

Parish News - November 2015

HELLO AGAIN

In this November edition we stop to remember those villagers who were killed in action, including a Corporal whose name, 100 years after he was killed in action, has recently been added to the war memorial. The Remembrance Day parade will take place on Sunday 8th November.

We celebrate awards from Solihull in Bloom, World Book Night at the Library and the Sports Club celebrates successes in its 50th anniversary year. There are some important planning updates to note including some changes to HS2 and an update on the Neighbourhood Plan process.

As we run up to the festive season don't forget the Christmas post organised by the Scouts and Guides and why not take a look at some old village photos to see who you can spot from the past.



NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The six week statutory consultation on our Neighbourhood Plan took place between 3rd August and 14th September. We have received 14 formal responses to the Vision, Objectives, Policies and Key Actions set out in the Plan. Most of the responses have come from organisations such as Natural England, Historic England, Highways England, Solihull Council, and from consultants acting for local landowners as well as residents and local community groups.

The Working Group will now carefully consider all comments, opinions and views expressed and, where appropriate, these will be incorporated into the final Submission Draft of the Neighbourhood Plan which will be sent to Solihull Council for examination by a suitably qualified person. We will keep you updated on progress in our next newsletter.

PLANNING UPDATE

Telecoms Mast:

A mast was proposed in Station Road, to the rear of Peel Close. The Parish Council objected in the strongest terms to this absurd proposal. We were pleased when the application was withdrawn at the last minute and have asked Solihull Council and the applicants to engage in talks with us prior to any other application.

Motorway Services / Travellers Site:

We are still awaiting news on the motorway services application to which we are opposed, and on a new Appeal hearing for the Travellers site in Shadowbrook Lane.

Solihull Connected Green Paper:

This consultation sought views on future traffic and transport corridors and development in the Borough. The Parish Council was disappointed that there was no commitment to improve local bus and rail services which connect the village and rural settlements to Solihull or Birmingham. There was also no commitment to improve accessibility to Hampton Station despite plans to spend many millions around the NEC, Airport and the UK Central development. At the time of writing we await a response from Solihull Council.

REMEMBRANCE DAY (ROAD CLOSURE)

A short Remembrance Day service will be held in the church at 10am on the 8th November followed by the parade leaving around 10.40am to the War Memorial for the act of Remembrance including a moment of silence at 11am. Please note that the High Street and Meriden Road will be closed from 10.30am until 11.45am to allow the Parade and Service to take place in safety. Please help traffic Marshalls by arranging your day accordingly.



Hampton-in-Arden Parish Council

HS2 UPDATE

We wrote last time about the amended Provisions in the Hybrid Bill and our opposition to the plans to realign and rebuild Diddington Lane as a through route to the new Interchange Station. An exhibition was held in September in Fentham Hall by HS2 to explain the changes. Both the Parish Council and Hampton Society have deposited Petitions in Parliament which challenge HS2 to retain Diddington Lane for access only. Subsequently, and at the time of writing, a further Petition sponsored by Caroline Spelman MP has been deposited in the House of Commons, signed by 746 residents in which she seeks

to get HS2 and the Secretary of State to endorse the adoption of a 'Green Route' for the lane.

We expect to appear before the Select Committee before Christmas to argue our case. In the meantime an Action Group has been set up by residents to campaign in support of the Lane's closure to through traffic. We will bring you an update in our next newsletter.



Photomontage of HS2 Blythe Valley Viaduct

AIRPORT UPDATE

As reported in the August edition of the Newsletter the airport company submitted the Airspace Change Application to the Civil Aviation Authority in May 2015 with a decision expected during October.

Regrettably, the decision deadline has been delayed until Friday 20th November due, it is said, to the number of competing priorities that the CAA is currently dealing with.

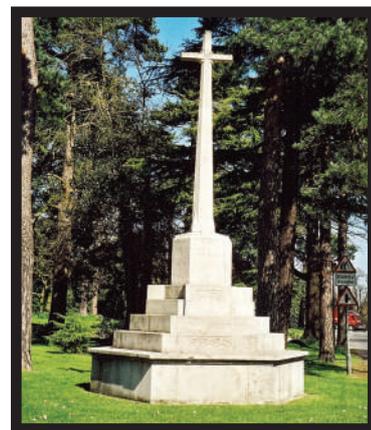
However, the Airport, in consultation with the CAA, are continuing with work to redesign the northbound turn to address the issue of poor performance on this route which continues to be a matter of concern to very many residents.

WAR MEMORIAL ENGRAVING

Nearly 100 years ago on 29th December 1915 Corporal Archibald Neill of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment was killed in the Sudan. He is commemorated with a headstone in the Military Cemetery Khartoum. Corporal Neill was the son-in-law of Benjamin Hubbard and was recorded in the census of 1901 as living in Woodbine Cottage, Fentham Road. His widow Ruth remarried and is buried, with her second husband, in our churchyard.

However, for some reason the name Archibald Neill did not appear on our War Memorial along with others from the village who fell in the First World War. We were approached

by the family of Mr Neill and have agreed that his name should be engraved on the memorial in this, the hundredth year, following his death. We hope that this will be completed in time for our Remembrance Day Parade (*details on page 1*) and that the Neill family will be able to join the village in our act of remembrance.



NEWS FROM HAMPTON LIBRARY

Family History

We have the facility at Hampton Library to use Ancestry and Find My Past for free, so if you would like to delve into your family history, especially with the winter days coming on, the library is the place to do it! We are also lucky enough to have the services of a volunteer who is extremely experienced in helping people with their family research. If you would like to look into your past and find out more, get in touch with us and book a session with our volunteer or just come to the library and use the resources for yourself.

World Book Night

As many of you will know, we celebrate World Book Night every April by giving away free books provided for us by the Reading Agency. We will be doing this again on 23rd April 2016. The Reading Agency is a charity whose mission is to inspire people

to read more and to share their love of reading and to celebrate the difference it makes to all our lives: "We support people at all stages of their reading journey, because everything changes when we read."

World Book Night is celebrated on 23rd April and has been going since 2011, providing a powerful collaboration between publishers, printers, libraries, booksellers, private donors, trusts and foundations. Volunteers all over the country give away hundreds of thousands of books in their communities to share their love of reading, to include people who may not necessarily read for pleasure or even own books. We will be celebrating the next World Book Night at Hampton Library in April, so look out for our publicity around the village next Spring.

If you have any questions or need more information about Family History or World Book Night, please ring us on 01675 442629.

SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

The Sports Club in Shadowbrook Lane enjoyed a great summer of successful ball play.

The various tennis teams all won many matches and the Men's first team again won the Premiership; well done to all the players. The club finals day created much excitement for the crowds watching, as some thrilling tennis was played. The cricket section had a happy season as the weather was very good for them and the majority of games were played with the team winning most of them.

On the 12th September it was the 50th anniversary of the opening of the sports club! A Ball was held in a marquee in the grounds of the sports club and 210 people had a fantastic time eating a lovely meal and dancing to a wonderful live band.

Next year it's hockey's 70th and the tennis's 50th birthdays watch out for more news on the celebrations. Hockey and squash are now in full swing for the winter months and if anyone would like to join either section just pop down to the sports club on a Saturday, you will be very welcome.

SCOUTS AND GUIDES

The Scouts & Guides Supporters Association are organising the annual village Christmas Post again this year. It offers a useful service in collecting and distributing Christmas post within the village and raising funds at the same time. The Corner Shop offers a collection point for the post up to Friday 11th December, then the post is sorted in the Church Hall on Saturday 12th between 11am and 2pm before being delivered around the village by the Cubs, Scouts, Brownies and Guides under the guidance of leaders and parents. Post can still be received in the Church Hall on Saturday between those times. Last year the charge was 20p per card.

There are now around 100 children who make up the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. The units are the strongest they have ever been in the village.



All units meet on a Friday night at the HQ on Shadowbrook Lane where we deliver activities appropriate the age bands ranging from fun and games to scouting skills including navigation, fire lighting, cooking and even the odd spot of ironing.

Recent scout activities have included participation in the Cameron Grant Memorial Night Hike where they raised approx £600. A night at the golf range at Stonebridge Golf Club, bicycle repair instruction, and a whole host of other activities.

SOLIHULL IN BLOOM

Following the village inspection from Solihull Council Neighbourhood Rangers in July, the results of Solihull Neighbourhoods in Bloom were announced on 15th September. Hampton-In-Arden village received 3rd in the best village award. Congratulations also go to Sue Hartlett of Church Court for her award in the Rural Front Garden category. The judges liked her rural cottage style garden with plenty of colour, plants for the environment and vegetables. Station Road also collected an award in the Rural Community Category

with the judges impressed by rock garden at the entrance to station road and the welcome addition to the street scene.

Thanks again to all those who take time to make our village such a beautiful environment. With winter approaching, it's time to start planning for more next year.



Sue Hartlett receives her award

DOG FOULING

Good news from North Solihull's newsletter regarding a dog fouling prosecution. We are delighted to report that Solihull Council has prosecuted a Chelmsley Wood woman for failing to clear up after her dog. Having previously pleaded not guilty, Natasha Brock of Moat Croft was tried at Birmingham Magistrates' Court on 7 September 2015. The district judge heard that on 27 February 2015 Brock was seen by two police officers walking her dog along Holly Lodge Walk in Chelmsley Wood. The police officers witnessed the dog foul the footpath twice which Brock then failed to remove.

Following the incident, the Council's environmental crime officers issued her with a £75 fixed penalty. The 41 year old failed to pay the fixed penalty which resulted in her being summonsed for the offence. Brock was found guilty and

fined £100. She was also ordered to pay the Council's costs of £200 and a victim surcharge of £20.

Following the verdict Cllr Karen Grinsell, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Stronger Communities & Partnerships, said "This is a great example of the Council and the Police working together to tackle the issues that matter to local people. Dog fouling won't be tolerated in Solihull, and the minority who still don't clear up after their dog will be pursued by our environmental crime officers and could find themselves in court receiving a fine and a criminal record".

We ask villagers to be considerate of others and always clear up after their dogs.

Residents can report incidents of dog fouling online via the Solihull MBC website: www.solihull.gov.uk or call 0121 704 8000.

CARRIAGEWAY RESURFACING

After a few false starts, fingers crossed that by the time that residents receive this newsletter this should be completed!

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

A renewed Airport Consultative Committee (ACC) met on 29th July. The ACC provides a communication channel between the airport and all the various community groups (including Hampton-In-Arden Parish Council).

One key concern has always been noise from both airborne aircraft and engine ground running and trials have been (and continue to be) undertaken to better understand these issues. Concerned residents are reminded of the airport website community and environment section (<https://birminghamairport.co.uk/about-us/community-and-environment>) which provides key information on how our area is affected and the ability to submit complaints for excessive noise.

The airport is revising its master plan to the year 2040 to take into account current forecasts and trends. A consultation is expected next year and we will keep you informed of developments.

Between July and September the airport took part in the 'Big Hoot' which has seen

a trail of public art across Birmingham.

Passing through the airport, you might have spotted some of the Owl sculptures produced by local business, artists and schools. Auctioning of all the Owls in October raised over half a million pounds for Birmingham Children's Hospital's Star Appeal.



Some of the 'Big Hoot' Owls on display at the Airport

Further information on the ACC (including minutes) is available at www.ukaccs.info/bham

HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS

The Parish Council was recently contacted by a family which originated in Hampton, an elderly relative had passed away leaving unmarked photographs from the 40's and 50's. These are scenes of village life, including the Queen's Coronation Street party held in Peel Close.

An album has been created which will be available to view in our Library, the family are very keen to find out if any village residents are able to put names to faces and identify events and buildings for them. The photos are now available for you to view on our Facebook pages and should be on our parish website in due course



Coronation Party



Haymaking

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

4th November, 7:30pm: The Hampton Society talk, Arden Room. "Frederick Peel and Hampton in Arden – a historical collaboration" followed by their AGM

11th November 7:30pm: Parish Council Meeting (George Fentham Meeting room)

6th December: Rotary Club of Meriden – Santa Fun Run: Open to everyone to dress up as santa and either run or stroll with the kids and the dog. Full details can be found at www.meridenrotary.org.uk.

Monday 14th Dec at 6:30pm and Wednesday 16th Dec: Santa's Sleigh will be visiting the village. Further details of his Santa's route can be found on the village diary pages of the parish council website or via the Meriden rotary link above.

Wishing everyone a joyful festive season and we'll speak to you in 2016

Well that's it for another year, we will be back in January. As always thanks to all the contributors to the newsletter and the volunteers who deliver it to you all.