

East Boldre and beyond e-newsletter

06 July 2021

Hello Everyone

This newsletter brings you news of the new community shop project and of the public meetings arranged to communicate the new proposal to the village. There is also some important Neighbourhood Watch information. 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.

Greener Brockenhurst on Saturday 10 July, 12:00-4:00 pm



INSPIRATION DAY

SATURDAY 10TH JULY 2021 | 12.00 - 4.00PM
IN THE GROUNDS OF ST SAVIOURS CHURCH

Join us for a series of events and activities to help you slow down and appreciate the wonders of nature around you and to inspire and motivate you to lead a more sustainable life.



- Fun & Games for all the family
- Homemade refreshments
- Eco fair of local gifts & produce
- Information & advice from a range of Eco experts
- How to make an insect hotel
- Observation bee hives
- Veg seedlings & Veg growing advice
- Upcycling old jeans with a sewing machine
- Wormery demonstration
- Bell ringing demo

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greenerbrockenhurst



More details on www.greenerbrockenhurst.org

A Message from the East Boldre Community Hub Project

Four years after the initial Save Our Shop campaign, we have finally obtained planning permission to develop the village hall into a community hub with a community shop. What we don't have, and are still working on, is a licence from Forestry England and the New Forest Verderers to operate a shop in the hub. And this is proving to be a complex and long-winded process. Meanwhile, special praise must be given to Ian Evans, the shop owner, who has forgone retirement and kept the shop open throughout this protracted period. But this cannot go on indefinitely, so a new plan has evolved for the community shop and the village hall. This was explained in detail in the recent newsletter which was delivered throughout the wider community and can be read online at the new East Boldre Community Stores website, <https://www.eastboldrecommunitystores.com/news>. Full information about the proposed community shop can be found on the website.

In addition to the information on the website and in the newsletter, two public meetings have been arranged. The first will be an online meeting by Zoom at 7:00 pm on Thursday 8 July. To join the meeting, click on this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89069169662>

The second public meeting will be at the village hall on Sunday 11 July at 7:00 pm. Covid restrictions still apply so numbers attending will be limited. To book a seat at the meeting, call Andy on 01590 612997.

Here is a summary of the revised plan:

The Shop Project: It is probably simplest to say that everything that was proposed for the shop at the hub will still happen with this new approach. The shop will stay at Ian's but it will be expanded to occupy the whole ground floor making the shop very similar in size to that proposed at the hub.

This will allow the shop to offer a broader range of products and services. The shop aims to be trading by April 2022, so this is a much quicker solution too. Removal of the large chimney breast in the centre of the shop and knocking through downstairs will make the layout more accessible and provide a more open feel.

The Village Hall Project: The village hall team intend to realise all the improvements that were planned for the hub, - a larger main hall and mezzanine, a second meeting/function room, cinema equipment and improved theatre facilities.

From the outside, the building will look very much as proposed in the planning application. By taking the shop out of the hub, the basement and lift would no longer be needed, significantly reducing the costs and complexity of the build. The Village Hall development would therefore also be faster, so delivering benefits to the community much sooner.

Neighbourhood Watch

Messages from Acton Fraud

1 Ghost Brokers

Just 15% of people have heard of a 'ghost broker' No, we are not talking about things that go bump in the night – this is a lot scarier. 'Ghost brokers' are fraudsters who sell fake or invalid car insurance policies. Victims are sold fake insurance documents for a policy that does not exist, or for a genuine policy that has been set up using false details to lower the price of the premium.

How do 'ghost brokers' operate?

Fraudsters lure victims in with the offer of cheaper insurance premiums, usually via social media or by word-of-mouth. These individuals or groups pose as middlemen for well-known insurance companies, claiming they can offer you legitimate car insurance at a significantly cheaper price.

This type of fraud is typically carried out either by forging insurance documents, falsifying your details to bring the price down, or by taking out a genuine policy for you but cancelling it soon after.

Often, the victim is not aware that they have been scammed until they are involved in an accident and try to claim on the policy.

Who do 'ghost brokers' target?

'Ghost brokers' tend to target vulnerable communities, including members of non-English speaking communities who may not have full knowledge of UK insurance and laws, as well as young people looking for cheaper insurance deals.

Last year, Action Fraud received 694 reports of 'ghost broking', with almost a third (29%) coming from victims aged 17-29. The reported losses for these victims alone totalled £113,500, with each individual losing an average of £559.

Figures also indicate that over half (58%) of all reports in 2020 were submitted by men.

What could happen if I drive without valid insurance?

As policies sold by 'ghost brokers' are either invalid, non-existent or fraudulent, this means that the driver is technically uninsured, meaning that you could face:

- £300 fixed penalty notice
- Six points on driving licence
- Vehicle being seized and crushed.

How can I protect myself from 'ghost brokers'?

There are simple steps that you can take to spot the signs of these scams and avoid being taken for a ride by 'ghost brokers':

- 'Ghost brokers' often advertise and communicate via social media, online forums and messaging apps. If a broker is only using a mobile phone or email as a way of contact, this can be a sign of this type of crime. Fraudsters do not want to be traced after they have taken money from their victims.
- They may also try to sell insurance policies through print adverts in pubs, clubs or bars, newsagents.
- If a deal seems too good to be true, then it probably is. If you are not sure about the broker, check on the [Financial Conduct Authority](#) or the [British Insurance Brokers' Association](#) website for a list of all authorised insurance brokers. You can also contact the insurance company directly to verify the broker's details. You can also check to see if a car appears to be insured on the [Motor Insurance Database](#) website.
- If you think that you have been a victim of a ghost broker, you can report your concerns to Action Fraud at [actionfraud.police.uk](https://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or on 0300 123 2040.
- You can also contact the Insurance Fraud Bureau via its confidential Cheatline on 0800 422 0421 or on the [IFB website](#).

2 Alert For NSI and BT Customers

Hampshire Police has received a few reports from NS&I customers who have had their accounts compromised and savings withdrawn.

From initial reports, it appears that the customers' BT account is compromised giving the suspect access to emails and landline call forwarding functions. These services are exploited by criminals to gain control of the victims NS&I accounts. Once breached the victim's funds are withdrawn.

BT is the only telecoms provider featured in reports thus far, but many other companies provide email services and landline call forwarding functionality that will allow this scam to operate.

Any email account linked to finances must have good security. If you do not have 2 Factor Authentication (2FA) on your email account, you are very vulnerable to account compromise and should consider linking those financially important accounts to a more secure email address that has 2FA.

To find out more visit www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberaware
For a personalised online security action plan visit:
www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberaware/actionplan/individuals-and-families

3 Covid Vaccine Passport Scam

We have been made aware of a Covid Vaccine Passport scam email going around that purports to be from the NHS and informs recipients that they can apply for their "Digital Coronavirus Passports".

Clicking on the link within the email, takes you to a convincing but fake NHS website that asks for personal and payment details for an admin fee.

The website has since been taken down, but there is a good chance that similar scam emails/websites will appear.

Your vaccination status is obtained FREE through the NHS App, website or by calling the NHS on 119.

More information can be found on the gov.uk website;
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/demonstrating-your-covid-19-vaccination-status-when-travelling-abroad>

Please note that any Phishing scams can be reported to SERS (Suspicious Email Reporting Service): report@phishing.gov.uk

Local Crime

Burglaries: Two homes have been burgled this month. Most burglaries take place during the day, which is exactly what happened in both incidents. The first happened in Bartley between 10am and 3pm on Wednesday 2nd June and the second saw a home in Bramshaw broken into on Tuesday 8th June between 12.30 and 6pm. At the Bramshaw address, items stolen included several gold rings, silver bracelets, necklaces, and watches. One of the watches was an Omega slim dress watch engraved with the words WARINGS CONTRACTORS 25 YEARS SERVICE. Investigations are ongoing so if you have any information, please call 101 and quote the crime number 44210224057.

And if you would like any advice on how best to make your home more secure then please email Richard.williams@hampshire.pnn.police.uk .

Ten sheds and outbuildings have also been broken into this month and various items stolen including motorbike jackets, garden tools and bicycles. The premises targeted were in Ashurst, Lyndhurst, Stoney Cross and Brockenhurst.

Vehicle Crime: During June: A staggering and disappointing 31 vehicles have been broken into in June with eleven of them parked in hotel car parks in Stoney Cross, Ower, Cadnam and on the Rhinefield Ornamental Drive. Three vans were broken into on the same night on the same road in Lyndhurst, and there has also been an increase in the number of thefts from cars parked in the New Forest's car parks, which is not unusual at this time of year but can be avoided if you take everything valuable with you and do not leave anything on display inside your vehicles when you leave it unattended. If you would like one of our NO VALUABLES HAVE BEEN LEFT IN THIS VEHICLE cards, then email richard.williams@hampshire.pnn.police.uk and we will send you one.

Other thefts: The number of bicycle thefts has also increased this month with four taken from Lyndhurst, ten from Brockenhurst, two from outside the pub in Emery Down and three that were locked to the back of a camper van in the Roundhill Camp Site.

Your local Police Officers are:

Jason Eastwood - jason.eastwood@hampshire.pnn.police.uk 07979 707939

Vicki Pressey - vicki.pressey@hampshire.pnn.police.uk 07785 500952

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 e-mail items for inclusion in this newsletter to web.manager@eastboldre.org. There is no charge for this service.

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