

The Greywell Gazette

Spring 2022

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Welcome from the editors

Hello and welcome to the 2nd edition of the Greywell Gazette.

We have taken the baton from Nick and Joy, to produce something that we hope you will find entertaining and informative.

We have been in the village now for approaching 14 years and we have loved the real sense of community; the events that make the village different.

In this edition we have tried to gain a little insight into the works that are taking place on the Moors and why returning some of the area to wetlands is so important. Ian Stoneman (reserves officer for HIWWT) has written an update which we think makes interesting reading. He would be pleased to take a group of villagers on a trail through the Fen in the summer if there is sufficient demand for it.

We also thought it would be interesting to find out a little more about the history of the village so have produced an article on Deptford Lane (where we live).

Speed concerns in the village are spotlighted on page 8 with articles from Henri Mogg and Nick Kavanagh.

On page 10, Libbie introduces Matt Bianchi, our new vicar.

Page 11 and 12 has details of events organised by the village hall committee and in particular explanation of the exciting plans for the Queens Platinum Jubilee – any star baker up for creating a Platinum Pudding?

Page 18 has a resource to get us walking again from John Harris of www.walkinginengland.co.uk.

Elsewhere in the Gazette are the regular updates from the Parish, District and County Councils.

Finally we say farewell to Nick and Joy MacAndrew who are moving in March. They have been huge contributors to the village in so many ways over the years and will be missed.

We hope you enjoy this edition of the Gazette – we need an editor for the summer edition. Please get in touch to volunteer. Best wishes, Richard and Anita Cole

Greywell Moors update



*Ian Stoneman, Reserves Officer
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (HIWWT)*

Further restoration of Greywell Moors has begun in earnest with the contractors having now completed the clearing of the secondary woodland from the fen's surface.

Secondary woodland is that which has recently colonised historic open habitats. It is generally low in biodiversity and of far less conservation value than the open habitats it invades.

Greywell Moors, was historically an open place, perhaps with trees here and there - the odd willow pollard or coppiced alder. Its varied fenland and habitats no doubt kept open by actions such as the of grazing animals, the cutting of wood for fuel, the cutting of vegetation for hay or reeds for thatch, perhaps some small-scale peat

extraction, and all the other activities that people had to undertake to survive before the advent of fossil fuels. When these ancient ways of life waned, the scrub was able to take hold and colonise the habitats.



HIWWT manages 4 parcels of the SSSI, two to the north of Deptford Lane (owned by South East Water) and two to the south owned by the Trust itself.

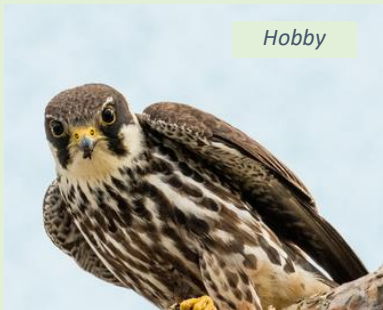
Two recent invertebrate surveys of the site have highlighted its importance for conservation. The early successional and permanently wet open habitats have special significance. In 2016, 557 species of invertebrate were identified, 49 having a conservation status. In 2021, 678 species were found (an increase of over 20%) with 57 having a conservation status.

These results are excellent making the site high ranking in the country for invertebrate communities and certainly unique in north Hampshire.

This is not just the case for its invertebrate communities, floristically, Greywell Moors is also very diverse. With 40 species of plant per square meter in the most diverse areas. This is obviously closely related to the invertebrate diversity allowing a wide range of pollinators to inhabit the site.



Aside from invertebrates and plants, these works open up the landscape for a wide range of birdlife. The communities which inhabit the site will change as the vegetation returns. Early visitors may include **lapwings** which have been sighted in the Greywell Hill estate part of the SSSI since the recent works in



2020. **Hobby** have been reported, most likely attracted by **Odonata** making use of the new open water. Many ducks can be seen, and **water rail** have expanded their territory. **Kingfishers** have also expanded their range away from the main



river to make use of the new open water ways within these areas. **Stonechats** are using the reed beds to over winter.



Wood pasture is also being created on the upper semi improved grassland at the entrance of the site to try to compensate for the loss of trees in the fen. These will create a wood pasture/parkland habitat. Oaks, beech, hornbeam and wayfarers have been planted as large standards, with rowan, crab apple and wild pear also to provide fruits for birds and small mammals. A new enclosure will also be installed in the entrance field to allow some of the upper grassland to remain un-grazed for most of the year. It will also prevent livestock eating the fruit fall which is meant for wild birds and mammals and provide more habitat for small mammals and their predators such as **kestrels**

Recently I was shown footage of otters locally on the canal and I wouldn't be surprised to see them making regular use of the area soon. It would be fabulous to build an artificial holt in the area and encourage them further. If otters became established it would push out

any mink and then enable possible consideration of an introduction of water vole, another charismatic creature whose presence could only enhance the site for biodiversity and people alike. Perhaps another long-term consideration to enable a more natural management of the SSSI, especially in areas of least accessibility, would be the reintroduction of beavers. Making appearances around the country, such undertakings need very careful consideration and consultation. However, such eco system engineers would be a great boost to the ecology of the site and a fabulous addition to the already wonderful walk to be had around the SSSI.



The open peat fen is excellent at drawing in Carbon Dioxide and reduces the Methane generation and thus is a good alternative to trees.

As the Fen develops, there is the possibility of creating a Hide to provide wildlife viewing opportunities. We are also considering ways of improving the drainage on the south-east footpath.

This is likely the last large scale habitat restoration that the Trust will make as most of their land holding has now been restored, with selective stands of trees being retained where they warrant.

Ian Stoneman,
Reserves Officer
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

Greywell History

This section is intended to contain snippets of village history. In this edition we have chosen to start in Deptford Lane, as we live here! We hope that others who may have information about their houses/ streets will share that in future editions.



Most of the houses on the north side of Deptford Lane were built between 1920 and 1940. Prior to that, there were 4 buildings, one of which is Deptford cottage.

We were able to talk to Jen Somerville who lives there now. The cottage has been in her family since 1952. At that time, it was a very basic, two up two down former shepherd's cottage, which her mother purchased for £1,800. She had the property extended and refurbished and spent the rest of her life there. In 1971, Jen and her husband decided that they would extend the property further, making it into a six-bedroom family home which could accommodate both their family and her mother. They didn't employ an architect but planned the layout themselves and chose to use a local builder called Mr Barton to carry out the

work. It was important to them to maintain as much of the original character of the cottage as possible, even though the builder said that it would have been easier to knock it all down and start again.

Jen has lived there ever since, and her memories are fascinating. She can remember when the village had two pubs, the Fox and Goose and The Royal Oak. She also recalls that her children would love to visit the Post Office, situated on Deptford Lane across the ford. It was run by Mrs Poulter and her daughter. As well as being the post office it also sold a few 'bits and pieces' including sweets. Apart from the sweets the children also loved the fishpond which was in the garden and occasionally they would arrive home soaked, having fallen in the pond. There were no proper shops in the village at that time, but Odiham had everything you needed, including three butchers and she would shop there.

The Old Post House now and in the past.



According to Anne Pitcher, the author of a number of books about Greywell, The Old Post house was previously occupied by several generations of the Harris family who at one time were the village chairmakers. Mr Harris was also the church organist, but for some reason broke away from the church and started up chapel meetings. Prior to the building of the chapel these



meetings were held in the front room of one of the cottages next to the Fox.

To the right of the Post Office was the entrance to a boatyard and sawmill, pictured here.

In the background you can just see steam rising from the Steam Engines that drove the circular wood saws and in front of this, piles of logs.



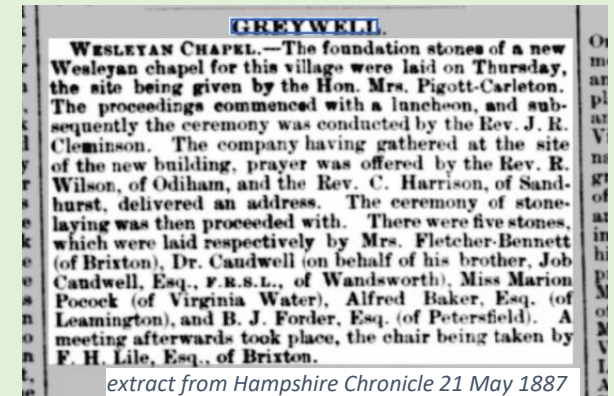
The Old Chapel was built as a Wesleyan Chapel in 1888 and is shown on the map of 1896. On the front of the house are stone dressings of two tall tracery windows. To

the right of these is a stone arch which has its lower half

blocked up to form an arched window. The house that you see today has been expanded and incorporates a large garden which was previously part of an orchard which ran parallel to Deptford Lane from the river to The Street.

There are four foundation stones set in the front wall of the original Chapel, one of which bears the name Job Caudwell; the others are Marion Pocock,

Alfred Baker and B.J. Forder. Job Caudwell was a Methodist minister from London and was what would be termed today a property developer. He was responsible for building the Clapham Junction estate – rows of tightly packed terraces - at the turn of the 20th Century and lived in Wandsworth. History does not relate how he came to be involved in the building of The Old Chapel in Greywell but Gladys Warr who lived in Whitewater opposite, whom some of you may remember, went to Sunday School there around 1910 when the entrance to the Chapel was through the main door that is now the kitchen window.



Speedwatch

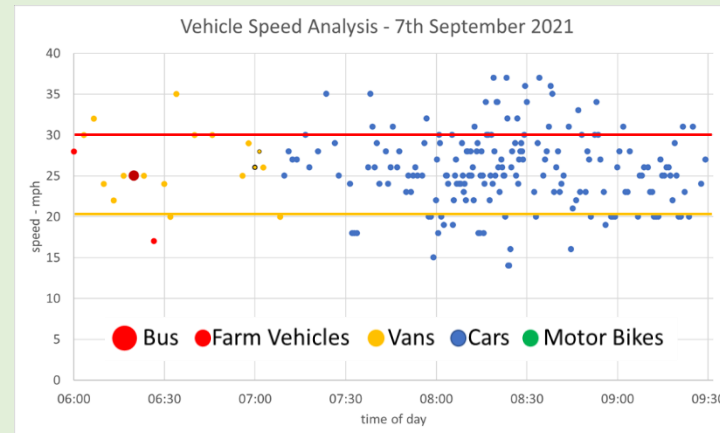
Community Speedwatch (CSW) is a national initiative where members of local communities work with the support of the police to monitor the speed of vehicles. Vehicles exceeding the speed limit are referred to the Police with the aim of educating drivers to reduce their speeds.

Whilst many people drive through our village at a sensible speed there are a considerable number, especially in "rush hours", which greatly exceed the speed limit. We have been given clearance by the police for two sites within Greywell to monitor traffic speeds (outside the Village Hall and near the entrance of the village coming from the dual carriageway). We were not allowed to carry out Speedwatch during the pandemic but recently managed to hold two sessions where we caught several people entering the village at a considerable speed! We have about 8 volunteers from the village but would always welcome more.

Please contact Henri Mogg (henriettamogg@hotmail.com), who is leading this initiative, if you are interested in joining.

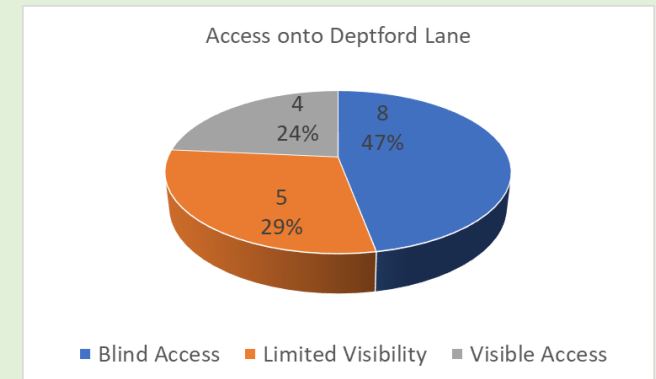
Improving Road Safety

Nick Kavanagh has undertaken a similar study on Deptford Lane. The chart below shows an analysis of vehicle speed over a 3.5 hour period on 7th Sept 2021.



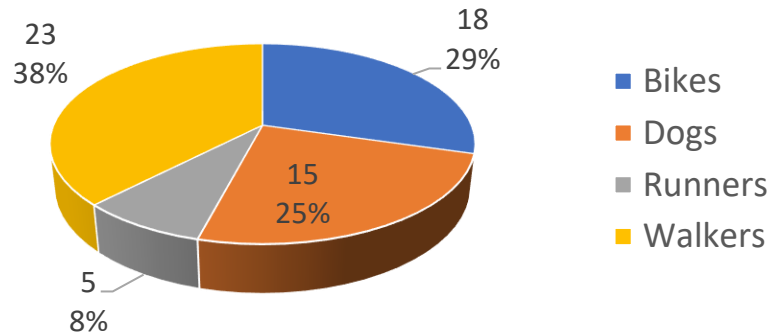
Deptford Lane is narrow with very poor visibility for over 75% of the residents

The stopping distance at 30 mph is 23 metres; 40 mph is 36 metres thus creating high risk of accidents.



A high number of pedestrians use Deptford Lane. 85% of all pedestrian deaths are caused by vehicles travelling below 40 mph (ref: ROSA data)

Deptford Lane Pedestrian Road Users
(3.5 hr sample - 7th Sept 2021)



Deptford Lane is 4 metres wide yet is often used for large vehicles – a recent real example being a truck (reconstruction show below). The bridge was not designed for large vehicles.



The volume, type and speed of vehicles (demonstrated on the scatter chart above); the volume of pedestrian users; the unsuitable traffic usage and the very poor visibility presents a high degree of risk of personal harm.

Anyone who would like to help to support traffic moderation in Greywell by collecting more data, considering ideas and gathering support generally, would be very welcome indeed.

Please contact Nick Kavanagh on 07950 417 450 and nickkavanagh456@btinternet.com. Thank you.

Nick Kavanagh

St Mary's Church

Happy New Year and almost Lent by the time you read this.



It was so lovely to see many of you at the Christmas services. Thanks for all who decorated, donated time and money, and came along.

In March we will welcome our new vicar Matt Bianchi after his licensing in Odiham on the 3rd. I will let him introduce himself and I hope you'll meet him soon...

"Hi, I'm Matt and I'm really looking forward to joining the benefice as Mission Priest in March. I'm really excited about taking on this new role, working closely with the congregations of Greywell, Mapledurwell and Up Nately, as well as getting to know the communities of North Warnborough and Odiham.

I have been married to Amy for the last thirteen years and we have three children; Noah, Henry and Madeleine. Before being ordained, Amy and I were Youth Workers for a church in Southampton for seven years. And the last 3 years I've been a curate working in Hartley Wintney, Dogmersfield

and Winchfield. I've loved living around this area of Hampshire and enjoying the countryside, and we're all really looking forward to living in North Warnborough.

I'm really looking forward to meeting you all. I love chatting to people, finding out about them and discussing both the big and small things of life; so if you see me out and about in the area, or in one of the pubs, do come and introduce yourself. I love drumming, movies (especially Marvel ones) and board games. I'm looking forward to meeting you and getting to know you over the coming weeks and months."

March services:

2nd Ash Wednesday 7.30pm Odiham

3rd Matt's Licensing 7.30pm Odiham Led by the Bishop of Basingstoke

6th 11am Morning service led by Matt

20th 9am Communion also with Matt

27th 11am Mothering Sunday Service with posies for the Mums

Advance plea for June – Please may I have the loan of any music stands for the Platinum Jubilee Weekend.

Thanks.

Libbie Bromfield - Church Warden.

Village Hall

The Queen's Jubilee

As everyone will be aware it is The Queens' platinum jubilee this year and the VH committee are planning to mark this great achievement with a street party celebration on Sunday June 5th and we need your help!

Villagers will recall that during lockdown we celebrated VE day and a number of residents rose to the occasion and displayed **bunting**. It would be fabulous if as many in the village were to join in the display.

The church lychgate and porch will be decorated as will be the Fox and Goose pub. We will also be running a children's competition for the **best jubilee hat**.

The church will also be organising a **flower festival**.

On the Sunday morning Ali Lambert has very kindly offered to judge a **dog competition**. So, it's time to get training and pampering your canine companions (obedience will be very basic stay, sit, fetch, roll over etc!).

At lunchtime we are asking residents to join in a **jubilee lunch in The Street**. The Street will be closed to traffic from just before the church to the Fox and Goose pub (the pub entrance and Deptford Lane will still be accessible) and we invite everyone to line the Street with a decorated table. This will be a be a bring your own food and drink lunch and you are invited to either host your own table or join in with your neighbours or friends. Folk in Deptford Lane, Dorchester Way and The Street beyond the pub are of course also included and are invited to place their table anywhere along the closed-off section.

We will also be holding Mary Berry inspired **Bake Off** which Karen MacCaffrey has kindly offered to judge and the wining cake will be auctioned to charity. There will also be a prize for the best decorated table!

During the day we hope to arrange some **activities for children** which Nick Cross has kindly offered to organise, and we are hoping to host a show of the local hunt and Morris dancers.

Later in the year we will be **planting a tree** which James Malmesbury has kindly offered to organise.

The VH will be open during the day and you will be able to view **live streaming of the tv coverage** as well as having a bar.

In order to plan for the event, we will be advertising it on Ticket Source so that we can get an idea of numbers. <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/greywell-film-night>

As you can see, we hope that it will be a great day for everyone and that as many folk as possible participate to make it a day to remember.

Events for Your Diary

Looking forward to the future we have a number of events planned which we hope you will attend:

Film nights: as advertised on ticket source

Stillwater – 8pm- 19th March 2022

King Richard – 8pm - 16th April 2022

Safari supper- we have again postponed this until September considering the jubilee celebrations which we will be organising in June.

Finally, we will be holding the VH AGM in May to which everyone from the village is invited to discuss what you want to see happening. In particular the area behind the gates in the VH driveway is under used and we welcome suggestions as to what this could be used for e.g. hard paved for BBQs storage area etc. We are always looking for volunteers to join the committee to offer practical help so if you would like to get involved, please come along and meet us.

Paul Brennan-Benson
on behalf on the VH committee

Parish Council

Planning

On the planning front, the major event has been the granting of planning consent for the very large photovoltaic solar farm at Chosley. This was disappointing, given the strong objections from us and many others, but Hart went along the officers' recommendation which was in favour of the development (and another similar one between Hook and Mattingley). A group of Greywell residents examined the possibility of mounting a challenge to the decision through the judicial review process but counsel's advice was not encouraging. The objective is now to mitigate the effects of the development, particularly during the construction phase. The parish council has written to both Hart and the developer asking that construction traffic is banned from accessing the site through the village. We await a response but, in any case, it will be many months before work starts in earnest.

Despite strong objections from the parish council and 40 others, the proposal to create a wellness centre and rural workspace on the site of the Old Dairy in White Lane has been approved by Hart. All the objections

were on the grounds of an unacceptable increase in traffic through the village, but the comments of County Highways (a statutory consultee) made light of this and swung the decision against us. The parish council is now lobbying Hart to place a limit on the numbers of people using it as part of planning conditions.

Generally, the parish council, also a statutory consultee, continues to submit comments to Hart on proposals by Greywellians for home improvements; our stance is usually supportive unless there are adverse effects on neighbours or the general village scene.

Ultrafast Broadband

We are separately looking into the possible extension of ultra-fast broadband to the rest of the village, after Deptford Lane houses received 'fibre to the premises' (FTTP) connections a couple of years ago. It looks as if there are sufficient numbers to enable Greywell to take advantage of government-sponsored schemes to extend gigabit speeds to rural communities at no cost to individual households. We are awaiting news from Openreach and Hampshire CC about the feasibility and final details of the scheme.

Village Clean-up

We are looking urgently for a volunteer(s) to organise the twice-yearly village clean-up. This is an important event and attracts an army of willing helpers, with the village always looking so much better thanks to their efforts. If you are interested, please contact me and I will run through with you what is involved.

Hampshire Lengthsman Scheme

On a similar theme, the parish council subscribes to this scheme which provides us with up to 50 hours of labour each year to undertake tidying-up jobs around the village. We're about to decide on the schedule for the year starting 1st April so, if you have any ideas about to be included, please let Bev Bridgman, our Clerk, know.

Parish Council Finance

At its meeting in December the Parish Council voted to increase its precept (the amount of money Hart collects via Council Tax for us) by 12%. This rise looks high but in cash terms represents only about 40p per month for the average household in the village. The reasons for the increase are rising costs and the assumption of ownership, and therefore the maintenance, of the land in front of the waterworks. Even then, the increase will

not fully cover the PC's budget for next year and we will be drawing on reserves to make up any shortfall.

AGM and Elections

The Annual General Meeting of the parish council will take place on the 19th May. This will follow elections, to be held on the 5th May, when candidates for all the five seats will be selected. However, there will only be an election – which the parish will have to pay for – if more than five candidates stand. If less than five come forward, then the parish council will co-opt.

I have already announced that I will be standing down as chairman and as a councillor. It's been a privilege and a pleasure (well, for most of the time) to serve the village over the past 16 years, but it's time to hand over the reins to a new generation. If you are interested in being a parish councillor, please contact Bev who can explain the role and the process.

Until then, the parish council members are me, Mike Barter (Vice Chairman), Henri Mogg, James Malmesbury and John Pocock. Please don't hesitate to contact any of us – and Bev - if you want to obtain more information or comment on anything we do.

David Millard
Chairman

District Council

— Hart to Home

It is often said that Planning Policy is a local issue, but it is not. We have a National Planning Policy which is disguised as “local” by means of a highly expensive bureaucracy - the Hart Local Plan cost in excess of £2,000,000 compared with the council’s annual budget of around £10,000,000 for all services.

Local Plans are prepared as specified by the Government by every local authority and then submitted for detailed review by the Government Inspectors.

This could matter in Greywell because the net result is that there are very few reasons for objecting to more solar farms. Most of you will know that the one at Choseley Farm was approved and the fact is that other similar arrays of photovoltaic cells would find it very easy to get approval because there are very few planning objections that can be made.

At the planning committee meeting which passed the Choseley Farm plan, the Whitewater Valley Preservation Society made a very eloquent and well researched case against the plan. I also spoke against it but all to no avail

because most of the reasonable arguments against were not valid under current planning law.

The situation was not helped by the make-up of the planning committee. It comprises one member from each ward. Eight of the eleven ward members come from Fleet and Yateley and accept that green electricity is a good thing, which it is, but live far enough away to be concerned about local consequences. There is little reason to think that the result would be different for any new application to swallow up more farmland.

There is a campaign to enlarge the South Down Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which if it were achieved would be an argument against future solar farms. It will not arrive soon, if at all, and the presence of too many fields of panels might disqualify the area becoming an AONB.

If you like advice on any issue concerning Hart Council please do not hesitate to contact me. I usually attend meetings of the Parish Council and I can meet else by arrangement.

Cllr John Kennett
John.kennett@hart.gov.uk

01256 862203

Hampshire County Council

1. Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC)

The system of booking to visit Hampshire's HWRCs is to be made permanent following feedback from users who overwhelmingly supported the approach. It was introduced in June 2020 in response to the pandemic but also helped smooth visits and reduce queuing. The ability to book multiple trips will remain.

2. Support for Community Transport

With the COVID-19 pandemic still having an impact on levels of all public and community transport use across the county, Hampshire County Council has agreed to maintain contract payments for community transport operators at 100% from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

3. Roads, Transport and Environmental investment

Hampshire County Council is to be asked to approve on 17 February an increased 2021-22 capital programme of investment of £112.885 million.

Hampshire County Council is the first council in England to trial plastic bollards made from sugar cane on its pavements, a lower carbon alternative to the traditional concrete ones. The plant-based bollards are also lighter, easier to install and cheaper and just as resilient.

4. Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Hampshire County Council is putting plans in place to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee this year with the primary focus is during the extended bank holiday weekend of Thursday 2 to Sunday 5 June 2022.

The plan also have is a significant focus on complementing The Queen's Green Canopy theme, with £0.5 million is to be made available to help plant trees across the county.

Celebrations will be launched on Thursday 10 February with the unveiling by HRH The Prince of Wales of 'Licoricia of Winchester', a new life-size bronze statue of a prominent medieval Jewish woman, designed by award-winning sculptor Ian Rank-Broadley.

**Cllr Jonathan K Glen,
Member for Odiham and Hook and the Western Parishes**

Village Directory:

Parish Council

Chairman: David Millard
dmillard48@gmail.com

Clerk: Beverley Bridgman
parishclerk@greywell.info

Village Hall

Chairman: Paul Brennan-Benson
pbbenson@me.com

Treasurer: Mike O'Neill
mjmoneill@gmail.com

Church

Vicar: Rev. Simon Butler
simon@moretolife.church
www.moretolife.church

Church Libbie Bromfield

Warden: libbie@bromfield.org.uk

Fox & Goose

Landlady: Chris Mikolajewski
01256 702062
chris@foxandgoosehampshire.co.uk
www.foxandgoosehampshire.co.uk
www.facebook.com/greywell

Village Email List

Manager: Karen McCaffrey
karengreywellvillage@gmail.com

Hart District Council

Councillor: John Kennett
01256 862203
John.kennett@hart.gov.uk

Hampshire County Council

Councillor: Jonathan Glen
Jonathan.glen@hants.gov.uk

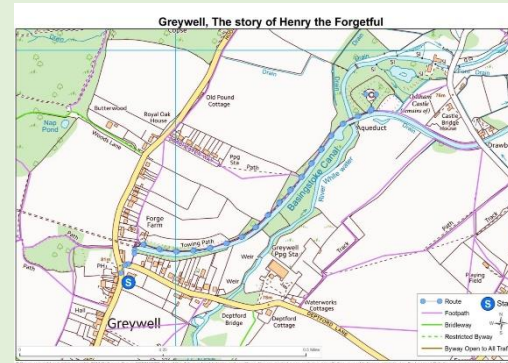
Let's get walking again!

At this time of year, we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

<https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/hants> - "Walking in Hampshire" has hundreds of walks to download and print free; it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (the custodian of the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web, but it is difficult to find. Walking in Hampshire (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.



Here's a Greywell example.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris

www.walkinginengland.co.uk

john@walkinginengland.co.uk

Who's Who

The Greywell Village Directory is an email group which has been set up to pass on notices and information to villagers. If you have any notices you would like sent round, please send an email with the details to:

karengreywellvillage@gmail.com

If you are sending an attachment it is best to send as a pdf please. If you are new to the village or have a new neighbour who would like to be included, please let Karen know contact details on the above email address so they can be added to the directory.

About the Gazette

This is the 2nd edition of the Gazette. The intention is to publish it four times a year with a different person responsible for assembling the material on every occasion.

What it is and what it isn't. The Gazette will contain news and other information which is of relevance only or principally to Greywell villagers. It will complement other publications like The Villager which is distributed monthly to all villagers within the Parish but it will not cover, for example, planning applications for areas which do not directly affect Greywell, likewise local school issues, road schemes etc. The guiding principle is: if you don't live in Greywell, you are unlikely to want to read it!

The content and format of each publication will depend entirely on the guest editor but is expected to carry contributions from the Parish Council, the Village Hall and the Church, announce arrivals to and departures from the village and notify upcoming village events. Articles about aspects of Greywell may occasionally feature (e.g. village history, footpaths, the SSSI), short contributions from guest officialdom (e.g. district or

county councillors) will sometimes be made and there may be village pub and club items.

* * * * *

If you have a neighbour who does not have email please could you offer them a printed copy.

We are looking for the next Guest Editors. Please get in touch with us to volunteer and with any feedback.

Richard and Anita Cole
RichardCole1@sky.com