



October 2022

With the public mourning period over and wonderful send off for her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II behind us, we are writing this in the dawn of a the new Carolean era. On Sunday 19 September we gathered in Freefolk for the National Minute of Silence and then read the proclamation of accession of Charles III. God save the King!

We've news in this edition of our 15 Oct villages maintenance day, an historic but active local charity for the benefit of local residents, a fabulous world record by one of our young archers as well as new thoughts on food for ducks! For all this and more read on.

Have you spotted the new 'beware of ducks' signs on the B3400? We hope it will remind everyone to watch out for our pond wildfowl crossing the road!

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.



Get swotting!

Following last month's announcement, we can confirm that the Millennium Green Quiz night on 12 November will kick off at 7.30 for 8pm.

Tickets are £7.50 and include a chilli supper with veggie option of course. There will be a cash and card bar and a prize-winning raffle. Tickets are available from Clare Albert on landffundraising@gmail.com.

For those of you who haven't been before, Quiz-master Colin provides a fantastic choice of questions designed to delight, tantalize and annoy in equal measure! Gather your team but don't worry if you are coming as an individual as we can also make up teams on the night.

Please do support this fantastic social opportunity to raise much needed funds for the Millennium Green. The Millennium Green trust keeps precious green spaces in the parish open for all to enjoy. It does of course require funds to maintain and keep it to a safe and beautiful standard.



Villages maintenance day 15 Oct

Coming up on Saturday 15 October we have a diary date for the annual villages volunteer maintenance session. We'll have plenty of jobs including bramble clearing in the Quiet Garden, hedge cutting, sweeping of the bus shelters, cleaning of the noticeboards, weeding the path around the pond and more. Meet with wheelbarrows, gardening tools and some energy at 13.00 in the Playground in Laverstoke and we'll find you a job!

This is a great way to meet others in the community and helps keep down the running costs of our green spaces and amenities around the village.





Barebow world record at just 15

The Royal Company of Archers is a ceremonial unit that serves as the Sovereign's bodyguard in Scotland, a role it has performed since 1822. It was moving to see them, with their traditional longbows, as part of the Queen's guard while the coffin was in Scotland.

Back in Hampshire it's been a busy month for the Black Arrows. We hosted the Southern Counties 3D Championships at The Warren near Kingsclere. We had 60 archers come along to shoot a challenging 24 target course with Overton Archers' Richard Buckner, Angus Falcon-Relf, Steve Allam, Fin Hicks and Charlotte Hicks all getting medals. Richard has also been shooting at the Hampshire Outdoor Championships achieving second place.

Finally congratulations to Ollie Hicks who took part in the World 3D Championships in Italy. Although he did not get a medal he came 11th in the world and claimed a barebow world record for a 50m shoot! Not bad for a 15 year old. (Ed - wow fantastic

Relief in Sickness Fund

The Overton & Laverstoke Relief in Sickness Fund started with Thomas and Mary Streatwells who died in 1812 and 1818 respectively. They each bequeathed £100 "to the minister and church wardens upon trust to be laid out and kept invested upon Government Securities and the amount of interest thereon to be received and distributed equally between forty poor families resident in Overton or Southington on the first day of January each year" Thomas was a London silkman who had bought the lease to the Overton Silk Mill (along with John Bridges and Edward Atkins) from Henri Portal in 1769. Mary Streatwells "cared for the many child labourers as her own".

Over the next few years several others left bequests in their wills. In 1972 the assets of a separate charity The Overton, Laverstoke and District Nurses Association which mainly comprised a house in Sapley Lane merged into these funds to become The Overton and Laverstoke Relief in Sickness Fund. A Herbert Bridges bequest was operated separately for many years before being merged into the OLRs Fund in 2006 when all investments were concentrated into one fund.

The charity's objectives are to relieve in cases of need persons resident in the parishes of Overton and Laverstoke who are sick, convalescent, disabled,

result Ollie!)

If you are interested in Archery and would like to know more please have a look at our website www.overtonblackarrows.org



New to Laverstoke & Freefolk?

You may be unaware of the wonderful Millennium Green and it's extent.

It encompasses the large Millennium field, Quiet Garden with gazebo, the playground and equipment, woodland between Batts Row and the Millennium field, the pond between the archery field and the B3400 bus stop and the path around the Laverstoke archery area. It is in trust for the parish for all to enjoy but we need to ensure we all support it to maintain it. You can provide a regular donation via our [CAF fundraising link](#). It is also very easy to fundraise when shopping (!) online through this [easyfundraising link](#) and also if shopping through Amazon using the [Amazon Smile](#) option. Thank you.

handicapped or infirm. Beneficiaries can be children, the elderly and people with disabilities. 5 trustees meet 3 times a year to manage the charity.

When the charities were originally established the State provided little or no support to needy sections of the population. Nowadays the State is able to support most health needs and provides financial support to many sections of society; our local charity provides financial help when deemed appropriate.

If you know of anyone who might benefit from this charity please contact Charlie Seligman, trustee on charlie.seligman@outlook.com or tel: 01256 892347.



Bere Mill winter prep

After the hot Summer season, here at the farm, we are already preparing for the Winter ahead. It has been a difficult Summer with such a lack of rain.

It won't be long before the Christmas rush begins at the butchery. Plans are already being put in place and communications with our Turkey supplier have already begun.

At the butchery, roasts and slow cooked



Queen's commemoration service

Ride and Stride took place on 10 September thanks to great organisation by Lucinda Crosthwaite. Sadly, it was a rather quiet one compared to last year. It is the annual big fundraiser for the Historic Churches Trust that does so much to help parish churches with maintenance costs. We had a large donation towards our spire re-shingling and hope to have another one towards our essential roof repairs. A charity well worth supporting.

A special commemoration service was held on Sunday 18 September to mark the death of our beloved Queen Elizabeth II. It was a very moving and well-attended occasion ably led by Rev Charlie Seligman. We recognised our new Sovereign, Charles III, by singing God Save the King and toasting his future with a glass of bubbly. Brenda Bond, Churchwarden.

cuts are becoming popular and we also move from hogget and bring in our new season lamb. It is always popular due to its succulent texture, milder in flavour and a hint of sweetness.

Just a reminder that the butchery is now open from Wednesday to Saturday every week offering a full range of our own home grown beef and lamb, locally sourced pork and chicken and award winning sausages, burgers, charcuterie and cheeses. We still open till 7pm on Friday until the clocks change at the end of October when we will then close at 5pm.



No knead for bread!

keep our ducks and chalk streams healthy. Many of us are looking for ways to support our wonderful wildlife. Our local chalk stream waterfowl - ducks, swans, and geese - will be filling up in anticipation of the colder months. With their usual food sources growing less plentiful, a little boost from us can make a lot of difference. Did you know, though, that feeding them bread does more harm than good? It may be filling but the lack of nutrition can cause them to become malnourished (Same goes for



Misty moisty mornings

With the mist rolling over Batts Meadow in the mornings, there's no mistaking we are now entering the time of year for the glorious colours of Autumn. Here at Hardy's the season is reflected in the vibrant shades and tones of the plants and foliage we have for sale. This includes tulip, crocus and narcissus bulbs.

During the October half term, children are welcome to come and plant bulbs in a pot which they can take home and look after through the Winter. In the Spring they will be rewarded with a lovely colourful bunch of flowers.

The Christmas wreath making workshops, which we know are very popular, will be held on 7th and 8th December. Go to our website www.hardysplants.co.uk to book.



crisps, pastries, popcorn and cereal!) Any uneaten food attracts pests and encourages damaging algal blooms.

However, there's lots of other affordable options e.g. leftover lettuce, wilted greens, kale & cabbage. Alternatively, raid the freezer for peas & defrost them fully.

Sweetcorn will also be well received.

In small amounts, rolled or porridge oats, plain cooked or uncooked rice, and bird seed provide nutritious nibbles. Alternating them with vegetables creates a balanced diet of fibre, vitamins, and fatty acids.

Always steer clear of onion, spinach, avocado, and citrus fruit, which can give the birds digestive problems.

Make sure your snacks are in bite-sized pieces - waterfowl don't chew their food!

Remove any packing and remember to take it home with you. If the birds seem disinterested or stop eating, keep your remaining food so it doesn't get left to rot.

Following these simple tips will help our feathered friends – and their chalk stream homes – to thrive throughout the seasons. If you'd like to learn more about these precious wildlife habitats, and get involved in shaping their future, check out our [Watercress & Winterbournes projects](#) or email us at winterbournes@hiwwt.org.uk.

Photo courtesy of Chris Maguire

Fun leagues at full steam

As we move into the colder months, play continues in the leagues and for all-year round tennis players. We also look forward to having more social events albeit inside to be weather friendly.

Social Events coming up for members

- Walk and pub lunch - 16th October
- Progressive Dinner - 29th October
- Annual Dinner - 26th November

For more details, please see our [website](#) or [Facebook](#) page

Coaching continues through the winter.

Please go to [WhitchurchTennisCoaching](#) for more information and to book.

Membership forms can be found

at www.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.

Contact

secretary@whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk if you wish to apply.

For more information visit

whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk, follow us on [Facebook](#) or contact us via Wendy Helsby, Secretary – secretary@whitchurchtennisclub.org.uk.



ALSO...

£2 Single bus fare - the government announced in September that up to £60m is being spent from January to March 2023 to help bus operators cap single adult fares at £2 per journey. Nearly every single journey will have this fare applied. This should save us 30% of the average fare and it could be as much as £3 saving per single bus ticket. It all helps reduce the cost of living pressure!

MP Maria Miller's 'Slow it Down' petition

- As you may be aware Basingstoke & Deane are being asked to build up to 18k houses through to 2039. This is creating a lost of stress in neighbouring Overton and Whitchurch where there is huge pressure to build e.g. in the North Wessex Down Area of outstanding Natural beauty. Our Borough Councillors have recently been joined in their fight against overdevelopment by the Basingstoke MP Maria Miller. If you are concerned then you can sign her petition at this [link](#)



Parish Council

PC Meetings

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

4 Oct
1 Nov
6 Dec
3 Jan

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.

Note: no meeting is



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

[Hantsweb](#)

trees on roads:



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 Chedgey

Jayne Hudson

To email

Cllrs: laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Borough Councillors:

Colin Phillimore 771127

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

Chloe Ashfield

Stephen Williams

County Councillor:

held in August unless
a planning or other
time-dependent matter
arises.

0300 555 1388

water:

Southern Water

Juliet Henderson

(juliet.henderson@hants.gov.uk)



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 844544

- 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

Copyright © Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council 2022

laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Our mailing address is:

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