

East Boldre *and beyond* e-newsletter

01 March 2026

Hello Everyone

You have probably seen that the village hall refurbishment has started so there is an update on the progress. Beaulieu Village Hall is holding a combined event on Mother's Day and we have 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.



Your Village Hall is being refurbished

You may have seen the news article in the Lymington Times last week.



Having now successfully raised over £450,000 for the project, work began late January and is expected to be finished this summer. The project will transform the hall with a much improved external appearance and the internal changes will allow a broader range of activities to be provided. The works will extend the theatre hall (you can see most of the wall at the back has already been removed), provide a new kitchen and toilets, upgraded stage facilities with projection for films and talks.

Come and see our plans and get a progress update at Beaulieu Village Hall on Sunday 15 March at the Golden Jubilee Future of Beaulieu & Mother's Day Show. Open 10 am – 4 pm. See more details below.



Website - [East Boldre Village Hall](#)

Follow the progress on Facebook – [East Boldre Village Hall](#)

Donations gratefully received via - [Just Giving](#)

Golden Jubilee Future of Beaulieu & Mother's Day Show

The Beaulieu Village Hall show celebrates Mother's Day, the start of Village Halls Week, The New Forest Awakening Festival and our 50th Anniversary Golden Jubilee year.

The themes are Wellness / Wellbeing, Sustainability of our environment and wildlife, and our Community, especially the groups that are supported by the Beaulieu Village Hall

The event is at Beaulieu Village Hall on Sunday 15 March from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Admission by ticket at £1.50. Mums and kids under 16 go free. Plenty to see and shopping opportunities. For details, go to the [Beaulieu Village Hall Website](#)

HOPe Needs You

Benefits of befriending are not just felt by the older people we support. Our volunteers find it a rewarding experience. Our befrienders build true friendships and thoroughly enjoy their regular visits, hearing life stories, discussing mutual interests and laughing together over a cup of tea and a piece of cake. Our Befriending co-ordinators take time to suitably match each volunteer to an older person to ensure both parties enjoy a positive experience. If you would like to volunteer as befriender, please email 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

Hampshire Constabulary have issued several warnings this month, three of which are reproduced below.

Safe Online Scheme (formally Cyber Bobby Scheme)

Safe Online is a completely free service offered by the Blue Lamp Trust across Hampshire.

Our trained, police-vetted volunteer advisers visit homes to deliver practical, easy-to-understand online safety advice. We help people protect themselves from scams, fraud, identity theft and other threats to their digital security.

During each visit or session, our advisers will:

- Explain what online scams, fraud and phishing look like
- Help check and adjust privacy and security settings
- Show how to spot suspicious emails, texts or calls
- Offer guidance on safe passwords, software updates and antivirus tools
- Signpost additional support and resources
- Advise how to report incidents
-

Available to adults in Hampshire who meet at least one of these criteria:

- Over 60
- Living with a disability
- A past victim of online fraud or cyber-enabled crime

For more information, to request a visit or to make a referral for someone you know, visit <https://www.bluelamptrust.org.uk/safe-online/> .

Don't know the caller? Don't answer the phone!

Regular readers will know that our advice is, and always has been, if a caller withholds their number, or calls from an unknown number – let it go to voicemail/answerphone. Ideally, you will already have call blocking software (activated via your mobile/landline provider) or a call blocking device such as TrueCall: <https://www.truecall.co.uk/> (other brands are available).

Why do we advise against engaging with unknown callers? Trading Standards have shared detailed information explaining how your voice can be cloned and used to defraud you: <https://www.nationaltradingstandards.uk/news/phone-scams-take-sinister-twist-as-victims-voices-cloned/> .

We appreciate it can be very challenging to ignore calls if you are waiting for an urgent medical appointment/children's school etc – but if you do answer the phone and it's not the call you are hoping for/someone you are sure you know – please hang up immediately.

If you've received a phishing email, please report it to your email provider and/or forward it to report@phishing.gov.uk .

If you've received unwanted phone calls or texts from people you think are trying to scam you, but you haven't engaged with them, please forward the text/phone number to 7726.

Gmail Phishing Alert

"Which?" are warning of a fake email stating that a "subpoena" has been issued, demanding access to your email account. This is completely untrue – it is a fraud designed to instil panic in order to harvest your personal and financial information, contact lists etc. The warning is aimed at gmail users, but it could affect any email account. For more details please see: <https://www.which.co.uk/news/article/which-warns-gmail-users-to-watch-out-for-this-convincing-phishing-email-a9POc6M9CBmP>

Please share this important warning with friends and family

Local Beat Report

Hello and welcome to the February 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 Wednesday 4th March we will be at the Community Café in the Copythorne Community Centre at 2pm for the Parish Council's drop in session then on Monday 23rd join us at the Bramshaw Village Stores at 8am and outside the Post Office in Bartley at 9am.

The following day on Tuesday 24th March we will be at the Happy Cheese Pub in Ashurst with the Ashurst and Colbury Neighbourhood watch team and on Wednesday 25th from 11am join us at the Lyndhurst Parish Council Offices at the back of the Community Centre and then in Brockenhurst on Brookley Road from midday, just opposite Tesco.

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 Saturday 21st March at the LINFORD BOTTOM car park. The walk starts at 11am and last for about two hours and the distance is just over three miles. The post code is BH24 3HU and the W3W are revisits.pleaser.contracts. 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 .

Seven garages, outbuildings and sheds were broken into in February. Two were on the same night in the Longdown area, two were on a different night in Ashurst Bridge, and the others there were in Brockenhurst, Bartley and Copythorne. A van was stolen from Ashurst where it had been parked overnight on the driveway and number plates were taken from a car parked in the Blackwater car park on the Rhinefield Ornamental Drive. Thieves often steal number plates so that they can use them on similar cars when they go out and commit crime so if you ever have yours taken, please let us know.

The good news this month is that officers based at Lyndhurst investigating a burglary and vehicle related theft series in the New Forest have now charged two men. Billy Ridout, 28, of Hedley Close Fawley has been charged with conspiring to commit burglary, conspiring to commit non-dwelling burglary, conspiring to steal a vehicle, driving while disqualified and using a motor vehicle on a road/public place without third party insurance. Thomas Wellman, 28, of Rushpole Court, Dibden has been charged with conspiring to steal a motor vehicle, conspiring to steal from a motor vehicle, conspiring commit dwelling burglary, conspiring to commit non dwelling burglary and handling stolen goods. The charges follow incidents reported to Police since September 2025, the majority of which have occurred in the New Forest area. A total of more than £100,000 worth of property has been reported stolen.

In February we had three shopliftings, two at the Tesco in Lyndhurst and one at the Tesco in Brockenhurst - suspects have already been identified for two of them and investigations are continuing for the other one. Other thefts in February included equipment from a sewage treatment works in Beaulieu and the community speed watch tripod in Brockenhurst.

Forestry England have reported damage to their car park signs in Goatspen, Wood Corner, Hinshelsea, Holmsley and Culverly car parks and they have also found large amounts of waste from cannabis grows dumped at James Hill and Cadmans Pool car parks. At the end of the month you might have seen us stopping vehicles on the High Street in Lyndhurst and pulling them into the car park. Officers from the New Forest Heart and Totton Police Teams, the Rural Task Force and the Neighbourhood Enforcement Team were joined by the Driver Vehicle Standards Agency, New Forest District Council and Forestry England to carry out a joint operation targeting commercial vehicles in the Forest. In total 35 vehicles were stopped, 2 vans needed to change tyres before they could continue their journey, 1 had to be recovered due to a dangerously faulty brake hose and four vans carrying waste must provide a valid waste carriers licence to NFDC within 14 days or face a fine. All other vehicles, trailers, and plant machinery were thoroughly examined. Great teamwork so thanks

to all of our partners helping us to reduce fly tipping and vehicle crime across the Forest.

This month's Op Mountie session took place at Kings Hat Inclosure as dusk fell because last year's figures show that animal accidents now happen as much at the end of the day as the beginning. Op Mountie is our unique operation aimed at tackling this issue with the help of our colleagues at Forestry England, the New Forest Roads Awareness Team and the New Forest National Park. We believe that if we want to change drivers' behaviours and attitudes then we should use education as well as enforcement and Op Mountie is when we all work together to achieve those aims. This month we only stopped two vehicles but both were travelling over 10mph above the speed limit - 52 and 51 on a 40mph road and both received tickets. Thank you to all of those drivers who did stick to the speed limit, as always you are the vast majority and we all really appreciate it.

Your local Police team are:

richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk 07554 775469

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, 13 February 2026 at 700p.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) by 10th 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

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.

Use the links below to subscribe or unsubscribe from this newsletter.

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