

OCTOBER 2025

BENTWORTH, LASHAM, AND SHALDEN PARISH MAGAZINE

**St. Mary's Bentworth; St. Mary's Lasham;
St. Peter and St. Paul Shalden**

Dear Friends

Harvest time is here again! It's that season of the year when Harvest Festivals abound and familiar hymns are enjoyed by many.

But I have to admit that over the past few years I've felt increasingly uneasy when singing 'We plough the fields and scatter' - because, in reality, we don't. Most of us have never ploughed fields or scattered seed, and most modern farmers don't do it either.

Back in 1782, when the hymn was written in Germany, over 75% of the population worked in agriculture. Today in the UK it's less than 1.4%, and only 1/3 of these grow crops from seed. The hard truth is that very, very few people in this country (less than 0.5%) are involved in producing fields of crops from seed.

And within that tiny number, ploughing is becoming increasingly unpopular. Defra is now encouraging farmers to adopt 'min till' instead. This disturbs the soil far less and thereby protects the organisms which live in the soil, thus protecting the soil's structure and fertility. Fewer and fewer farmers actually plough.

Scattering the seed is also on the decline. Now that farm vehicles come equipped with GPS, the seed is placed very carefully in the soil at just the right depth and density for the particular soil type in that precise section of the field. Almost nobody actually scatters the seed.

So we don't plough and we don't scatter, which could make the hymn seem somewhat quaint and unreal.

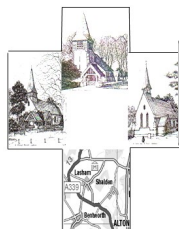
But does it matter? Does it matter if what we sing is quaint and unreal?

What bothers me is the nagging thought that if people hear us singing these songs, they might think our whole Christian faith is quaint and unreal. And worse still, they might think that Jesus Himself is quaint and unreal!

But this is not to say that the entire hymn is without value. Regardless of modern farming methods, we can still rejoice that 'All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above', we can still 'thank the Lord for all His love', and we can still offer Him our 'humble, thankful hearts'.

Happy Harvest everyone!

Wendy Burnhams



THE VILLAGER

the editor

Please send copy for the **November** Magazine to your Village Correspondent, or the Editor to **villager@candj.me.uk**, by noon on Tuesday 14th October.

Lots of interesting things going on this month, in our villages, in Beech, in the Library, in the Curtis Museum and Allen Gallery, Concerts, Recitals, Lectures etc... Do look, find, and support!

Donations: Many thanks to Bentworth Village Fete Committee for their donation to our funds, which is much appreciated. (This month's magazine has extra pages, so probably cost more!)

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SEPTEMBER

26 Library Course starts: Oil Painting for Beginners 10am – 2pm

26 St Mary's Bentworth Wine and Nibbles in the hub 6pm

OCTOBER

- 1 Roedowns WI: Think you know tea ? Wiltshire Room, Village Hall 7.30pm
3 Alton Walking Church for Men – The Hawkley Inn 10.30am Page 44
4 Shalden Garden Club meeting: Annual Garden Club Lunch at the Village Hall
4 Library Course starts: Expressive Watercolours 10am – 12pm Page 33
4 Library Course starts: Art for Wellbeing 2 – 4pm Page 34
4 Flanders & Swann & Hinge & Brackett St Andrew's Church Medstead 7pm P35
5 St Peter & St Paul Shalden Harvest Festival 6pm
5 Shalden Harvest Supper Village Hall 7pm Page 10
6 Lasham Coffee Morning with Maurice and Antonia Goor, at Wingfield House
6 Bereavement Journey starts new course Alton Maltings 7.30–9.30pm Pages 13 & 45
7 Medstead Gardener's Club: Ben Pope *Making the most of your Garden*
7 Alton Organ Society: Recital by William Fox St Lawrence Church 8pm Page 20
7 Bentworth Parish Council meeting Jubilee Hall
8 Fresh Start course begins Alton Maltings 7.30 – 9pm Pages 15 & 36
9 Medstead WI: Open meeting Amanda Isbister *Winchester Hospice* 2pm P 23
9 Allen Gallery: Talk by Lesley Ann Morris *Bees* 7.30pm. Page 18
10 Screen by the Green: The Penguin Lessons Beech Village Hall 7.30pm Page 17
11 Deer Management Fundraiser for St Mary's Lasham in the church 5pm Page 38
12 Harvest & Harmony Old Park Farm Lunch with singing 12 noon Page 46
13 NHNTC: Recruitment event - Special free tour of the Regency Exhibition at The Vyne
14 Alton Art Society: Siân Walters *The Guggenheim Museum* Alton College 7:30pm
16 ACAN: Come Together Alton Maltings 7.30 – 9.30pm Page 39
17 Bentworth Harvest Picnic Jubilee Hall 7 for 8pm Page 5
22 Allen Gallery: Calligraphy and Origami 10am – 4pm Page 18
22 Cardiac Rehab Annual Lecture: Theodore Dalrymple Alton Maltings 7pm Page 20
25 Autumn Jumble Sale St Andrew's Church Hall 1.30-3.30pm Pages 17 & 41
25 Screen by the Green: Mrs Warren's Profession Beech VH 2pm & 7pm Page 17
25 Alton Choral Society Concert St Lawrence Church 4pm Page 40
26 Lego Church Holy Rood 4pm Page 44
29 Allen Gallery: Spooky Film Night 6pm
31 (Curtis) Museum by Torchlight 5.30pm - 7.30pm

NOVEMBER

- 2 Service of Remembrance for All Souls St Lawrence Church 4pm Page 47
2 Shalden Bonfire & Fireworks Shalden Recreation Ground 6pm
4 Medstead Gardener's Club: Helier Bowling *Building a Show Garden*
4 Alton Organ Society: Recital by Iain Farrington St Lawrence Church 8pm Page 20
5 Roedowns WI: Hampshire Search & Rescue Wiltshire Room, Village Hall 7.30pm

BENTWORTH

BENTWORTH CARE GROUP

Jackie Crawford

The members on duty for medical appointments in October are:

Anna MacKinnon 07730 273 066; Catriona Witter 07721 090 182;

Judy Fellingham 07900 168 446.

We are also happy to pick up prescriptions and do shopping for those unable to do so themselves.

THE BENTWORTH CARE GROUP SUMMER TEA PARTY

Lots of fun was had at the Bentworth Care Group annual Summer Tea Party kindly hosted again by Susie Greenwood at Wivelrod Barns.

The little grey cells were given a workout with 2 quizzes! The first, All About Hampshire was impressively won by Den's team. This was followed by a General Knowledge quiz hotly contested between Den's and Fred's teams with only half a point in it!

All the team's performances were impressive. I'll definitely need to make the questions harder next year!



A delicious afternoon tea followed, made by the Care Group members, and everyone seemed to be having a jolly time!

THE MUCK IN COFFEE MORNING

Now the Autumn is setting in everyone needs company! Come and join the coffee/tea drinkers on a Monday morning: 10.30 -11.30am at Parsonage Farm Barn (with thanks to Emma and David Wigin) every Monday. Sometimes there is even cake, but always biscuits, just for £1.





The Bentworth Harvest Picnic will take place on **Friday 17th October 2025** in the Jubilee Hall. There are only a couple of places left if you have not yet booked.

The doors will open at 7:00pm and we will be offering a welcome drink.

It is intended that the picnics will start about 8pm. As in previous years please bring your own picnic, drinks, plates, glasses, cutlery etc. In the past we have had everything from meals in slow cookers to sandwiches, and water to bubbles.

Julian will give a short update on farming and the local countryside and we hope to have a second speaker.

Please contact Jenny on: jen.lewis553@gmail.com if you or anyone you know might be interested in attending

WELCOME TO BENTWORTH

“Fred” Moir

It has been a lovely summer for the residents of Bentworth and many new villagers are now installed in their homes throughout the village. We all hope that you will find your ways around and about this lovely part of Hampshire. In no particular order I greet new residents as and when I hear about their arrivals. So here goes with the present families and if I have not yet been to see you, then I apologise and promise to catch up as soon as possible.

No 1 Glebe Close is now the home of **Hilary and Andrew Laney** with their son Alex and dog Sienna. They have moved next door to Hilary’s father, Den and are looking after him now that he is on his own. They have moved from Basingstoke and to quote Hilary “We feel as if we have won the lottery”. A wonderful sentiment indeed.

Debbie and Steve Newton are now living at Jockeys, on Holt End Lane. They too are very pleased to have found this delightfully situated house, with fields behind it and glorious sunsets in the evenings. They have recently got a puppy who is keeping them fully occupied!

Russell House will be renamed as Oak View when the Post Office gets around to changing the name. Meantime, **Roger and Jo Fawcett** are the owners together with Theo, Poppy and Oliver. They have moved from Holybourne together with Sky the dog. The local area is very much admired and as walkers and cyclists, they are exploring the highways and byways.

Tim and Jacks Cotterell have decamped from Clapham and Bembridge in The Isle of Wight and found Hill House. Daughters Georgie and Jemima are well installed together with Beetle their dog. They are so pleased to have found our lovely village with beautiful views and lots of opportunities for walks around and about.

All are warmly welcomed to our lovely village with its special church St Mary’s and school in the centre, and a good pub just down Sun Hill !

BENTWORTH GARDEN CLUB



Maryanne McEvoy

On Tuesday 19th August the club visited The Court House in East Meon, it was a memorable evening.

Despite numerous road signs declaring that the road was closed, the intrepid crew of Bentworth Garden Club drove on regardless, quite rightly as there was not an obstruction at all!

It was a rather grey evening but we were rewarded with a truly beautiful garden.

We assembled in the magnificent tall airy building dating from the 14th century when East Meon was the largest manor in Hampshire, owned by the Bishop of Winchester. We sipped wine while the owner Clare Bartlett told us about the two acre garden that they had established.

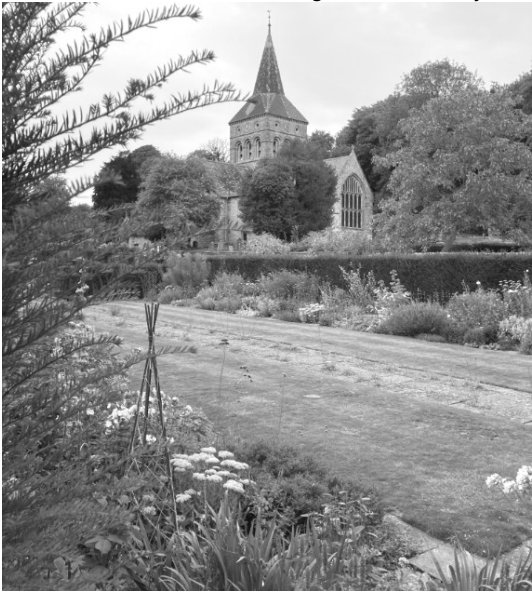
This is laid out in the Arts and Crafts style, with separate areas divided by mature yew hedges and stone walls.

The herbaceous borders were brimming with all sorts, quite an achievement in August! We particularly loved so many unusual plants and the use of many native wild ones that gave a very loose style to the garden.

The owners have also established a one acre vineyard that looked perfect nestling under the steep hill in this scenic village.

Hope you are enjoying the cooler temperatures and at last it's possible to get a spade into the ground.

Happy autumn gardening



BENTWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING PROGRAMME October 2025 – June 2026

Scheduled meeting dates may be subject to change or additional meetings of the Council may be called to deal with urgent matters (e.g.planning applications) as necessary.

These will be advertised on the Notice Boards and the Website.

2025		2026	
October	7th	January	Meeting to be scheduled, if required.*
November	4th	February	3rd
December	2nd	March	Meeting to be scheduled, if required.*
		April	7th Annual Parish Meeting
		May	5th Annual Council Meeting
		June	2nd

Calling all Dog Owners and Dog Walkers

We've had several complaints recently concerning dog poo on footpaths, pavements and in the church yard.

This is a reminder to you all, that everyone walking a dog in the village, has a responsibility to keep an eye on their dog at all times and ensure that when they have done their 'business' you collect it and take it home afterwards.

Please help us to keep our lovely village looking good and the footpaths clear for those using them.

Thank you.

* * *

LASHAM

LASHAM COFFEE MORNING

Anthea Del Mar

Overheard at the September coffee morning in Lasham:

'Emilia Fox slept in my bed'

'It's a long time ago - I should have kept a list'

As you can see, conversation ranges far and wide. It's worth coming to a coffee morning. Other topics can be more mundane - vehicles speeding through the village is always worth a good quarter of an hour. And since the dry, dry summer it has finally to be accepted there is no sign of a coach and horses at the bottom of the pond.

This month our morning was greatly enhanced by the presence of Katrina's granddaughter and her boyfriend over from Australia. Once we had realised we were talking about artificial insemination rather than AI bots, we learnt a lot about beef cattle on an Australian farm as Emma is an expert. And Tom explained the finer points of Australian football, which made your average Twickenham rugby match look like a walk in the park. Quite apart from anything else, the players all looked twice the size of the English. It must be all that beef.



As well as broadening our conversation subjects, Emma and Tom were wonderful at distributing coffee and cake. Cake in the form of a delicious and beautiful Victoria sponge made by Sue - please come again very soon, Sue - and Katrina's yummy brownies.



The next coffee morning is by kind invitation of Maurice and Antonia Goor at Wingfield House

on **MONDAY 6th OCTOBER.**

All warmly welcome.

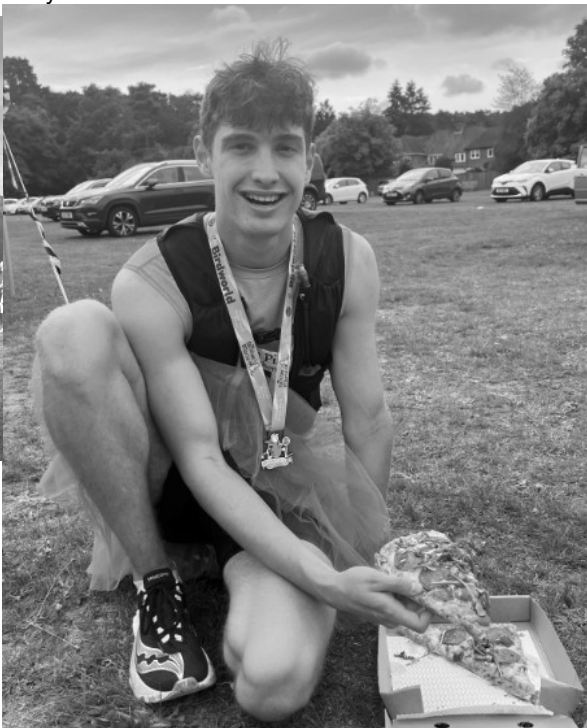


FIRST TIME MARATHON

Clare Sunderland

19 year old James Sunderland's successful first time marathon organised by Farnham Runners and Farnham Rotary club on Sunday 07/09/2025.

Lasham's very own James Sunderland (Bentworth CofE school old boy now aged 19) ran the Surrey Hills marathon with his friend and colleague to raise funds for the water infrastructure charity Dig Deep to fund access to clean water, safe sanitation and good hygiene for over 1 million people in Bomet County, Kenya, helping marginalised children and families lift themselves out of poverty.



Please donate via the link below - the marathon was itself a fundraiser for the charity's trek up Mount Kilimanjaro - James will be climbing in Tanzania next August 2026.

<https://dig-deep.enthuse.com/pf/james-sunderland>

p.s. I think he rocks his fancy dress: a pink tutu!

p.p.s. The dynamic duo arrived faster than we planned at the rendezvous point and the 'support staff' had to phone a friend for a lift to the next water stop!

p.p.p.s. Huge thanks to Farnham pilgrim's marathon organisers (Farnham runners) and marshals and especially Farnham rotary club volunteers.

About the charity:

<https://dig-deep.enthuse.com/ddchallenges/profile>

DEER MANAGEMENT IN THE ENGLISH COUNTRYSIDE

Saturday 11th October @ 5pm St Mary's Church, Lasham

All proceeds to St Mary's Church, Lasham BUY YOUR TICKET AT:

<https://app.tickettailor.com/events/stmaryschurchlasham/1805146>

SHALDEN

St PETER & St PAUL GUILD OF MARTHA

Kirsty Ennever

October

4 Jane Shirvell / Lin Baxter
11 Karen Saponaro / Lynne Hignett
18 Michele Rankin / Kirsty Ennever
25 Rozanne Wilson / Rosalind Ommanney

November

1 Jane Shirvell / Lin Baxter
8 Karen Saponaro / Lynne Hignett
15 Michele Rankin / Kirsty Ennever
22 Rozanne Wilson / Rosalind Ommanney
29 Debbie Todd / Silvia Blake

SHALDEN BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS

Afandi Darlington



Shalden Bonfire and Fireworks will take place at **6:00pm** on **Sunday 2nd November**, at Shalden Recreation Ground. We look forward to welcoming everyone for a wonderful evening of fireworks, hot food and a splendid bonfire. All are welcome and bring along some friends! Entry will be on the gate at £8 per person (this includes a hot sausage on a stick and a cup of homemade soup), children under 5 have free entry. We are able to take both cash and card payments, and a range of drinks will be available for purchase including warm mulled wine.



**The 'Combined Harvesters' invite you to attend
the annual village Harvest Supper
on Sunday 5th October, 7pm
at Shalden Village Hall**

Includes a welcome drink, hot supper and coffee

Please bring your own wine and glasses

Harvest hamper raffle on the night!

TICKETS FOR SALE ONLY AHEAD OF THE EVENT FROM:

SILVIA BLAKE: 07968566412 silvia.blake@outlook.com

TICKET PRICES: ADULTS £8 / CHILDREN £4



Shalden Parish Council are pleased to introduce Mark Green who was co-opted as a Councillor in July.

Introduction: Mark Green

Having moved to Shalden in May 2023, both my wife and I have found what we'd hoped for - a thriving community with a wide range of people, coming together for the good of each other. We both enjoy gardening, cycling, walks around the local area, and welcoming family, friends & neighbours to our home.

I see joining the Shalden Parish Council as a meaningful way to give back to the community, using strategic planning and collaborative decision-making skills from my day job (a Director at a software company), and my passions for helping people, the outdoors and volunteering.

Community spirit is strong here in Shalden Parish; having been part of regular get-togethers and initiatives like the litter pick, I see the immense pride our parishioners have for our area which continues to bloom and I look forward to serving the Parish as a Councillor."



SHALDEN PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council's next meetings are Wednesday 12th November and Wednesday 14th January. PC meetings start at 7:30pm and take place in Shalden Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

* * *

BEEHIVE MONTESSORI, SHALDEN



Exciting developments begin the new academic year at the Beehive Montessori. We have had a complete revamp of the classroom to create a fresh and harmonious environment with deputy managers, Ellie and Lou dedicating many hours of their summer holidays to the task. The black and white photos don't really do it justice so in order to view the relaxed natural charm of the new look Beehive, we recommend you take a look and follow us on our Facebook or Instagram pages.



The autumn term always brings exciting new adventures, along with forming new friendships the children have enjoyed activities from nature walks to making apple crumble with the apples from our very own tree.



We have been asked for dinosaurs to inspire imaginative role play and enjoyed acting out the journey from Michael Rosen's charming 'Bear Hunt'

We always love to welcome new families from our local villages and currently take children from their 2nd birthday. We accept the new working parents funding and are happy to advise parents on their funding options.

To contact us for further information or to arrange a visit, please contact us on 07940 558 793, email: beehiveatshalden@gmail.com or message The Beehive at Shalden via our facebook or Instagram page, we look forward to hearing from you.

Ellie, Lou and the Beehive Team

The CHURCH

THE BEREAVEMENT JOURNEY.

Wendy Burnhams

Are you grieving the death of a loved one or struggling with the long-term effects of loss? The Bereavement Journey is a seven week programme of short videos and focussed conversations, providing a safe space for you to process your bereavement and discern your next steps. Topics include attachment; separation and loss; difficult feelings; rites of passage; the impact and pain of bereavement; coping with others; coping with change; moving forward; and an optional session on questions of faith.

Monday evenings. 7.30pm - 9.30pm ,

6th October - 17th November at The Alton Maltings Centre.

Suggested voluntary contribution £20 (for the whole course).

To book your place, or to find out more about it,

please email bereavement@potr-alton.co.uk

or phone Wendy Burnhams 07514 280 362

A MESSAGE FROM PHILIPPA

Just a short message to say a huge thank you to you all for the lovely gifts, cards, flowers and vouchers I received today at my little leaving party. To say it was a surprise would be an understatement! I am quite humbled by your kindness and generosity. A special thank you to Ellie and the churchwardens for being so sneaky with the organisation, and for being such a huge support over the years. And thanks also to Andrew (and Fiona) for coming back from Winchester for an impromptu presentation! And lastly, a thank you to all of you, the people I've met during my 7 years as administrator - the job can be a challenge at times, and it's all of you that make it worthwhile. I shall miss you, but I'll be back!

With my love and thanks Philippa

Our new Benefice Administrator will start in November. We look forward to welcoming Abbie Coles to our team.



DEMENTIA FRIENDLY ALTON held their annual **Forget Me Not Service** at All Saints Church on Thursday 28th August.



The service was followed by tea, cake, a tombola and music.

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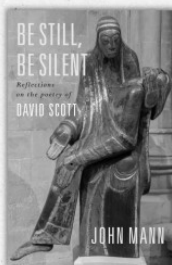


For those of us who remember **The Very Revd John Mann**,
who was our Rector back in the 80s/90s

John Mann and Canterbury Press invite you to the launch of

Be Still, Be Silent

Reflections on the poetry of David Scott



Friday 10th October 2pm

**St Lawrence Church
The Square, Winchester,
SO23 9EX**

David Scott was a priest-poet in the tradition of George Herbert, whose work resonates with themes of human connection, spiritual depth, and the beauty of the everyday. Written by John Mann, *Be Still, Be Silent* offers an accessible introduction to his poetry.



**CANTERBURY
PRESS**

Copies of the book will be available for sale

COMMUNITY INFORMATION



HARVEST CHURCH – FRESH START

Mark Rumsby

Do you want to break free from a **life-controlling habit** such as smoking, gambling, over-eating, internet or social media addiction, shopping compulsions, binge drinking, taking drugs, etc. – in fact any habit which once might have brought us comfort or fun, but is now spoiling our daily living ?

Fresh Start is a 9-week course based on principles from the 12-steps-of-recovery process, backed by 1-to-1 coaching and a support group of others wanting to tackle their dependencies. It's **free** and completely confidential.

See <https://harvestchurch.uk/fresh-start>

The next local course will start with an introductory session on Wednesday 8th October, 7:30 – 9pm, at Alton Maltings. It will be led by Fresh Start coaches, Ann and Anna.

After previous local courses, a man tackling an internet addiction said: "I'd like to thank you...for putting on the Fresh Start course and helping me achieve my goals...I am very grateful for the work you did with us." Another, tackling a gambling addiction, said: "I was gambling to excess and constantly worried and anxious over money. I am now happier and am getting my priorities right... I can never say THANK YOU enough times as I never thought I could beat this addiction". A woman now in recovery from alcohol addiction said: "I wouldn't be where I am today, if I hadn't come on Fresh Start".

If you want to be free of a life-controlling habit, join the Fresh Start course. Or if you know someone who wants to tackle such a habit, recommend Fresh Start to them.

To enquire or register for the course, call Mark Rumsby on 07769 030913 or email freshstart@harvestchurch.uk



Anna Miles

Is your Parish meeting local housing needs?

Many rural communities are facing a quiet crisis. Local people - those who grew up in the village, work nearby, or have family ties, are increasingly unable to find homes they can afford. Without action, rural communities risk losing the very people who keep them thriving.

Action Hampshire is a local charity who provides Rural Housing Enabling (RHE) services to support communities and parish councils to deliver the homes needed in their community. RHEs act as an independent advisor providing impartial assistance in developing affordable and community led housing for people with a local connection and will work with and on behalf of rural communities to address the shortage of affordable homes within the parish - homes specifically for local people who are priced out of the general housing market.

These homes can be for rent or sale, and eligibility for occupancy is based on a strong local connection, such as living in the parish currently, having previously lived there with family still in the area or working locally in essential roles (e.g. teachers, shopkeepers, farm workers).

Why it matters

Hampshire has a serious housing affordability gap. Property prices are high, while wages are below average, in 2023, the median house price was **10 times** the

average wage.

This forces many households to leave their communities, which can lead to:

Closure of local services like pubs, shops, and schools

Loss of community diversity and sustainability

Limited turnover in existing affordable housing stock

Unlike general housing developments, rural affordable housing built on rural exception sites is reserved for people with a local connection - helping villages retain their identity and support their services. Rural Exception Sites are small plots of land just outside or adjacent to village boundaries that are permitted as exceptions to standard planning rules because they meet a proven local need. These sites can accommodate small-scale housing developments (typically 4–10 homes) which are retained in perpetuity for occupancy by local people.

What can you do?

Even if you're not directly affected, you can help raise awareness and encourage local action:

Speak to your Parish Council Ask them to contact Action Hampshire to **request a free Parish Housing Profile**. This provides an overview of the current housing situation in your area.

Support a Housing Need Survey This survey identifies the type and amount of housing needed locally. It provides evidence to help communities make informed decisions and may encourage landowners to offer land for development. These are usually commissioned by your Parish Council and can be carried out by Action Hampshire.

Know a local Landowner? If you know someone with land near the village, they might be interested in offering it as a Rural Exception Site. Landowners receive a fixed payment per property built but they will also be supporting their local community. Ask them to get in touch with Action Hampshire

Affordable housing is about more than bricks and mortar - it's about keeping building sustainable communities that will thrive for generations to come. Contact Action Hampshire housing@actionhampshire.org or www.actionhampshire.org.uk find out more by visiting www.actionhampshire.org.uk

Help Shape Local Health & Care and be in with a chance to win a £25 Gift Card!

Action Hampshire is working with Healthwatch Hampshire to gather feedback from people across the county about their experiences with health and social care services. We especially want to hear from underrepresented groups such as rural communities like yours.

Maybe you've had a great visit with your local GP, or perhaps you've struggled to get a dentist appointment. You might have had support from a social worker, or needed help from a paramedic. Whatever your experience, we'd love to hear about it. Your feedback helps make sure services are working well and meeting the needs of local communities.

As a thank you, you'll have the opportunity to enter our free Autumn Prize Draw to win one of three £25 One4All gift cards – perfect for a little treat.

Deadline: Sunday 26th October at midnight

Let's make sure rural voices are heard – your story could help shape better care for everyone.

* * *

EVENTS

ST ANDREW'S, MEDSTEAD

Sharon Blackshaw

Step back in time for an evening of wit, charm, and musical mischief as we celebrate the timeless comedy of **Flanders & Swann** alongside the delightfully theatrical **Hinge & Brackett**. From sharp satire to side-splitting character sketches, this unique double bill promises laughter, nostalgia, and a warm glow of good humour.

Join us at St Andrew's Church, Medstead, on **Saturday 4th October at 7pm** for a night of unforgettable entertainment.

Tickets are £15, including a drink and nibbles during the interval – the perfect recipe for a sparkling autumn evening.

All enquiries through medsteadchurchbookings@gmail.com or 07709 553 804.



THE AUTUMN JUMBLE SALE will take place on **Saturday 25th October** in St Andrew's Church Hall. Items for sale can be delivered between 10-12 and the sale will run from 1.30-3.30.

Please, please, when gathering together your unwanted items, make sure they are in a fit condition for sale ie clothing clean, unstained and untorn, bric a brac undamaged and intact and puzzles /toys complete and again undamaged.

Any enquiries to medsteadchurchbookings@gmail.com or 07709 553 804.

THE SCREEN BY THE GREEN, BEECH

Joanna Curtis

From Feathers to Fireworks at the Screen by the Green

This October, the Screen by the Green in Beech brings you two brilliant productions featuring some of Britain's finest talent.

First up on Friday 10th October at 7:30pm: **The Penguin Lessons** (12A) - Steve Coogan stars in this heartwarming true story of a disillusioned teacher who rescues an orphaned penguin in 1970s Argentina, only to discover it's the penguin rescuing him. From *The Full Monty* director Peter Cattaneo comes a feel-good tale of friendship across species.

Then Saturday 25th October brings National Theatre Live's **Mrs Warren's Profession** (15) starring real-life mother and daughter Imelda Staunton (*The Crown*) and Bessie Carter (*Bridgerton*) in their first stage collaboration. Shaw's razor-sharp wit ignites as family secrets explode in this scandalous classic. Two showings: 2pm and 7pm.

From rescued penguins to family revelations: October at the Screen offers humour, drama and pure entertainment!

Advance Tickets: Penguin Lessons £7, Mrs Warren's Profession £14

Cabaret seating • Licensed bar • Free parking

Book: beechvillage.org.uk/events

Beech Village Hall, 1 Wellhouse Road, Beech, Alton GU34 4AQ

GIGS BY THE GREEN

Joanna Curtis

Saturday 15th November: Live Music with Serious Child and My Girl The River

7:30pm (Doors 7pm) Gigs by the Green at Beech Village Hall

Bookings: beechvillage.org.uk/events

PTO

When Sussex Meets Louisiana: Beech Village Hall launches **Gigs by the Green**

Something special happens when Sussex folk-poet Serious Child shares a stage with Louisiana songbird My Girl the River – and Beech Village Hall becomes the unlikely setting for this musical collision on Saturday 15th November.

Expect pin-sharp British wit meets sugared-espresso vocals and storytelling that bridges continents. Alan Young's comedic eye for everyday detail pairs perfectly with Kris Hughes' Nashville-honed tales of love, loss and hot chicken.

Intimate venue with limited capacity. Book fast at beechvillage.org.uk/events.

Tickets £16. Starts 7:30 pm. Doors 7pm.

Beech Village Hall, 1 Wellhouse Road, Beech, Alton GU34 4AQ

THE CURTIS MUSEUM AND ALLEN GALLERY

Jill Line

OPENING TIMES Tuesday to Saturday Curtis 10am – 4.30pm. Allen 10.30 – 4pm

[Please note the Gallery and Museum will be **closed on Sundays** until further notice]

www.hampshireculture.org.uk/curtis-museum www.hampshireculture.org.uk/allen-gallery

ALLEN GALLERY

Ceramicus

The Allen Gallery is delighted to welcome back Ceramicus from **October 4th to 31st**.

This talented group of local potters is based in the Surrey and Hampshire area. They come together to exhibit their work, which covers a wide range of throwing, hand building and sculpting methods with various types of clay. Followed by a spectrum of glazing and firing techniques - wood burning kilns, "raku" methods and traditional gas and modern electronically controlled kilns.



Come and browse, perhaps choose some early Christmas presents!

FREE entry.

Adult Well-being Workshop.

FREE but booking essential See website. Age: 18+.

Calligraphy and Origami Tuesday 22nd October 10am - 4pm

Talks sponsored by the Friends of the Curtis Museum and Allen Gallery.

Bees by Lesley Ann Morris. 9th October, 7.30pm.

Mediaeval Women, Caroline Stapleton, 13th November, 7.30pm.

All talks are in the Allen Gallery. FREE. donations welcome.

CURTIS MUSEUM

As a follow-up to our recent Anglo-Saxon theme -

Saxons vs Vikings - Follow our **activity trail** with two routes, Saxons or Vikings? Choose a side and join its boot camp on this fun family trail.



Make a Shield to blend in with your chosen team. Only £2 per shield with craft materials provided.

2nd September - 24th October, 10am -4.30pm.

4th November - 29th November 10am - 4.30pm.

HALF-TERM FUN IN THE CURTIS AND ALLEN

The Curious Case of the Haunted Exhibits

Can you uncover the mystery of the Haunted Exhibits this October half-term? Join us on this spooky self-led activity trail around the Curtis Museum.

There is a mission for our younger visitors - we have clay ghosts hidden around the Museum, can you find them all?

Pumpkin Spotter Trail - can you find all the hidden pumpkins round the Allen Gallery?

Communal Craft: The Ghostly Gathering - you can decorate and add a ghost to our communal mural! (Curtis museum).

25th October - 1st November, 10am -4.30pm, (drop in).

£2 per trail, to include Hallowe'en prize.

Clay Ghost Workshop (Allen Gallery)

Make your own spooky (or silly) ghost from air-dry clay. All ages welcome.

28th October 11am - 3pm. (drop in)

£2 per child, 5th craft free.

Make your own Ectoplasm. Slimy gooey fun with our own Museum "ectoplasm" mix. (Curtis Museum)

30th October 11am-3pm (drop in)

£2 per child, 5th craft free.

Museum by Torchlight (Curtis Museum)

Keeping the creepy theme, dare you come on the Hallowe'en torchlight trail? Spooky storytelling, Hallowe'en challenges.

31st October, 5.30pm - 7.30pm. (drop in)

£3.75 per child, adults free.

Spooky Film Night (Allen Gallery)

Family-friendly Hallowe'en film

6pm, 29th October. Ticketed. Details on website or at venue.

Dotty the Dodo's Autumn Fact Hunt - a free Family Trail. Dotty has hidden some more facts from the natural world around the Curtis Museum. Can you find them all and earn your Dotty the Dodo sticker?

2nd September - 29th November.



ALTON ORGAN SOCIETY

Elsbeth Mackeggie Gurney

Just a reminder that the **59th season** of organ recitals starts on October 7th 2025; and we welcome William Fox to give the first recital. A report of the recital will be given in the next edition of The Villager.



Dates for your diary for the rest of the year:

November 4th – **Iain Farrington** – composer arranger, organist & pianist. Iain is well known for his composition for King Charles III Coronation and for his own jazz inspired compositions

December 2nd – **Peter Wright** – formerly organist of Southwark Cathedral

Refreshments are available from 7.30pm & the recital starts at 8.00pm. Tickets cost £12; season memberships cost £72 for all 8 recitals, all payable at the door.

We look forward to welcoming you on October 7th.



Nicci Shepherd

Cardiac Rehab have hit on a 'hot topic' for their Annual lecture in October

Should terminally ill adults be assisted to die by doctors? This question, which is currently being debated in the House of Lords as the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill, is at the heart of the Annual fundraising lecture organised by Cardiac Rehab.

Dr Hugh Bethell, founder of Cardiac Rehab, has invited the outspoken writer and critic **Theodore Dalrymple** to share his opinions on the ethics and dilemmas behind the assisted dying debate. **The Annual Lecture** – which is one of the charities major fundraising events - is being held at Alton Maltings on **Wednesday 22 October at 19:00**.

In the lecture Theodore Dalrymple will explore the huge moral questions surrounding end-of-life care, including the competing claims of individual choice, medical ethics and the attitudes of society. His perspective shaped by his long career and real-world encounters with suffering and death, promise to give us all plenty to think about.

The lecture will be preceded by wine and canapes. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased from the Cardiac Rehab website, www.cardiac-rehab.co.uk/events

Announcing the first charity partnership between Alton FC and local charity Cardiac Rehab

Alton Football Club have chosen The Basingstoke and Alton Cardiac Rehabilitation Charity as their first ever local charity partner for the 2025-26 football season.

Also known as Cardiac Rehab, the Alton-based charity will be celebrating 50 years supporting the health and wellbeing of local people with heart disease in 2026. With a dedicated exercise centre in Chawton Park Road, they also provide rehab for cancer patients, pulmonary disease and long-COVID.

Carl Saunders, Chairman of Alton Football Club, told us: "We are delighted that Cardiac Rehab will be our first ever local charity partner. Throughout the season we'll be encouraging our players, members and supporters to raise funds for this fantastic local charity who help local people back to health through exercise."

Cardiac Rehab provides specialist programmes for those with, or at risk of developing, heart disease, helping them lengthen their lives and improve wellbeing through a mix of exercise, education and peer support.

Trustees of Cardiac Rehab and CEO Sarah Quarterman and General Manager Denise Ellis are pictured with Carl Saunders Chairman of Alton FC, and other club members at the unveiling of the charity's new fundraising banner.



When the charity began in 1976, they were the one of the first dedicated community-based cardiac rehabilitation units in the UK. Since moving into their own purpose-built building in 1997 they have extended their programmes to provide rehab for cancer, pulmonary disease and long-COVID.

Sarah Quarterman CEO of Cardiac Rehab said: 'This charity partnership with Alton Football Club will help us raise awareness and vital funds to support our work. We are closely aligned with the NHS, and receive referrals from local doctors and clinicians, but we are not funded by the NHS and so rely on fundraising to keep costs down for our exercisers. We provide over 60 hours of classes and circuit-based sessions each week. Every penny raised or donated during this season will be used to help more local people lengthen their healthy lives and improve wellbeing.'

Denise Ellis, Centre Manager at Cardiac Rehab has been working closely with the club to plan the charity partnership, which is launching with a special fundraising event on Saturday 13 September.

Denise said: 'I'm excited to confirm that we're launching the partnership with a great challenge. We will be at the Alton FC ground throughout the day on Saturday 13 September and we're challenging players, families and supporters to help us row the 60km distance between the club ground and Wembley Stadium! We'll have two of our rowing machines at the club and we'll be collecting donations from the rowers and those cheering them on! It promises to be a great day of fun and community spirit.'

Notes : Alton FC have over 50 teams, from U6 upwards, and provide Junior football for boys and girls in a safe, friendly and fun environment. The Men's first team compete at step 5 of the Combined Counties Premier Division South, FA Cup and FA vase.

<https://www.altonfc.com/>

The Basingstoke and Alton Cardiac Rehabilitation Charity is a vibrant exercise centre in Alton, which provides specialist programmes for those with, or at risk of developing heart disease, helping them lengthen their lives and improve wellbeing in their dedicated exercise centre. Cardiac Rehab provides over 60 hours of classes and circuit-based sessions each week.

<https://cardiac-rehab.co.uk/>

CLUBS

ASA

Forthcoming Lectures:

Tuesday 14th October: Siân Walters
*The Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao and
the Architecture of Frank Gehry*



Bilbao is now the Basque Country's most important city thanks in no small part to the impact of the Guggenheim Museum, completed in 1997 to huge critical and popular acclaim and described by the celebrated late architect Philip Johnson as "the greatest building of our time".



Vanessa MacMahon

Tuesday 11th November: Angela Findlay *The Art of Atonement; How Germany commemorates the Second World War* In the context of our World War centenaries, anniversaries and the current debate about statues and monuments, the subject of this talk is hugely relevant. In this country, relatively little is known about Germany's complex post-WW2 process....

Both lectures to be held at Martin Read Hall at Alton College 7:30pm (doors open 6:45pm)

MEDSTEAD

HAMPSHIRE FEDERATION OF WI - MEDSTEAD

Hilary Oldham

Members and guests at Medstead WI's August meeting were greeted with a glass of Pimm's or a soft drink.

The speaker was storyteller Fiona Burchill who began by telling the audience how much she enjoyed visiting Medstead WI. This was her third visit in recent years. She had recently been at the Sidmouth Folk Festival where she'd collected some new stories.

Her first story came from India and was about a water carrier called Ramal. It taught us that although we may be old and perhaps feel a bit worn out, we still have a useful role. The next story was from Somerset, St Audrie's Bay to be precise and it was about a baby mermaid who was found and adopted by a fisherman and his wife.

We then moved to Cumbria for a story about how you can divide 17 Herdwick sheep fairly between 3 brothers. Some maths was involved and it didn't quite add up.

Ancient China was the source of Fiona's fourth story. This story about Tian and his cranes showed that being kind to the less fortunate brought its own reward. We then heard an ancient story from Morocco about a young man who needed to choose a wife and it showed that if we share a burden then life becomes easier.

Finally we heard about Tommy who from early childhood loved tractors until one day an accident involving a tractor caused him to lose interest. This, however, had an unexpected consequence.

Judith North gave the Vote of Thanks and this was followed by tea and a wonderful selection of cakes provided by Angela Nash and her helpers.

The next meeting will have been on September 11th when there will be a jigsaw puzzle afternoon. On 9th October Amanda Isbister will talk to us about Winchester Hospice.

New members and visitors are always welcome. Come along to Medstead Village Hall at 2pm on the second Thursday of the month and join in the friendship and fun on offer.

HAMPSHIRE FEDERATION OF WI - MEDSTEAD

Gill Siddall

Medstead WI Open Meeting.

The meeting on Thursday October 9th is an Open Meeting - open to all, husbands, partners, friends and neighbours.

The subject is '**Winchester Hospice**' and the speaker will be **Amanda Isbister**.

Amanda will be fondly remembered by many as a GP at Mansfield Park Surgery and she is now a trustee of Winchester Hospice so will be able to give us a very interesting insight into the Hospice.

The talk is in Medstead Village Hall and starts at 2pm.

The talk is free to all although we anticipate that a collection for the hospice may be made should anyone wish to donate.

We look forward to seeing you there for an interesting talk, with tea and biscuits to follow.

HAMPSHIRE FEDERATION OF WI – ROEDOWNS

Diana Constantine

Our meeting after the summer break was in September, when our guest speaker was Louise who is the founder and owner of the Alton Fill Up Refill Shop.

The shop opened in 2020 with the idea of being convenient and affordable, plus help reduce plastic and waste. It works by you taking empty containers to then fill up with household staples, cleaning products, bathroom products and much more.

All products are eco friendly, biodegradable and vegan. The business continues to grow thanks to word of mouth, recommendations and social media.

Louise gave an excellent overview about the shop, including lots of photos. She gave us tips and ideas particularly about cleaning products. Did you know you can wash clothes with crushed up conkers instead of washing detergent ?

We all felt inspired to visit the shop and change some of our ways to contribute towards prevention of plastic waste.



Forthcoming meetings

1st October. Think you know tea ? 5th November. Hampshire Search & Rescue

3rd December. Christmas table decorations 7th January 2026. Line Dancing

Roedowns WI meet in the Wiltshire Room, Medstead Village Hall on the first Wednesday of each month at 19.30 hrs. Guest speakers, outings and good company.

Tea/coffee, biscuits, raffle with gift voucher prize at each meeting. Visitors and new members are very welcome. Contact Secretary on roedownssec@hampshire.org.uk or Jill Kerr 01420 564116.

We have turned 50!

'The earth laughs in flowers' (Ralph Waldo Emerson)



Well, it has been a very hot and long summer. Some plants have loved it and others not so much! At the September meeting we welcomed the speaker Geoff Hawkins who spoke about growing vegetables in a small garden. It was a very interesting and informative evening with added humour! We learnt about the history of gardening and size of plots. What to grow and where and choosing the suitability of what you grow with what space you have. Using troughs, pots, bags, raised beds and tiered planting shelves. The importance of knowing your garden and the aspect of each part whether sunny, shady, cold or hot to get the right plant to grow in the right place. Water butts and containers to collect rain are essential with hotter summers. He talked about digging and no dig approaches to gardening and the benefits of both. Making your own compost is great if you can find a space however small. We all really enjoyed his presentation.

The display table with produce and flowers at the meeting was fantastic and we all voted on our favourites!

After the talk we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the club with a wonderful cake that Dave the Chairman cut and we all had a piece. There were artefacts from the 50 years of the club to look at and see how things were run all those years ago. The club has about 120 members now and it is a thriving and great garden club to be part of in the village.



Jobs to do in the garden in October- Cut back perennials that have died down, divide rhubarb crowns to create new plants, divide herbaceous plants that have become too big, move tender plants to a greenhouse or somewhere free from frosts, prune climbing roses, harvest the rest of fruit and vegetables before frosts come.

The next speakers for this year are-

Ben Pope- 'Making the most of your Garden' 7th October.

Helier Bowling- 'Building a Show Garden' 4th November.

Come and join us! Meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month.

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## **NORTH HAMPSHIRE NATIONAL TRUST CENTRE (NHNTC)**

**Hugh Bethell**

**Free tour of The Vyne Regency Exhibition  
organised by the North Hants National Trust Centre (NHNTC)**



**The NHNTC is the local branch of the National Trust. We provide monthly talks through the winter, monthly visits to interesting venues through the summer and additional meetings for cream teas and a Christmas lunch – all for just £8 per person per year.**

We are holding a recruiting event at **The Vyne at 3pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October**. This will be a taster session in the form of free tour of their Regency Exhibition with the added treat of tea and cakes.

We have a limited number of places so if you are interested please sign up by visiting our website – <https://NHNTC.com> and complete the form headed: Monday 13th October 2025 at 3:00pm

**Recruitment event - Special free tour of the Regency Exhibition at The Vyne**

### **CLUB CONTACTS**

**Medstead Bowls:** Secretary Gill Moore 01420 563139 [gillianmoore@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gillianmoore@yahoo.co.uk)

**Medstead Players:** Tania McCullough [chairman@medsteadplayers.co.uk](mailto:chairman@medsteadplayers.co.uk)  
or Secretary Julia Halls 07747 665 968 ; or [publicity@medsteadplayers.co.uk](mailto:publicity@medsteadplayers.co.uk)

**Medstead Tennis:** [www.medsteadtennisclub.org.uk](http://www.medsteadtennisclub.org.uk)

**Alton Rotary:** Roy Roberts 07768 070 572 Mike 07808 093 953

## REGULAR FEATURES



Tim Gordon-Jones

The bees have done very well as we have harvested nearly 200 jars, which are now ready for sale. As usual all, equipment and wax cappings and waste from the filter go back to the apiary for the bees to clean up. The empty supers go back on the hives, so the bees can mop up leftover honey and re use the wax honeycomb. There has been a large number of wasps getting in on the party too, but thankfully no nests in the garden or house. Also, no sign of hornets, Asian or otherwise.

This time of year is not good for the drones, the male bees, as it is payback time when they get evicted or killed by the workers as they are surplus to requirements. The queen will be laying winter worker bees who will live longer than normal and the colony will be depleting in numbers.

Soon I will be taking off the empty supers and treating the hive for varroa mites. This is an organic treatment based on thyme oil and doesn't affect any of the honey we harvest. If you'd like to buy some honey it is available at Horsley gate, or by order for more than four jars, - 07771862890.

### COUNTRY MATTERS - Autumnal Weather

Julian Lewis

The dry spell has ended and autumnal weather is here with wind and rain. Up until the end of August the rolling rainfall figure has dropped to 917mm (37ins) from 1283 mm (52 inches) in January 2025 which is a 30% fall.

The harvest results are in and it has been a disappointing year caused primarily by the wet autumn of 2024 followed by the dry spring. The crops were planted late in wet conditions and the plants did not establish deep root structures. The plant populations were sub optimal because a lower percentage of seeds planted actually germinated and grew. When the dry period began in late February and continued until late summer the moisture that is deep within the soil could not be accessed by the plants. The dry spring and summer obviously did reduce yields but it was the poor state of the plants that caused a lot of the yield loss.

There were exceptions – early planted crops that did establish well and as ever the best most fertile soils will produce better crops. Nationally tonnage for all crops is thought to be about 11 million tonnes which is substantially down from what used to be the normal of 15 million tonnes. This is caused by lower cropped areas due to land being taken for building, being used for environmental crops and farmers not planting the poorer land because of the low crop prices. The highest prices in 2022 were close to £1000 for milling wheat but now milling wheat is around £200 per tonne. The UK operates in a world market and world prices are low because there have been good yields in many regions.

One of the consequences of the much heralded trade deal between the UK and USA has been the total closure of the UK's bioethanol industry. Government mandates dictate that fuels for road vehicles – both petrol and diesel – must contain bioethanol. This industry had 2 large industrial facilities that employed many people and supported farms in the north of England to produce this ethanol for the greener fuels. **The US bioethanol is certified as a waste byproduct when imported into the UK and therefore has a 19% tariff removed. The identical UK produced bioethanol is not classed as a waste product and has to pay the 19% duty to the UK Exchequer. This makes it completely uneconomic to produce compared to the "waste" US product.**

**This is a completely bonkers scenario whereby an identical US product is imported and favoured over a home produced product - so our industry closes.**

The environmental aspects of transporting these 1.4 billion litres of “green” fuels per year from the American mid-West are pretty horrendous – a net loss to the world climate. As importantly in the UK thousands of people **have been made redundant from the facilities and supporting services**. Additionally, the UK bio ethanol plants were the only sources of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) production in the UK which is used in food production and health care – this will now also have to be imported.

Solar panels on buildings or farmland can convert the sun’s energy to electricity. It is not the heat of the sun but the solar radiance (sunlight) that is harnessed and converted to direct current electricity. To be used in the national grid the DC electricity has to pass through an inverter which converts it to alternating current (AC). The ideal temperatures for panels to work are around 18 -24 centigrade. Above those temperatures the efficiency drops by 0.3-0.5 % for every degree. There have been suggestions that vast areas of Africa should be covered in panels to harness the light and convert it to electricity before sending it in undersea cables to the UK and northern Europe. This plan totally ignores that the panels in hot countries the panels do not work efficiently and have a much shorter lifespan because of the extreme temperatures. Australia and the Southern US states have discovered that high temperatures do limit solar panel production levels and lifespan.

Similarly, there is an expectation that wind farms will meet many of our energy needs. This ignores the fact that one of the consequences of global warming are lower average wind speeds. Global wind speeds have dropped by 10% on average in the last few decades and are much lower in areas such as Europe due to the increasing temperatures in the North and South poles known as Arctic warming and therefore less of a temperature gradient. The lower temperature differential between the poles and the rest of the world results in lower wind speeds. A 2025 article in Nature Climate Change predicts that in some areas wind speeds will drop by up to 40% over the next 25 years. There will still be damaging storms but the average wind speeds will decrease.

Wind farms also suffer from an effect known as “wind wash” where the turbines in the front line receive all of the wind but those in lines further back receive less wind because the front turbines have effectively slowed the wind passing through the area. The rear turbines are therefore less efficient.

Enjoy the autumn colours in our Hampshire countryside in the coming weeks – winter maybe approaching but October can be quite spectacular.



*Tinker's Lane*

# Broadlands

Equine Therapy & RDA



**Kim Ottridge**

August has been a busier month than in previous years for Broadlands. We have hosted several 'Own a Pony' mornings and welcomed visitors to our 'Tea with a Pony'

Events as well as lots of our riders still attending throughout the summer.

We attended our first Car Boot Sale and the Committee from the Alton Victorian Cricket Day joined us for tea and cake.

## Own a Pony

Lots of our regular riders join us for a morning learning what is involved with the ponies before and after their normal lessons. They get involved in grooming the ponies, tacking them up, cleaning their tack, the feed room and hay barn and how much each pony gets at each meal. They enjoy a wonderful ride out in the Medstead countryside. These mornings have proved hugely popular this summer.



## Tea with a Pony

We have recently reached out to local Care Homes and Dementia -friendly Alton and have hosted several afternoons where our visitors meet the ponies, do some grooming, if they are keen, watch Freya, our groom, do a demonstration ride and then enjoy Emmas fabulous tea and cake. It is wonderful to see their connection with the ponies.



## Car Boot Sale

Thanks to the incredible support of our community, we raised £500 at the Winchester Car Boot Sale

A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who donated items, gave generously, and helped spread the word.



## Alton Victorian Cricket Day

We are absolutely delighted to share that the Alton Victorian Cricket Committee has generously raised an incredible £9,000 in support of Broadlands.

These vital funds will directly support our work in promoting the physical and emotional wellbeing of children and adults with a wide range of disabilities. Thanks to this generosity, we have already been able to release part of the donation to refurbish our mounting platform – an essential piece of equipment that enables many of our riders to mount safely and with dignity.

Looking ahead, the remaining funds will be carefully invested in sourcing and training a new pony for our RDA and equine therapy centre. This will make a lasting difference to the lives of our riders and participants, ensuring we can continue to provide life-changing opportunities for years to come.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Trish Delaney, the Alton Victorian Cricket Committee, and the entire Alton community. The support from players, volunteers, sponsors, and spectators at this year's tournament has been truly overwhelming, and we feel privileged to have been chosen as the beneficiary of such a cherished local tradition.



As many of you will be aware, we are hoping to raise an additional £30,000 in this our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year. With all our fund-raising efforts this year and the support of the AVC we now have just £2,000 left to raise. If you can help us raise this amount between now and the end of the year we would love to hear from you.

### Upcoming Events

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September      Wine Tasting Evening, with Simon from the Naked Grape

For more information on our forthcoming events please visit  
[www.broadlandsgroupda.org.uk/events](http://www.broadlandsgroupda.org.uk/events)

## HAMPSHIRE FARMERS MARKETS

**Alton Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October**

Saturday 4th    Hamble Harvest Festival

Sunday 5th     Romsey

Saturday 18th   Emsworth

Sunday 19th    Southsea

Sunday 26th    Winchester

Sunday 5th     Petersfield

Sunday 12th    Winchester

Sunday 19th    Alresford

Saturday 25th   Ringwood

*Markets open 10am until 2pm except Winchester which opens at 9am.*

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - ALTON LIBRARY

| Mon                 | Tue              | Wed    | Thu              | Fri              | Sat              |
|---------------------|------------------|--------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 9.30am to<br>1.30pm | 9.30am to<br>5pm | Closed | 9.30am to<br>5pm | 9.30am to<br>5pm | 9.30am to<br>5pm |

There's still time to join the courses at the Library, both starting on 4<sup>th</sup> October.  
See posters on pages 33 & 34.

**BUS TIMETABLE** run by Cresta Coaches of Alresford (01962 773236) only on  
Tuesdays and Fridays (NOT Saturdays) - **SERVICE 208**

|                       |       |       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Alton High Street     | 9.35  | 11.35 | 13.35 |
| Beech Well House Road | 9.43  | 11.43 | 13.43 |
| Medstead War Memorial | 9.49  | 11.49 | 13.49 |
| Bentworth The Star    | 9.55  | 11.55 | 13.55 |
| Alton High Street     | 10.09 | 12.09 |       |



Broadlands  
Equine Therapy & RDA

PONY CLUB

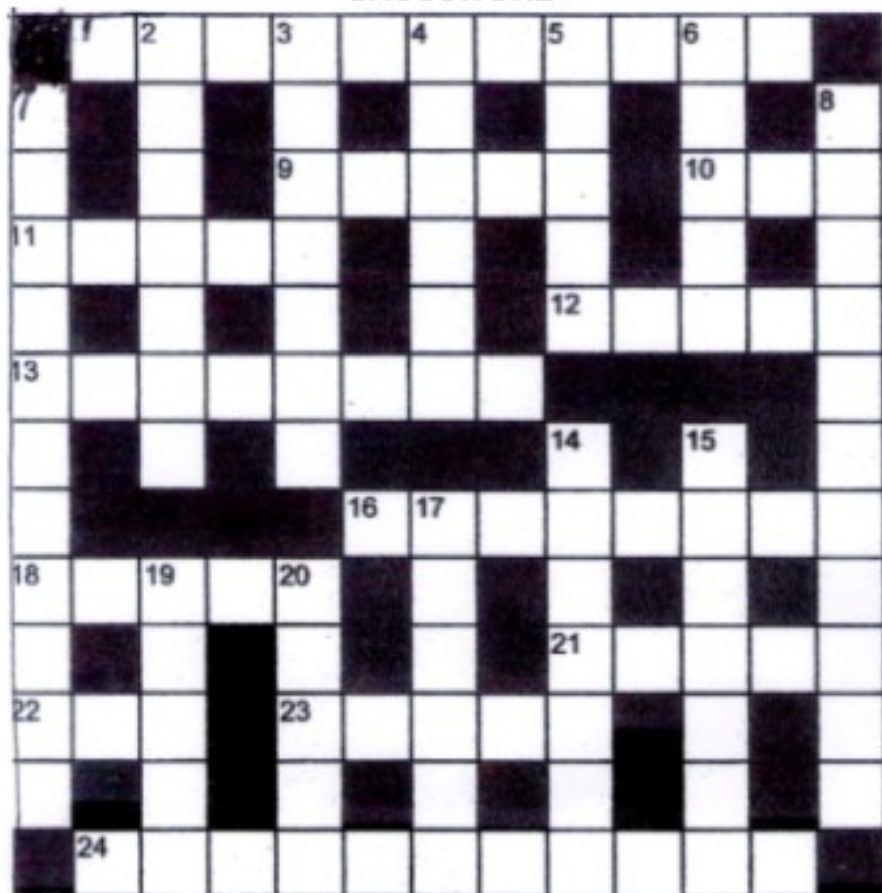
**COULD YOU RAISE FUNDS FOR BROADLANDS?**

IMAGINE THE SENSE OF ACHIEVEMENT YOU'LL FEEL BY PUSHING YOUR LIMITS FOR SUCH A WORTHY CAUSE. WHETHER YOU CHOOSE TO HIKE ACROSS CHALLENGING TERRAINS, TAKE ON A DARING STUNT, OR PARTICIPATE IN A DEMANDING RACE, YOUR CONTRIBUTION WILL MAKE A SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE.

CONTACT US

OFFICE@BROADLANDSGROUPRDA.ORG.UK

# CROSSWORD

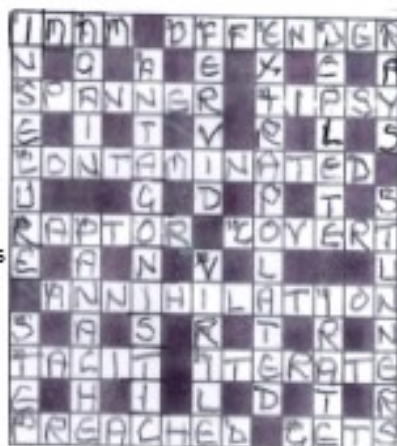


## Clues Across

1. Progress
9. Reflection
10. Suffer
11. Lable
12. Wimp
13. Kitchen tools
16. .... Da Vinci, Artist
18. Score
21. Consumed
22. Nothing
23. Pale
24. Realise

## Clues Down

2. Dribbled Lasciviously
3. Pertaining to fat
4. Small Church
5. Adjoins
6. Closes in on
7. Demanding
8. Children's Leisure spaces
14. Ardent
15. Rasping
17. Avoid
19. Flower, colour
20. Pine for.





# **Join Alton Choral Society**

**Happiness is singing in a Choir!**

ACS is a friendly choir welcoming singers of all abilities and voice types.

We perform regularly and raise much needed funds for local charities

Singing in a choir is also proven to improve health & wellbeing

We perform music from a broad range of musical genres and there is no audition. Rehearsals take place on Wednesday evenings from 7.45pm in The Salvation Army Hall in The Market Square Alton

**For more information please contact us:**

Email: [welcome@altonchoral.org.uk](mailto:welcome@altonchoral.org.uk)

Visit our website: [www.altonchoral.org.uk](http://www.altonchoral.org.uk)

Call: 07715 771489







Hampshire  
County Council

Library Service



## Expressive Watercolours at Alton Library

**Saturdays 4 October - 1 November 10am - 12pm**

Free tuition, £10 materials payable to tutor

Booking is essential, please visit

<https://shop.hants.gov.uk/collections/library-courses> to book  
your place. If you have issues booking online please contact  
branch staff or call 02392 232957





Hampshire  
County Council

Library Service



## Art for Wellbeing at Alton Library

Saturdays 4 October - 1 November 2pm - 4pm

Free tuition, £10 materials fee

Booking is essential, please visit

**[shop.hants.gov.uk/collections/library-courses](https://shop.hants.gov.uk/collections/library-courses)** to book your place. If you have issues booking online please contact branch staff or call **02392 232957**



# **AN EVENING WITH**

**FLANDERS  
& SWANN**

**HINGE &  
BRACKET**



**ST ANDREW'S CHURCH  
MEDSTEAD GU34 5LX**

**4th October 2025 at 7pm**

Tickets £15 from

[medsteadchurchbookings@gmail.com](mailto:medsteadchurchbookings@gmail.com)

or 07709 553804

harvestchurch



## **LIFE-CONTROLLING HABIT?**

**SMOKING**

**GAMBLING**

**SHOPPING**

**OVER-EATING**

**DRINKING**

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

**ETC...**

# **Fresh Start**

**Support to help you  
discover freedom.**

Join a friendly group and learn the  
skills you need to change your habits  
for good.

**Next course starts Wednesday 8th October, 7:30 - 9pm at Alton Maltings**

Book your free place by contacting Mark  
07769 030913 [freshstart@harvestchurch.uk](mailto:freshstart@harvestchurch.uk)



[www.harvestchurch.uk](http://www.harvestchurch.uk)  
[connect@harvestchurch.uk](mailto:connect@harvestchurch.uk)

# Screen by the Green

Fri 10 Oct

## *The* Penguin Lessons



[beechvillage.org.uk/events](http://beechvillage.org.uk/events)

# DEER

# MANAGEMENT



## IN THE ENGLISH COUNTRYSIDE

Saturday 11th October @ 5pm  
St Mary's Church, Lasham

### FUNDRAISING EVENT

HOSTED BY:



Ticket Price: **£10.50**

Includes: Venison  
Burger & Brew

(tea, coffee, soft drink)

TOPICS INCLUDED:

Deer Species • Why Herd Management  
Venison Outlook • HAD Police Volunteer

**BUY YOUR TICKET AT:**

<https://app.tickettailor.com/events/stmaryschurchlasham/1805146>

All proceeds to St Mary's Church, Lasham



**EVERYONE** is **INVITED**  
to **COME TOGETHER**



to build **Community &  
Local Environmental Action**  
in the face  
of Climate Change



**CELEBRATE** how local action is  
making a difference in the big picture.



**CONNECT** with others working  
towards similar goals.



**EXPLORE** new ideas and plans for  
the year ahead.



Thursday, Oct 16  
7:30pm - 9:30pm  
Alton Maltings  
(Wesley Room)

Contact: [altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com)



# *Alton Choral Society*

## Music For An Autumn Afternoon

*The concert is in aid of Alton Food Bank*

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October, 4pm  
St Lawrence Church Alton

*Featuring a variety of choral music and solos  
from Brahms' 'Liebeslieder' to My Fair Lady*

*Tickets £12 available from Ticket Source\* or on the  
door . Under 16s free.*



*\*See: [www.altonchoral.org.uk](http://www.altonchoral.org.uk) for booking link  
or phone: 01420 85994 for more information*







# St Andrew's Church

## Autumn

# JUMBLE SALE!

Saturday 25th October from 1.30 - 3.30  
St Andrew's Church Hall, Medstead

Items can be delivered  
between 10 - Midday

**ONLY** good quality used goods.  
Please, please NO unsaleable items.

Enquiries

[medsteadchurchbookings@gmail.com](mailto:medsteadchurchbookings@gmail.com)

07709 553804

**National  
Theatre  
Live**

**Sat  
25  
Oct**



**IMELDA STAUNTON**  
**MRS. WARREN'S PROFESSION**

BY **BERNARD SHAW** DIRECTED BY **DOMINIC COOKE** WITH **BESSIE CARTER**

**Screen by the Green**

**beechvillage.org.uk**



# Gigs by the Green

Sat 15 Nov



[beechvillage.org.uk/events](https://beechvillage.org.uk/events)

# LE T'S BUILD

For more info contact  
Rev David Chattell  
[David@potr-alton.co.uk](mailto:David@potr-alton.co.uk)

# GO D'S STORIES



**4pm**

With songs, a Bible  
story, **lots of**  
**Lego® creating!**  
And drinks and pizza!

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August**  
**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September**  
**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October**  
**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November**

Holy Rood  
Church,  
Holybourne

designed by  freepik.com



## ALTON WALKING CHURCH FOR MEN

**Friday 3rd October 10.30am**  
**meeting at The Hawkley Inn**  
**in Hawkley**

**A gentle 90 minute walk with time**  
**to pause and reflect. Refreshments**  
**after at the pub**

**ROBIN KEMP**

[familykemp@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:familykemp@tiscali.co.uk)

07957 653 403



Bemworth, Lasham and Shalden Parish



Grief is hard.  
Death can impact  
all of life.

The Bereavement  
*Journey*  
a place to talk

7 Sessions of films  
and discussion  
**for *anyone* bereaved *anytime***

Topics include:

- Attachment, separation and loss
- The pain and responses of grief
- Anger and guilt
- Coping with others' reactions
- Delayed and suppressed grief
- Adjusting to change
- Moving forward healthily
- Faith questions – a Christian perspective (optional)

To find out more visit:  
**[thebereavementjourney.org](http://thebereavementjourney.org)**

Running soon:

**Monday evenings**  
**7.30pm - 9.30pm**  
**6th Oct - 17th Nov**  
**Alton Maltings Centre.**

Suggested voluntary contribution  
£20 (for the whole course).

To book your place, or to find out  
more about it, email  
[bereavement@potr-alton.co.uk](mailto:bereavement@potr-alton.co.uk)  
or phone 07514280362



*Benefice of the  
Resurrection and GAP*

# **HARVEST & HARMONY**

Please come and join us for Lunch  
and some singing

At : Old Park Farm , Beech GU34  
4AP

On: Sunday 12th October, 12 noon  
Cost £5.00 with all proceeds going to  
GAP

Please contact Sarah  
email [sarahneish65@gmail.com](mailto:sarahneish65@gmail.com) or  
call 07761933031 to book your place



# All Souls

## Service of Remembrance

St Lawrence Church

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 4pm

A short, reflective service where we  
remember by name, our loved ones who  
have died.



## SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2025

### BENTWORTH LASHAM MEDSTEAD SHALDEN

#### 5th OCTOBER –THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY P 22 Green

|                       |  |           |           |          |
|-----------------------|--|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Harvest Festival      |  | 10.00a.m. |           |          |
| Parish Communion (CW) |  |           | 11.00a.m. |          |
| Harvest Festival      |  |           |           | 6.00p.m. |

#### 12th OCTOBER- THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY P 23 Gr

|                                              |           |  |          |  |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------|--|----------|--|
| Holy Communion (BPC)                         |           |  | 8.00a.m. |  |
| Harvest Festival with<br>Holy Communion (CW) | 10.00a.m. |  |          |  |

#### 19th OCTOBER – THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY P 24 Gr

|                       |  |           |           |          |
|-----------------------|--|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Holy Communion (CW)   |  | 11.00a.m. |           |          |
| Parish Communion (CW) |  |           | 11.00a.m. |          |
| Evensong              |  |           |           | 6.00p.m. |

#### 26th OCTOBER - THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY Green

|                                        |           |  |          |  |
|----------------------------------------|-----------|--|----------|--|
| Holy Communion (CW)                    | 10.00a.m. |  |          |  |
| Cafe Church (in the church hall)       |           |  | 11.00am  |  |
| Family Service (in the church<br>hall) |           |  | 4.00p.m. |  |

### POTR Services for October 2025

#### 5th October

8am BCP Holy Communion St Lawrence  
10.30am POTR Altogether St Lawrence

#### 12th October

9.15am Communion Service St Peter's  
9.30am Morning Worship - Holy Rood  
Harvest  
10.30am Communion Service St Lawrence  
Harvest  
3pm Afternoon Worship All Saints  
6pm Evening Prayer for vacancy St Lawrence

#### 19th October

9.30am Communion Service Holy Rood  
10.30am Communion Service All Saints  
10.30am Morning Worship St Lawrence  
6pm Choral Evensong St Lawrence

#### 26th October

9.15am Communion Service St Peter's  
10.30am Communion Service St Lawrence  
4pm LEGO church Holy Rood  
6pm Evening Worship St Lawrence

**Every Wednesday** : Holy Communion 10am All Saints Church