## Sparsholt Community Newsletter



### WELCOME

Welcome to the first Sparsholt Community Newsletter distributed in electronic form by email with a few copies available in the shop for those without email.

#### **VILLAGE SHOP**

The opening hours for the shop will remain the same, 8-1 Monday to Friday. 9-12 post office Monday to Friday. Saturday 8-12 (shop only - po closed). Both closed Sunday.

A small team of volunteers continue to keep the shop open and stocked. However, more volunteers are needed especially for Saturday mornings. If you can help please contact news@sparsholtshop.com

#### MACMILLAN COFFEE

Sparsholt Shop are organising a MacMillan Coffee morning on Friday 25th September from 08:30 onwards.

More info can be found on the leaflet at the end of this newsletter.

## **VILLAGE CLEANUP**

Sparsholt will be part of the Great British September Clean On Saturday 26th September.

This is the opportunity to get our beautiful village and surrounding areas litter free before Winter arrives. We have asked the College and the School to support us.

Mindful of the current guidelines about crowd gathering and social distancing we will ask people to keep safe when collecting pick up sticks and sacks.

Hand sanitiser and wipes will be available on the day but please bring your own gloves.

If you wish to clear a particular area can you please let us know by email to **communications@sparsholtparish.org** before the day to avoid several people covering the same area.

## SPARSHOLT SCHOOL

Sparsholt School will be welcoming back all children from Monday 7th September.

A polite reminder to all parents driving their children to school to park considerately and not to park on the verges around the village lanes.

And a reminder to all drivers in the village not to park on the yellow zigzag markers on Woodman Lane outside of the school entrance.

## PLAYGROUND

The playground is open with a team of volunteers sanitising the equipment.

We have been asked to include the following reminder in the newsletter.

"A polite request for parents of children who use the playpark to empty the three open topped green metal bins when they become full. Otherwise the rubbish flies around the Woodman Close area. The council does NOT empty the three metal bins - they only empty the big green wheelie bin and red dog waste bin at the top end of the park. Therefore it relies on residents emptying the small bins into the big green lidded wheelie bin on a regular basis. Also, please remember to only put dog poo bags in the red wheelie bin - do not use the green metal bins around the park as otherwise it is unpleasant for those residents who empty them Thank you for your understanding :-)"

The Parish Council is still trying to get Winchester City Council to empty the open topped green metal bins.

## MEMORIAL HALL

Memorial Hall Car Park - after a long period of little use, the Memorial Hall car park will again be mostly full of School cars during week days, starting from Thursday 3rd September.

There are 3 spaces clearly reserved for Shop & Hall use but, within reason, any other empty spaces could be used during the day for short term parking by visitors to the village.

However, if any vehicles wish to park overnight or for more than a day, we would request that permission be obtained beforehand, from the Hall Booking Secretary, Elizabeth West on (01962) 776 129 or lizwest1057@gmail.com

#### HAM GREEN

The Parish Council are currently obtaining quotations for the work identified to deal with the extensive Ash Die Back on the common. The priority is public safety.

## THE PLOUGH PUBLIC HOUSE

The Plough remains closed with no reopening date notified as yet. Check the **website** for the latest information.

## SPARSHOLT WI

The Sparsholt Women's Institute have stated that there will be no meeting until January 2021 at the earliest.

## WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

Woodman Close and Stockwell Place - Car Parking consultation.

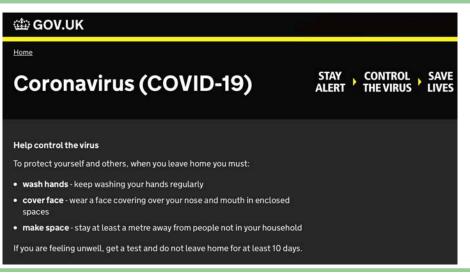
https://winchester.citizenspace.com/housing/woodmanclose-and-stockwell-place-estate-improveme/

If you haven't commented already, it's not too late to do so through the Parish Council.

#### **PARISH COUNCIL**

Parish Council Meetings will resume on **September 17th** via Zoom video conferencing. Please see the **website** for details.

## COVID-19 GOVERNMENT LATEST ADVICE



For more information about what you can and can't do, please visit the following link.

## COVID-19 IN HAMPSHIRE

As of 21st August 2020 the total number of cases in Hampshire is 5,217 and 59 cases in the last seven days.

Hampshire's overall infection rate is 378.3 cases per 100,000 population. The county's current weekly rate stands at 3.7 cases per 100,000 population, compared to the England weekly rate of 11.9. The overall trend in the infection rate is increasing across Hampshire districts.

There have been 1,061 Covid-19 associated deaths in Hampshire since March, and three deaths in the last seven days - the trend in the number of deaths continues to decline.

The full data dashboard is available on the Keep Hampshire Safe Webpage.

The infographic can be found at the end of the newsletter on page 5.

## TRANSPORT 'POP-UP' SCHEMES

Over 40 new temporary footpath and cycleway measures have been installed in Hampshire since June, providing people with the space to travel by bike or on foot while keeping a safe social distance.

The County Council invited proposals from residents, communities and organisations on where temporary cycling and walking measures might be put in place, and received over 3,500 suggestions.

The temporary walking and cycling schemes to enable social distancing are funded by the Department for Transport's Emergency Active Travel Scheme.

## **ILLEGAL GATHERINGS**

The Home Office has confirmed that a new criminal offence for people organising or facilitating unlawful gatherings comes into force on Friday 28 August. Those facilitating or organising illegal gatherings of 30 people or more may face a £10,000 fine.

You can read more about this here.

## TV LICENSING

This week TV Licensing have started sending letters to anyone aged over 75 asking them to either pay for their TV licence or apply for a free one. We want to make sure you know what to expect when you get your letter, so that if you're contacted by scammers before then you'll be able to spot them.

TV Licensing will only ask you to pay using the following options:

- By post using the address: TV Licensing, PO Box 578, Darlington, DL98 1AN
- Online at tvl.co.uk/75pay or tvl.co.uk/75apply
- Over the phone on 0300 790 6151

If you are contacted and asked to pay for your TV licence using a different phone number, a different website or by posting your details to a different address **you have been contacted by a scammer**.

TV Licensing have also been clear that they will not come to your doorstep to collect the licence fee if you are over 75, so anyone who claims to do so is also a scammer.

If you're unsure about anything, you can call TV Licensing on **0300 303 9695** to speak with someone who can help.

## RECENT LOCAL FRAUDULENT SCAM

## **RENTAL FRAUD**

Don't be tricked into paying upfront fees to secure a property, and be extra cautious after virtual viewings.

A recent con by fake lettings agency Villageway Lettings led to one victim losing £5,600 after he received a fake Booking.com link to reserve a London property. It seemed legitimate but wasn't.

Read more here.

One of our long-established residents was recently the subject of a fraudulent scam, resulting in the loss of a significant sum of money. The fraud involved transferring money from an HSBC account to a supposed BNP Paribas ethical investment account.

The fraudsters had cloned and modified a genuine website, that of BNP-Paribas, a large French bank, and put it on Google where it appeared alongside other reputable big companies websites.

Once the site had been cloned, they had the genuine company addresses, headers and phone numbers, which they altered for their own purposes. They gave UK phone numbers and were always available on the telephone. They had well-spoken youngish voices, with no accents and were very helpful when spoken to, even asking you to sign a form about money laundering.

However, when the first quarterly dividend failed to arrive as expected, no further contact could be made with the bogus "BNP", either by email or phone, and the alarm bells started to ring!!

After some correspondence with the genuine BNP Paribas in London, the unfortunate resident was informed that a fraud had definitely been committed, and that HSBC and the Police should be contacted for further support and investigation. At the present time, this investigation is still ongoing and no money has yet been recovered.

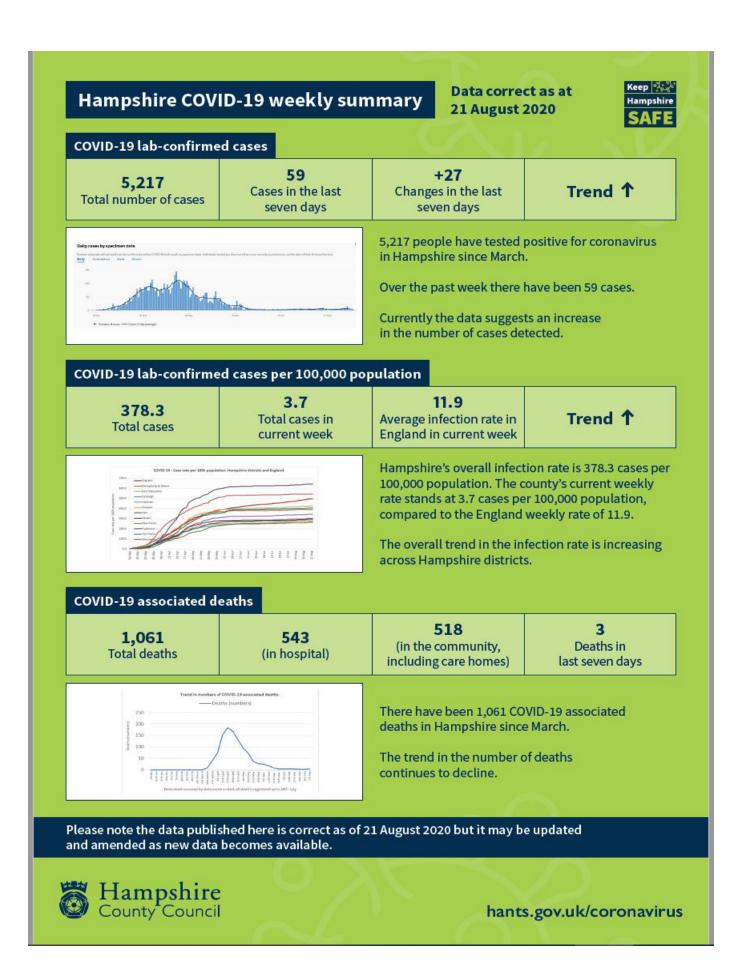
#### SPARSHOLT COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP

#### Contact details:

If you need help during the easing of the lockdown-period, the support group is still available and can be reached on: **07595 967259** 

Contact email address for volunteers and requests for support - **supportgroup@sparsholtparish.org** Newsletter Co-ordinator – Danielle Kleingeld at **supportgroupnews@sparsholtparish.org** Volunteer and At Risk Lists Co-ordinator – Jane Kempton at **supportgroupvar@sparsholtparish.org** 

> Sparsholt Parish: http://www.sparsholtparish.org/ Sparsholt Shop: http://www.sparsholtshop.com/ Downs Benefice: http://www.downsbenefice.org/



# SPARSHOLT SHOP

FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER FROM 8.30 AM ON THE MEMORIAL GREEN COFFEE, TEA & CAKE ALL IN AID OF MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

TO HELP OR DONATE: PLEASE CONTACT JANETTE IN THE SHOP

**Fundraising for** 





rearised in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (604). Also operating in Northern Ireland.

MAKE, BAKE OR DONATE