Meon Matters

News, Views & Comment from East Meon



£1.00
Summer 2025
Issue Number 225
meonmatters.com

W F Plumbing Heating

wtfleming@Icloud.com

Mobile 07775 866690

Home 01329 830379

GAS safe REGISTER 551073

REFCOM F-GAS CERTIFICATION REF1019779

William Fleming

Plumbing & Heating & Renewables
Boilers :- Servicing, Replaced, upgrades
Central Heating :- Flushed
Gas, LPG, Oil, Air Con, Heat Pumps
Domestic & Commercial

43 years experience
Heat Pumps
Air Con Splits £1,199
Breakdown . Service
New Installs

Air Con Split Installed £1,199 inc Vat with remote control with 5 years Warranty

OFTEC Registered Technician 30832

WORCESTER Accredited Installer

BOSCH



RICS

The Property Ombudsman

For property advice or a free valuation call

01730 771222

countryhousecompany.co.uk

arla | propertymark PROTECTED

naea | propertymark PROTECTED

Is your cup half full or half empty? Outdoor types have had one of the finest springs on record and it looks like a sweltering summer is on its way. Sunshine and flowers. But if - like our farmers - you are trying to grow more than a few dahlias in the almost endless sun you would not be so happy. Our village has had a splendid first half of the year (and first quarter of the 21st century). The Boat Race is now a fixture and the Fair was a big hit, despite finding one of the cooler days of May. A big well done to David Lewin on boat race and Doug Flynn for rising to the May Fair challenge and to the core team (Peter Lague, Emily Rich and everybody else) who mucked in to make it a proper village event.

And we have (or possibly by the time this reaches you had), Open Gardens, a Church Fete, the Cricket Sixes and the Frank Turner benefit concert to prove that East Meon knows how to party, have fun and raise money for good causes. Brilliant work from so many volunteers - not least Susan Davenport's eight year stint running the parish council . But – if you want to keep looking at the empty half – the Church needs every penny its team can raise for building and heating works, and the village hall needs cash as well as goodwill to run (let alone finance any rebuilding plans). Times are tough for some.

Enjoy the sunshine and keep draining – and refilling - those cups. Half empty, and half full.

Photo credit for cover picture: Andrew Hughes

About Meon Matters

We print 4 issues annually - roughly April 1,July 1, October 1, December 7.

Copy deadlines are two weeks before publication. The advertising and editorial contact is;- meonmatters@gmail.com. Supplied editorial content format is, Word or plain text.

The Editorial Team: meonmatters@gmail.com
Editors: Andrew Hughes, Nicky Staveley, Anna Tebbutt, Lesley Hussell, Jenny Humphreys
Advertising and Finance: Andy Hales
Distribution: Elves
Layout and Printing: Wildly Upbeat Printers

Useful Numbers

POLICE:
101 or 01962 841534

WEST MEON SURGERY:
01730 829666

OUT OF HOURS DOCTOR:
111

EAST MEON STORES:
01730 823 276

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU:
03444 111306 / 0300 3300650

EHDC:
01730 266551

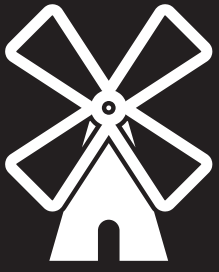
EAST HAMPSHIRE COUNCILLOR:
Rob Mocatta 01730 823908

EAST MEON PARISH COUNCIL:
01730 262882 / 01730 776207

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:
0845 603 5638

EAST MEON CARE GROUP
03300434823

EAST MEON VILLAGE
HALL BOOKINGS: 07956 783061



WINDMILL GARAGE HORNDEAN

info@windmillgarage.co.uk

02392 571 003

The Family Car Specialists

Book your next MOT and Service at the same time and get 10% off your Service
Quote Service10 when you book

Service and MOT must be booked for the same day, for the same vehicle.

Does not include optional sundries such as long-life oil.



Website Directions

Malcolm Farrow - Vexillologist



Do you remember walking through the village during lockdown and spotting two flags flying opposite Lower House Farm in Frogmore? Did you, like me, have very little idea which countries they represented but hugely grateful for that contact with the wider world? They flew because Malcolm has been, for 20 years, President of the Flag Institute, the organisation that encourages the adoption and registration of flags to promote the cultural life of a county, a town or village or a region like Exmoor or the Black Country. Malcolm was in the navy for 39 years and when he was a junior officer his captain asked him to identify a flag on a merchant ship they passed in the Caribbean. He was not able to do so and vowed not to be caught out again! His passion for flags is undiminished and he boasts a wide selection.

His career in the Navy took him all over the world (including the Falkland War of 1982). In the early days he used to bring quite weighty objects home to remind him of different nations until his mother complained, and from then on he bought little table flags (4" x 6") and thus began his interest in vexillology.

Most unusually, because of service commitments, he never passed out of Britannia Royal Naval College Dartmouth on completion of training back in 1965. This omission was rectified in April 2025, when his daughter Alice arranged for him to join the passing out parade alongside Midshipman Charlie Murphy, the grandson of his great friend, Commander Charles Roe, who died suddenly several years ago.

In later years he ran several momentous events for the Navy including the International Festival of the Sea (twice) and was Director of the national service of commemoration for Lord Nelson in St Paul's Cathedral during the Trafalgar bicentenary of 2005.

Like me, he moved to the village 8 years ago. He knew it well because he had lived in Petersfield for 30 years and ferried his daughter out to ride in East Meon for many years and cycled all around the area. In fact, he still impressively puts his number one cycle ride as up to Salt Down, then Coombe Cross and Hen Wood and home. On a free day, he would choose to cycle up Butser (!) and keeps fit by walking his daughter's red setter, Gabby. He loves early summer but regrets the passing of the distinct seasons of the past.

In latter years, he has become a vegetarian boasting some excellent wild garlic soup amongst other specialities. He met many of his friends through the church when he first came to the village and he enjoys the eclectic talks at the History Club. Classical music, particularly Italian opera, makes him smile.

Answering the question about his most precious possession, he immediately replied that it's his family's 'Breeches Bible', dated 1586, which he found by chance in the attic of a shepherd's cottage on the North York Moors where a distant relative once lived.

Nicky Stavely

Pearl Window Cleaning Services

A local family-run business

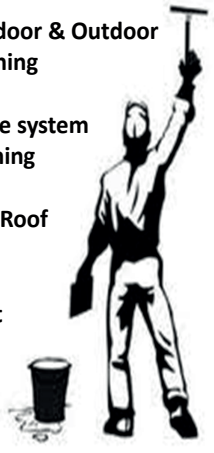
Traditional Indoor & Outdoor Window Cleaning

Water-fed pole system Window cleaning

Conservatory Roof Cleaning

Fascia & Soffit Cleaning

Fully Insured



For your FREE quotation
Please contact Adam or Samantha
Tel: **07546954686**
Email: **pearlwcs@gmail.com**

Local Treasures

An experienced local team ready to get that job done:

- Companionship - social visits, shopping, light housework, meal preparation...
- Gardening - regular/one-off, mowing, hedge trimming, garden tidy, weeding...
- Cleaners - regular/one-offs, spring cleans, end of term tenancy...
- Handyman - All DIY, big and small jobs, simple electrics and plumbing...

... also petcare, ironing, decorating, admin and more...

Call Lou Bushell on 0333 577 3301

hellolou@localtreasures.me www.localtreasures.me



AWM

Arbrook Wealth Management

Qualified Advice for Retirement Planning
Investment Planning & Protection.

Chris Brooker(DipPFA)

Principal of Arbrook Wealth Management

M. 07932 892360

E. chris.brooker@sjpp.co.uk

SJP Approved 25/02/2025

Meon Matters Meets the Sexton - Alastair Dudley Williams

So what is a sexton, Alastair?
In East Meon's case the sexton is the volunteer who manages the graveyard and grounds of our fabulous Grade I listed church, All Saints. Other sextons sometimes have responsibility for looking after heating, lighting and all the interior but East Meon is fortunate to have a strong PCC and other volunteers covering these matters.

How did you get involved?
I met the previous vicar in the grounds one evening trying to dig a hole for some ashes using a spoon. It seemed appropriate to offer to get the right kit to do it properly and things have gone on from there for around ten years now. It's been an interesting and rewarding time volunteering for the church, and I don't regret it at all.

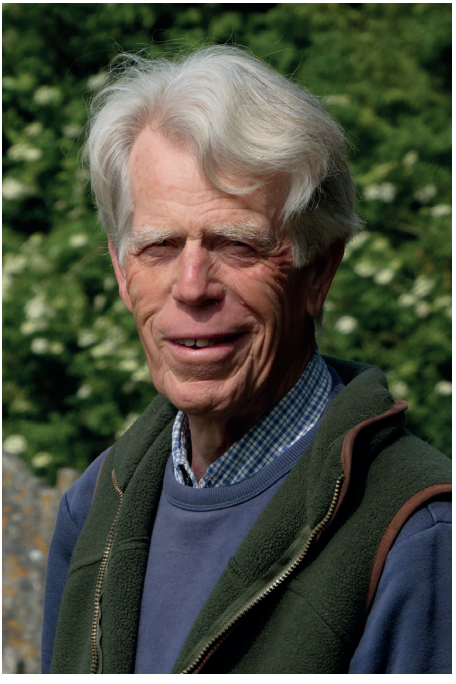
What are the best things about the role?
It's great to be working as part of such a strong team, especially Father Tony Forrest. the church wardens, Emma Bird and Stuart Martin, an active and supportive PCC and the contractor Kevan Hiscox, who really knows the grounds and knows his stuff. It makes what could be a tricky job enjoyable. The gravediggers Chris and Patrick Curren are also a pleasure to work with.

And the most difficult?
Along with Father Tony and the wardens you are managing relations with families at a delicate and emotional time. It's usually a pleasure and a privilege but you have to tread softly, especially when we get requests that can't be met. We restrict burials and internments to people with village connections, for example, and can't guarantee positions in the churchyard.

What have you learned about East Meon church in the role?
The graves are a living history of East Meon's connections with the wider world. The four Commonwealth war graves are an especially poignant reminder of our past.

What plans are there for changes?
A major project run by Dan Marchant is about to start (in July) which will clear a lot of the overgrown ground towards Park Hill and also trim the lime trees and yew by the road,making more of the graves easily accessible and improving the presentation. That should be complete before you publish. In the longer term we aim to map all the graves so visitors from outside the village can find relatives more easily.

Alastair Dudley Williams
was talking to Andrew Hughes



MEON VALLEY
CHIMNEY SWEEP

Qualified and fully insured chimney sweeping service based in East Meon, serving all the surrounding towns and villages

- Specialist brushes and equipment to sweep all types of chimney flue, lined and un-lined
- Thatch Advice Centre associate member
- Bird nest removal
- Certificates issued with every job
- CCTV flue inspections

Call Katie Foster on: 07827 727801
www.meonvalleychimneysweep.co.uk
meonvalleychimneysweep@gmail.com

THE DELL
HAMPSHIRE

CAFÉ | BAR | PIZZAS



Open May - September 2025
Please see our website for opening hours

www.thedellhampshire.co.uk

A Message of Thanks - Susan Daveport

The Parish Council would like to extend its heartfelt thanks to Susan Davenport for her outstanding leadership and dedication over the past eight years as Chair.

Susan has been an unwavering champion for East Meon. Her tireless work behind the scenes, including resolving complex title deed issues for Parish land, has made a lasting impact. Thanks to her persistence, these important records are now properly registered—a task that required both patience and determination.

She has also been instrumental in tackling long-standing issues with our sewage system. Through her thorough investigation and persistent communication with Southern Water, the cause of recurring raw sewage overflows in Workhouse Lane was finally addressed. Her efforts led to Southern Water accepting responsibility and taking much-needed action.



Protecting our village's heritage has also been a focus for Susan. Under her leadership, the preservation of our BOATs (Byways Open to All Traffic) was made a priority. Through collaboration with fellow residents, parishes and ongoing pressure on Hampshire County Council, she helped secure six-month winter closures and short-term weather-related restrictions, helping safeguard these ancient tracks for future generations.

Susan also guided the Council through the challenging lockdown period, ensuring continuity via Zoom meetings and keeping community matters moving forward during uncertain times.

Over the past eight years, the village has grown—particularly in recent years, with a 7% increase in housing. Susan has been a steady presence throughout, always taking time to listen to residents, respond to correspondence, and delegate effectively to build a strong and responsive Council team.

East Meon is undoubtedly a better place thanks to Susan's commitment, compassion, and leadership. On behalf of the Parish Council and the community, we offer Susan our sincere thanks and best wishes for a very happy retirement.

CEDAR VALLEY

GLAMPING & CAMPING
in the Meon Valley



www.cedarvalley.co.uk
admin@cedarvalley.co.uk

We Clean Ovens
...so you don't have to!
Call us today to have your cooking appliances sparkling, using our own eco friendly products.



Our oven cleaning experts will leave you free to enjoy your valuable leisure time.

Rated 5.0/5.0 on TRUSTpilot
ovenu
oven valeting service
Local | National | Affordable
Call TODAY for LOCAL Service 01730 622344
ovenu.co.uk/oven_deaning/petersfield

The Great East Meon Boat Race 2025

Thank you to everyone that took part in the 2025 Great East Meon Boat Race. The sun shone and despite the lack of water in the river we managed to float a record 94 assorted craft (up from 72 last year) and 116 yellow plastic ducks from the Izaak Walton to Ye Olde George with help from our 'river rats' in their wellies! We probably had around 250 people along the riverside which helped produce a lovely family atmosphere.

The staff and Friends of East Meon School (FEMS) Team did an amazing job with games and sideshows as well as a delicious BBQ and cake stall. The burgers and freshly prepared waffles were delicious!

We ran 10 boat races with the winners being: Charles Catto, Arthur Furness, Archie Sealey, Tyr Bettles-Hall, Alastair Pepper, Jacob Stringer, Alfie Gammer, Rudi Bettles-Hall, and Joe Larke with the winner of the Duck Race being known only as 'Tim'.

Photos Steve Howard




Register
Here




start
MONACOR



The Design and Build awards were kindly judged by Richard and Jane Brown:

"Class 1 Winner #68 Grandpa Pig's Boat by Isabelle Symington - plenty of good colourful detail and variety on board and well done for hand-making the family!

Special mention for #33, 6th of a Galleon (shouldn't it have been a quarter if a pun was intended?!) of Simon Sharp. Excellent rigging and superstructure but lacking in the ballast department!

Class 2 Winner #85 Pirate Max by Archer Jones - a nice touch with the port and starboard cannon and a formed bow.

Class 3 #12 The Packing Peanut by Noah Hext-Harvey - good use of packing material to enhance a well coordinated colour scheme, while providing a very stable platform.

Special mention to #53 River Vibes by River Noble, the first entrant to have used a stealth motor which worked brilliantly, but only when pointing in the right direction!

Also special mention for the well designed and executed small dug-out canoe with two outriggers (Sorry we didn't note the name and number, possibly no 45)."

As well as the volunteers, the success of the event is also very much down to our sponsors, Petersfield Service Centre (Stroud), Burley Geach Solicitors, Bereleigh Estate, East Meon Vineyard, M J Tosdevine, Ye Olde George Inn and Dampney's Remarkable Drinks. Thank you for your generous support.

A substantial amount of money was raised to support the work and infrastructure of our Village School and with the Boat Race now capable of maintaining itself as a stand-alone event, we plan to reprise it again next year – but bigger and better as the East Meon Regatta!

David Lewin.

IMMACULATE HOUSEKEEPING

Cleaning & Housekeeping Service

• Cleaning • Deep cleaning • End of tenancy cleaning
• Full housekeeping • Fully insured

info@immaculatehousekeeping.co.uk
07979 195117 01730 827983



EAST MEON
BERRYGARDEN

Vintage Sparkling Wine from
the East Meon Vineyard

For information about
our wines visit:
www.eastmeonvineyard.co.uk
or email:
sales@eastmeonvineyard.com
grbartlett@ymail.com





Horses and their owners in East Meon

When Queen Victoria came to the throne in 1837, horses were essential to farming life in East Meon as was manual labour. Within 150 years farm horses had largely disappeared, replaced by machinery.

But horses are still important to villagers' lives, mostly for leisure pursuits but also, as Georgina Marks shows, for breeding and sales purposes. The Hursley Hambledon Hunt holds its opening meet in November at Bereleigh. The last farrier in East Meon has left but there is a very busy farrier living between East Meon and West Meon. There is always a need for hay, haylage and straw and there are many saddlery shops flourishing in the neighbourhood. Equine vets (specialised work) are well thought of in this area and the Hambledon North Pony Club, based at Peake Farm at Warnford, has produced many able young riders from East Meon, who made lifelong friendships as members.

I asked several villagers to tell us what horses mean to them and their history with horses particularly relating to East Meon. You will see below that the breadth of their experience leads from their early days as a pony-mad girl (or boy!) to the development of both expertise and a love of equine sport that lasts long into later life.

Bridget Biddlecombe (nee Tyrwhitt-Drake) – East Meon

Ponies and then horses have been a major part of my life. I did the National circuit show jumping when at Bereleigh - very amateur but became friends for life with many including Althea Roger- Smith whom I introduced to Josh Gifford (the well-known jockey).



They produced Tina Cook (Olympic 3 day event rider) and I am her godmother. I have been more than fortunate to have travelled the world as chief "Groupie!" For Team GB, with Tina and Althea. Tina has retired from top class eventing and we are now supporting her 20 year old daughter Isabelle who has already won European junior and young rider medals and hopes to win more!

My daughters were pony mad, took part in Pony Club eventing, show jumping and gymkhana teams. But by 15 parties had outweighed ponies. However, they still love riding if they get the chance.

At whatever level you ride at, if you just enjoy "happy hacking" it's a wonderful healthy pastime.

BLOOMING DESIGNS
CREATIVE
WORKSHOPS

ART COURSES
FOR ALL ABILITIES



FIND OUT MORE AT
WWW.BLOOMINGDESIGNS.COM

07919 160401

THE REAL FLOWER Co

Looking for a Local Wedding & Event Florist?



At
The Real Flower Company,
we create floral arrangements
to suit any budget and for any
occasion, using our own
sustainably grown flowers
and foliage.

Please call us at our
Hinton Ampner flower farm
on 01730 818300 to discuss
your flower requirements.

www.realflowers.co.uk



Mel Ebling - Frogmore

Horses have been part of my life since I was around 7 years old and my sister and I were lucky enough to have our first pony share. Things have revolved around horses ever since. Growing up, summers were spent at the yard with my sister riding, bathing, grooming and generally hanging out with horses. I've had my horse, Pride, for around 14 years. She's a beautiful girl, full of character and opinions, especially about all of the potentially deadly things that might jump out of hedges!

I have recently had the opportunity to move her to the village and having her so close to home is wonderful. I've enjoyed exploring the local countryside on foot since moving to the village a couple of years ago and am extremely happy to now have my horse near to explore with too.

Pride, spending time at the yard and riding in beautiful countryside is my little bit of peace, to get away from the world and life's stresses. Although Pride does also tend to provide me with plenty of stresses and generally seems most interested in the snacks I can provide her with that anything else!



Anthony Ward -Thomas - Oxenbourne

We keep 6 horses at Parsonage Barn. They are all point to pointers. We train them from home using grass gallops and a recent addition of a 400 metre sand circle track.
I have been involved in this amateur sport for most of my adult life and rode as an amateur until 2012. Apart from my facility, (if you know where to look), there is a tremendous variety of options to ride and enjoy the whole experience of the freedom that the sport or leisure can offer.
The cost of keeping horses and exercising is becoming an issue and puts many people off. I do believe that sharing facilities is now the way to maintain a consistent interest in the sport and a cohesive effort needs to be considered where we can all help.
It's a bit like having a tennis court which is never used or shared as it could be.
Come and have a gallop on my sand track!

Lesley Dampney – East Meon

What is it about horses and little girls? From the moment I could talk – all toys, books, posters and films revolved around this wonderful animal. Coming from a non-horsey family, the highlight of my week was the Saturday morning lesson at a riding school and every birthday present was "Own a Pony for a Week'. Car rides were spent day-dreaming as my magnificent white horse and I galloped over fields and leapt hedges by the road. Fast forward past years of school and college to the day we moved to East Meon and I could buy my own horse. Since then, every spare penny was spent fulfilling my dream which I am now lucky enough to share with my daughter. Time has moved on and no horses at home anymore, but I still get to my 'happy place' riding with local friends or with Steffi. Not an unusual story but just sometimes dreams do come true.



Georgina Marks - Drayton



I'm truly blessed to have owned and ridden some gorgeous horses over the past 25years or so. I've also bred my own. Owning and breeding horses is not without its fair share of heartache but also some amazing fun and pure highs! I currently have 6 horses on the "payroll", three of which are beloved "golden oldies" and pensioned off (Troika, Pepper and Heidi) and a lovely 2 year old (Lando). My two current riding horses are my homebred mares both out of my super mare Miss Muffet (Pepper!). The oldest is 9 year old I'm A Cracker, who is proving to be a fabulous dressage horse and whilst still comparatively young is almost ready to compete at advanced level.

Her younger sister, 7 year old I'm On Fire, is also proving to be rather good at dressage and amazingly for me at my age she absolutely loves jumping, especially cross country and has enthusiastically brought me out of eventing retirement. Last year, was her first season eventing and she was fantastically successful, with consistent British Eventing results including two wins. This meant a coveted place at the 2025 Badminton Grass Roots Championships so I spent the next 6 months worrying about keeping both of us sound and healthy and at the same time in training with a good early season programme of competitions.

Well, we made it and found ourselves at Badminton. We had the most amazing support with so many friends turning up to cheer us. We did a lovely dressage test followed by a fabulous round of show jumping, cheered by our many supporters as we managed to leave all the poles up! Then on to the cross country, a big ask for Lettuce who is still very young to be at such a huge event and never having seen so many people out on the course. Excitingly, we set off across the country in the top 10 and she gave me the most fabulous ride. All the way round I could hear supporters cheering us on. What an amazing thrill! However, it was to be "so near but so far" as poor Lettuce made one inexperienced error, jumping out of the lake not far from home and we collected expensive penalties. A quick pat to let her know that she was going to be ok and bless her, she trusted me, jumped out and flew the rest of the way home to complete halfway up the leaderboard – what a fabulous horse! I loved it and never expected to be able to do this at my age especially on a homebred. It's awfully tempting to try and qualify again!



Genevieve Lodge – Frogmore

I have lived in East Meon nearly 20 years and we (my husband, children & I) are lucky enough to have our own few acres of land & to have built stables. I can see my horses out of my bedroom window which is my idea of bliss.

I got into horses as a child & have been addicted ever since. I enjoy the sociability of competing & of representing one of the local riding clubs (Meon RC) in dressage, showjumping and one day events.

I love eventing, although I enjoy it more than I am good at it! Nerves are no longer what they used to be so I do less now & at a lower height. I still enjoy the fun & thrill of competitions.

I also like to breed the odd foal or two, which you may have seen out on a local walk. I am purely a hobby breeder - they are for my pleasure! But I aim always to breed horses that have the potential to go on to higher level competition.

Most of my time centres round horse needs in the fields or the stables. It's a pleasurable & mucky way to lose time! Sometimes in wet, cold & muddy winters I seriously question my sanity! Still, horses remain part of our lives - an affliction or an obsession?

Well, good luck to Georgina, Genevieve and Anthony! I have spotted several parents running round the lanes beside their children on Thelwell ponies, so the future looks bright. I don't intend to hang up my boots quite yet either because I love seeing the seasons changing, looking over hedges and walls to view wonderful gardens and more than that, experiencing the extraordinary level of trust between you and your horse……

Nicky Staveley

Westbury House Reborn



Anyone driving to West Meon may have seen the digging activity on the old Westbury House land. And those with their ears to the ground may have heard that major developments are in hand. So what's up at Westbury – the big old ruin on the left about a mile outside West Meon?

Many locals know some of the Westbury House story;- an significant house that burnt down in 1904, and was replaced with a rather plug ugly Edwardian pile, the remains of which stand today. This became a private school (attended by a few locals), then a care home which was run so badly that the Care Quality Commission closed it immediately on inspection in 2016 and the lady doctor who owned it finally gave up control a few years ago. More details of the history are available on the History Group Archive.

Various proposals for redeveloping the site were refused, including one to build ten houses on the plot, but last year plans to build a big new house were approved. This means the Edwardian pile – which had become progressively ruined and was visited by both vandals and urban explorers (the difference between the two being debatable) will be demolished and a rather elegant large Palladian style house built on the foundations, with a new wing housing a swimming pool.

Along the way a new drive is being built and flood prevention work is in hand – presumably the extensive digging we can see from the road. There is also work planned to preserve the medieval chapels remains and the Charles Bridgeman regency walled garden.

The plans have been welcomed, not least by those living in the adjacent houses for whom a 20th century ruin attracting unwelcome visitors was tiresome.

Watch this space as Westbury comes again.

Andrew Hughes

Nick Ffoulkes

EXPERT CARPENTRY & PLUMBING

Complete design and installation service





KITCHENS CARPENTRY BATHROOMS

Based locally in East Meon, we would love to help you create your dream spaces in your home; be it a complete kitchen or bathroom or just the perfectly sized shelves or garden deck.
Please contact us for a no-obligation chat about your projects large and small.

07771 790011

info@kitchentech.co.uk

www.nickffoulkesdesign.co.uk

RATED ROOFING

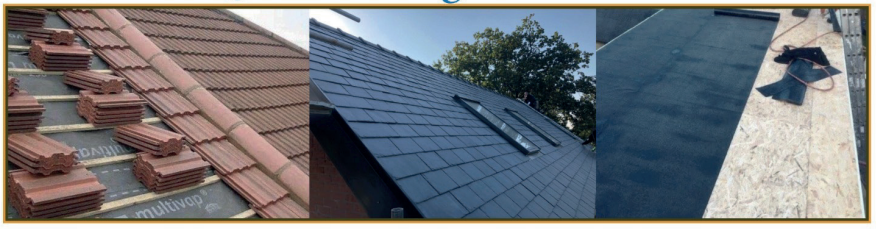
QUALITY YOU CAN TRUST

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESS

New tile roofs
New flat roofs
New slate roofs
New fascia's, soffits and gutters
All roofing and gutter repairs undertaken
Roof cleaning / moss removal
Free roof inspections
Fully insured

BOOK A BUILDER UK · Google · bark · mybuilder.com

24 HOUR CALLOUT



TELEPHONE: 01730 859764 • MOBILE: 07881 276754

Email: info@rated-roofing.co.uk • www.rated-roofing.co.uk/west-meon

Commited to Quality Service



0773045 8985

Hampshire, United Kingdom

karol@paruk.co.uk

Paruk
Building Services

BUILIDNG YOUR DREAMS



One man for a job with over 15 years of experience in construction and home refurbishments, I am always committed to provide the very best service. I run small, family business, working on various projects from summerhouses to full kitchen and bathroom refurbishments. Whether you are looking to start a new project, need repairs done or simply to improve your home to meet your needs, get in touch and I would be more than happy to find the best solution.

www.paruk.co.uk

- Kitchens
- Bathrooms
- Carpentry
- Deck and Patio
- Fencing
- Repairs
- Summerhouses



MAY FAIR

The sun may not have shone on the traditional May Fair but there were many smiles among the hundreds of people (and the many dogs – do dogs smile?) who came to enjoy an afternoon of fun, music, good food, competitions and more.

For the first time we had a display of classic cars and the town crier from Petersfield, plus the fire engine. And then there were the ever popular games like the Human Fruit Machine, Splat the Rat, Coconut Shy……

Arriving in a horse drawn carriage our East Meon School performed a brilliant May Pole dance. The Great Fun Dog Show drew almost a hundred dogs – congratulations to Phoebe the rescue greyhound as best in show. Music was provided by the Otterbourne Brass Band, Ukes of Hazard and our local group Fate of the Magpie.

Delicious tea and cake warmed everyone up, as did the other food stalls – and of course the bar. Finishing with a tug of war between teams of children, any spectator who fancied a tug and East and West Meon umpired by Matt Atkinson.

The organizers wish to thank everyone who came and of course the many volunteers who gave time, skill, good humour, and donations.

Friends of East Meon School contributed hugely to the May Fair. And especially thanks to Peter Lague, Emily Rich and Doug Craig who led the organizing.

The money raised over £7,000 (will go towards the Village Hall maintenance and development.

Anella Parker-Martin

Photos Steve Howard



Maypole



Dog Show Winner Willow and Phoebe



Sprinters



Carriage Riders



Peter Lague, Doug Craig, Emily Rich



The Human Fruit Machine

JDS | GENERAL BUILDERS

For all your requirements

● Extensions ● Alterations Conversions – Lofts, barns etc.

● Brickwork Stone and Flint work

● Oakwork ● New builds Domestic and Commercial

Free Estimates Reasonable rates

Call **Jerry Sillence** East Meon 01730 823524
Mobile 07817 476789

YOUR LOCAL BUILDER!

Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters



Matt Atkinson Chief Tug



Sack racers

West Meon Surgery - Appointments Information

Your Questions Answered

Until COVID, West Meon Surgery ran a traditional 10-minute face to face appointment system. Some patients had several problems to discuss, and so 10 minutes was not a safe length of time to assess their medical needs. Also, that appointment system did not meet the needs of patients with mental health or complex medical problems. As a result, some clinics ran late, and patients were left waiting for their appointment. Add to that an emergency when a patient needs immediate GP intervention, and some clinic appointments might be cancelled and patients sent home.

With the arrival of COVID and the restrictions placed upon Primary Care, GP practices switched to telephone calls for all patient appointments.
Most GP practices have maintained this method of planning the daily patient list because it enables GPs to work in a more efficient way.

Q Why do I need a telephone consultation before I can see my GP?
For better patient care. The telephone call helps us to better identify the care you need:

- Appropriate time can be scheduled to properly manage your health needs.
- You may need more than the standard 10-minute appointment time.
- You may not need to be seen – your health needs may be quickly addressed by this phone call. If you need to be seen by the GP, you will be seen.

Some patients have reported that the telephone consultation actually saves them time as well as help them schedule around work and childcare issues.

Q Are other GP practices using this telephone consultation system?
Yes, most practices now use a telephone appointment first system for their patients requesting appointments.

AS Electrics
Andy Stubbington Electrics Ltd
For all your electrical needs
Free estimates and advice
Contact Andy on
07919 486 334
All information and testemonials on
www.aselectricspetersfield.co.uk

Q What if I am acutely ill or it's an emergency?
On the day emergencies' can be better handled by telephone first, ie before you come in—this saves you and the GP clinical care time. Sometimes, the appropriate urgent treatment can only be provided elsewhere, such as a hospital or other specialist care clinic. If you are acutely ill, a telephone call may be easier for you and we can better arrange the appropriate clinical time for you to see the GP.

Q Why can't the GP address any other medical issues I bring up during my repeat prescription review?
Prescription reviews are scheduled for a shorter time slot than regular appointments.
Please help us help you and all patients needing to see the GP on the day and let us know beforehand if you have another medical issue you wish to raise. This may require a separate appointment.

Q Why can't I have a specific time for the GP's call? It's so frustrating not to know when they'll call me back.
We understand people's frustration when we can't give you a specific time. It's a complicated issue to resolve and we are working on this with our Patient Participation Group. Thank you for your patience.

G. RIXON LTD.

ELECTRICAL PLUMBING AND HEATING ENGINEERS

National Inspection Council for Electrical Installation Contracting
APPROVED CONTRACTOR

GAS safe REGISTER

01329 834600
enquiries@g-rixon-ltd.co.uk
www.g-rixon-ltd.co.uk

We carry out small jobs such as attending to faulty light fittings and dripping taps, to larger jobs such as complete rewires and replacement bathrooms. We are disabled adaptation specialists and install level access showers and accessible kitchens.

G. RIXON LTD. Wynot Heath Road Soberton Hampshire SO32 3PQ

Cricket Sixes 2025





Saturday 28th June saw the East Meon Cricket Club's annual fund-raising beer and sixes extravaganza and once more it was an epic mid-summer day / night celebrated with fiercely contested cricket, copious amounts of Rum Punch, Pimms and beer and then an amazing band and just as amazing local DJ to round the evening off; all the while managing to raise a significant amount of money for the club and other good causes in the village.

It all started at 9.30am with East Meon's own Mother Duckers (shorn of some of their more celebrated talents) taking on last year's debutants Barford, on tour from Warwickshire and coming en-masse to the village to spend the day with us in the sunshine and who ended up entering two teams when Rogate pulled out at the 11th hour.

Last year's winners Porchfield were back from the Isle of Wight to defend their title, and it was a welcome return to the mighty Park Farm Raiders, serial finalists and occasional winners, who along with DACD, Petersfield Hockey and the Queen's Head made up the eight teams.

Twelve matches later and there were two semi-finals – Petersfield Hockey v Porchfield and Park Farm Rangers v DACD.

On the way there had been some heroic deeds on the pitch, but none-better than Tim Lawrence, in front of his adoring fanclub, taking three wickets in an over as the Mother Duckers dodged the wooden spoon and upset the draw by beating Porchfield in their final group game.

The semi-finals saw Petersfield Hockey run up the highest score of the day, 102, before conceding the second highest score of the day as Porchfield ended up on 81 and Park Farm Raiders overcoming DACD on their way to the final.







The semi-finals saw Petersfield Hockey run up the highest score of the day, 102, before conceding the second highest score of the day as Porchfield ended up on 81 and Park Farm Raiders overcoming DACD on their way to the final.

The final was another high-scoring affair with Park Farm Raiders setting Petersfield Hockey a target of 77 to win, which they did with a ball to spare with James Atkinson reverse sweeping the ball away to the boundary to seal the win; although the real damage had been done in the 4th over when Park Farm Raiders conceded 24 to hand the initiative back to team Hockey.

What a day of cricket – and what a pleasure to see the boundary ringed by players, supporters and passers-by enjoying their Pimms and Rum Punch and cheering on the cricket.

The evening party got into swing with live music from the amazing Island City from Portsmouth. Followed up by Nick Crombie's intense DJ set which had the marquee bouncing, until, at midnight it was time to say good night and wend our way slowly homewards.

As always, the funds raised help support the cricket club as well as allowing for donations to some local causes around the village and with the East Meon Primary School again running the lunch stall, it was a good day for them with over £750 pounds being raised for the school.

These things don't just happen – and so a big thank you to everyone that helped out – to Ian Cook and Tim Lawrence for masterminding the day, for James Atkinson for all the work he put in to organise the cricket, sort out the wickets and generally keep everyone energised and on point, to Tim Clay, Dave Rees, and Nick Crombie for sorting out the music, lights and PA system and then to the rest of EMCC for pitching in where needed and putting on a great event for the village. A big thank you to our Sponsors for their support, which is always invaluable in terms of helping to underwrite the day.

And, of course, a final big thank you to you, the village, for coming out and enjoying the evening, it's so good to see so many lovely friendly faces at, what is, one of the highlights of the village calendar. Hurrah!

Andrew de Lotbiniere

Computer Problems Solved

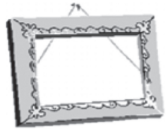


A qualified and experienced Computer Engineer who can efficiently solve your home and business computer needs

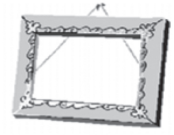
For a friendly, no obligation quote call:

Chris Guénier 01489 890738
07962 641796

CPS Ltd
Orchardlea, Swanmore
Info@computerproblemssolvedltd.co.uk
https://www.cps-ltd.org.uk

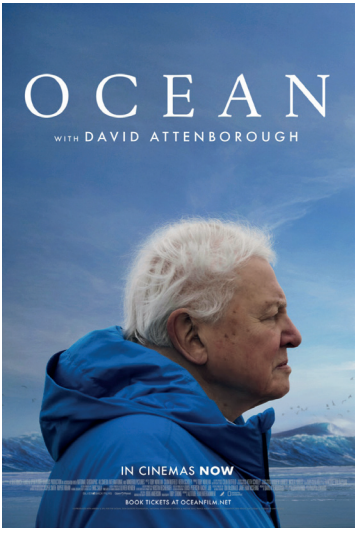


Petersfield Framing Studios



- Bespoke Picture Framing by Andy Parks
- Collection / Delivery service in East Meon
- **ALL** types of work undertaken
- 25 years experience
- Very competitive prices
- **Tel: 01730 269926**
- www.petersfieldframing.co.uk

Natural Life – Under Threat



There is much that I could write about on the nature front. But let me start with 8 May 2025. Prophets have never had a good press. They are trouble. They remind us when we're losing our way in terms of living up to our responsibilities. And they pull no punches in telling us the dire consequences of what we doing. All too often we only take notice of them when it's too late.

In the case of David Attenborough, who was 99 on 8 May, he's not your classic prophet. His anger is not the ranting sort. Maybe that is what makes him persuasive. Maybe that is also what can let us off the hook. Let me quote just one of his injunctions:

"The truth is: the natural world is changing. And we are totally dependent on that world. It provides our food, water and air. It is the most precious thing we have and we need to defend it." He is a frail but precious messenger, even if the things that he asks of us are not easy.

What we are doing locally seems very modest against the challenges he describes. In the early spring we rescued 699 toads and 541 newts from the Combe Road, helping them towards the pond where they breed. We continue to maintain the natural hedges and trees that we have planted on Workhouse Lane, behind the cricket pavilion and by the water treatment plant; also the wildflower area by the Workhouse Lane pavilion. All of these are rapidly providing useful habitat for our wildlife.

We are now well into this season's butterfly monitoring exercise. Elsewhere in the country, there are some encouraging reports on butterfly sightings. We are are not seeing this. We continue to report populations that are, for the most part, unsustainably low. Climatic extremes - premature Springs, long periods of wet weather and extended periods of drought - are exacerbating the wider challenges of habitat destruction, and the use of toxic chemicals in our gardens and on our farms.

The small initiatives taken locally, by the South Downs National Park or more widely by conservation groups such as Butterfly Conservation, can seem inadequate against the scale of the challenge. We can throw in the towel on trying to defend the natural world, or we can hope that somehow these modest efforts will build to something that will make a difference. But what we are doing at present is not enough. Crudely, that is David Attenborough's message.

If you are interested in supporting the work that we are trying to do, then please contact us at eastmeonnature.com

Jonathan Iremonger

Leydene Tree Care

All aspects of Tree Work Undertaken

Tree Removal | Reductions | Stump Grinding
Hedgecutting | Planting

07443 589 659

alexwill12@icloud.com

S J Reed & Son
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS LTD
Est:1976

Domestic
Industrial
Agricultural

ELECTRICAL

Installation
Servicing
Repairs

01730 821 792

sales@sjreedelectrical.co.uk

www. sjreedelectrical.co.uk

Balwens and Badger Faces

We farm two Welsh rare breeds of sheep within the South Downs National Park.

Balwens originated in the Tywi valley in Carmarthenshire and have a strong presence in that area of Wales. However, there are limited numbers in England.

Welsh Mountain Badger Faces originated in Wales but are now found across the UK both on the hills as well as on lowland such as the pasture around Ramsdean.

The sheep are naturally fed on Hampshire grass and hay.
We have a small flock of 50 breeding ewes and three rams. The lambs which we do not want to keep for the breeding flock are carefully prepared by Butcher and Larder in Liss and presented in half lamb boxes.

Each box includes:
- Leg
- Chump Steaks
- Loin Chops
- Rack
- Shoulder
- Neck
- Breast – rolled

The availability of lamb boxes during the year depends on the growth rate of the lambs. The price of a box will also vary according to the weight. If you are interested, please send us an email to info@ramsdeanlamb.co.uk and we will contact you next time boxes are available and you can then place your order.

info@ramsdeanlamb.co.uk
Huw Evans



D.J. SCOTT
GARDEN MACHINERY
SALES & REPAIRS

Wheely Down Garages
Warnford, Nr. Southampton
Hampshire SO32 3LG
Telephone/Fax: 01730 829207

www.dj-scott.com

BSS welding & fabrication is a family run
company based in South Downs National Park



DESIGN & MANUFACTURE OF HANDCRAFTED
METALWORKS BASED IN SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK

Skilled craftsmen in the design & manufacture of traditional & contemporary metalworks

- Gates
- Railings
- Estate & Parkland Fencing
- Garden Structures
- Furniture
- Architectural
- General Welding & Fabrication

For further information or to discuss your next project, please contact BSS on:
Email: jon@brysonsiteservices.co.uk or telephone: 07894 546 789 or 02392 632 988

WI Stroud Coffee Morning

Stroud Evening WI is holding an informal coffee morning on 24th July from 10 – 12 in Stroud Village Hall. Why not come along and enjoy cake, coffee and tea and see what goes on at our relaxed, friendly WI. We are an easy going, inclusive group of women of all ages with a wide variety of interests. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm in Stroud Village Hall and we do not sing Jerusalem. We enjoy talks and demonstrations and we socialise over coffee and cake with friends and neighbours, making new friends along the way. Join us at the coffee morning on 24th July or just turn up at the hall on the second Tuesday in the month at 7.30pm and enjoy the evening.

Sarah's Personal Ceremonies
Civil Celebrant
www.sarahspersonalceremonies.co.uk

Hello, my name is Sarah Morris, I am a fully qualified Independent Civil Celebrant living in Bramdean

I cater to a wide range of occasions, all my services are bespoke and delivered to your personal needs and requirements
Please see my website for further information

Weddings • Engagements • Vow Renewals • Naming Ceremonies
Funerals • Memorials and Tributes • End of Life Celebration
Pet Memorials • Bespoke Speech & Poetry Services

07496 986179 info@sarahspersonalceremonies.co.uk

EAST MEON CINEMA



We are delighted to introduce the first film of the new season.

On Friday 26th September 2025

East Meon Cinema presents

ROMANTIC ROAD

(Cert 12, 81 mins)

At 7.30pm in East Meon Village Hall

This documentary chronicles a six-month odyssey undertaken by leading London lawyer Rupert Grey and his wife Jan, motoring 5000 miles across the Indian sub-continent in their battered 1936 Rolls Royce. Re-creating a youthful 1960s trip and redefining later life, they travel across rural India to reach their goal – the opening ceremony of a human rights festival photography festival in Bangladesh.

Meeting tea-wallahs and maharajahs, dodging tribal conflicts and battling with border-officials, the film's appeal largely stems from the duality of Rupert's identity as an establishment figure with rebellious, hippie tendencies, and Jan's reasoned and tempered influence. The result: a delightful celebration of romance, eccentricity and derring-do.

****

As many of you probably know, Rupert and Jan live in South Harting and we are very lucky that they can join us on 26th September to give an introduction to their film and answer your questions afterwards.

Film tickets remain at £6.50 each, and, as well as the big screen and superb quality sound, there's the bar, ice creams and excellent company.

Buy your tickets at East Meon Village Shop, online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/east-meon-cinema or on the door on the night. If you'd prefer to reserve tickets or if you'd like to be kept up to date with what's coming up by joining our mailing list, email Lucy or Caroline at eastmeonmoviola@outlook.com

Forthcoming dates for 2025/2026 season of films are 31st October and 28th November, then in 2026: 2nd January, 30th January, 27th February, 27th March and 24th April. Details of the next batch of films will be announced in the October edition of Meon Matters.

Welcome one and all!

Parish Council Report - All Change Please

After 8 years at the helm of the Parish Council Susan Davenport has handed in her hat and is off to (hopefully!) have more time to do the things she loves – although we all think what she really loves is haranguing the water companies to do their jobs properly - I suspect she has better plans. We thank her for years of dedicated service, for being charming yet firm and good at taking the lead when a decision was required and for, (shhh, keep it quiet) making Parish Council meetings fun.

Following Susan's decision to step down Matt Atkinson has boldly stepped into the Chairs position. He was voted in unanimously and we thank him for volunteering and are sure he will do a great job at keeping us all in check. We also appointed Chris Brooker as a Parish Councillor;- welcome and thank you Chris, we look forward to working with you. Given that we have had a bit of a re-shuffle I have included a list of responsibilities and our contact numbers below. Please do get in touch if you have any concerns, any ideas or would just like to sound us out on something. We are your councillors and we are here to help the local community and the village as a whole.

As well as electing a new crew, we also created a 'CIL working group'. CIL is a pot of money, given to the Parish Council by the South Downs National Park as a result of housing developments in and around the Parish. The money can only be spent on certain projects and it's the Parish Council's role to decide where we allocate this for the greater good of the community. We would like your ideas, however outlandish they may seem, as many heads are quite often better than one. Please contact Tom Tyrwhitt-Drake on the contact details below. We also put forward jobs for the lengthsman. We get a number of hours from EHDC to use for the upkeep of the village, so, again, if you see anything that needs doing, hedge trimming, sign cleaning, that sort of thing, by the lengthsman, please let us know. All our meeting minutes and governance documents are on the website and we always welcome members of the public at our meetings. Please let our Clerk Sam know if there is anything you would like to raise.

Sarah Round

East Meon Parish Council - Councillors

Name	Responsibility	Tel	Email
Sam Marchant	Parish Clerk/RFO Address: EMPC, PO Box 280, Petersfield, GU32 9FZ	07860 630502	clerk@eastmeon-pc.gov.uk
Matt Atkinson	Chair/Footpaths/Highways/BOATs/Recreation Gorund/EMCC Liaison	7.77E+09	mattatkinson@eastmeon-pc.gov.uk
Charles Ritchie	Vice Chair/Planning Committee/CIL Fund Projects/All Sports Pavilion & Surrounding areas/Football Pitch	823877	charlesritchie@eastmeon-pc.gov.uk
Steven Ridgeon	Chair of Planning Committee/CIL Fund Projects/EMNG and TWiG Liason/River Meon	07584 701077	stevenridgeon@eastmeon-pc.gov.uk
Sarah Round	Potential Grants/Play Areas/School Liaison/Village Hall Committee Liaison	823190	sarahround@eastmeon-pc.gov.uk
Chris Brooker	Planning Committee/Finance	07932 892360	chrisbrooker@eastmeon-pc.gov.uk
Trudie Lang	CIL Fund Projects/Green Spaces/War Memorial/Allotments/Lengthsman	-	trudielang@eastmeon-pc.gov.uk
Jeremy Sillence	Maintenance of Workhouse Lane & Frogmore Car Parks/Litter Bins/Recycling/Lighting/Signage	07817 476789	jerrysillence@eastmeon-pc.gov.uk
Tom Tyrwhitt-Drake	CIL Fund Projects (Lead)/Hedges/Grass Cutting/Projects/EHAPTC Liaison	-	ttdrake@eastmeon-pc.gov.uk
County & District Councillor			
Robert Mocatta	County & District Councillor	823908	robert.mocatta@easthants.gov.uk
Tree Warden			
Richard Dampney	Tree Warden	-	richarddampney@aol.com

Brian

East Meon Parish Council - Councillors

Name	Responsibility	Tel	Email
Sam Marchant	Parish Clerk/RFO Address: EMPC, PO Box 280, Petersfield, GU32 9FZ	07860 630502	clerk@eastmeon-pc.gov.uk
Matt Atkinson	Chair/Footpaths/Highways/BOATs/Recreation Gorund/EMCC Liaison	7.77E+09	mattatkinson@eastmeon-pc.gov.uk
Charles Ritchie	Vice Chair/Planning Committee/CIL Fund Projects/All Sports Pavilion & Surrounding areas/Football Pitch	823877	charlesritchie@eastmeon-pc.gov.uk
Steven Ridgeon	Chair of Planning Committee/CIL Fund Projects/EMNG and TWiG Liason/River Meon	07584 701077	stevenridgeon@eastmeon-pc.gov.uk
Sarah Round	Potential Grants/Play Areas/School Liaison/Village Hall Committee Liaison	823190	sarahround@eastmeon-pc.gov.uk
Chris Brooker	Planning Committee/Finance	07932 892360	chrisbrooker@eastmeon-pc.gov.uk
Trudie Lang	CIL Fund Projects/Green Spaces/War Memorial/Allotments/Lengthsman	-	trudielang@eastmeon-pc.gov.uk
Jeremy Sillence	Maintenance of Workhouse Lane & Frogmore Car Parks/Litter Bins/Recycling/Lighting/Signage	07817 476789	jerrysillence@eastmeon-pc.gov.uk
Tom Tyrwhitt-Drake	CIL Fund Projects (Lead)/Hedges/Grass Cutting/Projects/EHAPTC Liaison	-	ttdrake@eastmeon-pc.gov.uk
County & District Councillor			
Robert Mocatta	County & District Councillor	823908	robert.mocatta@easthants.gov.uk
Tree Warden			
Richard Dampney	Tree Warden	-	richarddampney@aol.com

Brian

Rumours and Truths at Bereleigh

Back in the autumn the sad reality of farming at present hit home at the end of another difficult drilling season and the decision was made to give up in hand arable farming. The initial trauma that the Tyrwhitt-Drake family had to deal with was making Barry Clavey, Brian Boisclair and Ryan Boisclair redundant after a combined service of well over a century! Barry has stayed on to do the general estate work, Brian has taken long overdue retirrement and Ryan has gone on to greater things and we are eternally grateful to them and their families not just for their incredible dedication to Bereleigh but also for their understanding in a very upsetting situation.

The next stage was to appoint Nick and Matt Atkinson to undertake the arable farming for us which they have stepped into with amazing professionalism and commitment, and we have enjoyed welcoming them to farming at Bereleigh! The Tosdevines and Will Atkinson continue to farm some areas of our grassland and many of the villagers will notice that the British White cattle herd is still roaming the downland behind the church and is continuing to develop and we are enjoying them as much as ever.

The shooting is pretty much all booked for the season ahead and Nick, Oscar and Adam have worked round the clock to rear the necessary pheasants and partridge for the days from September to February, and the poults are looking as good as they ever have!

We undertook a few simulated clay days and we hope to do more of these to improve the income to estate in the years ahead. The lobster shoot was again well supported and the house is as busy as always!

I have heard many a rumour about what is happening to Bereleigh, from closing the shoot down to selling to either an American billionaire or a Russian oligarch. I am afraid neither are true and you are stuck with the T-D family hopefully for generations to come. Changes were necessary and change has occurred, and we will continue to monitor and adjust the business as time marches on, but the Bereleigh farm will continued to be farmed, cows will roam the downs, sheep will graze the water meadows, game will fly over the valleys, timber will be harvested from the woods, diversification will continue to flourish, but it will all be done by the T-D family in a sustainable way with a sympathetic approach to our friends and neighbours.

Tom Tyrwhitt-Drake

Annual Parish Award



At this year's Annual Parish Assembly, the Parish Council was pleased to present the Annual Parish Award to David Cooke.

Among David's many contributions to village life, he was a Parish Councillor for over 20 years, including roles on the Planning Commitment, responsibility for allotments and co-ordination of the Lengthsman's activities. David brings honesty and integrity to whatever role he undertakes and his deep knowledge of 'who's who' in East Meon plus the many stories he has about people who have lived here over the years made him a great colleague on the Parish Council and on the other committees and volunteer groups in which he participates.

Thank you, David, for all you've contributed to our community!

MEON VALLEY
LANDSCAPES
GARDENS MADE BEAUTIFUL
•Patios •Paving •Pathways •Walls & Brickwork •Fencing
•Driveways •Hedge Cutting and much more
07765 486984 www.meonvalleylandscapes.co.uk



meon.wood.works

mww

Local designer/maker
Commissioned work in wood
Furniture Repairs & Restoration





Instagram

meonwoodworks@gmail.com

Tim Spence 07860 449036




EAST MEON
CHURCH FETE
£1 ENTRY FOR 14+
SUNDAY 6TH JULY
2PM – 4PM
LIVE MUSIC - DELICIOUS CREAM TEAS
HOMEMADE CAKES - COTTAGE INDUSTRIES
BOTTLE STALL - PLANTS
RAFFLE - BRIC-A-BRAC - TOMBOLA - LUCKY DIP
CHILDREN'S CORNER
FUN GAMES - RUNNING RACES
TREASURE MAP
AND LOTS MORE ...
BRING CASH PLEASE!
COME AND ENJOY THE FUN IN THE DELIGHTFUL SETTING OF
CROSS KEYS GARDEN

East Meon Primary School Entry June 2025

Year 2 Forest School

Forest School is a place where you get to do lots of activities and lots of different playing, building and learning. I do Forest school on Tuesday afternoons outside in the school grounds. At Forest school I made a swing, dug a big hole, planted a tree and cooked food on the fire. We learnt about red ants - they spit acid, they don't bite. I like Forest school because its fun and I get to do outdoor stuff for two and a half hours. Forest school is my favourite part of school.
By Leo – Year 2 Pupil

Explorers Pop-Up Books

Last half term, the Explorers were given a challenge in English to write an alternative ending to the story of The Princess and the Pea. They then developed their knowledge and skills over 6 DT sessions to design and make a pop-up book of this traditional tale which included their own alternative ending. The children learnt about and practiced a new pop-up skill each week including v-folds, mouth folds and box folds. They also experimented with sliders and lift the flap pop-up techniques. The Explorers then put all their new skills together to create their very own unique book. Next week, the class will have the opportunity to share their books with visitors from The Little Care Group.

"I liked using the mouth fold. I used it to make a yawning mouth for the tired princess. I was really proud of myself as I managed to use every new fold that we learnt in my pop-up book."
Amber, Year 3

"My favourite fold was the mouth fold. I used it to make a phoenix in my story. I'm a bit nervous but also a bit excited to show my book to our visitors next week."
Bradley, Year 4





Voyagers Class Update



Over the spring term, Voyagers Class have been very busy.

Year 6 worked very hard in preparation for our SATS tests. When the actual week came, the tests were challenging but we tried our hardest across the whole week. Our hard work was rewarded at the end of the week with a delicious McDonald's and we joined Year 5 in watching a film and enjoyed popcorn and treats.

Year 5 enjoyed their bikeability training. In this training we learnt how to safely signal, manoeuvre and ride our bikes on the road. We practised around East Meon Village and the surrounding area. Some of us didn't like going up hill but we all loved going down.



Our topic for the Spring Term was learning about France and the city of Paris, with its incredible tourist attractions. We learnt how to order a breakfast in French, and we had a French Café set up in the classroom. We enjoyed eating classic French food such as pain au chocolate, baguette, French cheese and croissants. It was tres bien (very good)!

By Elliott, Kody, Henry and Zach – Year 5 and 6 Pupils





Amazing Sculpture

I am a young non-verbal artist with an extra chromosome from East Meon C.E. Primary school. I recently designed and made a piece of art for Furzey Garden's, Jurassic Furzey.

My piece represents my love for connecting with the world through music and colour. It is on display until the end August.

I hope you like it too
Bea

MARK WYATT

Quality Decorating

All aspects of interior and exterior decorating

07830 819300

markwyattqpd@gmail.com

East Meon Garden Club News

With the growing season in full swing, we are delighted to share some of the highlights and upcoming events that have been keeping us busy.

Our much-loved Annual Show returns on Sunday 17th August at the Village Hall. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or a first-time baker, there's a class for everyone to enter, and a photo competition.

Entry forms are available now from the Village Shop or via email at eastmeongc@gmail.com. Completed forms should be placed in the Gold Box at the Village Shop by 5pm on Wednesday 13th August.

You don't need to be a vegetable-growing expert to take part — there are categories covering everything from flowers and photography to baking and crafts. And for younger villagers, our Children's Competition is full of fun and creative challenges.

Gardens Open – Sunday 8th June

What a fantastic day we had! With over 220 visitors, many exploring our village gardens for the first time. A special thank you to our gardeners, helpers, committee members, and of course, the village bakers who provided the delicious homemade cakes – the heroes of every village event!

The Plant Sale was also a hit, offering everything from veg and herbs to dahlias, salvias, and even a few exotic surprises.

Thanks to the generosity of all who supported the event, we're delighted to have donated £500 to The Rosemary Foundation and £650 to East Meon Primary School — with a third donation on the way once final expenses are settled.

Whether you're showing your roses, baking scones, or just stopping by for tea and inspiration, we look forward to seeing you at the Annual Show in August!

East Meon Garden Club

Squid and fennel salad

An unusual but tasty warm salad combination.
Ingredients
1 whole squid
1 red chilli pepper (less if you don't want it too hot)
2 large fennel bulbs

1. Thoroughly wash then slice a good size squid into ½ " strips about 2" long, including the tendrils but removing the beak and extraneous skin. A good sharp knife and a steady hand is a must.

2. Fry the squid till tender with some finely chopped chilli and add some pepper.

3. Slice two large fennel bulbs into strips about 1/4 " wide and braise in olive oil till soft.

4. Add the squid to the fennel pan and allow to cool.

Best served with new potatoes and a wedge of lemon.
Andrew Hughes



Spinach, gorgonzola and walnut salad

A salty and sweet salad combination – if you prefer a less piquant cheese, use a milder dolcelatte instead.

Ingredients

1 tablespoon runny honey
125g walnut halves
250g Fine green/French beans, trimmed
200g baby spinach leaves, washed
150g Gorgonzola
Dressing: 4 tablespoons walnut oil
2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
1-2 tablespoons sherry vinegar
Salt and pepper to taste

1.Heat the honey in a small frying pan, toss the walnuts in the pan and gently fry for 2-3 minutes so the nuts are glazed. Tip onto a plate and let them cool.

2. Blanch the beans in salted boiling water for 3 minutes, then drain, refresh under cold water and drain again.

3. Place the beans and spinach leaves in a large bowl. Whisk together the dressing ingredients, pour over the beans and leaves and toss well to coat.

4. Scatter over the honeys walnuts and crumbled gorgonzola and serve.

Jenny Humphreys



Roasted squash, feta and kale salad

A hearty salad with Moroccan flavours

Ingredients
2 ½ tbsp vegetable oil
1½ tbsp ras el hanout spice mix – or use 1 tsp each of ground cumin, coriander, cinnamon and paprika.
1 medium butternut squash, about 900g
3 plum tomatoes, cut into quarters
150g giant couscous (or regular)
200g shredded kale
100g feta

1. Heat the oven to 240°C, fan 220°C. Peel the squash and chop into roughly 2.5cm cubes. Mix 1 ½ tablespoons of the oil with the spice mix and seasoning in a large roasting tin. Toss the squash and tomatoes in the spiced oil and roast for 20 minutes.

2. Tip the kale into a large bowl and using your hands massage in 1 tablespoon oil plus a pinch of salt, so that the kales starts to soften.

3. Cook the couscous in salted boiling water following pack instructions, then drain.

4. Remove the roasting tin from the oven and mix in the couscous and kale. Roughly crumble the feta on top and return to the oven for 5 minutes – the kale should slightly crisp and the feta starts to take on a little colour.

Serve at room temperature.

Sarah Horn

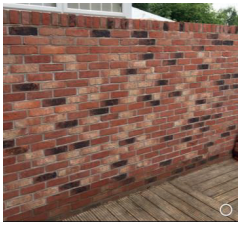


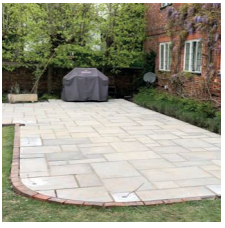
BLACKMAN
Builders Ltd.

Brick and Stonework Specialists

Extensions - Garden Walls - Repointing
Flintwork - Hard Landscaping

Andrew Blackman
Tel: 01730823401 - 07825 869515






MADE IN THE MEON VALLEY

CRAMER BESPOKE

KITCHENS | WARDROBES | CABINETRY | WOOD FLOORING

PHONE: 02392 632222 MOBILE: 07805 040464
JOSH@CRAMERBESPOKE.COM

Why not read our glowing reviews from some of the Meon Valley's most fabulous residents ?

www.cramerbespoke.com

East Meon Village Hall

The Perfect place for your event

Ideal for:

- Weddings
- Parties
- Family Events
- Exhibitions
- Classes
- Picnics
- Sports
- Clubs

Facilities:

- Large and Small halls
- Up to 250 people
- Fully equipped Kitchen
- Stage
- Audio-Visual equipment
- Marquee and Gazebo hire
- Table and Chair hire
- Car Park

East Meon Village Hall

www.eastmeonvillagehall.co.uk info@eastmeonvillagehall.co.uk 07956783061



Self-storage at Meon Springs. We're here when you need us.

Meon Springs, Whitewool Farm, East Meon, Nr Petersfield, Hampshire, GU32 1HW 01730 823249