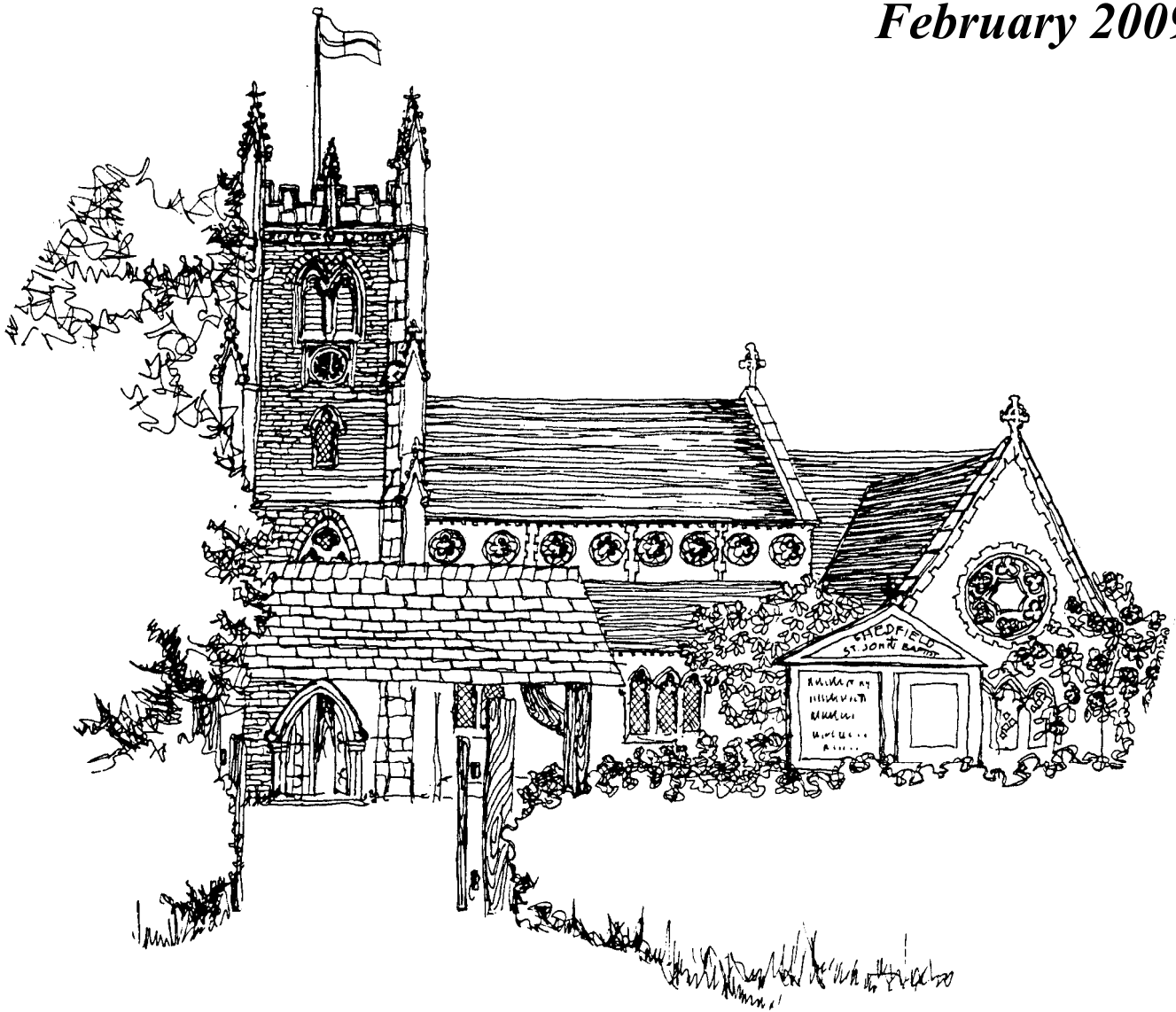


SHEDFIELD PARISH MAGAZINE

*1625 copies of the Shedfield Parish Magazine
are delivered free of charge 11 times a year*

February 2009



Shedfield

Shirrell Heath

Waltham Chase

Vicar: The Revd Bruce Deans

'What's 'giving' got to do with it?'

We're very good at 'receiving' in our society. We love to 'receive' all we can get, whether it be the right & proper praise for our hard work in school, house, or work etc. or whether it be our wages or salary, our bonus (not many of those around at the moment!), or our pocket money. The more we can receive, particularly of the financial variety, the better. I like 'receiving' myself and I make no bones about that! But something that I think has been lacking in our society of late is the idea of 'giving back' to the world around us.

'Giving back' to society and to the community that has given us so much of our up-bringing, our education, our health and our spiritual well-being is something that has somehow gone out of fashion. Maybe it's a downside hangover from the 1980s spirit of free enterprise which some took to mean you look after number 1 and nobody else. The sort of attitude summed up by Harry Enfield's character, 'loadsamoney'. He was funny I have to say – but a little sad also.

Now it's great to hear the commentators saying that there is a new age of 'philanthropy' with the likes of the rock star Bono's campaign to cancel Third World debt, and the founder of Microsoft, Bill Gates, who has put billions of dollars into the 'Gates Foundation' with the aim of improving global health care and reducing severe poverty.

However it's not just the rock stars and the billionaires of the world who are starting to give something back to the world. Here in our own community there are increasing numbers of people offering up their time and money to serve the local community, offering to help in, amongst other places, the local schools, uniformed organisations and local charities. I know this because a number of them are part of the church family!

We can give in so many ways: our time and talents and our money too. I am so encouraged that this is an area where the church is busily at work. And I know that as a church we give financially to many charities, locally, nationally and overseas who desperately need our support.

And the funny thing about speaking to those who give of their time and their money is that they very often tell me how privileged they feel to do it and how rewarding it is to know that the life of other people is improved because of their willingness to give.

'Giving' is, I believe, a crucial part of what it is to be a compassionate human being and an essential part of what it is to be a Christian.

But the reality is we also need to keep our own house running and we need to give to the work of the church in our local community for the young and old, the sick and needy, and the recently bereaved, amongst others.

I am advised by the Church Treasurer that simply to stand still as a church we need to increase our income by around £8K to £10K per annum, starting in 2009. And with a further £10K of roof repairs required in the year ahead, we need the church family to carefully review how much it is giving to God's work in this parish.

But let's not restrict the joy of 'giving' to regular church goers! If you're not a regular church goer but you are a friend of the church, we'd love it if you felt able to make a regular contribution to the finances of St John the Baptist Church. You never know how blessed you might feel by doing so!

Your friend and vicar,

Bruce.

Bruce.



If you feel you'd like to support St John the Baptist Church, please contact the Church Treasurer, Russell Algar at rgalgar@talktalk.net (01489 893056).

PARISH DIARY
Including Church & Study Centre
December

- 1st Fourth Sunday of Epiphany**
10am Parish Communion with crèche
and Junior Church
Vision Topic – Ministry
St John the Baptist Church
- 2nd** 9.30 am Church Cleaning
St John the Baptist Church
- 3rd** 12.30 pm Lunch Club
Study Centre
7.30 pm WC History Group
Waltham Chase Village Hall
- 7th** Bell Ringers Visit
*St John the Baptist Church & Study
Centre*
- 8th Third Sunday before Lent**
10 am All Age Family Service
Vision Topic – Thanksgiving and
Commitment – Week 1
- 10th** 7.30 pm Waltham Chase WI
Waltham Chase Village Hall
- 13th** 10 am Church Mice Toddler Group
St John the Baptist Study Centre
- 15th Second Sunday before Lent**
10 am Parish Communion with Creche
and Junior Church
Vision Topic – Thanksgiving and
Commitment Week 2
St John the Baptist Church
- 17th** 7 pm Baptism Preparation
St John the Baptist Study Centre
- 18th** 2.15 pm Shedfield Women's Institute
Shedfield Reading Room
- 22nd The Sunday next Before Lent**
10 am Family Service
Vision Topic – Mission
St John the Baptist Church
- 25th** 2 pm Waltham Chase Flower Club
Waltham Chase Village Hall
- 28th United Benefice Vision Day**
*St John the Baptist Church & Study
Centre*

PARISH REGISTERS.

Holy Matrimony

20th December Steven Edwards and
Karen Chalk

RIP

28th December Julie Anne Coulson
26th December Victor "John"
Desborough

**BISHOP'S WALTHAM
UNITED FREE CHURCH**
Service – Sunday 10.30am

**ROMAN CATHOLIC
CHURCH**

Bishop's Waltham

Saturday 6.00pm First Mass of
Sunday

Sunday Mass 9.30am

METHODIST CHURCH

Services

Shirrell Heath – Sunday 10.30am & 6.00pm
Waltham Chase – Sunday 10.30am &
6.30pm

Future dates for the diary!

7th February 2009 – Bring & Sing – St
Nicholas Church, Wickham

27th June 2009 – St John the Baptist
Summer Fete

PRAYERS & THANKSGIVINGS FEBRUARY

- 1st For all in High Street Shirrell Heath
2nd Candlemas. Thanks for the Light of the World
3rd For the mentally ill
4th For all new parents
5th For our church choir
6th For all our leisure facilities
7th For our bellringers
8th For the recently bereaved
9th For our Rest Homes
10th For all in Church Road Shedfield
11th For expectant mothers
12th For all with a birthday this month
13th For our music group
14th St. Valentine. For all engaged couples
15th For all newcomers to our parish
16th For the countries of North America
17th For our hospitals
18th For new godparents
19th For all in Winchester Road
20th For the Bishop's Waltham Surgery
21st For our organists
22nd For the Girl Guide Association
23rd For those who have lost faith
24th For the sick at home or in hospital
25th For all in Bull Lane
26th For those preparing for baptism
27th George Herbert. Thanks for our hymns
28th For our Vision Day discussions.

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The Women's World Day of Prayer on Friday, 6th March 2009 at 2pm will be held at St Peter's Church, Bishop's Waltham.

The Christian Women of Papua New Guinea have been responsible for compiling the service which is entitled "In Christ There Are Many Members Yet One Body". This is most appropriate for Papua New Guinea has many languages, cultures, traditions and beliefs. The island of New Guinea is the second largest island in the world after Greenland. The offering of the service worldwide begins in Tonga, passes to New Zealand and then

Australia and within twenty-four hours prayers will have been said right around the world.

Please do come and support this special annual service: all are welcome – men, women, young people and children. The Speaker this year will be Mrs Margaret Symonds.

Afternoon Tea will be served in the Church Hall after the service.

Anne Shotlander

Valentine's Day Tea

Saturday 14th February
at
The Ides, Church Road
Shedfield
3.30 to 5.00pm



Donations in aid of
the Bishop's Lent Appeal

Walking to help others

There is always something new to discover on the annual Deanery Walk for Christian Aid and this year will be no exception. We invite you to come and explore another part of our beautiful Hampshire countryside. We shall follow a circular route of under ten miles, taken at your own pace, with an alternative of about five miles.

So book the date now:

Sunday 10th May 2009, starting at 2.00 pm.
from St Peter's Church Hall,
Free Street, Bishop's Waltham.

Everyone is welcome.

Sponsorship forms will be available from
Easter Sunday

WALTHAM CHASE FLOWER CLUB

It was very pleasing to see so many visitors at our November meeting when Marion Catt did her demonstration "Christmas Crackers". She had wonderful plant material which included orchids, carnations, lilies and roses and her designs were delightful, ending with a beautiful cracker festooned with blooms. Our raffle of the flowers was well supported and everyone who won a prize was delighted. Our competition "Christmas" was also very well supported; 1st was Sheila Fisher, 2nd Mavis Daniels and 3rd Frances Carpenter.

December 11th was our AGM and Christmas Party. Our business meeting reviewed the year, all officers were re-elected and our financial state was found to be sound. Thanks were given to all who contributed to the success of our club. Our party commenced with a competition and general socialising and members brought a delightful selection of food that was enjoyed by all. The overall winner of our monthly competitions was Sue Rogers.

Our next meeting, on February 25th, is a workshop entitled "Winter Wedding". Jenny Withers will demonstrate a design and we will then reproduce it with our own flowers. Please come and join in this meeting even if you don't want to do the practical work. Jenny is very informative and entertaining and we are assured of a really good meeting.

Sue Collyer.



A vision process for the church!

'Where there is no vision, the people perish...'
(Proverbs 29:18 ~ NKJV)

I think the New King James Version of the bible puts it in a rather blunt fashion, but you get the point! There is always a need for a sense of direction for any organisation and the church is no exception. Of course we have had a vision for a long time and it has been invigorated at different times over the years. On this occasion we shall be building heavily on the good work done in the past, particularly all that has been recently achieved and continues to be achieved under the Diocesan driven 'Kairos' process. 'Kairos' is a word that can mean 'seizing the moment', or 'seizing God's moment' and has been hugely helpful in encouraging parishes like our own to seize the moment for change and to think afresh about who we are as Christ's church and our purpose in the world.

With my arrival in the parishes of Shedfield and Wickham, I am keen that we keep on reviewing our progress and continue the process started under Kairos; that we agree a short Vision Statement that sums up what we're about at St John the Baptist and St Nicholas; and that we keep on praying and reviewing and praying and reviewing what we believe God is calling us to be and to do over the years ahead! That said, I don't want us to be contemplating our navels ad infinitum – and on the other hand I don't expect us to change everything we do overnight; evolution rather than revolution is more preferable. We'll be taking it 'gently, gently' so that wherever possible we can bring folks with us when we do make changes. But changes there will be I'm sure, and I hope they'll be exciting changes that refresh us as church and deepen our spirituality and love for the Lord and for his people.

Please pray for us and especially for the Vision Day on 28th February when we'll be getting together as church to think things through and to prayerfully consider what God might be saying to us.

Bruce Deans, Rector of the United Benefice of
St John the Baptist, Shedfield & St Nicholas,
Wickham.

ROTARY CLUB OF BISHOPS WALTHAM

OPEN CHARITY GOLF DAY

Detractors of the scheme for the club to form a local "Business Friends of Rotary" group were silenced by the great success of the 2008 Charity Golf events, which resulted in a creditable donation of £4,052 to Wessex Cancer Trust.

When the Rotarians announced their decision to hold their Charity Golf Day at the East Horton Golf Centre, two of their "Business Friends" immediately rallied round with offers of help in organizing the competition. Brian Acton of Rosehill Car Sales agreed to help run the event and Neville Goddard of Pride Homes Ltd stepped in as a major sponsor.

Other substantial donations were made by the Hendy Car Group and East Horton Golf Centre, and a large number of other companies and individuals contributed to the day - including NatWest Bank with a donation of £500.



PETTICOATS DON'T RULE OK?

Valentine's Day will take on a different emphasis for club members this year as this is the date that the Club's Progressive Supper will be held.

The event is a very secretive affair – well, at least it is for those taking part! Minutes before the start time couples open sealed envelopes informing them where to go for Starters. Their starter host is not aware which two couples will be turning up. None of them know where they will be going for Main Course until the host opens another envelope with instructions of

each couple's venue. The venue for the final course is the only detail of the evening known to all in advance.

This always ensures a good social mix, much suspense and many surprises – mostly pleasant. However, this year a new variable has been introduced – **the gentlemen will be entertaining!** Baked beans on burnt toast? Chinese Takeaway? Frozen meals for six? Bangers and mash? All spring to mind. But, no! We must not fall for the age-old war of the sexes. I bet it will be the best spread members and their wives have enjoyed for many a year.

QUIZ FOR FRIENDS OF TESO

TESO is a local charity close to the Rotary Club's heart. Container loads of useful items are sent off to Uganda once or twice a year from the garage behind the Dentists in Hoe Road, BW. Many Rotary Club members will attend the Quiz in aid of TESO at **Priory Park Clubhouse on Saturday March 14** – some of the club will even be involved in running the Quiz. For information and entry forms ring Pat Morris (01489 892574)

SPRING DANCE AT THE JUBILEE HALL – SATURDAY April 25

This year's Spring Dance will be held at Durley Village Hall on behalf of the Community and Vocational Services Committee. Music for dancing will be by Bob Primmer and the "Primmerettes". Bring your own drinks. Keep this date free.

YOUNG CARERS

As promised, Kevin Emblen has popped in to see the Young Carers in action at Swanmore. He will see what help the Club can give to this group of 12 – 15 year olds, who offer one another support in their role as carers to family members.

SRI LANKA CONTACT

Contact has been made with the Rotary Club of Calumni in Sri Lanka, so that the joint international rescue project with French twin club of Nantes Jules Verne can be progressed.

MUSIC MARATHON

On Saturday December 6th St. John the Baptist Church, Shedfield, was filled with music from 9am to 9pm as individuals and groups from the parish and beyond took part in a Music Marathon. Although undertaken with the aim of raising money for repairs to the Church paths, a greater achievement was the enjoyment of musicians and audience alike as a number of performers entertained us throughout the day.

It all began with the chance for anyone to come and sing their favourite Advent hymns. Several people braved the cold Church and chose a mixture of well-known and less familiar hymns. Afterwards those preparing for the Advent Market were treated to excellent performances on a range of instruments: thanks to Adrian Jordan, Charlotte Lamb, Beth Montgomery, David Burgess and Anna Golding for their contributions. The Brownies and Guides followed this with a brilliant selection of campfire and action songs enthusiastically demonstrated by their leaders.

Shoppers at the Advent Market enjoyed the music of the Methodist Band Quartet, Daryl Franklin on the piano and a great contribution by the children of St. John the Baptist Primary School. Many then stayed to listen to the wonderful sound of the Upham Recorder Orchestra, directed by David Burgess. More solos followed with organ music from David and Julia and a selection of instruments played by the Treveil family. The final hour before the concert was devoted to bells. Thank you to Betty and her teams of handbell and Church bell ringers for supporting the event.

Shedfield Church Choir and Music Group and Wickham Church Choir concluded the event with a concert, performing a wide range of pieces from the Hallelujah Chorus to 'When I'm sixty-four'. After contributions from several soloists including Dawn Scott, Stephen Campion and Gillian Glover, the audience joined in the final choir item as the last note was sung at 9pm exactly! A wonderful day of music making was rounded off with a glass of wine, kindly served by the Mens Group.

Many thanks must go to Ian and Linda Treveil for their help in organising the event, and to everyone who took part through the day. We'll do it again sometime!

ADVENT MARKET REPORT

Each year, early in December, the Advent Market takes place at St. John's and as ever, it was a happy day, made all the merrier by the musicians of the area who played and sang for us as we spent our money on delightful gifts for the festive season. Many, many thanks to all who came to support us and to those who helped including the musicians and the Key Stage One children from St. John's Primary School. Their performances were super!

Thanks also to the stallholders, table movers and organisers of the activity area for the children.

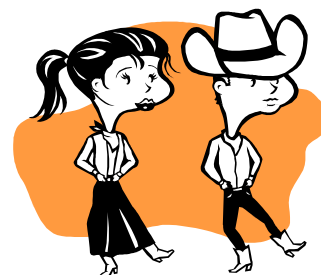
A great day and we raised £2,491 between the Advent Market and the Music Marathon.

Thank you!

LINE DANCING NEWS

A successful first night for complete beginner line dancers opened at Waltham Chase Village Hall on Friday 9th January at 7.30pm. Over 30 dancers came along to learn some great routines from Mick and his "AllStar" team. Dancers were greeted with a newly prepared floor along with a well heated hall to keep at bay the minus temperatures outside. The hour was fun filled and passed quickly as new dancers began to "find their feet". Classes at the hall are on Tuesday afternoon, 2pm - 3pm, and Friday evening, 7.30pm - 8.30pm.

For more details contact Mick on 01489 892096.



Shedfield Horticultural Society

For our opening talk of the year we were entertained by Dennis Bright the well known wildlife photographer and naturalist. The subject of his talk was The Return of the Sparrowhawk and , as usual, we were treated to a feast this time of some lovely slides and some very sad slides.

Back in the 50's and 60's when chemicals such as DDT , Aldrin and Dieldrin were widely used they had a very deleterious effect on the bird population in general but on the population of raptors in particular. At that time gamekeepers also shot anything with a hooked beak and talons. The result was the almost complete destruction of the sparrowhawk population. The result was a rapid increase in the woodland and garden bird population and birds became more trusting and were not afraid of open spaces. This was illustrated by slides of birds nesting in situations where they were in full view to humans and other birds. Gradually over the intervening years the sparrowhawk population has increased to its current level of 40,000 breeding pairs which together with non breeding birds give a total population of around 50,000 pairs. Apparently each bird makes about 1,000 kills a year so one doesn't need to be a mathematical genius to realise what an enormous effect this has on the bird population. The sparrowhawk kills anything below the size of a jay.

Dennis was of the opinion that together with loss of habitat, food sources and increase in predation from domestic cats this could account for the dramatic reductions in bird populations we are currently experiencing. He has observed that garden and woodland birds have become very cautious and can be spooked by the slightest noise. The songsters now tend to sing from cover as singing in the open advertises its presence. The sparrowhawk has also become bolder and more cunning and is happy to hunt in suburban gardens. It was very depressing. He thought birds nesting in the open were especially vulnerable and he knew areas of meadow where lapwings, snipe and redshanks have all disappeared.

He illustrated these points with slides showing carcasses of the above birds plus kingfishers woodpeckers, wagtails, all types of finches and

warbler, and other small garden birds. One could recognise they were sparrowhawk kills as they always remove the head and only eat breast meat. What is done with the head is not known. As the sparrowhawk is a protected species there appears to be little that can be done to rein in the carnage. Dennis finished the evening by raising our spirits with a few slides of a Hampshire otter.

Next month's meeting is on Feb 9th when Stuart Pocock will tell us how to look after roses.

Roger Barton



MEON VALLEY HEARTSTART

Students of MacArthur House at Swanmore College of Technology made a £750 donation to the Meon Valley HeartStart (MVHS) group, in appreciation of the outstanding service they provide. MVHS has trained over 7,000 people of all ages in Hampshire in the basics of first aid since it was formed 8 years ago. Its Instructors have frequently delivered "Life Saving Training" at Swanmore College - teaching pupils how to recognise the signs of heart attacks and how to perform resuscitation.

The 270 pupils of MacArthur House so enjoyed these training sessions that as a thank you they adopted MVHS as their "good cause". Over the summer term they raised funds through a non-uniform day, cake sales, challenges, competitions and MacArthur House badges.

The cheque was presented to by House Sports Captain Seb Allen and House Captain Laurie Moore. The Chair of HeartStart, Councillor Jean Hammerton expressed sincere thanks and congratulations for such a tremendous effort.

MEON VALLEY CARERS TOGETHER Registered Charity No. 1107865 MEMORY MATTERS

Over 50 million people in UK will go to sleep tonight unaware, indifferent, and unsupportive of people living with Dementia. If they are aware at all it is probably because they think of the publicity surrounding Alzheimer's drugs, means testing, and scandals in Care Homes, and Hospitals for aged wrinklies, who they never meet. However some 1.5 million, mostly very elderly people, both sufferers and their carers, will spend many of the small hours awake and worried about the next disaster; about how they will cope for the next five minutes, next day, or even the next fifteen years, and pondering the reason for it all!

On Wednesday 7th January 160 people from across Hampshire, volunteers and professionals, met in the Jubilee Hall at Bishop's Waltham to support the initiative by Meon Valley Carers Together (MVCT) to highlight the growing problem of Dementia, in particular the isolation of patients and carers in rural areas such as the Meon Valley and the resulting difficulties. The day was strongly backed by Hampshire County Council Adult Services with Cllr. Felicity Hindson, Executive Member for Adult Services, launching the event and chairing the morning session. Chair for the afternoon was Jackie Pool of Shirrell Heath, an Occupational Therapist specialising in dementia care, who operates a nationally recognised training and consultancy organisation for dementia care. Sue Musselwhite of Soberton who is Activities Organiser for MVCT was responsible for the table layout and decorations.

Attendees were given a very moving account by Barbara Pointon MBE, of her life as Carer for her husband Malcolm who endured Alzheimer's Disease for sixteen years before he died. Their experiences were filmed and shown on ITV. Other speakers were from the Alzheimer's Society, Southampton University's Department of Psychology, the Commission for Rural Communities, and Hampshire County Council Older Persons Wellbeing Team. Penny and John Rowlinson of Soberton Players acted out a series of emotive sketches on life as a carer and Matthew Raisbeck, Programme Manager of "Sing for your Life", led the attendees as they sang, illustrating the very positive role that

singing can play in motivating older persons especially those with Dementia. Hampshire County Council is currently promoting Silver Song Clubs and it is proposed that one such Club will operate at the Kings Church in Bishops Waltham. Finally Bill Drake, Chair of MVCT, showed photos his wife Margaret enjoying craft activities with Swanmore Lace Group despite her diminishing capacity. The lives of other dementia patients and their carers could similarly be enhanced by simple acts of inclusion and support in everyday activities with local groups.

Romsey-based Carers Together, who took a key role in planning alongside MVCT, will collate and distribute the recommendations coming out of the discussion groups at the end of the conference.

Attendees responded positively to the invitation to join an Older Persons Forum for the Meon Valley to progress initiatives proposed during the day. The forum will give older people a 'voice' and enable them to express their views about the services currently provided in the district, specifically in the Meon Valley, to advise and influence agencies to develop new services where such services do not exist, and to help shape and establish new services. In order to get something off the ground as soon as possible, the Community Wellbeing Team of Winchester City Council supported by members of the Winchester District Older People's Partnership, particularly Hampshire County Council Adult Services and Winchester Area Community Action, will take the lead in setting up the forum. An invitation to an exploratory meeting will be circulated to all. The development of an Older People's Forum for Winchester is already underway. Lorraine Mansfield, the Community Wellbeing Manager for Winchester City Council and Hampshire PCT, will be happy to answer any questions. Email lmansfield@winchester.gov.uk or telephone on 01962 848369 to contact her.

Lonely people. I have been disturbed by a number of cases reported to me where older persons with dementia are living alone. They would markedly benefit from visits and from taking part in the activities of MVCT, or indeed other communal events. However MVCT does not have as yet sufficient voluntary staff who could visit these individuals, remind them of an event and get them ready, bring them to a

meeting and return them home safely. I would be pleased to hear from persons willing to assist, and also from anybody who is aware of people in need of such support.

We also need some more volunteers to help at our monthly meetings - to assist members with the entertainment (which is all provided), serve the tea and wash up. Please could you spare an afternoon once a month to come along to the Paterson Centre, Swanmore, and help? It's a fun time and not difficult.

Bill Drake

Diary Dates:

10th February 12 Noon – Pub Lunch at The Forge, Shedfield

24th February 2 pm - Discussion with Paula Glavin (Community Mental Health Nurse), Linda Batchelder (Adult Services) and Kim Upstill (Sitting Service) for Carers Paint a Pot, and movement to music

10th March 12.45 - Fish and Chip Lunch at The Paterson Centre

24th March 2 pm - Talk by Jackie Pool – Handling Challenging Behaviour for Carers Guide Dogs and Andrew Knights, Music Therapy

If you would like transport to any of the above meetings please ring Geoff Matthews on 01489 890843

**MEON VALLEY CARERS TOGETHER PROVIDES
ESSENTIAL SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE
FOR PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA AND THEIR
CARERS.**

For more information contact:

Bill Drake on 01489 895706 - email:
billdrake@talktalk.net

Janice Romer on 01489 894662 - email:
janiceromer@hotmail.co.uk

Sue Musselwhite on 01489 877282 - email:
sue@poppyhill.net

MVCT Carerlink Centre - 01489 895444
(message service)

Waltham Chase History Group

Two thousand and eight has now faded into the past and the History Group is looking forward to a new programme for the coming year. Mrs Margaret Smith has arranged a varied and interesting list of subjects and speakers and History Group members would like to thank her and the committee for giving their time for our enjoyment throughout the year.

If you have not been to a History Group meeting, why not come along one Tuesday evening. There is no annual membership fee, just £2.00 entrance charge payable when you choose to come – and that includes refreshments.

Meetings start again on Tuesday 3rd February when Mr Mike Edwards will talk about Egypt, with slides. We will be pleased to welcome you at Waltham Chase Village Hall for a 7.30pm start.

If you would like to know anything further about the History Group, you will find Mrs Margaret Smith's telephone number on the inside cover of this magazine.



Swanmore New Age Club

is part of the Brendoncare-Club Hampshire. The organisation aims to provide friendship to older people. We meet on alternate Wednesday afternoons in the Village Hall in New Road, Swanmore with a variety of programmes and help with transport if needed. Our first meeting after Christmas will be on Wednesday 4th February at 2pm.

New members welcome. Call Gwen on 01962 777404 for a programme or more information



**FAIRLANDS NURSERY SCHOOL,
CHURCH ROAD, SHEDFIELD,
SOUTHAMPTON, SO32 2HY.
TEL: 01329 834848**

The children had a lovely time at our first Christmas Fayre. We raised an amazing total of £729.40 which has already been used to create a continuous provision area. Thank you to everyone who helped and supported us on the day. We even received a visit from a very special person.....



The children are now busy singing their way through to Easter and preparing for their Easter Concert, which will be held at 11.00am on April 1st in the Shedfield Reading Room.

We are making the most of our grounds where the children are loving the permanent outdoor sand and water areas. They are looking forward to planting their vegetables and eating them at snack time!

Fairlands is hoping to introduce a 'stay and play' morning for all parents where they will be invited into the classroom and see exactly what their children get up to!!

Happy New Year to everyone.

Jo and Carol
(Head Teachers)

Merry-Go-Round Children's Centre

We finished 2008 with a Christmas Party for children and their families. In partnership with Hampshire Families (who supplied WH Smith Vouchers) and supported by our local Co-op community store (who donated mince pies) a successful day was enjoyed by everyone. Children made tree decorations and hung them on the tree. Making Christmas hats, cards and icing cakes were some of the other activities children and families enjoyed on the day. Father Christmas visited the Centre with a sack of presents. The day was a huge success thanks to the many volunteers who kindly gave up their time to support the Centre.



We were able to use this event to consult with our parents for future events/courses/activities at the Centre and are currently working on a programme. Merry-Go-Round Children's Centre already provides the following:-

- Thursday 9.00am – 1.00pm Developmental Clinics every week (by appointment with the Health Visitor)
- Wednesday 9.30am – 11.30am Childminder drop in group (alternative Wednesdays)
- Public Access Internet (contact the Centre to book a session)
- Family and Volunteers Forum.
- Information on childcare and tax credits

Starting Soon:

- Tuesday 3rd February – Baby Massage (0-18mths) Places are limited. Book with the Centre.
- Starting in March. Healthy Food, Fun and Fitness (free course, crèche available). Places are limited. Book with the Centre.

The Centre is piloting public access to the internet to support parents with access to the latest job vacancies, childcare information, links to NHS direct, school websites and more.

Everyone is welcome. If you are interested in helping to shape the future of the Children's Centre or want more information pick up the phone and call us. Better still call in and have a look around.

We look forward to meeting you.

**Merry-Go-Round Children's Centre, Buddens Road,
Wickham, PO17 5HU. Tel: 07590 774285**

Waltham Chase W.I.

The first meeting of the new year began with mention of the December meeting held in the Chase Inn followed by a meal and also the social skittles held in November. Both were very enjoyable. Future events were mentioned briefly and an extra meeting at a member's home was arranged to have more in depth discussion. Our bi-monthly meal out is to continue and will be arranged for February. Several members have decided to attend the AGM at the Royal Albert Hall in June. This is normally a day to remember.

Everyone admired the newly refurbished hall floor. Thank you Hall Committee members and thank you Clare for keeping the hall up to scratch. It was also decided to join the Village Hall's 100 club.

Our Speaker for the evening was Mr. Hailey, who gave us an insight into the divide between West and East Berlin and the terrible effects the wall had on families. The wall went up practically overnight after it was decided that the markers on the roads indicating the divide were not working. People were going to the West and not returning and many doctors, nurses etc left the East. Some buildings were incorporated into the wall and Mr. Hailey showed slides of desperate people jumping from windows down onto the pavement, which was in the West. Ingenious ways were devised to escape, but they only happened once, as security was continuously tightened for every new attempt. An air balloon was successfully used and also a train driver who smashed his train through the border carrying 27 members of his family and friends. Quite a lot of other passengers surprisingly found themselves in the West; some took advantage and stayed, others felt they had to return to their families. What is so thought provoking is that it is very recent history and shows man's inhumanity to man. Fortunately, the wall was torn down and both Germanys are now reunited.

Our next meeting is Tuesday 10th February at 7.30 pm and our Speaker is Jane-Anne Rogers whose subject is 'From Goat to Garment'. New members are always welcomed.

Shedfield W.I.

The year 2008 was a very successful one for Shedfield W.I. At the Annual Meeting in November it was reported that all the meetings had been well attended, the speakers varied and interesting and that we were financially sound. There had been a number of new members but, sadly, some of our older members were not able to come. They were all good W.I. members and will never be forgotten. Although it was one of the wettest summers on record all our outside meetings (the coffee morning at Jean and Bruce Emery's, the outing, and the garden meeting at the home of Sue and Geoff Grigg) were blessed with fine weather. The winner of the competition was Sue Grigg. The money raised in 1p and 2ps from the competitions was £50. This was sent to the Southern Hampshire Pony and Horse Protection Group. Members continued to support our orphanage in Africa by knitting little jumpers and hats. A case was packed with lots of things they are so short of and sent direct to the Home.

After 12 years as President Jean White decided it was time to retire. As there was only one nomination Sue Grigg was duly elected President for the following year. The committee is: Ann Stone (Secretary), Joy Moore (Minutes Secretary), Thelma Weeks (Treasurer), Josie Dyson, Sylvia Burrell, Jean White and Barbara Richman. Jean White was presented with a bouquet of yellow roses and a token for Marks & Spencers. Myrtle Richards and Chris Eastham were also given presentations for all their hard work for WI over the years. The meeting ended with everyone enjoying a piece of sponge cake made by Ann Stone.

The December meeting consisted of Christmas festivities. A light hearted Christmas quiz won by Josie Dyson was followed by a Father Christmas game. The only luck was in the throw of the dice. After a lovely festive tea all members went home with a lucky dip present. Thank you, Monica, for coming to play the piano for us.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 18th February. The talk given by Ruth Warren is entitled 'Mishaps of an Organist' and the competition is 'A Valentine Card'. An interesting year ahead has been planned, so do come and join us. Everyone welcome.

Jean White

Shedfield Parish Council

(Incorporating the villages of Shedfield, Shirrell Heath and Waltham Chase)

Report from the meeting of the Full Council on 1st December 2008 held at the Shirrell Heath Methodist Church.

The Chairman opened the meeting and signed the minutes from the last Full Council together with the minutes of the AGM held in May. He remarked that there are still vacancies for new members and asked that anyone who is interested in joining the council to contact the Clerk.

Lorrie Smith has resigned as Community Representative and was presented with a gift in appreciation of her assisting the community.

District Councillor Roger Huxstep said that there is still a long list of enforcement cases outstanding and he and District Councillor Linda Gemmell would like the support of the Parish Council in dealing with high priority cases. They would like to trial a one hour 'surgery' prior to Full Council Meetings to tackle issues. This was fully supported by Councillors. (*see the District Councillors' report on P.31 for date of first meeting*).

District Councillor Linda Gemmell is working on a project identifying facilities and sources of funding that are available in the locality for youth groups. These will then be displayed on the Winchester City Website.

It was agreed to give a grant to Waltham Chase Village Hall towards the cost of repairing the floor. A grant has also been offered to both Swanmore and Shedfield Parish Councils towards the capital costs of a Vehicle Speed Limit reminder.

The County Councillor talked of proposals to change and improve Adult Social Care, saying with increasing numbers of people needing care but with insufficient funds being available a new way of delivering care is required. A more personalised way of providing services is to be considered giving individuals more choice in budgeting. They would receive information and advice regardless of means in order to decide the amount of social care required. Further proposals are for free extended care up to 8

weeks for those at risk of going into, and coming out of, hospital. There is proof that if support is given by specialised teams to assist in regaining independence that this can be cost effective. A review in the means testing threshold has been suggested from £22,250 to £50,000. There may also be changes in benefits for carers. Currently this is stopped when carers reach retirement but if they are providing care to a close relative they continue to care and still require an allowance.

PCSO Paul Martin said that there were 5 incidents of theft report from the Marriott Hotel and gas canisters were stolen from Shedfield nurseries. Bikes stolen from Botley Road were later recovered. A front door to property in Forest Close was damaged.

The Council has agreed its budget for next year with an increase of 1.49%

Planning permission has been granted to extend the Sports Pavilion at Shedfield, which will also be used as Parish Council Offices. The portakabin currently being rented as an office can then be removed in the interests of the visual amenities of the area.

The meeting of Allotment Holders was well attended. The main concern was access to the allotments using the track which is often water logged. Clerk to arrange a meeting with the contractor to discuss options for the track and hedge cutting. Concessions will be given for any person living in the parish having a special need.

The gate at Waltham Chase Play area has been made safe following an inspection.

The Council has obtained approval for two new sites to place notice boards and will be applying for planning permission for these.

The Next Full Council Meeting is Monday 26 January 2009

Shedfield Parish Office, Upper Church Road, Shedfield, Southampton, Hampshire. SO32 2JB

Telephone/Fax: 01329 830060

Mobile: 07918 623009

Email: shedfieldparish@btconnect.com
www.shedfieldparishcouncil.org.uk

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Dear Ward Electorate,

The first month of the year has already flown by, if somewhat coolly. Our sympathy goes out to all those who were affected by domestic heating problems, especially in Shirrell Heath, over an exceptionally cold spell.

In agreement with the Parish Council, we are setting up a District Councillors' surgery to take place in the hour before each full meeting of the parish council at the set venue. Our inaugural surgery will therefore be on *Monday, 16th March at 6.15 pm at the Shirrell Heath Methodist Church Hall*. It is clear that some important problems, which are not necessarily urgent, are more easily tackled in face-to-face discussions. We both therefore hope that you will feel free to come along and discuss any concerns you have which you think we can address.

Speaking of surgeries, you may know that the government published a white paper on re-organising the way dispensing surgeries operate. We are pleased to report that following wide consultation and lobbying there will be 'No change to the current arrangements for GPs dispensing medicines to their patients'. Therefore business will be as usual at the Wickham Surgery for prescriptions.

And, enhanced business as usual for the Citizens' Advice Bureau at Bishops Waltham since it re-opened in its new premises: Well House, Brook Street. The bureau now has a public access computer available, where clients can consult city council, CAB and other public service websites, free of charge. Apart from CAB services, general advice is available on all Winchester City District Council (WCDC) services every Thursday from 10am until 4pm and in-depth housing or benefits advice every Wednesday from 10am until 1pm. A big thank you to all those who volunteer for CAB service.

Smithy Cottage Update. At Roger Huxstep's request the Council's Planning & Development Control (PDC) Committee visited the site on 25th November so that they could be apprised of the state of building. At the PDC meeting on 8th January an amended application revising the internal layout was tabled to regularise how the 2 bedroomed detached house had actually been built. The application did not attract a sufficient number of objections to trigger a referral to

committee but in view of its high profile the Head of Planning Management considered it should be determined by PDC. In the event, the application was permitted because the alteration to create a first floor study/bedroom could be carried out by an occupant at any time in the future without planning permission being required anyway. On these grounds, denying permission would be difficult to justify at appeal. Such are the vagaries of planning law. The PDC scheduled for 29th January will determine the second case with regard to the Smithy Cottage site re "Erection of 1 no. detached four bedroom dwelling with detached single garage (amendment to existing planning permission W03995/02 including rooms in roof space and 4 no. roof lights in front elevation)."

Full Council. We attended council on the 7th January. The agenda covered a range of items and there was a fair contingent of the public present which is always pleasing to see. Most were supporters of a petition regarding the future of Barton Farm. All full council meetings are open to the press and public so you are more than welcome to come and see your councillors and council at work. There was much discussion about the rent rises WCDC are being forced to make in order to cover the deficit caused by the reverse subsidy that we pay to central government. Over the past 10 years, WCDC has paid in excess of £58.8m in the form of negative subsidy into the national system and this year alone will have to pay a further £8.26m.

Finally, Colonel Steve O'Connell of the Adjutant General's Corps was also there to present a painting which was specially commissioned to commemorate the freedom of the city parade by the Corps on 30th June last year. He said that it was important that the members of the Corps, who are deployed all over the world, know that what they do is appreciated. We can all echo that for our armed services.

If anyone wishes to engage us on any of the above or on any matter they believe the district council can help with, please do write or contact us: Roger Huxstep is on 01329 833884 or e-mail: rhuxstep@winchester.gov.uk. Linda Gemmell is on 01489 895023 and lgemmell@winchester.gov.uk.

With best wishes,
Roger Huxstep & Linda Gemmell



Meon Valley

Feb 2nd 2pm **'Coastal Conservation in the Solent'** – illustrated talk by **Richard Hedley** of Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
*Wickham Community Centre
Guests Welcome*

Feb 17 2pm **“St. Clair’s Farmhouse on the River Meon: Part of the Old Manor of Soberton”** illustrated talk by **Ann Pendred** Archivist to Soberton History Society
*Wickham Community Centre
Guests welcome*

Feb 24 2pm **READING GROUPS:** telephone (01329) 833384 for details

Mar 3 2pm **“Trailing Robert Goddard – ‘In Pale Battalions’** talk by **Brian Barrett** - our U3A Chairman and Society Officer
*Wickham Community Centre
Guests welcome*

Mar 17 2pm **“Southwick - Village and Park”** - talk by local historian **Madeleine Selby**
*Wickham Community Centre
Guests welcome*

Mar 24 2pm **READING GROUPS:** telephone (01329) 833384 for details

Mar 31 2pm **“Local Country Houses and Their Families”** presentation by historian **George Watts**
*Wickham Community Centre
Guests welcome*

Tri-village Championship 2009

Dear residents,

Following on from last year's successful Tri-Village Championship, we are now in the process of discussing this year's event. If you have any suggestions, are able to help -either on the day or as a member of the committee (not as daunting as it sounds, lots of tea and coffee), or as a company would like to sponsor the event; then I would love to hear from you.

Regards

Sean Beech
01489 896211

Magazine Distribution Dates 2009

March	February 27 Friday
April	March 27 Friday
May	April 28 Tuesday
June	May 28 Thursday
July /	
August	June 26 Friday
September	August 28 Friday
October	September 28 Monday
November	October 28 Wednesday
December/	
January	November 27 Friday

Year 2010

Feb	January 28 Thurs
-----	------------------

Please note that there will now be 10 issues of the Parish Magazine. The July issue will cover August and the December issue will cover January.



WALTHAM GROUP RAMBLERS

Here are some of our walks for February. Do come along and join us; you will be most welcome.

SUN 1 st Feb	Meet 10 a.m. EAST MEON Car park at western edge of village. Bring packed lunch. 8.5 miles	Leader: Andy 023 8060 1837
WED.11 th Feb	Meet 10 a.m. UPHAM Duck Pond 5.5 miles	Leader: Derek 01489 892088
SUN 15 Feb	Meet 10 a.m. BISHOPS WALTHAM car park in Lower Lane. Bring packed lunch. 10 miles	Leader: John 01489 893220
WED 25 Feb	Meet 10 a.m. WICKHAM Car park in Station Close. 5 miles	Leader: Paul 02392 221244

For further information about the local Ramblers Group, please contact Lynda on 01489 892043

WALTHAM WOLVES FOOTBALL CLUB Est 1971

After the Christmas break, we welcomed everyone back for training, only to find the weather had decided to 'turn'. Nevertheless we still have some enthusiastic members especially within our mini soccer age groups.

We are currently fundraising for our New Road project, and you will see we have arranged a Quiz (details below). Further fundraising events to follow, but we are looking into parachute jumps (not me, although I am sure it will be an experience for someone!), 3 Peaks Challenge, Skittles Evening, Beer Festival and a few more ideas are doing the rounds.

We have set a date for our Presentation Night and Internal Tournament as Saturday 16th May. We are also hosting another Mini Soccer 6-a-side Tournament on Saturday 21st March at Swanmore School which will be open to all teams from U6 to U10 - we hope this will be another success and we would welcome your support. Hope the weather is better than last year, you had to be there to believe it!! The Quiz night is on 7th February.

Enjoy the football during the second half of the season, weather permitting of course!

Alison Fripp
Secretary & Mini Soccer Co-ordinator



**Hampshire &
Isle of Wight**

February

Tue 17 10am–12noon.

The Emperor's Egg This is the story of an Emperor Penguin, the world's most devoted dad. An event of ice cool crafts, activities and stories for 4-7 year-olds. Meet at Swanwick Lakes Wildlife Reserve, Sopwith Way, Swanwick (Map ref. SU 505 098). Booking essential - contact Jo Trotter or Jess Daish-Miller on 01489 570240. Suggested donation £2.50 per child. Please bring warm coats and wellies.

Thur 19 10am–12noon.

Ice Bear Come and find out about the ice bear and join in some polar themed crafts and activities. An event for 6–9 year-olds. Meet at Swanwick Lakes Wildlife Reserve, Sopwith Way, Swanwick (Map ref. SU 505 098). Booking essential, Contact: as above Suggested donation £2.50 per child. Please bring warm coats and wellies.

Mon 23 7.30pm for 7.45pm start.

The Attractions of The Forest A talk on the New Forest, its plants, wildlife and people, with Gerald Ponting.

Meet at St Peters Church Hall, Free Street, Bishop's Waltham. Contact Phil Jeffs on 01489 896280. Admission adults £2.50, children free.

Tue 24 10.30 0am–12noon.

One Snowy Night. How do the animals at Swanwick Lakes Wildlife Reserve survive during the winter? An event for pre-school children. Meet at Swanwick Lakes, Sopwith Way, Swanwick (Map ref. SU 505 098). Booking essential, Contact as above. Suggested donation £2.50 per child. Please bring warm coats and wellies.

Sat 28 12noon-3pm

Bird Watch at Farlington Marshes. Get close to the hundreds of waders and wildfowl on the marshes and lakes around high tide. Guides will be on hand to help you identify the birds and tell you about their behaviour. Drop in anytime during the session to improve your bird identification skills.

Parking is available off the Eastern Road (A27/A2030) roundabout (Map ref. SU 679 044). For further details please contact Jamie Marsh, Solent Reserves Officer, on 01489 774429. Suggested donation £1.50.

Citizens' Advice Bureau

Q. I got into very bad debt a few years ago after losing my job and managed to set up a debt management plan with lower payments over a longer period of time. But my financial situation is now increasingly difficult with rising fuel and food prices. What should I do?

A. It sounds as if it's time to reassess your disposable income and see if there are any alternative options available which might give you some light at the end of the tunnel. The law is changing soon so options which might not have been around when you first entered into your debt management plan might now be available. A CAB adviser can do a full assessment which will take account of all your circumstances. Some of the options could be:

Individual Voluntary Arrangement (IVA) – a legally binding agreement with your creditors to pay a proportion of your debts over a set period, often five years. You must have enough disposable income and/or assets available in order to cover both an insolvency practitioner's costs and still leave some money available for creditors.

Bankruptcy – a court order which declares you are unable to pay your debts and protects you from enforcement action by your creditors. At the end of your bankruptcy (usually one year but it can be less) your debts will be discharged and you will be able to make a fresh start.

Administrative Order – another form of court order currently only available to people with total maximum debts of £5,000, plus a court judgement. You pay a set amount each month into the scheme and the court distributes the money to all the creditors included in it. The scheme can last until you have paid off all your debts, or you can ask the court to stop it after, say, three years.

Debt Relief Order – similar to bankruptcy, these orders are aimed at giving people who have debts of less than £1,5000, assets of less than £300 and surplus income of less than £50 per month relief from paying their debts. Once the order is made your creditors cannot take

any action against you and, if your situation does not change, your debts will be written off after one year. This becomes an option from April 2009.

One of these options may suit your needs better than your current arrangement. A CAB debt adviser will be able to help you contact your local CAB at Well House, 2 Brook Street, Bishop's Waltham, SO32 1AX, Tel. No. (01489) 896376 open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. We also run an advice surgery at Wickham Community Centre, Mill Lane, Wickham on Thursdays from 10.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. If this is not convenient, please note our **Thursday evening appointments only** session (from 4 to 7 p.m.) at the Bishop's Waltham Bureau. You can also e-mail us on bishopswaltham@cabnet.org.uk with your problem. You can also go to our local website www.bishopswalthamcab.org.uk or you can go to the national Citizens Advice website www.adviceguide.org.uk

FRIENDS OF GUIDING COFFEE MORNING

Wickham and Swanmore Friends of Guiding are holding a Coffee Morning in the Paterson Centre on Saturday October 11th from 10am to 12 midday. We will have our usual stalls including Home-made Cakes and Preserves, Plants, Toys and Books and Bric a Brac. There will also be a Raffle as well as stalls from local units and a Tombola run by Wickham Scouts.

Thanks to local support we were able to raise a record amount at our last Coffee Morning so do please come along and join us at the next one. This in turn allows us to support the activities and training of girls and leaders in the area.

Copy date for the March magazine is 16 February 2009. Please either email or post articles to the editor to ensure that they arrive by the date above. Contact details are on the inside front cover.

Any copy received after this cannot be guaranteed space in the magazine.

The views expressed within the articles published in this magazine are not necessarily held by either the editor or St John the Baptist PCC, Shedfield.

Raising Money for Waltham Chase Pre-School

TRAVELLING TRENDS

Fashion Show & Clothes Sale



Do you need a few new items to liven up your wardrobe for spring?

Would you like them at bargain prices?

Then look no further...

Travelling Trends offer you the chance to try on and buy this seasons high street fashions at prices to suit everyone!

ON: Friday 6th March 2009

AT: Waltham Chase Village Hall

Doors Open at 7.45pm - Show Starts at 8pm

Only £6 per person - including a glass of wine on arrival

Tickets from Charlotte Simpson: 01329 833302
or Jane Kennedy Scott: 01489 892446

Waltham Chase Pre-school are sponsored by Reskill Garage (Waltham Chase) Ltd

The Mayor of Winchester's Charities
Registered Charity number 500425

Celebrate St. David's Day

*A concert with the
Pontypridd Male Voice Choir
at the
Guildhall, Winchester*

Saturday 28th February 2009
at 7.30pm

Tickets at £10 available from

Anne Pearson - 01489 892822
annepearson1@msn.com

ALL GIRLS AGED 17 AND 18 – DO NOT MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY!!

HPV Vaccination is now available for girls born between 01.09.1990 and 31.08.1991

By having the vaccination you will reduce your risk of getting cervical cancer when you are older.

Please contact **your** GP surgery to make an appointment.

Wickham Surgery, Station Road,
Wickham, PO17 5JL – Telephone
01329 833121

ARE YOU AGED BETWEEN 14 & 18?

HAVE YOU HAD YOUR DIPHTHERIA, TETANUS & POLIO BOOSTER??

This vaccination is no longer administered in a school setting so it may be necessary to have this single vaccination at your GP surgery.

Please contact your GP surgery to arrange an appointment.

Wickham Surgery, Station Road,
Wickham, PO17 5JL – Telephone
01329 833121