



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 rather belated Happy New Year to you all! There's plenty happening in Hamble this year, and much to look forward to in the coming months.

Looking back to the end of 2024, I'd like to thank everyone who contributed to making Hamble such a wonderful place to celebrate Christmas. Carols in the Square on Christmas Eve was a particular highlight – it was fantastic to see the community come together, singing in great voice and enjoying the festive spirit. A special mention goes to our new vicar, Hayley, who led the celebrations so beautifully, as well as to all the volunteers and organisers who worked so hard to make the evening a success.

Turning to a more serious matter, many of you will be aware that Cemex has appealed Hampshire County Council's decision to reject the Hamble Airfield quarrying application. This appeal will now be decided at a Planning Inquiry in April. The Parish Council has joined forces with Hamble Peninsular Residents' Group to form the Hamble Peninsular Defence Group, and it is this group which has been registered as a 'Rule 6' party to represent the village formally at the Inquiry. A solicitor, barrister, and expert consultants have been appointed to prepare our case. While these preparatory activities are ongoing there is not too much to share, but as we approach the Inquiry date (1-2 April) keep an eye on our website, social media,

noticeboards, and the March newsletter for more information.

In brighter news, the Council is delighted to share that we received two awards at the HALC (Hampshire Association of Local Councils) AGM. The first of these awards was for Best Use of Social Media and showcased the Council's diverse and engaging social media output. We were also named runner-up in the Council of the Year award, an award which recognises the work undertaken by the Council – including members and staff, past and present – in relation to the Hamble Airfield quarrying application. Special thanks and congratulations go to Councillor Michelle Nicholson, who leads the Communications Working Group.

Finally, we are expecting the new Play Area at Mount Pleasant to be installed from Monday 3 February. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this process by giving us feedback on what you wanted to see in the playground. Page 4 gives you a sneak peek of what this new area will look like. There is likely to be some disruption to parking during this period, and we thank you in advance for your patience.

Chris Jones,
Chair

PARISH COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

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

DINGHY PARK STORAGE 2025

2025 Dinghy Park permits are now on sale. The cost this year is £215, and all applications must be made online, with priority given to Hamble residents.



<https://hambleparishcouncil.gov.uk/dinghy-storage/>

If you currently have a space, please reapply as soon as possible. We will endeavour to keep you in the dinghy park and in the same spot, but we cannot guarantee permits. If you have any questions about this service, please contact the Parish Office.

THANK YOU TO OUR TREE DECORATORS!

Hamble Parish Council would like to thank all the young people who contributed to decorating the Christmas tree in the Square this year. Your handmade decorations brought a unique and personal touch to the tree, which looked truly splendid at the Carol Service on Christmas Eve.

The tree was a wonderful focal point for the community, and its charm was enhanced by your creativity and hard work. Thank you for helping to make this a special part of our village's festive celebrations. Your efforts were greatly appreciated by all who attended.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR HAMBLE LIVING CHRISTMAS TREE INITIATIVE

Hamble Parish Council would like to extend its thanks to everyone who has shown an interest or taken part in our new Hamble Living Christmas Tree initiative. This service, which we'll be running every year, offers the community a sustainable and cost-effective alternative to traditional Christmas trees by enabling rooted trees to be planted, stored, and reused at Hamble allotments.

Your support has been vital in helping us launch this initiative, and we're excited to see it grow in the years ahead. Together, we hope to create a thriving "forest" of Christmas trees that will benefit the environment and add to the community spirit of Hamble. Thank you for being part of our new project!

JOIN US IN CREATING A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR HAMBLE!

We're looking for a new councillor to help us make Hamble an even better place to live, work, and visit.

As a Councillor, you'll play a vital role in key decision-making, drive positive initiatives, and ensure the voices of our residents are heard. This is a unique opportunity to turn your ideas into meaningful action and contribute to the future of our community.

This voluntary role requires a minimum commitment of 5 hours per month, with opportunities for further involvement depending on your passion and availability.

If you're interested and feel you could make a difference, please visit <https://bit.ly/councillorvacancy> to learn more, and to download an application form.



Application deadline: Thursday 6 February 2025

FORESHORE CLOCK PERMITS

Each year the Council sells permits for the Foreshore Car Park which allow permit holders 4 hours of free parking, 365 days a year. 200 permits are available on a first come, first serve basis. The annual parking permit charge for 2025 is £25 – less than 7p per day.

The Parking permits are now on sale online at <https://bit.ly/48ICKxz> and are available to collect from the Parish Office. Unfortunately, we are unable to post permits. The office is open on Tuesday and Friday, from 9am to 1pm, and Wednesday and Thursday from noon to 5pm. Please use the Memorial Hall front door when visiting the office.



HAMBLE AIRFIELD QUARRYING UPDATE: CEMEX APPEAL

As you may now be aware, Cemex has appealed Hampshire County Council's (HCC) decision to reject the quarrying application for Hamble Airfield. This means that a Planning Inquiry will now be held, where a planning inspector will decide whether the objections raised by HCC are valid or can be overcome, and whether the quarry will go ahead.

This is now a legal process that is set out in government guidance – you can find out more here: <https://bit.ly/40pB0Xa>. To manage this process, Hamble Parish Council and Hamble Peninsular Residents' Group (HPC and HPRG) have joined forces and set up the Peninsular Defence Group (PDG) to represent the community in defending the appeal. We will work alongside Eastleigh Borough Council (EBC), our local planning authority, who will be giving planning advice.



What's happened so far?

- On 22 November 2024 Cemex lodged their appeal. You can view their appeal documents here: <https://bit.ly/40Yip4w> (click on the 'Appeals' tab)
- The Planning Inspectorate has given the Hamble Peninsular Defence Group 'Rule 6' status. This formal role means that we can submit evidence to the Inquiry, cross-examine witnesses, and make opening/closing statements.
- We have appointed a barrister, solicitor, and specialist consultants who will be representing us at the Cemex Appeal Inquiry. It is this experienced legal and expert team who will help decide our strategy. We hope you understand that the detail of our defence cannot be made public at this stage as the element of surprise is key to getting the outcome we all want.



What happens next?

- The Inquiry where Cemex's appeal will take place is on 1-2 April 2025 – and will be heard by a planning inspector. This inspector will consider all the evidence submitted – including the 5,000+ objections made to Hampshire County Council by residents, local businesses, and other stakeholders between 2022 and 2024.

- In the meantime, a Case Management conference will take place between the planning inspector, Cemex, and the Rule 6 parties, at which point the key issues to be considered in the Inquiry will be discussed.

What can you do?

- As this will be a legal Inquiry, we will need to come together as a community to challenge this appeal effectively.
- The Parish Council has committed funds from our and your 'council tax' resources – but we cannot fund the defence of this appeal alone. HPRG is leading the fundraising campaign to raise the rest of the funds needed. We encourage anyone who is willing to do so to contribute to their GoFundMe page. Visit the 'Hamble Against Unnecessary Development' Facebook group for further details.
- Look out for more news on our social media profiles, website, and noticeboards around the village.

EASTLEIGH BOROUGH COUNCIL: LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

Eastleigh Borough Council (EBC) is currently reviewing the Eastleigh Local Plan 2016-2036. The Local Plan Review will set out the policies and plans to guide future development in the Borough.

In December and January, EBC ran an Issues and Options consultation, which was the first stage in the consultation process. You can view further details regarding this consultation, and the consultation documents, here: <https://bit.ly/EBClocal-plan-review>



The Local Plan Review is still at the very early stages, but we will keep you updated as it progresses.



Services for Individuals & Local Businesses

Company Accounts
Tax Planning
Personal Tax
Start Ups

If you have a (tax) problem, if no one else can help, maybe you can hire The A – Team
Free Initial Consultation
www.accountably.co.uk
enquiries@accountably.co.uk

023 8045 3907

NEW PLAY AREA COMING TO MOUNT PLEASANT!

EXCITING NEWS: NEW PLAY AREA COMING TO MOUNT PLEASANT!

Hamble Parish Council is delighted to announce that a brand-new play area will soon be installed at Mount Pleasant, bringing a fresh and exciting space for children to enjoy. The design for the play area was shaped by the survey responses we received from the community in September 2024 and so will reflect what residents want to see. The result is a fantastic new facility that promises fun and adventure for families across Hamble.

Important Information and Provisional Timeline:

N.B. Dates provided have not yet been confirmed by the contractor, and may be subject to change

- **Sunday 2 February at 18:00**

The installation company will arrive to fence off and close the left-hand side of the Mount Pleasant car park. This area will be used for equipment storage and deliveries and will remain closed for 6 weeks. One of these weeks will fall during half term, which should help ease parking demands for parents.

- **Monday 3 February at 08:00**

Work will begin with the removal of the existing playpark and ground preparation.

- **Week of 10 February**

The new equipment will be delivered, and installation will begin.

- **Completion Dates**

Final completion dates are not yet confirmed, but the playpark will remain fenced off after installation for approximately 10–14 days to allow grass seed to germinate and turfed areas to take root.

- **Snagging Inspection**

Before the playpark opens, it will undergo a final snagging inspection to ensure it is safe and ready for use.

This project has been shaped by you, our community, and we're so pleased to see your input come to life. Thank you for your patience during the installation period – we will keep you updated with progress, including photographs, as the work unfolds.

We can't wait to see this exciting new space develop and look forward to welcoming you to the completed play area soon!



HAMBLE PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL COMMUNITY AWARDS SCHEME

Hamble Parish Council is delighted to announce the launch of our new Annual Community Awards Scheme, recognising individuals and groups who have made outstanding contributions to our community. The awards will celebrate the achievements and dedication of those who work selflessly to enhance life in Hamble.

There are three categories of awards:

1. Community Recognition Award

Recognising individuals aged 17 and above who have significantly contributed to the well-being of the Hamble community.

2. Community Recognition Award for Young People

Celebrating the efforts of individuals aged 16 or under who have demonstrated exceptional community spirit or achievement.

3. Community Recognition Award for Groups

Acknowledging voluntary organisations, clubs, or groups that have made a meaningful impact on the community in Hamble.

Who can be nominated?

Nominations are open to individuals who live or work in Hamble and can be made for acts of service, achievements, or projects completed between January and December 2024. The Community Recognition for Adults and Young People awards are for individuals, while the Groups award is for voluntary groups, charities, or organisations (formal or informal). Parish Councillors and Hamble Parish Council employees cannot be nominated, and self-nominations will not be accepted.

How can I nominate someone?

- **Online:** Visit <https://bit.ly/40qjHp6> and complete the nomination form.
- **Offline:** Collect a nomination form from the Parish Office, complete and return it either in person (during office hours) or via email to: clerk@hambleparishcouncil.gov.uk



As part of your nomination, you will be asked to provide the name and contact details of the nominee, the category in which you would like them to be considered, and a statement of up to 300 words explaining why the nominee deserves the award.

What is the deadline for nominations?

All nominations must be received by **28 February 2025**.

How will the winners be chosen?

Nominations will be reviewed at the Full Council meeting in March 2025. The Council will assess the nominee's impact, effort, and community benefit, considering factors such as the positive impact on neighbours and the community, support for vulnerable groups, enhancement of local services or the environment, time and dedication invested, challenges faced, creativity or innovation, leadership, and the overall scale of their impact.

When will winners be announced?

Winners will be announced at the Annual Parish Assembly in April 2025, with their stories featured in the April Newsletter and on our social media channels. Each winner will receive a certificate and a £100 gift voucher in recognition of their contributions.

This scheme aims to celebrate and showcase the wonderful people and groups who make Hamble a fantastic place to live.

For full details and terms, please visit <https://bit.ly/40qjHp6>.

Submit your nominations today and help us recognise those who go the extra mile!



UPCOMING PUBLIC HEARINGS ON HAMPSHIRE'S MINERALS AND WASTE PLAN

Hampshire County Council (HCC) has announced that public examination hearings for the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan (HMWP) will commence on 4 February 2025. These hearings will assess the plan's legal compliance and soundness, ensuring it aligns with the National Planning Policy Framework. The HMWP is of particular interest to Hamble as it is this Plan which allocated Hamble Airfield as a site for sand and gravel extraction.

The HMWP is a framework document which allocates sites to ensure that Hampshire can provide its share of materials, such as sand and gravel, for building homes, schools and roads in the future. HCC is reviewing the HMWP to ensure

that it remains accurate and current as this will mean that locally relevant matters are considered when sites come forward for minerals or waste development.

Following the hearings, the Inspector will prepare a report with conclusions and recommendations. If the plan is deemed legally compliant and sound, it will be recommended for adoption by the five mineral and waste planning authorities.

While the removal of Hamble Airfield from the HMWP may help to deter future quarrying applications, it cannot be taken into account in the current appeal by Cemex. This appeal will be determined on the current HMWP which was in effect when the quarrying application was submitted.

For more information, visit:

<https://bit.ly/40JSsa4>



RANGER'S REMARKS

Happy New Year, Hamble Habitants.

After all the food and drink I consumed over the Christmas break, I am pleased to report that my socks still fit!

The grounds team have been busy hedge cutting and working on bramble reduction over these winter months and this work will continue right up until the spring when the nesting season starts again. A common misconception is that nature is best left to itself and that we should rewild land through a policy of non-intervention. The amount of intervention that a woodland requires is dependent on a number of variables, but non-intervention is usually not the best approach. The healthiest forest floor has plenty of areas where light gets to the ground and a healthy herb layer forms. The bluebells, snowdrops, cyclamen, daffodils and various seeds coming up can then sense the light. That said, we're not talking about a "man conquers nature" approach to woodland management, but something more along the lines of giving nature a helping hand to establish a richer biodiversity.

With the seasonal unsettled weather comes the annual tree casualty count and this winter has been no different with

several of the village's trees being brought down by the various visiting storms. However, this year there is some good news on the horizon with the Parish Council voting in favour of the planting of a Miyawaki-method pocket woodland.

A Miyawaki woodland is a type of forest planted using a technique developed by Japanese botanist Dr Akira Miyawaki. This technique involves densely planting native trees and shrubs in enriched soil, improving biodiversity, air quality, and carbon sequestration, using native species that work together to create a diverse, multi-layered forest community. Trees grow up to ten times faster than those planted in conventional woodland planting schemes. Native trees can also support significantly more wildlife than non-native species. This area will cover approx. 230m² and will be located at Mount Pleasant recreation ground. There will be smooth wire fencing to protect the trees, with an area in the centre for people to sit. The trees will be a mix of native species planted at 4 trees per metre. This work is due to start on 14 February.

In other news, I've recently discovered I'm terrified of elevators, so I'm taking steps to avoid them!

Mark Cowley, Estates Ranger

COUNCIL NEWS

ADOPT A BENCH AT HAMBLE FORESHORE

Hamble Parish Council is offering a unique opportunity for residents to adopt one of seven wooden benches at the Hamble Foreshore. These benches will replace the existing concrete ones, enhancing the natural beauty of the area and providing a charming spot to sit and enjoy the stunning riverside views.

The adoption scheme allows individuals or families to take ownership of a bench as a lasting tribute, commemorative gesture, or simply as a way to contribute to the local community and its spaces. Each bench is thoughtfully designed to complement the scenic surroundings, offering a warm and welcoming place to rest.

The current cost to adopt a bench is between £700 and £1400 dependant on style and location. There will also be a charge for the installation of a bench.

As part of the process, the plaques currently on the concrete benches will be relocated to other benches on the foreshore. If you own one of these plaques, please contact the Parish Office for more information.

For further details on the adoption process and associated costs, please visit <https://bit.ly/3Ee6wN2>.



COMMUNITY NEWS

UPDATE FROM ST. ANDREW'S

It was good to see so many Hamble residents and visitors at the St. Andrew's services over the Christmas period. The Christingle service on Christmas Eve was well attended by lots of very well-behaved children. Most of the adults were also well-behaved and will be welcomed back for the celebrations next Christmas.

Hayley, our new vicar, enjoyed her first Christmas as priest in charge of the new benefice of Hamble & Hound and was kept busy with services at St. Andrew's, Hamble, and St. Edward's, Netley. She also took charge of the ever-popular Carols in the Square on Christmas Eve.

What's your home worth?

Book your free sales or lettings valuation by calling us on 01489 854 382 today.



Scan the QR code to book your free valuation today.

L | LEADERS

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTION DEADLINES

March: Monday 17 February

April: Monday 17 March

If you have something that you would like to contribute or are interested in advertising in the newsletter, please get in touch – danielle@smartmarketinguk.com

Please continue to support St. Andrew's and Hayley throughout the year at the Sunday and Thursday services, both held every week at 10am.

All are made very welcome and after the service we retire to the Priory Centre for refreshments.

Whilst on the subject of the Priory Centre, it can be hired at a very competitive rate for birthday parties and other events.

Please contact Ian Stephens on 02380 454181 or email stephenscoachman@btinternet.com for more information.

HAMBLE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY: AN ARMCHAIR TOUR OF THE HAMBLE VALLEY

At the next Society meeting, Geoff Watts will be giving 'An Armchair Tour of the Hamble Valley', telling stories of places in this lovely and fascinating part of Hampshire.

Some of the villages in the valley are Hamble, Warsash, Swanwick, Bursledon, Botley and the town of Bishops Waltham.

Geoff will provide a way of exploring parts of the Hamble Valley (i.e., the Borough of Eastleigh) without leaving a chair. He will look at aspects of local and national history through a number of villages and town locations in the north and south of the Borough including a church known for its distinctive one-handed clock and a 17th century lady portrait painter.

This meeting will be on Thursday 6 February, 7.30pm, at the Memorial Hall (Rear Hall). 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, 023 8045 4373.



A reminder: if you did not get the Society's latest booklet, the 'Hamble River Collection', the last few are available from the Post Office at Coronation Parade, costing only £4. This will not be reprinted. This booklet has received many compliments and contains interesting insights into the river's history which were not included in detail in the Society's previous river booklets.

UPDATE FROM SOLENT SPORTS FC: HAMBLE'S WOMEN'S FOOTBALL TEAMS

Inspired by the Euros in 2022, a group of women started playing football at Hamble Sports Complex. Since then, they have grown to be 50 players strong and now field two teams in the Hampshire Women's Football League.

For the first time ever, they had two games scheduled at home on the same day and thanks to the great facilities in

the village managed to play side by side at Mount Pleasant... and both teams got a win.

The first team are on course for a league title and are through to the semi-finals of two cups! They play most Sundays and would love locals to come and give them some support.

For details of games please give them a follow on Facebook. Search: Solent Sports FC Women.



BREWING UP SUSPENSE: HAMBLE PLAYERS SERVE AGATHA CHRISTIE'S BLACK COFFEE



Following a hugely successful 2024, Hamble Players start 2025 with a mystery by Agatha Christie called Black Coffee.

Outsold only by the Bible and Shakespeare, Agatha Christie is the best-selling novelist of all time.

She is best known for her 66 detective novels and 14 short story collections, as well as the world's longest-running play – The Mousetrap.

She was asked how she creates her stories and answered, "Plots come to me at such odd moments, when I am walking along the street, or examining a hat shop... suddenly a splendid idea comes into my head".

Black Coffee was written as a play in 1929, and Hamble Players are delighted to bring this murder mystery to the stage from 25-29 March at Hamble Memorial Hall.

The story... Sir Claud Amory's revolutionary new formula for a powerful explosive is stolen. Locking his houseguests in the library, Sir Claud switches off the lights to allow the thief to replace the formula, no questions asked.

When the lights come on, he is dead, and Hercule Poirot and Captain Hastings must unravel a tangle of family feuds, old flames, and suspicious characters to find the killer and prevent a global catastrophe

To buy tickets, visit www.ticketsource.co.uk/hambleplayers or call the box office, 02380 440660.



HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM WETWHEELS HAMBLE!

As we prepare to usher in 2025, we can't help but feel immense pride and joy reflecting on the amazing journey of the past year.

Together, we've created countless unforgettable moments on the water – breaking barriers, fostering connections, and empowering people of all abilities to experience the thrill of the sea.

To our incredible community – participants, supporters, volunteers, skippers and crew – thank you for your passion, energy, and unwavering belief in our mission. You are the heartbeat of Wetwheels Hamble, and your support makes every wave we ride possible.

2025 is shaping up to be an exciting year as we aim higher, dream bigger, and reach even more individuals with our unique, accessible boating adventures. We're thrilled for what's to come and can't wait to share new adventures with all of you.

We are hoping to make a big announcement soon but in the interim:

- Family Fun Day 2025 – Saturday 28 June, even bigger and better
- For those that shop at Bursledon Tesco, we will be part of the Stronger Starts Fundraising campaign so please put your Blue Coins in our receptacle, and we will exchange them for smiles. Please tell your family, friends, neighbours etc.
- We are again one of the Good Causes for the Hamble Coops where members can choose Wetwheels Hamble to receive a portion of the sales. Last year we raised over £3,000 from local shoppers – thank you.

Wishing you and your loved ones a year filled with joy, health, and smooth sailing ahead!

With heartfelt thanks and warmest wishes,

The Wetwheels Hamble Team

UPCOMING DATES

UPDATE FROM HAMBLE LADIES GROUP

Let's go back to December 2024 and I can tell you about the fabulous Christmas Lunch we had at the Royal Air Force Yacht Club.

Sixty of our members enjoyed a very enjoyable lunch and afternoon with excellent food and company – a good start to the Christmas season! We have re-booked for next year which proves how much we enjoyed it.

We held our AGM on 14 January in which we reflected on 2024 and what a successful year it had been with our membership now exceeding 60.



Thanks and appreciation were given to the committee members for their hard work. They have all agreed to stand for another year.

With the formalities out of the way we had a fun hour of quizzes to task our brains, which was enjoyed by all; a lay down was needed when we all got home.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 11 February when we have Chris Chisholm coming along to give us insight into 'Jumbalance', an organisation she is very passionate about.

Meetings are held in Priory Centre, Hamble and start at 2pm. Why not come along and join us? You will be very welcome.

Bobby Conduit,
02380 453626



Comrades Download Our New App

Collect and spend points when you visit us. Order a takeaway, view our menu, or purchase gift vouchers. Sign up and be part of the revolution.

Register before the end of February and receive 50 bonus points (£5) to spend.



FEBRUARY ART FEST WITH BIRD AWARE SOLENT

This month, the rangers at Bird Aware Solent have been hosting a range of free art events to celebrate the stunning array of birdlife along the local coastline.

From photography walks, to painting sessions, and everything in between, Art Fest is all about building connections with wildlife through arts and crafts.

Thank you to everyone who has taken part in an event so far – we have been blown away by how creative the community truly is. Keep an eye on our website for free art events until the end of February: <https://bit.ly/4awqEcU>.



If you don't get a chance to join in person, make sure you tag us in your wonderful creations on social media at [bird_aware_solent](https://www.facebook.com/bird_aware_solent).

The River Hamble provides an inspiration like no other during the wintertime, with birds flying from all over the Arctic circle to feed along the exposed mudflats.

You don't need to be a Picasso to take part! Grab some paper and a pencil and have a go at drawing the birds. As long as we keep our distance, to let the birds feed and rest, we can ensure that our migratory birds continue to inspire us for many years to come.

LOOKING FOR A SPACE TO HIRE?

Look no further! Roy Underdown Pavilion is an ideal space for children's parties, team building days, interviews, training sessions, meetings, family gatherings, corporate events, and community groups.

The cost of hire is just £20 per hour for the first hour and £18 per hour thereafter, and a refundable deposit of £50 is all we need to secure the booking. All day sessions are booked in 4-hour slots.

Visit the Parish Council website to check out availability, make a provisional booking and read the terms and conditions.

UPDATE FROM THE HAMBLE CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS

We have made a strong start to the year with large turnouts of volunteers.



Tasks have included scrub clearance on Hamble Common to improve grazing for cattle when they return in the Spring, and cutting back vegetation which was overgrowing onto footpaths and restricting access. The annual maintenance of our bird boxes revealed a remarkably high proportion of boxes used for nesting, encouraging us to continue to find suitable places to site them.

Our annual programme of tasks is displayed on our website and noticeboards posted around the Common. Please note that we meet on Mondays at 10am. The meeting place for the Parish tasks is at the Roy Underdown Pavilion at SO31 4RN whereas Beach cleans and Eastleigh tasks meet at School Lane car park.

If you would like to know more about us please either visit [hambleconservationvolunteers.org.uk](https://www.hambleconservationvolunteers.org.uk) or contact Philip Rawlinson:
philiprawlinson123@btinternet.com
07810 453138



COMMUNITY NEWS

UPDATE FROM HAMBLE FLOWER CLUB

Here we are in February already and this month we have an interesting talk from Ben Cross about Alstromerias which he grows at his nursery near Arundel.

The date for your diary is Monday 10 February; doors open at 1pm. The talk is open to members and non-members for a small fee, so why not come along and see what we are all about.

March is our AGM when we reveal our new programme for 2025/26 and lots of interesting things are happening...

As well as our regular Club meetings we are also reintroducing our Floral Classes where you can come along and learn the basics of flower arranging, design, shape, colours, and so much more. These will be short courses – one per month over three months. The first of these will run May/June/July. If this is something that you would like to do, please get in touch for more details.

If you are interested in coming along to any of our meetings or have any questions, please contact us at info.hambleflowerclub@gmail.com. We are a friendly bunch and meet on the 2nd Monday of each month at Hamble Memorial Hall. Doors open at 1pm for a 1.30pm start.

Rosie Skeats, Chairman

UPDATE FROM THE MERCURY LIBRARY & HUB



Now that we are well into 2025, the Mercury Library and Community Hub has started as it means to go on. On 11 January, we hosted our first coffee morning of the year to raise funds for Hamble Lifeboat, an extremely valuable organisation which keeps going with the commitment of around 40 volunteers (hats off to them for the amazing work they do).

Tim spoke to a very sizeable audience about how Hamble Lifeboat was started in 1968 by 3 men and has grown rapidly. In 2024, they were called out 108 times and saved 17 lives. It is widely thought that they are part of the RNLI when they are, in fact, an independent organisation. If you want to donate any money, please do so directly to Hamble Lifeboat; all donations are gratefully received and much needed as their annual fuel costs alone are about £10,000. You can donate here: <https://bit.ly/3EfG2xU>. Our coffee morning raised the grand sum of £522 which is fantastic. Thank you to all who came along in support on a very cold Saturday morning.



Remember: we offer a warm, friendly space where you can enjoy some company with a hot drink and snacks before selecting some books from our extensive range to take home and enjoy.

We look forward to seeing you.

UPCOMING DATES

Upcoming Parish Council Meetings at the Roy Underdown Pavilion

Full Council

Monday 10 February
7pm

Planning Committee

Monday 24 February
7pm

Mount Pleasant Play Area Closed for Refurbishment

2 February – Mid March

Application Deadline for New Councillor Applications

6 February

Seeds For Spring

17 – 18 February
10am – 12pm

At Royal Victoria Country Park.
Join the rangers planting seeds for spring around the country park.
Meet at the shop at 10am.
<https://bit.ly/3ClBmWY>



Half Term School Closure The Hamble School and Hamble Primary School

17 – 21 February

Deadline for Annual Community Awards Scheme

28 February