

# Parish NEWS



Allbrook Parish News

Issue 25 / Autumn 2024

## Dear Residents,

What is a volunteer? According to the Cambridge Dictionary, a volunteer is a person who does something, especially helping other people, willingly and without being forced or paid to do it. The Parish Council is grateful to those who volunteer in our community. The allotment representatives and the working party keep the sites maintained. This helps to keep your precept down.

The members of the Itchen Navigation Preservation Trust who have been repairing breaches, upgrading the footpath and installing a new bench near Ham Farm. Thanks to Boyatt Wood Parish Council for the actual bench. The work they do also helps the now endangered Atlantic salmon which spawn in the river.

Both scout groups are run by volunteers and they are always in need of more help. They provide wonderful opportunities and experiences to young people from age 4 upwards.

The Allbrook Meadow Working Party is helping plan the future for the meadow.

The residents who litter pick around the parish, and do it all year round not just on the one organised day.

As the end of the year approaches, many people will be thinking of new year's resolutions. The transfer of the Meadow and the Recreation ground is expected to happen soon and the River Garden is taking shape. Volunteers will be needed to help maintain these areas. Could you be one of them?

## Parish Council meeting dates

Parish Council meetings are held monthly on Tuesdays at 7pm in the Scout Hut, Boyatt Lane.

Please check our website for the latest information in case of any change at short notice.

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The next Parish Council meetings dates are:

**Tues 17 December**

**Tues 28 January**

**Tues 25 February**

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For information on local planning applications, or to find useful links visit our website:

[www.allbrook-pc.gov.uk](http://www.allbrook-pc.gov.uk)

### WHAT'S ON

**Fri 29th Nov**  
6.30pm

Christmas wreath workshop  
BrendonCare, Otterbourne Hill

**Friday 13th Dec**  
6.30pm

Christmas table decoration workshop  
BrendonCare, Otterbourne Hill

**Sat 14th Dec**  
5-7pm

Browsholme Close  
Christmas Street Party

**Fri 10th Jan**

**Sat 11th Jan**

**Sun 12th Jan**

**Fri 17th Jan**

**Sat 18th Jan**

**Sun 19th Jan**

Alice in Wonderland  
Otterbourne Village Hall  
*(details below and poster on back page)*

**Sat 8th Feb**  
2pm

Scout Jumble Sale  
Scout Hut, Boyatt Lane

**Organising a local event? Tell us about it to promote it in our newsletter!**

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

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## Otterbourne Theatre Company's Annual Pantomime

Rehearsals are in full swing for Alice in Wonderland, their new and truly spectacular 2025 family pantomime. Lewis Carroll's classic tale of fascinating, crazy and colourful characters is perfect for adaptation to a traditional panto setting. Expect oodles of laughter, drama, song and dance with lashings of the usual silliness. Utterly unmissable! Book now and choose your seats - some performances will sell out pretty quickly!

Matinee performances at 2.30pm on 11th, 12th, 18th & 19th January.

Evening performances at 7.30pm on 10th, 11th, 17th and 18th January.

Friday evening tickets are £10 each. Saturday & Sunday tickets are £12 each.

There will also be a relaxed, signed performance at 11am on Sunday 12th January - see the website for more details. <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/ovh> or <https://otterbournetheatre.com>

## Scouts Jumble Sales

The 15th Chandler's Ford (Allbrook & Otterbourne) Scout Group based in Boyatt Lane hold two jumble sales a year. These form a very important part of the fundraising required to maintain the scout hut and run the activities for the beavers, cubs and scouts. The sales are very popular and there is, inevitably, a bit of traffic congestion due to car parking. If you are impacted by this please try to remember that it is only for a few hours twice a year and it is a very good cause. The sale in October raised a massive £448.85.

If you have never been, why not go along to the next one in February? You never know what you might find and it will always be a bargain.

## Remembrance 2024

Allbrook was represented by Councillor Handley-Garland at the Eastleigh remembrance service at the War Memorial, Leigh Road Recreation Ground, where he laid a wreath. Councillor Palmer attended the service at the War Memorial in Otterbourne and also laid a wreath.

The majority of the names on the Otterbourne memorial are those of Allbrook residents who died in the 1914/19 World War.



## Allbrook Hill Traffic

Hampshire Highways are looking at ways to make the road and pavement safer, and ease the congestion. There is a small amount of funding available from section 106 contributions. Probably not enough to carry out all the ideas but every little helps.

## HALC Awards

The Hampshire Association of Local Councils run an awards evening each year culminating in the announcement of village of the year. There are also a number of smaller awards for which the D-Day 80 event held on Otterbourne Common was shortlisted. Councillors Palmer and Daniels from Allbrook, and Councillors Green and King from Otterbourne, attended the evening. Our event was awarded runner up for Best Community Event, which was won by Southwick for their tremendous D-Day 80 event and exhibition. We were also, with Otterbourne, winners of the Best Community Collaboration award. The Otter was given the Pub as the Hub award.

### Allbrook River Garden

Progress is being made. Permission to carry out remedial works on the horse chestnut tree was finally granted and the work has been carried out. The crown has been lifted and some diseased branches removed.

Work is due to begin in December to remove the shelter, install a picnic bench on the remaining base and construct a path to allow people to access the riverside all year round. The path material has been approved by the Environment Agency and is also used to repair the footpath along the river.

The entrance arch is currently under construction and will be installed in the new year. The arch is funded from developers contributions that had been allocated for street art for Allbrook. It has not cost residents anything.



### Grants

The Parish Council has recently been able to award grants to 2 local organisations.

Eastleigh Neighbourhood Watch applied for funds for a leaflet drop to try to reactivate the local NW schemes. There are plenty of signs around the parish, indicating Neighbourhood Watch areas but where are the co-ordinators? A recruitment drive is needed. Could you be a co-ordinator for your area?

The Itchen Navigation Preservation Trust applied for funding for materials to repair breaches and raise the level of the path along the local stretch of the river. The actual work is undertaken by local volunteers and they welcome more. The repairs will make the path more user friendly. No more wet feet!

### New Website

The Parish Council has a new website. The old one was basic but as the PC developed more functions were needed. The address remains the same but there is now much more information and, hopefully, it is easy to navigate. There are also lots of links to help you in reporting problems and finding information. Do have a look and perhaps bookmark it for a regular update.

[www.allbrook-pc.gov.uk](http://www.allbrook-pc.gov.uk)

## OACS (pronounced OAKS)

Otterbourne and Allbrook Climate Solutions is a network of like-minded people concerned about climate change and wanting to take action locally in Otterbourne and Allbrook.

They want to make positive changes in areas like biodiversity, transport, better insulated housing and renewable energy within our Parishes.

A Climate Café was held in Otterbourne Village Hall in January 2024 and the group have met since to discuss what they can do.

They would love to hear from other residents also concerned about the planet warming and wanting to get involved! Please email: [ksinclairopc@gmail.com](mailto:ksinclairopc@gmail.com) More information can be found on the new Parish Council website.

## Knowle Hill Development

Three representatives from the developers attended the Parish Council meeting in October. They presented revised plans and layout. They have reduced the number of properties from 52 to 49. They also presented street scenes of the properties being built. There will be 3 x one bed units, 17 x two bed units, 23 x three bed units and 6 x four bed units. There will be 11 visitor parking spaces.

These plans have been submitted to Eastleigh Borough Council for approval and can be found on the EBC website where you may comment if you wish.

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## Physical barriers to getting around

Hampshire County Council have recently launched a survey to help them identify physical barriers to walking and wheeling, cycling and scooting. The survey, which is open until Sunday 22 December 2024, seeks feedback to help pinpoint locations where there are obstacles, such as bollards, that make getting around difficult for people, including those who have restricted mobility and need to use a mobility scooter, or for those pushing prams or riding adapted bikes for example.

The survey is quick to fill in and you can report multiple locations by submitting the survey and then commenting on another location. This follows some recent work in Chandlers Ford to remove barriers which has had really positive feedback and has improved access to schools, shops and local facilities. This is an opportunity to highlight all of the missing pedestrian crossing points, obstructions on footways, incorrect signage on the cycle network as well as highlighting missing tactile paving on walking routes and at crossing points in our area.

[www.hants.gov.uk/News/20241101SurveyWalkCycleBarriers](http://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20241101SurveyWalkCycleBarriers)

## 15th Chandler's Ford (Allbrook and Otterbourne) Scout Group

We have had a brilliant start to the Autumn term, making the most of the last light evenings, before the clocks changed.

The Beavers took the opportunity to enjoy outdoor activities at Cranbury Park. They have been working towards their Navigator badge, honing their map reading skills, investigating local maps and map symbols and learning about the job of an air traffic controller.

Our Cubs had an amazing time at camp on one of the wetter weekends in September! We were able to avoid the worst of the downpours, and even had the sun come out on Saturday afternoon. They took part in team building activities and learnt some new songs at the campfire. The highlight of the weekend for everyone was a visit to the caving bus, before returning home, tired but happy!

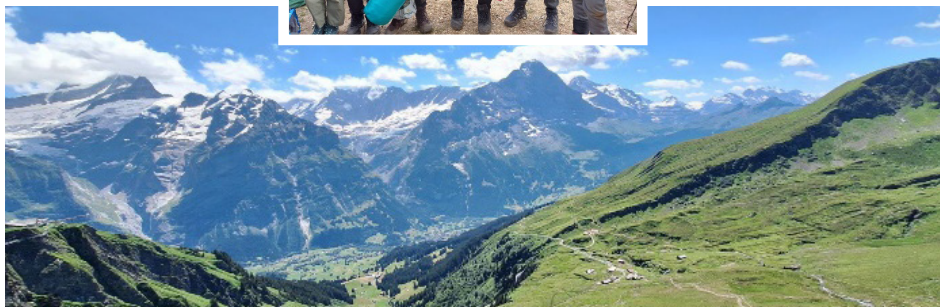
The Scouts have also been doing lots of camping. During the summer, two of



our Scouts, and one of our volunteers joined Arrow District's trip to Switzerland, to stay at the Kandersteg International Scout Centre. They had a wonderful experience that included hiking in the mountains, trips through amazing scenery, visiting a glacial lake and making new friends with Scouts from other countries.

In September, members of our Scout troop attended the "Chaos Camp", an

activity camp for Scouts from across Hampshire. Held in the New Forest, the Scouts got to try out some new challenges, take part in traditional



scouting and camping skills and meet other scouts from across the county. In addition to activities such as fire lighting, climbing and teamwork challenges, they had a go at tomahawk throwing, for the first time. And it was a real hit! They also had a chance to get involved in some more creative experiences, working together to solve puzzles, construct mini-bridges and make music using found items.



### Thinking of Volunteering?

Our Scout Group is looking for helping hands, so I wanted to let you know a bit about the brilliant volunteering opportunities we have at 15th Chandlers Ford Scout Group. Scouts happens when a lot of us give a little, and we rely on people like you to give young people opportunities to dream big, give it a go, and build skills for life. I know you're all so busy already, but don't worry – you won't need to come to Scouts every week, run a session, or give up all your free time.

We're looking for people to help out in all sorts of ways in our meeting place and behind the scenes. Whether you want to support young people or if you're more comfortable planning an adventure from the sidelines, we've got a role for you.

If you're not keen on working directly with young people, that's OK too. Our Trustees do lots of things out of the spotlight, and there's lots you can do from home. They help behind-the-scenes doing various bits and bobs, like admin, organising, and helping to improve Scouts for all.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering with us, please contact our Lead Volunteer, Susan on [gsl@15thcscouts.com](mailto:gsl@15thcscouts.com)

You may have noticed a strange, new, purple, recycling bin outside our Scout Centre. The Group has been very pleased to welcome representatives from the Hampshire Air Ambulance who visited our sections to talk about their vital work. The purple bin a collection point for aluminium items. You can recycle foil, trays, drinks cans, tealight holders, in fact anything aluminium that is soft. Unfortunately, steel cans cannot be recycled here. The money raised from the aluminium goes to help the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance.





Otterbourne Village Hall Presents

# Alice in Wonderland

Performances on 10th, 11th, 12th, 18th & 19th January 2025  
Tickets from £10. Book online at  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/ovh](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/ovh) or <https://otterbournetheatre.com>

Please send us your ideas for the next issue by 20/01/25

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