Hempstead E-newsletter Nov 2026

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

We are delighted that applicants have stepped forward for the role of Parish Clerk when Rebecca Cox leaves at the end of the year. An appointment will be made shortly.

Highways

The B1055 Anso Road will have some potholes repaired on the 3rd November.

Between the 23rd Nov and the 4th Dec Anso Road will be closed while new gullies are installed. This much needed work has taken two years to come to fruition and is the culmination of your Parish Council's endeavours to have the flooding addressed. We are delighted that Highways have found sufficient budget for this work.

The use of Church Hill/Howe Lane as a diversion route to the 6 weeks of Affinity water works on the main road into Gt Sampford have led to an accident, concern by residents and damaged verges. Affinity Water and Highways have been notified and an alteration to the diversion requested. Regrettably vehicles continue to travel too fast on this delicate lane.

Environment

The War Memorial has some new planting and been weeded and tidied in advance of the Remembrance Sunday service on the 8th November at 10.50am and will be refreshed again for the day. This year, the Parish Council wreath will be made by a resident and contain poppies knitted by the Knitting Group – one for each soldier named on the memorial. The Parish Council will make a donation to the British Legion accordingly.

The next meeting is on **Thursday 5th November at 8pm** in the Village Hall.

Members of the public 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

Remembrance Day

Hempstead will mark Remembrance Day at the War Memorial on the 8th November at 10.50am.

The memorial has been dressed with the white crosses we have used in recent years.

The white crosses bear the record of the people whose names appear on the memorial, and we encourage you to arrive and spend time reading them.

Information is also available on the village history website at: Hempstead's fallen heroes in two World Wars – Hempstead. You are welcome to lay wreaths or crosses of your own during the service, and if you have family medals and wish to wear them, please do so.

Fantastic Free Quiz Evening

St. Andrew's Christmas church decorating

We invite anyone interested to come and help decorate our church for Christmas.

This is a social morning for the village while we decorate the windowsills, the porch, pulpit ad greenery placed around the church ready for Christmas. Come along on **Tuesday 8th December** from 10-12 noon and meet new friends. Coffee and nibbles will be served.

The trees will be erected in place and the lights already on them so it's just the nice part that we invite you to, hanging the baubles and decorations and dressing greenery. It can be chilly in the church so please dress accordingly.

If you intend to assist with the porch, a ladder is available, thank you.

Christmas Wreath Making

Snippets

Bonfire Night is always an anxious time for pet owners and horse owners. Fireworks are expected on the 5th November but if you are letting them off at any other time, please inform your neighbours so they can take measures to protect animals.

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If you're thinking of sending your little ones to Radwinter Primary School in September 2027, the school is holding an Open Day on **Thursday 12th November** at 9.15am.

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Why not join the 'Hempstead Village' Facebook group for additional information around the village.

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Want to join our bellringers? Contact Trevor Haynes, Hempstead Tower Captain and ART Ringing Tutor. Tel: 07904 52046 or email: trefor555@gmail.com.

VHMC

The main front door of the hall is broken and damaged by the left-hand lowest hinge. We have applied for a grant to help pay for the replacement of the front doors and will know if we are successful in the new year.

We are looking for a new Booking Secretary please. This voluntary role was advertised and emailed on the 19th Oct. Please come forward if you are able.

The next Committee Meeting is the **26th November** at 7.30pm in the hall.

Knitting Group

Meeting dates for the group are the **6th** and the **20th November** in the village hall from 10-11.30am.

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

Apart from our efforts for Knit for Peace, we have made poppies to the pattern supplied by the British Legion, and these will feature in various ways on Remembrance Sunday. Why not come and join in?
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Radwinter Tree Festival and more

The lovely Tree Festival takes place on the **21st and 22nd November** in Radwinter church and will include its very popular quiz amongst beautifully dressed trees and a selection of stalls. A fabulous seasonal selection of Diana's Bric-à-Brac will also be available including decorations and flora; cushions and throws; fine glass and dining – just about everything you can think of for the season ahead. All at superbly low prices and raising money for Hempstead Village Hall. Please come and support it.

And in Steeple Bumpstead, at the back of the village at Old Hall, the Bauble Barn has re-opened for Christmas. (1) Facebook

HDS – Autumn Production

The Dramatic Society were delighted to receive this letter of thanks from Russ Wide, Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee on behalf of the whole committee, for the gifted fridge/freezer:

Dear Dave

Please share this message with all the committee of the Hempstead Dramatic Society.

It is with much gratitude that the Village Hall accepts your most generous gift of a new fridge/freezer for the hall kitchen.

We have struggled with the size limitation of our old fridge/freezer for a long time and are immensely grateful to install this large unit which will allow the chilling of food and drinks at parties and events, far more comfortably that we could previously. It looks terrific in situ and I'm sure will be well used in the coming years.

As you know, the hall finances continue to be a challenge with income at only half our operating costs, so such changes from our current funding are out of the question. This makes your gift even more special and we thank you accordingly.

We wish you a happy and successful time with your forthcoming production, and hopefully, the new fridge/freezer will get its first big test then.

Good luck to you all and thank you.

Russ Wide

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.