

## On the beat

with PCSO 6522 Chris Brabrook

Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111 Non-emergency: 101

### Don't give burglars a break this summer

With the summer holidays fast approaching, Hertfordshire Constabulary is warning people not to make their homes an easy target for burglars.

Sometimes the thrill of an impending holiday can lead people to forget about less exciting things like home security. If you are planning to leave your home empty for a couple weeks or even just a few days, you need to make sure that you aren't advertising the fact to criminals.

Burglars love empty homes to break into, safe in the knowledge that they won't be disturbed and that the crime might not even be reported for days or weeks. Making sure that your home doesn't give away the fact that it is empty can go a long way to deterring criminals.

The joy of setting off on holiday can also lead people into sharing their plans via social media posts, which can unfortunately also tip off burglars that your home is going to be empty.

Police and Crime Commissioner, David Lloyd, said: "Every year Hertfordshire residents set off on holiday full of excitement, with a small number of those have to return to the heart break of finding their home has been burgled. No one should have to suffer this, so it makes sense to take all possible precautions. The best way to beat crime is to prevent it from happening and whilst the police can give advice, individuals have to take some responsibility for protecting their homes and valuables."

Inspector Paul Lawrence, from Hertfordshire Constabulary's Crime Reduction Unit, warned: "Hertfordshire burglars do tend to target homes that are empty and will look for signs like piles of newspapers or unopened letters at the front door, bins not put away or continually drawn curtains can attract their attention. So, making it appear that a home is occupied can be the most effective deterrent against burglary."

"It can be equally tempting posting photos or information about your holidays on social media, but you can stop criminals finding out this kind of information on Facebook, by changing your privacy settings to make sure that only friends can see your posts and photos."

There are ways to give your home a 'lived-in' look when it's unoccupied, so that any would-be thieves aren't tempted:

- Use timer switches for lamps so that they turn on as it gets dark in the evenings. You could also use a timer switch for a radio (always follow manufacturer's instructions)
- Ask your neighbour to put your rubbish or recycling bins back if they're being collected whilst you're away – if they're left out after collection day it could indicate to a passing thief that your house is unoccupied. Be a good neighbour and do the same for them
- If you aren't leaving your car at home, ask a neighbour/friend to park their car on your drive.
- Don't forget to cancel deliveries of milk, newspapers etc.
- Consider moving enticing items, such as videos and television, so that they are out of sight.
- If you are away for a longer period of time in the summer months, ask your neighbour to cut your grass. This helps to show that the house may be occupied.
- You could also ask someone you trust to help give your home the lived-in look by opening and drawing the curtains, taking in any free

newspapers and moving your mail away from the letterbox.

- You could store valuables in your loft when you go away.

All these tips can help to give your home the 'lived-in' look. For more detailed security advice, please visit the crime prevention section at [www.herts.police.uk](http://www.herts.police.uk) or contact us on 101.

### OWL App

Thanks to an OWL (Online Watch Link) app, you can now get notifications when your local police officers issue a new alert for your area. You can also view recent alerts, appeals and crime prevention advice, plus the latest scam alerts from ActionFraud.

Hundreds of police officers use OWL to send alerts, advice and updates directly to the public. Every resident and business is invited to receive instant notifications directly to their mobile or tablet based on their current postcode location. The post code can be changed and multiple nearby zones of interest can be selected.

As well as alerts on residential burglary and vehicle crime, you can choose other interests impacted by crime such as business, shop, dog, horse, rural and canal (varies by location).

No registration is needed and no personally identifiable data is collected. Download the OWL app now to help keep you and your family safe.

<https://www.owl.co.uk/misc/owl-app-download/?f=herts>

### Local Crime Information

G4E – Ashwell, Hinxworth, Bygrave, Newnham and Caldecote

Theft of Motor Vehicle, Ashwell - On 24th June between 8pm to 10.45pm a VW golf was parked, locked and secure outside a garage in Angels Meadow, Ashwell. The vehicle was stolen from this location.

### Useful Links

<http://www.herts.police.uk/>

<http://www.doglost.co.uk/>

<http://www.stolenhorseregister.com/>

## Ashwell Patients' Group

Wearing Masks in the Surgery - NHS England has issued guidance about the importance of continuing to wear masks in medical settings. When you come to our surgeries, you will need to wear a mask (unless you have a medical exemption) as many patients are high risk. We also need to protect our staff. We remain open for care and rely on our patients to help us to continue working safely. Thank you for your cooperation.

Update – Cold and Warm Sites - Dr Jarvis has been in discussion with the PCN (the 6 surgeries in our group). The government has given no indication that cold/warm arrangements (established for infection control purposes) are to be relaxed. Our PCN considers that, given the rise in cases and increased social mixing, patients and staff will still require protection, so we are not back to business as usual. That said, and in the light of feelings expressed about patients having to attend Bassingbourn (warm site) for face-to-face appointments, our surgery has decided to open Ashwell as a warm site too. This means that patients can be seen at either of our surgeries.

Peter Chapman

Chairman Ashwell Patients Group

Copy Date: Please send all copy/pictures for August edition to Lucy Wade, Editor, by August 20th. E: [villagevoice3@gmail.com](mailto:villagevoice3@gmail.com)

# • Village Voice •

August 2021

for Caldecote, Edworth, Hinxworth and Newnham

No.239

## Ballooning over Hinxworth

What a lovely sight to see hot air balloons on their early morning flights over Hinxworth once again. However, one flight was not too successful, coming down in the field near Arbtree Farm.

After several attempts to re-float it, it was finally rescued by a jeep which sped to its aid.



The balloon has landed



A more successful flight, soaring over the Hinxworth fields

## Notice of the Appointment of the New Priest

We are pleased to announce that The Reverend Christine Campbell, currently Assistant Curate at St John the Evangelist, Hills Road, Cambridge, has been appointed as Rector of the benefice of Ashwell with Hinxworth and Newnham. This is subject to the completion of the usual legal formalities after which further information will be announced. Meanwhile please remember Chris, her husband Iain and their daughters, Charlotte and Emily, in your prayers as they prepare for the move.

*With my prayers and good wishes*

*Archdeacon Janet*

*The Venerable Janet Mackenzie*

*Archdeacon of Hertford*

## Village Hall Reopening

We are pleased to announce the long-awaited reopening of the village hall, Hinxworth. The hall will be available for bookings from 30th July.

During lockdown, the management committee have been busy getting the hall tidied up and completely redecorated. If interested in booking the hall for your club or private function, please contact

Helene on 07890 212194.

Date for the diary: 27th Nov - 70s - Disco Night

Wanted: Temporary cleaner for hall - if interested please contact

Helene as above.

Stephanie Creevy

## Newnham Parish Supper – Sunday 17 October at 6pm in Newnham Church

Newnham are having a Parish Supper, it will follow on from the Harvest Festival which is at 5pm on 17 October.

Tickets £10 and £3 for Children under 12.

Bring your own plates, glasses, cutlery and drink.

Please feel free to come either to the supper or to both.

Tickets are available from:

Yvonne Tookey (Hinxworth) Tel: 742439

Fiona Hughes (Newnham) Tel: 742709

Audrey Whaley (Newnham) Tel: 742517

## Parish Council

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HINXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 1st JULY 2021 AT 7.00 PM.**

**Present:** Mr R. Cobb (Chairman)  
Mr N. Tiffin  
Mr A. Lloyd  
Mr A. Dawson  
Mr B. Higgins  
Mrs W. Kitchener (Clerk)

**Apologies:** Tom Tyson District Councillor

**Other person present:-** Steve Jarvis Hertfordshire County Councillor. Steve left the meeting at 7.15pm

### 1. The Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the meeting of 13th May 2021 were agreed by the Parish Councillors. Proposed by Tony Lloyd and seconded by Nick Tiffin.

### 2. Matters arising not elsewhere on the Agenda:-

The Parish Councillors send their condolences to Mrs Chris Vallely and her family on the death of Mr Chris Vallely. Chris was a long standing resident of Hinxworth and will be sadly missed.

### 3. Correspondence:

Nothing to report.

### 4. Finance:

**Current Parish Council Funds:** The Councillors agreed to the expenditure for the current month. Proposed by Dick Cobb and seconded by Nick Tiffin.

### 5. Planning:

**Planning Application 21/01456/FP – Land at the North West side of the High Street.**

The Councillors met on site to discuss the matter further and reach a decision on their response to NHDC. This is as follows:-

**Full Planning Permission: Erection of four-bedroom detached dwelling with associated access, car parking, private garden, hard and soft landscaping and triple bay garage and car port Land on the North West Side of, High Street, Hinxworth, Baldock, Hertfordshire, SG7 5HQ**

Following the site meeting of the 25th May 2021.

Present .R.Cobb Chairman. Tony Lloyd. Bryan Higgins, Tony Dawson.

Hinxworth Parish Council support this planning application.

It is our view that land which has been derelict for the past 20 years off the Village High Street would greatly benefit from careful development such as proposed. Being a single house in the position applied for on this large plot of land.

It is felt the design of the property in a Barn style building and being only 1.5 storeys high would only enhance the centre of the village. In our opinion this proposal has little or no effect on neighbouring properties.

The Parish Council are very keen to see the Orchard being retained, enhanced and maintained, this can only benefit the neighbouring properties in Homefield, Hamsteworde and Rosemary Lodge.

Plus the benefit to wild life in the centre of Hinxworth.

### 6. Highways:

**Road Repairs:-** A schedule of dates as to when the work is to be started has been revised but will be subject to change.

**Traffic Calming Measures:-** A feasibility study has yet to be arranged.

### 7. Village Hall: To remain closed.

Nothing to report.

### 8. Recreation Ground:

**The Archery Club:** The Chairman is to discuss with David Osmond a mutually agreeable sum for the hire of The Recreation Ground for the 2021 season.

### 9. The Tennis Court:

The Court is now unlocked for use by the Villagers. Nick Tiffin is to obtain quotes for the cost of white-lining the court.

### 10. Allotments:

There have been changes to the people occupying the plots. The Parish Council has yet to be notified of these changes.

### 11. Any Other Urgent Business:

Nothing to report.

### 12: Date of the Next Meeting:

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday August 5th 2021 in the Village Hall at 8.00pm. The meeting closed at 7.50 pm.

## Church Services August 2021

August 1 - 10.15 am Family Service, St Nicholas, Hinxworth

August 8 - 9.15 am Parish Communion, St Nicholas, Hinxworth

August 15 - 9.15 am Parish Communion, St Nicholas, Hinxworth

August 22 - 9.15 am Parish Communion, St Nicholas, Hinxworth  
9.30 am Holy Communion, St Vincent, Newnham

August 29 - 9.15 am Parish Communion, St Nicholas, Hinxworth

## Ashwell Book Weekend

The 21st Ashwell Book Weekend will be held on Saturday 9th October 10.00am-5.00pm and Sunday 10th October 1.30pm-4.30pm. - Entrance £1.00, children under 16 free.

There will be a great selection of fiction and non-fiction books to browse and buy for children and adults. Tea, coffee and home-made cakes available.

### A Big Thank You

*To all of my wonderful friends and neighbours I send you a big, big thank you for all of your support, help and kind messages, both before and during my recent surgery. It is very much appreciated.*

*Thank you.*

*Alan Murray, Hinxworth*

## The Three Horseshoes Charity Golf Day

On Friday 2 July it was the 11th Shoes Golf Day. It was celebrated by the largest ever turnout of 38 golfers and 78 guests for the evening. The weather fortunately was glorious and made for a wonderful day's golf and evening's entertainment. We had a great evening meal in the pub marquee, followed by the prize giving and then our favourite band Corruption to conclude a wonderful day.

The winner (Peter Rohan), second (Malcolm Worland) and third (Nick Tiffin) played exceptionally well on the day. During the evening we had our usual charity raffle, and everyone was generous as usual. I am pleased to say we raised £1500 for Crisis UK and The Crohn's and Colitis Organisation.

I would like to say a big thank you to all our golfers for supporting our 11th event, to all the guests in the evening and pub regulars who bought raffle tickets, and to Gerry and his team at the pub who made it a great day.

Simon Cheshire



Richard Grimmer, Jean Cobb, Richard Cobb and Graham Berry

## Hinxworth and Edworth WI

We were so lucky with the weather when the WI held its July meeting – by tradition held outside – so we could all sit comfortably outside and enjoy the evening. There was a slight break with tradition this year as instead of the meeting being held in a member's garden, we met in the grounds of Edworth church. A big thank-you to Mark Youngman for helping with setting up the gazebos, tables and chairs. It was a really idyllic setting with the church forming a super backdrop for us. And so great to see lovely familiar faces again.

Also, a big thank-you to Rosemary and David Smyth who made us so welcome, opening up their garden for us to wander round and enjoy, and also ensuring the church was open.

Lizzie Cree had prepared a short quiz for us, all about the church which really made us take a proper look at it – Rosemary was also a mine of information about the church and its history – I can say that it is well worth a visit. Once everyone had attempted the quiz they then took advantage of the opportunity to look around the garden with its wonderful plants, in particular dahlias, flower beds and a super pond. The lawn is carefully tended too by an intriguing robotic lawn mower which trundled round quietly getting on with its job.

Rosemary also came to the rescue by supplying tea pots for us which we had forgotten. What is cake without a cup of tea to go with it? The committee members had each made a gateaux – suffice it to say each one was delicious. Once everyone was settled with tea and cake, Anki took charge of the meeting, firstly saying how nice it was to see so many members and also to take the opportunity to say goodbye to Carol Cheyney. Carol has been a Hinxworth and Edworth WI member for many years but is soon to leave us and start a new life in Scotland. We wish you all the very best Carol and we will miss you hugely.

Lastly Anki reminded everyone about the planned trip in August to Kathy Brown's Garden in Stevington. Our next meeting will be in September and will once again be in the village hall. Looking forward to seeing everyone and of course new members are always given a warm welcome. We meet on the second Thursday of each month at 7.30pm.

Chrisi Hook

## A Successful Book Launch for A Roomful of Elephants

A good number of villagers turned up for the launch of "A Roomful of Elephants" and I learned the correct way to sign a new book. Thanks to all who came and even more thanks to those who bought copies of the book which, so far, seems to be being enjoyed.

Thanks too to Gerry and his staff at The Three Horseshoes for their help and boundless hospitality.

Patrick Forbes



Patrick proudly promoting his new book