

Sparsholt Community Newsletter

Wishing everyone a Happy New Year



Pictures by Howard Annesley

Shop and Post Office

Wishing all the Sparsholt community a very Happy New Year from the shop!

New Shop Community Members

We would like to start the new year by introducing a few new members of the shop committee. Katie Simpson, Katy Cobbold, Tracey Welbourne and I, Ceri Baber, joined the committee last year. We have all joined in the hope that we can take some of the workload off a few very dedicated members of our community that have worked tirelessly over a long period to help make the shop what it is. We would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the whole village, to say a big thank you for all that they have done, in particular, Victoria Williams and Roger Young, although there are others besides. We would also like to say that we appreciate them all still being involved but hope that we can ease their load

The shop provided such a lifeline during Covid to so many of our community. A welcome benefit was that they managed to keep the finances healthy. Sadly, we have seen a drop in sales since and we would very much like to do them and all their hard work proud by increasing sales again. We have a few ideas up our sleeves and are also going to hold some fundraising events to raise some much-needed funds. And of course, we hope that everyone will have lots of fun in doing so.

The first of which is 'Race Night', not been held for many years but back by popular demand, on Friday March 3rd. Please see the flyer attached to the newsletter for all the details and hurry along to buy your ticket and lucky horse!

The second is a village party, hosted by the shop, to celebrate the King's coronation. The date for your diaries is Sunday 7th March. More details to follow.

We would also like to have a bit of a push in getting some new faces involved. We are always looking for volunteers to serve in the shop, it is a fun thing to do, and you will certainly get to know your neighbours! Whether you can find a regular slot for a few hours or just step in to help if someone is ill or away, we would hugely appreciate it. If you would like to discuss this, please do see Janette at the shop or email her on sparsholtvs@gmail.com

Cakes and Sandwiches

We are also going to reintroduce the homemade cakes and sandwiches. Some of you will remember that pre covid there was a merry band of villagers who made homemade goodies to be sold at the shop. They were delicious and very popular bringing in locals, those working in the area, delivery people and cyclists. They really put the shop on the map. People left happy and often with extra items. It is also worth noting that they are high margin items. They make a BIG difference to the shop finances. We would like to get as many people involved as possible meaning it doesn't become too onerous on any individual.

For cakes we are aiming for at least 12 bakers, meaning you would be on the cake rota for 4 or 5 weeks of the year (dotted throughout the year to suit). They can be whole cakes, cup-cakes, tray bakes, muffins etc – whatever works for you.

For sandwiches we are looking for at least 10 makers, (whatever flavour you fancy although to be coordinated) to be in a rota in which you make two sandwiches a day and one week on followed by one week off.

If you feel you might be able to be on either of these two rota's or be on a list to step in to cover if needed, then please contact me to discuss, no obligation. Ceri Baber 07809 111 411.

On another note let's try and tempt you in to the shop.....are you giving up meat for January, trying out dry January or even Veganuary. If you have had enough after all the Christmas cooking and excesses how about coming into the shop to pick up the ingredients for an oh so easy and healthy Creamy Cauliflower, spinach and Pea Korma. Add some rice, Sparsholt shop Mango chutney and the children are going to love the mini poppadoms (and may not even notice that 3 of their 5 a day are in the curry). Pair it with some zingy Elderflower cordial or Lemon Sanpellegrino.

Find the recipe at the shop and all ingredients.



A night at the Races

A Night at the Races sponsored by Alfred Homes

Sparsholt Village Shop are hosting a Night at the Races to raise some much needed funds to keep the shop going.

DATE: Friday 3rd March 2023

TIME: Doors open at 7pm, first race at 7.30pm

TICKETS: £15 per person to include a delicious two course supper, a cash bar, the chance to win on the tote and a whip cracking time! You could even book a table of eight for friends or business contacts.

There will be eight pre recorded races shown during the evening. Guests can place bets on the race prior to it starting (a tote based system).

People can "buy" horses in advance for £10 - they can choose the horse name. If your horse wins, you win a prize. If you can't attend the event you can still support the shop by buying a horse.

Tickets available now in the shop. Cash and card accepted.



Sparsholt Village Shop Presents

A NIGHT AT THE RACES

SPONSORED BY ALFRED HOMES

TICKETS AND HORSES ON SALE IN THE SHOP

3RD MARCH 2023 - DOORS OPEN 7:00 PM, 1ST RACE 7:30PM
SPARSHOLT MEMORIAL HALL

TICKETS £15 PER HEAD TO INCLUDE 2 COURSE DINNER, CASH BAR, A CHANCE TO WIN ON THE TOTE AND A WHIP CRACKING TIME!

Sparsholt Music



Planning the programme for the Spring concert is well underway and we are delighted to announce that we will have a piano trio for the first time. Tim Morris will be playing in three Frank Bridge miniatures as part of the Morris-Scott trio. We are also welcoming back Claudio Bollani with the dazzling third movement of Weber's Grand Duo Concertant on the clarinet. Mark will be performing Chopin's wonderful Ballade No.3 and Ed Slot will return to with a Chopin Etude. Ashton will entertain us with Rondena from Albeniz's Iberia. Fiona will sing a few solos including an item from Handel's Messiah.

The concert will be on 16th April at 3pm in the Sparsholt village hall. Tickets, which include tea and cake, are now £10 and will be available via the website or the village shop from 24th March.



Thank you to all the performers, helpers and audience for their contribution towards our last concert. This was our first Christmas concert and included classical showpieces, seasonal favourites and carols for all. Everyone seemed to really enjoy the event. As usual, the cakes were delicious! Profits were over £500 and have been distributed to village funds.

www.sparsholtmusic.org

Parish Council

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting is on **19th January 2023** at 7.30pm.

Council meetings will take place in the Mosaic Room at the Memorial Hall Sparsholt.

Sparsholt 100 Club

Your local lottery – supporting a good cause

The Sparsholt 100 Club **Christmas Draw** was held at the Memorial Hall on 17th December 2023 with the kind permission of Fiona and Mark Zarb-Adami on the occasion of their splendid Sparsholt Music Concert.

First prize of £200 was won by Anne Fairey.

The three Second prizes of £50 went to Ian Eggers, Ceri Baber and John Little.

The 100 Club has 62 members, and we now need your help to reach our target of 100.

If you haven't yet joined, please contact Ian Hay, Membership Secretary, whose details are below. More members will allow us to increase the prize money!

By joining you will help to raise much needed funds to keep our beautiful 12th century church open and well maintained as well as increasing the prizes. The monthly subscription is £10 and will enter you into our quarterly prize draw. You must be 18 or over to join.

Please contact our Membership Secretary, Ian Hay at hay588@btinternet.com or telephone him on 01962 776468.

Every member counts



The Sparsholt 100 Club is a lottery registered with Winchester City Council and organised through Sparsholt Parochial Church Council and The Friends of St. Stephen's Church for residents in and local to Sparsholt.

HAMPSHIRE

Important Highways Update

From Executive Member Cllr Nick Adams-King:

"I wanted to update you on the highways situation currently

You will no doubt be aware that the weather we are currently experiencing is having a significant impact on frontline highway operations and road repairs at the moment. Rainfall through the Autumn, followed by the prolonged cold snap in December, followed by more heavy rain has resulted in the joint challenges of localised flooding and a significant increase in the number of reported potholes. Flooding issues have been worsened by the late leaf-fall creating blockages in gullies and drains that the team had previously cleared.

We are temporarily re-deploying technical staff from our Engineering and Operation Resilience teams to assist on the frontline, to help ensure we are responding as quickly as we can but at times demand is still outstripping our capacity to respond. The Hampshire situation is not unique and other highway authorities are seeing similar challenges. Seasonal staff sickness is also having an impact.

In some locations, and primarily to ensure the road network remains safe, you will see temporary infill repairs to potholes. These are, deliberately, quick fixes and it is recognised that they may not last with some potentially needing to be repaired again. Where possible the highways team will endeavour to do permanent repairs, but this will depend on service demand at the time. The priority continues to be safety. Inevitably though, operating in this way will create a tail in the work programme so it may be many weeks before highways can return to business-as-usual operations, and I would therefore ask for your patience while we remain in emergency conditions.

Reporting issues on the Highways Portal remains the best way to alert the team to any issues. The various links are at the bottom of this note. Please do not worry about reporting duplicate issues, better we know about things twice than not at all, and particularly where a repair breaks down.

Links to report road issues are here:

Potholes:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/potholes>

Tree/hedge problems:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/treehedge>

Flooding/drainage issues:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/flooding>

Pavement problems:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/paving>

Problems with rights of way:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/rightsofway/reportaproblem>

Would you like to create a mini forest in your community?



**HAMPSHIRE
FOREST
PARTNERSHIP**
a legacy in leaves

The Hampshire Forest Partnership would like to support the creation of mini forests in suitable places across Hampshire. Also called a Miyawaki forest, they are created using a planting technique that can quickly establish an entire forest ecosystem, just at the mini scale, usually about the size of a tennis court. This technique is particularly suited to urban or semi-urban settings where there is a lack of space for larger woodlands.

What is a Miyawaki Forest?

Miyawaki forests are fascinating complex ecosystems. Named after the inventor of the technique Japanese botanist Dr Akira Miyawaki. Dr Miyawaki received the 2006 Blue Planet Prize for this work, which is the equivalent of a Nobel Prize in ecology. The method involves careful soil preparation and enrichment with densely planted (up to 5 trees per square metre) native woodland plants that are beneficial to wildlife, on an area usually around the size of a tennis court.

Using the Miyawaki methodology, native urban forest ecosystems can be created much quicker than traditional woodland creation methods – the trees grow up to ten times faster (up to one metre growth per year). The method takes its inspiration directly from processes and diversity in nature: 15 to 30 different species of trees and shrubs are planted together. This plant community works very well together, perfectly adapted to local weather conditions. The habitat thus created will get more complex over time and attract much

biodiversity. In fact surveys have shown higher biodiversity in Miyawaki forests than in conventionally grown woodlands. The vegetation is denser and it has the structure of a mature natural forest. It is a multi-storey structure, where different levels of vegetation appear. The forest thus structured delivers many benefits in the form of ecosystem services. It will also absorb more carbon than conventional woodland planting schemes over the same area. It would take about 200 years to let a forest recover on its own. With the Miyawaki method a similar result is achieved in 20 years.

Why plant a Miyawaki Forest?

- improved biodiversity in urban or suburban locations
- improved residents' wellbeing and health
- engagement with wider environmental projects and issues
- reduced flooding and improved air quality
- Mitigates heat island effect from climate change by cooling the air
- carbon sequestration and storage from the atmosphere
- creates a more beautiful urban landscape
- a fantastic learning opportunity about wildlife, trees and biodiversity

Find out more

Contact us at treeplanting@hants.gov.uk

Would you like to plant a Miyawaki Forest in your local area?

We want to support the creation of these fantastic fast growing ecosystems across the county. We are looking for community groups and organisations to partner with us to achieve this, and have launched the Community Miyawaki Forest project.

For this project, the Hampshire Forest Partnership will provide:

- Funding for preparation and installation of a Miyawaki Forest including:
 - Ground preparation and addition of soil improvers
 - Mix of suitable native tree whips
 - Fencing and gate installation
 - Interpretation panel
 - Support with Forest design and organisation of installation, including liaison with contractors

We would like the partner groups to provide:

- Site suitability assessment based on the criteria below
- Survey of tree and hedge species in the local area around site
- Ongoing communication with the local community about the project
- Ongoing maintenance of the site (via Landowner agreement)
- Community volunteers to help plant tree whips
- Removal of the gate and fencing once trees have established (2-3 years)

We can't just plant the Miyawaki Forests anywhere, so we have outlined this set of criteria to help you identify a suitable site:

Essential

- Needs to be in Hampshire County Council local authority area.
- Needs to be located in an urban or semi-urban area. I.e. town, village setting or an area that can be proved to have a social benefit and provide ecosystem services.
- Needs to cover an area no less than approximately 264m² (roughly the size of a tennis court 11m x 24m) for the actual Miyawaki Forest. This area can be of any shape/orientation, but the forest must not be narrower than 4m across at any given point. Paths can also be created through the forest, or an inner glade area.
- Needs to be accessible for large machinery: mini digger needed for soil preparation, plus truck delivery of mulch and other soil supplements
- No underground infrastructure: soil needs to be excavated to 1m depth.
- Need to ensure that no water pipes or gas mains etc. are near to the planting area.
- No overhead infrastructure: trees will grow to 20m+. Needs to be away from overhead power cables, phone lines or large trees (however, trees on the edge of the site can be incorporated into the design).
- Proof of land ownership or permission of the landowner to plant the Forest.

Desirable

- Possible water access point: trees may need watering during first 2 years of establishment, so either a water access point located nearby, or access for a vehicle and water bowser to the site.
- Need a site that is not causing obstruction to people's right of way (the forest becomes very dense and impassable unless a specific pathway is incorporated into the design)
- Site should not be designated as sensitive in any way: SSSI, SINC, Ramsar etc.
- Site should be on an open area (we don't want trees to be removed to plant new ones!), some scrub or low vegetation is fine, as are trees on the edge of the proposed site
- The forest should be as compact as possible and is not suitable for using as hedging. Paths and an open classroom/area can be included into the design. The forest is fenced at least for the first 3 years with access through an open gate.

To apply, please complete and return the application form to treeplanting@hants.gov.uk

Terms and Conditions

We are initially looking to support 5 Miyawaki Forests as the first pilot projects. We hope to then open the scheme out to further applications subsequently. Applications will be judged by their ability to meet the criteria, and the Council's decision is

final. The Council reserves the right to cancel any proposed project if it is felt the group or site cannot meet the criteria set.

Sponsoring a Miyawaki Forest

If you are a business, group or individual and would like to sponsor a Miyawaki Forest creation project, please get in touch as this will enable us to support more of these fantastic mini forests in Hampshire. It may be possible to sponsor a Miyawaki forest locally to your business or group if there is a suitable site identified. We can supply a plaque or add your business logo to our interpretation panel to show your sponsorship support. We will also list our funding partners on our website when we launch this. Please contact treeplanting@hants.gov.uk for further information.

For more information please contact treeplanting@hants.gov.uk

Fraud, Scams & Nuisance



Update from the Force Crime Prevention Team . Visit www.hampshire.police.co.uk

SCAMnesty Campaign



Every year Friends Against Scams run a SCAMnesty campaign.

They have a Freepost mailbox where you can send any scam mail you've received free of charge to help with their investigations.

Send mail (no need for a stamp) to:
NTSST, FREEPOST, MAILMARSHALS

StreetSafe Reporting Tool



[StreetSafe](#) is a service for anyone to anonymously tell us about public places where you have felt or feel unsafe e.g. perhaps due to environmental issues such as poor street lighting, abandoned buildings or vandalism. Please note: 'StreetSafe' is not for reporting crime or incidents.

For more information visit [StreetSafe | Police.uk](https://www.police.uk/pu/notices/streetsafe/street-safe/)

Winchester

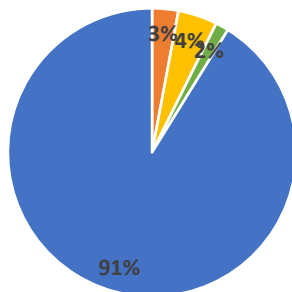
BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN UPDATE DECEMBER 2022

Achieved our target of completing 80% of actions and therefore delivered work which benefits biodiversity and helps deliver the Carbon Neutrality Action Plan.

Some of our key achievements in 2022:

- Produced a Technical Advice Note on Biodiversity Net Gain Resolved two Hedgerow Regulation 1997 breaches Completed the establishment phase at Top Field and produced a draft management plan
- Continued the pilot verge project and updated the Health and Environment Policy Committee on progress
- Created habitat for the Striped Lychnis moth at Chilcomb Recreation Ground
- Updated the management plan for St Giles
- Produced the Tree strategy 2022

BAP ACTIONS 2022



- Not yet started/delayed
- Progressing
- Progressing well
- Completed

Reporting a Business Crime to Police



Do you know what to do if you or your staff become a victim of crime at work? The National Business Crime Centre have put together a handy guide to help you report a business crime to the police: [How to report a Business Crime \(nbcc.police.uk\)](https://nbcc.police.uk)

Counter Terrorism Advice



Heading out to watch the game? Security is a team effort. When you're out and about, be aware of your surroundings. Report anything that doesn't feel right to security, the police or [Report terrorist or extremist content online – Action Counters Terrorism](https://act.campaign.gov.uk) In an emergency call 999.

Website: <https://act.campaign.gov.uk/>

Are you, or someone you know at risk of Domestic Abuse?

Clare's Law is the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme which allows you to ask about the information police hold on a person in relation to domestic abuse offences and convictions so you can assess if they pose any risk.

For more information on Clare's Law visit the Hampshire & IOW Police website at <https://www.hampshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/daa/domestic-abuse/alpha2/request-information-under-clares-law/>

"Hi Mum/Dad..." Scam Alert



STOP. THINK. CALL.

If a family member or friend makes an unusual request via WhatsApp or text, always call the person to confirm their identity (try their usual mobile number or landline first).

Cyber Aware

Have you received a new device for Christmas? Make sure you choose 2-Step Verification when setting it up, and use three random unrelated words for your password.

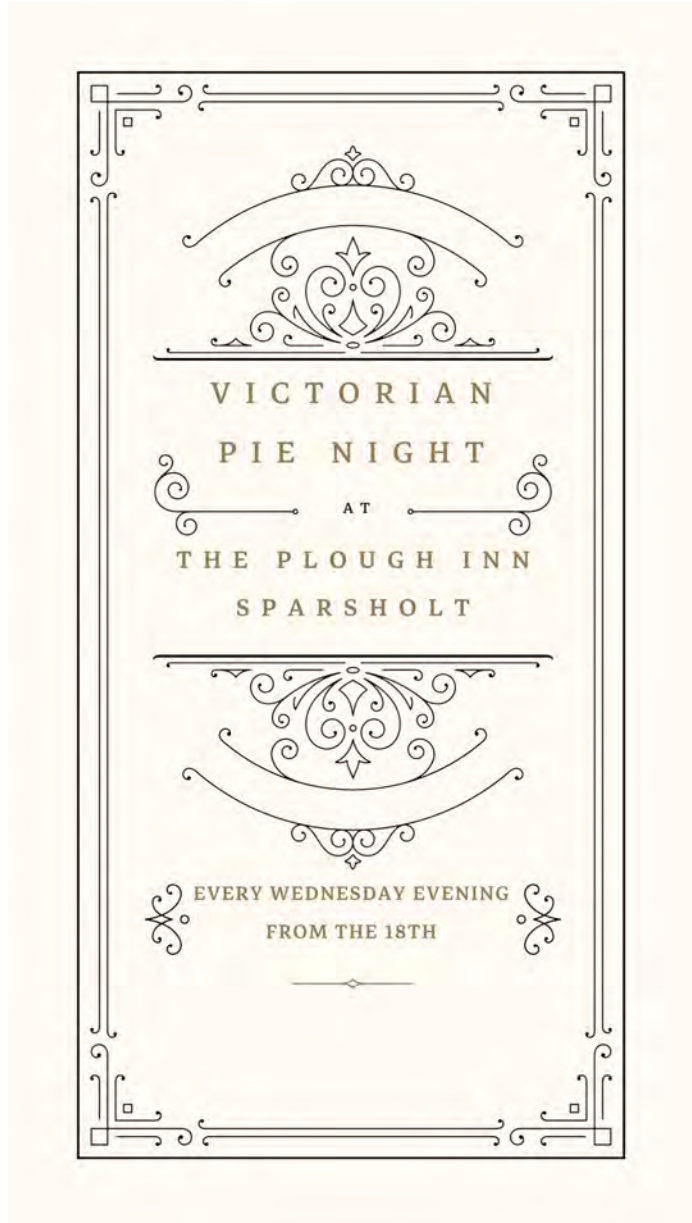
Find out more at: www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberaware/home



The Plough Inn

From 18th January 2023 The Plough Inn are organising a weekly Victorian pie night on Wednesday evening:

Suet steak and kidney pudding, two other pie options and a classic pudding.



SPARSHOLT COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Parish Councillors

Sue Wood	Chair & Transport	chair@sparsholtparish.org transport@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776255
vacancy	Highways & Memorial Hall	highways@sparsholtparish.org memorialhall@sparsholtparish.org	
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
vacancy	Councillor	councillor2@sparsholtparish.org	
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@hampshire.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

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 for February 2022 Edition

This is your newsletter so please contribute items of interest, news of events, offers to help and/or photographs. The deadline for the February 2022 edition is **27th January 2023** please submit all items to sparsholt.newsletter@sparsholtparish.org