

The Rotherwick News

July/August 2025

Volume 37 Edition 7

Three Hellos and One Goodbye



Rotherwick Village Hall News

We are very pleased to welcome three new members to the committee- Faye Stevens, David Robak and Maureen Holdaway. With 3 new members comes new ideas, renewed energy and exciting things to come.

Sadly, I also must report that one of our long serving committee members has stood down. Jenny Gordon, has been a wonderful asset to the committee with her common-sense approach, magical creativity and positive energy. We will miss her at the meetings and her helping hand, which came in the form of two more belonging to her partner Mike ! I'm not so sure he is off the hook.

No other news at this point but do remember to think of booking the Hall for birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, a party for no reason at all... all at local rates for Rotherwick residents. It is a beautiful space, easily turned into a venue for celebration with a sprinkling of fairy lights, flowers, bunting, ...as you can see!



your favourite tunes,. We

might even manage to arrange moonlight! Make it your own for the day and enjoy, with home just a short stroll away!

The Village Hall Committee

Looking Ahead...



Fri 30th July

Rotherwick Walking and Friendship Group 10.15 am.
Meet outside the village hall. See pages 16/17 for more details and more dates.

Thursday 7th August Village lunch at The Coach and Horses. To book, please contact Tony Merricks at anthony@merricks.me.uk

Thursday 14th July Crafty Cuppa at the village hall. 10.30—12.30. Everyone welcome.

August Church Services See page 14 for dates.



Crafty Cuppa



Another very relaxed and enjoyable couple of hours last week at the Crafty Cuppa session. It really is a great group with those coming saying how friendly it is and how much they enjoy having a chat and getting to know others in the village.



The crafts that people bring are very varied—from knitting, cross stitch and crochet to ceramics, mosaics and painting. Some people just come for a coffee and a chat.

Please feel free to join us (see page ? for details of the next one) You will be very welcome.



The end of World War II, 15th August 1945. (VJ DAY) or The Futility of War

For those families who were affected by the war going on in the Far East, like mine, we found it difficult to understand quite how so many celebrated so joyously on VE Day on the 8th May, 1945 despite most of us having suffered The Blitz and both the V1 (Doodle bugs) and V2 (Rockets).

This perspective takes nothing from the enormity of the defeat and final surrender of the Armed Forces of the German Nazi Regime. But the conflict in the Far East against Japan was still raging. 1.5 million British and Commonwealth troops were fighting in that Arena and in the Burmese jungle. That Army consisted of some 350,000 from the British Isles, with most of the remainder coming from India, Australia and New Zealand. It has gone down in history as the “Forgotten Army”, yet the battle at Kohima in India in the Spring of 1944 was considered to be our Stalingrad, and voted by the British National Army Museum, “Britain’s Greatest Battle” and one must not forget the Chinese, who suffered enormous losses, and the United States who were both fighting the Japanese from the East.



(Photo: National Army Museum)

Because the war with Japan was brought to an end with the dropping of two atomic bombs, VJ Day seemed rather muted, possibly not surprisingly. Yet many of us living then, will probably defend the controversial decision to use those bombs, because despite the human casualties and devastation, it has been asserted by those able to judge that it saved a lot more

lives than if an invasion of the Japanese mainland had had to take place. The orders to the Japanese Armed Services was to fight to the death whatever, in honour of their Emperor.

Possibly my feelings are coloured by the fact that my father was killed by the Japanese in 1941 right at the beginning of our conflict with Japan. Ironically, he had been involved in a Royal Naval goodwill visit to Japan just 10 years earlier in the Spring of 1931. One is inclined to forget that Japan was on our side in WWI, our allies until they invaded Manchuria in the Autumn of 1931 and entered full scale war with China in 1937. On that cruise his ship visited both Nagasaki and Hiroshima. In Nagasaki he mentioned in his letters home, seeing a new 10,000 ton Cruiser just launched. He also mentions, "The best outing of the lot was the one we had to Hiroshima", the ship's crew played hockey against Hiroshima Hockey Club and were entertained superbly after the match. I often wonder what he would have made of that final week of WWII.

He left Liverpool for the Far East at the end of October 1941 and his ship was sunk just six weeks later.

At the Act of Remembrance after the playing of the Last Post and the saying of Laurence Binyon's Ode, is now said the Kohima Epitaph.

"When you go home, tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow we gave our today"



(Photo: P.P. Yoonus)

Peter Price

The Tale of the Three Little (Guinea) Pigs

Since 2023 I have rescued three guinea pigs whose first owners couldn't manage to care for them (Margo, Edith and Cookie). I love their cute appearance and fascinating behaviour. My hobby has even led me into setting up a business caring for other people's pets in my own Guinea Pig Hotel in our village back garden.

Guinea pigs, also known as cavies, are small, social rodents native to South America where they were first domesticated over 3,000 years ago as a source of food and used in religious and cultural ceremonies. Despite their name, guinea pigs are not pigs and have no relation to Guinea. The origin of their name remains a mystery, but it's thought that traders who brought them back to Europe mislabelled them.



This painting from 1580 is the earliest known one of a guinea pig and shows three Elizabethan children with their pet.

Guinea pigs are extremely social animals and thrive in the company of others. They make lots of sounds, including squeaks known as "wheeking", purrs and chirps, which they use to

communicate with their owners and other guinea pigs.

With proper care, guinea pigs can live between 5 to 8 years. Over the past two years, I've learnt a lot about what they need to be healthy and happy. Unlike most animals, guinea pigs cannot produce their own vitamin C, so as well as dry food, they need a diet rich in fresh vegetables like peppers and kale. Timothy hay or similar is essential for their digestive health and to keep their constantly growing teeth in check – but must be dust-free to protect their eyes and lungs.

Happy piggies can be seen performing a behaviour known as "popcorning," where they jump into the air several times in rapid succession - like popcorn kernels popping! We call our pigs the "fridge alarm" because they are guaranteed to start excitedly

wheeking when we go to get their fresh veg out. It's lovely to hear them chut-chutting which is a soft, continuous sound they make when exploring or feeling comfortable.

If you'd like to give a guinea pig a home (or two or three, as they shouldn't live alone), then before buying, please take a look at Keki's Guinea Pig Rescue in Basingstoke. They will help you find the perfect piggies and support you to give them a happy new home.

If you are already a guinea pig owner, then you might like to know that I have set up safe and secure holiday accommodation for up to 5 family groups of guinea pigs, so if your precious pets need the best care while you're away from home please get in touch at littlepawslodges.co.uk or via facebook. I also offer home visits if you prefer to leave your pets in their usual accommodation while you're away.

(I cater for rabbits too at Little Paws Lodges, although their needs are quite different from those of guinea pigs – maybe I'll tell you all about them in another edition of the Rotherwick News).

Christal Moore



Macmillan Nurses

I'm sure you all know of the work they do in support of Cancer Patients and their families.

They are always in need of more cash but this doesn't need to be the folding stuff! If you save your old inkjet cartridges they can be recycled and Macmillan receives the cash.

The Village Magpies have agreed to take them or just put them in an old envelope and pop them through my door "Feldheim" Wedmans Lane.

Inkjet cartridges ONLY originals or compatibles.

**Many thanks,
Tony Merricks**

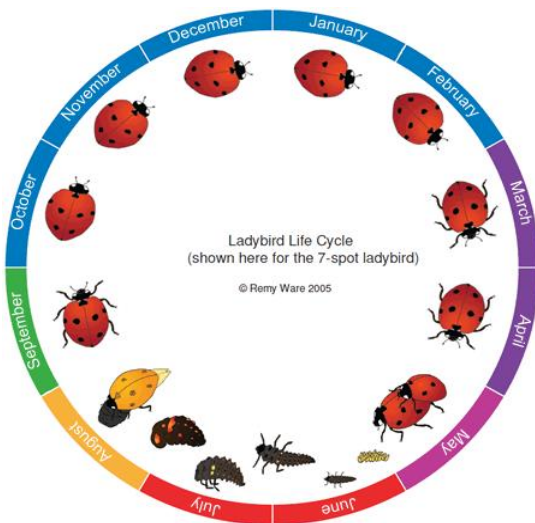


Get Gardening



Even though our garden is suffering from the dry weather we have had a bumper year of rhubarb and the strawberries were prolific but unfortunately we saw none of them! Something ate the lot even though they are in a fruit cage—how whatever it was got in I've no idea. Annoyingly something is also attacking the sweetcorn. I'm left with about four plants after 11 of the 15 I planted were nibbled away presumably by deer and unbelievably those remaining are being gnawed and then left just on the ground, the culprits I presume are squirrels or maybe magpies and hopefully not rats or bears as one website suggested! Sweetcorn, like strawberries, are obviously popular!

On the rhubarb I picked I came across a bug I'd not seen before, a quick google surprisingly revealed it was a young ladybird larvae. In June/July females lay their eggs which then hatch into the larvae I saw, they then become pupae. New ladybirds emerge from the pupae in August ([coleoptera.org.uk/coccinellidae/ladybird-life-](http://coleoptera.org.uk/coccinellidae/ladybird-life-cycle)



cycle). It just wasn't what I imaged a young ladybird to look like. According to the RHS website it was probably a harlequin ladybird (often seen in our house!). Each different type of ladybird has a different type of larvae and apparently not all ladybirds eat the same. Most eat aphids (like the harlequin which can sometimes turn cannibalistic!) others eat mildews or other scale insects. The two spot ladybird which used to be the most common ladybird found

in gardens before it was overtaken by the harlequin has slightly different larvae, being grey with less bright orange markings, something to look out for.

We recently discovered we have what I think is a greengage tree. It was growing under a beech tree and cotoneaster. Most of the cotoneaster has died and I suppose this has resulted in more light for the greengage and maybe that is why after twenty odd years it is fruiting! I'm keeping my fingers crossed the birds or squirrels don't discover them which might be being rather hopeful! Although if it is like the plum tree we have it will be other pests such as aphids or wasps that will be the problem. I have thought of netting just a few of the greengages to see what they taste like as they are supposed to be the sweetest type of plum. It is years since I have eaten one, I don't know if anyone else has seen them in the shops but I can't remember when I last did.



There seem to be continuous challenges when gardening, another one we have at the moment is the return of honey fungus which can spread at one metre a year—which is not good news for our woody shrubs and trees. Apparently removing infected trees and shrubs can help prevent the spread of it as long as it is caught early enough, although you have to recognise it first and sometimes there are no telltale mushrooms but just white streaks below the bark and a dying tree or shrub.



(www.pruning.garden/garden-pests-and-diseases/Everything-You-Need-to-Know-About-Honey-Fungus).

Sometimes I wonder how anything manages to grow!

Catherine

Dog Barking – a Plea

“Please please can I appeal to dog owners locally in the village to be more aware that not everyone has a dog.

Moreover- not many people enjoy the sound of dogs barking!!

During the recent warm spell it has been idyllic for me to enjoy our lovely garden.

Even if people aren't outside they may be indoors with windows open for fresh air.

However this is being severely affected by dogs (at least 2/3) in one household barking incessantly for 30 mins at a time.

This is happening early in the morning, during the day & late at night .

Just to be clear - I'm not talking about the natural bark from a dog at the door to a delivery or a stranger approaching. This is completely understandable & acceptable & presumably one of the reasons people have dogs.

Loud dog barking incessantly is anti social & is a form of noise pollution. I would therefore appeal to all dog owners to look after their dogs & ensure that training relating to barking is completed & not impacting on other neighbours.”

Name and address supplied

Use of Photos in the Rotherwick News



[CC BY-NC](#)

Please Read the Following Carefully

It is great to have photos in the Rotherwick News to add interest and bring an article to life. A picture paints a thousand words as they say. However, the editors are aware that photos are personal data and as such will take every care to ensure that privacy is respected.

Before publishing any photo, the editors will always seek your permission, or in the case of children, the permission of the parents before publishing any photos sent in by a third party. This will be sought either verbally, by email or text. You may be asked to give written permission for the photo to be used. This maybe in the form of an affirmative reply to an email or text. It will be assumed that by sending in a photo of yourselves, including your children, you are giving permission for it to be published.

Mediterranean Orzo Salad



During this long hot summer we are enjoying, a variety of tasty salads in the repertoire never goes amiss. I've been making this colourful one for several years and it always goes down well. The dressing really makes the whole dish zing. As it is a salad all quantities are approximate.

Ingredients—makes 8 servings approximately

60ml of good olive oil
3-4 garlic cloves
2 tbs of chopped oregano
Zest and juice of 1 large lemon
350g dried orzo pasta
1 tbs of chopped fresh mint
2tbs of chopped fresh basil
Half a finely chopped red onion
Kalamata olives
A red/yellow pepper, finely sliced
Diced cucumber with centre removed so not too wet
Baby tomatoes, halved
Pomegranate seeds
Pack of feta crumbled

Method

Slowly heat the oil, garlic and oregano for a few minutes. Add salt and black pepper. Remove from heat, cool slightly and add the lemon juice.

Cook the orzo until just under done. Drain well and add the oil/oregano/lemon dressing. Stir well, allow to cool slightly before adding the rest of the ingredients. Refrigerate and add the feta just before serving.

Adjust the ingredients to suit your own tastes. In the past I have added rocket, artichoke hearts, salmon, halloumi and sundried tomatoes.

Marion



Quiz of the Month

July Questions

- 1. Little Gem, Lollo Rosso and Red Salad Bowl are all types of what?**
- 2. Manchego cheese is made from the milk of which animal?**
- 3. The Victoria Cross was introduced to reward acts of extreme bravery in which war?**
- 4. Who was the driver of "Ivor the Engine"?**
- 5. In 1988, which 22-year-old became the youngest ever player to captain the England rugby union team?**
- 6. The old proverb says that "Necessity is the Mother of Invention", but what did Galileo Galilei say was "The Father of Invention"?**
- 7. Which have there been more of?... a) UK number 1 hit singles by The Beatles; or b) UK number hit singles by Cliff Richard?**
- 8. What killed roughly 400,000 Europeans each year during the 18th century before Edward Jenner administered the first vaccine in 1796?**
- 9. What has been the occupation of most American presidents prior to politics?**
- 10. Formerly known as Formosa, what country are the Islands of Quemoy and Matsu part of?**

'Quizinquisitor'



Answers to last month's quiz are on page 20

A Message from Helen



I am currently in the middle of a really interesting book titled 'Don't forget we're here forever' by Lamorna Ash. It's basically an insight into the new generations search for religion – not just Christianity, but something more. The good news is that people are searching for something more and there is, according to the author, an increased tolerance and openness to religious frames of mind.

It can sometimes feel that we are becoming less tolerant as a society especially when everyone is so stretched in both time and money. Ash writes that 'the desire to question the boundaries of the universe, to seek out some vertical axis by which to orient ourselves is a deeply human motivation. It's good to question and it's good to try things.

At Rotherwick we are about to launch a weekly worship service at 11am. Why not come along and have a look, bring your questions and even your doubt and see if the Christian faith might be something that you would like to dig deeper into – you would be very welcome. Weekly services start in September followed by coffee and pastries.

August Services

3rd Aug 11am Family Communion HECKFIELD

10th Aug 08:30 BCP Communion ROTHERWICK
11am Morning Worship ROTHERWICK
18:30 Evensong ROTHERWICK

17th Aug 08:30 BCP Communion MATTINGLEY
11am Mattins MATTINGLEY

24th Aug 08:30 BCP Communion HECKFIELD
11am Morning Worship HECKFIELD

31st Aug 10am Benefice Communion HOOK



Moonlight Walk



Scan the QR code to sign up!

Saturday 27 September 2025

Starts at **9pm** (arrival from 8pm) in Festival
Place, Basingstoke, RG21 7BA

**Join our 10K glitter and glow celebration, to
light up Basingstoke and support your local
hospice**

Find out more: stmichaels Hospice.org.uk/moonlight



Charity Reg No (England and Wales): 1002856 | Tel: 01256 848848
St. Michael's Hospice, Basil de Ferranti House, Aldermaston Road, Basingstoke, RG24 9NB



NEW APPOINTMENT SYSTEM COMING TOTAL TRIAGE

Starting from
14th of July 2025



A NEW, EASIER WAY TO GET THE RIGHT CARE
AT THE RIGHT TIME

WHAT IS TOTAL TRIAGE?

Total Triage means that all appointment requests will first be assessed by a clinician, ensuring you get the right care at the right time with the right healthcare professional.

You will be asked to complete a short online form about your health concern. This allows our team to review your issue and decide the best course of action – whether that's a face-to-face appointment, a phone call, a prescription, or another form of support.

eConsult can be used for patients aged 6 months and above.

Children under 16 can also continue to access the Healthier Together app for advice and guidance.



Use eConsult for all appointment requests

Submit your request online via our website: www.whitewaterhealth.nhs.uk or the NHS App

Your request will be reviewed within 2 working days by a GP



Need help submitting an eConsult

Our new Virtual Receptionist Service can complete it for you over the phone.

Not everyone is able to complete an eConsult and this service is available in over 30 different languages



After I submit an eConsult

A clinician will review your information and determine the next step.

You will be contacted via SMS with an outcome within 48 working hours. If we are unable to contact you via SMS we will call you.

Why are we making this change?

This new approach will help us:

- Prioritise those who need care most urgently
- Improve appointment availability
- Reduce waiting times and unnecessary delays
- Improve continuity of care
- Ensure clinical safety through early triage and review

*The Right Person
The Right Place
The Right Time*

For More Information
www.whitewaterhealth.nhs.uk



The Rotherwick Walkers



Wednesday 30th July 25

Thursday 14th August 25

Friday 29th August 25

Monday 8th September 25

Tuesday 23rd September 25

Wednesday 8th October 25

A fun and very welcoming group of walkers and friends. All walks meet outside the village hall at 10.15am for a 10.30am start. See above for the next dates.

Lovely walks around the village of approximately 4 miles and lasting just under two hours followed by refreshments in the Coach and Horses if desired. We hope to see as many of you joining us as possible!

If this sounds like something you would be interested in getting involved in – either regularly or whenever you can – it would be great to hear from you. We have a Facebook page “Rotherwick Walkers” or send an email to [**rwsq25@gmail.com**](mailto:rwsq25@gmail.com) and I will be in touch!

WALK – Thursday 3rd July

Following the intense heat of the previous few days it was, thankfully, a very pleasant morning when the group set off.

Another good turnout of seventeen walkers and we were very pleased to welcome two new faces to the group. Both were warmly greeted and settled in effortlessly. The walk was very ably led by Steve and Theresa (known by everyone else by her actual name of Angela).

The walk itself was approximately 4.5 miles long and took us up to the top



of the village, down Stroud's Green Lane, past Tylney Park Golf Club, down Tylney Lane to Newnham. We then followed the footpath all the way into Sheldon's Path Hook passing Shirlen's Copse and then across the fields ending back on The Street near the Coach and Horses. Thankfully, much of the walk was in shade as the sun had started to make its presence known. It really was a lovely walk which was much enjoyed by

the group.

On our travels we saw some horses, sheep, a pheasant and a mandrill. The Sweets of the Day were Fruit Pastilles.

Afterwards, many of us sat in the beautiful beer garden of the Coach and Horses and enjoyed a much-needed drink as the weather started to warm up once again.

In summary, it was yet another excellent walk with much fun and laughter along the way. This is another walk that will be most definitely repeated in the future.



Thank you to all who attended. I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did. It is a great pleasure to be part of such an amazing group with so many interesting and lovely people.

I look forward to seeing you all on our next walk.

"In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks" – John Muir

Steve Cooper

Your Parish Council

The Annual Parish Assembly on 10th April 2025 highlighted the value of broadening awareness of how Rotherwick Parish Council engages with residents. This is the aim of this article.

Parish Council Meetings are held at Rotherwick Village Hall, usually on the third Wednesday of each month. Meeting dates can be found in the 'Your Council' section of the Parish Council website. The agenda for each meeting, with draft minutes for the previous meeting, are posted on the website at the end of the week prior to each meeting (as well as being posted on village noticeboards). The public can attend meetings and have the opportunity to talk at the start of each meeting.

The **Parish Council website** is a useful point of reference. As well as giving access to Parish Council information and documents in the 'Your Council' section, updates from our Hampshire County Council Councillor and from Hart District Council are available in the 'County & District News' section. The site also has a noticeboard for village and community announcements. See www.rotherwick.org.uk (Rotherwick Parish Council).

The **Receive PC updates** button on the Parish Council website allows residents to subscribe for updates by email. Though little used in recent years, residents at the Annual Parish Assembly felt that email could be used more, for instance to raise awareness of local surveys and of projects and events needing community input. Work on this initiative is ongoing. We encourage residents to subscribe so that communication by email can be effective.

The **Report Now** button on the Parish Council website links to a page designed to point you in the right direction for reporting common issues/concerns. These include issues concerning potholes, fly tipping and obstructed footpaths as well as communication with the Council.

Parish Council Facebook page. Loved by some, hated by others, Facebook is not used by everyone. Nonetheless it is a convenient social media platform enabling the Council to communicate 'useful to know' announcements speedily.

Councillors needed. Your Parish Council aims to represent all parts of the Parish and would welcome any residents who are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor to contact the Clerk for more information clerk@rotherwick.org.uk

Please visit www.rotherwick.org.uk
for Rotherwick Parish information and sign up for Parish Alerts

ALL HART RESIDENTS ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN A NEW SURVEY

SHAPING A FUTURE COUNCIL

The Government has asked councils across England to look at how local government is organised, with the aim of improving services and making better use of public money. Hart District Council launched a survey so we can hear from people across Hart on these proposals and their priorities for local government reorganisation.

For Hampshire, this means local councils will join together to form new, bigger authorities, providing all services in future. A group of 12 of the 15 councils in the county, including Hart District Council, has been collaborating on developing options that would work best for their residents, businesses and the wider community.

These proposals would replace the current 15 councils with four new unitary councils, with the Isle of Wight remaining as a single unitary authority. As part of the four unitary model, a new unitary council for north Hampshire is being developed, bringing together the areas of Hart, Basingstoke and Deane and Rushmoor.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

HDC want to know what's important to you about your local area and how you feel future local councils should operate.

The survey is open from Monday 30 June to Sunday 17 August. Please give us your thoughts at <https://online1.snapsurveys.com/north-hampshire-councils-survey>

LINKS CAN ALSO BE FOUND ON THE PC WEBSITE
WWW.ROTHERWICK.ORG.UK

POSTERS ARE DISPLAYED ON PARISH NOTICEBOARDS

PAPER SURVEY CAN BE PROVIDED SHOULD YOU BE UNABLE TO COMPLETE AN ONLINE VERSION. PLEASE EMAIL clerk@rotherwick.org.uk or call 07792 463611 AND SHE WILL OBTAIN A PAPER COPY FOR YOU.

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That would be good to go in the Rotherwick News!"



Thank you to the people who have contributed to this month's magazine.

Please keep your articles and photos coming—they bring the magazine to life and it is so interesting to see and read about people we all know and love.

As always you can send photos and articles to rotherwicknews@yahoo.co.uk by 10th of the month.



June Quiz Answers

1. In which decade? The Spanish flu pandemic began; women were first allowed to vote in UK parliamentary elections; Charlie Chaplin made his film debut. **1930's**
2. Celine Dion won the 1988 Eurovision Song Contest with Ne Partez Pas Sans Moi. But which country was she representing? **SWITZERLAND**
3. Who was runner-up in the 2025 World Snooker Championships? **MARK WILLIAMS**
4. Liz Truss was the first Prime Minister under Charles III, who was the second? **RISHI SUNAK**
5. Who was the adopted son of Barney and Betty Rubble? **BAMM-BAMM**
6. Which fruit is generally used to make the Scottish dessert of Cranachan? **RASPBERRIES**
7. 'The Third of May 1808', is a painting completed in 1814 by which Spanish painter? **FRANCISCO GOYA**
8. Which George was the first person to win both a Nobel Prize and an Oscar? **GEORGE BERNARD SHAW**
9. Which ELO hit contains the lyrics "Hey you with the pretty face, welcome to the human race"? **MR BLUE SKY**
10. Which aircraft led the VE Day celebration flypast over Buckingham Palace? **LANCASTER BOMBER**

COUNTY MATTERS – JULY/AUGUST 2025

Councillor Jonathan K. Glen
Hampshire County Council Member for
Odiham, Hook and the Western Parishes
Email: jonathan.glen@hants.gov.uk



Summer is finally here—I hope you all have had a chance to get outside and enjoy some of our glorious Hampshire countryside.

At our recent Annual HCC Council Meeting we had the chance to discuss the proposals in place to upgrade our local government structure. I'd like to share with you some of the comments made by the Leader of Hampshire County Council during his Annual Leader's Speech:

“The County Council is like an oil tanker, with a £3.1 billion budget and just under 36,000 direct or indirect employees. When you turn the wheel it takes a long time for the ship to react. It takes time to move that organisation. We are doing so. We are effecting change. Change for the better. Change which shows us there is a way forward, one which takes us to a better, more prosperous, sustainable future.

We are caring for our environment, tackling the effects of climate change and promoting the work we do to protect our most vulnerable residents.

[We] promise to always remember it is YOUR money we spend.

To our businesses [we] promise support, recognising you are the background of our county.

To our most vulnerable residents accessing our social care services, and to those young people in our care, we will continue to protect and support you.

We are changing the Council for the better. We are and will continue to make it work more effectively for the people of Hampshire. We are finding and making even more efforts to introduce innovative solutions, to work efficiently and to maximise the contribution from our assets.

We can now see a way ahead. The tanker is changing course. There is much left to do, but we can be optimistic for our future. We can see a way forward to address our financial challenge. To transform our organisation. To deliver growth and prosperity for our businesses and residents.

Together we are delivering a positive future for Hampshire.”

£7 Million Boost for Skills Training in Hampshire

Hampshire County Council has secured £7 million from the Department for Education to continue our Skills Bootcamps for another year—almost double last year’s funding!

Fast track training for adults aged 19+

Flexible courses in AI, leadership, data, teaching, sales & more

Guaranteed job interviews for unemployed learners

Over 1,750 places available in 2025

Designed around real employer needs

Learn more and apply: www.hants.gov.uk/business/skillsbootcamp

Connect to Support Hampshire

Connect to Support Hampshire is the service which is designed to help people remain living independently in their own homes.

HCC have recently updated the Connect to Support Hampshire website so it is easier to find what advice and help is required.

- Modern Design: Enjoy a fresh, contemporary look
- Improved Navigation: Enhanced homepage navigation with popular search topics. Use keywords for better search results, and get suggestions while you type.
- Expanded Community Directory: Now covering 63 towns and villages across Hampshire, including a new Younger Adults category.
- Marketplace Directory: Find paid services like podiatrists, financial advisors, handypersons, gardeners and more.
- Home Care Directory: Home care and nursing care agencies in Hampshire.
- Care Home Directory: Care facilities and nursing homes in Hampshire.
- Multilingual Support – Translate everything into different languages using Google Translate.

Visit the site here to explore all the new features:

www.connecttosupporthampshire.org.uk

Have Your Say on Proposals to Help Nature Recover Across Hampshire

During the latter part of the 20th century and early years of the 21st century there has been a significant decline in the overall health of Hampshire's natural environment, including its diversity and abundance. Such a decline mirrors trends across much of the country.

HCC are aiming to do something about that. The public are being asked for their views on the Draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Hampshire which sets out a series of biodiversity priorities to help reverse our declining natural spaces.

Among a broad range of suggested actions, the draft strategy includes proposals that could:

- Shape how future funding for farming and land management is used
- Help local planning authorities to understand locations important for conserving and restoring biodiversity
- Identify the highest priority areas for habitat creation and connectivity
- Provide guidance for actions on farm and woodland to achieve nature recovery and move towards more sustainable farming practices
- Help guide local communities with funding applications for nature recovery projects
- Suggest potential measures for embedding nature into urban infrastructure, such as stormwater management.

We now want to hear from the public and local communities on the range of proposals we are putting forward, so that when the time comes to consider the final recommendations we can be assured that everyone with an interest in nature recovery has had an opportunity to have their say.

Further information and how to contribute to the strategy can be found on the council website www.hants.gov.uk under 'Nature Recovery Hampshire.'

In the meantime, enjoy the sunshine!

Councillor Jonathan Glen

Email: jonathan.glen@hants.gov.uk



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FOREST CARE



Elm Lodge Care Home

New Luxury Residential Care in Hartley Wintney

***Physiotherapy, Chiropody, Hairdressing
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USEFUL CONTACTS

Hook Surgery		01256 762125
Hook Care Group		08450 941549
Whitewater School	Mr Glen Golding – Executive Headteacher Mr Steve Moore – Executive Head of School	01256 762637
Rotherwick News Editors	Amanda Palmer, Sue Scrutton rotherwicknews@yahoo.co.uk	
R'wick News Distribution	Catherine Bolt	01256 762563
R'wick News advertising	Catherine Bolt	rotherwicknews@yahoo.co.uk
R'wick P Council Clerk	Susan Richardson clerk@rotherwick.org.uk	07792463611
Churchwarden	Steve Burridge rotherwickcw2@btinternet.com	
Cricket Club	Tim Culver, Hon Secretary	07882 406429
Group Scout Leader	Richard Whistler	01256 763118
Badminton Club	Richard Burke, Secretary badminton@rjne.co.uk	01256 761013
Rotherwick Toddler Group	Caroline Brown carolinebrown1@me.com	
HCC Councillor for Rotherwick	Jonathan Glen jonathan.glen@hants.gov.uk	
Hart North Police (based in Aldershot, non urgent)		101 Hart.North.Police@hampshire.pnn.police.uk
Rotherwick Village Hall	Booking Secretary	secretary@rvh.org.uk
Rotherwick Walkers	Steve Cooper	rws25@gmail.com