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Village Weekend 2015





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VILLAGE AND COUNTRY HOMES

Welcome to the autumn edition of The Pump News in Brief

Amwell Local Fundraisers (ALF) would like to thank all those who helped make Amwell Day such a success this year. A total of £2,300 was raised which will help to continue to support social events for senior citizens including Bingo on the last Tuesday of each month at the Mead Hall. For these and other events see page 4.

Butterfield Play Area has finally been opened! The Parish Council has worked hard to get outstanding issues between the developer, St Albans District Council and Herts County Council resolved. We hope shortly to take on responsibility for the whole site.



St Helens Church are looking for help to restore the organ . For more information contact the Church Office on 834031 or at sthwh@live.co.uk. In addition you might enjoy the concert series in St Helen's Church in aid of the Organ Restoration Fund. See page 4 for more information.



Members of Wheathampstead's **Fitness League** went to the Royal Albert Hall in May to help celebrate the 85th Anniversary of the League and joined another 120 members to perform a specially choreographed piece. Members from South Africa, New Zealand and Ireland also attended. The Fitness League meet every Tuesday morning in the Memorial Hall . Contact Judy Holpin on 834494 for more information.

The Pump is produced four times a year by Wheathampstead Parish Council. If you are a local community group and want to advertise an event, recruitment drive, or report on a successful activity, please contact Louise at the Parish Council Office at info@wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk for more information The deadline for the next edition is 19 October 2015.

Dates for your diary

Saturday 10 September Amwell Local Fundraisers "Cockney Night" at the Memorial Hall, contact Colin on 07790 639735 for more information.

Saturday 12 September Wheathampstead Open Spaces Volunteers (WOSV) 10am the River at East Lane Car Park.

Wednesday 23 September Lockdales free valuation Event. See below.

Saturday 26 September Litterblitz volunteers, see below.

Saturday 10 October WOSV 10am Butterfield Road.

Saturday 10 October come and meet the Wheathampstead and District Preservation Society at the Diamond Jubilee Garden 2pm. Complimentary tea and cakes will be served.

Sunday 11 October L'Estrange but True' concert 2.30pm, St Helen's Church, in aid of the Organ Restoration Fund (see page 3 for more details).

Wednesday 21st October Wheathampstead Patient Participation Group, see below.

Saturday 31 October Opera Tonica presents 'Love Encounters' concert, 7.30pm, St Helen's Church, in aid of the Organ Restoration Fund.

Saturday 14 November WOSV 10am Bower Heath.

Saturday 21 November Litterblitz volunteers see below.

Thursday 26 November Lights Up in High Street from 5.30pm.

Saturday 28 November St Helen's Church Christmas Fair 11am to 2pm, St Helen's School.

Litterblitz volunteers regularly meet to collect rubbish from all across the Parish. Join us on our next Litterblitz days (see above). Contact Eddie on 629494 or Derek on 760626 for more information.



Wheathampstead Patient Participation Group meet at the Memorial Hall on Wednesday 21 October at 7.30pm. Mr Jitendra Tolia, Ophthalmology Consultant will talk on "Understanding Cataracts". He has a special interest in retinal disease and glaucoma. Please contact Kaye on 832240 to book.

Lockdales Auctioneers will be holding a valuation event on Wed. 23rd September from 12.30pm to 4.30pm at the Memorial Hall. Bring antiques and collectables to get free valuations. No appointments necessary. You can consign goods to auction or sell for cash.

Village Weekend 2015



Another great community celebration took place at our Village Weekend on 11 and 12th July. Starting in sunshine on Saturday afternoon on the Meads for the first time, we were treated to a great Wheathampstead's Got Talent show. Congratulations to our dance winner Rex Kirby, entertainment winner

Cara Binder, singing winner Ria Boynton and our overall winner Sophie Mason who gave a stunning vocal rendition of one of her own songs.

Picnic on the Meads followed, with an enthusiastic crowd of families and friends enjoying their picnic whilst being entertained (and joining in with!) the Jive Swing Dancers, Fleetville Swing Band and Harmony Group Singers, and finally The Carnegies. A memorable evening was rounded off by a fantastic firework display, made possible through the sponsorship of our local business group (see page 6 for more information).

Village Day itself began on Sunday with the traditional colourful parade up the High Street under the theme of "The Best of British" - well done to all who took part. Deputy Mayor Gill Clark followed the Hitchin Band in a classic vintage Rolls-Royce to open the fete, where an array of stalls, games and catering awaited on the Marford Field. Arena entertainment included fascinating Birds of Prey display, St Albans Morris Men and entertaining Best of British themed races for children and grown-ups devised by our compere Anna Park.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who worked so hard to make it all possible.

If you would like to get involved next or send suggestions for the 2016 theme contact



info@wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk

CLlr Peter Woodhams.

WEB WOWS Wheathampstead at Village Day



At Village Day, Wheathampstead Business Group (WEB) launched an all new, fully revised and updated version of Window On Wheathampstead (WOW). This free publication is the indispensable, definitive directory to businesses, charities and public organisations in the village. It shows residents where they can find convenient and reliable local suppliers of goods and services ranging from

restaurants to reflexologists, from GPS tracking to gate installers and from hairdressers to holiday firms.

WOW 2015 has been paid for and prepared voluntarily by WEB with the help of a discretionary grant for production costs from Hertfordshire County Council. It will be delivered free to every Wheathampstead household.

“This is the first phase of our Buy It Locally campaign,” said WEB organiser Julie Bell. “Many people are surprised that almost every tenth household in this small village is associated with a local business and generates wealth in the village. There are really compelling reasons to support over 200 local businesses.”

WEB membership is open not only to local businesses but also to residents who want to support business in the village and costs £20 a year. WEB enjoys a close working relationship with the Parish Council on matters affecting businesses, such as planned business disruptions, roadworks and other matters. Members benefit from a monthly networking breakfast meeting, a monthly business meeting, subsidised training courses and opportunities to develop skills and promote their goods and services. It's a great place to meet people and socialise. To find out more about WEB activities and what WEB can do to help your business, or even help you getting started, please visit

www.wheathampstead.org.uk or e-mail chair@wheathampstead.org.uk.

Dr Peter Partington, Chairman, WEB.



Wheathampstead Open Spaces Volunteers (WOSV)

Since my last article, WOSV have visited Rectory Copse, Marshall's Heath Local Nature Reserve and we will have visited Marshall's Heath for a second time between writing this and its publication. Rectory Copse is a small piece of secondary woodland to the west of the western most crinkle-crinkle walls. If you wish to help further with voluntary work specifically at the copse and surrounding area please contact the Parish Offices for details of the working group and its leader.

Marshall's Heath Local Nature Reserve lies along both sides of Marshall's Heath Lane. Marshall's Heath Lane is approximately a mile out of the village towards Batford along the Lower Luton Road. Owned by the Parish Council the reserve is only 3.6 hectares (8.9 acres), and is made up of small fragment of acid grass heath and secondary woodland and scrub. It is



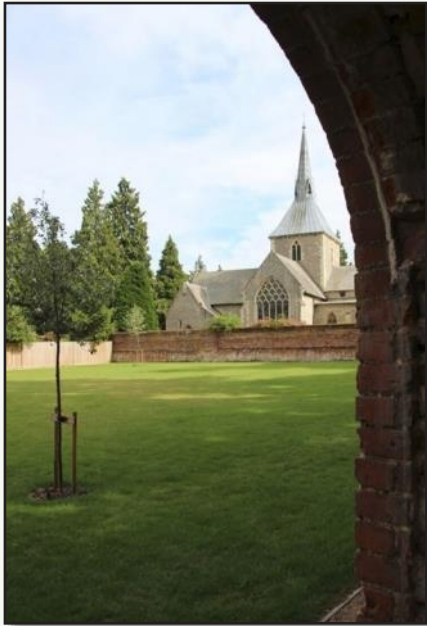
remarkable for its very high biodiversity, more than 1,300 species of plant and animal having been recorded there, including more than 40 species now on national lists of threatened species. It is one of only five key sites in Hertfordshire for butterflies and moths in Butterfly Conservation's Regional Action Plan for the Thames region.

The site is well-known locally for its large anthills that are such an attractive and unusual feature of the site. The ants (Yellow Hill Ants, *Lasius flavus*) that construct the anthills are extremely common, but it is unusual to find such large anthills, and Marshalls Heath has one of the finest colonies among the Hertfordshire nature reserves.

Our work there is to discourage the invasion of the small area of acid grass by unwanted scrub, brambles and small trees. In particular, on our visits we have been removing invading Rosebay Willow Herb from the acid grassland. Rosebay Willow herb is an important part of the mosaic of the nature reserve, in particular as a foodstuff for the Elephant Hawk moth so we will be careful to leave some in place.

WOSV meet on the second Saturday of every month to augment the Parish Council's management plans for our open spaces. Please see page 4 for our next meetings. If you wish to join us [contact info@wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk](mailto:contact_info@wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk) for more information. **Peter Ryan**

The Crinkle-Crankle Garden



Wheathampstead possesses a unique example of a Victorian garden enclosed on two sides by Grade II-listed crinkle-crankle walls, and as part of a planning agreement the area between the new Moat House flats and St Helens Church, together with the adjacent yard opening onto King Edward Place was given to the Parish Council in November 2014. A Working Group has been set up to develop this area as a community asset in the heart of the Village, restoring it sympathetically to reflect the original Victorian design. We have already been successful in obtaining a match-funding grant from Herts University Heritage Hub to enable the erection

of an information board explaining the rich history of the area, and had many positive responses on Village Day to public consultation over the design of the site.

However, we are still open to suggestions about how the garden should look. What would you like to see in this beautiful spot? What is the best use that can be made of the yard? What kind of gates should there be, if any? We would probably want to see planted beds reinstated next to the west crinkle-crankle wall itself, and division of the current grassed area into four quadrants with a central feature (water, seating, statuary?), but no firm decisions have yet been taken. Please feedback any thoughts you might have via the Parish Office at info@wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk and help us build a wonderful peaceful asset in the conservation area. Whilst some limited funds have been put aside for the project, we will be approaching the Heritage Lottery Fund for a substantial grant towards the costs, and need to move forward with our plans as soon as possible.

Cllr Peter Woodhams, Chairman, Crinkle Crankle Working Group.



Allotments available in Wheathampstead

From as little as £20 a year you could rent an allotment from one of our four allotments sites owned by the Parish Council. Allotment sites are located at Hitchens and Glebe off Marford Road, Folly Fields off

the Lower Luton Road and Baxendale off The Slype. For more information call Louise on 832541 or visit www.wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk.



Wheathampstead U3A

Our meeting on 24 September 2015 2pm Memorial Hall will be different from usual, it will be a meeting focussing on our Interest Groups, where members will have the opportunity to learn more about group activities, to propose new groups and to join established groups. Please come if you are already a U3A member and bring any friends who may be interested in joining U3A for our next year (October 2015 to September 2016). It will also be a chance to meet your Committee and for you to consider becoming a Committee member – our next AGM is in March 2016. Come and enjoy a convivial afternoon with Wheathampstead folk who are retired and semi-retired and interested in learning and having fun.

For more information visit www.wheathampsteadu3a.co.uk or contact Richard Brett on 833789.

Wheathampstead Parish Council would like to welcome two new councillors, Adrian Dante and Elias Habib, and thank our outgoing councillors, Niel Clements and Iain Begg, for all their hard work and service to the parish.

Please visit www.wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk for information on our open spaces, council meetings and working groups, and facilities.



Bury Green Garden—A beautiful garden for all the village

The Parish Council and Wheathampstead and District Preservation Society (WDPS) have been working hard to transform a small unloved pocket of land at the bottom of Bury Green into a beautiful community garden.

The land owned by the Parish Council has been designed to be a peaceful community garden and the transformation would not have been possible without the generous sponsorship from Borrás Construction.



Cllr Judy Shardlow explained:

“Borrás Construction have been wonderful in supporting the creation of what will be a beautiful small garden in the heart of our village. With their skills and expertise, they have cleared the site, provided some beautiful willow fencing, and built an attractive circular path which leads to a small patio at the far end of the garden. We are extremely grateful for their help in getting this project off the ground.”

She went on to say: *“The WDPS team of volunteers have done an outstanding job in getting the site cleared, digging out bricks and laying a stunning sandstone paving, and they will shortly be adding some small trees and beautiful evergreen and perennial plants.”*

The Parish Council and WDPS have invited people to come forward to sponsor two seats, one of which will be a corner seat on a paved area and another which will be placed under the yew tree.

We want this to be a garden that people can sit and relax in and so it includes three beautiful seats. Borrás are kindly donating a curved seat, but we would like to find sponsors for two seats. These will each have a small brass plaque similar to the ones in the Jubilee Garden.



Please contact the Parish Council at info@wheathampstead-pc.gov.uk if you would like to sponsor one of the benches.

Cllr Judy Shardlow, Chairman, Bury Green Garden Working Group

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Do you suspect someone you know is being targeted by scammers?

This summer, Hertfordshire County Council's Trading Standards team is asking the public to help them identify people across the county who are being targeted by fraudsters. It is easy to get tricked and people often don't realise, or don't want to accept, that they're being scammed, which can make it hard to help them.

Scammers can be extremely convincing and use a number of techniques to con people out of their hard earned cash. This may include fake lotteries, clairvoyants, prize draws, unexpected inheritances, people phoning to tell you that you are owed money through PPI, or people claiming to be from computer companies who suggest that there is a problem with your computer that they can fix for you. Consumers are targeted very carefully, and once they respond their details are sold on to other companies to exploit. This results in some people being inundated with over 50 items of mail daily that promise guaranteed winnings and money for life.

If you suspect someone you know is being targeted in this way, Hertfordshire County Council's Trading Standards Team can help. Call the Citizens Advice consumer service on 03454 04 05 06 who will pass details on to us or visit www.hertsdirect.org/tradingstandards.

How to spot a scam:

- The call, letter, email or text has come out of the blue.
- You've never heard of the lottery or competition they are talking about.
- They are asking you to place an order from their catalogue before you can claim your cheque
- They are telling you to respond quickly so you don't get time to think about it or ask family and friends before you decide.
- They are telling you to keep it a secret.
- They seem to be offering you a huge prize for a small admin fee

If it seems too good to be true, it probably is!



YOUR VOTE MATTERS

MAKE SURE YOU'RE IN



The annual household canvass to update the electoral register commenced in July. Each residential property within the district received a Household Enquiry Form. If you have not yet replied, you should register your response on line, return your form in the post or use our free phone or text registration service (standard network rates will apply). Details of how to do this are included on the form. It's important you do it now to ensure your details are included in the register of electors when it is published on 1 December 2015.

If you do not respond to the Household Enquiry Form, we will need to send you a reminder so an early response will help save the council money.

The Council maintains the electoral register and is required by law to review it each year to make sure it has an up-to-date register of electors who are eligible to vote.

You can register to vote in the UK if you are aged 16 or over (but you will not be able to vote until you are 18). You must also be a British, Irish or European Union citizen, or a Commonwealth citizen who has leave to remain in the UK or who does not require leave to remain in the UK.

More information about the annual voter registration canvass and voting is available at www.stalbans.gov.uk/elections.

If you don't register, you may lose your right to vote at elections.

“It’s dark over Will’s mother’s”



A resident called me recently to ask whether I knew the origins of this locally known phrase. I checked with some long-term residents and, sure enough, it is well known in the area. The phrase refers to dark rain clouds appearing on the horizon suggesting a change in the weather.

After a little research on the internet I discovered that the phrase is used in various forms not only in this area but has been recorded right across the country.

Variations include: It looks like rain over Will's mother's way, it's a bit black over Bill's mother's, and (from Gloucestershire) it's dark over our Bill's mum's.

In the North of England it is thought to have derived from a reference to William Shakespeare and the direction storms come from (Birmingham). In East Anglia, where you can look in the direction of Holland, it is thought to have referred to King William the 3rd's Mother who lived there. In Kent it was towards Normandy and William the Conqueror's mother.

Nottingham Hidden History web site claims:

Many years ago, a farm by the side of the river Trent in Nottingham (Clifton) was owned by a royal named George who at that time was Prince of Wales. The farm is still called Prince of Wales Farm and it is said that his Mother would often stay there.

At a local Inn named the Cremorne a group of miners, after doing the early shift, had gone for a drink. As they were coming out one pointed towards Clifton and jokingly commented that owing to the grey nature of the clouds, it looked like they would be in for some 'inclement weather'.

Another in their party, realising that his mate had tried to be posh, modified the statement to make it more down to earth. Not knowing or remembering the name of the Royal who owned the farm, the miner just suddenly announced "It looks a bit black over Bill's mother's".

Which one do you believe?

CLlr David Johnston

Youth News

ArtsKool Academy offers children aged 4 to 12 discounted 'Fun Arty Mornings' for only £5! This includes all art materials and refreshments. Classes take place



on the first Saturday every month between 9.30am to 11am at the Memorial Hall. We inspire and motivate your children to get arty and creative with drawing, painting, clay modelling, games and so much more. Looking at famous artists they learn a little about art history and art techniques during their morning of fun and art. Kids love learning how to: colour mix, draw with skill, and paint from their imagination.



For an insight as to what the children do please look at our website www.artskool-kids.com or find us on Facebook at ArtsKool-Kids and ArtsKool Academy. To register for our monthly reminders and other discounted offers please send a text to

07890 575828 and state 'WH interest list'.

Rainbows and Guides in Wheathamsstead are flourishing with two Rainbow Groups, two Brownie Groups and one Guide group. All have enjoyed a wide range of activities including a Pack Holiday this year. 1st Wheathampstead Brownies celebrated their 65th birthday this year and the Rainbows will be 25 in September. We are always keen to hear from adults who would like to help with one of the groups. Visit http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get_involved/volunteer/register_your_interest.aspx.

Wheathampstead Cricket Club runs weekly training sessions on Sunday mornings for 7 to 14 year old's at the club's Nomansland ground. Our aim is to inspire the next generation of cricketers by developing their cricketing skills in a fun, safe and enthusiastic coaching environment. For more details please contact Simon Evans WCC Colts Lead at wcccoltscricket@gmail.com.



Youth News continued



Top Hat Stage School's summer show "Musical Moments" took place at the Hertford Theatre in July. The show featured over 100 students from 5 years to 17 years and Top Hat's regular Wheathampstead school took to the stage. With a packed theatre, the show was a resounding success. Principal Warren Bacci said:

"The students did ever so well this term. They showcased some strong musical numbers and they really shone on stage. They have all improved so much and I couldn't be more proud".

Top Hat meets every Wednesday at the Memorial Hall, 4.30 to 6.30pm each week. Students aged 5 to 17 years attend and take part in 3 classes each week: drama, singing and dance. This Christmas they shall be working on a new production of "Oliver Twist". This will be an interactive theatre experience and new students are welcome to come for a free trial when term starts back.

Term begins on Wednesday 23 September 2015 and new students can attend throughout October too. Terms are for 10 weeks and usually cost £100, but for Wheathampstead Parish Council residents this is just £50 a term. Contact Top Hat to book your child's trial on 01727 812666 or info@tophatstageschool.co.uk.

The Wheathampstead Youth Project meets at the Memorial Hall every Tuesday evening from 7pm to 9.30pm for 13 to 19 year olds, free of charge. Activities include structured games, football on the all-weather pitch, and cooking, all supervised by the Youth Connexions team. Young people are supported and challenged on how they conduct themselves. For more information please contact Robert at Robert.Brown@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Youth News continued



Beavers and 1st Wheathampstead Scout Groups

This year is the 50th Anniversary of the reforming of the 1st Wheathampstead Scout Group. To celebrate in April 72 youngsters enjoyed a fun pack activity day at the Scout Activity centre at Phasels Wood. In September we are having a walk which we include the youngsters from Beavers Cubs and Scouts the total walk will add up to 50 miles! We will also be running the "Penny Mile "again at Village Day 2016 so save your pennies!

There are long waiting lists for all sections but more adult help is needed. If you feel you can help in one of the sections please contact Jan Spragge 833659.

Watford Football Club Village Coaching

Watford's Onside Project gives young people the opportunity to come and enjoy a range of activities in a relaxed environment. The football sessions are delivered by qualified Watford FC's CSE Trust coaches and cost just £1 for 8 to 11 year olds and are free for 12 to 16 year olds. Join us on the Marford Road Playing Fields Wheathampstead at 4pm to 5pm for 8 to 11 year olds and 5pm to 6pm for 12 to 16 year olds.

Wheathampstead Wanderers Football Club



WWFC is proud to be Hertfordshire FA Charter Standard Development Club of the Year 2015. WWFC provides football for local children and young people at affordable prices. Based at Butterfield Road and Marford Playing Fields, WWFC caters for children in school year 1 upwards. Initiatives for 2015 to 16 include an adult team and training for girls in school years 1 to 3. For more information contact Andy Ellis on 07530 612366 or email andrewwwfc@gmail.com.

Police Surgery Dates at the Memorial Hall



HERTFORDSHIRE
CONSTABULARY

Monday 7 September	10am to 12noon
Wednesday 16 September	2pm to 4pm
Monday 28 September	2pm to 4pm
Tuesday 6 October	3pm to 5pm
Saturday 10 October	10am to 12noon
Friday 16 October	10am to 12noon
Wednesday 21 October	2pm to 4pm
Saturday 24 October	3pm to 5pm
Thursday 29 October	10am to 12noon
Monday 2 November	2pm to 4pm
Tuesday 10 November	3pm to 5pm
Saturday 14 November	10am to 12noon
Friday 20 November	10am to 12noon
Wednesday 25 November	2pm to 4pm
Saturday 28 November	3pm to 5pm

All the dates and times above are subject to operational requirements.

Please remember to shut and lock all your windows and doors when leaving your home and secure your garden sheds.

If you see anything suspicious, or motor bikes/mopeds being ridden where they shouldn't, or persons causing antisocial behaviour please call in an emergency 999 or 101 for other non-emergency calls.

Thank you
Che



PCSO 6021 Che Ponton

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, Gustard Wood, 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 Ave., Gustard Wood, 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	1 Place Farm, AL4 8SB	01582 834344
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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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Village Weekend 2015



Our own Gill Clark, Deputy Mayor of St Albans, and Annie Brewster award the manager of the Bull, Mike Langdon, a certificate in thanks for persuading the senior managers at Miller and Carter to replace our Bull signs.

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make the events a huge success



Participants in the parade receive certificates from Gill

