



Laverstoke and Freefolk News&Views

November 2022

We hope you have recovered from any tricks and are not completely out of treats following Halloween! Indeed, we've news of a few treats coming up in this newsletter including Bombay Sapphire's festive masterclass and the quiz of the year at Lady Rose Hall on 12 Dec. There's a great opportunity to take advantage of free defibrillator training and we hear from our active sports clubs and local businesses. With the 'Cost of Living' so much at the forefront of our minds', we have included a raft of info from Hampshire County Council. on this topic. Also from our County Councillor Juliet Henderson, we have had a request to spread the word about the need for more foster carers in Hampshire.

Read on for all this and more....

And don't forget you can find a link to the monthly [Overton News&Views](#) here, a few days after the start of the new month. It includes the Overton library opening times.



Defibrillator familiarisation/training

With 2 defibrillators now in the parish - at the Pavilion in Laverstoke Lane as well as at Bombay Sapphire - would you know how to use one? We are running a couple of FREE defibrillator familiarisation / training events that will last about an hour. These are in the Men's Shed in Laverstoke pavilion on **Thursday 10 Nov at 10 a.m.** and in Lady Rose Hall on **Thursday 1 Dec at 7p.m.**

You will have the chance to have a look at a defibrillator and learn how to use it, plus have a go at resuscitation on a dummy if you wish. No tests or exams!

For further info contact nicky on laverstokeclerk@gmail.com or 07725 368012 or just turn up!

Are You The Quiz Queen Of The Parish? Have You Got A Brilliant Brain For The Bonkers? Pit Your Wits. Strain Your Brain..... It Returns!

**THE LAVERSTOKE & FREEFOLK
MILLENNIUM GREEN TRUST QUIZ**
SATURDAY 12th November 2022
7.30pm for 8pm start



LADY ROSE HALL, LAVERSTOKE LANE RG28 7NY

Teams of 6 people (max)

£7.50 per person to include food – Cash & Card Bar

PRIZES TO BE WON!

To secure tickets email your names & the amount required to Clare Albert at LandFundraising@gmail.com



Help us maintain our open space
Children's Playground, Quiet
Garden, Woodland & Open Field
Area, Beautiful Pond Area



The L&F Quiz returns!

Saturday 12 November 19:30 for 20:00 at Lady Rose Hall. Tables of 6 max. £7.50 per person to include food. Cash/card bar and prizes to be won (and would love it if anyone wanted to donate some as well for the auction!). Please email landffundraising@gmail.com with how many tickets you would like. Pay on the night. All proceeds go to Laverstoke and Freefolk Millennium Green Trust, supporting the green areas in your parish!





Winter opening at Hardy's

Hello everyone, we are, at last, getting some much needed rain to refill The Test and hopefully break the hosepipe ban. For the gardeners out there, it is what we need to enrich our gardens. Why? Well now is the perfect time to plant perennials whilst the soil is still warm and the autumn rains help get them established. We have a wealth of plants including Helleborus, which come into their own in the dark Winter months.

We will be open throughout the Winter from Tuesday – Saturday from 10am -3pm and we look forward to seeing you.

******At the time of writing we still have a few spaces left on the wreath making workshops on 9th and 12th

December. Please go to our website at hardysplants.co.uk to book.******

Christmas Bombay Sapphire masterclass

Tickets for Christmas Masterclasses at the Bombay Sapphire Distillery are now available! Hosted on select dates in December, you'll enjoy an arrival cocktail, a 1-hour interactive cocktail masterclass which includes nibbles and tastings of the Bombay Gin range as well as the chance to visit the Mill Bar for extra drinks and mince pies. With slots expected to sell out fast, don't miss out and book your Christmas Masterclass now [here](#).

This is a special Gin cocktail Masterclass being run for Christmas in the evenings if you would like to attend!



Black Arrows at Exmouth

The first weekend of October saw five Overton Archers travel to Exmouth to take part in the Exmouth Archers Field Competition. For the past two years this weekend has coincided with very heavy rainfall and so a very wet event. This year it was dry which was a relief, we shot a very



Pies & festive range

It's that time of year, when we are busy at the Bere Mill butchery planning for the busy season ahead.

In these difficult times, food prices are increasing due to rising costs. Because of this, we will be offering a good range of options for that all important festive feast. Again this year, Walters Turkeys are available - from free range and organic bronze turkeys to crowns and breast roasts. We will continue with our ever popular Capon (apple fed cockerel) and our own home grown beef and lamb. Our festive range including pigs in blankets, cocktail sausages and our own seasonal pork stuffing. You can place order online through our [website](#) or pop into our new look shop for an order form. We are open from 10 am Wednesday to Saturday.

The shop now has a new counter dedicated to local and artisan deli products such as 'Scrumpers' jellies, chutneys and jams - all made by Annie in Andover, an extensive range of cheeses such as Hampshire's Tunworth cheese, Berkshire Wigmore and Isle of Wight blue. Our award winning

challenging course and with all archers shooting well, Richard Buckner second for recurve, Steve Allam second for Trad Bow style and Rob Aldridge third in Barebow. It was also great to have new members Charlie and Lauren with us for the weekend.

We are currently running a beginners course for new archers and have 18 people enjoying a new sport and so we look forward to some new faces joining the club. Our Field only member Ollie continues to win events and claim records with a U18 & U21 world and European record at a recent indoor shoot.

In November we move indoors at Testbourne and start our Winter Field League at The Warren and so its still a busy time for the club. We are planning our beginners courses for 2023 and so if you are interested in Archery please have a look at www.overtonblackarrows.org or send us a message.



Cost of living – one stop shop support

Cost of living - one stop shop support

With the rising cost of living on everyone's mind, Hampshire County Council has brought together in one easy-to-navigate

charcuterie is supplied by Capreolus, a Dorset family owned producer. From Truffle Salami to air dried beef and Pancetta, we always have a good selection in the counter each week. And due to popular demand, pies are back on the menu. Our 'Tailormade' pies are handmade and are truly delicious. We have a range of sharing pies each week alongside some tasty hand raised pork pies. Fully recommended by the Bere Mill gardeners!

Bere Mill team



A fully social October!

October was a busy month socially for the tennis club with a post tournament BBQ, a walk and pub lunch and a progressive dinner which were enjoyed by all. Coming up in November we have a members' dinner at the White Hart and in February, a quiz night for all the community to join in with.

In our autumn tournament, players played 4 games with their partner and then swapped partners for the next 4 games. A number of matches were played in this format and the

location on its website, a raft of information on the help and support already available – from food vouchers, hot school meals and [community pantries](#) to expert advice on heating your home and options to help reduce fuel bills. Visit their **Keep Warm Keep Well** webpages for more information

You can find [your local library online](#) – all are warm and welcoming for anyone needing a place to spend some time, connect with others, or to work or study. Our libraries offer a range of free or low-cost resources, events, and activities, and provide a safe and inclusive community space for everyone. All have access to free WiFi.

Stay snug this winter by reminding yourself of the top tips for keeping your home warm. If you are struggling, you can call the [Hitting the Cold Spots helpline](#) – open to all Hampshire residents who need it – where an advisor will talk through the possible options.

Click for [more advice](#)



Fostering in focus – could you make a difference? Since 2018, the number of children in the care of Hampshire County

winners at the end of the day were Rosalind and Nicolae. Congratulations to them both.

Coaching: With the exception of the Thursday evening junior session, coaching continues through the autumn / winter season. Please go to [WhitchurchTennisCoaching](#) for more information and to book.

Membership: Membership forms can be found at whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk. We are an inclusive club with players from all backgrounds and ability. If you are interested in playing tennis and your financial circumstances are a barrier to you joining, please do get in contact, as we can consider funding towards membership. Please get in contact at secretary@whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk if you wish to apply.

For more information about the club and membership forms, please visit whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk, follow us on [Facebook](#) or contact us via Wendy Helsby, Secretary – secretary@whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk.

Hope to see you on court soon.

Council has grown by over 200 and is still rising. Meanwhile, the number of fostering households in the county has plateaued. The numbers just aren't adding up anymore and the need for more Foster Carers is becoming increasingly urgent. We now need an additional 150 fostering households by the end of 2023.

Many of our Foster Carers are in their 50s, 60s or 70s. There's no upper age limit on fostering and these knowledgeable and experienced carers are providing loving homes for some of the county's most vulnerable children. Inevitably though, there will come a time when these carers are thinking about retirement and need to hand the baton over. As of March 2021, Foster Carers in their 20s and 30s accounted for 13% of all Foster Carers in England (National Statistics 'Fostering in England 2020-2021', 2021) although this number is increasing as more young people are realising, they too have the skills and values to change lives and we hope that continues! Anyone can become a foster carer – background, ethnicity, religion, relationship status or sexuality are no barrier. There are lots of different types of fostering arrangements that can work around your commitments.

As a County Council foster carer, you will be guided all the way with extensive training and ongoing support and receive financial allowances for those you care for. If you are aged 21 or above, have a spare room



Remembrance service

At St Mary's Church, Laverstoke with
Freefolk, there will be a Remembrance Day
service on Sun 13 November at 10.50 a.m.

All welcome. Refreshments - coffee and
biscuits - afterwards.

Brenda Bond, churchwarden.

Who is responsible for maintaining watercourses?



- 1 **Roadside ditch**
Responsibility of adjacent landowner to maintain.
Maintenance: Remove silt and obstructions regularly.
- 2 **Road gully**
Responsibility of Highway Authority to maintain.
Maintenance: All gullies on adopted roads are on a regular clearing schedule.
- 3 **Boundary ditch**
Responsibility of landowners each side to maintain up to the middle point.
Maintenance: Remove silt and obstructions regularly.
- 4 **Pipe under driveway**
Responsibility of adjacent landowner to maintain.
Maintenance: Clear track screens and red pipe.
- 5 **Pipe running from one side of the road to the other**
Responsibility of Highway Authority to maintain.
Maintenance: Regularly red or jet to remove blockages and build up.
- 6 **Pipe under field access**
Responsibility of adjacent landowner to maintain.
Maintenance: Clear track screens and red pipe.
- 7 **Watercourse at boundary**
Responsibility of landowners each side to maintain up to the middle point.
Maintenance: Remove any obstructions.
- 8 **Watercourse within land**
Responsibility of landowner to maintain.
Maintenance: Remove silt and obstructions regularly.

Riparian responsibilities

We've received this useful info from Hampshire County Council as this is the time of year when we need to think about the state of our land drainage network. As we hit the rainier season and leaves begin to fall, all riparian owners (those who have watercourses on or bordering their land) should be checking the state of drainage ditches, pipes, culverts that carry watercourses to ensure there is unobstructed conveyance of surface (rain) water to reduce the risk of localised flooding.

and plenty of care, kindness, patience and resilience, and are open-minded and positive, consider joining our incredible fostering community to make a difference to a child's or young person's life – and enrich your own.

[Click here for fostering information sessions](#)

For more info visit HCC's website: [Open your door](#)



How invertebrates show state of our chalk streams

When it comes to the health of our local chalk streams, invertebrates are crucial.

As a major food source for fish, birds, and mammals, their presence/ absence directly impacts other wildlife. Many are ecosystem engineers that shape their surroundings, and some are found only in the UK. Of 724 aquatic insects known to be here, 11 have been lost and 68 more face extinction. Invertebrates in chalk ecosystems are 'canaries in the coal mine' for the habitat at large. Three groups in particular – the 'EPT species' – are invaluable for spotting problems. These spend extended periods in the water, have unique sensitivities to different pollutants and are excellent

Responsibilities include:

- Let water flow through your land without obstruction, pollution or diversion which affects how others receive the water
- Accept flood flows through your land
- Keep any structures clear of debris
- Maintain riverbed and banks and trees /shrubs growing on the banks. Litter or obstructions should be cleared - regardless of where they came from
- Maintain watercourses running in a culvert as if an open watercourse, using e.g.rods
- Don't allow watercourse to become polluted. (including garden waste on riverbanks where it could be washed into the river)
- Leave development-free edge on banks to allow easy access for/ if maintenance / inspection is required
- Notify HCC I if you wish to complete any temporary or permanent work on an ordinary watercourse so the flood risk can be assessed (owc@hants.gov.uk).

To reduce risk of future flooding HCC would also appreciate being informed of any planned, ongoing or recent works to install a culvert, pipe or infill/realign a ditch (i.e. an ordinary watercourse). Please see details in '[Making changes to a watercourse](#)'.

indicators of subtle, chronic pollution that may be missed by spot water sampling.

- Mayflies (Ephemeroptera) take their name from their short adult lifespans – often only hours. As nymphs, however, they can spend up to 2 years feeding on algae and plants in the water. Unusually among insects, they have two adult forms: the dull-coloured 'dun' and the clear-winged 'spinner' that follows. The adults often emerge en-masse, creating an impressive spectacle.
- Stoneflies (Plecoptera) in their nymph stage can be found clinging to the undersides of rocks in fast-flowing streams. Adults have intricately patterned wings, tend to be poor fliers, so will usually stay close to where they first left the water. Some species communicate by 'drumming' their abdomen on a solid surface; with luck winning a mate!
- Caddisflies (Trichoptera)', are best known for their larval stage, binding stones, leaves, shells, and sand together to form protective cases. These shelters are portable. As adults, they have hairy wings like a moth, folded along their bodies when at rest, and are typically seen sitting by the water.

If you'd like to help monitor these important species The Riverfly Partnership hosts several projects for local groups, and citizen science initiatives for individuals. The Watercress and Winterbournes scheme performs in-depth surveys through its SmartRivers Hub – email us at

For further info:

Contact Nicky on

laverstokeclerk@gmail.com for a leaflet/poster detailing riparian responsibilities & guidance on maintenance. See HCC's [updated web pages](#) on flood prevention and a video about riparian responsibility and ditch maintenance: You can report flooding via the link [Report flooding](#) on the HCC website or email fwm@hants.gov.uk



With our thanks to....

Jo, Anne, Charlie, Clare, Simon, Leo, Gabriel, Holly, Oscar, Phil & Nicky for helping out at the October village maintenance day. Ticked off the list were repair of children's slide, cutting of the epicormic tree growth, kick about court weeding and tidying, Quiet garden strimming and weeding, bus shelter sweeping and noticeboard cleaning! Thanks all for your hard work.

Thanks also to Phil for strimming and weeding the pond footpath before a visit from the National Lottery

winterbournes@hiwwt.org.uk to learn more, or explore our work at

www.hiwwt.org.uk/winterbournes.

(photo courtesy of Les Binns)

Online Talk - 'Chalk Streams: Wonderful in Wintertime': 6 December, 7 - 8pm, Free to attend

Join Susan Simmonds from Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, as she explores the character of our chalk streams in the colder months. The sky may be grey at this time of the year, but the world of wildlife is full of colour! Book your ticket at

www.hiwwt.org.uk/events



Parish Council

PC Meetings

Note the PC meeting has moved to 1st Tues of month. Next meeting dates -:

6 Dec
3 Jan
7 Feb
7 March

Laverstoke and Freefolk PC meetings take place in Lady Rose Hall starting 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 unable to interrupt the Council meeting.



L&F Contacts

[L&Freefolk Facebook](#)
laverstokeandfreefolk.org.uk

Newsletter:

laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Lady Rose Hall:

www.ladyrosehall.co.uk

Bombay Sapphire Resident's

Help Line: 01256 890078
(& to alert BS you are collecting Defibrillator).

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 church:

[St Marys Laverstoke](#)

Our Local Day Care Centre:

[Kingfisher Day Care Centre for](#)

[Elderly](#) or

kingfisherdaycentre@gmail.com

Millennium Green:

[landfreefolkmillenniumgreen](#)

To Report problems with:
roads, footpaths & verge



Parish Council:

Clerk - Nicky Nicklin (07725 368012) or

laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Parish Councillors:

David Ellis, Chairman

Jo Probut, Deputy Chairman

Andrew White

Diccon Harvey

Julia Chedghey

Jayne Hudson

Jim Marsh

To email

Cllrs: laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Borough Councillors:

Colin Phillimore 771127

(cllr.colin.phillimore@basingstoke.gov.uk)

Chloe Ashfield

Stephen Williams

County Councillor:

Juliet Henderson

(juliet.henderson@hants.gov.uk)

Note: no meeting is held in August unless a planning or other time-dependent matter arises.

Hantsweb

trees on roads:

0300 555 1388

water:

Southern Water



Notice Your Neighbourhood

If you spot an issue, please let us know and we'll do our best to help.

What can I report?

You can report the following to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council www.basingstoke.gov.uk/report or call 01256 844844

- Graffiti
- Discarded needles
- Fly-tipping
- Litter
- Broken glass
- Dog fouling
- Overflowing bins
- Abandoned vehicles
- Overhanging vegetation and hedges
- Damaged equipment in parks and open spaces
- Grass cutting
- Leaf clearing



LAVERSTOKE & FREEFOLK LOCAL HELPLINE

Just in case you find yourself in need of a hand we've got a network of friendly Laverstoke and Freefolk volunteers who want to help.

From picking something up from the shops to walking the dog - just call any one of the below contacts and they will share the request so someone will be able to help you.

Nicky Nicklin	892698	07725 368 012
Caroline Johnson	893457	07802 254 631
Charlotte Stewart	896267	07792 208 660
Clare Charles	n/a	07860 804 654
El Harvey	n/a	07916 250 802
Holly & James Bretel	242182	07852 300 249
Jenny & David Ellis	892895	07845 399 851
Jim & Lu Marsh	895070	07703 885 432
Jo Probut	893175	07375 486 586
Katie Black	895995	07803 046 919
Luby Hough	242875	07876 685 762
Lucy Arthur	n/a	07990 563 921
Michael & Evelyn Smith	893669	07702 592 198
Richard Darley	893508	07909 687 231
Rosy & Rob Hardy	n/a	07949 761 858
Suzanne Bailey	n/a	07773 253 305

Please follow medical guidelines published on www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19 or call 111

L&F Calling Tree Contacts

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laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Our mailing address is:

Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council Newsletter

Lady Rose Hall

Laverstoke Lane

Whitchurch

RG28 7NY