



June 2023

What a month May has been for Laverstoke & Freefolk! We make no apologies for filling up this month's newsletter with all the wonderful activities from last month - our Royal Revelries celebrations for the Coronation, the Rogation boundary walk, the Big Help Out day and also a splendid Annual Parish Meeting.

Our headline photo is the result of some super smart work by Jo Probut and Bob Hough, recreating waiting for King George V in April 1923 or is that waiting for King Charles III in 2023?! Either way we were jolly pleased with the result.

The next PC meeting is Tues 6 June at 19.30 at LRHI!

Find [Overton News&Views](#) here, a few days after the start of the new month.



Royal Revelries - fitting & fun Coronation event!

We hope everyone will agree what a fantastic celebration we had in L&F for the coronation of King Charles. Here's a quick review in photos.....

11.30 - Outdoor Commemorative 'Church' Service



12.00 - 'Bring & Share BBQ' & Bar,



Distillery InSpirit day spent tidying L&F!

The staff at the Bombay Sapphire distillery had their version of a corporate responsibility day, known fittingly as an InSpirit day, on May 10. The parish was the lucky recipient of 14 people working for a whole day on improving the area.

The bus stops were swept and tidied, signs cleaned and litter picked along the B3400. Laverstoke Lane, from the A303 bridge to the outskirts of the populated area, was litter picked with resulting prams, boxes and other random items large and small being removed and disposed of by the team. Around the pavilion, mud was cleared and leaves swept. In the playground, the climbing frame was rubbed down and preservative applied. The rubber equipment matting was jetwashed. Lady Rose Hall frontage was tidied, paving weeded and swept. A really productive day was finished with a celebratory drink (with thanks to David Ellis.)

The PC, on behalf of the residents, would like to reiterate the thanks that



The bar fundraising was kindly aided by Bombay Sapphire (with a donation of Laverstokes and Citron Presse gin) and Bordeaux Index wine.

14.00 - Games on the Green featured:
The King Charles Polo Mint Cup



Coronation Carriage Driving



and various tugs of war!

they gave the Bombay Sapphire production team at the PC AGM.



Original photo - Waiting to greet King George V

Taken 100 years ago in April 1923 when he visited Portals at Laverstoke mill.

If you have any old photos (and old doesn't have to be this far back!) of the villages please let Jo Probut on joprobut@gmail.com know. We are keen to build an archive.



Parish Meeting - it went down well with wine!

This year we trialed a new format of Annual Parish Assembly. Following updates from the PC Chairman, Borough Ward Councillors, Bombay Sapphire and



15.30 - Coronation Bake Off competition followed by tea



16.45 - Village Photos

our PCSO, we tucked into our coronation-themed cheese board, enjoying a variety of yummy cheeses washed down with some lovely wine. Jo Probut shared a display of old photos taken of the visit to Laverstoke mill by King George V one hundred years ago as well as our latest Coronation village photos. Judging by the number of members of public who attended the meeting, this might be a format to be repeated!



Hardy's supply Chelsea gold medal winners

Hello everyone

We were so pleased and proud to see that both Chris Beardshaw and Charlie Hawkes were awarded GOLD medals at the RHS Chelsea flower show.

Moreover, Charlie won the accolade of 'Best Sanctuary Garden'. Also, Friday evening, for those that saw the show, you will have seen that Chris's garden was the 'People's choice'. You may recall last month we told you we were supplying plants to both these two individual top designers for their gardens and were excited ourselves to see the



supported by
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and Deane**

With our thanks to so many people for making it such a special occasion.....

The Borough Council for a grant of £168 towards our costs and the Mayor for spending time with us at the end of a very hectic day for himself and his wife. We hope he enjoyed meeting us for photos in front of the glasshouse at Laverstoke Mill. Thanks to Helen Coles at Bombay Sapphire for hosting us and also for the donation of 'laverstokes' and gin that aided the Millennium Green fundraising bar. For Rev Charlie's lovely commemorative service that kicked off proceedings, ORC for

finished results. Not only that, the businesses Rosy mentored in the floral marquee were also awarded GOLD medals, so success all round!

We still have plenty of stock for any holes you may have in your garden and would love to see you. Even if you want a browse, we are here to chat though any issues you have 7 days a week. For our opening times our website is

www.hardysplants.co.uk



Potential new winners

Another busy month for the Archers. Our latest beginners course finished at the end of April with 16 new archers joining the club! We participated in the Archery GB "Start Archery Week" with a "have a go" session on Sunday 14th May. It was a hectic couple of hours with 48 people coming along to have a go. We ran a little competition to see who could get the highest score from 4 arrows, so a maximum 40 points. One person scored 39 points, a great effort for a first time! It was lovely to see so much interest in the sport and we plan to run a new beginners course later in the year.

loaning some tables, Men's Shed for helping us set up, Bob Hough our photoshop wizard and Jo for organising the photos.

With thanks also to the providers of gazebos, movers of chairs, setter-uppers and clear-uppers, the tea and BBQ teams, the bakers, the Millennium Green bar team, the decorators, the games compere and helpers, Katie Black, Laura Anstey and Erin Black for judging the wonderful bake-off competition and Carolyn Sheffield for presenting the prizes. All neighbours, family and friends who attended, supported and helped out.

And none of this would have been possible without Nicky's fantastic committee who put hours into the organisation - Bethan, Brenda, Jo, Jackie, Jenny & Luby - resulting in the most wonderful afternoon of celebrations.



Muddy waters in Overton

When the banks of a chalk stream in Overton crumbled, people and wildlife were both in peril. Sediment entered the water, smothering its invertebrates. On the streamside footpath, trees were in danger of falling. Watercress & Winterbournes new blog explains how we tackled this pressing problem. (Photo courtesy

We held our AGM in May and now have a new Chairman, Paul Williams. He has been part of the club for a couple of years and is looking forward to guiding the club for the next few years. Angus was presented with the President's Medal for his support in helping at the club and to Dave Mahers for winning our club "Frostbite" competition.

We continue to attend UK competitions and well done to Steve Allam and Angus Falcom-Relf for great results in the English 3D championships with Steve second and Angus fourth in the Traditional Bow category.

If you are interested in learning a new skill and taking up the sport of Archery please have a look at our [facebook page](#) or message us for more details.

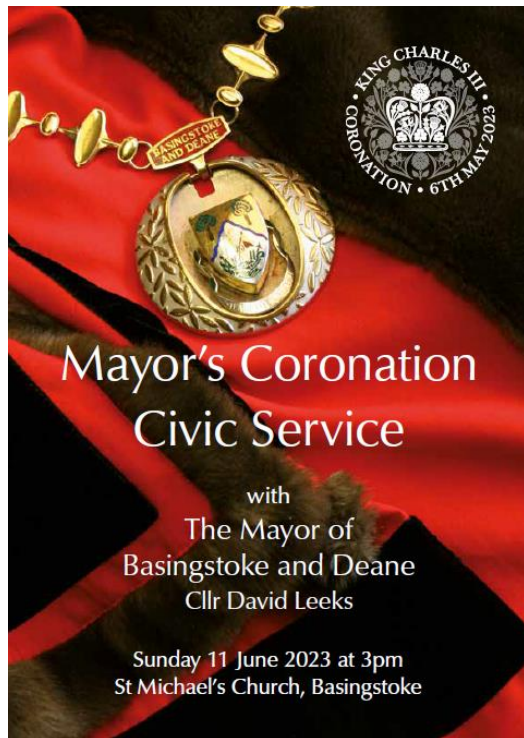


Ragation-tide walk

L&F marked Ragation Sunday on 14 May, with a very special walk with prayer around part of the Parish boundary. Rev Charlie and Bethan had organised

of Wessex Rivers Trust)

[Read on](#)



Annual Civic Service

As per B&D tradition, there's an annual **Civic Sunday Service** to welcome the town's new Mayor at the start of their year. This year the Service coincides with the Coronation year and aligning with His Majesty King Charles III's theme, the service will focus on the importance of community volunteering. The Mayor's chosen charities are: Shopmobility Basingstoke, Citizens Advice Basingstoke and Citizens Advice Tadley.

Where: St Michael's Church, Church Square, Basingstoke. RG21 7QW

When: Sunday 11 June 2023 at 3pm (Guests are asked to be seated by 2.45pm)

All welcome with free tickets on first come first

fantastic weather and a great circular route starting from Lady Rose Hall to St Nicholas, to St Mary's and into Laverstoke Park for a rare visit to the demolished old St Mary's. The final stop was at the mill for a drink in the sunshine by the river.



The Old St Mary's ruins:



River Test:



served basis. Click [here](#) for tickets

Parking: please use town centre car parks.

Dress: Day Uniform, Lounge Suit or Day

Dress, Badges may be worn

If you have any queries please contact the
Mayor's Office on

mayoralcoordinator@basingstoke.gov.uk

or 01256 844844.



L&F Big Help Out success

Mon 8 May was the Big Help Out national volunteering bank holiday. Following the coronation festivities it was good to get outside once again and help clear up the village. We had several teams out and about. Vegetation was cleared from the end of the pavilion track to improve sight lines. Around the kick-about-court the fence was repaired in places and vegetation pruned along either side of the

fence line. The Kingsford family did a big litter picking circular walk around the Manor Farm area. Meanwhile at St Mary's, another band of volunteers strimmed the churchyard and cleaned the church. All in all it was a successful day with the villages now looking spick and span.



PC Meetings

Next meeting dates:

6 June

4 July

5 Sep

3 Oct

Laverstoke and Freefolk PC meetings take place on 1st Tues of month in Lady Rose Hall starting at 7.30pm with up to 30 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.



L&F Contacts

[L&Freefolk Facebook](#)

laverstokeandfreefolk.org.uk

Newsletter:

laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Lady Rose Hall:

www.ladyrosehall.co.uk

Bombay Sapphire Help

Line: 01256 890078

or hello@bombaysapphire.com

(monitored daily 10-16.00)

Neighbouring web-sites:

[Whitchurch Town Council](#)

[Official Whitchurch web site](#)

[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](#)



Classes in Lady Rose Hall

Ladies Boxing: Mon 18:45 - 19.45

Contact: Brandon Elliott on 07402 366067

Yoga: Weds 19:30 - 20:30

natalia@thelittleyogacompany.co
07880 742817



Parish Council:

Clerk - Nicky Nicklin

07725 368012 or

laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Parish Councillors:

After public time parishioners are unable to interrupt the Council meeting. **Note: no meeting is held in August unless a planning or other time-dependent matter arises.**

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:
0300 555 1388

water:
[Southern Water](#)



Our mailing address is:
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Parish Council
Newsletter
Lady Rose Hall
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Whitchurch
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Freefolk Parish Council 2023

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