

THE APRIL DOWER HOUSE NEWSLETTER

Winchester
Rotary



TEA PARTY



We visited with other local groups, clubs, societies, and care homes the Senior Citizens yearly Party. It had been organised by Winchester's Rotary Club and the Inner Wheel and took place at Itchen Abbas and Avington Village Hall on Saturday, March 9.

As well as music sung by French singer Muriel and delicious homemade afternoon tea prepared by the Inner Wheel, there was a raffle with donated prizes, bingo, and a quiz.

The Mayor of Winchester Angela Clear stopped by with Mayoress Therese Evans. Cllr Clear said: "I have seen so many people who remember me from last year. It is a lovely event, and the food is delicious. "Games, fun, music, good food and lots of laughter were shared by all.

Winchester Rotary Club's president Les Haswell rounded the day off with thanks to all who helped and attended. He said: "Thanks to everyone for coming. I hope you all enjoyed your afternoon and that you will be back next year."



BEN'S NEWS

April is here and if you wander around the garden, you will see everything greening up and plants you had forgotten about are sprouting up through the fresh layer of mulch and all the trees and shrubs are budding up waiting for some sun to help them burst into life!



Over the last month Terry and I have finished a lap around the grounds weeding & edging, tidying the borders ready for our next lap of feeding new and tender plants and putting up supports for the tall perennials and framework for the climbers. We have also scarified the lawns and have done the first couple of cuts in preparation for the lawn feed at the end of the month. All the bird boxes have been emptied and the camera box is back up and running, hopefully you all will be able to see the bluetits nesting. There is also a new fish in the pond! Sadly, we lost three of the Koi over the winter. A friend of Mark (Mr Mower man) kindly donated a large fish to us as the pond they were living in had carp and life was becoming a little cramped!! He now resides with us, so please come and see our new addition whilst you're out walking.

Over the next month we will be redesigning the wildflower bed, and this will become a mixture of perennials and wildflowers so watch this space.



PAST & FUTURE ACTIVITIES



Winchester College Community

Residents were delighted by beautiful tones from the college singers. We look forward to hearing them again in the future....



Christina Art Classes



John Salvat talks on the history of Winchester



Marcus sings Why not come along with your requests! Marcus enjoys us taking part...



Lent Reflections with Helen Bradish

Lent is the season of dust, ashes, brokenness, and journeying with Jesus towards the cross. This season of Lent we invite you to share that journey with us, all people for whom the struggle against poverty is etched in our lives on an ongoing basis, but for whom faith in Jesus (and Jesus' faith in us) helps us to keep going.



Stone Painting During our art afternoons we have been painting stones to place around the pond. These have been sprayed to protect them from the frost and sun. We hope to continue painting and will soon place them near the bridge next to the pond.

Commander Jonny Cook Our gentlemen residents will enjoy this interesting chat with Jonny about his life in the Navy. This will be held in the drawing room on Tuesday 3pm 2nd April.



Matthew Quilliam

Old time sing-along classics 1920's – 1960's
Sometime in mid-2011, a young boy picked up his first ukulele, quickly becoming fascinated with the instrument. 12 years later and Matthew Quilliam became the first person to use the ukulele for an entire music degree, graduating in 2023 with first class honours.

Sarah Hobbs returns with a delightful 60's songs

Angela Scofield

Speaks about 'My life in uniform'.
Angela was in Princess Mary's Royal Air Force



Masked Ball Supper Held on Wednesday 17th
April bookings only

Jackie Drew Returns with her Violin

Simon Vandeleur - Speaking about the Queens Funeral.
Simon is the adjutant of the Cold stream guards.

Ukrainian Singer's return

Claire Skillen – (NEW CLASS) Mindfulness drawing



Brian Budden on the Piano

Brian is a very talented classical pianist and never disappoints.



FAKE & FORTUNES

Chris presented us with a light-hearted journey through the pleasures and pitfalls of collecting art and antiques. The challenges we all face when tempted to buy art and antiques. An antique is an item that is a least 100 years old.

Here is a pencil sketch of an oil painting by (1577-1621) ADORATION OF THE KINGS (Florence, Palazzo Pitti, Galleria Palatina) that was drawn as part Giovanni Battista Vanni's (1599 –1660) apprenticeship learning the skills of sketching and painting with his master Cristofano Allori purchased by chance at a "Brocante et vide-greniers" (Empty your attic Car Boot style market) at Place d'Italie, Paris. France

It cost Chris 85€ (£60), but after researching and establishing its history it was valued at approximately £2,000.00 by the London Auction house "Drewetts"



Chris took a look at a few of the chairs that we have in The Dower House. He explained by examining the manufacturer's insignia on antique chairs, how you can determine when a piece was produced. Furniture producers' marks were often carved or burned into the wood and were frequently found behind the upholstery of a chair or even on the underside of the chair frame. Throughout the 18th and 19th centuries, branding was frequently done in this style, barely visible, to avoid interfering with the period's elaborate decorations. Chris demonstrated to us the difference between the Victorian and our Edwardian chairs.



Edwardian furniture took key inspiration from the Victorian age, leaving a sense of continuity between the two reigns. While Victorian design indulged in dark woods, Edwardian furniture preferred a lighter finish, looking towards new materials like bamboo and wicker.



MRS JACKSONS CORNER

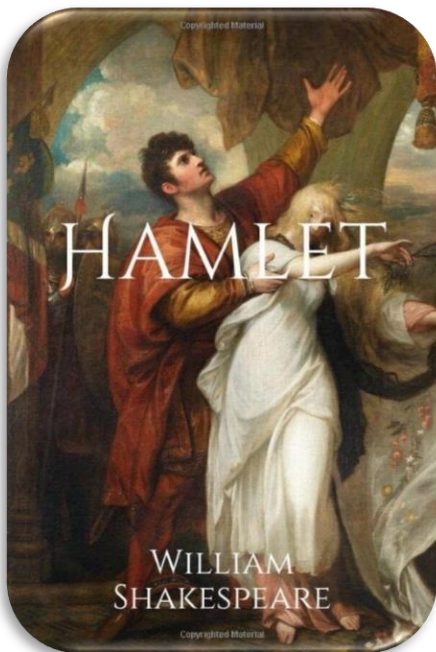
Traditionally it is a 14-line poem each line written iambic pentameter which consists of ten syllables per line and fixed pattern of rhymes.

A SPRIG OF WHITE HEATHER

<i>In a great mountain gully I was nurs'd,</i>	A
<i>Speckled with random boulders, bleak and barren;</i>	B
<i>Hidden away beside a rabbit warren</i>	B
<i>I watch' d the torrents down their steep banks burst.</i>	A
<i>Sweet maid, it was your lover found me first,</i>	A
<i>Trudging toward the ridge of old Ben Bharrain;</i>	B
<i>And now he sends me with a scent of Arran,</i>	B
<i>And this shy sonnet which himself hath vers'd.</i>	A
<i>He thinks my bloom will well with yours compare,</i>	C
<i>Since you are pure as these white buds of mine;</i>	D
<i>As among women you; and for a sign</i>	D
<i>That love eternal all his being fills,</i>	E
<i>I bear a breath from those eternal hills.</i>	E



A.Y. Campbell another version of a sonnet



Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?	A
Thou art more lovely and more temperate;	B
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,	A
And summer's lease hath all too short a date;	B
Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,	C
And often is his gold complexion dimm'd;	D
And every fair from fair sometime declines	C
By chance, or nature's changing course un-trimm'd;	D
But thy eternal summer shall not fade,	E
Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st	F
Nor shall death brag thou wander'st in his shade,	E
When in eternal lines to time thou grow'st	F
So long as men can breathe, or eyes can see,	G
So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.	G

Willam Shakespeare

APRIL FILMS

SATURDAY 6th & SUNDAY 7th APRIL

RYAN'S DAUGHTER

Set in the wake of the 1916 Easter Rising, a married woman in a small Irish village has an affair with a troubled British officer.



SUNDAY 14th APRIL



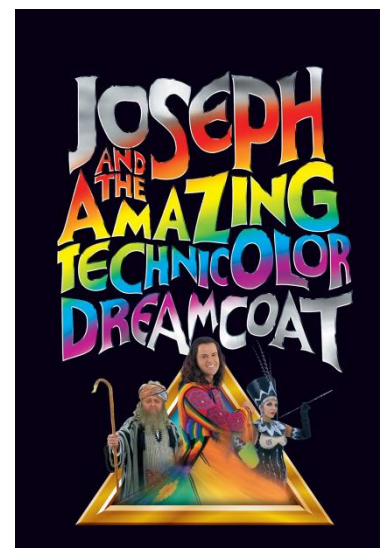
CASABLANCA

A fast-paced, emotionally charged romance set against the tumultuous backdrop of World War II, the film is one of the most celebrated and iconic ...

SATURDAY 20TH SUNDAY 21ST APRIL

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAM COAT

Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's classic musical stars Donny Osmond as Joseph, the titular owner of the dazzling outer garment who arouses the murderous envy of his siblings. Maria Friedman, Richard Attenborough and Joan Collins co-star, and songs include 'Close Every Door to Me', 'Go Go Go Joseph' and 'Any Dream Will Do'.



WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

Every Monday at 10.30 Knit & Natter with our ladies from Inner Wheel

Every Tuesday at 11am Keep Fit with Christine

Pat dogs Bonny visiting weekly & Monty every other week

Film Club every Sunday at 3pm

Monday 1st 3pm Games afternoon

Tuesday 2nd 3pm Chats with Commander Jonny Cook

Wednesday 3rd 11am Games of legs

3pm Matthew 'Old time Sing-along Classics 1920's – 1960's

Thursday 4th 11am The Word Game

3pm Arts & Crafts

Friday 5th 11am Morning Chats

3pm Quiz

Monday 8th 3pm Mike Sidaway Singing

Tuesday 9th 3pm The Word Game

Wednesday 10th 11am Games of Legs

3pm Sarah Hobbs Singing

Thursday 11th 11am Angela Scofield 'My life in Uniform' Princess Mary's RAF

3pm Quiz Time

Friday 12th 11am Morning Chats

3pm Christina's Art Class

Monday 15th 3pm Games afternoon

Tuesday 16th 3pm What the papers say

Wednesday 17th 3pm Jackie Drew Playing the Violin

6pm Masked Ball

Thursday 18th 11am The Word Game

3pm Games of legs

Friday 19th 11am Morning Chats

3pm Simon Vandeleur talks about 'The Queen's Funeral'.

Saturday 20th 3pm Ukrainian Singers

Monday 22nd 3pm Craft Time

Tuesday 23rd 3pm Quiz Afternoon

Wednesday 24th 11am Holy Communion

3pm Mindfulness Drawing with Claire Skillen

Thursday 25th 11am The Word Game

3pm Matron Meeting

Friday 26th 11am What the papers say

3pm Brian Budden Playing the Piano

Monday 29th 3pm Knit & Natter

Tuesday 30th 3pm Sio Axal-Burge with funny stories about Horses, cats and catering!!