

The Wheathampstead
Pump
Community Matters



Village Weekend

12th July
Talent Show
Music on the
Meads

13th July
Village Day

See Page 5



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News in Brief...

New Play Equipment on Marford Fields—The new equipment is being installed before the new all-weather pitch. We want to keep the disruption to users to a minimum but, inevitably with a project of this size, there may be times when the equipment is unavailable.

All-Weather Pitch —The installation of the new all-weather Artificial Turf Pitch will begin as soon as the new play equipment is installed.

New Booking Clerk for The Mead Hall—Linda Williams, 07985 400487, meadhallbookings@gmail.com

Cricket Club Seek Scorer for New Season—Like cricket? Enjoy the sun? Earn a little extra? Contact 1st XI Captain Steve Booth on 07815 898855 or email stevenbooth@hotmail.com. Training arranged.

Kimpton Bowls Club—Are looking for new members. Free coaching, Tuesday & Thursday evenings from April. Phone 07833 583995 or go to www.kimptonbowlsclub.blogspot.com

New Heritage Trail Noticeboards—these are being installed in East Lane, Devil's Dyke and Nomansland over the Summer.

In March the **Litterblitz** Group were out on a Saturday morning collecting the litter around the area of The Hill, Dyke Road and the Butterfield Nature Reserve. Seven of us collected 8 bags of recyclables (cans and plastic bottles), 14 bags of rubbish and 3 bags of glass, together with part of an old shed, carpets and rubber tyres and other sundries. By arrangement with the St Albans Council this was collected within hours of completion.



Our next Litterblitz is on **Saturday May 17th**. Contact Eddie on 629494 or Derek on 760626 for details if you wish to join our volunteer group.

What's On—Dates for your Diary

May 17th (Saturday) - Litterblitz. Call Eddie on 629494 or Derek on 760626. Volunteers wanted! See Page 3.

May 17th & 18th (Weekend) - Sandridge 900, see Page 6

May 18th (Sunday) - 10K in support of Beech Hyde School. 2K family fun run starts 10am, 10K starts at 11am. Both start on the playing fields

May 29th (Thursday) - Inaugural meeting of U3A, 2pm Memorial Hall
See Page 19.

June 1st (Sunday) - Car Boot Sale, East Lane Car Park from 10am

June 22nd (Sunday) - Heritage Trail Phase 2 Launch 3pm. Check the notice boards for details nearer the time. **Please note date change**

July 6th (Sunday) - Car Boot Sale, East Lane Car Park from 10am

July 12th (Saturday) - Music on The Meads & Wheathampstead's Got Talent (see page 5)

July 13th (Sunday) - Village Day. See Page 5

July 19th (Sunday), 10:00-14:00—Fire Fighters' Charity Car Wash, East Lane Car Park

July 23rd (Wednesday) - River Dipping on the Meads—see page 14

August 3rd (Sunday) - Car Boot Sale, East Lane Car Park from 10am

August 9th (Saturday) - River Dipping on the Meads—see page 14

Wheathampstead's Got Talent.

Entry Form

Saturday 12th July. Time: 2pm—5 pm

Name

Address

Telephone number

email

Category: **Dance / Entertainment / Singing**
(please delete as appropriate)

There will be limited late entry places on the day so please hand your Entry Form in to the Parish Office at the Memorial Hall, Marford Road

as soon as possible.

Village Weekend

Saturday 12th July and Sunday 13th July

Music on the Meads – Saturday 12th July, from 5:30 pm

Following the Talent Show in the afternoon (2 pm to 5 pm at the Memorial Hall, entry form opposite), come and enjoy a magical musical evening on The Meads, with contributions from bands **Tapalaccian** and **BSV Jazz**, and the Talent Show winners. They will be joined by local band, **Number 7**, playing music from the sixties to the present day.

Bring your own picnic or take advantage of the barbecue fare offered by **The Bull**. A variety of drinks, including real ale, will be available, plus candy floss for those with a sweet tooth.

To bring a wonderful evening to an end, nightlights will be floated down the river, and all in the glow of a full moon!

Village Day – Sunday 13th July , Parade at 1pm

The theme this year is *“An English Country Garden”*, so enjoy the creative floats and colourful costumes in the parade as it passes through the centre of the village, led by the **Ware Brass Band and featuring Watford Eclipse Majorettes, St Albans Morris Men, and English Miscellany**.

In the arena, watch **Miscellany** demonstrating English dancing, a Dog Agility show, local children dancing, and the troupe **Love to Dance**.

Take a look in the Memorial Hall for a display of the High Street history project and of the wonderful work of our quilters, and have a refreshing cup of tea.

This is the day when we celebrate our wonderful village community. Come and join in with the events, browse the many stalls, maybe try to ride the Bucking Bronco, and make the most of the Hog Roast.

The entry form for the Talent Show is on page 4.

Surprising Sandridge welcomes you

Clashing swords and whizzing arrows will return to Bernards Heath on May 17th and 18th this year as the Medieval Siege Society lays on a weekend of medieval spectacle and fun centred on the Second Battle of St Albans, fought on the Heath in 1461.

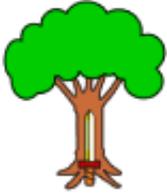
St Leonard's Church in Sandridge was already more than 300 years old when Yorkists and Lancastrians marched or fled past it on that February day. The whole of its ancient parish, stretching from Sandpit Lane up to Bride Hall at Ayot St Lawrence, has already embarked on a 7-month programme of festivities, which began on March 30th when the Bishop of Norwich came



to preach in the church of his predecessor, Herbert Losinga, consecrated 900 years ago. Our neighbours in Wheathampstead are warmly invited to stop by during the coming months, to visit the Church, (open on Sunday afternoons), enjoy Sandridge 900+ ale or a cup of tea in one of the pubs, or join in the numerous activities planned, which range from square-dancing to cricket and from jazz music to Songs of Praise via bouncy castles, zip-wires and steam-engine rides.

The details of these and other, more sedate, attractions - starting with the Discover Sandridge Exhibition, on at the Museum of St Albans until June 1st - can be found in the Souvenir Brochure available there and at other outlets or online at www.sandridge900.com. We look forward to welcoming you.

Vivian Nutton, Chairman, Sandridge900+



Beech Hyde Primary School and Nursery

Come Along to the Wheathampstead 10K and 2K Family Race—Support Beech Hyde

BBQ—Refreshments—Family Entertainment

Start Times	Registration	Start Times	Contact
2K: 10.00 am	www.wheathampstead10k.co.uk	2K: 10.00 am	Emmy Williams
10K: 11.00 am	www.wheathampstead10k.co.uk / www.wheathampstead10k.co.uk / www.wheathampstead10k.co.uk	10K: 11.00 am	www.wheathampstead10k.co.uk / 07936-031101

Race HQ: The Memorial Hall, Marford Road, Wheathampstead, Herts AL4 8AY



Wheathampstead Cricket Club Wins Prestigious Award

Wheathampstead Cricket Club's new chairman Nick Martin was presented with the Derek Dredge Memorial Award 2013 at the Saracens Cricket League AGM on the 24th February 2014.

The Award was presented by Richard Robinson (Reed CC) on behalf of the Hertfordshire Association of Cricket Groundsmen. This is the 4th time the Award has been presented and Wheathampstead CC headed the list of 94 other league clubs. The Award reflects the work the club have undertaken in funding improvements to the Nomansland ground, in particular £16,000 to relay the cricket square and £9000 to upgrade the outdoor nets and all weather wicket.



The club was also praised for the work in re-building the Clubhouse following an arson attack in 2007 and the re-establishment of a thriving colts group all of which are key to ensuring the future success of the Club.

Winning this Award is a great tribute to all members of Wheathampstead CC's Committees over the past 6 years, in particular who have worked hard both to improve the ground and obtain funding from many different sponsors including the Parish Council and St Albans District Council.

The club now has 4 senior teams in the Saracens League and a Sunday XI that will play a mixture of 20/20 and 40 over games. The Colts group has 4 age groups starting at U8's up to U13's with coaching sessions on Sunday mornings and matches during the cricket season.

Wheathampstead CC welcomes cricketers of all standards who would like to join and play in any of the teams in the coming season.

Keep in touch with events at Wheathampsteadcc.hitscricket.com

On Saturday July 19th fire fighters from Wheathampstead will be holding a charity car wash in East Lane Car Park in aid of the Fire Fighters Charity. All proceeds will be donated to the charity.



Fire fighters put their lives on the line to save people like you and your family every minute, every hour. No matter how dangerous the situation, brave firefighters will take action. The Fire Fighters Charity is for every one of the UK's serving and retired members of fire and rescue staff and their families. No other organisation provides such a full package of high quality support, exactly tailored to the needs of fire fighters, support staff and their dependants. The helpline and rehabilitation centres help fire fighters get back on their feet after injury, illness, trauma and problems in their lives. Every year they help more than 4,500 people in the fire community.

We need you to help us continue this vital work. It costs £9million a year to keep The Fire Fighters Charity running. With no government funding it relies completely on your donations and goodwill. Help keep fire fighters fit, healthy and happy so we can continue saving lives.

[Come along - your donation will make a difference.](#)

[Tracey Folds, Watch Manager, Wheathampstead Fire Station](#)

Volunteering in the Parish

Volunteers acted quickly in early March to clear an oak tree that had fallen on Marshall's Heath Local Nature Reserve following the high winds of the winter. The tree had landed across the acid grassland, home to a large number of plant and animal species and locally famous for its large anthills, home to Yellow Hill Ants.

Marshall's Heath (Local Nature Reserve) is only 3.6 hectares (8.9 acres in old money) and consists of a small area of acid grass heath surrounded by secondary woodland and scrub, and is important for its very high biodiversity. More than 1,300 species (and increasing) of plants and animals having been recorded there with 40 species on threatened species lists.

The work took a short amount of time and within a couple of hours the tree was cleared and the grassland raked free of debris. We were treated with fine weather and the first butterflies of the spring, many Brimstones, a single Comma and a few Small Tortoiseshell. Green woodpeckers could be heard 'yaffling' through the woods and we noted Fieldfare and Redwing as they prepare for their return migration to Iceland and Scandinavia.



More volunteer days are being organised so that work of this nature can be undertaken across our 150 acres of open spaces. So if you have time and wish to spend an enjoyable few hours in our wonderful countryside please contact the Parish Council office for dates and locations of future events.

Peter Ryan

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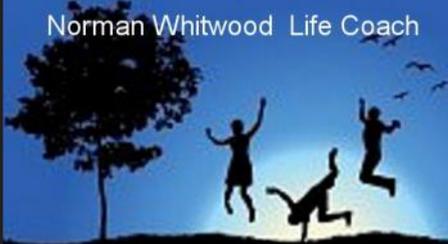
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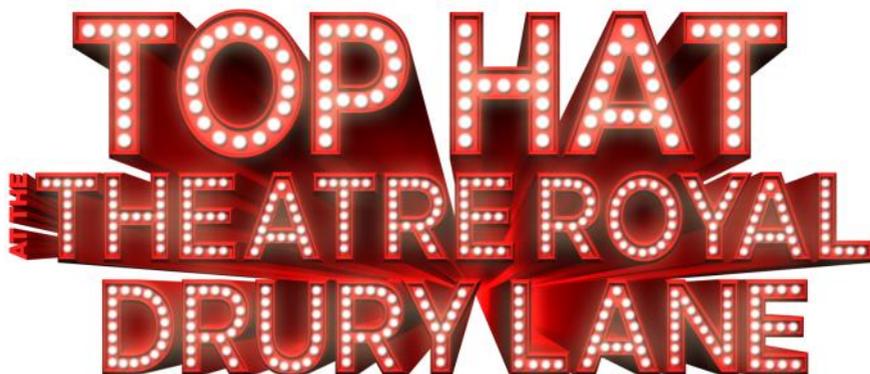
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Youth News...



Top Hat's summer term will start on Wed 30th April and students aged 8 years and above will be taking part in a west end show on the 20th July!

END OF TERM SHOW

All students will be working towards an end of term summer show on Wednesday 9th July 2014 at the Memorial Hall. It will be a musical variety show, showcasing songs from musicals, films and pop over the last 20 years plus stage 2s puppet show. All students will be taking part in this show from Tiny Toppers to stage 4s. The end of term show will also be filmed. Students in stages 3 & 4 will be making their own short films.

WEST END SHOW: SUNDAY 20th JULY 2014!

"Top Hat at the Drury Lane" will feature Wheathampstead students aged 8+. The show is for charity and we urge our other students and family members to come and support us. It is a musical variety show in aid of *"Noah's Ark"* children's hospice based in Hertfordshire and also *"The Royal Marsden"*. The show will feature over 400 children from all Top Hat schools across Hertfordshire & Surrey, a full live band, past Top Hat students and even some celebrities. It is suitable for children of all ages and it will take place on Sunday 20th July at 6.30pm and should finish at approx. 9.30pm. Tickets are currently on sale at Top Hat schools and are priced £15, £20, £30 & £40 by cash, card or cheque. Or you can call the ticket hotline on:

07501 723 743 or online: www.tophatstageschool.co.uk

Youth News...

River Dipping on The Meads



The Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust are organizing river dipping on the meads over the summer. Join Hertfordshire Living Rivers Officer Charlie Bell and local volunteers to try your hand at river dipping and take a closer look at some of the smaller animals living in our rivers. All equipment provided and experts will be on hand to tell you

more about the river and help with identification of the aquatic invertebrates.

Children must be accompanied and supervised at all times by a parent or guardian.

July 23rd and August 9th. Open to everyone 11am – 3pm (drop in and stay for as long as you like)

Wellies recommended!

Contact for further information: Charlie Bell,
charlie.bell@hmwt.org, 01727 858901 (245)



Owl, Bat and Bird Nesting Boxes

Have you spotted the owl, bat and bird nesting boxes volunteers have been installing around the village?

Many thanks to Colin Shawyer for supplying and fitting a tawny owl nest box in the Rectory Copse (picture). We hope residents will move in this autumn.



WEB—Wheathampstead’s Business Group

“What’s in it for me?” was the challenge made by one of our newest members, who had recently started a new business in the village, working from home. She was of course referring to membership of “Wheathampstead for Enterprising Business”.

This caused me to stop and think about the contribution WEB makes to our local businesses, and what more we can do to assist members market to the local community, e.g:

- Advertising in “The Pump”, our parish magazine now in colour
- Hall stalls on Village Day – an ideal opportunity to showcase your wares
- B2B event in the autumn, if you sell to other businesses
- “Lights Up” promotional opportunities in November

If you have ideas to contribute, or would like to meet & socialise with other village business people, do come along to our breakfast networking meeting at Jacks (8am on 3rd Friday of the month) or our formal WEB meetings. **I do hope to meet you there!**

Claire Farley, WEB Chairman, chair@wheathampstead.org.uk

Regiment Fitness

The Parish Council has given Regiment Fitness permission to organise regular physical fitness sessions on the playing fields. The sessions are equipment-based training sessions which cater to YOU no matter what your shape, size or level of fitness. They provide a complete workout and will build up your stamina, strength & general fitness.

Whether you’re looking to get fit for the first time or push your performance to the next level, their team of military & ex-military PTI Instructors will challenge and motivate you.

Regiment Fitness supports the charity **Help 4 Heroes** - being ex-servicemen it's a charity close to their hearts.



For more details, dates and times see www.regimentfitness.co.uk

The Elephant who came to Wheathampstead in 1942 Remembered by Rita Cobb

The discovery of an airmail letter from her Uncle Ron (opposite) serving in the Middle East during the last war prompted this memory from Rita Cobb. Can anyone else remember this elephant?



It went whooshing down the hill. Of course we found this very funny. Some of the children stopped at the edge of the village at that point. My Gran lived at South-down so I knew I would be OK to carry on walking. I cannot remember whether we went down Pipers Lane or Piggotshill Lane, but soon as I saw Cravells Road several friends and I went to my Gran's - to her great surprise. She had to find the bus fare for us all to get home!

Picture (right) shows Uncle Ron and (left to right) Rita, Ray & Pat. Rita, above, as she is today.

In 1942 I would have been eight years old. We were playing on the bank outside our house on the Hatfield (*now the Marford* Road), when a man leading an elephant came from the direction of the Nelson pub (*now the L'Olivo Restaurant*). We immediately followed him, as it meant there was a circus on in Harpenden. The next part I remember was nearing the top of Brewhouse Hill where the elephant stopped and urinated - a lot!



Uncle Ron's airgraph from North Africa to Wheathampstead

MISS RITA COBB 93770

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DEAR RITA

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR POSTCARD. IT WAS A NICE SURPRISE. YOU SAY JANET IS A CHEEKY LITTLE GIRL, I KNOW ANOTHER ONE BUT SHE'S A BIT OLDER WHO DO YOU THINK I MEAN? MUMMY TELLS ME AN ELEPHANT CAME BY YOUR HOUSE NOT LONG AGO. WELL I HAVE NOT SEEN ANY OUT HERE, BUT THERE'S LOTS OF CAMELS AND DONKEYS, THE LITTLE BOYS AND GIRLS NEED NOT GO TO THE SEA-SIDE TO PLAY WITH THE SAND, AS EVERY-WHERE YOU GO IS ALL SAND. AND IT DOES NOT RAIN FOR MONTHS AND MONTHS. SO THEY DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT MACINTOSH'S GOODBYE NOW RITA

LOTS OF LOVE

XXXXXXXX

FROM

UNCLE RON



The Inaugural Meeting of the Wheathampstead U3A will be held on **Thursday 29 May 2014 at 2pm in the Memorial Hall**

Come and join the new Wheathampstead U3A, pay your subscription, indicate your preferences for interest groups and tell us about the skills and expertise you can offer. Meet the Steering Group who have been busy organising this local organisation and acting as the Executive Committee until the first Annual General Meeting.

You can then start attending interest groups (as many as you like) and the monthly general meetings with a speaker (our first will be in July, with Eric Midwinter who initiated the start of U3A in the UK). Full details will be available on the day.

U3A is a self-help organisation for retired and semi-retired people to share educational, creative and leisure activities, it is a dynamic and positive approach to life after full-time work.

For more information contact richard.brett@can-do.co.uk or please phone 01582 833789

James Marshall Foundation

The Trustees of The James Marshall Foundation award grants to young residents of Wheathampstead and Harpenden who are under the age of 25 to help them to take advantage of educational, job and character building opportunities which will in turn enhance their career potential. Priority is given to applicants aged 16 years and over but if sufficient funds are available, which they usually are, applications are considered from under 16s.

Grants are given for the purpose of paying for, or towards, fees, books, travel costs, equipment and clothing for vocational training courses; accommodation, travel, books and other course related expenditure for degrees and in some cases postgraduate degrees; work related and self development opportunities; school trips, computers, school uniform and extra curricular tuition such as music and sport.

96 grants totalling £58,889 were awarded to residents of Wheathampstead in 2013/14 compared with 78 grants awarded last year totalling £57,549.

In these challenging economic times if you want to apply for a grant, know someone who might benefit from a grant or want further information or advice on applications, [please contact Cllr Tessa Reason](#)

Advice sessions

on Thursdays 10am-12noon
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Police Surgery Dates

The Police hold regular surgeries at the Memorial Hall. If you wish to talk to an officer the dates for May and June are shown here:



PCSO 6222, Paul Fletcher
Telephone: 101

DATE	TIME
Sun May 4th 2014	10:00—12:00
Fri May 9th 2014	14:00—16:00
Thu May 15th 2014	17:00—19:00
Thu May 22nd 2014	10:00—12:00
Tue May 27th 2014	14:00—16:00
Fri May 30th 2014	14:00—16:00
Tue June 3rd 2014	15:00—17:00
Sun June 8th 2014	10:00—12:00
Tue June 10th 2014	10:00—12:00
Sat June 14th 2014	14:00—16:00
Thu June 19th 2014	15:00—17:00
Sat June 21st 2014	15:00—17:00
Thu June 26th 2014	10:00—12:00
Mon June 30th 2014	15:00—17:00



Your Parish Councillors

Iain Begg	7 Old Rectory Gardens, AL4 8AD	623355
Annie Brewster (Vice-Chairman)	Fairways, Firs Drive, Gustard Wood, AL4 8LB	01438 832255
Gill Clark	16 Tudor Road, AL4 8NW	832579
Niel Clements	65 Brewhouse Hill, AL4 8AN	833239
David Davies	3 Cherry Tree Lane, AL4 8HP	821350
Linda Halford	35 Marshalls Way, AL4 8HZ	760593
Steve Haynes	65 Necton Road, AL4 8AT	629327
David Johnston (Chairman)	9 Brewhouse Hill, AL4 8AN	629411
Tessa Reason	Croft Farm, Cherry Tree Lane, AL4 8HP	832071
Judy Shardlow	28 Dale Ave., Gustard Wood, AL4 8LS	01438 833858
Paul Wilby	35 Nurseries Road, AL4 8TP	834549
Peter Woodhams	54 Butterfield Road, AL4 8QH	832541

Clerk to the Parish Council: Julia Warren **Tel: 832541**

Parish Council Office: The Memorial Hall, Marford Road, AL4 8AY

e-mail: info@wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk **web site:** www.wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk

e-mail councillors using name.surname@wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk

e.g. david.johnston@wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk

Other Councillors

Annie Brewster (District)	See Above	See Above
Gill Clark (District)	See Above	832579
Nigel Huddleston (District)	16 Waddling Lane, AL4 8FD	833378
Maxine Crawley (County)	14 Saberton Close, Redbourn, AL3 7DS	793760

Member of Parliament: Rt Hon Peter Lilley (1 Place Farm, AL4 8SB) **Tel: 834344**

Police – In an Emergency Only: 999

To report a crime or incident: **Tel: 101**

To discuss a local issue contact our village officers: **Tel: 101**

Ask for PC1848 **Arthur Wilkes** or PCSO 6222 **Paul Fletcher** (voicemail available)

For a rapid response traffic warden: **Tel: 01727 845283**

Service Numbers

To report highways matters e.g. salt bins, potholes, lights, road signs, abandoned roadwork signs, etc. **0300 1234 047** or on-line www.hertsdirect.org/highwayfaults

For recycling collections, fly tipping and other local services contact
St Albans District Council Main Number: **01727 866100**

For all of the above and more go to
www.stalbans.gov.uk and select Local Information Service

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Music on the Meads

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July 12th 2014

From 5:30 pm
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Approved by Arms Park