

# Arreton Parish Council Newsletter

Winter Edition - Dec 2025

## Rural Mounted Police



### DID YOU KNOW.....?

We now have a Rural Mounted Police Officer in the Parish. Her name is Joanne Laver and she attended the Parish Council meetings in October and November. Joanne has been in post since June. She is one of a team of 4 officers and is based in Newport. Joanne covers the area from the Pan Estate to Godshill and keeps her horse at Standen Manor in Burnt House Lane. The other officers look after Havenstreet and Freshwater. It is hoped that more officers will be recruited in the spring.

Joanne has reported various incidents in the Parish including submitting video evidence of traffic issues in Merstone.

Rural issues can be reported through dialing 101, through the Hampshire Police website or if you have signed up as a member via the DISC app.

## PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

After a mild few months during the autumn a cold snap has arrived. Hope everyone is keeping safe and warm.

Since the last newsletter in early September the Parish Council has met twice – October and November. The Parish Council received positive feedback on the addition of poppies to lamp posts marking the time of Remembrance. The Parish Council Chairman Cllr Nick Gurney-Champion was pleased to step in to officiate at the service at St George's Church.

The Parish Council was invited to send in further comments on the Broadfields Planning Application following the submission of an updated Ecological Report. These can be found on the IWC Planning Portal. The Chairman will attend and speak on behalf of the Parish Council when this comes before the Planning Committee.

Minutes from the meetings can be found on the website if you would like to know more.



*Gore Cemetery Neighbours*

---

## Dates for your Diary

---

**Sunday 7th December 2025 6.00 pm** - St. George's Church, Arreton. **Family Christmas Carol Service.** This will be an informal service with members of the Parish/Village contributing by singing a solo, playing an instrument, reciting a poem or just coming along and joining in the carols and drinking mulled wine and eating mince pies after the service. Children very welcome. The collection will be in aid of the Mountbatten Hospice.

**Wednesday 17th December 1.30pm** - Arreton Primary School **Christingle and Carol Concert** at St George's Church, Arreton. Everyone is welcome to attend!

**Wednesday 24th December 9.00pm** - **Christmas Eve Service** at St George's Church, Arreton



WOMEN ONLY IOW  
**Christmas CRAFT FAYRE**  
AT WOMEN ONLY  
**SATURDAY 13TH DEC 10AM - 4PM**  
CRAFT STALLS, A RAFFLE & MORE  
Join us for a festive Christmas Craft Fayre — raising funds for Women Only!  
133 High St, Ryde, PO33 2RJ  
01983 722737 | team@menonlyiow.co.uk  
find us on facebook  
Everyone Welcome!



**YULETIDE FOLKIES**  
EAST COWES TOWN HALL, YORK AVENUE  
START AT 07:00PM | 19 DECEMBER, 2025  
**2BTA**  
SECOND TIME AROUND  
**EAST COWES SHANTY THE ANYWHENS**  
£6 ENTRY  
SCAN THE QR CODE TO BUY YOUR TICKETS  
BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS & NIBBLES  
TICKETS ALSO ON SALE AT C S CAFE & CRAFT 101  
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO COMMUNITY SPIRITED CAFE



**Christmas Drive-in Cinema 2025**  
Robin Hill Country Park  
Friday 12 December | Saturday 13 December | Sunday 14 December  
The Muppet Christmas Carol | 6:30pm | Elf | Midday | Home Alone | 3pm | The Polar Express | Midday  
Die Hard | 9pm | Love Actually | 7pm | How The Grinch Stole Christmas | 3pm | The Holiday | 7pm  
Book now  
Scan the QR code or visit:  
wessexcancer.org.uk/Cinema2025  
Sponsored by  
Hampshire Fire & Rescue | ICRTOUCH | The Isle of Wight College | Wessex Cancer Support  
wessexcancer.org.uk  
Wessex Cancer Support is a registered charity in England and Wales (11102218)  
Screenings subject to film licenses and weather

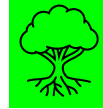
### COMMUNITY RESILIENCE UPDATE

At the November meeting Iain Lawrie (IWC Emergency Planning Team) to the meeting delivered a presentation about how the IWC operates in responding to emergencies that bring a threat to life, the environment or the economy in conjunction with other agencies. Hampshire and the Isle of Wight form one of 38 countrywide Local Resilience Forums. Category 1 and 2 responders include the emergency services, transport and utility providers, harbour authorities and airports.

Town and Parish Councils and the voluntary sector also have a role to play in supporting communities by providing places of shelter, having local knowledge and being able to use their communication networks to share information and help residents. Mr Lawrie can access funding of around £200 for basic equipment and running a tabletop exercise going through possible scenarios. Cllr Taylor has begun work on a template Community Resilience Plan which will include access to 4x4 vehicles in adverse weather, warning and informing the community, water distribution points and assisting the vulnerable and housebound.



## Tree Warden Appointed



The Parish Council is delighted to announce that local resident Stephen Davis has been appointed as a volunteer Tree Warden for the Parish. Yarmouth Town Council will be the lead body for the Tree Warden Scheme. The role of tree wardens is to identify and document ancient, veteran, notable and priority trees in each Parish. They can also be able to identify planting areas, trees at risk of felling or disease and danger to paths. You can contact him by email [Treewarden@arreton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:Treewarden@arreton-pc.gov.uk)

### Would you like to be a Wildlife Garden Champion?

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust are starting up online training for any communities who would like to have wildlife garden visits. This will be a two-hour training session outlining wildlife gardening features, what wildlife uses gardens and wildlife friendly gardening practices and information about advertising and setting up garden visits. The role is covered by our insurance and people will need to sign up as a volunteer with the Trust and we will look to obtain a DBS check. They have our full support and assistance with the visits or if they need advice or help. Please follow the link for the volunteer registration form.

[Wildlife Garden Champion Training - November/December – Fill in form](#)

Dates: Sat 6<sup>th</sup> December 9:30-11:30, Tues 9<sup>th</sup> December 18:30-20:30, Fri 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026 10:00-12:00



**Hampshire &  
Isle of Wight  
Wildlife Trust**

## Interested in gardening for wildlife?

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR GARDEN VISITS  
FULL TRAINING PROVIDED**

As part of our focus on helping local wildlife survive and thrive in our community we will be offering wildlife garden visits in Arreton, Merstone & Blackwater, carried out by trained volunteers to provide advice on ways gardens can be adapted to support nature.

We are looking for volunteers to help visit gardens to give advice. All visits will be with a buddy and you will be given full training and guidance by the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust.

For more information please email [katy.gary@hiwwt.org.uk](mailto:katy.gary@hiwwt.org.uk)

Watch this space for information  
on how to book your garden visit

**CONNECTING NATURE ACROSS YOUR COMMUNITY**

[www.greening-campaign.org](http://www.greening-campaign.org)



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

The public consultation on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) was launched by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government on Wednesday 19 November. It provides residents with an opportunity to share their views on the options currently under consideration.

### The Consultation:

- **The consultation is live and will run for seven weeks from Wednesday 19 November 2025 until 11 January 2026**
- Further information on the proposals and the process can be found by accessing [Proposals for local government reorganisation in Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton - GOV.UK](#)
- Residents can find out more information on [Local Government Reorganisation](#) by visiting the Isle of Wight Council website

The consultation will be on four proposals brought forth from councils in Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton. These individual proposals are;

- **East Hampshire District and Hampshire County Council** - [East Hampshire District Council and Hampshire County Council submitted a proposal for four unitary councils.](#)
- **Option1** - [Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, New Forest District Council and Test Valley Borough Council submitted a proposal for five unitary councils.](#)
- **Option 1a** - [Eastleigh Borough Council, Fareham Borough Council, Hart District Council, Havant Borough Council, Portsmouth City Council, Rushmoor Borough Council and Southampton City Council also submitted a proposal for five unitary councils.](#)
- **Option 2** - [Winchester City Council submitted a separate proposal for five unitary councils.](#)


The consultation includes questions about each proposal which will support the evaluation process. All four options propose the Isle of Wight remain unchanged as an existing unitary council. To complete the consultation, the following link will take you directly to the consultation page, where you will find questions on each of the four proposals [Consultation on Proposals for Local Government Reorganisation in Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton - Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government - Citizen Space](#)

**Next steps:** Following the consultation, the government is expected to make a final decision in early 2026.


### **Countdown to a Smokefree Christmas!**

This December, Smokefree Island are launching their Digital Advent Calendar – 24 days of tips, inspiration, and special free prize draws to help you stay smokefree through the festive season and beyond.

Every day, you'll unlock a new message of support, practical advice, or a little boost to keep you on track. Whether you're quitting for good or supporting someone who is, this is your chance to make the holidays healthier and happier.

 Follow along and open each door with starting December 1st!

To get involved, just head over to the Smokefree Island Facebook or Instagram page.

Let's make this Christmas the start of something amazing. 



# The Footprint Trust

Isle of Wight's Energy Charity

## **COLD, DAMP HOMES IMPACT PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH**

### **HOW TO REFER (WITH CONSENT)**

PLEASE GIVE THE CLIENT CONTACT DETAILS TO:

[INFO@FOOTPRINT-TRUST.CO.UK](mailto:INFO@FOOTPRINT-TRUST.CO.UK)

01983 82 22 82

### **STRUGGLING WITH BILLS?**

### **WORRIED ABOUT TURNING YOUR HEATING ON?**

What help can the Footprint Trust provide?

The Footprint Trust is a registered charity and the leading fuel poverty charity on the Isle of Wight.

Our team of qualified energy guides provide bespoke individual guidance to maximise heating uses, reduce utility costs, access grants and tangible help, minimise the impact of damp and condensation, and help people to live warm and well for less.

We help people at home visits, at outreach and over the phone.

We can provide energy talks for health groups and frontline training for teams working with people with health conditions.

[www.footprint-trust.co.uk](http://www.footprint-trust.co.uk)

## Join us this Christmas for some festive fun at HAF!

The HAF programme is funded by the Department for Education so that local authorities can offer **healthy food and enriching activities in the school holidays to children who receive income-related free school meals**. A small number of places are also available on HAF activities under our discretionary funding stream. Further information on HAF and eligibility can be found on the holiday activities webpages.

The Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme is back this Christmas, with many of your favourite activity providers back offering action-packed programmes throughout the holiday period. From arts and crafts to horse riding, football to dance and cheerleading, music and farm animals, this year's programme has something for everyone.

All HAF activities are inclusive and we also have some specialist SEND activities running.

And let's not forget the food! Every session includes a healthy nutritious meal – with many providers encouraging children to roll up their sleeves and help prepare and serve the food themselves. It's all part of the fun!

### How to book:

By visiting the Eequ Booking System (QR code below) you can quickly find and secure your preferred sessions, or add join the waiting list if your first choice is full.

Full details on all of our activities can also be found on the Isle of Wight Family Information Hub webpage.

Please contact the HAF Team on [holidayactivities@iow.gov.uk](mailto:holidayactivities@iow.gov.uk) if you have any questions or contact the Isle of Wight Council on Tel: 01983 823152 Ext 8414 or 07814 280154  
Web: [www.iow.gov.uk](http://www.iow.gov.uk) and [familyinfohub.iow.gov.uk](http://familyinfohub.iow.gov.uk)



### Driving Home for Christmas?

If you are expecting visitors or heading to the mainland over the festive period please be aware of

#### **Major M27 Closure: 24 December – 4 January**

The M27 will be closed in both directions between Junctions 9 (Whiteley) and 11 (Fareham) from 8pm on 24 December 2025 until 4am on 4 January 2026 to enable the J10 construction upgrades.

This will cause disruption in the local area, especially for residents in the Fareham and Gosport areas. Specialist teams will be working around the clock to install the new pre-constructed underpass as quickly as possible, using a cutting-edge engineering technique that is being deployed for the first time in Hampshire. This innovative time-saving approach will avoid months of disruptive lane closures, reduced speed limits, and overnight construction.

Diversion Route: A signed diversion via the A27 will be in place over the closure period. Drivers are being asked to plan ahead and check before they travel to avoid severe delays. Where possible, please consider using alternative routes, public transport, travelling earlier or later, and also whether your journey is necessary.



## 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>

### Churchyard and Cemetery News

The tablets in the walled enclosure known as God's Garden in Gore Cemetery are due to be cleaned soon. This will enable a better assessment to be made of the condition of the lettering. The Wyld Trust has funds set aside specifically for the maintenance of the plaques and these funds will be used to pay for the work.

The Parish Council is partnering with the Ministry of Justice Community Payback Team early in 2026 on a project to clear the gravestones and tombs of overgrown vegetation. The Coach House Facilities will be made available to the Team whilst on site.



### Something new for 2026?

Community Hall activities include:

**Dance** – Tap, Bellydance, Ballroom and Latin

**Movement** – Tai Chi, Gentle Exercise, Toddler Yoga/Baby Group

**Clubs & Societies** – Family History, Embroidery, National Trust Association, Photography, IW Austins, VHVC Car Club, Hornets Model Flying Club, IWRC Oval Club

**Health & Wellbeing** – Tinnitus, Parkinsons

**First Aid workshop dates TBC**

## HAVE YOUR SAY

### Isle of Wight Council Consultation

#### Proposals to increase SEND provision for Island Children

Contrary to the declining birth rate, the Island has seen significant growth in the need for additional special educational needs provision. The proposed additional SEND provision will help manage an increase in the number of children requiring specialist provision to ensure their needs are met.

The consultation seeks to expand SEND provision **from September 2026** at:

Lionheart School from 120 to 180 places with additional places for children with complex high anxiety mental health (Non- EHCP/Section 19 children) being provided at the former Cowes Primary School site, Cowes.

Please e-mail your views to [strategic.planning@iow.gov.uk](mailto:strategic.planning@iow.gov.uk) or write to: Strategic Development, Floor 3, County Hall, Newport, IOW, PO30 1UD

**Respond by Friday 19 December 2025**



### ISLE OF WIGHT OPEN STUDIOS 15th–25th May 2026



ARTIST REGISTRATION OPEN UNTIL Sunday 1st February 2026

IWOS 2026 will bring together artists, makers and creative practitioners from every corner of the Island. The event offers the public a unique chance to step inside working studios, meet local artists, and explore the Island's creative talent through exhibitions, pop-ups and collaborative spaces.

- **Eligibility:** Open to all artists, makers and creative practitioners living or working on the Isle of Wight
- **Formats:** Solo studios, shared studios, pop-up venues, community spaces and group exhibitions are all welcome - each participant just needs to register their details individually

Do you want to take part but don't have a studio? Or are you interested in hosting an artist at your own venue during the event? For how to contact your local area rep

<https://www.isleofwightopenstudios.co.uk/> or email [info@isleofwightopenstudios.co.uk](mailto:info@isleofwightopenstudios.co.uk)

Instagram: @iwopenstudios | Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/IWOpenStudios>



**Your Designated Neighbourhood Policing Team**

PC Liz Clapp  
Work Mobile: 07974049899  
Email: [liz.clapp@hampshire.police.uk](mailto:liz.clapp@hampshire.police.uk)

PCSO Justin Keefe  
Work Mobile: 07901102302  
Email: [justin.keefe@hampshire.police.uk](mailto: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.



**Parish Council Meeting Dates  
2026  
7pm in the Community Hall**

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March**

**Contact Us**

**Arreton Parish Council**

**Clerk and Burial Registrar: Claire Gale**

**Email: [clerk@arreton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@arreton-pc.gov.uk)**

**Phone: 07587 008183**

**Chairman: Cllr Nicholas Gurney-Champion**

**Email: [chairman@arreton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:chairman@arreton-pc.gov.uk)**

**Website: [www.arreton-pc.gov.uk](http://www.arreton-pc.gov.uk)**