



Newsletter July 2015

In this Summer edition we follow up on the response we've had to our Men's Shed idea, with a planned meeting of interested residents to explore how it may work and the way forward. We talk about all the landscaping activity underway in June - including the rejuvenation of the disused tennis court. It won't be quite good enough for tennis any more but we hope with some more joined up community effort it'll be good for children to play on.

And the recent successful Bombay Sapphire distillery May residents day is being followed by another opportunity to visit in June - this time for mill history rather than distilling and it's output! As usual for this and more read on.....

Your copy of the July [Overton News & Views](#) will shortly be available at this link.



14th July Men's Shed/Pavilion Usage Meeting

An exploratory meeting has been organised for 6.30pm on Tues 14th July at Lady Rose Hall to discuss the formation of a Men's Shed group. This is currently the best plan we have for reviving the old wooden pavilion in Laverstoke. If you are interested in this or have any alternative ideas please contact Nicky at laverstokeclerk@gmail.com or on 07563 942360 or just come along.



Playground Survey

The Millennium Green have been working hard to understand what residents would like from the Play Ground.

So far their survey has had 34 responses

- 100% of people feel that retaining the playground is a very important part of the



New Old Play area!

After many years of relentless attack by weeds the disused tennis court has been rejuvenated and we have somewhere safe for children to scoot, bike and, hopefully, play basketball and football.

The clear up was a real team effort starting with the Village Tidy up at Easter where we removed the fence one end, dug out the largest roots and tidied behind the fence running along the court length. The PC organised for a digger to scrape away the weeds last week and then a team of volunteer parents and children have swept and tidied.

We're looking for advice on how to fill the remaining holes in a very cost effective manner. If you are a local groundworker or builder do you have any ideas? If so can you let Steve Probut on steve.probut@btinternet.com. Also we are after basketball hoops and football goals....

You may also have noticed that the PC have JCB'd out the weed strip beside the new courts and grassed it. We have put temporary orange fencing around to stop children and dogs from straying

community

- With 88% rating this as the most important

Does your household use the playground?

90% Yes or sometimes

54% more than 5 times a month

77.5% using it at least once per month

Average children per household 2

42% between 1- 3

50% between 4 – 6

37.5% older with the average age being 8

96% of respondents live in the village

What apparatus in the playground is most frequently used?

55.5% use the multiplay

14.8% Roundabout

25.9% Swings

3.7% General grassed area

Fund raising feedback included: Summer Party at Lady Rose Hall, Coffee Morning, Village Fete, Duck Race, regular contributions from young families, sponsored walk/run, working with Bombay Sapphire to put on a village event where profits raised go to the Millennium Green – not the play park! Cake Sales.

Thanks to everyone who took the time to respond. If you know of anyone else that uses the playpark outside of L&F can you please forward them the [survey link](#) as we are keen to get a broader view on the community who uses it.

onto it. Hopefully it will grow and not merely end up as bird seed!

We do hope the children start to make use of the old court. All we ask is that whilst we wait for the grass "to take" that they enter at the Quiet Garden end and don't go on the bank which is also seeded. Thanks!



Laverstoke included in WWW weekend

Just to remind everyone that the World Wide Whitchurch weekend is coming up 17-19th July and some of the action is taking place in Laverstoke!

On the morning of Sat 18th Whitchurch Tennis Club and the Black Arrows archers will both be hosting competitions between visiting teams. Please don't be surprised if it is a little busier than usual parking wise. We are hoping that the events will be really successful and an opportunity to show off our lovely facilities.

We are also expecting a visit on Sunday from the Solent MG Owners Club who are going to be picnicing at lunchtime in Laverstoke prior to a Bombay Sapphire tour. They'll be parking up around LRH.



American-style Tennis Tournament 18th July

As part of 'Worldwide Whitchurch Weekend', the town's celebrations of all things Whitchurch, the tennis club will be hosting a tennis tournament. Two events are planned, one for adults and the other for juniors, both on the morning of Saturday 18th July. If you think you might be interested in taking part in this informal, American-style tournament, then please do get in touch asap with Chair Julie Bourne on: chair@whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk

Before then, and in case you missed last month's newsletter, the first tennis club event of the month is Strawberry Sunday afternoon on 5th July, from 2pm until 4pm. Keen tennis watchers have probably already spotted that Wimbledon 2015 starts a week later than usual, so 5th July is the middle Sunday when – unless the weather has been terrible during the first week! – there is normally no play. What better way to fill the gap than by coming along to enjoy a fun game of tennis followed by strawberries and cream?

Club nights continue on Tuesdays and Thursdays, when play, hosted by a committee member, will begin at 6pm and continue until dusk. There will also be an opportunity to play tennis on fine summer



Scams Awareness Month - July

Citizens Advice and Hampshire Trading Standards are running a campaign this month highlighting the various areas one can be unwittingly scammed. They've even created a game on their [website](#) which is worth clicking through (not a scam!)

Currently Hampshire Trading Standards Service is warning us to be wary of rogue traders, in the Basingstoke area, cold calling on the pretext that squirrels have been seen on the roof! The caller offers to investigate any damage that the creatures may have caused. On one occasion, the callers were invited in and entered the loft space. They appeared with some insulation, saying it was evident that the squirrels were in the space. A large amount of money was requested to clear the pests. They reiterate their advice not to deal with cold callers.

Trading Standards would advise consumers not to agree to work that is instigated as a result of a cold call or via a leaflet drop. Consumers should

Saturdays between 3pm and 5pm (check [website](#) for details) – followed by a glass of chilled white wine in the sunshine!

Resident coach, Carol Rogers, runs excellent courses throughout the year. Adult coaching sessions are taking place on Monday evenings through the summer, Full details of these and the Junior Summer Programme (for children from 4½ up to 18 years old) are available from Carol at carolrogerstennis@hotmail.co.uk or by phone on 07939 264999.

To join or for more information about the Club, please contact: Membership Secretary Lynda Frith, membership@whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk or Secretary Wendy Helsby, secretary@whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk



Royal visit to Laverstoke Mill, just a year before the outbreak of the Second World War. Left to right: Lord Portal, Queen Elizabeth, Francis Portal, King George VI and Sir Bertram Portal.

Uncover the History of Laverstoke Mill - 29th June

Bombay Sapphire Distillery are holding a **free Heritage Event** for residents of Laverstoke & Freefolk on Monday 29th June between 11am and 4pm. Their fascinating archive will be on display

obtain at least 3 written quotes from reputable businesses or traders who are either members of the Hampshire County Council Trading Standards Buy With Confidence Scheme or a recognised trade association.

Members of the Buy With Confidence scheme are fully audited to ensure their trading practices are legal, honest and fair. All members have been checked for trustworthiness and compliance with consumer protection laws. Details can be obtained by telephoning 01962 833620, emailing buy.with.confidence@hants.gov.uk or via the website www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk

Traders who agree work at the home of an individual or at a place other than their usual business premises are required by law to provide consumers with a Notice of Right to Cancel, which gives consumers a 14 day cooling off period from the date the work starts. So, legally, you may have the right to cancel even though work has commenced.

If anyone has any information about traders who are cold calling or requires any advice on doorstep crime they can contact Hampshire County Council's Quick Response Team on: 01962 833666 (Monday – Friday 0900hrs to 1700hrs) where specially trained officers are on hand to provide advice.

If assistance is required outside of these hours please contact Hampshire

in the Gallery for free to all local residents who book their complimentary visit online. Nikki Farley, the resident archivist will be on hand to talk about the artefacts on display.

Visit www.distillery.bombaysapphire.com, select Book Tickets and Self-Discovery Experience and then choose 29th June at a time between 11am and 4pm. Continue the booking process and use voucher code FOL1761

Come to the entrance hall on the 29th, collect your map and you will be shown through to the Gallery.

Please note this offer does not include a complimentary cocktail in the bar.



Lady Rose Hall Planting

Gill Baker of Gone to Seed Gardening has been busy this week! The planting at the front of Lady Rose Hall looks fab. We have Lavender, Box Balls, White Climbing Hydrangeas, Perovskia, Hypericum and Viburnum adorning our side wall and entrance ramp. These have been chosen to provide interest all year. Gill has prepared the soil with a slow release fertiliser and has used weed suppressant matting covered in shingle to both reduce maintenance and also to keep in ground moisture.

Police on their non-urgent number 101 or dial 999 if you feel threatened or intimidated.



Themed evenings at Watership Down

Three themed events are coming up at our local hostelry:

Friday 17th July: Hampshire Fayre evening - come and enjoy food that has been procured, as much as possible, from the local area

Thursday 27th August: Fish evening

Friday 25th September: Tapas evening

Now the good weather is (hopefully) here the Watership will be offering a simple BBQ on both Friday and Saturday afternoons between 3.00 to 6.30 p.m.

On Sundays they will be offering a range of meats and fish from the BBQ complemented by a range of delicious salads. There will also be a Sunday Roast available.

For any further information ring the pub on: 01256 892254

We now have two pleas - one is that we all keep our dogs from relieving themselves on the Box as this will kill them (the plants not the dogs!) and secondly that the shingle doesn't get played on or kicked about by little feet or little wheels!

Our work doesn't stop there as the next job is to clear the scrubby area to the back of the ramp and then plant this with shrubs in the Autumn. We'll be organising another Village clear up for this!

Thanks must go to Gill for planning and planting this area for us and also to a kindly resident who donated funds for this purpose.



Setting Local Community Policing Priorities

The Basingstoke District

Neighbourhood Policing teams need our help in setting Community Policing Priorities for our local area, for July to September 2015. Please click on [this link](#) to complete 9 short questions and have your say!

In order to focus resources effectively in the community we need to tell the policing teams about the issues that affect us the



St Nicholas' or Ascot?

The Midsummer Tea Party and Flower Festival at St Nicholas Church on 14th June was, as always, a really lovely occasion. The church had been decorated beautifully to a Royal Ascot theme. The flowers were creatively arranged in a super display incorporating fancy hats, hat boxes, gloves, riding hats, gloves and other Ascot apparel. And the tea and cakes were yummy! Well done to all those who organised this successful event and who were all splendidly behaved. In the region of £265 was raised for the Churches Conservation Trust which manages St Nicholas Church, Freefolk.

most. Their aim is to reduce anti-social behaviour and crime as well as to make our neighbourhood a safe place for us to live and work.

Please spare just 5 minutes to complete the survey, so that you can give a clear understanding of the issues that matter to you. Piers Ambler, our local PCSO, says "Your involvement in setting local priorities is really important to us. Thank you!"

To contact Whitchurch & Overton Neighbourhood Policing Team call 101
Follow them on
Twitter [@BstokeRuralCops](#) and sign up
to [Hampshire Alert](#) for news & info!



PC Meetings

Next meeting dates:

14th July
8th Sept
13th Oct
10th Nov
8th Dec

Laverstoke and
Freefolk PC
meetings start at



Lady Rose Hall Class contacts

[Kettlebell Fitness](#): 7 - 8p.m.

Thursdays with John Ruffell
Tel: 07910 736432

[Yoga Friday](#): 10 -

11a.m. [Yogamaniac](#) Tel: 07884
384399

[Yoga Monday](#): 7-

8.30p.m. [Yoga with
Gloria](#) on: 0758 462 1857

**Other dance or fitness
sessions:** Does anyone know
a teacher who may be
interested in running a class
here on a Wednesday
evening? Let [Nicky](#) know:



Contacts

[L'stokes and Freefolk Facebook](#)

[laverstokeandfreefolk.org.uk](#)

Nicky Nicklin, Parish Clerk:

Tel. 07563 942360 email:

[laverstokeclerk@gmail.com](#)

Bob Hough, PC Chairman:

Tel. 07990 570035 email:

[laverstokeclerk@gmail.com](#)

Newsletter:

[lfparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk](#)

Lady Rose Hall:

[www.ladyrosehall.co.uk](#)

7.30pm with up to 15 mins public time. Anyone is welcome to attend to ask questions, make suggestions or air views on local issues during the public time. Time will be split equally between the number of people wishing to speak. After public time parishioners are welcome to stay on but they are unable to interrupt the Council meeting. Venue: Lady Rose Hall, Laverstoke Lane. Note: no meeting is held in August.

07563 942360

To book the hall for your events see www.ladyrosehall.co.uk

Bombay Sapphire Resident's Help Line Tel.: 01256 890078

Our neighbouring web-sites:

The [Official Whitchurch web site](#)

The [Original Whitchurch web site](#)

[Overton Parish Council web site](#)

Our Local Sports Clubs

[Whitchurch Tennis Club](#)

[Overton Black Arrows Archery Club](#)

[Overton Rugby Club](#)

Our Local Day Care Centre:

[Kingfisher Day Care Centre for the Elderly](#)

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Our emailing address is:

lfparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk

Our mailing address is:

Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council Newsletter
Lady Rose Hall
Laverstoke Lane
Whitchurch
RG28 7NY