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church and village

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TITCHFIELD NEWS



December 2024

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Please send articles and photos to:
magazine@stpeterstitchfield.org.uk

From the Editor's Desk

By Margaret Thompson

The weather is growing colder, the leaves are falling. People are hunkering down and trying to keep warm despite withdrawal of the winter fuel payment.

The magazine as usual has many interesting articles to keep you entertained. John Hiatt has written a tribute to Brian Patten the editor for many years laying the foundation for us to build on.

The gardeners were busy, the art society was entertaining, the history society have interesting events for Christmas and the TFT is going to provide lots of festive cheer. FoSP have written about their successful barn dance with pictures.

The village has as usual risen to the occasion with a poignant display of poppies on the Village Hall and attachments of poppies on the bollards and postbox to mark Remembrance Sunday. Well done Suzy and the Yarn Bombers. Suzy wants knitted hats instead of pompoms this year.

Christmas trees will be going up soon, bringing a sparkle to the streets and houses. Remember Carols round the tree 12th December at 6.30pm.

Vicar Penny has written of maintaining a sense of Calm despite problems at home and abroad.

Nick Girdler and his colleagues have fulfilled an amazing task, raising the money to revamp the village hall, which looks great.

The bell ringers report on their activities and their club captain Lyndon has written a very interesting book review.

Thank you my editorial team for your support, Anna, Kate, Gerry P and Tony.

We are planning on revamping the magazine with more coloured pages and changing the front page with photos of artwork. We are open to suggestions. This might mean a small increase in price from April 2025.

Keep Calm, well and hopefully enjoy the holiday.

Calm and Bright?

Rev'd Penny Thatcher
Associate Priest, St Peter's Church

In recent years the Church of England has adopted an annual theme for its Advent and Christmas social media and comms campaign. This year the strapline is '*Calm and Bright*', borrowed from the well-known carol '*Silent Night*', and here at St Peter's we'll be weaving this into our seasonal preparations and celebrations during December and into January. *Calm and Bright*. Your initial response to these words might be an understanding nod to the '**Bright**' but an incredulous '?' to the '**Calm**'!

It's not too difficult, is it, to find an image of brightness in the coming festive season – twinkling lights, flickering candles, shimmering stars, all given extra radiance by the early falling darkness of the approaching depths of winter. As a newcomer to Titchfield I'm eagerly anticipating the display of lit Christmas trees around the village and will be as excited as my small grandson to see them light up the gloom and bring seasonal cheer. But you wouldn't be alone in finding it more difficult to find the calm in the crazy, commercialised, consumer-driven frenzy that is the lead-up to Christmas.

As mentioned above, the phrase '*Calm and Bright*' is inspired by the carol '*Silent Night*', which depicts the night on which the baby Jesus was born. Humanly speaking, I imagine there were many moments surrounding that event that were far from calm – a young woman gives birth to her first child in a room full of animals after a long and tiring donkey ride; a little later some shepherds are terrified by the appearance of choirs of angels on a hillside nearby; and later still, some astrologers arrive on camels with some very unsuitable gifts for a baby. To top it all, these men, as well as the baby's father, are all warned in dreams not to go back to where they came from because of the evil intentions of a jealous king. Quite a stressful catalogue of events!

And yet, amidst all of this, I think there were moments of calm. The gospel writer Luke makes a point of telling us this about Mary: that having been visited by the shepherds and hearing what the angels had said to them – i.e. that the birth of her baby was *‘good news of great joy for all the people’*, and that he was indeed *‘a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord’*, she *‘treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart’*. Mary took some time for calm reflection. And by focussing on and being present to these special moments she was also reminded of the bigger picture - that whatever happened, then or in the years to come, it was all part of God’s rescue plan for the world.

So, if you’re finding it hard to see the ‘calm’ or the ‘bright’ this Advent and Christmas, if the messy, noisy, complicated bits of life and of the wider world threaten to overwhelm you, may I encourage you to follow Mary’s example. To take time to pause and to ponder ‘these things’ in your heart. To find places of calm to reflect on and treasure the real and lasting brightness of Christmas - the brilliant light of the angels on the hillside, the illuminated faces of the shepherds as they understood what they’d been told, the radiance of the star which led the wise men to Bethlehem. All these things point to Jesus, Saviour, Messiah, Lord, Light of the world:

‘The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.’
John 1:5 (NIV)

With every blessing for a peace-filled and joyful Christmas and New Year.

St Peter’s Prayerline

Do you know anyone who is ill or in any distress
and who would like the support of prayer?

Please contact

Charles Timberlake - 01329 845265

Review of Choral Evensong

Jane Slaymaker



On Sunday 6th October, members of St Peter's Church and visitors, including Western Wards churches, were privileged to have the Girls Choristers from Portsmouth Cathedral lead a Choral Evensong at St Peter's Church.

How wonderful to worship and praise God with such musicality. Their soaring voices were beautiful and moving, and perfectly accompanied by some male voices. Such a treat!

Many thanks to Portsmouth Cathedral and to the leaders at St Peter's for enabling this special event.

Bell Ringing News

Lyndon Hatfield, Bell Tower Captain

We are looking forward to Christmas which this year falls on a Wednesday, so we won't have a practice then, or indeed on New Years Day. Possibly starting a new tradition, we are also going to have a pre-Christmas get together. We will ring for Service on Christmas Day but as in the past few years we will not be ringing the Old Year Out and the New Year In around midnight on New Year's Eve because of the difficulty of safely muffling and unmuffling the bells at night.

We wish you all a Merry and Peaceful Christmas, and a Happy New Year.



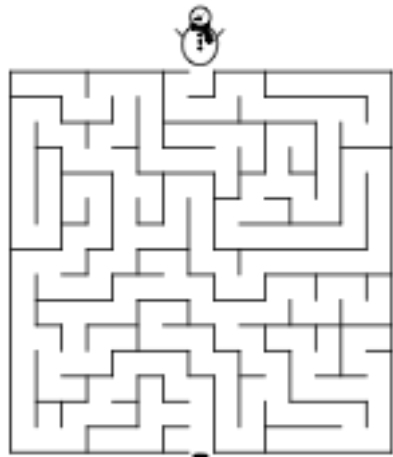


**Country Market
Titchfield Village Hall**

Friday 13th December will be your last chance in 2024 to grab goodies at the Country Market. We will be open 0900-1130, all decked out in our Elf costumes and ready to sell you that last minute present from our talented crafters, and lovely home cooked food to tuck into your freezer ready to feed the hordes arriving for Christmas. We have a short break over Christmas and New Year, but will be back on

Friday 10th January. Thank you to all our customers, old and new, and we all wish you a very happy time over the holidays.

Sandi Jones



Take the hat to the snowman

Sudoku

				9	2
5	4		3	1	
		8	5	7	4
	5		8		3
9		3	4	6	8
1		3			4
	7		4		
3	6	1	7	9	8
			6		3
					7

O C I W L W M C J S A N T A F
 P O A R H X A E T V U K Q S N
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 C A R D S Z W O N S P R Q L J
 L G H H G N I D D U P L U G H

Word Search

- | | |
|---------|-----------|
| SNOW | GIFT |
| TREE | BAUBLE |
| WREATH | REINDEER |
| CAKE | HOLLY |
| ELVES | SLEIGH |
| CAROLS | CARDS |
| SANTA | BERRIES |
| PUDDING | CHRISTMAS |

Answers on the inside back cover



Looking after your Village

Nick Girdler, Chair of Titchfield Village Trust

After 5 years of fund raising some £200,000, and then spending it all ! work on the Village Hall is almost complete. Just one very small upgrade to come.

Our objective in 2019 was to amalgamate the Village Trust charity with the hall charity and then create a building fit for the 21st century and one that would last at least 50 years. As far as that final goal is concerned, we are confident we have achieved it.

We have also, at the same time, raised funds to provide a fully automatic defibrillator which will be sited on the wall of the Jubilee Surgery in the centre of the Village.

The Trust, however, now needs to find new objectives that will see it move forward and continue to be, among other things, *'For the public benefit in the area comprising the village of Titchfield and its immediate surroundings area, the promotion of high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the village, the education of the public in the geography, history, natural history and architecture of the area, to assist towards the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historical or public interest in the village'*. As our constitution states.

To these, and other ends, we are aiming to become something of an umbrella organisation for any groups in the village that would like to become *associates* of the Trust. One such group that has come under our wing is the one organising the May Day event on Barry's Meadow. They have become a *'Sub Committee'* of the Trust left entirely to their own devices but at the same time taking advantage of the infrastructure we have been able to set up in the 55 years of our existence.

We are at the moment still discussing how these *'partnerships'* would work but are confident that they will, to the advantage of all. If you are a group that might like to investigate this arrangement, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the Trust. TitchfieldVillageTrust@outlook.com



Lego and Craft Club

This family friendly opportunity is held on the third Saturday of the month in church. A breakfast of bacon rolls, toast and hot or cold drinks are available in the Chapter Room from 9am. In church tables are set up for Lego building and crafts. We often have a theme for the session and always gather at the end to look at and talk about what has been made. Each session offers a relaxed start to the weekend so why not come along and enjoy breakfast, building, crafting and company!

Our next meeting will be on **Saturday 18th January, 9.00am –10.30am.** **(NB no meeting in December)** All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Titchfield Ablaze - 2024

Grace and Annette

We would like to thank everyone who has supported TITCHFIELD ABLAZE this year by ordering a Christmas Tree for their house and making Titchfield village so special at Christmas Time.

A big thank you once again to Hadlows (the butchers) who kindly sponsored the Christmas Tree on the green and Freemantles (Funeral Directors) who provided the lights.

Our faithful band of **VOLUNTEERS** have worked hard to order trees, off-load two deliveries of trees, organise tree collection, deliver trees to homes and climb ladders to position trees in brackets for those who are unable to do so. Thank you to all who help on the day ...we could not do it without you.

The Solent Community Choir will be singing Carols round the Christmas Tree on Thursday 12th December at 7.00pm please do come along and join in.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

In Memory of Brian Patten

John Hiett

It's a cruel disease, Parkinson's. Growing old brings its own problems, but Parkinson's multiplies them. It diminishes a man, takes away his daring. Brian first told me of his diagnosis in 2019. At that time we were singing tenor in the U3A choir, enjoying life to the full, two happy old gentlemen. Brian was the choir MC, effortlessly bringing it all together. I watched as this dreadful affliction tightened its grip on this noble man. I lost a lot more than a dear friend. I lost a guiding light and mentor. I admired him so much. He was editor of the Church Magazine for twenty-five years, bringing out an issue every month. Dorothy was his gimlet-eyed proof reader. Not an errant comma got past her. He had been a gracious church warden at the time of 9/11. He and Bill Day, the vicar, had been in the church together when they heard the news.

He was chairman of the Gardening Society, organiser of the annual show, and a winner of prizes there.

He was a member of TACT, the village amateur dramatic society, where he took leading roles. Among others he played Captain Mainwaring in a Dads Army sketch, and a bumbling Englishman with schoolboy French in a French restaurant, harassed by the owner, Roger le Grenouille. He was a debonair soloist à la Tony Bennett; he sang in duets and sang the lead in a barbershop quartet. (I sang the baritone line)

Brian was a member of the History Society and for a short time a member of the Bowling Club.

He was keen on cricket and soccer, a member of Hampshire County Cricket Club, where he relaxed with old friends Paul Cousins and Tim Milligan. He was a season ticket holder with Southampton F.C. - ever the optimist.

His daughter Rosemary lived nearby, and he told me of his pride and joy this summer, when his tall young grandson Nick scored his first half - century in cricket.

He was married to Dorothy for 62 years. Dorothy said "I could not have wished for a better husband. I've been overwhelmed by all the wonderful cards, letters and tributes from friends far and wide. He was the kindest man I ever knew. We never took each other for granted."

Brian was one of the good guys. He was a better man than I and I miss him dreadfully.

Book Review

Lyndon Hatfield



STEEPLE CHASING (around Britain by Church) by Peter Ross.
Headline Publishing Group 2024 (paperback).

Given as a birthday present, I immediately thought it would be about ringers travelling the country visiting as many churches as possible, commonly called "tower grabbing". How wrong I was, bells didn't feature except for descriptions about Bow Bells!

The author travelled the length and breadth of the UK, visiting churches and congregations. Some of the highlights to me were of places I knew, but revealing some of the histories unknown to me.

I found the chapter on St Paul's Cathedral particularly moving, describing how volunteers manned the roof during the Blitz, risking their lives to extinguish incendiaries, so that the cathedral survived, unlike its predecessor.

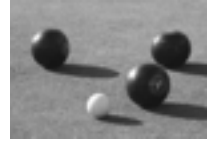
The author highlights the work of "Friends of Friendless Churches", discovers angels and saintly relics, cathedral cats and church bats; all placed within the context of our history, brought up to date with the last chapter on Westminster Abbey and the Coronation of Charles III.

I recommend this book to anyone who has an interest in history, architecture, social studies as well liking to visit magnificent places.

The author has also written "A Tomb with a View", whose subject seems obvious, and it is on my must read list!

Titchfield Bowling Club

Chris Blackburn



As Autumn's mists and fallen leaves settle on the Titchfield Bowling Club rinks the members can now look back and reflect on a successful 2024 outdoor season that was thankfully not too adversely affected by inclement weather compared to 2023, which meant we completed all our competitions on time. Sadly our two main social occasions were impacted by nature's mischievousness, but the club's true spirit shone through as we munched our way through cheese and wine in our gazebo. The wind and rain howled through the joins in the awnings albeit that lashings of black masking tape did reduce the impact somewhat - but as they say a good time was had by all.

Our competitions drew a varied selection of Old English bowling talent to the rinks with many a close encounter leading to nail biting finishes all played in a good spirit.

Several players fought their way through to 2 finals with honours being bestowed on Rob Davis (Novices), Richard Sitch (Men's Singles), Jenny Sitch (Ladies Singles), Dennis Dowsett & Dave Ward (Men's Doubles), Jenny Sitch & Dennis Dowsett (Mixed Doubles), Jill Kelley (Mixed Singles). Richard Sitch went on to win the prestigious President's Cup (our Champion of Champions competition) that was run for only the 2nd time after being introduced by John Hiett (our President) in 2023.

Early October saw our final maintenance day of the season undertaken in glorious sunshine after an overnight deluge such that the green can recover and refresh over the Winter months in preparation for the new season starting next April. Hopefully without too much interference from the young fox cubs that have blighted the club over the Summer.

Indoor bowls (called short mat) now exercises our bowling talents throughout the Winter; played every Thursday at 2:00pm in the Titchfield Community Centre (except the Christmas fortnight) so if you fancy experiencing this form of bowls do come along to the main hall where a friendly welcome awaits.

Titchfield Abbey WI
Margaret Wellington



2024 seems to have disappeared in a flash and we now look forward to 2025. Titchfield Abbey WI is an active group which is held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month starting at 10am-12noon in Titchfield Community Centre. Women of all ages and interests are encouraged to join - or visit - where they will receive a warm welcome.

A programme of speakers for each meeting is available and a copy can be found in the Village Hall. Starting in January we will be considering the Resolutions which have been put forward for consideration and final agreement at the National Federation Annual Meeting. WI Resolutions have become famous over the years, bringing issues out into the open and gaining national backing. Those of a certain age will remember the Keep Britain Tidy campaign of 1954 and last year Dental Health Matters was the winner, highlighting the issue not only to the public in general but to the Government in particular. In the years between such subjects as Equal Pay, Midwives, Smoking, Cervical Screening, Plastic Pollution, Legalising Prostitution to protect workers, and Fairtrade among others, have been adopted. What will be the topic for the "Inspiring Women" of WI for 2025?...you could help to choose it ! The January meeting will be followed by "Christmas Lunch" which by popular demand is after Christmas and the Restaurant at Fareham College is taken over for this happy event.

February's meeting will hear about "57 Cathedrals - A Quirky Perspective" with Jill Perryman, and in March a return visit by Madeleine Salvetti who will talk about "Origins behind our sayings in everyday language".

Look forward to seeing you soon.



Chris Bird on Ferns and Grasses

Katrien Burrows

We were delighted to welcome back Chris Bird for a talk on Ferns and Grasses. Chris has a lifelong interest in plants and has worked with many organisations including Hilliers, Plant Heritage, RHS and National Trust. In 1985 he became a Lecturer in Horticulture at Sparsholt College where he continues to inspire, amuse and support students today and is also a renowned author.

Our talk on Ferns and Grasses began with the question “what are they?”

Grasses are a **monnocotyledon (higher plant)**, meaning bears a single seed leaf, similar to onions and alliums and lily, and propagates from seeds. The seeds have barbs which stick to animals and humans thereby aiding its distribution.

Ferns are **Phylum Pteridophyta (lower plants)**, which reproduce by spores.

Chris gave us several named examples of both Grasses and Ferns and he also passed around some live samples of different types of ferns and grasses. The names and full details of these can be found in the full article on the TGC Website: www.titchfieldgardeners.club

He clarified that there are **three families of grasses**;

Cyperaceae (sedges) ; Stems are three sided or triangular (sedges have edges)

Poaceae (true grass) ; Grasses are round in cross section and with hollow internodes.

Juncaceae (rushes). Stems are circular in cross section

Bamboos are NOT included here.

Several more examples and slides as well as live samples of grasses were mentioned and shown by Chris and details of these can be found in the full article on the Titchfield Gardeners' Club Website.

Chris then moved on to other requirements for Ferns and Grasses such as:



Site and Soils and Design features – These plants thrive on neglect. They can work well on changing levels such as in Hilliers Gurkha Garden where they are growing out of slate blocks, and in architectural and wildlife uses. In deep shade a “stumpery” (old pile of wood) covered in moss is an excellent feature to use with ferns in the middle. They can work well with water (like Hart’s Tongue Ferns). *Hakonechloa Macro* “Aureola” looks great in drifts, a golden swathe moving in the wind. They can be used as windscreens, and some even look nice when dead (like *Panicumvirgatum* “Northwind”). Some grasses also make a lovely sound when blowing in the breeze. Be careful with Pampas grass and children, the leaves are very sharp, to control them burn them!

Quality Marks – Look for RHS Award of Merit. Go to Specialist Nurseries. DON’T buy on the Internet. Be aware of a change in labelling with regard to ultimate height and spread, it was after 10 years, but now it is only after 5 years time, as apparently most people move house in this amount of time.

Propagation – Ferns use Spores and Division. Spores have different stages at first it becomes wet and mossy and gooey (the sexual stage) then the asexual stage when the little ferns grow.

Grasses propagate by seeds or division. When using division, don’t overdivide! Discard the centre (the old bit) use the outside bits.

And that ends our introduction to Ferns and Grasses, time to decide which to add to our gardens! Thank you, Chris, for a fun and informative talk!



Titchfield Gardeners' Club

Future Dates

Wednesday 4th December Christmas Workshop by Val Hockley
Titchfield Village Hall 7.30pm £10 for TGC Members, £15 for guests
Mince pies and Mulled wine provided
email tgcmembers@gmail.com for a place: max. 20 places available

Wednesday 8th January TGC New Year Quiz
Popular quiz organised by Brian and Dawne Dunton
Titchfield Village Hall 7.30pm. Free to TGC Members and guests.

Wednesday 5th February
Talk on "Conservatory Plants" by Wilf Simcox Horticulturalist
Titchfield Village Hall 7.30pm. Free to TGC Members, £5 for visitors



Oasis Youth Club - Good News

Peter and Julia Mills,
Oasis Steering Committee

We are pleased to report that both groups Junior (10-14 yrs.) and Senior (14-18 yrs.) are now running well. Attendance is up – we would still welcome a few more members into the Senior group.

There is a varied and interesting programme each session and the Youth Services staff remain imaginative and enthusiastic.

We have placed another bid with the National Lottery, the success of which we will learn in the New Year. Fingers crossed!

We are so grateful to our sponsors and for all the local support received during the recent difficult months.



St. Peter's Church,
Titchfield

Advent Coffee Morning

Saturday 7th December

10.00am – 12.00 noon

Festive stalls, music, refreshments
and activities for children...
everyone welcome!



Proceeds in aid of Fareham Friends of the Homeless
and St Peter's Church



FoSP
Barn Dance

Mary Yearley
 Chair, Friends of St Peter's

The Barn Dance held on 18th October was a great success. Everyone seemed to really enjoy the evening and **FoSP raised £636.00. The monies raised will go towards preserving and maintaining our beautiful ancient village church building.**

The Harvesters performed their music from the stage in the main hall of the Community Centre, three violins or should I say fiddles, one guitar and a keyboard player. The caller, who didn't always have an easy time, as she tried to instruct an occasionally chaotic floor of dancers bumping into each other, forgetting all the moves, all collapsing in fits of giggles and probably gaining some very sore toes.

Many people came dressed for the occasion, checked shirts cowboy boots and hats, even an original suede western jacket complete with its fringe!

A ploughman's supper was served during the interval, all magicked up by the extremely efficient FoSP catering team.

It was an evening of fun and laughter, and we the FoSP would like to express our gratitude to the Band, the Community Centre, Hays Travel for selling the Tickets, Ross Underwood for Photos, and James Keen at Freemantles for all the printing. We would especially like to thank all the people who came, joined in and enjoyed themselves and supported the FoSP charity.

Our next event will be: Carols around the Village Christmas tree, on 12th December 6.30 for 7pm.

Mulled wine and mince pies will be available for a small donation.

Hope to see you there.



**FoSP
Barn Dance**

Photos:
Ross Underwood

The Harvesters
providing essential
music to set the feet
tapping!





Family Friendly Christmas Services at St Peter's Church

Christingle ~ Sunday 15th December at 3.30pm

Come and make your own Christingle, share the light they offer
and the joy and hope they represent.



Tuesday 24th December ~ Christmas Eve

4pm Crib Service

Children are invited to come dressed up to help tell the story of
the first Christmas. There is room for as many Marys, Josephs,
Shepherds, sheep, Wise Men and Angels as turn up!

6pm Carols by candlelight

Hear and sing the Christmas story!

All ages are welcome to share this special service in our
beautiful and ancient church where the Christ child has been
welcomed by people just like us for over a thousand years.

Christmas Day

10am Holy Communion

A celebration of the birth of Jesus



The Arts Society Solent

Bridget Hillier



In October we very much enjoyed a fascinating talk by Amy Lim on Making Sense of Portraits in Country Houses.

By the time this magazine goes to print we will have had our November lecture on palaeontology given by Aaron Hunter and titled The Jurassic World of Mary Anning.

Our Christmas-themed lecture will be held on Tuesday 17 December at 10:30 hrs. Roger Askew will be coming to give us his lecture A Right Royal Christmas: How our Royal Families have celebrated Christmas throughout the Ages. He will entertain us with amusing stories and anecdotes.

On Tuesday 21 January at 10:30 hrs we are looking forward to welcoming Richard Whincop who will be delivering his lecture titled: Sicily: Cultural Crossroads. We will look at Sicily's historic role as the crossroad between Europe, North Africa and the Middle East and how the different cultural strands were woven together by the Normans during their remarkably enlightened rule.

The Arts Society Solent is a Member Society of The Arts Society. Members meet on the third Tuesday of every month (except August) at Titchfield Community Centre at 10:30 hrs. We have visiting lecturers who cover a broad spectrum of arts-based subjects – ranging from music, architecture and sculpture to ballet, poetry and art, both modern and classical.

Members can enjoy 11 lectures given by accredited speakers all for an annual subscription of £53 a year. Our membership year runs from June to the end of May. If you are not a member why not join us?

Non-members are very welcome to sample a lecture as a guest. You do, however, need to book a place ahead as numbers are limited. A donation of £8 per guest is payable in cash at the door. Please arrive by 10:25 hrs as the lecture will start promptly at 10:45 hrs. If interested please email info@theartssocietysolent.org.uk (or tel: 02392 556565 or 07951 753117).



Titchfield History Society

Marilyn Wilton-Smith



We, as a society, welcome all members and newcomers. The meetings are on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm in the Titchfield Community Centre and we host a speaker who talks for about an hour on a history theme, have refreshments and a brief Q&A before finishing at about 9pm.

We also have interesting and enjoyable events and outings throughout the year. The Society is always scouting for new speakers so please let us know of any prospective presenters and indeed any topics that you would like the Society to pursue. The events planned for the remainder of the '24-25 season are as follows:

December 17th	Xmas Social Event - Join us for a fun evening of Tudor Call My Bluff
January 21st	Hampshire Pioneers who changed the World - Erica Wheeler
February 18th	Winchester History - Andrew Negus
March 18th	D Day - The Normandy Landings - Jeremy Prescott
April 15th	The Civil War between King Stephen and Empress Maud - Jon Sims
May 20th	The Manor of Wickham Part 1 - Geoff Phillpotts

Titchfield Village is awash with history and The History Society endeavour to bring this to you in our various publications. For general reading and information, we have produced a series of books 'Titchfield Papers', individual stories of people and places of Titchfield in history. We have this year produced a number of new editions to add to your collection. These make ideal Christmas presents at only £5 each. There are also publications for research purposes.

See below for the collection:

- Titchfield Parish Registers - Edited by Keith Hayward
- Titchfield: A Century of Change - Phil Burner
- Titchfield Rentals - Tom Olding and Penny Daish
- The Monumental Inscriptions of St Peter's Church and Churchyard - Keith Hayward
- The Titchfield Papers - 22 editions to date.

Books can be purchased online from: magicflutepublishing.co.uk or from Monks Rest Coffee Shop, High Street, Titchfield and Stewart's Garden Centre, Mill Street, Titchfield.

We wish you a Happy Christmas & a healthy happy New Year



**The Fareham Art Group
Annual Art and Craft Exhibition
2024**

Carole Jarman

Fareham Art Group once again held their annual Art Exhibition and Craft Fair at Titchfield Community Centre on Saturday 26th October and Sunday 27th October. The Committee Team and members who volunteered spent the Friday afternoon erecting tables and hanging the works of art. There was a lot of hustle and bustle as the crafters laid out their wares and the café area was organised for the influx of the public over the weekend. That evening the Exhibition was opened at the preview evening by the Mayor of Fareham. Prizes were awarded for the Mayor's favourite painting 'Into the Sun' by Elaine Reed along with prizes for art and craft chosen by the guest judge.

During the exhibition the public were also able to vote for their favourite painting. When all the votes were counted, the winning painting, depicting a beautiful swan landing on water was called "Power and Grace" by local artist Phil Rogers.

article continued overleaf

Over two hundred paintings were on show, demonstrating the varied talents of our members and the use of different types of art materials and ideas. Our members range from beginners to professionals, and we encourage everyone to exhibit and share their inspiration with others at our exhibition. Over 500 visitors attended and were able to see what we can do.

In addition to the paintings, we invite crafters to come along to sell their articles and make the show more varied. We had stalls selling jewellery, Christmas items and items in wood and china along with beautiful cushions and aprons and so much more and of course unique cards designed by the artisans. Many items and paintings were purchased for Christmas presents and as it was half term, many parents and grandparents brought their children along to join in the fun, especially the Tombola and guess the name of the giant Teddy Bear.

For other artists attending the exhibition we had our usual stall selling art and craft materials and art books. This is a good way to buy and try something new without spending the earth on brand new equipment. This year we also sold our own Seasonal Calendar which contains paintings, chosen by the members, in a competition held during the summer. As usual of course, what would an Exhibition be without a tea room? There was an abundance of homemade cakes and savouries all made and donated by our members and somewhere to sit and have a chat over a cup of tea.

Now that the Exhibition is over, we return, as normal, to our weekly painting sessions on a Tuesday afternoon at St John's Church Hall Redlands Lane Fareham and our monthly Thursday evening Demonstration and in December our Christmas party at Holy Trinity Church Fareham. If you are interested in coming along to see what we do on a Tuesday or if you would like to come to a Thursday evening demonstration, for a small fee you can come along as a guest.

For all information on our group and if you wish to find out more about what's going on then please visit www.farehamartgroup.co.uk and on our Fareham Art Group Facebook page.

Meon Health Practice

Amanda Gray, Managing Director



On Tuesday 5 November we held our first Patient Participation Group (PPG) Focus Group at Titchfield Village Hall. It was an interactive session with 40 patients working together in groups with Meon Health staff, discussing 4 key topics: - Anima/NHS App, Annual Review/Recalls, Routine Appointments and Telephone Service, with the opportunity to raise any questions or concerns.

On behalf of the practice, I want to extend our sincere gratitude to the patients for their time, insight, and feedback they provided.

Here are just a few of the comments we received:

- *"I'm impressed that the surgery showed a willingness to improve"*
- *"It was great to share ideas with other patients and realising that other people have the same concerns"*
- *"Reassurance that we are being listened to"*
- *"Clear explanation of the structure and services available"*

Hearing our Patient Participation Group's honest feedback allows us to see what we're doing well and help us understand where there's room to improve the care we provide, ensuring we can make changes that will

benefit all our patients and the wider community. We are already reviewing their suggestions and concerns carefully, and we look forward to entering a new phase implementing changes and improvements based on their experiences and ideas.

As the holiday season draws near, we would like to wish our patients, their families, and the whole Titchfield community a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and we encourage everyone to prioritise wellness this season, enjoy some rest, and take time out.

Thank you once again to the PPG for their contribution and for helping shape the future of Meon Heath Practice.

Photos taken by Karen Froude



New solutions to create local homes

The Earl of Southampton Trust

It's easy to imagine that the current housing crisis is a new phenomenon, but it has its roots way back in history. Long before the current housing association movement started Almshouse charities were being formed to help people find safe and secure housing. The St. Cross Hospital in Winchester is one of the oldest in the country, but others such as the Earl of Southampton Trust based in Titchfield have been supporting their local community since 1597.

The Trust (registered charity 1195619) has twenty-one homes in total, two of which have been newly created. The former office and day room have been converted over the last year to provide a beautiful modern one bedroomed flat on The Square in Titchfield. An upstairs studio apartment has also been modernised and now forms part of our impressive portfolio of homes. This conversion work took over nine months to complete and cost £120,000.

A loan of £100,000 was generously provided by the Almshouse Association. As part of our commitment to supporting our local community we not only help people with housing but try to buy locally and employ local firms.

The Trust always likes to work closely with key stakeholders and on this project we worked closely with Fareham Borough Council as the property is Grade II listed. Finding innovative solutions to create modern comfortable homes in old properties is challenging but with much of our stock being Grade II listed, the Trust now has extensive experience in doing this and we are always looking for new opportunities.

To mark the completion of this important work, Cllr Connie Hockley (former trustee of the Earl of Southampton Trust) and MP Paul Holmes joined with local residents, contractors and trustees to officially open both properties in September.

As well as doing our bit to alleviate local demand for housing, we also operate a grant programme to help people when other organisations have been unable to. We give grants to individuals as well as supporting groups. For example, we have provided grants to a local organisation supporting young people by running youth clubs in Titchfield. We also support groups working with older people and more recently, some of the local schools to provide a school uniform recycling hub.

The Trust operates over the Ancient Parish of Titchfield which includes Stubbington, Lee-on-the-Solent, Warsash, Locks Heath, Titchfield, Sarisbury and Whiteley.

More information on our homes, our grant programme, and the history of the Trust can be found at www.eost.org.uk or on our Facebook or Instagram Page: The Earl of Southampton Trust.

A Holiday

Katrien Burrows



We decided to have a look at a last-minute holiday. It seemed a good idea at the time. A nice get away, relaxing in a new environment, trying new food, meeting new people.

We hadn't realised the stress of it all!!!

It started with looking at flights, that wasn't too bad, the price wasn't too outrageous, flights were a bit early morning, but doable. However, once the flights were booked we realised you were allowed only a tiny bag, a bigger carry-on bag would cost more for each of you each way, it ended up being cheaper to book one hold luggage bag for both of us each way. The luggage cost was close to the cost of flights alone!

As we had decided on a touring holiday, next was hiring the car, yet again we had to check several sites with vastly differing costs till we found a reasonable enough one. Then of course, there is the excess insurance, which is never part of the package, but this we covered by getting a special excess insurance for car hire, as well as insurance for ourselves, of course.

As we didn't opt for an all-in package holiday (wish we did now!), the next exercise was to find suitable hotels in suitable places, this in a place we had never visited and knew nothing about! So, more research was required, a map and guide book were acquired, decisions on best stop overs, and looking at all the different options, B&B, hotels, camping (no thank you). A few arguments of why here, don't like it there, too expensive, too reclusive. Eventually all the accommodation is booked, what we will get remains a surprise!

Then there is getting to the airport. An early flight means an early start. Trains and buses aren't very practical that early. Driving to the airport and parking is almost as expensive as getting a taxi, getting a hotel for the night before with parking is an astounding price! In the end we opt for a taxi there and the train back. Hopefully a good compromise, as long as there's no train strike!

There is still the foreign money to get, and more planning as to routes and what to see and do. Must also check on roaming costs for the mobile phones...

Then we realised that my partner's passport did not meet the "less than 10 year" rule, so we quickly set the cogs rolling on getting a new passport for him. Whether it will arrive on time is still an unknown factor!

Everything seems so costly; it feels like such a rip off! And it all takes hours, days, might even be years to look up all the options, and while doing things one gets VERY bad tempered, one's heart rate and blood pressure rises dramatically, one could end up in hospital and then you wouldn't even be able to get your money back on the holiday that put you there because you forgot to get cancellation insurance!! Not to mention the breakup of what was a perfectly good relationship, so one is left wondering why anyone would want to go on holiday??

With hindsight, it would have been much less stressful to have stayed home!! Never mind, it's all booked now, as long as the passport arrives in time we ARE going on a holiday, no matter how stressful!!

Letters to the Editors

We welcome letters to the Editors, either for publication or just to send us your views, so do please contact us at: magazine@stpetertitchfield.org.uk making it clear whether or not your letter is for publication by January 5th 2025 please.

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News from Titchfield Primary School

Alan Sheppard

I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Deputy Head Teacher and Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) at Titchfield Primary School. From my first day, I have been struck by the warmth, dedication, and genuine sense of community that defines this special school. Being part of Titchfield Primary is both a privilege and a joy, and I am excited to contribute to a place where every pupil is valued, supported, and encouraged to reach their full potential.

One of the aspects of my role that I find most rewarding is working alongside our exceptional Learning Support Assistants (LSAs), who provide dedicated support across a range of needs. Whether delivering targeted speech and language interventions, guiding pupils through reading challenges, or offering social, emotional, and mental health (SEMH) support, their work makes a tangible difference in the lives of our children. The commitment of the entire staff team to ensuring every child thrives is truly inspiring and reflects the nurturing ethos that defines Titchfield Primary.

As we move forward together, I am committed to fostering a culture of inclusion, collaboration, and high expectations with all the support needed to reach those aspirations. I do hope that we have the opportunity to be the school for some of your friends and family so you can see first-hand what a special place Titchfield Primary is- not least because of our kind, well-behaved and hardworking children. Our door is always open, and I look forward to meeting more of you, sharing in our successes, and working hand-in-hand to ensure that every child at Titchfield Primary feels valued, supported, and inspired to achieve their best.

Deputy Head Teacher and SENCo at Titchfield Primary school.
01329 843322. office@titchfieldprimary.co.uk

WHAT'S ON.... in the village?

There are other events happening from time to time as well: these are listed in the report pages of each society where relevant. Enjoy!

Week 1			Week 2		
Monday	Bridge Club***	7.00-10.30pm Com. Centre	Tuesday	Abbey WI	9.30am Com. Centre
Tuesday	Oasis Youth Club (5-9yrs)***	6.30-8.30pm Com. Centre	Week 3		
Wednesday	Wed AM Bridge	9.30-12.30am Com. Centre	Tuesday	History Society	7.00pm Com. Centre ^B
	Lunch Club (60+)***	10.30-13.00pm Village Hall	Saturday	Lego Club	8.30-10am St. Peter's
	Gardeners' Club	7.30pm Village Hall	Week 4		
	Sea Scouts ^{\$}	7-9pm Com. Centre	Monday	WI	7.30pm Village Hall
	Bridge Club*** Dementia Care Hub	As above 2-4pm	Tuesday	Arts Society	10.00am Com. Centre
Thursday	Yarnbombers [£]	3-16.30pm Village Hall	Thursday	Fareham Flower Club	7-9pm Com. Centre
	Oasis Youth Club (14-18yrs)***	6.30-8.30pm Com. Centre	For exercise and dance classes SEE community centre "What's on" - page 32		
	Cubs ^{\$}	6.30-8pm Com. Centre	*** repeats weekly		
	Fareham Flower Club Sing Now Choir	7-9pm 7.30pm Com. Centre	^{\$} Term time only		
			[£] Yarnbombers: Contact Suzy on 07532 168454		
Friday	Country Market***	9.30-11.30am Village Hall	^A See: www.theindyclub.co.uk/sugar-push-social		
Saturday	Ladies Breakfast	9.00-10.30am St Peter's	^B September to May only		
Sunday	Sugar Push Tea Dance	Quarterly Com. Centre ^A	Note: Titchfield Village Fayre Sunday 4th May 2025 more information to follow		
	Titchfield Auctions	6.30pm Com. Centre			

Titchfield on the web

Information on Titchfield.....	www.titchfieldnews.com
Information on St Peter's Church.....	www.stpeterertitchfield.org.uk
Friends of St Peter's Church.....	www.friends-of-st-peters.org
Information on Titchfield Village Trust.....	www.titchfieldvillagetrust.com
Titchfield Community Centre.....	www.titchfieldcommunitycentre.org.uk

WHAT'S ON? To enquire about joining a group, please see the Contacts page

Saturday

Solent Taekwon-Do (4-11yrs)	9.30 - 10.00am 10.15 - 11am
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Debut Dance Academy*	9am - 12.30pm
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Sunday

Titchfield Auctions	Viewing 5.30pm Auction 6.30pm
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Sugar Push Tea Dance (Qtrly)	1 - 6.30pm
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Monday

Tai Chi	12 - 2pm
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Solent Taekwon-Do (4-11yrs)	6 - 7pm
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Titchfield Bridge Club	7 - 10.30pm
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Latin & Ballroom Dancing	6.30 - 8.45pm
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Lindy Hop	7.30 - 10.45pm
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Tuesday

Titchfield Abbey WI (2nd)	9.30am - 12pm
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Arts Society Solent (3rd)	10am - 12.30pm
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Tea Dance	1.30 - 4pm
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Express Dance Academy*	5 - 6.30pm
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History Society (3rd Tues, Sep-May)	7 - 9pm
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Zumba	7 - 8pm
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Oasis Youth Club (5-9yrs)	6.30 - 8.30pm
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Jiveasy	7.45 - 10.45pm
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* Term time only

FareGos home education group is on site daily, see contact page for details. Our pre-school is currently empty. We are working with Hampshire County Council to find a new provider.

Wednesday

Zumba	9.30 - 10.30am
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Flexercise	9.30 - 10.30am 10.40 - 11.05am
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Wednesday Morning Bridge	9.30am-12.30pm
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Titchfield Lunch Club (60+)	10.30am - 1pm
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The Dementia Care Hub	2 - 4pm
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Express Dance Academy*	5 - 8pm
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Beavers (6-8yrs)*	5.45 - 6.45pm
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Pilates	6.30 - 8.30pm
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Tai Chi	6 - 9pm
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Cotton On Sewing	7 - 9pm
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Sea Scouts (10-15yrs)*	7 - 9pm
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Titchfield Bridge Club	7 - 10.30pm
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Thursday

Bowling (Oct-Mar)	2 - 4pm
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Express Dance Academy*	5 - 8pm
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Latin & Ballroom Dancing	5.30 - 9.30pm
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Cubs (8-10yrs)*	6.30 - 8pm
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Fareham Flower Club (1st)	7 - 9pm
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Sing Now Choir	7 - 9pm
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Oasis Youth Club (Yr 9+)	6.30 - 8.30pm
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Friday

Pilates	9.15 - 10.15am
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CONTACTS

To enquire about joining a group, please call the group leader directly

123	1st Titchfield Sea Scouts Rae Shepherdemail: gsl.1stitchfield@gmail.com
B	Bowling Club Carolyn Garrett..... 07963 500348
C	C J Dancing Ballroom & Latin James Taplin.....01489 584502
	Cotton On Sewing Workshops Sheryl Vincent.....07704 065633
D	Debut Dance Academy Sofia Higman.....07881 292981
E	Express Dance Academy Laura Whittenham07851 567229
	FareGos Home Education.....01329 550630
F	Fareham Bee Keeper Assn Gregory Young07788 174115
	Fareham Flower Club Val Hockley.....07961 181605
	Flexercise Lindsey Wheeler.....07715 435863
H	History Society Peter Mills.....01329 317912
J	Jiveasy Nigel Sefton-Smith..... 07590 848938
L	Lindy Hop/Sugarpush Tea Dance Simone Graham.....07944 255574
O	OASIS Youth Club email: info@yservices.co.uk
P	Pilates Manous Jacobs.....07798 708309
	Sing Now Choir Jack White.....email: info@singnowchoir.com
S	Solent Stitchers Sandi Jones.....01329 847930
	Solent Taekwon-Do Mike Stuart..... www.solenttkd.co.uk
	The Arts Society (Solent) Caroline Hodgkinson.....07801 731633
	The Dementia Care Hub Dr Kellyn Lee..... 07769 009599
	Tai-Chi Andrew Austin.....07824 330950
	Tea Dance & Come Dancing (monthly) Pauline Steel.....01329 234562
T	Titchfield Abbey W.I Sandi Jones.....01329 847930
	Titchfield Auctions Isabel Farmer.....07720 023950
	Titchfield Bridge Club Jill Mogridge.....01329 849826
	Titchfield Lunch Club Ken Moore.....01329 315615
W	Wednesday Morning Bridge Digby Hands.....07772 519644
Y	Yoga Warren Bright.....07562 188819
Z	Zumba Tia Newbury.....07593 301149



CHURCH AND VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

ST PETER'S CHURCH

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Associate Priest	Rev'd Penny Thatcher	01329 847003
Reader	Dave Foster	01329 847003
Church Office	Open: Mon-Thurs 9 - 12 email: office@stpetertitchfield.org.uk Website www.stpetertitchfield.org.uk	01329 847003
Churchwardens:	Mrs Helen Perry c/o Church Office Mr Steven Sherwood c/o Church Office	01329 847003 01329 847003
P.C.C. Secretary	Mrs Jane Slaymaker c/o Church Office	01329 847003
Treasurer	Vacancy c/o Church Office	01329 847003
Stewardship Recorder	Mr John Parry c/o Church Office	01329 847003
Organist	Mr David Chandler c/o Church Office	01329 847003
Capt. of the Tower (Bells)	Mr Lyndon Hatfield	01329 849921
Friends of St Peter's	Mary Yearley Website www.friends-of-st-peters.org	01329 846646

TITCHFIELD VILLAGE

Primary School	Reception	01329 843322
Village Hall	Lesley Blackburn - for bookings (calls taken 9am-6pm or voicemail)	07486 891728
Earl of S'ton Trust	Mrs Tracey Kenney	07458 304031
Village Trust	Mr Nick Girdler	01329 847930
Community Centre	Mrs Mary-Kate Smith (Manager)	01329 842933
Meon Health Practice	Reception	01329 844220
Bonfire Boys	Message Line	07768 283725
Titchfield Luncheon Club	Mr Ken Moores	01329 315615
Titchfield Gardeners' Club	Sarah Green (chairman)	07788 924890
Titchfield Bowling Club	Carolyn Garrett (secretary)	07963 500348

TITCHFIELD NEWS

Editorial Team	email: magazine@stpetertitchfield.org.uk
Distribution	Margaret Thompson, Anna Sketchley
Advertising	Gerry Pontefract Tony Postle

YOUR LOCAL TITCHFIELD COUNCILLORS

Hampshire County Council	Sarah Pankhurst	07701 393396
Fareham Borough Council	Mrs Connie Hockley	01329 287365
	Ms Tiffany Harper	01329 844074

YOUR LOCAL MP

Member of Parliament	Mr Paul Holmes	02382 542205
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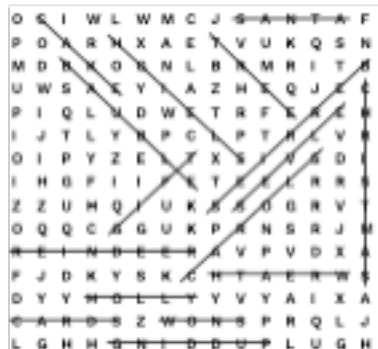
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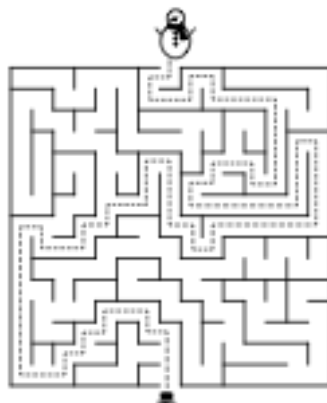
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Puzzle Answers



7	3	6	8	1	4	9	2	5
5	4	9	6	3	2	1	7	8
2	1	8	9	5	7	3	6	4
6	5	4	2	8	1	7	9	3
9	2	3	7	4	6	8	5	1
1	8	7	3	9	5	2	4	6
8	7	5	4	2	3	6	1	9
3	6	1	5	7	9	4	8	2
4	9	2	1	6	8	5	3	7





CELEBRATE WITH US

Do you have a special occasion to celebrate? At Titchfield Community Centre we have a range of party suites to meet your needs, whether it be a christening, wedding, anniversary, children's party or special birthday - including 18th and 21st parties. Call us today on 01329 842933 or email enquiries@titchfieldcommunitycentre.org.uk

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