



# Rowlands Castle Association

Spring 2016

Village Magazine

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ROWLANDS CASTLE ASSOCIATION

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The Village Magazine is published three times a year by the RCA. The aims of the RCA are to act as a channel of communication for the Village, to conserve the character and to enhance the life of the Village. *If you would like to make a donation to magazine printing costs there is a collection tin in the hardware store or you can pop an envelope through Martha Dombey's door 26 The Drift, Rowlands Castle, PO9 6DG*

**Editor: Kevin Connell, 19 Mallard Road, Rowlands Castle, PO9 6HN**  
**Tel: 02392 413857 email: [editor@rowlandscastle.com](mailto:editor@rowlandscastle.com)**

*Cover picture: Magnolia in bloom*

# Rowlands Castle Association

## Message from the chairman of the RCA by Fiona Charlesworth Chair, RCA

The RCA had a very successful Children's Christmas Party the Sunday before Christmas with 50 children being entertained by Magic Mikey.

The Clean for the Queen weekend went very well 4-6 March (see report on page 10) We hope to repeat this later in the year- so please do help if you can. Look out for a message via Grapevine.

We are currently looking forward to the annual May Day picnic, which is now organised by the Rowlands Castle Association. This is held every year on the early Spring Bank holiday Monday to raise money for the Rowan's hospice. This year it is on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 12-2pm on The Green. Bring a picnic (or buy something from our BBQ), something to sit on, and relax while you listen to the Blendworth Brass Band and watch the majorettes twirling.

There will also be vintage cars to look at, plants to buy and tea and coffee provided by the Café on The Green. Let's hope it is as warm and sunny as last year! We raised a fantastic amount for the Rowan's Hospice last year; let's see if we can do the same (or better) this year.

Best wishes  
Fiona Charlesworth



Fiona Charlesworth  
9241 3865  
chair@rowlandscastle.com

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# Rowlands Castle Association

## Your RCA Committee



Fiona Charlesworth (Chair)  
9241 3865



Martha Dombey (Treasurer)  
9241 0030



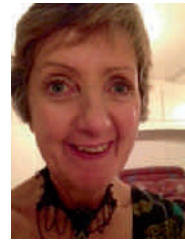
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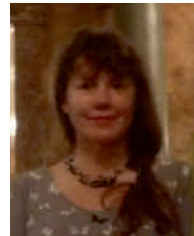
Helen Penfold



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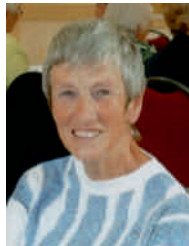
Sue Morrison



Deborah Richards



Sue Leonard (Secretary)  
9241 2108



Gillian Lovegrove (Webmaster)  
9241 2426  
[webmaster@rowlandscastle.com](mailto:webmaster@rowlandscastle.com)



Kevin Connell (Editor)  
92413857  
[editor@rowlandscastle.com](mailto:editor@rowlandscastle.com)

# Village News

## Obituary– Gwen Phillips (1932-2015)

by Alison Haskell

The world became a brighter place when Gweneth Lillian Fisher was born in Petersfield in Tilmore Gardens on 4th February 1932. She had two older sisters, Margaret and Joy. She always said it was a little annoying being the youngest as she had last dibs on everything. She remembered that there was no proper bathroom in their house and the loo was outside. They had a tin bath that was brought into the scullery on bath nights and they used to take a bath in the order of age, Mum remembering that they could only fill the bath once and the water was never that clean when it was her turn. Despite all of the disadvantages of being the youngest she always had a glow about her which she bore right through her life.

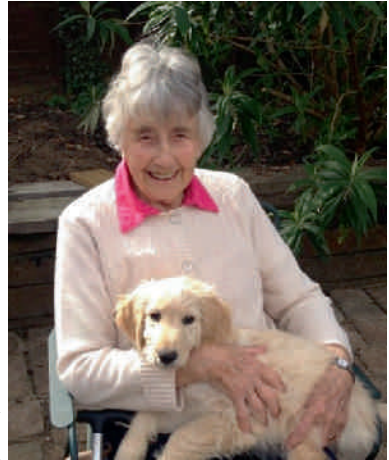
At very early age she showed a particular talent for playing the piano and although not at all well off, her mother sent her for piano lessons. She eventually passed the highest grade possible, grade 8. She was so well-regarded due to her virtuosity when playing that she played for an audience at the Petersfield Festival Hall.

Gwen went to Steep school and had good and bad memories of those years. The sisters used to have to walk 2 miles across fields to school. She remembered that in one of the fields there was a cow called Daisy who she was terrified of as Daisy used to chase them. She also recalled that once she was caught eating chestnuts in class and had to stand on a stool for the remainder of the day. So although we always knew of the angel in her, there was a little devil there as well.

One special memory she shared was of her father who perhaps she got the little devil in her from. As they were not at all well off there was very little money for treats. Her father worked on the railways and sometimes he used to come home with pockets full of sweets that had somehow fallen off the sweet train.

She left school at 14 and became an apprentice dress-maker in Petersfield which stood her in good stead for the future as she made many of her two daughters' clothes when they were young.

At a still tender age she became a nanny for the Tibbitts' family in a large house in Peterfield – a position which led to one of the greatest adventures of her life. Commander Tibbitts was posted to Bermuda for two years and the family invited Gwen to join them. With great trepidation her mother and father allowed her to go. She had wonderful memories of those days but one story she would tell was about the wildlife. She was terrified of spiders especially the oversized ones in tropical Bermuda. So the housekeeper and Gwen came to an understanding. The housekeeper would remove the spiders from the house if Gwen removed the chameleons!





The Governor of Bermuda acted as Gwen's guardian and as he realised Gwen had a special talent at the piano invited her to play the piano at Windy Ridge, his home.

After spending 2 years in Bermuda the family returned home and Gwen took up a post as a dental nurse at Dragon House in Petersfield. Unlike the dental nurses of today she had to do most of the jobs at the practice like filling in forms, being the receptionist, developing x-rays and producing the casts for false teeth. She said if the false teeth didn't fit she knew she had done it wrong! She then took a little time out to work on the land, including wonderful memories of riding on the backs of carts and hop picking which suited Gwen because of her love of the countryside. However she was welcomed back to her dental nurse job later on.

Then began the next greatest adventure of her life. One day her sister Joy was to play the piano for two young men to practice their singing at Tilmore Gardens but Joy couldn't make it so Gwen stepped in. One of the young men was a dashing chap called Peter. Peter recalls that first meeting clearly and his first impression which was...."COR!"

Their second meeting was when Peter was singing in the choir at a concert in a church in Drayton and Gwen was in the audience. Peter remembers that his heart was all a flutter and hasn't stopped fluttering since. Peter was not going to let this one get away, and later popped the question and they married in Steep church in 1960. They set up home in Drayton and three years later Alison was born.

Six months later they found a lovely home in Uplands Road in Rowlands Castle with a large garden which was perfect for Gwen's love of nature and the outside. In 1966 their second daughter Wendy was born.

Gwen took on many odd jobs to supplement their income while the children were young which included house-cleaning and collecting insurance payments for Provident. One of the collection visits she used to make was a house in which the occupants' hobby used to be home-made wine-making. Every time she was offered a glass or two and it didn't take long for her to realise that home-made wine is often a lot stronger than shop-bought and made riding home on her bicycle a little precarious. So, with this knowledge and a few glasses under her belt she ensured that this was the last house she visited on her rounds. The option of refusing the wine obviously didn't occur to her!

However she will most fondly be remembered by so many people for her selfless activities for others in the village of Rowlands Castle. She was an active participant of some of the church events in the village when the children were young and used to play the piano for the Sunday School and help out on Sunday School trips. She also helped to set up the luncheon club which helps many people who would otherwise find it difficult to have a home-cooked meal and to get together with others once a week. She was an active member of the WRVS and received a special award for 25 years in the service. And of course, in the way we all know her, she didn't expect it and was confused at all the fuss about something she did out of love and caring for others. And even though in her later years it became more and more difficult for her to get around and do many things, she still carried on with all the help she could offer even though perhaps she should have been receiving the help, instead of giving it. A perfect example of this is although she officially

# Village News

retired from the luncheon club a number of years ago, in her life long need to help people she was still doing the driving rota until recently despite not being in the best of health. Peter describes her as an “example to us all” and it is true that most of us would have difficulty living up to Gwen’s unfailing selflessness and kindness.

Peter recalls that they never had a proper row although sometimes it seemed that there was ammunition for one. Apart from her love of everyone around her, her greatest love was for her garden. She used to say one of the things that frightened her most was Peter with a pair of secateurs! However in the aftermath she always forgave him and he wasn’t in her bad books for more than a few seconds.

Another of Gwen’s greatest loves was the love of nature and the countryside. Many hours of her life before she was less able to get around were spent in the great outdoors, walking many miles through fields, woods and pathways especially in the areas around Petersfield. Occasionally that little devil inside her would pop up if there was a particularly beckoning pathway that was “out of bounds”. Peter and the girls remember times when Gwen would confidently trespass because she just couldn’t resist it while they cowered behind her watching out for the farmer who might angrily appear asking us if we had seen the no entry sign! And shhh...sometimes it wasn’t just mud that she brought home on her shoes. In the days before it was taboo, a few wild flowers would find their way into little vases in the house. She needed the countryside indoors as well as outdoors. And many a winter fire was fuelled by logs which used to be brought home hidden in the pram with the baby on the top.

She had a love for animals as well. When she was a child the family had chickens and rabbits (although these were really kept “for the pot”) but also dogs. In later years with Peter they had two dogs, Mop and Pixie both of which she loved so much.

Gwen was also a long-term member of the Music Society and the Gardening Club attending concerts and talks with great relish.

We need to mention that Gwen had one beloved grandchild Toby who tragically died a little while ago at the age of 17. She was of course heartbroken but always treasured her time with him and never regretted those precious moments despite her pain.

It is telling that from the huge number of cards from so many people that Peter and the girls have received that there are words that come up again and again. Words like “gentle”, “kind”, “calm”, “considerate”, “warm”, “generous” and “twinkling smile”. Those of us who were lucky to know her well know she had an infectious brightness about her which even on a dull day brought a little sunshine to our lives.

There are so many more words of admiration we can say about Gwen and each of us has our own special memories of her. Most of these things can’t be written down as they are feelings, all of which are wonderful and warm and cannot be described in mere words. We will remember her with those feelings and keep them safe and precious as her memory makes each of our lives just that little bit better for knowing her. Here’s thanking her for being the remarkable Gwen. Thank you wife, mother and friend for being in our lives. We will always remember and miss you.



## Spring Offensive

by Alan Eyers Vice-President RCA

For those for you of a ‘certain age’, some will remember the Village during the Second World War and the massing of troops & equipment prior to D Day, within the village. There are many pictures and records for us all to see now, but they spread over in many different places, so access is often limited.

Hence the idea of a ‘Heritage Centre’ here in the village, Alan Drinkwater, our RCA President has outlined the details in the 4 page ‘pull-out’ which I urge you all to read through. Your comments, suggestions and dare one ask ‘donations’ all gladly accepted. There is such rich history for our village and the surrounding area, all of which can celebrate together, in one place.

Then of course there is the ‘iconic’ Model Railway, built by Peter Goss, who despite living up near York, decided to build & replicate a snap shot of the Railway & the Green pre D Day, I was very fortunate in paying Peter & his wife a visit in February, whilst up their way on business. They made me most welcome and had set up part of the model in his workshop, for me to see. I must say the detailing of the models, figures, trucks, vans, and the ‘countryside’ is fantastic! There is a larger collection of rolling stock, some of the passenger carriages have soldiers hanging out of the windows, waving to those on the green as they pass by.

Please Google; ‘YouTube/rowlands castle model railway, peter goss’. There is a 5 minute video of all the rolling stock running round the track, close ups of the houses, the Green, figures equipment, quite stunning to behold. This is a Prize Winning Model, well known literally around the World by model enthusiasts and those of us who at a ‘younger’ age had much more modest models at home!

This ‘iconic’ model needs a new ‘home’, where better than it’s spiritual home here in Rowlands Castle, please help us secure it, it will give us and future residents hours of pleasure old & young alike. Please do what you can.

Thank you, Alan Eyers, RCA vice president.

# Village News

## Clean for the Queen by Fiona Charlesworth

The Clean for the Queen event over the weekend of 4-6 March to clean up the country for the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday was very successful. Twenty six volunteers collected an amazing 59 bags of rubbish from Rowlands Castle!



*Photos by Fiona, Gordon and Lawrence Charlesworth*

*Clean for the Queen Rowlands Castle*



## Rowlands Castle and Finchdean Artists exhibiting at the Emsworth Arts Trail

by Deborah Richards

One hundred and sixty artists will exhibit in the Emsworth Arts Trail this year. Designed as a walking trail, nearly all of these artists are located within a mile of the centre of town at 64 different venues, bringing creativity to every corner of the town. Four local artists and designers from Rowlands Castle Parish are exhibiting at the Emsworth Arts Trail this year in two new venues:

Deborah Richards from Finchdean, has a solo exhibition at the Emsworth Museum, 10b North Street, Emsworth, PO10 7DD. Open 10.30am – 4.30pm, Apr 23, 24, and 30 April, May 1, 2. The display will continue until 15 May on Saturdays 10.30am – 4.30pm and Sundays 2.30 – 4.30pm.

She will be exhibiting original prints, paintings and drawings which respond to the changing light, colour, rhythm and mood of the Solent coast and local downland views. Affordable original ‘one-off’ prints and cards to frame will be for sale. New for this year are her expressive stoneware sculptures of wolves and figures.

Jean Bradley, Sylvia Tomkinson and Jonquil Tonge are exhibiting together at The Slipper Function Room, The Brookfield Hotel, 93 Havant Road, Emsworth PO10 7LF from 10am until 5pm on 23rd, 24th April and 30th April and 1st, 2nd May. This is the first venue listed in the trail guide.

Jean Bradley of Finchdean, makes individual beads using Venetian glass, often with silver, copper or palladium inclusions. She also fuses and casts glass, forming bowls and sculpture. She particularly likes making pieces for the garden and home. Woodcuts and cards will also be for sale.

Sylvia Tomkinson of Rowlands Castle, designs and hand-makes her jewellery using silver, gold and semi-precious stones to create several distinctive collections within her jewellery range. In particular she uses the contrasts of colour or texture to create her unique designs.



Jonquil Tonge also from Rowlands Castle, makes silver jewellery influenced by various geometric and curved forms including semi-precious beads, such as black onyx and baroque pearls. She likes to incorporate an element of fluidity, movement and fun to her designs.



A trail guide is available from local shops, libraries and other venues listing all participants with a map of the locations. For more information and a copy of the trail guide please visit [www.emsworthartstrail.org.uk](http://www.emsworthartstrail.org.uk).

# Rowlands Castle Women's Institute

## 70 Inspiring Years

by Jill Hewitt, President, Women's Institute

This May the WI in Rowlands Castle will be 70 years old. Since our inception in 1946 we have welcomed women of all ages and from all walks of life to join us to meet new friends, learn new skills and have fun.

In January we held a coffee morning to raise money for the WI College. Denman College in Oxfordshire offers a huge variety of courses in subjects as diverse as researching your family tree, jewellery making and the works of Jane Austen. It also hosts the WI Cookery School which runs courses at many levels in all aspects of cooking. In March we set off on a much anticipated trip to the BBC in London where we tried our hands at presenting the news, took part in a radio play and visited The One Show studio where we sat on the famous green couch.



some light hearted and some more serious.

We have a varied programme of speakers at our monthly meetings, Before Christmas we enjoyed a demonstration of seasonal canapés which we were also lucky enough to sample. This was followed by a meeting in November discussing the resolutions we want to bring before the National Federation at the national AGM. The WI is an entirely member led organisation, and the resolutions process ensures that every WI member has the opportunity to set the direction of NFWI campaigns and policy, from the grassroots up. Every year WI members have the chance to put forward issues as 'resolutions' that they want to see the national body campaign on. Resolutions go through a year long debating and consultation process. If passed, these then become



# Rowlands Castle Women's Institute

mandates and form the basis of campaigning and awareness raising activities in the years ahead. Previous resolutions have included 'Organ Donation - Time to Talk'; 'Decline of our High Streets and Town Centres'; 'Employment of More Midwives' and 'The Closure of Local Libraries'.

Our Christmas meeting saw us enjoying a fantastic dramatic reading of 'A Christmas Carol' accompanied by festive nibbles and, in contrast, January was brightened by a colourful, illustrated talk which looked forward to summer in a delightful garden in Prinsted. Yet another informative talk educated us on 'cosy crime' when a local author visited and briefly walked us through the history of the crime novel and we now know a great deal more about the history of Haslar Hospital thanks to a lively account from another local speaker.

We meet monthly (except August) in the Parish Hall and welcome visitors and new members. Please do contact us for further information. President: Jill Hewitt. Tel: 02392 412141 Email: [jillhewitt2@icloud.com](mailto:jillhewitt2@icloud.com) Secretary: Sandra White 02391 413100 Email: [white.sandraj@gmail.com](mailto:white.sandraj@gmail.com)

## **WOMENS FELLOWSHIP IN ROWLANDS CASTLE**

**W**omens Fellowship in Rowlands Castle has now been running for over 90 years!! We are a very welcoming small group of local ladies who enjoy one another's company twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday Afternoons between 2 and 4 at St John's Church centre. Since my last report back at Christmas time we have enjoyed afternoons sharing favourite music, debating local issues and trying our hand at crafts as well as pursuing our own projects, also board games. Looking ahead we have our version of "What's my line", and discussion around our own Life Achievements be they large or small! Claire, owing to health issues and family commitments now only runs week 1 and is very grateful to all other members who take turns to organise week 3. Bring and Buys, Raffles, and Socials also feature on our programme as will our end of summer meal before we break for August. We really enjoy one another's company and always find something to share over a great cup of tea or coffee and posh biscuits!! If you would like to come along and share some of what we do please call Claire Stanley 02392412340

# Local Council News

## Spring Report

by Clerk to the Council, Lisa Walker

As the clocks go forward, the bulbs are flowering, the birds are tweeting and the hum of busy lawn mowers has started to fill the air.

### General Council Matters

Over the past few months, we have bid farewell to two of our number – Cllrs Kath Molloy and Stuart Chaston. We thank them for their work for the Council and wish them well with their future endeavours. Their resignations mean there are now 2 vacancies, which Council will look to fill in the near future.

In February, RCPC finalised its budget for 2016/17 and voted to keep its resultant precept at the same level as 2015/16 ie £70,000. RCPC has also set up a Staffing & Remuneration Committee to handle most staff-related matters, and make recommendations to Council as and when appropriate.

Council has reviewed and commented upon 14 planning applications since November. It has also submitted responses on consultations regarding the South West Trains Rail Franchise, SDNPA Local Plan Preferred Options and the Local Government Boundary Commission's Electoral Review of Hampshire.

### Provision of defibrillators in the Parish

Since our last report, we are pleased to have gained further funding for this project. We have received contributions from the friends and family of the late Ian Edwards, whose daughter lives in the Parish, together with another donation from Rowlands Castle Association and a Community Grant from D Cllr Ken Moon.

This has enabled us to purchase 2 more defibrillators. With the kind permission of the landlord, one device has been installed at The George, Finchdean, and we are grateful to him for absorbing the costs of the power needed to keep it in 'tip top' condition. We hope to install the other device in the south of the Parish near the mini-roundabout system, once a precise location has been agreed.

South Central Ambulance Service's Defibrillator Awareness Session in early November at St John's Church Hall was well-attended, and residents were encouraged to use these devices if the need arises. Since then 1<sup>st</sup> Responder's Nick Poling has run 3 'hands on' courses in the Parish to train residents to use them in conjunction with CPR, which is vital when someone is in cardiac arrest.

The defibrillators are accessible anytime by phoning 999 and requesting the PIN code to unlock the cabinet. The British Heart Foundation urges people not to worry about any potential harm they might do to someone in cardiac arrest by conducting CPR; their life is already on the line so nothing you do is going to make it any worse and you might just save a life.



## **Recreation Ground**

The excessive rainfall over recent months has meant many football matches have had to be postponed and rescheduled. We are grateful to the clubs for their patience and hope they are able to complete their seasons' fixtures now that the weather appears to be improving. The Recreation Ground Management Committee is also overseeing various treatments to improve the pitches, including the recent verti-draining of some pitches and the forthcoming weeding-and-feeding of the whole area.

The weather has also delayed the refurbishment of the original play equipment however we are confident this will now take place within the next month or so. The issues with the aerial cableway (otherwise known as the zip-wire) have now been addressed, though we have had to replace the seat several times in recent months (at £100 a time) because large chunks appear to have been gouged out of it!

Dog fouling is still a problem at the Rec and we urge dog owners/carers to clear up after their pooches so that Rec users can enjoy a safe and pleasant environment. If they fail to do so, they can be subject to fines.

## **Traffic Review**

RCPC's Traffic Review for the Parish is virtually complete and should be available for publication in time for the Council's Meeting in May. The Council is very grateful to those involved (councillors and other local volunteers) for undertaking the comprehensive traffic studies of specific roads/areas within the Parish which have contributed so fundamentally to the Review. Once finalised, it will be submitted to the local MP, county and district councillors, and it is hoped it will have weight with local authorities.

## **Forthcoming Projects**

After a lull in progress for several years, Portsmouth City Council has now offered RCPC a 50-year Lease on some of its land within the Parish (ie the allotments and grazing land off Durrants Road, and Whichers Gate Common). RCPC has appointed a solicitor to advise it and act on its behalf, and will keep residents informed of any significant developments.

RCPC has recently been promised 10 cycle racks by the SDNPA. It is currently seeking funding for their installation in Rowlands Castle village centre, subject to permission from the appropriate authority, and at the Recreation Ground.

It is also working on a range of circular walks and cycle rides, starting from the station, to encourage locals and visitors alike to enjoy the magnificent landscape in which we are fortunate to live. We hope to publish these routes in leaflet-form

# Local Council News

and also on appropriate websites. After some delays, we will be working to form a Group to draft a Community Emergency Plan for the Parish, drawing on the experience of the highly effective RC Flood Action Group.

RCPC is also anticipating the launch of its new website within the next few months. The site will meet all legislative requirements, as well as aiming to be as user-friendly, informative and helpful as possible.

## **Highways (roads/pavements, flooding/drains, street lighting, overgrown vegetation etc)**

HCC Contact Centre: 0300 555 1388

Report on-line at: [www.hants.gov.uk/roadproblems](http://www.hants.gov.uk/roadproblems)

## **Rights of Way (footpaths, bridleways, pavement etc)**

HCC Contact Centre: 0300 555 1391

Report on-line at: [www.hants.gov.uk/rh/row/problem-report.html](http://www.hants.gov.uk/rh/row/problem-report.html)

## **East Hampshire District Council (waste collection, planning matters, environment)**

Main Switchboard: 01730 266551

Website Home Page: [www.easthants.gov.uk](http://www.easthants.gov.uk)

### **THE ROWANS HOSPICE**

I would like to thank the residents of Rowlands Castle for the support they have given to The Rowans Hospice over the past years.

The Rowans Hospice has been open for 20 years now and the fundraising has been helped by 12 support groups across the area running various activities to help with the costs.

Your local support group "The Havant & Rowlands Castle Support Group" are holding the following events in 2016 and your continuing support would be much appreciated.

March 17th – Spring Luncheon at Rowlands Castle Golf Club

May 26th – Quiz Night at Rowlands Castle Golf Club

October 6th – Golf Day at Corhampton Golf Club

November 25th – Skittles Evening at Southwick Park Golf Club.

Diana Cose

Email: [dianacose10@gmail.com](mailto:dianacose10@gmail.com)

## Spring Report by Malcolm Johnson

As I write my latest report to the Village I can't help but wonder where has the time gone since my previous notes back in October last year.

At Penns Place in Petersfield, the home of East Hampshire District Council, events have been moving at quite a pace over the past months.

As many of you will have read in the local press both attempts at creating a new Combined Authority for the south of England have thus far failed to get over the starting line despite valiant efforts by various groups and individuals. The government is still very keen to have a "Southern Power House" to match the ones in the north like the Manchester proposal but so far there have been major stumbling blocks in the two southern bids as far as both the government and some of the contributing parties have been concerned. Elected mayors and increased housing numbers being just two of the items that have caused problems. Locally it is expected that a third attempt will be made later in the year, this time with an extended time scale for discussion rather than the very rushed process undertaken previously.

Within East Hampshire I'm now pleased to report that following a successful examination by the Planning Inspectorate the district's original housing numbers plan has been approved. This relieves the pressure on the district to come up with yet more housing allocations at least until 2028 although as sites do get developed over that period, future potential locations will need to be considered. By the time you receive this spring edition of the RCA magazine the new Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) process will be in operation. This is yet another piece of new legislation that has been introduced as part of the shake-up of the planning process that started some years back. CIL will largely replace the previous developer contributions process, known as S106 funds, which developers were required to pay to the district council as part of the planning process for the benefit of local communities. The new process will still raise funding from developers but rather than it being identified directly for a local community benefit, CIL contributions go into a central fund from which communities, i.e. parish councils can bid for funding for local projects.

This is a very simplified explanation of the new process which has been the subject of local public consultation earlier this year following approval by the Planning Inspectorate of EHDC's plans for the implementation of the new CIL regulations. There is much more detailed CIL information on the EHDC web site. While on the subject of planning I can now report that the major development project on the Hazelton and Pyle farm sites has finally been approved by all parties and it is anticipated that the first phase, the development of the care home and associated housing will be commenced later this year. This is the part of the site to the north of Rowlands Castle Road just south of Horndean. Being a member of the development panel for this project has enabled me along with others to gain significant benefits for the communities of both Rowlands Castle and Horndean, to be funded by the various developers of this major site.

Residents of Castle Road will be pleased to read that at last the provision of car parking for those living in Links Close is a finally in sight. Tenders have now been received that

# District Council News

fall within the budget and with some minor administrative details now being finalised work should get under way quite soon.

The continued placing of un-authorised advertisements on the road alongside the village green is now the subject of formal legal process by the Planning Enforcement team at EHDC.

I therefore have every expectation that this practice will cease very soon. In another part of the village the running of a business connected with the motor trade from a residential property is also under investigation by the same enforcement team.

You may recall that in my notes to the RCA back in October I mentioned the Councillor Grants Scheme which enables me to provide financial help to local projects within the village. Well I'm pleased to report that all my funding for the current financial year has been spent on a variety of projects within the village for the benefit of the wider community.

I shall be receiving further grant funding for the next financial year by June so please do not hesitate to contact me if you are in need of some top-up funds for a local scheme.

Please remember that on the first Thursday of each month along with our Hampshire County Councillor Marge Harvey, I can be found in the village café between 1100 and 1200 so if you have something you wish to raise we will there. I can also be contacted at EHDC via email: [malcolm.johnson@easthants.gov.uk](mailto:malcolm.johnson@easthants.gov.uk) or by phone 92412096.

## Hampshire County Council report by Marge Harvey.

Dear Fellow residents,

At last the weather seems to be going towards summer and we can look forward to time in the garden, picnics and barbecues.

I have been quite busy since I last reported to you, with meetings and residents issues.

One of the most difficult meetings was in my health committee.

We were scrutinising the problems within Southern Health and believe me, there were many incidents of poor quality behaviour.

After about two hours of questioning, we asked that they come back to us in six months and report what they have done to improve the trust.

We do not have the power to dismiss the chief executive, but we do have the power to ask that the NHS looks into the problem and acts accordingly. This we have done and hope that we see a great improvement in the way the trust acts and that the Chief Executive is reprimanded or dismissed.

As a member of the regulatory committee, we oversee any planning applications that aren't housing. It did mean that we needed to go on a site visit to Somerset to visit an asphalt plant, as Hampshire want to build one in Micheldever so that they can repair roads and footpaths without buying in the materials, so saving money.

This committee is a very interesting one for me as I have always enjoyed the planning side of my job, but it also includes sitting on a committee of three when someone has been dismissed, for whatever reason and judging if the right decision has been made, which is quite a responsible position to be in, but it is very interesting. I have been asked to do two



# Hampshire County Council News

of these so far, so although it includes someone's job, it also ensures that the right decision has been made.

On the subject of money, you no doubt will know that Hampshire needed to save £98 million to Close the gap between what the government no longer gives us and what it costs to keep the services the same for residents. This has been achieved by taking some money from reserves and making savings. Every year it seems to be an even larger amount, so we have to be very careful what we do with what we have and look to the future.

You may have already have seen in the press that the Government would like the Southern part of England to have a power house, the same as the North. Hampshire put in a bid, which included Portsmouth, Southampton, Fareham, Havant, Gosport, the Isle of Wight and many local authorities and also included East Hampshire, which of course would affect us. The one thing that Hampshire also didn't want was an elected Mayor as they saw it as another layer of bureaucracy and this was a sticking point with the Government.

At the same time a Solent bid was put forward, which included a Mayor. This is still in the melting pot, because Hampshire didn't want to join this bid as it would not include the whole of Hampshire and we didn't think, as Councillors, that it was the right thing to do, so we await the Government's decision, which will probably be before June. The outcome will always affect us, but I will let you all know which one has been decided upon and what it will mean to us as a village. I am worried that whatever happens, we will be asked to take more housing which I am against, but nothing has been decided yet. I have been witness to the issues with the Parish Council and have been present throughout, as I give my report at their meetings, but I do not wish to get involved, as it is a Parish Council matter. Nevertheless, I do hope that for the sake of the Parish, that it gets resolved satisfactorily.

Lastly, I need to say that the traffic calming throughout the village I am told, will only happen with evidence of safety, so please let me know of any accidents or issues, so that I can log them.

I will continue to ask for traffic calming and anything else that I think the village needs but I do need your help so that I can report it to Hampshire officers for them to get something done, so please let me know if there is anything that is a problem.

You can also report potholes directly to Hampshire and will be given a number which you will be able to track.

I have asked for Castle Road and Woodberry Lane to be weight and width limit roads, as both of these roads have problems with heavy lorries and in Castle Road, with cars parked on one side and also with no clear edge on the other and Woodberry Lane being very narrow, they do need to be limited. This has already been accepted and will hopefully be done this financial year.

As usual, if there is anything that I can help with, please let me know or come and visit me at the cafe in the village on the first Thursday of every month, where both Malcolm Johnson and I look forward to seeing you.

I hope you have a lovely Summer and as always look forward to seeing you around the village.

# Rowlands Castle Good Neighbours



## 25 Years of Good Neighbours

by Ian Hewitt Chairman

Our normal work, mainly transporting people to hospitals, surgeries, shopping and social events, continues. Two of our more recent volunteers have resigned, one on moving out of the village and one due to changes in work commitment. Thank you, Stuart and Michelle for your enthusiasm and support. We're also sad to note the recent passing of some of our former clients.

In mid March we held another coffee morning for all volunteers and clients. We joined members at the Church on the Green for one of their regular Wednesday coffee mornings and enjoyed their bounteous hospitality as seen in the adjoining photograph.

Readers may recall a previous article recording RC GN's 25 year celebrations last year with a tea at the Church on the Green. We are one of about 120 such organisations around the county and this year Hampshire will be celebrating 40 years of Good Neighbours with some events around the county. Watch this space ...

Our **Annual General Meeting** will be held on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May** in the Parish Hall starting at 7 p.m. Our guest speaker for the evening will be from the Rosemary Foundation, which provides Hospice at Home care for people with life-threatening conditions. All welcome, refreshments provided.

If you are able to spare an hour or so each month and have a car in which you could help, please let me know by phoning the number below.

If you need any help – *or know of anyone who may need help* - for example, with:

Transport to hospital, library or shopping ?

Collecting a prescription from the doctors ?

Transport to a club or social event ?

Any other neighbourly activity?

**then please remind them of our help line - 0845 519 6641**

Please give **at least 48 hours notice**, particularly if phoning at weekends.

# Rowlands Castle Good Neighbours



*Photos by David and Valerie Mitchell*

## Walking for Health

Rowlands Castle Walking for Health group celebrated the New Year with a walk followed by lunch at The Castle on Wednesday 6 January 2016.

We had walked from Havant Thicket to Staunton Country Park and around the lake on a mild and dry day with a rare flash of sunshine. Then 28 of us enjoyed lunch together – our walks usually end with coffee.

Our trained volunteer walk leaders plan a walk every Wednesday, starting at 10am on The Green (except for the first Wednesday in the month when we meet at Havant Thicket car park on Horndean Road). You may well have seen us gathering there. Our woodland and country walks usually last from 1 hour 15 minutes to 1 hour 30 minutes, with a shorter option available.

New walkers from Rowlands Castle and further afield are always welcome to join our friendly group. Why not come and try it one Wednesday or phone Ann on 023 9241 2599 for more information.



## Rowlands Castle U3A events for 2016 by Kevin Connell Chairman

The Rowlands Castle U3A has a wide variety of talks and events planned for this year. Talks take place on the third Monday of the month in the Parish Hall at 14.00. Non members are welcome to attend for a fee of £2. As well as local events Rowlands Castle U3A is part of the Hampshire South Central Network and members are invited to a wide range of activities across the region. Members recently attended a Biochemistry symposium at Portsmouth University. There is something to suit all tastes.

Programme:

January 18th Portsmouth Harlots, Dung and Glory Speaker: Andrew Negus

February 15th Manet and Modern Paris Speaker: Bernard Allan

March 21st African Wildlife & Endangered Species Speaker: Dr Tim Woodfine

April 18th The Story of a Stansted Maid Speaker: Rona Doyle

May 16th Annual General Meeting

Plants in Forensic Science – Gardens of Cornwall Speaker: Dr Keith Lucas

June 20th High Points of Sailing Ships Speaker: William Cumming

July U3A Summer Break Trip to Hever castle

August U3A Summer Break

September 19th Sky Lab Speaker: Mike Whittle

October 17th Tales of a Scotland Yard Detective Speaker: Steve Roberts

November 21st Gilbert and Sullivan Speaker: Ted Hollis

December 19th U3A Annual Christmas Party





## What time is it please, Mr Hedgehog? by Gordon Charlesworth, Chair

Get inspired by the fantastic exhibits at the Spring Garden Show on 16<sup>th</sup> April- then get out into the garden and create your own gorgeous display! Here are a couple of tips to help.

### Slugs, don't you love them?

And they love your plants! But PLEASE don't be tempted by all those bottles of chemicals- they kill far more than slugs and may be responsible for the decline of much of our wildlife.



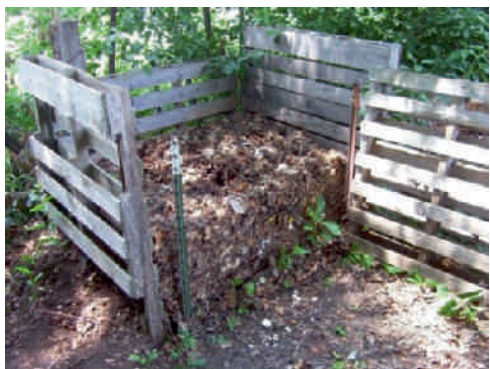
Beer- now there's a solution!

Beer traps, physical barriers, copper tapes and a whole host of alternative measures are just as effective and far better for wildlife.

### Muck and mystery

Covering the soil between plants with a thick layer of composted manure keeps weeds down, conserves moisture, increases organic matter in the soil and encourages worms to dig your garden for you. You can buy the composted manure at garden centres- some will deliver and there are often special offers available.

So happy gardening! And do come and enjoy the Spring Show- and the one in your own garden.



# Gardening Club

*Flowers : Bulbs : Foliage : Floral Art : Photographs : Tombola :*

*Bulbs : Foliage : Floral Art : Photographs : Refreshments : Tombola :*



*Refreshments : Flowers : Bulbs : Foliage : Floral Art : Photographs : Plant Sale : Tombola*

**16th April**  
**Church on the Green**  
**2pm to 4pm**

Everyone Welcome  
Schedule and entry form at the  
Hardware Store and online at

[www.rowlandscastle.com/CulturalSocialDir/rcgc\\_main.htm](http://www.rowlandscastle.com/CulturalSocialDir/rcgc_main.htm)

*Refreshments : Tombola : Flowers :*

## Three Sheets to the Wind

### Frank Philpot

**B**ermuda rigged sailing boats have a fore sail and a main sail that run fore and aft. Ropes called sheets connecting the sails to the boat.

There are two sheets on the fore sail which pull the bottom of the sail either to the left or right and one which holds the main sail down connected to the boom. If all of these ropes are not attached to the boat then the sails are out of control.

The sail can shake violently so the ropes and the boom become dangerous to the sailors on deck.

So being 'three sheets the wind' means to be out of control and staggering about in a mad senseless fashion.

Ropes are called sheets because they control the sails which are sheets and so the misnomer is justified by fast communication.

Mathematicians however are too clever by half when they slip in a change of meaning just to get the right answer.

For example Pythagorus theorem states 'The square of the hypotenuse of a right angled triangle is equal to the sum of the squares of the two remaining sides'.

$$h^2 = x^2 + y^2$$

Here the square of a number means the result obtained when the number is multiplied by itself ( $^2$ ). So two times two is four, so four is the square of two and two is the square root of four. The area of a flat rectangular surface is calculated by multiplying its length by the breadth.

Multiplying two lengths that are at right angles to each other gives a result that is equal to the area of the square. This area points at right angles to the both of the sides.

When proving the Pythagorus theorem the length of the sides of the triangle are multiplied by themselves, but in this case the same length pointing in the same direction is used for both multiplicands so the area inclosed is zero. One can not say that for the Pythagoras Theorem proof, it is OK to use the magnitude of the lengths, because all the proves rely on adding areas.

Starting from the well known equation for distance in four dimensions :-

$$s^2 = (ct)^2 - x^2 - y^2 - z^2.$$

Here the distance in the fourth dimension of space 's' is given by time 't' multiplied by the speed of light 'c'. The sign  $^2$  means multiplied by itself, and x, y and z are distances from a reference or starting point in three directions in space that are at right angles to each other, like length, breadth and thickness.

To understand how this equation works, we have to choose the fourth dimension 'ct' as the reference direction, because the three other directions have to be treated in the same way making the fourth dimension is the odd one out. Now we have to rotate the spacial directions from the reference direction. To do this we have to imagine operators i,j,k, that will turn the reference direction through a right angle into the chosen x,y,z directions.

Multiplying any of the spatial distances ix, jy or kz by itself will create a product that is rotated through another right angle to turning each of them into the negative reference direction. If time is involved the positive reference direction remains positive when

# Mathematics

multiplied by itself. We now have all the products pointing in the same direction, so they can be added together and the resulting distance square rooted to give the length of the hypotenuse.

If the result of the addition is negative then the hypotenuse of the object is measured in metres in three dimensional space. If the addition gives a positive result so the distance is measured in metres in the fourth dimension and so we have to divide it by the speed of light to change it into time measured in seconds, which is how we appreciate the fourth dimension of space. So Pythagoras theorem is proven!

Fermat's last theorem says that  $x^n + y^n = z^n$  only if  $n=2$

Proof of Fermat's last theorem was left as a marginal note for mathematicians to ponder over for centuries. Eventually Andrew Wiles found a very complex proof which was obviously not the simple proof envisaged by Fermat.

My proof works for numbers of any size, not just integers.

The proof is simply one sentence. Both spacial distances inherently have right angle operators, so only multiplying spacial distances by themselves (raising to the power 2) will make all the products to point in the same reference direction where they can be added together and the result square rooted to give the radial distance 'r'.

I tried putting these and other ideas to a scientific forum and was treated to a moronic tirade by trolls who not only rubbished what I said without any word of justification but also arranged for the records of the conversation to destroy themselves as soon as they were opened. So in my opinion the scientists who are paid by us to contend with these issues are 'Three sheets to the wind'.



A cup of tea in a vintage china cup, homemade cakes served on tiered stands and a group of your favourite friends and family to share it with. Whether you are looking for a hen party with a twist, a nostalgic way to celebrate a birthday, a wedding, baby shower or christening or a classic English event, Mrs G's Afternoon Teas will travel to your venue laden with beautiful vintage china and homemade cakes to create a wonderful event.

Please call Liz to discuss your specific requirements on

023 9241 2365 or 07917 198988

Or email [lizgraham@mrsgrsaftermoontea.co.uk](mailto:lizgraham@mrsgrsaftermoontea.co.uk)





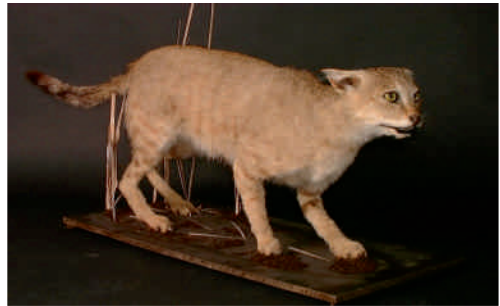
## The Beast of Hayling Island? Or just a harmless wild cat that lost its way?

by Kate Saunders, Participation and Heritage Manager, The Spring

Visitors to The Spring Arts and Heritage Centre may wonder if their eyes are deceiving them – an exotic beast can now be found lurking in the Museum.

But this is no creature from foreign parts – it was discovered on Hayling Island as recently as 1988. In a glass case, stuffed and mounted, is the amazing ‘Swamp Cat’ – sadly killed by a car in West Lane, Hayling Island. How it came to be there is a complete mystery, as the species normally found in Lower Egypt, through the Middle East to most of Asia.

The Swamp Cat (or ‘Jungle Cat’ or ‘Reed Cat’) is common in parts of India, and lives on a variety of small mammals and birds. It has adapted well to the presence of humans, and in its native habitat can often be found around towns and villages.



What was the exotic feline doing in the South of England? Sightings and photographic evidence would suggest that quite a few of them are living feral in this country, and could well account for at least some of the reported sightings of ‘big cats’. Presumably, our Swamp Cat escaped from someone’s private collection. And it may not be the last, as there have been other tantalising sightings on Hayling before and since.

Residents of Hayling Island have a definite affection for their Swamp Cat, which until recently was kept at the Hampshire County Museum Service store at Chilcomb House, Winchester, where it could be visited for purposes of research. Now, however, it can be seen at The Spring Arts and Heritage Centre in Havant – in good shape after the first attempt at taxidermy was later revised to produce the fine specimen now on display.

Sophie Fullerlove, Director of The Spring, says: “We are delighted that we have been given permission to bring the Swamp Cat to join our Museum collection, and hope that as many people as possible will take the opportunity to come and see this amazing exhibit.”

With its appealing face and fine golden eyes, the Hayling Island Swamp Cat is no terrifying beast – just an intriguing visitor from foreign parts who ended up in Hampshire.



## World Book Day

by Kay Pennicotte-Henrie Head Teacher

We celebrated this year's World Book Day by dressing up as characters from a variety of books.

- Traditional tales
- Classic Stories
- Myths and Legends
- Nursery Rhymes



We had an assortment of Greek gods and goddesses, some blind mice and many Roald Dahl and Dickens' characters; to name a few. The staff also dressed up and joined in the fun.

In the afternoon we had a sponsored Read- A- Thon; silent reading for thirty minutes and lots of adults from the village joined us to read. The money raised from this event will buy books for our children in Tanzania that we sponsor each year.

The children are raising funds for their sponsored child with a variety of events; plant sales, cake sale, doing jobs at home. This will help them to realise how they can make a difference to other children's lives.

We completed the day by enjoying books with friends and family. Many of the older children read with the younger classes.

Reading at St. John's is always a high priority and we are fortunate to have a well-stocked library and supportive parents to read at home. Thank you to everyone who came to help. If you have some spare time and would like to read in school please contact the school office. 02392 412095



## St Johns School Summer Fair Saturday 11 June

by Michelle Leete PTA

Save the date, and join us for the St Johns Primary School Summer Fair on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June from 12 to 3pm.

It's sure to be a great day with lots of rides, games, competitions and displays, along with the ever popular Open Top Bus Ride, and not forgetting all the stalls and BBQ.

We will be celebrating and honouring the Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday with a street party and regal themed refreshments. There really is something for everyone, and a perfect day out for the whole family. Our theme this year is honouring the amazing work of the Emergency Services, who will join us for a packed afternoon of fun.



The fair is organised by the St Johns PTA, with lots of help from staff, pupils and parents. Our fundraising efforts have helped the school to buy some great equipment including the Forest School starter kit, Android tablets, a new sports kit and supporting The Outdoor Learning Treehouse. The Summer Fair is the biggest fundraising project of the year, so come along and support your local primary school.

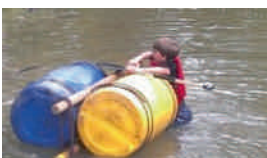
Everyone is welcome. If you would like more information, or are interested in your business supporting the fair, please contact [admin@stjohnspta.com](mailto:admin@stjohnspta.com)



# Scouts

## Rowlands Castle Scout Summer Term Report by Nicci Lucas

As I write this the Scouts have just returned from a fun packed week at Broadstone Warren in East Sussex. This is a 400 acre Scout camp site set in the Ashdown Forest so you can imagine the fun that they got up to!! The week started with raft building in not the cleanest of ponds, followed by crate stacking, grass tobogganing, pot holding, climbing, rifle shooting and archery. One evening they took part in a cooking competition where they were all given a budget per head, planned their three course meal, sent to the shops and returned to camp to cook their culinary delights! As one of the judges I was pleasantly impressed with the standard and had no ill effects afterwards...which is always a good sign!



On the last evening they took down their tents and made bivies to sleep under for the night...luckily it was dry! In the words of Bear Grylls..."As a young boy, Scouting gave me a confidence and camaraderie that is hard to find in modern life" During this week we experienced Scouts try activities that they had never done before, some of which they were scared to complete but had "a go", boys showing empathy and support for their fellow Scouts especially to those who had never been on a camp before. This definitely gave me a proud GSL moment ...well done boys! As for the leaders, I hope that you enjoyed your week and a huge thank you from us all for giving up your week to support the boys....it really is appreciated.

For the Cubs summer camp they had a weekend out under the stars in a field near Compton. As well as learning fire lighting skills, we absorbed the scenic southdowns on a beautiful afternoon walk. Thanks to Mike and David for joining us on camp and to Dickie for taking the boys for a local safari experience!!



The Beavers had a fun overnight camp at our Scout hut in May. After supper we all



strolled out on a warm evening walk across the fields to Finchdean for hot chocolate before climbing the hill to home. They settled with the help of one of our Scouts who read them a football story! We woke to a glorious summer's morning; the leaders sat out with a cup of tea admiring our perfect surroundings and waited for the Beavers to wake. After breakfast we all headed to the Rowlands recreation ground to burn off some energy before handing them back to their parents!

Our fundraisers throughout the year are vital to enable us to raise funds for our Scout hut which is currently in need of substantial repair. We would like to thank the Rowlands Castle fair Committee for inviting us to attend the fair on Saturday July 4<sup>th</sup> and to all the parents and children who turned up to help. As well as the coconut shy which proved very popular, the scouts also set up a water challenge to raise money for water aid. This became very competitive amongst those giving it a go and they managed to raise £50 for the charity. We would also like to thank the fete committee for their kind donation that was awarded to us during the day. We would like to improve the troops tents so will be putting the money towards these.



A big thank you to all those who attended our AGM at the beginning of September. It was a good chance to catch up with some parents and hear their views into how and what we do for the future.

A big welcome to all our new starters across the groups. We wish you a very enjoyable scouting experience. All sections are growing consistently with fantastic programmes planned for the term and our usual Christmas camp scheduled for mid December. Congratulations to Sam Lucas who was invested into Scouts last term and to Ben Lucas for achieving his gold Scout award. We also have two older scouts who have successfully completed their Young Leader training and are now helping with the Beavers...well done Aaron and Ryan Cooke.

As I am sure you can appreciate, running a group like this takes much enthusiasm and dedication from all of our willing volunteers. Without them and the parents who offer to help our scouting experience wouldn't exist so I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all. We are looking to re develop the hut committee so are currently looking for a Chairman, treasurer and secretary. Our current treasurer and chairman have been involved with the club for many years and feel that the time has come to hand over the reins. I would like to thank both Simon and Kevin for all that they have done for the group. We are also in need of many other roles throughout the sections including a treasurer and a secretary for the scout committee. Again our treasurer for the scouts has done an excellent job sorting out our finance...many thanks to Annabel for the time she has given us. Many hands really do make light work so please, please do come forward if you feel that you could give us some time and any expertise that you may have to offer.

**In order to development and maintain the growth of the group we need to fill these prominent roles and ensure the Leadership of the Scout hut is more evident by 2016, so please do get in contact with me and I will be happy to talk you through what is involved.**



# Tennis Club

## British Tennis on a High

by Alan Best secretary

In case you hadn't heard, Great Britain won the Davis Cup – effectively the World Cup of Tennis – last year. A great result that should make everyone interested in tennis very happy. But has it inspired you to rekindle your interest in playing? Or to see if your children might yet turn out to be the next Andy Murray or Heather Watson? (I was going to say Maria Sharapova but I had to change that rather hastily!). Well Rowlands Castle has a thriving tennis club and we are keen to encourage new and returning players at any time. We are planning to run an Open Day on April 24<sup>th</sup>, at which beginners and returners, young and old, can try their hand at the game. Former British No 1, Chris Wilkinson, now an LTA performance coach, television commentator and member of the tennis club, will be present to run the day and to offer help and advice to all. Full details will be circulated on the village noticeboards and via Grapevine.

The club offers opportunities for all types of tennis players, with a summer coaching course for beginners from the age of 4 upwards, through social tennis for those wishing to make up their own “fours”, club sessions for those who haven't got a regular group to play with – and who like to chat with other members – on to team tennis for the more competitive. We also run an internal club tournament with the finals played in mid-September, with entrants ranging from relative beginners to the highly competent.

We also run a number of socially biased “American Tournaments” during the season. All players are shuffled around in these events so you finish up playing with and against a number of different people – a great way of getting to know other members! But the main purpose of the day is to get through to the tea interval, when tea and cakes are served in abundance!

And although we do not have a resident coach we still provide coaching opportunities for you, with Roger Manvell, who runs the Advantage Tennis Academy at the nearby Avenue club in Havant, running coaching sessions for juniors (on Wednesday evenings) and Adults (Tuesday evenings).

Chris Wilkinson is also available for personal coaching by arrangement (contact him on 07768 772561)

The committee are always happy to welcome new members and anyone in Rowlands who would like to join to either learn to play, or to get out their rusty (or not so rusty) racquets is encouraged to join us. Try the web site as a first port of call, or em the Chairman (Robin Thompson) on [chairman@rctc.co.uk](mailto:chairman@rctc.co.uk) or the Secretary (Alan Best) on [sec@rctc.co.uk](mailto:sec@rctc.co.uk)





## Save the Children

Join us for three days of shopping at our new look **"Boutique Bonanza"** (formerly known as The Big Sale). Held in the **Petersfield Festival Hall**, there will be big brands, small prices, and a good time - all for a good cause helping disadvantaged children in the UK and throughout the world. The Hall will be filled with a huge selection of new and good-as-new clothing and household items - many still with original price tags and some with designer labels. The dates and times are: **Thursday 21 April 10am - 9 pm, Friday 22 April 10am - 5 pm, and Saturday 23 April 10 am - 1 pm, with everything Half Price 2 pm - 4 pm.** For further information have a look at our website - [www.petersfield-savethechildren.co.uk](http://www.petersfield-savethechildren.co.uk). See you there!

## Rowlands Castle RVS Lunch Club

The lunch club has been in existence for 33yrs now. It provides a freshly cooked nutritious meal and is a focal point to meet together and socialise. If you wonder what to eat and hate washing up treat yourself. Make new friends, enjoy some different meals.

Or could you make a difference? Yes with a little of your time you can do just that. Be a volunteer for the lunch club. We need help with preparing the meals, no special skills are required, just a willingness to join the Happy Working Group, all instructions will be given. Contact: Vi Anthony 02392412524

Or are you a driver who could join our rota to bring and return the less able members to the club?

REWARD Making a difference to another's well being, meeting new people, making new friends.

If you are interested in coming to the club or able to volunteer or would like more information please contact Mary Williams on 02392412763

# Spring Heating Advice

## Latest Energy News

by Nic Radcliffe

As I write this the weather is warming up nicely. Excellent news for getting out more and not waking up to the dreaded task of scraping the car windscreen! It's also at this time that everyone will be switching off their heating and forgetting all about it till next winter. This is fine if you have a reasonably new boiler. It should be raring to go when you give it the nod towards the end of the year. However if yours is not as new as it once was it may be the perfect time to think about some annual maintenance or even an upgrade.

The boiler manufacturers know very well that this is the time of year boilers are getting upgraded. Because of this there are extended warranties offered from some companies. From others there are price reductions enticing potential customers their way. So if you were thinking about an upgrade there are bargains out there to be had.

With the ever increasing pressure to be as green as you can be, there is the basic option of simply adding thermostatic valves to your radiators, which I've mentioned previously. There's also a wider range of heating controls available than ever before, from a simple room thermostat to the more sophisticated weather compensating controls. They are all capable of reducing your carbon footprint and most of all your bills. The Energy Saving Trust has recently reported that simply fitting the correct heating controls could cut up to 23 per cent off a heating bill. For more from them please visit their website.

Even if you choose to do none of the above, I would highly recommend that you switch your heating on for just a few minutes a couple of times over the summer. This helps prevent diverter valves, pumps and other mechanical parts seizing up from lack of use, so causing a major panic just when you need it most. After all, the inner workings of these items are always submerged in water. Without movement seizing is inevitable. We wouldn't be surprised if a car left for a long period of time wasn't raring to go. Hope you all have a good spring.

# Rowlands Castle Heritage Centre



## Progress After Year One

by Alan Drinkwater



Progress with the Rowlands Castle Heritage Centre is gathering pace. We would like to update you, and invite you to help, to participate and to contribute to this project.

It began when the Rowlands Castle Association was offered for £8,000, an iconic and acclaimed model railway of the Village Green and Station set at the time of the Normandy Landings in 1944.

A Working Group of the RCA was formed to consider the offer and set about searching for a suitable place to house the model. Various venues were considered. The former station master's accommodation over the railway station appeared of most interest being at a peppercorn rent, but only on a short lease of one year. The Working Group has now deferred negotiations pending an offer of a longer lease, dependent in turn on an announcement of the next franchise holder. The current SW Trains franchise expires at the end of 2016.

When reviewing progress of the Heritage Centre, the Working Group decided to begin with a website or 'virtual museum', to demonstrate that archive and research material already donated was being used to good effect, and to achieve a higher profile.

# Rowlands Castle Heritage Centre



**I**n addition to earlier articles in this Magazine, public meetings have been held to provide information about the Centre, and to consult on research ‘themes’. They also discussed the Centre’s operation, its activities, funding, management and organisation. The local Museum Development Service for South Hampshire has been contacted.

## **NEXT STEPS**

An Inaugural General Meeting will eventually be held to approve a constitution, management and supervisory structures and propose officers. A bank account will then be opened. Discussions have begun to seek opportunities to work with the Stansted Foundation on display space and research.

## **THE Website or VIRTUAL MUSEUM**

Drawing on the RCA’s own experience, a meeting of local computer experts has discussed the website, and advised on hardware and software, and the social media.

We wish to thank Cllrs Marge Harvey and Malcolm Johnson for making grants from their devolved funds, to cover the initial costs of the hardware, software, and installation.

Booklets, photos and artefacts about the Village, the Brickworks, sites of Roman villas, recent Parish Plans, and audio recordings, have already been offered.



# Rowlands Castle Heritage Centre

**Please pull out and keep  
these centre pages  
for future reference.**

## **T**HE FIRST RESEARCH THEME: THE BRICK- WORKS

Work has also begun on Research Themes which will be promoted through the RCA Magazine. These include: ‘the Village Name’, the Brick Works, the D-Day Landings, the ‘High Woods’ Project (a South Downs Park project based on a LIDAR survey of the Downs), and comparisons between ‘The three large local Estates’ – Idsworth, Stansted and Staunton - or the four local churches, for example.

The Brickworks is proposed as the first theme as fewer workers remain, and photos and artefacts become less available. The brickworks closed in 1967, and once stood on the Keyline Site.

The research will be based on a booklet to be published later this year, written by local resident Jonathan Dicks, which describes local brickmaking. He has also written about roman pottery making.

**We would appreciate any further information that you may have about the brickworks – photos, maps, bills etc. - and names of those who worked there. Please contact:**

**Malcolm Smith: [malcolm@smithmalcolm.plus.com](mailto:malcolm@smithmalcolm.plus.com)**

**Tel: 02392-412987**

**Alan Drinkwater: [alan.drinkwater@btinternet.com](mailto:alan.drinkwater@btinternet.com)**

**[Tel: 02392-412066](tel:02392-412066)**

# Rowlands Castle Heritage Centre

## **YOUR HELP IS WARMLY INVITED**

Thank you to residents who have volunteered, and to those who have already provided archive or offered donations. Much more support, however, will be needed to achieve the Heritage Centre.

### **Offers for the First Theme - ‘The Brickworks’**

Please offer photographs, artefacts, memorabilia or contacts with former workers (see previous page)

### **Volunteering: Shorter or Longer Term Help**

- Join the current RCA Working Group
- Provide ad hoc technical or historical advice
- Serve on the managing group (regular meetings)
- especially secretary, treasurer & fund raiser
- Serve on the supervisory trust (four times a year)

### **Funding**

- Urgent donations towards the model railway
- Offer a donation or provide a legacy
- Sponsor particular research or help acquire archive

**Please tell us what you think:**

Thank you

**Contacts: Alan Drinkwater: 02392-412066**  
21, The Peak, Rowlands Castle, PO9 6AH  
**Kevin Connell : 02392-413857**

## DREWS FARM

Drews Farm is situated between Rowlands Castle and Forestside. We have reintroduced livestock onto approximately 20% of the farm. Dexter cows and a mixture of Welsh Black Mountain and Easy Care Wiltshire sheep graze on some of the best low lying chalk pastures of the South Downs National Park. They are not fed on any supplements, additives or prophylactic antibiotics to encourage quicker growth and weight gain.

Approximately every 3-4 months we sell mixed boxes of Beef and Lamb/Hogget.

We try to produce the best tasting, healthiest beef and lamb without compromise for our family and you.

The beef is hung for 28 days to achieve a superior taste and is vacuum packed for optimum freshness. The boxes are 7-10kg of mixed cuts.

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Visit our website for further information: [www.drewsfarm.org](http://www.drewsfarm.org)



Delivery is free to areas within 5 miles of Rowlands Castle.



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# Craft Fayre

## Rowlands Castle Craft Fayres by Hilda Tart

At the Rowlands Castle craft fayres you will find a wide range of crafts represented.

Items are hand-made from a wide range of materials which can be natural or man-made or a mixture of both.

Wood, silver, glass, paper, fabric and wool are just some examples of what you will see.

This year the fayres will be held on the first Saturday of each month from April until December (apart from August) from 10am until 1pm in the Parish Hall in Links Lane. Admission is free

There will be stalls in both halls and refreshments are available in the smaller one.

A knitting advice clinic is available and there is a plant stall.

All our stall-holders are happy to discuss their craft with you and many are happy to take commissions.

If you are local and would like to be considered for a stall please contact:  
[rowlandscastlecraftfayre@gmail.com](mailto:rowlandscastlecraftfayre@gmail.com)



**Rowlands Castle Craft Fayre**

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TEL: 023 9246 9633 OR 07973 953337

Email [claire.sparkle@btinternet.com](mailto:claire.sparkle@btinternet.com)

## **Rowlands Castle Historical Society**

The society now has a permanent display cabinet for small items. It is in the small Parish Hall alongside other items of our village's past. If you have any artefacts that you would like to donate, either temporarily or permanently, please contact us.

Thank You

Paul Marshman RC 412028

Barbara Openshaw RC 412400

## **We want to hear from you.**



Do you have something to say? The RCA Village Magazine belongs to the whole village and serves as a channel of communication between villagers. If you have a point of view, write a letter and we'll publish it.

Simply write to Editor, RCA Village Magazine, 19 Mallard Road, Rowlands Castle, Hampshire PO9 6HN. Email to [editor@rowlandscastle.com](mailto:editor@rowlandscastle.com)





Have  
you seen

the **NEW** signs?

Actively selling and letting in your area

14 The Green, Rowlands Castle, Hampshire PO9 6BN  
023 9241 0014 sales@hpd-estates.co.uk lettings@hpd-estates.co.uk

# Forensic Science Trail and Open Morning

at Portsmouth High Junior School

**Nursery School**

3 to 4 years

**Pre-Prep**

4 to 7 years

**Juniors**

7 to 11 years

.....  
**Saturday 11 June**  
**10am to 12 noon**  
.....

This event is suitable for  
children from 3 to 11 years.

A school  
minibus service  
runs from  
Rowlands Castle  
every day

**Book your place online at**  
[www.portsmouthhigh.co.uk/open-days](http://www.portsmouthhigh.co.uk/open-days)



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# St John's Church

## Upcoming Events

by Revd Trevor Filtness Vicar of St John's

Although I thought our rather untidy fir tree in the Rectory garden was safe from storm Katie and those enormous winds, I noticed that it had acquired a list of some 30 degrees from the vertical! As I write this I am looking forward to spending a happy afternoon completing nature's work in order to make the garden safe! At least it is not big enough to cause material damage. I hope that that there was no damage to homes or businesses in the parish from quite the severest storm for some time.

A big thank you to all those who came to our services over Christmas and Easter. Counter-culturally our numbers seem to increase each year for which we are thankful. It was also excellent once more to share Good Friday and Easter with our brothers and sisters from the Church on the Green and all Easter visitors. Sadly, the March weather once more drove us inside.

We are planning a Pet and Farm Service for 3pm on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June with a 'bring and share tea'. All are invited even, if you don't have a pet - you can always cuddle someone else's cat or crocodile!! If you would like to come the venue is Mike and Lizzy Gradidge's, Holme Farm close to Stansted. Just let our office (Gill) know – see numbers below. We'll also put sign-up sheets in Church and the Centre.

I would also like to mention that this year we will be celebrating our 'patronal festival', the birthday of St John the Baptist, on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June but this year we will be celebrating with a BBQ at the Queen Elizabeth Country Park. We hope also to arrange activities, probably simple sports, for youngsters. If you would like to come, again please let Gill in our office know and there will also be sign-up sheets. We will provide the BBQ food (burghers, sausages etc) but could you bring your own drinks and perhaps a pud to share?

Noting this year that Her Majesty the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday is being celebrated during the weekend Friday 10<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June, we will be marking the occasion during both our 8am HC and 10am services. We will also be holding a Cream Tea Celebration during the afternoon of 12 June, however this may well depend on what else is being organised in Rowlands Castle – we wouldn't like to cut across a village event and June and July

# St John's Church

are also very busy from this perspective. We will let everyone know more by grapevine and posters.

With every blessing

Trevor

Revd T Filtness

Vicar

St John the Baptist, Rowlands Castle

07785 568056

02392 410111 (Office)

## Rowlands Castle Surgery

Surgery opening hours: 8:30 to 18:00 & alternate Saturday mornings 8:30 to 12:00.

GPs phone-in for consultations & advice 08:00 - 08:20 Mon – Fri - Tel 02392412309

Pharmacy opening hours: 8.30 to 18.00 & Saturday mornings 9:00 to 13:00.

(Pharmacy closed for lunch 13:00 to 14:00)

The Surgery situated at the tip of the green has been providing the village with GP services for decades. Our attached pharmacy opened in May 2010.

New patients welcome, pop in to reception & ask for the new patient registration form

12 The Green, Rowlands Castle, Hampshire, PO9 6BN

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# St Hubert's Church



## The Mysterious Windows of St Hubert's Church

by John Bates

Windows have always been a main feature of our churches. From the massive stained glass representations of saint and miracles depicted in the windows of our cathedrals to the modern abstract glass in many of our newer churches. All have their place and their own unique beauty.

In our **Church of St. Hubert**, Idsworth we have only one small round stained glass panel above the altar. This may seem strange for a church built on a hill and exposed to the full light of sun, moon and stars but the reason is clear when you sit in the church through the seasons. It doesn't need stained glass. Through the clear glass windows we see the clouds in all their moods, the trees and the woods, ever changing with the seasons, the birds and butterflies as they pass by. Planes and helicopters remind us of the man made as well as the natural world.



Our one small stained glass roundel is often missed and can easily be overlooked being high up above the altar but it has an interesting story to tell. The window was a gift from Mr. H.S. Goodhart-Rendel, the architect in charge of the renovation of the church in 1913. During this renovation the organ was moved to its present position and a new vestry added, and our little window installed. The design is based on an engraving by **Albrecht Durer**, a German artist and son of a goldsmith. From the age of 13 it was clear he had a unique talent and in 1486 his father apprenticed him to a painter and woodcut artist, Michael Wohlgemut. After just three years he left and travelled widely, working as a journeyman engraver and woodcut illustrator.

Returning to Nuremberg in 1494 he married and became a prodigious artist using mainly cool, sombre colours many of his pieces depicting religious and military themes. His picture of St. Eustace (often erroneously



# St Hubert's Church

mistaken for St. Hubert) was completed in 1501 and was his largest copper engraving. A copy is hung next to the vestry door. It shows the saint out hunting with his hounds and horse when he comes upon a stag with a crucifix between its antlers. The rest of the legend I recounted in the last RCA magazine. It is said that Durer was so proud of this work that he would only give away copies as presents or sell them when he was short of money.

Our own stained glass roundel is based on this painting. The saint with his horse and hounds have been reposed to fit and one other addition made which is missed by most visitors to our church. *Just in front of the horses head (arrowed) is a representation of our church.* I wonder how many of you have noticed that. Take a close look on your next visit.

Another mystery window is situated in the north wall. A small slit window set between the other two windows. It has been suggested that it was a "Lazar" window for lepers to see in to the service but at that height they would have had to be very tall lepers. Any suggestions?



## Poppy Appeal

Once again we had a very successful Poppy Appeal last November for the Legion. Our street collectors ( who got very wet) made £590, and as always the village shops, Post Office, Surgery, Pharmacy, pubs as well as Whichers Gate garage and the Golf club looked after the collecting boxes and contributed in a big way.



A huge thank you to you all – the grand total came to more than last year - £2,145.02.

Anne Haigh, Hon Organiser.

# Alton Abbey

## May Events



Having a good clear-out?

Bring your unwanted belongings to our CAR BOOT SALE

at ALTON ABBEY, on Saturday May 7th 2pm – 4.30pm

Or come and buy more to fill the spaces!

Teas £3 for tea, coffee and a piece of cake

Cars £7 each if booked in advance, £12 on the day - to book contact Friends of Alton Abbey, Alton Abbey, Abbey Road, Alton, GU34 4AP.

Cheques should be made payable to “Friends of Alton Abbey”.

Please include a telephone number, or an email address; and a SAE if you wish your place to be confirmed.

For more information email: [friendsofaltonabbey@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofaltonabbey@gmail.com),

or ( 01428 712938 / 01420 562126

FRIENDS OF ALTON ABBEY Registered Charity No: 284876



Foundation Music

The Winchester University - Foundation Music - Soloists & King Alfred Consort chamber choir will perform in The Abbey Church of Our Lady & St John on Saturday 21st May 2016

This is a return visit as their concert last year was such a success.

The evening will start at 6.30pm with wine and refreshments, with the Concert at 7.30pm

Tickets £15.00 “Tickets” FOAA, Alton Abbey, Alton, GU34 4AP

Cheques payable to “Friends of Alton Abbey”.

Please include a SAE, ☎, & an email address

For more information email: [friendsofaltonabbey@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofaltonabbey@gmail.com)

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# Church on the Green

## It's That Time of Year.....Again! by Jason Clark COTG

I think it is safe to say that as Spring has arrived, with the flowers starting to bloom, buds on the trees, bird song gracing our ears and the lighter evenings increasing, we feel so much better for it all!

It puts me in mind of a Sunday School chorus that we used to sing, more years ago than I care to remember. It goes something like this.....

The birds upon the tree tops sing their song,  
The Angels chant their chorus all day long,  
The flowers in the garden blend their hue,  
So why shouldn't I, why shouldn't you praise Him too.

This little chorus brings back so many childhood memories and indeed, we should, as it reminds us, praise Him and with praising God in mind, we at Church on the Green, have so much to thank God for!

Our 'Carols over coffee' and 'Christmas carol service' went well, as did our 'Christmas Eve celebration service'. There is something very special remembering the 'true meaning' of Christmas along with lighted candles and a small ensemble of musicians!

We continue to hold our monthly 'Youth Group' and bi-weekly mums and pre-school children's group called 'Music Makers'. In particular, 'Music Makers' has seen some real encouragements there and the group is continuing to grow!

Our annual 'Family service and BBQ' was a terrific success this year – with plenty of fun, quizzes, laughter, craft table for the kiddies, musicians and a thought for the day from the Bible, not to mention the tasty BBQ food and Cornetto's afterwards, it really was a great time had by all!

On the first Sunday of each month we are continuing to hold Cafe Church. It is run on much the same lines as our Family service, with quizzes, fun, poetry, craft table and interesting stories and facts from the Bible.....with the added bonus of fresh coffee or tea and nibbles. Sadly, no BBQ afterwards but watch this space, as we are thinking of including a lovely breakfast on one or more of our services!

With the Summer Fair coming up, more Cafe Church and the various weekly coffee mornings, exercise classes, Sunday services, Sunday school, Youth Group, Music Makers and our annual Musical Evening later in the year, as you can see, there is so much going on for all ages!

Please do feel free to pop in and experience some of these many activities.....You will be sure of a warm welcome, it would be really great to see you.

Jace Clark (Student Pastor)

## “Hold a Fish and Chip Supper to help spinal cord injured people rebuild lives after injury”

### Great British Fish and Chip Supper – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2016

**W**ant to eat Fish and Chips, while raising money for charity? Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2016 whilst raising awareness of spinal cord injury and supporting SIA’s vital services.

You can hold a fish and chip supper in your own home, at work or hold a larger supper at your local community centre.

SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. By inviting 8 friends and asking them to donate an additional £5.00 means you will raise at least £40.00 from your supper but we will also give you additional fundraising ideas to raise even more money for SIA.

Just £50 could contribute towards the support from our Peer Support Service for one hour, in a district general hospital or Major Trauma Centre.

In 2016 we want to make the batter matter and raise £40,000 from everyone holding suppers. Last year we raised £12,000 from the suppers.

The money raised from the suppers will help the Spinal Injuries Association offer support to individuals who become paralysed and their families, from the moment a spinal injury occurs, and for the rest of their lives by providing services and publications which enable and encourage paralysed people to rebuild lives after spinal cord injury.

Every year in the UK over 1,000 people experience a spinal cord injury and there are an estimated 40,000 spinal cord injured people in the UK alone.

Community Fundraising Manager, Elizabeth Wright, says, “The Fish and Chip Supper is a wonderful opportunity for a great evening with friends and family. We are also encouraging people who work to hold a Fish and Chip Lunch in their work places to raise even more funds. You may be even a local community group wanting to run a fun evening with your group.

For more information or request a fundraising pack call Elizabeth Wright on 0845 071 4350 or email [fundraising@siafishandchips.co.uk](mailto:fundraising@siafishandchips.co.uk) or visit [www.siafishandchips.co.uk](http://www.siafishandchips.co.uk)



## Spring Art Exhibition by Terry Devamey

**R**owlands Castle Painting Society invites you all to visit their Spring Art Exhibition and Sale. It takes place on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> May in the Parish Hall, Links Lane, so make a date in your diaries to come along. The Exhibition promises to be an excellent event.

The Society, which began 45 years ago, is, for the second year running, taking part in the Greater Havant Art Trail. There will be a good selection of framed original paintings in all the mediums, oil, pastel and watercolour to enjoy, also folios (unframed paintings) and greeting cards all of which are on sale at very reasonable prices. There will be refreshments available in the small hall, tea, coffee and home-made cakes to make your visit a truly enjoyable one.

Among the exhibiting artists, there are several local residents from Rowlands Castle, all excellent artists and certainly worth mentioning here. You may well know them but perhaps did not know they had an artistic side! We are lucky to have these people as members of our Society and always enjoy seeing their work. Joan Adams describes herself as a leisure artist, who records details of wherever she might happen to be, in the form of quick sketches. Joan is an excellent artist in her own right. Ann Webber, another local artist, has an in depth knowledge of aboriginal art and has produced some wonderful examples of ethnic paintings. Nicky Verrecchia, is self taught and really enjoys art, her pastel paintings are particularly beautiful. We welcome Yvonne Bromley into the Society and already she is showing us some lovely work. Finally, last but not least we have Bob Broad, one of our gentleman members, he has produced some really good paintings and is an extremely talented artist. You are all very welcome to come along and see what the Exhibition has to offer, hopefully, you will go away happy and glad that you didn't miss it! We look forward to seeing you.

For further details: 01243 374400

[www.rowlandscastlepaintingsociety.org.uk](http://www.rowlandscastlepaintingsociety.org.uk)





# Greening

## Does Greening Matter?

by: Helen Penfold

**Y**es – Lots of us think Greening does matter, and some of us have formed a greening group in the village, following the formation of greening groups across the country. The greening movement is working to promote the idea that if each of us saves small amounts of energy, then together we can make significant energy savings and raise national awareness as to the potential for change. This is particularly relevant after the recent World Climate Change Conference, held in Paris in December 2015, where real progress was made towards global responsibility for change.

In November we delivered a greening challenge card to everyone who receives the RCA magazine, asking you all to place the card in your window, if you were able to commit to five or more of the challenges listed.

A big Thank You to everyone who put up their cards. We were not able to count the cards until January, when we counted 50 cards, and another 16 people emailed us to say they had put the cards up, but had taken them down before we counted them. This figure represents approximately 5% of the 1300 houses in Rowlands Castle and the surrounding area. We had hoped for a bigger response, as other greening groups had had positive responses of up to 70% of people putting up their cards, and we have to ask ourselves why our venture was not more successful. We are conscious that Christmas, the delay in counting the cards, or possibly, residents' lack of interest or even feeling that the cards were inappropriate may all have contributed to the poor response.

**BUT**, even these 66 families committing to making five of the simple changes suggested, will save a significant amount of money, energy and /or water. If the 66 families committed to the first five challenges, they will save £71 per dwelling and £4,686 between them. They will save 329 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per dwelling and between them they will save 21,714 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> being pumped into our atmosphere, in one year! If everyone in the village was able to commit to these very simple changes, then in one year, we could save £93,720 between us, and prevent 434,280 kg CO<sub>2</sub> being pumped into the atmosphere. Opting for some of the other challenges on the greening card could save up to £185,000 in the village and reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by up to 962,000 kg in one year! That's a lot of saving from very little individual effort- just in Rowlands Castle! I am staggered by these figures, and I hope you are too ----- enough to think about joining in with the commitment. Little things make a big difference.

Did you know that Portsmouth Water board are happy to supply, free, a 'Save@flush' bag to put into your toilet cistern which will save 1.2 litres of wa-

ter, every time you flush the toilet, saving around 11 litres per day, and 4,000 litres per year. It will save you money too – if you have a water meter. The water board will install a meter for free, and remove it again, a year later, if it doesn't save you money. The water board website has other useful tips on saving water.

If you would like to comment on what we have written or to become involved with the group then please email us at:

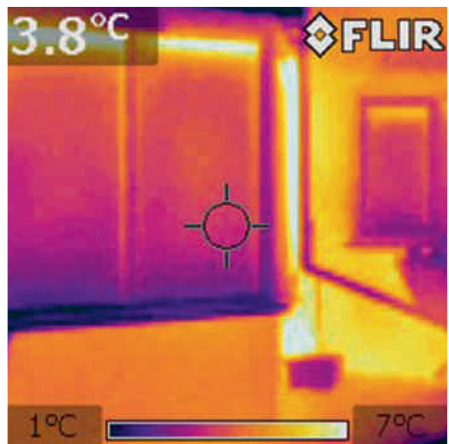
[greening@rowlandscastle.com](mailto:greening@rowlandscastle.com)

We plan to have another public meeting in May so that anyone who is interested can come and find out more .

## Hints on keeping your home warm in winter

Members of the Greening group wanted to offer something that could help villagers save money and avoid wasting energy through too much heat escaping from their houses. We borrowed an infra-red camera from Winchester Action on Climate Change (WINACC), and carried out brief exterior surveys of eighteen houses, arranged via a Grapevine message. These revealed that heat was most often escaping through windows and doors (and their frames) rather than walls. The images also showed that the most modern glazing (such as triple glazing) could significantly prevent heat loss.

We would like to thank WINACC for the loan of the camera. You can find lots of useful information on a range of topics on their website [www.winacc.org.uk](http://www.winacc.org.uk). Search for “keeping warm” for some tips on reducing heat loss from your house and saving on energy bills.



*Infra-red camera image showing a pair of large conservatory windows, at left. In this case, more heat is escaping through the uninsulated wall at the bottom left (shown in yellow), than through the efficient modern glazing above it (purple area).*

# Golf

## Ever Thought of Taking Up Golf?

by Peter Klepacz PGA Professional Rowlands Castle Golf Club

**L**ooking for a new challenge? Want to get healthy and active? Keen to meet more friends or spend quality time with your partner – and wondering which sport fits the bill?

*Golf offers all these benefits and more. It's such an adaptable sport that it suits all players, whatever their age, fitness level or ability....and Rowlands Castle has its own golf course which is an ideal place to learn.*

Many people are turning to golf to seek a more active and healthy lifestyle, with the health benefits from playing golf often under estimated. During the average round of golf you walk between five and six miles, which can burn off at least 900 calories, along with the toning and muscle strengthening benefits of swinging the clubs and carrying or pulling your golf bag. Golf is a low impact and low resistance sport which puts minimal pressure on the joints.

The club's long serving professional Peter Klepacz, has been spear heading a number of initiatives over the past 12 months to try and introduce as many people as possible to the game. One such initiative which is proving popular are his free taster clinics for ladies who want to give the game a try. Throughout the spring and summer he will be continuing with these, with the next two sessions being on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 10.00am and Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 10.00am. Both sessions are completely free, last for an hour and provide a great opportunity to give golf a go. To book your place or for more information please give us a phone on 023 92 412785, or email [peter@peterklepaczgolfshop.com](mailto:peter@peterklepaczgolfshop.com).



Golf does not need to be expensive and like any other sport you can spend as little or as much as you like. Golf lessons at the golf club cost £15 for half an hour, and we also do a course of 6 lessons for £75, with many people spreading this cost by learning with a friend. As well as the ladies taster clinics we also run a number of other free taster sessions as well as the subsidised 'couch to 5 holes' series of group lessons throughout the year for everyone, with details of these appearing on Peter's website which has address : [www.peterklepaczgolfshop.com](http://www.peterklepaczgolfshop.com).

Beginners can start by simply wearing trainers and comfortable clothes and we will provide you with all the equipment you need.

Golf can also bring a great social life and Rowlands Castle is a very friendly club with an active social section. As a club we welcome golfers of all abilities and aspirations, whether you want to play weekly competitive golf, or a friendly 9 holes followed by a social drink in the club house. Throughout the golfing season, starting with the AGM cup in March and finishing with the Quaffers presentation night in October there are weekly competitions, which are keenly contested, along with matches against other clubs both competitive and friendly. We also have very strong Ladies and Seniors sections who both have busy and varied golfing diaries, and provide plenty of opportunities to get involved. Golf and the golf club are a great way to meet new people and get involved in village life, especially if you have just moved to the area.



The club is very proud of their active junior section, and along with many internal junior competitions we enter teams in a number of local leagues and host friendly matches, with the emphasis very much on participation and enjoyment. We are actively trying to increase the numbers of junior golfers and throughout the year hold clinics on a Sunday morning, with the dates and times of these also appearing on Peter's website.

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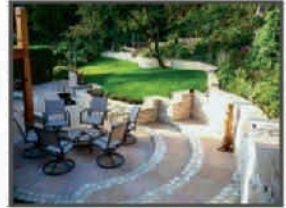
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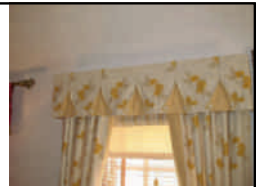
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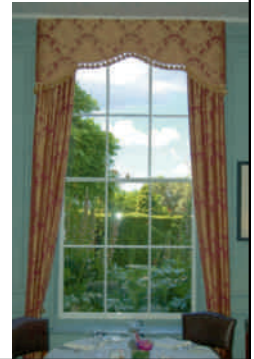




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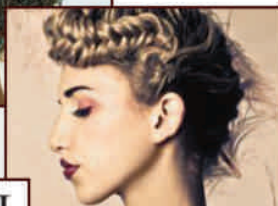
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