

# East Boldre *and beyond* e-newsletter

02 February 2026

Hello Everyone

This month there is news that the refurbishment of East Boldre Village Hall has started. There is also news from the Beaulieu and District Gardening Club and other notices as well as and the usual monthly police report in our Neighbourhood Watch section. Please don't forget to send in your notices and advertise your events in this free newsletter. And please tell your friends about it or forward a copy to them. They can request a copy on the village website using the link above.



## BEAULIEU AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

All events and any changes to them will be advertised on our website and Facebook page, by email and in our WhatsApp group.

### **February 17<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 1pm to 3pm, School Fields Hall, East Boldre Winter Social,**

Please Note, new time and location. Ploughman's lunch will be served, gardening related activities, and a chance to meet up with friends. **£6** Please RSVP to our Secretary, Lesley-Anne Kerr ([lapkerr@gmail.com](mailto:lapkerr@gmail.com)) by 10<sup>th</sup> Feb, letting us know of any allergies, etc.

### **March 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday 7.30pm, Beaulieu Village Hall**

**Talk** by Bob Sawyer on Propagation. Bob is an expert judge at our Shows.

### **April 23<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 7.30pm, Beaulieu Village Hall**

**Talk** by Casper Todd, head gardener at Lepe House, on the development of their gardens. Followed next day by:-

### **April 24<sup>th</sup> Friday, 10.30 – 12.30pm, Visit to Lepe House Garden**

**Guided walk** Led by Casper Todd. Booking essential, places limited but must exceed a minimum of 14 people. **£15** on the day to include tea/coffee and cake. Directions will be provided nearer the time. Please RSVP to our Secretary, Lesley-Anne Kerr [lapkerr@gmail.com](mailto:lapkerr@gmail.com)

### **May 9<sup>th</sup> Saturday, 2 to 4pm, School Fields Hall, East Boldre**

**Plant Sale.** Bring along plants to be sold to provide funds for our club and buy more to take home.

### **June 16<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm, East Boldre Village Hall**

**Talk** - Ben Turner returns to speak about Inspiration from Tresco Abbey Gardens.

**July 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday, Summer Show, East Boldre Village Hall**

Bring your exhibits to the hall between 9.30 and 11.15am. Judging from 11.30am. Show opens at 2.15pm and awards at 3.45pm.

**July 18<sup>th</sup> Saturday, Beaulieu Village Fete**

Our stall is run by the committee, selling plants, pots, etc. All help and contributions welcomed.

**September 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday, Autumn Show, East Boldre Village Hall**

Bring your exhibits to the hall between 9.30 and 11.15am. Judging from 11.30am. Show opens at 2.15pm and awards at 3.45pm.

**October 6<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 2.30pm, East Boldre Village Hall**

Talk by Gwynn Davies on Spring Bulbs for the garden.

**November 12<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 6.30pm, Beaulieu Village Hall**

**Annual General Meeting** followed by refreshments.

**November 26<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 2.30, East Boldre Village Hall**

**Demonstration** of Christmas wreath making by Fin of Belle and Blossom.

## News from East Boldre Village Hall

### East Boldre Village Hall Refurbishment begins

The Trustees of East Boldre Village Hall, the last surviving WW1 Airfield building on the Forest and important community space, have successfully raised over £450,000 for their refurbishment project. Treasurer, Gina Antczak said: "we would like to thank all the organisations and individuals who have generously donated so far. This will cover the majority of the building costs but we'll need to raise more to do everything on our wish list so we will reach out to the local community and our following of heritage enthusiasts in a crowdfunding appeal at a future date"

Lord Montagu, Patron of East Boldre Village Hall, visited the site as the builders started and said "I am pleased to see this building which has significant historical interest and is at the heart of the community being given a new lease of life. The refurbishment will benefit everyone who uses the hall in the future".

The project will transform the hall and make a huge difference to the community. Not only will the building have a much improved kerb-side appearance but internal changes will allow for a greater number and broader range of activities to be provided. Westmade Ltd, Building Contractors, will oversee the works and the first job will be to remove the wall between the seating area and old storeroom.

Planned features include extending the theatre hall by nearly 50% and improving access to the Robert Coles Room. There will be a new, larger and more modern kitchen and modernised and refurbished toilets. Upgraded stage facilities with projection and sound for film, theatre and talks together with the increased seating capacity with new, more comfortable chairs will enhance the user experience. Cushioned flooring in the theatre hall will benefit those attending exercise and dance classes.

Chair, Mike Husband said: "We are thankful to the volunteers for their help and the time they have invested. A focus group has given the trustees invaluable help and advice on the new kitchen and decor, and we've received kind offers to help with clearing the hall, the kitchen refit, carpentry, decorating and more but we are always looking for extra volunteers. Thank you also to all the hall users who are managing the disruption so well. We know that the waiting will be worth it. The hall will feel warmer, lighter, more comfortable, user-friendly and above all, more welcoming. We look forward to inviting everyone back when the hall re-opens."

The hall is expected to re-open during early Summer 2026.

Please follow progress on their Facebook page – East Boldre Village Hall

More information can be found at <https://www.eastboldre.org/ebvhmain.html>

Advance bookings can be made at [bookings.ebvh@gmail.com](mailto:bookings.ebvh@gmail.com)

Any donations would be gratefully received via Just Giving <https://www.justgiving.com/charity/eastboldrevillagehall> or email [ebvillagehall@eastboldre.org](mailto:ebvillagehall@eastboldre.org).

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# CHAPEL STORES

— EST. 2023 —

## POP-UP CAFÉ

### EVERY THURSDAY AFTERNOON

### FROM 2 to 4pm

Drop by and enjoy tea, coffee and delicious home-made cake at very reasonable prices

## SPECIAL EVENT ON THURSDAY

### 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY AT 2.30pm

### SCAM BUSTING TALK

Join our Community Police Officer, Richard Williams, who will tell us how to stay safe and what to look out for when using your devices.

Space is limited, to book a place please text 07715 297741

## HOPe Needs You

Suzanne, Pauline & Georgina our befriending co-ordinators work tirelessly to match our volunteers to our clients and would love to meet some new volunteers. Across the New Forest there are many older people waiting for a befriender. Seeing someone like you for some company and conversation will make a big difference to their week.

You can apply online [www.hopenewforest.org/contact](http://www.hopenewforest.org/contact) or email [befriending@hopenewforest.org](mailto:befriending@hopenewforest.org).

## Services at Beaulieu, Exbury and East Boldre Churches

For full details of Church Services at Beaulieu, Exbury and East Boldre, [go to the Beaulieu Churches website](#).

## Neighbourhood Watch

## Local Beat Report

Hello and welcome to the January 2026 Beat Report for the New Forest Heart area. Your team is PC 24901 Mark ROBERTS, PC 27901 Stuart READHEAD and PCSO 14495 Richard WILLIAMS.

On Tuesday 24th February we will be at the Bramshaw Village Stores at 8am, outside the Post Office in Bartley at 9am and at 11am you can join us and the Ashurst and Colbury Neighbourhood watch team at the Happy Cheese pub in Ashurst.

The following day on Wednesday 25th we will be at the Lyndhurst Parish Council Offices at the back of the Community Centre at 11am and then in Brockenhurst on Brookley Road from midday, just opposite Tesco.

Finally, we will be holding another SCAM BUSTING TALK at the East Boldre Community Café at the back of the village stores at 2.30pm on Thursday 26th February. If you can't make that talk and would like someone to visit your club or society, just email [richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk) and we can arrange a time and place.

Our Beat Surgeries last for 30 minutes, unless demand is high of course, but as we always say if you can't come to any of these meetings you can always call or email us, but to report a crime or any anti-social behaviour dial 101 or go the Hampshire and IOW Police website. Of course, if it's an emergency always call 999.

We are also holding another one of our Walking in Partnership events on Sunday 8th February at the Milkham car park and Inclosure. The walk starts at 1pm and last for about an hour and a half and the distance is just under three miles. The post code is BH24 3QZ and the W3W are boast.next.snaps. These events are for solo walkers or for people who don't feel comfortable walking on their own in the New Forest and they are led by Forestry England. If you would like to be added to our mailing list so that we can let you know exactly when, where and what time please email [richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk).

Three vehicles were stolen across the Beat in January, one was a Land Rover taken from an address on Fletchwood Lane, one was a pickup truck from outside the pub at Fritham and the other was a quad bike from a property at Longdown. Eight vehicles have also been broken into including five that were parked on a farm site and hotel car park in Ower whilst the other two were at an event in East End where handbags were stolen. Remember please take as many of your valuables with you if you leave your vehicle unattended.

Other thefts this month included a catalytic converter from a car in Nomansland, generator cables from the site of Tatchbury Mount Hospital and various items from the five shopliftings reported to us. Three happened at Tesco in Lyndhurst and two at the Co Op in Brockenhurst. Three suspects have been identified for those thefts and one has already been identified, arrested and charged.

Attempts have also been made to break into the Brockenhurst Parish Council offices on Brookley Road and to the SSE site on Castle Malwood Hill at Minstead. Thieves did get into sheds at the Forestry England car park in Lyndhurst, a garage in Minstead, an outbuilding in Longdown and a private property in East Boldre, while on Copythorne Common an outbuilding was broken into but nothing was taken.

Sadly this month, a house in Brockenhurst was burgled and items were stolen. The burglary happened between 18.35 and 18.45 on Saturday 17th January. The homeowners returned to the house and disturbed the intruders who ran off. Investigations into that burglary are still ongoing so if you live in the area of The Coppice and have seen anything suspicious lately then please let us know quoting the incident number 44260025770 – thank you

The first Op Mountie session of 2026 took place on the C17 at Emery Down and at Matley campsite, and we only stopped two vehicles for breaking the speed limit – one was taken off on the back of a recovery truck because the driver didn't have any insurance and was doing 58mph - remember the speed limit across the Forest is

40mph. Op Mountie is our multi agency approach to reducing speed and animal accidents across the New Forest.

And in support of OP Mountie, officers from Totton C Shift Roads Policing Unit conducted speed enforcement across multiple locations in the New Forest this month. During the enforcement they stopped dozens of drivers who drove in excess of the speed limit with four drivers reported with the top speed being 52mph in a 40mph zone. Many others driving below the prosecution threshold were given a warning and stopped for document checks. During these checks they identified one vehicle was showing as uninsured on the Motor Insurance Database. Further enquiries identified the vehicle was insured however the driver only held a provisional license which resulted in them seizing their vehicle for driving otherwise than in accordance with their license. Another driver who drove below the prosecution threshold speed was arrested after they tested positive for cannabis on the roadside. They were taken to Southampton Custody where a blood sample was taken and whilst being searched in custody more cannabis was found on their person. They now have a nervous wait whilst they are released under investigation pending the blood results.

Stay safe everyone

Your local Police team are:

[richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk) 07554 775469

[mark.roberts.24091@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:mark.roberts.24091@hampshire.police.uk) 07392 314340

## Dates for your Diary

### Music at Beaulieu

Tickets for all concerts except Glyndebourne can be bought online.

It is possible to buy tickets directly from the Ticket Office by calling 07770 859900 and on the day at the door, if the concerts are not sold out and subject to availability.

### Beaulieu and District Gardening Club

Membership is £12 per annum. Membership secretary Lynne Hubbard 01590 612408. Visitors to talks £4.

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Friday, 9 January 2026 at 7.00 p.m.

Boldre Parish History Society. An Archive Evening at Boldre Memorial Hall.

Friday, 13 February 2026 at 7.00p.m.

Boldre Parish History Society. Speaker: Professor Emeritus Tony King, "Romans Along the Lymington River. New excavations in the Forest". Boldre Memorial Hall.

February 17 Tuesday

Beaulieu and District Gardening Club. 1pm to 3pm, School Fields Hall, East Boldre Winter Social, Please Note, new time and location. Ploughman's lunch will be served, gardening related activities, and a chance to meet up with friends. £6 Please RSVP to our Secretary, Lesley-Anne Kerr ([lapkerr@gmail.com](mailto:lapkerr@gmail.com)) by 10<sup>th</sup> Feb, letting us know of any allergies, etc.

21 February

Music at Beaulieu presents Viva Concerto: Soloists on Violin and Piano with Nova Foresta Philharmonic Orchestra. Beaulieu Abbey Church, 4:00-6:00 pm. £25

Friday, 13 March 2026 at 7.00 p.m.

Boldre Parish History Society. Speaker: Sandy Shore, "The Life of a Crown Keeper in the New Forest." Boldre Memorial Hall.

28 March

Music at Beaulieu presents Choralia Milford: A Celebration of British Choral Music. Beaulieu Abbey Church, 7:00-9:00 pm. £20.

3 April

Music at Beaulieu presents Come and Sing Whose performance brings Stainer's Crucifixion to life through shared participation and expressive choral music. Beaulieu Abbey Church, 7:00-8:10 pm. £15. If you want to sing, rehearsals start 6:00 pm.

April 23 Thursday

Beaulieu and District Gardening Club. 7.30pm, Beaulieu Village Hall. Talk by Casper Todd, head gardener at Lepe House, on the development of their gardens.

April 24 Friday

Beaulieu and District Gardening Club. 10.30 – 12.30pm, Visit to Lepe House Garden. Guided walk Led by Casper Todd. Booking essential, places limited but must exceed a minimum of 14 people. £15 on the day to include tea/coffee and cake. Directions will be provided nearer the time. Please RSVP to our Secretary, Lesley-Anne Kerr [lapkerr@gmail.com](mailto:lapkerr@gmail.com)

May 9 Saturday

Beaulieu and District Gardening Club. 2 to 4pm, School Fields Hall, East Boldre. Plant Sale. Bring along plants to be sold to provide funds for our club and buy more to take home.

9 May

Music at Beaulieu presents Reflection, A Soprano and Piano Recital of Romantic Songs. Beaulieu Abbey Church, 7:00-9:00 pm. £15.

6 June

Music at Beaulieu presents the Awards Concert 2026. Beaulieu Abbey Church, 7:00-9:00 pm. £10.

June 16 Tuesday

Beaulieu and District Gardening Club. 7.30pm, East Boldre Village Hall. Talk - Ben Turner returns to speak about Inspiration from Tresco Abbey Gardens.

July 4 Saturday

Beaulieu and District Gardening Club Summer Show, East Boldre Village Hall. Bring your exhibits to the hall between 9.30 and 11.15am. Judging from 11.30am. Show opens at 2.15pm and awards at 3.45pm.

4 July

Music at Beaulieu presents an Opera Evening with Wessex Glyndebourne Association 2026. Beaulieu Abbey Church, 7:00-9:00 pm. £30 or restricted views £10.

July 18 Saturday

Beaulieu and District Gardening Club. Beaulieu Village Fete. Our stall is run by the committee, selling plants, pots, etc. All help and contributions welcomed.

18 July

Music at Beaulieu presents The King's Men of King's College, Cambridge. Beaulieu Abbey Church, 7:00-9:00 pm. £25.

15 August

Music at Beaulieu presents Summer Jazz by Sarah Bolter's Jazz Quintet. Beaulieu Abbey Church, 7:00-9:00 pm. £15.

September 5 Saturday

Beaulieu and District Gardening Club Autumn Show. East Boldre Village Hall. Bring your exhibits to the hall between 9.30 and 11.15am. Judging from 11.30am. Show opens at 2.15pm and awards at 3.45pm.

12 September

Music at Beaulieu presents Baumring-Gledhill & Chapman: French Cello & Piano Masterworks. Beaulieu Abbey Church, 7:00-9:00 pm. £15.

3 October

Music at Beaulieu presents The Magic of Mozart. Music at Beaulieu's 2024 Award Winner, Emme Hensel, is the flute soloist in Mozart's charming concerto in D. Beaulieu Abbey Church, 7:00-9:00 pm. £25.

October 6 Tuesday

Beaulieu and District Gardening Club. 2.30pm, East Boldre Village Hall. Talk by Gwynn Davies on Spring Bulbs for the garden.

November 12 Thursday

Beaulieu and District Gardening Club. 6.30pm, Beaulieu Village Hall. Annual General Meeting followed by refreshments.

14 November

Music at Beaulieu presents Emma Johnson MBE: Clarinet in Recital. Beaulieu Abbey Church, 7:00-9:00 pm. £25.

November 26 Thursday

Beaulieu and District Gardening Club. 2.30, East Boldre Village Hall. Demonstration of Christmas wreath making by Fin of Belle and Blossom.

5 December

Music at Beaulieu presents a Festive Joy: A Seasonal Piano Recital. Beaulieu Abbey Church, 4:00-6:00 pm. £15.

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If you have not received this newsletter before and you think that it contains helpful information, please forward it to your friends. The more people who use it and contribute to it, the better it will be. By subscribing to this free community newsletter, you will always know what's going on in the village and you will receive important Neighbourhood Watch information without delay.

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