

# PARISH OAK



FEBRUARY 2016

# Parish Oak Activity Calendar

## February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>
					<b>11am</b> <b>St George's:</b> <b>Thanksgiving Service</b> <b>Trudy Reichlin</b>	
7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup>
<b>10am</b> <b>St George's:</b> <b>Communion</b>			<b>The Oak,</b> <b>Smannell:</b> <b>Quiz Night</b>		<b>5.15pm</b> <b>Lent Course: The Oak,</b> <b>Rectory,</b> <b>Enham</b>	<b>2.30 - 5pm</b> <b>Smannell:</b> <b>Valentine's</b> <b>Afternoon Tea</b>
					<b>7pm</b> <b>The Oak,</b> <b>Smannell:</b> <b>Valentine's</b> <b>Day Supper</b>	<b>7pm</b> <b>The Oak,</b> <b>Smannell:</b> <b>Valentine's</b> <b>Day Supper</b>
14 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>
<b>10am</b> <b>Christ Church:</b> <b>Matins</b> <b>3pm</b> <b>Michael House:</b> <b>Evening Service</b> <b>2.30 - 5pm</b> <b>The Oak, Smannell:</b> <b>Valentine's Afternoon Tea</b>			<b>12.30pm</b> <b>Lent Lunch:</b> <b>Christ Church</b> <b>Smannell</b>		<b>5.15pm</b> <b>Lent Course: Rectory,</b> <b>Enham</b>	<b>Enham</b> <b>Country &amp;</b> <b>Western Club:</b> <b>Kevin Bull</b>
21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup>	27 <sup>th</sup>
<b>10am</b> <b>Christ Church:</b> <b>United Benefice</b> <b>Communion</b>			<b>12.30pm</b> <b>Lent Lunch:</b> <b>Christ Church</b> <b>Smannell</b>  <b>The Oak,</b> <b>Smannell:</b> <b>Quiz Night</b>		<b>5.15pm</b> <b>Lent Course:</b> <b>Rectory,</b> <b>Enham</b>  <b>12.30pm</b> <b>February Lunch:</b> <b>Enham Post</b> <b>Office &amp; Shop</b>	
28 <sup>th</sup>	29 <sup>th</sup>					
<b>10am</b> <b>Christ Church:</b> <b>Communion</b>						

# USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

## The Church

Priest	Rev. Val Gagen	748065
Churchwarden	Pete Bowker	357201
PCC Treasurer	Noel Pope	352968
PCC Secretary	Margaret Smith	357487
Gift Aid Secretary	Rod Bowker	357201
Parish Magazine Editor	Peter Calcraft	512262

## Local Services

Smannell & Enham (CE) School		323201
Enham Club, Landale Wilson Hall		352098
Enham Parish Council	Chairman: Leslie Francis	335678
Smannell Parish Council	Chairman: Rod Bowker	357201
Test Valley Borough Council		07801 948036
Enham Service Station		352651
Enham Shop and Post Office		335678
Enham Trust		345800
Andover Leisure Centre		323355
The Oak (Public House)		363075

## Emergencies

Hospitals Andover Memorial		358811
Royal Hampshire County		01962 863535
NHS Direct		0845 4647
Neighbourhood Watch	Richard Budge (Smannell)	351129
	Meg Chant (Little London)	355167
	Tim & Leslie (Enham)	335678
<b>Police</b>	<b>999 or 101 or 0845 045 45 45</b>	
PCSO Elly Hughes		<b>08450 454 545</b>
RSPCA		08705 555 999
Samaritans		0845 7909 090
Social Services - Andover		387400

## Utilities

Southern Water - Emergencies		0845 278 0845
Southern Electric - Emergencies		0845 770 8090
British Gas - Emergencies		0800 111 999

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## EDITORIAL

It seems to have rained pretty much since November this winter...

But when see the reports on the news of the devastation that flooding has brought to communities in the northern counties, we should be thankful for the lack of misadventure that we have been graced with.

It still fills me with wonder that the forces of nature can so quickly cause havoc in our lives. When you marvel at the science of mankind, you have to smile at the way that nature can so quickly bring turmoil to our plans.

Over Christmas, my wife and I invited our wider family of grown children, in-laws and grandchildren to join us in Brittany for a family relaxation before facing up to 2016.

Needless to say...we didn't factor in the wrath of Storm Frank. Unfortunately one family from South Wales had to cancel completely and those brave souls that did venture across the English Channel were battered into sea sickness and despair before reaching the French shores.

We actually had a great time with those who made it across the wild seas. Children can have a fantastic time on a beach, even if it is blowing a gale and raining steadily! Racing each other across the sand, clambering over the rocks in search of a hiding crab...and all in midwinter.

The temperature was actually reasonably mild, and in a moment of madness, I suggested that for a five minute spell we should all strip off coats and jumpers and have a group photo taken under an inviting palm tree...just pretend it was mid-summer although it was really the first day of 2016. To my surprise they all agreed, though some, I'm sure, thought their grandad to be somewhat crazy.

If you go to the magazine website at [www.parishoak.co.uk](http://www.parishoak.co.uk) you can see the resulting photograph!

**Peter Calcraft**  
**Editor**



## CHURCH IN SMANNELL & ENHAM



### **Ramblings from the Rectory...**

I once heard of a vicar who wanted to encourage bible reading in his congregation. So for one particular Sunday service he asked the congregation to bring in objects that would illustrate a bible text. Then he told them he would try to guess what the text was from looking at the objects.

When the day arrived there were all sorts of objects amongst the congregation and there were loaves of bread indicating that 'Jesus is the bread of life'; as well as packets of salt and light bulbs, indicating to the vicar 'Salt of the earth' and the 'Light of the world.'

But one young girl had brought a lolly pop and the vicar had no idea why.

In the end he asked her and she said, 1Thessalonians, 5:21.

The vicar read it out:  
'But test everything and hold fast to what is good.'

This month is the start of something new in Smannell and Enham.

We are not only introducing a new pattern of services in our churches to include a family service once a month, hopefully on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at Smannell, but we are also beginning the Big Ask.

You may remember that I mentioned this in my letter last month....

There will be questions to you all in both villages and churches...we will ask for your views about the church and its place in the community.

So please watch out for this, as we do welcome your input.

And as we look forward to new things, let us build on what we have.  
Let us hold on to the things of value and try to build on them together.  
The rich experiences of the past can help us in our spiritual growth.  
We can be inspired to begin something new...perhaps to spend more time in prayer or bible study.  
To put aside some extra time each morning so that we start the day afresh with God.  
We all have within us the possibility to change.  
We can test everything and put aside the parts of our characters that we know are not good.  
But at the same time holding fast to what we know will help us to grow and develop further in a more godly way.

We can all become a new creation...with God all things are possible.

I wish you every blessing in this shortest of months...and do enjoy the snowdrops as well as the lolly pops!

***Rev. Val***

***Rev. Val Gagen***  
***01264 748065***

**PARISH REGISTER**

**Weddings**

Kyle Martin Swayne & Jessica Holly Chant on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2015 at Christ Church, Smannell.

*God is love, and those who live in love, live in God and God lives in them.*

## Notices

### Lent Lunch

There will be soup and buns for lent lunches:

- Wednesday 17th February 12.30 at Christ Church, Smannell
- Wednesday 24th February 12.30 at Christ Church, Smannell
- Wednesday 2nd March 12.30 at St George's, Enham Alamein
- Wednesday 9th March 12.30 at St George's, Enham Alamein.

All are very welcome.

### Visit by Bishop of Basingstoke

The bishop will be visiting us to conduct a service on Sunday 21st February at 10.00 at Christ Church. The service will be combined for all the parishes in our Pastrow Benefice and we would like as many people as possible to come.

### Church Services from March

The services which we hold in St George's and Christ Church are being reviewed and there may be changes. If there are any changes we will let you know.

***Pete Bowker, Church Warden***

## Submission Deadline for March Parish Oak magazine

Friday 19th February, 2016

Contact: [editor@parishoak.co.uk](mailto:editor@parishoak.co.uk) / Tel: 01264 512262



## Notices

### Lent Course

<i>When does it start?</i>	Friday 12th February
<i>What time?</i>	From 5.15-6.30pm, with refreshments afterwards
<i>Where?</i>	At the Rectory, Enham Alamein
<i>What is it?</i>	A five-week course to explore your faith further
<i>Who is it for?</i>	For people with lots of faith or a little faith or just starting out on their faith journey

Every Friday in Lent except 11th March, with the last session being on the 18th March.

Do come...you will be most welcome!

### Confirmation

We will be taking a group of candidates to be confirmed at Winchester Cathedral on Saturday 26th March at 8pm. If you would like to be confirmed, or are thinking about it, please speak to Val or Alex.

### Thanksgiving service for the life of Trudy Reichlin

There will be a private service of cremation, followed by a public service of thanksgiving at St George's on Friday 5th February at 11am, to which all will be welcome.

Please contact Val if you would like to add any memories to the tribute.

*Rev. Val Gagen*

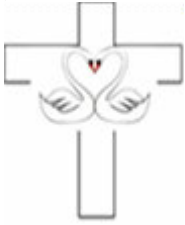


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*To love, to learn, to live ... to leave a legacy*

## **SMANNELL & ENHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL**

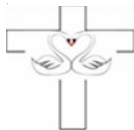
As I write it is a glorious sunny winter day. High above us, in darkest space, Tim Peake is preparing to be the first British astronaut to undertake a spacewalk. Tim's 'Principia' space mission has really captured the imagination of the children in school. I'm sure you'll remember that he took off just before Christmas. This was a fantastic time for the children in Swallows Class as they had been learning all about space. So being able to watch a live launch was a real bonus for them.

At Smannell and Enham School we pride ourselves on our family ethos. Each of our Year 6 children has a buddy in the Reception class; they partner these children in a range of activities and help them settle into school. The Year 6 children wanted to develop this buddy arrangement a little further. They decided that they would share the knowledge they had learnt about space with their buddies so that they could gain a greater understanding. The result was a fantastic collaboration of joint working across the ages, as I think this picture shows.



***Peter Shaw***  
***Head Teacher***

## The Smannell and Enham Church of England (Aided) Primary School



*To love, to learn, to live ... to leave a legacy*

**The Smannell and Enham Church of England (Aided) Primary School** is currently in need of new Foundation Governors.

Governors are one of the largest volunteer forces in the country and have an important part to play in raising school standards. The role of the governing body is absolutely key to the effectiveness of a school. Ofsted (the national inspection body for schools) has noted that the most effective schools demonstrate effective leadership and management, and that includes the leadership brought by the governing body.



Our school Governing Body is made up of people who come to us through a variety of routes and with a range of different backgrounds, skill and experiences, but they are all volunteers who work together for the benefit of the School and are the link between the School and the community it serves.

The role of the Governing Body is a strategic one and its key functions are to set the aims and objectives for the school; set the policies and targets for achievement; monitor and evaluate the progress the school is making, all this while being a source of challenge and support to the headteacher (a critical friend).

This isn't an application to be taken lightly, as it involves time, energy and a willingness to become involved in the life of the school on a regular basis over at least four years. However, it is very rewarding, as together we can strategically input into the school and see another generation of children growing in knowledge and development within our community. A Foundation Governor represents the Church of England and should be a regular communicant within the Church.

We would be delighted to hear from anyone who has an interest in the performance of the school, but also a willingness to listen and help us make informed decisions to develop the school forward.

**Contact Peter Calcraft on 01264 512262 ([editor@parishoak.co.uk](mailto:editor@parishoak.co.uk)) or Paul Sexton on 07766 162347 ([paul@colvinnet.com](mailto:paul@colvinnet.com)) to discuss how you can be involved.**

## Smannell Parish Council Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Test Valley Borough Council has a new smartphone app that allows residents to report issues such as street cleaning, waste and recycling concerns quickly and easily. "My Test Valley" is simple to use, free of charge and works with the mapping software on smartphones so that users can pinpoint exactly from where in the borough they are reporting. "My Test Valley" is available to download from the Apple App Store; for iPhones and iPads; Google Play for Android phones, or the Windows Store for Windows phones.

Anyone wishing to use the new bus service through Smannell and Little London can flag the bus down without being at a bus stop. Those wishing to use the bus from Little London may do so for buses going in either direction from the kerb at the end of the Little London lane.

It looks like good news for our fast broadband users. Kit Malthouse, our MP, wrote to Hampshire County Council and they have responded by talking to Test Valley about arrangements for sharing funding.

Users of our roads at night are reminded of the additional safety from wearing light coloured clothing and carrying a torch.

**Rod Bowker**  
*Chairman Smannell Parish Council*

### **Parish Oak Advertising Rates**

**The Parish Oak is a monthly magazine that has an excellent avid readership and covers all households in Smannell, Little London, Enham Alamein, Finkley and Upper Enham.**

<b>Full page (12 issues per year)</b>	<b>£ 120</b>
<b>Half page</b>	<b>£ 80</b>

**One off insertions, or leaflet distribution by negotiation.**

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**Contact Noel Pope by email at [advertising@parishoak.co.uk](mailto:advertising@parishoak.co.uk) or speak with Peter Calcraft on 01264 512262 for further information.**

## **SUMMARY REPORT OF A FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF ENHAM ALAMEIN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 13 JANUARY 2016 AT THE CEDAR PRINT ROOM, ENHAM TRUST, ENHAM ALAMEIN, ANDOVER**

Members carefully considered and unanimously agreed to approve the budget for 2016/2017 as presented and set the precept requirement at £9,082, while delivering a zero increase in Average Band D Council Tax for residents.

The Chairman advised about the pavilion and potential creation of a disabled path for all of the village and the cost implications are very high for the concept of safe access. It does appear that due to cost constraints, it is not possible to undertake disabled access together with refurbishment of the pavilion as this is cost-prohibitive but alternative funding sources will be assessed.

The Chairman advised that the committee wants to revisit the questionnaire surveys undertaken and reevaluate what people would like as it is important to integrate and combine for all. Consideration can then be made for on-going costs and firm-up the types of provision and therefore grants that could be available.

The Chairman advised those present that there will be a Street Party to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on 11 June 2016.

Cllr. North reported that the Government Planning Inspector had ruled that the new TVBC Local Plan is sound and that there would be no further strategic housing sites allocated. Thanks to the help of Alamein Ward residents the Local Plan also ensures the protection of our Local Gaps including between Andover and Smannell/Enham Alamein.

Secondly, he reported that Taylor Wimpey's bid to reduce the amount of affordable houses due to be built on Augusta Park has now been rejected by Test Valley Borough Council.

Thirdly, Test Valley Borough Council has launched a brand new smartphone app that allows residents to report issues such as street cleaning and waste and recycling concerns quickly and easily. "My Test Valley" is simple to use, free of charge and works with the mapping software on smartphones so that users can pinpoint exactly where in the borough they are reporting from. "My Test Valley" is available to download from the Apple App Store for iPhones and iPads, Google Play for Android phones, or the Windows Store for Windows phones.

Borough Cllr. Alex Brook reiterated that the Local Gap will be protected for some 20 years. He advised members of a forthcoming Alamein Conference taking place on 23 January 2016 at 10.00am at the Long Meadow Centre, Smannell Road, Smannell.

The Chairman invited Peta Wilkinson to update on Enham Trust activities. Peta Wilkinson advised that phase 2 planning application for the development at Enham Trust is to be submitted by the end of January. The Enham Trust has been shortlisted for another award for the development at Bradbury Place. The trust is still awaiting a Homes & Community Grant via the Department of Health.

The Chairman formally wished all present a very happy New Year. She advised that a village agent volunteer has now been appointed to work with Age Concern. She felt that the Christmas Lights Switch-On Event was excellent and the presents were very well received.

***Leslie Francis***

**Chairman of Enham Alamein Parish Council**

## **ENHAM ALAMEIN SHOP AND POST OFFICE**

Just a reminder that the February lunch is at Enham Shop & Post Office, 12-30 – 2-00, Friday 26th February.

### **THE GREAT BRITISH FISH & CHIPS**

**Every Friday is Fish and Chips Friday (12.00 - 19.00)!**

**In the Shop and Post Office, Enham Alamein**

Served between 12 noon and 6:45 pm.

Call Leslie and Tim on 335678



***Leslie & Tim Francis***



Peta Wilkinson CEO

01264 345800

Hello Everyone,

I sincerely hope you're all having a great start to the new year; full of endless possibilities and positive challenges, the New Year brings with it exciting opportunities aplenty.

The New Year also brings with it the chance to invest in a 'new you'; clearing out old or unwanted clothes, accessories, DVDs or children's toys to make way for all the wonderful gifts received at Christmas and prepare for the Spring. If you have anything of good quality that you wish to donate to a vital cause, please consider gifting items to our wonderful charity shop in the village.

I'm delighted to share with you the fantastic news that our award-winning Bradbury Place development near Andover town centre has been longlisted for the inaugural RIBA Journal MacEwen Award. Searching for architecture for the common good, the award recognises places designed with the maximum benefit of society in mind; Bradbury Place standing as an ideal example of such an ethos and a project I'm so proud of.

Looking ahead, we have several fundraising events happening throughout the year, open to anyone looking to take on a unique challenge, while raising funds for our cause. These include: a 10,000ft skydive on 28<sup>th</sup> May, Trekking the Brecon Beacons 4 – 5<sup>th</sup> June, and the London to Paris bike ride between 20<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> July. Anyone thinking about taking on any, or all!, of the above should contact our Fundraising department on 01264 345 817 or email: [fundraising@enhamtrust.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@enhamtrust.org.uk) – we look forward to hearing from you!

More information about any of the above can be found on our website: [www.enhamtrust.org.uk](http://www.enhamtrust.org.uk).

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Peta Wilkinson', written in a cursive style.

***Peta Wilkinson, CEO***

## Who is Helen Murphy?

### Tell us a little bit about you, and what fills your day?

I have two children, I'm married and have lived in Enham for 12 years. I have worked as a Procurement professional for over 20 years, and I'm currently undertaking some further study so my day is filled with mummy and family responsibilities, furthering my education and supporting the Parish Oak magazine in the development of new material and a Facebook page.



### What keeps you motivated?

A great deal of positive thinking and really trying to get the **big** and small into perspective – not always easy though.

### What are you most proud of?

My children.

### What would be the single thing you would like to do differently or see change?

Not to be so bothered about what other people think.

### What makes you tick?

Being busy, being excited by new things/experiences, laughing with the family and seeing people buzz when they are happy.

### What three words would your friends use to describe you?

Caring, thoughtful and quiet.

### Any words of wisdom you would like to share?

I love this quote "Every experience, no matter how bad it seems, holds within it a blessing of some kind. The goal is to find it" Buddha.

### ***Editor's note:***

*Helen has kindly kicked off a new item for the magazine. We will regularly bring a contribution from someone who lives or works in our community. It will be a useful way of getting to know those active within our locality.*

*If you would like to share a little more about yourself, please email [editor@parishoak.co.uk](mailto:editor@parishoak.co.uk).*



**SERVICES IN SMANNELL WITH  
ENHAM ALAMEIN PARISH  
February 2016**

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February**

10.00 a.m. St George's, Enham

**NEXT BEFORE LENT**

Holy Communion

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February**

10.00 a.m. Christ Church, Smannell  
3.00 p.m. Michael House, Enham

**LENT 1**

Matins  
Evening Service

**Sunday 21<sup>th</sup> February**

10.00 a.m. Christ Church, Smannell

**LENT 2**

United Benefice  
Holy Communion

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February**

10.00 a.m. Christ Church, Smannell

**LENT 3**

Holy Communion

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March**

10.00 a.m. St George's, Enham

**LENT 4**

Holy Communion

**Enquiries for Funerals in the Parish to the Priest, Val Gagen (748065) or Churchwarden, Pete Bowker (357201).**

## PARISH OAK *magazine website*

*Local community news for  
Somnall, Enham Alamein, Little London, Finkley and Upper Enham*

### **Now why should I bother to go to the Parish Oak magazine website?**

*Because there is so much more at [www.parishoak.co.uk](http://www.parishoak.co.uk) than just the information found here between these paper covers..*

***Local Buy and  
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***A gallery of  
local pictures***

***We will be building a local pictorial  
library of our community...why not  
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always  
available***

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bus goes by?***

***Ever needed to know the number  
for the Andover Hospital?***

***Or the emergency number for Gas  
or Electricity?***

Go online at [www.parishoak.co.uk](http://www.parishoak.co.uk)

to see what the rest of the website looks like!

*Coming soon on FaceBook too...*



# Andover Scrap Box



## Can you help?

Are you having a clear out? Do you have a garage full of bits and bobs? Could you help us collect the following items? Your waste is our treasure! The Andover Scrap Box is seeking:

- |                          |                     |                         |
|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| ✓ <b>Pillow cases</b>    | ✓ <b>Egg boxes</b>  | ✓ <b>Wallpaper</b>      |
| ✓ <b>Wrapping paper</b>  | ✓ <b>Zips</b>       | ✓ <b>Tiles</b>          |
| ✓ <b>Corks</b>           | ✓ <b>Ribbon</b>     | ✓ <b>Vinyl</b>          |
| ✓ <b>Cardboard tubes</b> | ✓ <b>Fabric</b>     | ✓ <b>Wire</b>           |
| ✓ <b>Yogurt pots</b>     | ✓ <b>Buttons</b>    | ✓ <b>Tubing</b>         |
| ✓ <b>Containers</b>      | ✓ <b>Shoe boxes</b> | ✓ <b>Plastics</b>       |
| ✓ <b>Stationery</b>      | ✓ <b>Stamps</b>     | ✓ <b>Gardening pots</b> |
|                          |                     | ✓ <b>And much more</b>  |

RCS Services are working with local businesses and the community to recycle. Collecting their waste helps us to provide local schools, after-school clubs and community groups with a range of creative resources to use for projects.

If you could help, we accept donations Monday to Friday, 9am until 3.30pm. If you have other items that you think may be suitable please contact:

**RCS Ltd, Longmeadow Centre, Cricketers Way, Andover, SP10 5DD.  
Tel: 01264 359223. Email: [enquiries.rcs123@gmail.com](mailto:enquiries.rcs123@gmail.com).**

**Lilly Doreen Robson**  
**Better known as Lil**  
14.4.11 - 4.12.15



Lil was born on 14<sup>th</sup> April 1911 at Enham to Fred and Ann White.

Fred was head gardener to the Earl family at Enham. Lil had a sister Edith (known as Edo) and a brother Roy. She also had a cousin May who lived with them and who was thought of as another sister.

Lil attended Smannell School and later Hatherden when the family moved there. On the 29<sup>th</sup> April 2010, Lil opened the new extension at Smannell and Enham School, being their oldest pupil still living. Lil was honoured to do this. Lil and Frank had three children, Clive, Janet and Paul. Sadly, Janet died in 2006 and Clive in 2010. This was a monumental blow to Lil and she never stopped missing them and talked of them daily.

Lil was very proud of her grandchildren Ian and Debbie and great grandchildren Ben, Lilly and Holly. She surrounded herself with photographs of them and would proudly go through them all when she had visitors. Lil loved to be visited by all her nieces and nephews, and she had quite a few.

Both Lil and Frank worked at the factory at Enham. When Lil celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, the boys she worked with were all invited: Eric Collins, Terry Geoghegan, Keith Harman, Joe Copper and John Peters. Lil also worked at the Wool Shop in Andover and Webster's Shirt factory on the Walworth Estate. During the 1960s and 1970s Lil played in the ladies' darts team for The Enham Club and also for The Hare and Hounds at Charlton Down. Apparently she was a good darts player, winning the Ladies' Singles one year.

During her time she had three poodles which her family adored. Lil loved her dogs and then later her cats, Ginger and Bobbin. When we were young she

used to take in baby rooks that had fallen out of the trees...one was called Rookie!! It was quite tame and kept us amused as children.

Lil had a caravan at West Bexington, at which many a family holiday was spent with her family. Even so, she still liked to fit in a holiday each year and this was usually arranged when her favourite Irish singer, Dominic Kirwan was singing at a nearby venue...the last time being in May last year when Paul and Lil spent a week in Swanage. Lil also liked to visit Lincoln to see her daughter-in-law, Julia and all her grandchildren. Her love of the Donkey Sanctuary at Sidmouth came from her holidays and will always hold a special place in our hearts.

From May last year, Lil's health slowly deteriorated, but she still liked to keep up with the gossip in the village. Lil enjoyed having visitors, it was never a few minutes with her, more like an hour or two!!

Lil was glad to have her son, Paul, to look after her and kept a big secret from the family when Paul married Elsy and gave her another daughter-in-law, who also took care of her.

Lil would have loved to see so many people turn up on the day of her funeral, she was a lady who had a strong willed nature, but she was always there to help anyone or give a bit of advice.

Lil took so many memories of the village with her. Who will put us all right now when we ask questions about the village??

Sorry Aunt Lil for calling you Lil throughout all this, but I'm sure loads of people have different stories and memories of you.

***Amanda Cox (a very proud Great Niece to an amazing lady!).***



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The Seminar is to be held at the Esseborne Manor on Tuesday 8th March 2016 and is scheduled to start at 10.00 a.m. and will end with a Buffet Lunch.

If you would like to attend please reserve a place by telephoning Margaret Andrew on 01420 83517 or email [margaret@murdochasset.co.uk](mailto:margaret@murdochasset.co.uk).

If you are an existing client and would like to attend this updated Seminar, or perhaps bring a friend, or want a discussion on either of these subjects beforehand, please call Alan on 01420 83517, mobile 07721 517870, or email [alan@murdochasset.co.uk](mailto:alan@murdochasset.co.uk)

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Presumably because of the warm weather, we are already taking in kittens which will require homes. If a kitten is not handled before it is about six weeks old it may never become tame. We are spending about £10,000 a year on neutering but still the problem persists.

Our next event will be at the Andover Garden Centre on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> February. We will have an information stall and will be collecting donations.



Gifts of food will also be gratefully accepted. Unwanted cat food can always be left at Pets at Home in Andover.

Taz, our New Year cat now lives in Salisbury. Wellington is about two years old and was found straying at Wellington Academy, Tidworth, hence his name. He is very friendly and always hungry, presumably as he has spent time foraging for food...



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## How to contact your Member of Parliament



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*If you have any ideas, issues, problems or concerns that you wish to raise, then please feel free to contact us, using the details below.*

### ***Alex, Phil & Tracey***



**Cllr Alex Brook**

[cllrabrook@testvalley.org.uk](mailto:cllrabrook@testvalley.org.uk)

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**Cllr Phil North**

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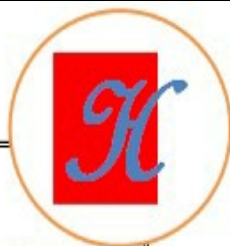


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