



## *Road, drains and flooding in Denmead*

Through the early part of 2013 there were comments to Denmead Parish Council that in some areas of the village the drains were not clearing water from the roads as quickly as people expected. It seemed that the expectation was that the Parish Council could somehow immediately clear the blockage and everything would be well again.

Sorry folks, the real world doesn't work that way. The reality is:

- The Parish Council is not responsible for the inspection or maintenance of the drains in the village.
- The Hampshire County Council Highways Department is responsible for the maintenance and repair of all the public road drains in Hampshire.

So where does all that leave you when it's raining, the drain at the end of your road is blocked and you can't get to your car without wading through a huge puddle?

Don't suffer in silence. If you want it fixed you have to tell someone there is a problem.

Who to tell : The Denmead Parish Council: e-mail [dclerk@denmeadparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:dclerk@denmeadparishcouncil.co.uk) or phone 023 9224 7947. We will pass your report to Hampshire Highways.

Hampshire County Council: [www.hants.gov.uk](http://www.hants.gov.uk), e-mail [roads@hants.gov.uk](mailto:roads@hants.gov.uk) or phone 0845 603 5633

You are welcome to attend Denmead Parish Council and speak to Parish Councillors directly. Dates and times are listed on the back page of this newsletter.

Your County and District Councillors hold a regular surgery on the first Saturday of every month. Details as listed on the back page.

There are approximately 7000 of you living in the parish of Denmead.  
You are the ones affected by blocked drains and flooded roads.  
You are the ones who know what and where the problems are.  
If you don't report them the problems will not get fixed.....It's up to you.

Councillor Ian Reed  
Chairman: Highways and General Purposes Committee



**DENMEAD SPRING CLEAN** – Join the annual litter pick and help clean up Denmead  
**SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2013 – 10.00am – 1.00pm – KIDMORE LANE CAR PARK**

## *Since the last edition....Notes from the Chairman's Diary*

**24<sup>th</sup> November:** Today, the day of the planting of the Jubilee Avenue in Creech Wood, dawned grey, cold and raining – and it stayed that way throughout the day as hardy souls made their way through the mud and puddles and planted their trees – some as a form of remembrance to loved ones, some to commemorate a family event. There is an article elsewhere in this issue on the planting, but in these personal notes I take the opportunity to thank Tony Daniells, the Clerk, who stayed throughout the whole five hours, helping to dig holes, make coffee and keep everyone cheerful in the atrocious conditions.

**Also on 24<sup>th</sup> November:** This evening, some friends coming to visit, came in the door and immediately mentioned the Christmas lights that had been put on the tree on the village green and how good they looked! The Parish Council had invested in a complete new set of LED lights which not only look better but are cheaper to run, so it was especially satisfying to know from a number of people who spoke to me that they were appreciated.

**7<sup>th</sup> December:** At today's meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, Gareth Bradford from the Department of Communities joined us. Whilst progress has been slow as the team find their way through the intricacies of this new process Gareth was re-assuring and provided contacts with other 'Frontrunner' parishes and towns who, being further advanced in the work, will provide help and some useful means of comparison with what we are doing.

**8<sup>th</sup> December:** Driving along Hambledon Road it was with dismay that I realised that some contractors to Hampshire Highways, carrying out improvements to the sight-lines at the junction of Green Lane during the previous afternoon, had torn out a large section of ancient hedge. County Councillor Patricia Stallard and I immediately went to register our protest at the site offices, but as it was a Saturday only the Sales Office was open. The telephone was soon ringing and e-mails flying and as a result I and my colleagues, Cllrs Rachel Smart, Ian Reed and Richard Hallett were on the doorstep of the Site Manager at 8.30am on Monday morning. This work was as much of a surprise to Taylor Wimpey as it had been to residents. It was only when the HCC Officer who was supervising the contract arrived that we were told it had been part of the top level agreement between Taylor Wimpey and Highways to ensure safe use of the junction. We protested that the junction had been used safely for many, many years with never an accident, but apparently the modern rules took precedence even over the specific instruction in the Little Frenchies Field Planning Inspector's findings, where she wrote that the hedge should be protected and reinforced!



Later that morning, thanks to reports of the problem to the City Council from Patricia and others, Winchester Officers came to check on the situation. They too had been left completely in the dark about the work, which it appears had been planned for some time. They have taken up the issue and the WCC Open Spaces Officer reports that now the necessary work has been done, there will be some replacement planting of the hedge using native species such as holly and hawthorn. I am sure that all your Councillors will keep a close eye on the situation to ensure that this happens.

**9<sup>th</sup> December:** The Winter edition of the Denmead Scene (114) arrived through the letter-box today, accompanied by some other leaflets. It provided a reminder that whilst there are other organisations in the village whose interests coincide with the responsibilities of the Parish Council, it is the **Council who, as the first tier of your elected, legal bodies, represents all residents, in the whole Parish, from Duke's Meadows to Worlds End.**

**During December & January:** It has been a very sad state of affairs that for the first time for many years part of the public conveniences at the car park have had to be closed due to vandalism. The

Parish Council are committed to having them reopened because of its value to those shopping at the village centre, walkers who start out from the car park, and others who have come to rely on these facilities. Of course, the cost of repair becomes a factor in this. Cllr Ian Reed, as Chairman of the Highways Committee, has been in discussion with the City Council (they own the premises) to get a workable solution. I hope that before this is delivered to you, they will be open again.



**25<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas is often the happiest time of the year for many families and friends but sometimes, when it is the first year without someone who has died, it can be a very difficult time. I was reminded of this when thinking of Greta Bendall, who died in June. Greta, who appointed herself my mentor when I joined the Parish Council, became a friend who always had the coffer percolator on, plenty of biscuits (especially for Harvey the dog) and “How about a little sherry, dear? You know where to find the bottle!” She is a character much missed.

**24<sup>th</sup> January:** And so to Thame Town Council who have just finished drafting their Neighbourhood Plan. Lots to find out and compare notes on here I think, but that’s an article for the Neighbourhood Plan Newsletter. Visit [www.denmeadneighbourhoodplan.org.uk](http://www.denmeadneighbourhoodplan.org.uk) to sign up for regular copies.

## *Two thank-yous*

The Steering Group wish to place on record their thanks to two residents of Denmead who have helped in the work of producing the Neighbourhood Plan: firstly to **Tim Dobby** who now owns the former Nat West Bank site in the village centre, who generously allowed us to use it for Drop-In Sessions during February and thus speak to many people to find their views that we wouldn’t otherwise have reached, and secondly to **Bryan Martin**, who in allowing us to use his cartoons in our advertising, has encouraged people to take part by lightening what can be a serious subject.

## *Volunteer needed - can you help?*

Denmead Parish Council is looking for a volunteer member of the public to join its Youth Working Group. We need someone with an interest in facilities for young people to act as an independent member of this Parish Council Working Group.

The aim of the Youth Working Group is to promote the general well-being physically, mentally and socially of the youth of the Parish of Denmead through education, health initiatives, physical activity and social interaction in order to facilitate their growing up into good citizens.

The Youth Working Group meets five or six times a year in the evening.

If you are interested in volunteering for this vacancy and would like more information about the Youth Working Group, please contact the Committee Clerk, Denmead Parish Council, The Old School, School Lane, Denmead PO7 6LU. (Telephone 02392 247947)

## *Denmead’s Jubilee Avenue - off to a great start despite the weather!*

The weather could hardly have been worse last Saturday (24<sup>th</sup> January) when people from in and around Denmead came along to Creech Wood to plant the sixty small-leaf lime trees that will make up the Jubilee Avenue. The grey skies, lashing rain and strong winds did not deter the planting of about forty five of the target during the day and Forestry Commission staff filled in the gaps later.



The idea had come from Cllr Patricia Stallard who chairs the Denmead Councillors & Forestry Commission Liaison Group. Simon James (the

Beat Forester for Creech Wood) quickly identified a footpath around which trees were being cleared and which could host the new avenue – sixty trees being appropriate as this is the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee year - and the Parish Council organised the planting.

Residents of Denmead were invited to buy one of the trees and come along to plant them in person, and their response was magnificent! Many trees have been purchased in memory of loved ones or to celebrate a family birth with the idea that the family will return regularly to watch the progress of the tree’s growth. Other folk and some organisations simply thought it was a great idea and wanted to join in. At least there was a chance to shelter from the rain and have a cup of coffee (thanks to the three-strong Forestry Commission team supporting the work) and home baked biscuits provided by youngsters from the Denmead Activity Nights Club.

*Footnote: You can find the Avenue by walking up into Creech Wood from Furzeley Road or by walking through the wood from the car park on the Bunkers Hill side.*

## **Ash dieback disease**

In recent months there has been considerable publicity about the increasing incidence of Ash DieBack Disease. It is caused by *Chalara fraxinea*, the asexual phase of a fungus first identified in the 1850s as *Hymenoscyphus pseudoalbidus*. The fungus, now thought to have originated in Japan or Korea, was first reported in Poland as being the causative agent of the disease in 1992. It was subsequently recorded from other parts of Europe as reaching Belgium and Italy in 2009, the Netherlands in 2010 and the UK in 2012. Although the disease has not been reported from our area yet, the chances are it will be because there are a huge number of ash trees, of all ages, in and around the village.

The fungus causes a lethal disease. Infection is by airborne spores which invade the soft growing points of the plant e.g. apical buds and new growth. The germination and growth of these spores quickly cause the characteristic mottling, death and dieback of the leaves and shoots. In its later stages it causes lesions in the xylem (the water conducting tissue which makes up the bulk of the tree) and also in the bark where they are diamond shaped, and occur around the base of small lateral branches arising from the stem. The disease disrupts the nutrient supply of the plant. By destroying leaves the plant is unable to photosynthesise and, by blocking the xylem, water and essential minerals are unable to get to the growing points. In this respect it is extremely efficient at what it does - the reported mortality of infected trees in Denmark lies between 60 -90 percent. Young trees (2-10 years) are killed rapidly often in a single growing season while older trees may survive for several years.

Ash is a native Northern European tree which supports its own ecosystem and there are estimated to be 80 million of them countrywide. It is understandable therefore that the onset and severity of the disease should cause such concern. It is a quarantine disease and its incidence should be reported. There are several ways to do this and should you need to, details can be obtained from the DPC office. The Forestry Commission has posted a useful video on [www.forestry.gov.uk/chalara](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/chalara) which deals with the symptoms in more detail and is well worth a look if you are interested. It is also important that the office is informed of potential infection so that the ground staff can remove offending plants on parish owned property.

Cllr J.L Harrison

**Q: What did other villages have that Denmead didn’t this Christmas?**

**A: A Pantomime!!**

**If you would be interested in helping to stage one this coming Christmas, please contact Chris Phillips on 023 9225 7138**

## *So – what on earth is a Village Agent for?*

We're glad you asked! A village agent has to have an enquiring mind, an ability to see problems as challenges, and the perseverance to find out answers.

Denmead has two brand new Village Agents: Maggie Morris and Jane Andreoli.

The village agent scheme is sponsored by Age Concern Hampshire, Hampshire County Council and Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service. That doesn't mean we run around in red capes putting out fires! We are volunteers, and aim to enable older people to live confidently in their own homes by helping to find solutions to the various problems that age may throw at them. This could be anything from finding a reliable local dog walker to arranging for a benefits' expert to call and help with money worries.

We are also there to help prevent accidents that could threaten a person's health or peace of mind.

For example – did you know that, for a small fee, an older person can have his or her driving skills appraised, using their own car, and from their own home?

Many older drivers begin to lose confidence on the roads – perhaps beginning to fear motorways, or travelling at night. This starts to limit their mobility and social life. Also, as we all know, a nervous driver can potentially be a dangerous driver.

The appraisal offers help and advice with the aim of keeping the driver on the road with improved safety and skill. It is not a test, and there is no "pass or fail" criterion. If you're interested, or know someone who might benefit from this service, contact the Road Safety Office on 01962 846100 or email [road.safety@hants.gov.uk](mailto:road.safety@hants.gov.uk)

Maggie and Jane are just starting out as village agents and are keen to come and talk to local clubs and societies. If you would like to get in touch, please email:

[denmeadva@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk](mailto:denmeadva@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk)

Alternatively ring the Age Concern Hampshire free phone number: 0800 3287154

Jane Andreoli

## *Your Community Centre*

Did you know there are over forty different groups and societies who use the Community Centre, ranging from dog training to quilting, children's dance to adult dance. In addition the newly formed



Table Tennis Group who meet on a Wednesday morning are looking for new members of all standards to join this fun and sociable group. The DCA has continued with its Refurbishment and Sustainability Programme and revamped both the gents WCs and the Barn Green Room with grant funding from Cllr Patricia Stallard and Hampshire County Council.

The monthly film nights have been growing in popularity since the improvement to the sound quality, due to the investment of sound absorption panels and the cushioned chairs. The late spring

programme includes 'Quartet' on the 30<sup>th</sup> March and 'Anna Karenina' on the 27<sup>th</sup> April.

As part of the Community Learning and Development programme, 'Computing with Confidence' starts on the 16<sup>th</sup> April. This brand new course consists of two hours per week over six weeks. In addition, we have planned several free courses, including First Steps to Creative Writing starting in

March and Creative Crafts commencing in May. Subjects include Bushkir Bags, Rag Rug Work and Coiled Rope Work.

After last year's success, the DCA together with the Denmead Brass Band will be holding this year's Proms in the Park on the evening of 13<sup>th</sup> July. This live open-air concert with our very own Brass Band promises to be one of the village highlights of the summer. So gather together your friends, pack a picnic and get ready for a fabulous night out; tickets on sale soon.

Finally in recognition of these tough economic times and to assist both our regular and casual customers, the Denmead Community Association's Management Committee are very pleased to announce that they have agreed to freeze room hire charges for the immediate future.

As always for more details of all the happenings at the Centre see our website [www.denmeadca.com](http://www.denmeadca.com) or sign up to our monthly electronic newsletter.

Bob Bainbridge MBE

## ***HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL***

### **Council Tax**

At the time of writing this report Hampshire County Council are likely to freeze Council tax for a record fourth year running. This is despite Hampshire receiving one of the lowest grants per head of population from Government and a forty three per cent cut in grant over four years - the biggest reduction compared with other Counties. Hampshire County Council took early action to respond to the national deficit reduction programme, achieving savings of £100million over the last two years. That has put the Council in a very strong position to tackle future funding challenges, which are expected to be even tougher from 2015/16.

All Council services from social care to roads, transport, education, libraries and countryside, are now having to find efficiencies that will reduce their budgets by two per cent to help meet the major pressures in some areas. If council tax is frozen, Band D tax would be £1,037.88.

### **Collective Switching**

The County Council is working with other local authorities across Hampshire to set up a 'collective energy switching service' which will enable gas and electricity consumers in the County to combine their purchasing power and get a better deal on their bills. This is good news for households across the County since it will mean that people who register for the scheme will possibly be able to get their gas and/or electricity at much cheaper rates than if they were buying either service as an individual customer.

There are approximately 760,000 households in Hampshire. If two per cent sign up to switch energy supplier through the County Council's collective energy switching service, this would give a combined purchasing power of just over 15,000 customers, enabling the negotiation of greater discounts. It is estimated that typically customers could save in the region of £60 to £200 on their energy bills by participation in collective switching and running the scheme could lead to potential savings of up to £25 million for Hampshire residents. There would be no charges to the customer or any council tax payer for this service. More details about the scheme and how people can register will be announced at the beginning of April 2013.

### **Carbon Emissions**

For a second consecutive year, Hampshire County Council has beaten its target to reduce carbon emissions from its buildings, schools, street lights and other operations. A total of over 15,500

tonnes of carbon have now been saved since 2010, which represents good progress towards the County's plan to reduce council carbon emissions by twenty per cent (26,360 tonnes) by 2015.

### National Award

Hampshire County Council has been named as the "Transport County of the Year" at the National Transport Awards. The Award recognises the County's achievements working with other partners and transport operators to provide an infrastructure upon which Hampshire can prosper.

### Clean Bill of Health

The County Council has earned a clean bill of health from the Audit Commission for the way it manages public funds to secure value for money for taxpayers. It has endorsed the Council's approach to securing a challenging £100million savings target, while maintaining the quality of services. There were no areas requiring action or improvement.

### Registration Service

Comments and feedback from members of the public are being used to shape plans to modernise the County Council's Registration Service (births, deaths, marriages and civil partnerships). The Service registers over 18,000 births and deaths each year and conducts over 5,000 ceremonies, the majority of which are civil marriages. It presently operates from 16 Register Offices across the County but because people are now using other approved venues for their ceremonies the Registration Service is re-examining how it uses its buildings, including where it can work in partnership with other local authorities or relocate to more widely used public buildings.

Sixty per cent of people questioned supported proposals to close the under-used, part-time register office in Bishops Waltham. Alternative register offices are in Fareham. It is already possible to book appointments for birth and death registrations online and this will soon be extended to include appointments for notice of marriage and civil partnership, as well as Nationality Checking Service appointments.

### Dementia Advisor Service

The Hampshire Dementia Advisor Service opened on 1 October 2012. The service is provided by The Alzheimers Society and Andover Mind: telephone 02392 892034. The service:

- is available to anyone with a diagnosis of dementia
- is available to people with a suspected dementia to help support them through the diagnostic process
- focuses on well being rather than illness
- supports people to think about how they can come to terms with and live well with dementia
- assist with health and social care support available to people with a diagnosed dementia and their carers
- offers advice on State benefits and planning for the future

County Councillor Patricia Stallard - Winchester Southern Parishes

## DENMEAD DATA

Denmead Parish Councillors		Contact Details
<b>Cllr. Neil LANDER-BRINKLEY - Chairman of the Parish Council and the Finance, Admin &amp; Personnel Committee</b>	High Trees, Thompsons Lane Denmead, PO7 6NB. Tel: 9225 1484	
<b>Cllr. Kevin ANDREOLI - Chairman of Planning</b>	6 The Meadow, Denmead, PO7 6YJ.: council@andreoli.co.uk	
<b>Cllr Malcolm DAVIES</b>	Bregawn Glasspool Denmead Waterlooville PO7 6EA Tel: 9226 4830	
<b>Cllr. Karen FORSTER</b>	Woodvale, Soake Road, Denmead, PO7 6HR Tel: 9226 7343	
<b>Cllr. Brendan GIBBS Chairman of Amenities</b>	15 The Heath, Denmead, PO7 6JT Tel: 9226 4528	
<b>Cllr. Richard HALLETT</b>	Warringa, Forest Road, Denmead, PO7 6UE. Tel: 9225 6910	
<b>Cllr. Jeremy L HARRISON</b>	36 Little Corner, Denmead, PO7 6XR.	
<b>Cllr. Felicity HULL</b>	Seymour Cottage, Forest Road, Denmead, PO7 6UA Tel: 9226 1977	
<b>Cllr. Paula LANGFORD-SMITH</b>	Hazelwood, Forest Road, Denmead. PO7 6UE Tel: 9225 5979	
<b>Cllr. Ian REED Chairman of Highways &amp; General Purposes</b>	50 Harvest Road, Denmead, PO7 6LL: Tel: 9278 6354	
<b>Cllr Ken SCHOLEY</b>	65 Anmore Road, Denmead, PO7 6NT: Tel: 9225 2393	
<b>Cllr Rachael SMART</b>	Devonhurst, Hambledon Road, Denmead, PO7 6LR Tel: 9261 0476	
Vacancy		

District/County Councillors	
<b>Patricia STALLARD</b> Cty/Dist Cllr.	High Trees, Thompsons Lane, Denmead, PO7 6NB Tel: 9225 1484 email: <a href="mailto:PStallard@Winchester.gov.uk">PStallard@Winchester.gov.uk</a>
<b>Michael READ</b> District Councillor	West Winds, Forest Road, Denmead, PO7 6UE Tel: 9225 7565 WCC email: <a href="mailto:mread@winchester.gov.uk">mread@winchester.gov.uk</a>
<b>Kirk PHILLIPS</b> District Councillor	Davaar, Forest Road, Denmead, PO7 6UE. Tel: 9225 0178 WCC Email: <a href="mailto:kphillips@winchester.gov.uk">kphillips@winchester.gov.uk</a>

Parish Council of Denmead		
<b>Parish Council Of Denmead</b> <i>Postal Address</i> <b>The Old School, School Lane, Denmead, Hampshire: PO7 6LU</b> <b>Tel: (023) 9224 7947</b> <b>Fax: (023) 9224 7943</b>	<u><b>Office Opening Hours</b></u> <b>Monday to Friday</b> <b>9:30am to 1:00pm</b> <b>Afternoons by appointment</b> <b>The Parish Office is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays</b> <i>All Council correspondence to be addressed to The Clerk to the Council</i>  Web <a href="http://denmeadparishcouncil.co.uk">http://denmeadparishcouncil.co.uk</a>	<b>Email addresses:</b> <b>Tony Daniells</b> (Clerk) <a href="mailto:clerk@denmeadparishcouncil.co.uk">clerk@denmeadparishcouncil.co.uk</a>  <b>Kelvin Andrews</b> (Deputy Clerk) <a href="mailto:dclerk@denmeadparishcouncil.co.uk">dclerk@denmeadparishcouncil.co.uk</a>  <b>Jennie Hanman</b> (Responsible Financial Officer) <a href="mailto:financialofficer@denmeadparishcouncil.co.uk">financialofficer@denmeadparishcouncil.co.uk</a>  <b>Debbie Cooper</b> (Committee Clerk) <a href="mailto:committeeclerk@denmeadparishcouncil.co.uk">committeeclerk@denmeadparishcouncil.co.uk</a>

Parish Council Meetings March 2013 – June 2013							
Unless indicated otherwise, all meetings begin at 7:30 PM at the Community Centre							
	Main Council (Wed)	Finance & Admin (Wed)	Amenities (Wed)	Highways & GP (Wed)	Planning (Wed)	Foot Paths Sub Comm (Tues)	Sports Sub Comm (Thu)
<b>Mar 13</b>		<b>13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>6<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>Apr 13</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>18<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>May 13</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup></b>	
<b>Jun 13</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>		
<b>Annual Parish Assembly : Tuesday 26 March 2013</b>							

### FLAG FLYING DAYS 2013

<b>Sun</b>	<b>21 Apr</b>	Birthday of Her Majesty The Queen
<b>Tue</b>	<b>23 Apr</b>	St George's Day
<b>Mon</b>	<b>10 Jun</b>	Birthday of The Duke of Edinburgh
<b>Sat</b>	<b>15 Jun</b>	Official Celebration of HM's Birthday
<b>Fri</b>	<b>21 Jun</b>	Birthday of The Duke of Cambridge
<b>Sat</b>	<b>29 Jun</b>	Armed Forces Day
<b>Sun</b>	<b>15 Sep</b>	Battle of Britain Day
<b>Mon</b>	<b>21 Oct</b>	Trafalgar Day
<b>Sun</b>	<b>10 Nov*</b>	Remembrance Day
<b>Mon</b>	<b>11 Nov*</b>	Armistice Day
<b>Wed</b>	<b>14 Nov</b>	Birthday of The Prince of Wales

The flag will be lowered at 11.00 am on Remembrance Day and Armistice Day

You are cordially invited to the  
**ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY**  
 a meeting of the electorate of Denmead  
 at ALL SAINTS CHURCH HALL  
 HAMBLEDON ROAD, DENMEAD  
 on TUESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2013  
 starting at 7.30pm  
 Look out for the agenda on the notice  
 boards  
 Light refreshments will be served