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News in brief...



Following the success of Benjamin Britten's "Noye's Fludde" at **St Helen's Church** you could now be in with a chance of winning Noah's Ark, a wonderful hand-knitted family toy, featuring 19 pairs of animals as well as Noah and Mrs Noah, the Ark and rainbow. Raffle tickets for these toys will be sold on Saturday 19 November and Saturday

26 November at St Helen's Church between 10am and 12pm. There will also be stalls selling 'Made In Wheathampstead' crafts, home-made puddings, preserves, books and mincemeats. On Saturday 26 November there will be a Children's Christmas Special with Santa's Grotto.

At the last **Litterblitz** day Ellie and Eddie tackled the area around Devil's Dyke while Derek and Audrey tackled the hedge alongside the football pitches in Marford Road Playing Fields. They collected seven bags of rubbish, four bags of recyclables, one bag of glass and a blown-out umbrella. The next Litterblitz is on Saturday 19 November—please see page 4.



Become a Trustee...



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The James Marshall Foundation is a local charity providing financial support to young people in Wheathampstead and Harpenden.

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or phone 01582 760735

Dates for your diary

Saturday 12 November Wheathampstead Open Spaces Volunteers (WOSV), Bower Heath 10am .

Saturday 19 November Litterblitz volunteers, 9.45am to 12 noon. Contact Eddie on 629494 for more information.

Thursday 24 November Lights-Up, 5.45pm to 8pm, High Street.

Saturday 3 December Small Business Saturday, High Street (see page 17 for more information).

Saturday 10 December WOSV Gustard Wood 10am.

Saturday 10 December Amwell Fundraisers Christmas Party, 7.30pm at the Memorial Hall. Contact Colin Bower on 07790 639735 for more information).

Saturday 14 January WOSV Butterfield Road 10am.

Saturday 14 January Litterblitz volunteers, 9.45am to 12 noon (as above).

Christmas Carol Singalong

Come and join the annual Wheathampstead Christmas Carol Singalong with the Abbey Gateway Orchestra.

Thursday 15 December 2016 at 7.45pm at the Memorial Hall.

Master of Ceremonies: Annie Brewster.

Refreshments: tea, coffee, hot punch and mince pies.

Entrance is free—but there will be a collection in aid of the



Wheathampstead Community Group

Rennie Grove Hospice Care is launching its annual "Light up a Life" ceremonies, which take place across Bucks and Herts during November and December. The non-denominational services offer an opportunity for families and friends to come together and reflect on the memories of loved ones in a supportive and peaceful environment. They are open to everyone, not just those touched by hospice care. For full details please visit



www.renniegrove.org/lightupalife or call 01442 890222.

Scout Christmas Post

Want to save some money and time this Christmas?



For 20 pence per card the Wheathampstead Scout Group will deliver your local Christmas cards throughout the village.

Last year over 2000 cards were delivered raising almost £500 for the local Scouts. Scouts deliver to homes with Wheathampstead addresses including Gustard Wood, Blackmore End, Folly Fields and the Manor Road area.

Any queries please contact 07947789788 or wheathampsteadscoutpost@gmail.com

Scout post boxes are at Manor Pharmacy and St Helen's Church from 1st December with delivery on Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 December. The last posting date is 12 noon Friday 16 December. Money and cards to be placed in the special Scout post boxes.

A message from the Wheathampstead Dental Surgery for November's mouth cancer action month.

It is important to be aware of the risks associated with mouth cancer and the best ways to reduce risk.

Mouth (oral) cancer is any cancer affecting the mouth, including your lips, tongue, cheeks or throat. Oral cancer is on the rise with over 7500 cases being detected in 2013 leading to over 2300 deaths nationally. Nearly half are found in the over-65 age group with men more likely to suffer from it than women. Nine cases out of ten are preventable if caught early.

Risk factors, signs and symptoms: the most common risk factors are smoking, alcohol and poor nutrition. Cancer can present in a huge variety of ways from painless, persistent ulcers to white or red patches to abnormal lumps or swellings. Even those with no teeth are at risk.

How to keep yourself healthy: inspect your mouth; if you are concerned about anything ask your dentist; cut down on smoking and alcohol consumption as these are your major risk factors, and ensure a balanced diet including fresh fruit and vegetables. Make sure you visit your dentist regularly.



Running down dementia

Just recently Wheathampstead resident Gillie Hutchins took up an unusual challenge: she decided to run 100 kilometres (approximately 60 miles) in just three weeks.

I caught up with Gillie on the path that leads to Mackerye End. She was surrounded by a group of people with balloons, flags and t-shirts. It was clearly a celebration! I assumed significant birthday or anniversary, however it was none of these. Gillie had taken up a new nationwide challenge from Parkrun and Alzheimer's Research UK to run to raise money for research into dementia prevention and she was celebrating the completion of 100km.

When Gillie Hutchins's father passed away after suffering from dementia for ten years, she wanted to do something to try and make sense of his life. Her dad had been a logical man who with the onset of dementia could not make sense of what was happening to him. He told Gillie that he felt trapped and just wanted to 'kick through the wall' that surrounded him.

Her running has helped her to think, reflect and try to make sense of the whole experience and to make her grief positive by giving both time and effort to running. As she said, she could have 'given money', but somehow that didn't seem enough.

As she ran all those miles, many ideas came to her and most days she posted her pictures and her thoughts. While running, Gillie took pictures of the deer, blackberries, herself (not looking very glamorous!) and the dogs who often accompanied her. People started to take notice, share each other's

stories and donate. She explained that it had been a chance to share experiences with others: 'I started running for my dad, but I ended up running for all dementia sufferers'.

The support has been staggering. Gillie's aim was to raise £100; so far she has raised over £1,000. The Alzheimer's Society calls people like Gillie 'Everyday Heroes'. I'm sure you will agree she is also a Wheathampstead Hero.

Cllr Linda Halford





Hertfordshire County Council

warns residents to be vigilant against rogue traders.

On average, almost 250 reports of rogue trading are made each year in Hertfordshire, but it is estimated that only between 5 and 20 per cent of these crimes are reported. That's why Hertfordshire County Council's Trading Standards team is advising residents to follow a few top tips.

- Say 'no' to doorstep callers. Do not buy goods or services at the door.
- If you are considering having work done, always shop around first and get at least three quotes.
- You can search for a Hertfordshire Trading Standards Approved Trader on the Which? Trusted Traders website or by calling Trading Standards.
- Honest businesses agree pricing beforehand, including VAT. There's no evidence without a written contract.
- Avoid paying cash in hand. It's better to pay by bank transfer or cheque, as these can be traced.

If you think you or a relative or neighbour has become vulnerable to a rogue trader get advice through Hertfordshire County Council's website at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/tradingstandards.

Report rogue traders through the Citizens Advice consumer service on 03454 04 05 06.

Search for trusted traders at <http://trustedtraders.which.co.uk/>.

Exchange visit

Those who enjoy visiting homes abroad might be interested in a Town Twinning visit to the French town of Cosne-Cours sur Loire. The Harpenden group "Friends of Cosne" is to travel by coach to Cosne on 16 June 2017, returning on 19 June.

Interested? Visit www.friendsofcosne.com for details or talk to Cllr Gill Clark (see page 22 for contact details).



Nostalgic return visit



Late September saw a return visit to our station platform by the 1968 rock group 'The Magic Lanterns'. 'Who' and 'why' might be your first reaction. In 1968 this Manchester band were making a name for themselves on the rock scene, with four hit albums in the USA and a single in the Top 30 here in the UK. They never achieved the success of their contemporaries The Tremeloes, Marmalade

and The Hollies, but that's not to say they weren't good.

Their Wheathampstead adventure started with the album "Shame Shame" which needed a cover. Remember the good old days when album covers were a work of art in their own right? Wheathampstead was the photographer's second choice, as the idea

was to chain members of the band to some disused railway track for the album cover picture.

The photographer found a location further down the line. Although the track was not rusty, he insisted that no trains used the line, so they started to chain the band members to the rails. One of the group, being a railway buff, wasn't

convinced the line was disused. He kept an ear to the line and after a while heard a distant rumble! He convinced the





others to abandon the shoot, much to the annoyance of the photographer. They had just removed the last length of chain when along trundled a diesel shunter with wagons in tow. Rather than risk their lives, they moved to the station platform at Wheathampstead and did the shoot there. Wheathampstead was a safer bet. As you can see, the pictures showed the station midway

through its demolition.

Recently the three remaining group members, Mike Osbourne, Pete Garner and Harry Ward, accompanied by Harry's son, James, looked up the station on the internet and, finding it still there, drove down from Warrington just to remember old times.

By sheer coincidence their visit coincided with one my wife, Margaret, and I were making to the platform, tending the flower-beds. A long and illuminating chat followed, catching up with the history of the group and updating them on how the remains of the station had been restored.

Some readers may remember the five-piece group. The ladies in the office opposite (now the school), who waved frantically at the group and did little work that afternoon, certainly do!

Jimmy Bilbury, vocals and guitar, died some years ago but had a great musical career post-Lanterns, singing with the Les Humphries Singers. They were the Germany entry for the Eurovision song contest in 1976. Alistair Beveridge, guitar, the fifth group member, sadly passed away 12 months ago.

So, another interesting story to add to the history of our platform. **Terry Pankhurst**

New web pages for the History Society

Wheathampstead has a long and fascinating history but, until now, it has not been easy to find out much about it.

The new History Society website has changed that.

Visit www.wheathampsteadheritage.org.uk to find out more about our history .

There is a Timeline of the history of the village from the Mesolithic Age to the present day. The words in blue are links to more detailed information about each event.

300,000 to 400,000 years ago	Wheathampstead Lake formed. Half a million years ago, Wheathampstead was under water. More
c. 8500-4000 BC	Mesolithic Age. In 1979, excavations in human activity in this period. More
c.100 BC	Belgic influence spread into south-east. Excavations in 1974 found Pre-Belgic a Wheathampstead bypass. More
54 BC	Roman incursion, led by Julius Caesar. Cassivelaunus have taken place at Devil's Dyke. To see some more. here .
43 AD	Roman invasion of Britain. While Verulamium Britain, a number of smaller settlements have
5th century	Romans withdraw from Britain, leaving a last. Excavations at Turners Hall Farm have revealed burials. More
6th century	In 2012, a hoard of 159 Roman gold coins was found. Several Roman roads passed through the parish.
6th-7th century	Anglo-Saxons arrive. Traces of mid to late Anglo-Saxon Helen's, suggesting that there was a church of

John of Wheathampstead: a biography



John of Wheathampstead was the son of Hugh and Margaret Bos to become Abbot of St Albans not once but twice - from 1420 to 1465. While the records are not complete, it appears that he lived

From The Folly to the Old Bailey



The life of Reuben Durham, a tragic tale that poor of north-west Hertfordshire at the end of

There are pages that showcase some of the local research that has been written by members of the Society.

Captain George Upton Robins: Pilgrimage and Battlefield Tourism in 1919



George Upton Robins was from the Robins family of Delaport and Folly. He served in both the Boer War and the Great War and died poisoning at Hill 60, near Ypres. This article shows how his sister, grave in France and how it was possible for poorer people to visit fallen of the War.

The Wheathampstead Workhouse



The buildings in Workhouse Yard, the site of the old Wheathampstead Street, were demolished in 1935 but the workhouse itself had close. This article traces the history of Wheathampstead Workhouse and national developments.

An Accident on the Railway: 1875



Joseph Payne was the driver of a train that collided with another near the official report of the accident, together with a more personal account great-grandson, who lives in the village today.

You can explore the history of our High Street with interactive graphics.

Charles Higby Lattimore: a biography



Charles Higby Lattimore was a wealthy tenant farmer in Wheathampstead at Ende Hall and later at Place Farm in the village. He came into conflict and carried on a lifelong feud with his landlord, Drake Garris, who campaigned for the repeal of the Corn Laws and was a friend of

The story of our changing high street over the last 100 years

Please use the map below to explore the buildings on the Wheathampstead High Street and find out more about their amazing history over the last 100 years.

The map shows Wheathampstead High Street with buildings numbered 401 to 435. Labels on the left include: The Boutique, Impressions, Post Office, The Old Bakery, Jack's Coffee Shop, The Mill, Chemist, Frosts, Others, Herts Plumbing, Dentist, Copper Top, Off Licence, Wheathampstead Fryer. Labels on the right include: The Bull, Jessamine Garage, Jessamine Cottage, Tesco, Diddar, Voytek, Bell Cottage, Crown House, WI Shop, Latchford House, John Curtis, Cassidy & Tate, White Cottage, Lattimore House.

With links to a range of other relevant sites and a complete list of sources, the new History Society website is a must for anyone with an interest in our rich history.






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Allotments in Wheathampstead

If you are a vegetable grower, or just love eating them, this is for you!

This is a great time of year to choose your allotment plot, dig it over on a bright winter's day, plan your plot inside on the snowy, rainy days, and be up and ready to reap the rewards in the spring!

Growing your own food gets you outdoors and into the fresh air but it also brings many other benefits and rewards. Cook your fresh fruit and veg that you have grown. Your gardening expertise will increase along with the range of fruit and veg you grow.



Wheathampstead Parish Council has four allotment sites (Glebe and Hitchens fields off Marford road, Folly Fields off the Lower Luton Road and Baxendale off the Slype). Each allotment plot is available in two sizes—a half pole or full pole (approx 10m wide by about 25m long). The cost for one full plot is £40 per year.

There are allotment vacancies at several of our sites. If you are interested in renting an allotment please take a look at

www.wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk or contact Louise on 01582 832541.



Lights Up Competition Winners and Runners Up (Overall winners on the back page)

Hannah O'Connor



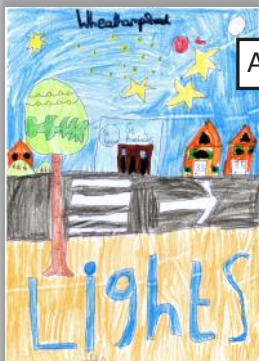
Christopher Armstrong



Max Schaffer



Alicia Bottomley



Lily Vallender



Serene Park



Ben Kennard



Elsie Keen



Lois Rogerson



Small Business Saturday and Buy it Locally

This December the Wheathampstead Business Group is launching their 'Buy It Locally' campaign on Small Business Saturday.

On Saturday 3 December Small Business Saturday returns to Wheathampstead High Street, with many small businesses showing their wares.

SMALL BUSINESS
SATURDAY
3RD DECEMBER



Last year this event was enjoyed by many shoppers visiting our village centre and this year should be no exception. At the time of going to press not all details are confirmed but we plan to have live music plus a treasure hunt for kids and a chance to meet Billy the Bee (Wheathampstead's 'Buy It Locally' champion).

Here are Billy's top five reasons for why you should buy locally.

- 1. Get a better service.** Local independent businesses care much more about their reputation. As a result you get a better service from someone who lives near you.
- 2. Boost the local economy.** For every £1 spent with a small independent business 63 pence is reinvested locally. By buying locally you are making your village more prosperous.
- 3. Create local jobs.** A more prosperous business community creates more local employment. By spending locally you could be creating jobs for local people.
- 4. Have more choice.** The more you spend locally, the more businesses you support and the more businesses will be attracted to the village. The end result is that you get a wider choice.
- 5. Live in a nicer community.** A thriving village centre means you avoid having to live in yet another sterile dormitory town.

You'll be amazed at just how many independent businesses there are in your village and how varied they are. Have a quick look in your free edition of WOW (Window on Wheathampstead) or in the online directory at www.wheathampstead.org.uk and remember to buy locally the next time you shop.

Adam Collis, Chair, Wheathampstead Business Group or email at Groupchair@wheathampstead.org.uk.

Neighbourhood Plan Survey

In the coming weeks you will receive through your letterbox a brief Housing Needs Assessment Survey from the Parish Council. To help us write our Neighbourhood Plan, we need to estimate our housing requirement up to the year 2031. How many homes do we need for our elderly residents, or young people trying to set up on their own, or people with special needs?

The information we are asking from you is vital for our Neighbourhood Plan, which you will have to approve in a referendum (more about this in a future issue of The Pump).

We will take the information you provide in this survey and incorporate it into our Plan. This will give the Parish Council some power to protect our open spaces, develop new housing sympathetically and have influence over what development takes place and where.

Help us to keep Wheathampstead a beautiful place to live, work and relax for all our residents. For more information on the Neighbourhood Plan visit www.wheathampstead-pg.gov.uk/Neighbourhood-Plan and don't forget to return a completed survey. Thank you.

Youth News

Mead Cubs are kept very busy, venturing out a lot as you can see from the pictures below.



County Cubs Cyclo Cross

Cubs Centenary Chase with Steve Backshall and Thom Evans



Sleepover on HMS Belfast

Cubs hope that their BBQ stall at the Wheathampstead 'Lights Up' evening on Thursday 24 November will be a popular attraction and raise funds to support more excursions and activities in the great outdoors.

Continued on p19

Youth News continued

Wheathampstead's Anna Patten helps England's Women's U-17 win through to final eight in the 2016 FIFA World Cup in Jordan

Anna's debut match for UEFA was two years ago when England defeated Bulgaria 5-0. The picture shows Anna (No 12) battling with Ana Vitoria of Brazil. England won the match by 2 goals to 1 to qualify for the final eight only to be defeated by Japan, the current holders. The Wanderers has an active women's team.



Watford FC Community Sports and Education Trust's Onside project is running at Marford playing fields with fun football activities for children aged 8 to 12 on Tuesday's from 5pm to 6pm. This is a great opportunity for new or experienced footballers to have fun and play football



games for only £1.

Please contact Sean.flaherty@watfordfc.com for more information.

Top Hat Stage School

Wheathampstead's Top Hat Stage School is bringing a Christmas treat to the Memorial Hall on Wednesday 30 November. It will be putting on 'Dick Whittington and the Pied Piper' starring over 60 students aged 5 to 15 years.



Principal Warren Bacci said: "This year's pantomime is shaping up to be our best yet".

For more information visit www.tophatstageschool.co.uk.



A free and confidential telephone support line for those affected by domestic abuse in Hertfordshire is now open seven days a week.

The Hertfordshire Domestic Abuse Helpline 08 088 088 088 is open between 9am and 4pm on Saturdays and Sundays, as well as from 9am to 9pm, Monday to Friday.

The Hertfordshire Domestic Abuse Helpline is an independent charity and the line itself is staffed by volunteers. It provides confidential advice to anyone affected by or concerned about any form of domestic abuse. This includes concerned friends and family, perpetrators and professionals, as well as victims themselves.

The Helpline staff can provide information over the phone or refer callers to relevant agencies and service providers for further support and guidance. The Helpline is free to call and will not show up on any landline telephone bills.

Richard Thake, Cabinet Member for Community Safety at Hertfordshire County Council, said: "Domestic abuse is not just about violent intimate relationships. It can take many forms within the home including controlling or coercive behaviour, involve wider family or community members and continue after a relationship has ended. But it nearly always leaves the victim feeling isolated and cut off from help and support. This Helpline is a lifeline to those people wanting to stop the abuse and improve their lives and plays a valuable role in the local community".

For more information contact Jenny Morris, County Administrator at jennifer.morris@herts.pnn.police.uk.

Telephone 999 in an emergency where there is a danger to life or a crime is in progress. Telephone 101 for non-emergencies where police attendance is required, to report a crime or to report any other incidents. Calls to 101 have a fixed cost of 15p per call.





Please note that Police Surgery dates at The Memorial Hall are subject to operational requirements.

PCSO 6021 Che Ponton.

Thursday 17 November	10am to 12noon
Monday 21 November	2pm to 4pm
Tuesday 29 November	3pm to 5pm
Saturday 3 December	10am to 12noon
Friday 9 December	10am to 12pm
Wednesday 14 December	2pm to 4pm
Saturday 17 December	3pm to 5pm
Thursday 22 December	10am to 12noon
Tuesday 3 January	3pm to 5pm
Saturday 7 January	10am to 12pm
Friday 13 January	10am to 12noon
Wednesday 18 January	2pm to 4pm
Saturday 21 January	3pm to 5pm
Thursday 26 January	10am to 12noon

Friendly tips to help prevent burglaries as Christmas approaches

Check all downstairs windows and doors are locked and secure before you go out or go to bed. If you are going out, lock your upstairs windows too; if you take out the keys, ensure you have a fire escape plan.

Don't leave car keys, mobile phones, wallets or other valuables on window sills, in hallways or in any other visible place.

Double-lock UPVC doors by lifting the handle and locking it to engage the security features. Use timer switches on lamps to give the impression someone is at home.

Secure your rear garden: lock rear gates, securely lock sheds and garages, and keep tools and ladders locked away, as they could be used to break into your home.

Remember: 'lights, lift and lock'

Hertfordshire Constabulary's non-emergency number 101 now has a **live web chat facility**,

which means people reporting non-urgent crimes or those with a police query can contact an operator online. Remember that this number and web chat facility should only be used for non-emergencies. To find out more visit [www.herts.police.uk/contact us/.contacting us.aspx](http://www.herts.police.uk/contact-us/contacting-us.aspx).

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
website: 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	07925 915998
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

Maxine Crawley	14 Saberton Close, Redbourn, AL3 7DS	01582 793760
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Your MP

Rt Hon Peter Lilley	104 High Street, London Colney, AL2 1QL	01727 827201
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Police

Your local officers are PC1848 Arthur Wilkes and PCSO 6021 Che Ponton. 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.

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

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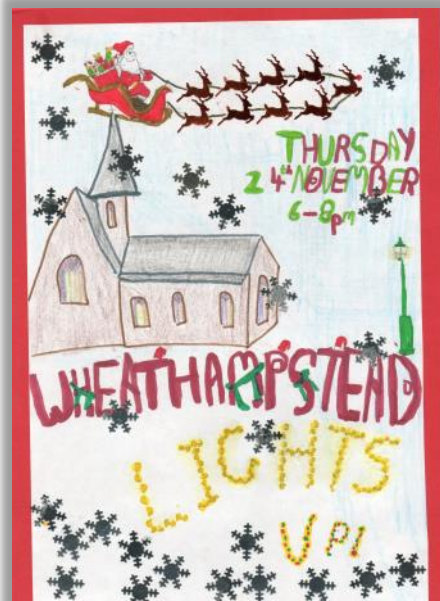
**Lights Up Competition—Overall Winners
(For runners up see page 16)**



Isabelle Field
Beech Hyde School



Erin Younger
St Albans High School



Lily May Harris
St Helen's School