

Dear friends,
As I write, it is once again raining outside. I am sure that we have been holding in our prayers those whose homes have been flooded during the past weeks. I am sure that you have also seen pictures of the Syrian refugees who are in camps throughout Europe. We may feel helpless when we see these situations but we can help by supporting agencies when they ask for funds, and also with our prayers.

February is one of the coldest months of the winter but once through it we can begin to think about spring and new life. In the church before we celebrate Easter and Christ's resurrection we go into a kind of winter. Lent begins on the 10th February with Ash Wednesday.

This has historically been a time when individuals think more deeply about their relationship with Jesus and their spiritual lives. Many people still decide to give up certain foods or drink to remind them that they are like Jesus in his time in the wilderness, and are wanting to be with God and to grow in their faith. Chocolate and alcohol are two favourite things from which we many abstain from during Lent.

This time of preparation, change and growth should not been seen as a negative experience, concentrating on the difficulties we may have in keeping to our pledge of abstaining from the things we enjoy. Instead we need to

**wanting to
be with
God and
to grow in
faith**

enter Lent in a positive frame of mind, asking our Lord to meet us each day as we spend more time with him, showing us how much he wants to relate to us and love us. This may go on to showing us where we may need to change things in our lives, or where he may want us to love and help others.

Years ago people took Lent very seriously and on Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day) would eat up all the fat, eggs and flour in their homes. I hope you will be able to make pancakes on the Tuesday, and then come to church on Ash Wednesday. Both services will include the opportunity for us to receive a sign of the cross on our foreheads in ash made from last year's palm crosses. This is called the imposition of ashes. This is our modern day equivalent of wearing sackcloth on our bodies and ash on our heads throughout Lent. Many people will, instead of giving up anything, decide to pray more, devote more time to Spiritual reading or try to perform a good deed every day. Whatever you decide to do through Lent I hope it is a positive experience and that you come to celebrate Easter full of love, joy and peace.

With love in Christ,

Sandra

All Saints Church Services

Sunday 7th February Next before Lent

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.30am Parish Communion
- 6.00pm Healing Service

Ash Wednesday 10th February

- 11.00am Said Communion
with imposition of ashes.
- 7.30pm Parish Communion
with imposition of ashes.

Sunday 14th February – Lent 1

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.30am. Family Praise
- 6.00pm Sung Evensong

Sunday 21st February – Lent 2

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.30am Parish Communion
- 6.00pm Praise Service

Saturday 20th February

3.30pm Messy Church celebration in church hall.

Sunday 28th February

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.30am Family Communion
- 6.00pm Sung Evensong

*Weekly Thursday
Communion at
11am. A Said Prayer
Book Communion
Service.*

*Morning and
Evening Prayer are
said daily at
8.30am and
5.00pm
respectively.*

*The Church is open
for private prayer. If
you wish to light a
candle, there is a
candle stand in the
Sanctuary of the
Chapel of Healing
and Unity.*

Healing Service

The next healing Service is at 6pm on Sunday 7th February.

This gentle reflective service is for all who want to receive the Lord's healing love for physical, mental, emotional or spiritual healing.

Further information contact Vicar 9225 5490

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

The Church of the Sacred Heart and St Peter the Apostle
356 London Road,
Waterlooville,
Hampshire PO7 7SR
Parish Priest: Fr Kevin Bidgood,
(023) 9226 2289
frkbidgood@hotmail.com
www.waterlooville-catholic.org.uk

MASS TIMES

Saturday Mass

Vigil: 6.15 pm

Sunday Masses

10.30 am Children's Liturgy

6.30 pm Folk Mass

Please refer to Newsletter for weekday Mass times.



RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5:30 pm (or by appointment)

Monday 9.30 am

Hi Everybody,

Lent begins very early this year, so I thought I'd say a little bit about what it means for Christians. The word 'Lent' comes from an ancient Anglo-Saxon word 'lencten' – which simply means the lengthening of the days! However, for Christians it has a much greater significance!

Lent in 2016 will start on Wednesday, the 10th of February and will continue until Maundy Thursday, the 24th of March.

In Western Christianity Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. The six Sundays in Lent are not counted among the forty days of Lent because each Sunday represents a 'mini-Easter', a celebration of Jesus' victory over sin and death.

The traditional purpose of Lent is the preparation of the believer through prayer, penance, almsgiving, and self-denial for the celebration of Christ's resurrection on Easter Day. Its

continued on next page

purpose is heightened in the annual commemoration of Holy Week, marking the death and resurrection of Jesus, which recalls the events of the New Testament when Jesus is crucified on Good Friday, which then culminates in the celebration on Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

During Lent, many of the faithful commit to fasting or giving up certain types of luxuries as a form of penitence. The Stations of the Cross, a devotional commemoration of Christ's carrying the Cross and of his execution, are often observed.

Roman Catholic churches remove flowers from their altars, while crucifixes, religious statues and other elaborate religious symbols are often veiled in violet fabrics in solemn observance of the events of Holy Week.

So, have a good Lent and a wonderful Easter!

Father Kevin

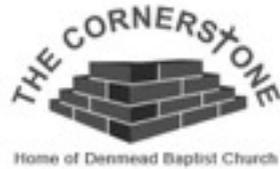
Bereavement Group

There is a monthly 'Tea and Friendship' afternoon for anyone recently bereaved.

This is an informal time when people can meet others, have tea and make friends. We meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month between 2-4pm in the church hall.

For more information please phone the Church office 9226 8757 or Merrill Partridge 9226 6159.

A thousand visitors a month can't be wrong!
Come and experience for yourself our spacious and comfortable



Cornerstone Community Lounge

An ideal venue for a variety of occasions:

- Hold your celebration or corporate events here. Hold your class or interest group meeting.
- Choose from a delicious menu to suit your requirements and budget. Or just come in and visit us to see what we have to offer. Why not pop into our cosy coffee shop and ice cream parlour.



Treat yourself and your family to hot and cold beverages, freshly made hot or cold snack, Italian Gelato or a slice of cake. Our friendly staff will be happy to serve you.

Denmead Baptist Church is a small, friendly fellowship who have worshipped in the village since 1717. In 2014 we purchased the Mead End Public House, to convert it to a community centre. Since then we have found that our facilities are very popular with many groups and individuals.

Our Sunday services are informal and incorporate a worship band, children's activities and Bible based teaching for the adults and young people. We enjoy social times and together have worked hard to enable The Cornerstone to be established.

Our regular activities are listed on our website at:
www.denmeadbaptistchurch.org.uk

Contact us via E-mail at admin@denmeadbaptistchurch.org.uk

Telephone on 023 9307 8372

Visit us at 22 Mead End Road, Denmead, PO7 6PZ, for more information.

Women's World Day of Prayer

This year's service will be held in All Saints' Church, Denmead, on Friday, 4th March 2016 at 7.30pm. It has been prepared this time by the Christian women of Cuba and the theme is 'Receive children. Receive me.'



It will stress that everyone is a child of God and all are equally worthy of our love and respect. As always, the service is open to all - men, women and children, of all denominations - to come and share in worship that encompasses the entire world in one day, starting at sunrise in the island of Samoa in the Pacific Ocean and continuing till sunset off the coast of American Samoa, some 35 hours later.

Do come and join us at this special world-wide service.

Messy Church resumes for the New Year on **Saturday 20th February 3.30pm in the Church Hall.**

The afternoon includes stories, craft, singing and tea. All families welcome.

For further information call Sandra, the Vicar, 9225 5490



Easter Lilies for All Saints'

Lent has come hard on the heels of Christmas, beginning on 10th February.



As we approach Easter, if anyone would like to make a donation towards the cost of the lilies in memory of loved-ones please contact Edna Goodman on 9225 5913.

There are no flowers in church during Lent so the beautiful lilies are very welcome on Easter Day.

Table Top Sale

**At the Church Hall on Saturday 19th March,
from 10.00am to 12 noon**

– in aid of the Church Sanctuary Guild Flower Fund.

Come and browse and find the bargains. Refreshments will be available throughout the morning.

If you would like to book a table for your own personal use or for your charity or organisation, please contact Carolyn Keyzor on 023 9235 1209 or e-mail keyzors2@ntlworld.com

**Large tables (6') will cost £10, and small tables (3'),
£5. Set up time is from 9.00 am on the morning.**

ASC = All Saints' Church	Contact	B.Wright, 9223 3248
CH = Church Hall	Contact	B.Wright, 9223 3248
HR = Heath Room	Contact	S.Thomas 9235 5993
MH = Memorial Hall	Contact	Mr R Bainbridge MBE, 9225 6132
OS = Old School (Community Centre)	Contact	Tony Daniells, 9224 7947
PC = Denmead Parish Council	Contact	

D = Daily
W = Weekly
F = Fortnightly
M = Monthly
Events occurring Daily and Weekly
are only mentioned once - i.e. in the
first week of the month.

Please note:

- The times stated here may be the times for which the halls are booked. Please check other publicity for the times of the event.
- To ensure the correct details are shown for your organisation's event included in these Diary pages, please email your meeting times and details to Gill Barge (denmeadbarges@aol.com) or send them to her at Fairview, School Lane, Denmead PO7 6LY. Thank you.

Mon 1	CH	Zumba Fitness Class	9.30am	W
		Breathe Again	11.30am	W
		Slimming World	5.30 & 7.30pm	W
	MH	Denmead Pre School	9.00-3.00pm	D
		Wednesday	9.00-12.30pm	
		TS Alacrity	6.45pm	W
	OS	Old Schoolhouse Preschool	9.00-3.00pm	D
		- Friday -	9.00-Noon	
		Mumbaba	9.30-10.30am	W
		Painting in Watercolours	10.00-Noon	W
		Pilates	11.00-Noon	W
		Smart Fitness-Circuit Training	6.00-8.00pm	W
		Table Tennis	7.00-9.00pm	W
		Denmead Bridge Club	7.00-10.00pm	W
	SHQ	Busy Bees Preschool	9.00-3.00pm	D
		Friday	9.00-Noon	
		Merlin Cub Pack	6.30-8.00pm	W
		At the Forest of Bere – Knit & Bitch	7.00-9.00pm	W

Village Diary

		All abilities are welcome		
Tue	2	CH All Join Together	11.15-Noon	W
		-Music group for under 5s		
		Exercise after Stroke	2.00-3.00pm	W
		3 rd Brownies	5.45pm	W
		Denmead Horticultural Society	7.30pm	M
		HR Coffee & a Chat–All welcome	9.30-Noon	2x
		MH Archery	7.00pm	W
		OS Creative Play	9.30-11.00am	W
		- lots of fun for Under 5s		
		Denmead Creative Craft	10.00-Noon	M
		Tuesday Pilates Class	5.30-7.30pm	W
		Body Focus	7.00-8.00pm	W
		Chapter Reading Group	7.30-9.30pm	M
		Downland Singers	7.45-10.15pm	W
		Denmead Brass Band	8.00-10.00pm	W
		SHQ Spitfire Scouts	6.30-8.30pm	W
Wed	3	CH Pilates Class	10.00-11.00am	W
		2 nd Denmead Rainbows	4.15pm	W
		1 st Denmead Brownies	5.45pm	W
		HR Tennis Club AGM	7.00-9.00pm	
		The Cornerstones NOAH'S ARK – Pre-school Children & Carers group	10.00-11.30am	W
		MH Denmead Afternoon WI	2.00pm	M
		OS Zumba Gold	9.30-10.15am	W
		Table Tennis	10.00-Noon	W
		Creative Quilters	10.00-Noon	F
		Tai Chi	1.30-2.30pm	W
		Patchwork Pals	3.00-6.00pm	W
		Smart Fitness-Circuit Training	6.00-7.00pm	W
		Breakaway Quilters	7.00-10.00pm	W
		Parish Council – Finance & Admin	7.30pm	W
		SHQ Concorde Cubs	6.30-8.00pm	W
		At the Forest of Bere – Knit & Bitch	10.00-Noon	W
		All abilities are welcome		
		Church Car Park Mobile Library	1.30-4.00pm	W
Thu	4	CH Jiggly Wigglers	9.30am	W

		Keep Fit	2.00pm	W
		1 st Denmead Rainbows	4.15pm	W
		2 nd Denmead Brownies	5.30pm	W
		CH/HR Guides & Rangers	7.00pm	W
		HR Coffee & a Chat–All welcome	9.30-Noon	2x
		Sanctuary Guild AGM	2.00pm	
		UR Exploring Christianity	7.30pm	W
		MH Badminton	7.30pm	W
		OS Zumba	9.30-10.30am	W
		Table Tennis	9.00-11.00am	W
		Senior Citizens Lunch Club	12.30-1.30pm	W
		CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU	1.00-3.00pm	W
		Rimor Fitness	5.30-6.30pm	W
		SHQ Bere Forest Beavers	6.15-7.30pm	W
		At the Cornerstone Denmead WI Belles Meeting	7.30pm	M
Fri	5	CH Mother & Toddler Group	9.30am	W
		Chair Exercises	2.30pm	W
		Youthmove	5.15pm	W
		OS Mumbaba Family Singing Group	9.30-10.30am	W
		U3A Art Class	10.00-Noon	W
		Denmead Drama	4.00-7.30pm	W
		Denmead Dogs at Play	7.00-8.00pm	W
		Rose Dog Club	7.30-8.30pm	W
		SHQ Vulcan Scouts	7.00-9.00pm	W
		Phoenix Explorers	7.00-9.00pm	W
Sat	6	HR Councillor's Advice	10.00-Noon	M
		OS Southern Arts Academy	9.45-11.15am	W
Sun	7	HR Confirmation Class	4.00-5.00pm	W
		MH Karate	5.00pm	W
		OS Denmead Brass Band Juniors	9.15-10.15am	W
		Denmead Brass Band	10.30-12.30pm	W
Mon	8	HR Denmead Village Association Committee	7.30-9.30pm	
		At the Forest of Bere – Knit & Bitch	7.30pm	W
		All abilities are welcome		
		At The Forest of Bere The Royal British Legion	8.00pm	M
		Meeting - Hambledon & District Branch		
Tue	9	CH Gold Star Dancing	8.00-9.00pm	W

Village Diary

	OS	Coffee & Chat	1.30-3.30pm	W
		Denmead Evening WI Craft Evening	7.00-9.00pm	M
	At the Chairmakers, Waterlooville		Noon -3.00pm	
		Probus Club - monthly lunch and talk		
		by guest speaker. Details from Colin Cox on 02392 594112.		
Wed 10	CH	Meet & Eat	12.30-2.00pm	M
		British Koi Karp Society	7.30pm	M
	MH	Floral Workshop	7.30pm	M
	OS	Denmead Art	10.00-Noon	F
		Parish Council-Highways & GP	7.30pm	
		Church Car Park Mobile Library	1.30-4.00pm	W
Fri 12	CH	LENT LUNCHES	12.30pm	W
Sun 14	MH	Archery	9.00am	W
Mon 15	HR	DHS Committee Meeting	7.30pm	W
Tue 16	HR	Mothers' Union	7.30pm	
	OS	Denmead Reading Circle	2.15-4.15pm	M
Wed 17	CH	Flower Club	2.00pm	M
	MH	Evening WI - A Sainsbury's Presentation	7.30pm	M
	OS	Parish Council – Planning	7.30pm	
		Church Car Park Mobile Library	1.30-4.00pm	W
Thu 18	CH	SAVE THE CHILDREN LUNCH	12.30pm	
Sat 20	CH	MESSY CHURCH	3.30-5.30pm	M
		Families, carers & children fun afternoon		
		-see main notice for details		
Mon 22	CH	Koi Carp Committee Meeting	8.00-10.00pm	
Wed 24	HR	Bereavement Support Group	2-4.00pm	M
	OS	Parish Council – Main Council	7.30pm	
		At White Wings House Golden Years Club	2.00pm	M
		- Contact 023 92261428		
Fri 26	OS	Creative Quilters	1.00-4.00pm	W
		Denmead Conservative Branch AGM	7.30p.m.	
		Details from Janet Nobes, 92 255981		
Sat 27	CH	Waterlooville Rotary	6.00-11.00pm	OS
		FILM NIGHT – 'THE MARTIAN'	7.30pm	M
Sun 28	CH	Rowan's Support Group	11.30-2.30pm	

Coming Soon

Saturday 12th March Church Hall Denmead Conservative Branch Spring Sale
10am to 12 noon. Details from Margaret Raffle 92 268096.



From the Registers

Baptisms

6th February Stanley Michael Twomey

7th February Ella Olivia Daisy Watson

21st February Sophia Lerryn Bennett

Funerals

January 20th Cynthia Barbara Parker

January 22nd Carolyn Ryan

January 22nd Terence (Terry) Rogers

Joyce Jane Robinson

Joyce was born and lived in Denmead in her early life. When her father died she and her mother went to live with her aunt Dory and husband. In the second world war Joyce was a land girl, driving tractors and undertaking all farm work. After the war she continued working on the land, at Houghtons farm, until she married.

Joyce met Ted her husband and they married in November 1955. Joyce was married from her aunt Dory's home. They moved into a bungalow in Martin Avenue which became their home until Ted died, and up until 18 months ago, when Joyce needed more care. She went into Woodlands rest home.

Ted and Joyce loved Bingo and they would often win prizes. In those days the prize was not money but household items. They

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won two or three canteens of cutlery which were given to other members of the family. Joyce was houseproud and her home and garden were a picture. She loved flowers, was a good cook and always looked smart. Ted loved horses but Joyce loved donkeys and even sponsored a donkey with a society that looked after them.

Joyce was very good with Maureen's mum when she became ill. She would go and sit with Harty who lived in The Heath and she was a tremendous help to Harty and Maureen

In later years 1978 onwards Joyce and Maureen would go to different farms and help with the potato picking, picking daffodils and also strawberry picking. Joyce also helped Maureen to decorate her new home in Jubilee Road. In fact Joyce was a second mum to Maureen and grandmother to Sarah and Benjamin. Joyce's wages like many others at that time would be paid weekly in a little brown envelope. The grandchildren knew that she would give them some money from her envelope when she saw them, even though Maureen told her not to. She loved to spoil the grandchildren.

As time went on Joyce slowed up and needed more help. Maureen would take her shopping twice a week which she enjoyed but gradually this changed to Maureen doing the shopping for her. In the last 18 months of her life Joyce lived in Woodlands residential home where she was wonderfully looked after. They celebrated her 95th birthday with a wonderful cake and all the staff visiting her in her room.

Sadly Joyce died on the 2nd December 2015. She will be greatly missed by the family. God bless Joyce.

Denmead Evening WI

At our January meeting on the 19th we welcomed Denise Quinney, a Historical Interpreter, who presented her 'Cabinet of Curiosities' and was dressed for the period as a medieval peasant. She provided us with a most interesting, entertaining, and fascinating insight into the world of Medieval artefacts, beliefs and way of life.

At our monthly meeting on 17th February we hope to receive a visit from Sainsburys, Waterlooville, when we will be treated to a cheese & wine evening.

Our monthly craft evenings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, but have been suspended for the winter months and will recommence on 8th March. These are held at the Community Centre in School Lane and each participant makes a small contribution towards the room hire, tea/coffee & biscuits. Various items are made each month but members can just choose to bring whatever craft they are currently

making or just enjoy a relaxed 'knit & natter' social evening.

At each of our members' regular monthly meetings we hold two competitions – the first is an item which is loosely connected to the speaker's subject, and the second is a flower from our gardens. These entries are usually judged by the guest speaker that evening. Every entry receives 3 points with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd receiving 10, 9 or 8 points respectively. When individual members achieve a total of 25 points they receive a small prize.

The WI is all about inspiring women. It is a rich source of experiences, knowledge and skills passed down through generations and updated every day. It offers women the opportunity to make friends, learn new skills, and campaign on wide-ranging issues.

You would receive a very warm welcome at our meetings. We meet at the Memorial Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. For more information see www.thewi.org.uk

Irene Woodings 023 9226 3465

Denmead Community Centre

Denmead Film Nights

This month's film on Saturday 27th February at 7.30pm is "The Martian" (12A) 144mins. Ridley Scott's space adventure about an astronaut accidentally left behind on Mars and the attempt to rescue him. Director on fine form and excellent performances from Matt Damon, Jessica Chastain, Sean Bean, Kristen Wig – and a host of other familiar faces. This really is a Robinson Crusoe story, very well acted by Damon, beautifully photographed and with a director (at 78) very much back on form. Mark Kermode: "Most important, however, is just how much fun Scott seems to be

having with The Martian. ...this revels in the down-to-earth details of making a meal out of a potato when you've run out of ketchup, and the sheer absurdist pleasure of watching human beings outwit the universe with Sellotape and string." Highly recommended. Other spring films include "The Lady in the Van" on the 26th March and "In the Heart of the Sea" on the 30th April.

If you would like to receive our new electronic newsletter detailing the events and activities held at the Community Centre, just visit our website www.denmeadca.com and click "join the email list".

Denmead Home Visiting Group

If you are lonely, sick or housebound or would just like someone to visit you we have a confidential visiting team and one of our members would willingly come, visit and spend time listening to you. Please phone us on 9226 8757.

If the answerphone is on leave a message and we will phone you back.

CAB

Q Out of the blue I have received a threatening letter from a company I owed money to many years ago. My friend told me I shouldn't have to pay it if the debt is too old – is this true?

A In law, a lender has a set amount of time to take you to court for a debt. If a lender doesn't start court action within the time limit, they usually can't force you to pay back the money. The debt is then known as statute barred.

If it's been around six years (five years in Scotland) or more since you've paid any money towards the debt or written to the lender about it, it's important to check what to do next before you contact the lender. This is because if you say the wrong thing, it may affect your right to argue that you don't owe the money.

You should check whether a debt is statute barred in the following situations:

- before you contact a lender to arrange repayment of a debt
- if you're taken to court for money you owe.

If the lender does get in touch with you after six years (five years in Scotland), you should not agree that you owe any money or offer to make payments until you've taken advice from a specialist debt adviser. This will help you to avoid accidentally admitting you owe the

For more information or contact details of your nearest CAB, go to the Citizens Advice public website at www.citizensadvice.org.uk – please note you can also use the webchat option in most enquiry areas during working hours.

Denmead Outreach

**Denmead Community Centre,
Thurs 1pm-3pm**

Copyright Citizens Advice. For the most up-to-date version, please visit their public advice site at www.citizensadvice.org.uk/

**CAB – The charity
for your community**

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money when you don't. Once you admit you owe the money, the time limit may no longer apply.

If you think it's been six years (five years in Scotland) or more since you paid any money towards your debt, you should get advice about what to do before you have any contact with the lender. You can get advice from your local Citizens Advice Bureau. To search for details of your nearest CAB, including those that can give advice by email, click on nearest CAB.

Denmead Horticultural Society

Our first evening meeting of the year is on Tuesday 2nd February, 7.30pm at the Church Hall. Cliff Thompson will be presenting a travelogue on his visits to Patagonia in search of cactus. As well as the plants he will be showing us the places, people and stunning landscapes he has visited in this remote part of the world. Visitors (£2) and new members are always welcome to our meetings.

Looking ahead, our Spring Show is on 2nd April at the church hall. If you would like to see what the classes are and start



planning your exhibits, schedules are available in Parkers Hardware and the Community Centre. There are classes for spring bulbs, vegetables, handicrafts, photography, floral art and baking – now is the ideal time to make some marmalade and save a jar to put in the show.

Liz Williams (9226 9642)

email: liz@greensleeves.eclipse.co.uk

District Report

The Silver Hill project (redevelopment of Winchester City centre) rumbles on. The developer, SWI (Henderson) have been granted permission to appeal against the Judicial Review that declared the 2014 edition of the refurbishment plan null and void. The timescale for Henderson's appeal to be heard is currently unknown but will almost certainly be outside the date, 19th March 2016, by which time the City Council must have actioned the compulsory purchase order for the city centre properties involved in the redevelopment, so the probability of the council terminating their current agreement with Henderson is becoming more and more likely. In the meantime the independent report commissioned by the council into what went wrong with the original redevelopment contract is now promised for January. This will make very interesting reading and will probably require significant up-dating of council procedures.

The other two major proposed developments within the city, Station Approach and the replacement of the River Park Leisure Centre, are both progressing through the design concept phase. At this time both outline proposals have supporters and objectors in equal numbers.

A measure of success for city centres is the recorded footfalls (number of visitors). Generally across the country footfall has reduced by 3%, but for Winchester the footfall numbers have increased by 7.2% over the past year, and by 37% over the past 6 years. These figures don't just happen, they are a direct result of a lot of hard work by the council, the business fraternity and many other people over a long period of time.

The HIOW (Hampshire and Isle of Wight) combined authority's response to the government's Devolution proposal

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(devolvement of legislative powers from Whitehall to Local Authorities) has been well received by the government and discussion on the details is now taking place. Whilst the government is keen to see combined authorities accept a commitment to providing increased numbers of new houses the individual councils remain committed to the housing numbers approved and agreed in their local plans.

In conclusion, Winchester has recently accepted and housed the first Syrian refugee family. The intention is that the council will house up to four Syrian families per year.

On behalf of Kirk Phillips, Mike Read and Patricia Stallard

Denmead Conservative Branch

The Denmead Conservative Branch of the Meon Valley Conservative Constituency Annual General Meeting will be on Friday 26th February at Denmead Community Centre at 7.30p.m. Members and helpers are invited to attend.

I would like to remind you that The Spring Sale is on Saturday 12th March at the Denmead Church Hall from 10a.m. to 12 noon.

Details of future events from Mrs Margaret Raffle 9226 8096.

Janet Nobes, Secretary