

## Parish News - May 2016

### HELLO AGAIN

**W**ith spring finally springing, in this May edition of the Newsletter we bring you details of events to look forward to over the coming months, including the Hampton-in-Arden Festival and Solihull in Bloom. As ever we have updates on key issues affecting the Parish with information on HS2, the airport, station access, traffic calming in the village and planning news.

Finally, we have some details on local clubs and societies that we hope you will find interesting (ever tried crown green bowling?! If not and you fancy it, read on, as now is your chance).



### HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN FESTIVAL – JULY 1st - 3rd 2016

**I**t's coming up to that time of year again – the Hampton Festival is just round the corner! This year the Festival will be held on the first weekend in July. Some of the events this year will include:

- **Friday:** A Golf Day and a Village Festival Party at Hampton Manor.
- **Saturday:** The Village Fete, a W.I. Cookery and Craft Competition, tea and homemade cakes, a Classic Car Show, fancy dress, Hampton Manor Pimm's and Strawberries, a Sports Afternoon, Tennis Finals and Music with a Picnic Supper.
- **Sunday:** An Open Air Church Service, the Big Lunch and the White Lion Quiz.

The **Scarecrow theme** this year is the **Olympics**. We can't wait to see all the sporting themed scarecrows appearing around the village at the end of June!

More details about the Festival will be available on the website ([www.hamptoninardenfestival.weebly.com](http://www.hamptoninardenfestival.weebly.com)) or you can keep up to date on Hampton-in-Arden Festival Facebook page.



### IMPROVED STATION ACCESS

**T**he Parish Council are very pleased to report that following sustained pressure, London Midland have adapted our station in order for the bridge to remain open when the ticket office is closed. We hope that you are finding this a great improvement.

Our aim is that **both** platforms will become **fully accessible** for all passengers and we have recently submitted a reasoned case for this in response to the West Midlands Rail Franchise Consultation which can be viewed on the Parish Council website.

### SPORTS CLUB REDEVELOPMENT

**A**s previously reported in the Newsletter, the Hampton-in-Arden Sports Club has been looking at much needed redevelopment of their club house, (with plans including a 20m swimming pool). A public consultation took place in December 2015 and although a majority of respondents supported the proposal in principle, serious concerns were raised about financial viability and possible traffic and parking issues resultant on the inclusion of a pool.

As landlord of the Sports Club the Parish Council debated the issue at its meeting in March 2016. After serious consideration the Councillors decided that it was impossible to quantify the potential consequences for the village without first seeing a Business Plan and a Traffic Assessment. The minutes record that 'The Parish Council is unable to give any approval, even in principle, without a business plan'.

*Hampton-in-Arden Parish Council*

## PLANNING UPDATE

**MSA at Catherine-de-Barnes:** The proposed M42 Motorway Services is to be considered by Solihull Council Planning Committee on 18th May 2016. The Parish Council objected to the original plans and to the revised application in January 2016. We believe the MSA proposals, to be located on Green Belt agricultural land, are not justified and would create an inherently dangerous situation on the motorway due to the close proximity of Junction 6 (which has hard-shoulder running and severe bunching of traffic). There is still time to make your views known to Solihull. E-Mails or letters should be addressed to Lawrence Osborne

([losborne@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:losborne@solihull.gov.uk)) at Planning Department, SMBC, Council House, Solihull, B91 3PX.

**Travellers Site, Shadowbrook Lane:** A new Appeal Hearing date is planned for July 26th 2016.

**Fat Fluffs Rabbit Recue and Boarding Centre, Diddington Lane:** We understand that Solihull and the owners have now agreed 'Planning Conditions' to be imposed, including the number of rabbits, visitor and parking restrictions and fencing. However these are yet to be implemented.

## AIRPORT UPDATE

**The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) issued its long awaited decision on the new route for aircraft taking off from the extended runway 15 on 6th April 2016 in favour of Option 6. This was the Airport's preferred option put to the CAA in May 2015 following the year-long trial to assess the difference in the noise impact between Options 5 and 6. The Airport Company will now work with the CAA to clarify conditions set out in its decision paper. Of particular significance are instructions to carry out a further flight path trial of Option 5 for all non-jet aircraft departing to the south.**



The Airport have confirmed that the issue of some aircraft turning over the village to fly north has been resolved and that revised routing will become operational on 26th May. Community updates on matters relating to aircraft departures issued by the Airport can be found by logging on to the following website:

<https://birminghamairport.co.uk/aboutus/community-and-environment/flight-path-changes>

Finally, many may have noticed that Emirates Airlines have recently begun flying the world's largest passenger aircraft, the Airbus A380, on the daily lunch time flight to Dubai. Despite its size this plane is noticeably quieter, both on landing and take-off, than the other "heavy" aircraft now using the airport up to ten times per day.

## SOLIHULL IN BLOOM

**The annual competition for Solihull's green-fingered residents is back and the Parish Council is entering the village into the competition again. Solihull Neighbourhoods in Bloom is a fun and friendly competition open to all sections of the community (including residents, schools, businesses and community groups and no experience necessary... judges are looking for effort and creative ideas!**

Categories for entry include: ● Community Area (including four or more consecutive houses in one street). ● Disabled gardener ● Front garden ● Planter or hanging basket ● Retail / commercial frontages including pubs and restaurants ● School ● Solihull Community Housing ● Village ● Young

gardener (under 19s).

It's free to enter with prizes up for grabs! **The closing date for entries is Friday 10 June 2016.**

Take part in making the borough a better place to live.

Apply online or get a downloadable nomination form at [www.solihull.gov.uk/solihullinbloom](http://www.solihull.gov.uk/solihullinbloom)



## VILLAGE CLEAN UP

**As always, we will hold our Village Clean Up the weekend before the judging of Solihull in Bloom. This is to give the village its annual 'spring clean' and to help make us look as smart as possible before the competition. But to make it a success we need your help!! After a record turn out last year we are hoping that we will have plenty of volunteers again. We will provide all equipment, all you have to do is turn up. We will provide refreshments (and a treat!) to all volunteers at the end.**

Solihull Council have not set a date for the judging and so we have not been able to organise a date for the Clean Up yet. However we know it will be sometime in July. Once we have the final details we will put the a date for the Clean Up on our website and our Facebook page.

***Your help is invaluable, please keep checking online... and please come along and support us!***

## HS2 UPDATE

**H**aving completed its passage through the House of Commons, the HS2 Hybrid Bill now moves to the House of Lords. The Parish Council, Hampton Society and the village action group will be petitioning the Lords Select Committee and will address the Committee on two outstanding issues:

- **The relocation of the Municipal Waste Tip:** The tip is planned to be re-sited to the arable field at the top of Diddington Lane, with access off the A45 and will be some 40% larger than the existing facility. We want it moved to a brown field site north of the A45 or on land already used for material recycling offered by the landowners (Packington Estates).

- **Diddington Lane:** We are against the realignment and widening of Diddington Lane and will petition for a return to the original Hybrid Bill provision to close the lane to through traffic which would otherwise use the 'upgraded' road as a rat-run via the village roads to the Interchange

station. Caroline Spelman MP is supporting our plan for a 'Green Route'. Her own Petition was signed by 742 parishioners and presented to Parliament in October 2015, and would provide a safe cycling, pedestrian and equestrian route, whilst retaining access for farmers and railway maintenance.



### **April Chronicle-HS2 'Stop Press'**

*Although many people were amused by the **April Fools article** in the April edition of The Church and Village Chronicle some residents have taken the content seriously. The Parish Council do not know who the author is and have certainly not made the comment reported in the article. We would like to reassure you that although HS2 will have a huge effect on the village, as far as we know, there is **no plan for the tram line** which was described.... but HS2 have a history of pulling some very unpleasant rabbits from their hat!*

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

**O**n 26th February 2016 the completed Submission Draft of our Neighbourhood Plan was deposited with Solihull Council who will now check that our Plan meets the necessary requirements, carry out a further six week consultation period and appoint an Independent Examiner. The Examiners role is to test whether or not the Submission Draft of the Plan meets the basic conditions and other matters as set out in the relevant planning law. We now have to wait patiently until the process is completed with a decision expected later this year.

Thanks go to the Working Group who worked hard over the past four years to bring the Plan to fruition in the hope that it will, when approved, have a significant and favourable influence on development throughout the Parish for many years to come.

The three documents comprising the Submission Draft can be viewed on the Parish Council website at [www.hamptoninarden.org.uk/plan.html](http://www.hamptoninarden.org.uk/plan.html) or can be read in the Parish office - contact Julie on (01675) 442017 to make an appointment.

## TRAFFIC CALMING IN THE VILLAGE

**T**he Parish Council recently met with Solihull Council Highways Officers to push once again for traffic calming measures on village streets in the belief that traffic issues will only become worse with development such as HS2 and UK Central.

We were told that there is no money available but have drawn up an appraisal of possible measures including roundabouts at entry points and chicanes which we have submitted to the Council. If the scheme meets with Highways approval it will, of course, be put to the village for consultation and we hope that funding might come from sources such as HS2 and any future housing development.

## INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT CATHERINE DE BARNES – THE BOAT INN

**S**ome of you will be familiar with Bransford Rise cul-de-sac off Lugtrout Lane. Years ago this was the site of a wharf with two cottages, the land originally part of The Common. The wharf was used to provide coal and lime to local farmers and later it provided a delivery service for a variety of products. The original Boat Inn was situated on the canalside opposite a tow path at the end of Boat Lane. A wooden footbridge was situated here. Boat Lane is now the track which passes down the side of the new Boat Inn to two residential properties (one still known as Boat

Cottage). Much of the original Boat Inn was destroyed by fire in the 1920's.



Edited extracts from the publication **Catherine-de-Barnes Past and Present - 2nd Reprint** available to purchase at a cost of £5, contact Dave Cuthbert on 0121 705 8037 (the proceeds to Catherine de Barnes Village Hall Trust).

## TEA AND TOAST – A STAY AND PLAY GROUP FOR LITTLE ONES

**T**ea and Toast is for mums-to-be, mums and dads with their bumps, babies and small children. Held every Friday morning in Hampton Church Hall from 9 to 10 am during term-time. A social occasion run by the church with tea (or coffee!) and toast. Toys are provided for the children to play. Come and meet others and relax for an hour.

## HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN BOWLS CLUB

**E**ver played crown green bowling? Ever wanted to? Well, now's your chance because our local Bowling Club, situated at the rear of The Beeches, Marsh Lane, is holding an 'Open Day' on Saturday 11th June from 11am to 1.30pm.

Everyone is welcome... Woods will be provided but do please bring flat soled shoes. No need to book, just turn up! However, if you do want more information please contact our Secretary, Caroline Lassen, on (01675) 442650.

## HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN SOCIETY – A CELEBRATION OF 50 YEARS!

**A**village Cheese and Wine evening is being held in order to commemorate the Society's 50th birthday. This celebration is taking place on Friday 10th June at 7pm in the Arden Room. Tickets cost £12 (including two drinks) and are available for purchase from The Corner Shop and Village Stores.

Any surplus funds from the evening this year will go towards the History Group to promote the village history. Appropriate given it's our 50th anniversary!

## DOG FOULING

**P**arents of children at George Fentham School have expressed concern about dog fouling in the vicinity of the school, often directly outside it. Despite prominently displayed No Fouling notices, someone has repeatedly allowed their pet to use the pavement in Fentham Road as a toilet.

Dog fouling is not only unsightly but it also poses health risks, and the area around the school is just about the worst

place in the village for it happen, taking into account the frequent presence of young children. Please, whoever you are, be more considerate and if you cannot prevent your pooch doing its business in a favourite spot, take a pooper-scooper out with you to clear up the mess!

And a warning: if you are caught letting your dog foul a public thoroughfare you can be fined up to £500.

## A NEW LOOK FOR OUR PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

**I**an Geddes, the man who created and managed our website, retired at the end of March this year to enjoy some well deserved R&R. We would like to extend our thanks to Ian for all of his hard work over the years.

Our website will now be managed by Ian O'Donnell at Realpoint Design. As part of the handover we are taking the opportunity to 'freshen up' the website. The changes will hopefully take place over the summer so keep checking in to see our new look! [www.hamptoninarden.org.uk](http://www.hamptoninarden.org.uk)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **NEW!! 6th May 1.30-3pm:** Knit, Natter and Craft Group. A social get together of like-minded people, bring along something you are working on and the library will provide refreshments (Library).
- **11th May 7.30pm:** Parish Council Annual General Meeting (George Fentham Meeting Room)
- **10th June at 7pm:** Hampton-in-Arden Society Village Cheese and Wine evening (Arden Room)
- **11th June 11am to 1.30pm:** Bowls Club Open Day (Bowling Club, rear of The Beeches, Marsh Lane)
- **1st to 3rd July:** Hampton-in-Arden Festival
- **6th July 7.30pm:** Parish Council Meeting (George Fentham Meeting Room)

## THANK YOU FOR READING AND WE WILL SPEAK TO YOU AGAIN IN AUGUST!

*As always, thank you to all the contributors to the newsletter and the volunteers who deliver it to each household in the Parish. Enjoy the sunny weather and don't forget to check out our website for up to date information between Newsletters ([www.hamptoninarden.org.uk](http://www.hamptoninarden.org.uk))*