

WINCHESTER

Magazine

Summer
2025
Issue
No.34

Sunshine

Lovely summery ways to enjoy the city

Days out

Local events, shows and activities for the family

Holidays

Great ideas for reads, buys and travel

& More

Local artists and makers, movers and shakers

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Welcome...

WINCHESTER MAGAZINE SUMMER 2025 ISSUE 34



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Fun festivals with food, cider, music and more



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School news and student achievements across the city



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Join a local group to walk, sing or dance for health and wellbeing

What's not to love this Summer!

Summer is a fantastic time of year to be in Winchester, with the warm weather bringing everyone out onto the streets.

In this issue we've got plenty of suggestions for must-do fêtes, festivals and fairs.

Out and about, we meet the Mayor of Winchester, Councillor Sudhakar Achwal, who shares his favourite summery things to do in and around the city.

Feeling peckish? Then tuck in to our food pages which include sizzling food cooked on open grills to the best places for afternoon tea.

Give yourself a boost of health, with services from local specialists and some great ideas for upping your fitness outdoors.

And marking the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth, we've got lots of suggestions for Austen-inspired activities in Winchester and further afield.

Read about how forest school is transforming the way children learn, find out what's happening in the very best state and private schools and enjoy some great school holiday activities.

There's so much on offer for a perfect Winchester Summer.

Liz

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Victory in 1945

The Gurkha Museum Summer Exhibition

01 - 30 August 2025

This summer exhibition features a fascinating display of inspiring stories, original documents, unique artefacts, and engaging activities, accompanied by expert interpretation.

Commemorate the contributions of Gurkha units and individual soldiers in 1945 in helping secure the end of the Second World War.

TheGurkhaMuseum.co.uk/Whats-On | Drop in anytime from 1000 hrs to 1600 hrs
Peninsula Barracks, SO23 8TP
01962 842832

What's on

Lovely things to do this Summer

Summer outdoor cinema at Lainston House

Bring a picnic or book for woodfired pizza and enjoy outdoor cinema in the stunning grounds of five-star Lainston House hotel.

There are screenings throughout August, so take your pick – from Mamma Mia! and Pride and Prejudice to Moulin Rouge and Bridesmaids.

01962 776088
www.exclusive.co.uk/lainston-house



Hampshire Open Studios

See and buy the work of local artists and makers in their own homes, studios and workshops from 16 to 25 August as part of Hampshire Open Studios. Collect a guide to where to go from Winchester Tourist Office or take a look at the Open Studios web site. Be inspired by the wealth of city talent.

www.hampshireopenstudios.org.uk



Winchester Heritage Open Days

Winchester Heritage Open Days festival runs from 12 to 21 September, celebrating the city's past in all its forms.

Book now for walks, talks and lectures, set off on guided tours and access parts of Winchester that are usually closed to the public to discover their links with the past.

www.winchesterheritageopendays.org



Fine dining on the rails

Enjoy fine dining at The Watercress Line aboard The Watercress Belle on selected dates this summer. Relax in the opulent comfort of the 1st class carriages of this beautifully restored 70 year-old train. Diners can expect silver service on board and a gastronomic three-course dinner with seasonal, locally sourced ingredients.

01962 733810
www.watercressline.co.uk





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www.hampshireopenstudios.org.uk

What's on

Celebrating all things Jane Austen this Summer

Beyond the Bonnets

Celebrate the 250th anniversary of the birth of Hampshire's most famous author and head to the Gallery at The Arc. Beyond the Bonnets reveals the unexpected and often precarious lives of working women at the time of Jane Austen.



Through Austen's works and her letters, historic objects and an immersive soundscape, find out more about women in domestic service and those who owned their own businesses including nursemaid to Jane's brother Edward, Susannah Sackree and Mary Martin of Basingstoke who ran an inn and organised high-profile public balls. The exhibition runs from 26 July right through to November.

www.hampshireculture.org.uk/events

From page to stage and screen at The Arc

Ever wondered how a costume designer uses historical sources to dress Jane Austen's characters for stage and screen? Find out from Dr Alex Walker from Hampshire Wardrobe on 1 September at The Arc at an evening devoted to recreating Regency fashion.

01962 398046 www.arcwinchester.org.uk

Dress up day in Chawton

Don your finest Regency gown and bonnet and head to Jane Austen's House in Chawton to pose, picnic or promenade in the pretty cottage garden on 19 July. Enjoy a talk on Regency fashion, Regency country dance demonstrations and a drop-in dance workshop from The Georgettes as well as lots of other special events this summer.

Don't have a costume? Hire one from Hampshire Wardrobe, which also has other period costumes available or borrow one from the house on the day.

01420 83262 www.janeaustens.house



Jane's final resting place

Jane Austen is buried in the north nave aisle of Winchester Cathedral under a memorial stone. Visitors are invited to leave letters and flowers next to her brass memorial plaque, at the side of her grave. View the handwritten manuscript of Jane Austen's poem about the death of her close friend Anne Lefroy in the Kings & Scribes exhibition area. Anne was a mentor to Jane, encouraging her writing and sharing her extensive library.

01962 857275

www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk/whats-on




Austen fever

For even more, visit
www.historicwinchester.co.uk/jane250 for events throughout the year.

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 AUTUMN St Paul's Church Winchester SAT 15 NOV	 SPRING Romsey Abbey Romsey SAT 21 MARCH	 SUMMER St Paul's Church Winchester SAT 13 JUNE
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What's on

Even more things to do this Summer

Bangers galore, cider and great live music in the park

See Scouting For Girls at the Sausage and Cider Festival in River Park on 30 August which will be showcasing over 20 ciders and 30 types of sausages.

Bring a deckchair or a picnic blanket and listen to live music from Fleetwood Mac, Elton John and Foo Fighters tribute bands. Kids' entertainment includes bubble fun, a children's disco and drum workshops. There's also an axe throwing contest, a festival market and silent disco.



www.sausageandciderfest.co.uk

Commemorating courage

A new exhibition marks the contributions of Gurkha units and individual soldiers in 1945, which played a crucial role in bringing an end to the Second World War. Victory in 1945 at The Gurkha Museum in Peninsula Barracks runs from 1 to 30 August, and showcases original documents, rare artefacts, inspiring narratives, and interactive activities – enhanced by expert insights.

Celebrate the bravery of the Gurkhas in Burma, (now Myanmar), listen to family members share their relatives' experiences as prisoners of war in the Far East and find out more about the events that unfolded in the region following the declarations of Victory in Europe and Victory in Japan, 80 years ago.

01962 842832 www.thegurkhamuseum.co.uk

A great line-up at CarFest

See Travis, The Boomtown Rats, Rita Ora, Kim Wilde, Lightening Seeds, Squeeze and Madness among other headline acts at CarFest, where you can admire cars of all kinds, watch food demos and meet TV, theatre, music and sports legends.

It takes place from 22 to 24 August at Laverstoke Park Farm near Overton which is owned by former racing driver and Formula 1 World Champion Jody Scheckter.

www.carfest.org



Join Kingsgate Voices

Kingsgate Voices performs a wide range of music, both sacred and secular. At the heart of its repertoire is unaccompanied music of the Renaissance and Baroque periods, but the choir sings music from across the centuries to the present day too.

Musical director Andrew Hayman is a versatile musician, balancing his time as a conductor, accompanist, teacher and singer. He also heads up Southampton Choral Society and the Hampshire Country Youth Choir. Vacancies occur from time-to-time, and the choir is keen to audition singers who are competent sight-readers. Rehearsals are held at St Paul's Church on St Paul's Hill on Wednesday evenings. See its web site for details of upcoming concerts.

www.kingsgatevoices.co.uk



Festival fever

Must-do Summer festivals



Boomtown Chapter Four

Boomtown Fair returns to the Matterley Estate from 6 to 10 August, hosting the likes of Sex Pistols, Sean Paul, Maribou State and Hybrid Minds among a huge line-up of bands who perform in themed districts, each with unique designs, stages, characters and experiences.

www.boomtownfair.co.uk



Winchester Foodies Festival

Family-friendly Winchester Foodies Festival takes place from 18 to 20 July at North Walls Recreation Ground with all-day music from the likes of Blue, The Wanted 2.0 and Symphonic Ibiza. Expect demos from top chefs, masterclasses, local fare and kids' entertainment.

www.foodiesfestival.com



Mucky Weekender

Groove Armada, The Orb and Dub Pistols are among the headliners at this year's Mucky Weekender – a two day music and arts festival organised by Dub Pistols' frontman Barry Ashworth at Vicarage Farm from 11 to 13 September. Go for the day or glamp in a luxury bell tent for the whole weekend.

www.mucky-weekender.co.uk



Ibiza Orchestra in the Park

Don't miss this spectacular show full of dance music originating from the party island of Ibiza. A 26-strong live orchestra and vocalists recreate the hits of Rudimental, Daft Punk, Fatboy Slim, Prodigy and more on 29 August at North Walls Recreation Ground. Enjoy iconic tracks as you've never heard them before.

www.ibiziaorchestraexperience.co.uk

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All the fun of the fair

Local shows and gatherings

The Alresford Show

The Alresford Show on 6 September is a celebration of rural life in all its forms and is held at Tichborne Park. See prize-winning animals and modern and vintage machinery; watch horses compete, sample local food and drink, enter your dog in the dog show and enjoy children's entertainment and lots of shopping from local suppliers.

www.alresfordshow.co.uk



The Littleton and Harestock Show

We love a village show and The Littleton and Harestock Show can always be relied on for a great family-friendly outing.

It takes place on 6 September; and you can expect live music, a traditional flower show with classes for vegetables, flowers, arts and crafts, plus a dog gymkhana, entertainment for all ages and lots of food and drink.

www.lhshow.org.uk



The Worthys Music Festival

Watch talented locals perform throughout the day and evening, enjoy crafts, kids' activities and local food and beer on 13 September at Eversley Park in Kings Worthy at The Worthys Music Festival.

This is very much a festival run by locals and includes lots of community groups as well as some great talent from solo artists and bands. The dog show is always a highlight of the day. Bring a deckchair and sit by the stage for music into the evening.

www.facebook.com/WorthysMusicFestival2013



Twyford Village Fête

Classic, sports and super cars will feature at Twyford Village Fete which takes place on 16 August at Stanlake Meadow Recreation Ground. The event will also include live entertainment, food and drink and lots of stalls.

Want to show off your car? Then pre-register with the parish council which organises the fête each year.

[www.twyfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/
community/village-fete](http://www.twyfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/community/village-fete)

**Bunting
anyone?**

If you're organising your own show or event, visit www.hampshireflag.co.uk for bunting of all kinds, flags, flagpoles and banners.



Gig guide

Live music from across the city

Alex Francis at The Arc

London-based singer-songwriter Alex Francis has earned a reputation for his soulful voice and heartfelt songwriting. With over 30 million Spotify streams, Alex has toured internationally, collaborated with Melanie C for 'Hold On' and contributed a track to Cher's 'Christmas' album.

His latest single 'We Beat As One' was performed at the 2025 London New Year's Day Parade in front of 20,000 spectators, while his cover of 'Bleeding Love' has received mainstream support on BBC Radio 2. See him at The Arc on 5 September.

01962 398046 www.arcwinchester.org.uk/events

ABBA hits galore at Theatre Royal Winchester

Direct from London's West End, Mania: The Abba Tribute Show celebrates the music of ABBA with great vocals and dance, plus an array of fantastic costumes.

Dust down your flares, and join in with classics such as Mamma Mia, Voulez-Vous, Dancing Queen, Winner Takes It All, Super Trouper and more. The audience was up and dancing almost from the outset when we saw this show last year. It's on at Theatre Royal Winchester on 12 and 13 September.

01962 840440 www.theatreroyalwinchester.co.uk

An Evening of Pink Floyd

Witness the iconic sound of Pink Floyd's vast catalogue of music, performed by the Let Me In House Band, alongside the Mike Nowland String and Brass Ensemble at Winchester Cathedral.

An Evening of Pink Floyd on 12 September features a full live band, vocalists and a string and brass ensemble. Expect to hear hits with a particular focus on the inimitable run of records from the 1970s, including Dark Side of The Moon, Wish You Were Here and The Wall.

01962 857275

www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk/event

At the Railway

Fancy taking your music to the stage? Roots, Winchester's longest running open-mic night, takes place throughout the Summer every Monday at The Railway with free entry for all. Sign up from 7.30pm, with music from 8pm. Whether you're a seasoned performer or this is your first gig, here's a chance to perform in front of a local audience at a great city venue.

01962 867795

www.railwayinn.pub/shows/roots-night

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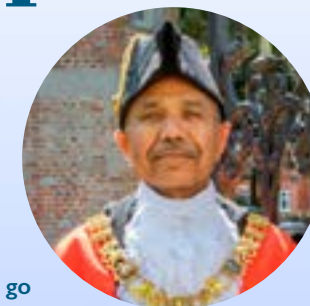
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Discover more

My Winchester Summer

The Mayor of Winchester, Councillor Sudhakar Achwal, shares his Summer must-dos



What's your favourite city Summer event?

Hat Fair. It fills Winchester with outdoor entertainment you won't see anywhere else and brings people of all ages together.



What do you enjoy doing most in Winchester during the Summer?

I'm a keen walker and Keats' Walk – from the city to St Cross through the Water Meadows – is one of my favourites. It inspired his poem 'To Autumn'. The views from St Catherine's Hill across Winchester are spectacular when the countryside around it is so lush and green.

What's your favourite pub for outdoor eating?

The Bishop On The Bridge at the bottom of High Street, where the garden looks over the River Itchen. I'm a real ale man and also like going to The Flower Pots Inn in Cheriton, which brews its own beer. It's been making award-winning cask ales and beers for over 30 years.



Where would you go for an ice-cream?

To Abbey Gardens, where the same lady has been selling ice-cream from her bicycle for years. Honeycomb is my favourite flavour, and the park, when it's full of flowers, is at its best in the Summer.

Where would you take your grandson for a day out?

He's very little now, but when he's older to The Watercress Line. I grew up in India when steam trains were still running, so the sight of the huge engines brings back lots of memories.

What book are you most likely to take on holiday?

A history book. When I go to The Arc, I head straight to the history section. I'm currently reading The Golden Road by William Dalrymple which is about how ancient India transformed the world. We have a good selection of bookshops



in the city, with P&G Wells and Waterstones great places for finding something new.

What's the best thing about being Mayor of Winchester?

It's a great honour to serve the community and meet people who make a huge difference through volunteering. There's a Sanskrit saying about doing your duty to others without expecting applause. I wear my chain with pride, but also very much as a symbol of duty.

www.winchester.gov.uk/councillors-committees/mayor-of-winchester



On the grill

Feast on Summer food with sizzle

Tandoor grills at Gurkha's Inn

Gurkha's Inn on City Road cooks many of its authentic Nepalese dishes in its tandoor oven, giving them extra flavour in the cooking process. Tuck into barbecued spiced Chicken Tikka Shashlik and Tandoori dishes from its Grill Menu which include roasted lamb, chicken and king prawns cooked in this traditional way. Like it hot? Then order Gurkha's Revenge – grilled lamb or chicken in garlic and chilli sauce. There are plenty of vegetarian options here too.

01962 842843 www.gurkhasinnwinchester.com

At the steakhouse

Porterhouse on Jewry Street specialises in steak which comes sizzling from the grill from its open kitchen. Its two-course fixed menu is just £22.95 a head from Sunday to Thursday and includes an 8oz rump steak. If you're pushing the boat out, order the 32oz porterhouse steak for two on the à la carte dinner menu. All steaks are matured for 35 days before being cooked to perfection. Veggie? You'll find lots of non-meat options on the menu.

01962 810532 www.porterhouserestaurant.co.uk

Pub burgers on The Square

The Eclipse on The Square does pub food well and its burgers are home-made and loaded up with beef tomatoes, fried onions, cheese and bacon. They're served with coleslaw and chips for £15.95. Tuck in from the pavement seating, where you can watch the world go by in the sunshine.

01962 865676 www.the-eclipse-winchester.co.uk

Lebanese Mezza

Lebanese House on City Road offers grilled Kallaj – Lebanese bread stuffed with halloumi cheddar and mozzarella with green peppers and Arayes, where its grilled bread is filled with minced lamb, onion and parsley and served with chilli sauce. Both dishes feature on its Mezza starter menu, where you can order lots of dishes to share. The restaurant also has set Mezza platters for two or more, for meat-eaters and vegetarians from £16.25.

01962 422679 www.lebanesehouse.co.uk



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Take a butcher's...

With Summer in full swing search out the best local suppliers for your barbecue

The sun's out and the weekend stretches ahead – time to invite friends and family round for some al fresco dining. Get out the barbecue but don't forget to visit your local butcher first. Not only can you get locally sourced meats at their best, but usually there's a friendly butcher on hand for top tips. Here are some of our favourites...

Cobbs Farm Shop

Cobbs in Headbourne Worthy has a butcher's counter that sources its meat from local farms in Hampshire, Wiltshire, Berkshire and the South Downs. Beef is expertly aged to develop flavour and all its pork is free-range. If barbecued fish floats your boat, buy it from Johnstons of Portsmouth's fish stall which is on site every Wednesday from 11am to 2pm.

01962 889000 www.cobbsfarmshops.co.uk

Beechcroft Farm

Beechcroft Farm Shop on Sarum Road sells meat from its own sheep, pigs and cattle and it's all free-range and slowly matured on site. If you like to know exactly where your meat comes from, stop off at the Tea Barn for coffee and cake while you look over the chalkland meadows where the animals graze. It's open from Thursday to Sunday from 10am to 4pm.

01962 868214 www.beechcroftdirect.co.uk

Hursley High Class Butchers

Customers come from far and wide to get their meat orders from Brian the butcher in Hursley. His is a traditional butcher's, with cuts selected and prepared in front of you in the shop. Its home-made sausages are perfect to pop on the barbecue or get Brian to cut you a steak just how you like it. For bigger parties, order a hog roast, with catering and staff also available if you need that.

01962 775599 www.hursleyhighclassbutchers.co.uk

New Forest Family Butchers

Taking over the popular Barlow's Butchers at Oliver's Battery in 2023, Chris and his team from New Forest Family Butchers offer quality meat and friendly service. As well as shopping here for sausages and burgers, you can pick up ready-prepped kebabs, Chinese belly pork ribs and minted lamb chops. Can't decide what you want? Pick up a barbecue pack which gives you a selection of favourites.

01962 865593 www.nffbutchers.co.uk

Westlands Farm Shop

On a hot summer's day there's nothing better than to head home for an impromptu barbecue and now you can pick up what you need on Winchester High Street. Westlands Farm Shop has a dedicated meat counter and a great range of marinades and sauces as well as local bottled beers.

01329 833832
www.westlandsfarmshop.co.uk

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LAINSTON HOUSE



Family Fun: Pizza Tuesdays!

£25 per person

Join us for a memorable experience at our outdoor cookery school, nestled in the heart of our beautiful kitchen garden. Designed with families in mind, this hands-on session invites all ages to get stuck in as you make your own pizza dough from scratch, kneading, shaping, and preparing it together with guidance from our friendly expert chefs.

Next, get creative with a selection of delicious toppings, many freshly picked from the garden, and learn the secrets to perfecting woodfired pizza every time. As your pizza bakes in our traditional oven, you'll pick up expert tips and techniques to try at home.

Then, relax with a refreshing soft drink and enjoy your handmade pizza in the tranquil garden setting — a perfect blend of flavour, nature, and fun.

Available throughout August
10am – 12pm



01962 776088
lainstonhouse@exclusive.co.uk
exclusive.co.uk/lainston-house

Lainston House, Sparsholt,
Winchester, Hampshire SO21 2LT



Time for tea

Indulge to the full with afternoon tea

Naughty but nice

Tuck into an array of finger sandwiches, homemade sausage rolls and quiche, plus freshly-baked fruit scones served with jam and clotted cream and a selection of sweet treats at Cobbs Farm Shop in Headbourne Worthy. Its afternoon tea costs £20 per person or £26 if you fancy a glass of bubbly too. Shop for cakes and other locally-made treats while you're there.

01962 889000

www.cobbsfarmshops.co.uk/cobbs-winchester

Served in style

Enjoy afternoon tea in stately surroundings at Lainston House, made with fresh seasonal ingredients and served traditionally on a tiered cake-stand full of sandwiches and savouries and beautifully-crafted cakes, scones and fancies. Enjoy tea outside on the terrace on sunny days where you can take in the stunning grounds. It costs £48 per person, with a children's afternoon tea and a Jane Austen-inspired afternoon tea also on offer.

01962 776088

www.exclusive.co.uk/lainston-house



Simple or splendid

Don't want the full works? The Old Vine on Great Minster Street offers a simple cream tea for just £5 per person, including a pot of tea and a fruited scone served with clotted cream and strawberry preserves. Its full afternoon tea costs £15.50 per person and includes finger sandwiches and dainty petit fours, but must be pre-booked. Sit outside for the perfect view of Winchester Cathedral.

01962 854616 www.oldvinewinchester.com

Totally teatotal

Char on High Street stocks over 150 types of loose-leaf tea from across the world. It also sells tea-ware, including glass teapots, ceramic tea cups, infusers, strainers and tea tins.

01962 868760 www.char teas.com



Chocolate indulgence

Head to Chococo on High Street for chocolate naughtiness. Chocolate biscuit cake and chocolate chip scones can be combined with an assortment of hand-made chocolates, an ice cream sundae or single scoop, and iced-chocolate — a summer take on hot chocolate.

01962 582310 www.chococo.co.uk



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BECOME HEIRLOOMS

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79 PARCHMENT STREET, WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE. SO23 8AT

A few of our favourite things...

Summer shopping for the beach and beyond from Donna Laine

Keeping it cool

Pop into Aspiga on High Street for cool holiday dresses and separates. This Paxos Linen dress is made from 100% European-certified linen and is the perfect addition to your holiday wardrobe. There's also a great selection of sandals, bags and hats — all sustainably sourced.

www.aspiga.com



Pack a perfect picnic

There's something so nostalgic about a traditional picnic hamper. Whether you take it to the beach, up St Catherine's Hill or to a local park, it makes eating outdoors something special. We love this rattan basket from TK Maxx. It's priced at £24.99 and you can order it online for home delivery or pick up in store from a selection at The Brooks Shopping Centre.

www.tkmaxx.com



Stylish in the sun

We love Rawlings for sunglasses. The opticians on High Street offers a range of polarising sunglasses with colour enhancement, 100 per cent glare reduction and all the UV protection you need. There's a style to suit everyone. Best of all, prescription lenses are available too.

www.rawlingsopticians.co.uk



Into the blue

Seek out jewels that sparkle like the sea! Sapphires are prized for their rich blue hue and aquamarine actually means 'water of the sea'. This stunning Art Deco-inspired aquamarine, sapphire and diamond pendant is on sale at our Parchment Street shop.



Mmmm... mango!

For a taste of the tropics, search out Jude's Alphonso Mango Sorbet — deliciously fruity and refreshing. Made just up the road in Twyford, Jude's new Summer range includes Elderflower Sorbet made with

locally grown elderflowers. Treat yourself to a taste of Summer with one of its tasting boxes.

www.judes.com

Donna Laine is the owner of Donna Laine Fine Jewellery, Parchment Street, which stocks both new and pre-loved jewellery and offers repairs, watch services and battery replacement and remodelling.

01962 860202 www.donnalaine.com



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2014-2024

Wanderlust

Places to go, great things to do and the city expert to get you there

24 hours in... Bangkok

Winchester travel expert Zoe Palmer shares her must-dos

Stay...

Lumphini Park is a great base for exploring this ever-evolving city and there are plenty of hotels to choose from here. If you love good food, a bit of luxury, and want to ensure a rooftop bar with those all-important skyline views, then the Kimpton Maa-Lai is a great choice.



Eat at...

Bangkok's dining scene has exploded and there are now many Michelin star restaurants, so download The Michelin Guide app before you go. If you want to dine out like a local, try a TukTuk street food tour or head to Ega-Lab on Song Wat Road for a modern twist on traditional Thai cuisine.



Visit...

Must-see sights are the Grand Palace, Wat Pho and the reclining Buddha, the flower market, floating markets and the Golden Mount at Wat Saket. Make sure you also take a longtail boat on the klongs and a walking tour through the streets of China Town to discover colourful murals and lesser-known temples.

Don't leave without...

Riding the skytrain, exploring the markets and malls, cruising the canals and travelling by TukTuk - there are so many ways to get out and about to explore this vibrant city. Not to be missed is a very special cocktail bar called Ruby's - send Zoe an email and she'll share details of this Bangkok gem.

Travel Counsellor Zoe Palmer
tailor-makes trips for individuals,
couples and families across the world

01962 690006

www.travelcounsellors.co.uk/zoe.palmer



Better together

An exciting new chapter is set to open for Winchester College and The Pilgrims' School as they prepare to merge from September

After a great deal of careful thought and planning, Pilgrims', a leading academic prep school that educates boys aged 4 to 13, will formally merge with Winchester College, one of England's oldest and most prestigious public schools, on 1 September.

This milestone event was jointly announced by the governing bodies of both schools and the Chapter of Winchester Cathedral in April. According to Sir Richard Stagg, Warden of Winchester College, bringing the school and college together will keep both "at the forefront of educational excellence".

Pilgrims' special setting, nestled between the Cathedral and the College in the heart of historic Winchester, has fostered strong links between the three bodies, not least because the Cathedral Choristers and the Quiristers of Winchester College Chapel are all educated at Pilgrims'.

The merger will help to strengthen and uphold the unique tradition of choral excellence. The Cathedral, says Canon Dr Roland Riem, its Interim Dean, is "proud to have helped the merger happen".

Pilgrims' Headmaster Tim Butcher, who will continue to lead the school after the merger, says that since the announcement "we've already seen clear signs that the future is indeed a 'win-win'".

With Pilgrims' an important feeder school for Winchester College, the two institutions have long shared close ties and a common belief in championing curiosity and independent thought through a rich and varied curriculum. Come September, they will take this relationship to a new level.

Integrating The Pilgrims' School with Winchester College creates a joined-up educational pathway from early years right through to university preparation. It will also help the College to get to know prospective pupils long before they step up to senior school.

While admission to the College remains subject to its entrance requirements, Pilgrims' will continue to prepare those pupils looking to go 'over the road', while also offering the same excellent level of preparation for those looking to move on to other leading senior schools.

With smaller independent schools facing increased financial pressures, such as VAT on fees, the merger brings savings through shared resources and allows the College to invest in the maintenance and upgrading of Pilgrims' facilities, while also creating new opportunities for collaboration and innovation.

The merger is a natural development that, as Pilgrims' Head Tim Butcher puts it, reaffirms something long-felt: "a shared ethos, a shared history, and a common sense of educational purpose. The fit is authentic – much like the best partnerships in life."

Inspired by the past, underpinned by current strengths, and with the building blocks of future success in place, Pilgrims' and Winchester College working together aim to deliver exceptional education for generations to come.

01962 621 100 www.winchestercollege.org

01962 854 189 www.thepilgrims-school.co.uk

MAKE YOUR MARK

Sixth Form Co-Ed Day & Boarding Places Now Available



www.winchestercollege.org/sixth-form
admissions@wincoll.ac.uk
 Registered Charity No. 1139000



WINCHESTER
COLLEGE

SIXTH FORM



SENIOR SCHOOL OPEN DAY

Saturday 4 October

St Swithun's is a world-class day and boarding independent school for girls.

Come and see the value of an all-girls education.



School news

LOCAL SCHOOLS AND LEARNING FOR ALL



County champions twice!

Prince's Mead has had an outstanding season of sporting success, with pupils securing two major Hampshire county titles.

Its netball team was crowned Hampshire County Champions after an unbeaten tournament run, marked by impressive skill, teamwork, and determination. On the football pitch, the boys' team lifted the ISFA Hampshire Cup, following a series of strong performances that combined tactical awareness and exceptional team spirit.

01962 888000 www.princesmeadschool.org.uk

Major visit at Embley

Embley's Combined Cadet Force Beret Ceremony was a proud moment as new cadets were formally presented with their Cambridge blue berets by Major Peet Steinberg who arrived by Apache helicopter. The CCF at Embley provides a disciplined framework that complements the school's core values, offering young people a range of opportunities to develop key life skills such as leadership, teamwork, resilience, and self-confidence.

01794 512206 www.embley.org.uk



Celebrating Oxbridge offers

Sixth-form students at St Swithun's School are celebrating another record-breaking year of offers to study at Oxford or Cambridge universities. For the fourth year in a row, over 10 per cent of UCAS applicants from the upper sixth and class of 2024 received Oxbridge offers – a school achievement not matched for 20 years.



St Swithun's headmistress Jane Gandee said, "Our students and teachers should be rightly proud of these offers. We are passionate about providing opportunities for girls to thrive after they leave St Swithun's, in whatever direction they choose to go."

01962 835700 www.stswithuns.com

40 years of Kings'

In September, Kings' celebrates its 40th anniversary and will be marking this milestone with a year of community events, reflecting its history and uniting the past with the present. Former pupils can register on the Alumni link on the school website for updates from the school, invitations to events, hosted reunions, and speaker opportunities.

01962 861161 www.kings-hants.com/alumni/

Book a tour



PRINCE'S MEAD

Where happiness reigns &
education goes beyond the classroom



Prince's Mead is an independent co-educational school
for children aged 3-11 years

01962 888000 princesmeadschool.org.uk
Worthy Park House, Winchester

Fighting period poverty together

St Swithun's students are helping in the fight against period poverty by sewing reusable period pads for refugees.

Lower-sixth student Miya introduced 'The Pachamama Project' – a lunchtime sewing club to make the pads, which have been distributed to communities in need, including Ukraine, Lebanon and South Sudan.

St Swithun's headmistress Jane Gandee, said, "We actively encourage our students to go out and make their mark on the wider world. Miya has inspired others to follow her lead."

01962 835700 www.st.swithuns.com



Westgate looks to the skies with GCSE Astronomy

The Westgate School has extended its curriculum by introducing Astronomy GCSE. Assistant headteacher, David Barton, explains: "Astronomy blends various STEM disciplines, encouraging critical thinking and problem-solving, such as calculating celestial distances, making it a perfect addition to our STEM curriculum."

The school has recently launched an extra-curricular, scholarly programme – 'Aspiration, Challenge, Excellence' in partnership with Winchester College, giving pupils an opportunity to showcase academic excellence through workshops and extended essays.

01962 854757 www.westgate.hants.sch.uk

Sustainable building work at The Henry Beaufort School

The Henry Beaufort School welcomed Dr Jonathan Dewsbury, from the Department of Education, together with a delegation from Hampshire Property Services to see its science block renovations which are due for completion this summer.

As well as providing the school with state-of-the-art science labs, the building benefits from thermally-efficient, double-glazing and low-energy LED lighting, reducing energy costs. Brickwork and other panels will be insulated, and the roof recovered with a high-performance felt with additional insulation, and the installation of 140 Photo Voltaic Solar panels on the roof.

Headteacher Sue Hearle said: "The renovations bring eight high-tech laboratories to Henry Beaufort that will complement our excellent science teaching and learning."

01962 880073 www.beaufort.hants.sch.uk



From
strength to
strength

The school opened in 1971 and was the city's first purpose-built, coeducational comprehensive.



Reimagining education

ARRANGE A VISIT AT EMBLEY.ORG.UK



Kings' of sport

Every week, Kings' runs 40 to 50 extra-curricular activities, before, at lunch and after school. The school's sports teams have done particularly well. Nearly 300 pupils have gone on a residential tour or tournament, with high degrees of success including that of the U14 girls' hockey team (above), who were crowned national champions at a tier 1 competition. Two players from the U16 hockey team and one of the school's football players have also been selected for England's national teams.



01962 861161 www.kings-hants.com

Spring into art

Winchester artist Emma Lowres opened Prince's Mead School's inaugural Spring art exhibition. The school's recently restored Mirror Room was transformed into a vibrant gallery space, where children proudly shared their artistic achievements.



Art Club pupils had explored Emma's distinctive countryside landscapes, experimenting with chalks, oil pastels, and pencil to capture local scenery. Their work included fantastical snail castles and whimsical wonderland sculptures. This special evening marked the beginning of a new Prince's Mead tradition, celebrating pupil creativity and forging connections with the wider artistic community.

01962 888000

www.princesmeadschool.org.uk



Summer creativity

Bella Crafts in Kings Walk has summer drop-in sessions of all kinds and for all ages including glass painting, decopatch, jewellery-making and more. It also offers a holiday club with a full day of activities for children from five to 12 for just £31.95 on selected dates from 23 July to 1 September. Upstairs, there's a soft play area for little people to have fun in while parents enjoy a cuppa and a slice of cake.

01962 843301 www.bellacrafts.co.uk

Never too old to learn

Adult education classes provide an opportunity to get studying again with specialists who are passionate about their subjects. Peter Symonds College's Adult & Higher Education division has some interesting new additions to its adult leisure programme this September.

Sign up for an introduction to children's book illustration, taught by local author and illustrator Margaret Sturton.

Also on offer is 'The Anglo-Saxons: The Story of Early England' with Dr James Connelly which will have special emphasis on Winchester's rich heritage. 'Literature that shapes the world' led by Dr Trang Dang will explore how transformative writings across genres – from protest poetry to science fiction – challenge and change society.



01962 886166 www.ahed.psc.ac.uk



PILGRIMS' SCHOOL OPEN MORNING

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thepilgrims-school.co.uk



Why forest school?

Sam Victoria, forest school expert and founder of My Little Explorers reveals the many benefits of outdoor learning

Sam Victoria has a lifelong passion for nature and outdoor learning. Inspired by her own childhood adventures in woodlands and visits to forest school settings around the world, she set up My Little Explorers forest school in 2013.

Where did forest schools begin?

Forest schools originated in Scandinavia in the 1950s, rooted in a philosophy that values child-led learning in natural environments. The approach was introduced to the UK in the 1990s and is underpinned by six key principles: regular sessions in a natural setting, holistic development, child-centred learning, managed risk-taking, qualified leadership, and long-term engagement. These principles ensure that forest schools offer more than just outdoor play – it's a structured, evidence-based approach to education that nurtures confidence, independence, and emotional well-being.

Who is forest school for?

Forest school is for everyone – including babies, toddlers, preschoolers, primary-aged children, and those with additional needs. The approach is highly inclusive, adapting activities to suit different ages and abilities. Forest school offers sensory-rich experiences, opportunities for social interaction, and a calm, supportive environment that can significantly benefit mental health.

Forest schools align with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) by supporting key learning outcomes. Children develop communication skills through storytelling and reflection time in nature. Physical development is fostered with activities like climbing, digging and tool use, which promote coordination and strength.

Just as important, personal, social and emotional skills are developed through teamwork, turn-taking, and collaborative outdoor play and problem-solving.

What are forest school activities?

Activities range from den building, bug hunting, and mud play to fire lighting and nature crafts. Safety is paramount: leaders carry out thorough risk assessments, maintain close supervision (especially during higher-risk activities like tool use or fire lighting), and ensure children are dressed appropriately for all weather – waterproofs and wellies are essentials. On rainy days, children can build shelters, explore puddles, or engage in storytelling undercover; turning all weathers into a learning opportunity and contributing to a deep connection to the natural world.

Where can I find forest school provision in the Winchester area?

Winchester and the surrounding countryside offer a great variety of forest school opportunities. At our My Little Explorers setting at Farley Mount we offer a nature kindergarten, stay and play sessions and holiday camps. And it's great to see schools such as Pilgrims', Prince's Mead and St Swithun's include forest school and outdoor learning sessions as part of their curriculum. Whether you're looking for regular sessions or one-off adventures, Winchester's forest schools offer a natural classroom where every child can flourish.

02380 740310 www.mylittleexplorers.co.uk
01962 854189 www.thepilgrims-school.co.uk
01962 888000 www.princesmeadschool.org.uk
01962 835700 www.stswithuns.com





OPEN MORNINGS

APPOINTMENTS ONLY PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

**TUESDAY 8TH JULY
WEDNESDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER**

WWW.KINGS-HANTS.COM

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OPEN EVENING**

**THURSDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER
(EVENING EVENT FROM 6-8PM)**

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Secondary Phase Open Events 17, 18 September & 1 October
Primary Phase Open Events 15 October & 20 November

Please see www.westgate.hants.sch.uk

The World's Toughest Row

Robert Cross, a former Quirister at The Pilgrims' School, alongside friends Robert Treasure and Charles Newman took on a cross-Atlantic row as Team V3NTURE.

After leaving Pilgrims' as a music scholar to go to Shrewsbury School, Robert went on to The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, where he met his fellow teammates who are all serving British Army officers. They competed in The World's Toughest Row – a 3,000-mile race across the Atlantic from the Canary Islands to Antigua in 40 days, 17 hours and 30 minutes, raising over £100,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support and three regimental charities.

01962 854189

www.thepilgrims-school.co.uk



Embley's top accreditation

Embley has been awarded prestigious HMC (The Heads' Conference) accreditation, placing it among the top 300 independent schools worldwide. HMC is a globally-respected professional association of head teachers, synonymous with quality, innovation, and excellence in education. Pupils at HMC schools consistently achieve outstanding results, both academically and beyond the classroom. At the core of every HMC school is dedication to a well-rounded education that combines academic ambition with excellence in pastoral care and co-curricular opportunities.

Cliff Canning, headmaster of Embley said: "This achievement is a testament to the dedication of our entire school community and reflects Embley's commitment to providing the best education for our children, empowering them to become exceptional young people who go on to make a difference in the world."

01794 512206 www.embley.org.uk

Schools merger

Prince's Mead School and King Edward VI School are merging, bringing together the two highly-respected independent schools with a long-standing relationship of shared values, a commitment to excellence and an outstanding educational experience for pupils. The partnership aims to build on both schools' strengths, providing new opportunities for pupil progression, with Prince's Mead benefitting from a KES 'Head's Recommendation Pathway' to the senior school. This will provide a guaranteed place in Year 7 for pupils who achieve an appropriate academic standard and who would thrive at KES, without the uncertainty of passing the entrance exam.

02380 704561 www.kes.school

01962 888000 www.princesmeadschool.org.uk

Westgate School's success celebrated

The Westgate School has been recognised by The Schools, Students and Teachers Network as being in the top ten per cent of secondary state schools nationally in the 2025 Educational Outcomes Awards. The awards placed Westgate as one of the highest-performing state schools in the country, based on 2024 performance data and progress scores.

01962 854757 www.westgate.hants.sch.uk



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01962 277002
tutordocor.co.uk
sboon@tutordocor.co.uk

What's on

Great ideas for kids

Bring on the bricks!

See awe-inspiring prehistoric creatures crafted from over two million toy bricks, as part of the Extinction trail at Marwell Zoo from 19 July to 7 September. They include a sabre-toothed tiger and giant woolly mammoth, a hissing titanoboa and a giant ground sloth. Pose with a giant dinosaur egg and dodo and visit Extinction Basecamp to craft your own mini mammoth or dodo to take home.

01962 777407 www.marwell.org.uk

The science of bubbles

Bubbles are back with a pop and a bang at Winchester Science Centre's theatre from 19 July to 3 September, with the return of The Bubble Show. See a double bubble of exciting experiments and live demos, discover more about the science of bubbles and find out what it takes to put a person inside a bubble. Can bubbles bounce? And what do propane bubbles do? This not-to-be-missed show is free with general admission.

01962 863791 www.winchestersciencecentre.org

A day out with Thomas

It's time to party with Thomas the Tank Engine at The Watercress Line which celebrates 80 years of the classic storybook character from 5 to 10 August. Take a ride behind Thomas and join station sweepers Rusty and Dusty during outdoor entertainment shows with Sir Topham Hatt, Percy, Diesel and Toad.

Enjoy Play Pod play zones with Thomas and Friends' activities at Ropley and Alton, selfies galore with Percy, Diesel, Trevor and Terence, giveaways for every child, plus rides on a miniature railway and Thomas story time.

01962 733810 www.watercressline.co.uk

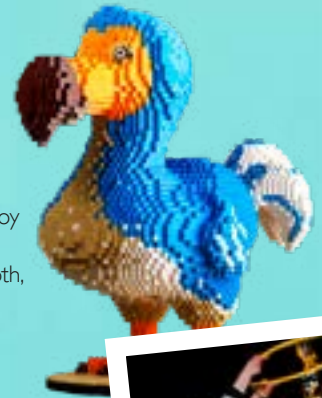
Children's chocolate workshop

Join a family workshop at Chocolate Craft where you'll learn to make chocolates like the pros on 29 August. Learn the tricks of the trade with lots of tastings, make some chocolates and decorate a chocolate lolly. This independent chocolatier near Alresford makes chocolates for Fortnum & Mason. Adult workshops are available throughout the year, with workshops for teens also on offer at weekends.

01962 732731
www.chocolatecraft.co.uk

Arty?

Our go-to for crafting supplies is The Works in The Brooks which has a huge range of bits and pieces for painting, making and more.



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Suffering from poor sleep?

Sleep is fundamental to our health and wellbeing. REMEDI HEALTH on Southgate Street has a sleep clinic where you can address issues that stop you either falling or staying asleep.

Tired of being tired and waking up not refreshed? Struggling to switch off? Book a series of one-to-one sessions with Allie Lewis, a highly skilled sleep specialist who can help.

01962 798580 www.remedihealth.co

Getting out and about

Shopmobility at The Brooks Shopping Centre rents mobility scooters and wheelchairs to anyone over the age of 16 with short or longer-term mobility issues.

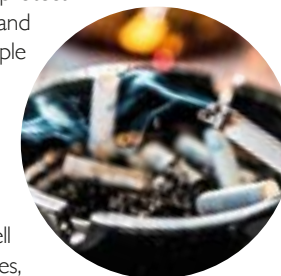
That might be for a few hours to go shopping in Winchester or for a longer period like a holiday. Home-delivery is also on offer, and if you are using an electric wheelchair or mobility scooter for the first time, the team can help with a practise session before you head out.

01962 842626
www.cf1st.org.uk/community-transport/shopmobility



Stub out smoking

In June, disposable vapes were banned from sale across the UK – including non-nicotine versions. The change in the law is part of a national effort to protect the environment and reduce young people vaping. But giving up smoking can be difficult.



Smokefree Hampshire offers free support as well as Nicotine patches, gum, lozenges and sprays to help smokers quit for good.

0800 7723649
www.smokefreehampshire.co.uk

Bereavement support for as long as you need it

Bereavement is a very personal experience. Those left behind can feel shocked, guilty, frightened, helpless, angry, depressed, lonely and lacking in confidence. Physical effects can include nausea, restlessness and difficulty sleeping.

Winchester Bereavement Support is a voluntary organisation offering support to bereaved adults in Winchester and the surrounding area. It provides free home visits or phone sessions for as long as they're needed. The charity also welcomes new volunteers, with full training provided.

07450 649679 www.wbs.org.uk

Fitness news

GET ACTIVE AND TRY SOMETHING NEW THIS SUMMER



Winchester Venue:

Garrison Ground, Winchester, SO23 9NR
(next to the Winchester Sport & Leisure Park)

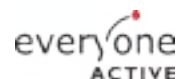
Time: 9.30am - 10.30am

Dates: Every Sunday from
4th May – 14th September 2025

Whiteley Venue:

Meadowside Recreation Ground, Whiteley,
PO15 7LJ (behind Meadowside Leisure Centre)

For more information please visit
www.parkyoga.co/winchester
or www.parkyoga.co/whiteley



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Yoga in the park

Enjoy Park Yoga sessions for free at The Garrison Ground every Sunday until 14 September thanks to an initiative by Winchester City Council. It's a great way to try yoga out in a relaxed setting with other people in the Summer sunshine. Sessions run from 9.30 to 10.30am and are suitable for everyone – including children. Just bring a mat, towel or blanket and a bottle of water:

www.parkyoga.co/winchester



Reformer Pilates

Designed to boost heart rate and leave you feeling energised, Dynamic Reformer classes are now available at Station Mill. With six brand-new reformer Pilates machines and experienced teachers to guide you, there are different classes for all levels. These sessions combine the traditional movement of Pilates with functional exercise for an intense full-body workout.

01962 735110 www.stationmill.co.uk



Walkabout

Maps of walks in the city and further afield can be downloaded from www.visitwinchester.co.uk



Community fitness club for everyone

Winchester Fit Club is an award-winning community club for all, no matter your size, ability or age. It offers various sessions, ranging from high-intensity interval training to early-morning circuits, as well as an active running club. There's no joining fee and pay-as-you-go options are available at this inclusive club.

www.winchesterfitclub.co.uk



Walk the Watercress Way

As recently featured on the BBC's Countryfile, The Watercress Way in the Itchen Valley is a 27-mile waymarked circular walk. Enjoy a scenic stroll on the eight circular short routes, available from the website, or challenge yourself to complete the whole route. Also great for horse riding and cycling, the trail is unusual as it links old railways with historic livestock droves as well as passing along the Rivers Itchen, Alre and Dever.

www.thewatercressway.org.uk

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art&craft

Canvas and craft

Arty, crafty things we love

On this issue's cover

It's looking like a busy year for our cover artist Jack Harding, who trained at The London Art College.

He's had a solo exhibition at Gallery No. 30 in Petersfield this Spring



and has been experimenting with mixed media, using inks, acrylics, watercolours and collage as well as including figures more prominently in his work.

Jack is also heading off on a two-month expedition to the Arctic on a scientific icebreaker later this Summer. He says: "I'm hoping to take full advantage of the unique landscapes there to inspire some really interesting new work."

www.jackhardingart.com



Be inspired by The Bloomsbury Group

Rosie Pamley from The Colour Factory on Gordon Road, is running a summer school inspired by The Bloomsbury Group of the 1920s this August. Discover the stories and influences of Bloomsbury artists Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant and explore some of the drawing and painting techniques they used. Three or four-day workshops are suitable for all abilities. They include materials, and you'll come away with a sketchbook full of inspiring ideas and paintings.

07960 182906 www.thecolourfactory.org.uk



Saturday creatives

National Saturday Club runs free sessions for 13 to 16 year olds, providing unique opportunities for the next generation of creatives. Winchester School of Art on Park Avenue is running art and design and fashion and business clubs. Students can get involved in short-term and longer projects, working independently and collaboratively. Past topics have included folklore, natural forms and rebranding small businesses. The clubs provide a great way for arty teens to extend their portfolios and take part in national events with leading industry professionals.

www.saturday-club.org





Out with friends or family? Two travel FREE!

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Love to sing?

The Love Choir is a supportive, inclusive group for women to come together and sing. There's no audition, you don't need to read music or have lots of singing experience. Just show up and enjoy singing for the sake of it. Sessions are on Wednesdays from 8 to 9pm at The Nutshell Arts Centre and cost £10. Visit the website to find out more.

THE LOVE
CHOIR

www.makeworkplay.co.uk/the-love-choir

Winchester Personal Bests

Winchester Personal Bests 2025 is a fun, inclusive sports day for adults with learning disabilities to take part in sporting activities and compete against their own ability to achieve their 'personal best'. The annual one-day event boosts confidence, friendship and fitness and takes place at Winchester Sport and Leisure Park and at the University of Winchester's Sports Stadium on 4 September. It's the first of its kind to earn official 'autism friendly' status.

07884 063201 www.activeld.org

Dancing for health and happiness

Dance is a great way to relieve stress and Move Momentum offers classes to suit all ages and abilities. Amanda Watkinson has overseen the charity since 2018 and ensures sessions are enjoyable and as inclusive as possible so that everyone feels comfortable and able to express themselves. The friendly weekly classes include Disability Dance, Youth Dance and Mature Dance and they take place at Unit 12 in Winnall.

01962 809234
www.movemomentum.co.uk



Parkwalk with parkrun

Walkers have always been welcome at Winchester parkrun, where there's no pressure to run and it's fine to go at whatever speed you want around the 5k route at North Walls Recreation Ground. There's no time limit on how long you take to get round, with a volunteer tail walker always last to finish so no-one gets left behind. This encouraging, uplifting community event takes place every Saturday morning for free at 9am.

www.parkrun.org.uk/winchester



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Building independence

Winchester GoLD, a charity which supports adults with learning disabilities, has launched a new project, Go Me, to help members gain confidence and build independence.

The scheme involves group sessions and one-to-one support with activities designed to help participants recognise their strengths, learn what helps to keep them healthy and well, build a support network and set and achieve personal goals.

01962 600281 www.winchestergold.org.uk

Emmaus Hampshire opens new city shop

Emmaus Hampshire provides a home and support for up to 40 homeless people at its base in Bar End where it has a large superstore. Most of its income is made through social enterprise and its shops in Winchester and Eastleigh where residents work to build their confidence and gain skills. In July it's opening a new shop on Romsey Road selling a carefully curated selection of high-quality, pre-loved fashion and upcycled homeware.

01962 868300 www.emmaus.org.uk/hampshire



Walk for health

Join Winchester Healthy Walks to discover the local area, get some fresh air and meet other people. Free weekly walks, led by volunteers, start either from Weeke or central Winchester and last approximately an hour.

www.winchester.gov.uk/activewinchester

Companionship and personalised care

Access Care's live-in care team has been recognised at the 2025 Business Awards UK for excellence in the care sector.

Team leader, Emma McNab, was named a finalist in the Best Leadership in Care category, with her warmth, dedication, and inspiring guidance singling her out. The team also won the Best Client-Focused Care award, reflecting its ongoing dedication to clients and their families.



"Emma's
warmth,
dedication and
inspiring guidance
singled her
out..."

Access Care is a family-run, independent care agency with over 30 years' experience of matching people needing extra support with live-in carers.

Carers provide services for all ages – whether they're needed to support people with disabilities or health conditions or those who are elderly and frail. Respite and convalescence care are also available.

Offering one-to-one companionship, live-in carers look after household chores and help clients stay connected to their local communities, keep their pets and enjoy life as they want to. Costs can often be comparable to those of care homes, with end-of-life care also on offer.

01264 319399 www.access-care.co.uk



Could you **be a friend**
to a local child?

A small Winchester charity supporting children and families facing difficult life circumstances, helping them face their future with confidence.

Our befriending service helps children aged 5 to 13 to flourish through spending regular time with an adult volunteer.

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Friday 24 October, 9-11am
Rick Stein Restaurant, Winchester
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volunteer@fotfwinchester.org
www.fotfwinchester.org | 01962 864466

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A little bit of good...

Support others while doing what you enjoy too

Make a difference to a local child

Friends of the Family Winchester is a charity that provides volunteers to give undivided attention for two hours a week to local children who need a boost of confidence. Many of the children are young carers and spending time with a trusted adult allows them to have fun, away from pressures at home.

That might mean simple activities like kicking a ball together in a park, visiting the library or drawing pictures in a café. Boosting children's self-esteem has huge benefits at school and can also improve family relationships. Full training is on offer.

01962 864466 www.fotfwinchester.org



Charity-boosting kitchen garden tours



Lainston House runs regular kitchen garden tours where you can meet its kitchen gardener Stef, ask lots of questions and find out more about how it grows its fruit, vegetables and herbs. Tours cost £5, which is donated to Solent Mind and include a cup of tea or coffee.

01962 776088

www.exclusive.co.uk/lainston-house/things-to-do

Active LD volunteers needed

Active LD empowers local people with learning disabilities to take up regular physical activity for a healthy, happy life. Its events include Winchester Personal Bests and Aqua Bests. Volunteers are needed to help participants get the most from its sporting activities, guide them round venues, and encourage community engagement. It's also keen to hear from clubs and coaches interested in running accessible sports.

07884 063201 www.activeid.org

On your bike!

Interested in a cycling challenge from Venice to Rome to raise funds to support Winchester Hospice's work caring for people with life-limiting illnesses? A five-day ride starts in Venice on 5 October and will cover 170km a day.

The charity has partnered with cycling adventure specialists Love Velo, and the trip is suitable for experienced cyclists only. Participants must cover their fees and raise a minimum of £1,000 for the hospice.

01962 828353

www.winchesterhospice.com



Danny Chambers MP

reading

A message from our local MP



I've been working as hard as I can to fight for the people of Winchester and the Meon Valley on the issues that really matter.

I'm fighting to save our A&E, to clean up our rivers, and tackle the cost of living.

My job is to be a strong voice for our area and a hardworking champion for you and your family. I'm here for you whenever you need me.

Please get in touch with any issue you have, no matter how big or small.

People demanded change and that's what I am working to deliver.

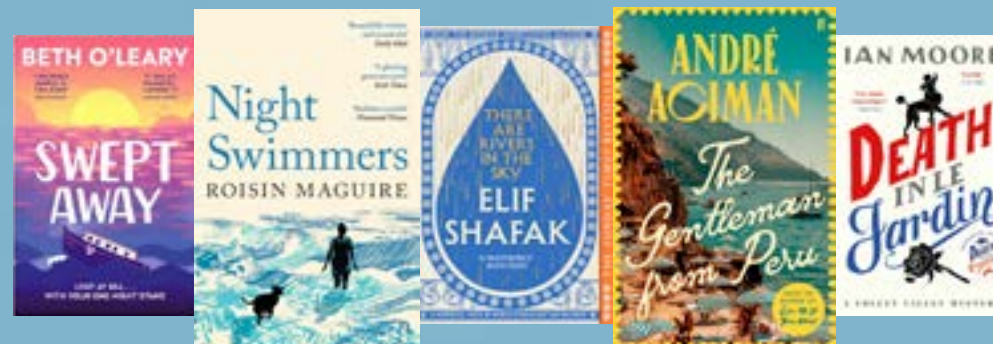
Thank you for your support,

Search Danny Chambers at members.parliament.uk

Get in touch at danny.chambers.mp@parliament.uk

On the shelf

Pick up a great selection of Summer holiday reads from P&G Wells



Swept Away by Beth O'Leary, £18.99

Winchester author Beth O'Leary's latest romance is a perfect read for the Summer. Lexi is looking for no-strings-attached fun with a stranger; Zeke is looking for love. Sparks fly at the pub, one passionate kiss leads to another and they end up stumbling home to the marina together.

The next morning, hungover and shaken by an amazing night together, Lexi is more than ready for Zeke to leave. There's just one small problem... the houseboat they stayed on has been swept out to sea.

Night Swimmers by Roisin Maguire, £9.99

Grace lives alone in a coastal village in Northern Ireland, filling her days with wild swimming, quilting, and baiting the tourists who arrive from the city. One visitor is Evan, on an enforced holiday from his family in Belfast as he grieves the death of his infant daughter.

But before a week is out, he is trapped there by lockdown. When Grace grudgingly saves Evan from drowning, and his young son arrives unexpectedly, all three are startled into a reckoning with their past and a reconnection with the outside world.

There Are Rivers In The Sky by Elif Shafak, £9.99

From the author of *The Island of Missing Trees*, *There Are Rivers in the Sky* is a rich, sweeping novel set between the 19th century and modern times, about love and loss, memory and erasure, hurt and healing, centred around three enchanting characters living on the banks of the River Thames and the River Tigris.

The Gentleman From Peru by André Aciman, £8.99

A group of college friends find themselves marooned at a luxurious hotel on the Amalfi Coast in Italy. While their boat is being repaired, they can't help but observe the daily routine of a fellow guest – a mysterious, white-bearded stranger who sits on the veranda each night. When the group decides to invite him to lunch, they cannot begin to imagine the strange wisdom, miraculous abilities, and life-changing story he is about to impart.

Death In Le Jardin by Ian Moore, £9.99

On the surface, Richard Ainsworth has life where he wants it. Middle-aged navel gazing and procrastination are exactly what rural life in France should be about. Then crisis hits his exclusive B&B when his housekeeper, Madame Tablier, is accused of murdering a former fiancé. A cosy murder mystery, perfect for a Summer read.

All books can be ordered at P&G Wells, College Street, in person or via its website.

01962 852016 www.pgwells.co.uk

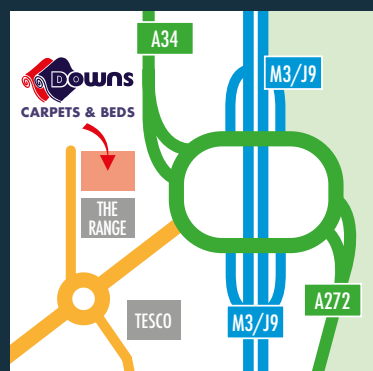


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Got a local holiday let?

Squeaky Clean Homes, which is renowned for excellence for the quality of its domestic and commercial cleaning services in Winchester and beyond, also offers professional holiday let changeover services.

Owner Rebecca Hopkins says: "A top-tier service should leave your property spotless, guest-ready and identify any unexpected maintenance needs. Your changeover team are your eyes and ears between stays. A seamless transition not only boosts guest satisfaction but protects your property's reputation. We offer a service that treats all our customers' properties as if they were our own."

07956 633603 www.squeakycleanhomes.co.uk

Outdoor dining accessories

TK Maxx in The Brooks Shopping Centre has a great range of outdoor picnic and dining accessories including this Viva Cuba basket which costs £24.99 – perfect for carrying cutlery, napkins and condiments. Also shop here for cool bags, picnic blankets and sustainable wood serving tools.

01962 890217 www.tkmaxx.com



In the garden

Oliver Bonas on High Street can always be relied on for whimsical home accessories.

We love its Bouquet metal watering can, £18.50, which is part of an outdoor range including lovely hammocks and parasols this summer.



01962 868197 www.oliverbonas.com

Holiday at home

Did you know that Forest Holidays in Blackwood Forest, just 20 minutes' drive from Winchester, has 60 log cabins dotted among the tall beech trees in the 270-hectare woodland where you can stay overnight?



Every cabin has an outdoor hot tub, and activities include cycling, woodland ranger exploration, in-cabin spa treatments and clay pigeon shooting. There's a large café and shop and you can bring food with you or pre-order, so you have everything you need while you're there.

www.forestholidays.co.uk/locations/hampshire/blackwood-forest

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£45.00



Habitat Lintu bean bag
www.argos.com
A squidgy outdoor bean bag in a funky bird pattern

£599



Ascalon Blaisdon bistro set
www.hillier.co.uk
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www.shop.nationaltrust.org.uk
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The Consortium, 39 Jewry Street
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The Hambledon, 10 The Square
A beautiful pattern for outdoor dining, hand block printed on cotton

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Light up your garden at dusk with candlelight

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DECKCHAIR £43



Habitat Kukkia range
www.argos.com
Chill out in retro style with this matching parasol and deckchair

£6.50 EACH



Vintage-inspired storage tins
The Consortium, 39 Jewry Street
Plant up your herbs or store garden tools in these colourful tins

Out and about

People, parties, launches and lunches



Winchester GoLD Garden and Craft Fair

On a glorious sunny day, learning disabilities charity Winchester GoLD held a fundraising fair at Upper Farm in Headbourne Worthy, which was opened by the former Mayor of Winchester, Councillor Russell Gordon-Smith.



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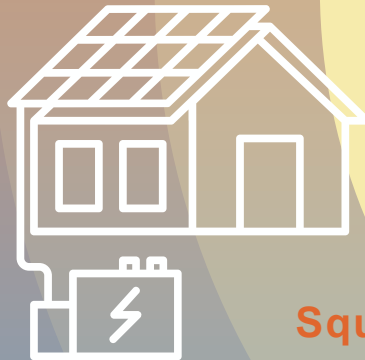


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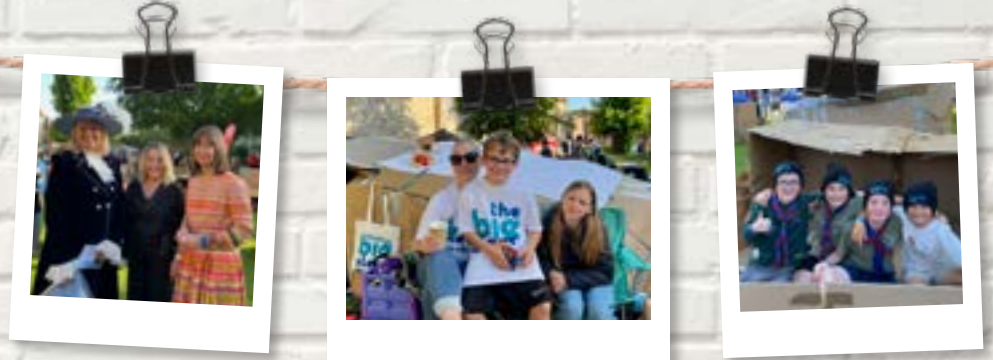


WWW.SILKSTORAGE.CO.UK

cityliving

Out and about

People, parties, launches and lunches



The Big Sleep Out

Teams of locals slept in cardboard shelters as part of Trinity Winchester's Big Sleep Out in the grounds of Winchester Cathedral. The annual event raises money for Trinity's work with people experiencing homelessness and domestic abuse across the city.



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Out and about

People, parties, launches and lunches



Mayor-making ceremony at Guildhall Winchester

Councillor Sudhakar Achwal was elected as Winchester's 826th Mayor at a mayor-making ceremony at Guildhall Winchester. His three chosen local charities for his 2025 to 2026 mayoral year are Trinity Winchester, Home-Start Winchester and WinACC (Winchester Action on the Climate Crisis).



Celebrating women in business at The Maven Awards

Natalie Hamer from Maven hosted a glamorous awards evening at Theatre Royal Winchester celebrating the achievements of Winchester's female entrepreneurs and women in business. Maven offers boutique-style coworking for women in the city.

www.mavencoworking.co.uk



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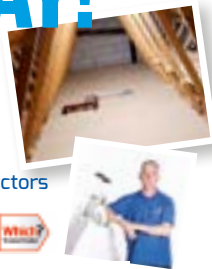
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Out and about

People, parties, launches and lunches



Fundraiser for Winchester Hospice

Hursley H'Ams drama group put on four performances of Goldilocks, in memory of cast member Doreen Joseph, to raise funds for Winchester Hospice. The performances and prize raffle raised an amazing £3,000 and was match funded by The Macquarie Group Foundation, bringing the total donation to £6,000.

www.winchesterhospice.com/fundraise



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07712 648740

nony@nonykerr-smiley.com

Sam Kerr-Smiley

07801 056784

sam@nonykerr-smiley.com



Selling Strong in 2025...

"We have now used Nony Kerr Smiley for several house sales in the Winchester District. As with all the other sales the service on the latest property, from Nony and Sam, was excellent."

Nony goes above and beyond to ensure that the sale is delivered in a timely manner. Nony's knowledge and input is first class, from the initial realistic pricing of the property through to chasing all of the solicitor's and agents in the chain to ensure target dates are achieved."

If you want to sell your house at the right price and in a sensible timeframe, use Nony"

"Nony and Sam handled the sale of our much-loved home recently with real care and professionalism. From sound market advice to excellent marketing, they made the whole process as seamless as possible. They provided a really personal approach, and nothing was too much trouble - would highly recommend."

"Just wanting to say a big thank you to both Nony and Sam for their help in making our recent purchase as smooth as possible. Although they were representing the vendors we were kept informed of the progress throughout the time making the whole experience far less stressful than previous house moves. They are clearly an experienced team who were able to head off problems before they arose."

Once again thank you Nony and Sam for both understanding our position and for your support in making the purchase as efficient and as smooth as possible."



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