



## The Memorial Bench

Having departed from Itchenor on June 5th 1944 and following sterling work ferrying supplies to the D-Day beaches the 601 LCM Flotilla was ordered back England.

The flotilla weighed anchor at 0430 hours on the morning of July 21st 1944. A total of 15 craft formed the convoy led by LCM 1059. Severe gales in the channel caused havoc with crews being seasick and craft damaged. Valiant efforts were made to return to the Normandy beaches but at 21.30 hours on the evening of July 21st 1944, LCM 1059 became overwhelmed, sank and 32 men lost their lives.

Every year the Society hold a short service of Thanks and Remembrance at the Memorial Bench on the Hard. This year's service will take place on Friday June 8th at 10:30am, please make an effort to attend and give thanks to those brave souls who gave their lives that we might live here in peace.

## Chichester Harbour Conservancy

Will be hosting an Open Day on 31st May 2018, from 11am until 3pm. Although the event will be based from the Harbour Office in West Itchenor, it will also be utilising Itchenor Sailing Club. There will be a range of demonstrations of the work the Conservancy does, opportunities to have a guided walk in the local area, as well as a number of stalls covering important topical issues (such as marine plastics and recreational disturbance). Weather permitting, they are planning free boat trips on Solar Heritage. The historic Oyster Boat Terror, normally based in Emsworth, will be present for photo opportunities.

The event will be free to attend. ISC will be open and able to provide refreshments.



For further information on any of the above, please don't hesitate to contact anyone on your committee

## Itchenor Society Committee

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If you have received this notice and are not yet a member, why not join the Society now?

Contact Colin Simpson, the Membership Secretary on 01243 514931 or email cps0942@btinternet.com



# Itchenor News

Brought to you by the Itchenor Society Spring 2018



## Update from the Chairman, Alistair Impey

This is my first opportunity to write about the recent activities of the Itchenor Society since I was confirmed as Chairman at the last AGM. I am privileged to have inherited a vibrant Society that continues to pursue its core activities, namely:

- To promote high standards of planning and architecture in the village
- To act as a co-ordinating body and co-operate with local authorities, the Parish Council, the Harbour Conservancy and other organisations interested in the village
- To promote or assist in promoting charitable activities
- To arrange social events to enhance the cohesiveness of the village

Many thanks to the previous Chairman, Alex Webb, whose hard work over the last four years has ensured that the Society is well positioned to carry on its work to support these objectives.

The Parish Council held its Annual Meeting in April and drew attention to villagers of the long-term risks to the whole village of poor maintenance of the sea wall, between the Sailing Club and Spinney Lane. This presentation included drone footage of the rife from the harbour up to the Church and photos, taken at a high spring tide, showing water overflowing the path on the top of the sea wall, clearly demonstrating the problems. There appears that there is little or no government funding to properly maintain this structure; but should it fail, a number of properties in the village would be flooded and the whole village would suffer if conduits for utilities, in particular sewage, were destroyed. Work continues to improve drainage within the village, but areas of risk remain. A discussion was also held as to measures that could be taken to reduce congestion caused by parking on The Street during winter months.

As regards the Old Haven Planning Appeal process, the Parish Council has now notified the Planning Inspectorate at Bristol of its intention to seek Rule 6 status once the appeal commences. The appeal timetable has not yet begun. The Itchenor Society and the Parish Council are working together to raise funds to enable the village to appoint expert witnesses and for legal support. The pledge letter, sent out by the Society, has been successful and so far it has raised £10,670 from 21 residents.

Over the winter we organised our traditional Walking Carols in December. These began on a somewhat damp and cold night but with mulled wine and delicious snacks courtesy of Jo Scholes and family, we started off in good spirits. The walking procession left Chalkdock Lane at 6.30pm and visited two houses close by before heading past the Church to the Post House where we joined Claire and Mike Goddard to sing carols. This was followed by a visit to The Ship Inn and then on to our final destination, the Sailing Club. At the Club we had the additional support of the Village Voices, with piano accompaniment, and everyone joined in with gusto to sing some lovely carols.

Many thanks to everyone who supported the event and gave generously. The Society was able to present the Snowdrop Trust with a cheque for £500.00. Please come again in 2018!

We also arranged our winter lunch, at the newly refurbished Ship Inn, which was attended by 40 Members and an enjoyable time was had by all.

A number of village events, that might be of interest to you are referred to at the end of this Newsletter. The article on the village fete has, hopefully, sparked your interest and all are invited to join in on Saturday 26 May. The annual wreath laying ceremony is on June 8 and all are encouraged to attend. We will be holding our summer party at the Birketts' house on Saturday 16 June, many thanks to James and Amanda, which will be great fun. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Earlier in the year we notified Members of changes to data protection legislation that require us to seek your consent to enable us to maintain your details on our database and to contact you regarding the Society's activities. If you have not responded to this request please do so as soon as possible as the deadline is 25 May. Please contact our Membership Secretary if you have any queries.

Many thanks to my fellow Committee members for all the work they are doing, as without this the Society would not be the success it is. I would like to give particular thanks to Caroline Dunn and to Mark Bray, who have left our Committee, for their contributions over the past years.

# Itchenor Village Fete

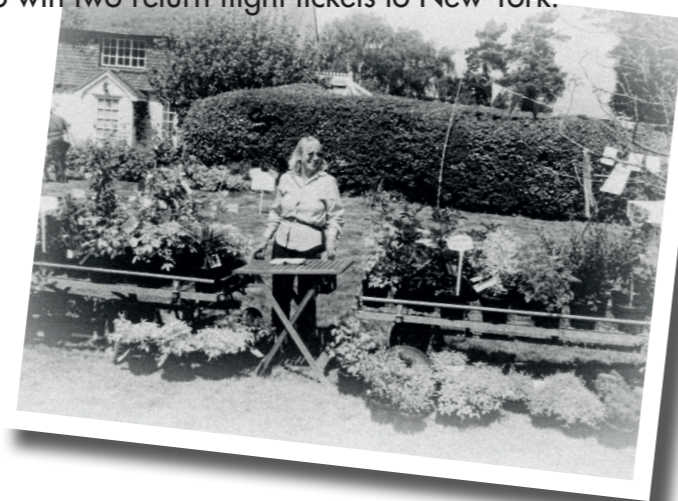
Saturday May 26th midday to 4.30pm



Well here we go, Itchenor are having a Village Fete, raising money for the Village hall and St Nicholas Church, it's been nine years since our last Village Fete organised by Di Cawley and many helping hands.

So much can change in what has now become nearly a decade. I was reminded of that recently visiting our local Police in Chichester, always willing to help, an officer awkwardly smiled as it was explained that unlike in past years, due to Government cut backs, our local police station was unable to help us with road bollards needed for the Fete, in some ways its fortunate that this year the Fete is being held in the grounds of our Memorial hall as otherwise we would of had to close down Shipton Green Lane for the duration of the Fete and again, due to the cut back by local authorities the officer explained that Chichester Police Station can no longer provide police presence for events such as ours (we are quite small). It was however made very clear with a broad smile that in the case of an emergency of course we would receive immediate attention; I thought as I left the station immediate attention might of course depend a little on the weather, because if it's a sunny hot bright Bank Holliday weekend there might be rather a long queue of traffic between Itchenor and Chichester. Traffic at the Village Fete hopefully will not be a problem as we will be directing visitors to the Fete up the lane leading

to Itchenor Park House, the lane is immediately to the right of the Hall and about fifty yards along the lane on the right is a gate leading off to a large field, this will have been mown and ready for loads of visiting cars, then literally a hop – skip and a jump away from the Fete. Entering the Fete and walking past a fire engine and rescue boat (neatly placed for a fast getaway if need be) one will immediately see the area given over for the Dog Show, just past that, teas, coffees and cakes and the Brilliant Gin Bar, nearby coming out of the shining classic Winnebago will be our hamburgers, conveniently adjacent to the ice cream van, past these providers of nourishment will be our coconut stall, brick a brac, bottles stall, Boat Jumble, Drones, plant stall, splat the rat Books, bicycles, Itchenor Teddy Bears (one well-travelled) and everything else associated with a good day out, hopefully guaranteeing fun for all, not forgetting a chance to win two return flight tickets to New York.



Fete Images courtesy of Peter Arnold



## Recreational Rowing in Chichester Harbour

Itchenor Sailing Club has introduced Recreational Rowing over the past 18 months and it is proving amazingly popular. Outings have increased from 4/month in 2017 to 5/week now and the Club has introduced a new membership to encourage participation.

Outings last about 3 hours and take the form of an expedition to Dell Quay, Bosham or East Head with a stop for a coffee, drink or picnic. The crews are mixed and random so also provide an opportunity

for people to meet and interact while gently paddling up or down the harbour savouring its beauty, wildlife and conditions. We go out in most conditions decided by the crew on the day so that this winter we have only cancelled a handful of outings such is the enthusiasm of the participants.

If you would like to join the fun, warm scruffy clothing with welly boots are the dress code with an optional buoyancy aid. Please contact Itchenor Sailing Club on 01243 512400 for more details.

## 2018 – Dates for your Diary

Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Itchenor Summer Fete
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Chichester Harbour Conservancy Open Day
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Wreath Laying Ceremony
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Summer Party at the White House
Early November	Itchenor Society AGM

## Itchenor Information

The Itchenor Society Newsletter is published twice a year.

If you want to keep up to date with our activities, including summaries of resolutions of our Committee meetings, please refer to our website <http://www.itchenorsociety.co.uk>.

You might also be interested in referring to other Village websites, such as the

Parish Council <http://westitchenorparishcouncil.org> and the

Itchenor Memorial Hall <http://itchenormemorialhall.org> to follow their activities.