



*All Saints Church, Denmead*

The Parish

# CHRONICLE

Church & Community News & Events  
February 2025 50p



## THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS DENMEAD

[www.allsaintsdenmead.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsdenmead.org.uk)  
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### Parish Office

Parish Administrator: Karen Rose, 023 9226 8757  
 or email: [parish.admin@allsaintsdenmead.org.uk](mailto:parish.admin@allsaintsdenmead.org.uk)

Parish Office Hours: Mon, Tue, Thu and Fri: 9am - 1pm. Wednesdays: Closed

### Vicar

Rev. Emma Racklyeft  
 email: [vicar@allsaintsdenmead.org.uk](mailto:vicar@allsaintsdenmead.org.uk) 023 9226 2647  
 The Vicarage, Ludcombe, Denmead, Waterlooville, Hants, PO7 6TL

### Curate

Rev. Buffy Langdown  
 email: [curate@allsaintsdenmead.org.uk](mailto:curate@allsaintsdenmead.org.uk) 07747 819918

### Churchwardens

Amanda Hillyard, 07808 198827, Mike Gaskin, 07734 325284

### Youth and Family Community Leader (part time)

Lewis Jones, email: [youth@allsaintsdenmead.org.uk](mailto:youth@allsaintsdenmead.org.uk) 07780 981235

### Safeguarding Officer

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### All Saints Church Parish Chronicle

Editor: Steve Venn, email: [chronicle@allsaintsdenmead.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@allsaintsdenmead.org.uk)

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### Contributions for the Parish Chronicle

Please submit articles by email: [chronicle@allsaintsdenmead.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@allsaintsdenmead.org.uk) by 10th of the preceding month or deliver to All Saints Church Office by 5th of the preceding month, clearly marked "Chronicle".

For enquiries phone Steve Venn: 07803 595915.

*Cover photo: Rushmere Pond, Steve Venn*

*If you would like to submit a photo for possible use on our front cover, please email: [chronicle@allsaintsdenmead.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@allsaintsdenmead.org.uk)*

## Practicing the Way...

Dear Friends,

Over the last year I've been working my way through the Shardlake series of historical mystery novels by C. J. Sansom, set in 16th century Tudor England. The series features barrister Matthew Shardlake, who, while navigating the religious reforms of Henry VIII, solves crime and tries to avoid getting caught up in political intrigue!

If you like this sort of genre, each book is a great read. What struck me is everyday life in Tudor England, for many was limited, certainly in comparison to what we regard as normal now. While some people travelled over continents on pilgrimage or crusade, many people never ventured more than a few miles from where they were born. There was little leisure, so there were few leisure activities - no shopping malls or cinemas or restaurants or sports stadiums. Life was about work and home life, set against a background of poverty, plagues and a shorter life span. To stop their days merging into one grey mass of toil, however, society had a lively rhythm of seasons and festivals. Our word "holiday" comes from the Holy Days that peppered their year. Days such as Shrove Tuesday, Mothering Sunday, Passiontide etc.

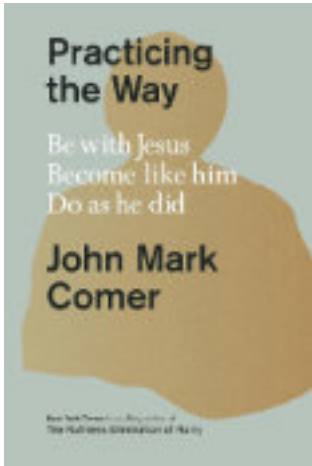
However, fast forward to 21st century Britain and it feels like we've travelled to the opposite end of the spectrum. Overall, life today is very busy, we can travel easily, at home or abroad, we have endless choices and decisions in so many areas including food, leisure, clothing and home decor. Life has become broader and wider. Our working lives and roles are harder, longer and more stressful. And truth be known we've become so swamped with pressures and demands we've lost our patterns, rhythms and structures. For many of us, we've lost our Holy Days or special moments!

Last month I encouraged us all to spend some time resting and reflecting, at the start of this new year. As I've stopped and reflected, I've recognised a need to re-establish some patterns,

*...a need to  
re-establish  
some  
patterns,  
rhythms  
and  
structures*

rhythms and structures in my own life that would allow me to focus again on Jesus and my relationship with God.

I have discovered a wonderful book called 'Practicing the Way' written by John Mark Comer. This book encourages us to spend time with Jesus, that we might become more like Him, and then do as he did. It is a compelling read – deeply challenging and highly inspiring.



With great insight, John Mark Comer returns us to an ancient custom, that of the Rule of Life. The Rule of Life was first established by the early desert fathers. A Rule of Life creates a framework that shapes our daily, weekly and monthly structures, weaving in patterns of prayer, worship, love and service that deepen and grow our faith in God. A Rule of Life allows for a variety and texture to our hours and days, centring us on Jesus. I highly commend this book as a great resource in discovering the beautiful picture of the kind of life Jesus envisioned for his followers and a practical pathway to experience it for yourself. This book allows us to discover holy moments and holy days once more, that we might practice Jesus' way.

If you would like to borrow this book, I have bought several spare copies, which are available from our bookshelf in our welcome area in church, please help yourself, read and return.

With every blessing,

Emma  
Revd. Emma Racklyeft  
Vicar, All Saints, Denmead



## Thank You from The Rowans Hospice

On our noticeboard in the welcome area of church, you will find a card from The Rowans Hospice, thanking us all for the donation of £540 collected at our Carol Service in December.




## Services at All Saints



### Sunday 2nd February – Presentation of Christ in the Temple - Candlemass

- 8.00am Holy Communion (Traditional, BCP Communion Service)
- 10.00am Holy Communion Service with Kids and Youth at Ten.  
- 6pm Taize – Candlemass – using prayers, chants, bible readings and times of reflection and silence.


### Sunday 9th February – 4th Sunday Before Lent



- 8.00am Holy Communion (Said, traditional BCP Communion Service)
- 10.00am All Saints Together – all ages gather to worship, learn, and grow together. 
- 6.00pm Evensong

### Sunday 16th February – 3rd Sunday Before Lent

- 8.00am Holy Communion (Said, traditional BCP Communion Service)
- 10.00am Holy Communion with Kids and Youth at Ten.  

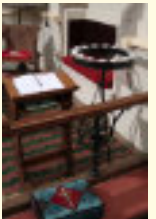
### Sunday 23rd February – 2nd Sunday Before Lent

- 8.00am Holy Communion (Said, traditional BCP Communion Service)
- 10am Morning Worship. There will be no Holy Communion at this service. 

 Refreshments in our church hall after the service  Live stream to our Facebook page

Morning Prayer is said each weekday at 8.30-9.00am in chapel – everyone is welcome.

Private Prayer - The Church building is open from 8.30am to



dusk each day for private prayer.

If you wish to light a candle and pray there is a candle stand in the Chapel.



The next Repair Café will be on **Saturday 15th February 2025 in Denmead Community Centre 1pm-4pm**

Bring your broken or faulty items along. Coffee and cake available!

Check our Facebook page for forthcoming dates:

**Denmead & Hambledon Repair Cafe**



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### Our Denmead Funeral Home

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## Beetle Drive at Afternoon W.I.

In January the Afternoon W.I. enjoyed a New Year Lunch at Barnards instead of its monthly meeting. February's meeting will be held in the Main Hall and will be a Members' Afternoon including a Tea and Beetle Drive. The monthly competition will be for a piece of foreign pottery or china. March's speaker will be Philip MacDougall whose talk entitled "Dockyard Maties" will discuss tracing ancestors who worked in the Royal Dockyards.

All ladies are invited to meetings held on the first Wednesday of the month from 2 - 4pm in the Heath Room at All Saints Church which is central to the village with easy car parking. Visitors are welcome especially if a particular subject is of interest. It's an informal group so if you're new to the village or recently retired and would like to make new friends the W.I. would welcome you.

Talks cover a variety of subjects – some serious and others amusing – so all tastes are catered for. If you're unable to attend an afternoon meeting, the Evening Institute would welcome you to their meetings at 7.30pm on the third Wednesday.

*Joan Downing*

## Sacred Heart Catholic Church

The Church of the Sacred Heart and St Peter the Apostle  
356 London Road, Waterlooville, Hampshire PO7 7SR

Parish Priest: Rev Mgr Canon Jeremy Garratt (023) 9226 2289  
[shspa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:shspa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
[www.waterlooville-catholic.org.uk](http://www.waterlooville-catholic.org.uk)

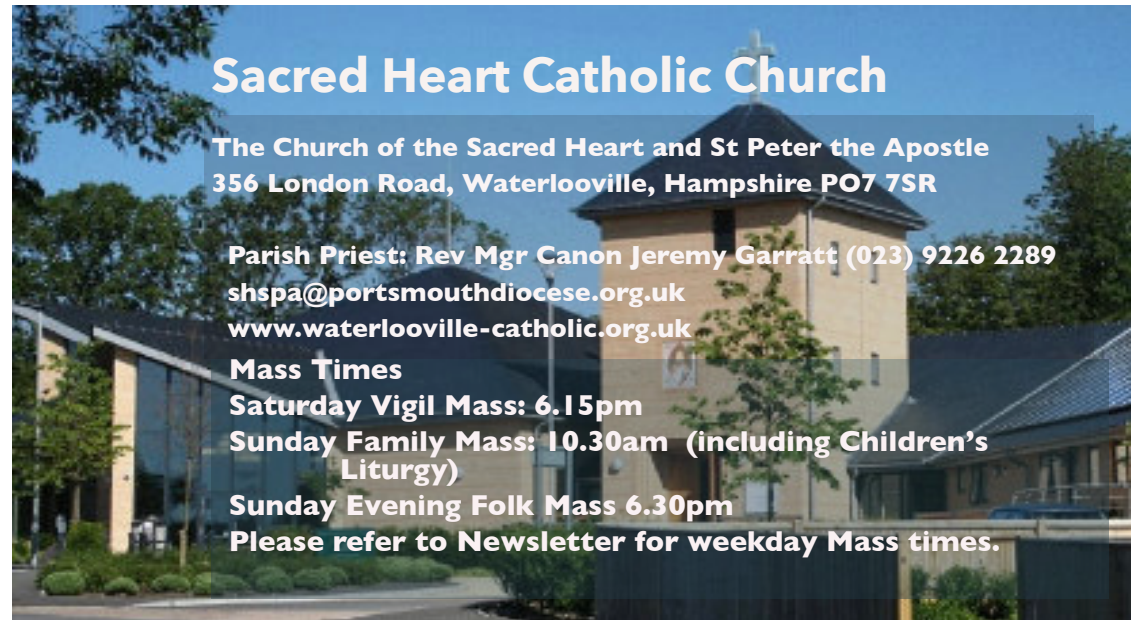
### Mass Times

Saturday Vigil Mass: 6.15pm

Sunday Family Mass: 10.30am (including Children's Liturgy)

Sunday Evening Folk Mass 6.30pm

Please refer to Newsletter for weekday Mass times.





**“I Made You Wonderful” Psalm 139:14**

7th March, 2pm

Sacred Heart Church

London Road, Waterlooville PO7 7SR

*This year the service has been prepared by the women of the Cook Islands.*

The 2025 World Day of Prayer service invites us into the knowledge that each one of us was made with care and love by God.

Too often, women and girls have been silenced and oppressed, making this upcoming theme from the Cook Islands particularly relevant. The message that we, as women and girls, are “fearfully and wonderfully” made in the image of God reinforces our movement’s support of women in expressing their faith and speaking about their lives in prayer and worship before God and in community.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER [worlddayofprayer.net](http://worlddayofprayer.net)





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## Evening W.I. has the Power(tex)!

At the December meeting the committee entertained the institute with a play "Father Christmas' Bad Day and the Birth of a Tradition", a really fun evening with much laughter, mince pies and mulled wine. Items were donated for the Waterlooville Food Bank and the generosity of members filled several boxes. The following week twenty members enjoyed Christmas lunch at Barnards.

At the meeting on Wednesday 19th February, will be a demonstration by Karen Hewitt, of Powertex, a water-based textile hardener used to make sculptures and other artworks. The Craft Group will also meet to discuss the projects they will be making in the coming months.



Any ladies who would like to join the Evening W.I. would receive a warm welcome. Visitors can attend up to three meetings free of charge prior to joining. They take place on the third Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in Denmead Memorial Hall. For more information contact [denmeadevepres@hampshirewi.org.uk](mailto:denmeadevepres@hampshirewi.org.uk) or look for the posters around the village.



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# SEEDS OF CHANGE



## GREENING DENMEAD IDEAS CLUB

Do you want to help Denmead get greener, faster?

Come along to our monthly meet-up to share and develop ideas for making our village more environmentally friendly.

- Meet like-minded people
- Share and develop ideas
- Get support for your projects

Booking is not needed, but does help us to have enough refreshments - email / visit the website, or scan the QR code to book a place - it's FREE!



**When: 6:30-7:30pm, 3rd Monday of each month**  
**Where: Heath Room, All Saints Church**

*For More Information :*



greeningdenmead@gmail.com



www.greeningdenmead.org.uk



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**Denmead  
Community cafe**  
Saturday 22nd February  
10am - 12.30pm  
All Saints Church Hall,  
Denmead

Come along and join us.  
Pop in for a cuppa, cake and some  
company. We will have a few crafts to try  
if you fancy joining in.

Hosted by the Denmead Belles WI  
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## Thank You!

A HUGE thank you to all who have given so generously to the foodbank last year.

Please continue to support this year: you can either bring food items to church each week and leave in our foodbank box in our welcome area, or you can donate through several local supermarkets whilst shopping.



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## Denmead Walks

**This is a short walk from Denmead Community Centre offering two routes after the initial stage so that anyone not comfortable with crossing several stiles or walking through horse paddocks have an alternative. A warning that sections of both routes can be extremely soft going after heavy rain.**

Leaving the Community Centre car park by the main entrance go R heading along School Lane passing the Fox & Hounds pub before going downhill as far as the crossroads.



*Final post at east end of School Lane*

**Route 1:** Continue in direction of Ervills into Broad Lane that soon drops downhill to the junction with Fareham Road in front of the driveway to Great Ervills House -

**1.45km/0.9mile** Cross over immediately and turn R but **take particular care walking along the LHS of the road** for about 100m as far as a gap in the hedge. Turn L, negotiate the first of the stiles on this walk, then continue across a narrow wooden bridge toward a second stile. After this stile head for the RH top corner of the enclosed field, then look for position of the remaining two stiles that allow access across paddocks that usually contain horses.

**2km/1.25miles** After the last stile turn L on reaching Bent Lane before continuing along the

metalled surface as far as the entrance to woodland on the RHS – a footpath from the left also emerges here.

**Route 2:** Turn L at the crossroads heading down Dirty Lane in the direction of Worlds End. **1.52km/0.95mile** Turn L at the bottom of the hill, pass the gates to the fisheries then pick up the FP on the other side of the road. **Listen for traffic and take care crossing at this point.** Go through two gates and continue along the footpath keeping the woodland on your LHS.

### WALK DETAILS:

Distance 5.75km/3.6miles

Duration 1h 25m

Walk Grade EASY 2/5

Number of Stiles: Route 1 – 8 stiles, Route 2 – 2 stiles

**1.9km/1.2miles** Bear L into woodland and follow FP to junction of paths where the yellow direction marker points straight ahead. At this point go R and walk the short distance to Bent Lane.

**2.3km/1.43miles** Both routes join at this point. Go across the lane into the wood opposite and continue through the woodland as far as Hoe Street.

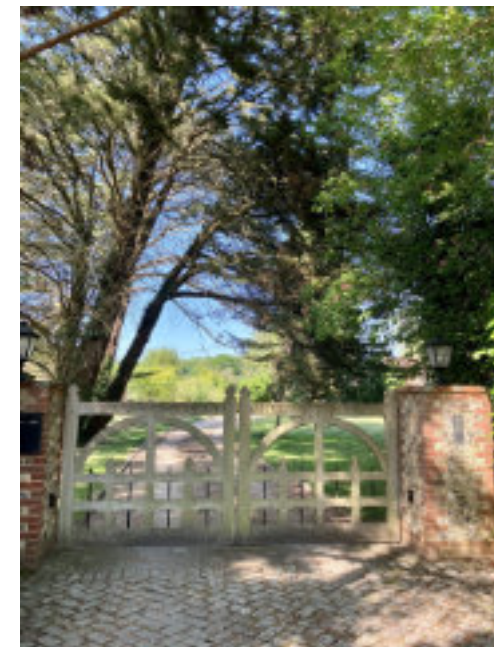
**2.7km/1.68miles** Here turn L and walk back to the staggered junction with Rudley Mill on your LHS. **3.1Km/1.93miles** Bear L on leaving Hoe Street and head back along Bent Lane.

**3.5km/2.18miles** In about 400m go over a stile on the RHS and cross the field to the far side then cross another stile. After the latter take the FP obliquely L (not sharp L) and on reaching the crossways of foot paths continue straight on. (An alternative route avoiding two stiles and possible horses grazing in the field is to continue along the metalled surface of Bent Lane before turning R into the woods, then L at the junction of footpaths therein.)

On eventually leaving the woods bear R keep the latter on your RHS and finally come to a couple of gates about 30m apart; after going through the second cross the Fareham Road.

**Take great care crossing this busy road,** go L on the far side passing Willow Fisheries just after which bear R up Dirty Lane. Turn R at the junction at the top of the hill into School Lane.

**4.94km/3.1miles** A welcome drink can be taken at the Fox & Hounds while the walk ends back at the Denmead Community Centre.



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**Here are the regular activities that take place at the various venues in Denmead.**

*If you spot any incorrect entries, please send updates by email: chronicle@allsaintsdenmead.org.uk*

**Church Hall regular bookings**

**Mondays**

- 11.30-12.30 Breathe Again (weekly)
- 15.00-20.30 Slimming World (weekly)

**Tuesdays**

- 09.30-10.30 Pilates (weekly, term time only)
- 10.45-11.45 Fit 4 U (weekly term time only)
- 14.00-15.00 Positive Strokes (weekly)
- 17.30-19.00 3rd Brownies (weekly, term time only)
- 19.30-21.30 Denmead Horticultural Society (monthly, 1st Tuesday)
- 20.00-22.00 South Hants Koi Club (Oct. to Apr. only, monthly, 2nd Tuesday)

**Wednesdays**

- 09.30-10.30 Fit2Dance (weekly, term time only)
- 11.00-12.30 Memory Café (monthly, 2nd Wednesday)
- 14.00-16.00 Flower Club (monthly, 3rd Wednesday)
- 14.00-16.00 Bereavement Support Group (monthly, 4th Wednesday)
- 17.45-19.15 1st Brownies (weekly, term time only)

**Thursdays**

- 09.15-10.15 Mrs G's Pilates (weekly)
- 13.45-15.45 Home Instead 'Love to Move' (weekly)
- 16.15-17.15 1st Rainbows (weekly, term time only)
- 17.30-19.00 2nd Brownies (weekly, term time only)
- 19.00-21.00 Guides & Rangers (weekly, term time only)

**Fridays**

- 09.15-11.15 Little Stars (weekly, term time only)
- 14.30-15.30 Gentle Chair Exercises (weekly)
- 19.30-21.30 Denmead Village Association (alternate monthly, 3rd Friday)

**Saturdays**

- 10.00-12.30 WI Belles Community Café – please check poster for details

*Further Details from Church Office 023 9226 8757*

## Heath Room regular bookings

### Mondays

19.00-21.00 Denmead Horticultural Society Committee (monthly 2nd Monday)

### Tuesdays

09.30-11.30 Coffee & Chat (weekly)  
14.00-16.00 Mothers' Union (monthly, 3rd Tuesday)

### Wednesdays

14.00-16.00 Afternoon W.I. (monthly, 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday)

### Saturdays

10.00-12.00 Local Government Surgery (monthly, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday)

*Further Details from Church Office 023 9226 8757*

## Denmead War Memorial Hall Bookings

### Mondays

08.30-15.00 Denmead Pre-School – Term Time Only

### Tuesdays

08.30-15.00 Denmead Pre-School – Term Time Only  
19.00-21.00 Archery Club - Weekly

### Wednesday

08.30-15.00 Denmead Pre-School – Term Time Only  
19.30-21.30 Denmead W.I. Belles – 1st Wednesday of the Month  
19.30-21.30 Horticultural Floral Workshop – 2nd Wednesday Monthly  
19.30-21.30 Evening Denmead W.I. – 3rd Wednesday Monthly  
19.00 – 21.00 Relaxing Soundbath – 4th Wednesday Monthly

### Thursday

08.30-15.00 Denmead Pre-School – Term Time Only  
19.45-21.45 Badminton Club - Weekly

### Friday

08.30-15.00 Denmead Pre-School – Term Time Only

### Sunday

9.00-12.00 Archery Club – Weekly except the 1st Sunday of the month

*Further Details from Mrs S Thomas 07534 024388*

## Denmead Community Centre (The Old School)

### Regular Events

#### Mondays

09.30 - 10.30 Better Body Club  
11.00 - 12.00 Yoga with Allison  
11.00 - 13.00 Tertulia – **\*New Class\*** Italian Beginner Course 6 week - course starting 27/1/25  
10.00 - 12.00 Watercolours for Improvers  
14.30 - 16.30 U3A Board games – fortnightly  
19.00 - 21.00 Evening Table Tennis  
– Contact details:  
Sylvia 02392 439037 email: john.morphett124@gmail.com  
19.00 - 22.00 Denmead Bridge Club

#### Tuesdays

09:00 - 10:00 Better Body Club – Pilates Intermediate  
09:00 - 11:00 Denmead Unsung Gardeners (DUG)  
Contact the Centre for more Infomation.  
09.30 - 12.30 Upholstery Class  
09.15 - 10.15 TADAA (Musical Theatre Tots for 2-4 year olds)  
10.15 - 11.15 Pilates – Beginners/Rehab  
10.30 - 12.30 Denmead Writers  
14.00 - 15.30 Afternoon Social Club (Monthly 2nd Tuesday)  
14:00 - 15:30 Chapters Reading Group (3rd Tuesday of the month)  
14.00 - 16.00 Art History 2 (Monthly, 1st Tuesday of the month)  
14.30 - 16.30 Table Tennis – contact annandmalcolm.davies@virgin.net  
17.00 - 18.00 Create – Children's Art Classes  
18.00 - 19.00 Pilates Class  
19.00 - 21.00 Denmead WI – monthly  
19.45 - 21.45 Denmead Brass Band Rehearsal  
19.30 - 22.00 Downland Singers  
Visit our Website [www.downlandsingers.hampshire.org.uk/index.htm](http://www.downlandsingers.hampshire.org.uk/index.htm)

#### Wednesdays

09.45 - 11.45 Jiggy Wrighlers – baby music & movement  
10.00 - 12.00 Denmead Art Group (Fortnightly)  
10.00 - 12.00 Wednesday Table Tennis – contact annandmalcolm.davies@virgin.net  
11.00 - 13.00 Tertulia – **\*New Class\*** Spanish Beginner Course 6 week - course starting 29/1/25  
13.30 - 14.30 Shiyong Tai Chi  
16.00 - 18.00 TADAA (Musical Theatre for 4 – 13 year olds)  
19.00 - 21.00 Breakaway Stitchers and Quilters  
19.00 - 21.00 LD Art Group  
18.30 - 20.45 Yoga with Allison

**Thursdays**

- 09.30 - 10.30 Zumba
- 09.30 - 11.30 Table Tennis – contact [annandmalcolm.davies@virgin.net](mailto:annandmalcolm.davies@virgin.net)
- 12.00 - 13.30 Lunch Club for over 70's
- 14.00 - 16.00 U3A Table Tennis (2nd & 4th Thursday)
- 19.00 - 21.00 Thursday 19.00 - 21.00 Evening Table Tennis  
New contact details: Pam – email: [pam.mt.mcGovern@gmail.com](mailto:pam.mt.mcGovern@gmail.com)

**Fridays**

- 09.30 - 10.30 Pilates
- 09.30 - 12.00 Art Class
- 09.30 - 12.30 The Messy Hand Crafters (Every 6 weeks. See DCC website for dates)
- 18.30 - 20.30 Farlington Dog Club (Denmead)
- 14.00 - 16.00 U3A Table Tennis (Beginners) Monthly 3rd Friday
- 11.15 - 12.00 Little Kickers (18 mths – 3.5 years)

**Saturdays**

- 09.00 - 11.30 Southern Arts Academy (Term Time only)
- Denmead Film Nights
- Doors open at 19.00 (Typically the last Saturday of the month)
- A warm welcome is extended to all.

**Sundays**

- 08.00 - 09.00 A.P.T Combat Conditioning - **\*New Class\*** Boxercise – starting 5/1/25
- 09.00 - 12.30 Denmead Brass Band
- 18.00 - 20.00 Kyoto Dojo
- 18.30-19.30 Relaxing with Sound - First week of each month.  
Email [fernandforestcoaching@outlook.com](mailto:fernandforestcoaching@outlook.com)
- 19.30 - 22.00 Board Gaming – monthly

*If you are interested in joining any of the groups please contact Denmead Community Centre on 023 9225 6132*

**Denmead Community Centre**

School Lane, Denmead, PO7 6LU  
02392 256132

[www.denmeadcc.uk](http://www.denmeadcc.uk)

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## Mission Partner Updates

Here is news from some of our Mission Partners. Please also check out the mission noticeboard, in our welcome area in church.

We have a wonderful newsletter from our contact family working with the Church Mission Society (CMS) in Cambodia updating us on all their news and listing things we can be praying for.

We also have in a leaflet from The Children's Society, updating us on work they are involved with in supporting young people with mental health issues.

### More people helped by Friends Without Borders

We had a busy but exciting 2024, with big events like the June Refugee Week BBQ, our September AGM and our fundraiser in October. FWB would like to thank all of the trustees, volunteers and supporters who have worked so hard to make these events possible, fun and successful, as well as running the weekly drop-in.

Numbers of clients visiting our drop-in are increasing, with over 70 people attending each week. Our four regular caseworkers have been assisting around 30 people between them each week and we are in the process of training new caseworkers to join the team as casework becomes more complex and demanding. Numbers of clients attending English lessons is also increasing and it is

great that we have welcomed some new English teachers to the team. Recently we set up a coordinating team to help with form-filling, befriending, reception and welcoming. Our kitchen team have introduced hot food dishes, which have been absolutely delicious and very popular.

Access to Justice had 43 new clients this year, which is a huge increase. The team are now also assisting clients with applications for eVisas with the Home Office digital changeover on 31st December this year.

We are looking forward to setting up a new Family Support Project early next year, in partnership with Homestart and with the support of a grant from the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Fund. This will provide a safe, supervised, child-friendly area within our drop-in, providing additional support for lone parents to temporarily leave children in order to access casework and English classes. We also look forward to working with the Lloyds Bank Foundation who have awarded FWB organisational development support with a Lloyds Bank Regional Manager.

Rachel  
Client Services Manager

For more details of the work of FWB go to <http://www.friendswithoutborders.org.uk>



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For more information contact Pam  
07708332778

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## Mothers Day Flower Arranging Workshop



Denmead Community Centre  
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# LUNCHEON CLUB

12-2 Every Thursday at  
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### Important Government Changes

The Government is enabling Local Government to make more decisions on how to spend money on areas like transport if they work together in a programme called Devolution. Funding and decision-making powers could include areas like infrastructure, planning, housebuilding, skills, and employment initiatives, all covering a much larger geographical area making economies in expenditure and resources through economies of scale.

There would be a 'delaying' of authorities so Hampshire County Council and Winchester City Council would be dissolved and an entire layer of government (at District level) removed. So, from our current structure of 14 authorities, we would reduce to probably 4.

If all of the local authorities agree and the government accepts Hampshire and the Isle of Wight into the priority programme, a Public Consultation would take place in the spring for people to have their say. Then if devolution is agreed by all involved, the election of a mayor would take place in May 2026.

Quite what will happen at the local level is unknown! Many of the areas involved do not have Parishes and many Parishes are too small to take on additional responsibilities.

There are many questions and not too many answers at this point, but I will keep you updated!

*Cllr Paula Langford-Smith*

**Denmead Conservative Branch**  
 Is holding a  
**Jumble Sale**  
**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February**  
**10am – noon**  
 All Saints' Church Hall, Denmead  
 Bric-a-brac, books, gifts, cakes and refreshments.  
 Donations of items welcome from 8.30am at the Hall  
 (no electrical items please)

## Devolution

The Government published its English Devolution White Paper on 16th December 2024 setting out a programme of devolution and Local Government reorganisation across England.

The vision outlined by Government is that all parts of England are to be part of regional Strategic Authorities that have a regional Mayor. These Strategic Authorities, working in a similar way to existing Mayoral Combined Authorities, will have responsibility for driving growth and shaping public services across wider regional geographies covering strategic leadership of key place shaping responsibilities such as economic regeneration and growth, strategic planning, skills and employment and strategic transport. Hampshire County Council could be one of the local authorities to be included in the Government's Devolution Priority Programme (DPP).

At the end of August, an agreement was made between the Isle of Wight Council, Portsmouth City Council and Southampton City Council, to submit to Government a joint Expression of Interest (EOI) in forming a single combined authority for the collective area of the four upper tier authorities. Inclusion on the fast-track Priority Programme would be the first step towards creating a Strategic Authority.

The Government is also expecting all areas across the country to produce local government re-organisation plans by Autumn 2025, creating new large unitary authorities which, for Hampshire, will mean bringing together the County Council, 11 borough and district councils and small neighbouring unitary authorities into a number of new large unitary authorities.

Given that HCC has more than 1.4 million residents and the White Paper requires all unitaries to have not less than 500,000, it might mean some districts/boroughs transition from Hampshire into perhaps Portsmouth or Southampton [each currently have approximately 300,000 residents], although reassurance has been given by Government that every effort will be made not to split a district or borough.

Devolution with elected Mayors is not an option, it is a route required by central Government for all local authorities. For more information read the Government White Paper - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/english-devolution-white-paper-power-and-partnership-foundations-for-growth/english-devolution-white-paper>



*Patricia Stallard*

**Hampshire County Council  
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## Waterlooville Probus Club

Probus welcomes retired or semi-retired professional men and women who live in Denmead and surrounding areas.

There will not be a Speaker at our next meeting, on TUESDAY 11th February 2025 as that meeting is dedicated to our Annual General Meeting.

However, on TUESDAY 11th March 2025 we are delighted to welcome back Peter Gill who, this time, will talk to us about The Wit and Songs of Noel Coward

Born in 1899, Coward was an actor, writer, composer, director, producer, and in later life a painter – and he excelled at them all. He said of himself 'I am an enormously talented man, and there is no point in denying it'.

This is a 45-minute reminder of that talent and some of the wonderful songs and wit of the 'Master' including Don't Let's Be Beastly To The Germans, Mrs Worthington, Mad About The Boy, There Are Bad Times Just Around The Corner and Mad Dogs & Englishmen. This talk will contain live music and visuals.

The cost is £23. Please note, the meal must be ordered one week in advance, so if you would like to come along to find out more about Probus, please contact our Membership Secretary, Linda Marland, email - [probus@lindamarland.com](mailto:probus@lindamarland.com)

*The Waterlooville Probus Club meet on the second Tuesday of every month at the Hampshire Hog, Clanfield [plenty of free car parking space].*

*There is a two-course meal, followed by tea/coffee and a Speaker. Arrive 12 noon for 12.30 pm sit down lunch.*

*Dress: Men - Jackets and ties, women - equivalent.*

*In addition to our regular lunch with Speaker meetings, we also try to arrange occasional day trips, eg a visit to Westminster Palace; a river cruise with afternoon tea; visit to a gin distillery, a behind the scenes theatre visit, when family and friends are welcome. These trips are optional.*

*More information about Probus Waterlooville is shown on our website at <https://probusclub.net/waterlooville/>*

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