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church and village

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TITCHFIELD NEWS



February 2025

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

From the Editor's Desk

By Margaret Thompson

Winter has not lost his grip and the poem by Katrien Burrows illustrates our current cold and windy weather.

I broke my head of humerus (arm bone) in late November which has been incredibly painful. Apart from the pain and the difficulty of doing things around the house I have only one finger to type with which is very slow as you can imagine! Being unable to do the most simplest things has given me insight into others' hardships, I'm now going with my husband to his exercise class for stroke victims with additional understanding and motivation.

Covid seems to be prevalent as well as other illness, making people very miserable and worried. The hospitals are full and that's a worry too. My sympathies go out to you all. Hopefully the magazine will cheer people up with photos of the 'Carols around the Tree' in Titchfield Square, information about future events, the Solent Arts Society, the Gardening Club and the History Society to mention but a few of the interesting articles in this edition that will help people look towards the future.

We are reminded of the importance of the environment and taking care of it. The Titchfield Festival Theatre events are summarised, P.15.

I hope the weather warms up soon with the snowdrops and the daffodils appearing to brighten the days.

As the Rev. Ian suggests practising kindness and offering it around whenever possible, will brighten up other peoples' lives and in return your own.

From April this year 2025 there will be a small increase to the price of Titchfield News to reflect the additional pages, plus colour print to the adverts, photos and cover. Price per copy will be £1.50. A year's subscription for 6 copies will be £8.

I wish you all a healthy, happy and safe 2025.

“Kindness continued”

Rev'd Dr Ian Meredith

You may remember that last October I wrote about **Kindness!**

In Charles Mackesy's book *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse*, the boy is asked what he wanted to be when he grew up, to which he replied, “Kind.”

Kindness is the quality of being friendly, generous, considerate and treating people with respect. We don't have to be super saints to practice kindness; we just have to act and speak kindly on a consistent basis, to all people, at all times, in person, on social media, whatever the context.

Lent starts later this year - 5th March, and with it the annual challenge to "give up" and "take up". Continuing on my theme of kindness from the previous letter, why not take up the idea of "kindness during Lent." It could be a very simply discipline which need not cost you much nor take up too much of your time or even be that difficult to do.

We could "give up" criticising, negativity, self-centredness, ignoring and even frowning. We could **"take up"** encouragement, affirmation, inviting someone out for a coffee, stopping and listening. Small gestures like that could go a long way. The way to change Titchfield for the better is to change your own attitudes and to bring a difference into someone's life. That's two people to start with.

When I was at school people often asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up. I frankly didn't know, and it changed from year to year. The last thing I would have thought of was becoming a Church of England minister, but that's another story.

At the other end of life, there are funeral eulogies when we look back on what a life achieved. Most of these eulogies focus on what the person

did with their life, but I always encourage a focus on who the person was. Never have I heard in a eulogy how much money the person had in their bank, what was the value of their house and how many degrees and qualifications they had. But what is remembered more fondly is who that person was. Who we are matters more than what we do. People may not remember what you said, but they will remember how you made them feel.

Proverbs 11:17 states, “Those who are kind reward themselves, but the cruel do themselves harm.” *Why is this true?* Numerous scientific studies have proven the health benefits of routinely and purposefully practicing kindness. Practicing kindness usually results in our feeling better physically and feeling better about ourselves because we’ve brightened someone else’s day, helped to lighten their burden, or given them hope.

Kindness is often quiet and behind the scenes. I once heard the phrase, “Practice random kindness and senseless acts of beauty.”

How will you practice kindness during Lent?

Admiration and Gratitude

Ann Porter

What a lovely surprise going into Church a week or so before Christmas to see the new deep purple curtain behind the Lady Chapel Altar with the beautifully carved wooden altar table now exposed - somehow all so much more in keeping with an ancient Church like St Peter's.

Also what a joy all of the Services have been over the Christmas period. It must have taken an enormous amount of time and thought, organization, preparation and care to make them so good. A big thank you to everyone involved.



FoSP Presentation of a cheque for the new boiler in the village St Peter's Church

Rev. Penny Thatcher and Stephen Sherwood the Church Warden with a **cheque for £15,464.00** to pay for the new boiler now installed in the Church. This was the first phase of a general plan for a new heating system.

The boiler has made a huge difference, not only ensuring the congregation feel more comfortable, but also to help dry the interior fabric of the church and hopefully mitigate against any further degeneration of the internal decoration.

The donation money was generated by the profits gained from the many FoSP village events and very importantly from membership annual subscriptions given by so many of the village community.



Josef Thoma (FoSP Treasurer) & Mary Yearley (FoSP Chair) Presenting the cheque to Reverend Penny Thatcher and Steven Sherwood (St Peter's Church Warden).

Photo kindly taken by Phil Burner

If you would like to help maintain our beautiful ancient church building **please join FoSP** by looking at our new website and signing up as a member at: **www.friends-of-st-peters.org**



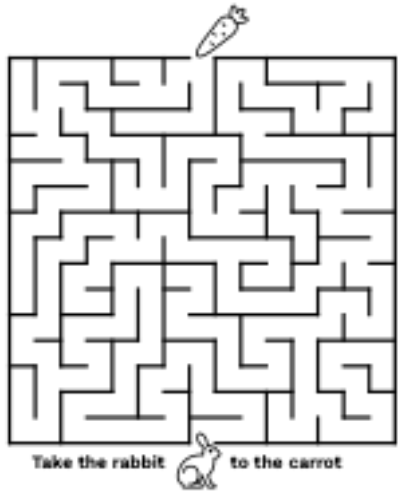
Greyhound Trust Table Top Sale

Saturday 22nd March 2025

Titchfield Village Hall

10-1pm

Lots of stalls, grand raffle and great refreshments



Sudoku

7		8 4	2	5
	3	1 5	4	
		5 6		7
	9		3 4 5 8	
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P P C H S M E D K S C P N Y R
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 C X E B S U G A R A P S A R O

Word Search

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|---------|-----------|
| SHALLOT | GARLIC |
| RADISH | ONION |
| KALE | PEAS |
| CARROT | TOMATO |
| PUMPKIN | ASPARAGUS |
| SQUASH | TURNIP |
| CORN | SPINACH |
| POTATO | CABBAGE |

Answers on the inside back cover

Bell Ringing News

Lyndon Hatfield, Bell Tower Captain

Our Christmas get together was very much appreciated by all and thanks to Paul for organising! We were able to ring for Christmas services as planned, and on Christmas Day we had ringing visitors from Nottingham who were staying in the area.

On the 11th of January we hosted a training session for local ringers which was well attended, and gave our ringers more experience in advanced methods. Now we need to give our newer ringers more experience, so I hope to ring some quarter peals (about 45 minutes each) before Easter. Exact dates and times will be publicised in the St Peter's weekly bulletin.

We wish you all best wishes for 2025.

Winter

A poem by Katrien Burrows

Winter has now taken hold, with snow, ice and a wind so cold,
 Nature is taking a rest, at the seasons request
 However, be in no doubt, there's still life and beauty about
 All the better one can see, the intricacy of the bark on a tree
 And you can take sheer delight, as winter flowers come into sight
 Many also smell divine, wafting their perfume in the Winter sunshine
 The birds still sing, as they wait for Spring
 And berries abound, for a feast all round
 Seedheads and grasses dance in the breeze, and shine like diamonds
 when there's a freeze
 So don't give in to those Winter blues, enjoy the many wonderful hues
 And the awe-inspiring views, as nature has a snooze.



Lego and Craft Club

Saturday 15th February and Saturday 15th March 9am - 10.30am

Lego and crafting tables are set up in church and breakfast is shared in the Chapter Room from 9am – toast, bacon rolls, hot and cold drinks.

All families are welcome to attend – we look forward to seeing you!

Please contact St Peter's church office if you require more information.

Book Sale at St Peter's



Calling all book lovers!...we have a lot of very good condition hardback and paperback fiction for adults and children, also some non-fiction, to sell at very reasonable prices.

Tables of books will be set up in the Chapter Room. Coffee or tea will be available so come along and enjoy a relaxed opportunity to browse and buy!

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



FoSP Carols around the Village Christmas Tree

Thank you Titchfield, and everyone who joined us for the “Carols Around The Village Christmas Tree” on the evening of 12th December. The Solent Community Choir were in attendance and gave a really strong vocal lead, which definitely helped us all join in the singing. It was wonderful to gather, share and sing with everyone in this most lovely of village traditions! This year we were joined by Reverend Penny Thatcher, who gave a blessing, as well as PSCO Riccardo. We raised £289.00 through your kind donations given for the mulled wine and mince pies, all to support the fabric of St Peter's Church, Titchfield. Wishing everyone, and their loved ones, a Happy New Year from all here at FoSP. The magnificent photos below were kindly taken by Phil Burner.





A Fond Farewell and Warm Thanks to Frances Knight

Earl of Southampton Trust

After an incredible 32 years of service, Frances Knight has retired as Trustee of the Earl of Southampton Trust.

Frances said, *“It has been a privilege. I have particularly enjoyed my time as Chair as this allowed me to steer the charity into the 21st century and leave knowing that the charity is in good hands. I particularly want to thank Tracey, the Almshouse Association and all the Trustees (both past and present) for the support you have given me.”*

During her time as Chair, Frances achieved a number of aims including installing a path through Barry’s Meadow, the quinquennial inspections of the almshouses, the conversion of the charity to a CIO, (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) and the complete overhaul of the governance of the charity.

Frances’s dedication, wisdom, and commitment have been an integral part of the Trust’s journey, and her contributions will leave a lasting legacy.

At a recent meeting, Vice Chair Ian Brewerton expressed his heartfelt thanks to Frances for her remarkable dedication over the years and presented Frances with a bouquet of flowers as a token of appreciation for her outstanding service. Josef Thoma who will take over as Chairman also thanked Frances for everything she has done for the Trust.

Please join us in celebrating Frances’ incredible tenure and wishing her all the very best for the future. We are truly grateful for everything she has done for the Trust and our community.

Titchfield Abbey WI

Margaret Wellington



Here we are at the threshold of a new year and if you have thought of joining a WI perhaps this is the time. Titchfield Abbey WI offers "Fun, Friendship and Forward Thinking" which is part of the Inspiring Women WI ethos. Women of all ages and interests are encouraged to join - you can visit for a trial first - and receive a warm welcome. This is an active group which is held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month starting at 10am-12noon in Titchfield Community Centre. Access is easy, parking is available and tea or coffee is served for those who would like it.

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". With the arrival of Spring the April meeting will feature "Easter Cookery Treats" with the ever popular Debbie Towlson. May brings the Annual General Meeting followed by "Songs from the Shows" in June with Jennifer Parker-Lummis.

Titchfield Abbey WI, being an active group, also runs a Lunchers group, Patchwork/Knitting, occasional walks, and generally a summer outing (current costs making this difficult to arrange). Additionally on Wednesday 19 February there will be a Soup & Puds lunch in the Village Hall 1.30-3.30pm and then on Wednesday 12 March an extra Easter Craft Afternoon with Tea, also in the refurbished Village Hall. There are other opportunities to be involved either by the area group which holds 2 meetings a year with interesting speakers, or through Hampshire County Federation of WIs. These are all optional extras.

Come and give us a try!

Looking after your Village

Nick Girdler, Chair of Titchfield Village Trust



Such a warm, friendly and adaptable space for your family event, sale, workshop, meeting etc. Suitable for up to 100 attendees, hiring our newly refurbished space includes use of the whole building which includes the stage with sound and lighting system also a projection screen; kitchen with cooker, microwave, fridge, urn; main hall with new tables and chairs; side room and two parking spaces.

Managed entirely by volunteers of TVT, this helps keep our hire charges low to ensure the hall can be well used by our community for a wide range of activities. Hire fees are currently under review but at the moment are £12 per hour with a discount for village and charitable events and regular users. Hirers set up and clear up after their own events, the time for which must be included in hire time.

For more information please visit www.titchfieldvillagetrust.com and click on the link for the Village Hall. You will find the calendar easy to view. Alternatively email Suzy Jackson at tprsuzy@gmail.com

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 March 7th 2025 please.



The Gilbert Nursery Dahlia Year

Katrien Burrows

Nick Gilbert has been growing Dahlias for Gilbert's Nursery for the past 19 years. The nursery is in Sherfield English, near Romsey, has a 3-acre field displaying a wide variety of dahlias as well as a tearoom. He started with 12 different varieties of Dahlias but now has over 900 varieties and hybridises them. Shipping to Europe stopped after Brexit but he is one of the well-known dahlia producers in the UK.

The dahlia is the national flower of Mexico. The Aztecs originally used them as a food source. They were named after Anders Dahl, who introduced them to the UK in the late 18th century. They were also used as water pipes. Even today there is a variety called Blackjack that one famous UK chef uses for culinary purposes.

All tubers are British grown, grown in peat free compost (Melcourt Sylvagrow).

In October they collect seedheads, usually those from solid round flower varieties. They look for pointed heads to show that the head has gone over, cut off the buds to a set of leaves. After 7-10 days more buds will usually bud and produce flowers. The seedheads can be stored with the petals stripped off exposing the seedhead, they are put in trays to dry, the heads are squeezed to remove moisture, then a papery shuck is formed, then it should be sealed and left until spring when the seeds from the shuck can be sewn in trays, potted into 9cm pots and finally planted out at the end of May/ beginning of June. One seed head can produce up to 100 seeds. They also pollinate by hand with open centred dahlias. The nursery has over two acres of seedlings. If anything unusual grows it is marked up, grown for three years and then taken to RHS

Wisley where a decision is made if the dahlia is good enough to name and be placed on the worldwide dahlia register.

Nick continued his talk with clarification of how to overwinter Dahlias as well as hints and tips for keeping them healthy, flowering and bug free, as well as a list of the most popular Dahlias. The full article can be found on the Titchfield Gardeners Club Website: www.titchfieldgardeners.club.



Titchfield Gardeners' Club

Future Dates

Sunday 2nd February – Barry's Meadow Tree Planting Event!
10am start

Wednesday 5th February – TGC Talk on “Conservatory Plants” by Wilf Simcox, Horticulturalist.

Titchfield Village Hall. 7:30pm. Free to TGC Members. £5 for visitors.

Wednesday 5th March – TGC AGM and Spring Show!

Titchfield Village Hall. 7:30pm. Members only. Not yet a member? Come and join us, only £12/year membership. Have a look at our website:

www.titchfieldgardeners.club for full information, or send us an email on: tgcmembers@gmail.com

Wednesday 2nd April – TGC Hanging Basket Workshop

Titchfield Village Hall, 7:30pm

Saturday 26th April – TGC SPRING SALE!

Titchfield Village Hall, 10-11:30am

Looking to stock your gardens with flowers, vegetables and fruit? Our Spring Sale will have them all at very reasonable prices! Or, should you have grown too many plants yourself, we are always grateful for donations to add to our sale.



Titchfield Gardeners' Club

Sarah Green, Chairman



Our Christmas festivities began in late November with a very enjoyable skittles evening at the Crofton pub when our members and their guests came along for a hot buffet and skittles game. Congratulations to the “Skittle Bums” team for winning the Skittles with stiff competition! Many thanks to Jan Davies for organising this event.

Activities continued in December as some of our members went to a Table Decoration workshop run by Val Hockley at Titchfield Village Hall. The creations made were superb and enjoyed by all on our Christmas tables. Our New Year Quiz took place on 8th January organised superbly by Brian and Dawne Dunton with musical rounds and great merriment!

We have a full Programme for 2025 and look forward to talks and visits throughout the year. Our Membership year for 2025 begins on 1st March when we welcome all members, new and existing, for what looks to be a very interesting year. Membership is still £12 per year, which we believe is excellent value and includes talks and shows throughout the year, with an opportunity for visits as well. Please renew your membership either online or at our next meeting. If you are interested in joining us come along to our meeting on 5th February when we have a talk on “Conservatory Plants“ by Wilf Simcox. For further details please visit our website under **Membership - www.titchfieldgardeners.club**. All activities that have been confirmed can also be found on the website.



The SOUND of MUSIC

TITCHFIELD FESTIVAL THEATRE

Coming April 2025



BONEFIRE

28th Jan - 1st Feb

By John O'Hanlon



QUICHE Competition 1956

Five Lesbians eating a Quiche

28th Jan - 1st Feb



THE AMOROUS ADVENTURES OF Moll Flanders

A robust tale of crime, seduction, love, and revenge in the past.

7th - 19th March



SCAN ME!

To see what's on 2025



By Arnold Ridley
Adapted by Jocelyn & Nicolas Ridley

THE GHOST TRAIN (Revised)

5th - 15th Feb

73 St. Margarets Lane, Titchfield PO14 4BG

www.titchfieldfestivaltheatre.com

01329 600010



Knepp-ing Into Nature

Ross Underwood

EcoTitchfield Community Film Night Showcasing Rewilding in Action

A huge thank you to everyone who attended our fantastic first EcoMovie Evening, hosted by EcoTitchfield on Sunday, December 29th. We were thrilled to welcome approximately 60 local residents who joined us during the Christmas break for an alternative evening of entertainment and community connection.

The featured film, 'Wilding', based on Isabella Tree's inspiring book about the Knepp Estate close by in Sussex, was met with rapturous applause at its conclusion. It was heartwarming to see how deeply the audience connected with the message of regeneration, rewilding and the potential for positive change.



Stork's nest at Knepp

The other highlight of the evening was the incredible success of our fundraising efforts. Your contributions will go towards covering costs for our upcoming launch event on February 15th. It's thanks to your generosity and enthusiasm that we're able to bring events like these to life, and we look forward to hosting many more evenings to inform, inspire, and ignite action for a sustainable future.

Beyond the film itself, the evening sparked engaging conversations about EcoTitchfield's ambitions for 2025. The positive energy in the room was palpable, and the willingness of attendees to get involved was deeply encouraging. We're especially grateful to those who volunteered to help distribute the Challenge Cards, which many of you will have received through your letterboxes during January.



Small steps, Big changes

EcoTitchfield

It's been an inspiring few months since *EcoTitchfield* came together with a shared vision for a greener, more sustainable future. With approximately 130 supporters and many volunteers already onboard, we're thrilled by the enthusiasm - but we need your help to grow this movement and make 2025 a year of real transformation.

Our community-driven approach is about learning, collaborating, and connecting. Together, we have started laying the foundations for a more sustainable Titchfield, and we're excited about the opportunity to link up existing efforts already building environmental awareness into daily life. Our hope is to create a cohesive, connected community that becomes a model for sustainability - a place where Titchfield is recognised for the commitment of its residents and their care for the environment.

Exciting Projects Underway

One of our early achievements is the thermal imaging pilot project, which has provided useful insights into the energy efficiency of nearly 40 homes in the village. This work has sparked meaningful discussions, and we're looking forward to sharing what we've learned. To shape the next steps, we'll be bringing together local experts and residents - hopefully also our councillors, and representatives from Fareham Borough Council, to explore how to turn these insights into action.

We're also looking to expand this project to more homes. If you'd like to get involved, we're seeking 'street coordinators' to help organise imaging nights. Whether you can spare a little time or a lot, we'd love to hear from you - email us at info@ecotitchfield.com and help scale up this initiative.

Join Us for a Special Event on 15th February

Our big focus now is our upcoming launch event on 15th February, horticulturalist Chris Collins. It's a free event and a great opportunity to

community members, hear about organic growing and biodiversity projects, and be inspired by all the exciting opportunities we're planning for 2025. We hope local schools and scout groups will be joining us, and we would like to see you there too!

This event isn't just about hearing from Chris - it's about bringing our community together to reflect, share ideas, and discover ways to contribute. We'll also be outlining how we can build on existing projects to create a stronger culture of sustainability throughout Titchfield.

Get Involved and Stay Connected

One of the best ways to stay updated is to register on our website www.ecotitchfield.com for our monthly newsletter. It's packed with updates, news, and details of our events and activities, including upcoming calls and meetings, which we'll be adding to the calendar in the coming weeks.

If you're ready to dive deeper, there's also an option during registration to join our volunteer WhatsApp group. This is the perfect way to connect with others, share ideas, and help shape our key initiatives.

The success of our Greening Campaign in 2025 absolutely depends on the engagement of our community. By coming to our events, signing up for updates, and getting involved, you will be helping us start to define what a sustainable future might look like for everyone in Titchfield.

Why This Matters

Through projects like thermal imaging, conservation mapping, and community events, we're building something bigger than any single initiative. We're creating a movement - a new culture of environmental responsibility that brings people together. From schools and scouts to local residents and businesses, this is a chance for Titchfield to stand out as a community that cares deeply about sustainability and is ready to take action.

We want to hear from you about what matters most. Your participation helps shape the priorities for projects in our area, ensuring they reflect the needs and aspirations of our community.

The Opportunity is Now

This is your chance to be part of something special. Join us, share your ideas, and help build a connected community that benefits from shared learning, mutual support, and a collective drive to do our part to protect our planet. Together, we can make 2025 a year to remember for Titchfield.

If you'd like to stay updated on future events, please visit our homepage at <http://ecotitchfield.com> and register your interest. ***Together, we can make a difference.***



Titchfield WI

Hilary Robjohns

Titchfield WI are a small, friendly group that meet twice a month in the Village Hall, once for our Main Meeting where we often have a visiting Speaker and once for our Craft Group where we either bring our own projects or try something new, led by one of our members. Some members also meet weekly for a coffee and a chat either in the Monk's Rest or the Cuckoo Pint (where we attempt to play darts - we won't be challenging Luke Littler any time soon, but working out the scores does give the 'little grey cells' a work out!). We also have a Dining Club who eat out at a different establishment in the area each month, and a Book Club who meet to discuss books recommended by other members.

Our next Main Meeting will be on Monday 24th February at 7.30pm where our Speaker will be Alison Gardiner, designer and illustrator. Visitors are welcome to join us at our Meetings on 4th Monday at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

titchfieldsec@hampshirewi.org.uk



The Arts Society Solent

Bridget Hillier

In December our Christmas-themed lecture was given by Roger Askew who entertained us with Christmas music, stories and anecdotes of how our Royal Families have celebrated Christmas throughout the Ages.

By the time this magazine goes to print we will have had our January lecture titled **Sicily: Cultural Crossroads** given by Richard Whincop. He will tell us about 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.

Then, on **Tuesday 18 February at 10:30 hrs**, we are looking forward to

welcoming lecturer Jo Banham who will be coming to tell us about Liberty of London, that iconic store on Regent Street, which is celebrating its 150th Anniversary this year. Jo's lecture is titled **150 years of Liberty: Masterpieces of Design**. Liberty of London is far more than just a shop: it is also a byword for luxury and avant-garde style. This lecture will tell the story of a business whose rich history and legacy continues to inspire people all over the world today.



Our March lecture, on Tuesday 18 March, will be presented by Stephen Duffy and is titled **The**

Founders and Treasures of the Wallace Collection. This national museum contains an outstanding array of items brought together by five generations of one family between about 1780 and 1880.

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



The Laughing Cavalier

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 telephone 02392 556565 or 07951 753117).



Titchfield Art & Craft Show 2025

Josef Thoma

The popular **Titchfield Art & Craft Show** returns to the Titchfield Community Centre on Saturday 26th April from 10am to 5pm and Sunday 27th April between 10am to 4pm. This charity fund raising exhibition is a much anticipated annual event that is well known for the high standard of its exhibits and as a showcase for the talent and imagination of our area's most accomplished artists and crafters. Tickets for the show will be available on the door for just £2 !!

Visitors to the show can immerse themselves in a world of vibrant colours and striking forms. The art exhibition features a diverse array of work, including paintings, relief prints, photography, digital art, and mixed media. Each piece tells a story, reflecting the unique perspectives and experiences of its creator. Whether you're an art connoisseur or simply curious, there's something here to captivate everyone. All of the work on view is for sale across a range of price points to suit all budgets.

article continued overleaf

Don't miss the chance to engage with artists themselves during special demonstrations over the course of the weekend. You will be able to hear firsthand the inspiration behind their creations and gain a deeper appreciation for their work. There are also many high quality crafts stalls displaying products ranging through ceramics, wood, textiles and glass.

Come and be part of this celebration of creativity and culture. Let's come together to support our local artists and celebrate the vibrant artistic spirit of the village and its surrounds. Mark your calendars, spread the word, and join us for a weekend of art and inspiration! See you there!

The preview evening for the Titchfield Art & Craft Show will be held on Friday 25th April 2025 from 7pm until 9pm and entry is by ticket only which can be purchased in advance from Titchfield Community Centre priced at £10. The ticket includes entry to the exhibition, a glass of wine or a soft drink and canapes, plus you can enjoy a vibrant social evening along with the opportunity to have first chance to buy from the display.

Last year's Titchfield Art & Craft Show was a great success. There were more than a thousand visitors over the weekend and the proceeds resulting from tickets, fees paid by exhibitors and commission from sales enabled the organisers to donate £6000 to Titchfield Community Centre. Other local beneficiaries who received donations from the 2024 event were:

Titchfield Primary School, The Oasis Youth Club, The Titchfield Yarnbombers, Dementia Care Hub, West Hill Park School.

The organisers of the Titchfield Art & Craft Show would like to thank everybody who came and supported the 2024 event and to all of those very worthy people who gave up their time as volunteers to help run the show. In order to make 2025 and future shows happen and to recreate the success of previous years we need a steady supply of volunteers. If you are interested in helping or want to find out more then please ask at the community centre or find us on the internet.

Web: www.titchfieldartandcraft.co.uk Instagram: titchfieldart

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TitchfieldArt



Titchfield History Society

Marilyn Wilton-Smith



When Will met Harry!

Well the enigma code machine was not needed for this talk..... Stewart Trotter entertained us with his fascinating talk, on the life and relationship of Shakespeare (Will) and Henry Wriothesley, 3rd Earl of Southampton (Harry). Unravelling an intriguing code within Shakespeare's writings and archival material, making us think out of the box.

Stewart Trotter is an interesting man of many talents but mainly a writer and director of Opera's plays & Musicals on the London stages and playhouses throughout the country. He first became interested in Shakespeare when at Cambridge University and it was here he became convinced that the key to Shakespeare's psyche lay in the words of his plays and sonnets.

Life went on and it was on a visit to Titchfield Abbey with his daughter that his interest in Shakespeare was re-ignited. He joined up with Kevin Fraser (Titchfield Festival Theatre) and together they set up performances of Shakespeare within the Abbey grounds. (*many people still comment on how brilliant these were*).

Back to the plot..... Not a lot is written about Shakespeare himself, so a lot of what has been decoded is conjecture, but once you hear it, you are convinced that it has to be the case, it seems to have been staring you in the face, 'hidden in sight' as they say. But if you are not convinced it certainly creates a good discussion.

It has always been a question as to why Shakespeare ended up in London. Researching archives, and perhaps reading between the lines it is thought that he had to flee Stratford Upon Avon leaving his wife and children, due to various indiscretions against Sir Thomas Lucy, which he

would have certainly ended up being incarcerated for or even worse. Whilst in London, his father, who at the time was a man of means, paid for an apprenticeship for him, but he fell behind with the payments, leaving Will to lead a life of drinking, and gambling whilst paying his way by writing a few ballads. Under the guidance of 'Crowley' he began writing plays, but what is not known by many is that only 2 of his plays are from his own original thoughts, most of them being re-writes from other sources, albeit brilliantly composed.

It is certainly known that the 3rd Earl became a Patron of Shakespeare and the code seems to reveal that the relationship was a lot more than that. It appears to indicate, as many have thought, that they became lovers. Shakespeare certainly dedicated sonnets to the Earl, whilst other writings *once decoded* also seem to show his love and passion for the Earl. All was lost when the Earl eventually married Elizabeth Vernon.

We at Titchfield like to claim that it was here that Shakespeare taught at the Grammar School (*Place House Cottages*), It is certainly possible that this was the case as John Aubrey wrote that '*Shakespeare taught at a country school*'. It was thought to have been instigated by Mary, Henry's mother, who asked Shakespeare to become her son's tutor, which was the beginning of their relationship.

For more information on the unravelling of Shakespeare's writings visit 'The Shakespeare Code' website.

This was one of the many interesting talks held by Titchfield History Society. Meetings are every 3rd Tuesday of the month from September through to May at Titchfield Community Centre, Malt Rooms. Annual membership £20. Guests welcome at £5pp per meeting. Refreshments are served and trips and tours occur throughout the year.

Website: www.titchfieldhistory.com also Facebook page Titchfield History Society



Titchfield History Society

Events



February through to April

Ghost tours of the Abbey and the Village.

Ticketed event being advertised on social media and posters throughout the village. Limited numbers available.

Biggest event for all the family,

Experience a 17th Century camp and Civil War re-enactment.
28th/29th June - Titchfield Abbey

See Charles I being taken prisoner as happened here in 1647. Watch the skirmish and smell the gunpowder. Interact with the soldiers and wander through the authentic campsite.

**SPECIAL OFFER FOR
PRE-PURCHASED TICKETS**

£10 Adults £2 children (see website for details)

Tickets available online as advertised. More information on the above on our website:

www.titchfieldhistory.com



A Day to Remember

George Pullin

It all began at the War Memorial in Titchfield on Remembrance Day back in November 2024, where I met a Royal Marines Band Officer. I told him that we had a Royal Marines Commando in our Association, Jeffrey Broadhurst, who would be 102 on 7th January. The Band Officer said that maybe the band could arrange to mark the occasion. And so my enquiries began. My good friend Captain James, aid to our Commandant General, Head of all Royal Marines, also helped me to organise the marvellous celebration I finally achieved for Jeffrey on his special day.

On the 7th January 2025 a Quintet from His Majesty's Royal Marine Band HMS Collinwood attended this very special Birthday celebration together with some members of the Portsmouth Royal Marines Association of which I am a member.



Kay, Jeffrey's daughter, picked me up on the day and on arriving at Parker Meadows Nursing home all the residents were there along with band members and the Royal Marine Association members with the colours. All in all I believe it was a day Jeffrey justly deserved and one he won't ever forget.



Unlocking the Power of Numbers: Mathematics at Titchfield Primary School

Samantha Yeldon, Maths Leader and Year R Teacher

Mathematics has always been at the heart of education, but at Titchfield Primary School, it's more than just a subject - it's a passion. This year we are making a bold leap forward with an invigorated focus on learning multiplication and number facts, ensuring our pupils are equipped with the tools they need for lifelong success.

Building a Strong Foundation

At Titchfield Primary School, we understand that mastery of multiplication and number facts is more than a classroom goal - it's a gateway to mathematical fluency. These essential skills empower children to solve problems with confidence and speed, laying the groundwork for advanced concepts like fractions, algebra, and geometry.

Our approach begins with fostering a positive mindset about mathematics. From the earliest years, students are encouraged to see numbers as exciting, accessible and relevant to their everyday lives. Whether it's through songs, games or interactive lessons, we strive to make learning fun and engaging for all.

Multiplication: A Key to Confidence

Multiplication is one of our key focus areas, and for good reason. Being able to recall multiplication facts effortlessly helps children tackle more complex problems, both in school and beyond. This year Titchfield has adopted a variety of methods to help pupils master their times tables, including:

Times Table Challenges: Daily challenges ignite a spirit of friendly competition among pupils, motivating them to improve their recall speed.

article continued overleaf

Digital Tools: Interactive apps and online games allow children to practice in a way that feels more like play than work.

Real-Life Applications: From calculating the cost of items in a shop to exploring patterns in nature, we make multiplication relatable to real-world scenarios.

Number Facts: The Building Blocks of Fluency

In addition to multiplication, we emphasize the importance of number facts - basic additions and subtractions that form the foundation of all mathematical operations. By supporting pupils to know these facts inside and out, we help them develop a sense of numerical flexibility and accuracy.

Our approach includes hands-on activities like counting games, visual aids such as number lines and grids, and peer-to-peer teaching opportunities that allow students to learn collaboratively.

A Vision for the Future

At Titchfield Primary School, we see mathematics not as a hurdle but as an opportunity - a chance for every child to unlock their potential and approach challenges with confidence. Our focus on multiplication and number facts is just the beginning. By instilling a love for learning and a solid foundation in maths, we are preparing our pupils for a future full of possibilities.



So here's to numbers, to curiosity, and to the bright minds at Titchfield Primary School. Together, we're proving that maths is more than just a subject - it's a key to unlocking the world!

TRY SOMETHING NEW IN 2025!

Titchfield Community Centre News

A belated happy new year from all of us at Titchfield Community Centre!

Now that 2025 is in full swing, there's no better time to embrace new experiences. Trying something new is a great way to boost your wellbeing, spark creativity, and add a little adventure to your week—and we've got the perfect opportunities right here at the Centre. Whether you're looking to get active, start a new hobby, or meet new people, we host a wide range of groups for all ages and interests.

Here's just a taste of what's on offer:

Get moving with 83 Pilates, Flexercise, Tai Chi or Zumba.

Unleash your creativity with Cotton On sewing workshops or Groovi Group

Join a group - Titchfield Abbey W.I. are welcoming new members.

Hit the dancefloor with Jiveasy or at our Come Dancing events.

Sing your heart out with Sing Now Choir.

Let 2025 be the year you say "YES" to something new! For full details of the weekly schedule and contact numbers for each group, please see our listings further on in this issue.



TITCHFIELD
COMMUNITY
CENTRE

Titchfield Community Centre Registered Charity 1109062
Mill Street, Titchfield, Fareham, PO14 4AJ
titchfieldcommunitycentre.org.uk
Tel. 01329 842933



St Peter's Church

Church Street, Titchfield, Hants, PO14 4AG

office@stpeterstitchfield.org.uk

01329 847003

welcoming all celebrating life sharing the journey

Regular Sunday Worship

8.00 am	Holy Communion BCP	First Sunday of the month
10.00 am	Parish Communion	Live-streamed for those unable to join us in church and available on the website stpeterstitchfield.org.uk followed by refreshments in the church.

Midweek Worship on Thursday mornings

10.00 am	Holy Communion	Book of Common Prayer 1 st & 3 rd weeks Common Worship 2 nd , 4 th and 5 th weeks followed by refreshments in the church.
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From the Parish Registers

Baptisms	17.11.24	Ruby Grace Sheila Chown
Funerals	06.11.24	Brian Patten (88)
	29.11.24	Doreen Turner (91)
	11.12.24	Margaret Dunton (95)
	11.12.24	Edie Matthews (88)

Services at Neighbouring Parish Churches

Please check information on their websites or telephone numbers below:

Holy Trinity with St Columba, Fareham:	https://www.htscf.org.uk	01329 232688
Other Parishes in the Western Wards Covenanted Partnership:		
St John's, Locks Heath:	https://www.stjohnslocksheath.org.uk	01489 578082
St Mary's, Warsash:	https://www.stmarywarsash.org.uk	01489 570846
St Paul's, Sarisbury Green:	https://www.spsg.org.uk	01489 858405

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 Com. Centre	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***	9.00-11.30am 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			
	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

Groovi Group (monthly)	10.30 - 1pm
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Tai Chi	12 - 2pm
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Solent Taekwon-Do (4-11yrs)	6 - 7pm
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Latin & Ballroom Dancing	6.30 - 8.45pm
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83 Pilates	6.35pm & 7.35pm
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Titchfield Bridge Club	7 - 10.30pm
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Lindy Hop	7.30 - 10.45pm
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Tuesday

Titchfield Abbey WI (2nd)	10am - 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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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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Express Dance Academy*	5 - 8pm
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Beavers (6-8yrs)*	5.45 - 6.45pm
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83 Pilates	6.30 - 8.30pm
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Tai Chi	7 - 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 Club (Oct-Mar)	2 - 4pm
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Express Dance Academy*	5 - 8pm
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Latin & Ballroom Dancing	5.30 - 8.30pm
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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

83 Pilates	9.15 - 10.15am
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FareGos home education group is on site daily, see contact page for details.

* Term time only



CONTACTS

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

B	1st Titchfield Sea Scouts Paul Wenham.....email: gsl. 1stitchfield@gmail.com
	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 Whittenham.....07851 567229
	FAREGOS Home Education.....01329 550630
F	Fareham Bee Keeper Assn Gregory Young.....07788 174115
	Fareham Flower Club Val Hockley.....07961 181605
	Flexercise Lindsey Wheeler.....07715 435863
G	Groovi Group Julie Campbell.....07914 092510
H	History Society Sean Searight.....email: chair@titchfieldhistory.com
J	Jiveasy Nigel Sefton-Smith.....07590 848938
L	Lindy Hop/Sugarpush Tea Dance Simone Graham.....07944 255574
O	OASIS Youth Clubemail: info@yservices.co.uk
P	Pilates Manous Jacobs.....07798 708309
S	Sing Now Choir Jack White.....email: info@singnowchoir.com
	Solent Taekwon-Do Mike Stuart.....www.solenttkd.co.uk
	The Arts Society (Solent) Caroline Hodkinson.....07801 731633
	The Dementia Care Hub Dr Kellyn Lee.....07769 009599
	Tai-Chi Andrew Austin.....07824 330950
T	Tea Dance (every Tuesday) & Come Dancing (monthly Saturday evenings Ballroom & Sequence Dancing) Pauline Steel.....01329 234562
	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
Z	Zumba Tia Newbury.....07593 301149

CHURCH AND VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

ST PETER'S CHURCH

Priest in Charge	The Rev'd Dr Ian Meredith	01329 847003
Associate Priest	Rev'd Penny Thatcher	01329 847003
Reader	Dave Foster	01329 847003
Church Office	Open: Mon-Thurs 9 - 12 email: office@stpeterititchfield.org.uk Website www.stpeterititchfield.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 Moore	01329 315615
Titchfield Gardeners' Club	Sarah Green (chairman)	07788 924890
Titchfield Bowling Club	Carolyn Garrett (secretary)	07963 500348

TITCHFIELD NEWS

Editorial Team	email: magazine@stpeterititchfield.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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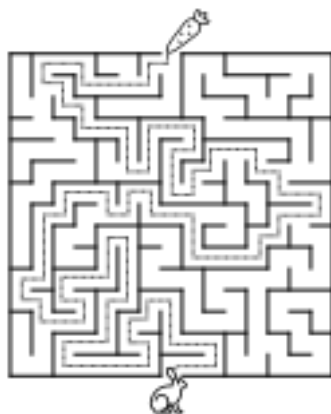
www.heathsidevets.co.uk



Puzzle Answers

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

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





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

Mill Street, Titchfield, PO14 4AB
Registered charity 1109062
titchfieldcommunitycentre.org.uk



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CENTRE



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7-8pm

Wednesday

9:30-10:30am

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