

Arreton Parish Council Newsletter

Summer Edition - June 2025

Election Results

The following candidates stood for Arreton Parish Council at the election on 1st May 2025:

John Cooper

Simon Dodson

Nick Gurney-Champion

David Healy

Annette Mills

Vivian Roberts

Kathryn Taylor

As the election was uncontested and all the candidates were successful. This left the Parish with a vacancy. As an election had just been held this was advertised on the website and parish noticeboards. Those interested were able to apply by 30th May. It is hoped that someone will be appointed to serve at the next meeting on 9th June.

The IWC Central Rural Ward also has a new councillor following the by-election on 1st May. **Councillor Caroline Gladwin** has taken over from former Councillor Suzie Ellis and attended her first Arreton Parish Council meeting on 12th May.

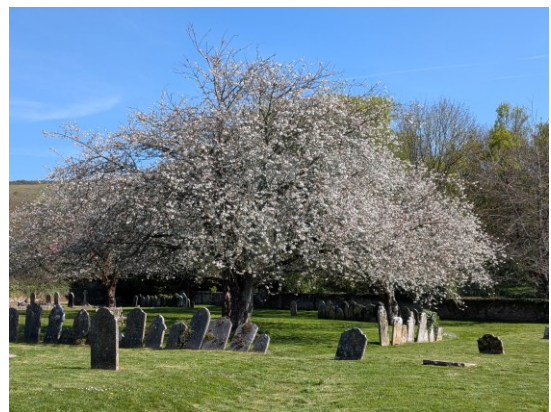
PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

In brief, over the last 3 months, the Parish Council has responded to the Government Consultation on Devolution, sent a submission to the Office of the Schools Adjudicator in support of Arreton Primary School and requested further information from IWC following the installation of speed monitoring equipment in Merstone for 2 weeks.

The Code of Conduct and Safeguarding Policies have been approved and adopted.

A donation of £250 was made to the work of St John Ambulance on the island. Please look out for details of community first aid sessions happening in the Parish soon and do come along.

The Parish Council continues to respond to planning applications. In May this included 4 re-advertised applications for Broadfields Farm, Merstone which is of great concern to residents.



*St Georges Churchyard, Arreton
Cherry Tree in Blossom*

Dates for your Diary.....

“The Big Lunch” 2025 Tea and Cake with the Parish Council in the Community Hall 8th June 4-6pm (see poster for details) A chance to meet up with others from your community. Please come along!

Cream Tea In aid of Cancer Research UK 1st July from 3PM (see poster for details).

Arreton Open Gardens 6th July 2025 12 till 4.30pm The Old Vicarage, Bradings in Carpenters Yard, Spreets Rew and Haseley Manor gardens in Arreton are opening on to raise money for the Scouts and Home-Start on the island. This will be from 12 till 4 30. There will be plants, cream teas and loos at Haseley Manor and free parking at Haseley and in the Community Car Park next to the White Lion. The Coach House between the White Lion and the church will be serving teas too. Do come along and enjoy these splendid gardens and the teas. The no 8 Bus stops near all 4 of these gardens and we look forward to seeing you there.

St Georges Church Arreton 80th anniversary of VJ Day commemoration, and St. George's Church, Arreton



JOIN US for food and fun!

 You're invited to: **Tea and Cake**
with Arreton Parish Council

 **When & where:**
Arreton Community Hall
Sunday 8th June 4-6pm

It would be helpful for catering purposes if you can let us know you are coming (email clerk@arreton-pc.gov.uk or phone 07587 008183).....but you are welcome to just turn up on the day !

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 CALBOURNE CLASSICS

THE ISLAND JAM COMPANY

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Cream Tea

1ST JULY FROM 3PM

AT VENNERS, MERSTONE LANE, PO30 3DE IN AID OF



CANCER RESEARCH UK



Tickets just **£5** plus a donation

Includes a choice of Calbourne Classics sweet scone, a preserve from The Island Jam Company and local clotted cream from Bridlesford.

All profits go to Cancer Research.

FOR TICKETS, PLEASE VISIT CALBOURNECLASSICS.CO.UK

Churchyard and Cemetery

Information about plot purchase can be found on the website. 2 new cherry trees have been planted in Gore Cemetery near the roadside hedge – as they grow they will obscure the view of the anaerobic digester across the road. The Clerk, Councillors and Sam Penman our new grounds maintenance contractor are popping in to water them. If you are visiting and think they could do with a drink please feel free to help out!

THANK YOU



Arreton Community Hall



Arreton Community Hall Social Club Licensed Bar – serving alcoholic and soft drinks, tea and coffee. Social seating area, two snooker tables, bar billiards, dart board and playing cards. Free Wifi in the building. Bar open currently every **Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 7:30pm to 11:00pm.**

The Community Hall provides a great venue for groups, celebrations and family gatherings – just £11 per hour to hire. Contact Simon Dodson on 07973 323560 or go to the Arreton Parish Council website for more information



For details of What's On from the monthly Community Lunch to all manner of dance classes and clubs please follow this link to the Community Hall Diary:

<https://www.brownbearsw.com/cal/arreton>

Parish Council Meeting Dates

Meetings take place at the Community Hall, Arreton on the second Monday of the month and start at 7pm.

Members of the public are welcome to attend.

There is no meeting during August.

9th June

14th July

8th September

Neighbourhood Plan?

At the May Parish Council meeting Gretel Ingham and Misha Cooke from IW Community Action, who were instrumental in completing the Housing Needs Survey, presented information about the pros and cons of developing a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish. It is a guide for communities to shape the future of their area by setting out local policies for development. It can cover issues like transport, housing, the environment and employment. Gretel explained the process and timescales involved.

Whether to pursue this will be on the agenda for the June meeting.

It is anticipated that more information on funding will be available in the near future.

FINDING OUT ABOUT LOCAL BIRD LIFE IN OUR PARISH

Article submitted by local resident Lin Watterson

Back in the late 1960s I was studying Biological Sciences at Portsmouth Polytechnic. My main interest became the small mammals as we studied and researched the life of Yellow Necked Wood Mice, in Kingley Vale, near Chichester. I continued with these interests, volunteering as well as Lecturing in Environmental Studies as part of my role at the IW College over a number of years. I have been licensed to rescue bats, and helped to survey small Wood Mice, Dormice, Harvest Mice, Shrews and Hedgehogs. I was also involved with others in running the BBC Watch Club for children.

My latest interest and concerns have been focused on the birds in my village, which like other parts of the Island, has had losses and gains in numbers. I have always provided bird food and plants for birds and insects in the 40 years we have lived in Arreton Parish. Recently I was sent a WhatsApp giving me a chance to use Cornell University's MERLIN app. which is free and for families is a great way of finding out what birds are hiding away and singing. It will show and record the birds' songs and each bird pops up in a photo. It also tells you more about the birds which you find. Your results are then saved for sharing. What did stop me in my tracks, was list of the birds from my small recording. So I coloured in the Red and Amber and Green birds in my record and my other recordings or sightings over two weeks show that we have these species: Mistle Thrush feeding, hunting Merlin and Goshawk, Stock Doves in a pair, Rooks in ones and twos and flocks, a Song Thrush feeding on its own and the song of a Redstart. Garden Warblers, Black Caps, Greenfinches are well-hidden but their songs I can now make out clearly.

Here is a list of a 3-minute recording I made in my back garden, just before I sat down to write this. It started with a House Sparrow, Garden Warbler, Blackbird, Wren, Robin. (we all know these!), then Goldfinch, Chaffinch, Woodpigeon, Stock Dove, Dunnock, Pheasant, Jackdaw, Carrion Crow, Treecreeper, (very rare here) Greenfinch and Great Tit. Many of these are paired up and chatting to each other as they rear this year's young. Some are nesting and the Blackbirds are already feeding this year's first huge speckly chick.

Next, I checked with national societies and two well-qualified and very experienced friends who know the rareness of our birds and because we have a wildlife garden, they have helped me with the rarer ones such as a large grey hawk which has flown low in a few evenings, looking for food. It was a Goshawk. We have lost a lot of birds nationally to garden products such as weed killer and slug death by way of the creatures who absorb it and are then eaten. Both Mistle and Song Thrushes have been especially reduced to small numbers. Greenfinches and Chaffinches have been carrying diseases which have made them rarer and most places are not like our Parish with its pockets of great countryside and large gardens with sites for nesting.

FINALLY, the status of these birds along with the bats that I used to work with and return to the wild, perhaps to live another 20 years, is tied up with our Island having World Status for our Biodiversity. We have an amazing variety of wild animals and plants because we are spaced out well with those unspoilt areas and even our towns have plenty of homeowners with greenery and places for birds to live. (If you want to see those Isle of Wight Seagulls just go shopping in Morrisons Newport!)

The RED status does mean the need for very recent new laws, under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, which try to support the survival and increased numbers of these birds. The main aim is to help them raise and feed and support their young. So please check if you are planning to do work in your garden involving construction, between March and the end of August. Local builders and garden firms know the law but may not know what we have at home so please take care with even the common House Sparrow. It's a shock to me that our village may well have the whole village or parish population of Sparrows in one roost. I feed them all year round and love their squabbling and noisiness as they argue which twig to settle on for the night! They used to be everywhere.

ADULT COMMUNITY LEARNING

Did you know that we offer free drop-ins for computer and employment support? They are open to any members of the community who are aged 19+ years old.

Computer support drop-in with our ICT tutor, John Hughes

Fridays 9.30am to 12.30pm, on the following dates: 16 May, 6 June, 20 June, 4 July, 18 July

Employment drop-in with our career's advisor, Claire Rixon

Fridays 9.30am to 11.30am, on the following dates: 23 May, *13 June, *25 July

If you would prefer a **1-1 careers appointment** with Claire Rixon, please contact us to book you one. These take place on the afternoon of the *above dates and can be tailored to any specific needs that you may have.

Chris Groves (Adult Community Learning Officer, Isle of Wight Council)

The Learning Centre, Westridge, Brading Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight PO33 1QS

Tel: (01983) 817280 Extn: 5820 | Email: christine.groves@iow.gov.uk



Your Designated Neighbourhood Policing Team

PC Liz Clapp
Work Mobile: 07974049899
Email: liz.clapp@hampshire.police.uk

PCSO Justin Keefe
Work Mobile: 07901102302
Email: justin.keefe@hampshire.police.uk

We are happy to chat to you about any concerns.

However please report all incidents via 999 in an emergency, otherwise use 101 or online for non-emergency.



Contact Us

Arreton Parish Council

Clerk and Burial Registrar:
Claire Gale

Email: clerk@arreton-pc.gov.uk
Phone: 07587 008183

Chairman:
Cllr Nicholas Gurney-Champion

Email: chairman@arreton-pc.gov.uk

Website: www.arreton-pc.gov.uk