



Village Weekend highlights

Nomansland Nature Quest

Vacancy for a new councillor

Issue 124 | Wheathampstead Parish Council | Autumn 2017



News in brief

Parking at the Memorial Hall

Please be aware that our car park is <u>not</u> a public car park and is only for users of onsite facilities, including the Village Surgery. No overnight parking is permitted. Long term parking is available at East Lane car park, which is only a short walk away.

Have you registered to vote?

St Albans District and City Council have recently sent out a Household Enquiry Form (HEF). The form includes the names of people who are already registered to vote but you must respond even if there are no changes.

If there are changes and someone needs to register to vote, SADC will send out a form. You can register online which is quick and easy to do. Please complete and return your forms as soon as possible. For more information: www.stalbans.gov.uk/elections.

Gas works in village centre

Starting from 31 July 2017 and lasting for eight weeks, essential gas works will affect the High Street, Church Street and Granary Close. For the first two to three weeks, the High Street and Church Street will be open with temporary traffic lights. For more information, contact Cadent on 0800 096 5678.

Co-option of a Parish Councillor

Wheathampstead Parish Council has a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. For information on how to apply, see page 6.

Tennis court refurbishment - reopening September 2017

The tennis courts at Marford Playing Fields will be closed from Monday 31 July as the playing surfaces are being replaced with artificial grass.

Wheathampstead Champion

Applications are invited to recognise individuals who volunteer to the benefit of the community. If you would like to nominate someone, please email info@wheathampstead-gov.uk for an application form.



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

August 20 (Sunday) Leila's Run. 10K, half and full marathon from 9am, starting from Sports Ground on Old School Drive

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

September 9 (Saturday) Horticultural Show, Memorial Hall

September 16 (Saturday) Wheathampstead Station Fun Day from 1pm to 4pm

September 16 (Saturday) John Bunyan Charity Day at the John Bunyan Pub on Coleman Green Lane from 12pm to 5pm

October 13 to 15 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday) 'Showtime at First Baptist', a play performed by the Wheathampstead Dramatic Society

November 30 (Thursday) Christmas Lights up on Wheathampstead High Street

School achievement awardsConnie Stanton and Charli

- Knibbs from Beech Hyde School
- Daniel Biddulph and Tilly Cairns from St Helens School

We wish you all the best of luck at secondary school!

Best allotment competition

- Mr Ian Brookes
- Ms Jumore Chavhundura
- Mrs Mary Cheale
- Mrs Morris
- Ms Simpson (overall winner)

A big thank you to Aylett Nurseries for donating the gift vouchers for our winners.

Wheathampstead Community Library A progress report

Thank you very much to everyone who has volunteered to help run the library. Our first volunteers came forward after a successful public meeting in April. We now have over 30 volunteers but there is always room for more! Training of volunteers is well under way. Everyone has two induction sessions and then a couple of hands-on sessions in the library with a full-time librarian. We will hold coffee mornings for volunteers every month.

An exhibition of the plans for the library to merge with the Fire Station was held on 22 June. The plans are available for viewing in the library.

We had a stall on Village Day which offered information about the library and sold more than 200 books and DVDs – all donated to the library project.



As last year, there will be a Summer Reading Challenge for children which this year is titled Animal Agents. Children will be awarded certificates and medals if they read six library books of their own choice during the summer. They then come to the library and talk to someone about the books they have read.

We plan to be up and running by the autumn. To keep up to date with what's happening, please visit our website: www.wheathampsteadcommunitylibrary.org.uk

To get involved with this great project, please contact Lynn Hall on 07778 645742, Anita Edmond on 07596 954283, email wheathampsteadcommunitylibrary@gmail.com or apply via the website above.



Vacancy for a Parish Councillor

Would you like to be a part of your Parish Council—the most local level of government?

Would you like to become a voice for your community and affect real change?

Wheathampstead Parish Council was established in 1895 and includes 12 councillors. Each of these councillors play a key role in village life, managing events including Village Weekend, working with others to determine planning applications and maintaining allotments, play areas, open spaces and the Memorial Hall.

Being a Parish councillor is a great way to get involved and represent your community to improve the quality of life for those living within Wheathampstead.

If you are interested in applying, please contact the Clerk to the Council, Julia Warren for an informal chat on 01582 832541 or email info@wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk.

You can find further information on our website at www.wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk.

Please note, the deadline for applications is 19 September 2017.

Ring-necked parakeets – a menace

Many of us feed the birds in our gardens because we like to watch them but one bird that we should not be attracting is the ring-necked parakeet. They are non-native, invasive and very noisy, frightening off smaller birds, taking nesting sites, and damaging fruit trees. The increasing numbers and distribution of parakeets is a cause for concern nationally and the RSPB and the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust support the Government strategy to monitor and assess their population trends and potential impact.



Here in the Marshalls Heath Lane and Gustard Wood areas they have more than doubled in numbers since last year and will go on increasing. We should try to stop them reaching the numbers they have in southern England, particularly Surrey, where some roosts contain more than a thousand birds.

Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act of 1981 ring-necked parakeets can be controlled by licensed pest control agencies but, before this drastic action has to be taken, the RSPB suggests that people stop feeding the birds in their gardens for at least three weeks in the hope that this will encourage them to move on and certainly not to nest and breed.

If you want to feed the birds in your garden, the RSPB recommends that you:

- have robust squirrel-proof feeders
- don't use hanging nut bags or cages
- don't leave food open on bird table or ground
- keep any food waste secure.

You can deter the birds from your vegetable garden by using protective netting, or half-full plastic bottles, or CDs hung on sticks.

PLEASE don't encourage these anti-social, non-native and invasive birds into your garden.

Hazel Ireson



Will Writing Lasting Powers of Attorney Trusts



Affiliale member of the Society of Will Writers

Call MIKE O'BRIEN 01582 833778 or 07866762985

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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www.2by2holidays.co.uk



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free consultation 0800 195 6936 info@mayfairlivein.com l www.mayfairlivein.com



Wheathampstead Osteopathic Clinic

- Back, Neck & Shoulder Pain
- · Hip, Knee & Ankle Pain
- Sciatica/Neuralgia
- Postural Assessments

Registered Osteopath B.Sc (Hons) M.Ost The Village Surgery, Marford Road Wheathampstead, AL4 8BT

07758 892185

www.wheathampstead-osteoclinic.co.uk

St Albans & District Footpaths Society celebrates its 50th Anniversary



The Society was founded in July 1967. celebrated We the anniversarv with а walk and a picnic on Ashridge estate, the followed three davs later by a partv in Wheathampstead, which was attended by the Mayor of St Albans.

Local footpaths were in a very poor state 50 years ago. The Society was set up to improve matters by establishing the routes of all the Rights of Way in the district, clearing them, and making sure they were well signposted. This was very challenging in the early days, involving a lot of hard physical work. A regular weekend walking programme was established and several books of local walks have been produced. Our local footpaths are now much improved and local representatives regularly check them all to make sure they are clear of any obstructions and that signposts are in place. Volunteers also work with HCC to improve our local footpaths network.

The Society now has 180 members and we maintain our original aims. There is a choice of two walks on Thursdays with a longer walk on Sundays; many are in the Wheathampstead area. Local representatives regularly check all footpaths in the area, including Wheathampstead, to make sure they are clear of any obstructions and well signposted.

We would be pleased to welcome new members to our friendly walking groups. For details, please see our website www.stalbansfootpaths.org.

Mike Marriott

Recycling your food waste has got easier



Residents no longer have to use compostable liners in their food caddies as the way that food waste is treated has recently changed.

This new process means that it no longer matters what type of liners are used for your food waste. Once you run out of biodegradable liners, you can now use carrier bags, bread bags, paper wrappings, or normal bin liners, provided they are not black. Of course, you can continue to use biodegradable bags, if you wish.

Unwrapped food can also be put straight into the caddy. What is important though, is that you do not put any additional packaging into your caddy. For example, if you are clearing out your fridge, please de-package any out-of-date or mouldy food, and recycle the packaging in the appropriate recycling bin.

Find out more information about the waste and recycling scheme at www.stalbans.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling.

You can now report non-emergencies online



We are currently experiencing an increased demand of nonemergency 101 calls to our control room.

Did you know that you can report incidents or crimes online? https://www.contacthertspolice.uk/

We also have a web chat facility where you can contact an operator online:

www.contacthertspolice.uk/Contact/NonEmergency.aspx

Please always dial 999 in an emergency.





Village Weekend - 8/9 July 2017

Once again, Wheathampstead's favourite weekend of events has been a great success. Saturday hosted a wealth of live entertainment with Wheathampstead's Got Talent (see p19 for more information) and the ever popular Picnic on the Meads. Sunday concluded the weekend with our 22nd Village Day that brought families together for a day of races, games, live acts and much more.

For more photos of the weekend, please visit www.wheathampstead-gov.uk.











Can you spare an hour or two to help us make next year's Village Weekend even better?

We are always in need of more volunteers! If you are interested, please contact Ellie at: info@wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk



Nomansland Nature Quest events

If you were around Nomansland Common in June you might have spotted children from Beech Hyde school scurrying around wearing brightly-coloured tabards. They were involved in the annual Nomansland Nature Quest events, a collaboration between the Woodland Trust and Wheathampstead Parish Council.

The aim is for primary school children learn about the wildlife of to Nomansland and its lona and interesting history. The Common was the site of a glacial lake during the last Ice Age. 'Finds' include a Stone Age axe, a Bronze Age spearhead and a hoard of 159 Roman gold coins. History includes inter-monastic strife, the closing phase of the Second Battle of St. Albans in 1461. Katherine Ferrers the disreputable Wicked Lady, prize-fighting, brickmaking, horse-racing, an agricultural workers' strike and wartime military encampments.



For wildlife, tracts of woodland to the north are bordered by rare open heathland and the wildflower area to the south, so Nomansland is home to a wide diversity of species. Add to that the expanse of Heartwood that children can explore and the number of things-to-be-seen seems endless.

These outdoor days are made fun and mildly competitive by forming the children into teams. First, they create a dramatic presentation from one of the many scenarios associated with the Common. Then they collect leaves, flowers or grasses and engage in bird-spotting and bug-hunting, followed by building shelters or dens.

The children have a fun and memorable day while learning about the history of Nomansland and its variety of natural assets. They also learn about working in a team, helping one another to achieve the various tasks. But principally it's about making children more aware of our place in the environment and our interdependence with nature.

John Newton-Davies

Wheathampstead businesses - is there something in the water?

Time and again we see examples of our local business community 'punching above their weight'. In the last year we've seen several local businesses being short-listed or winning prestigious business awards, such as:

- Bizhop Luggage
 Iain Begg Finalist for
 "Entrepreneur of the Year" in the
 SME Herts Business Awards
- Rachel Jeffrey Jewellery "Best Jewellery Store" in the Muddy Stilettos Award
- The Elephant and Castle Finalist for Hertfordshire Food & Drink Awards
- Wendy Griffith "Best Networker" at the Best Business Women Awards.



There is fierce competition out there and local businesses are competing against thousands of others from much larger communities. So why are we doing so well? Could it be that this lovely place attracts some of the best and brightest business people? Maybe WEB's "Buy It Locally" campaign (aka BILLY) has helped to ensure everyone supports their local businesses?

WEB are proud of the local business community and our volunteers continue to support local businesses. So, if you're thinking of starting up a business, I say "*go for it*" - you'll have the support of WEB all the way.

If you want to find out more about WEB or to access the online directory for all local businesses please visit: www.wheathampstead.org.uk

Adam Collis - Chair



Youth News:

WHEATHAMPSTEAD'S GOT

Wheathampstead's annual talent show saw local children as young as 6 years old perform in front of hundreds of people on 8 July. Our contestants wowed the audience with their incredible singing voices, a variety of dance styles and much more.

The judges who kindly donated their time were Penny Herman, Margaret Barker and Suzie Wallington of SW Dance. Our 2016 winner Ria, plus students of SW Dance, provided extra entertainment whilst the judges deliberated.

Once again, Wheathampstead proved that it does indeed have talent!



Zach - Overall winner

Our lucky winners were:

Best Dance Act Lily and Sophie, aged 11 - ballet performance

> Best Entertainment Act Helen, aged 6 - violin solo

Best Singing Act and Overall Winner Zach, aged 8 - Shape of You by Ed Sheeran

Youth News:

Wheathampstead Scouts

Wheathampstead 1st Scout Group would like to thank everyone who donated coins to our Village Day collection for the Money Mile. We managed to cover the whole of the logo and background with copper and silver coins for the first Along with our time ever! Sweet Tombola and Paracord Key Ring making, we raised an amazing £445.07. This will go towards refurbishing the scout hut floor.



We are always looking for help so if you have a few hours spare during the weekday evenings and would like to give some time back into the Community, why not volunteer as a leader with 1st Wheathampstead Scout Group. We are a friendly bunch who would love some extra help within our sections which consist of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

For further information on joining our group as a leader or helper please contact our Group Scout Leader Karen Oxley.

Please note that your child must be 4 years old or above before we can enter them on our waiting List.

Email: gsl1stwheathampstead@outlook.com Tel: 07738 412211

Karen Oxley

Wheathampstead & District Preservation Society

protecting all that's best about Wheathampstead



Please join us – the more members we have, the louder our voice. It costs just £5

For more info, or to join us, visit www.wheathampsteadpreservation.org.uk

Maths and Science Tuition

Alison Joiner gives personal tuition in maths and Science for all ages from juniors to A-level

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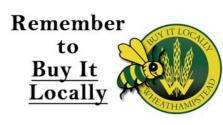
Adults Babies Children

Claire Mckenna Bsc (Hons) Ost Med DPO Registered Osteopath Paediatric Specialist

07725 555 105

7 Long Buftlers, Harpenden, AL5 1JF & Breathing Space, Harpenden

www.aldwickburyclinic.co.uk



Your local business directory can be found online at www.wheathampstead.org.uk/directory



PUSH ME FIT FITNESS

Pilates on Thursday at 8 p.m. Pilates on Friday at 12.30 p.m.50+ Pilates on Friday at 1.30 p.m.

Mead Hall, East Lane, Wheathampstead

Personal training

Get one to one support and work-out tailored to you at your convenience.

Please contact Marta on 07769661177 or email pushmefit.herts@gmail.com

Sharing the countryside

Cycling on pathways

Many people love to walk the paths in the countryside; many people love to ride their mountain bikes on paths in the countryside. The problem comes when these loves cause conflict.

There are some rules about who can use which sort of path. It is worth knowing that:

- walkers can use any sort of path
- cyclists and horse-riders can ride on bridleways but should give way to walkers
- cyclists and horse-riders have no right to ride on footpaths

The footbridge and paths on The Meads are not formally designated as footpaths. Cyclists should dismount when using these paths.

Feeding the ducks

And while we are on the subject of sharing, it is safe to assume that nobody wants to share the village with rats. The rats near the footbridge by The Mill are attracted by the bread that people throw to the ducks. Bread that is left on the slabs under the Wellingtonia is gratefully received by the local rats.

There is another important reason not to feed bread to ducks – bread is junk food for ducks. As a source of carbohydrates, it has little nutritional value for them and makes them overweight. Bread-fed ducklings become malnourished; excessive droppings cause disease; the feeding areas become overcrowded causing conflict.

Please DO NOT feed bread to ducks. If you are not convinced, try googling 'feeding bread to ducks' to read what the experts say.



HERTFORDSHIRE

| Saturday 5 August | 10pm-12pm | |
|----------------------|-----------|--|
| Friday 11 August | 11pm-1pm | |
| Wednesday 16 August | 2pm-4pm | |
| Thursday 24 August | 10pm-12pm | |
| Tuesday 5 Sept | 3pm-5pm | |
| Friday 15 Sept | 10pm-12pm | |
| Saturday 9 Sept | 10pm-12pm | |
| Wednesday 20 Sept | 2pm-4pm | |
| Thursday 28 Sept | 10pm-12pm | |
| Tuesday 10 October | 3pm-5pm | |
| Friday 20 October | 10pm-12pm | |
| Wednesday 25 October | 2pm-4pm | |

Police surgery dates at the Memorial Hall



All dates and times are subject to operational requirements.

> Chloe Dagless PCSO 6409







| ouncil Council Office, The Memorial Hall, Marfor | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Council Office, The Memorial Hall, Marfor | | | |
| | Julia Warren, Parish Council Office, The Memorial Hall, Marford Road, AL4 8AY. | | |
| Contact on 01582 832541 or info@wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk | | | |
| Website: <u>www.wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk</u> | | | |
| Your Parish councillors | | | |
| | | | |
| 16 Tudor Road, AL4 8NW | 01582 832579 | | |
| 25 Wright Close, AL4 8TJ | 07780 836624 | | |
| 3 Cherry Tree Lane, AL4 8HP | 01582 821350 | | |
| 69 Necton Road, AL4 8LB | 07522 435367 | | |
| 35 Marshalls Way, AL4 8HZ | 01582 760593 | | |
| 65 Necton Road, AL4 8AT | 01582 629327 | | |
| 9 Brewhouse Hill,AL4 8AN | 07774 211933 | | |
| Croft Farm, Cherry Tree Lane, AL4 8HP | 01582 832071 | | |
| 28 Dale Avenue., AL4 8LS | 01438 833858 | | |
| 35 Nurseries Road, AL4 8TP | 01582 834549 | | |
| 54 Butterfield Road, AL4 8QH | 01582 832541 | | |
| Your District councillors | | | |
| Fairways, Firs Drive, AL4 8LB | 01438 832255 | | |
| As above | As above | | |
| 12 Mount Road, AL4 8BX | 07919 497818 | | |
| Your County councillor | | | |
| Fairways, Firs Drive, AL4 8LB | 01438 832255 | | |
| Your MP | | | |
| 65 High Street, Harpenden, AL5 2SL | 01582 761796 | | |
| | athampstead-pc.gov.uk rs 16 Tudor Road, AL4 8NW 25 Wright Close, AL4 8TJ 3 Cherry Tree Lane, AL4 8HP 69 Necton Road, AL4 8LB 35 Marshalls Way, AL4 8HZ 65 Necton Road, AL4 8AT 9 Brewhouse Hill, AL4 8AN Croft Farm, Cherry Tree Lane, AL4 8HP 28 Dale Avenue., AL4 8LS 35 Nurseries Road, AL4 8TP 54 Butterfield Road, AL4 8TP 54 Butterfield Road, AL4 8UH ors Fairways, Firs Drive, AL4 8LB As above 12 Mount Road, AL4 8BX or Fairways, Firs Drive, AL4 8LB | | |

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.

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.





SATURDAY IG SEPTEMBER 2017, IPM TO 4PM AT WHEATHAMPSTEAD STATION, STATION ROAD

TAKE A RIDE ON A MINIATURE STEAM TRAIN ONLY EI A GO!





Wheathampstead Parish Council www.wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk Tel: 01582 832541