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# MINSTEAD MAIL

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<http://minstead.org.uk/>

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## Welcome to the May 2015 edition of Minstead Mail!

Although this is the web version, Minstead Mail is being delivered in hard copy to all households in the Parish as it is particularly for those who do not use the internet. It will continue to be augmented by the weekly Parish Council e-newsletter every Sunday evening which will contain more up to date news and information. The Minstead community website <http://minstead.org.uk/> also contains further information about village events, news, the Parish Council, organisations, amenities and services. For any queries please contact the Parish Clerk or any Parish Councillor directly.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**At the time of going to print the following major events are known about:**

20<sup>th</sup> June Minstead Training Trust Summer Fete

8<sup>th</sup> July Minstead Golf Day

15<sup>th</sup> August Village Fete (see below)

5<sup>th</sup> September Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Show

12<sup>th</sup> September Minstead Study Centre Open/Apple Day

**The following regular monthly events will also take place:**

Parish Council meetings - first Monday

History Group meeting - second Tuesday

Women on Wednesday - second Wednesday

Beat Surgeries – Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> June, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 13<sup>th</sup> August

Minstead Makers - last Thursday

Keep an eye on the Noticeboards, the Village website (<http://minstead.org.uk/>) and weekly e-newsletters for up to date information and new events this summer.

## VILLAGE FETE SAT 15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

The proceeds from this year's fete will be shared equally between Junior Minstead, the Church and Help for Heroes. All help and contributions for the tea tent, the bottle stall, the raffle and others will be welcome and further information will be provided nearer the time.

## VILLAGE SHOP

In addition to providing your papers, groceries, coffees, teas, cakes and so forth there is also a whole new range of jewellery, inexpensive gifts and bags and of course new scarves all in a range of fresh spring-like colours.

Normal opening times are 8.30am–5pm every day until the end of the year.

For further information ring 0790 9528870 / 023 8081 3134 or visit <http://www.minsteadshop.co.uk/>.

## LOCAL ELECTIONS

Many congratulations to Diane Andrews for her re-election as the New Forest District Councillor for Bramshaw, Copythorne North and Minstead.

Following an uncontested election on 7<sup>th</sup> May the Parish Council says farewell to Councillors Mark Bridle and Paul Glover with many thanks from the Community for all their considerable contributions in supporting the work of the Council over the last few years; and it welcomes new Councillors Georgie Hough and Dawne Wakelin. Following her election Georgie Hough says:

*“Although I have lived in Minstead for just over five years, I grew up in Brockenhurst from the age of eleven and know the New Forest very well. I am a History teacher at a local secondary school and the practice manager for my husband's local equine veterinary business. I have always played an active role in the local community and believe it is essential for councils and committees to be represented by a cross section of the village to ensure a balanced approach in decision making. I hope to bring my experience and skills to contribute to the work of the Parish Council and I thoroughly look forward to working with the committee over the next few years.”*

Dawne Wakelin says:

*“My family and I have lived in the village for 10 years. Many of you will know me from Minstead Village Shop where, until recently, I have been working part-time. I thoroughly enjoyed this time and it enabled me to engage with many people and discuss local needs and priorities facing the parish. I am active, interested and committed to the community and am looking forward to contributing as a member of the Parish Council.”*

At its first meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> May the new Parish Council elected Councillor Bill Andrews as Chairman and Councillor Steve Cattell as Vice Chairman.

## ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

This year's Annual Parish Assembly was held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March. Its purpose was to inform the community of the activities of the Parish Council over the preceding year, to outline the financial situation and receive reports from our County and District Councillors. An interesting part of the meeting was an introduction by our outgoing Community Beat Police Officer, PC Rob Morant about the new Hampshire Alert System which is mentioned below. Rob has since handed over his duties to PC Andy White.

### **HAMPSHIRE ALERT**

The local monthly Beat Report for our area has been replaced by Hampshire Alert which enables you to participate in the exchange of information with Hampshire Constabulary and Neighbourhood Watch. If you live or work in Hampshire or the Isle of Wight, you are invited to register now to become a recipient of messages of information, crime alerts and witness appeals local to the area in which you live or work in a way that suits your needs and lifestyle by email, text or telephone. To find out more ring 01962 875017 or just visit <https://www.hampshirealert.co.uk> and click on the REGISTER button at the top of this page to sign up. As a registered recipient you will not only benefit from two way messaging but may also hear about positive police action in your community, help identify suspected or wanted criminals or learn about community groups, events or meetings in your area. As a back up the Parish Council will continue to do its best to inform everyone of significant incidents in the locality as soon as possible.

Those who do not use the internet will be able to receive telephone messages about alerts which may affect them by asking someone to register their phone number on their behalf.

### **MINSTEAD SOCIAL CLUB**

Minstead Social Club was formed in the 1950's and is situated under the same roof as the Village Hall. The Club has a snooker room, main bar area and a committee room. Members can enjoy playing a game of snooker or pool, participate in bar games such as dominoes, darts or cribbage or simply enjoy a drink with friends. It serves quality local real ales and drinks are very competitively priced. The Club provides social events for members including the annual Treasure Hunt around the village followed by a BBQ, New Year's Eve Party and monthly musical entertainments. We have a regular Bingo evening which is very popular. To enquire about membership contact Lorna Chatwin on 023 8081 3052.

### **ROADS**

Progress in repairing potholes and road edges has been disappointing and the Parish Council continues to press HCC for an improved response. It is possible to claim for damage to your vehicle caused by potholes or eroded edges. Visit <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/roads/potholes/highway-incident-claims.htm> or ring 0300 555 1388 to find out more about this and to download or request a claim form.

### **REPLACEMENT OF DRAGONS TEETH**

You have probably noticed that the Forestry Commission has been replacing dragons' teeth in places round the Village. This is part of a programme of works under the New Forest Higher Level Stewardship Scheme to upgrade guttering and dragons' teeth to protect SSSI habitats and grazing resource from the damaging impacts of unauthorised vehicles access and parking along road verges. Further information can be seen by visiting:

[http://www.hlsnewforest.org.uk/info/95/car\\_free\\_areas](http://www.hlsnewforest.org.uk/info/95/car_free_areas)

or by ringing the Verderers Office on 023 8028 3134.

### **LYNDHURST NEIGHBOURCARE**

**(including Minstead, Emery Down, Bank & Brook)**

Lyndhurst Neighbourcare drivers provide a valuable service to help people without family or friends immediately available to assist, to attend surgery, dental or hospital appointments. They also enable people to do essential shopping, banking or other necessary errands. Its drivers really enjoy meeting the people they drive. Will you help to keep this service running? Just an hour or two per month could help someone who needs this service: you do not have to commit to a regular time; you can refuse any job if it's not convenient; and your driving expenses will be paid. If you would like to join the team of drivers (subject to DBS checks), to help in any other way, or just to make enquiries, please phone and leave a message on the Lyndhurst Neighbourcare Voicemail service on 0845 0945 818.

### **FIREARMS SECURITY**

According to the police, on average 475 firearms are stolen each year in England and Wales. Although the level of theft is very low compared with the 1,800,000-plus legally held firearms and shotguns, one firearm in the wrong hands is one too many. Recently the

British Association for Shooting and Conservation (BASC) has been working with the National Crime Agency (NCA) and the police to draw up new advice on protecting firearms from theft. This advice is now published on the BASC website and covers storage and transportation of shotguns and firearms and how to keep vigilant when out and about. It also shows the steps that can be taken to avoid being targeted via social media. For further information contact the BASC (<http://basc.org.uk> or tel 01244 573

000). For information about firearms licensing contact Hampshire Police Firearms and Explosives Licensing Department ([firearms.licensing@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:firearms.licensing@hampshire.pnn.police.uk) or tel 01962 871071)

### **SAFER NEW FOREST**

The Safer New Forest Partnership (<http://www.communitysafety.newforest.gov.uk/15868>) provides advice and help to counter burglary and theft, alcohol and drugs, domestic abuse, anti-social behavior, road safety and speed and rural crime. If you are concerned about any of these issues the website is a valuable source of information or you can email [safernewforest@nfdc.gov.uk](mailto:safernewforest@nfdc.gov.uk), phone 023 8028 5411 or discuss with our local police at a Beat Surgery.

### **LETTER BOX COLLECTION TIMES**

The letter boxes outside the Shop, on the Top Green and at Newtown show new collection times of 9am Mon-Fri and 7am Sat.

Despite this the actual collection times remain as they were i.e. 4.45pm Mon-Fri and between 9 and 10 am on Sat. Boxes by Football Green, at the top of Bull Lane and on the C17 still show the old times. We understand that the revised timetable will be implemented at some point in the future but Royal Mail cannot tell us when! If we find out we'll let you know!

## **A STRATEGIC CYCLING NETWORK**

In Autumn 2013 and supported by a local petition, Minstead Parish Council made proposals to the leading Authorities for a strategic cycling network to provide safe cycle routes between the main settlements in the New Forest. The main objective was to enable both residents and visitors to cycle safely without the hazards of busy roads. Over the following year this proposal gained considerable support from a range of organisations including other Parish Councils in the New Forest and as a result the National Park Authority has included it in its revised draft Management Plan for 2015-2020 with the following wording:

*Explore the funding and feasibility options, such as the M3 Local Enterprise Partnership, for adjacent to carriageway cycle routes between main settlements to improve safe access for commuting and leisure cycling, including a link between Lymington and Cadnam.*

*Lead organisations: Minstead Parish Council, National Park Authority, Hampshire County Council.*

You have until 22<sup>nd</sup> June to comment on this or any other aspect of the NPA's revised draft management plan which is out for consultation and can be read by visiting <http://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/managementplan> or obtained by ringing 01590 646600. Further detail of the Parish Council's proposals can be read on the Village website.

## **THE TRUSTY SERVANT**

As previously advised, the Trusty has now re-opened with a new look, a new menu and a new chef!! It will also have 5 brand new letting rooms available from Mid June!

Phone 023 8081 2137 or visit <http://www.thetrustyservant.co.uk/> for further information.

## **YOUR PARISH COUNCIL**

Cllr Bill Andrews	Cllr Steve Cattell	Cllr Helen Bennett	Cllr. Alan Ferguson	Cllr. Georgina Hough
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