

Sparsholt Community Newsletter

Village Events

The start of a new year and, the Village Events Calendar is already filling up with even more dates for your diaries, although these may change as the year progresses!

Events in January 2022

Saturday 1 – New Years Day

Sunday 2 – St Stephens Patronal Festival

Monday 3 – Bank Holiday

Tuesday 4 – School Spring Term starts

Saturday 8 – HG Volunteers Work Day (CANCELLED)

Thursday 20 – Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 25 – Burns Night

Monday 31 – School Inset Day

Further Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 1 February – Chinese New Year

Sunday 6 February – HG Volunteers Work Day

Saturday 12 February – “Messy Church” at Littleton (TBC)

Sunday 13 February – Music Concert

Monday 14 February – St Valentines Day

Thursday 17 February – Parish Council Meeting

Friday 18 February – School breaks for Half Term

Monday 28 February – School restarts after Half Term

Tuesday 1 March – St Davids Day

Tuesday 1 March – Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day)

Wednesday 2 March – Ash Wednesday

Thursday 17 March – St Patricks Day

Sunday 20 March – Spring Equinox (Summer is coming!!)

Saturday 26 March – Village Spring Clean-up

Sunday 27 March – Mothering Sunday

Sunday 27 March – Summer Time starts (clocks FORWARD 1 hour)

Sparsholt Music

Very sadly the December concert had to be cancelled at the last minute due to too many performers having Covid.

The next concert will be on Sunday 13th February at 3pm. Several of the items from the December concert will be performed in February. It should be a super afternoon!

We will hold the raffle then too.

A big thank you to everyone who has kept their tickets for February. There will only be a handful of tickets available from Monday 24th January.

We very much look forward to seeing everyone there.

Useful Links

The Calendar is frequently updated and can be viewed at:

<http://www.sparsholtparish.org/Calendar>

Please let us know if you are planning an event by sending in the details, using the link below:

sparsholt.newsletter@sparsholtparish.org

St Stephen's Church

Sparsholt PCC thank all those who attended the Carol Service, Crib Service, Midnight Mass and Christmas Day Service in December and wish everyone in the village a very Happy & Healthy New Year.

We are delighted to welcome Tonia Sales as our new Churchwarden who replaces Alastair Barron.

Church Services

Church Services at St. Stephen's in January and February 2022 are as follows:

23rd January 10.00am Morning Worship

20th February 8.00am Holy Communion

27th February 10.00am Morning Worship

Parish Council

Climate Change - Food for thought!

In this festive season of wall to wall marketing by the supermarkets tempting us to over indulge at the dinner table it's perhaps appropriate to consider for a second the effects of food waste on the environment.

In the context of the climate emergency, WRAP produced a report which stated that interventions aimed at reducing food waste in the UK had the potential to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 210,000 tonnes a year! On top of this, there are also a bunch of other benefits:

Supporting those in need

Interventions to reduce food-waste can include the re-distribution of surplus food from businesses and households to people in need, helping poorer families in the UK get access to nutritious food and reduce food poverty.

Financial savings

By reducing food waste, households can save money, as well as protect the environment. The Love Food Hate Waste campaign estimates that an average family of four can save just over £60/month by reducing their food waste!

On a wider scale, reducing food waste will have benefits for our macro economy as well. Food waste is costly for businesses producing, distributing and selling food, as well as for local governments collecting and treating food waste. In a 2015 report, WRAP estimates that the potential annual UK net benefits of reducing food waste were around £200 million in savings!

Environmental and ecological benefits

A lot of land is used to produce the food we needlessly waste; intensive farming can lead to destruction of habitats having a severe impact on our planet's biodiversity. Combined with a shift away from a predominantly meat-based diet, efforts to reduce food waste could lead to more sustainable food production enabling a reduction in the amount of land being used globally for food production. This would have a knock-on positive impact of protecting our global biodiversity and ecological systems.

From the water being used to produce our food, to the pollution it can cause in our rivers, and seas, the food industry is having a huge impact on our global water systems. The UN projections are that global demand for fresh water will exceed supply by 40% in 2030 and 86% of UK rivers currently do not meet good ecological standards!

The message is clear, shop for locally produced food, where possible, don't buy more than you need, and remember left overs can be turned into tasty and nutritious meals!

John Cooper

Chair of the Parish Council Subcommittee on Climate Change

Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting

An extraordinary meeting of the parish council took place on 30th December in the Memorial Hall to discuss the change of use applications made by Alfred Homes for the Church Farm Lower Barns. The parish council's responses can be viewed directly on the Winchester City Council website once they have been posted by WCC.

Plans for an office...

<https://planningapps.winchester.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=R2S0F0BP0WW00&activeTab=summary>

Plans for residential...

<https://planningapps.winchester.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=R2Y0LWBP0WW00&activeTab=summary>

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting is on **Thursday 20th January 2021** at 7.30pm.

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

Neighbourhood Watch

Happy New Year, and welcome to our first newsletter of 2022 for Neighbourhood Watch supporters

<https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/sites/default/files/documents/2022-01/Jan%202022%20OUR%20NEWS.pdf>

Ham Green

The December Work Day

The December Work Day was spent on the clearing of areas further along the bridleway, including the area where tree T27 was felled. Here, there was a lot of heavy timber still to be cut up and stacked, plus brash (small branches) to be broken up and burnt. A start was also made on coppicing some of the many Hazel stools in this area, to gather sticks for bench mending and fence building.

Replanting Trees

The replanting of the 15 new trees in the Phase 1 Ash Dieback area was completed in December. We decided to replant with smaller species of trees, which will produce more food and fruit for the HG wildlife and, we now have some Wild Cherry, Mountain Ash (Rowan) and Crab Apple, together with 2 Whitebeams and a Wild Service tree. Photos of some of the new trees are shown below:

Next HGCG Work Day

The next Work Day is now planned for Sunday 6th February, with the January WD having been cancelled for safety reasons due the muddy conditions underfoot. Then, the work will be to continue the clearing of other areas further along the bridleway, and also to continue with coppicing.

For further details of our Work Programmes, contact terrydunn9@btinternet.com

Ash Die Back

The Phase 2b Ash Dieback felling programme has now been completed and, the felled trees will be cut up, with some stacked to form wildlife piles for insects and small mammals, and some moved to other areas of HG, where they will be turned into new benches.

For the future, we have noted that there are a few more Ash trees in very poor shape, that have not previously been listed for trimming/felling and, these will be monitored throughout the coming months to ensure the safety of HG users.

Waitrose Donation

Finally, some good news for the Group – we have recently received a £500 donation from our local Waitrose store, as part of their “Give a Little Love” scheme, to help improve our local environment. We will be considering how best to use this donation and, quite possibly it could be used to buy more trees, to replant in the areas of HG where Phase 2 of the Ash Dieback felling has recently been completed.



SPARSHOLT COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Parish Councillors

Sue Wood	Chair & Transport	chair@sparsholtparish.org transport@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776255
Sue Annesley	Highways & Memorial Hall	highways@sparsholtparish.org memorialhall@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776653
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
Sue Wakefield	Playground	playground@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776288
David Brown	Councillor	councillor2@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

WEBSITES

Sparsholt Parish: <http://www.sparsholtparish.org/>

Sparsholt Shop: http://www.sparsholtparish.org/Our_Shop

Downs Benefice: <http://www.downsbenefice.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 **21st January 2022** please submit all items to sparsholt.newsletter@sparsholtparish.org