



YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS ARE: -

Councillor Lisa Bayley – (Chair of the Parish Council)

lisabayley@btinternet.com

Tel: 01442 211602

Councillor Jan Maddern – (Vice Chair of Parish Council)

jan.maddern@hotmail.co.uk

Tel. 07711066696

Councillor Dave Jackson - (Chair of Finance)

david.jackson@nashmillsparishcouncil.gov.uk

Tel: 01442 230892

Councillor Terence Collins – (Vice Chairman of Planning)

terence.collins2@ntlworld.com

Tel: 01442 405220

Councillor Louise Gross- (Chair of Personnel)

louisemckaygross@yahoo.co.uk

Councillor Peter Lardi – (Chair of Planning)

NMPC.planning@gmail.com

Tel: 07501008199

Councillor Rosie Moubray (Vice Chair of Finance)

rmoubray5@yahoo.co.uk

Tel: 07966463987

Councillor Helen Gough - (Vice Chair of Personnel)

helen.gough1@ntlworld.com Tel: 01442 382989

E: clerk@nashmillsparishcouncil.gov.uk

T: Linda Sutton - 01462 735553 or visit:

W: www.nashmillsparishcouncil.gov.uk

A: 154 Hitchin Road, Stotfold, Herts, SG5 4JE

Make the first step towards inspiring a smile today!

This could be the year that you help to turn around the lives of vulnerable local children and young people.

If you are passionate, have at least one spare room in your home and want a new challenge, you could foster for Hertfordshire! You can help local children and young people: feel secure, thrive and enjoy their childhood and find somewhere to call home.

There are many myths about fostering however, carers come from all walks of life, whether you are married, in a relationship or single, rent or own your home, or have children of your own and are over 21 - you could become a foster carer this year. If you have a spare bedroom and can provide a loving and safe environment for a child in need of stability.

Before you start fostering you will need to attend a 'skills to foster' course which will go through all the essential skills & knowledge foster carers need.

Once you start fostering you will be able attend further training to help you progress your foster carer career. If you are ready to make the first step towards your fostering journey, contact the friendly fostering team on **0800 917 0925**. They will then contact you and chat with you in more detail about the process of becoming a foster carer.

Or visit: hertsdirect.org/fostering - imagine the difference you could make!

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Advertising in Nash Mills Parish Council Magazine

Would you like to advertise in our Parish Magazine? We have three editions published annually - spring, summer and winter. The cost of a small advert is £22.50 or a larger one at £50 (exclusive of VAT). Our magazine is circulated to approximately 1100 residents and to some local businesses and schools within the Nash Mills parish area. We also upload a pdf of the magazine onto our parish council website; www.nashmillsparishcouncil.gov.uk

'Summer Sizzlers' Literary Quiz

1) Who used the pseudonym Acton Bell? 2) Who wrote 'The Book Thief'? 3) Who famously quoted 'Courage is grace under pressure'. 4) Which author was nicknamed 'the goat' as a child? 5) Which author went missing for eleven days in 1926? 6) Who wrote 'The Life of Charlotte Bronte'? 7) Who wrote 'Girl on a train'? 8) Which author wrote a bestselling novel in 1936, winning the Pulitzer Prize in 1937 and was tragically killed in 1949? 9) Which children's author was born in South Wales and was married to actress Patricia Neal? 10) Which Russian author was a direct descendent of Genghis Khan? 11) Which author wrote Barnaby Rudge? 12) Which author's second novel sold 5 million copies worldwide and was made into a film starring Colin Firth and Scarlett Johansson? 13) Which author and explorer wrote Valley of the Assassins (1934); and died aged 100? 14) Which author spent ten years in Hollywood as a writer-producer, working on The Twilight Zone and began work on his epic fantasy series, A Song of Ice and Fire? 15) Which famous author has sold over £400 million books worldwide, translated into 67 languages and originally worked for Amnesty International?

Answers to 'Spring has Sprung' General Quiz

1) 007. 2) Three. 3) Orange. 4) Geology. 5) Twelve. 6) Asda. 7) 64. 8) On the moon. 9) A pound coin. 10) Yellow. 11) Dad's Army. 12) Red, Yellow and Blue. 13) Mr Benn. 14) Victoria Cross. 15) Rome.

Thank you for all your entries there were a lot of correct entries. However, the winners drawn out were Emma and Alison, The Mallards. Congratulations! The prize of £20 'the rollover amount' will be winging its way to them shortly. The closing date for the summer quiz is the 30th September. Fifteen questions for a £10 prize. Please send your entries to the Parish Clerk (address on inside cover.)

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Come and visit the Belted Galloways at Bunkers Park



Councillor Jan Maddern kindly took pictures to mark the arrival of a small herd of belted galloways to live and graze in secured fields at Bunkers Park, Nash Mills.

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Sir John Evans

The elegant Georgian Nash Mills House sits forlornly in the middle of the former mill site waiting for the completion of the protracted restoration by the developers. This article tells a little more of the person who lived in it the longest, John Evans, from the time of his retirement from the Chairmanship of John Dickinson & Co. in 1885 until he moved out in 1906.

As well as concentrating on his many academic pursuits and considerable international travel Evans found time to be Chairman of Berkhamsted School for twenty years and Sheriff of Hertfordshire in 1881. In 1888 he served as Chairman of Quarter Sessions and was the second Chairman of Hertfordshire County Council soon after its formation. Closer to home he had advised on the need for a new drainage scheme in 1871 for Hemel Hempstead.

Whilst living at Nash Mills House John Evans First wife, Harriett, bore him three children; his second marriage to Frances known as 'Fanny' lasted for over forty years without children. Finally, his third wife, Maria, a much younger woman bore him one daughter, Joan, who would chronicle the history of her family and the John Dickinson company. It was around the time of his third marriage that he was knighted in Queen Victoria's Birthday Honours List of 1892. Typically for him their honeymoon included a visit to the gravel pits of northern France to excavate for early flint tools.

In 1906 the Evans's moved to the house which he had built at Berkhamsted, now forming the nucleus of the Castle Village retirement complex near the golf club. When Evans died, in 1908, he was buried outside the chancel at Abbots Langley church in the grave of his first wife. The cortege met a special train at Kings Langley station where it was met by 70 or 80 carriages and 40 motor cars according to the Hemel Hempstead Gazette. Amongst the mourners was the representative of the Prince of Wales.

A truly remarkable man who had lived for most of his life in the community of Nash Mills. – *By Mike Stanyon.*



Bunkers Park Update

Summer is with us – well, rumour has it that when it stops raining we will realise that it is getting warmer. That means plants grow and we need to deal with the Ragwort!

We have conducted the first Ragwort pull and have another planned for the end of July. Fingers crossed but we seem to be making an impact as there was definitely less this time and we should complete the task with one more activity this year. By “complete the task” I do not mean it has been removed but it is less and on the decline. This has also been helped by individuals pulling what they see as they walk round Bottom Field so thanks for that.

Whilst walking through the field in search of Ragwort there is an abundance of wild flowers that can be found including an increasing stock of orchids. We saw at least 5 varieties of butterfly including Marbled White. It really is worthwhile taking the time to not just walk through the park but stop and look at the flora and fauna that inhabit the area. We have a great resource on our doorstep so let’s make use of it.

The Belted Galloways arrived on time and were welcomed by about 50 people together with the Mayor and Mike Penning, MP.

They seem to have settled in well - that’s the Galloways not the Mayor! They tend to congregate around the hedges and move between fields so may take a bit of seeking out.

Enjoy the Park this summer. *By Geoff Doole*

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facilities provide for outdoor sport and further extra-curricular activities.

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Visiting the school is the best way to find out if Abbot's Hill is the best choice for your daughter or son.

To arrange a personal tour of the Nursery and Pre-School, please contact Jo Watkins, Nursery Manager on 01442 839103 or email: nursery@abbotshill.herts.sch.uk. Or, to arrange a tour of our Prep and Senior School, please call our Registrar on 01442 240333. We look forward to welcoming you.



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ENQUIRIES: for bookings, charges or any other information, please either:

Call 07554 997144 or Visit www.nashmillsvillagehall.co.uk

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Older and Disabled Persons Bus Pass.

Get free off-peak travel between 9.30am and 11pm weekdays and all day during the weekend and bank holidays.

Either, contact Hertfordshire County Council on **0300 123 4040** or get an application form from your local library, district / borough council office, tourist information office, or One Stop Shop.

Who can get an older person's bus pass? Well if you live in Hertfordshire, are state pension age or older (linked to the female state pension age) then you are eligible.

You will need to: provide a recent passport-style photo, prove that you live in Hertfordshire - with a council tax bill, driving licence or a recent utility bill.

Prove your age - with a passport, birth certificate, driving licence or pension book.

It will take **10** working days to get your bus pass once HCC have got your full application. You don't need to renew your bus pass. HCC will renew it automatically and they will send your new one in the post before your current one runs out. Contact them if you haven't received it by then.

Hertfordshire Trading Standards

Hertfordshire Trading Standards has launched Scams Awareness Month on 1 July to help stop people falling prey to scams by following a three-step rule - get advice, report it, and tell others about it.

It comes as national research by Citizens Advice finds scammers are using a variety of tactics to get people to part with their cash, with people losing an average of £2,500 across all types of scam.

Scam methods include vishing whereby scammers cold-call people in a bid to get their bank details, and offers of fake services, such as telling people their computer has a virus which they can fix remotely.

Investment scams carried the highest price tag, with people investing in fake diamonds or bogus stocks and shares losing on average £20,000 each.

In Hertfordshire a particularly nasty scam has seen elderly people being targeted by telephone scammers selling them overpriced vitamins to help their health conditions. A 94 year old gentleman in Welwyn Garden City was told that omega 3 capsules would help to prevent cancer. A Bushey resident has been repeatedly targeted by these companies and as a result has lost over £20,000 on unwanted vitamins. Trading Standards has helped by installing call blockers for these victims to stop future phone calls and assisted in obtaining a number of refunds.

Citizens Advice is warning people to be on guard and watch out for the different methods used by fraudsters, from doorstep selling of counterfeit goods to demands for upfront payments for services that never materialise.

Eight common scams reported to Citizens Advice are:

1. Investment - victims are persuaded to invest money into fake ventures and are then unable to get their money back.

2. Fake services - people are offered a service for a fee, only to find the service isn't real or doesn't exist at all. Examples include, offers to fix computers remotely and fake invoices for advertising.

3. Vishing - con-artists cold-call people pretending to be a legitimate company, asking for credit or debit card details - for example on the pretence that they need to refund overpaid bills.

4. Doorstep selling - victims are offered goods door-to-door or from the back of a van, which are likely to be counterfeit. Fraudsters selling mattresses, "fresh" fish and cleaning products were all reported to Citizens Advice.

5. Upfront payment or fee - fraudsters ask for a payment in advance for a service or product that never materialises, such as asking for a fee to get a loan, or to pay for a training course to secure a job.

6. Premium rate texts - victims inadvertently agree to receive premium rate texts about games or competitions, usually costing around £4 each.

7. Counterfeit goods - people buy goods at marketplaces or online that turn out to be counterfeit or even stolen. Common products include cigarettes, shoes and clothing, and tickets for events.

8. Goods not received - people place orders for goods which don't arrive. Scams are often carried out through social media and online auction sites.

To get advice visit Herts County Council dedicated scams pages at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/scams

What to do if you have been scammed

Get advice and report it to Trading Standards through your local Citizens Advice or through the Citizens Advice consumer service on **03454 04 05 06**.

Hertfordshire Police Report



Beating Burglary

Operation Guardian

We work together with your local council and other partners to help keep Hertfordshire one of the safest counties in the country. Under our burglary prevention campaign Operation Guardian, we work to keep residents and local businesses informed about how best to secure their property, carry out regular patrols to deter any burglars and carry out a whole range of enforcement tactics to catch them and bring them to justice.

You too can play a part, by taking some simple steps to help secure your property and send a clear message to any would-be thieves to keep out.

Herts Police and Hertfordshire County Council have launched a new interactive safety and security tool - explore the virtual 'house' to get handy hints on how to keep you and your property safe and secure.

http://www.herts.police.uk/advice/crime_prevention/beating_burglary.aspx

The Top Five Operation Guardian Tips:

- Make a habit of checking that ground floor windows and doors are closed and locked when you leave the house or go to bed. Upstairs windows should be locked when the house is unoccupied. UPVC doors must be locked by lifting the handle and using the key to ensure all the security features are in place.

- Car and house keys should be kept out of sight in a safe place. Don't leave them on display on window sills, in porches, hallways or kitchens.

- Secure your rear garden by shutting and locking any gates. Burglars can use garden tools to break in, so make sure you securely lock away any tools after use.

- Why not be a good neighbour - if they are out, help deter burglars and give their home the lived-in look by putting away their emptied rubbish bins. You can also help by keeping a look out for unusual callers in your neighbourhood, and call the police if you see anyone acting suspiciously. Keep a pen and some paper handy. The car number you jot down may be just what the police need to catch a burglar.

- Why not sign up to Neighbourhood Watch? The image of curtain-twitching is gone and you can now join online.

Visit www.owl.co.uk or call the police non-emergency number on 101 or email me (Pcso Ian Martin) direct ian.martin2@herts.pnn.police.uk

News from St Mary's Church, Apsley



We have had a busy spring and early summer at St Mary's starting back on Easter Monday, when some of us walked to St Albans for the annual youth pilgrimage. The weather was kind to us and we were able to enjoy our lunch outside the cathedral in the sun before going in for the service itself.

We enjoyed another day at the cathedral in June as we joined in the celebrations for St Albans Day with hundreds of other pilgrims from around the country and indeed the world. At this event the main roads through the centre of St Albans are closed as the story of the martyrdom of St Albans is played out with the help of very large puppets. These are about 17feet tall and carried by strong young people! Once again the weather was kind and we had a very enjoyable day.

Turning to local events, some of us have started visiting Water Mill House Care Home once a month where we have a short service (with Hymns) with some of the residents, and indeed the first two have been very well attended.

This service is in addition to the one held at Florence Longman House each month which has been held for many years and is also well attended. Another way we are trying to get more involved with our local community is through our Buzzy Bees group which is held every Tuesday between 10am - 12noon. This very active group is open to all parents/grandparent and carers with babies and young children and unlike other groups in the area continues to run during the summer holiday period. Recently 15 members of this group had a summer outing to KidZone at Berkhamsted where they had a very enjoyable morning.

We celebrated the Queens 90th birthday in June with a special bring and share lunch. We were hoping to hold this in the churchyard, with games to follow, but on the day we had some heavy summer rain which forced us inside. Our fundraising group held a very successful Quiz Evening at Nash Mills C of E School, and are at present planning a New and Nearly New Table Top sale on the 3rd September. So if you would like to rent a table (phone 01442 257108) or just come along to the event it will be held between 1pm - 3.30pm.

During the summer months our services continue as normal, with Sunday School during the 10am Sunday service. The annual Teddy Bears Picnic as usual will be held on the last Sunday in August, this year the 28th, to which all Teddy Bears and Owners are invited. There is no Messy Church during August but the next one is on 18th September.

Finally, although it still seems a long way to Christmas, our Christmas Bazaar will be held this year on Saturday 19th November between 10am - 1pm. So please put this event in your diaries. More details concerning all services and events across our Benefice can be found on our web site which is www.beneficeoflangelei.org.uk From us all at St Mary's, do have a good summer.

By Peter Bladon.

CRA CELEBRATES IN STYLE

Sunday the 12th June saw members and friends of the Chambersbury Residents' Association take to the street and celebrate with a Street Party fit for a Queen! In fact, by courtesy of Nash Mills Parish Council - who also very generously partly sponsored the event with both funding and the provision of a much appreciated 'Party Pack' - we also had a very special guest attending the event; no less than the Queen herself and looking very well for 90 years old it had to be said!

Despite grey clouds and persistent rain falling on and off during the morning, a valiant team of helpers worked between 8.00am and 12 noon, setting up shelters, erecting gazebos, putting up bunting and flags, wiring up the music and generally getting the site ready to party.

In the event, by the time we were actually ready to start at 2.00pm, the rain had stopped, the sun had come out and the afternoon unfolded into one of great fun and games. Included in the entertainment were plenty of activities for the children, with a fancy dress competition judged by our other special guest of the day - Jan Maddern, Dacorum Borough Councillor for Nash Mills, who we were delighted could come and join in with our celebrations.

There was a craft stall for making crowns and other royal attire; a colouring competition to 'dress' the Queen; a treasure hunt with a royal theme and lots of other games for them to play. There was also a 'Make a (royal birthday) Cake' competition for everyone to join in and which generated some truly creative designs and

a special charity fund raising 'Guess the Weight of the Cake' competition.

With a special 'bubbly toast' to the Queen halfway through the proceedings, a selected playlist of music from the nine decades of the Queen's life playing in the background throughout the afternoon and some 60 or so revellers enjoying the picnics and BBQ's which they brought along, four hours of fun, laughter and enjoyment in a great community spirit seemed to pass in the blink of an eye!



The CRA committee relax in the company of their very special guest!

By Richard Ball, Chair of CRA.

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Nash Mills Parish Council

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