

A pdf version will be on the village website at www.hempstead-essex.org.uk and a hard copy is available on the Parish Council Noticeboard.

Parish Council

Highways

Members of the Council recently met with Cllr Martin Foley, Cllr Tayler and Sarah Tomlin of Essex

Highways, the purpose of this meeting was to focus on the most major areas of concern regarding Highways matters within the Village. One aim is to obtain a traffic survey on Bumpstead Rd and Anso Rd with regard to 40mph speed limit to be introduced; the other matter concerned Flooding of a numbers of Roads, and in particular asked Highways to write to landowners along Anso Rd where ditches require clearing in an effort to assist with the Flooding of this Road, by way of which water can clear Flow of the Road

Spring Litter Pick

We ask all villagers to join us in a litter pick on Sunday 7th April from 10am to 12 noon. Collect bags and equipment from the village hall and then start at the furthest point, collecting as you come back towards the hall. We have a limited number of hi-vis jackets and litter picks and bags will be provided. Please wear strong protective gloves.

Village Sign

The Council has approved the refurbishment of the Village sign close to that of the High Street Bus Shelter, work is likely to commence late spring.

Book-a-Ride – Saffron Walden Community Travel

You may have noticed these minibuses around Saffron Walden and parked in the marketplace. These buses provide services to those who find it difficult to access normal public transport, the over sixty's, the disabled and who are rurally isolated and are also used by groups for various outings.

You do have to be a member to use this service (paid annually)

- individual membership is £10.

- Group membership is £20.

The service can be booked to take you shopping, to the hairdressers, to visit friends, garden centres, as well as all types of medical appointments. Group outings regularly undertaken include - trips to the coast, places of interest, theatre trips, garden centres lunches & afternoon teas, regular group meetings and sports meetings and events.

The service is operated by volunteers and hospital drivers and journey costs are currently as follows:

Individual Minibus bookings – £4.20 for up to two miles (then £1.30 per mile, up to 15 miles).

Hospital Car bookings – £5.00 minimum charge (then £0.45 per mile paid to the driver for all miles over 11 miles).

To find out more about using this service either as an individual or as a group member responsible for organising group outings, click here for further information: [MEMBERSHIP - Uttlesford Community Travel](#)

Nick Turkentine, Chairman



MacMillan Spring Fayre, Thurs 18th April, in our Village Hall

Firstly, please note the **new venue** for 2024. Hempstead Village Hall is delighted to host the MacMillan Spring Fete that has in recent years been held very successfully at Anso Gallows Farm. So:

You are invited to a SPRING FAYRE, Thursday, 18 April 2024, 10.00am – 2.30pm. Entrance Fee £5.

Hosted by the Committee of the Saffron Walden Branch of Macmillan Cancer Support

To be held at a Hempstead Village Hall, High Street, Hempstead CB10 2PD

Stalls with luxury gifts, clothing, shoes and accessories include: Hot Footed, Chilli Designs, Russ Wide Creative Woodturning, WishList, Barking Mad, Cards In Bloom, Urban Colours, Maison de Clements and many more

Lunches and Cakes, Teas and Coffees provided by Giddy Up



The Hempstead Quiz, Sat 27th April



Tables are still available for the annual Hempstead Quiz. Ten rounds of questions on general knowledge and music, with a hot supper at half time from our very own Dave Boreham. Saturday 27 April, 7.30pm sharp in the Village Hall. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. £10 per person, teams of eight. ALL PROFITS TO UTTLESFORD FOOD BANK.

Book now at quiz@campionsend.com

Bluebell Garden Tidy Up

Whilst the owner and leaseholder of the pub continue to disagree leaving us with a sad-looking pub, there is no reason for the garden to be an eyesore. We have the opportunity to do something about it. A Tidy-Up date will be arranged by ROBINN either at the end of April or beginning of May, date tbc.

No hedge cutting and Dogs on Leads please

It's that time of year again when birds will be nesting. Please refrain from cutting hedges to allow blackbirds and others to raise their chicks.

Ground nesting birds such as pheasant and meadowlarks are easy prey for roaming dogs. More than ever at this time of year we ask that you refrain from letting your dog off the lead in fields.

This month we should also hear the call of the cuckoo as it arrives back from Africa.

Bric-a-brac sale

It's nearly time for our Spring sale at Thaxted Guildhall (CM6 2LA) to raise money for our Village Hall, on **Friday 26th and Saturday 27th April 2024**.

The sale will include garden items, small furniture, wicker, china, ornaments, fine glass and art, crafts and hobbies, kitchen wares, bedspreads and linens, vintage and modern, quirky and unusual.

If you'd like to make a donation, please contact me, Diana Frost on 01799 599771 or 07796 438137 or email to diana_frost@lineone.net. I am happy to collect. Thank you.



Parish Boundary Walk

Everyone is welcome to join in this walk on **Sunday 12th May** starting from the Village Hall at 10am. The walk is approx. 15 miles, but you can 'peel off' at a location of your choice if you don't want to do it all.

There will be more info in the May Newsletter.

Mobile Library Update

The service will be in the centre of the village on **Friday the 19th April** from 11.20-11.50am.



Hempstead Wood for sale

Some of you may have noticed that Hempstead Wood is for sale with a package of Lots including property and arable land. [Properties For Sale in CB10 2PW | Rightmove](#)

Hempstead Wood is a privately owned, 190 acre ancient woodland believed to be 10,000 years old and second only in age to Hatfield Forest. It contains a good mix of broad leaf trees, clearings, some Scots Pine and a few ponds. The Forestry Commission who have an on-going lease on it have removed most of the Scots Pine in recent years as it reached maturity. It has been replaced with broad leaf native species. The wood has some specimens of the rare Oxlip but expanding populations of at least four types of deer have caused extensive damage to the oxlips and the under-storey of the wood generally. I have heard it said that the Red Deer who visit are en route from Thetford towards Epping.

On the 25th August 1954 an RAF Swift jet crashed into the woods after the pilot had baled out and landed in Weston Colville.

The only path the public can use is on the southern boundary.



T&C: Newsletter entries must be received by diana_frost@lineone.net by the **24th** of each month. Only village events will be promoted. No advertisements or personal profit promotions will be featured. To unsubscribe, email Diana Frost.