

# It's coming home?!

**D**ear Friends,

As I write this letter the English football team have just won against Sweden in the quarter finals of the World Cup. As I went to bed Saturday night, with windows wide open to offset the effects of the relentless summer heatwave, the distant call of England football fans could be heard shouting "it's coming home, it's coming home!"

The refrain "it's coming home" is taken from the 1996 No 1 single Three Lions, penned by the Lightning Seeds and comedians Frank Skinner and David Baddiel. The refrain originally was a reference to the fact that England was hosting its first major football tournament since the 1966 World Cup. The refrain has evolved to refer to the hope and expectation that one day the World Cup trophy will return to its birth home England. "It's coming home" embodies a deep desire; it is a rallying cry, that unifies and draws young and old together.

Much of the nation is now gripped by football fever; England's feats in Russia have led to wild celebrations, frenzied headlines and countless memes. My favourite meme is a picture of manager Gareth Southgate outside IKEA carrying a box with the words 'trophy cabinet' written on it! Even those with just a vague football interest are now all pondering could we, might we, bring it home - is this our time?

Well of course only time will tell. On Weds 11<sup>th</sup> England will play their first World Cup semi-final in 28 years and then after that – well who knows? The World Cup Final is set for Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 4pm, which is also the time when at All Saints Church, 13 candidates will be re-affirming promises made at their baptism to follow Jesus and place their trust in God as Bishop Christopher confirms them. It will be an exciting afternoon in many ways.

And of course, by the time you read this article we will all know - did the trophy make it home? Or have our hopes been shattered?

It is this phrase, "it's coming home" which has really grabbed my attention; for in my mind's eye I can see God shouting this to us – but rather it's not



an unfriendly, impersonal 'it's' but rather it is by name, "Joshua's coming home", "Suzanne's coming home", "David's coming home", "Laura's coming home" - you get the idea.

In the Bible Jesus told the story of a Lost Son (it can be found in the gospel of Luke, chapter 15). The Son rejects his Father, wishing him dead, take his share of his inheritance and travels far from home. The Son makes several stupid mistakes, blows all his money and ends up rejected and bruised. Meanwhile despite the son's hurtful actions, the Father remains devoted to his Son. The Father waits, he hopes, he longs for the day when his Son will come home. Then, one day the Son comes to his senses, realising he cannot live without his Father's love, he humbly returns home. On his arrival his Father is so delighted that he throws a massive celebratory party and rejoices that this child of his, who once was lost, is now safely home again, back in relationship with him.

Jesus told this story to illustrate the love God has for each of us. The Father in this story is God, and we are like the lost son, lost children, who for one reason or another, have wandered far from home. But God loves each of us and longs that we would return home and know his love and care in our lives. Each of us is precious to God, a trophy of great worth and God longs to welcome us home.

If you would like to find out more about this idea of returning home to God, can I encourage you to come and try the Denmead Alpha course this Autumn. Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith. Each session begins with a meal, followed by a talk which considers a different

question around faith and is designed to create conversation. There is plenty of opportunity to discuss, ask questions and share view points in a small group.

Denmead Alpha is open for everyone - whether you're new to the Christian faith, been attending church a long time, or just exploring and questioning. There is no pressure, no follow-up and no charge.

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# All Saints Church Services

## *Sunday 5th August, 10th Sunday after Trinity*

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

## *Sunday 12th August, 11th Sunday after Trinity*

8.00am Holy Communion  
9.30am Parish Communion  
11.30am Private Baptism  
6.00pm Evensong

## **Tuesday 13th to Friday 17th August DABS**

### *Sunday 19th August, DABS Sunday*

8.00am Holy Communion  
9.30am DABS Celebration  
6.00pm Informal Service

### *Sunday 26th August, 13th Sunday after Trinity*

8.00am Holy Communion  
9.30am Parish Communion  
6.00pm Evensong

## Looking Ahead:

Please note there is NO Messy Church in August.

Next messy Church will be Saturday 15th September.

Morning Prayer is said Mon-Fri at 8.30am – everyone is most welcome.

The church is open during daylight hours, for private prayer. If you wish to light a candle, there is a candle stand in the old chapel.

Please be aware that we are no longer running the Thursday morning Communion Service.

## Bereavement Support

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 All Saints Church office 9226 8757 or Merrill Partridge 9226 6159.

## Home Visiting

If you are lonely, sick or housebound or would just like someone to visit you, All Saints Church has 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.

## Church News

This Autumn All Saints Church and Denmead Baptist Church are working together to deliver this course. The first session begins on Wednesday 5th Sept 7-9.30pm at All Saints in the Heath Room. For further details please see [www.allsaintsdenmead.org.uk/alpha](http://www.allsaintsdenmead.org.uk/alpha) or to book a place on this course ring Claire on 023 9226 8757.

***Come home....***

With every blessing,

Emma

*Revd Emma Racklyeft*



## What a Summer...

All Saints Church Men's Group, with partners and guests enjoying an evening Barbecue.



For details of the current programme of events, email: [byrne.jv@gmail.com](mailto:byrne.jv@gmail.com)

# 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 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.*



**Home-Start Hampshire**  
Supporting families in the Meon Valley

The Wickham Centre, Mill Lane,  
Wickham, PO17 5AL  
Tel: 01329 835936

Email: [meon.valley@hshants.org.uk](mailto:meon.valley@hshants.org.uk)  
Website: [www.home-starhampshire.org.uk](http://www.home-starhampshire.org.uk)

Our next Volunteer Preparation Course is in the diary

Would you like us to reserve you a place?

The course takes place at The Wickham Centre on Wednesdays (term time only)

9:30am to 2:30pm on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> and November 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>

You will receive comprehensive training to help you become a Home-Start home visiting volunteer. After the course finishes you have a one-to-one with a Coordinator, who then “matches” you with a family in need of practical and emotional support. Then we ask that you give 2 to 3 hours a week visiting one family. You are fully supported throughout your training and once “matched” with a family. If you are thinking about volunteering in the autumn then maybe this is the right opportunity for you? Please get in touch with any questions or queries—contact details above. Thank you for reading this article. **Have a wonderful summer.**

**Home  
Start**  
Support and friendship  
for families



Supported by



LOTTERY FUNDED

Home-Start Hampshire is a registered charity: number 1144661  
Registered office: Rushmoor Borough Council Offices, Farnborough Road,  
Farnborough, Hants, GU14 7JU

Local Patron: The Hon. Mrs Virginia Lovell

# Denmead Baptist Church

Denmead Baptist Church is a small, friendly fellowship which has worshipped in the village since 1717 and has been at 'The Cornerstone' since 2014.



Our weekly Sunday services start at 10.30am, they are informal and incorporate a worship band, children's activities and bible based teaching for the adults and young people. We also enjoy many social activities together.



## Noah's Ark

Parent and Toddler  
Group on Wednesdays,  
10-11.30am

*£1 adult, 50p per child*

### Programme for July 2018

August 05	Mike Hudson	
12	Chris Bowers	Communion
19	DABS Service at All Saints	
26	Mike Hudson	Communion

Prayer Group	Monday 7pm
House Group	Wednesday 7.45pm (except 4th Wednesday)
Monthly Prayer Meeting	4th Wednesday 7.45 - 9pm

For further information, please go to:

Website: [www.denmeadbaptistchurch.org.uk](http://www.denmeadbaptistchurch.org.uk)

Email: [admin@denmeadbaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@denmeadbaptistchurch.org.uk) for room bookings/enquiries

'The Cornerstone', 22 Mead End Road, Denmead, Waterlooville PO7 6PZ

**We look forward to welcoming you to our church.**

## Ian Alexander Ruthven-Stuart M.B. Ch.B., D.Obst.R.C.O.G. (1927-2018)

by David Griffiths

**On one day in April 1974 one of the most auspicious events of my life took place.**

I had recently seen an advertisement in what was "The Tower of the Winds" at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford (Now Green College) for a vacancy in a general practice three man partnership in Denmead and Hambledon, in Hampshire.

I applied for the job and Diana and I were duly invited for interview. Diana was eight months pregnant with our eldest daughter, Caroline and we arrived in Hambledon, in a camper-van together with a nearly two year old son, Huw.

Joining a GP partnership is rather like getting married without a courtship, so as you can imagine, my wife and I were a little apprehensive. All our anxieties were rapidly dispelled by the very warm welcome we received from Ian, Christina, Nicolas, Sarah, David and two adorable seven year old twins, Peter and Sophie. Ian immediately struck me as the amiable, trustworthy, senior partner for whom I was looking. He clearly was a man of the

highest intellect and one sensed at once that here was someone very special.

My first impressions proved to be entirely accurate and I cannot to this day believe my luck in joining him at the practice. I can honestly say that from that day in November 1974 there was never so much as a moment when I did not enjoy working with Ian.

*...there was never so much as a moment when I did not enjoy working with Ian*

Not only did we work together but we made time to play squash together as he soon introduced me to the incumbent of East Hoe Manor.

Within a year or two a new invention appeared. – the sailboard or to give it its brand name, the Windsurfer. Ian and I soon each acquired one of these and would go windsurfing on the Solent - Exhilarating fun until once when I was on duty, Ian went off on his own.

This was the first time we nearly lost him as the combination of outgoing tide and fatigue resulted in his being swept towards the English Channel. Fortunately the RNLI came to his rescue and brought him safely home. Despite the stresses of general practice, Ian always maintained his calm and composure. He would

## Obituary

routinely walk into the surgery, whistling the theme tune of Dr Finlay's Casebook, cluck his tongue twice and one knew that all was well with the world.

Ian had boundless energy. He would run several miles every morning with his Labrador dogs and eventually, when he had worn out his knees, he took to mountain biking. He was always extremely fit – that is, until the second time we nearly lost him. In 1987 he developed a serious abdominal tumour.

Without any fuss, he referred himself to a surgical colleague who wisely advised him to go to one of our best surgeons at Basingstoke. I recall visiting him in hospital and asked him what was the worst aspect of the whole ordeal. He replied, "The cheap perfume worn by the night nurses!"

He very soon came back to work despite the severe after-effects of the operation. He always regarded work as therapeutic and I don't remember him ever taking time off for minor ailments. He was a supreme example to his patients, though few could match his resolve. In the practice he wisely believed in having personal lists of patients understanding the importance of knowing a manageable number of them well. All his patients respected him and many adored him.

Ian was greatly missed when he retired in 1993 but I enjoyed seeing him often in the

village, driving his dumper truck or dressed up in a yellow jacket and sou'wester raising money for the R.N.L.I., his, and Christina's favourite charity.



Soon after retiring, Ian volunteered as medical officer for The Sail Training Association on a transatlantic venture with a crew of young cadets. On the return voyage he had to care for a seriously ill patient who was vomiting continuously with severe abdominal pain and in danger of dehydration. In the circumstances he was unable to set up an IV infusion so he simply laid the patient on the deck and ensured that he sipped fluids. Fortunately the patient survived and was able to tell me the tale on his return from hospital when he arrived back in England - for that patient was himself. That was the third time we nearly lost Ian.

*...to be continued next month*

# What's on This Month, and Where

## Venue Abbreviations:

ASC = All Saints' Church

CH = Church Hall; HR = Heath Room; UR = Upper Room;

Contact Church Office 9226 8757

MH = Memorial Hall

Contact Mrs S Thomas 9235 5993

DCC = Denmead Community Centre

Contact Mr R Bainbridge MBE, 9225 6132

PC = Denmead Parish Council Contact Tony Daniells, 9224 7947

SHQ = Scout Headquarters

BC = Baptist Church (Cornerstone, Mead End Road)

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.

- Times shown refer to hall bookings - please check with organisers for exact times of their events.
- Diary entries should be sent to Gill Barge (denmeadbarge@aol.com) at least one month in advance of publication.

Wed 1	CH	Pilates	10.00-11.00am	W
	DCC	Table Tennis	10.00-Noon	W
		-all standards welcome		
		Creative Quilters	10.00-Noon	F
		Tai Chi	1.30-2.30pm	W
		Breakaway Quilters	7.00-10.00pm	W
		Kettle Fit	7.00-9.00pm	W
		Parish Council – Planning	7.30pm	
		At the Forest of Bere Denmead Knit & Bitch	10.00-Noon	W
		All abilities are welcome		
Thu 2	HR	Coffee & a Chat (& Thursdays) all welcome	9.30-Noon	2x
	DCC	Table Tennis	9.00-11.00am	W
		Senior Citizens' Luncheon Club	12.30-1.30pm	W
		Bootcamp Fitness	7.00-8.00pm	W
		<b>Hambleton Church: Memorial Service</b>	3.00pm	
		<b>for the late Dr Ian Ruthven-Stuart</b>		
Fri 3	CH	Chair Exercises	2.30pm	W
	DCC	Kettle Fit	7.00-8.00pm	W
		Rose Dog Club	7.30-8.30pm	W

## Village Diary

Sat 4	DCC	Table Tennis	10.00-Noon	W
Sun 5	DCC	Junior Brass Band	9.15-10.15am	W
		- come along & have a go, tuition free		
		Denmead Brass Band	10.30-12.30pm	W
Mon 6	CH	Breathe Again	11.30-12.30pm	W
		Slimming World	5.30 & 7.30pm	W
	DCC	Yoga	11.45-1.15pm	W
		Kettle Fit	7.00-8.00pm	W
		Table Tennis	7.00-9.00pm	W
		Denmead Bridge Club	7.00-10.00pm	W
		At the Forest of Bere Denmead Knit & Bitch	7.00-9.00pm	W
		- All abilities are welcome		
Tue 7	CH	Positive Stroke	2.00-3.00pm	W
	HR	Coffee & a Chat (& Thursdays) all welcome	9.30-Noon	2x
	DCC	<b>Citizens' Advice Bureau</b>	9.30-11.30am	W
		Southern Heart Support Group	10.00-Noon	F
		Tuesday Pilates Class	5.30-7.30pm	W
		Allsorts Dog Behaviour & Care	6.00-8.00pm	W
		Denmead Evening WI Craft Evening	7.00-9.00pm	M
		Denmead Brass Band	8.00-10.00pm	W
Wed 8	CH	Memory Cafe	11.00-12.30pm	M
Thu 9	DCC	U3A Table Tennis	2.00-4.00pm	F
Mon 13	At The Forest of Bere			
		The Royal British Legion Meeting	8.00pm	M
		- Hambledon & District Branch		

**Tue 14 – Fri 17 At Denmead Junior School  
– DABS week**

**9.30am-3.30pm**



Tue	14	CH	DABS Youth Group	10.00am – 2.30pm	
			At the Chairmakers - Waterlooville Probus Club	Noon - 3.00 pm	
			Lunch and Talk.		
Wed	15	CH	Evening WI Croquet & Ball	5.00-9.00pm	
Sat	18	CH	<b>DENMEAD VILLAGE SHOW</b>	11.00-5.00pm	
		DCC	<b>Film Night – ‘THE POST’</b>	7.30pm	M
<b>Sun</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>ASC</b>	<b>DABS Service – all welcome</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	
Tue	21	DCC	Denmead Reading Circle	2.15-4.15pm	M
			Chapter Reading Group	2.30-4.00pm	M
Wed	22	CH	Bereavement Support Group	2.00-4.00pm	M
		DCC	Parish Council – Planning, Finance & Admin.	7.30pm	
Fri	24	CH	<b>BLOOD DONATING SESSION</b>	11.30-9.45pm	

## Film Night at Denmead Community Centre

### 18th Aug – The Post

Oscar winners Steven Spielberg, Meryl Streep, and Tom Hanks team up for the first time in this thrilling film based on a true story. Determined to uphold the nation's civil liberties, Katharine Graham (Streep), publisher of The Washington Post, and hard-nosed editor Ben Bradlee (Hanks) join forces to expose a decades-long cover-up. But the two must risk their careers - and their freedom - to bring truth to light in this powerful film with a celebrated cast.

*If you would like to receive our electronic newsletter detailing the events and activities held at the Community Centre, just visit our website [www.denmeadca.com](http://www.denmeadca.com) and click “join the email list”.*

1<sup>st</sup> Denmead



# Dinosaur Derby

Kidmore lane  
Denmead

Sunday  
9<sup>th</sup> Sept.  
1.30pm



Sorry no dogs allowed

[www.denmeadscouts.com](http://www.denmeadscouts.com)

Entry only  
£1.50 per  
family



**Save the Date and prepare your outfit and entries**

# **Denmead Village Show**

**Retro Style**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August**

**11am to 5pm**

The Denmead Village Show this year has a Retro Theme with a prize of a cream tea for two at Barnards for the best fancy dress. It's on Saturday 18th open from 11am to 5pm. You can view the exhibits in the hall when judging is complete, usually around 12.30. It's not too late to enter - schedules are in Parkers or download from our website and have a go.

Entry forms have to be in by Tuesday 14th.

Attractions include a Fun Dog Show sponsored by Homes & Hounds,

Farm Animals, Denmead Scouts Trolley Run, Beekeepers, Vintage Bicycles, Blacksmith, Spinners, Quilters, Pottery Painting, Archery, Punch & Judy, Face Painting, Skittles, Coconut Shy, Crockery Smashing, Children's Roundabout, Village organisations, local Charities and Crafts stalls.

Music by Graham & Friends, Bar & BBQ by the Fox & Hounds, Bere Dairy ice cream and our own Teas with Home Made Cakes.

**Come & enjoy our 68th Traditional Village Show.**

**Prize of a Barnard's Cream Tea for 2 for best retro theme costume 1940's to 1970's.**



## Denmead Horticultural Society

[www.denmeadhorticuralsociety.btck.co.uk](http://www.denmeadhorticuralsociety.btck.co.uk)

Geoff Hawkins' talk on Herbaceous Borders began with a potted history of garden styles from Roman times to the present day and mentioned many famous gardeners and their contribution to garden design including William Robinson's mixed borders and naturalistic planting, Gertrude Jekyll's use of colour, Vita Sackville West's garden rooms at Sissinghurst, Alan Bloom's island beds, Beth Chatto's gravel garden demonstrating her principle of 'right plant right place' and Piet Oudolf's prairie planting.

Hints for a successful border included edging with a brick or stone path so plants flopping over the edge don't hinder grass mowing, don't cut plants down till spring as stems and seedheads can look attractive in winter and

provide food and shelter for birds and beneficial insects, don't overfeed as this will produce lush growth that needs staking, repeat colours and group plants using odd numbers and include different shapes, forms and textures. Geoff showed us many pictures of gardens with beautiful borders that made us want to visit including Waterperry, the mirror image borders at Bramdean House, the centenary border at the Hillier gardens and the new long borders at Kew.

We don't have a talk this month but are back on 4th September to learn about Pickles and Chutneys.

*Liz Williams, 023 9226 9642,  
liz@greensleeves.eclipse.co.uk*

## From the Registers

### Baptisms

Sunday 1st July	Clare Marsh-Gardener and Lee Gardener
Sunday 8th July	Rhys, Elsie and Paisley Williams

### Weddings

Saturday 14th July	Alice Ormston and Joe Middleton Amanda Stapley and Paul McLennan
Saturday 28th July	Rachel Abbinett and David Smith

### Funerals

Wed 13th June	Dr Neville Haskins
Monday 25th June	Mrs Rozel Ashcroft
Tuesday 16th July	Mr Edwin Farrell

## Denmead Afternoon Women's Institute

We were pleased to welcome Roy Godfrey once again to our July meeting to give a talk on "Bees Set up Home in Awkward Places". Roy explained that a friend who is a builder often had a problem with bees nesting in roofs, walls or under floorboards of houses he was renovating. The majority were large country houses costing millions of pounds with millions more being spent on their renovation. Roy was employed to remove the bees and found the most successful way was with a low powered vacuum hose sucking up the bees. Roy's amusing stories were illustrated with slides showing various almost inaccessible nests.

The competition for a honey cake recipe was won by Joan Downing with Margaret Kennett second. Joan Elliott won the flower competition with Margaret Barnes second. We enjoyed some of the delicious honey cakes with our tea instead of our usual biscuits.

We continue our monthly lunch dates at various locations in the area. We are taking part in the County Skittles this month. We enjoyed taking part in the Group round of the County Quiz and came a close third behind Cowplain A and Denmead Evening institutes.

We catered for two coach party teas last month on two of the hottest days of the year. This is our main fundraising to cover cost of speakers for the coming year.

Our Summer Outing this month is to the Bombay Sapphire Distillery. We are hoping the weather will be fine for us this year so that we can enjoy the beautiful surroundings and wildlife.

We will have a stall at the Horticultural Society Summer Village Show this month where we hope to meet old friends and make new acquaintances. It will be a busy day for us as we will be taking part in the group round of the skittles tournament that evening.

There will be no monthly meeting this month. Next month's meeting will include a talk about the Rosemary Foundation Hospice at Home and the competition is for an item made of ribbon.

We invite all ladies to our meetings held on the first Wednesday of the month from 2 to 4pm in the Memorial Hall, Hambledon Road. We have talks and demonstrations on a wide range of subjects so there is something to suit all tastes and interests. If you have recently moved to the village or retired the WI is the ideal way to make new friends or renew old friendships.

If you are unable to attend an afternoon meeting the Evening Institute would welcome you to their meetings at 7.30pm on the third Wednesday (except December when they met on the second Wednesday)

*Joan Downing ( 9226 5458)*



Lesley Rose, Advice Services Manager at Citizens Advice Winchester District advises how to check if a property rental is as good as it seems.

**Q** *I've seen a new property advertised which I'd like to rent and am thinking about putting a holding deposit down. However, the rent is really cheap - should I be worried it's a scam?*

**A** You're right to be cautious if the rent is a lot cheaper than the market rate. Don't be hurried into paying a deposit before you view the property and look at your tenancy agreement.

Viewing the property is important – not least so that you can see if it's as advertised. If the landlord refuses, or is evasive, take this as a possible warning sign they are not legitimate. Even if you have seen the property, it's still important to check your tenancy agreement carefully.



**Winchester District**

*For more information contact Winchester District Citizens Advice Bureau, at our Bishops Waltham office,*

*(Well House, 2 Brook Street, Bishop's Waltham, SO32 1AX, 01489 896376) or Denmead Outreach at Denmead Community Centre, School Lane, Denmead, Thursdays from 9.30-11.30am. Alternatively, call the Adviceline on 03444 111306*

Citizens Advice Winchester District is an independent charity offering free, high quality advice to everyone in our community. Citizens Advice [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)

Online free advice from Citizens Advice to help you find a way forward, whatever the problem. Our research enables us to campaign on issues affecting people's lives.

You should expect your tenancy agreement to give the name and address of the landlord, along with their contact details. Ask for this information to be added if it's not already included. If no contract is provided, or information on your landlord is missing, this is another red flag that the letting could be a scam.

Finally, it's a good idea to see if the landlord is a member of a professional landlord association or is accredited by the local council. Membership isn't compulsory, but it will mean they are legitimate and will operate to a minimum standard.

Trust your instincts and if in any doubt, don't part with your money. For further help on identifying possible scams call the Citizens Advice consumer service on 03454 04 05 06 or visit your local Citizens Advice in Winchester or Bishops Waltham. Alternatively visit [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)

## Denmead Evening Women's Institute

At our June meeting we learned about the Queen's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard which is the oldest British military corps in existence, originally created by King Henry VII at the Battle of Bosworth. There are now 60 members drawn from retired military and their role is now purely ceremonial as they accompany the Sovereign to various occasions such as investitures, garden parties, and opening of Parliament.

For our July meeting we welcomed a speaker from the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals. Founded in 1917 by animal welfare pioneer, Maria Dickin CBE, PDSA is the UK's leading veterinary charity. Operating through a UK-wide network of 48 Pet Hospitals, PDSA provides low cost and free veterinary care to the sick and injured pets of people in need and promotes responsible pet ownership.

Our August meeting is always a social event and this year will be held at All Saints Church Hall on the 15th. This should be a really fun evening with an earlier start to enjoy playing New Age Kurling and share a supper prepared by some of our members.

On 18th August we will have a stall at the Horticultural Show in the grounds of All Saints Church when there will be a

selection of books & cakes to purchase, plus a fun competition for all our visitors to enjoy. There will also be some WI information for anyone who wishes to learn more about the organisation – do come and say hello.

Our Craft group continue to meet on the second Tuesday evening of the month at the Community Centre, and our monthly Meet & Eat lunch at a local hostelry is planned for the 21st. Both of these occasions allow lots of chat time and are much enjoyed by all participants.

The ideals of the WI of truth, justice, tolerance and fellowship are as strong and important now in the 21st century as they were at the birth of the WI in 1915. It comes in all shapes & sizes and offers women the opportunity to be involved in the way that suits them. Our regular meetings are on the third Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm at Denmead Memorial Hall (second Wednesday in December). Guests can attend up to 3 meetings free of charge prior to joining.

[www.hampshirewi.org.uk](http://www.hampshirewi.org.uk) or  
[www.theWI.org.uk](http://www.theWI.org.uk)

or call Irene Woodings on 023 9257 1663.

## Hampshire County Council

### Robots on the Verges

Hampshire Highways teams are trialling new robotic grass cutters as the annual grass cutting programme gets underway. Grass cutting is an important part of HCC annual highways maintenance programme as good visibility is vital for all those using the road to maintain clear lines of sight. The robotic cutters use smart technology to navigate easily around obstacles and pre-set boundaries. This means they can be used in areas where traffic travels at higher speeds and where it would be more dangerous for workers to operate.

Hampshire County Council manages around 5,500 miles of road and 2,000 miles of roadside verges. Grass and foliage is cut once a year on rural roads with swathes cut back to one or two metres depending on location, and urban verges are cut more often. Outside of this, grass and foliage will be cut back where it may cause a safety risk because of reduced visibility. Hampshire Highways take extra care to manage over 200 Roadside Verges of Ecological Importance in Hampshire.

### Sustaining local Services

Hampshire County Council is considering its future spending priorities and how best to meet an £80 million budget gap by 2021/22, arising from continuing demographic pressures, as well as inflation

and Government grant reductions. As well as meeting all statutory duties, the County Council will continue to do everything possible to address the issues we know people care most about – from supporting the most vulnerable adults and children, to fixing Hampshire's extensive road network. We will seek to bridge the budget gap through a combination of careful investment, further innovation, and greater collaboration with partners and communities. By investing in the latest technology, the County Council is providing more responsive and efficient services. For example, recently launching the world's first trial with tech giant Amazon to adapt Alexa to help vulnerable people live more independently; and now using robotic grass cutters to keep roadside verges under control.

### Public Transport Subsidies

Hampshire County Council is asking for residents' and stakeholders' views in a public consultation on options for applying budget reductions in subsidies for public transport and in street lighting. This follows the "Shaping Hampshire: Balancing the Budget" public consultation in 2017 which identified residents' priorities. Our priority is to direct resources to where they are most needed and the County Council's Cabinet agreed earlier this year to protect the community transport service which

provides vital support for elderly and disabled residents.

For some time, the County Council has been working with Hampshire's bus operators to discuss how, between us, we can reduce the impact of our budget pressures on supporting bus travel. Bus use in Hampshire is close to a 20 year high, and the vast majority of journeys are made on commercial services operating without any public subsidy at all. However, even though 89% of bus services in Hampshire run without public subsidy, the pressure on the County Council's revenue budget means we can no longer afford the level of subsidies we have provided in the past. Therefore, the County Council is seeking to make savings by making changes to financial support for public transport services. Feedback from passengers will be looked at carefully, alongside data on passenger journeys and the cost of providing individual routes or services to inform final recommendations for consideration in the Autumn.

Community Transport schemes, such as Dial-a-Ride, Call and Go, Taxishares and Minibus Group Hire Schemes are not included in these proposals but people will be asked whether the discretionary discount for holders of older persons' bus passes on community transport should be continued.

The County Council is also asking residents their views on proposals to switch off some street lights for two or more hours during the night. This would mean that some areas of the County would have no street lighting for a period of the night time.

Further information and the online questionnaire is available now at [www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations](http://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations). The consultation closes at midnight on 5th August 2018. Paper copies are available on request by calling: 0300 555 1388. A full list of public transport subsidised services will be included.

### **Queen's Birthday Honour**

Hampshire County Council's Director of Children's Services, Steve Crocker, has been made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in The Queen's Birthday Honours (9th June 2018).

*Patricia Stallard*

*County Councillor  
for Winchester  
Southern Parishes*

*pgstallard@aol.com*



## Probus Club

Waterlooville Probus Club provides a meeting place for retired or semi-retired, professional or business, ladies and gentlemen. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 'The Chairmakers', Worlds End, Hambledon, PO7 4QX.

The next meeting will be held on the 14th of August, from 12.00 noon to 3.00 pm. We meet for a drink and a chat with fellow members, and after a 3-course lunch, our guest speaker, Anne Charlesworth, will give a presentation entitled 'Petworth Park and House'

If you would like further information on the Probus Club, please contact our Secretary, Peter Quine, on 079 2662 0530 or by e-mail to [peterpia1989@outlook.com](mailto:peterpia1989@outlook.com).

## Useful Local Contact Numbers

DENMEAD BAPTIST CHURCH [www.denmeadbaptistchurch.org.uk](http://www.denmeadbaptistchurch.org.uk)  
22 Mead End Road, Denmead, PO7 6PZ. email: [admin@denmeadbaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@denmeadbaptistchurch.org.uk)

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

The Registrar of Births and Deaths: Appointments Only. Telephone: (01489) 894044  
Health Centre: 023 9223 9630  
General Visiting, and Help in Bereavement – please contact Church Office: 9226 8757  
Denmead Community Care Group: (COMMUNICARE) 023 9223 9630  
Denmead Community Centre: 9225 6132 9am - 3pm, Monday-Friday  
Memorial Hall Bookings: Mrs S Thomas, 9235 5993  
Police Contact No: 08450 45 45 45  
Burial Ground enquiries: 9224 7947  
Denmead Parish Council: 9224 7947  
Winchester City Council 01962 840222