



Altin watering new trees planted at Mount Pleasant, flower planting and line painting at the Foreshore, and nominees/winners of the Hamble Community Awards. 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!

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Annual Parish Assembly in May. It was a pleasure to see so many familiar faces and to have the chance to share the Parish Council's plans for the year ahead. The launch of our first-ever Hamble Community Awards made the evening particularly special.

The number and quality of nominations showed just how many people are quietly giving their time and energy to make our village a better place. It was genuinely inspiring to read through the stories of those nominated – many of whom carry out this work without expecting or receiving recognition. Choosing just one winner in each category was no easy task, and the Council had a very difficult job at its April meeting. In truth, every nominee deserved an award. Congratulations to all those nominated, and especially to our winners: **Martha Hart, Kay Baker, and Hamble Conservation Volunteers**. It was a privilege to present their awards on the night.

Earlier in May, we gathered at the Foreshore to mark VE Day 80. A big thank you to St Andrews Pipe Band for their beautiful playing, and to Cllr Trevor Dann, our Vice Chair, for his moving speech reflecting on both his father's service and Hamble's significant role during the Second World War. These commemorations feel increasingly important as the years pass, and we were proud to play our part in honouring those who served and sacrificed.

The ongoing disruption caused by utility and road works across the village, particularly from CityFibre and the proposed resurfacing of Satchell Lane, has been frustrating for us all. While the Parish Council does not have control over these works, we are in regular contact

with Hampshire County Council to push for better advance notice, stronger enforcement of permit conditions, and improved traffic management. We continue to raise concerns on behalf of the community and are pressing for more accountability from those responsible.

I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Parish Clerk, Helen, on achieving her CiLCA qualification (Certificate in Local Council Administration). This is a nationally recognised qualification for clerks and officers, demonstrating a high level of knowledge about the law, procedures, and best practices in local council operations. It's a significant achievement and reflects Helen's commitment to supporting the Council and serving our community professionally and effectively. Congratulations, Helen.

Finally, we are once again turning our attention to Hamble Airfield, as the second and final part of the Inquiry begins later this month. From 24 to 26 June, the Planning Inspector will be hearing evidence on transport issues and the demand for quarrying materials. This is the last stage in what has been a long and difficult campaign. If you're able, please consider attending in person at Ashburton Hall in Winchester, or join us at Roy Underdown Pavilion, where we'll be livestreaming each day. The more people who attend or watch online, the stronger the message we send: **Hamble says no to the quarry.**

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Cllr Chris Jones,
Chair, Hamble Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

CELEBRATING THE FIRST HAMBLE COMMUNITY AWARDS

This year saw the launch of the Hamble Community Awards, a new initiative to recognise and celebrate the individuals and groups who go above and beyond for our village. We invited nominations in three categories: for young people, community groups, and for individuals. Anyone who lives or works in Hamble could be nominated – except for Parish Council staff and councillors – and we were pleased with the strong response, especially given it was the inaugural year. More than 20 nominations were submitted, each one highlighting the dedication, kindness, and community spirit that exists in our village.

The nominations were presented to councillors at the April Full Council meeting, where the winners were chosen. It wasn't an easy decision. Every nominee has made a significant contribution to our community, and all would have been worthy winners.

The award for Young Person of the Year went to **Martha Hart**, who represented Hamble Primary School at the Cemex Inquiry. Martha impressed everyone with the confident and thoughtful way she spoke on behalf of her fellow pupils. She represented both the school and the wider community with great maturity; the future of Hamble is in good hands.



The **Hamble Conservation Volunteers** received the Group award in recognition of the huge amount of work they carry out around the village. From maintaining Hamble Common and supporting local wildlife, to



leading beach cleans, repairing bird boxes, and running educational sessions, their efforts are seen and felt by many, even if they often take place quietly in the background. Thank you to everyone who volunteers their time to make Hamble a better place to live.

The individual award was presented to **Kay Baker** in recognition of the wonderful work she does to support her neighbours and community. Kay gives her time freely and generously to support others, particularly those who might otherwise be isolated or struggling. She organises the Christmas Day lunch, helps with regular community events like the Place 2B Coffee Mornings, Men's Breakfast, Poppy's Place, and local quiz nights, and has long been involved with Hamble Players. Many of these activities are focused on building friendships and supporting those in need, and much of what Kay does happens quietly, without fuss or recognition. The award was our small way of saying thank you for all that she does.



Thank you again to everyone who submitted a nomination, and to all the nominees for what they do for Hamble. We're already looking forward to next year's Community Awards and hope even more of you will get involved – whether it's by nominating someone, supporting the event, or continuing the great work that makes Hamble such a special place to live.



THANK YOU FOR A SPECIAL VE DAY 80 COMMEMORATION

Thank you to St. Andrews Pipe Band for helping us mark VE Day 80 on the Foreshore on 8 May. Their beautiful playing set a thoughtful and respectful tone for what was a very moving event.



A special thank you also goes to Councillor Trevor Dann for his memorable speech. He spoke with great warmth about his father's experiences during the Second World War and reminded us all of Hamble's vital role in the war effort.

During World War 2, many of Hamble's boat-building firms were transformed into aircraft factories. The famous aircraft designer Alliott Verdon-Roe, creator of the legendary Lancaster bomber, was based and worked right here in our village.

Trevor also recalled the work of the Air Transport Auxiliary Service, whose mainly female crews bravely ferried damaged and repaired aircraft across the country, and the Air Training Service, which trained countless pilots from Hamble's two airfields.

It was a very special occasion, and we are grateful to everyone who took part and attended.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US AT THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Annual Parish Assembly on 7 May. It was great to see so many familiar faces from across the village.

The evening was a chance to share the Parish Council's plans for the year ahead, and to reflect on some of the projects we've delivered over the past 12 months. If you weren't able to attend — or would like to hear it again — you can watch Cllr Chris Jones, Chair of the Council, talk about the past year here: <https://bit.ly/3FqBe9U>



We were also pleased to launch our first ever community awards, recognising some of the fantastic contributions

The final part of the Hamble Airfield Inquiry will take place from 24 to 26 June at Ashburton Hall in Winchester.

The Inquiry began in April, with the first sessions focusing on the ecological and hydrological impact of the proposed quarry. The final sessions in June will consider transport issues and the overall need for more sand and gravel (aggregate demand).

As with the earlier sessions, it's important that the Planning Inspector is aware of the strong local opposition to Cemex's plans to build a quarry in the middle of our village. Attending the Inquiry in person is one of the most effective ways to demonstrate this. If you're able to join for any part of the proceedings between 24 and 26 June, please do — each day starts at 9.30am at Ashburton Hall in Winchester.

If you can't make it to Winchester, the Inquiry will be livestreamed on Hampshire County Council's YouTube channel: <https://bit.ly/43nziHn>. You can also join others in the community at Roy Underdown Pavilion, where the Parish Council will be showing the livestream each day.



Although these sessions in June mark the end of the Inquiry, a final decision from the Inspector is not expected until later this summer.

being made by individuals and groups in Hamble. It was a real highlight of the evening and a reminder of how much good work is happening in our local area.

Thanks once again to everyone who joined us. We look forward to seeing you again next year.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTION DEADLINES

July: Monday 16 June

No Newsletter in August

September: Monday 18 August

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

RANGER'S REMARKS

Hello Hamble Habitants.

My earliest childhood memory was visiting the eye doctor and getting my glasses... everything before that was a blur.

As I start to write this piece, the weather has been warm and dry for several weeks now and for the grounds team that means it is time to water all the flowerbeds, planters, and newly planted trees to keep them from drying out and ultimately dying. Spending time outdoors is important for everyone's wellbeing, and we want to keep Hamble looking its best – for both residents and visitors. Dry, dying plants around the village doesn't make for the most welcoming experience!

To help combat this issue the Parish Council has invested in a brand-new water bowser for exactly these types of prolonged dry spells. The new bowser fits perfectly on the back of Sparky which allows the grounds team to travel to all the necessary areas that need a good drink (see photo of Altin above). We want our village planting areas to be vibrant, colourful, attractive, and most importantly healthy, and watering regularly plays a vital role in achieving this.



To help keep Hamble's planting areas looking their best without using unnecessary amounts of tap water, we've installed three large water butts around the village to collect rainwater. Using water butts has several benefits. They help conserve water, reduce costs, and are better for the environment. By collecting rainwater, we cut down on the use of mains water and provide a natural, chemical-free source for watering plants.



Spending time in nature is so beneficial for mental health, reducing stress, anxiety, and depression while also promoting positive emotions. Two hours of nature a week has been linked to significant improvements in health and wellbeing. Being around nature really does increase endorphin and dopamine levels, which promote feelings of happiness.



By now, most of us are aware of how important biodiversity and ecosystem conservation are for the health of our planet. So it's always encouraging to hear a good news story – like the one I heard this week about the natterjack toad, the UK's loudest amphibian, which has made a remarkable return to part of Hampshire.

A total of 28 young toads (toadlets) were recently recorded at Blackmoor in the South Downs National Park, following a reintroduction programme that began in 2021. This is the first time in 50 years that natterjack toads have successfully bred at the site. Known for its distinctive rasping call, which can be heard up to a mile away, the natterjack had previously only been found at Woolmer Forest within the park. In nearby Sussex, it's now considered locally extinct.

The Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (ARC) charity has been leading the recovery effort, which includes creating shallow ponds and restoring heathland. Introducing cattle grazing has also helped recreate the ideal habitat conditions for the species to return. It's a positive step for the toad's recovery in the region and offers a strong example of how carefully planned conservation projects can bring real results.

And finally, whenever I left the door open, my mum would ask if I was born in a barn, which I found very odd, because you'd think she'd remember something like that!

Mark Cowley, Grounds Ranger

Accountably Chartered Accountants logo and contact information. The logo features a blue sailboat icon and the text 'Accountably CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS'. The contact information includes the website 'www.accountably.co.uk', the email 'enquiries@accountably.co.uk', and the phone number '023 8045 3907'. The text 'Services for Individuals & Local Businesses' is also present, along with a list of services: 'Company Accounts', 'Tax Planning', 'Personal Tax', and 'Start Ups'.

ASSET TRANSFER UPDATE

In last month's newsletter we shared details of the Borough-wide Asset Transfer Programme and the work of our Asset Transfer Working Group to review which local spaces and facilities might be better managed at a parish level.

Following that initial work, we have now expressed interest in several parcels of land and assets which we believe would benefit the village if brought under local ownership and care.

To move this forward, we have instructed solicitors to begin work on an agreement with Eastleigh Borough Council that would set out the terms of any potential asset transfers.

This is an ongoing process, and we will continue to provide updates in future newsletters and on our website and social media channels as things progress.

As the warmer weather and longer summer evenings arrive, we often see an increase in anti-social behaviour in the village, especially at the Foreshore.

We want everyone to feel safe and able to enjoy Hamble's beautiful spaces without feeling intimidated or vulnerable. We also want to avoid the damage and vandalism we've experienced in previous years.

The best way to tackle anti-social behaviour is to report it. Each report helps build a clearer picture for the Police, giving them the information they need to take further action and allocate more resource to Hamble.

You can report anti-social behaviour by:

- Calling 999 immediately if a crime is taking place right now.
- Reporting online: <https://bit.ly/3Fz4JGk>. This can be done at any time after witnessing an incident.
- Reporting anti-social behaviour directly: <https://bit.ly/3DTNqiP>



Thank you for helping to keep Hamble safe and welcoming for everyone.

COMMUNITY NEWS

UPDATE FROM THE MERCURY LIBRARY & COMMUNITY HUB

Bobby and Lorraine created a fantastic window display to commemorate the 80th anniversary of D Day – they never fail to impress.

All the volunteers at The Mercury were absolutely delighted to hear that we had been nominated for one of Hamble Parish Council's Community Awards. A few of us attended the presentation evening which was held at the Roy Underdown Pavilion on 7 May. The competition was strong as there were so many deserving nominations – a reminder of just what a wonderful village we live in. So much is offered by so many people just because they want to help others.

The award was justly won by the Hamble Conservation Volunteers; many congratulations to them and thank you

for all that you do. Our certificate confirming our nomination is proudly displayed at The Hub.

Our games afternoons on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays continue to be successful. We also now offer a Chess Club on Friday mornings. If you fancy joining in, just turn up. You'll be made very welcome.

Hamble Valley Health plan to hold wellness drop-in sessions at The Hub. There will be a trial in June, then held on the second Thursday of every month going forward so if you have any questions, please come along.

Our shelves are well stocked with books and puzzles, just the thing to relax with on a lovely summer afternoon. We look forward to seeing you.



YOUNG PLAYERS SHINE AT HAMBLE HOCKEY

Hamble Hockey Club rounded off the season in style on Sunday 11 May with



its annual Youth Awards, celebrating the hard work and achievements of players from the U8s through to U14s. The event took place at High Score Arcades in Southampton and brought together players, families, coaches, and volunteers for a fun afternoon to mark a great year.

Youth Head Coach Scott Simper said it had been fantastic to see the players develop their skills and confidence over the season, while also supporting each other and enjoying the game.

Among this year's award winners were Lily, named Youth Player of the Year, and Oscar, who took home the U8/10 Player of the Year award. Other winners included Hugo (U14 Player of the Year), Alba (U12 Player of the Year), and Tilly (U12 Most Improved), recognising both talent and great commitment throughout the year.

The club's youth section has continued to grow, both in numbers and in success, with teams competing across Hampshire and enjoying strong support at home. A big boost this season came from CooperVision, whose generous donation meant the entire youth section received brand new playing kit – something that made a real difference to the players.

Next season will be an exciting one, as the club gets ready to enter its first ever Girls' U12 team into league competition – a big step forward for girls' hockey at Hamble and a sign of how far the youth section has come.

Hamble Hockey Club has been part of the village since 1958 and continues to rely on the efforts of volunteers and the support of the local community. The club is currently looking for new sponsors to help with essential upgrades to pitches and facilities, so it can keep offering affordable, inclusive hockey to players of all ages.

If you're interested in joining, supporting, or finding out more, visit www.hamblehockey.co.uk or follow @hamblehockey on social media.

UPDATE FROM ST. ANDREWS CHURCH

We have all been enjoying this lovely weather and hope it continues well into the summer months – although us gardeners and the farmers could do with some rain! We are never happy, are we?!

Here at St Andrews the regular services on Sundays and Thursdays at 10am continue and new faces are always welcome. Why not come to one of the services and afterwards come into the Priory Centre for tea or coffee and a chat amongst newly made friends?

For a fun night out, join us in the Priory Centre for our bimonthly quiz. It's not quite on the same level as University Challenge or Who Wants to be a Millionaire...! The next one is on Wednesday 11 June at 7pm – £5 per person and no need to book. There is a raffle and a bar with very reasonably priced drinks.

We hope to see you there!

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HAMBLE LADIES GROUP

Peter Marcham recently came along to talk to us about the history of Bletchley Park. Peter is an official guide at Bletchley and gave us a fascinating insight into how it came about and what it was used for. I can't say too much more as we all know it is TOP SECRET!!!

The Enigma decoding machine was first discovered by the Polish and French, who had found it being used by the Germans. It quickly became clear that cracking how the machine worked was vital to understanding the growing threat in Germany and the lead-up to war. Mathematicians were brought in, and when the situation in Poland worsened, many fled to Scotland to continue their work.

Admiral Sir Hugh Sinclair, then Head of the British Secret Intelligence Service, was tasked with finding a suitable location for this critical work. In 1935, Bletchley Park, an old family mansion, was purchased by the British Government and transformed into a centre for decoding. Additional accommodation was built, and the work began.

Most of those recruited to Bletchley were women, both civilians and military personnel, and everyone had to sign the Official Secrets Act. From there, the hard work truly began.

The work done at Bletchley made a significant contribution to the Allied victory in World War II. The intelligence analysis systems developed there continue to influence modern practices, and perhaps most importantly, their work laid the foundations for today's communication technologies.

An amazing talk which unfortunately I cannot do justice to in this article.

Our next meeting is on 10 June. This is our Social Afternoon when we are holding a cake competition judged by Vicar Hayley Richens. We shall then eat the cakes with liquid refreshments and have a few quizzes. A fun afternoon starting at 2pm at the Priory Centre. Everyone is welcome.

Bobby Conduit, 023 8045 3626

HAMBLE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



Newspaper picture of Ray at the Hamble Manor Hotel.

My Life as a Hamble Policeman - Part 2

This time last year Ray Smout gave a very popular talk about his life and experiences as the village's policeman during the 1970s, including some extremely humorous incidents. Ray only had time to cover some of the interesting cases he encountered while being the village's policeman, so at this meeting he will be telling more stories from his police duties in Hamble.

Ray will complete his story of dealing with the Chalmers Way village villain and finally he will repeat the highlight of his police career solving a major crime at the Manor Hotel that led to the longest and costliest fraud trial in British history.

Why not come along on Thursday 5 June, 7.30pm, at Hamble Memorial Hall (Rear Hall) to hear more about Ray's exploits while he was Hamble's policeman?

If you missed last year's interesting and entertaining talk, this is your opportunity to catch up – particularly if you live or have lived at the Manor House.

New members and visitors are always welcomed! The cost is £2 a meeting.

If you would like more information about the society please contact the Society's Secretary, Margaret Greenfield: 023 8045 4373.

COMMUNITY NEWS

HAMBLE FLOWER CLUB

In May our members made a total of 52 little jam jars of flowers which we placed around the local area for people to take home and enjoy. We've had some lovely messages from those who found one... were you one of the lucky ones? Do let us know.

On Monday 9 June the fantastic Graham King is back with his demonstration entitled 'Beauty in Sculpture' to entertain us. It's always a pleasure having Graham come along to one of our meetings. Why not come and see for yourself! You can turn up and pay on the door – there's no need to book.

Our annual Club outing is on 4 July. This year it's to Hampton Court Flower Festival. There are still some seats available so do get in touch for more information. On 14 July we have a demonstration by Andre Hillyard: 'Time to Relax'. Again, there's no need to book.

We are a friendly bunch, so 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 meet on the 2nd Monday of each month at Hamble Memorial Hall. Doors open at 1pm for a 1.30pm start.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Rosie Skeats, Chairman

HAMBLE CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS

Our recent efforts have concentrated on Hamble Foreshore in support of the Parish Grounds Team. The flowerbeds needed weeding and new plants replaced those that had finished their job of providing colour to the surroundings. The Foreshore seats are heavily used during the summer, so we assisted with annual repairs involving sanding down and revarnishing all the surfaces. The graceful and original circular oak seat always needs special care as it is a very popular asset.

Incidentally we were overwhelmed and proud to receive the Group Community Award at the recent Annual Parish Assembly which reinvigorates us to continue with our help to Hamble and its environs.

Our annual programme of tasks is displayed on our website and notice boards posted around the Common. 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 our website at hambleconservationvolunteers.org.uk or contact Philip Rawlinson: 07810 453138 or philiprawlinson123@btinternet.com.



UPCOMING DATES

Upcoming Parish Council Meetings at Roy Underdown Pavilion

Full Council Meeting
Monday 9 June, 7pm

Planning Committee Meeting
Monday 23 June, 7pm

Asset Committee Meeting
Monday 7 July, 7pm

Artists and Makers Fair

7 June
10.30am – 3.30pm

At Royal Victoria Country Park.

Saturday Jazz & Fizz

Starting from 7 June
1pm – 3pm

Enjoy live jazz music every Saturday in June, July & August at River Rat.

Father's Day

15 June

RAF Yacht Club's Caribbean Summer Party

21 June
6.30pm – Midnight

At the RAF Yacht Club.
£30 per person. Book online.

Hamble Airfield Inquiry

24 – 26 June
From 9.30am

At Ashburton Hall, Winchester.
If you cannot attend in person, the Inquiry will be livestreamed on YouTube. Visit <https://bit.ly/43nziHn> or scan the QR code below.

