

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

The Council did not meet in August.

Highways

There will be traffic lights by Brook Farm Radwinter on the 1st and 2nd Sept.

Hill Road will have traffic lights for 5 days from 7th September for patching works

<https://one.network/?tm=GB151534018>.

Walden Road from The Plough in Radwinter through Stocking Green to Swards End will be working with traffic lights while the water main is replaced. The works could take up to a year.

<https://one.network/?tm=GB151534018>.

Environment

Church Farm pond is being dug out after 50 years of silting up. The hot, dry summer of 1976 provided the last opportunity to dig out the base and in one place a depth of 1.2m (4') of black silt is now being removed and spread on the farm. The pond will run at various depths throughout.

The window of opportunity for this work is small between the end of harvest, starting drilling and the amount of rain that may come, and several ponds are being tackled including the one with an island down Turner's Lane (that's aside from Pollards Cross).

There used to be a large population of ducks on Church Farm pond and they may return when the pond naturally refills from rain, roof run-off and any drainage pipes.



The next meeting is on Thursday 10th September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Members of the pubic are always welcome to attend Parish Council meetings to raise issues with the council but can't speak during the formal proceedings. Nick Turkentine - Chairman

HDS – Autumn Production

Fancy yourself as a Marple, a Poirot or a Ludwig? Well, well, well, then you are invited to an evening of mystery, intrigue and possibly a touch of murder. Welcome to Wellgoode Manor. Sir Phillip Goode, founder of global supplements empire, has assembled his family, staff and assorted hangers-on to celebrate his 80th birthday. There's cake, coughing, tea and tension. Listen carefully, watch everyone - and remember that almost everybody has something to hide!

On Friday 9th and Saturday 10th October from 7pm. Tickets are £20 each including dinner. Come on your own or get a table of friends together (tables of 6 or 8). Will your table be the one to find all the clues and solve the murder?

Tickets available from David Boreham Tel: [07379 730486](tel:07379730486)

Email: Basilcottage@btinternet.com

Murder
at
**WELLGOODE
MANOR**

An interactive mystery in 2 Acts
Can you solve it?
Hempstead Village Hall
9th-10th October 7PM
TICKETS £20 INCLUDING TWO-COURSE DINNER
TO BOOK: 07379 730486, basilcottage@btinternet.com
Written by Georgie Heslett, & Anna-May Long
AN HDS PRODUCTION

Speakeasy

The Hempstead Speakeasy returns after a two-year absence and we are delighted to welcome Roger Flaxman back to play a wonderful selection of jazz pieces for our entertainment on **Saturday 3rd October** in the village hall, which will be transformed into a dark-clad club from the 1930s. Roger is a highly accomplished, amateur saxophonist, playing in several bands when he has the time. He will play more than one saxophone during the evening and welcomes conversation during the interval and after the performance on his instruments and more. We are very lucky to be able to put on such a splendid evening for just £18 a head with a free drink and dry nibbles. A Speakeasy is where you chat over the music which plays in the background – it is not a concert. Book a table with friends and family and wear your best sparkles. Tickets from Diana Frost, see right.



Hempstead Speakeasy Presents
Jazz Array
Saturday 3rd October 2026
Featuring Roger Flaxman on
Saxophone with a selection of
guest musicians
Playing much loved Jazz Standards,
Be Bop & Songs. 7.30 – 10.00pm.
Hempstead Village Hall, CB10 2PD
Table seating and Bar (cash and cards)
Prosecco will be the feature drink
Tickets £18 including the first drink free
and dry nibbles
from diana_frost@lineone.net.
M: 07796 438137

Roger is a highly talented saxophonist and previous Speakeasy's have sold out quickly so please book early.
Please note, a Speakeasy is not a concert but where you drink and chat while music plays in the background. It's also a night to impress, so please dress with sparkle and glamour to suit.

Profits to Hempstead Village Hall



Bric, Jewellery and Craft sale

Elspeth Butterworth and Diana Frost will be at Thaxted Guildhall on **Friday 25th Sept** from 9-1pm with a gorgeous selection of jewellery and seasonal-inspired bric-a-brac. All funds raised will be for our Village Hall. If you have any donations of good quality bric-a-brac, please contact Diana on 07796 438137, thank you.



Shoebboxes for Ukraine result

We had a wonderful morning on the 22nd August filling shoeboxes for front-line soldiers in Ukraine.

Your support was magnificent and we filled all 60 shoeboxes that morning, meaning our planned second date on the 5th September is cancelled.

The hall was quite a buzz with activity as boxes were tightly packed and messages for inclusion were translated into what we hope(!), was good Ukrainian language. Tea, coffee and cakes accompanied the proceedings, and some cash donations were also kindly received. The whole consignment was then delivered to UK-Aid at Leaden Roding where it was very gratefully received.



The Knitting Group kindly made and donated 60 beanie hats for the shoeboxes. They had to be beanie style to fit under helmets, predominantly wool yarn for breathability and in various sizes. Every member of the group contributed to this effort and the hats, at £3 each, made a fantastic additional item to the £10 boxes.

Well done to the knitters!



Do you like the sound of our church bells?

St Andrew's, Hempstead, church tower contains a fine set of six bells. In recent months, the Bell ringers from Thaxted and other local churches, have enjoyed coming over to ring them on a regular basis. It all started on last Christmas Eve, after ringing before the 6.00 pm Carol Service; a tradition that goes back many years.

With positive comments received from Hempstead villagers, the visiting bell ringers were encouraged to return and ring the bells ahead of the last 9.30 am Sunday morning service of 2025.

Since then, the ringers have returned each month to ring before the St Andrew's fourth Sunday Service. The feedback received has continued to be positive and while the Thaxted ringers enjoy their monthly visits, discussions have taken place around assisting St Andrew's to recruit and train a band of home tower bell ringers.

It is often assumed that bell ringing requires a number of inherent skills such as being musical, a strong sense of rhythm and physical strength. Fortunately, none of these attributes are necessary. All that is required is a few hours training per week, the ability to walk up the spiral staircase to the ringing floor, along with a willingness and perseverance to learn a new skill.

The collection of churches forming the Hempstead, Thaxted, Radwinter and Sampfords' Benefice is fortunate to have several qualified and part qualified bell ringing teachers, registered with the Association of Ringing Teachers (ART), who can be on hand to ensure new recruits can learn under skilled supervision.

If you would like to find out more, or simply have a no obligations taster session, we would love to hear from you. The sound of the bells of St Andrew's has been heard over Hempstead and beyond for hundreds of years. The challenge is on to keep them ringing for the enjoyment of future generations.

Please contact Trevor Haynes, Hempstead Tower Captain and ART Ringing Tutor. Tel: 07904 52046 or email: trefor555@gmail.com.



Recognition and next collection

John Tapscott, and separately Rotary Saffron Walden, have both been awarded a certificate by UK-Aid in recognition of their support and work for Ukraine and the children's home that opened almost 30 years ago following the Chernobyl nuclear disaster. Well done John and Rotary!

The next Ukraine collection will be in late October, date to follow, and food and toiletries/medicines will be the most urgent requirements.

VHMC

The committee meeting of the 27th August will discuss several importance maintenance issues that need to be addressed.

The main front door is broken by the lowest hinge and several light fittings need to be replaced. With the style of light fitting no longer available, they must be upgraded. Both items are high expenditure so please support all the events where funds are being raised for the hall. *Thank you.*



Knitting Group

Meeting dates in August for the group are the 11th and the 25th in the village hall from 10-11.30am.

No experience necessary so come and join a very sociable morning for just £2.

There's always plenty of chat and laughter and a project of some sort 'on the go'.



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.