

WORK IN THE FLEXFORD RESERVE MAY NOT BE STRAIGHTFORWARD



The Council is investing £110,000 on improvements to the popular Flexford Nature Reserve and Hiltingbury Lakes in Chandler's Ford.

Working in partnership with the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, the works at Flexford Nature Reserve will reinstate and improve footpath surfaces throughout the site, to ensure the area is safe and accessible for local people to enjoy in the future. There will also be new interpretation and information panels, together with improvements to signage, with information about the history of the site, including the animals and plants that can be found there. It will increase biodiversity of the area and also save hundreds of trees with exposed roots, protect and improve river banks and will ultimately lead to a more sustainable green area.



Jamie Marsh, the Deputy director of estates and conservation delivery Hampshire Wildlife Trust wrote: 'However, access comes at a cost. Increased access has had a major impact on the path network and the meadows, with people

creating new paths to the detriment of the flora and grassland structure. Increased dog activity in the Monks Brook is causing hot spots for bankside erosion, and resultant weak spots for flooding. We all need to work on this by educating and promoting positive ways to use the site, to allow wildlife to thrive and flourish.



Zero waste shopping has come to Chandlers Ford at The Spinney 53!

Bringing eco-friendly, low carbon and minimal packaging options for your daily essentials. It's a great opportunity to make small but significant changes to reduce your environmental impact at home.

Takeaway freshly ground coffee and loose tea with a delicious slice of cake made by our local baker.
Fresh bread, eggs, veggies and more! Local products for local people.

Let's take care of our earth together.

Monday: CLOSED | Tuesday: 9:30am - 4pm | Wednesday: 9:30am - 2:30pm
Thursday: 9:30am - 2:30pm | Friday: 9:30am - 2:30pm | Saturday: 9:30am - 3pm | Sunday: CLOSED

Mayflower Close, Chandler's Ford, Eastleigh, SO53 4AR
07459 072150 thespinney53.co.uk

Exciting news! We have just opened our new seating area and its been such a joy to see people pulling up a stool and having a natter over a good coffee and a slice of our delicious cake. This is what makes me happy and what I had been imagining. A place for our community to take some time to stop, breathe, drink, chat and basically give themselves 10 minutes to just be.

With the impending access improvements, we must ensure that the site remains a nature reserve, and works improving the path network are done sympathetically and do not impact its function as a wild area.'

Eastleigh Borough Council Leader Cllr Keith House said:

'Flexford Nature Reserve and Hiltingbury Lakes are both places where local people go to enjoy the natural environment, walk their dogs and improve their physical and mental wellbeing. Developing green infrastructure will help improve accessibility for all users, provide increased access to a valued local green space and provide a more attractive environment.'



If you would like to add your views please write to us at editor@nmdca.org.uk and we will put them to the Council and the HIWWT.

Answers to Roads picture quiz
1. Ashbridge Rise 2. Barford Close 3. Cranford Gardens
4. Vanburgh Way 5. Rosemoor Grove 6. Weavers Place

the Miller's Tale



HEARTFELT THANKS TO LOCAL COUNCIL



Pam Holden Brown, Jon Tiller, Gillian Warde and Doreen Lewry take charge of the defib unit and cabinet.

By Doreen Lewry & Gillian Warde

It all started as a germ of an idea, when several residents came up with the thought of obtaining a defibrillator for the community, to be placed somewhere on North Miller's Dale.

After discussing the idea amongst the committee, we got to work to find out as much as we could about which defibrillator would be best for our situation. Borough Councillor Judith Grajewski put us in touch with Graham Hunter, who Judith said was an expert on defibrillators and who has been campaigning to increase the number of them all over the country. Graham provided us with a wealth of information, much of which we had not thought of.

Both Judith and Parish Councillor Pam Holden-Brown advised us that the Parish Council were accepting grant applications for their "Granted to you" scheme in February. After a written application, Doreen made a presentation to the Parish Council which was successful. The NMDCA was awarded the grant for the purchase of a defibrillator, an external cabinet with additional funds to cover the installation, replacement battery and pads as necessary and training.

It was decided to attach the defibrillator to the outside of the Miller's Dale Hall, so that it is central to anyone needing it

on the estate and local area. This means it will be easy to locate, and will be available 24 hours a day.

Once fitted, the defibrillator will be registered with the NHS and Ambulance service so that in the event of an emergency, dial 999. The operator will be able to advise of the location and door code to access the defibrillator.

One of the North Miller's Dale Committee members will be responsible for regular checks on the defibrillator.

Thanks to the Parish Council grant, we now have a potentially life saving piece of equipment on our doorstep.

Inside this Issue

NMDCA Defib	1
Information Board	2
Local Focus	2
Useful Numbers	2
NMDCA Activities	3
Jubilee Party	4
Kid's Corner	6
Young Riders	7
Flexford Reserve	8

the Information board



To hire the North Millers Dale Community Hall

Contact via Phone to:-

02380 274775
weekdays 09:00 - 16:00
or email
hoot@littledelwood.com

When confirmed please email:
editor@nmdca.org.uk

Community Hall Keyholder

Doreen Lewry
☎ 023 80 268562
doreen@nmdca.org.uk

Newsletter editors

Charles Lewry



Gillian Warde:



Contact:

Articles or Advertising:
023 80268562

editor@nmdca.org.uk

Website www.nmdca.org.uk

North Millers Dale Community Association

Or drop articles into:
8 Weavers Place
North Millers Dale



By the Editor

As the weather warms up, we will all be thinking of getting outside a bit more, possibly tidying up the garden, maybe taking a trip out, or just taking the opportunity to absorb a bit of vitamin D. It is, though, a time of mixed emotions. It looks like the impact of Covid on our day to day lives is waning, but it is far from behind us yet. We can all feel enthusiastic about the prospect of celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee together, but in the background is the ogre of rampant inflation and storm clouds over Ukraine.

But, we as a nation, have been noted for whistling in the face of adversity and getting on with life. One must admire the Queen, who despite her recent tragedy, seems determined to make the occasion of her jubilee an occasion for joy and celebration. We, as the NMDCA, want to make the early June weekend a time to look back and remember what a great community we have, here on North Miller's Dale.

Back in the early 2000's, events on the Hiltonbury Farmhouse green were an annual occasion. Looking back at the last time we all got together on the green, it was 2003. Lyn was in charge of the pub and the grass to the side of the Farmhouse was packed with literally hundreds of people. The Gatehouse Jazz Band made the afternoon go with a swing, and the air was awash with the aroma of sizzling hog roast.

One of the popular sideshows back then were the stocks and hoping to resurrect the enthusiastic dousing of fairly willing victims, I dug the aging device out from behind the shed. Unfortunately time had taken its toll on the wood and I have been forced to rebuild the framework from scratch. After an abortive visit to the site of the wood reclamation yard along the Baddesley Road, which is no more, I found, on line, the Southampton Wood Recycling Project on the banks of the River Itchen, where I was able to buy timber at a fraction of the cost of a well known DIY chain.

Useful Numbers

Instead of thumbing through the Telephone Directory or Yellow pages to find that important number, look no further than the Miller's Tale. If you have any suggestions for a useful number that is not included please contact us

Editors Millers Tale Charles 023 8026 8562
Gillian 07917 858 752

Emergencies

Electricity (Power Cuts) 0800 072 7282
Gas (escapes) 0800 111999
Police (non urgent) 101
Southern Water 0330 303 0368

Schools

Hiltingbury Infant School 023 8026 5414
Hiltingbury Junior School 023 8026 1808
Knightwood Primary 023 8026 1900
Merdon County Junior School 023 8026 5255
Thornden Secondary School 023 8026 9722
Toynbee Secondary School 023 8026 9026

Post Office

4 Ashdown Road 0345 722 3344

Local Services

Chandlers Ford Library 0300 555 1387
Eastleigh Tourist Information 023 8026 5500
Eastleigh Borough Council 023 8068 8000
Blue Star Buses 01202 338 421
Zelabus 02380 644 715
Southampton Int Airport 0844 481 7777
Red Funnel Ships 023 8001 9192
Railway Enquiries 0871 244 1545

Medical Services

Park Surgery, Hursley Road 023 8025 2131
St Francis Surgery, Valley Park 023 8025 2131
Boyatt Wood Surgery 023 8061 2051
Fryern Surgery 023 8027 3252
Eastleigh Health Centre 023 8061 2032
Southampton General Hospital 023 8077 7222
Winchester Hospital 01962 86 3535

Dentists

Hursley Road Dental Practice
157 Hursley Road 023 8026 7141
Vital Dental Care
67 Bournemouth Rd 023 8026 7889

Assistance

Chandler's Ford Help 023 8254 1100
CF Good Neighbours 07914 757 380
One Community 023 8090 2450

FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE BY LOCAL BOYS
Fundraiser for Ukraine

On Monday 2nd May, Adam, Josh, Jamie and Henry, Year 6, of Hiltingbury Junior School will be fundraising to support those affected by the war in Ukraine.

They will be cycling 100 laps of the Hiltingbury Rec. If you would like to support this challenge, please visit their Just Giving page. To find the page go to <https://www.justgiving.com/> and type 'Hilt' into the search. They will be raising money for the Disasters Emergency Committee Humanitarian Appeal and have already collected over £1000.

Adam Pearson said, 'We have been incredibly sad to see what is happening in Ukraine and wanted to do something to help. So, on Monday 2nd May we are going to do an 100 lap relay of the rec on our bikes to raise money for the people who have been affected by the war. We would be really grateful for any donation that you are able to make.'



www.albelectrical.co.uk
email: info@albelectrical.co.uk
T: 02380 267984 / M: 07734 699604
The Tanyards, Chandlers Ford, S053 1TJ

ALB
ELECTRICAL

AIR CONDITIONING AND ELECTRICAL SERVICES
FRIENDLY AND RELIABLE LOCAL SERVICE

- Free quotations and advice
- NAPIT approved Part P Installer
- Electrical safety inspections and fault finding
- Smart home installations and automation
- Air Conditioning (domestic & commercial)
- OLEV grant Electrical Vehicle Charging
- Rewires
- New fuse boards
- Landlord Certificates
- Lighting, extra sockets and LED Lighting
- Emergency Lighting/fire alarms
- Alarms and CCTV
- All aspects of electrical work undertaken

Registered Charity
No: 1070832

If you would like to place an advert in the Miller's Tale please contact editor@nmdca.org.uk and ask for an advertisers pack.

Kids Corner

Can you work out the North Miller's Dale road names from the picture clues?
Answers on the back page



1..... 2.....
3..... 4.....
5..... 6.....

WHAT ARE NMDCA PLANNING TO DO THIS YEAR?

Now things are slowly returning to some sort of normal we are excited to encourage North Miller's Dale residents to join us in some of the exciting events we are planning.

Working together with the Hiltonbury Farmhouse, we are organising a fun Platinum Jubilee Party on the Farmhouse green on Saturday 4th June. See centre pages for more details.

Then on Sunday 5th June, it's down to you to join together with your friends and neighbours for your own street parties. Many of the NMD roads lend themselves to being decorated with bunting, tables and barbeques. Please take photos of your event and let us know how your party went. If you tell us in advance, I am hoping to get to as many street parties as possible and shoot aerial photos of your celebrations with a drone. I will then happily share the photos with residents who request a copy, to commemorate the day.

On the first Tuesday of each month we join together

Raise Money for your Charity
Join the Jubilee Walk

contact eastleighlions@gmail.com for details!



for a shortish walk around the area with the NMDCA walking group. Everyone is welcome to join us on these sociable rambles. They are about three miles long and we meet up outside the Farmhouse at 10:30 am.

In addition we have a thriving book club hosted by Gillian and Doreen. The group read a chosen book each month and meet to discuss how they found it. Many of the books are selected from Chandler's Ford library's reading group sets. Other books are bought by members and shared during the month to keep costs down.

We are hoping to resume our previously successful events in the community hall soon, such as quizzes and wine and cheese evenings. It was also suggested that we could maybe invite guest speakers to entertain and educate us. We know there were a lot of people disappointed when we were forced to cancel our Bletchley Park coach trip, but we are very keen to reorganise it, and maybe other coach trips in the near future. Obviously, the more people who attend our events the more enjoyable they can be for all concerned.

We became aware during the pandemic how strong the sense of neighbourliness was on our estate, whether joining on our doorsteps to recognise the work of the NHS or looking after Covid quarantining or isolating neighbours with shopping trips and visits.

We want to organise events that we hope people will enjoy and engage with. With that in mind, we would love to hear from you about anything you think we might be able set up and do. Please do let us know your ideas.

PLATINUM JUBILEE PARTY



On Saturday 4th June from 12 midday – 5pm to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee this year, the Hiltonbury Farmhouse have joined with the North Miller's Dale Community Association to bring the community together to celebrate. We will be holding an exciting Jubilee Party on the Green outside the Farmhouse.

Our idea is to have traditional stalls and games for everyone to enjoy. Currently we are planning a tug of war, tombola and a plant stall. We have stocks, guess the name of the teddy, and number of sweets in a jar, facepainting, bouncy castle and more. There will also be a treasure hunt around the estate prior to the weekend, and another treasure hunt on the day around the green. We would love you to

dress in 50's style to add to the atmosphere. There will be prizes for the best dressed adult and child!

We are looking for any ideas for other stalls, sideshows, games or anything else which you would like to run to add to the entertainment that we already have put together. Do you belong in a band or musical group and would like to entertain us? We would love to hear from you. We will need helpers on the day. If you would like to volunteer please contact us via the editor.

The Farmhouse will be selling scrumptious picnic and afternoon tea boxes along with ice-creams. Drinks available from the bar. Bring your friends and neighbours, with picnic rugs or chairs along to the green and join us.

What we really want though, is for as many people as possible from North Miller's Dale to come along to support and



Happy Spring Neighbours!

We are absolutely delighted with the recent weather and hope you are all enjoying it too! As always, Spring has seen a few changes for us, (it never stops!) and you may have seen we are currently closed on Mondays. This is due to a shortage of chefs in our kitchen (and nationwide) – we are really hoping to reopen again on Mondays soon, once we manage to recruit some more members of the Kitchen team.

In the meantime, we have made some changes to the menu, which now includes our delicious new Halloumi Burger, baked Camembert starter and our Vegan wild mushroom fricassee tart alongside your old favourites. Steamtown Barton Ale has been added to our local real ales, and we have also added a local Hampshire sparkling wine to the menu – as always, we try to keep our food and drinks local and support other local independent business!

Our private dining and meeting rooms upstairs are becoming more and more popular, in the last few months we have hosted anniversaries, business



meetings, networking events, hen dos and birthdays and have enjoyed every moment! The private space is still a bit of a well-kept secret – so we appreciate our lovely neighbours helping us to spread the word!

We look forward to seeing and serving you all at the Jubilee party on the 4th June!

Much love,
THF Team

experience a great afternoon. This is your chance to get involved with your friends and neighbours. We hope you will take up the challenge to contribute with stalls and activities on the day. There's no admission fee and everyone is welcome. Make a note in your diary to wander across and celebrate the day. We want this to be a truly enjoyable community event.

Street parties are being held nationally on Sunday 5th June, so if you are planning to have one, please let us know about that too. Do let us have some pictures and reviews for our next edition in July.

Last time we had a Royal Jubilee was in 2002 for Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee. Many street parties were planned for North Miller's Dale and residents shared their stories and photos with us. If you would like to relive those celebrations and maybe get a few ideas for your party, have a look at our website and select Newsletters / July 2002 and scroll down to the centre pages 4 & 5.

In particular, there is a delightful item by Janet Henderson, who was privileged to be at Buckingham Palace with her choir, to sing to the Queen on her way to St Paul's Cathedral.

There is a government site on the internet full of all sorts of Jubilee information, but in particular hints and tips for running your own big Jubilee Lunch. You can order a free pack, sponsored by the Eden Project from this site which contains pre-printed invitations, recipes, games and stickers. The link to this is: <https://www.edenprojectcommunities.com/get-your-big-lunch-pack-0>



The Hiltonbury Farmhouse & The NMDCA present

PLATINUM JUBILEE PARTY

SATURDAY 4th JUNE
on THE GREEN
in front of The Farmhouse from 12pm-5pm

Insync Tombola	Scouts Tug 'o' War
Loop a Frog	Scouts Splat a Rat!
Stocks	Face Painting
Entertainment	Ice Creams
Bouncy Castle	Plant Stall
Treasure Hunt	Cake Competition

Bar & Food provided by The Hiltonbury Farmhouse

WESSEX BIKE HUB

Chandlers Ford's fast, friendly, affordable bicycle repair & service centre, and new bike sales

02380 001799

16 Bournemouth Road, Chandlers Ford
www.wessexbikerepairs.co.uk

