

# Sparsholt Community Newsletter

## Village Events

The Village Events Calendar is steadily filling up as life gradually returns towards "normal" (whatever that is now!), with several social events listed between now and Christmas.

### Events in October

- Monday 4 – School Inset Day
- Sunday 10 – HG Volunteers Work Day
- Sunday 10 – Music Concert
- Wednesday 20 – HG Tree Planting & Bench Installation (TBC)
- Thursday 21 – Parish Council Meeting (Planning)
- Friday 22 – School breaks for Half Term
- Saturday 23 – Sparsholt Harvest Supper
- Sunday 24 – Sparsholt Harvest Festival Service
- Sunday 31 – Summer Time ends (clocks BACK 1 hour)**
- Sunday 31 – Halloween**

### Dates for your Diary

- Monday 1 November – School restarts after Half Term
- Friday 5 November - Guy Fawkes Night!**
- Saturday 6 November – HG Volunteers Work Day
- Thursday 11 November – Armistice Day**
- Sunday 14 November – Remembrance Sunday & FOSS Remembrance Sunday Lunch**
- Thursday 18 November – Parish Council Meeting
- Sunday 5 December – Pop-up Shop and mini-Christmas-Market
- Sunday 5 December – HG Volunteers Work Day
- Friday 17 December – School Autumn Term ends
- Sunday 19 December – Music Concert

### Calendar Online

The Calendar can be viewed at any time via the Sparsholt Parish website by using the following link: <http://www.sparsholtparish.org/Calendar>

As we progress further out of lockdown we expect more events to be added so, please let us know if you are planning an event by sending the details to us, using the link below:

[sparsholt.newsletter@sparsholtparish.org](mailto:sparsholt.newsletter@sparsholtparish.org)

## Macmillan Coffee and Cake Day

Thank you Sparsholt...



<https://www.macmillan.org.uk>

## Village Picnic

Thank you very much to **everyone** involved in the Sparsholt Village Picnic on 4<sup>th</sup> September.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon with great music from Brian Witts, Christopher Dean duo and Abby Bamber Brown.

There were some fantastic raffle prizes raising £640 for the Church.

## Messy Church - Cancelled

Unfortunately, due to a lack of support, the decision has been taken to cancel all "Messy Church" events for the rest of this year, but they will probably start again in February 2022.

## Sparsholt Music

Tickets are now available from the village shop or online for the next Sparsholt Music concert. It will be held on Sunday 10th October at 3pm in the village hall. Tickets in advance only. Includes Bach, Mozart, Chopin, Gershwin and more!

[www.sparsholtmusic.org](http://www.sparsholtmusic.org)

## Sparsholt 100 Club Autumn Draw

The Autumn Draw will take place at the Harvest Festival supper on 23<sup>rd</sup> October. First prize is now £200

### Pop-up shop and Mini-Christmas-Market on 5<sup>th</sup> December

Please contact Janette if you are interested in a stall.

01962 776998 (during shop hours) or by email  
[sparsholtvs@googlemail.com](mailto:sparsholtvs@googlemail.com)

### Christmas Trees

The shop & school are joining forces again to sell fabulous Christmas trees - collection will be on 5th December. Order forms will be available in the shop mid October.

### Post Office

Please remember that the Sparsholt post office can help with most of your day to day banking needs (no need to go to your branch).

We can now accept Parcelforce packages (size and weight restrictions may apply). Please do pop in and ask if we can help you and save you a trip to town or another post office.

### Vegetation and the Public Highway

**Autumn is a good time to inspect your boundaries and ensure your vegetation is not obstructing the public highway.**

The owner or occupier of a property has a legal responsibility (Highway Act 1980 s154) to ensure that the 'public highway' adjacent to a property is not obstructed by vegetation from their property.

The public highway is defined by law as consisting of any verge, footway, carriageway, bridleway, or footpath that is maintained at public expense and over which the public has a right of way.

When Local Authorities become aware of such obstructions, they will usually advise the property owner or occupier of the problem. If the owner/occupier does not take corrective action within a reasonable time (the Local Authority will normally specify a time limit for the work to be completed), the Local Authority can issue a formal notice for the work to be undertaken, and if that is ignored, they can do the work and charge the owner/occupier.



### A34 Three Maids Hill Bridge Repairs

Please see the following notification from Highways England:

We're nearing the end of our bridge repair work taking place at the Three Maids Hill junction, north of Winchester.

Work beneath the bridge is progressing well, and closures of the A34 northbound (between the exit and entry slip roads) will continue overnight Monday 27 September (9pm to 6am, Monday to Friday only) until.

The final phase of these repairs will be to replace the joints in the bridge which carries the A272 over the A34 at the junction. For everyone's safety, the following overnight closures will be in place:

**Friday 15, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 October (9pm to 6am)**  
 – closure of the A272 eastbound over the bridge, with a signed diversion via Bullington Cross junction.

**Friday 22, Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 October (9pm to 6am)**  
 – closure of the A272 westbound over the bridge, with a signed diversion via the Winnall roundabout.

If work isn't fully completed over these weekends, we will implement further closures on the nights of Friday 29, Saturday 30 and Sunday 31 October.

We'd advise all motorists to stick to the signed diversion routes as they have been chosen with both suitability and safety in mind. We'd also encourage drivers to stick to speed limits and follow appropriate signage to ensure the safety of fellow road users.

Please note that these works are subject to change due to weather conditions and progression of other roadwork projects. Closures will be advertised on yellow signs placed in advance at the junction and on our South-East Twitter page (@HighwaysSEAST).

We would like to apologise in advance for any inconvenience or disruption you may experience during this work. If you have any questions, or if you would like to know about our work, please contact us on 0300 123 5000 or email [info@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:info@highwaysengland.co.uk). Or you can visit our website at <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/travel-updates/daily-closure-report/> where you can find a weekly report of all full closures across the network.

Alternatively, please visit our webpage  
<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/se-maintenance>





## Fireworks

The following photo has been sent to the Newsletter, showing firework debris collected since last November in one garden.



Over the last year there have been a number of firework displays using very large professional display type fireworks, which have dropped debris in most of the gardens between Woodman Close and the Memorial Hall.

The debris in the photos was collected over the last year and, it is still being unearthed from time to time. A lot of the debris is hard plastic and could easily cause harm to pets and other wildlife.

Large fireworks are not appropriate for domestic settings, the noise is frightening to pets and the debris can be dangerous. Even domestic fireworks should be carefully placed and aimed to avoid neighbouring properties. Take extra care if you live near any of the thatched properties in the village.

### Did you know?

- It is against the law to carry fireworks in public if you're under 18
- Fireworks must not be sold to anyone who is under 18
- It is an offence to let fireworks off during night hours (11pm to 7am), except on Bonfire Night (midnight), Diwali, New Year's Eve, and Chinese New Year (1am)
- It is an offence under the Explosives Act 1875 to tamper with or modify fireworks



## THE FIREWORK CODE

### ALWAYS FOLLOW THE FIREWORK CODE

- \* Do not buy fireworks from UNLICENSED retailers. These fireworks may be unsafe and illegal.
- \* Only buy fireworks that comply with current safety standards.\*
- \* Always keep fireworks in a closed box. Take them out one at a time and close the box.
- \* Never put fireworks in your pocket.
- \* Be considerate. Let your neighbours know you will be having a display, especially if they are elderly or they have pets or children.
- \* Avoid setting fireworks off late at night, particularly if it is a school-night.
- \* Ensure your pets are safe.
- \* Carefully follow the instructions on EACH firework.
- \* Never go back to a lit firework unless the instructions advise otherwise.
- \* Never throw fireworks; it is dangerous.
- \* Light fireworks one at a time, at the end of the fuse, and at arm's length.
- \* Light sparklers one at a time and wear suitable gloves, even when lighting them.
- \* Never give sparklers to a child under the age of 5.
- \* Never throw spent fireworks on a bonfire.

### STAY SAFE, BE CONSIDERATE, AND DON'T BECOME A NUISANCE.

\*All fireworks supplied by BFA members are tested to conform to the current safety standards. If you require more information, contact the seller or any member of the BFA.

### Firework categories

- **Category F1** refers to fireworks which pose a minimal hazard and this classification is usually given to indoor fireworks
- **Category F2** items (sometimes known as garden fireworks) require the smallest distance, which is eight metres or 15 metres
- **Category F3** items (sometimes known as display fireworks) require the greatest distance which is at least 25 metres.

**Not all fireworks in these categories will be suitable for every garden. It is vital to check the distances required and all of the instructions on Category F2 and F3 fireworks as it may not be possible to meet the distance requirements in a domestic garden.**

- **Category F4** fireworks (sometimes known as industrial fireworks) are for professional use only at organised displays. These can include aerial shells and other items banned for sale to the public. Many category F4 fireworks are supplied without a fuse and are extremely dangerous to the untrained. **If you are not a licensed professional and you are offered Category F4 fireworks, these are being sold to you illegally.**

## Church



On Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2021 in  
Sparsholt Memorial Hall  
at 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.

Tickets (£15 each) are available from Sparsholt Village Shop; you can pay for the tickets by card. The deadline for buying tickets is 21<sup>st</sup> October. Please let Sally know about dietary requirements in advance.

Don't forget to bring cash for drinks and the raffle!

**Seating is limited so buy your tickets EARLY to avoid disappointment.**

### Sparsholt Harvest Festival

On Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October at 10.00am in St. Stephen's Church

Please join us to celebrate the Harvest and provide goods for the Winchester Churches' Nightshelter. Harvest Festival provides WCNS with an invaluable opportunity to replenish their food & household stocks for the year ahead. WCNS have been supporting people who are experiencing homelessness for 35 years guided by their vision to transform lives, inspire hope and end homelessness. Since the start of the pandemic they have remained open 24/7 to allow their residents to stay safe; they plan to make this change permanent after positive feedback from residents and staff.

This Harvest, WCNS would very much welcome donations of the following to enable them to provide breakfast, lunch and a hot cooked evening meal every day of the year. The donations will also enable residents at the Nightshelter and their Move On Houses to undertake their personal laundry and for the accommodation to be cleaned.

### Nightshelter items

The following items are needed:

- Non-perishable food: Baked beans, Biscuits, Cereals (Not porridge),
- Coffee, tea and decaf coffee, Cook in sauces (all types), Cooking oil,
- Dry rice, Granulated sugar, Gravy granules, Jams/Marmite, Salt/pepper and table sauces, Squash and soft drinks, Tinned curry meals, Tinned custard and rice pudding, Tinned fruit, Tinned meats including corned beef, hot dogs, luncheon meat, Tinned pasta i.e ravioli, spag bol, mac cheese, Tinned tomatoes,
- Housekeeping: Aluminium foil, Anti-bac spray, Anti-bacterial wipes,
- Batteries – AAA, AA & C, Bleach, Boxes of tissues, Cling film, J-cloths,
- Kitchen rolls, Spray cleaner, Spray sanitiser, Strong black bin liners,
- Toilet cleaner, Toilet rolls, Washing powder, Washing up gloves,
- Washing up liquid,
- Toiletries: Deodorant (especially men's spray), Liquid soap, Shampoo,
- Shaving foam, Shower gel.

Please bring the items with you to Church when you come to the Service at 10.00am. If you are unable to attend the Service, please leave them in the Church on the preceding Saturday morning.

### October Church Services in Sparsholt

17th October 8am - Holy Communion

24th October 10am - Harvest Festival

31st October 6pm – All Souls Service (if you would like to have the name(s) of your loved ones who are no longer with us read out at this Service, please contact John Wesley or Alastair Barron)

### Parochial Church Council - New Members Required

The PCC is looking for new members. We are cutting down the number of meetings to 4 a year, plus the Annual Parochial Church meeting.

If you are interested in joining us, or would like more information, please contact either of the Churchwardens: John Wesley on 01962 776476 or Alastair Barron on 01962 776844.



## Ham Green



The September Work Day was well supported and the Group continued with the major clearing work, including clearance of the Butterfly Area by the bridge into Stockers Down. After several years of careful management of this area, we are beginning to notice that many varieties of wild flowers are now present during Spring & Summer, thus providing habitat and food for various butterflies.

A very big Ash tree (T27), which was affected by Dieback disease and liable to drop branches on to the footpath, has now been made safe and reduced to a 5m. stem, which will over time provide a really good wildlife habitat (see photos below).

### Next HGCG Work Day

The next Work Day is planned for **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October**

and, the main work will be to continue the major clearing of the area further along the bridleway,

known as the New Hedge Area. We will also be preparing the chosen site for the HH/Skanska specimen tree, which is due to arrive at HG on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October**. For further details of our Work Programmes, contact [terrydunn9@btinternet.com](mailto:terrydunn9@btinternet.com)



### Other HG News Items

The Ash tree (T27), shown above, was the first tree to be felled as part of the Phase 2b Ash Dieback felling programme, which will be continued later in the year.

We have also noticed in recent weeks that there are a few more Ash trees in very poor shape, that have not previously been listed for trimming/felling, and these will be monitored throughout the coming months to ensure the safety of HG users.

## Police Contacts

A message from Michelle Wilkinson of our local policing team:

There was a situation recently whereby a member of the public could not find out who their local PCSO was or the local team's contact details. Whilst I appreciate there have been a few changes recently and the contact details may not be current, I thought I would take this opportunity to update you all.

PCSO Kerry Croutear and I share the Winchester Rural beat area. We are both part time and job share, so if one of us is not on, the other should be. Our new PC is Vikki McCallum.

PCSO 15075 Michelle Wilkinson – 07901102292

PCSO 13466 Kerry Croutear – 07976962677

PC 28364 Victoria McCallum – 07795454351

The Winchester Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team email address

is [winchester.rural.police@hamshire.police.uk](mailto:winchester.rural.police@hamshire.police.uk) (**we no longer use the pnn in the address, if you have emailed us before!**) This is the best email address to use as enquiries will be picked up by the whole team.

**Please do not report a crime by email, please visit the Hampshire Constabulary website to report online or phone 101/999.**

It is hoped that we will hold regular Beat Surgeries to enable parishioners to meet with their local officers, to share any policing matters or concerns and receive crime prevention advice. We appreciate that in recent times, it has been difficult to speak directly with the Police and we would like to make this a little easier for you, by arranging set date and times where you know where we'll be. This is particularly important for the more vulnerable who perhaps don't use social media and may need our help.



## Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting is on **Thursday 21st October 2021** at 7.30pm in Memorial Hall Sparsholt.

## SPARSHOLT COMMUNITY CONTACTS

### Parish Councillors

Sue Wood	Chair & Transport	chair@sparsholtparish.org transport@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776255
Sue Annesley	Highways & Memorial Hall	highways@sparsholtparish.org memorialhall@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776653
John Cooper	Footpaths & Ham Green	footpaths@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776753
Lynne Gibson	Councillor	councillor@sparsholtparish.org	07771 606974
John Little	Deputy Chair & Communications	deputy@sparsholtparish.org communications@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776249
Andrew Osmond	Security	security@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776197
Nigel Reid	Sparsholt Shop	shop@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776244
Sue Wakefield	Playground	playground@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776288
Vacancy			
Nicola Breen	Clerk	clerk@sparsholtparish.org	01962 776909 07714614662

### City Councillors

Caroline Horrill	CHorrill@winchester.gov.uk	01962 776844
Stephen Godfrey	sgodfrey@winchester.gov.uk	01962 884477
Patrick Cunningham	pcunningham@winchester.gov.uk	01962 883887

### County Councillor

Jan Warwick	jan.warwick@hants.gov.uk	07717104236
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### Member of Parliament

Steve Brine	steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk www.stevebrine.com	0207 219 7189
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### SPARSHOLT COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP

If you need help the support group remains available and can be reached on: **07595 967259**

Contact email address for volunteers and requests for support - [supportgroup@sparsholtparish.org](mailto:supportgroup@sparsholtparish.org)

### WEBSITES

Sparsholt Parish: <http://www.sparsholtparish.org/>

Sparsholt Shop: [http://www.sparsholtparish.org/Our\\_Shop](http://www.sparsholtparish.org/Our_Shop)

Downs Benefice: <http://www.downsbenefice.org/>

### New to Sparsholt or if you have a New Neighbour

If you are new to Sparsholt or have a new neighbour, please let Sally Wesley know so that a Sparsholt Welcome booklet can be delivered [sally.wesley@btinternet.com](mailto:sally.wesley@btinternet.com)

### Copy Deadline for November Edition

This is your newsletter so please contribute items of interest, news of events, offers to help and/or photographs. The deadline for the June edition is **Friday 22nd October 2021** please submit all items to

[sparsholt.newsletter@sparsholtparish.org](mailto:sparsholt.newsletter@sparsholtparish.org)