

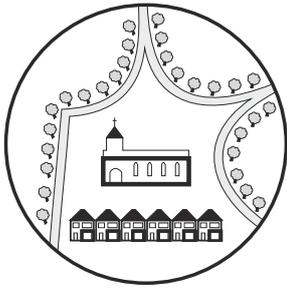
Purbrook and Widley Area Residents' Association.

Newsletter no. 29, March 2013.

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PAWARA's public meeting will be held on Thursday 28th March at the Deverell hall, London Road, Purbrook PO7 5JU

Membership subscriptions can be made or renewed throughout the meeting.



This photograph shows The Leopard Inn – currently up for sale, and thus with an uncertain future – one of the sights of present-day Purbrook village.

Agenda for the Meeting.

- Chairman's welcome.
- Treasurer's report.

“A Walk through Purbrook Village” an illustrated talk by our Chairman, John Briggs.

- Planning matters and Major Development Area Update.
- 8.30pm: Policing update.
- A.O.B. From the residents.
- 9.00 pm: Meeting ends.



PAWARA's Planting Team

November

Eleven volunteers planted the community tree pack from the Woodland Trust on Remembrance Sunday in the area next to Widley Gardens and cleared litter from around the planting site and nearby woodland. The trees were planted randomly around the Royal Oak, approximately two metres apart, to give a natural appearance and allow the trees to grow into their characteristic shapes. Articles on the tree planting were published in The News in November and in the January issue of PO7 & PO8, the local free community newspaper.

There was a delay in receiving posts to install around the planting area, which is now covered with wheel ruts from motorbikes. The extent of the damage to the trees will not be obvious until the spring. Posts are now in place with red and white tape to make the temporary barrier more obvious and notices have been placed to explain this action.

December

In December we cleared ivy from the ground either side of the path through Marrelsmoor Coppice (opposite the One Stop in Purbrook). In the autumn we will plant wild flowers to supplement any that appear this spring. Garden waste dumped in the coppice after our work has now been removed by Havant Borough Council.

January

We started this year's programme of tasks with a visit to Woodsedge Pond. Four volunteers cleared the ditch above and below the pond to improve the flow, removed duck weed from the surface and pulled some of the branches and rubbish out of the pond. The Council has been

informed of the garden roller blocking the ditch and the Christmas trees dumped in and around the pond. On the same day household waste was seen at the Crookhorn College end of Johnston's Coppice Nature Reserve and garden waste was seen in the wood near Sandy Dell and at the back of The Bog at Ladybridge Road. All have been reported.

February

By the time you read this a mixed native hedge will have been planted in front of the fence by Penjar Pond. The hedge has been paid for by PAWARA and will be predominantly hawthorn with a mixture of blackthorn, hazel, field maple, dog rose and common dogwood which will add colour to the area and provide an additional habitat for birds and insects.

The Bog

It has been suggested that The Bog on the opposite side of Ladybridge Road to Penjar Pond could be made more visually appealing. Any improvements would need to be in keeping with the natural appearance of the area. No definite proposals have been prepared yet, so if you have any ideas or you would like your views to be taken into account please let us know.

Johnston's Coppice

Terena Plowright of The Greening Campaign is now managing Johnston's Coppice Nature Reserve for Hampshire County Council with the help of volunteers to return it to its former condition. Terena is putting the finishing touches to a seven year management plan and we look forward to working with Terena to integrate management of the coppice and the area around the pond at Woodsedge. We would be interested to hear from anyone who knows the history of Johnston's Coppice or has any information about the area.

Work Programme

Sunday 10th March 2013

Johnston's Coppice - Pond clearance

Sunday 14th April 2013

Gauntlett's Park - Litter pick

Sunday 12th May 2013

Sandy Dell - Clearance and litter pick

Sunday 9th June 2013

Penjar Pond - Pond dipping.

Well-behaved children only, must be accompanied by an adult. Limited numbers.

All work parties meet at 9.30am at Penjar Pond. We welcome new members without obligation to attend every task. If you have ideas for environment group activities or you would like to be involved, please contact Terry Smith at tjs.oaktreecottage@virgin.net

Help from South Africa

by Nick Jenneson

In the middle of July 2012 Owen Symons, my father-in-law and known to one and all as "Winkie", arrived from Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa for a holiday here in the UK. It was his third trip to visit us and he was initially expecting to stay for 2 to 3 months, however this was soon to be extended to a 6 month stay so that he could enjoy his first Christmas with us and have a Winter Christmas time.

Well, Winkie, even at 84, is not one to be sitting around when there are always things to be done and he kind of adopted, as his own project, the task of tidying up the area around Penjar Pond in Purbrook, which is adjacent to our own street and at the western end of Ladybridge Road and to which he fondly referred to as a 'nice little park'.

His first efforts were to improve the pathway leading from Elstead Gardens through to Ladybridge Road, by removing the grass creep which had encroached from both sides in some places up to almost 18 inches. As he became more engaged with his activities, I contacted Mick Mills who kindly gave us advice on what could and should be done and also was able to provide a reflective jacket with PAWARA on the back. This proved a success with Winkie as it gave credibility to his efforts on behalf of PAWARA and to those who stopped and chatted with him over the ensuing weeks.

The work of revealing wider pathways then moved on to the stretch of public footpath running east from Penjar Avenue to level with the area of the pond area – see photos to see his efforts.



Paths before...



...and after

He then set about clearing and tidying up various areas surrounding the Penjar Pond. Starting at the Elstead end he cleared all the nettles, brambles and hawthorn bushes to the right of the metal stile at the entrance to the footpath. He cleared and then bagged so much waste that the council 'purple bag' collections must have been overloaded !!

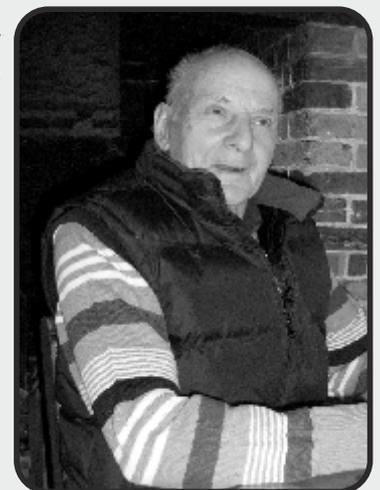
In clearing the undergrowth he even uncovered the original pole barrier complete with rotted posts, which when the council were notified they were very good and sent a crew to put it back in place with brand new posts.

Winkie's other efforts also covered clearing away the undergrowth at the other end of the footpath next to the grey telephone box, thinning out the encroaching nettle and reeds adjacent to all the paths, and to clearing away excess tree foliage and brambles along the footpath leading around the back of the pond itself - all single-handed.



One of his final touches was to repaint the gate and poles and to spruce up the No Dumping signs at either end of the path !

He thoroughly enjoyed his time here working in his "nice little park" and his UK Christmas, even if it didn't snow !



"Winkie"

Social events

The PAWARA Xmas Quiz evening and meal at the Hampshire Rose Widley on Friday December 7th 2012 was very enjoyable, but not well attended. We have therefore not arranged any social events for 2013. We will ask you at the public meeting what sort of social events you would like – and whether you would support them.

West of Waterlooville Forum

The next meeting of the West of Waterlooville Forum will be held at the D-Day Memorial Hall, Southwick on Friday 22nd March at 10.00am. There will be a progress report on the MDA.

A Community Plan for the Waterlooville Area

A single Waterlooville Community Forum has now been formed to replace the two Waterlooville Community Boards. It covers the whole area of the Borough west of the A3(M) motorway – about 40% of the Borough. It will act as an umbrella group for community projects in the area, but one of its first tasks will be to write a Community Plan for the whole area. PAWARA is, of course, represented in this campaign.

There will eventually be subsidiary community plans for the individual communities – we hope that PAWARA will help draw up one for the Purbrook and Widley area – but initially we shall concentrate on the overall plan. We want to establish what local people think about the Waterlooville area where they live, work or learn, and what they would like to see for the future. We would like to hear from as many local people as possible to determine what is important to life in the area. The community plan can be used to ensure that the local council and other organisations who are delivering services know what is important to people in the area.

The Waterlooville Community Forum will be holding an Open Public Meeting at the Waterlooville Baptist Church, London Road, on Wednesday 20th March at 6.30pm until 8.30pm. A survey questionnaire will be 'launched' at this meeting. This will help us gather information to help in writing the community plan.

Voluntary groups and residents' associations will play a vital role in distributing the questionnaire and ensuring that their members complete them. Questionnaires will accordingly be available for distribution to members at the PAWARA public meeting.

Don't forget to join us on Thursday 28th March at 7.15pm at the Deverell Hall.

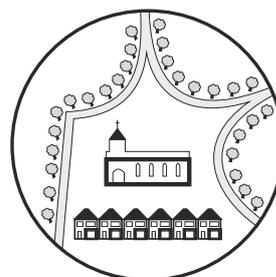
South Downs College News

South Downs College Training Village are running football training camps during the Easter holidays for boys and girls aged 5-12 years old. Make new friends and learn football skills and drills for only £10 per day. Sessions will run on Tuesday 2 April, Wednesday 3 April, Monday 8 April and Tuesday 9 April.

For details, call College Reception on **023 9279 7979**.

Training will take place on the brand new 3G astroturf facility which provides a fantastic training area for students and local community use.

Contact Nicky Roberts on **023 9279 7918** to book this community facility.



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