

# Wheathampstead Pump Community Matters



Parish Council  
Annual Parish Meeting  
May 10 at 7:30pm in the Memorial Hall

## A guide to your new recycling service

Please put the right items in the right bin or box. That will mean we can put your recycling to the best possible use.



- Meet your Parish Councillors
- Hear about planned projects
- Hear about current activities
- Financial review

Guest speaker is  
**Louise Palmer**  
Recycling and Waste Officer  
St Albans District Council

What we recycle as a District  
How it works  
Benefits  
Targets

Number 125 Wheathampstead Parish Council Summer 2017




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## The Pump news in brief

**New staff** The Parish Council is delighted to announce the appointment of two part-time staff members working mornings.

**Ellie Metherell** is our Events and Community Liaison Assistant responsible for The Pump, village events and our facilities.

**Eleen Tan** is our Finance, Meetings and Administration Assistant.

Please introduce yourself the next time you come to the parish office. Please remember the office is open mornings 9-12:30 pm only.

### New defibrillator installed

A new defibrillator has been installed outside the Memorial Hall facing the playing fields. Please see page 20 for details.

### Community Group needs a new treasurer

After 13 years, David Law is standing down as treasurer. Can you help? Contact Marion Oxley on [marion@lesmar.com](mailto:marion@lesmar.com) or [www.wheathampsteadwgc.org](http://www.wheathampsteadwgc.org)

### Fire Service Charity Car Wash

See poster

### Need help with technology?

Computer Friendly run 'Taste of the Internet' sessions for those wanting to understand it all and courses for those who have a tablet or computer and would like help to get started. These 'Starting off with' courses only cost £20 and suit iPhone and Android smartphones as well. Course workbooks are provided. To find out more visit [www.cfsta.org](http://www.cfsta.org), email [courses@cfsta.org](mailto:courses@cfsta.org) or ring **020 3239 1559**.



**CHARITY  
CAR WASH**

**Wheathampstead Fire Station**  
**SUNDAY 18TH JUNE**  
**10am - 2pm**

## Dates for your diary

**Every last Tuesday in the month** Bingo at the Mead Hall  
7.30pm Amwell Fund Raisers contact Colin on 07790 639735

**May 4 (Thursday)** County Council Elections

**May 10 (Wednesday)** Annual Parish Meeting, Memorial Hall  
7.30pm. Topic: Recycling in St Albans District

**May 14 (Sunday)** 2-5pm Essex and Herts Air Ambulance,  
Castle Farm Open Garden. See page 15.

May 18—20 (Thursday—Saturday) 8.00pm Wheathampstead  
Dramatic Society, "Two" by Jim Cartwright

**May 21 (Sunday)** Beech Hyde 10K and Fun Run

**May 21 (Sunday)** WDPS Open Day, 11am in the Diamond  
Jubilee Garden. Teas and coffees, all welcome.

**May 30 (Tuesday)** Bingo at the Mead Hall 7.30pm. Amwell  
Local Fund Raisers. Contact Colin on 07790 639735.

**June 10 (Saturday)** Buy It Locally  
Campaign (BILLY), Diamond Jubilee  
Garden, beer and bangers.

**June 18 (Sunday)** Charity Car Wash,  
Fire Station, 2-4pm

**June 21 (Wednesday)** Top Hat,  
Noughties Song and Dance Show,  
4:30pm-6:30pm Memorial Hall

**June 22 (Thursday)** PPG, "Prostate Cancer" and AGM, 7pm,  
Memorial Hall

**July 5 (Wednesday)** Horticultural Mini Show, evening in the  
Memorial Hall

**July 8 and 9** Village Weekend—theme 'When I grow up'.

**Saturday 8:** Wheathampstead's Got Talent followed by  
Picnic on the Meads

**Sunday 9:** Village Day on the playing fields

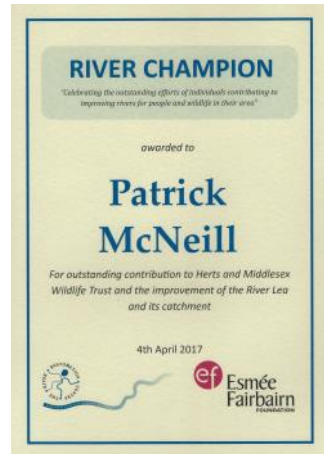
**September 9 (Saturday)** ALF's Amwell Day, Elephant and  
Castle. Contact Colin on 07790 639735.

**September 9 (Saturday)** Horticultural Show, Memorial Hall.



## Patrick McNeill—our river champion!

The River Restoration Centre is a UK-wide not-for-profit organisation supported by the Environment Agency, Natural England, and the equivalent bodies in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Each year, it identifies a number of 'River Champions' with the aim of "celebrating the outstanding efforts of individuals contributing to improving rivers for people and wildlife in their area".



Patrick McNeill, the Parish Council's ranger for The Meads, also works as a volunteer for the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust. The Trust nominated him for this national award and, at a dinner in Brighton in April, he was presented with this certificate in recognition of his "outstanding contribution to Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust and the improvement of the River Lea and its catchment", with a particular mention of the talks that Patrick gives and the support given by the Parish Council and the local community.

## Maintaining our historic High Street

John Burgess can often be seen in our High Street taking pride in the appearance of our village centre. You may or may not know that John had a bit of a shock in January when he experienced a small stroke. That event has made him realize that the maintenance work he has been doing for some 20 years will need to be continued when he is no longer around. John is looking for practical people, male or female, who would like to work with him.

Typical tasks: litter-picking, jet-washing, bench maintenance, lamp poles, bollards, litter bins, grassy areas, War Memorial, village signs, leaf-mould pens, and so on.

If you are interested in helping John or volunteering on any of the other projects happening in the village, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council (page 22).



## Wheathampstead 10K/2K Event and Family Fun Run

The ever-popular **Wheathampstead 10K** run will be taking place at **11am on Sunday 21 May 2017**, starting and finishing on the **Marford Playing Fields**.

This annual event has become a favourite among local runners and even sees competitors from much further afield coming to the village, encouraged by reports of a run with a local feel that takes in some beautiful countryside.



The **2K Family Fun Run** starts at **10am** from the **Marford Playing Fields**. This is an off-road, circular run on footpaths and the playing field. It is ideal for families and for a pre-10K warm up, suitable for both runners and walkers of all ages.

For more information on both events please visit [www.wheathampstead10k.co.uk](http://www.wheathampstead10k.co.uk)



## Wheathampstead Open Spaces Volunteers (WOSV) news



April's session was at **Devil's Dyke** where fine weather made for an enjoyable few hours in the fresh air. Previous work had seen improvements to the 'top' path, clearing the entrance through the brick pillars at the northern end and removal of invading scrub and holly for the first 50 metres or so. This session concentrated on improving the small car park area and the removal of some dead overhanging trees.



If you get a chance to visit our

Scheduled Ancient Monument, take time to find the magnificent beech tree (right). It's 50m south from the gates on the western bank clinging to the side of the dyke with a spaghetti-like mass of exposed roots.



In March we visited Gustard Wood where early spring had produced flowering gorse and brimstone butterflies. Here we concentrated on nipping back the holly regrowth that had occurred since our last visit. Pushing back the edges of the woodland around the heathland area will help to preserve this important habitat and removing corridors of holly will bring light to the woodland floor.

We meet on the second Saturday of each month for a few hours in the morning. If you wish to join us and help preserve and improve our important open spaces please contact the Parish Council office on 01582 832541.

**Peter Ryan, WOSV Coordinator**

## Amwell Local Fundraisers (ALF)

Raising funds for the local community for over 20 years.

ALF started at the Elephant & Castle, Amwell and through its fundraising and the support of local businesses it has, over the years, been able to donate equipment to: St.Helen's and Beech Hyde schools, one of the play groups, a specialist wheelchair, Christmas Tree lights for the village tree, equipment for the youth cricket team and Home Start. It has also donated benches in East Lane and at the top of Folly Fields. Its biggest fundraiser is '**Amwell Day**' held at the Elephant & Castle—this year on Saturday 9 September.

Almost twenty years ago, ALF held its first Tuesday night Bingo session which is still held on the last Tuesday of each month at the Mead Hall, 6.30pm for 7.00pm (except during the winter and August) and all over-60s are welcome.

In addition to Bingo, various outings are arranged during the year as well as the well-attended Christmas party.

Many of ALF's original members have sadly passed away and donations in their memory have been made to the other charities with which they were connected eg Grove House Hospice, MacMillan Nurses, RNIB and RNLi to name a few.

Come and support Amwell Day on 9 September and enjoy a cracking post-summer Saturday afternoon!





## Memories of Village Days

Our first appearance was in 1977 when we drove our decorated car in the parade around the village to celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee. The next opportunity wasn't until 1995 when we took part in the parade at Village Day with a sideshow and collected for The British Diabetic Association (BDA).



Our eldest son had been diagnosed a diabetic in 1968 when he was only eight and we began our fund-raising for the BDA. Sadly Martin died on the newly-opened village bypass in 1979 aged 19 while riding his motorcycle and we have continued fund-raising for diabetic research in memory of him ever since. In 2008 my husband Peter was awarded the MBE by the Queen in recognition of 40 years of dedicated service to the diabetic community.

Over the years we have organised a variety of sideshows at the Village Days as well as playing our street organ. Together with our grandchildren we were awarded 3rd prize in the parade in 1996 and again in 2001.

We are proud to have been part of many lovely and successful Village Days over the past 21 years but sadly last year, 2016, our usual position was allocated to others and we weren't able to collect for Diabetes UK. However, we were determined to be part of the day so invited friends who also have a street organ but who collect for Macmillan Nurses to help us out and we collected for them instead.

We would like to thank all those kind people who have supported us over the many years for their interest and their encouragement that has helped us to keep going despite the tragedy in our lives.

Jeanette Risley

## Wheathampstead Eggstravaganza

Wow - what a pile of Easter Eggs! In fact almost 600 in total. St Helen's church, has been able to give a 'Real Easter Egg' to every child in the two village primary schools, thanks to generous donors.



The eggs were given out, amid great excitement, at Easter assemblies and services at Beech Hyde and St Helen's Schools, just before the children broke up for the holidays, so they could read the Easter story at home and remember its meaning.

Uniquely, there is an Easter activity story book in the box, highlighting the Real Easter meaning of new life and new hope. The egg is made in this country from Fairtrade chocolate and every sale results in a donation to charity. As sales have grown, the makers have been able to give sizeable donations to their overseas farmer suppliers allowing them to invest in their community, buying everything from school books and solar panels to providing fresh water.

—ooooo000000oooo—

An advertisement for St Albans City & District Council. It features a blue text box on the left with the message: "Leaving your engine running when you're parked creates 20 times more pollution than when driving at 30mph. What's more, you're literally burning money. So, if you're going to be parked for more than a minute - TURN IT OFF." The background shows a street scene with a blue car, a red car, and a white van. Large white text on the right reads: "IDLING... SWITCH OFF FOR CLEANER AIR". At the bottom left is the St Albans City & District Council logo.

Leaving your engine running when you're parked creates 20 times more pollution than when driving at 30mph. What's more, you're literally burning money. So, if you're going to be parked for more than a minute - **TURN IT OFF.**

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## Business Networking Meeting

Our fabulous breakfast networking meetings are once a month in The Swan at 8am on the last Friday of every month.



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## Find out what goes on at WEB

We meet once a month in The Swan at 7:45pm on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. All are welcome.

Get informed - Make friends - Get involved



**Wheathampstead Business Group**



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## Business Networking Meeting

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**Wheathampstead Business Group**

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## Charity Garden comes to Wheathampstead!

To celebrate the launch of their Summer of Open Gardens initiative, Essex & Herts Air Ambulance is launching their Flagship Garden in Wheathampstead on 14 May 2017 at Castle Farm, Lower Luton Road, AL4 8HU from 2-4pm.



The 20-acre garden boasts a variety of beautiful settings. You can take a stroll through the semi-formal gardens around the house, or visit its other wonders. Wild areas by the river will give a peek at local wildlife, as will the spring-fed ponds and

bog garden. If arboretums are more appealing to you, then you're in luck, or you can just roam the areas where wildflowers grow plentifully.

Castle Farm is within a designated Hertfordshire Wildlife Site, and you'll be best placed to view the natural habitat, including rare and native trees, on the hour-long wildlife walk provided on the day by Tim Hill, Conservation Manager of Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust.

Anyone can participate in the Summer of Open Gardens initiative which runs from May to September. Whatever size garden you have, Essex & Herts Air Ambulance asks you to open your garden, share your joy and help save lives this summer.

It costs £500,000 a month to keep the Air Ambulance Charity operational. Whether you sell tickets to enter your garden, run a raffle or a tombola, or simply have a donation box – your garden could make all the difference.

For more information please visit [www.ehaat.org](http://www.ehaat.org) or email Hannah Goodchild, Volunteer Coordinator, at [hannah.goodchild@ehaat.org](mailto:hannah.goodchild@ehaat.org)

## WEB and the joys of volunteering

Anyone who has ever served in the Forces will tell you “*never volunteer for anything*”. No doubt there are good reasons for this—but I’m hoping to change your mind as far as Wheathampstead goes. You may be thinking “*why on earth should I give up my valuable time?*”. I’ll try to answer that.

Wheathampstead Businesses Group (aka “WEB”) is a voluntary organisation that aims to help local businesses to prosper. In short—it aims to make Wheathampstead a nicer place to live.

I’ve observed a number of reasons why you might get involved with WEB either as a local business wishing to boost your sales or purely because you care for our village.

- When you’re part of a team you **have fun** working with others.
- When you’re involved you get to **find out** what’s going on locally.
- When you’re involved you can **influence** what’s going on locally.
- By getting involved with WEB you’ll get to know many more local people and make **new friends**. Bumping into people you know as you walk down the High Street is part of what **living in a village** is all about.
- Being part of a group of go-getting people has advantages when you need help.



All sorts of people with all sorts of reasons get involved in WEB’s activities, some regularly and some occasionally. So what about you?

If you’re curious and want to see if you’d enjoy getting involved in what WEB does, why not come and join us in one of our meetings? We meet in the back room of The Swan at 7:45pm on the third Tuesday of every month. You’ll be made very welcome.

**Adam Collis**—Chair, Wheathampstead Business Group  
01582 629594, [chair@wheathampstead.org.uk](mailto:chair@wheathampstead.org.uk)  
[www.wheathampstead.org.uk](http://www.wheathampstead.org.uk)



WHEATHAMPSTEAD BUSINESS GROUP



## Youth News: Beavers, Cubs and Scouts

As you may be aware we have a very active Scout Group in the village run by a friendly group of volunteers and parents of all ages. We are always looking for volunteers to help with Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. If you can spare a couple of hours per week to help teach the children new skills and help the existing leaders deliver a fun and adventurous programme, please contact the Group Scout Leader, Karen Oxley on 07738 412211 or email [gsl1stwheathampstead@outlook.com](mailto:gsl1stwheathampstead@outlook.com).



**Bear Grylls**, a well-known television presenter and adventurer, is Chief Scout. Bear says: *"Two things matter in life: following your dreams and looking after your friends. That's what I love about Scouts."*



# PLEASE!

## Do not abandon dog poo in plastic bags



Common sense tells you that it is better to use a stick and flick it into the bushes where it can't be trodden on rather than leaving it in a plastic bag that will take a generation to decompose—there is nobody going around collecting your dog's mess for you—it is **your responsibility**.

- If you are on a footpath and there are shrubs or somewhere where a child or adult is unlikely to step on the dog poo, adopt a "stick and flick" approach.

- If you do have it in a plastic bag you don't have to wait for a dog poo bin—put it in any mixed or land—fill rubbish bin.



Abandoning plastic bags with dog poo in them is just as antisocial as leaving it where it can be trodden on.



## Youth News: Fostering

Have you ever thought about fostering? Well now is the time to pick up the phone and call Hertfordshire's recruitment team. The County Council urgently needs more foster-carers to help provide loving, safe and stable homes for local children and teenagers.



**We need foster carers for our little heroes in Hertfordshire**

If you have a spare bedroom and the passion to make a difference, then we want to hear from you.

Please call us on **0800 917 0925**



Hertfordshire County Council  
[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fosteringwishlist](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fosteringwishlist)  
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Stonewall  
Hertfordshire

How can you help?

If we can keep more children local to Hertfordshire then they can attend the same school, see their same friends and get the support and guidance they deserve, but in order to do this THEY NEED YOU.

Please share this message with your friends and family.

There are a number of ways to get in touch with them:

**Visit:** Complete the on-line contact form at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fostering)

**Call:** Call the recruitment line on 0800 917 0925

**Email:** [fostering.recruitment@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:fostering.recruitment@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

## New defibrillator (AED)

If someone collapses in front of you then you should:

- stay calm and THINK. A few seconds taking in the situation and not panicking can make a huge difference.
- call for help. Ring 999 for the code to open the defibrillator box. Get support from the operator and others.

If:

- the patient looks lifeless/ pale/ not responding then Grab your new AED.
- their heart has not stopped and they have just fainted then having it there as an option is a good idea.
- they groan/ moan / talk to you then that is a SIGN OF LIFE.
- **there are NO signs of life then turn the AED on.**

It's in a case so open it up and press the ON button - that may not be obvious if you are panicking.

The great thing is it talks to you and explains what you need to do. I suggest one person stays in command of the AED and repeats what it says. Make sure you are loud!

- It will ask you to connect the pads to the patient's bare chest as shown.
- WHEN IT SAYS 'ANALYSING' THEN EVERYONE NEEDS TO STAND CLEAR
- The AED will decide if the patient needs a shock—a button will flash once it has warned you that a shock is required.
- MAKE SURE NO ONE IS TOUCHING THE PATIENT THEN PRESS THE FLASHING LIGHT.

The patient will jolt a little as the shock goes through them. If recommended, restart chest compressions for two minutes.

The AED will go through a two minute cycle before talking to you again **so do not switch it off.**

Doing this will optimise the chances of survival. Sometimes we have an opportunity to save some patients but not all of them. Attaching the AED early can save a life.

**JOHN KIRKBY, Paramedic, Sixty8 Medical Ltd**





Wednesday 3 May	2pm— 4pm
Saturday 6 May	3pm — 5pm
Thursday 11 May	10am — 12 noon
Monday 15 May	2pm— 4pm
Tuesday 23 May	3pm — 5pm
Saturday 27 May	10am — 12 noon
Friday 2 June	10am — 12 noon
Wednesday 7 June	2pm— 4pm
Saturday 10 June	3pm — 5pm
Thursday 15 June	10am — 12 noon
Monday 19 June	2pm— 4pm
Tuesday 27 June	3pm — 5pm
Saturday 1 July	10am — 12 noon
Friday 7 July	10am — 12 noon
Wednesday 12 July	2pm— 4pm
Saturday 15 July	2pm— 4pm
Thursday 20 July	10am — 12 noon

**Police surgery dates  
at the Memorial Hall**



All dates and times are subject to operational requirements.

**Chloe Dagless**  
PCSO 4609



### Clerk to the Parish Council

Julia Warren, Parish Council Office, The Memorial Hall, Marford Road, AL4 8AY.  
Contact on 01582 832541 or [info@wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk](mailto:info@wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk)  
website: [www.wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk](http://www.wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk)

### Your Parish councillors

Annie Brewster	Fairways, Firs Drive, AL4 8LB	01438 832255
Gill Clark	16 Tudor Road, AL4 8NW	01582 832579
Adrian Dante	25 Wright Close, AL4 8TJ	07780 836624
David Davies	3 Cherry Tree Lane, AL4 8HP	01582 821350
Elias Habib	69 Necton Road, AL4 8LB	07522 435367
Linda Halford	35 Marshalls Way, AL4 8HZ	01582 760593
Steve Haynes	65 Necton Road, AL4 8AT	01582 629327
David Johnston	9 Brewhouse Hill, AL4 8AN	07774 211933
Tessa Reason	Croft Farm, Cherry Tree Lane, AL4 8HP	01582 832071
Judy Shardlow	28 Dale Avenue., AL4 8LS	01438 833858
Paul Wilby	35 Nurseries Road, AL4 8TP	01582 834549
Peter Woodhams	54 Butterfield Road, AL4 8QH	01582 832541

### Your District councillors

Annie Brewster	As above	As above
Gill Clark	As above	As above
Sandra Wood	12 Mount Road, AL4 8BX	07919 497818

### Your County councillor

TBD—May Election		
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### Your MP

Rt Hon Peter Lilley	65 High Street, Harpenden, AL5 2SL	01582 761796
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### Police

Your local officers are PC1848 Arthur Wilkes and PCSO 4609 Chloe Dagless. Please see page 21 for Police Surgery dates at the Memorial Hall.  
Call 101 for non-emergency and information, or 999 for an emergency.

### Council Services contacts

To report highways matters eg salt bins, potholes, lights, road signs, abandoned roadwork signs, call 0300 1234 047 or report online at  
[www.hertsdirect.org/highwayfaults](http://www.hertsdirect.org/highwayfaults).

For recycling collections, fly-tipping and other local services contact St Albans District Council on 01727 866100 or visit  
[www.stalbans.gov.uk](http://www.stalbans.gov.uk) and select Local Information Service.

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# Wheathampstead Village Weekend

## 8th & 9th July 2017

