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Thursday, November 5, 2020

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# We are all in this together

FOLLOWING Saturday's speech by prime minister, Boris Johnson, as of today, 5th November, we find ourselves entering a second national lockdown.

Many businesses have been forced to close again until early December and residents are being asked to stay home wherever possible.

In recent weeks, we have watched the community pull together to support those most in need and this will be no different in the weeks that lie ahead and the inevitable hardships that many will have to endure.

A significant meeting took place yesterday (4th November) to decide how best to support our town, its residents and businesses through the next few weeks and the message is clear, we are all in this together.

Attendees included: Cllr Phil North and James Moody from Andover Vision, both representing TVBC; Rebecca White, Chantry Centre, Heather Whittam, The Lights; David Harber - Love Andover and Steve Godwin and Andy Hunt, Andover BID. Representatives from Andover Council were invited but did not attend.

Andover Events Synergy is aimed at trying to get everyone to work together, this includes the Borough Council (TVBC), The Lights Venue, The Andover BID and Love Andover.

The meeting objective is to safely drive footfall into the town where we can, ensuring collaboration of working together and ensuring the prosperity of the town.

There were many suggestions brought to the table for consideration but the key aim of the group is to plan a year's worth of events where organisations and

businesses work together, rather than disparate groups all working against each other.

Yesterday's meeting addressed the current planned events for the town and Heather Whittam confirmed: "Window Wanderland will still take place. Workshops planned for the next few weeks will move to Zoom workshops that people can book onto. Packs of materials will be delivered to those booked on the workshops.

As the trees for the Christmas Tree Festival have already been cut, it is proposed that the event focuses on schools only. We would deliver (or schools could collect) their trees and they would then decorate them as planned. Schools would then take photos of their trees in their settings with the children who created them and this would be compiled into a video with a soundscape to be published online and across social media channels at a set time. We would also send out PR with all the photos. Photos would also be published on social media

The Christmas Food and Gift Fair is now unable to take place on 29th Nov due to lockdown. As the December Artisan market is very close to Christmas and therefore not a good date for the 'gift' stalls for sales, I propose that we cancel the 20th December Artisan Market and instead, reschedule the Christmas Food and Gift Fair for 13th December.

Trails, the prize trails each weekend in December could go ahead if lockdown is lifted as we can turn these around at very short notice

Due to lockdown, the Artisan Market has been cancelled for November and The Lights is now fully closed as a

venue with November shows all being rescheduled."

MP Kit Malthouse commented on the lockdown: "We will get through the pandemic together. Today we sadly enter a second national lockdown in order to tackle the Covid pandemic. It's incredibly disappointing news, however the virus is spreading, and we are facing

rising infections, hospital admissions and deaths. As is being experienced across Europe, we are seeing a second surge.

From today, all pubs, restaurants, gyms, non-essential shops and places of worship will close for 4 weeks. Our priority is keeping people in education during this time so schools, colleges and universities will stay open.

I fully appreciate how difficult this is for people and their families as well as for businesses. People are worried about keeping their jobs and livelihoods, but this is also about our mental health - seeing our loved ones, going to the gym and visiting church services. Many are

*Continues on page 3*



**A weekend full of fun!**

JUST one example of true community spirit was all the Halloween activity that took place over the weekend. There were smiles all round, despite the weather as families, friends and neighbours came together to

mark this popular celebration - 2020 Style! Read all the spooktacular news and see if you can spot yourself inside on pages 16,17 and 28.

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# Skate Park Proposal for Supermarket Site

By Ella Palmer

LOCAL businessmen, Chris Osman and Robert Metsoja have proposed a social enterprise using Sainsburys, Bridge Street as space for a hub to host charity and youth projects.

Chris Osman, manager of the newly opened Test Valley Thrift store and youth worker at #AY told Love Andover that Andover and the surrounding areas are: "in desperate need of winter facilities that teenagers can use."

The message from the young people of Andover that #AY have spoken to is: "There is nothing to do, it's pretty boring here," and when asked what they would like to see for young people, the response was: "an indoor skate park, somewhere we can go with our mates."

Sainsbury's announced in September that they would be closing some stores across the country and that their Bridge Street store would be one of them.

The proposal, presented to Test Valley Borough council read: "We have collectively realised the continual need for engagement and cohesion within the community. These austere and epidemic times have stretched our national finances and caused severe underfund-



Chris Osman

ing in public services. As such there is an urgent need, in Andover, for a professionally run all-weather venue for youth activity. Our proposal is to host an indoor skate park.

We will supplement this with a café, periphery activities such as table tennis and parkour, a skate supply shop, workshop area and partitioned meeting booths or rooms for charity groups to meet and outreach or counselling to take place. The technicalities of operation are to be discussed during the funding stage and partners are being invited to join."

Using the centre for skating will require membership, which is free. Discounts for families in receipt of welfare assistance will be available and encouraged. Covid operation is being thoroughly investigated too. The skatepark will be funded with the money raised. Further

funding will be needed for improved amenities. As a social enterprise we intend to raise capital using many grant channels on offer, corporate sponsorship and crowdfunding. The location and delivery timeline will be crucial along with engagement of the Andover Council.

The school holiday seasons will be marketed heavily. Along with this we will open the doors to youth groups operating in the local area and provide tuition with industry professionals.

Income will be supplemented through the creation of a flexible space. We will be able to turn around into a corporate event space, utilising presentation equipment, video walls, basic lighting and sound.

We will also provide a dedicated safe space hub zone for use by the Yellow Brick Road project that service users can find a space with all the counselling, information and internet facilities needed."

The group have launched a crowdfunding page to raise £15k for the initial infrastructure and equipment which went live on the 31st October, and are looking for corporate sponsors to fund the ground rent for the first 12 months.

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/andover-indoor-skatepark-and-community-group-hub>.



Richard Smart with his daughter.

## Can you help our local hero become a national hero?

AS previously reported in the Love Andover Observer, bus operator Stagecoach wanted to celebrate their 40th Anniversary, by recognising Community Heroes.

Stagecoach wanted to reward these often unsung heroes for their selfless work in the community. They received hundreds of nominations and have now announced just twenty local heroes across the UK.

Thrupton's Richard Smart has been named as Stagecoach's Community Hero for the South and is now in with a chance to be named the Stagecoach National Community Hero.

Richard has lived in the village of Thrupton for 20 years and has raised thousands of pounds for various charities throughout that time. He stepped up when the pandemic started and created the Thrupton Virus Volunteers Group to help the most vulnerable in his community. Along with his fellow volunteers, Richard helped over 50 local residents by arranging food and prescription deliveries, and transport to medical appointments. He hosted morale boosting fun events, fundraisers for local charities and even helped raise funds for local families who had been the victims of theft and a house fire. Over £12,000 has been raised in the past seven months and Richard has been at the heart of it which is why he was nominated by so many locals to be named a Stagecoach Community Hero.

Richard has also been recognised for his efforts by the Mayor of Andover.

If you would like to vote for Richard to be named as Stagecoach National Hero, you can vote online at: [www.stagecoachbus.com/news/national/2020/october/vote-for-your-national-stagecoach-community-hero](http://www.stagecoachbus.com/news/national/2020/october/vote-for-your-national-stagecoach-community-hero)

## Small win for save our pubs

FOLLOWING the declaration that pubs and restaurants serving takeaway food during this month's lockdown would be prohibited from selling takeaway alcohol, the government has now reversed their own decision.

This followed the launch of a save our pubs campaign which prompted many local landlords to write to MP Kit Malthouse asking him to help. The feeling was uniform across all of the landlords that we spoke to: the decision to allow takeaway food but not takeaway alcohol "makes no sense" and was just a "ludicrous" sug-

gestion which was also "totally unfair". Many business owners believed this would signal the end for their establishments.

With the government u-turn allowing alcohol to be sold now, it is offering a small chink of light to many landlords and restaurant owners.

Kit Malthouse MP confirmed the change to the original decision commenting: "After a series of meetings with my ministerial colleagues, I'm pleased that Click-and-Collect or phone orders of alcohol will now be allowed from pubs and microbreweries. This is a big improve-

ment and will help many of our community pubs and small local brewers. It would have been madness to say that you could order a takeaway lasagne from your local, as long as they didn't sell you any alcohol to go with it."

Queen Charlotte Inn's Victoria Harber responded: "It's a small win. We are still not being afforded the same rules as a supermarket. Customers have to pre-order by phone, the internet or on writing. We should be given the same rules as an off licence as most landlords in Andover have an off sales licence."

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# Police Officer jailed for manslaughter



Image Dorset Police undated handout photo of former police officer Timothy Brehmer

A married police officer who strangled his lover after she revealed their affair to his wife has been jailed for manslaughter.

Timothy Brehmer, 41, has been sentenced to 10 years and six months for killing mother-of-two Claire Parry, 41, in a pub car park on 9 May after she revealed their affair.

She died during a "kerfuffle" in Brehmer's car outside Horns Inn in West Parley, Dorset, after she used

his phone to send a message to his wife saying: "I am cheating on you."

Her cause of death was a brain injury caused by compression of the neck, a post-mortem examination found. A jury took just under three hours to find the ex-Police officer not guilty of murdering Mrs Parry. Brehmer had previously admitted manslaughter.

Mr Justice Jacobs said Brehmer would serve two-thirds of his sen-

tence in prison before he could apply for parole.

Sentencing him at Salisbury Crown Court he said: "This is a case where I should sentence you on the basis you lost your self-control following the sending of the text message to your wife where the affair was revealed, rather than on the basis that you had no intention to kill or cause really serious harm."

Mr Justice Jacobs said he sentenced

Brehmer on the basis his case was a "loss of control" manslaughter rather than unlawful act manslaughter. The judge accepted the crime was "not a premeditated offence."

The court heard that Brehmer, whose wife was also a police officer, and Mrs Parry had been having an affair for more than 10 years.

Timothy Brehmer spent some of his time as a Police Officer working in Andover so may be a familiar face.

## Van damaged as stones are thrown from road bridge

A van has had its windscreen smashed after it was hit by stones thrown from a road bridge.

The incident reportedly occurred on the afternoon of 30th October at 12.35pm when a number of youths were seen throwing stones from the B3048 bridge that crosses the A303.

The driver of the van shared: "It was the bridge by the BP garage and some youths were throwing stones off the bridge onto traffic. My van was travelling west bound when I was hit by a barrage of stones. The windscreen was smashed and I was in shock."

The incident has been reported to Hampshire Police, so if you were in the area at the time and saw this incident, please let Hampshire Police know quoting Crime reference # 202010300825.

## Drugs Arrest

ANDOVER Police have arrested a man following a joint operation with the Metropolitan Police.

Officers from Andover's neighbourhood policing team, along with officers from the Met, carried out a joint operation to locate and arrest a wanted man from London.

Police officers forced entry into an address in Beales Close, Andover where they arrested three men on suspicion of drug offences.

Test Valley Police commented: "Andover Neighbourhood team will continue to target drug supply in the town. We will happily smash your door if you are dealing. Be warned."

Members of the public suspecting drug use or dealing in are advised by police to report it online, or call the emergency number 101.

# Recycling centre to remain open

HAMPSHIRE County Council have confirmed Andover's Scott Close site, along with the other 23 recycling centres across the county will remain open during England's second lockdown which starts today Thursday 5th November.

Sites were forced to close in March during the first lockdown causing major issues for Andover's residents. Once they reopened in May, chaos erupted on roads surrounding the sites with lengthy queues as residents descended. In response to this booking systems were put in place.

Hampshire residents must register their vehicles for free and book an appointment to visit an HWRC in Hampshire or face being turned away. In line with the Government's

announcement that all non-essential shops should close, refuse sales areas will also be closed from Thursday 5th November until further notice.

Cllr Rob Humby, HCC's executive member for economy, transport and environment said: "I'm really pleased we've got absolute clarity from the Government and for this lockdown, the national guidance defines waste services as essential. It's also good news that the Government has said that construction is not expected to close operations down.

We've put in place a booking system at the HWRCs which has been operating well for some time now, and social distancing measures to ensure each of our sites

is able to operate in a COVID safe way, so I am confident we will be able to continue offering this service for Hampshire residents as the country enters into the next lockdown period."

You can book a slot to a HWRC in Hampshire up to seven days in advance, by visiting the HCC website or phoning 02380 179949 between Monday and Friday 9am- 5.30pm

Guidance on visiting a Hampshire Household Waste Recycling Centre can be found on the county council website.

# Community rallies together

Continued from page 1

experiencing the toughest months of their lives.

And we're doing everything to help. We're extending the furlough scheme for the next month. We've made more grants available to affected businesses. We're extending mortgage holidays, topping up Universal Credit and providing emergency funding to local authorities.

And there are reasons to be optimistic - we know a lot more about the virus than we did back in March; we have better medicine and therapies now; we have the prospect of using millions of cheap and reliable tests that you can use yourself to tell whether you are infectious in minutes; and there is a realistic hope of a vaccine next year.

We will get through this together, and our priority is to return to our pre-pandemic way of life as quickly as possible. Meanwhile, please look out for each other and follow the rules."

The Record Box business owner Phil Nightingale, is one of the local businesses being forced to close its doors. Phil commented: "People are only just getting over the first lockdown, all businesses spent a lot of time making their premises Covid safe. To put the country into lockdown at this time of year is very

depressing. As a small business October, November and December are my busiest months. I understand the reasoning behind the lockdown, but unfortunately the government keeps saying they are following the science, when actually the science they are following doesn't add up. You cannot work on a worst case scenario constantly, you have to work with probability surely.

So locking the whole country down makes no sense. I understand it's to protect the NHS, didn't we do that last time and a lot of money was spent building the Nightingale hospitals and they weren't used? I'm not angry with this decision, just very frustrated"

From a practical perspective, Adam Phillips outlined what grants are available for those who are worried. "This is going to be difficult, but there are schemes and grants available. In Test Valley there is a community helpline (0330 400 4116) available and we would urge business owners to call this number if they would like to talk to someone about their choices.

According to Cllr Phil North, there will be grants available for businesses forced to close of up to £3000, there is also a discretionary fund which will be funded by local authorities to the tune of £2.5 million; estimated discretionary

fund value.

The Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme is being extended. Often referred to as 'The furlough scheme', it is being upped from 40% back to 80%, allowing businesses to continue to pay their staff. This scheme is for those who are employed and for those that are company directors.

The self-employed income support scheme (SEISS) is also being extended for 6 months, from November 1st 2020 until April 2021. The first grant will cover a 3 month period from 1/11/20 until 31/01/21. The government will provide a taxable grant covering 40% of their average monthly trading profits, paid out in a single instalment, covering 3 months of profits, capped at £3750. In order to claim for the SEISS - you will have to apply online from 14th December 2020 via the gov.uk website.

For those that own a home, it has been confirmed that those on a mortgage holiday that is due to end on the 31st October are allowed to extend this for a further 6 months, this should not affect your credit rating. For those who are asked to work from home, from 6th April, you can claim £6 week for additional costs, this can be claimed either by your employer paying you this, tax free or you can claim it back as a tax relief via gov.uk website."

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**In the trenches**

By Carol Payne

Gunfire raging, bombs are blasting  
The deafening noise seems to be everlasting

I hate this war, I hate the killing

Just the thought of it all is somewhat chilling

It's 1916 now, two years since this war started

And eighteen months since my best friend departed

We were in the trenches when he lost his life

It cut through my heart like a carving knife

He was only eighteen, so very young

He didn't ask to be among

This terrible killing, this terrible war

That has made everybody so sad and so poor

My two brothers are also amongst the dead

The youngest one was newly wed

So please dear God I hope and pray

That tomorrow will be more peaceful than today.

# Adventurous eighty year old veteran takes to the sky

**MEET** Sandy Cawley, an 80-year-old skydiving veteran, from Andover, who became the first female army recruit from Wokington, Cumbria, aged just 18 years-old.

Sandy shared: "Shortly after passing

out, I went to work in Yeovil as a clerk (1959), and after a short stint, I was thrilled to learn that I was being posted overseas to Rheindahlen in Germany. I was one of the first female recruits to go abroad after trade training, which was

exciting! I'd never left the UK before, so the idea of going to another country in those days was thrilling!"

Sandy loved being in the women's army regiment - the ATS, which became the WRAC after WW2, recalling that: "We were trained by women, not men, so it felt special, like we were part of something which we were all proud of. The WRAC Association has given me two leases of life: the first was when I joined up as a shy girl with little self-esteem because it transformed me into a woman with courage and confidence; secondly, after my husband died, I was reintroduced to the WRAC Association which gave me friendship and purpose at a time when I really needed the support. So twice, I've been saved by the WRAC."

In recent years, Sandy has thrown herself into lots of new experiences, from running 10k races to indoor skydiving, which she can't wait to do again later this year!

Thank you to the Women's Royal Army Corporation (WRAC) Association, charity dedicated purely to supporting women who have served in the British army, for sharing this story.



## Talking newspaper supports visually impaired readers

THE Andover Talking Newspaper (ATN) recently had cause to be grateful to the technical expertise of Love Andover's David Harber, when their own recording equipment malfunctioned.

If you're not visually impaired, you may not have heard of Talking Newspapers. There are many across the country, each operating slightly differently, but with a shared aim of keeping visually impaired readers abreast of their local news.

The Andover Talking Newspaper is run entirely by a team of 45 volunteers - some administrators; some who read articles; some who prepare or record the readings and some who post recordings to listeners. The operation is run from a small studio in Beech Hurst, loaned by Test Valley Borough Council.

The charity began in 1977 through an initiative by Mrs Betty Waters, aided in fundraising by her husband Ernest, together with Renee and Les Coleman; names which older readers may remember.

Articles from the Love Andover Observer and other local sources are recorded every Friday morning using a computer, then copied onto USB pen sticks for distribution to around fifty listeners.

Some still use their own equipment to listen to the recordings. For most, however, a loan is made of an easy-to-use speaker box, supplied and maintained by the ATN.



Volunteers Helen Salter, Sally Struthers, Lin Williams and Christopher Peacocke in the recording studio.



Kath Read, listener, demonstrates the speaker box.

The pen stick normally arrives on Saturday morning delivered free of charge by Royal Mail. Once finished with, the listener turns round the address label in the pocket on the front of the wallet, zips in the pen stick to return, and posts it back - still free of charge.

If you know anyone who could benefit from the service, please contact [andovertalkingnews@gmail.com](mailto:andovertalkingnews@gmail.com), or phone 07950542375.

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# Lest we forget...

TEST Valley Borough Council has announced plans for this year's Remembrance Sunday events.

Every year, local community leaders join together with the Royal British Legion (RBL) and veterans, alongside other voluntary organisations, in holding a ceremony to commemorate those who served in battle, and gave the ultimate sacrifice on Remembrance Sunday.

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic, the council has announced that plans will be changed this year to help keep the public safe, while continuing to honour our servicemen and women.

A service is to be held in the garden of St Marys Church, Andover, on Remembrance Sunday, and will be attended by invited guests, such as the Andover RBL President, Jim Neal, members of other veteran and voluntary organisations, and the leader of the borough council, Phil North. This will take place at 11am, although unfortunately, this will be a closed service to the public due to the limited space in the garden to maintain social distance and adhere to government guidelines. The mayor of Test Valley, councillor Martin Hatley, will lay a wreath at the service on behalf of all residents.

Steps will be taken to ensure the event is strictly in line with Covid-19 guidance, such as being marked out two metres apart from one another, and with a limited number of attendees in the garden.

Although there will be no parade or public service, leader of the borough council, Phil North, is encouraging residents to take part in honouring those who served, and continue to serve, from home on Remembrance Sunday.

Councillor North said: "I realise that this year is like no other, and therefore, sadly, our commemorations this Remembrance Sunday, are too. I feel it's incredibly important to honour those who sacrificed so much for our freedom, this year, although I know how difficult it is for



the communities around Test Valley not to be able to pay their respects in the way they would like to.

However, I would encourage residents to take part in the national Royal British Legion pledge to come out on your doorstep at 11am and take part in the moment of silence, as we will all be across the country, not only in Test Valley. We will be filming the service, respectfully, so that later in the day, residents are able to feel a part of our honouring those heroes. I know that across the region, authorities are doing what they can, and I'm extremely grateful for the hard work and careful consideration that means we are still able to honour our heroes in person, this year."

The church garden will also be open to the public to safely pay their respects in the afternoon, after the closed service has finished.

A garden of remembrance is also being set up by the council in the Chantry Centre in the week leading up to Remembrance Day, so that members of the public can pay their respects with a moment of reflection.

The Remembrance Garden will be open during the Chantry Centres normal opening hours between November 2 and November 11 situated at the indoor garden by Boswells.

Councillor North added: "I know how difficult this year has been for all, and how emotive Remembrance Sunday can be. I do hope that members of the public can play their part by staying home and staying safe by coming together on their doorsteps to pay respect to those who we must honour for their greatest sacrifice."

For those who wish to give thanks at home, local radio station 95.9FM Andover Radio will again broadcast the chimes of St Mary's Church, surrounded by some special programming as a mark of respect.

Test Valley Borough Council's Armed Forces Ambassador Cllr Nick Matthews told Love Andover, "The planned church service and of course the parade is definitely cancelled, so whatever we do will be in the interest of public safety. I can inform you that a couple of us have an idea of creating an area where we can lay poppies.

RBL Community Fundraiser Sarah Ferris said, "The Appeal has to adapt and we are asking the public to support us like never before, because every poppy counts."

Andover Radio presenters Grant Francis and Martin Miller will present a special sequence of programmes for Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day on Andover Radio.

## Winning photographer collects his prize



WINNING photographer of the Best of Andover 2021 calendar competition Stewart Wilson has been presented with his prize.

After going through all the images and reducing to the final twelve. The judges were unanimous on Stewart's winning image of St Mary's picture which stood out very clearly for them all.

Stewart collected his prize which was his own winning image on canvas and a year's membership to Andover Photography club.

Stewart and his family were delighted to receive the canvas and he said: "I've just got to find space now to put it!"

Kevin Ridgeon of Love Andover shared: "The image of St Mary's Church in Andover epitomised the town and our proud heritage. Not only did it have all the judges in awe, but also all the Love Andover team

at the quality and power of the image and how it just shows Andover to a 'T'.

Love Andover would like to express their gratitude to Photos2print for doing such a fantastic job of mounting the image. They were also very impressed with it and happy to help.

We would also like to thank Andover Photographic Club for their prize donation of a year's membership. I am certain Stewart will make the best use of it possible.

We are aiming to run more photographic competitions in the future, so please keep an eye on online, on air and in print for your chance to enter."

The Calendars will be coming out within the next two weeks, perfect Christmas presents. Watch out for more information on stockists here, in the Observer and on Andover Radio.



## Smiles all round from poppy seller

VETERAN Soldier Max Barnikel, 86 years old has been bringing smiles to young and old as he sold poppies in Andover this week.

Max served for 22 years in the royal electrical engineers and is proud to have sold over 4000 poppies so far...

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## Free national redundancy support for local residents

THE National Careers Service South East has announced that it will provide free online, fortnightly 'Redundancy Support' webinars to support those who have recently lost their jobs, those facing redundancy and anyone whose career path has been impacted.

The webinars are free to attend and provide attendees with the opportunity to access personalised career support and interact live with qualified careers advisers.

The webinars, which will include a live 'Q&A' opportunity for all attendees, and will explore: different job searching techniques; identifying and making the most of your transferable skills; online training opportunities; CV writing; interview skills; ways to build your resilience and an introduction to the tools available on the National Careers Service website.

People can access further information and register for the webinars online by visiting: [cxk.org/events](https://cxk.org/events).

For further support, the National Careers Service is available for free, personalised and impartial careers advice for people who need help to find learning and work that's right for them. To contact the service call the helpline on 0800 100 900, open 7 days a week from 8am until 10pm, or visit <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk>.

# Opportunities opening up for apprenticeships

APPRENTICESHIPS and skills training opportunities for jobseekers in Hampshire and Surrey will be given a welcome boost following the announcement of £3 million in new funding from Hampshire County Council and the European Social Fund (ESF).

Councillor Roz Chadd, Hampshire County Council's Executive Member for Education and Skills, welcomed the announcement, commenting: "This is fantastic news. The funding will help us to work with the Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership to develop the Apprenticeship and Skills Hub, complementing the model operating successfully in the south of the county.

Helping young people to develop core and employability skills to access better jobs in our future economy is a key element within our Employment and Skills Action Plan, developed in response to COVID-19. Additional funding, such as this from the European Social Fund, enables us to provide training linked to meeting skills gaps and apprenticeship opportunities in the local job market. In this way, we can target help to those facing the biggest barriers to employment."

Hampshire County Council success-



fully bid for the £3 million project to deliver the Apprenticeship and Skills Hub, tendered by the Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership (EM3 LEP). Over the next three years, this Hub will provide at least 360 small and medium enterprises (SMEs), and other apprenticeship levy-paying employers, with an impartial service to source apprenticeships and develop their workforce to both improve productivity and reduce the skills shortage.

Local businesses in Hampshire and Surrey can access support and request more informa-

tion by contacting Hampshire County Council's Skills and Participation Service. Email: [skills.participation@hants.gov.uk](mailto:skills.participation@hants.gov.uk).

MP Kit Malthouse has also written to the largest local employers and small business groups urging them to take up the government's £2 billion Kickstart apprenticeship scheme designed to get 16-24-year olds into work.

The government will fully fund each Kickstart job; paying 100% of the age-relevant National Minimum Wage, National Insurance and pension contributions for 25 hours a week.

In addition, the government will grant businesses £1,500 per placement to cover the setup costs or any support or training that may be required.

There are 635 unemployed 16-24-year olds across Test Valley, with 315 in Andover, getting them into work is vital for their long-term career prospects.

Businesses need to be able to offer 30 apprenticeship placements to apply, or they can go through an intermediary. Locally, the Hampshire Chamber of Commerce, Enham Trust and New Forest Business Partnership are all administering applications for the scheme.

Kit Malthouse commented: "Young people's jobs are being especially hard hit by COVID and at a vital time for their professional development. The skills and experience gained early in a career provide the solid foundation needed to grow. At the same time businesses can't afford to take many risks in these uncertain times, so the government will cover the cost and eliminate the risk. The kickstart scheme is a win-win for businesses and apprentices and I encourage employers of all shapes and sizes to sign up."

Further information on the scheme and how to apply can be found online at: [www.gov.uk/government/news/kickstart-scheme-opens-for-employer-applications](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/kickstart-scheme-opens-for-employer-applications).

## Be energy efficient and save money

HAMPSHIRE County Council has partnered with the Environment Centre to help residents save money on their energy bills while helping reduce Hampshire's overall carbon emissions this winter.

Councillor Rob Humby, Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment at Hampshire County Council said: "Hampshire County Council has committed to a target of net zero carbon by 2050, and, to achieve this, we need everyone on board.

Nearly 24% of Hampshire's total carbon emissions come from domestic energy, and energy bills are a significant outgoing for most households. This is why the County Council has joined forces with the Environment Centre to make it easy for Hampshire residents to save money at the same time as contributing to the overall carbon reduction target for the whole of Hampshire."

The Environment Centre offers trusted and straightforward advice on energy efficiency, insulation and reducing energy bills.

Councillor Jan Warwick, Hampshire County Council's Climate Change Advisor to the Executive, said: "With more of us working at home, and with winter fast approaching, our home energy bills are likely to be increasing. Making our homes more energy efficient will save money on heating and electricity bills at the same time as reducing carbon emissions. These changes may seem small,



but the more people who make them, the greater the impact on bringing down Hampshire's carbon emissions will be. We can all make a difference."

As well as advice on energy bills, Hampshire residents can find out more about renewable energy options, switching to a green tariff or saving water from the Environment Centre. This is a free service for Hampshire residents, who can access advice by calling: 0800 804 8601 or going online: <https://environmentcentre.com>

Advice is also available on the Green Homes Grant scheme, launched by the Government in September 2020, which allows homeowners and landlords in England to apply for vouchers to pay for green improvements, such

as insulation and draught proofing. The grant covers two-thirds of the cost up to £5,000 per household. For households on low incomes, the scheme can fully fund energy efficiency measures of up to £10,000.

Additionally, everyone can adopt some easy habits to save money on energy bills while reducing carbon emissions: turn off the lights in rooms you're not using; turn off appliances at night and when not in use; don't leave your phone or laptop charger plugged in once the device is charged; don't fill the kettle with more water than you need; bleed radiators to ensure they all work efficiently; reduce the thermostat by 1 degree and set the heating on a timer; buy some draught excluders and wear a jumper!



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# Harrow Way nominated as a Music Mark School

HARROW Way Community School's commitment to music has been recognised by Music Mark, a national organisation which supports and promotes the highest quality music education for all children and young people. Harrow Way was nominated for this special status by Hampshire Music Service, for the value they place on music and their broad and balanced musical curriculum.

Commenting on becoming a Music Mark School for the current academic year, Emily Massiah, Music Teacher said: "We work very hard at Harrow Way to ensure we deliver an enriching music curriculum. It is therefore great to have this recognised and acknowledged by Music Mark, an organisation which works to lobby for, and champion, a government supported, high-quality, music education provision for all school aged children. Music plays such an important role in all our lives, both professionally and personally, and is something which we like to enjoy and celebrate here at the school."

Harrow Way has long been renowned for its music and performing arts provision, each year putting on spectacular performances and concerts. The school has had a long association with Hampshire Music Service, one of the largest music services in the country, which provides musical tuition to students. Harrow Way is also a musical hub for the local community with Hampshire Music Service running a junior orchestra at the school as a local after school activity.

The Music Mark School nomination system allows music hubs and services across the UK to nominate schools who they believe have shown a commitment to providing high-quality music education. This means different things for different schools from incorporating more music into the curriculum to starting an extra-curricular music group.

For more information about Harrow Way, please go to <https://www.harrowway.hants.sch.uk/> and more information regarding Music Mark can be found at <https://www.music-mark.org.uk/>.



## Council outline improvements for Icknield

£2.5M of improvements to Icknield School have been outlined.

Borough Councillor Kirsty North confirmed: "The agenda for the Hampshire County Council's Executive Lead Member for Children's Services and Young People's Decision Day has been published.

On it, there is sign off for a consultation for improvements to Icknield School - if approved on the 11th November, the County Council will proceed with a consultation and undertake a detailed design study for a significant improvement and remodelling of the site with an estimated £2.5million scheme.

This is a fantastic milestone! Following my meetings with the #NeedsToo group and Kit Malthouse MP, I have been pressing for improvements to this site. I visited the School with the lead officer for SEND Capital Development in July last year where we received a tour from Headteacher, Sean, and I've been checking up on progress ever since.

The proposed scheme would allow space for an additional 10 pupils and it is envisaged those places would be available for September 2022.

I will update again following the Decision Day, but subject to sign-off, I look forward to engaging with more parents throughout the consultation phase and beyond."

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# Locals step up to support children

HOPE was given to many low-income families amidst the ongoing quarrel over providing free school meals during holidays.

The vote in parliament not to provide free school meals for low-income families during the holidays has seen many people and organisations in Andover coming to the rescue.

The initial storm of dissent sparked many local businesses and business owners in Andover to act quickly as part of a campaign called 'No Child Goes Hungry'.

Local fitness instructor Andy Lavery launched a campaign, asking friends to donate £200 "if they can afford it". Hoping to raise £2,000, within six hours the owner of Dawn Breakers in Andover raised £4,300. To date he has raised almost £8,000 to provide school meals for low income families. "We raised around £7,700 in 24 hours, and put food on the tables of nearly 100 households. I'd say that's a job well done," said Mr Lavery.

Café Bridge on Bridge Street started a 'Pay It Forward' campaign

where customers can donate to help struggling families.

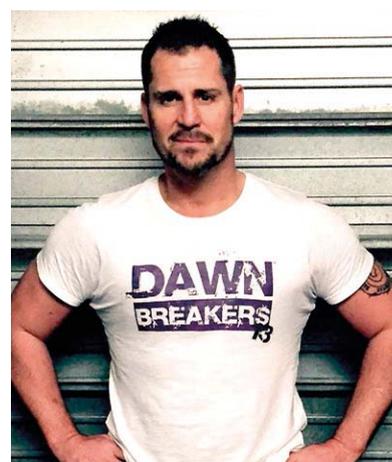
Additionally, Andover Town's home football match saw players and visitors donate food for the Andover Foodbank.

A number of local pubs including The Anton Arms and The Queen Charlotte Inn also stepped in to help.

Following this local initiative from residents and businesses, Hampshire County Council has now made further funding available to Voluntary, Community, Charity and Social Enterprise organisations to support families in need including those who need help to provide food for children during these difficult times.

The funding will be allocated across Hampshire according to need, including taking into account the number of pupils qualifying for free school meals. The amount for Test Valley aims to support as many different projects as possible and we anticipate grants will be between £250 and £2,000.

The grant is only available to voluntary, community, charity and social enterprise organisations who have been supporting families with free



food during the October half term period.

The guidelines were outlined by Hampshire County Council.

"By accepting this grant you are committing to: spend the grant swiftly to support local families. The grants are intended for this half term, so the expectation is that they will be committed and spent during the remainder of half term and within the next

two weeks. Please only request the amount you believe you can spend within this timeframe; acknowledge Hampshire County Council in any publicity about the grants; be prepared to produce receipts of expenditure if requested; complete a short reporting form with information on how the grant was spent and how many families and/or individuals you have supported with food."

Further information can be found at: [www.hants.gov.uk/News/281020supportforfamilies](http://www.hants.gov.uk/News/281020supportforfamilies).

For a grant application please contact the Unity Helpline on 0330 4004 116 or email [info@unityonline.org.uk](mailto:info@unityonline.org.uk).

This news comes as Test Valley Borough Council has announced that almost £90,000 of funding has been given to charities and voluntary organisations to help residents access food during the Covid-19 pandemic. You can read the details in full on page 14 and also about another initiative to support the community from a partnership between the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation (HIWCF) and the Co-op on page 22.

## Survey to review residents latest food waste habits

HAMPSHIRE County Council is asking residents how their attitude to food waste is changing via a new county-wide survey.

Councillor Rob Humby, Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment at Hampshire County Council, said: "The financial and environmental cost of buying more than we need and throwing away unused food is considerable. Each year, councils spend over £100 million dealing with waste from Hampshire homes so we continually look at how this can be reduced.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, we knew that people were throwing away around one fifth of the food they bought – meaning some households were wasting £60 worth of food every month. But with such drastic changes to our lifestyles this year, this may no longer be the case – with people buying, preparing and cooking in different ways since lockdown.

National research indicates that during lockdown, there was a 34% reduction in key food items being thrown away, with more people planning meals, making use of freezers and using up leftovers.

Councillor Humby continued: "We're keen to find out how people



may have changed their habits around food shopping and preparation during lockdown, what good ideas they've had, and better understand what it is that drives people to make the small changes that can make such a big difference."

The survey is open until 12 November, and those who take part have the opportunity to be entered into a prize draw to win a selection of recipe books.

To take part in the survey, go to: <https://etehampshirecc.research-feedback.net/s.asp?k=160155366812>.

To find out some hints and tips on how to waste less at home, go to: [www.hants.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/smartliving](http://www.hants.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/smartliving).

## Petition against MP subsidies rapidly gains 1m signatures

A petition calling for an end to subsidised meals for MPs gained almost a million signatures in just a matter of days.

It follows the rejection of the motion to extend the government's free school meal scheme to cover holidays until Easter 2021. The motion was rejected 261 votes to 322 with local MP North West Hampshire Kit Malthouse opposing the motion.

The rejection of the motion came as it was revealed the majority of MPs claim tens of thousands of pounds in expenses each year.

MPs can claim food expenses of up to £25 per night if they stay overnight

outside of both their constituency and the London area.

The total expenses figures for MPs over the last year, 2019/2020 have been revealed. In this period, Kit Malthouse claimed £50,640.91, a full breakdown of each MP's expenses can be viewed at [mpsexpenses.info](http://mpsexpenses.info).

Portia Lawrie, who started the petition, commented: "I only started this petition because I was so angry that some MPs had rejected the chance in parliament, and Marcus Rashford's campaign, to extend free school meals into the school holiday. I wanted to point out the clear hypocrisy between that and the food and drink the public subsidise for MP's whilst denying support to those most in need of it. I couldn't quite believe what I was watching unfold as hundreds of thousands of people threw their support behind it in less than 24 hours. It's simply unfair that the government is refusing to use OUR money for one of the most basic responsibilities of a compassionate society - feeding hungry children. And the level of support this petition is getting shows clearly the level of hurt caused by those who voted against it.

Many MPs are pushing for free school meals to be extended into the school holidays, and I applaud them. But it's time for the government to listen to them, and us, and make sure children across the UK do not go hungry any longer. Enough is enough."

Kit Malthouse commented: "Nobody has voted against helping vulnerable children and families.

Tackling poverty and its causes is rightly a massive priority for this government and I stood on our "levelling up" agenda in last year's election.

In the debate and Commons vote on the free school meals voucher



Kit Malthouse

scheme, there was no disagreement on whether we should support children in need, it was on how we should help them.

During this global pandemic, we've stepped in with support for communities on a level never seen before. We've spent many billions on the furlough scheme, topping up universal credit, and helping vulnerable families through emergency funding for local authorities. We are helping families facing financial hardship and food poverty by funding local authorities, as well as charities and community groups, so they can provide direct support through the levers of the state. Not a single MP voted against helping families and children last week. I voted to do it in a more direct, respectful and targeted manner."

At the time of going to press, a total of 1,007,077 people had signed the petition.

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## Exercise and enjoy the view



By Graeme Davis

MANY Andover residents know of Ladies Walk it's a stunning area with views right across town.

The walk was planted with an avenue of trees in 1863 to commemorate the wedding of The Prince of Wales to Princess Alexander.

The trees are very mature and some are rotting providing habitats for invertebrates, fungi and bats, it's also a rich spot in Andover for snail species like the Hairy Snail.

You might not be aware of the three meadows that make up the grassland nature reserve between Old Winton and Micheldever Road. This has been managed by Test Valley Borough Council and The Anton River Conservation Association by

using grazing and scrub removal to restore the hills back to the meadows they once were.

In summer the hillside can be alive with butterflies like peacock, gatekeeper, meadow brown and marbled white. A purple glow from the orchids adds a touch of colour to the hills providing a great spot for seeing a moth, Clifden Nonpareil, which until recently was extinct in the UK.

The reserve is one of the few places left in Andover that is home to the common lizard which uses the hillside to bask in the summer sun. Slow worms can often be found on the walk too and you may spot one if lucky.

Ladies Walk reserve is a great place to take a seat, take in the views, and hear the buzz of the wildlife all around.

# You Matter Too

By Ella Palmer

LOCAL Andover resident Dani Lou Kiely-Watt, started a Facebook support group 9 months ago for people struggling with mental health.

The You Matter Too group, which started as a small local group now has over 500 members to date acting as a 'lifeline' to people.

The community recently came together to donate prizes for a raffle including: free carpet and fitting ready for Christmas, cleaning vouchers, gift cards, meal vouchers and more. The group managed to raise over £200 for Andover's mental health charity, Mind.

The reason behind 'you matter too', Dani told Love Andover: "5 years ago I hit rock bottom, my then, new born daughter was diagnosed with a complex heart condition. I didn't need mental health services or counselling, I needed someone to talk to."

You Matter Too has shown a great community cohesion and reported to have been an absolute lifeline to so many people. The purpose of You Matter Too is to know that at the end of a stressful day someone is there to have a chat with no posts going unturned.

Dani explained: "We have games and interactive quizzes to engage people. Myself and the other admins



try to support people at their lowest. Within the first ten days of setting up the group myself and another admin saved a man's life and signposted him the help he so desperately needed."

Dani, who is training to be a counselor, ensures the admins have regular check-ins to ensure they also receive support if needed. "This group has helped so many members and people will tell you that being a part of You Matter Too is like a massive family who are there to support one another, there is no judgement, no pressure to fit in just be you. It's absolutely beautiful to watch strangers become friends. The over and compassion on you matter too has restored my faith in humanity. I think it's really important to know

someone truly cares and if that's a stranger on the end of the phone so be it, as long as you're not alone. I will always tell people it's OK not to be OK as long as you reach out and don't suffer in silence, if someone is willing to loan an ear. Especially now more than ever before with another lockdown, know people are there and that they care."

If you need or someone you know needs support over lockdown the message is to reach out.

Shout is the UK's first 24/7 text service, free on all major mobile networks, for anyone in crisis anytime, anywhere. It's a place to go if you're struggling to cope and you need immediate help. Text: 85258.

Samaritans provide confidential, non-judgemental emotional support for people experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those that could lead to suicide. You can phone, email, write a letter or in most cases talk to someone face to face. Telephone: 116 123, 24 hours a day, free of charge.

Papyrus provide confidential support and advice to young people under the age of 35 struggling with thoughts of suicide, and anyone worried about a young person through their helpline. HopelineUK on 0800 068 4141 or Text: 07860 039 967, very Day 9:00 am to midnight.

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Any person wishing to make representations in relation to this application may do so by writing to: Licensing Manager, Legal & Democratic Service, Test Valley Borough Council, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, ANDOVER, Hampshire SP10 3AJ Tel: 01264 368013 Email: licensing@testvalley.gov.uk

Representations may be made for 28 consecutive days from the date of this notice. A copy of the application for the grant of the above licence is kept by the Licensing Authority at the above address. The application can be viewed during normal office hours. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and a person guilty of an offence is liable on summary conviction to an unlimited fine. 2/11/2020

## YMCA Andover awarded for their community work



YMCA Andover have announced that they have been awarded the Extra Mile award by the Test Valley Business Awards Committee.

They have been recognised for the vital role that they played during the Covid-19 pandemic

by keeping the nursery open for key workers to stay on the front-line, while going the extra mile to support the local community through essential boxes and summer activities.

They are extremely pleased to have received the award and

to have been recognised for the work they have done.

A massive well done and congratulations to the YMCA Andover team.

Visit their Facebook page, YMCA Andover for the latest community work they have planned.

# Dolphins and Angels Unite

NOVEMBER brings about exciting news for two local organisations: Dolphin Outsourcing and Angel Call Handling. The three women have joined forces in collaboration rather than competition to form EUKB - Especially UK Business CIC (Community Interest Company).

Founded by Laura Dolphin just a few months ago, they have now decided to face the challenges business owners in the UK are facing head on, as a team. Fuelled by their mutual desire to help people their aspirations are to provide not only a safe haven for business owners through their Facebook Group: "UK Businesses - Free Support", but to apply for funding to enable big scaled events, training and much more - to UK Businesses who need and deserve help and support.

They are currently doing their own fundraising campaigns in the lead up to Christmas, offering a Virtual Christmas Fayre/Market for business owners to join, and also hosting Virtual Christmas parties, in an attempt to raise funds, and awareness whilst giving back straight away to their target community.

#tistheseasonofvirtual is the hashtag they have launched to encourage small business owners to support one another in the lead up to Christmas, in this unprecedented year where for many, their only choice is to be online.

They are currently planning a campaign currently so we look forward to sharing more details soon.

A start-up organisation with the backbone of a corporate enterprise, you can get involved by contacting: [contact@eukb.org.uk](mailto:contact@eukb.org.uk).

To read more about their current campaigns follow this link: [www.dolphin-outsourcing.co.uk/eukb-christmas](http://www.dolphin-outsourcing.co.uk/eukb-christmas).



Sarah Sharp



Laura Dolphin



Angela Saunders

## Bringing in the Harvest

PUPILS and staff at Icknield School celebrated this year's Harvest by making donations to the local Foodbank in Andover.

Their Harvest Assembly was a little different in that all the classes joined in by Zoom. They celebrated by singing along to Big Red Combine Harvester, Thank You God for the Harvest and Under the Harvest Moon and looked at the variety of pictures each class had prepared for the occasion.



## A mystery donor treats families to sweet delights



COMMUNITY spirit has been shown from one Andover local to provide families in need with a sweet treat at Canto Gelato.

The mystery donor made the generous donation after Andover Aesthetic Practitioners started a campaign to help families in need with meal vouchers.

The donations will pay for over 20 families to enjoy treats at Canto Gelato on the high street free of charge.

Kelly Jones of Canto Gelato told Love Andover: "We want to say a huge thanks to our mystery donator, we have had lots of families who have come in to have a little treat with us, the kids really enjoyed it. There were little girls dressed up in their princess dresses and they all had a great time."

The campaign from Andover Aesthetic Practitioners which has now raised over £3,000 with thanks to local companies and the patients of the business. The vouchers and codes have been distributed to families in need.

The support and response has been so positive that there are plans being put together for the Christmas season to help out the families in need and Kelly added: "Yes there are talks at the moment and we have said that we would love to get involved as well."

This is such an amazing show of support from the local community and truly shows the love in Andover.

If you would like to support then contact Donna Jackson at the Andover Aesthetic Practitioners on their Facebook page.

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## Prestigious award for local pub

THE Watership Down Inn, Freefolk has been awarded the prestigious Good Food Award for Gastro Pubs 2021.

A spokesperson for the awards confirmed: "Over the last twelve months we have evaluated customer feedback and this Gastro Pub has demonstrated exceptional levels of food quality, service and value when compared to our industry benchmarks in their category. In recognition of this achievement they have been duly awarded the 2021 Good Food Award for Gastro Pubs."

The Watership Down Inn nestles at the foot of the North Wessex Downs, overlooking the headwaters of the Test Valley. The renowned Watership Down lies to the north of the Inn. The pub dates back to the 1800s' and has a country style interior featuring an oak and quarry tile flooring, wood burner and hardwood bar.

The Watership Down Inn's Lucy Arthur shared: "We are super proud to have been awarded this as it demonstrates all the work and passion the whole team put in to serving our guests."

Steve Gilbert, Head Chef added: "We are so proud to have won this award for the pub, this is a team effort and recognises passion, quality of ingredients and hard work we put into every single dish."

Owner Philip Denée, concluded: "The Watership Down Inn team are justifiably proud to have won such a coveted award. The award is a testament to the passion and endeavour that the chefs put into every dish that they produce."

This news comes as neighbouring local, the Old House at Home in Overton, shared



with the Love Andover Observer that they are delighted to have been included in the newest edition of The Good Beer Guide.

Both establishments will continue to serve takeaway food throughout November.

## Third fly-tipping prosecution secured within a single week

A successful investigation into a fly-tip along Toothhill Road in Romsey has led to a third prosecution within a week for Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC), thanks to the help of its neighbouring authority.

Jason Love, of Southampton, admitted to fly-tipping in court on Wednesday (October 21) having previously failed to show up for court on October 16.

Love had been driving along Toothhill Road in July last year when he dumped a toilet, broken tiles, plastic buckets and plumbing materials on the side of the road. The fly-tip was witnessed, and council officers then began to investigate the matter and the vehicle involved. Having notified other agencies in an effort to locate the vehicle, the case then came together when patrol officers from Southampton City Council spotted the vehicle involved on Shirley High Street. The patrol team was then able to notify TVBC.

At Southampton Magistrates Court on October 21, Mr Love admitted to dumping the waste. He

was handed a £1,600 fine, ordered to pay £839.50 in costs and £240 in compensation. It's the third fly-tipping prosecution within six days for the council following the guilty pleas of Adam Whitcher and Richard Whittaker.

Environmental portfolio holder, councillor Alison Johnston, said: "This is a fine example of how agencies, whether it's councils or police, will work together to catch those responsible for this crime. Anyone who believes it's acceptable to simply dump their waste on the side of the road without consequence is hugely mistaken, and can expect a knock on their door."

My thanks go to the hard work of our environmental service, our legal team and of course to the great partnership work with Southampton City Council. As ever, if you're in doubt about your waste, please contact us on 01794 527700 or 01264 368000, and remember to always check your waste carrier's licence."

On Friday, October 16, both Richard Whittaker and Adam Whitcher pleaded guilty to illegally dumping their waste in two separate

incidents that took place around Romsey.

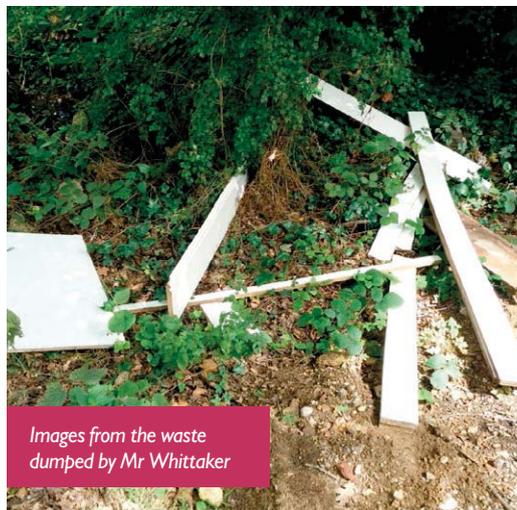
During lockdown, officers from the council's environmental service and legal service continued to investigate cases of fly-tippers and had enough evidence to take both defendants to court.

Mr Whittaker, of North Baddesley, admitted fly-tipping wood from a guinea pig hutch in a layby along Lee Lane on 17 April 2019. He was also prosecuted for failing to produce his waste carrier licence when asked to do so by the council.

At Southampton Magistrates Court, he was fined £750 for the fly-tipping offence and failing to produce his carrier licence, ordered to pay £961 in costs and a £75 victim surcharge.

Mr Whitcher, of Totton, admitted to fly-tipping after concrete blocks were thrown out of his car window along Toothhill Road when he was driving to the Household Waste Recycling Centre in Romsey in August last year.

He was fined £500, ordered to pay £1,126.70 in costs and £65 in compensation.



Images from the waste dumped by Mr Whittaker



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## Looking towards an active future

HAMPSHIRE County Council has welcomed 130 delegates to an online summit to help shape the county's green and healthy recovery.

Representatives from district, parish and town councils, local enterprise partnerships, walking groups, cycling groups, access forums, town and transport planners and many others with an interest in how Hampshire's streets work for people walking and cycling attended the summit to share ideas and expertise.

Councillor Rob Humby, Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment at Hampshire County Council, said: "We are committed to involving our partners and communities, and the feedback and ideas we've heard will help to inform our new walking and cycling design principles. We know that transport is the second highest source of carbon emissions in Hampshire, so how we choose to move about is a key



factor in how successful we will be in meeting Hampshire's Climate Change target of net zero carbon by 2050.

I'm very grateful to everyone who has spent the time to share their experiences and their views to help us shape plans for the future of travel and transport in Hampshire."

The summit followed a county-wide survey of the public's opinions on active travel, to which nearly 3,000 people responded. The survey gathered views and experiences from Hampshire residents on what it is like to walk, scoot, cycle, use a wheelchair, mobility scooter or a pushchair for day-to-day journeys

to work, school or the shops.

Councillor Judith Grajewski, Executive Member for Public Health at Hampshire County Council, said: "Our ambition is to build thriving communities by making local places healthy and safe, and developing our environment to support active travel. Travelling actively by walking, cycling or scooting can make a positive difference to health by keeping us physically and mentally fit, helping us become more resilient to handle life's ups and downs. More people walking and cycling in our communities means fewer short car journeys are taken which will improve the quality of the air, so that everyone can enjoy the benefits of cleaner, healthier, safer and quieter streets."

Evidence and feedback from the summit and the survey will be used to inform the County Council's Local Transport Plan which will guide future investment and decision making within the County Council in relation to transport.



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# Tens of thousands given to help fund vital food

TEST Valley Borough Council has announced that almost £90,000 of funding has been given to charities and voluntary organisations to help residents access food during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Earlier this year, the government announced a total of £63m in funding to be allocated to local authorities up and down the country, through the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. Having received its part of the funding, the council has been giving financial aid to a number of community initiatives that will help those who need

it, to access food and supplies through the winter months.

The council has been processing grants to foodbanks in Andover and Romsey, as well as issuing funding to St Mary's Church and Romsey Community School for food initiatives. Six charities and community organisations have benefitted from this funding, at a total of £89,000.

Of that, almost £20,000 has been passed to Andover and Romsey foodbanks to help with any potential increase in demand over the next few months, while St Mary's Church received almost £12,000 for a programme delivering food boxes to

those most in need.

The YMCA has received £2,000 to increase their stock, while Yellow Brick Road has received £6,000 to help support younger members of the community.

Community and leisure portfolio holder, councillor Ian Jeffrey, said: "We know that since the pandemic earlier this year, many families have struggled for food, or simply can't access it due to self-isolation, or shielding. I'm very proud of the work our communities team has done in making sure that the funding we've been able to give has reached those most in need.

I'm also incredibly grateful for these charities and organisations who are organising these facilities and going out, rain or shine, to ensure families don't go hungry. We are always ready to act and give further support if we believe that more needs to be done to ensure food and vital resources reach all corners of our communities."

You can read about how the community came together to support those in need and also the measures put in place by Hampshire County Council on page 8 and there is also news on how people can get further support from a new partnership between the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation (HIWCF) and the Co-op on page 22.



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# Appeal to the community as vandals strike woods

A pledge to plant 1,000 native trees at Harmony Woods, a community woodland behind Augusta Park, is under threat as restrictions prevent local schools from engaging in the project which has seen 8,000 trees planted by school children since 2012.

Andover Trees United's 'Tree Planting Fortnight', which takes place annually during the last two weeks of November, is just one part of the community woodland initiative which aims to connect school children and the wider community with the natural world while improving the environment and creating a vital habitat for wildlife.

Project leader, Wendy Davis explains: "This year the children may not all be able to come and this leaves us with a serious dilemma. Our trees are currently being kept alive in a nursery bed but will not survive the winter unless they are planted out properly. We desperately need volunteers to come and plant the trees that the children cannot. We are a Covid-secure site and

have procedures in place to make it safe and easy for volunteers to maintain social distancing at all times. We are also extending our tree planting

programme over the winter to create more opportunities for individuals and bubbles to get involved."

Long-term volunteer, Terri Forbes

said: "I had never planted a tree when I first got involved a few years ago and now I am a regular volunteer over planting fortnight and community tree planting days. Getting trees into the ground gives me an enormous sense of achievement and wellbeing which helps me a lot with everything that is going on."

The charity are asking members of the public to email [volunteers@andovertrees.org.uk](mailto:volunteers@andovertrees.org.uk) for further information and to get involved.

This appeal comes as the site was a victim of vandalism. A Cherry Tree which was kindly donated by a local family and then planted by a team of young footballers on Saturday 24th October has had its limbs torn off.

The local charity says it is dismayed and disappointed that Harmony Woods "repeatedly suffers careless vandalism and it is very disheartening to see after all of the time, love and care that is given to this community woodland."

Alex Marshall shared: "Although

we've experienced a fair amount of damage to property over the years, it's only over the past few months that we've seen the damage done to trees, and this does seem to be escalating. It is now a weekly occurrence. We doubt very much that the perpetrators will have thought about the consequences of their actions, but it is particularly upsetting knowing how many hours will have gone into digging up the tree, pushing it from Augusta Park to the woods on a trolley, digging the huge hole that was needed before it could be replanted only for this effort to be met with such deliberate destruction. This lovely tree, donated for all to enjoy, will hopefully survive but it is soul-destroying to see the trees that have been planted by the children of the town now being threatened by a small group of unthinking individuals. We ask the whole community to do what they can to protect this lovely community wood and to help ensure that this recent spate of vandalism does not continue."



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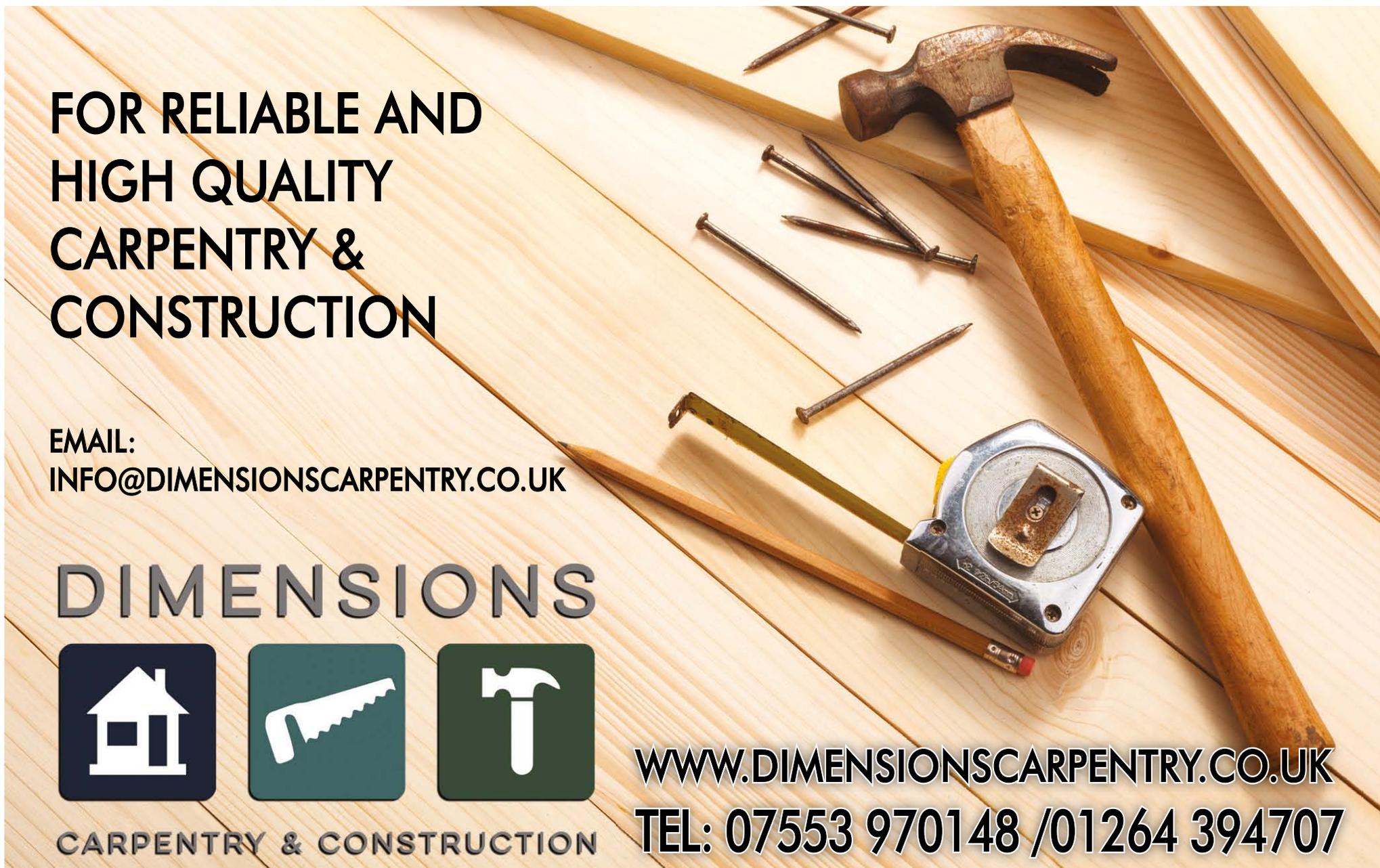
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# Rain doesn't dampen Halloween

Andover High Street was spookily busy on Saturday 31st October, despite the rain downpours and gusts of wind.

Shoppers were undeterred by the wet and windy weather as local retailers took part in a special socially-distanced Halloween Hunt around the high street area.

Kellie from Canto Gelato, dressed as a wicked witch said, "I am surprised there are so many people here today and there's a real positive atmosphere in the high street."

Andover Radio broadcast live through the day talking to shoppers, Trick or Treaters and local retailers. 8-year old Karli from Andover said she enjoyed seeing the different shopkeepers dressed up. "I especially like the spooky cupcakes."

Lots of local businesses were getting into the spirit and enjoyed the spooky event for children organised by the Andover Business Improvement District (BID) and 95.9FM Andover Radio.

Saturday's Halloween Hunt encouraged people in groups of six or fewer to track and trace local shopkeepers and receive some spooky treats at the end of the trail.

BID Manager Steve Godwin shared: "I am very happy, this Halloween event is fantastic, we are getting a real feeling of people pulling together, the kids are loving it. Everybody, the customers and retailers, are being very sensible and just getting on with the difficult world around us. We know that we are facing a new lockdown. Businesses in Andover are well prepared for this and we are always around to offer support. One of the great things about Andover is it is safe, we have a lot of wide open space and a lovely high street."

Businesses taking part in the weekend's Halloween Hunt included: Tip Top Balloons; Mooch on Bridge Street and the Vodafone store in the Chantry Centre. Children who tracked down local shopkeepers who dressed up as spooky characters received gifts from the Andover BID, Waitrose and the Travelling Cupcake.

Andover Radio host David Harber commented: "In rain, wind and the general drudgery of shopping in the British weather,

I am so pleased to see so many people participate in this Halloween event. It's a testament to the people of Andover who have come out, had a bit of fun and braved the awful elements to ensure our kids have some fun and they get to visit stores around the town. One mum told us that she's pleased to have discovered Indiglow on Newbury Street because of Saturday's activities. This makes me happy and thank you to everyone who contributed and took part. Andover, you should be proud of yourselves. It was a great day."

Other Halloween fun included: pumpkin characters at Icknield School, fun at Finkley Down Farm and a woodland walk at Bourne Farm.

The school cook at Icknield School in Andover made lunchtimes more enjoyable during the last week of school before half term. She magically produced some wonderful pumpkin characters to keep everyone amused. The children enjoyed recognising their favourite characters.

After a difficult year, Farmer Charlie and the team at Finkley still had a great Halloween experience to offer local Andover families. During the October half term week, you could walk through the spooky walkway, hunt the Monsters around the farm, enjoy big bubbles, take a selfie with the farm's special Halloween guests Sabrina the Scarecrow and Mavis Flosswort the Witch and enter the Halloween Fancy Dress parade with prizes for everyone that took part. It was a great fun filled spooky week at the farm.

Bourne Valley shared: "The Woodland Spooktacular is going well. Lots of positive feedback from all. The children are enjoying collecting sweets for trick or treat too. We have had all ages turn up and report being super scared !!! The higher you go the scarier it is. "

Local Mum, Chelsea Bevan added "We loved the spooktacular woodland walk! it was a great way to keep the Halloween festivities hyped up for those not trick or treating!"



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## Geo Caching: A fun outdoor activity for all the family



By Sally Miller

GEO Caching is an outdoor treasure hunt for the digital generation, it is a great way to get some fresh air and get active - whilst exploring your local area. All you need is a handheld GPS such as a smartphone, a sense of fun....and now winter approaches maybe warm waterproof clothing!

A geocache is a small waterproof treasure box hidden outdoors. Geocachers seek out these hidden goodies guided by a GPS enabled device which

uses 'waypoints' downloaded from the geocaching.com website; alternatively you can download a free geocaching app for Android or iPhone.

Most caches have a logbook for you to leave a message in but often you will also find an eclectic array of trinkets that people have left to swap. If you take a treasure out of the box, you should leave another trinket in its place, so make sure you have some goodies to swap!

To get started visit <https://www.geocaching.com/play>.

# Volunteer and spread the love

By Sarah Gisbourne

There is a great team of volunteers at Love Andover and now there is an opportunity for people to join the crew. RECENTLY, three of the team were awarded with a team member certificate and Amazon gift card to say, thank you for all their hard work.

Martin Miller is the Andover radio presenter of The Rock Cafe which takes place on Fridays at 7pm on Andover Radio. David Wybrow, the voice of

What's On at Andover Radio and Richard Hobbs, the voice of traffic that you hear every day on Andover Radio were all recognised.

If you have a local event or activity that you want people to know about you can email [events@loveandover.com](mailto:events@loveandover.com) or if you know of a traffic jam or roadworks

that others should avoid, let Richard know at [richard@loveandover.com](mailto:richard@loveandover.com).

There are a range of volunteer roles available at Love Andover so if you would like to join the team, please visit the website at [loveandover.com/volunteers/](http://loveandover.com/volunteers/) for further details or give Ben a call on 01264 883100.



## New compliance manager at local security company

ANDOVER based security provider, Venture Security, has bolstered its senior team with the appointment of Jodie Stevens as compliance manager.

In her new role, Jodie will be responsible for overseeing all regulatory, privacy and compliance matters within the organisation, ensuring British standards are applied. This includes managing the company's many accreditations, such as National Security Inspectorate (NSI) Gold, CHAS, and the ACS Pacesetters and SIA approved contractor schemes.

Prior to joining Venture, Jodie worked for the past 11 years at Heathrow airport within airfield operations, safety and transformation. As such, she was responsible for the day-to-day operations of the airfield, maintaining safety processes and dealing with any accidents and incidents as required, and more recently improving the operational efficiency of ground operations. This followed 18 months carrying out a similar role at Southampton airport.

Commenting on her appointment, Jodie said: "I have known the team at Venture for many years now. I actually hold an SIA license and in my spare time have supported the team with guarding at Stonehenge, Salisbury Racecourse and other regional events, so I already have a lot of knowledge about the company and how it



operates. Being furloughed and a recent restructure led me to reflect on my role at the airport and it just seemed the perfect time to make the move to join Venture. It's a great fit for my skills and experience and I look forward to the opportunity to make a tangible difference, as part of an ambitious and growing company. While I will miss the team I was working with at Heathrow, I certainly don't mind swapping the hour commute for the 10-minute cycle into work I will now do!"

Paul Howe, MD at Venture Security, added: "Jodie is exceptional at what she does and will be a valuable member of the team. As a company, we pride ourselves on providing the highest quality of service possible and that comes down to employing the best people, providing the best training and investing in industry-leading systems and processes. We're currently undergoing significant growth as a business and upholding standards throughout will be central to our success."

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# Taskers of Andover

By David Denny

ROBERT Tasker was the second son of a Stephen Tasker, a blacksmith in the Wiltshire village of Stanton St Bernard in the Vale of Pewsey, around 6 miles from Devizes. Born in February 1785, he became the assistant to his father in the blacksmith's shop as soon as he was old enough and obviously proved to be a good apprentice. Around 1806 it is likely that he had acquired sufficient knowledge and skill of the trade that he set out on his own to earn his own way as a journeyman blacksmith.

From a young age and for the rest of his life Robert Tasker held fast to a strong non-conformist faith, this could well also have been a reason for his leaving his family to set out on his own path. For whatever reason he headed towards Andover and would have heard from the locals that a local blacksmith in Abbots Ann needed an assistant and was hired as such. He remained here for 3 years and established himself, buying a house in 1808 and managing in 1809 to take over the rent of the workshop from Thomas Maslen. In 1811 he returned to his home village to marry his childhood sweetheart, Martha Fowle before returning to Abbots Ann.



Life in Abbots Ann was difficult for Robert Tasker as he maintained his firm religious convictions. It was noted that he refused to carry out any sort of work on Sundays, no matter how urgent, which may well have upset many of his local customers! Over time this discontent became open hostility and

many of the local landowners started to withdraw their work.

Andover has long had a tradition of non-conformity and acceptance of other faiths and Robert Tasker would regularly travel into Andover to the chapel of Independents, or Congregationalists on East Street. This chapel, now known

as the United Reform Church, is now the oldest religious building in Andover.

Being forced to travel further afield to find work, Robert Tasker would have attended markets in Newbury and Salisbury. It is at this time local tradition says he invented his first plough, there is no surviving record or pat-

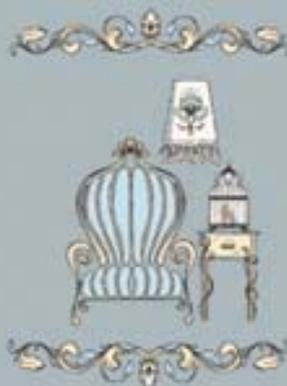
ent for this. What is certain is that he designed something ideally suited to the chalky ground. This new plough was immensely popular and his business grew rapidly and soon needed a better site. Joining him in this business by now was his younger brother William.

On the slopes of Bury Hill a chalk pit overlooked Clatford Marsh, through which passes the Pillhill brook (a tributary of the River Anton). After the enclosure act of Upper Clatford in 1786, the villagers were granted the right to quarry up to an acre of chalk from this pit and had the right of way for the private road linking it to the main road. This would be an ideal site for the new foundry. The useless marsh land could be reclaimed with chalk from the hillside, this chalk would also be vital to build their workshops and lodgings. The stream would provide power to the foundry via a waterwheel and only a mile away was the Andover Canal, providing access to Southampton to move raw materials in bulk in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

The actual opening date of the new foundry is unclear, an iron plaque which was once in the works canteen dated it to 1813. Given the battle of Waterloo wasn't until June 1815, it is likely that it was renamed at a later date!

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## In Flanders Fields

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,  
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.*

*By Major John McCrae, 1915*



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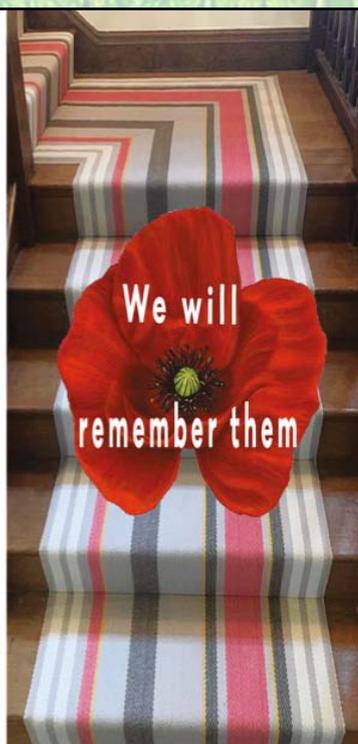
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## Admin fees removed for disrupted rail travel

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Passengers who have bought an Advance ticket which they can subsequently no longer use as a result of Covid restrictions changing will not have to pay the administration cost of re-arranging travel for a ticket purchased prior to any announcement.

As new travel restrictions come into force in different parts of the country, passengers are more at risk of having to change travel plans. The new temporary measures enable passengers to claim discretionary rail travel vouchers or credit notes for unused Advance tickets that are valid for up to a year, offering more flexibility than the current arrangements. The Government is also allowing independent rail retailers to temporarily waive the usual change of journey admin fee for Advance tickets.

Jacqueline Starr, Chief Operating Officer at the Rail Delivery Group, commented: "When people take the train we want them to travel with confidence. As well as extra cleaning and more trains, that means people knowing that if things change and they can no longer use their Advance ticket due to Covid restrictions, they won't be unfairly penalised, so this announcement is good news for our passengers."

# Tackling Food Poverty

THE Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation (HIWCF) has announced a new partnership with Co-op, which will support local charities, community groups and voluntary organisations tackling food poverty to help vulnerable people in local communities.

Funds have been raised thanks to customer purchases from the Co-op picnic range, with Co-op donating over £35,000 through the National Emergencies Trust for Hampshire and Isle of Wight communities. The grant funding programme will enable the provision of emergency food and will address the impact of food insecurity for those in need. Grants are available for community projects that can provide access to nutritious food and balanced meals, redistribute surplus food, help educate on shopping smartly to make low cost meals, limit food waste and prioritise the wellbeing of children and young people impacted by food poverty.

Grants of £1,000 to £5,000 are available now and groups should apply through the HIWCF website: [www.hiwcf.com/funds/co-op-covid-19/](http://www.hiwcf.com/funds/co-op-covid-19/) before midday on Friday 13th November 2020.

Grant Cornwell MBE, HIWCF Chief Executive commented: "We would like to thank Co-op for their

generosity and support in setting up this new grants programme to help vulnerable people in our communities. Local charitable groups across Hampshire are working so hard to address the issues caused by food poverty and sadly the sector is facing a severe loss in income which may jeopardise their future at this crucial time. This new grant programme comes at an invaluable time and we urge local groups based in Hampshire to apply for funding, to make a difference to the lives of individuals and families experiencing really tough times in our communities."

Rebecca Birkbeck, Director of Community and Shared Value at Co-op, said "It's heart-breaking to think of families and children in the UK going hungry and facing acute challenges during this unprecedented time. The need faced by many families is far more serious now than it was in the summer and we are determined to do everything we can to support those who are most vulnerable. By partnering with NET and UK Community Foundations this funding can quickly go to work. Focusing on what really matters in local communities and providing direct support to those who most need it to make a difference to their health and wellbeing."



## Toy Drive

THE YMCA in Andover are accepting toy donations for their toy sale planned for December.

If you are clearing toys to make space for new ones this Christmas please consider donating them to the YMCA. They will sort through the toys and organise a scheme to ensure all families have the chance to buy gifts this Christmas.

The staff at the YMCA, Andover wanted to publicly say: "A massive thank you to Tesco Extra for the huge donation of toys they have already donated."

LOVEANDOVER  
**Observer**

Got a story?  
01264 883100

## Drivers urged to give cyclists space

AS bicycle use spikes, drivers need to be aware of the 1.5 metre rule which encourages motorists to make room and protect cyclists.

Motorists who flout the rule face a careless driving charge from the police,

which can result in three penalty points on their licence and a £100 fine, or in some cases, a more serious criminal conviction. Undercover policemen on bicycles have used helmet-mounted cameras to help apprehend offenders

Greg Wilson, founder of Quotezone.co.uk commented: "We've seen an increase in traffic to our bicycle insurance comparison website with people keen for socially distanced transport and exercise. I would also expect an upcoming spike in December and January with many putting bikes at the top of their Christmas list this year. This increase signals potential dangers – while there may be fewer cars on the road, the reduced congestion levels could encourage some motorists to increase their speed. With so many people taking up cycling, a greater number of cyclists on the road may be relatively inexperienced, so making sure drivers make room with the 1.5 metre rule has never been so important."



## Hampshire Highways launches Carbon Strategy

HAMPSHIRE Highways' commitment to reduce carbon emissions and mitigate against the impact of climate change has been recognised in the 2020 shortlist for Highways Magazine's Environmental Sustainability Award. It comes as Hampshire's highways service launches a four-year Carbon Strategy outlining how carbon emissions will be reduced

in all highways operations. Councillor Rob Humby, Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Economy, Transport and the Environment at Hampshire County Council, commented: "I am delighted that the sustainable way our Highways service is looking after Hampshire's roads has been recognised nationally – and that our collaborative and innovative

work on projects such as developing facilities to recycle highways maintenance materials, trial the use of plastic kerbing and move to electric vehicles is delivering such significant results.

Climate Change considerations must form a part of every significant decision the County Council makes if we are to make a difference, and the Highways service has taken this

fully on board, with the development of the Hampshire Highways' Carbon Strategy 2020-2024. We will explore innovations and opportunities, invest in lasting change, and continually monitor and review the reductions in carbon emissions the Highways service is achieving to identify where improvements can be made."

The Strategy sets out what adap-

tations are needed to the highway network as changes in the climate bring more intense, heavy rainfall and periods of hot weather. It details how Hampshire Highways will reduce carbon emissions in all day-to-day operations including maintenance works, energy use in buildings and depots, vehicles and fuel – all with regular and robust measurement.

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# Hampshire Hospitals

## New CT scanner is installed at Hospital

A new CT scanner has been installed at Andover War Memorial Hospital, as part of a £1.5M investment in imaging in the area. The scanner is the first of its kind in the region, and helps to support staff in providing the best possible care to patients in North and Mid-Hampshire.

The new equipment is being used for potentially life-saving investigations relating to cancer and heart disease, and is part of Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust's ongoing response to COVID-19.

Dr Julian Elford, consultant radiologist at Hampshire Hospitals NHS

Foundation Trust and clinical lead for the project said: "This is fantastic news for Hampshire Hospitals and for all patients coming into our hospitals for planned investigations.

This new CT scanner will be used for elective patients, and ensures they can be separated from any acute and emergency work, offering a safe place that is separate from any COVID related investigations or care."

This is an exciting time for Hampshire Hospitals as we continue to develop our community-based services while ensuring our busy acute sites can offer the best possible care to the patients

that need it."

Alex Whitfield, chief executive at Hampshire Hospitals, which also runs hospitals in Basingstoke and Winchester, added: "This latest investment in our hospital in Andover means we now have extra diagnostic capacity to help provide the best possible care to our local community in Andover and beyond.

This is a major step forward in our ultimate goal of keeping services local where possible, and we have already had fantastic feedback from patients and staff.

Well done to the whole team for getting it up and running so quickly."



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# Health Matters

## Sniffing Security Dogs are coming to Andover

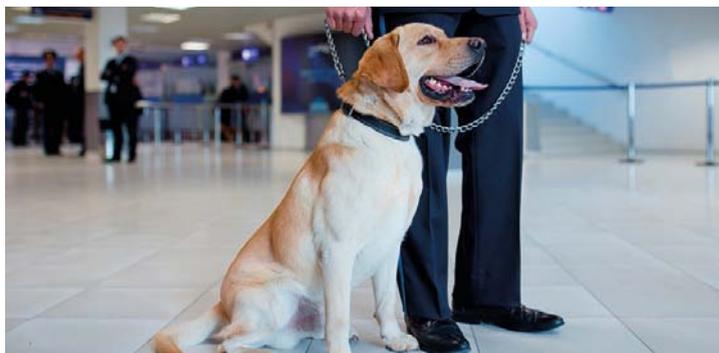
SNIFFER dogs are successfully being trained to sniff out Covid-19 on humans and according to a leading security firm their use could become mainstream in Andover by Easter 2021.

Security dogs are well known for their super sniffing abilities – money, drugs, explosives. However, recent trials have been successful in using canines to sniff out Covid-19 leading to enquiries for commercial use in shops, transport hubs and public spaces in Andover.

“These dogs are simply amazing – they can smell the odour of Covid! Training is currently taking place to enable them to actually sniff out those carrying Covid-19 in busy areas, that’s some skill!”, explains Lilly Moss from security guard company Guards.co.uk.

The sniffer dogs have been trained by the charity Medical Detection Dogs and have been on trial at London Paddington train station this week. It is hoped if the trials are successful, the dogs will be able to work for real in early 2021.

Early detection of the symptoms



of Covid-19 is key to isolating those with the virus. It is thought that if the sniffer dogs could track those in busy public spaces and help to quarantine anyone with traces of the virus.

“The Covid-19 sniffer dogs take less than 1 second to sniff out the virus, and have been successful in detecting the virus even when no symptoms have been showing”, adds Lilly.

Even Health Secretary, Matt Hancock thought the idea was great, when he met the dogs at London Paddington on Tuesday: “You can

immediately think of the number of uses that we could put this to - and find people who don’t know they have Covid.”

If enough dogs could be trained up, the thinking is that Covid-19 sniffer dogs could become a regular sight in train stations, shopping centres and public spaces.

Lilly concludes: “We have already had enquiries from some large shopping centre clients about how we could integrate sniffer dogs into the regular patrols – they are jumping on every resource they can to keep open and trading.”

## COVID ZERO launched

HAMPSHIRE Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (HHFT) is calling on members of the local community to do what they can to help reduce the rate of transmission of COVID-19 in Hampshire.

“By taking three simple actions – that cost nothing – every single one of us can help to stop the spread of Coronavirus and protect ourselves and our loved ones.” said Dr Lara Alloway, HHFT’s chief medical officer.

HHFT are urging the local community and trust staff members to continue to WALK, WEAR & WASH: WALK – follow guidance by walking apart and social distancing; WEAR – wear a mask or face covering when you’re not able to safely socially distance; WASH – wash your hands as often as possible.

Julie Dawes, chief nurse at HHFT, concluded: “This has been a challenging year; and it looks likely that a second wave is coming. Each and every one of us has been tested in ways we never thought possible



but together we have met that challenge.

The NHS has made massive preparations for this winter and we are as ready as we can be. But we are not complacent and we need everyone’s help.

We will never forget the sound on a Thursday evening of a whole community standing together to clap for the NHS. If we show that same spirit now – walk, wear and wash – we really can make COVID Zero.”

## Basingstoke locations shortlisted as hospital sites

AFTER a comprehensive search across Hampshire including in Andover, two locations have been shortlisted as possible sites for a potential new acute centralised hospital to serve the population of north and mid Hampshire and both are in Basingstoke.

Work to identify potential sites for a new hospital has been ongoing since October 2019, when the government announced that north and mid Hampshire would be one of the areas to benefit from funding as part of the government’s Health Infrastructure Plan (HIP) to build 40 new facilities before 2030.

After a comprehensive search for sites across Alton, Andover, Basingstoke, Eastleigh, Winchester and the surrounding areas was carried out, two locations have been identified as potential sites for a proposed new acute centralised hospital to serve the area as part of the Hampshire Together: Modernising our Hospitals and Health Services programme.

The first is located between Basingstoke and Winchester, near to junction seven of the M3, with the other being based on the current site of Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital.

These locations were identified following an extensive site selection study, which was carried out across the entire Hampshire Hospitals catchment area to identify suitable parcels of land. Pieces of land that were large enough to house a hospital and health campus were then ranked according to how they performed against a total of 36 weighted criteria before negotiations began to assess their availability, price and the current owners’ willingness to sell.

Alex Whitfield, chief executive of Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, which leads the

Hampshire Together programme alongside Hampshire and Isle of Wight Partnership of Clinical Commissioning Groups and West Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group, said: “After an exhaustive site selection process, I’m delighted that we have two site options for a possible new acute centralised hospital to serve mid and north Hampshire.

“Whilst we have identified two possible sites, no final decisions have been taken and we look forward to talking to our staff and the public about our proposals for the future when we go out to public consultation early next year. We are looking forward to discussing the pros and cons of each of the possible locations as part of the formal consultation process.

“But this is not just about a building, we are using this as an opportunity to think about how we provide health services which will meet the needs of our population for decades to come. We have already announced six potential clinical service options and further work is underway to develop a shortlist for consultation, where service and site options come together.

“As well as the location of any new hospital, we are also looking forward to speaking to staff, patients and the public about the way we propose to work together to deliver health, wellbeing and care services in the future.

“This includes making significant investment at Royal Hampshire County Hospital, in Winchester, as well as exploring opportunities to provide additional services in other locations across north and mid Hampshire, giving all of our patients access to high-quality, timely and sustainable health care as close to home as possible.”

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# Andover BID Working Hard

We want the experience of visiting Andover to be **SAFE, EASY & ENJOYABLE**  
Of course from today as we head into a second lockdown, although difficult for all of us we

all understand that this is probably the only way that we are likely to see a slow-down in the virus and safeguard our health until such times as a proven vaccine is available.

The summer and autumn leading into winter have been difficult times for businesses with COVID-19 stealing the headlines and causing us all concern. Businesses however have shown resilience and have worked closely with the BID and our local authority to ensure that public places and shops have been made safe through the introduction and extra efforts of ensuring social distancing, clear signage, one-way systems and sanitizer stations, acknowledging that our safety is paramount. There is some evidence that consumers' confidence was continuing to build and that as a result we were developing a more local mindset in particular support for local

economies, seeing local shopping areas as less risky than larger towns and wanting to support local businesses who were seen to be there for them during the first Lockdown. An important aspect of visiting town is to ensure that the experience is pleasant and that we all feel welcomed and safe.

Although we are now locked down again for a month, our businesses are already showing resilience. Some of the town centre businesses such as Wilko, Iceland, Sainsbury, Waitrose Lid's, Superdrug and Boots are already preparing to support demand whilst many of the

independents as well as the chains have also sprung into action with some having an online presence and able to offer a delivery service. This is the time for BID to also show their support and leadership during tough times and an area of development is to help businesses create an online shopping experience for their customers so that even when this situation eases, they will have the choice and flexibility to be more inclusive.

One major objective identified by the businesses when the BID was borne was to improve the safety and security in the town so that it is as a safe and secure environment for trading and for customers to visit. Andover Business Improvement District (BID) formed in April 2019 as a local business led partnership was created through a ballot process to deliver additional services to businesses. In its first eighteen months, BID has ensured the town is as safe and pleasant as possible and has introduced:

of what is happening in town.

- Introduced the much-heralded BID Ranger service to support businesses and the public.
- And this week, just ahead of lockdown, have introduced Shopwatch, and the retail Alert so that businesses can effectively work together for the safety and security of the town.

The central role of public spaces including town centres is the social, cultural, and economic life making it crucial that good and easy accessibility to everyone and an important quality of accessible public spaces is the feeling of safety and security. BID has helped this and the daily presence of the town Rangers linking them to retailers, a state-of-art radio system and to other security aspects of Andover helps people to feel that the town is a safe, easy, and enjoyable place to visit.

**Andover Business Improvement District**

**wilko**  
"This is one of the best initiatives that bid has introduced and is great for the town."  
**Andrew Dawson, Wilko Manager**

It is very reassuring to know that they are around and a very good back up when there are problems in town.  
**Richard Burgess, Burgo's Pet World Partner**

**SPORTS DIRECT**  
"The BID rangers are an asset to the town."  
**Chris Whittaker, Manager**

**THE TRAVELLING CUPCAKE**  
Having the Rangers in town has made a big difference to our safety.  
**Bev Botha, proprietor**

"The Rangers are very proactive in town"  
**Mark Leech, White Hart**

**Boots**  
I welcome BID introducing the Rangers to Andover.  
**Georgina Roberts, Mooch Shop owner**

Customers feel very reassured in their presence.  
**Emily Jacobs, Manager**

**Poundland**  
"Theft in our store is considerably less now because of the BID Rangers"  
**Di Diamond, Manager**

**TIP TOP Balloons**  
"...they respond quickly, they are professional, and they know what they are doing."  
**Dave Stanbridge, Owner**

**Waitrose**  
Please thank them for their professional attitude.  
**Jeremy Board, Manager**

**Superdrug**  
We are absolutely delighted with the introduction of the BID ranger service.  
**Uma Ali, Store Manager**

**ALEX MCGARRY**  
"I am born and raised in Andover and love the feeling of our town being safer and more connected through the rangers and the radio system."  
**Alex McGarry, owner**

**Canto Cielato**  
"We love having the BID rangers around, they help us to feel secure..."  
**Kelly Jones, Proprietor**

**EAT - DRINK - SHOP  
IN  
ANDOVER  
SUPPORT LOCAL**



# To Keep Our Streets Safe

## Launch of SHOPWATCH InAndover

A new Andover BID initiative is shortly to launch in the town, aimed at supporting retailers in helping to reduce crime. BID recently introduced Alert to the licensed trade, initially operating with pubs and the licensed trade. This is now to be extended to retailers in the town to through the establishment of Shopwatch an information sharing scheme using a daytime version of the Pubwatch scheme.

This will be launched early next month in time for the build up to Christmas. The benefits of the App are to monitor shoplifters, ensuring that every store in the area is aware of which criminals are on the prowl,

what they look like and where they are. It will work closely with BID rangers, security staff/and or police to know exactly what is happening and ensure criminals are tackled effectively with stolen goods still in their possession and with less risk of them running away or assaulting store staff. Linking with the BID RADIO Scheme. It is aimed at Andover become a place where crime doesn't pay and where it becomes difficult for Shoplifting professionals to move around the town undetected. BID want to enforce a clear message that Andover is a SAFE, EASY & ENJOYABLE place to visit and shoplifting and other unacceptable behaviour is

not welcomed in the town.

Steve Godwin, manager of Andover BID says " Andover is generally a peaceful town and a SAFE place to shop and do business. We have become aware that a minority of people visiting the town use it as an opportunity to be badly behaved, to be anti-social and shop-lift from local businesses and this has got to stop. The introduction of the ALERT App will work alongside Pubwatch for the licensed trade with Shopwatch for retailers demonstrating to offenders that their behaviour in this town is unacceptable and will result in them being barred from premises"

Chairman of Andover Pubwatch says " We are delighted to have been using the BID Alert App. This is a nice town where a few people unfortunately spoil it for the majority. Pubs and venues come together monthly through Pubwatch to ensure that they are united in their approach to offending on licensed premises. We have a total ban on people who repeatedly cause us problems and we meet monthly to establish who we don't want in our venues". This initiatives is helping pubs so we are delighted to see it being extended to retailers in the town"

The Alert App is working alongside the police and the BID Ranger service who carry a radio which links them to pubs, and shops and businesses enabling them to quickly attend when issues are occurring in the town.



## BID Rangers – welcome to our town

**Welcome to David Lacey and Aaron Bates the two appointed BID Rangers for Andover Town Centre.**

You will see their uniformed and reassuring presence around the town daily. Among the most popular projects delivered by BIDs around the UK are Rangers. Rangers are a welcome presence to many town and city centres. They perform a variety of valuable roles from welcoming visitors to supporting businesses on a day to day basis and working closely with the Police acting as valuable eyes and ears on the ground. Our Rangers, receive regular training, updates and sharing of ideas days, they all express enthusiasm for their work and dedication to showcasing the best of Andover town centre and supporting their BID businesses. Out in all weathers they face new challenges daily. With the means

to communicate by phone or radio they provide a valuable mechanism to ensure that issues which may impact upon the visitor experience or affect businesses are dealt with in some way. They don't have a magic wand on their utility belt, but calling upon their training in customer service, conflict management or first aid, they do what they can and summon support from other services such as local authorities, police or other agencies. The Rangers' body camera footage and Begging Logs are proven to help in successful prosecutions of individuals who would have otherwise been left un-checked to inflict their anti-social behaviour on visitors and those who work in the town. A focus on business liaison and keeping businesses informed of town initiatives, BID projects, opportunities for promotion and

help in issue resolution gives BID Levy payers tangible benefits for their levy. They do not attempt to replace the police or any other service which works towards making our town centre great, but their presence goes a long way in moving a town or city centre from simply a functioning environment to a friendly and welcoming place for everyone to enjoy. Operating six days a week, all year round and whatever the weather, they are the eyes and ears of Andover Town Centre, helping people find what they are looking for and creating a sense of safety, solidarity, and positivity. With close links to the Council, Police, CCTV and Shopwatch Scheme, they offer an important bridge between businesses and the security services, helping to deter crime simply by being a consistent patrolling presence.





## Thruxton's Creepy Crawl

THE Children of Thruxton were treated to a Spooktacular Halloween Creepy Crawl organised by the Village Association. The event consisted of five spooky sweet stations set along a designated route.

Residents had gone all out decorating the stalls, particularly Edward Fanthorpe-Green whose display resembled a blockbuster movie. The Children were all in fancy dress and prizes were awarded for the best costumes. The Village Association and residents donated plenty of treats and the children went home very happy clutching their bounty of goodies.

Thruxton Resident Richard Smart commented: "Massive witches hat off to Cat Boslem for organising such an amazing event for the children. The stalls were fantastic and thanks to all of the residents who gave up their time and money to ensure that the children had a wonderful night. As always the children themselves were the stars of the show. Their Costumes were terrific, they all had lots of fun and their behaviour and manners were impeccable – a real credit to their families and community."

If you want to see more from the event, there is a video online: <https://thruxtonlife.co.uk/news/>.



# 100 Not Out

THE 22nd October was a very memorable day for longtime Thruxton Resident George Fox.

Fellow resident Richard Smart shared: "As the sun shone, George reached the ripe young age of 100, although he looked in such fine fettle locals nearly asked to see his birth certificate.

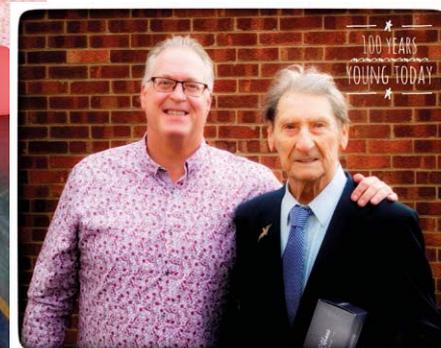
As you would expect from an ex-serviceman and gentleman, he was immaculately turned out sporting his RAF Badge. George was presented with an array of presents from the village and whilst he was thrilled with them all, I suspect his favourite was the Gin! The Queen honoured the special mile-

stone with a telegram which is now in the special royal frame purchased by the village. After the present ceremony George and family headed to the Chalkhill Blue for a spot of lunch where they were treated royally. Manager Sarah-Jane Grace and Team pulled out all of the stops and treated George with the love, respect and generosity befitting such a momentous day.

They laid on balloons, cake, champers and then to top it off said the meal was on the house - amazing and a really special treat for George. Indeed they were so taken with suave George they have made him a VIP member and asked him to switch the Christmas lights on in November - Thruxton's got a celebrity!"

George was incredibly grateful for all the love and generosity he received. When asked about the secret of longevity George replied: "Gin - with a splash of tonic!"

Richard Smart concluded: "George is an absolutely wonderful man who is loved by so many. In our crazy world it fills me with pride to see that Thruxton has once again brought such joy to one of their own. Thruxton Salutes George and wishes him many more happy years of Gin Drinking."



## Keep your pets calm

WITH no Bonfire Night events this year, private displays will be the order of the day. Whilst the skies lit with fireworks are a delight for many, pet owners will be eager to ensure that their beloved pets are saved from the brink of fear with every whizz, pop and bang.

If you are worried about how your pet will fare over the coming days, here are a few tips to help to keep your pet calm.

Preparation is key. Start by rescheduling your dog's walk for during day-

light hours and, if possible, add a little extra to the walk to ensure they will be worn out by night time.

As night time approaches, close the windows and draw the curtains to muffle the noise from outside, as well as minimising visibility of flashing lights.

Be sure to add additional sounds to the home, such as the TV or radio. If possible, increase the volume throughout the day to gradually drown out exterior noises.

Make sure your pets are kept indoors

and ensure that their favourite place to sleep or relax is accessible.

Why not add a few extra distractions to the evening - extra cuddles, a few more rounds of catch, and treats and snacks that will keep their attention away from the fireworks.

If your pet does want to hide then give them plenty of space to do so, and don't be tempted to drag them out of their hideaway. Instead, stay with them, offer soothing words and comfort as much as possible.

## Earthline provides village lifeline

THE Communities of Thruxton, Fyfield and Kimpton have received a vital lifeline courtesy of Earthline, the earthmoving, recycling and quarrying company.

The Car Park utilised by the Primary School and residents using the sports field had fallen into a state of disrepair and was in danger of being closed off. Parents had started to park on the road when transporting

their children and there was growing concern over safety. Thankfully Earthline stepped in and offered to resurface the Car Park free of charge.

Chairman of the Sports Trust Richard Smart said "Earthline's effort was an incredible gesture. They spent two days working tirelessly in pretty adverse weather conditions and the results are fantastic. The

safety of residents is paramount in our community particularly when there are children involved. The Car Park had become pretty much unusable and without sufficient community funds to carry out repairs there was a very real danger we would have to close it putting parents, children and residents at risk. For Earthline to step in and do such a wonderful thing for our community

is simply amazing. They have done an incredible job and we now have a fantastic parking facility which will not only keep people safe but also encourage them to use the wonderful play area and Sports facilities on offer. On behalf of Thruxton and surrounding villages I would just like to say a huge thank you to Earthline for their incredible generosity and community spirit."



# Arts & Culture

## Talking too much with Francis Rossi

WITH his planned UK tour still on hold, we caught up with Status Quo lead singer Francis Rossi at his home, from where he shared the extraordinary secrets of his 50-plus years in rock 'n' roll.

Francis is still hopeful that he will be able to reschedule I Talk Too Much, as he is looking forward to treating fans to an intimate evening of chat and music as he talks about his mishaps and adventures of life on the road with one of the biggest and most loved bands ever.

A true member of British rock royalty, Rossi sang the first words at Live Aid in 1985, survived the obligatory rock 'n' roll brush with alcohol and drugs, was awarded an OBE in 2010 and has a BRIT for his Outstanding Contribution to Music. His band has sold more than 120 million records globally.

Greeted by Francis singing, he then had to dash off to chase the dog who had run upstairs, before we had even spoken, it was clear we were in for an interesting chat.....

Talking about his new show, I Talk Too Much, Francis explained that the title was self explanatory: "I think you will find that I do talk too much, I go on and on and when people seem to be interested in what I am saying, I just keep talking because I am full of opinions and I always have more to say."

Francis shared that he hates mundane questions and for the first half of the show the audience don't get much of a say, as Francis has so much to talk about but in the latter half, the audience are asking what he hopes will be interesting questions and not what his favourite song is.

One of the most memorable audience questions that made Francis laugh was when a Scot asked him where he was staying for the night, when Francis asked why? The Scot replied: "so that I know where to pick my mother up in the morning."

Most of his show is ad libbed because Francis thinks that if it was too scripted then it would turn people off but recognises that all audiences want to hear about Live Aid, Status Quo, and Coronation



Street so certain stories always feature.

Entertaining his audiences is key, so Francis always finds himself going off at a tangent, which he finds that the audiences seem to enjoy.

I am really looking forward to visiting smaller venues, which lets people come along in their local town. I am always thanked for coming to local theatres because it means that people can eat locally and park cheaper or not at all so we get to meet lots more Quo fans.

I am looking forward to singing a few more songs this time.

Francis continued: "People often say you must have enough money to retire now but no, I don't and I don't want to. All of us show business people know that things can go pear-shaped at any time so you need to enjoy it while you can. I like my home and I like my life and I don't want it to change. Earning money gives me the security for a rainy day and helps me to sleep at night. You have to be in showbusiness for a reason, not a financial one, but because it is absolutely the only thing you want to do."

Talking about his Coronation Street experience, Francis explained: "The problem is that people think that show business

is real and it is not. After I had appeared in Coronation Street, everyone kept asking me about Tracey the hairdresser and what she was doing because they really believe that what they watch on the screen is real life."

Addressing the different circumstances that today's musicians face Francis commented: "With Status Quo and many other bands and performers, we all had to do the time to succeed, nowadays, you watch programmes like the X Factor when kids are celebrating winning, but they need to realise that was not the end goal, that is just the beginning of all the hard work that you need to put in, so may don't make it and you could be gone next week."

Performing as much as he does, it is important to Francis to keep fit. "I hit, 50 - fine, 60 - fine, but when I hit 70, I thought I could be gone next week! I keep fit by walking the dogs, for me, not for them, I pull my stomach muscles in and throw tennis balls for them. They love it, especially my Nancy and I just enjoy being with them."

Reminiscing on life after fellow Quo member Rick Parfitt, Francis said: "I just got used to it, we carried on performing without Rick after he took ill and then when he passed away. It is sad that we go on without him, but we always agreed to the other that whoever went first, the other would carry on."

Francis concluded: "I am so passionate and so opinionated on so many subjects but some are so big that it is scary to think about how little we can actually do. Take the climate for example, we all know that we need to do our bit by not using plastic bottles but until there is legislation in place, companies will not stop manufacturing, so people will still use them. And another issue that I don't know how it can be addressed is travelling, should we stop touring? People stop taking holidays in Spain or Disney World? Going Skiing? It is really scary when you think about it..... See I told you I could talk a lot!"

Yes, you certainly can Mr. Francis Rossi but it was a pleasure!






We must keep on protecting each other.


HANDS


FACE


SPACE

ANDOVER'S ONLY OFFICIAL REAL-TIME CORONAVIRUS UPDATE.

95.9FM

ANDOVERRADIO

THE WAY IT IS, UPDATED HOURLY

## Comfort Food

AS the nights draw in, comfort food is top of the menu, so whether you fancy a finger food bite or a warming main, these two delicious recipes are sure to hit the spot.

### Moroccan Lamb Tagine

Melt-in-your-mouth lamb and warming Moroccan spices, this lamb tagine recipe is perfect served with warm flatbreads.

#### Ingredients

Olive oil  
2 red onions, sliced  
3 garlic cloves, crushed  
1 tbsp ground ginger  
1 tbsp ground cinnamon  
1 tbsp ground cumin  
1 tbsp sweet paprika  
1 tbsp ground turmeric  
1.4kg British lamb shoulder, diced into 2cm cubes  
2 x 400g tins chopped tomatoes  
250g stoned prunes, roughly chopped  
500ml chicken stock  
1 tbsp sugar  
400g tin chickpeas, drained and rinsed  
Juice ½ lemon

#### To serve

Large bunch fresh parsley  
Large bunch fresh coriander  
80g almonds, toasted in a dry pan  
100g pomegranate seeds  
Couscous or flatbreads



#### Method

Heat a large glug of oil in a deep, flame-proof casserole over a medium heat. Add the onions and fry for 4-5 minutes until beginning to colour. Add the garlic and all the ground spices and fry for 2 minutes more, stirring with a wooden spoon.

Season the lamb, then add it to the pot and cook for 5 minutes, stirring regularly. Add the chopped tomatoes, prunes, stock and sugar and bring to a good simmer, then reduce the heat

to low. Add 100ml water and simmer gently for 3 hours. Stir the tagine every so often so it doesn't stick and burn on the bottom. If it reduces and thickens too quickly, add a splash more water to loosen it. You want a rich sauce that's still fairly liquid.

For the last 30 minutes of the cooking time, stir in the chickpeas and lemon juice. Taste and season with salt and pepper. Serve scattered with parsley, coriander, almonds and pomegranate seeds, with couscous or flatbreads as an accompaniment.



### Carrot, sweet potato and feta fritters

Enjoy this versatile vegetarian fritter recipe as a snack or as a starter.

#### Ingredients

800g carrots  
2 large potatoes  
1 large onion  
600g sweet potatoes  
5 medium free-range eggs  
200g feta, crumbled  
6 tbsp wholemeal flour  
25g fresh coriander, chopped  
2 tbsp cumin seeds  
300ml vegetable oil

#### Method

Peel and grate the carrots, potatoes, onion and sweet potatoes. Put in a colander over the sink with a big pinch of salt to drain for 30 minutes.

In a large bowl, combine the eggs, feta, flour, coriander and cumin seeds, then beat with a fork until mixed.

Squeeze as much liquid from the veg as you can, pressing down hard into the colander for 1-2 minutes, then add to the egg mixture. Stir to combine and season well.

Heat the oven to 150°C/fan130°C/gas 2.

Heat the oil in a wok or saucepan to 180°C or until a cube of bread sizzles. Put a small handful of the mix in a slotted spoon and lower into the oil. Cook 2-3 at a time: fry for 1-2 minutes, then turn and repeat until golden. Put on a plate and keep warm in a low oven.

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# Your daily puzzle challenge

## CROSS CODE

10	26	16	6	7	25		22	10	2	12	6	26
9		12		26			26		17			10
14	16	10	16	10	16		16	15	15	16	7	20
7		23		19	7	25	15	13		20		12
26	21	22	20	23	20		20	26	6	26	10	26
6		26	8	13	9		26	18	26	20		24
			6							11		
5		15	12	11	11		23	13	26	3		7
12	10	16	14	7	26		26	12	6	9	15	26
16		20		9	6	19	16	10		23		16
1	22	20	22	9	10		20	23	6	22	10	19
26		26		6			26		9			12
6	26	20	22	20	23		14	6	9	10	4	26

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					R	L						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
												E

Each number in our Cross Code grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. You have three letters in the control grid to start you off. Enter them in the appropriate squares in the main grid, then use your knowledge of words to work out which letters should go in the missing squares. As you get the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and control grid. Check off the alphabetical list of letters as you identify them.

## MAGIC SQUARE

### ISOLATE AS A WRITER

Using all 16 letters of the phrase above, form four words each of four letters which will fit in the grid to form a magic square in which the words can be read both horizontally and vertically.


## Quiz Challenge

- Who was Princess Royal from 1932 to 1965?
- Which European city features in the title of a hit song by George Ezra?
- America's Grand Canyon has which river running through it?
- Which meteorological feature is measured in oktas?
- Where on a three-masted ship is the mizzen mast situated?
- What name is given to a member of the profession which calculates insurance risks?
- Anna Friel plays the title character in which TV series about a troubled detective?
- The Clent Hills are in which English county?
- In which city is the Ashmolean, England's oldest public museum?
- Who is the older of tennis players Andy Murray and Rafael Nadal?

## NONAGRAM

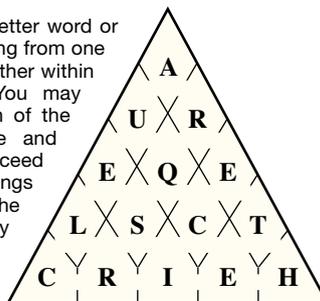
I	F	U
A	L	E
T	U	B

How many words of four letters or more can you make from this Nonagram? Each word must use the central letter, and each letter may be used only once. At least one word using all nine letters can be found.

**Guidelines:**  
28 Good; 34 Very Good; 39 Excellent.  
Any word found in the Concise Oxford Dictionary (Tenth Edition) is eligible with the following exceptions: proper nouns; plural nouns, pronouns and possessives; third person singular verbs; hyphenated words; contractions and abbreviations; vulgar slang words; variant spellings of the same word (where another variant is also eligible).

## WORD PYRAMID

Spell out a 15-letter word or phrase by moving from one chamber to another within the pyramid. You may only enter each of the chambers once and may only proceed through openings in the walls. The first letter may appear in any chamber.



## FIVE ALIVE

HF	RA	AL	LM	SE
OI		TI		TP
LR	IO	NT	TS	EO
MN		IE		MX
SY	IU	CN	UK	YS

Here are two miniature five-square crosswords using the same grid - but the letters have been mixed up. You have to work out which letters belong to which crossword.

## CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8				9			
10							
		11		12		13	
		15					16
17							
		18				19	
20							21
22							
				23			

### ACROSS

- Large glass vessel (8)
- Hit so badly in church (4)
- I leave the head cook (4)
- Very high building in Grangemouth (8)
- If rich ever ran around, it would undoubtedly be here! (6,7)
- 11 & 13. Others will find space in public building for relief (4,4)
- Members of the force who get taken for a ride? (7,6)
- Song about a leader of the army, detested person (8)
- Regulation measure (4)
- A large quantity of wood (4)
- Indicate season before, when water was at its highest (8)

### DOWN

- Band of warriors give a shout of derision in being caught, say (6)
- Crime of dealer in stolen goods (7)
- Nick cannot change inside (5)
- Worried about it becoming more noisy (7)
- With an expression of surprise American soldier finds a dog (5)
- Guard despatched by railway (6)
- The rate needs amending on that account (7)
- Idol removed strange barrel (3,4)
- Swoop down quietly on an animal (6)
- Carol oddly accepts classy eyepiece (6)
- Province of birth (5)
- Tartan cloth Penny put down (5)

## QUICK CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
9					8		
12		13		14			
15					16	17	18
							19
20	21		22		23		24
					24		25
							26
					27		
28							
					29		30
31							
					32		

### ACROSS

- Rain protector (8)
- Excuse (6)
- Pitt, film actor (4)
- Adult males (3)
- Vocal reaction (6)
- Deceptive (8)
- Grinned (6)
- Fleet of ships (6)
- Afternoon nap (6)
- Soundless (6)
- Outline of play (8)
- Scruples (6)

### DOWN

- Back of neck (4)
- Stroke (6)
- Radioactive element (6)
- Transparent (6)
- Cessation of breathing (6)
- For the time being (3,3)
- Passionate (6)
- Wading bird (4)
- Shoe fastener (4)
- Chair (4)
- Destroy (4)
- Affirm (4)
- Singing voice (4)
- Weather map line (6)
- Degrees (6)
- Evaluate (6)
- Boil (6)
- Motorboat (6)
- Child (inf.) (6)

## SUDOKU

Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and so must each 3 x 3 box. Hard

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

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

## EQUALISER

8	7
5 ○ 4 ○ 6	
4 4	
12 ○ 4 ○ 1	
4 1	

Place the four signs (add, subtract, multiply, divide) one in each circle so that the total of each across and down line is the same. Perform the first calculation in each line first and ignore the mathematical law which says you should always perform division and multiplication before addition and subtraction.

This puzzle page is supplied by Sirius Media Services. To try our new puzzle, Zygolex, go to [www.zygolex.com](http://www.zygolex.com)

**QUIZ CHALLENGE:** 1 Princess Mary; 2 Budepest; 3 The Colorado; 4 Cloud cover; 5 Nearest the stem; 6 Actuary; 7 Marcella; 8 Worcesterstshire; 9 Oxford; 10 Rafael Nadal.

**CROSS CODE:** 10 26 16 6 7 25 22 10 2 12 6 26 9 12 26 26 17 10 14 16 10 16 10 16 16 15 15 16 7 20 7 23 19 7 25 15 13 20 12 26 21 22 20 23 20 20 26 6 26 10 26 6 26 8 13 9 26 18 26 20 24 6 11 5 15 12 11 11 23 13 26 3 7 12 10 16 14 7 26 26 12 6 9 15 26 16 20 9 6 19 16 10 23 16 1 22 20 22 9 10 20 23 6 22 10 19 26 26 6 26 9 12 6 26 20 22 20 23 14 6 9 10 4 26

**MAGIC SQUARE:** 28 Good; 34 Very Good; 39 Excellent.

**SUDOKU:** Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and so must each 3 x 3 box.

**EQUALISER:** Place the four signs (add, subtract, multiply, divide) one in each circle so that the total of each across and down line is the same.

**CRYPTIC CROSSWORD:** 1 Rain protector (8); 2 Excuse (6); 3 Pitt, film actor (4); 4 Adult males (3); 5 Vocal reaction (6); 6 Deceptive (8); 7 Grinned (6); 8 Fleet of ships (6); 9 Afternoon nap (6); 10 Soundless (6); 11 Outline of play (8); 12 Scruples (6); 13 Back of neck (4); 14 Stroke (6); 15 Radioactive element (6); 16 Transparent (6); 17 Cessation of breathing (6); 18 For the time being (3,3); 19 Passionate (6); 19 Singing voice (4); 20 Weather map line (6); 21 Degrees (6); 22 Evaluate (6); 23 Boil (6); 24 Motorboat (6); 25 Child (inf.) (6); 26 Wading bird (4); 27 Shoe fastener (4); 28 Chair (4); 29 Destroy (4); 30 Affirm (4); 31 Singing voice (4); 32 Weather map line (6); 33 Degrees (6); 34 Evaluate (6); 35 Boil (6); 36 Motorboat (6); 37 Child (inf.) (6).

# Homes & Gardens

## Give a hedgehog a home this year on bonfire night

ANDOVER residents are being urged to help their prickly neighbours this Bonfire Night with five tips on making gardens into a haven for hedgehogs.

Hampshire home builder David Wilson Homes, along with long-term partner the RSPB and Hedgehog Street, is encouraging households to watch out for hedgehogs and other small animals that may take shelter in pre-lit bonfires.

It is estimated that there are fewer than a million hedgehogs remaining in Britain, with up to a third of the population having been lost since the millennium from urban areas. The State of Britain's Hedgehogs 2018 report (published by PTES and BHPS) also revealed that rural hedgehog populations have halved since 2000.

David Wilson Homes has a long term

pledge to create more wildlife friendly developments, by working with the RSPB and giving nature a new home, and these hedgehog shelters are an integral part of this mission.

Hedgehog experts from Hedgehog Street (a joint campaign between People's Trust for Endangered Species and the British Hedgehog Preservation Society) offer various top tips at [www.hedgehogstreet.org](http://www.hedgehogstreet.org) for helping hedgehogs including advice and guidance on how to build a hedgehog home or where to buy one.

Five tips to help hedgehogs are:

Create hedgehog highways. Speak to your neighbours about hedgehogs and their plight, to encourage them to make a hole in their fence too.

Create a haven for your garden

hedgehog. You could buy or make a hedgehog home, which will be a welcome retreat for your night time visitor.

Cover drains, provide safe exits from ponds and always check for hedgehogs before using strimmers or mowers, particularly under hedges where animals may rest.

Don't touch a hedgehog unless you think it is injured. If you do have to pick up a hedgehog, make sure you wear suitable gardening gloves or use a folded towel.

Put out fresh water for hedgehogs in the garden but don't feed them milk as they are lactose intolerant. Tinned meaty cat or dog food and even dry cat or dog food is a useful addition to a hedgehog's diet.

Rob Allen, Sales Director at David



Wilson Homes Southern, said: "Our partnership with the RSPB is extremely important to us and we want to work closely with our customers to ensure our British wildlife is preserved at our developments. As the darker and colder nights draw in, it is important to remember our smaller neighbours too, and something as little as creating a hedgehog highway and gardening with wildlife in mind to provide food and shelter for hedgehogs, can make the world of difference."

The move has been welcomed by the British Hedgehog Preservation Society (BHPS), which offers help and advice

to those with sick, injured or orphaned hedgehogs.

Chief executive of BHPS, Fay Vass said: "Hedgehog numbers are in severe decline so we welcome any action to help them from both the public and businesses alike, and would particularly like to encourage people to create hedgehog highways."

A 'hedgehog highway' is created by linking up multiple gardens and allowing safe passage for the creatures to come and go. As well as being a proven method helping hedgehogs, it's also a great way to meet your neighbours and improve your local community.

## Hope for first time buyers with Help to Buy

WITH low-deposit mortgage loans plummeting, first time buyers looking to establish their place on the property ladder in Andover and the surrounding villages are being reminded that they can still use the Help to Buy scheme.

There were 1,172 mortgage deals for those with a deposit of 10% or less last September compared with fewer than 100 now, according to the financial information firm Moneyfacts. This 90% decline in mortgages makes it so much harder for first time buyers to buy their home.

But with Help to Buy, the requirement of a 5% deposit makes securing a home easier for those who don't have a large down payment. Since the initiative launched seven years ago it has helped more than 250,000 families to get on the property ladder.

The government-backed scheme is still available until 31st March 2021 and both existing homeowners and first time buyers can benefit. Then from 1st April 2021 there will be a new Help to Buy scheme, with regional price caps which will be for first time buyers only.

Adrian MacDiarmid, head of mortgages at Barratt Developments, commented: "It's no wonder that Help to Buy is such a compelling offer for many



of our customers. They can benefit from a reduced deposit requirement, lower monthly mortgage payments and a 20% Government loan that is interest free for 5 years."

Some of the advantages of Help to Buy include:

Lower deposit means you can move sooner. For many people trying to save for the minimum 10% deposit needed

on most homes can be a struggle and seems like an unachievable goal. By using the Help to Buy scheme, you can save for your new home and get on the property ladder in a shorter amount of time as only a 5% deposit is required. This can make a big difference to a lot of homebuyers who thought they couldn't purchase a home, and will help those planning a family to secure

a larger property for their first move.

75% mortgage allows you to access lower interest rates. With 20% of the mortgage being in the form of an equity loan from the government and 5% being your deposit – you only need to borrow a 75% mortgage. This means you could get access to more competitive interest rates compared to a standard 85% mortgage.

Interest free loan for five years. The 20% equity loan on your home is interest free for the first five years, giving you peace of mind that you can settle into your new home and adjust to your budget before having to think about interest payments.

New build homes are a blank canvas. Help to Buy is exclusive to new build homes, meaning house hunters looking to use the scheme will purchase a new home with a blank canvas to make their own. These properties are ready to move into with no DIY required, meaning you can focus on making your mark in your new home rather than worrying about any maintenance.

Rob Allen, Sales Director at David Wilson Homes Southern, added: "With the availability of low-deposit mortgages declining so much over the summer, we're here to reassure first time buyers that schemes such as Help to Buy are still available. For property seekers in the area, it can be hard to know which moving scheme may suit them best and whether Help to Buy will offer them the best deals or not. We've found the scheme to be extremely successful at a number of our developments with its ability to help first time buyers onto the property ladder."



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# ObserverMotors

## Skoda CITIGOe iV SE L

By Tony Yates

THIS week I have been testing the Skoda CITIGOe and I'm happy to report right from the start it's a proper little mover. I have a natural dislike of vehicles with electric engines because petrol runs through my veins like blood – but I have to embrace the future, so why not start with something small and perfectly formed. Also, I have a VW UP!, a car I love very much – so the CITIGOe was in my book just like driving my car - but much faster off the line truth be told.

Well, let's see how it fared in this week's review.

### Power and efficiency

The CITIGOe is fitted with an electric motor that has 61kW (83PS) of instant power. Until you drive an electric vehicle you just can't comprehend just how quickly it moves you about. Also, I'm



sure you all want to know how far it will go on a single charge. Well, I managed 170miles which in my book is pretty good. Top speed will also stop at around 81mph and 0-62 will come in at around 12.3 seconds.

My test car was fitted with an array of fuel-saving features which helps you get more miles for your charge. Let's be honest here – it's blistering fast for

such a small car, and it's a blast at the traffic lights. It is also very very refined thanks to its 'silent running'. Even the eco tyres were less noisy than I imagined them to be.

### On the road

The CITIGOe does not feel heavy or cumbersome at all - and you can sense that Skoda has put a lot of effort into

setting up the suspension and chassis. The CITIGOe will also keep you and your passengers firmly in their seats thanks to a softer suspension setup that won't have you bouncing all over the place like a rubber ball. That's because smaller cars tend to bounce you all over the place, but the little CITIGOe was a real peach. I also liked how it cornered, and how it just glided across all the lumps and bumps in the road ahead, even when the road is full of potholes - like my road.

### Interior & technology

The interior is of a good standard and its controls are well set out and all the dials are clear to read. The space inside is also good, better than most – but it's very basic. Don't get me wrong – basic is good. You can also easily fit four adults comfortably on the inside. Plus – everything inside the CITIGOe feels very well put together thanks to the usual Skoda quality.

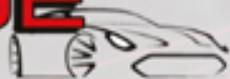
You also get lots of kit such as; 16" Scorpis black alloy wheels, ambient lighting, ESC, front & rear fog lights, electric front windows, head and side airbags for the front seat, lane assist, LED daytime running lights, radio Swing with DAB & six speakers, rain & light sensor, remote control locking with SAFE function & tyre pressure monitoring system. This is just a small amount of what you will find. The interior is also funky and the seats even as basic as they look are really comfy.

### To sum up

A great buy for your first electric small car – if you are searching for one of the best small electric vehicles on the road at the moment – then the Skoda CITIGOe is a real contender.

**Price: £23,580 OTR including fitted options (Winter Pack, Privacy Glass & Front fog lights with corner function).**

## CLANVILLE GARAGE



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2009[09] Suzuki Jimny JLX PLUS	£6,995
2014[64] Fiat 500 S	£5,995
2014[14] Volkswagon Up MOVE UP AUTO	£5,995
2014[14] Vauxhall Agila SE AUTO	£5,995
2016[65] Citroen C1 PURETECH FLAIR	£5,750
2010[10] Mini Cooper COOPER	£5,595
2015[15] Volkswagon Up MOVE UP	£5,495
2009[59] Volkswagon Polo MODA	£5,495
2011[11] Vauxhall Agila SE	£3,995
2007[07] SEAT Ibiza 12V REFERENCE SPORT	£1,695

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## Mobile phone loophole is closed in road safety boost

PEOPLE using a hand-held mobile phone in all circumstances while driving will be breaking the law, under new government plans unveiled by Roads Minister Baroness Vere on Saturday 17 October, to close a legislation loophole and improve road safety.

It's already a criminal offence to use a hand-held mobile phone to call or text while driving, but not for other actions such as taking photos. While still distracting, drivers have escaped punishment due to a legal loophole where such actions are not seen as 'interactive communication', and therefore do not fit the current definition of the offence.

Now, following a review of the offence, a consultation has been launched on bringing the law into line with modern technology – meaning drivers caught taking photos, playing games or scrolling through a playlist behind the wheel will be clearly breaking the law on mobile phone use.

Roads Minister Baroness Vere commented: "Our roads are some of the safest in the world, but we want to make sure they're safer still by bringing the law into the 21st century. That's why we're looking to strengthen the law to make using a hand-held phone while driving illegal in a wider range of circumstances – it's distracting and dangerous and for too long risky



drivers have been able to escape punishment, but this update will mean those doing the wrong thing will face the full force of the law."

Ministers have rejected calls to go further by banning the use of hands-free functions - drivers will still be able to continue safely using devices 'hands-free' while driving, such as a sat-nav secured in a cradle.

By updating the law, police powers will be bolstered to tackle this behaviour even further – ensuring they can take immediate action if they see a driver holding and

using their phone at the wheel. The penalties in place for using a hand-held mobile phone while driving are six penalty points and a £200 fine.

National Police Chiefs' Council lead for Roads Policing, Chief Constable Anthony Bangham, said: "Using a mobile phone while driving is incredibly dangerous and being distracted at the wheel can change lives forever. Police will take robust action against those using a hand-held mobile phone illegally and proposals to make the law clearer are welcome."

# Fiat 500 Mild-Hybrid Launch Edition

By Tony Yates

I have owned many Fiat 500s over the years and the other day, I started thinking about how the little 500 was now starting to show its age. A few moments later, I received an email from Fiat regarding a new mild-hybrid version of the 500, and in that second, I instantly thought, yes, this fits in perfectly, so let's give this 500 mild-hybrid a little road test!

So, in true form, I used my many contacts and managed to bag myself a 500 mild-hybrid for the week. So, how did it fair?

## Power and efficiency

The little 500 mild-hybrid is powered by a 3-cylinder FireFly 1.0-litre engine family with a 12-volt (BSG) electric motor and a lithium battery that delivers 70hp (51kW). The BSG system is mounted directly on the engine and is operated by the belt that also drives the auxiliaries. The system recovers energy during braking and deceleration, stores it in a lithium battery with a capacity of 11Ah, and uses it, at a maximum power of 3,600W, to restart the engine in Stop & Start mode and to assist it during acceleration. It's a peaky little engine if I'm being honest, but it's not what I would call 'Sporty'. Although I do like the way it sounds and you must remember this is a mild-hybrid, so it was never going to be a race car in any shape or form.

## On the road

I will keep it simple here; the little 500 is the perfect car to scoot about in because it's poised, easy to park and you will always have a little smile on your face every time you drive it. Ok, it's a little 'bouncy' but that's all the fun of the Fiat. Into the corners, it's just as good as the next best small car, and just as much fun as my old Mini Clubman. Also, the mild-hybrid propulsion unit used in the 500 receives a 6-speed manual transmission (transverse gearbox, front-wheel drive), aimed at improving fuel economy in out-of-town driving, thanks to new low-friction bearings and gaskets and the use of a specific high-efficiency lubricant. The new system also involves lowering the entire power unit 45mm so the car behaves better on the road thanks to the lower centre of gravity.

## Design & technology

Like all Fiat 500s, the interior and exterior design are great. Its festooned on the inside with matt paint finishes and chrome detailing. The switches and dials are also set out nicely, and the seating is very comfy. There is also a TFT display which includes key indicators such as battery condition and how best to return optimal efficiency.

## To sum up

I think for someone looking for their first every mild-hybrid city car then it's perfect.

**Price from: £17,150.**



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# Isuzu D-Max Arctic Truck AT35

By Tony Yates

THIS week I am testing the updated Isuzu D-Max AT35 Arctic pick-up truck which if you are interested, is a machine festooned with large wheels, Botox bodywork and an engine that would if required, move pretty much anything you put in its path.

So, to keep things simple, I will refrain from going to the North or South Pole this week and instead drive around some normal suburban streets whilst also blocking up all the roads and causing total havoc as I try to park something the size of a 747.

## Power and efficiency

The D-Max is powered by a 1.9 litre turbo diesel engine that has 164PS and 360Nm of torque. I won't go into too much detail regarding performance – as the D-Max is not about performance – it's about being a workhorse. But for those of you who want to know; Max speed comes in around 112mph and on the combined cycle - I was able to achieve 36mpg driving the auto.

## On the road

Well, let's focus mainly on the D-Max's off-road abilities – so I shall start with that. I have a friend who owns a milk farm – and he kindly let me use some of its muddy paths to see how it would fare compared to his

Land Rover. Well, I have to say – the D-Max was faultless really. But then again, that's mainly thanks to those large wheels which help improve the ground clearance massively. Meaning, it will pretty much clamber over anything in its path.

Also, I always take a pre-set route that can sometimes take me up to 50miles away from my starting point which is a good test to find out how a vehicle fared on normal roads as well as motorways. Well, I am happy to say it did a great job, apart from those massive tyres, which do seem to make a lot of road noise. But, to be fair, the D-Max was a decent ride on normal roads. It was also fun off-road and more than capable of keeping up with any Land Rover owners.

## Design and technology

Inside was also kitted out very well, and here are some of the features you can expect to get as standard on the 'Arctic version' including; Power Windows (Front & Rear), Remote Control Central Locking, Keyless Entry and Push Button Start, Height Adjustable Steering Wheel, Steering Wheel Mounted Audio & Cruise Controls, Two 12-Volt Power Outlets (Top Glove Box & Instrument Panel), Multi-Information Display, Bluetooth® Connectivity, DAB Radio, Apple CarPlay™ & Android Auto™ (functionality available with compatible smartphones), 9" Multi-



function Colour Touchscreen, Satellite Navigation, Nine Speakers (2 x Front Door, 2 x Rear Door, 2 x Tweeters, 2 x Roof Mounted & 1 Subwoofer), Front USB Port, Rear USB Port, HDMI Port.

Plus; ESC (Electronic Stability Control), ABS (Anti-Lock Braking System), EBD (Electronic Brakeforce Distribution), Brake Assist System, Hill Start Assist, Hill Descent Control, Security Etched Glass, Insurance

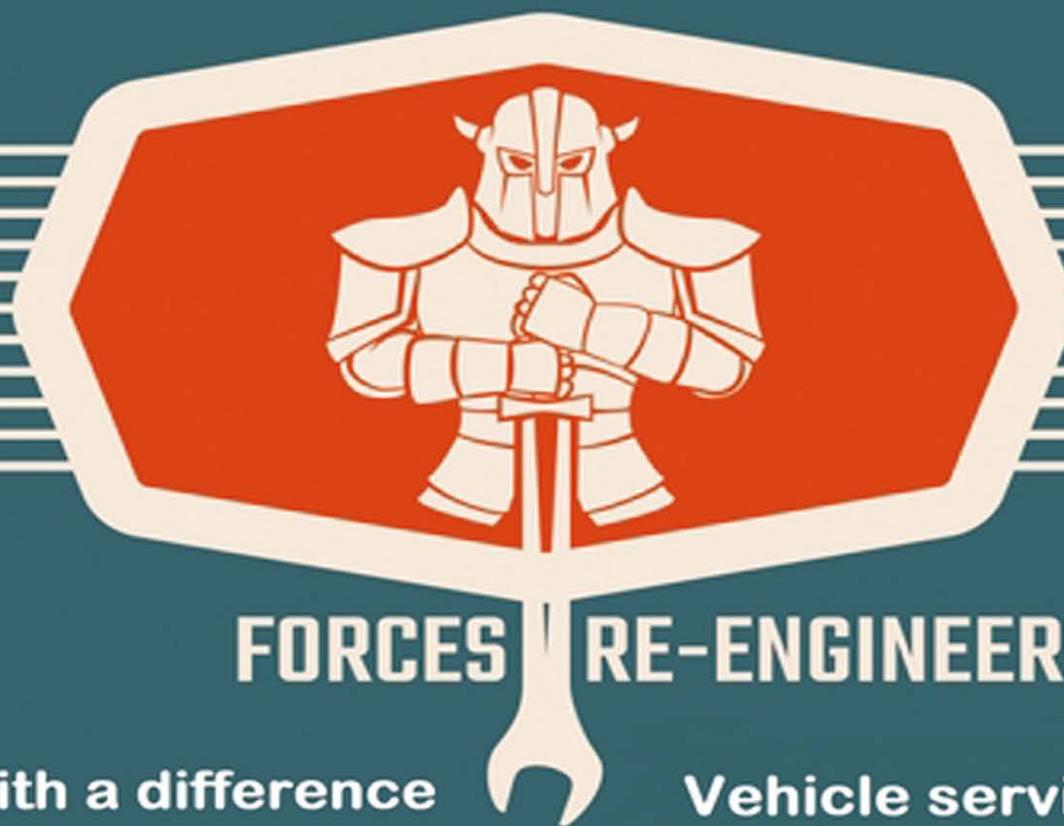
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Camera, Torque Wrench and Bilstein Suspension.

## To sum up

I was impressed by the D-Max, yes it may look like a pick-up on Botox –but I'm telling you now – the D-Max is worth looking at if you're in the market for a new 4X4.

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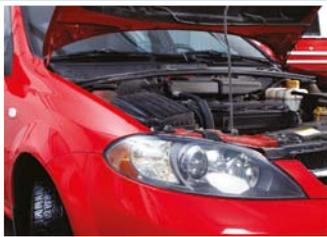
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# Getting to know: Andover Town's Football Players

WITH many sports and matches postponed or cancelled in November, we thought it gave us a good opportunity to get to know a little more about some of the players who take to the pitch every week to represent our town.

Today we introduce the first two players: Brendan Holmes and Owen Trapnell.

In our next edition, we will meet some more ATFC players.

## ATFC PLAYER PROFILE



Name:	Owen Trapnell
Age:	24yrs
Height:	190cm
Appearances:	86
Goals:	4
Preferred Foot:	Right
Preferred Position(s):	Central Defender
Previous Teams:	Andover New Street FC, Swindon Town FC, CK Andover
Favourite Football Team:	Liverpool FC
Favourite Footballer:	Carles Puyol
Favourite Meal:	Chicken Wraps
Favourite Pass-Time:	Golf, Spending Time with Family, Video Games
Favourite Film/TV Programme	S.W.A.T

## ATFC PLAYER PROFILE



Name:	Brendan Holmes
Age:	19yrs
Height:	177cm
Appearances:	101
Goals:	7
Preferred Foot:	Right
Preferred Position(s):	Central Midfielder
Previous Teams:	Shooters FC, Stockbridge FC, Wiltshire RTC
Favourite Football Team:	Southampton FC
Favourite Footballer:	Gareth Bale, James Ward-Prowse or Lampard
Favourite Meal:	Pizza, Chicken or Chorizo Pasta
Favourite Pass-Time:	Spending Time with Friends
Favourite Film/TV Programme	Star Wars/Made in Chelsea

## Delight all round as CK secure first win and a clean sheet

CK Under 12s returned to league action this weekend against Durrington Stormers.

Club Secretary Melissa James explained: "Things started very well for CK having learnt from their mistakes in the previous weeks with slow starts, attacked from the off nearly scoring within the first minute. This set the tone for the first thirty minutes, it was attack after relentless attack from CK, unfortunately we failed to capitalise on these attacks and should have been 6 or 7 goals up in the first 25 minutes.

We finally got the breakthrough just before half time when Owen intercepted a goal kick and put it straight over the keepers head to mean CK had a 1-0 lead as the half ended: a first for the team, leading at halftime.

The second half we seemed to relax a little too much meaning 30 minutes of hearts in mouths for the poor spectators and manager. But the team showed their bottle by holding onto the slim lead, even when the opposition resorted to extremely physical tactics, the match finally finished with CK winning 1-0 for our first ever win and first ever clean sheet.

A big well done to the whole team for the great attitude and energy they put into the game. Also a big thank you to referee Dan, linesman Kevin and respect officer Zoe. Thanks must also go to our long suffering spectators for sticking with us and continuing to cheer. A final well done to POTM Daniel for his superb performance in both midfield and later in the defence."



# Observer Sport

**Inside:** Delight all round as CK secure first win and a clean sheet | Getting to know: Andover Town's Football Players

## Red cards galore for Andover's opponents

FOR the second time in just over a month Angel Call Handling sponsored Andover Town found themselves completing a match with only eight opponents left on the field.

Downton incurred two straight red cards in quick succession and late in the second period had another player sent to the sin bin, leaving little time to return to the game.

Andover were without Harry Barkaway and Josh Hewson but there was a welcome return for Tom Patterson who in the early stages, came nearest to opening Andover's account. During this period Downton's Ben Starr and Josh Bertie for Andover were denied scoring chances by an offside flag with Bertie's looking very borderline.

Andover's best chance of opening their account arrived after twenty minutes of play. Patterson was cynically upended just outside the area by Goalkeeper Matt Taylor. Subsequently Callum Sweeney's free kick had Taylor

**ANDOVER TOWN 2  
DOWNTON 1**

scrambling along his line but the ball drifted just wide of the upright.

Around the half hour mark, Patterson was again brought down this time by Steve Walker who was shown a straight Red Card. Four minutes later Paul Guilliver was handed a straight red for an alleged stamping offence. Zac Hind's subsequent free kick was on target but tipped over the bar by Taylor. Five minutes later Brendan Holmes challenged Taylor for a high bouncing ball and despite conceding almost a foot in height to the goalkeeper, the Andover Captain won and his header rolled slowly into the unguarded net.

As the second half got underway, it became apparent that the visitors would

mitigate their numerical disadvantage by defending very deep and rely on a quick break to unsettle Andover. It soon proved effective when Tom Mosley curled a volley into the Andover net.

Andover went on to keep the visitors penned in their own half for long periods but failed to create a breakthrough. However just as the Andover Faithful were becoming restless, the much needed second goal arrived. Hine made space on the edge of the area and sent in a fierce volley that Taylor did well to punch away but only in the direction of Patterson who fired it in to give the keeper little chance.

Thought the second half, apart from their goal, only had two further chances and with ten minutes left went down to eight with the departure to the sin bin.

Andover's unbeaten run continues but National Lockdown permitting their next three scheduled games will in all probability define the rest of their season.



Brendan Holmes scores Andover's 1st  
Credit: James Charwood Photography

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