and things change! Perhaps you say this amazing article on the BBC new site, “Burnley’s Pastor Mick - from dangerous drug dealer to life-saver” Mick, about to shoot a man, saw a blinding light that stopped him in his tracks, the rest is history as it was the beginning of God’s work in his life for change, healing and freedom from many things.

We, hopefully, may not be violent like that, but still have the power to harm others with our actions and words....

Here is a little prayer you may like to use; Dear God, I would like 2021 to be different and better, less regrets and more hope. Please shine your light in my heart, and with your light and power remove darkness and may the light of Christ lead me this year. Amen.

very Blessing
David



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Exploring faith course Spring 2021

I have run this course for several years in the benefice, using it as a confirmation course as well as the opportunity to explore the truths of Christianity in a relaxed manner, addressing the real questions of life.

I shall be starting another course in the spring and am considering doing it online as this may give more folk opportunity to join in without the necessity of travel and mixing, whilst the present circumstances prevail.

Are you interested in finding answers to life's questions? Have you got questions that you've always wanted to ask but been afraid to admit you don't know the answers? This course is for you!

There's some homework to do – for anyone seriously interested, doing a little research and reading always helps hugely.

Please let me know if you would like to join in: it will probably be Tuesday or Thursday evenings, but I can also do a daytime one if that gives others more opportunity to join in. email me please at:

stevemourant@btinternet.com

May God bless you who seek that you may also find.

Stephen Mourant

Associate Rector.

St. Peters, Brown Candover

The scaffolding has been removed from most of the church roof and there is just a small amount of work to be done on the tower.

We expect to have services again in February but prior to that we will need help from the parishioners of Brown and Chilton Candover to clean the church.

We have had meetings in the church with the architects and builders and it all seems very tidy, if rather dusty. We had put everything away prior to the roofers starting and so we would like help getting everything back to normal again.

Sue Marriott, Churchwarden

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RICS

<u>Church</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Sidesmen</u>	<u>Readers</u>
St John's Northington	3 Jan 11.00am		
	7 Feb 11.00am		
St Peter's Brown Candover	24 Jan 11.00am	To be advised	To be advised
St Mary The Virgin Preston Candover	3 Jan 10.00am	Anne Luneburg	Anne Luneburg
	10 Jan 10.00am	Marina Avis	To be advised
	17 Jan 10.00am	Jane Laws	Anne Luneburg & Jane Laws
	24 Jan 10.00am	Anne Luneburg	To be advised
	7 Feb 10.00am	To be advised	To be advised
All Saints Bradley	10 Jan 8.30am	Christopher Swan	Christopher Swan
	31 Jan 11.00am	To be advised	To be advised
St James' Wield	3 Jan 9.30am	Barbara Wells	Catherine Simons & Philip Geddes
	10 Jan 6.00pm	Robert Grande	Alwin Hutchinson & Ben Robinson
	17 Jan 9.00am	Alwin Hutchinson	Joanna Nelson & David Cowley
	7 Feb 9.00am	Barbara Wells	Amanda Bromfield & Eileen Collins



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St. John's Church Northington	Flowers		
	Key Holder		
St Peter's Church Brown Candover	Flowers	No services until further notice	Roof repairs
	Key Holders & brass	January 2021	Sue Marriott (01256 389385)
All Saints Church Bradley	Flowers & cleaning		
St. Mary The Virgin Preston Candover	Flowers		
St James' Church Wield	Flowers		
	Cleaner	Permanent	Michelle Kuhn

Graves in Churchyard of St John the Evangelist, Northington

The Northington PCC intends to apply for a faculty in May 2021 for permission from the Diocesan Chancellor to remove the kerbstones and other grave furniture, to leave just the headstone on all full bodied graves in the churchyard and return the ground to level grass so the graves can be mown and kept weed free and tidy and in conformity with the Churchyard Regulations of the Diocese. We hope that all will understand this need but if there are any objections, please contact the PCC Secretary c/o Ruffside, Northington, SO24 9TH by 30 April 2021.

If any grave is unsafe and/or untended we will ask the relatives to repair the memorial in order to pass the safety standards of the Diocesan architect within 8 months and to tend the grave to ensure it remains tidy.

The application for a Faculty will be made in May 2021 and work commenced once the Faculty is granted. The work may well take over 2 years and so the Faculty application will ask for the Faculty to run for that period. Any grave that receives an objection to being simplified will be temporarily spared but failure to repair a monument and/or tend a grave by 30 Apr 2022 will be taken by the PCC as a withdrawal of the objection.

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Appointment of Benefice Administrator

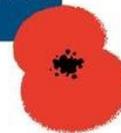
“I am delighted to announce the appointment of April Carroll as our part time benefice administrator. She lives in Ellisfield, and comes to us with much administrative experience from the NHS. She will begin in January, and in the first few weeks Stephen will be working closely with her setting up the necessary files, dedicated email, phone, and computer files.

April writes, *”Hello I’m April: I moved from Alresford to Ellisfield 7 years ago and love living in the Candover Valley. I have worked for the NHS for about 40 years, and walking, cooking, wreath making, and looking after animals are just a few likes of mine. There is always a warm welcome at my home if you need a chat”!*

David will introduce April to the various congregations and the 4 PCCs during the spring.”



Poppy appeal 2020



I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Poppy Appeal this year either in the static boxes or by QR code or text giving. The RBL Poppy Appeal really appreciate your continued support over this difficult time. The static boxes collected £1323.22.

QR & text giving went straight into the central fund. Overall giving will be in the National press.

Joanna Gibbons
Poppy Appeal Organiser Preston Candover



Oxdrove subscriptions

Thank you all for your support over the past difficult year. Now it is time to pay your subscriptions.

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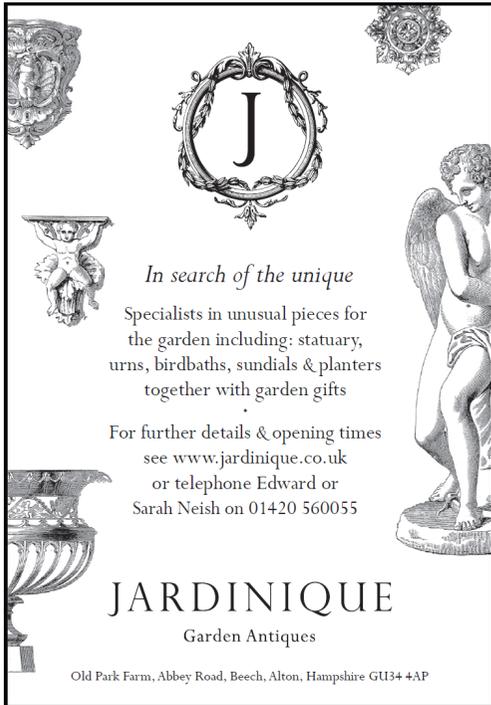


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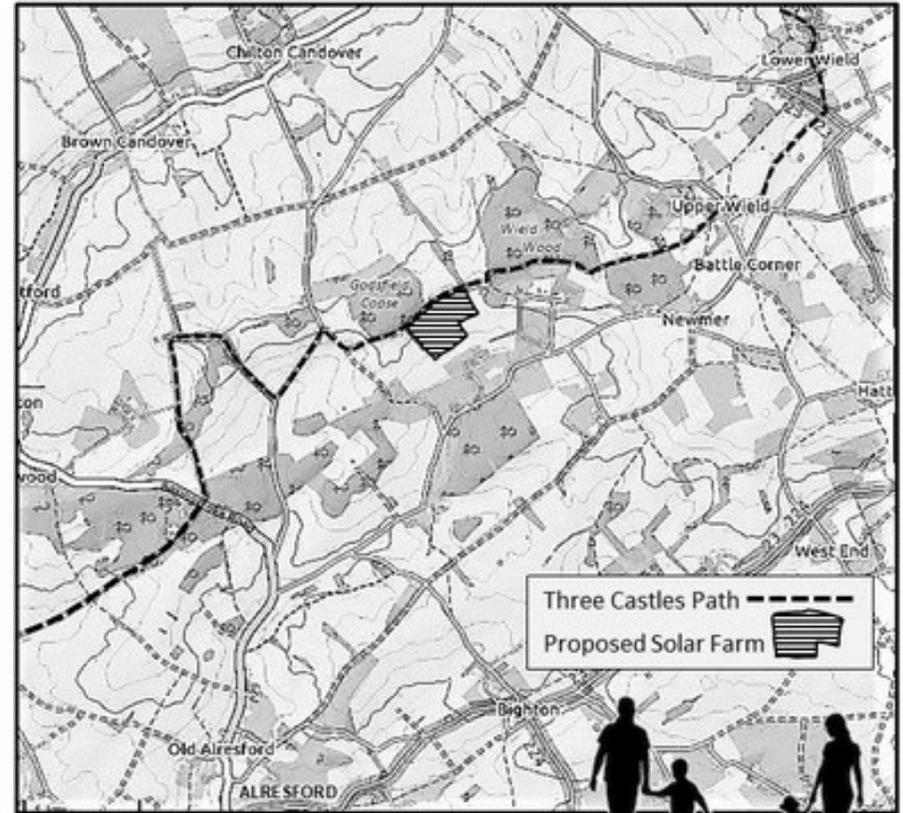
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Beautiful spot - worth a visit!

In October Anesco made an initial assessment to erect solar panels across the whole of this area of beautiful open countryside with its fine views over the chalk downs. A planning application is now expected in 2021. Email me if you would like to be advised Immediately if and when this happens.

Dave Ramm, Open Spaces Society Local Correspondent for Hampshire
daveramm@hotmail.co.uk

Jackie's County Corner

It was such a pleasure to meet Susie Little at Tower House Horses. Susie generously uses her horses to help those who have been victims of Domestic Abuse, or addiction. If you'd like to know more, or donate, go to www.towerhousehorses.org

The County Council has set up a 'Citizens Forum' to receive feedback. Go to hants.gov.uk and search Hampshire Perspectives for details or go direct to www.hampshirecc.researchfeedback.net

The Covid-19 Local Engagement Board is headed up by the Leader of the County Council. It is advised by the Director of Public Health (DoPH), Simon Bryant. I attend the meetings as your Councillor and as Cabinet Member for Wellbeing at WCC. The local virus figures are low but rising steadily, so many events are being cancelled by organisers or by the DoPH. We want Christmas to be good for everyone- and I'm sure you'll agree that a Covid-free Christmas present is the best present we can imagine right now. Meanwhile, click on the interactive map on www.jackieporter.co.uk for recent, very local Covid-19 data.

If you have an autistic person in your family, you'll know the challenges of obtaining a diagnosis. At HCC **Children's Scrutiny we heard of the woeful progress of services for Autistic children** which has been an ongoing problem for more years than I can remember. It's a money issue- there just isn't enough- and the funding needed didn't happen because the General Election of 2019 'got in the way'. To an 'old hand' like me, this felt like Groundhog Day. I have asked for frequent updates until this is resolved, and was pleased that the NHS Director, newly appointed to carry this forward, agreed: this *must* improve.

Hampshire Hospital options: Online consultations involving 1000 people were held through the summer. Most people who attended the online events wanted the best healthcare wherever it was possible, the opportunity to 'stay local' for tests and check-ups, excellent public transport links to all sites (including Alton and Andover) for staff, patients and visitors, and a better link between the NHS and social care. Options for care have been drawn up by HHFT. You will be able to comment on these in early 2021. Visit www.hampshiretogether.nhs.uk for more information about this health service improvement programme – and you can also follow it on Facebook (www.facebook.com/hampshiretogether).

Please give your comments: even if you haven't been to any of our hospitals yet, it is worth putting yourself in the shoes of an employee, patient or visitor to think how it would work for you.

Finally, are you entitled to Healthy Start Vouchers? These provide vouchers to purchase a range of healthy foods for some pregnant mums and children under 4. See more on www.gov.uk but if you need a printed version of the form, please contact me or your health visitor.

If you are worried about how you can feed the whole family, now or in the future, contact me or go direct to www.winchesterbasicsbank.org.uk. Food is donated by the community for the community. You don't need to be referred by anyone else, just call 01962 855774 or go online. Food can be delivered if necessary.

County Councillor Jackie Porter www.jackieporter.co.uk 07973 696 085, jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk

Please be mindful when booking a blood test appointment that if we cannot offer you an appointment in the time frame you require, that you can access blood tests at Royal Hampshire County Hospital and this will help alleviate some pressure on the surgery.

It is easy & straight forward to book a blood test appointment at Royal Hampshire County Hospital either online or via telephone.

Please use the link below for more information;

<https://www.hampshirehospitals.nhs.uk/our-services/az-departments-and-specialties/pathology-inc-blood-tests/blood-tests>

Covid 19 Vaccine:

- The supply of vaccine is limited.
- We are working with local practices to deliver this vaccination programme at scale.
- We have to wait to be informed of when we will receive the vaccine locally and any deliveries are likely to be small, in the short term.
- It is highly unlikely that initially the vaccine will be given at the practice.
- We are waiting to hear the delivery date of local vaccines
- We have to follow strict government guidelines which tell us which group of patients to vaccinate first
- We will contact you if you are eligible for a vaccine when we know what date the vaccine is available for you.
- It is essential, if you are given a vaccine, that you return for the second part of the vaccination on the date that you are advised to.
- **Please do not telephone us to ask when or if you are going to get a Covid Vaccine. We will contact you individually if and when you are invited to have one and will keep our website updated with as much information as we can.**
- We have many patients to vaccinate so we ask for your patience as we work through this vaccination programme which will last well into 2021.

Meanwhile, we all need to keep to the advice of hand-washing, face masks and social distancing but we all look forward to the time when we will return to life as normal.

Thank you for your patience



The Alresford Surgery

Station Road
ALRESFORD
Hampshire

Out of hours telephone number
111

Surgery telephone number 01962 732345 SO24 9JL

Before attending the surgery:

The surgery is extremely busy with an increased workload & additional pressures.

We are unable to lock our doors like we did previously so please do consider carefully how vital your visit to us is.

Our dispensary has been constantly busy throughout Covid and due to social distancing measures are working in smaller teams.

Prescriptions take 72 hours to be processed, please do not call, email or attend the dispensary asking for your prescription before the 72 hours has passed, as it will not be ready early!

When attending the Surgery, if the waiting area appears busy & social distancing difficult, then please wait outside until more space is available.

Please do not come into the surgery if you have any of the following;

- A high temperature or fever
- A new continuous cough
- Loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

Please stay at home and use the following website for further help.
111.nhs.uk/covid-19

You need to be wearing a face covering/mask before entering the building, even if collecting a prescription.

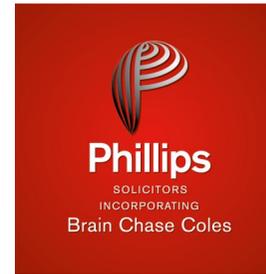
To ensure there are as few patients in the building as possible,

- Do not attend more than 5 minutes before your appointment time.
- You should attend the surgery alone, unless you need an essential carer or parent/guardian to accompany you.

Any enquiries relating to appointments, repeat medications or otherwise please telephone (01962 732345) rather than attending the reception desk.

Blood test appointments:

The surgery is under a lot of additional pressures and is extremely busy.



Tax break for homeworkers

If you have been working from home at any time since March because of the coronavirus pandemic, you probably would have run up higher household bills.

The good news is that HMRC is able to make a small contribution in the form of a tax break towards expenses such as for electricity and heating.

To be eligible, you must be carrying out duties of your employment under home-working arrangements. This means that you are regularly performing some or all of your duties at home.

Where, as is often the case, it is not possible to calculate the extra costs, then a claim for £26 per month (£18 per month prior to 6 April 2020) for monthly paid employees or £6 a week (£4 per week prior to 6 April 2020) can be made without having to justify the figure. This amount will not cover the cost of business calls, for which an additional claim can be made based on actual costs.

You cannot claim for any expenses that you would normally have to pay such as mortgage interest or rent, council tax, ordinary water rates and insurance.

Where your employer contributes towards homeworking expenses then you can only claim for the portion which has not already been covered by your employer. HMRC has set up a dedicated online microservice which can be found by visiting www.gov.uk/tax-relief-for-employees/working-at-home that will automatically apply the whole 2020/21 tax year's relief via your tax code.

In fact, you can actually use it to claim just before this tax year too as the lockdown started on 23 March 2020 – you just need to put that date in. You should be able to get a refund for the whole of this tax year, which started 6 April 2020 and two weeks extra on top.

Should you have any queries about this or any other employment issues, please contact Jacqueline Kendal,

who works in our Employment Law team at Phillips Solicitors, by emailing jacqueline.kendal@phillips-law.co.uk or by calling **01256 854626**.

For information about the services offered by Phillips Solicitors, please visit -law.co.uk

When contacting Phillips, please mention The Oxdrove Magazine.



Walking with Wildlife

How many holly berries does a redwing gobble up for breakfast? I'm trying to count as a small flock of redwings raids a nearby holly tree at first light. Berry after berry disappears, each plucked and swallowed whole. It's an early winter buffet and the scarlet berries are still rather hard and bitter. According to the charity Plantlife, the berries need to be softened first by frosts to be made more palatable and less toxic. The redwings though seem unconcerned, returning day after day to forage, slowly but steadily stripping the tree of berries before moving on to the next holly.

In clear light I have a better view of these Nordic wintering thrushes, nine of them, as they dive down one at a time to flutter and bounce around the sprays of holly while snapping up berries. Their bold white eye-stripe is distinctive, together with their speckled chests and the russet glow of their flanks and under-wings. They may seem totally absorbed in their feast but remain remarkably wary, presumably hawk alert, flying off in all directions in a scatter pattern of alarm at the slightest hint of disturbance.

Perching far up in the bare canopy of surrounding birch trees, they watch and wait for the all-clear.

In the misty half-light of a brisk wintry walk, with little sign of life, flocks of redwings are often seen, usually in outline, as they break cover from a hedge-row where they've been feeding on berries and haws.

Their larger cousins, fieldfares, also roam the downlands in shadowy flocks like a band of warriors, suddenly appearing in the tree-tops, grey-heads held high as they scout for berries. The distinctive chak-chak chatter and chuckle of fieldfares busily harvesting the blood-red haw-berries of a wayside hedge, is one of the sounds and sights of the early winter.

I'm so focussed on the antics of thrushes and continental blackbirds tucked away in the local hedge-banks, that I'm quite startled by the tremendous woof-wump of wing-beats as a passing flock of woodpigeons plunges low overhead.

Robert Bryant
9 December '20



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Police Report

**Andrew Reid, Police Constable Rural Beat Officer
3746 andrew.reid@hampshire.pnn.police.uk**

**Information should be passed to: 101;
Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111;**

OR give me a call on 07768 776 844 or 01256 389 050

Dear residents

First may I wish you all a very happy New Year and hope you all had a good Christmas period. As in previous years I will provide an update of parish crime for the communities covered by this magazine in the February edition.

Whilst I am pleased to report no reported crime of note in the area of this magazine, I am appealing for any information in relation to the following crimes not too far away. Overnight of November 29 and 30 fields that are directly south of the M3 were driven over and substantial damage was caused to the growing crops. The padlocks were broken on gates that lead into these fields from both the Woods Lane and at the other end at Garlic Lane entrances. We suspect that this damage was caused by poachers looking to chase and kill hares and deer. Sadly this was an exact mirror of the same damage being caused in the same area overnight of November 13 and 14.

Poachers were also very active overnight of November 28 and 29 when substantial damage was caused to fields at Moundsmere, I am aware that similar damage was caused to a field in Green Lane, Ellisfield that same night. Between November 28 and 30 similar damage as a result of poaching was also reported at Dummer Grange.

On Thursday December 10 2020 at 8:15 PM three men were disturbed at a farm on Weston Road, Herriard trying to break into a farm workshop. After being disturbed they went up Weston Road to Herriard crossroads then over into Bagmore Lane and stole a Daihatsu Fourtrak 4x4 vehicle registration S627VKE. This was pulling a trailer which had a quad bike on it. The trailer was found the following morning whilst the vehicle and quad bike have not been seen since.

I am appealing for any information in relation to a nasty incident in which two 10 month old sheep lambs were killed by a dog(s). This happened on Thursday November 26 in a field next to the by-way on Oakhill Lane Preston Candover. Sadly both lambs died of bite wounds. I am aware that the dog ran through an electric fence in order to get at the sheep. I cannot reiterate enough that this is a very serious matter and I urge all dog owners to please make sure their dogs are under proper control and on leads near livestock. Please be aware that farmers have authority to shoot any dog found worrying livestock on agricultural land. If you can assist me with any information please contact call 01256:389050 – 07768.776844 or email andrew.reid@hampshire.pnn.police.uk all calls treated in strictest confidence.

Many thanks and sincere wishes for the New Year to you all, thank you for your support in 2020



Candover Valley Club

The Candover Valley Club is located in a beautiful spot next to the church and fronted by the cricket pitch in the middle of the quiet village of Brown Candover. We are conveniently situated on the B3046 between Alresford and Basingstoke.

Both the clubroom and the back hall have recently been renovated and have never looked so inviting. Club night is Saturday from 6.30pm to 10pm if you fancy a drink, a game of darts or pool and a chat with the locals. Food is also served between 7pm and 9pm.

Our magnificent Skittle Alley is also available to hire – great for fun evenings with groups of people and parties!

The club and/or hall are both available to hire at very reasonable rates. We have a fully licensed bar, fully fitted kitchen and large spaces for wedding receptions and parties. Please contact Alison at cvchires@gmail.com - No booking is too large or too small.

We look forward to seeing you soon!



www.candovervalleyclub.co.uk



facebook.com/candovervalleyclub



[@CandoverClub](https://twitter.com/CandoverClub)



Monthly Column— 2021

RANIL JAYAWARDENA, M.P

Serving people across North East Hampshire

ranil@tellranil.com Westminster 02072 193 637
Hampshire 01256 702 468

I hope you all enjoyed a very happy Christmas, after a ghastly year.

A new day has dawned. We left the European Union – Britain has officially set sail to trade independently with the world. There is hope. The vaccine is here – some of you may have already had it – and rapid testing is in full swing. We can now look forward.

Even with the challenges we’ve faced, I have not – and will not – stop working for you. Our constituency is a fantastic place – but we can make it even better. □□I will never give up, and will keep pushing on with the projects you elected me to get done.

Regeneration of our ‘High Streets’ has never been more important. COVID-19 has accelerated the change that was on its way, and many businesses have adapted to cope with this surge in online orders. That’s not to say that there is no role for bricks and mortar though! It’s just it’s clearer than ever that our retail centres need to change – regeneration will lead to their revitalisation.

The importance of our NHS has been reinforced – the amazing lengths staff went to to keep us protected during the pandemic left us all in awe. The future is even brighter. We are getting a new hospital in north Hampshire, and our pledge to recruit 50,000 new nurses is fully underway – some of them are already here. This, backed up with the extra £33.9 billion in frontline funding by 2023/24, on top of the boost to pay for the pandemic, shows that we are delivering.

We are delivering more police officers too. We pledged to recruit 20,000 extra police officers and, though we live in a safe area, I am determined to keep it that way by getting more of them onto our streets. There are already more boots on the ground and, with your help, I will continue to lobby our Police and Crime Commissioner and the Home Secretary to keep us safe all year round. Sign the petition at ranil.uk/policing and share it with your friends and family.

These are but a few of the issues I’m focused on right now. With last year behind us, I’m ready to fight harder than ever for the things that matter to you and your family. As ever, if I can help you, please drop me a line to: email@ranil.uk

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WEATHERWISE

Summary of weather observations taken at Northington Down in November 2020

By Simon Bourne

Temperatures (degrees centigrade/Fahrenheit)

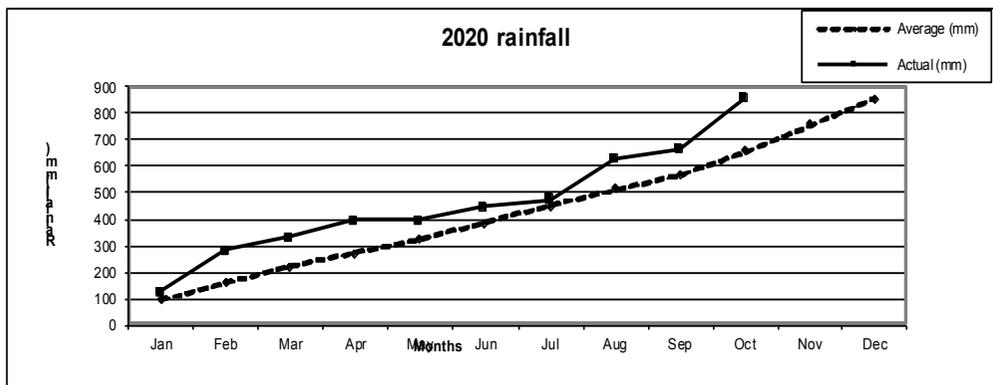
Highest	15.4/60	(1 st)
Lowest	-3.3/26	(4 th)
Warmest Night	13.5/56	(2 nd)
Coollest Day	7.6/46	(26 th)
Average maximum temperature	12.1/54	
Average minimum temperature	4.8/41	
Number of air frosts	6	

Rainfall (millimetres/inches)

Monthly total	78.5/3.09	(average 99.6/3.92)
Annual total	964.9/37.99	(average 767.7/30.22)
Maximum 24hr. fall	38.5/1.52	(14 th)
Number of days with rain	15	

Summary

The month began mild, wet and windy with the mildest overnight temperature for November ever recorded here at 56°F on the 2nd. High pressure brought fine weather and unbroken sunshine but cooler temperatures from 4th-6th. The first air frost of the season and coldest night was recorded on the 4th. The predominant southerly and south-westerly winds resulted in mild weather with wet and windy spells between the 9th and 25th. The last five days were dry but overcast with the coldest day at 46°F on the 26th. Overall, the month was mild with below average rainfall. The temperature for the autumn was average and, due to the exceptionally wet October,



CAGE meets Maria Miller MP., Kit Malthouse MP., Stephen Reid, HCC., Hannah Golding, CLLR., At a public meeting on 2nd December 2020.

Once again, our MPs, and local politicians stated that they are opposed to the possible warehouse development on J7, M3. They support CAGE's campaign to stop the warehouses for 3 main reasons:

1. These plans completely ignore the CLIMATE CRISIS.
2. Any jobs at the warehouses will be low grade, low paid.
3. Warehouses of this gigantic size have never been planned.

People present asked about the Vision Document published by Basingstoke Council for the South West area of the borough. This sets out in broad terms where housing, employment, transport and roads might be. Many of the ideas shown on a map at the meeting will cost hundreds of millions of pounds. It is a document that may shape our quality of life in the future and can be seen on the Council's website.

Join CAGE's campaign to protect the area.

Visit cleanairegreenenvironment.org or call: 0208-638-6131.

Christine Northam

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Swarraton and Northington WI

A Happy New Year to you all and we hope 2021 will be much happier than 2020!

We have continued with our monthly newsletters to members and in December included some jolly articles from members and friends about Carols and Christmas music.....A light hearted version of the Twelve Days of Christmas...rewritten asThe Twelve Days of Covid ...and a Christmas anagram quiz.

As we look ahead to the New Year we hope to resume meetings as soon as it is felt safe to do so. In the meantime please look at your copy of WI Life page 22 and read about the proposed resolutions for 2021.

Choose the one you would like adopted at the annual meeting next summer and let us know your choice by January 16th.

The Resolutions are:-

1. A call to increase the awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer.
2. Stop women dying prematurely from heart disease
3. Racism and discrimination
4. Now is the time to act! Protect your nature space to create wildlife-friendly communities
5. Stop the destruction of peat bogs to tackle climate change

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Candover Valley Store

community made

Happy New Year to all our customers and volunteers!

After the many challenges 2020 threw at us, let's hope for a calmer, safer and more hopeful year ahead. Garry, Emma and the whole store team are looking forward to seeing you soon. We all hope you had a peaceful and happy Christmas.

January means marmalade!

Bright days may be in short supply this month but there will be plenty of Spanish oranges from Seville available if you feel like creating your own pots of edible sunshine! All the ingredients you need to make delicious marmalade will be in stock in the store, together with a free recipe sheet to take away if you're a novice. We may even run a "Community Marmalade Challenge" if you are really feeling keen! More next month! If you happen to have any spare clean jam jars to offer fellow makers please let us know.

AGM

The AGM of the Candover Valley Store was held by Zoom on 19 November. Treasurer, Chris Smith, presented the accounts for the year ending 30 June 2020 and Jane Laws, committee chair, reported on the year and the store's current trading position. Shareholders approved the accounts and elected Jocelyn Rogerson to the committee. (The accounts, business review, chair's report and minutes of the AGM are available on request or can be downloaded from the website). In the first full year of trading and as a result of exceptional trading levels related to Covid-19, CVCS has returned a substantial profit, allowing sufficient reserves to be established and for a sum to be set aside to establish a Community Projects Fund. This is an exciting development which was not expected to be possible for some years.

Launching the Community Projects Fund

The idea of the fund is to enhance community spirit, bring local people together and build strong relationships across our villages. The fund aims to help support local organisations and improve the places and spaces that matter to members of the community. So for example, if a local scout group, gardening club, church or community organisation in the defined catchment area (largely that of the combined benefices) requires funding for equipment or a particular project, they can now apply to the CVCS Community Projects Fund. Applications will be considered by the CVCS committee twice a year, in February and August. To request an application form and further information, please contact Jocelyn Rogerson on 01256 389611 or download from the website www.cvcs.org.uk

FOR RENT – Wield Village Hall Flat

One bedroom flat available to rent now in Upper Wield.

The upstairs flat comprises:

Hallway, bathroom with over bath shower, bedroom and open plan living room with kitchen area

It is in the Village Hall in the centre of the village.

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The Citizens Advice East Hampshire is taking part in the Big Energy Saving Winter to encourage you all to save money on your energy bills and stay warm. The average home could save hundreds of pounds by switching supplier or tariff, and it only takes 5 minutes using a comparison website.

The Citizens Advice comparison site allows you to compare by price and customer service as well as green tariffs or posted paper bills and includes the whole market. For more information on how to switch suppliers go to the Citizens Advice website and search "Switch" or contact energy@caeasthants.org.uk

Or if you are one of those who already save money, become an Energy Super Saver by helping a friend get a better deal on their energy by switching tariff or supplier. Sign up at bigenergysavingwinter.org.uk/pledge-form/ and you could win an energy efficient washing machine or slow cooker.

On the Farm—Ben Robinson

The winter routine is in full swing. Moving sheep around the grazing as well as bedding and feeding cattle are currently frequent jobs at the moment.

Grazing sheep in different fields invariably involves spending time erecting and dismantling electric fencing at this time of year. This can be done fairly quickly with our home made reel winder that sits on the front of the farm buggy. The five year plan involves a lot more permanent fencing which should make moving livestock around the farm much more efficient.

Currently I have some ewes on grass, other ewes on barley stubble re-growths and the very last of the lambs on stubble turnips. The lambs have done well this year. Prices have been at historic highs for a number of interesting reasons. Firstly although pubs and restaurants have been closed intermittently throughout the year the takeaways have remained open. Vast amounts of lamb and mutton are sold through curry houses so these have driven demand. Secondly as people have been spending more time at home they have been more willing to cook from scratch, this suits lamb dishes. Thirdly for the first time in many years there has been a resurgence in younger consumers choosing lamb. Finally there is a shortage of sheep meat globally, which has supported the export trade. What happens after 1st January is currently unknown!

I am awaiting the arrival of a Mill & Mix machine to produce a homemade feed for the cattle. This belongs to a Dorset based feed company who travel from farm to farm creating livestock rations. I provide the barley from our own crop and their machine grinds it and blends in minerals, molasses and protein pellets to produce a full ration to be fed to the cattle. This is in addition to the baled silage they also receive. In theory it should work out cheaper than buying in standard feed from a feed company. I will review in 6 months to see whether the difference in price is worth the time and hassle factor.



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**The Candover Valley Choir is
always interested in hearing from potential new singers
interested in joining.**

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

This may feel a strange time to join the choir, as we may still need to meet via ZOOM for a little while longer, but we are hopeful that as the year progresses, we will be able to meet face to face and enjoy singing together once again.

So - if you would like to know more about the **Candover Valley Choir** or would like to come and try us out, **do contact me** (Jane Bryant).

I would be very happy to talk things through with you and tell you a little more about the Choir which is hugely enjoyable, and which also aims to achieve high standards of choral singing (there are no auditions).

Rehearsals Take Place on Thursdays at 7.45

For more information do contact:

Bryantjane50@gmail.com

www.candovervalleychoir.co.uk



Candover Valley Gardening Club

Although we had hoped that from the New Year we might be able to re-commence meetings, unfortunately due to the continuing uncertainties we have had to cancel our January talk on Soil Management, which would have been very useful.

If you have been spending more time than ever in your garden in recent months you may like to join the Gardening Club to get more ideas of what and how to grow. We normally meet January to November with expert speakers and inspiring garden visits and hold an Annual Show in August. Please check our website www.cvgc.btck.co.uk for up to date information and how to get in touch.



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Mb: 07909 928 011 or Email: fiona.Koetser@outlook.com



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Our Live In Care service offers the ideal solution, supporting you to remain independent while providing full time assistance, in the comfort of your home. More importantly, it offers the peace of mind that you are not alone. Care can be arranged for short term respite or on a long term basis. To find out more, call our Live In Care service today.

t: 01256 700991
www.calidacare.co.uk

Classic cars wanted

Any model

Any condition

Barn finds.

Ring David

07713 144 366



NEWS FROM THE YARD

Thanks to those of you who visited our crepe bar in December! We had plenty of fun making traditional crepes & hot chocolate as winter warmers. Thanks also for supporting our pop-up retail space in the run up to Christmas. We're so happy to have showcased some of our local creatives so huge thanks to @camilladinesen, @andrassyliving, @mypopupkitchen, @hannah.elizabeth.james, @cheriedenhamcooks, @felicitybuchanandesigns, @pasche_design, @cameronbespolkatrust, @beyondthebarnflowers & @annabcushions for taking part.

We'll be back after the New Year from Sat 2nd Jan, and will be open from then on regularly through the year Fri, Sat & Sun 9am-4pm. Our booking system will be up & running so you can once again book your table inside, or you can just turn up and enjoy either space indoors, or our courtyard area, partially covered & heated.

Don't forget that you can book the Yard for co-working space on Mondays & Tuesdays for an easy, hassle-free way of working away from home. We have 6 tables available for individual use, just visit the website to book.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

www.theyardhampshire.co.uk

Follow us on Instagram @theyard_hampshire
Chilton Manor Farm, Chilton Candover, Alresford, Hants, SO24 9TX

Farleigh Parish Playgroup



Cliddesden Millennium Village Hub

Friday Mornings 11am-12noon Term Time

January: 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th (walks are subject to Government protocols)

Due to Covid-19 we are offering a walk and following government guidelines

0 - 4 year olds and their grown-ups. Join us for a country walk suitable for all ages.

A warm welcome awaits you - we look forward to you joining us.

Cost: £1 donation per family

Contact:

Melanie (07833-528040) Claire (01256-477197)



est. 2019

Candover Valley Store

community made

YOUR COMMUNITY STORE OFFERS

Household essentials from groceries to baby food
Fresh vegetables, fruit and flowers
Chilled and frozen foods including prepared meals
Local Hampshire produce
Newspapers and selected magazines
Greetings cards, wines and beautiful gift items
Dry cleaning, prescription services
Coffee, tea, and takeaway drinks

We look forward to welcoming you!

Store trading hours *Post Office hours*

Monday to Friday
8:00am - 6:00pm

Saturday
8:30am - 5:00pm

Sunday
8:30am - 12:30pm

Monday to Friday
8:30am - 5:00pm

Saturday
9:00am - 12:30pm

Sunday
closed

www.cvcs.org.uk

Candover Valley Store, Alresford Road, Preston Candover, RG25 2EE
Tel: 01256 389500

From Winchester's MP

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

Website: www.stevebrine.com Steve Brine TV: www.stevebrine.tv [www.fb.com/SteveBrineMP](https://www.facebook.com/SteveBrineMP)

Happy New Year! And surely it has to be, better than 2020, right?

For more than a decade I have represented us in Parliament and I have never worked harder but, also, never found it more rewarding.

It is true, in any walk of life, that experience aids success but I feel blessed to have so much I can fall back on for the benefit of the people I represent.

The early part of this year will (hopefully) be recovery from the pandemic; both in how we **roll out the vaccine** across Hampshire and seek to get economic growth going again.

I am being very regularly briefed by Dr Nigel Watson, who is leading the county wide vaccine programme for the NHS, and it's a humbling effort – with so many people involved. My message is simple, no-one is safe until everyone is safe so I shall be rolling up my sleeves the moment I am asked to have the jab and I would beg you to do likewise. We don't have time for dangerous conspiracy theories (or politics), we just need to get vaccinated.

I have worked closely with the regulator (the MHRA) and constituents can be confident they will interrogate the data robustly before granting any licenses.

And on the subject of a virus which has ended too many lives too early, I was so proud to be part of England's **first ever HIV Commission** which has made recommendations to meet the Government's pledge to end new HIV cases by 2030.

I set-up the group while Public Health Minister and subsequently worked to produce its' report after leaving Government last year. And I used a special debate in the House of Commons, timed to coincide with the Commission's launch on World Aids Day, to call on Ministers to accept its recommendations in full. See www.stevebrine.com/hivcommission

Other work I have been doing lately, and in the year ahead, will focus on **nurseries** and early years, **cancer**, local **transport** - and the recovery of our **creative industries** via my place on the powerful DCMS Select Committee.

And finally, plans are afoot for the eventual disposal of **Sir John Moore Barracks** when the MOD depart and you may have already seen something of them. In short, it's a mixed use plan comprising around 1000 houses (too many), a commercial element (too little), park and ride (why?), sports pitches (great) and a supported living facility. My message has consistently been – do not over-develop this site – and I have introduced the team to the Dever Society because whatever happens will impact on the wider area including the Itchen Valley.

See the plans at: www.stevebrine.com/SJMB

Much more, and daily updates, via [www.fb.com/SteveBrineMP](https://www.facebook.com/SteveBrineMP) and Green Winchester (only) on Twitter [@SBGreenWinch](https://twitter.com/SBGreenWinch)