

THE MINSTEAD ENQUIRER

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CIRCUS SPECTACULAR

CELEBRATING THE CYCLE OF THE SEASONS

RUGBY LEGEND

Robert interviews
Roy Winters



ARCHAEOLOGY
Unearthing the secrets
of the past

LET LOVE GROW
Ruth shares her enthusiasm
for craft making



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Meet the news team

Richard, Robert, Lucy, Silas and David

WELCOME TO OUR AUTUMN SPECIAL

We've now been creating The Minstead Enquirer every month for over two years. This is our third special seasonal edition, packed with articles about the things we enjoy and find most interesting. We hope you enjoy reading this issue as much as we've enjoyed putting it together.

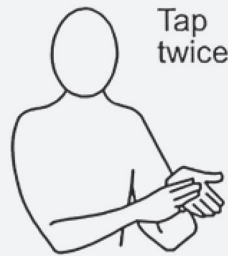
The News Team Journalists

LEARN MAKATON WITH US

Simple signs for people.



Who?



Mum



Dad



Brother



Sister



Baby



Man



Woman



Boy



Girl



Doctor



Nurse

ARCHAEOLOGY

An interview with Helen from Hampshire Community Heritage

Interview by Richard and Silas



Richard... Where did you study?

Helen... oh I went to the university of Leicester to study archaeology, before that I went to Testwood school in Totton, and Brockenhurst college.

Silas... How long have you been an archaeologist?

Helen... Oh lots of years to remember, I graduated in 1998, so on and off in archaeology since then, I'm not going to count how many years that is. (Laughter).

Richard... What do you enjoy most about archaeology?

Helen... About the archaeology, um, the variety of work you can do because you can be a land archaeologist, digging in the ground. You can be a diver and go and find archaeology under water. My favourite thing is just talking to people about archaeology and letting them see things that we can find and finding out what they are interested in.

Silas... What is your most important find?

Helen... Oh um, a few years ago I went to a Roman pottery kiln and there was a badger that had dug into it and it flicked all the pottery out and there was a piece of Roman pottery, so it was really, really old and it has thumb prints on it from the person who made it. So I was touching something that was last touched by a Roman person. Silas, "I went to Yorkshire a couple of years ago and learned



about the Vikings." Helen, "Oh Vikings, yeah, I'm really interested in Vikings." Silas, "I went to a Viking museum ." Helen, "Yes I've been to that museum, it's a good one."

Richard... Who do you report findings to?

Helen... Oh usually I'm working for somebody, so those finds are part of a project, it all gets reported. But if you find something that's really amazing in your area, your grounds, there is something called the portable antiquities scheme that you have to register with the finds liaison officer.

Silas... What is your favourite time period?

Helen... Oh that's tricky, I like all of them but I'm really interested in World War Two, there are still a few veterans around, you can speak to them and get their memories. Silas, "My Grandad was in the war, he won the military cross." Helen, "I saw that, you posted on Facebook and you had a picture of him, it was really interesting. I like to read these things and link it all together."



'My favourite thing is just talking to people about archaeology and letting them see things that we can find and finding out what they are interested in.'



Richard... Is archaeology just digging?

Helen... Um, not always, I don't actually dig very much now, I preferer to do survey, which is what's on the land, measuring, looking at it, speaking to people, community archaeology is my favourite.

Silas... Do you know how old Minstead Village is?

Helen... Oh yes, I did look this up but I've forgotten because I have a shocking memory, (laughter), Yeah so it's very old, there are Bronze Age things around, not necessarily right in Minstead but very close by, some Iron Age, you have Roman roads that are not far away. The Lodge itself is very old. You can see this building is old (Wellbeing Studio.) It has the wooden frame. You have lots of history right on this site. And just near by in the Village there is lots of history as well.



FESTIVAL FUN

**A PERFORMING ARTS AND CRAFT WORKSHOP
MINSTEAD TRUST PRODUCTION**



A CELEBRATION OF the cycle of the seasons and growing through nurture, support and working together. Lead by a spectacular troop of circus performers. The celebration started in the front circle of Minstead Lodge. People we support along with staff from across the trust gathered for a procession. Robbie with his kazoo and the performers leading us up to the lawned area known as Turkey Oak. Past the Mandala, done by Meg with contributions from all the departments. The Minstead Team marching as one. The colours in the costumes bring to mind the diversity of skills within the Trust. And when

As our performers showed us, that with strong a foundations, dedication, support and the right balance. There is nothing that can stand in our way. Thank you everyone for the wonderful celebration.

all these skills are brought together there are no limits to what we can achieve. This was clearly shown by the performances of jugglers, tight rope walkers, magicians, strong men and the Ring Master. The celebration was more than a performance, it showed who we are. We don't need to be scared to try new things as we have the support of each other.





RUTH HAS BEEN SOWING THE SEEDS OF LOVE

RUTH ASKED IF we could send some pictures of what she and the craft group at Minstead Trust has been making recently - our 'Let Love Grow' hearts are made from recycled paper with wildflower seeds that can be planted to start your very own wildflower meadow. This is the first time Ruth has tried doing this; she enjoyed so much that she didn't want to stop and was so keen to make more that when she had run out of space on the table, she came up with the idea of drying them

with a hair dryer so that we could move them and make more space! Her enthusiasm was infectious and the whole group worked really hard and managed to make an incredible 62 hearts in a morning! This batch is being made just in time for Mother's day - the perfect gift for spring as the flowers should start popping up in summer!

Meg & The Craft Workshop at Minstead Lodge



REAL JAM & CHUTNEY COMPANY

Interview by Richard



How long have you been working for Real Jam & Chutney Company?

NIAMH. Just over two years.

SUNHONG. Over two years now Richard.

DIANE. Just over a year.

Where do you get the fruit and vegetables to make the jam and chutney?

NIAMH. Barry from Harvest.

SUNHONG. The rhubarb comes from the gardens at Minstead Lodge.

DIANE. The shop.

What is your favourite jam or chutney?

NIAMH. Strawberry jam and spiced apple chutney.

SUNHONG. I like Seville orange, I enjoy chopping up oranges, pineapple and carrots.

Where do you sell the jams and chutneys?

NIAMH. We sell them at Furzey Gardens.

SUNHONG. At Hanger Farm.

DIANE. Furzey Gardens.

How many people work for Real Jam & Chutney Company?

NIAMH. I don't know.

SUNHONG. Ten people, no twenty nine.

DIANE. Four.

Do you like working here?

NIAMH. Yes I do like working here.

SUNHONG. Yes Richard, I do.

DIANE. Yes.



HEALTHY EATING

Jon and Dave prepare a salad from produce grown in the veg garden at Minstead Trust Day Opportunities.

These are our Salad Days.



An Interview with **ROBBIE**

Interview by Richard



How long have you worked here?

I've worked here for eighteen months now.

What's your acting like?

Oo Ahh, Says Robbie in a pirate voice. My acting is not that bad at all.

What other places have you worked?

In my performance career I've been lucky to travel all over the world. Sometimes on land, sometimes on ships.

Do you enjoy the work you do?

I would say the key to anything is to have passion and I've never lost that passion. Sharing that passion with others creates more passion and joy.

How long did it take to build the Art Trail at Minstead Lodge?

About five months, we had to build in between rehearsals for performances whenever there was a gap. (Weather permitting).

What is your favourite circus skill?

Robbie said, "That is a great question." I have quite a few to choose from, such as spinning hoops, juggling bricks, Rola Bola balance. My favourite trick is juggling five balls.

How long did it take you to learn to do that?

I perfected it over the years; the secret to anything is practice. Practice makes perfect.

How long did you work at Paultons Park for?

I was the resident clown; I did twenty six seasons - wearing a red nose.



A DAY OUT AT BEAULIEU MOTOR MUSEUM

By Lucy



Robert



and Silas



LUCY:

My favourite thing was the mono rail. I liked sitting in the old cars.



ROBERT:

It was really good, I liked the mono rail and also enjoyed the F1 racing cars.



SILAS:

I liked all of it. It was something different to do. I liked the old fashioned bus.



MY BIKE RIDES



I'VE BEEN CYCLING since 2019. Cycling is good exercise and is good for you and good for the planet. I go every single day. I love going up uphill some times, because it's hard work. When I visit my mum's grave, I cycle there. The picture to the right is the cycle route what I do on my bike. I love to cycle in the summer time and in the cold in the winter. I love to cycle because it make me feel happy. I always wear a cycle helmet to keep me safe, I think this should be made law.



ROY

By Robert



WINTERS

I undertook an interview with Roy Winters on 14th June 2025. I have been friends with Roy from the age of 18 months.

Who was the best opponent you ever played against?

He lifted the World Cup for us in 2003; his name is Martin Johnson.

Have you heard of him?

Yeah.

He had a real presence about him a real aura. He's a real hard man; he likes to annoy and niggle people. Referees were always intimidated by him. He was a big man anyway, but he had a presence about him, so I will say Martin Johnson.

What's your biggest achievement in rugby?

Getting an England cap but also winning promotion with Bedford. With Quins (Harlequins) we won the Premiership Shield twice in 2001 and 2004. With Bristol we came third one year in premiership and then unfortunately lost in the semi final against Gloucester. Unfortunately, whilst I was at Bristol we didn't win anything. As a student, with Loughborough University I played at Twickenham, in what was the BUSA (British Universities Sports Association) finals, but we lost in that game- I don't have a great track record!



Did you ever play in the Middlesex Sevens?

Yes once, for Haywards Heath, my first club. That was early 1990's. When I was playing for Haywards Heath under 16's / Colts we did win the Sussex Championship. We celebrated back home on the farm - you were there Robert! My parents hosted everyone. Dad and Mum have always been amazing and supported me in my rugby. Dad would drive me around the country.

Injuries are part of the game. What injuries can you recall?

I tore my Achilles whilst at Quins in pre-season which was devastating. But another memorable one involved Jonny Wilkinson and Schalk Burger, a South African flanker. We were on tour in South Africa and Jonny and myself both went to tackle him, but Jonny ran into my shoulder and split his nose open. He then had to leave the pitch.

How long was your rugby career?

I started playing when I was eleven and finished when I was thirty eight, so twenty seven years of playing rugby. As a professional it was eighteen years.

Where was your final game?

My last professional game was for Bristol in Newcastle against the Falcons, where we did beat them. I remember sitting in the changing room for an hour or two after the game sitting in my kit thinking 'That's it, I'm never going to do this again'!

Who was your favourite referee?

Wayne Barnes. He had a very successful refereeing career, with over 100 test matches and refereeing the World Cup final in France.

What positions did you play?

I started off in the second row, when I was at Haywards Heath. At sixteen, at a divisional trial, I was moved to number eight and then I play eight or six for a number of years. At Quins they tried me in the second row in my last season there and that went



ok. At Bristol I was a back row (6 or 8), but there was a great back rower, Dan Ward-Smith who deserved the position, so they tried me in the second row with Gareth Llewelyn, a former Welsh player with a record number of caps. So I finished my career at number four.

It's been a pleasure interviewing you, Roy, thank you very much for your time.



THE DAY I TURNED INTO A MERMAID

A story made by Lucy



THIS SUMMER I went on a holiday to Miami Beach. The weather was so hot and sunny so I decided to go in the sea for a nice swim to cool down. While I was swimming I met a sea witch in the deep water. As soon as me and the sea witch got to know each other a bit, the sea witch gave me one of her very own potion and told me to drink it, so I drank it up. The next minute later I suddenly fell asleep for

a bit. Then I finally woke up and got a bit confused of what just happened to me. Little did I know that the sea witch turned me into a mermaid. I swam deeper into the ocean with all the lovely beautiful fishes. Deep down into the bottom of the ocean I saw lots of loving friendly mermaids, I decided to swim down to every mermaid and get to know them all. Once I got to know all the mermaids, we all instantly became friends.

But then I get to meet the king and queen and had a long conversation with the king and queen. But then out of no-where they decided to be my new parents. But now that I am the daughter of the king and queen, I became the princess. All the other mermaids respect me well and treated me like royalty.

This is literally just a fake news.





**Why did the hare
cross the road?**
To go the barbers!

**Why didn't the
skeleton go to
the prom?**
He had no-body
to go with!



SIM'S SENSATIONAL JOKES

They're a Scream!



**What's a snake's
favourite pie?**
Snake and kidney!

**What ride is a
ghosts' favourite
ride at the
fairground?**
The roller-ghoster!



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We hope you enjoyed reading our newspaper and seeing what can be achieved by people like us when we are given a chance.

Here are two ways you could support us if you would like to.

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we could visit? We would love to do more
reporting on local things.

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be supporting us to be journalists and
raise money for the Enquirer.

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