

East Boldre *and beyond* e-newsletter

02 June 2026

Hello Everyone

There's some good news about the village hall and the launch of a new book about the Baptist Chapel which is now our wonderful community shop. There's also several notices and events, 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.

East Boldre Village Hall Crowdfunding

We need your help to raise **£35,000**

We are so close - let's finish it together

Refurbishment is well underway using the £450,000 already raised for essential repairs. The builders hope to complete the work by 12 June, leaving us to decorate and furnish the hall.

Building costs have escalated and now we need your help to cross the finish line.

This money will equip the hall with audio visual equipment, new chairs, curtains and blinds, and CCTV.

Please Donate Today

Call 01590 626368

E-mail ebvillagehall@eastboldre.org

Donate on www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/ebvh-2026

BEWARE: When you donate, Crowdfunder gives themselves a generous tip. You can set the tip to any amount you want using the slider or you can set it to zero by clicking on, '**Enter custom tip**' immediately under the slider. Note, they don't pass on any of the tips to us.

Please donate by 12 July

Every pound helps

Keeping the Lights Burning Book Launch

Keeping the Lights Burning traces the rich and intertwined history of the Baptist church and trade in East Boldre, from the early nineteenth century to 2024. It incorporates A Light in the Forest - The History of the East Boldre Baptist Church by Eric Smith.

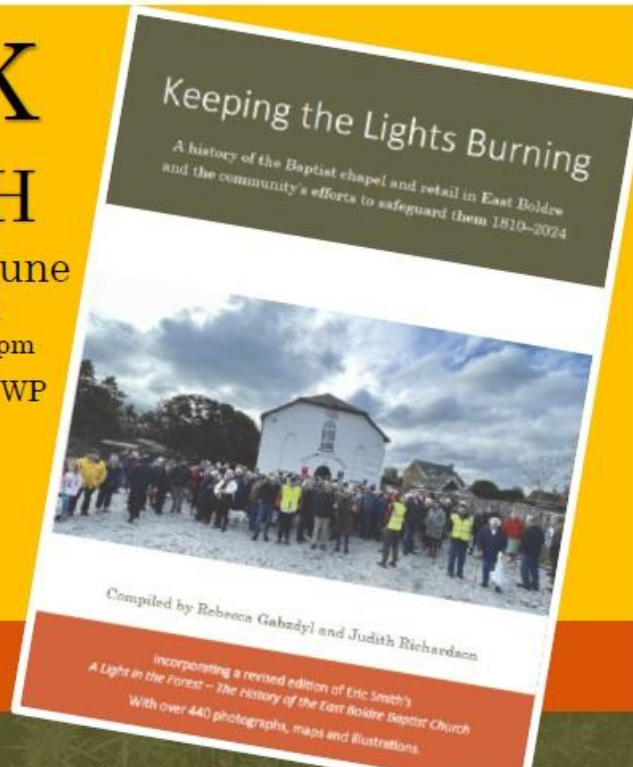
BOOK LAUNCH

Saturday, 20th June

Book review 10 am
Signing 10:15 am - 1 pm
Chapel Stores, SO42 7WP



Rebecca Gabzdyl
Judith Richardson



Keeping the Lights Burning traces the rich and intertwined history of the Baptist church and trade in East Boldre, from the early nineteenth century to 2024. It incorporates *A Light in the Forest - The History of the East Boldre Baptist Church* by Eric Smith.

86 local contributors
Over 440 photos,
maps and illustrations

For over two centuries, the chapel stood at the heart of village life and generations gathered within it until changing times and a dwindling congregation led to its closure in 2021. Once a largely self-sufficient village, East Boldre supported a variety of small-scale traders, but over time these gradually disappeared.

When faced with the loss of its last shop and Post Office, the community came together with determination and vision. In an inspired act of preservation and renewal, the chapel found new purpose at the centre of village life once more, reborn as a community shop and Post Office.

This is a story not of loss, but of resilience, adaptation, and the strength of community spirit and collective action which culminated in the creation of Chapel Stores.

£20 each. Sold in support of
East Boldre Community Stores

CHapel STORES
— EST. 2023 —



DON'T MISS OUT
PRE-ORDER!
£20 each



Scan the QR code or email
gabzdyl@btinternet.com

You can pre-order via <https://forms.gle/Gxbbp1e8b4dT1aAN9> which will help us estimate the initial print run quantity.

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Book review 10 am. Signing 10:15 am - 1 pm.
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Buckler's Hard Wartime Weekend (History & Heritage Event)

Saturday 13 - Sunday 14 June
Admission: Free (Parking charges apply)

BUCKLER'S HARD WARTIME WEEKEND



SATURDAY 13 - SUNDAY 14 JUNE

TWO DAY EVENT, 10AM TO 5PM DAILY (PARKING CHARGES APPLY)

Guest speaker talks - WW2 Beaulieu River exhibition - Portsmouth Model Boat display team - exhibitor stands - military vehicles - step aboard HMS Medusa and relax in the historic shipbuilding village

bhshipyardtrust.org.uk | Buckler's Hard, New Forest, SO42 7XB

**BUCKLER'S
HARD**



**New Forest
& Hampshire**
Wartime Association

Organisations & Exhibitors:

Friends of the New Forest Airfields (FONFA)
Solent Sky Museum
HMS Medusa (step aboard this WW2 vessel)
Portsmouth Model Boat Display Team (D-Day re-enactments on the river)
Coleshill Auxiliary Research Team (CART)
The Lumberjills (Joanna Foat)
Exbury AA Gunsite Group
East Boldre Village Hall (the trustees of the WW1 building will be selling RAF Lymington runway sections to raise funds)
Air Raid Precautions team from Wimborne
The Military Heritage Museum (with Lepe D-Day Heritage)
Plus several people with their private collections on display
Plus several re-enactors

Wartime themed theatrical show:

Wartime themed theatrical show by Drift Theatre : We'll meet again: A day to remember

Vehicles:

Various Jeeps, trucks, and vehicles from WW2, lined up on the High Street looking down towards the Beaulieu River. These belong to many kind owners, who you can meet and talk to on the weekend, who will show you about their vehicles and equipment, and tell you the stories about them.

WW2 Exhibition:

Beaulieu River at War Exhibition (in Shipyard Gallery in village)
Contains 20 panels with photos and text which tell the story of the estate and river in wartime. There's also a 10 minute film of archive footage of local wartime activity. Plus, cabinets with artefacts.

If you use Facebook, here's the event link:
www.facebook.com/events/861717932850047

Oakhaven Family Fun Day



Fun for all ages at the Oakhaven Family Fun Day on Saturday, 27th June

Oakhaven Hospice's popular Family Fun Day will be taking place in the beautiful Oakhaven gardens on Saturday, 27th June, from 12 noon to 4 pm - this year with a pirate theme!

Everyone is welcome for an afternoon of fun and entertainment for all ages. Entry costs just £2 per adult and £1 per child, with free entry for children aged under 2 years.

There will be something for everyone to enjoy at Oakhaven's traditional summer fayre, which is kindly sponsored by John D Wood & Co. This year's Family Fun Day has a pirate theme, with a pirate stilt walker, giant bubbles, fun activities, plenty of pirate games and sea shanty singers!

Stalls will include delicious homemade cakes, the ever-popular bottle tombola and 'barrow of booze', plants, art and crafts and homemade jam.

Children will be delighted with the Popell Barns Mobile Farm, and at the 'Kidzone', they will find fantastic inflatables and face painting. Meanwhile, the coconut shy, splat the rat, lucky dip, and other traditional games will delight kids of all ages!

Refreshments will include pizza, hot dogs, strawberries, a fizz and Pimms tent, a traditional tea room, ice creams and plenty of other delicious treats.

Oakhaven's Family Fun Day is a great way to support your local hospice!

All funds raised at the Family Fun Day will directly support Oakhaven Hospice, which has provided compassionate end-of-life care to patients and support for their loved ones, free of charge, for nearly 35 years. The charity is currently caring for over 650 patients at any time, in the hospice and in patients' homes across our New Forest, Totton and Waterside communities. Oakhaven Wellbeing, meanwhile, supports everyone in the area who is navigating a life-limiting condition or is bereaved.

Just 13% of Oakhaven's costs are covered by the NHS. The remaining 87% of the £10 million it takes to provide Oakhaven's vital services each year is raised through the generosity of our community's kind donations, fundraising, gifts in wills, and income from the Oakhaven charity shops and the home care provider, Oakhaven Care Ltd.

As well as coming along to the event, you could help the Family Fun Day by baking a cake, donating a prize for the Grand Raffle, or donating a bottle, plant or unwanted gift.

For more information about the Family Fun Day and how you could support, please visit www.oakhavenhospice.co.uk/family-fun-day , or contact the Fundraising Team directly on 01590 677773 or fundraising@oakhavenhospice.co.uk .

Brockenhurst Choral Society Charity Concert and Afternoon Tea



BROCKENHURST CHORAL SOCIETY

**SUNDAY JULY 12TH AT 4.30 PM
BROCKENHURST VILLAGE HALL**

Charity Concert with Afternoon Tea

**A CONCERT OF LIGHT MUSIC
RAFFLE & COLLECTION
IN AID OF OAKHAVEN HOSPICE**

Tickets £18 including afternoon tea
Online via www.brockenhurstchoralsociety.org
or from Pot Pourri and Streets in Brockenhurst

Early booking recommended
Limited tickets only at the door



Tickets from:

www.brockenhurstchoralsociety.org or [TicketSource](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk) or from Streets or Pot Pourri

HOPe Needs You

At HOPe our mission is to promote and improve the wellbeing of older people by addressing the issues of support, isolation, and loneliness. As well as our Charity shops in New Milton & Ringwood have you heard of our Befriending & Information Support Service? These services underpin our mission by assisting individuals to remain connected to their local community and support independent living. If you would like to be involved, please visit www.hopenewforest.org/contact or call 01425 705 995.

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

Appeal for witnesses following robbery in Lymington

The police are appealing for witnesses following a reported robbery in Lymington on Sunday 17 May.

During the incident, which occurred on Station Street at approximately 5.30pm, it's reported that a man approached and assaulted two teenage boys. It's stated that the man pushed both boys, kicked one of them, and stole their sweets.

A 30-year-old man from Fareham has been arrested in connection with our investigation. He was arrested on suspicion of robbery, common assault, criminal damage and a public order offence. He has since been released on conditional police bail, pending further enquiries.

As part of those ongoing enquiries, we would like to hear from anyone who was in the area at the time of the incident and recalls seeing anything of it. Did you witness the incident? Do you have any footage of it, including dash cam, mobile phone or any other CCTV?

If you can help with any of the above, please call 101 and quote incident number 44260231947.

You can also report online via the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary website, below;

Insurance/Investment/Cryptocurrency Fraud

Recently there have been several news reports alerting consumers to:

- Insurance Fraud – particularly affecting younger people applying for car insurance for the first time are being targeted by “ghost brokers” with false offers.
- Investment Fraud – affecting people who have some money to invest in a variety of potential products including cryptocurrencies.

The police receive high numbers of reports of these types of fraud, particularly investment fraud involving cryptocurrencies. It is illegal for famous people to advertise/recommend investment products e.g.: celebrities, politicians etc – so that's a big red flag to watch out for.

On a positive note, the good news is that the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) have launched a new tool to help consumers check if financial services firms are authorised and have permission to sell products and services including insurance and investment products. [Click here for the FCA Firm Checker](#)

FIFA World Cup Lottery Fraud

The police have received reports from residents of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight who have been sent letters purporting to be from a FIFA World Cup Lottery. These are a form of lottery fraud. Please do not respond to any communication (letter, text, message, phone call) about a FIFA World Cup Lottery (or similar) in any way.

The BBC previously issued the following warning:
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-63793641>

Key Indicators of the Fraud:

- You receive a notification for a lottery you never entered
- You may be asked to pay an "administrative fee" or provide bank detail to release a prize
- Urgency/Secrecy Letters demand a reply within seven days and often instruct you to keep your "win" confidential

- Claimed locations are often in Switzerland or London but are fake or misused locations
- Scam mail is often personalised using the recipient's name throughout the letter, as well as on images such as certificates and cheques
- Artwork uses seals or crest and fonts that suggest they come from a financial institution or official body
- Words like "guaranteed" or "100% genuine" are used and precise amounts of money are described
- Signatures claim to be from officials with senior ranking titles and identification numbers

For more information about lottery fraud: [Lottery scams - Report Fraud](#)

For all official FIFA World Cup ticketing/merchandise etc: [FIFA | The Home of Football](#)

Local Beat Report

Hello and welcome to the May 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 Saturday 6th June we will be joining our Sergeant 20401 Rob Blake for the MEET THE TEAM Beat Surgery in Totton. The team travels on bicycles through the town starting at Hangar Farm at 3pm, then moving on to the West Totton Centre for 3.30pm and finishing up at the Bartley Skate Park at 4pm.

On Monday 15th we will be at the Bramshaw village store at 8am and then at Bartley Post Office at 9am, on Tuesday 16th at 11am we will be at the Happy Cheese Pub in Ashurst with the Ashurst and Colbury Neighbourhood watch team and an hour later at midday on Brookley Road in Brockenhurst, just opposite Tesco.

The following day, Wednesday 17th June you can join us at the Lyndhurst Parish Council Offices at 11am.

We are also holding another one of our SCAM BUSTING talks at 2pm on Thursday 25th June at the Lyndhurst Community Centre in the main car park in the village. 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.

The number of sheds, garages and outbuildings broken in to increased in May, with eleven reported to us in Ower, Brockenhurst, East Boldre, Woodlands, Winsor and Lyndhurst where a bicycle was stolen while power tools and gardening equipment were the other items taken from across the Forest. Over the last six months, in partnership with New Forest District Council, we've been handing out SelectDNA Forensic marking kits to residents of the New Forest. These kits allow you to put a security mark on your valuable items including tools, trailers, vehicles and so on and if they are ever stolen and then recovered by Police we can return them to you. The kits are also a useful deterrent to would be thieves. If you have been given one of these kits can we ask you to register it and start marking your property as soon as possible please. They are a really useful tool against theft but only if they are used by you to mark your property. And if you would like one of the kits please email richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk and we will send you one and remember they are free of charge.

A quad bike and a Ford Ranger were also stolen in May from addresses in Ower and Woodlands – the Ranger has been found and recovered by the owner but we are still looking for the quad bike. A generator was stolen from a welfare van on a site just outside Lyndhurst, kitchens waiting to be installed at a different site on the outskirts of Totton were also stolen as was a bicycle that was left outside the Tesco in Brockenhurst for no more than 10 minutes.

There have been four shopliftings, all of them from the Tesco on the High Street in Lyndhurst, plants were also stolen from a nursery in East End and Forestry England car parking signs have been stolen or damaged in several car parks across the Forest. Again, if you have any information that will help us identify who is responsible then please let us know.

The reversing camera and light were taken from a motorhome in Ashurst campsite and a car was broken into overnight in the car park of the Copythorne Scout Hall while an overnight camp was taking place. Number plates were stolen from a car in Woodlands, a laptop bag from a car parked overnight in a hotel car park in Cadnam and the catalytic converter was cut off a car parked on a driveway in Brockenhurst.

May's Op Mountie was again another example of how the vast majority of drivers travel at or below the 40mph speed limit. BUT we did stop four drivers who were doing 46, 47, 49 and 60 mph even though a group of ponies including two foals spent all morning within 200 metres of our position at the Matley car park on the road out of Lyndhurst towards Beaulieu.

Op Mountie is our multi agency operation where we work with Forestry England, the New Forest National Park Authority and the New Forest Roads Awareness Team in a bid to reduce speed and animal accidents across the Forest. The message this month is a simple one, foals are being born and stallions are back on the Forest making next year's foals so please take even more care than usual.

At the end of May we received reports of some unusual and concerning behaviour in the fields along Chineham Road in Bartley. On one occasion a horse in one of the fields was injured and had to receive treatment from a vet and on another occasion, taps were left on in the field which caused extensive flooding. If you know anything that help us identify those responsible or if you see anyone behaving suspiciously in the area then please contact PCSO Williams on the email provided or call 101 and quote the incident number 44260237632. Thank you.

Finally, can we remind you, again, about the need to take all your valuables with you when you leave your vehicle unattended anywhere and don't hide them in the boot either because you never know who is watching you. The holiday season brings thieves as well as visitors to the Forest so please spread the word and if you would like one of our NO VALUABLES HAVE BEEN LEFT IN THIS VEHICLE cards email richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk and we will send you one.

Stay safe everyone

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.

* * *

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.

* * *

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.

This electronic newsletter serves the larger community of East Boldre, East End, Beaulieu, Exbury, Norleywood, South Baddesley, Portmore, Pilley and Boldre. You can

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