



Laverstoke and Freefolk News&Views

January 2025!

Happy New Year to all the residents of Laverstoke and Freefolk!

In our January newsletter we include some exciting upcoming events such as the March sponsored walk with a challenging difference, the Millennium Green Quiz and the Mayor's Charity concert. There's some thought provoking free online Wildlife Trust talks on equine pasture management and sustainable drainage systems. For this and more - read on.

And please note the PC meeting is next Tues 14 January rather than its usual first Tues of the month slot.

Find a link to the [Overton News&Views](#), available a few days after the start of each new month. Also the latest Whitchurch Town Council newsletter [here](#)



Sponsored walk with a difference!

Residents and other readers, you are invited to join Overton Black Arrows on Saturday 15 March 2025 on the Laverstoke archery field for a sponsored fundraising walk with a difference... it is only 5m AND it's a fire walk challenge!

This is in aid of Dive Ability, a Hampshire charity that aims to improve the lives of disabled and disadvantaged people through scuba diving. Participants are given a sense of freedom in the water that they wouldn't ordinarily have. We're trying to help raise funds for a new hoist which is needed to help people in and out of the water.

The Black Arrows are teaming up with [FireWalk](http://www.firewalk.co.uk) to offer you the chance to do, what will probably be, the shortest sponsored walk you've ever do!

Your 5metre walk will be:

- a challenge
- a once in a lifetime event
- empowering
- a big tick on your bucket list
- exhilarating



Jan 14 PC meeting

The Parish Council next meets on Tues 14 Jan at 19.30 at Lady Rose Hall. Public time will be at the start of the meeting followed by the main agenda. All welcome to come along to the meeting and join in Public Time.

The agenda topics will include:

Finalise 2025/26 budget
Precept Setting
TVMS pavilion heating solution
Charity Firewalk
Planning applications:

Plan Ref: 24/02887/HSE. Location: 33 Laverstoke Lane. Proposal: Removal of existing single storey rear conservatory extension with a new single storey rear extension with an increased footprint.

Plan Ref: 24/02836/HSE Location: Hazel Cottage, Laverstoke Lane, Micheldever. SO21 3BA
Proposal: Erection of a two storey side extension and internal alterations.

Plan Ref: 24/02946/RET Location: 31

Anyone can take part who is 18 years or older on the day of the event.

Fee: You can sign up for as little as £10, if you commit to raise £100, or more, in sponsorship.

But, as it's a charity event, we're asking for a £50 non-refundable deposit if you're not able to commit to raise £100 in sponsorship.

To register or find more information please head to: overtonblackarrows.org/firewalk

(Supporters are needed too so please all mark Sat 15 March in your diaries!)



Quiz Night 8 March

It's returning to a village hall very near you! Yes on Sat 8 March at 19.30 for 20.00 you are invited to attend the Laverstoke & Freefolk Millennium Green quiz of the year. Taking place at Lady Rose Hall, it's £10 a ticket with food included and there is a pay bar. Start gathering your teams of 6 and please email LandFfundraising@gmail.com to book your places (it really helps us with catering volumes!)

If you would like to contribute on a more regular basis to the maintenance of the Green which includes the Children's

Laverstoke Lane. Proposal:

Variation/removal of Condition 2 of 17/00647/RET - (Erection of outbuilding for use as workshop/storage use and change of use of land from field to residential (retrospective)) to allow occasional use for short term lettings (AirBnB or similar rental platforms).

Tree Plan Ref: T/00610/24/TCA Location: Manor Farm House, Freefolk, RG28 7NW. Proposal: Trees 1 to 11: fell.



St Mary's - wonderful Christmas

What wonderful Christmas celebrations we had in the parish! Thank you to everyone who made it possible. Charlie for getting the message out, the team who decorated the church so beautifully (and cleared it all away afterwards), and all the lovely people who came to our services, not forgetting Carols on the Green. Let's do it all again this year with even more gusto.

Services are back to some normality – Holy Communion on 1st and 2nd Sundays at 09:00 and Matins on the 4th Sunday –

Playground, Quiet Garden, Woodland & Open Field and beautiful Pond and Stream Area) please consider a monthly (gift aided) donation. For this and further info on our precious green space please visit laverstokeandfreefolkmillenniumgreen.org. or contact Phil Nicklin on pnic@hotmail.co.uk



Mayor's Charity Concert 1 March

His Worshipful Mayor of Basingstoke and Deane invites you to attend a Charity Concert in aid of the [Mayor's Charity Appeal](#)* on 1 March 2025 at the Anvil concert hall, Basingstoke. The programme of music includes something for everyone. It celebrates the 250th year of Jane Austen within the Borough, as well as commemorating VE Day 80th Anniversary. The themes reflect the Mayor's principle of fostering community cohesion by bringing people together to enhance the wellbeing of all.

The concert will showcase a huge variety of music. Performers include Basingstoke Festival of Choirs, Basingstoke Gospel Choir, Hatch Warren Infant School and Heritage Light Orchestra with music such as

same time, followed by coffee and biscuits. Brenda Bond, Churchwarden.



Happy New Year from archery club

Happy New Year from the Black Arrows and thanks for all the local support. 2024 was a great year for the club. It included hosting the British Field Championships in May and having over 40 new archers attend, and pass, our beginners courses in both January and October. We have also seen some great performances in competitions from members including Steve Allam, Edward Pockett, Richard Buckner and Angus Relf as well as having a world 3D Archery champion in Ian Edwards. During the Christmas holidays we ran our own competition at Laverstoke with Steve Allam taking the honours.

We are looking forward to another great year in 2025 including a new beginners course in the spring and competitions at our field range in Kingsclere. If you would like to know more then please follow us on [facebook](#) or on our website: overttonblackarrows.org

'Africa!', 'J'ai Ho' (from Slumdog Millionaire), 'When You Believe' (from The Prince of Egypt), The Dam busters' March, and the theme from 'Pride and Prejudice'.

Tickets: £20. Over 65s and f/t students £16, under 16s £13 (includes £3 booking fee) [Book Tickets | Anvil Arts.](#)

Venue is fully accessible - should you wish for a wheelchair position please ensure you ask at the booking office upon booking.

(*Focuses on North Hampshire Prostate Cancer Support Group and Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation.)



Upcoming Equine and SUDS talks

Creating Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS)

8 and 15 Jan, 7 - 8.30pm | Online

With climate change, more frequent periods of intense rainfall affect how water moves through the landscape. Localised flooding is becoming more likely and, in Hampshire, our underground chalk aquifer also causes water to rise up from below! Sue Illman from Illman Young Landscape Design will explore how SuDS can help us to tackle this



2025 dates for Rosy Hardy's talks

Happy New Year everyone from all of us at Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants. During December we held the wreath making workshops and we saw a number of amazing creations, some of which adorned the doors here in the villages. We hope you enjoyed making them as much as we enjoyed your company.

We are busy propagating and potting up our 2025 stock of our favourite plants. Do look out for new varieties that we will be introducing throughout the year. No need to wait for Spring though for colour in your garden....the Helleborus are now in bud and they are just ready to burst into life.

Looking forward, we have published all the 2025 dates for Rosy's talks taking place at the nursery in Priory Lane. The first one is on 26 Feb where Rosy talks about her favourite early flowering perennials from the nursery, their attributes, how to grow them and how to combine with other plants. She'll also answer your topical questions. Visit hardysplants.co.uk to book - all the dates are in the events section. A

issue. Using natural processes these systems help to move, collect, or attenuate stormwater, while providing biodiversity benefits.

This topic is covered over two talks:

- Part 1 8 Jan: How SuDS work, why we need them, and where they can be useful.

[To Book](#)

- Part 2: 15 Jan: How communities can add SuDS to their houses and roads. [To Book](#)

Equine Pasture Management Series

Multiple Dates, 7 - 8.30pm | Online

Do you own or manage land for horses? In this talk series, Elizabeth Ranelagh will share how you can achieve the best outcomes for both your horse and the environment. Elizabeth bred horses for many years, has a PhD in grassland ecology, and is a highly regarded author, farmer, and environmentalist.

We'll be covering this topic over four talks:

- 20 January: Hedgerow Management
- 27 January: Pasture Management
- 3 February: Manure Management
- 10 February: Yard and Water Management

[Book your ticket](#)

perfect present for anyone throughout the year. Booking is essential!

Rural Crime Roundtable 20 Jan

Each Year our County Councillor Juliet Henderson chairs a Rural Crime Roundtable with Police and Crime commissioner Donna Jones. The issue of rural crime and policing has been raised by many of the local Parishes. Whilst policing is not a County Council responsibility as such, it is clear that many criminal activities affect its areas of responsibility. The Police and Crime Commissioner has been asked to visit our area again to address residents' concerns.

Residents are welcome to attend this roundtable with Donna on Mon 20 Jan at 18:00 at North Waltham Rathbone Pavilion, Church Road, North Waltham, RG25 2BL.



New Hedging

Thanks to Gill Baker, our tree warden for organising this hedging planted in the Millennium Green at the back of the PC



PC Meetings

Next meeting dates:

14 Jan

11 Feb Tbc

4 Mar

Laverstoke and Freefolk PC meetings usually take place on 1st Tues of month in Lady Rose Hall starting at 19.30 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. After public time

layby on Laverstoke Lane. Thanks to Gill, Chris and Tom for planting the mixed native hedging plants - hazel, hawthorn, wild rose and field maple.



L&F Contacts

[L&Freefolk Facebook](#)

laverstokeandfreefolk.org.uk

Newsletter:

laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Lady Rose Hall:

laverstokeandfreefolk.org.uk/lady-rose-hall/

Bombay Sapphire Main

Reception: 01256 890090

(manned M-F 09.00-17.00, S&S 09.30-15.00)

Duty Manager for urgent e.g. licensing issues: 07971 508691 (manned when duty manager on site i.e. all events plus M-Th 09.00-17.00)

Security is available 24/7 inc closed days.

Neighbouring web-sites:

[Whitchurch Town Council](#)

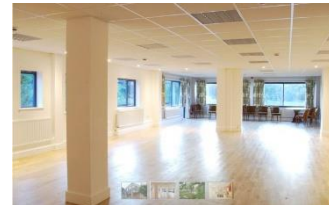
[Official Whitchurch web site](#)

[Original Whitchurch web site](#)

[Overton Parish Council web site](#)

Our Local Sports Clubs:

[Whitchurch Tennis Club](#)



Classes in Lady Rose Hall

Ladies Boxing: Mon 18:45 - 19.45

Contact: Brandon Elliott on 07402 366067

Yoga: Tues 19:30 - 20:30

(except 1st Tues of month)

Contact: Natalia on

natalia@thelittleyogacompany.com

07880 742817



Parish Council:

Clerk - Nicky Nicklin

07725 368012 or

laverstokeclerk@gmail.com

Parish Councillors:

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

[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:

0300 555 1388

water:

[Southern Water](#)



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Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council Newsletter

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