Arreton Parish Council Newsletter

Spring Edition - March 2024

VISIT TO SOUTHERN WATER TREATMENT WORKS, SANDOWN

Town and Parish Councils were recently invited by Southern Water to take a tour of their treatment plant at Sandown.

Parish Councillors, the Clerk and a local resident were amongst those who attended. It took 3 hours to see the whole operation and there were lots of questions answered. Southern Water now has a portacabin base for tours on site which is also being used as a local base by the ambulance service.



COMMEMORATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE D-DAY LANDINGS 6TH JUNE 2024 this is an

opportunity for the community to come together to commemorate the anniversary and pay tribute to the many thousands of people that sacrificed so much in helping secure the freedom of our country. Plans in Arreton will be based at St Georges Church with ringing of the bells and a fish and chip supper. Please check the Parish Council website for further details nearer the time.

CEMETERY MATTERS

In the churchyard work has taken place recently on 4 cherry trees and there have been a few small repairs to the wall paid for by Arreton Parish Council. The magnolia tree in Gore Cemetery is looking splendid at the moment and maintenance work has also started on the shed.



Magnolia Tree at Gore Cemetery

Tree and Wall Works







ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL UPDATES

Free energy advice webinar Sovereign Network Group are offering free energy advice webinars this month and next. The sessions will offer practical tips, information and solutions that will help residents lower their energy bills, become more energy efficient and stay warmer this winter. Everyone who attends the session can access a free household-based assessment, which will provide tailored support and solutions for their home, including energy packs to help address identified issues. To register for a webinar, please follow the link to choose your preferred date and time and book a space. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/free-energy-advice-webinar-tickets-816557213607

Tax credits are ending Over the next few months, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) will be writing to residents currently on Child Tax Credit and/or Working Tax Credit with a Universal Credit Migration Notice. The notice will explain what they need to do to apply for Universal Credit. People must apply for Universal Credit within 3 months and 1 day of getting the letter; they will not get it automatically.

Isle of Wight Council website downtime Saturday 16th March and Sunday 17th March. IWC phone system will also be unavailable. Emergency calls will be handled as usual throughout by Wightcare on 01983 821105.

Draft planning document aims to secure funds for Island health facilities from property developers IWC is asking for peoples' views on proposals to help secure financial contributions from property developers for health facilities. It means financial contributions towards new health facilities (excluding dentistry) could be collected from new development. The consultation will run until **Tuesday 2 April 2024** and more information can be found at <u>Supplementary Planning document consultations</u>. Comments can be submitted by email to <u>policy.consultation@iow.gov.uk</u> or by post to Planning Services, Seaclose Office, Fairlee Road, Newport, PO30 2QS.

Floating bridge refit Cowes Floating Bridge will be out of service for its annual refit from 5am on Monday, 4 March until 5am on Monday, 11 March. A launch service for foot passengers will operate daily from 5am to 11pm apart from Sunday 10 March when it will start at 6.30am.

Enjoy the Easter holidays_Head to our museums, libraries and leisure centres and help keep everyone entertained. Museum of Island History on Tue or Thur (10am-1pm). Create and take home a paper hand axe and see the real ones in the museum. Only £1 for adults and 50p for kids. Newport Roman Villa opens on 29 March. Have fun in the activity room, dress up as a Roman, make a mosaic and rebuild a pot (Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 10.30am-2.30pm). Explore Dinosaur Isle and learn about the amazing dinosaurs that lived on the Island.

Book now for free Easter activity spaces for eligible children and young people The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme returns for Easter 2024 with an exciting range of activities for children and young people across the Island, to book your child's place and check eligibility go to Easter Listings for the Island's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) (iow.gov.uk) Activities on offer including horse riding, tennis and football coaching, multi-sport games, animal care, theatre skills and arts and crafts.

Discover the Family Hubs and Centres on the Island Do you know about the Family Hubs and Centres that are here to support Island families? They are places where residents can find a variety of services and activities for them and their children, from pregnancy to 19 years old (or 25 years old for those living with Special Education Needs and Disabilities). To find out more about the Family Hubs and Centres and what they can do for you, please visit the IW Family Information Hub website: https://familyinfohub.iow.gov.uk/

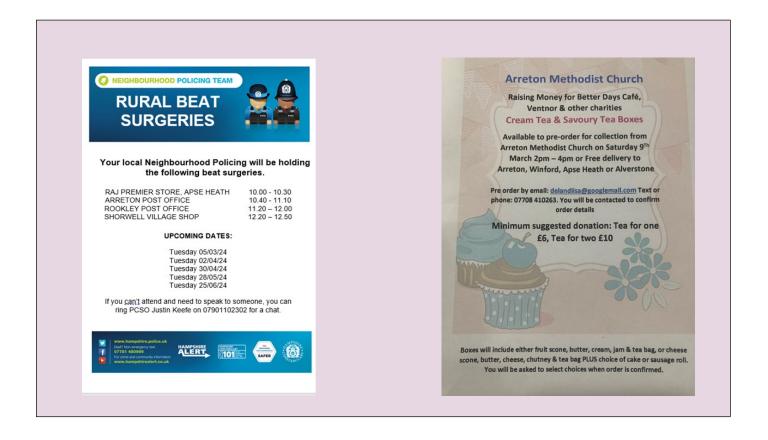
Apply now to get 15 hours childcare for your 2-year-old to start in April Applications for 15 hours childcare are now open for eligible working parents in England with a child who turns 2 years old on or before 31 March.

• Parents can apply at <u>Check you're eligible for free childcare if you're working - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>. They will receive a code which can then be shared with their childcare provider. To continue receiving government support, parents will need to reconfirm details every three months on the gov.uk account.

- From **September 2024**, 15 hours childcare will be expanded to eligible working parents in England with children between 9 and 23 months old.
- From **September 2025**, eligible working parents in England with children between 9 months up to school age will have access to 30 hours childcare.
- This comes alongside the existing government childcare support, including **30 hours for 3-and 4-year-olds**, **Tax-Free Childcare** and **Universal Credit Childcare**. Parents might be able to use more than one offer to help with their childcare costs.

Childcare is also expanding for primary school children. From September 2024, parents in England are expected to see an expansion in the availability of childcare in their local area before and after school, that runs from 8am until 6pm or later, also known as '**wraparound childcare**'. If you are eligible for Tax-Free Childcare or Universal Credit Childcare, you can use the support to help pay for wraparound childcare.

Visit Childcare Choices to see what support you might be eligible for, now and in the future, so you can juggle work and life: Childcare Choices | 30 Hours Childcare, Tax-Free Childcare and More | Help with Costs | GOV.UK



CELEBRATING TEN YEARS OF GRANT FUNDING ON THE ISLE OF WIGHT Each year the Isle of

Wight Foundation has awarded grants of between £3,000 and £16,000 for projects involved in helping build better communities or supporting people to access employment or housing. They are particularly looking for capital projects that help people to access employment or projects which help bring communities together through improving citizenships. They also accept applications from groups with existing projects, as long as they can demonstrate that the funding will enable them to extend their services to benefit more people in the community.

If you have any questions about the criteria for eligibility or would like to discuss a project you have in mind then please contact me either by email samantha.orourke@islandroads.com or IWFoundation@IslandRoads.com or by phoning o7922 584270. To view more details on the Foundation, please visit http://www.islandroads.com/137-iw-foundation.html. The closing date for applications is 12 noon on 6th May 2024.



WALK THE WIGHT registration for walk the wight 2024 is now open. After raising a record breaking £460,000 in 2023, Mountbatten needs your help to do it all over again on Sunday 12th may. The island's largest and most iconic fundraising event, award winning walk the wight provides something for everyone, with the epic full walk, two half walks, a flat, wheelchair/pushchair accessible route, plus an option to take part at your own pace, in your own time. Every walker taking part will earn a beautiful medal - which is back with a brand new design for 2024 - as well as a warm, fuzzy feeling knowing you are helping Mountbatten provide expert care and support to islanders when they need it most. Register now at www.mountbatten.org.uk/pages/category/wtw24

Contact Us

Arreton Parish Council

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