



## **Newsletter July 2017**

As ever there's lots going on in the parish in July. With the new playground grass now having been established, thanks to the persistent watering effort of Charlie Seligman and the Albert family, we're hopeful that the new equipment will be installed over the next couple of months. Whether it's in by 23rd July, or not, we'll be celebrating community and friendship with a 'Bring Your Own' barbecue in the playground at 3.30pm. Open to all of course, we'll see you there!

Car parking beside Manor Cottages in Freefolk is back on the PC agenda with a discussion on plans to take place at the July 11th public meeting time before the PC meeting. Come and have your say.

The river headwaters project mentioned in the May issue has seen further activity with the Hants & IOW Wildlife Trust having put in a funding bid to the Heritage Lotteries Fund at the end of May. Last month we had a visit from the bid team and in July the HLF decision team will visit us!

The Parish Council is pleased to announce that James Bretel has now been co-opted onto the Council following the councillor vacancy announced in the last couple of News&Views. Thank you James for joining.

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



## Car Park at Freefolk

The Parish Council is starting to look again at parking solutions on their grass land beside Manor Cottages. It is intended that a more formal car park will be made for use by local residents and church users but one that is in keeping with the rural area. Possibilities include using a grass & concrete surface. The project is expected to take a while as funding is required from third party grants including from B&D Council and we shall therefore be following planning and grant timetables.

It is intended to discuss this during public time at the PC meeting on Tues 11th June starting at 7.30pm at Lady Rose Hall. Please do try and attend to have your say, especially if you live in the vicinity.



## Bombay Sapphire news

You may have been surprised to see a Bombay Sapphire bus passing in the last couple of weeks. It is a new shuttle service that started a couple of weeks ago that links both Overton and Micheldever train stations to the Distillery, with a stop in Overton High Street. It's something that BS have been working on for a few months and means that passengers visiting from London Waterloo and Southampton can reach the distillery in about an hour directly on public transport. There is a timetable for the service in the main visitor car park; the bus looks to be pretty much active for most of the day.

On a recent visit by the Hampshire and Isle of White Wildlife Trust, as part of the Winterbournes and Watercress chalk river headwaters project that the Millennium Green and Parish council are supporting, the team were really impressed with the health of the river through the Bombay Sapphire visitor



## Mess / Graffiti by River

Coinciding with the lovely spate of warm weather we had recently there is, quite literally, mess every where in the parish. Dog poo is being left along footpaths, and most annoyingly within a metre of the new bin that the PC put in last year. Rubbish also has been strewn down by the river at the sluice gate. It was reported that there had been a particularly large gathering of people that had driven from outside the village that was both intimidating and caused a nuisance. One kindly resident afterwards picked up empty bottles, cans, sandwich packets, and yes, 3 pairs of used wet socks! Not to mention the graffiti also found there (albeit in chalk). Not at all nice. Bit of a moan for all of us to look after the local area and countryside really.



centre. Water voles, eels and salmon, all tell-tale health signs, have been spotted recently in this stretch!

Lastly and very helpfully, Bombay Sapphire staff have been cutting back some of our path ways around the archery field and pond area as part of their corporate social responsibility programme. For this we'd like to extend our thanks.



## Strawberries & Tennis

The good weather continues – at least on club nights, by and large! Sessions begin at 6pm and continue until dusk, and are hosted by a committee member, so members will always find someone on hand to give them a game. Visitors too are welcome to attend a club night, for which the club asks a small fee towards the costs of upkeep. Club nights are on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with the ever-popular weekend tennis continuing on Saturday afternoons.

Our friendly Summer Tournament was held on Saturday 17th June, in the afternoon, and was followed by an enjoyably sociable BBQ.



## What hurts you the most?

To put it another way: What is the one thing in life that you find hardest to handle?

The churches of Laverstoke and Overton, as well as over 100 churches in Hampshire, would like to know and are conducting this very simple one-question survey. Someone may ask you to fill in a card with your answer. It will only take a minute. That card will then be put straight into an envelope so that your response will be totally anonymous. (Your name won't appear on the card and there will be no way to trace your answer back to you.) So don't hold back from expressing what is really going on inside you.

The churches are working together to listen to the needs of local people and offer compassion and hope. We don't claim to have all the answers but we represent a community who care, want to listen and to respond to the issues that people are facing.

This survey will be of huge help to us to know what the most troubling issues are for people in Laverstoke and Overton and will guide us how best to respond. If you aren't offered a card there is a supply of cards on the table in the entrance to St Nicholas Church in Freefolk with a box to place your response in.

Or, if you don't mind the lack of anonymity, you can email [iansue.smale@me.com](mailto:iansue.smale@me.com) with your answer. Just put 'Who cares' in the subject box,

The next tennis date for your diary is Strawberry Sunday afternoon, on 9th July, from 2pm until 4pm. This is the middle Sunday of Wimbledon, when there is normally no play at the tournament – so what better way to bridge the gap in your viewing schedule than by coming along to enjoy a fun game of tennis, followed by strawberries and cream? Members and non-members are most welcome.

For more details on this friendly club contact Membership Secretary Lynda Frith,

[membership@whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk](mailto:membership@whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk)

Or for LTA coaching contact Carol on [carolrogerstennis@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:carolrogerstennis@hotmail.co.uk) or Tel: 07939 264999.

Details can also be found on the club website: [www.whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk](http://www.whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk)



## Health of River Test

As mentioned above the PC and Millennium Green recently hosted the bid team from Hampshire & IOW Trust river headwaters project. We showed them areas of the river and stream that were silted and overgrown e.g. the Millennium Green pond and stream leading from it.

give your answer in the usual way and indicate your age bracket (under 18, 18-34, 35-65, 66+) and gender (M or F).

We will review the answers given and, later this year, we hope to respond in a whole range of ways.

In the meantime if you would like to connect with someone who cares right now you can call Premier Lifeline: The National Christian Helpline on 0300 111 0101. This is a confidential service offering a listening ear, emotional support and spiritual help with a Christian perspective. Thank you.



## Village Get Together

Bring Your Own food, drink and picnic rugs to BBQ on Sunday 23rd July at 15:30 at the Playground site. Touch wood, the new equipment will be in by then. If it is not, it would still be really nice to get together and see as many people as possible. As a parishioner recently posted on the L&F facebook page after the Grenfell Tower fire, community is so important and it would be so nice to know who ones neighbours are.....

We also looked at the river from the two road bridges on the B3400 and Manor Farm and also the footpath near the water pumping station. It was really interesting to learn about the health of the river in each of these areas. A gravel bottom is the aim with both water parsnip and ranunculus weed and some silting at the sides. The main area of concern locally, outside of silt and overgrowth, was a non native, but sadly very beautiful, flower which seems to be growing in abundance - Yellow Monkey Flower from North America (as pictured.) See more details on the [DEFRA website](#)

At the moment it is not deemed terribly invasive but apparently that is how all the invasive plants start out.....!! Hopefully we can get this eradicated as part of the project. This is just one example of what we are hoping to learn that we can pass on to the local community and in particular riverbank owners.



## Free Football in Basingstoke



## Jane Austen Tea Party

Brenda Bond who is a Churches Conservation Trust volunteer reported: My prayers were answered for a dry, sunny day on the 18th June, but I did not bargain for the hottest day of the year! Thank you to everyone who did the most imaginative flower arrangements for our Jane Austen themed flower show. The little church looked amazing. Thank you, too, to the tea team who sweltered under the sun for three hours. It was a lovely afternoon and we made £275 (with gift-aid) for the Churches Conservation Trust, without whom St Nicholas would be derelict. Thank you everyone who visited and made such generous donations. (Ed: Yummy cakes and beautiful flowers in such a dreamy setting - it was a lovely way to while a way Sunday afternoon!)

A free football scheme to develop the potential of young people in the borough will be funded for a second year. Working with Reading Football Club and Hampshire Constabulary, the borough council runs Kicks – an exciting initiative for 11 to 19 years.

Sessions take place every Tuesday at Everest Community Academy in Oxford Way. Teenagers wishing to take part can simply turn up and play on the artificial pitch at in Oxford Way from 4.30pm to 6pm.

The Mayoress Cllr Jane Frankum said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for young people in the borough to attend a regular after school or college session and be taught by top coaches for free, while meeting new people and taking part in an activity that is both healthy and enjoyable."



## Local Open Gardens

By popular request, National Garden Scheme Open Gardens in July that are reasonably local:

**4/25th** - Old Swan House, High Street,



## Arrows Activities

Glorious weather, combined with the chance to write the latest chapter in one of British archery's most historic competitions, brought archers flocking to the 163rd Grand National Archery Meeting, including club president, Peter Turner. The GNAM was first shot in York in 1844 but Lilleshall National Sports Centre, Shropshire, is now the regular host. It allows some of Britain's best to shoot UK record status rounds over three days. Peter did not make any records, but he was awarded a Silver medal based on handicap over the York rounds [6 dozen arrows at 100 yards, 4 dozen at 80 yards, 2 dozen at 60 yards] - one each day on Wednesday & Thursday, with his traditional Longbow. His championships position was 11th but he came 9th in the Friday a National [4 dozen at 80 yards & 2 dozen at 60 yards].

The club entered 2 teams into the British Archery Winter Postal League. Our 'A' team shooting the "Portsmouth" round [ 5 dozen at 20 yards ] was the winner in

Stockbridge, SO20 6EU 2-5.00pm

**6th** - Ashe Park, Overton 5.30 - 8pm

**9th/30th** - Ashe Park, Overton 2-6pm

**6th** - Paige Cottage, Crawley Winchester  
SO21 2PR 2-5.30pm

**6/9/20/23** - Tanglefoot, Crawley,  
Winchester, SO21 2QB 2-5.30pm

**9th** - West Silchester Hall, Bramley  
Road, Silchester, RG7 2LX 2-5.30pm

**16th** -Dipley Mill, Dipley Road, Hartley  
Wintney, Hook, RG27 8JP 2-5.30pm

**23rd** - Conholt Park, Hungerford Lane,  
Andover SP11 9HA 11-5pm

**23rd** - Hospital of St Cross, St Cross  
Road, Winchester, SO23 9SD 2-5.00

**23rd** - Terstan, Longstock, Stockbridge,  
Hampshire, SO20 6D 2-6.00pm

See the [website](#) for all garden openings.

their division of 6 teams. Well done to Richard Buckner, Steve Allam, Alex Allam, Mark Davies, Jo Bevis and Rob Aldridge.

The current beginners course is running on Tuesday evenings at Laverstoke. The next course will be Friday evenings at Testbourne School, starting in September.

Please remember that when the Red Flag is flying it is not permitted to enter the archery range. Recently someone said they thought it was safe to use the permitted footpath if staying close to the beech tree when coming in from the Millenium Green pond area. This is not the case! Our Insurers require safety areas which cover that part of the archery range and it must be excluded to members of the public when shooting is in progress. Thank You!



## PC Meetings

Next meeting dates:  
11<sup>th</sup> July



## Lady Rose Hall Class contacts

- [Watership Down](#)  
[Nursery:](#)

Day nursery offering full  
child care services



## Contacts

[L'stoke and Freefolk Facebook](#)  
[laverstokeandfreefolk.org.uk](http://laverstokeandfreefolk.org.uk)

Nicky Nicklin, Parish Clerk:  
Tel. 07725 368012 email:



12<sup>th</sup> Sept

10<sup>th</sup> Oct

14<sup>th</sup> Nov

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.**

Contact Will & Lucy Jones  
on 01256 895504 or  
[contact@watershipdownnursery.  
co.uk](mailto:contact@watershipdownnursery.co.uk)

- [KB Titans Martial  
Arts](#)

18.30 - 19.30  
Wednesdays. Contact:  
Ulrike Maier on  
[ulrike.kbtitans@gmail.com](mailto:ulrike.kbtitans@gmail.com)  
or 07974 274863

To book the hall for your  
party or events see  
[www.ladyrosehall.co.uk](http://www.ladyrosehall.co.uk)

[laverstokeclerk@gmail.com](mailto:laverstokeclerk@gmail.com)

**Bob Hough, PC Chairman: Tel.**

**07990 570035 email:**

[laverstokeclerk@gmail.com](mailto:laverstokeclerk@gmail.com)

**Newsletter:**

[laverstokeclerk@gmail.com](mailto:laverstokeclerk@gmail.com)

**Lady Rose Hall:**

[www.ladyrosehall.co.uk](http://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](#)

[forward to a friend](#)

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**Our mailing address is:**

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