



Great Crested Grebe, Goldfinch, Buzzard and Male Stonechat (Peter Hyde)

Share your pet or Hamble photos for us to include in future newsletters! Send them to us via Facebook, or email them to danielle@smartmarketinguk.com

WELCOME TO YOUR LATEST NEWSLETTER!

A belated Happy New Year from the Councillors and Parish Council Team.

With February now underway, Christmas feels like a distant memory. However, amid the hustle and bustle of the festive season, on behalf of the Council and Hamble residents, I would like to express our gratitude to several groups in our community:

- The organisers of Carols in the Square: The new team of volunteers did a stellar job of bringing the community together for our wonderful annual Hamble tradition.
- The team who organised the Christmas trail around Hamble: It was great to see the lights around the village, and particularly around Spitfire Way and the Mercury Hub.
- The wonderful team of volunteers at the Priory Centre who hosted a traditional Christmas Day lunch for Hamble residents: To dedicate your time and energies on Christmas Day to give others in the community a happy Christmas in a warm and welcoming environment is a very special act of kindness.

Looking now to the Future of the Airfield: In December, the latest (third) public consultation for the Hamble Airfield quarrying application was carried out, giving residents and statutory consultees another opportunity to share our opinions on the latest documents submitted by Cemex. Thank you to everyone who took the time to send your concerns to Hampshire County Council (HCC). As a result, there are now over 5,000 objections on HCC's planning portal.

We had hoped that the end of this consultation would lead the application to be considered at February's Regulatory Committee meeting – and bring this prolonged process to an end. However, HCC identified that an incorrect drainage document had been uploaded to their planning portal and extended the consultation period so that we could review the correct document. Our planning consultant has now completed this review. He has identified that the new file incorporates a modest redesign of the infiltration features to take account of the 'land form' after restoration. However, the underlying principles and the outcomes are the same in both documents – there is no material difference.

Disappointingly, due to this extension, the earliest date we can now expect the Regulatory Committee meeting to be held is March 2024. We'll update you in next month's newsletter. In the meantime, please keep an eye on our social media feeds and on noticeboards throughout the village.

Finally, we said goodbye to three long-standing members of the Parish Council team at the end of 2023 – Councillor Sheelagh Cohen, Richard Clarke, our Estates Team Leader and Lisa Bradbury-Knight, our Operations Manager. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sheelagh for her leadership, commitment and service to Hamble over many years; and, to thank both Richard and Lisa for their hard work and dedication. We wish them all the very best for the future.

Chris Jones,
Chair

PARISH COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

☎ 023 8045 3422 🌐 hambleparishcouncil.gov.uk ✉ clerk@hambleparishcouncil.gov.uk 📱 @hamblepc

COUNCIL LED NEWS

CHAINSAW TRAINING FOR PARISH COUNCIL GROUNDS TEAM

Our Estates Team recently completed chainsaw training, which they then put to good use when removing the Christmas tree in the Square.



Felling trees with a chainsaw can be one of the most dangerous activities around our village and so it is essential that training is undertaken by the Estates team so that the activity can be carried out by highly skilled and competent operators.

Having in-house trained staff helps us to be more proactive and to maintain the safety of those who live in and visit Hamble.

If you see the guys around, give them a wave of congratulations for passing their training with flying colours!

HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE FUTURE OF YOUR LOCAL SERVICES

Hampshire County Council is currently collecting views on 13 proposals to help meet a £132m budget shortfall by April 2025. These proposals relate to the future of local services in Hampshire. To find out more and to take part visit: <https://bit.ly/3Hv2T75>



Become an on-call firefighter at Hamble

"One minute you could be sat at home, the next you could be on a fire engine with the rest of the crew, on your way to an incident to help make your community safer."

Find out more -
bit.ly/HIWFRSONCall

#OnCallFire #NeedMore
#Hamble
@HantsIOW_Fire

Together We
Make Life Safer



Hampshire
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FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

FORESHORE CAR PARK PERMITS 2024

We still have some 2024 clock permits available for the Foreshore Car Park.

These allow permit-holders 4 hours of free parking, 365 days a year. 250 permits are available on a first come, first serve basis. The annual parking permit charge for 2024 will be £25 – less than 7p per day.

Any changes to the hourly parking charges in The Square will be in line with Eastleigh Borough Council's charges.

To apply for a clock permit, please visit <https://bit.ly/48ICKxz>.



TS MERCURY – THE LAST COLD SNAP



If you thought we had a cold snap in January, take a look at this photo of Training Ship Mercury, most probably in the severe winter of 1962-3.

The Mercury boys slept on the training ship, not ashore. The ship was heated by a coal boiler with pipes going around the ship. Coaling the ship was a regular event which entailed two cadets manhandling large dustbins filled with coke from the coal store ashore to the ship. This involved carrying, unless a wheelbarrow could be found, along several hundred yards of footpath, down the wooden pier and loading them into a cutter to be transferred to the ship.

Over the Christmas leave of 1962-3 the heating pipes on the ship burst and the start of the new term was delayed by a week while plumbers undertook repairs. The TS Mercury boys endured a tough regime!

COUNCIL LED NEWS CONTINUED

WELL LANE PUMP REINSTATED

In August this year it was reported that the pump in Well Lane, which had stood for 17 years, had been knocked down as a result of the bottom of its wooden support post having rotted away.

In 2006 the Parish Council undertook a refurbishment of the Well Lane spur behind Copperhill Terrace as it was overgrown, and rubbish was being dumped there.

The refurbishment included an old pump being installed in the original position, an information board explaining the historical background positioned nearby, a collapsed stone wall reinstated, and the area resurfaced.

Well Lane has been at the centre of the village for centuries and the public village well was located near the end of the spur behind Copperhill Terrace. This was replaced by a pump in the late 1800s. In 1908 it was closed by the Health Authorities as the quality of the water did not meet the required standard. Fortunately, a few years earlier mains water had come to Hamble. It is reputed that the stones used to build the retaining wall along the Well Lane spur, at the rear of Copperhill Terrace, came from Henry VIII's St Andrew's Castle on Hamble Common after it became derelict.

Councillor Underdown repaired the pump with Altin and Mark from the Parish Council's Estates Team, reinstalling it at the end of November. The pump is dated 1776 and is on loan from Hampshire Museum Service. The Parish Council is proud to share the village heritage and add interest to the area for the benefit of its residents and visitors.



RANGER'S REMARKS

Happy New Year, Hamble Habitants.

With all the Christmas festivities and sweet treats now a distant memory, I have finally got over my addiction to chocolate, marshmallows, and biscuits. I won't lie, it was a Rocky Road!

By now all the regular readers of this column will know how passionate I am about the great outdoors and how I try to inspire the residents of Hamble to venture out more and enjoy the sights and sounds of the natural world that is literally on their doorstep.

This month is no exception. I want you all to take time next time you're out and about to have a closer look at something we see every day without giving it a second thought, and that is the unexpectedly weird and beautiful world of lichens.



What is a lichen I hear you ask?

Lichens are non-parasitic and don't harm any plants they grow on. In fact, they're useful to other wildlife, offering nesting material for birds, plus food and shelter to lots of invertebrates – which in turn feed other creatures. Woods rich in lichens support more wildlife than any other. You can see lichen in lots of places – with little blazes of colour cropping up on rocks, walls, twigs, bark and even on exposed soil surfaces. What lichen can you spot on your walk today?

Some of you may be aware that the Parish Council, with the help of Hamble Conservation Volunteers, have been busy managing the woodland of Heather Gardens. This work included the removal of several invasive species of trees and scrubs, and the planting of new trees (native species) has now begun. The reason for this is to increase the variety of native trees within Heather Gardens and to help establish a richer biodiversity. Native plants provide nectar for pollinators including native bees, butterflies, moths, and bats. They provide protective shelter for many mammals. The native nuts, seeds, and fruits produced by these plants offer essential foods for all forms of wildlife.

Until next time.

Mark Cowley, Estates Ranger

COMMUNITY NEWS

HAMBLE GOOD NEIGHBOURS

In December, the Hamble Good Neighbours held their annual Christmas Lunch, funded by The Beryl Rogerson Memorial Fund for residents in the village over 70.

We served a 3-course lunch to 62 residents of Hamble as well as delivering lunch to other housebound residents. This year we chose a fish and chip lunch on the request of many residents who were expecting to enjoy many turkey lunches in the coming weeks and wanted something a little different.

Many of those in attendance said that they enjoyed the companionship of old friends from streets now too far away to walk, and the easygoing nature of the day made this possible.

The Hamble Singers gave us some beautiful tunes to listen to; a mix of traditional Christmas Carols, some more intricate Chamber Choir pieces and a raucous rendition of 12 days of Christmas with full guest participation. They joined us for a very social lunch with wine and desserts followed by mince pies and brandy sauce.

Everyone left with a Christmas gift of Christmas flowers or biscuits, a slice of home-made Christmas cake, courtesy of one of our volunteer drivers, Vicky Hydon, and a little box of handmade chocolates made by the wife of another of our volunteer drivers, a local chocolatier, Mary Fry.

We are extremely grateful for the support of our volunteers, who helped to undertake over 800 journeys transporting Hamble residents to medical appointments in 2023. Without their support, Hamble would be a far more isolated place. We are forever grateful for the time put in by these wonderful individuals.

HAMBLE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

At the Society's February meeting local historian Cheryl Butler is expected to provide a well-illustrated talk about 'Historic Ships of Southampton'.



The talk will include Hamble River's protected wreck Grace Dieu, plus the Mayflower and Titanic – iconic ships associated with Southampton.

Just as significant were the Mignonette that involved cannibalism after being shipwrecked, Sir Thomas Lipton's America Cup yacht, Shamrock, and the Habana that evacuated children from the Spanish civil war to Southampton.

It will be fascinating to hear about Southampton's long maritime history through the prism of the liners, warships, ferries, and yachts that once graced the docks.

This meeting was due to take place on 1 February at 7.30pm, but meetings are held monthly at the Memorial Hall (Rear Hall) and advertised on our website: <https://bit.ly/4277Uwl>.



New members and visitors are always welcomed! Our meeting fee is just £2. If you would like more information please contact our secretary, Margaret Greenfield, 02380 454373.



COMMUNITY NEWS CONTINUED

HAMBLE LADIES GROUP

Firstly, I just want to ring the praises for the Beach Hut in Hamble for the fantastic lunch they gave us for our Christmas celebration. We have been going to the Beach Hut for many years now and they never fail to come up trumps. The food was amazing, good service, and terrific company. What more could we ask for? Well done to Natalie and her team.

We held our AGM in January and the current Committee have all agreed to carry on for another year. A very cold day but we were pleased to see so many members turn up.

Following the AGM, Valerie Archibald gave a talk about the 'Shipwrecks In the Hamble River'. We were surprised that there are so many. Valerie is a member of the Marine Archeology Trust and keeps an eye on the wrecks. The oldest one they have discovered is the 'Holighost', one of Henry V's ships. An 1888 Hamble River Longboat found up near Fairthorne Manor has been dated AD700 (Saxon) and is now in Sea City Museum in Southampton.

Valerie talked about many other wrecks which have been named through research which was very interesting. The feeling is that Hamble River was used as a dumping ground for boats that nobody knew what to do with. The Marine Archeology Trust has all the information should you be interested in finding out more.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 13 February when Judy Theobald is coming along to talk to us about 'Weddings and Other Problems'. Worth coming along to as it will be full of fun.

12 March: Ellen MacArthur Cancer Trust

9 April: Blue Lamp - Bobby Scheme

14 May: Belinda Hayer and her Garden

11 June: Social Afternoon

Our meetings start at 2pm and we meet in the Priory Centre in Hamble. Why not join us?

Bobby Conduit,
023 80 453626

HENVILLE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION: VACANCY FOR CLERK TO THE TRUSTEES

The Henville Educational Foundation was set up by the Rev. Charles Henville in 1848 to promote and assist the education of young people living in Hamble. The Foundation can help individuals or groups with grants for educational purposes.

Any person under the age of 25 who lives in Hamble may apply to the Foundation for financial assistance for their education, provided it is not already available through public funds.

The role of the Clerk is to organize and attend 4 meetings per year (March, June, September, and December), producing an agenda, processing applications received, dealing with associated correspondence, and taking minutes at meetings. There are minimal financial matters to deal with.

The applicant would need to have basic computer skills (a small amount of accounting is required) and most importantly regard to complete confidentiality and discretion in all dealings of the Henville Educational Foundation. A remuneration is paid.

For further information, please telephone Wendy Mason on 07805 940565.

ST ANDREWS CHURCH



It was great to see so many people in St Andrews for the Christmas services. All were very well attended, especially the Christingle service with all the children. Thank you all for coming to help celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Our normal service times are Sundays at 10am and Thursdays at 10am. All are welcome and after the services we meet in the Priory Centre for coffee and a chat.

The Priory Centre is available for private hire for wedding receptions, birthday parties etc. Please see the St Andrews website for more details:
<https://bit.ly/47PSDB0>



COMMUNITY NEWS CONTINUED

HAMBLE-LE-RICE FLOWER CLUB

Hello everyone! I'm Rosie, the current Chairman of this lovely club based in Hamble.

Have you ever looked at a flower arrangement and thought "WOW ...how do they do that?", or even just enjoyed placing flowers into vases around your home? Well, maybe 2024 is the year to come along and find out a bit more, even learn a bit more. As they say, every day is a school day!

We meet on the second Monday each month at Hamble Memorial Hall at 1.30pm and welcome all visitors to our meetings. With the bonus of refreshments available it's a great way of getting to know other like-minded folks and make new friends too.

Over the year we hold demonstrations, practical workshops and occasionally talks, the vast majority of which are based on the art of Flower Arranging. Demonstrations can be from our talented in-house team, national demonstrators, and regional demonstrators. They are always fun and interesting and a great way to pick up new ideas. Graham King was a huge hit, and we are welcoming him back in 2024 for a workshop.

We are affiliated to NAFAS which arranges shows and competitions all over the country that you can participate in or just enjoy looking at the amazing entries.

We have our Facebook group – if you haven't already joined, you can find us at <https://bit.ly/3SvuCLd>. Give us a like and get involved with the posts that we put up. Jeanette often adds links to video posts by other well-known flower schools from around the world which are definitely worth a watch. You can also find us on Instagram. It's very much an exciting time and a leap forward for the Club's social media presence.

April sees the start of our new programme of events – why not get in touch to find out more? You can email us at info.hambleflowerclub@gmail.com for more details.

HAMBLE CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS

We completed our 2023 programme of tasks by helping the Parish Grounds staff clean up the exterior of Hamble Primary School. The school had been without a caretaker for a number of months and there was a need to cut back vegetation and dispose of unwanted material.

We have started 2024 with our usual litter cleans and have continued with the protracted campaign of reducing the amount of bracken on Hamble Common.

Our annual programme of tasks is displayed on our website and noticeboards posted around the Common. Please note that the meeting place for the Parish tasks is at the Roy Underdown Pavilion at SO31 4RN whereas beach cleans and Eastleigh tasks currently meet at the Hamble Point car park while the School Lane car park is unavailable.

If you would like to know more about us, please either visit <https://bit.ly/45FjrDy> or contact Philip Rawlinson: philiprawlinson123@btinternet.com, 07810 453138.



CHAPEL MUSIC SESSIONS

Chapel Sessions Music is a community led, not for profit, occasional music series bringing music from around the world and nearer to home, to the Hamble peninsula at St Edward's Church, Grange Road, Netley and The Chapel, Royal Victoria Country Park for some of our larger concerts.

For almost eleven years our small team of volunteers have organised music concerts in these beautiful buildings, creating a very special atmosphere for our audiences and artists alike.

A warm welcome is assured, and a real ale bar and real coffee await. Extra volunteers are encouraged to help with set up and take down, hospitality and spreading the word in the community, so come to a concert and then consider being part of our small team.

For more information on our upcoming concerts, please follow us on Facebook: <https://bit.ly/42cR8Mn>





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COMMUNITY NEWS

MERCURY HUB

A very happy and healthy New Year to everyone from all the volunteers at The Hub. We have gone from strength to strength in the last year; our membership numbers continue to rise, and we have been able to offer a lot more to our community.

We are very pleased to say we hosted four coffee mornings throughout the year for Hound Food Bank, Wet Wheels, Mountbatten Hospice, and The IOW Air Ambulance, all of which were very well attended. People were very generous with their donations, so thank you everyone. We will be doing the same this year and look forward to receiving support from you.

Our free children's crafting sessions in August and December were a huge success and many delightful creations were made, fun was had by all, and a very happy Jasper won the day for the number of pom poms on his collar. Look out for the dates of the next session. These, coupled with Shirley's ever popular storytelling sessions make The Hub a happy place for children to visit.



Please note our new Wednesday afternoon opening hours, which are from 2pm to 4pm. Unfortunately, Roy is unable to be present at these sessions for his free IT advice so we would like to say a huge thank you to him for giving up his time and helping so many people.

As always, we look forward to welcoming new and current visitors. Keep an eye on our Facebook page as well as local noticeboards where we advertise upcoming events – you won't be disappointed.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTION DEADLINES

March: Monday 19 February
April: Monday 18 March

Would you like to contribute or advertise in the newsletter? Please get in touch by emailing danielle@smartmarketinguk.com



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COMMUNITY NEWS CONTINUED

HAMBLE PLAYERS

Our panto was a roaring success with accolades galore and capacity audiences, so you won't want to miss our 2024 season!

Rehearsals are now underway for 'The Exorcism' by Don Taylor to be performed from Tuesday 19 March until Saturday 23 March, directed by Ollie Barnet. Dan and Margaret have come to spend Christmas with Rachel and Edmund in their renovated 17th Century cottage. Later, as Rachel plays the piano, she suddenly gets a sinister feeling of déjà vu. Shortly afterwards the electricity fails and the phone cuts out too! Tickets are now available and can be purchased either by phoning the Box Office on 02380 440660 or via <https://bit.ly/3HCvuY5>.

Our website, hambleplayers.co.uk, is full of information should you wish to contact us or find out more. With four productions planned for 2024 there is a lot to do behind the scenes. If you do not wish to tread the boards but are handy with a needle, a saw, using sound equipment, or even making the tea, you would be very welcome.

We have also launched our first Facebook Teaser for 'The Exorcism'. It's the one about us starting a YouTube TV channel called HPTV. You'll find it on our HP Facebook page as well as other local pages. Be sure to take a peek! <https://bit.ly/3OCSMRV>

UPCOMING DATES

Upcoming Parish Council Meetings at the Roy Underdown Pavilion

Asset Management Committee

Monday 5 February
7pm

Full Council

Monday 12 February
7pm

Planning Committee

Monday 26 February
7pm

February Half Term 12 – 16 February

Trainmaster Southampton 12 February 10.30am – 4pm

At Royal Victoria Country Park.
Tickets from £7.

Walk and Talk 28 February 10.30am

Meet at The Mercury Library.

Ladies Luncheon 16 February 1pm – 3pm

At River Rat Bar & Kitchen.



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Offer valid until 29th February 2024 with this advert. The cheapest of any two main course meals will be free. Not valid in conjunction with any other offer. Advanced booking only.

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