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Editorial Team

Treasurer & Advert Co-ordinator

Ros Partridge 01420 563 816
Harrow Cottage, Upper Wield
ALRESFORD
SO24 9RW
rospartridge1@gmail.com

Technical Producer

Jean Frost 01420 561 136
5 Pound Close, Upper Wield
ALRESFORD
SO24 9SH

Distribution Manager

jeanterry@uwclub.net
Philippa Pellereau 01962 733107
ppellereau@gmail.com

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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

Rector: David Chattell, The Rectory, Preston Candover
Tel: 01256 389 474 Email: davidchattell172@btinternet.com

Associate Rector: Stephen Mourant, The Rectory, Church Lane Ellisfield.
Tel: 01256 381 217. Email: stevemourant@btinternet.com
<http://www.farleighcandoverandwield.org.uk>

Benefice administrator – Tricia Knight email address:
beneficeFCW@hotmail.com Phone 07541 463750 Contact preferably by e-mail

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 2 May Fifth Sunday of Easter

<i>Readings</i>	Acts 8:26-end, 1 John 4:7-end, John 15:1-8 Psalm 22:25-end	
<i>Sermon</i>	<i>Branching out? Or pruning drastically?</i>	
9.30	Wield	Matins BCP
10.00	Preston Candover	Holy Communion CW
11.00	Northington	Holy Communion CW
_____””_____		

Sunday 9 May Sixth Sunday of Easter

<i>Readings:</i>	Acts 10:44-end, 1 John 5:1-6, John 15:9-17	
	Psalm 98	
<i>Sermon</i>	<i>What sort of fruit are you producing?</i>	
8.30	Bradley	Holy Communion CW
10.00	Preston Candover	Family Worship
6.00	Wield	Evensong BCP
_____””_____		

Thurs 13 May to Sunday 23 May Ten Days of Prayer “Thy Kingdom Come” – see separate information

Sunday 16 May Sunday after Ascension

Readings Acts 1:15-17, 21-end; 1 John 5:9-13, John 17:6-19
 Psalm 1
Sermon "I go, I come back"
 9.00 Wield Holy Communion BCP
 10.00 Preston Candover Holy Communion CW
 _____ ""

Sunday 23 May Pentecost

Readings Acts 2:1-21, Romans 8:22-27, John 15:26-27, 16:4-15
 Psalm 145
Sermon Come Holy Spirit
 10.00 Preston Candover Family Service
 11.00 Brown Candover Morning Worship CW
 _____ ""

Sunday 30 May Trinity Sunday

Readings Isaiah 6:1-8, Romans 8:12-17, John 3:1-17 Psalm 29
Sermon Three working together as One
 11.00 Preston Candover Benefice Morning Worship
 _____ ""

Sunday 6 June First Sunday after Trinity

Readings 1 Samuel 8:4-15, 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1, Mark 3:20-end
 Psalm 138
Sermon We do not lose heart
 9.30 Wield Matins BCP
 10.00 Preston Candover Holy Communion CW
 11.00 Northington Holy Communion CW
 6.00 Brown Candover Buried Church Service – St. Nicholas
Sermon We **are** the children of God
 9.00 Wield Holy Communion BCP
 10.00 Preston Candover Holy Communion CW
 _____ ""

Farleigh Parish

Sunday	2 May	Fifth Sunday of Easter
8.00	Ellisfield	Holy Communion BCP
9.45	Cliddesden	Holy Communion CW
11.15	Dummer	Family Service/Sunday Special
Sunday	9 May	Sixth Sunday of Easter



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8.00	Dummer	Holy Communion BCP
9.45	Ellisfield	Holy Communion CW
11.15	Cliddesden	Family Communion CW

Sunday 16 May Sunday after Ascension

8.00	Ellisfield	Holy Communion BCP
9.45	Dummer	Matins BCP
11.15	Cliddesden	Family Service

Saturday 22 May

6.00	Cliddesden	Holy Communion BCP
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Sunday 23 May Pentecost

9.45	Dummer	Holy Communion CW
11.15	Ellisfield	Family Service

Sunday

11.00

30 May

St. Andrew's Farleigh Wallop

Trinity Sunday

8.00

9.45

11.15

Sunday

Ellisfield

Cliddesden

Dummer

6 June First Sunday after Trinity

Holy Communion BCP

Holy Communion CW

Sunday Special/Family Service

Please Note:

Some services may be outside depending on weather, so be prepared – notice will be given well in advance and this rota assumes full resumption of services.

Online services will continue for as long as they are needed.

**The Annual Buried Church Service at St. Nicholas Church,
Chilton Candover
6pm on Sunday 6th June.**

This outdoor service has continued through Covid and has never been cancelled in its 60 year history. Come and join us in the churchyard. Refreshments will be served after the service.

If wet, the service will be held in the farm buildings.

Dear Friends

Do you have a reliable source of information?

A unique way of timekeeping was discovered in Cape Town. From the foot of Table Mountain, a gun would be fired at noon. An observer watching the two gunners fire the cannon wondered how they knew when to fire it as they had no watch or radio. They pointed to a mounted telescope and explained that they could see a clock in a jeweller's shop window, declared to be the finest clock in the Cape.

Later in the day the observer found himself in town by the jewellers and so went to ask about this fine clock and was told it was imported from Amsterdam in the 19th century and was the finest timepiece in South Africa. The observer asked how the clock was kept in good time and the shopkeeper explained it was a straightforward procedure. He set the clock by the sound of the noonday gun across the valley.

I'm sure that you've spotted the fatal flaw in that process! Being without an outside reference point means we can't know what is beyond ourselves unless someone comes to tell us.

God has come into our world in Jesus to show us what he is like, he reveals our need, and He shows us that we cannot meet our own needs ourselves, we need someone from outside our situation.

Christians look to God to for their 'reference point' and in scripture find his word to be truth about God, about ourselves, about our needs and about God's remedy for our condition.

Many people like to talk about Christian values and though values such as love and justice are common to all peoples they are claimed as 'Christian', but what makes any 'value' Christian? Discuss. Sometimes I reflect that we don't often recognise honesty as a good starting point for talking about Christian values, perhaps as it challenges us so deeply. We claim the value of love and yet find ourselves saying, "I hate so and so". At that point some honesty would be a good thing, to admit and accept that we have failed in living up to the values in which we believe, proclaim and fail to fulfil.

When we say our Confession in church I am grateful for these and other words by which I acknowledge my sin to God
"Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you



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and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault....”

In the Bible, God says look outside your own reference point of self-righteous living and be honest! See your need, common to all, of God’s mercy that is freely offered to all who would be honest with God.

The Bible reveals God to be perfect in all he is and does and requires people to be the same, at which point I think we see we have not met the mark, though relative to other people we might not be too bad! God is perfect in power, love and judgement and yet full of compassion and mercy and because of his love for us came into the world in Jesus Christ to “save sinners”.

My God grant us the humility to receive his grace and love, forgiveness and kindness, as understood from his perspective, which is truer than ours.

Blessings
David

Ten Days of Prayer “Come Holy Spirit”

We are all invited to pray together again from Ascension Day (Thursday 13 May) to Pentecost (Sunday 23 May) for God to pour out His Holy Spirit upon us, His church and world.

We pray for three things:

1. *For ourselves to be renewed by the Holy Spirit*
2. *For The Church – that’s all of us who know Jesus – to be filled with new passion for Jesus Christ, for worship to come alive and be filled with God’s presence*
3. *For others outside the faith community to come to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour – and for us to pray specifically for perhaps three people we know who don’t yet know Him, that they will find Him.*

Times will vary each day: we will send round a list of times, venues or Zoom links a week or so before – if you would like to lead a half hour of prayer, please let Stephen or David know as soon as possible.

David and Stephen



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Sidesmen and Readers

<u>Church</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Sidesmen</u>	<u>Readers</u>
St John's Northington	2 May 11.00	Mark and Sophie Ashburton	Mark and Sophie Ashburton
	6 June 11.00	Philippa and Matthew Pellereau	Philippa and Matthew Pellereau
St Peter's Brown Candover	23 May 11.15	Celia Foote	Paul Curtis Hayward & Charles Marriott
St Mary The Virgin Preston Candover	2 May 10.00	Anne Luneburg	Sue Marriott
	9 May 10.00	Anne Luneburg	To be advised
	16 May 10.00	Marina Avis & Jane Laws	Marina Avis & Celia Foote
	23 May 10.00	Marina Avis	To be advised
	30 May 10.00	Anne Luneburg & Gunnel Berry	Anne Luneburg & Julian Gibbons
	6 June 10.00	Anne Luneburg & Jane laws	
All Saints Bradley	9 May	Andrew Don	Andrew Don
St James' Wield	2 May 9.30	Alwin Hutchinson	Alwin Hutchinson & Ben Robinson
	9 May 6.00pm	Robert Grande	Joanna nelson & Amanda Bromfield
	16 May 9.00	Alwin Hutchinson	Selina Geddes & Alwin Hutchinson
	6 June 9.30	Brian Collins	Mark Kemp Gee & Eileen Collins



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St. John's Church Northington	Flowers		
	Key Holder		
St Peter's Church Brown Candover	Flowers	May	Edwina Curtis Hayward
	Key Holders & brass	May June	Celia Foote (01256 389161) Geoff and Alison Ellett (01256 389417)
All Saints Church Bradley	Flowers & cleaning	May	Beth Cazalet & Tina Easton
St. Mary The Virgin Preston Candover	Flowers		
St James' Church Wield	Flowers	May 1 & 8 May 15 & 22 May 29 & 5 June	Amanda Bromfield Selina Geddes Nicola Robinson
	Cleaner	Permanent	Michelle Kuhn

The Church of England

Sometimes we drift along in our lives not knowing basic things about all sorts of issues, until someone asks a question and we didn't even think about it until then. I was asked to do a short summary of the Church of England, as quite a few folk have no idea what lies beyond their parish church. How the Church of England is structured and governed is important and if we don't know, one day we may find ourselves in a difficult place because we never thought about the implications of change that come along from time to time.

In England, every inch belongs in a **parish**, which is an ecclesiastical area with a boundary, often set before Norman times. We now use "benefice" as well, which is usually a gathering of rural churches/parishes across a geographical area, with a population too small to warrant a paid full time minister/priest/vicar/rector in each community. You all live in the benefice of **Farleigh, Candover and Wield**, which consists of 4 parishes and nine churches: *Farleigh Parish*, uniting together *Cliddesden, Dummer, Ellisfield and Farleigh Wallop*; the *Candovers with Bradley – Preston Candover* as the parish church and *Brown Candover and Bradley* as daughter churches; *Wield and Northington*. Currently served by two full time clergy, this will go down to one full time and there is a faint possibility of having a second part time or retired vicar to assist, after Stephen retires, at some time in the future.

We are part of a **Deanery** – of Alresford, which consists of about 27 village churches, with a total population of 15,000; to pay for the clergy, their housing, pensions, training of new clergy, and support services, each parish pays an annual contribution called "Common Mission Fund" to the diocese. The total for this benefice for last year was about £130,000, (in 2020 Farleigh Parish paid approx. £64,000 of this) and the total for the deanery was about £430,000 last year. Diocesan budget is around £10m.

The deanery is part of the **archdeaconry of Winchester**, which is part of the **diocese of Winchester**, which is part of the **Southern Convocation (or province) of the Church of England**, under the **Archbishop of Canterbury**, whilst the northern part, the **Convocation (or province) of York** is under the **Archbishop of York**.

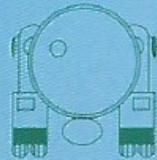
The Church of England is part of the **Anglican Communion**, which has branches across the world, from Nigeria, which has the biggest Anglican Church membership of any country in the world, to Myanmar, Australia, countries in South America, North America – around 41 provinces.

Each province is self-governing – it is not like the Roman Catholic Church ruled from Rome; the Archbishop of Canterbury is not like the Pope, so has no authority over the Communion to direct in any way – nor has he power over the individual dioceses and bishops in the Church of England – he did not have the authority last year to shut the churches, as this rests solely with the incumbent, churchwardens and PCC!

Each diocese has a structure – parishes have their Parochial Church Councils (PCCs) which are the legally constituted bodies; there are deanery synods, led by the area Dean, clergy and synod reps, elected at annual church meetings.



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These Deanery Synod members elect people to serve on the **Diocesan Synod** – each diocese has one, and these are responsible along with the bishop for the running of the diocese; and these deanery synod reps also elect people to the **General Synod**, which is the ruling body that makes decisions about church law and other matters.

So – people in a parish to PCCs, deaneries, archdeaconries, dioceses, convocations, to Provinces, to the Worldwide Anglican Communion. The C of E is not the largest denomination in the world – it is the third largest – approximately 80 to 85 million – after the Roman Catholics - approximately 900 million and the Orthodox churches – Eastern, Coptic, Russian, Armenian; then there are the Baptists, the Pentecostal churches, Salvation Army, community churches etc.

We all need to remember that we are part of a gathered people of over 2 billion who follow Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Lord – not to mention the many hundreds of millions already rejoicing in the fullness of life in heaven, whom we will join one day when our time ends in this world.

Jesus only has **one church** - made up of all those who personally know Him and trust Him. He sees His Church, not His churches. We all belong to Him and to one another.

These notes may help you to understand the structures – to most of us they are irrelevant and sometimes I wonder if they try to justify the existence of some areas by producing report after report and making the right noises from time to time.... When the real job of mission is leading people to Jesus in the villages and helping them to grow into responsible, prayerful disciples of Jesus.

Stephen Mourant April 2021

Litter Pick

The annual **Litter Pick** took place in Axford and Preston Candover with associated lanes on the 18th March. A team of 10 people helped to clear and clean the verges around the local area. A total of 24 black bags full of rubbish were collected within a morning. I am most grateful for this valiant effort which was started by Mrs R Wilson some 8 years ago. Our usual 'coffee & hotcross bun' - socialising afterwards had to be abandoned this year due to government restrictions.

With grateful thanks to everyone who helped!

Welcome to anyone else for next year's picking! Let me know as per telephone or email.

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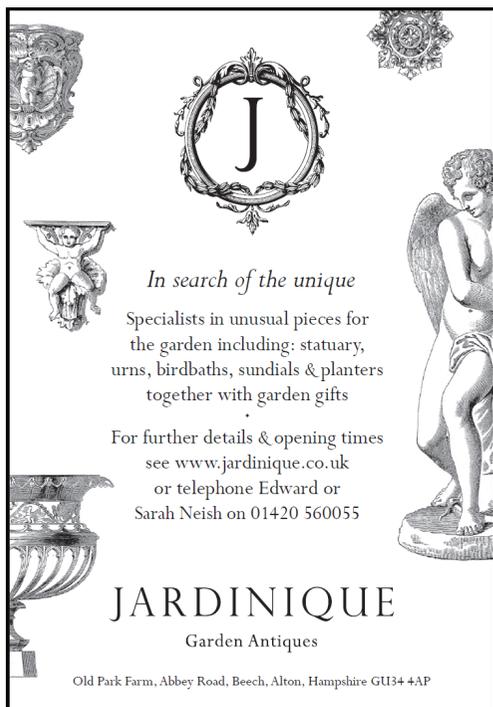


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Walking with Wildlife

At first light, a great spotted woodpecker began to drum, tapping away at a dead branch from high in the canopy of a nearby ash tree. Breaking the silence of the early dawn, it was almost as if we had booked a wildlife wake-up call. Today we were travelling over to Noar Hill, near Selborne, for an Easter Monday ramble, passing through Newton Valence - well known for its springtime migration of toads heading to the village pond to spawn.

Well wrapped up against the brisk northerly breeze, we found the Noar Hill reserve transformed by winter work parties. Twiggy thickets and bramble tangles had been cleared to reveal more of the grassy humps and hollows of this intriguing refuge. The juniper trees, a native species, had been left intact, as if to guard this hillside. A juniper nursery here, regenerating on a chalky scrape, forms part of a plan led by Plantlife to conserve this endangered plant.

Searching for early cowslips, we chance instead upon violets galore. Patch after patch of tightly clustered flowers of an intense violet-blue, spread across the close-cropped turf. This splendid display is presumably a response to ground clearance in previous years. A gingery bee-fly, as stout and furry as a bumblebee, whizzes around the bouquets of violets probing for nectar with its long black plunger of a proboscis.

Mining bees have begun to emerge in these stop-start days of early spring. In the warm weather at the end of March, distinctive little cones of soil crumbs appeared, dotted across the turf or along the edges of earthen paths. These solitary bees have spent the winter underground, each snug in its own burrow.

The female of the tawny mining bee has a splendid furry coat of reddish-gold, while the small brown male resembles a honey bee. They too forage for nectar and pollen here among the violets, as well as visiting the blossoms of blackthorn and fruit trees. On chilly frosty days, they remain in their burrows with their pencil-sized entrance holes neatly closed over.

Robert Bryant
8 April '21

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.

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We look forward to seeing you soon!

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@CandoverClub

We are still waiting on a statement from JCVI on details relating to the next phase of vaccination for groups 10-12. We are reliant on this advice and supply of vaccine, please do not contact us querying when your vaccination is due.

We have now invited or vaccinated everybody eligible in cohort 1-9 for their first dose.

If you fall into one of these cohorts & have not been vaccinated, please contact us to get booked in.

Second Doses

We are inviting patients for their second vaccine based on when they had their first vaccine.

As always, please do NOT call the practice to query when your vaccination will be.

We will invite patients as soon as we are able to but due to vaccine supply this may be at short notice.

We have been assured vaccines have been reserved for second doses within the 12 week period; however we have been informed it will not be before a 10 week gap.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/priority-groups-for-phase-2-of-the-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-programme-advice-from-the-jcvi/jcvi-interim-statement-on-phase-2-of-the-covid-19-vaccination-programme?](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/priority-groups-for-phase-2-of-the-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-programme-advice-from-the-jcvi/jcvi-interim-statement-on-phase-2-of-the-covid-19-vaccination-programme?fbclid=IwAR3kXw1JsT0wZdgg0jt3W3F3Krsyjn5Y4zsAX2X2-wY5BJ_h5TA2wgx5XyE)

[fbclid=IwAR3kXw1JsT0wZdgg0jt3W3F3Krsyjn5Y4zsAX2X2-wY5BJ_h5TA2wgx5XyE](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/priority-groups-for-phase-2-of-the-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-programme-advice-from-the-jcvi/jcvi-interim-statement-on-phase-2-of-the-covid-19-vaccination-programme?fbclid=IwAR3kXw1JsT0wZdgg0jt3W3F3Krsyjn5Y4zsAX2X2-wY5BJ_h5TA2wgx5XyE)

[For information on the cohorts please click here:](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-care-home-and-healthcare-settings-posters/covid-19-vaccination-first-phase-priority-groups) <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-care-home-and-healthcare-settings-posters/covid-19-vaccination-first-phase-priority-groups>.

Thank you for your understanding at this unprecedented time.

Please continue to stay safe.



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SO24 9JL

Out of hours telephone number
111
Surgery telephone number 01962 732345

May Bank holiday closures 3rd and 31st May

The surgery will be closed for the bank holiday weekend from 6.30pm Friday 30th April until 8am on Tuesday 4th May then again from 6.30pm Friday 28th May until 8am on Tuesday 1st June.

eConsult:

Any eConsult request you submit outside of our normal surgery opening hours will not be read until we open the next working day. Whilst you are still able to submit an online consultation during the bank holiday periods, after the surgery has closed, this will not be seen until the day after the bank holiday, when the surgery reopens. All the other eConsult advice services will still be accessible 24/7. NHS 111 can help if you have an urgent medical problem when your GP practice is closed. Dial 111 on any phone for advice, or visit the NHS 111 website – 111.nhs.uk. Remember to call 999 at any time in a medical emergency. This is when someone is seriously ill, or injured, and their life is at risk.

COVID-19 Vaccine update

Nearly 29 million people in the UK have now received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, and the latest data report shows that as of 25 March nearly 27 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine have been given in England.

There will be a reduction of supply of COVID-19 vaccinations due to reductions in national inbound vaccines supply. We are told that this should not impact the delivery of second doses. Vaccinations sites are still encouraged to continue their efforts in maximising uptake in cohorts 1- 9 which are yet to be vaccinated and second doses.

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Reg. Charity Number 1150541.

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Children under 18 Free

Teams of six or more £15 per walker

Hog roast £10 per head, including soft drinks.

Wine and beer for a contribution to the charity

Email entries to davidcowley2019@outlook.com or telephone 01420 562520

Wield Cricket Club Fixtures - May

Junior coaching is held on the Lower Wield Ground every Wednesday during term-time at 6.30pm

9 May	Medstead - Frank Shaw Trophy	14.30	Away
16 May	Not the MCC	14.30	Home
19 May	Tea ladies Social	19.30	Yew Tree
22 May	Alton	10.00	Away (Juniors)
23 May	Candovers	13.30	Home
30 May	Rowledge A	10.00	Home (Juniors)
30 May	X11th Men	14.00	Home
6 June	Cove B	10.00	Home (Juniors)
6 June	Howzat	14.30	Home

If you are interested in playing a senior game, please contact Ben Robinson (captain) 07903 513196, Jack Robson (vice-captain) 07787 018155, Paul Johnson (chairman) 07720 349497.

For junior enquiries contact Mike Daniels: michel-daniels@btconnect.com

Alternatively visit www.wieldcricketclub.co.uk

On the Farm— Ben Robinson

At the time of writing (19th April), it's starting to get a bit dry out there. The only thing to fall out of the sky in the last three weeks has been several light dustings of snow which were hardly enough to wet the dust. We could do with a bit of rain to get both the grass and the arable crops moving. I have a bit of silage left over from last year but some farms could be looking at their dwindling stocks and getting a bit nervous.

The dairy farm I milk for has nearly completed it's first round of grazing having turned cows out on the 23rd March. Usually by now they would be able to graze the first paddocks for a second time. However due to the lack of re-growth caused by nightly frosts and lack of rain they will have to house the cows again within the next week. Dairy cow grazing needs to be at beer can height when they enter the paddock; golf ball height when they leave. Ideally cows need to be presented with fresh grass after each milking. This means moving plenty of electric fencing.

Lambing has gone pretty well, with ideal weather to get young lambs motoring and plenty of student helpers who worked hard.

The only dampener recently has been an outbreak of pulpy kidney in the ewes, causing seven to die suddenly. This is especially frustrating as I vaccinate the ewes against this condition before lambing each year. The vet carried out a post-mortem on three ewes and recommended upping the concentrate feed rate to give the ewes more energy to fight the infection. This strategy has worked so far, and was infinitely preferable to Plan B which involved gathering the whole flock and jabbing them with an emergency antibiotic. Penning ewes with two week old lambs would have been stressful on sheep and shepherd.

Lambs don't tend to flock together very effectively at such a young age and can easily lose their mothers in the scrum. Furthermore as an industry we are trying to limit antibiotic use as much as possible so vaccinating the entire flock with precautionary penicillin isn't a route I would want to go down unless it was completely necessary.

them where they died. If you see suspicious vehicles at any time of the day or night please do let us know.

May I please make you aware of an increase in the thefts of Land Rovers across the county. A green Long Wheel Base Land Rover 110 registration ST06 AZL was stolen from Chilton Candover between 7 and 11:30pm, on 14 April.

I ask if anyone in Chilton, Brown and Preston Candover area has CCTV if they could please have a look at it to see if any vehicles passed their homes in or around the time from say 10:30 to 11:30 pm. Please give me a call direct if you can help.

Also an increase in the thefts from stables of equestrian equipment, please mark your tack and equipment, likewise consider alarms, CCTV and security lighting on all stables and outbuildings.

Sincere wishes as always and thank you for your continued support

Andrew REID, Local Constable



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Darling Magazine

*On my first visit to Nicola it was obvious that she had great insight. She immediately saw a side of me that over the years I had kept well hidden - A lack of self belief and confidence that only she and I knew about. I always look forward to seeing her and learning about the tools i can use to create a deeper understanding of myself and how I can move forward. i am very grateful .
Diana B*

nwlgraham@gmail.com

IKIGAITHERAPY.COM



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

I wish to update you on recent events within the area and seek your assistance. If you can help please give me a call, direct.

I start with a warning and appeal as we have also been experiencing an increase in burglary to outbuildings, with the theft of tools etc., across the area. In Preston Candover overnight of April 7 and 8 two garages were broken into; whilst nothing was stolen it shows these criminals are active in our area. The area of Hook and Old Basing have also experienced an increase. Please keep sheds etc. secure with good locks and alarms if possible.

Slightly further afield in Dummer overnight of March 31 and April 1 a catalytic converter was cut off from a car parked in Bible Fields, the price of scrap metal has risen in recent times and such thefts are on the increase, a similar crime was reported in Axford back in February.

On Thursday April 8th 2021, at 1:18 pm, a silver Ford Focus was seen in Weston Road, Upton Grey. A resident was working in his garden when a woman described as Eastern European; 5 ft 5" tall, medium build with black hair, wearing a dark coloured coat and blue facemask, approached him.

Whilst talking to him she grabbed his wrist more than once, finally she gave the appearance of falling grabbing the wrist again. A short time later, the resident became aware that his watch had been stolen from his wrist. This crime is extremely rare in our area; in fact, it is the first in my 17 years here. I am making enquiries with other police areas in and out of Hampshire to see if this is a pattern, but at this time it appears to be a 'one off', please be aware if approached.

In Ellisfield overnight of April 8 and 9 damage was caused to a hedge at a property in Lower Green Lane, again if you can help please call.

We are also receiving various reports of poaching with vehicles being driven across crop fields and hares and deer being targeted, recently dead deer and hares have been found after being killed by unscrupulous people who leave



Candover Valley Gardening Club

Following a socially distanced evening meeting around a fire pit our hardy committee members are hoping that from this month we can at last proceed with an exciting programme of events for our members to enjoy.

We will start with a local garden visit and then our Annual Bring and Buy Plant Sale will be held outside at Preston Candover on both Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd May.

Please see the separate poster in this magazine for more details.

We have all been busy nurturing extra seedlings and dividing surplus plants so we hope to have a wide variety of bargain plants for sale so please come along to see what we have to offer.

If you would like the opportunity to visit local gardens, meet other gardeners and learn more from our expert speakers, please visit our website www.cvgc.btck.co.uk for more information on how you can join our friendly group.

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WEATHERWISE

Summary of weather observations taken at Northington Down in March 2021
 By Simon Bourne

Temperatures (degrees centigrade/Fahrenheit)

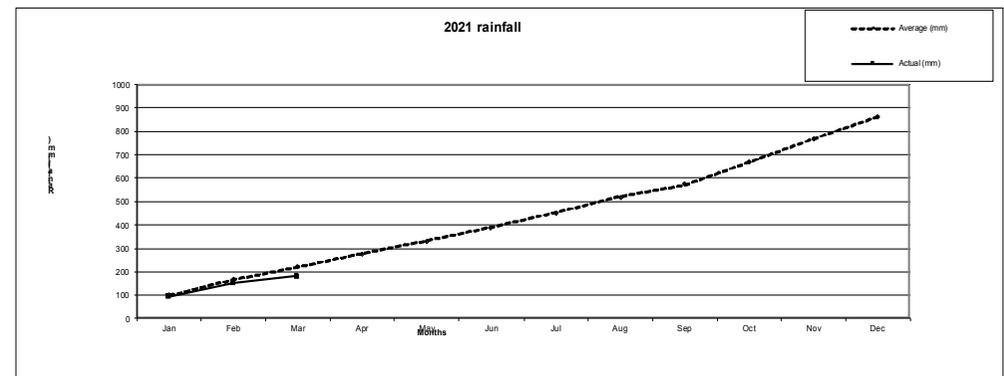
Highest	21.7/71	(30 th)
Lowest	-5.2/23	(8 th)
Warmest Night	7.9/46	(29 th)
Coollest Day	4.6/40	(4 th)
Average maximum temperature	11.4/53	
Average minimum temperature	1.9/35	
Number of air frosts	8	

Rainfall (millimetres/inches)

Monthly & annual total	31.2/1.23	(average 60.6/2.39)
Annual total	178.3/7.02	(average 225.6/2.39)
Maximum 24hr. fall	9.8/0.39	(12 th)
Number of days with rain	11	

Summary

The first week or so was generally dry with some fine, sunny weather though with a cool north and north easterly breeze. Low pressure in the second week brought wet and at times breezy weather from the 10th before drier and cloudy conditions with some sunny periods. There was drizzle and light showers for a few days from the 24th before further dry and some sunny weather. The last two days were warm, and at 71°F, the daytime temperature on the 30th was the warmest recorded here for March. Overall the temperature was average for the time of year with half the normal rainfall. The two previous months had below average rainfall, with the total for the year to date a fifth lower than the long term average.



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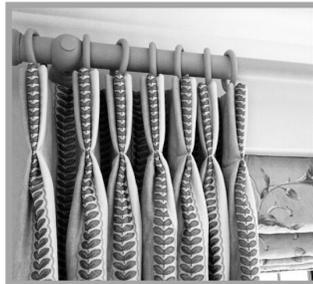
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Family Mediation Voucher Scheme

Separating couples are being offered £500 vouchers to spend on family mediation to help them avoid acrimonious court proceedings.

Haymarket Family Mediation, which is part of Phillips Solicitors, is participating in the scheme funded by The Ministry of Justice via the Family Mediation Council (FMC). Launched on 26 March, the scheme, which is limited to 2,000 cases, will offer a financial contribution of up to £500 per family towards the costs of their mediation.

Welcoming the initiative, Sheila Parkes, who heads the Haymarket Family Mediation team and is an accredited member of the FMC, said: **“Family mediation is a proven cost-effective way to resolve differences following separation.** The voucher scheme will make mediation accessible to more people, and help separated families agree to solutions that are best for their children.”

Having been a qualified mediator for nearly 25 years, Sheila added: “Over the years, I have seen how much more beneficial it is for separating clients to reach agreement in mediation, rather than go through the adversarial court process which often ends up with an outcome that neither party wanted and almost inevitably leads to a further deterioration in the parent’s relationship.”

“Mediation is often a quicker, cheaper, more amicable and less stressful way of resolving disputes. The biggest advantage of mediation is that it can help you communicate better at a very difficult time which will help you to move on as separate individuals and help when future issues arise.”

“There are a limited number of the vouchers available, and when they are used, the scheme will end. So, if you are thinking about family mediation then it would be a good idea to think about this sooner rather than later.”

Should you wish to discuss the Family Mediation Voucher Scheme, please don’t hesitate to get in touch with Sheila by calling 01256 854652, emailing sheila.parkes@phillips-law.co.uk or by visiting www.phillips-law.co.uk/haymarket-family-mediation

When contacting Phillips, please mention The Oxdrove magazine.



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community for their support, especially those who allowed access to their reach of the stream. The full results of the study are available for free in this scientific journal: <https://doi.org/10.1111/wej.12621>

What's next?

The 2019 study provided a strong knowledge base for other researchers to build upon. Kieran Gething (Nottingham Trent University) and Tim Sykes (Southampton University) are further studying the Candover Brook and other Hampshire winterbournes through their PhD research.

Kieran's research focuses on the Brook's invertebrate communities, especially how its dry phases may support a range of beetle species. Tim's research examines the social value of intermittent streams, as well as observing the Brook's more elusive residents through camera traps - fleeting glimpses of otters and kingfishers have been caught so far. If you have questions about this ongoing research, please contact Kieran: kieran.getthing2015@my.ntu.ac.uk

Volunteers from a local chalk stream scheme, Watercress and Winterbournes, will also soon be monitoring the Brook's wildlife. They will be performing regular surveys of riverfly populations, as well as water vole and American mink surveys.

If you would like to get involved, please contact the team:
winterbournes@hiwwt.org.uk



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Candover Brook: A hotspot for aquatic and terrestrial invertebrate diversity...



Researchers from Nottingham Trent University are pleased to share the results of research performed on the Candover Brook during 2019. The research, which was funded by the Environment Agency, aimed to assess the biodiversity of this important chalk stream.

Aquatic and terrestrial invertebrates were collected from the stream during both its flowing and dry phases. Lead researcher George Bunting identified more than 200 aquatic and terrestrial invertebrate species, and found that:

- Of the 200 species identified, six are nationally rare or scarce.
- Nationally rare species were found in both wet and dry reaches of the stream.
- Two of the nationally rare species, *Nemoura lacustris* (an aquatic stonefly larvae) and *Badister peltatus* (a terrestrial ground beetle), are specialists which thrive in streams which have dry phases.
- Two other nationally rare species, a mayfly larvae and a blackfly larvae, may also inhabit the stream. However, we have yet to capture specimens that can be identified to species level.

This study advanced our understanding of the biodiversity of the Candover Brook, and informed the ongoing development of methods that enable citizens and organisations to monitor chalk winterbournes.

The researchers and the Environment Agency would like to thank the local

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)

We have, in recent weeks, announced details of almost three thousand organisations being offered grants and loans to help the culture and heritage sector reopen and recover from Covid.

As a member of the Digital, Culture, Media & Sport Select Committee, I have taken a very close interest in the **Culture Recovery Fund** (worth some £1.57 billion of public money) but as our constituency MP, I've watched it like a hawk!

Last month, in tranche two of the fund, some £1.8m in further grants were awarded to our area including Winchester Cathedral, Theatre Royal, Mid Hants Watercress Line Railway, Integr8 Dance, Unit 12 in Winnall and the very special Railway Inn down in Winchester. Working with the Live Music Trust I have taken special interest in this one because these grassroots music venues are the very heart of our world-beating music industry.

I realise for some it may sound trivial to spend such vast sums of money on theatres and 'fun' but we have taken the view from the start that we must have a strong society to return to post-pandemic. And, of course, tens of thousands of freelancers rely on the creative industries for a living so it matters and I am proud we've stood with the sector.

Secondly, and as well as speaking in the key vote to put the **'roadmap' out of Covid** into law, I have been speaking in Parliament recently about the importance of **science centres** in educating school children in STEM subjects.

We are fortunate to have Winchester Science Centre locally which has been focussing on education 5-12 year olds since 1986, giving almost 4000 children the opportunity to have informal science activities in the past year. Winchester Science Centre plans to reopen on Saturday 22nd May and I hope their main customer base – organised schools trips – will flock back trusting they can do so safely. The science saviour of the next pandemic may just be among them.

You can watch back my roadmap speech at www.stevebrine.com/roadmapintolaw and STEM education remarks here www.stevebrine.com/sciencecentres

Finally, if you need a lift in difficult times, here's a story of hope over fear and the power of prayer. During Lockdown 2.0, some very good friends of Susie and I suffered a hammer blow. Andy suffered an agricultural accident at work which left him clinging to life. His injuries were so severe we prepared for the worse.

His wife Helen, and their friends at Hope Church, formed a prayer circle and what happened next was truly remarkable. Watch their amazing 7-minute short-film which tells the story but, be warned, it will make you cry. Search 'andy kittow hope story' via Google.



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Contact:

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



Jackie's County Corner—May

Phew! Lockdown eases a little as I write this!
I hope you are all well enough to enjoy it.

The Covid-19 helpline remains open: the details are below

As I visit you in different communities, I see more and more packages on the doorstep.



This has a good and bad effect: these packages bring the things we need to our homes, but more delivery lorries are on the roads, with tight schedules, maybe travelling a little faster than they should, buying online risks the future of our high streets and the mountain of cardboard generated has to be recycled.

I know that residents in the area are suffering from a greater influx of very large lorries in their villages. We all want to see more card recycled, but the cumulative effect of all these lorry movements has a huge effect on the local community. The closing date for the North Winchester Farm application is the 7th May. See my website for more details

Rural children have had different experiences of 'school at home'. Now they are back to school, school transport for rural children is essential to reduce the need to use private cars which cause pollution and congestion. I really hope we can reinstate free buses for reception age children again. If this affects you, please contact me

Access to fast enough broadband and enough devices to support working parents and children has been a challenge too, and I've been working with local Community Fibre Partnerships in several communities to unlock the funding for faster broadband in the future: (search Broadband on my website.)

The consultation on the Local Plan has closed but there are more opportunities to comment as the Plan progresses. At each stage, the plan becomes more specific for each community. To register for updates, go to www.localplan.winchester.gov.uk

The County Council is up for election in its entirety on the 6th May. I really do hope to be back to write the June edition of County Corner!

Cllr Jackie Porter, **County Council's Covid-19 helpline 0333 370 4000**
www.jackieporter.co.uk 07973 696 085, Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk 01962 791054

CANDOVER VALLEY CHOIR

Monthly Newsletter – May 2021

As lockdown restrictions begin to ease, the Candover Valley Choir is now looking forward to the possibility of meeting up again – subject to confirmation by the Government of the ongoing implementation of the current plans outlined in their road map.

According to this, Step 3 (planned (at the moment) to start no earlier than 17th May), will allow non-professional activity to recommence – albeit, I would imagine, with social distancing still required.

After what will then be some 15 months of not being able to sing together in one place – other than through the auspices of zoom - this will be a treat to look forward to.

This, potentially, is good news for the Candover Valley Choir, but also for the estimated 2.8m people in the UK who are now members of a choir. Why is that we all enjoy singing so much? Research show that singing together creates a strong sense of well-being, forges social bonds, is relaxing and stressbusting, makes you feel better about yourself, and improves breathing, posture and muscle tension. Plus, its great fun.

So - although this may feel a strange time to join the choir, if you would like to know more about the **Candover Valley Choir do contact me**. I would be very happy to talk things through with you.

Rehearsals take place on Thursdays at 7.45

For more information do contact:
bryantjane50@gmail.com

www.candovervalleychoir.co.uk

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Candover Valley Store

community made

National Walking Month

The beautiful, blossoming month of May is National Walking Month. Warmer days offer the perfect opportunity to increase your step-count. Now the rules allow, why not plan a sunny walk with friends, rewarding yourselves with a stop at the store for a refreshing drink and cake or ice cream? Or maybe stroll down for your paper rather than taking the car?

Coffee area

Happily, the store's rear decking is open again! Safely distanced tables are set out where drinks and snacks can be enjoyed on dry days. Once seated on the deck we ask customers wishing to re-enter the store, to do so only via the front entrance as we still have to try to maintain the rule of only three customers at a time, in the store. For this reason it is not possible to open the indoor coffee area on rainy days just yet.

What's new in store?

Manager, Garry, has just added Isle of Wight tomatoes to a wonderful display of fresh produce which also includes new season English asparagus, New Forest strawberries and (coming soon) the first crop of Jersey potatoes. Regular deliveries of beautiful locally-grown flowers from Medstead Flower Shack are back and new lines of premium English wines will soon be in store. As the al fresco dining season returns, the store will stock a small range of barbecue meats, plus charcoal for cooking. If you wish to place an order speak to Garry.

Youth workers

If you are 16–19yrs old and are interested in working paid weekend shifts at the Candover Valley Store, please get in touch with Jane Laws on 01256 389491.

Opening times for bank holidays in May

The store will be open on both bank holidays in May (Monday 3 and Monday 31 May) from 8.30am until 12.30pm but please note the post office will be closed.

Candover Valley Store

community made

WE ARE RECRUITING! Come and join the team Senior Assistant (Part-time) – Candover Valley Store

A dynamic and friendly senior assistant (part-time) is now sought to join the team which runs the Candover Valley Community store and post office.

The working hours can be negotiated depending on the applicants' availability but will include some Saturday, Sunday morning and Bank Holiday working.

The desirable skills we are looking for include:

- Retail experience
- Commercial skills and financial awareness
- Responsiveness to customer needs with a strong focus on service quality
- Friendly and approachable personality
- Good computer literacy with experience of EPOS systems and Microsoft Office.

If you have excellent customer service skills and a reputation for being reliable, hardworking and good at working in a team then we want to hear from you.

Download the job description from the website www.cvcs.org.uk or call **Jane Laws on 01256 389491** for further details.