



Official Town Guide





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Petersfield Town Council
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Cover image: Swan on
Petersfield Lake
by Jon Grove

Designed by
Petersfield Town Council
www.petersfield-tc.gov.uk

Petersfield Town Council

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**Monday to Friday
9am to 5pm**

 **01730 264182**

 **@petersfield.tc**

 **@Petersfield_TC**



Conveniently nestled in the heart of Hampshire, Petersfield is a perfect base from which to explore our area's unique mix of city, coast and country.

Petersfield itself is renowned for being a friendly and welcoming town proud of its rich history of cottage industries and trading.

Further afield you'll find a multitude of things to do, with many attractions and experiences on offer - visit www.visithampshire.co.uk.

Discover exciting events throughout the year from arts, culture, festivals, music, sports and much more. Stay in amazing accommodation and sample Hampshire's hearty food and drink. Whether you visit with friends or family and are looking for a relaxing or invigorating break, Hampshire has it all!

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Introduction

Welcome to the official Petersfield Town Guide. The purpose of this Town Guide is to help you find your way around this beautiful historic town, which is the gateway to the South Downs National Park, and to provide you with information about places of interest, services and the wide variety of places to shop, as well as to provide practical information about businesses that serve the Petersfield community. This year we have also included a list of event dates sourced from many of the organisations that reside within the Petersfield area.



We hope you enjoy Petersfield town and find this guide to be helpful.

Feedback should be directed to Kathryn Ellis on 01730 264182 or email events@petersfield-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Chris Paige
Petersfield Town Mayor 2025/26

St Peter's Church

(Church of England)

Subject to major re-building in 1873 under Sir Arthur Blomfield, the architect for the diocese of Winchester, project 2000, not only restored some of the medieval aspects of the building but added many worthwhile facilities appropriate to the 21st Century.



The town of Petersfield was founded in the 12th century by the Earl of Gloucester. The Earl, who owned the land in the area, built a church dedicated to Saint Peter and the surrounding land then became known as St Peter's Field.

St Peter's stands in The Square, geographically and spiritually at the heart of the town. It was founded in the 11th Century and has a magnificent arcaded chancel arch (Norman) which led Pevsner to describe the church as "one of the most interesting Norman churches in Hampshire".

With its prime position and excellent acoustics, St Peter's pursues a policy of encouraging concerts, plays, exhibitions and civic occasions.

Other Churches

Petersfield has a thriving Christian community and most mainstream denominations of the Christian faith are represented in and around Petersfield. This includes Roman Catholic, Church of England, Methodist, United Reformed, Salvation Army and Quakers, as well as free (independent) churches such as Life Church and Hope Church.

Churches in Petersfield have worked together since the 1960s, and details of all the churches and their associated organisations and activities can be found on the Petersfield Area Churches Together website, www.pact.org.uk.

Petersfield Area Churches Together (PACT) is a much respected organisation, and is represented by most of the local churches who join together in order to provide practical and spiritual support to the community, and promote the faith of Christianity.

Food & Shopping



At the heart of the town is The Square, which is surrounded by shops, bars and various facilities. Many independent shops and places to eat can be found along the High Street, Chapel Street and Lavant Street, as well as Dragon Street and Heath Road, which are both located at the bottom of the High Street.

Rams Walk is a 1993 development of high quality nationally recognised shops and features a bronze/resin statue of a shepherd, his dogs, and South Down sheep, by Andrew Cheese. Rams Walk's anchor store is Waitrose.

Another shopping area is the Folly Market and Folly Lanes which are located to the east of the town centre. This is a quaint area of independent shops and services that enhance the town's shopping experience. You can also discover a range of individual shops, cafés and eateries in Pages Court (off the High Street), and Bakery Lane and Hobbs Lane, both of which are situated off Chapel Street.

The town also has several well-known supermarket stores located around the town, with a couple located away from the main shopping area.



Markets & Farmer's Market

The traditional market takes place in The Square on Wednesday and Saturday and goes back to the very foundation of the town (before 1182), where livestock were herded up Sheep Street to sell on market day. The market provides a good selection of food and other items for sale.

Hampshire Farmers' Markets take place on the first Sunday of each month, and provide a wide range of local produce.



Petersfield Library

The current Petersfield Library was built in 1981 and is located in The Square. This free-to-join library offers a wide range of adults' and children's books, magazines, and audiobooks.

There is something for all tastes. The Library offers free access to the internet and eResources using the Go-Online computers and free WiFi is also available.

One room is available to hire.

Petersfield Registry Office and Citizens Advice are also located in the library.

Hampshire Libraries offers a full programme of online workshops and courses and regular children's rhyme times on the Hampshire Libraries Facebook page.

For further information, please telephone 0300 555 1387, visit www.hants.gov.uk/library or follow on Facebook @petersfieldlibrary



HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY SERVICE

(temporary)

Opening hours:

Mon	09:30-17:00
Tues	09:30-17:00
Wed	09:30-17:00
Thurs	09:30-13:30
Fri	09:30-17:00
Sat	09:30-17:00
Sun	CLOSED



Petersfield Museum has a variety of collections reflecting the history of the area that include archaeology, social history, The Bedales Collection of Historic Dress, Flora Twort Collection, The Edward Thomas Study Centre and the Eades Photography Archive offer a stimulating programme of workshops, walks, talks and events embracing all age groups.

A £3.75m renovation has recently been completed and the museum looks forward to welcoming visitors to their pathways into the past expansion which includes:

- Renovation and conservation of the current Victorian buildings
- Construction of two new purpose-built exhibition spaces
- A new Edward Thomas Study Centre
- Creation of an exciting new courtyard space
- A servery and much, much more

The project gives the museum more display area than ever before and the potential for touring exhibitions from national museums. This regional hub' will put Petersfield Museum and our glorious National Park surroundings on the map for local people and tourists alike.

Opening hours: 10.00am - 4.00pm, Tuesday to Saturday (20 March until 24 November) Modest entry fee for adults, children go FREE.

Throughout the year the Museum offers walks, talks and education programmes – find out more about these activities via social media and website:

www.petersfieldmuseum.co.uk

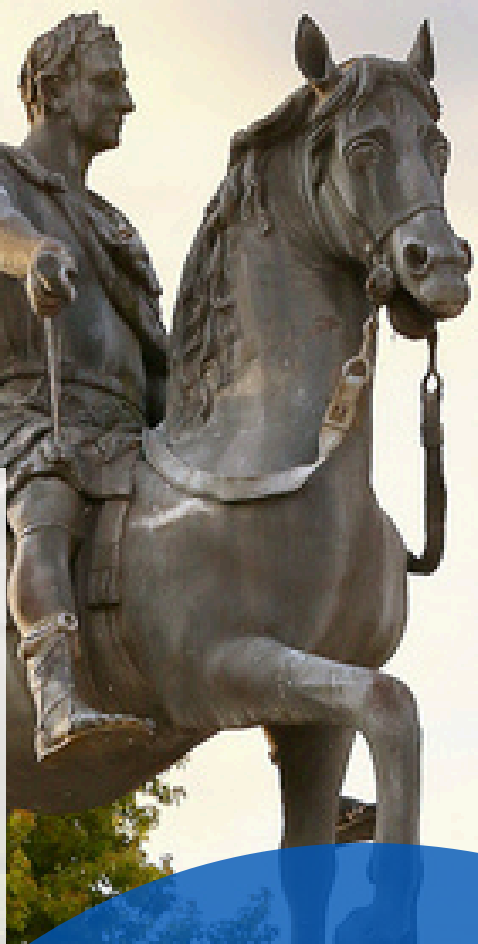
Blue Plaque Trail

The blue plaques to be seen around the town indicate buildings of great interest. A leaflet called The Blue Plaque Trail can be obtained from the Museum at a price of £1.50 which goes toward the upkeep of the plaques themselves.



William III Statue

The Square



A rare monumental memorial in England, the well-known statue in The Square, described as "Magnificent and Heroic, deserving the admiration of the towns-people", was cast in lead in 1753 by John Cheere.

It was originally erected in New Way (St Peter's Road) by a bequest of £500 from Whig MP, Sir William Jolliffe in 1757.

Placed in its present position in The Square in 1812, the statue nevertheless remained in the ownership of the Jolliffes. It is modelled on the grand bronze statue of Marcus Aurelius (c200 AD) now placed in the Piazza del Campidoglio on the Capitoline Hill in Rome.

The statue was purchased in 1911 by the then Petersfield Urban District Council at auction, together with the market and the market rights on The Square, for £125! By then it was in a poor state of repair with the King leaning forward in a perilous position. It was restored, the money being raised by public subscription led by the architect Harry Inigo Triggs, and the restored statue unveiled with much ceremony on 3rd September 1913.

It became the property of Hampshire County Council in the early 1960s and by 1962 the statue was again in need of renovation. The wrought iron armature had corroded and so the statue was taken to Chessington to have a bronze armature installed, as well as having repairs carried out to the stone plinth.

The statue was registered as an ancient monument on 3rd March 1952 and listed as a building of architectural and historical interest on 30th November 2001.

Comprehensive details are available from Petersfield Museum.

War Memorial (1922)

Planned originally in 1919 to be in The Square, but ultimately erected in its present position at the eastern end of the High Street, the cenotaph owes its design to Harry Inigo Triggs who was inspired by the eight blank panels in the new sacristy of the Medici chapel (Florence) by Michaelangelo. These eight blank panels provide detail for the four sides on which are inscribed the names of the men of Petersfield who gave their lives in the service of their country and whose bodies lie elsewhere. The War Memorial was recently restored in February 2018, and further names discovered by the Royal British Legion were added.

Neighbourhood Plan

Petersfield was the first town in the South Downs National Park to have its own Neighbourhood Plan. For further details, see Petersfield Town Council website or visit us at the Town Hall, where further information can be obtained.



Facts & Figures



Petersfield has a population of around 16,000 people.

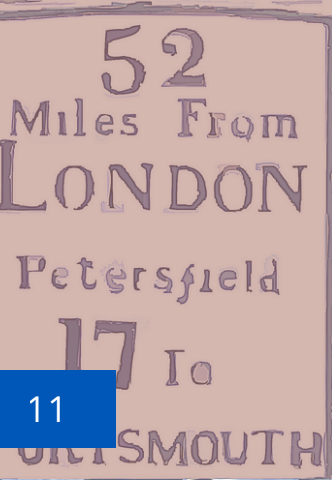
The centre of town is a conservation area, and is the second-largest community in the country to be part of a National Park (South Downs National Park)

Petersfield is surrounded on all sides by farmed countryside and is wholly in the National Park with walking trails in every direction. Petersfield is ideally situated as a centre for exploration.

Petersfield is 17 miles north of Portsmouth and 52 miles south of London.

A number of notable people were either born or lived in the town, including the botanist John Goodyer and Victoria Cross holder, Commander Loftus William Jones.

More recently there have been many people from the world of entertainment including actors, authors, sports personalities and even pop stars!



SOUTH DOWNS
NATIONAL PARK



Sports & Recreation

Leisure Centre

Taro Leisure Centre caters for squash, badminton, fitness gym, swimming and other sports that can be played in a sports hall. The Taro Centre is surrounded by Penns Place Sports Fields where Petersfield Rugby Club is situated.

Pitch & Court Sports

Cricket is located on The Heath and Penns Playing Fields – petersfield.play-cricket.com

Rugby Union is located at Penns Playing Fields – petersfieldrhc.com

Association Football is based at the Love Lane Playing Fields and Penns Playing Fields – petersfieldtowntherams.com

Grass Bowling is located in St Peter's Road

Tennis can be played at the Avenue Playing Fields,

Petanque can be played at the Avenue Playing Fields

Cycling

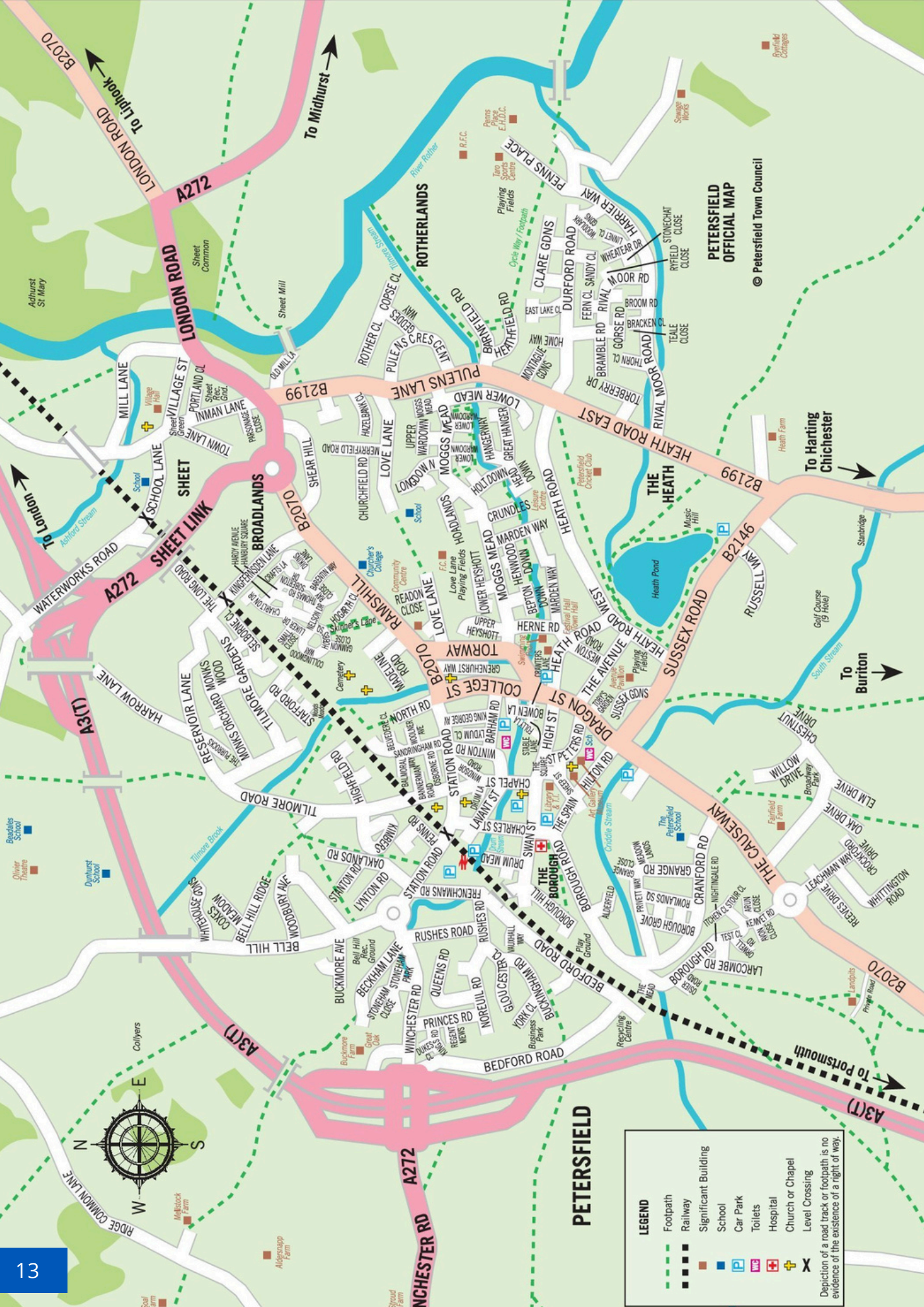
The town has many keen cyclists and cycling groups, and some of these are currently working with Petersfield Town Council and East Hampshire District Council on the recent Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan to improve the provision for Cycling and Walking around Petersfield. More information can be found on www.facebook.com/petersfieldcyclists

Walking

If walking interests you, this is the place! Whether it be the long-distance hike along the South Downs Way or the Sunday stroll around the town and the surrounding villages of Buriton, Steep, Sheet, Harting or East Meon, the choice is yours. Ordnance Survey Explorer Map OL33 (1:25000) will be useful. Maps of local definitive Rights of Way such as Serpents Trail, Hangers Way and Shipwrights Way, can be viewed in Petersfield Library. There are various local walking groups, including Petersfield Ramblers (petersfieldramblers.org) and Walking for Health. (walkingforhealth.co.uk)

Swimming

For swimmers of all ages Petersfield is a real find, with a summer opening outdoor pool. Situated behind the Town Hall and an all-year-round indoor pool at the Taro Leisure Centre. The outdoor pool functions as a charity managed by local people. It opens in April and closes in September. The all-year-round Taro Leisure Centre is to the east of the town, adjacent to the East Hampshire District Council offices.



PETERSFIELD OFFICIAL MAP

© Petersfield Town Council

LEGEND

- Footpath
- Railway
- Significant Building
- School
- Car Park
- Toilets
- Hospital
- Church or Chapel
- Level Crossing

Depiction of a road track or footpath is no evidence of the existence of a right of way.

Parks & Green Spaces



Petersfield is fortunate to have many parks and green spaces with terrain and play equipment to suit all ages, from slides and swings to skate tracks and basketball hoops!

General Recreation Grounds and Children's Play Areas:

- Love Lane Playing Fields
- Penns Playing Fields with Children's Play Area
- Bell Hill Recreation Ground with Children's Play Area
- Woods Meadow with Children's Play Area
- Avenue Playing Fields
- High Meadow
- Paddock Way with Children's Play Area
- Borough Hill with Children's Play Area

Performance Groups

Petersfield Music Festival

Petersfield Musical Festival was founded in 1901 by the sisters Misses Rosalind and Edith Craig Sellar, as the second competitive choral festival in the country. Choirs taking part in this springtime event no longer compete, but still come together in two large scale choral concerts involving singers from all over East Hampshire and beyond. The Festival has long included its popular Youth Concerts and a concert by the Petersfield Orchestra. More recently it has widened its scope to include an afternoon Family Concert, recitals at St Peter's Church and performances by a variety of guest artists, showcasing the work of local amateur groups and bringing musicians of national and international standing to the town.

www.petersfieldmusicalfestival.org.uk

Petersfield Theatre Group

Formed in 2008, after a merger between Petersfield Hi-Lights and Petersfield Operatic Society (The Operatic Society was probably one of the oldest organisations in the town, being formed in 1922), highly-regarded Petersfield Theatre Group perform two full-scale musicals every year, one in May and another in November at the Festival Hall in Petersfield. PTG, as they're known locally, produce award-winning standard shows and these have included Chicago, Into The Woods, Fiddler on The Roof and, coming soon, The Addams Family in November 2021, followed by the long-awaited Made In Dagenham in May 2022.

For more information on how to join either on or off stage please visit www.petersfieldtheatregroup.org



Lion & Unicorn Players

Lion & Unicorn Players were formed in 1959 with the objective of producing "good plays to the best of their ability," Over 120 productions later, the award-winning group maintains high production values and presents an interesting and diverse range of plays, from high tragedy to farce. Performing mainly in the Festival Hall, Lion & Unicorn have also established a popular bi-annual touring production and are currently developing the use of Sheet Village Hall for smaller-scale productions. They also offer murder mystery plays and themed readings. For more information, visit www.lionandunicornplayers.co.uk or see [Facebook.com/petersfieldlionandunicorn](https://www.facebook.com/petersfieldlionandunicorn)

Winton Players

Since their founding in 1947, Winton Players have established themselves as a theatrical force to be reckoned with. The award-winning group produce popular plays to high standards with strong entertainment value. The town's pantomime is also a production of the Winton Players and always plays to packed Festival Hall houses. It has a thriving youth section where the youngsters can gain and develop their theatrical skills through regular workshops and stage performances.

www.wintonplayers.org.uk

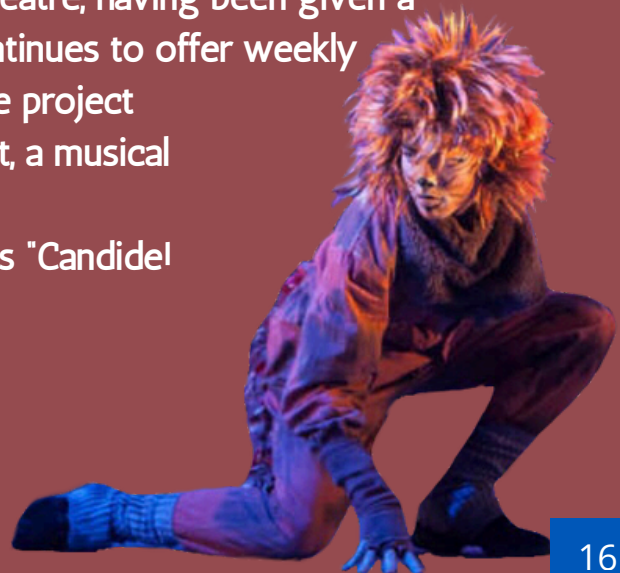
Petersfield Youth Theatre

Amongst the best entertainment enjoyed by audiences at the Festival Hall are those performances given by members of Petersfield Youth Theatre. Many of its members have gone on to work in the professional world of theatre, having been given a thorough grounding right here in Petersfield. PYT continues to offer weekly workshops for young people, a 4-day musical theatre project during the Easter holidays, a summer school in August, a musical in September and a Christmas production.

Their production of *Candide* in 2016 was reviewed as "Candide! Amazing! Best thing I've seen in Petersfield - ever!"

www.pyt.org.uk

Reg. charity 1069673



Petersfield Orchestra

Critically-acclaimed Petersfield Orchestra performs three eagerly awaited concerts a year at the Festival Hall, one of which is part of the Petersfield Musical Festival.

Players are a mix of talented amateurs and music professionals including Leader, Helen Purchase (Director of Music at Churcher's College) and Music Director, Robin Browning. www.petersfieldorchestra.org.uk

Southern Pro Musica Orchestra

Southern Pro Musica is the leading professional chamber orchestra based in the south, and gives concerts regularly each season in Petersfield in a series stretching back more than 25 years. The orchestra is also involved in concerts for schoolchildren and other educational initiatives across the South.

Choral Singing

Since the turn of the twentieth century the town has been a centre for choral singing. Many schools and some churches have choirs, and there are three other choirs open to new members in the town. These are as follows:

The Petersfield Choir petersfieldchoir.wixsite.com/petersfield-choir

The Community Choir www.petersfieldcommunitychoir.co.uk/

The Choir Company Petersfield <http://www.thechoircompany.com/petersfield>

Petersfield Choral Society www.petersfieldchoralsociety.org.uk

Rock Choir Petersfield www.rockchoir.com

Petersfield Alternative Choir www.facebook.com/petersfieldalternativechoir

Petersfield Choir www.petersfieldchoir.co.uk

Choral Society

After a year of cancellations and lockdowns, we are hoping that rehearsals will at last begin again in Autumn 2021. We are a very friendly choir and you will be assured of a warm welcome. We meet on Thursdays in Term Time at 7.30pm in St. Laurence RC Church Hall, Station Road, Petersfield. There is no audition but an ability to read music, even just a little, is useful.

For further details nearer the time, contact Marcia, email: mjfielden@ymail.com

A Singing Workshop led by Petersfield Musical Festival conductor, Paul Spicer, is planned for 25 September 2021 at Bedales School. This is always a lively occasion for singers of all standards. Full details will be appearing on the Festival website later in the year:

Arts & Crafts Society

PACS

Petersfield Arts & Crafts Society (PACS) is a local art society which organises workshops and demonstrations throughout the year, as well as an annual exhibition. Its purpose is to promote art and craft in the area and encourage members and the wider community to participate in developing their creative talents. Both amateurs and professionals are welcome. Please visit the PACS website to see examples of work and more information on joining. Follow PACS on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. <http://petersfieldartsandcrafts.org.uk/>

Education & Schools

The local state secondary school is The Petersfield School, usually referred to as 'TPS'. Primary schools are Petersfield Infant School, Sheet Primary School and Herne Junior School. A number of other local primary schools (Langrish, East Meon, West Meon, Steep and Buriton) feed into the Petersfield secondary schools.

The town and the surrounding villages are home to several independent schools. Churcher's College is in Petersfield, and counts Tim Rodber and Tiny Rowland amongst its former pupils. Ditcham Park School is just outside the town, and Bedales School is in the neighbouring village of Steep.

"Quality of education in Petersfield schools is more often than not rated as outstanding by Ofsted."



Charities & Clubs

Petersfield has many of the recognised Service Clubs including Round Table, Ladies Circle, Probus and Lions clubs, all making their own characteristic contribution to the life of the town that they seek to serve. Petersfield also has a Social Club situated next to the Catholic Church in Station Road.

Royal British Legion

The Petersfield branch of the RBL formed in 1921. The branch currently meets in the Red Lion, 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm and welcomes new members, male or female, and service experience is not necessary.

Hampshire Monday Group (formerly Rotherlands Conservation Group)

To the east of the town lies an interesting area of natural habitat known as Rotherlands, owned by the Town Council and looked after in conjunction with a group of volunteers known as 'Hampshire Monday Group' established in 2019.

Friends of Petersfield Heath

FoPH is an active group that loves Petersfield Heath. Its main objective is to help Petersfield Town Council to conserve and manage Petersfield Heath as an area of natural heathland, grassland, woodland and water for the enjoyment of all those who use it. Throughout the winter there are weekly working parties almost every Sunday morning, undertaking conservation work such as removal of saplings from open heathland, controlling the spread of bracken, seeding heather to enlarge the area of heath, and using brash to create dry hedges. In the summer, bracken is removed on an ad hoc basis.

Friends of Petersfield Heath - conservation working parties every Sunday morning on the Heath from September to March. Visit www.petersfieldheath.org for details.

Petersfield u3a

The Petersfield u3a provides opportunities for mature people no longer in full time employment to share many educational, recreational, social and creative activities. Subjects are organised mainly in small groups that meet regularly and where members learn from each other and socialise through sharing their knowledge, skills and experience. There are three regular, large, monthly meetings for all members as well as 60 interest groups to join. From Arts and Heritage to Yoga; from Book circles and Bridge to Cycling, Chess and Country Walking - there's something for everybody.

For more information: <https://u3asites.org.uk/petersfield/home>

For joining and membership: memsec.u3aptr@gmail.com



1995 - 2020
25 YEARS

Petersfield Gardeners Club

The club has around 100 members and meets every second Thursday of the month at Herne Farm Leisure Centre starting at 7.30pm. Members of the public very welcome, payment on the door £2. See their website www.petersfieldgardenersclub.com for further information.

Petersfield Community Garden

The Garden and orchard were started in 2013 for the benefit of the local community. Garden events are held throughout the year, such as wassailing the orchard, picnics and bonfires, and open days. @petersfieldcommunitygarden

Charity Shops

There is a wide range of charity shops in Petersfield. Some are national organisations with local shops such as Oxfam, Cancer Research, Scope, Dogs Trust, Age UK and Red Cross, while stores are raising funds for Naomi House, the Rowans Hospice and Sue Ryder.

Petersfield also benefits from a wide range of charitable organisations and agencies

Age Concern, Petersfield & District 07852 172998 sheridan.rocher@ageconcernpetersfield.org.uk

Artscape artscapecontact@gmail.com

Brendoncare 01730 267425 www.brendoncare.org.uk

Citizens Advice 0344 4111306 www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Community First 0300 5008085 www.cfirfirst.org.uk

East Hants Community Rail Partnership 07900 103296 info@easthampshirerail.co.uk

Food Bank 01730 265884 www.pact.org.uk/pact_food_store.asp

Homestart 01730 233755 office@homestart-butser.org.uk

John Goodyer Trust 01730 269072

The King's Arms 01730 231292 info@thekingsarms.org.uk

Lions Club 0845 8335734 petersfield.lions@yahoo.co.uk

Mind 023 9249 8916 www.easthantsmind.org

Petersfield Counselling Service 07833 966874

Petersfield Community Garden petersfieldcommunitygarden@gmail.com

Petersfield Voluntary Care Group 01730 266046

Richmond Fellowship www.richmondfellowship.org.uk

Salvation Army 01730 265971 michael.harris@salvationarmy.org.uk

Southern Domestic Abuse 01420 590109 www.southerndas.org

Two Saints 01730 260825 www.twosaints.org.uk

The Wessex Heritage Trust 07899 99 1001 www.wessexheritagetrust.org

Winton House 01730 266046 www.wintonhousecentre.org.uk

For further details please visit the Petersfield Community Resource Hub: www.pfresourcehub.org.uk

Kings Arms

You will find The King's Arms youth project at 20 Dragon street – a safe space for young people usually aged 11-18 to have a fantastic place of their own to relax and chill and have fun with friends. Open everyday Mon, Tue, Thu 3.30-5pm and 2.30-4pm Wed and Fri. The centre includes a bar area with tuck shop/café tables/pool table/table football/crafts/Wii & Xbox/large screen area/quiet room/baking/loads of board games, and much more. Youth workers are available for information and guidance, a friendly smile and a bit of fun. Other programmes include support for young carers, those with additional needs, support groups and mentoring, discussions re big questions of life. Get in contact to find out more: 01730 231292 or Info@thekingsarms.org.uk.

Air Training Corps

The Air Training Corps (1927 Squadron) is one of the town's strongest youth organisations in that it is open to young men and women. It operates from headquarters to the west of the town on Bell Hill recreation ground. The squadron takes an important part in the Remembrance Day parade in November.

There is a full programme of adventurous activities to be pursued by youngsters ranging from the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme to gliding. For further information please visit www.1927sqn.org

More...

The town hosts other facilities for young people, including a youth football facility at Love Lane, along with a fantastic skateboarding park (concrete bowl and street course) close by.



Welfare Facilities

Doctors

Petersfield has two doctors' surgeries, The Swan and The Grange. There are two dispensing chemists in the heart of the town's shopping area, and a further one at the Swan Surgery, next to the hospital which is open from 7.00am until midnight, Mon - Sat. There is also a wide variety of dentists, both NHS and private, and optometrists in the town.

Hospital

The town's hospital (built in 1993), provides care for many categories of patient. The hospital does not have an Accident and Emergency department but does run a Minor Injuries Clinic 8am - 5.45pm every day with some exceptions. Tel 01730 263221 or visit www.nhs.uk for full details.

Vets

There are several veterinary practices in the town, providing a high standard of animal care for Petersfield and the surrounding area.



Petersfield Timeline

- 7000BC** Mesolithic Hunter Gatherers in the area
- 2000BC** Bronze Age burial barrows on The Heath
- 1000BC** Iron Age burial barrows on The Heath
- 100BC** Romano-British settlement - Chalton
- 150AD** Roman Villa - Stroud
- 600AD** Froxfield Saxon entrenchments
- 600AD** Early Saxon Village - Chalton
- 1086 Domesday** - "The King holds Mapledurham (Buriton, Petersfield, Sheet)"
- 1120** Earl Robert of Gloucester founds Petersfield
- 1184** Countess Hawisa of Gloucester gives Charter
- 1198** John Count of Moreton, renews Hawisa charter
- 1307** Two M.Ps sent to Parliament at Carlisle
- 1384** Plague
- 1390** Brick and tile industry develops
- 1400** Market and trades develop
- 1563** Serious Plague brought by soldiers from Le Havre
- 1596** Town Mace purchased
- 1599** Letters Patent of The Borough, purchased by Thomas Hanbury
- 1645** Intruder curate appointed during the Civil War
- 1660** Traffic developing on Portsmouth Road due to naval expansion
- 1664** John Goodyer dies - Weston Charity founded
- 1711** Sheetbridge to Portsbridge Turnpike founded
- 1722** Richard Churcher endowed Churcher's College
- 1729** Churcher's College opened
- 1734** M.P's were Sir William Jolliffe and Edward Gibbon
- 1780** Market Square cleared of stalls - cattle market moved in. Old Town Hall built.
- 1800 Circa** London - Portsmouth road important. Napoleonic wars
- 1821** Case of the Borough of Petersfield won on appeal
- 1832** Parliamentary Reform Act
- 1836** Poor Law Union built (Workhouse)
- 1852** Introduction of gas lighting
- 1858** Opening of Police station
- 1859** Railway reached Petersfield, connecting London and Portsmouth
- 1866** Corn Exchange built N.E. corner of The Square
- 1871** Opening of Cottage Hospital
- 1884** Introduction of drain and sewage system
- 1885** Borough of Petersfield dissolved
- 1894** Petersfield Urban District Council founded
- 1898** Old Town Hall in front of Church (1780) demolished
- 1901** First Petersfield Musical Festival
- 1911** Petersfield buys market, rights and statue of William III
- 1913** Statue of William III refurbished
- 1922** War Memorial Cenotaph unveiled
- 1935** Petersfield Town/Festival Hall built
- 1936** First mention of need for Petersfield by-pass
- 1953** Last horse and animal sale at Taro Fair
- 1958** The Petersfield School opens off The Causeway
- 1961** Open Air Swimming Pool opened
- 1962** Last Cattle Market in The Square
- 1963** Statue of William III refurbished
- 1974** Town and East Hampshire District Councils established
- 1981** Library in The Square opened
- 1987** Festival Hall re-developed (opened 6th October)
- 1992** Petersfield Twinned with Barentin, France
- 1992** Bypass opened
- 1993** Rams Walk opened
- 1994** The Tour de France race passes through Petersfield
- 1999** Petersfield Museum opened
- 2000** Petersfield community opens its own bespoke youth centre - The King's Arms
- 2006** Petersfield twinned with Warendorf, Germany
- 2009** Town hosted celebrations to mark the 150th anniversary of the coming of the railway
- 2012** The Olympic Torch is carried through the streets of Petersfield
- 2016** Petersfield Museum purchases the Police station for expansion
- 2018** Major refurbishment to High Street War Memorial to add names and replace worn stones
- 2018** Armistice Centenary
- 2019** 10th Anniversary as a Fairtrade Town
- 2020** 75th Anniversary VE & VJ Days
- 2020** 10th Anniversary of South Downs National Park

Event Venues



Festival Hall

Regarded as the showcase for Petersfield and situated at the rear of the Town Hall and adjacent to the Outdoor Swimming Pool, is the town's Festival Hall. Its name commemorates the Petersfield Musical Festival which was responsible for raising the finance to build the hall in 1935. It is owned and run by Petersfield Town Council.

It is one of the best multi-purpose halls in the south. Apart from being a concert and theatre venue, it is also home to antique fairs, art and craft exhibitions, as well as large fundraising events, dinner-dance evenings, conferences and wedding receptions.

Other rooms that can be hired in conjunction with this venue are the Rose Room, Green Room, Meeting Room and Kitchen.

The Rose Room is ideal for award ceremonies, parties, business conferences and training, and can seat up to approx. 100 people. The Rose Room comes equipped with a bar area, and the use of a fully-fitted kitchen.

The Festival Hall forms the heart of many of the town's activities. It gives a chance for people to develop their talents in the many societies that take advantage of the opportunities this flexible public hall provides. www.thefestivalhall.co.uk

The Council Chamber is available for hire for AGMs, prestige meetings and is where the formal council meetings are held.



Avenue Pavilion

The Avenue Pavilion is located at The Avenue Playing Fields.

This venue provides a space for up to 100 people, and is currently hired for various activities such as fitness classes, children's activities, after-school groups, martial arts, parties and general gatherings.

Community Centre

This excellent, well-run centre is in Love Lane and provides a home for many organisations. A friendly welcome is always there for anyone who cares to look in. It is one of a few such centres in Hampshire which owns its premises, giving it a sound financial foundation for its comprehensive range of activities.

www.petersfieldcommunitycentre.org.uk

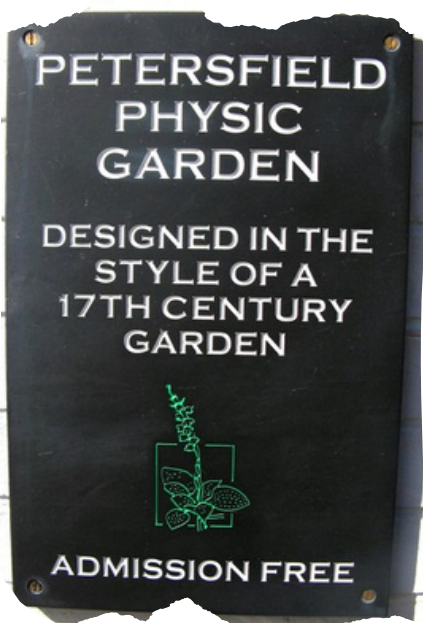
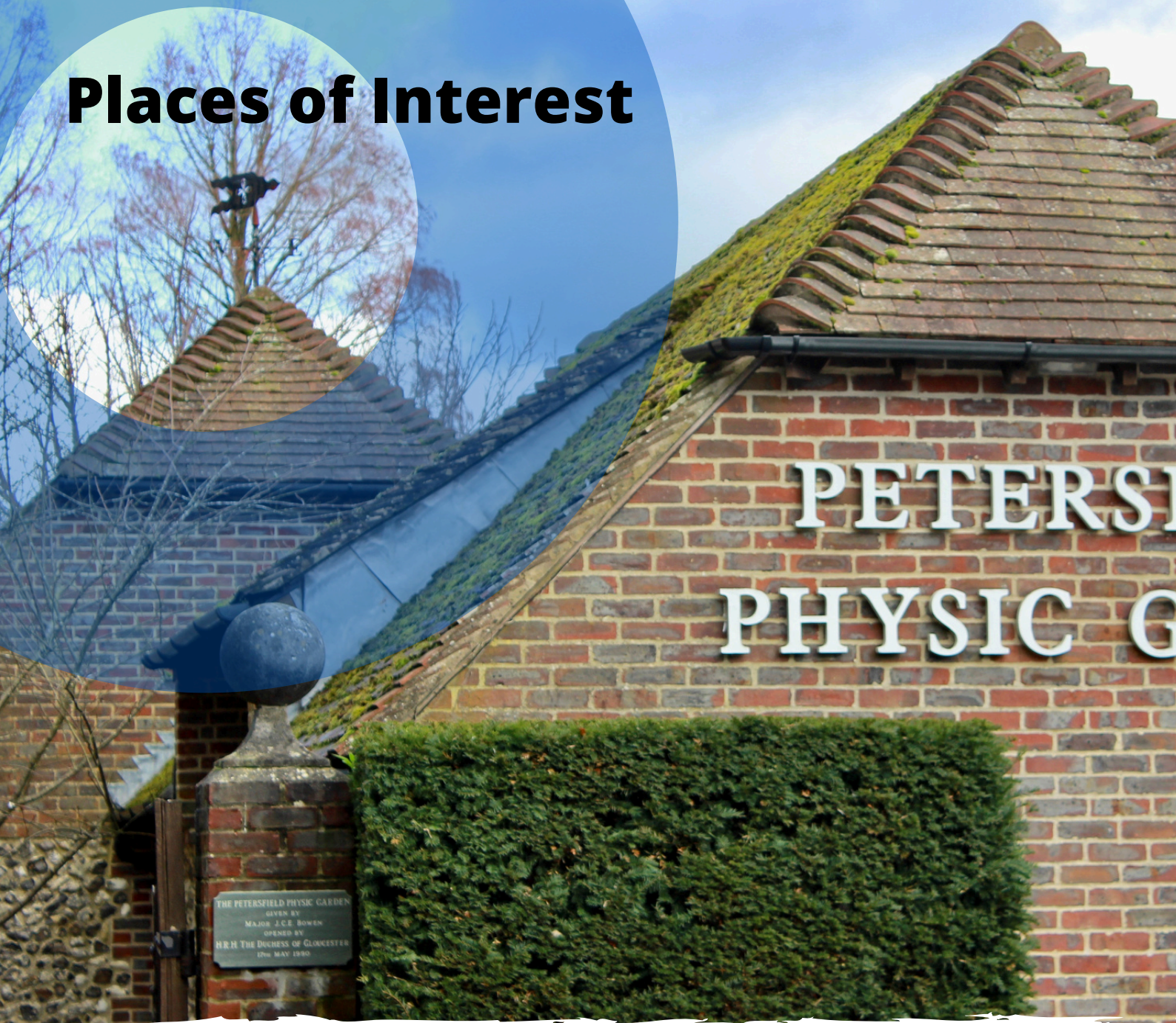


Other Venues

There are also rooms and facilities available for hire at Petersfield Football Club, Petersfield Golf Club, Taro Centre, Causeway Farm and many of the churches in Petersfield.

For a full listing of hall and conference facilities please contact Petersfield Town Council.

Places of Interest



Physic Garden

Wander down the north side of the High Street and you will come across Petersfield's Physic Garden (1988), an oasis of calm, set in the centre of the town's hustle and bustle. Here you will find one of only two such collections of herbal medicinal plants in the country. It is a peaceful setting for plants, shrubs and trees of the 17th Century.

FRIENDS OF PETERSFIELD PHYSIC GARDEN
(Registered Charity No. 1105681)

The Heath

Just a short walk from the busy town centre is the beautiful Heath. Owned by the Town Council, it is the site of the annual Taro Fair which, in previous years, has been held on 6th October, and is now held usually on the weekend nearest to 6th October. Taro Fair was originally a horse fair.

The 22-acre Heath Pond, which is surrounded by 69 acres of heath and woodland, is the result of drainage during the early 1700s. The Pond provides a home for several species of wildfowl as well as being used for boating and fishing.

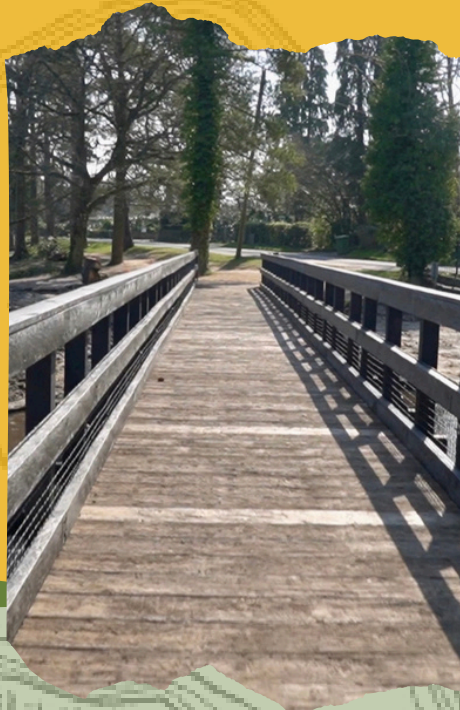
There are 21+ barrows on the Heath forming the most important concentration of burial mounds in the South. Some have called it a bronze/iron age Westminster Abbey. Historically the barrows are placed in the Bronze Age. A three-year project, which concluded in 2017, was funded by Heritage Lottery to investigate the ancient barrows including geophysical studies and archaeological digs, and has been recognized globally as a place of archaeological interest in terms of its burial grounds. Full information can be obtained from Petersfield Museum.

There are many other places of interest around Petersfield such as The Spain off Sheep Street, Old Mill Lane at Sheet, Kettles Brook near Harrow Inn, Little Switzerland in Steep, and Buriton Pond to name a few.



Heath Pond

In 1735, the East of Petersfield was a common area where the townspeople were permitted to graze cattle. Part of the land however was boggy and some animals drowned. Citizens came together to dredge the bog creating Heath Pond.



THE
BARROWS
ON
PETERSFIELD
HEATH.



Council Responsibilities



- Tilmore Allotments
- Festival Hall
- Bus Shelters
- Christmas Lights
- Dog Waste/Rubbish Bins on Town Council Greenspace
- Public Noticeboards
- The Avenue Pavilion
- Recreation Grounds
- Children's Playgrounds
- Skate Park, Love Lane
- Sports Pitches, Love Lane & Penns Place
- Tennis Courts, Avenue Pavilion
- The Heath
- Rotherlands Nature Reserve
- War Memorial
- Town Visitor Centre
- New Savoy Cinema



- Car Parks
- Cemeteries
- Council Tax and Non-Domestic (Business) Rates
- Roadside Litter Bins
- Community Recycling
- Electoral Register/Elections
- Environmental Health (Food Premises/Noise Pollution)
- Grass Verges/Other Green Areas
- Housing
- Kerbside Recycling Collection
- Licensing
- Listed Building/Conservation Areas
- Planning in areas outside the National Park
- Protection of Trees
- Public Toilets
- Refuse Collection
- Sports Centres
- Street Cleansing
- Street Naming/Nameplates



- Education
- Gritting of Roads
- Household Waste Recycling Site (The Tip)
- Libraries
- Archives
- Reporting a pothole
- Roads & Pavements
- Traffic Lights, Pedestrian Crossings
- Public Transport
- Bus & Travel Passes
- Registration of Births, Marriages & Deaths
- Social Services
- Street Lighting
- Trading Standards
- Youth Service

Information Resources



Petersfield Community Resource Hub is a portal for all the local agencies, both support and social - not-for-profit organisations covering Petersfield, and surrounding villages.

www.pfresourcehub.org.uk



petersfield's

shine
radio

Petersfield's Shine Radio provides a 24 hour stream of great music & local information plus a range of podcasts full of local stories & voices.

Listen at shineradio.uk or ask your smart speaker to "play Petersfield's Shine Radio".

www.petersfieldradio.uk



Both of these resources are run by the community for the community. Contact them directly for volunteering opportunities.

VOLUNTEER



Where to find out more...



Petersfield Town Council's Annual Report provides residents with a summary of the financial year's parish council activities.



Petersfield Town Council is responsible for the tourist information provision element of public service and so if you need any help or guidance in this regard please see our VISIT PETERSFIELD website.





**Petersfield
Town Council**

Petersfield Town Council's responsibilities include

- Allotments
- Festival Hall
- Bus Shelters
- Christmas Lights
- Dog Waste and Rubbish Bins in Town Council owned Public Spaces
- Public Noticeboards
- The Avenue Pavilion
- Recreation Grounds
- Children's Playgrounds
- Skate Park at Love Lane
- Sports Pitches at Love Lane and Penns Place
- Tennis Courts
- The Heath
- Rotherlands Nature Reserve
- War Memorial
- Tourist Information Centre

@JMBellHill



East Hampshire District Council's responsibilities include

- Car Parks
- Cemeteries
- Collection of Council Tax and Non-Domestic (business) Rates
- Roadside litter bins
- Community Recycling Sites
- Electoral Register / Elections
- Environmental Health (Food Premises /Noise Pollution)
- Grass verges / Other grassed areas
- Housing
- Kerbside Recycling Collection
- Licensing
- Listed Building / Conservation Areas
- Planning in areas outside of the National Park
- Protection of Trees
- Public Toilets
- Refuse Collection
- Sports Centres
- Street Cleansing
- Street Naming /Nameplates

@JMBellHill



**Hampshire
County Council**

Hampshire County Council's responsibilities include

- Education
- Gritting of Roads
- Household Waste Recycling Site (Tip)
- Libraries
- Museums
- Roads, Pavements, Traffic Lights, Pedestrian Crossings
- Public Transport
- Registration of Births, Marriages & Deaths
- Social Services
- Street Lighting
- Trading Standards
- Youth Service

@JMBellHill

Armed Forces Drop-In Centre



Winton House Centre
18 High Street
Petersfield
GU32 3JL

FREE

First Thurs of the month
16:00hrs - 20:00hrs

Come along
and reminisce
over a brew
and cake!



You will also have the
opportunity to ask
questions about local
service and charities
in the area.

*"Serving those who serve: a place
to unwind and connect with
others."*

armedforces@petersfield-tc.gov.uk



WILDLIFE RESCUE

