

Sparsholt Community Newsletter



Best Local Council Newsletter in Hampshire 2023



Congratulations and thank you to all the contributors who help make each edition of the Sparsholt Community Newsletter. At the recent Annual Meeting of Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC), the Sparsholt Community Newsletter won the Best Local Council Newsletter competition and was praised for involving the community, being packed with relevant information as well as being colourful. Sparsholt Parish Council have been members of HALC for a long time and have found their advice and guidance especially valuable in the governance and operation of our parish council. To receive such recognition for the newsletter from the association is therefore particularly rewarding.

Village Support Group

The Sparsholt Village Newsletter came about during the early days of Covid Lockdown with the formation of a Village Support Group. The Support Group still operates on WhatsApp and has proven to be very useful to alert, help and inform in a timely fashion. If you would like to join the WhatsApp Support Group please email the editor with details of your mobile phone number so you can be added to the group.

With the dark evenings and Winter approaching can we all keep any eye on our elderly and other vulnerable people using the WhatsApp Support Group or by referring to the contact details on the last page of the newsletter as appropriate.

Gridlock in Sparsholt

Sparsholt quickly becomes gridlocked when there are Highway issues on the M3 and A34. Residents have put forward several suggestions on the WhatsApp Support Group to deal with the gridlock and indeed excessive speed of some drivers. A small team of Parish Councillors will be meeting with our County Councillor, City Councillor and the Hampshire Highways Authority to determine what can and cannot be done to reduce the instances of gridlock, improve the flow of traffic, reduce the speed through the village and improve the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders without unduly impeding farm and emergency vehicles. The outcome of these discussions will be considered at future Parish Council meetings and reported in the newsletter.

Shop and Post Office

Christmas trees are available to order from now until 30th November, on behalf of the school and shop.

The shop is also running the Christmas Market on 10th December (same day as tree deliveries)

Finally - Beaujolais Nouveau Day is looming on 16th November. The shop still has a very limited number of bottles available for pre-order, or to buy on the day (subject to availability).

See Posters later in the Newsletter for each of the above.

Vandalism around the Village

There have been several incidents recently which are totally unacceptable and have been reported to the police.

If you witness vandalism or have information regarding the culprits, can you please report it to the police as soon as possible. See last page of the Newsletter for contacts.

Sir John Moore Barracks - PLANS

The planned redevelopment of the site could have a significant impact on Sparsholt. We would recommend residents to attend and express their views at one of two events that have been planned:

- **Friday 10th November** from 3-7pm in Littleton Millennium Memorial Hall; and
- **Saturday 11th November** from 10.00am until 2pm at The Henry Beaufort school (the 2-minute silence being observed at 11.00am).

The Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) has been exploring options for bringing forward proposals for new development at its Sir John Moore Barracks site, allocated within Winchester City Council's Draft Local Plan (Policy W2) to deliver significant residential led development of between 750-1,000 new homes.

sirjohnmoorewinchester.co.uk

SPARSHOLT MUSIC

Our winter concert will take place in the Sparsholt Village Hall at 3pm on Sunday 3rd December. Tickets £10 each will be available online or at the village shop from 9th November.

The December concert programme promises to be a varied mix of delightful musical entertainment! We welcome back pianists: Tim Morris, Tom Jesty, Ashton Grey and Mark Zarb-Adami, with a selection of seasonal and classical piano solos. We have a new piano trio playing Schubert, with Gilly Slot at the piano. Jackie Drew makes a return with her violin to play some Debussy. We're delighted to be able to include villagers Richard Morse and John Wesley with some musical delights. Fiona and Cheryl are planning a well-known vocal duet, but as you've never heard it before...

If there is anyone who can help with providing a flower display and six small posies for the tables, please get in touch. Thank you to those who came forward with offers of baking a cake. We will be in touch and the more volunteers for delicious homemade cakes, the better!

We hope to see you in December.

Please visit: www.sparsholtmusic.org for more information and dates for 2024!

The Plough

Thank you from The Plough to Peter Yeates for organising the Firework display. The next community event will be:



6pm start. More details to follow.

Naomi House and Jacksplace Carol Service



**Naomi House
& Jacksplace**
hospices for children
and young adults
Registered charity no. 1002832

13th December 2023 from 6:30pm
Winchester College Chapel, College Street, Winchester
SO23 9NA

naomihouse.org.uk/christascarol23

Sparsholt School - Tell me Tuesday

Tuesday 21st November 2:45pm "Outstanding Orchids" – Mr Norton

Other talks to watch out for – dates TBC

- "Archaeological Antics" – Dr Fluck
- "Imagination and Dreams" – Mr Firth
- "Working for the Air Ambulance" – Mr Sawyer

Parish Council



photo: Howard Annesley

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting is on **16th November 2023** at 7.30pm. Council meetings will take place in the Mosaic Room at the Memorial Hall Sparsholt.

Solar Farm Planning Application

The Solar Farm planning application has been modified and is out for further consultation. The Parish Council will be discussing this at the next Parish Council Meeting.

You can review the application and make comments on the Winchester City Council Planning Website using reference number 23/01025/FUL

planningapps.winchester.gov.uk/online-applications

ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH

Date	St. Stephen's Church, Sparsholt
12 th November	10.55am – Remembrance Service, starting at the War Memorial
19 th November	8am – Holy Communion (BCP)
26 th November	10am - Morning Worship
10 th December	6pm – Candlelit Carol Service
17 th December	8am – Holy Communion (BCP)
24 th December	4pm – Crib Service
24 th December	11.30pm - Midnight Service
25 th December	10am – Christmas Family Service
31 st December	10am – Patronal Festival

Winchester Churches Nightshelter - Thank you

Dear John and Parishioners of St. Stephen's

I would like to thank you for thinking of our residents this Harvest and donating so generously. Your donations have been carefully stored by our volunteers and will help us to feed our residents over the coming months, saving our charity much-needed money on our food bills. Also thank you for the generous donation of £60 for us to be able to buy fresh meat. As well as providing home-cooked meals for our residents, some of your donations will also be gifted in food parcels to those moving on from The Winchester Beacon to their own home.

We continue to accommodate and support 22 people every day and night of the year across our 4 properties. Last year, our residents stayed with us for an average of 111 nights. As well as being a safe place to stay, we help our residents to rebuild their lives and last year we delivered 288 hours of counselling and psychotherapy as part of their support out of homelessness.

Your donations will help people like Tim who came to stay with us after his relationship broke down with his mum. He stayed with us for 15 months before we supported him to move into his own flat. Before leaving, Tim reflected on his stay: "My time at The Beacon has definitely bolstered me".

We would love you to stay in touch with our latest news and events via our website, www.winchesterbeacon.org.uk and on social media, Twitter @WinBeacon, Facebook/Instagram @winchesterbeacon.

Thank you again for your kind donations, we can only achieve all that we do thanks to people like you believing in and supporting our work. Together, we really are changing lives.

Yours sincerely

Paula Sharpe

The Winchester Beacon (Winchester Churches Nightshelter)

John and Sally Wesley's car outside The Winchester Beacon filled with items donated by Sparsholt School pupils and St. Stephen's parishioners.



Wreath Making Workshop at The Plough



Petals & Posies
Floral Design

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

Get in the festive mood, enjoy an evening making your very own Christmas wreath to adorn your Front door, using a selection of seasonal foliage, berries, cones, fruit and ribbon.

All materials are included, just bring along a pair of garden scissors.

LOCATION:
The Plough Inn, Woodman Ln, Sparsholt, SO21 2NW

DATE & TIME:
Wednesday 6th December 7:00pm start (arrive 6:45 pm)

PRICE:
£65pp (Includes group tuition, all materials plus a glass of fizz)

Contact Nicola to secure your place.
nicola@petalsandposies.co.uk /07717 454111

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

Warmer Homes

Get a cosier home with the Warmer Homes Programme

You could receive fully funded energy saving improvements for your home, such as insulation, air source heat pumps and solar PV panels. We're part of a group of 23 local authorities, and funding is available in your area. These measures can help lower your energy bills and keep your home warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer.

Wondering if you're eligible? Key criteria includes:

- Your home is not heated by mains gas (e.g. you use electric, oil or LPG)
- Your Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating is D, E, F, or G (if you don't know this, we can tell you)
- You have a household income of £31,000 or under, or you receive a means-tested benefit

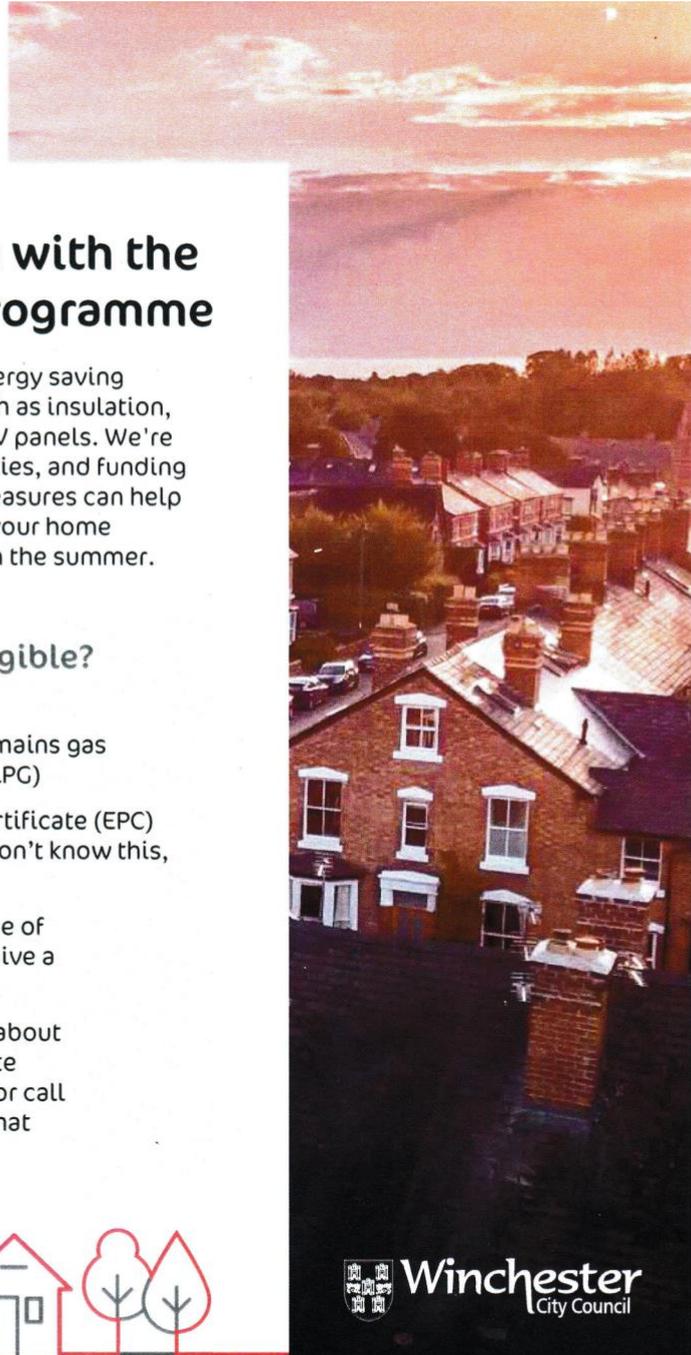
If you're interested but unsure about your eligibility, visit our website www.warmerhomes.org.uk or call freephone **0800 038 5757** to chat with our team.



Ready to apply now? Simply scan the QR code, apply online or call us and get started to enjoy the benefits of a cosier home!



Winchester
City Council



Lainston House News



The clocks have gone back, the leaves are falling, the weather is wildly unpredictable and we love it at Lainston House! At the end of the summer season, we have the opportunity to bring guests back indoors to the warm reception rooms and restaurants to indulge in the autumnal menus that we love so much.

As we transition from summer weddings and events to the thought of Christmas, so the Events calendar changes and we become more focused on using the local produce of the season, including the harvested bounty of the Kitchen Garden. In the last few weeks we have held seasonal cooking schools, kids Half term pumpkin carving and cooking experiences, hosted our first ceramic masterclass with a local artist, and been the venue of choice for the prestigious annual NHS Chef of the Year competition which pulls in competitors from NHS Trusts around the country. What an honour for Season Cookery School to host such skilled heroes competing in one of the most challenging and most technical cookery competitions available. Leisure class schedules for 2024 are now online and vouchers are available for the cooking school - please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions about availability or content.

We have been delighted to see that our Christmas events, restaurants and packages have been very popular this year and we are proud to say that we are now fully booked for the Wellhouse on Christmas Day. Also popular are our residential Christmas packages, and families booking their seasonal get together with us in the Avenue and Wellhouse. We still have availability for private dining and Chef's Table throughout the month and the Christmas Wreath making events – with spaces left only on December 3rd. Whether you're a seasoned wreath-maker or a complete beginner, this experience is designed for all levels of creativity as you craft your very own wreath under the guidance of our expert florists. Prices include afternoon tea. www.exclusive.co.uk/lainston-house/experiences/christmas-wreath-making/

New Year's Eve promises to be relaxing and unforgettable as well as we treat our guests to an early check in, afternoon tea treats, tasting menus in either the Avenue or Wellhouse, followed by jazz and dancing until the early hours. Tickets are selling fast but still available at the following link...

www.exclusive.co.uk/lainston-house/experiences/new-years-at-lainston-house/

We are also proud to have released our latest B Corp Impact Statement in recent weeks which is now available to read on the website. Customers who visit us regularly will be aware of our status as an accredited B Corp, a recognition acquired in 2021 when we joined a community of like-minded businesses in a global movement of using business as a force for good. The accreditation was recognition for the 40+ years of work by our owner's family to invest in people, develop a reputation for welcoming service levels and for being conscientious about how we run our business.



We are the first hotel group in the UK to be certified as B Corp and have been putting this status to good use at Lainston House. As well as proactive steps towards reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, sourcing suppliers locally and ensuring that the welfare and conditions of our staff is market leading, we have taken on a few new initiatives that local residents might notice when visiting the estate. Recently, all of our signage

has been replaced with new, ethically and sustainably sourced and produced wood. The aim is long term, attractive and more modern signage which has a minimal impact on the environment.

We have also planted 850+ trees this year in a new area of orchard near the kitchen garden and woodland on the northern activity field in a further move towards carbon neutrality – the trees include a wide range of native broadleaf varieties which also happen to mirror the names of our hotel bedrooms!



Furthermore, we are investing across all of our estates, eliminating fossil fuel reliant kit and equipment, prioritising estate management, investing in our people and accommodation and ensuring that our guests, staff and suppliers are involved in the journey.

At Lainston we have invested in a rocket composter, an eye-catching industrial piece of machinery designed to all but eliminate food waste from our kitchens and generate the required amount of compost in a fraction of the normal time, very useful for our extensive gardens. The rocket will be located in our Kitchen Garden and will be available to see during our Kitchen Garden Tours from early 2024.

Each department has many examples of how we are responding to the challenge of becoming a sustainable business for good and we welcome the opportunity to show these initiatives and many others to our customers on a regular basis.



For example, did you know that in September we harvested over 700kg of apples from our 20 varieties of trees on site to produce more than 320l of organic, apple juice for our guests?! It tastes spectacular, please come by and try some if you get the chance.

We love this time of year at the hotel and are excited welcome to guests from the local area and beyond.

Whether it is for a Christmas residential stay, a festive afternoon tea, luxury wreath making, or a get-together with family or friends we have options for you. Please don't hesitate to contact us directly if there is anything we can do to help.

Yours in hospitality

Steve Lewis (steve@exclusive.co.uk)

The Henry Beaufort School

The school has returned for the new academic year after saying goodbye to our students who sat their exams in May and June. Miss Hearle (Headteacher) commented on the results on the day they were released in August.

"The Henry Beaufort School is celebrating excellent results that are in line with expected outcomes and as we anticipated, a significant number of subjects have results that are above the grades published in 2019.

Maths and English continue what is now a five-year trend of above 80% for grades 4-9.

The school is committed to a broad and balanced range of GCSE choices, and it is particularly satisfying to see expressive arts subjects such Music and Photography at 90% grade 4 to 9. Equally the school's focus on languages has seen another set of outstanding results with French and Spanish at 91% and 85% respectively.

Sue Hearle, Headteacher said, 'This has been another excellent year for The Henry Beaufort School and is evidence of our consistently high performance as a school.

Despite lost learning time in lockdown, our young people have risen to the challenge and worked with my incredible, highly skilled colleagues to secure successful future opportunities in education and the workplace.

Well done to our Year 11 students, they have shown that hard work, resilience and determination lead to very well-deserved success."

We look forward to welcoming these students back to the school in November for their certificate Presentation Evening.

The popular extra curriculum activities offered by the school have started. These were launched at The Freshers Fayre, where both students and teachers showcased their clubs. Not only do we offer lots of Sport after school but also Crypto Club, Chamber Choir, Art Mural workshops, Chess, Engineering, Mandarin and Cooking Club to name a few!

Year 11 students can attend revision clinics for their forthcoming mocks.

Attendance at both clinics and Extra Curricular are supported by the school offering late buses on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.



photo: Howard Annesley

CELEBRATING

BEAUJOLAIS NOUVEAU DAY

AT
SPARSHOLT VILLAGE SHOP
ON THURSDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2023

PRE-ORDER YOUR BOTTLE NOW
PRICE: £16.00

TO ORDER PREPAYMENT IS REQUIRED:
POP IN OR EMAIL
SPARSHOLTVS@GMAIL.COM OR
CALL 776998

WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR
COLLECTION ON DAY OF RELEASE

LIMITED STOCK AVAILABLE - ORDER
NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT



SPARSHOLT CHRISTMAS MARKET

Sunday 10th December 2023
10am - 2pm

Christmas markets, festive eats and drinks,
one of a kind gifting and more



Christmas tree delivery the same morning

*Order your Nordmann Fir Non-Drop
Tree by Thursday 30th November for
delivery on Sunday 10th December.*

SPARSHOLT CHRISTMAS TREES 2023

EMAIL
FRIENDSOFSPARSHOLTSCHOOL@GMAIL.COM
FOR AN ORDER FORM.

All money raised will be shared between Sparsholt Village Shop and
Sparsholt Primary School.





SPARSHOLT CHRISTMAS TREE ORDER FORM

Now in our 11th year, Sparsholt Village Shop and Sparsholt Primary School have teamed up with our reputable Christmas tree supplier to provide beautiful **Nordmann Fir non-drop trees** at a reasonable price. The quality of the trees is excellent – if you want to know more, please ask around – we have provided hundreds of trees to the village and school over the last 10 years.

This year the trees will be available for collection outside the Village Hall on **Sunday 10th December**. Time to be confirmed. Simply fill in the form below and give it back to the shop or school office with either cash, a cheque (made out to FOSS) or bank transfer by **Thursday 30^h November**. Please use your surname as reference and email friendsofsparsholt.school@gmail.com when done so we can trace it.

All money raised will go to the school and the shop.

Name: _____

Telephone Number (Mobile & Home if poss) _____

Email address: _____

Premium grade Nordmann Fir (non-drop)	Price per tree	Quantity required	Total amount (£)
3 – 4 ft	£29		
4 – 5 ft	£33		
5 – 6 ft	£39		
6 - 7 ft	£49		
7 – 8 ft	£58		
TOTAL			

FOSS Bank Details: Account name: Friends of Sparsholt Sch

Bank: Santander

Sort code: 090153

Account no: 3535328

SPARSHOLT COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Parish Councillors

Sue Wood	Chair & Transport & Highways	chair@sparsholtparish.org transport@sparsholtparish.org highways@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776255
Mark Himbury	Memorial Hall	memorialhall@sparsholtparish.org	07956 371433
John Cooper	Footpaths & Ham Green	footpaths@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776753
Lynne Gibson	Councillor	councillor@sparsholtparish.org	07771 606974
John Little	Deputy Chair & Communications	deputy@sparsholtparish.org communications@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776249
Andrew Osmond	Security	security@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776197
Nigel Reid	Sparsholt Shop	shop@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776244
Jonathan Walthoe	Councillor	councillor2@sparsholtparish.org	07752 390536
David Brown	Playground	playground@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776182
Nicola Breen	Clerk	clerk@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776909 07714614662

City Councillors

Caroline Horrill	CHorrill@winchester.gov.uk	01962 776844
Stephen Godfrey	sgodfrey@winchester.gov.uk	01962 884477
Patrick Cunningham	pcunningham@winchester.gov.uk	01962 883887

County Councillor

Jan Warwick	jan.warwick@hants.gov.uk	07717104236
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Member of Parliament

Steve Brine	steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk www.stevebrine.com	0207 219 7189
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SPARSHOLT COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP

Contact email address for volunteers and requests for support - supportgroup@sparsholtparish.org

Police Contacts

PCSO 15075 Michelle Wilkinson – 07901102292
PCSO 13466 Kerry Croutear – 07976962677
PC 28364 Victoria McCallum – 07795454351
The Winchester Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team email address is winchester.rural.police@hamphire.police.uk

WEBSITES

Sparsholt Parish: <http://www.sparsholtparish.org/>
Sparsholt Shop: http://www.sparsholtparish.org/Our_Shop_Downs_Benefice: <http://www.downsbefice.org/>

VILLAGE CALENDAR

The Calendar can be viewed at:
<http://www.sparsholtparish.org/Calendar>
Please send updates to:
sparsholt.newsletter@sparsholtparish.org

Ham Green Conservation Group

Malcolm Hewson malcolmhewson@btinternet.com

Sparsholt Oil Syndicate

John Wesley johnr.wesley@btinternet.com

Neighbourhood Watch

Sparsholt Neighbourhood Watch coordinator is Andrew Osmond. Please contact: security@sparsholtparish.org

Aluminium Recycling Bin

Bin is located by the side of the shop behind the phone box.

New to Sparsholt or if you have a New Neighbour

If you are new to Sparsholt or have a new neighbour, please let Sally Wesley know so that a Sparsholt Welcome booklet can be delivered sally.wesley@btinternet.com

Copy Deadline next Edition

This is your newsletter so please contribute items of interest, news of events, offers to help and/or photographs. The deadline for the next edition is **1st December 2023** please submit all items to sparsholt.newsletter@sparsholtparish.org