



Newsletter April 2016

The Parish council would like to wish you, your families and friends a very Happy Easter weekend!

Over the past couple of weeks much has been happening in our beautiful villages. It's been lovely to see the children using the newly finished recreation surface most days and it's looking tidier around the edges thank to all the hard work at the village clear up. The spring tidy up also raised funds for Sports Relief from sale of refreshments by the tennis club and archers.

Many thanks also to Lucinda Crosthwaite and Nixie Graham for their "Clean for the Queen" in early March - with over 6 bags of litter collected from New Barn House up to the LRH car park .

And to give you plenty of advance notice we have initial news of two really exciting village events on 12th and 18th June. For these and more read on....

The latest [Overton News & Views](#) can be found at this link.



Garden and Literary Festival at Bere Mill

A must attend event for all families with an interest in gardens is taking place in our village, in the stunning grounds of Bere Mill, on Sunday 12th June from 10.00 to 17.30. It is in aid of the North Hampshire Medical Fund and also celebrates the Queens' 90th Birthday.

Featuring a Gardeners' Question time Chaired by Stefan Buczacki, talks by a variety of authors, poets and horticulturalists, it promises to be a fantastic day out. There will be a botanical art exhibition and demonstration, Plant and Home & Garden stalls as well as workshops and demonstrations. Refreshments will be in plentiful supply in both the Royal Tea Tent and Beer tents, with accompaniment by Head North who play an eclectic mix of traditional and contemporary Folk music.

The web site has full details of this family day and also a gala evening on Saturday 11th. For tickets and more information see:



Clearing the Village for Sport Relief

A willing band of volunteers on Sat 19th March cleared down the jobs on our long list - pruning in the Quiet Garden, removing an old Freefolk garage, sweeping the bus shelters, clearing drains, relaying weed suppressant beside the new recreation area and tidying the fly tip in the Millennium Green wood amongst others. And that's just on the general village list. The archers have now completed the frame of their side edge fencing and the tennis club have weedkilled and spruced the tennis courts.

Refreshments were available for sustenance and to fund raise for Sport Relief. The cake and sweepstake stall run by Whitchurch Tennis Club made £130 - that's funding for 260 mosquito nets! Linda Jones won the sweepstake. The Black Arrows raised further funds with their tea and coffee stall.

Many thanks to all who helped with the clean up, made cakes or purchased the refreshments!

www.testvalleyfestival.co.uk



Playing safely!

Hooray - The new recreation surface has been completed and the local children have already been enjoying their new play area. For the past couple of weekends they have been out playing ball games and cycling on it.

Steve Probut with the support of local residents has now funded and installed the netball and basketball hoops and small goals. A larger goal is in progress. Many thanks to all those who contributed. It is REALLY appreciated. As, of course, is the £10,300 grant from Basingstoke and Deane that made this possible.

And for anyone missing a metal toy gun, dropped on the ground near the bonfire, please contact

peter@overtonblackarrows.org to be reunited.



Village Ginkhana - 18th June

Please put 18th June in your diaries for a village event of activities, races, music and a tea for children and adults alike to raise funds for the Millennium Green and celebrate the Queens Official 90th Birthday. With hopefully a bit more than tea in the evening!





Shed News

Following yet another good turnout of people from Laverstoke and surrounding villages, the Men's shed team have now relaid a wooden floor in the the kitchen of the old pavilion and cleared out the guttering. Their fund raising is continuing and a meeting with our Community Development officer, Clive Fortune, is taking place soon.

The next meeting is on **Sunday 3rd April at 10 a.m.** if you know anyone with time on their hands who'd love to get stuck into some fixing-up please let them know.

The group aims to bring older men together to work on practical projects of their choice. It should be a social way of getting retired men out of their home/own shed and bringing them together with like-minded people.

For more info on the "youth club for mature gentlemen!" email:

testvalleymensshed@gmail.com or tel:

07725 368012

Community Safety Officer visit

With dog fouling on our verges and Millennium Green high on people's concern list we invited Dan White the Community Safety Officer from Basingsstoke & Deane to the March PC meeting. He's one of 12 officers whose remit is antisocial behaviour: rowdiness, intimidation, environmental littering, dog fouling and graffiti. They target their resources to where needed and run campaigns throughout year to help Educate and Enforce. They work 7 days a week in shifts till midnight. Clean Environment is one of B&Ds priorities. Although enforcement is difficult they try to respond robustly to fouling. The majority of dog owners are responsible but there are health risks especially for children.

We learned that fixed penalty notices can be issued if people are caught not picking up after their dog. There is a £50 fine for this and £75 for littering e.g. poo bags being left. And it is **ok** to put "doggie do" in our litter bins! Please bag it first (It makes sense now that we are using fewer plastic shopping bags to use bio-degradable dog fouling bags wherever possible.) We're currently investigating advisory bin stickers, some "friendly" lamp post stickers and hopefully another litter bin by the gate from the Millennium Green out to Batts Meadow (if we get



Easter Service at St Mary's

Easter at St Mary's, Laverstoke with **Freefolk** is celebrated with a Family Communion service at 10.00 on Easter Sunday. There will be the traditional Easter Egg hunt after the service for the children (or the child within you!), so please do join us.

Brenda Bond, Churchwarden. Tel: 895594



Pub Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Day also brings an easter egg hunt at around 3pm at the Watership Down Inn.

approval.) More to follow on this next month.

In the meantime please pick up after your dog **at all times** in the villages. Thank You.



Whitchurch Tennis Club: winter league champions!

On Sunday 20th March Whitchurch Tennis club's mixed team completed a remarkable winter season as undefeated league champions, at a home match in Laverstoke. Team regulars L-R Huw Crompton (Captain), Julie Bourne, Emma Longton and Luis Morris wrapped up a 6-2 victory over Beechdown to head their final league table. Out of 7 games they won 6 and drew 1. Whitchurch have earned certain promotion and will collect the league cup.

"We have formed a disciplined unit committed to competitive tennis, followed by wine in quantity" said their leader Huw Crompton. "Teamwork, and partner support, is what makes a winning side...."

Some advance notice of the annual Beer Festival on 27 - 30th. May. There will be a choice of over 30 beers and ciders plus a barbecue. Featuring Live Music and children's entertainment on the Sunday.



Archery

Black Arrows are participating in the Oakley Sports Weekend on 24th April with a "Try the Sport" at The Junior School – 12 to 16.00. And if you miss this opportunity to have a go at archery there's another on 1st May at Whitchurch Silk Mill.

On Friday 1st April the club shoot will select a team to compete in the "On Target" Tournament run by Archery G.B. versus Romsey, at Laverstoke later in April.

On the 2nd April the club has scheduled their monthly shoot. Instead of the short range "Frostbite" round of 30 meters they have been shooting during the winter, they are intending to shoot a round called a "Warwick" 2 dozen arrows at one distance and another 2 dozen at a

according to Emma Longton, who with Luis Morris enjoyed a remarkable run of seven matches losing only one set!

Whitchurch now field 3 league sides, mixed A and B, and ladies, with plenty of fixtures for members to play in the leagues year-round. Winter social tennis has been enabled by the club's wood burner. Club social tennis is on Saturday afternoons, Tuesday and Thursday nights hopefully starting on Tuesday 5th April when, given fair weather, play hosted by a committee member will begin at 6pm and continue until dusk.

For those who need a bit of encouragement, there will be a Rusty Racquets afternoon between 2pm and 4pm on Saturday 9th April. This is aimed at players who do not play regularly, or who have not played for a long time – so if this is you, why not dust off those racquets and give it a go. Non-members are welcome, and please bring your friends...

We have just been informed of the success of our bid to run a Davis Cup Legacy course for Juniors! The bid was made in partnership with the club's licensed coach, Carol Rogers, who will be running the course for six weeks from mid-April. Applications for the limited number of free places will be open to all keen young would-be tennis

slightly shorter range. There are a number of variations in the round and the longest distance is 100 yards, and the shortest 20 yards, all at a 122 cm target face.

The club also received a letter in March from our MP Kit Malthouse, congratulating them on recent achievements.

The archers were pleased to take part in the Laverstoke clear up, much of the results of which were burned on their bonfire. Les had started it burning on the previous Monday! The wind had finally been in the right direction and the pile had dried out from past soakings.

players. Further details, including how to apply, will follow soon on our [website](#). Regular adult coaching sessions will be starting on Monday evenings from April. For more details contact Carol at carolrogerstennis@hotmail.co.uk or on 07939 264999.



Parish Council

PC Meetings

Next meeting dates:

12th April

10th May - AGM &

Annual Parish Meeting

14th June

12th July



Lady Rose Hall Class contacts

[Kettlebell Fitness](#): **NEW**

Start Time: 7.30 - 8.30p.m.

Thursdays with John Ruffell

Tel: 07910 736432

[Yoga Friday](#): 10 -

11a.m. [Yogamaniac](#)

Tel: 07884 384399

Other dance or fitness sessions: Does anyone



Contacts

[L'stoke 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:

Laverstoke and Freefolk PC meetings start at 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.

Service times at St Mary's

Holy Communion
Services take place at St Mary the Virgin on the 1st, 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 9.00 am.

know a teacher who may be interested in running a class here on a Monday or Wednesday evening? Let [Nicky](#) know: 07725 368012

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

Easyfundraising Link

Millennium Green
[Easyfundraising](#) link. Sign up to support Laverstoke and Freefolk Millennium Green.

When you shop online, through this site, a donation is made. This is FREE to you.

Also through the site above you can click a link on the top right hand menu to easysearch. This enables you to earn money for the green on all your searches!

Our emailing address is:
laverstokeclerk@gmail.com
Our mailing address is:
Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council
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Lady Rose Hall
Laverstoke Lane
Whitchurch
RG28 7NY

laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Lady Rose Hall:

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](#)