



Newsletter April 2017

We hope everyone is enjoying the lovely spring sunshine that we've been having recently and making the most of our amazing local surroundings. It's always such a joy when the trees are coming into bud and the spring flowers are having a good show. In this issue in fact you'll find plants and gardens are quite a theme!

The playground fundraising quiz night held last month was really successful. With a very generous matched donation the Millennium Green team are now counting down to the start of the playground upgrade! For this and more read on.....

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



Hop over to Hardy's at Easter

Hardy's Cottage Garden plants in Priory Lane have two big events coming up this month:

Wednesday 12 April RHS Partnership Day – Spring Flowering Perennials with Rosy Hardy

Rosy Hardy picks 24 spring flowering plants from the nursery and talks about their attributes – how best to grow them, combine them with other plants to create great planting combinations and how to avoid common pitfalls. Included is an exclusive behind the scenes tour of this 21 times RHS Chelsea Flower Show Gold Medal winning nursery. Time: 2.00 – 4.00pm

Tea, coffee and biscuits included within the ticket price:

RHS Members - £12.50 per ticket

Non RHS Members - £15.00 per ticket.

Easter Holiday Fun From Monday 10 – Friday 21 April,



Local Garden Openings

Thanks to the suggestion of a local resident we wanted to highlight some of the beautiful local gardens being opened to the public as part of the National Garden Scheme in 2017. The scheme is the most significant charitable funder of nursing charities. Proceeds from the opening of people's gardens and sales of tea, cake and plants go to the likes of Carer's Trust, Marie Curie, Macmillan Cancer Care.

Local open gardens:

13th April - 2 Church Cotts., Whitchurch

1st May - Ashe Park, Overton

10th June - Bere Mill, Whitchurch

14th June - Down Farm House, Hurstbourne Priors

15th June - both Old Swan house & Stockbridge Gardens, Stockbridge

18th June - both Wildhern Gardens & Conholt Park, Andover

18th June - Longstock, Stockbridge

25th June - Spring Pond, Laverstoke

10th Sept - Farleigh House, Farleigh Wallop

These are just the most local gardens; there are many in the Winchester and Newbury areas too.

See www.ngs.org.uk for full details.

Enjoy!

Hop along to Hardy's for loads of fun this Easter.

From Monday 10 – Friday 21 April, we will be holding lots of fun events for children at the nursery, including an Easter Egg Hunt and workshops for Building Bug Hotels, Seed Sowing and Making Woodland Masks. We hope that lots of our neighbours will be able to join us. Further details available on the [website](#).



Spring Tidy Up

18th March was a hectic day in the villages for a small but willing team of residents - the Bus stops have been cleaned, the edge of the Millennium Green wood was cut back in preparation for the regular grounds maintenance team to cut it and the LRH porch was cleaned. The archery club were out in force and blitzed the archery range and the Tennis Club did their spring clear up the weekend before. We're starting to look ship shape for the summer ahead!



Tennis News

The Parish Hall was packed for our fun Quiz Night on Saturday 6th March, presided over by quizmaster Bob Helsby – many congratulations to the well-informed team from St Mary Bourne, which finished top of the class, also to the winners of the lottery and raffle. Good fun was had by all, and around £700 was raised towards the costs of maintaining and developing the courts.

The following week, there was a big turnout for our annual spring clean of the courts on Saturday 11th March, when as well as the usual sweeping, weeding and spraying, members also tackled the refurbishing of the club room window frames – many thanks to all those who came along.

If the weather obliges, the first club night will be on Tuesday 4th April when play hosted by a committee member will begin at 6pm and continue until dusk. Club nights are on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with weekend tennis continuing on Saturday afternoons (please ask for details).

For those needing a bit of encouragement, there will be a Rusty Racquets afternoon between 2pm and



Hampshire Garden Festival 2017

Date: 11th June 2017

Location: Bere Mill, Whitchurch

Web: hampshiregardenfestival.co.uk

In support of the North Hampshire Medical Fund

PLANTS – FOOD – DEMONSTRATIONS
– ENTERTAINMENT – BOOKS

Supported by: Knight Frank

The Hampshire Garden Festival (previously Test Valley Garden and Literary Festival) encompasses all that is great about Hampshire - from Plants to Food, Practical Demonstrations to Books, great entertainment and a fantastic day out for all ages.

It is intended to be bigger and better than before and include a wide range of interesting offerings for a truly great day out for the whole family. For keen gardeners there are wonderful plants to buy from an array of plant stalls manned by passionate plants people.

Helen Yemm (Daily Telegraph Gardening correspondent) will host a Gardeners' Question Time where all your horticultural questions will be answered and lively debate will abound. There are talks and lectures on all forms of horticulture and

4pm on Saturday 8th April. Come along for a game, bring friends/family who have not played, or are just a bit rusty, to have a go. This is an open social event with refreshments.

And last but not least, news of a free six-week David Cup tennis course starting at the end of May for children aged 5 to 8 that have not played tennis before. At the end of the course, participating children will receive a free tennis racquet plus a certificate; and each week, a record card and sticker. On completion of the course, there is a 'special offer' of half price family membership at the club. For more info please contact Carol on 07939 264999 or carolrogerstennis@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible.

Ours is a friendly club, always looking to welcome new members whether they are beginners, or experienced and hoping to play matches (WTC have four teams in the very competitive Basingstoke league this summer), or just want to get back into tennis. There is also the opportunity to join as a social member only, for those who do not want, or have little time, to play tennis. Details can be found on our website: www.whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk

For more info please contact:

our Membership Secretary Lynda Frith, membership@whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk or our Secretary Wendy Helsby, secretary@whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk

gardening as well as wonderful displays of garden accessories, equipment and art which you can buy and take home to your own garden.

Pippa Greenwood, the Hampshire based author, TV and radio personality, is involved - she is passionate about growing your own vegetables and herbs. And of course Rosy Hardy of Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants. Winner of 21 RHS Chelsea Gold Medals, Rosy designed the Brewin Dolphin show garden at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show in 2016. Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants will be exhibiting at the Festival.

There will be a range of free practical workshops and demonstrations to inform and inspire that range from Willow Weaving to Hurdle Making, Butterfly Conservation to Tree Surgery. And for budding foragers, we even have a Fungus Identification class!

Enjoy our wide range of food stalls taking in the widest selection of delights and tasteful wonders. Learn how to prepare great dishes for all the family. Meet expert chefs and learn about healthy eating as well as devilish delights.

Gala Evening

A Gala Evening will be held at Bere Mill on Saturday, 10th June - Guest Speaker will be celebrated actor and broadcaster Nigel Havers. Details and tickets are available by email at info@hampshiregardenfestival.co.uk or by calling 01256 314759.



Quiz A Major Success

An amazing £972 was raised at the Quiz Night for the children's playground in Laverstoke. With a yummy chilli supper, great bar organised by Colin Phillimore, a fantastic quiz devised by quizmaster Colin and a packed Lady Rose Hall, it was a thoroughly entertaining night! Thanks must go to the people who donated their time and expertise for the auction, to Overton Gallery for their help selling tickets and also to Bombay Sapphire for their donation of Experience tickets for the prize winners.

The even better news is that these funds have been matched by a wonderful mystery donor and it's a case of watch this space (and L&F Facebook page) with regards to timings for the taking out of the old equipment and installing the new.....

The Millennium Green Team





Coffee Morning

In Aid of LAVERSTOKE AND
FREEFOLK SENIOR CITIZENS

We are holding a Coffee Morning on
Saturday 22nd April 2017 in the
Kingfisher Day Centre, Laverstoke at
10.00 a.m

Anyone who has any Nearly New (only)
Bric-A-Brac etc. please contact one of the
Committee Members below. We would
be delighted to come and pick it up.
Unfortunately we are unable to accept
any electrical goods.

We look forward to seeing you all on
22nd April, come and have a cup of
coffee with us.

Sue Walker - 01256 893574
Rita Giffen - 01256 893430
Mady Oram, Chairman - 01256 895396

Easter at St Mary's L'stoke with Freefolk

We are holding a Family Communion
Service at 1000 hrs on Easter Sunday
followed by an Easter Egg hunt for the
children (sorry, parents)! Please do come
and join us and bring all the family.
Brenda Bond, Churchwarden.

On a different, but related note, for those
that enjoy choral music a lovely concert of
Stainer's Crucifixion and other works are
being performed by Overton Choral
Society on Monday 10th April at 7pm in
Overton church. Tickets are £7 from
Overton Gallery or
nicky.nicklin@hotmail.co.uk or 07725
368012.



Archers

Members came along to the work day and
amongst other tasks, fencing was fixed,
the club house cleaned out, the grass was
cut [as Les has been incapacitated for a
while] and the bosses were repacked with
new foam! This was all done after we shot
the British Archer postal frostbite League
whereby 3 members represent the club
(Richard scoring 334, Mark 313 & Steve
Allam 306.) Others joined in the mornings
shooting including a new member in her



Go Greener with Garden Waste Service

Save a trip to the recycling centre with fortnightly collection of your garden cuttings and clippings by Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council. In collection bags you can put the following:

- Grass cuttings
- Hedge trimmings
- Cut flowers
- Weeds (except Japanese knotweed)
- Leaves
- Twigs
- Prunings

The service starts in Feb and runs through to Dec but you can start at any time (cost is pro-rated.) For further info see website or call 01256 844844

P.S. Please don't put your clippings around the parish under trees and bushes. Thank you!



Parish Council



**Lady Rose Hall
Class contacts**



first competition. Well done Jane.

In the Perris Junior league Black Arrows beat Selby "B" by 219 points and are lying third in their league division. Their total score puts the club 14th place over all competitors.

David Priestley, photographed, picked up bronze at the 2017 British Universities Championships, in the barebow section. Admittedly shooting for Bath University rather than Overton Black Arrows, but still an honour for the club.

The club has been appointed to stage the Hampshire Field Championships, and the English National Championships this year. They will be combined with the Watership Down Tournament on the 8/9th July at Kingsclere.

PC Meetings

Next meeting dates:

11th April

9th May

13th June

11th July

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.**

[Kettlebell Fitness](#): 7.30 -

8.30p.m. Thursdays with John Ruffell Tel: 07910 736432

[Watership Down](#)

[Nursery](#) Contact Will & Lucy Jones

on contact@watershipdownnursery.co.uk

KB Titans Martial Arts 6.30 -7.30p.m. Wednesdays with Ulrike Maier on 07974 274863

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

Contacts

[L'stokes and Freefolk Facebook](#)

laverstokeandfreefolk.org.uk

Nicky Nicklin, Parish Clerk:

Tel. 07725 368012 email:

laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Bob Hough, PC Chairman: Tel.

07990 570035 email:

laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Newsletter:

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](#)

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Our mailing address is:

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