



Six-Spot Burnet Moth, Common Blue Butterfly, and Wood Anemone (photos by 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 SUMMER NEWSLETTER!

With summer now well underway, the recent run of good weather has shown the village at its best. The river, the green spaces, and the quieter corners all seem to take on a different quality in the sunshine – a reminder of what makes Hamble such a special place to call home.

Alongside the more welcome signs of summer, there have also been a few issues to manage locally. As most residents will be aware, an unauthorised encampment was set up at Mount Pleasant at the end of May. Thanks to the swift and coordinated efforts of the Police, Eastleigh Borough Council, and the Parish team, the situation was resolved quickly. I'd particularly like to thank the Parish Council staff who worked hard to clear up the mess that was left behind. It was an unfortunate incident, but showed how effective partnership working can be when everyone pulls together.

That spirit of collaboration was also on display at a recent meeting organised by the Police regarding anti-social behaviour in Hamble, particularly over the summer months. The meeting brought together key partners including the Harbour Master, Eastleigh Borough Council, Youth Options, and Hamble Lifeboat to discuss anti-social behaviour in and around the Foreshore. It was a productive session, and I'm pleased to report that potential funding has been identified for CCTV coverage in key locations.

A key message from this meeting was the importance of Hamble's residents reporting what they see. The Police's capacity is limited, and your reports – whether online or by phone – help them build a clearer picture of what's

happening and where. Even if anti-social behaviour doesn't feel like a crime, it should still be reported. More on this can be found on page 2 of the newsletter.

Looking ahead, there are some longer-term developments in the pipeline that could affect our local facilities. Eastleigh Borough Council recently identified the need for a 3G pitch in Hamble, following a Borough-wide consultation. Several possible locations have been earmarked for feasibility studies, and one of these is Mount Pleasant. It's too early to say what the outcome might be, but we'll be watching these discussions closely.

At the end of June, the final sessions of the Hamble Airfield Inquiry took place. These hearings focused on the impact of a quarry on our roads, and planning conditions that would need to be imposed if the planning application is approved. The Planning Inspector is now reviewing all the evidence submitted. We don't expect a decision before early autumn, but as always, we'll keep you updated when we hear more.

As a reminder, there will be no newsletter in August, so this is our final issue before the summer break. I hope the coming weeks offer plenty of opportunities to enjoy all that Hamble has to offer – whether it's spending time by the river, enjoying local events, or simply relaxing in one of our open spaces.

Thank you for continuing to support the work of the Parish Council – and I wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer.

Chris Jones,
Chair

PARISH COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

THINKING OF CUTTING BACK TREES OR VEGETATION? PLEASE READ FIRST

We're lucky to live in an area with such beautiful natural spaces – and we're proud that parts of Hamble, including Parish Council-owned land, are recognised as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). This means our local environment is not only special, but protected by law.

With this in mind, we kindly ask residents not to cut, prune, or remove any trees or vegetation on Parish Council land, even if it's just light trimming. In some cases, cutting branches from these trees could require planning permission or even consent from Natural England, especially in designated areas.

If you're concerned about a tree – for example, if it looks unsafe or diseased – please do get in touch with the Parish Office. We're always happy to take a look and, if necessary, consult a qualified tree specialist. Any tree work, including branch removal, should be carried out by a certified professional with the appropriate insurance.

These steps help us protect wildlife, safeguard safety, and preserve the character of our shared spaces – and we appreciate your help in doing this.



BOUNDARY STONE POSITION RESTORED

The Council's grounds team has restored a boundary stone to its original position at the end of Lovers Lane, which runs alongside Mount Pleasant Recreation Ground. It had been displaced when the dogleg at the Netley end of Lovers Lane was constructed for the convenience of pushchairs and bicycles. For years, it lay in a ditch, covered by undergrowth.

On one side, it reads HAMBLE LE RICE, and on the other, HOUND A.D. 1898. The stone has now been placed at the end of Lovers Lane, where it would have originally stood. There is a similar boundary stone opposite Hamble School, by the pelican crossing.

See the Hamble Local History Society article in the Community News section of this newsletter for more information.

HELP US KEEP HAMBLE SAFE THIS SUMMER

Over the summer months, with warmer weather and longer evenings, we often see a rise in anti-social behaviour in the village – particularly at the Foreshore.

We want everyone to feel safe and able to enjoy Hamble's open spaces without feeling uncomfortable or at risk. Sadly, in previous years we've also seen damage and vandalism during this time, which we're keen to prevent.

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 evidence they need to take action and allocate resources to Hamble where needed.

Here's how you can help:

- Call 999 if a crime is happening right now.
- Report online any time: <https://bit.ly/3Fz4JGk>
- Report anti-social behaviour directly: <https://bit.ly/3DTNqiP>



Thank you for helping keep Hamble safe, welcoming, and enjoyable for everyone this summer.

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RANGER'S REMARKS

Hello Hamble Habitants.

I tried one of those clever apps on my smartphone that shows what you'd look like as an old person... it's apparently called a camera!

As I start to write this article the weather is very changeable, and for the grounds team that means adaptability is very much the name of the game. Not just constantly changing clothing several times a day like a grounds staff version of Lady Gaga, but also the priority of jobs changing on potentially an hourly basis. The warmth and rainfall of the summer months is perfect growing conditions for the grass, hedges, and weeds, which means mowers, hedge cutters, and hoes at the ready. This time of year, the (hopefully) pleasant, dry, and warm weather provides us with the opportunity to get started on some of the more practical maintenance jobs too, such as painting. We've started work on repainting the lines in the car parks and also putting a fresh coat of paint on some of the tired looking benches around the village (with much-appreciated

help from our fabulous Conservation Volunteers). We are also currently in the process of installing some shiny new bins down in Westfield Common, so keep your eyes peeled around the village for these much-needed enhancements.

As we head for the middle of summer let's talk butterflies for a moment. Butterflies are some of our most beautiful garden visitors and they also have an important role to play in plant pollination and the food chain. Butterflies are highly sensitive indicators of the health of the environment, and many species are declining rapidly. To help combat this decline and aid recovery, the Butterfly Conservation Charity runs ongoing recording and monitoring programmes to help direct their conservation efforts where it is needed most. The Big Butterfly Count 2025 is between 18 July and 10 August. Visit their website for more information and how to take part. By counting and identifying the butterflies that visit your survey garden throughout the year, you are sharing essential data that helps us understand how they are faring in gardens across the UK.



When I first met my wife, she was working at the local zoo... that's when I knew she was a keeper.

Mark Cowley,
Grounds Ranger

TIME-TRAVEL TROUBLE ON HAMBLE'S RAILWAY – CAN YOU HELP?

Something has gone wrong on the National Fantastical Hamble Ramble Railway Line – and passengers are being called in to help set things right. 'Careering Through Time' is a walking, puzzle-solving adventure along the Hamble Rail Trail, organised by Eastleigh Borough Council, and takes place on Thursday 14 August.

Led by the Conductor, this promenade performance invites you to uncover clues and fix the timeline before reaching the end of the line. It's an interactive, family-friendly mystery set against a scenic local backdrop.

The trail begins at Royal Victoria Country Park (Netley Abbey, Southampton, SO31 5GA), with the meeting point located near The Cedar Rooms restaurant and café.

The experience lasts approximately 2 hours, covering a walking route with narrow and uneven paths in places – suitable footwear is recommended. For more details and to book tickets: <https://bit.ly/3TshHcD>



THE BUGLE
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First Thursday of each month 8.30pm - 10.30pm

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THE BUGLE, HIGH ST, HAMBLE SO31 4HA

HAMBLE IN THE SUN

WALKS, SAFETY TIPS, BBQ RECIPES & GARDENING IDEAS FOR A GLORIOUS LOCAL SUMMER



Summer is here – and Hamble is ready to shine. Whether you're planning a peaceful riverside stroll, firing up the barbecue, or making your garden pollinator-friendly, we've rounded up tips, ideas, and inspiration to help you enjoy the season safely and locally.

EXPLORE HAMBLE

1. Foreshore to Royal Victoria Country Park

Distance: Approx. 2.5 miles (one way)

Start point: Hamble Foreshore

This popular waterside walk follows the River Hamble north, offering boat-spotting, salt marsh views, and peaceful shade through woodland. Starting at the Quay, the path winds past Port Hamble Marina and leads you into the grounds of Royal Victoria Country Park – perfect for a picnic or coffee stop.

Look out for: Wading birds at low tide and glimpses of maritime history along the trail.

2. Hamble Rail Trail (Hamble Lane Loop)

Distance: Approx. 2 miles circular

Start point: Near the fire station, Hamble Lane

A quiet, tree-lined walk along the route of the former military railway, this loop offers a mix of open ground and woodland paths. Ideal for hot days, the Rail Trail is mostly shaded and has a peaceful, tucked-away feel. It links up with paths off Satchell Lane, forming a gentle loop back to Hamble Lane.

Local history note: The rail line once transported fuel and supplies during WWII – a small reminder of Hamble's strategic past.

3. Hamble to Warsash via Pink Ferry

Distance: Approx. 3.5 miles (including ferry)

Start point: Hamble Quay

This walk blends riverside charm with a scenic ferry crossing. From Hamble Quay, follow the footpath to the jetty and hop aboard the iconic Pink Ferry (seasonal) across the River Hamble. On the far side, wander along the Warsash waterfront before retracing your steps and returning via ferry. The route is flat and easy-going, with views of saltmarsh and marina life throughout.

SMART SUMMER SAFETY: TIPS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW (BUT SHOULD)



BBQ Safety

BBQ safety is not just about leaving your BBQ unattended – did you know most BBQ-related fires aren't caused by flames, but by embers that linger long after cooking is done?

- **Cooling takes hours:** Even when it looks harmless, hot coals can retain enough heat to ignite dry grass or bin contents hours later. Wait until the next day to dispose of ashes, and always soak them in water.
- **Watch for wind:** Gusts can carry sparks to hedges, furniture, or dry decking. Try to position your BBQ so it's sheltered but still ventilated.
- **Check your gas gear:** For gas BBQs, inspect hose connections each time. A light spray of soapy water on the joints will bubble if there's a leak – it's a simple trick professionals use.



Sun Protection

- **SPF technique matters:** Apply generously (think shot glass for full coverage) and reapply every 2 hours – more often if swimming or sweating.
- **Don't rub it in:** Sunscreen should sit on the skin – rubbing it in too hard actually reduces its effectiveness. Patting works better.
- **Beware window exposure:** UV rays pass through car and house windows. If you're a passenger on the sunny side of the car, apply SPF – especially on children in car seats near windows.

Water Safety

- **Cold water shock:** Even on a hot day, river water can be as low as 12°C – enough to trigger involuntary gasping, hyperventilation, and muscle cramps, making swimming dangerous within seconds.
- **Be careful in the water:** Despite calm appearances, the River Hamble has fast-moving tides and cold water – both dangerous even for strong swimmers.
- **Respect the mud:** At low tide, areas around the riverbanks become slippery or deceptively deep. Some have a vacuum effect – particularly dangerous for children and dogs.
- **Check your buoyancy aid:** If you're paddleboarding or kayaking, your life jacket should be snug and fastened – and it should actually float you. Outdated or badly fitted ones don't.



HAMBLE IN THE SUN

TICK AWARENESS



Ticks aren't just a countryside concern – they can be found in urban parks, allotments, and back gardens, particularly after warm, wet springs.

Why it matters:

Ticks can transmit Lyme disease. Early removal (within 24 hours) almost always prevents infection – but they're small and easy to miss.

How to check:

Run your hands over your skin in the shower after walks. Ticks prefer warm, soft areas like behind knees, armpits, groin, and hairlines.



Pets too:

Dogs and cats can bring ticks inside. Check their ears, neck, and paws after walks. Keep up with vet-recommended tick treatments.

How to remove a tick safely:

- Use a tick removal tool or fine-tipped tweezers – available at most pharmacies or pet shops.
- Grip the tick as close to the skin as possible and pull upward slowly and steadily.
- Don't twist, squeeze, or burn the tick – this can increase the risk of infection.
- Once removed, clean the area with antiseptic and wash your hands thoroughly.
- Keep an eye on the bite site for a few weeks. If you notice a rash (especially a bullseye-shaped one) or flu-like symptoms, contact your GP.

SUMMER GARDENING TIPS – AND HOW TO HELP THE BEES



Gardening in hot weather means working with nature, not against it. Here's how to keep your garden thriving – and friendly to pollinators too.

Hot Weather Care

- Water early or late to reduce evaporation and avoid scorching leaves.
- Use mulch (bark, compost, or grass clippings) around plants to retain moisture and prevent weeds.
- Collect rainwater in a water butt for dry spells – plants prefer it to tap water.

Bee-Friendly Plants

Help our pollinators with nectar-rich summer blooms like:

- Lavender – Fragrant, hardy, and loved by bees.
- Thyme & Rosemary – Great for cooking and buzzing with life.
- Echinacea & Salvia – Long-flowering and colourful.
- Cosmos, Foxglove, and Verbena – Perfect for borders and containers.



Avoid pesticides during flowering. You can also add a shallow dish of water with pebbles for bees to land on safely.

BARBECUE FAVOURITES – SIMPLE, CROWD-PLEASING RECIPES

Honey-Mustard Chicken Skewers

Marinate diced chicken in 3 tbsp honey, 2 tbsp mustard, lemon juice, and garlic. Skewer with red pepper and red onion. Grill until golden and cooked through.

Halloumi & Vegetable Kebabs

Thread halloumi chunks with courgette, mushroom, and cherry tomatoes. Brush with olive oil, sprinkle with oregano, and grill until browned.

Herby Beef Burgers

Mix mince with parsley, caramelised onions, and mustard. Shape into patties and grill. Serve in toasted buns with garlic mayo or chilli jam.

Grilled Pineapple with Mint Syrup

Slice fresh pineapple and grill until caramelised. Simmer sugar, water, and mint leaves for syrup. Drizzle and serve warm with vanilla ice cream.



HAMBLE CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS

Over the last few weeks, the team has been working on Hamble Common under the direction of Eastleigh Borough Council. The most recent task was to cut back vegetation that was restricting public access to key footpaths across the Common. We needed to take care not to disturb nesting birds which ruled out using power tools, and we avoided excessive noise. The paths are important as they give access to those who might otherwise struggle to experience the very unusual environment of heathland with its distinctive and rare flora and fauna. It looks as though last year's efforts to remove poisonous ragwort were so successful that none has appeared this year!

If you would like to know more about us, please either visit hambleconservationvolunteers.org.uk or contact Philip Rawlinson: 07810 453138, philiprawlinson123@btinternet.com.

HAMBLE PLAYERS HOSTS FARNDALE'S FINEST (AND FUNNIEST)

Hamble Players' next production is a comedy by the ladies of the Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society, 8-12 July. Coarse acting, bad movies, and botched out-takes have had a loyal following in the British Isles long before the rest of the world recognised their entertainment value.

However, the world caught up after David McGillivray and Walter Zerlin Jnr decided to make their mark in the 1975 Edinburgh Festival with the Farndale ladies' production of Macbeth. The set was accidentally erected back-to-front, and an incapacitated witch pushed the cauldron around in a wheelchair. The play was an award-winning sell-out, later touring the country to similar acclaim.

Such was the impact of the ladies of the Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society that they made comeback after comeback. They appear all over the world in everything from French farce to science fiction adventure!

This play is a real test for both the actors and the technical team of Hamble Players. As a group, we pride ourselves

What started as a small kickabout in Hamble has grown into



something truly extraordinary – and the numbers prove it. Following a recent social impact study, Solent Sports FC is now saving the NHS an estimated £1.2 million annually through its mental health and wellbeing impact across Southern England.

On the pitch we're particularly proud of our women's teams, which continue to break barriers and build confidence. This season they have achieved another promotion and won the Hampshire Junior Cup. Our female players consistently tell us how the welcoming, non-judgmental environment has transformed not just their fitness, but their mental health and social connections. From nervous first-timers to confident team players, these women are proving that football truly is for everyone.

The ripple effect extends far beyond the pitch. With over 5,000 members across 19+ locations, Solent Sports is tackling social isolation head-on. Our 130+ volunteers contribute over £200,000 worth of community support annually, while our charity games alone raise £1,200 every month for local causes. We can't wait to get back on the pitch and hope the community comes along to support us at our Mount Pleasant home. That small Hamble kickabout has become a lifeline for thousands, and we're just getting started. The club has been nominated for a BBC Solent Community award, and we hope to tell you more about that and the other exciting things we have planned next month.

on our professionalism, sturdy and convincing sets, perfect sound effects & lighting, appropriate props, and, not least, actors who know their lines, entrances, and exits. It is therefore a theatrical challenge to stage a production where all the stagecraft we know and value has to go out the window. It is hard to do everything wrong... right!

You may think that no actors could possibly be as awful as the Farndale ladies. Perhaps they couldn't... just see for yourselves!"

Buy your tickets at www.ticketsource.com/hambleplayers or call 02380 440660.

HAMBLE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY: BOUNDARY STONES

Until 1902, Hamble was much smaller, and its boundary ran from Lovers Lane across the fields to today's Port Hamble entrance, when the houses in Satchell Lane were included in Hamble. Over the years, Hamble's boundaries expanded. In 1925, the rest of Satchell Lane and the fields that were to become Hamble Airfield (North) were transferred to Hamble from Hound. The fields on the west side of Hamble Lane, including Mount Pleasant Recreation Ground up to the station, became part of Hamble in 1951. Finally, another boundary change in 2019 included the fields on the east side of Hamble Lane up to Mallards Road in Hamble.



There are two old boundary stones remaining; the first is the one mentioned in the Council news section that has been restored to its original position at the end of Lovers Lane, on the boundary of Hamble and Hound. Nearby, there are War Department stones showing the boundary of Netley Hospital, which also coincided with the Hound/Hamble boundary. The other boundary stone is on Hamble Lane opposite Hamble School, again dated 1898, which was moved there from its original position during a later boundary change.

HAMBLE LADIES GROUP

Let's try and make our social afternoon a little less work for our committee, we said! Well, it didn't quite work out like that. We decided to hold a cake competition amongst our members and asked our local vicar Rev. Hayley Richens to come along to judge it for us. After the judging we would then eat cake and drink some fizz, plus quizzes, a spelling test, and a couple of games of Irish Bingo. We certainly did all this, but the committee worked very hard to set it all up and were kept busy during the afternoon looking after our members and guests.



We were pleasantly surprised at the number of cakes that were brought along and how wonderful they looked and tasted. There was an amazing Bakewell tart, 5 walnut and coffee cakes, Victoria sponge, cream scones, lemon drizzle cake, two chocolate cakes – one of which was the winner - gluten

The only other main boundary stones that some people confuse as parish boundary markers are those on the Common, dated 1923. These were part of the Hamble Common & Green Scheme, which began in 1923 when the Parish Council took over responsibility for its management. The stones marked the extent of the area covered by the scheme. This arrangement continued until 1955, when it was found that parish councils could not operate such schemes, and control was passed to Winchester Rural District Council.



Subsequently, Eastleigh Borough Council took over. When it undertook asset transfers beginning in 2010, it transferred ownership of the village green – but not Hamble Common – to the Parish. Hopefully, with the upcoming Local Government Reorganisation, it looks likely that Hamble Common and Avery's Field may now return to Parish Council control. The Parish Council has had to move the 1923 stone back by Common Creek on several occasions due to maintenance dredging at Hamble Point Marina, which has resulted in the loss of marshland and threatened to cause the stone to fall into the water.



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free cakes and an assortment of many more. Hayley had a hard job to pick a winner but eventually chose Sandra Williams with her amazing chocolate flake cake. It was a fun afternoon with lots of chatting, quizzing, eating and drinking. Luckily, we had lots of offers of help to clear up afterwards.

For our annual coach trip on 8 July, we are off to Savill Gardens at Windsor Great Park. Included in our trip is a cream tea – more cake, oh what a shame!!! On 12 August we have Malcolm Bord from Hearing Dogs coming along with his four-legged friend to chat to us about the good work the charity does.

I look forward to seeing everyone on 8 July and am keeping my fingers crossed that we get better weather this year. We hold our meeting in the Priory Centre, Hamble and start at 2pm. Everyone is welcome – why not join us?

Bobby Conduit, 023 8045 3626

HAMBLE VILLAGE MEMORIAL HALL NEEDS YOUR HELP

For the past 90 years, Hamble Village Memorial Hall has welcomed thousands of people through its doors to take part in everything from dance classes and flower arranging to pre-school education. People have held their parties and wedding receptions here and it provides an ideal theatre venue for Hamble Players' wonderful productions.

But this building is now beginning to show its age – repairs to the roof and outside area, and replacing worn-out equipment, are costing tens of thousands of pounds. There is money in the reserves but because of recent costs, these are becoming depleted. This is where people living in the village could help.

Rather than adding huge increases to the hiring charges, the trustees would like to form a voluntary committee to raise funds for the hall itself. Perhaps you could organise a quiz night or a jumble sale or maybe you have other ideas which could help the hall maintain its sound financial footing?

If you feel you could help, it would be a wonderful opportunity to have a huge, positive impact on your local community – and you could also make some new friends at the same time. If you are interested and would like to find out more, please contact the hall manager, Rebecca Whitaker Veryard on 07983 220588, hall@hmvh.org.uk or come along to the AGM, taking place in the hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 23 July. Just RSVP to the above contact details.

Two staff members, Kirsty (social prescriber) and Nicola (care navigator) from Hamble Valley Health came to The Hub on 12 June to give information on the recent merger between Blackthorn Health Centre and Hedge End Surgery. Current patients do not need to re-register. You may be offered an appointment at either surgery, but if you prefer to attend your local one, you can still do so – it just might not be the earliest available option. Care navigators based at Lowford are on hand to help people deal with a range of queries such as care packages, blue badges, housing benefits, attendance allowance, and much, much more. They will be at The Hub on the 2nd Thursday of every month from 10am to midday so if you have any questions, please come along and see them.

Summer holidays are not too far away, and I'm pleased to say that Shirley will be doing Children's Storytelling on 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 August from 10.30am-midday. We will also be offering some free children's craft sessions on some of these days (dates yet to be confirmed) so keep a look out for more information nearer the time. Both these activities are very popular so please bring the children along for some story time and crafting fun.

Elizabeth from The Hamble School has just finished 3 months' volunteering at The Hub as part of her Duke of Edinburgh award. She did a variety of tasks and became a very popular member of the volunteering team. Well done, Elizabeth – we all wish you the very best for the future.

Remember, we are open 6 mornings a week, and 3 afternoons. Why not pop in and say hello?!

UPCOMING DATES

Upcoming Parish Council Meetings at Roy Underdown Pavilion

Asset Committee Meeting
Monday 7 July, 7pm

Full Council Meeting
Monday 14 July, 7pm

Planning Committee Meeting
Monday 28 July, 7pm

Make Some Noise (outdoor concert)

6 July
3pm – 5pm

At Royal Victoria Country Park.

Hamble Players presents Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society: A Christmas Carol

8 – 12 July

Last day of school before start of summer holidays

18 July



WetWheels Hamble Pirates Adventure

25 – 27 July

wetwheelshamble.co.uk

Careering Through Time

14 August

thepointeastleigh.co.uk/whats-on/careering-through-time

The Lost Kingdom: The World of Dinosaurs

23 August – 7 September

At Royal Victoria Country Park.