

LISS

Reporting Crime

To ensure that Liss retains the Police resources allocated to the village, it is essential that residents who are subjected to crime or anti-social behaviour report the incidents to the Police. This can be done by telephoning 08450 454545.

V

Safety Improvements in Station Road

HCC Highways have informed us that a works order to improve pedestrian safety at the Farnham Road/Station Road junction has now been placed and that work should commence in the near future.

I

The work will see the extension of the footpath on the north side of Station Road to join with the existing footpath; at that point there will be an uncontrolled dropped kerb pedestrian crossing. LPC is pressing HCC to provide coloured road surfacing at the crossing.

We have been pushing for safety improvements at this point for a very long time now and we are delighted that, at last, we have a result.

L

Also in Station Road, HCC are to create an uncontrolled dropped kerb crossing point to improve access to West Liss recreation ground. The crossing point will be at the Liss Business Centre end of the field and it is our intention to install a footpath across the field to give easier access to the play area for parents with push chairs.

L

Liss Parish Council / Newman Collard Playing Fields Trust

We are delighted to announce that a service agreement between the above parties has finally been agreed and signed. The agreement sets out the areas of responsibility for both the Council and the Trust for the maintenance and management of Newman Collard playing fields. We hope that this will enable the past successful management of the playing fields to continue for the benefit of Liss residents.

A

Village Centre Enhancement - Update

Further to our front page article in Village Voice no 23 we have recently heard that the Hampshire County Council funding for the project to replace the tarmac pavements in the village centre has now been secured and it is anticipated that the project will be underway in March or April. Before commencement HCC's contractor will visit shopkeepers to explain the process of the works programme and how it will affect them.

As part of the project we will be getting two additional street lights in Station Road, these will improve conditions for pedestrians and traffic as well as enhance the performance of our CCTV system. These lights should be in place before the pavement works commence.

G

Changes to Householder Permitted Development Rights

As of 1st October 2008 new amendments to the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 became effective. This means that there are now new rules applying to householder extensions and improvement works relating to what will or will not require planning permission from the District Council. The controls have been relaxed in some areas and tightened in others, such as Article 1(5) land – Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings which is therefore relevant to Liss.

E

The advice to all householders wanting to carry out extensions or improvement works is to talk to the Planning Officers at EHDC.



VOICE

The Newsletter of
Liss

Parish Council No 24

RAILWAY 150

On 24th January 1859 the first train travelled the direct route between London and Portsmouth and regular services of four Up and five Down trains a day commenced on 1st June.

So this year we celebrate 150 years of the railway which did so much to transform Liss and Petersfield and the Railway 150 Committee is organising a day of celebration on Easter Monday, 13th April. See table below for timings.

These of course will be Victorian (Queen Victoria regularly travelled the line on her way to or from Osborne House) and the central

attraction will be a steam train which will depart Victoria stopping at Liss and Petersfield and terminating at Sherborne (or Yeovil) for the return journey. The engine will be the Pacific class 70013 'Oliver Cromwell' which some believe pulled the last steam train on this line.

At Liss, Mr Stewart Palmer, Managing Director of South West Trains (the present successor to the original Portsmouth Direct Railway Company) will make a short speech, passengers may board and then the train will proceed to Petersfield where it will have a much longer halt with a ceremony, including a band and Victorian events, to unveil a commemorative plaque.

The railway played a significant part in shaping the village of 'new' Liss. Prior to the railway the village was centred on 'West' Liss with a scattering of homesteads and farms covering what is now Liss and Liss Forest. When the then single line (it became a double track in 1878) was laid it followed geological contours which took the line ½ mile from 'West' Liss. The construction around Liss was difficult because of the boggy land and also the gradient (uphill going North). Excellent Victorian engineering overcame the first problem but the second was more tricky and a steam shunter was kept fired up at Petersfield in case it was required to assist the train at Liss on the Up line.

As recently as the 1950s the staff at Liss numbered 16, including the men manning the signal box and crossing gates at Tankerdale Lane, Andlers Ash (Princes Marsh), Mint Road (Liss Common) and even at Duckmead Lane. The Gate Keepers' houses are easily spotted at Princes Marsh and Liss Common. Electrification came in 1937 and this reduced the travel time from Liss to London by 10 minutes. In 1938 the Longmoor Military Railway was built and in 1942 a set of points to connect to the Portsmouth line was installed. The Longmoor line was closed in 1971 and in 1972/3 the delightful looking station was demolished because of subsidence and in its place we have the current edifice.

Easter Monday will be a tremendous family day in both Liss and Petersfield and everyone is encouraged to wear something Victorian. "Alice Blue" in Station Road, Liss, can deck you out in Victorian costumes. (Alice Blue tel: 01730 892 600 e: alice.blue@virgin.net)

Join the 'Oliver Cromwell'!

Easter Monday 13 April

	Morning	Evening
Victoria, London	08.45	
Liss	10.35	Not stopping Alight at Petersfield*
Petersfield	10.50	19.45
Salisbury	13.00	18.00
Sherborne	14.00	17.00
Yeovil	14.15	16.45
Fares from Liss or Petersfield	To Salisbury	To Sherborne
Standard return	£57	£67
First Class	£85.50	£95.50
Dining	£145	£145
(champagne brunch & dinner)		

*Gradient too steep to risk halting.

Timings are approximate. For info/booking: 01483 209 888 www.steamdreams.com



Photo by permission Liss Historical Society

Gas Main – Forest Road.

Residents of Liss and Liss Forest are advised that Southern Gas Networks will be replacing the Main Gas Main in Forest Road starting at the beginning of April '09. The new plastic main will run from opposite the Temple Inn to Briar Wood road junction where it will join the existing main.

Those residents who will be affected by the replacement are assured that at no time will they be cut off for any appreciable time while their services are connected to the new main. Those residents who live adjacent to the planned works will receive a letter informing them of the impending work and telephone contact numbers. Nearer the start time, detailed drawings of the replacement work will be on public display on the Liss Forest Residents' notice board outside St Saviour's Church.

Once the work has been completed, it is hoped that at long last those residents who live along that part of Forest Road will have uninterrupted gas supplies for years to come.

A final plea to all motorists who use Forest Road, please be patient and drive slowly while this major work is in progress.

Christmas Late Night Shopping

It is ten years since village centre businesses, keen to thank local people for their loyalty, first ran a Christmas Late Night Shopping event in the village. With strong support from Liss Community Association and the Parish Council this popular event now includes craft stalls in The Triangle and has evolved into a wider Christmas Fair for residents of all ages. On 10th December Station Road came alive with festive music provided by Liss Band and the choirs of St. Mary's Church and Liss Junior School. Local organisations sold cakes, sweets, toys and raffle tickets. Scouts cooked sausages and burgers while our shops offered seasonal fare and children were delighted to be chased by a Dalek. Thank you to all the participating businesses who decorated their windows and stayed open late. Congratulations to Liss Wools for winning the window competition with a fine display of handmade decorations.

The success of the evening depends largely on the enthusiasm, hard work and generosity contributed by key individuals and organisations. This year we particularly wish to thank the following: Harris Caravans for providing two splendid trees to illuminate the village centre; Howard Clarke for printing; Howard Smith & Co for sponsoring the Best Dressed Window Competition; Jade News and Co-operative Funeral Services for contributing to the decorations and the lights; The Whistle Stop for accommodating Santa's Grotto and a fun fair for children; Dave Scarlett for providing a power source; Alice Blue fancy dress shop for helping with the organisation and with costumes for the elves and Newman Collard Trustees for their help with clearing up. Other organisations or individuals who would like to be involved next year please contact Liss Community Association, Liss Parish Council or Jade News.

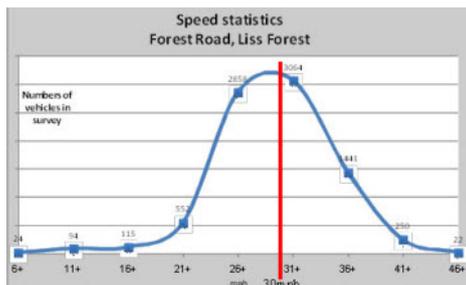


Village Centre Notice Board

Residents are politely reminded that the purpose of the public notice board in the centre of the village is to allow local societies & charities the opportunity to inform villagers of their up-coming events. It is not for trade adverts or any long term notices. Local societies and charities are also requested to ensure that their notices are taken down immediately their event has taken place.

Speed Survey

In December speed surveys were carried out at six locations in Liss covered by 30mph limits. These show that almost half of all drivers exceed the speed limit in the central areas of Liss & Liss Forest, with some travelling up to 50 mph. In West Liss, on the more open roads, the average speed exceeds 40mph. The parish council will discuss these results with Hampshire County Council and the Police to try to prioritise action in those areas which are believed to be most dangerous to see how traffic can be slowed down. As most traffic is local, speed is literally at the feet of the drivers of Liss.



Council Meetings 2009

Parish Council Meetings

	Time	March	April	May	June	July
Council	7.30pm	16th	20th	18th	15th	20th
Planning	7.30pm	9th	6th	5th(Tues)	1st & 29th	27th
Highways	7.30pm		27th			6th
Facilities	7.30pm	2nd			8th	
Finance	7.30pm			11th		
Annual Parish Meeting	8.00pm	18th				

Annual Parish Meeting

8.00pm on Wednesday 18th March
in Liss Village Hall

All villagers are invited to attend and will be given the opportunity to raise items of concern.

Parish Plan - Update

The Liss Village Plan and Design Partnership working on behalf of Liss Parish Council have presented two papers to council in the past couple of months covering the following areas:

Organisations in the Community - All aspects of community life were looked at in the Parish.

Roads and Pavements - The members of the group walked and took photographs of the state of our parish roads and pavements. The paper was presented to Council at the February meeting and was approved.

In March the LVPDP will be presenting a paper on Health facilities in the parish.

Transport, Housing and Business remain outstanding and will be addressed shortly.

All the above form part of the overall Plan which once agreed by Liss Parish Council will be submitted to East Hampshire District Council for approval. The process is quite long but well worth the trouble, as we will then have a document allowing us to seek grants for specific needs highlighted in the Plan.

Other aspects of the Parish Plan including updating the Village Design Statement, are being looked at by various members of the group with a view to updating.

The Landscape Assessment is already in print and should any parishioner wishing to purchase a copy; they can do so from the Parish Rooms.

The Parish Plan is well on the way to being completed and will be on the Parish Website when completed in due course.

Skate Bowl Project

The skate bowl is on-going slowly. The research required to check out most of both residents' and councillor questions has been completed. However other issues not previously raised have come to light which need consideration. As soon as these are cleared up the promised second public meeting will be arranged.

The Village Voice is written, edited, produced, published and delivered by Parish Councillors in order to keep the citizens of Liss informed of the actions of their elected representatives.

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