



THE VILLAGE MAGAZINE OF LANGRISH
& RAMSDEAN IN HAMPSHIRE



The Squeaker

September 2026

EDITION 173

Useful Information



Website: www.squeaker.org.uk



FORTHCOMING SSUE: JANUARY 2027



Deadline for major copy: 2 weeks before issue. Please send copy/photos to langrishramsdeanfriends@gmail.com



Information for website: <https://squeaker.org.uk/>
Please contact: ian.c.wesley@gmail.com



Langrish Parish Council news: Please contact langrishparishcouncil@gmail.com



St John the Evangelist website:
<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/16874/>

EDITOR: LANGRISH AND RAMSDEAN FRIENDS

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Editorial

So the weather has changed back now to a seasonal norm, both the landscape and the livestock I'm sure feel the benefit, as well as us mortals. Sadly some public spaces have suffered more than others and Reeds Meadow may take time to recover.

There are some good visuals which take us into the autumn season, the beautifully refurbished bench on Ramsdean Green – with thanks to the Petersfield Men's Shed, and a beautiful Lambert family bench in Langrish churchyard.



Overgrown road/speed signs in Langrish have been expertly trimmed back by Gerry Clarke so now Langrish can be seen...thank you Gerry; as we have said before, volunteers help keep the villages in order.



This month saw the sad closure of St Johns church in Langrish and the final service, which was led by the Bishop of Portsmouth. Its 155 years of service were commemorated in style, more of this in this issue.

We hope you enjoy this current issue and hope to receive further interesting articles for the Squeaker in the future.



This issue will be printed and distributed to homes in Ramsdean and Langrish. Surplus copies will be left in Langrish House.

We are grateful to Chris Hayward for formatting the September Squeaker design.

Electronic copies of The Squeaker are available online since 2000

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/10HGuvGX1kK2PsNrRyNKcA9boP1IygHOO>

There is also a library of flyers produced to advertise Friends events

<https://squeaker.org.uk/friends-meeting-archive/>

Editor - Langrish and Ramsdean Friends

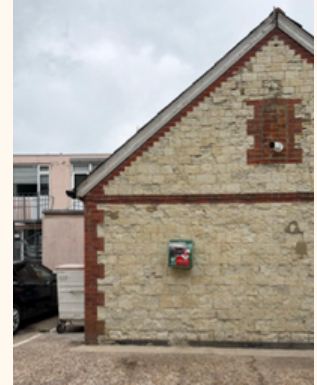


Langrish & Ramsdean Friends

A relatively quiet summer for Friends events. Coffee mornings and activities took place in spring and early summer, though that doesn't mean nothing happened. The Book club continued, church services, though limited, took place and changes in the village with new arrivals.

Defibrillator

We are fortunate to have a defibrillator in Langrish, but were you aware of it? It is sited on the wall of the Barden factory where the Rosemary Foundation used to have their office. It was installed some years ago.



The Friends are in communication with a charity called HEARTSTART which is based in the Meon Valley and runs training sessions to increase confidence and awareness with regard to defibrillators. They can offer a 1.5 hr session for up to 25 people on basic life-saving skills and defibrillator use. The facilitators bring both mannequins and practice defibs so that attendees can safely 'have a go'

Would you be interested in having this training? If we have sufficient interest we would aim to set this up in the New Year, hiring a suitable space and providing refreshments. If you are interested, please email langrishramsdeanfriends@gmail.com

We are delighted to welcome Jo and Keith O'Neill who have moved into Stable Cottage, along with four legged friends Bella and Pete, who are steadily munching their way through the paddock and open to apples...I'm sure we will see (and hear) much more of them in our community.



Millie and Rich Webb announce the arrival of daughter Flora in Church Farm, sister to Ellis and Sylvie and looking forward to many more happy years here.





Friends Barbecue

This was an opportunity to see village friends and families out in force, and it proved to be just that. The day didn't promise much in the way of weather on Sunday 13 September but it stayed fine for the majority of the day and over 70 adults and children attended.

It was an early start setting up the gazebos, tables and chairs with food and drink preparation. Direct access to the field was permitted by Richard Jordan for which we give grateful thanks. Car parking was provided in Lambert's field opposite the church, for which we are also very grateful, with car parking and traffic control expertly managed by Charles Haydon.



Rob and Stuart did a splendid job cooking and the Friends committee served salads and contributed to the running of the bar by Gerry Clarke and serving of food, along with an excellent raffle run by Robina Talbot-Ponsonby.



Friends Calendar 2026

Sunday 18 October – Flo and Joan 'With Feeling' Tour at the Theatre Royal Portsmouth – transport details will be sent out nearer the time

17 November 1030-12 Coffee morning hosted by Marjorie Day at Old Hop Kiln

Thursday 10 December – Christmas dinner at The Olde George, East Meon

New Year's drinks 2027 - Details TBA





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Ramshill, Petersfield, GU31 4AS



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Father Christmas & His Elves
Cakes
Tombola



Christmas Trees



Alexander (Talbot-Ponsonby) and his cousin Otto Bruce have a Christmas Tree business at Temple Valley, not far from Langrish, between Alresford and Winchester. They are now in year 5. It opens from the last weekend of November to generally mid December.



They sell wonderful Christmas Trees and there is plenty to amuse the youngsters while you choose your tree! Fun for all the family and you can grab a coffee when you are there!

www.templevalleychristmastrees.co.uk



Village People – Langrish Nostalgia

September seems to be a time of memories and nostalgia. Following a phone call from Robina regarding guests staying at Langrish House I agreed to inviting former resident of Slatehill Cottage (my home) David Haverley and his wife Sue for a chat. David was born in my then, tiny two up and one down cold and very damp cottage. He was interested in seeing how the place has been added to and stating that his parents thought they were in heaven when they moved into number 6 the Close!!!

Continuing on with the same theme....Some other visitors to Langrish, who also came to stay with Robina and Nigel, are the daughter and son in law of Mai and Karl Andreasson, formally of 'Flints'. We were close neighbours for many years. It was great fun to catch up with them at The George! They also visited Flints to meet David and Kay Mowlam.



On the same note at Underwood Cottage we had a letter from New Zealand from sisters Rowena and Hilary née Strachan, whose grandparents Doris Anne Kingham née Lambert and Arthur Kingham lived here during the war until 1961.

Their father Trevor befriended a soldier stationed here with his New Zealand regiment in Langrish House and after the war when he went back there he suggested their father and family come out there, which they did. Rowena and her sister Hilary remember being small children when visiting their grandparents in Underwood cottage.

Pictured here Hilary and Rowena sitting at the bottom of the stairs where Rowena would sit and feed the dog when she was 8 years old...and in the garden.

Sue Rickette (Slatehill) and Julie Blackwell (Underwood)

Manor Farm Pottery Barn

In August, we were thrilled to officially open The Pottery Painting Barn at Manor Farm. We have welcomed many happy painters to decorate a ceramic piece of their choosing, whether it is a dinosaur, a dog bowl, a mug or anything in between! The pieces are then glazed and fired in the kiln by us, and ready to be returned to you within 10-14 days.



We have room for up to 10 painters at a time, and with free parking, and complimentary refreshments pottery painting makes for a great activity for all the family. We have no booking fee, so all you pay for is the individual ceramic, prices of which range from £12-£24.



Our opening times are as follows:

Monday: Closed
Tuesday: 2pm-8pm
Wednesday: 10am-4pm
Thursday: Closed
Friday: 2pm-8pm
Saturday: 10am-6pm
Sunday: 10am-4pm

If you are interested in booking a session, email us at
thepotterypaintingbarn@gmail.com

Also be sure to keep up with our social media pages for any updates!

Facebook: The Pottery Painting Barn

Instagram: thepotterypaintingbarnlangrish

Kalluno Design

Robina Talbot-Ponsonby writes: When our youngest son, Alexander, was a small boy he used to follow the builders round the house and watch their every move. His favourite past time was to be given a bag of off cut wood from Travis and Perkins and hammer the bits into shapes! He made boxes, bird tables, boats and so on.



Fast forward a few decades and after a degree in Business Studies

and Management at Oxford Brookes and a short while working in the City in Insurance, he returned to his first love. He now runs Kalluno Design and makes high end kitchens in his workshop in Langrish. He lives in South London so reverse commutes and you may well meet his black van around Langrish, either bringing him to and from work, Screw Fix or Tool Time or loaded with a freshly minted kitchen he is transporting to its new home, usually in London.



Do follow our very own Langrish-grown Kitchen Designer on Instagram ([kalluno_design](#)) or have a look at his fabulous designs on his website.

www.kallunodesign.com

Robina Talbot-Ponsonby

The Beauty Room

The Squeaker is delighted to introduce Haley at the Beauty Room at Rookery Farm in Ramsdean, a new beauty treatment space on a farm looking out over Butser Hill.

Haley has been a qualified beauty therapist for over twenty years. She was a Premier Therapist at Champneys and spent many years at an award-winning salon. At the farm there is the quiet and the time to give every treatment the care it deserves.



On joining, Haley completed her training with Comfort Zone. Their products are developed in the Davines Group's laboratories in Parma in Italy, pairing clinically supported active ingredients with high-quality natural ones. The in-salon protocols are structured treatments with a defined sequence, which is why each facial is booked for the time it genuinely needs. There is also a line for every skin type and their collections cover hydration, firming, brightening and sensitivity. Haley has completed the full Comfort Zone training programme, from totally hands-on treatments to using acupuncture spheres and ice spoons.



Bookings are best made by calling or texting Haley on 07795 264 142 and visit www.beauty.rookery-farm.co.uk for treatments and prices.

‘Every treatment on the menu is my own,’ says Haley. ‘This includes facials, massage, waxing, reflexology, brows, lashes and nails. My deep tissue back massage, for example, is recommended by local physiotherapists and booked by athletes from across the area.’ ‘The aim is to give clients the confidence to be the best version of themselves, in a place that feels cosy rather than clinical,’ she adds.

Downing Chapel Choir Tour

Sea, Salmon and Sword-fights

The first excitement of the Tour occurred at Gatwick Airport, thanks to somebody knocking a lamppost over, which fell across the road, blocking all traffic to the North Terminal. Luckily we were Southbound and escaped the chaos, but a number of parents/other departing dropper-offer-ers didn't...

Having arrived in Lisbon, we noted how cool it was in comparison to the UK, and joyfully embarked upon our first journey by Metro. This joy was shortlived, however, when we swiftly realised we had somehow lost half the Choir. With our numbers eventually restored, and hotel check-in complete, there began a heated debate as to whether food or football should be deserving of the higher priority. The net result was another half-Choir split, with a number of people going off in search of the Lisbon 'FanZone', and the other half seeking nourishment nearby.

The next day we were up at a civilised time to sing the Eucharist service at St George's Anglican Church. We were grateful for the warm welcome by the Chaplain, who was evidently an avid Life of Brian fan. Following an afternoon of sight-seeing, we made our way along the coast to the scenic town of Estoril to sing Evensong at the other Anglican Church. The Organ Scholar was slightly perturbed by the fits of giggles into which the tenors dissolved at the start of the rehearsal, and didn't quite know how to respond to the Director of Music's request for clarification as to whether he would like the organ to sound either 'quite like a video game' or 'a lot like a video game' ... but order was eventually restored, and we enjoyed singing canticles by Charles Wood, exactly one hundred years to the day since his death. After the service we found a beach: some of us swam in the sea, and we all eventually sat and watched the sun go down. It was a lovely end to a busy day.

Lisbon Cathedral was our destiny on Monday, and gifted us one of the funniest moments of the Tour. One of the basses had a serious argument with a rack of coat hangers on wheels and ended up flying all the way down the cathedral cloisters, as one with the rack. This was about thirty seconds before we were due to perform, but with the entire Choir howling with

laughter we had to delay our entrance by a minute or two (no basses were harmed in the making of this anecdote).

After the concert we decided to get a tram back to the hostel, but it didn't arrive when it said it would. After much deliberation we were on the verge of booking Ubers when the vision in yellow suddenly came trundling around the corner and was greeted by enthusiastic cheers, much to the consternation of others in the vicinity.

Tuesday was a slow start, in part as a result of the enthusiasm with which late-night karaoke had been engaged, but eventually everyone made it to Sintra, where we visited the Royal Palace and other sights. Following a group meal in a nearby restaurant, we convened on the rooftop terrace of our accommodation, and enjoyed the views across the city, while waiting for the tenors to figure out a way to watch the football on someone's laptop.

The next day we were up early to board a bus to Coímbra. There was a Love Actually moment (think Rowan Atkinson) in a coffee shop moments before departure, which threatened to derail our carefully-laid plans, but the whole Choir somehow made it to the bus on time. Sight-seeing ensued once we had checked in to our accommodation, and thence came the most bizarre moment of the Tour: the finding of what was unmistakably a Downing pendant in a charity shop! The World Cup once more dominated the evening, with a comparison of FanZones soon underway, before the occurrence of 'Sushi-gate', the wisdom of which was called into question at four o'clock the following morning...

On Thursday we had the enormous privilege of singing a Mass in the Chapel of the Apparitions in the Sanctuary of Fátima; this was apparently the exact spot where the Virgin Mary is supposed to have appeared to the three shepherd children. It was a classic 'visiting choir' service: the priest had clearly not been briefed on which bits we were going to sing (despite the precision they demanded from us before we arrived); the Organ Scholar forgot his music for the voluntary and so had to read it off someone's phone; and the security guard was chased by a bee during the Homily, which provided considerable entertainment for the Choir.

Friday was another slow morning, as most of the Choir had been sampling



Coimbra's party scene until the early hours. Some found a river beach and enjoyed chill-out time, while others explored the old town. After a group meal all together we discovered a Medieval Fayre in full swing, complete with Medieval games which the boys entered into with gusto, while the girls engaged in sword-fighting, following the example of the Director of Music.

Saturday saw us make the journey to Porto and split into groups to explore the city before convening at the Lapa Church to sing a concert. The church was extremely beautiful, and houses the biggest organ in Porto – considered the organ builder's 'masterpiece' – upon which a few of us enjoyed making a racket for a short while after the performance.



Sunday was our final musical outing: a lunchtime concert at Clérigos Church, which attracted a very large audience. Afterwards the Choir exploded into an impromptu a capella version of Pitch Perfect in the Sacristy, and were promptly told to desist by the church's Organist, who treated us to a very realistic and mildly terrifying impression of the Terminator. Meanwhile, the Director of Music managed to acquire 15 free tickets for the Clérigos Tower, which is 76m high and has amazing views over the city.

A certain football match occupied most of our evening, before last-minute port procurement and souvenir shopping took place on Monday morning. The most stressful moments of the Tour happened at the metro station on the way to the airport, with the breaking of two of the ticket machines, failure of station staff to contribute anything remotely constructive or helpful to the situation, and subsequent missing of the train by four of us, followed by a 90-minute delay before the plane took off. But we eventually landed safely back in the UK, to a new Prime Minister and even warmer weather.

Louisa Denby, formerly of Langrish, is Director of Music at Downing College, Cambridge

Hounds for Heroes

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Debbie Pick



Alec Guinness

A man of many lives

Londoner he may have been, but acting royalty had strong Hampshire connections, being schooled, resident and buried in this county.

He was born in 1914, in London, a few months before the start of the First World War. Although his father's details are missing on his birth certificate, his mother Agnes was working at the Royal Yacht Club in Cowes during the 1913 Cowes Week, a prestigious society event attended by several members of the Guinness family, including the 1st Earl; say no more.

His early schooling was in Pembroke Lodge, then in Bournemouth, which at that time was part of Hampshire.



The Head of this school supposedly said, 'You'll never make an actor son.' But Alec's hopes were anything but diminished and having trained for the stage while working as an advertising copywriter, he made his stage debut in 1934. He joined the Old Vic the same year, playing Osric in Hamlet in the West End. Alec and Shakespeare were to become companions throughout his acting career. His son Matthew born in 1946 also became an actor.

He married the playwright, actress and artist Merula Salaman in 1938, a union lasting until his death over 60 years later. Having served in the Royal Naval Reserve during the war, he rejoined the Old Vic in 1946 after his military service. From the 1950s the family lived in Kettlebrook Meadows, Steep Marsh near Petersfield.



Alec Guinness was the most represented actor in the British Film Industry (BFI) listing of the 100 most important British films of the 20th Century, being featured in nine movies, six in a starring role. A classic Ealing film in which he played all eight characters was the black comedy 'Kind Hearts and Coronets' in 1949 followed by his first Oscar nomination came in the Ealing Comedy 'The Lavender Hill Mob' in 1951. Alec's greatest accolade was picking up the 1958 Oscar for Best Actor in a Leading Role as Colonel Nicholson in 'The Bridge on the River Kwai'. The following year he'd be knighted for Services to the Arts. He also won a BAFTA, Golden Globe and Tony among others and was given a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, another honorary Oscar for lifetime achievement and a BAFTA fellowship.

He went on to take roles in many films in the 1970s and 80s, but a real departure was taking the role of the famous Jedi master Obi-Wan Kenobi in the Star Wars trilogy, finally being killed off by Darth Veda.

A satisfying swan-song came along depicting George Smiley in 'Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy' and 'Smiley's People', based on John Le Carré's books.

He was adept at playing multiple characters, specialising in authority figures, all brought alive with his smooth, deep voice.

Alec Guinness died on 5 August 2000 in Midhurst, West Sussex, aged 86, having been diagnosed with both prostate and liver cancer that year. He is buried at Petersfield Cemetery, his funeral held at St Laurence Catholic church in the town. His best quote was: 'Failure has 1,000 explanations. Success doesn't need one.'

Stephen Roberts - Hampshire Life August



A Passion for Churches

A rather sombre piece from John Betjeman:

And should we let the poor old churches die?
Do the stones speak? My word, of course they do!
Here in the midst of life they cry aloud:
'You've used us to build houses for your prayer:
You've left us here to die beside the road'

The Family Connection

With the closing of the Church, many people have asked about the connection between the Waddingtons and the Talbot-Ponsonbys. Nigel Talbot-Ponsonby's Great Great Great Grandfather, John Waddington, bought Langrish House in 1842.



He had two sons, John and George and a daughter, Emma. George started building the church but died before it was finished. John oversaw the completion. Neither John nor George had children so when John died, he left the house to his sister's daughter: Constance Louisa. Constance Louisa married Charles William Talbot-Ponsonby and they are Nigel's Great Grandparents. So that is the connection, the commemoration tablet to Constance is in the church.

Robina Talbot-Ponsonby

Church News

In the May Squeaker I explained that the process for closing the church had reached its conclusion and we would close for worship on 1 October. This has come to pass, the church is closed and the building now belongs to the Diocese of Portsmouth.

We have removed a lot of our possessions and taken them for safe keeping to East Meon and what is left is now the property of the diocese. Joy Sang did a remarkable job of advertising and then distributing the embroidered kneelers to many of the families with a connection to the person who embroidered them and there are very few left behind.

There was a meeting with representatives from the Church Commissioners a few weeks ago to discuss what might become



of the building now it is no longer needed for worship. They (the commissioners and the diocese) will embark on a 'use-seeking' process which will last a minimum of two years. First, they will see if there is any prospect of the building being taken on as a community centre/village hall or for some other community use such as a library. We know that the Parish Council has already looked into this and decided it would not be affordable or viable commercially so it is an unlikely outcome. The lack of parking or of vehicular access to the building make any option for future use problematic whether that be conversion to a residential dwelling or office or for any commercial use. Some disused churches are taken on by charities such as the Redundant Churches Trust or the Churches Conservation Trust but, sadly, our church, although a fine example of a Victorian Gothic design, is not of sufficient architectural or historical merit to be of interest to either of these charities.

So, what does this mean for the church building?



I regret that no-one can say with certainty but my guess, for what it's worth, is that the use-seeking period will drag on for at least 5 years, very likely longer, with the authorities reluctant to face up to the two most likely options: the building is left to slowly decay or it is demolished. It seems to me the least sad option would be to demolish it.

Clearly what happens to the building and the continuing maintenance of the churchyard, which will remain open and in use, is of interest to the community of Langrish and Ramsdean and it is appropriate that the Parish Council has appointed a councillor to monitor the situation.

To this ex-serviceman, the biggest sorrow is that the elegant stone war memorial erected in the church in 1920 to commemorate those villagers that died in service to their country in the First World War – part funded I must add by those living in the parish at that time - and the wooden plaque with the names of those killed in World War 2 will sit, out of sight, in this decaying building for goodness knows how long. We were refused permission to remove and store them with a view to erecting them in All Saints, East



Meon in due course so these monuments to the heroes of yesteryear are lost to the community whose forebears paid for them. I doubt I will be around when the future of the church building is decided and I only hope that someone younger than me will take up the cudgels and ensure the memorials are not lost for ever.

I do not wish to end on a negative note so I would remind everyone that we still have a parish – the Parish of East Meon and Langrish and we still have a church – All Saints Church East Meon. The congregation of East Meon are determined to welcome Langrish and Ramsdean people to what is now 'Our Church' so go along and see for yourself. Quite apart from anything else it is a very old and fascinating building and deserving of our support.



The Community wishes to acknowledge the diligence of Joy Sang in maintaining the church services and rotas during this difficult and sad time and also the persistence and professionalism of David Mowlam for keeping the process on track, along with the Langrish PCC.

David Mowlam and Jon Allen will be the Langrish representatives on the new East Meon and Langrish PCC.

Given our Parish church is now East Meon it has been proposed that we set up a Whatsapp group for car shares for the 4th Sunday of the month which is a Eucharist. More details will be advised as service times are confirmed.

When you join the group you can either offer a lift or request a lift which may make it easier for some to attend.

Please send an email to langrishramsdeanfriends@gmail.com with your mobile number and we will add you to the group which will be called 'Sunday Best', stating whether you are willing to offer a lift or would prefer to request a lift.

David Mowlam



The Final Service



St John's Church in Langrish has served the local community for 155 years but it is due to close for worship on 1 October this year. On 6 September the closure of the church was commemorated with a final service led by Bishop Jonathan, the Bishop of Portsmouth.

The building of the church was initiated by George Waddington, a forebear of the Talbot-Ponsonby family now living in Langrish House. Sadly George died before the church was completed but his brother John finished the building and it was consecrated by the Bishop of Winchester Samuel Wilberforce in 1871. He was the fifth son of William Wilberforce who led the campaign to abolish slavery in 1807. The Diocese of Winchester was spread widely at that time and included parts of Surrey so the Bishop was a busy travelling man.



The current Priest in Charge is Father Tony



Forrest and he assisted Bishop Jonathan who conducted the service. Readings were given by members of the congregation and village residents and the East Meon



and Langrish Choir sang an anthem 'For the Beauty of the Earth' by Philip Stopford. Father Tony had previously conducted a dedication service in January 2021, marking the 150th anniversary of the consecration of Langrish Church.

The service this Sunday was a celebration of those 155 years by remembering all those whose lives have been shaped by Langrish Church including the Benefactors, former clergy and lay readers, the church itself, the faithful departed and the Villages and wider community that formed the Parish of Langrish.

Many families were represented in the congregation who had witnessed baptisms, weddings and funerals in days gone by; as well as the various celebrations, memorials and concerts which have taken place over the years.



Bishop Jonathan's sermon was full of hope for the future as the parish enters a new era alongside the people in the Parish of East Meon, entrusting ourselves afresh to God's purposes, confident that the Lord who has guided generations before us will continue to guide those who come after us.





The future of Langrish church will be decided by the Portsmouth Diocese and the Church Commissioners, however the churchyard is a separate entity and will remain open for the community under the jurisdiction of the East Meon and Langrish Parochial Church Council.

After the service, refreshments were served and the congregation of over 120 enjoyed the opportunity for meeting old and new friends.



Julie Blackwell

Commemorative mugs/coasters of St John's church are available

St John the Evangelist mug and Commemorative glass coaster



Mug @ £2 or 6 @ £10

Coaster (10cm) @ £3 or 6 @ £15

1 mug and 1 coaster @ £4

Contact Julie Blackwell on 07796 146882 or iblackwell1@outlook.com

BACS to Friends of Langrish and Ramsdean 09-01-29 A/c 67426980



Book Review – Langrish Bookends

June – The Glassmaker by Tracy Chevalier

Venice, 1486. Across the lagoon lies Murano. Time flows differently here – like the glass the island's maestros spend their lives learning to handle. Women are not meant to work with glass, but Orsola Rosso flouts convention to save her family from ruin. She works in secret, knowing her creations must be perfect to be accepted by men. But perfection may take a lifetime. Skipping like a stone through the centuries, we follow Orsola as she hones her craft through war and plague, tragedy and triumph, love and loss. The beads she creates will adorn the necks of empresses and courtesans from Paris to Vienna – but will she ever earn the respect of those closest to her? An unusual story formula with part of the story told in the present and then also hundreds of years have past, a strange way of telling but an interesting plot.

July – A Single Thread by Tracy Chevalier

Violet Speedwell, mourning for both her fiancé and her brother and regarded by society as a 'surplus woman' unlikely to marry, resolves to escape her suffocating mother and strike out alone. A new life awaits her in Winchester. Yes, it is one of draughty boarding-houses and sidelong glances at her naked ring finger from younger colleagues; but it is also a life gleaming with independence and opportunity. Violet falls in with the broderers, a disparate group of women charged with embroidering kneelers for the Cathedral, and is soon entwined in their lives and their secrets. As the almost unthinkable threat of a second Great War appears on the horizon Violet collects a few secrets of her own that could just change everything...a warm and vivid story and we followed Violet as she sought to make something of her life, notwithstanding some twists and turns.

**August – The Violin Makers Secret by Evie Woods**

A simple tale told through the eyes of the violin itself. Hewn by a master and passed down through generations, one violin charts its own course through history...Baggage claim agent Devlin, retired teacher Walter, and appraiser Gabrielle should have nothing in common, but when a single choice sets in motion a new chapter in the violin's story, they finally feel a part of something – something that matters, and which makes them matter. Because as their search for the violin's origins unlocks a mystery stretching back decades, the instrument teaches them a melody they never expected.

A fascinating insight to the life of the violin and how it feels, wrapped around a story with many unexpected events and situations.

Book for September is Longbourn by Jo Baker

We meet at 7.30pm on the last Wednesday of the month at one of the members' homes with wine and nibbles. Please email langrishramsdeanfriends@gmail.com if you are interested.

The current members are:

Sue Ricketts

Ria Haydon

Pennie Hodgson

Charlotte Denby

Marjorie Day

Julie Blackwell

Jo O'Neill

Betty Wesley

Miriam Tedders-Clarke

Julie Blackwell



Langrish/Ramsdean Parish Council

The long hot hot Summer has had a huge impact on all gardeners and growers and on the wildlife area at Reeds Meadow which unfortunately has now completely disappeared. We will keep a watching eye to see how far it recovers and hopefully some regeneration will happen over the Winter months.

Following the traffic diversion through Ramsdean from the A272 in August, and the disruption it caused, the Parish Council received complaints about the speed and behaviour of those vehicles caught up in the delays. Arising from this incident the PC discussed whether they should apply to HCC to reduce the speed limit from 60mph to 30mph in Ramsdean. The process the PC would have to go through to achieve a 30mph will be arduous and possibly expensive. If the speed limit is changed there will then be the problem of enforcement which will be difficult.

However, the PC would love to have your views, particularly if you live in Ramsdean. If there is enough support for a change in the speed limit then of course the PC will go ahead and start the process of making the change. Please contact chair@langrish-pc.gov.uk cc clerk@langrish-pc.gov. With your opinions.

The good news for Langrish is that the speed limit alert signs have gone through the approval process with HCC and will hopefully be in place at Reeds Meadow on the A272 before Christmas.

Good news for Ramsdean too. The bench on The Green has been completely renovated by the Petersfield Men's Shed and reinstalled on The Green. Pictures show how smart the bench now looks, and hopefully will be appreciated by walkers and visitors.

The sad closure of St. John the Evangelist will take time for the community to adapt and will be very much missed, especially at the special services held at Christmas. The Remembrance Service will be particularly difficult as there is no Civil Memorial in Langrish only the beautiful memorial in the Church, which for the time being must remain there.

There will be a Service on Remembrance Sunday, where the names on the Langrish War Memorial will be read out at All Saints Church East Meon and a wreath from Langrish will be placed in their honour by the Parish Council.

Debbie Luff



Useful Telephone Numbers

Police

101 (non 999 emergencies) or 01962 841534 (faster!)

East Meon Care Group

Provides transport to surgeries and hospital outpatients for the elderly and disabled. Call 03300434823

Citizens Advice Bureau

03444 111306 / 0300 3300650

Emergency planning for events such as flooding/extended power cuts. Here are attached details of warm spaces in the local area.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/costofliving/warm-spaces>

Petersfield Library

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/library/libraryfinder/petersfield-library>

Winton House Community Cafe Winton House welcomes older people and especially solo people. An affordable place to relax and meet other people. The information desk holds details about resources and services in the local area. <https://wintonhousecentre.org.uk/wintons-community-cafe/>



Parish Council

Cllr Debbie Luff (Chair)

chair@langrish-pc.gov.uk

Cllr Roger Hetherington (Vice Chair /Planning)

rogerhetherington@langrish-pc.gov.uk

Cllr Ian Blackwell (Roads)

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Cllr Robert Bewes (Footpaths)

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Cllr Cheryl Walder

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Sam Merchant (Clerk)

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Cllr David Podger
County & District Councillor

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Emily Rich Secretary to United Benefice
Langrish, E & W Meon and Warnford

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