

PARISH OAK



NOVEMBER 2015

Parish Oak Activity Calendar

November 2015

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1st <i>10.00 am</i> St George's: Communion	2nd	3rd	4th <i>The Oak, Smannell: Quiz Night</i>	5th	6th	7th <i>6.00 am</i> Little London Bonfire Night, The Oak at Smannell
8th <i>8.30 am</i> Christ Church: Remembrance Sunday <i>3.00 pm</i> William House: Evening Service	9th	10th	11th <i>11.00 am</i> Remembrance Day activities <i>7.15 pm</i> Enham Parish Council meet, Enham Resource Centre	12th	13th Andover Food Bank Gift Boxes deadline <i>www.andoverfood bank.co.uk</i> Tel: 362111	14th
15th <i>8.30 am</i> Christ Church: Communion <i>10.00 am</i> St George's: Communion	16th	17th	18th Enham Trust Quiz Night, Andover Masonic Hall <i>The Oak, Smannell: Quiz Night</i>	19th	20th	21st
22nd <i>10.00 am</i> Christ Church: Communion	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th <i>6.00 am</i> Enham Alamein Christmas Lights Switch On	28th Enham Club: Echoes
29th <i>10 am</i> St George's: Communion	30th					

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EDITORIAL

I have a friend on Facebook who never fails to post something Christmas-related ...in August! This year was no exception, bless her. It's definitely true we are all still big kids! And Christmas IS nearly upon us. AGAIN.

So what has this year brought to you? It brought me a career in job interviews! "All good experience" friends have said. "Makes you more equipped for the next one" they said.

I have been loosely looking for part time work ..although how I would fit it in right now I have no idea.

I have an active life: running a busy family home (as a lot of us do); cycling; two black labs that require A LOT of exercise; and ferrying the kids around. The latter now helped out by our eldest daughter who passed her driving test this Summer. Well done Lucy! (And well done to Lily!)

My dear Ma and her failing health has been my full time job for sometime, and I suspect will continue to be for a while yet.

So I have had a good handful of interviews, and it has happened that I have been offered a job I don't want, and not offered the job I do want. Isn't there a saying for that? At one point I was offered two jobs on the same day. I had a few hours to think it through so took myself out on a bike ride. My decision was made on my return. I chose the job that was going to keep me the most active and was the most sociable. However, after a few days I realised it really wasn't the job for me and I quit. (A neighbour made me feel tons better by telling me she had once quit a job after only three hours. Three hours!!) After quitting, I called the other company to enquire if the position was still open. Unfortunately it had now been filled by another applicant. I do wish her every success.

So much for mulling over thoughts and ideas on bike rides! To be honest the real world eludes me when I'm cycling. It is my time to switch off. And switch off I do!

Lou Bushell



CHURCH IN SMANNELL & ENHAM



Ramblings from the Rectory...

Well, didn't we have some wonderful Harvest celebrations with beautifully decorated churches in all the team churches. They were full of flowers, vegetables and fruit in a rich array.

The apples have been superb this year...and they were everywhere in abundance...we've even had a few pears in the Rectory garden too.

Some of our churches and schools donated their Harvest produce to the Andover food bank. I wanted to include here, for you all, the list of produce that the Food bank put together for the children from Smannell School to bring to their Harvest service in the church.

There was an amazing selection of produce.....and it included packets of biscuits and treats, cereal [multipacks], fruit juice or milk [long life], pasta or rice, tinned spaghetti, sugar, soup, tinned meat or fish, tinned tomatoes or vegetables, tinned fruit or rice pudding, instant mashed or tinned potatoes.

Many of these items were brought in by the children, and I was astounded to discover that last year, the food bank collected and distributed 50 tonnes of food to over 5738 local people in need. It is designed to help people in crisis with emergency supplies. So all that you give, makes a big difference in the community.

I read something the other day which seems especially apt: The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much, it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.

And as we move into November, the month of Remembering we might say, we have All Souls and Remembrance Sunday, soon upon us.

Our thoughts are with those who have been bereaved as we remember their loved ones before God at our Team All Souls service in Charlton.

There will be Remembrance services in all of our churches to commemorate

those who have died for their country in wars and conflict.

So amongst all the remembering, let us all try to do something positive to help someone.

You can still donate to the food bank. Find out more from 01264 362111 or www.andoverfoodbank.co.uk

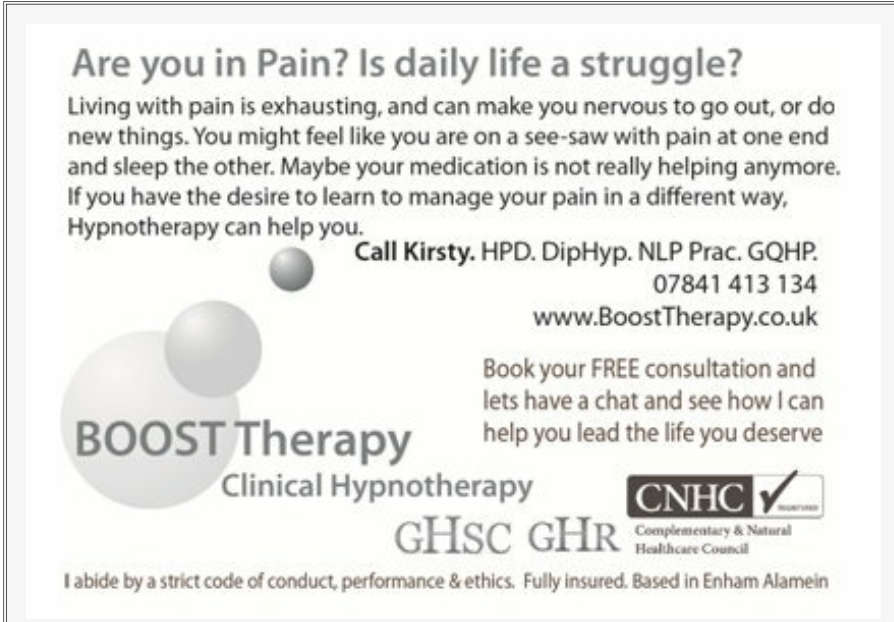
You can help not only with gifts of food, but also with any spare dinner plates or soup bowls you might have, as well as deodorant, shaving gel/foam or shower gel. These are all items that have been asked for urgently and so let us try to support this organisation that does so much to help local people in need.

There is a collection point at Charlton and Weyhill churches.

Thank you. God bless you all,

Rev Val

Rev .Val Gagen
01264 748065



Are you in Pain? Is daily life a struggle?

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Notices

VACANCY FOR CHURCH WARDENS.

We need two Church Wardens for our parish churches. My notice as the current sole Church Warden was given in April 2014 so that my replacement has good time to come forward. If no-one comes forward then the duties could be divided between different individuals. The Parish Church AGM will be in April 2016 when the arrangements will be agreed. Please contact Rev. Val Gagen if you are interested in helping.

Church Events:

Harvest Festival Services.

Our Smannell and Enham Alamein churches were decorated with wheat sheaves, flowers and fruit for the harvest services. At Christ Church there was soup, ploughman's and wine served in the church after the service. £140 was raised. We thank all those who helped with the decorations and those who gave food for the food bank.

Music Evening in Christ Church.

We enjoyed a very successful music evening organised by Anna White. We thank her for making all the arrangements and Charles for selling so many tickets. Food and wine was served afterwards and over £500 was raised for church maintenance.

Pete Bowker, Church Warden.

**Deadline for December's Parish Oak
will be Friday 20th November**

Contact : editor@parishoak.co.uk / tel 01264 512262

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 include the leadership brought by the governing body.



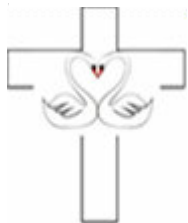
Our school Governing Body is made up of people who come to us through a variety of routes and with a range of different backgrounds, skill and experiences, but they are all volunteers who work together for the benefit of the School and are the link between the School and the community it serves.

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) or Paul Sexton on 07766 162347 (paul@colvinnet.com) to discuss how you can be involved.



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

SMANNELL & ENHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

As the autumnal weather sets in, it seems only fitting that I should celebrate with you some of the traditional events at this time of year.

This year in our Harvest Festival in Christ Church, we decided to explore the theme of a traditional harvest. We did this through poetry, plays and some very lively singing. It was a great pleasure to be able to see the church packed out on this occasion. As well as the traditional aspects, we were able to take a more modern stance by collecting food to donate to Andover Foodbank. This very worthwhile organisation was able to receive many carrier bags of very useful items due to the kind donations made by our school family.

A relatively new autumn tradition for us is the Macmillan Coffee Morning which we have started to host after the harvest festival. This year our oldest children in the Swallows class really got the baking bug. Inspired by The Great British Bake Off, they created an amazing range of cupcakes, which along with teas and coffees, raised £200. If you missed the chance to share in the cakes, you could always feast your eyes on the pictures in the Swallows class page on our school website (www.smannell-enham.co.uk).

Our school administrator Mrs Lyn Todd has served the school so well for many years and will be well known to many within our community. At the Autumn half term Lyn retired, and I just wanted to express all of our gratitude for the many years service she gave, holding the management of the school programme together through numerous staff changes.

I am also really pleased to be able to share some sporting success with you. This year we entered a team into the Hampshire Small Schools Under 11 football tournament. As this was the first year we had entered this tournament, it was a bit of a step into the unknown in terms of the standards of play, so we were really pleased to be runners up, in fact the only game we lost was to the eventual winners.

Our youngest children in Robins Class have settled into school very well. They may well be the children that you are likely to meet if you are out and about, as they visit the local woods on a regular basis. I hope that the picture below shows how much fun learning really is...

Peter Shaw, Headteacher



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.

Full page (12 issues per year) £ 120

Half page £ 80

One off insertions, or leaflet distribution by negotiation.

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Contact Noel Pope by email at advertising@parishoak.co.uk or speak with Peter Calcraft on 01264 512262 for further information.

REPORT ON PCC MEETING HELD ON 6th OCTOBER 2015 AT JUBILEE HOUSE

9 PCC members were present; the meeting was chaired by the Church Warden, who opened with prayer. The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed as correct by the Chairman.

The drain at St. George's had been repaired, work on the Christ Church roof was almost complete and the Parish website was now working well.

Attempts were being made to appoint another Foundation Governor (who should be a practicing Christian, but not necessarily Church of England) at the School.

Various events such as concerts and the Ride & Stride had been most enjoyable and successful.

Particular mention was made of Margaret Hughes raising sponsorship of £250. The Harvest Supper had been a very good evening and raised £203.92; Barbara-Jane Pope's delicious soup had gone down very well!!

The PCC was informed that the post of Safeguarding Officer might become a Benefice appointment.

A Grave Space reservation was agreed for a Little London family and the Churchwarden agreed to look into ways of ensuring visitor safety to the churchyard by improving the uphill path surface.

Efforts to replace Margaret Hughes, who had cleaned the churches for many years, were continuing.

Readings for St. George's had been listed by the Churchwarden and Mary Wrangle would be organizing the hymns.

Pete would be writing an Parish Oak article to ask for people to stand in for or assist her when necessary.

Rev. Alex Randle-Bissell and his wife and family had arrived and the licensing had taken place, although Rev. Alex did not expect to be fully operational until the New Year.

The final cheque for the 2015 Parish Share would be paid in October, meeting in full our 2015 requirement. The international, national and local charitable donations would be paid in November. Disapproval of the proposed increase

for 2016 had been registered with the Deanery Finance Committee, but no response received. Welcome funds had been promised or already received.

All bills had been paid and receipts banked and the finances remained on a steady footing.

Pastrow was working well. The 'Diocese Guide to making a Living Will' would be displayed. The Craft Group continued to meet. 2 pictures made from stained glass from the old church windows had been given to the Parish by the Kinchenton family and one would be hung in each church. A new Burial Book would be initiated by Rev. Val.

The Alamein Service would take place at St. George's on October 25th at 10 a.m. An Army chaplain would officiate. Elizabeth Hall would liaise with other parishioners over organizing an event to celebrate the building of the Hatherden and Smannell Churches.

There would be a Christmas Eve service at Christ Church at 11.30 p.m. and a Christmas Day Service at St. George's at 10 a.m.

The meeting closed with the Grace at 7.30 p.m.

Margaret Smith,
Secretary to the PCC

PARISH REGISTER

Baptisms

Brooke Burgess and Lily-Mae Burgess on 4th October 2015 at Christ Church, Smannell.

We welcome you into the Lord's family

We are members together of the same heavenly Father.

ENHAM ALAMEIN PARISH COUNCIL

We are delighted to announce that Enham Alamein are joint winners for the Hampshire Village of the Year Award 2015. A joint application between The Enham Trust and The Parish Council resulted in an impossible choice between us and Bembridge so for the first time ever there were joint winners. What an achievement for our efforts and recognition of a very special place in which we live. You can see the plaque at the Shop & post office and certificates around the village. We now have one year to galvanise ourselves and achieve many things to give us the best chance to be out right winners for 2016. We will be hosting the event so all eyes will be on us and wouldn't it be great to get that award?!

I know as councillors we carry out our duties because we want to and for many other reasons, but mostly we do it to improve our parish for every residents benefit. What I would dearly love to see is more people wanting that too AND to get involved to make it happen. We are but 7 councillors and whilst we have the energy and enthusiasm to represent you to the best of our abilities, we could do with and would welcome your help, and input too.

There will be a 2 minutes silence at The Soldier statue on Newbury Road at 11.00 a.m. on the 11th of November. Everyone is invited to attend and share those two minutes to pay our respects.

There will be a Lantern Parade on Friday 27th of November to the switching on of the Christmas Tree Lights. Please do join us with family and friends to start the Christmas activities.

There is a Communities Activities group that meets once every two months. If you are interested in getting involved in your village activities please do come along. We are looking for new members and would welcome any news ideas.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 11th of November at 7-15 in the Enham Resource Centre.

Leslie Francis
Chairman

ENHAM ALAMEIN NEWS

SHOP AND POST OFFICE

- There is now a new Rollover unit for Hot Dogs in the shop
- Halloween costumes, face paints, sweets and fun goodies are now available
- Local crafted glass giftware – ideal for Christmas
- Delightful range of cards from local artist James Nash
- New Apple Chutney from Hampshire Jam & Chutney Company
- Fresh lamb and garden produce from Oaktrack Holding
- We are currently giving away a FREE Bag for Life. A small bag if you spend over £5 and a medium bag if you spend over £10 (excludes cigarettes and tobacco products)
- There is plenty of stationery in stock for your parcel posting. A list of all Christmas posting dates are on the shop door – or pick up a leaflet
- The Post Office is one of the biggest supporters of BBC Children in Need. We will join in and have badges for sale
- We are sorry to advise there will be no Fish & Chips on Friday the 23rd October but please do look forward to an increased menu – coming soon.

Kind regards

Leslie & Tim



On the 7th October, the beautiful village of Enham Alamein was represented by Peta, Leslie, Margaret, Ross and Cassandra at the finals of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Village of the Year Competition.

We are delighted to report that Enham Alamein came joint first!!

The village will be hosting the finals of the event here next year (all paid for by Fullers Brewery)!

Didn't we do well!

Achieve Fitness: Active Aging – Sit and Keep Fit

Enham Shop and Post Office – Back Room

Tuesday 11.10am – 40min class:

Aimed at older people who want to experience the physical and mental benefits of exercise. Chair based exercise groups can help improve many aspects of your life, both physical and emotional, allowing independent living for longer.

The class will be low intensity, low impact.

£4 per class (payable termly £28)

Tuesday 3rd November:

Session 1 with 'Meet and Greet'

Tuesday 10th November

Tuesday 17th November

Tuesday 24th November

Tuesday 1st December

Tuesday 8th December

Tuesday 15th December



It is reported that as we age (65yrs+), on average we spend 10 hours a day sitting, whether that's watching TV, reading, knitting, travelling, playing chess, at a computer etc.

It is understood that if we stay active the risk of physical and mental illness is reduced, lowering the risk of heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, some cancer, depression and dementia.

Most people want to stay in touch with society (community, friends, family, neighbours), and being active can help us achieve that as we can go out to socialise.

Exercise is important to active aging

PLEASE CONTACT ME FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

And to register your interest (so I have an idea of numbers please)

Achieve Fitness, Karina, 01264 737605 / 07990 588679 /

karinaqibbsaf@gmail.com /

<https://www.facebook.com/achievefitness.org.uk>



Peta Wilkinson CEO

01264 345800

Hello Everyone,

How hard it is to believe that November has already arrived – the clocks have fallen back, spellbinding fireworks have been illuminating the ebony sky – and soon the Festive season will begin.

I'm so proud to share with you the wonderful news that our beautiful village, Enham Alamein, has been declared joint winner of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Village of the Year awards! Such valuable recognition for our picturesque parish.

Looking back, a group of enthusiastic runners took part in the idyllic Great South Run in Portsmouth on 25th October, raising some much appreciated funds for our vital cause; supporting disabled and disadvantaged people across the country to live as independently as possible. I'm sure you'll join me in thanking the team for all their hard work.

Thinking ahead, on 20th November, we will be holding a quiz at the Andover Masonic Hall on East Street, near Andover town centre. Supported by Santander's Andover Branch, Andover Mutual Business Group and Langdowns DFK, the evening promises to be a lot of fun, so please do join us.

On 12th December, I'm pleased to say that our Snowflake Trail is returning for another fun-filled, family focussed, Festive day; a great way to get the family into the Christmas spirit, purchase some luxury gifts, and meet Father Christmas! I look forward to seeing you there.

More information about all of the above can be found on our website: 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

LITTLE LONDON BONFIRE NIGHT and FIREWORKS DISPLAY

**Hosted at the OAK Smannell Saturday 7th
November
Gate Opens at 6pm
Fireworks at 7pm**

Just a final reminder that this year's fireworks display will be held down at the Oak, on Saturday the 7th. Come and join us and have a wonderful evening. There will be hot and cold drinks, Burgers, Hot Dogs, mulled wine and a great atmosphere.

The display lasts for over 20 minutes and we will be holding a raffle, between lighting the Bonfire and starting the Fireworks display. You can win a prize if you make the best Guy for the bonfire or bring the best Pumpkin.

Tickets are available on the gate but can also be bought in advance at the Oak. Prices are £5 for an Adult, £3 for children under 16, £15 for a family (2+2), and under 3s are free.

Thank you for all the contributions to the Bonfire they have been greatly appreciated.

Wrap up well and we look forward to sharing a great night with you all.

Sam Jackson, LLPFA



**SERVICES IN PARISH OF
SMANNELL WITH ENHAM ALAMEIN
OCTOBER 2015**

Sunday 1st November

ALL SAINTS

10.00 a.m. St George's, Enham

Holy Communion

Sunday 8th November

THIRD BEFORE ADVENT

8.30 a.m. Christ Church, Smannell Remembrance Sunday

3.00 p.m. William House, Enham Evening Service

Sunday 15th November **SECOND BEFORE ADVENT**

8.30 a.m. Christ Church, Smannell Holy Communion

10.00 a.m. St. George's, Enham Holy Communion

Sunday 22nd November

CHRIST THE KING

10.00 a.m. Christ Church, Smannell Holy Communion

Sunday 29th November

ADVENT ONE

10.00 a.m. St George's, Enham

Holy Communion

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

Enquiries for Baptisms or Weddings in any of the seven churches in the Pastrow Benefice, including Smannell and Enham, please go to the weekly Vestry Hour to make a booking.

Vestry Hour is held at Charlton Church, SP11 4AN, from 5.30-6.30pm every Wednesday.



Church Notices December

Sunday 13th December

3pm St George's carol service

Sunday 15th December

1.15pm School service in Christchurch, Smannell

Sunday 20th December

6pm Carols at Smannell

Thursday 24th December

5pm Crib service at Smannell

Thursday 24th December

11.30pm Midnight Mass at Smannell

Friday 25th December

10am Christmas communion at St George's





Help us to help a local child at Christmas

'My children's faces were priceless on Christmas morning. You have given them presents that I couldn't afford to do.'

'Thank you for making this Christmas the best Christmas so far.'

'Thank you so much for Jack's gift box. Even at 15 he really enjoyed opening it and knowing that people care about him.'

These are just a few of the comments that we received in 2014.

Over the last nine years the Andover foodbank has distributed more than 4,500 **Christmas gift boxes** to local children in need in the Test Valley. In this, the tenth year of the scheme, we invite you to help make Christmas happy for a local child by donating a gift box or cash.

The scheme is very simple. Key workers at local agencies and schools identify children for whom a **gift box** will make a real difference and request a box for a boy or girl of a certain age from the Andover foodbank.

How you can help:

- We need churches, companies, groups, schools and individuals to donate **gift boxes** or cash
- Our A5 leaflet, which you can print and distribute, gives details of how to make up a box, labels and gift ideas
- Even if you can't help us we would be very grateful if you could publicise the scheme to give individuals a chance to join in. Members of the foodbank team are always delighted to talk about the project and can visit to tell you more
- We need the **gift boxes** by **Friday 13 November** to ensure that they are given to children by their care worker in early December.

To find out more visit www.andoverfoodbank.co.uk or call 01264 362111



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 Editors	Peter Calcraft	512262
	Julia Reilly	352393
	Lou Bushell	07835 273703
	Andrew Green	356905

Local Services

Smannell & Enham (CE) School		323201
Enham Club, Landale Wilson Hall		352098
Enham Parish Council	Chairman: Leslie Barry	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

Police	999 or 101 or 0845 045 45 45
PCSO Elly Hughes	08450 454 545
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

POPPY DAY

Why are they selling poppies, mummy?
Selling poppies in town today?
The poppies, child, are flowers of love
For the men who marched away.

But why have they chosen a poppy, mummy?
Why not a beautiful rose?
Because, my child, men fought and died
In the fields where the poppies grow.

But why are the poppies so red, mummy?
Why are the poppies so red?
Red is the colour of blood, my child,
The blood our soldiers shed.

The heart of the poppy is black, mummy,
Why does it have to be black?
Black my child, is the symbol of grief
For the men who never came back.

But why, mummy, are you crying so?
Your tears are giving you pain.
My tears are my fears for you, my child,
For the world is FORGETTING AGAIN.



Rob's Garden Services

01264 332810

07783 083122

robgarden1966@gmail.com



Enquiries 01256-892019 or www.andovercats.org.uk
 Stories of rescued cats adrienne.major@hotmail.co.uk
 Fund-raising volunteers adrienne.major@hotmail.co.uk
 Items for resale 01256-892773

We have been lucky to gain the professional services of White Cat Design to put together Cat Chat, our quarterly newsletter for members, so the latest autumn issue is very much improved. Membership costs only £6.50 a year and if you would like to join you can contact our membership secretary by email martinbevan80@gmail.com or on 07733 242196.



This month's cat is twelve year old Gypsy who was left behind when her owner moved. A note left with her said 'Please look after Gypsy'.

She is a delightful little cat and after having some teeth extracted is now in excellent health. She is, however, deaf so requires an indoor home.



HBS FUELS

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fuel to homes and businesses.

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How to contact your Member of Parliament



Kit Malthouse



kit.malthouse.mp@parliament.uk



01264 401401



Or write to me at my Constituency

Office:

2 Church Close, Andover, SP10 1DP

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Your Local Test Valley Borough Councillors

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 & Janet



Cllr Alex Brook

cllrabrook@testvalley.org.uk

07801 936474



Cllr Phil North

cllrpnorth@testvalley.org.uk

07732 423023

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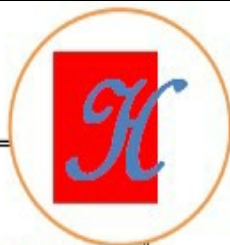
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