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Parish Council

Police Matters

Our Neighbourhood Police Officer, PC Nicola Lark, attended our last PC meeting on the 10th of June. She brought the Council up to date on all the issues relating to Anti-Social Behaviour and Criminal Damage that have occurred over the last few months. She has been extremely diligent in taking action and instituted a number of measures to try to ensure that there is no repeat of recent poor behaviour. At the time of writing, the illegal riding of small motorbikes in various parts of the village remains a problem but I am led to believe that will also be resolved shortly.

The Council was also very pleased that three of the boys involved came to the meeting to apologise for recent events and promised to behave in the future.

In view of the progress made by PC Lark, it was decided that there was no need for a public meeting as originally agreed at the Parish AGM.

The Council would also like to place on record its thanks to PC Lark in resolving these issues so soon after taking up her appointment as our Neighbourhood PC.

Highways

We have been informed that funding for the footway will not be available in the current financial year due to the current financial crisis in the country. However, funding for the Land Agents is still in place and this will allow the County Council to fund the conveyance of land required for the construction of the path. I am advised that residents will be contacted in the next month or so.

The repair of the road surface on the Bumpstead Road is scheduled to start on the 21st of July. The repairs will be carried out overnight resulting in road closures for three



consecutive nights. The VASI sign by Millhouse Cottages will also be repaired in the next month.

Footpaths

The first cut of the village network took place on the 19th and 20th of June.

War Memorial

A grant application has been submitted to Uttlesford District Council for approximately 50% of the cost of the project.

Sean McCarthy

Mobile Police Unit

The unit will be in the lay-by outside *Mill Cottages* on **Thursday the 1st and 29th of July** from 11.45am to 12.45pm.

Mobile Library

The library will be opposite *The Bluebell Inn* on **Tuesday the 6th and 20th of July** from 1.40 to 2pm.

HDS

The Society's AGM will be held in Hempstead Village Hall on **Wednesday the 7th of July, at 8pm.**



As explained in last month's News and the current edition of Ambo, the Society will only be able to continue with your support. I look forward to seeing you on the 7th.

Alan Bywaters

Friends of St Andrew's

We are considering forming a Friends of St Andrew's Church, Hempstead, to raise funds for the care of the building and the churchyard.

If anybody is interested in this project, please contact Zoe Hoar on 599466.

Classic Cars

The 2010 Hempstead Classic Vehicle Gathering will take place on **Sunday the 18th of July**, in the field behind *Greenacres* (on the corner of Witchtree Lane and Bumpstead Road).

Ted Welch's collection, described by the man himself as "an automotive Battersea dogs' home", includes a fully restored 1963 TD21 Alvis and a 1968 E-type Jag, and both these and other classics will be on display on the day.

There will also be hot food, cold drinks and, hopefully, an ice-cream van.

Entry is free for both participants and people just wishing to view, and Ted is hoping to build on last year's roaring success by attracting more exhibitors and visitors. If you would like more information please contact him on 599453 or 07970 427418.

Hempstead & District Gardeners' Club

July is Show month. First we have the Annual Show on **Saturday the 10th of July** and secondly, the Horse and Pony Show at *Hill Farm* by kind permission of David and Meryl Haylock, on **Sunday the 18th of July**. Please support these important village events

Annual Show schedules were sent to you with last month's newsletter and copies are available on the website, including the entry form if you need an extra copy. Alternatively contact Brian Ray on 599728. The Club uses external judges and all levels of entry are encouraged from all ages. This is a village show, and if the village do not enter then there is no show. The Hall will be open from 8am for entries, with the doors closing

at 10.15am. Please do give yourself time to present your entries as you wish. We open for viewing with teas and coffees at 2.30pm.

The Horse Show is open to everyone to come and walk round and enjoy the atmosphere. The Club will be manning the BBQ so do come and enjoy a snack with us. If you are entering, schedules of classes and forms are available from David Haylock on 599238.

Diana Frost



Topical Tips

As the garden and flower pots dry up with the increased heat, watering and dead heading become important functions. Hanging baskets need watering twice a day in hot weather, and feeding twice a week.

Harvest berry crops and pick courgettes, beans and peas when they are young and fresh. Pick and sow lettuces and radishes regularly so they do not bolt or go woody. Secure canes of runner beans firmly if stormy weather sets in. Plant out brassicas such as curly kale.

Deadhead roses to encourage a second flush. Check fruit trees after the June drop and thin out small, diseased, damaged or touching fruits to leave single specimens that will grow to a good size.

Raise the cutting height on the lawn mower to prevent scorching of the grass in the current hot, dry weather. Top up ponds with water that has stood for 24 hours and pull out blanket weed or excess algae, leaving it on the side for a day or two before composting so as to let any wildlife return to the water.

Ensure the greenhouse has some form of shading applied and open doors and windows on hot days — if necessary, "damp down" by pouring water over the floor for extra cooling. Feed tomatoes once the first fruits are pea-size.



Submissions for the August issue of the newsletter should be with the Editor by July 20th

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