

YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS ARE: -

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154 Hitchin Road Stotfold Herts SG5 4JE

Tel. 01462 735553

Contact David Drew, Parish Warden via the Clerk.

Friends of Bunkers Park



Just a short report to update you on recent Friends of Bunkers Park events. We carried out the Ragwort removal in July and it was so successful it is unlikely we will need to do more work on this in August. The Hemel Conservation Group helped us and now Bottom Field is more or less free from the plant.

The work we did last year cut down the volume we had to deal with this year and I hope that if we keep an eye on it we can keep it clear for future years. The BBQ was held in spite of the rain which did make it easier to pull the Ragwort out anyway!!

We are putting together dates for coppicing in November and December so check the website for dates. Have an enjoyable time in the Park and do look out for the butterflies - last week we saw a number of marbled whites. If you would like to join us for any of the events please let either Linda or myself know. Geoff Doole
July 2014

The Denes Car Parking Scheme Update



After three years of negotiation we are delighted to announce that we have at last agreed the plans and finalised funding for the much-needed car park improvements at The Denes, which will see the capacity increased by 1/3.

The success of the local shops has resulted in the car park becoming very congested, so a greater parking provision is essential to accommodate the increased demand.

The ambitious scheme is a joint three way venture between Hertfordshire Highways, Dacorum Borough Council and Nash Mills Parish Council and will be funded equally between the three parties.

In order to make enough space for the extra parking bays the car park will need to be widened, and this will mean cutting into the grassed area at the front of the car park. Please be assured that we will retain a good portion of the grassed area, but we will need to use part of it in order to widen the car park.

Unfortunately, we will need to lose two of the trees, but as the trees' roots are already causing damage to the car park this would have become a greater issue in the near future anyway. To compensate for the loss of the trees, new rowan trees will be planted as part of the project so we hope that local people will support the decision.

At the moment there are no plans to impose parking restrictions (other than the 2 disabled bays), however, the area will be closely monitored following completion and should parking still be difficult this will be considered. As customers of some of the shops need to park for several hours this isn't an easy option, but we will do whatever is necessary to ensure that parking is accessible for the shops.

The work will take place in the autumn as soon as we have confirmation that the trees are clear of nests, and should take 3 weeks to complete. The plan is to keep half the car park open for as much of the time as possible, although during the resurfacing phase the area will be closed to traffic and this will be done at night. Pavements will remain open throughout.

We are delighted that - at last - the car park expansion is taking place and hope that everyone will see an immediate improvement.

Should you have any questions or concerns please contact the parish council.

Beating Burglary Operation Guardian



We work together with your local parish 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/beat](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, call the police non-emergency number on 101 or email me (Pcso Ian Martin) direct ian.martin2@herts.pnn.police.uk

Nash Mills Dog Show



On a gloriously sunny June weekend, I found myself at the Nash Mills Dog Show. The sun was shining brightly in the background as the nervous owners of the beautiful pets lined up for judgment. It was a wonderful spectre to be a part of.

As a professional photographer, I get a lot of joy from recording such events as these - where real life takes place. You may well have seen me in the back of the crowds with my enormous camera, keenly soaking up pictures of the day... and I'm very happy with the results.

From a shoot of around 300 pictures, I've whittled it down to just 20 which I'm proudest of. I'd like an opportunity to share those pictures with the owners - I've spent a lot of time and effort professionally editing the pictures so that the shots do your wonderful pets justice. If you are interested in seeing the pictures, please get in contact on 07511166110, email at info@nomadicous.com and you can see all of the pictures at the following link:

<http://nomadicous.com/2014/07/nash-mills-dog-show-june-2014/> The password for the page is Dog Show. By Adam Bevan

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Nash Mills Village Hall



If you are looking for a venue for an event, look no further, situated on Lower Road and recently refurbished the Village Hall has all the facilities for training, parties and meetings. A large hall with beautiful parquet flooring, small room, kitchen with 2 gas cookers, seating for 120 and parking for 35 vehicles.

To see the site visit:

www.nashmillsvillagehall.co.uk

Make a booking by contacting the Secretary on 01442 395414

Sizzling Summer Quiz

- 1) What was the title of the 1998 sequel to the 1997 film 'I Know What You Did Last Summer'?
- 2) Who did Jamie Summers turn into to?
- 3) Where is the Pope's summer palace?
- 4) Which one of Shakespeare's sonnets has the opening line, "Shall I compare thee to a summer's day"?
- 5) Esther Summerson is the heroine of which novel by Charles Dickens?
- 6) What year in the 1960s was referred to as 'The Summer of Love'?
- 7) In Shakespeare's "A Midsummer's Night Dream", who was the King of the Fairies?
- 8) Which TV soap opera is set in Summer Bay?
- 9) Where did Cliff Richard travel to in the film 'Summer Holiday'?
- 10) Which musical features the song 'Summer time'?
- 11) What is an 'Indian Summer'?
- 12) What forms the filling in a Summer Pudding?
- 13) Which London art gallery hosts the annual Summer Exhibition?
- 14) On which date does the Summer Solstice occur?
- 15) Which cult British film made in 1973 was set on the fictional island of Summer Isle?
- 16) In which year was British Summer Time introduced?
- 17) In which British university town is the suburb of Summertown?
- 18) What are referred to as 'The Dog Days of Summer'?
- 19) Who played the character 'Norma Batty' in 'The Last of the Summer Wine'.
- 20) Who sang 'Here comes summer'?

Answers to the Clerk (address inside cover) by the 31st October 2014.

ANSWERS TO SPRING QUIZ 2014

- 1) A moth. 2) Red and Yellow. 3) Woodstock Festival.
- 4) Belgian. 5) Raisins. 6) Mark Lamarr. 7) Chicken.
- 8) Sean Connery. 9) Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.
- 10) General Belgrano. 11) 1984-1985.
- 12) Chrysanthemum. 13) Queen Elizabeth Class.
- 14) Newham. 15). Real Madrid. 16) Eboracum.
- 17) Boris Pasternak. 18) Saturn V. 19) Philip Glass.
- 20) Happy Days.

Thank you for all your entries. The correct winner are Fred and Jan Graham from Meadow Road who wins a rollover amount of £20. Well done!



Hertfordshire County Council Bus Consultation

Hertfordshire County Council recently launched a consultation into the financial support the county council provides for bus services in Hertfordshire. This 12 week consultation relates to some of the 119 HCC contracted services we support and runs until **8th October 2014**, commercial services and those funded from other sources (developer and district contributions etc.) are not affected.

This consultation is available online at <http://www.hertsdirect.org/busconsult>

HCC need to save at least £700k from their £3.8m budget for bus services. To protect the majority of services they support and the most used services, the county council is proposing to:

- withdraw funding to services that run after 6.30pm
- withdraw funding for services that run on a Sunday

They want as many people as possible to take part in this consultation as possible, both bus users and non-bus users.

If a resident would like to take part and does not have access to a computer HCC would suggest going in to their local library where they can have access to a computer.

If people want a paper copy they can call: **0300 123 4050** or email alternatively email hertsdirect@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Do you know someone who needs care? Our Nash Mills team offers specialist Live-in Care.

Working with people of all ages, our Live-in Carers provide one-to-one support, balancing independent living with bespoke care needs.

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- personal care
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0808 180 1027 or visit www.helpinghands.co.uk



Responsible Dog Ownership tips from The Dogs Trust

We all know how unpleasant it is to see dog mess lying around the pavements and public spaces and it's even more unpleasant to step in! It is simply unhygienic. Dog faeces may contain worms that can cause a threat to human health. The minority of irresponsible dog owners who do not clean up after their dogs damage the reputation of responsible dog owners who do. Respect your local authority's rules on dog free areas. Keep your dog away from children's play areas and sports pitches if signposted and use dog waste bins if they have been provided. Never let your dog out alone. Keep Nash Mills clean and safe!

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Web Site www.busy-bodies.vpweb.co.uk

Nash Mills Memorial Garden Refurbishment



Nash Mills Parish Council has recently been advised by Dacorum Borough Council that plans have been submitted by the developers for the restoration and renovation of the listed war memorial situated on Lower Road. Plans include a new seating area, indian sandstone paving, lignate mirror glass black stone polished paving banded with granite block paving, boundary fencing a soft play area, proposed standard trees, planted beds with granite edging, proposed ornamental hedge planting, shrub and herbaceous planting to provide year round amenity these will include species attractive to wildlife.

The garden area around the Nash Mills memorial had been landscaped to a degree in recent years following the redevelopment of the former mill site for residential use. Now the Memorial Gardens in Nash Mills is due for a refurbishment by the developers at Nash Wharf.

The Nash Mills war memorial, constructed shortly after the end of World War I is an important historical testament to the men who worked for Dickinson's at ten sites in England and abroad.

The war memorial is architecturally distinct and is within a kept garden. It has the added interest of being dedicated to the dead of a single business and is a fitting tribute to the fallen of two world wars, deserving of national recognition.

For more information contact Emily Whittredge, Planning Case Officer at Dacorum Borough Council on 01442 228360 or alternatively visit their website www.dacorum.gov.uk. The reference number is 4/01696/14/LBC - the statutory expiry date is the 4th September.

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NEWS FROM ST MARY'S CHURCH, APSLEY



Open Church Sunday on the 22nd June attracted quite a few visitors on a lovely summer's day. It included a coach driver who had taken his group to visit the paper mill in Apsley, and had found he had some spare time available to look round the district before picking them up again!

The day before, several of us from St Mary's had been on the annual St Albans Day Pilgrimage. For the second year running the procession went straight down the main high street in St Albans. This brought the traffic to a stop as the story of St Albans' martyrdom was recreated with the help of giant puppets, and with many people looking on as they did their Saturday morning shopping. Then once we had reached the Abbey itself, Alban was executed, and then as many of us as possible crowded into the Abbey for the special service at which we remember the first British martyr.

On 8th July our first event in our 'Year of Faith' took place. This was the showing of a film entitled 'The Story of Jesus'. The film places Jesus in history and was narrated by David Suchet. Then on July 22nd we looked at 'How the Gospels were written' with a brief look at Mark's Gospel.

Some of us will be going to join with other Christians from across the Diocese for the Diocesan Centenary celebrations at Keyso, Bedfordshire on August Bank Holiday Monday. This marks the creation of the present Diocese of St Albans 100 years ago. However, before anybody points it out to me the Diocese of St Albans itself was created in 1877.

Looking further ahead, this year our Christmas Bazaar will be on Saturday 22nd November between 10am - 1pm. This is a real chance to support your local church, and also a chance to pick up those bargain Christmas gifts. So please put this date in your diaries and hopefully I will see you there.

More details concerning all services and events across our Benefice can be found on our web site which is www.beneficeoflangelei.org.uk

Enjoy your summer holidays if you are lucky enough to be having one and if not just enjoy the summer as autumn will soon be here!!
By Peter Bladon.

Abbot's Hill



Abbot's Hill School

Abbot's Hill is an Independent Day School for girls aged 3-16 and boys aged 3-5.

Abbot's Hill is a thriving and dynamic school for girls aged 3-16 and boys aged 3-5 situated in over 70 acres of beautiful parkland on the outskirts of Hemel Hempstead. The school is a happy and united community in which every pupil is truly known as an individual and given the opportunity to challenge herself, discover and develop her own unique talents and to shine.

We have a strong record of academic success. Throughout the school pupils are taught in small classes in which excellent teaching and

personalised support ensure that everyone is inspired to exceed their potential and to shine.

The broad curriculum is enhanced by a wide range of trips and activities to stimulate learning.

Our extra-curricular clubs offer a lively balance of sport, performing and creative arts, science and technology, journalism, problem-solving and debating. The vast majority of girls take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme from Year 10 and the school is involved in charitable activities in the wider community.

We pride ourselves on our pastoral care. The sense of being part of an extended family is frequently commented on by pupils, parents and staff alike. Our pupils leave Abbot's Hill fully equipped to take on with passion the challenges and opportunities life has to offer. They are highly sought after by Sixth Forms and Colleges, many receiving prestigious scholarships.

The next Whole School Open Day will take place on Saturday **4 October 2014**, from 2-4pm. There will also be a Working Open Morning for the Prep School on Tuesday 7 October 2014. For more information, please call us on: **01442 240333**.

Joan Evans - The Mature Years

Joan Evans, whose birth and early life in Nash Mills House was touched on in the previous issue was a truly remarkable person. Her early education was in the evenings from Miss Bergmann, the village schoolmistress.

Later on she attended a French language and dancing tutor at Watford, travelling there in a small square pony-cart, pulled by a dapple-grey pony called Bobby. She was of course attended by her nannie and a footman. Her family moved out of Nash Mills House when Joan was in her early teens. Their newly built house called Britwell was on the hill at Berkhamsted, now forming the centrepiece of Castle Village.

In due course Joan was accepted at St Hugh's College, Oxford, to attend lectures. Her first day at St Hugh's was six days after the declaration of war in 1914.

The war brought a temporary end to her extensive European travels with her family during her later teens, which had made her fluent in many languages. At this time it was not thought proper for women to gain Oxford degrees, so it was with mounting excitement during the summer of 1920 that the decision to allow female graduates led to the first admissions in October 1920. Joan graduated on the first day that it was possible.

Her father, mother and eldest brother had excelled in prehistoric history and the early civilisations so it was natural for her studies to follow along these lines. However, she began to find herself drawn towards

medieval history, in particular jewellery and costume. Eventually she would write many books including the definitive work on medieval posy rings as well as co-writing a three volume work on the diaries of John Ruskin.

There is so much that could be written about her very full life which she has recorded in her autobiography *Prelude and Fugue*. Joan Evans never married but was able to follow a variety of academic interests. She was invited to become a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, (FSA). In due course she was elected as their first female President from 1951 until 1964. Remarkably this position had been previously held by her father and Arthur, her eldest half-brother.

A further remarkable event came when in the Queen's Honours List she was made a Dame in 1976, (DFBE), the equivalent of a Knight, which her father and brother had also achieved, although each in different disciplines.

As John Dickinson and Co approached their 150th year Joan Evans was asked to write the definitive history, not only as an established author, but as a member of the family which had begun and developed the business.

When she wrote *The Endless Web* in 1953 she visited the house where she had been born. She was sad to see that Nash Mills house had become offices, which it remained until 2006. We wait to see what will become of it.

By Michael Stanyon July 2014

Useful Numbers

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Benefit Enquiries 01442 228000
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The Centre in The Park 01442 262746
Waste Services 01442 228000
Work and Pensions 0845 6060 265

Nash Mills Parish Council

PARISH MAGAZINE

**Edition 107
SUMMER 2014**