



Celebration of community stars in North Herts

Do you know someone special in your community who has gone above and beyond and made a real difference in their local community? Someone who has dedicated their life to helping others or recently made a big impact on a person, family or group in the community? Someone who has improved the health and wellbeing of people in North Herts? An eco-warrior or maybe an exceptional young person?

We want to hear from you as we launch North Herts Heroes 2024.

The deadline for nominations is 7 January 2024.

We can only accept nominations for individuals who have benefitted those in the district of North Herts.

Go to: www.north-herts.gov.uk/north-herts-heroes to nominate.

Exhibition of American photographer

ARTIST ROOMS Diane Arbus comes to North Herts Museum, celebrating the enduring influence of this iconic photographer with an exhibition that marks the centenary of her birth.

On display from 2nd December to 25th February, this is a rare opportunity to see work by one of the most original and influential photographers of the 20th century. Presented in partnership with Tate and National Galleries of Scotland, the exhibition draws from the remarkable collection of Arbus's work in ARTIST ROOMS, featuring some of her most iconic black and white portraits. North Herts is the final and most southerly venue in this nationwide tour, which travelled to Barnsley, Dumfries and Shetland.

Born in New York in 1923, Diane Arbus is considered one of the great figures of American photography, pioneering a bold new photographic approach which bridged the gap between documentary photography and fine art. She began photographing in the 1940s, and her first published images appeared in Esquire magazine in 1960. Over the next ten years Arbus produced an extraordinary body of work in which she documented the lives, appearances and emotions of people, celebrating the extraordinary in the ordinary.

Through her commitment 'to photograph everybody', she was drawn to marginalised people and communities, and the sub-cultures of post-war American society. Arbus built up relationships of trust and respect with her subjects to produce powerful portraits of astonishing intimacy. Captured in her singular vision, her images of couples, children, circus performers, drag artists, middle-class families and celebrities reveal a gap between how people want to be perceived, and how they actually appear.

A highlight of the exhibition is the rare limited-edition portfolio printed in her lifetime: A box of ten photographs 1969-71. Arbus

gave considerable thought to what this portfolio should be and how it should look, selecting a set of ten images comprising some of her most iconic portraits, including: Identical twins, Roselle, N.J. 1966 and A Jewish giant at home with his parents in the Bronx, N.Y. 1970. For Arbus, the ten images represented who she was as an artist and how she saw her work in the world, a legacy that became more solidified with her tragic death by suicide in 1971.

The museum also offers a local focus to Arbus's work, with an accompanying exhibition 'Inspired by Arbus' from Hitchin Camera Club in the Arches Gallery, until 10 December. In these photographs, the Camera Club adopted the formal qualities and techniques for which Arbus is known: the frontal square-format portrait taken with Rolleiflex camera.

Cllr Keith Hoskins, Executive Member for Enterprise and Arts, said: "This is really exciting for North Herts and the surrounding areas – it's a rare opportunity to encounter Arbus's remarkable work at first hand, and a compelling insight into the haunting and evocative imagery for which she is recognised worldwide."

Cllr Tamsin Thomas, deputy Executive Member for Enterprise and Arts, added: "We are so pleased to have this exhibition which has been complemented by local photographers who have been inspired by her."

ARTIST ROOMS is a national collection of modern and contemporary art jointly owned by Tate and National Galleries of Scotland. Its programme reaches audiences across the UK and is developed through local partnerships.

North Herts Museum is located on Brand Street, Hitchin, open Tue-Sat 10.30am-4.30pm and Sun 11am-3pm. Admission is free.

For more information check out @northhertsmuseum on Facebook and Instagram, @nhertsmuseum on Twitter, visit the North Herts Museum website or call 01462 474554.



Pictured above, one of the many exhibits on display at North Herts Museum until 25th February 2024.

• Village Voice •

January 2024

for Caldecote, Edworth, Hinxworth and Newnham

No.268

Knitting For The Hospice

Knitting November was a great success, with knitting & crafting friends coming together every Monday afternoon at Katrina's house in Edworth to knit Charlie Chicks for Garden House Hospice Care. Our small group managed to produce an incredible 593 chicks during November alone. Thanks to everyone that helped support this campaign. These will be stuffed with Cadbury's Creme eggs & will be on sale in the run up to Easter, so please look out for them!

Katrina Hoskins



Pictured above, our hugely productive Edworth and Hinxworth knitters who have dedicated hours of their time to support the Charlie Chick Campaign

Alternative Christmas Card Update

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the 2023 Hinxworth and Edworth Alternative Christmas Card Scheme. We raised a fantastic £1421 - £1056 for the Garden House Hospice and £365 for Barnardo's. Thank you to Marianne Osmond who organised the layout of the card; Margie Dickson, a member of the Hinxworth Art Society, for the painting; Phillips Digital Print for printing the card; and to Richard Floyd (Floyd Automatic Tooling Ltd) who generously sponsored the card.

With best wishes for 2024.

Rachel Giles



*Wishing all of our Readers a Happy New Year
From Karen & Jan, the Village Voice Editors*

Community Initiative in Peru



One of our young residents (Imogen Dunn) is currently fundraising for a 4 week trip to Peru in 2025 with Camps International, where she will be involved with community and environmental projects. As part of her fundraising she will be organising a pop up shop in the village hall in February and is looking for anyone who may want to sell any arts and crafts to purchase a table. She is also looking for donations of clothes that she can sell.

Imogen will also be writing to local businesses asking for sponsorship. If anyone needs a babysitter, pet sitting etc would you please keep her in mind. She can be contacted on 07578 423428. Watch for further details and progress on her fundraising!

Liz Oliver

Parish Council Minutes

DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HINXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 7th DECEMBER 2023 AT 7.00 PM.

Present: Mr N. Tiffin (Chairman), Mr R. Cobb (Vice- Chairman), Mr T Lloyd, Mr A. Dawson, Mrs W. Kitchener (Clerk). Other person present: Steve Jarvis Hertfordshire County Councillor. Apologies: Tom Tyson District Councillor.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the meeting of 2nd November were agreed by the Parish Councillors. Proposed by Tony Lloyd and seconded by Tony Dawson.

2. Matters arising not elsewhere on the Agenda. Nothing to report.

3. Correspondence: Councillor Vacancy: Having advertised the vacancy in the Village Voice the Parish Councillors agreed they will review any responses at the next Parish Council meeting on January 4th .

Uncontested Elections Charges for North Hertfordshire.: The Councillors, after notifying North Herts District Council of their concerns regarding of the charge of £250.00 to be made for Hinxworth (based on the number of electors in the Village) for uncontested elections, have now been notified that NHDC considered this matter at their Council meeting of 23 November 2023 and it was agreed the charge would be implemented. So all Parishes/Councils in the North Hertfordshire District who have uncontested elections will be charged a fee according to the number of electors in their area. Further information can be found in the link to the NHDC meeting - Agenda for Council on Thursday, 23rd November, 2023, 7.30pm| North Herts Council (north-herts.gov.uk)

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

5. Planning: Planning Consultations:

Application 23/002211/FP: Pear Tree House, Chapel Street, Hinxworth. The Parish Council has received a decision notice regarding this application.

Application 23/02509/TCA: Appletrees, High Street, Hinxworth. The Parish Council has received a decision notice regarding this application.

Application 23/02232/FP: Farrowby Farm, New Inn Road, Hinxworth. The Parish Council has received a decision notice regarding this application.

6. Highways: Traffic Calming Feasibility Study: The concerns raised by the Parish Councillors at the last Parish Council meeting of November 2nd regarding the plans from Hertfordshire Highways have now been resolved. Hertfordshire Highways have therefore now sent consultation letters giving details of the scheme to every household in Hinxworth for their comments. The closing date for these comments on the first phase of the Traffic Calming is December 20th and the Councillors urge all residents to notify Hertfordshire County Council of their views. Further details are available on the following link below: - www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/Hinxworth.

7. Village Hall: Manhole Cover: The manhole cover alongside of the Village Hall has now been replaced.

8. Recreation Ground: i) Ashwell Accies: The Councillors responded to Ashwell Accies detailing the relevant points and its concerns. We await a formal response from the Accies. ii) Annual Playground Inspection: This report which took place in December made observations of low risk items that need attention. The Parish Councillors will address these in their spring cleaning programme in New Year.

The Gate/Pedestrian Entrance: Connor Methven hopes to commence the work as soon as the weather improves.

9. The Tennis Court: Nothing to report.

10. Allotments: The Allotment Group: The Allotment committee have started to move forward with their proposed plans and associated costs for the allotment. These will be ongoing. The Parish Council have agreed to allocate funds up to £1000.00 from the Allotment subscriptions for the proposed works. This money is from subscriptions accumulated over the past thirteen years from when the allotments commenced in 2010.

11. Any Other Urgent Business: The War Memorial: The plans for the refurbishment of the War Memorial are under way. Quotes for the work will be obtained and it is hoped to commence these repairs in the late Spring when the weather improves.

The War Memorial Clock: A date from A.J. James of Saffron Walden is still awaited.

12: Date of the Next Meeting: Thursday 4th January in the Village Hall at 7.00pm. The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Wendy Kitchener (Clerk)

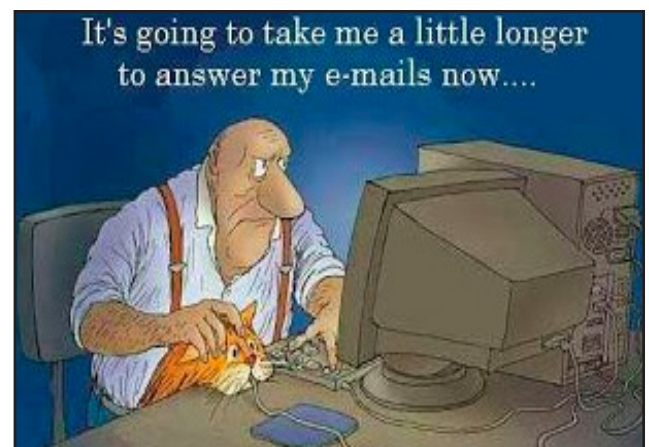
Ashwell & Bassingbourn Surgery Update

Great News!!! Just a note to notify everyone that the long awaited new telephone system for the Ashwell and Bassingbourn Surgeries is due to be installed on 30th January with staff training on the 31st. There will obviously need to be an awareness raising campaign for patients. This will be discussed at the next Patients Group Meeting on January 17th. A Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year to you all from the Patients Group.

Wendy Kitchener, Member of the Ashwell and Bassingbourn Patients Group

Church Services For January

Sun 31st Dec	10.45	Benefice Service, note - no service at St Nicholas	St Mary's, Ashwell
Sun 7th Jan	09.15	Epiphany Family Service	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Sun 14th Jan	09.15	Holy Communion	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Sun 21st Jan	09.15	Holy Communion	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Sun 28th Jan	09.15	Holy Communion	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Sun 28th Jan	09.30	BCP Communion	St Vincent's, Newnham



Hinxworth & Edworth WI Update

The December meeting is always a popular one and this year was no exception with a lovely lot of members and guests present. Anki opened the meeting and welcomed everyone and promised it would be a festive occasion. We started off well with a glass or two each of Baileys Irish Cream (kindly supplied by Marion) and Anki issued the usual WI federation information, signed last month's Minutes and read out apologies from those members not able to attend. Then on to the main part of the evening which was making Christmas table centres. The WI committee had been shopping for all the items necessary to make the table centres and gardens had been raided for holly and other greenery - we had baubles, beads, mini robins, red berries, silver and gold leaves, holly and ivy plus ribbons and glitter sprays. The results were spectacular. We were very impressed with ourselves & our creativity. The evening was very nicely rounded off with mulled wine and mince pies and a secret santa present giving. Finally the raffle was drawn. Top prize was a very splendid hamper filled with all manner of Christmas goodies and the lucky winner was Viv. It was a great meeting and a lovely way to round off the year. The next meeting will be on the 11 January 2024 at the usual time of 7.30 in the village hall. Happy New Year to all our members.

Chrisi Hook



Pictured above, WI members & their 'centre pieces'

Community Lunch

The last Community Lunch of this year and as ever so well supported by you lovely people. Three warming soups on the menu and some festive desserts to follow. There wasn't much left which was wonderful. A real surprise for me too when I was presented with a gorgeous bouquet of flowers as a thank you for organising the lunches each month - but really that is all I do - thanks should properly go to the many volunteers who help each month, whether it is making soup, creating posters for the Facebook page or helping to clear up after lunch and of course a big thank you to you all who come and support the lunches each month. It's a real team effort from the whole community so very many thanks. We raised a good sum of money and I am able to send off £150.00 to the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal. The next Community Lunch will be on the 12 January 2024 at 12.30. Happy New Year to you all.

Chrisi Hook

Copy Date: Please send all copy/pictures for the February edition by January 20th. E: villagevoice3@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY LUNCH Hinxworth & Edworth Village Hall 12.30pm Friday 12th January



Price includes selection of homemade soups, breads & desserts plus tea / coffee

A 'Thank You' for Chrisi

Chrisi Hook was presented with a bouquet of flowers during December's community lunch as a thank you for organising a years worth of lunches, bringing the community together, all the fabulous desserts she makes every month & the great amount of money she raises for charities close to our hearts. Don't forget that all profits go to charity, so please let Chrisi know if you would like to nominate a charity.

Katrina Hoskins

Pictured right, Chrisi being presented with her 'Thank You' flowers.



Check Out Local Live Traffic and Travel News

Did you know that 'The Comet' have a free webpage which features information on Engineering Works, Road Works, Traffic Reports and Live Public Transport Disruptions.

You can search for known incidents within 5, 10 or 25 miles from Letchworth, covering the Village Voice catchment....

You can find this at: <https://www.thecomet.net/li/roadworks.in.Letchworth%20Garden%20City/>