

East Boldre *and beyond* e-newsletter

01 May 2026

Hello Everyone

There's a new events, some news about the village hall and a couple of reminders this month. We also 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.

Brockenhurst Choral Society



The poster features a background of autumn leaves in shades of green and yellow. In the top left corner, there is a yellow square logo with the letters 'BCS' inside a white circle. The date '9th MAY' is written in large, bold, white capital letters in the top right. The title 'JOHN RUTTER REQUIEM' is centered in very large, bold, white capital letters. Below the title, the program details are listed in smaller white text: 'BRUCKNER Locus Iste', 'FAURE Cantique de Jean Racine', and 'PURCELL anthems'. Underneath that, it says 'Chamber Orchestra and Instrumental Solos'. The conductor's name, 'CONDUCTOR STEPHEN HOPE', is written in bold white capital letters. At the bottom of the poster, the venue and time are listed: 'BROCKENHURST CHORAL SOCIETY', 'St Saviour's Church, Brockenhurst', and 'Saturday May 9th at 7.30 pm'.

TICKETS £20 (£5 students)

Online at www.brockenhurstchoralsociety.org

From Pot Pourri & Streets in Brockenhurst or at the door

Refreshments available



REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1150575

East Boldre Village Hall Building Project



Message from the Hall Team

A BIG THANK YOU to all of those who supported the hall and made donations following the break-in and criminal damage two weeks ago. Your support has been tremendous and heartening. The donations amounted to nearly £1,000 which will help to pay for the extra security we have put in place. The police investigation is ongoing - if you do have any information which might help, please contact them using crime number 44260176836.

We'd like to say thank you to each and every supporter who donated via Just Giving but unfortunately their website set-up does not allow for it. We will need to raise more funds to get us to the finish line, so we'll be soon launching a crowdfunding campaign. If you do wish to and can help, you'll soon have an opportunity to do so, and we'll be able to thank you individually.

The builders have now put right the damage and have ensured any delay caused will be minimal. Volunteers will soon be fitting the kitchen which was set back due to the flooding. We're still on track to reopen the hall in this summer and we look forward to welcoming you back.

A Message from Action Hampshire

Understanding Rural Affordable Housing and Its Potential Role Locally

Do you know a young person who has had to move away because they couldn't afford to live locally?

In many rural parts of Hampshire, housing is expensive. Younger adults aged 35 and under are often forced to move away, families can struggle to find suitable homes, and key workers may be unable to live in the communities they serve.

Rural affordable housing helps address this challenge. These are homes offered at costs local people can afford, including affordable rent and shared ownership options. Applicants must have a connection to the local area, ensuring homes go to those who already live, work, or have family there.

Even a small number of affordable homes (5 to 10 properties) can make a real difference. They help younger residents stay close to family and friends, support those living in overcrowded housing or looking to downsize, and enable key workers such as teachers, carers and tradespeople to live locally.



New rural exception site in Longstock delivering five affordable homes for local people.

Affordable housing also benefits the wider community. For example, research by the Rural Services Network shows that just 10 new homes can generate £1.4 million in economic activity and support 26 jobs, helping sustain schools, shops, pubs, and other essential services.

Action Hampshire works with local communities and parish councils to explore opportunities for affordable housing. You can help by contacting your parish council to highlight the need in your area, and by encouraging them to get in touch with us to discuss how new affordable homes could benefit your community.

Reminder - Romany Heritage Exhibition 2026



The FREE exhibition is being presented by the East Boldre Village Hall Heritage Group. Because our hall is closed for refurbishment, the exhibition will be launched at Boldre War Memorial Hall from 10 am till 4 pm from 22 – 25 May. It then goes to Thorney Hill Community Centre from 30 May till 1 June. Opening times are 12-4pm on 30 May and 10am-4pm on 31 May and 1 June. For full details, [click here](#).

Boldre Parish History Society

Sarah Downer's talk to the Boldre Parish History Society has had to be postponed from Friday 8th May to Friday 15th May at 7.00 pm at Boldre War Memorial Hall. She

is the Keeper of Collections at Beaulieu. Visitors, £5, Members, FREE.
Refreshments available.

HOPe Needs You

We're thrilled by the incredible work happening at HOPe, but we can't do it alone! Our mission thrives thanks to the generosity and passion of supporters like you. Every donation, big or small, helps us make a lasting difference in your community. If you're inspired to get involved or have creative fundraising ideas, we'd love to hear from you! Reach out to our dedicated community fundraiser at fundraising@hopenewforest.org and become a vital part of the HOPe story. Together, we can bring hope to even more lives!

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

Bike Marking this weekend in Totton and Brockenhurst

This weekend the police are holding two bike marking sessions locally.

On Sunday 3rd May we will be at the West Totton Centre, Hazel Farm Road, Totton, SO40 8WU between 10am and 11.30am and on Bank Holiday Monday we will be outside the Boost Bike Hub in Brockenhurst, SO42 7RR also between 10am and 11.30am

Bring your bikes to us and we will security mark them for free and add them to the National Bike Register.

See you at the weekend

Text Fraud

You might receive a text stating your bank/credit card has been added to an APPLE PAY wallet and asks you to phone a number to verify your identity. This is a form of phishing (smishing) text to gather your personal/financial information in order to defraud you further.

APPLE state they do not call or text to warn you of issues, they will not text you and ask you to call a number, and they will never ask for codes, passwords or PINs, they will never email or message you with links or ask you to download software.

If you receive this type of message, please ignore it and do not respond. You can forward it to 7726 if possible, or your phone provider may offer you the option to report it to them, then block the sender and delete the message.

Local Beat Report

Hello and welcome to the April 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 2nd May 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 10am, then moving on to the West Totton Centre for 10.30 and finishing up at the Bartley Skate Park at 11am.

On Sunday the 3rd between 10am and 11.30 we will be back at the West Totton Centre for one of our security bike marking sessions. Bring your bike to us and we will security mark it for you and add it to the national Bike Register. The service is free thanks to New Forest District Council who have funded this initiative. Then on

Monday 4th May we will be back outside the BOOST BIKE HUB in Brockenhurst for another bike marking session again between 10am and 11.30am.

On Monday 18th we will be at the Bramshaw village store at 8am and then at Bartley Post Office at 9am, on Tuesday 19th 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 20th you can join us at the Lyndhurst Parish Council Offices at 11am.

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 Wednesday 13th May at 6pm but haven't chosen a venue yet. 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 these events take place please email richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk.

21-year-old Ryan Carpenter from Dorset has been charged with burglary other than a dwelling following a burglary and theft of a bike at the Boost Bike Hub on Station Approach in Brockenhurst. Carpenter was remanded in custody to next appear at Southampton Magistrates Court on Tuesday 12th May.

A considerable amount of damage was caused last month to the East Boldre Village Hall. The hall is being fully refurbished but vandals have gone into the hall overnight and caused mindless damage and stolen some tools. Please, if you have any information that you think will help us identify those responsible, contact us and quote the crime number 44260176836.

Five sheds and outbuildings were broken into in April in Winsor, Bartley and Cadnam and the Bloor Homes building site on the outskirts of Totton was targeted twice. Copper piping was also stolen from a field in Bartley and a copper tank was taken from the garden of a house in Beaulieu.

Three vehicles were stolen in May from Beaulieu, Winsor and Cadnam and a pub in Brockenhurst had a group leave after drinking and eating without paying.

More damage has been caused to a car parked outside a house on the main A31 at Stoney Cross and Forestry England have reported that dozens of their new car parks signs have either been damaged or stolen. Again, if you have seen anyone doing this at any of the Forest car parks let us know.

Other thefts in April included £300 worth of meat from Setley Ridge Vineyard and a suspect has been identified for that theft, and we will update you next month on how that investigation is progressing.

A bath from a garden in East Boldre and the bolts from the wheel of a caravan at Matley Wood campsite were also stolen.

Easter is now behind us but the holiday season continues and that means that thieves will be targeting vehicles and expensive bicycles left unattended in the Forest. The message again this year is please take your valuables with you and don't hide anything in the boot because you never know who is watching. And if you have a bicycle with you, if possible don't leave it unattended but if you have to, use the best D lock you can find and again, if possible, remove something like a wheel or the saddle or both.

New Forest Heart Police are committed to reducing speed and animal deaths across the New Forest and Operation Mountie is where we team up with our partners at the New Forest Roads Awareness Team, Forestry England and the National Park Authority. Together we stop speeding drivers and as well as issuing tickets we talk to them about why the speed limit is 40 mph on Forest roads. This month we spent two hours at Hawkhill Inclosure on the road between Brockenhurst and Hatchet Pond. Only four cars were stopped, two drivers were given tickets for speeds of 52mph and 59mph and all four were spoken to by our partners. As always thanks to the vast

majority of drivers who stuck to the limit – we really appreciate it – especially at the moment because the first of this year's foals are being born AND the stallions will be out doing their thing soon which means the mare's minds won't be on road safety.

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.

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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.

8 May

Boldre Parish History Society. Sarah Downer's talk has been postponed until 15 May.

9 May

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

15 May

Boldre Parish History Society. Sarah Downer, Keeper of Collections at Beaulieu will give a talk at 7:00 pm at Boldre War Memorial Hall.

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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