

On The Beat

Looking after vulnerable road users

This month I have received an email from a concerned runner who was nearly 'clipped' by a car and was caught with a rock that flicked up and hit them.

I would like to use this opportunity to remind road users of the Highway Code: that changed a couple of years ago in January 2022. The new rule outlines the hierarchy of road users giving greater protection to vulnerable road users. Pedestrians, Horse Riders and cyclists. There is updated guidance on safe passing distances and speeds for people driving or riding a motorcycle when overtaking vulnerable road users, including:

- leaving at least 1.5 metres (5 feet) when overtaking people cycling at speeds of up to 30mph, and giving them more space when overtaking at higher speeds
- passing people riding horses or driving horse-drawn vehicles at speeds under 10 mph and allowing at least 2 metres (6.5 feet) of space
- allowing at least 2 metres (6.5 feet) of space and keeping to a low speed when passing people walking in the road (for example, where there's no pavement)
- Wait behind them and do not overtake if it's unsafe or not possible to meet these clearances.

Police & farmers' union launch initiative across Herts

A new initiative has been launched across Hertfordshire to help provide additional support to rural communities. Officers from the constabulary's Rural Operational Support Team (ROST) have joined forces with the National Farmers' Union (NFU). The aim of the project is to identify issues that rural communities are currently facing, such as anti-social behaviour, burglary, theft of machinery or wildlife crime, and work together to try and resolve them. Chaired by ROST Sergeant Alex Winning, the working groups will help give those living and working in rural communities a better and more direct avenue to voice their concerns to police. The groups will meet quarterly to review the issues raised, set priorities for the coming months and provide updates on how effective their efforts have been.

If you have an issue you'd like to report, you can do so online, speak to an operator in our Force Communications Room via our online web chat or call the non-emergency number 101. Always dial 999 in an emergency. Alternatively, you can email the ROST directly or contact your local NFU representative.

Local Crime Reported

G4E - Ashwell, Hinxworth, Bygrave, Newnham and Caldecote

- Theft of Motor Vehicle, Ashwell – Between 12:30 to 13:45 on 11th December. A vehicle was stolen from a farm in Ashwell. The vehicle taken was a Isuzu D-Max Yukon and was later recovered in Haynes, Bedfordshire and returned to its owner
- Shed Burglary, Weeden Way, Bygrave – On 3rd January a shed was targeted at a property in Weeden Way, Bygrave. The offender used a crowbar or similar to gain entry. The offenders removed a camping stove which was discarded and found in a neighbours garden. 41/1779/24
- Damage, Radwell – Overnight on 12th January a farm driveway gate was cut off with an angle grinder. The gate was left dumped adjacent to the gate. The reporting person believes that his land was entered in order to poach. 41/4227/24
- Outbuilding Burglary, Ashwell – overnight 22nd January a farm building was targeted. The offender trespassed into an outbuilding at a farm. The offender removed power tools



The countryside charity
Hertfordshire

Are you involved with an organisation which is looking for interesting and informative talks? If so, please contact us. We are Hertfordshire's countryside charity, working across the county to stand up for our countryside and green spaces.

Some of the things our charity aims to do are: promote the benefits of the countryside and our natural environment to everyone, wherever they live; raise awareness of the Hertfordshire countryside as a vital space for health and wellbeing; encourage care of our chalk streams, woodlands, fields and hedgerows to help protect landscapes and wildlife.

One of the ways we do this is by offering a variety of interesting talks on the following topics:

- Why we need to protect the countryside – CPRE Hertfordshire's role
- Exploring Rural Hertfordshire – a walk along the Hertfordshire Way
- Following the Swan – a walk of discovery down the Lea Valley
- A Recent History of Hertfordshire – and how CPRE continues to campaign to protect the countryside
- A Tour of some Churches in Rural Hertfordshire
- Countryside Close to Home – some wildlife in a Hertfordshire garden, and how to attract wildlife to any garden.

We can adjust the length of any talk to suit the requirements of your meeting. Many of our talks are illustrated with PowerPoint slides and our speaker can bring a projector; a screen or white wall available in your meeting place is helpful but we can provide a screen if needed.

Being a charity ourselves, we do normally ask for a donation which helps to support CPRE's work in the county. If your group has a small membership we can reduce this amount on request.

For more information or to make a booking, please contact us by emailing office@cpreherts.org.uk. To find out more about CPRE Hertfordshire please visit our website www.cpreherts.org.uk.

The Annual Newnham Parish lunch

This will take place at Newnham Hall Cottage on Sunday 23rd of June at 1pm.

Tickets are £15, children under 12 are £5. These will be available from Yvonne Tookey for Hinxworth only 01462 742439, Fiona Hughes 01462 742709, Trish Farr 07816178496 and Lyn Stark 07540690066.

Fiona Hughes

Ashwell's Flea Market

Saturday 9th March 2024 from 9.30-1.00 pm at St Mary's Church, Ashwell.

"All sorts of weird and wonderful items for sale"

Free Entry - Tea and Coffee will be available

• Village Voice •

March 2024

for Caldecote, Edworth, Hinxworth and Newnham

No.270

Ashwell and Bassingbourn Patients Group

The "PHARMACY FIRST" Scheme

The NHS recently launched its PHARMACY FIRST scheme which enables pharmacists to carry out consultations and issue antibiotics where appropriate. The aim is to make it easier and quicker for people with certain conditions to get the help they need, rather than having to go to their GP. This should relieve pressure on surgeries who should have more time for patients with other symptoms.

Under this scheme pharmacists can now supply medicines for:-

- Sore throat
- Earache
- Sinusitis
- Impetigo
- Shingles
- Infected insect bites
- Uncomplicated urinary tract infections in women.

Patients can access this new service by walking straight into a chemist. If one of the above conditions is diagnosed, pharmacists can give medicines to patients without sending them to a GP. Patients requiring more specialist or follow-up care will be referred onwards.

Our local Pharmacies in Ashwell and Bassingbourn are participating in this scheme and are looking forward to offering their services to patients in our area.

Peter Chapman, Chair

Camps International fundraiser
Preloved clothes & Craft sale Saturday 2 March
12 - 2:30 pm
Hinxworth Village Hall

What will we be doing?

- Selling pre-loved clothes
- Tombola
- Cake & Sweet treats
- Arts & Crafts (tables can be hired for £10)

If you have anything you would like to sell tables can be hired for £10
Please contact Liz on 07846797230 for further information



CHARLIE CHICKS

Garden House Hospice Care

Treat yourself to a cheerful chick filled with a Creme Egg.
With hat: £2.50 per chick | No hat: £1.50 per chick

How to pay:

- Pay in cash
- Scan the QR code
- Text CHICKS followed by your amount to 70460

Tweets will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message, and you'll be opting into hearing more from us. If you would like to unsubscribe or wish to hear more from us, please text CHICKSINFO instead.

For more information, please visit ghospicecare.org.uk/charlie-chicks

Sponsored by DLRC

'Charlie Chicks' will be available to buy from The Three Horseshoes, Hinxworth and 8 The Barns, Lower Farm, Edworth.

News to share from the Jenkins Family

The family of Lin Jenkins wanted to share the sad news of Lin's passing.

Lin and Lance lived in Hinxworth, on Christy's Yard for 26 years and were very much part of the community.

In loving memory of Lin Jenkins
30th July 1944 - 9th February 2024

Parish Council Minutes

DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HINXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 1st FEBRUARY 2024 AT 7.00 PM.

Present: Mr N. Tiffin (Chairman), Mr R. Cobb (Vice-Chairman), Mr T Lloyd, Mr T Dawson. **Other persons present:** Steve Jarvis Hertfordshire County Councillor and Tom Tyson District Councillor. **Apologies:** Mrs W. Kitchener (Clerk) Liz Oliver (new PC Member).

1. The Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the meeting of 4th January were agreed by the Parish Councillors. Proposed by Tony Lloyd and seconded by Dick Cobb.

2. Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda. None.

3. Correspondence: We were requested to complete Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA), which was done online. We also received an email regarding the development at Marshfield Farm Barn (this is dealt with in the planning).

4. Finance: Current Parish Council Funds: Not agreed due to no finance information being available, to be completed at the next meeting. The councillors agreed the precept to go up by 3% in the next calendar year. The councillors also approved a salary increase for the clerk of 3%.

5. Planning: Planning Consultations: Planning Consultation 23/02947/FP at Marshfield Barn, is to extend the ground floor area. All Councillors had no objection to this application as the building does not exceed one storey.

Also, the council property on New Inn Road has been started and as the weather has been so bad it was noted that the road is becoming very muddy and the verges damaged. Steve Jarvis has noted this and will ask the contractors to be aware of this and clean the road.

6. Highways: Traffic Calming Feasibility Study: The Gate at the Church end of the high street will only be on one side and is complete. The other end of the High Street will be done once the adjusted speed limit is approved for the traffic calming scheme.

7. Village Hall: Nothing to report.

8. Recreation Ground: The Hinxworth Archery Club agreement has been signed with a 3% increase and this is now with the Archery Club Chair for counter-signature.

We also received a new quote for maintenance of the recreation ground and we have pushed back on this as the increase over last year were in the region of 20%. We need to get these in line. We also agreed to the cost and work to clear back the perimeter hedge of the playing field before the birds start nesting, this has not been done for a few years (cost £880).

The Gate/Pedestrian Entrance work: waiting for this to be done but the weather is against us at present.

9. The Tennis Court: Nothing to report.

10. Allotments: Nothing to report.

11. Any Other Urgent Business: The War Memorial Clock: Steve Jarvis has offered £500 towards the refurbishment cost of the war memorial. We are still hoping to secure some contribution from the Clutterbuck Foundation towards the cost of the work which we hope to start in the summer. The Chair will send an e-mail to the Foundation to ensure it is on their agenda next month.

12: Date of the Next Meeting: Thursday 7th March in the Village Hall at 7.00pm. The meeting closed at 7.45pm. Also please note the Annual Parish Meeting will take place at 8 pm on the 4th of April.

Wendy Kitchener (Clerk)

Church Services For March

Sun 3rd Mar	09.15	Family Service	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Sun 10th Mar	09.15	Mothering Sunday, All Age Communion	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Sun 17th Mar	09.15	Holy Communion	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Sun 24th Mar	09.15	Palm Sunday, Holy Communion	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Fri 29th Mar	13.00	Good Friday, Reflective Service	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Sun 31st Mar	09.15	Easter Day Communion	St Nicholas, Hinxworth
Sun 31st Mar	09.30	Easter Day Communion	St Vincent's, Newnham

Church News

The funeral took place on Thursday 25th January for Gerald Clare, who with Audrey, was a long time resident of this village and was greatly involved with church activities. One specifically comes to mind that for many years the pair of them took on the role of opening and locking the church on a daily basis. He was buried in our churchyard after a service in the church.

Anybody with some connection with the village can be buried here. There is plenty of room in the churchyard for the future. Currently burials take place along the current line of graves.

The bell ringers group continues to peel their music on Wednesday evenings.

The church continues to be opened daily. Church services welcome all comers from all denominations and religions. We still have a white box for donating food to a local food bank.

Did you know that the paddocks to the East of the Church is home to five horses. The paddock features four wonderful looking mature Cedar Trees. They potentially have the names of the four gospels Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. There is a legal preservation order on their continued existence which would keep the area in its present peaceful setting.

A change to future events mentioned in the last Village Voice. Bishop Alan will not be able to visit on Sunday 17th March as he will be recovering from an operation. Instead, his visit is scheduled for Sunday 16th June for a church service starting here at 11:00 am.

On Wednesday 6th March the PCC have their next meeting at 4:30 pm in the Oak Room.

On Sunday 5th May at 10:30am is the annual meeting for not only the PCC and the usual attending congregation but also it is open to all villagers who would like to have an input about how the church's business is being managed.

On Saturday 31st August is the date for the next Village Barbecue and Family Fun Day.

Again, a plea for more volunteers to be involved in running the business of the church by joining the PCC, church cleaning and joining the opening and locking roster.

Alec Stephenson

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

A view from Lower Farm

This is a new column that won't always review local events but it seemed like a good place to start.....

Anglia Comedy Club

"Yes – I was on 'I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here'...." began Seann Walsh – the headline act at the Anglia Comedy Club night at Letchworth Broadway cinema earlier this month. "My agent said 'if you go on that the offers will come flooding in...'" he added enthusiastically, before pausing, looking around the cinema slightly forlornly, and sighing "Letchworth Garden City." It was a strong opening.

I was offered a ticket to this at short notice and didn't even know such a thing existed, but it was an evening of excellent entertainment. The Anglia Comedy Club, who tour venues across the South East, have a regular slot at the Broadway (The next one is April 6th and tickets start from £20), where there was a seemingly full house and plenty of trade at the (slightly pricey) bars that were open before the show and during the interval.

The compère (Steve Bugeja) kicked things off and welcomed the acts on stage, two in the first half (Lucy Porter and Cally Beaton), and one in the second (Sean Walsh), but also provided some laughs in between. As always, the front row was deemed fair game so if you're feeling brave then choose a seat there, but otherwise the cinema is a very comfy venue for some live comedy and I'd definitely recommend it as a great night out. And to top it all off, the show finished in time for a short zip up the A1 and back into the 'Shoes' for last orders!

If Carlsberg did 'away days'.....

As it's that time of year when egg chasing infiltrates into the national psyche more than usual (6 Nations, not the countdown to Easter) I wanted to share some thoughts on a trip I've been lucky enough to go on a few times which is away in Rome to watch Italy play against England and Scotland.

If you were designing the perfect 'away day' this would probably be it....

Firstly, you can always get tickets as it rarely sells out, and Italy play at the hugely impressive Stadio Olimpico, so you won't struggle to get in. Secondly, your team (regardless of which home nation you support) is probably going to win. Thirdly, it was eighteen degrees when England were in town for Gameweek 1 this year, and as much as I love Edinburgh in February, it's a very different proposition. Fear not though, there are beer vendors in the stadium that bring it to your seat to ensure you don't overheat.

The Italian National anthem is (in my view) one of the greatest out there, and the sound of 40,000 azurri belting it out is genuinely heart warming, as is the live music concert on the concourse after the match. Rome is also not too shabby when it comes to food, drink and sightseeing in general, so it's a fantastic weekend on all levels. If you book early enough the flights are very reasonable with Vueling or Easyjet and tickets typically go on sale in October/November. Forza Italia!

Matthew Flint

The Three Horseshoes....What's On!

There's lots going on this month!

Don't forget to book your table to avoid disappointment.....

- Mothers Day – Sun 10th
- Quiz Night – Wed 20th
- St Patricks Day – Guest Chef Night...Irish themed
- Bangkok Night – Sat 23rd

Community Lunch

As always - thank you everyone for your on-going support each month. With your support and enthusiasm we continue to raise money each month for various charities and this time we are sending £100.00 to ShelterBox - this is a charity who help provide emergency shelter for families wherever it is needed throughout the world. A big thank you too to the wonderful soup makers - a choice of four soups this time so it made choosing one even harder than usual. The next Community Lunch will be on the 15 March at 12.30-2pm. Put the date in your diaries. Look forward to seeing you all then.

Chrisi Hook

COMMUNITY LUNCH
Hinxworth & Edworth Village Hall
12.30pm Friday 15th March



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

Hinxworth & Edworth WI Update

It's always lovely when one of our own members takes centre stage and gives a talk or a demonstration. At February's meeting we were in for a real treat when Sylvia presented the members and guests with a really interesting talk and slide show of her and Bob's recent holiday in Costa Rica. We all settled down with a glass of wine ready for Sylvia who started off her talk telling us some very interesting facts and figures about Costa Rica (all of which I have now forgotten so do investigate for yourselves as it is certainly an intriguing place). Sylvia had put together a great selection of slides for us showing the stunning scenery, beautiful birds and of course the sloths which thrive in the dense forests. They are plentiful in Costa Rica but hard to spot as they spend a lot of time hanging upside down high up in the trees but Sylvia and Bob were lucky enough to see one swimming across the river in front of them as they were boating down stream. Sylvia said it was one of the highlights of their holiday. She also bravely tackled the hanging bridges in Arenal and did a bit of ziplining across some of the gorges - not for the faint hearted. It was a super talk and slide show and very well received.

The meeting was brought to a close with a brief round up of WI news, further refreshments and the raffle. Next month (March 14) the speaker is Jason Middleton giving a talk entitled "Jewels of the Rich and Famous". The meeting will start a bit earlier than usual with doors opening at 7.15pm ready for a prompt start at 7.30pm. Look forward to seeing you then.

Chrisi Hook